



◀ **Indians back in Region 7-4A, ready to compete — 1B**

New Orleans ▶ celebrates Fat Tuesday — 7A



THE DAILY CITIZEN

Tuesday, February 24, 2009 • Dalton, Georgia • www.daltondailycitizen.com • 50 Cents

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THINGS TO CHECK OUT ON THE INSIDE

Braves have high hopes for pitching star in minor leagues as spring training continues.

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Whitfield Schools officials look at cutting bus routes to save money

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Local students volunteer their time during school breaks

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"When I was in school there were 42 kids in the classes and our teachers did very well. But parents could discipline their kids then."

"I am a senior citizen. I draw \$653 a month and paid a \$253 electric bill this month. Something's wrong here."

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Still looking

No luck yet in search for teen

BY CHARLES OLIVER
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Dana Massey, mother of Brett Thomason, said she feels as if "the life has been drained out of me."

"My heart is just aching," Massey said Monday.

The 19-year-old Thomason, a 2008 graduate of Southeast High School, went on a boating trip Thursday evening with friends. Thomason's family reported him missing about 12:45 a.m. Friday after he did not return.

Since then, dozens of people with several state and local agencies, as well as many private citizens, have been looking for Thomason. A search began around 1 a.m. Friday and a few hours later, rescue workers found



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Dana Massey, left, mother of the missing 19-year-old Brett Thomason, looks over maps with Shannon Babb-Rahm, a friend of the family, on Monday while planning a community search for Thomason to begin at 9 a.m. today from the Riverbend Baptist Church.

➤ See MISSING, 2A

\$1 million for sewage?

County commissioners float idea for Tunnel Hill

BY JAMIE JONES
jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com

Could a sewer line be on the way to Tunnel Hill?

The Whitfield County Board of Commissioners on Monday discussed contributing \$1 million to a \$3.1 million Dalton Utilities proj-

ect to place a sewer line from the Mill Creek wastewater substation north parallel to Highway 41 to the Tunnel Hill I-75 interchange.

The county would recoup the \$1 million by receiving a portion of money from residents and businesses tying into the system as well as a part of the sewer charge. Commissioner

Harold Brooker suggested the county contribute the money.

"That's the only way that this county is going to grow," Brooker said, adding there could be satellite businesses from the

➤ See SEWAGE, 3A

THE COOKIES ARE HERE



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Kadashia Square, 14, a student at Northwest High School, helps unload thin mint Girl Scout cookies on Monday. Volunteers helped unload 4,217 cases, which contain 12 boxes of cookies each. The cookies will begin being delivered today, and booths will be set up at businesses in Whitfield County beginning Saturday.

Mohawk reports 10 percent drop in sales

BY JAMIE JONES
jamiejones@daltoncitizen.com

Net sales at Calhoun-based Mohawk Industries plummeted 10 percent — from \$7.58 billion in 2007 to \$6.82 billion last year — as the company's chairman and chief executive officer predicted 2009 will "remain challenging" for the floorcovering industry.

Jeffrey Lorberbaum, Mohawk chairman and chief executive officer, said the company has permanently closed "a number of" manufacturing and distribution plants, cut jobs and raised prices on many

products at the world's largest floorcovering maker. Mohawk released its 2008 and fourth quarter financial results on Monday.

"We are in an unprecedented time with the U.S. and world economies under great stress," Lorberbaum said. "Our category is suffering from the same issues as the entire economy including increasing unemployment, falling consumer confidence, limited credit availability and declining business investment. In addition, the housing contraction has had a significant impact on the purchase of flooring for our residential channels."

Sales for the Mohawk segment, which includes soft floorcovering such as carpets and rugs, fell from \$4.2 billion in 2007 to \$3.62 billion in 2008. At Dal-Tile, Mohawk's ceramic tile and stone business, sales dropped from \$1.93 billion in 2007 to \$1.81 in 2008. Sales at laminate manufacturer Unilin decreased from \$1.48 billion in 2008 to \$1.46 billion in 2007.

Excluding charges, Mohawk's operating income was \$449 million for 2008. Operating income including charges was a loss of \$1.12 billion.

Fourth quarter sales for the com-

pany were \$1.48 billion, a decrease of 18 percent from \$1.8 billion in the fourth quarter 2007.

Despite the economic problems, Lorberbaum said Mohawk officials "remain positive about the long-term prospects for our company." He said Mohawk will continue to reduce infrastructure, capital expenditures, working capital and controllable costs throughout the year.

"Our industry has excellent long-term potential with demographics which will ultimately lead to continued growth when the economic recovery begins," Lorberbaum said.



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Tennessee: Midday Cash 3: 2-0-4, Lucky Sum: 6; Cash 4: 2-0-2-6, Lucky Sum: 10; Evening Cash 3: 4-5-0, L-Sum: 9, Cash 4: 6-8-6-7, Lucky Sum: 27

Our mailing address:
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Our Web site:
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2A Tuesday, February 24, 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.

"If someone asked you to contribute to a high speed rail line between L.A. and Las Vegas, would you donate? I doubt it. But that's exactly where your money is being spent as part of Obama's stimulus package."

"When I was in school there were 42 kids in the classes and our teachers did very well. But parents could discipline their kids then."

"The Whitfield County Board of Education is not going to pay for the new high school. You are."

"I have game chickens next door to me. They fight each other whether anyone's around or not. I guess they are just born to fight."

"Abortion was legalized in 1973 when Nixon was president and look how many presidents we've had since and they haven't changed the law."

"The nice thing about cockfighting is nothing is wasted. You can always eat the loser."

Editor's Note: Yup, just take it back to your cave and cook it right up.

"Christian Heritage basketball stats shouldn't be in with the other schools. It's not fair comparing apples with oranges."

Editor's note: Any comparison is in your mind. We just print the numbers. Football stats were combined and we got no complaints.

"We need to be praying for Obama and our country instead of downing him so much."

"The forum is really awesome."

"Scott Chitwood and his staff do a fine job of keeping drugs off the street."

"Carpet mills should offer early retirement to employees who have been there for 25 years so younger employees can keep their jobs and raise their families."

"Sitting in a patrol car doesn't put the weight on officers. It's sitting in the doughnut shop."

"Tattoos and piercings create a very bad image."

"The speed limit is the same in the slow lane or the fast lane. The law says don't go over the limit in either one of them."

"The Tunnel Hill officers aren't trained well enough to be working on the Interstate. They're going to get someone hurt or killed."

"Mr. Espy, good column. I read it twice."

"Why would anybody want to float the river as cold as it is at night?"

"Some people want Bush and Cheney put in jail for torturing terrorists while trying to save American lives. Yet these same people supported Clinton and Reno when they murdered innocent men, women and children at Waco and Ruby Ridge."

"Fast pitch softball is pretty exciting and there are tons of teams out there."

"Thank you to Robin at Kroger on Walnut Avenue for her patience and honesty with my mother."

"Congratulations Northwest Lady Bruins. We are so proud of you."

"I am a senior citizen. I draw \$653 a month and paid a \$253 electric bill this month. Something's wrong here."

"Uneducated readers need to quit posting in the forum. Chavez owns Citgo."

Editor's note: Citgo is owned by the national oil company of Venezuela.

"If I had an Obama bumper sticker on my car I would scrape it off."

"Republicans complain about social programs and bailing out the little man. You don't hear them complain about bailing out the big corporations. I have an idea. Let's bail out nobody and all go down with the ship."

"I didn't know Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was a Democrat."

"Way to go Jake McConathy, our grandson, who won number one heavy-weight wrestler in the state."

"It is a shame Dalton's Carmike Theater doesn't have the movies listed anywhere. More business for the Rave."

"Abraham Lincoln got the nickname Honest Abe for refereeing cockfights."

"Before y'all start jumping on the June Bug remember Brian Vickers wrecked him at Richmond and took him out at Talladega. There are no friends at 200 mph."

"Why can't we take this North Georgia Electric/TVA gravy train and refuse to pay our bills like a dispute on our credit cards? Why can't we get an attorney to stand up for the people and do something about it?"

"If you listen to your preacher do it because he is good and right, not just because he's a preacher."

"Surely GM won't sponsor Tiger Woods this year."

Editor's note: In the past Tiger represented Buick. That contract has been terminated.

"Little E is a disgrace to NASCAR? You don't know much about NASCAR. When his daddy got killed, Little E saved NASCAR. He is the face of the sport."

"They should do a drug test on Matt Kenseth's car."

"Without Little E, NASCAR would crumble."

"In response to the comment about a female judge, I know a male judge who's really been snowed by some lying women."

"Obama is getting all the crooks out of business. He's putting them in government."

"I worked 55 years on some very hard jobs. I don't owe the state of Georgia, the federal government or the county. I earned it all. We aren't on any free ride."

"All Nanny Thomas wants to do is take your rights away and spend your money."

"Mr. Editor, I think you have a slight attitude. Do you think so?"

Editor's note: Slight? No way.

Whitfield officials focus on bus routes to cut costs

By RACHEL BROWN
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Whitfield school leaders are considering changes to bus routes they say will save hundreds of thousands of dollars each year.

Among the proposed changes are making riders walk to bus stops, hiring more substitute drivers to cut down on overtime, raising reimbursement fees for groups that borrow buses, merging school travel budgets with an instructional fund, and halting a long-standing policy in which buses return to pick up students who missed their ride.

Board members received the recommendations on Monday and will likely address them at their meeting on Monday at the central office, spokesman Eric Beavers said. An executive session starts at 6:30 p.m. and the regular meeting will begin at 7.

The suggested changes come from Dan Roberts, a Texas-based consultant hired last year for \$3,150 to study ways to improve transportation efficiency.

While board members said they will need time to consider some of the proposals, officials said switching from a seven-year-old bus routing software will save a significant amount of money.

"(Trapeze, our current software) will not effectively route our buses," said Randy Cook, transportation director. "It'll produce routes, but the routes it produces are not usable."

The board is looking at changing to Versatrans



MCG photo

Solutions Inc. software that costs \$55,015 plus about \$10,000 annually for maintenance.

The new software would save \$333,000 a year and allow officials to park nine of the 126 buses that are on routes each day, said assistant superintendent of operations Richard Schoen. The transportation budget is \$4.8 million.

Schoen said the system is also considering creating a three-tiered system in 2011. Students would arrive and depart at staggered times so the same buses could be used for more than one route. Whitfield schools are on a two tier system now.

Another recommendation was to roll money previously set aside for field trips into a general instructional budget. Pooling the money is one way to cut down on trips that are less learning-focused, Schoen said.

"What we have done is simply allowed a blank check," he said. "We want to make sure that the field trips are instructionally sound."

Tim Trew said board members need time to "digest" the proposals, but he does want the bus system to operate more efficiently.

"I want to see our buses filled up," he said. "If we drive less miles and we use less fuel, we can do more for education."

Missing: Search ongoing

> Cont. from page 1A

Thomason's boat and oars, as well as some wet clothes, on the bank of the Whitfield County side of the Conasauga River north of Tilton Bridge Road, near Stanley Road.

"We had about 23 people involved in the search (Monday), and unfortunately it wasn't successful. There were no discoveries. (Today) the Department of Natural Resources will provide several officers and some of their boats to drag the river," said Whitfield County Sheriff's Office Maj. John Gibson.

Gibson said they plan to drag the river near where Thomason's boat was discovered.

Authorities have also asked people living near the Conasauga on the south end of Whitfield County to search their property and out buildings for any sign of Thomason.

"When someone is lost and disoriented, especially in cold weather, it's just instinct to get into some

building away from the cold," said Gibson.

Family members plan another community search for Thomason as well today. They are asking those who can to meet at 9 a.m. at Riverbend Baptist Church to take part in the search.

"I am asking anybody that will come to help. They need to dress warm, wear boots, and if they have a cell phone, bring that with them. The more people we have the better. I know (today) is a workday, but the more people that can come out the better," said Massey.

Family members say Thomason had enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was supposed to report to boot camp at Parris Island, S.C., in mid-April.

Massey said authorities have told her they do not know what has happened to her son.

"The GBI (Georgia Bureau of Investigation) guy told me he did not think Brett has run away. He said that Brett's truck is at home, he had no resources, no bill-fold and no money. So he doesn't think he ran away. He doesn't know where he is at but he doesn't think he ran away," she said.

TODAY'S CITIZEN

NAME: Dionne Dailey
AGE: 16
HOME: Rocky Face
FAMILY: Dad, Mike Dailey; mom, Debra Martin; brother, Chris Martin
SCHOOL: Northwest Whitfield High School
PLAY: Varsity basketball cheerleading, Big Brother Big Sister Buddy Program
SHE SAID: "Live life to the fullest and never regret anything."



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SCHOOL TALK



MISTY WATSON
THE DAILY CITIZEN

Landon Norris, left, a sixth-grader at Westside Middle School, and Laura Zuneta, a seventh-grader at the school, speak about their school prior to a Whitfield County Board of Education work session at the school on Monday.

Residents near propane business protest rezoning

BY JAMIE JONES
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Living near a 30,000-gallon liquid propane storage tank, Dick Coleman worries about the worst case scenario: an explosion.

"I am living on top of a big bomb," said Coleman, who lives in the Rocky Face Estates subdivision off Tibbs Road in Dalton.

U.S.A. Gas wants Whitfield County to rezone 3.65 acres at 815 Tibbs Road from general commercial to light manufacturing. On Monday, the Dalton-Whitfield Planning Commission voted 4-0 not to recommend to the Whitfield County Board of Commissioners to approve the rezoning. They are expected to vote on the proposed rezoning at their meeting on March 9. Whitfield County zoning staff does not support the rezoning.

About 50 residents of Rocky Face Estates, including Coleman, attended

Monday's hearing with 10 people speaking against the request. Stan Watkins, owner of U.S.A. Gas, and his attorney Greg Kinnamon spoke in support of the rezoning.

Watkins said he does not plan any changes to his business. He said the tank and his other facilities comply with all state and local guidelines. The chances of an explosion at his propane facility are low, he said, adding that propane tanks are "a part of society."

But several residents disagree propane tanks should be a part of a neighborhood. John Hutcheson has lived in Rocky Face Estates for 16 years and has worked at nearby Dalton State College for 34 years. He worries that an explosion at the propane gas business could be catastrophic.

"As a resident of the subdivision, I share all of the concerns of my neighbors about the harm to our property values and the danger to our physical safety," said Hutcheson, who said he was

not speaking on behalf of the college.

The county's current commercial zoning does not allow for storage tanks as large as the one at U.S.A. Gas. Watkins opened his business in 1994 and had the tank installed in December of that year. The board of commissioners rezoned the property from residential to general commercial in 1999.

The business needs the land rezoned and a special use permit to operate within county zoning laws. Stefan Fromm, a Rocky Face Circle resident, filed a lawsuit in Whitfield County Superior Court claiming the company is operating illegally because it is out of zoning compliance. The case is currently in the state Court of Appeals.

"All we're trying to do is get legal," Kinnamon said.

Planning commission member Jack Duggan said he voted against the zoning recommendation because of safety concerns and the ongoing legal battle.

Sewage: Line in Tunnel Hill

> Cont. from page 1A

Volkswagen automobile plant being built in Chattanooga.

Some commissioners were hesitant to jump on board with the project. Commissioner Mike Cowan said the cost for homeowners to tie into the system would be "extremely difficult" due to the slumping economy. Commissioner Randy Waskul asked if the county would fund sewer lines to other parts of the county, including the Cleveland Highway corridor.

The proposal comes at time when the county is facing a \$4 million revenue shortfall this year. The county has a hiring freeze on some departments, doesn't plan to give raises to its nearly 600 employees and could furlough workers one day a month later this year.

Some Dalton and Whitfield County officials hope consolidating their building/zoning departments will save taxpayers money.

Just how much? They don't know yet.

Commissioners discussed merging the two departments and plans to have an "agreement in principle" with the Dalton City Council at the

commissioners' meeting on Monday.

Officials were not sure if there would be any job cuts. Brooker, who is on a committee to study combining the departments, said the county plans to hire a chief building inspector to run the new department. He said all 12 total employees will have to reapply for a position with the department.

"We're not guaranteeing anybody a job," Brooker said.

City councilman George Sadosuk was not at the commissioners meeting but is on the building department committee. He believes the city and county will consider merging more departments in the future.

"This is going to be the first step probably to a lot of combinations of things," Sadosuk said. "It's the beginning of working down the road to a metro government, of making things more convenient for business here in Whitfield County."

Asked about possible job cuts, Sadosuk said, "There's nothing right off the bat that I know about right now." He also did not know how much money the city will save.

"It's going to take a little time putting everything

together," Sadosuk said. "We're going to try to take the best of what we have and the best of what they have and combine it. It's more of a 'Let's put it together and see what happens.'"

The county building/zoning office has seven employees: one administrator; one administration assistant, three building inspectors and two code enforcers. The 2009 budget for the department is \$638,802.

The city building department has five employees: a building official, a building inspection assistant, a code enforcement officer and two building inspectors. The 2009 budget for the department is \$357,080.

City building inspector Greg Williams said combining the two departments "is probably a good idea." He hasn't seen a proposal but has talked with members of the City Council about it. Williams has not heard any word about job cuts.

"I don't know how it will be structured yet, I don't have a lot of details on it," Williams said. "I think that is the direction the city and county are moving to, obviously. It sounds like it could be a workable thing."

Unemployment checks to grow in Georgia

BY SHANNON McCaffrey
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — Weekly unemployment benefits will rise by \$25 a week in Georgia, state Labor Commissioner Michael Thurmond said Monday.

The boost comes from an infusion in federal stimulus money and will bring the average weekly unemployment check in Georgia to \$292. The maximum check will rise to \$355.

Thurmond and Gov. Sonny Perdue signed a memorandum of agreement to accept a portion of the money Friday.

Echoing concerns voiced by several other conservative Southern governors, Perdue suggested over the weekend at a meeting of the National Governor's Association that he might not accept the fed-

eral stimulus money for unemployment because it could cost the state down the road. But he had already inked the deal to accept some of the federal cash.

