

Opening pitch

Braves start season — 1B

THE DAILY CITIZEN

Monday, April 6, 2009 • Dalton, Georgia • www.daltondailycitizen.com • 50 Cents

3 THINGS TO CHECK OUT ON THE INSIDE

Jeff Gordon snaps 48-race winless streak with a win at the Samsung 500.

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Widowed immigrants fight automatic deportation.

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Safe pregnancy is possible for those with diabetes.

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FROM TODAY'S FORUM

"The person who thinks Obama and Chavez are the same should go to Venezuela and live for awhile. Then we can talk."

"Dalton Utilities, do you not understand that rain ends a drought? Where is the report on where we stand in regards to real rainfall in the Dalton area?"

"Please don't edit my comments."

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Call 706-272-7748

WEATHER

Forecast: Cloudy
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MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Joyce Davis, general manager of The Rosewood Garden Center, places Indian Hawthorn on a cart to take them inside where they won't be affected by a possible freeze tonight and Tuesday night. Temperatures are expected to be just below freezing tonight, and in the mid 20s Tuesday night. Any plants which have begun to bloom should be covered or taken inside to protect them from frost.

Heed the cold

Cold front moving through north Ga.

BY MISTY WATSON
mistywatson@daltoncitizen.com

Birds are chirping, bees are starting to buzz and flowers are in bloom. Spring is here.

But it may not feel much like spring the next few days as a cold front moves through north Georgia, bringing unseasonably cool temperatures and the possibility of snow flurries.

Highs today are expected to be in the low 50s, but strong winds will make it feel even cooler outside, said Jessica

Fioux, a forecaster with the National Weather Service in Peachtree City.

There's a 40 percent chance of a winter mix Monday night and early Tuesday morning, Fioux said. Snow flurries are expected,

> See COLD, 2A



PALMS IN THEIR PALMS

MISTY WATSON/THE DAILY CITIZEN

Caitlyn Petty, right, tells Sally Grace Berbery, to wave her palm branch during a Palm Sunday worship service at the First United Methodist Church of Chatsworth. Palm Sunday, representing Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem just days before his death, marks the beginning of Holy Week in many Christian churches. Holy Week is celebrated the week before Easter.

US highway deaths at lowest levels since 1961

BY KEN THOMAS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — An economic downturn can have a bright side: U.S. highway deaths in 2008 fell to their lowest level since John F. Kennedy was president.

The recession and \$4 per gallon gas meant people drove less to save more. Experts also cited record high seat belt use, tighter enforcement of drunken driving laws and the work of advocacy groups that encourage safer driving habits.

Preliminary figures being released by the government today show that 37,313 people died in motor vehicle traffic crashes last year. That's 9.1 percent lower than the year before, when 41,059 died, and the fewest since 1961, when there were 36,285 deaths.

A different measure, also offering good news, was the fatality rate, the number of deaths per 100 million vehicle miles traveled. It

was 1.28 in 2008, the lowest on record. A year earlier it was 1.36.

"The silver lining in a bad economy is that people drive less, and so the number of deaths go down," said Adrian Lund, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. "Not only do they drive less but the kinds of driving they do tend to be less risky — there's less discretionary driving."

In the past, tough economic times have brought similar declines in roadway deaths. Fatalities fell more than 16 percent from 1973 to 1974 as the nation dealt with the oil crisis and inflation. Highway deaths dropped nearly 11 percent from 1981 to 1982 as President Ronald Reagan battled a recession.

The government said vehicle miles traveled in 2008 fell by about 3.6 percent, to 2.92 trillion miles, indicating many people adjusted their driving habits as gas prices fluctuated and the economy tumbled. The number of miles driven

by motorists had risen steadily over the past three decades.

The figures are preliminary; final numbers and state-by-state totals are expected later in the year.

Several states have pushed for tougher seat belt laws that allow law enforcement officers to stop motorists whose sole offense was failing to buckle up. In 27 states and the District of Columbia, there are such enforcement laws. The remaining states have laws that allow tickets for seat belt violations only if motorists are stopped for other offenses. New Hampshire has no seat belt law for adults.

Seat belt use in 2008 climbed to 83 percent, a record. Fourteen states and the nation's capital had rates of 90 percent or better. Michigan had the highest seat belt use rate with 97.2 percent, followed by Hawaii with 97 percent and Washington state at 96.5 percent. Massachusetts had the lowest rate, 66.8 percent.

Many safety groups said it was unclear if the fatality numbers will continue to drop once the economy improves. If the projections hold, 2008 would be the first year since 1992 when traffic fatalities dipped below 40,000. Even with the declines, more than 100 people die on U.S. roads everyday.

"We still have too many people who are dying in car crashes," said Jacqueline Gillan, vice president for Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety.

On the Net:

NHTSA: www.nhtsa.dot.gov
Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety: www.saferoads.org
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NORTH GEORGIA NEWSPAPER GROUP
SERVING NORTHWEST GEORGIA & SOUTHEAST TENNESSEE
Volume 47, Number 5

2A Monday, April 6, 2009

TODAY'S FORUM

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.

Editor: Today is a "jerk," "moron" and "idiot" free day in the forum.

"Congrats to the '98 Knockouts for winning the 2009 NSA April Shootout! You girls did great! Keep up the great work!"

Call of the day
"I am looking for a Christian dematologist. Does anyone know one in Dalton?"

"Getting food stamps and letting the government take you is the Democratic way of life. Increased welfare and increased time to draw unemployment is all you will get with Obama."

"Easter is the Babylonian goddess of fertility, hence eggs and rabbits. Why would anyone want to celebrate a fertility rite?"

Editor: Was Bugs Bunny a Babylonian?

"If Bill O'Reilly's talk show on Fox is No. 1, it only proves there are a lot of naive people out there."

"The person who thinks Obama and Chavez are the same should go to Venezuela and live for awhile. Then we can talk."

"I participated in Earth Hour. I turned every light in the house on. It was really special."

"Obama leaves the U.S. for a couple of days and stops all his talk about wasting our money and raising taxes and the stock market goes up. Now if we could find a way to keep him over there for a few months it may get back to where it was before the Democrats took over Congress a couple of years ago."

"Sheriff Chitwood would rather somebody get shot than to make them leave you alone. This is the sorriest law in the world. You can put this in there or take up for him."

"Murray County needs a new superintendent. We need a man. I'm a woman, but I don't think a woman can do the job."

"Mr. Editor, what team in the NFL might sign Michael Vick? Will he start playing right off or be a second stringer."

Editor: Who knows who might sign him? No one will pay him starter money so he'll probably get a chance to be a back-up and show what he can do.

"The answer to the question of what has happened to our country and what to do about it is all spelled out in Deuteronomy 28. It's bone chilling."

"It plainly says right there on the courtroom door, don't try to bring a knife into the courthouse. Can't you read?"

"Please don't edit my comments."

Editor: Then keep them brief.

"Why do the mayor and city council prefer illegals having jobs instead of Americans. They can stop it with a simple ordinance."

Editor: Yup. Then they can pass an ordinance banning poverty, illiteracy and most major diseases.

"Where can you buy some good sausage? White Oak Mountain Sausage was so good, but they went out of business."

"You will not print the truth. American sons and daughters defend this country, not illegals. You will not print this because you are so ... anti-American ... you don't even need to be a citizen of this country."

Editor: Thanks for reading.

"It's spring again. Time for the birds, the bees, the flowers and the new alibis for the Braves."

"We need two marriage certificates, one stating marriage without the possibility of procreation and the other stating marriage without the possibility of procreation."

"Back in the day, Lamar's off of East Morris had the best breakfast ever."

"Dalton Utilities, do you not understand that rain ends a drought? Where is the report on where we stand in regards to real rainfall in the Dalton area?"

"Mr. Editor, you might want to go back and rethink what you are saying. Christianity is based on the following of Christ, but other religions believe in the same God."

"The reason you hear so much about coaching at North Murray High School is that's why the school is being built."

"It's great that the bus stops close to the house of the child being picked up. I wouldn't want my child having to walk two or three blocks in the cold or rain."

"Mr. Editor, it does not matter how we define marriage. It goes back to how God defines it."

Editor: That may or may not be correct morally, but legally you are wrong. How man defines marriage, in legal terms, is obviously important. Otherwise, we wouldn't be having this conversation."

"Instead of my employers giving a raise, I'd rather her give another week's paid vacation. It would be cheaper on her also."

"Obama had the time to say Americans were arrogant while he was in France, but he didn't have the time to visit the graves of our brave service men who rescued France and Europe in World War II."

"Don't Jews and Christians worship the God of Abraham?"

"Thanks to all the folks who came to Michael's Fine Arts gallery for Ed Albright's opening."

LOTTERY WINNING NUMBERS — FOR APRIL 5
Georgia: Evening Cash 3: 3-0-6, Cash 4: 0-1-2-4, Fantasy 5: 39-7-32-35-2

Tennessee: Evening Cash 3: 5-1-6, Lucky Sum 12; Cash 4: 9-2-8-2, Lucky Sum: 21

Cold: Frosty weather coming

> Continued from page 1A

but only higher elevations may see accumulation, she said.

The low Monday night is expected to be near 30 degrees. Tuesday's high is expected to be in the upper 40s, and Tuesday's low is expected to be in the mid 20s.

Spring and early summer plants that have begun to bloom may be damaged or killed the next few nights unless precautions are taken to protect them, said Joyce Davis, general manager of The Rosewood Garden Center.

Plants in hanging bas-

kets or pots should be brought indoors, Davis said. Flowers, shrubs and flowering trees can be protected by covering them, she said.

"Use paper or sheets," Davis said. "We never suggest covering something in plastic... It will burn the foliage. I've found, in the past, fitted sheets are easier. Put rocks on the corners to hold it to the ground."

Paper bags or plastic buckets will also work in protecting plants from a possible frost, she said.

A frost "won't kill most plants, but not covering them will forfeit the blooms this year," Davis

said. "Any vegetables (that do not grow underground, such as potatoes) will have to be replanted if they are not covered."

People should remember not to plant spring or summer flowers or vegetables that grow above ground until after April 15 to avoid a frost, Davis said.

By Wednesday, the highs are expected to return to the lower 60s with lows in the lower 40s. Thursday's high is expected to be in the low 70s. The average temperature for the first of April is 68 and the average low is 48.

TODAY'S CITIZEN

NAME: Nathan Moore
AGE: 10
HOME: Dalton
FAMILY: Mom, Laura; dad, Brian; brother, Alex; dog, Cooper
SCHOOL: Brookwood
PLAY: Football
HE SAID: "Go with the flow."



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AP PHOTO

Awaiting the rocket launch in North Korea, Chinese peer into North Korea with binoculars from the Yalu River Broken Bridge in Dandong, northeastern China's Liaoning province, Saturday.

North Korean rocket fizzles, US says, Obama urges action

By JOHN HEILPRIN AND PAUL ALEXANDER
Associated Press Writers

UNITED NATIONS — The U.S. and its allies sought punishment Sunday for North Korea's defiant launch of a rocket that apparently fizzled into the Pacific, holding an emergency U.N. meeting in response to the "provocative act" that some believe was a long-range missile test.

President Barack Obama, faced with his first global security crisis, called for an international response and condemned North Korea for threatening the peace and stability of nations "near and far." Minutes after liftoff, Japan requested the emergency Security Council session in New York.

U.S. and South Korean officials claim the entire rocket, including whatever payload it carried, ended up in the ocean but many world leaders fear the launch indicates the capacity to fire a long-range missile. Pyongyang claims it launched an experimental communications satellite into orbit Sunday and that it's transmitting data and patriotic songs.

"North Korea broke the rules, once again, by testing a

rocket that could be used for long-range missiles," Obama said in Prague. "It creates instability in their region, around the world. This provocation underscores the need for action, not just this afternoon in the U.N. Security Council, but in our determination to prevent the spread of these weapons."

Council members above all sought a unified response and did not expect to reach agreement on a new resolution, possibly with tighter or added sanctions, until later in the week, diplomats privy to the closed talks said.

Using a possible loophole in U.N. sanctions imposed after the 2006 nuclear test that barred the North from ballistic missile activity, the Pyongyang government claimed it was exercising its right to peaceful space development.

The U.S. said nuclear-armed North Korea clearly violated the resolution, but objections from Russia and China — the North's closest ally — will almost certainly water down any strong response. Both have Security Council veto power.

"Obviously today's action by North Korea constitutes a clear violation," said Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to

the United Nations. "My government has called this a provocative act, and we have been in consultation today with our allies in the region and other partners on the Security Council ... to work toward agreement on a strong collective action."

Yukio Takasu, Japan's ambassador to the U.N., called the launch "a clear crime" violating U.N. Security Council demands that posed a grave threat to his nation's security. North Korea had warned that debris might fall off Japan's northern coast when the rocket's first stage fell away, so Tokyo positioned batteries of interceptor missiles on its coast and radar-equipped ships to monitor the launch. Nary a shot was necessary.

Obama warned the launch would further isolate the reclusive nation. But U.S. officials also called for pragmatism, especially with efforts to get North Korea back to the negotiating table for the six-party talks.

Analysts say sanctions imposed after the North's underground nuclear test in 2006 appear to have had little effect because implementation was left up to individual countries, some of which showed no will to impose them.

School: Adding new costs

> Continued from 1A

Funding

Questions about how to fund the school — which is lumped with several other construction projects — have yet to be answered.

Voters by a 3-1 margin in September 2006 approved an education special purpose local option sales tax (ESPLOST) that authorized board members to issue bonds up to \$96.1 million for specified projects. The ESPLOST was supposed to collect a maximum of \$78.2 million. The school system is on a pace now to collect \$65 million.

"The citizens of Whitfield County will make a decision to fund the bonded indebtedness through a renewal of the ESPLOST or through a special levy on property taxes," said chief financial officer Kenny Sheppard. "An ESPLOST renewal would allow for nonresidents to assist in our investment in education and ease the property tax burden of the citizens of Whitfield County."

Vice chairman Tim Trew said board members are doing what taxpayers asked them to do and will decide how to pay back the remaining debt when the time comes.

"The board is following the directive of the citizens of Whitfield County, and we trust their decision-making skills," Trew said.

Brochu said sales tax collections in February totaled \$1.36 million, the largest collection since the school system began the ESPLOST program in 1997. Collections for the second time the five-year, 1 percent sales tax was passed averaged \$1.03 million per month compared to an average of \$1.07 million for the past 25 months, officials said.

The total cost of the school is expected to be about \$62 million. Bids go out in June.

Court battles

Debate continues over

whether the school should be built at all. A citizens group is suing the Whitfield school system in Superior Court, saying a planned \$3.1 million sewer extension with Dalton Utilities isn't an authorized use of taxpayers' education dollars.

Stan Hawkins, the school system's attorney, said development of the site hinges on being able to provide a septic or sewer system. Brochu has said partnering with Dalton Utilities is the least expensive option.

Peter Olson, the Concerned Citizens attorney, said the group is gathering documents. A second case, filed against the state Department of Education, argues officials there shouldn't have approved Whitfield's plans for the new school since 18 acres of the roughly 100-acre tract lie in a 100-year flood plain. Project manager Keith Burran of M.B. Kahn Construction said no buildings are in the flood plain and only a small portion of one of the ball fields is inside it.

"Everything seems to be going as planned," Burran said. "There's literally nothing that's going to be in any potential flood plain."

Community concerns

Several retired Whitfield educators say they were promised the Career Academy would be turned into a comprehensive high school should the need for a third high school arise.

Tunnel Hill resident LaVergne Damron, a retired Whitfield principal, said he remembers former administrators using that point to sell the community on building the Career Academy.

"It's not whether or not they need a third high school," Damron said. "It's not following through with what was promised."

School board chairman Jerry Nealey, who has served on the board 17 years, said there was no such promise.

"I'm not saying there hasn't been comments in the community," he said. "If (promises) took place, they took place outside the school board."

Rocky Face resident Bill Hargis, a retired school administrator, said the current rate of growth in enrollment doesn't warrant building a third high school. High school enrollment continues to increase, but overall enrollment fell by a percentage point last year, marking the first drop since at least 1995.

The Dalton area is also faced with a roughly 12 percent unemployment rate.

