

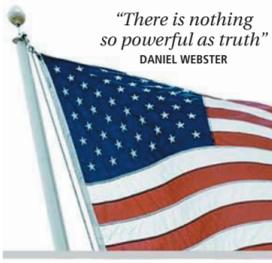
Quilts

They circle the globe | Page B1



WheelsNH.com

What's driving the direction-finder craze | Inside today



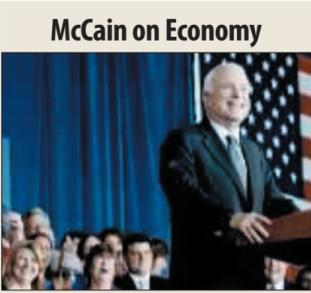
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McCain on Economy

ASSOCIATED PRESS
In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, yesterday, Sen. John McCain said he would fire the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission and create a special trust to help strengthen weak institutions. ▶ Page B9

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Drug sweep grows

City, county, state and federal officials yesterday said their cooperative anti-drug efforts have resulted in 32 drug-related arrests in the past three months, 18 of them this week. Many people arrested face multiple charges. "Some are higher up in the chain," Manchester Police Chief David Mara said. ▶ Page B1

Is it rocket science?

New tests suggest most middle and high school students in New Hampshire, and about half of the fourth-graders, do not do well in science. Results of the first New England Common Assessment Program science test for students in grades 4, 8, and 11 last spring, were released yesterday. ▶ Page B7

Parents fight on

Seeing Constantine Salce smiling in the arms of his parents, Dominic and Luciane Salce, a visitor couldn't know the 9-month-old has been diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy. The Salces hope to organize a fundraising concert to raise awareness about the disease and one day would like to see a New Hampshire celebrity or Congress members get involved in the fight. ▶ Page B1

Bridge to close down

The Sarah Long Bridge on Portsmouth's Route 1 Bypass will be closed Oct. 27 to Nov. 14, state transportation officials announced yesterday.

NATION & WORLD

No charges for Foley

Former U.S. Rep. Mark Foley isn't expected to face charges after a lengthy investigation into his lurid messages to underage congressional pages. ▶ Page A5

SPORTS

Oh, those wild cards

Boston entered last night with a magic number of four to clinch the wild-card spot, and the World Series defending champs could benefit from a wild-card, week-of-rest end of the regular season. ▶ Page D1

REGULAR FEATURES

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Today's Chuckle

You know the kids are growing up when you stop telling them bedtime stories and they start telling you stories of where they've been after you went to bed.

A Small Prayer

You won't let us go through the wrong door, Lord, when we consult You. Amen

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State trooper hits two bicyclists

◆ **Father, son:** Pair were riding in breakdown lane when cruiser struck them.

By LORNA COLQUHOUN
Union Leader Correspondent

JEFFERSON — A Maine doctor and his son bicycling along Route 115 yesterday morning were struck by a state police cruiser when it drifted off the roadway and into the breakdown lane where

they were riding, according to police. Both men are being treated at the Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon.

Timothy Clement, 25, of Orono, Maine, was reported in fair condition at Dartmouth-Hitchcock late yesterday. The condition of his father, Dr. David

Clement, 57, also of Orono, was not disclosed.

Sgt. Todd Cohen, a 16-year state police veteran, was at the wheel of the cruiser. He was not injured.

According to State Police Sgt. Todd Landry, who is investigating the accident along with the technical accident reconstruction team, the collision took place "just after a curve" on the road.

Cohen was providing an escort for one truck that was transporting a mod-



DAVID CLEMENT

ular prison cell bound for the federal prison under construction in Berlin. Landry said Cohen was driving ahead of the truck. Both the cruiser and truck were northbound.

The Clements were bicycling in the northbound breakdown
▶ See **Trooper**, Page A8

FINANCIAL TURMOIL CONTINUES



ASSOCIATED PRESS
Trader Turlough Seagrave, left, works with specialist Gregory Gravalis, center, at the post that trades Citigroup on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange yesterday. Stocks rebounded from Wednesday's massive rout, but safe assets such as gold and Treasury bills still saw heavy demand as investors braced for more instability in the financial system.