Perdue spokesman Bert Brantley said Monday that the governor signed off on the increase in weekly benefits because it comes at no cost to the state. The governor was still studying the cost of accepting other streams of federal stimulus cash to see what money the state should take.

Georgia is eligible for about \$220 million in federal stimulus dollars to prop up the state's unemployment insurance fund. It's part of the \$787 billion stimulus package that is expected to ultimately funnel billions of dollars to Georgia.

Thurmond on Monday urged Perdue to accept addi-

tional federal unemployment aid. He said the cost to the state is "negligible" and would not lead to an increase in unemployment taxes paid by businesses.

Georgia has an 8.1 percent unemployment rate, above the national average of 7.6 percent. The number of people filing first-time claims for state unemployment insurance benefits shot up 80.7 percent in January from the same month in 2008.

That's put pressure on the state's unemployment fund. The fund paid out \$140 million in January and another \$144 million in December. Those are, by far, the highest payouts in the state's history, Thurmond said. The fund still has \$753 million and Thurmond has said he remained confident it would remain solvent for the rest of 2009.

Varnell fires kill 1 person

BY CHARLES OLIVER
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One person is dead and two others were injured following three separate fires in Whitfield County on Sunday.

Whitfield County Fire Chief Carl Collins said Rodolfo Cisneros, 42, died in a fire in a duplex at 4142 Cleveland Highway. Collins said officials are waiting on an autopsy to determine the exact cause of death. He said the fire, which started in the living room, does not appear to be suspicious.

Collins said he does not know when the autopsy will be completed.

"They shut down the crime lab in Chattooga County, and everything has to go to Atlanta now," he said.

That fire was reported at around 8 p.m.

At around 11:30 p.m., firefighters received a call about a fire at a single-family residence at 1400 Wiggins Road, in the



MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

On Monday, the charred remains of a sofa lay in front of a duplex where Rodolfo Cisneros, 42, died in a fire late Sunday night.

Dawnville area. Collins said firefighters got the blaze under control in about a half hour. One man was taken to Hamilton Medical Center for smoke inhalation. Collins said the fire appeared to have been caused by a portable heater.

Whitfield firefighters also handled a trailer fire at 1978 Collins Road, near the south bypass, around 4 p.m. Collins said one woman was taken to Hamilton for smoke inhalation. The cause of that fire was still under investigation Monday afternoon.

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Views

After recession, attack the deficit

Just how worrisome our national debt has become was readily evident when Secretary of State Hillary Clinton publicly thanked the Chinese for buying so much of it.

The national debt is the cumulative total of the federal government's annual budget deficits, which got out of control during the Bush administration and are now, it is generally agreed, at unsustainable levels. They erode our economic power internationally and cede a certain amount of control over our economy to outsiders.

President Obama, vowing to get the red ink under control, convened a deficit summit in Washington in advance of his submitting a summary of his planned 2010 budget to Congress on Thursday. The full budget, a stack of volumes the size of telephone books, won't be out until April.

The Bush administration bequeathed Obama a 2009 deficit of \$1.2 trillion and that should rise, with the full impact of the president's stimulus package, to more than \$1.5 trillion — some believe it will be as high as \$2 trillion — in his first full year of economic stewardship. His forecasters aim to reduce the deficit to \$533 billion by 2013, still huge by historical terms, and hold it to about 3 percent of GDP through 2019.

It will be a difficult feat to pull off. Obama made it harder for himself to pull off the appearance of deficit reduction by disavowing budget tricks Bush used to mask the size of his deficits: Keeping the cost of the wars off the books, and calling for spending cuts and tax increases — in Medicare reimbursements and the Alternative Minimum Tax, respectively — that Congress wasn't going to pass.

Addressing the deficit requires some combination of spending cuts and tax increases. Obama proposes to raise the tax rate on incomes over \$250,000 from 35 percent to 39.6 percent, in effect repealing part of the Bush tax cuts, and taxing investment income from private equity and hedge funds as ordinary income rather than at the current capital gains rate of 15 percent. He is also counting on huge revenues from a cap-and-trade program for greenhouse gas emissions.

He is counting on savings of \$90 billion a year by withdrawing combat troops from Iraq, an undertaking that may not be as quick and cost saving as he plans.

With all that, he is still planning to extend health care coverage to 46 million uninsured, potentially a huge and costly new entitlement. And that will bring Obama to the intractable fact that he can't have a serious, long-term deficit reduction plans without addressing the costs of Social Security, and that of the two health programs Medicare and Medicaid, which now cost \$561 billion a year.

It is unlikely any serious deficit reduction will take place — or should take place — in the midst of a recession but by outlining his plans now Obama is lessening the shock when they actually come.

Scripps Howard News Service



Words of Wisdom

Bible verse: "Your right hand, O LORD, was majestic in power. Your right hand, O LORD, shattered the enemy."

Exodus 15:6

Thought for today: "Three things in human life are important: the first is to be kind; the second is to be kind; and the third is to be kind."

Henry James
American author (1843-1916)

Time to say 'goodbye'

General Motors made my first car. It was a 1955 two-tone Chevrolet with stick shift and black tires. It had an AM radio and air conditioning, if I hand-cranked the window down in summer. It came with bench seats, the better to have your date close to you. I bought it used (this was before cars were "pre-owned") in 1961. My Dad co-signed the \$750 note, which I paid.

Those were the days when you could fill up for pocket change. Somewhere I have old Esso receipts that show a full tank of regular gas cost me \$3 dollars.

Chevrolet, Buick, Pontiac and Cadillac were the mainstays of GM, as Fairlane, Crestline Skyliner, Falcon and later Galaxie were for Ford, some of which I would own as an adult. I would also own some Chrysler products, so I have contributed to the profits of all the "Big Three."

Ford is fending for itself without a bailout from Washington, but GM and Chrysler have filed their restructuring proposals with the government in order to receive additional billions to keep them solvent. On Tuesday, GM received the final \$4 billion on a \$13.4 billion federal commitment. Chrysler, also getting \$4 billion, has already requested an additional \$3 billion. The money is conditioned on GM and Chrysler coming up with comprehensive restructuring plans that will prove to the government that they have made "aggressive" progress since they pleaded with lawmakers last December for financial aid. Members of Congress told the company CEOs that everyone had to make sacrifices, including management, unions, suppli-



Cal Thomas

ers, investors and bondholders. Here's a better idea: Let them die a slow death, with the emphasis on slow. Tell workers (management always seems to land on its feet) that they have a fixed amount of time to look for new jobs. Government will help them with training and education, but government cannot prop up companies that no longer make products people want to buy in large enough numbers for them to remain profitable.

There are many reasons the car companies are in trouble, all of which have been reported in the major media, but that is the past and it is way too late in the game to do much about guaranteed pensions and health care that ended up crippling GM, even after the company successfully negotiated with UAW members to decrease retirement benefits, which, honestly, is a little like quitting smoking after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Some of the cars of my childhood are no more. Kaiser-Frazier was the biggest post-war challenger to the Big Three. Models included the 1949 Kaiser Custom Vagabond, the 1948 Frazer Manhattan four-door sedan, the Dragon sedans and Henry J coupes. In 1970, Kaiser, then known as the Kaiser Jeep Corporation, was sold to American Motors Corporation.

Other auto companies either went out of business or were bought. These included

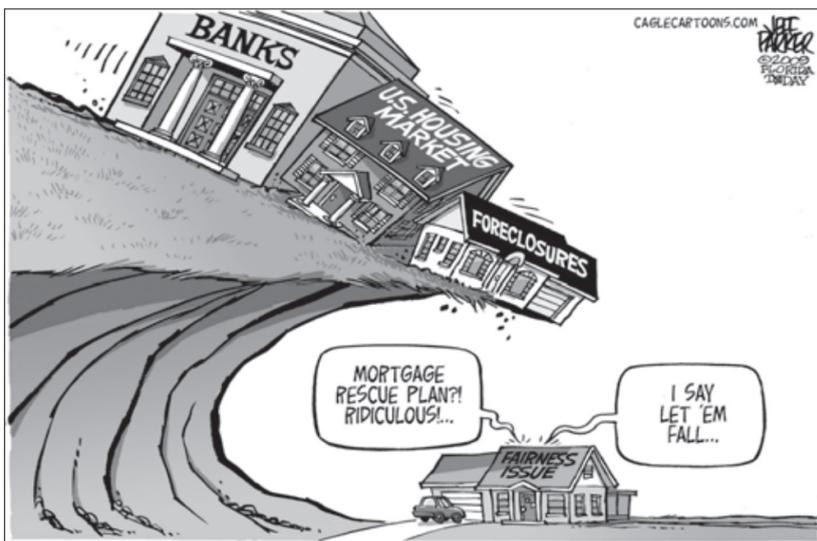
Packard ("ask the man who owns one"), Studebaker ("first by far with a postwar car"), and Hudson, which began making cars in 1909 and, like other automobile companies, in early 1942 was ordered by the U.S. government to stop making passenger cars and concentrate exclusively on fulfilling war contracts. In 1954, Hudson eventually merged with Nash-Kelvinator to become American Motors, a company that lasted in one form or another until 1987 when Chrysler gobbled it up.

None of these companies (and many more before them and after with names such as Tucker, DeLorean and Duesenberg) received government bailouts. If they couldn't sell their products at a profit, they either sold out, or went bust. People who worked for them found other jobs. No one starved to death.

Americans have benefited from capitalism. Our government should not be undermining an economic system that has produced more prosperity for its citizens than any nation on earth. It cannot forever prop up companies that make products not enough people wish to buy. If a growing number of people prefer cars not produced by GM and Chrysler, how will a government rescue plan make them more likely to buy them?

The "going out of business sale" sign should go up now. Taxpayers should not be expected to underwrite dying companies, unless we get a free car for our money. But that only happens on "Oprah."

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



The story of the mysterious Khmer

You wouldn't have thought it possible. But then, you underestimate the ingenuity of the New York Times.

The house organ of the liberal church in America, the Times covered opening day of the trial of one of the worst killers in 20th century history without mentioning the "c" word even once.

What technique! The 18-paragraph story certainly made clear that the reporter, Seth Mydans, was none too pleased with the defendant. That much was clear. Kaing Guek Eav (known as Duch) had been commandant of the Tuol Sleng prison camp in Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge. Who were they? Well, according to the story, they presided over a "fanatical... government between 1975 and 1979." That they certainly did. But they were communist fanatics, and the Times managed to elide that detail. It's odd because in other contexts the Times is not shy about characterizing governments' political tilt. The Times put the words "right-wing" together with the Pinochet regime in Chile so often you'd have thought it was part of the title. "The Right-Wing Regime of Augusto Pinochet." It was the same with the "right-wing" government of El Salvador when the FMLN communist movement was attempting to overthrow it. The Times has even used the term "conservative" to describe the mullahs in Iran and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

"In Tuol Sleng," Mydans writes, "a prisoner was not only presumed guilty but also tortured until he offered whatever was demanded. It was a prison where Duch's word was final and an order like 'kill them all' was a death sentence." Well, yes.

Mydans tells us that hundreds of "diplomats, journalists, human rights workers, and other victims of the Khmer Rouge" attended the trial and quotes one survivor about the horrors he suffered. "When I was in jail, I could get three



Mona Charen

spoons of porridge a day and both my legs were put in shackles." The reporter also mentions that the Khmer Rouge are thought to have murdered as many 1.7 million Cambodians during their short reign. But this spare account hardly does justice to the story. One cannot understand the catastrophe that befell Cambodia without knowing that the people who engineered this gruesome slaughter were intellectuals who dreamed of a better world. Nearly all of the Khmer Rouge leaders had studied abroad, in Paris, where they became drunk on tales of the French Revolution and learned their craft from the French Communist party. "We are making a unique revolution," boasted one official at the time. "Is there any other country that would dare abolish money and markets the way we have? We are much better than the Chinese, who look up to us. We are a good model for the whole world." Pol Pot himself said "only a few thousand Cambodians have died as a result of the application of our policy of bringing abundance to the people."

Abundance to the people. A model for the world. The Khmer Rouge modeled themselves on Mao and Lenin and then shifted into overdrive. They emptied the cities of their inhabitants and force-marched everyone — the elderly, the sick, pregnant women, children — in the tropical heat to the countryside where there were no facilities, little drinking water, scarce food, no medicine, and no shelter except thatched huts. There they were starved and enslaved when they weren't shot on the spot for some minor infrac-

tion. Anyone who had any connection to the West or to modernity itself was suspect. People who spoke other languages, owned a typewriter or eyeglasses, or any forbidden book could be shot. Failure to make sufficiently abject apologies for ideological errors was enough to merit a bullet between the eyes.

As the Black Book of Communism records, "Democratic Kampuchea was a place with no values or stable points of reference. It really was a nightmare world on the other side of the mirror. The first article of faith was a radical dismissal of the idea that human life had any value. 'Losing you is not a loss, and keeping you is no specific gain' went one terrifying official slogan that recurs time and again in statements by witnesses." Khmer leaders talked of a radiant future, in which agricultural production, in obedience to Pol Pot's Four-Year Plan, would double or quintuple. Instead, the starving, displaced, and thoroughly terrorized Cambodian people saw crop production cut in half in just two years. While they watched their children die in their arms they were herded off to "self-criticism" sessions where their every facial twitch was carefully monitored by gun-wielding Khmer Rouge. The Black Book also records that "Everyone ran the risk of denunciation following a chance encounter with an old friend, colleague, or student..."

It may be that the evil done in the name of revolution exceeds all other man-made disasters. Certainly one cannot begin to confront Cambodia's grisly history without acknowledging that communists committed this atrocity.

■ **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, Feb. 24, the 55th day of 2009. There are 310 days left in the year.

On this date:

In 1582, Pope Gregory XIII issued a papal bull, or edict, outlining his calendar reforms. (The Gregorian Calendar is the calendar in general use today.)

In 1821, Mexican rebels proclaimed the Plan de Iguala, their declaration of independence from Spain.

In 1983, a congressional commission released a report condemning the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II as a "grave injustice."

In 1988, in a ruling that expanded legal protections for parody and satire, the Supreme Court unanimously overturned a \$150,000 award that the Rev. Jerry Falwell had won against Hustler magazine and publisher Larry Flynt.

Ten years ago: The Senate voted by a lopsided 91-8 margin to approve the package that would give the military a 4.8 percent pay raise on Jan. 1, 2000.

Five years ago: Democrat John Kerry defeated John Edwards by large margins in Utah and Idaho and also won in Hawaii, where Edwards ran third behind Dennis Kucinich.

One year ago: "No Country for Old Men" won the Academy Award for best picture, best director and best screenplay adaptation for Joel and Ethan Coen and best supporting actor for Javier Bardem; Daniel Day-Lewis won best actor for "There Will Be Blood," while Marion Cotillard was named best actress for "La Vie en Rose."

Today's Birthdays:

Actor Abe Vigoda is 88. Actor James Farentino is 71. Actor Barry Bostwick is 64. Actor Edward James Olmos is 62. Singer-writer-producer Rupert Holmes is 62. Rock singer-musician George Thorogood is 59. Actress Helen Shaver is 58. Apple CEO Steve Jobs is 54. News anchor Paula Zahn is 53. Country singer Sammy Kershaw is 51. Singer Michelle Shocked is 47. Movie director Todd Field is 45. Actor Billy Zane is 43. Football player Jeff Garcia is 39. Football player Bob Sanders is 28.

Meth makers leave toxic trail

By **BILL POOVEY**
Associated Press Writer

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Methamphetamine “cooks” are secretly converting hundreds of motel and hotel rooms into covert drug labs — leaving behind a toxic mess for unsuspecting customers and housekeeping crews.

They are places where drug-makers can go unnoticed, mixing the chemicals needed for the highly addictive stimulant in a matter of hours before slipping out the next morning. The dangerous contaminants can lurk on countertops, carpets and bathtubs, and chemical odors that might be a warning clue to those who follow can be masked by tobacco smoke and other scents.

Motels can be an attractive alternative for drug makers seeking to avoid a police raid on their own homes.

“They can seize the trailer or seize your house but they can’t seize a motel room,” said Dr. Sullivan Smith, director of emergency services at Cookeville Regional Medical Center in north-central Tennessee.

U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration records obtained by The Associated Press show that states reported finding evidence of drug-making in 1,789 motel and hotel rooms in the past five years — and that’s just those the authorities found.

Some cleanup professionals hired to make the travelers’ havens livable again say most of their work is done on properties where a meth lab was discovered long after the fact.

The number of clandestine labs that are never found is difficult to pin down. There was a slight uptick in hotel and motel lab busts reported to the Drug



AP PHOTO

East Ridge investigator Josh Creel adjusts a quarantine notice on a motel room door at the Cascade Motel on U.S. Highway 41, Feb. 19, in Chattanooga, Tenn. The meth makers used the room as a lab recently causing concern for future occupants.

Enforcement Administration in 2008 from the previous year, with 149 in 2006, 87 in 2007 and 127 in 2008. The tally was 461 in 2005 and 965 in 2004, before there were restrictions on purchasing over-the-counter decongestants often used as ingredients. The DEA count is based on states that reported labs.

The toxins can linger for days if meth lab hygienists wearing hazmat suits don’t clean living areas.

The cleanups cost anywhere from \$2,000 to \$20,000. Even short-term exposure to vapors and residue where the drug is smoked or cooked can cause eye and skin irritation, vomiting, rashes, asthma problems and other respiratory issues.

“It probably happens all the time,” said John Martyny, a National Jewish Medical and Research Center associate professor who is also an industrial hygienist and meth researcher. “The difficulty is, how do you make that attribution? You might think it is from cigarette smoking.”

Martyny said health effects from long-term exposure to the drug making are not known because the clandestine labs did not become widespread until the 1990s.

The volatile labs can be set up in less than four hours inside a hotel or motel room, according to The American Hotel and Lodging Association.

Methods vary for making the drug, but the equipment can be simple enough to fit in a single backpack: A large soft drink bottle with some rubber tubing, duct tape, batteries, refrigerant packs and a decongestant that contains ephedrine or pseudoephedrine.

