



SUCCESS BY AGE 26

Folks who hit their stride at an early age
VARIETY



Little kids like rock music, too VARIETY, 64

Radke, Twins fall to Tigers SPORTS



Low: 38°
High: 50°

WEATHER, B8

Tuesday
April 26, 2005
50¢

Star Tribune

NEWSPAPER OF THE TWIN CITIES

Metro
Edition

www.startribune.com

TWINS STADIUM PLAN | THE PUBLIC PUSH



Tom Sweeney/Star Tribune
Twins Sports Inc. President Jerry Ball showed a rendering of the proposed Twins stadium as he spoke about the plan Monday.

Pawlenty: Twins plan reasonable

Deal to get County Board vote today

By Rochelle Olson, Mike Kaszuba and Conrad DeFiebre
Star Tribune Staff Writers

Go. Tim Pawlenty called the Hennepin County Minnesota Twins ballpark proposal reasonable Monday, a crucial signal of support for a plan that would need to pass the Legislature. Team owner Carl Pohlad and Hennepin County Commissioner Mike Opat spoke of the day-old plan in a celebratory tone in front of civic leaders and media multitudes at a windy news conference on the Metrodome's plaza.

"I'll go home tonight and have a nice, good sleep and not worry about stadiums," the 89-year-old Pohlad said.

After weeks of negotiations, the Twins and Hennepin County announced a deal that would increase the general sales tax 0.15 percentage points to pay for a \$478 million ballpark complex in the Minneapolis Warehouse District. Pohlad is expected to contribute \$40 million up front and \$15 million more before the ballpark would open in 2009.

TWINS continues on A7:
— Pohlad calls his share fair.

FOR OR AGAINST?

HENNEPIN COUNTY BOARD

"I'm getting a ton of e-mails. People are outraged [at] people sort of thumbing their nose about having a voice in the referendum."
— Penny Steele

"I've opposed more of these proposals than I've [supported]. This one, I think the financing is straightforward. I think the sales tax is a minimal amount."
— Randy Johnson

LEGISLATORS

"I think you have to look at this in terms of the total taxation the county is burdening you with. I'm just not sure this should be as high a priority for them."
— Sen. David Hamm, R-Eden Prairie

"They may have worked out something that's more acceptable in the long run. This proposal sounds reasonable to me, and I hope we can get it done."
— Sen. Linda Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park

Delivery questions: 612-673-4343
To place a classified ad:
612-673-7000 or 1-800-527-9233

Tuesday, April 26, 2005
Copyright 2005, Star Tribune
Volume XXV/Number 22 © Star Tribune 112723 500000 1 04265

With a few days left to commit to a school, some students are still on the fence.

It's decision time for college-bound

By Alife Shah
Star Tribune Staff Writer

It's called the drop-dead date, and it's around the corner. By May 1, many colleges require high school seniors to let them know whether they'll be coming this fall. But less than a week before the deadline, some college-bound seniors still don't know. Some can't afford to go to their top choice. Some are on waiting lists. Others are playing a "Should I stay or go?" routine, debating the merits of a faraway location vs. a school that's closer to home and free laundry. There are even a few seniors who have stashed their search all over.

Emily Lot is one. A senior at St. Paul Harding High, she thought she was done earlier this year when she found out she'd been accepted to both the schools where she applied: the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities and Century College in White Bear Lake. Lot, 18, had planned to study art. Then a teacher prodded her to think about what she would do after studying art. What next after college?

COLLEGE continues on A7

In 2004, the number of American students enrolled in two-year or four-year colleges: 15 million

School bus runs over, kills 5-year-old



Cha Yang, 19, whose 5-year-old brother was killed Monday when he was run over by a school bus in north Minneapolis, walked away from the scene of the accident to his house a block away.

By Chao Xiong
Star Tribune Staff Writer

After school, kindergartner Kong Meng Yang would get off his school bus at 25th and James Avenues N., cross the street, walk a block to his family's modest duplex and re-gale his immigrant mother which his newfound English.

The 5-year-old was run over and killed by his school bus at the north Minneapolis intersection Monday afternoon. His widowed mother lin-

gered there soon after, calling to her son's soul in a sing-song wail. "I miss my child. I miss my child," his mother, Mai Chao Xiong, said in Hmong as she stood flanked by grieving relatives. Police and school spokespeople said the boy was coming home from Jordan Park Elementary School when the accident occurred.

at 25th and James, letting some children off the bus. She drove on a little ways and felt a bump under the bus. Thinking it was a backpack, she drove a little farther until, in her rearview mirror, she saw the boy's body.

It was reported to police at 1:55 p.m., said Minneapolis police spokesman Ron Iteier.

Reier said the bus driver stopped

She stopped the bus and drove back to where she had been, Reier said.

BUS continues on A6:
— No sign that alcohol or drugs were involved.

Red Lake Band won't work with Canterbury

Spokesman: State will 'plow ahead'

By Pat Doyle
Star Tribune Staff Writer

Signaling a deepening erosion of support among Indians for the governor's latest gambling plan, the Red Lake Tribal Council on Monday rejected joining the state and Canterbury Park racetrack in a casino venture in Shakopee.

The decision, by a 9-0 vote, follows a similar announcement last week by the Leech Lake Band. If those decisions stand, they would dramatically reduce the projected number of Indians who would benefit from a state-sponsored casino.

Concern that a deal with Canterbury would encourage more non-Indians to seek per-

mission to run slot machines and reluctance to open a casino that would compete with the Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota Community's Mystic Lake Casino were factors in the Tribal Council's decision, said Red Lake Tribal Treasurer Darrell Seki Sr. Red Lake and Leech Lake will support an earlier casino proposal involving tribes and the state, but that plan stalled in the Legislature. In an effort to find a winning strategy, Gov. Tim Pawlenty merged that proposal with a racino plan by Canterbury Park. The new proposal would put two casinos at the Shakopee track.

CASINO continues on A6



Social Security debate begins in earnest today

By Robin Toner and David E. Rosenbaum
New York Times

WASHINGTON, D.C. — After months of political maneuvering, presidential campaigning, advertising and ultimatums, the 20-member Senate Finance Committee plans to start grappling today with overhauling the Social Security system.

On the eve of the first congressional hearing, Republicans on the committee signaled that they will not issue that personal accounts be part of the legislation and that they will not seek further details from President Bush about his plans for the governance-run retirement program.

In a briefing arranged by Republican staff on the committee Monday, a committee official involved in the Social Security discussions also said the legislation will move through the committee in June or July.

DEBATE continues on A6:
— Hearing will examine four overhaul plans.