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Jobs' medical leave worries Apple fans

Short on specifics, CEO's announcement raises fears for the future

Inside

→ Medical history: Steve Jobs faces potential complications from his liver transplant.

>> Bottom Line: It's time for Jobs to consider handing over the reins to his No. 2 man

By James Temple

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Apple Inc. Chief Executive Officer Steve Jobs is going on medical leave for the third time in the last seven years, once again raising the worrisome prospect of the tech giant losing the leadership of its iconic co-founder.

Few consumer brands are as

tightly intertwined with their CEO as Apple, in large part because of the remarkable turnaround he staged after his 1997 return to the company he'd been ousted from more than a decade earlier.

Jobs, who has been plagued by health issues since recovering from a rare form of pancreatic cancer in 2004, has an uncanny knack for both foreseeing and shaping consumer

"Apple doesn't just create nice technology products — it changes the entire culture," said Leander Kahney, editor and publisher of the Cult of Mac blog and author of "Inside Steve's Brain." "All that comes from Steve Jobs' drive and ambition.'

Apple continues on A12



Steve Jobs, shown in S.F. on June 28. 2004, had a tumor removed a month later.

GOLDEN GATE PARK

Landmark status sought in push for preservation

By Will Kane

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

It is 1,017 acres of plants, animals, bikers, hikers and moms with strollers, and it could also be San Francisco's newest landmark.

Wednesday, the city's Historic Preservation Commission will discuss developing plans with the Recreation and Park Department to make all of Golden Gate Park a historic district, meaning that any substantial changes would have to be reviewed by both the Recreation and Park and Historic Preservation commissions.

That added layer of review would check the power of a park department that many preservation proponents accuse of making up a budget shortfall by selling San Francisco's parks to the highest bidder.

'It is kind of a way of giving the park a little Park continues on A9

Historic San Francisco park

Golden Gate Park, listed on the National Register of Historic Places, contains nine city landmarks:

Beach Chalet Conservatory of Flowers Dutch Windmill Francis Scott Key Monument

Lawn Bowling Clubhouse and Greens McLaren Lodge Murphy Windmill Park Emergency Hospital

Source: S.F. Preservation Society



Awarding the Stow Lake boat concession to an out-of-state firm was a change that showed the need for more review, critics said. **©** POLITICS

State GOP rebuilding plan hinges on Latinos

By Joe Garofoli

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

While resurgent House Republicans try to dismantle the new health care law this week in Washington, GOP members in California are still doing the somber soul-searching that follows a humiliating defeat at the polls.

Democrats now own all statewide offices and large majorities in the California Legislature. But some state Republicans are quietly taking the first steps to try to reverse the party's dismal standing. A group of top operatives and elected leaders — including two prime architects of the GOP's congressional surge — are launching plans to reinvigorate the party in California in much the way they did nationally.

First goal: Pare down the Republican message to economic issues and smaller government — a mirror of the plan that won the House for the GOP in November.

Second: Downplay social issues, particularly the GOP's internal immigration policy dispute, to broaden the party and make it

more appealing to Latinos.

It's quite a challenge. Fewer than a third of Californians are registered Republicans, and nearly 80 percent of Latinos — a fast-growing demographic preferred Democratic Gov. Jerry Brown and

Republicans continues on A12

Eliseo Castillo tags yellowfin tuna at **Ports Sea**food in San Francisco, A test of swordfish and tuna collected earlier from some grocery stores and restaurants in the state found some mercury levels above federal standards.



FOOD SAFETY

Secret test of tuna, swordfish finds surprising mercury levels

By Kelly Zito

CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

Tuna and swordfish collected from some California grocery stores and sushi restaurants contained mercury levels as much as three times the threshold that authorizes federal food regulators to pull sea-

food from shelves, according to a study by an environmental health group.

And despite pervasive concerns about the toxic heavy metal in fish, not one of the restaurants and fewer than half of the grocery stores displayed signs warning consumers about the risks of mercury

exposure, according to GotMercury.org, a public health advocacy group in San Francisco.

"They are selling food with high levels of mercury — levels the federal government says are too high for children and pregnant women to eat," said Buffy Martin Tarbox, lead author of Mercury continues on A8

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Weather

Patchy fog, then mostly sunny. Highs: 56-70 Lows: 39-49