Regardless of the complexity, “You are going to leave behind meth and caustic or potentially hazardous chemicals,” said Tommy Farmer, director of Tennessee’s Methamphetamine Task Force.

“The smart ones come in about 10 o’clock at night and they make it all night and are

out of there by 8 a.m.,” said Joseph McInerney, president and CEO of the association.

Environmental services specialist John Nale of Chattanooga, who is licensed to clean up meth labs, said tests he has conducted for buyers of motel properties have shown chemicals from clandestine labs that were never previously discovered and reported.

Nale said motel and hotel customers may be reluctant to speak up if something is suspicious. He’s also careful not to use coffee pots and other items provided in guest rooms.

“It could be chemicals or you just don’t know what has been done with those,” he said.

McInerney, the hotel and lodging association president, said few meth labs are set up in hotels compared with the industry renting about 3 million rooms a day. He said operators typically are vigilant about monitoring for any meth problems.

In East Ridge, on Interstate 75 a few miles from Chattanooga, police last month uncovered one lab in the Cascade Motel. They posted a quarantine sign on the door of the room until the owner pays for a cleanup and the affected area is cleared for use.

Police investigator Josh Creel said he and other officers located the chemicals, tubing and glassware that were being used when they made the arrests at the Cascade Motel. He advised the manager to leave the door and window open for several days in preparation for the cleanup, which involved replacing many of the furnishings.

The motel manager, Pradip Patel, declined comment other than, “Our bad luck.”

Workers to get more take-home pay

SUBMITTED BY THE
INTERNAL REVENUE
SERVICE

The Internal Revenue Service has released new withholding tables that will result in more take-home pay this spring for millions of American workers.

The new tables, now posted on www.irs.gov, incorporate the new Making Work Pay credit, one of the key tax provisions included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 that became law earlier this week.

“For most taxpayers, the additional credit will automatically start showing up in their paychecks this spring,” IRS commissioner Doug Shulman said. “Since employers and payroll companies will handle this change, people typically won’t need to take any additional action. The IRS will continue working to implement this and other provisions of the new law as quickly as possible.”

The new withholding tables, along with other instructions related to the new tax law, will be incorporated in new publication 15-T. This publication will be posted to IRS.gov next week and mailed to more than 9 million employers in mid-March. The IRS asks that employers start using these new tables as soon as possible but not later than April 1. Most workers will see a boost in their take-home pay soon thereafter.

“In Georgia, eligible workers will get the benefit of this change without any action on their part,” IRS spokesman Mark Green said.

This means that workers don’t need to fill out a new W-4 withholding form to get the Making Work Pay

credit reflected in their take-home pay. A Form W-4 will not need to be submitted for the automatic withholding change. Individuals and couples with multiple jobs may want to submit revised W-4 forms to ensure enough withholding is held to cover the tax for the combined income. Publication 919 provides additional guidance for tax withholding.

Available for tax years 2009 and 2010, the Making Work Pay credit is 6.2 percent of a taxpayer’s earned income with a maximum credit of \$800 for a married couple filing a joint return and \$400 for other taxpayers, but it is phased out for higher income taxpayers. Most workers will qualify for the maximum credit. Because the credit is refundable (people can get it even if they owe no tax), won’t need to take any additional action. The IRS will continue working to implement this and other provisions of the new law as quickly as possible.

Though all eligible taxpayers will need to claim the credit when they file their 2009 income tax return next year, the benefit will generally be spread out over the paychecks they receive beginning this spring and continue until the end of the year.

Many higher-income taxpayers will see little or no change in their take-home pay. That’s because the Making Work Pay credit is phased out for a married couple filing a joint return whose modified adjusted gross income (AGI) is between \$150,000 and \$190,000 and other taxpayers whose modified AGI is between \$75,000 and \$95,000.

Taxpayers will not get a separate, special check mailed to them from the IRS like last year’s economic stimulus payment.

Students turn to volunteering

By **RACHEL BROWN**
rachelbrown@daltoncitizen.com

Courtney Bauer has a personal reason for volunteering.

“A lot of my mom’s friends got laid off,” the 15-year-old said while taking a break from sorting clothes at the Salvation Army Thrift Store in Dalton last week. “If we can help those who can barely help themselves, that’s good.”

The United Way organized 30 teens to volunteer for two days at several locations around Dalton for the first Volunteer Vacation Winter Edition during local schools’ mid-winter break. Volunteer center manager Andrea Dobbins said the area’s growing unemployment rate means more people now personally know someone who needs help.

“We had the first volunteer vacation last summer,” Dobbins said. “Alternative spring breaks and volunteer vacations have been growing in popularity the past couple of years.”

Among other activities, the teens wiped down children’s library books, dusted hard-to-reach areas, mentored students at the Boys and Girls Club and helped clean up West Hill Cemetery.

Some of the work was tiring, but the volunteers say it is worth it.

“I had nothing else to do, and it’s an activity that makes me feel better because I’m helping out the community,” said Kimberly Almaraz, 15.

Karen Pineda, 16, said the volunteer event will beef up her college admissions applications. She still must select her major and her college, but she knows a resume full of extracurricular activities will one day make it easier to achieve her goals.

Dobbins said the United Way plans to have the event again next year and hosts several other volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Volunteer events during weeks when students are out of school have been especially popular, she said.



MATT HAMILTON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Volunteer Miriam Varela, 16, left, distributes mulch as fellow volunteers Adela Quintero, 15, and Esmeralda Munguia, 15, bring in more at the Dalton Community Center Friday.

“The kids are definitely looking for things to do,” Dobbins said. “I think there’s kind of a heightened sense of people wanting to get engaged in service.”

Amy Hill, a sorter at the Salvation Army’s thrift store, said seven other people besides her run the operation. Extra helpers are always welcome. Proceeds from store sales go toward helping peo-

ple with rent payments, utility bills, prescription medication and other items.

To reach the United Way of Northwest Georgia’s volunteer center:
Call 211, (706) CAN-HELP from a cell phone or visit www.ourunitedway.org

AREA ARRESTS

■ Luis Enrique Gomez-Salazar, 25, 33 Grayland Farm Road, Crandall, was charged Sunday by the Murray County Sheriff’s Office with DUI, leaving the scene of an accident and failure to stop for a stop sign.

■ Eric Bradford Cargal, 33, 612 Williams Road, Dalton, was charged Monday by the Whitfield County Sheriff’s Office with

child support violation, following too closely, aggressive driving, fleeing or attempting to elude police officer, driving without a license, open container in vehicle and DUI.

■ Joseph Clayton Fowler Jr., 22, 109 Michael Ave., Madison, Ala., was charged Monday by the Chatsworth Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and possession of a drug-related object.

of marijuana and possession of a drug-related object.

■ Dustin Lee Harrelson, 20, 109 Michael Ave., Madison, Ala., was charged Monday by the Chatsworth Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and possession of a drug-related object.

■ Jeffrey Lynn Parton, 43, 5309 Clover Road, Knoxville, Tenn., was

charged Monday by the Dalton Police Department with leaving the scene of an accident and DUI.

■ Billy Jack Turpin, 18, 3250 Old Chattanooga Road, Tunnel Hill, was charged Monday by the Dalton Police Department with DUI, no tail lights, possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and a license violation.

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EDUCATION BRIEFS

McGuire nominated to homecoming court

Bethany McGuire, a senior at the University of West Georgia, was nominated to represent Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity for the 2008 homecoming court. McGuire is an early childhood education major and past treasurer and past president for the Phi Mu sorority. She is the daughter of Steve and Teresa McGuire of Rocky Face.



McGuire

Students make dean’s list, graduate

The following area students have been named to the fall 2008 dean’s list at Valdosta State University: Nakita Dziegielewski of Dalton, Jennifer Ashley Carroll of Tunnel Hill and Rebecca Elizabeth Hardinger of Tunnel Hill.

To make the dean’s list, students must maintain a

cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 and must have a semester grade point average of at least 3.5 with at least nine hours of course work.

Darron Taylor Patterson of Cohutta graduated from the university in December with a bachelor of arts in English.

AREA BRIEFS

Democratic Party meeting

The Whitfield County Democratic Party will meet tonight at 6:30 in the county building on the corner of Selvidge and King streets. Members are reminded to bring canned goods for donation.

For more information, call

(706) 278-DEMS or visit whitdems.org.

Development Authority meeting

The Dalton Whitfield Joint Development Authority will meet today from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Dalton Whitfield Chamber of Commerce.

Jackie L. Rogers, CPA, P.C.
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A clinical study published in the *Journal of Rheumatology* evaluated the pain relieving effectiveness of *JointFlex* Pain Relieving Cream versus a placebo. *JointFlex* is a non-prescription pain relieving cream that is available in retail stores everywhere. The eight-week clinical trial involved 63 patients who had suffered from chronic osteoarthritis knee pain for an average of 10 years!

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The study clearly showed that the users of *JointFlex* experienced substantial and immediate pain relief. The study confirmed what thousands of satisfied *JointFlex* customers around the world already know...*JointFlex* helps you achieve a better quality of life because of its powerful and immediate pain relieving action. But there's more!

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The users of *JointFlex* also experienced a totally unexpected and dramatic result. With continued use, a majority obtained long-term pain relief that continued to improve throughout the entire eight-week study. But that's not all!

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Even more amazing, one-third of the *JointFlex* users had their pain gradually decrease to the point where it was completely or nearly completely eliminated! By using *JointFlex* daily as directed, you too may be able to substantially reduce or even eliminate that chronic arthritis pain that's been nagging you for years.

The gradual and continual improvement in long-term pain relief observed in the *JointFlex* clinical study was found to be consistent with previous studies conducted with orally administered Glucosamine and Chondroitin Sulfate. *JointFlex* will be further studied to determine the mechanism of these dramatic results and to verify that they are not due to random chance alone. Individual results may vary. Highlights of the study are available by calling the toll free number or they can be viewed online at www.jointflex.com.

How Does *JointFlex* Work?

Only the *JointFlex* formula utilizes exclusive FUSOME® skin delivery technology and contains camphor plus *Glucosamine* and *Chondroitin Sulfate* for skin conditioning. This technology enables the beneficial ingredients to be delivered quickly and safely to your skin.

“JointFlex provides significant immediate pain relief, plus IMPROVING pain relief with continued use”



“JointFlex is easily applied to painful areas, leaves no greasy residue, has no lingering pungent smell and there are NO PILLS/NO SYSTEMIC SIDE EFFECTS”

Why Continue To Take Pills?

If you are concerned about the negative side effects of the pills you are taking or tired of the stomach discomfort that often goes along with them, it's time to switch to *JointFlex*. Just rub *JointFlex* onto your painful areas. It's that easy. Within a matter of minutes, you won't even know you have *JointFlex* on other than the soothing pain relief you will be experiencing. With *JointFlex*, there are NO pills to swallow and NO negative systemic side effects to worry about like those associated with NSAIDs or oral prescription pain relievers.

Is Pain Keeping You Awake at Night?

If you are among the millions who cannot get a good night sleep because of nagging arthritis aches and pains, why not try *JointFlex*? You'll get powerful, immediate pain relief targeted directly where you need it, and by using *JointFlex* daily, you will get long-term continually IMPROVING pain relief. With *JointFlex*, you will finally get a good night sleep. Plus, you can use *JointFlex* daily with confidence since, unlike other pain relief creams, there is no burning sensation, no lingering medicine smell and no greasy residue.

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AP PHOTO

House Minority Leader John Boehner of Ohio, looks on as President Barack Obama, left, greets lawmakers after the president opened the Fiscal Responsibility Summit, Monday, in Washington.

Obama vows to halve deficit by 2013

By STEVEN R. HURST
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama pledged boldly to cut the trillion-plus dollar U.S. budget deficit by half in his first term, even as he announced massive spending to revive the sagging economy.

He issued the vow shortly after telling state governors he was sending them \$15 billion to help with health care payments for poor people — a first outlay by Washington of Obama's \$787 economic stimulus plan designed to rescue the nation's economy from the steepest downturn in eight decades.

In a day of fevered economic activity, the administration also announced it had revamped financial bailout plans with an eye to injecting fresh capital into financial institutions starting Wednesday. Several regulatory agencies issued the statement as concerns grew that some of the biggest U.S. banks likely need more federal money to survive the fallout from the worst financial crisis since the 1930s.

The plan was designed to boost available capital by shifting the nature of government holdings in the banks without fresh injections of cash.

The statement did not name any specific banks or respond to reports that the government was considering increasing its ownership of Citigroup Inc. The White House just last week downplayed persistent speculation that some banks could be effectively nationalized by the federal government.

The announcement failed to save the investment community as the American stock market move to lows not seen since 1997.

The new president has been positioning himself on the economy in advance of his first speech to make the case for his

budget plans to Congress on Tuesday, the same day he holds his first meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Taro Aso.

Meanwhile, a senior administration official said Obama had chosen his third candidate for the job of U.S. commerce secretary after his previous two picks resigned. Obama's first pick was New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson. His second choice was Republican Sen. Judd Gregg.

The president's choice, former state of Washington Gov. Gary Locke, was the first Chinese-American U.S. governor when he served two terms in the Washington statehouse from 1997 to 2005.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because the announcement has not yet been made.

At the beginning of his second month in office, Obama met with state governors Monday morning and turned his attention in the afternoon to a White House economic summit that pulled together political and economic allies, adversaries and outside experts.

"We cannot and will not sustain deficits like these without end," the president said in opening remarks to the summit. "We are paying the price for these deficits right now."

Obama, stern and determined as he spoke, pledged to slash the deficit in half by 2013 and said the budget he will present later this week "will look ahead 10 years."

"If we confront this crisis without also confronting the deficits that helped cause it we risk sinking into another crisis down the road," the president warned. "We cannot simply spend as we please and defer the consequences to the next budget, the next administration or the next generation."

"We will reinstate the pay as you go rule," he said. "You don't spend what you don't have."

New Orleans ready for final Mardi Gras fling

By MARY FOSTER
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Mark and Vickie Myers, wearing pirate costumes and draped with beads, were heading out for another New Orleans custom — breakfast at Brennan's.

It's a tribute to the city and the season that they had no worries about getting into the sedate French Quarter restaurant on the Monday before Mardi Gras.

"They'd probably be surprised if people didn't show up in costume," Mark Myers said. "It's time to live out your fantasies. It's what Mardi Gras is all about."

On the day before Carnival 2009's final fling, crowds began cruising the French Quarter early. Some were just starting the day, some had been at it since Sunday night.

"I've got to learn to pace myself," said Geoffrey Nichols, 30, from Los Angeles, as he leaned against a wall on Bourbon Street Monday morning, holding a beer in shaking hands. "I've



AP PHOTO

The queen of Endymion waves her septer during the Krewe of Endymion parade in New Orleans Saturday.

been at it since Friday and last night hasn't ended yet. But I do plan on getting some sleep soon."

Eight parades rolled through New Orleans streets on Saturday and Sunday. Two were scheduled for Monday night, including Orpheus, with founder Harry Connick Jr. and guests Jim Belushi and about a dozen other celebrities.

On Tuesday the parades

were to kick off at 8 a.m. with the Zulu krewe, followed by Rex and hundreds of truck floats.

"I've only seen one parade so far," said Neil Moss, 30, who was drinking a pina colada at 9 a.m. with five friends in from New York. "I've seen a lot of bars though."

Big crowds over the weekend and nearly full hotels bode well for a busy

Mardi Gras, tourism officials said.

Mary Beth Romig, a convention and visitors bureau spokeswoman, said officials were cautiously optimistic, given the slumping national economy.

While there have been no official estimates on visitors yet, huge crowds have gathered downtown and along parade routes.

The terminal at Louisiana's largest commercial airport, in suburban New Orleans, also has been busy. But spokeswoman Michelle Wilcut attributed some of that — particularly Friday — to locals leaving town ahead of Fat Tuesday.

There was one shooting in New Orleans after Friday night's last parade. It apparently stemmed from an argument. Lawrence Everage, 27, of New Orleans was booked with attempted second-degree murder.

"It's been a pretty peaceful Carnival so far," said police spokesman Bob Young. "For the most part the crowds have been big along the parade routes, but orderly."

SAT Boot Camp offered at Dalton State

SUBMITTED BY DALTON STATE COLLEGE

Three words strike dread in the hearts of high school juniors and seniors across the country — Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT). Dalton State College continuing education is offering a course on Saturday that will help eliminate the stress of SAT for students, SAT Boot Camp: Higher Scores Through Winning Strategies.

In this one-day session, certified testing specialist Dianne Bruce of River City

Workshops in Chattanooga will teach successful strategies that are specific to the SAT. Using real examples from the math, writing and verbal sections of old tests, Bruce will demystify the format and style of the SAT, allowing students to answer questions more accurately and efficiently and with less anxiety. She'll also teach students test-taking techniques, such as when to linger and when to move on, and how to spot key words and phrases that provide clues to the correct answers.

Bruce's long-time study of the SAT and her record of success with students have earned her a reputation for producing results and leading students to obtain higher test scores.

"Mrs. Bruce always receives high evaluations from the students who take our SAT Boot Camp," said Kelly Snyder, program coordinator for continuing education. "College admission standards are more competitive than ever, and higher SAT scores may give your college-bound student

an advantage. The timing of this class is ideal with it being scheduled exactly two weeks before the March 14 SAT date. The cost is truly an investment in your child's successful academic future."

SAT Boot Camp will be in the James E. Brown Center for continuing education on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pre-registration is required and only a few slots remain. For more information or to register, call (706) 272-4454 or log on to www.daltonstate.edu/cc.

BRIEFS

Netanyahu seeking to build broad Israeli government coalition

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's hard-line prime minister-designate, Benjamin Netanyahu, was meeting Monday with the head of the dovish Labor Party after initially failing to persuade centrist leader Tzipi Livni to join him in forming a coalition government.

Reluctant to rely on ultra-nationalists to his right for support, Netanyahu has appealed to Livni of the governing Kadima Party and Labor leader Ehud Barak to join him as partners in a broad, moderate government, but both have said they would rather go into opposition.

