Wife guilty of conspiring to kill husband stationed in Kuwait Page 4

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Orlando's Tracy McGrady

Volume 63, No. 67 © EPSS 2004 G WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2004 50¢

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U.S. military confirms death, finds body west of Baghdad

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MRE

DOD food specialists give lawmakers on Capitol Hill a taste of the latest combat meal options for troops in the field

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Wesley Long, left, a student employee in the Defense Department's Combat Feeding Directorate, and Mike Acheson, a food technologist for the directorate, dish up samples last week on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

PHOTO BY LISA BURGESS
PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY PETER PHOTIKOE
Stars and Stripes

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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Super Bowl streaker: The man who frolicked near naked on the field during the Super Bowl was fined $1,000 Tuesday but won't have to spend any time in jail.

Mark Roberts, 39, was fined by the same six-woman jury that found him guilty in Houston on Monday of misdemeanor trespassing. That carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and up to a $2,000 fine.

Jurors deliberated for about an hour before deciding on the sentence, courts coordinator Rachel Ferrel said.

"The whole reason I did it was to entertain people, America," Roberts said Monday. "If making people laugh is a criminal offense, I should be sentenced to prison for life."

Case against Rudolph: A federal judge approved a plan Tuesday to try serial bombing suspect Eric Rudolph in Birmingham, Ala., but pick jurors from throughout north Alabama, instead of just the Birmingham area.

U.S. District Judge Lynwood Smith approved the joint proposal that had been agreed to by defense attorneys and federal prosecutors.

The decision brought a quick end to a hearing on a defense motion to move Rudolph's trial out of Birmingham. Wearing a bulletproof vest, Rudolph had arrived in court amid tight security for what was expected to be two days of arguments.

Attorneys for Rudolph had asked Smith to move the trial out of north Alabama partly because of years of publicity about the 1998 bombing of a Birmingham abortion clinic and Rudolph's subsequent disappearance into North Carolina mountains.

Rudolph's trial is set for Aug. 2.

Same-sex marriage: Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, whose state is the only one to recognize gay marriages, in Washington on Tuesday urged passage of a constitutional amendment banning same-sex unions, even as the conservative who wrote a federal law denying recognition to such marriages said that law was sufficient.

"It is not possible for the issue to remain solely a Massachusetts issue, it must now be confronted on a national basis," Romney said.

But in a preview of what is certain to be a politically charged debate, former Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., told a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing that the Constitution shouldn't be used as a vehicle for banning homosexual marriage. His remarks suggested that some of the strongest opposition to the proposed amendment may come from conservatives who abhor gay unions.

"We meddle with the Constitution to our own peril," Barr said.

D.C. sniper attacks: A judge on Tuesday in Fairfax, Va., set a tentative date of Oct. 4 for convicted sniper John Allen Muhammad's second trial, turning aside defense objections that it was too early to take such action.

Muhammad is on death row after being convicted last year in one of the 10 killings in the shooting spree that terrorized residents in Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C., in October 2002.

World War II remembrances: Former sailor and World War II veteran Alexander Aldoshkin, 77, holds a candle Tuesday while standing near the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier next to the Kremlin wall in Moscow to commemorate the 63nd anniversary of the Nazi invasion of the former Soviet Union. War memories remain strong in Russia, where losses reached 27 million people, touching almost every family.

He made his first appearance in Fairfax County Circuit Court, where he is charged in another of the deaths, the Oct. 14, 2002, slaying of FBI analyst Linda Franklin.

Muhammad's lawyers, Peter Greenspun and Jonathan Shapiro, argued that it was improper to move forward because Muhammad was not notified of the charges in a timely manner. Muhammad was indicted in Franklin's death in November 2002 but was not formally notified of the charges until last month.

World

North Korea nukes: The United States, North Korea and four other nations agreed Tuesday to discuss a freezing of the North's nuclear program and inspections that would lead to its eventual dismantlement, a South Korean official said.

Some of the governments were working on plans to offer the North aid in exchange for suspending its clandestine efforts to develop nuclear weapons.

The agreement was reached in two days of negotiations on an agenda for six-nation talks that start Wednesday in Beijing.

Two earlier rounds of talks among the two Koreas, China, Russia, Japan and the United States ended with little progress.

Polio outbreak: Africa is on the brink of the biggest polio epidemic in years, with the crippling disease hitting Nigeria hard and re-emerging in Sudan's war-ravaged Darfur region, the World Health Organization said Tuesday in Geneva.

The number of polio cases globally has reached 333 so far this year, almost double the number for the same period last year. Total cases last year reached 783.

In Nigeria, where Muslim leaders have refused to participate in immunization program, 257 cases have been reported this year.

Polio is a water-borne disease that usually infects young children, attacking the nervous system and causing paralysis, muscular atrophy, deformation and sometimes death.

Philippine peace talks: Communist rebels and Philippines government negotiators opened a new round of peace talks in Oslo, Norway, on Tuesday with hopes of ending their 35-year armed conflict, but a dispute over the rebels being listed as a terrorist group could stall the process.

