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Final Edition

Anchorage Daily News

Friday, August 3, 2012

BREAKING NEWS AT ADN.COM

Alaska's Newspaper

Gymnast earns gold and makes history

Gabby Douglas is first black Olympic all-around champion.

By JULIET MACUR
New York Times

LONDON — To become the Olympic champion in the individual all-around event, Gabby Douglas first had to leave everything she knew best.

She had to pack up her bedroom in Virginia Beach, Va., where she lived with her mother, two sisters and brother. She had to say goodbye to her two dogs, who used to sleep in her bed, and bid farewell to the beach, where she loved to ride waves on



Douglas

her boogie board.

But it was time to take the leap, however heart-breaking and awkward it would be.

Even at 14, Douglas knew that.

So off she went about 1,200 miles to West Des Moines, Iowa, to train with a coach from China and live with a white family she had never met. Douglas remembers thinking when she arrived that she must be the only black person in the state.

"I was unpacking and saying, 'Ho-

ly cow, what am I doing?'" said Douglas, who is 16. "It was like, 'Where do I put everything? Oh, snap, where are the spoons?' I'd wake up and say, 'This isn't my bed set; where am I?'"

As it turned out, Douglas did exactly what she needed to do to become Olympic champion Thursday when she defeated two Russians.

Liang Chow, who had coached the Olympic gold medalist Shawn Johnson, transformed Douglas into one of the best gymnasts in the world, helping her skyrocket from an average member of the

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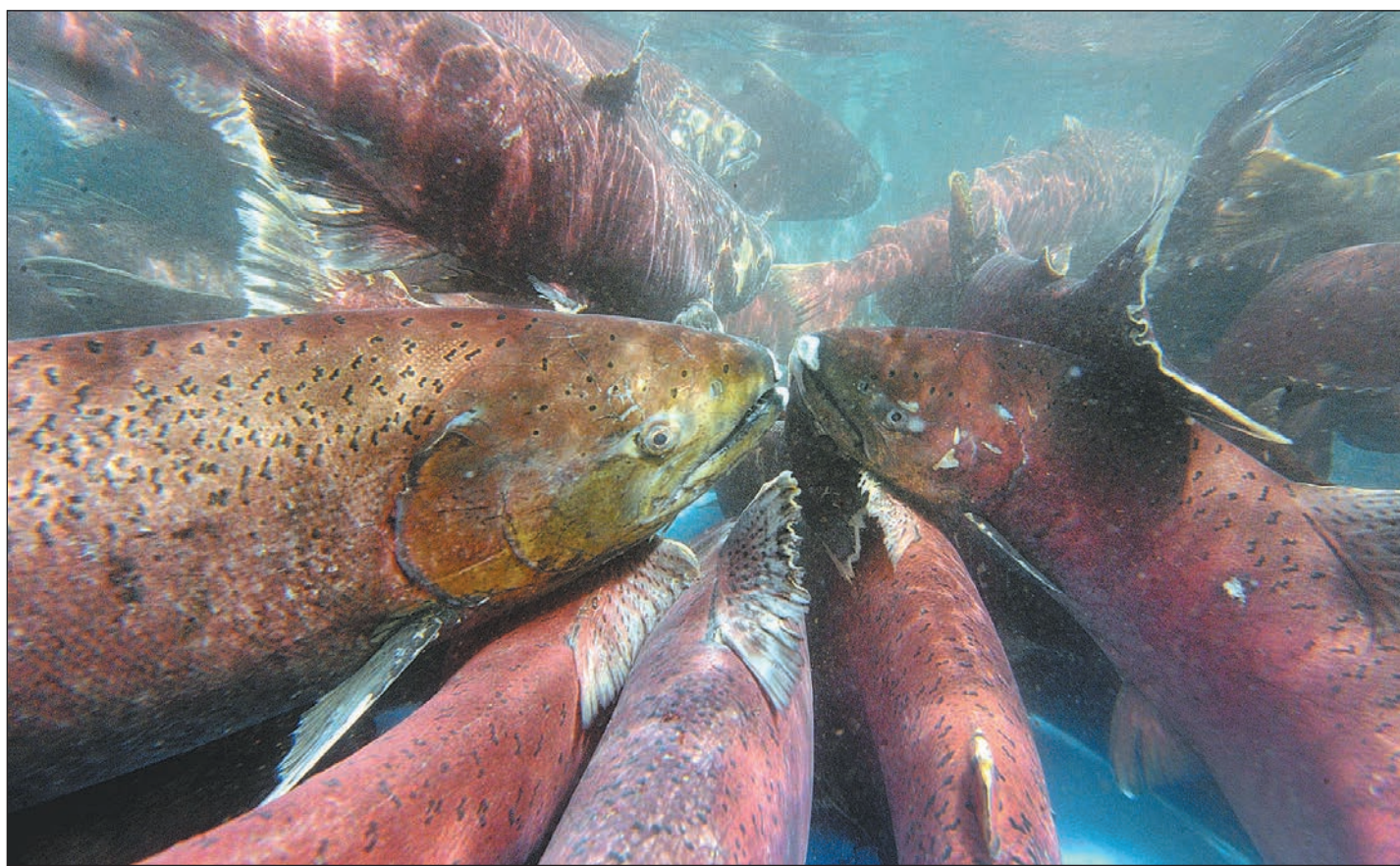
Cogdell: The real deal

