

Budget slump top story

STORY, from Page 1

percent, nearly 17,300 people.

For the 6th ranked story, it was Sebelius again.

But this time the story was about how as insurance commissioner she rejected the proposed sale in February of Blue Cross-Blue Shield of Kansas to Anthem Insurance Companies, of Indianapolis.

She said premiums for those insured by Blue Cross would have increased too much if it was purchased by Anthem.

A state judge struck down her order; she appealed and the case now is before the Kansas Supreme Court.

There was a tie for No. 7 — the turbulent year for Westar Energy Inc., and redrawing congressional and legislative districts.

In November, Westar chief David

Wittig resigned after a federal indictment accused him and a former Topeka banker of hiding the true purpose of a \$1.5 million loan. The allegations weren't related to Westar, and both men have pleaded innocent.

That same month, the Kansas Corporation Commission ordered a greater separation between Westar's utility operations and its unregulated interests.

Every 10 years, legislators redraw boundaries for the 125 House and 40 Senate districts, plus four congressional districts, to reflect population changes based on census figures.

Lawmakers settled on a congressional plan that put Junction City and nearby Fort Riley in different districts and split Lawrence into two districts.

New House districts favored ma-

jority Republicans, but in the Senate, a coalition of conservative Republicans and Democrats emerged to steer the remapping.

Drought was No. 9 on the list. This year, it was especially brutal, particularly in western Kansas. Some farmers didn't bother to harvest their crops and poor grazing conditions forced many ranchers to sell off livestock.

Two stories tied for 10th place.

John E. Robinson Sr., received the death penalty from a Johnson County jury in November for killing two women whose bodies were found in barrels on his rural property, and a third whose body was never found.

The Legislature created a "no-call" list so consumers can avoid pesky telemarketing calls. By September, thousands of Kansans had signed up for the list.

Iraq criticizes U.N. measure around the world

By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq criticized the U.N. Security Council today for adopting a U.S.-backed resolution that tightens controls on imports to Iraq, saying the measure would inflict "deliberate damage and harm to our people."

The resolution, passed Monday by a 13-0 vote with Russia and Syria abstaining, puts new limits on purchases of certain communications equipment and antibiotics which the United States and Britain said could be used by the Iraqi military in a war.

Washington and London have threatened to use military force against Iraq unless President Saddam Hussein's regime provides evidence it has eliminated its weapons of mass destruction.

U.N. arms experts have been in the country for more than a month inspecting sites to determine whether Iraq still has chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them. Inspection officials have said Iraq's report on its weapons programs was not yet complete, and the United States has accused Saddam's regime of continuing to hide banned weapons.

Iraq's deputy prime minister, Tariq Aziz, accused the United States today of going ahead with plans for war without awaiting the weapons inspectors' report on their findings.

buildings. Officials said 41 people were injured and 47 people were still unaccounted for. Authorities continued searching for bodies but they said they did not expect to find many more in the fire-ravaged stores.

NATIONAL

RALEIGH, N.C. — Democratic Sen. John Edwards invited nearly 200 guests to his home to tell them what he was about to tell the world — that he plans to seek the presidency in 2004.

The first-term senator from North Carolina told guests at a New Year's Day party that he would form an exploratory committee for a presidential run, said Walter Dellinger, a former U.S. solicitor general who attended.

Edwards was scheduled to appear on NBC's "Today" show this morning to make his announcement official.

Guests at the party Wednesday said Edwards indicated his campaign would focus on civil rights issues.

Edwards' announcement gives him the jump on several of his colleagues in Congress who are also expected to join the Democratic field.

Edwards, 49, a former trial lawyer, has spent months making the rounds at Democratic functions in Iowa, New Hampshire and elsewhere.

The son of a textile mill employee, Edwards was born in South Carolina and spent his teenage years in Robbins, N.C. He became a successful lawyer in Raleigh, winning personal injury cases against big companies and amassing a fortune of \$14 million.

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — People who knew Joe Foss say he lived his life with energy and conviction — no surprise for a World War II hero who later served as governor of South Dakota, president of the National Rifle Association and the first commissioner of the American Football League.

