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*\*pets shown may already be adopted, but there are plenty of animals who have not and need a caring & loving home.*

**GANDALF**



Please call the shelter for more details. 817-685-1594.

Eules Animal Services  
1517 Westpark Way  
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(817)685-1594

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## Former Mayor Teaches About City Government



Mr. A.C. "Pete" Krause, former three-term mayor of Euless, visited the South Euless 4th Grade classroom of Tisha Moore on Monday, October 27. Mr. Krause explained city government, recalled highlights of his tenure as mayor, and fielded questions from the fourth-graders. His message to the children was the importance of taking an active role in your community, be it city, nation or even classroom!

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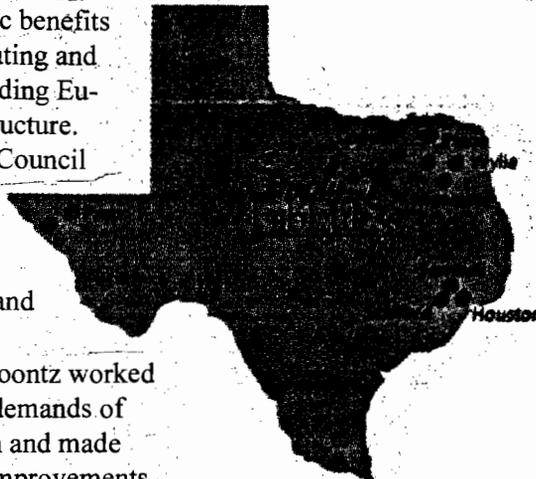
## Eulesse Receives Coveted ISO Class 1 rating

EULESS, TEXAS— The City of Eulesse proudly announces that the Insurance Services Office (ISO) has upgraded the Eulesse Fire Department to a Class 1 Fire Department. This is the highest rating awarded by the ISO. With this change in classification, effective February 2009, citizens and businesses in Eulesse will enjoy a reduction in insurance rates as their insurance policies renew. Eulesse is the tenth city in Texas to receive this rating and joins the cities of Coppell, Plano, Frisco, Wylie, Houston, Tomball, El Paso, Stafford and Mesquite as the only communities in Texas with PPC ratings of "1." City officials recognized

The impact that effective public fire protection has on individual property fire rates is significant given that public fire protection can affect the percentage of loss value that could be expected in a fire situation. ISO reviewed three major areas: Fire Alarm, Fire Department, and Water System. More specifically, ISO considered fire department equipment, manpower and fire alarm facilities when making its recommended rating. In addition, ISO conducts an overall review of staffing, tools and equipment, fire station locations, training and maintenance documentation, dispatch operations and the city's water supply.

"This achievement is not only a testament to the hard work and expertise of our Fire department, but also the many other supporting departments that helped us achieve this ranking," said City Manager Gary McKamie. "The City is committed to protecting our residents, businesses and visitors and this recognition is one further example of our focus on safety."

the economic benefits of a lower rating and began upgrading Eulesse's infrastructure. Eulesse City Council along with retired City Manager Joe Hennig and retired Fire Chief Lee Koontz worked to meet the demands of rapid growth and made significant improvements in our fire defenses. A new fire station was built, fire apparatus was upgraded and additional staffing was provided to ensure rapid response to local emergencies. Eulesse Firefighters train together frequently to remain skilled on the latest techniques and fire-prevention technology.



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**Mayor Saleh**  
*Eules*

THE CITY OF  
**EULESS**

This year seems to have gone faster than any other has, but Eules has been so fortunate to have so many things going on.

We were named one of the best 100 cities in the United States to live in, by Money Magazine in August. That was very nice. In addition, now we have been selected as "The Best Place to Raise Your Kids" in the state of Texas by Business Week Magazine! What an honor that is because our children are our future.

In addition to those honors, we were so very excited to receive an ISO rating of Class 1. ISO is the Insurance Service Office of the United States Government. Previously we held a Class 3 rating, so this was a big jump. There are only ten Class 1 ratings in the state of Texas. Our citizens, both residential and commercial, will benefit from lower insurance rates beginning in February. Our

staff worked for several years to update our fire stations and fire equipment as well as special training for our fire personnel. We thank all those involved in earning this rating.

