



the Irving Rambler

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"The Newspaper Irving Reads"

MARCH 3, 2005

**THIS
WEEK**



Middle School students create movies



USS Joshua participates in Stargate convention

Nimitz Band Boosters' fundraiser a tasty success

Nimitz High School Band Boosters sponsored their first Taste of Nimitz fundraiser last Monday. Hundreds of people participated in the evening's dinner, filling the Nimitz' cafeteria to overflowing. In addition to dinner, the Taste of Nimitz included a silent auction and raffle.

"The event is going wonderfully," Scott Curry, Nimitz Band Booster's president, said during the event. "I was hoping to sell at least 500 tickets. I thought in my wildest dreams that if we sold 600 tickets at \$5.00 a ticket, we would yield \$3,000 in ticket sales; and if we could get another \$1,500 in the silent auction, I would go home happy. I would guess we have at least 700 and maybe closer to 800 people here tonight; we will have to wait for the final count."

"We had some of our restaurants start to run out of food early, and that was a good problem to have. The restaurants were very accommodating; they went back and got more food for us. Any time you do something the first time, you make your best plans and you don't really know what to expect. This event exceeded our highest expectations," Mr. Curry said.

"The Taste of Nimitz is very important to us this year. Nimitz had 180 band students

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The Nimitz High School Band plays music during the Taste of Nimitz dinner and silent auction sponsored by the Band Boosters.

Bar-B-Q Cook Off raises funds for charity

The Irving Elks Lodge hosted the 17th annual Bar-B-Q Cook Off on Feb. 25 - 26.

Recreation vehicles, people and a wide variety of bar-b-que grills filled the Elks Lodge's parking lot as 50 cooks vied for top honors. Cooks prepared pinto beans, chicken, pork spare ribs and brisket for the competition.

"The secret to great bar-b-que is take your time, cook it slow, keep your temperature low and seasoning; that's it," cook Gerald Maynard from Euless said. "I like to cook ribs and chicken the best. I can cook a good brisket. It is just that brisket is a tough, hard piece of meat to try to cook. Time will tell; it's different every week." This is Mr. Maynard's second time to participate in the Bar-B-Q Cook Off. Last year he won fifth place for chicken and sixth place for beans. He averages 20 cook offs a year.

The Elks Lodge hosts the Bar-B-Q Cook Off each year to raise money for its many charitable endeavors.

"All the money we raise goes to charity," Terry Craig, the membership chairman of the Elks north district, said. "We have a golf tournament once a year, we have about four chili cook offs and we have other social events to raise money. The Elks started the Veteran's hospital and gave it to the government. The Elks give away more scholarships than anybody in the world



Gerald Maynard checks on the food he is preparing for competition during the Elk's Bar-B-Q Cook Off.

except the U.S. government. We go to the Veteran's hospital once a month and donate to them, cook for them and play bingo with them. We have senior citizens come here once a month. The seniors eat and play bingo, and it doesn't cost them anything. This is the best charitable organization in the world."



Doreen Forson (9) from Barton, Aubreana Barker (8) from Lively and Isamer Gonzeles (8) from Thomas Haley are tutored in reading by Irving High School student, Cesyle Barker (15).

Saturday Scholars Program tutors elementary and middle school students

Reading, writing and arithmetic can be a daunting challenge for any child. In order to help children succeed in school, the Saturday Scholars Program offers tutoring to elementary and middle school youngsters.

The Saturday Scholars Program is an award winning, Saturday morning program that was started in Irving 13 years ago. In previous years students and volunteers involved in the program were scattered

among selected middle schools; beginning this year, everyone is gathering at the Central Library

"Being in a public library gives us the opportunity to reach more students, more volunteers, and it is more central," James Coleman, the program's founder, said. "There are a number of resources here including books and computers. If a child came to the

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IISD kicks off district wide recycling program

The Irving Independent School District's comprehensive internal recycling program began with a "kick off" event at Otis Brown Elementary School on Feb 28. Fifty youngsters on the school's Green Team entertained the audience with a new tune, *We are Paper Trained* to the melody of *We are Family*. They also demonstrated the school's recycling efforts and led visitors on a walk-through of their daily recycling routine.

The program is funded by a \$56,000 grant, which the City of Irving received from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality in cooperation with the North Central Texas Council of Governments. Internal recycling collection containers for all campuses and facilities and training materials are provided to the schools by the program.

Each facility is recycling paper, aluminum and small steel drink cans, plastic drink containers #1 and #2 only and flattened cardboard. These items are only collected internally. Some schools have existing "green" teams, made up of students, who take the recyclables from the classroom to the outside recycling bins.

"Otis Brown Elementary School serves as the program's kick off point", Fran Witte, the City's Solid Waste Program and Marketing Supervisor and grant manager, said. "They have an extensive "green team" of students that have been recycling the school's paper for many years. With new equipment, the program is more comprehensive and a little more challenging from a weight standpoint, but the kids seem to really enjoy their role in keeping their campus clean."

All campuses will receive revenue from the paper and aluminum cans collected by the schools.

The public is also invited to participate in the recycling efforts to help each school earn additional revenue. Residents can bring all their paper from home and place the material in the green and yellow recycling containers readily found on campus parking lots marked "Paper Retriever". Residents

may also recycle aluminum cans in the blue recycling containers marked "Aluminum Retriever".

For more information about the Irving ISD recycling program, call Fran Witte at (972) 742-2296.



POLICE BRIEFS

Intoxicated drive collides with airport shuttle

Irving Police were dispatched to a report of a vehicle eastbound in the westbound lanes of S.H. 183 near County Line Road at 6:06 a.m. on Feb. 27. Less than a minute later dispatch received a call of a roll over accident involving an airport shuttle and a black pick-up truck, westbound S.H. 183 between Esters Road and Valley View Lane.

A black 2002 Dodge pick-up, driven by a 20-year-old Grapevine woman was traveling the wrong way on S.H. 183 (eastbound in the

center lane of the westbound lanes). Investigators have determined that the truck was seen westbound on SH 183 making a U-turn then proceed back eastbound in the westbound lanes near the west city limits of Irving near County Line Road.

An airport shuttle van en route to DFW Airport, driven by a 32-year-old Euless man and carrying eight passengers entered westbound S.H. 183 at the Esters on-ramp. The van was traveling in the center lane

westbound when the van's driver saw the truck coming at him. The van's driver veered left, and the truck struck the right side of the van causing the van to roll. As it rolled, one of the occupants, a 13-year-old female, was ejected from the vehicle. After the impact, the black truck veered right and came to rest against the center median wall.

The female ejected from the van was deceased at the scene; the other seven passengers and the driver of the truck were

taken to Parkland and Children's Hospitals in Dallas for a variety of injuries ranging from minor to serious. The driver of the shuttle van had no visible injuries. An investigation is on going with facts and details still being gathered. At 10:35 a.m., the roadway was re-opened.

Kayla Rae Proffitt is charged with one count of intoxication manslaughter and five counts of intoxicated assault. She is currently being held in police custody.

Weekly Reports

BMV Arrest: 2-25-05 2:09 a.m. Officers were dispatched to E. Irving Blvd. on a BMV in progress. Officers arrived and male suspect fled on foot. A short foot chase ensued and eventually the male chose to stop and assumed a fighting stance. Officers used O/C spray and the male surrendered. He was arrested for BMV, evading arrest and fail to I.D. fugitive.

Agg. Robbery: 2-25-05 11:09 p.m. The complainant pulled up to her home in the 9000 block of Crown Point Circle. She was getting the mail when a male suspect approached her vehicle and ordered the passenger out of the vehicle at gunpoint. That suspect robbed the passenger of his money, and at the same time another male ordered her out of the vehicle at gunpoint.

Both male suspects got into the complainant's vehicle and drove away in it. The suspects had been driven to the location by a 3rd unknown suspect in a small vehicle, possibly a Dodge Neon.

