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Awash in rules, owners of shanty houseboats ordered to shove off
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Wesley helps Trojans advance in Sun Belt; Arkansas falls to LSU
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Arkansas Democrat Gazette

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SUNDAY

In the news

■ **Jake "Body by Jake" Steinfeld**, whose Los Angeles-based fitness shows are aired on cable TV and who gave \$100,000 to the Democratic National Committee's campaign fund last fall, met with officials at the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington last week to discuss his prospects of heading the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Athletics, but a White House spokesman said no final recommendations have been made.

■ **Michael LaSane**, 17, a carjacker who pleaded guilty to murder after prosecutors played a tape that 45-year-old Kathleen Weinstein secretly recorded during her final plea-filled minutes after she was robbed and suffocated in March 1996, was sentenced in Toms River, N.J., to life in prison.

■ **Wanda Holloway**, 42, the so-called "Cheerleader Mom," has been freed from prison after serving six months of a 10-year term for trying to hire a hit man to kill the mother of her daughter's cheerleading rival, and Judge George Godwin, who said she would not benefit from more prison time, ordered her to perform 1,000 hours of community service.

■ **Gerry Adams**, leader of Sinn Fein, the political organization allied with the Irish Republican Army, is not expected to apply for a visa to attend a St. Patrick's Day affair at the White House on March 17, but no decision has been made to deny him one if he does. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said in response to a report that Adams would be rejected.

■ **Roe Messner**, 61, the second husband of Tammy Faye Messner — the ex-wife of PTL evangelist Jim Bakker — and builder of the Heritage USA religious theme park for Bakker, lost his bid before the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn his 1995 conviction on two counts of concealing assets from creditors and three counts of making false statements about his bankruptcy case.

■ **Craig Hardaway**, 18, a member of the Black Disciples gang who pumped three bullets into 11-year-old Robert "Yummy" Sandifer in August 1994 to keep him from talking to police about a gang killing, was convicted in Chicago of first-degree murder and faces up to 100 years in prison when he is sentenced April 1, and his brother, Derrick Hardaway, 16, was sentenced to 45 years in the slaying.

■ **Suresh "Sam" Kumar**, a Nashville, Tenn., Howard Johnson hotel owner who prosecutors said could not afford costly renovations to retain the franchise, and maintenance worker Joe Logan Sr. were convicted of conspiracy and arson for setting the Jan. 6, 1996, hotel fire that killed four guests and injured 16.

■ **Kate Drury**, a spokesman for Sotheby's auction house in New York City, said an unidentified private collector paid a record \$453,000 for an original poster of the 1932 Boris Karloff classic film "The Mummy" — only two are known to exist — spending more than twice the previous high mark for a movie poster.

WEATHER

Little Rock: A frontal boundary will sweep out of the state, taking much of the rain with it. A few showers are possible early, otherwise, mostly cloudy and cooler. Highs in the mid-50s. Decreasing clouds and chilly tonight. Lows in the middle '30s.

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20 dead as storms rip state



Ronnie Pate surveys damage around Vinson Road. His Pulaski County home was spared, but hundreds of his neighbors were left homeless Saturday.

'The whole house just disintegrated around us'

Thomas Bunton waited Saturday with dozens of other tornado victims at Southwest Hospital while his 16-year-old daughter was treated in the emergency room. As Crissy Bunton and her boyfriend drove up the road in the middle of the storm, a tree fell on their truck. "I don't know how she is. He is dead," Bunton said. "I'm just happy I got my little girl in the bathtub," he said.

Lisa Bunton, 4, was all right but shaken up after a tornado devastated Bennett Acres Trailer Park in Southwest Little Rock. Thomas Bunton and a neighbor had put Lisa on an old bed and carried her out to the road because ambulances couldn't get into the park. Ambulances had trouble reaching victims through the wreckage all over Pulaski County after Saturday's tornadoes. But by 6 p.m. the injured were pouring into area hospitals. See **INJURIES**, Page 14A



A car sits on a rack amid the debris of an auto repair shop in Arkadelphia after a tornado swept through downtown Saturday. Four people were killed in or near the city. Statewide, dozens of buildings were destroyed and at least 20 people died.

Twister tears through two mobile home parks

A tornado ripped through Saline and Pulaski counties on Saturday afternoon, killing at least 14 people and injuring dozens in its path. Severe thunderstorms also devastated several neighborhoods. The twister wiped out a mobile home park on Sardis Road in rural Saline County, killing at least nine people, a spokesman for Gov. Mike

Huckabee said Saturday night. A few miles north, Pulaski County sheriff's deputies confirmed three deaths in the College Station area. Two people died elsewhere in the county from storm-related injuries. A tornado warning was issued for Pulaski County at 3:35 p.m., shortly after Pulaski County sheriff's deputies reported a tornado on the ground in Saline County between Benton and Sheridan.

Ray Briggler of the state Office of Emergency Services said calls about a tornado began coming in at 3 p.m. from Clark County, with reports of major damage and injuries in downtown Arkadelphia. Huckabee declared a state of emergency in Clark, Pulaski and Saline counties. Arkansas National Guard troops were dispatched to help with rescue and cleanup.