"Under those circumstances, I don't feel like the timing is right," Hargis said. "I'm all for the schools having the best of facilities ...

but I'm also for paying our bills."

Backing off

School officials say they have no plans to back off building the school. However, if the school isn't built, the 3,900 high school students expected by 2011 would be far more crowded, Beavers said. Southeast and Northwest Whitfield would both have more than 1,600 students, officials project. Beavers said the Career Academy is maxed out at 600 full-time students, and the specialized nature of the Career Academy has helped raise the graduation rate.

"We believe that smaller, safer, more community-based schools are beneficial to the kids," Trew said.

Nealey said his son graduated from Northwest Whitfield in 1995, and the school was overcrowded then. He said concerns that the new high school is being built to keep Northwest Whitfield from becoming a 5A school are only partly true.

"If we can maintain the size and play (sports) locally, yes, it's definitely better," he said. "It is a factor, but it is a very small factor ... You get too large, and you just can't do the job."



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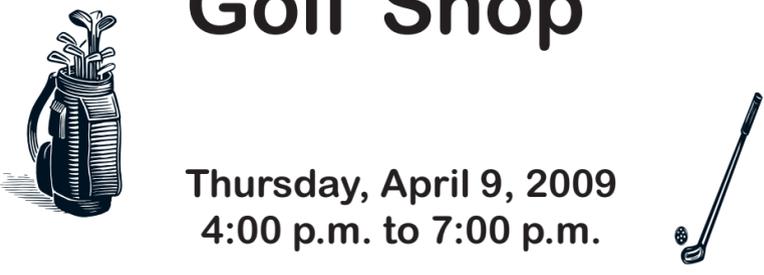
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IEWS

Fines increasing for Ga. speeders

Amid all the posturing, dealmaking and plain political silliness that will have come out of the Georgia General Assembly by the time this session in mercifully over, there is at least one item of legislation that deserves unqualified applause.

At the urging of Gov. Sonny Perdue, who has been advocating such a measure for the last three years, the Senate last Wednesday gave overwhelming passage to a bill that would tack stiff new fines on hyper-speeders — those exceptionally heavy-footed drivers who terrorize the highways and, not infrequently, leave serious injury and death in their wake.

In addition to the speeding fines already on the books, the bill passed last week would impose an additional \$200 for drivers who exceed 85 mph on four-lane roads or 75 on two-lanes. It will also mandate reinstatement fees of up to \$400 for such drivers who lose their licenses.

And here's the best part: The new law is expected to raise as much as \$23 million a year for trauma hospitals in a state whose trauma care system has been in crisis for years. It's a way to make those drivers whose habitual disregard for safety borders on the homicidal pay for the damage they, or their partners in crime, wreak on so many others. For first-time or occasional offenders, it could serve as a powerful deterrent; the tragic reality is that one serious accident is too often all it takes.

Highway accidents in Georgia claimed more than 1,600 lives in 2007, the latest year for which complete data are available; at least one-fourth of those fatalities involved excessive speed. The same legislative committee that studied the state's trauma care crisis two years ago also determined that nearly 75 percent of trauma injuries in Georgia are the result of — you guessed it — motor vehicle crashes. And the Georgia death rate from such injuries is far higher than the national average, largely because of the trauma care shortcomings and also because of Georgia's reputation as a "hammer state" — a place where speeding has traditionally not ranked high on the law enforcement priority list.

"Georgia is known as a state where you can make up lost time when traveling," said Sen. Bill Heath, R-Bremen. "We want to encourage them to slow down."

There's an undeniable logic in dedicating the money from such fines for trauma treatment, like tobacco taxes going for medical research and health care, or gasoline taxes for roads. Unfortunately, an attempt to earmark the speeding fines for trauma care was defeated as unconstitutional; lawmakers must instead appropriate the money for that purpose in each year's budget.

They should make a tradition of doing so, or find a constitutionally sound way to permanently safeguard this money for Georgia's stretched and strapped trauma system. Dangerous drivers and the consequences of dangerous driving should be linked in more ways than just grisly statistics.

— Columbus Ledger-Enquirer



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jimmyspy@daltoncitizen.com

WORDS OF WISDOM

Bible Text: "Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near."

Philippians 4:5

Thought for Today: "To be really cosmopolitan, a man must be at home even in his own country."

Thomas Wentworth Higginson
American clergyman-author (1823-1911)

Felonious advocacy

"I'm a little disoriented here," Justice Antonin Scalia said during last week's oral arguments in a case involving legal restrictions on movies that criticize politicians. "We are dealing with a constitutional provision, are we not, the one that I remember, which says Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of the press?"

Scalia's discombobulation was understandable, given that Deputy Solicitor General Malcolm Stewart had just claimed the First Amendment does not bar the government from telling interest groups what videos they may post online or what books they may publish. Such are the lengths to which Congress will be driven if it persists in its vain crusade to prevent "the appearance of corruption" by policing political speech.

The immediate issue before the Supreme Court is a 90-minute documentary, "Hillary: The Movie," produced by the conservative group Citizens United, which wanted to make it available last year through video-on-demand cable channels. The cost of doing so, in addition to \$1.2 million for cable system access, was a penalty of up to five years in prison.

According to the Federal Election Commission (FEC), the documentary qualified as an illegal "electioneering communication" under the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002. That law prohibits corporations, including nonprofits like Citizens United, from sponsoring "any broadcast, cable or satellite communication" that mentions a candidate for federal office within 30 days of a primary or 60 days of a general election.



Jacob Sullum

In a 2007 case brought by Wisconsin Right to Life, the Supreme Court narrowed the definition of "electioneering communication" to cover only "express advocacy or its functional equivalent" — i.e., a message "susceptible of no reasonable interpretation other than as an appeal to vote for or against a specific candidate." The FEC decided Citizens United's documentary was so critical of Hillary Clinton, at the time a senator running for the Democratic presidential nomination, that it could not reasonably be seen as anything other than an attempt to prevent her election.

The implication is that a more evenhanded documentary, one that had some nice things to say about Clinton, would have been legal. Show a movie that tells a politician's story in a neutral way (as judged by the FEC's censors), and you're OK. Show a movie that makes the politician look bad, and you can go to prison. What was that constitutional provision Scalia mentioned?

Members of Congress evidently had at least a vague memory of it when they passed BCRA, because the law includes an exemption for "a communication appearing in a news story, commentary or editorial distributed through the facilities of any broadcasting station." This provision perpetuates the dangerously misguided notion that certain citizens —

in this case, those who work for a TV or radio station — have a special claim to freedom of speech.

But the First Amendment belongs to all of us; there is no constitutional basis for distinguishing between a documentary produced by Citizens United and a documentary produced by CBS News. As the Reporters Committee for Freedom of Speech notes in a friend-of-the-court brief, "suppressing a documentary that is objectively indistinguishable from other news media commentary" creates "uncertainty about where the line between traditional news commentary and felonious advocacy lies."

Deputy Solicitor General Stewart declined to say the First Amendment requires Congress to draw such a line. He said, "the difficult constitutional question" of whether the government may regulate the content of journalism produced by media companies such as Random House, the News Corporation or the New York Times Company "has never had to be addressed."

Stewart was less shy about defending the constitutionality of extending the ban on "electioneering communications" to print and the Internet, logical steps if Congress is serious about suppressing messages aimed at changing people's votes. Indeed, given the convergence between the Internet and other methods of transmitting words and pictures into people's homes, BCRA's focus on "broadcast, cable or satellite communication" will soon seem as quaint as the First Amendment.

■ **Jacob Sullum is senior editor at Reason magazine.**



Living on less can be a good thing

"Will you tell me how to prevent luxury from becoming effeminacy, intoxication, extravagance, vice and folly?"

John Adams to Thomas Jefferson in 1819

As bad as things are, we Americans have it better than we ever have. Capitalism, not government, has given us the amazing technology and conveniences never before known to man. And if you think today is good, just wait until tomorrow. Some bright capitalist is working around the clock (and around the tax code) to bring to the masses something even better in the future.

Short of the Obama administration killing the entrepreneurial spirit in America or spending us into bankruptcy, our lives will only continue to get better. Apathy and insolvency are the "change" I think the Democrats and their comrades in the mainstream media are trying to give us. I feel like taking a sock full of nickels and beating Congress over the head while screaming, "Here is some 'change' you can believe in!"

We have the safest, richest, healthiest, most just nation in the history of the world, and they want to change it? I just hope they don't mess it up. We are becoming a nation of spoiled brats who expect from others the comforts we should work to provide for ourselves.

A comedian tells the story of being informed during a recent flight that the airline now offers wireless Internet connection. The guy next to him opens his laptop and signs on. Upon take-off, the flight attendant announces that there will be a short, five-minute disruption in Internet service. The passenger becomes irate and hisses, "This is BS!" with a roll of his eyes. How quickly he felt enti-

led to something he only knew existed one minute ago!

These people get so upset when a flight is late you would think they were made to walk. Never mind that they flew from LA to New York in about 4 hours, at 600 miles per hour, in a reclining chair, for \$325 — all the while having flight attendants ensure that the comforts of home are available 30,000 feet in the air.

Our Founding Fathers lived in a three mile-per-hour world. When they went from Virginia to Philadelphia to draft that brilliant document on which this country is founded, it took them weeks. People died en route. Indians attacked. Thank God they did not have today's short attention span, or we would not have inherited the Constitution or this great Republic. Just how spoiled are we when we get all out of sorts if our cell phone does not pick up for five minutes on the road?

I like the idea of going back to a simpler time. Recessions might be God's way of putting life in perspective for us.

Perhaps addicted to adulation, the Obama's have been on about every TV show recently, and I think he is to be making lasagna on The Rachael Ray show next week. If he ever feels down, he can now seize any corporation he wants as a nice pick me up.

Michelle Obama announces she is going to plant a vegetable garden where the Rose Garden used to be. Do they know something about the future that we don't?

Cut me a big slice of this farming operation. With government efficiency, crop subsidies and the union labor that Obama will insist on, I suspect the average cost of a tomato will be \$45. I just hope when they dig up the Rose Garden they do not find Dick Cheney's water-board collection — or a missing chubby intern from the Clinton years.

In reality, I find that simpler living is less stressful and more abundant. The many "must have" material items Madison Avenue pressures us to buy come with their own set of problems. Often, the fewer decisions we are forced to make and the less complex we make our lives, the better we are able to enjoy them.

Ostentatious and superfluous displays of "keeping up with the Joneses" are no longer cool — unless, of course, you are the Messiah, Jones-ing for the high life, and still throws parties in the White House with \$100 per pound Kobe beef from Japan. In fairness to Obama, he makes up for the Kobe beef cost when he turns water into wine and feeds the White House guests with one loaf of bread.

We brought this recession upon ourselves by spending borrowed money, relying on the government and confusing need with want. We have been given notice that we need to reevaluate our priorities. Friends, family and the more basic and true pleasures of life become more dear to us in hard times.

Ron Hart is a Southern libertarian who writes a weekly column about politics and culture. His e-mail address is RevRon10@aol.com.

Fighting automatic deportation

Widowed immigrants trying trying not to get kicked out

BY **MARIA SANMINIATELLI**
Associated Press Writer

SPRING VALLEY, N.Y. — Two weeks after Agnieszka Bernstein's husband died of a heart attack at 32, she dragged herself to her scheduled interview with an immigration officer armed with photographs, documents and bills to help prove her marriage had been legal and entered into as a genuine union.

At the end of the interview, the officer said he would consult his supervisor about her case. Later, she received a letter denying her petition for residency in the United States. It was dated the same day as the interview.

The denial was automatic because immigration authorities' interpret a legal provision known as the "widow penalty" as requiring that immigrants be deported if their American spouses die before their green card applications are approved, and before they are married two years.

The provision has been further complicated by a law aimed in part at making it more difficult for foreigners to gain residency in the U.S. by entering into sham marriages. The law allows only rare, narrow exceptions. In Aggie Bernstein's case, it meant she had to be deported even if her marriage was genuine.

By one lawyer's count, about 200 immigrants — mostly women, but a few men too, from all corners of the world, of all ages and economic backgrounds — are threatened with deportation under this law. Despite efforts to change it in courts and the U.S. Congress, immigration authorities persist in applying the penalty.

The law is under legal

attack all over the country, including a class action lawsuit filed in Los Angeles and individual litigation in Georgia, New Jersey, New York, Massachusetts, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio and Texas.

At the same time, two Democratic lawmakers have introduced bills in Congress that would allow the widow's petition for residency to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, even when the spouse dies before two years of marriage. Separately, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano has ordered a review of the law.

Critics argue it is unfair because it doesn't give widows a chance to prove their marriage was not a sham, and because it is dependent on the system's efficiency: Those whose applications are approved by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services before their spouses die can remain in the U.S. even though they were married for less than two years.

Fate conspired against widow Irina Gorovets every step of the way.

Gorovets met her husband when she visited the U.S. from Moscow in 1998. Then in her mid-50s with two marriages behind her, she was planning a long visit and signed up for an English language course.

A friend told her about Emil Gorovets, widowed and lonely, and suggested they meet. Emil had emigrated from Russia in 1972 and become a U.S. citizen. His songs, mainly in Yiddish and Russian, made him famous in the Soviet Union and over the years he was dubbed the "Russian Caruso," "Russian Frank Sinatra" and "the last troubadour of Yiddish poetry."

At first, Irina Gorovets



AP PHOTO

Irina Zayko Gorovets, a Russian immigrant and widow of U.S. citizen Emil Gorovets, poses with a picture of her late husband during an interview, March 19, in New York. Emil Gorovets, a singer and composer died in 2001, a year after they were married but not long enough to guarantee her American citizenship.

was not a fan of his music. But she added, speaking through an interpreter: "It was impossible not to fall in love with someone like him."

They decided to marry the next year, but Emil's oldest son died of cancer at 46, and they postponed. Instead, they married in February 2000. Two months later, he became sick for the first time. At the hospital he was diagnosed with diabetes and kidney failure.

On Aug. 17, 2001, she brought him back from having dialysis at the hospital. He asked for some watermelon and sat on the sofa.

"He had a bite and his head dropped down, and that was it," she said.

Her interview with

Immigration Services took place in October. She told the officer her husband had died and he told her to go home.

When the decision eventually came, the wording was brutal: The letter listed the date of the death of her husband Emil and noted that, "as such, your marital relationship with Mr. Gorovets has seized (sic) to exist as of that date."

Lawyers for the nonprofit New York Legal Assistance Group filed a lawsuit on Irina's behalf in November, and said removal proceedings against her client are on hold, said one of the lawyers, Caryn C. Lederer.

So far, lower courts' rulings have been mixed, and when courts have ruled in

favor of the widows, the U.S. government has appealed every time.

"We recognize that the law causes hardships for a few widows or widowers. However, we have to follow the law passed by Congress and we cannot change the statutory requirement on our own," said Chris Rhatigan, spokeswoman for the U.S. Citizen and Immigration Services.

At the root of the problem is a 1970 court ruling that stated that a husband's death stripped the wife of her position as spouse, meaning she no longer qualified for a green card. Rhatigan referred to a 1990 law that narrowed that ruling's scope, saying a widow married to a U.S. citizen for at least two years can file a petition for a residency permit on her own behalf.

The immigration service's view is challenged by Brent Renison, a lawyer in Portland, Ore., who has created a support network and is taking the lead in the widows' class action suit.

Meanwhile, in Congress, Rep. Jim McGovern of Massachusetts and Sen. Bill Nelson of Florida introduced parallel bills on Thursday that would do away with the automatic residency denial, said a spokesman for McGovern's office.

Friends and acquaintances suggested to Aggie Bernstein that she marry again, just to get legal papers allowing her to remain in the U.S., but she rejected the idea. "Believe me, I've had propositions too, but I don't want to do that."

Nor does she want to leave the place where she made her home with her husband.

"This country became my home," she said. "This is where Bryan and I planned to live."

On the Net:
www.ssad.org

GEORGIA BRIEFS

Major flooding hits south Georgia

VALDOSTA — More than a dozen homes are underwater in and around Valdosta and several neighborhoods are evacuated as major flooding hits south Georgia after heavy rain this week.