The third round of talks in the Norwegian capital this year focuses on an agreement for social and economic reforms, confidence building measures and a report from a new human rights monitoring committee.

The rebels, organized in the National Democratic Front umbrella group, have repeatedly said that they will not sign a lasting cease-fire until the root causes of the conflict, such as economic and social injustices, are addressed.

Madrid bombings: The parliamentary commission investigating the Madrid, Spain, train bombings released on Tuesday a list of 83 witnesses who might be called to testify. All seven groups on the panel named three officials who might be summoned to answer questions: former Interior Minister Angel Acebes, his successor Jose Antonio Alonso and the former head of the National Intelligence Center, Jorge Dezcallar.

Former Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar was requested to appear by smaller parties but not by the ruling Socialists nor by Aznar's Popular Party.

Also on the list are Morocco's Interior Minister Mustafa Sahel and German Interior Minister Otto Schily.

The commission is to decide on Wednesday who will be called to appear.

Hearings, including the examination of police documents related to the investigation, were expected to begin almost immediately and perhaps conclude by the end of next month.

Troubles at Alitalia: The Italian government agreed Tuesday to guarantee a bridge loan in a bid to stave off bankruptcy at state-controlled airline Alitalia.

Alitalia shares had been suspended earlier Tuesday pending the announcement, which was made at the end of a Cabinet meeting at Premier Silvio Berlusconi's office in Rome.

The bridge loan is the only type of aid that might have been allowed under European Union rules. EU officials said that Alitalia could be eligible to receive rescue aid in the form of a bridge loan repayable within a maximum of 12 months.

Stories and photos from wire services

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Iraqi militants behead South Korean hostage

U.S. military finds body west of capital

BY TODD PITMAN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — An Iraqi militant group beheaded its South Korean hostage, officials said Tuesday, just hours after a go-between said the execution had been delayed and there were negotiations for the man's release.

The South Korean foreign ministry issued a statement confirming that Kim Sun-il had been killed but did not say he was beheaded.

However, Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, coalition deputy operations chief, said the body of an Asian male was found west of Baghdad on Tuesday evening.

Kim

"It appears that the body had been thrown from a vehicle," Kimmitt said in a statement. "The man had been beheaded, and the head was recovered with the body."

Kim's body was found by the U.S. military between Baghdad and Fallujah, 22 miles west of the capital, at 5:20 p.m. Iraq time, said South Korean Foreign Ministry spokesman Shin Bong-kil.

After news of Kim's death broke, South Korean television showed Kim's distraught family members weeping and rocking back and forth with grief at their home in the southeastern port city of Busan.

"I don't want to die, I don't want to die," Kim pleaded in a first video released by his captors Sunday as he begged his government to end its involvement in Iraq.

The South Korean Embassy in Baghdad confirmed that the body was Kim's by studying a picture of the remains it received by e-mail, Shin said.

"It breaks our heart that we have to announce this unfortunate news," Shin said.

Kim, 33, worked for Gana General Trading Co., a South Korean company supplying the U.S. military in Iraq. He was abducted last week, according to the South Korean government.

The videotape of Kim, apparently made shortly before his death, showed him kneeling, blindfolded and wearing an orange jumpsuit similar to those issued to prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

Five hooded men stood behind Kim, one reading a statement and gesturing with his right hand. Another captor had a big knife slipped in his belt.

One of the masked men said the message was intended for the Korean people. "This is what your hands have committed. Your army has not come here for the sake of Iraqis, but for cursed America."

The video as broadcast did not show Kim being executed.

Al-Jazeera said the video claimed the execution was carried out by the al-Qaida-linked group Monotheism and Jihad.

President Bush condemned the beheading of a South Korean hostage as "barbaric" Tuesday and said he remained confident that South Korea would go ahead with plans to send thousands of troops to Iraq.

"The free world cannot be intimidated by the brutal actions of these barbaric people," the president said.

The grisly killing was reminiscent of the decapitation of American businessman Nicholas Berg, who was beheaded last month on a videotape posted on an Al-Qaida-linked Web site by the same group, which claimed responsibility for Kim's death.

In Saudi Arabia, American helicopter technician Paul M. Johnson Jr., 49, was kidnapped by al-Qaida militants who followed through on a threat to kill him if the kingdom did not release its al-Qaida prisoners. An al-Qaida group claiming responsibility posted an Internet message that showed photographs of Johnson's severed head.

Al-Jazeera did not say when Kim was killed.

Kim's kidnappers had initially threatened to kill him at sundown Monday unless South Korea canceled a troop deployment to Iraq. The Seoul government rejected the demand, standing firm with plans to dispatch 3,000 soldiers starting in August.

Kim Chun-ho, president of Gana General Trading, the company that employed the victim, were traveling to the site to collect the remains, Shin said.

South Korea convened its National Security Council at 2 a.m. to discuss the government's reaction, Shin said. Later the government reaffirmed it would send troops to Iraq as planned.

