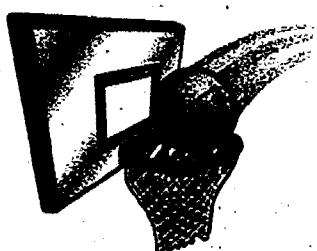




ChemFree

Greener cleaner

DEVICE SCRUBS parts without chemicals. See Living Green, Page 6A



Wildcats fever

WASKOM'S LADY Wildcats head to the playoffs for the first time in 17 years. See Sports, Page 1B

Hallsville news

THOMAS RICHARDSON gives his two cents on the city's happenings. See Hallsville, Page 3B

On our Web site

FIND FILM showtimes, reviews trailers and box office stats online at www.marshallnewsmessenger.com and click on Movies

Daily Special

Prisoner punches lawyer after judge denies request

GEORGETOWN, Ky. (AP) — A public defender who was punched in court by a disgruntled client said Thursday he doesn't blame the man who gave him two black eyes.

The disorder in the court happened Monday at Scott County Circuit Court after the judge refused defendant Peter Hafer's request for a new attorney. Hafer, 30, of Cynthiana, told the judge he didn't trust his court-appointed lawyer, Doug Crickmer. As Judge Rob Johnson began to tell Hafer he couldn't choose his public defender, Hafer landed the first punch.

"I just couldn't take it anymore and I just snapped," Hafer said later at the Scott County jail.

Crickmer was admitted to Georgetown Community Hospital and released later that day. He said he will not file assault charges.

As for his request for a new attorney, Hafer apparently will get his way. Authorities said a new one will be appointed.

Corrections

The Marshall News Messenger makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information we report, and it is our policy to correct errors promptly. Readers may bring mistakes to our attention by telephone at (903) 927-5962 or by fax at (903) 935-6242.



GROWING PAINS



Courtney Case/News Messenger

MARSHALL RESIDENT DARYL Ware addresses members of the Texas Department of Transportation about the I-69/Trans-Texas Corridor being considered to route through Marshall Thursday at the Marshall Civic Center.

TxDOT plan for proposed interstate meets stiff opposition

STEVE BANDY
News Messenger

The vast majority of the 100 people attending Thursday night's public hearing opposed the proposed Interstate Highway 69/Trans-Texas Corridor. Only four of the 13 who spoke publicly favored the project.

The hearing was sponsored by the Texas Department of Transportation to receive comment on the Tier One Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the proposed transportation project from Texarkana and Shreve-

port, La. to South Texas.

Mayor Ed Smith said he supported the project and felt that most of the citizens of Marshall did as well.

"This will be good for the economic development not only of Marshall, but of all of Northeast Texas," Smith said.

He referred specifically to the TTC, which, according to the broad plans presented by TxDOT, would branch off from I-69 just south of Timpson. I-69 would continue on a more eastward course to meet up with the Louisiana

section of the interstate below Shreveport. The TTC, a TxDOT initiative for accommodating the state's growing transportation needs envisioned as a multi-modal system providing separate truck and passenger vehicle lanes, freight and passenger rail lines and space for future utility use, would extend northward, roughly paralleling U.S. Highway 59, skirting Carthage and Marshall to the Texarkana area.

"If this route through Northeast Texas is delayed, then traffic that diverts

to the east through Louisiana will result in economic development along that route," he said. "It would be hard — if not impossible — to recapture that traffic."

Allen Livingston IV, however, opened his three-minute address by saying "the mayor does not speak for all of Marshall," drawing loud applause from the audience.

Livingston called the proposed TTC "the largest land-grab in Texas his-

See TXDOT, Page 3A

McCain all but clinches GOP nomination as Romney drops out

WASHINGTON (AP) — John McCain sought to mend his tattered relationship with conservatives and unify a splintered GOP as he all but clinched the party's presidential nomination Thursday. Mitt Romney, his former chief rival, dropped out, and a parade of prominent Republicans swung behind the Arizona senator.

"We're continuing campaigning and not taking anything for granted," McCain said in an Associated Press interview, still reluctant to call himself anything more than the front-runner. "I certainly think that we have enhanced our chances."

Only Mike Huckabee and Ron Paul remained in what has been a crowded

and wide-open nomination fight for the past year. Both have narrow voting constituencies and are far behind in the hunt for delegates to the GOP's nominating convention this summer.

Romney's departure left McCain, whose independent streak rankles many in the Republican rank-and-file, poised to assume President Bush's position as the party standard-bearer. It was a remarkable turnaround for McCain, whose campaign was barely alive last summer, out of cash and losing staff.

"It is my sincere hope that even if you believe I have occasionally erred in my reasoning as a fellow conservative, you will still allow that I have,

in many ways important to all of us, maintained the record of a conservative," McCain told a gathering of the party's influential right flank on Thursday a few hours after Romney appeared before the same group to announce he was suspending his faltering bid.

With weekend contests in Louisiana and Kansas up next, McCain has secured 707 delegates, more than halfway to the 1,191 needed to win the nomination. Romney has 294 and Huckabee 195. Paul, the libertarian-leaning Texas congressman, had only 14 — and no chance to catch McCain.

Huckabee is still mathematically viable in the race, but he will need a lot

of help from Romney's supporters if he doesn't prevail in upcoming contests. Numbers aside, Huckabee also faces a steep challenge. The former Arkansas governor's primary constituency is Christian evangelicals, and he has won only in states where they dominate presidential contests.

The only other way Huckabee could seize the nomination is if conservative complaints about McCain turn into a full-scale revolt. But that doesn't appear to be happening, if McCain's reception at the Conservative Political Action Conference was any indication. Activists there seemed resigned — if not pleased — at the prospect of McCain's nomination.

Hearing on sewage facility planned Matthew Dogan started

Marshall's Carnegie Library

SANDRA CASON
News Messenger

A public hearing will be 9 a.m. Monday on proposed changes to Harrison County's on-site sewage facility plan.

The public hearing will take place in conjunction with the regularly scheduled Harrison County Commissioners Court meeting and will be in the courtroom on the third floor of the courthouse.

Citizens are encouraged to attend and to participate in the hearing, a public notice from Judge Richard Anderson's office said.

Proposed amendments to the county's guidelines are available for review prior to the meeting in the judge's office, also on the third floor of the courthouse, or at Harrison County Environmental Health Department, 3800 Five Notch Road.

The court set the date for the public hearing

at its Jan. 29 meeting.

The proposal discussed at that time is that residents using on-site sewage facility systems will be required to establish ongoing maintenance contracts.

Also, subdivision developers will pay the Environmental Health Department a \$50 fee to review plats and plans for new developments.

In 1987, the Texas Legislature passed HB 1875, which sets forth guidelines for on-site sewage systems. The law provided for their enforcement by regional and local governments, with oversight rights afforded Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission.

County governments must adopt minimum standards, but may, with TNRCC approval, put in place more stringent guidelines.

Contact Sandra Cason: scason@coxmm.com or 903-927-5969.

STEVE BANDY
News Messenger

Among the many accomplishments credited to Matthew W. Dogan is that he obtained funding for the Carnegie Library, which provided Wiley College and the city of Marshall with its only public library until 1973.

Carnegie libraries were built with money donated by Scottish-American businessman Andrew Carnegie who, in recognition of the more than 2,500 libraries built, earned the nickname "Patron Saint of Libraries."



See MATTHEW, Page 3A



SPEAK OUT!

You, too, can Speak Out! To join the discussion, call 935-7918 and leave a recorded message. You can leave your name or remain anonymous. Please spell out names. Not all messages will be printed and all will be edited. For circulation concerns and missed newspapers, call 935-8255. Remember, Speak Out! is a column of opinions.

LET'S BE CLEAR about the nature of the seemingly "innocent" Speak Out! calls that keep alluding to Barack Obama's Arabic middle name, the "secret Muslim" lie, the "Pledge of Allegiance" lie and the "childhood madrassa" lie. They are a vicious right-wing smear campaign against an American citizen whose personal history and beliefs are widely published. Those callers are so lacking in personal intelligence and integrity they cannot dispute him on the issues and will not even leave their names when they resort to scurrilous innuendo. The next time one appears, remember, they are lying through their teeth.

— Rael Nidess

AS A RESIDENT of Belaire Manor apartments, I am speaking out to say that if you know history, no one who lived in Belaire was killed, nor did anyone from Belaire kill anyone. It is always people who come there. Those people are giving Belaire a bad name and as a resident, I do not appreciate it.

IT IS HARD to believe that parents will let children go shopping with them with skates built into the sole. There were some kids at the store the other day with these on chasing each other who almost ran over those who wanted to shop.

CONGRATULATIONS to a former student Regi Gray for a perfect first semester at TCU. Keep up the good work.

SUPER BOWL 42 was the worst halftime I've ever seen.

TO THE PERSON who does not think the New England Patriots is appealing enough to be considered America's team, consider this. New England is made up of six states who were among the original 13 colonies. A "patriot" is one who loves his country. Our forefathers were patriots. I thought it was great after 9-11 in Super Bowl 36, that the Patriots won the Super Bowl. Even though Dallas Cowboys is very appealing, the patriots of New England were here before the American cowboys.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Cody Newman.

GOD DID NOT put these animals on Earth for us to beat. What is wrong with you people?

NO, I AM NOT afraid of change. I want change in every aspect of the government, down to the smallest office. What I said about Ted Kennedy had nothing to do with Obama. I want change. I don't care if they are green. I have more black in me probably than white.

— Ronnie Foster

CONGRATULATIONS Anna Craig and Anna Mohr for winning a grand prize in the history fair at Price T. Young. Both girls are sixth-graders. Their project was on Medgar Evers. They will be going to the state history fair and we wish them the best of luck.

GOD GAVE MAN dominion over the animals, but dogfighting is taking it way too far.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Jeffrey Green.

THE GUYS AT the road and bridge are doing a great job. I appreciate it.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Charles Williams.

I WOULD LIKE to know why the DOT in Marshall cannot stop the oilfield trucks that are flying down the road overweight, but are picking on the log trucks?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Beverly, Rodney and Althea.

A WHATNOT IS a thingamajig that sits next to a doohickey.

OBAMA SHOULDN'T BE judged by the color of his skin. Don't vote for him because of it either.

THE SOUND OF the action of a 12-gauge pump shotgun will alarm a trespasser and put a burglar in reverse gear.

FAITH ISN'T A fireworks display. It's a soft glow that warms the hearts of others.

IF YOU ARE looking for love, get a dog.

HISTORY FROM OUR FILES



MARSHALL YOUNGSTERS rode their bikes in this 1975 photo, to participate in the Hike-Bike to raise donations for the local Association for Retarded Citizens. Each day The Marshall News Messenger prints a photo from its files that is at least 30 years old.

IN THE NEWS FRIDAY MORNING

AUSTIN — Low-income and minority students in Texas' larger school districts are more likely to attend schools with inexperienced teachers who are not fully certified, according to a study released Thursday. The study found "sometimes stunning" inequities in teacher credentials and salaries.

LEAGUE CITY — Federal investigators were focusing Thursday on whether an explosion inside equipment at BP PLC's Texas City refinery caused a worker's death last month. But officials didn't want to speculate on whether the company's heavily criticized "safety culture" contributed to the latest death.

FORT WORTH — Jurors resumed deliberations Thursday in a lawsuit against BNSF Railway Co. alleging chemicals at a Southeast Texas railroad tie plant caused a woman's stomach cancer.

CARROLLTON — A defendant in the so-called "Jena Six" case that led to angry allegations of racially biased prosecution in the Louisiana town faces a misdemeanor assault charge after allegedly slamming a student's head into a bench at his new school in Texas.

BROWNSVILLE — A judge was scheduled Thursday to hear from more South Texas property owners who want to block the federal government from accessing their land to survey for a proposed border fence.

SAN ANTONIO — Construction crews dredging a section of the San Antonio River found a forgotten dam built in the 1870s. The limestone structure was found embedded in the muddy silt that is being removed as part of a project that will extend the River Walk 13 miles, upriver and downriver from the current development.

FORT WORTH — A prisoner tried to slash his throat during a family court hearing with a piece of razor blade he smuggled out of his cell, officials said.

HOUSTON — Police are investigating the shooting of two men who were wounded in a parking lot outside Reliant Stadium after a soccer match between the U.S. and Mexico.

AUSTIN — Criminals in Texas will get a break on their fines under a Texas Court of Criminal Appeals ruling that courts must assess fines concurrently, rather than adding them together.

