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**Argus Leader**

Sunday • Oct. 24, 2004

SIoux FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA

\$1.50

**TODAY'S BRIEFING**

**LOCAL & REGION**

**Surviving a double-lung transplant**

► David Sabie of Sioux Falls says he'll draw upon the strength of character he gained during 11 years in the U.S. Army for a long and vibrant life one year after undergoing a rare double-lung transplant. **1B**

**LIFE**



**A touch of humor can mix with worship**

► Jokes don't have to be out of bounds where religion is concerned. Take the one about the minister and the monk. ... Of course, one person's funny bone is another person's sore spot. Humor definitely has its place in faith, say some area religious leaders. It's a matter of finding the right tone. **1F**

**A year to savor in S.D. politics: 1978**

► Reporter Terry Woster has covered political campaigns in South Dakota for more than 30 years, and he's enjoying this one. But find out why 1978 was his favorite. **1F**

**SPORTS**

**Stevens, Yankton tops in cross country**

► The state Class AA cross country titles belong to powerhouses, not surprises. The Rapid City Stevens boys won their 10th consecutive crown and the Yankton girls won their second in a row, holding off the challenge of another nationally ranked team - Roosevelt. See complete results. **1-3C**

**NATION & WORLD**

**Making a difference with fake news**

► Jon Stewart's brand of politics is irreverent and phony, and he's proud of it. The anchor of "The Daily Show" spoofs politicians of all stripes and draws an impressive viewing audience doing it. "We don't have an agenda to change the political system," he says. "We have a more selfish agenda, to entertain ourselves." **17A**

► **SURVIVOR'S TALE:** One of two passengers to survive a plane crash last week in Missouri talks about the fear, the flames and the horror of learning that 13 people died. **3A**

**66°**  
**34°**  
 For a full report, See Page 2A

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**TOWNS, TEAMS & DREAMS**

The marriage of small towns and high school football is the same in South Dakota as in Texas or Ohio. Communities wrap themselves in an autumn tradition.

SPECIAL SECTION IN TODAY'S ARGUS LEADER

FIRST OF A SEVEN-PART SERIES

**Downtown future linked to Phillips**

Millions spent over decades to put project on brink of reality

BY **CORRINE OLSON** □ ARGUS LEADER STAFF

In simplest terms, Phillips to the Falls is only a four-block stretch of street. It is difficult to imagine the pristine 867 yards of pavement that will open to traffic this week as a catalyst to economic rebirth in downtown Sioux Falls. Yet, after almost 20 years of wrangling, city officials say this \$15 million link from downtown to Falls Park is poised to become just that.