Also Tuesday, gunmen opened fire on a U.S. military convoy north of the capital, killing two American soldiers and wounding a third, the military said.

Coalition spokesman Dan Senor said that by week's end, all Iraqi government ministries would be under full Iraqi control.

YONHAP/AP

Kim Jong-kyu, right, and Shin Young-ja, parents of Kim Sun-il who was kidnapped in Iraq, react after hearing that their son had been killed, at their home in Pusan, South Korea, early Wednesday. Kim was killed despite government efforts to release him.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Monday, 837 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 617 died as a result of hostile action and 220 died of nonhostile causes.

The British military has reported 58 deaths; Italy, 18; Spain, eight; Bulgaria and Poland, six each; Ukraine, four; Slovakia three; Thailand, two; Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia and the Netherlands have reported one each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 699 U.S. troops have died — 508 as a result of hostile action and 191 of nonhostile causes, according to the military as of Monday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

- Four U.S. soldiers were killed Monday in an attack in Ramadi.
- A U.S. soldier was killed Monday and seven others were wounded in a mortar attack in Baghdad.
- A U.S. soldier died Friday from wounds received during an attack near Buhritz.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

- Army Spc. Thai Vue, 22, Willows, Calif.; died Friday in a mortar attack in Baghdad; assigned to the 127th Military Police Company, 709th Military Police Battalion, 18th Military Police Brigade, V Corps, Hanau, Germany.
- Army Pfc. Jason N. Lynch, 21, St. Croix, Virgin Islands; died Friday in an attack in Buhriz; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division, Bamberg, Germany.
- Marine Staff Sgt. Marvin Best, 33, Prosser, Wash.; died Sunday of wounds suffered in an attack in Anbar province; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, Calif.
- Marine Pfc. Sean Horn, 19, Orange, Calif.; died Saturday in a nonhostile incident at Camp Taqaddum; assigned to Combat Service Support Group 11, 1st Force Service Support Group, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

U.S. to hand over legal custody of Saddam with court's request

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The United States will hand legal custody of Saddam Hussein and an undetermined number of former regime figures to the interim Iraqi government as soon as Iraqi courts issue warrants for their arrest and request the transfer, a U.S. official said Tuesday.

However, the United States will retain physical custody of Saddam and the prisoners, while giving Iraqi prosecutors and defense lawyers access to them, the official said on condition of anonymity.

The Americans will continue to keep Saddam and others locked up and under U.S. guard because the Iraqi government does not yet have capacity to hold such prisoners, the official said.

"Before we turn over any of the detainees, we have to make sure there is valid Iraqi court order that authorizes the government to detain those individuals," the official said. "Once the security detainees are turned over to the Iraqi government, they become criminal detainees subject to criminal due process protections."

Last week, Salem Chalabi, the official in charge of setting up a war crimes tribunal, said he expected the Iraqis to issue the necessary warrants before the transfer of sovereignty June 30.

Saddam Hussein

Poll: Public approval falls for Bush's handling of terror fight

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Amid rising disenchantment with the war in Iraq, President Bush has lost ground on the issue that is central to his public support: fighting terrorism.

An ABC News-Washington Post poll released Monday found that approval of Bush's handling of terrorism has dropped to 50 percent, with 48 percent disapproving. As recently as April, more than six in 10 approved of his handling of terrorism.

Kerry now runs even with Bush in trust to handle this issue.

Bush led Kerry by 13 points on this issue a month ago in this poll, and by 21 points the month before.

More than half, 52 percent, said the war in Iraq was not worth fighting — the first time a majority in this poll has said so.

Kerry held a slight lead in the poll with the support of 48 percent of registered voters, while Bush had 44 percent and independent Ralph Nader had 6 percent. An NPR poll out Monday showed Bush and Kerry running even.

The ABC-Post poll of 1,201 adults was taken June 17-20 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Interrogation tactics file to be released

White House wants to end rumors Bush authorized torture of prisoners

BY SCOTT LINDLAW
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The White House has decided to release a thick file of papers documenting its internal deliberations on rules for interrogating prisoners in facilities from Abu Ghraib in Iraq to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The two-inch stack of papers was to be released late Tuesday. It is intended to counter what White House aides fear is a growing perception that the administration authorized torture as an interrogation technique.

"We believe it's important for the American people to have an accurate picture of the policies that we put in place and an accurate picture of the techniques that were approved by the Pentagon. It's important to set the record straight," said White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

President Bush "has never and has no intention of ever" authorizing torture in questioning prisoners, McClellan said.

"The president recognizes that his most important responsibility to the American people is their safety and security," McClellan said. "We are a nation that is at war but we are also a nation of laws and the president expects our government to comply with laws and our treaty obligations."

White House legal counsel Alberto Gonzales intended to brief reporters on the documents.

