

DaimlerChrysler recalls 600,000 trucks

Defect on Dodge Durango, Dakota trucks can cause wheels to fall off

By **DEE-ANN DURBIN**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

recalling 600,000 Dodge Durango SUVs and Dakota pickup trucks because of a defect that can cause their wheels to fall off.

WASHINGTON — Bowing to pressure from federal safety regulators, DaimlerChrysler AG said Friday it is

The recall affects vehicles from the 2000-2003 model years. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administra-

tion recommended the recall after a 16-month investigation revealed that the vehicles' upper ball joints could fail. If that happens, the suspension can collapse and a wheel can fall off. DaimlerChrysler also is extending the warranty to 10 years or 100,000

miles on the suspension upper ball joints on an additional 400,000 Durango sport utility vehicles and Dakota pickups from model years 2000 to 2003.

NHTSA announced a separate recall Friday of 2004 Durango

RECALL, page 4A

On the Net

◆ National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, www.nhtsa.dot.gov
◆ DaimlerChrysler AG, www.daimlerchrysler.com

All the best, from around the country



Dean Roper/The Enterprise

Greg Green, center, and his wife, Kathy, are members of MarineParents.com and the family business, A-1 Glass, is a center for the national care package pro-

gram. The first wave of items is coming in and Green is putting them in his office until more come in and can be assembled for delivery to Marines overseas.

Carefully Wrapped

There are so many boxes the Greens are running out of room. But soon, the packages will make their way overseas to give soldiers a piece of

By **KEVIN J. DWYER**
THE ENTERPRISE

Sitting in the corner of Greg Green's office is a pile of boxes filled with toothpaste, shaving cream, batteries and other items designed to make the

lives of Marines deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan just a little easier.

Although it now represents a modest beginning, Green expects the MarineParents.com

CARE, page 4A

Sparks, charges fly in school board session

West Orange Cove trustee files complaint against colleague

By **KEVIN J. DWYER**
THE ENTERPRISE

A West Orange-Cove School Board member filed a police report Friday accusing a fellow trustee of threatening her during the board's Nov. 29 meeting.

Trustee Beth Wheeler filed the complaint against Trustee Shirley Martin, saying Martin had threatened to hit her and snarl profanity during a closed portion of the meeting.

Wheeler declined to comment on the two mid-meeting disorderly conduct charges, one by threat and one by language, when reached by telephone. They were filed in munic-

ipal court.

However, she did describe the November encounter in her statement to Orange police.

"Mrs. Martin threatened to punch me in the mouth and punch me and stomp me in the chest," Wheeler said in her statement.

"Mrs. Martin also said that she was going to stomp a mud hole in my ass," Wheeler's statement continued. "She repeated these threats many times during the closed session and while returning to our seats for the open session."

The dispute occurred after Martin entered the meeting late and asked to address the school board not from her seat, but from the floor during the open session.

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Time to fly

Two legendary coaches face off as Newton, Boyd compete for state title

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Profiling test narrows down who needs chemo

By **MARILYNN MARCHIONE**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — A genetic profiling test already on the market accurately predicts which breast cancer patients will benefit from chemotherapy and which won't, giving women a powerful tool to help decide whether to undergo the ordeal, scientists report.

The test could help about 80,000 women a year make better choices about how to treat their disease, said federal officials who helped fund the study and conduct it. Half could safely

Watch your step and head; acorns are in town

Temperate weather, rain led to record crop

By **ROLANDO GARCIA**
THE ENTERPRISE

Residents with an oak tree in their yards may have noticed the crunching sound beneath their feet when they go to fetch the newspaper from the driveway.

That's because it's raining acorns throughout East Texas, say tree experts.

Acorn production goes in cycles, and this year, ample rainfall and temperate weather