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Health

Diabetes care improves in U.S.

SAN DIEGO - Far fewer Americans with diabetes are ending up in emergency rooms or developing kidney failure - a sign that diabetes care has improved dramatically over the last decade, the government reported Saturday.

The federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the rate of people with diabetes who need hospitalization or develop kidney failure has dropped about a third since the mid-1990s.

However, a separate study raises concern that doctors may be missing opportunities to diagnose and treat kids with Type 1 diabetes, who need insulin to survive. Many children were misclassified as Type 2, the diabetes linked to obesity, possibly because their weight problems are throwing doctors off track.

Both studies were presented at an American Diabetes Association meeting in San Diego Saturday.

Colorado

Attorney general victim of ID theft

COLORADO SPRINGS - A man and woman recently arrested on suspicion of stealing checks from a mailbox in Colorado Springs may have picked the wrong victim - the state's top law enforcement official.

Laque Ivy, 22, and Matthew Mack, 42, are accused of taking credit card checks mailed to the home of Colorado Atty. Gen. John Suthers.

"Everyone has to be careful," said Colorado Springs police spokesman Lt. Rafael Cintron. "Even the attorney general can be a victim of identity theft."

Massachusetts

Parents protest school closing

BOSTON - Parents angry that the archdiocese abruptly locked their kids out of school before graduation ceremonies have started a camp-out in a city square across from the school in protest.

The archdiocese closed Our **Lady of Presentation** School early after hearing reports that protesters intended to begin an occupation of the school building as early as Thursday. Similar sit-ins have prevented the archdiocese from closing several churches as part of its reconfiguration projects.

California

Sea lion bites surfer at beach

MANHATTAN BEACH - A sea lion that had been charging at beachgoers bit a surfer taking a breather, then waddled into the water and swam away.

Josh Duncan came within 5 feet of the sea lion Friday when it bit him, requiring the 27-year-old surfer to get stitches and a tetanus shot for the inch-long wound on his thigh, lifeguard Mike Cunningham said. The bite ripped through his wet suit.

- Compiled by Bill Laing

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