The documents are meant to show "the White House's deliberative process" in arriving at rules for complying with the Geneva Convention and rules on interrogation techniques, one senior official said, requesting anonymity on grounds that Gonzales was to talk on the record later Tuesday.

The administration decided to release the papers to fight the "constant drip on this issue" — a continuous stream of leaks and accusations that the administration had stepped outside the bounds of international law, the official said. "Everyone reached the conclusion that the administration had authorized torture," he said.

The official, saying the United States is facing a new kind of war with an enemy that does not respect or operate under the rules of the Geneva Convention, pointed to the kidnapping and beheading of American civilian engineer Paul M. Johnson Jr. in Saudi Arabia last week. The papers being released Tuesday show that the White House and other agencies are wrestling with "how best to address that foe," one official said.

The documents cover a period of several months and were generated by several agencies, including the Department of Justice.

One set of papers alone spans 50 pages.

Among the papers are some that have already been seen by the public, including previously confidential memos in which Justice Department lawyers concluded that Taliban and al-Qaida fighters are not protected by the Geneva Conventions governing the treatment of prisoners of war because they do not satisfy four main conditions of the treaty itself.

Democrats criticized those memos as laying the legal foundation for Iraqi prisoner abuses, but administration officials said they were aimed mainly at showing that international treaties banning torture do not apply to al-Qaida and Taliban prisoners.

At a June 10 news conference, President Bush sidestepped questions about whether he had seen or authorized the Justice Department papers.

"The authorization I issued was that anything we did would conform to U.S. law and would be consistent with international treaty obligations. That's the message I gave our people," Bush said in Savannah, Ga. "I can't remember if I've seen the memo or not, but I gave those instructions."

AP

Iraqi men rest in the shade of a wall painted with graffiti concerning the Abu Ghraib prison mistreatment scandal in the Sadr City district of Baghdad on Tuesday.

Judge refuses new Article 32 for soldier in prison abuse case

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A military court judge refused Tuesday to order a new Article 32 investigation into allegations that Staff Sgt. Ivan L. "Chip" Frederick II abused inmates at Abu Ghraib prison.

Ordering a new Article 32 investigation, the military equivalent of a grand jury probe, would have been tantamount to dropping the charges.

The judge, Col. James Pohl, rejected the motion during a pretrial hearing reset for Tuesday.

Frederick, of Buckingham, Va., is one of seven soldiers accused in the scandal. He and two others appeared in court Monday for hearings but the proceeding against Frederick was reset for next month after his civilian lawyer failed to appear.

Later, the military said Frederick decided to ask that the hearing be held Tuesday, as was his right.

During the Tuesday session, Frederick won the right for his lawyers to to question top U.S. generals in connection with the case.

Also on Tuesday, the U.S. Army scheduled an Article 32 hearing for Spc. Sabrina Harman in the Abu Ghraib prison scandal case, the U.S. command said.

The session will determine if the 26-year-old will face court-martial.

The session will be held Thursday, a military spokeswoman, Lt. Beatriz Yarrish, said.

Harman, of Lorton, Va., is a member of the 372nd Military Police Company.

Records indicate Gitmo suicide attempts increased under Miller

BY MATT KELLEY
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Three months after a get-tough U.S. general took command of the Guantanamo Bay prison for terror suspects, prisoners began a flurry of suicide attempts, according to military records.

Miller

Maj. Gen. Geoffrey Miller took over as commander at Guantanamo in November 2002 after interrogators criticized his predecessor for being too solicitous for the detainees' welfare.

Between January and March 2003, 14 prisoners at Guantanamo tried to kill themselves, according to Pentagon figures. That's more than 40 percent of the 34 suicide attempts by 21 inmates since the prison was opened in January 2002.

Miller is now in charge of all military-run U.S. prisons in Iraq, a job he took after news broke of beatings and sexual humiliations last fall at the Abu Ghraib prison near Baghdad.

Miller had visited Abu Ghraib in August and September and recommended interrogation techniques that military lawyers said had to be modified to comply with the Geneva Conventions on treating prisoners of war.

Human rights groups say the suicide attempts at Guantanamo Bay may be evidence that conditions there amounted to torture.

The Bush administration calls the men "enemy combatants," similar to traditional prisoners of war but not subject to the guarantees of the Geneva Conventions against torture and other abuses. The administration contends their treatment nevertheless is humane.

"Our concern is that the totality of the conditions at Guantanamo — starting with the prolonged detention without trial, combined with the frequent interrogation that may have included problematic methods — may have contributed to an atmosphere that pushed people to attempt suicide," said Alistair Hodgett of the human rights group Amnesty International.

Miller and other military officials deny that.

"All detainees are treated humanely," Guantanamo military spokesman Maj. David S. Kolarik said in a written response to questions from The Associated Press.

He said all prisoners are treated "in accordance with the principles" of the Geneva Conventions "to the extent appropriate and consistent with military necessity."

No Iraqi prisoners have killed themselves since the U.S. invasion, said Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, a spokesman for Miller in Baghdad.

