Editor: Lindsay Young (402) 472-1763

Bush, Gore finish on top

Super Tuesday results leave McCain, Bradley struggling

Tuesday, winning California, New York and five other primaries as he rose to vanguish John McCain.

Praising his insurgent challenger, the Texas governor said, "Soon our party will unite and turn to the main task at hand - ending the era of Clinton-

McCain won four states Tuesday but none beyond independent-minded New England. The Arizona senator said he was going home to consider his fate and an aide said he could quit the race as soon as Thursday. If so, it would end a campaign that had ignited enormous interest in the GOP primaries.

Forging familiar coalitions on Tuesday, Bush relied on the party faithful while McCain drew from independents and moderate Republicans. McCain's gamble of criticizing conser-

The Associated Press - George W. fired in key states, while Bush's visit to Bush accelerated his drive to the Bob Jones University with a history of Republican presidential nomination anti-Catholic views seemed to be a beneficial campaign issue for McCain in some states.

In reflective remarks late Tuesday, McCain told supporters he and Bush "may meet again," leaving plenty of room for doubt. There are seven GOP contests looming in the next week, most of them in Bush-friendly territory.

McCain told AP he'll meet with aides Wednesday "and talk about our future," and two top advisers said his challenge was futile after losing California, New York and Ohio, and they would recommend he throw in the

In a reflective mood, McCain said, "We've changed the face of politics and put reform on the agenda."

In a late-night rally, Bush said, "We have a national victory. Republicans and conservatives across American vative Christian leaders may have back- have said they want me to lead the 66 We've changed the face of politics and put reform on the agenda. We're proud of what we've done."

John McCain

Republican presidential candidate

Republican Party to victory come Republican presidential contests. November, and I am ready and eager to do so.'

The governor won California, Ohio, Georgia, Missouri and Maryland by double-digit margins - and broke McCain's hold in the Northeast with narrower victories in New York and

He also won the Minnesota caucuses. McCain took Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and

Based on partial returns, Bush picked up at least 362 delegates Tuesday, pushing his total to 532 of the 1,034 needed to win nomination. McCain won 120 delegates Tuesday for a total of 225. Alan Keyes, shut out in the primaries, won six in the Minnesota caucuses to increase his total to 11.

With Super Tuesday voting, the general election began to take shape: Vice President Al Gore swept the Vermont as voters in 13 states partici- Democratic contests, pushing Sen. Bill pated in the year's largest night of Bradley to the brink of withdrawal.

■ Florida

Demonstrators protest plan to end state affirmative action

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) -About 10,000 demonstrators chanting "Shame on Bush" jammed the State Capitol grounds Tuesday, demanding that Gov. Jeb Bush back off his plan to ban racial and gender preferences in university admissions and state con-

Pouring into Tallahassee from around the country, the demonstrators said they feared Bush's plan to end affirmative action would erase the gains blacks and other minorities have made since the civil rights movement.

Bush has put portions of the plan into effect through executive order, but other segments still need legislative approval.

The rally was timed to coincide with the governor's State of the State address and the opening of the legislative session.

■ Afghanistan

Taliban authorities attempt to curb drug trade

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - The Taliban authorities burned tons of hashish and hundreds of pounds of heroin in southern Kandahar on Tuesday in an attempt to curb a rampant drug trade in their war-battered country, a Taliban spokesman said.

The Taliban soldiers set fire to 780 pounds of heroin and 4,400 pounds of hashish, all of which were confiscated by the hardline Islamic militia in recent months, said Mohammed Shakaib by telephone from Kandahar. The Taliban religious army controls 90 percent of Afghanistan.

Afghanistan is the world's largest producer of opium - the raw material used to make heroin. Last year 4,600 tons of opium was produced in Afghanistan. Some of it was converted into heroin and some transported elsewhere for processing.

South Carolina

University to allow interracial

dating with parental approval GREENVILLE, S.C. (AP) Students who want to take advantage of Bob Jones University's decision to drop its ban on interracial dating will need a note from their parents.

Bob Jones III, the school's president, announced an end to the ban Friday. On Monday, he told nearly 4,000 students at a daily chapel service that they must tell their parents if they become involved in an interracial rela-

Parents must send a letter to the dean of men or women approving the relationship before the school will allow it, Jones said. He said at the chapel service that most people view interracial marriage as an unwise deci-

The school's policy was implemented in the 1950s to prevent Asians and whites from dating. Blacks were not admitted to the school until 1970.

California

Two of four missing bags of Oscar ballots found

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) -Ten mailbags with all 4,000 Oscar ballots were missing Tuesday in a real Hollywood whodunit for Academy Awards executives, a distinguished accounting firm and the Postal Service.