Agg. Robbery: 2-26-05 8:42 p.m. Four subjects reported they had been robbed. They were followed home from the Burger King on SH 183 at Story Road. When they stopped at their residence in the 2100 block Concord, two males wearing ski masks approached them with handguns, took their wallets and their 1996 Chevy truck. One of the suspects fired a shot in the air as they were leaving; a .40 caliber shell casing was recovered. The suspects were in a gray Tahoe which may have been taken in a robbery on 2-26-05.

Sudden Death: 2-28-05 8:18 p.m. Officers were dispatched to the 2035 block of the north service road of W. 183. Officers had information that there was a possible body in the drainage ditch under the service road. The reporting party was contacted, and he showed officers where the body was located. It appeared that a homeless person had made a bed out of plastic crates, had lain down, covered himself with a blanket and died. There appears to be no foul play. I.D. and the Medical Examiner responded to the scene and the CID Sgt. was notified.

Agg. Robbery: 3-01-05 4:41 p.m. Officers were dispatched to 219 W. SH 183 on a robbery. A

suspect entered the location and pulled a handgun on the clerk and demanded money. The clerk ran to the kitchen and left the suspect at the register. The suspect then fled the scene without any money. There were no injuries.

Pursuit/Minor Veh. Damage: 3-02-05 2:33 a.m. Officers attempted to stop a Plymouth Voyager minivan for a traffic violation S/B loop12 at Grauwlyer. The driver refused to stop, and the vehicle was confirmed stolen out of Duncanville. The stolen vehicle traveled south on Loop 12 into Dallas and exited at Jefferson Blvd. The vehicle continued on the SSR Loop 12 and turned W/B on Keeneland Pkwy. The vehicle drove in circles several times through the neighborhood. The vehicle slowed down in the 6000 blk of Marine Way, and it appeared as if the driver and a passenger were going to exit the vehicle. Officers pulled the squads parallel to the suspect vehicle and observed the passenger in the stolen vehicle flee on foot. As Officers exited the squad, the stolen vehicle accelerated. In the process of accelerating the vehicle fishtailed and scraped the squad causing minor damage to both passenger doors. The pursuit circled through the neighborhood, and the suspect finally came to a stop and surrendered in the 6000 blk of Marine Parkway. Both suspects were arrested. Both the driver and passenger were charged with UUMV and Evading Arrest. The passenger was also charged with possession of methamphetamine.

The Irving Rambler (214) 675-6493

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If you have an upcoming event, game scores, a press release, or interesting story, please let us know. *The Irving Rambler* encourages submission of articles, facts, and photographs pertaining to the people, life, business, and entertainment of Irving, Texas.

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SCHOOL BRIEFS

Middle School students create movies to carry their voices to the world

Students from Austin and Houston Middle Schools spent two days at the Nokia corporate headquarters in Irving immersed in a unique educational program on Feb. 24-25. Make a Connection Thru Art is an innovative learning experience created through the combined efforts of the Irving ISD, Nokia and Big Thought, A Learning Partnership.

Make a Connection Thru Art presents a curriculum rich in visual arts, creative writing, artistic expression and interactive media. Through their active participation in the program, students develop essential life-skills such as critical thinking, interpersonal skills and teamwork.

Ambassadors elected from each school work with Nokia volunteers, Big Thought staff and video professionals from the Pearson Foundation to develop youth-created artwork into a multimedia "digital storybook" to be distributed online.

"Big Thought goes into the classroom with professional artists and conducts residencies," Vanessa Nickson, senior manager for Nokia's Community Involvement North America, said. "The kids decide on a topic that they want to create a digital story about, and then they develop the art assets they need to make that story: poetry, paintings, sculpture and video. It is totally driven by the young people. In the process of working through this project in a group, the students develop life skills like creative thinking, respect and team building."

"Once the residency is complete in the classroom, the students come together and they select 20 student ambassadors. Ambassadors are people to whom the remaining students entrust their assets with to come to the Nokia offices and use those assets to make a movie. When the kids walk into the room here at Nokia, they know absolutely nothing about the technology. By the end of the second day, they have a three to four minute movie telling the story they have designed. These stories are going to end-up on the Internet, and each student involved in the program will receive a DVD of their school's movie. The students recognize that they have a voice that is going to be heard across the world," Ms. Nickson said.

"At the moment, this program is running in Irving, San Diego and New York. We selected those locations because that is where we have Nokia offices. We can have the kids in our buildings, and we can have Nokia employees involved in volunteering. All seven Irving public middle schools are involved in this program. Because the learning experience is so intense with the artists going into the classrooms and really spending hands-on time with students, it is not a blanket program. We take the classes and the schools one at a time. At Nokia today, we only have Austin and Houston Middle Schools; they are the final two middle schools for this calendar year," Ms. Nickson said.

The students and their teachers enjoy the opportunity to experience education outside of a traditional classroom. Lisa Cartwright, an Austin Middle School humanities teacher, accompanied her classes' ambassadors to the Nokia campus.

"This program is unbelievably fantastic," Ms. Cartwright said. "These kids are working, and they don't stop: it is great. During this project, the kids have learned how to work together. 'Compromise' and 'cooperate' are big words the kids have learned the meanings of through this experience. Students also benefit from working with the latest technology. The expertise available here is not one-on-one, but there are about four professionals per

student to help the students learn the most that they can."

During a ceremony to be scheduled in May at de Zavala Middle School, the students' movies will make their world debut. After they are unveiled to the public, the movies will be available for viewing online at www.makeaconnetion.org.

Make a Connection Thru Art is the American offshoot of Nokia's international Make a Connection program. The program, which began five years ago, exists in 19 countries across five continents and teaches youth to serve as leaders among their peers and within their communities.



David Beaudette, a Nokia employee, mentors Houston middle school students as they put the finishing touches on their movie during the final hours of the workshop.

Students and tutors gather at Central Library for Saturday Scholars Program

Continued from page 1

program and did not bring work, a mentor could reach out to the library resources and help them. This setting is much more conducive to reaching all kids. We are very excited about being here."

"We focus on elementary and middle school students. We use college students, high school students, parents, grandparents and business people as mentors. This is a community project where basically all of

these people come together to help our little ones. Saturday Scholars is a call to action for all of us to come here and do whatever we can to help," Mr. Coleman said.

New mentors are always welcomed to ensure that every student receives the support and help they need to succeed. Potential volunteers should not worry about their own academic weaknesses; there are always children who can use help with reading or basic math. Each mentor is required

to complete a volunteer application and undergo a felony background check.

In addition to helping students obtain academic excellence, mentors also help students with social difficulties, time management problems and study habits.

Saturday Scholars meets in the Irving Central Library each Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. For more information on the Saturday Scholars Program, call 817-540-6753 or visit www.saturdayscholarsprogram.org.



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The Irving Chorale, Dallas Baptist University Chorale, Las Colinas Symphony present "Remembrance & Hope"

The Irving Chorale joined the Dallas Baptist University Chorale and the Las Colinas Symphony Orchestra for a special evening of "Remembrance & Hope" at the Irving Arts Center on Feb. 25. Composer Nancy Hill Cobb's *Threnody*, a memorial honoring the victims and survivors of tragedy and the 10th anniversary of the Oklahoma City bombing was featured during the concert.

"I'm most pleased the Irving Chorale, the Dallas Baptist University Chorale and the Las Colinas Symphony have joined forces to present *Threnody*," Cobb, a professor of music at Dallas Baptist University, said before the concert. "In this work, timeless texts join with those of my sister, Ernestine Hill Clark, to present a picture of tragedy and grief, but also recovery from grief. It is my hope that the work will have a message both to those who perform and to those who listen."

A conversation between Cobb and Clark on Easter Sunday in April 1996, just one year after the Oklahoma City bombing was the genesis of *Threnody*. Unknown by Clark at the time, Cobb was searching for the right text for a choral/orchestral work that she wanted to compose.

