



COMING TOMORROW:
A special Presidential Inauguration Edition
featuring local reaction to Barack Obama
taking the oath of office

THE DAILY CITIZEN

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"People who stay under the bridges have several places they can go. Pets are at our mercy."

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MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Jody Harris, of Dalton, paints an American flag behind silhouettes of Martin Luther King Jr. and Barack Obama on Monday at the Dalton Community Center during the United Way's "Day of Service." Volunteers painted several desks from the Emery Center with quotes and images depicting the civil rights movement.

Words into action

Residents volunteer to honor MLK, serve community

By JAMIE JONES
 jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com

Most holidays off from Dalton High School give Leonardo Martinez a chance to play sports with friends.

But not the Monday set aside to celebrate the life of Martin Luther King Jr.

Martinez was among numerous volunteers who put King's words into action Monday as part of the United Way of Northwest Georgia's "Day of Service" at the Dalton Community Center. Students on the United Way Youth Council helped organize the event.

"I wanted to help the community out, make the world a better place," said Martinez, a 17-year-old sophomore. "I wanted to come here because my friends talked about it, and it sounded like something cool."

Youth volunteers set up tables representing different countries and cultures including Mexico, Morocco and Scotland. The booths had information about the

countries, while volunteers helped children with art and craft projects.

One of the more popular work stations gave children and teenagers an outlet for expression. Volunteers painted 24 desks from the Emery Center with quotes and pictures depicting the U.S. civil rights movement. The Emery Center, an African-American heritage/multi-cultural center, is where the first public school in Dalton once stood. The desks will be displayed in schools throughout Black History Month (February). They will later be auctioned with the proceeds going to the Emery Center.

Martinez meticulously wrote a quote on a piece of drawing paper. He planned to paint the quote from

King: "Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter."

"It's basically part of Dr. King's dream coming to fruition with Obama becoming president."

— Artist Jody Harris of one of the desks he painted

Martinez interpreted the words as a call for freedom and to stop judging people.

There was also a professional artist there to help. Jody Harris, a 1994 graduate of Dalton High School, painted several desks. One was an image of

President-elect Barack Obama with the words "Embrace Change," another of future first lady Michelle Obama, and the final piece (with help from his cousin, Mario Harris) featured silhouettes of Obama and King with an American flag in the background.

➤ See VOLUNTEERING, 2A

Critter wreaks havoc in office

By MARK MILLICAN
 markmillican@daltoncitizen.com



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Michael Fortner looks at the damage caused at his business in Eton by what he thinks was a squirrel on Monday.

ETON — Michael Fortner was greeted by a financial office in disarray Monday morning.

The owner of Fortner Investment Services walked into his office at 3579 Highway 411 North and found it trashed. He was already having a tough go of it on crutches due to a recent golf outing.

"It had to be a squirrel," he said. "It bit into the wooden blinds trying to get out, and I believe if it had been a raccoon it would have torn the blinds down. If that was the case, I'm glad I didn't walk in — I'd rather be bitten by a dog than a raccoon any day."

➤ See CRITTER, 2A

Obama steps into history

By DAVID ESPO
 AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama stood at the threshold of the White House on Monday, summoning fellow Americans to join him in service as tens of thousands flocked to the nation's capital to celebrate his inauguration as the first black president.

"Tomorrow we will come together as one people on the same Mall where Dr. King's dream echoes still," said the president-elect, invoking the memory of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. on the national holiday in his honor.

The 47-year-old former senator takes office at noon today at a time of economic crisis at home and two wars overseas. But the challenges of the moment receded into the background for many who came for a chance to witness history.

"I didn't think I would see a black president in my generation. I just had to be here," said Donald Butler, 20, a University of Washington student.

Obama's schedule showed he had one eye on the bipartisan support he'll need after taking office.

➤ See OBAMA, 2A

Extreme weather not expected

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Don't head to the grocery store for the bread and milk just yet.

Snow showers and flurries are expected in the area again today, but with temperatures above freezing, there's no chance of accumulation, according to Mike Leary, forecaster for the National Weather Service in Peachtree City.

"There's a slight possibility of snow, but I wouldn't worry about it," Leary said Monday night.

Today's high is expected to be in the mid-30s, just warm enough to keep snow from accumulating, he said. As the temperature drops later in the evening, the chance for more snow fades, he said. The temperature tonight is expected to drop into the lower 20s.

Snow showers passed through the area Monday evening, but temperatures remained in the mid-30s so there was no accumulation. However, there could be icy patches on the roads this morning, especially on bridges and overpasses, because Monday night's lows were expected to drop into the 20s, Leary said.

By Wednesday any precipitation is expected to be gone, he said. Wednesday should be sunny with highs in the mid 40s and a lows around 20.

Temperatures Thursday are expected to reach the lower 50s, and by Friday, the lower 60s.

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2A Tuesday, January 20, 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. Call 706-272-7748 to reach Today's Forum.

"My 19-year-old son was almost hit head on by someone trying to miss the pot-holes on Airport Road. Is it going to take someone getting killed for them to fix it."

"I can't speak for the state of Georgia, but I would personally like to apologize for my involvement in slavery."

"If Sonny Perdue would take over Georgia Power and Dalton Utilities, the state would have plenty of money."

"I went to the movies and a Coke was \$4."

"To show their loyalty to America, I suggest the major oil companies and CEOs of huge corporations bail us out of our depression."

"I was wondering if Don Cope got his big bonus this year."

"I wonder what part of global warming Al Gore doesn't understand. I sure would like to see his power bill this month."

"It's not Obama's race I disagree with, it's what he plans to do on office I disagree with."

"How much longer is Dalton Utilities going to gouge its customers with this fuel and emissions charge?"

"Who paid for the bicycle lanes and why don't the bikes have to have tags?"

"Where is Gore during all this global warming? Key West?"

"Is there anyone who teaches how to do this Sudoku puzzle?"

"It's now going to be called Social Insecurity. There's not going to be any money left when I get ready to retire in 25 years."

"Surely our elected officials will not allow Georgia Power to raise their rates at such a critical time as this."

"Maybe Sen. Don 'Nanny' Thomas should stick to his low-priced doctoring."

"It's a shame they had to air peace officer Sparks' private life and make it so much harder for his loved ones and friends. Couldn't they have just said he was having personal problems?"

Editor's note: Not if there is a criminal investigation involved.

"The only reason a person might think a squirrel can be murdered is because they have put their faith in the goddess theory of evolution instead of the creator God of the Bible."

Sarcasm alert
 "We sure need a traffic light at the ATM machine on Shugart Road."

"If you can't get out of the Food Lion at Rocky Face without the use of a traffic light, you need to quit driving."

"Dalton State College's new bell tower looks great. But a new parking complex being done first would have been a whole lot better."

"They wouldn't need a fence around the mosque on Dug Gap Road if it wasn't for the close minded, racist, bigoted people in this county

who can't welcome other cultures."

"Every time I read the forum I begin to think that Darwin was wrong."

"Thank you to Hopewell Baptist Church on Airport Road for the free clothes. Thank you very much."

"Giving the money from the pet calendars to the Murray and Whitfield humane societies is a wonderful idea."

Editor's note: That money goes to pay for our Newspaper In Education program, also a wonderful idea.

"People who stay under the bridges have several places they can go. Pets are at our mercy."

"Thank God for David Ridley or we would have another Reed family dynasty. Good luck David."

"Make sure that if you have a space heater that you aren't packing clothes and stuff in front of it. You don't want your house to burn down."

"Dr. Painter, we are going to miss you at the Animal Hospital of Whitfield County."

"For forum readers' information, FAT stands for Fabulous And Terrific."

"I am glad Obama has taken over the Oval Office. It's been empty for eight years."

"I never did care what Jackie O was wearing. Nor do I care about Michelle Obama. But Beyonce, that's a different story."

"Jimmy Espy, your article in The Daily Citizen on Sunday titled 'My Presidents' is hysterically funny."

"Put up on war crimes? They need to be thanking Bush and Cheney for us not being hit by terrorists in the last eight years."

"What gives anyone the right to call anyone else fat?"

"Sonny Perdue needs to cut down on spending. That way he won't have a shortfall."

"Foreclosures aren't just because people bought houses they can't afford. Some people have lost their jobs or have medical bills. Some people do have to live check to check."

"What do we do with the bags of food the Boy Scouts didn't pick up?"

"I see Obama's mother-in-law is moving in the White House with Michelle Obama. She'll get free rent and three meals a day. Our tax dollars at work."

"We don't need a red light in Rocky Face at the Food Lion. You simply need to learn how to drive or surrender you drivers license."

"I just read in the forum that Governor Perdue wants the legislature to get rid of the Homestead exemption. Does that sound strange that it wasn't brought up until they got elected to office?"

"I believe the Murray County citizens should get on their hands and knees and ask forgiveness for all the bad things they said about Bill Napier, because we haven't had a good football team since that man left."

The forum number is 706-272-7748.

Volunteering: On MLK Day

> *Cont. from page 1A*

"It's basically part of Dr. King's dream coming to fruition with Obama becoming president," Harris said of the Obama/King painting. "This is my tribute."

Martin Luther King Day holds special meaning to Harris, who is black.

"It used to mean honoring my ancestors and forefathers and everything they went through, but now it's about the meaning of everybody embracing change and just coming together like Obama did — and everybody has, just look around," Harris said.

Obama will be sworn in today as the country's first black president. At the community center, three posters of Obama are in the lobby alongside posters bearing the images of black pioneers in government, science and education. There are also photographs of two former black Major League Baseball players who were born in Dalton: David Mann and Harry "Suitcase" Simpson.

The messages of King — unity, equality and freedom — were an integral part of the day.

Rod Weaver, a member

of the United Way board of directors, gave attendees a brief history on King's fruitful life, from his birth in Atlanta on Jan. 15, 1929, to his death by assassination in Memphis on April 4, 1968. Weaver noted that King sought to overcome blacks "being treated as second class citizens" through non-violence, whether it was boycotts, sit-ins or marches.

"King fought to overcome these challenges," Weaver said.

The education continued through the day, wrapping up with tours of The Emery Center.

Critter

> *Cont. from page 1A*

Fortner is sure it was some type of animal and not vandals.

"I can look at the shutters and see the bite marks," he said. "It was something wild that took some time eating on the blinds."

Fortner estimated the damage at between \$750 and \$1,000, since three sets of blinds were destroyed and there was other damage.

"My receptionist likes to grow African violets, and she splits them up and gives some to our clients," he said. "All of those were destroyed. One reason I think it was a squirrel was because it didn't eat the dog food I had set out for my little dog when he comes in with me. A 'possum or a coon would have eaten that."

Fortner's office is in a former drive-through bank, and he believes the critter



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Michael Fortner points to where he thinks a squirrel chewed on the shutters at his business in Eton on Monday.

got into the office through an uncapped transfer tube.

Jeff Ferrick, a technician with Overby Exterminating, said it's not unusual for squirrels or other rodents to seek shelter in homes or offices, especially during the winter.

"They're looking for a place to nest, a warm cave," he said, "and they can start a fire. Their teeth get long and they'll

gnow them down on a live wire until they get fried. Then a fire will start."

Ferrick said squirrels can walk on power lines to get to a house, then hang upside down and gnaw into a roof line to gain entry.

"They're great climbers, but basically they're just fuzzy-tailed rats," he said.

Ferrick recommends looking around the eaves of houses for possible entry holes.

"You can patch up holes with wire mesh, steel wool or anything of a metal texture," he advised. "But foam insulation won't work — they'll go right through it."

"Squirrels are rodents with bushy tails. They will destroy your house if they get into it."

— Caller to "Today's Forum" recently

Obama: The day is here

> *Cont. from page 1A*

The night before becoming the nation's 44th president he was stopping by dinners saluting his vice president, Joe Biden, and two Republican stalwarts: former Secretary of State Colin Powell and Sen. John McCain of Arizona, the man Obama defeated last November to win the White House.

Uniformed military personnel patrolled Washington street corners, the advance guard of a massive security presence planned for the oath-taking, inaugural speech, parade and other festivities. Officers checked

out some suspicious packages and vehicles, but everything was cleared, said FBI spokesman Richard Kolko. "The city and the people seem to be in a good mood and good spirits," he said. "Security is going well, that's what all the planning is for."

On the specially built inaugural stands outside the Capitol, musicians Yo-Yo Ma and Itzhak Perlman rehearsed for their role in today's ceremonies.

George W. Bush was in the White House for a final full day as president after two terms marked by the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and the economic

collapse of 2008. He placed calls to world leaders, including Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin, and commuted the prison sentences of two former Border Patrol Guards.

This morning, he and first lady Laura Bush will greet Obama and his wife, Michelle, at the storied mansion's front portico and see them in for a brief visit. By the time Obama returns at mid-afternoon, he will be the nation's 44th president, Bush will be en route to a Texas retirement, and the moving vans will have departed with one family's belongings and arrived with the other's.

TODAY'S CITIZEN

NAME: Claude Craig
HOME: Dalton
FAMILY: Wife, Laura Craig; children, Zach and Rob; dogs, Abbie and Millie
WORK: Deputy director, Whitfield County Emergency Services
PLAY: Golf
SHE SAID: "Be prepared because you never know what tomorrow brings."



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AP PHOTO

Janine Brown shows support for Tracie Herold, who marched with 9-5 Working Women, in the annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade in Atlanta yesterday.

Hundreds gather for King Day service in Atlanta

BY ERRIN HAINES
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — The inauguration of the nation's first black president is a huge step toward realizing Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream of racial equality, but there is still work to be done, King's nephew told a large crowd Monday at the church where the civil rights leader once preached.

Isaac Newton Farris, president of The King Center, told the jubilant crowd on Martin Luther King Jr. Day that the election of Barack Obama was built on a foundation laid by King.

"There is definitely a spiritual connection between these two events," Farris told the mostly black congregation that erupted in applause at any mention of Obama's name.

Though Obama's election to the nation's highest office is a milestone, King's final achievement will not be complete until disparities in health care, education and economics are eliminated, he said.

"The dream was not about an individual or any race of people attaining power," Farris said. "It was a human dream."

The sanctuary of Ebenezer Baptist Church was packed with about 2,000 people, and dozens were left outside.

The celebration also included a keynote address from Pastor Rick Warren, a Southern Baptist who is scheduled to give the invocation at Obama's inauguration on Tuesday. Warren urged the crowd to follow King's example of service and selflessness.

"Tomorrow when I pray the invocation for my friend, Dr. King and a whole host of

witnesses will be shouting," Warren said. "Martin Luther King was a mighty tool in the hand of God. But God isn't through. Justice is a journey and we're getting further and further along."

The selection of Warren, who opposes same-sex marriage in his home state of California, was controversial for both events. Obama's decision to give Warren a role in the inauguration sparked protests from the gay community and the National Organization for Women. At the Atlanta service, about 100 protesters gathered across the street, and there was an outburst from at least one critic before Warren addressed the audience.

Farris defended The King Center's choice of keynote speaker, saying that Warren's stances on issues like global warming, AIDS and poverty are in keeping with King's ideals.

"Warren is not so easy to pigeonhole as your average conservative," Farris said.

King preached at Ebenezer from 1960 until his death in 1968, and a service commemorating his birthday and life are held there annually. On election night, the mainly black audience there was moved to tears when news networks announced that Obama had won the presidential race.

King would have been 80 years old on Jan. 15.

Only one of King's three living children, Bernice, attended the Monday event. His sister, Christine King Farris, led the ceremony.

King's son Martin Luther King III was in Washington already and his other son Dexter King — who lives in California — did not attend. Their other sister, Yolanda, died in 2007.

AREA BRIEFS

Prospective parents of students

Bright School, an independent school in Chattanooga for children in preschool through grade five, is hosting an informational evening coffee for prospective parents on Thursday in Dalton.

For directions and more information call Mary Telford Williams in Bright's admissions office at (423) 267-8546, extension 124.

The school's Web site is www.brightschool.com.

Project DESTINY

Project DESTINY (Dalton

Entering Servanthood to Inspire a New You) will meet on Thursday at 6 p.m. at True Gospel Pentecostal Church, 109 S. Henderson St. Matthew Crumpton, trauma and emergency manager for Hamilton Medical Center, will speak about the new Walk-in Access Clinic. The public is invited.

Project DESTINY is a state Board of Pardons and Parole faith-based initiative designed to help returning parolees and their families become acquainted with and connected to area resources.

For more information, call (706) 218-2560.

Bush commutes sentences of former US border agents

BY DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — In his final acts of clemency, President George W. Bush on Monday granted early prison releases to two former U.S. Border Patrol agents whose convictions for shooting a Mexican drug dealer fueled the national debate over illegal immigration.

Bush, responding to heavy pressure from Republican and Democratic lawmakers alike, commuted the prison sentences of Ignacio Ramos and Jose Compean. The two guards from El Paso, Texas, each were sentenced to more than 10 years for the shooting, which they tried to cover up. They will be released within two months.

Opposition to their convictions, sentencing and firings has simmered ever since the shooting occurred in 2005.

"After four years of fighting this, it's taken a toll on me and my daughter, and really the whole family," said Joe Loya, Ramos' father-in-law, who has received tens of thousands of supportive e-mails and spent much of the past two years traveling the country to speak about the case. "We wouldn't give up. ... I knew sooner or later God would come through — that finally it would happen."

He said his daughter, Monica Ramos, called from New York after learning the news that her husband soon would be released from a federal prison just outside Phoenix.

"She could hardly speak," Loya said.

The border agents' case became a rallying cause for conservatives concerned about border protection. On talk shows, people sympathetic with the agents argued that the men were just doing their jobs, defending the U.S.-Mexico border against criminals.

Bob Baskett, Compean's attorney in Dallas, cited



AP FILE PHOTO

In this Oct. 19, 2006 file photo, former U.S. Border Patrol agent Ignacio Ramos, center, leaves the U.S. Federal Courthouse with his wife, Monica Ramos, in El Paso, Texas. In his final acts of clemency, President George W. Bush on Monday commuted the prison sentences of two former U.S. Border Patrol agents whose convictions for shooting a Mexican drug dealer ignited fierce debate about illegal immigration.

widespread congressional support from the bipartisan congressional delegation from Texas. "I think the president did the right thing," he said. "An awful lot of people did an awful lot of work to get this done."

David Botsford, a lawyer for Ramos in Austin, Texas, said he had been guardedly optimistic that the commutations would be granted because of the support from Congress and the thousands of people who had sent letters of concern. The president has shown "he's a compassionate man," Botsford said.

Rep. John Culberson, R-Texas, applauded the president's decision: "I do not condone the actions of these two men, but I believe the mandatory 10-year sentencing guidelines used in this case were excessive."

Compean and Ramos were convicted of shooting admitted drug smuggler

Culberson helped gather signatures from 31 of the 34 current members of the Texas congressional delegation and two former delegation members for a letter asking Bush for the commutations. Culberson hand-delivered the letter to the White House last week.

"I was beginning to really be concerned that with literally only hours left in the president's term, this might not happen," he said. "With this one decision, President Bush has done more to improve his popularity than any single thing he could do."

Rep. Silvestre Reyes, D-Texas, applauded the president's decision: "I do not condone the actions of these two men, but I believe the mandatory 10-year sentencing guidelines used in this case were excessive."

