

March Madness

C2 Ohio State, Kansas, Duke and Pittsburgh named top seeds in NCAA basketball tournament.



Worsham Wins Gatornationals C6

Study Finds Telecommuting Moms Feel Guilty, Too B6

The Ledger

87 YEARS • 1924-2011 • POLK COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

LAKELAND, FLORIDA | MONDAY, MARCH 14, 2011 | WWW.THELEDGER.COM | 75 CENTS

Lack of Consensus Hampers Stricter Immigration Laws

Bills to penalize those in U.S. illegally advancing slowly.

By JULIA PRESTON
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Under newly fortified Republican control, many state governments started the year pledging forceful action to crack down on illegal immigration, saying they would fill a void left by the stalemate in Washington over the issue.

Now, with some legislatures winding down their sessions, the lack of consensus that has immobilized Congress has shown up in the legislatures as well and has slowed — but not stopped — the advance of bills to penalize illegal immigrants.

No state has passed a law that replicates the one adopted last April in Arizona, which greatly expanded the powers of police officers to question the immigration status of people they stop.

Still, immigrant advocates in many states say the debate has clearly shifted in favor of tougher enforcement. They say they have had to fight just to hold the line on immigration issues they thought were long settled.

Bills similar to Arizona's are advancing in Florida, Kansas, Oklahoma and South

[PLEASE SEE IMMIGRATION, A5]

DISCIPLINING 1-YEAR-OLDS

Study: Spanking, Down Dads Tied

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHICAGO | Just like new moms, new fathers can be depressed, and a study found a surprising number of sad dads spanked their 1-year-olds.

About 40 percent of depressed fathers in a survey said they'd spanked kids that age, versus just 13 percent of fathers who weren't depressed. Most dads also had had recent contact with their children's doctors — a missed opportunity to get help, authors of the study said.

The American Academy of Pediatrics and many child development experts warn against spanking children of any age. Other studies have shown that kids who are spanked are at risk of being physically abused and becoming aggressive themselves.

The researchers said spanking is especially troubling in children who are only 1, because they could get injured and they "are unlikely to understand the connection between their behavior and subsequent punishment."

[PLEASE SEE DADS, A5]

RADIOACTIVE RELEASES CONTINUE | DEATHS MAY SURPASS 10,000



GREGORY BULL | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Japan Nuclear Woes May Last



ABOVE, PEOPLE WALK AMID THE RUBBLE in Rikuzentakata, Iwate prefecture, northern Japan, on Sunday, two days after a powerful, earthquake-triggered tsunami hit the country's east coast. At top, an official wears protective clothing as he waits to scan people for radiation Sunday at an emergency center in Koriyama.

Experts: Radioactive releases from plants could go on for weeks or months.

By DAVID E. SANGER & MATTHEW L. WALD
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON | As the scale of Japan's nuclear crisis begins to come to light, experts in Japan and the United States say the country is now facing a cascade of accumulating problems that suggest that radioactive releases of steam from the crippled plants could go on for weeks or even months.

The emergency flooding of two stricken reactors with seawater and the resulting steam releases are a desperate step intended to avoid a much bigger problem: a full meltdown of the nuclear cores in two reactors at the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Station. So far, Japanese officials have said the melting of the nuclear cores in the two plants is assumed to be "partial," and the amount of radioactivity measured outside the plants, though twice the level Japan considers safe, has been relatively modest.

But Pentagon officials reported Sunday that helicopters flying 60 miles from the plant picked up small amounts of radioactive particulates — still being analyzed, but presumed to include Cesium-137 and Iodine-121 — suggesting widening environmental contamination. In a country where memories of a nuclear horror of a different sort in the last days of World War II weigh heavily on the national psyche and national politics, the impact of continued venting of long-lasting radioactivity from the plants is hard to overstate.

Japanese reactor operators now have little choice but to periodically release radioactive steam until the radioactive elements in the fuel of the stricken reactors stop gener-

Residents Near Stricken Plants Felt Safe

By MICHAEL WINES
THE NEW YORK TIMES

KORIYAMA, Japan | When the earthquake and tsunami struck on Friday, Kumiko Fukaya ignored that afternoon's evacuation order and instead gathered up her teenage son and daughter, her mother and her older sister. Afraid to sleep in the house, they spent the night in her blue 2010 Toyota hatchback.

And when loudspeakers hung throughout the town blared another

call for evacuation at 7:30 a.m. Saturday — this time citing problems at nuclear reactors just a few miles near her home, she was similarly skeptical. "I didn't think it was a big deal," said Fukaya, 48. "I thought, 'Maybe I should stay.'"

Her hometown of Tomioka is about 12 miles from one of the crippled plants, the Daiichi Fukushima Nuclear Power Station; the other plant with troubled reactors, Daini, is just three miles away.

But by 8 a.m., she said, Tomioka's narrow streets were jammed with autos in orderly retreat. She loaded the family into the Toyota, spent an hour in town hunting for gasoline, went to a school for a radiation check and eventually arrived at Koriyama Kita Technical High School, where about 70 refugees from towns near the reactors were gathered in a makeshift evacuation

[PLEASE SEE EVACUATION, A4]

[PLEASE SEE JAPAN, A4]

MONDAY PROFILE | CHRIS SUSSINGHAM

Polk Lacrosse Pioneer a 'True Professional'

By LISA COFFEY
THE LEDGER

LAKELAND
A young Chris Sussingham sat in a Duke University counselor's office, eager to transfer to the College of Engineering.

He wanted to be a pilot and an astronaut, and engineering would be a better path than sociology.

"I don't see that happening," the counselor said. "You don't have the math background."

"I can get it," Sussingham said.

But the counselor sent Sussingham to the registrar with course suggestions for sociology.

Teary-eyed, instead of going to sign up for classes, Sussingham headed for the restroom.

There, he broke out an eraser. He kept the counselor's signature on his future class form and changed the classes to the ones he wanted.

"That got me another semester," he said. "I was flying under the radar."

Sussingham, 50, has done a lot of flying, but not much

of it was under the radar. His life seems one part movie, one part fairy tale.

■ He was high school homecoming king and his school's top male athlete.

■ He earned an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point but instead went to Duke, where he was captain of the lacrosse team.

■ His first date with wife, Robin, was on Valentine's Day, and when he proposed, unplanned fireworks went off.

■ He later became a U.S. Air

Force pilot, instructor and test pilot and served a stint in the Royal Air Force.

But his story also is one of persistence.

"It was hard," he said. "Nothing came easy for me. I had to work at it all."

And now he's got a new mission. Some might call him the father of lacrosse in Polk County for creating the first high school and youth programs.

"He may very well be the

[PLEASE SEE SUSSINGHAM, A5]



SCOTT WHEELER | THE LEDGER

CHRIS SUSSINGHAM works with students recently at youth lacrosse practice at All Saints' Academy in Winter Haven. He has been a U.S. Air Force pilot, instructor and test pilot.



INSIDE

Advice	B8	Life	B6	Obituaries	B5	State	B4
Comics	G2	Lottery	B3	Polk Pulse	B3	TV, Puzzles	G2
Editorial	A8	Nation	A2	Scores	C5	World	A2

LOW 48 | HIGH 81
Pleasant and sunny today.
Partly cloudy tonight.
Weather B10



TIP OF THE DAY

Project VetAssist (www.vetassist.org) is a free guide for veterans or their survivors applying for the VA Improved Pension program.



online now | Find out what you might have missed during the weekend.
www.theledger.com