

# NEWS BRIEFS

## Profit soars at Discovery

Discovery Communications Inc., of Silver Spring, a media and entertainment company, reported first-quarter profit more than tripled on improved distribution and advertising revenue at its networks. The company reported net income of \$119 million, or 28 cents per share, compared with \$34 million, or 12 cents per share, a year ago. Revenue grew 1 percent to \$817 million on a 5 percent growth at U.S. networks. Analysts polled by Thomson Reuters on average expected a more modest profit of 24 cents a share on revenue of \$799.2 million.

**\$119M**

Amount of profit for first-quarter 2009 reported by Discovery Communications Inc.

## Monk to ascend at GBC

Attorney Charles O. Monk II, managing partner of Saul Ewing LLP's Baltimore office, is to be installed as the new chairman of the Greater Baltimore Committee at the business advocacy group's annual meeting Tuesday. Monk will succeed Atwood "Woody" Collins III, president and chief operating officer of M&T Bank's Mid-Atlantic Division. Monk has served on the GBC board's executive committee since 2005. Collins will continue to serve as a GBC officer in 2009-10. More than a dozen new board members also will be elected, including Daily Record President and Publisher Christopher A. Eddings.



## PhD plum for Hagerstown

The University System of Maryland said it will offer a doctorate in education at its downtown Hagerstown campus. The program aimed at people

seeking careers in school administration will be the first doctorate degree offered at the campus since it opened in 2005.



Campus spokeswoman Erin Harman told The (Hagerstown) Herald-Mail that at least 30 people have expressed interest in applying for the three-year program. She said the number of students who will be in the first class hasn't been determined.

## Integral Systems' profit dips

Lanham-based Integral Systems Inc. reported that it had net income of \$2.6 million in the second quarter of fiscal 2009, compared to a profit of \$3 million for the second quarter of fiscal 2008. The firm's second-quarter revenue was \$42.8 million, up \$5.1 million, or 13.4 percent, from the second quarter of fiscal 2008. Integral is a provider and operator of satellite ground control systems.

**13.4**

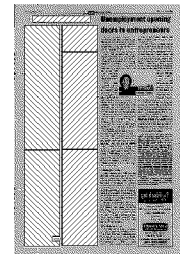
Percentage of increase in first-quarter revenue reported by Integral Systems Inc.

## Mercy seeks patients

The Institute for Cancer Care at **Mercy Medical Center in Baltimore** said it is recruiting eligible patients for a Phase III study to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of Allovectin-



7, an investigational drug for advanced melanoma. Mercy Medical Center is the only hospital in the Baltimore metropolitan region to participate in the



study. Information on eligibility is available at [www.melanomatrial.com](http://www.melanomatrial.com).

### Health group's new head

The Health Facilities Association of Maryland



announced the appointment of Joseph DeMattos Jr. as its president. DeMattos comes to HFAM from AARP, where he was senior state director in Maryland. He has more than 28 years of professional and community service experience in communications, community outreach, public relations and government relations. Columbia-based HFAM is the oldest and largest long-term care association representing skilled nursing, sub-acute facilities, assisted living programs and continuing care retirement communities in Maryland.

### Australia approves drug

RegeneRx Biopharmaceuticals Inc., of Bethesda, said its flag-ship product



candidate, dubbed TB4, has been issued a patent in Australia for TB4 to treat disorders of the eye, including cell debris, tissue swelling and healing associated with eye surgery. RegeneRx, which develops products for repair and healing of chronic wounds and injured tissues, is developing TB4 for the treatment of wounds.

### Boost for Medifacts

Medifacts International Inc., of Rockville, a provider of noninvasive cardiac diagnostic services, announced it has been awarded a \$3.1 million contract by a major global pharmaceutical company to provide comprehensive cardiac safety and efficacy services for a large late-stage clinical trial. The client was not identified. Medifacts will provide equipment and services for the electronic collection of four different data types, including pulse wave analysis, blood pressure and telemedicine support of subjects across 16 countries worldwide.

**\$3.1M**

Amount of contract awarded to Medifacts International by pharmaceutical company.

### Water park plan killed

A developer says he has suspended construction of an indoor water park in the Deep Creek Lake resort community of McHenry due to a lack of public funding. Local businessman Jonathan Kessler said Monday that he plans to sell the 14-acre site along U.S. 219. Kessler said a log-cabin hotel on the site consisting of 14 separate cabins will open for business in June.

Compiled by Paul Samuel from staff and wire reports