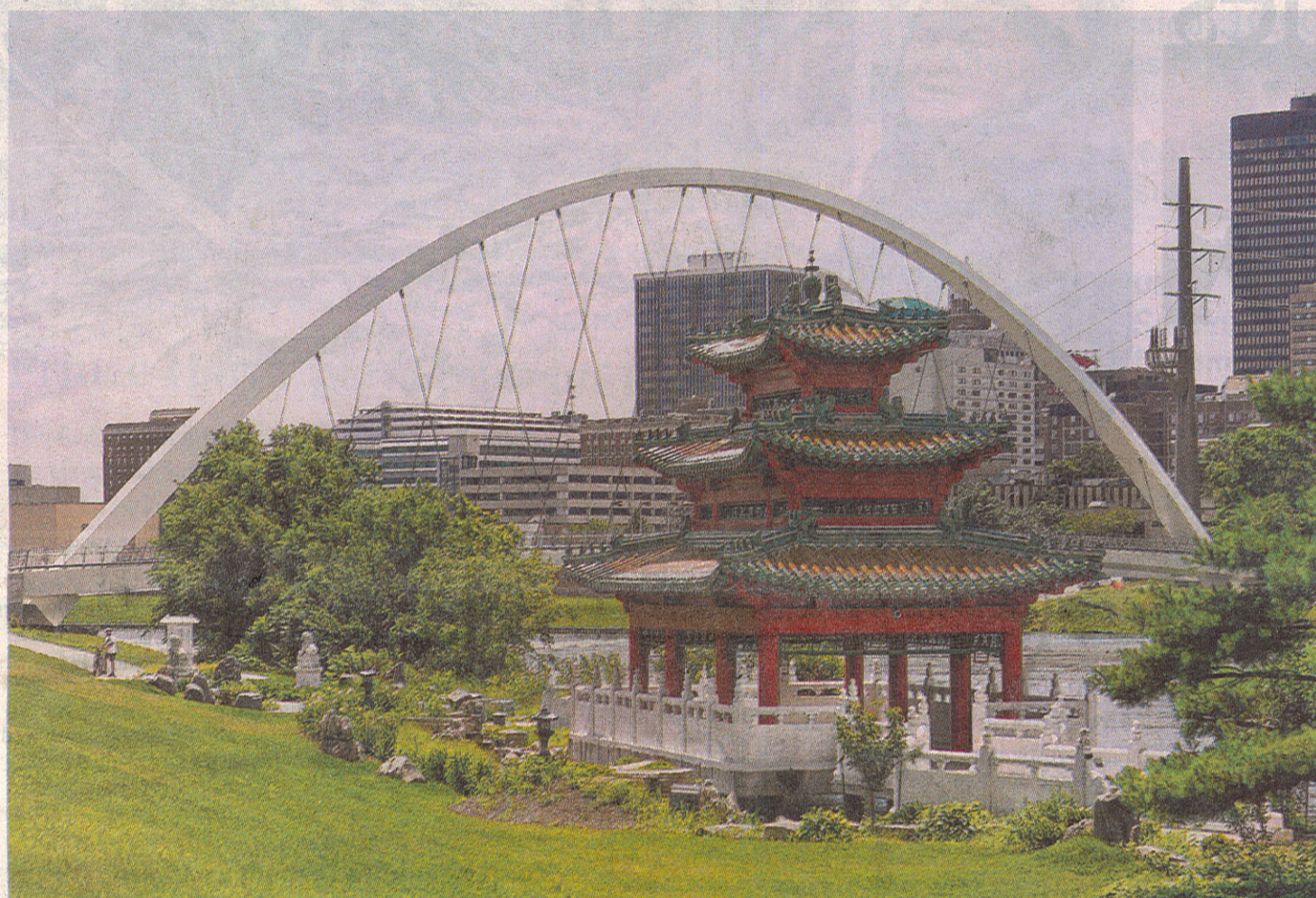


# Riverwalk bridge opens today

Key attraction in downtown Des Moines adds to an ambitious project



ARTURO FERNANDEZ/THE REGISTER

The grand opening of the Center Street Bridge — the signature feature of the Principal Riverwalk next to downtown Des Moines — is set for this evening. The bridge is seen here from the east bank of the Des Moines River. The Robert D. Ray Asian Gardens are in the foreground.

