



## U.S. women win gold, silver in snowboarding halfpipe

Speedskater Joey Cheek wins 500m for another U.S. gold



LIVE! | 2B

## Big changes for Fort Worth opera

Performances in 2007 season will take place during four-week "festival."

# Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH



'Where The West Begins'

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2006 | 50 CENTS

WWW.STAR-TELEGRAM.COM

**WILDLIFE**

### EAGLE CLOSE TO GETTING OFF LIST

The American bald eagle has taken another step away from the endangered species list.

NATIONAL | 3A

**VALENTINE'S DAY**

### OK, SWEETS

It's known among educators as an FMNV day: one of three days in which candy — a Food of Minimal Nutritional Value — is allowed.

FORT WORTH | 1B

**SCHOOLS**

### SINGLE-SEX EDUCATION

The Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School is an experiment for the Dallas district — a single-sex public school for girls.

FAMILY DAY! | 1E

**NUTRITION**

### CHOCOLATE IN ALL ITS FORMS

A breakdown of the types of chocolate, from dark to milk, and what makes them good and bad for you.

NEWS 2 USE | 2A

**REAL ESTATE**

### FORT WORTH'S TOP TOWER SOLD

Burnett Plaza has been sold to an investment fund of Dallas-based Behringer Harvard.

BUSINESS | 1C

**ANIMALS**

### DOG SHOW DAYS

A Dalmatian will try to become the first of its kind to win Best in Show in 130 years of Westminster.

NATIONAL | 10A

**WEATHER**

High **71**  
Low **50**

Today: Mostly sunny, breezy and warmer.

NBC5 forecast, 14A

Classifieds	F
Comics	4-5E
Crosswords	9E, 2F
Editorials	10-11B
Horoscope	9E
Live!	2B
Lottery numbers	2A
Movies	7E
News 2 Use	2A
Obituaries	7-9B
Television	8E



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**ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS**

# RadioShack CEO's résumé in question



Watchdog Journalism

First reported at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com) at 9:35 p.m.

College records show that Dave Edmondson enrolled for two semesters, but he says he finished his degree requirements with correspondence courses.

By HEATHER LANDY  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

©2006 Fort Worth Star-Telegram  
FORT WORTH — A Star-Telegram investigation has uncovered discrepancies in the academic credentials of RadioShack Chief Executive Dave Edmondson, including inaccuracies on his résumé and corporate biography.

A biography that was distributed to

the news media and posted on RadioShack's Web site said that the executive earned degrees in theology and psychology from Pacific Coast Baptist College in San Dimas, Calif.

But the registrar at the small school, which moved to Oklahoma City in 1998 and renamed itself Heartland Baptist Bible College, said enrollment records show that Edmondson completed only

two semesters of coursework. He also said that the school never offered degrees in psychology.

In an hourlong interview Friday with the Star-Telegram, Edmondson said he only minored in psychology and had been unaware of the error in his corporate biography. He said he earned what was designated as a "Thg" degree, completing a three-year program in theology through correspondence courses while working at a church in Colorado. He suggested that the school was not accredited.



Edmondson has been CEO of RadioShack since May.

More on RÉSUMÉ on 13A

**BASKETBALL**

## 'Inspiration' to Heights team comes through with big shot



STAR-TELEGRAM/JOYCE MARSHALL

Trevor Davis, an Arlington Heights freshman, is hoisted after a game in which he scored a three-pointer in the final minute.

# Uplifting presence

STAR-TELEGRAM

FORT WORTH — He has braces on his legs and no muscle mass from the knees down. And he's only 4 feet 8 inches tall.

But Trevor Davis has been infatuated with basketball since he was a little boy.

Davis has practiced with the varsity, junior varsity and freshman boys basketball teams at Arlington Heights High School. Because of his

commitment, Coach J. W. Briscoe let Davis play for two minutes Monday in the freshman game against Western Hills High School.

In the final minute of the game, which Heights won 77-43, Davis made a three-pointer as the crowd erupted.

"He's really an inspiration to all of us," said Seth Dahle of the freshman basketball team.

STAFF WRITER JOHN GUTIERREZ-MIER REPORTS | 1B

**WINTER STORM**

## Northeast struggles to dig out from snow

A woman emerges from a subway station Monday in Times Square in New York, where travelers faced delays and crews scrambled to clear roads for the morning commute after a record-breaking week-end snowstorm.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/PETER MORGAN

**TOBACCO**

## Fort Worth considering stricter rules against smoking in public areas

STAR-TELEGRAM

Finding a place to smoke could get harder in Fort Worth. City Councilman Chuck Silcox, a reformed smoker, has asked for a change in the city's smoking ordinance after hearing complaints from constituents. The City Council will discuss a preliminary report today that includes parts of other cities' anti-smoking efforts.

**Today's meeting**  
3 p.m. at City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St.

**What do you think?**  
Post a comment on this report at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

STAFF WRITER MIKE LEE REPORTS | 1B

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE**

# Chertoff defends Homeland Security

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff on Monday rejected criticism that his department is preoccupied with terror threats at the expense of preparing for natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina.

Also Monday, he announced changes to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and a congressional report blamed government-wide ineptitude for mishandling Katrina relief.

The changes Chertoff announced range from creation of a full-time response force of 1,500 new employees to establishing a more reliable system to report on disasters as they unfold.

Chertoff said he was responding to "people taking the position that DHS sees itself as a terrorism-focused agency" and that there's a "huge difference" between man-made and natural disasters.

NATIONAL | 6A



CHERTOFF

**SHOOTING**

## Cheney to get warning over hunting stamp

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Vice President Dick Cheney apparently broke the No. 1 rule of hunting: Be sure of what you're shooting at. He also violated Texas game law by failing to buy a \$7 hunting stamp.

Cheney shot fellow hunter Harry Whittington in the face, neck and chest Saturday, reportedly because he didn't see Whittington approaching as he fired on a covey of quail in Texas.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said Cheney and Whittington will be given warning citations for violating game law by not having an upland game bird stamp, a requirement that took effect in September. The vice president's office said Monday night that Cheney has sent a check to cover the cost of the stamp.

NATIONAL | 4A

Incident becomes late-night fodder. 2B

## ACADEMIC DEGREES

Inaccurate résumés  
have proved costly

STAR-TELEGRAM

Résumé inaccuracies are common but rarely caught, according to researchers and career consultants. A survey in September 2001 by the executive recruitment firm Christian & Timbers found that 23 percent of executives misstated their accomplishments, including the number of years in a position, job responsibilities and education history.

But when they are caught, the consequences can be harsh.

There have been several high-profile examples of résumé padding in recent years, including some corporate executives.

**2001:** George O'Leary is forced to resign just a week after being named head football coach at Notre Dame, when it was discovered that he had not earned a master's degree from New York University, as he listed on his résumé.

**2002:** Kenneth Lonchar, chief financial officer at Veri-

tas Software Corp. — which derives its name from the Latin word for *truth* — resigned after admitting he lied about earning a master's degree in business administration from Stanford University.

**2002:** Bausch & Lomb Inc. corrected CEO Ronald Zarrella's corporate biography and withheld a \$1.1 million bonus after it learned that he did not have an MBA from New York University. Zarrella stayed on the job, and the biography now says that he only attended the school.

**2006:** George Deutsch, a presidential appointee to NASA's public affairs office, resigned this month when Texas A&M officials confirmed that the 24-year-old writer and editor attended the school but did not, as he claimed on his résumé, complete a degree in journalism.

SOURCES: *Star-Telegram*, *The New York Times*, *The Associated Press*, and *thetreet.com*.

## INTERVIEW

## Edmondson defends his record

STAR-TELEGRAM

Excerpts from a *Star-Telegram* interview with RadioShack CEO Dave Edmondson on Friday:

**On his most recent DWI arrest:**

"I feel terrible about it. I'm embarrassed by it. I'm embarrassed for me personally. I'm embarrassed for my family. I'm embarrassed that the company has to be drawn into that. And I was embarrassed to have to go to the board and say, 'Hey, look, you know, I'm, you know, CEO-elect. It's been two weeks since I've been CEO-elect. Guess what, I've got some great news for you.' I'm not proud of it, okay?"

**On the board's reaction to the DWI arrest:**

"I think they were disappointed and they were very clear that, you know, you have a responsibility in terms of conduct and you can't put yourself in a position where you can be criticized, and I think that's very fair."

**On his résumé:**

"I want to make it very clear to you that I stand by every single thing that is on this résumé. I have never at any time ever attempted to misrepresent myself, to represent myself as anything more or anything less than what I am."

**On the questions about his academic record:**

"It's actually kind of ironic because when I first got into business, I spent the first 10 years defending the fact that having a degree in theology had anything to do with business. Now I'm faced with a whole new problem. But it is what it is."

**On the claim in his biography that he has two degrees:**

"The issue here is: Have I misrepresented myself to the company, have I misrepresented myself to the board, have I misrepresented myself to anyone? No. And the fact of the matter is that I do not have two degrees, and have never said I have two degrees."

