

Inspired by the Occupy movement, California and New York are hitting up their millionaires to help solve budget problems.  
Page 4D

**LOOK INSIDE FOR:**

Marketplace Ads

D OMAHA WORLD-HERALD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2011 OMAHA.COM

### MARKET WATCH

Dow Industrials	12,021.39 (-162.87)
S&P 500	1,236.47 (-18.72)
NASDAQ	2,612.26 (34.59)
Bloomberg Midlands	453.64 (-5.22)
Cruide oil (NYMEX)	97.77 (-1.64)

World-Herald 150, 2D

Omaha.com

Check your investments at My Stocks & Funds

### BUSINESS BRIEFS



#### Thai floods hurt Intel revenues

Intel cut its fourth-quarter revenue outlook Monday because of massive flooding in Thailand, sending shares for the entire sector downward. Intel, based in Santa Clara, Calif., is the world's largest maker of microprocessors, the "brains" of computers. It said revenue will be lower than expected because companies are reducing inventories and microprocessor purchases due to shortages of hard drives.

#### Trading in Saab parent is halted

The Dutch financial market regulator on Monday halted trading in shares of Swedish carmaker Saab's parent company, Shares in Swedish Automobile N.V. had fallen more than 19 percent before trading was halted. Prominent Swedish newspaper Dagens Industri reported earlier in the day that the company's chief executive was preparing to file for liquidation.

#### Lee expects brief stay in bankruptcy

Lee Enterprises Inc., the publisher of the Lincoln Journal Star and more than 40 other daily newspapers, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection Monday in U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Wilmington, Del., as part of a previously announced refinancing plan. Lee, based in Davenport, Iowa, has said it expects to emerge from the bankruptcy process within 60 days. The company said the filing shouldn't affect employees, suppliers or customers.

#### Delay OK'd for AT&T deal

AT&T Inc.'s proposed \$39 billion purchase of T-Mobile USA Inc. may be close to failure after a federal judge Monday agreed to put on hold a government challenge to the merger. U.S. District Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle in Washington granted a request from both sides to delay the antitrust case, which was scheduled for trial Feb. 13. AT&T has until Jan. 12 to file a report with the court explaining whether it still plans to try to buy T-Mobile, Huvelle said.

— From wire reports

## U.S., Russia finding 'common ground' through agriculture

By ERIN GOLDEN  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

With a growing and increasingly modern agricultural sector, Russia is beginning to have a lot in common with major ag-producing states like Nebraska and Iowa — and developing a bigger profile in international commerce.

During the U.S.-Russia Business Council Agribusiness Forum, held Monday at the Hilton Omaha, U.S. Sen. Ben Nelson, D-Neb., rattled off the statistics: Russia is now the United States' 23rd-largest partner in international trade and the 17th-largest importer of

ONLY IN THE WORLD-HERALD

American agricultural products. Last year, Nebraska companies exported more than \$70 million worth of goods to Russia.

In short, the two countries have gone from Cold War enemies to major trading partners, all in a relatively short period of time. In a few days, Russia is expected to receive an invitation to join the World Trade Organization. And those steps, Nelson said, can have far-reaching impacts.

"Commerce can connect us," he

said. "It can break down political barriers. It can give us common ground."

The one-day event was organized by the business council, a Washington, D.C.-based trade group that provides guidance and business services to firms from both countries. Along with Nelson, who is the chairman of the Senate delegation to the U.S.-Russia Interparliamentary Group, the forum featured presentations and panel discussions from Russian and American government and business leaders. Companies represented at the event included Pioneer Hi-Bred

and Claas, a German company with North American operations based in Saryu County.

Cory Reed, vice president of agriculture and turf global marketing services for John Deere, said his company has been in Russia for well over 100 years — longer than it has made tractors. He said there's a clear, rapidly expanding need for more food that will require agricultural production to double by 2050.

Russia, which has 9 percent of the world's arable land, 8 percent of the available fresh water and more than 20 percent of the for-

ested land area, will have an important role to play.

"With rapid modernization, it's not unreasonable to expect significant expansion in grain output, the potential for doubling exports to the world market in a relatively short period of time," he said.

Alexey Chernyshev, deputy chairman of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation's committee on agriculture, food policy and fisheries, has served as governor of an agricultural region of the country. He said it's crucial for his country to open its doors to

See Russia: Page 2

ONLY IN THE WORLD-HERALD



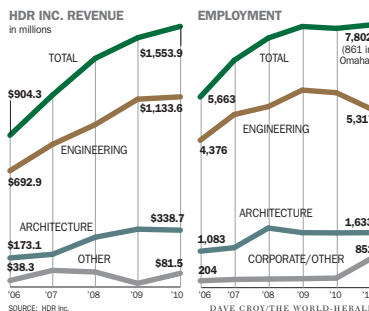
JAMES R. BURNETT/THE WORLD-HERALD

HDR's strength in engineering and architecture means it can bring top-flight skills to bear on a wide range of client needs. "There's not too many things we don't do," said George A. Little, above, who will take over as chairman and CEO at year's end. "We want to be the trusted adviser with our clients."