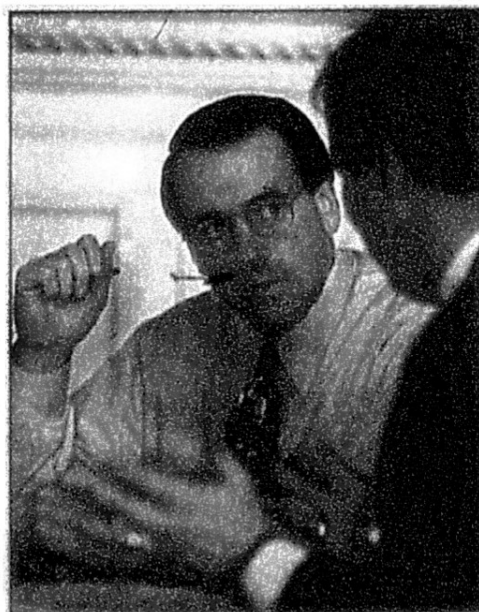
In storm-stricken areas, rescue crews and ambulances immediately ran into problems trying to reach the injured because of downed trees and power lines. Bulldozers and firefighters with chain saws worked to clear the roads so the injured could be moved. Hospital officials said injuries from the disaster caused a blood shortage. Leslie Welch, spokesman for the state Office of Emergency Services, said at least 20 people died.

Capitol rivals share political single-mindedness

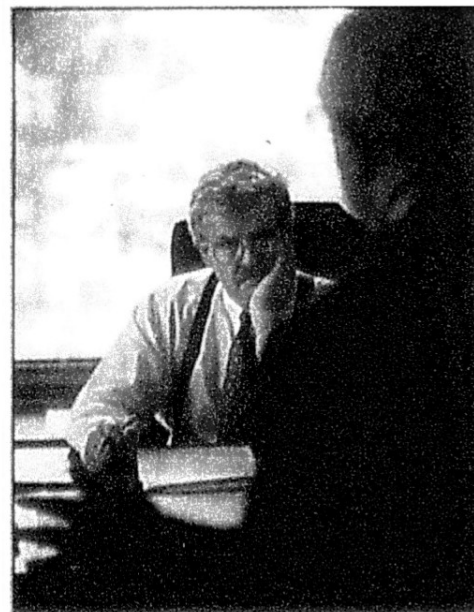
They may face off someday in a race for governor, but now Mike Huckabee is governor, Bobby Hogue is speaker of the House, and here's a look at a day in their lives.

For Huckabee the day starts, ends in dark

BY JAKE SANDLIN
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE
It's mid-afternoon Tuesday in the governor's office, the most difficult time of day for Gov. Mike Huckabee, a time when he feels a need to stretch and find new vigor. The man sleeps only 4 1/2 hours a night. It's not long after the day's biggest legislative bombshell exploded. Forty minutes earlier, the Arkansas Senate shocked abortion-ban supporters by substantially revising a bill banning partial-birth abortions. Huckabee was grim-faced as he got the news in his second-floor office or the Capitol's north end. The Senate chamber is on the third floor's south end. He glanced down, folded his arms across his chest. It is a bill Huckabee See **HUCKABEE**, Page 20A



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/STATION, PRESIDENTIAL
Gov. Mike Huckabee (left) sits Tuesday at the state Capitol with Jim Pender, a member of his staff, to go over some bills to be signed. It's a relatively slow day for the governor, but the door to his office stays busy.



Arkansas Democrat-Gazette/FICK, McFARLAND
Speaker of the House Bobby Hogue (left) and House Parliamentarian Tim Massarelli discuss House rules Tuesday in Hogue's office. It's one of many conversations Hogue will have that day in his office and in the Capitol's hallways.

Tornadoes leave ruins in wake

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE
Tornadoes cut a deadly swath through Arkansas on Saturday, killing at least 20 people. The state Office of Emergency Services reported five dead in Pulaski County, four in Clark County, two in Jackson County and nine in Saline County. More than 200 people were reported injured. Gov. Mike Huckabee declared a state of emergency in Clark, Saline and Pulaski counties as rescue workers combed through twisted debris of destroyed homes and businesses. The Arkansas National Guard was sent to the areas and will impose curfews to discourage looting. Morrie Goodman, director of communications for the Federal Emergency Management Administration, said FEMA Director James Lee Witt had spoken Saturday with Huckabee and President Clinton. Damage estimate teams are en route to Arkansas, and Witt and other FEMA officials could be in Arkansas today. "Governor Huckabee has not yet requested federal aid, but we expect that to happen," Goodman said. Clinton, in New York, urged Witt to "do everything possible for Arkansas," Goodman said. The fast-moving storm roared up Interstate 30 through Arkadelphia in Southwest Arkansas about 3 p.m., then smashed through an estimated 30 mobile homes on Sardis Road in north Saline County. It then moved up U.S. 67-167 through Little Rock. Meanwhile, storms cut devastating paths through Searcy, Denmark, Newport, Campbell Station, Marmaduke and parts of Lonoke County. In Arkadelphia, where the tornado cut a path about a quarter-mile wide through the city, early See **STATE**, Page 15A

Special report

- PICTURES of Saturday's storm damage. Page 13A.
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- MAPS of storms' paths in Little Rock, Arkadelphia. Pages 14A, 15A.
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Hogue wants speaker's door open, to more

BY ELIZABETH CALDWELL
ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE
The day is drab, and it begins with a glitch. In his starched, white shirt and gray suspenders, slender Bobby Hogue leans over his secretary's empty chair and fiddles with papers. Where is the day's committee schedule? He can't find it. It's 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. The speaker of the Arkansas House of Representatives is alone. The chamber is quiet. The staff work area is empty except for Hogue. No sergeants-at-arms in bright scarlet jackets have assumed their posts at doorways to screen visitors outside the House offices on the third floor at the north end of the state Capitol. Hogue has agreed to allow the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette to chronicle his day. After shuffling more papers, See **HOGUE'S**, Page 21A