**On explaining the degree he says he finished through correspondence courses:**

**Star-Telegram:** "Is it a specific type of degree, a bachelor's or associate's or...?"

**Edmondson:** "It's actually called a Th, a Thg."

**S-T:** "What's that?"

**DE:** "What is that?"

**S-T:** "Yeah, what is that?"

**DE:** "It's a degree in theology."

**S-T:** "Oh. But it's not a bachelor's or anything?"

**DE:** "Yeah, the problem you're having, I mean, let me just tell you..."

(back and forth)

**DE:** "You're trying to put, in the context of what you know in the secular world, my education."

**S-T:** "I know it's different, but so, you said it's called a Thg?"

**DE:** "Thg, correct."

**S-T:** "But what does that stand for?"

**DE:** "Theology. Degree in theology—comma—Thg. Okay? I don't know why they call it that, but that's what it is."

**S-T:** "So it was in three years that you were able to

**Dave Edmondson**

**Age:** 46  
**Joined RadioShack:** 1994  
**Positions:** Currently CEO; previously president and chief operating officer, executive vice president, senior vice president, vice president of retail marketing  
**Previous employer:** Advo Inc., a direct-marketing firm  
**Corporate board memberships:** Advanced Micro Devices  
**Community involvement:** Member of the boards of Texas Christian University's AddRan College, Cook Children's Health Foundation, The Women's Center

SOURCE: RadioShack

complete this?"  
**DE:** "Correct."

**On his integrity:**

"I have never in my whole career been questioned on my integrity."

**On the lack of documentation to show he graduated:**

"I'm going to continue to find the evidence that I need. And at the end of the day I will produce that for you."

## HEARTLAND BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

School trains students  
for careers in ministry

STAR-TELEGRAM

Heartland Baptist Bible College has operated in Oklahoma for less than a decade, but its roots date back 40 years.

According to the school's Web site, pastors involved in the Western Baptist Bible Fellowship met in Las Vegas in 1966 and voted to create Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College. Classes commenced in 1967 in Orange, Calif. The school moved twice more, to Walnut, Calif., in 1969, and to Pasadena, Calif., in 1971, before it relocated to San Dimas, Calif.

The school was not accredited, but under state law it was able to award degrees. Graduates typically became pastors, served as educators or took other church-related jobs.

Facing financial crisis and declining enrollment, the school left Southern California in 1998, changed its name and moved to a former college campus in Oklahoma City.

Heartland Baptist operates

in several buildings on a quiet campus a few miles northwest of downtown. It has about 400 students, according to a school official. On a recent weekday afternoon, the main floor of the school's administrative building was filled with students relaxing in the lobby and browsing through the bookstore.

Main areas of study at the school include biblical studies, church music and Christian education. Because it remains unaccredited, the Oklahoma State Board of Regents of Higher Education prohibits the school from offering degrees, according to Heartland Baptist's Web site.

But the college does award diplomas recognizing the completion of two-, three- and four-year programs.

The estimated cost of attending is \$2,765 per semester for on-campus students and \$1,180 for off-campus students, according to the site.

— Heather Landy

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## Classifieds

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# Résumé: Records raise question about degree

## CONTINUED FROM 1A

gested that Heartland Baptist must have lost some paperwork that should be in his file.

Pointing to his résumé, he insisted that he never mischaracterized his record to the company, which hired him in 1994.

"I can be responsible for how I represented myself to the company, and I am responsible for how I represented myself to the company," said Edmondson, who has been CEO since May. "So anyway, I'll just say this: If I were going to make stuff up, I probably would have found something a little more impressive to make up."

Yet the résumé, which Edmondson later gave to the *Star-Telegram*, lists his degree as a "BS," or Bachelor of Science, which requires more courses than a Thg. When the distinction was pointed out to Edmondson, he declined to comment on why the listing varied from the description he offered.

The *Star-Telegram* began looking into Edmondson's background after learning that he is awaiting trial on a charge of driving while intoxicated. He is scheduled to go to court in April on the charge, which carries penalties that may include a fine of as much as \$2,000, jail time of three to 180 days and probation. He has two prior arrests in connection with driving while intoxicated, but no convictions.

Thomas Plaskett, RadioShack's presiding board member and chairman of the company's corporate governance committee, called the *Star-Telegram* inquiry "out of place" and would not discuss the matter.

"I speak for the board; there is no comment," said Plaskett, a former chief executive of Continental Airlines and Pan Am Corp. who now heads Fox Run Capital Associates, a consulting firm in Irving.

Len Roberts, RadioShack's executive chairman, also declined to comment. Roberts, who preceded Edmondson as CEO, recruited him to the chain in 1994.

Edmondson, 46, has been trying to revive sales and earnings growth at the electronics retailer, which had a disappointing year in 2005. The company, one of highest-profile companies based in Fort Worth, is scheduled to release year-end results later this week, at the conclusion of a two-day meeting with Wall Street analysts.

With the revelations in recent years about lax oversight at many corporations, more attention has been focused on executives and the statements they issue. Sarbanes-Oxley, a federal law passed in 2002, requires top executives to certify the accuracy of certain financial statements filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

And some executives found to have made questionable claims about their academic histories have been fired in recent years from public companies, universities and government agencies. Others have kept their jobs.

Michael Hoffman, executive director of the Center for Business Ethics at Bentley College in Waltham, Mass., said the questions that the *Star-Telegram* has raised about Edmondson may point to a pattern of bad judgment.

"If you have the top leader of a company who is misstating facts on his résumé and demonstrating poor judgment in terms of his alcohol abuse and driving, then that is a serious matter that shareholders need to know about," Hoffman said. "It's not something that should be kept in secret, or swept under the rug. It's something that demands explanation and apology, and then it should be up to the board members and shareholders" to decide whether he should keep his job.

"It goes to the heart of whether the man has integrity," Hoffman said, "and whether he's honest and forthright in who he says he is and what he says he might do."



STAR-TELEGRAM ARCHIVES/RON T. ENNIS

Dave Edmondson, left, succeeded Len Roberts as CEO of RadioShack in May. Roberts, who recruited Edmondson in 1994, is now chairman.

### From the RadioShack Web site

Edmondson graduated from Pacific Coast Baptist College in San Dimas, Calif., where he earned degrees in theology and psychology. He is also a graduate of Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program.

### From Dave Edmondson's résumé

**Education:**  
BS, Pacific Coast Baptist College, San Dimas, CA, Theology-Psychology 1980

### Résumé discrepancies

A biography distributed by RadioShack and posted on its Web site said CEO Dave Edmondson had degrees in theology and psychology.

But officials at the school he attended said the college never offered a degree in psychology. In an interview last week, Edmondson said he earned a three-year degree in theology, while minoring in psychology.

The company removed the reference to a psychology degree on Friday. His résumé, which he submitted to the company when he was hired in 1994, lists the degree as a "BS," or Bachelor of Science.

### No documentation

The *Star-Telegram* first contacted Edmondson's office Feb. 2 to inquire about his credentials after Roger Howse, the registrar and academic dean at Heartland Baptist, said the school had no record of Edmondson's graduation.

Edmondson, who started two churches before launching a full-time business career, said his diploma was lost in a garage fire at his Southlake home. A Southlake Department of Public Safety report confirms that a fire occurred at his house in June 2004.

He said that Baptist Bible Fellowship in Springfield, Mo., would have copies of his diploma and ordination paperwork. But Paul Hylton, associate mission director at Baptist Bible Fellowship, said the organization does not collect any such records.

After Edmondson contacted Heartland Baptist to discuss the school's documentation, Howse combed through additional files kept in storage. Howse said he looked for diploma order forms, cap-and-gown order forms and other graduation-related documents that the school typically saves in the files of former students, but none with Edmondson's name turned up.

On Feb. 7, Howse, who has been with the school for more than 20 years and relocated with it from California to Oklahoma, faxed a statement to Edmondson acknowledging that "in the life of a small school, where increased workload and student workers in the offices is the norm, the possibility exists that papers, file inserts, and various documents could get lost, misfiled, or misplaced — and moving from California to Oklahoma could have compounded the problem."

The next day, Howse told the *Star-Telegram* that the school, which operates in several buildings on a small campus northwest of downtown Oklahoma City, has never had

any specific reason to believe that its student files might be incomplete.

Edmondson suggested on Friday that records of former students of the school, which is not accredited, are not frequently checked.

"Out of the 6,000 people to have graduated from that school in 30 years, I'm probably the only one that ever became CEO of a company," Edmondson said. "I don't know how many people's documentation is correct or incorrect at the school."

Edmondson said that someone at RadioShack would have checked into his academic history when he was hired, but he said there was nothing in his personnel file to indicate whether such calls were made.

### Different chronology

Edmondson said that he attended classes on campus at Pacific Coast Baptist in the fall of 1977 and spring of 1978 and spent two years finishing his coursework off campus, while working as an associate pastor at Security Baptist Temple in Colorado.

But that chronology differs from an account he gave in a January 2005 interview with the *Star-Telegram*, when he said he returned to Colorado after graduating from college. Edmondson declined to comment on the discrepancy between the statements.

On Friday, Edmondson said that Pacific Coast Baptist mailed his diploma to his pastor in Colorado, who advised him in his studies and presented him with the diploma.

The *Star-Telegram* could not locate the pastor, who, according to Edmondson, left Security Baptist Temple in the early 1980s amid personal and financial problems.

Edmondson said that Jack Baskin, who was executive vice president at Pacific Coast Baptist when Edmondson was a student, would confirm that Edmondson graduated.

In a telephone interview,

Baskin said, "It's very difficult to remember all of the students and what level they reached academically." But based on the remembrances of other former employees he consulted with last week after Edmondson contacted him, "I think it's pretty well a consensus that he did graduate in 1980," he said.

Baskin, who left Pacific Coast Baptist in 1983 and now works at another Baptist college in California, could not provide any details or anecdotes to support the conclusion that Edmondson had graduated.