## New leaders, global goals

HDR looks for growth on both sides of its business and in places near and far.

By STEVE JORDON  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER



SOURCE: HDR Inc. DAVE CROFT/THE WORLD-HERALD

HDR Inc., after a switch to employee ownership that quintupled its employment in 15 years, is aiming at domestic and international expansion under a new CEO and new presidents of its engineering and architecture companies.

George A. Little, 53, becomes chairman and CEO of the 7,800-employee Omaha firm today as Richard R. Bell retires after 37 years with the company. Bell, 64, remains on HDR's board of directors.

Eric Keen, 54, will succeed Little as president of HDR Engineering. In addition, Doug Wignall, 44, will become the president of HDR Architecture, succeeding Merle S. Bachman, 64, who also is retiring.

Little, a University of Alabama-Birmingham graduate and native of Birmingham, joined HDR in 1989 and has headed the engineering division since 1998. Keen and Wignall are native Iowans. Keen from Cedar Rapids and Wignall from Glenwood. Keen's engineering degree is from the University of Iowa and Wignall is a University of Nebraska-Lincoln architecture graduate.

Keen joined HDR in 1993 and has been executive vice president for transportation. Wignall joined HDR in 1991 and has been a senior vice president leading the architecture company's health care practice.



Wignall



Keen

See HDR: Page 2

## Teenage 'lip balm guy' takes his idea from concept to completion

By LEILA MENDOZA  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Daniel Schlessinger is known around campus as the "lip balm guy."

The 17-year-old Omaha native and freshman at Northwestern University has had his college neighbors and buddies swarm his dorm room to get samples of his creation: FixMySkin Healing Balm. Daniel Schlessinger



Daniel Schlessinger

MySkin Healing Balm. Daniel even mingled with celebrities at the Emmy Awards in September to give red carpet walkers a sneak peek of the product before it was released to the public last month.

FixMySkin Healing Balm is a medicated body balm intended to heal a number of skin issues, including chapped lips and cuticles, dry elbows and heels, psoriasis, eczema, poison ivy and insect bites.

Daniel, who aspires to follow in his dermatologist dad's footsteps, came up with the concept when he

was only 12.

It was winter in Nebraska and the Kiewit Middle School seventh-grader had dry, cracked skin on his hands. So he rubbed some lip balm on his skin and wondered why it worked better than lotion, but didn't completely heal his skin.

"It was my intellectual curiosity, I guess," Daniel said by phone. "I was just really curious about why something like lip balm didn't work there."

Turns out, he learned from his father, Dr. Joel Schlessinger, that his lips and hands have two different

types of skin and the hand requires a stronger medication.

"It was more complex of a problem than I imagined," Daniel said. "And it led us into this whole journey."

The journey began with Daniel's idea, but his father saw potential in it and stepped in to advise and mentor his son.

Daniel researched the market to see if a medicated balm existed that could be used on lips and hands. There were lip balms with medications in them, but no skin balms

## San Francisco minimum wage to top \$10 an hour

The raise to \$10.24 is "a psychological boost" for workers, but employers complain of a double whammy.

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — David Frias works two minimum-wage jobs to squeak by in one of the most expensive cities in America.

Come New Year's Day, he'll have a few more coins in his pocket as San Francisco makes history by becoming the first city in the nation to scale a \$10 minimum wage. The city's hourly wage for its lowest-paid workers will hit \$10.24, more than \$2 above the California minimum wage and nearly \$3 more than the working wage set by the federal government.

It won't put much more in Frias' wallet. But it gives him a sense of moving on up.

"It's a psychological boost," said Frias, who is a 34-year-old usher at a movie theater and a security guard for a crowd control firm. "It means that I'll have more money in my wallet to pay my bills and money to spend in the city to help the economy."

San Franciscans passed a proposition in 2003 that requires the city to increase the minimum wage each year, using a formula tied to inflation and the cost of living in a locale where labor unions remain strong and housing costs are sky high.

Karl Kramer of the San Francisco Living Wage Coalition said a decent wage for a single adult without children in the city would be \$15 an hour, and that doubles when you have at least one child or more. But like other advocates of better wages, he's still pleased that San Francisco will be the first in the nation to top \$10.

"It helps workers' morale in a time of economic crisis; they feel that they're able to tread water and get some relief from the recession," Kramer said.

Many employees say it's still not a wage to live on, but the 32-cent hike seems like peanuts. And some employers say it could lead to layoffs by small businesses already forced to pay federal, state and city payroll taxes as well as a slew of other city-mandated taxes.

Daniel Scherrotter, chef and owner of Palo D'Asi, an upscale Italian restaurant in the Financial District, said the city's minimum wage hike from \$9.92 to \$10.24 means that his highest-paid employees — the waiters

See Wage: Page 2



Daniel Schlessinger came up with the concept for FixMySkin lip balm when he was 12 years old.

See Schlessinger: Page 2

