



**74-53 Saints rout Rider**  
on way to NCAA Tournament.

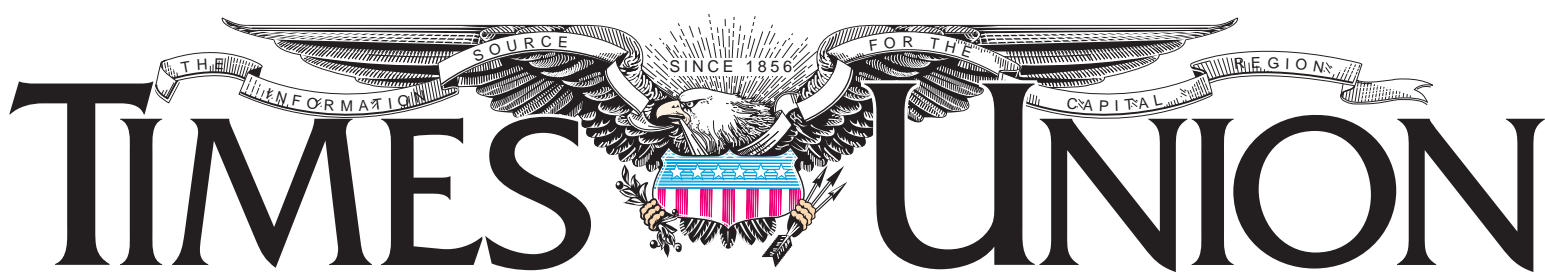
► Extensive coverage/B1; <http://timesunion.com>

**TOURNAMENT '08**  
**MAAC**

**WEATHER**

High **41** Low **27**

Enjoy the sunshine peering between the clouds./D2



**IRAQ**

A suicide bomber strikes down five U.S. soldiers on patrol./A4

50 CENTS ■ 75 CENTS IN OUTLYING AREAS

ALBANY, NEW YORK ■ TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008

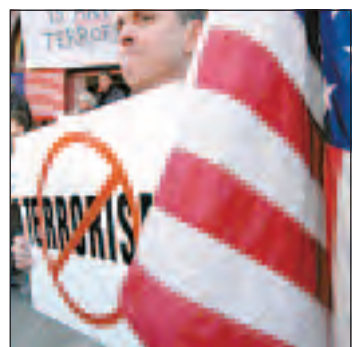
**MORE NEWS**

**STUDENT PRIORITIES**

**Athletes caught in the middle**

Varsity players at Bethlehem Central have to decide between missionary trips sponsored by church and membership in sports teams./D1

**ART UPROAR**



**'Virtual Jihadi' exhibit moves**

RPI shuts down installation of video game featuring suicide bomber aiming to kill Bush./A7

**GOLF**

**Skins Game update**

Ellis Hospital's 15-year-old charity event gets a new look, with two women featured for first time./B3

**ALBANY POLICE**

**Another woman accuses officers**

Troy resident files claim against city, saying she was unlawfully strip-searched, echoing an earlier claim by a Ravena woman./D1

**A BETTER YOU**

**A diet that's truly tailored for you**

New science of nutrigenomics examines how food interacts with a person's DNA and someday may help us optimize our genetic potential./E3

**PRESS FOR HEALTH**

**Push-up remains a wellness barometer**

The simple act of lifting your own body weight endures as an indicator of your physical condition, and can help you survive the coming years./A5

**PET HEALTH**

**MRI for animals gives owners hope**

Medical imaging machine for to your furry companions offers peace of mind that you've done all you can./C1

# Prostitution sting puts Spitzer's future at risk

► On a stunning day at the Capitol, the big questions are "Why?" and "What now?"/A11

► Fred LeBrun and others have their say on the crisis engulfing Gov. Spitzer./A9



MARY ALTAFFER/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**WITH HIS WIFE**, Silda Wall Spitzer, at his side, Gov. Eliot Spitzer apologized to his family and the public Monday at a news conference in New York City, but did not comment on reports linking him to a prostitution ring. He ignored questions on whether he would resign.

