

NEWS FROM THE METROPLEX AND TEXAS

# Fort Worth



## Terminal gets a canyon look

Dennis Blagg has worked for two years getting the D/FW Airport's new terminal ready. **6B**

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**COMING TOMORROW:** Aledo schools try another bond vote, this time for \$52 million. **IN FORT WORTH**

**B**

### COLLEYVILLE

## COACH TALKS ON TV ABOUT STEROID USE

Colleyville Heritage football coach Chris Cunningham talked about the steroid use by nine athletes and apologized Sunday night on TV to the mother who originally brought the allegations. Cunningham appeared with three other guests on *Dale Hansen's Sports Special* on WFAA/Channel 8. The segment was taped Friday. In a *Dallas Morning News* article Feb. 6, he referred to the mother as "crazy" and "a liar." "I am so sorry for the quote that I had in the paper and what I said.

### VALENTINE'S DAY WEDDINGS

# JP sees only couples today

By **BILL TEETER**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

**FORT WORTH** — In Judge Barbara Ferrell's court, matters of law give way to matters of the heart every Feb. 14.

Provided Valentine's Day falls on a weekday, Ferrell, the Pct. 1 justice of the peace, conducts weddings instead of the usual cases. Couple after couple come forward and leave as newlyweds.

Ferrell festoons her courtroom in the historic Weatherford Street

courthouse with flowers, candles and other decorations to make it special for the couples.

In her 10 years as justice, Ferrell has held the Valentine's wedding spree every year except 2004, when the holiday fell on a Saturday. As many as 57 have been married on one day, she said. She has 31 couples scheduled and expects more to walk in.

She gets a \$50 fee per wedding but, because she's closing the court to other actions, she covers

costs of using the court, Ferrell said.

Ferrell said she does it because of her belief in marriage and to provide a special flair for couples who can't afford fancy nuptials.

"I've been married 47 years, and when I got married, I had a big wedding," Ferrell said, "but that was only because my aunts paid for it."



STAR-TELEGRAM/JOYCE MARSHALL

Justice of the Peace Barbara Ferrell prepares a new CD player, held by her husband, Ray, to play wedding music in the courtroom.

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# D/FW art program is coming together

■ With Terminal D opening in July, the airport's \$6 million art program is taking shape.

By **BRYON OKADA**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

FORT WORTH — From 6 feet away, artist Dennis Blagg's latest project looks like a series of 1-inch Masonite panels covered with earth-toned, snake-like shapes.

In Art Studio 111 in downtown Fort Worth, Blagg has been painting for the past two years, covering panel after panel with coiling shapes.

Up close, there's no way to tell that if you combine the 84,672 panels and stand half a football field's length away, the eye is tricked into seeing not snakes, but an enormous photo-realistic image of a Big Bend canyon. Walk closer and the landscape dissolves back into snakes.

"At 50 yards it makes that change and speaks in its abstract voice," Blagg said.

The 14-foot-by-42-foot *Boquillas Pass* "has taken over my life," Blagg said, and is large enough to cover an airport terminal wall.

That's appropriate because

that's where it's going to be displayed in a few months: The North Ticket Hall of the future Terminal D at Dallas/Fort Worth Airport, to be exact.

Like Blagg's piece, most of the 24 major works that make up D/FW's \$6 million Terminal D art program are in their finishing stages. Terminal D is scheduled to open in July.

"We've done site visits for some of the artists, and their art looks fantastic," said Clay Paslay, D/FW's executive vice president of airport development. "This building represents North Texas, and the art is a reflection of all of us. In many cases, the art is physically part of the building and was designed into the structure."

For example, in the North Ticket Hall, there is a large indentation in the wall where *Boquillas Pass* will be set. At the gates, circular insets have been carved into the floor to hold terrazzo medallions.

Other works, such as a 20-foot wishbone by New Mexico artist Terry Allen, will be installed later because they might block or be damaged by workers moving in furniture and equipment.



STAR-TELEGRAM/JEFFERY WASHINGTON

Artist Dennis Blagg puts the finishing touches on one of the panels that is part of his piece that will go in the new Dallas/Fort Worth Airport Terminal D.

"The floor art is already in place at the Skylink terminal stations," Paslay said. "The remaining pieces will begin installation by mid-April and continue through the summer opening of international Terminal D."

No projects are significantly behind, said Jeff Stewart, art program manager. No budget adjustments have been necessary and no commissions had to be altered, he said.

■ Seven floor medallions being manufactured in Germany are 90 percent complete. Five being done in Dallas are 20 percent complete.

■ New York artist Peter Halley's abstract urban landscape — bigger than Blagg's work — has been delivered to a D/FW warehouse.

■ Allen's bronze *Wish* has been cast and will be transported in two pieces before a final weld in May.

■ Photos showing the diversity of D/FW's passen-

gers are being taken to be included in a translucent display being created by German artist Beat Streuli for the Immigration Hall.

Then there's Blagg's snake images — about 90 percent complete. Of the vast, picturesque work, only a final mountain range dubbed "Leslie's mountain" after assistant Leslie Lanzotti is not finished.

Blagg said the desertscapes he depicts are simultaneously empty and filled with spiritual content.

It's not lost on Blagg that his work will be one of the last images international passengers will see before departing North Texas. The idea is to leave a lasting impression.

"There's an iconic nature to this landscape," Blagg said. "I think that's why they chose me for this."

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