Postal workers found two of the missing sacks in the early afternoon, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences spokesman John Pavlik said. They had been hauled from the 90210 post office to a bulk mail warehouse in South Central Los Angeles.

If all of the ballots aren't found, the numbers on them will be invalidated, and new ones will be printed and mailed as early as Tuesday night.

Kosovo violence continues

■ Fight between Serb and Albanian turns into battle. leaving several wounded.

KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, Yugoslavia (AP) – A fight between an ethnic Albanian and a Serb escalated into a street battle Tuesday in which 16 French peacekeepers and 24 civilians were wounded, a further manifestation of the deep ethnic hatred dividing Kosovo.

The violence broke out on the northern side of Kosovska Mitrovica, forcing U.N. officials to suspend attempts to register Serbs wanting to return to their homes on the southern, ethnic Albanian side of town. Later, they moved up the divided city's curfew by two hours to 8 p.m.

According to witnesses, an ethnic Albanian identified as Luan Miftari attacked an unidentified Serb man with a crowbar in an Albanian neighborhood on the Serb-controlled side of Kosovska Mitrovica.

An Associated Press reporter saw several Serbs rush to help the injured man, while others went after Miftari.

In the crush, an ethnic Albanian details. opened fire from the backyard of a nearby house, seriously wounding one Serb.

"That created panic," said Lt. Matthieu Mabin, a spokesman for the French peacekeepers, who arrived after the shooting started.

The French troops and police were running down a narrow side street, toward the shots, when someone threw grenades at them.

Medics scrambled to stabilize one soldier's leg wound, as another lay on the ground moaning. Those who were not hurt in the blasts dragged injured comrades toward waiting ambulances.

"Hand grenades were thrown, we don't know from whom or from where ... but it created very many injured, especially French soldiers," Mabin confirmed.

Twenty Serbs, 16 French peacekeepers and four ethnic Albanians were injured, according to Lt. Col. Patrick Chanliau, another spokesman for the French peacekeepers. A 17th peacekeeper was injured in a separate incident, he said, but provided no

Four ethnic Albanians were arrested in the shootings, said

The number of wounded Tuesday was the most since Oct. 12, when 33 people were wounded near the bridge that connects the ethnically divided neighborhoods.

Three miles away from the fighting, peacekeepers escorted 13 ethnic Albanians to a high-rise apartment complex in the northern part of the city, where dozens of others were repatriated last week, French peacekeepers said. Serbs have consistently protested the return of ethnic Albanians to the northern half of Kosovska Mitrovica.

By late afternoon, a rocket hit one of the buildings, slamming into the structure's seventh floor. No injuries were reported.

The violence in Kosovska Mitrovica, located 20 miles northwest of Kosovo's provincial capital Pristina, underlines the difficulties NATO faces in attempting to return the town to its prewar, multiethnic

Hand grenades were thrown, we don't know from whom or from where ..."

Lt. Matthieu Mabin

spokesman for French peacekeepers

The northern neighborhood was inhabited by about 3,000 ethnic Albanians and several hundred Serbs until unrest early last month caused everyone to flee the area.

Members of a group of about 50 ethnic Albanians, who said they fled to the southern side Tuesday, said Serbs threw grenades at their homes, moving from one Albanian house to the next to drive out residents.

NATO-led peacekeepers moved into Kosovo last June after a 78-day bombing campaign that ended a yearlong Serb crackdown on ethnic

WEATHER

Showers

high 56, low 34

TOMORROW Partly cloudy

high 47, low 28

Nebraskan

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Clinton promotes gun control bill

President urges unity between House, Senate before Columbine anniversary.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Looking to break a stalemate over gun control legislation, President Bill Clinton invited members of Congress and the mother of a slain 6-year-old to the

White House on Tuesday. 'How many people have to get killed before we do something?" he

Clinton chided lawmakers for failing to meet to work out the differences between the House and Senate versions of a juvenile justice bill since last summer, saying that "the American people have waited long enough" for new protections.

He challenged Congress to produce final legislation for his signature by April 20, the anniversary of the massacre at Columbine High School

in Colorado.

"I know the gun lobby is cranking up pressure on Congress again, Clinton said. "But when first-graders shoot first-graders, it's time for Congress to do what's right for America's families."

Later Tuesday, Clinton met with Veronica McQueen. McQueen's daughter, Kayla Rolland, was shot to death in her first-grade classroom last week, allegedly by another 6-year-old.

"As a parent, my heart goes out to her," Clinton said. "And as president, I'm going to do all that I can do to see that this doesn't happen to other chil-

Key lawmakers left an Oval Office meeting with Clinton without an agreement to restart negotiations over a juvenile justice bill that contains new measures designed to keep guns out of the hands of children and criminals.

The White House called McQueen on Monday to invite her to a meeting with Clinton after learning she was in town.