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PENNSYLVANIA NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Erie Times-News

Breaking News: GoErie.com

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WEATHER



Pleasant; sun and clouds
High: 62 Low: 50
Sunset: 6:31 p.m.
Forecast, 6B

IN THE KNOW

3 things that will help make you smarter today



1 Fraud confirmed in Afghan vote

Fraud investigators on Monday threw out nearly a third of Afghan President Hamid Karzai's votes from the August election, stepping up the pressure for him to accept a runoff.
Up Close, 3A



2 Teens take tennis titles

McDowell freshman Daraja Hill and Mercyhurst Prep sophomore Maggie McLaughlin claim D-10 girls tennis titles.
Sports, 1C

3 Market hits high for 2009

The stock market stepped to a new high for the year Monday after a handful of reports boosted hopes that the economy is coming back sooner than analysts thought.
You Inc., 1D

DEATHS

Adsit, Harvey W., 79
Bergquist, Roger D., 79
Collier, Josephine T., 82
DiNicola, Joanne M. DiRenzo, 72
Gehres, Leo E., 94
Ingalls, Audrey Triana, 73
Leamy, Madeline Becht, 93
Moore, Darron B., 54
Peters, Frank L., 88
Sabol, Daniel Andrew, 93
Schmidt, Robert, 85
Thomas, Debra Lynn, 51
Zirol, Palmer E., 80

Details, 3B

FIND IT

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College cash withheld

Rendell halts funding during budget talks

ASSOCIATED PRESS

HARRISBURG — More than \$700 million in taxpayer dollars slated for Pennsylvania State University and several other universities remains in limbo.

Top state legislators met on Monday — without reaching an agreement — on how to expand the state's casino gambling that Gov. Ed Rendell said is necessary to complete the state's budget and raise enough revenue to

cover universities over the next two years.

The legislators' meeting was their first since Oct. 9, when Rendell signed the key bills necessary to end Pennsylvania's 3-month-old budget impasse.

Legalizing table games and releasing money to the schools are the only unfinished parts of the \$27.8 billion budget package, but a major sticking point for legislators is deciding how high to set the state's tax rate on table-game winnings.

Rendell told legislators before they met that he will veto a bill that will not produce at least \$200 million this year from the taxes and fees state government would get by adding table games to the state's slot-machine casinos.

"Look, we waited 101 days to get a budget that met my two markers that I put down," Rendell told reporters. "And one of those

► Please see **BUDGET, 4A**

WHAT IT MEANS

Gov. Ed Rendell said that until a table games bill is passed, he will hold back \$730 million in discretionary funding for universities and other institutions. Legislators disagree on several aspects of table games, including the tax rate on winnings and whether to set aside a portion of tax revenue for counties and municipalities that host the casinos.

'I like to get a strike. It's hard, but I can do it.'



JACK HANRAHAN/Erie Times-News

Mary Smolinsky, 86, bowls with the help of Kathleen Grunmeier, a Special Olympics assistant coach, at Rolling Meadow Lanes in Millcreek Township on Saturday.

Rolling along

Erie bowler, 86, stands out as area's oldest Special Olympian



WATCH IT

See 86-year-old Mary Smolinsky, Erie County's oldest Special Olympics participant, bowling.

GoErie.com/video

By GERRY WEISS
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She shows you her bowling medals, proudly, then gently runs her hand over the red, yellow and blue ribbons they're attached to.

There are words etched in the medals. Skill. Courage. Sharing. Joy.

The message that has championed the spirit of the Special Olympics for more than four decades also echoes the life of Mary Smolinsky.

The Erie native, who at age 86 recently became the oldest Special Olympics participant in Erie County, and possibly the oldest in the state, earned those

► Please see **BOWLER, 4A**

300

That's how many participants in Special Olympics there are in Erie County. Their ages range from 8 to 86.

3 million

That's how many Special Olympics participants there are worldwide, in more than 180 countries.

County executive hopefuls debate

Kerner, Grossman spar over college proposal

By KEVIN FLOWERS
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EDINBORO — Debating in a postsecondary setting, it was no surprise that Democrat Barry Grossman and Republican Mike Kerner spent plenty of time on the pros and cons of a proposed Erie County community college.

Grossman, the Democratic nominee for Erie County executive, and Kerner, the Republican nominee, discussed that issue and a host of others in front of a student-heavy audience of about 225 at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania's Pogue Student Center on Monday night.

The candidates' 90-minute forum — organized by adjunct professor Mary A. Murray's advanced-journalism class — gave students, faculty and the public the chance to hear Grossman and Kerner explain their campaign platforms and outline their plans for running county government.

Grossman and Kerner are vying in the Nov. 3 election to succeed County Executive Mark DiVecchio.

Students from Murray's class crafted questions

► Please see **DEBATE, 4A**



WEB POLL

Are you ready to vote for Erie County executive?
GoErie.com/ETN

Kanzius treated self with device

By ERICA ERWIN
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Cancer makes people do whatever it takes. That's the explanation that Maryann Yochim gave for John Kanzius' revelation on CBS's "60 Minutes" on Sunday that he had tried his cancer-killing machine on himself.

"You are wishing and praying and hoping for a miracle. It's a life-and-death situation," said Yochim, president of the John Kanzius Cancer Research Foundation.

"I've been there, and it's a place you pray no one has to experience," said Yochim, whose husband died of pancreatic cancer. "That's why we are so tenacious in research because many of us have experienced a similar hardship."

Parts of the "60 Minutes" segment were filmed over several months in 2008 and after Kanzius' death in February from pneumonia, a side effect of chemotherapy treatments for a rare leukemia.

► Please see **KANZIUS, 4A**

COMING UP: Get a guide to the green with a look at the PIAA Western Regional golf tournament. **Wednesday in Varsity**