But last Thursday, he sent a two-sentence memo to Heartland Baptist:

"After reviewing the information we have and consulting with former staff of Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College, we are confident that David Edmondson successfully completed his work and was graduated in May, 1980 with a degree in Theology, Thg. Thank you for including this information in his student file."

RadioShack removed the reference to a psychology degree from Edmondson's online biography. The reference had also been included in materials that RadioShack disseminated in January 2005 to announce that Edmondson would be the company's next CEO. It was repeated in several news reports, including *Star-Telegram* articles.

Edmondson said he had been unaware that his corporate biography claimed he earned a psychology degree. And he said he could not remember whether he ever reviewed the press materials about his promotion.

"I have a lot of things to do, running the company," Edmondson said. "Looking at what the Web site says is not my highest priority."

He said that he was honest on the résumé he supplied RadioShack in 1994, the second page of which has a profile

that says he "majored in Theology with a minor in Psychology."

The front page of the résumé lists his education as: "BS, Pacific Coast Baptist College, San Dimas, CA, Theology-Psychology 1980."

### Rapid rise

Edmondson took an unusual route to the executive suite.

He left Colorado in the summer of 1980, and started a church in a suburb of Omaha, Neb. He returned to Colorado a few years later to start another church before transitioning into a full-time business career. Eventually he landed at Advo, a database and direct marketing firm that worked with RadioShack, then known as Tandy Corp.

Roberts, then president of RadioShack, was impressed after Edmondson sent him a letter with ideas for the RadioShack business. As Roberts and Edmondson both tell the story, Edmondson wasn't looking for a job at the time, but Roberts was able to lure him to RadioShack as a vice president of marketing.

By the end of 2000, Edmondson had been promoted to president of RadioShack, where he was known for his creative ideas, strong negotiating skills and a passion for flowcharts and graphs illustrating the chain's strengths and weaknesses.

As the heir apparent to the CEO post, Edmondson rounded out his schooling with Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, an executive education program geared toward corporate managers. Program director Kathryn Venne confirmed that Edmondson completed the nine-week session in the fall of 2002.

Venne said that candidates are asked to list their academic history on their applications. But because there are no educational prerequisites to attend the program, she said, the school "wouldn't have fol-

lowed up" on the information.

After his time at Harvard, Edmondson began to play a bigger role in corporate decisionmaking. He typically addressed Wall Street during the company's quarterly conference calls, offering updates on RadioShack's efforts to cut costs and become more efficient.

On Jan. 13, 2005, Roberts announced that he would step down as CEO and hand the job to Edmondson, saying, "Dave is ready." Edmondson officially replaced him May 19 at the company's annual stockholders meeting.

Since then, earnings have been hurt by a slowdown in the company's historically dependable wireless phone business, and profit margins have contracted. Shares of RadioShack (ticker: **RSH**) have fallen by 17 percent since Edmondson took over, while the Standard & Poor's 500 Index has risen 6.5 percent.

Edmondson was paid a salary of \$616,154 and a bonus of \$820,219 in 2004, when he was still president and chief operating officer. His 2005 pay will be disclosed in the company's next proxy statement, due later this year.

### Conduct questions

Edmondson declined to comment on whether he has contacted members of the board to discuss the questions about his academic credentials, but said, "My board is aware of where we are."

RadioShack's directors have discussed Edmondson's conduct in the past.

At a February 2005 board meeting, Edmondson disclosed to his fellow directors that he was arrested in Southlake on Jan. 25, 2005, on suspicion of driving while intoxicated.

According to the police report, Edmondson was stopped just after midnight by a Southlake police officer who observed him driving a silver 2005 Jaguar at 66 mph in a 45 mph zone on West Southlake Boulevard. Edmondson "had bloodshot eyes and his balance was swayed and unsteady," according to the police report. He failed a field sobriety test and declined to take a breath test or answer questions.

Edmondson told the *Star-Telegram* that he was two blocks from his home when he was pulled over, on his way back from an event in Fort Worth.

"I feel terrible about it," Edmondson said. "I'm embarrassed by it. I'm embarrassed for me personally. I'm embarrassed for my family."

Edmondson has been married since 1979 to Debra Edmondson, who has been active in Southlake politics for years. The couple separated in the spring of 2005 and filed for divorce last week.

Edmondson has hired longtime Fort Worth defense attorney Bill Magnussen to represent him in court April 19 on the DWI charge.

The last time Edmondson faced a DWI charge, for a July 2000 arrest in Fort Worth, the offense was reduced to obstruction of a highway. Edmondson received deferred adjudication probation on that charge. At the time of that arrest, Edmondson was an executive vice president at RadioShack. He was promoted to president at the end of that year.

Edmondson was also arrested on suspicion of DWI in Dallas County in 1988, before he joined RadioShack. He was acquitted of that charge in 1990.

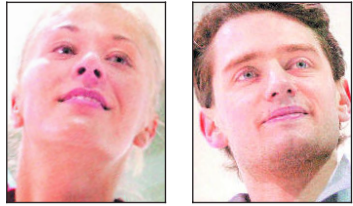
Because of the most recent arrest, Edmondson's driver's license is suspended. He said he has used hired drivers, at his own expense, since the arrest.

"I have not driven a car since the incident," he said.

Edmondson said he believes the board of directors understands that he made a mistake. And he said no one on the board has questioned his integrity.

"Why would they?" he asked.

**Fashion tip:**  
Go for the  
layered look



**U.S.'s Ted Ligety takes the gold in Alpine skiing**

◀ Ukrainian ice dancers train in Metroplex for Olympics. 1B



# Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH



'Where The West Begins'

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2006 | 50 CENTS

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**HURRICANE**

**PANEL DETAILS CRISIS FAILURES**

**A House committee finds fault in every level of government, from the White House down, in the Hurricane Katrina disaster.**

NATIONAL | 4A

**STOCKYARDS**

**RETURNING TO GLORY?**

**The former Spaghetti Warehouse building could be restored and turned into a boutique hotel or corporate headquarters.**

BUSINESS | 3C

**HEALTH**

**FERTILITY, STRESS LINKED**

**For couples trying to get pregnant, stress can play a vicious role.**

NEWS 2 USE | 2A

**MORTALITY**

**50 OR OLDER? PLAY THIS GAME**

**A new test tries to help people over 50 evaluate their chances of dying within four years.**

NATIONAL | 9A

**IN THE KITCHEN**

**THE HOT ZONE**

**A war correspondent learns to improvise to create satisfying meals despite chaos in Baghdad – and in her kitchen.**

FOOD | 1E

**ADOPTION**

**A VERY SPECIAL VALENTINE'S GIFT**

**A Tarrant County military couple will be allowed to bring their adopted Ethiopian son home.**

FORT WORTH | 6B

**WEATHER**

High **78**  
Low **57**

Today: Partly cloudy and windy.



Classifieds	G
Comics	4-5F
Crosswords	2F, 2G
Editorials	14B
Horoscope	2F
Live!	2B
Lottery numbers	2A
Movies	6F
News 2 Use	2A
Obituaries	10-13B
Television	8F



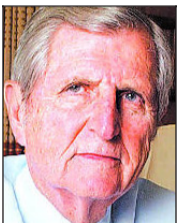
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**HUNTING ACCIDENT**



CHENEY

## Man shot by Cheney suffers heart attack



WHITTINGTON

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Vice President Dick Cheney's hunting incident took on a more serious edge Tuesday when the shooting victim suffered a heart attack caused by Cheney's errant birdshot.

Doctors said Austin lawyer Harry Whittington, 78, remained at risk from a pellet embedded in his heart muscle.

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Post a comment on this report at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

The birdshot triggered a mild heart attack.

"Some of the birdshot appears to have moved and lodged into

part of his heart in what we would say is a minor heart attack," said Peter Banko, the administrator of Christus Spohn Hospital Corpus Christi-Memorial.

David Blanchard, the hospital's chief of emergency care, said Whittington suffered "a silent heart attack" that lacked many of the typical symptoms.

Cheney called Whittington on Tuesday to offer his best wishes, according to a statement issued by the vice president's office.

NATIONAL | 8A

**The size of the shot**

Shotgun shells contain pellets – sometimes hundreds – which scatter in a pattern after they are fired from a gun. During a weekend hunting accident, Vice President Dick Cheney shot Austin lawyer Harry Whittington with a 28-gauge shotgun with shells containing 7 1/2 size shot.

Some of the shot sizes and their use:

7 1/2 – quail and dove

00 buckshot – large game such as deer

All objects actual size



SOURCE: Star-Telegram research  
STAR-TELEGRAM/DEWUAN X. DAVIS

**RADIOSHACK | CREDENTIALS**

## Pastor can't verify CEO's account

■ The man who RadioShack's Dave Edmondson said advised him as he completed his degree says he does not recall Edmondson working toward his diploma.

By **HEATHER LANDY**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

The pastor who RadioShack Chief Executive Dave Edmondson said supervised him as he completed his college degree through correspondence courses said Tuesday that he does not remember Edmondson working toward his diploma.



EDMONDSON

Last week, Edmondson said Ron Hoover had overseen the course work and was his only academic contact during the two years he took correspondence classes from Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College, ultimately presenting him with a diploma. Edmondson said he spent five hours a day on course work while working at Security Baptist Temple near Colorado Springs, Colo.