Netanyahu of the Likud Party can easily piece together a right-wing coalition of right-wingers who take a hard line against territorial concessions to the Palestinians and have serious disputes among themselves on religious issues. But wooing the moderate Labor and Kadima into his coalition would give a new government greater stability and international support, because those two parties advocate peacemaking.

Netanyahu could try to tempt Barak to join by offering to let him remain as defense minister. But many Labor lawmakers think the party should shun Netanyahu, who wants to promote Palestinian pros-

perity and the expansion of Jewish West Bank settlements rather than Palestinian statehood.

After a late-night meeting Sunday, Livni said she and Netanyahu were still at odds over efforts to make peace with the Palestinians.

S.Korea: N. Korea deploys ballistic missile

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea recently deployed a new type of medium-range ballistic missile capable of reaching Australia and the U.S. territory of Guam, South Korea's Defense Ministry said Monday.

The report comes amid speculation that the isolated regime is also preparing to test-fire another, long-range missile able to hit Alaska.

The new intermediate-range ballistic missile can travel at least 1,800 miles (3,000 kilometers), which would put the Pacific island of Guam, the northern tip of Australia and much of Russia and India within striking distance, the ministry said in a report.

The new missile is believed to be the same type displayed at a military parade in North Korea in 2007.

Ex-Atlanta officers remorseful at sentencing

ATLANTA (AP) — Three former Atlanta police officers who pleaded guilty to a federal conspiracy

charge in the death of an elderly woman during a botched drug raid expressed remorse Monday for their involvement and asked a judge for lenience in their sentences.

Jason R. Smith, Gregg Junnier and Arthur Tesler previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to violate civil rights resulting in the death of Kathryn Johnston, a 92-year-old woman killed by police during a 2006 raid at her northwest Atlanta home.

Police originally said officers went to Johnston's home after an informant bought drugs there. But after finding none, officers tried to cover up the mistake by planting baggies of marijuana and conspired to lie to federal investigators, prosecutors have said.

Friends and family members of the men testified that they were valuable members of the community and made a mistake. No one benefits by keeping them in jail, the witnesses said.

Tesler, 42, was convicted at a state trial and sentenced in May to more than four years in prison for lying to FBI agents. The conviction was overturned on appeal last month because prosecutors couldn't prove where the lying took place.

A judge is expected to sentence the men Tuesday after more testimony and closing arguments.

Local Scouts get new leader

SUBMITTED BY THE NORTHWEST GEORGIA COUNCIL, BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Daniel Errickson is the new Conasauga District Executive of the Northwest Georgia Council, Boy Scouts of America. He serves scouting in Whitfield and Murray counties. He is an Eagle Scout from Troop 4 in Rome and a brotherhood member of Waguli Lodge, Order of the Arrow.

Errickson is a recent graduate of the Georgia Institute of Technology, where he earned a degree in management and a certificate in finance. As a product of the Northwest Georgia Council, Errickson brings a high degree of enthusiasm and scouting knowledge specific to our area.

"I'm looking forward to meeting all of our scouting volunteers and supporters here and I'm excited to do all I can to help scouting grow and prosper," Errickson said. "I'm also looking forward to becoming involved in this great community as well."

Errickson can be reached at the Dalton Service Center, 201 S. Hamilton St., at (706) 272-7111 or via e-mail at derrickson@nwgabsa.org.

THE MARKET

Monday's Dow Jones: 7114.9 ▼ 250.7

Monday's NASDAQ: 1387.7 ▼ 53.5

	Friday	Monday			
Gold	989	985.75	Intel	12.71	12.08
Silver	14.02	14.49	IBM	88.79	84.37
Acuity	23.51	22.6	Interface	2.77	2.65
AAir	3.44	3.46	JCP	15.1	14.47
Apple	91.2	86.95	JNJ	54.65	53.65
AT&T	23.58	22.68	Kroger	22.17	21.03
BAC	3.79	3.91	Lowe's	15.86	15.09
BB&T	14.91	14.8	McDonalds	54.57	53.87
BP	40.1	38.65	Merck	28.1	27.88
BristolMyers	20.37	19.88	Microsoft	18	17.21
HP-Compaq	31.24	29.28	Mohawk	28.38	26.66
Chevron	65.14	62.94	Motorola	3.61	3.63
CocaCola	42.84	42.09	Region-Fin	2.84	2.69
ConAgra	15.66	15.28	Rock-Tenn.	26.9	26.42
ColonialBnk	.44	.42	Sara Lee	8.01	7.95
Coke Ent.	12.3	11.98	SouthernCo	30.17	29.71
CrackerBrl	17.68	17.95	Synovous	2.6	2.6
CrwnCrafts	1.9	1.9	SunTrust	7.35	7.88
CSX	26.61	24.97	Torchmark	22.07	20.36
Dell	8.41	7.99	Total Sys	12.73	12.29
Delta	5.55	5.71	UPS	42.8	40.92
Dixie Group	1.1	1.122	Vulcan	40.45	39.64
Dow	8.1	7.41	Verizon	28.81	27.85
Duke	14.16	13.91	Wal-Mart	50.02	48.88
DuPont	20.38	18.91	Wells Fargo	10.91	11.03
Earthlink	6.3	6.15	Wendy's	4.86	4.67
Ericsson	8.38	7.65	Yum	28.13	27.45
Exxon	71.23	69.3	Xerox	5.52	5.32
Ford	1.58	1.73			
FSG	3.68	3.5			
GE	9.38	8.85			
GM	1.77	1.77			
Goodyear	5.97	5.24			
HomeDepot	19.46	18.71			

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.



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OBITUARIES

- **Jimmy Franklin Beal**
- **Wallace C. “Wally” Bryant**
- **Mildred Marie Guinn**
- **Magnolia Hennon**
- **Beatrice Hazel Newman**
- **Ronald Edward Owen**
- **John Eugene Smith**

Obituary notices are posted online at www.daltondailycitizen.com

Jimmy Franklin Beal

Mr. Jimmy Franklin Beal, 67, of Dalton, passed away Sunday, February 22, 2009 at Hamilton Medical Center.

He was the son of the late, Dock and Thelma Burke Beal and was preceded in death by his sister, Beverly Breeden; brother, Eddie Beal.

Jimmy is survived by his nieces, Wanda Fry and Gary Headrick of Chatsworth and Sandra Martin of Dalton; nephew, Lenny Martin of Chatsworth; great-niece, Keisha Rolan of Chatsworth; special friend, Mary Alice Wiley of Dalton.

Funeral services will be at 11 A. M. Tuesday in the Chapel of Love Funeral Home.

Burial will be in West Hill Cemetery.

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

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

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

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Wallace C. “Wally” Bryant

Mr. Wallace C. “Wally” Bryant, 92, of Dalton, died Monday, Feb. 23, 2009, at Hamilton Medical Center.

He was the son of the late John A. and Nellie Pack Bryant and was preceded in death by his first wife

of 50 years, Doris McArthur Bryant in 1989; sister, Mildred Brackett; brothers, John A. Bryant, Ed Bryant and Ben Bryant.

Wally is survived by his wife, Hilda S. Bryant of Dalton; daughters and son-in-law, Carolyn and Harlan Godfrey of Dalton, Kaye Bryant Brown of Atlanta; grandchildren and their spouses, Tarre and Pete Green of Atlanta, Dawn and Scott Sellers of Dalton, Kara and Doug Allen of Atlanta, Chad and Kyle Brown of New York and Holli Kaye Brown of Atlanta; great-grandchildren, Payton Sellers, Hutton Sellers, Worthington Sellers, Barrett Green, Connor Green, Adeline Allen, Portman Allen, Myers Allen, Ryan Brown, Dillon Brown and Emily Kaye-Marie Brown; special and dear friends, Bob and Margie Painter of Dalton, Bobby and Candace Painter of Lafayette; nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Love Funeral Home with the Rev. Matt Evans officiating.

Entombment will follow in Whitfield Memorial Gardens.

The family will receive friends at Love Funeral Home Wednesday from noon until the funeral hour at 2 p.m.

The family requests that flowers please be omitted and memorials be made to Rock Bridge Community Church Building Fund, 100 W. Gordon St., Dalton, GA 30720 or to The Salvation Army, 1101 N. Thornton Ave., Dalton, GA 30720.

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

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

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Mildred Marie Guinn

Mrs. Mildred Marie Guinn, 84, of Dalton, Ga., departed this life early Sunday morning, Feb. 22, 2009 at the Memorial Health Care System in Chattanooga,

Tenn. Mrs. Guinn was born Jan. 16, 1925 in Polk County, Tenn., a daughter of the late Earnest and Susie Burns Ratcliff. Along with her parents she was also preceded in death by a grandson, Anthony Guinn; great-grandson, Mattox Breckenridge Mayes; and a sister, Yvonne Waters.

Mrs. Guinn is survived by her loving husband, Ira Guinn of the residence; daughters and sons-in-law, Marie and Dave Stewart of Carlton, Ga., Gail and Lee Fletcher of Greenville, N.C.; sons and daughters-in-law, Allen and Patricia Guinn of Chatsworth, Ga., Ira Edwin and Brenda Guinn of Cleveland, Tenn., Wayne and Velinda Guinn of Tunnel Hill, Ga.; 14 grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; sister, Grace Dills of Tenna; brothers and sister-in-law, Kenneth and Susie Ratcliff, Carroll Ratcliff all of Old Fort, Tenn.; a number of nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate the life of Mrs. Mildred Marie Guinn will be on Wednesday, Feb. 25, 2009 at 3 p.m. from the Deep Springs Baptist Church with the Revs. Dale Kidd and Joe Spann officiating. She will be laid to rest at Dawnville United Methodist Church Cemetery. Terry Guinn, Kim Stanfield, Brian Guinn, Chuck Guinn, Lori Long, and Caleb Fletcher will serve as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009 after 6 p.m. at the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home.

Please visit our Web site at www.pondersfuneralhome.com to share words of comfort and memories with Mrs. Guinn's family. Arrangements by locally owned and operated Ponders Funeral Home, 138 Melrose Drive, Dalton. (706) 226-4002. Your selected independent funeral home. www.legacy.com

Magnolia Hennon

Mrs. Magnolia Hennon, 91, of Dalton, departed this life Friday evening, Feb. 20, 2009, at her home.

Mrs. Hennon was born Oct. 7, 1917, in Gilmer County, daughter of the late Neil Gentry and Hettie White. Along with her parents she was also preceded in death by her first husband, Dewey Pilcher; her second husband, Leonard Hennon; a son, Glenn Edward Pilcher;

sister, Eunice Stokes; brothers, Webster White, Bob White and Chester White.

She is survived by her stepson and daughter-in-law, Lamar and Sue Hennon of Rocky Face; daughter-in-law, Evalea Pilcher of Dalton; grandchildren and spouses, Gail and Richard Crider, Brian and Sherry Pilcher, all of Dalton; step-grandchildren, Jerry and Lisa Hennon, Sue and Ken Brown, all of Rocky Face, Rodney and Kim Hennon of Statesboro; sister, Iola Ponders of Ellijay; three great-grandchildren; 12 step-great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; and a number of nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate the life of Mrs. Magnolia Hennon are today at 3 p.m. from the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home with the Rev. Larry Wood officiating.

She will be laid to rest at West Hill Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home Monday.

Visit the Web site at www.pondersfuneralhome.com to share words of comfort and memories with Mrs. Hennon's family.

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

Beatrice Hazel Newman

Mrs. Beatrice Hazel Newman, 76, of Chatsworth, died Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009, at Murray Medical Center.

She was born in Gordon County on May 15, 1932, daughter of the late Henry Pack and Thaley Cronan Pack. Mrs. Newman was retired from R&R Textiles and was a member of Gospelway Baptist Church in Dalton.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by three brothers, Bud Pack, Travis Pack and Jim Pack; and a brother-in-law, Clyde Bingham.

Survivors include her husband of 44 years, Paul R. Newman; a son and daughter-in-law, James and Cindy Bingham of Dalton; a daughter and son-in-law, Rita and Gary Johnson of Chatsworth; three brothers, Cecil Pack of Ranger, Gary

Pack of California and Jerry Pack and his wife Nicki of New Mexico; and three sisters, Juania Wilkins and her husband Bob of Nevada, Betty Bingham of Chatsworth and Helen Costillo and her husband Amillo of California; four grandchildren, Tabatha Johnson, Chris Johnson, Jeremiah Johnson and Tara Bingham; and five great-grandchildren, Cody Wooden, Drake Wooden, Austin Johnson, Ashton Johnson and Lidiah Marie Johnson also survive.

Services are Wednesday at 2 p.m. in the chapel of Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home with the Rev. Bruce Beach officiating.

Burial will be in the Liberty Baptist Church Cemetery in Ranger.

Active pallbearers will include Mitchell McCurdy, Kyle Paulk, Michael McCurdy, Marvin Pack, Chris Pack and Stephen Jackson.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 5 to 9 p.m.

Online condolences may be expressed and the guest book signed at www.maxbrannonandsons.com.

Family owned and operated Max Brannon and Sons Funeral Home of Calhoun is in charge of arrangements. www.legacy.com

Ronald Edward Owen

Mr. Ronald Edward Owen, 49, of Tunnel Hill, Ga., departed this life Saturday afternoon, Feb. 21, 2009 at Hamilton Medical Center. He was born March 21, 1959 in Whitfield County, a son of Ella Steakley Owen of Tunnel Hill, Ga., and the late Roy Lee Owen. Along with his parents he was also preceded in death by a sister, Gail Viator; and a brother, Gerald Owen.

Mr. Owen is survived by his companion, Melissa Chase; mother, Ella Owen; brothers and sister-in-law, Larry and Carolyn Owen all of Tunnel Hill, Lee Owen of Dalton, and Jeff Owen of Tunnel Hill; sisters and brothers-in-law, Carol and Danny Skiffen of Tunnel Hill, Kathy Patterson and Brian Asherbranner of Ranger, Penny Duke of Tunnel Hill, Lisa and Joey Bagley of Cohutta; several nieces and nephews; special

friends, Mike Ridgeway of Ringgold and Randy Dills of Texas.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. Ronald Edward Owen will be on Tuesday, Feb. 24, 2009 at noon from the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home. He will be laid to rest at Dunagan Cemetery.

The family will receive friends today from 6 until 9:00 p.m. at the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home.

Please visit our Web site at www.pondersfuneralhome.com to share words of comfort and memories with Mr. Owen's family.

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

John Eugene Smith

Mr. John Eugene Smith, 32, of Tunnel Hill, departed this life Sunday, Feb. 22, 2009, at his home.

Mr. Smith was born April 3, 1976, in Dalton. He was preceded in death by a sister, Brenda Lee White.

He is survived by sons, Johnathan Ray Smith of Dalton and Floyd Jacob Smith of Tunnel Hill; parents, Floyd and Annette Soi Smith of Tunnel Hill; brothers, Anthony Smith of Tunnel Hill and Lamar and Tina Smith of Chatsworth; sisters, Sharon Messer of Dalton and Christy and Matthew Holcomb of Chatsworth; aunts, uncles, several nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. John Eugene Smith are Thursday at 2 p.m. at the Church of God of the Union Assembly with the Rev. Trey Starnes officiating.

He will be laid to rest at the Colonial Hills Memorial Park Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Shane Smith, Chris Long, Danny Messer, Bart Chandler, Matthew Holcomb, Shane Beck and Brad Smith.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home Wednesday from 5 to 9 p.m.

Messages and condolences may be sent to the Smith family at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

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

Calcium tied to lower cancer risk in older people

BY LINDSEY TANNER
AP Medical Writer

CHICAGO — A study in nearly half a million older men and women bolsters evidence that diets rich in calcium may help protect against some cancers.

The benefits were mostly associated with foods high in calcium, rather than calcium tablets.

Previous studies have produced conflicting results. The new research involved food questionnaires from participants and a follow-up check of records for cancer cases during the subsequent seven years. This research method is less rigorous than some previous but smaller studies.

But because of its huge size — 492,810 people and more than 50,000 cancers — the new study presents powerful evidence favoring the idea that calcium may somehow keep cells from becoming cancerous, said University of North Carolina nutrition expert John Anderson, who was not involved in the study.

The study was run jointly by the National Institutes of



MCG GRAPHIC

Health and AARP. The results appear in Monday's Archives of Internal Medicine.

National Cancer Institute researcher Yikyung Park, the study's lead author, called the results strong but said more studies are needed to confirm the findings.

Duke University nutrition researcher Denise Snyder said the results support the idea that food rather than supplements is the best source for nutrients.

Participants were AARP

members aged 50 to 71 who began the study in the mid-1990s. A total of 36,965 men and 16,605 women were later diagnosed with cancer. There were more than 10 different kinds of cancer, the most common being prostate, breast, lung and colorectal.

Compared with people who got little calcium, those who consumed the most had the lowest chances of getting colon cancer. Those in that highest category got on average 1,530 milligrams a day among men and 1,881 milligrams daily among women. The recommended amount for older people is 1,200 milligrams, and getting much more than that didn't result in any greater protection. Adults can get that amount from four cups of milk or calcium-fortified orange juice.

Men who got the most calcium from food were about 30 percent less likely to get cancer of the esophagus, about 20 percent less likely to get head and neck cancer and 16 percent less likely to get colon cancer, when compared to men who got low amounts of calcium.

Among women, those who got the most food-based calcium were 28 percent less likely to get colon cancer than low-calcium women.

In men, calcium supplements only seemed to help protect against colon cancer; for women, supplements meant a lower risk for liver cancer, which is rare.

Some previous studies have linked diets high in calcium with prostate cancer but the current study found no such risk.

Adults who ate the most calcium also tended to be healthier overall than the others.

Northwestern University preventive medicine instructor Patricia Sheenan called the results impressive. But she noted that all those in the study, AARP members, may have been healthier and wealthier than the general U.S. population so it's not clear if the results would apply to the wider population.

