Finally, a Scoreboard report to discuss the actual scoreboard! In our last edition we began describing the amazing center-hung scoreboard hanging 95 feet above the playing field. This is the world’s first center-hung display in a stadium and the world’s largest light emitting diode (LED) display. The scoreboard is now in place and workers from Eastern Sign Tech of Burlington, New Jersey, are attaching the LED modules that comprise the four displays. Many LED modules contain 24 sets of 1024 individual red, green and blue LEDs. This means most modules contain a total 24,576 LEDs. There are two Sideline displays and two End Zone displays. Each Sideline display consists of 442 modules, measures 159’ 7” wide by 71’ 5” tall and contains over 10.5 million LEDs. Each End Zone display measures 50’ 5” wide by 28’ 7” tall and contains over 2 million LEDs in 56 modules. The sideline displays are full HDTV 1080p capable, while the smaller end zone displays will display HDTV at 1080i resolution.

You may be asking, “What does all this mean?” It means you will be able to watch a game, concert or any other event on a very large, high definition display rivaling anything on the market today.

(continued, next page)
Work on this extreme scoreboard started in August 2008 with the construction of the steel frame structure. The scoreboard frame was placed 6 feet off the ground on a pedestal allowing work on the underside. Once the frame was completed, the scoreboard was raised by four large hoists to its resting height 95 feet above the playing field on December 15, 2008.

Get Cowboys Stadium Updates!
View construction progress by accessing the live webcam on the City of Arlington’s website at www.ArlingtonTX.gov/Cowboys. This site contains the latest news on the development as well as announcements such as Super Bowl XLV to be played in Arlington in 2011. The Cowboys web page is your source for staying informed. ★
If you think your flat screen at home is impressive, wait till you see the action on this seamless, record-setting screen. The scoreboard will be tested and become operational and in May 2009. Each of the over 25 million individual LEDs was hand tested adhering to the rigorous quality control standards.

With approximately 80% percent of the project complete, the Cowboys Stadium remains on schedule for an August 2009 completion. To date, project costs have reached $813,991,728. Arlington has committed a total of $325 million.

The City’s portion of the total expenses as of February 20, 2009 is $324,419,783. The costs are paid out of a trust jointly controlled by the City of Arlington and the Cowboys.
Retractable Roof

The stadium roof is near completion and will cover 660,800 square feet, making it one of the largest domed structures in the world. The retractable panels will open or close in 12 minutes and can be seen from miles around.

End Zone Doors

Since this stadium is so large, you would expect everything else in the stadium to be big as well. So, let's talk about the large End Zone doors. At each end zone plaza, there are seven large doors that stand 120' tall and 30' wide. These doors are installed on a railroad track system, allowing them to open and close in just 18 minutes. The doors are completely covered with 5' x 9' panes of glass, letting natural light fill the stadium.

The scoreboard is so large that it covers the Cowboy's star at center field. To allow the star to be seen on TV as the blimp flies over the stadium, workers fabricated a star on top of the scoreboard.

Jan. 7, 2009

Workers fabricate the star atop the scoreboard.
Progress on the approximately 300 suites continues, with wall construction, plumbing, electrical and mechanical systems roughed in. Tile and carpet has been installed in most suites, along with refrigerators and sinks, providing all the comforts of home.

The black leather cushioned seats offer luxury to many patrons as they cheer their favorite team. Mock-ups of the flat screen TVs are temporarily in place to finalize design details.

Other amenities include a restroom for suite occupants, buffet for food service, and retractable glass windows that can be opened making the suite part of the crowd.

The push is on to have substantial completion of the Silver, Ring of Honor, and Star level suites by April 2009.
PHOTO gallery

Interior view from southwest corner

180° suite view
The Photo Gallery captures this quarter’s construction milestones. Photography courtesy of the City of Arlington and the Dallas Cowboys.
Did You Know?

In 1972, Tom Vandergriff and his father successfully lured the former Washington Senators major league baseball team to Arlington.

The Texas Rangers played in the old Turnpike Stadium immediately south of the former Dallas/Fort Worth Turnpike known today as I-30.

The 1990s brought a public/private partnership to build a new stadium for the team, which opened in 1994 as the Ballpark in Arlington. This combination of enterprises continues to make the entertainment industry one of the mainstays of Arlington’s economy.

