BUDGET
Obama calls for spending surge, buoyed by rising economy
NATION ■ PAGE 4A

OAKLAWN
Champ meets six in Oaklawn stake
SPORTS ■ PAGE 1B

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Suspect faces multiple charges after capture

CAITLIN LAFARLETTE
The Sentinel-Record

What began as a gas theft from a local school a week ago has ended in multiple felony charges for 30-year-old Kenno A. Forrest, who is accused of assaults on a school employee and two deputies, fleeing and theft.

Forrest, who was arrested Tuesday evening, is charged with first-degree criminal mischief, criminal use of a prohibited weapon, three counts of fleeing, theft of property and three counts of aggravated assault, all felonies punishable by up to six years in prison.

He is also charged with theft by receiving, a felony punishable by up to 10 years in prison, and two counts of possession of firearm by certain person, a felony punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

Forrest is also charged with reckless driving, no seat belt and driving on a suspended driver's license.

He was arraigned Wednesday morning via video before District Court Judge David Switzer on the charges of no seat belt, reckless driving, fleeing in a vehicle, driving on a suspended license and theft by receiving. He pleaded not guilty, and a felony review hearing on those charges is set for March 17. Public defender Morse Gist was appointed to represent him.

Forrest remained in custody Thursday at the Garland County Detention Center on zero bond for a parole hold. His bond total is $43,500 on the other charges.

He is due in Garland County District Court Feb. 3 to be arraigned on the remaining charges.

The string of events leading to his arrest

SUSPECT, PAGE 3A

Forrest

Property owner may raze Wade building

DON THOMASON
The Sentinel-Record

The owner of the Wade Clinic Building said Thursday it would be cheaper to demolish the building than to bring it into compliance with what he calls "unreasonable codes."

"We have no interest in wanting to have to tear it down, but the city is forcing us to make that decision," said Morin M. "Monty" Scott Jr., president of SouthWest Hotels Inc., owner of the building at 231 Central Ave., adjacent to the Arlington Resort Hotel & Spa.

BUILDING, PAGE 4A

Beta talent

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

Nettleton Junior High School student Sophie Copelin performs a dance routine during special talent preliminaries at Bank of the Ozarks Arena on Thursday, the opening day of the sixth annual Arkansas Junior Beta Convention. The junior convention concludes today. The 72nd Arkansas Senior Beta Convention will be held today and Saturday at the Hot Springs Convention Center.

Funeral home causes anguish for area family

CAITLIN LAFARLETTE
The Sentinel-Record

Funerals are emotion-filled events that are supposed to allow a final farewell to a loved one, but a local woman says the cremated remains she has yet to receive from Jacksonville's Arkansas Funeral Care many not even belong to her mother, who died last year.

"It's a real, I think, atrocious situation," says her attorney, Q. Byrum Hurst, of Hot Springs.

Hurst, who represents Sueann Williams and her son, Joel Wilt Jr., plans to file a complaint in Garland County Circuit Court asking that the remains be tested

FUNERAL HOME, PAGE 10A

NPCC to oppose concealed carry law

JAY BELL
The Sentinel-Record

A resolution adopted Wednesday by the National Park Community College Board of Trustees will allow the school president to formally oppose a proposed law that would strip the college of its authority to restrict the concealed carry of guns on campus.

State Rep. Charlie Collins, R-District 84, of Fayetteville, filed House Bill 1077 two weeks ago. The bill would allow faculty and staff at public colleges, universities and community colleges to possess firearms on campus if they have a concealed carry license. A similar bill passed two years ago, but schools were allowed to opt out.

National Park Community College and other state schools have opted out each of the past two years. House Bill 1077 proposes the removal of the opt-out provision for public schools. Private schools would still be allowed to opt out.

The college's resolution said the board has twice voted unanimously against concealed carry at the school in the best interest of the campus. The resolution also states local law enforcement officials have expressed similar opposition in the issue.

Wednesday's resolution authorizes President John Hogan to draft a letter to present to the governor's office "expressing their sincere concern for the general safety and preservation of the campus learning environment should House Bill 1077 be adopted by the General Assembly."

"I think the most promising debate is the issue of local control of the board," Hogan said. "That really is the bigger issue. You will be legislated to not have the authority to address this. There is some concern over whether that is constitutional or not."

The college will hold a building lockdown drill exercise Friday morning.

NPCC, PAGE 3A

Fluorescent Wolves

The Sentinel-Record/Mara Kuhn

Lake Hamilton Junior High cheerleaders lead a cheer Thursday during a black light pep rally in the school gym. The junior high teams hosted Benton Thursday night. Lake Hamilton High School will hold a pep rally today. The Wolves will be at home again tonight against El Dorado, with activities beginning at 5 p.m.

On the clock

Clockers keep tabs on horses' workouts

EDITOR'S NOTE: A successful live race meet at Oaklawn Park depends on hundreds of employees working a variety of jobs, from making sure the horses are ready to run to ensuring that customers have a memorable day at the races. The Sentinel-Record today continues its weekly series spotlighting the workers who make Oaklawn a success.

BETH BRIGHT
The Sentinel-Record

Each barn on the backstretch at Oaklawn Park is responsible for anywhere from 20-30 horses during the meet, but the clockers have their eyes on every one that is scheduled to work during morning training hours.

Whether 30 or 300 horses are scheduled for that day, Jim Hamilton, Ronnie Morse and Jerry Bish keep track of each horse's times.

CLOCKERS, PAGE 7A

Organization of the Year

The Sentinel-Record/Richard Rasmussen

Bryan Smith, right, outgoing chairman of the board of The Greater Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, and Christi Batts, second from right, present Oaklawn Foundation representatives Darrell Meyer and Kerry Lockwood Owen with the Organization of the Year Award on Jan. 22 during the chamber's 2015 annual Meeting & Awards Banquet held in Horner Hall at the Hot Springs Convention Center.

Oaklawn voted best racino in Mid-South

BETH BRIGHT
The Sentinel-Record

The readers of Southern Gaming and Destinations magazine recently voted Oaklawn Racing & Gaming as Best Racetrack/Racino in the Mid-South.

The recognition couldn't have come at a better time, according to Oaklawn's general manager, Eric Jackson.

"We're very proud and we're very surprised, especially when we talk about our situation," he said. "Our situation being that we are still very new on the gaming side and that we're in a much smaller market. We're not a full casino and when you consider we were up against establishments in much larger markets with bigger facilities, it really reflects well on our staff and the level of service we work very hard to provide.

"Not only that, but this also reflects well on our racing side, as this was the award for best racino."

Oaklawn opened for its 111th live race meet on Jan. 15, six days after the meet was scheduled to open, and

OAKLAWN, PAGE 7A

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Weather

MOSTLY SUNNY. HIGHS IN THE LOW 50S. LOWS IN THE LOW 30S.
SUNRISE: 7:12 A.M.
SUNSET: 5:39 P.M.
MORE ON PAGE 2A

SATURDAY: HIGH 47° LOW 38°
SUNDAY: HIGH 47° LOW 28°

Index

Arts, etc.	5-7B	Lifestyles	6A
Classified	1-6C	Obituaries	9A
Sports	1-4B	Stocks	10B
Features, etc.	9B	Viewpoints	8A
FYI	2A	HSV News	8B

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