

STATE ■ NATION

CALIFORNIA JOGGIN'



A runner jogs past the masts of sailboats in Berkeley, Calif. (AP Photo)

Witness: Officer admitted taking missile launch control device

THE LATEST

MINOT, N.D. (AP) — A Minot Air Force Base officer admitted taking an obsolete missile launch control device as a souvenir, saying he thought it would be "a cool thing to have," his supervisor testified Tuesday.

News-makers

PEOPLE PLACES AND EVENTS

Dollars stolen from eatery's wall used to pay fine

INYOKERN, Calif. (AP) — Thousands of dollar bills stolen from a restaurant in California's high desert could not have been more clearly marked: The Homestead had a tradition of customers writing messages on the currency and hanging it on the walls.

New, faster genetic test for flu virus approved

ATLANTA (AP) — The government approved a new genetic test for the flu virus Tuesday that will allow labs across the country to identify flu strains within four hours instead of four days.

TALK ABOUT IT

the nation is hit by a pandemic of bird flu or some other mutant influenza. "We'll now be able to detect influenza in the community faster, which allows us to take steps more quickly to protect and save lives," CDC director Dr. Julie Gerberding said in a prepared statement.

This week in the Enid News & Eagle

LOCAL



For the eats ► Mid-America holds annual food show at Expo Center. In Wednesday's paper

ENTERTAINMENT

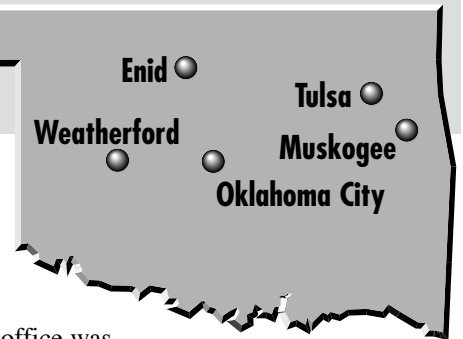


Up in the sky ► Air Show opening ceremony to begin at 10:30 on Saturday at Vance AFB. In Friday's paper

Corrections

The News & Eagle willingly accepts corrections to stories published in the newspaper. To submit a correction, call the news clerk at (580) 548-8140 or the associate editor at (580) 548-8143.

Oklahoma



19-year-old killed in crash

WEATHERFORD (AP) — A 19-year-old man has been killed and two students and a teacher at Corn Bible Academy were critically injured in a head-on collision in Washita County.

Air National Guard activates its new combat unit

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Oklahoma Air National Guard is activating a new 60-member combat unit that will be trained to coordinate air strikes against enemy targets.

commander on the ground and is responsible for coordinating air strikes against enemy targets.

The primary mission of the unit will be to support Oklahoma's 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team and California's 40th IBCT.

Muskogee bookkeeper charged with embezzlement

MUSKOGEE (AP) — A former bookkeeper in the Muskogee County Court Clerk's office has been charged with embezzlement as state auditors began investigating more than \$340,000 in missing funds.

Prosecutors on Monday filed one felony count of embezzlement against Jackie L. Borovetz, 57, of Muskogee.

Borovetz surrendered to authorities and entered a not guilty plea to the charges on Tuesday, said her attorney, Chris Blankenship.

State auditors arrived at the court clerk's office on Monday, and an audit is expected to take at least two weeks, said Court Clerk Paul Sexton.

Borovetz had worked as a bookkeeper at several Muskogee businesses before going to work as a deputy and bookkeeper in the Court Clerk's office in September 2002, Sexton said.

believe the funds were embezzled between November and September 2008.

Sexton said his office was alerted after a local bank questioned a check written on an office account. An internal investigation showed some money paid to the office appears to have been diverted into an account controlled by Borovetz, Sexton said.

Former teacher pleads guilty to peeping charge

TULSA (AP) — A former Tulsa elementary school teacher who's on probation for possessing child pornography has pleaded guilty to a felony "peeping Tom" charge.

Forty-three-year-old William Lee Hunter Jr. admitted setting up a video camera in an air vent above a boys' bathroom stall at Springdale Elementary School where he was a teacher.

He resigned in June 2007 and pleaded guilty three months later to possessing child pornography and was sentenced to four years probation.

Prosecutors are asking that the probation be revoked when Hunter is sentenced Nov. 17.

Tulsa opens doors of new City Hall amid complaints

TULSA (AP) — Tulsa opened the doors of its new City Hall to the public amid some complaints about the efficiency of the still-unfinished project.

