

Rockwall County News

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News Briefs

'Into the Woods' begins tonight

The Rockwall-Heath High School Theatre Department presents the musical, "Into the Woods," at 7 p.m. today (Thursday), Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the RHHHS Black Box Theatre. Reserved seats cost \$10 and may be secured through Kristin Dodgen in the RHHHS Black Box Theatre at 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. or by contacting her at kwodard@rockwallisd.org.

Deadline for Chamber event reservations today

Tickets to the 2009 Rockwall Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards & Appreciation Banquet, set for Feb. 5 at the Bella Harbor, are available at the Chamber office. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a reception, followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m. Dallas Morning News sportswriter Brian Davis will be the speaker. Seating is limited; reservations required by Thursday. Tickets cost \$45. For information call 972-5733 or e-mail info@rockwallchamber.org.

'Little Women' to be staged this weekend

"Little Women: the Broadway Musical" will be staged at the Stage Christian Academy at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday at the HCA campus, 1408 S. Goliad. Tickets cost \$5 for students and \$7 for adults and are available during school hours at the office or beginning at 6:30 p.m. at performances. Doors open at 7 p.m. for open seating.

RCHS Choir plans Saturday garage sale

The RCHS Choir will conduct a fundraising garage sale from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday in the RCHS cafeteria. A silent auction and face painting also will be featured. All proceeds will benefit the RCHS choir. Anyone with items (clothing, toys, games, appliances, etc.) to donate should drop them off at the room, C208, or contact Delila Dennison at deliladennison@hotmail.com. Donations of large items will be accepted.

RCHS course schedule meetings set

Parent informational meetings at Royse City High continue this week and next. Remaining meetings include: next year's sophomore class, tonight; next year's junior class, Monday; and next year's senior class, Feb. 5. Meetings will run from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Meetings are for information only; schedules will be set at a later date.

Auditions for LCC wrapping up

Auditions for the spring season of the Lakeside Civic Chorus are being conducted this month. Rehearsals are conducted each day from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Rockwall High choral room. To schedule an audition or for more information contact David Bush at 972-679-4227 or 972-772-3549 or e-mail him at dab@swbell.net. More information on the LCC is available at lakesidecivicchorus.org.

Teen Book Club meeting Tuesday

The Teen Book Club will meet from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the big first-floor meeting room of the Rockwall County Library. Free and open to students in grades 7-12, the club will discuss "When Zachary Beaver Came to Town" by Beverly Willis Holt. Officers will be selected at the meeting.

Republican Lunch Bunch plans meeting

The Rockwall County Republican Lunch Bunch will meet at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at Luigi's Italian Café in Rockwall. The cost will be \$10, which includes lunch, beverage, tax and tip; participants should pay at the door. No reservation required for this informal gathering open to all area Republicans. For more details call Dalton Kensnimer at 972-636-4034.

Li'l Readers offered Wednesdays

The Rockwall Parks & Rec Department is offering a 45-minute Li'l Readers program each Wednesday (through Feb. 11 and Feb. 25 through April 1) at 9 a.m. at Myers Community Center. The program is open to children ages 1-3 and their parent/parent. It includes themed stories, singing and short activities. The program is free for Rockwall residents; \$15 for non-resident participation. For more information call 972-771-7740.

First Wednesday Flick is "21"

The February First Wednesday Flick, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will be "21," the story of MIT students who used their intelligence to beat the odds and take Vegas for millions. The movie will be screened at 3 p.m. at The Center, and admission is open to individuals ages 18 and older. Cost is \$1 for residents, \$2 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Computer Council sets Wednesday session

The Rockwall Computer Council will observe its next meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at The Center, Rockwall City Place, Suite 100, E. Washington St. Kaaren Mahoney, senior tax adviser at R Block, will present the program, which will cover recent federal tax law changes. Meetings are open to anyone interested in computers for the home or office. For more details, contact Conrad at 972-771-8712.

Valentine's special deadline is Feb. 5

Valentine's Day edition of the Rockwall County News published Feb. 10 will include "Grandma Brag Pages" packed with color photos of grandchildren. Deadline is 5 p.m. Feb. 5. Favorite photos of grandchildren may be dropped off at 107 E. Main, mailed to P.O. Box 819, Rockwall, TX 75087 or e-mailed (rgs@rn.advertising@yahoo.com); include names of children and grandparents. Three sizes -- \$20 (limit two children to a photo), \$40 or \$80 -- available. See the Rockwall County News or call the office at 972-722-3099 for details.

RCISD seeks input on school names

The Royse City Independent School District is seeking community input on names for two intermediate schools. The district traditionally has named campuses after outstanding educators who have worked within the school district. Name suggestions,

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Rockwall-Heath High School's musical production of "Into The Woods" cast members (left to right) Rachael Bower (as the "witch"), Amanda White (as "stepmother") and Laine Garrett (as "Lucinda") rehearse the scene "Careful the things you say, children will listen." Performances begin at 7:30 p.m. January 29 at the RHHHS Black Hawks Theatre. (See Page 8 for more details.) Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Chief Deputy David Goelden named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

by Kathy Williams

David Goelden, Chief Deputy of the Rockwall County Sheriff's Department, has been named Law Enforcement Officer of the Year by the North Texas Crime-Commission. Goelden received the honor at the Commission's annual awards luncheon on Jan. 7 at the Lakewood County Club in Dallas.

Goelden was nominated for his work on the Ray Sumrow investigation by Rockwall County Sheriff Harold Eavenson.

"I felt due to the outstanding work done by Rockwall County Chief Deputy David Goelden on the Ray Sumrow investigation that he should be a candidate for the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year for the following reasons: the investigation spanned 19 months, involved 47 witnesses, over 25 thousand documents, multiple grand jury sessions and two different trials that resulted in convictions in both instances," Eavenson said.

Special Agent Brent Chambers of the FBI was also recognized at the luncheon as Federal Agent of the Year for his contribution to the Sumrow case. He, too, was nominated for the honor by Eavenson for the reasons given above. Eavenson said, "Agent Chambers exemplified the essence of the team approach during the duration of this investigation. His professionalism and dedication were consistently outstanding."

Both Special Agent Chambers and Chief Deputy Goelden were also nominated for the awards by Special Agent in Charge Bob Casey of the Dallas Field Office of the FBI.

Goelden was assigned to the Sumrow investigation by Eavenson to "build and support the investigative team to look into the pervasive and on-going criminal activity of the District Attorney, Ray Sumrow."

Eavenson said, "Chief Deputy Goelden not only directed and supported the administrative and technical aspects of this complicated undertaking, but served as the lead investigator on the case. Chief Deputy Goelden possesses extraordinary investigative skills which paid dividends for the Special Prosecutor at every turn."

"As Special Prosecutor Jim Skinner stated during the closing arguments, Goelden's actions, conduct and leadership throughout this case 'was indispensable in bringing a thoroughly corrupt politician to justice'."

Former Rockwall County District Attorney Ray Sumrow is currently serving a prison sentence for his 2008 conviction of theft by a public servant.

The North Texas Crime Commission also named the Prosecutor of the Year at the luncheon. The Commission, established in 1950, is an organization whose mission is to make North Texas safer by linking law enforcement, business, education, government, media and all citizens. The NTCC administers the Crime Stoppers Rewards

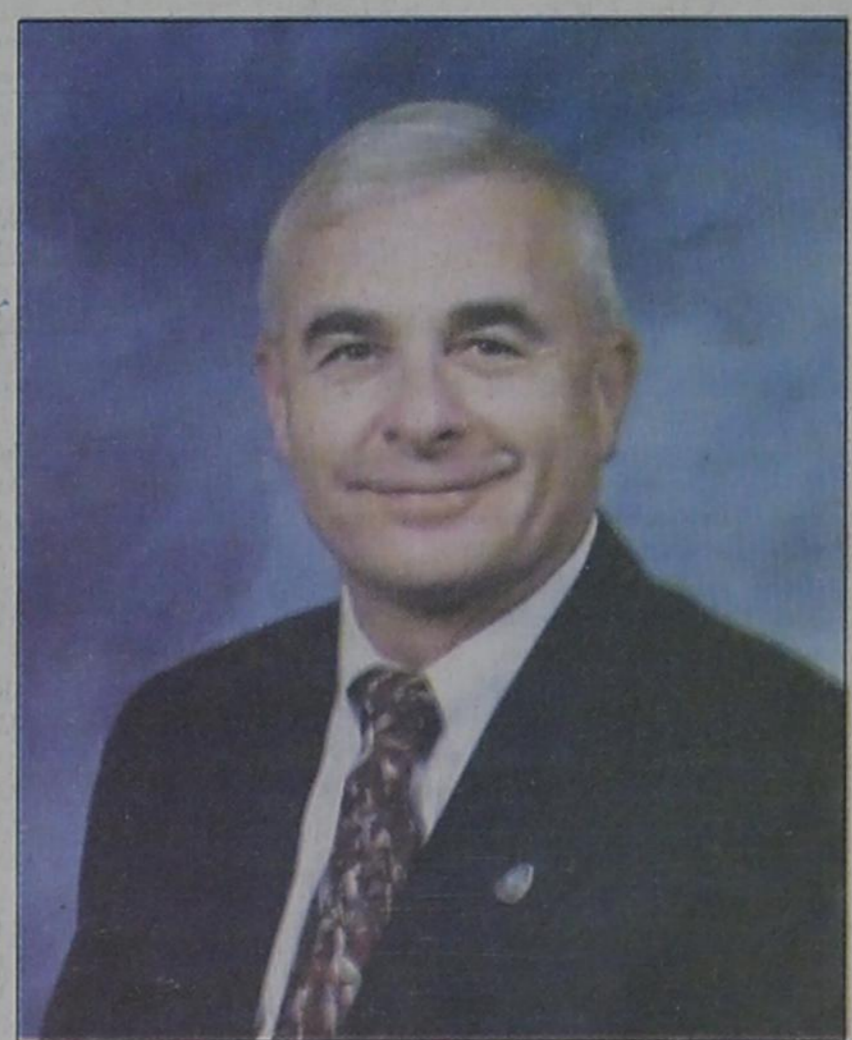
Program, which pays for information about criminal activity and forwards that information to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The Commission is a five county organization, which includes Dallas, Collin, Kaufman, Rockwall and Denton counties.

Honored guest and speaker at the luncheon was The Honorable Greg Abbott, Attorney General of Texas.

In his statement about the awards winners, Eavenson said, "this case, in my opinion, is a classic example of how an effective multi-agency cooperative investigative effort should work. The Dallas FBI Office, the Collin County District Attorney's Office, the Travis County District Attorney's Public Integrity Unit, members of the Rockwall County Sheriff's Office CID Unit and the Texas Rangers are most deserving of recognition for their dedication and commitment during this investigation."

"However, the two recipients of the awards, Goelden and Chambers, distinguished themselves on a consistent basis and were most deserving of the recognition given them by the North Texas Crime Commission."



Chief Deputy David Goelden

Rockwall City Council considers new lighting ordinance, change to animal allowance

by Stephen Woods

A new shopping center in Rockwall will be safer upon completion thanks to an ordinance change that was approved at the Jan. 20 City Council meeting to allow taller light poles to better light up the area.

Grey Stagner, a representative of Pogue Engineering & Development, eagerly lobbied council members to allow his company to install 30 ft. light poles at the Tom Thumb grocery store parking lot currently under construction at FM 552 and SH 205.

At the present time, most businesses in the city are restricted to 20 ft. light poles but Stagner felt that standard wasn't enough.

"Raising the light pole's height just ten more feet will allow us to

protect the community and save a substantial amount of energy," said Stagner.

The additional light provided by the higher poles could keep shoppers at the Stone Creek Retail Center safe at night, but not without a price. Due to the proximity of residential areas that are also under development, members of the council were concerned that residents in the overlay district may experience some light pollution on their properties.

Council member Matthew Scott said, "I just feel that our lighting standards are in place for a good reason. If we bend on this issue,

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Spring Break Camp offered

Rockwall Parks & Rec Department will offer the ROCK Break Camp March 16-20 from 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Education Center Gym. Activities for children ages 6-12 will include trips to the Dinosaur Valley State Park, Texas Freshwater Science Center, Dallas Zoo, Science Place, I-max and the aquarium. Pre-entertainment is required; space is limited. Cost is \$75 for Rockwall residents, \$113 for non-resident. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Trip to Heritage Museum slated

Trip to the Heritage Farmstead Museum, open to individuals ages 50 and older, will run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. March 27. The event is sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department. Cost (transportation, admission and guided tour) is \$10 for residents, \$15 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

"Iron Man" is Wednesday flick

April First Wednesday Flick, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will be "Iron Man," a superhero tale. The movie will be screened at 3 p.m. April 1 at The Center, and admission is \$1 for individuals ages 50 and older, \$2 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Old-fashioned egg hunt slated

Old-fashioned Easter egg hunt, complete with egg dyeing, cooking and hunting for hidden goodies, is set for 1 p.m. April 1 at The Center. Open to individuals ages 50 and older, the event is free and will include a prize for the individual who brings the most eggs. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Easter Egg Hunt set April 4

Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's seventh annual Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. April 4 at the Tuttle Athletic Center (Field 1, up to age 2; Field 3, ages 3-4; Field 2, ages 5-6; Field 4, ages 7-12). Candy and special prize eggs will be offered. Activities are planned. For more information call 972-771-7740.

April 8 workshop to cover skin

"Caring Care of Your Skin" will be offered April 8 at The Center to individuals ages 50 and older, the free workshop will cover summer skin care, as well as the signs and symptoms of skin problems. The event will run from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. For more information call 972-771-7740.

April 10 is Out-to-Lunch event

Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department's Out-to-Lunch for seniors will be at Love and War in Texas, Plano on April 10. The event will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost will be \$7 for Rockwall residents, \$11 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

RISD sets weather make-up day

Rockwall Independent School District students will attend class April 13, which has been scheduled as an inclement weather make-up day, according to a district news release. For more details call 972-771-7740.

Babysitter training offered

American Red Cross training for future babysitters, ages 11 to 17, will be offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 11 at The Center. Cost is \$75 for residents, \$83 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Casino trip for seniors scheduled

A day trip to the Choctaw Casino in Durant, Okla., will be hosted by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department on April 15. Open to individuals ages 50 and older, the trip will include an 8 a.m. departure and a 7 p.m. return. Cost will be \$20 for residents, \$30 for non-residents. For more details call 972-771-7740.

Family Fun Fridays begin April 17

Family Fun Fridays, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will run April 17 through May 8. Free activities will be offered from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Friday, including contests, disc golf, shuffle ball games, face painting, fishing and a bounce house. The event is set for 9 p.m. each week. Families should bring picnics, chairs, blankets and FM radios. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Environmental Action Day set

City of Rockwall will host an Environmental Action Day on April 18. Rockwall residents may dispose of household chemical wastes by calling 972-771-7700. Trash collection volunteers (individuals and/or groups) may reserve their favorite spots by calling 972-771-7740. Trash collection volunteers will be provided breakfast at 8:30 a.m. at The Center.

Class to focus on effective disciplining

Effective Disciplining, offered at no charge by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will be held at 5:45 p.m. April 28 at The Center. The workshop, open to individuals ages 18 and older, focuses on consistent parenting in our fast-paced world. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Animal shot, microchip clinic set

Rockwall Animal Services will offer a low-cost shot and microchip clinic from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. on April 22 at the Loftis veterinary clinic, 2001 S. Goliad. Rabies shots will be offered for \$8 (one-year) or \$24 (three-year). Other shots will be available for \$5. Microchipping will cost \$15 while supplies last. All dogs must be on leashes; cats must be carriers. For more information call RAS at 972-771-7750.

Relay for Life set May 1-2

Annual Relay for Life, a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society, will run May 1-2 in Rockwall County. To register a team by calling 972-771-6055; become a sponsor by calling 972-524-9976; register as a survivor by calling 469-3097; or buy a luminaria by calling 972-722-7998. To learn more about Relay for Life, visit www.cancer.org/RFLRockwall.

DAR offers program on family history

The Rockwall Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will present the program "Finding Patriots in Your Family Tree" beginning at 10 a.m. Feb. 7 in Room 110 of the Eastridge Church of Christ, 485 N. FM 549.

Guest speaker will be Lee Lloyd. The program, part of the group's February meeting, will be free and open to the public.

The DAR, founded in 1890 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is a nonprofit, nonpolitical volunteer women's service organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history and securing the country's future through better education. The group is comprised of more than 165,000 members in 3,000 chapters across the U.S. and the world.

Any woman 18 years of age or older, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership.

For more information contact Faye Heil at 972-771-3033 or e-mail fsheil2004@sbcglobal.net.

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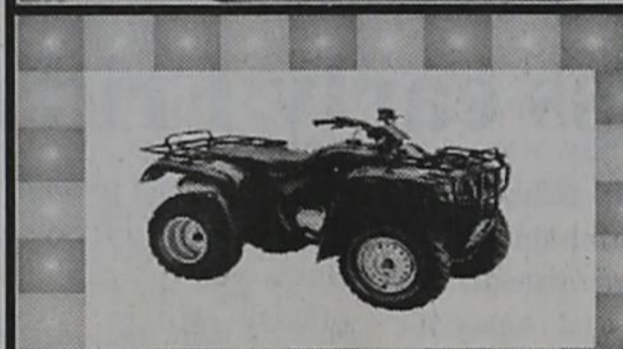
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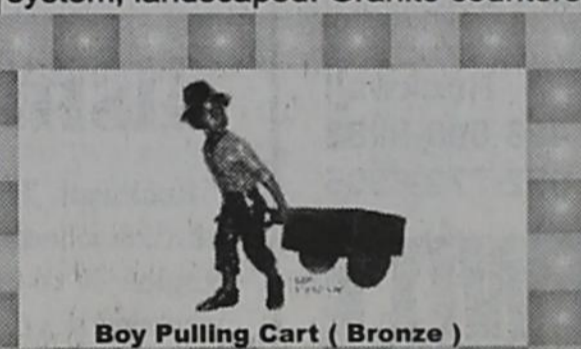


House to be Auctioned, Sun 3PM

Spectacular new home in Park Place, Neo-Traditional neighborhood, complete with pool, green belts, walking trails, clubhouse and across the street from Harry Myers 60 acre park. Home has media room, two fireplaces, 4 bedrooms, study, 4 & one half baths, 3 car garage, approx 3271 Sq. Ft. Home. full sod, sprinkler system, landscaped. Granite counters,



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Art

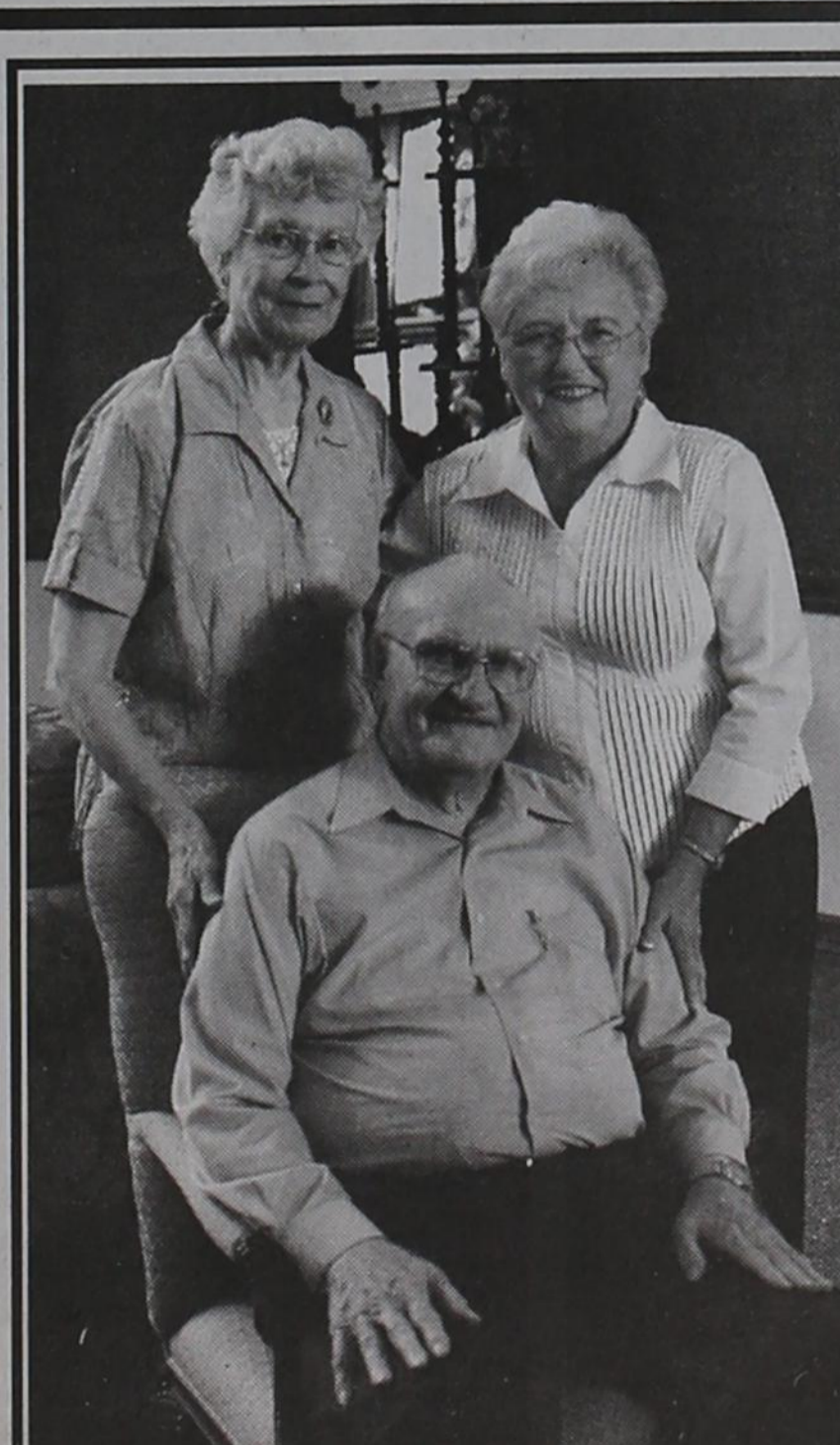
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Rockwall city looks at light pollution ...

