

FRIDAY

Season-ending loss

South Carolina stops Arkansas 91-81 in SEC Tournament. - Sports, 1C



Awesome blossoms

Daffodils, annual events help get into the spring of things. - Weekend



Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

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Printed at Little Rock • Friday, March 12, 2004 arkansas Online www.ardemgaz.com 104 PAGES 10 SECTIONS ★ ★ 50¢

In the news

- Sandra Anderson, a trainer and handler of cadaver-sniffing dogs... Manuel Noriega was denied early release... Anthony Raimondo... Robert Lee McKiernan... Mikhail Khodorkovsky... Melissa Ann Rowland... Robert Creamer... Bruce Jermaine Hall... Tom Ridge...

Justices put halt to gay 'nuptials'

'Licensing' ceases in San Francisco

BY DAVID KRAVETS THE ASSOCIATED PRESS SAN FRANCISCO — The California Supreme Court on Thursday ordered an immediate halt to gay "marriages" in San Francisco. The court did not rule on their legality, and justices indicated that they would decide in the coming months whether San Francisco's mayor had the authority to allow them.



Newsom

Madrid bombings kill 192



Firefighters carry a body on a stretcher from a bomb-damaged passenger train after a number of explosions in Madrid, Spain, on Thursday. The terrorist attack, which killed more than 190, was Europe's worst since the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, that killed 270 people.

Terror attack shreds trains at rush hour

BY MAR ROMAN THE ASSOCIATED PRESS MADRID, Spain — A series of bombs hidden in backpacks exploded in quick succession Thursday, blowing apart four commuter trains and killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400. Spain at first blamed Basque separatists, but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history. Panicked rush-hour commuters trampled one another, abandoning their bags and shoes, after two of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the heart of Madrid. Train cars were turned into twisted wrecks and platforms were strewn with corpses. Cell phones rang unanswered on the bodies of the dead as frantic relatives tried to call them.

Bush keeps 9/11 at heart of campaign

Kerry refuses to back off calling GOP critics 'crooked ... lying group'

BY JENNIFER LOVEN THE ASSOCIATED PRESS EAST MEADOW, N.Y. — President Bush defied criticism and kept the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks at the center of his re-election campaign Thursday, somberly helping dedicate a new memorial to victims with a spade of dirt and hugs for the still grieving. Meanwhile, Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry rejected demands that he apologize for calling his critics in the Republican Party "the most crooked, you know, lying group I've ever seen."

Gear for 'Go, Wes, Go' to be going, going, gone

Sale today closes Clark-campaign chapter

BY ANDREW DEMILLO ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE Just a few months ago, the rallying cry for Wesley Clark's presidential campaign was "Go, Wes, Go." Now, it's "Everything must go." Remnants of the retired general's thwarted presidential aspirations, ranging from computers to candy bars, will go on the auction block this morning in downtown Little Rock.



Rita Wooley with Wooley Auctioneers takes inventory Thursday at the former Clark for President campaign headquarters at Union Station in Little Rock. Today, everything from computers to phones, staplers and all sorts of Clark memorabilia will be auctioned.

On-air indecency would draw \$500,000 fine under House-passed bill

BY JONATHAN D. SALANT THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WASHINGTON — The House voted overwhelmingly Thursday to dramatically increase fines for broadcast indecency on the heels of public anger over a Super Bowl halftime show. Under the legislation, approved 391-22, broadcast companies and entertainers could be fined up to \$500,000 per indecent event, a huge jump from the current \$27,500 for license holders and \$11,000 for performers. The Federal Communications Commission has received more than a half-million complaints about the halftime show, which included provocative dancing and sexually explicit lyrics in addition to the much-publicized exposure of Janet Jackson's breast. That is more than twice as many complaints as the FCC received in all of 2003. Rep. Mike Ross, D-Ark., was among those who voted for the bill. "A fine of \$27,500 may not do much to change the behavior of a broadcaster or entertainer who has millions, but I can assure you that half a million will," he said. Republican Rep. John Boozman and Democratic Reps. Marion Berry and Vic Snyder of Arkansas also voted for the bill. "Parents, families, educators — and every American who turns on a television or radio — deserve this bill," said House Majority Whip Roy Blunt, R-Mo. "It's time to return the public airwaves to the taxpayers who support them." The measure now goes to the Senate, where the Commerce See INDECENCY, Page 10A

WEATHER ARKANSAS Today Sunny to partly cloudy skies. High In the mid-50s to low 60s. Tonight Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers to the west. Low Upper 30s and low 40s. INDEX Arkansas 1B Movies 4E Business 1D MovieStyle 1E Classifieds 16 Sports 1C Comics 6E Stocks 3D Crossword 4B Television 2E Deaths 6B Voices 7B Editorials 6B Weather 6D Heloise 7E Weekend 1W

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