Alaskan finds success as an Olympian, hunting advocate



Sports B-1

FISH OF THE FUTURE



Photos by BILL ROTH / Anchorage Daily News

Ship Creek king salmon

King salmon that have returned to Ship Creek are held in a raceway at the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's William Jack Hernandez Sport Fish Hatchery in Anchorage on Tuesday. They will be used as brood stock in an effort to enhance sportfishing opportunities as near as Ship Creek and far away as Cordova. The hatchery also collects brood stock at the Ninilchik River, Crooked Creek, and Deception Creek, where the king salmon returns have been poor.

Right: Loren Thomas pours fertilized king salmon eggs into an incubation tray at the hatchery. After the eggs hatch they will be raised in tanks until they are released as smolt next year.

adn.com
PHOTOS: More pictures from the hatchery.
adn.com/photos



Missouri race tests Palin kingmaking power

She keeps picking winners, but Senate GOP primary is close.

By ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN and PAUL KANE
The Washington Post

Former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin — though derided on the left and recently dismissed by former Vice President Dick Cheney as a poor pick in 2008 — is nevertheless proving her enduring power within

the Republican Party in the most concrete of ways: She keeps picking winners.

Each of five candidates she has endorsed this year who have faced primaries or other campaigns have won, including former Texas solicitor general Ted Cruz, who Tuesday beat the state's well-connected lieutenant governor for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

In Palin's biggest test yet as a kingmaker, she heads Friday to Missouri to stump for former state treasurer Sarah Steelman

in a close three-way race to take on Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill in November.

It is an especially important race for Republicans, who believe that McCaskill is vulnerable and that Missouri represents one of their best chances for a pickup as they seek to win the four Senate seats they need to guarantee control of the chamber.

Polls have shown Steelman leading Rep. Todd Akin, who represents a subur-

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This year's fund dividend checks could continue drop

High-earning 2007 is cut from five-year average; recession influence continues.

By BECKY BOHRER
Associated Press

JUNEAU — Alaskans could see a smaller Permanent Fund dividend this fall.

The Alaska Permanent Fund Corp. on Thursday said it expects to transfer \$605 million to the dividend division for checks — down from \$801 million last year and the lowest transfer since fiscal year 2005.

The amount of investment earnings allocated to dividends is based on a five-year rolling average of Permanent Fund performance. Dropping from the average this year is 2007, a recent high-water mark in which the fund earned \$3.4 billion in statutory net income, realized gains used in calculating the dividend. Staying in is 2009, during the recession, when the fund recorded its first net loss in the statutory net income.

The statutory net income earned this past fiscal year was \$1.6 billion.

Michael Burns, CEO of the Alaska Permanent Fund Corp., said he hated to call this the "new norm," but he said it may be closer to whatever the new norm is. He said he's not trying to predict markets but noted the low interest rates being returned on bonds —

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Top Nation & World News

Annan resigns as special envoy to Syria

The resignation of the point man for international efforts to bring peace to Syria confirmed what events on the ground have been making clear: The country's fate is more likely to be decided by force than by negotiations. Page A-5

Study finds fish getting skin cancer

If you're still skeptical that a tan can be dangerous, consider this: Scientists have found that wild fish are getting skin cancer from ultraviolet radiation. Page A-6

Private prisons cash in on immigrants

Locking up illegal immigrants has grown profoundly lucrative for the private prisons industry: The federal government spends \$2 billion a year keeping nearly 200,000 illegals held in private facilities. Page A-8

WEATHER & INDEX

Anchorage	Wasilla	Kenai
Partly sunny	Rain expected	Partly sunny
High 61; low 51	High 61; low 47	High 61; low 46

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