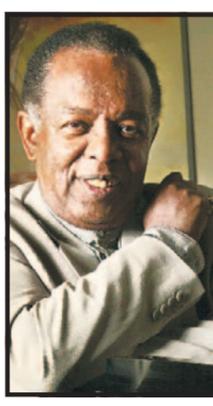


BUSINESS
Is heyday on the way for hedge funds?
Plus: Martha Stewart loses verdict appeal
Section E

AN APPRECIATION
Singer Lou Rawls, 72, dies of cancer
SATURDAY reVIEWS, Section C



SPORTS
ELITE SQUAD
Local football stars in national spotlight of U.S. Army Bowl
Section D



SUNDAY INQUIRER
A TIP: HE'S MAD ABOUT MONEY
CNBC's Jim Cramer, a former fund manager, eschews tradition and latches onto loco when screaming out investment advice.

Sharon's care after 1st stroke is at issue

Reports raised questions on his hospitalization, medication, and more.

By Michael Matza
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER
JERUSALEM — As Israel struggles to accept the severity of Ariel Sharon's medical prognosis, a host of questions are being raised about the care the prime minister has received since his first stroke Dec. 18.

The controversy is stimulated largely by critical media reports after Sharon's massive cerebral hemorrhage Wednesday. It centers on decisions about the manner in which he was transferred to the Jerusalem hospital where he lies comatose, the prescription of blood thinners after his first stroke, the speed with which he returned to work, and the necessity of the heart catheterization he was scheduled to undergo hours before his medical crisis.

Although Sharon, 77, was to have had the catheterization to close a small congenital hole in his heart at Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital in Jerusalem, he had wanted to spend the night before the surgery at his Negev Desert ranch, more than an hour's drive away.

When he complained of chest pains that evening, he was rushed by ambulance to Hadassah after his doctors decided to bypass Soroka Hospital, which is nearer to the ranch.

See **SHARON** on A8

Additional Surgery
 A third operation stops the hemorrhaging in Ariel Sharon's brain and relieves swelling inside his skull. **A8**

ONLINE EXTRA
 For the latest on Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's condition, go to www.philly.com

WEATHER

High 37, Low 29
 Partly sunny today, but cooler; warming is ahead for next week, however. Full report and exclusive NBC10 EarthWatch forecast, **B4**.

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Postage due: Be sure to add 2
 Starting tomorrow, mailing a letter will cost you two cents more than it does today. A first-class stamp (above) will cost 39 cents. Other postage prices will go up, too. **A3**

Living With Risk



ED HILLE / Inquirer Staff Photographer
Miner Shone Sublett and his wife, Nyoka Sublett, in their home in Buckhannon, W. Va. He says he became a miner because there were few other opportunities for making money. She says of the dangers: "It's always in the back of my mind, but I can't think about it all the time."

Miners know dangers, benefits

By Tina Moore
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER
BUCKHANNON, W. Va. — His mother didn't want him to be a miner; neither did his father, a miner himself. But Shone Sublett was 23, with a pregnant wife and little other opportunity for making money in central West Virginia.

So he followed in his father's footsteps, despite his mother's pleas.

"She called anybody at the mine she could and said: 'Don't let my boy go underground,'" Sublett said yesterday from his small, tidy home in the town of Buckhannon, Upshur County, about 110 miles north of Charleston. "She even called the company president."

But Sublett got the job, and was happy to have it. His decision was a hard but common one in this region, where decent-paying, full-time jobs with health benefits are hard to come by.

As viewings begin today for the 12 miners who died after an explosion Monday at the Sago Mine here, Sublett continues his work underground at the company's sister mine, Sentinel.

And his wife, Nyoka, continues to worry. "It's always in the back of my mind, but I can't think about it all the time," said the Bedford, Pa., native, who See **MINING** on A6



HARAZ N. GHANBARI / Associated Press
The entrance to the Sago Mine where 12 miners were killed after an explosion Monday in Tallmansville, W. Va., in the nation's deadliest coal-mining accident in more than four years. Sago and Sentinel, a mine where Shone Sublett works, are both owned by International Coal Group Inc.

'And They're All Alive?'
 ■ Radio transmissions offer a clue on why families were misinformed about survivors. **A6**.
 ■ Officials work to clear out gases so investigators can enter the Sago Mine. **A6**.

Pa. House tells who gave back pay raise

Of the representatives who took the controversial raises, 61 have repaid the state or garnished their wages. One pointed to constituents' outcry.

By Mario F. Cattabiani
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

HARRISBURG — For the first time since the legislature repealed its pay raise in November, a full accounting of exactly which House members gave the money back came into focus yesterday.

Records show that 61 state representatives have either written reimbursement checks for the amount they collected or are having their wages garnished — about double the number disclosed just last month.

In all, 75 House and Senate members — about half of those who took the unpopular summer pay raise right away — have decided to repay the state.

A third of them are from the Philadelphia region. Rep. Susan Cornell (R., Montgomery), who is one of that group, said she originally took the raise through a legislative expense account to hire a part-time aide in her district office. Her constituents didn't like the idea and let her know it.

"They were loud and clear. They didn't care if the money wasn't going in my pocket or not," she said. "It didn't matter to them. They just didn't want me to take it at all. They just wanted me to give it back."

Soon after the repeal, Cornell sent the state a check for \$929.69 — the portion of the raise she had received. Also weighing in her decision is her bid for a second term this year.

See **PAY** on A6

Court nominee will get backing from the bench.

Specter says seven judges will testify for Alito

By Chris Mondics
 INQUIRER WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Arlen Specter has scheduled seven current and former federal judges to testify in favor of Judge Samuel A. Alito Jr. at his confirmation hearings next week in an unusual move aimed at bolstering the Supreme Court nominee's prospects.

Judges traditionally have avoided such appearances, in part because of the political nature of Supreme Court confirmation hearings.

Specter (R., Pa.) said in a statement yesterday that the judges — all from the Philadelphia-based U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, on which Alito sits — would add to the public's understanding of Alito's record.

Specter said the idea came from one of the seven, Edward R. Becker, who approached colleagues to see whether they also would testify. The seven were appointed to the Third Circuit court by both Republican and Democratic presidents.

"These are fellow judges who can give a much broader picture, and they have insights into this See **JUDGES** on A7

Bucks County is chosen for veterans cemetery site

By Nancy Petersen
 INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

A long-awaited veterans cemetery for Southeast Pennsylvania is coming to a tract of pristine Bucks County farmland near Washington Crossing Historic Park.

R. James Nicholson, secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, is to announce tomorrow that the cemetery will be located on the 214-acre Dolington Tract, owned by Toll Bros. Inc. The home-construction firm is selling the property to the government for \$7 million, according to a VA memo on the transaction.

Toll spokeswoman Linda Cohen said company president Bob Toll would have no comment until tomorrow's ceremony. But the decision was not without its critics.

Inside
 Local Christian rally on eve of hearings on Monday draws criticism. **B1**.
Coming Sunday
 Judge Alito faces questions on presidential power and terrorism.