Compean and Ramos were convicted of shooting admitted drug smuggler

Osvaldo Aldrete Davila in the buttocks as he fled across the Rio Grande, away from an abandoned van load of marijuana. He remains in a low-security prison in Fort Worth, Texas.

The border agents claimed at their trials that they believed the smuggler was armed and that they shot him in self defense. The prosecutor in the case, a U.S. attorney who was appointed by Bush in 2001, said there was no evidence linking the smuggler to the van of marijuana. The prosecutor also said the border agents didn't report the shooting and tampered with evidence by picking up several spent shell casings.

White House officials said Bush didn't pardon the men for their crimes, but commuted their sentences because he believed they were excessive and that they had already suffered the loss of their jobs, freedom and reputations.

'WE SHALL OVERCOME'



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

People sing "We shall overcome" as they march to the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial on Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard to lay a wreath on it Monday morning.

AREA ARRESTS

■ Timothy Blake Callahan, 31, 1796 N. Boyd Drive, Rocky Face, was charged Sunday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with aggravated assault and criminal trespass.

■ Jeffery Lee Keown, 25, 185 Northern Fairway, Chatsworth, was charged Sunday by the Eton Police Department with DUI,

improper passing, and expired vehicle tag or decal.

■ Kenneth Terrance Pulliam, 34, 101 Heatherly Lane, Chatsworth, was charged Sunday by the Chatsworth Police Department with possession of methamphetamine.

■ Yoseph Benjamin Rabun, 22, 4693 Cider Ridge Trail, Stone Mountain, was

charged Sunday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

■ Melissa Ann Reid, 42, 191 Deer Park Drive, Chatsworth, was charged Sunday by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with theft by taking.

■ Glenn Shane Owenby, 33, 321 N. Highway 411,

Chatsworth, was charged Monday by the Chatsworth Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and disorderly conduct.

■ Matthew Frank Sloan, 33, 127 Hollywood Drive, Dalton, was charged Monday by the Murray County Sheriff's Office with possession of methamphetamine.



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Unsigned editorials represent the view of The Daily Citizen. Members of the newspaper's editorial board are William Bronson, Jimmy Espy, Wes Chance and Victor Miller. Columns and letters to the editor are the opinions of the authors.

ISSUES

Bush's humanitarian triumph

George Bush as president was a brutal war-monger who cared not a whit about the poor, it's said by some, and you wonder what they are going to do with a fact that shines so large and bright that to ignore it is to admit their own ugly bias.

It is simply this — that Bush did more humanitarian good for the world's poorest, most diseased people than any of his predecessors as much as dreamed of. The instruments were, first off, the Global Fund, an international group fighting AIDS, malaria and TB that he helped start, and then the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief that does its work in Africa, where people absolutely cheer him loudly. Here's the lowdown on why. It has saved millions of lives.

Look around, and you can find a few critics who quarrel with this, that or the other aspect of this achievement, but not Bill Clinton or Barack Obama, two Democrats who praise it, and certainly not Jay Lefkowitz, who worked with Bush as a policy adviser on the project. He has written that Bush's efforts reveal the character of a man "who doggedly pursued his vision through a minefield of conflicting interests, despite the absence of any tangible political benefit to himself or his party, and at the risk of a costly break with one of his core constituencies."

While the Global Fund is primarily funded by the United States and is important, it is the second program that has most made a difference, and figuring it out and getting it to where it needed to go was no easy thing, Lefkowitz tells us

Anti-AIDS drugs are hugely expensive, and the issue was to get them to millions of people. So there were budget worries. Administering the program had endless complications, and Bush wanted to find ways to measure its success. Some Republicans objected to participation by doctors who performed abortions, but that would mean a failure to reach many victims. Democrats were unhappy with provisions to advocate sexual abstinence, even though experience in Uganda showed the technique worked. John Kerry wanted his own program, and viewed the president's ideas as a political affront.

Through all of this, it seems, Bush remained constant to his goals, and we thus get to the good news of how billions of dollars of increased spending have led to antiretroviral treatment for two million people when six or so years back it was just 50,000 who were getting it. Lefkowitz notes that 13 million pregnant women have received help so that they won't transmit HIV to their babies. Many tens of millions more have been reached one way or the other, through counseling, care and preventive measures, such as the distribution of condoms.

The story isn't over with that information, though, because there is also the news about the anti-malaria programs — the incidence of this killer disease has been cut in half in 15 countries — and because the administration has also promoted trade and economic assistance in Africa as ways of improving overall living conditions.

Bush deserves enormous credit here, no matter how people assess other aspects of his administration, because this is not just some blip in history, some minor thing, but a massive, extraordinary outreach for which there are relatively few comparisons. The people deriding him might ask themselves how many lives they saved today.

Scripps Howard News Service

Letters to the Editor

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WORDS OF WISDOM

Bible verse: "No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it."

1 Corinthians 10:13

Thought for today: "America is great because she is good. If America ceases to be good, America will cease to be great."

Alexis de Tocqueville
French author (1805-1859)

Welcome to town, President Obama

Welcome to Washington, soon to be "Mr. President." I know you've been here before for a short time as senator, but this is different. This is The Big Time, the world stage and you are the leading man.

You campaigned on change and won the election. That was the easy part. Every new administration comes to town thinking it will be better than the one before it, more honest, more ethical, more competent. But people and events have a way of frustrating the loftiest goals.

Even conservatives like me want you to succeed, so long as you don't pursue a strictly left-wing agenda. Would you like to disarm the social conservatives? Instead of signing an executive order that strikes down what few restrictions remain on abortion, start with your declared intention to make abortion rare. Ask for legislation that requires pregnant, abortion-minded women to receive full disclosure, including sonograms, so that their choice will be fully informed. Elevate the visibility of the pregnancy help centers around the country that quietly and without charge assist women before and after childbirth. They even help women who have chosen to have abortions. You will create a lot of goodwill among those who otherwise might oppose you.

Here's another suggestion: focus less on ideology and more on how people can become independent of government. For too long, your party has emphasized misery, failure and government



Cal Thomas

dependence, you model and encourage achievement.

Take the lead in inspiring African-American youth to stay in school, study hard, delay sex until marriage and build a family. You are a great example of what right decision-making can produce.

Don't make the mistake Republicans made when they ran all three branches of government. Make Republicans feel like fellow Americans with a different plan for reaching similar goals. No one wants poorly performing schools, more poverty and a weak national defense. If we can agree on the problems, we can then discuss the best way to solve them. Include Republicans in your decision-making and at least occasionally embrace some of their ideas. Disarming your opponents is less bloody and can be more productive than crushing them. Most people are tired of the partisan bickering. If you produce results through a common ground approach, as you pledged to do during the campaign, you will engender goodwill, what every president must have to get anything done.

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I realize this next suggestion is self-serving. Invite conservative columnists and opinion leaders in to see you. Explain to them what you are doing and consider their ideas. This, too, is likely to generate goodwill. We conservatives don't want to be saying "no" all the time and that personality of yours might just win some of us over; if not on all of your policies, then at least on some. Fortunately, you made a good start here by recently meeting with conservative columnists who have been critical of you in the past. More of this is needed.

You may think you are all-powerful (or others may tell you that) but don't let "the smell of the white paint," as a friend who worked in the Nixon administration called it, intoxicate you. Humility is a strong quality that contrasts with the arrogance and hubris so often associated with the city in which you will temporarily reside. Work hard on thinking of others as better than yourself. In doing so, you might humble some of them, which would be a miracle in itself.

Good luck, God bless and I hope you succeed in the things with which conservatives can agree. And on those things we cannot agree, I at least promise to be more than a naysayer and suggest how they might be done better.

■ Contact columnist Cal Thomas via mail at Tribune Media Services, 2225 Kenmore Ave., Suite 114, Buffalo, NY, 14207.



Hamas has camera-ready victims

They are estimating that as many as 1,000 Gazans (unverified) may have been killed and many more wounded by Israel's counterattack against Hamas' missiles that have rained down on southern Israel's schools, homes, and businesses for several years. Many of those killed by the Israel Defense Forces were Hamas operatives. (Israel turns out to have excellent intelligence about their locations, and in several instances the IDF phoned its target before attacking, giving him an opportunity to save his family by leaving the house.) But many were not terrorists because Hamas has perfected a kind of camera-ready human sacrifice — placing its launchers in playgrounds, hospitals, and neighborhoods crowded with mothers and children.

Every innocent human life lost is a tragedy and a horror. But to watch the news in Brussels or Boston and certainly in Islamabad or Caracas, you will get the distorted impression that the Palestinian plight is the worst on earth — an impression that is reinforced almost daily by the United Nations. We in the United States pay almost no attention to the resolutions, findings, and advocacy of the U.N., regarding it as a font of gasbagery, stinking hypocrisy, and cant. But the rest of the world does pay attention. According to Eye on the UN (www.eyeontheun.org), in 2008, 68 percent of General Assembly resolutions regarding violations of human rights targeted Israel. Afghanistan was cited in 4 percent of the resolutions along with Azerbaijan, Georgia, the United States and a few others. Russia, Sudan, China, and Saudi Arabia, just to name a few, were not cited at all. In 2007, 32 countries were mentioned for human rights violations, though most just barely. Israel once again topped the list with 121 actions taken against her. Sudan came in second with 61, Myanmar third with 41.



Mona Charen

those 19 years, the Egyptians never offered citizenship to the Palestinians living in Gaza, nor did they permit them free transit from the Strip into Egypt proper. They did nothing to encourage the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. In fact, in 1958, Egypt's President Nasser formally annulled the so-called "All Palestine Government" — a remnant of the Palestinian state the Arabs rejected in 1948. Egypt, like all of the other Arab states and, importantly, the U.N., chose to keep the Palestinians bereft and stateless — a permanent and growing dagger aimed at Israel.

Even more instructive is this: When Israel withdrew from Gaza in 2005, Gaza's residents had a golden opportunity to begin to build the sort of state they have claimed to desire. The Israelis even left behind the infrastructure to give the Palestinians a start: roads, houses, swimming pools, fish farms, nurseries, orchards, and factories. The Palestinians chose to kill each other (see Jonathan Schanzer's new book, "Hamas vs. Fatah") and to fire missiles across the border at Israel instead. Apologists like Columbia's Rashid Khalidi protest that Israel continued to control sea lanes, borders, and air space around Gaza and cut off aid after

the Palestinians elected Hamas. Well, Hamas didn't seem to have any trouble importing longer and longer-range Iranian missiles despite Israel's blockade. And in any case, despite the advice of some hardliners in Israel, the Israeli government continued to permit humanitarian supplies through.

Since the start of 2007, 16,000 civilians have been killed in fighting. Not in Gaza, so you may have missed it. It was in Somalia, where an Islamist movement is fighting Ethiopian troops. This is the 18th year of civil strife in that country.

In Sri Lanka, some 70,000 people have perished in a civil war that has flared on and off since 1983. The regime in Myanmar (formerly Burma) has killed thousands and forced an estimated 800,000 into involuntary servitude.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo (formerly Zaire) 45,000 people are dying every month. Nearly 5 and a half million have died since 1998 in a conflict that grew out of the violence in Rwanda and spread. Half of those deaths were of children under the age of 5, according to the International Rescue Committee. The violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo has caused more human devastation than any conflict since World War II.

In Darfur, Sudan, more than 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million made homeless by violence.

To cite these sad data is not to suggest that suffering is tolerable in any particular case — but merely to observe that the world is strangely blinkered in the tragedies to which it responds.

■ To find out more about Mona Charen and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Jan. 20, the 20th day of 2009. There are 345 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Jan. 20, 1981, Iran released 52 Americans it had held hostage for 444 days, minutes after the presidency passed from Jimmy Carter to Ronald Reagan.

On this date:

In 1887, the U.S. Senate approved an agreement to lease Pearl Harbor in Hawaii as a naval base.

In 1937, President Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first chief executive to be inaugurated on Jan. 20 instead of March 4.

In 1945, President Franklin D. Roosevelt was sworn into office for an unprecedented fourth term.

In 1949, President Harry S. Truman was sworn in for a second term of office.

In 1969, Richard M. Nixon was sworn in as the 37th president of the United States; Spiro Agnew took the oath of vice president.

In 1989, George H.W. Bush was sworn in as the 41st president of the United States; Dan Quayle took the oath of vice president.

Ten years ago: For a second day, President Bill Clinton's legal team argued its case before the Senate, saying that House-passed articles of impeachment were "flawed and unfair."

Five years ago: President George W. Bush, in his State of the Union address, asserted that America was strengthening its economy and successfully combating terrorism.

One year ago: The Los Angeles Times announced its top editor, James O'Shea, had been fired after he rejected a management order to cut \$4 million from the newsroom budget, 14 months after his predecessor was also ousted in a budget dispute.

Today's Birthdays: Country singer Slim Whitman is 85. Actress Patricia Neal is 83. Comedian Arte Johnson is 80. Former astronaut Buzz Aldrin is 79. Actress Dorothy Provine is 72. Singer Eric Stewart is 64. Movie director David Lynch is 63. Comedian Bill Maher is 53. Actor Lorenzo Lamas is 51.

Morales is a Shining Star

SUBMITTED BY BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Magaly Morales of Dalton received the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Georgia Mountains "Shining Star Award" as part of the organization's Silver Bell Sprint.

The Shining Star Award is presented to a person that "has achieved a life-changing goal and serves as an inspiration to those around them."

Morales has been a creeler at Shaw Plant 1 for the past nine years. She was nominated by a member of the community that cited her "perseverance in the face of uncertainty" and her "ability to overcome adversity." Most notably, Morales saved money and recently purchased her first home. She has also been accepted to Dalton State College and plans to attend in the summer or fall depending on the course schedule.

Morales received a necklace with a star pendant as a reminder of her accomplishments.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Magaly Morales, who was presented the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northwest Georgia Mountains "Shining Star Award," is shown with her 11-year-old daughter, Melissa Martinez.

Anyone in the community can be nominated during the registration period in the

weeks leading up to the December race. To learn more about Big Brothers

Big Sisters or the Silver Bell Sprint, call (706) 278-0702.

Perdue must repay \$21 million business loan by March 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Gov. Sonny Perdue is facing \$21 million in personal debt after he took out a massive loan last year for his two agricultural businesses, according to public records obtained by The Atlanta Journal-Constitution.

Records reveal the governor got the loan from AgGeorgia Farm Credit in Perry on collateral worth less than 20 percent of the loan's value, an unusual move, the newspaper reported.

Perdue declined to comment on the loan, which is due by March 1.

"He's a small businessman," said Bert Brantley, Perdue's spokesman. "As small businesses and small business owners around the state know, sometimes you have to personally sign for loans for your business."

Because he is not running for office again, Perdue is not required to

disclose the details of the loan.

The loan is worth almost three times his personal assets of \$6.1 million, which he disclosed in his latest statement of his finances in 2006.

Unlike the most three recent Georgia governors, Perdue did not place his financial interest in a blind trust while in office. The governor has said his Bonaire grain businesses — Houston Fertilizer & Grain Co. and AGrowStar LLC — would have suffered if he had put them in a blind trust.

AgGeorgia accepted collateral from Perdue worth just 19 percent of the loans, according to Houston County Superior Court documents. He put up his Bonaire home, worth about \$1.6 million, and his businesses and all their assets, worth about \$2.3 million.

Most banks require collateral of at least 50 percent, experts say.

A WALK IN THE SNOW



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Chris and Jacquie Skaare, of Dalton and originally from Washington state, take their dog Cash for a walk in a snow shower at Civitan Park Monday evening.

DRESS REHEARSAL



AP PHOTO

The crew of space shuttle Discovery from left, commander Lee Archambault, pilot Tony Antonelli, mission specialist's Joseph Acaba, Steve Swanson, Richard Arnold, John Phillips, and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency astronaut Koichi Wakata, arrive for dress rehearsal training for their upcoming mission at Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., Monday. Discovery is scheduled to launch Feb. 12.

Union chief: US auto makeover deadline unrealistic

By KEN THOMAS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — United Auto Workers union president Ron Gettelfinger suggested Monday that a mid-February deadline for General Motors and Chrysler to complete their restructuring plans may be "almost unattainable" and no formal talks had commenced between the union and car makers.

Gettelfinger told reporters the current Feb. 17 deadline for General Motors Corp. and Chrysler LLC could be moved back "because, honestly, most people that would look at this from a realistic standpoint would say this timeline is almost unattainable."

"I said myself that I hope this wasn't set up to intentionally fail because the people who were a part of this have no idea of the magnitude of what they were asking these companies to do," Gettelfinger said at a pre-Inaugural reception. There have been a number of parties in Washington ahead of President-elect Barack Obama's inauguration Tuesday.

The Treasury Department provided \$17.4

billion in loans to General Motors and Chrysler last month, but the companies need to file detailed restructuring plans by Feb. 17 that include concessions from the UAW and bondholders.

The bailout engineered by the outgoing Bush administration requires GM and Chrysler to achieve "viability" by March 31. The loans may be called back if the government determines the automakers haven't meet that goal.

GM spokesman Greg Martin said the company was "working hard to meet the terms of the loan and to comply with all deadlines." A message was left with a Chrysler spokeswoman.

Gettelfinger said union leaders "haven't had any real formal discussions" with the companies and the UAW was reviewing documents related to the loans.

The incoming Obama administration will be free to reopen the agreement from the government's side if they choose to. Asked whether the UAW would ask Obama for changes, Gettelfinger said, "all we want is the Obama administration to be fair as opposed to somebody taking a shot at organized labor."

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Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band

DSC welcomes Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band

SUBMITTED BY DALTON STATE COLLEGE

Dalton State College will welcome the world-famous Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band tonight at 7:30 in the Goodroe Auditorium of Memorial Hall. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Trinidad Tripoli Steel Band is a family group that plays a repertoire of music that ranges from classical to rock and roll — using oil drums.

audiences not only because of the unusual use of oil drums as instruments, but also because of the group's artistic versatility in playing modern, classical and Calypso music," said Jane Taylor, director of public relations for Dalton State College. "The group plays many calypso and reggae numbers, and they use dancing and chanting in their performances."

For more information about the concert, please call (706) 272-4469.

GLOBAL FREEZING



AP PHOTO

Craig Compeau explains a Global Freezing Contest in front of an ice sculpture of Al Gore yesterday morning in Fairbanks, Alaska. The 8 1/2-foot-tall, 5-ton sculpture dominates a downtown street corner from its perch on the back of a flatbed truck.

Due to many abandoned animals, The Humane Society of Northwest Georgia needs your help!



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FDA confirms salmonella

By **EMILY FREDRIX**
Associated Press Writer

MILWAUKEE — Kellogg Co. said Monday federal authorities have confirmed that salmonella was found in a single package of its peanut butter crackers, as a Midwestern grocer and General Mills Corp. recalled some of its products because of the scare.

Kellogg had recalled 16 products last week because of the possibility of salmonella contamination.

On Monday, the company based in Battle Creek, Mich., said that contamination was confirmed by the Food and Drug Administration in a single package of Austin Quality Foods Toasty Crackers with Peanut Butter.

Food companies and retailers have been recalling products with peanut butter in them because of suspicion of contamination amid a salmonella outbreak that has killed at least six people and sickened more than 470 others in 43 states. At least 90 people have been hospitalized.

