

STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS

Bush to report on surge in Iraq, slide in economy

President Bush is expected to tout Iraq and take on concerns about the economy during his State of the Union address to-night. **8A**

Where to watch

8 p.m. on the major broadcast and cable networks.

State of the Union history

First address: Delivered by George Washington on Jan. 8, 1790.

Hiatus: Thomas Jefferson in 1801 decided to deliver annual written statements, and the spoken version was suspended for more than a century, until Woodrow Wilson in 1913 revived the practice.

First response: The tradition of having the opposition party give a response began in 1966.

Big moments

1823: James Monroe discusses the Monroe Doctrine, which called on European countries to end Western colonization.

1862: Abraham Lincoln expresses his support for emancipating slaves.

1986: Ronald Reagan postpones his speech for a week after the space shuttle Challenger disaster.



Bush's highlights

2002: Labels Iraq, North Korea and Iran as members of the "axis of evil."

2003: In the run-up to the war in Iraq, he outlines his contention that Saddam Hussein had taken steps to build and keep weapons of mass destruction.

2005: Advocates an overhaul of Social Security that continues to languish in Congress.

2007: Implores Congress to embrace his plan for a troop surge in Iraq.

FORT WORTH | WILDLIFE

Two local falconers tout the ability of the big birds to control 'nuisance' populations



Grackles have become a nuisance around Fort Worth, including at Hulen Mall. A company is discussing a contract to use Harris's hawks to control the birds.

STAR-TELEGRAM/AMY PETERSON

Hawk and awe: City eyes grackle solution

Kujo and Blackjack.

Remember those names.

These two Harris's hawks could be what finally drives thousands of pesky, annoying grackles out of downtown Fort Worth once and for all.

At least, that's the hope of Roger Crandall and Jeff Cattoor, two local falconers and partners in Nighthawk Bird Control.

Changes in federal law allow special permits for hawk handlers to be paid for eradicating "nuisance" birds. Now a contract between the falconers and Downtown Fort Worth Inc. is being discussed.

"Grackles aren't a hunted species, but falconers can now be very useful to make life very uncomfortable for them," said Nicholas Throckmorton, a spokesman with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services. "They're striking the fear of God into grackles."

Staff writer Anna M. Tinsley reports, **1B**



Kujo, a Harris's hawk, has been trained to hunt roosting grackles.

S-T/RALPH LAUER

“They eventually will move off. The roosts will relocate. With continuous pressure on them, it is 100 percent a solution.

Jeff Cattoor, a local falconer and partner in Nighthawk Bird Control

Other attempted solutions

Laser beams and spotlights: Workers have flashed these in trees at dusk and in the dark to unsettle the birds.

Propane sound cannons and shotguns loaded with cracker shells: City workers have long fired these to try to scare the birds away with noise.

Grape extract-based fog: The fog, deemed safe by the federal government, is used late at night to irritate grackles' senses, mainly smell and sight.

Online exclusives

Comment on this report and watch the hawks in action at www.star-telegram.com

RETIREMENT PLANNING

More 'autopilot' options making 401(k)s easier

If you think making an investment decision is right up there with, say, major surgery, take heart. A slew of new programs can help you get the most out of your 401(k) and other investment options — with the least effort. So start saving now for retirement, and let the programs do the rest.

Staff writer Maria M. Perotin reports, **1C**

Tackling your taxes

With April 15 right around the corner, we present a primer on what to know before hiring a CPA. **1E**

NEW STADIUM

Cowboys expected to get less for naming rights with economy's downturn **1C**

HEALTHCARE

Students paying five times more for birth control pills **1B**

OBITUARY

Gordon Hinckley, Mormon church president, dies at 97 **10A**



SPECIAL TO THE S-T/STEPHEN CHERNIN

ORCHESTRA

FW SYMPHONY SCORES IN N.Y.

Cowtown's big run in the Big Apple has proved successful. On Sunday afternoon, the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra delivered a heart-warming performance of Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* at New York City's Carnegie Hall with charming narration from actor John Lithgow. **Live! 14B**

ACTING

'Sopranos' grabs drama categories at SAG awards

Hollywood stars put on the glitz for the Screen Actors Guild Awards, a ceremony that went on despite striking writers. **Live! 14B**

READERS' CHOICE

Our new comic, 'Over the Hedge,' here to stay **1E, 7E**

National Public changing on marijuana issue **6A**

International Ex-dictator Suharto burial today **11A**

Politics Ted Kennedy endorsing Obama **7A**

WEATHER

 Mostly cloudy and windy. **NBC5 forecast, 10A**



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| | |
|-------------|--------|
| Classifieds | F |
| Comics | 6-7E |
| Crosswords | 4E, 2F |
| Editorials | 12B |
| Horoscope | 4E |
| Live! | 14B |
| Lottery | 2B |
| Movies | 9E |
| Obituaries | 9-11B |
| Television | 10E |
| Your Health | 3E |

ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

See what's going on in the classroom, from preschool to college, and share your thoughts in **Extra Credit**, the *Star-Telegram's* new education blog. Also, our **PoliTex** blog is your ticket to becoming a political insider with the latest news from Austin to Washington, D.C. Check out both at www.star-telegram.com/blogs.

THIS WEEK TUE Whom would Spider-Man or Rambo vote for this November? We speculate on our heroes' endorsements. **In Your Life**



WED What to do when your prescription's dosage label is incorrect. **In Your Life & Food**

THU Hit TV drama *Lost* returns tonight. We'll get you up to speed on the story arc. **In Your Life**

FRI We find the best places to watch the Super Bowl. **In Go!**