## Scandal bleeding into budget effort

Turmoil surrounding governor threatens efforts to pass spending plan, new laws

By **RICK KARLIN**  
Capitol bureau

ALBANY — With Gov. Eliot Spitzer embroiled in a prostitution scandal, it was unclear whether the turmoil at the Capitol will hamper efforts to pass a state budget by the April 1 deadline.

Just as important is whether lawmakers and the governor — whoever he is when the dust settles — can pass any meaningful new laws by the end of the session in June.

If Monday was any indication, it could be some time before legislating get back on track.

Hours after Spitzer's alleged involvement in a high-priced prostitution ring became public, seemingly everyone in the Capitol was asking: Will Spitzer resign? Will Lt. Gov. David Paterson take over?

Amid the drama and uncertainty, Assembly Democrats canceled plans to unveil their proposed budget Monday afternoon.

Please see **BUDGET A10** ►

**The Emperors Club**, a high-priced prostitution ring, had an online presence, at right, before it was taken down Monday afternoon.



**Sources have linked Gov. Spitzer to a "Client 9,"** an Emperors Club customer who appears in an affidavit from the U.S. Attorney's Office. To download a copy of the affidavit, go to: <http://timesunion.com>

By **JAMES M. ODATO**  
Capitol bureau

ALBANY — Gov. Eliot Spitzer publicly apologized to his wife and family Monday and began planning to exit his office in shame as both his life and political career were unraveling over his role as a patron of an international sex ring, according to government sources.

Aides close to Spitzer, 48, expect Lt. Gov. David Paterson, 53, a Harlem Democrat, will succeed him as governor before the week's end to fill out the remaining 33 months of his term. Spitzer has been in office just over a year after voters overwhelmingly elected the former attorney general dubbed "the Sheriff of Wall Street."

In one of the ugliest episodes in state gubernatorial history, Spitzer was forced to acknowledge his role in a sex-for-hire business to his advisers on Monday.

According to federal prosecution records, Spitzer is alleged to have entered into a tryst on days he was participating in a taxpayer-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for a meeting with a congressional panel on Feb. 14. His staff last week confirmed he took a state plane, but declined to provide his itineraries.

The allegations, first reported on the New York Times Web page, came to light after a reporter from the Times Union began asking questions last week about Spitzer's use of a state airplane for a trip from Buffalo to Washington, D.C. on Feb. 13. The paper then made a formal request for the records of Spitzer's Washington, D.C., trip.

A public corruption case disclosed in the complaint from the U.S. Attorney's Office and Internal Revenue Service in Manhattan last Thursday described a "Client 9" and his romp with a prostitute in a Washington hotel on Valentine's Day eve. Law enforcement sources suggested the governor was the customer.

The complaint and affidavit described wiretapped telephone calls about a sex transaction involving a "wealthy" man who arranged for a woman to travel from New York City by train to Washington, D.C. Client 9 was a repeat customer who a sex ring member said took risks when he engaged in sex.

Close staffers to Spitzer, a multimillionaire lawyer, expected him

Please see **SPITZER A9** ►

**Read & React**

► Join the discussion. Go to <http://blogs.timesunion.com/readandreact>

**UPCOMING**

Now that you've lived 100 years, what's next?  
**Wednesday**



**INDEX**

Business <b>C</b>	Lottery <b>A2</b>	Scoreboard <b>B7</b>
Calendar <b>D2</b>	Movies <b>E7</b>	Sports <b>B</b>
Classified <b>C6</b>	Obituaries <b>D6</b>	State <b>A3</b>
Comics <b>E8</b>	Opinion <b>A10</b>	Stocks <b>C2</b>
		Television <b>E6</b>
		Weather <b>D2</b>

**ONLY ON TIMESUNION.COM**



**In court**

Were you Seen before Siena's MAAC Tournament Monday night at Times Union Center?

