



Rolling sevens

The mating game takes an extended honeymoon with "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers."

Spot 16

Moving closer

Business E-1

Citgo Petroleum Corp. workers prepare for Houston.

Weighing the good and bad

Satellite D-1

Fad diets that promise a quick and easy fix can be dangerous to your health.

Comeback begins

Sports B-1

After three setbacks, former Oklahoma Sooner Trent Smith can't wait for the NFL season.



www.tulsaworld.com

FRIDAY

JULY 9, 2004

TULSA WORLD

SINCE 1905

★★ FINAL HOME EDITION



50¢

Marine safe at U.S. Embassy



Hassoun

► The Navy is investigating whether Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun was ever abducted following conflicting reports.

By **SAM F. GHATTAS**
Associated Press

BEIRUT, Lebanon — A Marine whose apparent kidnapping in Iraq was followed by conflicting claims — first that he was beheaded, then that he was alive — contacted U.S. authorities Thursday and was safe in his native Lebanon. The Navy was investigating whether his abduction could have been a hoax.

Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun, reported missing from his base near the troubled city of Fallujah 18 days ago, arranged with American officials to pick him up Thursday afternoon in Beirut and bring him to the U.S. Embassy, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said in Washington.

At nearly the same time, a gunfight broke out between members of Hassoun's clan in his home city of Tripoli and business rivals

who called them American collaborators because Hassoun joined the Marines. Two people were killed.

Confusion had surrounded the fate of the 24-year-old, Lebanese-born Hassoun since a dramatic videotape broadcast on Arab television June 27 showed him with his eyes covered by a white blindfold and a sword hanging over his head.

His reported capture, claimed by a group calling itself "Islamic Response," came during the tense run-up to the U.S. transfer of sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government

SEE MARINE A-4

Porn use by judge alleged

► Explicit images were found on the embattled jurist's state computer.

By **BARBARA HOBEROCK**
AND **P. J. LASSEK**
World Staff Writers

At least nine sexually explicit pictures and a suggestive e-mail were found on the state computer of a Creek County judge who faces removal for alleged improper sexual conduct during court proceedings.

Howard Conyers, the administrative director of the courts, confirmed Thursday that the pictures and e-mail were found on a computer issued to District Judge Donald D. Thompson.

The pictures, shown to reporters, include a man holding his penis and what appears to be a woman performing oral sex on a man. None of the people was identified.

The computer's directory indicates that the pictures were placed on the computer Feb. 9, 2002, and modified March 12, 2002.

The Administrative Office of the Courts examined Thompson's computer at the request of The Associated Press, and a review is continuing.

Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson filed a petition with the Court on the Judiciary on June 23 seeking the ouster of Thompson for allegedly using a penis pump while presiding over trials.

SEE JUDGE A-3



Thompson

Enron's Lay pleads innocent

► The company's former chairman faces 11 counts of conspiracy and fraud.

By **KRISTEN HAYS**
Associated Press

HOUSTON — Federal prosecutors unveiled charges Thursday that placed Enron Corp.'s founder and former chairman, Kenneth Lay, at the center of a conspiracy to manipulate the company's books in the frenzied weeks before its scandalous collapse.

Lay returned the punch with an unusual and aggressive public declaration of innocence, speaking at length at a news conference and taking questions from reporters after entering a not guilty plea.

"I firmly reject any notion that I engaged in any wrongful or criminal activity," he said, adding that his failure to prevent the company's bankruptcy did not equate to a crime. "Not only are we ready to go to trial, but we are anxious to prove my innocence."

Lay was escorted in handcuffs to federal court in Houston 2½ years into a methodical investigation that has produced charges against some of his once most highly trusted lieutenants. Prosecutors have aggressively pursued the one-time friend and contributor to President Bush, and this week's action made Lay the 30th and highest-profile person charged.

Prosecutors contend that Lay, his hand-picked protege and former Enron chief executive officer, Jeffrey Skilling, and the company's former top accountant, Richard Causey, were among the principal operators of a wide-ranging scheme to deceive the public, shareholders, regulators and others.

A federal indictment unsealed Thursday alleged that Skilling spearheaded the scheme until he abruptly quit in mid-August 2001, less than four months before Enron imploded. Lay returned as the chief executive upon Skilling's departure and "took over leadership of the conspiracy," the indictment said.

In 11 counts of conspiracy, securities fraud, bank fraud and other

SEE LAY A-7



MICHAEL STRAVATO/Associated Press

Former Enron Chief Executive Officer Ken Lay (left) is led into federal court Thursday by law officers in Houston to face charges that he engaged in schemes to conceal the state of the company's finances.

Councilors reject plan to expand north fenceline

► About 200 opponents cheer after the proposal fails by a 6-3 margin.

By **P.J. LASSEK**
World Staff Writer

The City Council rejected 6-3 an ordinance Thursday that would have expanded the city's fenceline around a 23-square-mile area of unincorporated land north of Tulsa without affecting the rural residents' property.

The expansion of the fenceline

TULSA CITY COUNCIL

would have retained the city's right to annex the area later without the consent of landowners.

The area is bounded by 56th and 126th streets north, Harvard Avenue and Memorial Drive.

In 1973, Tulsa annexed a 70-foot-wide strip of land, called a fenceline, around that area to protect it from being encroached upon by other cities. The city has plans to eventually

bring the area into the city limits.

A new state law, effective Nov. 1, prohibits the city from annexing the land without the consent of the landowners with the majority of property unless the area is surrounded on three sides by a 300-foot-wide fence-line.

The proposed widening of the fenceline was an alternative to an earlier proposal to annex all 23 square miles.

But hundreds of residents in the area oppose any annexation and for months have made their concerns

known to councilors.

On Thursday, about 200 opponents cheered after the vote. Many spoke to councilors during the 2½-hour discussion of the ordinance.

Councilor Roscoe Turner made the motion to reject the ordinance, which was supported by Councilors Chris Medlock, Jack Henderson, Jim Mautino, Sam Roop and Bill Christiansen

Roop and Christiansen solidified the rejection when they announced they had intended to vote for the fen-

SEE COUNCIL A-3

AG nixes inquiries at Rader

By **OMER GILLHAM**
World Staff Writer

Attorney General Drew Edmondson has denied a request by federal officials to interview Rader Center residents and staff as part of a federal probe into the facility.

The U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division notified state officials in April that it planned to investigate conditions of confinement at the Lloyd E. Rader Center in Sand Springs.

"We believe the Justice Department does not have the authority to interview Rader people because this is a state issue," said Charlie Price, Edmondson's spokesman. "We will comply with the request to review Rader records, but we believe the federal government has no authority to interview people. They will have to sue us to do that."

In addition to the federal probe, the Rader Center faces an investigation by a state commission examining treatment of Rader residents. A third investigation of the facility might occur as part of a proposed study by the Oklahoma Legislature.

The troubled Rader Center is a maximum security lockup for delinquent youths. A June 18 brawl at the facility injured 17 people, including 10

SEE RADER A-3