

# THE KANSAS CITY STAR.



**150 years**

No mercy — 150 years in prison — and no parole. The maximum sentence was dropped Monday on 71-year-old Bernard Madoff for his “extraordinarily evil” Ponzi scheme that defrauded 1,341 investors of more than \$13.2 billion.

“This kind of manipulation of the system is not just a bloodless crime that takes place on paper, but one instead that takes a staggering toll,” said U.S. District Judge Denny Chin.

A few whoops and some scattered applause broke out in the crowded Manhattan courtroom.

“He stole from the rich. He stole from the poor. He stole from the in between. He had no values,” said prosecutor Tom Fitzmaurice. “He cheated his victims out of their money so he and his wife, Ruth, could live a life of luxury beyond belief.”

**That style of living has vanished. As of last week, Madoff has been stripped of all of his property, including:**

- An \$11 million estate in Palm Beach, Fla.
- \$13.5 million in a bank account and \$46.7 million in bonds and other securities.
- A \$2.2 million boat and two smaller vessels.

“I’ve left a legacy of shame to my family and my grandchildren that is something that I will live with for the rest of my life,” Madoff said.

**Ruth Madoff, 68, was left with \$2.5 million after the judge denied her claims that \$80 million in assets were hers, including:**

- Their \$7 million Manhattan apartment and a \$3 million beachfront home.
- Jewelry insured at \$2.6 million.

So far, a court appointed trustee has recovered \$1.2 billion of the \$13.2 billion in estimated direct investor losses since 1995.

| Star News Services



**Ruth Madoff**

**FYI AT THE MOVIES**

Johnny Depp’s charismatic turn as John Dillinger lifts “Public Enemies” into a ★★★ flick. | E1



**TODAY’S WEATHER: LOW 66, HIGH 87. PARTLY CLOUDY. FORECAST | C12**

**75¢**

**REDEVELOPMENT |** Financial analysis might halt 1,200-employee General Services Administration facility

## DOWNTOWN PROJECT IN DOUBT

### NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY DAY: AN IRAQI MILESTONE



KHALID MOHAMMED | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A huge party featuring patriotic music was staged Monday in a Baghdad park in preparation for today’s National Sovereignty Day, which marks the pullback of U.S. combat troops from Iraq’s urban areas.

## Iraqi forces take on more responsibility

Star news services

**T**oday is a new national holiday for Iraq, National Sovereignty Day.

Explosions over the Baghdad skyline were fireworks, not bombs. U.S. combat troops met a midnight deadline to pull back to bases outside cities, giving Iraqi forces formal control of urban areas.

Citizens were filled with pride, even though American troops won’t be required to leave the country until the end of 2011.

But along with the celebrations came worries that Iraqi forces aren’t ready and that violence will make an even stronger comeback.

But for the moment, consider it a holiday. **Story on Page A8.**



NABIL AL-JURANI | THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Iraqi forces on Monday prepared to take over security in Basra and other urban centers. American troops shifted to large bases in rural areas.**

**@** Go to [KansasCity.com](http://KansasCity.com) to read Matt Schofield’s series “A Good Exit: Leaving Iraq.”

**Bipartisan message urges congressional approval of planned \$175 million building.**

By KEVIN COLLISON  
The Kansas City Star

Missouri’s U.S. senators are worried that Washington bureaucrats are reconsidering and might kill a proposed federal office building that could bring 1,200 employees downtown.

The \$175 million proposal, seen by local public and private officials as a downtown revitalization effort, has been in the works since 2006. It was sent to Congress last fall after being reviewed by the General Services Administration and the Office of Management and Budget.

But now the Senate Environmental and Public Works Committee has asked Anthony Costa, acting commissioner of the GSA public buildings service, for more financial analysis.

Sens. Kit Bond and Claire McCaskill oppose the added review and have written Costa about it.

Shana Marchio, a spokeswoman for Bond, said there is fear the new GSA analysis is intended to scuttle the project, which would bring 1,200 GSA employees downtown from the Bannister Federal Complex in south Kansas City.

“We feel the numbers will be slanted against us,” she said.

Bond and McCaskill urged Costa to not only consider the financial merits of the new building, but also the cost of keeping federal workers at their current space at the Bannister complex if the new building isn’t constructed.

“It’s critical that Washington

SEE GSA | A9

**EDITORIAL**

**Worries over swine flu keep a Kansas City native quarantined during a trip to China. | A13**

**STAR BUSINESS**



St. Louis could become the “Gateway to the Far East” with an air freight hub to China. | D1

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**LOCAL**

## Debate heats up over who runs state license fee office

**Nixon promised end to patronage with bidding process, but critics say politics remains.**

By STEVE KRASKE  
The Kansas City Star

Even before Gov. Jay Nixon took office in January, he had declared that the “era of license office patronage in Missouri is over.”



**Nixon**

But the debate over fee offices apparently isn’t. A fellow Democrat, state Rep. Ray Salva of Sugar Creek, contends that Nixon misled voters.

“It’s all politics,” Salva said.

“Don’t let anybody fool you.” Salva said he was upset that Nixon’s administration selected a campaign donor to run Sugar Creek’s driver’s license fee office.

The donor, however, pointed out that he intended to move the fee office from Independence back into Sugar Creek and would give some of the money he made to the state.

Salva said the office should have been awarded to the only other bidder — the city of Sugar Creek — which wanted to use office proceeds to help the poor with utility bills and aid the police and fire departments.

Sugar Creek Police Chief Herb Soule, who helped pre-

**MORE LOCAL NEWS, A4**

**■ Arrowhead Stadium construction is on schedule.**

**■ Teach for America recruits getting ready for class.**

SEE LICENSE | A10