The former City Hall, located at Civic Center Plaza, is closed and doors are locked. A sign on the door directs people to the new City Hall in the One Technology Center located at the corner of Second Street and Cincinnati Avenue in the One Technology Center.

Monday was the first day the new City Hall was open to the public.

"This is all crazy. It is stupid not to have City Hall sign on the building," said Eran Prudom, who drove past the building a couple of times. "How does the mayor expect us to find it?"

A master lease that addresses the leases for some of the private companies in the building prohibits a City Hall sign on the building's exterior. The building, at 100 S. Cincinnati Ave., also does not have an address posted on it.

A spokesman for the city, John Durkee, said he expects some signage in front of the building before the building is officially dedicated in November, and that it's not unusual for citizens to take a while to adjust to the new location.

"Yesterday was our first day into the new facility with everyone over here, and they're still doing some punch-list items on the building," Durkee said Tuesday. "We're learning as we go, listening to what the citizens are telling us and addressing those concerns as we can."

Low ratings

► Votes on consumer and health care issues have been criticized

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Some House and Senate leaders have drawn low ratings for their votes by a group that advocates for more protections for health care consumers and nursing home residents.

The 2008 Legislature drew an overall rating of "average" from the Oklahoma Foundation for Consumer and Patient Rights.

The group cited the defeat of bills to require insurance coverage for children with autism and for seriously ill patients who undergo clinical trials and legislation to require nursing homes to carry liability insurance.

"During the last session, help for cancer patients, children with autism and nursing home residents failed to overcome powerful, selfish interests. The poor, sick and the elderly continue to suffer because of it," said Jeff Raymond, executive director of the foundation.

Guy Thiessen, Tulsa attorney, said a task force appointed Gov. Brad Henry in 2006 showed more than half of the state's nursing homes had no liability insurance. He said patients and their families suffer as a result in abuse cases.

He said some nursing home operations are able to, in effect, thwart lawsuits through multiple corporations that allow owners to hide assets.

Senate Co-President Pro Tem Glenn Coffee, R-Oklahoma City, voted only 43 percent of the time for bills supported by the foundation.

Several House and Senate members voted only about half the time for issues backed by the group. House Speaker Chris Bengt, a Tulsa Republican, voted 62 percent of the time. Rep. Ken Luttrell, D-Ponca City, had the only 100 percent score.

Several lawmakers had scores in the high 80s and 90s. House Democratic leader Danny Morgan of Prague had a score of 87 percent and Senate President Pro Tem Mike Morgan, D-Stillwater, had a 90 percent score.

Enid area lawmakers and their scores were: Rep. Dale DeWitt, R-Braman, 64 percent; Rep. John Enns, R-Enid, 64 percent; Rep. Mike Jackson, R-Enid, 68 percent; Sen. Patrick Anderson, R-Enid, 76 percent; and Sen. David Myers, 53 percent.

Raymond said lawmakers did do some good things this past session, including passing bills to toughen penalties for elder care abuse, inform consumers when their confidential information has been breached and require child care centers to carry liability insurance.

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OG&E will not seek additional price hike

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Oklahoma Gas & Electric Co. customers won't see another increase on their electric bills to recover additional fuel costs deferred from earlier this year, the state's largest utility announced on Tuesday.

The Oklahoma City-based utility notified the Oklahoma Corporation Commission in June that it planned to pass along higher fuel costs to its customers. Rather than recovering 100 percent of its costs, the company said it planned to recover only 50 percent of the higher costs in the summer and recover the remaining amount during the milder months of fall and early winter if necessary.

"During the last few months, natural gas prices have declined, and we've

decided not to increase the fuel-cost recovery from the current level," OG&E's Vice President of Regulatory Affairs Howard Motley said in a statement.

Motley said the company will continue to work with the commission to address the effect of fluctuating natural gas and coal costs on customers' bills.

"We will likely see continued fluctuations in the natural gas and coal markets," Motley said. "By working with the Commission to examine fuel costs on a more frequent basis, we hope to reduce the short-term impact of any spike, or drop, in fuel price."

OG&E also announced Tuesday it has completed its acquisition of the Redbud natural gas-fired power plant near Luther.

If you don't know jewelry, KNOW YOUR JEWELER. SAME DAY JEWELRY REPAIR Standard Repair, in by noon out by 6:00. Some repairs may take longer. Monday-Friday

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