



Partly sunny  
 High-52° Low-27°

Complete weather  
 forecast on 12A.

# The Jackson Sun

jacksonsun.com

50¢  
 Jackson, Tennessee  
 West Tennessee  
 Edition

## Inside



### The draw of Blue Willow

For many, it is simply the blue of Blue Willow dishes that draws the eye and begins a lifelong collection. Joyce LaFont thought she was buying the Willow dishes for resale but soon found she was keeping more and more of them. **1C**

## Top Stories

■ Pyrotek Inc. in Trenton announced Tuesday that it will be closing its doors. **6B**

■ A Bradford man died at a local hospital Wednesday night after police raided his home. They uncovered a quarter-pound of methamphetamine, authorities said. **3A**

## CyHigh

"It was like you were there with Him." That's how Madison Academic sophomore Autumn Osborne described Mel Gibson's new motion picture, "The Passion of the Christ." Read more at [cyhigh.jacksonsun.com](http://cyhigh.jacksonsun.com) — the Web site by and for West Tennessee teens.



## Nation



### Spy charges

Susan Lindhauer, a former reporter and press secretary for members of Congress, was charged Thursday with being a paid Iraqi intelligence agent and trying to contact her distant cousin — the White House chief of staff — to alter U.S. policy. **12A**

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# Calif. court halts gay marriage

## Mass. lawmakers move toward proposed ban

By DAVID KRAVETS  
 The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — The California Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to same-sex weddings in San Francisco on Thursday as

Massachusetts lawmakers gave preliminary approval to a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages in the only state where they have been ruled legal.

Teary-eyed couples were turned away at San Francisco's

### Coming Sunday

Is it fair to compare the gay marriage movement to the civil rights movement?

City Hall, where more than 3,700 gay couples have tied the knot.

On the other side of the country, Massachusetts legislators returned to the Capitol to consider a constitutional amendment that would strip

gay couples of their court-granted right to marriage but allow civil unions.

Massachusetts took center stage in the national debate over gay marriage following a landmark decision by its highest court in November that was reaffirmed last month. The rulings set the stage for the nation's first legally sanctioned gay marriages May 17.

Lawmakers seeking to put a

gay marriage ban before Massachusetts voters were unsuccessful during a joint House-Senate session last month.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom waded into the debate at about the same time, ordering his administration to issue same-sex marriage licenses.

The high court's unanimous decision Thursday marked a victory for conservatives.

"They restored order to

chaos in San Francisco," said Joshua Carden, an attorney with the conservative Alliance Defense Fund.

Jon Davidson, an attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay rights legal aid group, said the ruling simply puts the issue on hold for now.

"The court has put everything on pause rather than stop," he said.



People hold a banner that reads 'No More Terror' in front of the Spanish Embassy, during a protest against the Basque separatist group ETA in Montevideo, Uruguay, on Thursday. A series of explosions during the morning rush hour in Madrid killed more than 190 people and injured hundreds more.

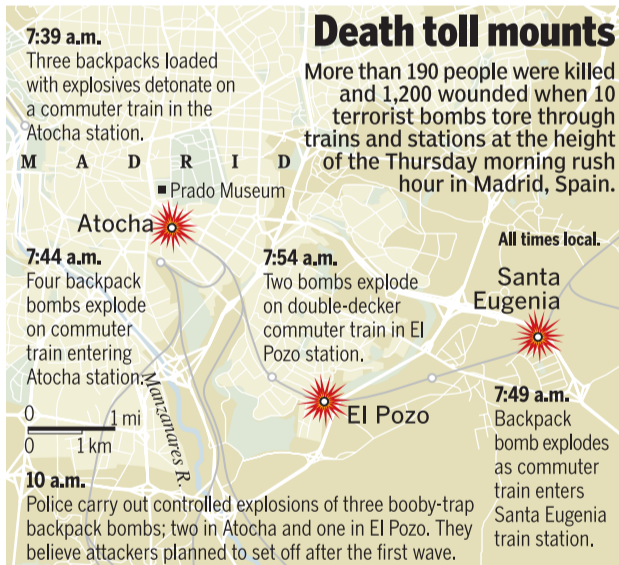
## Al-Qaida claims Spain bombings

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 1,200. Spain blamed Basque separatists but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spain's history.

Panicked 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 of the dead 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.



### Death toll mounts

More than 190 people were killed and 1,200 wounded when 10 terrorist bombs tore through trains and stations at the height of the Thursday morning rush hour in Madrid, Spain.

The bombing came three days ahead of Spain's general election on Sunday. A major campaign issue was how to deal with ETA, the Basque militant group.

Campaigning for the election was called off and three days of mourning were

declared.

It was also 2½ years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York and Washington, and was Europe's worst since the bombing of a Pan Am jetliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 killed 270 people.