AUSTIN — Dimitris Pope, the acting executive director of the Texas Youth Commission, told state lawmakers he had not been chosen to take the job permanently but had no plans to leave the troubled agency until she is forced out.

NAMES IN THE NEWS

BAGHDAD (AP) — Angelina Jolie brought her star power to Baghdad on Thursday on a mission as a U.N. goodwill ambassador to highlight the plight of Iraqi refugees.

The actress said there needs to be a more coherent plan as the more than 2 million internally displaced Iraqis begin to trickle back to their homes amid a recent lull in violence that had threatened to spark a civil war in the country.

"There's lots of goodwill and lots of discussion, but there seems to be just a lot of talk at the moment," Jolie said in excerpts of an interview aired on CNN.

"What happens in Iraq and how Iraq settles in the years to come is going to affect the entire Middle East," she added. "And a big part of what it's going to affect, how it settles, is how these people are returned and settled into their homes and their community and brought back together and whether they can live together and what their communities look like."

"Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine standing here, standing on the steps of the Harvard Lampoon. It's really exciting and I've had such a great time," said Hilton, who



VISITORS BURN INCENSE sticks and pray at a temple in Beijing on the first day of the Lunar New Year Thursday. Thousands flocked to temples across the city to pray for good luck in the new year, the Year of the Rat.

NATION

WASHINGTON — Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, who could be a 2010 candidate for Texas governor, has mustered support from a majority of Senate and House members to help persuade the Supreme Court to strike down the District of Columbia's gun laws.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — With eyes on the sky, NASA's astronauts hope for an afternoon liftoff on the shuttle Atlantis despite the odds for rain, and maybe storms. The shuttle is to deliver the Europeans' space lab to the international space station.

WASHINGTON — Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor who spent more than \$40 million of his own money seeking the Republican presidential nomination, is dropping out after losing a string of primaries to John McCain. Romney, who described himself as "the only true conservative" in the race, will tell a conservative political action group he doesn't want to be a distraction that might help the Democrats.

WASHINGTON — Barack Obama raises \$7.2 million in less than 48 hours to Hillary Rodham Clinton's \$4 million. Some of her senior aides begin working without pay, a stark contrast at a pivotal moment in the Democratic presidential race. She challenges him to five debates in the next month, but Obama, looking at a favorable February calendar, turns her down.

NEW YORK — One sign of how shaky the economy has become: Shoppers at Wal-Mart are redeeming their Christmas gift cards for staples — pasta sauce, diapers, laundry detergent — instead of iPods or DVDs. Retail

the top U.S. commander in Iraq Gen. David Petraeus, Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and Iraqi migration officials during her visit, according to the American Embassy.

AP Television News footage also showed the Academy Award-winning actress mingling with American troops during lunch at a dining facility in the heavily guarded Green Zone, which houses the embassy and Iraqi government offices in central Baghdad.

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Paris Hilton found herself somewhere she never thought she'd be: Harvard.

"Harvard is hot!" the 26-year-old celebrity heiress said Wednesday as she picked up the Harvard Lampoon humor magazine's "Woman of the Year" award in front of the Lampoon castle.

"Never in my wildest dreams did I imagine standing here, standing on the steps of the Harvard Lampoon. It's really exciting and I've had such a great time," said Hilton, who

sales turn in their worst January in four decades as high gas and food prices, a slumping housing market, tighter credit and a tougher job market push consumers to the edge.

CASTALIAN SPRINGS, Tenn. — At first, rescuers thought it was a doll. Then it moved. Hours after the storm, 11-month-old Kyson Stowell was found alive about 150 yards from where his home once stood. His mother died, but he's fine outside of a few scrapes and bruises. Kyson's story was among the signs of hope amid the devastation from deadly storms that ravaged the South.

NEW YORK — Authorities carry out one of the most sweeping Mafia takedowns in decades in a bust that essentially knocks out what is left of the once-mighty Gambino crime family. The charges run the gamut from decades-old gangland murders to extortion and coincide with a series of raids in Italy targeting trans-Atlantic mob drug trafficking.

WASHINGTON — Senate Democrats agree to limit the benefits they wanted to add to pending economic stimulus legislation, improving passage for the prospects that President Bush and Congress jointly proclaimed vital to the country.

WORLD

BEIJING — With the Beijing Olympics just six months away, the city's stubborn air pollution is taking some luster off the glistering venues and the meticulous planning aimed at controlling every facet of the presentation.

stars as an attractive best friend to an ugly duckling in the film "The Hot Chick & the Not Chick," which opens Friday.

Hilton, who arrived an hour late for the festivities, told the crowd of about 100 people who greeted her that her "Simple Life" co-star Nicole Ritchie was with her, then added: "Just kidding."

According to Ms. Bell, an exception was made for Wiley College and full funding was provided in 1907 "on the condition that he (Dogan) keep it a secret."

The library was built entirely by Wiley students after white workmen refused to work alongside them in its construction. It is now the Willis J. King Administration Building.

Dogan proved very adept at any raising money. In the 1930s, at the height of

TxDOT interstate plan meets opposition

Continued from Page 1A

tery" and urged TxDOT to modify its plan to include only those roadways and rails that are available today. He said the right-of-way required for the multi-lane TTC — up to 1,200 feet — would eat up 146 acres of land every mile.

"This will kill rural Texas towns and will cause towns like Marshall to slowly deteriorate," he said.

Linda Curtis of Bastrop is a member of an organization known as Independent Texans, which she said "represents tens of thousands of Texans opposed to the project." Her group presented a form letter which calls for a congressional investigation regarding the actions of Gov. Rick Perry and TxDOT, outlining 10 points she said "deserve further inquiry."

The letter puts forth such allegations as deceptive lobbying efforts leading to the passage of a transportation bill implementing the corridor, the misuse of public funds for the purpose of "sealing" the project to the public and the withholding of public documents, specifically a signed contract with CINTRA, a Spanish-based toll road consortium which appears to have favored status to build the corridor.

"It will take a united effort to stop this thing," Curtis said. James Mason of Carthage also spoke against the project, saying the massive right-of-way would "divide communities, divide school districts, divide people from their churches and families" and generally create a lot more travel for residents trying to get from one side of the corridor to the other.

"Until we use all of the Highway 39 right-of-way it is of no use to obtain additional right-of-way," he said.

Mason also said citizens of Shelby County are currently trying to convince their county commissioners to adopt a formal resolution in opposition of the corridor. "Are the people in Shelby County smarter than the people in Panna or Harrison counties?" he asked.

Dennis Dugan's family owns and operates a farm directly in the path of the proposed corridor.

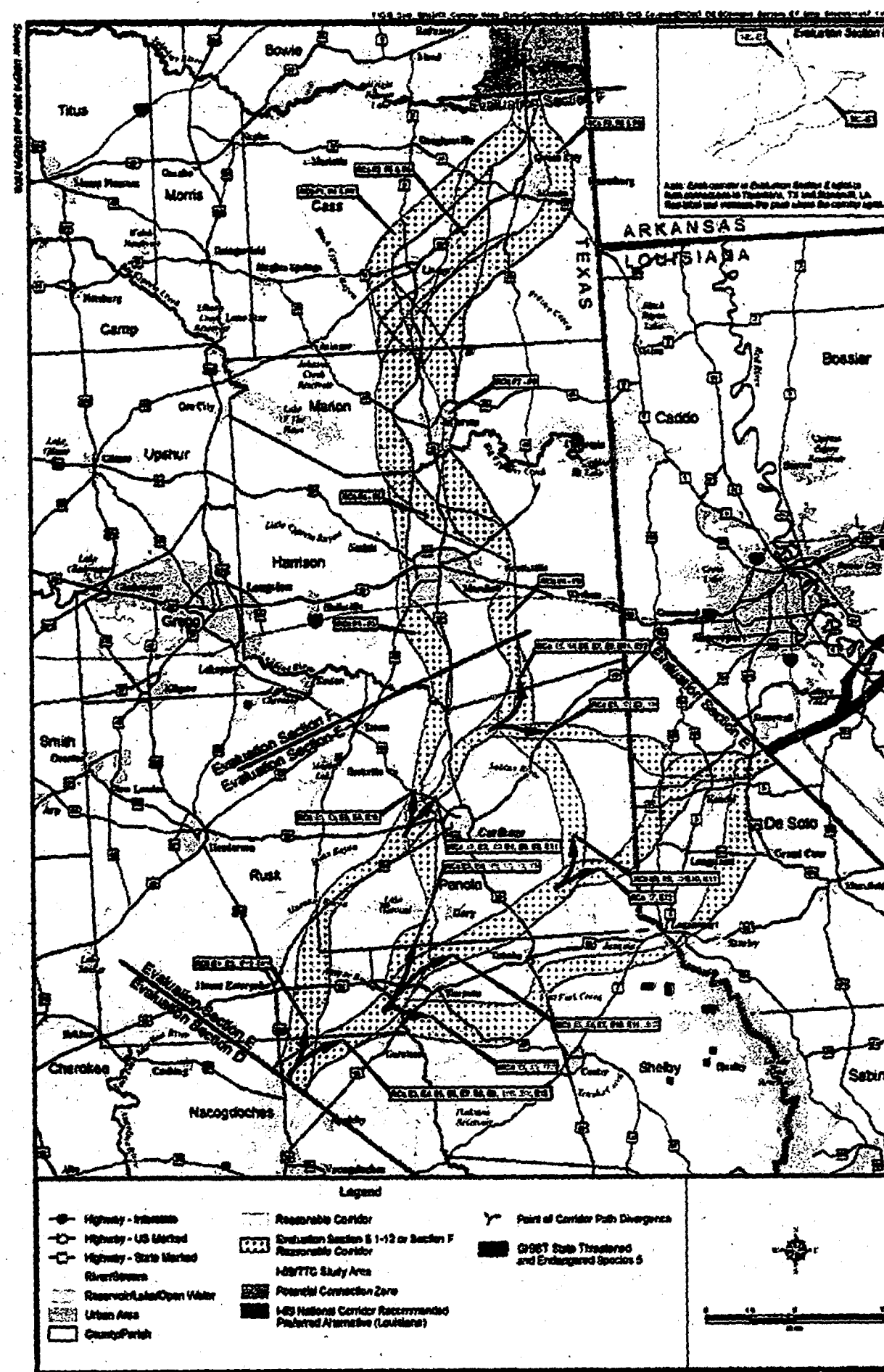
"The threat of losing their land is putting hundreds of Texans at risk," he said. "How can you sell land that may or may not be taken by the government? How can you build or plant on that land?"

"In a time when we should be focusing on guarding our borders and protecting our citizens, instead they're making crossing the border more comfortable for them and they're taking the family farm to do it."

Daryl Ware of Marshall called the project a "property rights" and "national sovereignty issue" that threatens to "obscure our borders with Mexico and Canada."

Dennis Weis and Dr. Jim Harris appeared to agree to disagree.

Weis urged TxDOT to abandon the "outrageous" plan for a new corridor and upgrade



USEPA/Courtesy Photo

THIS INTERSTATE 69/TRANS-TEXAS Corridor map shows potential locations for the proposed highway.

the existing U.S. Highway 59. Harris said he believes "an I-69/TTC in the footprint of U.S. 59 would be one of the biggest things that will ever happen to Marshall."

John Melvin Dodd of Gilmer, however, said he opposed the TTC "anywhere" in the state.

"Our elected officials are betraying the wishes of the vast majority of Texans," Dodd said, adding that, though the corridor is not currently considered in Upshur County, "all of Texas will be affected by it."

Fuzzy Harmon of Marshall was the only speaker to contest claims that the corridor would benefit economic development in the city, explaining that businesses already established along the U.S. Highway 59 corridor would be hurt with the change in traffic patterns should the TTC take the bulk of traffic away from the center of Marshall.

"The whole community is dependent on the current traffic flow along Highway 59," he said. "If the traffic is moved west or east of the city, those invested along (U.S.

Highway) 59 will hurt. I don't think this is good for our local business."

City Manager Frank Johnson spoke in favor of it after thanking TxDOT officials for hosting what he said was the third meeting in Marshall on the proposed project.

"Transportation is the lifeblood of any community," he said. "Communities on major transportation routes thrive and prosper while those not on these routes struggle."

Johnson said about 29,000 vehicles currently cross intersection at U.S. Highway 59 and U.S. Highway 80 on a daily basis. "Taking into consideration the projected 60 percent population growth in the next 25 years, we will have between 47,000 and 48,000 vehicles a day there," he said, "and traffic along Highway 59 will slow to a crawl."

He thanked TxDOT for its effort "to relieve what we all know will be future transportation problems."