Check for your smiling face at: <http://timesunion.com/seen/>



# At Capitol, looking ahead

Speculation over Spitzer's motives, scandal's wider effects takes center stage

By **IRENE JAY LIU**  
Capitol bureau

ALBANY — As news broke Monday of Gov. Eliot Spitzer's indiscretions, the Capitol buzzed with gossip and speculation, and people in government scrambled to anticipate what will happen in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Spitzer's acknowledged wrongdoing shocked many people and left them wondering how a governor elected with a huge voter mandate could fall so precipitously from grace.

"I mean the question is, why? Was it arrogance and hubris or a feeling of invulnerability?" asked Douglas Muzzio, political science professor at Baruch College in Manhattan. "It is tragic almost in a Shakespearean sense. You had this potentially great leader, and he self-destructs."

Spitzer will have a tough time overcoming the scandal, given his reputation as a tough state attorney general, the "sheriff of Wall Street."

"People will accept moments of weakness in their leaders, but Governor Spitzer has a couple of problems," said pollster John Zogby, pointing to Spitzer's low job approval ratings and his record of going after people on Wall Street. "He really made their lives miserable, even though some of them turned out to be not that guilty," he said.

Zogby said Spitzer's problems also could affect fellow Democrats in a critical year when the party had hoped to take over the state Senate.

"At a time when the state Democrats are making a big push this year to try to pick up ground and gain control of the state Senate, it doesn't help them to have a governor who is politically neutralized," he said.

Given the challenges of staying in office, for both Spitzer and his party, the big question on most people's minds is: Should he stay, or should he go?

Many Republican leaders on

Monday called for Spitzer's resignation, including state GOP Chairman Joseph Mondello and Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco. And that's what Republicans should be doing, said GOP strategist John McLaughlin.

"This seems pretty cut and dried ... I think it is kind of unequivocal that you ask for his resignation," he said.

But Spitzer's colleagues will probably follow suit, he said.

"Within 24 hours you'll see Democrats calling for his resignation," McLaughlin said. Democrats have generally kept their opinions to themselves thus far, expressing their sympathies but not commenting on the governor directly.

Democratic consultant Joseph Mercurio says Spitzer shouldn't necessarily resign.

"Being a 'john' is less than a traffic offense in New York; in some states it's even legal," he said. "We probably put these things too high on the scale of judgment. I don't think a private sexual matter should rise to changing government."

Mercurio said Spitzer's actions weren't an abuse of power, compared with sex scandals of other prominent politicians such as former New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey and former President Bill Clinton.

"McGreevey needed to leave because he hired the guy onto the government payroll. That's different. You had President Clinton, who was taking a young intern and having sex with her in a government office, someone who was under his supervision," he said.

The scandal comes after a tumultuous 15 months for Spitzer, with many lows — political fallout from the travel records scandal and his illegal immigrants driver's license initiative — and a few highs, most recently a Democratic win in the heavily Republican 48th Senate District.

On the state level, Spitzer's fall may hamper Democrats' efforts to win the Senate majority.

"The Democrats have to be shocked, they have to be reeling from this," McLaughlin said. "They've lost their leader in fight-

ing for the Senate ... he's an embarrassment and liability to them."

Already, Democratic candidates are taking down videos and photos featuring the governor.

"Those people who are challenging Republicans who yesterday led with an Eliot Spitzer endorsement are clearly less likely to do so less than today," said Scott Levenson, president of the Advance Group, a Democratic consulting group.

McLaughlin has advised GOP clients to collect photos and videos of their potential opponents with the governor for use during the campaign season.

Spitzer's troubles also may have an impact on the national level. As a superdelegate and a supporter of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, his troubles may affect her image, as well as her delegate count. Spitzer is a superdelegate by virtue of his position as governor.

"I think it hurts Sen. Clinton at a critical time in her nomination," said McLaughlin.

Clinton had little to say about the incident.

"I obviously am sending my best wishes and thoughts to the governor and to his family. ... Let's wait and see what comes out of the next days. Right now I don't have any comment. I think it's appropriate to wish his family well and see how things develop," Clinton said Monday while campaigning in Pennsylvania.

As for Spitzer, Mercurio says the road to redemption starts at home. "He needs to work it out with his family; he needs to go to his rabbi."