Monday, Midwestern grocer and retailer Meijer Inc. said it was recalling two types of crackers and two varieties of ice cream because of the possibility of salmonella contamination: Meijer brand Cheese and Peanut Butter



AP PHOTO

Fred Large, owner and cook at Smitty's Grill in Blakely, Ga., stands behind the counter on Jan. 15. Large said his customers are concerned that a local peanut butter plant may be linked to a nationwide salmonella outbreak.

and Toasty Peanut Butter sandwich crackers, and Peanut Butter and Jelly and Peanut Butter Cup ice cream.

Golden Valley, Minn.-based General Mills said in a

news release Monday afternoon that it was recalling two flavors of snack bars: LARABAR Peanut Butter Cookie snack bars and JamFrakas Peanut Butter Blisscrisp snack bars. The company said the recall affected 15,000 cases and no illnesses have been reported. General Mills said the recall did not affect any other products it makes.

It was not immediately clear how many packages of Kellogg crackers had been tested, if more tests were being made on other products or if some had already been found not have salmonella, Kellogg spokeswoman Kris Charles said. A spokesman for the FDA said the agency was not providing any new information Monday.

The government on Saturday had advised consumers to avoid eating cookies, cakes, ice cream and other foods containing peanut butter until health officials learn more about the contamination.

Officials said that most peanut butter sold in jars at supermarkets appears to be safe.

Officials have been focusing on peanut paste and peanut butter made at Peanut Corp. of America's plant in Blakely, Ga.

On Sunday, Peanut Corp.

expanded its own recall to all peanut butter and peanut paste produced at the Blakely plant since July 1.

The company's peanut butter is not sold directly to consumers but it is distributed to institutions and food companies. The peanut paste, made from roasted peanuts, is an ingredient in cookies, cakes and other products sold to consumers.

The recall last week by Kellogg, the world's largest cereal maker, affected products including Keebler Soft Batch Homestyle Peanut Butter Cookies, Famous Amos Peanut Butter Cookies and Keebler Cheese & Peanut Butter Sandwich Crackers. Charles said the recall affected more than 7 million cases of its products.

Kellogg Chief Executive David Mackay said the company would evaluate its processes "to ensure we take necessary actions to reassure consumers and rebuild confidence in these products."

Salmonella, a bacteria, is the most common cause of food poisoning in the U.S., causing diarrhea, cramping and fever.

Over the weekend, Little Debbie maker McKee Foods Corp. of Collegedale, Tenn., issued a voluntary recall of its peanut butter crackers because of possible contamination.

MRSA rising in kids' infections

By **LINDSEY TANNER**
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO — Researchers say they have found an "alarming" increase in children's ear, nose and throat infections in the United States caused by dangerous drug-resistant staph germs.

Other studies have shown rising numbers of skin infections in adults and children caused by these germs, nicknamed MRSA, but this is the first nationwide report on how common they are in deeper tissue infections in the head and neck, the study authors said. These include certain ear and sinus infections, and abscesses that can form in the tonsils and throat.

The study found a total of

21,009 pediatric head and neck infections caused by staph germs from 2001 through 2006. The percentage caused by hard-to-treat MRSA bacteria more than doubled during that time from almost 12 percent to 28 percent.

"In most parts of the United States, there's been an alarming rise," said study author Dr. Steven Sobol, a children's head and neck specialist at Emory University.

The study appears in January's Archives of Otolaryngology, released Monday.

It is based on nationally representative information from an electronic database that collects lab results from more than 300 hospitals nationwide.

MRSA, or methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus, can cause dangerous, life-threatening invasive infections and doctors believe inappropriate use of antibiotics has contributed to its rise.

The study didn't look at the severity of MRSA illness in affected children.

Dr. Robert Daum, a University of Chicago expert in community-acquired MRSA, said the study should serve as an alert to agencies that fund U.S. research "that this is a major public health problem."

MRSA involvement in adult head and neck infections has been reported although data on prevalence is scarce.

Almost 60 percent of the MRSA infections found in

the study were thought to have been contracted outside a hospital setting.

MRSA infections were once limited mostly to hospitals, nursing homes and other health-care settings but other studies have shown they are increasingly picked up in the community, in otherwise healthy people. MRSA does not respond to penicillin-based antibiotics and doctors are concerned that it is becoming resistant to others.

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Archives:
www.archoto.com
CDC:
www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dhqp/ar_mrsa.html

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Advertisement

Device that relieves pain without drugs is cleared for public use by FDA

Research shows it relieves pain from arthritis, back, shoulder, knee, tennis elbow, fibromyalgia, carpal tunnel, injuries and also helps the body repair damaged tissue

By John Whitehead, Media Services

An advanced device that relieves pain without drugs has been cleared for public use by the FDA. This clearance certifies the device as a medical device and that it is regarded as safe.

This device is an advanced infrared heating pad developed in Canada. It is bringing users a wide range of pain relief. Finally you can get pain relief without drugs.

Some users report relief from arthritis pain and other pain in as fast as 30 minutes.

This remarkable heating pad was developed by ThermoTex Therapy Systems Ltd. located in Calgary, Canada. It was then made available to the public in the remote Canadian province of Saskatchewan.

Virtually no advertising was needed to sell the ThermoTex heating pad in Saskatchewan. As soon as a few people tried it and got such dramatic results, they spread the word like wildfire. In a short period of time over 30,000 people in the sparsely populated Saskatchewan Province were using the ThermoTex heating pad.

The ThermoTex heating pad is safe to use and its use has no known side effects.

The ThermoTex heating pad is now being offered to the public in all of Canada and in the United States. Thousands are being sold with rave reviews from consumers.

Media Services interviewed the president of ThermoTex Therapy Systems Ltd, Francis Docherty. This interview follows:

Q. What types of pain does the ThermoTex heating pad relieve?

A. There are four sources of pain. One is inflammation characterized by redness, heat and swelling. Two is muscle stiffness, soreness or spasms. Three involves the toxic conditions caused by various toxins such as lactic acid. And, four is stress or hypertension caused by unpleasant physical or psychological conditions. Unlike drugs, which only target one source of pain, the ThermoTex heating pad relieves pain from all 4 sources.

Q. How does the ThermoTex heating pad pain relief differ from pain relief produced by drugs?

A. Drugs only relieve pain by interrupting the natural pain impulse. But drugs may produce harmful side effects like nausea, bleeding or worse. The ThermoTex heating pad goes directly to the source of the pain for relief.

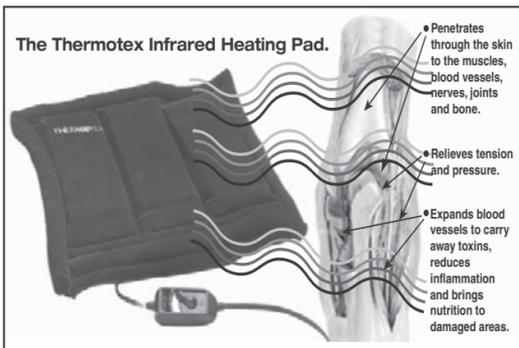
Q. Is the ThermoTex heating pad safe to use?

A. The ThermoTex heating pad is an FDA registered medical device and it is totally safe to use.

Q. How do you compare the ThermoTex heating pad with other heating pads?

A. You cannot compare the ThermoTex heating pad with other heating pads that are available all over the world. That would be like comparing a Rolls Royce with the cheapest automobile.

Other heating pads only heat the surface of the skin and a few layers below. The ThermoTex infrared heating pad can rapidly help a person who is in pain because of the way that the infrared waves penetrate the various layers of the skin and muscles to a



I have had painful arthritis in my knees and upper back for many years now. I have been to many doctors who could not help me.

My son-in-law's company was offering the ThermoTex heating pad and he gave me one to use. After only 30 minutes of use, it took away the arthritic pain in my knees. After only another 30 minutes of use it took away the arthritic pain in my back.

Using the ThermoTex heating pad is so wonderful. It is so soothing and relaxing. Now I will never give up my ThermoTex heating pad. This pad will pay for itself many times because now I do not need those expensive pain drugs. Flory Lepora



I want to share with ThermoTex my wonderful news about my mother. She could no longer wipe the table after a meal because she could not turn on the kitchen tap. Mom needed both hands to drink her coffee.

Today, six weeks after using the ThermoTex heating pad, she has resumed all normal duties, including cooking. She enjoyed a fishing trip with my Dad for the first time in years. Mandy Hanson



I used to have neck aches which lead to killer migraines at least once per month. After 3 weeks of daily sessions with the ThermoTex heating pad, I have had only one headache in 18 months which I caused by experimenting. I went nine days without using the ThermoTex heating pad to experiment and I did get one headache. Now I know that every day I maintain my neck with a session of sheer relaxation using the ThermoTex heating pad. Mark Brooker



I've had back problems for the past fifty years, and have been on strong pain killers for the past ten and have been doing a lot of doctoring all these years. A specialist told me that I've got to learn to live with it as at my age I've got degeneration of the spine.

I then got a ThermoTex heating pad and I used it faithfully for one week and I just can't believe that I can lie awake at night without a continuous nagging back pain. Tony Young

great depth in order to reach the nerves and tissues where the actual cause of the pain originates.

Customers who used the ThermoTex heating pad know the difference between ThermoTex products and "the others." They tell us that they will never give up their ThermoTex heating pads for a "million dollars" once they have used the ThermoTex heating pad even one, single time.

Q. Can you elaborate more on how the ThermoTex heating pad relieves pain?

A. The infrared energy that emanates from the ThermoTex heating pad penetrates the skin and muscles all the way to the bone. It safely and gently heats the tissues and increases the blood supply at the affected area.

The natural response of the body to the increased temperature is to try to maintain a condition of homeostasis. That means that the body automatically tries to lower the temperature in the area. Therefore, it expands blood vessels to increase blood flow.

When the ThermoTex heating pad delivers heat to the tissues, the blood vessels actually increase in diameter via a change called vasodilation. Then oxygen and nutrients in the bloodstream are able to pass through the walls of the blood vessels more easily and initiate the process of healing the damaged cells and tissues.

In addition, toxic substances causing inflammation and pain in the damaged cells can then pass back into the bloodstream much more easily. The toxins are then filtered and eliminated by organs such as the kidneys, the lungs, and the digestive tract. As the damaged, inflamed areas receive

the increased supply of blood, the cells are nourished and cleansed and inflammation is reduced. A person then experiences pain relief.

The heat also relaxes muscles and expands other tissue to relieve tension and pressure on nerves.

Q. Will a ThermoTex infrared heating pad relieve carpal tunnel pain?

A. Carpal tunnel syndrome is the result of inflammation of the carpal tunnel in the wrists. A ThermoTex infrared heating pad helps to reduce the inflammation by increasing the blood flow to the area.

Q. How can a ThermoTex heating pad relieve pain related to arthritis?

A. Most types of arthritis cause inflammation and stiffness, and a ThermoTex heating pad is an ideal form of pain relief.

The infrared heat that emanates from a ThermoTex infrared heating pad penetrates the body all the way into the joints, thus increasing the blood flow to the target area. It also expands tissue to relieve pressure. The increased blood flow also helps to flush away lactic acid buildup and reduce inflammation that is a result of the arthritic inflammation.

Q. Does a ThermoTex infrared heating pad cure arthritis?

A. There is no cure for arthritis, but a ThermoTex infrared heating pad can relieve the pain and stiffness and can help some people to resume normal activities.

Q. What are some examples of various ailments through the use of a ThermoTex heating pad?

A. There are many conditions and ailments for which a ThermoTex heating pad can



help to relieve the pain including: Arthritis, back strain, Bursitis, Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, constipation, Crohn's Disease, Dupuytren's Contracture, earaches, Fibromyalgia, golfer's or tennis elbow, hemorrhoids, hip pain, intestinal cramps, lactic acid build-up, menstrual cramps, migraines, muscle spasms, Osteoarthritis, Plantar Fasciitis, repetitive strain injury, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Rotator Cuff injuries, Sciatica, shoulder problems, sinus problems, spastic bowel, sports injuries, sprains and strains, tendinitis, tension and stress, TMJ, and whiplash.

Q. Can you use a ThermoTex heating pad on broken bones?

A. Several of our customers have informed us that they, and also their doctors, have felt that their ThermoTex heating pads have helped them to speed up the healing process that is related to broken bones. In that regard, they were able to use their ThermoTex heating pads in order to create heat that permeated through their casts.

Q. Can a ThermoTex heating pad be used to help a child?

A. A ThermoTex heating pad can safely be used on children, but we suggest that you use the lowest setting, while regularly checking the area being treated and making sure that the child is feeling no discomfort.

Q. Can a ThermoTex heating pad be used to help a pet?

A. Yes, a pet can be helped with the use of a ThermoTex heating pad. When a ThermoTex heating pad is used on a pet, we recommend that you wrap the heating pad with a cotton towel, and make sure that the cord is protected so that it cannot be chewed by the pet.

Q. Can you use a ThermoTex heating pad for as long of a period of time as desired?

A. Yes, you can't use a ThermoTex heating pad for too long of a period of time.

A ThermoTex heating pad should be used for a minimum period of 30 to 45 minutes, and there is no recommended maximum time limit.

Q. Are there any times when I should not use the ThermoTex heating pad?

If you have a disease, injury or condition, including but not limited to those listed below, before beginning to use the ThermoTex heating pad be certain to consult with your health care professional concerning it.

Specifically do not use in case of: pregnancy, malignancy (including skin lesions), desensitized areas (no feeling), circular diseases, edematous areas, scars or burned areas, active tuberculosis, adrenal suppression, lupus, multiple sclerosis, diabetes, hemophilia, surgical implants.

Q. Is the ThermoTex heating pad guaranteed?

A. Yes! Every ThermoTex heating pad comes with a 60 day money-back guarantee, and if it does not relieve your pain, we will gladly refund your purchase price.

Q. Is there also a warranty on the ThermoTex heating pad?

A. Yes. Every unit comes with a one year limited warranty on all parts and labor. For a free copy of the written warranty send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: BioTech

Research, 7800 Whipple Ave. N.W., Canton, OH 44767.

End of interview.

For those who wish to obtain a ThermoTex heating pad, the following is provided.

The ThermoTex heating pad will not be available in U.S. stores on a wide basis for an indefinite period of time until distribution is established and large enough production lines are built to handle the required amount of stock.

In the meantime, those who want to obtain the ThermoTex heating pad can order direct from ThermoTex Therapy Systems Ltd.'s U.S. distributor, BioTech Research®, in Canton, Ohio by using the Special Reader's Discount Coupon on this page. If you order within 10 days of the date of this publication, the discount provided by this coupon is \$75. If you order after 10 days, you may use the coupon to order the ThermoTex heating pad at the regular price. The ThermoTex heating pad can pay for itself many times over in savings on pain medicine.

SPECIAL READER'S DISCOUNT COUPON

The price of the ThermoTex heating pad is \$372 plus \$32 shipping for a total of \$404 delivered. People reading this publication get a \$75 discount, free shipping and handling with this coupon and pay only \$297 delivered if you order within 10 days. There is a strict limit of 3 at the discount price - no exceptions please.

• To order by phone, call TOLL FREE 1-800-466-7688 Ext. THP2402. Place your order by using your credit card. Operators are on duty Monday - Friday 6am - 3am, Saturday 7am - 12 Midnight and Sunday 7am - 11pm, EST.

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Retailers overhaul business

BY ANNE D'INNOENZIO
AP Retail Writer

NEW YORK — For years, retailers could afford to be sloppy about running their businesses because customers kept buying.

No more. Stung by the worry that shoppers — who cut spending by the most dramatic amount in at least 39 years this the holiday season — may not start spending again for a long time, stores are making drastic changes. They are cutting out marginal suppliers, hiring outside experts to keep inventory lean, holding special events for those who are still buying and making extraordinary efforts to gauge customer satisfaction.

The new discipline will be mostly good news for shoppers, who will find stores less cluttered and see an array of products at lower prices, from ordinary groceries to jeans from brands they could once only aspire to.

Of course, the downside is that consumers who want something out of the ordinary — an olive green prom dress, for example — may have to look harder. Stores are rooting out offbeat, unpopular colors and styles, which will mean fewer choices.

Sales clerks are also checking back with customers to see if they're satisfied with their purchases.

"We are in a sea change," said Millard "Mickey" Drexler, J.Crew's chairman and chief executive and former CEO and visionary of Gap Inc.

Pricing goods within reach of strapped consumers is also a big focus, given the way nervous consumers have stopped shopping. Same-store sales, or sales at stores opened at least a year, fell 2.3 percent in November and December together, according to the International Council of



AP PHOTO

Shoppers on New York's Madison Ave. pass a DKNY clothing store promoting a sale of up to 90 per cent off, Monday. Fears about the effects of rampant discounting on shoppers' psyche and its impact on stores' profit are running high as many retailers are expected to announce same-store sales declines of more than 10 percent for December on Thursday.

Shopping Centers. And the worsening sales slump in January has many worried about the industry's prospects over the next few months.

Chief executives from Crate & Barrel to J.C. Penney acknowledged during the National Retail Federation meeting this month that they're navigating new territory, predicting that the fundamental shift by consumers to spend less and save more will linger.

The biggest unknown is when or if shoppers will ever resume spending the way they did when the housing market was booming, credit was easy and jobs were more plentiful.

"Customers wanted and wanted and wanted some more and we sold and sold and

sold some more," said Burton M. Tansky, president and CEO of The Neiman Marcus Group. Now, "frugality is more important."

Weaning customers off discounts is a big challenge for the industry, as people have gotten used to them — particularly on luxury brands that hadn't been discounted before sales all but dried up.

For the last two years, many of the best-run nation's stores like J.C. Penney Co. had been reducing inventories in response to the consumer spending slowdown. But no one anticipated the severe retrenchment that hit in September as the financial meltdown ravaged shoppers' retirement accounts, reduced credit availability and resulted

in massive layoffs across industries.

As shoppers simply stopped buying, stores were forced to discount as much as 75 percent off in some cases even before the official start of the holidays — resulting in the weakest season since at least 1969, when the ICSC index began.

Some companies like KB Toys Inc. couldn't make it through the Christmas season, and many more are expected to file for bankruptcy in the coming months. Circuit City Stores Inc., which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in November, said Friday it will go out of business — closing its 567 U.S. stores, after not being able to work out a sale.

WORLD

Seeking order in Gaza Strip

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Uniformed Hamas security teams emerged on Gaza City's streets Monday as leaders of the Islamic militant group vowed to restore order in the shattered Palestinian territory after a three-week pummeling by the Israeli military. Hamas proclaimed it won a great victory over the Jewish state — a view that appeared greatly exaggerated — and the task of reconstruction faced deep uncertainty because of the fear of renewed fighting and Israel's control over border crossings.

Cars and pedestrians again clogged streets. Donkey carts hauled produce and firewood past rubble and broken glass. The parliament building and other targets of Israeli attacks were piles of debris, while orange and olive groves on the edge of town were flattened.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon planned to travel to Gaza on Tuesday to inspect damage and visit U.N. facilities hit in the fighting. Ban did not schedule meetings with officials from Hamas, whose government is not internationally recognized.

