

The Salt Lake Tribune

FEB. 29, 2012 « WEDNESDAY » SLT.UTAH.COM

The Mix » Ideas to help you make the most of a rare extra day » C1

HAPPY LEAP DAY

DOW CLOSES OVER 13,000 FOR FIRST TIME SINCE MAY 2008 » E1

SAVE: Details, A5
50%
Whitewater trip » \$30
SLCDailyDeal.com



Courtesy photo

Kristy Ragsdale was shot to death by her heavily medicated husband in a Lehi church parking lot three years ago.

Justices to docs: Consider families

Utah Supreme Court » Ruling is in response to Ragsdale kids' suit.

By MELINDA ROGERS
The Salt Lake Tribune

Health care providers have a duty to consider how treatment of a patient may affect that patient's family, the Utah Supreme Court ruled Tuesday in a decision that opens the door for family members to sue doctors if they are impacted when things go wrong with a loved one's care.

The high court's decision could have a widespread effect on the number of malpractice lawsuits filed against health care providers — a concern foreshadowed by attorneys in the medical community who argued before the high court in November that doctors should

Please see RAGSDALE, A8



The Associated Press

Prosecutor: Suspect shot kids randomly

NATION » A prosecutor said Tuesday that T.J. Lane, above left, the Ohio teen accused of killing three students in a Monday shooting spree, "chose his victims at random. This is not about bullying. ... This is someone who's not well." » A7

Could filming farm animals soon be illegal?

UTAH » Rep. John Mathis, R-Vernal, wants to stop animal-advocacy groups from taking what he describes as distorted videos alleging animal abuse. His HB187 passed the House on a 60-14 vote last week and is now before the Senate. » B1

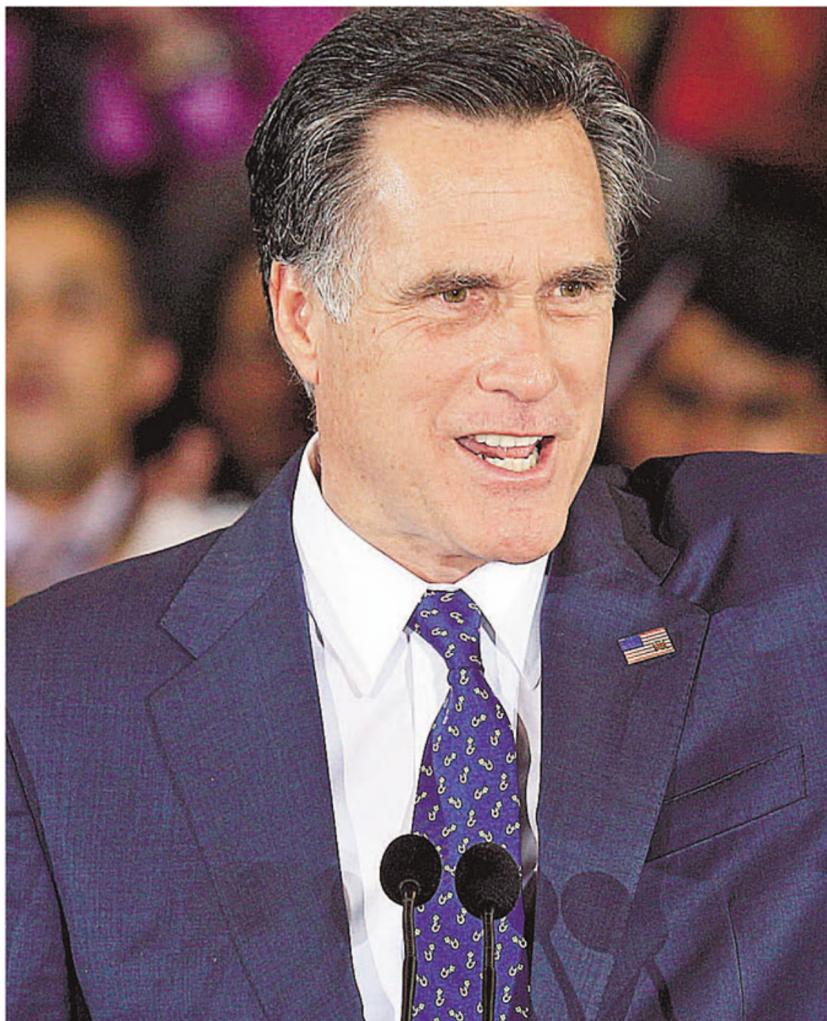
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GOP PRIMARIES "We won by enough," presidential hopeful Mitt Romney said Tuesday night in Michigan after primary wins there and in Arizona. The field now looks to next week's Super Tuesday, which could go a long way toward determining who will face Barack Obama in the fall.