On the Net:
Archives of Internal Medicine:
archinternmed.com

Study: Taking B vitamins can prevent vision loss

BY CARLA K. JOHNSON
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — Taking B vitamins can prevent a common type of vision loss in older women, according to the first rigorous study of its kind. It's a slight redemption for vitamin supplements, which have suffered recent blows from research finding them powerless at preventing disease.

Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of blindness in people 65 and older, with nearly 2 million Americans in the advanced stage of the condition. It causes a layer of the eye to deteriorate, blurring the center of the field of vision and making it difficult to recognize faces, read and drive. There's no cure, but treatment, including laser therapy

in some cases, can slow it down.

Preventing it has been more elusive.

B vitamins lower homocysteine, a blood substance once thought to raise heart disease risk, but the nutrients weren't helpful for that in the larger study on cardiovascular disease.

“Other than avoiding cigarette smoking, this is the first suggestion from a randomized trial of a possible way to reduce early stage AMD,” said William Christen of Harvard-affiliated Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, who led the research. He said the findings should apply to men as well.

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AccuWeather.com 5-Day forecast for Dalton

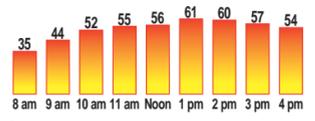
Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
52° 34°	54° 41°	62° 48°	61° 45°	59° 40°
Inc. clouds	Partly sunny	Clouds and sun	Rain possible	Periods of rain

Almanac

Statistics for Chattanooga through 3 p.m. yest.
Temperature:
 High 44°
 Low 24°
Precipitation:
 24 hrs. through 3 p.m. yest. 0.00"

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



Sun
 Sunrise today 7:15 a.m.
 Sunset tonight 6:31 p.m.

Moon Phases



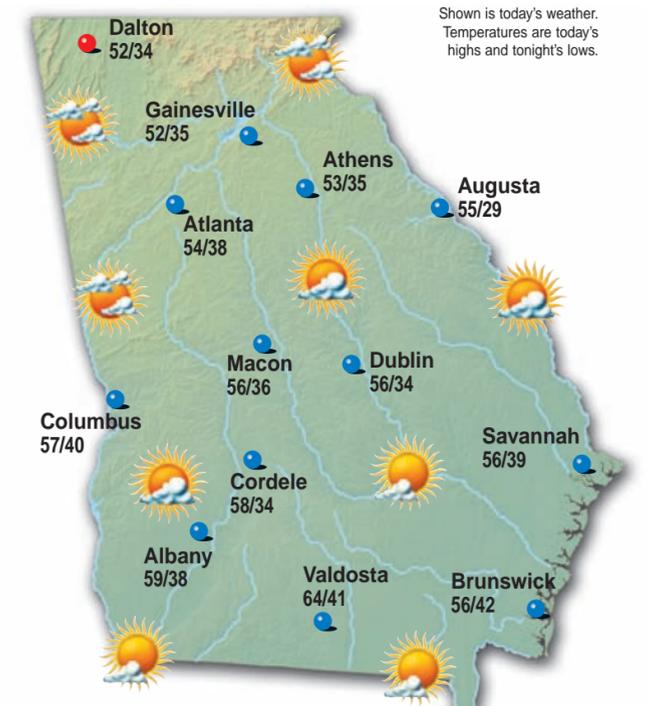
Weather History

Ice on the lower Susquehanna River in Maryland began to break on Feb. 24, 1852. The previous 40 days, an ice bridge had been used for the crossing of loaded freight cars.

Weather Trivia™

Q: The pole of cold, Antarctica is well named, why?
 A: It is the coldest place on Earth; average annual temperature is -72(°F).

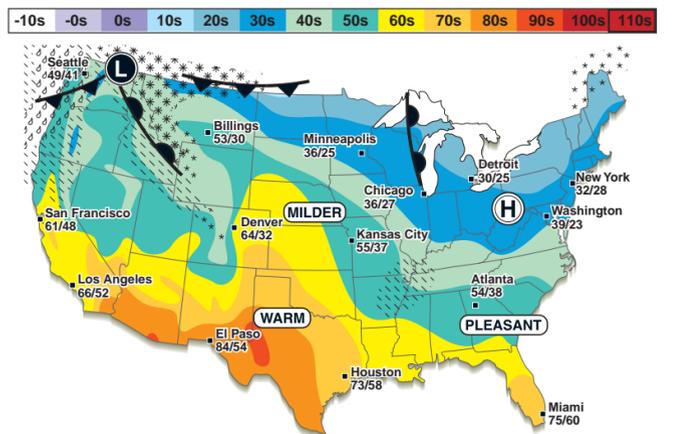
Georgia Weather



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

City	Today	Wed.	Thu.	City	Today	Wed.	Thu.
Albany	59/38/s	71/46/s	73/51/s	La Grange	53/31/s	62/41/pc	67/49/pc
Atlanta	54/38/s	58/45/pc	65/49/pc	Macon	56/36/s	65/45/pc	71/50/pc
Athens	53/35/s	59/41/pc	65/47/pc	Marietta	53/32/s	58/38/pc	66/44/pc
Augusta	55/29/s	63/41/pc	68/45/pc	Newton	62/37/s	71/43/s	74/49/s
Brunswick	56/42/s	63/49/pc	67/53/pc	Rome	55/32/s	58/41/pc	66/48/pc
College Park	54/38/s	58/45/pc	65/49/pc	Savannah	56/39/s	63/46/pc	71/51/pc
Columbus	57/40/s	66/47/pc	71/53/pc	Sparta	57/32/s	64/39/pc	68/45/pc
Gainesville	52/35/s	55/42/pc	60/49/pc	Valdosta	64/41/s	70/46/s	73/51/pc

National Weather for February 24, 2009



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

City	Today	Wed.	Thu.	City	Today	Wed.	Thu.
Albany	29/12/pc	34/26/c	43/29/c	Memphis	55/44/pc	59/52/c	68/54/t
Anchorage	30/19/pc	31/22/pc	27/12/pc	Miami	75/60/pc	77/62/pc	77/66/s
Baltimore	37/21/s	45/32/pc	54/38/c	Milwaukee	32/27/pc	40/30/c	37/22/sn
Billings	53/30/c	45/22/c	30/20/sn	Minneapolis	36/25/c	38/19/c	25/9/sn
Boise	55/37/c	53/37/c	53/36/c	New Orleans	66/53/pc	73/59/pc	76/62/pc
Buffalo	25/18/pc	39/32/c	41/28/c	New York	32/28/s	40/31/pc	47/36/c
Charlotte	50/28/s	54/39/pc	63/46/pc	Okla. City	68/43/pc	68/49/pc	72/45/pc
Cheyenne	58/31/s	53/29/pc	49/27/c	Orlando	70/50/s	73/53/pc	77/55/pc
Chicago	36/27/pc	44/29/c	42/26/r	Philadelphia	37/23/s	42/32/pc	50/37/c
Cincinnati	37/25/s	50/32/pc	55/34/r	Phoenix	85/57/pc	81/54/s	77/54/s
Cleveland	31/23/pc	44/31/sf	44/32/sh	Pittsburgh	32/20/s	46/34/pc	52/39/sh
Dallas	76/51/pc	79/60/pc	79/54/pc	Portland, OR	53/42/r	50/40/r	51/36/sh
Denver	64/32/pc	59/30/pc	55/29/pc	St. Louis	48/35/c	55/43/c	58/37/r
Detroit	30/25/pc	41/31/pc	41/27/r	Salt Lake City	56/35/c	53/35/c	51/36/c
Indianapolis	38/27/s	47/35/pc	52/37/r	San Francisco	61/48/r	60/51/c	60/49/r
Kansas City	55/37/pc	63/44/pc	53/30/c	San Diego	66/56/pc	63/54/pc	64/55/pc
Las Vegas	73/48/pc	71/47/pc	71/47/pc	Seattle	49/41/r	47/39/r	49/37/sh
Los Angeles	66/52/pc	66/52/pc	66/52/pc	Wash., DC	39/23/s	50/36/pc	57/39/c

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	Wed.	Thu.	City	Today	Wed.	Thu.
Athens	49/43/c	52/45/r	52/41/c	Jerusalem	57/41/s	62/44/s	63/48/s
Auckland	68/57/sh	69/59/c	71/60/pc	London	52/41/pc	50/41/pc	50/40/pc
Amsterdam	47/39/c	49/41/c	46/38/r	Madrid	61/34/s	63/34/s	64/37/s
Baghdad	73/49/s	73/50/s	75/54/s	Montreal	23/10/pc	27/21/pc	36/32/sn
Beijing	41/25/c	41/27/pc	45/30/r	Moscow	23/12/c	25/21/sn	30/25/sn
Berlin	37/30/c	41/34/sh	40/32/r	Paris	48/41/pc	52/39/pc	52/39/c
Buenos Aires	82/61/s	81/64/s	79/64/pc	Rio	87/76/pc	88/75/s	88/75/pc
Cairo	68/49/s	72/53/s	70/53/pc	Rome	54/34/sh	50/32/s	54/37/pc
Calgary	16/-3/sn	4/-10/sn	7/2/c	Seoul	50/32/c	44/30/c	47/36/c
Cape Town	86/69/pc	86/64/s	85/63/s	Singapore	86/78/sh	86/77/sh	84/77/sh
Caracas	88/70/s	89/72/s	88/72/pc	Sydney	82/68/t	75/68/t	73/64/pc
Dublin	48/41/pc	46/37/sh	48/39/pc	Tel Aviv	64/49/s	67/50/s	70/57/s
Geneva	38/27/pc	43/31/s	47/38/pc	Tokyo	52/46/sh	55/45/c	50/43/sh
Hong Kong	81/72/s	81/70/s	79/70/s	Toronto	26/20/pc	37/29/sn	39/24/sn
Istanbul	47/40/r	49/41/c	46/39/r	Warsaw	34/28/c	32/30/sf	37/34/c

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2009

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PREP BASEBALL: MURRAY COUNTY SEASON PREVIEW

Home again

With return to familiar region, team hopes for better fortunes

INDIANS 2009

Coach: Jason Lanham
2008 record: 8-17, 1-12



Name	Yr.	Pos.
Tyler Ellis	12	OF
Josh Ensley	12	P
Ryan Greeson	12	P/1B
Blake Hammontree	10	SS
Houston Headrick	11	OF
Tyler Jones	12	P/OF
Ryan Osborn	11	P/UT
Taylor Patterson	10	P/1B
Jacob Pritchett	11	P/3B
Chandler Puryear	11	P/1B
Tyler Ramsey	9	C
Jaime Rangel	12	OF
Colton Roberts	10	2B
Cory Satterfield	10	UT
Justin Shaw	10	C
Charlie Stanley	10	OF
Chris Thompson	10	UT
Tyler Timms	10	OF

— Schedule on page 2B

By ADAM KROHN

adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com

One measly run. That's all that separated the Murray County Indians from Dalton and Northwest Whitfield last season when they picked up a pair of 3-2 losses from the Catamounts and Bruins.

Why is that significant?

Those were the only two teams the Indians played in 2008 that are members of the newly-revamped Region 7-4A, of which Murray is now a part.



Puryear

After spending the past two seasons in Region 5-5A, where they finished a combined 3-23 in region play, Murray is itching to once again be competitive after finishing 2008 with an 8-17 overall record.

And if last year's battles with area rivals are any indication, the Indians should compete.

"We're very excited to be back in Region 7-4A," Indians coach Jason Lanham said. "Even though it's not the traditional 7-4A of old, it's a better fit for us than where we were. We have an excellent opportunity to compete against the best teams in the region."

Lanham believes a main reason the Indians will compete is his senior-laden pitching staff, headed by Chandler Puryear, Ryan Greeson and Tyler Jones.



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Murray County coach Jason Lanham, center, and the Indians hope to have more to smile about this season as they return to Region 7-4A following two years competing in 5-5A. A senior-laden pitching staff and a promising sophomore class are among the team's reasons for optimism in 2009.

> Please see **INDIANS, 2B**

COMMENTARY: IN THE PITS

NASCAR owner Rick Hendrick believes veteran driver Jeff Gordon, a former Cup champion, isn't far from Victory Lane.



AP PHOTO

Gordon's victories just matter of time

Rick Hendrick began his 25th season in NASCAR full of expectations for his storied organization. He predicted newcomer Mark Martin would make all four of his drivers championship contenders, that Dale Earnhardt Jr. would find a comfort level at Hendrick Motorsports and Jimmie Johnson would continue his run through the NASCAR record books.

But for Jeff Gordon, his 17-year money man, the boss had a promise: Gordon would win again.

"Multiple races," Hendrick insisted. "No doubt about it."



Jenna Fryer

> Please see **FRYER, 2B**

So far, Gordon is 0-for-2. But the first two races suggest he'll be back in Victory Lane very soon.

Gordon led 64 laps Sunday night before finishing second at Auto Club Speedway. The four-time

PRO FOOTBALL: NFL

Falcons won't make go at signing veteran DB

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FLOWERY BRANCH — Safety Lawyer Milloy, a four-time Pro Bowler, will not be returning to the Atlanta Falcons.

The team announced it will not re-sign the 35-year-old Milloy, who can pursue other options when free agency begins on Friday.

Milloy was the Falcons' starting safety the last three years. This past season, he was third on the team in both solo tackles (76) and overall stops (117).

"As an organization, we felt it was in the best interest of both parties to let Lawyer test the free agent market," Atlanta general manager Thomas Dimitroff said. "He significantly contributed in his three seasons with the Falcons and we were proud to have him here. We wish him the best as he takes



Milloy

are now led by former Falcons coach Jim Mora.

Milloy was a second-round draft pick for the New England Patriots in 1996. He played seven seasons with the Patriots and three with the Buffalo Bills before signing with the Falcons.

Even though he provided leadership to a young secondary, the Falcons have decided to pursue younger options at safety, perhaps through the draft.

the next step in his career."

Milloy, raised in Tacoma, Wash., has expressed a desire to return home to finish his career with the Seattle Seahawks, who

PRO BASEBALL: ATLANTA BRAVES

Great expectations

Club believes Hanson will star someday

By PAUL NEWBERRY

Associated Press Writer

KISSIMMEE, Fla. — When Tommy Hanson arrived for his first big league camp, he was assigned to a corner of the Atlanta Braves' clubhouse with a bunch of other guys wearing football-like numbers.

The barely-out-of-high-schoolers. The journeymen. The guys who'll spend their season in outposts such as Mississippi and Myrtle Beach.

In fact, Hanson only has half a locker. He must share his stall with another non-roster invitee, Kris Medlen.

But this inglorious, crowded spot is merely a stopping-off point for Hanson, a chance for him to get a sampling of life in the majors before he claims a more prominent position. This is the guy who's supposed to restore the luster to the Braves' rotation, the one who'll provide a link to a glorious era when pitchers named Smoltz and Maddux and Glavine were in their prime.

"This kid is going to be a No. 1 starter in Atlanta soon," Braves star Chipper Jones said. "There's no holding him back. Even if I had to go to a six-man rotation, I would do it, just to get this kid some experience and get him on his way."

Spring training is overrun with hyped-up prospects who'll never spend a day in the big leagues, but



AP PHOTO

Atlanta Braves pitcher Tommy Hanson throws during a spring training workout on Monday in Kissimmee, Fla. Although he's yet to throw a pitch in the big leagues, the 22-year-old right-hander is being hailed as a link to the team's past greats.

it's hard not to get excited about this laid-back, 6-foot-6 Californian with the dazzling right arm. The slider, said manager Bobby Cox, is a lot like the one thrown by John Smoltz. That's a good comparison, said Jones, except Hanson has a wider repertoire than the only pitcher in baseball history to win 200 games and save 150 more.

The Braves might have acquired San Diego ace Jake Peavy during the offseason, if only they had been willing to give up a player who's never pitched above Double-A.

They weren't. "I'd love to see him come down here and dazzle and make this club," Jones said. "I think he can pay immediate dividends."

Sitting on the far side of the

clubhouse, a wall separating him from the more established members of the team, Hanson merely smiles when asked about all the hype.

"I'm not a flashy guy. I'm not a guy where that's going to go to my head," Hanson said. "If everyone wants to write how good I am or how good I can be, go for it. It's fun to read that stuff. It's cool. But it's not going to affect me or anything like that."

Hanson is coming off a breakthrough year in which he dominated for two different minor league teams and was basically untouchable in the hitter-friendly Arizona Fall League.

> Please see **HANSON, 2B**

PRO BASEBALL

Fehr strikes back on tour

By STEVEN WINE

Associated Press Writer

JUPITER, Fla. — Baseball union head Donald Fehr began his annual tour of spring training camps Monday with steroids back in the spotlight.

"Everybody understands that there were things which happened in the early part of the decade which we wish hadn't, that that's not the case anymore," Fehr said after meeting with Florida Marlins players.

"We fixed the problem and we need to look forward, as Bud has said many times," he said.

Fehr said he didn't think commissioner Bud Selig will take disciplinary action against Alex Rodriguez, who admitted Feb. 9 that he used a banned substance from 2001 to 2003. Rodriguez confessed two days after Sports Illustrated reported he was on a list of 104 players who tested positive in the 2003 survey. Selig said Rodriguez shamed the sport.

Testing in 2003 was to be confidential. Fehr rejected the suggestion

> Please see **FEHR, 3B**



AP PHOTO

Baseball union chief Donald Fehr said all players shouldn't be suspected of steroid use because some failed tests.



MATT HAMILTON/The Daily Citizen

Justin Shaw, a catcher, works on his throws to second base during a recent Murray County baseball preseason practice. After a strong summer campaign during 2008, Shaw is part of a sophomore class that will be relied upon heavily for contributions this year in the Indians' return to Region 7-4A.

Indians: Open on Thursday

> Continued from page 1B

The experience those three possess should go a long way in helping the Indians to win with their small-ball style.

"We're not going to score 15-20 runs in a game," Lanham said. "Small ball is the way we win baseball games. We rely on pitching and great defense."

Though the Indians only won one of 13 region games last season, that "signature win," as Lanham describes it, came in a 3-1 defeat of eventual state semifinalist North Cobb.