(Continued from Page 1)

then we may open the floodgates for other companies that may not be in a position to completely avoid bothering our homeowners."

Stagner mentioned that his company uses standard 400-watt lights that meet all city ordinance requirements. "These lights are designed to remain on our site and will not significantly affect nearby homeowners," he said.

Council member Mark Russo asked Stagner if he had considered using LED lights. "As a city we are always looking for ways to save energy while meeting our green agenda," he said.

Stagner stated his development company had not previously considered using LED lights, prompting Russo to suggest that the council postpone their decision for two weeks. Stagner appreciated the sugges-

tion, but insisted that he was in compliance with all current ordinances and that a delay would not be in the shopping center's best interest.

"I am not too familiar with the effectiveness of LED lights but I do know that they would easily triple the cost of our project," Stagner said.

After hearing Stagner's closing arguments, the council members decided that a delay wouldn't be necessary and the ordinance was approved. All other issues aside, Council member Margo Nielsen feels that any added light would benefit shoppers in the community.

"We shouldn't hesitate to support measures that will promote safety in our business districts," she said.

Another improvement to the city was highlighted during the meeting. Local businessman and Rockwall High School graduate John Hagaman received praise from the council for his donation of 14 street signs that will be installed on Yellowjacket Lane near the high school. The reflective signs, which feature the school mascot to show school spirit, will be installed from Utley Middle School to Ridge Road. Council member Russo was impressed with the act of kindness.

"The caliber of this donation serves as a fine example of how

much people care about their community," Russo said.

Council member Nielsen agreed. "I've served on the city council for five years and this is hands down the best gift we have received," said Nielsen.

In addition to the signs, a multiple pet ordinance was discussed after a local woman complained that her six dogs may have to be put up for adoption. According to the current ordinance, residents annexed into the city are only allowed to have a certain number of domestic animals. In some instances, owners are forced to place pets that they have had for years for adoption.

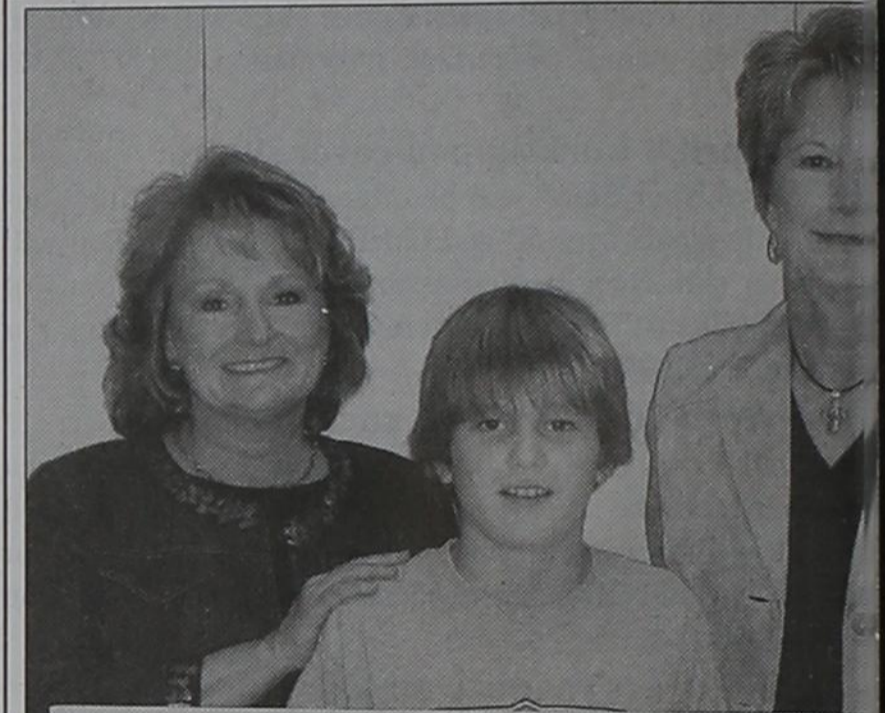
"Considering the amount of concern we have received for this issue, I think allowing our residents to obtain a multiple pet permit is the only fair conclusion," said Russo.

The ordinance was unanimously approved by all council members present. Council member Glen Farris was unable to attend the meeting.

Several items on the agenda were postponed until the Feb. 3 council meeting, as suggested by Mayor Bill Cecil. These include the Household Hazardous Waste Day Collection that is slated for Apr. 18 and an amendment to the Code of Ordinance on Streets, Sidewalks, and Public Places concerning overhanging limbs.



Pullen Elementary sixth grade students recently performed "Fairytale Courtroom" for family members and friends under the direction of music teacher Laci Strickland. Pictured above is prince, Jackson Joubert, getting wooed by Sleeping Beauty, played by Shelby Fleming.



Brent Farley, the Nebbie Williams Elementary student pictured above, recently adopted the Power of One Challenge for him making contacts through his father's workplace to request donations to the Boys and Girls Club of Rockwall County. In a couple of weeks, Farley had collected \$387, which he received in a check to club board members Peggy Dick and Debbie Smothermon. The local Boys and Girls Club is its fourth year of operation, serving approximately 125 students each day.

County plans Friday session

The Rockwall County Commissioners Court will meet in session beginning at 9 a.m. Friday at the Rockwall County Courthouse, 101 E. Rusk.

Agenda items will include discussion and possible action pointing members to the Rockwall County Historical Commission and related issues, as well as discussion and possible action RFQ review and the selection of the top five candidates County Services Building Project.

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RHS to host regional contest, classes dismiss early Friday

Rockwall High School will host 28 schools from throughout Region X to participate in this weekend's regional Academic Decathlon competition.

RHS will be the only school in the Rockwall Independent

School District to observe early dismissal on Friday at noon. Buses will run early, as school officials will be "using every square inch" of the school for the competitive events.

"This is our second year to host," said Erica Crump, RHS associate principal. "All of the districts in Region X take their turn hosting this academic event. It rotates through, and each district hosts for two years in a row."

This year's event will take place on Friday and Saturday.

"This same event takes place all across the United States on the same day, with schools competing for places to advance to state and then nationals," Crump said.

This year's theme is Latin America, with an emphasis on Mexico. Events will include essay, speech, interview, mathematics, music, economics, science, language/literature, art and Super Quiz.

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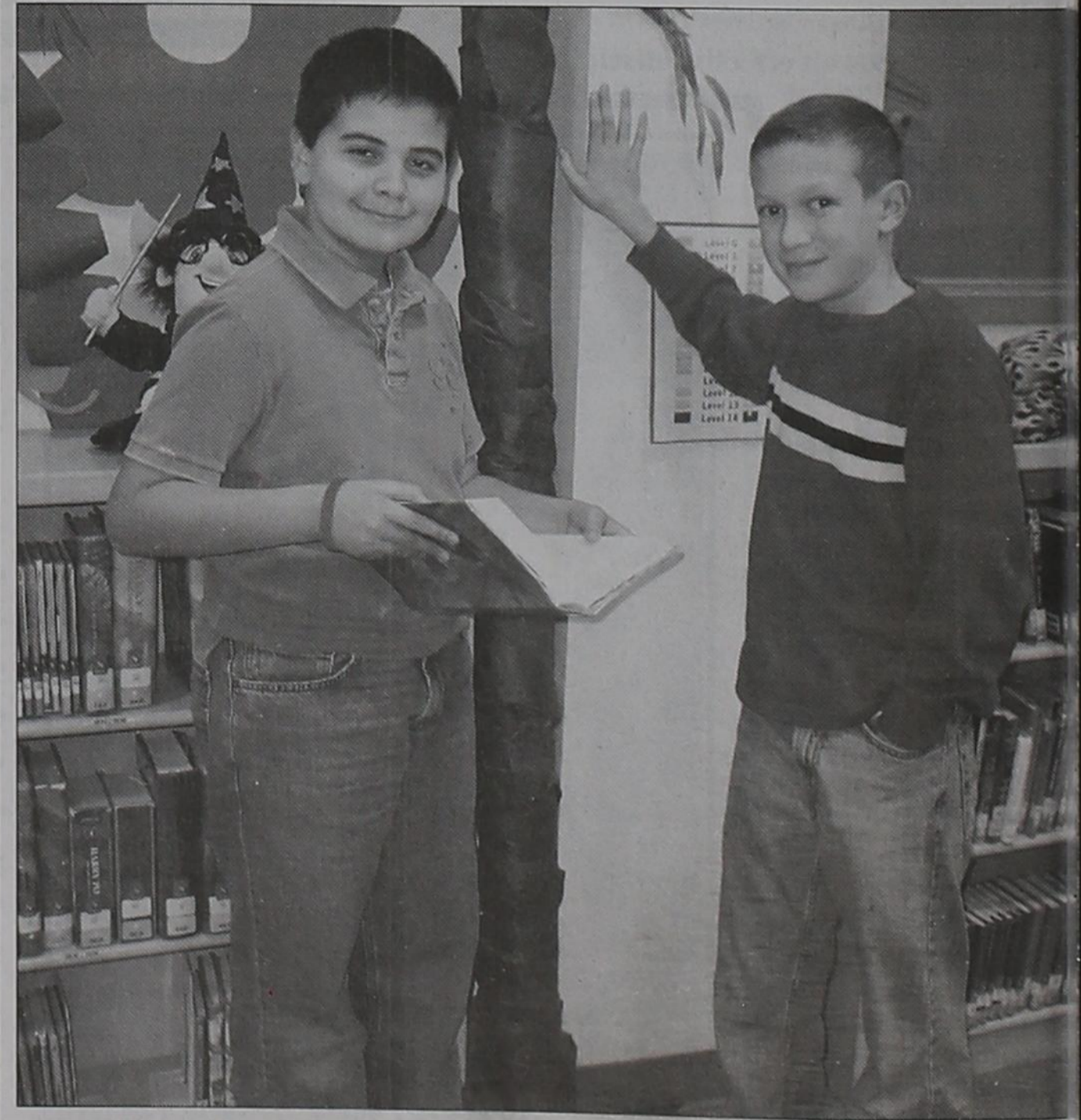
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Noah Salucci, left, and Michael Bartley, fifth grade students at Pullen Elementary, recently saw their Reflections Art Program entries beat out more than 200 other district entries to compete at the state level. State judging is not yet completed, but both students are excited to have their entries chosen. Salucci entered a photo with artistic modifications and said he was "really proud." His friend, Bartley, has competed in the program for five years and is "pretty happy" his visual art selection on the 2008 Olympic swim team was tapped for the state-level contest.

Royce City
Recognize
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Kathy Williams
the students in Royce City
work hard to distinguish
themselves and the school
and teachers took time to rec-
ognize that effort at their regu-
lar meeting on Jan. 20. Four
students received resolutions of
recognition for their outstanding
performance during the
2008 school year.
Royce City High School
Boys Football team finished
the season with a 7-4 record,
winning the District 10-4A
championship. The team was
runner-up in the 10-4A
District Championship.
This was their first year in 4A
competition.
The team also placed 16 mem-
bers on the 10-4A All-District
team, including Most Valuable
Player, Richard Mor-
ris. (unanimous First Team
Receiver, Justin Jacobs;
Team Offensive Lineman,
Wesley Wemp; Unanimous
Team Inside Linebacker,
Hernandez; First Team
Tackle, Eddie Man-
gione; Defensive End, Er-
ic Vargas; Outside Line-
backer, Scotty Arterberry and
Return Specialist, BJ
Padon.
All-District
members are Offen-
sive Lineman, Austen Sharp;
Linebacker, TJ Hardy;
Linebacker, Kollin Pa-
corn; Corner, Justin Rogers
and a Division 1 rating at

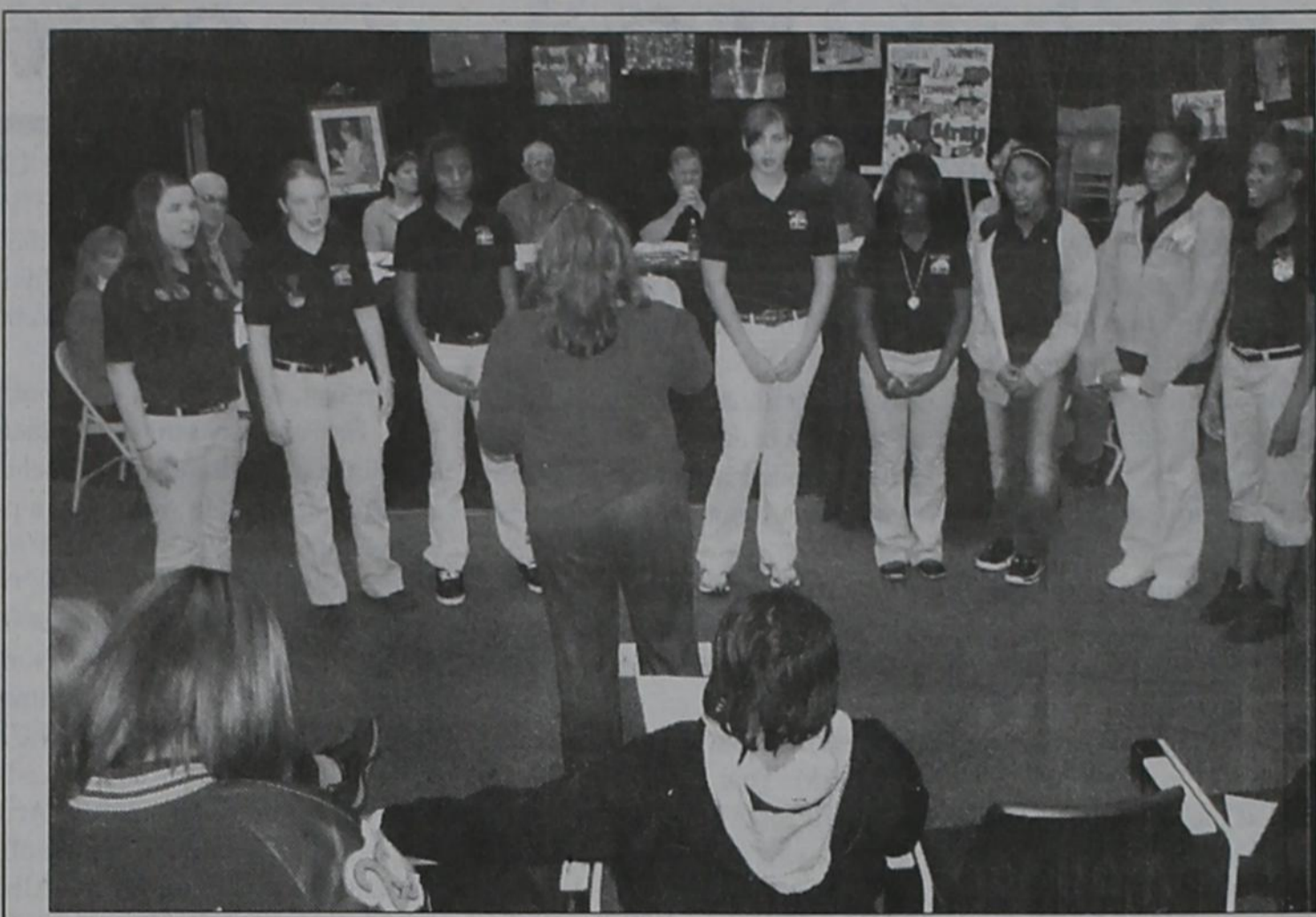
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Royse City ISD board recognizes students, sets bad weather make-up day

Kathy Williams
 Students in Royse City work hard to distinguish themselves and the school trustees took time to recognize that effort at their regular meeting on Jan. 20. Four students received resolutions of appreciation for their outstanding performance during the 2009 school year. Royse City High School Football team finished season with a 7-4 record, third in District 10-4A and runner-up in the 10-District Championship. This was their first year in 4A division. The team also placed 16 members on the 10-4A All-District, including Most Valuable Player, Richard Morris. Unanimous First Team Receiver, Justin Jacobs; Team Offensive Lineman, Wempa; Unanimous Team Inside Linebacker, Hernandez; First Team Defensive Tackle, Eddie Man-First Team Safety, Cam-Nichols and First Team Second Team Kicker, Padon. Second Team All-District members are Second Teaming Back, Ryan Fedric; Receiver, Devin Bryant; Offensive Lineman, Gabriel; Defensive End, Er-Vargas; Outside Linebacker, Scotty Arterberry and Return Specialist, BJ. Honorable Mention All-District members are Offensive Lineman, Austen Sharp; Linebacker, TJ Hardy; Linebacker, Kollin Padon Corner, Justin Rogers. Resolution was read in honor of the Bulldog Band, which received a Division 1 rating at

the 10-4A UIL Marching Competition last fall and for the students who were chosen for the All-Region Band. Courtney Rogers and Kyle Geyman were selected for Symphonic All-Region Band with Travis Sanders chosen for Freshman All-Region Band. Band directors for the Royse City High School Band are Dean Bouras, Shayne Canning, Daniel Butcher and Rommel Cordova. The great Bulldog athletic tradition continued with the Royse City High School Varsity Girls Volleyball Team. The team finished the season with a 17-16 record and fourth place finish in District 10-4A. Several members of the team were named to the 10-4A All-District team, including Skyler Strahm, First Team; Kellie Wyrick and Fayrina Merrick, Second Team and Shelby Pille, Autumn Landers and Lacy Osborne, Honorable Mention. The Royse City Middle School Choir was recognized for its success in Solo and Ensemble competitions in September 2008. The Choir received a rating of "Outstanding" on their ensemble piece, "Spring Quiet." Ensemble members are Jasmine Cooper, Jasmine James, Rebecca Oldham, Abriana Rankins-Wright, Tatyana White, Kimberlin Agee, Lauren Dusek, Krista James, Chloe Lunceford and Kameisha Thompson. Choir member Matthew Morin received an "Outstanding" rating for his solo, "Kum Bah Ya." The choir is under the direction of Heather Fisher. As a special treat, the Middle School ensemble performed "Spring Quiet" for the board members and Morin sang "Kum Bah Ya."