Israelis hope Gaza's civilians, who suffered heavily in the fighting that ended Sunday, will blame their militant rulers for provoking the Israeli assault with rocket attacks on southern Israel. Hamas, however, raced to capitalize on anger toward Israel and sought to show it remains unbowed and firmly in command of the Mediterranean coastal strip.

"We are still ready and capable of firing more rockets. We are developing the range of our rockets and the enemy will face more, and our rockets will hit new targets, God willing," said Abu Obeida, the spokesman for Hamas' military wing.

Suspects unapologetic in Gitmo war court

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba (AP) — Two alleged orchestrators of the 2001 attacks on America casually declared their guilt on Monday in a

messy and perhaps final session of the Guantanamo war crimes court. This week's military hearings could be the last at Guantanamo — President-elect Barack Obama has said he would close the offshore prison and many expect him to suspend the military tribunals and order new trials in the U.S.

Ramzi Binalshibh and Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, the self-proclaimed architect of the terrorist attacks, were unapologetic about their roles during a series of outbursts as translators struggled to keep up and the judge repeatedly sought to regain control.

"We did what we did; we're proud of Sept. 11," announced Binalshibh, who has said he wants to plead guilty to charges that could put him to death. The judge must first determine if he is mentally competent to stand trial.

Mohammed shrugged off the potential death sentence for the murder of nearly 3,000 people in the Sept. 11 attacks.

"We don't care about capital punishment," said Mohammed, whose thick gray beard flows to the top of his white prison jumpsuit. "We are doing jihad for the cause of God."

Iraqis out stumping for votes in show of democracy

BAGHDAD (AP) — Candidates in this month's provincial elections are answering questions from voters and debating issues ranging from Baghdad's housing shortage to the need to attract foreign investment.

This is the new style of campaigning in Iraq, where candidates feel safe enough to stump for votes and focus on grass-roots issues instead of the religious divisions and violence that overshadowed earlier elections held after Saddam Hussein's regime was toppled in 2003.

The shift was evident at a weekend forum that brought together 13 candidates in the Jan. 31 election for provincial councils, including a communist, Shiites, Sunnis and a journalist who formed a party named after an Iraqi television show called "Let's Talk."



KIDS' INAUGURAL

AP PHOTO

Elizabeth Bailey, 8, seated with her father, Coast Guard Lt. Jim Bailey of Bowie, Md., cheers during the "Kids' Inaugural: We Are The Future Concert" in Washington, Monday.

A WREATH IN REMEMBRANCE



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Glenda Thomas, left, places a wreath on the Martin Luther King Jr. memorial during a ceremony Monday morning as Erica McCurdy watches.

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on Valentine's Day and Everyday

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Grandparents:
Wayne & Dorann Carrell
Vickie Sloan

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Better hurry, deadline for submission is Wednesday, February 11th at 5 p.m.

Please include:

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Child's Age _____

Grandparents (limit 2 sets, please) _____

Phone Number _____

Cost is only \$15 per child or \$12 ea. for 3 or more.
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Self addressed stamped envelope required
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To participate call:
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Love, Chase & Cayla Hughes

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THE DAILY CITIZEN
on Saturday, February 14, 2009

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Pet's Age: _____

Breed: _____

Message: (15 words or less) _____

Owners' Names: _____

Phone Number: _____

Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope along with photo
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in THE DAILY CITIZEN Saturday, February 14, 2009

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Bobby Q.

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OBITUARIES

- **Vernon W. Curtis**
- **Polly Louise Barnett Jones**
- **Edison Houston Williams**

Obituary notices are posted online at www.daltondailycitizen.com

Vernon W. Curtis

Vernon William Curtis, 74, of the Dawnville community, died Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009 at his residence.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Wheeler and Ruby Curtis; a daughter, Patricia Curtis; and mother of his children, Ruby Lee Carter Walls.

Survivors include four daughters, Darlene and Kimsey Millsap of Chatsworth, Tammy and Noel Leonard of Dalton, Kathy and Frank Johnson of Rocky Face and Carolyn Kinsey of Tunnel Hill; eight grandchildren, 10 great-

grandchildren; sisters and brothers-in-law, Bertha and Don Dempsey and Dot and Howell West, all of Adairsville, Drucilla and J.L. Tippens of Dalton, Barbara and Bill Smith of Resaca and Brenda and Harold Hair Jr. of Dawnville; brothers and sister-in-law, Robert and Judy Curtis of Ringgold and Kenneth Curtis and Bruce Curtis, both of Dalton; nieces and nephews.

Services are Wednesday at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Chapel of Julian Peoples Funeral Home with the Rev. Bill Walker and the Rev. Andy Lands officiating.

Burial will be in New Hope-Kilgore Cemetery. A white dove release ceremony will conclude the service.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 4 to 9 p.m.

Messages of comfort may be sent and the guestbook signed at www.julian-peoples.com.

Julian Peoples Funeral Home, Pleasant Grove Chapel, 2801 Cleveland Road, Dalton is in charge of funeral arrangements. For further information, call (706) 259-7455. www.legacy.com

Polly Louise Barnett Jones

Mrs. Polly Louise Barnett Jones, 97, of the Carbondale Community, died Sunday, January 18, 2009 at Hamilton Medical Center.

She was born February, 1911, in Whitfield County, daughter of the late W.H. Barnett, Sr. and Annie Carder Barnett and was preceded in death by her husband, Vance Jones; sister and brother-in-law, Dixie and Ernest Acree, Sr.; brother, W.H. Barnett, Jr. and infant siblings, Guy and Virginia.

Polly is survived by her daughter, Carol O’Kelly

Matthews of Dalton; son and daughter-in-law, William “Billy” Robert Jones and Robbie of Dalton; grandchildren, William David O’Kelly, III and Robyn, Justin Lane Jones and Heather, Christi Leigh Jones Martin and Aaron; great-grandchildren, Kayleigh Jones, Aubrey and Natalie Martin; sister, Mary A. Barnett; brother and sisters-in-law, Rema and Audrey Barnett, Johnnie Barnett; nieces, nephews and special friend, Sue Holsomback and special cousin, Melba Sloan.

Polly loved cooking, playing the piano, making dolls, observing and caring for songbirds and caring for her family and friends. She was a faithful member of Swamp Creek Baptist Church for many years.

Services are Wednesday at 2 p.m. at Swamp Creek Baptist Church with the

Rev. Mark Seay and the Rev. George Gravitte officiating.

Burial will follow in the church cemetery with Ernest, Jason, Chas Acree, Jamey Dukes, Harley Dukes and Troy Massingill serving as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends at the Love Funeral Home Tuesday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Words of comfort may be sent to the family at www.love-funeralhome.com.

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

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Edison Houston Williams

Edison Houston Williams, 76, of Tunnel Hill, died Sunday, Jan. 18, 2009 at his home.

He is survived by his wife, Ruth Williams; daughter, Linda Holland; two brothers; three sisters; grandchildren, Jennifer Peavler and Stephen Holland; and great-grandchild, Houston Peavler.

Services are today at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Jones Funeral Home of Tunnel Hill with the Rev. Ed Parson officiating.

Burial will be in Gordy Memorial Gardens.

The family received friends at the funeral home Monday.

Jones Funeral Home of Tunnel Hill is in charge of arrangements.

www.legacy.com

Predict the Dow Jones; win \$2,009

BY LISA BUIE
 St. Petersburg Times

Lost a job and facing mounting bills? Well, if you can correctly guess what the Dow Jones Industrial Average will be at the close of business Jan. 30, you could find yourself with more than \$2,000 to help stay afloat.

The only catch? You have to join the Web site www.traderplanet.com, although membership is free. The site is giving away \$2,009 cash prize, plus \$10,000 worth of trading software.

“Who couldn’t use \$2,009?” asked Lane Mendelsohn, the site’s founder.

The 28-year-old vice president of Market Technologies, his father’s software company, came up

with the contest as a way to beef up membership on his advertiser-supported site, dubbed a MySpace for people interested in trading. He also wanted to help people and possibly help the charities listed on the Web site. The winner gets the money, no strings attached, but Mendelsohn hopes he or she will use some of it to do good.

“It’s like a bailout, because people are suffering,” said Mendelsohn, who got the idea in late December, “on the spur of the moment.”

The contest plays off a phenomenon called “the January Effect.”

It has been documented that since 1802, stocks tend to move higher in January following a drop in prices from December tax-loss sell-offs.

Mortgage rates falling, but refinancing isn’t easy

BY CAROLYN SAID
 San Francisco Chronicle

Mortgage rates hit stunning new lows last week, falling below 5 percent for the first time in decades. The stampede of refinance applications triggered when rates first starting tumbling in early December continues apace.

But the good news comes with a big caveat. Many applicants — even ones with good jobs and credit scores — are getting turned down altogether or are unable to land the best rates.

“Everybody wants to refinance, and nobody qualifies,” said Marc Savoy, a mortgage broker with Pacific Mortgage Consultants in Larkspur, Calif.

That’s a slight exaggeration — in fact a quarter of the people who come to Savoy do qualify, he said.

As has been the case for months, only borrowers with stellar credit, documented income and equity are seen as desirable. That means that struggling homeowners who face the prospect of foreclosure are completely shut out.



MCG GRAPHIC

“If you have one mortgage (payment) late, I can’t even touch you, so forget about (someone who’s close to) foreclosure,” Savoy said.

But even otherwise well-qualified people are finding obstacles because of the plunge in home prices.

Most of the mortgage boom is in refinance applications, not home purchases. As values fall, many

homeowners find that they suddenly don’t have enough equity for a refinance.

“Home values have dropped so extraordinarily low that it’s taken people out of the game,” Savoy said. “Lenders chart a premium based on how much equity you have. If you start climbing above 80 percent equity, they charge you for it, making it so expensive that it’s not worth it to refinance.”

The Federal Reserve’s promise to purchase mortgage-backed securities brought down rates — which lured prospective borrowers.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said that mortgage applications for the week ended Jan. 9 were the highest since June 2003, and were up 52.4 percent compared with the same week last year.

Guy Cecala of Inside Mortgage Finance in Bethesda, Md., said that

another hurdle, even for those with plenty of equity, is trying to take out cash in a refinance. Homeowners with existing home equity lines of credit, even if they don’t want to borrow any more money, are treated as cash-out refis and seen as less desirable, he said.

“For example, if you have a \$300,000 mortgage and a \$100,000 line of credit and your house is worth \$700,000, you’ve got plenty of equity,” he said. “But paying off both of those and getting a new mortgage would be treated as a cash-out refi by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac these days. They penalize cash-out refis.”

The safest type of refinance? “Rate-adjustment refis — refinancing just to get a lower payment.”

Cecala advises consumers to shop around.

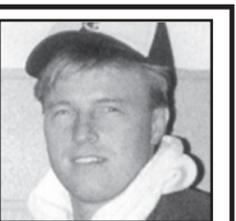
“There are a lot of pot-holes,” Cecala said. “It’s a lot of work to refinance your mortgage these days.”

THE MARKET

Tuesday’s Dow Jones: 8281.20 ▲ 68.70
 Tuesday’s NASDAQ: 1529.30 ▲ 17.60

| | Friday | Tuesday | | |
|--------------|--------|---------|-------------|-------|
| Gold | 833.7 | | Intel | 13.74 |
| Silver | 10.56 | | IBM | 84.92 |
| Acuity | 30.35 | | Interface | 4.09 |
| AAir | 4.52 | | JCP | 19.31 |
| Apple | 82.27 | | JNJ | 57.44 |
| AT&T | 25.23 | | Kroger | 24.97 |
| BAC | 7.18 | | Lowes | 21.94 |
| BB&T | 20.83 | | McDonalds | 59.67 |
| BP | 44.21 | | Merck | 28.19 |
| BristolMyers | 22.07 | | Microsoft | 19.71 |
| HP-Compaq | 34.77 | | Mohawk | 37.39 |
| Chevron | 71.74 | | Motorola | 4.54 |
| CocaCola | 43.84 | | Region-Fin | 6.07 |
| ConAgra | 16.98 | | Rock-Tenn. | 28.99 |
| ColonialBnk | 1.70 | | Sara Lee | 9.98 |
| Coke Ent. | 11.66 | | SouthernCo | 35.03 |
| CrackerBrl | 17.96 | | Synovous | 5.56 |
| CrwnCrafts | 2.25 | | SunTrust | 19.94 |
| CSX | 29.83 | | Torchmark | 37.63 |
| Dell | 10.27 | | Total Sys | 13.81 |
| Delta | 11.43 | | UPS | 48.20 |
| Dixie Group | 1.76 | | Vulcan | 58.67 |
| Dow | 15.03 | | Verizon | 29.96 |
| Duke | 15.02 | | Wal-Mart | 51.56 |
| DuPont | 24.97 | | Wells Fargo | 18.68 |
| Earthlink | 7.51 | | Wendy’s | 5.50 |
| Ericsson | 7.23 | | Yum | 29.91 |
| Exxon | 78.10 | | Xerox | 7.68 |
| Ford | 2.19 | | | |
| FSG | 4.79 | | | |
| GE | 13.96 | | | |
| GM | 3.93 | | | |
| Goodyear | 6.71 | | | |
| HomeDepot | 23.20 | | | |

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.



In Memory of Robbie Bishop

One more day, one more time, one more hug and maybe I’d be satisfied. But then again, I know what it would do. Leave me wishing still for one more day with you. It’s been ten years ago today that Robbie Bishop was shot and killed in the line of duty. But to family & friends who loved him so much, it seems like yesterday. We will remember.

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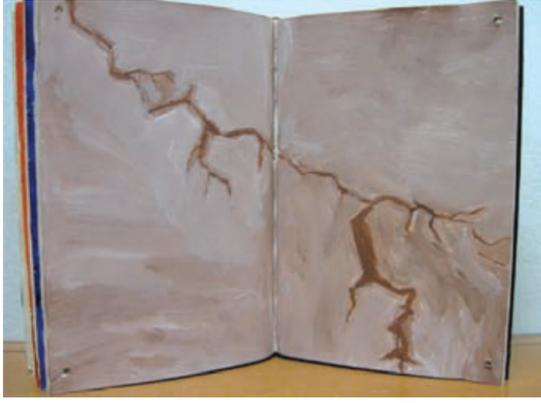
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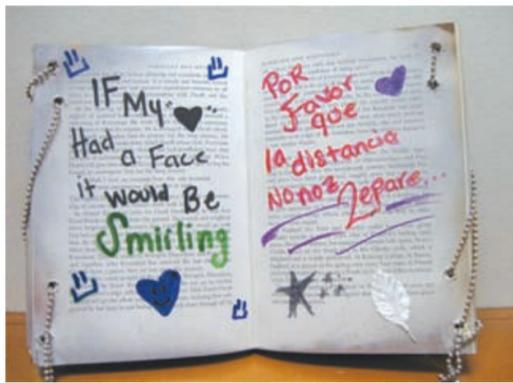
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Kids' Korner

A Weekly Art Show Provided This Week By
Dalton High School

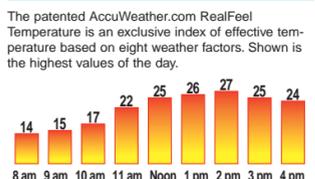
AccuWeather.com® 5-Day forecast for Dalton

| Today | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------|
| | | | | |
| 36° 21° | 44° 24° | 53° 33° | 55° 44° | 46° 41° |
| Partly sunny | Not as cold | Mostly sunny | Cloudy and mild | Mostly cloudy |

Almanac

Statistics for Chattanooga through 3 p.m. yest.
Temperature:
 High 41°
 Low 28°
Precipitation:
 24 hrs. through 3 p.m. yest. Trace

Real Feel Temperature®



Sun

Sunrise today 7:45 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 5:57 p.m.

Moon Phases



Weather History

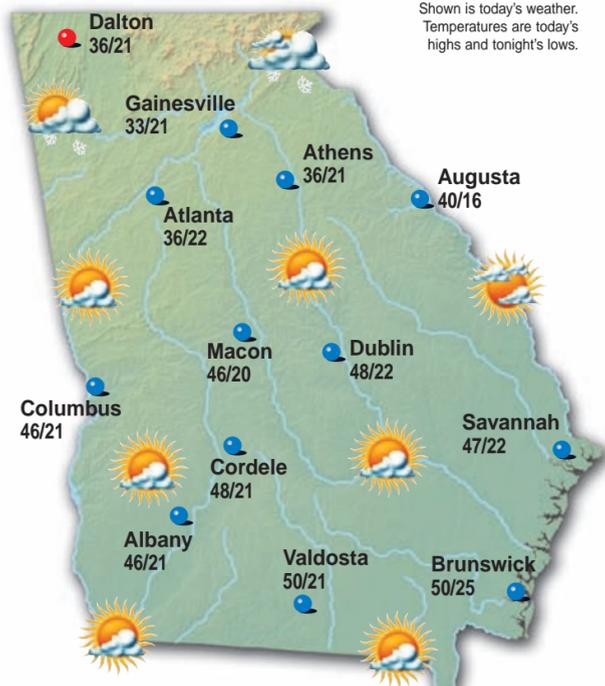
Extreme cold froze the Midwest and the East in January 1994. In Detroit, the temperature stayed below zero for 57 straight hours, the second longest period on record.

Weather Trivia™

Q: Does January have the fewest thunderstorms in the United States?

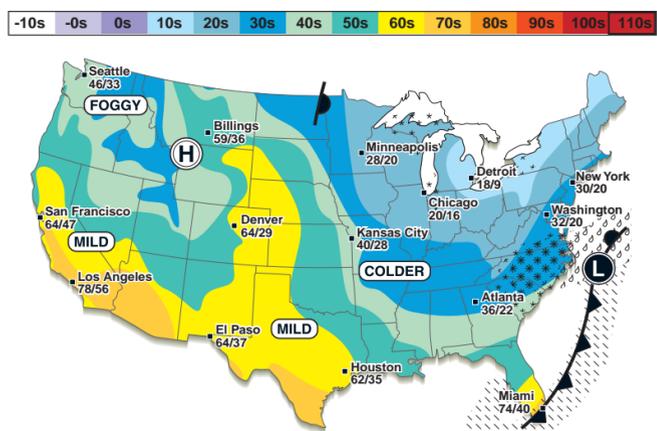
A: No. December has the fewest.