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Chamber of Commerce - Economic Development Update

Leaders from the City, Chamber, Las Colinas Association, Dallas County Utility and Reclamation District, and Tax Increment Finance District joined the Chamber and the Las Colinas Marketing Alliance in honoring five Irving businesses selected as finalists in the *Dallas Business Journal's* Best Real Estate Deals of 2004. Finalists included [La Villita](#), [Citigroup](#), [HealthState Medical Campus](#), [EFJohnson](#) and [Washington Mutual](#). Chris Wallace, President/CEO of the Chamber, stated that it was a great

opportunity to celebrate the investment these companies have made in Irving. Wallace further stated that with approximately 10% of the finalist being from Irving, the audience of approximately 500 commercial real estate brokers and business leaders were sent a strong signal that "Irving is open for business".

Irving-based Healthaxis (NASDAQ:HAXS) announced that Tak Investments agreed to invest \$12.5 million in the company's common

stock. Under the agreement, Tak will name two members to Healthaxis' board. James McLane is Chairman and CEO.

Mary Forte, president and CEO of [Zale Corporation](#) (NYSE:ZLC), announced that the company's website posted double-digit sales growth for Valentine's Day. Zale has over 2,300 locations throughout North America.

According to Reuters, [Exxon Mobil Corporation](#) (NYSE:XOM), with its world headquarters in Irving, has been ranked as the world's most valuable public company based upon stock market capitalization. Exxon Mobil's shares rose nearly 40% over the last year, outperforming all of the major U.S. stock indexes.

JPI, with headquarters at 600 Las Colinas Boulevard, has purchased a 490 unit apartment complex off Coit Road in Dallas.

The Irving-Las Colinas marketplace was cited in a special feature of "Dallas Means Business" in the January 24th issue of *Fortune* magazine. The article included quotes from Chris Wallace, president/CEO of the Chamber, where he cited the quality control of the Las Colinas master-planned

community and proximity to DFW International Airport as a key factors to business decision-makers considering a relocation.

John Branciforte, director of sales and marketing for the [Omni Mandalay](#), was named Sales and Marketing Executive of the Year by Omni Hotels.

David Rea, chief financial officer for [La Quinta Corporation](#), headquartered in Irving-Las Colinas, has been named president and chief operating officer for the Company.

Jim Noble has been hired by Irving-based [TM Advertising](#) as creative director. Noble was formerly with TBWA in Vancouver, Canada.

Current projects of the economic development staff include: a retail corporate headquarters, a national mortgage loan service company, a financial services company, a semi-conductor headquarters, a customer sales fulfillment center for an international company, an energy company, a medical distribution company, and an international technology manufacturer.



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For information on Tickets, Sponsorship or Donations Please contact Joe Edwards
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Irving High School JROTC students attend military ball

The Irving High School United States Marine Corps Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) hosted their annual military ball at the Harvey Hotel on Feb. 26.

For students, the ball is an opportunity to participate in a long-standing military tradition. Dinner, toasts and dancing are the fun expressions of an evening that honors courage, service and duty. A solitary place setting at a separate table commemorated POWs.

Sergeant Major G. Leal whose decorations include the Bronze Star with

Combat "V" Device, two Meritorious Service Medals, three Navy Achievement Medals and the Combat Action Ribbon was the evening's guest of honor.

"The JROTC program teaches you a lot like leadership and discipline," Sergeant Alicia Page, a 10th grade student who plans to join the U.S. Marines after college, said. "I've learned how to be a leader and to have confidence in myself."

Many of the youngsters who attended the ball will eventually enter military service;

others will find their lives take them in a different direction. All of those who

participated in the military ball will take with them memories that will last a lifetime.



Irving High School United States Marine Corps JROTC students elected ball Princes and Princesses from grades 9 - 11, and a King and Queen from the senior class. Pictured above are Princess Adriana Yega (11th), Prince Daniel Turk (11th), Prince Alex Ortega (9th), Princess Amanda Campbell (9th), King Oscar Contreras, Queen Isabel Guel, Princess Ashley Page (10th), Prince Gerardo Diaz (10th) and Princess Alicia Page (10th).

Grammy Award Winner to teach no pain piano workshop

Traditional piano teachers might not approve, but thousands of people have learned the secret of how to play piano without reading music. Grammy Award Winner Richard Theisen will teach the nationally renowned "Instant Piano Workshops for Hopelessly Busy People" from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Cimarron Park Recreation Center on March 14.

You don't need years of weekly lessons to learn piano. In just one evening, you can learn enough to give you years of musical enjoyment, whether entertaining others or just for your own amusement. Here you will learn all the chords you'll need to play any song in this one session: any song, any style, any key. You'll then perfect your technique at home. It's easy, fun and musically correct.

This teaching method reveals how the pros play. As a professional pianist (and early piano lesson dropout), Theisen knows all the piano player's tricks of the trade. For over 15 years, this seldom highly sought information has been taught in workshops to 1000's of people in the United States.

You will learn to use sheet music in a completely new way that is extremely simple, and you will discover many of the shortcuts the pros use to enhance your playing. After this workshop, each student will be able to play any pop tune with both hands using this system.

Anyone interested in taking the class may send for a free report, "How to Read Just Enough Music Notation to Get by in

PopMusic". Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to DreamCatcher Music, P.O. Box 1173, Fairfield, TX 75840.

Richard Theisen has built a career in the music business from the studio to the stage. Richard's film credits include Beverly Hills Cop as a co-writer of the Grammy Award winning album cut, "Rock n Roll Me Again" performed by the System and several soundtracks for AFC Pictures.

Due to availability, enrollment is limited. Tuition for the workshop is \$55.00 this fee includes a materials fee for book and CD. For more information contact Cimarron Park Recreation Center 972-910-0702, or go to www.pianofun.com/~dreamcatcher_music.



IRVING PARKS & RECREATION

March Events

Events happening at your recreation center

Parks and Recreation Center locations and telephone numbers

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Cimarron Park Recreation Center, 201 Red River Trail, (972) 910-0702 | 5. West Park Recreation Center, 530 Davis Drive, (972) 721-2519 |
| 2. Mustang Park Recreation Center, 2323 Kimwest Parkway, (972) 556-1334 | 6. West Park Pool, (972) 721-2325 |
| 3. North Lake College Aquatic Center, 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd., (972) 273-3531 | 7. Lively Pointe, 509 N. O'Connor Road, (972) 721-8000 |
| 4. Houston Recreation Center, 3033 Country Club Drive, (972) 721-2670 | 8. Lively Pointe Pool, (972) 721-2897 |
| 9. Lee Park Recreation Center, 3000 Pamela Drive, (972) 721-2508 | 10. Austin Recreation Center, 825 E. Union Tower Road, (972) 721-2859 |
| 10. Lee Park Pool, (972) 721-2585 | 11. Lamar Recreation Center, 219 Cransell Road, (972) 721-2478 |
| 11. Northwest Park Recreation Center, 2800 Chaperne St., (972) 721-2529 | 12. Heritage Senior Center, 200 S. Jefferson St., (972) 721-2498 |
| 12. Northwest Park Pool, (972) 721-2600 | 13. Heritage Aquatic Center, (972) 721-7310 |
| | 14. Senter Park Recreation Center, 901 S. Senter St., (972) 721-2641 |
| | 15. Senter Park Pool, (972) 721-2630 |
| | 16. Southwest Park Pool, 2800 Shady Grove Road, (972) 721-2408 |



Underwater Egg Hunt

March 11

Area children can hunt for 20,000 candy and toy-filled plastic eggs at the City of Irving's annual Underwater Easter Egg Hunt. The event is from 6 to 8 p.m. March 11, at the North Lake Aquatic Center, 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. Check-in begins at 5:30 p.m.

Participants can have color photo buttons made with the Easter Bunny. Other activities include prize baskets for all age groups, a magic show and carnival games.

