

Letterman
apologizes
to his wife
NATION, A2



JACKETS WIN OUT WEST
FAVRE BEATS THE PACKERS
SPORTS, C1



Family photos
showing up
on Internet
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The Columbus Dispatch

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2009



From left, Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak were honored for work done long ago.

AMERICANS SHARE THE NOBEL PRIZE IN MEDICINE

Three Americans — Elizabeth H. Blackburn, Carol W. Greider and Jack W. Szostak — were awarded the Nobel Prize in medicine yesterday. Their work from the 1970s and '80s on chromosomes has paved the way for experimental cancer therapies. The trio will split the \$1.4 million prize. **Story, Page A5**

U.S. STRATEGY

Pullout is out as war option

Obama might take weeks to decide on Afghanistan plan

By Anne Gearan and Lara Jakes
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama won't walk away from the flagging war in Afghanistan, the White House declared yesterday. Obama faces tough decisions — and intense administration debate — over choices in Afghanistan that could help define the first year of his presidency.

The fierce Taliban attack that killed eight American soldiers over the weekend added to the pressure. The assault overwhelmed a remote U.S. outpost where American forces have been stretched thin in battling insurgents, underscoring an appeal from Obama's top Afghanistan commander for as many as 40,000 additional forces, and at the same time reminding the nation of the costs of war.

Obama's defense secretary, Robert Gates, appealed yesterday for calm, and for time and privacy for the president to come to a decision.

Last week, the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, called publicly for the administration to add more resources, which

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DORAL CHENOWETH III | DISPATCH

In 1999, inmates could choose death on the then-new lethal-injection bed or in the electric chair inside the death house at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility in Lucasville. Two years later, the electric chair was retired as an option and moved to a warehouse.

Lethal injection

During an execution, the inmate is administered three different drugs through IV lines in both arms.

ANESTHETIC

Sodium thiopental

Puts the inmate into a deep sleep and induces general anesthesia. For surgical operations, patients are given a dose of 100 to 150 milligrams over a period of 10 to 15 seconds. For executions, as much as 5,000 milligrams may be administered. This in itself is a lethal dose.

PARALYZING AGENT

Pancuronium bromide

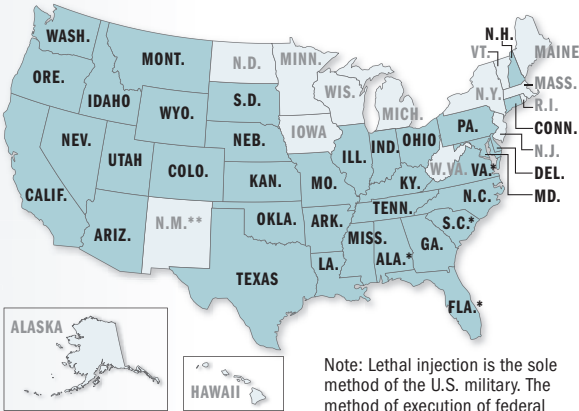
Is a muscle relaxant that is given in a dose that stops breathing by paralyzing the diaphragm and lungs. Takes effect in one to three minutes after being injected.

TOXIC AGENT

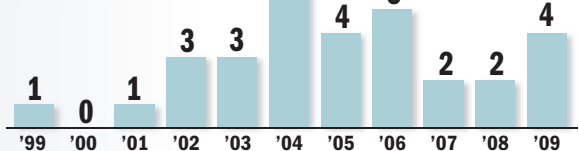
Potassium chloride

Given at a lethal dose in order to interrupt the electrical signaling essential to heart functions. This induces cardiac arrest.

The 35 states with the death penalty; lethal injection is the primary method of execution:



Ohio executions since 1999:



* Alabama, Florida, South Carolina and Virginia allow inmates to choose between lethal injection and electrocution. Some states allow other forms of execution if an inmate requests it. Washington allows hanging if requested.
* New Mexico abolished the death penalty this year but the act was not retroactive, leaving two inmates on Death Row.

Sources: How Stuff Works, Death Penalty Information Center, Ohio Capital Crimes report

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

DEATH PENALTY IN OHIO

WHICH IS MORE HUMANE?

