

UALR, Arkansas Tech lose

State's final representatives in basketball's postseason sent packing. — Sports, 1C



Fallout for Google

Hong Kong-based site has some results barred in mainland China. — Business, 1D

Arkansas Democrat Gazette

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In the news

■ **Jim Brenneman**, president of Mennonite-affiliated Goshen College, which had never played "The Star-Spangled Banner" because of concerns that the song's images of war conflicted with the school's pacifist beliefs, said the Indiana college has played the national anthem at a sporting event for the first time as part of an effort to make students and visitors outside the faith feel more welcome.

■ **Sylvester Jiles**, 25, a Cocoa, Fla., man who tried to break into the Brevard County jail a week after his release after accepting a plea deal on a manslaughter charge, has been sentenced to 15 years in prison for trespassing on jail property and resisting an officer.

■ **Trinette Robinson**, 11, of Bristol, Conn., defeated eight other children, ages 6 to 16, to win the 35th annual National Odor-Eaters Rotten Sneaker contest in Montpelier, Vt.

■ **Heinrich Boere**, 88, who was No. 6 on the Simon Wiesenthal Center's list of most-wanted Nazis, has been convicted by a German court of murdering three Dutch civilians as part of a Nazi hit squad during World War II and has been sentenced to life in prison in the 1944 killings.

■ **James Delayo**, 61, New York City's former chief crane inspector, has pleaded guilty to receiving more than \$10,000 in bribes to fake inspection and crane operator licensing-exam results.

■ **Former Gov. Jon Corzine**, a New Jersey Democrat who lost his reelection bid last year, has been named the new CEO and chairman of Wall Street options and futures firm MF Global Holdings Ltd., and will also be a visiting professor at Princeton University during the 2010-11 academic year.

■ **Iman bin Laden**, Osama bin Laden's 18-year-old daughter who had been living at the Saudi embassy in Tehran for months after she escaped the Iranian guards who had kept her under house arrest since her family fled Afghanistan in 2001, has arrived in Syria to live with her mother, family members said.

■ **Irina Denisova**, a professor at the New Economic School in Moscow, said school research shows that low Russian taxes on vodka, which carries a government-approved minimum price of \$3 for a half-liter bottle, have encouraged heavy drinking.

■ **Hasan Lahouti**, the grandson of Iran's influential former President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, has been released on bond, said a Tehran prosecutor.

WEATHER

LITTLE ROCK
 Today Partly cloudy.
 High 73 with south-southeast winds at 5 to 10 mph.
 Tonight Showers and thunderstorms.
 Low 54.



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Obama signs historic health law



President Barack Obama sits for the signing of the bill to overhaul the nation's health-care system Tuesday at the White House.

AP/J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE

He declares new season in America

JANE FULLERTON
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama signed into law Tuesday the largest expansion of health care in more than 40 years, declaring that it would "mark a new season in America" by providing access to those who lack it and improving coverage for those who have it while reining in insurance industry practices and federal budget deficits.

"Today, we are affirming that essential truth — a truth every generation is called to rediscover for itself — that we are not a nation that scales back its aspirations," he said before putting his signature on the measure. "We are not a nation that falls prey to doubt or mistrust. We don't fall prey to fear. We are not a nation that does what's easy. That's not who we are. That's not how we got here."

Acknowledging the rancorous atmosphere surrounding the year-long debate, Obama told the dozens of lawmakers and others gathered at the White House that this nation faces its challenges and accepts its responsibilities.

"We have now just enshrined, as soon as I sign this bill, the core principle that everybody should have some basic security when it comes to their health care," he said.

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7 MINUTES later, law target of suit. Page 6A.

OBAMA'S ARKANSAS health-care guests happy. Page 6A.

GOP Senate hopefuls weigh in

Seekers of Lincoln's seat say they'd vote to repeal health law

SETH BLOMELEY
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

Republican U.S. Senate candidates in Arkansas said Tuesday that they opposed health-care legislation President Barack Obama signed into law and would vote to repeal it.

One, Jim Holt of Springdale, called it a "tyrannical infringement of our freedom." He urged "civil disobedience" if the law is not overturned.

U.S. Sen. Blanche Lincoln, D-Ark., on the other hand, attended the signing ceremony at the White House.

"Today is a momentous day for Arkansas' families and small businesses who

33 GOP LAWMAKERS query McDaniel on health law. Page 7A.

will immediately benefit from this legislation," said Lincoln, whose Senate seat the Republicans are seeking.