Construction Update
 In other business, the board heard a construction update on the new Royse City middle school, which is will open its doors for the 2009-2010 school year. Installation of the school's roof is expected to begin in three to four weeks, concrete paving has been poured and gas and sewer work is on tap. The teacher's parking lot was expected to be poured late last week. Representatives from Gallagher Construction estimate the project is one-and-a-half months or more ahead of schedule. The trustees were given a student enrollment update, which showed 2% growth since the beginning of this school year. Enrollment in August 2008 was 4,250 and at the beginning of 2009 stood at 4,336. The trustees discussed the need to publicize dates for the general election slated for May 9, 2009. The district will have a General Election for Places 3, 4, and 5, with a Special Election for Place 7, which is a one year unexpired term. February 7 is the first day to file for a place on the ballot. March 3 is the last day to file for the special election and March 9 is the last day to file for a place on the general election ballot. **Bad Weather Make-up** With students already missing one day this school year to bad weather, trustees needed to choose a make-up day to meet the required number of days children must attend school. They did stress that if students miss more than two days to inclement weather, they do not have to be made up. Board members offered much discussion whether to have the



The award-winning Royse City Middle School choir performed "Spring Quiet" for the RCISD Board of Trustees at their regular meeting Monday, Jan. 19. The board read a proclamation commending the choir for their recent UIL competition "Outstanding" rating. Members of the choir, under the direction of Heather Fisher, are (left to right) Chloe Lunceford, Rebecca Oldham, Jasmine Cooper, Lauren Dusek, Jasmine James, Sabrina Kidd, Tatyana White and Krista James. Staff photo by Kathy Williams

make-up day on a Saturday or on Monday, May 25, which is Memorial Day. School principals in attendance at the board meeting said in the past they have used a Memorial Day make-up day as field day to encourage attendance by both students and parent volunteers and have scheduled special programs to celebrate the day. After agreeing that both days would have low attendance no matter which is chosen, trustees unanimously voted to have the make-up day on May 25. **New Middle School Name** Board members next turned their attention to the business of naming the new middle school slated to open next fall. Superintendent of Schools Randy Hancock said the name is the board's decision. He said since the district would have two middle schools, the board could decide to name just the new one or also change the name of the current Royse City Middle School.

(Continued on Page 7)



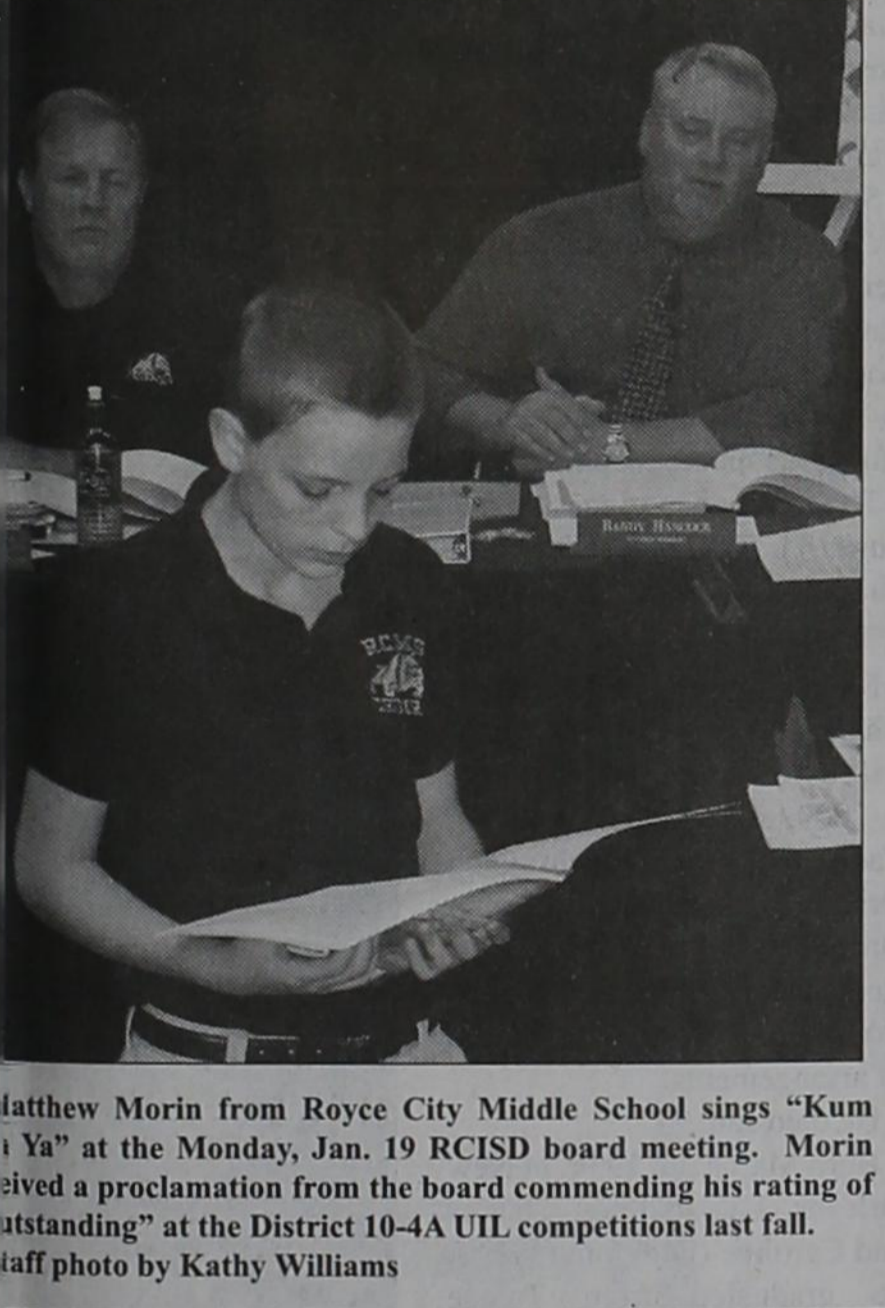
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Matthew Morin from Royse City Middle School sings "Kum Bah Ya" at the Monday, Jan. 19 RCISD board meeting. Morin received a proclamation from the board commending his rating of "Outstanding" at the District 10-4A UIL competitions last fall. Staff photo by Kathy Williams

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Rockwall County Obituaries

Mitchell H. Brown Jr.

Services for Mitchell H. Brown Jr., 88, were conducted at 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, 2009, in the Silver Lake Baptist Church with Dr. J.D. Graham officiating. Burial followed in the Silver Lake Cemetery under the direction of the Barley Funeral Home, Grand Saline.

He died Jan. 23 in Kilgore. Born Sept. 23, 1920, near Weslaco, he graduated from Rockwall High in 1938 and earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics from Texas A&M in 1942. Commissioned a 2nd lieutenant in the U.S. Army, he spent most of World War II guarding the Panama Canal.

He was employed by the Texas Agricultural Extension Service, working as Wood County's first assistant county agricultural agent. From 1947 until his retirement in 1976 he was the county agricultural agent in Groesbeck, Limestone County.

In 1947 he married Florine Carpenter. In 1968 he earned a master's degree in education from Texas A&M. That same year he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award for Agriculture from the National County Agent's Association.

In 1976 he retired from the Extension Service and returned to Van Zandt County to farm full time. He continued to explore a wide variety of interests ranging from improving productivity in beef cattle, forage, pecans, peaches, pears, flowers and figs. His mixed-grass hay won both local and regional awards for its nutritional value. In 2004, he received the Bill Clements Lifetime Agricultural Leadership Award for his service to East Texas agriculture.

Survivors include his daughter, Lane Brown Heath, and her husband, Tom, of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland; his son, Mitchell H. Brown III of Rockwall; his son, Thomas H. Brown and his wife, Jan, of Kilgore; six grandchildren, Shawn Heath, Anna Heath, Taylor and Parker Brown and Margaret and Rebecca Brown; and three great-grandchildren, Luke, Dean and Pete Mitchell.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Flo, in 2006.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that memorials be made to either the Silver Lake Cemetery Association, 359 FM 2422, Mineola, TX 75773 or the Mitchell Brown Jr. Memorial Scholarship, c/o the Van Zandt County Extension Office, P.O. Box 712, Canton, TX 75103.

Vince Cochran

Services for Vince Cochran, 37, of Rockwall were conducted at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, 2009, in the Lake Pointe Church in Rockwall with Pastor Wes Hamilton officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died Jan. 22. Born Oct. 23, 1971, in Concord, N.C., to Budge Alan and Brenda Kay (Harris) Cochran, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte with a bachelor's degree in psychology and a BSN in nursing. He worked as a pre-op nurse at the Surgery Center of Mesquite. He was a member of the Lake Pointe Church and the Stafford-Miller ABF.

Survivors include his wife of 10 years, Leigh Ann Cochran of Rockwall; his 17-month-old son, Alexander Henry Cochran of Rockwall; a sister, Amy Cochran Schueneman and her husband, Rodney, of Mount Pleasant, N.C.; a brother, Brian Alan Cochran of Concord; a brother- and sister-in-law, Dr. Ryan Lunsford and Dr. Tisha Lunsford of Scottsdale, Ariz.; his father- and mother-in-law, Stephen and Kathie Lunsford of Allen; his nieces and nephews, Samantha Kay Schueneman, Ally Elizabeth Schueneman, Jessica Marie Cochran, Luke Ryan Lunsford and Caroline Leigh Lunsford; and his grandparents, Budge and Beulah Cochran of Concord.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Bobby G. DeJarnatt

Graveside services for Bobby G. DeJarnatt, 81, of Gunter were conducted at 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, in the Dodd City Cemetery, Dodd City, with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

He died Jan. 23. Born Aug. 19, 1927, in Windom to Eddie Bryan and Flossie Fay (Bridges) DeJarnatt, he was a construction foreman with Dallas County for 25 years and a member of the Fate Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Wanda (Nichols) DeJarnatt of Gunter; his son, James DeJarnatt and his wife, Phyllis, of Dallas; his daughter, Jane Howry of Rockwall; six grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one daughter, Judy Ford.

John R. Fay

Memorial services for John R. Fay, 62, of Garland will be at noon on Saturday, Jan. 31, 2009, in the Holy Trinity by the Lake Episcopal Church, 1524 Smirl, in Heath with the Rev. Peter R. Getz officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

He died Jan. 25. Born Oct. 26, 1946, in Houston to John L. and Caroline Ruth (Popplewell) Fay, he served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War and was the manager/owner of an automotive company.

Survivors include his wife, Vickie (Miller) Fay of Garland; one son, Sean Fay and his wife, Jill, of Rockwall; one sister, Lynne Brez and her husband, Ray, of Huntington Beach, Calif.; and his grandchildren, Charlotte Grace and Caleb Christian Fay of Rockwall.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Susan Caroline Fourie

Graveside services for Susan Caroline Fourie, 79, of Roysse City were conducted at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2009, in the Restland Memorial Park in Dallas. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

She died Jan. 22 following a long battle with Alzheimer's disease. Born Oct. 16, 1929, in Durban, South Africa, she and her husband became naturalized citizens in 1956 on Ellis Island. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother and was a special education teacher.

Survivors include her son, John Fourie of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; her daughter, Caroline Nosworthy and her husband, Dudley, of Roysse City; her grandchildren, Bryan Burgess, Steven Nosworthy and Megan Nosworthy; and her brother, Theodore DeMeillon of Australia.

Ruth Jennie Lewis

Services for Ruth Jennie Lewis, 89, of Rowlett were set for 10 a.m. today, Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with the Rev. Buist Wilson and Bob Moser officiating. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She died Jan. 26 following a brief illness.

Born June 5, 1919, in Rowlett to Jesse S. and Minnie (Baker) Lemons, she spent her life as a loving mother and wife, often giving of her time to care for others. An active member of the First United Methodist Church of Rowlett and the Rowlett VFW, she was a past member of the Eastern Star.

Survivors include her cousin, Laura Chenault Hefner, and numerous nieces and nephews, including Wilma Shelton, Joe Hall, Judy Moon, Jimmy Lawrence, Joe Lemons and Vicki Aldridge.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Theo Lewis; and one daughter, Carolyn Ruth Lewis.

Boyd Lee Morrison

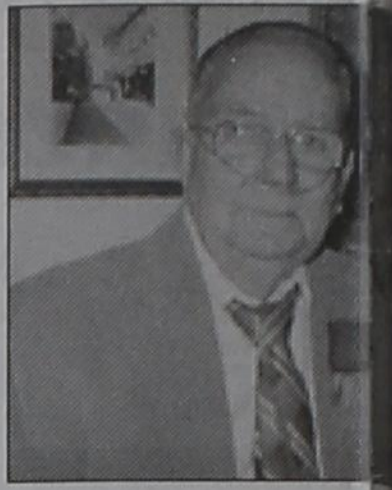
Services for Boyd Lee Morrison, 83, of Garland were set for 2 p.m. today, Thursday, Jan. 29, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Pastor Richard Buck officiating. Burial will follow in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

He died Jan. 25. Born Jan. 8, 1926, in Lamesa to Alton Morrison and Joycie Blevins, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and later was a supervisor for Rockwell International.

Survivors include his son, Jerry Lee Morrison and his wife, Carole, of Wylie; one daughter, Patricia Ann Thompson and her husband, Stephen, of Garland; his grandchildren, Delana Lee Daryl Ann Thompson, Tiffany Rosson, Jason Hulsey, Christi Karrie Arias and David Mauri; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Betty Morrison; second wife, Nita Morrison; a son, Mickey Hulsey; a grandchild, Steven Mauri; his parents; a brother, Billy Joe Morrison; and a sister, Melba Joy Raiden.

The family has suggested that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made to New Life International, P.O. Box 774 Dallas, TX 75379.



Joyce Glass Saldeen

Services for Joyce Glass Saldeen, 74, of Rockwall were conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, Jan. 26, 2009, in the Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel with Dr. Aubrey Patterson officiating.

She died Jan. 22. Born June 9, 1934, in Brenham to Ervin and Lora (Fritz) Glass, she was an office manager in the clothing industry of Wrangler Women's Wear.

Survivors include her husband, Marin E. Saldeen of Rockwall; one daughter, Annette Vaughn and her husband, Scott, of Pontiac, Ill.; her sons, Randal Haydon and wife, Sara, of West Takawoni and Dean Haydon of Plano; and her son, Roy Glass of Pochantas, Ark.; a sister, Lela Herrin of Mound; her grandchildren, Justin and Natalie Haydon and Debra Austin VanWaes; a great-granddaughter, Madelyn Haydon; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, 5005 LBJ Freeway, Suite 250, Dallas, TX 75244 or to the donor's charity of choice.

Mary Therese 'Terry' Short

Services for Mary Therese 'Terry' Short, 57, of Rowlett were conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009, in the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall with the Rev. Frank Rahm and Ed Simcox officiating. Burial followed in the Rest Haven Memorial Park.

She died Jan. 25.

Born June 10, 1951, in Albuquerque, N.M., to Robert James and Mary Frances (Holt) Stephenson, she worked as a trucking company dispatcher and was a member of the First United Methodist Church of Rockwall.

Survivors include her husband, Ron Short of Rowlett; one son, Robert J. Stephenson Jr. and his wife, Mona, of Deatsville; her sisters, Louellen Shipley and her husband, Mike, of Rockwall; Sandra Simcox and her husband, Edwin, of Indianapolis, Ind.; Louina Pole and her husband, Chris, of Indianapolis; one brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Don and Nancy Short of Carmel, Ind.; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, 5005 LBJ Freeway, Suite 250, Dallas, TX 75244.

Leon Charles Weiss Jr.

Memorial services for Leon Charles Weiss Jr., 74, of Heath, will be at 1 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 1, 2009, at Chandler's Landing Yacht Club, 501 Yacht Club Drive, Rockwall, with Rabbi Oren Hayon officiating. The Rest Haven Funeral Home-Rockwall Chapel is in charge of arrangements.

He died Jan. 24. Born March 30, 1934, in New Orleans, La., to Leon Charles and Caroline (Dreyfous) Weiss, he graduated from Tulane University in 1957 with a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering. He served eight years on the Heath City Council, six years on the board of Chandler's Landing. He was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed sailing, camping and rock climbing. During his time he made two transatlantic crossings by sailboat. He worked as an electrical engineering consultant.

Survivors include his wife of 51 years, Pat Weiss of Heath; daughter, Robin Carey and her husband, Tom, of Oviedo, Fla.; sons, Michael Weiss and wife, Sisifa Timi, of Fiji Islands and Weiss of Durango, Colo.; one sister, Leta Marks of West Haven, Conn.; and his grandchildren, Avian, Zamia and Alana Caudillo and Zachary Weiss of the Fiji Islands.

The family has suggested memorial contributions be made to the City of Heath, Leon Weiss Memorial Fund, 200 Laurence Heath, TX 75032.



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Royse City school joins WeatherBug network. The Royse City Intermediate School recently joined the WeatherBug Schools Program in a partnership involving WFAA-TV.

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On God's Word

by Timothy W. Burnett

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His star... Matthew 2:2 and 9

Continuing with the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come to the subject of "his star" referred to in Matthew 2:2 and 9. What "his star?" What circumstances caused the Magi to pay close attention to this particular star? Were they taken by its brightness? Symbolism? As mentioned in last week's column, much of the material on this subject is borrowed from the work of Victor Wierwille and Ernest L. Martin. In his book Jesus Christ Our Unborn Seed, Wierwille more perfectly synthesized the celestial events surrounding the time of Christ's birth, with God's word. He brought his readers back to God's rightly divided word, bringing the period of Jesus Christ's birth a large number of significant celestial events occurred in the heavens that can be pre-empted by modern day astronomers. In their respective books, Wierwille and Martin provided simple illustrations of star positions showing the various significant events that occurred within the constellations Leo and Virgo. Significant celestial events are those that occur in such unusual ways and with unique repetition that it attracts the attention of stargazers. When the related stars have spiritual symbolism, they grab the attention of those star trackers who understand God's word written in the stars. This is why the Magi knew without a doubt that a "King of the Jews" was born. Due to limitations we cannot list all the related celestial events Wierwille and Martin suggested to have occurred during that period of time. They involved the following stars and constellations: Jupiter, Mars, Saturn, Mercury, Regulus, Leo and Virgo. The celestial events included conjunction, retrograde motion, triple conjunction and massing of planets. When two or more planets and stars align so that a straight line can be drawn through them to the ce-

lestial north pole, a conjunction has occurred. A triple conjunction occurs when one of those stars pass three times into conjunction. Here, the related star first passes in the normal direction, appears to reverse its motion back through the conjunction, and finally returns through in the normal direction. The reverse motion is known as retrograde motion.

Wierwille laid out six possible candidates for "his star." The first five appeared in two conjunctions between Jupiter and Venus that occurred on August 12, 3 B.C. and June 17, 2 B.C., and three conjunctions between Jupiter and Regulus on September 14, 3 B.C., February 17, 2 B.C. and May 8, 2 B.C. Regulus is the brightest star of, and is considered the foot in Leo. All the conjunctions occurred in the constellation Leo. A final sixth conjunction in Leo would have completely convinced the Magi that a King was born. This one involved the massing of four planets, Jupiter, Mars, Mercury and Venus in the constellation Leo.

According to Wierwille, a review of all the significant celestial events reveals one planet that stood out as the most likely candidate for "his star." Jupiter is historically and spiritually known as the kingly planet. It has royal symbolism and significance.

After watching the significant celestial events involving Jupiter in the constellation Leo, the Magi could have become persuaded that a King (Jupiter) was born out of Judah (the lion or Leo). As it is written in Genesis 49:9-10, "Judah is a lion's whelp: from the prey, my son, thou art gone up; he stooped down, he couched as a lion, and as an old lion; who shall rouse him up? The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be."

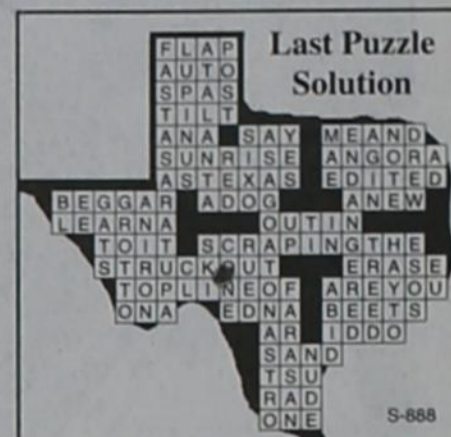
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"The County News"**

Royse City ISD ...

