



CASPER AREA

City Council will decide fate of Aquatics Center on Tuesday **A3**

SPORTS

Wyoming ends season with tournament loss to BYU **D1**

ENCORE!

O'Connor joins Wyoming Symphony Orchestra for spring show **E1**



CASPER Star Tribune

Friday
March 12, 2004



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WYOMING'S STATEWIDE NEWSPAPER

Founded in 1891

DAILY UPDATE

A SUMMARY OF TODAY'S NEWS FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTERS

■ ELK ARE MOVING OUT of an area along Red Rim near Rawlins, where nearly 300 have died during the past five weeks, as researchers continue efforts to figure out what has caused the high mortality rate.

A flight over the area south-west of Rawlins on Wednesday provided an opportunity to view the locations where elk deaths have been most prevalent. Rawlins pilot Dwight France, who has been working with the Wyoming Game and Fish in monitoring the elk herds, said during the past several days elk have begun to move south from Red Rim and toward Atlantic Rim on their annual migration to spring and summer ranges.

See B1 for the full story.

■ A COUPLE IS SUING the Wyoming Medical Center, three physicians, two nurses and other persons for the alleged wrongful death of their stillborn son two years ago, according to a complaint filed in 7th District Court.

Shawna Archer and Otis Westmoreland, Jr., common law wife and husband, allege that the Wyoming Medical Center, the doctors, nurses and other personnel failed to properly monitor Archer's condition and that of her son in the eighth and ninth months of her pregnancy, according to the complaint filed Feb. 20 by their attorney Brett Cragan of Evanston.

See A3 for the full story.

■ A FORMER JOURNALIST and Capitol Hill press aide to four lawmakers Thursday became the first American to be charged with serving as an Iraqi agent and scheming to help insurgent groups now battling U.S. forces there.

Susan Lindauer, 40, was arrested at her \$250,000 suburban Washington condominium and appeared in federal court in Baltimore on suspicion of being involved as early as 1995 with members of the Iraqi Intelligence Service, whom she met on visits to Iraq's U.N. diplomatic mission in New York City.

A federal grand jury indictment alleges that Lindauer also met twice last summer with an undercover FBI agent who was posing as a Libyan spy bent on backing groups fighting American troops in Iraq.

See A5 for the full story.

■ UNLIKE THE MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE men's tournament, the women's first-round winners receive a day of rest before the semifinal round.

Good thing. Only eight Wyoming Cowgirls participated in Wednesday's stunning 67-61 victory over the Colorado State Rams. Six of them accounted for all but 5 of the team's minutes.

UW coach Joe Legerski held a light workout Thursday in preparation for today's matchup with the top-seeded New Mexico Lobos in the Pepsi Center.

See D1 for the full story.

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THE GROUCH

If that kind of spending doesn't shut them up, nothing will.



Terror in Spain

Officials try to determine who's responsible for deadly attacks

By **DAFNA LINZER** and **PAMELA SAMPSON**
Associated Press writers

Spanish leaders were quick to accuse Basque terrorists for setting off Thursday's devastating attacks in Madrid.

But hours later they were less sure. A shadowy Muslim militant group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida and a van found near the attacks had detonators inside plus tapes of Quranic verses.

Getting a truth could take time. Spanish officials used to blaming terrorism on the Basque separatist group ETA said they were opening up several lines of inquiry. As recent events have shown, it won't be easy. Other terrorist attacks carried out in the past two years in places such

as Morocco and Turkey remain unresolved.

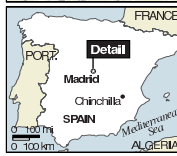
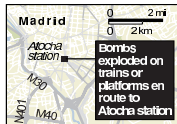
In Washington, a U.S. counterterrorism official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said it was too early to determine who was responsible for the attacks, which killed more than 190 people and wounded over 1,400.

"We're not ruling out the possibility there was outside responsibility (beyond ETA) in this," the official said. "That's something being pursued, but at this point it's too early to tell."

If ETA was behind the 10 bombs that tore through trains and stations around Madrid, it would mark a stunning turning point for the group.

For years ETA relied on targeted killings, extortion and

Please see **TERROR, A14**



PETER DEJONG/AP

Rescue workers remove victims at Atocha train station following a blast there, after explosions rocked three railway stations in Madrid on Thursday, just three days before Spain's general elections. The blasts killed more than 190 rush-hour commuters and wounded more than 1,400.

Shadowy group claims al-Qaida ties

At least 192 die in Madrid after explosions on commuter trains

By **MAR ROMAN**
Associated Press writer

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 three of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the heart of Madrid. Train



EMILIO NARANJO/AP

Police carry bodies out of a passenger train in the Atocha train station in Madrid on Thursday, after a number of bombs rocked railway stations.

Please see **KILLINGS, A4**

Eaton trial resumes today

Attorneys to mount defense

By **TARA WESTREICHER**
Star-Tribune staff writer

Attorneys for accused killer Dale Wayne Eaton will launch their defense this morning in 7th District Court.

District Judge David Park on Wednesday ordered a one-day recess in the trial after the state rested its case. Defense witnesses weren't expecting to be in court until today, he said.

District Attorney Mike Blonigen on Thursday said he didn't know how many of the people on the defense's 14-person witness list would be called during the trial phase. But he expected that both attorneys would be ready to give closing arguments by Monday.

Before the trial began March 3, the court estimated the process could take as long as four to five weeks.

"I always thought we could finish this quicker than the total time set for it," said Blonigen. "But we do anticipate some evidence from the defense Friday, although nothing is set in stone."

It's not known yet if Eaton will testify because Blonigen said the defense isn't obligated to tell him that.

"That's a very critical decision they have to make," he added. "And it's not unusual for (the defense) to change its mind."

Public defenders Wyatt Skaggs and Vaughn Neubauer are representing Eaton.

Skaggs, who set up shop in Casper for the duration of the trial, did not return calls Thursday regarding his expectations for the defense.

Please see **EATON, A14**

Lobbyist: K-12 system still not cost-based

'Extraordinary amount' spent on schools, Devin says

By **ROBERT W. BLACK**
Associated Press writer

CHEYENNE — More than eight years after a landmark Wyoming Supreme Court decision overturning the state's education financing system, the Legislature still has not produced a cost-based funding model, according to a leading education lobbyist.

Many lawmakers pronounced this year's work as a culmination of efforts to meet the court's November 1995 mandate that K-12 funding be based on actual costs and that the state take responsibility for all aspects of public school funding.

"They're deluding themselves because what the court said originally was their formula ... could be the model for constitutionality if certain things were fixed," said Al Atkins, lobbyist for the Wyoming School Boards Association and a trustee for Cheyenne schools.

"What they've done is make it a cost-containment model, not a cost-based model," he said. "My opinion, which is not a legal opinion, is that they're worse off now than they ever were."

Please see **SCHOOL, A14**