Hoover, who was the church's pastor at the time, said Edmondson excelled in his job as an associate pastor

More on ACCOUNT on 13A

**ANALYSIS**  
It all boils down to character, Mitchell Schnurman writes. 1C

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**  
Post a comment on this report at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

## SHOWING HIS TRUE COLORS



KNIGHT RIDDER/TRIBUNE/GEORGE BRIDGES

**University of Texas Longhorns** football coach Mack Brown presents President Bush with a jersey as the national champions are welcomed at the White House on Tuesday. In front of a crowd of hard-core fans – some of whom traveled from Texas for the ceremony – Bush commended the team on its win and honored individual players for their volunteer work with charities. **SPORTS | 1D**

**HURRICANE RITA | BUS FIRE**

## 'You could hear them ... screaming'

THE WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — Driven from the burning charter bus by smoke and unbearable heat, nursing-home employees could only stand alongside Interstate 45 and wait.

"You could hear them in there screaming," nursing assistant Sheila White told federal investigators. "Then, it was so quiet. It was so quiet."

The bus was carrying residents of Brighton Gardens in Bellaire to Dallas for safety as Hurricane Rita blew into Southeast Texas. Of the 38 elderly residents on board, 23 died after the bus caught fire near Wilmer.

Survivors were interviewed by the National Transportation Safety Board, which has been investigating the cause of the accident. *The Washington Post* obtained an audio recording of the interviews from a lawyer who has been retained by the families of some of those who died.

FORT WORTH | 1B



AFP/GETTY IMAGES/STAN HONDA

## A bull terrier is new top dog

**Handler Kathy Kirk** gets Rufus, a colored bull terrier, to show off for the cameras after winning Best in Show at the 130th Westminster Kennel Club dog show Tuesday night in New York. Rufus is the 44th terrier to win the top honor in America's oldest and most prestigious dog show.

NATIONAL | 4A

**COUNTRY MUSIC**

## Nelson lends voice to gay rights

STAR-TELEGRAM

If there's one thing Texas music legend Willie Nelson doesn't do, it's keep quiet. His latest cause celebre: gay rights.

On Tuesday, the country-music singer released *Cowboys Are Frequently, Secretly (Fond of Each Other)*, about love between cowboys.

The song debuted Tuesday on radio personality Howard Stern's show on Sirius Satellite Radio, but it has yet to land on the North Texas airwaves. Local program directors say they are mulling over whether to add the song.

A video is being shot at the Round-Up Saloon, a gay cowboy bar in Dallas.

**STAFF WRITER MALCOLM MAYHEW REPORTS | 2B**

## H5N1 VIRUS

## Bird flu still spreading

Reports of bird flu in wild birds and domestic poultry continue to spread in the Middle East, Europe and Africa. The H5N1 virus has killed at least 91 people since 2003, according to the World Health Organization. Almost all the human deaths have been linked to contact with infected poultry, but experts say the virus could mutate into a form that spreads easily among people. Here is an update of the latest countries affected.



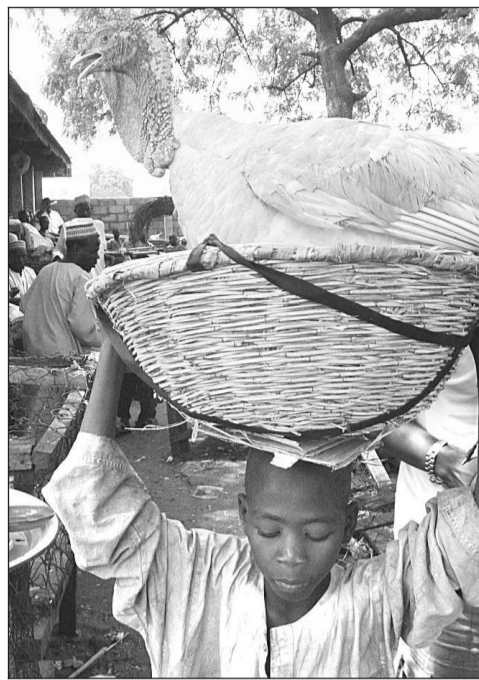
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/HELGO SOMMER

Swans swim near a power plant in Mellach, Austria, on Monday. Two birds found dead near the plant appear to have been killed by the H5N1 strain, an official said Tuesday.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/DARIO AZZARO

A health official in Catania, Italy, examines a dead owl and a dead duck in his laboratory Tuesday. Six dead swans in southern Italy have tested positive for H5N1.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/SUNDAY ALAMBA

A child carries a turkey through a market in Kaduna, Nigeria, on Tuesday. Health workers are trying to get workers of a bird-flu-infested farm tested for H5N1.

**Austria:** Two birds found dead in Austria also appear to have been infected with the H5N1 strain. Samples have been sent for confirmation to a lab in England.

**Germany:** Two dead swans were found on the island of Ruegen, in northern Germany, and regional Agriculture Ministry spokeswoman Iris Uellendahl said a preliminary test showed that they died of H5N1. Agriculture Minister Horst Seehofer ordered domestic poultry kept indoors beginning Friday instead of Monday.

SOURCE: The Associated Press

**Italy:** Italy confirmed Saturday that six wild swans found in the southern regions of Sicily, Puglia and Calabria tested positive for H5N1.

**Iran:** The government news agency quoted the country's Veterinary Organization as saying "international laboratory results" confirmed that 135 wild swans died from bird flu in marshlands near the Caspian Sea. Health Minister Khameneh Bagheri Lankarani said on state-run television that Iranian officials have killed all wild birds in a three-mile radius around where the virus was detected, about 200 miles northwest of Tehran. It is the country's first case of the virus.

**Nigeria:** The H5N1 strain, first confirmed in fowl in three states, is now suspected in five more states, raising concern that Nigeria is not taking the necessary measures to combat the disease. "We have received reports that the disease is fast spreading to other farms across the state," said Shehu Bawa, the head of a bird-flu committee in Kano state.

**Niger:** Nigeria's northern neighbor has said it was investigating two roosters found dead in a market near the Nigerian border. "It's likely that it's H5N1," said Juan Lubroth, a senior animal-health officer at the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization.

## MIDDLE EAST

## Iran has resumed its uranium enrichment

By ALI AKBAR DAREINI  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran has resumed small-scale enrichment of uranium, a senior Iranian nuclear negotiator said Tuesday — a defiant declaration in the face of global opposition to Iran's atomic program.

The resumption still leaves Iran a long way from reaching the stage the world fears most: large-scale enrichment of uranium — a process that can produce fuel for an atomic bomb.

While announcing the move, Javad Vaiedi, deputy secretary of Iran's Su-

preme National Security Council, also told reporters that Iran will resume negotiations with Moscow on Monday over its plan to enrich Iranian uranium on Russian soil, a proposal designed to allay fears that Iran will build nuclear weapons.

"The talks with Russia remain valid," Vaiedi said, adding that an Iranian delegation will go to Moscow.

Iran said Monday that the negotiations with Russia had been postponed indefinitely.

Vaeidi gave no indication whether Iran was looking more favorably at the plan now that international pressure over its

nuclear program is increasing. He said that enrichment of uranium resumed last week at Natanz, the country's main enrichment plant, but that Iran had not resumed large-scale enrichment.

In Israel, Yuval Steinitz, chairman of the Knesset's defense and foreign affairs committee, said Tuesday's announcement made it clear that "time is running out."

"If the Iranians will not be blocked, in due course they will obtain a nuclear weapon," he told The Associated Press. "This will be a devastating threat not only to Israel and the Middle East but also to Europe and the United States."

## PALESTINE | HAMAS

## U.S., Israel 'interference' is protested

■ *The New York Times* reported a U.S.-Israeli plan to starve the Palestinian Authority of cash.

By AMY TEIBEL  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Hamas protested "interference" by the United States and Israel following reports Tuesday that the two nations were exploring ways to topple the militants' incoming government unless they renounced their violent ideology and recognized Israel's right to exist.

In Washington, the White House and the Israeli ambassador to the United States denied such a plan. The State Department said it was reviewing U.S. aid to the Palestinians and would make a decision within two weeks.

Exiled Hamas leader Khaled Mashaal said in Sudan that his group had no plans to recognize Israel.

"There will be no recognition of Israel and there will be no security for the occupation and colonization forces," Mashaal told a rally in Khartoum. "Resistance will remain our strategic option."

*The New York Times*, citing U.S. and Israeli officials it did not identify, reported Tuesday that the United States and Israel were considering a campaign to starve the Palestinian Authority of cash so Palestinians would grow disillusioned and bring down a Hamas government.

Israeli security officials said they were looking at ways to force Hamas from power and were focusing on an economic squeeze that would prompt Palestinians to clamor for the return of the ousted Fatah Party. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the matter with the media.

A Foreign Ministry official said Israel was threaten-

ing to dry up funding and isolate the Palestinians internationally in an effort to keep Hamas, which is committed to Israel's destruction, from taking power.

However, Israeli Ambassador Daniel Ayalon told The Associated Press, "There are no ongoing discussions with the U.S. designed to bring down the Palestinian government."

A Hamas official protested the reports, saying attempts to bring down a future Hamas government were hypocritical.

"This is ... a rejection of the democratic process, which the Americans are calling for day and night," incoming legislator Mushir al Masri said. "It's an interference and a collective punishment of our people because they practiced the democratic process in a transparent and honest way."

In Washington, White House spokesman Scott McClellan said, "There's no plot." State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said he was "puzzled" by the report.