The free event is open to children ages 11 and under. Pre-registration is required. Irving residents can register through Saturday, Feb. 26, at all recreation centers and the aquatic center.

Non-Irving residents and late registration for Irving residents will be held from Feb. 27 through March 4, at Cimarron Park Recreation Center, 201 Red River Trail. For more information, call (972) 721-2501.

Heritage Aquatics Center. Eggs 'n Jam March 12

This special Easter event, for middle and high school students, runs from 7 to 11 p.m. March 12, at Heritage Aquatics Center. Admission is free with school or IPAR ID card. Pizza and sodas will be available.

Cimarron Park Recreation Easter Egg Hunt March 18

An Easter Egg Hunt for kids up to 6 years old will be held at 10 a.m. March 18, at Cimarron Park Recreation Center. Register by March 14, cost is \$5. Call (972) 910-0702 for more information.

West Park Recreation Easter Egg Hunt March 19

West Park Recreation Center will hold its Easter Egg Hunt, in conjunction with Kid's Fair, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 19. Call (972) 721-2519 for more details.

Lee Park Recreation Easter Egg Hunt March 23

An Easter Egg Hunt for infants to 6 years old is set for 10 a.m. March 23 at Lee Park Recreation Center. Call (972) 721-2508 for more details.

Northwest Park Recreation Spring Easter Egg Hunt March 24


This special Easter event, for ages 3 to 6, is set for 10 a.m. March 24 at Northwest Park Recreation Center. Registration is required. Call (972) 721-2529 for more details.

Senter Park Recreation Easter Egg Decorating Event March 24


Bring the whole family for decorating egg-citement from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. March 24 at Senter Park Recreation Center. Cost is \$5. Registration is required.

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Multicultural Festival brings community together despite varied backgrounds

The Academy of Bangla Arts and Culture (ABAC) presented its annual Children's Multicultural Festival in the Carpenter Performance Hall on Feb. 26.

ABAC's Children's Troupe opened the show with a short play, *Juta Abishkar*, which means *The Invention of the Shoes*, by Nobel Laureate, Rabindranath. Performed entirely in Bangla, the story chronicles the trials and tribulations of a king obsessed with keeping his feet from being soiled. Despite the best efforts of the royal advisors, no practical solution is found until a poor man invents the first pair of shoes.

A variety of schools and organizations were invited to showcase their cultures on stage. Addis Fikir Ethiopian Dancers, Ballet

Folklorico Viva Mexico, Cambodian Arts Preservation Group, DCET/Believe in Yourself, Emerald School of Irish Dance, Grace Hula and Tahitian Dance and the Indian Cultural Heritage Foundation each shared their own culture, traditional dress, music and dance.

After the intermission, David Chicken, a.k.a. David McMahon, presented his high-spirited show featuring his favorite fowls. Mr. Chicken invited children of all ages to join him both on stage and in the audience in singing, dancing and celebrating the chicken.

A member of the Indian Cultural Heritage Foundation presents a traditional dance during the Children's Multicultural Festival.



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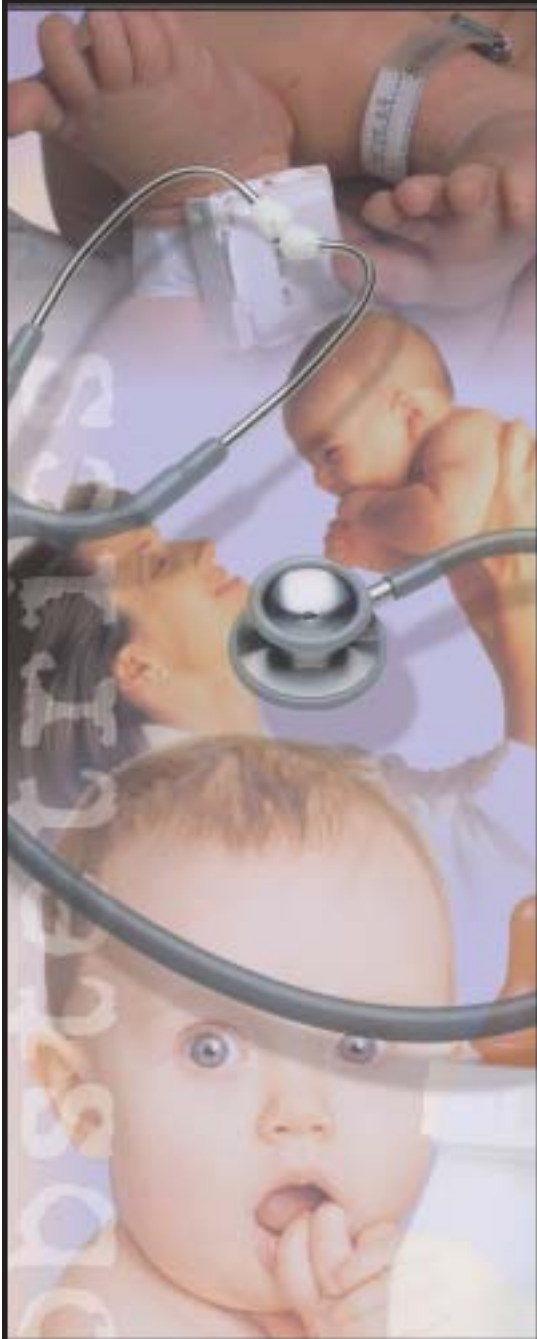
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Evening of dinner, music raises funds for band



The Nimitz High School cafeteria is filled with hundreds of people during the Taste of Nimitz fundraiser.

Continued from page 1
this year with just two directors. Next year the band is projected to have 220 students, and we really need another band director. There are only two band directors on the Nimitz' paid staff, and the band boosters are providing the money to pay two assistant directors: Mario Luna works with the percussion and Melanie Barajas works with the Color Guard. We want to be able to continue to provide these assistant directors

next year; therefore, we were hoping this event would be a success," Mr. Curry explained.

Bowie, Lamar and DeZavala Middle Schools and the Nimitz High School bands provided music for the evening.

Food for the event was provided by 10 area restaurants: Outback Steakhouse, Applebee's, Mama's Daughter's Diner, Cool River, Chic-fil-A, CiCi's, Roly Poly, Pizza Hut, Sonny Bryan's BBQ, and El Chicho.

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USS Joshua participates in area's first Stargate convention

Members of the USS Joshua, an Irving based science fiction club, helped provide security for and participated in Creation Entertainment's Official Stargate Convention in Grapevine from Feb. 25 to 27. Stargate SG-1 and Stargate Atlantis fans gathered at the convention to discuss the series and meet some of the actors who bring Stargate SG-1 to life.

"This is the first Stargate SG-1 convention to ever come to Dallas," John Coward, the USS Joshua's Communication Officer, said during the convention. "The USS Joshua is helping the Creation Entertainment convention people; we supply support for them. We supply ushers, door help, check tags, get food for the actors, just general stuff to keep the convention going."

"We use this as a recruiting tool. A lot of people come through the convention and the USS Joshua has a dealer's table where we highlight ourselves. We explain to people that this is the Joshua and this is what we do. Many people do not even know we exist in Irving. Our presence here is a way of getting us publicity," Mr. Coward said.

Several members of the USS Joshua attended the convention costumed as characters from the Stargate series. Steve Liptak and Deb Liptak costumed as Maj. John Sheppard and Teyla Emmagan,

characters from Stargate Atlantis spoke about costuming.

"Costuming is an art form," Mrs. Liptak said. "It is like a painting except it is done with fabric, make-up and bits of metal."

"There is a personal creativity element to costuming," Mr. Liptak said. "You must come up with your own idea. Then you look around, see what is available and build it as a long evolving piece of artwork; before you come up with the final piece."

Rende Coward costumed as a male Wraith discussed her initial hesitation to joining a science fiction club.

