

The Masters tees off

In Sports,
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WASHINGTON

Trump decries Syria attack

Use of chemical weapons on children 'crossed a lot of lines for me,' president says

Anne Gearan *Washington Post*

President Donald Trump confronted the enormity of the 6-year-old Syrian conflict on Wednesday, acknowledging that he now bears responsibility for a war his predecessor could not end, but offering no specifics on what he could do differently.

Clearly emotional, Trump said a chemical attack in Syria that killed scores of civilians, including children, "crossed a lot of lines for me."

"When you kill innocent children, innocent babies — babies! — little babies," Trump said, "that crosses many, many lines. Beyond a red line, many, many lines."

Trump said the multifaceted conflict "is now my responsibility," and he appeared to reckon with the same lack of good options in Syria that repeatedly confounded former President Barack Obama.

SEE SYRIA, 6

EDUCATION

Experts: Gay kids could be outed by bullying law

Adam Clark *For The Star-Ledger*

New Jersey is considering revising its strict anti-bullying regulations over concerns that students harassed for being lesbian, gay or transgender will be outed to their parents by school officials.

In a presentation before the state Board of Education on Wednesday, Department of Education officials suggested that schools should no longer automatically tell the parents of bullying victims the full details of the case.

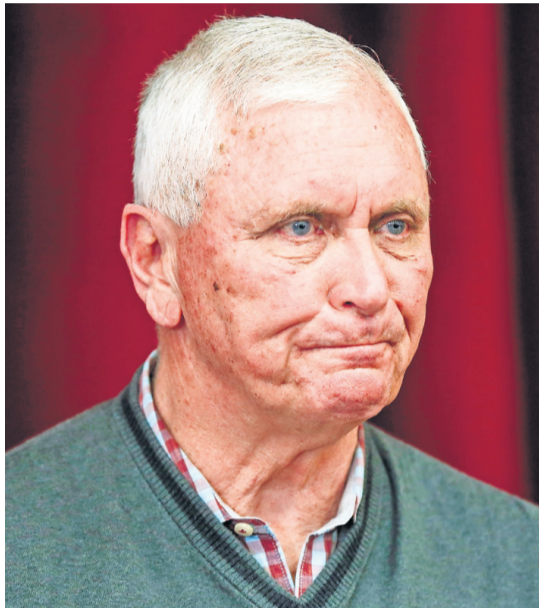
Instead, the department proposes changing its anti-bullying regulations to require that schools "take into account the circumstances of the incident" when deciding what information to share with parents and how to communicate it.

SEE BULLYING, 11

JERSEY CITY

END OF AN ERA

St. Anthony, noted basketball powerhouse, to close its doors



Bob Hurley Sr., St. Anthony High School president and legendary basketball coach, leaves the Newark Archdiocese headquarters Wednesday after he received confirmation of the decision to close the school in Jersey City at the end of the year. "It's brutal. Absolutely brutal," said Hurley, who has headed the program since 1972. Photos by Andrew Mills/NJ Advance Media for The Star-Ledger

Jeremy Schneider *For The Star-Ledger*
Terrence T. McDonald *The Jersey Journal*

The home of the most storied high school boys basketball program in New Jersey history is closing its doors.

St. Anthony High School will suspend operations in June after 65 years in operation, due to a lack of funding and dwindling enrollment, Bob Hurley Sr., the school's president and basketball team's Hall of Fame coach, announced on Wednesday.

"It is with enormous regret that we announce today that in our negotiations with the archdiocese there were too many things that we were unable

to do with increasing student enrollment, having some money long-term and satisfying some of our debt to the archdiocese," Hurley said. "So that at the end of this school year, we will be closing."

Hurley, 69, said the school, in significant debt to the Archdiocese of Newark, was not able to promise church officials two things that could have kept the school open: increasing enrollment by 25 percent and raising enough money to have \$500,000 in the bank by the start of the next school year.

"That's a big number, and that was not a number we were going to be able to reach," said Hurley.

Fighting back tears, Hurley said, "It's brutal. Absolutely brutal."

SEE SCHOOL, 8

Inside

New Jersey will lose part of its identity when longtime basketball powerhouse St. Anthony High School closes in two months, writes columnist Steve Politi. **Page 8**

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