

No. 88: Dale Jr.

NASCAR's most popular driver takes over a number with a winning history.

PIGSKIN PAYDAY Play to win up to \$100,000. Entry coupon, 8-9D



Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH

Thursday
September 20, 2007

'Where The West Begins'
www.star-telegram.com

50¢

PALEONTOLOGY

Huge prehistoric site may finally be opened to public



Remains of at least 25 mammoths have been found at the Waco Mammoth Site near Waco. "I've worked at a lot of sites, and you don't see places like this," says Anita Benedict of the Mayborn Museum Complex at Baylor, which manages the site.

STAR-TELEGRAM/TOM PENNINGTON

Mammoth attraction in the works

WACO — A secret boneyard for a herd of prehistoric mammoths just 90 miles south of Fort Worth could soon be open to the public.

The Waco Mammoth Site, described by some experts as one of the most significant such digs in the nation, contains the remains of Columbian mammoths, a saber-toothed cat, and an extinct species of camel.

Its location remains a secret to protect it from looters. But a fundraising campaign is under way so the public can finally gain access to what one expert called a "national treasure." There are also discussions under way that could eventually lead to the site becoming part of the national parks system.

Staff writer R.A. Dyer reports, 1B



STAR-TELEGRAM/TOM PENNINGTON

Columbian mammoths

Species: Columbian mammoths looked similar to modern-day elephants but with longer curved tusks.

History: Migrated from Asia into North America about 2 million years ago. Became extinct about 10,000 years ago.

Range: North America, south of the ice sheets that had covered much of the continent. Columbian mammoths were common in Texas. Woolly mammoths lived nearer the ice sheets.

Diet: Could consume about 700 pounds of vegetation per day.

Height/weight: 12 to 14 feet at the shoulders; 10,000 pounds.

Life span: 60 to 80 years.

Sources: prehistory.com, mammothsite.com and the Texas Natural Science Center in Austin

GAS BILLS

Atmos files for another rate boost

Residential gas bills for the typical North Texas household would rise an average of \$1.57 a month under a rate increase filed Wednesday by Atmos Energy. The filing comes only months after a contentious rate case was settled amid questions about inappropriate costs, including expensive hotels and limos. Atmos also seeks automatic annual price reviews.

Maria M. Perotin reports, 3C

What it means

\$51.9 million: Increase requested, a \$1.57 boost to an average residential monthly bill.
70 cents: Increase approved just months ago on average per household.

LAS VEGAS | ROBBERY CASE



O.J. Simpson is flanked by attorneys Gabriel Grasso, left, and Yale Galanter during his arraignment. He was released on \$125,000 bail.

POOL PHOTO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/CLINT KARLSEN

Once again, O.J. is the star attraction of media circus

LAS VEGAS — There were T-shirts proclaiming, "Get arrested in Vegas, stay in Vegas." There was a man in a chicken suit. And there was Marcia Clark, who once unsuccessfully prosecuted the former football star in a murder case. But the circus outside the courthouse was a marked contrast to the somber hearing during which O.J. Simpson was granted \$125,000 bail. 8A

MILITARY

First V-22s leave for duty in Iraq

The first wave of V-22s began their deployment to Iraq this week under extremely tight security. The Ospreys departed Monday from the New River Marine Corps Air Station near Jacksonville, N.C., aboard the USS Wasp. Washington bureau staff writer Dave Montgomery reports, 1C

Online: Check out a flash graphic of the V-22. www.star-telegram.com

SENATE

Dems fail to alter deployment policy

Democrats' efforts to challenge President Bush's Iraq policies were dealt a demoralizing blow Wednesday in the Senate after a measure to guarantee troops more time at home failed. 9A

TARRANT COUNTY COLLEGE

Downtown TCC faces more delays

The downtown campus for Tarrant County College, already behind schedule and over budget, may be facing more delays and cost overruns, college officials said Wednesday. Delays in obtaining permits from the Army Corps of Engineers are to blame.

Trustee Bobby McGee said officials may have to explore different designs for the campus or it may become prudent for the college to abandon the site.

"I wish we had known about this before we got this far along, but we didn't," McGee said. "We're all bracing here for really bad news." Sandra Baker reports, 1C

HALTOM CITY

Affidavit: Mom told girls it was a 'game'

HALTOM CITY — Standing outside her burning home, Alysha Green told a police officer that she doused her three young daughters in gasoline and set them on fire because she was mad at her husband, according to court documents released by police on Wednesday.

The documents also indicate that Green told the girls they were playing a game as she directed them to a closet. Staff writer Mark Agee reports, 3B

SECURITY

Half of Guard troops along border being withdrawn

WASHINGTON — Despite protests from border states, the chief of the National Guard said Wednesday that he has ordered the withdrawal of 3,000 of the 6,000 National Guard members sent last year to deter illegal immigration along the U.S.-Mexico border. 5A

FASHION

WE'RE MAD FOR MOD

The '60s return with minis and trapeze dresses. But these new creations have a sophisticated spin. Your Life, 1E



ONLINE EXCLUSIVE | dfwVarsity.com

Catch the latest episode of *High School Huddle*, our weekly highlight show. We break down the area's top teams and look ahead to big matchups.

Your Money Protect your PC from evil invaders 3E

Live! Rather sues CBS, says he was a scapegoat 14B

Work & Money No more Southwest 'cattle calls' 1C

WEATHER
Partly cloudy. SE wind, 5-10 mph. NBC5 forecast, 10A



TO SUBSCRIBE: 817-DEL-IVER
817-335-4837
Copyright © Fort Worth Star-Telegram
102nd year, Issue 148; 80 pages

Classifieds F, G
Comics 6-7E
Crosswords 2E, 2F
Editorials 12B
Horoscope 2E
Live! 14B
Lottery 1B, 2B
Movies 9E
Obituaries 8-11B
Television 10E

COUPON | 8D

Today's Dallas Cowboys medallion is Anthony Henry



COMING TOMORROW

Music festivals tune up with something for everyone In Go!