The traditional Eules Parade of Lights will be

Saturday, December 6, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Fuller-Wiser Road, continuing down Midway Drive to Trinity High School. In past years, we have had over 90 entries in the parade. Come early and bring your blankets and chairs.

Then the next weekend, we will celebrate the holidays at the Heritage Park. The Eules Historical Preservation Committee provides all sorts of early Eules history games and entertainment. Choirs from across Eules will provide the musical entertainment. Both the Himes Log Cabin and the Fuller Home will be open with docents to share their history.

The Ruth Millican Center is located next to the Heritage Park, and it will be open that same day displaying the history of Eules in photos. Citizens have donated photos for this exhibit, and the Historical Preservation Committee along with city staff has put together a wonderful educational history of Eules. The exhibit is free and will be open to the public.

The Eules Library will also host activities during the Holiday Season. The

acappella choir, "Holiday Cheer", which is a part of the Masterworks Group, will perform on Monday night, December 8, for all to enjoy at 7:00 p.m. Seating will be in front of the beautiful "Blooms" window.

The Library Tile Project is coming along nicely. Over 40% of the tiles have been sold. The prices range from \$25 to \$1,500 so there is something for everyone.

For a special Christmas gift, someone can buy a book spine and have their name imprinted for \$25.

You'll just have to see the beautiful tiles to believe how lovely the tile project will be. It is an 8 x 6 foot picture of various tiles depicting the history of Eules. There are tiles ready for viewing just outside the Historical Room in the library.

Our Parks Department does a great job decorating the city for the holidays. The beautiful large Christmas tree will be lighted on Thanksgiving night and continue to the New Year. The many banners throughout the city create a joyful atmosphere.

The first phase of the Texas Star Conference Centre has been completed, and all services have been moved into the newly created space.

The older part of the building is undergoing renovation now. All the services continue and our staff has some great new recipes to share during the holidays. The Sunday Brunches continue to be a favorite.

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# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## Tuesday

**EULESS** — Bridge for seniors, 7-10 p.m., Simmons Senior Center, 508 Simmons Drive. 817-283-9169.

## Thursday

**EULESS** — AARP Chapter 5172, 6:30 p.m., Simmons Senior Center, 508 Simmons Drive. 817-283-1203.

## Dec. 6

**EULESS** — Christmas Parade of Lights, 6:30 p.m., Midway Drive and Fuller-Wiser Road. 817-685-1666 or [www.eules.org](http://www.eules.org).

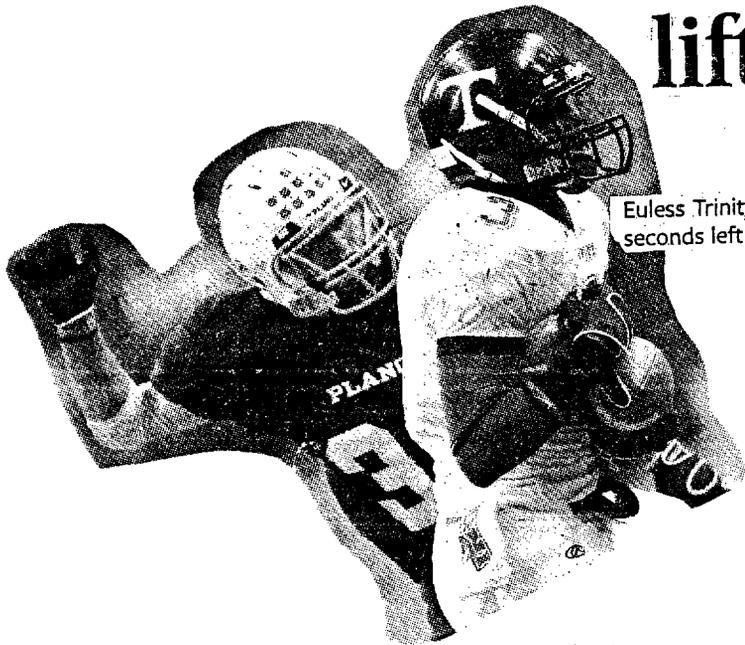


The 2007 Eules Parade of Lights. This year's event is set for 6:30 p.m. Dec. 6 at Midway Drive and Fuller-Wiser Road. STAR-TELEGRAM ARCHIVES

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TRINITY 42, PLANO 35

# Last-minute touchdown pass lifts Trinity past Plano



Unless Trinity's Tyree Tucker makes the game-winning catch with 15 seconds left to beat Plano.