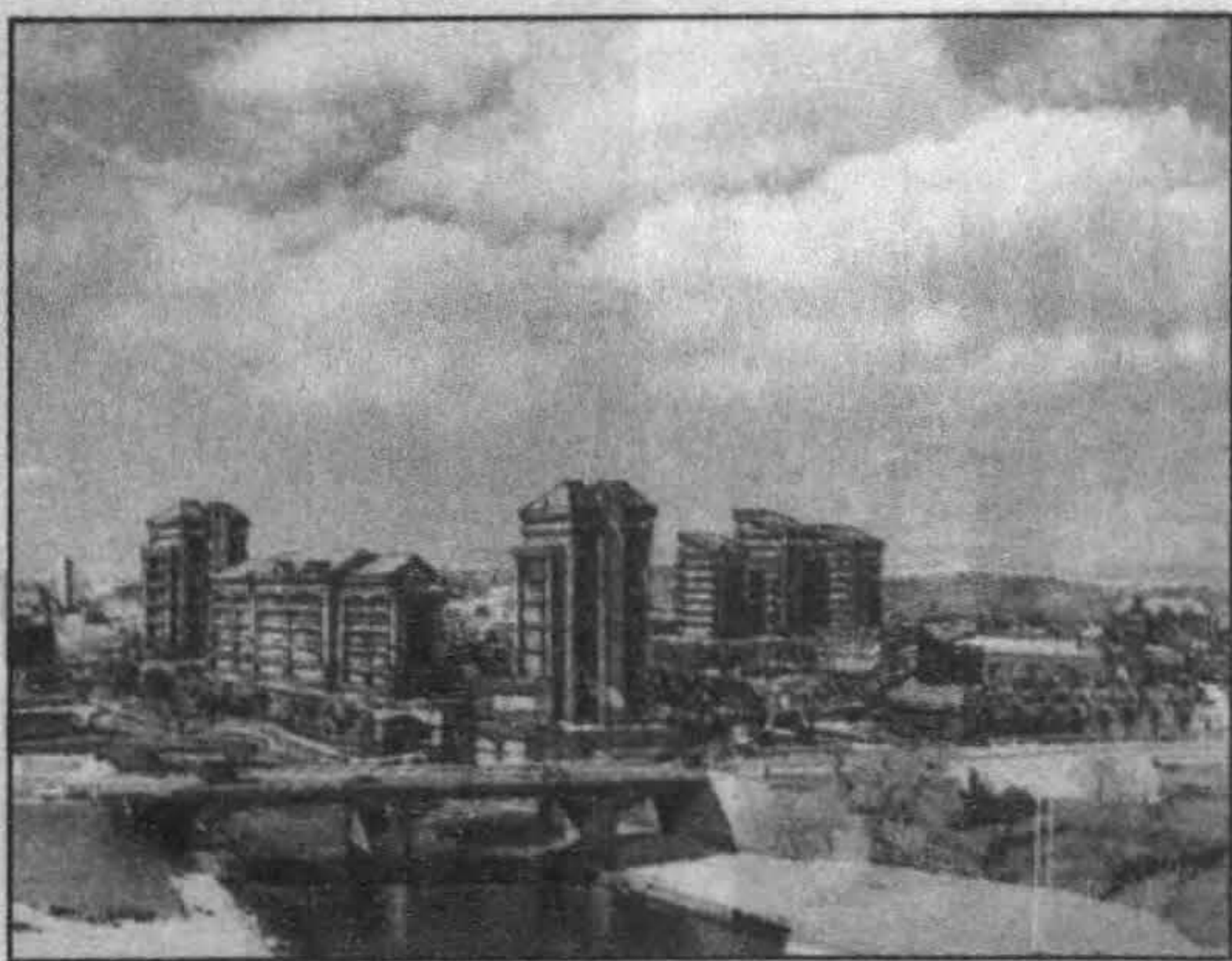
PHOTO COURTESY OF SIOUXLAND HERITAGE MUSEUMS

**PAST:** Falls Park was a center of industry and recreation since the founding of the city. The Queen Bee Mill, shown circa 1882, milled flour sporadically until burning down in 1956. Upstream from the falls, Seney Island was a favorite place for early residents. The park was in disrepair until a revitalization in the 1990s.



STUART VILLANUEVA / ARGUS LEADER

**PRESENT:** The city of Sioux Falls spent \$5.6 million sprucing up the park with trails, platforms, a visitors' center and a viewing tower. Today, the park attracts 400,000 visitors a year and is the endpoint and crown jewel of the Phillips-to-the-Falls development project.



ARCHITECT'S RENDERING BY KOCH HAZARD BALTZER

**FUTURE:** Planners and developers contend the four-block extension of Phillips Avenue from Fifth Street north to Falls Park will spur residential and commercial development of downtown. Above, an architect's drawing shows what development of the East Bank of the Big Sioux River may look like if redevelopment proceeds as planned.

► This type of street lamp along the route to Falls Park is a signature of the Phillips-to-the-Falls project that is close to fruition after years of planning and negotiation by various Sioux Falls mayors, city planners and other officials. The project is intended to spur development and provide a picturesque waterfront attraction downtown.

"This represents so much more to the city of Sioux Falls than anything else we could build," said Kevin Smith, the city's assistant director of public works.

The theory is this: If you increase visitor traffic to Falls Park by allowing easy access from downtown, you create a market for restaurants, hotels and specialty shops. Downtown becomes a place where more people choose to live. Add a 12,000-seat events center and you have the makings of an Omaha-like riverfront development.