IT'S ALL MITT



CARLOS OSORIO | The Associated Press

Mitt Romney greets supporters Tuesday at a gathering in Novi, Mich. Romney won 41 percent of the vote in Michigan and 48 percent in Arizona; with the wins, Romney has 152 delegates.

Romney regains momentum with wins in Arizona and his home state, Michigan; 3 foes already looking ahead.

By DAVID ESPO and KASIE HUNT
The Associated Press

Washington » Mitt Romney scored a hard-won, home state triumph in Michigan and powered to victory in Arizona on Tuesday night, gaining a two-state primary sweep over Rick Santorum and precious momentum in the most turbulent Republican presidential race in a generation.

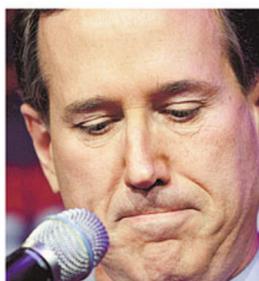
"We didn't win by a lot, but we won by enough," Romney told cheering supporters in Michigan. He also tweeted his delight — and his determination: "I take great pride in my Michigan roots, and am humbled to have received so much support here these past few weeks."

"On to the March contests," he said, looking ahead to next week's Super Tuesday races that could go

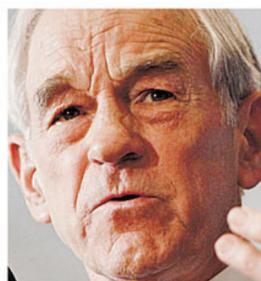
Please see MITT, A3

Obama lauds auto bailout, rips GOP foes

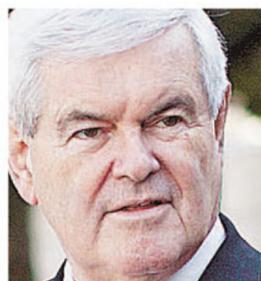
President Barack Obama accused GOP presidential challengers of abandoning U.S. autoworkers and took credit for the industry's resurgence. » A3



RICK SANTORUM » In Michigan, the former Pennsylvania senator got 38 percent of the vote. He now has 72 delegates.



RON PAUL » The Texas congressman won 12 percent of the vote in Michigan and now has 19 delegates.



NEWT GINGRICH » The former House speaker earned 7 percent of the vote in Michigan and now has 32 delegates.

Utah sticks to guns on N-plant

Energy » State engineer upholds his water-use ruling despite questions about project's funding.

By JUDY FAHYS
The Salt Lake Tribune

State Engineer Kent Jones is sticking with his decision to funnel Colorado River Basin water to what would be Utah's first nuclear power plant. And, in doing so, he clears the way for a court to consider if his original decision was right.

Jones said Tuesday he would not revisit his decision last month to give Blue Castle Holdings the right to develop 53,600 acre-feet of water to cool its proposed two-unit nuclear plant despite

Please see NUKE, A6

“Since my conclusion regarding the financial ability of the applicants to construct the proposed works was not based on the mischaracterized information, however, my opinion remains unaltered.”

KENT JONES
State engineer



TRENT NELSON | The Salt Lake Tribune

The Utah National Guard flew business executives on a tanker Tuesday from Salt Lake City to Fort Hood, Texas, as part of the "Bosslift" program.

Utah employers get trip to watch soldiers in action

By PATTY HENETZ
The Salt Lake Tribune

The first time Curtis Nance interviewed for his job at the South Jordan branch of Mountain America Credit Union, he impressed his future employers with his military grace.

"There was more maturity and more professionalism," said branch manager Bret Carter.

Just five months later, Nance joined the 360 soldiers of the Utah National Guard's 1st Battalion 211th Aviation unit for training at Fort Hood, Texas. On Wednesday, Carter and managers from 34 other

Please see BOSSLIFT, A5

Help offered

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is a Department of Defense agency that educates businesses, honors supportive firms and mediates disputes. Its resources are available online. » bit.ly/zckEvM

9/11 remains trashed

NATION » Some incinerated remains of victims of 9/11 attacks at the Pentagon and Shanksville, Pa., that couldn't be identified were sent to a landfill, the Pentagon revealed Tuesday. » A10

Classifieds	D10	Money	E1
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Snowe's retirement erases one of Hatch's re-election arguments

By **MATT CANHAM**
The Salt Lake Tribune

Washington » One of Sen. Orrin Hatch's main arguments for re-election evaporated Tuesday when Maine Sen. Olympia Snowe announced she plans to retire.