STAR-TELEGRAM/LAURIE L. WARD

## No. 1 Trinity outlasts powerful Plano in a marathon area playoff.

By TROY PHILLIPS  
tphillips@star-telegram.com

IRVING — By the grace of its ball-control offense and an opponent not frugal with its timeouts, No. 1 is not done.

Eunless Trinity is alive, but barely.

The Trojans (12-0) ranked No. 1 in Class 5A and several national polls; looked like a passing team against No. 8 Plano (10-2), getting the go-ahead and winning scores by the air in a 42-35 area playoff victory at Texas Stadium.

Trinity will face Arlington or Odessa in the 5A Division I

Region I semifinals next week at either Texas Stadium or Pennington Field.

Trinity used the game's final 3:01 efficiently, going 78 yards in eight plays with the score tied at 35 after Plano quarterback Carson Meger's 1-yard run. With Tevin Williams (137 yards rushing) moving the chains, Trinity sat 21 yards from the end zone with 21 seconds to play.

A penalty backed the Trojans up five yards, and quarterback Denarius McGhee saw Tyree Tucker in single coverage for the second time in the fourth quarter.

"Tyree is so strong in single coverage," Trinity coach Steve Lineweaver said. "He's got a

chance to come down with it every time. We should throw it to him more."

That Trinity threw 22 times was surprising enough, but two of Tuckers three catches (68 yards) were big ones. He beat his man as McGhee threaded the needle from 26 yards, giving Trinity the win with 15 seconds to play. Christo Lisika sacked Meger to end the game.

"I wanted to be the one to end it," Tucker said. "We studied their corners, and it was a great pass. All I did was my job."

Tucker scored from 36 yards earlier in the quarter in tight coverage to put Trinity ahead 35-28. That drive dem-

onstrated Trinity's usual grit, but McGhee's throwing on third-and-long was title-worthy. McGhee found Alex Jones for 11 yards on third-and-11 and again for 11 yards on third-and-12.

McGhee then kept for a short first down and found Tucker three plays later for the lead.

"We were throwing more than we normally do," said Lineweaver, who saw McGhee pass for 303 yards after averaging about half that in the regular season.

"It was awkward, but we kept throwing and it paid off," he said.

TROY PHILLIPS, 817-390-7760

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# Shoppers: Retailers' door-buster deals prove a big draw

## Pre-dawn openings

Local malls also opened early, hoping to attract shoppers.

Tim Stinneford, manager at Ridgmar, reported the parking lots full at 4 a.m. when J.C. Penney opened and about 200 people in line at Old Navy before it opened at 6 a.m. An hour later, the line snaked to the back of the store.

"It's been a good morning so far," Stinneford said. "We're at least as busy as we were last year. The nice thing, everyone is carrying a bag. It's a great kickoff to the season."

University of Texas at Arlington student Krystina Beattie started shopping around 5 a.m. at Wal-Mart but left without buying anything because it was too crowded. Instead she spent most of her time at The Parks at Arlington mall.

"We do this every year," said Beattie, who was out with other relatives. "But we are spending less than last year and are just trying to keep it under \$400."

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## BRIEFS

### Suspect sought in two store robberies

**EULESS** — Police in Euless and Bedford may be looking for the same suspect in a pair of convenience store robberies early Saturday. Euless police responded to a robbery call about 5:50 a.m. at a 7-Eleven store in the 2300 block of Fuller-Wiser Road. A man of medium build, about 6 feet tall, wearing a jacket with a hoodie, walked into the store holding a revolver and demanded money from the clerk. The clerk handed him the money from the register, police said. The suspect left in a small, dark-colored vehicle with an undetermined amount of cash, police said. No shots were fired, and no one was injured. About 20 minutes earlier, Bedford police reported that a man with a similar description robbed a 7-Eleven at Texas 121 and Harwood Road. Police are looking for video of the man and investigating the two cases as possibly related. The same method of operation was used in both cases, and witnesses gave similar descriptions, so it might be the same suspect, said Lt. John Williams, Euless police spokesman.

