

GOOD MORNING

NOT SPRING YET

Very cold air will bring snow showers to Central New York today and there could be squalls in some areas. Winds might reach 45 mph. It will stay cold Saturday with some sunshine overhead.

Complete forecast, D-12
HIGH: 36 LOW: 20



In Weekend: Your guide to the green

From the dancers to the floats, see our guide to Saturday's St. Patrick's Parade in Syracuse. It starts at noon and you can take a train to see it or watch it on TV.

Bush nominates Bernardi to fill No. 2 spot at HUD

Former Republican Syracuse Mayor Roy Bernardi has been nominated by President Bush to be deputy secretary in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the White House announced Thursday.

It's the No. 2 job in the department.

STORY, PAGE B-2

GOP senators may not kill same-sex marriage bill

Getting a bill legalizing same-sex marriages through the GOP-controlled state Senate would be tough, but not impossible.

Proponents cite successful hate crimes and equal-opportunity bills in 2000 and 2002. Republicans vehemently opposed them, then changed their minds.

STORY, PAGE A-3

Internet providers look to cook spam senders

America Online, Earthlink, Yahoo and Microsoft have filed lawsuits against groups they contend send spam, or mass e-mail messages.

It's the first suit to invoke the federal anti-spam law.

STORY, PAGE A-5

Grass here is greener for Cicero manufacturer

ICM Corp. in Cicero got an impressive offer from Virginia when looking for new digs.

Their new location? Just down the road in Hancock Airport off East Taft Road in Cicero.

BUSINESS, PAGE C-1

Corrections

■ Age of bank robbery suspect Valeria Sewall/A-2
■ Ella May Bowman/B-1
■ Location of STS Truck Equipment and Trailer Sales/C-1
Call Deputy Executive Editor Tim Bunn at 470-2240 to discuss a correction on a news story. Delivery or subscription questions? Call 470-NEWS (470-6397). Newspaper phone directory/A-2.

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THE POST-STANDARD



0 96404 11115 2

Spain's 9/11 Rips City; Hunt On for Plotters

Probe targets Basques, but others claim responsibility

News service reports

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 on each other, 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 as frantic relatives tried to call them.

"March 11, 2004, now holds its place in the history of infamy," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said.

The bombings occurred exactly 2½ years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States, and was Europe's worst since the 1988 bombing of a Pan Am jetliner

POLICE FIND, PAGE A-8

INSIDE

Who did it? Some clues point to Basque terrorists; others point toward a Muslim militant group/A-8

The scene. Stunned at the first bomb, commuters ran when a second bomb exploded, but "people didn't know which way to go"/A-8



FIREFIGHTERS CARRY a body on a stretcher from a train Thursday after the worst terrorist attack in Spain's history. There were 10

explosions in about 15 minutes. "It was butchery on a brutal scale," said Juan Redondo, of the Madrid Firefighting Department.

Paul White / The Associated Press



PARAMEDICS AID a man injured by the train bombings Thursday just outside the Atocha station in Madrid, Spain. More than 1,300 emergency workers were mobilized across the Spanish capital to cope with the dead and injured.

Jose Huesca / The Associated Press

CNY families rush to learn if students OK in Madrid

By Carrie Ann Perez
Staff writer

Parents of Skaneateles students on a trip to Madrid, Spain, scrambled to their phones and to the Internet Thursday when they learned of the bombings that killed 192 people.

They weren't sure if their children were safe, or whether their loved ones were caught up in one of the deadliest terrorist acts since Sept. 11, 2001.

"It's one of the worst or-

ders I've ever been through," said Sandi Frackenhohl, whose daughter, Abby, 17, is on the trip.

The 25 high school Spanish students plus four chaperones are on the school district's first overseas trip since the Sept. 11 attacks, said Principal Georgette Hoskins.

Their plane landed about two hours after the bombings.

The group was bused from the airport and had to walk the last few blocks to the Hotel

STUDENTS', PAGE A-8

Boy from detention center tumbles from moving train

The Syracuse teenager was supposed to be returning to a Downstate juvenile facility.

By Aaron Gifford
Staff writer

A 15-year-old boy from Syracuse narrowly escaped serious injury after he fell off a moving freight train Tuesday, Oneida County sheriff's deputies said.