Georgia Weather



| City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W | City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Albany | 46/21/pc | 52/28/s | 62/38/s | La Grange | 40/19/pc | 44/20/s | 54/33/s |
| Atlanta | 36/22/pc | 46/30/s | 53/39/s | Macon | 46/20/pc | 51/26/s | 58/32/s |
| Athens | 36/21/pc | 47/27/s | 54/33/s | Marietta | 36/20/pc | 46/24/s | 55/30/s |
| Augusta | 40/16/sf | 45/20/s | 55/32/s | Newton | 46/22/pc | 47/23/s | 55/34/s |
| Brunswick | 50/25/pc | 50/31/s | 57/42/s | Rome | 37/20/pc | 47/23/s | 55/34/s |
| College Park | 36/22/pc | 46/30/s | 53/39/s | Savannah | 47/22/pc | 48/25/s | 59/37/s |
| Columbus | 46/21/pc | 50/29/s | 57/40/s | Sparta | 40/21/pc | 48/26/s | 56/33/s |
| Gainesville | 33/21/pc | 43/28/s | 53/35/s | Valdosta | 50/21/pc | 50/24/s | 62/40/s |

National Weather for January 20, 2009



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



| City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W | City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Albany | 26/4/pc | 20/12/pc | 30/18/s | Memphis | 38/25/pc | 51/33/s | 57/43/pc |
| Anchorage | 28/15/s | 24/14/s | 26/17/c | Miami | 74/40/pc | 60/42/s | 67/49/s |
| Baltimore | 32/18/pc | 31/18/s | 42/24/s | Milwaukee | 20/16/sf | 30/25/pc | 33/24/pc |
| Billings | 59/36/s | 53/32/s | 51/19/pc | Minneapolis | 28/20/pc | 33/20/pc | 34/18/c |
| Boise | 34/22/c | 39/29/pc | 41/30/c | New Orleans | 51/31/pc | 55/43/s | 68/55/s |
| Buffalo | 16/10/sf | 23/19/sf | 32/23/sf | New York | 30/20/pc | 27/23/pc | 35/31/s |
| Charlotte | 32/15/sn | 39/20/s | 50/29/s | Okla. City | 52/29/s | 61/32/s | 64/41/c |
| Cheyenne | 56/26/s | 59/27/s | 53/28/pc | Orlando | 56/30/pc | 55/29/s | 66/43/s |
| Chicago | 20/16/sf | 29/25/pc | 36/25/pc | Philadelphia | 31/18/pc | 27/20/s | 39/29/s |
| Cincinnati | 24/12/c | 34/25/pc | 40/27/pc | Phoenix | 78/53/pc | 78/55/c | 69/49/c |
| Cleveland | 18/10/sf | 24/22/c | 34/25/pc | Pittsburgh | 21/10/sf | 22/19/pc | 36/27/pc |
| Dallas | 59/32/s | 69/40/s | 71/53/c | Portland, OR | 44/29/pc | 44/34/pc | 51/36/c |
| Denver | 64/29/s | 61/27/s | 57/30/c | St. Louis | 32/24/pc | 42/27/pc | 48/32/pc |
| Detroit | 18/9/sf | 29/19/sf | 35/24/pc | Salt Lake City | 36/22/s | 41/24/pc | 43/30/c |
| Indianapolis | 22/15/c | 31/24/pc | 41/27/pc | San Francisco | 64/47/s | 59/47/c | 56/49/sh |
| Kansas City | 40/28/pc | 47/28/s | 52/33/c | San Diego | 75/55/pc | 68/55/c | 62/52/sh |
| Las Vegas | 67/42/s | 67/47/c | 63/44/c | Seattle | 46/33/pc | 46/33/pc | 46/35/c |
| Los Angeles | 78/56/pc | 70/52/c | 66/50/sh | Wash., DC | 32/20/c | 34/25/s | 44/30/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 Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W | City | Today Hi/Lo/W | Wed. Hi/Lo/W | Thu. Hi/Lo/W |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Athens | 61/52/c | 63/54/sh | 64/52/pc | Jerusalem | 57/42/s | 64/47/s | 70/43/s |
| Auckland | 70/60/s | 73/63/s | 74/65/s | London | 41/36/pc | 41/34/pc | 45/37/sh |
| Amsterdam | 38/32/c | 38/30/c | 39/32/c | Madrid | 40/28/pc | 41/34/pc | 50/43/r |
| Baghdad | 62/40/pc | 61/39/s | 61/36/s | Montreal | 14/-2/pc | 14/9/pc | 21/7/c |
| Beijing | 43/19/c | 46/14/pc | 18/8/s | Moscow | 21/17/c | 21/16/sn | 30/24/sn |
| Berlin | 39/30/c | 36/28/c | 34/27/s | Paris | 39/34/c | 37/34/pc | 41/36/r |
| Buenos Aires | 88/68/s | 90/75/s | 93/75/s | Rio | 80/71/t | 80/72/t | 78/69/c |
| Cairo | 69/55/pc | 74/55/s | 78/59/s | Rome | 57/48/sh | 54/41/c | 50/39/r |
| Calgary | 46/30/s | 42/27/s | 27/5/sn | Seoul | 38/26/pc | 43/22/sf | 23/8/pc |
| Cape Town | 84/57/s | 81/63/s | 71/61/t | Singapore | 88/77/s | 87/77/pc | 84/77/c |
| Caracas | 91/71/s | 90/73/sh | 90/72/sh | Sydney | 88/73/s | 86/70/pc | 94/73/s |
| Dublin | 39/32/sn | 41/36/r | 45/40/r | Tel Aviv | 62/48/s | 69/54/s | 77/51/s |
| Geneva | 38/32/sh | 34/28/sn | 38/35/sn | Tokyo | 52/41/c | 50/45/r | 57/43/c |
| Hong Kong | 73/63/c | 73/64/s | 77/52/s | Toronto | 14/8/c | 23/19/sf | 32/21/sn |
| Istanbul | 56/50/s | 61/53/pc | 64/52/s | Warsaw | 36/32/sf | 37/32/r | 40/34/r |

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COMMENTARY: NFL

Super Bowl stars might not be the superstars

For the key to the Super Bowl, look beyond the hair. The hair, of course, belongs to Arizona's Larry Fitzgerald and Pittsburgh's Troy Polamalu — two of the biggest stars in the game.

Look instead to the folks in the trenches and Arizona's runners. Super Bowl teams are more than their stars, even those

whose personal idiosyncrasies, such as hair flying out below their helmets, make them stand out for more than their accomplishments.

Here are some others who could decide the winner when the Super Bowl is played on Feb. 1.

■ **NT Casey Hampton, DE Aaron Smith and ILB James Farrior, Pittsburgh:** James Harrison is the defensive player of the year and combines with LaMarr Woodley to pile up sacks from the outside linebacker position.

But they are able to do it because opponents are constantly in passing situations. Credit Hampton, Smith, and Farrior, the lunchpail guys at the heart of Pittsburgh's 3-4 defense.

Hampton is generously listed at 325 pounds. When he reported to training camp last July, he was held out of drills after the Steelers said he was far over the weight he was supposed to report at.

"I ain't got on the scale. I don't really get on the scale, that's not my thing," Hampton said. "I play ball."

When he finally got his weight down to something manageable, Hampton played ball, although he failed to make the Pro Bowl, something he had done in four of the five previous seasons.

In any event, he made it almost impossible to run against the Steelers. He and Smith tied up the defensive linemen, allowing Farrior to plug the inside. Farrior led the team with 133 tackles in the regular season and he has 31 more in the playoffs.

Only five of Pittsburgh's 16 regular-season opponents rushed for more than 100 yards and they allowed only 3.3 yards per rush. In two playoff games, San Diego and Baltimore have run for a total of 88 yards and an average of 2.4 per carry.

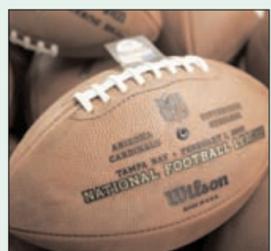
That makes it easier for Farrior — and Polamalu — to clean things up and for Woodley and Harrison to get to Kurt Warner. The best way to shut down Fitzgerald is to hurry Warner the way the Steelers hurried Joe Flacco on Sunday.

■ **Edgerrin James, Tim Hightower and J.J. Arrington, RBs, Arizona:** The Cardinals' backs must provide at least a semblance of a running game to set up the most dangerous part of the Arizona offense: Warner throwing to Fitzgerald, Anquan Boldin and Steve Breaston.

➤ Please see **NFL, 2B**

READY FOR SOME MORE FOOTBALL?

For a bonus page of coverage of the NFL, check out page 9B of *The Daily Citizen's* digital edition at daltoncitizen.com. Just click on "Today's Digital Edition" and navigate your way to more stories on pro football.



GIRLS PREP BASKETBALL: NORTHWEST WHITFIELD



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen
At 6 feet, 5 inches tall, Northwest Whitfield sophomore Quaneisha McCurdy always stands out on the basketball court, but it's her overall game and not just her height that has made the Lady Bruin so noticeable in the past couple weeks.

Posting the big numbers

NW sophomore on rise

BY ADAM KROHN

adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com

If there was a fantasy basketball league made up of Georgia High School Association players, Northwest Whitfield's Quaneisha McCurdy likely would have won your team's head-to-head matchup the last two weeks.

The 6-foot-5-inch sophomore center just played the best five-game stretch of her prep career. Between Jan. 6-10 against Murray County, Hillgrove, Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe, North Paulding and Paulding County, McCurdy averaged 17 points, 9.8 rebounds, 4.6 blocks and 2.8 steals while shooting better than 60 percent from the field for the Lady Bruins in five wins.

McCurdy's outstanding play of late has made her one of Region 7-4A's rising stars.

"She really stepped up her game," Northwest coach Margaret Stockburger said. "This is a step forward and I think she'll continue to get better."

Heading into the five-game stretch, the Lady Bruins were coming off a disappointing performance in the Deep South Classic in Snellville, where they dropped two of three games after starting the season 9-0.

Northwest got back to its winning ways starting in Chatsworth against the Lady Indians behind

INSIDE THE SECTION

- ▶ Murray skips through at Aussie, **2B**
- ▶ Bruins third at duals event, **3B**
- ▶ Top 25 college basketball polls, **3B**
- ▶ NBA roundup: Paul lifts N.O., **3B**

McCurdy's 15 points and six rebounds in a 51-22 non-region win.

Three days later in Tunnel Hill, McCurdy erupted for 21 points, 10 rebounds, six blocks and three steals while shooting 10-for-15 from the field in a 52-35 region victory over Hillgrove's Lady Hawks.

Of all her impressive numbers for the game, the stat McCurdy took the most pride in was her six blocked shots.

"I get pumped up after a block," she said, "because I get energy and it motivates me to try harder on offense."

A day later in Fort Oglethorpe, showing no signs of fatigue, McCurdy put up 16 points while pulling down 15 boards and blocking three shots. Northwest defeated Region 6-3A's LFO, 59-51.

Last Tuesday at North Paulding, McCurdy recorded her third straight double-double with 16 points and 10 rebounds in a dominant 99-15 win; four days later she again stuffed the stat sheet with 17 points,

➤ Please see **BIG, 2B**

AUTO RACING: NASCAR

Long live the King: Petty's team reborn

BY MIKE HARRIS

Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.C. — Amid all the economic turmoil in NASCAR, fans can take some comfort knowing Richard Petty is still around.

Petty, stock car's king and at 71 still the most recognizable face in racing, will have a presence under a rebranding of the new team created by the merger of his organization with Gillett Evernham Motorsports.

The new team will be called Richard Petty Motorsports (RPM),

capitalizing on the seven-time champion's marketability. The announcement was made Monday during the first day of the annual NASCAR Sprint Media Tour hosted by Lowe's Motor Speedway.

Petty and GEM principal owner George Gillett agreed to merge their teams this month in a partnership that keeps the sponsor-strapped Pettys in racing. Reed

➤ Please see **PETTY, 2B**



AP PHOTO
With the most recognizable face — and hat — in stock car racing, former NASCAR driver Richard Petty brings instant marketability to the new Richard Petty Motorsports team, a merger of his old team and Gillett Evernham Motorsports.

PRO BASKETBALL: NBA



AP PHOTO
Atlanta Hawks guard Mike Bibby passes through Toronto's Anthony Parker, left, and Chris Bosh during the fourth quarter of their game on Monday at Philips Arena. Bibby scored 23 points as the Hawks won 87-84.

Johnson comes through as Hawks win at home

BY CHARLES ODUM

Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Jamarion Moon's key miss for Toronto set up Joe Johnson's clincher for Atlanta.

Johnson scored 28 points, including a jumper with 12.5 seconds left, Mike Bibby added 23 and the Atlanta Hawks rallied to beat the Toronto Raptors 87-84 Monday despite missing two injured starters.

Josh Smith, the Hawks' only healthy regular up front, had 22 points and 14 rebounds as Atlanta

sent Toronto to its sixth loss in a row. Al Horford was out for the fifth straight game because of a bone bruise in his right knee. Marvin Williams was absent after sustaining a concussion in Friday night's loss at Golden State.

Hawks coach Mike Woodson said he didn't know when either player would return, but he was encouraged by his team's ability to win with defense.

➤ Please see **HAWKS, 2B**

PRO GOLF: PGA TOUR

Grit, good putting take Sony champ far

BY DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press Writer

HONOLULU — Zach Johnson had to defend himself, a peculiar position for a guy who had just finished a two-week stay in Hawaii by playing his final six rounds in 30-under par and winning the Sony Open for the fifth victory of his career.



Johnson

No one questions the caliber of his golf. It was his height, which the PGA Tour media guide lists as 5-foot-11.

"That's about right," Johnson said, feigning

surprise when he heard laughter. "OK, 5-10 — maybe 5-10 1/2. You don't think I'm 5-11?"

Whatever the actual measurement, he always seems to play a few inches taller.

Sunday was yet another example. Tied for the lead with David Tomz as he made the turn, Johnson seized control of the Sony Open

with a 5-iron into 4 feet on the 11th to take the lead for good, a 7-iron to 8 feet on the 14th for another birdie, then two flawless swings on the closing hole to reach the par 5 in two and secure the fifth victory of his career.

➤ Please see **GOLF, 2B**

TENNIS: AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Murray's troubles few in first round of Open

By JOHN PYE
Associated Press Writer
MELBOURNE, Australia — Andy Murray's first win at Rod Laver Arena was a little low key.

The 21-year-old Scot, carrying the hopes of a British public looking for its first male Grand Slam champion since 1936, was leading Andrei Pavel 6-2, 3-1, 15-0 in the Australian Open when the Romanian retired with a back injury.

The fourth-seeded Murray, who lost last year's U.S. Open final to Roger Federer, didn't mind getting off the court as the midday temperatures topped 99 degrees earlier today, day two of the first major of the year.

"It's the first time I've ever won a match on here," he said. "You don't want to win a match like that. Andrei's been having trouble with his back for a year."

Murray was installed as the favorite or joint favorite for the tournament by British bookmakers after beating Federer three times since losing the U.S. Open final — his best run at a major to date.

"I'm aiming to go one better here and I need all the support I can get," he said, noting the number of Scottish flags unfurled around the stadium. "It's nice. Hopefully they'll keep coming throughout the tournament."

Murray defended his Qatar Open title before coming to Melbourne but said it was still difficult getting used to the Australian summer.

The relentless sun had players seeking shelter in whatever shade they could find between points.

Murray, who worked hard in an off-season conditioning program that has added seven pounds of muscle to his lean frame, was sharp from the start, exerting pressure with virtually every shot.

Pavel managed to keep pace for the first four games before his feet betrayed him at the same time that his back was letting him down. He was twice called for foot-faults as Murray broke him for a 3-2 lead while running off the last five games of the first set.

Pavel had a quick massage on his lower back during the changeover, held serve, and lost 13 of the next 14 points.

Federer commenced his quest for a 14th major to equal Pete Sampras' record with a 6-1, 7-6 (4), 7-5 first-round win over 35th-ranked Andreas Seppi of Italy that finished after midnight.

It was a difficult opener, considering Seppi is only just outside the top 32 players who are seeded for the tournament. Federer had mononucleosis this time last year and that dogged him for months.

"I wasn't fit, I had hardly played any matches, had any practice," he said. "This year I had much more preparation and I feel I know where my game's at."

Mardy Fish also advanced, but six other Americans made first-round exits: Robby Ginepri, John Isner, Robert



AP PHOTO
Andy Murray returns the ball to Andrei Pavel during their match earlier today at the Australian Open in Melbourne.

Kendrick, Bobby Reynolds, Sam Querrey and Taylor Dent.

Dent, returning from three back operations for his first major since 2006, lost to fellow American Amer Delic in five sets.

Other men advancing were No. 8 Juan Martin del Potro and No. 10 David Nalbandian of Argentina, No. 11 David Ferrer, No. 15 Stanislas Wawrinka, 2005 champion Marat Safin, 2006 finalist Marcos Baghdatis and 16-year-old Australian Bernard Tomic.

Third-seeded Dinara Safina and No. 7 Vera Zvonareva of Russia, No. 11 Caroline Wozniacki of Denmark, No. 15 Alize Cornet of France, No. 16 Marion Bartoli and No. 19 Daniela Hantuchova were among the women advancing.

Golf: Johnson has already overachieved

> Continued from page 1B

Five victories, including the 2007 Masters when he held off a charge from Tiger Woods, might not seem a lot to some. But remember, Johnson didn't attend college at a golf factory. He went to Drake. And when he graduated, he toiled for six years on some tours that no longer exist until he finally made it to the big leagues.

He was asked what he would have said had someone told him when he left college he would have five PGA Tour victories and a major.

"What are you on?" Johnson said to more laughter.

"I was very raw," he said. "Always a decent putter, but I was never very consistent with any part of my game. If someone would have said that, I would have said ... I wouldn't have believed them. There's no way I would have believed them."

Does that make him an overachiever?

Yes, and he's proud of it. "That's my upbringing," Johnson said.

He isn't the only one who has overachieved from Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

On Sunday, Johnson wasn't even the biggest overachiever from his own high school.

He was four years behind quarterback Kurt Warner, who led the Arizona Cardinals to their first Super Bowl just about the time Johnson was teeing off with a one-shot lead at the Sony Open.

"A good day for Iowa," Johnson said.

Someone reminded him that Warner took more hits Sunday than Johnson, and the golfer replied that Warner was bigger.

There's that word again.

Johnson says he is 170 pounds — about 10 pounds more than he would like — but you have to wonder how much of that is heart. That's what it takes to roam the country on circuits called the Prairie Tour, the Teardrop Tour, the Dakotas Tour, and

to such remote towns that it would be easy to quit.

He not only persevered, he has played in the Ryder Cup, the Presidents Cup, and has earned over \$13 million in the last five years.

"He's a good player, and tough to beat," said Toms, who did everything he could to chase him down and still finished two shots behind at the Sony Open, along with Adam Scott.

Maybe it was just a coincidence, but Johnson had dinner Saturday night with Corey Pavin, the next U.S. Ryder Cup captain. Pavin for years was known as the "gritty little Bruin" from his days at UCLA, and there are some similarities.

Neither will ever be mistaken for a power player. Pavin is listed as 5-foot-9 — that's debatable, too — but managed to scratch out 15 wins, a U.S. Open title and appearances on three Ryder Cup teams during the era of Greg Norman, Nick Faldo and Nick Price.

"I am not Corey Pavin — far from it, especially when

you're talking about a resume," Johnson said. "However, maybe some parallels are there as far as our stature, and certainly how we play the game and how we compete. I don't know what sets me apart at times, but competition is what drives me.

"It really doesn't matter what it is," he said. "I want to win."

Johnson struggled last year to live up to his status as a Masters champion, which is not usual. He didn't make it out of the first round of the FedEx Cup playoffs, and there was some question whether he would finish in the top 125 on the money list. But the forced break in September allowed him to evaluate where he was going, and he wound up winning the Texas Open a few weeks later.

In some respects, his 2009 season started toward the end of 2008.

With those two victories, coming six tournaments apart, he now has won in each of the last three years.

Petty: Merges with GEM to stay alive

> Continued from page 1B

Sorenson will drive Petty's famed No. 43 Dodge for RPM this season. Petty's No. 44 Dodge will be run by A.J. Allmendinger in at least the first five races of the season as the team attempts to find more sponsorship. Those two drivers join GEM holdovers Kasey Kahne and Elliott Sadler, who both have full-time rides.