By JASON PULLIAM  
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The grand opening of the \$72 million Principal Riverwalk's signature attraction is set for today, marking a pivotal moment for the key downtown Des Moines riverfront project some eight years in the making.

Business and civic leaders will cut the ribbon on the Center Street Bridge, a 400-foot, \$12.5 million span usable by pe-

destrians and bicyclists that connects the east and west sides of the Des Moines River. The bridge will be accessible from both sides when it opens today. Construction is scheduled to last through next year to finish the trails on both sides of the river.

Once the trails are complete, the riverwalk will include a 1.2-mile loop on each side of the Des Moines River between the Center Street Dam to the north

BRIDGE, PAGE 10A

## Center Street Bridge opening

**WHAT:** Grand opening of the Principal Riverwalk's Center Street Bridge, usable by pedestrians and bicyclists.

**WHEN:** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. today.

**ACTIVITIES:** Officials from the Principal Financial Group and the city will cut the ribbon for the Center Street Bridge at 7:45 p.m., followed by a ceremonial "first crossing."

• A free concert by the Tony Valdez Band will be held from 8 p.m. until 9:15 p.m.

• The bridge lighting will take place at 9:15 p.m., followed by fireworks.

For more information, visit [www.principal.com/riverwalk](http://www.principal.com/riverwalk).

## Regulators will have to fill in blanks on finance bill

The legislation is silent on, for example, how much money banks must set aside to cushion against risks and bad derivatives.

By BERNARD CONDON  
Associated Press

New York, N.Y. — To keep taxpayers from having to bail out giant banks again, lawmakers faced two choices: design rules to try to prevent them from failing, or shrink them so that if they do fail, they won't threaten the financial system.

Our political leaders chose the rules.

At more than 2,000 pages, the new financial regulatory bill takes aim at megabanks straddling the globe, street-corner payday lenders and plenty in between. And with a bit of luck, the overhaul — the most sweeping since the Great Depression — will help make big bank failures less likely and less damaging if one does occur.

The House and Senate hope to pass the bill this week in time for President Barack Obama to sign it before Sunday. Its backers say it is needed to avoid the kind of cascading fear that brought the financial world to a near standstill after Lehman Brothers collapsed in September 2008.

Whether it succeeds rides on how dozens of regulators, in-

OVERHAUL, PAGE 8A

World leaders pledged Sunday to slash government deficits in the most industrialized nations in half by 2013. **Page 4A**

## Albaugh sells herbicide business to Israeli firm

By DAN PILLER  
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Ankeny businessman Dennis Albaugh, faced with a challenge to his herbicide business in the face of foreign competition, said Sunday he has sold his herbicide manufacturing and sales business to Makhteshim Agan Group

of Tel Aviv, Israel, in a cash and stock transaction valued at about \$1.3 billion.

The announcement Sunday said that Albaugh, 60, would become chairman of Makhteshim's North American operations, reporting to Shaul Friedland, Makhteshim's president of the Americas.

The rest of Albaugh's current management, led by Albaugh Inc. President Spencer Vance, will remain in place. The deal is expected to close by the end of the year.

Makhteshim is the world's sixth-largest herbicide and

ALBAUGH, PAGE 12A

## Des Moines warned to prepare for major flooding

The rain finally is gone from both the skies and the forecast, but the headaches for Iowa continue as flood warnings along the state's rivers and streams extend through the weekend. **Metro & Iowa, Page 5A**

## Kagan confirmation hearings start today

On the eve of her confirmation hearings, Republican senators questioned whether Supreme Court nominee Elena Kagan, left, could be an impartial judge. **Page 4A**



High 84° Low 62°

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Page 14A

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Index

Business ..... 6E  
Metro & Iowa ..... 5A

Obituaries..... 10A-11A

Opinion ..... 13A  
Comics..... 4E-5E



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