In that game, Murray took a 1-0 lead on a sacrifice fly and got its third run when Jamie Rangel, one of six seniors on this year's squad, stole home. And of course there was the stellar pitching, with five scoreless innings coming from the now-graduated Chance Fowler and Puryear, who picked up the two-inning save.

Puryear — a two-sport standout currently helping the basketball team as it enters the first round of the Class 4A state playoffs — expects the baseball team's transition from 5A to 4A to be as smooth as that of the basketball Indians, who have seen their record jump from 9-16 to 19-9.

"Oh yeah, I expect (the

transition) to be the same," Puryear said. "We're all going to work hard to be competitive in the region. I don't know too much about the other teams, but we match up well against Dalton and Northwest."

Puryear has yet to practice with the baseball team and hasn't had the chance to play with some of the new pieces in the starting lineup. He'll have a new catcher to throw to in sophomore Justin Shaw, who takes over for the graduated Ethan Penland, now playing at Tennessee-Wesleyan.

"We're expecting big things from him," Lanham said. "He's got a strong arm. He threw out 50 percent of base stealers in the summer and he's great with the bat."

Shaw is one of many sophomores the Indians will lean on this year. Tyler Jones, an honorable mention for the 2008 Daily Citizen All-Area Team as a freshman, will pitch out of the bullpen and brings a big bat to the first base and designated hitter positions. Colton Roberts and Cory Satterfield are competing for second base and Tyler Simms and Chris Thompson are competing for a spot in the outfield. Blake Hammontree, who like Puryear is currently with the basketball team, is expected to compete at short-stop to replace Nick Peden,

also playing at Tennessee-Wesleyan.

With the blend of senior leadership and sophomore contributors, Lanham and the Indians are eyeing a state playoff berth. And because of their experience in 5-5A, they know firsthand what they have to do to end up on the winning side of those one-run games.

"If we didn't bring our very best every day we'd get pounded," Lanham said. "We had to play our very best just to stay on the field. Competing like that every day, day in and day out, really prepared us. The kids understand that they can compete with anyone."

2009 Schedule

February: 26 — at Trion, 5; 27 — vs. Chattooga, 5
March: 5 — vs. Trion, 5; 6 — vs. Gordon Lee, 6:30; 12 — vs. LaFayette, 5; 14 — vs. Fannin County, noon and 2:30 (double-header); 17 — at Gordon Lee, 4:30; 19 — at LaFayette, 5; 20 — vs. Darlington, 6; 24 — Lakeview-Fort Oglethorpe, 5; 26 — Dalton, 7; 27 — at Northwest Whitfield, 7
April: 2 — vs. Woodland, 7; 3 — at Sequoyah, 5:55; 6 — vs. Cass, 7; 7 — at Rome, 5:55; 10 — at Dalton, 7; 14 — vs. Northwest Whitfield, 5; 17 — at Woodland, 7; 20 — vs. Sequoyah, 5:55; 22 — vs. Rome, 5:55; 24 — at Cass, 5:55

Fryer: Led 14 Daytona laps

> Continued from page 1B

series champion was unable to chase down winner Matt Kenseth over the closing laps, but he found some consolation: His No. 24 team is far ahead of where it was this time last year, when Gordon had his first winless season since his 1993 rookie campaign.

"I'm so excited about this race team right now," he said. "I just think we're head and shoulders above where we were. I know it's just a couple races in, and this is one race. I love the way the car was driving."

He couldn't say that often last year, when he was slow to adjust to NASCAR's full-time use of its new model car. Although he was third at Fontana a year ago, and notched three top-10 finishes through the first six races, it wasn't a true indication of where the team was in terms of preparation or performance.

It became evident in April, when a crash caused him to finish last in Texas, and he followed with nondescript runs in Phoenix and Talladega. As the season wore on, the results that once had come so easily never materialized.

Soon it was October and he was at Lowe's Motor Speedway, a year removed from the last of his 81 victories. His fans were adamant that crew chief Steve Letarte

was the problem. Gordon refused to cast blame, especially against someone who had guided him to a NASCAR-record 30 top-10 finishes in 36 starts just one year before. But, as his chances to return to Victory Lane dwindled, nothing seemed to change.

Hendrick believes Gordon's struggles last season were a companywide failure to provide the driver with the right tools.

"We were just not good enough for that team. I think Jeff is so used to carrying it on his shoulders, I think we all just gave up at one point there, but it motivated us to come back," Hendrick said. "That was the first year, I feel like we just let him down."

Gordon, however, takes responsibility. His back had been bothering him since his failed 2007 title run, and he never seriously considered a treatment for the spasms and tightness that sometimes broke his concentration in the car. He also admits his adjustment to the new car was slow despite one of his most extensive testing schedules.

Some drivers coming off such a year might question how much longer they can race. Gordon used it to rekindle his passion and rebuild his commitment to winning.

His wife, Ingrid, persuaded him to start a legitimate

fitness routine, use a personal trainer and hire someone at the track to help him prepare his back for the rigors of 500 miles of racing.

And Letarte wanted an overhaul, handing Hendrick a list of changes he needed following the season finale at Homestead. He altered the engineering group, tinkered with personnel and the cars themselves.

The result was his win in a Daytona 500 qualifying race, Gordon's first trip to Victory Lane in almost 16 months. But it didn't count — at least not for not points — and he's focused on snapping his 43-race winless streak.

He led 14 laps in the season-opening Daytona 500, but was 13th when rain halted the race and Kenseth was declared the winner. Had it gone the distance, Gordon is certain he would have contended for the win. And if he had a few more miles Sunday, he wonders if he would have run down Kenseth.

Regardless, he's positive he'll soon make Hendrick look like a prophet.

"I just feel good when I get in the car," he said. "The car is driving good. It's just starting off right. I think we only have room for improvement."

Jenna Fryer covers NASCAR for The Associated Press.

Coker possibility to direct program

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Former Miami coach Larry Coker is among three finalists to become the first head coach of the new Texas-San Antonio

football program. UTSA athletics director Lynn Hickey says Coker and the other candidates will be interviewed within the next 10 days. The

school has said it wants to make a decision by March. Coker hasn't coached since the Hurricanes fired him following a 6-6 season in 2006.

PREP ROUNDUP

Southeast plays to tie

FROM STAFF REPORTS

In a preseason scrimmage, it's not whether you win or lose, and Southeast's baseball team might have had that concept in mind Monday night as it tied Polk County 7-7.

The Raiders managed 10 hits in the game, with Michael Simpson leading the way by going 3-for-3 with two runs, two stolen bases and an RBI on a double and two singles.

Tanner McCutchen went 2-for-4 with an RBI and a stolen base and freshman

Carter Gillean added two RBIs. Bradley Grant was 2-for-3.

Dylan Massengill started the game for the Raiders and gave up two runs in two innings. After McCutchen and Colby Cook combined to pitch two scoreless innings, Corey Bevins gave up two runs in the fifth inning and T.J. Levane gave up two runs in the sixth. Gillean pitched a scoreless seventh.

Southeast opens its season at 4 p.m. Friday at Coosa.

JV soccer

■ **Murray County boys 3, Woodland 0:** Three first-half unassisted goals from Jose Rosales, Enrique Ruiz (on a penalty kick) and Eduardo Nunez was all the scoring Murray County needed as keeper Daniel Paniagua earned the shutout with five saves. The Indians improved to 1-1 on the season.

■ **Woodland girls 3, Murray County 2:** Vanessa Carlos and Kayla Terro each scored for the Lady Indians (0-2).

Hanson: Earns rave reviews

> Continued from page 1B

At Class-A Myrtle Beach, he needed only seven starts to earn a promotion, going 3-1 with a 0.90 ERA and allowing a minuscule 15 hits in 40 innings. He moved up to Mississippi, where he threw a no-hitter in his ninth Double-A start and went on to post a record of 8-4 with a 3.03 ERA in 18 appearances. He had 114 strikeouts in 98 innings at the higher level, including a career-best 14 in one start.

Hanson really turned it on in the desert. While the Arizona Fall League is normally known for its lofty hitting stats, the Braves prospect went 5-0 with a 0.63 ERA and 49 strikeouts in 28 2-3 innings. He was selected MVP, the first pitcher to claim the award.

When the Braves were trying to acquire Peavy, the Padres demanded that Hanson be part of the deal. Atlanta wouldn't give him up, not even for a pitcher still in his 20s who won the NL Cy Young Award just two years ago. After that, few teams even brought up Hanson's name in trade talks, knowing he was about

the only untouchable player on the roster.

Everyone raves about his maturity, the fact that he can throw four pitches — fastball, curveball, slider and changeup — for strikes.

"It won't be long before he's up here," Cox predicted. "He can throw one bad pitch in the pen and correct it on the next pitch. Some guys, it takes six or seven pitches to figure it out. That tells you about his makeup. He's way ahead of the game."

Growing up in Redlands, Calif., Hanson used to watch the Braves on television when he got home from school. With the three-hour time difference, they would just be getting started on the East Coast about the time he walked in the door.

He watched Cox barking from the dugout, Jones ripping line drives from both sides of the plate and, of course, all those great pitchers who served as the cornerstone for 14 straight division titles. Greg Maddux won three Cy Young Awards in Atlanta, Tom Glavine claimed two and Smoltz captured one of his own. They were joined over the years by starters such as

Steve Avery, Denny Neagle and Kevin Millwood, all of whom had big years for the Braves. Hanson is ready to lead the next great Atlanta rotation.

"I want to pitch a long time," he said. "That would be the ultimate goal to do something like those guys. I want to get better. I want to have a good season this year and hopefully be up in Atlanta at some point, helping us win some games. I'm just going one step at a time right now."

While Jones is pushing for Hanson to get a shot right from opening day, he'll likely spend at least part of the season at Triple-A Gwinnett, the Braves' new farm club in suburban Atlanta. The team doesn't want to rush its prized prospect to the big leagues faster than it has to, especially when it bolstered the rotation by signing Derek Lowe, trading for Javier Vazquez, acquiring Japanese all-star Kenshin Kawakami and bringing back the 42-year-old Glavine for another season.

But it seems just a matter of time before Hanson is squeezing someone out of a spot.

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SPORTS BRIEFS

N. Murray club's first meet tonight

North Murray High School will hold its first athletic booster club meeting at 7 p.m. today at Bagley Middle School's cafeteria.

The school, set to begin classes this fall, has already named coaches in football, boys and girls basketball, track and field and wrestling. On Feb. 12, the school's colors of black and gold and its mascot, the Mountaineer, were revealed.

Knight must sit after complaints

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Big 12 Conference suspended Texas Tech coach Pat Knight for one game on Monday for complaining about the officials after a loss to Texas A&M.

Knight received a technical foul in the second half of the 79-73 loss on Saturday for arguing a foul call and complained about the officials after the game to reporters, saying he didn't care what the Big 12 thought.

The son of Bob Knight, Pat Knight also was publicly reprimanded by the Big 12 earlier this month for being ejected after running onto the court twice to argue a foul call in a game against Nebraska.

Midseason slide costs Renney job

NEW YORK — Tom Renney was fired as coach of the New York Rangers on Monday in an attempt to save a season that has spiraled out of control.

The Rangers opened 10-2-1, but 10 losses in the last 12 games has knocked the team out of contention for the Atlantic Division title and placed it in danger of missing the playoffs completely. In recent home games, fans had chanted for Renney to be fired.

Renney, a former coach of the Vancouver Canucks, was 164-121-42 with the Rangers in four plus seasons and ranks fourth on the team's career wins and games coached lists.

Cardinals defeat Hoyas, take first

WASHINGTON — Earl Clark scored 22 points, and No. 6 Louisville overcame 16 turnovers with good defense and solid 3-point shooting Monday night in a 76-58 victory over Georgetown that moved the Cardinals into a tie for first place in the Big East.

Samardo Samuels, Terrence Williams and Preston Knowles added 10 points apiece for the Cardinals (22-5, 13-2), who have won four straight and are tied with Connecticut atop the conference standings.

Louisville had a 17-point first-half lead cut to eight in the second half and shot only 15-for-35 after a 9-for-9 start, but forced 14 Georgetown turnovers and held the Hoyas to 31 percent shooting in the second half.

Harrison's days as Colt are done

INDIANAPOLIS — The Colts are parting ways with Marvin Harrison. Harrison's agent, Tom Condon, told The Associated Press on Monday that Indianapolis has agreed to release the franchise's all-time leading receiver. An official announcement is expected today or Wednesday.

The decision comes one day after team president Bill Polian said he hoped to work out a deal that would keep Harrison in Indy, but when Harrison refused to accept a pay cut, he asked for and was granted his release.

The Colts declined comment and a message was left by The Associated Press at the office of team owner Jim Irsay.

— Staff, AP Reports

SCOREBOARD

LOCAL

Prep Schedule

Today
Varsity soccer
Dalton at Cass, 5
Southeast at Heritage-Catoosa, 5
Murray County at Fannin Tournament

Varsity tennis
Rome at Northwest Whitfield, 5
Cass at Murray County, 5

JV tennis
Northwest Whitfield at Ringgold, 4

Wednesday
Varsity soccer
Murray County at Fannin Tournament

Varsity tennis
Southeast at Ridgeland, 4

Thursday
Varsity baseball
Murray County at Trion, 5

Varsity soccer
Ringgold at Southeast, 6:30

Varsity tennis
Cartersville at Northwest Whitfield, 9 a.m.
Dalton at Woodland, 4:15
Osborne at Murray County, 4:30

JV soccer
Dalton at Murray County, 5
Ringgold boys at Southeast, 5

Friday
Varsity baseball
Chattooga at Murray County, 5

Varsity basketball
GHSAA Class 4A girls state tournament
Loganville at Northwest Whitfield, 7

Varsity soccer
Osborne at Dalton, 5:30
Sequoyah at Northwest Whitfield, 6

Varsity tennis
Murray County at Ridgeland, 4

JV baseball
Chattooga at Murray County, 7

Saturday
Varsity basketball
GHSAA Class 4A boys state tournament
Murray County at Rockdale County, TBD

Varsity golf
Northwest Whitfield girls at Gwinnett Open, 8 a.m.

Varsity soccer
Northwest Whitfield girls vs. Savannah Christian at Pace Academy, 10 a.m.
Murray County at Fannin Tournament

Varsity tennis
Northwest Whitfield at First Service tournament, Cartersville, 4:45

TRANSACTIONS

Monday's Moves

BASEBALL
National League
WASHINGTON NATIONALS—Released LHP Odalis Perez.

BASKETBALL
NBA
ATLANTA HAWKS—Recalled G Thomas Gardner and F Othello Hunter from Anaheim (NABDL).

WNBA
SEATTLE STORM—Signed G Shannon Johnson.

HOCKEY
NHL
NEW YORK RANGERS—Fired coach Tom Renney and assistant coach Perry Pearn.
ST. LOUIS BLUES—Recalled F Yan Stastny from Peoria (AHL).

COLLEGE
BIG 12 CONFERENCE—Suspended Texas Tech coach Pat Knight one game for complaining about the officials after a Feb. 21 loss to Texas A&M.

TELEVISION

On Today

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
ESPN — Penn St. at Ohio St.

9 p.m.
ESPN — Florida at LSU

9:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — Texas A&M at Nebraska

NHL
7 p.m.
VERSUS — Anaheim at Buffalo

SOCCER
2:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — UEFA Champions League, first round knockout, leg 1, FC Internazionale Milano vs. Manchester United FC, at Milan, Italy

PRO BASKETBALL

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Boston	45	12	.789	—
Philadelphia	27	28	.491	17
New Jersey	25	32	.439	20
New York	24	32	.429	20 1/2
Toronto	22	36	.379	23 1/2

Southeast Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Orlando	41	14	.745	—
Atlanta	32	23	.582	9
Miami	29	26	.527	12
Charlotte	22	34	.393	19 1/2
Washington	13	43	.232	28 1/2

Central Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Cleveland	43	11	.796	—
Detroit	27	27	.500	16
Milwaukee	28	31	.475	17 1/2
Chicago	25	31	.446	19
Indiana	24	35	.407	21 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
San Antonio	37	17	.685	—
Houston	35	21	.625	3
Dallas	33	22	.600	4 1/2
New Orleans	32	22	.593	5
Memphis	15	40	.273	22 1/2

Northwest Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
Denver	37	19	.661	—
Portland	35	20	.636	1 1/2

Utah	33	23	.589	4
Minnesota	18	37	.327	18 1/2
Oklahoma City	13	43	.232	24

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct	GB	
L.A. Lakers	46	10	.821	—
Phoenix	31	24	.564	14 1/2
Golden State	20	36	.357	26
L.A. Clippers	13	43	.232	33
Sacramento	12	45	.211	34 1/2

Sunday's Scores				
Indiana 98, Chicago 91				
Toronto 111, New York 100				
Boston 128, Phoenix 108				
Milwaukee 120, Denver 117				
Houston 99, Charlotte 78				
Orlando 122, Miami 99				
Portland 116, L.A. Clippers 87				
L.A. Lakers 111, Minnesota 108				
Cleveland 99, Detroit 78				

Monday's Scores				
New York 123, Indiana 119				
New Jersey 98, Philadelphia 96				
Boston at Denver, late				
Atlanta at Utah, late				
New Orleans at Sacramento, late				
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, late				

Today's Games				
Memphis at Cleveland, 7 p.m.				
Minnesota at Toronto, 7 p.m.				
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.				
Orlando at Chicago, 8 p.m.				
L.A. Lakers at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.				
Dallas at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.				
Portland at Houston, 8:30 p.m.				
Charlotte at Phoenix, 9 p.m.				

Wednesday's Games				
Memphis at Indiana, 7 p.m.				
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.				
Chicago at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.				
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.				
Utah at Minnesota, 8 p.m.				
Detroit at New Orleans, 8 p.m.				
Milwaukee at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.				
Portland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.				
Atlanta at Denver, 9 p.m.				
Charlotte at Sacramento, 10 p.m.				
Boston at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.				

