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# KILLEEN DAILY HERALD

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## Sallie Mae workers' future uncertain

■ If student loan bill passes, company plans to pare employees

By **Rebecca LaFlure**  
Killeen Daily Herald

Hundreds of Sallie Mae employees in Killeen could be part of a 30 percent company-wide job cut if the U.S. Senate passes a measure that would prevent private lenders from issuing federal student loans.

The U.S. House voted for the measure as part of the massive health care overhaul approved Sunday night. It still awaits a vote by the Senate, which is expected as early as this week.

In what would be the most radical restructuring of college-aid programs in decades, the legislation would eliminate the private lender option by June of next year. All federal loans would be issued directly by the government.

President Barack Obama advocated for the measure, which is expected to save taxpayers billions of

dollars in the next decade.

Most of the estimated \$61 billion in savings would go into the federal Pell Grant program, guaranteeing more money for low-income students to go to college.

Sallie Mae, which employs 500 people at its Killeen office, would be forced to cut 2,500 jobs nationwide, officials say. The private lending giant currently employs 8,600 people.

Officials already cut a huge chunk of its work force in 2008.

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The Killeen branch of Sallie Mae might be impacted if the Senate approves legislation to prevent private lenders from issuing federal student loans. If the legislation passes, then Sallie Mae could make a 30 percent company-wide cut of its work force.

## Texas AG taking shots from Democrats

By **Kelley Shannon**  
The Associated Press

AUSTIN — Republican Attorney General Greg Abbott, who joined a multistate lawsuit challenging the new federal health care law this week, is taking heat from Democrats



who say he backed a plan that required non-custodial parents to provide medical coverage for their children.

But Abbott said Wednesday there's a big distinction between the two programs: Texas is not required by the federal government to participate in the child support program, but Texas residents would be required to buy insurance under the newly enacted federal health care overhaul plan.

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## New nuke treaty all but sealed

By **Robert Burns and Lynn Berry**  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — After long and trying negotiations, the U.S. and Russia have reached agreements for a historic new treaty to reduce the nuclear arsenals of the former Cold War rivals, officials said Wednesday. President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev are expected to sign it in Prague.

The deal is widely seen as an important step toward

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## REDRAWING KISD'S BOUNDARIES



Killeen players reach up to touch the Class 4A Division I District Championship trophy Nov. 13 as they celebrated their 49-26 victory over Austin LBJ at Dragon Stadium in Round Rock. If Killeen High's enrollment is increased, the Roos might be kept out of the football playoffs under University Interscholastic League rules.

## FIGURING IT OUT

■ Athletic coordinators watching to see how KISD board will rule on the district's new high school boundaries

By **Kevin Posival and Alex Byington**  
Killeen Daily Herald

Almost 560 students from Fort Hood could spike Killeen High School's enrollment numbers and endanger the football team's playoff chances if a Killeen Independent School District rezoning proposal is approved.

Roos athletic coordinator Sam Jones is just waiting to see the numbers.

"Numbers-wise, if they're going to make everybody (come) and they're going to bus everybody and they're got to come, then it may affect us," Jones said. "If they do it through ninth and 10th grade and let everybody (else) decide if they want to stay at the schools they're at, I think that'll be something they've got to look at. I really don't know until it happens."

Last October, Killeen High

### Tallying the possible changes

Here's a look at the enrollments of Killeen ISD's four high schools used by the University Interscholastic League during its biennial reclassification in February and how those numbers might change if the district goes ahead with its latest rezoning plan.

School	UIL enrollment figure	Growth	Loss	Estimated 2010-11 enrollment
Ellison	2,572	488	602	2,686
Harker Heights	2,605	0	488	2,117
Killeen High	1,829	559	0	2,388
Shoemaker	2,230	602	559	2,273

Sources: UIL, KISD

turned in a snapshot enrollment of 1,829 students, 236 short of the 4A-5A cutoff (2,065) the University Interscholastic League used in February's biennial reclassification.

The school board proposed at Tuesday's workshop to earmark the Comanche Village area at Fort Hood — northwest of Shoemaker High School — where an estimated 559 high school students would be zoned for Killeen High to ultimately reduce overcrowding at Harker Heights High School.

Approximately 488 students living in Hymesa — the area between

Stan Schlueter Loop and Heather Glen — would be zoned out of Harker Heights and into Ellison, which would in turn lose approximately 602 students living west of State Highway 135 to Shoemaker.

Shoemaker, which campus athletic coordinator Ken Gray estimated to be from 75 to 80 percent military-dependent, would see an increase of only about 40 students but could be stabilized by the proposed rezoning.

"Hopefully by getting some of

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## Former KPD chief's passing mourned

■ F.L. Giacomozzi Jr. served city for more than 35 years

By **Victor O'Brien**  
Killeen Daily Herald

Killeen's longest-tenured police chief, who served the city for more than 35 years and ushered the department into an era of digital policing, died Wednesday.

F.L. Giacomozzi Jr., 67, died Wednesday morning at Scott & White Hospital in Temple. Funeral services are pending with Crawford-Bowers Funeral Home in Killeen.

Giacomozzi served for 35 years with the Killeen Police Department, including 20 years as chief. After he retired, he reviewed police and fire policies as a member of the city's civil service board.

City leaders and colleagues remembered Giacomozzi Wednesday as a chief who fought hard for change and carried Killeen police from the days of typewriter reports to network-based communications and modern equipment.

"Giac was a cop's cop," former mayor Raul Villaronga said Wednesday. "He was



Giacomozzi Jr.

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**Online extra**  
Find more at [kdhnews.com](http://kdhnews.com)

**Go climb a 'rock'**

See a video of the Fort Hood Resiliency Campus Functional Fitness Center's rock wall and boulder in action.



**Inside today's Herald**

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**In Business**

■ **Fewer homes sell**  
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