Most deaths in Italian earthquake were students

INTERNATIONAL SAN GIULIANO DI PUGLIA.

Italy — Emergency crews clawed through the rubble of a school Friday, frantically searching for children buried when an earthquake leveled their classrooms during a Halloween party. At least 24 people were killed, nearly all of them children.

As hopes for finding anyone alive faded, rescuers used cranes, sledgehammers, blowtorches and their bare hands to reach six youngsters known to be under the rubble.

But the death toll mounted quickly after midnight. Officials said Friday that 24 people were confirmed dead— 21 children inside the school, a teacher and two women in nearby homes.

Campobasso area northeast of Naples

in the Molise region at 11:33 a.m.

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about 1,195 people, was hit the hardest, with several buildings damaged. The ANSA news agency said 3,000 people in the region were left home-

KOROLYOV, Russia — A spacecraft carrying two Russian cosmonauts and a Belgian astronaut docked smoothly with the international space station on its maiden flight today.

But the success was tempered by a warning that Russia does not have the money to pay for the next mission.

The Soyuz crew includes Capt. Sergei Zaletin, Belgian first flight engineer Frank de Winne of the European Space Agency and second flight engi-The magnitude 5.4 quake hit the neer Yuri Lonchakov. They are set to return to Earth 10 days from now in another Soyuz, leaving their own ship

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station's permanent crew.

Nikolai Moiseyev, the agency's deputy chief, said today that the money problem was "quite difficult." He said Russia would discuss the issue next month with other members of the 16nation project.

The space station's crew now includes American Peggy Whitson and her two Russian crewmates, who have been living aboard the orbiting complex since June.

HOUSTON — Andrew S. Fastow, accused of being the chief architect of complex financial schemes credited with fueling Enron Corp.'s swift collapse last year, has been indicted on 78 counts of fraud, money laundering, conspiracy and other charges.

The indictment from a grand jury in San Giuliano di Puglia, a village of behind as a new lifeboat for the Houston alleges Fastow was at the cen-

phantom profits and let him skim off millions of dollars for himself, his family and friends. If convicted, he could be sentenced to hundreds of years in iail and millions of dollars in fines.

Neither Fastow, the highest-ranking former Enron official charged so far in the Justice Department's probe, nor his lawyers were present when the indictment was presented Thursday in federal court. His arraignment was scheduled for Wednesday.

The indictment mirrored a criminal complaint filed Oct. 2, except for a new charge of obstruction of justice. Fastow, 40, is free on \$5 million bond.

"These charges are full of sound and fury, but the truth about Enron has yet to be told," said Fastow's attorney, John W. Keker. "When that truth is told, to a jury of 12 honest Americans, Andy Fastow will be set free."

MINNEAPOLIS — With their ab-

ter of multiple schemes that produced breviated campaign near the halfway he wins. mark, the candidates for Minnesota's U.S. Senate seat are touting the access to power they'd have in Washington.

> Republican Norm Coleman is giving voters a glimpse of his White House connections, with Vice President Dick Cheney expected to campaign for him Friday. First lady Laura Bush will stump for him in a Twin Cities suburb Saturday and President Bush stops by for a rally in St. Paul on Sunday.

But former vice president Walter Mondale, the Democrat running in the place of the late Sen. Paul Wellstone, got a boost of his own when Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle on Democratic Senate leadership team if written in marker.

"That will allow me to go to work immediately to help our state and to help be a force in American life," Mondale said Thursday, his first full day of campaigning after being nominated at a special state meeting of Democrats Wednesday night.

Mondale would be one of about 10 Democrats in Daschle's inner circle.

NEW YORK — Outside the recording studio where hip-hop legend Jam Master Jay was fatally shot, bereaved fans laid flowers, candles, personal notes and an Adidas sneaker — a reference to the group's hit song "My Thursday promised a spot on the Adidas" — with "R.I.P JMJ" hand-

The Goodland Cowboys are going to the post-season playoffs! Bi-District action is at Kingman,

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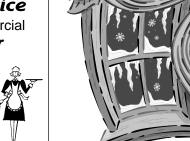
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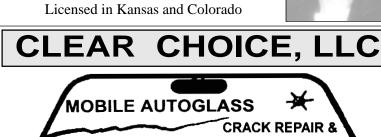
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