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Several large operators have reasons to buy — but also reasons to pass.

## Seeking the right fit for Field's

**ALSO INSIDE**

► A look at some stores run by possible buyers of Field's. **A8**  
 ► Fans of Field's in Chicago identify with the name as Minnesotans do with Dayton's. **D1**  
 ► St. Paul officials say deal to keep store downtown would stay in place even after a sale. **D4**

By Melissa Levy  
 Star Tribune Staff Writer

A day after Target Corp. put its ailing department store divisions on the block, attention shifted to the likely suitors. Analysts said regional department store rivals May Department Stores Co., Federated Department Stores Inc. and Saks Inc. would likely take a close look at Marshall Field's, but that its midpriced sibling, Mervyn's, faces a much more uncertain future. Industry watchers agreed that it's all but certain that Target's department store units would be split up. Target said Wednesday that it has hired an investment bank to explore "strategic alternatives" for both divisions. Such actions usually result in an sale, a spinoff to existing shareholders or even a shutdown of operations.

**SALE continues on A8:**  
 — Some possible buyers have their own problems.

## Wisconsin soldier, 23, dies in Iraq

Army Reservist is killed when convoy is bombed.

By Matt McKinney  
 Star Tribune Staff Writer

ELLSWORTH, WIS. — The latest American soldier killed in Iraq came from a log cabin home on the edge of this western Wisconsin town, a place where Bert Hoyer, 23, was known as a singer, an actor, a lover of the outdoors and a natural with children.



Specialist 4 Bert Hoyer

"The kids loved him," said his younger sister Annie, recalling how her brother frequently e-mailed a sixth grade class at Ellsworth Middle School to share with them the life of a soldier. "He was a big kid himself."

Hoyer, a specialist 4th class from the 652nd Engineer Co. in Ellsworth, died when an improvised bomb hit his convoy in Iraq, authorities said Thursday.

**SOLDIER continues on A11**

# Bombs kill 192 in Spain

- 1,400 injured in 10 coordinated attacks in Madrid
- Basque separatists, Al-Qaida under suspicion



Paul White/Associated Press

Firefighters removed a body from a train following nearly simultaneous explosions on commuter trains in Madrid during Thursday morning's rush hour. It was the worst terrorist act in Europe since World War II.

By Elaine Sciolino  
 New York Times

MADRID — Ten bombs ripped through four commuter trains in Madrid on Thursday morning, killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400 in the deadliest terrorist attack on a European target since World War II.

Spanish authorities initially blamed the Basque separatist group ETA. But after finding a van near Madrid with detonators and a tape of Qur'anic verses, they held open the possibility of Islamic terrorism.

A group claiming links to Al-Qaida took responsibility in a letter delivered to an Arab newspaper. A U.S. counterterrorism official said the claim should be viewed skeptically.

Spain, a staunch U.S. ally in the war on Iraq that has 1,300 troops stationed there, was explicitly threatened as a target in an audiotape reportedly made by Osama bin Laden last October.

As the country struggled to absorb the horror, Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said, "March 11 now has its place in the history of infamy." The bombings occurred exactly 2½ years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States.

Officials have sent letters to some residents with very high levels of arsenic in their yards warning them to steer clear of the dirt.

**SPAIN continues on A12**

**ALSO INSIDE** After 9/11, Spain cracked down on Al-Qaida cells. **A12**



Sources: ESRI, AND, TeleAtlas, AP

## Tuition pact under review

"U" head asks state to revise its Wisconsin deal.

By Mary Jane Smetanka  
 Star Tribune Staff Writer

If University of Minnesota President Robert Bruininks has his way, Wisconsin students who cross the border to attend the university at a discount will be paying the same tuition as Minnesota students by 2007 — and the university could add \$5 million in revenue each year.

But Wisconsin students who attend the university, and there are thousands of them, say the proposal is unfair and that the university risks losing bright students who come for an education and stay in Minnesota after graduation, working and paying taxes. Eric Dyer, of Racine, Wis., student body president on the Twin Cities campus, says the proposal essentially blames Wisconsin students for Minnesota's declining support for higher education.

"I think this is a problem with the state of Minnesota's priorities," he said.

Bruininks made his proposal in a letter to new state higher-education czar Susan Heegaard, requesting that the Minnesota-Wisconsin reciprocity agreement be reworked. Wisconsin students at the University of Minnesota's four campuses pay anywhere from 14 to 29 percent less in tuition and fees each year than Minnesota residents.

"It's not fair to students or fair to the university," he said.

The proposal is likely to be popular among Minnesota parents and critics of reciprocity, including some legislators, who complain that the system unfairly benefits Wisconsin.

**TUITION continues on A16:**  
 — Bruininks says new arrangement unlikely to drive students away.

**NEWS INSIDE**

**BOYS' STATE AA HOCKEY TOURNAMENT**

- Centennial 2, Holy Angels 0
- Wayzata 6, Tartan 0
- Moorhead 4, Elk River 3, OT
- Duluth East 2, Lakeville 0

**Verdict overturned**

The Minnesota Supreme Court has overturned the murder conviction of a Becker man serving a life sentence for the murder of Linda Jensen in Sherburne County. **Turn to B1.**

## Poison from old pesticide plant lingers in Phillips yards

Residents of the south Minneapolis neighborhood are asking questions and getting advice.

By Josephine Marcotty and Chao Xiong  
 Star Tribune Staff Writers

People in the Phillips neighborhood in south Minneapolis have known for years that they live next to a former grasshopper pesticide plant that left its poisons behind when it closed in the 1960s. They call it the ar-

senic triangle for its distinctive shape and toxic history.

But now they've found out the poison didn't stay in the triangle — it's in their back yards. For 30 years before the contaminated site was capped with asphalt, summer breezes blew arsenic-tainted dust across the neighborhood, where in some yards it

settled in potentially dangerous levels.

Hundreds of residents could be affected. But Thursday night, only a handful showed up to meet with federal and state environmental officials at a church to talk about whether — and when — they can expect a cleanup. Some said many people in the neigh-

borhood have a hard time getting to night meetings.

Officials have sent letters to some residents with very high levels of arsenic in their yards warning them to steer clear of the dirt.

**SITE continues on A14:**  
 — Tips for dealing with the arsenic.



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