Wife pleads guilty to planning for fellow Marine to kill her husband

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A Marine's wife pleaded guilty Monday to conspiring to have him killed by a fellow Marine while he was stationed in Kuwait.

Wendy Glass, 34, of Yuma, Ariz., admitted in federal court to having an affair with the other Marine, and said they conspired to kill her husband, James Glass.

James Glass and Larry Framness were deployed from Marine Corps Air Station Yuma in early 2003 and stationed at Camp Snake Pit at the Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait.

Framness tried to kill Glass with a grenade after luring him to a guard shack, prosecutors said.

In a phone conversation around April, Wendy Glass allegedly told Framness that she didn't want to know details of the killing and also didn't want her husband to suffer.

Glass was injured but survived. He has recovered and is back in Yuma with his unit, Marine Wing Support Squadron 371.

Framness pleaded guilty in February in military court to charges that included attempted murder and adultery. He is serving a life sentence.

Because Wendy Glass cooperated in the prosecution of Framness, her prosecutors have recommended a sentence of a little more than eight years. Sentencing was scheduled for Sept. 13.

MPs help patch holes in Baghdad security

Germany-based unit prepares Iraqis to take over operations

BY RICK SCAVETTA
Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — With only a sheet of cardboard for shade, Spc. Jamel Hawthorne sits atop a sun-scorched roof of an Iraqi police station.

Hawthorne and his squad, soldiers from the 272nd Military Police Company, pull security to deter enemy insurgents from launching strikes against lightly armed Iraqi cops.

"They don't attack when we're here," said Hawthorne, 21, of Baton Rouge, La. "They can come on, but we have a lot of firepower. We'd hold them."

But when night falls and the U.S. soldiers return to Camp Cuervo, the shooting starts, said Luaa Shukur, an Iraqi officer assigned to station. Rockets and bullets come from nearly every direction pummel the station, which is a few blocks from the Tigris River.

"These [attacks] are from people who love Saddam, people who come from Fallujah and have relatives here," Shukur said. "Many bad people, with RPGs and AKs, they shoot us at night then run away."

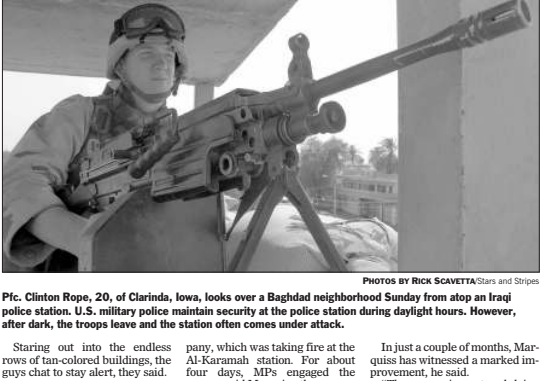
On Sunday, a local man with ties to the insurgents brought a warning. If troops did not withdraw from the station, insurgents threatened to kill every Iraqi officer assigned to it.

"We received the same threat four days ago, but nothing happened," said Sgt. Paul Meyer, 30, of Old Orchard Beach, Maine. "While we're here, we'll protect the station."

The surrounding neighborhood has its share of criminals, to include the "20th Street gang," thugs from a nearby avenue, soldiers said. Except these adversaries often attack with a heavy arsenal.

Down below Hawthorne, Iraqi officers climb aboard a police-marked pickup truck riddled with AK-47 bullets. Surrounding buildings are scarred with bullet holes and blackened streaks from explosions. Suspicious-looking men watch the station from a small cafe nearby.

The station is a bastioned fortress in the often-volatile Adhamiya neighborhood. Concrete barriers topped with razor wire block the street out front. Soldiers man sandbagged bunkers in the compound, training their machine guns on windows and rooftops. Under the hot sun, their watch can be long and dull, soldiers said.



PHOTOS BY RICK SCAVETTA/Stars and Stripes

Pfc. Clinton Rope, 20, of Clarinda, Iowa, looks over a Baghdad neighborhood Sunday from atop an Iraqi police station. U.S. military police maintain security at the police station during daylight hours. However, after dark, the troops leave and the station often comes under attack.

An Iraqi policeman washes a patrol truck that insurgents riddled with AK-47 rounds.

Staring out into the endless rows of tan-colored buildings, the guys chat to stay alert, they said.

"We talk about muscle cars, women and ... women," Sgt. Stephen Parrott said. "And women."

Sometimes that talk about friends back home, wondering what they're doing now as the soldiers pull their tour in Iraq.

"You've got to be a talker up here," said Pfc. Clinton Rope, 20, of Clarinda, Iowa. "That's what passes the time."

Back in Heidelberg, Germany, the troops are assigned to the 529th Military Police Company, the honor guard for U.S. Army Europe commander Gen. B.B. Bell. When their headquarters, the Mannheim, Germany-based 95th Military Police Battalion, was deployed to Iraq four months ago, the platoon was attached to the 272nd MPs.

They arrived in Baghdad on April 12, just after a series of deadly clashes with radicals in Sadr City.