— Mitch Mitchell

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TRINITY 48, ARLINGTON 14

# Trinity springs past Arlington

**After being stopped early, the Trojans dominate a shorthanded Colts team.**

By ANGEL VERDEJO  
averdejo@star-telegram.com

IRVING — Playing without much of their key offensive firepower throughout the postseason, the Arlington Colts showed their resiliency again and again, reaching the third round of the playoffs.

However their reward for making it to the Class 5A Division I region semifinals was facing Eules Trinity, the defending champion and the state and nation's No. 1 team. Arlington stopped the Trojans on their opening drive, but it was all Trinity from there.

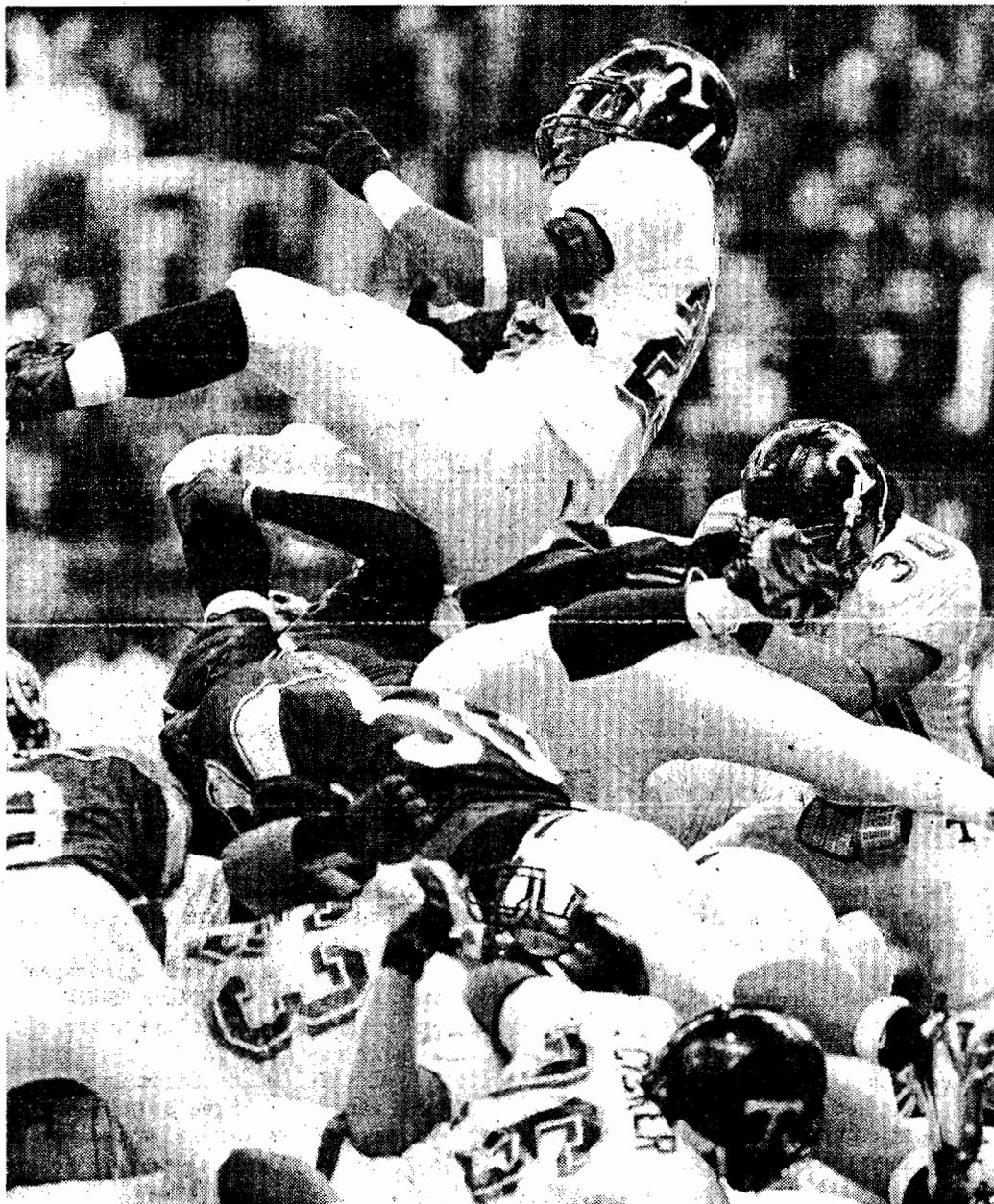
The Trojans scored on six of their next seven possessions, pulling away for a 48-14 victory Saturday at Texas Stadium.