The Pettys first sold controlling interest in the 60-year-old Petty Enterprises team to the financial company Boston Ventures last summer before working out the merger with GEM.

But that's just one result of the escalating costs of racing

combined with a severe shortage of sponsorship money and the ongoing troubles of Detroit's General Motors, Ford and Chrysler, along with Toyota — the four manufacturers racing in NASCAR.

Dale Earnhardt Inc., the team started by the late Dale Earnhardt, the only other seven-time Cup champion, has merged with Chip Ganassi Racing. Bill Davis, whose team ran two cars in Cup and also won the truck championship last season, has sold his team.

Other teams, including Richard Childress Racing and Roush Fenway Racing, have had to find partners with ready cash to remain competitive.

Meanwhile, teams in both

the second- and third-tier series — Nationwide and Camping World Trucks — have found it increasingly difficult to find sponsorship, meaning their race fields are likely to shrink this season.

"There have definitely been a lot of major changes," said Robbie Loomis, moving with Petty to become director of racing for RPM. "I think this winter has probably been exhausting for everybody, just trying to keep up with the changes. You have to keep up with the changes minute by minute rather than day by day."

But the GEM-Petty merger was a natural, considering the organizations have worked closely together for several years, with GEM

providing engines for the Petty team. In August 2007, the Gilletts bought controlling interest in Evernham Motorsports, begun by former championship crew chief Ray Evernham, who remains a consultant with the merged team. But the deal with the Pettys erases both the Gillett and Evernham names from the title.

"It comes with no sadness from my family," Foster Gillett said. "It comes with a great deal of burden of expectation. We look forward to trying to live up to this great legacy. We look forward to transitioning into this new organization and trying to help Richard and Richard Petty Motorsports be as successful as they can."

Hawks: Moon takes heat from Raptors

> Continued from page 1B

"They made shots in the first half, but the third and fourth quarters were ours," Woodson said. "It's huge. We're a little short-handed right now. We have to step up until Horford and Williams come back. ... We're not going to rush them."

The Hawks recovered after losing five of six games, including two losses in a three-game road trip.

"Our last five games haven't been great, so to come back home and get a

win is great," Johnson said, adding the injuries have made it "tough right now" on the team.

"Everybody else has to step up," Johnson said.

Almost all of Atlanta's scoring came from four players. Backup guard Flip Murray had 12 points. The only other player to score was Maurice Evans, who had two points while starting for Williams.

With Atlanta leading 84-83, Moon missed a 3-pointer with 33 seconds left. During a timeout, Moon heard about

his questionable shot selection from Chris Bosh and other teammates.

"Just take it to the basket, man," Bosh said after the game. "We can get a better shot. We're not in the right positions. We're not making the right passes. We shoot ourselves in the foot every game now."

Following the timeout, Johnson's fallaway jumper pushed the Hawks' lead to three points.

Raptors coach Jay Triano called the loss "a perfect example of how we didn't

execute down the stretch at either end of the floor."

"I think we're going to have to find a way to fight through this, and if we do I think we'll be a pretty good basketball team," Triano said. "It's disappointing to lose a game like this, where we had the lead for most of the game."

Moon, who hit a 3-pointer with 4:32 left for a 78-78 tie, defended his miss.

"I guess everybody's upset, but it was an open shot," Moon said. "Anybody can miss an open shot."

NFL: Cards RBs

> Continued from page 1B

That won't be easy against the Pittsburgh defense.

The Cardinals were last in the NFL in rushing last season, which might cut it in the NFC West, where Warner picked apart secondaries. But it won't against Pittsburgh — not with Harrison and Woodley flying in from the edges against a quarterback whose ball security has always been a bit suspect.

Arizona has managed to do a decent job of running in the playoffs. Even though the Cardinals' rushing average in three postseason wins is just 3.3 yards, they've been effective enough to allow Warner to hook up with his receiving weapons, notably Fitzgerald, who has 419 yards receiving — already more than the record set in 1988 by Jerry Rice.

James, hasn't been close to the Pro Bowl form he had in his days in Indianapolis in his three years in Arizona, but set the stage Sunday.

In the first half of the NFC championship game against Philadelphia, he had 56 yards on seven carries, helping the Cardinals to a 24-6 lead. That kind of success resulted in single coverage on a receiver who can't be covered by one man — like the flea-flicker that Arrington threw back

to Warner, who found Fitzgerald for a 62-yard touchdown play.

But stats don't tell it all. Arizona's average per carry in the postseason is actually less than its 3.5 average in the regular season.

But the Cardinals have kept at it, which means opponents must be aware of the run — they have been over 100 yards on the ground twice, with 102 against the Eagles in the title game, when the biggest play was on the ground. That was the 6-yard run around the right side by Hightower on fourth-and-1 from the Philadelphia 49 that kept the Cardinals' winning drive going.

Hightower, a rookie from Richmond who took James' job midway through the season before giving it back, had just 33 yards on 11 carries. But he also had the 8-yard TD catch on a screen pass on the winning score, a play on which Philadelphia expected a screen but Hightower managed to weave through the defense.

Yes, double coverage on Fitzgerald opened the way. But it took a little-known rookie to make the play work.

Would it be any surprise if someone like that is the star of the Super Bowl?

Dave Goldberg covers pro football for The Associated Press.



Northwest Whitfield's Quaneisha McCurdy, right, has been contributing not only points, but rebounds, blocks and steals at a prolific clip lately for the Lady Bruins.

MISTY WATSON
The Daily Citizen

Big: The hot hand

> Continued from page 1B

eight rebounds, six steals and four blocks.

Stockburger said the coaching staff hasn't started to focus its strategy around getting the ball to McCurdy, just the open player.

It's just that lately, the open player has been McCurdy.

"She does a good job of posting up and getting in position," Stockburger said.

McCurdy, whom Stockburger said practiced significantly harder during the past two weeks, was on a mission to prove her team is better than its performance in the Deep South Classic.

"I had to redeem myself,"

McCurdy said. "We lost two games and I felt like we could have won them. No one was going to bow down to us just because we were Northwest, and I think that got in our heads a little."

"We used this week to get back on track because we've got a lot of region games coming up, as well as the region tournament."

Stockburger expects more weeks from McCurdy like the two she just had.

"She's growing up a little bit," Stockburger said. "She's coming into her own and she's realizing what she is capable of doing."

Northwest hosts Murray County in a Region 7-4A matchup tonight at 6 p.m., with the boys to follow.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Pitt scorches Syracuse

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Sam Young pulled out of a three-game slump by scoring 19 of his 22 points in the second half and No. 4 Pittsburgh came back from its first loss of the season, surging shortly after half-time to defeat No. 8 Syracuse 78-60 on Monday night.

DeJuan Blair, also coming off a poor game during a 69-63 loss at No. 9 Louisville on Saturday night that ended Pitt's two-

week stay at No. 1, was strong inside with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Blair's toughness keyed a rugged and sometimes intimidating defense that held the Orange nearly 22 points below their scoring average.

Several Syracuse players were seen complaining to the officials that Pitt (17-1, 5-1) was being too physical, and the Orange (17-3, 5-2) drew two technical fouls less than three minutes apart during the first half.

EASTMAN'S GUN & KNIFE SHOW

Northwest Georgia Trade Center
Saturday, January 24th, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, January 25th, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Matt Eastman at 229-423-4867
www.eastmangunshow.com

SPORTS BRIEFS

Bruins take third in Ala. tourney

Northwest Whitfield's wrestling team finished third at the Bob Jones Invitational Duals on Monday in Madison, Ala., near Huntsville.

The Bruins picked up a 72-0 win against Westminster, Ala., and a 53-15 victory vs. Grissom, Ala., before falling to Prattville, Ala., 39-27 in the semifinals.

Northwest bounced back with a 60-12 win against Huntsville in the consolation final to claim third, while Prattville fell to host Bob Jones in the championship dual.

The Bruins' Russell Royal (112 pounds), David Lewis (135), Kenny Michael (140) and Garrett Henderson (160) each went 4-0, while Josh Lewis (145) and Adam Wilkins (285) were both 3-1 at the event.

Indians freshmen pick up court win

Murray County's ninth grade boys basketball team beat Gordon Central 75-27 on Monday to improve to 9-2 on the season.

The Indians were led by Tyler Duckett's 21-point performance, while Jeremy Smith added 14 points and Gavin Ledford and Tanner West each had 10.

Ward may be OK for the big game

PITTSBURGH — Steelers wide receiver Hines Ward has a sprained medial collateral ligament in his right knee, but one of his teammates is certain he will play in the Super Bowl.

Ward, a former quarterback and receiver at Georgia, wasn't available to reporters on Monday, but tight end Heath Miller can't imagine one of the NFL's most durable players not playing. Ward was the MVP of the Steelers' win in the Super Bowl three years ago.

"I don't think there's any question 86 will be on the field," Miller said. "I don't even know the extent of his injury, but I saw him walking today so I'm pretty sure that two weeks from now he'll be playing."

Ward was scheduled to undergo an MRI on Monday, but the Steelers did not release the results.

Riggs' new ride is with rookie team

CONCORD, N.C. — Scott Riggs will drive for the new Tommy Baldwin Racing team in the 2009 NASCAR Sprint Cup series.

The 38-year-old Riggs, who drove last year with Haas CNC Racing, will be racing in his sixth Cup season. Baldwin, who announced the formation of the team earlier this month, will also be crew chief for the startup operation.

Riggs has four top-five finishes, 16 top-10s and three poles in 167 Cup starts since 2004. No sponsor has been named for the car.

Cards downplay Boldin's behavior

TEMPE, Ariz. — The Arizona Cardinals called receiver Anquan Boldin's sideline shouting match with the offensive coordinator a "normal thing," and coach Ken Whisenhunt insisted the outburst would in no way disrupt the team.

Boldin and Todd Haley were seen arguing on television during the Cardinals' late touchdown drive in a 32-25 win over Philadelphia in the NFC championship game Sunday.

Boldin, going to his fourth Pro Bowl this season, did not participate on the field with his teammates.

— Staff, AP Reports

SCOREBOARD

LOCAL

Prep Schedule

| Today | |
|---|--|
| Varsity basketball | |
| Heinway Christian at Christian Heritage, 6 | Southwest at Ringgold, 6 |
| Murray County at Northwest Whitfield, 6 | Dalton at North Paulding, 6 |
| Varsity wrestling | |
| Dalton at Hoover, Ala., 4:30 Central | Heritage-Catoosa at Murray County |
| Junior varsity basketball | |
| Murray County boys at Northwest Whitfield, 4 | Heinway boys at Christian Heritage, 4:30 |
| Thursday | |
| Varsity swimming | |
| Dalton at Baylor, 5:15 | Varsity wrestling |
| Murray County at Rome | Freshman basketball |
| Northwest Whitfield boys at Dalton, 6 | Middle school basketball |
| Christian Heritage tournament | Friday |
| Varsity basketball | |
| LaGrange Academy at Christian Heritage, 6 | South Paulding at Murray County, 6 |
| Southwest at Ridgeland, 7 | Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 7 |
| Varsity wrestling | |
| Dalton vs. North Atlanta, Westminster at Westminster, Atlanta, 5:30 | Northwest Whitfield at Sham Slam III, Habersham Central, 5 |
| Varsity swimming | |
| North Georgia regionals at Dalton, TBA | Junior varsity basketball |
| Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 4 | Saturday |
| Varsity swimming | |
| North Georgia regionals at Dalton, TBA | Varsity wrestling |
| Southeast at Marietta Quad, 8 a.m. | Dalton at Last Man Standing Tournament, Eagles Landing High, McDonough |
| Northwest Whitfield at Sham Slam III, Habersham Central, 9 a.m. | Junior varsity wrestling |
| Northwest Whitfield at Heritage-Catoosa tournament, 8 a.m. | Junior varsity basketball |
| Murray County at Gilmer, 1 | Northwest Whitfield at Cass tournament |
| Murray County at Heritage-Catoosa tournament | Freshman basketball |
| Murray County at Gilmer, 10 a.m. | Cartersville boys at Northwest Whitfield, 10 a.m. |
| Middle school basketball | |
| Christian Heritage tournament | |

TRANSACTIONS

Monday's Moves

| BASEBALL | |
|--|---|
| American League | |
| BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Acquired RHP David Pauley from Boston for RHP Randor Bier. | CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Agreed to terms with RHP Bobby Jenks on a one-year contract. |
| SEATTLE MARINERS—Agreed to terms with RHP Felix Hernandez on a one-year contract. | TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Agreed to terms with RHP Brandon League on a one-year contract. |
| National League | |
| ATLANTA BRAVES—Agreed to terms with LHP Mike Gonzalez and OF Matt Diaz on one-year contracts. | CHICAGO CUBS—Agreed to terms with RHP Kevin Gregg on a one-year contract. |
| NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with RHP Duaneer Sanchez on a one-year contract. | ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with RHP Todd Wellemeier and OF Chris Duncan on one-year contracts. |
| FOOTBALL | |
| National Football League | |
| HOUSTON TEXANS—Named David Gibbs secondary coach. | MIAMI DOLPHINS—Signed LB Cameron Wake and S Ethan Kilmer. |
| NEW YORK GIANTS—Promoted linebackers coach Bill Sheridan to defensive coordinator. | HOCKEY |
| National Hockey League | |
| NHL—Suspended Tampa Bay F Evgeny Artyukhin for two games for a kneeing incident against Florida F Ville Peltonen on Jan. 17. | DALLAS STARS—Placed RW Landon Wilson on injured reserve. |
| PHOENIX COYOTES—Reassigned D David Schlemko to San Antonio (AHL). | ST. LOUIS BLUES—Reassigned F Brad Staubitz and F Tom Cavanagh to Worcester (AHL). |
| Recalled F Claude Lemieux from Worcester. | Placed D Brad Lukowich on injured reserve, retroactive to Jan. 6. |
| TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Claimed D Cory Murphy off re-entry waivers from Florida. | WASHINGTON CAPITALS—Recalled G Daren Machesney from Hershey (AHL). |
| COLLEGE | |
| MASSACHUSETTS—Promoted offensive coordinator Kevin Morris to football coach. | NOTRE DAME—Named Tony Alford running backs coach. |

PRO FOOTBALL

On Today

| MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 7 p.m. | ESPN — Ohio St. at Illinois |
| 9 p.m. | ESPN — Tennessee at Vanderbilt |
| 7:30 p.m. | NHL |
| VERSUS — Washington at Ottawa | TENNIS |
| 10 p.m. | ESPN2 — Australian Open, early round, at Melbourne, Australia |
| 3:30 a.m. | ESPN2 — Australian Open, early round, at Melbourne, Australia |

PRO FOOTBALL

NFL Postseason

| 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 13, Tennessee 10 |
| Arizona 33, Carolina 13 | Sunday, Jan. 11 |
| Philadelphia 23, N.Y. Giants 11 | Pittsburgh 35, San Diego 24 |
| Conference Championships | |
| Sunday, Jan. 18 | NFC |
| Arizona 32, Philadelphia 25 | AFC |
| Pittsburgh 23, Baltimore 14 | Super Bowl |
| Sunday, Feb. 1 | Tampa, Fla. |
| Arizona vs. Pittsburgh, 6 p.m. (NBC) | Pro Bowl |
| Sunday, Feb. 8 | At Honolulu |
| AFC vs. NFC, 4:30 p.m. (NBC) | |

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

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA

| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| Atlantic Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Boston | 33 | 9 | .786 | — |
| Philadelphia | 20 | 21 | .488 | 12 1/2 |
| New Jersey | 19 | 22 | .463 | 13 1/2 |
| New York | 16 | 24 | .400 | 16 |

| Southeast Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Orlando | 33 | 8 | .805 | — |
| Atlanta | 24 | 16 | .600 | 8 1/2 |
| Miami | 22 | 18 | .550 | 10 1/2 |
| Charlotte | 16 | 25 | .390 | 17 |
| Washington | 8 | 32 | .200 | 24 1/2 |

| Central Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Cleveland | 31 | 7 | .816 | — |
| Detroit | 23 | 17 | .575 | 9 |
| Milwaukee | 20 | 23 | .465 | 13 1/2 |
| Chicago | 18 | 24 | .429 | 15 |
| Indiana | 15 | 26 | .366 | 17 1/2 |

| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|-------|
| Southwest Division | | | | |
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| San Antonio | 27 | 13 | .675 | — |
| New Orleans | 25 | 13 | .658 | 1 |
| Houston | 26 | 16 | .619 | 2 |
| Dallas | 24 | 17 | .585 | 3 1/2 |
| Memphis | 11 | 29 | .275 | 16 |

| Northwest Division | | | | |
|--------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| Denver | 27 | 15 | .643 | — |
| Portland | 24 | 16 | .600 | 2 |
| Utah | 24 | 17 | .585 | 2 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 13 | 26 | .333 | 12 1/2 |
| Oklahoma City | 8 | 34 | .190 | 19 |

| Pacific Division | | | | |
|------------------|----|-----|------|--------|
| W | L | Pct | GB | |
| L.A. Lakers | 31 | 8 | .795 | — |
| Phoenix | 23 | 15 | .605 | 7 1/2 |
| Golden State | 13 | 29 | .310 | 19 1/2 |
| Sacramento | 10 | 31 | .244 | 22 |
| L.A. Clippers | 9 | 31 | .225 | 22 1/2 |

| Sunday's Scores | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Phoenix 117, Toronto 113 | Miami 104, Oklahoma City 94 | | |
| Monday's Scores | | | |
| New York 102, Chicago 98 | Dallas 95, Philadelphia 93 | | |
| Atlanta 87, Toronto 84 | Houston 115, Denver 113 | | |
| San Antonio 86, Charlotte 84 | New Orleans 103, Indiana 100 | | |
| Minnesota 94, L.A. Clippers 86 | Golden State 119, Washington 98 | | |
| Detroit 87, Memphis 79 | Phoenix at Boston, late | | |
| Milwaukee at Portland, late | Cleveland at L.A. Lakers, late | | |
| Today's Games | | | |
| Atlanta at Chicago, 8:30 p.m. | Indiana at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m. | | |
| Sacramento at Denver, 9 p.m. | Minnesota at Utah, 9 p.m. | | |
| Wednesday's Games | | | |
| Memphis at Charlotte, 7 p.m. | Boston at Miami, 7:30 p.m. | | |
| Phoenix at New York, 7:30 p.m. | Toronto at Detroit, 7:30 p.m. | | |
| Dallas at Milwaukee, 8 p.m. | New Jersey at New Orleans, 8 p.m. | | |
| Utah at Houston, 8:30 p.m. | Washington at Sacramento, 10 p.m. | | |
| Cleveland at Portland, 10 p.m. | L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m. | | |
| Oklahoma City at Golden State, 10:30 p.m. | | | |

| NHL | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| EASTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
| Atlantic Division | | | | | | |
| W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA | |
| N.Y. Rangers | 27 | 16 | 4 | 58 | 123 | 123 |
| New Jersey | 27 | 15 | 3 | 57 | 137 | 115 |
| Philadelphia | 24 | 12 | 9 | 57 | 146 | 134 |
| Pittsburgh | 23 | 20 | 4 | 50 | 143 | 144 |
| N.Y. Islanders | 12 | 29 | 5 | 29 | 113 | 163 |

| NHL | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| WESTERN CONFERENCE | | | | | | |
| Central Division | | | | | | |
| W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA | |
| Detroit | 31 | 8 | 6 | 68 | 170 | 127 |
| Chicago | 25 | 10 | 8 | 58 | 151 | 108 |
| Columbus | 22 | 19 | 4 | 48 | 122 | 124 |
| Nashville | 20 | 22 | 3 | 43 | 110 | 131 |
| St. Louis | 18 | 23 | 4 | 40 | 131 | 149 |

| NHL | | | | | | |
|--------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| Northwest Division | | | | | | |
| W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA | |
| Calgary | 27 | 14 | 4 | 58 | 141 | 134 |
| Vancouver | 22 | 19 | 6 | 50 | 136 | 135 |
| Edmonton | 22 | 19 | 3 | 49 | 128 | 135 |
| Colorado | 23 | 22 | 1 | 47 | 126 | 134 |
| Minnesota | 22 | 19 | 3 | 47 | 111 | 101 |

| NHL | | | | | | |
|------------------|----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|
| Pacific Division | | | | | | |
| W | L | OT | Pts | GF | GA | |
| San Jose | 33 | 6 | 5 | 71 | 158 | 107 |
| Anaheim | 23 | 19 | 5 | 51 | 133 | 131 |
| Phoenix | 23 | 19 | 5 | 51 | 120 | 136 |
| Dallas | 19 | 17 | 7 | 45 | 124 | 147 |
| Los Angeles | 17 | 20 | 7 | 41 | 106 | 124 |

| Sunday's Scores | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Pittsburgh 3, N.Y. Rangers 0 | Colorado 6, Calgary 2 |
| Columbus 6, Vancouver 5, SO | Edmonton 6, Phoenix 3 |
| Monday's Scores | |
| St. Louis 5, Boston 4, SO | Washington 2, N.Y. Islanders 1, OT |
| Buffalo at Florida, late | Dallas at Tampa Bay, late |
| Carolina at Toronto, late | Minnesota at Chicago, late |
| New Jersey at Nashville, late | Today's Games |
| Montreal at Atlanta, 7 p.m. | Anaheim at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m. |
| Washington at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m. | Carolina at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m. |
| Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m. | Detroit at Phoenix, 9 p.m. |
| Los Angeles at Colorado, 9 p.m. | Columbus at Calgary, 10 p.m. |