"There's got to be personal sadness for his wife and his kids. That's one reaction that decent feeling people would have," Muzzio said. "Eliot Spitzer's wounds have all been self-inflicted wrongs here — Troopergate, the driver's licenses, this," he said.

And for Republicans, Muzzio said, "There's got to be some satisfaction that this steamroller that was going to roll over everyone rolled over himself."

► Irene Jay Liu can be reached at 454-5081 or by e-mail at [iliu@timesunion.com](mailto:iliu@timesunion.com).

Our kids:  
still getting hooked  
on cigarettes.

Our budget  
deficit:  
the worst it's been  
in years.



Our solution:  
raise the cigarette tax.

An increase in the state's cigarette tax is a win-win solution for New York. Why? It will save lives and save money. Research has shown that the more cigarettes cost, the less people smoke — especially kids. What's more, raising our cigarette tax by \$1.50 will generate more than \$480 million in new revenue to help fund tobacco prevention and other health care priorities. And it will help reduce the \$8 billion New York spends annually treating tobacco-caused disease.

It's easy to see why 79% of New York voters support increasing our tax by \$1.50, with part of the revenue supporting tobacco prevention programs — and why states across America are making the smart choice to increase cigarette taxes.

Call your legislator today:

Senate: 518-455-2800

Assembly: 518-455-4100

Tell them to increase the cigarette tax to save lives and raise revenue.

Educational Information From St. Peter's Hospital

## Shaped Beam Surgery

Today's Powerful Tool for Cancer Treatment

*With pinpoint precision, the high-resolution beam shaper targets radiation directly at cancerous tumors and lesions. This sophisticated technology allows for more uniform doses of radiation in a much shorter period of time.*



### WHAT IS SHAPED BEAM SURGERY?

Shaped Beam Surgery is one of the most technologically advanced stereotactic radiosurgery systems available today. It delivers high-doses of radiation beams at tumors in the body — without surgery and without anesthesia.

### HOW DOES IT WORK?

Using robotics, image guidance, and highly sophisticated computer software, clinicians target tumors in the body. The patient lies on a robotic couch that automatically aligns the radiation beams with the tumors. No invasive head frame is needed for treating brain tumors. The patient breathes normally during the procedure because the system accounts for respiratory movement.

The system then continuously shapes the beams to match the size and shape of the tumors from all angles. This ensures that the tumors receive the fully prescribed dose of radiation. All the while, the surrounding normal tissue is spared.

Shaped Beam Surgery is effective even with complex-shaped lesions in difficult-to-reach locations of the body.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE?

Treatment time varies from 15 to 45 minutes depending on the tumor site. (And for some patients, only one treatment session may be needed.) It is a painless, outpatient procedure so patients go home the same day.



**St. Peter's  
Cancer Care Center**

A Member of St. Peter's Health Care Services

The science of medicine.  
The compassion to heal.

St. Peter's is the first facility in the greater Capital Region to offer this advanced technology. To learn more about Shaped Beam Surgery, call St. Peter's Physician Referral & Information Line at 525-2-CARE.



American Stroke Association



## Times Union (Albany, N.Y.)

### 39. At Capitol, looking ahead

### Speculation over Spitzer's motives, scandal's wider effects takes center stage

Date: Tuesday, March 11, 2008

Section: Main

Edition: 1

Page: A11

---

By **IRENE JAY LIU**

Capitol bureau

ALBANY - As news broke Monday of Gov. Eliot Spitzer's indiscretions, the Capitol buzzed with gossip and speculation, and people in government scrambled to anticipate what will happen in the days, weeks and months ahead.

Spitzer's acknowledged wrongdoing shocked many people and left them wondering how a governor elected with a huge voter mandate could fall so precipitously from grace. "I mean the question is, why? Was it arrogance and hubris or a feeling of invulnerability?" asked Douglas Muzzio, political science professor at Baruch College in Manhattan. "It is tragic almost in a Shakespearean sense. You had this potentially great leader, and he self-destructs."

