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Weather details. forecast

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Every copy of the original run of the Jan. 21 edition of The Times was sold by noon Wednesday. That afternoon, The Times reprinted 6,000 additional copies. **READ MORE 2A**

THE QUICKREAD

A fast way to digest the news of the day

COMMUNITY

Local inaugural ball held

The formal Bossier/ Shreveport Presidential Inaugural Ball held Tuesday at the Bossier **Civic Center in Bossier** City drew some 260 people to celebrate the inauguration of Barack Obama. PAGE 3A



Colleges expecting deep cuts

The governor's office has told Louisiana's public universities and colleges the cuts for next fiscal year will be deep — as much as \$212 million to \$382.2 million. And that means millions for local schools like LSU-Shreveport. PAGE 3A

Funds OK'd for prisoner GEDs

Bossier Police Juror Barry Butler convinced fellow jurors Wednesday to approve taking \$3,000 from his discretionary fund (each juror receives \$5,000 a year) and use it for Bossier prisoners to have funds for the test to receive their General Education Development certificate. PAGE 6A





Obama Day 1



President Obama and first lady Michelle Obama attend prayer service (left). Obama speaks to his senior staff (center). The president signs executive orders at the White House (right).

Economy, war and more

he first day on the job for President Obama: Pray for the nation. Jump into Middle East diplomacy. Sign a batch of executive orders on ethics and open government. Hash over the twin crises of war and recession with top advisers. And open up the White House to greet some joyously overwhelmed visitors.



BAFB makes short lists

Base still eyed for Global Strike. cyber operations.

By John Andrew Prime jprime@gannett.com

As expected, Barksdale Air Force Base appears on short lists the Pentagon released Wednesday of military sites under consideration to be headquarters of the new Global Strike Command and 24th Air Force.

In addition to Barksdale, the candidate Air Force bases for the 24th Air Force headquarters are Lackland in Texas, Langley in Virginia, Offutt in Nebraska, Peterson in Colo-rado and Scott in Illinois.

The list of Air Force base candidates for Global Strike Command headquarters also includes F.E. Warren in Wyo-ming, Malmstrom in Montana, Minot in North Dakota, Offutt in Nebraska and Whiteman in Missouri.

The final basing decision will be made through a measured and deliberate process for the best possible outcome for national defense and compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, said Kevin Billings, acting assistant secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics.

For 24th Air Force, officials will consider proximity to other

SPORTS

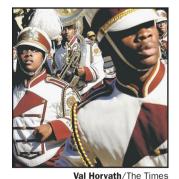
Stallings took the long way

Centenary's Nick Stallings traveled a twisted collegiate route before finally playing basketball for the Gents. Stallings has become one of the best guards in The Summit League. PAGE 1B



LIVING

Celebrating MLK's legacy



The Booker T. Washington High School marching band was just one of the groups participating in in the Krewe of Harambee Mardi Gras parade in downtown Shreveport on Monday. SEE MORE PHOTOS PAGE 1C

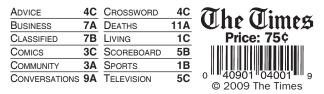
NATION/WORLD

Salmonella probe broadens

More than 125 products have been recalled in a salmonella-and-peanuts investigation that keeps getting bigger, federal health officials said Wednesday. PAGE 8A

Caroline Kennedy withdraws

Published reports say Caroline Kennedy is withdrawing from her effort to join the U.S. Senate in the seat once held by her uncle, slain Sen. Bobby Kennedy. PAGE 8A



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J. Scott. Applewhite/AP

President Obama speaks to his senior staff to assert expectations on ethics and conduct Wednesday at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House campus in Washington.

'What an opportunity we have to change this country'

By David Espo The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - In a first-day whirlwind, President Obama showcased efforts to revive the economy Wednesday, summoned top military officials to the White House to chart a new course in Iraq and eased into the daunting thicket of Middle East diplo-

"What an opportunity we have to change this country," said the 47-yearold chief executive, who also issued new ethics rules for his administration and hosted a reception at the presidential mansion for 200 inauguration volunteers and guests selected by an Internet lottery.

After dancing at inaugural balls with first lady Michelle Obama past midnight, Obama entered the Oval Office for the first time as president in early morning. He read a good luck note left behind by President Bush, then began breaking cleanly with his predecessor's policies.

Aides circulated a draft of an executive order that would close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, within a year and halt all war crimes trials in the meantime.

Closing the site "would further the national security and foreign policy interests of the United States and the interests of justice," read the draft prepared for the new president's signature. A copy was obtained by The

See DAY 2A

definition of what it

Locals ponder president's challenges

By Adam Kealoha Causey acausey@gannett.com

Celebration must give way to work as President Obama gets down to the business of governing a struggling nation.

His inauguration speech alluded to the tough outlook ahead for the United States.

"Every so often the oath is taken amidst gathering clouds and raging storms. At these moments, America has carried on not simply because of the skill or vision of those in high office, but because we the people have remained faithful to the ideals of our forebears, and true to our founding documents."

Here are thoughts from northwest Louisiana leaders and residents on action they think Obama should take to face these challenges.

THE ECONOMY:

"Obama must work closely with



Walford

economic advisers to create a stimulus plan to turn the economy around. Wall Street will react positively to well thought out actions by the president

and Congress. His leadership is crucial. **Monty Walford** Shreveport City

Shepherd him have health care for everybody. I've seen, in my medicine?' It's so many people that don't have it, and it's so expensive.' - Wiley Shepherd

Caddo Parish maintenance worker



Lvnch

means to win the war. Winning is also knowing when to fold them. — Stephanie Lynch Caddo commissioner

"A solution should have come a long **McCullin**

time ago. I'm still not clear why they went over there to

begin with. ... But it's time for our troops to come home; I do know that.'

— Amy McCullin

The Village Salon owner



See LISTS 4A

FEMA, Bossier at odds

Updated flood zone maps prompting complaints in parish.

By Drew Pierson

dpierson@gannett.com

Hundreds of property owners who have lived in Bossier Parish for decades and never had a problem with flooding are suddenly finding themselves unable to build on their property, or forced to buy flood insurance, now that the Federal Emergency Management Agency has changed areas of the parish it considers to be a flood way and flood zone.

"I can't do anything on my property," said Tommy Strong, a south Bossier resident who has waited at least four months to build a toolshed. "My property is worthless if I can't do anything on it.

Bossier Parish is entirely in a flood plain because the Red River and bayous crisscross the parish. That flood plain is carved into flood zones by the federal government, which determine where flood insurance is mandatory.

Bossier Parish had been working with the same flood maps since 1983 until FEMA - the agency that determines flood zones - announced it had revised its maps, and required the parish to ratify them last September. If the parish hadn't, FEMA would have revoked flood insurance eligibility for all of the parish.

Council member

HEALTH CARE: "I would like to see

own life, people have to make the choice of 'Do we eat or do we buy