Retired County Judge Wayne McQuarters of Marshall was last to speak favorably of the project.

"We have good transportation. Good roads and transportation are essential to a community, essential to job creation," McQuarters said. He said the improved transportation system would improve the economy of the area.

"This is our chance to bring jobs back," he said. "I-69 is a compatible counterpart to I-20. We should be selfish for the benefit of our children."

Bob Ratcliff, the TxDOT district engineer, conducted the meeting, explaining that all comments — those presented publicly along with those presented in writing and to the various court reporters stationed throughout the room — will be taken under consideration and "all concerns will be answered" in the Tier Two Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Deadline for presenting additional comments on the Tier One DEIS is March 19, he said. Following development of the next DEIS, more public hearings will be held. To comment on the plan, visit www.keeptexasmoving.com.

Matthew Dogan started Marshall's Carnegie Library

Continued from Page 1A

Dogan started the process by writing to Carnegie asking for funding for such a library, according to local historian Gail Bell.

"When he finally got it — a \$15,000 grant — it was on the condition that the funding be matched dollar for dollar," Ms. Bell said. "He got a match from the board of education of the Methodist Church, giving Wiley a \$600,000 endowment fund."

Dogan was born on Dec. 21, 1863, at Pontotoc, Miss., the son of slaves William and Jennie Dogan.

He received a bachelor's degree from Rust College in Holly Springs, Miss., and taught in several black colleges before being tapped in 1896 to head Wiley College as its second black president. He became the longest-sitting president in Wiley history.

During his 46-year administration there, Wiley developed into one of the best colleges for African Americans in the country. "Graduates from Wiley could go on to post-graduate work at any university in the country that would accept them," Ms.

Beil said. He organized off-campus sites for the college in Dallas and Jefferson.

Dogan also served as president of the Standard Mutual Fire Insurance Company, the National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools, and the Teachers State Association of Texas.

He also was active in many Methodist Episcopal, fraternal and civic organizations. With Dr. James Farmer and Bishop Robert Jones, Dogan helped organize a church camp in Waverland, Miss., for black citizens to train to become preachers. The facility was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Dogan was awarded an honorary Ph.D. by Rust College in 1904. New Orleans University conferred the doctor of divinity degree on him in 1910, and he received honorary degrees from Walden College and Howard University as well.

Dogan and his wife Fannie had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. He retired from Wiley Col-

lege in 1942 and died at his home in Marshall on June 17, 1947. He and his family are buried in Wiley College Cemetery.

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FOR STARTERS

"To maintain one's ideals in ignorance is easy."
— Uta Hagen

But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Therefore don't be afraid. You are of more value than many sparrows.
— Luke 12:7

OUR VIEW

Neither Bush nor the Democrats have answer

The more we read and hear about the state of the economy, the happier we are that Republicans moved to filibuster and kill a bill in the U.S. Senate that would have supposedly acted as a stimulus.

The bill had become a market-basket of rebates from President Bush's original suggestion of a stimulus package that would have helped working Americans. Democrats had added low-income seniors, disabled veterans and others to the mix.

Not that these people couldn't use a little help, not that almost everyone reading this editorial couldn't use a little help. But the point was not to throw away "free" money to the masses, it was to help get the economy going again.

Which brings us to the second point: We have come to believe that the president's plan isn't any good, either. We think it ought to be shelved and rethought.

The government probably has a role in jump-starting the economy, but we're now convinced that this is not it.

For one thing, the government itself simply doesn't have the money. We're already in deficit spending to incredible amounts. It hardly seems responsible leadership to add to the pile of debt that we are eventually going to have to repay. This is especially true when you consider that many economists — especially those of a conservative stripe — don't think the tax rebates will do the trick. To spend billions and get no stimulus would be a disaster. Rebates are very popular politically, however, which is probably both why Bush suggested them and the Democrats wanted to extend them.

There is also something disquieting about the behavioral patterns the government wants to set with the rebates. Those pushing them do not want you to sock that money away for hard times ahead, they want you to spend it. They want you to go to the mall, buy a new car, take a trip across the United States. They want the money to turn over.

But that might not be in the best interest of the citizens who get the rebates. Saving might be the best. The idea of never-ending consumption has us feeling uncomfortable.

So a true stimulus package might take an entirely different form. Perhaps we need to look further.

In any case, we're glad the Senate killed the package. Now we think it is time for the House to do the same thing.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, Feb. 8, the 39th day of 2008. There are 327 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On Feb. 8, 1968, three college students were killed in a confrontation with patrolmen in Orangeburg, S.C., during a civil rights protest against a whites-only bowling alley.

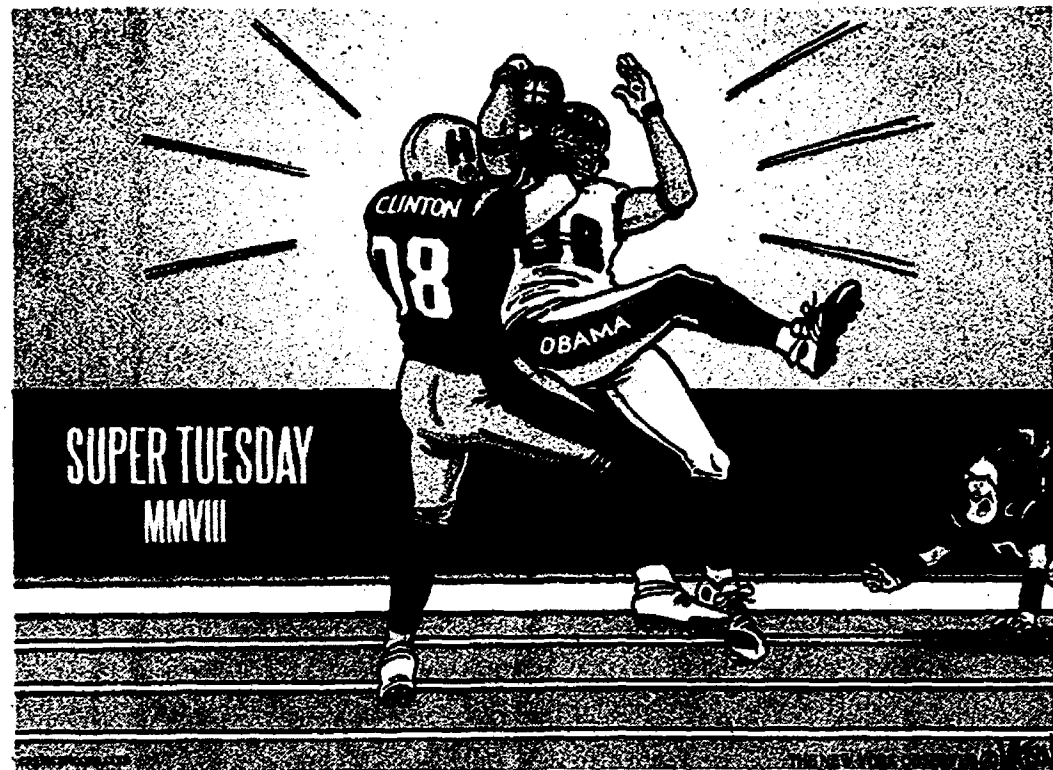
On this date:

In 1587, Mary, Queen of Scots was beheaded at Fotheringhay Castle in England.

In 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was incorporated.

One year ago: Model and actress Anna Nicole Smith died in Florida at age 39 of an accidental drug overdose.

Today's Birthdays: Composer John Williams is 76. Actor Jack Larson is 75. Actor Nick Nolte is 67. Comedian Robert Klein is 66. Actor Creed Bratton is 65. Singer Dan Seals is 60. Singer Ron Tyson is 60. Actress Brooke Adams is 59. Actress Mary Steenburgen is 55. Author John Grisham is 53. Singer Vince Neil is 47. Singer Sammy Llanas is 47. Actor Gary Coleman is 40. Actress Mary McCormack is 39. Actor Seth Green is 34. Actor Josh Morrow is 34. Actor Ryan Pinkston is 20. Actress Karle Warren is 16.



Jesus appears to be replacing America's religious-right wing

BY JOEL CONNELLY

Seattle Post-Intelligencer

SEATTLE — Texas populist, humorist, agitator and agriculture commissioner Jim Hightower scornfully dismissed the middle of the road as where you find "yellow stripes and dead armadillos."

As America's debate over religion and values has gotten more extreme, rancorous and rancid, however, many have found themselves asking, "What would Jesus think?"

Jim Wallis, best-selling author and voice for progressive evangelism — no, that's not an oxymoron — argues that "a new moral center" is forming, a powerful force for healing.

And, argues Wallis, politicized, conservative Christianity is on the ebb. "The religious right is being replaced by Jesus," he said in an interview. Wallis is promoting his new book, "The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith and Politics in a Post-Religious Right America."

It's high time! A nation rooted in both faith and reason deserves to hear more than insults exchanged by the extremes.

Is there a refuge equidistant between the anti-gay pastor the Rev. Ken Hutcherson and the Christian bashing Dan Savage of "The Stranger"?

In Wallis' view, Christian evangelism is broadening its agenda to include such issues as the warming of God's Earth, the HIV/AIDS plague in the Third World and the slaughter of innocents in Darfur.

"With the old religious right leaders, it's like they are standing in a river and shouting 'Stop! Stop!'" he said. "They have argued that there are only two moral issues, abortion and gay marriage."

"It does take away their power. The extreme positions have been the litmus tests. The purpose is to win elections, not to save the lives of babies."

As well, Wallis and a number of faith and political leaders are challenging the other extreme. They are telling the secular left to be more tolerant.

"Whomever the Democrats nominate, I am going to press hard to make abortion reduction a plank in the platform," he said.

"They have to move beyond 'a woman's right to choose.' I don't think abortion rights people should oppose that. They should be FOR abortion reduction, dramatic abortion reduction."

He cites, as model, a "Reducing the Need for Abortions Initiative" sponsored in Congress by Reps. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., and Tim Ryan, D-Ohio. It would increase access to contraceptives and seek to reduce teen pregnancies, along with provisions that assist women and assure help in raising a child.

"We are offering policy solutions that promote life and support parents beyond the birth of their new child," DeLauro said in introducing the proposal.

Common ground on abortion would

seem tough, high impossible to realize. All major Republican presidential candidates, except Rudy Giuliani, have run on a commitment that the Supreme Court's landmark 1973 Roe v. Wade decision should be overturned.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., often identified as a "moderate," has campaigned with Sens. Sam Brownback and Tom Coburn, two outspoken abortion foes. Coburn once declared, "I favor the death penalty for abortionists and other people who take life."

But there has been outreach from some corners of religious conservatism.

The Rev. Rick Warren, author of the best-seller "The Purpose Driven Life," stirred controversy but went ahead with Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., to speak at an AIDS conference at his Saddleback Church in California.

Other so-called "megachurches" cited by Wallis are moving beyond litmus test issues.

"They are trying to forge a new agenda," he said. "Trying to follow the footsteps of Jesus is central to their approach. They are becoming more engaged with their communities."

In turn, Obama used a conference of Sojourners — a group founded by Wallis — to directly confront secularists who demand that all reference to religion be purged from the nation's public life.

"The discomfort of some progressives with any hint of religion has often prevented us from effectively addressing issues in moral terms," Obama declared.

"Some of the problem here is rhetorical. If we speak in language of all religions, we forfeit the imagery and terminology through which millions of Americans understand both their personal morality and social justice."

"Imagine Lincoln's Second Inaugural Address without references to 'the judgment of the Lord,' or King's 'I have a dream' speech without reference to 'all of God's children.'"

What's the benefit of finding common ground?

Hopefully, we will no longer see "I'm a Values Voter" buttons, with the message that some Americans have values and others do not.

Hopefully, too, the country can renew its sense of community and a REAL respect for life.

The late Cardinal Joseph Bernardin pioneered the idea of "a consistent ethic of life" and coined the phrase "a seamless garment" to describe how believers should respond to threats to life and the dignity of others.

The cardinal's words appeal to the evangelist.

"It's the consistent ethic of life he talked of," said Wallis. "I care about abortion. I am concerned the abortion rate is too high. But I am deeply concerned about Darfur. I am concerned that 3,000 kids will die today of hunger. I stand with the Catholic bishops in their opposition to the death penalty."

"The consistency ethic will challenge both the left and the right, and the selective ethics on both sides."