Spitzer will have a tough time overcoming the scandal, given his reputation as a tough state attorney general, the "sheriff of Wall Street."

"People will accept moments of weakness in their leaders, but Governor Spitzer has a couple of problems," said pollster John Zogby, pointing to Spitzer's low job approval ratings and his record of going after people on Wall Street. "He really made their lives miserable, even though some of them turned out to be not that guilty," he said.

Zogby said Spitzer's problems also could affect fellow Democrats in a critical year when the party had hoped to take over the state Senate.

"At a time when the state Democrats are making a big push this year to try to pick up ground and gain control of the state Senate, it doesn't help them to have a governor who is politically neutralized," he said.

Given the challenges of staying in office, for both Spitzer and his party, the big question on most people's minds is: Should he stay, or should he go?

Many Republican leaders on Monday called for Spitzer's resignation, including state GOP Chairman Joseph Mondello and Assembly Minority Leader James Tedisco. And that's what Republicans should be doing, said GOP strategist John McLaughlin.

"This seems pretty cut and dried ... I think it is kind of unequivocal that you ask for his resignation," he said.

But Spitzer's colleagues will probably follow suit, he said.

"Within 24 hours you'll see Democrats calling for his resignation," McLaughlin said. Democrats have generally kept their opinions to themselves thus far, expressing their sympathies but not commenting on the governor directly.

Democratic consultant Joseph Mercurio says Spitzer shouldn't necessarily resign.

"Being a `john' is less than a traffic offense in New York; in some states it's even legal," he said. "We probably put these things too high on the scale of judgment. I don't think a private sexual matter should rise to changing government."

Mercurio said Spitzer's actions weren't an abuse of power, compared with sex scandals of other prominent politicians such as former New Jersey Gov. Jim McGreevey and former President Bill Clinton.

"McGreevey needed to leave because he hired the guy onto the government payroll. That's different. You had President Clinton, who was taking a young intern and having sex with her in a government office, someone who was under his supervision," he said.

The scandal comes after a tumultuous 15 months for Spitzer, with many lows - political fallout from the travel records scandal and his illegal immigrants driver's license initiative - and a few highs, most recently a Democratic win in the heavily Republican 48th Senate District.

On the state level, Spitzer's fall may hamper Democrats' efforts to win the Senate majority.

"The Democrats have to be shocked, they have to be reeling from this," McLaughlin said. "They've lost their leader in fighting for the Senate ... he's an embarrassment and liability to them."

Already, Democratic candidates are taking down videos and photos featuring the governor.

"Those people who are challenging Republicans who yesterday led with an Eliot Spitzer endorsement are clearly less likely to do so less than today," said Scott Levenson, president of the Advance Group, a Democratic consulting group.

McLaughlin has advised GOP clients to collect photos and videos of their potential opponents with the governor for use during the campaign season.

Spitzer's troubles also may have an impact on the national level. As a superdelegate and a supporter of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, his troubles may affect her image, as well as her delegate count. Spitzer is a superdelegate by virtue of his position as governor.

"I think it hurts Sen. Clinton at a critical time in her nomination," said McLaughlin.

Clinton had little to say about the incident.

"I obviously am sending my best wishes and thoughts to the governor and to his family. ... Let's wait and see what comes out of the next days. Right now I don't have any comment. I think it's appropriate to wish his family well and see how things develop," Clinton said Monday while campaigning in Pennsylvania.

As for Spitzer, Mercurio says the road to redemption starts at home. "He needs to work it out with his family; he needs to go to his rabbi."

"There's got to be personal sadness for his wife and his kids. That's one reaction that decent feeling people would have," Muzzio said. "Eliot Spitzer's wounds have all been self-inflicted wrongs here - Troopergate, the driver's licenses, this," he said.

And for Republicans, Muzzio said, "There's got to be some satisfaction that this steamroller that was going to roll over everyone rolled over himself."

**Irene Jay Liu** can be reached at 454-5081 or by e-mail at [iliu@timesunion.com](mailto:iliu@timesunion.com).