Insurgents frequently target Iraqi security structures, to include the fledgling police departments. On June 3, Capt. Jason Marquiss' company was called into Sadr City to support Company C, 759th Military Police Company, which was taking fire at the Al-Karamah station. For about four days, MPs engaged the enemy, said Marquiss, the company commander.

Now the company is doing its best to train and equip its Iraqi counterparts with hopes that Iraqi police take over security for their own people.

Three of the company's four platoons work at Iraqi police stations, said Marquiss. One platoon trains recruits at the Baghdad police academy.

Keeping a presence at the Iraqi police stations is more than just guard duty. Marquiss' soldiers mentor the Iraqis to work professionally, he said. They cover basic police functions; apprehending suspects, conducting investigations and preparing cases for the court.

Helping build the Iraqi force is not without challenges.

Supplies for the Iraqi police are slow in coming. Finding interpreters also takes time. But many police now have uniforms, pistols and numbered badges. Some of their trucks are new Nissan pickups. Bulletproof vests slowly are being fielded.

Looking like police and having equipment brought up the Iraqi's morale, Marquiss said.

In just a couple of months, Marquiss has witnessed a marked improvement, he said.

"They are going out and doing things on their own now," Marquiss said.

The military recently tripled the size of the company's beat. They went from 11 sites near the city center to 31 stations in north and east Baghdad. With a limited number of MPs for such a large area, Marquiss is now seeing where his company can best focus its efforts, he said.

Marquiss wants his troops to learn their beat more by day before he assigns them to night operations, he said.

"We don't want to rush to failure," Marquiss said.

And their job is not to hunt down the insurgents. They leave that to the infantry patrols, which recently picked up a local gang leader, Marquiss said.

Back on the rooftop, soldiers may see an occasional head popping through a window. Sweat drips down their faces, catching dust and grime blown by the wind. They think about their lives, their families, their mission.

"It's strange," Hawthorne said, atop his perch. "I never thought I'd be here."

E-mail Rick Scavetta at:
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Senate refuses to overturn ban on filming return of war dead

BY PAULINE JELINEK
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate refused on Monday to change a Pentagon policy banning media coverage of America's war dead as their remains arrive in flag-draped caskets.

"It's an outrage," said Sen. Frank Lautenberg, who had sponsored legislation to restore coverage of homecoming ceremonies at Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

The New Jersey Democrat said the Pentagon directive that requires strict censorship, "issued just as the Iraq war began, ... prevents the American people from seeing the truth about what's happening."

The 54-39 Senate negative vote came as the American death toll in Iraq reached 837 Monday.

The vote defeated an amendment to the authorization bill for the Defense Department that would have required the Pentagon to produce a protocol in 60 days to regulate media coverage of the returning dead.

Banning press and public access to the arrival of casualties in Dover was started in the 1991 Persian Gulf War, during the term of President Bush's father. The policy continued through President Clinton's eight years in office, although it was not strictly enforced and there was no conflict on the scale of the either the Persian Gulf War or the war in Iraq during Clinton's tenure.

"During the Afghan war during this administration, flag-draped coffins were filmed [at Dover], and during the Kosovo conflict President Clinton was on the tarmac to receive the dead," Lautenberg said.

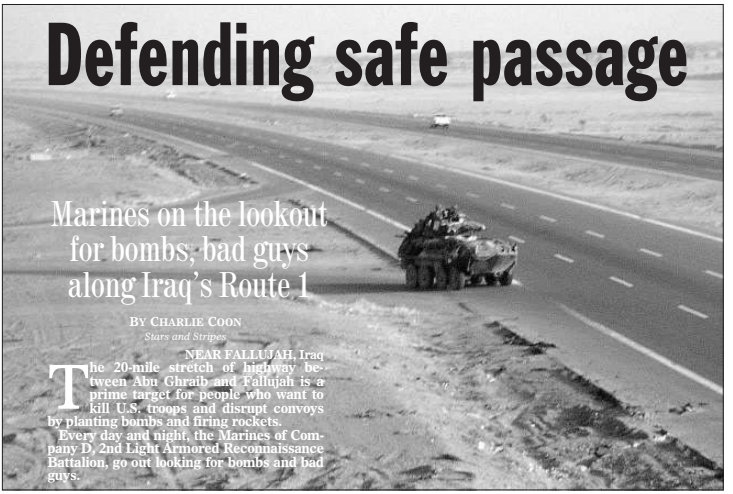
Citing privacy questions on the eve of the war with Iraq a year ago, the Pentagon reiterated the ban and began enforcing it at Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland and Ramstein Air Base in Germany. Photos often had been allowed at Ramstein before the current Bush administration.

Sen. John Warner, Republican chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, argued the ban should continue "to preserve the most important priority, and that's the privacy of the families, ... and not open up this matter to greater scrutiny by the press."