Botched execution stirs debate over what is a cruel death for the state's cold-blooded killers

By Alan Johnson
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Is it "cruel and unusual punishment" to repeatedly puncture the arms, hands and legs of a man who abducted, raped and stabbed to death a 14-year-old girl?

Should a man who beat his 67-year-old widow neighbor to death with a tent pole be spared from execution because of legal concerns over lethal injection?



Lawrence Reynolds



Darryl Durr

Those questions are at the heart of a heated Eighth Amendment constitutional debate about cruel and unusual punishment raging in Ohio. And the debate is spilling over onto the national scene.

"I think it's rather absurd to say it's cruel and a violation of the Eighth Amendment when an execution involves getting a needle inserted," said Kent Scheidegger, legal director of the Criminal Justice Legal Foundation, a California victims-rights organization.

"Cruel and unusual punishment referred to drawing and quartering and the rack," he said, referring to punishments in old English law.

Nevertheless, Gov. Ted Strickland granted temporary reprieves yesterday to two inmates scheduled for execution in a month or so. He pushed Thursday's scheduled execution of Lawrence Reynolds, 43, of Akron, to March 9, 2010, and moved the Nov. 10 execution of Darryl Durr of Cleveland to April 20.

Reynolds was convicted of murdering Loretta Foster, a 67-year-old neighbor, on Jan. 1, 1994.

See **HUMANE** Page A4

Revenue estimate for casinos checks out

Projected \$643 million likely would fall hard if governor gets slots

By James Nash
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Governments in Ohio would reap nearly \$650 million a year from taxes on the four casinos proposed in a Nov. 3 ballot initiative, according to a state analysis published yesterday.

The 33 percent tax on proposed casinos in Columbus, Cleveland, Cincinnati and Toledo would yield \$643.4 million in annual revenue, the Ohio Department of Taxation and Office of Budget and Management estimated.

That number is close to what proponents of state Issue 3 have been stating. The partnership of a Michigan executive and a Pennsylvania gambling company that's sponsoring the ballot measure says the casinos would bring in \$651 million in tax revenue.

The state study does contain a major "what if," however. If Gov. Ted Strickland eventually is successful with his plan for video slot machines at racetracks, casinos would be less profitable because of the competition. Under that scenario, the casinos would yield \$469.8 million a year in tax revenue, the analysis reported.

Strickland shelved his slots plan after the Ohio Supreme Court ruled that it is subject to a referendum,

See **CASINOS** Page A4

SLOTS FEUD OVER? NOT A GOOD BET

For now, slot machines may be dead as far as the Ohio budget is concerned, but that doesn't mean Gov. Ted Strickland and Senate President Bill Harris can't keep squabbling over them. **Story, Page B1**

Gas prices not likely to take you on wild ride

By Dan Gearino
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

Drivers have gotten so used to erratic gasoline prices that they might not know what to make of the latest trend at the pump: stability.

Analysts say prices likely will hold steady or even decline during the next few months.

"We still have plenty of crude oil in supply," said Darin Newsom, senior analyst for Telyent DTN Inc., a market-research firm in Omaha, Neb.

He expects a small decline

in prices between now and February, with a few normal ups and downs along the way. This is a common seasonal trend: a drop in the fall and winter and then a gradual increase heading into spring.

That forecast is good news to Fitsum Teklemichael, 28, of Whitehall.

"It's a big difference," he said, comparing current prices with those of the summer of 2008 as he filled up his Pontiac Grand Am. "As long as it stays below \$2.50,

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At the pump

Average price in Ohio for a gallon of regular unleaded gasoline:



Sources: AAA, Oil Price Information Service

THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

For young, recession is time of opportunity

By Chip Cutter
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — The recession has turned into the best of times for young investor Daniel Lee.

Early this year, the 30-year-old salesman in Scottsdale, Ariz., shelved expensive meals and vacation plans and threw "every spare dollar" into the stock market. The value of his portfolio has more than tripled as the market has

► **Service sector grows, but its job pool shrinks | A8**

rallied since March.

"This is like buying a swimsuit in the fall or a winter jacket in the spring," he said. "Get in while it's a good deal."

Across the country in Detroit, retiree Irvin Hall, 70, is living through the recession in a different way.

See **RECESSION** Page A4