"When I first joined the USS Joshua, I had a stereotypical image of what a Trek fan was," Mrs. Coward said. "I was expecting people with tape on their glasses and pocket protectors. But I found some amazingly talented and cool people who are also professional people. We have regular, everyday people and that is what's fun. We don't have a bunch of geeky people sitting around discussing mistakes made in Star Trek episode twenty-two. We talk about everything."

"The convention is a chance to meet other people who are like us; they are as crazy as we are," Mrs. Coward said. "It is also a chance to get out there, show other people what we can do and try to get more people to, as we like to say, 'come out and play with us'."

Karen Helmer portraying Hathor, a Goa'uld character from the SG-1 series, won second place in the costume contest.

"This is my first convention," Ms. Helmer said. "It takes a lot of guts to get up there on stage. It is one thing to be doing this in your house or for a big party, but to get in front of other people who don't know you is really nerve racking."

The USS Joshua is very active in the community. Members visit children's hospitals and nursing homes, and each year they participate in adopt-a-family at

Christmas. Recently, the USS Joshua helped add color and adventure to a performance of the Mesquite Symphony Orchestra.

"The USS Joshua is a local fan club that promotes science fiction," Mr. Coward said. "We are not basically a Star Trek club, even though that is our origin. Our members are into Babylon 5, Stargate, Star Wars, Battlestar Galactica and whatever sci-fi programs are on at the time."

Anyone with an interest in science fiction is invited to attend the USS Joshua's monthly meetings. Club meetings take place from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at Crystal's Pizza, 930 W. Airport Freeway on the third Saturday of each month.



USS Joshua members, Rende Coward costumed as a male Wraith, Steve Liptak as Maj. John Sheppard, Deb Liptak as Teyla Emmagan and Gena Goodwin as a female Wraith, won first place in the Stargate Convention's costume contest. The costumes were inspired by the Stargate Atlantis series.



Don S. Davis, the actor who portrayed Air Force General George Hammond in the Stargate SG-1 series, speaks with fans during the convention.

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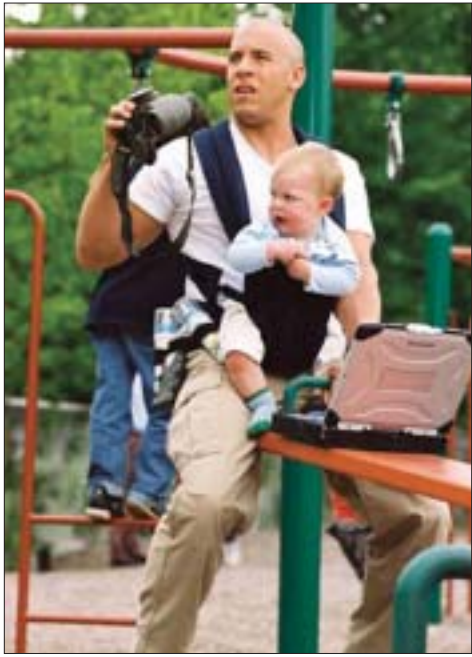
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IN GOD WE TRUST



New family film, *The Pacifier*, is an entertaining adventure

Who knew there was a softer side to Vin Diesel? Well, relatively soft anyway.

Vin stars in the new comedy family action flick *The Pacifier*. I have to admit that when I first heard the title in the same breath with Disney, I was already nodding off. But don't let this bland moniker keep you from seeing one of the better family films to hit screens in some time.

The Pacifier tells of an undercover agent (Diesel) who is handed a new assignment: Protect five siblings from some unknown assassins who are trying to steal a top-secret experiment their deceased father hid in the house. Even though there is nothing inventive in the formula of *The Pacifier*, writers Thomas Lennon and Ben

Garant are able to create a fairly entertaining adventure.

I mean, who better than a Navy Seal to teach a 15 year old to drive, tell bed time stories and build up the esteem of a struggling teenage lad? All while he fights off ninjas with a tennis racket. As with all family adventures of this sort you have moments of hallmark hokey- but at least this effort does it with pizzazz and some seriously humorous moments.

I was most impressed with Vin's chemistry with the kids. He has a pretty decent warm side to him and he was far better

in this role than some of his action counterparts that have tried this route in the past. Along with the Vinsters, *The Pacifier* stars Brad Garrett as every kid's nightmare of a wrestling coach and Faith Ford as the children's mother.

It's Rated PG for action violence, language and rude humor, but these are so far and few between that your entire family will enjoy all 91 minutes of this upbeat undertaking. I give it 4 out of 5 stars simply as applause to an effort of providing great family entertainment.

With a Spin on Pacifier, I'm Matt Mungle.

Early spring is the time to clean flowerbeds and prepare soil

Kathy Hawkins
Kathy's Plant Kottage

Spring is upon us, and what beautiful weather we have been having. People are out and about working in the yard. Daffodils are blooming, and robins are bobbing in and out of shrubs looking for worms. One has to enjoy spring – off with the cold and in the new.

Well, are your flowerbeds ready for planting? This is the time right for the 'spring cleaning' of gardens, and most importantly, soil preparation.

The soil in your flowerbeds, especially annual beds, is the most important ingredient

for success because of the short performance period of annuals. Unlike trees, shrubs and perennials, annuals have only a few months to bloom to their hearts content and then are spent.

The key ingredient for soil structure is porosity and good drainage. At this time, you will want to add your bark, manures, compost or peat moss to your soil and dig into existing soil by turning it. By working your soil now, you give the ingredients in the soil time to blend.

This is also a good time to eliminate any weeds that start to sprout. If you prefer, you can use a pre-emergent weed killer.

Chorales and symphony join to present *Threnody*

Continued from page 4

Clark, who was closely involved and experienced the horror in Oklahoma City that April morning, had been journaling her thoughts as a healing process.

During the sisters' 1996 conversation, Cobb realized that Clark's journal might contain just the text material she was seeking. Cobb broached the subject to Clark, who distilled the journal into a poem entitled "Through a Glass Darkly." Excerpts from that poem along with the traditional Latin texts and Psalm 94 form the text for *Threnody*.

"*Threnody* is a hauntingly contemporary piece, reminding listeners of

such tragedies as 9-11, the war in Iraq and most recently the tsunami disaster," Harry Wooten, director of the Irving Chorale and Music Minister at Royal Lane Baptist Church, said. "Musically, this type of loss is stunningly portrayed in the depth of words shared from those moments of time. Such types of grief and tragedy seem to bring people together to rally and support each other. It also shows us that we can still find that hope and light continue to shine even in the darkest of circumstances, so *Threnody* concludes with a song of hope, "Cantate Domino", 'Sing to the Lord a New Song!'"

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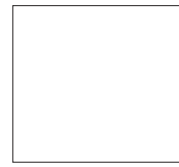
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Dollie

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Color: Black & White

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Comments: Dollie is sweet and good with kids and other cats.



Stella

Breed: Pit Bull
Sex: Female
Weight: about 65 lbs.
Age: about 3 years

Color: White & Black
Reason for Surrender: Found as a stray.
Comments: Do not let my breed fool ya. I am a gentle, loving companion with so much to give. I am housebroken and good with other pets.

Pick your Idol favorites today

Matt Mungle

What do these three people have in common: Amy Adams, Rickey Smith and Ryan Star? If you immediately said, "Duh, they are finalists from the last three seasons of American Idol," you would be correct. If you guessed they are the real names of famous western saloon dancers, I would say you have a way too creative imagination. I would also say that you haven't been following the Fox program, which picked up a People's Choice Award for best Reality Show.

Season four is under way, and the final 24 pop star wannabes have been chosen from over 100,000 who tried out. Over the next few weeks, the guys will perform on Monday, the girls will perform on Tuesday and the fans will vote each night. On Wednesday, two guys and two girls will be sent home until there are six guys and six girls making up the 12 finalists. From that point, they'll perform each week until we've voted for the next American Idol.