(Continued from Page 5)

It was discussed that other districts name their schools after persons of importance to the district, city or state. Trustees expressed an interest in selecting the new school's name in that manner, but with input from the community. It was decided to take suggestions from the community with a reasonable deadline to be announced for submissions, with the board considering those options. They further agreed to rename the Royse City Middle School if an acceptable name could be

found. The board unanimously voted to accept suggestions from the community to rename both middle schools.



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Mark 11:24

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 encounter practical ways to get out of debt and handle finances in a God-honoring way. Learn to build a God-honoring spending plan, emergency fund, a plan to become debt free, saving for retirement and more, and to purchase the right insurance plans. This is a free online course and is open to the community. Registration is required at lakepointe.org

2009 Spring Support Groups Begin February 5
 groups include Marriage Course, Couples at the Crossroads, Angling Relationships, Search for Significance, Singles Group, Mutual Abuse Recovery, Women Healing From Betrayal, Divorce Recovery, Divorce Care, Kidshare, Boys and Girls Mentoring, and Post-Divorce Recovery. These classes take place at Lake Pointe Church, Rockwall Campus, beginning at 7 p.m. February 5. Lake Pointe Church is located at 701 E. I-30 in Rockwall. For more information, contact the Counseling Center, 469-698-2250.

Ladies' Tea at Cedar Ridge Bible Church
 Cedar Ridge Bible will host its monthly Ladies' Tea at 7 p.m. February 19. The church is located at 114 East Main Street in Royse City. The tea is invited. For more information, contact Kelly Lambourne, 972-3784.

Father/Daughter Date Night
 Friday, February 27, 7 p.m.
 special evening for fathers and their daughters in Kindergarten through grade 5. This event includes dinner, entertainment, pictures and more. The cost is \$25 per couple, with \$10 for each additional daughter. Seats are limited and are on sale at the Children's Ministry Booth in the South Foyer. Tickets will also be available during the week at the Children's Building Reception Area from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Contact the Children's Ministry Office, 469-698-2300, elizabethh@lakepointe.org. The event will be held in the Lake Pointe Church Gymnasium.

Focus on Marriage Simulcast
 Saturday, February 28, 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
 an exciting lineup of marriage experts, including Beth Moore, Dr. Gary Smalley, Dr. John Trent, Gary Thomas and Dr. Del Tackett. Limited special price of \$50 per couple for the first 200 couples who purchase tickets. To purchase tickets, contact Jennifer Taillac, 469-698-2306, jenniferta@lakepointe.org

Cathey to speak at Chisholm Baptist
 David Cathey, a close friend of the pastor at Chisholm Baptist Church, will visit the church Sunday to share his testimony about "spreading the love and hope of Jesus Christ to those living in Muslim countries." Cathey also will address the challenges he and others have faced and victories they've experienced. The special event will take place during the 10:45 a.m. worship service. Other church services are set for 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Wednesday.



Rockwall resident Greg Blair, center, received the Henry W. Bloch National Award for Outstanding Community Service in November 2008 from (left) Russ Smyth, Chief Executive Officer of H&R Block, Inc. and (right) Henry Bloch. Blair, a financial planner with Ameriprise Advisors, Inc., formerly H&R Block Financial Advisors, was recognized for his past work as president of the Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity affiliate. Photo courtesy of Greg Blair



Sarah Williams

Sarah Williams earns national robotics award

Rockwall High School student Sarah Williams has received the National Center for Women and Information Technology Award for Aspirations in Computing for her hard work and success with the RHS robotics team. The award is sponsored by Bank of America. The award was created to acknowledge the computing aspirations of young women and generate visibility for women's participation in computing-related pursuits. Award recipients demonstrate outstanding aptitude and interest in information technology and computing. Williams said she learned of the award application while helping with the junior robotics league at Celia Hays Elementary School. She said a district staff member saw her working with the students and suggested she apply. Williams assists Kay Orr, the Instructional Technology Specialist at Hays, with the robotics class. Williams received a \$500 scholarship, a laptop computer and will attend the Bank of America Technology Showcase and Awards Ceremony in Charlotte, N.C. on March 7. She will be interviewed for a documentary on women in technology while in Charlotte and will attend the technology showcase, visiting with vendors representing a wide range of businesses. A senior at Rockwall High School, Williams said she has received several college acceptance letters, but has not decided where she will attend. She intends to major in pre-medicine. Williams is the daughter of Darlia Simpson and Rodney Simpson of Rockwall.

Greg Blair receives H&R Block national recognition for community service

Longtime Rockwall resident Greg Blair was awarded the prestigious Henry W. Block National Award for Outstanding Community Service on Nov. 6, 2008 at a luncheon in Kansas City, Mo. Blair received his citation from Mr. Henry Block and Russ Smyth, Chief Executive Officer of H&R Block, Inc. Blair is a financial advisor with Ameriprise Advisors, Inc., formerly H&R Block Financial Advisors. He was cited for his activities as President of the Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity affiliate. The award was accompanied by a \$5,000 donation from the H&R Block Foundation to the Rockwall Area Habitat for Humanity affiliate. The Henry W. Block National Award for Outstanding Community Service is awarded annually by H&R Block, Inc. to the Block employee that demonstrates the highest commitment to the betterment of his or her community through dedicated community service.

Bands to host dinner concert, auction

The Rockwall-Heath High School bands and the Cain Middle School bands will host their first dinner concert and silent auction on Feb. 9-10 at the high school. The middle school bands will perform on Feb. 9, followed by the high school musicians on Feb. 10. "We have more All-Region Band finalists in this group than any other school in our district," said Carla Vaughan, Hawk Band Booster president. "These kids are simply the most talented group in North Texas. We're putting their talents together with some good Creole cooking for an evening you won't want to miss." Tickets cost \$10 in advance and may be purchased by calling Sandra Nelson, dinner concert chairman, at 469-338-1864 or by e-mailing snelson@classicnet.net. Funds raised will help support the RHHS Band in its pursuit of a state marching band championship in the fall.

Meeks earns degree

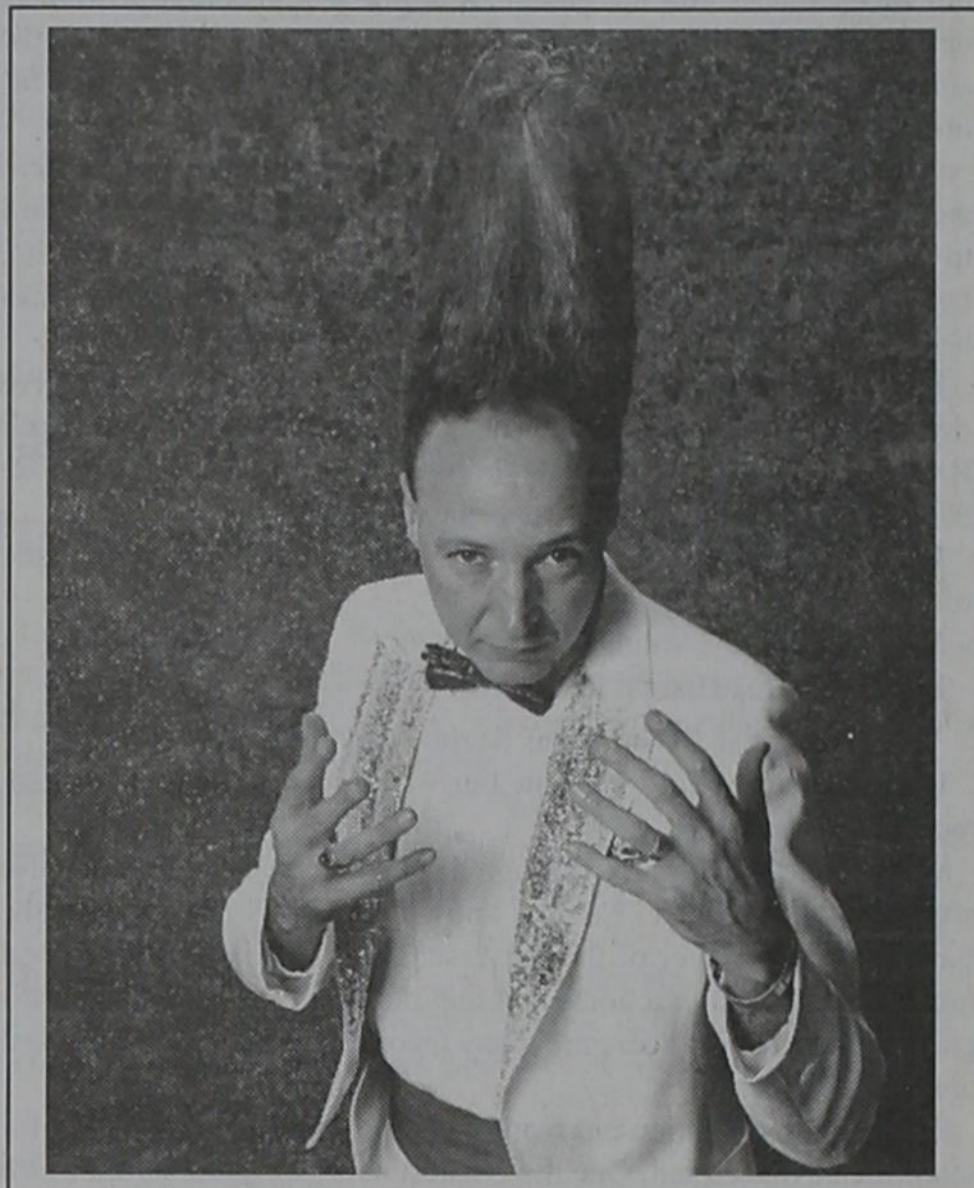
Elizabeth Meeks of Rockwall was among the nearly 350 graduates receiving diplomas at the Dec. 20 commencement exercises at Harding University in Searcy, Ark. Meeks majored in social science and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Neal named to Dean's List

Katherine Neal of Heath was named to the Dean's List for the 2008 autumn quarter at DePaul University. To receive Dean's List commendation, a student must be attending the university full time and must earn a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 or above on a four-point scale.

VNA to offer 'Coping with Grief'

The Visiting Nurse Association will offer a bereavement seminar for adults, "Coping with Grief," from 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 26 at the VNA branch office, 102 W. Grove St. in Kaufman. Clayton McCord, hospice chaplain and VNA bereavement coordinator, will cover topics that include common grief experiences, coping with grief, myths about grief, and resources for assistance. There is no cost to attend the seminar; however, reservations should be made by calling McCord at 972-962-7500 or 1-800-345-0576.



The Southern Junction Nightclub & Steakhouse is proud to present Vince Vance and the Valiants, along with the lovely Valiantettes, for his "39th Annual Birthday Concert" on Saturday, January 31st. Appearing after the concert will be the Rob Dixon Band. Doors open at 6 p.m.. Show starts at 8 p.m.. Ticket prices are \$10-\$20. For ticket and reservation information, call (972) 771-2418, or log on to www.southernjunctionlive.com.

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Rockwall schools show appreciation to trustees during School Board Recognition Month

Rockwall ISD school board trustees were recently on the receiving end of some very special thanks offered by the students and staff of the schools they oversee. In celebration of School Board Recognition Month, the trustees were presented gifts, meals and special offerings thanking them for their time and dedication to the district.

At Governor Rick Perry proclaimed January School Board Recognition Month to "build awareness and understanding of the function an elected board of education plays in our community."

Chris Fowler, RISD Executive Director of School/Community Relations and Marketing, said the district had 100% school participation to help honor the trustees.

As a special treat, Rockwall High School and Rockwall-Heath School provided dinner for board members. J.W. Williams Elementary presented picture coffee mugs with Starbucks coffee, and chocolate, while Maurine Cain Middle School gave each member an Energizer shoulder bag.

Elementary schools also showed their appreciation in many ways. Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary gave personalized calendars to board members. Toward Dobbs Elementary students made personalized gifts for each board member. Grace Hartman Elementary assisted with the board dinner and made appreciation booklets. Celia Elementary created a poster with the "Top Ten Reasons We Rate Your Leadership."

At Jones Elementary students wrote letters, poems, thank you notes and created art for the board. Fused cut glass artwork created

by sixth grade art students was presented by Amy Parks Elementary. Students at Virginia Reinhardt Elementary painted colorful personalized bowls. Amanda Rochell Elementary presented a bound book of notes of appreciation and donated a book to the Rockwall County Library in honor of each member of the board.

At Shannon Elementary, students painted and framed 8x10 pictures for the board. Ouida Springer Elementary donated Bluebonnet Award nominated books to the school library in honor of each board member. Nebbie Williams Elementary also donated books to the library in honor of each school board member and gave each a photo of students holding the books. Quest Academy donated books to the Rockwall County Library in honor of each trustee.

Rockwall Superintendent of School Gene Burton said, "Texans benefit every day from the dedicated energies and countless hours devoted by a group of more than 7,000 men and women across the state. These public servants are elected to serve by local citizens and receive no compensation for their tireless efforts. Their actions and decisions affect the present and future lives of all our children."

The members of the Rockwall ISD Board of Trustees are Craig Zurek, Dr. J. David Loftis, Doug Hamilton, Dr. David Jackson, Brad Lamberth, Dr. Stan Lowrance and Mrs. Leigh Plagens.

The KPAWs broadcast team at Dorothy Smith Pullen Elementary school made a special effort to learn these names and make them a part of their gift to the board. The students wrote, produced, directed, narrated and edited a DVD entitled, "Helping Others," which is based on the district's theme, The Power of One, and was dedicated

to the board members.

Scenarios were filmed around the school with students depicting acts of kindness, such as defending a friend from bullies, assisting students who were lost or lending a hand to pick up dropped school supplies. The actors in the DVD were named for the board members, bringing a chuckle and smile to the board's faces.

The board also received a special gift created just for them by Robyn Gunderson's second grade class at Dobbs Elementary. The class read a story, "Mr. Zurek and the Big Fish," at Monday's meeting. The rewritten story is based on a book the class read about a little fish that is a leader. Gunderson said each grade in the school was assigned a board member to honor and second grade received Zurek's name, resulting in his personalized story.

Dr. Burton presented each board member with a certificate and big thanks for their tireless efforts on behalf of the families of Rockwall ISD.

He said, "Even though we are making a special effort during January to show appreciation to our school board members, we recognize their work reflects a year-round commitment. Every day trustees demonstrate strength and dedication as they focus on excellence for their district programs, their teachers, and most importantly, their students. They unselfishly contribute their time and talents toward the advancement of public schools and represent a continuing commitment to local citizen control and decision making in education."

Essay offers insight into student's view of school board

The theme of Governor Rick Perry's School Board Recognition Month in January is "Celebrating Leadership." Leadership is also one of the qualities listed in the 6 Belief Statements the district utilizes as part of its Power of One program to bring the schools together as one. The statement reads, "We believe sustained success comes from shared leadership and continuous improvement."

Grace Hartman Elementary School fourth grader Jessica Branks wrote an essay called, "Leading," that gave her thoughts on what a school board should do and how they should lead. The essay was read at Monday's school board meeting and all agreed she described the job of a school board trustee perfectly.

Leading

by Jessica Branks

Stephanie Rickert's fourth grade class

To lead is to be chosen to help and be the head of a group or something else like a school. To lead is also to keep things in order, make the plans, help members or someone else, be brave, kind, and trustworthy, and also to be a good example. You are usually the one that stands out and people look up to.

It is an honorable job because if you get it you should know that it means the people really trust you and think you are fit for the job (so work very, very hard!). If you make a plan and some people don't agree, maybe use part of their plan that you agree on and then use part of your plan they agree with. When you lead work hard, do fare (sic), do your responsibility and have fun and make friends. That is what leading is about.

RCC plans Feb. 4 session

The Rockwall Computer Council will conduct its next monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m., Feb. 4 at The Center, located in the Rockwall City Place, 108 E. Washington St.

Karen Mahoney, senior tax adviser at H&R Block, will present the program, which will cover recent federal tax law changes, including the addition of real estate taxes to the standard deduction for non-itemizers, credit for first-time home buyers, how to account for the stimulus payments received in 2008, and mileage rates.

Other topics will include capital gains rates, commonly overlooked itemized deductions and 2009 changes.

Questions will be welcomed.

The RCC is open to anyone interested in computers for the home or office. Members of the community are invited to attend.

For more information call program coordinator Joe Conrad at 972-771-8712.

Chamber plans Feb. 5 appreciation banquet

The 3rd Annual Rockwall Area Chamber Awards & Appreciation Banquet, open to all members and guests, will be conducted Feb. 5 at the Hilton Bella Harbor.

The event will open with a 6:30 p.m. networking reception, followed by dinner at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets cost \$45 per person and may be purchased at the chamber or by contacting info@rockwallchamber.org. Seating is limited.

Keynote speaker will be Brian Davis, a sportswriter for the Dallas Morning News since April 2000. Davis covers the Dallas Cowboys after having spent seven years focusing on Big 12 schools, including Texas Tech, Oklahoma, Texas A&M and Baylor. He has won individual awards for his work as a national college football writer covering the Bowl Championship Series, in addition to the Final Four and the College World Series. A native of Forney, he graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in broadcast journalism in 1998.

Corporate Business Members of the Year nominees include corporate sponsor nominees Randall Noe, Lake Pointe Medical Center, Kroger, HomeBank@Rockwall, Alliance Bank, Hilton Bella Harbor, American National Bank and Bank of America.

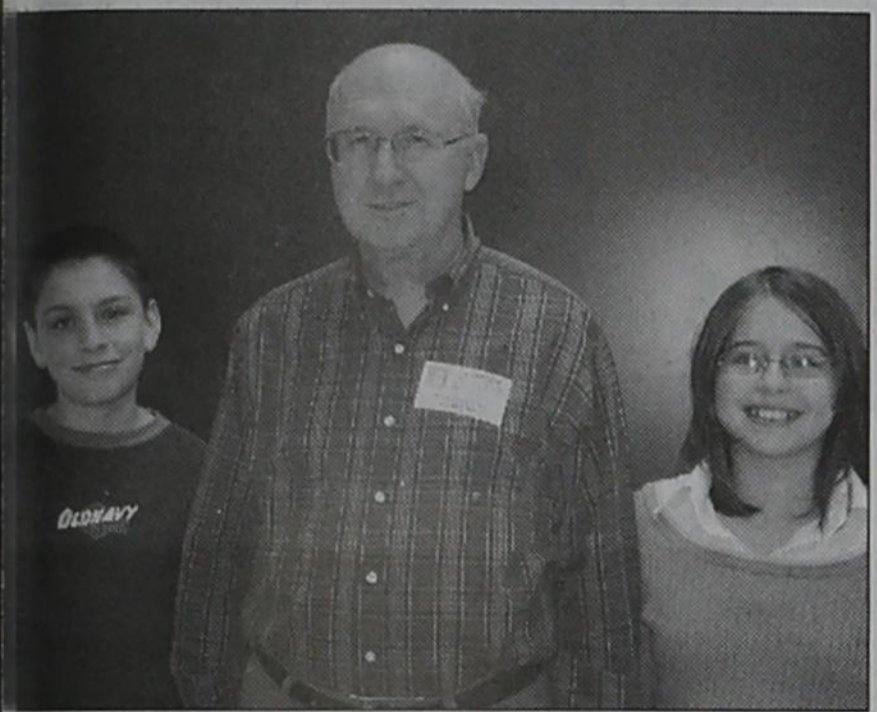
Small Business Member of the Year nominees include Jordan, House Flournoy, LLP, Flip Insurance, Flower Box, Rockwall Flower & Design Studio, East Texas Golf Carts, Blue Canyon Restaurant and Rockwall Injury Rehab.

Also to be awarded will be the Spirit of Rockwall Award, the Board of Directors - Director of the Year and the 2008 Ambassador of the Year Award.

Past board chairmen also will be recognized.

"The past leaders of the chamber made some very good decisions and helped build the foundation that has made the chamber the success it is today," said Sandra Doyle, incoming chairman.

The following chairmen have been identified: Glen Farris, Lou Johnson, Michael Baldwin, Kevin Fowler, Jim Wood, Dan Liane, Michael Buffington, Thomas Haack, Dale Fleming, R.D. Vanderslice, Judy Harris, Rick Allen, Dr. Frank Miller, Andrew Tomalin, Rickard Daiker, Gary Johnson, Joe Williams, Cindy Tayem, Dennis Bailey, Vicki Bradley, Larry Parks, Otis Lowe, Leon Smith and Richard Slaughter. Anyone who served who is not listed should contact the chamber office at 972-771-5733.