Arlington ends its most successful season in six years. The Colts went 12-2 in 2002, reaching the 5A Division II region final where they lost to Southlake Carroll, the eventual champions. Arlington finished 8-5, despite losing four starters, including running back Jamal Nero, who ran for 1,064 yards during the regular season.

The win — Trinity's 27th straight — sets up a rematch between two of the state and nation's top programs. The Trojans (13-0) meet Allen (12-1) in next week's Region I final, set for 4 p.m. Saturday at Texas Stadium. Trinity beat Allen 24-14 in a non-district road game, the Trojans' second meeting in three weeks against a nationally ranked team.

Allen advanced with a 28-22 win over Odessa Permian on Friday.

"It's going to be a great game," said quarterback De-



Eules Trinity running back Dontrayevous Robinson leaps for a touchdown in the second quarter of Trinity's 48-14 Division I Region I semifinal win over Arlington.

STAR-TELEGRAM/LAURIE L. WARD

narius McGhee, who finished 11-of-14 passing for 190 yards and two touchdowns. "Allen is a great team. We just have to go out and prepare and come back next week with a chip on our shoulder."

After Trinity's opening punt, the Trojans scored on

their next three first-half drives, including both McGhee touchdown passes.

The Colts were on offense to start the second half, but Arlington fumbled on its first play and Trinity's Sioeli Pauni recovered. Tevin Williams (87 yards rushing) ran twice, going

in from 19 yards for the 28-0 lead.

Trinity outgained Arlington 515-264, while the Colts got on the board midway through the third quarter from Brandon Lewis' 86-yard kickoff return.

ANGEL VERDEJO, 817-685-3810

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## STATE LAWMAKERS

# Cities set priorities as legislative session nears

Local cities are making up lists of dos and don'ts for the Legislature.

By AMAN BATHEJA  
abatheja@star-telegram.com

Area cities are planning to play both defense and offense in the next legislative session, fighting off any efforts to diminish municipal authority while pushing for help from Austin on issues like natural gas drilling, mass transit, taxation and public safety.

State lawmakers will meet in Austin for 20 weeks starting next month to argue over thousands of proposed bills. Along with powerful lobbyists for businesses and special interest groups, city representatives will be on hand, hoping to shape the final product.

"It's become routine for us to spend most of our time opposing things," said Frank Sturzl, executive director of the Texas Municipal League.

On the top of the "kill" list are any efforts to cap property tax revenue or chip away at municipal authority to use eminent domain, he said.

Many cities are still hashing out their goals for the session. Some priorities include:

## Regulating pipelines

Cities in the Barnett Shale are largely united in their frustration over the law regarding natural gas pipelines.

Under state law, companies that build gas gathering lines to serve wells are considered utilities and have the same authority to condemn private property as other utility companies.

Cities have little say over where the pipelines should go.

"You're going to have this patchwork quilt of pipelines crossing people's properties," Sturzl said.

More than 20 cities, including Fort Worth, Southlake, Euless and Mansfield, have passed resolutions calling on the Legislature to give local governments some oversight over pipeline routes.

## Do-over on mass transit

Ask every local elected official to name the biggest issue facing North Texas, and transportation would probably win in a landslide.

Fort Worth, Arlington and a host of other area cities agree that regional rail is key to addressing the Metroplex's increasingly dire traffic woes.