As evidence, she said that because of the legislation: ■ 50,000 Arkansas small businesses with 260,000 employees will be eligible for a tax credit if the businesses provide coverage for their employees.

■ 709,968 children in Arkansas won't have to worry about being banned from coverage by insurance companies for having any pre-existing condition.

■ Nearly 175,000 Arkansans on Medicare could save up to \$1,700 a year thanks to the legislation's reducing a gap in prescription-drug coverage from Medicare.

■ 262,664 young adults in Arkansas can stay on their parents' insurance plans.

State Sen. Kim Hendren of Gravette, one of the Republicans running for the U.S. Senate, said he would vote for repeal if he were "voting today." But he urged caution on such a course.

"This bill has some good things in it," Hendren said. "We don't want to throw the baby out with the bath water."

Hendren said the bill will prevent insurance companies from "making rates way out of sight or disqualifying you" from coverage and bars companies from "canceling people without any notice."

U.S. Rep. John Boozman, R-Ark., voted against the health-care bill Sunday and favors repealing it.

"This is a sad day for America when the president signs into law legislation the majority of Americans oppose," Boozman, also a U.S. Senate hopeful, said. "It is unfortunate that President Obama, [U.S. House] Speaker [Nancy] Pelosi [D-Calif.] and

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Injunction for center 'sabotage,' state says

AMY UPSHAW
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The U.S. Department of Justice's request for a federal judge to halt admissions at the Conway Human Development Center is a "transparent" attempt to circumvent the trial process and "sabotage" efforts by Arkansas lawyers to defend the center, a motion filed late Tuesday in federal court said.

The motion filed on behalf of the state Department of Human Services was in response to a request for a preliminary injunction filed March 9 by the Justice Department.

In seeking an injunction to halt admission of children to the Conway facility, the Justice Department said the state-run center presents an "imminent and serious threat of harm" to the people living there.

"All of the information relied on by [the Justice Department] in its motion has been available ... for months and, in many instances, years," attorneys Thomas B. York and Lori Freno wrote on the state's behalf.

"If [the Justice Department] believed a preliminary injunction was warranted on the basis of these facts, then it would have been negligent or derelict in protecting the residents of [the Conway facility] to delay its request until March of this year," the motion said.

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Bloomberg News/JOSHUA ROBERTS

Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner testifies about the U.S. housing-finance system Tuesday in Washington, where he said, "I have not seen an ideal model yet to replace this current system."

Mortgage giants need repair, says Geithner

Redefine U.S. involvement, he urges

DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE PRESS SERVICES

U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner on Tuesday called for an end to the "ambiguity" over the government's involvement in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and endorsed a need to redesign federal guarantees in housing finance.

In September 2008, the government seized control of Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac — large companies that purchase home loans, package them into investments and guarantee them against default. Since then,

EXISTING-HOME SALES fall again. Page 1D.

the government has pumped a combined \$126 billion into the companies to keep them afloat.

"I have not seen an ideal model yet to replace this current system," Geithner said in testimony before the House Financial Services Committee. "But we're going to have to take a careful look at how to design a better form of guarantee and support that

See **MORTGAGES**, Page 5A

Mint debuts Hot Springs park quarter design

2-bit piece, first in series, to showcase fountain, headquarters on 'tails' side

JOHN KRUPA
 ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE

The U.S. Mint unveiled the design of a quarter on Tuesday that recognizes Hot Springs National Park as the first land that the federal government set aside for preservation.

The coin is the first installment of the America the Beautiful Quarters Program, an initiative honoring national sites such as parks, forests and wildlife refuges in all 50 states, five U.S. territories and the District of Columbia.

The U.S. Mint will release 56 quarters — five new designs per year and one in 2021 — in the order in which the featured sites were first preserved by the government.

The Hot Springs Reservation — what later became Hot Springs National Park — was set aside for preservation on April 20, 1832. That's 40 years before Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming got federal recognition in 1872.

U.S. Mint Director Ed Moy said Tuesday that the new coin should net great exposure for the region.

"Hot Springs National Park is No. 1 in the series," he said. "Because of that, millions of Americans — maybe hundreds of millions of Americans — will be introduced to Hot Springs and Arkansas for the first time."

The Hot Springs coin will picture the facade of the Hot Springs National Park headquarters.

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Special to the Democrat-Gazette/U.S. MINT

A coin recognizing Hot Springs National Park will be the first of 56 quarters honoring national parks, forests and wildlife refuges.