City planners contend this project could do for downtown Sioux Falls what a new interstate exchange did for the burgeoning Meadows on the River development or what the completion of 57th Street has meant to growth and development on the city's south side. They see a downtown where 5,000 people live and many more visit regularly. They see developers clamoring to build along the newly constructed route to Falls Park, as well as along the eastern bank of the Big Sioux River.

City Planner Steve Metli compares the city's riverfront hopes to the plan downtown Omaha has pursued.

"We think we have the same kind of potential, on a smaller scale, but it's there," he said. "We have the river and our Phillips Avenue is much like their Old Market. We can make downtown the heartbeat and cultural center that we need."

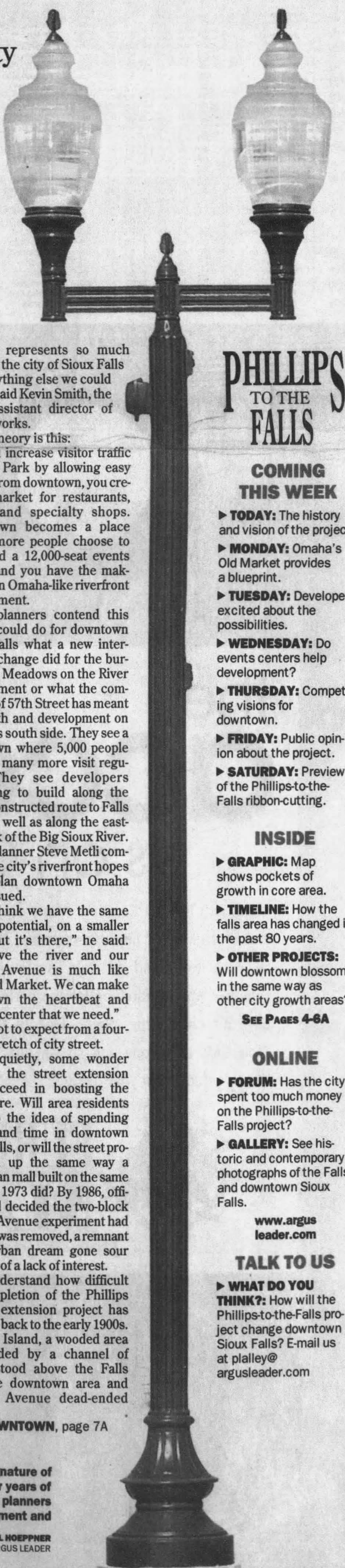
It's a lot to expect from a four-block stretch of city street.

And, quietly, some wonder whether the street extension will succeed in boosting the city's core. Will area residents warm to the idea of spending money and time in downtown Sioux Falls, or will the street project end up the same way a pedestrian mall built on the same street in 1973 did? By 1986, officials had decided the two-block Phillips Avenue experiment had failed. It was removed, a remnant of an urban dream gone sour because of a lack of interest.

To understand how difficult the completion of the Phillips Avenue extension project has been, go back to the early 1900s.

Seney Island, a wooded area surrounded by a channel of water, stood above the Falls near the downtown area and Phillips Avenue dead-ended

See **DOWNTOWN**, page 7A



**PHILLIPS TO THE FALLS**

**COMING THIS WEEK**

- **TODAY:** The history and vision of the project.
- **MONDAY:** Omaha's Old Market provides a blueprint.
- **TUESDAY:** Developers excited about the possibilities.
- **WEDNESDAY:** Do events centers help development?
- **THURSDAY:** Competing visions for downtown.
- **FRIDAY:** Public opinion about the project.
- **SATURDAY:** Preview of the Phillips-to-the-Falls ribbon-cutting.

**INSIDE**

- **GRAPHIC:** Map shows pockets of growth in core area.
- **TIMELINE:** How the falls area has changed in the past 80 years.
- **OTHER PROJECTS:** Will downtown blossom in the same way as other city growth areas?