We won't let Berkeley push us around again

By MICHELLE MALKIN

Syndicated Writer

The troop-bashers in Berkeley are at it once more. But this time, the rest of America lashed back. Message to the Left Coast: It's not the 1960s anymore. On Jan. 29, the Berkeley city council passed several measures targeting the lone Marine recruitment office in town. The anti-war harridans at Code Pink have been picketing the center for months. Last fall, they defaced the building by slapping a sign that read "assassination" (sic) in the military office window. Instead of rising to defend the recruiters' property rights, the city council and mayor voted to sabotage them further. They granted Code Pink special parking privileges directly in front of the Marines' workplace to facilitate their protests — and also offered them a free sound permit for six months.

In the home of the free speech movement, the peace and love mob abused the power of government to help drive the Marines out of the city. They proceeded with zoning changes to treat recruiting centers like porn shops. They encouraged residents to continue to impede the recruiters' work. Never mind federal law making it a crime to willfully obstruct the recruitment or enlistment service of the United States. If that weren't blood-bolting enough, the Berkeleyites put the troops under further siege by voting to send a letter to the U.S. Marine Corps calling them "uninvited and unwelcome intruders."

Video of the council meeting showed city officials trashing the Marines as "the president's own gangsters" and "trained killers" who are known for "death and destruction ... and maiming."

One of the council members complained that our men and women in uniform were responsible for "horrible karma."

Mayor Tom Bates offered to "help" the Marines evacuate.

But, of course, they continue to argue shamelessly that they're not against the troops. Just against President Bush's policies.

Only one council member, Gordon Wozniak, opposed the Code Pink measure — pointing out that the council was bending the rules, intentionally setting up a confrontation between the group and the recruitment office, and "showing favoritism."

He was outnumbered, 8-to-1. Code Pink co-founder Medea Benjamin and her minions gloated over the vote and turned up at the recruitment center to rub salt in the wound: "We are the defenders of democracy, the upholders of the Constitution. If it weren't for people like the people in Berkeley, standing up for what they believe, we'd be living under Hitler."

Her thugs defaced the recruitment center again — this time with a banner of bloody handprints stretched across the window as recruiters tried to do their jobs.

In another decade, Berkeley would have gotten away with this intolerant, illiberal, un-American power trip.

But in the age of the Internet, talk radio and YouTube, word of the siege at Berkeley spread like lightning. And citizens across the country weren't willing to look the other way.

The San Francisco-based Move America Forward, led by talk show host/conservative activist Melanie Morgan, launched an online petition protesting the city council measures.

Republican Sen. Jim DeMint of South Carolina moved to strip Berkeley of pork barrel spending worth \$2 million.

The American Legion mobilized as well. National Commander Marty Conatser lambasted the votes: "The American Legion not only strongly condemns this action by the City Council but also believes that a sincere apology is in order to all Marines, past and present. ... What these recruiters do is essential to our national security. Without recruiters we have no military. And I don't think we can count on the flower children from Berkeley to protect this nation when it comes under attack. They have to remember that Marines are not the enemy; the terrorists are."

After feeling the heat, not just from veterans, military families and troop supporters outside of Berkeley but also from their own embarrassed citizens, the council is waving a partial white flag: Two council members will move to rescind the obnoxious letter and Code Pink privileges next week. It seems a little light bulb went off in Councilwoman Betty Olds' head: "I think we shouldn't be seen across the country as hating the Marines."

Too late. The city's "horrible karma" is on full display. Sit back and watch Berkeley be Berkeley? No more.

About Letters

The Marshall News Messenger encourages readers to express their views. Letters should be on a single topic and be as brief as possible. They must include the writer's name, address and telephone number. Mail letters to Phil Latham, editor and publisher, The Marshall News Messenger, P.O. Box 730, Marshall, Texas 75671.

www.marshallnewsessenger.com

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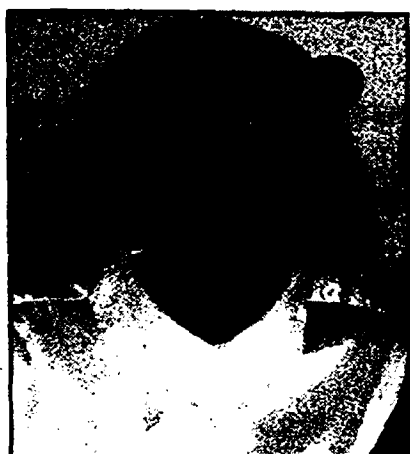
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Obituaries



ALMA GOLDEN JONES

Alma Golden Jones

Lewis Funeral Home

Funeral services for Alma

Golden Jones, 84, of Bethany,

La., will be 2 p.m. Saturday,

Feb. 9, 2008, at New Hope Baptist Church of Waskom,

with the Rev. Paul A. Todd and the Rev. Rogers Jackson officiating. Burial will be in Antioch Cemetery in Bethany, La., under the direction of Lewis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Jones died Thursday, Jan. 31, 2008, in Cedar Hill.

She was born Aug. 4, 1923, in Panola to Samuel Golden and Victoria Hawkins Golden.

Mrs. Jones was a member of Antioch Baptist Church.

Survivors include one daughter, Artrienne Jones of Cedar Hill; one sister, Mary Davis of Dallas; two brothers, Curtis Golden of Los Angeles, Calif., and Joseph Golden of Bethany; and numerous nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Funeral services for Kenneth Wayne Clark Sr., 51, of Tyler will be 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008, at Lewis Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. James W. Reeves officiating. Burial will be in McJohnson Cemetery under the direction of Lewis Funeral Home.

Mrs. Clark died Monday, Feb. 4, 2008, at Good Shepherd Medical Center-Marshall. He was born June 23, 1956, in Marshall to Charles Albert Clark and Myrtle Marie Manning.

Survivors include his mother, Myrtle Clark; father, Charles A. Clark of Marshall; two sons, Kenneth D. Clark Jr. and Shelton D. Clark of Tyler; one sister, Sandra Wilder of Marshall; three brothers, Jesse Charles Clark, Earnest Leon Clark, and Bobby Joe Clark, all of Marshall; and a number of nieces, nephews and other relatives. Visitation will be from 7 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral home.

Inez Butler

Black's Carriage

Funeral Home

CARTHAGE — Funeral services for Inez Butler, 109, of Roanoke, Va., will be noon Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008, at Bethlehem Baptist Church with the Rev. J. T. Harris officiating. Burial will be in Walker Cemetery under the direction of Black's Carriage Funeral Home.

Survivors include her three sons, Wendell Butler of Roanoke, Va., Howard Butler of Detroit, Mich., and Ajay Butler of Houston. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

Curtis Evans

Lewis & Walker Funeral Home

JEFFERSON — Funeral services for Curtis Evans will be 1 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 9, 2008, at Judea Missionary Baptist Church with the Rev. William "Leo" McDonald officiating. Burial will be in Judea Cemetery under the direction of Lewis & Walker Funeral Home.

direction of their musical mentor, Dan Rontode. That same year, Mike married Patricia "Patsy" Post of Longview.

Mike was preceded in death by his paternal grandfather, William Alton Frazier, and grandmother, Beulah Belle Dickard-Frazier; maternal grandfather, John Allen Richardson; and his wife, William Milton Frazier Sr., on March 29, 1998; his younger brother, William Milton "Bill" Frazier Jr., on Oct. 7, 2003; and his mother, Ruby Kathryn Richardson-Frazier, on Nov. 24, 2006.

He is survived by one son, Stanley Keith Frazier, and one grandson, Matthew Christopher Frazier, both of Pasadena, Md., youngest brother, John Alton "Johnny" and wife Joni Frazier of Marshall, uncle, Rev. James Marion Frazier of Livingston, uncle, John Woodrow Richardson of Waco; an aunt, Connie Richardson Melton of Longview; many cousins, nieces, nephews, extended family and friends.

Palbearers include Gerald K. "Gerrie" Bunt of Longview, John Stuart Richardson of Sweetwater, Steve Bradley Richardson of McGregor, Leslie Brent and Bryan Thurston of Kilgore.

Mental illness ultimately forced Mike to live most of his adult life institutionalized. To better understand Mike and Schizophrenia please see the Ron Howard film "A Beautiful Mind." This brilliant movie realistically depicts the struggle individuals with Schizophrenia and their families suffer.

Mike was fortunate to have had very gracious care extended to him from his family of friends at the Windsor Place. Again, we express our appreciation to our extended family and friends at Windsor Place for all the love, care, and support you gave Mike. You are truly God given to those that cannot help themselves. Memorial contributions can be made to Ted and Jan Delorme-Administrators at the Windsor Place Nursing Center, 607 E. Watson Road, Dalgardfield, Texas, 75638.

This obituary has been placed at the request of the family.

Howard E. Davlin

Howard E. Davlin

Sullivan-Heaster

Funeral Home

Funeral services for Howard E. Davlin, 81, will be 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 8, 2008, at the Colonial Chapel of Sullivan-Heaster Funeral Home with the Rev. Ron Segers officiating. Masonic graveside services will follow at Oakwood Cemetery in Jefferson. Arrangements are by Sullivan-Heaster Funeral Home.

Mrs. Davlin died Monday, Feb. 4, 2008. He was born April 28, 1926, in Norphlet, Ark., to Walter Howard Davlin and Effie Lee Hays Davlin. Mr. Davlin married Ruby L. Harris on January 23, 1947, in Jefferson. He worked as a field technician for East Texas Industrial

Gas. Mr. Davlin served in the U.S. Navy. He was a member of Victory Baptist Church. Mr. Davlin was a Master Mason of 50 years with a 33rd degree Scottish Rite and was affiliated with Marshall Masonic Lodge #22 and Jefferson Masonic Lodge #38.

Survivors include his daughters, Diane Brown of Longview and Earlette Poindexter of Hallsville; five grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; and two sisters, Marceline Rawlins Ponchot of Jefferson and Hazel Walker of Mobile, Ala. Palbearers will be members of the Masonic Lodge. Visitation was from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Memorials may be made to any Masonic or Shriner organization.

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CHEM FREE

FOUNDER TOM
McNally says his plastic sink structures wash dirty machine parts with a harmless clear fluid. The process cleans oil, lubricants and grease and captures the hazardous materials in a special filter.



Photos by JENNIFER PREYSS / Cox News Service

A greener cleaner

SmartWasher scrubs machine parts without chemicals

By JENNIFER PREYSS
Cox News Service

Tom McNally doesn't look like a chemist or the vice president of a company. Instead of a lab coat or a power suit, he wears a denim shirt with his company's logo embroidered on the lapel.

"My wife says I have the world's largest collection of unused power ties," he chuckles.

But in 15 years, McNally has turned his Norcross, Ga., company into one of the largest eco-friendly manufacturers and distributors of machine parts-washers.

The company, ChemFree, is an aqueous washing business that supplies cleaners, called SmartWashers, for domestic and international companies such as Pep Boys.

A company that was green before green was an en vogue, ChemFree has long been committed to producing a quality method of cleaning machine parts without harming the environment, humans or animals.

"My favorite [clients] are the national zoos. If you think about it, you have machines that are used in zoos, and you sure don't want to use potentially hazardous solvents when you have panda bears in the next enclosure," says McNally.

ChemFree's vice president and general manager.

Still in the beginning stages of what eventually would become ChemFree, McNally researched and developed several water-based fluids capable of cleaning oil from dirty machine parts. By accident, he came upon an absorbent, which is usually poured over petroleum spills to soak up the oil.

He uncovered a microbial component in a few of the absorbents tested, and when coupled with water, the microbes in the absorbent were activated and ate away the oil. With that science, McNally invented a bio-remediating parts-washing machine, or a SmartWasher.

In a plastic sink structure, available in various sizes and colors, dirty machine parts are washed with a harmless clear fluid. ChemFree lovingly refers to as Ozzy Juice. The bio-remediation process occurs in the washer when the oil, lubricant and grease are cleaned and cap-

tured in a special filter with freeze-dried microbes. The filter holds on to anything inorganic, leaving behind zero harmful waste.

Machine parts-washing is a relatively unknown and unseen area of business. "Parts washers are ubiquitous; they're everywhere. You may not know that they are everywhere, but every gas station that does repairs, every place where there is a machine, you have to have a parts-washer," McNally says. "So if you think about the world out there today, there is no place there isn't a parts-washer."

The problem with the traditional method of parts-washing is the potentially deadly solvent used to remove oil and grime and the harmful environmental waste left behind. Traditional solvents used to clean contaminants from oil parts are generally flammable and can be harmful if ingested.

McNally says that even with warning stickers on traditional washers, plenty of companies still use them.

"Many of the labels on current parts-washers say, 'Watch out for this, watch out for that, and by the way, this can cause respiratory arrest and death.' And it says it right on the label, and yet people use them all the time," he says.