The reports came a day after the outgoing Fatah parliament empowered President Mahmoud Abbas to set up a sympathetic court that would be able to veto Hamas legislation unchallenged. Abbas also took back control of state-run Palestine TV and radio, denying Hamas yet another tool of power.

The idea of withholding aid from Hamas is not new. What is new is forcing regime change by impoverishing the Palestinians even further. Even with the Israeli tax transfers and Western aid, the Palestinian Authority is expected to run a \$660 million budget deficit in 2006. Without the tax and aid, the Hamas government could be forced to impose widespread layoffs affecting hundreds of thousands of Palestinians.

## HAITI

## Government orders review of results from presidential vote

By STEVENSON JACOBS  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haiti's interim government ordered a review of election results Tuesday hours after the leading presidential candidate, Rene Preval, said "massive fraud" or errors marred the count.

The order is the first formal step to investigate possible fraud or irregularities committed during the Feb. 7 election and the counting.

"The government wants to make sure that everything with the process is correct," interim Interior Minister Paul Magloire said.

Earlier in the day, Preval promised to contest the results. He also urged his supporters to protest peacefully a

day after at least one pro-Preval demonstrator was killed and his followers elsewhere occupied a hotel.

Preval said official results "do not correspond with reality."

"We are convinced that either massive fraud or gross errors stain the process," Preval said.

The review will be conducted by a commission made up of the president's office, the electoral council and Preval's party, said Michel Brunache, chief of staff of interim President Boniface Alexandre.

Magloire said that the commission will be formed in the coming days and that the review of the voter tally sheets "will be very fast."

The electoral council will

not release more election results pending the outcome of the review, Brunache said.

Tens of thousands of Preval's backers, most from Haiti's majority poor, have flooded the streets of the capital since Sunday to protest what they called a rigged election.

The most recent election results, posted Monday, showed that Preval had 48.76 percent of the vote with 90 percent of ballots counted. He would need 50 percent plus one vote to avoid a March runoff. "If they publish the results as they are now, we will oppose them, the Haitian people will also oppose them, and there will be protests," Preval told reporters.

U.N. spokesman David Wimhurst said there was no evidence of fraud.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/MAHMOUD TAWIL

## Rally marks assassination anniversary

Supporters of Lebanon's slain former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri arrive in Beirut on Tuesday at a demonstration to commemorate the first anniversary of Hariri's assassination. Hundreds of thousands of flag-waving Lebanese packed a square in central Beirut to mark the anniversary of the assassination, a momentous event that ended Syria's long domination of its smaller neighbor.

## Account: Pastor doesn't recall CEO taking classes

CONTINUED FROM 1A

1998 and renamed itself Heartland Baptist Bible College, said it has records of his attendance for that time. But it does not have records showing that Edmondson was enrolled later in correspondence classes or that he completed his degree.

In an interview with the *Star-Telegram* on Friday, Edmondson said he finished a three-year Th.G. degree in theology by taking correspondence courses on subjects in-

cluding the history of Israel, the Epistles of Paul, pastoral theology and the study of the Pentateuch.

He said that his assignments were sent back and forth between Colorado and California. But he did not deal directly with Pacific Coast's professors, he said.

"The only contact that I had was between myself and Dr. Hoover," Edmondson said. "I got feedback from him."

Asked if he ever gave Edmondson a diploma, Hoover said, "No, not that I recall."

Hoover said he had "good memories about David. I just remember he was very active at the time."

Edmondson, through a spokeswoman, declined to comment Tuesday on Hoover's remarks. He has also declined to comment on why he listed the degree as a B.S., or Bachelor of Science, on the ré-

sumé he gave to RadioShack when he joined the company in 1994.

Early Tuesday, RadioShack issued a statement saying its board of directors "reaffirms its support for David Edmondson in fulfilling his role as chief executive officer."

The statement also said the board was aware of matters raised in the *Star-Telegram* article "and has previously given due consideration to them."

Upon learning about the discrepancy between Edmondson's and Hoover's accounts, RadioShack director

Thomas Plaskett, who chairs the company's corporate governance committee, said he would stand by the board's statement of support for Edmondson.

Plaskett declined to describe when or how the board previously considered the résumé issues.

"I know what the board's responsibility is," he said. "I stand by the statement."

Staff writers Jeff Claassen and Mark Horvit contributed to this report.

Heather Landy, (817) 390-7725  
hlandy@star-telegram.com

Save water, energy  
with the right  
washing machine



## A CUT ABOVE?

Gillette's new five-blade razor looks cool, but can it edge out the competition? A reporter puts it to the test.



# Star-Telegram

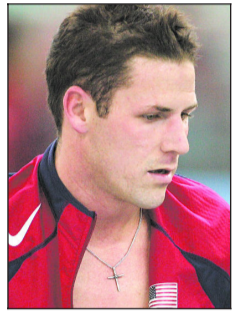
FORT WORTH



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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## OLYMPICS

## TOUGH GOING FOR AMERICANS

**Speedskater** Chad Hedrick of Spring sees his dream of five gold medals end on a gloomy day for U.S. teams.

SPECIAL SECTION | DD

## SECURITY BREACH

## FEDS RELEASE WRONG RECORDS

**The disclosure** may hurt the case against a Texas-based Islamic charity suspected of terrorist ties.

NATIONAL | 11A

## IRAQ

## MORE IMAGES OF PRISONER ABUSE

**Iraqi officials** call for calm because the photos are old and the offenders have been punished.

INTERNATIONAL | 12A

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

## PRIEST: ACCUSED WERE PROTECTED

**A critic** who has seen sealed files says the Fort Worth Diocese shielded priests accused of abuse.

FORT WORTH | 1B

## KATRINA RELIEF

## FEMA BLUNDERS ACKNOWLEDGED

**Homeland Security** Secretary Michael Chertoff testifies that the response to the storm fell far short.

NATIONAL | 5A

## WEATHER



High  
**79**  
Low  
**37**

**Today:** Partly cloudy.  
South wind at 15-25 mph.



NBC5 forecast, 14A

Classifieds	F-6
Comics	4-5E
Crosswords	2E, 2F
Editorials	14B
Horoscope	2E
Live!	2B
Lottery numbers	2A
Movies	9E
News 2 Use	2A
Obituaries	11-13B
Television	10E



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## RADIOSHACK | ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

## CEO admits 'misstatements'

### RadioShack board to hire counsel to investigate



Watchdog Journalism

■ Confirming a worker's history is crucial. 1C

■ In a statement, Dave Edmondson apologizes to the board and employees.

By HEATHER LANDY

STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — RadioShack Chief Executive Dave Edmondson acknowledged Wednesday evening that he misstated his academic record, prompting the board of

directors to seek independent legal counsel to investigate the matter.

Separate statements from Edmondson and the board came after a *Star-Telegram* investigation uncovered inaccuracies in the executive's ré-

sumé, which said he held a Bachelor of Science degree, and in his corporate biography, which said he earned degrees in theology and psychology. The college Edmondson attended has no record of his graduation and never offered psychology degrees.

"The contents of my re-

sume and the company's website were clearly incorrect," Edmondson said in his statement. "It is my belief that I received a ThG diploma, not a BS degree as I asserted. I clearly misstated my academic record, and the responsibility for these misstatements is mine alone. I understand that I cannot now document the ThG diploma." A Th.G. degree is awarded for complet-

More on CEO on 8A



"I clearly misstated my academic record..."

— Dave Edmondson, RadioShack CEO

## CANCER

## Teens pay tribute to teammate who died in 2002



STAR-TELEGRAM/RALPH LAUER

Robert Griffin and other team members serve food at the Ronald McDonald House in memory of teammate Jay Hendrickson.

# Keeping a promise

By ALEX BRANCH

STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

The teammates gathered around the 12-year-old's bed — a hospital bed moved into the house to make his last days more comfortable.

It was summer 2002, and Jay Hendrickson's friends and coaches had come to say goodbye.

Bone cancer was taking his life. For 2½ years, the Bedford boy had dealt with pain from the tumors, the surgeries, the chemotherapy.

The end was approaching, and everyone knew it — even Jay.

Still, his teammates, like close friend Barrett Nelson, encouraged him.

When Jay was too sick to play, he sat on the bench at their basketball games



HENDRICKSON FAMILY PHOTO

Thomas Knapp, left, Jay Hendrickson, his dad, Mike Hendrickson, and Barrett Nelson in April 2000. When Jay started cancer treatment, the others shaved their heads, too.

and cheered for them. It was their turn.

*Hey buddy, they said, slapping him five. Hang in there.*

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVE

View a slide show of the team's volunteer effort at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

Jay wanted a photo with his team, so the HEB Rockets bunched together around his bed, like a huddle during a timeout. They smiled and the camera flashed. Eventually, the seventh-graders had to say goodbye and leave.

Coach Larry Sanders stayed behind. He had known Jay since he was a first-grader.

Jay told him not to worry, that he wasn't scared.

Sanders choked up. "I promise," he said. "We'll never let anyone forget you."

More on TEAM on 9A

## WOMEN'S HEALTH

## Study casts doubt on effectiveness of calcium pills

BOSTON — For years, doctors have been telling older women to take calcium and vitamin D tablets to protect their bones as they age.

Now, the biggest study ever to examine the value of that advice suggests that the supplements provide only limited

protection.

Calcium and vitamin D failed to protect against most fractures in mostly low-risk women.

But the supplements did seem to offer some benefit against hip breaks among women over 60 and those who took the pills faithfully.