Valdosta officials are building sand bag and gravel barriers around the city's wastewater treatment plant to keep out rising water.

Swollen rivers and creeks have cut off several roads including U.S. Highway 84 between Valdosta and Quitman.

Pilot killed in Valdosta crash

VALDOSTA — Officials are investigating after a pilot of an experimental airplane was killed in a crash while trying to make an emergency landing.

Lowndes County Sheriff Chris Prine said it appeared the pilot was coming from the north and was attempting to turn toward the runway at Valdosta Regional Airport when he clipped trees and went down Saturday night.

2 Cuthbert police officers shot

CUTHBERT — Authorities from multiple agencies have joined the search for a suspect who shot two officers with the Cuthbert Police Department.

Investigators say Willie Tells Jr. shot officers James Mock and Sammy Coleman late Saturday night. They sustained head injuries but are in good condition.

The officers were attempting to make a traffic stop when Tells got out of the car and opened fire on them.

A Cuthbert police dispatcher said the suspect was still at large Sunday afternoon.

—Associated Press

LOCAL BRIEFS

Road closed today

Motorists traveling River Road coming off Lower Kings Bridge Road will need to find an alternate route this morning, Whitfield County officials say. Starting at 8 a.m. public works crews will replace the cross drainage tile, which means they will have to dig up the road.

The project will affect River Road, addresses 2301-2340. The stretch of road will be passable for vehicles by Monday afternoon, but the entire project may take between two to three days. Crews will be dealing with fiber optic and water lines. Brown Road or Riverdale Road may be used as alternate routes.

Saddle Club meeting

The Murray County Saddle Club will hold its annual meeting tonight at 7 in the clubhouse. The public is invited.

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WINNING ESSAY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Jason Mobley, a senior management major from Rocky Face, received first place in Reinhardt College's McCamish School of Business Ethics Essay Contest. The contest was open to all full-time undergraduate students. Mobley received a \$500 cash prize. His essay was on "The Relationship Between Religion and Ethics in Today's World."

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Long campaign trail begins in Georgia

SHANNON McCaffrey
Associated Press Writer

ATLANTA — The 2010 general election is 19 months away, an eternity in politics. But as this year's legislative session draws to a close, the jockeying has already begun among the state's power brokers.

Contests up and down the ballot will be up for grabs from one of Georgia's U.S. Senate seats to all 236 state legislative positions. But the governor's race is clearly shaping up as the main attraction. Six candidates have already jumped into the fray and several more — including former Gov. Roy Barnes — are considering bids.

The lure of an open seat when Gov. Sonny Perdue's second term expires sets up the possibility of contentious primaries among both Democrats and Republicans. It could make for a grueling and costly marathon.

"This is a race that is absolutely destined to be nasty," said Kerwin Swint, a political science professor at Kennesaw State University who wrote a book on negative campaigns.

"It's going to be crowded. It's going to be dirty. It's going to break fundraising records. It'll be a real donnybrook," Swint said.

On the Republican side, Lt. Gov. Casey Cagle, Secretary of State Karen Handel, state Insurance Commissioner John Oxendine and state Rep. Austin Scott, of Tifton, are running. Cobb County Commission Chairman Sam Olens is also considering entering the race.

Among Democrats, Attorney General Thurbert Baker and David Poythress, former commander of the Georgia National Guard, have thrown their hats in. Barnes, who served one term as governor from 1998 to 2002, and House Minority Leader DuBose Porter are also mulling whether to run.

The first critical test will be the dash for cash. Many state office holders in Georgia are barred from fundraising during the 40-day legislative session. But the floodgates will

open once the final gavel sounds.

The candidates' ability to fill their campaign coffers will provide the first real glimpse of who has the support to go all the way. The next campaign filings are due June 30.

The GOP field has courted conservatives.

Handel has aggressively pushed a bill requiring citizenship checks for those registering to vote. Cagle cast himself as a foe of wasteful spending pushing for the sale of a little-used, state-owned aircraft. Oxendine has emerged as a champion of the consumer and a fiscal conservative calling on state leaders to take pay cuts. Scott, the only GOP candidate who doesn't already hold statewide office, sought to grab the spotlight by blocking a Senate resolution honoring Democratic President Barack Obama.

Poythress has been taking part in a steady stream of community events around the state hoping to boost his name recognition. Baker, the state's top black elected official, has worked mostly in the background. Although, he did decline earlier this year to file a brief before the U.S. Supreme Court opposing continued Voting Rights Act oversight in Georgia. The Voting Rights Act is considered a crown jewel of the civil rights movement and Baker's opposition could create problems with blacks, who make up more than half of Democratic primary voters.

Of course, the governor's race won't be the only big political contest on the ballot. U.S. Sen. Johnny Isakson is seeking a second term in 2010. But the Atlanta Republican has yet to draw a Democratic challenger. The decisions by Cagle, Handel and Baker to run for the governor's seat has each set off furious maneuvering to replace them.

On the Net:

Democratic Party of Georgia: democratic-partyofgeorgia.org
Georgia Republican Party: www.gagop.org

Free food Pizzeria owner gives back to community

By GORDON JACKSON
The Florida Times-Union

KINGSLAND, Ga. (AP) — Al Daniels assumed anyone could afford a pizza until the day he opened his first restaurant two years ago in Brunswick.

He was walking in the parking lot of his Domino's pizzeria when he overheard a boy ask his mother to buy a pizza for dinner. The woman told her son she couldn't afford it.

Daniels, who had just retired from the Navy after serving 20 years, said he realized then not everyone was as fortunate and was compelled to make a boy and his mother happy with a free dinner.

"I said, 'Yes you can afford it, at least today,'" he said. "She was very surprised."

The woman was so grateful, Daniels vowed to feed a family every day at his restaurant.

Daniels now owns four Domino's — in Kingsland, St. Marys, Brunswick and Waynesboro. Each restaurant feeds a family at no charge every day. He provides a large pizza with all the toppings, a bread item and a 2-liter bottle of soda.

If the family is larger than four, he provides as many pizzas as necessary to feed them.

"They get what they want," he said. "It's dinner. If you're going to do it, do it right."

He estimates it costs \$10 to \$15 a day at each restaurant, but said he doesn't write off the expense on his taxes.

"I want people to know we care about the communities where we have stores," he said. "We're not just entrepreneurs, we're community leaders."

At an upcoming national convention for Domino's franchise owners, Daniels said he'll recommend that other stores take up the practice.

If he is out of town, one



AP PHOTO

Melissa Braun, left, and her son Milton pick up a three pizzas and other items from Domino's Pizza in Brunswick, Ga., as the owner, Al Daniels looks on. Daniels, owner of four Domino's in Southeast Georgia, feeds a family every day at each of his restaurants.

of his store managers gives away a meal, said Ardell Lamfers, manager of the Kingsland store.

"I think it's a very good idea," Lamfers said. "Half the people don't believe it. I like to do it because it's fun and it gives me a chance to get out of the store a little bit."

Daniels' generosity doesn't end with giving away more than 1,450 meals a year. He said he also donates 100 percent of his Navy pension to cancer research.

"I do that because my father passed away from cancer," he said. "I promised I'd do something for him."

Daniels said he selects his dinner recipients with no criteria in mind. He simply waits at a high pedestrian area such as a shopping center until God moves him to offer dinner to an unsuspecting person.

"People look at me and think, 'What's wrong with this guy,'" he said.

He said people often don't believe he is doing it out of generosity. The bottom line, Daniels said, is that he has been blessed and he must give something back.

He approached Melissa Braun on Thursday in the parking lot of a supermarket in Kingsland. He told her he owns the Domino's about a half-mile away and offered to buy her family dinner.

Braun, who was planning to cook meatloaf for dinner, was wary but agreed to stop at his restaurant after she finished her grocery shopping.

"I was cynical," Braun said. "It's not every day a stranger offers to buy your family dinner."

When Braun arrived at the pizzeria, Daniels asked her son, Milton, if he'd like to make his own pizza.

Milton, a third-grader at St. Marys Elementary School, eagerly accepted.

After donning an apron and Domino's cap, he learned how to flatten a ball of dough, toss it in the air, spread sauce and sprinkle the cheese before putting the uncooked pizza in the oven.

"He's in heaven now," his mother said as Milton was making his own pizza. "It's better than Christmas."

Braun and her son left the store 15 minutes later with three pizzas, "cheesy bread", a 2-liter bottle of soda and a lot of memories.

"I'm feeling so guilty here," Braun said. "This is very nice."

Milton said he was eager to eat the pizza he made minutes earlier.

"It was a fun experience," he said.

Daniels said the reaction he gets every day makes it worthwhile.

"I am driven by the spirit," he said "It's all God's work and God's will."

AREA ARRESTS

■ Mario Anthony Austin, 40, 111 S. Bogle St., Dalton, was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with terroristic threats and acts.

■ Edward Harold Bogner, 44, 3204 Highway 36 W., Cynthiana, Ky., was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with driving without a license, bringing contraband across a guard line, drugs out of original container, possession of less than an ounce of marijuana and a seat belt violation.

■ Anthony Todd Bowman, 42, 517 Hendricks Lane, Cynthiana, Ky., was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

■ Kevin Bradley Bowman, 39, 517 Hendricks Lane, Cynthiana, Ky., was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

■ Terrell Patrick Cockburn, 17, 1196 Piney Ridge Road, Dalton, was charged Saturday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with DUI and failure to obey a traffic control device.

■ William Jesse Thomas Linville, 37, 8834 Highway 392, Cynthiana, Ky., was charged Saturday by the Dalton Police Department with possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

■ Anthony Ling Do, 21, 860 20th St., Knoxville, Tenn., was charged Sunday by the Whitfield County Sheriff's Office with DUI and failure to maintain lane.

■ John David Gaddy, 27, 6432 Cobble Lane, Harrison, Tenn., was charged Sunday by the Tunnel Hill Police Department with failure to maintain lane, open con-

tainer of alcohol, driving without a license and DUI (third offense).

■ Tyra Mandalyn Jones, 24, 7009 Greenway Drive, Chattanooga, Tenn., was charged Sunday by the Tunnel Hill Police Department with failure to maintain lane and DUI.

■ Cecil Ricky Roe, 54, 906 Highway 225 N., Chatsworth, was charged Sunday by the Dalton Police Department with DUI and failure to maintain lane.

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- Leave the area immediately and call Dalton Utilities (706-278-1313) or 911

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To Your Good Health

Pregnancy possible in diabetes

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: This past week, our 29-year-old daughter was diagnosed with type 1 diabetes. Our family is devastated. We thought this was a juvenile illness. What is the long-term prognosis for this disease? Should pregnancy be avoided? She was hoping to start her family this year or next. — B.N.



Paul G. Donohue

artery disease, nerve disturbance and eye problems — but good control of blood sugar can usually keep these complications to a minimum. Most people with type 1 diabetes lead the kind of lives they wish to lead, and most can be as active as they desire. Nowadays, people with diabetes check their blood sugar routinely and frequently adjust their insulin dose accordingly. New varieties of insulin make it easier to keep blood sugar within norms.

Your daughter can have children unless her doctor has told her otherwise. It's very important for a poten-

tial diabetic mother to maintain near-normal blood sugars at the time of conception and throughout pregnancy to prevent any disturbances in the growth and development of the embryo and fetus. These goals are usually achievable.

The diabetes booklet gives an overview of this common condition and its treatment. Readers can obtain a copy by writing: Dr. Donohue — No. 402, Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. Enclose a check or money order (no cash) for \$4.75 U.S./\$6 Can. with the recipient's printed name and address. Please allow four weeks for delivery.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I will come right to the point. My grandson, who is 11 years old, has just started on growth hormone medicine. A couple of days ago, this article appeared in our paper. I have enclosed it in

the letter. As you can well imagine, it caused great concern in our family, even though what happened occurred a long time ago. Since our grandson has taken this medication, he has had stomachaches and also has a sort of faraway look. Are these expected reactions to the medicine? Is the brain disease mentioned in the article something to worry about? — E.L.

ANSWER: The article you sent dealt with issues that occurred before 1985, when human growth hormone was obtained from the pituitary glands of dead humans. It centered on a recent trial in France over complications arising from this treatment. Similar complications happened in the United States. Between 1963 and 1985, 7,700 American children were treated with human growth hormone obtained from the pituitary

glands of deceased people. Twenty-six of those children died from a rare brain infection called Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Growth hormone is now synthetically made in laboratories, and this complication is no longer a threat.

I don't believe that either of your grandson's current problems can be traced to growth hormone. The doctor taking care of the boy is well versed in detecting any side effects traceable to the hormone.

I can honestly tell you that I would not hesitate to offer growth hormone treatment to any child who needed it.

DEAR DR. DONOHUE: I wrote to you asking about the efficacy of Vicks VapoRub as a relief from the discomfort of peripheral neuropathy. You have not replied. Hope to hear from you soon. — R.K.

ASK THE DOCTOR

Dr. Donohue regrets that he is unable to answer individual letters, but he will incorporate them in his column whenever possible. Readers may write him or request an order form of available health newsletters at P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

ANSWER: Vicks VapoRub is a good product, and my mother used it on my sister, brother and me all the time. However, it is used for so many conditions not listed on its label that it has taken on the air of a panacea for many people.

I find it hard to believe it can be effective for peripheral neuropathy, a nerve disturbance that can cause pain, interfere with muscle action or do both. It won't hurt you, so you can try it if you wish. Let me know the results.

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SURPRISE RECEPTION ON DOCTORS DAY



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Friends, family members and associates gathered at Hamilton Medical Center on Doctors Day to honor Dr. Aslam Sandvi in a surprise reception planned by the staff at Westcott Center. Sandvi is the medical director at Westcott Center and has served at Hamilton Medical Center for more than 33 years. The behavioral health program at Hamilton was recently recognized by Press Ganey with the Summit Award for outstanding patient satisfaction.

Motorcycle wreck victim airlifted

FROM STAFF REPORTS

Sunday evening.

One person was airlifted to Erlanger Medical Center in Chattanooga Sunday afternoon following a motorcycle wreck on Fort Mountain in east Murray County, a 911 operator said.

The motorcycle was the only vehicle involved, she said. It happened just after 3 p.m. west of Fort Mountain State Park on Highway 52 near the "pull offs," she said.

The motorcycle driver's name and condition, and details of the wreck, were not immediately available

Sunday's wreck was the third motorcycle wreck of the weekend in Murray County.

A motorcycle driver was taken to Hamilton Medical Center following a wreck on Highway 411 North Saturday afternoon, an operator with the Georgia State Patrol said. Another motorcycle driver was injured, but not transported for medical care, following a wreck on Saturday on Highway 225 near Ridge View Lane, the operator said. Reports were not available on those wrecks Sunday evening.

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The gym will be holding tryouts on Saturday, May 2nd. There will be an information session held at the LaQuinta Inn & Suites meeting room on College Drive in Dalton on Monday, April 20th at 6:30 pm. This information session will address the cost of the program, travel obligations, practice dates and times, etc.

If you need additional information please call the gym at (706) 529-2944.
For immediate response or specific questions call (706) 537-9775

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OBITUARIES

- Hoyt Bearden, Dalton
- Robert "Bobby" Dickie Jr., Dalton
- Wahlice Rosie Lacey, Dalton
- Clint Alvin "Budgy" Nix, Chatsworth
- Bert E. Richardson Jr., Dalton

Obituary notices are posted online at www.daltondailycitizen.com

Hoyt Bearden

Mr. Hoyt Bearden, 81, of Dalton, passed away, Saturday April 4, 2009 at his residence.

He was the son of the late Wiley and Maebell Kilgore Bearden and was preceded in death by his wife, Bobbie Jean Hubert Bearden.

Hoyt was a veteran of the United States Navy having served during World War II and the Korean War.

He is survived by his daughter, Selena Ogles of Dalton; grandson, Anthony and Amanda Ogles; great-granddaughter, Kristen Riley Ogles of Dalton; his beloved pet, Sissy Gwinn; special friend, Kathryn Montgomery

of Dalton; nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. today in the Chapel of Love Funeral Home with the Rev. Erwin Crider officiating. Burial will follow in West Hill Cemetery.

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

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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Robert "Bobby" Dickie Jr.

