

Today in **BUSINESS**

Looking for signs of economic gains

When the economy begins to snap out of its funk, how will we know? Economists will be looking for some strong signals such as a calmer stock market, an end to falling home prices and more jobs being created.

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YESTERDAY'S STOCKS

DOW 12,625.6

Z +24.4

NASDAQ 2,464.5

Z +16.3

City AND Suburbs

DODDS APPEAL

State Supreme Court agrees to hear case

The state Supreme Court has accepted Gary Dodds' appeal, paving the way for legal arguments that if successful would overturn his February conviction for staging a car crash and 27-hour disappearance.

Dodds was convicted of falsifying physical evidence, leaving the scene of an accident and causing false public alarms for orchestrating an April 2006 car crash and then going missing. Prosecutors alleged that Dodds set the accident up as a publicity stunt to help his campaign for Congress.

The appeal cites 12 different legal arguments to have the convictions overturned, including that the evidence against Dodds was insufficient for conviction and whether a cold-weather expert who testified for the state was qualified.

RAYMOND

Police: Man shot self by accident

Police are investigating an incident they've described as an accidental self-shooting that happened outside a local home Wednesday afternoon.

Lt. Shawn Coope said the incident took place outside a John Street residence at about 1:30 p.m. He said a 19-year-old man, whom authorities refused to identify, shot himself in the face with handgun and was taken to Manchester's Elliot Hospital.

Coope said the man was still being treated in Manchester as of 3 p.m. yesterday and is believed to be a former Raymond High School student. Officials would not release further details, stating that an investigation is ongoing.

FATAL CRASH

Former city man dies in Pennsylvania

A former Manchester man died Tuesday from injuries suffered in a car crash in Reading, Pa.

Jesse J. Denton, 35, was killed after his vehicle collided with a dump truck, police confirmed to the Reading Eagle. The newspaper reported that Denton, who lived in Reading, was traveling with 4-year-old Dominic R. Stauffer, the son of Denise Stauffer, with whom he lived and was engaged to be married. The boy also died.

Denton, a Manchester West High School graduate, has family and friends in Manchester. "He was just a really good kid," said his mother, Peggy Hale, of Manchester. "He liked to do things for people."

The extended list of survivors from Manchester, his mother said, includes his brothers, Robert and Jeremy Denton, and two daughters, Mikayla and Felicia Ellison.

Aliberti tapped for Barrington top job

By JOHN WHITSON
New Hampshire Union Leader

MANCHESTER — The city's acting superintendent of schools is leaving to take over the Barrington School District.

Henry Aliberti is expected to start as superintendent of School Administrative Unit 74 on July 1.

He wasn't immediately available for comment.

"I'm very happy for Henry, but I'm feeling very sad for us," said Katherine Labanaris, vice chairman of Manchester's school board. "He's been great for the district."

C. Pat Bedford, a Barrington School Board member, said Aliberti accepted the job offer yesterday morning after the board deliberated late into Wednesday night.

"We had a very qualified group of finalists, and Dr. Aliberti seems eminently qualified for the job," said Bedford.

One of the other two finalists Aliberti nudged out for the job was his former boss in Manchester, Michael Ludwell.

Bedford said Aliberti was offered a one-year contract that will pay about \$106,000.

SAU 74 includes an elementary

school and a middle school, totaling about 960 students. The town sends its high school students to Dover and Coe-Brown Academy in Northwood.

Aliberti's departure continues a year of turnover within Manchester's school administration offices.

Ludwell abruptly resigned as city superintendent in November when it was discovered he had signed off on his own pay raise without school board approval.

Aliberti took over at that point, and about a month later promoted Northwest Elementary Principal Robert Duclos to fill his vacated

assistant superintendent post.

School administrators had already been operating with one fewer person because Frank Bass was not replaced as an assistant superintendent when he left the district last summer.

In March, Thomas Brennan was named Manchester's next superintendent. He starts in July 1.

Aliberti came to Manchester in 2002 as assistant superintendent

for elementary schools. He didn't apply for the city's top job on a permanent basis.

Labanaris said the search for Aliberti's replacement will likely be handled without help from an outside agency.

"We post it through advertisements in newspapers and professional journals, and human resources for the district usually oversees the process," she said.

With Brennan slated to take over the district in little more than a month, Labanaris said he will likely be the one to oversee the search process and establish an interview committee.



ALIBERTI



The Jefferson Mill, owned by Brady Sullivan Properties at 670 Commercial St.

A history worth preserving

Manchester Historic Association awards

By MARK HAYWARD
New Hampshire Union Leader

MANCHESTER MANY of the slides flashed beside the dais of the Manchester Historic Association's annual Preservation Awards show last night had a familiar theme. Images showcased gargantuan brick structures — two mill buildings and a school — that had been saved from the wrecking ball and converted into apartments or offices.

But nestled among the giants

was a diminutive two-story home at 460 Hevey Street that Michael and Diane Day have nurtured for 21 years. The couple have replicated porch posts with custom-milled posts. They've had decorative storm doors created out of wood. They've preserved a tin ceiling and restored hardwood and pumpkin pine floors.

And they have traced the history of the 115-year-old house, going as far as finding photographs and taking oral histories from the previous owners.

For their effort, the couple ac-

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Slideshow: See a photos of all the award-winning properties

cepted the MHA's Stewardship Award, which honored them for keeping intact the house's history as much as its structure.

"We've never seen anything like that," said Elizabeth LaRocca, president of the MHA. "They respect the history of a humble, simple, working-class people, and in doing so they respect

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The interior and exterior masonry have been re-pointed as well as new windows and painting as part of the restoration on the Weston Observatory in Manchester.



A detail of one of the restored stained glass panels hanging in a concourse in the Catholic Medical Center. The panels had once been in the Notre Dame Hospital and were found in storage before being restored.

Photos by Bob LaPree/Union Leader



Barn and cattle at the Giovagnoli Farm, South Mammoth Road



The home of Dirk and Marnie Ruemenapp, 523 Beacon St.

Introductions by friends fail to provide security

Women attacked Police say the attackers were acquaintances of the victims.

MANCHESTER — City police are investigating reported assaults on two women whose friends had introduced them to the suspects.

Community information offi-

cer Sgt. Maureen Tessier has the names of suspects in the early morning assaults, but no arrests have been made.

A 20-year-old woman told police early yesterday she was

sexually assaulted by a man she'd just met. She said mutual friends introduced them and she agreed to accompany the man to a party in an apartment on the city's West Side.

After a short time, she said, she left the party with the man, who suddenly attacked her in the hallway of the building. She said

he hit her in the face, causing bruises and a small cut, and then pinned her to the floor, warning her to cooperate to avoid being hurt.

She said he fled after sexually assaulting her, and she went to Elliot Hospital.

Her attacker is described as a white male in his 30s, approxi-

mately 5 feet, 10 inches tall, "chubby," with short light hair.

In the second incident, a woman went to police headquarters to report she'd been attacked by a man a family friend introduced her to at a bar.

The woman said the two talked for a while at the bar and then

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