

COMING THURSDAY

■ In Working, L.M. Sixel looks at the pros and cons of having bosses and co-workers as Facebook friends.

ENERGY | BANKING | REAL ESTATE | STOCKS | MARKETING | RETAIL | TECHNOLOGY | OIL | COMPUTING | MONEY

DIGEST

SWITZERLAND

Lawmakers block U.S. treaty

Switzerland's effort to end a tax-evasion dispute with Washington hit a major setback Tuesday when lawmakers blocked a treaty that would have seen the largest Swiss bank give U.S. authorities files on thousands of American clients.

The Swiss government and Washington had crafted the treaty last August to resolve a long-standing dispute over UBS's alleged role in aiding tax evasion, but 104 nationalist and left-wing lawmakers in Switzerland's lower house voted against the deal, compared to 76 in favor.

The Swiss Bankers Association called on lawmakers to change their mind. A U.S. Justice Department spokesman declined to comment on the matter.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANCE

Accused trader's trial begins

Jerome Kerviel, accused of causing a \$5.9 billion loss at Societe Generale with unauthorized market bets, told a Paris court he "hid nothing" and that all of his actions were visible to his employer.

Kerviel, 33, answered questions from Judge Dominique Pauthé about his professional history on the first day of his trial Tuesday. He is charged with abuse of trust, faking documents and computer



KERVIEL

hacking related to the bank's losses and faces as many as five years in jail and \$448,600 in fines.

Kerviel and his lawyer this month will battle prosecutors and Societe Generale, which is seeking to recoup the losses. The Paris-based bank disclosed the unauthorized bets on Jan. 24, 2008, with then-CEO Daniel Bouton calling Kerviel a "terrorist."

BLOOMBERG NEWS

FAST FOOD

Sales increase at McDonald's

McDonald's Corp.'s global sales rose more than some analysts estimated last month as diners purchased new beverages such as frappes.

Sales at restaurants open at least 13 months increased 4.8 percent, the world's largest restaurant company said Tuesday.

BLOOMBERG NEWS

DISASTER IN THE GULF

U.S. was slow to accept offer of Dutch expertise

THREE days after the explosion of the Deepwater Horizon in the Gulf of Mexico, the Dutch government offered to help.

It was willing to provide ships outfitted with oil-skimming booms, and it proposed a plan for building sand barriers to protect sensitive marshlands.

The response from the Obama administration and BP, which are coordinating

the cleanup: "The embassy got a nice letter from the administration that said, 'Thanks, but no thanks,'" said Geert Visser, consul general for the Netherlands in Houston.

Now, almost seven weeks later, as the oil



LOREN STEFFY

spewing from the battered well spreads across the Gulf and soils pristine beaches and coastline, BP and our government have reconsidered.

U.S. ships are being out-

Please see **STEFFY**, Page D7

Congress eager to grill BP's leader

■ House subcommittee expects Hayward's testimony next week

By JENNIFER A. DLOUHY
WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers have summoned BP CEO Tony Hayward to Capitol Hill to testify next week about the company's response to the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

His appearance June 17 before the House Energy and Commerce investigative subcommittee will give Congress its first chance to grill BP's top executive since the company's Macondo well blew out April 20, destroying the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig and triggering the nation's worst oil spill.

Hayward has racked up a spotty record as BP's chief spokesman about the disaster. Within two weeks of the spill, he downplayed its potential damage, telling London's Guardian newspaper that "the environmental impact of this disaster is likely to be very, very modest."

He drew sharp criticism for comments May 30 when he told reporters: "There's no one who wants this over more than I do. You know, I'd like my life back." Hayward has since apologized for the remarks, calling

Please see **LIABILITY**, Page D7

EMPLOYMENT



JULIO CORTEZ : CHRONICLE

APPLYING HERSELF: Raven Roberson, 16, fills out an application at Workforce Solutions with intake specialist Leslie Bourgeois, right, and mother Martena Ursin this week. Roberson, who attends Reagan High, is among many students looking for a summer job.

TEEN JOB HUNT EXTRA TOUGH

Summer positions being sought by all ages, raising competition

By SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ
HOUSTON CHRONICLE

KYLE Jackson began applying for summer jobs in March, hoping the early start would help his chances of finding one.

Three months and about 20 attempts later, the 16-year-old Milby High School junior still hasn't been able to find one.

"When I first thought about getting a job, I was really optimistic," said Jackson, who has tried to find jobs at fast-food restaurants and retail stores. "I'm like, 'There are hundreds

of jobs out there that I can get — it's a big city,' but I guess not."

Teenagers like Jackson are finding Houston to be a tough job market this summer. Work is available, but it can be difficult to find.

From May 2009 to May 2010, the unemployment rate for 16- to 19-year-olds across the country increased by more than 3 percentage points to 26.4 percent, compared with 9.7 percent for the general work force.

Teenagers have to compete not only against each other but also against college students

Please see **TEENS**, Page D6

TIPS FOR THOSE SEEKING WORK

■ Have appropriate e-mail address.