SEE PAGES 4-6A

**ONLINE**

- **FORUM:** Has the city spent too much money on the Phillips-to-the-Falls project?
- **GALLERY:** See historic and contemporary photographs of the Falls and downtown Sioux Falls.

www.argusleader.com

**TALK TO US**

- **WHAT DO YOU THINK?:** How will the Phillips-to-the-Falls project change downtown Sioux Falls? E-mail us at plalley@argusleader.com

**Politics mingles uneasily with faith**

Many in churches struggle with role of religion in voting

BY **JENNIFER SANDERSON**  
 jsanders@argusleader.com

The confessional and the voting booth are two of the most private places left in America. Each represents obligation and freedom, the moral and the civic. And the distance between the two is closing.

Earlier this year, leading conservative Christians declared that President George Bush has God's blessing over Democratic challenger Sen. John Kerry. In South Dakota, churches statewide received anonymous mailings saying

those who vote for Democratic Sen. Tom Daschle also are voting for sodomy. A Bridge-water pastor paid for print ads supporting "pro-life candidates," while a Sioux Falls man showed up at his church a few Sundays ago to hand out yard signs.

And along a busy stretch of 41st Street, a sign outside a business reads "Vote your Christian Values," followed by "It's Time," which is Republican John Thune's slogan.

In nine days, millions of Americans will bring with them to the polls the teachings of their prophets. They also will bring the conflicts that come from trying to reconcile living doctrines with their own life experiences. Along the way, many have been given clear directives on how they should put faith into action.

While many people say religious leaders should advocate faith-friendly viewpoints, some question the line between guidance and coercion. They might not realize it is that many clergy members feel the same strain. "This has become an ugly church fight, and it will take a while for churches to heal when this is over," said the Rev. Chris Franklin, pastor at First Christian Church.