The study is "not as ringing an endorsement of calcium as one might like," said one of the researchers, Dr. Norman Lasser at New Jersey Medical School.

Even so, he and other experts are urging women to stick with government advice and keep taking the supplements.

NATIONAL | 6A

## HUNTING ACCIDENT

## Cheney takes blame in shooting

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Vice President Dick Cheney broke a four-day silence Wednesday about his accidental shooting of a hunting partner, saying he takes full responsibility for the incident while vigorously defending his decision to delay releasing news about it until the next day.

"Ultimately, I'm the guy who pulled the trigger that fired the round that hit Harry," Cheney said, appearing a bit shaken in a hastily arranged interview on Fox News in which he provided his version of events.

## WHAT HE SAID

Read the transcript of Cheney's interview at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

Cheney said no one had intended to blame the hunting partner, Austin lawyer Harry Whittington, for being in the line of fire after coming up unannounced about 30 yards from Cheney.

NATIONAL | 4A

## WEATHER

## Winter isn't done with Texas yet

By BRYON OKADA

STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Warm, cold. Warm, cold. Gotta love Texas weather.

Wednesday was warm and sunny, and today will be more of the same.

But the mercury is expected to drop tonight as an arctic front moves through.

Friday morning is forecast to be in the 30s, with windy, cloudy conditions lasting into Monday. There is a chance of rain, and possibly sleet, through the weekend.

"We'll be flirting with freezing each morning into early next week," said meteorologist Daniel Huckaby of the National Weather Service.



Our 10 favorite Olympic teens

The high-flying Shaun White, right, isn't the only one tearing up Torino. **WHATEVER | 10E**



LIVE! | 2B

Bonnie Raitt gives her fans an upbeat mix of old and new

American duo wins silver in ice dancing for first U.S. medal in the event since 1976. **10D**

# Star-Telegram

FORT WORTH



'Where The West Begins'

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2006 | 50 CENTS

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RESIGNATION | RÉSUMÉ MISSTATEMENTS

## RadioShack CEO quits

No. 2 exec named interim chief; severance is 'considerably less' than contract calls for

By **HEATHER LANDY**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — Dave Edmondson resigned Monday as president and chief executive of RadioShack Corp., less than a week after admitting that he inflated his academic record on his résumé.

Executive Chairman Len Roberts said the board cut short an inquiry launched last week and promoted Claire Babrowski, the No. 2 executive at the Fort Worth-based chain, to president and acting CEO.

"The message to shareholders and the public is, one of the most important things we have as a corporation is integrity and trust, and we know we have to restore that back to our company," Roberts said in an afternoon teleconference with reporters. "I have no question about it that we will be able to do that."

In a statement released by RadioShack, Edmondson said he agreed with the board that it was "in the best interest of the com-

More on RESIGN on 9A

### What happened?

Dave Edmondson rose rapidly to the top at RadioShack and fell even faster. Last week he acknowledged inaccuracies in his academic record after the *Star-Telegram* discovered discrepancies



EDMONDSON

on his résumé and in his corporate biography. The company announced disappointing quarterly results Friday. Edmondson, 46, resigned Monday.

### The acting CEO

Claire Babrowski started with RadioShack seven months ago as chief operating officer. At 16, she started working as a crew member at a McDonald's in her hometown of Ottawa, Ill. She eventually rose through regional and corporate jobs to become chief restaurant operations officer. She quit the company in December 2004.



BABROWSKI

### Complete coverage inside

■ Claire Babrowski's appointment as acting CEO is just the latest in a remarkable career. **1C**  
■ The text of Dave Edmondson's statement. **9A**  
■ Few in Fort Worth's business community are surprised by the resignation. **1C**  
■ A timeline chronicles Edmondson's career at RadioShack. **1C**  
■ The damage to RadioShack extends beyond one man, writes columnist Mitchell Schnurman. **1C**

### What do you think?

Post a comment on this report at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

### OBITUARY

#### SPORTSCASTING LEGEND DIES

**Baseball Hall of Famer Curt Gowdy** announced many of the biggest events. **SPORTS | 2D**

### OBITUARY

#### BASS ASSOCIATE DIES IN ACCIDENT

**Thomas M. Taylor** helped manage investments for the Bass family for 13 years. **BUSINESS | 1C**

### LONDON

#### OIL PRICES RISE

**The violence disrupting Nigerian oil exports** pushes prices in London up. **BUSINESS | 3C**

### EDUCATION

#### BOOT CAMP

**Parents learn to become advocates** for their special-needs children. **FAMILY DAY! | 1E**

### WEATHER

High **59**  
Low **49**

Today: Morning fog and drizzle, then mild.

**NBC5 forecast, 8A**

Classifieds	F
Comics	4-5E
Crosswords	9E, 2F
Editorials	12B
Horoscope	9E
Live!	2B
Lottery numbers	2A
Movies	7E
News 2 Use	2A
Obituaries	9-11B
Television	8E



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### FOOTBALL | DAVEY O'BRIEN AWARD

## With eye on NFL, Young claims collegiate honor



STAR-TELEGRAM/JEFFERY WASHINGTON

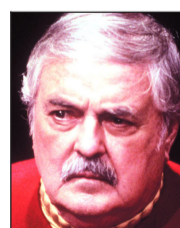
**Former Texas quarterback Vince Young** was given the Davey O'Brien Award on Monday at the Fort Worth Club. Young is the first UT quarterback to win the prize. His next destination will be the NFL Scouting Combine on Wednesday in Indianapolis. "Once I get drafted, I want to get in there right away, start learning the offense, show people that I can be a leader on and off the field," he says.

### Still the same Vince

■ Young enters the combine full of athleticism and confidence, Ray Buck writes. **1D**

### SPACE

## A final star trek: Actor's ashes will go into orbit



DOOHAN

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.— Scotty will be blasted into space — not beamed up — and Gordo is returning for his third flight.

The planned launch sometime in March of a rocket carrying the ashes of actor James Doohan, who played chief engineer Montgomery Scott on *Star Trek*, and Mercury program astronaut Gordon Cooper will give a fitting send-off to two men who helped popularize human space exploration.

The craft will also hold the ashes of 185 others, including a telephone technician, a nurse

and a college student. Their families paid \$995 to \$5,300 for the flight, being conducted by one of a handful of growing businesses in the field.

Doohan and Cooper's widows said the decision to send up their husbands' ashes was no different from those made by the families of the less famous. "He always wanted to go up in space," said Wende Doohan.

Cooper, who died in 2004, piloted the Faith 7 spacecraft in 1963 and was command pilot of the Gemini 5 mission in 1965. His widow, Suzan Cooper, said she and her daughters thought "Daddy would do it again if he could, so why not?"

### MEXICO

## Hopes dimming for 65 trapped inside coal mine

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN JUAN DE SABINAS, Mexico — Mexican crews tunneled feverishly through dirt and rock Monday to reach 65 coal miners trapped a day earlier by a gas explosion 600 feet underground. Most were thought to be trapped one to three miles from the mine's entrance.

Officials said that although prospects were dim, there was still a chance of finding survivors at the Pasta de Conchos

mine near the town of San Juan de Sabinas, 85 miles southwest of Eagle Pass.

Relatives grew increasingly desperate after nightfall with no word of their loved ones. Some prayed with priests and ministers at the pit entrance.

"We are waiting for a miracle from God," said Norma Vitela, whose trapped husband, Jose Angel Guzman, had previously told her of problems with gas in the mine.

**INTERNATIONAL | 4A**



## NATIONAL BRIEFS

### Louisiana governor unveils proposal to aid homeowners

**LOUISIANA** — With thousands of ruined homeowners watching weeks turn into months without assistance, Gov. Kathleen Blanco for the first time unveiled a real package of assistance on Monday, proposing to use federal money for loans and grants that aides said would spur rebuilding in devastated areas. For months an unpromising brew of competing ideas, inadequate money and political fighting has left Louisiana homeowners ruined by Hurricane Katrina in limbo, wondering where to turn for help. Some have returned and are rebuilding on their own, but many thousands more remain in exile without the money needed to come back and start over. More than 330,000 homes were damaged, state officials say. Louisiana officials said the state's \$7.5 billion proposal, which offers up to \$150,000 in grants to repair or rebuild, along with inexpensive loans, would have been impossible without the \$4.2 billion in new money promised by President Bush last week and \$6.2 billion allocated last year.

— The New York Times

### Teen who killed family can't be treated, prosecutor says

**NEW MEXICO** — A teenager convicted of killing his family on newsman Sam Donaldson's ranch displays psychopathic traits and cannot be rehabilitated, a prosecutor said Monday at the boy's sentencing hearing in Alamogordo. "Unfortunately, there are some kids we can't fix, and this is one of them," Sandra Grisham said during the hearing for Cody Posey, 16. But Posey's attorney said that the teen was traumatized by years of physical and psychological abuse that began when he was 18 months old, and that he is amenable to treatment. Posey was convicted this month of murder in the deaths of his stepmother and 13-year-old stepsister and of voluntary manslaughter in the death of his father, who was foreman on Donaldson's ranch in southern New Mexico. Posey was 14 at the time of the shootings.