PRO HOCKEY

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
New Jersey	38	19	3	79	182	151
Philadelphia	31	17	9	71	189	169
N.Y. Rangers	31	23	7	69	151	170
Pittsburgh	29	26	6	64	185	191
N.Y. Islanders	18	35	6	42	144	198

Northeast Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Boston	40	12	8	88	200	137
Montreal	31	22	7	69	184	184
Buffalo	31	23	6	68	179	168
Toronto	22	26	12	56	180	219
Ottawa	22	27	9	53	144	168

Southeast Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	38	17	5	81	201	172
Florida	30	21	8	68	166	159
Carolina	31	25	5	67	162	176
Tampa Bay	20	28	12	52	152	191
Atlanta	21	33	6	48	176	211

WESTERN CONFERENCE						
Central Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Detroit	39	13	8	86	228	177
Chicago	34	16	8	76	194	143
Columbus	30	24	6	66	165	169
Nashville	28	28	4	60	142	168
St. Louis	25	26	8	58	165	178

Northwest Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Calgary	35	18	6	76	187	173
Vancouver	30	21	8	68	181	170
Minnesota	30	24	4	64	151	135
Edmonton	29	25	5	63	165	182
Colorado	28	31	1	57	165	186

Pacific Division						
W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
San Jose	41	8	9	91	200	140
Dallas	29	23	7	65	174	180
Anaheim	29	27	5	63	173	177
Phoenix	27	28	5	59	156	184
Los Angeles	25	24	9	59	155	170

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

Sunday's Scores				
Washington 5, Pittsburgh 2				
Carolina 5, Colorado 2				
Tampa Bay 4, Boston 3				
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1				
Toronto 3, N.Y. Rangers 2, OT				

Monday's Score				
San Jose 1, Dallas 0				

Today's Games				
Anaheim at Buffalo, 7 p.m.				
Florida at Boston, 7 p.m.				
Colorado at Atlanta, 7 p.m.				
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.				
Vancouver at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.				
Carolina at Ottawa, 7:30 p.m.				
Chicago at Nashville, 8 p.m.				
Los Angeles at Minnesota, 8 p.m.				
Phoenix at St. Louis, 8:30 p.m.				
Tampa Bay at Edmonton, 9 p.m.				
Columbus at Calgary, 9 p.m.				

Wednesday's Games				
Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.				
San Jose at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.				
N.Y. Rangers at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.				
N.Y. Islanders at Pittsburgh, 7:30 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 Feb. 22, 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. Pittsburgh (69)	25-2	1,797	4
2. Connecticut (1)	25-2	1,692	1
3. Oklahoma (2)	25-2	1,643	2
4. North Carolina	24-3	1,556	3
5. Memphis	24-3	1,543	5
6. Louisville	21-5	1,403	7
7. Duke	22-5	1,228	9
8. Marquette	23-4	1,169	10
9. Michigan St.	21-5	1,136	6
10. Villanova	22-5	1,125	12
11. Missouri	23-4	1,094	11
12. Clemson	22-4	1,050	13

13. Wake Forest	20-5	992	8
14. Arizona St.	21-5	869	14
15. Kansas	22-5	812	15
16. Purdue	21-5	765	17

CROSSWORD

ACROSS 32 "Hail, Caesar!"
1 Ms. Moore
5 Occupation, for short
8 Stitches
12 With 13-Across, hematite
13 See 12-Across
14 Met melody
15 Breadwinner
17 Chain component
18 Whatever number
19 Vitamin C source
21 "Surprise Symphony" composer
24 Throat clearer
25 Lotion additive
26 TV crime drama
30 Put into words
31 J.C. Harris' "Uncle —"

51 Crystal gazer
52 Trawler gear
53 Deserve
DOWN
22 Re 10-Down
23 Vacillate
24 Ready for battle
26 Mary Martin role
27 Zhivago's love
28 Satanic
29 Agents, briefly
31 Judicial garb
34 IOU
35 Figure out
37 Angry
38 Guitars' kin
39 Faction
40 Incite
41 Versifier
44 "Catcher in the —"
45 KGB counterpart
46 Listening device
47 Director Howard

Solution time: 21 mins.

O	N	E	P	I	P	E	S	T	H	E	
F	O	R	A	M	O	R	T	R	O	W	
T	R	A	N	S	P	I	R	E	A	P	
U	S	A	O	P	E	N	E	R			
C	O	T	T	O	N	R	O	D	S		
O	R	R	N	E	W	N	A	V	A	L	
R	E	A	P	L	A	W	M	A	X	I	
N	O	N	O	S	D	O	T	A	L	L	
S	U	M	S	M	O	T	L	E	Y		
T	A	C	T	I	C	A	R	I			
A	C	E	T	R	A	N	S	L	A	T	E
U	R	N	H	E	L	L	O	L	E	A	
T	E	D	S	W	A	Y	S	P	A	T	

Yesterday's answer 2-24

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

For whom the bells toll

South dealer.
Both sides vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ J 7 2
♥ 9 7 4
♦ A 10 9 7 3
♣ 8 5

WEST
♠ 9 8 6 3
♥ A Q 6 5 2
♦ Q 5
♣ J 7

SOUTH
♠ A K 5
♥ K J 8
♦ K 6 4
♣ A K 6 3

The bidding:
South West North East
2 NT Pass 3 NT All Pass
Opening lead — five of hearts.

The bidding would be a much simpler game to play well if, whenever a critical point in the play was reached, some kind soul would ring a bell to warn you to watch your step. The trouble is that, aside from the minor expense of the bell, the cost of hiring someone to ring it at precisely the right moment would be prohibitive.

For example, take this case where West missed his cue when the crucial point arose. The moment of truth quietly passed him by, and as a result declarer got home with an unmakeable contract.

West led a heart against three notrump, and declarer won East's ten with the jack. South had no choice but to try to establish dummy's diamonds, without which he could not possibly score nine tricks.

So at trick two, he cashed the diamond king, both defenders following low, and then played a second diamond. When West produced the queen, South allowed him to win the trick. This was not from a sense of generosity, mind you, but because West was the right person to have on lead at this stage. It did not matter what West played next because declarer now had nine sure tricks.

Of course, if West had dropped his queen of diamonds under the king at trick two, declarer would have had no chance to make the contract. The diamond queen was an albatross around West's neck that he should have gotten rid of at the earliest opportunity.

He should have reasoned that the queen was a worthless card if South had the jack of diamonds as well as the king, while if his partner held the jack, the queen was certainly not a good card to hang on to.

Somebody should have rung a bell!

Tomorrow: The battle for trump control.

CRYPTOQUIP

F O S W A Z D O P Y O U V Z P U P J V
T P C C O U T S V I Y V M M O W A O U
F P V Z J P U C V W K K O V U M , D O
D V M V I P Z P J J O U U K Z V I O M .
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: SINCE A NATIVE AMERICAN LEADER BECAME A COP, HIS BUDDIES HAVE DUBBED HIM THE CHIEF OF POLICE.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals F

HOROSCOPE

Happy Birthday: It's up to you to have the vision and turn it into a viable resource this year. An exciting and educational time will unfold if you use your Pisces charm to get involved in business and personal relationships, with people who can add to your plans. It's up to you to initiate and move forward. Your numbers are 6, 13, 15, 24, 28, 35, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Keep searching for the right group or person who actually gets what you are trying to accomplish. Otherwise, go it alone. Reunite with someone who has meant a lot to you in the past. Good things will result if you talk openly. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Empty promises can lead to a bad decision. Make sure that you have something concrete to work with before you get started. Emotional connections with someone you have a give-and-take relationship with can be relied on to help you out now. 4 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Someone may try to pull a fast maneuver on you. Love is in the picture and something will develop rapidly between you and a very special individual. Past and present will cross paths. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A change at work or within your professional field will benefit you long-term. Serious aggressive action will pay off. Avoid anyone involved in an unusual lifestyle that might influence your current status or financial position. 5 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Take the steps required to turn an old or new relationship into something special. Love and romance are in the stars. Focus on both business and personal partnerships. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Love and money will somehow come together for you today. Expect help

financially, legally or where a settlement is due. Emotional issues can help you realize how you feel about some of the people in your life. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Renewed feelings for someone will set you on an interesting route, influencing your lifestyle. Share your feelings and the response you get will ensure that you are doing the right thing. Honesty has never been more important. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Sticking around the old will not lead you to a brighter future. You've been in a rut for too long. It's time to live, love and be happy. Rid yourself of what is working against you. 5 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have some great ideas that can turn into cash as long as you don't go overboard. Someone will question your plans and, if you take the criticism seriously, you will be further ahead in the end. Love is in the stars. 4 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Things may be swinging a little too far out of control for your liking. Don't fear change. Instead, protect your assets and see where things go. Make your choices wisely but listen and observe what everyone else is doing. 3 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Everything is looking up and the options being made available to you should not be ignored. Expressing your thoughts and ideas will attract the attention of someone who can offer you suggestions and contribute to what you want to do. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't let others confuse you with innuendoes or the signals being sent. Question the motives. It's being aware that will help you hold your ground and get what you want. Indecisive partners should be eliminated from your plans. 3 stars



Eugenia Last

Winners at the 81st annual Oscars

- THE ASSOCIATED PRESS
- Motion Picture: "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Actor: Sean Penn, "Milk."
 - Actress: Kate Winslet, "The Reader."
 - Supporting Actor: Heath Ledger, "The Dark Knight."
 - Supporting Actress: Penelope Cruz, "Vicky Cristina Barcelona."
 - Director: Danny Boyle, "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Foreign Film: "Departures," Japan.
 - Adapted Screenplay: Simon Beaufoy, "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Original Screenplay: Dustin Lance Black, "Milk."
 - Animated Feature Film: "WALL-E."
 - Art Direction: "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."
 - Cinematography: "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Sound Mixing: "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Sound Editing: "The Dark Knight."
 - Original Score: "Slumdog Millionaire," A.R. Rahman.
 - Original Song: "Jai Ho" from "Slumdog Millionaire," A.R. Rahman and Gulzar.
 - Costume: "The Duchess."
 - Documentary Feature: "Man on Wire."
 - Documentary (short subject): "Smile Pinki."
 - Film Editing: "Slumdog Millionaire."
 - Makeup: "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."
 - Animated Short Film: "La Maison en Petits Cubes."
 - Live Action Short Film: "Spielzeugland (Toyland)."
 - Visual Effects: "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button."

Academy Award winners previously announced:
 ■ Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award (Oscar statuette): Jerry Lewis
 ■ Gordon E. Sawyer Award (Oscar statuette): Pixar Animation co-founder Ed Catmull

Oscar after-parties flash global glitter

By SOLVEJ SCHOU
Associated Press Writer

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. — The glitzy, global spirit of Hollywood raged into the wee hours after the Oscars, with parties around town feting everyone from British best actress winner Kate Winslet down to the youngest "Slumdog Millionaire" star, drinking caffeine to keep up his strength.

Ayush Mahesh Khedekar, only 8, slurped on a can of Coca-Cola at Fox Searchlight's packed after-party Sunday night at ONE Sunset in West Hollywood honoring "The Wrestler" and "Slumdog Millionaire." Filmed in the slums of Mumbai, "Slumdog" snagged eight Oscars, including best picture and director.

Ayush, who lives in India and plays the youngest version of the movie's protagonist Jamal, sat on a sofa at the club, nursing his soda after midnight.

"Very excited," said Ayush, when asked about the wins. "It's unbelievable. I never thought I would get an Oscar. Daniel (director Danny Boyle) told us, 'If you work hard, the Oscar will come to you.' And it came."

As for being tired?
 "No, that's why I'm drinking this," he added.

Madhur Mittal, who plays the character Salim in the film, held a drink as throngs of women passed by offering their congratulations. Guests, including Serena Williams, nibbled on red velvet cupcakes and sipped on cocktails including "The Slumdog," a mix of vodka, raspberries and lime garnished with a lollipop — far from the modest fare depicted in the film.

"It feels unreal. This is the best day of my life, man," said Mittal. "I come from India and I never in my wildest dreams thought I would be at the Oscars, much less be part of the movie that sweeps the Oscars."

Despite economic woes, myriad parties had all the glam and celebrity fraternizing of past soirees, though guest lists were substantially slashed and simple comfort food reigned.

Jennifer Love-Hewitt hosted AIDS Project Los Angeles' annual bash at The Abbey, and Chevy



Sean Penn and his wife Robin Wright Penn arrive at the Governor's Ball following the 81st Academy Awards Sunday, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.

Chase, Laura Dern and other famous faces flocked to the Night of 100 Stars gala at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Lindsay Lohan joined her DJ girlfriend Samantha Ronson, who spun at the Mercedes-Benz after-party at the Montage Beverly Hills.

Best actor winner Sean Penn and nominee Taraji P. Henson, Marisa Tomei, Amy Adams and Anne Hathaway were just a few of the stars who made the Governors Ball at the Kodak Theatre their first post-Oscars stop.

Guests nibbled on lobster and shrimp and three-level dessert boxes topped with chocolate Oscars. Penn, his co-star Emile Hirsch and "Twilight" hottie Robert Pattinson were among those who enjoyed the outdoor smoking lounge, a recessed area topped with a dozen overturned parasols.

The Asian-themed affair featured bonsai trees inlaid in the tables and images of bamboo leaves projected on the walls. There was also a chocolate-and-champagne fountain to entertain guests on the back patio.

Blocks away from Fox Searchlight, Vanity Fair's revived Oscar party was all about A-list camaraderie.

The annual celebrity-stuffed bash, canceled last year before the end of the Hollywood writers' strike, roared back into style, with Oscar winners literally rubbing shoulders at the hilltop Sunset Tower Hotel, a new venue for the party after years at the restaurant Morton's. A tented area outside had a stunning view of Los Angeles.

At 11:30 p.m., Winslet swept in. Clutching her Oscar trophy for "The Reader" in one hand and a glass of champagne in the other, she grinned and hugged admirers left and right.

"Great Britannia," said Anthony Hopkins, bearhugging the actress.

"Oh my God!" yelled Winslet back to the Oscar-winning actor, later adding, "I was actually very calm ... I got so many text messages."

The party's exclusive, pared down guest list meant that only the cream of Hollywood showed up, from Jennifer Aniston smuggling next to her boyfriend John Mayer, to Halle Berry drinking champagne on a couch and shaking hands with Russell Simmons.

Best supporting actress winner Penelope Cruz happily munched on a brownie, later hugging Tilda

Swinton. Amy Adams laughed in a tight cluster with Uma Thurman, Jake Gyllenhaal and Reese Witherspoon.

Other guests included Robert De Niro, Tina Fey and Josh Brolin. Attendees feasted on more working-class offerings like bagel, egg and bacon sandwiches and In-N-Out burgers.

Nearby, Elton John's annual viewing dinner and after-party at the Pacific Design Center's tented courtyard was another glamorous affair, complete with a five-course menu, including risotto, black sea bass, pear compote and puffed chocolate tartlet.

Dressed in black, wearing strands of Chopard diamonds, John greeted tables of guests, including Simon Cowell and Sharon Stone. Chace Crawford was seated across the room from his amiable ex, Carrie Underwood, who glittered in a silvery dress.

"People are going through tremendous hardship," John told his guests before the night's big auction for his Elton John AIDS Foundation. "In this time of hardship, we are going to raise as much money as we possibly can."

That he did, with \$4 million, according to the party's publicist. A stay in Normandy, France, was auctioned off for \$80,000.

John later joined musical guest Raphael Saadiq onstage, garnering cheers for a version of John's "Benny and the Jets."

Across town, in Hollywood, Prince ended the night on his own rock 'n' roll musical note, taking the stage at his last-minute Oscar after-party at the Avalon club at 1:45 a.m.

Wearing black sunglasses, and waltzing onto the stage twirling a gleaming silver cane, Prince noodled on his guitar to whoops and hollers from the audience, which included nominee Henson.

"This is what we do at house parties. I'm the DJ tonight," he said.

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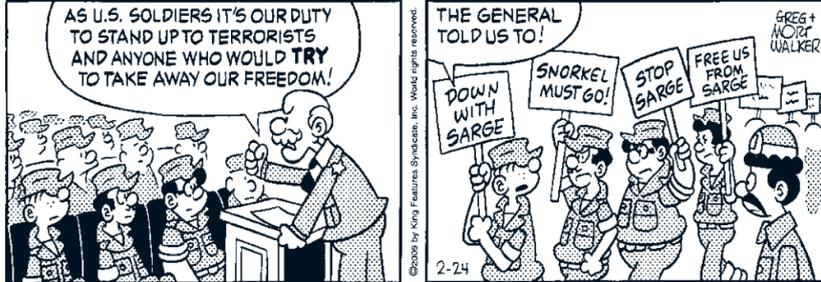
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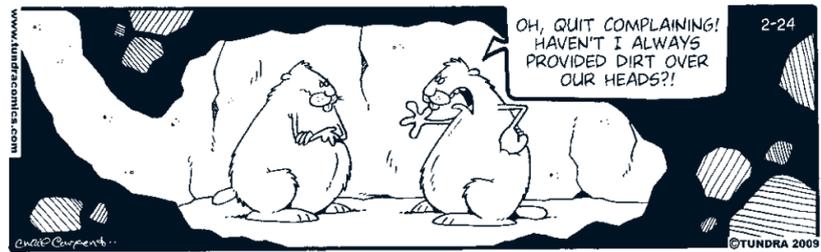
BLONDIE



BEETLE BAILEY



TUNDRA



DEAR ABBY

Reluctant mentor will miss chance to help troubled boy

DEAR ABBY: Your answer to "Solo in Florida" (Dec. 26) saddened me. The writer, a confirmed bachelor, wrote about not wanting to be a role model for a 14-year-boy, "Kyle," who became attached to him at church.

While I agree that the boy's parents have placed an unfair burden on this man, I'm sorry you didn't remind him how few people have the chance to positively impact the lives of others, particularly the lives of young children. Although "Solo" does not intend to have children of his own, he does have a chance to pass on something of equal value — his wisdom and life experience.

Please remind "Solo" a bachelor is still a member of a community, and it takes a village to raise a child. — HUMANIST IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

DEAR ABBY: My son fits "Kyle's" description. He is intelligent, articulate, has few friends and looks to adults in our community for conversation and friendship. I'm sure he has annoyed more than one person at church, school or in other activities.