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

| The AP Men's Top 25 | | | |
|---|------|-------|---|
| The top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Jan. 18, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and previous ranking: | | | |
| Record | Pts | Pvs | |
| 1. Wake Forest (68) | 16-0 | 1,793 | 2 |
| 2. Duke (4) | 16-1 | 1,721 | 3 |
| 3. Connecticut | 16-1 | 1,590 | 4 |
| 4. Pittsburgh | 16-1 | 1,569 | 1 |
| 5. North Carolina | 16-2 | 1,510 | 5 |
| 6. Oklahoma | 17-1 | 1,498 | 6 |

CROSSWORD

ACROSS 36 Family member
1 Pleased
5 Low voice
9 Comedy's DeLuise
12 Highly rated
13 Friend
14 Raw rock
15 Dangerous fish
17 Oscar Wilde's sine qua non
18 Charged bits
19 Valentino's dance
21 Chocolate source
24 Beatles movie
25 Money of Iran
26 Squashed with the feet
30 Egos' counterparts
31 Adolescents
32 Exist
33 Maryland city
35 Talking bird

DOWN 1 Petrol
2 Parcel of land
3 Blackbird
4 No
5 Hoedown venue
6 "Sad to tell, ..."
7 Crafty
8 Methods
9 Makes seem less important
10 First (Abbr.)
11 "Take — your leader"
16 Sticky stuff
20 Matter-horn, for one
21 Home, in today's jargon
22 Staffer
23 Gilligan and his companions
24 Mandlikova of tennis
26 Criterion
27 Roulette bet
28 Sea eagle
29 Letter opener
31 Ivy attachment
34 Coloration
35 More irate
37 Zodiac feline
38 Eatery
39 Any time now
40 Redact
41 Part of SWAK
44 Honest politician?
45 Mimic
46 "Of course"
47 Prepared

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | F | A | R | D | O | C | R | E | F | T | |
| S | A | R | A | S | O | T | A | E | M | I | R |
| H | O | T | S | H | O | T | S | V | I | S | E |
| A | B | R | A | M | B | E | A | M | | | |
| T | A | I | L | H | O | T | S | P | U | R | |
| E | T | C | B | E | R | T | H | F | E | E | |
| H | O | T | L | I | N | E | W | O | N | K | |
| S | U | R | E | H | A | S | T | E | | | |
| M | O | S | H | E | S | S | I | R | | | |
| A | N | T | I | H | O | T | S | P | O | T | S |
| S | C | A | R | I | N | A | S | E | N | S | E |
| K | E | N | T | P | E | R | D | O | P | E | |

Yesterday's answer 1-20

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 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 | | |

BRIDGE

Eliminating all doubts

In most deals, defense is a partnership effort rather than an individual undertaking. Within this framework, it is the responsibility of each defender to prevent his partner from making the wrong play, if possible.

Consider this deal where West leads the jack of spades against four hearts. As soon as dummy appears, both defenders should focus their efforts on formulating a plan to take the four tricks needed to defeat the contract.

From East's viewpoint after winning the spade lead, the only hope is that his partner has the ace of clubs. In that case, a club to West's ace and a club ruff are sure to achieve the desired goal.

It might therefore seem automatic for East to return the seven of clubs at trick two. West will win and give East a club ruff, and the ace of trumps will provide the setting trick. But it's not quite that simple.

If a club is returned at the second trick, West has no way of knowing whether East started with a singleton or doubleton club. West has already concluded that unless his partner has the ace of trumps, the contract cannot be defeated, but he cannot know for sure whether East has one or two clubs. If East started with a doubleton, West must duck the first club. Then, when East takes his presumed ace of hearts, he can return his second club to secure the ruff.

There is, however, a way for East to clarify the situation for his partner. To avoid any ambiguity as to the meaning of the club return, East should cash the ace of trumps first before leading the club. This gives West no choice but to take the first club and return a club, since if he ducked, declarer could win and draw the remaining trumps.

This thoughtful play by East relieves his partner of having to make a potentially fatal guess and leaves him no room to go wrong.

Tomorrow: Let's not be lackadaisical.

North dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ 6
♥ K Q 10 3
♦ A K J 4
♣ K Q 9 4

WEST
♠ J 10 9 4 3
♥ 6
♦ Q 9 7
♣ A 8 6 3

EAST
♠ A 8 5 2
♥ A 7 5
♦ 10 8 6 3 2
♣ 7

SOUTH
♠ K Q 7
♥ J 9 8 4 2
♦ 5
♣ J 10 5 2

The bidding:
North 1♦ East Pass South 1♥ West Pass
4♥ Opening lead — jack of spades.

HOROSCOPE

Happy Birthday: Don't overreact, overdo or drown your sorrows when what you should be doing is assessing your situation and making the necessary reforms, improvements or direction changes to suit your needs. You are the one responsible for the outcome of your life — no one else can do things for you. Question your actions and do what needs to be done to make your life better. Your numbers are 3, 5, 17, 20, 25, 36, 41

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): It's best to keep a stiff upper lip and ride out any storm you face. Stick close to the people who think the same way you do but don't argue with the ones who do not. Listen, assess and organize. 2 stars



Eugenia Last

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You cannot go wrong if you organize or plan something that will enhance your chance of getting ahead. Share a creative idea with people you know who will be interested. A short trip will lead to information and suggestions. 4 stars

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Be a hero and do for others. The opportunity to learn something about yourself and the people you hang out with will help you make an important decision that will influence your future. Don't get wrapped up in the moment if someone is trying to talk you into a risky financial deal. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This isn't the time to overreact or jump to conclusions. Put things in perspective and realize your losses and gains. Nothing is a waste of time and every lesson learned will contribute to your future success. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You'll be far too emotional to deal with professional matters rationally. Step back and view what everyone else is doing before you make a decision that may be difficult to reverse. Don't take unnecessary chances. 3 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have to push to do the things you enjoy if you want to be successful. Don't let anyone who is uncomplimentary discourage you from following through with your plans. Be true to your dreams. 3 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't expect the ones you love to be as accommodating as your friends and colleagues. Added responsibilities may make your day a little more difficult but it will be a learning experience that will help you out in the future. 3 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Open up and be receptive to a cause. You may be surprised by the connections you make. A deal that required some changes in order to move forward can be closed if you are willing to compromise. 4 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A deal, settlement or legal matter can be wrapped up. Expect a tempting offer from someone you love and respect. Added responsibilities are present but will bring great joy and pride. A change at home will add to your security. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't take anyone or anything too seriously, especially if emotions are high and tempers are hot. Be willing to bend a little to get along. A partnership can turn out to be much better if you get to know one another. 2 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Look on the bright side. Once you have positive thought flowing freely, you can manipulate whatever situation you face with friends or colleagues. You will come up with a brilliant idea that will be well received. 5 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): A broader look at your situation and how it's affecting others will give you a better idea of what will help and what won't. You cannot assume anything when it comes to how people will react. Secret information may leak. 5 stars

CRYPTOQUIP

J B D H T P N N Z W D P K Z Y D F N V K H R
T H T U C G W , K Z C I N Z D K W
V K R B W Y D T M M G K F W D U

J K W B F P N J K H R I T K H Z
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I RECKON A BEACH BOYS TUNE ABOUT BEING SHIPWRECKED WOULD PROBABLY BE CALLED "I GET AGROUND."
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals I



100TH DAY OF SCHOOL

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

I was not sure who to send this information to so I figured I would just go straight to the top! Christian Heritage School's kindergarten and Pre-first classes celebrated the 100th Day of School with several hands on activities during the school day Jan. 16. The students were encouraged to bring in canned foods to give to a local ministry for the needy in the area. The goal was 100 cans. The students brought in a total of 119 canned food items, which were delivered to the Harbor House and Greater Works Ministry on Bryant Street. These two outreach centers provide food and clothing for people in need.

'BIG' MUSICAL GIFT

AP photo

In this handout photo, Robert Loggia, left, and Tom Hanks star in the 1988 comedy "Big." The 16-foot walk-on piano Tom Hanks played in his 1988 film "Big" will be on display next month at the Philadelphia Please Touch Museum. The instrument is a gift to the children's museum from a couple in suburban Merion who bought it after the movie's release.



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HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FOR BETTER OR WORSE



BLONDIE



BEEBLE BAILEY



TUNDRA



DEAR ABBY

Bride's father wants meat at wedding

DEAR ABBY: My daughter and future son-in-law are being married this summer. They are both vegans, and are planning a vegan dinner for their reception. I thought it was a very cool way of showing what different types of vegan dishes could be planned, but I'm getting grief from my husband. He thinks it is "selfish" of them not to offer a meat dish. I couldn't disagree more.

I told him I think they are right, but that I'd write to you and ask your opinion. It will have no effect on their reception, but I'd like to quiet things down on the home front. —FUTURE MOTHER-IN-LAW

DEAR FUTURE M-I-L: This will be your daughter's day, not your husband's. I'm sure the food they offer will be not only delicious, but also sufficient to satisfy the guests, who may not even realize they aren't being offered meat.

If your husband is concerned about what will be served, he should eat before going to the wedding. Please tell him I said so.

DEAR LOVES BOYS: Where did each of those boys get the impression that you liked "only him"? My advice is to set the record straight now, before you DO get a reputation. Just say, "I think you're great, but I'm not ready for an exclusive relationship with anyone right now." It may not be music to their ears, but it's honest.

DEAR ABBY: I will graduate from college in June, and I plan to move back in with my parents. I have a steady job and can afford an apartment if I want, but I'd rather live with my parents because we have always had a close relationship. When I told a few friends my plans, they laughed at me.

What do I say to the "friends" who think I'm silly and stupid? DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL IN WISCONSIN

DEAR DADDY'S LITTLE GIRL: Had you signed your letter with any other name than the one you did, I'd have advised you to tell your friends to mind their own business.

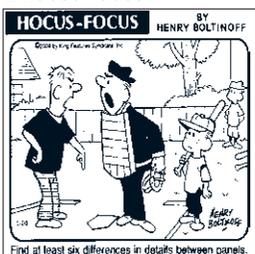
However, because this is the way you identified yourself, allow me to comment. Have you discussed your plans with your parents? Will you be contributing financially to the household? Will you have a curfew?

An important part of growing up is leaving the nest and flying solo for a while. My concern is that by living at home and clinging to the role of "Daddy's Little Girl," you won't be able to fully mature as an individual.



Jeanne Phillips

HOCUS FOCUS



PEANUTS



ROSE IS ROSE



ZITS



BABY BLUES



FAMILY CIRCUS



CLOSE TO HOME



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JOBS

HOMES

WHEELS

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Monday-Friday 8:00-5:00



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

103 Found
Found Male Black Lab. About 1 year old. Hwy 225 N. area. 706-581-4615

EMPLOYMENT

310 General
HOUSE PARENT: Mountain Top Boys is Sugar Valley, GA is seeking a caring adult to be part of a team to care for up to 8 boys, ages 10-17. Full time, salaried position and benefits (medical/dental), plus room and board while on duty. Basic schedule is 72 hours on / 72 hours off. Great opportunity to guide and assist youth in learning life skills to prepare them for a successful future. Contact Dave at 706-397-8223 for details about location, salary, benefits and requirements. Email resumes davidl.mtbh@wildblue.net or fax to 706-397-2506. We are a Drug-Free Work Place and an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TELEPHONE & CABLE JOBS!

Companies in the Tennessee Valley are aggressively seeking people with all levels of experience for jobs in hundreds of occupations. These employers will never know who you are, what skills you have, and your desire to work for one of these companies, until you let them know who you are. **WE CAN HELP! CREATE YOUR PROFILE NOW BY PHONE OR WEB FREE!**
Call Today Sunday, or any day!!
Use Job Code 42!
1-866-562-6381
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Our system creates one for you-FREE! With an 8-minute phone call or our convenient Online form, our automated process can match you with employers that are hiring - NOW!
Choose from one of the following positions to enter your information:

- Telephone Equipment Service & Repair
 - Telephone Line Service & Repair
 - Cable Service & Repair
 - Cable Line Service & Repair
 - Test Engineer
 - Software / Applications Engineer
 - Overhead Lineman
- This FREE service is available 24 hours a day-7 days a week and is presented by The Daily Citizen
Don't Wait, Do It Today!

313 Management
Produce Manager needed. Experience required. Apply in person at Save a Lot, Dalton, Ga.

322 Sales
50K 1st YEAR * 75K 2nd YEAR
The catch? You will have to work for it. NO LAZY BUMS OR DREAMERS!! B2B advertising sales helpful. Must be able to travel. 800-600-6200

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

CALL THE CLASSIFIEDS 217-NEWS

YARD SALES



TIP OF THE DAY
WHAT should you NOT sell?
•Items missing safety parts.
•Unused prescription drugs or medications.
•Personal hygiene items.
•Halogen floor lamps.
•Hair dryers without ground fault detectors.
•Old baby cribs or paypens, incomplete child safety seats, children's clothing with drawstrings and accordion-style safety gates. All pose safety risks.
The Consumer Protection Agency offers a complete list of dangerous items to sell at yard sales. Visit www.cpsc.gov
***To place an ad in the Yard Sale Section of this newspaper:
Call Laura 706-272-7707 or Jennfier 706-272-7703

PETS/LIVESTOCK

502 Free Pets
Free puppy to a good home. Male, looks like a pit bull. 706-278-4737.

Loving home wanted for medium size, mixed breed, male dog. Has been neutered and has had shot. Very friendly will make great family pet. Call Karen 706-226-5229 - 423-400-7313

Loving homes wanted for 3 male rescued cats, approx. 6 mo. old, have been neutered, have had shots and are litter box trained. Call Karen 706-226-5229 - 423-400-7313

ITEMS FOR SALE

611 Misc. Items For Sale
Disney area stay. 7 days 6 nights. 2 adult Diney tickets. Paid \$750. Sell for \$249. Good for 1 year. 404-225-0082

ITEMS FOR RENT

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

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

2303 First Street (behind Carolyn Baptist Church) 2 BR 1 BA w/garage \$89,900, \$1,000 dn, as low as \$650 mon.
1911 Bobby Drive, 3BR 2BA, \$115,000 \$1000 dn, as low as \$895 mon
2015 James Court 3 or 4BR, 2BA, \$99,900 \$1000 down, as low as \$750 month as is.
300 Sycamore Circle (next to Queen Carpet) 4BR 1BA \$110,000 \$1000 down, as low as \$750 month
1211 Nelson St, 2BR 1BA, \$69,900, \$1,000 as low as \$425 mon

Rates Have Never Been Better! Brand new houses 1100 - 1300 square feet. 3 bdrms 2 full bath, 2-car garage. \$500 down, \$550 month. 678-766-0200

726 Commercial Buildings
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

726 Commercial Buildings

check this out
*19,000 sq.ft. - 2105 E. Walnut Ave. Retail space, Next to Hobby Lobby, across from Mail. *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 Wkdys 9-5:30

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 wkdys 9-5:30.
31,000 sq ft. Masonry building, 4 loading docks & offices. 1 block off 4 lane Abutment Rd. on Callahan Rd. 706-226-6245

Available 11,000 sq. ft. inc. 1,000 ft. offices, 2 docks, sprinkler, clear span, conv. location in Dalton. 706-275-8555

umc
Lakeland Rd., Dalton - 160,000 SF warehouse with 2 shipping offices. Fire sprinklers. High bay lighting. 16 dock doors. Large back lot.

Gi Maddox Pkwy., Chatsworth - 31,500 SF warehouse with additional 1,500 SF office space. 22 FT high ceiling. 4 dock doors. Large secure fenced lot.

Duwall Rd., Chatsworth - 175,000 SF warehouse with additional 2,500 SF office space. Fire sprinklers. 14 dock doors. 20-22 FT ceiling. Large secure fenced lot. 1/4 mile from Hwy 411.

Watson St., Rome - 8,100 SF office building with additional 1,900 SF separate building. Office furniture included. Fire sprinklers. Large parking lot with carport. 1 block off Shorter Ave.

All property is privately owned. Visit www.tmarealty.com for additional information and properties or call 706-876-1108.

Office space for lease. Available Now! 1400 sq. ft. suite and 2,500 sf. suite. 800 College Dr. 706-226-6245 8:30a-5:00p

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

Restaurants for rent: *410 S. Hamilton (fmrly Bailey's Diner) Incl. equipment \$3,495 mo. 30 day setup time - Free Rent. *801 E. Walnut Ave. Barrett Marketplace \$2995/Mo. \$2000 dep. (fmrly 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
HUGE 4 bedroom apt. In Dalton. \$590/month or \$150/wk. 706-260-9183

751 Apartments

!! TWO MONTHS FREE !!
HUGE TOWNHOME SUPERIOR AMENITIES
706-279-1801
\$25 off every wk for 3 months to qualified tenants. Ask about other specials. 1 & 2 bdrm units in Dalton. 706-264-8867

LOOK HERE!
**1130/1132 Burleyson 2 BR, 1 BA \$485/mon, \$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 STORY completely furn. effic. Cable TV, phone, microwave, kitch. supplies, linens, utilities furniture North Tibbs Road. \$149/weekly, 278-7189.

