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## NewsBites

*The Times-Union*

### Workers compensation rates lower than hoped

Workers compensation rates in Florida will be lower than insurers hoped.

State regulators denied the industry's request for a statewide average decrease of 0.9 percent in rates, saying it was not low enough. Kevin McCarty, Florida Commissioner of Insurance Regulation, ordered the National Council on Compensation Insurance to re-file rates that reflect a larger rate decrease. Rates are set annually based on a review of the NCCI's information.

The state disagreed with supporting documents, loss calculations and reinsurance plans submitted by NCCI. In his order, McCarty said he'd approve a revised filing with an overall statewide reduction of 5.1 percent and premium drop of 11.8 percent for contractors. Workers compensation rates dropped 14 percent Oct. 1, 2003, and the state anticipated further reductions this year because of legislative reforms passed in 2002.

*Sarah Skidmore/The Times-Union*

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### Bailey's Powerhouse opens, expands local gyms

Bailey's Powerhouse will open a new gym in the former Food Lion location on Baymeadows Road. Bailey's is renovating the space and expects to open for business in July. The company leased the 31,000 square-foot space recently and hopes to announce two new clubs by January. Bailey's is also renovating and expanding its Dames Point Plaza gym on Merrill Road.

*Sarah Skidmore/The Times-Union*

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### Humana files its 2005 Medicare plans

Humana filed its 2005 Medicare Advantage HMO benefit plans last week for Baker, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns.

Pending federal approval, the packages will be effective Jan 1. The company will continue benefits as usual in most areas, including access to new services such as the SilverSneakers Fitness Program. A significant change is the recent addition of a new Medicare HMO plan in St. Johns County. The plan, known as Humana Gold Classic, will have no monthly premium, unlimited generic drug

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access and \$5 or \$35 copayments for physician or specialist visits respectively.

*Sarah Skidmore/The Times-Union*

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## **JIA unveils new phase of terminal expansion**

Jacksonville International Airport is unveiling the latest phase of its terminal expansion project today, which includes a new centralized passenger security screening system and additional concessions. Other parts of the project previously opened, including a relocated food court and a new main courtyard.

It opens just in time for the holiday and Super Bowl crowds, Chip Snowden, chief operating officer for the Jacksonville Airport Authority, said in a statement.

*Gregory Richards/The Times-Union*

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## **World Golf Village resort ranked among top 75**

Golf Digest magazine has named St. Augustine's Renaissance Resort at World Golf Village one of the 75 best golf resorts in North America.

Resorts were named to the list based on a poll of the 800 members of the magazine's course ranking panel. More than 400 resorts in the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean were considered, according to a World Golf Village news release.

The Renaissance Resort at World Golf Village, which features two 18-hole courses, is on 6,300 acres next to the World Golf Hall of Fame. In addition to golf, guests have privileges at the private oceanfront Serenata Beach Club. Starting next month, they'll also have access to the new PGA Tour Spa Laterra at the World Golf Village, the release said.

*Christopher Calnan/The Times-Union*

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## **Suddath Cos. wins moving industry awards**

The Suddath Cos., a Jacksonville-based provider of corporate and household moving services, was awarded by United Van Lines with three of its top awards for outstanding customer service, safety and performance. The recognition honored Suddath's warehouse distribution center and corporate office with two awards. The company also received a fleet safety award.

"These distinctive awards highlight the professionalism, hard work and commitment of every Suddath employee," Barry Vaughn, Suddath's CEO, said in a news release

*Gregory Richards/The Times-Union*