The boy, who was not identified because of his age, had been traveling to a Downstate juvenile detention center near New York City from his Syracuse home unsupervised after visiting relatives for a few days.

He got on an Amtrak train about 10 a.m. Tuesday at the Syracuse station to return to the detention facility.

When the train made a normal stop at Union Station in Utica an hour later, the teen got off and began walking along the tracks

back toward Syracuse, deputies said. He arrived in Rome, about 20 miles away, several hours later, deputies said.

At the Rome train station, the boy climbed aboard a moving CSX freight train and clung between two cars for about 30 minutes before deciding to get off. He then climbed down a stepladder that was attached to the side of a freight car, missed the bottom step and fell, Deputy Mark Chrysler said.

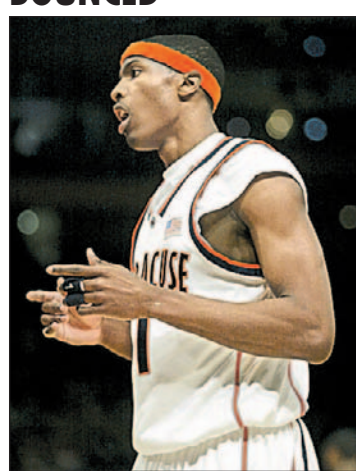
The westbound train was traveling fast, Chrysler said, so the boy rolled several times on the gravel after he fell.

He walked to a nearby home on Station Street in the town of Verona. The resident of that house, who was not identified, called 911.

"This kid comes walking to

FALL, PAGE A-6

BOUNCED



Dick Blume / Staff photographer

DOWN BY ONE to Boston College on Thursday at the Big East Tournament, SU's Hakim Warrick protests a foul call that put Boston's Craig Smith on the free-throw line. Smith put Boston up by thirds at 57-54. With 6.1 seconds left, SU's Gerry McNamara tried a 3-pointer for the tie, but it bounced off and Syracuse was bounced from the tournament/Sports, D-1

TV in 2014: You'll pick the guest on the Tonight Show

Televisions will be linked to toasters and everyone will be a director.

The Associated Press

New York — What will TV be like a decade from now?

For starters, "Law & Order," featuring 78-year-old Jerry Orbach as Detective Lennie Briscoe, will be midway through its 24th season.

Another thing: Customized viewing will be the rule of thumb. You'll have far more control than just watching the shows you want to see whenever you want to see them. In the future, you can choose what you want to see within each show.

For instance, when you tune in "The Tonight Show" to find Donald Trump is a guest, you'll be able to press a button on your remote and select a guest you

Web site fee doesn't click with town board

Cicero lawmakers say work was unauthorized and balk at paying \$15,000 bill.

By John Doherty
Staff writer

Cicero councilors are refusing to pay \$15,000 for the town's new Web site — a project they say was not properly authorized or ordered.

The Web site, www.cicero.newyork.com, was built by Douglas Pennock, a sergeant on the Cicero police force.

Pennock's bill was submitted to the town Dec. 22. Former Supervisor Frances Kip asked councilors in December to consider paying the bill, but three of five said they would not approve it if it was brought before them.

Pennock has declined to comment.

And this week, town board members are still balking at paying the bill.

Thursday, Kip and her successor, Chester Dudzinski, disagreed about whether the bill should be paid.

"He is an employee of the town with only the best interest of the town in mind and put a magnificent piece together. I

WEB SITE, PAGE A-6

In Albany, cash buys access to lawmakers

Lobbyists spend millions on "the circuit" during New York's legislative sessions.

The Associated Press

Albany — While silver plates of cheese and crackers and bacon-wrapped hors d'oeuvres circulate, lobbyists for special interests from unions to corporations to mental health workers methodically hobnob with state lawmakers — after, of course, the \$500 contribution changes hands.

Welcome to Albany's underbelly, where cash buys access to lawmakers in after-dark fundraisers that can affect lawmakers' votes the next day. But those on both sides argue that the legal events far more often result in better understandings of perspectives that lead to better public policy down the road.

In 2002, lobbyists spent \$92 million trying to influence legislators. Much of it was raised on what is sometimes called "the circuit" of fund-raisers during

FUND-RAISING, PAGE A-6