Mr. Robert "Bobby" Dickie Jr., 61, of Dalton, died Sunday, April 5, 2009 at his residence.

Arrangements are incomplete and will be made with integrity by Shawn Chapman Funeral Home and

Crematory, Chatsworth. www.legacy.com

Wahlice Rosie Lacey

Wahlice Rosie Lacey, age 79, of Dalton, passed away Sunday, April 5, 2009, at Hamilton Medical Center.

Survivors and arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by Julian Peoples Funeral Home, Pleasant Grove Chapel, Dalton. www.legacy.com

Clint Alvin "Budgy" Nix

Mr. Clint Alvin "Budgy" Nix, age 71, of Chatsworth, Ga., departed this life Saturday afternoon, April 4, 2009 at the Chatsworth Health Care Center. He was born April 8, 1937 in Whitfield County, Ga., a son of the late Clint Walker Nix and Cora Lee Brown Nix Cole. He was also preceded

in death by a son, Randall Staten, brothers, James Nix, Charles Nix and sisters, Barbara Baggett and Mary Kokali. He was a former employee at Dalton Trailer where he worked as a roll up door repairman.

He is survived by his wife of 38 years, Juanita Headrick Nix of Chatsworth, Ga.; sons and daughter-in-law, Clint Alvin and Ruby Nix of Old Fort, Tenn., and David Staten of Dalton, Ga.; daughters and sons-in-law, Nancy and James Morgan, Linda and James McCullough all of Chatsworth, Ga.; brother, Clarence Stephens; sister, Linda and Tony Blevins all of Villanow, Ga.; 14 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Services to celebrate the life of Mr. Clint Alvin "Budgy" Nix will be Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 2 p.m. at the Melrose Chapel of Ponders Funeral Home with the Revs. Donald Young and David Nix officiating. He will be laid to rest at the West Hill Cemetery with David Nix, Clarence Stephens, David Staten, Ryan, James, Jason and Jeff McCullough serving as pallbearers.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home from 6 until 9 p.m. today.

Thoughts and memories may be shared with the Nix family at www.pondersfuneralhome.com.

Arrangements by locally

owned and operated Ponders Funeral Home, 138 Melrose Drive, Dalton. (706) 226-4002.

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Bert E. Richardson Jr.

Bert E. Richardson Jr., age 80 of Dalton, passed away Saturday, April 4, 2009, at his residence.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Bert Sr. and Johnnie

Hair Richardson; daughter, Renee Zacher; granddaughter, Christy Newberry; brother, John H. Richardson and sister, Mary Parker.

Survivors include his wife, Dot Richardson of the residence; two daughters and sons-in-law, Susan and Lane Newberry and Myra and Gary Brock, all of Dalton; sisters and brothers-in-law, Jean Hogs-head of Dalton, Frances Silvey of Ringgold, Carol and Lee Hammond of Cleveland, Tenn., and Pat

and James Toland of Rocky Face; brothers and sisters-in-law, Jack and Jean Richardson of Trion, Harold and Yvonne Richardson of Dalton; special grandchildren, Brian Newberry and fiancé Jennifer Grant, Ashley Newberry, Zac and Courtney Brock, Aly Brock, Kenneth Zacher, Amanda Zacher; great-grandchild, Skyler Grant.

The funeral sis Monday at 2 p.m. at the Pleasant Grove Chapel of Julian Peoples Funeral Home with Rev. Jack Richardson officiating. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery.

The family will receive friends at the funeral home today from 5 till 8 p.m. Flowers will be accepted or donations may be made to the Pine Grove Cemetery Fund, 4004 Airport Road, Dalton, GA 30721.

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

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

Not shooting from the hip

There's a less-debilitating option to hip-replacement surgery

By SAM McMANIS
Sacramento Bee

When his right hip finally failed in 2006, when the grinding pain became so unbearable that he could no longer run or play golf, when he had to hoist his leg into the car using his arms, when the uber-active life he had known had ceased, Keith Gault resigned himself to the inevitable.

Hip-replacement surgery loomed.

At the ripe young age of 49.

So the Cool, Calif., resident, who works as a firefighter for the city of Sacramento, logged on to the Internet and started doing research. And he recoiled at what he found.

"With a total hip (replacement), they tell you, 'Don't turn your foot inward or raise your knee above 90 degrees,'" Gault says. "I'm thinking, 'Man, I'm going to be dislocating this thing every week with my lifestyle. I mean, if you're in your 60s or 70s and do knitting and nothing more, then a total hip is fine.'"

Knit one, purl two? Not this dude.

Gault ran marathons and triathlons, even completed several ultramarathons, was an avid hiker and mountain climber, and harbored a deep and abiding passion for golf. Plus, he was a firefighter — not exactly a cushy desk job.

"I'm thinking, 'There's got to be something better,'" Gault recalls.

He eventually learned of a less-debilitating procedure, hip resurfacing, that preserves more of the femur (thighbone) and involves capping the tip and lining the socket with metal. That, proponents claimed, gave people more mobility so they could maintain their game on the tennis or golf course and hit the roads for cycling.

Problem was, hip resurfacing had yet to gain FDA approval in the United States when Gault first learned of it. He said he was just about to purchase a plane ticket to

India to have the procedure done out of pocket when, in May 2006, FDA approval came.

So in January 2007, Dr. Raphael Klug of Kaiser Permanente Medical Center, in Roseville, Calif., performed the surgery. Three months later, Gault was again hiking, golfing and, of course, working.

"I feel good enough to go out and run a marathon," he says, "but it's not worth it. Not after what I've gone through. I believe that's how I got the hip there in the first place. Maybe I just wore the thing out."

Gault, now 52, was the perfect candidate for the less-severe hip operation, Klug says. In a way, he typifies the aging baby-boomer population, which plays hard and isn't willing to give in to degenerative injuries.

The thought of a "full hip" — removing the top of the thighbone and replacing it with a prosthesis — is anathema to many boomers, Klug says.

"I see a lot of guys in their 40s who were either athletes or who've done construction work, and they've got worn-out joints and still have to work and function," Klug says. "I didn't feel really good cutting off their femoral neck in a total hip (surgery). But that was the only option they had for a long time."

No longer. According to the American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons, 39 percent of hip-replacement surgeries in 2006 were performed on patients ages 45 to 64. It's too soon to compile statistics on hip resurfacing, but, anecdotally, many of those younger patients are choosing reshaping over replacement.

"There's a little self-selection going on there for the active person," says Dr. Ron James, orthopedic surgeon for Mercy Medical Group in Sacramento. "With resurfacing, people are seeing it as liberation rather than limitation."

Make no mistake, James adds: Hip replacement

remains the "gold standard" of care.

"The most reliable result is a total hip; it's a known quantity, especially in your 60s and 70s," he says.

Long-term studies on hip resurfacing have yet to be done. The procedure, after all, has only been done for 13 years, starting in Europe.

But, preliminarily, hip resurfacing has some distinct advantages and disadvantages.

Advantages: Because more of a patient's femur is preserved, a second surgery years later for a total replacement is made easier. Also, there's the greater stability in the joint, coupled with the possibility of greater range of motion.

Disadvantages: In resurfacing, there's a greater risk for fracturing the femur when the stem of the cap is implanted in the bone. Preliminary studies in Sweden and Australia have shown that there's a higher failure rate for resurfacing for women than men, most likely because of bone weakening from early onset of osteoporosis.

"If there's any weakness, you can be at increased risk of fracture," James says. "We're concerned about women, because they need smaller-size replacements. And it's that smaller size that is turning up to have slightly more problems than larger sizes (caps)."

Also, because resurfacing involves metal-on-metal artificial joints, Klug says "metal ions are shed in greater concentrations in blood and urine, so people with kidney disease or women of child-bearing age are not candidates."

Research has shown that standard hip-replacement parts (made of metal and plastic) last up to 20 years — longer in a laboratory setting. As for resurfacing parts, Klug says, "The 13-year survivorship has been as good or better than a total hip. We can extrapolate that it should do at least as well as a total hip. But we don't know for sure."



SHNS PHOTO

Keith Gault, 52, swings away at the Haggin Oaks Golf Course driving range in Sacramento, Calif. Gault is an avid golfer and the torque from the golf swing was really affected by his hip pain. After a "resurfacing" operation two years ago, he's now feeling no pain.

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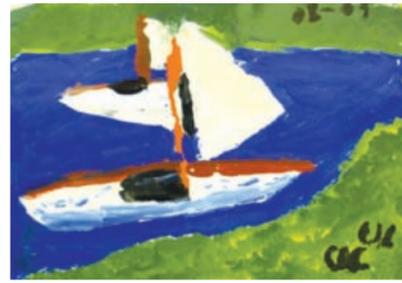
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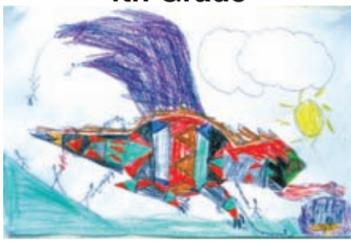
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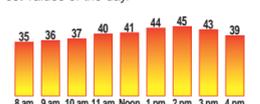
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| Atlanta | 53/30 | Macon | 62/34 |
| Albany | 62/34 | Dublin | 63/31 |
| Columbus | 59/34 | Cordele | 62/32 |
| Valdosta | 66/35 | Brunswick | 68/39 |
| Savannah | 67/34 | | |

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

| City | Today | Tue. | Wed. | City | Today | Tue. | Wed. |
|--------------|----------|----------|---------|-----------|----------|----------|---------|
| | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W |
| Albany | 62/34/pc | 57/28/s | 67/45/s | La Grange | 51/29/c | 48/24/pc | 63/38/s |
| Atlanta | 53/30/c | 46/29/pc | 60/44/s | Macon | 62/34/pc | 54/28/pc | 65/40/s |
| Athens | 58/34/pc | 51/28/pc | 65/41/s | Marietta | 52/30/c | 50/28/pc | 62/40/s |
| Augusta | 67/32/pc | 55/25/pc | 66/36/s | Newton | 64/33/pc | 57/29/s | 68/44/s |
| Brunswick | 68/39/t | 59/34/s | 63/46/s | Rome | 52/29/c | 50/27/pc | 66/42/s |
| College Park | 53/30/c | 46/29/pc | 60/44/s | Savannah | 67/34/t | 57/30/s | 67/42/s |
| Columbus | 59/34/pc | 53/29/pc | 66/46/s | Sparta | 58/30/pc | 53/27/pc | 66/42/s |
| Gainesville | 53/30/c | 48/31/pc | 59/41/s | Valdosta | 66/35/pc | 56/29/s | 67/42/s |

National Weather for April 6, 2009

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

| City | Today | Tue. | Wed. | City | Today | Tue. | Wed. | City | Today | Tue. | Wed. |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W | Hi/Lo/W |
| Albany | 50/39/r | 42/31/c | 43/31/r | Denver | 54/29/s | 65/34/s | 62/33/pc | Okla. City | 52/23/s | 64/45/s | 77/54/s |
| Anchorage | 39/28/sf | 42/29/s | 41/30/c | Detroit | 37/28/sn | 38/28/sf | 46/33/c | Orlando | 78/51/t | 65/42/s | 71/48/s |
| Baltimore | 66/36/r | 50/30/pc | 53/32/pc | Indianapolis | 37/26/sf | 39/29/s | 52/41/pc | Philadelphia | 64/42/r | 48/34/c | 50/36/pc |
| Billings | 54/36/s | 62/35/s | 55/36/c | Kansas City | 37/26/sf | 55/38/s | 64/46/pc | Phoenix | 87/57/s | 90/61/s | 78/55/pc |
| Boise | 70/41/s | 69/44/s | 65/40/c | Las Vegas | 80/52/s | 82/58/s | 69/52/pc | Pittsburgh | 49/29/sn | 37/28/sf | 45/34/c |
| Buffalo | 47/30/sn | 34/26/sf | 38/31/c | Los Angeles | 80/54/pc | 68/53/sh | 68/52/sh | Portland, OR | 70/43/pc | 64/43/pc | 57/44/c |
| Charlotte | 64/34/t | 51/28/pc | 59/39/pc | Memphis | 49/34/pc | 53/39/pc | 68/54/s | St. Louis | 35/27/sf | 48/35/pc | 64/50/pc |
| Cheyenne | 52/26/s | 62/29/s | 55/30/c | Miami | 88/62/pc | 75/54/pc | 70/60/s | S.L. City | 60/40/s | 66/45/s | 60/39/sh |
| Chicago | 37/29/sf | 40/31/sf | 49/35/pc | Milwaukee | 37/28/sf | 40/31/sf | 44/32/pc | San Fran. | 70/52/c | 64/50/r | 59/48/c |
| Cincinnati | 41/26/sn | 40/29/c | 48/38/pc | Minneapolis | 36/24/sf | 46/30/pc | 47/32/pc | San Diego | 70/55/pc | 67/56/c | 64/56/sh |
| Cleveland | 42/27/sn | 35/28/sf | 42/32/c | New Orleans | 62/38/pc | 62/42/s | 70/57/s | Seattle | 63/42/s | 61/41/s | 54/42/c |
| Dallas | 59/34/s | 66/53/s | 76/62/s | New York | 57/40/r | 46/37/c | 47/37/pc | Wash., DC | 64/38/r | 51/33/pc | 50/38/pc |

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PRO BASEBALL: OPENING DAY

Hey, look at me

Schafer homers in Braves win



AP PHOTO
Atlanta Braves center fielder Jordan Schafer rounds third base after his solo home run in the second inning against the Philadelphia Phillies on Sunday in Philadelphia. Schafer homered in his first major league at bat.

BY ROB MAADDI
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA — If Derek Lowe had been this dominant last October, the Philadelphia Phillies might not be World Series champions.

Lowe pitched eight superb innings, three Braves homered off Brett Myers, and Atlanta beat the defending



Lowe

champs 4-1 in the major league opener Sunday night. Lowe (1-0) allowed two hits, no walks, struck out four and the sinkerballer got 13 groundouts. Mike Gonzalez pitched out of trouble in the ninth to secure the win.

The Phillies had better luck against Lowe when he pitched for

Los Angeles in the NL championship series. They beat him in Game 1 of the NLCS and he had a no-decision in the Dodgers' loss in Game 4.

"Having just played them, it was easy to watch video to see what you did last time," Lowe said. "They're an extremely good hitting team. I was able to get ahead in the count. I just wanted to be consistent."

Brian McCann hit a two-run homer, Jeff Francoeur had a solo shot and Jordan Schafer went deep in his first career at-bat for the Braves.

Once Lowe came out, the Phillies rallied. Pinch-hitter Eric Bruntlett started the ninth with a double and scored on Jayson Werth's one-out RBI single. After Gonzalez walked Chase Utley to bring up the tying run, the hard-throwing lefty struck out Ryan Howard looking and Raul Ibanez swinging to end it.

"He was awesome," Braves manager Bobby Cox said of Lowe. "He really knows how to pitch."

Myers (0-1) filled in for Cole Hamels, whose first start was pushed back because of minor elbow problems.

Making his third straight opening-day start, Myers retired the first two batters before Chipper Jones lined a single to left. McCann followed with a shot that reached the second deck in right field.

Francoeur led off the second with a liner into the seats in left. One batter later, Schafer drove one out to center. The rookie center fielder became the fifth Atlanta player to homer in his debut and first since Francoeur did it in 2005.

"It was a great feeling," Schafer said. "As soon as I hit it, I thought, 'Oh Wow.'"

Myers settled in after that inning. He allowed four runs and eight hits, striking out six in six innings.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL: ROAD TO THE FINAL FOUR

Heels at a disadvantage at Ford

BY EDDIE PELLIS
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT — The bracket says North Carolina vs. Michigan State.

At times, though, the Tar Heels may feel like they're going up



AP PHOTO
The Tar Heels have gone 67-14 on the road in four years with Tyler Hansbrough (pictured).

against something more than just another basketball team.

From the coach on down, the Spartans (31-6) know a win in the NCAA title game on a court 90 miles from their campus won't fix the state's economic freefall, won't put anybody back to work. But there will be 72,000 people in Ford Field, site of the Final Four, come Monday night. Most will be rooting for Michigan State.

And winning, as they say, can be contagious.