See **RELIGION**, page 8A



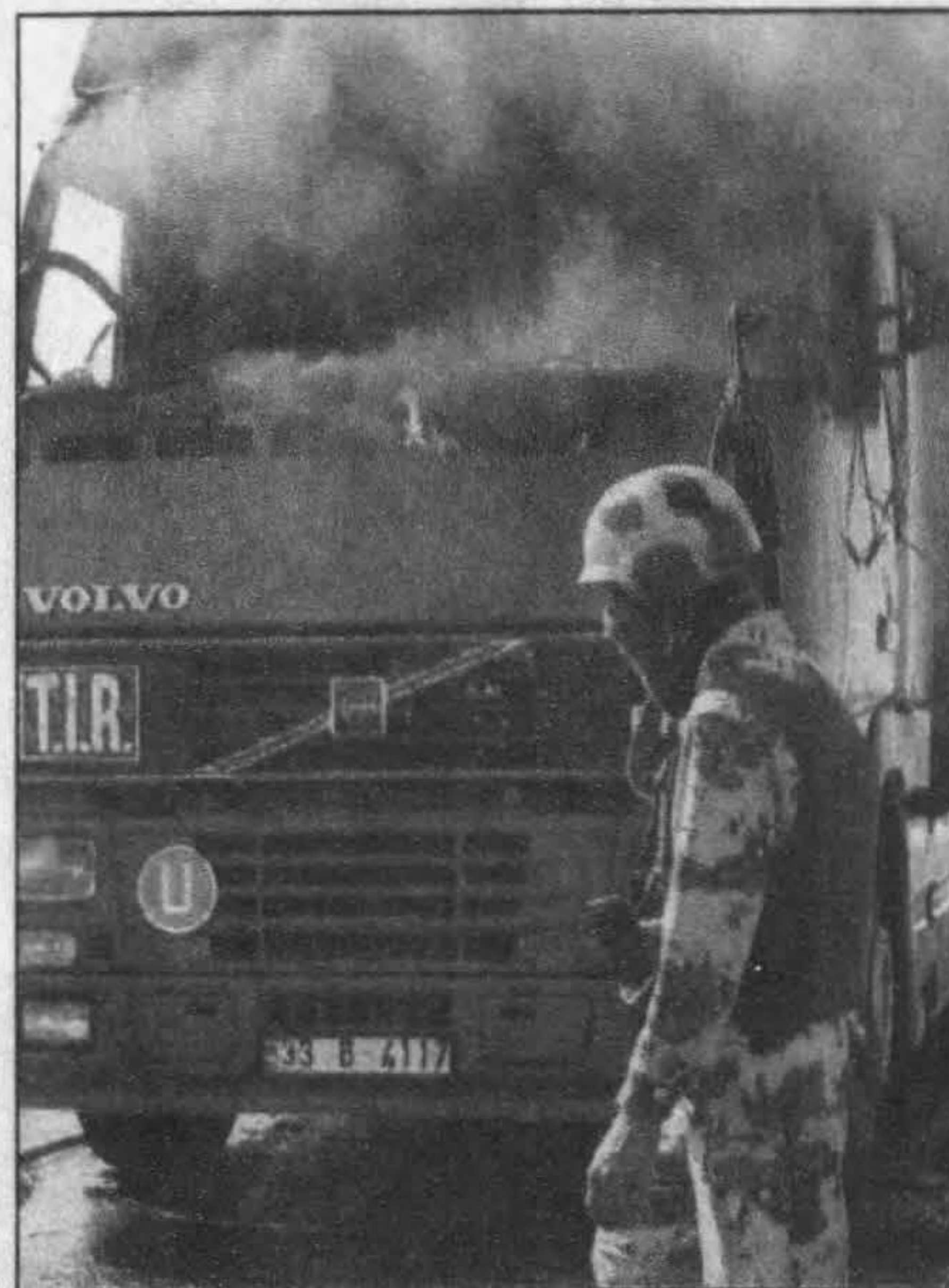
**INSIDE**

- **HOMEFRONT:** How George Bush and John Kerry compare on an array of domestic issues. **14A**
- **DAVID KRANZ:** Catholic Bishop Robert Carlson talks about abortion, conscience and politics. **1B**

**ONLINE**

► For previous coverage and to take part in an online forum, go to [argusleader.com](http://argusleader.com)

**Attacks kill dozens across Iraq**



SCHLONAK / AP

An Iraqi national guardsman secures an area after gunmen opened fire on a convoy of trucks Saturday in Mosul, northern Iraq, killing two drivers and wounding two others, hospital and police officials said. In all, suicide bombers striking north and west of Baghdad on Saturday killed 22 Iraqis, officials said. Elsewhere, the U.S. military announced the arrest of a man said to be a newly promoted senior leader in Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's terror movement. **STORY: 4A**

# Religion: Churches differ on how to lead

Continued from 1A

On one hand, ministry is about helping people work through day-to-day challenges and social issues. On the other, groups that stray too far into the political arena risk the label of partisanship and the loss of their status as tax-exempt organizations.

"People will be conflicted. It's a debate," said Jim Wallis, an ordained evangelical minister, founder of the national group Sojourners and author of "Who Speaks for God? A New Politics of Compassion, Community and Civility."

"We tell people to think, pray and vote," said Wallis, whose group emphasizes that God is not a Republican or a Democrat. "Vote for imperfect choices. God's not running in the election, and he doesn't have a surrogate."

Politics, like faith, is distinctly personal. Maybe it's only natural, then, that so many wonder why anyone would want to separate soul from intellect. Even more so the belief and the action cannot be divided in the same person.

"If you are part of a church that tells you how to vote and that's not what you think a church should be doing, it would and probably should cause some heart-searching on whether you belong there," said the Rev. Jean Morrow, co-pastor at Crestwood United Church of Christ.

"You can hear an undercurrent of frustration from people who have tried to be good Christians their whole lives," said Morrow, whose church welcomes people regardless of denomination or sexual orientation. "They're being told they're not Christian or they're not patriotic if they vote a certain way. They feel as if they've lost their voices. We have to give people back their voices."

## How much guidance?

The public forum is widening, said the Rev. Tad Pacholczyk, a Roman Catholic priest and education director at the National Catholic Bioethics Center based in Boston. He said it's good that people are "putting these things out into the public square."