After introducing the SmartWasher in the early 1990s, though, McNally learned that big businesses weren't interested in a product that was environmentally friendly, even if it worked just as well and didn't cost more money than a traditional product.

Melissa Page-Hale, ChemFree's marketing spokeswoman, has worked for the company since it was founded and remembers the struggle of convincing clients the machine was a worthy investment.

"The interest wasn't there," she says. "We didn't say 'green' in our presentation. We didn't say 'environmentally safe.' We didn't focus on what we truly were."

But times are changing, and green interest is increasing. Last year, ChemFree had a 70 percent increase in sales. They have shipped more than 50,000 units domestically and 10,000 internationally, and they hold 11 patents in the United States and 16 other countries.

Whole Foods Market tosses plastic checkout bags for reusable totes

By ELIZABETH LEE
Cox News Service

Whole Foods Market is shelving plastic checkout bags.

The Austin, Texas-based natural foods chain plans to eliminate the bags from its 270 stores within three months, by Earth Day. Stores will use up existing supplies, but they won't order any more.

Instead, the chain will ask customers to buy or bring reusable shopping bags or offer them paper bags. Whole Foods will shift its paper-bag production to recycled material this year.

Although Whole Foods said it is the first chain to ban plastic bags nationally, other supermarket chains are moving toward reusable bags in response to environmental concerns. Publix and Kroger grocery

stores as well as Wal-Mart all sell reusable bags made from recycled material. They also offer stations where customers can recycle the tissue-thin disposable bags.

For now, those three chains plan to continue offering disposables. Although disposable bags will disappear from Whole Foods registers, they still will be offered to customers elsewhere in the store.

Hawaii sets the pace for energy initiatives

By BOB KEEFE
Cox News Service

Honolulu
Thirty minutes from the conference center where world leaders gathered during the last week in January to discuss climate change, workers at the HPower incineration plant in Honolulu are converting yesterday's garbage into this afternoon's electricity.

On the shores of Hawaii's Big Island, government researchers and private companies are developing ways to turn algae into biodiesel fuel for trucks and cars.

On Maui, wind farms generate enough power for 11,000 homes and replace the need for 236,000 barrels of imported oil annually. Elsewhere, companies are tapping into vents beneath the sea and under Hawaii's volcanoes to generate geothermal power.

It might be known for surf and sunshine, but Hawaii also is quickly earning a name for itself as a national hot spot for alternative energy.

The island state's push for alternative energy is one of the reasons the White House picked Honolulu for a meeting of world economic leaders to discuss climate change and energy security. Diplomats from the world's 15 biggest economies, along with the United Nations and the European Union, attended.

It's also why the U.S. Department of Energy and Hawaii signed an agreement on an unprecedented project to produce 70 percent of the state's energy from renewable sources by 2030.

Through state and federal investments, tax credits and new energy policies, the Energy Department and Hawaii hope to turn the state into a national test bed for renewable energy.

"We need to be able to go to a place where people can look

Everything but oil
Researchers and private companies are making Hawaii a leader in clean energy innovation. Some examples: **Water:** Researchers are exploring ways to turn wave energy into electricity. Technology that could someday find its way to coastal states. **Others:** are exploring ways to tap into hot thermal vents and cool trenches under the sea to generate electricity and drive new types of air-conditioning systems. **Wind:** The amount of energy Hawaii gets from wind farms grew by more than 1,000 percent last year. **Biofuels:** Companies and researchers are working to convert oil found in algae, palm trees, sugar and other sources into fuel for vehicles and power plants. **Geothermal:** Hawaii is the only state with a geothermal power plant. The state recently launched a project to develop large-scale geothermal power. **Volcanoes:** Their findings could someday help geothermal exploration elsewhere.

and feel and touch and see the integration of these things in society as commonplace," Assistant Energy Secretary Andy Karsner said. "That's what Hawaii can give us."

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Congress sends economic aid plan to Bush for approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress, facing the prospect of an election-year recession, passed an emergency plan Thursday that rushes rebates of \$600 to \$1,200 to most taxpayers and \$300 checks to disabled veterans, the elderly and other low-income people. President Bush indicated he would sign the measure.

House passage by a 380-34 vote came a few hours after Senate leaders ended a drawn-out stalemate over the bill. Still, by congressional standards, lawmakers approved the legislation with exceptional speed. The plan, which adds \$168 billion to the deficit over two years, is intended to provide cash for people to spend and tax relief

for businesses to make new investments — boosts for an economy battered by a housing downturn and credit crunch.

Rebate checks could begin arriving in May. They would be based on 2007 tax returns, which are due April 15.

The Senate's 81-16 vote capped more than a week of political maneuvering. The logjam broke when majority Democrats dropped their demand that the proposal offer jobless benefits, heating aid for the poor and tax breaks for the home building and energy industries. GOP senators blocked those ideas, but agreed to add \$300 rebates for older people and disabled veterans to a \$161 billion measure the House passed last week.

Bush said he would sign the final plan, which he called "robust, broad-based, timely, and it will be effective."

The legislation would deliver rebates — \$600 for individuals, \$1,200 for couples — to most taxpayers, plus an additional \$300 per child. Individuals making up to \$75,000 a year and couples earning up to \$150,000 would get the full rebate, with those making more than that or too little to owe taxes getting smaller checks.

People who paid no income taxes but earned at least \$3,000 including through Social Security or veterans' disability benefits — would get a \$300 rebate. The measure also includes steps to boost the ailing housing market. It would

temporarily raise the limit on Federal Housing Administration loans and the cap on loans that Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac can buy to \$729,750.

The package was the product of a rare spate of bipartisan cooperation on Capitol Hill, where Democrats and Republicans teamed with the White House on a bill that fell far short of both parties' priorities but could draw broad consensus.

An early agreement forged by Pelosi and Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, along with Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, enjoyed a fast and smooth ride through the House, with lawmakers loath to stand in the way of a plan that could address their con-

stituents' economic worries in advance of November's elections.

But it bogged down in the closely divided Senate, where Democrats were determined to exact a political price from Republicans by forcing them into tough votes on whether to add popular items such as \$14.5 billion in jobless aid for those whose unemployment benefits have run out, \$1 billion in heating aid for the poor and tax breaks for energy producers, including coal companies.

Senate Democratic leaders paired those items with rebates for older Americans and disabled veterans and threatened that Republicans would have to accept them or risk

being blamed for leaving those politically powerful groups out of the stimulus plan.

In the end, though, Democrats couldn't draw enough support for their \$205 billion alternative to break a GOP filibuster blocking it.

They relented Thursday and allowed a vote on a more limited proposal that included the rebates for the elderly and veterans, plus language designed to prevent illegal immigrants from getting the checks. Democratic candidates Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton of New York and Barack Obama of Illinois, skipped the vote. The Republican front-runner, Sen. John McCain of Arizona, cast his first vote of the year on the bill, voting "yes."

River construction crews find forgotten dam in park project

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Construction crews digging a section of the San Antonio River found a forgotten dam built in the 1870s. The limestone structure was found embedded in the muddy silt being removed as part of a project that will extend the River Walk 13 miles, upriver and downriver from the current development.

Project managers hope to incorporate the abandoned dam in the riverfront park that will connect Brackenridge Park north of downtown to the restaurants and retail on the existing River Walk. "The best we can figure, it's been covered and forgotten for about

100 years," said Mark Sorenson, project manager for the San Antonio River Authority.

The dam was built with cut rocks weighing as much as 1,500 pounds each. "It is amazing," said Boone Powell, project architect, surveying the dam. "This is probably the best-built dam the river has ever seen."

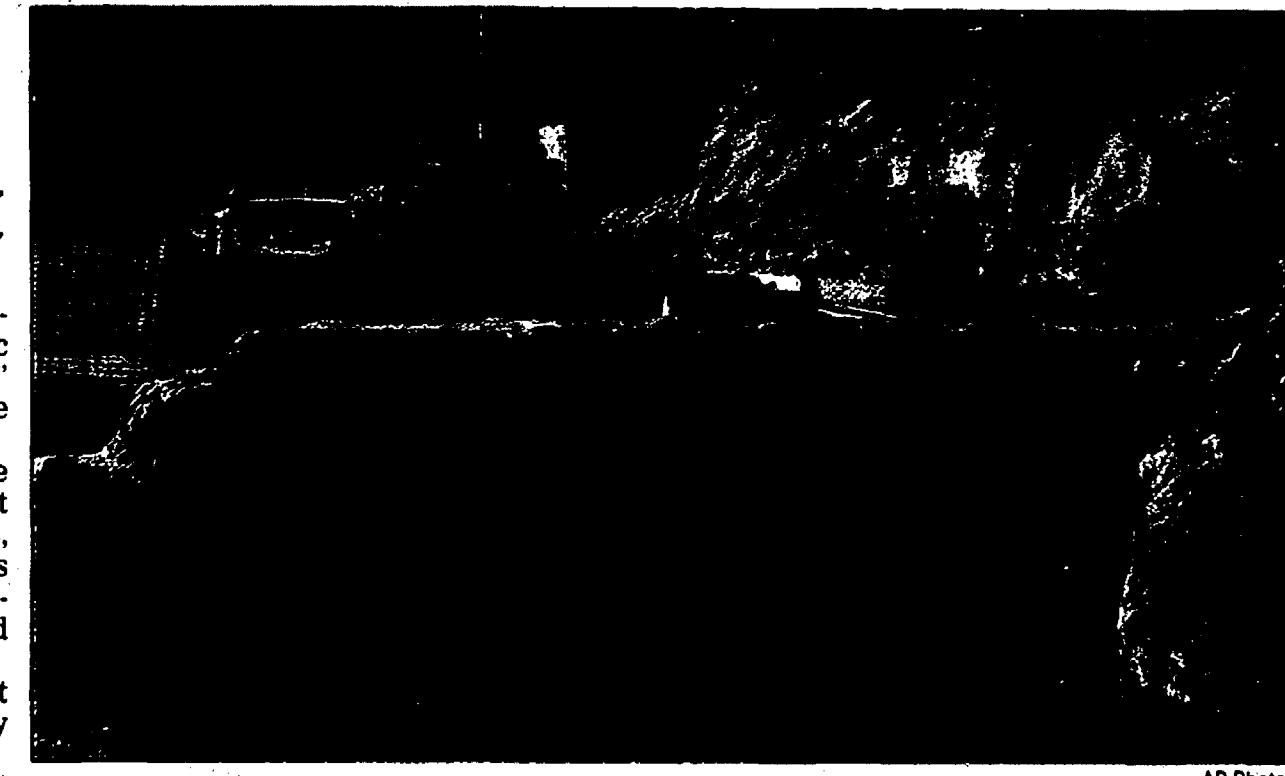
Project archaeologist Steve A. Tomka found a 1904 map that shows the dam and a channel that carried the water to the old Alamo Mill for electric power.

The mill processed grain in the 1870s for about 20 years. Lewis Fisher, president of

Maverick Publishing and author of "River Walk, the Epic Story of San Antonio's River," said the stones look like the rocks used in the late 1800s.

It's not clear when they were cut to allow water flow, but Fisher said during the 1950s, many flood control projects were used to straighten the meandering river channel, and they may have been cut then. "In the 1950s, people didn't feel the way about archaeology that we do today," he said.

Project officials have not yet decided how the dam will be incorporated in the River Walk extension, but first, it must be fully excavated.



AP Photo

CONSTRUCTION CONTINUES Near the site of a forgotten dam built in the 1870s on the San Antonio River Wednesday. The previously unknown dam was found during excavation for the river project.

Texas Briefs

Inmate tries to slash throat during court hearing

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — A prisoner tried to slash his throat during a family court hearing with a piece of razor blade he smuggled out of his cell, officials said.

Court bailiffs restrained William Lee Brothers, 39, before he could severely injure himself Wednesday morning, said Terry Grisham, a Tarrant County sheriff's spokesman.

Brothers was treated at a hospital and was back in jail by the afternoon.

Brothers, who was wearing leg irons and was handcuffed with his hands in front of him, tried to cut himself as he prepared to sign some legal papers, Grisham said.

No one else was in danger. The blade came from a hygiene kit given to prisoners after they are booked into jail, Grisham said.

Brothers is serving a 25-year prison sentence for several convictions for sex crimes against a child.

He had been transferred from a Texas Department of Corrections unit outside Houston to Fort Worth for his court hearing.

Brothers was placed on suicide watch in a single cell Wednesday evening, with deputies checking on him every 10 or 15 minutes.

