



NEWS WATCH

Libyan rebels attack Gadhafi compound

Hundreds of Libyan rebels storm Moammar Gadhafi's compound in Tripoli on Tuesday. They find no sign of the man himself as they loot the buildings. With Gadhafi and his powerful sons still unaccounted for, the fighters cannot declare victory. A3

» NATION

East Coast prepares as **Hurricane Irene develops**

Hurricane Irene plows through the warm waters of the Caribbean Tuesday, threatening to bring howling winds, torrential rain and destructive waves to a 1,000-mile swath of the Atlantic Coast this weekend. A3

Judge dismisses assault case against Strauss-Kahn



Dominique Strauss-Kahn is a free man again as a judge ends the sexual assault case against him at the request of prosecutors, who said the

hotel maid who ac-Strauss-Kahn cused the former International Monetary Fund chief couldn't be trusted. A3

TOP STORY VIRGINIA EARTHQUAKE

» 5.8 earthquake is equivalent to 8,000 tons of TNT » Effects in Delaware are comparable to a 2.0 quake

ONE OF EAST COAST'S BIGGEST QUAKES

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE



» Office workers gather on the sidewalk in downtown Washington on Tuesday, moments after a 5.8-magnitude tremor shook the nation's capital. The earthquake centered northwest of Richmond, Va., shook much of Washington, D.C., and was felt as far north as Maine and as far south as South Carolina. AP/J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE **Story, A4**

Quake caused by shifting fault One side of a fault shifted upward, sending energy up and out through bedrock throughout the Northeast. Bedrock The shift took place 3.75 miles deep, which helped minimize damage. The News Journal SOURCES: USGI, AP

Quake's strength surprises scientists

It wasn't the most intense in Delaware, but still ranks high

By JEFF MONTGOMERY and WADE MALCOLM The News Journal

How noteworthy was Tuesday's quake across Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and much of the American East Coast?

Study: Millions of Earth's species still undiscovered

A new study estimates that Earth has almost 8.8 million species, but we've only discovered about a quarter of them. And some of the yet-to-be-seen ones could be in our own backyards, scientists say. A3

» BUSINESS

Toyota unveils redesign of best-selling Camry

Toyota shows off the newest version of the Toyota Camry - the seventh generation of the 28-year-old car – as it tries to stay ahead of increasing competition from its rivals. The Camry has been the best-selling car in America 13 of the past 14 years. A7

» SPORTS

Vick says his and team's performance will improve

Michael Vick acknowledges that the Eagles' offense is far from where it should be but insists that his threeinterception effort against the Pittsburgh Steelers last Thursday isn't a sign of regression. C1



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INDEX			
Business	A7	Lotteries	B 3
Classified	C6	Movies	B10
Comics	B 4	Obituaries	B7
Crossword	B6	Scoreboard	C5
Dear Abby	B6	Sports	C1
Editorial	A12	Stocks	A10
Letters	A12	TV listings	B6





» The magnitude 5.8 earthquake on Tuesday was the largest on the East Coast since one of the same strength in New York in 1944. » It was the largest in Virginia since a 5.9 temblor in 1897. The largest East Coast quake on record was a 7.3 in South Carolina in 1886. » A 5.8 earthquake releases as much energy as 8 kilotons of TNT, about half the size of the

atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945. » In comparison, the devastating March 11 quake in northeastern Japan was a magnitude 9.0. That Japanese earthquake released 63,095 times more energy than the Virginia one.

BEAR DEVELOPMENT NEW DETAILS

32 acres along US 40 rezoned from office to commercial use

By CHAD LIVENGOOD The News Journal

New Castle County Council on Tuesday approved rezoning a 32acre parcel of land in Bear for commercial use after the developer failed to find a tenant for office space for 25 years.

Debate on the rezoning shifted from whether U.S. 40 needs more commercial space to the developer's promise that the project would create hundreds of new retail jobs and spur up to \$45 million of construction activity.

Bill Dunn, vice president of New

After fearful uncertainty, relief when little damage is discovered

Bv BETH MILLER

The News Journal

Walls rattled, books and teacups fell from shelves, a chunk of St. Thomas the Apostle's steeple fell off in Wilmington and workers and neigh-

» Coons leads off-site Senate session. A5

bors rushed from office buildings, shops and living rooms Tuesday afternoon as

Delaware got a good shake from a magnitude-5.8 earthquake centered in Virginia.

Cellphone circuits jammed as news spread from every corner, but officials reported no injuries or major damage in Delaware from the 1:51 p.m. quake, the strongest to strike the East Coast since World War II.

The U.S. Geological Service reported intensity levels - a different measurement than magnitude - ranging from 3 (weak) to 5 (moderate) throughout Delaware. At the epicenter in Virginia, the intensity was a "very

See QUAKE, Page A5

Castle County Civic League, called

the promise of new jobs "a farce."

mediate future, but it's better than a

piece of land just sitting there with nothing on it," said Michele Boulden, 23, who lives in the nearby

major hurdle for Delle Donne & As-

sociates after a yearlong battle with

competitors in the neighboring

Eden Square Shopping Center who

launched a campaign to rally resi-

See LAND, Page A2

dents against the project.

Governor's Square townhomes.

"It may not create jobs in the im-

The rezoning decision clears a



HOW FAR AWAY? Wilmington is about

179 miles, as the crow flies, from the epicenter.

View a photo gallery . and watch video of **Delawareans** reacting to the earthquake at delawareonline.com.

brows of an earth scientist in central Pennsylvania whose work has taken him onto some of the world's shakiest real es-

"This was probably the strongest earthquake I've ever been in, and my research has taken me to active volcanoes," said Peter LaFemina, an assistant professor of geosciences in State College, Pa. "We felt it very strongly here, most likely because we're on very stable rock in this region."

It was that same usually steady, deeper rock that helped to send shaking from the quake near Mineral, Va., across Delaware and the rest of the Northeast on Tuesday, researchers said.

Although most of sandysoiled Delaware is considered to be in a medium hazard area for earthquakes, the entire mid-Atlantic sits atop ancient bedrock crisscrossed by cracks and faults that periodically let go with a bang

Just that happened Tuesday about 3.75 miles below the

See SCIENCE, Page A4

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