



AP photo

Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. and first lady Kendel S. Ehrlich look at their newborn son, Joshua Taylor, last night. Joshua was born at 6:22 p.m., weighing 7 pounds, 3 ounces at Greater Baltimore Medical Center in Towson.

It's a boy!

Joshua Taylor newest addition to the Ehrlich family

By BRIAN M. SCHLETER
Staff Writer

The Governor's Mansion has a new full-time resident.

First lady Kendel S. Ehrlich gave birth yesterday to the couple's second son.

Joshua Taylor Ehrlich was born at 6:22 p.m. and weighed 7 pounds, 3 ounces, according to her spokesman.

He joins big brother Drew, 4½.

"Kendel, Drew and I are thrilled," said Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr. in a prepared statement. "We are so grateful for the support and well wishes so many Marylanders have given us during this joyous time."

Both mother and child were resting comfortably last night at Greater Baltimore Medical Center. A news conference was scheduled for this morning.

Mrs. Ehrlich, who gave birth 10 days before her due date of March 16, is expected to be discharged tomorrow, an aide said.

Mrs. Ehrlich started having contractions early yesterday morning and was admitted to the hospital at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Ehrlich joined her, canceling his scheduled appearance at a meeting for the Bush-Cheney re-election campaign in Annapolis.

About 200 people attending the meeting cheered as Ann Granados, state coordinator for the Maryland campaign, explained his absence.

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Mr. Ehrlich remained at the hospital until 5:30 p.m. when he left to assess the water-taxi tragedy near Fort McHenry. A doctor had told the couple before he left that the birth was at least two hours away.

But Mrs. Ehrlich went into labor 15 minutes later. The baby was delivered before the governor could return, said Meghann Siwinski, a spokesman for Mrs. Ehrlich.

Mrs. Ehrlich told *The Capital* in January that the couple did not know the sex of their unborn child. It was Drew who suggested the name Joshua if it was a boy.

"Drew was elated when he found out he had a baby

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— Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr.

brother," Ms. Siwinski said.

Former governor Parris Glendening's daughter, Gabrielle, born last year while her father was still in office, was the first child born to a sitting governor in Maryland since 1879, when governor and Mrs. John Lee Carroll announced the birth of Philip Acosta Carroll.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.
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