

Ehrlichs add a baby boy to the state's first family

New arrival Joshua weighs
in at 7 pounds, 3 ounces

By JAMIE STIEHM
SUN STAFF

The Ehrlichs are now a family of four.

Gov. Robert L. Ehrlich Jr.'s wife, Kendel, gave birth to the couple's second son last night. Joshua Taylor Ehrlich was born at 6:22 p.m. at Greater Baltimore Medical Center, said Kendel Ehrlich's spokeswoman, Meghann Siwinski.

The baby boy weighed 7 pounds and 3 ounces and emerged during a smooth delivery with no complications. Kendel Ehrlich arrived at the hospital yesterday at 8:30 a.m., after labor had begun, Siwinski said.

Joshua came 10 days earlier than the due date, March 16. Doctors noted his most unusual features are big feet and big hands, Siwinski said.

Ehrlich awaited the impending birth in the hospital most of the day, Siwinski said. But in the late afternoon, the governor left to go to the scene when he heard that a water taxi had capsized in the Inner Harbor.

When Joshua was born, Ehrlich was at the emergency scene. He then sped back to the medical center, driven by a team of state troopers. The 45-year-old governor ar- [See B, 11B]

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rived to greet his newborn son within 15 minutes of Joshua's birth, Siwinski said.

The Ehrlichs' 4-year-old son, Drew Robert Ehrlich, remained at Government House in Annapolis during his brother's birth. Siwinski said Drew was "excited" about the new arrival.

Kendel Ehrlich, 42, was resting comfortably and was fully awake in the hours after Joshua's birth, Siwinski said.

"She's glowing. She looks beautiful," Siwinski said. "She's holding [Joshua] and calling him her 'little pumpkin.' "

Taylor is the maiden name of Kendel Ehrlich's mother.

The Ehrlichs chose not to know the sex of the baby in advance. Ehrlich is expected to hold a news conference this morning at the hospital to discuss his son's birth.

In an interview last month, Kendel Ehrlich said the plan is for the baby to sleep in Drew's old crib in a separate room while the Ehrlichs adjust to his sleeping schedule.