Vandergriff Looks In on Stadium Progress

Tom Vandergriff got an up-close look at stadium construction progress last quarter. Wearing hard hat and safety gear, Vandergriff was accompanied by his son, Victor Vandergriff and Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck. During the tour, Vandergriff talked with photographers about the city he helped to build as the mayor of Arlington from 1951 to 1977. Vandergriff brought major league baseball to Arlington with the arrival of the Texas Rangers Baseball Team. He served one term in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1983 - 1985. In 2007, he retired as Tarrant County judge.

“I am so proud to see the growth and development that continues to occur in Arlington,” Vandergriff said. “The thing I prize the most is that I helped to develop a confidence, a spirit in Arlington that we could dream the big dream.”

The tour on Oct. 31 was led by Stadium Construction Manager Jack Hill. See more photo highlights at www.ArlingtonTX.gov click on Cowboys Stadium. ★

Tom Vandergriff tours stadium construction with Stadium Construction Manager Jack Hill and Arlington Mayor Robert Cluck.
All-Tex Pipe & Supply, Inc., has scored a winning touchdown with TDIndustries and the Cowboys Stadium project.

To date, the woman-owned distributor of pipe, valves and fittings has supplied more than $3 million in mechanical plumbing supplies for the new Stadium.

In business since 1973, the legacy of All-Tex can be seen throughout the Metroplex and with many projects in the Stemmons corridor, including the Anatole Hotel, World Trade Center and InfoMart.

The Ballpark in Arlington, DFW International Airport, American Airlines Center and now, the Cowboys Stadium, are by far the most notable, said All-Tex President Jill Hurd.

“Due to our long-term personal relationships with many great contractors and our experienced sales staff state-wide, we touch the majority of all projects ranging in size and scope,” Hurd said. “Corporate campuses, schools, hospitals, hotels, mixed-use facilities, we want to be involved in all of them.”

Today, All-Tex has an active customer base of over 1,300 mechanical, HVAC and plumbing contractors.

Hurd became President in 1989, after joining the company in 1983, which her parents founded. Her father’s untimely death in 1978 left her mother to run the business, with the help of the father and son team of Sonny and Mike Coltharp. Sonny has since retired, but Mike serves today as the senior vice president of sales. Rosie Brock Redden, Hurd’s mother, retired in 1998.

A small acquisition in 1999 spurred a growth strategy. Hurd’s husband, Dale Hurd, an 18-year corporate/oil and gas banker, joined the team in 2000 to help execute the growth. After nine years and two acquisitions, All-Tex has locations in Dallas, Fort Worth, San Antonio, Austin, Beaumont and Houston.

The company prides itself on building long-term personal relationships, maintaining high inventory and service levels, and providing creative solutions.

All-Tex is certified as a woman-owned business in both north and south Texas, as well as the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council. In 2008, All-Tex was the 14th largest women-owned business in the Metroplex and the 22nd largest PVF wholesaler in the nation. They were inducted into the PVF Hall of Fame in 2007, joining an exclusive group of only 17 distributors nationwide.

Learn more about All-Tex Pipe & Supply by visiting www.alltexsupply.com.
As the Dallas Cowboys put the final touches on the stadium, which is scheduled to be ready for this upcoming football season, they certainly have the environment in mind.

The Cowboys and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are teaming up in hopes of gaining recognition in the National Environmental Performance Track Programming. Since the early stages of construction on the stadium, which is scheduled to open in June, the Cowboys have added a host of environmental design, construction and operational initiatives. The strength of this program lies in its ongoing review process. This is not a one-time designation, but a continual effort on the part of the stadium to remain environmentally conscious in the years to come.

“The Dallas Cowboys are never content to rest on their laurels and follow the crowd in anything they do,” said former Arlington mayor Richard Greene, former Regional Administrator, EPA. “They want to lead the way and be the first. Their willingness to join a program which demands accountability, transparency, and continual improvement in performance underscores their desire to drive themselves to be the best at everything they do.”

Some of the specific environmental goals for the new stadium include reducing solid waste by 25 percent through recycling programs, reducing energy use by 20 percent and also trimming down the water use. Other efforts include grass reinforced parking that will not only reduce rainwater runoff but will also reduce the ground heat in the summer months.

“Proposing to complete green design initiatives is only the first step to true environmental footprint reduction,” said Jack Hill, Stadium General Manager for the Dallas Cowboys. “The challenge lies in capturing performance and cost savings, ensuring initiatives are effective, and always raising the bar. The EPA’s NEPT program gives us a framework to get it done.”
Build it, and they will walk. That’s the message being sent as new pedestrian bridges and trail improvements around the new Cowboys Stadium are being completed this spring.

