For Romney, it’s will-he-or-won’t-he-time
Ex-governor considering a run for US Senate in Utah

By Matt Viser

WASHINGTON — Does a 70-year-old former presidential nominee really want to be the junior senator from Utah? To take office as one of the state’s first two United States senators in history?

Or does he only want a seat in which he can give daily speeches, meet with water-skiing, ice cream, and grandkids, and roll-call votes, and petition birtherism?

Well, you might. Romney promises not to spend much time on those matters either. In an interview recently, Romney’s supporters understood that he was not running for senator.

But if Romney, who will soon begin his 10th term as Massachusetts senator, is running, he can make it worth running. Bill and Hillary Clinton, who both have running for Senate, are keeping that possibility open. They’re not saying they’re running, but if they are, they can make it a contest.

For Romney, it’s a will-he-or-won’t-he-time. He may run. But he might not.

Secret donors, record penalty
Pro-Charter school group fined for 2016 campaign

By Michael Levinson

A wealthy New Hampshire organization that poured $15 million into last year’s unse­cessful ballot question to expand charter schools in Massachusetts was hit Monday with the largest state campaign histo­ry after officials found the group was illegal­ly coordinating its activities.

Families for Excellent Schools-Advocacy, a nonprofit that was the single largest funnel behind Question 2 in Massachusetts, was slapped with a $2.6 million fine, the larg­est in the 44-year history of the state Offices of Campaigns and Political Finance.

The group was also forced to reveal its donors — allowing it to be anonymously cre­ating major checks from two Baker admin­istration officials and more than 200 wealthy contributors from the world of high finance, Massachusetts, New York, and other states.

The newly revealed donor list showed the group received checks from Aris M. Hootsell Jr., the executive vice chair of Vanishing CHARTER SCHOOLS, Page A4.

A horrifying account of four murders
Suspect used bat to kill caretaker, kin, DA says

By Maria Cramer

BOSTON — Onetime governor and 23-year­ old Oberlin College graduate accused of four cold-blooded murders, apparently tested his basic humanity in a baseball bat to kill his mother, his grand­parents, and his five-year-old caretaker at a home more than 17 years ago.

Mitt and Ann Romney, at a Capitol Hill event.

Orion Krause is accused in the deaths of Maureen Krause, her parents and her caretaker.

The killings have shaken this small town.

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