A solution to the crisis?

◆ **Talks ongoing:** Plan calls for Congress to give administration power to buy distressed bank assets.

By PATRICK RIZZO
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The stock market finally found reason to rally yesterday, and Congress promised quick action as the Bush administration prepared a plan to rescue banks from the bad debt at the heart of the worst crisis on Wall Street since the Great Depression.

Details of the plan were still being

worked out, but Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson emerged from a nighttime meeting on Capitol Hill to say he hoped to have a solution "aimed right at the heart of this problem."

As word of a government plan began to reach Wall Street earlier in the day, the Dow Jones industrial average jumped 410 points, its biggest percentage gain in nearly six years. The rebound also came after an infu-

▶ See **Wall Street**, Page A2

More in Business

Stock prices: Dow Jones industrials surge 410 points

—Page B3

T-Bills: Investors are buying them up.

—Page B3

Speed dating: Bankers on New York's Wall Street enter a new round.

—Page B4

Pension funds for workers take a hit

◆ **\$500 million:** State fund's loss will affect costs borne by towns and school districts.

By TOM FAHEY
State House Bureau Chief

CONCORD — The value of the state's public pension fund has declined by roughly \$500 million during the last three months of market turmoil, and stood at \$5.1 billion yesterday, a leading New Hampshire Retirement System board member said.

Wall Street upheaval has taken its toll, despite the effort NHRS makes to diversify its assets across a range of bonds, stocks, real estate and other investments.

NHRS reported its pension fund was at \$5.9 billion on July 1, 2007, when a new fiscal year started, according to Sen. Harold Janeway, D-Webster, an investment professional the Senate appointed to the NHRS board. The total loss over the last 14 months came to \$800 million by yesterday morning.

The Dow Jones Industrial average gained more than 400 points yesterday, rebuilding from some of this week's sizeable losses, and highlighting the importance of taking a long view of investments meant to provide long-term benefits.

Janeway said the fact that NHRS' overall performance is averaged over a five-year period will minimize the effect of the loss. The so-called five-year smoothing "cushions the impact of dramatic swings in value such as this one," he said. "Even though the numbers are big, impact on this total pension pool is very small."

The pension fund's value fell 7.4 percent in
▶ See **Pension**, Page A2



SEN. JANEWAY

Embassy explosion rocks Kingston dad

◆ **Son in Marines:** Adam Johnson, stationed in Yemen, turned out to be safe and sound.

By JASON SCHREIBER
Union Leader Correspondent

KINGSTON — Joel Johnson's heart sank when he got the call.

It was early Wednesday morning and the Kingston police detective hadn't turned on the news yet, but the police chief had.

Chief Donald Briggs Jr. saw the news report about several people dead in a bombing at the U.S. embassy in Yemen. He knew that Johnson's son, Adam, was a U.S. Marine assigned to security at the embassy in Sana'a, Yemen.

"I turned the news on and was trying to find out — was it
▶ See **Marine**, Page A8

Ex-fiancee remembers raid

◆ **Men in black:** She said nighttime rendezvous ended in gunfire.

By TRENT SPINER
Union Leader Correspondent



TRENT SPINER
Erica Blais, a chemist with the Mass. State Police Crime Lab, holds up a glove found in the same dump truck as Jack Reid Sr.'s body in July 2005.

BRENTWOOD — Jesse Brooks was enraged at his father, John "Jay" Brooks, after he was shot at during a failed attempt on the life of a Derry handyman in 2003, Laura Eori testified yesterday.

"I almost just got killed because of you," Jesse Reid shouted at his father, Eori said.

Eori was engaged to Jesse Brooks in 2003 when he went with three other men — including his father — to the trailer home of Jack Reid Sr. in north Londonderry. The elder Brooks thought Reid stole a number of personal items from a moving truck he helped pack, including an urn containing ashes of a relative, Eori said. Fed up with his father's unconfirmed
▶ See **Brooks**, Page A8