

ROCHESTER

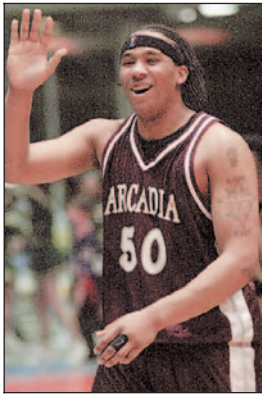
Democrat and Chronicle

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Spain bombings kill at least 190

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The Associated Press

Police check victims from a bombed passenger train Thursday in the Atocha train station in Madrid.

THE NEW YORK TIMES
MADRID, Spain — Ten bombs ripped through four commuter trains in Madrid on Thursday, killing at least 190 people and wounding more than 1,400 in the deadliest terrorist attack on a European target since World War II. Spanish authorities ini-

tially blamed the Basque separatist group ETA. But after finding a van with detonators and a tape of Quranic verses near Madrid, they vowed to consider all possibilities, including religious terrorists. A group claiming links to al-Qaeda took responsibility in a letter delivered to an

Arab newspaper. A U.S. counterterrorism official said the claim should be viewed skeptically. As the country struggled to absorb the devastation three days before general elections, Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said, "March 11 now has its place in the history of infamy."

President Bush expressed sympathy and solidarity with Spain as U.S. officials worked with their Spanish counterparts to try to determine who might be behind the bombings. "We weep with the families," Bush said.

SPAIN, PAGE 4A

California halts gay marriages

The California Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to same-sex weddings in San Francisco on Thursday. Meanwhile, Massachusetts legislators considered an amendment that would allow same-sex couples to have a civil union but not a marriage. □

STORY: 7A

Support pours in after fatal crash

GARY MCLENDON
STAFF WRITER
SPENCERPORT — They are receiving an outpouring of support. Family, friends, fellow church members and strangers have rallied to aid them. And more than two months after a Route 31 car crash killed Olga Radu, a mother of nine, prayers are still being said for her children and the woman now entrusted with their care. In English and in Russian, pastors Carley M. Touchstone of the Glad Tidings Church in Rochester and Gregory Kasap of the Slavic Pentecostal Church in Spencerport led a prayer circle Thursday in the driveway of the Radus' Colby Street home. In the circle were the children,

Olga's sister Svetlana Fedorichina and four students from Livonia High School in Livingston County. "We pray for Svetlana that you will strengthen her to give her the loving care that she needs to give to the children," the pastors said. "We pray for every boy and girl in the family. Help them to do very

good in school ... so that they will be ready to go to college to contribute to America and earn a good living when the time comes." Fedorichina has taken legal guardianship of her nieces and nephews: Tatiana, 19; Rita, 16; Lilly, 15; Marina, 12; Yelena, 11; Vya-

RADUS, PAGE 6A

\$100 bills pop up mysteriously

People are apparently finding \$100 bills along a rural road — Hundred-mark Road, near the Orleans-Genesee county line. It's unclear where the money came from. But it might be the money a farmer from Barre, Orleans County, reported missing to police in January. □

STORY: 1B

Excellus earnings hit \$161M last year

Million-dollar paychecks for top execs revealed in a state filing.

JOY DAVIA
STAFF WRITER
Excellus Health Plan Inc., the state's largest non-profit health insurer, ended 2003 \$161 million in the black, almost twice what it earned the previous year, according to filings with the state Insurance Department. The filings, obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, also showed that the company — parent of the local Blue Cross health plans — paid four of its executives more than \$1 million each in 2003. And 200 of its employees had annual paychecks of more than \$100,000.

The news comes despite a 5 percent dip in the insurer's membership and as Excellus continues to stress a need to raise premiums.

An Excellus spokesman said the company is passing the 2003 profit increase on to members through smaller-than-expected premium increases. Spokesman Jim Redmond defended the \$1 million paychecks, saying the insurer has to pay top wages to attract and retain talent.

Top salaries
Two of Lifetime Healthcare Cos. Inc.'s highest paid executives last year were advisers to President and CEO David Klein. Lifetime said Howard Berman and Arthur Goshin are still active employees.

Excellus Health Plan Inc.
Howard Berman: vice chairman, formerly president and CEO
2003 salary: \$1,601,958

David Klein: president and CEO, formerly chief operating officer
2003 salary: \$1,273,326

Emil Duda: chief financial officer
2003 salary: \$1,174,615

Arthur Goshin: adviser to CEO, formerly president of Univera
2003 salary: \$1,084,035

Frederick Yanni: executive director of corporate relations and community support
2003 salary: \$964,567

Figures don't include investment earnings or reported deferred compensation
SOURCE: State Insurance Department
KEVIN M. SMITH staff artist

"When you look at the compensation of these executives, they require an extensive skill set," he said.

EARNINGS, PAGE 2A

Woman accused of spying for Iraq

NEWSDAY
NEW YORK — A woman who is a second cousin of White House chief of staff Andrew Card and once worked for three Democratic members of Congress was arrested Thursday and charged with spying for Saddam Hussein for three years.

Susan Lindauer, 41, whose father ran for governor of Alaska as a Republican, is accused of accepting \$10,000 from Saddam's Iraqi Intelligence Service as payment for her work and expenses.

In an indictment unsealed in federal court in Manhattan, Lindauer was charged with acting and conspiring to act as an unregistered agent of the Ira-

qi Intelligence Service. She was also accused of engaging in prohibited financial transactions with Iraq. If convicted of spying, she could get 10 years in prison; the conspiracy charges carry a five-year term.

FBI agents arrested Lindauer on Thursday at her home in Takoma Park, Md. She is to appear before a federal judge Monday.

"I'm an anti-war activist, and I'm innocent," Lindauer told WBAL-TV outside the Baltimore FBI office. "I did more to stop terrorism in this country than anybody else. ... I have done good things for this country. I worked to get weapons inspectors back to Iraq when everyone else said it was impossible." □



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