1, 2, & 3 Bd Apt's - Starting at \$100/week. Power, water, cable, furnished.
For details: 706-463-0672, 706-463-0671 & Español 706-463-0945

1st month, 1/2 off! 2 bd, 1 ba, w/d hookup, c/h/a. Power, water, & cable furnished. Close to downtown. \$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 - 601 Wills, \$465 mth, \$230 dp. *503A Colter, 2BR 1.5BA \$445 mth, \$220 dp. 706-279-1380 wkdays 9-5:30

269 B Williams Rd. 2br 1ba duplex. Central h/a, w/d hookups, water furn, \$425/mo \$250/dep. Call 706-259-7718

271 Broadacre Rd. NW. 2 br, 2 ba., Central H/A, W/D hook ups, water & electric furnished. \$160 wk. \$200 dep. 706-508-4158

A SWEET DEAL FOR YOU!!
Well maintained. Convenient location!
Call PARK CANYON APTS 706-226-6054
Email: parkcanyon@optilink.us
Apartment for Rent. 2BR/1 BA located in Chatsworth. \$435.00 mth \$300.00 Deposit. NO PETS 706-483-9187

LUXURY 2 bdrm 2 bath Apts
1716 Dug Gap Rd. 843 Carbondale Rd. Call 706-277-2595

Motel Rooms For Rent: 2107 S. Dixie Hwy. 41. Standard - \$95/wk. Lg.- \$125/\$135wk. 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**

Secluded Townhouse 2br/ 1.5ba, off Hwy 2 between Dalton & Ringgold, w/d hkup, C/H/A, water & gar svcs furn No pets, \$450 mo \$250 dep 706-581-2062.

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

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

751 Apartments

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
2BR, 1BA Duplex near I-75/Conn 3, C/H/A, W/D conn, \$420 mo. Or \$100 wk. Water included 706-673-4808 or 706-264-6786

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

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

752 Homes For Rent

\$ Simple Management Services LLC \$ 706-508-4370 Se Habla Español

Over 40 Homes With Pictures to Choose From On Our Website At: www.picksimple.com

FOR RENT
**DALTON - 1821 Crabapple 2 BR/1BA \$200 Dep \$650 Mth All Utilities Included!!
**DALTON: 111 Bogle St. 2 BR / 1 BA \$100 dep, \$140 a wk. All Utilities Included!!
**LaFayette - 404 Glenn St. 2 Br 1.5 BA \$400 Dep \$595 Mth
**COHUTTA - 2 BR / 1 BA Duplex \$100 Deposit \$100 Wk. Water Included!!

RENT TO OWN
**DALTON - 3347 Headrick Circle 3 BR / 2 BA \$99,000 w/ \$650 a mth \$1000 Down
**DALTON - 1437 Classic Chase 3 BR / 2 BA \$2500 Down, \$750 a Mth. \$104,900. \$300 a month towards equity
**DALTON - 609 E. Cuyler St. 3 BR / 1 BA \$1000 Down, \$625 a Mth, \$89,000
**COHUTTA - 4036 Parliament Dr. \$1200 / 3 BA \$2500 Down, \$1200 a Mth \$160,000
**ROCKY FACE - 208 Ina Dr. 3 BR / 2 BA \$2500 Down, \$950 a Mth, \$130,000
**RINGGOLD - 897 Pollard Rd, 3 BR / 1 BA \$1000 Down, \$595 a Mth, \$89,000

Tired of Being a Landlord? Our Property Management Company Manages Over 100 Units in Northwest Georgia. Let Us Help You Today! Call Now!!

The Daily Photo

Submitted by
Janice Lands of Chatsworth, GA
To submit your photo, email photo, name and city to: lauramartin@daltoncitizen.com

752 Homes For Rent

****1st month rent free**** Security deposit of \$350. and proof of income required 2bd/1ba \$350 1bd/1 ba \$300. Contact Rodney 706-218-2732 or Arthur 706-264-6703. Pets ok \$25 extra a month.

*5 year old home, 2 br, 1 ba. 900 sq. ft. \$575/mo., \$300/dep. 2289 Mill Creek Rd. 706-226-2508

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

4 bdrm, 1 ba, big yard, storage bldg. Close to N.W.H.S. \$625/mo., Dep. Req. No inside pets. 706-483-5395 - 706-217-5405

5 min. from I-75, Crow Valley 2br 1ba, double gar. Nice yard, lots of storage. \$600 mon. Dep. req'd. 706-217-5405 -483-5395

New 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1200 sq. ft. home 606 McCharles \$500/dep. \$650/mo. No inside pets, references required. 706-463-1062

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

753 Condos For Rent

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

MOBILE HOMES

778 Mobile Homes For Rent

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, hrdwd floors, refrig & stove. \$120 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

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

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

TRANSPORTATION

801 Antiques & Classics



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



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



1996 Mustang convertible, red with new white top, white leather interior, auto and all power. V-6 with Flowmaster dual exhaust. Styled aluminum wheels. Glossy paint. New struts and shocks. 83k miles. Car is in exceptional condition. \$6000. Call: 706-226-1687



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 \$2000 for it or Best Offer. Call 762-201-5483. My number is a Dalton number.

807 Import Autos

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



1999 Mercedes E430. Sedan. V-8. Silver, leather, all records, excellent condition. Sunroof, 94k miles. Asking \$9,700. Call: 706-673-1902 or email danny@herbshop.com

2000 Mercedes Benz E320. Silver, auto, leather, clean condition, like new. Great on gas. 35K miles. \$10,500. 561-512-7521.

2000 Mercedes SLK 230 hardtop convertible, low miles, excellent condition, service records, \$12,000. 706-280-4552



2001 - Jaguar, 4.0, S-Type. 67,458 Miles. \$12,200. Call: 706-217-8171



2005 BMW M3 Cabriolet, 36k miles, 6 sp., still under factory warranty, carbon black on black, Harman/Kardon sound, navigation, heated seats, xenon headlights, garage kept, one owner, asking \$43,000. Call: 706-260-1673



2005 Super Charged Mini Cooper. 6 speed. Convertible. Premium Sport Package. One owner, 40,000 miles, Harmon/Kardon parking sensors, cruise control, auto air. Price \$21,000. Call: 706-313-1119.

807 Import Autos



2006 Honda Accord EXL. Like new. Gray. Full warranty. 30k miles. Loaded. Leather seats, XM radio, sunroof, 34mpg. Like new. Great Cond. Must sell! No tax! \$18,495. obo. 706-614-7719



2007 LEXUS IS-250, 11,500 mi., loaded, \$25,900, 706-673-4808.



Drive the once in a lifetime most beautiful roadster every built. 500 SL Mercedes Benz has every option both hard top & convertible w/only 85K miles & sold new for \$90,000. AC, heated seats, pwr everything, Bose stereo w/AM FM CD/Cass. Silver with beautiful black leather, Zebrano wood, Can be yours for only \$12,500 obo. More pics and Carfax 706-313-5525



REDUCED! 04 Nissan 350Z, Touring & Rdster, Red, automatic-5-speed. 71,000 miles, leather, heated seats, many extras! \$22,000. 706-217-9326.



2005 Super Charged Mini Cooper. 6 speed. Convertible. Premium Sport Package. One owner, 40,000 miles, Harmon/Kardon parking sensors, cruise control, auto air. Price \$21,000. Call: 706-313-1119.



2005 Super Charged Mini Cooper. 6 speed. Convertible. Premium Sport Package. One owner, 40,000 miles, Harmon/Kardon parking sensors, cruise control, auto air. Price \$21,000. Call: 706-313-1119.

807 Import Autos



Well Maintained! 2004 Mercedes CLK 320 Coupe with 69,500 miles. Black ext., Beige int., 2DR, Semi-Automatic, Rear WD, 6 Cylinder, Sunroof, 6 Disc Changer, Push Button Start/Stop, ASKING: \$24,500/obo. Call 706-459-0326

809 Trucks



1997 Ford F250 Service Truck A/C, automatic, V8 diesel 243,303 miles. \$3,250. Call Pat Weller 706-259-3394 ext: 1268



2003 F-250, 4 door- crew cab, 6.0 diesel, 94k miles. 4x4. Automatic, Excellent condition. Asking \$18,500. 706-264-7883 or 706-629-4000.



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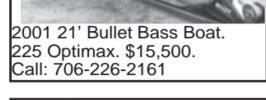
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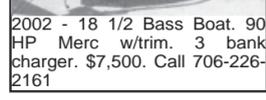
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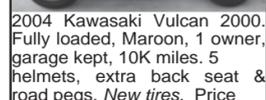
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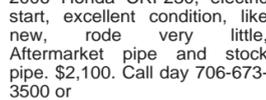


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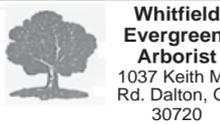
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Tomlin's time has come

Third Steelers coach to reach the Super Bowl

BY ALAN ROBINSON

Associated Press Writer

PITTSBURGH — Only a few minutes after the Pittsburgh Steelers won the AFC championship game, coach Mike Tomlin pondered the question he knows will be asked a lot going into the Super Bowl.

What will it be like coaching against the man you beat out for the Steelers' job, Arizona's Ken Whisenhunt?

Tomlin sidestepped the query as skillfully as Troy Polamalu dodged Ravens defenders on his interception return that sealed the Steelers' 23-14 victory Sunday night, sending them to the Super Bowl for the second time in four seasons.

"I am just enjoying the moment right now — you won't let me, though," Tomlin said, and with a hint of a smile. "I will have more thoughts on later."

Imagine that: Mike Tomlin asking for time. He certainly hasn't needed much in a coaching career that began with him serving as an assistant to current West Virginia coach Bill Stewart at VMI in 1995 — the same year Bill Cowher took the Steelers to the Super Bowl — and has rapidly ascended since.

Now that Pittsburgh is headed to its seventh Super Bowl, each of the Steelers' three coaches in the last 40 years has taken them there. Chuck Noll first got there in his sixth season in 1974, Cowher in his fourth. Tomlin needed only two years after unexpectedly being hired for one of the best-known coaching jobs in American

pro sports, yet those who know him aren't surprised in the least it happened so soon.

If the Steelers win, Tomlin — at age 36 — would be the youngest Super Bowl-winning coach. Still, Tomlin is as much an old-school coach like Noll as he is a contemporary coach like Cowher, who was also in his mid-30s when Pittsburgh hired him in 1992.

"He's doing a great job," Steelers owner Dan Rooney said. "He did everything perfect since he's been here. I can't say enough about him."

Tomlin demands his players be on time for everything — an 8 p.m. meeting means 7:58 p.m. — and practice with a purpose. He allows coordinators Bruce Arians and Dick LeBeau the freedom to coach without meddling, yet has his hand in everything the Steelers do.

He laughs and jokes with his players, as Cowher did, but he can show as stern a face as Noll ever did. Maybe that's his football genealogy at work; Tomlin's mentor was former Colts coach Tony Dungy, who became the NFL's youngest coordinator at age 28 — in Pittsburgh, under Noll.

"Last year coach Tomlin came in and really set the laws down," wide receiver Hines Ward said. "A lot of the guys were set in coach Cowher's ways. He was very strict on his rules. Now, he has a year under his belt to let guys know that this is his team and this is how he wants things run around here. He understands what players need to be pushed, what players need to take time off to be fresh."

Tomlin regularly rests some regulars, such as Ward, during Wednesday practices to give their older bodies more bounce-back time. As Ward said, Tomlin hasn't been in the league long but, "He knows we're not going to win ballgames on Wednesdays."

Tomlin is doing fine on Sundays and the other assorted days NFL teams play. His two-season record is 24-11, compared to Cowher's 20-14 and Noll's 6-22, though neither of them inherited a team that was one year removed from the Super Bowl. The Steelers beat Seattle 21-10 in Detroit three years ago, Cowher's next-to-last season on the job.

"He's very consistent. He's a great coach," cornerback Deshaea Townsend said of Tomlin. "He allows his players to play, but he does what it takes to get us ready. That's all you can ask from a coach, to mean what he says, and he's that type of coach."

Tomlin is a bit of gambler, too.

Despite being unsuccessful several times earlier, Tomlin took a couple of late-season risks by passing up field goals to go for it on fourth down near the goal line. He called for a fake punt against San Diego. He allowed AP Defensive Player of the Year James Harrison to be his long snapper after an injury, a move that may have cost Pittsburgh a victory over the Giants.

Tomlin's most impressive quality might be his ability to take command of a room, much like Noll and Cowher could, despite being only a



AP PHOTO

Now that Pittsburgh is headed to its seventh Super Bowl, each of the Steelers' three coaches in the last 40 years has taken them there. Chuck Noll first got there in his sixth season in 1974, Bill Cowher in his fourth. Mike Tomlin needed only two years on the job to reach the big game.

couple of years older than some players.

"Coach Tomlin, as a new guy coming in, brings a lot of energy and excitement," quarterback Ben Roethlisberger said. "It's really been fun."

It is this attention to detail, commanding presence and

ability to lead that caused Rooney and son Art II, the team president, to hire him over Whisenhunt and Cardinals assistant Russ Grimm two years ago this week. While a few players initially said they wished Grimm had been chosen, Tomlin never had any trouble

winning over his new team. Or winning, period.

"I love the guy to death," linebacker James Farrior said. "I think this team has believed in him since Day One. We all had confidence in him, we knew he was going to lead us the right way. I love him, I really do."

Cardinals running back Edgerrin James celebrates after the Cardinals' victory in Sunday's game in Glendale, Arizona.

AP PHOTO



Passed over by the Steelers, Whisenhunt glad to be in 'Zona

BY BOB BAUM

Associated Press Writer

TEMPE, Ariz. — Ken Whisenhunt seemed to be a logical successor to Bill Cowher in Pittsburgh when the job came open two years ago. If not him, then certainly Russ Grimm.

Both Steelers assistants were passed over in favor of outsider Mike Tomlin, and Whisenhunt came to Arizona, bringing Grimm with him as associate head coach and offensive line coach.

Now Whisenhunt's upstart Cardinals are facing the Steelers in the Super Bowl.

After Arizona beat Philadelphia 32-25 for the NFC championship on Sunday, Whisenhunt was rooting for Pittsburgh to beat Baltimore for the AFC crown. "How could it be any different?" Whisenhunt said Monday. "When we actually won the game how could it not be the Pittsburgh Steelers? That's what I expected. It's just a shame that you guys don't have any story lines."

The Arizona-Pittsburgh coaching connection will be a Super Bowl subplot for the next two weeks leading up to the Feb. 1 game in Tampa.

"It's going to be emotional for us," Pittsburgh offensive tackle Max Starks said.

"Those are the coaches I won my last Super Bowl with."

Whisenhunt was an assistant to Cowher for six years, the last three as offensive coordinator. He called the shots for young Ben Roethlisberger in the Steelers' 2005 drive to the Super Bowl championship. Grimm also had been on Cowher's staff for six seasons, the last three as assistant head coach as well as offensive line coach.

Whisenhunt was interviewed for the vacant job in Atlanta, then found out about Cowher's resignation. The Steelers gave him an interview, but that was as far as it went. Grimm got two interviews in Pittsburgh and there was an erroneous report that he had been offered the job.

Instead, Tomlin wowed owner Dan Rooney and team president Art Rooney II during two long interviews.

Well before Tomlin was hired in Pittsburgh, Whisenhunt accepted the Cardinals job and insisted on Monday that he has no hard feelings.

"Why would I have any hard feelings?" he said. "I don't see why you wouldn't want an NFL job. I had a great opportunity here. There were a lot of things that I thought were in place that would help us have an opportunity to win.

I think we have shown that, and I am excited about that."

Whisenhunt said he's grateful to the Rooney family for the opportunity he was given as an assistant coach there.

"There is obviously a strong place in my heart for a lot of the people, coaches, players, and obviously Mr. Rooney, with that organization," he said. "A big part of why I am here is because of my opportunity to work with that team."

Whisenhunt praised the influence of Grimm, who was an all-pro lineman 11 of his 20 seasons with the Washington Redskins and was Whisenhunt's teammate there.

"He is an outstanding football coach, one that I have a tremendous amount of history with, both as a player and a coach," Whisenhunt said. "We have had great success together. A lot of the things we do here, I know we think a lot alike. I think he has been a great part of why we have had success, especially with what he has done with our offensive line."

Both coaches brought an attitude adjustment for a Cardinals' franchise that before this season had a winning record only once since 1984 and had two playoff victories in its entire history.

Jets to hire new coach

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The New York Jets reached an agreement with Rex Ryan on Monday to make the Baltimore defensive coordinator their head coach, a person with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press.

The person, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the four-year deal was not yet finalized, said it was expected to be done in the next few days.

The 46-year-old Ryan replaces the fired Eric Mangini. Ryan takes over a team that started last season 8-3 but missed the playoffs with quarterback Brett Favre after losing four of its last five games.

Ryan is expected to be formally introduced at a

news conference

NFL NOTEBOOK

Wednesday at the Jets' facility in Florham Park, N.J.

The Ravens' defensive coordinator the last four seasons is the son of former NFL coach Buddy Ryan and twin brother of Cleveland defensive coordinator Rob Ryan.

McGahee OK

OWINGS MILLS, Md.

— Ravens running back Willis McGahee is expected to make a "complete recovery" from a fierce helmet-to-helmet hit in the AFC championship game that saw him carted off the field.

McGahee returned to his Baltimore home Monday after spending the night in a Pittsburgh hospital recovering from Sunday's collision with Steelers safety Ryan Clark.

The play occurred in the fourth quarter of Pittsburgh's 23-14 victory, and McGahee was carted from the field on a stretcher.

Although McGahee had significant neck pain, he had movement in his arms and legs after the hit. He was taken to UPMC Presbyterian Hospital and held overnight for observation. He was released early Monday morning and back home by early afternoon.

McGahee had just caught a pass and taken two steps before being met by Clark, who drove his helmet into McGahee's facemask. McGahee's head snapped back, and he lost the ball as he dropped to the ground.

Giants hire new DC

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J.

— Less than two days after Steve Spagnuolo left to become coach of the St. Louis Rams, Tom Coughlin promoted linebackers coach Bill Sheridan to replace him as the New York Giants' defensive coordinator.

"Bill is a very good football coach," Coughlin said Monday. "He does an excellent job of teaching, of reinforcing what we aspire to be with our defensive team. He's coached our linebackers, he's given a big assist to Steve in all that he has done."

Coughlin interviewed Sheridan and secondary coach Peter Giunta for the coordinator's job Sunday. Giunta was the Rams' defensive coordinator when they won the 2000 Super Bowl.

Sheridan has spent four seasons with the Giants, with his biggest challenge coming in 2007 when he helped Mathias Kiwanuka make the move from defensive end to linebacker.

Before coming to the NFL, Sheridan spent two decades as a college assistant, coaching all the positions on defense in that span.



Ravens running back Willis McGahee is injured as he is hit by Steelers defender Ryan Clark in the fourth quarter of Sunday's game in Pittsburgh.

AP PHOTO