Local cities appear to have learned from their efforts in 2005 and 2007. During the past two sessions, state lawmakers were lukewarm to a proposal to give local voters the option to approve a 1-cent or half-cent sales tax increase to pay for commuter rail.

This time around, cities are asking for a number of options to raise the money, including increasing vehicle registration fees and raising the gas and property tax. Every funding mechanism would require approval by the voters it affects.

Local officials are preparing to spend the next few months telling everyone in Austin about the urgent need to get this massive project off the ground right away.

"Every delay increases congestion and makes air quality worse," County Judge Glen Whitley wrote in a column in the *Star-Telegram* last month. "This is all about getting rail and roads built now and not having to wait 10 or 20 years for the state or federal government to get the job done."

## Redefining 'business'

Some furniture stores in Southlake aren't paying sales tax in the city, according to city spokeswoman Pilar Schank.

Instead, chains like Fort Myers, Fla.-based Robb & Stucky are paying taxes to a nearby city where one of the company's warehouses is located.

"It has to do specifically with furniture stores," Schank said. "The city would definitely like to see those sales tax dollars going to Southlake rather than somewhere else."

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Under the current tax code, a business can designate any location as its official "place of business" as long as at least three sales a year occur there. Southlake officials want to persuade state lawmakers to amend the code so that retailers would be required to pay sales tax based on the location where most of their business takes place.

Several cities in North Texas, including Denton, Lewisville and Mesquite, along with the Fort Worth Transportation Authority, are involved in a lawsuit against RoomStore, which has a warehouse in Grand Prairie and stores in their taxing districts, over the taxation issue.

They want to determine whether RoomStore is collecting sales tax at its Grand Prairie distribution centers that should be collected in the other taxing districts. The lawsuit estimates that they should be getting about \$48,000 a month.

#### **Public safety**

Arlington has two legislative goals related to bad drivers.

City officials are hoping Gov. Rick Perry will sign a bill eliminating the need for a signature on electronically issued citations, paving the way for mounted automated citation equipment in Arlington patrol cars. All citations currently require a signature. With an electronic system, that would mean a driver would have to get into the police car, perhaps compromising officer safety, to sign on the electronic screen.

Arlington is also among several cities that support giving public safety officials the authority to set up sobriety checkpoints.

#### **More TIFs**

Though cities have been using them for years, tax increment financing districts continue to spark debate. Critics question whether it's in the public interest to set aside tax revenue from a new development to finance public improvements within that area.

North Richland Hills City Council remains supportive of TIFs; it passed a resolution encouraging the Legislature to allow multiple cities to participate in joint TIF districts.

Staff writers Max B. Baker and Susan Schrock contributed to this report.

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## CHARGES

# Woman who drove teens may face prison

**She is accused of driving drunk with her twin teen daughters and other children in her vehicle.**

By **DOMINGO RAMIREZ JR.** ramirez@star-telegram.com

FORT WORTH — A Euless woman faces a maximum of two years in prison if convicted of charges that she was intoxicated when she crashed her vehicle, injuring the eight teens — including her twin daughters — whom she had picked up from a movie.



Rodgers

A Tarrant County grand jury returned an indictment last week against Brenda Rodgers, 37. The teens told police that Rodgers had driven as fast as 95 mph on a freeway before she crashed her vehicle in October on a Euless street.

The indictment charges Rodgers with driving with a child while intoxicated, endangering a child and injury to a child. In addition to the possibility of a prison sentence, each charge carries a maximum fine of \$10,000.

Rodgers remained free Monday after posting \$20,000 bail shortly after her arrest Nov. 6.

Rodgers' blood-alcohol level was measured at 0.13 at the time of the accident, Euless police said. The legal limit in Texas is 0.08.

The two boys and six girls in Rodgers' vehicle were taken to hospitals in Irving and Grapevine, but there were no life-threatening injuries.

## The teens

On Oct. 25, the teens were out to celebrate the twins' 15th birthday, which was the next day, said Gauge Murphy, one of the girl's boyfriend. About 10 p.m., one twin called their mother for a ride home, Murphy said. The teens had been at North East Mall in Hurst, police said. Three of the teens are 14, and the others are 15 years old, according to police reports.