Foss, who shot down 26 enemy planes as a Marine pilot in the war, died Wednesday. He was 87.

Foss led a Marine air unit known as Joe's Flying Circus that shot down 72 Japanese planes. He downed 26 planes himself.

Foss was awarded the Medal of Honor, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star, Silver Star and Purple Heart.

Foss, a Republican, served in the Legislature for five years before becoming governor from 1955 to 1959. He then became commissioner of the American Football League. Foss held the post until 1966, and the leagues merged in 1970.

He also hosted two television sportsmen's shows, "The American Sportsman" and "The Outdoorsman: Joe Foss" and was president of the National Rifle Association from 1988 to 1990.

Foss is survived by his wife, two children and two stepchildren.

Leavenworth inmate killed

LEAVENWORTH (AP) — The FBI was investigating the death of an inmate at the federal prison here, prison officials said Wednesday.

Michael McAnulty was attacked about 7:30 a.m. Tuesday.

Prison staff took McAnulty to the prison's hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after 8 a.m.

FBI spokesman Jeff Lanza said authorities expect to file charges

soon against an inmate in the killing.

McAnulty, 43, was sentenced in North Carolina to life in prison for assault with a deadly weapon on a mail custodian, intent to commit robbery and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

He arrived at Leavenworth in August 2000.

Jennifer Granholm, Michigan's first female governor, used her inauguration to call on constituents to serve their communities — and pointed to her groundbreaking election as evidence that they can make a difference.

"I stand before you as living proof that the door is open to every single one of you in this room," she said in her inaugural address Wednesday. "Any one of us can run for office, and every one of us can elect to serve this Michigan family."

Granholm was one of three governors sworn in on New Year's Day. Former Clinton administration Cabinet member Bill Richardson took office as governor of New Mexico and George Pataki was inaugurated to his third term as governor of New York.

Granholm, who had been the state's attorney general the past four years, attended an interfaith church service before her inauguration. She called her milestone election "a great message for our daughters and our sons that everybody can be governor."

HERNANDO, Miss. — In a milestone for student achievement and state pride, Mississippi has become the first state to have an online computer in each of its public-school classrooms, a spokesman for the governor said.

The state met the goal set by Gov. Ronnie Musgrove to connect Mississippi's 32,354 public classrooms to the Internet by Dec. 31, spokesman John Sewell said Wednesday.

The accomplishment has added importance in a state that has often found itself near the low end of educational and economic rankings.

"I've never known Mississippi to lead the nation in any educational category or technological category," said Tom Pittman, publisher of the DeSoto Times in northern Mississippi. "It puts us at the forefront of something that is significant and important."

The idea to hook up all the state's public classrooms to the Internet began in 1999 as a challenge offered up by Pittman's brother, then-America Online chief executive Bob Pittman, at a meeting of the Mississippi Economic Council. Musgrove, a candidate for governor at the time, made the challenge part of his campaign.

NEW YORK — After two years of cost-cutting, economists expect companies to start using rising profits to rebuild inventories and make capital improvements in 2003, helping to fuel an economic recovery, a survey published today said.

The Wall Street Journal's 2003 economic-forecast survey of 55 economists indicates that economists generally believe increased corporate spending will contribute to steady economic growth throughout the year.

On average, the economists forecast that real gross domestic product — the value of the nation's output, adjusted for inflation — would grow at an annual rate of 2.7 percent in the first quarter, 3.2 percent in the second quarter and 3.7 percent in the last two quarters of the year.

The economy is expected to have grown by an annual rate of about 1 percent in 2002.

But the economists also warned about uncertainties in the near future — such as the possibility of an extended conflict in Iraq or new terrorist activity — that could hurt economic growth.

