

The Show Goes On

B6 Donors chip in to save outdoor sculpture exhibition in downtown Lakeland after city funding dries up.



Longoria Hits 3 Homers, But Rays Still Lose, 11-8



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LAKELAND, FLORIDA | FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2008 | WWW.THELEDGER.COM | 50 CENTS

Stocks Fly After Feds Form Bank-Saving Plan

By **PATRICK RIZZO, JEANNINE AVERSA & MARTIN CRUTSINGER**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON | The stock market finally found reason to rally Thursday, 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 infusion of billions of dollars by the Federal Reserve and world governments aimed at getting nervous banks to stop hoarding money and lend again.

Stocks had fluctuated throughout the day, without severe swings in either direction, until CNBC reported the administration might back a new agency to take bad assets off the books of struggling financial institutions.

[PLEASE SEE WALL STREET, A11]

WALL STREET SPRINGS BACK

DOW UP +410.03
11,019.69 | +3.86%

S&P 500 UP +50.12
1,206.51 | +4.33%

NASDAQ UP +100.25
2,199.10 | +4.78%

★ ★ ★ ELECTION 2008 PRESIDENT ★ ★ ★

THE FIGHT FOR THE WHITE HOUSE | ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 4



DAMON WINTER | THE NEW YORK TIMES

DEMOCRATIC PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois talks with diners at the Range Cafe in Bernalillo, N.M., on Thursday. Obama is scheduled to visit Miami today.

Economy Is Latest Arena For McCain, Obama Fight

Both candidates are unveiling plans they say will help U.S. economy to recover.

★ ★ ★ ELECTION 2008

■ PALIN AT VILLAGES

Republican vice-presidential candidate Gov. Sarah Palin will hold a rally at The Villages on Sunday.

PAGE B1

■ OBAMA IN FLORIDA

Sen. Barack Obama will be in Miami today as part of his campaign for president.

PAGE A8

■ BONUS COVERAGE

www.theledger.com/elections



By **JACKIE CALMES & JEFF ZELENY**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON | The financial crisis has turned the race between Sens. John McCain and Barack Obama into an audition for who could best handle a national economic emergency.

McCain, the Republican nominee for president, called on President Bush on Thursday to dismiss the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Christopher Cox, a former Republican congressman and a Bush appointee.

McCain, who early in the week seemed to struggle to



MCCAIN

find a consistent message on the economy, also proposed creating a new government body to relieve struggling financial institutions of some bad debt

in hopes of keeping them solvent. A similar approach was being considered Thursday night by the Bush administration and congressional leaders.

McCain is expected to lay

[PLEASE SEE **ECONOMY, A8**]

"I am happy to see there is closure in this case. The final man who pulled the trigger will spend his life in prison."

HAINES CITY POLICE CHIEF MORRIS WEST

Officer's Killer Gets Life Term

Prosecutors said they sought harshest possible sentence for Charles Fowler, who shot Christopher Horner in 1998.

By **JASON GEARY**
THE LEDGER

TAMPA | Charles Andrew Fowler was sentenced Thursday to life in prison plus a consecutive term of 10 years for fatally shooting Haines City police Officer Christopher Todd Horner in 1998.

Fowler received a mandatory sentence under the law. He declined to speak before his punishment was imposed.

His lawyer, Stephen Crawford, told U.S. District Judge James S. Moody Jr. that the judge had no ability to grant Fowler mercy.

Speaking would be pointless, he said.

"There is nothing we can say," Crawford said. "You have to follow the law."

Crawford did request Fowler be sent to a prison near Polk County to accommodate his family. The judge agreed to make such a recommendation to prison officials.

A jury found Fowler, 29, of Haines City, whose nickname is "Man," guilty June 17 on two federal charges related to the execution-style slaying of Horner.

Federal prosecutors said they sought the harshest possible punishment for Fowler.

"This was an extremely tragic case," said Steve Cole, a spokesman for the U.S.



HORNER

Attorney's Office. "But, under federal guidelines, it did not meet the standards for the death penalty."

Horner's mother, Carol Mitchell, his sister and his 19-year-old daughter were present for the sentencing hearing.

None spoke during the hearing. Mitchell did not wish to comment afterward.

Haines City Police Chief

Morris West, who was a lieutenant at the time of the shooting, said he hoped Horner's family would find closure.

West is a cousin to Fowler and

Robert "Pumpkin" Winston, another man who has been convicted of participating in Horner's death.

When asked whether he felt torn during the sentencing hearing because Fowler is a relative, West replied, "He is a relative, but you can't pick your relatives."

[PLEASE SEE **FOWLER, A10**]

U.S. SUGAR CORP. PURCHASE

Florida Dynasty Stands to Profit as State Buys Rival

By **MARY WILLIAMS WALSH**
THE NEW YORK TIMES

In June, Gov. Charlie Crist announced that Florida would buy one of the state's two big sugar enterprises, the United States Sugar Corp. He billed the purchase as a "jump-start" in the environmental restoration of the Everglades, which cane growers are accused of polluting with fertilizer runoff.

But in the end, the \$1.7 billion buyout, scheduled to be completed in early 2009, may also prove to be a financial boon to the state's remaining sugar superpower, Florida Crystals.

One of the country's

wealthiest families, the Fanjuls of Palm Beach, controls Florida Crystals and today touches virtually every aspect of the sugar trade in the U.S.

If you buy Domino Sugar, you're buying from the Fanjuls. Ditto C&H Sugar. (That name stands for California & Hawaii, but the Florida Fanjuls acquired it in 2005.) National retailers prefer dealing with coast-to-coast vendors, so if you buy a bag of sugar at Wal-Mart, Kroger or Safeway, you're also patronizing the Fanjuls.

Take a pill, eat a granola

[PLEASE SEE **SUGAR, A6**]

MOZART'S ENCORE



DAVID VINCENT | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JEAN-LOUIS JOSSIC, vice-mayor of Nantes, France, displays a previously unknown piece of music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart on Thursday. The single sheet of music was discovered in a library as its staff went through archives. Researchers say there is no doubt the music was written by Mozart. **Story, A10.**

MODIFIED FOODS

Next on Your Plate: 'Super Chicken'

By **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON | Super Chicken strutted a step closer to the dinner table Thursday.

The government said it will start considering proposals to sell genetically engineered animals as food, a move that could lead to faster-growing fish, cattle that can resist mad cow disease or perhaps heart-healthier eggs laid by a new breed of chickens.

[PLEASE SEE **CHICKEN, A11**]

INSIDE

Advice **B9** | Lottery **B3**
Comics **G2** | Nation **A4**
Editorial **A12** | Obituaries **B4**

People **B7** | Scores **C4**
Polk Pulse **B3** | State **B5**
Puzzles **G2** | World **A3**

LOW 70 | HIGH 88

Periods of clouds and sun today with a shower or thunderstorm in the afternoon. **Weather B10**



TIP OF THE DAY

Impulse. Lakeland. A Music on the Promenade Concert Series event. 6-9 p.m. Free. Lake Mirror Amphitheatre. **834-6264**



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