Hatch and his supporters have repeatedly warned Utah conservatives that if he loses his seat, Snowe, a moderate, would be the top Republican on the Senate Finance Committee, which oversees taxes, Social Security and Medicare. Dan Liljenquist, one of Hatch's GOP rivals, said Snowe's retirement "absolutely" shatters that concern. "I think Olympia Snowe recognizes we need a new generation of leaders in this country," he said. "The United States Senate is and always has been larger than one person."

Liljenquist noted that with Snowe's retirement, Idaho Sen. Mike Crapo would be next in line in the Finance Committee if Hatch is ousted. Crapo is one of the Senate's most conservative members, according to the recent *National Journal* ratings.

Hatch's campaign manager, Dave Hansen, said the warnings about Snowe have only

been "a minor argument." He downplayed any impact her retirement may have in Utah.

"Does it affect our race? No, not really," he said. "But you always hate to see a Republican senator retiring. That's too bad she is leaving."

He said Republicans should support Hatch at the state convention because he has served the state well during the past 36 years and he has a chance to chair the Finance Committee if Republicans take control of the Senate.

Hatch, Utah's longest-serving senator, has two Republican challengers — Liljenquist and Provo Rep. Chris Herrod — who question his conservative credentials. Unless one of the three wins 60 percent of the delegate vote in April's state GOP Convention, two will emerge to compete in a primary.

Snowe is a three-term senator and one of the few willing to cross party lines on contentious issues. She cited the high level of partisanship in Washington as the reason she is ending her re-election bid.

"Olympia has always been a fighter for her state," Hatch said. "Resolute ... and committed to her beliefs, her presence in the Senate will be missed."

Bosslift

» Continued from A1

Utah companies will watch their soldier-employees training for deployment to Afghanistan.

The businesses were part of the Utah Guard's "Bosslift" Tuesday, a flight to Fort Hood aboard a KC-135 Air-to-Air Refueling Tanker. The group will return Thursday.

And when Nance comes back in a year, his job will be waiting for him, said Jason Rogers, a MACU senior vice president. The credit union values military service, but it's also just what they do, Rogers said.

"We try to maintain a flexible workplace for all our employees," he said.

Bosslifts are used throughout the country by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve [ESGR], a Department of Defense agency that educates businesses about the workplace rights of returning service members and celebrates those who are especially supportive.

The flights are typically offered after a large unit deploys together, said Maj. Bruce Roberts, spokesman for the Utah National Guard.

The Utah battalion left in mid-January. At Fort Hood, members are becoming validated as an AH-64D Attack Battalion. The battalion was previously validated on an earlier version of the Apache attack helicopter.



TRENT NELSON | The Salt Lake Tribune

Business executives take photographs and video before boarding a KC-135 Air-to-Air Refueling Tanker on Tuesday in Salt Lake City. The Utah National Guard flew the execs to Fort Hood, Texas, as part of a national program to encourage companies to support National Guard and Reserve soldiers.

The purpose of the Bosslifts, Roberts said, is to have employers and civic leaders see first-hand the technical training, leadership development and team building skills that a member receives.

"We understand it's a hardship for these companies," Roberts added. "You are losing somebody from your team."

Federal law generally requires businesses to hire back their returned service members and provide the same seniority, status and pay. With some exceptions, the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act [USERRA] safeguards service members for absences that last up to five years.

State Employer Support offices are also the first stop for service members who believe their rights

have been violated. During fiscal year 2010, the agency was contacted more than 34,000 times, leading to 3,200 cases opened for mediation nationwide.

Unresolved disputes are occasionally pursued by the Department of Justice. In Utah in 2010, Justice settled a suit against Synapse Data and Telecom Inc., accused of firing an employee from Layton because he refused to withdraw from the Utah National Guard. The company did not admit wrongdoing but paid the network administrator \$3,000 in back pay.

Utah's Employer Support office has saluted businesses for a variety of special efforts, from making bulletin boards that honor serving colleagues to sending them care packages and helping with the yard work at their homes and checking on their families.

From Fort Hood on Tuesday afternoon, Carter said he hopes Nance returns to MACU, where he worked as a member service representative, more familiarly known as a teller.

"We would love to have him back at our branch," Carter said.

Angela Wenger, a Utah recruiter with AlliedBarton Security Services, also was on the flight, nominated by Chance Zimmerman, a security officer at Provo Towne Centre.

Wenger keeps an eye out for active military or veterans. "They're reliable," she said. "They know how to talk, they are customer-oriented and they know how to handle difficult situations."

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Tribune staffers *Kristen Moulton* and *Sheila McCann* contributed to this report.

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