James Clark, left, a sixth grade student at Rochell Elementary, recently won his school's spelling bee. As a winner, Clark will move on to compete in the Rockwall County spelling bee in February at Rockwall County Library. Runner-up was Madzia Kochan, third-grade student at Rochell. Also pictured is Marvin Lee, the red language arts department head at Rockwall High School who served as announcer at the Rochell spelling contest.

Applications sought for Citizen Fire Academy

Applications are being accepted for the next Citizen Fire Academy, a program devised to educate participants about fire department operations.

Sponsored by the Rockwall Fire Department, the classes will take place each Thursday from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Feb. 12 through Feb. 19 (no class March 19). Classes will take place at Fire Station 920 Rockwall Parkway.

Some of the topics to be covered during the classes include emergency apparatus and equipment; emergency medical operations; special operations (demonstration); protective clothing (hands-on); portable fire extinguishers (hands-on). Participants also will know and ride with firefighters.

Classes are open to individuals who reside or work in Rockwall and who are at least 18 years of age with a clear criminal history. There is no charge for the course.

Applications are available at the fire station and City Hall.



Those who attended the Rockwall Newcomers January meeting were entertained by Joy Davis, left, an actress and storyteller, and assistant for the program, Connie Kuester, first vice president of the program. Davis entertained the group by bringing them alive through pictures, stories and the recounting of the events surrounding America's Lady Liberty. The group will meet at 10 a.m. Feb. 12 at Chandlers Landing with a coffee social, followed by a program, a short business meeting and lunch. Contact Kitty Colquhoun at 972-722-5569 or Ann Small at 972-1748 before 6 p.m. Feb. 8 to make reservations for the \$16 reception.



The Royse City High School Interact Club held a pet food drive before Christmas to benefit the Royse City Animal Shelter. Pictured are students Kristina Dahmer, Brittany Rogers and Shelby Morgan unloading the food and delivering it to the shelter. Photo courtesy of Jo Nell Melloy



Sixth grade student Rachel Farrow, who took first place in the Nebbie Williams Elementary School Spelling Bee, is shown with Principal Karen Aikman. Farrow will participate in the Rockwall County Spelling Bee on Tuesday.

Rockwall BPA seeks applications

The Rockwall Business Police Academy, an interactive program sponsored by the Rockwall Police Department, is now accepting applications.

The BPA is an educational program designed to raise awareness about commercial- and retail-related crimes and crime prevention strategies. Topics include credit card abuse, check fraud and forgery, identity theft, criminal investigations and crime scene preservation, the criminal justice system, robbery prevention and survival, patrol and robbery response procedures, shoplifting scams and con games and suspicious persons and situations.

The course is offered free of charge.

Participants must be at least 18 years old and have a "good standing in the community with no previous felony convictions," according to the city's news release.

Classes will be conducted from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Tuesday beginning Feb. 17 and running through March 31. Classes will take place in the Rockwall Police Department Training Room.

Applications are available at the police department, located at 205 W. Rusk St., and at the Community Services Office, 1113 Ridge Road.

Applications are due Feb. 16. For more information, contact Sgt. Andy Villarreal at 972-772-6718.

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'Power of One' multiplying at Rochell Elementary

The Power of One was evident last year at Rochell Elementary. As has been the tradition over the past years, the Leadership Council students served homemade cookies with hot apple cider or hot chocolate to staff members.

An additional tradition that has continued to grow into a school wide project over the past 12 years is the annual

Giving Tree. It originated with Kathy Ramanzadeh, a now-retired teacher who encouraged her students to bring a gift for a family in need, rather than a teacher gift during the holiday season. As every year, Rochell families were invited to bring items, such as mittens, scarves, hats, toiletries and toys to place under the tree in the main office. Students, families and teachers donated

many items that were donated to Helping Hands to assist in supporting families in need in our community.

Angelica Fraire, a first grade student at Rochell, won a beautiful bicycle at the Rockwall Christmas Parade and donated it to the Giving Tree in hopes of bringing happiness to another child. When asked what inspired her to share the bike with another little girl, she stated that she already has one bike and wanted to share the new one with someone else.

In order to make a difference, fifth grade students wrote letters and sent numerous boxes filled with necessities and treats to soldiers serving overseas. What began as a small writing project soon snowballed into something much larger as the students were eager to brighten the holidays for those service members who were unable to spend this special time with their loved ones at home.

Fourth grade teacher Christine Unlusoy challenged her students to "pay it forward." She presented each of them with \$1 and asked them to find a way to do a good deed with it. After the New Year, the students wrote about how they put their dollar to good use. Some students donated the money to various organizations, such as their church, homeless shelters or Helping Hands, while others created cards to mail to soldiers or bought small trinkets



Rochell Elementary first grader Angelica Fraire donated a girl's bike to put under the school's day Giving Tree.

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from the Dollar Store to donate to children less fortunate.

To remind the students to show "The Power of One" and show the community that the Rochell family has accepted Rachel's Challenge to show kindness and compassion, students and staff created a sign using cups on the fence facing the playground.

After such a successful first semester, Rochell staff and students now look forward to continuing on their road to show "The Power of One" during the spring of 2009. One of the events the entire school always looks forward to is "Pennies for Patients" Feb. 9-27. During this time the students will collect money to donate to the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Also, Rochell first graders and their sixth grade buddies will perform

George Malchev recognized for translating works to Bulgarian

A local resident was honored earlier this month for his work in translating 1,200 pages of New Life Behavior International cur-

riculum into the Bulgarian language.

George Malchev, a Bulgarian native and member of the Eastridge Church of Christ in Rockwall, received a certificate of appreciation for his work.

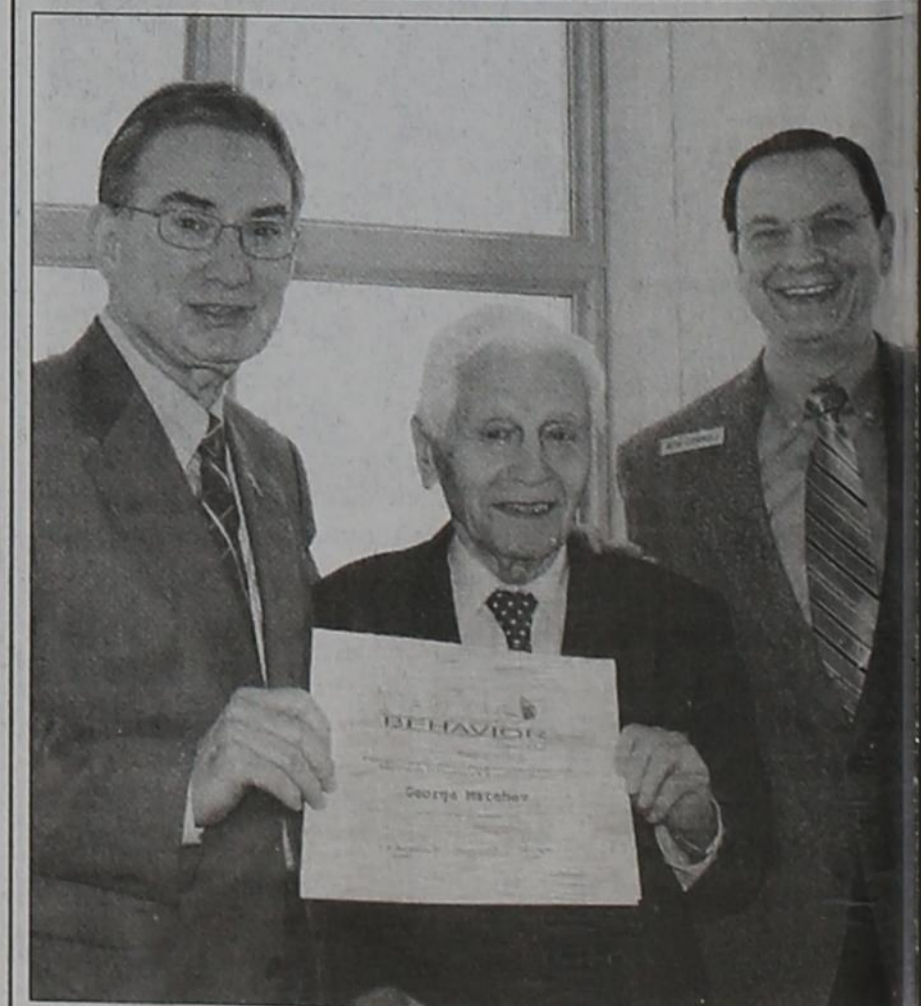
The mission of New Life Behavior, which was established in 1984 by Dr. H.M. Motsinger, is to distribute faith-based behavioral curriculum to individuals who are in prison and to the general population, offering them the opportunity for a better life through a relationship with God.

When Malchev was introduced to Dr. Motsinger, Malchev said, "I would like to translate the cur-

riculum into the Bulgarian language for my people."

Malchev learned English attending the American College in his hometown, Sofia, in 1950. Fifty years after graduating, he attended the Church of Christ in Sofia where he translated for minister, Tom Black.

Malchev and his wife, Rose, came to the U.S. in 2002 to live with his son, Charles, daughter-in-law, Ivanka, and were residents of Rockwall. Malchev spent more than a year translating the curriculum into the Bulgarian language. "The work was very rewarding," he said.



Dr. H.M. Motsinger, founder of New Life Behavior International is shown at left, presenting a certificate of appreciation to 88-year-old George Malchev, center, who translated 1,200 pages of the curriculum into Bulgarian. Also pictured is church member Bob Carroll, who introduced the two men.

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Lary Bump
For three quarters Friday, the Roys
hasn't recovered from a loss to R
Richardson Pearce, a team with
who have lost just five time
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Rockout said, "(Pearce) did a good
middle two quarters. She hit two 3

Lary Bump
Royce City hung with Richardson
basketball game, but in the end the M
personne.
They were better than us offensive
school better." Bulldogs head coach
's 48-39 loss.

Royce City Bull
Monday, Feb. 2 - 7th and 8th g
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Tuesday, Feb. 3 - Girls' basketba
and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.
girls' soccer: home vs. Sulph
basketball: at Highland Park,
7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5 - 7th and 8th g
Black, White 4:30 p.m., Black 5:30
Thursday, Feb. 6 - Girls' basketba
Freshman and JV 6 p.m. and va
basketball: at Carrollton New
varsity 7:30 p.m.

Sports

Special needs op
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open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
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a support group. For more in
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YMCA soccer regist
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Association's Spring season. S
youths, while Youth Soccer is op
as of July 31). Early registrati
\$25 per family, \$45 youth, \$70 p
regular registration period will ru
10 and runs until the teams are f
12 or visit rockwallymca.org.

Monday yoga
Monday yoga classes for individual
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 2-23
the Rockwall Parks & Rec-spons
for non-residents. For informatio

Bulldogs' Scotty Arterberry
against JJ Pearce at Royce City
Staff photo by Tim Burnett

Rockwall County Sports

Fourth-quarter rally puts Lady Bulldogs past Pearce

Lary Bump

Three quarters Friday, the Roysse City girls' basketball team played hadn't recovered from a loss to Rockwall three days before. Richardson Pearce, a team with just six wins all season, the Lady logs, who have lost just five times, trailed 32-27. In the huddle, head coach Dallas Bookout told his players, "You've worked hard all year. We didn't work that hard to come here and get beat." Pearce was passing the ball out front to use up time and nurse the lead against RC's zone defense. Bookout ordered a switch. The Bulldogs were flat before that. We changed to man-to-man, which we didn't run much. The result was that Roysse City outscored the Lady Mustangs 25-6 in the fourth quarter to take a 52-38 decision. Bookout said, "(Pearce) did a good job stopping Raven Alexander in the middle two quarters. She hit two 3-pointers in the first quarter. Going

to man got her some energy. She got a couple of easy baskets and hit two more 3s in the fourth quarter."

Alexander and Kellie Wyrick each scored 15 points in the victory. Another spark was sophomore Jennifer Null, who has been promoted permanently from the junior varsity.

"The plan all along was to have her and one or two more play with the JV, then bring them up late. She played about two-thirds of the game and scored seven points."

It was a spark the team needed, he said.

"We were still down from losing to Rockwall. We put a lot of effort and energy into that game. We played pretty sluggish for three quarters.

"We've tried all year as coaches to tell them that they can't kind of half-way play and then turn on the light switch. They've been able to do that in the district against everybody but Rockwall."

"Halfway" playing for three quarters was good enough against Pearce

(3-6 in District 10-4A, 6-14 overall). Roysse City remained in second place with five games to play, two games behind Rockwall (9-0, 19-9). The Lady Bulldogs, whose only two district losses were against RHS, are 7-2 and 22-5.

The varsity home game against Greenville was postponed on both Tuesday and Wednesday because of the area's ice storm. It was rescheduled again for Thursday.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Roysse City	10	10	7	25	52
Pearce	10	15	7	6	38

Roysse City: Kellie Wyrick 15, Raven Alexander 15, Tayler Young 9, Jennifer Null 7, Taylor Howard 4, Taylor Jordan 2.

Richardson Pearce: Corrie Forcier 16, Megan Siebert 11, Anna Gerber 5, Elyssa Aft 4, McKenzie Russell 2.

Bulldogs struggle against Pearce in hard fought game, drop to 2-5

Lary Bump

Roysse City hung with Richardson Pearce for most of Friday's boys' basketball game, but in the end the Mustangs were just too much for RC to overcome. They were better than us offensively. They're a little more athletic and shoot better." Bulldogs head coach Anthony Howerton said after his 48-39 loss.

Roysse City Bulldogs' schedule

Monday, Feb. 2 - 7th and 8th grade boys' basketball: home vs. Rockwall, White 4:30 p.m., Black 5:30 p.m. and Gold 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 3 - Girls' basketball: home vs. Highland Park, freshman and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Varsity girls' soccer: home vs. Sulphur Springs, 6 p.m.

Girls' basketball: at Highland Park, freshman and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 5 - 7th and 8th grade girls' basketball: home vs. Rockwall, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 6 - Girls' basketball: home vs. Carrollton Newman Smith, freshman and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Girls' basketball: at Carrollton Newman Smith, freshman and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

The final score isn't indicative of how the game was played. Roysse City led midway through the third quarter. Pearce didn't lead by as many as four points until 2 minutes, 18 seconds remained in the third quarter. The Bulldogs came back within a point at 28-27 in the fourth quarter, and the Mustangs still had just a four-point advantage with two minutes to play.

However, RC spent most of the fourth quarter in a fouling mode trying to get back the ball and the lead. The Richardson team made 10 of 16 foul shots in the quarter, with its last six points coming from the foul line.

The result was typical of what Howerton has seen during the Bulldogs' first season since moving up to District 10-4A.

Midway through the district schedule, last year's 10-3A champions are just 2-5 (10-12 overall) and in sixth place. Pearce (5-2, 9-14) is third in the district.

"It's a very tough district," Howerton said. "It's an amazing new level of competition. Defensively, they're so much better. They do a better job of blocking out. And I'm really impressed with the coaches at this level.

"I thought the kids battled tonight. They played a very good defensive game against a good offensive team. I think we can play 4A defense, but not yet 4A offense."

RC's offense was better than it had been in a 55-30 loss three nights earlier. Howerton said, "We played really tight offensively at Rockwall.

We wanted to go back to attacking the basket and be more aggressive."

Against Pearce, it didn't help that by game's end the Bulldogs were playing shorthanded. Justin Jacobs, who scored all six of his points while keeping his team in the game during the third quarter, had fouled out with 5:34 to play, just after assisting on two baskets that pulled Roysse City within 31-29. And Trey Crutchfield didn't play at all.

Howerton did not say why Crutchfield was missing, but commented on the role junior center Nick Stone played.

"Nick Stone did a great job defensively. He was guarding one of their best players (Bruce Smith), who scores 21 points a game."

Partly because Stone blocked two shots emphatically, Smith scored just 15 against RC. He was scoreless while the Bulldogs were taking an 8-7 lead after one quarter, and had just seven points entering the fourth quarter. His eight points in the final period included four foul shots.

Roysse City took its biggest lead with 2:43 to play in the first half, when Cory Stapleton's 3-point shot made the score 15-10. Pearce's press then kicked in, leading to five points in a 7-0 run in just 44 seconds to put the Mustangs ahead 17-15 at halftime.

"Our ballhandling wasn't very good in that situation," Howerton said.

The Bulldogs missed a chance to improve their record when their game at Greenville was postponed both Tuesday and Wednesday. RC will host Rockwall-Heath Friday.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Pearce	10	11	20	48	
Roysse City	8	7	8	16	39

Richardson Pearce: Bruce Smith 15, Chris Bowie 15, Cole Holland 6, Brooks Vehslage 3, Zubin Teherani 3, Chase Blakeley 3, Jake Allen 2, Brian Felts 1.

Roysse City: Wynn Posey 10, Stephen Edwards 8, Cory Stapleton 6, Justin Jacobs 6, Nick Stone 4, Scotty Arterberry 4, DaJon Avery 1.

Roysse City sports continued on page 18

Sports Notes

Special needs open gym Friday

The last Friday of each month is Special Needs Open Gym Night at the RISD Education Center gym, located at 1050 Williams St. The gym will be open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for children with special needs to interact with each other and play various activities while their parents meet as a support group. For more information call the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department at 972-771-7740.

YMCA soccer registration under way

Registration is under way for the Rockwall County YMCA Soccer Association's Spring season. Small Fry Soccer is open to 3-year-olds, while Youth Soccer is open to both genders ages four and up (as of July 31). Early registration will run through Saturday, cost-\$25 per family, \$45 youth, \$70 plus \$30 for program membership. Regular registration period will run Feb. 1-9; late registration begins Feb. 10 and runs until the teams are full. For information call 972-772-7740 or visit rockwallymca.org.

Monday yoga classes slated

Monday yoga classes for individuals ages 15 and older will be offered from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Feb. 2-23 and April 6-27 at The Center. Cost for the Rockwall Parks & Rec-sponsored classes is \$32 for residents, \$40 for non-residents. For information call 972-771-7740.

Special needs open gym Feb. 27

The last Friday of each month is Special Needs Open Gym Night at the RISD Education Center gym, located at 1050 Williams St. The gym will be open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. for children with special needs to interact with each other and play various activities while their parents meet as a support group. For more information call the Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department at 972-771-7740.

Power yoga classes scheduled

The Rockwall Parks & Recreation Department will sponsor a Vinyasa-style yoga class, Power Yoga, March 2-23 at The Center. Open to individuals ages 15 and older, the event will run Mondays from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$40 for residents, \$60 for non-residents. For more information call 972-771-7740.

Ping pong tourney slated

A ping pong tournament for individuals ages 50 and older, sponsored by the Rockwall Parks & Rec Department, will begin at 10 a.m. March 20 at The Center. Drinks and snacks will be provided for players. For more information call 972-771-7740.

(Continued from Page 14)

2009 Spring Registration Rockwall Baseball Association

T-Ball and Coach Pitch League:
U - 5 and 6 year-old (T-Ball)
U - 7 and 8 year-old (Coach pitch)

Player Pitch Leagues include:
U - 9 and 10 year-old
U - 11 and 12 year-old
U - 13 and 14 year-old

LOCATION:
Myers Community Center

Time:
Friday - January 30, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturday - January 31, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

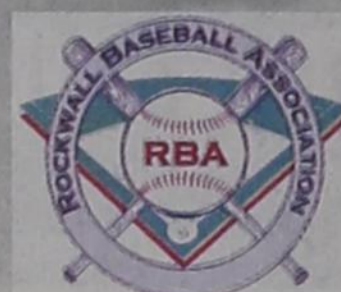
Friday - February 6, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday - February 8, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The Rockwall Baseball Association (RBA) provides youth baseball for ages 5 through 14 years. League age for the 2009 spring season is determined by the player's age as of April 30, 2009. Registration forms can be downloaded from Handouts on our web site. Player Registration Form, Player Medical Release Form, and Age Restriction Waiver Request (if applicable).

WWW.rockwallbaseballassociation.com

Email: info@rockwallbaseballassociation.com

P.O. Box 296
Rockwall, TX 75087



Bulldogs' Scotty Arterberry (10) shuffles the ball back to a teammate during last Friday's game against JJ Pearce at Roysse City. Assisting at back, right is teammate Nick Stone (30).