I don't know what it is about this show that is so addictive, but I can't stop watching. Is it because as a human being I desire to see

other human beings excel at something they love? Is it because I get to vote, and I ultimately feel power as I control the destiny of peoples' lives? Or am I just a sucker for a cool gimmick? I don't care which one it is. I just have to watch. I can't help it. This show may be so popular because viewers sort of relate to one of the 24 finalists in background, appearance or triumphs. Something just clicks.

Now that the new season is under way, I am going out on a limb here by choosing my guy and girl Idol. Then you can think of me in awe and wonder as my choices stay in

week after week. Are you ready? My final pick from the male crooners is 25-year-old New Jersey native Anwar Robinson. From the female roster I have to go with the 21-year-old Okie, Carrie Underwood. Both of these individuals have jumped out at me since day-one, and I believe they will be the final two.

If you are following the show, I would love to get your opinion now as to who you feel the winner will be. I will track our progress in upcoming columns. You can e-mail me at matt@mungleshows.com.

With a spin on entertainment, I'm Matt Mungle.

Margaret's Corner

Hi Irving!

March: In like a lion, out like a lamb. Did you hear that thunder and rain last night? Despite the weather variations, it is still a time when we all get excited about spring and summer. But are we ready? Insect repellent and sunscreen (and lots of it) are spring and summer essentials that we don't want to be caught without. I get my seasonal supply at the local health food store because I think it is very effective and much safer. The current and upcoming seasons are a fun time to look forward to no doubt. Safety in swimming, boating, etc. is also a must. Make memories but be careful. After all, we want to make sure we're around to enjoy those memories, don't we?

My new grandbaby is almost nine months old now and he is observing all his surroundings. He loves to be outside when

weather permits. It is going to be so much fun to watch him during Easter as well as my two 3-year-old grandsons. They are definitely looking forward to it. When I ask them what Easter is, they tell me "when Jesus rose again." I ask them, "Where is He now?" and they respond with "He's in heaven and in my heart." Remember, children learn from the models in their lives, so let's dedicate ourselves to being worthy of this great honor. When my grandsons are with me, I do my best to focus on what is important and fun. Easter eggs and baskets are fun, but why we are rejoicing is important. I think it is really important to teach them about the event we are celebrating.

Soon, I will share with you about a relay event to be held in May. To my knowledge, it's the first time it will be in Irving and it is a very worthwhile event to participate in.

+++++++In my last article, I promised that I would share with you the recipe for the best tasting cookies I've ever had; and here it is.

"LAURA BUSH COWBOY COOKIES"

- 3 sticks butter (real butter)
- 1 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 1 tbs. vanilla

- 3 c. flour
- 1 tbs. baking powder
- 1 tbs. baking soda
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tbs. cinnamon
- 3 c. chocolate chips
- 3 c. oats
- 2 c. coconut
- 2 c. pecans

Directions: Cream butter and sugars, add eggs and vanilla – beat. Add dry ingredients until blended. Stir remaining ingredients. Bake at 350 degrees for 10 – 12 minutes.

There you have it: enjoy.
Attend Church Sunday.
God Bless You.

Margaret Lopez is an independent writer for the Irving Rambler. An Irving resident for more than 12 years, she and her husband have been married for more than 37 years and have four daughters and four grandsons

OBITUARIES

BURNEY B. MCCLURKAN



Burney B. McClurkan, 88, of Irving, Texas, passed away Thursday, Feb. 17, 2005 at his home in the loving care of family and VNA Hospice.

He was born January 13, 1917 in Aubrey, Texas to John Walter and Rosa McClurkan. Soon after, his family moved to Denton, establishing themselves as active community members. Burney graduated from Denton High School and attended UNT where he was a member of the Grammarians Honor Society. He graduated with a BBA in accounting from SMU.

While at UNT, he met a lovely young TWU student named Flora Leigh Pettigrew and being a bit of a romantic, he eloped with her to Durant, Oklahoma; the "Coun-ty of Love". They celebrated 65 years of marriage and the births of three daughters.

Burney was honored to serve in the Army during WWII with the 970th Counter Intelligence Corp. in 1945-1946. His duty was to apprehend war criminals and investigate war crimes. One place where evidence was gathered was at one of Hitler's vacation homes, the "Eagle's Nest".

Following his discharge, Burney worked as an accounting supervisor for Mobil Oil Co. He retired in 1978 after 40 years of excellent service and continued with his own tax and accounting business in Irving until 2002.

Travel was a favorite hobby that enabled him to "collect" counties as he traveled with his wife. Of the 3080 counties in the USA, he proudly visited about 80% of them. He also loved to "visit" the

world by listening to short wave radio and was able to log in thousands of stations all around the globe and was an active member of the National Radio Club. Burney also enjoyed memorizing silly limericks, bird watching, and whistling.

He provided support to his community in a variety of ways by being a 32-degree Mason and belonging to several Masonic lodges and organizations. Burney also enjoyed the Hella Shriners and supporting Shrine Hospitals and took any opportunity to recommend children for assistance from them. He belonged to the Irving Republican Club, and believed in his many campaign activities as he once fought for democracy and understood the responsibilities of citizenship.

Burney and Leigh belonged to First United Methodist Church in Irving and helped found Meadowbrook Methodist Church in Ft. Worth. Caring for others, hard work, honesty, a strong sense of responsibility, and a fun loving sense of humor were Burney's personal attributes to share with all who knew him. Burney served as a source of strength and support for his family, many friends, and business associates with pride. His word could always be trusted.

A special gift for fun was a source of pleasure for his five grandsons and the children in his neighborhood that loved him as their "Neighborhood Grandad". You could often find him in the audience of any activity or sporting event for his grandsons or neighborhood kids. Through his words and actions, he showed them how valuable they were to him and how to care for the important things in life – family, friends, and community.

Burney was preceded in death by beloved grandson, Freddy Youngblood, and is survived by his wife, Leigh, and his three daughters and son-in-laws, Marguerite and Ted Anthony, College Station, Texas, Susan and David Patrick of Dallas, and Patti

and Steve Youngblood of Lewisville; and grandsons, Joshua Youngblood, Zac Youngblood, Kyle Anthony, and Brendon Anthony. He also loved his many nieces and nephews and greatly appreciated his doctors and nurses that cared for him.

A memorial service was held 10 a.m. Friday, Feb. 25, 2005 at First United Methodist Church Chapel, 211. W. Third St., Irving with a graveside service followed at DFW National Cemetery, 2000 Mountain Creek Pkwy, Dallas, TX. The family received friends from 7-9 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home.

Burney suggested that any gifts or donations go to the VNA Hospice Care, 1440 Mockingbird Ln., Ste. 400, Dallas, TX 75247, First United



Methodist Church, Shriners Hospitals, % Hella Shriners, 2121 Rowlett Rd., Garland, TX 75043, or to a veterans group of choice.

WENDI HICKS

Wendi Hicks, age 36, a resident of Irving, Texas for sixteen years, died Feb. 22, 2005 as the result of an auto accident in Irving.

Born July 13, 1968 in Dallas, Texas, she was a homemaker. Survivors include her husband, Harley Hicks; daughter, Aubree Amanda Weiss; sons, Taylor McAllen Hicks and Harley Dakota-Tannin Hicks, all of Irving; parents, Rex and Barbara Blackburn of Canyon Lake; brother, Jason Blackburn of San Antonio; grandmothers, Mildred Reeves of Canyon Lake and Icyphene Blackburn of Crowell; and friend, Steve Morris of Irving.


Services were 2:00 p.m., Friday, Feb. 25, 2005 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Graveside service 2:00 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 26th at Crowell Cemetery in Crowell, Texas. The family received friends 12 noon until 2:00 p.m., Friday at the funeral home.

FRANK MARION JENKINS

Frank Marion Jenkins of Plano born May 4, 1918 in Marshalltown, Iowa passed away Feb. 24, 2005 in Plano. He was a member of Prairie Creek Baptist Church in Plano, and was formerly a member of Valley Creek Baptist Church in Leonard. Frank was a member of Masonic Lodge AF & AM 1218 in Irving. He worked for Collins Radio for 30 years then opened Frank's Tool & Machine Shop in 1973 and operated the business for 25 years.