The debate over whether Americans should see coffins of the war dead flared in April after The Seattle Times published a front-page photograph of coffins in a cargo plane in Kuwait and a First Amendment activist posted on his Web site dozens of similar images from Dover, home to the nation's largest military mortuary.

A poll at that time found more than six in 10 Americans thought the homecomings should be covered.

Defending safe passage



Marines on the lookout for bombs, bad guys along Iraq's Route 1

BY CHARLIE COON
Stars and Stripes

NEAR FALLUJAH, Iraq — The 20-mile stretch of highway between Abu Ghraib and Fallujah is a prime target for people who want to kill U.S. troops and disrupt convoys by planting bombs and firing rockets.

Every day and night, the Marines of Company D, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, go out looking for bombs and bad guys.

A Light Armored Vehicle, or LAV-25, from the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, turns onto Iraq's Route 1 during a patrol Sunday between Abu Ghraib and Fallujah. It's the job of the Marines of Company D, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion to make Route 1 safe for truckers delivering supplies to U.S. bases. Every day and night, they go out looking for bombs and bad guys. Patrols travel in the LAVs, nicknamed "destroyers" by the Iraqis.

PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON
Stars and Stripes

It's their job to make Route 1 safe for truckers delivering supplies to U.S. bases.

The bad guys are invited to show their faces, but they rarely do.

"We can tear some stuff up," said Cpl. Jermaine Whitley, 21, of Jacksonville, Fla. "We look forward to that kind of stuff. It makes the day go faster and gives us something to talk about when we get back to base."

They are certainly capable. The Marines patrol in vehicles the Iraqis nicknamed "destroyers" during the first part of the war as U.S. forces moved north from Kuwait to overthrow Saddam Hussein.

The Light Armored Vehicles, or LAV-25s, feature 25 mm Bushmaster chain-fed guns that fire devastating one-inch thick projectiles. Each vehicle carries seven infantry-trained Marines hungry to show their power. The platoons typically go out in groups of four LAV-25s.

On most patrols, they find nothing. It can be grueling work, especially when it is performed under the hot, Iraqi sun.

During a six-hour patrol earlier this week, one of the 2nd LAR's platoons came up empty. The wind blew nonstop at 30 mph or more and felt like a hairdryer set on "hot." The four-like dirt that covers Iraq flew in the wind and stuck to sweaty faces.

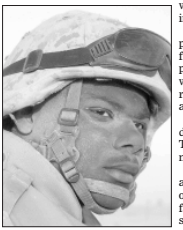
Inside the LAVs, where the drivers and scouts hunched for two hours or more without a break, the temperature reached 126 degrees, according to one digital thermometer.

"It's miserable," said Lance Cpl. John Martuszewski, a 24-year-old gunner from Riverside, Calif. "I'm not saying you can't tolerate it or take it, but it's not enjoyable, I'll tell you that.

"You put on the same pair of cammies for a week straight that are soaked stiff with your sweat and salt. The next day we put them on and do it again.

"It's our job. It's what we do; it's what we signed up for."

The Marines try to strike a balance between respecting the privacy of the Iraqi people who live along the route and checking out suspicious-looking activities.



Cpl. Jermaine Whitley, 21, of Jacksonville, Fla., a scout team leader for Company D, watches for suspicious activity.

At one point while the patrol was parked at a vantage point a half-mile from the highway, a car was spotted pulling up to a house near the highway. Through binoculars, the Marines saw its driver drop off a package and quickly drive away.

A group of scouts ran across the desert to the house to check it out. They didn't enter the house but saw nothing fishy from the outside.

The troops are trained to notice anything suspicious, such as someone digging a hole where there is no farm or someone tinkering on a roadside vehicle who suddenly stops when he sees the patrol approaching.

Stuff does happen, though.

A few days earlier, a motorcyclist sped up to a U.S. patrol and tossed a grenade into one of its vehicles, injuring three troops. A mine recently exploded under another vehicle on a side road.

Occasionally the Marines from the 2nd LAR get to go on raids, participate in light attacks and serve as infantry support for larger operations.

When one patrol returns to the base at Camp Baharia, located on the southeast edge of Fallujah, another heads out to take up the job of highway patrol, its Marines hoping to find a bomb or a bad guy.

"I think our job is to make sure nothing happens," said Lance Cpl. Ray Parra, 20, of Phoenix. "If nothing happens, it's a good day."

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Lance Cpl. Ray Parra, 20, of Phoenix, and Company D, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, patrols Route 1 from atop a Light Armored Vehicle. In the background is the vehicle's commander, Cpl. Tyler Valks, 22, of Denver.

Iowa man says recruiter tricked him into joining Army

The Associated Press

CLINTON, Iowa — A recent high school graduate is accusing an Army recruiter of tricking him into enlisting once he changed his mind about joining the military.

Ryan Winter, 18, says the recruiter repeatedly assured him before he reported to duty this month in Davenport that he would simply have to head to Fort Jackson in South Carolina for a brief out-processing procedure.