Staff photo by Tim Burnett

Rockwall County Sports

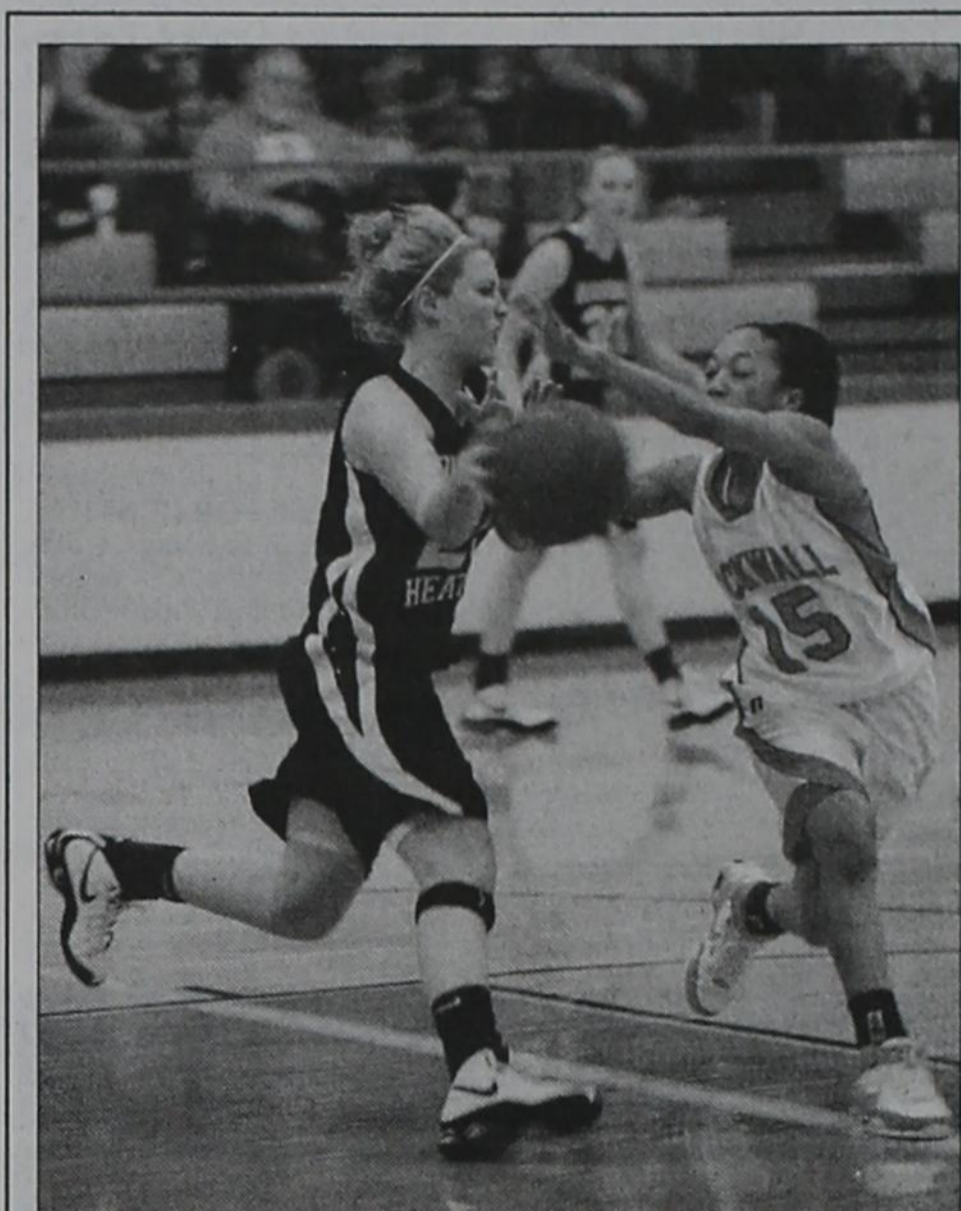
Lady Jackets defeats Lady Hawks 53-24, storm delays run to district playoff clincher

Lary Bump
 Rockwall will have to wait until at least Friday to clinch what has been a foregone conclusion, a berth in the girls' basketball playoffs District 10-4A.
 The game was rescheduled today (Thursday) at 6 p.m. because this week's ice storm postponed the Lady Jackets' scheduled game at Carrollton R.L. Turner twice. The game was rescheduled today (Thursday) at 6 p.m.
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opponents to 37 points per game, less than 10 per quarter.
 On the offensive end, junior Peyton Adamson again led the way with 37 points, including four 3-point baskets. That improved her season average to 27.9 points per game. Over the last five games, however, she has averaged 35.2.
 None of Rockwall's other players scored more than four points against Rockwall-Heath, but they were contributors.
 "Vertashia Dean had seven rebounds," McDill pointed out. "Aimee Coleman came in and played well. She had four rebounds, a steal and four points, and she gave us a little spark all around. Raven (Turner) protected the ball and got the ball to people."
 "I feel like all of our girls are filling out their roles."
 RHS will be back home Friday for a 7:30 p.m. game against Richardson Pearce (3-6, 6-14). The Lady Jackets began their current winning streak, tying their longest this season, with a 60-28 victory at Pearce Jan. 3.
 No new makeup date has been announced for the postponed game against R.L. Turner.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Heath	2	5	7	10	24
Rockwall	13	15	17	8	53

Rockwall-Heath: Shanae Lowrance 8, Brooke Eddy 6, Macall Smith 5, McKenzie White 2, Brianna Richardson 2, Katelyn Morris 1.
 Rockwall: Peyton Adamson 37, Alyssa Lang 4, Vertashia Dean 4, Aimee Coleman 4, Kayla Kimmons 2, Jordan Anterhaus 2.

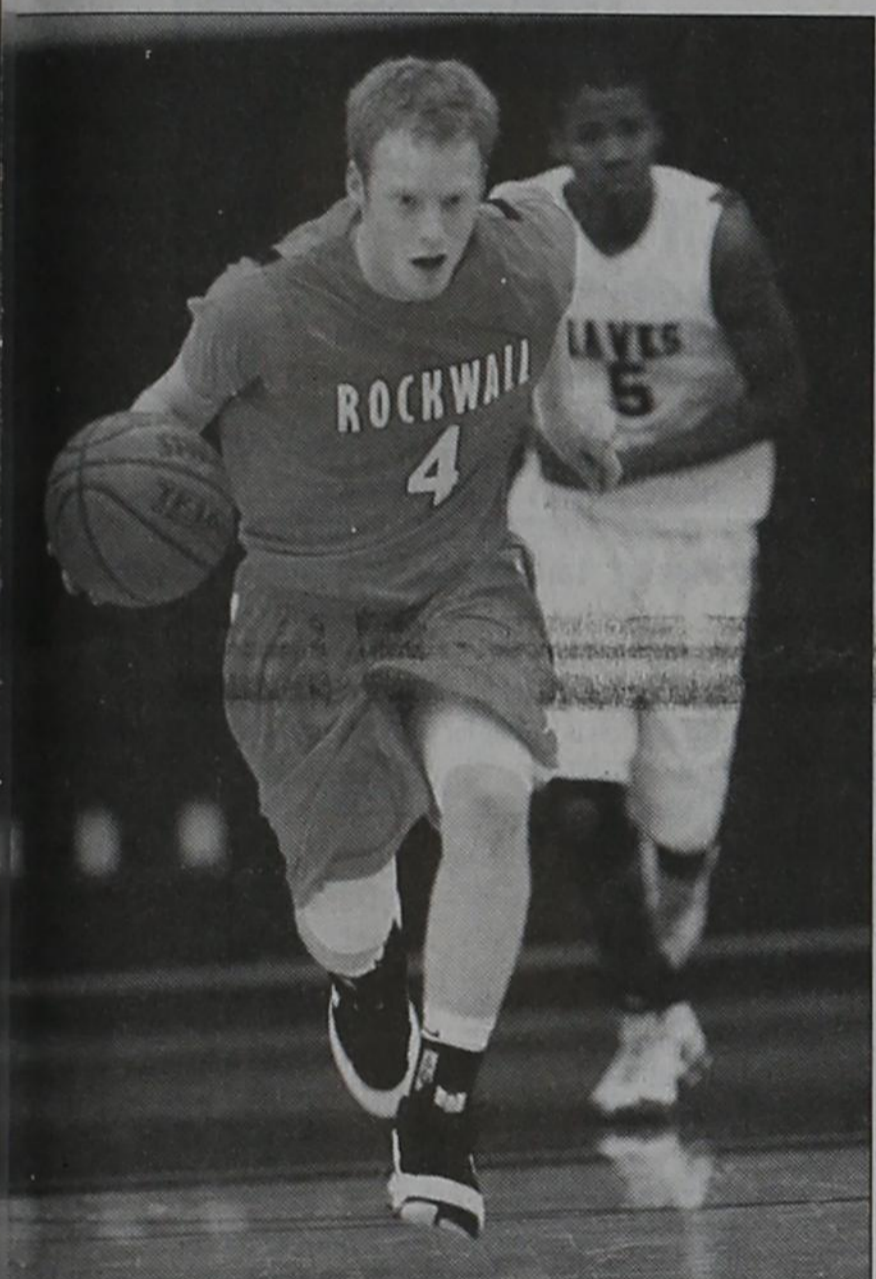


Lady Jackets' Raven Turner (15) puts strong pressure on Lady Hawks' opponent Macall Smith (21) during last Friday's game in the RHS gym.
 Staff photo by Roy Heath

Dingwell's 80-foot 'Hail Mary' shot just misses, Jackets fall to Hawks 62-59

by Matt McGillen
 With Rockwall pretty much needing a miracle to force overtime against Heath in the first-ever meeting of the their boys' basketball teams Jan. 23 at RHHS, the Yellow Jackets almost got it from someone who should know a little bit about frantic finishes: Adam Dingwell.
 Dingwell, who has helped produce some stirring comebacks over the last two years for his Rockwall football team, launched the basketball equivalent of a 'Hail Mary' as the buzzer sounded.
 As both sides of the packed gym held their collective breaths, Dingwell's last-ditch effort sailed some 80-feet through the air, right on line, but, much to the disappointment of Jacket Nation, just a few inches long, ricocheting straight up off the back six inches of the goal between the rim and the backboard, falling harmlessly back to the court to give the Hawks a thrilling 62-59 win.
 The loss drops the Jackets, now 3-4 in the district and 10-11 for the year, into fifth place, a game behind Heath (4-3, 10-13) in the race for the last District 10-4A postseason spot.
 Early on, it looked like the Jackets would take the game away from the Hawks, building a 12 point-lead in the second quarter, and, after surrendering all but one point of that, another eight-point bulge inside of two minutes to play in the third period.
 But Heath stormed back again, taking the lead for good, 52-50, on senior Chase Nielsen's 25-foot trey at the 3:30 mark of the final period.
 It was then the Jackets' turn to rally, as they scrambled to get back from being down 58-52 with less than a minute and a half remaining. First, Kyle Sandlin knocked down a pair of foul shots with 1:20 left to cut the margin to 58-54.
 Then, following Heath sophomore Jonathan Fuller splitting a pair of free throws, Sandlin weaved his way through heavy traffic for a layup, drawing a foul with :30.9 left.
 Sandlin converted the three-point play to pull the Jackets to 59-57.
 After Heath split not one, but two attempts at the double bonus, Hunter

Jorgensen scored on another layup to make it 61-59 with 0:11.5 showing on the clock.
 Forced to foul and hoping for a Heath miss, Rockwall got its wish when Hawks' leading free throw shooter, senior Dustin Morrett, failed to convert either of his attempts in the double bonus, with Rockwall's Luke Wardell apparently gathering in the miss from the second shot.
 But in the hectic scramble for the ball, it went out of bounds, with Heath being awarded possession with :02.3 to go, much to the dismay of the Rockwall faithful.
 But another foul and another double miss, this time by Heath's Lewis Snowton, gave Dingwell and the Jackets their one last desperate chance.
 Sandlin led all scorers with 21 points, including 10 in the wild fourth quarter, while Jorgensen added 14.
 Neither team shot particularly well in the first of what figures to be many memorable cross-town battles, now that Rockwall has dropped down from 5A and joined the Hawks in the 4A ranks.
 The Jackets connected on only 34 percent (18-for-53) from the field while the Hawks converted on 40 percent (22-for-55). Despite the play-off-like intensity generated by the rivalry game, their were only 14 total turnovers, with the Hawks giving it up just eight times and the Jackets only six.
 Dingwell and Jorgensen each collected seven rebounds to lead the Jackets.
 Next up for Rockwall as they open the second half of district play, will be winless RL Turner (0-7, 0-21) at home Jan. 27 followed by a road game against third-place Richardson Pearce (5-2, 9-14) Jan. 30.
 The Jackets thumped Turner 53-29 in their first matchup but lost to Pearce 55-54 in their earlier meeting.



Yellowjackets' Kyle Sandlin (4) drives the ball down court against Hawks' defender Demi Leonard (5) during last Friday's game in the RHHS gym.
 Staff photo by Carl McClung

RHS girls win Longview soccer bracket

by Lary Bump
 Rockwall went into last weekend's Chick-Fil-A Lady Lobo Invitational soccer tournament with only one victory this season, but came away with three more wins and the first-place trophy for the Green Bracket.
 The Lady Jackets, now 4-3-4, defeated Forney 3-0 and Huntsville 5-0 before tying host Longview 1-1. In Saturday's final, RHS defeated Paris North Lamar 2-0.
 "It was a fruitful and yet painful weekend," said Rockwall head coach Melissa Garcia.
 She explained, "We traveled to Longview with two subs and ended up with one due to illness. We came away pretty bruised and battered, but the girls played well. We are in need of some healing."
 To help the undermanned squad heal, Rockwall canceled Tuesday's scheduled varsity game against Rowlett even before the ice storm came.
 The Lady Jackets' next game will be Friday at Mesquite Horn, with the junior varsity scheduled to play at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity at 7 p.m. After that both teams will play at Plano West Tuesday. A week later (Feb. 10), they'll each play their first game in District 10-4A at home against Rockwall-Heath.
 At Longview, the RHS varsity recorded three shutouts, bringing its season total to six, and outscored opponents 11-1.
 The junior varsity also had a good weekend, finishing fourth in a tournament at Richardson. After defeating Carrollton Creekview 1-0, RHS played to a scoreless tie and lost 1-0 to North Mesquite in a shootout. "They had a great weekend!" Garcia said.
 Tuesday's storm canceled the JV team's game at Rowlett.

Boys' soccer team wins twice at McKinney

by Lary Bump
 The Rockwall boys' soccer team won two of three games in last weekend's McKinney ISD Pat Lobb Shootout, losing only to host McKinney Boyd.
 It was a costly tournament for the Yellowjackets, however. During Thursday's 1-0 victory over South Garland, freshman midfielder Houston Smith left the game and went to a hospital because of what appeared to be a broken ankle. Head coach Troy Williams said he didn't expect Smith to play again this season.
 The Jackets (4-9) had entered that game with just three substitutes. On a positive note, they welcomed Daniel Echevarry back to school and to the team. The senior forward scored two goals as RHS defeated Fort Worth Southwest 5-0 Saturday.

Rockwall Yellowjackets' schedule

Monday, Jan. 31 - Varsity power lifting: at Greenville, 8:30 a.m. Varsity and JV wrestling: at Lake Highlands Quads, Lake Highlands School, 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 30 - Varsity softball scrimmages: home vs. Forney 4 p.m. and Mesquite 6:30 p.m.
 Varsity soccer: home vs. Coppell, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Varsity soccer: at Plano West, JV 5:30 p.m. and varsity 7 p.m.
 Varsity basketball: home vs. Carrollton Newman Smith, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
 Varsity boys' basketball: vs. Carrollton Newman Smith, Williams Middle School, 6 p.m.
 Varsity basketball: at Carrollton Newman Smith, freshman A and JV 6 and varsity 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 4 - Freshman 2 boys' golf: vs. Rowlett at Mesquite Municipal, 8 a.m.
 White boys' basketball: at Plano Jasper, 6 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 5 - Varsity and JV wrestling: home for District 10-4A, 9 a.m.
 Varsity power lifting: at Royce City, 4:30 p.m.
 Varsity gymnastics: Optionals vs. Garland, Garland Lakeview Centennial, McKinney and South Garland, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 6 - JV gymnastics: at Richardson, Math/Science/Biology School, 5 p.m.
 Varsity swimming: at District 10-4A Championships, Carrollton-Farmers Ranch ISD, 5 p.m.
 Varsity basketball: at Highland Park, freshman and JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
 Varsity soccer: home vs. Hillcrest, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.
 Varsity basketball: home vs. Highland Park, JV 6 p.m. and varsity 7:30 p.m.

Williams Wildcats' schedule

Monday, Feb. 2 - B Gymnastics: home vs. Cain, 6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 3 - Varsity soccer: vs. Wiley McMillan, Shafter Middle, 7th grade 5:30 p.m. and 8th grade 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 4 - 8th grade A boys' basketball: at A Tournament, Allen, 6 p.m.
 8th grade A girls' basketball: at A Tournament, Sloan Creek Middle School, Lovejoy, 4:30 p.m.
 7th grade A boys' basketball: at A Tournament, Allen, 4:30 p.m.
 7th grade A girls' basketball: at A Tournament, Sloan Creek Middle School, Lovejoy, 4:30 p.m.

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Final
Rockwall	15	13	13	18	59
Heath	10	9	20	23	62

Rockwall (59) - Kyle Sandlin 21, Hunter Jorgensen 14, Luke Wardell 8, Jarron White 6, Adam Dingwell 6, Tim Yeager 4.
 Heath (62) - Lewis Snowton 14, Demi Leonard 14, Jonathan Fuller 11, Chase Nielsen 9, Dustin Morett 7, Eric Larson 3, Tony Tennison 2, Jeremy Casebolt 2

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Rockwall County Sports

Classified Advertising

Legal Notices

Rockwall Hockey extends streak with win over Plano West

Shawn Rogers
The Rockwall ice hockey team struggled through two games against Plano West before Rockwall-Heath freshman Clark ignited a four goal run, putting the Yellowjackets over the top 6-3 Jan. 22 at the Iceing Center in Richardson.

There was cause for concern going into the match against Plano West. Rockwall had sputtered since returning from the Christmas break. Wins over Kothian and Marcus had come a little harder than expected for the team's highest scoring offense.

When the Panthers jumped to an early lead on the opening session, the concern became reality. Penalties were not a problem, said Mark Thirion, assistant coach. "But we need to move the puck better before the other team can set up their defense."

Two quick Rockwall scores in three minutes removed a few key lines. Rockwall sophomore Kinnear won a puck battle in Plano West crease to put the puck on the board. On the next session, Rockwall-Heath senior Chris Rogers set up Rockwall for Chris Thirion at the blue for a hard-wrister that found the net and gave the Jackets the

win when Rockwall turnovers against Plano West scoring opportunities, the Panthers converted late in the first period and the worry was forming again.

Senior Pope, who joined the team last season after a successful run at the Rockwall-Heath football camp, broke the game open in the middle frame, chipping a deflected shot from Thirion. In the last seconds of the game, he netted a rebound off his shot on a breakaway.

Clark had a great night," said Thirion. "The Plano goalie didn't see his shot."

Following in the third, Pope buried a high wrist shot off a Thirion pass and finished the game with an assisted goal off a turnover in the Panther zone.

"I just tried to play my game," Pope. "I tried to get in position for rebounds and it worked."

Rockwall senior goalie Landon

Cain had a strong night in the net with 13 saves for his eighth win of the season.

The win is the eleventh in a row for the 14-1-0 Jackets, who have not tasted defeat since October.

The Jackets will next face a very strong Plano Senior (11-4-0), who is four for five in recent games, Jan. 29 at the Plano Star Center.

Looming on Feb. 5 is the rematch against Arlington Martin, who gave Rockwall their only loss of the season.

The Rockwall Ice Hockey Club competes in the AT&T Metroplex High School Hockey

League and is composed of young athletes from Rockwall, Royse City, and Wylie ISDs.