Prime time TV schedule

Channel guide

2 PBS; 3 TBS; 4 ABC; 5 HBO; 6 CNN; 7 CBS; 8 NBC (KS); 11 TVLND; 12 ESPN; 13 FOX; 15 MAX; 16 TNN; 18 LIFE; 20 USA; 21 SHOW; 22 TMC; 23 MTV; 24 DISC; 27 VH1; 28 TNT; 30 FSN; 31 CMT; 32 FAM; 33 NBC (CO); 34 NICK; 36 A&E; 38 SCI; 39 TLC; 40 FX; 45 FMC; 49 E!; 51 TRAV; 53 WB; 54 ESPN2; 55 ESPN News; 58 HIST; 62 HGTV; 99 WGN.

Thursday Evening January 2, 2003

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KLBY/ABC	FedEx Orange Bowl							Local	Local	Local
KBSL/CBS	CSI: Crime Scene	Without a Trace		Local	Late Show			Late Late Show		Local
KSNW/NBC	Will & G	Miami	ER		Local	Tonight Show		Conan		Local
KUSA/NBC	Friends	Scrubs	Will & G	Miami	ER		Local	Tonight Show		Conan
KDVR/FOX	Election				Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

Cable Channels

A & E	Columbo		Third Watch		Biography			Columbo		
AMC	Chain Reaction		The Poseidon Adventure				To Hell and Back			
CMT	Austin City Limits	Top 20 Countdown				CMT 3rd Shift				
CNN	Larry King Live	Newsnight		Connie	Lou Dobb	Larry King		Newsnight		
DISC	Mysterious Realm	New Detectives		Would You Believe It?		Snakebite		Highway Pirates		
E!	The Love Boat			Star Dates	AnnaNicol	Howard Stern		Wild On Hawaii		
ESPN	Atlantic 10 Conference	Basketball		World Gy	SportsCenter			SportsCenter		
ESPN2	Kickboxin	Kickboxin	NHL			NHL2Nigh		NFL2Nigh	Pardon	
FAM	Joe Vs. the Volcano			700 Club		The Caroline Rhea Sh		Paid Prog	Paid Prog	
FX	Sudden Impact			Shield		Shield		Sudden Impact		
HGTV	Dsgn4Sex	Challenge	Hunters	Hunters	Warriors	Landscap	Dsgn4Sex	Challenge	Hunters	Hunters
HIST	Engineering Disasters			The Wrecking Ball		Engineering Disasters				
LIFE	Before He Wakes			Golden Gr	Golden Gr	Nanny	Nanny	Mad About	Once and	

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Friday Evening January 3, 2003

	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KLBY/ABC	Tostitos Fiesta Bowl							Local	Local	Local
KBSL/CBS	Hack	48 Hours		Local	Late Show			Late Late Show		Local
KSNW/NBC	Dateline NBC			Local	Tonight Show			Conan		Local
KUSA/NBC	Dateline NBC			Law & Order: SVU		Local		Tonight Show		Conan
KDVR/FOX	The Natty Professor			Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local	Local

Cable Channels

A & E	No Mercy		Third Watch		Biography			No Mercy		
AMC	Smoke and the Bandit II		Tales from	Empire of the Ants				Tales from		
CMT	Living Proof: The Hank Williams, Jr. Story		Country's Most Shocki		CMT 3rd Shift					
CNN	Larry King Live	Newsnight		Connie	Lou Dobb	Larry King		Newsnight		
DISC	India's Sacred Monke	FBI Files		Keeli & Ivy		Wings Over Afghanist		Sniper School		
E!	Burt Reynolds			Loni Anderson		Howard Stern		Wild On Baja		
ESPN	NBA Friday			NBA Friday				SportsCenter		
ESPN2	Friday Night Fights			SportsCenter		Edge NFL	NHL2Nigh	Pardon	NFL2Nigh	
FAM	The Bachelor: Special	The Bachelor: Special		700 Club		The Caroline Rhea Sh		Paid Prog	Paid Prog	
FX	Starship Troopers				Shield	Shield		Starship Troopers		
HGTV	Decor Ce	Decor Ce	Design on	Design on	Flea Mkt	Inspector	Decor Ce	Decor Ce	Design on	Design on
HIST	Great Ships		Great Ships		Great Ships		Great Ships		Great Ships	
LIFE	The Advocate's Devil			Golden Gr	Golden Gr	Passion of Mind				

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