"When you go through hard times, you pray for something to get you out," Spartans guard Travis Walton said. "I'm sure they didn't pray for Michigan State to get to the Final Four or the national championship game, but they probably have been praying to have things to take their mind off of it."

Michigan ranks 51st out of 50 states (and District of Columbia) in the latest unemployment figures. Detroit is the hub of an auto industry on life support, a civic symbol of an economic system that has come off the tracks.

That's the backdrop for a game

in which Michigan State finds itself a 7 1/2-point underdog against a Carolina team that has "national champs" practically inked across its uniforms.

Remember, this is the team that some thought could go undefeated this season when Tyler Hansbrough, Ty Lawson, Wayne Ellington and Danny Green all decided to return after a bad loss to Kansas at last year's Final Four.

Undefeated was never on coach Roy Williams' list of goals. Winning a championship, though? Always.

"If you thought it was easy, you don't know what you're talking about," Williams said. "It's college basketball. There hasn't been an undefeated team since '76, and there have been some really, really good teams. I think this year there were eight or 10 teams or 12, I haven't studied it, that could be playing Monday night."

But it will be North Carolina (33-4), the preseason No. 1 and top seed in the South Regional,

> Please see **MEN, 2B**



AP PHOTO
Connecticut's Renee Montgomery falls to the court as Stanford's Melanie Murphy, center, looks on Sunday in St. Louis.

UConn still perfect

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ST. LOUIS — One more game, and Connecticut has the perfect finish.

All those others who would stand in their way? They're not even close.

Renee Montgomery scored 26 points, Maya Moore added 24, and unbeaten UConn cruised to its first title game in five years with an 83-64 victory over Stanford on Sunday night.

The outcome never in doubt, Connecticut overwhelmed and dismantled Stanford, crushing the latest challenger to the Huskies' bid

for a third undefeated season and sixth national championship.

UConn (38-0) will face Louisville for the title Tuesday night, setting up the first all-Big East final in NCAA women's basketball history.

Jayne Appel scored 26 points to lead Stanford (33-5), but she had little help.

■ **Louisville 61, Oklahoma 59:** In St. Louis, Angel McCoughtry and Louisville played the second half as if they belonged

> Please see **WOMEN, 2B**

AUTO RACING: NASCAR SPRINT CUP - SAMSUNG 500

Gordon's winless streak ends

BY STEPHEN HAWKINS
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas — Jeff Gordon had gone so long without winning a race, that he picked up a new trick or two watching other drivers celebrate.

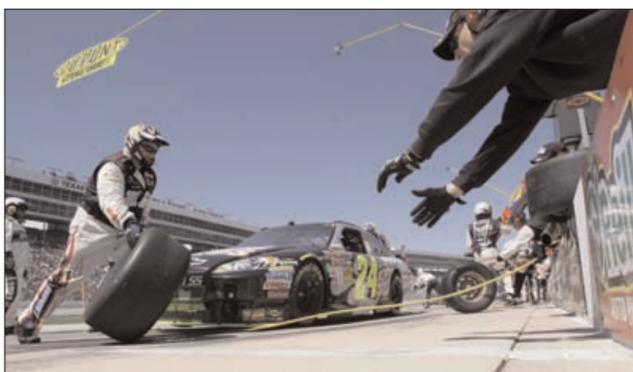
No, not a backflip a la Carl Edwards.

After the obligatory burnout on the frontstretch for his first victory ever at Texas, one that ended his career-high 47-race winless drought in the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series, Gordon pulled up to the start-finish line and got the checkered flag to take on a long-awaited victory lap.

"It was the coolest. It was like winning for the very first time," Gordon said. "Things have changed since I won a race ... That's the first time I've ever carried a checkered flag in NASCAR. I used to do that in quarter-midgets when I was 8."

Then, after doing another burnout on the backstretch, Gordon finally got to drive into Victory Lane at Texas, where winners get cowboy hats and fire six-shooters into the air.

"This is a huge relief, but also very exciting," Gordon said. "If



AP PHOTO
Jeff Gordon makes a pit stop during the Samsung 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on Sunday in Fort Worth, Texas. Gordon won the race, snapping his winless streak at 48.

we can win at Texas, I feel like we can win anywhere."

Gordon, already the season points leader with four top-five finishes in the first six races, beat Hendrick Motorsports teammate Jimmie Johnson to win for the first time on the 1 1/2-mile high-banked Texas track — leaving only one active track he hasn't won in his No. 24 Chevrolet.

Edwards, who was going for three in a row at Texas after last year getting to do his celebratory backflips twice by sweeping both races, finished 10th after passing Gordon to lead only nine laps late in the race.

It was the 17th Cup race at Texas, the track where the four-time Cup champion has the only two last-place finishes in his 552 career starts. One of the 43rd-

place finishes came last spring before he was the runner-up to Edwards in the fall race after winning the pole.

"How ironic is this that when we go into this streak and we end it here in Texas, a place that's just eluded us for so long," Gordon said. "Incredible team effort. This whole year has been amazing. What a great car. I've never had a car like this at Texas. We finally had one and put it in position."

The only track Gordon now hasn't won at is Homestead. He will have to wait until the season finale in November for a chance to change that.

Not only was it his first victory in the Lone Star state, it was the

> Please see **NASCAR, 2B**

COMMENTARY

Southeast's Crane not here to give 'lip service'

Southeast High has heard it all before from a number of different coaches, the whole spiel of staying for the long haul and making a commitment to the Raiders.

Yet, the program has burned through three coaches in four years in both boys basketball and

football programs for a number of different reasons, and, in an unfortunate turn of events, health problems have forced Lady Raiders basketball coach Jeff McDonald to step down following a 2008-09 season in which he and his



Adam Krohn

sophomore-laden squad finished the year with a 8-2 in their sub-region.

2008 was the first season at the helm for football coach David Crane, who came with his wife, Elizabeth, and two kids, daughter Bailey, 6, and son Matthew, 4, from Greenville, S.C., where both David and Elizabeth were coaches, either at the high school or college level. Elizabeth coached softball and basketball, while David

coached football.

Crane, like many coaches before him, said the football program needed someone committed to the long term because turning things around at the Dalton school would not be an overnight process. But because of Crane's extraordinary passion for coaching and his ability to articulate his vision for the program, he stood out to members of the Raiders community and provided a sense of hope.

Sure enough, in his first year with Southeast, he was able to talk junior Tanner McCutchen, who hadn't played football since middle school, into playing again. All McCutchen did this past season was wind up the Raiders' starting quarterback, leading all area players in passing yards, completions and touchdowns in Crane's high-octane, pass-happy offense. Crane also doubled the team's size from about 45 players in 2007 to 90 in 2008. Though the Raiders finished the season with a 1-9 record, Crane's presence provides hope for the future.

Then, two weeks ago, one of the school's Crane worked for as an assistant coach in South Carolina called with a head coaching offer. Because Crane believes

> Please see **STORY, 2B**

Men: NC, MSU seek 2nd title of 2000's

> Continued from page 1B

against Michigan State, a less-hyped and more overlooked No. 2 seed out of the Midwest.

Though Michigan State coach Tom Izzo won't sell his team short — "you don't get this far on grit," he said — he also knows the deal. This is a rematch of a game North Carolina won 98-63 on Dec. 3 in the same building. Anyone who turned the channel, or turned the page, on that one gets a pass. Izzo certainly has.

Michigan State was exhausted (fourth game in seven nights), injured (Goran Sutton was out and Delvon Roe was hurting) and not playing near its current level back then, though the coach figures if the Spartans had been in better shape, they still would have lost by 20.

"If we play good and they play good, we're losing. That's the way I look at it," Izzo said. "I mean, I don't look at that in the neg-

ative. They are the best team in the country and have earned that ranking probably over the last year and a half."

And, as both coaches acknowledge, the Spartans have a knack for taking opponents out of their 'A' game. See Michigan State's 82-73 win over Connecticut on Saturday.

"I mean, they're not exactly Charlie's Donut Team," Williams said.

Williams figures if North Carolina plays poorly in the rematch, it won't be because of the crowd.

This is a team that loves playing in hostile environments and succeeds at it, too.

The Tar Heels have gone 67-14 away from home in the four years since Hansbrough and the seniors arrived in 2005, the season after Carolina's last championship. Hansbrough has never lost to Duke at Cameron Indoor Stadium. He's 5-2 in other road games in the state of North

Carolina, 3-0 in Maui, 6-0 in Florida and, yes, 1-0 at Ford Field.

"I've tried to forget that whole week," Izzo said. "In fact, if you ask me, 2008 never happened. I'm trying to move ahead to 2009."

Led by Kalin Lucas, the Big Ten player of the year, Walton, the Big Ten defensive player of the year, and steadily improving Raymar Morgan (18 points, nine rebounds in the win over Connecticut on Saturday), the Spartans are trying to close out 2009 with a flourish.

The game comes 30 years after Magic Johnson led MSU to its first championship in that historic meeting against Indiana State and Larry Bird. Like North Carolina, Michigan State is also going for its second title of the 2000s.

Mateen Cleaves led the 2000 title team. Though Izzo has been back to the Final Four three times since — for a total of five in 11 years — the Spartans

haven't won another championship.

Getting this group a title is the real mission that concerns the coach.

"I mean, the state, this city, is very important to me," he said. "But the cause right now is for the Michigan State players to win a championship, and hopefully the repercussions from that will help a lot of people. It's a feel-good for a lot of people."

Williams, meanwhile, said he hasn't had time to discuss the country's economic situation since the Tar Heels beat Villanova 83-69 late Saturday night. It's simply not part of the scouting report.

"I do realize they have a cause. Well, we also have a cause, too," he said. "We want to win a national championship, period, the end. And if you would tell me that if Michigan State wins, it's gonna satisfy the nation's economy, then I'd say, 'Hell, let's stay poor for a little while longer.'"

NASCAR: Gordon's last win: Oct. '07

> Continued from page 1B

first time Gordon had won anywhere since October 2007 at Lowe's Motor Speedway in Charlotte.

During interviews in Victory Lane at Texas, Gordon had to sneak a peek at the logos on his car to remind himself of everybody he needed to thank. It had been a long time, especially by his standards.

Rick Hendrick wasn't there, so Gordon tried to talk to him by cell phone from Victory Lane. Also missing were his wife and daughter.

"I'm just thrilled. I can't wait to get home to Ingrid and Ella," Gordon said. "I know (Ella) was saying 'Go poppy go' all day long. I hate that they couldn't come."

Gordon won by 0.542 seconds with an average speed of 146.372 mph for his 82nd career victory, one behind Cale Yarborough for fifth on the all-time list. Bobby Allison and Darrell Waltrip are tied for third on that list with 84 victories.

Edwards was leading when the final caution came out because David Stremme got loose and spun coming out of the third turn with 30 laps to go in the 334-lap race.

But Edwards' crew had problems changing tires and



AP PHOTO

Jeff Gordon passes Reed Sorenson as they come out of turn four during the Samsung 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on Sunday.

he dropped 10 spots to 11th coming off pit row. Gordon had a flawless stop, moving from third to first.

"They don't yell at me when I hit the wall so it is not my position to be mad at them," Edwards said. "We just have to do whatever we can to fix it."

Gordon stayed in front the rest of the way though he was pushed by Johnson in the No. 48 car that had clinched two Sprint Cup season championships since Gordon last won a race.

"I ran Jeff's line, put pressure on him," Johnson said. "He didn't make any mistakes. I could only get so close."

What if Johnson had been able to pass Gordon, the teammate who owns his car? "As a friend, I would

have felt bad. As a competitor, I would have been excited," Johnson said. "If I'm not going to win it, I want one of my teammates and especially one of my friends. As a friend, I'm definitely happy for Jeff."

Johnson moved up two spots to second in season points, 162 behind Gordon before the series takes next weekend off for Easter.

Dale Earnhardt Jr. took only right-side tires and went from 12th to first on a restart with 76 laps to go.

But Earnhardt quickly lost that lead between turns one and two when Kyle Busch, trying to regain a lost lap, got loose and bumped him. Earnhardt got pushed to the top of the track, allowing Gordon to charge ahead, and wound up sliding

all the way to 20th.

Gordon was still holding the lead with 39 laps left when he got caught in traffic and Edwards slid under him into first. Tony Stewart got past Gordon a few laps later and that was the running order when Stremme spun out.

Greg Biffle finished third, followed by Stewart and Matt Kenseth. Edwards finished a spot ahead of pacesetter David Reutimann.

Reutimann, driving a No. 00 Toyota for Michael Waltrip, didn't even lead the first lap. Gordon did, passing him as they crossed the start-finish-line for the first time.

Gordon led six times for 105 laps in a race that featured 28 lead changes, nine more than any other Cup race this season and one short of the Texas record.

Gordon led the first seven laps, but gave up the lead because of some handling issues with his car. But he was never too far from the front, never out of the top 10.

Biffle, led three times for 93 laps and his Roush Fenway teammate Kenseth had three leads for 55 laps. With Edwards, Roush had three drivers in the top 10 following a three-race span where the team had only two top-10 finishes.

Krohn: New s'ball coach

> Continued from page 1B

"It doesn't help either party involved," he refused to give the name of the school, but added "It's a successful program in upstate South Carolina." Raiders athletic director Scott Ramsey confirmed he had discussions with Crane about an offer Crane received from another school.

All of a sudden, Crane was forced to put his money where his mouth was in terms of his commitment to the Raiders. After finishing his first season with just one win, he was still given a golden opportunity to return in his home state and take a job with a more successful program.

Crane faced a tough decision.

You can breathe a sigh of relief, Raider Nation. Crane chose to stay at Southeast without so much as visiting the South Carolina school, though the school urged Crane to visit before making a final decision.

"To be honest, Elizabeth and I feel like this is God's plan for us," Crane said. "We've been really blessed with the opportunity we have here, and we didn't feel good about walking away after only a year.

We've really tried to sell the kids in the program on the long term, and if you're going to talk like that, it can't just be lip service.

"At some point, someone has to put a stake in the ground and say, 'I believe in these kids and I'm in it for the long haul.'"

Crane said Ramsey handled the situation extremely well and was very open minded, though Ramsey surely wasn't excited about a potential coaching

turnover.

"Nothing you could print in the paper," said Ramsey when asked what was going through his mind when Crane made him aware of the situation.

"It would have been devastating if he had left. And that's not a strong enough word. We've heard 'I'm going to stay for the long haul' before, and we've believed it. But I think think him staying is a tremendous step in the right direction."

There's another plus to the Cranes sticking around. Ramsey said the recent layoffs at the school cost three football assistants their jobs. To help out with the football team, current softball coach Craig Brock is stepping down from his post to become receivers coach on Crane's staff. The coaching vacancy on the softball team will be filled by none other than Elizabeth Crane, who can resume her passion of coaching after working exclusively as a teacher for Southeast this school year.

"I jumped all over the opportunity," said Elizabeth Crane, who was an assistant on the 2001 state champion Seneca High softball team. "There's a good foundation here and I hope to build on it.

"One thing I can say is that David and I and our kids love it here. We want to be here for the community and we want to stay here long term."

Those words never sounded sweeter for a program yearning for stability.

Adam Krohn is a sports writer for The Daily Citizen. You can write him at adamkrohn@daltoncitizen.com.

Women: Louisville hangs on

> Continued from page 1B

in their first Final Four.

McCoughtry scored 14 of her 18 points in the second half and added 11 rebounds, helping Louisville crawl out of an early hole to beat Oklahoma 61-59 in the national semifinals Sunday night and end Courtney Paris' stellar career.

"We have not one high school All-American on this team, but these guys have worked so hard," McCoughtry said. "I'm so proud of them."

Oklahoma's Nyeshia Stevenson had a good look

on a 3-point attempt in the final seconds that rattled out.

Paris promised to pay back the cost of her four-year scholarship if the Sooners failed to win the title. She had 14 points and 16 rebounds, and left the court in tears after exchanging hugs with McCoughtry and huddling with her team for a final time.

Keshia Hines added 10 rebounds and nine points for the Cardinals (34-4), who'll face either unbeaten and top-ranked Connecticut or Stanford in Tuesday's final.