He will remain on suicide

gun ban overturned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, who might start a run for the position of Texas governor next year, has mustered support from a majority of Senate and House members to help persuade the Supreme Court to strike down the District of Columbia's gun laws.

Hutchison said Thursday she is filing a friend-of-the-court brief in a challenge to the laws.

Fifty-five senators and 249 House members have signed the brief to be filed Thursday by her and Sen. John Tester, D-Mont.

Hutchison has long opposed the district's ban on handguns and requirement that rifles and shotguns be registered, stored unloaded and either locked or disassembled. She sponsored legislation to overturn the district's laws, that has passed the House but not the Senate.

The district's law forced her to disassemble and return to Texas her .357 Magnum she brought with her when she moved from Austin.

"In Texas, of course, the right to keep and bear arms is well-settled. In fact, when in Texas you talk about gun control, they mean using two hands," Hutchison quipped during a recent speech.

'Jena 6' defendant facing new assault charge in Texas

CARROLLTON (AP) — A defendant in the so-called "Jena Six" case that led to angry allegations of racially biased prosecution in the Louisiana town faces a misdemeanor assault charge after allegedly slamming a student's head into a bench at his new school in Texas.

Bryant R. Purvis, 19, was arrested on an assault charge after allegedly slamming a student's head into a bench at his new school in Texas.

Purvis was released from jail Thursday morning.

According to a police report, the victim felt Purvis come behind him and "grab his neck with one hand and begin to choke him."

Purvis then said "Don't you ever mess with my car again" and slammed the student's head into the bench of a table and walked away, the report said.

The student's left eye was injured, but Singleton didn't know whether he needed medical attention after seeing the school nurse.

Purvis was one of six black Jena High School students initially charged with attempted murder after a 2006 assault on a white student.

Charges were reduced, but the original counts caused

complaints of harsh, racially motivated prosecution that led to 20,000 people marching in Jena.

Purvis faces aggravated second-degree battery and conspiracy to commit battery charges in the Jena case and is set for trial in March.

If convicted of both charges, he faces up to 22½ years in prison.

The Texas incident has nothing to do with race, Singleton said.

"We don't believe there's any racial motivation behind it," he said.

"It was basically a misdemeanor assault that occurred during an altercation."

Purvis couldn't be reached for comment Thursday because there's no listed number for the uncle he lives with in Texas, Dallas Cowboys defensive lineman Jason Hatcher.

No one answered the door at the home Thursday afternoon.

Purvis's mother, Tina Jones, sent him to live with Hatcher after the Jena arrest to keep him out of trouble and out of the spotlight.

She told the Alexandria Daily Town Talk newspaper Wednesday that she wishes her son could avoid such situations.

"I understand he gets frustrated," Jones said. "But he needed to walk away from this situation, being that he's already in a situation. It's very

frustrating and upsetting to have to go through so much."

The school district declined to comment on details of the incident, which stemmed from the 6-foot-6 Purvis finding two tires flattened after playing in a school basketball game Tuesday night.

Hebron officials were still investigating the incident, said Dean Tackett, a spokesman for the Lewisville school district. He said that the usual punish-

ment if an assault is verified is suspension or being sent to an off-campus learning center.

Tackett said he wouldn't be able to confirm any specific punishment for a student.

Purvis has mostly kept a low profile since the Jena arrest, but did appear on Black Entertainment Television's Hip-Hop Awards in October. Purvis and fellow defendant Carwin Jones helped present the channel's Video of the Year award.

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SCENE, TOO

Photos by Judith Pipak



DONNA BARR, RUTH MOORE, AND JANITA BOLT

TOPS members convene for meeting



MARY FUGLER-BOEN AND VIOLETT BASS



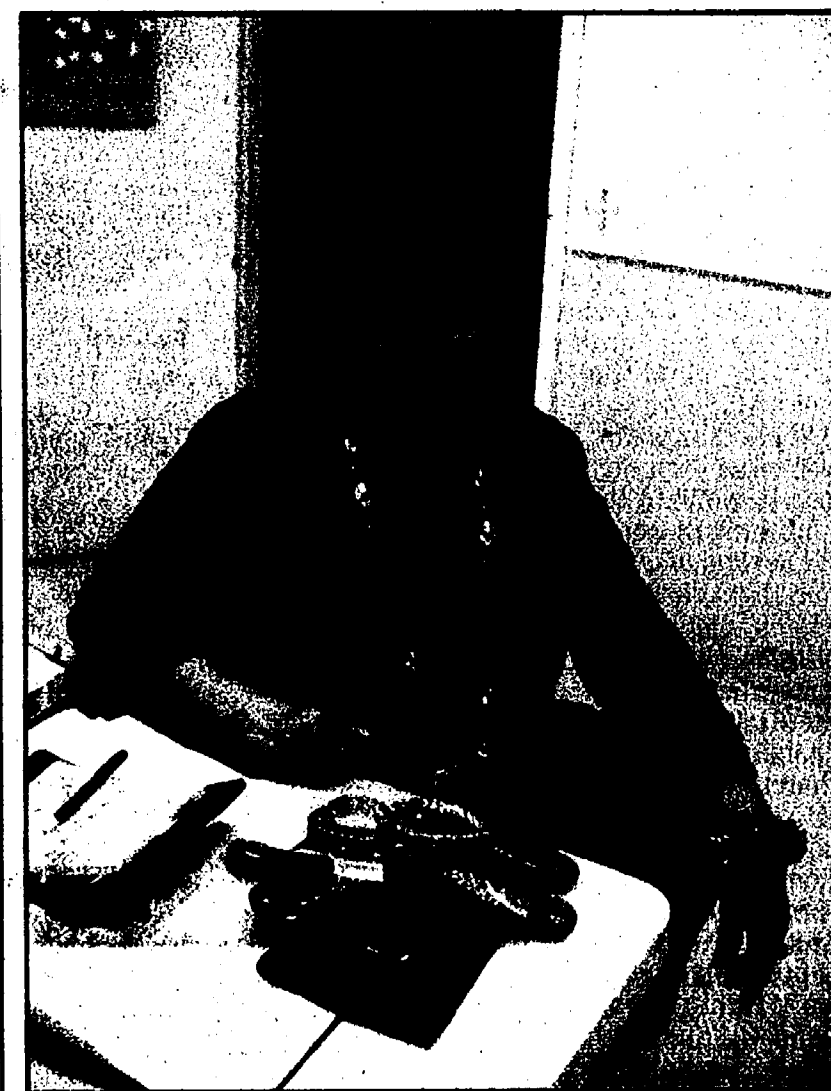
PHYLLIS MELCHERT, MARILYN ZEDLITZ, AND YVONNE THOMPSON



BETTY WYATT, MARIANNE MULLINS AND LOXIE QUADA



NELL JONES



SHARON MCDOWALL



ANN BOGUE

Community Calendar

- Friday, Feb. 8**
- Marshall Elks Lodge No. 683 dart tournament, 7:30 p.m., 411 E. Austin St. Members and guests are invited. Call 903-935-2052.
 - Jefferson Masonic Lodge #38 A.F. & A.M. meeting at 7:30 p.m. Practice Monday and Thursday each week at 7 p.m.
 - Hallsville Country and Western Dance Gold Hall, 7 to 9:30 p.m. No alcohol; smoke free. Down Right Country will perform.
 - The Boys & Girls Club will host "Teen Night Every Night" from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. for ages 14 to 18.
 - D-Rock's Gym presents Friday Nite Fights at 315 Pope St. Door opens at 6 p.m. and fights start at 7:30 p.m. Come see boxing and full contact martial arts plus open boxing for everyone. Training or sparring session and memberships are available. Call 903-935-1529.
 - Uncertain Tavern, 4909 Broadway St., Uncertain, hosts karaoke at 8:30 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 9**
- Tutor training from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Literacy Center. Teach an adult to read.
 - Downtown Marshall Second Saturday come join the fun in Downtown Marshall every second Saturday for gifts, food, fun, and fellowship.
 - Marshall Elks Lodge No. 683 karaoke, 8 p.m. to midnight, 411 E. Austin St. Members and guests are welcome. Call 903-935-2052.
 - Northeast Texas Macular Degeneration Support Group will meet 10:30 a.m. in Buckner Westminster Place, 2201 Horseshoe Lane, Longview. Special guest will be Karen Guay, Independent Living Coordinator. Call 903-753-4164.
 - Citizens of the state of Texas are invited to join the John Tilley Edwards Chapter of Daughters of the Republic of Texas, Longview, in flying our Texas flags in honor of Texas Statehood Day.
 - Uncertain Tavern, 4909 Broadway St., Uncertain, hosts karaoke at 8:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Feb. 10**
- Boy Scout Troop 209 at Saint Mark's United Methodist Church will have its annual pancake breakfast on Scout Sunday from 8 a.m. to noon in the fellowship hall. Plates are \$4.00 and proceeds help send boys camping.
 - Elks 42-Tournament 1 p.m., Elks Lodge, 411 E. Austin St. Call 903-935-2052.
 - Marshall Art League 2 p.m. at the Visual Art Center. The public and prospective members are invited. For more information call 903-938-6200. Alzheimer Support Group meets at 2:30 p.m. in the Kahn Board Room, Marshall Regional Medical Center. All are welcome. Call 903-938-2489 or 903-938-6342.
 - Uncertain Tavern, 4909 Broadway St., Uncertain, hosts a Super Bowl pool tournament championship game at 4 p.m.
 - Monday, Feb. 11
- Broadway St., Uncertain, hosts karaoke at 8:30 p.m.**
- MISD Board of Trustees** Meeting in Pat Smith-Gasperson Board Room, 5 p.m.
- Marshall Junior High PTA** meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- Marshall Metro Rotary** meets at noon in All Saints Hall of Trinity Episcopal Church. Guests invited. Lunch is \$8.
- Al-Anon Group** meets at 5:15 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church; use entrance on West Houston Street by the playground. For families and friends of alcoholics.
- Disabled American Veterans** Chapter 102 and the DAV Auxiliary, 2800 South West Road, just off West End Boulevard, will conduct their regular meeting at 7 p.m. Covered dish supper at 6 p.m. Members are encouraged to attend. Call 903-938-6002.
- St. Mark Baptist Church**, 1501 Martin St., hosts a Big Brother Ministry featuring "The Shaping of A Vital Black Man Child" at 7 p.m. For more information, call W.S. McLane at 903-930-6978 or 903-938-2756.
- The Boys & Girls Club** will host "Teen Night Every Night" from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. for ages 14 to 18.
- Monday Night in Marshall** event is from 6 to 8 p.m. in front of the OS2. Bring your chair and refreshments and join in the fun. Call 903-935-7340.
- American Legion Riders** meeting 7 p.m. at 1906 Bomar St.
- The Longview Area Chapter** of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) will meet 11 a.m. at Ryan's Restaurant in Longview. Call 903-690-2784.
- Uncertain Tavern**, 4909 Broadway St., Uncertain, hosts \$1.50 Day.
- Tuesday, Feb. 12**
- Marshall Public Library** will have "Reading is Fundamental" free book distribution from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. Children ages PreK to sixth grade can take home a book of their choice. Call 903-935-4465.

SHEDDING
the
POUNDSThe Marshall News Messenger
Friday, February 8, 2008

SPORTS

Section
B

Lady Wildcats move up one spot in NAIA poll

Wiley men fall 16 spots to No. 44

Staff Reports

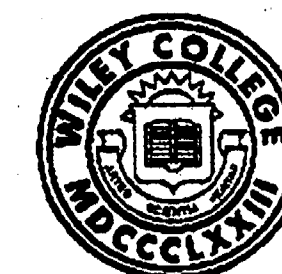
The Wiley College Lady Wildcats inched up to No. 27 in this week's NAIA Women's Division I Basketball Poll released Wednesday.

Sporting a 19-4 overall record, 7-1 in Red River Athletic Conference play (second place), the Wiley ladies moved up one position from a No. 28 ranking a week ago.

Union University (Tenn.) remained in the No. 1 spot with a spotless 21-0 mark as the top six teams remained unchanged on the women's side. Fellow conference rival Langston University came in tied for seventh for the second straight week.

The Lady Wildcats will put their five-game winning streak on the line Saturday at 2:30 p.m. when Southwest Assemblies of God makes its annual visit to Alumni Gymnasium. A men's contest between the two schools will immediately follow.

After losing conference games to Texas College and Huston-Tillotson last week, the Wildcats saw their stock fall substantially as the Wiley men dropped to No. 44 — their lowest polling of the year — 3-4 in RRAC action.



