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WEDNESDAY
March 24, 2010

THE NEWS
TODAY

LOCAL

Residents weigh in on public safety

Colorado Springs police said closing a substation and reducing staff through attrition are on the table for the department's 2011 budget. **A3**

BRONCOS

Coach says Orton will be starting QB

Josh McDaniels ended speculation that Brady Quinn would take over. **B1**

TIP JAR

Grand-opening celebration

Ruffing It, 5928 Stetson Hills Blvd., No. 120, is holding a grand opening Saturday, with free agility and rally obedience demonstrations, half-price dog washes and free samples of dog food and treats. More information: www.ruffing-it.com.

Times are tough.

Know of a great bargain, helpful job resource or clever way to save money? E-mail bill.radford@gazette.com.

FOOD

Local Lebanese cook keeps it real

The chef shares recipes from her homeland. **Food 1**

HEALTH

Apostles get more and more supper

Scholars studying portion size found ever-growing food servings in depictions of the Last Supper. **A6**

NATION

CSI: Crime scene incrimination

A judge convicted an investigator of planting a victim's blood to frame innocent suspects. **A7**

U.S. anthem new to pacifist college

Most in Goshen's baseball stands didn't seem to mind the wartime hymn. **A10**

WEATHER, B8

High 32 • Low 17

Heavy, wet snow and gusty wind. Stay home if you can.



Vol. 139 • No. 1
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COMMUNITY CENTERS

ROLE OF RELIGION RAISES CONCERNS

Nonprofit linked to church proposes to run center

BY DANIEL J. CHACÓN
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Woodmen Valley Chapel, one of the biggest evangelical churches in Colorado Springs, is trying to calm

concerns that it would infuse religion into Westside Community Center if it takes over operations.

A nonprofit associated with the church submitted

a three-year proposal to run the center, 1628 W. Bijou St., after the city issued a plea for private partners this year to avoid closing the center and three others because of budget cuts.

Details of the proposal are

under wraps because of negotiations, but news of the church's involvement raised concern that it would push its religion at the center.

"I have nothing against the Bible, but churches should not take over community

centers because it gives the appearance that the city is supporting religion," Springs resident Joe Barrera said.

Jan Doran, a church member and community activist,

SEE CENTERS • PAGE 2

HEALTH CARE ANALYSIS



After a century of striving, after a year of debate, after a historic vote, health care reform is no longer an unmet promise. It is the law of the land." PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA - after signing the measure



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

With friends and allies looking on, President Barack Obama signed a health care overhaul into law Tuesday during a White House ceremony.

SPIN DOCTORING

OBAMA'S STRATEGY: Persuade Americans, protect at-risk Democrats
GOP'S BATTLE PLAN: Win at the polls, then reverse historic legislation

BY JENNIFER LOVIN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON • Even with victory in hand, President Barack Obama can't put health care to rest.

He still has to sell skeptical Americans on the benefits of the massive overhaul that Congress finally approved while trying to save the political skins of fellow Democrats who put their jobs in jeopardy by voting with him.

The White House's chief goal after the health care debate was change the focus to jobs and populist issues, all intended to be music to the ears of Americans suffering from high unemployment and a limping economic recovery.

That remains the case, but the health overhaul is bound to be a major issue through the November elections and beyond.

Despite the year of caustic debate, Obama emerged with a stronger hand.

The cliffhanger House vote that approved the overhaul is one of those presidential achievements with multiple side benefits: fresh clout in a capital that worships winners; bragging rights on a prime promise kept — a historymaking, country-changing one at that; praise for presidential perseverance against daunting odds; and a respite from talk of a mired presidency.

It was news so good that Obama invited dozens of aides to the Truman Balcony for an after-midnight champagne celebration. Senior adviser David Axelrod said

SEE HEALTH • PAGE 8

WATER

SPIGOT TO RESERVOIR COULD BE OPENED SOON

BY R. SCOTT RAPPOLD
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It's been a dry winter for much of the mountains, the source of Colorado Springs' drinking water, with statewide snowpack at 86 percent of average as of Tuesday.

But don't worry about watering restrictions this summer. Colorado Springs' reservoirs are doing fine, at 77 percent of capacity.

Pueblo Reservoir, a major source of the city's water, is at its highest level in a decade. In a state with a fierce tradition of jealously guarding every drop of water, billions of gallons — not belonging to Colorado Springs — may soon be released unused down the Arkansas River.

"We've had a fairly wet year (in southeast Colorado), so the

SEE WATER • PAGE 2

WEATHER



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The 16th Street Mall in downtown Denver as a powerful storm pushed through the area.

LATE STORM HAMMERS THE PIKES PEAK REGION

Interstate 25 and stretches of Interstate 70 were closed

BY CARLYN RAY MITCHELL
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A spring storm dumped massive amounts of snow fast and heavy across the state Tuesday night, with commutes in Colorado Springs a slow slog through wet, sloppy snow.

Interstate 25 was closed from Lincoln Avenue in Denver to Monument, the Colorado Department

of Transportation said. The northbound Interstate 25 off-ramp at Baptist Road was also closed.

As of 10 p.m., 5 to 8 inches of snow had fallen in Colorado Springs, according to the National Weather Service in Pueblo. Another 2 to 4 inches, and more in Monument, were expected be-

SEE STORM • PAGE 6

CALENDAR > B5

BUSINESS > IN SPORTS

NATION & WORLD > A6

OBITUARIES > A12

OPINION > A13

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