New pedestrian bridges at Johnson Creek are scenic and recreational in nature.

In conjunction with $18 million in restoration activities occurring on Johnson Creek, improvements are being made to hike and bike trails along the creek’s corridor.

From Sanford Street to Randol Mill Road, winding hike and bike trails are being reconstructed, providing direct links to sidewalks and pathways in the Entertainment District.

From Randol Mill Road to Cowboys Way, pedestrians will soon enjoy the beauty and safety of lighted trails on the east and west side of the creek.

South of Randol Mill Road, a new 240-foot long bridge will link these trails together over the creek. South of Cowboys Way, the trail continues on the west side of Johnson Creek to Sanford Street.

These improvements are part of the Phase I restoration. They are great additions to the city’s thriving hike and bike trail system, according to Arlington Parks and Recreation officials. The improvements also compliment the environmental restoration occurring along 4,200 linear feet of Johnson Creek, between Sanford and Randol Mill Road.

Creek restoration includes new retaining walls to help curb erosion along the sharpest bends of the creek and the development of a vortex weir south of Randol Mill Road to slow the velocity of storm water and improve aquatic habitat.

Restoration also includes the planting of more than 2,000 new trees, 1,500 new shrubs and more than 15,000 native plants. Water conservation is a top priority with the implementation of an underground irrigation system.

The hike and bike trails provide residents and visitors with an opportunity to exercise. They also provide greater opportunities for social contact and interaction. Arlington Parks Director Pete Jamieson said amenities like this help to build an appreciation for the environment and a greater sense of community.

Mayor Robert Cluck likes the impact that walkability has on overall fitness for Arlington residents. Communities that make it easier for people to walk will end up with more active, healthier residents, he said.

End Zone continues on page 12 with street improvements update.

Pedestrian Improvements Make it Worth the Walk

This project is made possible by a partnership with the city’s Entertainment District and legislative support led by Congressman Joe Barton and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison. This project is also partially funded by Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone #5, which was established in 2008 for the purpose of investing in public infrastructure within the district.

Coming this spring: Planting more trees to make the pedestrian experience attractive for sight-seers.
Construction along Interstate 30 continues to make progress, with a projected completion in fall/winter 2010, just in time for Super Bowl XLV to be played at the new Cowboys Stadium.

This quarter, the Texas Department of Transportation opened a new segment of the eastbound frontage road between Cooper Street and Collins Street.

In early January, motorists on the eastbound frontage road east of Collins Street were switched to newly-completed pavement while reconstruction on the southern half of the frontage road continues.

Work began in December on the westbound frontage road west of the Center Street bridge. This section features a new entrance ramp for westbound I-30 traffic and a bridge over the Center Street exit ramp.

Bridge Beams
In January, the contractor began the installation of bridge beams. Construction of the bridge deck and a connection to the intersection on the north side of the Center Street bridge will begin soon. Work has recently started on the new sections of the westbound frontage road between Ballpark Way and FM 157/Collins Street.

Eastbound Lanes on I-30 Nearing Completion
The contractor, W.W. Webber, LLC, is completing the paving for the new I-30 permanent eastbound main lanes. When the ramps are completed between Cooper Street and Ballpark Way, I-30 east and westbound traffic will be moved over to this new pavement and work will begin by this summer to construct the westbound lanes and access ramps.

Bridge Work Continues
Construction continues on the three new bridges over I-30. Over the past three months, the Center Street bridge pedestrian shelter installation was completed. Work will continue this quarter on the aesthetic treatments to the bridge, walls and landscaping.

On the Baird Farm Road bridge, installation of new pavement and safety rails for the south half of the bridge has been completed. This southern half of the bridge will be open to traffic while the northern half is constructed. Westbound I-30 motorists will be able to exit to this bridge to access the Entertainment District.

Get more updates. Visit www.Keep30Moving.org before you go!

Before you go!
Register to receive e-mail alerts about I-30 construction and lane closures at www.Keep30Moving.org. This website also includes helpful links to www.Traffic.com, where you can check your drive time and access panoramic views of the area.

For more information about roadway improvement projects planned in the Entertainment District, call the City of Arlington Department of Public Works at 817.459.6550 or visit the City of Arlington website at www.ArlingtonTx.gov keyword search Entertainment District.