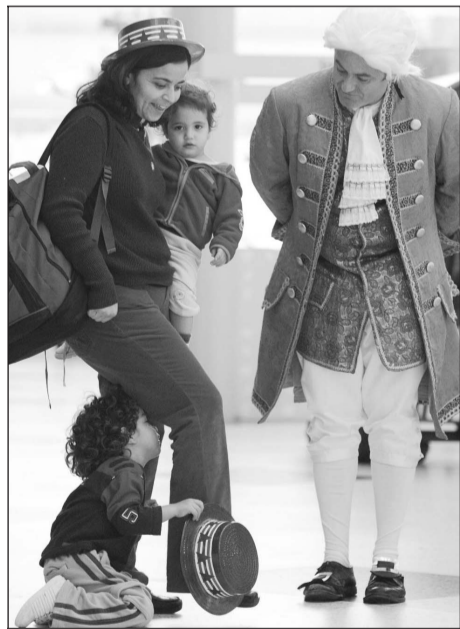
— The Associated Press

### Doctors group to develop measures of performance

**WASHINGTON** — The American Medical Association has signed a pact with Congress promising to develop more than 100 standard measures of performance, which doctors will report to the federal government in an effort to upgrade the quality of care. The Bush administration is pushing "pay for performance" arrangements with healthcare providers in an effort to publicize their performance and link Medicare payment to quality. The performance measures are supposed to focus on diagnostic tests and treatments known to produce longer lives, higher quality of life and fewer complications. The idea has strong support in Congress and from AARP, the lobby for older Americans, but some medical specialists said they were not consulted or informed about the medical association deal until after it was struck. Many doctors said the government could use the information to justify cutting their Medicare fees. Under the Dec. 16 agreement between leaders of Congress and the medical association, doctors groups are to develop "a total of approximately 140 physician performance measures covering 34 clinical areas" by the end of this year.

— The New York Times

### Can't hide from history



HOUSTON CHRONICLE/MELISSA PHILLIP VIA AP  
Efrat Hazan Ozeri holds daughter Naama, 2, as son Liam, 3, hides from George Washington, played by David Born, during Presidents Day activities at the Children's Museum of Houston.



STAR-TELEGRAM ARCHIVES

Dave Edmondson stepped down as chief executive of RadioShack on Monday, nine months after being named to the post.

# Resign: Company seeking new CEO

**1A** pany" for him to step down. He had been CEO for nine months.

Edmondson, 46, acknowledged Wednesday that he misstated his academic history in his corporate biography and on the résumé he submitted to RadioShack when he joined the company as a vice president in 1994. His admission came after a *Star-Telegram* investigation that raised questions about his credentials.

Members of the board initially backed Edmondson last Tuesday, saying they were aware of the issues raised in the *Star-Telegram* report and had given them "due consideration." But the board switched gears the next day and hired outside legal counsel to review the matters after Edmondson acknowledged inaccuracies.

On Monday, Roberts said the board knew "some, but definitely not all" of the information contained in the newspaper's report.

"What we thought we knew then we did not know," Roberts said, referring to the board's initial response. "In retrospect I wish we didn't make that statement because obviously we did not know all the facts."

Roberts said the board agreed to a severance package that includes "less than \$1 million" in cash and changes in the terms of some stock options Edmondson held. The severance is "considerably less" than what was originally specified in the employment contract, Roberts said.

"This is something that I'm most sensitive to," Roberts said. He said that a board will often pay severance to a departing CEO in exchange for agreements that the executive not immediately go to work for a competitor, solicit employees to follow him or sue the company. Details of Edmondson's severance agreement are expected to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission today.

RadioShack has hired the Spencer Stuart executive search firm to review internal and external candidates for the CEO post.

Babrowski, who joined RadioShack in July after a 31-year career with McDonald's Corp., will be among the candidates considered.

"We are very happy that we had a very qualified individual" to take the job on an interim basis, Roberts said. Babrowski was not available for comment Monday.

Roberts, who recruited Edmondson to RadioShack and handed him the CEO title in May, indicated that he did not want to return to the post while Spencer Stuart conducts its search. "I'm happy with my day job," said Roberts, who represents RadioShack in philanthropic and civic endeavors.

Edmondson, contacted by telephone, declined to comment beyond his prepared statement, in which he said he was proud of the executive team he assembled as CEO.

"I've been honored to work with a tremendously talented team that has put together a strong plan, repositioning the company to deliver increased value to shareholders," he said. "RadioShack is a good company that has both the will and the plan to be a truly great company, and I wish everyone great success."

The consumer electronics chain has been struggling for the past year against stiff competition from Best Buy, Circuit City and other rivals. On Friday, Edmondson, Babrowski and Chief Fi-

## DAVE EDMONDSON'S STATEMENT

The statement by David Edmondson released Monday by RadioShack Corp.:

"For the last 11 years, it has been my privilege to be associated with RadioShack. During this time, we became the largest indirect seller of wireless phone service in the United States, an achievement I credit to the hardworking people in our stores, who provide real solutions for our customers. As CEO, I am most proud of the executive team I have assembled over the past year. I have great respect for them and know that they will achieve great success together.

"At this time the board and I have agreed that it is in the best interest of the Company for new leadership to step forward so that our turnaround plan has the best possible chance to succeed, as I know it will.

"I've been honored to work with a tremendously talented team that has put together a strong plan, repositioning the Company to deliver increased value to shareholders. RadioShack is a good company, that has both the will and the plan to be a truly great Company, and I wish everyone great success."

nanial Officer David Barnes announced that the company would close 400 to 700 stores and revamp its merchandise lines to improve earnings, which slid 62 percent in the fourth quarter.

Edmondson remains on the board of Advanced Micro Devices, a manufacturer of digital integrated circuits based in Sunnydale, Calif.

"We are reviewing the matter and will make no further comment at this time," an AMD spokesman said when asked whether Edmondson's resignation from RadioShack would affect his status on AMD's board.

Edmondson came to RadioShack in 1994 as vice president of marketing for the retail division of Tandy Corp., RadioShack's predecessor company. At that time, Roberts said, the company checked prospective employees' criminal re-

ords, credit ratings and employment histories, but not their academic credentials.

Edmondson was promoted several times, gaining a reputation for generating creative ideas and charting statistics that helped him monitor the company's efficiency and financial health. In January 2005, Roberts announced that he planned to step down as CEO and give the job to Edmondson, who was then president and chief operating officer. Edmondson officially became CEO in May.

The *Star-Telegram* began examining Edmondson's background after learning that he had been arrested three times on suspicion of drunken driving and is scheduled to go to court in April on the most recent charge.

Edmondson's corporate biography, posted on the company's Web site, said he graduated from Pacific Coast Baptist Bible College and earned degrees in theology and psychology. But the small college, which moved to Oklahoma City in 1998 and was renamed Heartland Baptist Bible College, never offered psychology degrees and had no record of Edmondson graduating.

In a Feb. 10 interview, Edmondson said he only minored in psychology and did not realize that his biography claimed that he had a degree in the subject. Edmondson, a former pastor who started two churches before going into business full time, said he completed a three-year Th.G. program in theology by correspondence courses while working at a church in Colorado.

Edmondson said his diploma was destroyed in a 2004 garage fire at his home. He suggested that the college, which could only document his enrollment for the 1977-78 academic year, had lost track of some of his records.

Edmondson provided the *Star-Telegram* with a copy of his 1994 résumé — which includes a profile specifying that he had a degree in theology and a minor in psychology — as evidence that he did not misrepresent himself to the company.

But the résumé lists his degree as a Bachelor of Science, which is more advanced than a three-year Th.G. And the Colorado pastor who Edmondson said advised him in his correspondence work said he had no memory of Edmondson being affiliated with Pacific Coast at the time the two men worked together.

On Monday, RadioShack removed the executive biographies that had been on its Web site. "We are currently updating and validating all of the biographical information for each of our senior executives," the company said in a message to visitors to the site.

Babrowski's biography never mentioned an undergraduate alma mater, because the 48-year-old never finished an undergraduate degree.

In an October interview with the *Star-Telegram*, Babrowski said she left college in the middle of her junior year to pursue a full-time career with McDonald's, where she had started working at age 16 in her home town of Ottawa, Ill.

Babrowski rose from shift manager to store manager to district manager, and eventually took on corporate-level positions. Along the way, she said, she enrolled in the executive MBA program at the University of North Carolina and earned a master's degree.

Staff writer Barry Shlachter contributed to this report.

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## HEALTH

# Bad stem cells may be key to cancer, study shows

THE NEW YORK TIMES

One day, perhaps in the distant future, stem cells may help repair diseased tissues. But there is a more pressing reason to study them: They are the source of some — perhaps all — cancers.

At the heart of every tumor, some researchers believe, lie a handful of aberrant stem cells that maintain the

malignant tissue.

That could explain why tumors can regenerate after being almost destroyed by anti-cancer drugs. It also points to a different anti-cancer drug strategy, suggesting they should be selected for lethality to cancer stem cells, not for their ability to kill just any cells and shrink tumors.

"I think this is one of the most in-

teresting developments in cancer research in the last five years," says Robert Weinberg, a cancer geneticist at the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Mass. "I think more and more people are accepting it and evidence is accumulating that cancer stem cells exist in a variety of tumors."

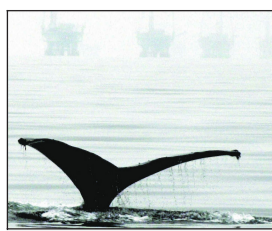
The idea that cancer cells possess the same properties as stem cells has

been around for many years. Only recently have biologists developed techniques for identifying stem cells and their presence in tumors.