■ Have an appropriate voice mail greeting.

■ Check spelling and grammar on résumé and application.

■ Dress your best.

Source: SnagAJob.com

COMPUTING

Can Apple keep its lead?

WHEN Apple launched its first iPhone three years ago, the smart phone landscape was a very different place. Most of the devices were aimed at business users, weren't very easy to use and were limited in capabilities.

The iPhone blew up that paradigm and changed the way people think about these devices, which are actually handheld personal computers. It's fair to say that the smart phone business looks the way it does in 2010 because of Apple.

Consumers are winning because the giants in the business — Apple, Google, RIM and Microsoft — are competing to bring incredible phones quickly to market. So far, the iPhone's been the one to catch.

But the competition



DWIGHT SILVERMAN

is gaining and, in many ways, passing the iPhone. That made Monday's announcement of the iPhone 4 all the more important — both for Apple and for the market as a whole. If

Please see **SILVERMAN**, Page D5

ENERGY

Big cut in capital spending

Leading E&P companies had to deal with price volatility, Ernst & Young says. **PAGE D2**

MARKETS AT A GLANCE

▲ Dow	▼ Nasdaq	▲ S&P	▲ Oil	▼ Natural gas
■ 9,939.98	■ 2,170.57	■ 1,062.00	■ \$71.99	■ \$4.808
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TEENS: Try everything you can, expert says

CONTINUED FROM PAGE D1 and school staff looking for summer jobs, as well as adults willing to work jobs often held by teens, said Joel Wagher, a labor market analyst for Workforce Solutions, which manages job services and training for the 13-county Houston-Galveston Gulf Coast region. "They have a lot more competition," said Wagher. "Right now, we have a lot of people who would be willing to do the job of a teenager."

look for jobs, Moose said, because those are places that want to hire that age group because of the amount of turnover they have.

"Try everything you can because it's going to be a tough summer, but jobs are out there," she said.

Places in Houston that are looking for seasonal employees include the Downtown Aquarium, Dave & Buster's and Chick-fil-A, Moose said. Among the Chick-fil-A jobs, she added: One at the store on Texas 6 South and Bellaire Boulevard as a cow mascot.

"A lot of employers are already done with their hires," Moose said. "So really get out there and get on the ball, ASAP."

Lifeguards needed

One of the most reliable jobs available for teenagers continues to be lifeguarding.

Rosemary Lengefeld, senior program director of wellness and aquatics for Perry YMCA on League City Parkway, said many places are looking for teenagers to hire as lifeguards, including

her YMCA, which plans to add 15 lifeguards to the 45 it had last year.

"There's a lot of places that are decreasing their staff, but lifeguards are still in need," said Lengefeld. She said the specific set of skills and necessary certification keep the demand for lifeguards high.

Amusement parks

Lori Landry, marketing manager of Splashtown Waterpark off the North Freeway, said the park hired about the same number of summer workers as last year, but the competition was tougher. About 650 people turned up for a job fair in late February. The park hired about 375.

Schlitterbahn Galveston spokeswoman Melissa White said the water park plans to hire the same amount as in previous years also, about 600 people, for seasonal jobs including lifeguards, security, cashiers, and those to help with food and beverage and park services.

Matching them with jobs

White said she thinks amusement parks have been relatively unaffected by the recession and are still hiring because people "are still looking for a family vacation, but they're looking to stay closer to home."



JULIO CORTEZ : CHRONICLE

LOOKING FOR WORK: Daniel Castillo, an 18-year-old student at Houston Community College, is interviewed at Workforce Solutions, which is helping low-income youth ages 16 to 24 find summer jobs.

Jobs are out there

According to a survey released in late March by SnagAJob.com, the number of seasonal jobs available nationwide has remained the same from 2009. However, half of all hiring managers still didn't intend to make seasonal hires.

"There are positions, but this really is the year to stick to jobs that are for teens," said Heather Moose, spokeswoman for SnagAJob.com.

Movie theaters, summer camps, amusement parks and fast-food restaurants are good places for teenagers to

Workforce Solutions offers another way for low-income youth, ages 16 to 24, to find summer jobs through a program that plans to accept 4,680 teenagers and young adults and find them work for the summer in a variety of fields, ranging from clinical to mechanical. Information can be found at www.wrksolutions.com/2010Summerjobs/calendar.html.

The program "provides meaningful work experience for kids who have never had jobs before," said Roberto Gonzalez, whose company, Employment and Training Centers, matches the accepted applicants with places to work.

Just trying to make it

Seventeen-year-old Oduwa Igbinsosa said he applied for the program so he

can save money for college. "I know the jobs aren't as plentiful as they used to be, but I'm just trying to make it," said Igbinsosa, who because of budget cuts was unable to return to his job from the previous two summers as an assistant group counselor at S.H.A.P.E. Community Center on Alameda Road.

salvador.rodriguez@chron.com

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Full-time

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Other Unspecified
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Full-time

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