But some worry that campaigns and those who attach Scripture to elections manipulate church teachings.

"I just don't think the church has a right to dictate when it comes to politics," said Jodi Denevan, a Sioux Falls woman who converted to Catholicism more than 40 years ago. "To tell people, as some priests have done, that they are creating mortal sin by supporting or voting for a certain candidate is just wrong."

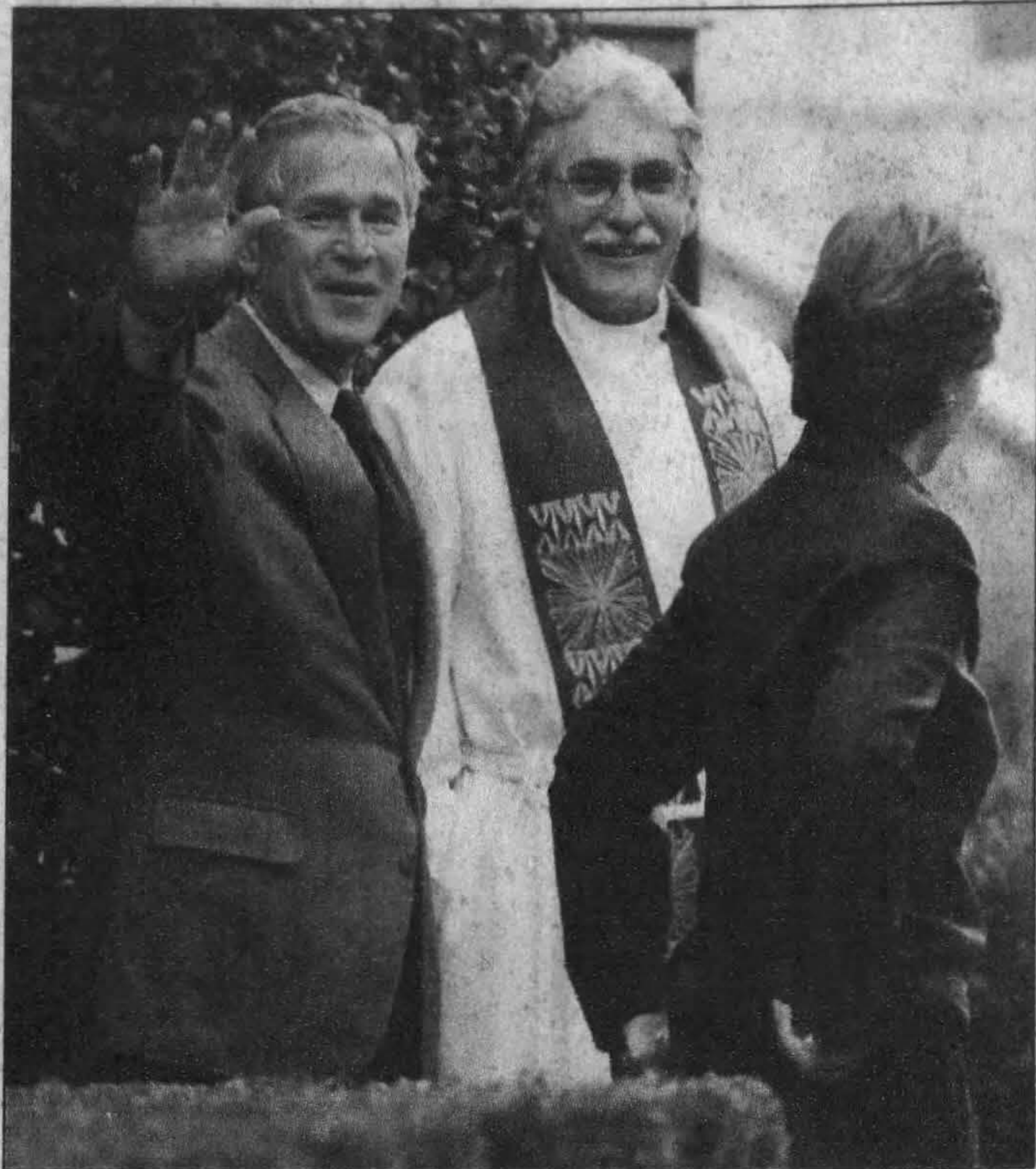
Jean Hentges, who attends St. Michael Catholic Church in Sioux Falls, sees it another way. As vessels of God's message, priests and bishops are doing as they should when they remind people of the path Jesus wants for his followers.