Biologists are not yet sure how cancer stem cells are generated. It may be that the stem cells themselves go through a mutation, or a change in their DNA instructions, that deranges the strict controls on their self-re-

newal. Or possibly their immediate progeny, known as progenitor cells, suffer some genetic damage after which, instead of developing into mature cells, they regain the power of self-renewal.

Though many biologists believe that the cancer stem cell idea is interesting, not all think that it will lead to new therapies. In the view of Dr. Bert Vogelstein, a cancer researcher at Johns Hopkins, everything depends on how much of a tumor consists of cancer stem cells.



**OFFSHORE RUSH**  
New proposals to open coastal drilling gaining favor in Congress. **3C**

**Wednesday**  
February 22, 2006  
DIVIDENDS 2C  
METROPLEX REPORT 4C  
MUTUAL FUNDS 5C  
STOCK EXCHANGES 4-5C  
[www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

**ECONOMY: A sharp jump in leading indicators suggests strong growth this spring. 3C**



**AUTOMAKER**



**PONTIAC TO DROP THE GTO AGAIN**

**General Motors Corp.** has abandoned the Pontiac GTO again, and will end production of the high-performance car in June because of new costly air-bag standards.

The first GTO was an icon of the muscle-car era from 1964 to 1974. Revived in 2003, it was praised for its performance and a 400-horsepower engine, but the styling was boring. "They're throwing it away because they made the wrong choice on the design, which was based on the 1999 Holden Monaro, so it was 5 years old when it was introduced," said John Wolkonowicz, an analyst with Global Insight in Lexington, Mass. "But it's a huge mistake to retire the nameplate. It's of great value to General Motors and to Pontiac."

Despite a 15 percent drop in sales, the GTO was winning customers who traditionally didn't buy GM vehicles, said James Hall at AutoPacific in Southfield, Mich.

— From wire reports

**ENERGY**

## PUC chief calls for lower electric rates

■ The head of the Public Utility Commission's proposal could force utilities to cut electricity rates and lead to monthly customer savings averaging \$17.

By **R.A. DYER**  
STAR-TELEGRAM AUSTIN BUREAU

AUSTIN — Suggesting that millions of Texans pay too much for electricity, the state's top utility regulator has called for rate cuts before the state loses its pricing authority altogether in 2007.

The proposal, which the

three-member Public Utility Commission plans to consider Thursday, would force rate cuts by several major utilities and lead to monthly customer savings averaging \$17, according to consumer groups. It would take effect shortly before or just as the state transitions to full electric competition in 2007, when the commission loses its authority over rates.

PUC Chairman Paul Hudson said that if trends continue, residential ratepayers could start out in that unregulated

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**  
Post a comment on this report at [www.star-telegram.com](http://www.star-telegram.com)

era paying inflated electric prices that reflect the 2005 spike in fuel costs. That's when natural-gas prices hit record levels after Hurricanes Rita and Katrina disrupted supplies along the Gulf Coast.

Hudson said that the price of natural gas has since gone down, but electric rates don't reflect the change. Utilities are under no obligation to lower electric rates, although natu-

ral-gas prices embedded in those rates remain at least 15 percent higher than the actual price of natural gas in the open market, Hudson said.

"It [my proposal] imposes no constraint on competitors, and it does not make it impossible for competitors to attract customers," he said. "But it would be a disservice if ... residential customers remained on a final regulated rate ... that no longer reflected the market."

His proposal surprised agency watchers, as staff there recently issued a report con-

cluding that Texans are saving money under deregulation. Consumer advocates enthusiastically embraced the idea, although they said it doesn't go far enough. But utility representatives questioned whether the commission has the authority to force the rate reductions.

TXU spokeswoman Kim Morgan said that the PUC should allow market forces to dictate prices, and if the utility loses enough customers, then it will take action on its own to

More on PUC on 3C

**AIRCRAFT**



U.S. AIR FORCE ARCHIVES

Two C-17 Globemaster IIIs participate in a training airdrop over South Carolina. If C-17 production ends, Vought and other Texas companies would be affected, Boeing says.

## C-17 flying on wing and prayer

### Defense budget would halt work

- **Max. speed:** 515 mph
- **Range without refueling:** 3,225 miles
- **Engines:** Four jets similar in power to those on Boeing 757
- **Runway required:** As little as 3,000 feet
- **Can carry variety of loads**
  - 102 paratroopers and equipment
  - 3 Apache helicopter gunships plus 50 troops and cargo
  - 1 mobile 155 mm howitzer and its ammunition vehicle, 2 Humvees, 2.5-ton truck and 32 troops

SOURCES: Boeing, U.S. Military Loads Cargo Compartment Versatility, Jane's All the World's Aircraft

By **BOB COX**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

Pentagon and Air Force officials aren't doing Vought Aircraft Industries or its 4,000-plus Dallas and Grand Prairie workers any favors these days.

Future Defense Department spending plans drawn up as part of the 2007 budget process call for ending production of Boeing's C-17 transport aircraft, Vought's largest program. Without a new contract, C-17 production would end in early 2008, and suppliers like Vought — and Boeing says about 30 other Texas companies — would be affected even sooner.

"It would potentially impact in the neighborhood of 650 jobs here" in Dallas, Vought spokeswoman Lynne Warne said.

Air Force officials have said they don't need more C-17s and can better use the money to begin the process of replacing their aging fleet of KC-135 aerial-refueling tankers.

Vought had hoped for a big role in building tankers as a subcontractor to Boeing on its proposed 767 tanker, a few of which are being built for Italy. But the word filtering out of the Pentagon recently is that the Air Force wants a plane other than the 767.

More on C-17 on 6C



ASSOCIATED PRESS ARCHIVES

A maintenance crew works on a C-17 Globemaster III at Hickam Air Force Base in Honolulu. Boeing will begin a campaign to save the cargo planes from being cut.

**ENRON TRIAL**

**LAY LINKED TO FRAUD**

**Day 13**

Paula Rieker testified how founder Kenneth Lay misled analysts and employees about the state of the company. She became corporate secretary, replacing Rebecca Carter, who was engaged to CEO Jeffrey Skilling and left the company with him in August 2001. They later married.

**Analysis**

Prosecutors have struggled to focus on their central claim — that Lay and Skilling lied repeatedly about Enron's financial condition.

**What's next**

Rieker's cross-examination continues.

**RIEKER: LAY MISLED ANALYSTS | 2C**

**MEDICATION**

**CANADIAN DRUGS LOSE ALLURE**

Purchases of Canadian drugs have fallen since the Medicare prescription-drug program began. **3C**

**MARKETS**

**MAJOR INDEXES**

	Close	Change
▼ Dow	11,069.06	-46.26
▼ Nasdaq	2,262.96	-19.40
▼ S&P	1,283.04	-4.20

**COMMODITIES**

	Close	Change
▲ Oil	\$61.10	+\$1.22
▲ N. Tex post	\$56.50	+\$1.50
▲ Gas	\$7.73	+\$0.55

**FOREIGN EXCHANGE**

	Close	Previous
▼ \$ vs. yuan	8.0460	8.0478
▲ \$ vs. euro	0.8391	0.8382
▲ \$ vs. yen	118.70	118.16
▲ \$ vs. peso	10.483	10.427

Arrow shows dollar's strength

**TREASURY NOTES**

	Monday	Last wk
▲ 13-week	4.450%	4.400%
▲ 26-week	4.545%	4.540%
▲ 1-year	4.70%	4.67%

**EARNINGS**

## 3 big retailers report higher revenues

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Three retail heavyweights — Wal-Mart Stores, Home Depot and Federated Department Stores — checked in with higher earnings and revenues Tuesday, but Wall

Street was unimpressed.

Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, said fourth-quarter earnings rose 13.4 percent after aggressive holiday advertising helped boost sales by 8.6 percent. But its shares

fell 36 cents because revenue fell short of expectations, and it also forecast a profit outlook that was below analysts' projections.

**FULL REPORT | 2C**

**RADIOSHACK**

## Ex-CEO leaving with a package

■ The agreement is less generous than the package he might have been entitled to under the terms of his previous severance agreement.

By **HEATHER LANDY**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — Dave Edmondson, who admitted to misstating his academic credentials on his résumé and corporate biography at RadioShack Corp., is walking away from the company with \$975,000 in severance pay along with accrued vacation pay, four months of health benefits and a revised vesting schedule for his stock options.

The agreement, spelled out in a regulatory document one day after Edmondson resigned as chief executive, was less generous than the package he might have been entitled to under the terms of his previous severance contract, which was signed in December 2003.

RadioShack could have withheld severance if it had fired Edmondson with cause. But that might have opened the door to long legal disputes over the language in Edmondson's employment contract and the company's liability, said Charles Elson, director of the John L. Weinberg Center for Corporate Governance at the University of Delaware.

"It can take years to determine whether a board had the right to fire someone with cause or not," Elson said. "It's not an easy

More on RADIOSHACK on 6C

**IN MY OPINION**

## Pay attention to the power of the blog

■ The Dave Edmondson debacle shows that corporate executives must heed a new constituency.

As corporate crises go, the RadioShack affair had some common characters: an embattled CEO, a gung-ho press corps, a flip-flopping board of directors and an ineffectual public relations staff.

But a new force, the blogosphere, elbowed into the debate for the first time on a major local story.

That term technically refers to Web logs, or blogs, but its meaning has grown to include the broader concept of citizen participation on the In-

More on SCHNURMAN on 6C



**Mitchell Schnurman**