My son has Asperger's syndrome, a high-functioning form of autism. As a rule, individuals with Asperger's are very literal and lack the ability to read vocal inflections, body language and gestures. They frequently misinterpret conversations and situations.

If a diagnosis proves my hunch, Kyle's family should look to someone who works with individuals with autism who can teach him the tools he needs to communicate with others — including "Solo" — without violating social boundaries. Everyone will be happier for the effort. — MOM OF ASPIES IN MINNESOTA

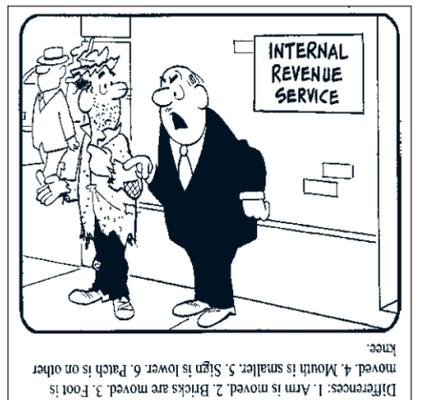
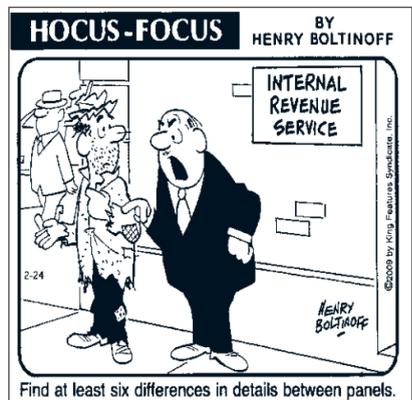


Jeane Phillips

DEAR HUMANIST: Your point is well stated, and many readers agreed with you. However, "Solo in Florida" said he loves his freedom, has no desire to be a mentor, and may not possess the temperament to be one. While it is clear that "Kyle" is lacking something in his life, it is not Solo's responsibility to provide it. And Kyle's parents should not be pressing him into service. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: It is possible that Kyle may be dealing with gay issues. Quite often, and especially in families involved in church, there are few if any role models for a teen who thinks he (or she) is gay. It may be that this man's kindness and the fact that he is unattached would make him the closest candidate for a role model. — CURTIS IN NORTH CAROLINA

HOCUS FOCUS



PEANUTS



ROSE IS ROSE



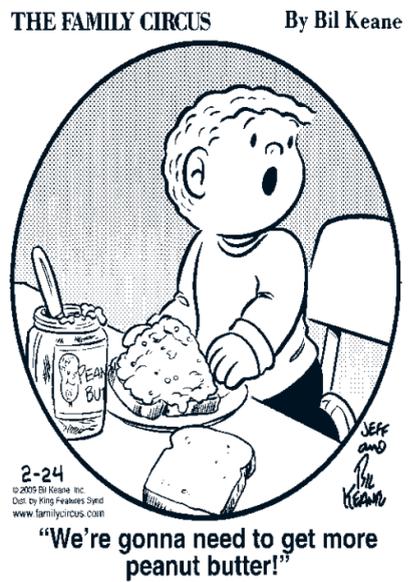
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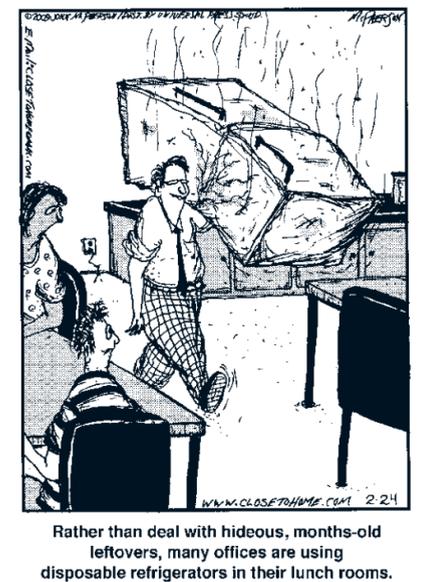
BABY BLUES



FAMILY CIRCUS



CLOSE TO HOME



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

103 Found
Found cat at NWHS. Call: 706-847-0126 or 706-847-0978

Found in Hickory Hills area. Yellow Lab mix. Young, female. Claim or rescue. Call: 706-706-270-0325

EMPLOYMENT

310 General

Business Coordinator Position Available
Position will entail hands on coordination of day-to-day business operations for local adhesive company. Areas of responsibility to include:
• Customer Service
• Accounts Payable
• Accounts Receivables
• Production Processing

Requirements include the following:
• Minimum 5 years experience
• Meticulous attention to detail/accuracy of high volume production and sales processing
• Ability to recognize issues and capitalize on opportunities for process improvement
• Willingness to lead and participate in fast paced, dynamic environment

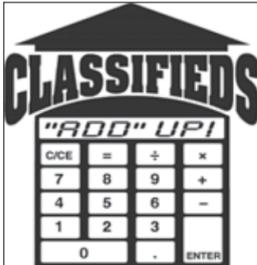
Ideal candidate must have extensive knowledge with Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Access, and standard business softwares.

Resumes accepted via mail to the following address:
Business Coordinator Position
4284 South Dixie Hwy
Resaca, GA 30735

Desk Clerk / Housekeeper needed. Experienced only. Apply at super 8 Motel. I-75 exit 336. No phones calls.

Diesel Truck Mechanic
We offer great opportunities, and immediate openings for a Class A Diesel Mechanic in Dalton, GA. We provide excellent pay and benefits to include Health, Dental, 401k and Life Ins! We require a minimum two years experience, your own tools, good driving and work history. CDL drivers license would be helpful. Apply in person at Salem Nationallease 3500 Lower Dug Gap Rd SW, Dalton, GA 30720 www.salemleasing.com

Wanted Experienced Graphics Punch Mender. Must be able to use a punch needle and mending gun. Self motivated in fast paced work environment. Pay based on experience. Send resume to:
Position
P.O. Box 1065,
Dalton, GA 30722



310 General

Washer Fueler
We offer great opportunities and immediate openings for a Washer Fueler in Dalton, GA. We provide excellent pay and benefits to include Health, Dental, 401k and Life Ins! CDL-A drivers license would be helpful.

Apply in person at Salem Nationallease 3500 Lower Dug Gap Rd SW, Dalton, GA 30720 www.salemleasing.com

311 Health Care

MEDICAL OFFICE MANAGER - Full Time. Family oriented Hospice organization is seeking a full time Medical Office Manager in Dalton. Must be a well organized team-player, proficient in Word and Excel. College degree required. May fax resume to 706-272-1036.

RN Positions Available.

*Clinical Competency Coordinator for 1st shift.
*Shift Supervisor for 2nd.
*Also Baylor PM's.
Please send resumes to:
Heritage Healthcare
1067 Battlefield Pkwy,
Ft. Oglethorpe GA 30742

322 Sales

Floor Covering Sales Retail-Wholesale. Experience is required. Excellent Commission Rate. Fax resume to American Carpet at 706-370-4172.

SERVICES

411 Elderly Care

Experienced, Compassionate sitter for your aging loved one. Call: 706-463-8358

YARD SALES

NEED TO RUN A YARD SALE AD? GIVE ME A CALL!

706-272-7703 (Jennifer)



AFTER YOUR SALE

•Remove ALL of the signs you posted. This will be easy if you made a list.
•If you have large unsold merchandise, place a classified ad in this newspaper to sell the remaining items. Ask us about our 1 item specials for a great deal on your ad cost!
•If you wish to donate unsold items to charity, remember that most donations are tax deductible. Ask for a receipt.
•NOW RELAX! You deserve it!

***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

Beautiful puppies! 4 months old. Male and Female. Free to good homes. Call: 706-(706)529-8040

Free kittens & cats to a good home. All colors. Call 706-279-1977

Free to a good home. Black and white, female, Hound/Lab mix. Up to date on shots. (706)581-7566

Free to good inside home only. Beautiful and loving female, spayed & vaccinated cat. 706-313-0310.

Free to good inside home only. Beautiful, loving, neutered & vaccinated cat. 706-313-0310 lve. msg.

Free to good inside home only. Beautiful, loving, neutered & vaccinated cat. 706-313-0310 lve. msg.

Loving home wanted for 6 month old female cat. Litter box trained, has been spayed and has shot. Call Karen 706-226-5229 - 423-400-7313

Siamese male cat free to a good home. Call 706-673-4519 or 706-264-1263.

ITEMS FOR SALE

608 Heavy Equipment



2002 John Deere 6420 Mfwd, 640 loader, Diesel Engine HP:90, \$5700 details and pictures at rob42d@gmail.com or (720)8914758

611 Misc. Items For Sale

5 floor length, formal dresses. Sizes 2 and 4. Some worn once. 706-217-7825

DO YOU WANT TO SELL YOUR GOLD or SILVER JEWELRY AND COINS PRIVATELY?

We Will Come To You.... Confidentially and discreetly or we can set up a meeting at our office.

Top dollar paid in cash. 706-277-0012

ITEMS FOR RENT

704 Land & Lots

1 + acre cul-de-sac lot for sale Bloomington Dr. off Rauchenburg Rd. \$25,000. 706-264-7634 or 706-694-9827

Lot for sale in Summer Brooke. Lot 12, past Praters Mill on Hwy 2. Call for details 706-217-8539.

704 Land & Lots

15 lovely acres of prime property nestled off Valley Way Road in Rocky Face, Georgia. Owner ready to sell "right now". For price, details, or additional information contact Remax Select Realty at 706-277-3434

EXCELLENT VIEWS



MURRAY COUNTY ON HWY 282. 2 MILES OUTSIDE GILMER COUNTY. LONG RANGE VIEWS. 75 ACRES acres (706-636-2023) \$9500 ACRES Contact: DAVID HAYES

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

FORECLOSURE: 2 BR Completely remodeled, CHA, Close in, \$54,900 OBO. 706-264-1932

FORECLOSURE: 3 BR 2 BA, DW on 3/4 acre. \$48,600 OBO. Carbondale area. 706-264-1932

LEASE PURCHASE. Foreclosure. 3 BR 1.5 BA, pool. Airport Rd. \$99,800 OBO. 706-264-1932

LEASE PURCHASE. Foreclosure. 2 or 3 BR on 2 acres. Varnell - Hwy 2. \$88,200 OBO. 706-264-1932

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.

1211 Nelson St, 2BR 1BA, \$69,900, \$1,000 as low as \$425 mon

126 Magaughey Chapel RD 2BR 1BA, \$79,900, \$1,000 down as low as \$550 month

722 Timberlake. \$89,900 3BR 1BA \$1,000 down. Pmyt as low as \$750.00 per mon.

Price Adjustment!! 4 BR 3.5BA, 5 acres. 4800 SF, \$449K, unf. or \$475K furn. Beaverdale Rd. Pictures - 706-264-1932

726 Commercial Buildings

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

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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

726 Commercial Buildings

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

728 Commercial Rental

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

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.

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. Chatsworth Area, Great Location. 706-483-9187

Warehouse for lease in Dalton 20,640 dq. ft. & 25,800 sq. ft. Call: 706-278-1566

Doctor's Offices for Rent

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

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751 Apartments

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

****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.

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

1 STORY, 1 bedroom, low utility bills. Water furnished, washer/dryer connection, utility room, attic storage. N. Tibbs Rd. (706)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 bd, 2 ba. A/C, cable, parking, \$155 wk. No Pets! Renovated. **706-263-0743** or 484-225-4212

2 bedroom 1 bath duplex. Appliances furnished, washer dryer hookups, on private lots. \$475 month \$200 dep. No pets. References req'd. 706-217-9338

2 BR 1 BA - 601 Wills, \$465 mth, \$230 dp. *503B Colter, 2BR 1.5BA \$445 mth, \$220 dp. 890 W. Addis \$125 wk, \$250 dep. 706-279-1380 wkld 9-5:30

2br/1ba. Quiet place. Patio, ceiling fan, c/h/a, W/D hook-up, water furn., \$400/ mo, \$150/ dep. No pets. 706-695-3288.

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

CONN 3 Dalton. 2 BR Duplex. Extra nice, and roomy. \$485 net mo, include water. \$375 deposit 706-259-6531 leave message.

Don't Down Size, Economize! **1, 2, & 3 Bedroom units** Some Amenities May Include: *Utilities Furnished *Washer & Dryer In Each Apt *Ceiling Fans *Playground & Soccer Field *Stove & Refrigerator *Dishwasher *Free Extended Cable TV *On Site Managers **Call For Our Move-In Special 706-278-3776**

For Rent 3 bdrm, 1 bth, basement duplex. Close to DHS and hospital. \$500./mth, \$300. dep, NO PETS. Call 706-226-0989.

MARCH ON IN! 1st MONTH FREE! **BEST APARTMENTS IN TOWN!** HUGE, LUXURY UNITS OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK! **706-279-1801**

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 wkdays 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**

Reasonable Rates! Move-in Special! 1 & 2 BR apts. available in Chatsworth, Spring Place & Eton. Call now 706-695-4880.

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

UNDERWOOD LODGE Furnished Efficiency with kitchenette. All Utilities & Cable!! Laundry Facility Available. Move In Specials \$70-\$90 for first week! 706-226-4651

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*2 and 3 bedroom homes for rent starting at \$495 month.

Call 706-463-2332 or 706-397-2087 hhf@vol.com

1 ac, 1.5 bath, 3-4 bdrm. Very close to town/I-75, rent/lease to own. Pets allowed. \$800/mo., \$600/dep. 706-673-4382

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

****3 Br. house Tile, laminate. \$625/mo. Also 2BR/1Ba Duplex, Washer/dryer hkps, c/h/a, kitchen appl's furn., 5min. from N.Bypass. \$450/mo, \$300/dep. 706-537-6584.

City West. 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath house. C/H/A, large rooms. \$525/month. Call 706-463-9500

Large 2 bd, 1 bath, ex. sun room. All appliances. No Smoking. No pets. \$450/mo. In country. Cohutta area. 706-694-3059

ATTENTION!

Winter Special- 1st wk. FREE - 1 yr. lease - Sweetwater Rd. 3 BR 2 BA, \$145wk, \$290dep. So. 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 wkdays 9-5:30

MOBILE HOMES

778 Mobile Homes For Rent

2 BR 1 BA 2012 -1 Abutment Rd. 122 Fields Rd. Rocky Face \$100 / wk, \$200 dep. 2 BR 2 BA - 2111 B Dixie Hwy. \$120 wk, \$240 dep. 706-279-1380 wkdays 9-5:30.

3 BR 2 B - 3181 Hauschenberg \$165 wk, \$330 dep. 529 Laster, 706-279-1380 wkdy 9-5:30

HUGE DISCOUNTS! 2 & 3 BD homes, many w/ hdwd floors. Country setting. Large lots & private pond. Carbondale area. \$100-\$135/wk. 706-383-8123

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

Westside Area: 1 and 2 bedroom mobile homes. 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.

806 Domestic Autos

1997 Ford Taurus with V-6, automatic, power windows and locks, power seas, cd player. This car looks and runs great. Asking \$1,900 or best offer. 706-218-8021

2006 Cadillac STS, 6 cycl, nav. sunroof, heated & cooled seats, fully loaded, white diamond. 29,000 miles. \$19,900. 706-277-3729

Asking \$2,200 for this 2002 Chevy Cavalier with automatic, power windows and locks. CD player. Also, has new tires. This car looks and runs like new. Call 706-218-8021

807 Import Autos

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

2006 Suzuki Foreza Station wagon. Automatic. Power windows, cassette/CD, new tires & brakes. 116k. Excellent transportation \$4,500. OBO 706-581-1837 anytime.

807 Import Autos

2001 Saturn SC1, black, 3 door sports coup. Manual transmission. 140K miles, Great running car. Fuel saver, great on gas, air blows cold, CD player, AM/FM radio. \$3,000 or make an offer. 706-581-9933

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.

Mercedes Benz 1999, Mint condition. Very clean. Model S320, black. \$7,500. 561-676-3335 or 706-370-4649.

Reduced. 2006 Honda Accord EXL. Like new. Gray. Full warranty. 36k miles. Loaded. Leather seats, XM radio, sunroof, 34mpg. Like new. Great Cond. Must sell! No tax! \$17,999. obo. 706-614-7719

Reduced. 2006 Honda Accord EXL. Like new. Gray. Full warranty. 36k miles. Loaded. Leather seats, XM radio, sunroof, 34mpg. Like new. Great Cond. Must sell! No tax! \$17,999. obo. 706-614-7719

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807 Import Autos

Well Maintained! Local Car! 2004 Mercedes CLK 320 Coupe with 80,000 miles. Black ext., Beige int., 2DR, Semi-Automatic, Rear WD, 6 Cylinder, Sunroof, 6 Disc Changer, Push Button Start/Stop, ASKING: \$21,000/obo. Call 706-463-1561

808 4-Wheel Drive

1989 Ford Bronco XLT. Red and white two tone. 4x4. Very clean. \$3,800. Call 706-260-6547

809 Trucks

1999 Dodge Ram 3500 flat bed. Diesel. \$7,500. Call: (706)673-4410

2002 Tundra V-8, 4x4, Tan leather interior, power everything. Loaded. Excellent condition. 64,000 miles. Never been off road. \$12,500. Call: 706-397-2288

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.

Like new. 2004 Explorer. V8 engine with 3rd row seat. Well maintained. Many extras. Only \$9,500. Call: 706-280-1431

2006 FORD Expedition - Eddie Bauer 2WD, leather, 3rd row power fold down, 6 disc CD changer, 22K miles, like new. Excellent condition. \$24,900. 706-422-8617 - 706-260-1029

2006 FORD Expedition - Eddie Bauer 2WD, leather, 3rd row power fold down, 6 disc CD changer, 22K miles, like new. Excellent condition. \$24,900. 706-422-8617 - 706-260-1029

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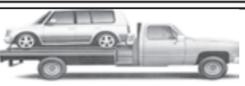


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