"Whatever denomination you are, or whether you're Muslim or Jewish, you need to stand up for your faith," Hentges said.

The Rev. Ron Sisk, who teaches at North American Baptist Seminary, said harm is present "when ever someone attempts to use the



Sen. John Kerry, Democratic presidential candidate, speaks during services Oct. 17 at Mount Olivet Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio.



President Bush and first lady Laura Bush talk with the Rev. Louis Leon after services Oct. 17 at St. John's Church in Washington, D.C.

church for its own political purposes." He holds a doctorate in ethics and supervises students in the masters of divinity program, offering a course called "Preaching on Controversial Issues."

"Our calling is beyond politics," Sisk said. "It is a violation of your calling to advocate one political party over another. You can speak about specific issues - showing concern for the poor or hungry, for example - as long as you speak about them biblically. People are intelligent enough to know what that means in practical terms. But political elections are bigger than any one issue."

The local Jewish congregation's student rabbi, Paul Jacobson, said mixing politics with religion squanders the time he has with those at Mount Zion Temple. Because the gathering cannot support a full-time rabbi, Jacobson twice a month makes the trip from Hebrew Union College, a Reform Jewish seminary in Cincinnati.

"You can find a way to talk about accepting strangers and treating the aged with respect in a Jewish context," said Jacobson, who thinks most American Jews will select a president committed to supporting Israel. "But should I give a sermon about John Kerry vs. George Bush? That's not fostering any kind of Jewish discussion other than my view. I don't believe I'm given a pulpit so I can spout off my political beliefs."

## 'We try to stay away'

Area Muslim leaders offer another perspective on how to incorporate beliefs into public policy. In its truest form, Islam is a nonsecular religion. Its texts govern soul and society.

"Whole governments implement the commandments into their structure - thou shalt not steal, thou shalt not murder," said Ali Selim, former director of the Islamic Center of Sioux Falls. "Indirectly, we are applying the commandments, but we pretend

that we are not. We pretend we invented a new civic law."

Born and raised in Egypt, Selim came to the United States as a young man. Now 58 and an engineering professor, he has voted in American elections for more than 30 years and said he casts his ballot on social issues, "not because some person is more pious than the other person."

The Muslim community in America has never taken a strong stand toward one candidate or another, he said. When it comes to politics, "We try to stay away."

With scarcely more than a week until Election Day, few mainstream religions can say the same. Groups across the country are switching from organizing voter registration drives to shepherding people toward "Election Novena" Web sites.

The National Council of Churches is one of several assemblies with a faith-based voter guide, and the NCC also offers an original hymn titled "In Times of Great Decision." Others are promoting the House of Worship Free Speech Restoration Act, which would allow pastors to preach on political issues and welcome candidates without fear of losing favored tax treatment.

The Rev. Marcia Sietstra, Morrow's co-pastor at Crestwood UCC, sees danger in treating words spoken by men as a claim on divine intercession. The two women led five hourlong sessions on religion and politics in their adult education group, inviting political scientists, legal experts and other clergy to speak.

"We all believe the church should be a prophetic voice, but we disagree on how to do that and still leave room for disagreement," Sietstra said. "Good Christians disagree because they vote all their values, not just one or two. We hear the gospel differently, so we are an alternative to the religious right."

Pacholczyk, the Catholic bioethicist, disputes the idea that

prioritizing issues means restricting thought.

## Abortion resonates

"Many people say you can't let one or two issues like abortion or embryonic stem-cell research take precedence over the others, that you need to smooth everything out onto the same level," he said, noting that in the hierarchy of values, the pocketbook ranks near the top for most Americans.

