



Mt. Edgecumbe High School teacher Bob Chastain, center back row, proudly displays the T-shirt that was presented him by the student council after students voted him as the school's teacher of the year. Some of the student council members are, front row, from left, Birdi Outwater, Lisa Orr and Groovy Weaver. Back: student council

president Mike Kimber, Chastain and Terrance Pegan. Chastain also coached the Mt. Edgecumbe boys basketball team that won the discipline and classroom work in his program. (Sentinel photo by Allen Sykora)

## Jail Guards Don't Like Proposed Changes

JUNEAU (AP) — Guards at the state's jails are angry over a proposal to change their work schedules, reducing overtime to cut personnel costs.

The guards argue the proposal would hurt morale and possibly increase tensions in state prisons, while not necessarily saving the state any money.

Officials in the Department of Corrections say they have no choice but to live within a budget that lawmakers cut to \$1 million last month.

Currently, the 600 correctional officers work 10-hour shifts for a week that takes the next week off. They receive four hours of mandatory overtime per pay period under the program.

currently — effectively a 3 percent pay cut.

The state went to the 12-hour day because an eight-hour, five-day work week just doesn't give guards enough time away from there to survive," Jensen said. "There are too many pressures that build up on guards. The current system is by far the best for everyone. The inmates will be the first to tell you that it has helped improve the atmosphere inside the prison."

Floyd Gamwell, assistant director for the Department of Corrections, said the department would prefer to keep the current staffing system, rather than experiment with a return to an eight-hour system. But he said officials have no choice.

"This is already a budgetary issue. We were told that he had to cut our personnel costs by \$1 million next year and were told in the budget three months ago that we had to accept a 3 percent pay cut," Gamwell said.

By state law, guards are given the right to binding arbitration to settle contract disputes, but are barred from striking.

ANCHORAGE (AP) — Tony Durr was fired Tuesday as managing editor of the Anchorage Times.

Durr, 38, came to the Times in February 1985 from the San Antonio Express-News where he had served as assistant managing editor.

BIE Tobin, vice president and editorial board member of the Times, said Assistant Managing Editor Carmen Drubinski will assume the job until a new managing editor is named.

"Tony Durr has left and we will be announcing a new managing editor soon," Tobin said, declining to go into the reasons behind Durr's departure.

Durr, meanwhile, said he cleaned out his desk Tuesday afternoon after being told his services no longer were needed.

"I did not resign," Durr told a reporter after being "rescued at home." "I have a Coast Guard drill coming up this weekend. I'd do some thinking and come back and see what's available here in Alaska."

## Peel Trial: Drugs Brought Up

KETCHIKAN, Alaska (AP) — Defense lawyers hit anew Tuesday at perjured drug dealings by lawyer-skipper Mark Coulthurst, but lost a bid to tell the jury about alleged cocaine sales by a prosecution witness.

Prosecutors meanwhile tried to show jurors that John Kenneth Peel might have killed Coulthurst after his former skipper needed Peel into a rage.

Peel, 38, has pleaded innocent to charges of murder and arson in the September 1982 death of Coulthurst and seven other people on the Iroquois at Craig, Alaska.

Defense lawyer Phillip Paul Weidner was cut off by Ketchikan Superior Court Judge Thomas Schultz when Weidner asked to question prosecution witness Alice Irwin about alleged cocaine dealing in Craig.

Irwin, 28, had said the saw Peel with the Coulthursts hours before their deaths, and Weidner said she was testifying in order to avoid being investigated for alleged cocaine sales.

But Schultz ruled the defense hasn't made cocaine trafficking by anyone a credible issue in the trial.

Drugs and drink continued to be the focus during the 14th week of the trial.

Richard Sturgill, 39, a friend of Coulthurst, testified that when the skipper got drunk, he had a habit of meeting people for fast rage.

Witnesses have said Coulthurst fired Peel from his crew the previous fishing season.

State medical examiner Donald Rogers of Anchorage said the blood alcohol content in the bodies of Mark and Irene Coulthurst, both 34 when they died, were about at the level considered evidence of legal impairment. But Rogers said the alcohol levels from the partially destroyed bodies might have been higher or lower at the time of death.

Coulthurst died from three gunshot wounds to the head; his pregnant wife, from two wounds, Rogers said.

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