NASCAR NOTEBOOK

Bad pit stop keeps Edwards from 3-peat; NFL's Bush awe-struck

BY SCHUYLER DIXON

Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas

— Carl Edwards looked like he might deny Jeff Gordon his first Texas win while getting his third straight Sunday.

The final pit stop with 30 laps to go changed everything.

Edwards went to pit road with the lead just a few laps after he overtook the four-time Sprint Cup champion,



Edwards

who was struggling to keep his car under control. Moments later, Gordon's crew was celebrating wildly, while a problem with a tire change left Edwards angry.

The only three-time Sprint Cup winner at Texas Motor Speedway dropped an astonishing 10 spots because of the mistake and was relegated to spectator for Gordon's historic win.

As mad as he looked in the car after leaving the pits, Edwards chose the philosophical route after the race. "They don't yell at me when I hit the wall, so it's not my position to be mad at them," said Edwards, who settled for 10th. "We just have to do whatever we can to fix it."

Edwards spent most of the day in the bottom half of

the top 10 before surging to the front after a restart with about 80 laps to go. He looked a little faster than Gordon when the final caution came out, raising the stakes for the pit stop.

All the crews figured the winner of the pit stop would win the race, and Gordon proved it.

"You never know how the result would have changed had Carl not had his problems," Gordon said. "All I know is we had a great pit stop."

It was still a strong day for Edwards' team, Roush Racing. Greg Biffle took third and led the second-most laps (93). Matt Kenseth also ran strong all day and took fifth. Edwards gave Roush three drivers in the top 10 after the team had just two top 10s the previous three races.

BRIEFLY UP FRONT:

Dale Earnhardt Jr. was out front coming out of a caution about 75 laps from the end, but the lead disappeared in a hurry.

Trying to keep from going two laps down, Kyle Busch tried to make a move and slid up the track.

Earnhardt said he didn't hit Busch, but he had to swing wide, almost into the wall, to avoid contact.

Earnhardt dropped to the fifth quickly and later hit the wall. He finished 20th, same as his starting position.

"He had gotten his car a

little bit better and saw an opportunity to try to get his laps back," Earnhardt said of Busch. "Tough deal. He races really aggressively."

Earnhardt said he spun his tires on the restart, giving Busch hope for a pass. Trailing closely, Gordon saw it differently.

"I thought he had a good restart," Gordon said of Earnhardt. "It's just that (Busch) obviously came out of nowhere. He just shot up there. It was a big moment that I thought we were going to have a heck of a wreck."

SOLID STEWART: Tony Stewart finished fourth, one spot shy of his best with his new Stewart-Haas Racing team. But this might have been his most solid effort.

After starting seventh, Stewart ran in the top five all day and led four times for 16 laps.

"The car owner is happy, the driver is ticked off," Stewart said. "We weren't very good at taking off, but after about 25 laps, we were the fastest car on the race track all day."

MORE PITFALLS: Pole sitter David Reutimann knocked himself out of contention about halfway through the race by missing his pit box. The one-lap penalty knocked from the top five to the back half of the field.

Reutimann eventually got the lap back on a caution

and finished 11th, but he wasn't a factor again after leading 40 of the first 51 laps.

"A car was coming out of its pit stall and we kind of had to take evasive action there," Reutimann said. "We just spent the rest of the day trying to battle back, and we were able to do that."

GOIN' OLD SCHOOL:

Kyle Busch drove with a throwback Bobby Labonte paint scheme to pay homage to the Texan who used to drive the No. 18 car.

Busch, normally in the yellow M&M's car, drove a green Interstate Batteries car Sunday, just like the veteran Corpus Christi native used to do.

Part of the plan was to honor Labonte's induction this week into the Texas Motorsports Hall of Fame. An inscription on the trunk made reference to the induction.

Labonte, driving the white Ask.com No. 96, finished 40th after his car was damaged when he got caught behind a smoky spin by Sam Hornish Jr.

AWESTRUCK BUSH:

New Orleans Saints running back Reggie Bush experienced his first Sprint Cup race Sunday. The former Heisman Trophy winner was in awe.

He even forgot that he once played for a national championship in front of

about 100,000 people at the Rose Bowl, overestimating the announced crowd of 176,300.

"The amount of people that come out for this is three times any football game I've ever played in," he said.

Bush said he's intrigued enough that he might one day invest in racing, just as former Cowboys quarterback Troy



Bush

Aikman did.

"Maybe 10, 15, 20 years from now, who knows?" Bush said.

PIANO PRODIGY:

Lewis Warren Jr., a 12-year-old prodigy on the piano, played like a seasoned veteran with a stirring rendition of the national anthem.

The Dallas-area native was featured last year on NBC's "America's Got Talent" series and has studied at the prestigious Juilliard School in New York. His mother said he sets himself apart with his improvisation, and he showed it in front of his largest crowd yet.

Dressed in a flashy white suit, Warren was in position on a flatbed trailer at the start-finish line in plenty of time, which is significant

because of what happened 12 years ago with world-famous pianist Van Cliburn, a Fort Worth native.

Cliburn was lined up for the anthem at Texas Motor Speedway's first race, but officials didn't realize he wasn't there until three minutes before he was supposed to play. He was waiting for someone to fly him by helicopter over a disastrous traffic jam. Instead, Cliburn did the honors a year later.

ATTENDANCE DROP:

Add the biggest sporting event in Texas to the list of victims of the economy. The spring race had its lowest attendance to date at 176,300, about 13,700 lower than last spring.

The spring numbers in Texas have been down since a fall race was added in 2005, but Texas Motor Speedway President Eddie Gossage was prepared for even lower numbers this year.

NUTS AND BOLTS:

Sunday's race blew away the Texas record for the latest caution flag. The first caution came on Lap 98 for debris. The previous record was 64 laps in the 2006 spring race. ... Mark Martin celebrated the 28th anniversary of his first Sprint Cup race in 1981 at North Wilkesboro, N.C. Martin finished sixth in his 729th career race.

PRO BASEBALL

Will fans come out in '09?

MLB projects a seven-percent drop in attendance this season

BY BEN WALKER

Associated Press Writer
Ken Griffey Jr. swinging again for Seattle, K-Rod now closing for the New York Mets. A championship rematch at Fenway Park, a new start for CC Sabathia.

A year after the Tampa Bay Rays proved most anything is possible, opening day brings renewed spirit all over baseball — plus worries of more and more empty seats.

Even after finishing with a majors-worst 102 losses last year and then losing their general manager in a scandal this spring, the Washington Nationals were eager to get going.

"Once the bell rings and the national anthem plays and the games really count, I think these guys are going to be really energized," manager Manny Acta said.

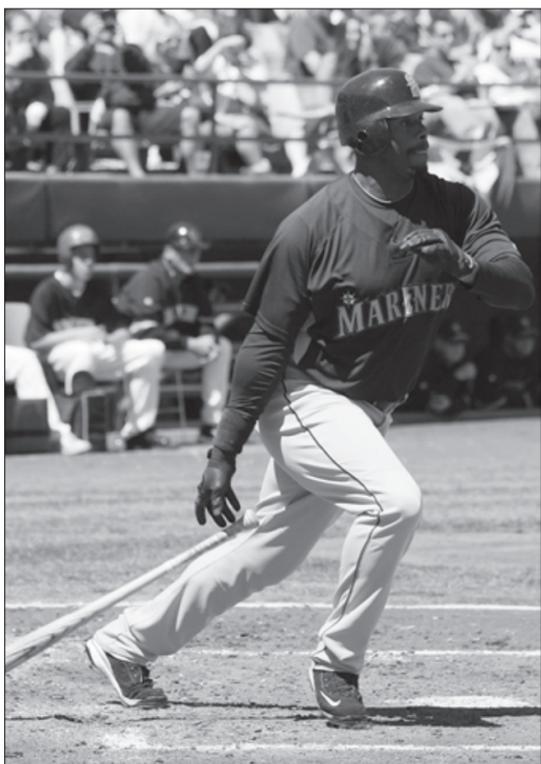
Twelve games are set for Monday, starting in Cincinnati when Francisco Rodriguez, Gary Sheffield and the revamped Mets visit chilly Great American Ball Park. Later, AL Cy Young winner Cliff Lee and the Cleveland Indians will watch former President George W. Bush throw out the first ball in Texas.

The AL champion Rays get an early test in Boston against Josh Beckett and the Red Sox. At night, Manny Ramirez begins his first full year in LA when the Dodgers open at San Diego.

A forecast of snow, cold and high winds in Chicago forced postponement of the game between Kansas City and the White Sox. They'll try again Tuesday.

The 2009 season opened Sunday night in Philadelphia, where the defending World Series champion Phillies played Atlanta.

Several big names will be



AP PHOTO
Ken Griffey Jr. makes his return this season to the Mariners, where he began his career and played from 1989-2000. He has spent the last eight seasons playing for the Reds and White Sox.

absent at the get-go. Alex Rodriguez, Ichiro Suzuki, Joe Mauer, Trevor Hoffman and John Lackey are among the injured. Also missing is Phillies reliever J.C. Romero, suspended 50 games by Major League Baseball after testing positive for a banned substance.

While A-Rod admitted taking steroids in 2001-03 while with Texas, the non-stop talk about performance-enhancing drugs seemed to diminish this spring. But concerns over the effects of the economy certainly increased.

MLB expects to see over-

all attendance drop as much as 7 percent, despite two-thirds of the 30 teams lowering either their average ticket price or some level of seats.

The Toronto Blue Jays offered season tickets in the upper deck for under \$1 per game and the Minnesota Twins tied the cost of 6,500 outfield seats to the Dow Jones Industrial Average.

"You won't see it as much in New York, but I think the teams that are going to be hurt a little bit obviously are small-market teams," Yankees catcher Jorge Posada said.

The two new ballparks in

New York, the \$1.5 billion Yankee Stadium and \$800 million Citi Field, host their regular-season openers next week.

In the meantime, Sabathia starts Monday for the Yankees at Baltimore. The ace signed a \$161 million, seven-year deal with the Yankees, who also brought in pricey Mark Teixeira and A.J. Burnett.

"Hopefully I get the team off to a good start and get myself off to a good start," Sabathia said.

Johan Santana will start for the Mets in Cincinnati, where it's expected to be rainy and in the upper 30s at gametime. After adding Rodriguez and J.J. Putz to the bullpen, New York hopes to avoid a third straight September collapse.

For now, though, it's time to focus on opening day.

"You still get the butterflies, you still get the sleepless nights. It's good. It's like that excitement, it's that nervous energy. And that's what you're looking for," Mets third baseman David Wright said.

Don Wakamatsu certainly is excited. He'll manage his first game in the majors when Seattle plays at Minnesota, marking the start of the Twins' last season at the 27-year-old Metrodome. Lou Piniella is equally enthused — he presides over a Cubs team beginning its 101st season since last winning the World Series.

Cubs ace Carlos Zambrano, who pitched a no-hitter against the Astros last year, starts in Houston against Roy Oswalt. Piniella is glad to be playing games for real, following an exhibition season that included late road trips to Las Vegas and New York.

"It was a long spring," he said.

CHAMPS!



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The New Hope Grizzlies show off their championship trophies. Team members are front row, left to right, Nicholas Hogg, Chad Flanders, Dominic Saurez and Zack Bramblett; second row, Cameron Alday, Cody Kendrick, Bryson Williams, Clint Holsomback, Cody Hufstetler and Jared Brown; back row, coaches Chris Williams Couch and Scott Hufstetler (hidden).



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Looper Speech & Hearing
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Dalton Utilities / Optilink
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PRO HOCKEY

Thrashers get thrashed by 6 Capitals goals

BY JOSEPH WHITE

Associated Press Writer
WASHINGTON — Tomas Fleischmann became the first of a half-dozen Washington Capitals to score — and none of the six were named Alex Ovechkin.

Those weren't the usual suspects producing for the Capitals on Sunday as they wrapped up their home regular-season schedule with a 6-4 win over the Atlanta Thrashers.

Ovechkin remained at an NHL-leading 55 goals despite taking 11 shots, but he did get two assists in his pursuit of Evgeni Malkin for the league's points title.

Ilya Kovalchuk scored his 42nd goal, and Colby Armstrong, Jim Slater and Slava Kozlov also netted for Atlanta. Despite being out of playoff contention, the Thrashers had won four straight — including three against teams still in the postseason race.

The two teams meet again in Atlanta on Tuesday.



AP PHOTO
Washington's Brooks Laich, left, and Atlanta's Jim Slater go for the puck during Sunday's game.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MAY 1ST
34th Annual Dalton Golf & Country Club ROMAN OPEN LOCAL CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT Monday • May 11, 2009

Since 1999, \$598,000 in donations have been put to work locally!
In 2008 Alone, \$74,000 were donated to 23 local charities and two Dalton State College scholarships were awarded.

Enjoy a day of golf, win great individual and team prizes and, most importantly, help raise funds the will have a tremendous impact on our local community!



Format: 4-person select shot tournament flighted by handicap (soft spikes are mandatory). Ladies are encouraged to participate.
Tee time: Registration/breakfast for a.m. flights begins at 7:00 a.m. Shotgun start at 8:00 a.m. Registration/lunch for p.m. flights begins at 11:45 a.m. Shotgun start at 1:30 p.m.
Lunch: Lunch will be served as players finish their round and before the afternoon flights begin. Afternoon flights are encouraged to come at 11:45 a.m. for lunch.
Cost: \$175.00 per player, \$700 per team. Entry fee includes green fees, cart, ditty bags, mulligans, red tees, prizes, meals, beverages and an opportunity to win door, closest-to-the-pin, long drive, team and hole-in-one prizes. Outstanding prizes and door prizes in both a.m. and p.m. flights, plus a quality, individual ditty bag will be presented to each player.

Two options are available for participation.

Option A: You may pick your own 4-man team. Please provide all 4 names and addresses below plus each player's handicap or average score. Please circle your preference for tee time:
a.m. or p.m.
Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ HCP _____
Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ HCP _____
Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ HCP _____
Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ HCP _____

Option B: You may enter individually and you will be assigned your teammates based upon your handicap or average score:
Name _____ Address _____ Phone _____ HCP _____

Your entry fee goes a long way to help area non-profit organizations with budget shortfalls and non-budgeted emergency expenditures.
In accordance with IRS Regulations, we have determined the fair market value of "goods and services" received is \$64 per player, therefore \$110 of the entry fee may be tax deductible as a charitable contribution.

I cannot play this year but would like to contribute to the local charities that need our support. Please accept my donation of _____.

Make check payable to:
Roman Open Charities, Inc.
P.O. Box 672 Dalton, GA 30722-0672
Check and application must be received by May 1.