"The church is simply in the business of helping people understand that there are objective criteria to help you recognize which considerations should be at the top and which should not," Pacholczyk said.

The Catholic church decrees that not all moral issues are of equal moral weight. Abortion and euthanasia, for example, should be given more weight than capital punishment or war. That proportionality gets lost when people don't understand some basic distinctions, Pacholczyk said.

"In one case, the life is innocent," he said. "In another, the life is not innocent, and that makes the whole moral analysis different."

Pacholczyk, who holds a doctorate in neuroscience from Harvard, focuses on the ethics of

embryonic stem-cell research and cloning. He understands it is a challenge for some to refine their thinking on such complex topics. But he emphasizes the serious nature of the decisions Americans are about to make.

"I am not telling you how to vote, but I am telling you there are certain principles that, if you are going to say you are Catholic, you must incorporate into your thinking and then carry out that thinking in a consistent fashion," he said.

It is an exceptionally emotional time for the Rev. Randy Klynsma and his family. Pastor at Trinity Orthodox Presbyterian Church in Bridgewater, Klynsma has put his faith in the public eye with a series of nearly 30 anti-abortion newspaper ads - one a day, every day, in the four weeks leading up to Election Day.

"It's a matter of core convictions and what a person believes," said Klynsma, who refers to Exodus, Chapter 21, as his framework. "We are either acknowledging an authority from above, or we're applying the human wisdom that the end justifies the means. Are we Christians in name only, or do we have a living relationship and believe God has spoken infallibly in the Scriptures?"

While abortion is not the only issue on Klynsma's mind this campaign season, he said it is one of the most important. Robert Carlson, bishop of the Sioux Falls Catholic Diocese, seems to agree.

Addressing diocesan members openly in August, Carlson wrote that a faithful follower cannot support abortion rights and still be "a Catholic in good standing." He stopped short of calling it a sin for Catholics to vote for Democrats. He cited instead Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger's words that those who vote for a candidate precisely because he or she supports abortion rights are themselves unworthy of Communion. Carlson did not return messages seeking clarification, left during the course of several weeks.

## In the name of God

Cardinal Ratzinger's declarations, made through the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, shook many Catholics. Democratic leaders, Daschle and Kerry among them, are feeling the heat from conservative voters in their respective races.

"We are educating people and reminding them that they have a duty to vote how God would want them to vote," said Rob Regier, executive director of the South Dakota Family Policy Council. His nonprofit created a voting guide and sponsors billboards across town that read: "Believe in God? Vote his values."

Regier said Scripture makes clear God's stance on certain moral issues. "He calls Christians to be set apart from the rest of the world in how we behave," he said. "We believe that relates to how we behave in our home, at work, in school and also in the voting booth."

While he opposes abortion, Sojourners founder Wallis disputes whether Christian ethics and values can be reduced to "one or two hot-button issues." For him, the complexities crystallized during a recent Sojourners meeting about how to handle phone calls from people distraught over the group's equal-issue approach.

"Somebody in the room said that we have to understand this is challenging someone's whole world view," Wallis said. "They never considered there was any other way to think. And when they hear it from people who say, 'We're Christians, too,' it's very upsetting to them."

Reach Jennifer Sanderson at 575-3629.

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# Running Scared?

## Sioux Falls, SD

# Phillips to the Falls

**Falls Park, Sioux Falls SD • Saturday, October 30, 2004**

**Registration: Picnic shelter-west side of the Falls 8 to 9:30 am**

**DAY-OF-THE-RACE REGISTRATION ONLY. First 300 get a shirt!**

**4 Mile Race at 10 am**

Wear a costume!  
Prizes awarded for best team, individual entrants and best time.

After the race,  
Celebrate the opening of Phillips to the Falls!  
Ribbon cutting 11:30.

**Entry Fee \$15**  
Proceeds go to local children's charities.

This year's special edition of the classic Sioux Falls Trick or Treat run will help to celebrate the ribbon cutting for Phillips to the Falls on October 30th. The celebration at Falls Park will include music, lunch, refreshments, souvenirs and tours of the Falls Overlook Café.