Mountain State University (W. Va.) remained No. 1 for the seventh consecutive poll with a 22-0 record while league-leading Texas Wesleyan, also 15-8 overall but 8-2 in the RRAC charted at No. 21, a one spot improvement from seven days ago. Other conference teams receiving recognition include Texas College at No. 29 and Jarvis Christian College at No. 38.



WASKOM SENIORS Veronica McCray, C.C. Stephens and Heather Riley run a drill during practice recently at Wildcat Gymnasium. Head coach John Edwards looks on in the background.

Numbers add up for Waskom

Lady Wildcats return to playoff scene after long 17-year absence

JAY NEAL
News Messenger

WASKOM — Girl's basketball at Waskom High School is a numbers game, and those numbers have added up to success as the Lady Wildcats (20-7) have wrapped up a post-season spot, their first in 17 years.

To say this year's group of seniors — Lea LaGarde, Veronica McCray, C.C. Stephens and Heather Riley — has come along way in four short years would be an understatement.

After winning two games total as seventh and eighth graders, the quartet as freshmen struggled to collect just three victories.

Prior to the start of their sophomore campaign a coaching change was made and John Edwards, having previously coached at C.E. Byrd in Shreveport, La., was



hired as head girl's varsity basketball coach at Waskom. Edwards, a master strategist and teacher on the court, brought with him ideals that paid immediate results as the girls won 10 games in 2006, more than tripling their output from the previous year.

Last year the Lady Wildcats improved even more, as Waskom was victorious on 14 occasions.

Edwards describes the success of this year's team as a

coming together of all the players on the team, despite having a dominating 6-foot-3 post, Tasha Carter, underneath the basket.

"The whole team has done well this year; it hasn't been just one player, but it helps to have an opposing player in the lane," he said. "Tasha has done well obviously, but you have to realize also that the guards have really been making good passes to get the ball to her. Whereas last year, we were throwing line-drive passes, this year our guards have been able to lob the ball in to her, and usually if she can get the ball she can score."

The story line of this year's team is centered around hard work and confidence.

"It (success) is more of an outcome of the hard work that has been put in," Riley

See LADY WILDCATS, Page 2B

Local teams near post-season

JON DUSTIN BROOKS

News Messenger

Five seasons closed for Harrison and Marion counties' girl's basketball teams on Tuesday, but a pair of teams will be moving on to the playoffs.

Waskom (20-8) punched its first post-season bid since 1991 by placing third in District 19-2A while Harleton tallied its third straight playoff bid despite finishing one game under .500 overall.

Waskom's Lady Wildcats feature a relatively young lineup — only four seniors dress out — paced by 6-foot, 5-inch sophomore post Tasha Carter.

They will face either Blooming Grove or Kerens in a Class 2A bi-district playoff game Tuesday at Tyler Junior College's Wagstaff Gymnasium. Tip is set for 6 p.m.

Kerens and Blooming Grove will play a one-game affair Friday to determine second and third place in District 20-2A. Waskom will face the loser of that tilt.

Harleton, also the Lady Wildcats, downed rival Jefferson 54-46 on Tuesday to clinch a playoff bid as District 18-2A's third-place representative.

The win moved Harleton's record to 14-15 overall.

Justin Kniffen's Lady 'Cats will tangle with New Boston on Monday at Mount Pleasant High School in a Class 2A bi-district match. Tip is set for 6:30 p.m.

Harleton is paced by seniors Lakyn Evers, Courtney Lyons and Ely Jackson.

Hallsville, which fell by three points to playoff-bound Kilgore on Tuesday, narrowly missed out on a post-season bid by finishing two games behind Whitehouse for the third-place spot in District 12-4A.

The Ladycats, who saw the exit of their stud senior post Jacquelyn Hearn, still finished with a solid 21-1 overall record.

Hallsville will return a guard-heavy lineup next season as Megan McGuire and Monica Perez will come back. The Ladycats will also receive the services of guard Shaquita Wrighten next season. Wrighten transferred to Hallsville from Marshall last summer and played this year on the junior varsity squad.

Marshall closed shop by dropping a 71-47 decision to Nacogdoches. The Lady Mavs finished their season with a 12-15 overall mark.

Many key guards such as Ieshia Pipkin, Rokaria Ellie, Nikki Pipkins and Jinaiki

BASKETBALL

Robinson will be returning next year for Marshall as well as 6-6 post Reynetta Phillips.

BOYS BASKETBALL

Two regular-season games still remain on the boys' side for all seven teams and two counties' schools are still in playoff contention.

Jefferson, which has risen to No. 7 in the TABC Class 2A poll, has already punched a post-season ticket for the second straight year under second-year head coach Brian Malone.

The Bulldogs (26-1, 12-0), led by David Williams' 17 points per game, will likely seal a first-round bye by winning District 18-2A. It will mark the second straight season that Jefferson will claim a district championship.

Jefferson's closest district call was a 71-62 decision over rival Harleton on Tuesday.

Other key contributors for the Bulldogs include Cordell Robinson (14.6 ppg, 9.3 rpg, 4.6 apg), Antonio McNeil (9.2 ppg, 5.4 rpg, 4.1 apg) and Jakosh Williams (4.1 apg).

Karnack remains the other boys' team still with a shot at the playoffs.

The Indians currently sit at third in the District 23-A standings with an 11-9 overall mark and a 5-3 tally in league play.

Karnack is sitting a game ahead of Tenaha (5-11, 4-4) for the final spot at the moment. The Indians split with the Tigers in district action.

Karnack has a pair of tough games re-remaining though, in first-place Avinger and second-place Laneville.

The Indians will travel to Laneville (22-5, 6-2), ranked 15th in the TABC Class A, Division II poll, tonight for a 7 p.m. tip.

Karnack will then host No. 5-ranked Avinger (26-1, 8-0) on Tuesday in the regular-season finale.

Although they are out of playoff contention, the Mavericks still have a pair of big games left at state-ranked Whitehouse tonight and at Kilgore on Tuesday.

At 5-7 in District 12-4A play, Marshall has made strides since its winless district season a year ago.

Contact Jon Dustin Brooks at jbrooks@comm.net.



CLEVELAND CAVALIERS' Daniel Gibson tries to grab a rebound as Houston Rockets' Luis Scola gets a hand on the ball during the third quarter of an NBA basketball game Thursday in Houston.

Yao scores 22 as Rockets hold off Cleveland

HOUSTON (AP) — Yao Ming had 22 points and 12 rebounds as the Houston Rockets overcame a poor night from ailing All-Star Tracy McGrady to beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 92-77 on Thursday night.

Rafa Alston had 17 points and nine assists and Shane Battier had 15 points for the Rockets, who've won nine of their last 10. Houston outrebounded Cleveland 55-35, the second time the Cavs have been outrebounded by 20 this season.

LeBron James had 32 points and seven rebounds for the Cavaliers, who sorely missed Drew Gooden, their second-leading rebounder. Gooden sat out with a groin injury, the first game

he's missed this season. McGrady was hospitalized earlier in the day with an upper respiratory infection and strep throat. He arrived at the arena less than an hour before tipoff and scored eight points on 3-for-11 shooting.

The Rockets compensated by dominating the boards and holding every Cavalier but James to a dismal shooting night. James went 12-for-23 — the rest of the team went 19-for-55.

The Rockets led by one after a sluggish first half, then outscored Cleveland 32-20 in the third quarter to take control. Houston sank its first five shots of the quarter, three of them 3-pointers. McGrady hit

a deep jumper and a 3-pointer from the wing on consecutive possessions to put Houston up 53-44.

Later, Battier sank his second 3-pointer and Luis Scola broke free for a dunk to stretch the lead to 65-51. The Cavs missed 11 of their first 16 shots and got outrebounded 14-4 in the first 10 minutes after halftime.

Houston pushed the lead to 16 before James hit a 3-pointer over Battier in the final seconds of the third quarter to make it 72-59. James had three more baskets early in the fourth quarter during a 12-3 Cavs run that cut the deficit to seven.

James sank two free throws with 3:22 left.

MARSHALL CINEMA
STADIUM SEATING
HARRISON, TEXAS

ROCKY GOLD
PG-13
FRI & MON WED 8:10 9:10
SAT & SUN (11:00) 12:30 2:30 4:30

MEET THE SPARTANS
PG
FRI & MON WED 8:10 9:10
SAT & SUN (12:00) 1:30 3:30 5:10

ROSCOE JENKINS
PG
FRI & MON WED 8:10 9:10
SAT & SUN (12:00) 1:30 3:30 5:10

RAMBO
PG
FRI & MON WED 8:10 9:10
SAT & SUN (12:00) 1:30 3:30 5:10

27 DRESSES
PG
FRI & MON WED 8:10 9:10
SAT & SUN (12:00) 1:30 3:30 5:10



AP PHOTO

OLIN BROWNE HITS out of a bunker onto the 17th green of the Pebble Beach Golf Links during the first round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament in Pebble Beach, Calif., on Thursday. Browne shot a 4-under-par 68 to finish two strokes off the lead.

Leaderboard packed with anything but celebrities

PEBBLE BEACH, Calif. (AP) — The celebrity watch at the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am took place everywhere but the top of the leaderboard Thursday. Kent Jones birdied the two most famous par 3s at Pebble Beach and kept bogeys off his card for a 6-under 66 and a one-shot lead, an encouraging start for someone who has played 270 tournaments on the PGA Tour without finishing in the top five.

Nationwide Tour grad Roland Thatcher was a shot back along with Q-school grad Brad Adamonis and John Mallinger, third at Pebble Beach last year as a rookie.

The star gazing took place at Poppy Hills, and while it didn't always produce great golf to match the spectacular sunshine on the Monterey Peninsula, it was entertaining.

Defending champion Phil Mickelson was on the verge of shooting himself out of the tournament until a birdie-eagle-birdie burst enabled him to recover with a 71.

Greg Norman, playing on the PGA Tour for the first time in

18 months, was holding steady until a four-putt on the 13th hole for a double bogey. He finished with a 76. His fiancée, tennis great Chris Evert, flew in from Florida and didn't make it out to the golf course until Norman was on the 16th.

Evert has no plans to take up golf, saying it was too time-consuming with three boys — "It's like four boys with Greg," she said — and a tennis academy to run.

"Tennis only takes one hour," she said, laughing.

These rounds take close to six hours with two pros and two amateurs in every group, and it was a slow, steady grind.

Norman struggled with that and the bumpy greens, but he had no complaints about how he hit the ball.

"It's a long day of concentration, which I'm not used to," Norman said. "You get past four hours, you really have to stay locked in."

Jones, a 41-year-old from New Mexico who has yet to finish in the top 100 on the money list, has been around long enough to realize that one round is too

early to get excited, especially in a format that uses three courses, and in a tournament where the leaderboard doesn't begin to sort itself out until Sunday.

"I think I'm just satisfied that I played well and putted well," Jones said. "When everyone is playing different golf courses, being in the lead isn't every important. But it's nice to be playing well, obviously."

J.B. Holmes, coming off a playoff victory over Mickelson last week in Phoenix, had a 68 at Spyglass Hill to join a group of 10 players that included Todd Demsey, who recently recovered from having a tumor removed from his brain.

The top 14 players on the leaderboard have combined for 10 career victories, and that doesn't include the California State Amateur that Demsey won in 1992.

Jones, a 41-year-old from New Mexico who has yet to finish in the top 100 on the money list, has been around long enough to realize that one round is too

early to get excited, especially in a format that uses three courses, and in a tournament where the leaderboard doesn't begin to sort itself out until Sunday.

McNamee gives deposition

WASHINGTON (AP) — Roger Clemens spent Thursday going door-to-door on Capitol Hill, lobbying congressmen investigating whether he used drugs. His accuser, Brian McNamee, gave a seven-hour deposition behind closed doors, and the trainer's lawyers presented photographs of evidence they said prove the star pitcher was injected with steroids.

McNamee headed straight for an exit, not speaking a word to reporters, when he emerged from his interview with lawyers from the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. His attorneys wouldn't discuss the deposition, but they did talk at length about two color photographs they showed the committee for the first time.

"Roger Clemens has put himself in a position where his legacy as the greatest pitcher in baseball will depend less on his ERA and more on his DNA," said one of McNamee's lawyers, Earl Ward. Less than an hour later, and a short walk away inside the Rayburn House Office Building, Clemens held his own news conference, during which his lawyers repeatedly attacked McNamee's character and scoffed at McNamee's newly presented evidence.

"This man has a total history of lying," Clemens' attorney Rusty Hardin said.