Rockwall County sports continued on page 18

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PUBLIC NOTICE Request for Qualifications

The Commissioners Court of Rockwall County is pleased to announce a **Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Construction Manager-at-Risk (CMR)** candidates, one of which may assume a leadership role in the planning and managing of the construction of a new Justice Center for the citizens of Rockwall County. The CMR will work closely with the Architect and the Commissioners Court from the pre-construction planning and design stages until the completion of the project. Candidates must participate in the RFQ selection process in order to be considered for the position.

The RFQ materials can be accessed and downloaded from the Rockwall County website: www.RockwallCountyTexas.com/JusticeCenterCMR. If you prefer to receive the RFQ materials in hard copy, please advise.

John A. Blackwood
Rockwall County Auditor
101 East Rusk Street #101
Rockwall, Texas 75087
972-204-6050
JusticeCenterCMR@RockwallCountyTexas.com

The deadline for RFQ submission is **Friday, March 13, 2009 @ 5:00 PM Central Time Zone**. The submission must be directed to the e-mail address or the ground address referenced above. All submissions received by the referenced deadline will be publicly announced on Tuesday, March 17, 2009 at 2:00 PM Central Time Zone in the Rockwall County Commissioners Court located in the Rockwall County Historic Courthouse at 101 East Rusk Street in Rockwall, Texas.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, The Vault Self Storage located at 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas 75032 will hold a public auction of property to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 AM, February 3, 2009, at The Vault Self Storage, 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash only. All successful bidders will remove the contents immediately and leave unit clean. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of spaces of the following tenants:

KAREN L. TAYLOR; furniture, electronics, misc. items.
ARMANDO ALVARADO; appliances, toys, misc. items.
ASHLEY M. FERRENTINO; misc. items.
REVIVAL CENTER OF ROCKWALL; tables
MARGARET SCOGGIN; boxes.
IAW, INC. C/O DANNA S. NTAKA; table, misc. files

Contact The Vault Self Storage, 1280 E. Ralph Hall Parkway, Rockwall, Texas 75032, (972) 771-1105.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed bids addressed to Mr. Chuck Todd, P.E., City Engineer, will be received at the office of the Purchasing Agent, 385 S. Goliad, City Hall, 1st Floor, until the hour of **4:00 PM, Thursday, February 12, 2009**, for the following project:

Fire Hydrant Replacement Project- 2009

The project includes the removal and replacement of 26 Fire Hydrant Assemblies using AVK Hydrants or City Approved Equal and miscellaneous items.

Bids shall be submitted in a sealed envelope externally marked- **Fire Hydrant Replacement Project- 2009**.

Bids will be opened and publicly read in the City Council Chambers at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad. No bids will be open or considered if received after the specified time.

Completion time is **60 Calendar Days**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to waive any irregularities and/or to accept the bid or bids deemed best for the City.

A 5% Bid Bond is due with the bids. Depending on bid, a Performance and or Payment Bond will be required. A Maintenance Bond (2-year) is required for this project.

Contractors must conform to the Prevailing Wage Rates as established by the City of Rockwall.

Plans and specifications may be examined and procured at the Rockwall Engineering Office located at the Rockwall City Hall, 385 S. Goliad, 1st Floor, Rockwall, Texas (phone numbers: 972-771-7746/fax 972-771-7748), at a non-refundable cost of \$20.00, **beginning, January 29, 2009.**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

Royce City I.S.D., on behalf of Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 7 will receive bids for the construction of the OFFSITE SANITARY SEWER LINE IMPROVEMENTS for the R.C.I.S.D. FATE SCHOOL SITE, located in FATE, TEXAS, Job No. 04022-11, at the office of the ENGINEER FOR THE DISTRICT (Petitt Barraza, LLC), 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080 (214) 221-9955 until 11:00 a.m. local time on the date of Monday, February 16, 2009, at which time the bids will be opened and read aloud. Any proposals received after the closing time will be returned unopened. The project includes an Offsite Sanitary Sewer Line for the Fate School according to the plans and specifications. A Pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, February 3, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. local time at the office of the ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080). The Pre-bid conference is not mandatory.

Proposals must be accompanied by a cashier's check or a bid bond from a surety company holding a permit in the State of Texas for an amount equal to 2% of the amount bid. The amount of said cashier's check or bond will be forfeited to the OWNER for the amount in event the successful bidder fail or refuse to enter into a contract or furnish bonds as hereafter required within ten (10) days after the date of notice of award.

The successful bidder must furnish a performance bond and payment bond on the forms provided, each in the amount of 100% of the Contract price from a surety company licensed by the State of Texas. Copies of the Contract Documents, Technical Specifications and Plans are available at the office of the ENGINEER (Petitt Barraza, LLC, 300 Municipal Drive, Richardson, Texas 75080, (214) 221-9955). Copies may be secured from the ENGINEER for a \$100.00 non-refundable fee.

The OWNER reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive informalities or irregularities in bidding in case of lack of clarity in stating prices. The OWNER reserves the right to consider the most advantageous construction thereof, or reject the bid.

Royce City I.S.D., on behalf of Rockwall County Municipal Utility District No. 7.

Classified Ad Deadline: 5 p.m. Tuesday

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- Public Notice -

The City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, February 10, 2009** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, and the Rockwall City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, February 17, 2009** at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Rockwall City Hall, 385 South Goliad, Rockwall, Texas, to consider the following items:

Z2009-001: Rezone from Agriculture to Light Industrial – 1795 E I-30

Hold a public hearing and consider a request by Kimberly Cullins Collichio and Donna Cullins Pritchard for approval of a zoning change from (Ag) Agricultural district to (LI) Light Industrial district on a 1.025-acre tract known as Part of Lot 1, Block C, Rockwall Commercial Park Phase I, and located at 1795 East Interstate 30, and take any action necessary.

All interested parties are encouraged to attend. Please contact the City of Rockwall Planning and Zoning staff at (972) 771-7745 with any questions.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



EXAMPLE A

NOTICE OF RECEIPT OF APPLICATION AND INTENT TO OBTAIN AIR QUALITY STANDARD PERMIT REGISTRATION

PROPOSED AIR QUALITY REGISTRATION NO. 54804L003

APPLICATION Balfour Beatty Infrastructure Inc. has applied to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for an Air Quality Standard Permit, Registration No. 54804L003, which would authorize construction of a Concrete Batch Plant located on the north side of State Highway 66 approximately 1000 feet east of FM 1141, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas. The proposed facility will emit the following air contaminants: particulate matter including (but not limited to) aggregate, cement, road dust and particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter.

This application was submitted to the TCEQ on January 14, 2009. The application will be available for viewing and copying at the TCEQ central office, the TCEQ Fort Worth regional office, and the Rockwall County Courthouse, 1101 Ridge Road, Rockwall, Rockwall County, Texas, beginning the first day of publication of this notice. The facility's compliance file, if any exists, is available for public review in the Fort Worth regional office of the TCEQ.

The TCEQ executive director has determined the application is administratively complete and will conduct a technical review of the application.

PUBLIC COMMENT/PUBLIC MEETING You may submit public comments, a request for a public meeting, or request a contested case hearing to the Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below. The TCEQ will consider all public comments in developing a final decision on the application. The deadline to submit public comments is 15 days after newspaper notice is published.

The purpose of a public meeting is to provide the opportunity to submit comments or ask questions about the application. A public meeting about the application will be held if the executive director determines that there is a significant degree of public interest in the application or if requested by a local legislator. A public meeting is not a contested case hearing.

If only comments are received on the application, the response to comments, along with notice of the executive director's action on the application, will be mailed to everyone who submitted comments or is on the mailing list for this application.

If a hearing request is timely filed, the executive director will complete the technical review, issue a preliminary decision on the application, and a Notice of the Application and Preliminary Decision will be published and mailed to those who are on the mailing list for this application. That notice will contain the final deadline for submitting public comments.

After the final deadline for public comments following any required Notice of Application and Preliminary Decision, the executive director will consider the comments and prepare a response to all relevant and material, or significant public comments. If any comments are received, the response to comments, along with the executive director's decision on the application, will then be mailed to everyone who submitted public comments or who is on a mailing list for this application.

OPPORTUNITY FOR A CONTESTED CASE HEARING You may request a contested case hearing. A contested case hearing is a legal proceeding similar to a civil trial in state district court. Unless a written request for a contested case hearing is filed within 15 days from this notice, the executive director may approve the application. If no hearing request is received within this 15-day period, no further opportunity for hearing will be provided. A contested case hearing will only be granted based on disputed issues of fact that are relevant and material to the Commission's decision on the application. Further, the Commission will only grant a hearing on those issues raised during the public comment period and not withdrawn.

A person who may be affected by emissions of air contaminants from the facility is entitled to request a hearing. To request a hearing, a person must actually reside in a permanent residence within 440 yards of the proposed plant. If requesting a contested case hearing, you must submit the following: (1) your name (or for a group or association, an official representative), mailing address, daytime phone number, and fax number, if any; (2) applicant's name and Registration Number; (3) the statement "[I/we] request a contested case hearing;" (4) a specific description of how you would be adversely affected by the application and air emissions from the facility in a way not common to the general public; (5) the location and distance of your property relative to the facility; and (6) a description of how you use the property which may be impacted by the facility. If the request is made by a group or association, the one or more members who have standing to request a hearing, and the interests which the group or association seek to protect, must also be identified. Requests for a contested case hearing must be submitted in writing within 15 days following this notice to the Office of the Chief Clerk, at the address below.

If a hearing request is timely filed, additional notice will be provided. Following the close of all applicable comment and request periods, the executive director will forward the application and any requests for contested case hearing to the TCEQ Commissioners for their consideration at a scheduled Commission meeting. If a hearing is granted, the subject of a hearing will be limited to disputed issues of fact relating to relevant and material air quality concerns raised during the comment period. Issues such as property values, noise, traffic safety, and zoning are outside of the Commission's jurisdiction to address in this proceeding.

MAILING LIST In addition to submitting public comments, you may ask to be placed on a mailing list to receive future public notices for this specific application mailed by the Office of the Chief Clerk by sending a written request to the TCEQ Office of the Chief Clerk at the address below.

INFORMATION Written public comments or requests for a public meeting or contested case hearing should be submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Office of the Chief Clerk, MC-105, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, Texas 78711-3087, or electronically at www.tceq.state.tx.us/about/comments.html. For more information about this permit application or the permitting process, please call the Office of Public Assistance, Toll Free, at 1-800-687-4040. Si desea información en Español, puede llamar al 1-800-687-4040. General information regarding the TCEQ can be found at www.tceq.state.tx.us.

Further information may also be obtained from Balfour Beatty Infrastructure, Inc., 11810 State Highway 121, Frisco, Texas 77035 or by calling Mr. Randy Ferraresi, Project Manager at (972) 712-6592.

Issuance Date: January 20, 2009

Rockwall County Sports

Cain 7th grade B girls take Sloan Creek Tourney

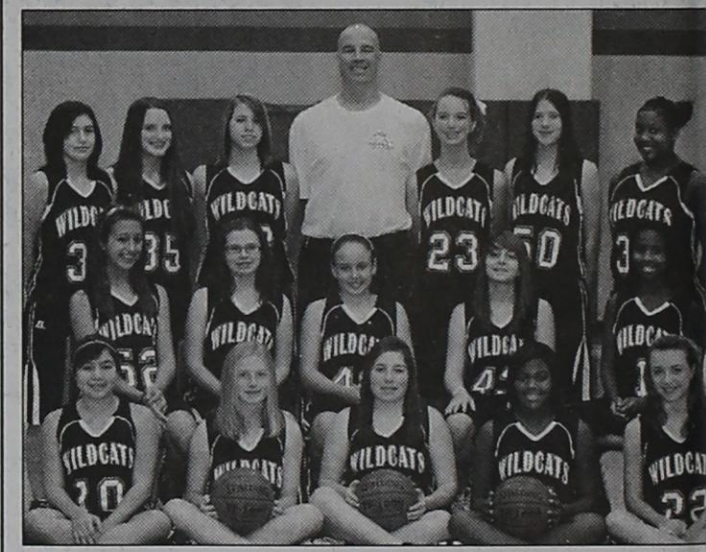
CMS 7th grade B girls take Sloan Creek tourney, remain undefeated for season
Improving their record to 9-0 for the year, the Cain Middle School seventh grade girls B team won the Sloan Creek Middle School tournament in Lovejoy Jan. 23-24.
After opening the tournament with a 40-6 bashing of Wylie's Coop Middle School, the Lady Mustangs downed Sloan Creek MS 15-5 before defeating Ereckson MS from Allen 25-14 in the championship game.
The Lady Mustangs have two games remaining, Jan. 26 against Williams MS and Feb. 2 against Curtis MS.
Cain is coached by Laura Lanquist.



Cain Lady Mustangs 7th grade B team winning last weekend's Sloan Creek tournament in Lovejoy are (back row, left to right) Taryn Hopkins, Brienne Lacy, Madi Lemons, Beth Rose, (middle row) Emily Fletcher, Taylor Abbott, Daija Styles, Savanna Stutts, Coach Laura Lanquist, (front row) Jacquelyn Turner, Lauren Archuleta, Jillian Granstaff and Eden Deel. Not pictured is Regina Tillis
Photo courtesy of Coach Laura Lanquist

Williams 8th grade C girls take Sloan Creek tourney

Coached by Arthur Latus, the Williams Middle School 8th grade girls basketball C team seized the district tournament championship Saturday, January 10th at Sloan Creek Junior High.
In the first round, the team defeated Cain Middle School 37-9.
During the semi-finals, Williams took a close 19-18 victory over All Ford.
The tournament was topped by a 26-24 championship win over All Ereckson, finishing Williams' undefeated season.



Williams Lady Wildcats 8th grade C team district champions are (back row, left to right) Jackie Jones, Josey Jagielo, Courtney Palenkas, Coach Arthur Latus, Hannah Smith, Stephanie Shell, (middle row) Christina Parrish, Mackenzie Blakey, Berkley Talley, Dahlia Rizk, Veneisha Hendricks, (front row) Stormy Herrera, Kaitlyn Basham, Lauren Ham, Jah'ne Cato and Taylor Madle.
Photo courtesy of Emily Laurence

Royse City soccer teams prepare for first district games

by Lary Bump
Royse City's soccer teams have started slowly in their first season in a district, but both head coaches see progress.
"We've come a long way since our first game. We've improved every game," said Shelby Henry, who has coached the girls' team to a 2-2 record in non-district games.
Her team lost twice last week, 5-3 to Princeton and 5-0 Waxahachie.
The boys' team (2-7) also lost Friday to Waxahachie, 7-0.
"I've seen a lot of progress since day one," said boys' coach Ch Lancaster. "Every game I see something we do better."
"I'd say our strength is our senior leadership. We have nine seniors on the team, and that's always helpful."
But, Lancaster added, "This is my first year with the team and our first year in a district. We're going to have our struggles."
Some of those struggles are common to any high school team. For example, the Lady Bulldogs are dealing with players who are academically ineligible.
Henry said, "We've lost a couple due to grades. We're working around that and getting them into tutorials. We have three weeks to get the back."
By that time, the District 23-4A season will be starting. RC's boys play their first district game Monday, Feb. 9, at West Mesquite; the girls' district opener will be the following night.
An unexpected obstacle struck the Bulldogs when bad weather canceled their game scheduled for Tuesday.
"That's going to hurt us a little bit because we need every game we can get," Lancaster said. "We'll see how we bounce back Friday against Eustace."

Rockwall County sports continued on page 20

Opinions

The Peaceful Transfer of Violent Power

by Sheldon Richman

At the risk of raining on the parade, I suggest that the inaugural festivities are not what they appear. Barack Obama says the pomp and circumstance are not about him but are a celebration of democracy. "For the forty-third time, we will execute the peaceful transfer of power from one president to the next," he said.

He's right, but not quite as he meant it. The peaceful transition from the Bush to the Obama regime is indeed the occasion, but let's focus on exactly what is being transferred. Despite the oratory about hope, change, and renewal, government — as someone, perhaps George Washington, said — "is not reason; it is not eloquence; it is force." If that is right — and I contend it is — then in the inauguration we have the irony of a peaceful transfer of something that is anything but peaceful: the legal power to use physical force.

This is something to celebrate?

The question would be fair no matter who succeeded George W. Bush. It's not so much the man but the office that warrants our distrust and (to use Jefferson's term) jealousy. To modify the words of Judge Gideon Tucker: No person's life, liberty, and property are safe as long as the occupant of the White House possesses the powers that are invested in the presidency (and government generally).

The essence of government as we know it is the power to use force against people who have never harmed anyone. The most basic power is the power to tax. Indeed, government could do nothing without it. The power to tax is the legal authority to compel people to surrender their money to the state under penalty of fine, imprisonment, and worse for refusal. Whether or not one thinks this power is good (I don't), one cannot deny that it is based on the threat to commit violence against the nonviolent.

Thus, this week we witness the peaceful transfer of the authority to commit legal plunder.

Apologists for government undertake bizarre mental contortions to show that we have consented to be taxed. Balderdash. I was never asked to consent, and I'm sure you weren't either. I refuse to accept the nonsensical argument that by not vacating the parcel of land I purchased, I have signaled my "tacit consent" to be plundered and bullied. That implies the government owns the territory it rules and therefore can set the conditions under which it is used. That sounds like feudalism. Are we merely tenants of the governmental landlord?

Built on the power to tax (legally steal) are myriad other powers that entail the threat of violence against peaceful individuals. If you wish to buy things from people outside the jurisdiction claimed by the U.S. government, you may do so only on the terms it permits under its trade laws. If you wish to invite to your home or business someone who lives outside that jurisdiction, again, you can do so only under terms laid down by the government's immigration rules. You are not free to make your own decisions in the matter.

If you don't want your money given to others, say, Wall Street banks, auto companies, welfare recipients, stem-cell researchers, military contractors, the Israeli air force, the Iraqi and Afghan rulers — too bad. You have no say. Correction: you have one impotent vote every four years. That's virtually the same as no say.

If you don't want the armed forces killing people in your name, again, too bad. No one asked you.

If you don't want the Treasury and the Federal Reserve stealing your hard-earned money through deficits and inflation, you may as well shut up. It's going to happen anyway.

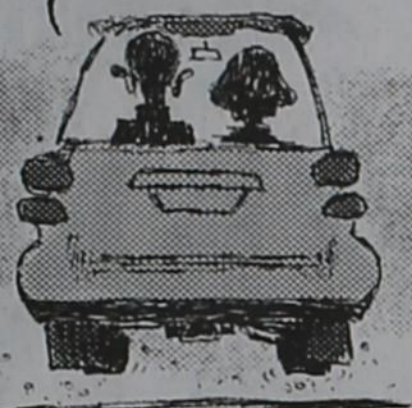
This is the power the peaceful transfer of which we celebrate.

Why all the hoopla? The answer is simple. Government is a horrendous and exploitative imposition on most of us. From the rulers' perspective, there is always the danger that we may figure this out and refuse to go along. Hence the need for regular propaganda spectacles to reinforce the myth that we are the government.

The prayers of The Who's Pete Townshend, alas, have not been answered. Most of us are getting fooled again.

Sheldon Richman is senior fellow at The Future of Freedom Foundation, author of *Tethered Citizens: Time to Repeal the Welfare State*, and editor of *The Freeman* magazine. Visit his blog "Free Association" at www.sheldonrichman.com.

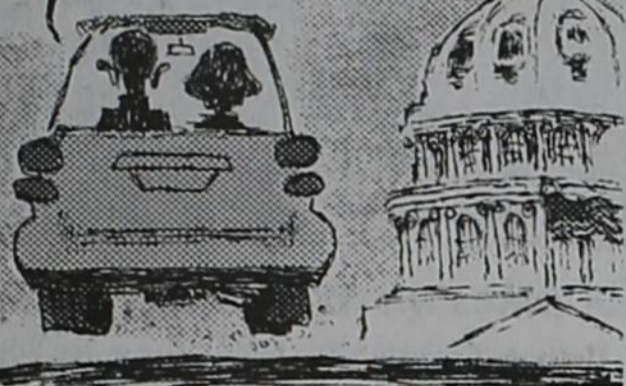
LOOK, I KNOW WE'RE BROKE.



AND WE CAN'T MEET OUR PENSION OBLIGATIONS.



BUT IT'S HUMILIATING TO ARRIVE AT THE CAPITOL IN THIS STUPID LITTLE HYBRID.