Rodgers sounded as if she'd been drinking but told her daughters that she'd had only three beers, Murphy said in a telephone interview a few days after the accident.

But soon after they crowded into Rodgers' 2002 Chevrolet TrailBlazer, the teens realized they'd made a mistake, Murphy said. Rodgers nearly hit two people in the parking lot and only tapped the brakes at stop signs, he said.

As she neared home, Rodgers "laughed hysterically" trying to run over a cat, Murphy said.

## The wreck

It happened on Rodgers' birthday, according to reports. She was southbound in the 1200 block of Donley Drive shortly before 10:30 p.m. She told police that she lost control of the vehicle when she swerved to miss a dog.

According to police reports, witnesses said she swerved to avoid a parked vehicle.

The TrailBlazer hit a curb, breaking a wheel and rolling over several times, police said. None of the passengers in the middle or rear seat wore seat belts, according to an affidavit.

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## OBITUARIES

### Nell Jean Hicks



**PARADISE** — Nell Hicks, 82, went to be with the Lord, Monday, Dec. 1, 2008.

**FUNERAL:** 2 p.m. Wednesday at the First United Methodist Church of Euless. Interment: Following the service Nell will be laid to rest in Minters Chapel Cemetery. Visitation: The family will receive friends 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Lucas Funeral Home, 700 W. Wall St., Grapevine.

Nell was a graduate of Grapevine High School and lived in the Grapevine and Euless areas most of her life. She served on several Euless city boards and was a longtime member of First United Methodist Church of Euless. She is a descendant of a family in the Minters Chapel area which is now part of D/FW Airport. **SURVIVORS:** Her husband of 64 years, Marvin C. Hicks; sons, Gene and his wife, Ruth, Jeff and his wife, Debbie, and Jay and his wife, Johanna; daughters, Kay Stephens and her husband, Michael, and Joyce Kimbro and her husband, Tony; nine grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Lucas Funeral Home

Grapevine, 817-488-7566

View and sign guestbook at

[www.star-telegram.com/obituaries](http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries)

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YOUNG McDONALD COLLINS C. BARKER GETCHELL LIBRARY ADMIN LIBRARY REF ANIMAL CNTRDATE DISTRIBUTED 12/5/08 DATE OF ARTICLE 12/4/08 NEWSPAPER FWST**TRASH HAULERS****Republic-Allied Waste merger advances with deal to sell assets**

Staff and wire reports

Republic Services and Allied Waste Industries agreed Wednesday to sell certain assets in order to push ahead a pending \$4.5 billion acquisition that would create the second-largest U.S. trash-hauling company, the Justice Department said.

The agreement will require the trash haulers to divest 87 commercial waste-collection routes, nine landfills and 10 transfer stations, plus

other assets.

The settlement, which included Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott and seven other state attorneys general, will ensure competitiveness in the marketplace, Abbott said.

The deal is expected to close by the end of the fourth quarter.

The companies have agreed to sell assets in 15 metropolitan areas including Fort Worth, Atlanta, Cleveland, Denver, Los Angeles and Flint,

Mich. The deal also requires the combined company to divest itself of five routes in Fort Worth, where it must also sell one of its landfills, Abbott said in a written statement.

The merger would create a \$9.24 billion rival to industry leader Waste Management, which reported 2007 revenue of \$13.31 billion. The newly merged company and Waste Management would control 60 percent of landfill capacity in the U.S.

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# Tradition is still running strong at Trinity

**Eules Trinity counts on production from its deep backfield.**

By ANGEL VERDEJO  
averdejo@star-telegram.com

A trend that started in 2004 has continued for Eules Trinity.

Running backs Dimitri Nance, Akuila Eteaki and La-Derrick Handy led Trinity to the 2004 Class 5A Division I semifinals. Nance and Handy won the Trojans' first title the next season, while Shannon Moore and Justise Campbell each topped 1,000 yards in 2006. Dontrayevous Robinson blocked for Moore and Campbell as a sophomore, but joined Samir Baker for last season's one-two punch.