Preceded in death by granddaughter Sandra Todd; survivors include wife Edna Jenkins of Plano;


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Reverends, preachers and Irving's church leaders are cordially invited to submit a 200 - 300 word sermon for placement in the paper free of charge.

The Irving Rambler is also starting a "Church Directory" as an addition to our Religious Section. Advertisements in the directory will consist of 2 column inch advertisements about 2" h X 2.25" w. A church may purchase a maximum of two spaces at the Directory price. Our Directory rate for each two column inch advertisement is \$29.

Please submit sermons to www.irving@irvingrambler.com. If you have questions, please call 214-675-6493.

OBITUARIES

son Jerry Jenkins of Balch Springs; daughters Judy Hoyack and husband Bill of Irving; Janyce Kelly and husband Michael of Plano; sister Helen Hodges of Aurora, Colorado; grandchildren, Sheryl Pasley and husband Gaylon; Kristie Adair and husband Lee; and Kathy Kelly; 4 great-grandchildren and 5 great-great grandchildren; niece Carol Bublitz; and nephew David Hodges.

The family received friends from 6 to 8 P.M. Friday, Feb. 25th at Browns Memorial Funeral Home. Masonic graveside services were held at 3:00 p.m. Saturday at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens with Rev. Casey Ingold officiating.

WILDA MARIE WEBB



Wilda Marie Webb of Grand Prairie born July 17, 1930 in Kentwood, Louisiana passed away Feb. 23, 2005 in Dallas. She was a member of Oakview Baptist Church of Irving.

Preceded in death by husband J. L. Webb in 2000; survivors include son Darrell Webb of Garland; Ray Webb of Grand Prairie; daughters Virginia Brown of Terrell; Linda Dehlin of Marshall Creek, Texas; brother Roger Stringfield of New Orleans; sisters Bobbie Jo Falcon of Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Betty Jo Walker of Denham Spring, Louisiana; 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren.

The family received friends from 5 to 7 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 27th at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. Monday, Feb. 28th at Oakview Baptist Church with Dr. Jim Gerlach officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

BARBARA HELEN BOX SMITH



Barbara Helen Box Smith was born August 18, 1939 and passed away Feb. 24, 2005.

She is survived by her husband, Garland; son, Joseph and wife Mary Lou, of Prosper, Texas; daughter, Lorie and husband David Armstrong, of

Wheaton, Illinois; five beautiful grandchildren, Dylan, Lauryn, Klein, Spencer, and Riley; sister, Jean and husband Glynn Heffner of Baytown; brother, Jerry Box and wife Stephanie of Baytown, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Please make memorials to the Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America, 1821 University Ave. W., Suite S256, St. Paul, MN 55104 or www.myasthenia.org/donation_mailin.htm. Memorial service arranged by Chism-Smith Funeral Home.

EDITH FAYE EBEBY



Edith Faye Ebey passed away Friday Feb. 25, 2005. She was born March 11, 1941 in Crockett, Texas.

Survived by husband Leon Ebey, son Ronny Ebey and wife Linda of Irving, TX; son Johnny Ebey and wife Donna of Mesquite, TX; son Dwayne Ebey of Irving, TX; daughter Barbara Martin and husband T.J. of Terrell, TX; Daughter Mary Cotton and husband Trey of Dallas, TX; brother Bennie and Cathy Johnson of Boligee, AL; brother Ray and Bonnie Johnson of Sulpher Springs, TX; sister Lorene Corbitt of Grand Prairie, TX; sister Dorothy Buchanan of Forney, TX; 9 grandchildren Jason, Craig, Christopher, Jeffery, Justin, Lori, Tiffany, Courtney, Alexis, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Funeral Services were 2:00 p.m. Monday Feb. 28, 2005 at Browns Memorial Funeral Home Chapel interment followed at Rosehill Cemetery Terrell, Texas.

ROBERT EVERETT WILLIAMS, SR.



Robert Everett Williams Sr., 92 of Garland, Texas, formerly of Irving, passed away Feb. 26, 2005.

He was employed with the Simmons Company from 1950 to 1974. Robert was an avid golfer, softball pitcher, and bowler who

won a State Championship in 1951.

Preceded in death by wife Georgia in 1993. He is survived by son's Bob Williams and wife Dolores, of Dallas, Texas, Stanley Williams and wife Elizabeth, Houston, Texas, daughter Lin Brown and husband Monty, Garland, Texas, brother, Dr. Worth Williams, Grand Prairie, Texas, 12 grandchildren, 23 great grandchildren.

Funeral Services were held Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at Brown's Memorial Chapel interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. The family received friends from 7-9 p.m. Monday at the funeral home.

DOROTHY O'LYNN CROWDER

Dorothy O'Lynn Crowder, 75, passed away on Feb. 28, 2005 in Irving, TX.

She was born on August 8, 1929 in Electra, Texas to Homer & Johnnie Gibson. Dorothy had been a longtime resident of Irving, was retired from Southwestern Bell Telephone after 30 years of service. She was very active in the American Legion Auxiliary serving as District President of the 5th District and Division President of the 1st Division. She also served on many State level committees. She was a member of 8 & 40 and served as local Chapeau and Departmental Chapeau of the 8 & 40 for the State of Texas.

She was preceded in death by her husband: Franklin Crowder, parents, two brothers: Homer Gibson and Y.B. Gibson. She is survived by her only child Carol Warner & son-in-law: Everett C. Warner, Jr., Irving, TX, two granddaughters: Shari Gray & Husband: Stephen of Rockwall, TX, Carie Renaud & husband: Phillippe of Garland, TX, three great grandchildren: Brittany Gary, Corey Gary both of Rockwall, TX and Alexis Schaffner of Garland, TX, one brother & sister-in-law: Basil & Eleanor Gibson of Atlanta, GA, sister-in-law: Ruby Gibson of Phoenix, AZ, one niece: Beth Ekern of Vernon, TX, three nephews; Gary and Randy Gibson of Phoenix, AZ, and James Gibson of Spring, TX.

The family received friends for visitation on Tuesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Calvary Funeral Home. A graveside service was held on Wednesday, March 2, 2005, at 10:00 a.m. at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving, TX.



EULAS KING

Eulas King, age 90, a resident of Irving for 49 years, died Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005 at her home.

Born October 10, 1914 in Calera, Oklahoma, she and her husband, Grady, operated the Wynnewood Window Gift Shop in Oak Cliff for over 20 years. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Irving.

Survived by nephews and nieces, J. H. Owens of California, L. J. Owens of Possum Kingdom, Judy Speaks of Durant, OK, Louise Barker and Joy Hearon of Miami, OK; great nephews and nieces, Bennie Speaks of Virginia, Rita Weatherly of Durant, OK and Chris Owens of Houston.

Funeral service 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 1, 2005 at First Baptist Church, 403 Main Street, Irving. Dr. John Durham officiated. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. The family received friends at the funeral home Monday 7-9 p.m.

RALPH L. KRONE

Ralph L. Krone, age 75, died Feb. 26, 2005. Ralph was born May 15, 1929 in Chanute, Kansas to Alfred and Bernice Krone. He is survived



by daughters Karen, Janet, Charlene; son Kevin; and five grandchildren. He will be missed by his companion Karin Campbell, and his many friends in Irving.

Ralph was a graduate of Kansas State University and a longtime employee of The Travelers Insurance Company. He spent 4 years as an officer in the Navy during the Korean War.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, March 5, 2005 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel.

BETTE PFIFFNER

Bette Pfiffner, age 80, a resident of Irving, Texas for forty-six years, died Monday, Feb. 28, 2005 at Baylor Medical Center at Irving.

