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Weather

Today: Mostly sunny; high 66.
Tonight: Clear skies; low 44.
Full report, Page 5A

Inside today

What's for dessert?

Find out which longtime favorite Topeka restaurant reopened its doors Monday.
Today, Page 2A

Go online to Food+Flicks for more photographs from this eatery and other exclusive content about Topeka restaurants.
food.topeka.net



Robertson Cup

The Topeka RoadRunners take on the Fairbanks Ice Dogs tonight in the first round of tournament play.
Sports, Page 1B



Recycling

The Shawnee County Commission defers action on the merger of recycling, refuse departments.
Today, Page 2A

Coming up



Just for Mom

Make your mom a great Mother's Day breakfast without the guilt.
Wednesday in Flavor

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HUNT FOR BIN LADEN

Courier phone call led to bin Laden



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this image released by the White House and digitally altered by the source to diffuse the paper in front of Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, President Barack Obama and Vice President Joe Biden, along with members of the national security team, on Sunday are updated on the mission against Osama bin Laden in the Situation Room of the White House.

Key to leader's vulnerability was his messengers

By Adam Goldman and Matt Apuzzo
 THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — When one of Osama bin Laden's most trusted aides picked up the phone last year, he unknowingly led U.S. pursuers to the doorstep of his boss, the world's most wanted terrorist. That phone call, recounted Monday by a U.S. official, ended a years-long search for bin Laden's personal courier, the key break in a worldwide manhunt. The courier, in turn, led U.S. intelligence to a walled compound in northeast Pakistan, where a team of Navy

SEALS shot bin Laden to death. The violent final minutes were the culmination of years of intelligence work. Inside the CIA team hunting bin Laden, it always was clear that bin Laden's vulnerability was his couriers. He was too smart to let al-Qaida foot soldiers, or even his senior commanders, know his hideout. But if he wanted to get his messages out, somebody had to carry them, someone bin Laden trusted with his life. In a secret CIA prison in Eastern Europe years ago, al-Qaida's No. 3 leader, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, gave authorities the nicknames of several of bin Laden's couriers, four former U.S. intelligence officials

said. Those names were among thousands of leads the CIA was pursuing. One man became a particular interest for the agency when another detainee, Abu Faraj al-Libi, told interrogators that when he was promoted to succeed Mohammed as al-Qaida's operational leader, he received the word through a courier. Only bin Laden would have given al-Libi that promotion, CIA officials believed. If they could find that courier, they would find bin Laden. Then in the middle of last year, the courier had a telephone conversation with

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Victory brings heightened security

Military official says threat level system has been increased

By Ann Marie Bush
 THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

The death of Osama bin Laden was a major victory for the United States military and Americans, but along with the victory came a heightened level of security, said Sharon Watson, public affairs director for the Kansas Adjutant General's department. "Any of our military members who have

deployed have been waiting for this day," she said. "This is certainly a victory for our military. This gives many of our service members a feeling of reward and accomplishment given the many sacrifices they have made. At the same time, there is an awareness that military facilities could be targeted as a result of what the military did to Osama bin Laden."

The Kansas Adjutant General's Department includes the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, the Kansas National Guard and Kansas Homeland Security.

The Force Protection Conditions at all military facilities across the country were raised

from Alpha (A) to Bravo (B), Watson said Monday. There are four levels: Alpha, Bravo, Charlie and Delta. Force Protection Condition, or FPCON for short, is a terrorist threat system overseen by the Department of Defense.

"The Kansas National Guard facilities around the state are at a heightened level of security," Watson said. "On a normal day, we would typically be at a force protection level A. I can't go into details of what that means exactly out of concerns that that information would be helpful to our enemies. This was

Please see **SECURITY**, Page 10A

Budget talks grind slowly

Legislators blaming each other for delay in resolution

By Tim Carpenter
 THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

The drip, drip, drip of the Legislature's budget debate Monday was a source of irritation for House and Senate members longing for an exit strategy in the 2011 session.

The House approved a bill designed to slow action by municipalities making new franchise agreements with trash hauling companies, while the Senate confirmed the appointment of Robin Jennison as secretary of the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks.

There was no measurable progress among rival House and Senate negotiators on a compromise bill to balance the government's \$14 billion budget. Dozens of issues remain to be resolved.

The slow pace provided a window for the House budget committee to consider new proposals from conservative GOP legislators for slashing state expenditures. Neither passed committee muster.

House Majority Leader Arlen Siegfried, R-Olathe, empathized with restless legislators interested in putting Topeka in a rear-view mirror.

"I know it's hurry up and wait," he said.

There is consensus state government spending must be reduced, but details of slicing about \$700 million remain unsettled. Lawmakers can't adjourn before adopting a balanced budget.

During the House Appropriations Committee's meeting, Reps. Anthony Brown, R-Eudora; Kasha Kelley, R-Arkansas City; and Owen Donohoe, R-Shawnee, proposed a measure expanding by \$73 million the House's blueprint for cutting state spending.

Their adjustments would leave a \$153 million balance in the state treasury at the end of the upcoming fiscal year. In January, Gov. Sam Brownback offered a scheme producing a \$7 million ending balance but urged lawmakers to inflate that number if possible.

The three House members proposed lawmakers more aggressively withdraw state aid from K-12 education, capture state employee travel awards and limit information technology projects, dues and subscriptions, and cell phone usage.

Brown said these savings would make future reductions more palatable.

"All we're trying to do is get in a better position in the out years," he said.

The GOP-dominated committee voted 4-14 to reject the amendment.

Please see **BUDGET**, Page 7A

Help pours in for church seeking parking lot

Money will enable congregation to comply with city regulations

By Phil Anderson
 THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

Financial help from Topeka-area residents has come to Christian Lord Ministries after it was announced two weeks ago the church could be forced to shut its doors if it didn't get its small parking lot paved by a city-imposed June 30 deadline.

Thanks to donations received to date, the church expects to start paving the parking lot in the next few weeks.

"Almost all you ever hear about is

bad news," Teddy Van Vale, the church's founding pastor, said earlier this week. "This shows the goodness of God, and the goodness of people in Topeka."

The church, which gives away food, clothing and furniture from its small building at 2421 S.E. California Ave., is still accepting more donations for the lot.

After city requirements were figured into the project, and the increased cost of asphalt was added, the cost for the parking lot went up about \$2,500 to \$9,500 from around \$7,000.

Van Vale said he began receiving calls from people wanting to make donations to the church after an article appeared in the April 18 edition of The Topeka Capital-Journal. Some people have come to the church to hand-deliver donations, while others

have mailed them in.

Van Vale said he has wept tears of joy over the past few days in gratitude for the gifts that have come to the church. It appears now that the church will have its parking lot paved several weeks ahead of the June 30 deadline.

The church of 42 members has been located since 2002 in a building that once was a ranch-style home directly across the street from Highland Park High School.

Van Vale said the church helps between 35 and 150 people a week with food, clothing and furniture. Some financial assistance also is offered, as the church has funds.

A large food giveaway, held in cooperation with Harvesters, takes

Please see **CHURCH**, Page 7A



THAD ALLTON/THE CAPITAL-JOURNAL

From left, Teddy Van Vale, pastor of Christian Lord Ministries, Debbie Hollins, H. Kent Hollins and Don Bruns discuss plans to pave the parking lot at Christian Lord Ministries, 2421 S.E. California Ave.