Please call 706-278-7533 for additional information

SCOREBOARD

LOCAL

Prep Schedule

Monday
Varsity baseball
 Cass at Murray County, 7
Varsity golf
 Christian Heritage, Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield boys at Fields Ferry Invitational, 3
 Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield girls at Fields Ferry Invitational, 3

Varsity soccer
 Christian Heritage girls at Griffin Christian, 4:30
Varsity softball
 Christian Heritage at Tennessee Temple, 6

JV baseball
 Cass at Murray County, 4:30
JV golf
 Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at Fields Ferry Invitational, 3

Freshman baseball
 Northwest Whitfield at McCallie (DH), 5
Middle school baseball
WCMSAL tournament
At Northwest Whitfield High
Championship game
 New Hope vs. Valley Point, 4:30
 Dalton JV at McCallie, 4:30

Middle school softball
 Christian Heritage at Tennessee Temple, 6

Tuesday
Varsity baseball
 Christian Heritage at Furcha Prep, 3
 Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 5:55
 Murray County at Rome, 5:55
 Southeast at LaFayette, 5:30

Varsity soccer
 Northwest Whitfield boys at Baylor, 7
 Cleveland boys at Dalton, 7
 Christian Heritage boys at Pinecrest Academy, 7

Varsity softball
 Christian Heritage at Silverdale Baptist, 6
Varsity track and field
 Bradley Central, Dalton at Northwest Whitfield, 4
JV baseball
 Northwest Whitfield at Dalton, 8

JV soccer
 Cleveland boys at Dalton, 5
 Northwest Whitfield boys at Baylor, 5
Middle school baseball
 Cleveland, Tenn., at Dalton, 4:30

Middle school softball
 Christian Heritage at Silverdale Baptist, 6

Wednesday
JV golf
 Rome at Murray County, Indian Trace, 3:30

Thursday
Varsity baseball
 Griffin Christian at Christian Heritage, 5
 Southeast at Heritage-Catoosa, 5:30
 Northwest Whitfield at Sequoyah, 5:55
 Dalton at Rome, 5:55

Varsity golf
 Murray County, Cass at Rome, Stonebridge, 3:30
 Dalton, Murray County, Northwest Whitfield, Southeast girls at Indian Trace, 3:30

Varsity soccer
 McCallie boys at Dalton, 7

Varsity track and field
 Southeast at Optimist Meet, Walker Valley, 4
JV baseball
 Dalton at Rome, 8

JV soccer
 McCallie boys at Dalton, 5

Middle school baseball
 Christian Heritage at David Brainerd, 4:30
 Dalton at Chattanooga Tyner, 5

Middle school softball
 Lookout Valley at Christian Heritage, 4:30

Friday
Varsity baseball
 Rome at Northwest Whitfield, 5:55
 Dalton at Murray County, 5:55
 Southeast at Haralson County, 6

Varsity golf
 Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at Vidalia Invitational, Rocky Creek GC

JV baseball
 Murray County at Dalton, 8

Saturday
Varsity baseball
 Fannin County at Dalton, 2

Varsity golf
 Dalton, Northwest Whitfield boys at Vidalia Invitational, Rocky Creek GC

JV baseball
 Dalton at Northwest Whitfield, Noon

Freshman baseball
 Dalton at Northwest Whitfield, 2

Saturday's Scores
 Boston 1, N.Y. Rangers 0
 New Jersey 3, Buffalo 2
 Carolina 3, Pittsburgh 2, OT
 Montreal 6, Toronto 2
 Ottawa 4, Philadelphia 3, SO
 N.Y. Islanders 3, Tampa Bay 1
 Dallas 5, St. Louis 4, OT
 Nashville 5, Columbus 4, SO
 Anaheim 5, San Jose 2
 Edmonton 5, Vancouver 3
 Los Angeles 6, Phoenix 1

Sunday's Scores
 Detroit 3, Minnesota 2
 Washington 6, Atlanta 4
 Chicago 1, Columbus 0, OT
 Florida 4, Pittsburgh 2
 San Jose at Anaheim, late
 Colorado at Vancouver, late

Today's Games
 Detroit at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
 Ottawa at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
 Washington at Atlanta, 7 p.m.
 Florida at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
 N.Y. Islanders at Carolina, 7 p.m.
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 Montreal at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
 Boston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
 Pittsburgh at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
 Dallas at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
 Chicago at Nashville, 8 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
 St. Louis at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
 Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
 Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Auto Racing
Samsung 500
Sunday at Texas Motor Speedway
Fort Worth, Texas
Lap length: 1.5 miles
(Start position in parentheses)
 1. (2) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 334 laps, 134 rating, 195 points, \$541,874.
 2. (9) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 334, 97.3, 175, \$367,724.
 3. (14) Greg Biffle, Ford, 334, 126.4, 170, \$249,625.
 4. (7) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 334, 124.5, 165, \$219,146.
 5. (3) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 334, 118.7, 160, \$221,363.

Race Statistics
 Average Speed of Race Winner: 146.372 mph.
 Time of Race: 3 hours, 25 minutes, 22 seconds.
 Margin of Victory: 0.378 seconds.
 Caution Flags: 6 for 30 laps.
 Lead Changes: 28 among 14 drivers.
 Lap Leaders: J.Gordon 1-7; D.Reutimann 8-46; M.Kenseth 47-50; D.Reutimann 51; T.Stewart 52;

Today's Games
 Detroit 3, Minnesota 2
 Washington 6, Atlanta 4
 Chicago 1, Columbus 0, OT
 Florida 4, Pittsburgh 2
 San Jose at Anaheim, late
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x-Chicago 43 24 11 97 250 208
 Columbus 40 29 10 90 218 218
 Nashville 39 32 8 86 203 218
 St. Louis 38 31 10 86 224 231

Northwest Division
 W L OT Pts GF GA
 x-Calgary 44 28 6 94 244 237
 x-Vancouver 42 26 10 94 239 215
 Edmonton 37 33 9 83 227 241
 Minnesota 37 33 9 83 202 192
 Colorado 31 44 2 64 193 250

Pacific Division
 W L OT Pts GF GA
 y-San Jose 51 16 11 113 249 194
 Anaheim 41 32 6 88 235 227
 Dallas 35 34 10 80 223 248
 Los Angeles 32 35 11 75 200 225
 Phoenix 34 38 7 75 198 242

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.
 x-clinched playoff spot
 y-clinched division
 z-clinched conference

Saturday's Scores
 Boston 1, N.Y. Rangers 0
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 Nashville 5, Columbus 4, SO
 Anaheim 5, San Jose 2
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 Florida 4, Pittsburgh 2
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 Colorado at Vancouver, late

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 St. Louis at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
 Calgary at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
 Colorado at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.

Ky.Busch 53-54; M.Kenseth 55-57; T.Stewart 88-98; M.Kenseth 99-116; G.Biffle 117-152; J.Gordon 153; D.Ragan 154; Ku.Busch 155; M.Martin 156; G.Biffle 157-208; T.Stewart 209-211; J.Gordon 212; M.Martin 213-214; J.Johnson 215; P.Menard 216; G.Biffle 217-221; J.Gordon 222-252; D.Earnhardt Jr. 253-258; J.Gordon 259-295; C.Edwards 296-304; T.Stewart 305; B.Vickers 306; J.Gordon 307-334.

Leaders Summary (Driver, Times Led, Laps Led): J.Gordon, 6 times for 105 laps; G.Biffle, 3 times for 93 laps; M.Kenseth, 3 times for 55 laps; D.Reutimann, 2 times for 40 laps; T.Stewart, 4 times for 16 laps; C.Edwards, 1 time for 9 laps; D.Earnhardt Jr., 1 time for 6 laps; M.Martin, 2 times for 3 laps; Ky.Busch, 1 time for 2 laps; J.Johnson, 1 time for 1 lap; P.Menard, 1 time for 1 lap; B.Vickers, 1 time for 1 lap; D.Ragan, 1 time for 1 lap.

Top 12 in Points: 1. J.Gordon, 1,154; 2. J.Johnson, 992; 3. Ku.Busch, 974; 4. C.Bowyer, 967; 5. T.Stewart, 963; 6. D.Hamlin, 938; 7. Ky.Busch, 914; 8. C.Edwards, 889; 9. M.Kenseth, 864; 10. K.Kahne, 851; 11. D.Reutimann, 845; 12. J.Burton, 835.

BASKETBALL
NBA Glance
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

W L Pct GB
 y-Boston 58 19 .753 —
 x-Philadelphia 40 35 .533 17
 New Jersey 31 45 .408 26 1/2
 Toronto 30 46 .395 27 1/2
 New York 30 47 .390 28

Southeast Division
 W L Pct GB
 y-Orlando 57 19 .750 —
 x-Atlanta 43 34 .558 14 1/2
 x-Miami 41 36 .532 16 1/2
 Charlotte 34 43 .442 23 1/2
 Washington 18 60 .231 40

Central Division
 W L Pct GB
 y-Cleveland 62 15 .805 —
 Chicago 37 40 .481 25
 Detroit 37 40 .481 25
 Indiana 33 44 .429 29
 Milwaukee 32 46 .410 30 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

W L Pct GB
 x-San Antonio 49 27 .645 —
 x-Houston 49 28 .636 1/2
 New Orleans 47 29 .618 2
 Dallas 46 31 .597 3 1/2
 Memphis 22 54 .289 27

Northwest Division
 W L Pct GB
 x-Denver 52 26 .667 —
 Portland 48 28 .632 3
 Utah 47 30 .610 4 1/2
 Minnesota 22 55 .286 29 1/2
 Oklahoma City 21 55 .276 30

Pacific Division
 W L Pct GB
 z-L.A. Lakers 60 16 .789 —
 Phoenix 42 35 .545 18 1/2
 Golden State 27 49 .355 33
 L.A. Clippers 18 58 .237 42
 Sacramento 16 59 .213 43 1/2

x-clinched playoff spot
 y-clinched division
 z-clinched conference

Saturday's Scores
 Toronto 102, New York 95

Chicago 103, New Jersey 94
 Philadelphia 95, Detroit 90
 Orlando 88, Atlanta 82
 Miami 118, Washington 104
 Memphis 107, Milwaukee 102
 Denver 120, L.A. Clippers 104

Sunday's Scores
 Cleveland 101, San Antonio 81
 Dallas 140, Phoenix 116
 New York 112, Toronto 103
 Detroit 104, Charlotte 97
 Utah 108, New Orleans 94
 Denver 110, Minnesota 87
 Indiana 117, Oklahoma City 99
 Houston 102, Portland 88

Philadelphia at New Jersey, late
 Golden State at Sacramento, late
 L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, late

Today's Games
 No games scheduled

Tuesday's Games
 Atlanta at Toronto, 7 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
 New Orleans at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
 Portland at Memphis, 8 p.m.
 San Antonio at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
 New York at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
 Orlando at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
 Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

GOLF
PGA Tour
Houston Open Par Scores
Saturday
At Redstone Golf Club, Tournament Course
Humble, Texas
Purse: \$5.7 million
Yardage: 7,457; Par: 72
Completed Second Round

Paul Casey 66-70-69-72 — 277 -11
 J.B. Holmes 71-69-68-69 — 277 -11
 Fred Couples 68-69-68-74 — 279 -9
 Henrik Stenson 70-67-72-70 — 279 -9
 Nick O'Hern 72-71-66-70 — 279 -9
 John Mallinger 75-65-70-70 — 280 -8
 Jason Bohm 69-71-66-74 — 280 -8
 Hunter Mahan 71-69-72-68 — 280 -8
 Tommy Armour III 66-70-72-72 — 280 -8
 Geoff Ogilvy 67-69-69-75 — 281 -7
 Nicholas Thompson 65-75-71-70 — 281 -7
 Lee Westwood 69-70-68-74 — 281 -7
 Ryan Moore 70-68-67-76 — 281 -7
 Ernie Els 75-66-71-70 — 282 -6
 Robert Karlsson 70-71-66-75 — 282 -6
 Brian Davis 71-69-68-74 — 282 -6
 D.A. Points 66-72-72-72 — 282 -6
 Jonathan Byrd 67-70-70-75 — 282 -6
 Kevin Na 73-68-70-72 — 283 -5
 Ryan Palmer 70-72-72-69 — 283 -5
 Rory McIlroy 67-73-74-69 — 283 -5
 Steve Marino 69-73-71-70 — 283 -5
 Kevin Sutherland 68-71-68-75 — 283 -5
 Justin Leonard 69-70-69-76 — 283 -5
 Bo Van Pelt 70-67-68-78 — 283 -5
 Ted Purdy 71-69-73-71 — 284 -4
 Anthony Kim 72-68-70-74 — 284 -4
 Padraig Harrington 72-67-68-77 — 284 -4
 Brian Gay 69-73-68-74 — 284 -4
 Shaun Micheel 71-72-68-73 — 284 -4
 Ben Curtis 70-72-71-72 — 285 -3
 Dudley Hart 68-72-73-72 — 285 -3
 Brandt Jobe 73-69-69-74 — 285 -3
 Jarrod Lyle 71-68-71-75 — 285 -3
 Lucas Glover 74-68-66-77 — 285 -3
 Scott Verplank 68-70-71-76 — 285 -3
 John Merrick 71-72-68-74 — 285 -3
 Stuart Appleby 70-68-71-76 — 285 -3
 Bart Bryant 71-72-69-73 — 285 -3
 Chris Stroud 68-75-71-71 — 285 -3
 John Senden 65-71-71-78 — 285 -3

GOLF

Casey earns first US win in Houston

BY CHRIS DUNCAN

Associated Press Writer
HUMBLE, Texas — Paul Casey finally considers himself one of the world's top golfers, just in time for the Masters.

Casey won the Shell Houston Open on Sunday for his first PGA Tour victory, beating J.B. Holmes with a bogey on the first playoff hole. The 31-year-old Englishman has nine international victories since 2001, but had never won in the United States. The victory boosted Casey from No. 12 to No. 6 in the world rankings, a career high.

"It's time to start believing I can be a top 10 player in the world and maybe I can be in the top five," Casey said. "We'll see when we get there. Clearly, I just took a little while to sort of get used to things and feel comfortable. Now, I feel comfortable out here."

Holmes needed a win to earn a trip to next week's Masters, and is the only player from last year's Ryder Cup who failed to qualify.

Casey made a last-minute commitment to play in Houston and is now flying to Augusta with a helpful dose of confidence.

"The self-belief, this is a very difficult thing to explain and to work on, because you don't want to be arrogant," he said. "For me, it's just been a lot of hard work, playing a lot of golf, and a bit of time."



AP PHOTO
 Paul Casey takes his hat off after beating J.B. Holmes, left, in a playoff to win

NCAA Men's Basketball Championships

Michigan State

National Champion

**Detroit
April 6**

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5 - 9 pm

Sunday

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Michigan State

North Carolina

Each business was assigned a team from each region in a random drawing.
As their teams advanced so did the business in

THE DAILY CITIZEN

HOROSCOPE

Happy Birthday: You have a lot going on and it will be easy to get off course. Pull in the reins and make sure everything you take on has a purpose. Uncertainty may arise but, if you hang on to your beliefs and follow through with your plans, you will come out on top. Your numbers are 6, 18, 20, 25, 34, 36, 48

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't be too hard on others or you may have to do all the work on your own. Encouragement and optimism will carry you to the finish line. You will make the best impression by being cost- and time-efficient. 3 stars

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You've got to be strong and determined if you want things to go your way. Do not put up with game-playing or maneuvering. This is no time to falter when so much is on the line. Turn changes into a positive. 5 stars

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Put your attributes to the test and don't give in to emotional issues. Expect someone who depends on you to give you grief. You can make some extra cash but don't pay for someone else's mistakes. An opportunity is coming down the pipeline. 2 stars

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Accepting change is necessary if you want to avoid getting stuck with someone else's responsibilities. Put a little extra effort in at home and you will feel better about your place and surroundings. 4 stars

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There is more to what's going on around you than you realize. Remember things you endured as a child and you will know exactly what to do with the situation you face now. Sudden changes in contracts or financial affairs are likely. 3 stars

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put passion first and anger last. Do not get

manipulated into something that won't work for you. If you don't like the information you are being given, research until you find a way to overcome whatever you are facing. 3 stars

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Something is going on behind your back.



Eugenia Last

Networking and openly discussing what you would like to see happen will hold a lot of clout and help you stay in whatever game you are playing. Don't allow anyone to push you around. 3 stars

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can change the canvas if you apply your creative talent and your know-how to get what you want. A problem at home may have you questioning your personal relationships. You will feel better once you address a misconception. 2 stars

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Expect anyone you have been unfair with to retaliate. You may have to back down if you don't want to be embarrassed. Arguing will only add to your frustration. Expand your circle of friends. 2 stars

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You've got more control than you think. You can stabilize your position by making a few changes to the way you do things. Don't give in to someone you love when he or she is asking for too much. 5 stars

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Look back at your life and the people who have come and gone. If there is someone you wish to hook up with, do so. Making the effort will likely change the course of your life. Love is on the rise. 3 stars

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You'll be torn between what you can and cannot do. Someone may challenge you and what you know. Back away from controversy until you have a better handle on the way you really feel. 3 stars

CRYPTOQUIP

ZPCAU NX OQNU LUAQY PZC'S
TUYX BRCAX MPIU XQGYZ.
BQMIZ AQQML ZRX P ORTU
RC PCBUYYPQY PCSUYYPQY.

Saturday's Cryptoquip: BECAUSE OUR MAIL MANAGER DOUBLES AS AN EMCEE, PEOPLE MIGHT CALL HIM A POSTMASTER TOASTMASTER.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals N

BRIDGE

Famous hand

West dealer.
North-South vulnerable.
NORTH
♠ Q 3 2
♥ K 10 6
♦ A 10 8 6 5
♣ 10 4

WEST
♠ K J 9 8 6
♥ A 8 5 2
♦ —
♣ Q 9 8 6

EAST
♠ 7 5
♥ Q 9 7 3
♦ K 4 3 2
♣ J 3 2

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

The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass Pass 1 NT
2 ♣ 3 NT
Opening lead — eight of spades.