Born June 17, 1924 in Osceola, Iowa, she married Robert E. Pfiffner on March 19, 1947 in Joplin, Missouri. He preceded her in death Nov 8, 1987.

A homemaker, she is survived by a son, Steve Pfiffner and wife Janet, of Duncanville; daughter, Kathy Nugent and husband John, of Fort Worth; four grandchildren; sisters Helen Reese of Portland, OR, Marge Carper of San Antonio, Jerri Johnston of Humeston, IA; and, niece Sherry Rubottom of Southlake.

Private burial will be at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. The family will receive friends at her home from 3 to 5 p.m. on Friday, March 4, 2005.

BILLY ALLAN LANE WHITE

Billy Allan Lane White, of McKinney, Texas, passed away Monday, February 21, 2005.

He was born September 27, 1976 in Lufkin, Texas. Billy is survived by his wife, Rachael Lynn Thompson of McKinney; sons, Gary Alan Langford of Lufkin, James Ryan White of McKinney; father, Lee Roy White, Jr. of Lufkin; mother, Elsie Jane White of Lufkin; parents-in-law, Jim & Lee Trout of Irving; brothers, Frank Preston White of Lufkin, Michael Blakey of San Antonio, Texas, Jesse White of Ft. Worth, Texas, Archie Clements of Lufkin, Scott Foxworth of Lufkin, Bradley Henley of Lufkin, and many friends and loved ones that will love and cherish him and keep him in their hearts forever.

Family and friends will gather in his memory at 12 p.m. Saturday, March 5, 2005 at 4034 CR 317, McKinney.

JESUS GARCIA

Jesus Garcia, of Irving, passed away Sunday February 27, 2005.

He was born June 8, 1907 in Real de Asientos, Aguascalientes, Mexico. Preceded in death by his wife, Guadalupe Garcia. Jesus is survived by sons, Jacinto Garcia & wife Dora of Irving, Joel Garcia & wife Maricela Pecina of Irving, Ruben Garcia of Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, Siba Garcia & wife Margarita of Arlington, Texas, Elias Garcia & wife Elizabeth of Ft. Worth, Texas; daughters, Alicia Preciado & husband Raul of Nuevo Laredo, Hermelinda Peralta and husband Jose of Laredo, Texas, Juana Yanez and husband Luis of Nuevo Laredo; sisters, Esther Rodriguez and husband Juan of Nuevo Laredo, Sara Orta & husband Juventino of Laredo, Niria Pena & husband Joe of Irving, Azeneth Cardona & husband Ray of San Antonio, Texas; 42 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren & 8 great great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held 10:00 a.m. Wednesday, March 2, 2005 at Brown's Memorial Chapel. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving, Texas.

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Lone Star Conference teams meet in Irving for First Pitch Softball Tournament

The Lone Star Conference (LSC) hosted its annual First Pitch Softball Tournament hosted in Southwest Park on Feb. 25 -26.

Fourteen of the LSC's women's college softball teams and the St. Edward's University from the

Heartland Conference played in the tournament as North Division squads competed against their South Division counterparts. Each day of the tournament, 14 games were scheduled allowing every team to play two games. However,

rains interrupted Saturday's games so that only 12 of the games were played.

"These are all regional universities," Fred Jacoby, NCAA commissioner, said. "We have 15, NCAA division two universities in Texas, Oklahoma plus one in eastern

New Mexico, and Dallas is a central spot as is Irving. So with the facilities here and ease of travel we chose to have the tournament here. We also have great cooperation from the Parks and Recreation Department and the Irving's Convention and Visitors Bureau;

without their help we couldn't manage this tournament."

Abilene Christian, Angelo State and Central Oklahoma softball teams finished the tournament with a perfect 4-0. The A&M-Kingsville team finished strong with a 3-1 record.

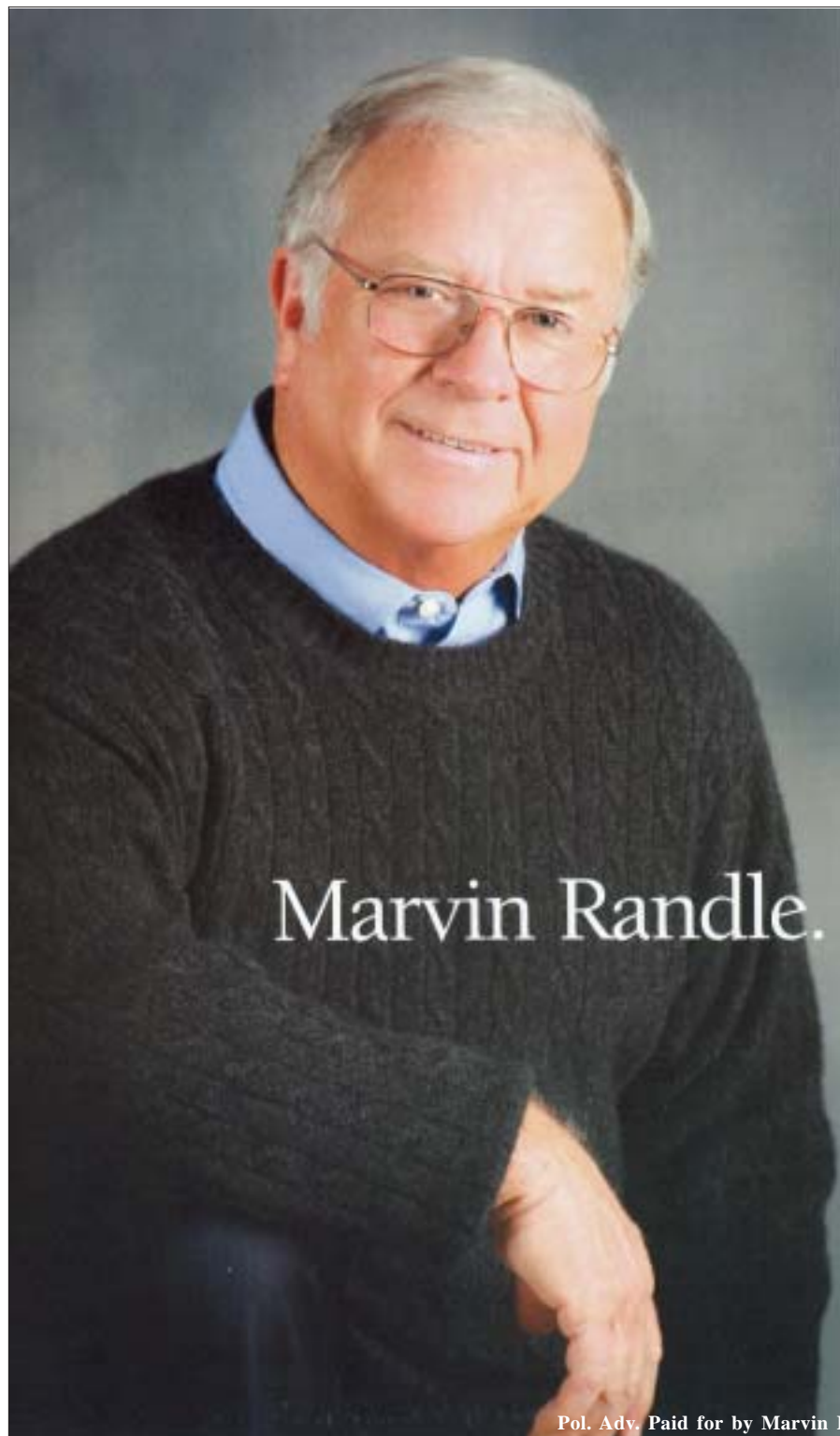


Danielle Faulk, Abilene Christian Wildcats #14, bunts against the Cameron Lady Aggies in 3-3 overtime. Abilene Christian won the game 4 - 3.

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Beneath stormy skies, Nimitz and Grand Prairie High Schools compete on the Soccer field. The teams tied for a final score of 2 - 2.



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