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Snowfall clutters streets

DAVID SHOWERS
The Sentinel-Record

The city street department proceeded along well-worn tracks Thursday morning after an overnight snowfall covered much of the work night crews had done hours earlier.

"We're having to redo a lot of what we did last night," said Denny McPhate, Hot Springs' public works director. The snow "came down hard last night, apparently."

Sand and salt deposited over Central, Malvern and Grand avenues Wednesday night were under a blanket of snow early Thursday

WEATHER, PAGE 4A

The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

PLOWING AHEAD: A city plow truck clears slush from Lakeshore Drive Thursday morning. Sunlight turned the several inches of ice and snow that fell Wednesday and early Thursday to slush by late morning.

Oaklawn nears record cancellations

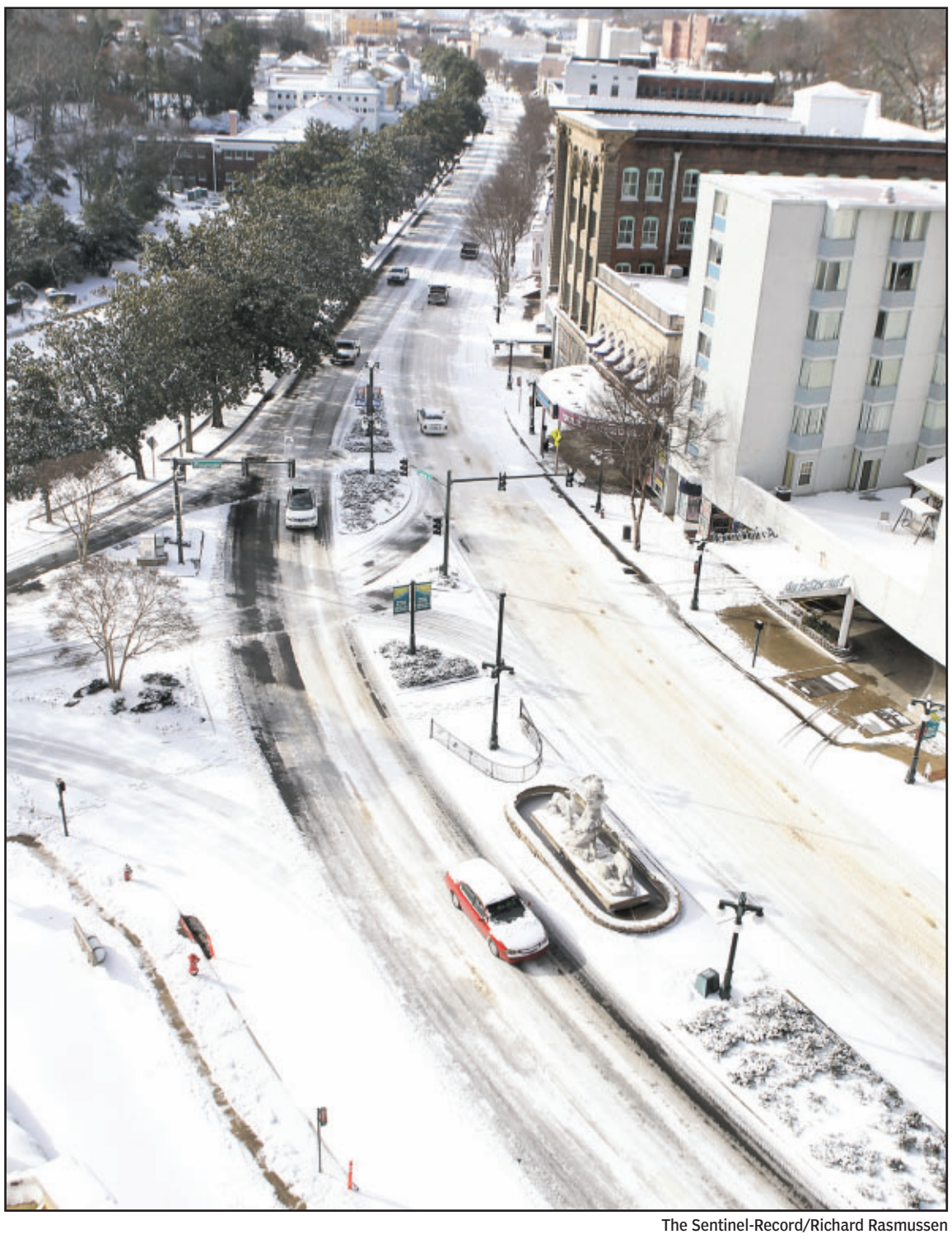
BETH BRIGHT
The Sentinel-Record

Oaklawn Park canceled its seventh card of the live meet on Thursday, bringing the track uncomfortably close to the record set in 2011 with eight canceled cards.