This year is no different, as Robinson was joined in the backfield by junior Damien Hart and sophomore Tevin Williams. But it's even deeper for the Trojans, who also have two fullbacks contribute regularly and a pair of reserve backs

who have turned heads at the end of games.

## The Big-Time Recruit

Committed to Nebraska, Dontrayevous Robinson has the speed, size and power to excel at the next level. He's also shown his maturity this season, moving back to fullback and blocking for Williams.

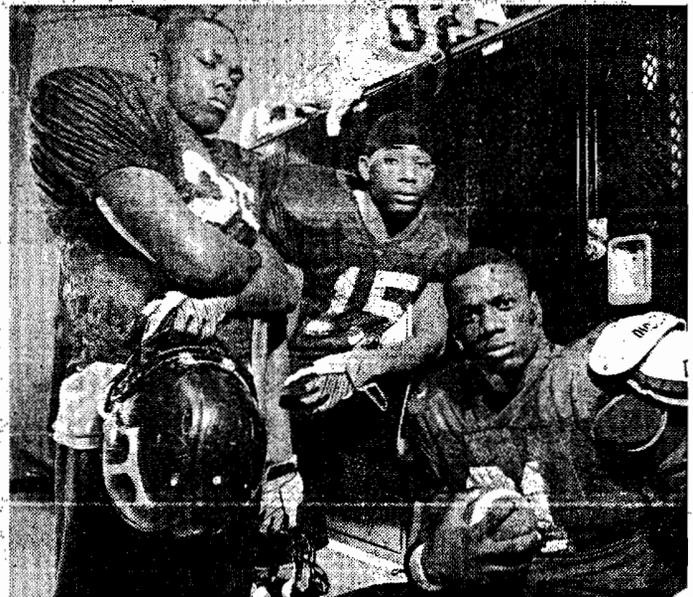
Stats: 110 carries, 602 yards, 11 rushing touchdowns

What Tevin Williams said: "Tray is the senior and savvy veteran. He teaches us everything. Also, he's a load to get down. He's 225 pounds — don't nobody want to tackle that."

What coach Steve Lineweaver said: "His power, experience, versatility and pass-blocking skills. He's a well-rounded back and his team concept is unsurpassed."

## The Youngster

A sophomore, Tevin Williams had his coming-out party in



Trinity's Damien Hart, left, Tevin Williams and Dontrayevous Robinson are formidable running backs.

STAR-TELEGRAM/KELLEY CHINN

Trinity's meeting against Allen. While an injured Robinson was held out, Williams ran 29 times for 161 yards and two touchdowns.

Stats: 181 carries, 1,085

yards, 20 rushing touchdowns. What Damien Hart said: "Raw talent. There's nothing else to really say. He's just good."

What Lineweaver said: "Te-

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vin has really good feet, has a running back's heart and has uncommon maturity in ball security and focus. He's not a helter-skelter, at-all-costs, sling-it-around running back."

#### **The Change of Pace**

Damien Hart doesn't have Robinson's size or Williams' height, but the 5-foot-8 junior doesn't shy away from contact. He doesn't get as much press as the other backs, but proves just as valuable when defenses have to adjust from one running style to another.

Stats: 83 carries, 544 yards, six touchdowns

What Dontrayevous Robinson said: "He's more of a Marion Barber type. He just likes the physicalness, and he likes to hit people. He doesn't like to run out of bounds sometimes."

What Lineweaver said: "Damien is kind of a power runner. He's not huge, but he

runs powerful."

#### **The Fullbacks**

Robinson sees time here, but Stetson Smith and Ryan Stevenson also do their part blocking or catching passes out of the backfield. Smith, a converted receiver, is still a threat downfield (three catches for 106 yards against Arlington). Stevenson's numbers aren't huge, but he has a touchdown for every three touches.

#### **The Reserves**

Shaquille Edwards and Rudolph Taylor usually don't get much playing time, only doing so in blowout wins to keep the clock going. That doesn't stop them from turning heads when they get in. Taylor averaged nearly 5 yards a carry this season, and Edwards has two touchdowns and goes for almost 6 yards a carry.

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