SHUT UP AND DRIVE, HARRY.



Obama and Lincoln ...

Walter E. Williams

President Obama was sworn into office placing his hand on Abraham Lincoln's Bible. That is the last Bible I would use to be sworn into office. I say, "Why? Didn't Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation free your ancestors?" It all depends where they were living. Let's examine the document's text to see why.

President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, which reads, "That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State or designated part of a State, of the United States, who were then in rebellion against the United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free..." The key phrase is "in rebellion against the United States" because slaves remained slaves if they were not in rebellion.

The Proclamation is specific about the states where slaves were held. It lists: "Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the Parishes of St. Charles, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, St. Martin, St. Orleans, including the City of New Orleans) Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia, (except the counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkeley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts, are for the present, left precisely as they before were."

Slaves in the excepted Louisiana parishes were not freed because those parishes were not in rebellion. Neither were slaves in West Virginia. By the way, West Virginia's June 1863 admission as a state, as a part of Virginia, was a clear violation of the Constitution's Article IV, Section 3, that reads in part "but no new States shall be formed within the jurisdiction of any other State; nor any State be formed by the Junction of two or more States, or parts of States, without the Consent of the Legislatures of the States concerned as well as of Congress"

But what the heck, Lincoln had much of the Constitution under siege by then.

The hypocrisy of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation came in for heavy criticism. His Secretary of State William Seward said, "We show our sympathy with slavery by emancipating slaves where we cannot reach them and holding them in bondage where we can set them free." The *New York World* wrote, "He has proclaimed emancipation only where he has notoriously no power to execute it.

The exemption of the accessible parts of Louisiana, Tennessee, and Virginia renders the proclamation not merely futile, but ridiculous." The *London Spectator* mocked, "The principle (of the Proclamation) is not that a human being cannot justly own another, but that he cannot own him unless he is loyal to the United States."

Lincoln admitted in a letter to his Treasury Secretary Salmon Chase that his proclamation had no legal justification. Lincoln's motivation for the proclamation was the war was going badly for the Union and there was the possibility that England and other European powers, who had recently abolished slavery, might give the Confederacy economic and political aid, but would not do so if the war was seen as a war against slavery. An excellent reference for this period is "The Real Lincoln" by Loyola College of Maryland's economics Professor Thomas DiLorenzo.

President Obama can be forgiven for celebrating the hypocrisy of Abraham Lincoln because the victors of wars write their history and glorify the winners. The recognition that slavery is a despicable institution does not require hero worship of a president who made the largest contribution to the unraveling of our Constitution.

After all when it is settled by brute force that states cannot secede, as they thought they had the right to in 1787, then the federal government can ride roughshod over states and their people's right — in a word make meaningless the Ninth and Tenth Amendments.

Walter E. Williams is a professor of economics at George Mason University. To find out more about Walter E. Williams and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate Web page at www.creators.com.

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Stimulus for who?

Congressman Ron Paul

This week the House is expected to pass an \$825 billion economic stimulus package. In reality, this bill is just an escalation of a government-created economic crisis. As before, a sense of urgency and impending doom is being used to extract billions of money from Congress with minimal debate. So much for change. It is déjà vu. We are again being promised that its passage will help pay for the mortgage, help homeowners, help the environment, etc. These promises are lies. This time around especially, Congress should know better than to pass a bill of this magnitude without first reading the fine print. There are many red flags in this bill.

At least \$4 billion is allocated to expanding the police state and the war on drugs through Byrne grants, which even the Bush administration opposed, and the COPS program, both of which are corrupt and largely ineffective programs. The bill helps Big Brother keep a better eye on us and our children, \$20 billion would expand health information technology, which would create a national system of electronic medical records without adequate privacy protection. These records will instead be subject to the misnamed federal "medical privacy" rule, which gives government and state-favored special interests to see medical records at will. An additional \$250 million is allocated for states to nationalize individual student records, expanding Federal control of education and eroding privacy. \$9 billion bails out states that haphazardly expanded their budgets during the recession years, but refuse to retrench and cut back, as their taxpayers have had to do.

\$1 billion expands Americorps. \$100 million goes to "faith-and-community"

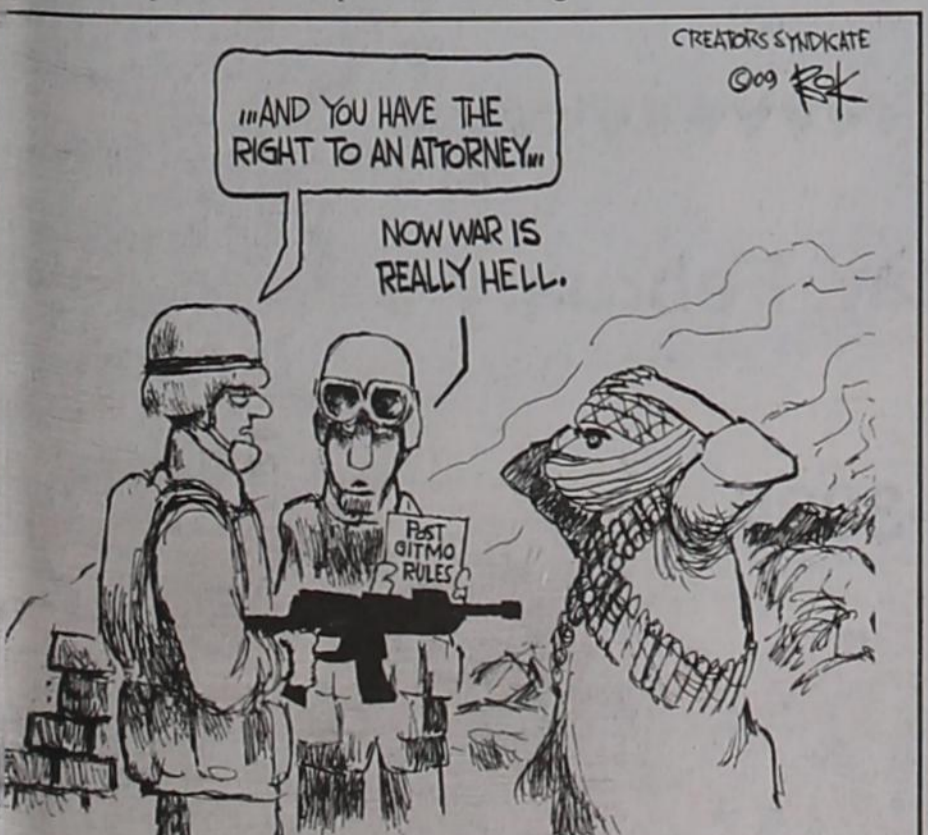
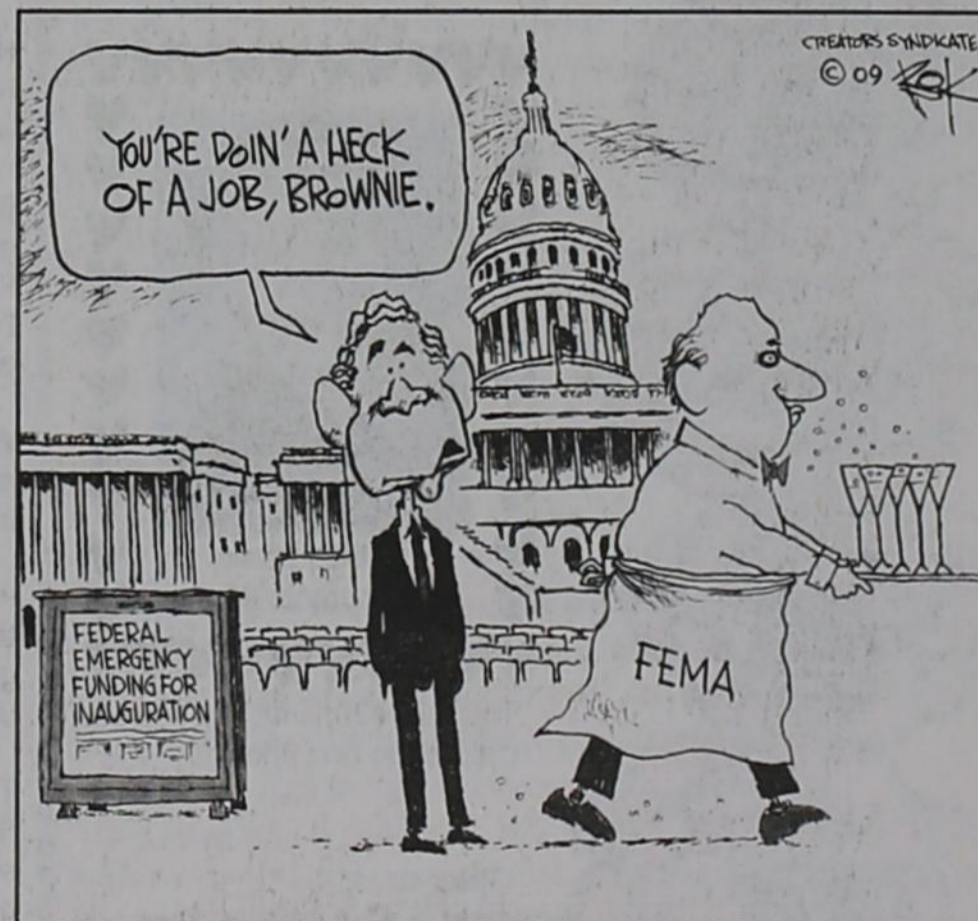
based organizations for social services, which will further insinuate the government into charity and community service. Private charities are much more efficient and effective because they are directly accountable to donors, while public programs tend to get rewarded for failure. With its money, the Federal Government brings its incompetence and its whims, while creating foolish dependence. This is sad to see.

Of course the bill is rife with central planning projects. \$4 billion for job training, much of which will be used to direct workers into "green jobs". \$200 million to "encourage" electric cars, \$2 billion to support US manufacturers of advanced batteries and battery systems, which is yet another function of government I can't find in the Constitution.

Not to mention \$500 million for energy efficient manufacturing demonstration projects, \$70 million for a Technology Innovation Program for "research in potentially revolutionary technologies" in which government, not supply and demand, will pick winners and losers. \$746 million for afterschool snacks, \$6.75 billion for the Department of Commerce, including \$1 billion for a census.

This bill delivers an additional debt burden of \$6,700 to every American man, woman and child.

There is a lot of stimulus and growth in this bill — that is, of government. Nothing in this bill stimulates the freedom and prosperity of the American people. Politician-directed spending is never as successful as market-driven investment. Instead of passing this bill, Congress should get out of the way by cutting taxes, cutting spending, and reining in the reckless monetary policy of the Federal Reserve.



Rockwall County Sports

JV and freshman A Lady Jackets stay unbeaten in dis-

by Lary Bump

Before the Lady Jackets varsity routed Rockwall-Heath Friday, Rockwall's freshman A and junior varsity girls already had ripped their Lady Hawks counterparts.

The freshman team's 43-9 victory and the JV's 59-27 win weren't surprising. Like the varsity, both of those teams are undefeated at 8-0 in District 10-4A. What's more, said head coach Jill McDill, the Williams Middle School 8th grade A team also is undefeated in its district.

Thus, McDill can envision that the Lady Jackets' success will extend into the future.

Friday night, Bre Castillo led the JV team with 13 points, followed closely by Brittany Griffin's 12 and Kayla Smith's 11. For the Rockwall freshmen, who are 18-3 overall, Shelby Taylor scored 12 points and Chelsea Biggs added eight.

Tuesday's scheduled games for the JV and freshman A teams at Carrollton R.L. Turner were canceled because of the impending ice storm.

RHS mens' soccer...

continued from page 15

Also scoring twice in the tournament was midfielder Janson Rector. He put in the game winner during the 56th minute of the victory over South Garland, and added a goal against Southwest. Rockwall's other goals against the Raiders were by Tapp Hazel and Ben Winkler.

Rector's game winner came when he beat a defender to a loose ball in front and just to the left of the goal and booted it past goalie Bryan Nalley.

Williams said, "(Rector) did exactly what he had to do. He kept it low. A high ball would have been stopped. He had a laser on it and he caught a goal on the short side."

The Jackets had a strong defensive effort against South Garland. They

thwarted all four of the Colonels' corner kicks. Goalie Joey Hernandez made five saves in the shutout.

"Our guys stepped up," Williams said.

In that game, RHS was going against the team that Williams coached until this season.

He said, "I actually put both teams into the tournament, but I didn't expect we'd be playing in the same bracket. I had some mixed feelings."

Last Friday, Rockwall lost 4-0 to McKinney Boyd, which went on to win the tournament's Scion Cup.

The Jackets' next game will be Friday at home against Frisco, with the junior varsity playing at 5:30 p.m. and the varsity at 7 p.m.



HCA takes on McKinney Christian

Heritage Christian Academy varsity players Megan Trapani (back, left) and Audrey Stalter (center) race down the court in the recent contest with McKinney Christian. The game ended with a loss to McKinney. The varsity next travels to McKinney for a February 6 rematch.

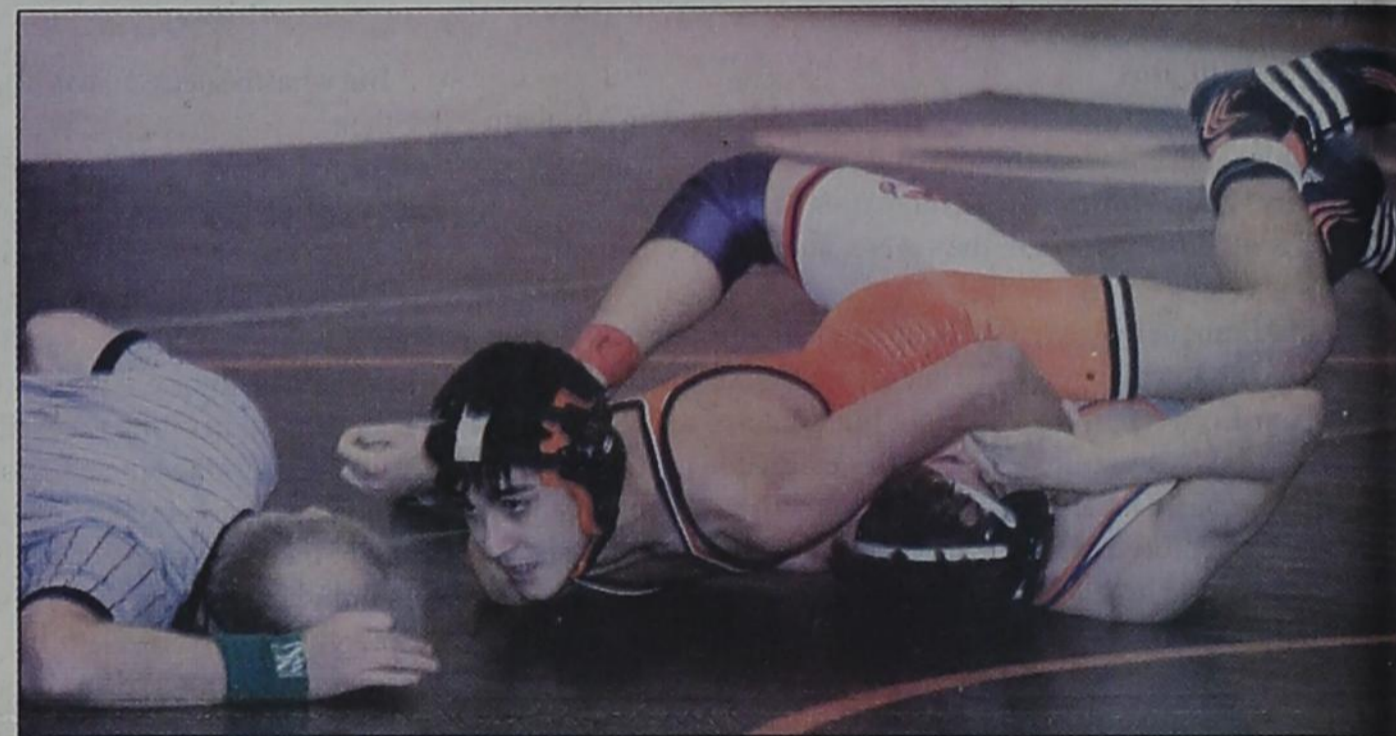
Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Just Say You Saw It In
"The County News"



Rockwall Mat Club members Nathan Breen (left) and Luke Holloway demonstrate their skills at the recent Rockwall-Heath High School wrestling tournament. Nathan's father Bob Green snaps photos during the event.

Staff Photo by Tim Burnett



Rockwall High School varsity wrestler Dacoda Hicks pins a Wakeland High School opponent in the 145 pound weight division during last weekend's RHS tournament. Hicks won by a fall.

Staff Photo by Tim Burnett

Grandma Brag Pages February 10, 2008



Child's name
Grandparents' Names

This size \$20, limit two children in one photo

Other sizes:
1 col. x 4" = \$40
2 col. x 2" = \$40

Payment accepted by VISA, MasterCard or check.

Here's your chance to show off your beautiful grandchildren for all the world to see!

Bring your favorite photo of your grandchild or grandchildren to the Rockwall County News no later than Friday, February 5 to be included in our Annual Valentine edition.

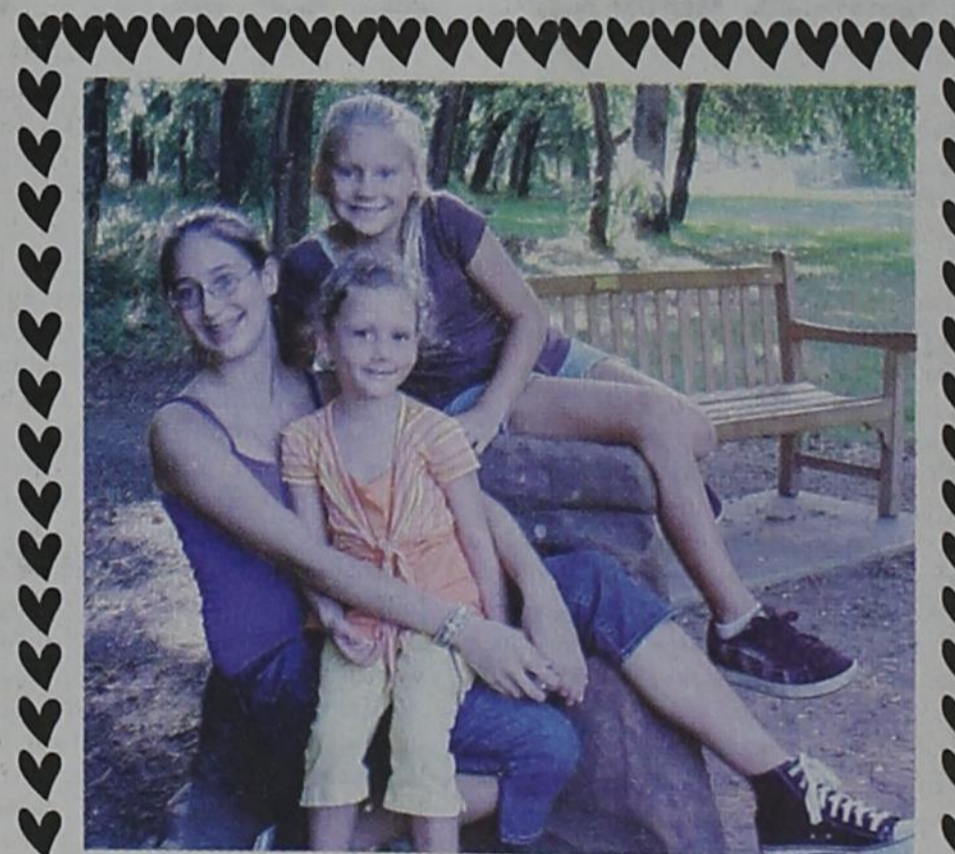
We also accept photographs by email, be sure to send high resolution images.

Please include names of children in the photograph and names of the grandparents you wish to include under the photo.

The February 10, 2009 Valentine Special Edition will be in full color, so pick out your most colorful grandchildren photographs.

There are four different sizes from which to choose, starting at \$20 for the 1 column by 2.5" and larger sizes for photos with more than two children.

Payment in advance please.



Children's names
Grandparents' Names

This size \$80

Deadline: Friday, February 5

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