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Goodbye, Gadhafi WORLD / C3
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APPEAL DEMOCRAT

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SAFETY NEEDS OF CROSSING STUDENTS



Photos by Nate Chute/Appeal-Democrat

A student looks down Walton Avenue before crossing the street near Hazel Avenue in Yuba City on Thursday. As part of National School Bus Safety Week, the Yuba City Unified School District has been running a test this week to have school bus drivers escort high school students across the street, even though it's not mandated by law.

CAMPAIGN 2012

GOP TV ad targets Garamendi

By Ben van der Meer
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The National Republican Congressional Committee is putting a crosshairs on prospective Yuba-Sutter Rep. John Garamendi with a commercial touting his support for President Barack Obama's economic policies.

In the 30-second commercial, an announcer describes millions in federal loans to bankrupt solar company Solyndra as "gambling with taxpayers' money," as a part of the 2009 economic stimulus plan. An image of Garamendi, D-Walnut Grove, pops up at the end of the commercial as he is described as supporting the loans and the stimulus.



Rep. John Garamendi

Congressional committee spokeswoman Joanna Burgos said the 3rd Congressional District that Garamendi will run in next year is a swing district where a Republican can win.

"He lost the district when he was running statewide," Burgos said of Garamendi, who served as lieutenant governor and state insurance commissioner before being elected to Congress in 2009. "It's a competitive district that voted completely Republican in 2006."

ONLINE

See the National Republican Congressional Committee commercial targeting U.S. Rep. John Garamendi: <http://tinyurl.com/3o83mor>

Under state redistricting, the new 3rd District includes inland parts of Solano County, Lake and Colusa counties, and Yuba-Sutter.

Though Yuba-Sutter and other parts of the district have been mostly represented by Republicans in recent years, overall registration favors Democrats, with 42.1 percent of the voters versus 32.9 percent for Republicans.

Decline-to-state voters, often a swing vote in general elections, constitute 20.2 percent.

Burgos said the committee is spending \$20,000 to air the commercials on cable channels over the next two weeks.

A political science professor at California State University, Chico, said the buy is small. And coming months before the state primary election, it's questionable how much effect it'll have on the electorate, said Diana Dwyre.

"It's effective if you can keep it up," she said.

But because redistricting this year didn't take incumbency into account, the state is a more target-rich environment in 2012 for Republicans and Democrats, Dwyre said. And the NRCC spending now sends a signal to independent expenditure com-

Turn to TV AD / A6

School bus drivers see red at motorists who don't stop

By Ashley Gebb
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Even though it's the law, when the red lights start flashing on Yuba City school buses, drivers aren't pulling out all the stops. For National School Bus Safety Week, local school officials want to draw attention to the safety needs of



Students get off of their bus Thursday along Lincoln Road near Portola Valley Road.

crossing students and point out it's the law - not a courtesy - for drivers to stop for a bus' red lights whether they see students or not.

SAFER SCHOOL ROUTES IN WHEATLAND, PAGE C1

Boyd Pyatt, driver instructor for Yuba City Unified School District, said there are several problem intersections where drivers ignore the flashing lights.

"The motoring public continues to go ahead and disregard it," he said. "Until they see a student out there - then they will stop and wait."

Yuba City Unified shuttles nearly 1,900 students to school and back home every school day, and while no children have been hit while crossing from a bus, there have been close calls as driv-

ers ignore the red lights, Pyatt said. And nearly a year ago, a bus driver was taken to the hospital after a car ran the red lights and struck her as she finished escorting children.

Ken Rosebrooks, who has been driving Yuba City school buses for 12 years, said drivers running the red lights is one of his pet peeves.

"I think it's mostly people not paying attention to what's going on," he said. "They are talking on their cellphones or doing whatever they are doing in the car. It's also ignorance of the law."

Rosebrooks said he has seen just about everybody run the red lights around his bus, from police cars to elected officials to school officials.

"If they are not paying attention to what they are doing, they are liable to hit me or my kids," Rosebrooks said. "You never know what's out there in the road."

The amber lights that start flashing

as a bus pulls close to a stop are just like yellow lights on a traffic signal, said California Highway Patrol Officer Carlos Lejarza.

"Yellow doesn't mean you accelerate and race through. You are not going to speed up and pass the bus," he said. "Treat red lights as a red light in both ways. You have to stop behind the bus, or if a vehicle is approaching in the opposite direction, stop that way."

Lejarza, the CHP's school safety pupil officer, receives letters from school bus drivers weekly with license plates and descriptions of vehicles that run the red lights. Because an officer did not observe the infraction, a ticket cannot be issued, but Lejarza sends letters reminding the registered owner of the vehicle of the law.

If a pattern is noticed in a certain area, a traffic unit may be sent out for enforcement, he said. Not obeying

Turn to BUS / A6

14 MILLION UNEMPLOYED

Facebook partners with feds to help job seekers

By Jim Puzanghera
 Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - The Labor Department is hoping a popular new friend can help unemployed workers find jobs.

Labor Secretary Hilda Solis on Thursday announced a partnership with Facebook designed to connect the jobless with companies that are hiring. The Social Jobs Partnership will aggregate a variety of existing, but often little-known, job-search services on a new Facebook page in hopes of drawing more attention to

them. "Landing on this page can help Americans land good jobs," Solis said at a Washington news conference with representatives from Facebook, the National Association of Colleges and Employers, the National Association of State Workforce Agencies and the DirectEmployers Association.

The partnership, which Solis hopes to



Hilda Solis
 Labor secretary

expand to Twitter, LinkedIn and other social-networking sites, will highlight job-placement resources to match those openings to some of the people who need work.

There are about 3 million job openings in the U.S., Solis said, and about 14 million unemployed people.

Among the services available to help match them up are 3,000 one-stop career centers nationwide, and online tools such as the Labor Department's My Skills My Future website, which allows people to see alternative careers for their

skills and get information on educational opportunities and employers for those fields that are near them.

"Our data information and services are valuable only when people know about us," said Bonnie Elsey, president of the National Association of State Workforce Agencies, which represents public agencies that assist the unemployed, such as the California Employment Development Department. "Just think of the expanded audience we can reach with our partnership with Facebook. We can connect more job seekers with jobs."



Bridge.....D3	Dear Abby.....C4	Lottery.....A2	Sports.....B1
Classified.....D1	Entertainment..B5	Nation.....A5	State.....A3
Classic Comics..C4	Finance.....C2	Obituaries.....C5	Sudoku.....D4
Comics.....B6	Horoscope.....C2	Opinion.....C2	Weather.....A6
Crosswords.....C4	Local.....C1	Police blotter..C2	World.....C3



HIGH: 78
 LOW: 51