"We're still hopeful to be racing (today), but if we have to cancel again, we will have met our record," Media Relations Manager Jennifer Hoyt said on Thursday. Oaklawn added two Wednesday cards on March 18 and March 25 after the Arkansas Racing Commission unanimously approved the track's request on Saturday.

"We've been affected in some way by the weather

OAKLAWN, PAGE 4A



The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

MOTORING ALONG: Motorists move slowly along Central Avenue in downtown Hot Springs Thursday morning after a winter storm dumped 2.5 to 3 inches of sleet and snow across Garland County.

County fares better than parts of state

DON THOMASON
The Sentinel-Record

Compared to the northern part of Arkansas, Garland County fared much better Wednesday as a winter storm dumped rain, sleet and snow over most of the state.

Charles Dalton, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Little Rock, said Thursday that Garland County picked up 2.5 to 3 inches of sleet and snow, mainly in a 12-hour period from about 5 p.m. Wednesday to 5 a.m. Thursday.

"Some areas west (of Little Rock) had around 4 inches, but accumulations really increased to the north and northeast. We had 6.4 inches of sleet and snow in Little Rock, but areas around Batesville and Jonesboro had 6 inches to 8 inches total. Generally, in the central part of the state, from around Pine Bluff up through Russellville to Harrison, there was 4 inches to 6 inches, with some areas picking up more, and some less," Dalton said.

Dalton said rain fell over much of central Arkansas almost all day Wednesday, and intensified along the Interstate 30 and Highway 67 area around 2-3 p.m.

"There was a line from about Texarkana to Hot Springs to Little Rock to Jonesboro, where the heaviest precipitation set up. Around 4 p.m. it started sleeting in central Arkansas and shortly after that it started sleeting in the Garland County

COUNTY, PAGE 2A

Red Cross teaches disaster preparedness

CAITLIN LAFARLETTE
The Sentinel-Record

Even though the winter storm that hammered much of Arkansas Wednesday has passed and winter is coming to a close, the American Red Cross still urges the public to stay informed about the weather.

"We are pushing messages to the public to stay informed and know what's coming their way," said Brigette Williams, regional communications director of American Red Cross.

Williams said Arkansas has skilled meteorologists and weather services, but downloading Red Cross applications can give additional knowledge of winter weather. With the Red Cross Tornado app, users can listen to radio stations broadcasting forecasts across the state, view weather radar maps and view and report power outages.

The First Aid app addresses the top 20 emergency situations that can happen to a person and how to treat certain injuries, such as cuts and burns.

Williams said that, during cold weather, the app can inform users how to recognize and treat hypothermia.

"With all of these apps, it's good information to look at while the sun is shining and you don't need it," she said.

Williams said it is important to always keep cellphones charged to have access to the applications, which have the information embedded so users don't need cellphone service to access it.

Aside from snow and ice, Williams said the Garland County area tends to get hit

RED CROSS, PAGE 3A

'Flipping lips'

Horse identifier keeps integrity a priority

EDITOR'S NOTE: A successful live race meet at Oaklawn Park depends on hundreds of employees working a variety of jobs, from making sure the horses are ready to run to ensuring that customers have a memorable day at the races. The Sentinel-Record today continues its weekly series spotlighting the workers who make Oaklawn a success.

BETH BRIGHT
The Sentinel-Record

For 20 years at Oaklawn Park, Walt Soes has been "flipping lips," ensuring that the right horses are in the right races and keeping the integrity of the industry a priority.

"It's a revolving door of paperwork, but it makes the day go by fast — there's never a lull here in the office,"

HORSE IDENTIFIER, PAGE 4A

Silent sentinels

The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

Snow-covered cars line a parking lot at Somerset Apartments on Files Road after 2.5 to 3 inches of snow and sleet fell on Garland County Wednesday night and Thursday morning.

HS native invited to SEC ceremony

JAY BELL
The Sentinel-Record

Hot Springs native and former Missouri Tiger Erika Cross represented her former college coach in a ceremony Thursday evening hosted by the Southeastern Conference at Verizon Arena in North Little Rock.

Former Missouri Coach Joann Rutherford was honored as an SEC Legend at the conference's women's basketball tournament. She was unable to attend

SEC, PAGE 3A

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Weather

SUNNY. HIGHS IN THE LOW 40S. LOWS IN THE LOW 20S.

SUNRISE: 6:36 A.M.
SUNSET: 6:12 P.M.

SATURDAY: HIGH 54° LOW 33°

SUNDAY: HIGH 54° LOW 34°

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