



HUSKIES STAY ALIVE

UW comes from behind to defeat UCLA in Pac-10 tournament opener, improving NCAA hopes. SPORTS, C 1

STANFORD BEATS WSU; NO. 1 ST. JOSEPH'S LOSES

JOHNNY DEPP SHINES IN 'SECRET WINDOW'

TICKET / MOVIE TIMES, H SECTION



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Gay marriage in California on hold; high court to rule

In Massachusetts, legislators nearer amendment to ban it

BY MAURA DOLAN AND LEE ROMNEY
Los Angeles Times

The California Supreme Court yesterday unanimously ordered San Francisco to stop marrying gay couples and said it would rule on the legality of the city's actions within a few months.

Seattle front

Foes of same-sex weddings protest, file suit.

LOCAL, B 1

In a second blow to proponents of same-sex marriage, the Massachusetts Legislature moved closer to adopting a constitutional amendment that would ban such ceremonies and establish civil unions for gay and lesbian couples.

San Francisco officials immediately complied with the California court's order, directing the clerk not to issue same-sex marriage licenses as of 2:33 p.m. yesterday. The ruling from California's highest court came four weeks after Mayor Gavin Newsom ordered his staff to issue same-sex licenses, arguing that to do otherwise would violate the equal-protection clause of the state's constitution.

Although the court's action leaves existing licenses in place — at least for now — it was a setback

PLEASE SEE **Gays** ON A 15

Two groups are suspects in Madrid train bombings



PETER DEJONG / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rescuers collect bodies at Madrid's Atocha train station. Cellphones rang unanswered next to bodies in the wreckage as people tried to contact loved ones.

Former journalist in Seattle accused of helping Iraq

She met with Saddam's spies and accepted money, U.S. says

BY CAMERON W. BARR AND DAN EGGEN
The Washington Post

A former congressional press aide was arrested yesterday for allegedly maintaining an "intelligence relationship" for several years with U.S.-based spies for Saddam Hussein before the Iraqi leader was ousted.

Among other activities, authorities said, Susan Lindauer, 41, cooperated with Iraqi intelligence agents in January 2003 by delivering a letter to the home of a distant relative, White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card, urging the Bush administration to hold off its invasion of Iraq so weapons inspectors could continue their work.

Lindauer, a former journalist, worked in the late 1980s for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer and The Herald in Everett.

Lindauer, described by people who know her as an ardent foe of the U.S.-led war against Saddam's regime, was arrested at her home in Takoma Park, Md., by FBI agents after a federal indictment in New York charged her with several crimes, including act-

PLEASE SEE **Arrest** ON A 2



J.J. GUILLEN / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A peeled-open train car shows the force of the blast from one of 10 backpack bombs that went off in yesterday's attack.

Separatists, al-Qaida investigated in killing of 192

SEATTLE TIMES NEWS SERVICES

MADRID — Spain yesterday blamed Basque separatists for a series of bombs that blew apart trains and killed at least 192 people, but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spain's history.

The scale of the carnage went far beyond anything the Basque separatists have attempted and led to speculation that other forces might be at work.

An Arabic newspaper said it had received a claim of responsibility issued in the name of al-Qaida and police found a stolen van with seven detonators and the Arabic-language tape parked in a suburb near where the stricken trains originated. The letter also said plans for a major attack in the U.S. were almost complete.

Fear for loved ones

Spanish-Americans in Seattle scramble to contact family and friends in Madrid. A 14

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

The group — Euskadi ta Askatasuna, or Basque Homeland and Freedom — is believed by police to number perhaps only several dozen hard-core militants who are supported by a wider group of Basque nationalists.

The government had recently ex-

PLEASE SEE **Madrid** ON A 14

Cost estimates of Medicare plan withheld

White House threatened to fire actuary over projected price of drugs proposal

BY TONY PUGH
Knight Ridder Newspapers

WASHINGTON — The government's top expert on Medicare costs was warned that he would be fired if he told key lawmakers about a series of Bush administration cost estimates

that could have torpedoed congressional passage of the White House-backed Medicare prescription-drug plan.

When the House passed the controversial benefit by five votes in November, the White House was embracing

an estimate by the Congressional Budget Office that it would cost \$395 billion in the first 10 years. But the administration's analysts in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services had concluded months earlier that the drug benefit could cost upward

of \$100 billion more than that.

Withholding the higher cost projections was important because the White House was facing a revolt from 13 conservative House Republicans who had vowed to vote against the Medicare drug bill if it cost more than \$400 billion.

Rep. Sue Myrick of North Carolina, one of the 13 Republicans, said she was "very upset" when she learned of the

PLEASE SEE **Medicare** ON A 4

MORNING NEWSLINE

A quick look at today's news

The U.S. says it may have been Iraqi police, not impostors, who killed two coalition staffers and their translator. A 2

Presidential candidate John Kerry refused to apologize for an open-microphone remark that Republicans

are a "crooked . . . lying group." A 6

President Bush focused on the 9-11 attacks in a visit to Long Island, N.Y. A 6

A Texas city will pay \$5 million to 45 people wrongly arrested in 1999 on phony drug charges. A 8

A grisly discovery of bodies scattered at a Georgia crematory led to a \$40 million legal settlement. A 8

South Korean lawmakers voted to impeach President Roh Moo Hyun over a political spat that has grown into a crisis. A 9

A U.S. officer is to head the multinational peacekeeping force in Haiti. A 11

Chile's Congress voted to legalize divorce. A 13

Congressmen Norm Dicks and Jay Inslee want a se-

cret Navy briefing on a report that a Bangor crew damaged a nuclear missile. Local, B 1

Legislators wrapped up their session with the future of state primary elections unclear. Local, B 1

An attack on an opponent got Vancouver hockey player Todd Bertuzzi suspended for the rest of the season. Sports, C 3

Former Sonic Vin Baker will decide between playing for the Knicks or the Heat. Sports, C 8

Online jeweler Blue Nile of Seattle filed to go public with a \$75 million stock offering. Business, D 1

Falling mortgage rates approached last summer's record lows. Business, D 1



Weather

Areas of rain early, with some partial afternoon clearing. High 51, low 38. B 8

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