The seven-time Cy Young Award winner's repeated denials of McNamee's allegations in the Mitchell Report about drug use drew Congress' attention. Clemens spoke under oath to the committee Tuesday — the first time he addressed the allegations under oath, and therefore the first time he put himself at legal risk if he were to make false statements.

There is a public hearing scheduled for Wednesday, when Clemens, McNamee and other witnesses, including New York Yankees pitcher Andy Pettitte, are to testify. McNamee, also a former personal trainer for Pettitte, told Mitchell that he injected Pettitte with HGH. Pettitte confirmed in December that he used HGH for two days.

McNamee's attorneys said their client turned over physical evidence to a federal prosecutor for the Northern District of California last month, shortly after Clemens held a Jan. 7 nationally televised news conference at which he played a taped conversation between the two men with conflicting accounts. "At that point," Ward said, "(McNamee) decided there

was no holds barred." One photo shows a crushed beer can that Richard Emery, another of McNamee's attorneys, said was taken out of a trash can in Clemens' New York apartment in 2001. Emery said the can contained needles used to inject Clemens. That picture also shows what Emery said was gauze used to wipe blood off Clemens after a shot.

The other picture shows vials of what Emery said were testosterone, and needles — items the attorney said Clemens gave to McNamee for safekeeping at the end of the 2002 season.

While Clemens' camp called it "manufactured" evidence, Emery said the items were "just a collection of stuff" thrown in a box and "kept in a basement for seven years."

Emery said McNamee kept the items because he "had this inkling and gut feeling that he couldn't trust Roger and better keep something to protect himself in the future."

"We invite Roger Clemens to provide his DNA to the federal government," Ward said. Asked about that, Hardin said the pitcher would comply with any request of that type from a federal authority. "But they're going to have to come to us," Hardin added.

O'Neal out to prove critics wrong with Suns

PHOENIX (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal flashed that wide smile, and took on the critics who say he's too old and too slow to fit in with the sleek, speedy Phoenix Suns.

"I look forward to making people eat their words," O'Neal said at a news conference Thursday. "I really do."

Wearing a Suns' purple shirt and tie with his immaculate dark suit, O'Neal met the media for the first time since the stunning deal Wednesday that sent the 14-time All-Star from the Miami Heat to Phoenix in exchange for Shawn Marion and Marcus Banks.

He charmed the jam-packed room at US Airways Center. Someone asked if he knew he looked good in purple.

"I already knew that," O'Neal said. "But thank you very much."

He acknowledged a new motivation after going from a

team with the worst record in the NBA to one with the best record in the Western Conference. Widespread criticism of the deal has not gone unnoticed.

"I'm very upset," he said. "You just don't really want to get me upset. When I'm upset, I'm known to do certain things — like win championships."

Phoenix is without a title in the team's 40-year history. The Suns have had the most entertaining team in basketball since Steve Nash arrived three-plus seasons ago to orchestrate coach Mike D'Antoni's ultra-fast style.

But they have never made it to the finals, and the trade confirmed the belief that this version of the Suns, despite its record, wasn't going to be able to do it, either.

"I think with the addition of me it gives the guys the extra touch that we can make it," O'Neal said.

O'Neal, out for two weeks with a hip injury, said his new teammate Grant Hill, who has a long history of injuries, told him how good the Suns' training staff is.



change — [chānj] v. To cause to be different, transformation or alteration, transition.

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Listed below are the publication dates and deadlines:

- First Section**
Publication Date: Sunday, March 2
Advertising Deadline: Friday, February 15
- Second Section**
Publication Date: Sunday, March 9
Advertising Deadline: Friday, February 22
- Third Section**
Publication Date: Sunday, March 16
Advertising Deadline: Friday, February 29
- Fourth Section**
Publication Date: Sunday, March 23
Advertising Deadline: Friday, March 7

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Recent UIL football realignment becomes topic of the town

We have had a light rain and it turned cooler after a couple of warm days early in the week. I measured .08 of an inch.

I want to wish Bugs Lovelace a happy birthday today.

He has been pretty much homebound since before Christmas.

How old is the former Bobcat center?

He was born to Connie Lawrence and Earnest Lovelace the year the Great Depression started.

The "H" Association Banquet is early this year — on March

Richardson's Rambles

Thomas Richardson

21. The Gregg County Lions barbecue is March 29.

David Ruff was inducted into the Hallsville Lions Club Monday night.

Jimmie Hunt, back from Scott-White at Temple, did the

honors. Hunt had no new problems that he and old Bets did not know about.

Coach David Plunk spoke to the Lions Club on the UIL realignment. Plunk had Gary Lovelace drive him to Region 7 in Kilgore last week to learn who all would be in the Bobcats district. He said he figured Longview would drop to 4-A, but was surprised that Sulphur Springs was put in our new 13-4A District. This makes a seven team district and a late open date maybe in

week six. Paris and North Lamar dropped to 3-A, so we have to go north to play Sulphur Springs, Mount Pleasant and Texas High. They have put my grandson's school, Anna, up to 3-A and in the district with Paris and North Lamar. Anna only won one game in 2-A, now they are in a district with two former 4-A schools. They are still in the district with Farmville, who won state in overtime over Tatum on a cold night.

Yes, you guessed it the Bob-

cats open the 2008 season against long ago rival Tatum. We have not played the Eagles in football for 56. I was a freshman in high school in 1952 and we had a big lead on Tatum. Coach Keith Boon put a bunch of us bench warmers. They had this big fullback named Billy Hands, he started hollering "fresh meat." Our big boys had pounded on him good but he was glad to see some 120 pounders to run against. I really was not looking forward to trying to tackle Mr. Hand, but I was sure glad to get in

the game. Other non-district games will be against Kilgore, Jacksonville, and Henderson.

Mayor Charlie Dawson spoke to 200 people at the Longview Rotary Club, Tuesday. Yes, it turned to realignment. He told them city folks Bobcats will come to play to win, and enjoy playing in big time football. This year it will be in Lobo stadium.

The Bobcats defeated Kilgore in overtime, 65-62. The girls lost two very close heartbreakers, one out with 21 wins and 8-6 record in district.

In Brief

Red Dress Luncheon

is set for Feb. 21

The Marshall Hospital Foundation will have its fifth annual Red Dress Luncheon Thursday, Feb. 21, at The Marshall Civic Center from 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. This charitable event is to promote women's heart health awareness with "Stories from the Heart." Tickets are \$27 and will benefit cardiology services at Good Shepherd Medical Center - Marshall.

"Tickets for the luncheon may be purchased by calling Jill McCallahan at 903-938-8398, the Foundation Office 903-927-6982, or in the Gift Shop located in the hospital. An innovation for the Red Thursday series leading to the Red Dress Luncheon will be "Movin' to the Music," exercise classes for the young at heart — no matter what age, at the Marshall Life-Center. Classes will be from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 7, and Thursday, Feb. 14. Call 903-927-6900.

Annual pageant set for Saturday

27th Annual Little Miss/Teenage Miss Marshall Pageant will be Saturday at the Marshall Mall. This pageant

is open to girls between the ages of 0 months through 21 years and boys 0 month to 10 years. Winners will receive a trophy, crown, and gifts, as well as the beauty fee paid to the Little Miss/Teenage Miss Texas Pageant.

Winners of this pageant must represent the city of Marshall in parades, ribbon cuttings, etc. Pre-register by picking up forms from Kyle's Bear Castle, 2104 N. Washington Ave., or by calling 214-770-8145. No walk-ins. All contestants will receive a trophy and a gift.

Mavette dance camp Feb. 23

The Marshall Mavette dance camp will be from noon to 4:45 p.m. Feb. 23 in the Marshall High School gym. Registration forms are available at all elementary schools, Marshall Junior High School Jazz Line and Forte Dance Studios.

The cost is \$20 per child or \$30 for two siblings. This camp is for girls ages 4 years to ninth grade and the money collected will go to the Mavette Scholarship program. Early registration ends Feb. 15. Call Angela Bray at 903-938-3251 in the evening.

Hallsville Briefs



KAYLA BETH JONES has been named the Moseley Abstract of the week for Feb. 1.

Kayla Beth Jones, daughter of Jason and Shanna Jones, has been named the Moseley Abstract of the Week for Feb. 1. According to her teachers, Sara Taylor and Kelly Graff of Hallsville Intermediate School, Miss Jones always strives to do her best on her school work. Even when things are tough, she doesn't give up.

Miss Jones is a great friend to all her classmates and is always willing to help others.

She is a very respectful and sweet and a great example of a Bobcat.

Hallsville ISD lunch menu

Monday, Feb. 11
Beef stew
Cheese sticks
Sweet potatoes

Turnip greens
Hot cornbread
Tuesday, Feb. 12
Hot dogs
Potato salad
Baked beans
Peach cups

Wednesday, Feb. 13
Turkey roast with gravy
Potatoes with gravy
Green peas
Valentine dessert
Hot rolls

Thursday, Feb. 14
Country steak
Potatoes with gravy
Green beans
Hot rolls

Friday, Feb. 15
Fish sandwich
Tater rounds
Baked beans
Fruit cobbler

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Lady Wildcats return to playoff scene after long 17-year absence

Continued from Page 1B

said. "There is no one out there this year trying to score all the points; it is a case of whoever is open is going to get the ball and we have the confidence in them that they are going to do something with it (the ball) and make it productive."

Stephens states she is not surprised that this year's squad has accomplished so much compared to past teams.

"I knew we had been putting in a lot of hard work and effort every since Coach Edwards got here," she said. "He has been pushing us real hard and in turn we have been pushing each other also and I think all that is starting to pay off for us now."

McCray concurs the work ethic of the team has intensified along with the confidence level of the team and it is a sweet feeling.

"Even though we have to work hard, it feels good to know you are going some where (the playoffs) as a result of it," she said. "Also, we have the confidence that we can win games now."

Underclassmen Emily Plunkett and Devin Head believe this year's senior crop brings two qualities — leadership and depth — that previously were lacking in previous years.

"The seniors seem to pick the team up a lot this year when we need it, and I don't think we have had a group of seniors that can lead like this group can," Plunkett said. "We have a lot of depth with the number of seniors we

have this year and that helps the team because we have two groups of five that can go out and play at any time," Head said.

When asked for other reasons for the turnaround the Lady Wildcats have enjoyed this year, Head recognized the important role the Waskom fans have had in getting behind the Lady Wildcats.

"It is kind of weird, but we have more fans come out to

watch us than the guys do," she said. "It really helps to have all the extra support. They can get really crazy sometimes."

Crazy can be fun, and fun can be crazy.

"It has been a fun year so far for us," Edwards said.

Contact sports writer Jay Neal at jneal@commm.com or by phone at 903-927-5968.

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IRS e-file 2007 Refund Cycle Chart

Transmitted and Accepted by noon between...	Direct Deposit Sent*	Paper Check Mailed*
Jan. 24, 2008 and Jan. 31, 2008	2/8/2008	2/15/2008
Jan. 31, 2008 and Jan. 7, 2008	2/15/2008	2/22/2008
Jan. 7, 2008 and Feb. 14, 2008	2/22/2008	2/29/2008
Feb. 14, 2008 and Feb. 21, 2008	2/29/2008	3/7/2008

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ACROSS	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN
1 Director Howard	37 Mooring site	1 "The Amazing —"	16 Lacquer compo- nent
4 Tries the tea	39 Massa- chusetts cape	2 Any of five	20 Rowboat need
8 Urban pall	40 Jewel the	3 Soft ball?	23 Rainbow quaffs
12 Beerlike beverage	41 10 to the 100th	4 Sea- soned	24 Yuletide quaffs
13 Get ready	45 Sweater material	5 Really mad	25 Needing liniment
14 "G.W.T.W." acreage	48 What banns announce	6 Cribbage scorer	26 At peace
15 Mien	50 Vagrant Olympic	7 Princess Diana's family name	27 Eye layer
17 Crafts' mates	51 Sprite sword	8 Lennon cohort	28 Indigent
18 Influence	52 Part of B.O.	9 Scratch card	29 Smack
19 Postal Creed	54 "Monopo- ly"	10 Tidbit	32 Sent unwanted e-mail
21 Witness	55 Allow	11 Petrol	33 Viet- namese city
22 Keel			35 Indivisible
26 February figure			36 Slept soundly?
29 Yon maiden			38 Northern hemi- sphere?
30 Sinbad's flier			39 Match
31 Shake- speare's river			42 Author Greene
32 Lady's man?			43 Amorous look
33 Lofty			44 Took off
34 Feline sign			45 Personal question?
35 Choose			46 La-la lead-in
36 Impudent			47 Sapporo sash
			49 Mimic

Solution time: 25 mins.

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