## UTM cancels trip to Spain

By JULIE DODSON  
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They were sitting on the bus, with their bags packed. The Memphis airport was almost within sight when they heard the news — the trip was off.

University of Tennessee Martin officials canceled a travel-study trip for 26 people, including 18 students, on Thursday morning following a terror attack that was called the worst in Spanish history. School officials decided to call off the trip after learning that 10 terrorist bombs killed at least 192 people and wounded more than 1,400 others in trains and stations in Madrid during the morning rush hour.

John Overby, chairman of the management, marketing and political science department at UT Martin, was the study group's leader.

Please see SPAIN, 2A

## Locals at state

Gibson County's return trip to the Class AA state tournament did not go as planned for the Lady Pioneers, as their perfect season came to an end on Thursday. North Side also had a tough time, losing its quarterfinal game to powerful Shelbyville.

**Thursday's Results**  
 ■ Livingston Academy 71, Gibson Co. 56  
 ■ Shelbyville 74, North Side 45

**Today's Games**  
 ■ Class A — Trenton Peabody vs. Perry County, 11 a.m.  
 ■ Class A — Huntingdon vs. Clarkrange, 12:30 p.m.

Expanded coverage in Sports, 1B

# Radio host critical after heart attack

## Rusty Mac collapses on air

By SCOTT J. ANDERSON  
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Longtime radio personality Rusty Mac was in critical condition Thursday night at a local hospital after suffering a massive heart attack during a morning radio show.

Mac, 49, collapsed about 6:50 a.m. Thursday, during "Conrad and Company" on WTNV-FM 104.1. Co-hosts Conrad DeLaney and Shari Harper provided medical attention until emergency personnel arrived. DeLaney said Mac was unresponsive for about 20 to 30 minutes.

"I just ask everyone to pray for him and his family, as well as us," DeLaney said. "I had never seen Rusty any happier or feeling any better. We were just talking before going on the air, and he fell over in mid-sentence."

Mac began working at WTNV on Feb. 1 as co-host of the morning show and as the station's public relations director. Before that, he had worked for more than 16 years at WWYN-FM 106.9. During much of his time at



Mac

WWYN, he was paired with Shane Connor.

Connor said he was stunned by the news Thursday morning.

"My immediate thought was how he was doing and hoping for the best," said Connor, who invited DeLaney to go on the air on WWYN to update that station's listeners on Mac's condition.

"Competition is out the window at a time like this," Connor said. "He still has lots of listeners on WWYN 106.9 who are concerned about him."

The entire radio community rallied in support of Mac on Thursday. Kyle Dewberry and Scott Wyatt, co-hosts of the afternoon drive-time show on WLSZ-FM 105.3, had talked about Mac on the air Wednesday afternoon.

Please see MAC, 2A

# Seminar targets 'serious mental illnesses' of eating disorders



ERIKA ALEXANDER/The Jackson Sun

People listen to a seminar on eating disorders presented by the West Tennessee Educational Council on Thursday at West Jackson Baptist Church.

By DAN MORRIS  
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A decade ago, Hilda Nance felt like a loner among therapists in Jackson.

The licensed professional counselor treated patients with eating disorders but had few colleagues alongside.

"Now we have other therapists who are interested; we have physicians who are interested," Nance said. "It's a serious disease that is gaining attention, and we're trying to reach out and educate the public."

Nance and Susie Walker, a nurse, helped form the West Tennessee Educational Council on Eating Disorders last

year. The council presented its second seminar on Thursday at West Jackson Baptist Church, and 115 attended. The target audience was school counselors, coaches, psychologists, prevention specialists and youth ministers.

Dr. Ovidio B. Bermudez, director of the Vanderbilt Children's Hospital Eating Disorder Program, was guest speaker. Vanderbilt's program is presently treating more than 300 patients with eating disorders.

Bermudez presented a two-hour program specifically focused on helping participants learn how they can recognize the diseases and best help

someone seek help for an eating disorder.

"These are serious mental illnesses," Bermudez said. "Sometimes, that's a hard pill for families to chew."

There are four basic categories of eating disorders:

■ Anorexia Nervosa, or self-imposed starvation.

■ Bulimia Nervosa, repeated cycle of out-of-control eating, followed by purging.

■ Binge Eating Disorder, or compulsive overeating.

■ Eating disorders not otherwise specified.

The Center for Mental Health Services reports that 90 percent of those who have eating disorders are women

between the ages of 12 and 25.

Eating disorders are the most deadly of all mental illnesses. Anorexia has the highest death rate, up to 20 percent, according to the Eating Disorders Coalition for Research, Policy and Action.

"Teasing and dieting are the single most important risk factors in the development of an eating disorder from a young child's perspective," Bermudez said.

"Children who are going to develop an eating disorder are children who have, by and large, dieted."

For more information, call Paul Deschenes at 668-1818.

— Dan Morris, 425-9756