The deal occurred in the match between Italy and the United States in the 1984 World Team Olympiad. When the U.S. held the North-South cards, the bidding went as shown. The Italian West chose to pass as dealer but, after South opened one notrump, overcalled with two clubs, indicating length in both major suits. North then went directly to three notrump, ending the auction.

West led a spade, won by South with the ten, and declarer (Paul Soloway) had to decide what to do next. Although attempting a diamond finesse seems the obvious thing to do, Soloway instead led the four of hearts at trick two. He realized that on the bidding a diamond finesse was likely to fail, and that if it did, a spade return would almost surely defeat the contract by allowing East-West to eventually score three spades, a diamond and a heart.

Soloway's reasoning was certainly sound, and the heart play left the Italians with no chance whatever of stopping the contract. After West followed low, declarer went up with the king, led a club to his ace and then lost the queen of diamonds to East's king. The best the defenders could do was to cash three hearts, after which South had nine tricks consisting of two spades, a heart, four diamonds and two clubs for plus 600.

It could be argued that Soloway was very lucky to find the hearts divided 4-4. But on a probabilities basis, West was more likely to have been dealt only four hearts rather than five. Furthermore, if West had five hearts in addition to five spades and the diamond finesse lost, the contract couldn't be made.

When the Italian North-South pair played the same hand, they stopped at three diamonds, making three, for a score of 110 points, so the U.S. gained 490 points — 10 IMPs — on the deal.

Tomorrow: Nothing succeeds like success.

CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**
- 1 Q-tip tip
 - 5 Silent
 - 8 Cold War weapon, for short
 - 12 Easter flower
 - 13 Rage
 - 14 — contender
 - 15 Initial stake
 - 16 White bloom
 - 18 "Bread"
 - 20 From what place
 - 21 Actor Baldwin
 - 23 Evergreen type
 - 24 Grow uncontrollably
 - 28 Moist
 - 31 Body of water (Abbr.)
 - 32 The Ram
 - 34 Falsehood
 - 35 Oil cartel
- DOWN**
- 1 Bridge coup
 - 2 Drunkard
 - 3 Choir voice
 - 4 Local ordinance (Var.)
 - 5 Gets the info wrong
 - 6 Grecian vessel
 - 7 Cat call?
 - 8 Certainly
 - 9 County of England
 - 10 United nations
 - 11 Sulk
 - 17 Kid's query
 - 19 Actress Jessica
 - 22 Adhere
 - 24 "No seats" sign
 - 25 Pinch
 - 26 Nuance
 - 27 Ancient Spartan king
 - 29 "O Sole —"
 - 30 Church seat
 - 33 Graceful bird
 - 36 Masticated
 - 38 Orison
 - 40 Sphere
 - 42 Requests
 - 43 Quick cut
 - 44 Pleasant
 - 46 Burlap fiber
 - 47 "Two and a Half Men" role
 - 48 Dissolve
 - 50 Edge

Solution time: 24 mins.



See To Your Good Health on Page 8A



Paul G. Donohue



SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2009

THE DAILY CITIZEN

is presenting

Bunny Babies

... a special section for our area Easter babies

Bring in your child's photo and Easter message to THE DAILY CITIZEN by Thursday, April 8, 2009

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Child's Age: _____

Your Easter Message (Limit 20 words, please) _____

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Please limit to 1 person per ad space.



PIRATE & PRINCESS BALL



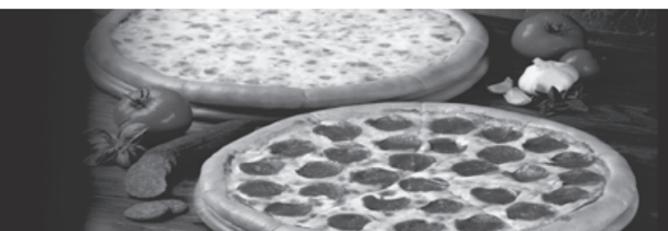
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Above, all of the Head Start and Pre-K children look like princesses at the 2008 Princess Ball. This year's Pirate & Princess Ball, to be held Friday, May 8, from 6 to 7:30 p.m., is expanded to include boys as well as girls along with a parent or guardian. Thanks to Heather Lyles and First Presbyterian Church, the Pirate & Princess Ball has a new venue this year. The event is a parent-child ball for all students enrolled in Head Start and Pre-K in Whitfield County. Each student can bring a parent or guardian escort to the event. Last year more than 300 attended the ball, which is an end of the school year celebration for children completing Head Start and Pre-K.

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MUTTS

THERE YOU GO, EARL. LITTLE RUBBER BOOTIES FOR THE RAIN.



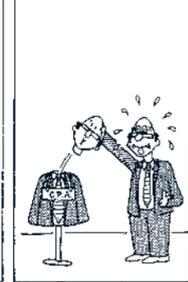
I'D PREFER BIKER BOOTS.



WIZARD OF ID



CATHY



GARFIELD



SNUFFY SMITH



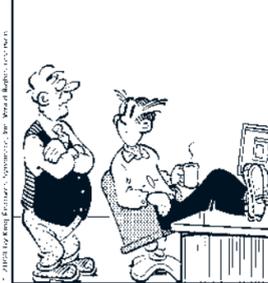
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



FOR BETTER OR WORSE



BLONDIE



BETLE BAILEY



TUNDRA



DEAR ABBY

Husband's nightmare attack leaves wife trapped in fear

DEAR ABBY: My husband, "Bob," and I have been married 12 years. One night three years ago, he beat me as I slept in our bed. Bob says he must have been having a nightmare and that he would never beat me.

His fists were clenched as he was hitting my head and body that night. I was pinned by the covers and couldn't defend myself. He has been sleeping in the guest room ever since. I lock my bedroom door every night.

I have gone to counseling, but Bob refuses because he says it's too expensive. I am unemployed and feel trapped financially by him. How long can a middle-aged woman survive in a loveless, passionless and distrustful marriage? — ALL ABOUT BOB IN ALABAMA



Jeane Phillips

DEAR ABBY: A few days ago, my 8-year-old daughter, "Mira," told me that "Brittany," one of her best friends, was handing out invitations to her birthday party. Brittany told Mira that she wasn't invited.

I understand that the birthday girl can invite anyone she wants to her party, but this was one of Mira's closest friends. I am also friendly with Brittany's mother. The girl told Mira that she is on the "cancellation list" — and if someone cancels, then she can attend. My daughter is hurt and confused, and frankly, so am I.

How should I handle this? — FEELING HER PAIN

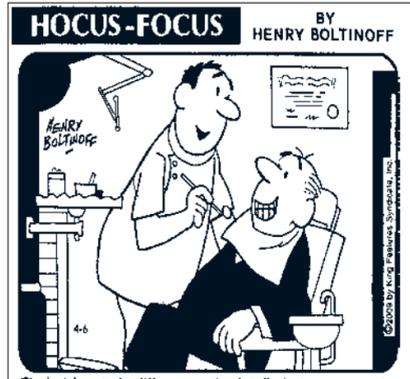
DEAR FEELING HER PAIN: It appears that Brittany's mother isn't as much of a friend as you thought she was, or she would not have allowed her daughter to snub your daughter the way she did.

Being put on a cancellation list (a "B" list) is no compliment, and your daughter should not attend that party even if there is a cancellation. You should do something special with your daughter on that day so she won't feel so left out. She should also become involved in extracurricular activities where she can meet other children, so she won't be so dependent upon the clique that cliqued her out.

DEAR ALL ABOUT BOB: That depends upon the reason your marriage is loveless, passionless and distrustful. Has your husband ever raised a hand to you while he was awake? If the answer is no, then he should be evaluated for a sleep disorder.

People have been known to do unusual things in their sleep — including sleepwalking, driving a car, and striking out. Once you know the reason for what happened that night, you will then have enough information to decide what to do about your future.

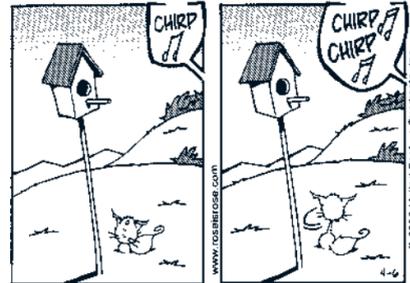
HOCUS FOCUS



PEANUTS



ROSE IS ROSE



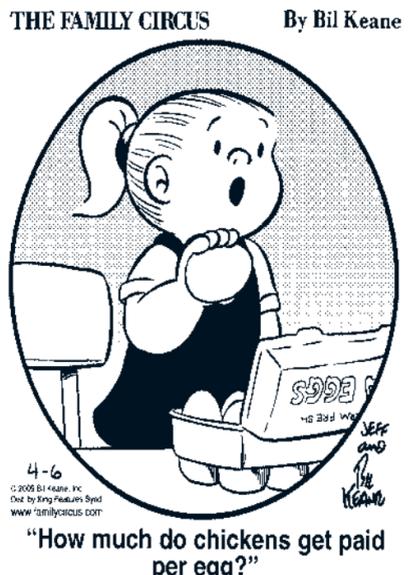
ZITS



BABY BLUES



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

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

UNIVERSAL Sudoku Puzzle

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

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Look for the solution to today's Sudoku Puzzle on page 9B of the classifieds.

751 Apartments

UNDERWOOD LODGE
Furnished Efficiency with kitchenette. All Utilities & Cable!! Laundry Facility Available.
Move In Specials \$70-\$90 for first week!
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752 Homes For Rent

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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 wkdys 9-5:30

***Westside Area: 1 & 2 bedroom mobile homes start at \$65 wk or \$260 month. Furnished or unfurnished. 706-673-4000

Cottage House for rent. 2 br / 1 ba, c/h/a, large private lot. Deer Trail off Williams Rd. \$600/month. 706-278-9687 or 706-217-8255

The Daily Photo

Submitted by:
Tonya Craig of Dalton, GA
To submit your photo, email photo, name and city to: lauramartin@daltoncitizen.com

752 Homes For Rent

\$ Simple Management Services LLC
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Se Habla Español

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

RENT TO OWN AUCTION!
You Set The Down Payment & Monthly Payments!
Highest Bidder Wins!
March 28th & 29th
704 Chattanooga Ave. Dalton, GA 2 BR / 1 BA
Opening Bid: \$50 Down, \$200 a Mth. \$60,000

RENT TO OWN
Federal Tax Credit Madness!
Get Your Down Payment Rebated & Put \$2,000 in Your Pocket!
**COHUTTA - 4036 Parliament Dr. 5 BR / 3 BA \$2500 Down, \$1200 a Mth \$160,000.
**ROCKY FACE - 208 Ina Dr. 3 BR / 2 BA \$2500 Down, \$950 a Mth, \$130,000
**LAFAYETTE - 404 Glenn St. 2 Br. 1.5 BA \$1000 Down \$625 Mth

FOR RENT
**COHUTTA - 2 BR / 1 BA Duplex \$100 Deposit \$100 Wk. or \$160 a Wk w/ Power-Water
**TUNNEL HILL / VARNELL 3971 Lake Kathy Rd., 3 BR / 1 BA Mobile \$230 Dep. \$115 wk
**CHATSWORTH - 30 Sun Mtn Spur. 2 BR / 1 BA Vacation Rental / Lake Home \$1200 Deposit, \$1200 A Mth.

Tired of Being a Landlord? Our Property Management Company Manages Over 130 Units in Northwest Georgia. Let Us Help You Today! Call NOW!!

MOBILE HOMES

778 Mobile Homes For Rent

*House, Mobile Homes water & garbage serv. provided, off S. Bypass between Chatsworth Hwy & Riverbend Rd., wkly or mthly rates. Ref. & dep req'd. 706-260-6097. No calls after 8:30pm or 278-8130

1 & 2 bdrm mobile homes & Apartments in Whitfield & Murray Co. \$85 per week & up. Utilities furnished. 706-278-4048

778 Mobile Homes For Rent

GREAT DEALS! 2 & 3 BD homes, many w/ hwd floors. Large lots & private pond. Pets welcome. Carbondale area. Cable/water/garbage service included \$125/wk. 706-383-8123

Owner Finance: Lease purchase or rent. 3 bd 2 ba, doublewide on 1 acre. New carpet & paint. Price Reduced to \$450-\$650 mon. negotiable. Good area in Chatsworth Steve 706-270-1342

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

2000 Ford Mustang GT, convertible. 5 speed. 110K miles. Black. For more info please call 706-272-0379 ask for Lois.

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

Asking \$1,900 for this 2001 Ford Taurus, automatic, V6, power windows & locks, power seats, CD player, and also has new tires. This car looks and runs great. Call 706-218-8021

807 Import Autos

1998 MB 500 SL Convertible. Sport Package. Both tops. White w/ gray leather/ Books & records. Low miles. Good condition. Only \$17,850. OBO. Will accept trades. Phone 706-264-1932

807 Import Autos

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



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



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.

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

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

808 4-Wheel Drive

1989 Ford Bronco XLT, auto. Red/white two tone. 4x4. Very clean. New BFG tires, new parts. \$3,300 706-260-6547

809 Trucks



2000 F-350 Crew Cab Dually. 7.3 Power Stroke. 4x4. New tires. Choo Choo custom package. Only 74k miles. Very nice truck. \$15,000. 706-280-8268



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.



2006 GMC 16 ft box truck Yellow. 6.0 V8 Unleaded engine w/ 300 hp. Auto. Transmission, A/C, ABS brakes, Power Steering, 2 Bucket Seats, AM/FM radio, 10 ft loading ramp w' 1000lb capacity. Mileage ranging from 40,000 - 75,000 miles. Sale price is \$12,000 - \$14000. Only method of payment accepted is certified check or money order. Sorry no financing Contact Josh Hall @ Penske, Day- 706-277-9477, Night- 423-304-6669

810 Vans



1982 VW WESTFALIA "BULLDAWG MOBILE" Tailgater. Refrigerator, stove, sink w/running water, sleeps 4, flat screen TV, DVD player, GA fight song/ext speaker. \$7,500. 706-278-1817 or 706-264-9063

811 Utility Trailers

Mobile Concession stand (log cabin), great for carnival or fair, completely self contained, AC, Espresso cart, \$15,000. Call: 706-581-4122 for details.

812 Sport Utility Vehicle

2005 GMC Envoy SLT. Loaded with every option available. 47K miles, 1-owner, garage kept, non smoker, \$12,000. Call 706-280-8268



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



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

RECREATION

851 Boats

1999 Tahoe Tracker Q5 boat. Inboard/Outboard Mercruiser 5.0. Wood grain, stereo. Seats 7. Sundeck, fish finder. Boat cover, bikini top, 2 man seat raft knee board. Garage kept. Price \$8500 call 706-483-0704



2001 21' Bullet Bass Boat. 225 Optimax. \$15,500. Call: 706-226-2161

2004 17' Generation John Boat Heavy duty trailer, 60 HP Johnson (97), tilt & trim, 55 thrust Minn Kota. \$4500 OBO. 706-934-4757 or tathazar@yahoo.com .Will consider motorcycle cruiser trades.

854 Hunting & Fishing

Missouri White Tail Deer Hunts. 5 spots available. Call for details. 423-645-4960

856 Motorcycles & Bikes

2006 CBR 600 F4i, blue. 5,300 miles, jardine slip on pipe. 2 years warranty remaining. Never been laid down. Excellent condition. \$5,400 or best offer. Call: 706-508-3955

SOLUTION:

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

856 Motorcycles & Bikes



2004 Kawasaki Vulcan 2000. Fully loaded, Maroon, 1 owner, garage kept, 10K miles. 5 helmets, extra back seat & road pegs. New tires. Price Reduced \$500. to \$7,500 obo. 706-218-9183

2006 Honda CRF230, electric start, excellent condition, like new, rode very little, Aftermarket pipe and stock pipe. \$2,100. Call day 706-673-3500 or evening 706-259-9584.

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