"He said, 'I'm going to be back by next week,' " said his mother, Laurie Kasmar. Instead, she received an emotional phone message June 13 from their son, saying he had been tricked into joining the Army.

The office of U.S. Rep. Jim Nussle, R-Iowa, told the family Friday that the Army has decided to give Winter a Chapter 11 general discharge and send him home in two to three weeks.

Winter's stepfather, Greg Kasmar, added Winter had wanted to be a helicopter pilot in the Army but found out that his eyesight was not good enough.

Donna May said her grandson notified his Army recruiter months ago that he had changed his mind about joining.

Winter's family claims he was told if he did not sign final enlistment papers, he would be considered absent without leave, fined $50,000, face prison time and never find a decent job again.

"He was intimidated, coerced," May said.

The Army will launch an internal investigation, and a congressional inquiry is under way, said Toni Harn, a spokeswoman for the Army's Recruiting Battalion in Des Moines.

Army Master Sgt. Jeffrey Wright, a longtime recruiter stationed in Des Moines, said there are many safeguards to protect enlistees, including a series of forms that must be signed and an oath taken accepting a contract.

Ceremonies mark command changes throughout Germany

Stars and Stripes

The 7th Army Reserve Command's 317th Support Center welcomed a new commander during one of several changes of command conducted in Germany earlier this month.

Lt. Col. Steven Zephir replaced Lt. Col. Alma J. Fernandez during the ceremony at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield. His previous assignment was senior operations officer for the 313th Support Center (Rear Operations Center), headquartered in Kaiserslautern. In his civilian job, he works as a management and program analyst in the 7th ARCOM's force programs office.

Fernandez, commander for nearly three years, led the unit through several major V Corps exercises before deploying to Iraq in March 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Other changes of command:

■ Lt. Col. Anthony K. Crawford took command of the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion from Lt. Col. Hugh T. Smith in a ceremony at Kelley Barracks, Darmstadt, on June 15.

Crawford, who joined the military 21 years ago, previously served as executive assistant to Condoleezza Rice, national security adviser to President Bush. Smith moves on to the Senior Service College under the Advanced Operational Studies Fellowship.

■ Lt. Col. Anthony K. Chambers replaced Lt. Col. Charles F. Maskell as commander of the 181st Transportation Battalion of the 7th Corps Support Group, 3rd Corps Support Command, during a ceremony at Turley Barracks in Mannheim on June 9.

Chambers, who has been in the military for 19 years, was previously assigned as the Combined Task Force-7th Corps transportation officer in Baghdad and the V Corps transportation officer in Heidelberg, Germany. Maskell's next assignment is at U.S. Army Europe headquarters in Heidelberg.

■ Lt. Col. Kathryn R. Hall took command of the 208th Finance Battalion, 266th Finance Command, in a ceremony at Mannheim's Spinelli Barracks on June 9, replacing Lt. Col. Mary Brooke Myers.

Hall, a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, was previously deputy commander of the 266th Finance Command in Schwetzingen, Germany. Myers' next assignment is in the Pentagon.

■ Lt. Col. Thomas C. Beane Jr. is the new commander of the 510th Personnel Services Battalion, headquartered at Sullivan Barracks in Mannheim. Until June, he was assigned to the Army staff at the Pentagon, where he served as the administrative executive for the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for training.

■ In another ceremony, scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday in Hangar 1035 at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, Lt. Col. Kyle D. Campbell will replace Lt. Col. Patrick D. Sargent as head of the 421st Medical Evacuation Battalion.

Campbell's previous assignment was deputy chief of staff with the Europe Regional Medical Command. Sargent will attend the Army War College in Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

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Laborer (Flex)

IN ITALY
Circulation District Manager, Vicenza/Aviano
Circulation District Manager, Naples

Büdingen officials tied about 150 yellow ribbons to trees last week on news that an advance team of 1st Cavalry Regiment troops was returning to its home base after more than a year away. Leading the effort was Manfred Hix, the deputy mayor, and Claudia Trupp, a local tourism official.

KEVIN DOUGHERTY
Stars and Stripes

Welcome home all wrapped up

German town hangs yellow ribbons for Cavalry's return

BY KEVIN DOUGHERTY
Stars and Stripes

BÜDINGEN, Germany — When word started to spread last week that a small advance team of 1st Cavalry Regiment troops was leaving Iraq for the friendly confines of Armstrong Barracks, Claudia Trupp knew it was knot time.

So Trupp, a German who works in Büdingen, drove out of her way that day to buy more than 1,600 feet of yellow ribbon, and then spent the night with four other volunteers making bows for the Joes heading home. By noon the next day, about 150 ribbons adorned parts of downtown Büdingen, from trees to an old castle gate.

The U.S. soldiers stationed in Büdingen "are a part of city life," said Manfred Hix, the deputy mayor.

Ties run deep between this city of 9,000 people and the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment of the 1st Armored Division. About 2,000 Americans live in the community, according to Wolfgang Niebling, a 414th Base Support Battalion spokesman.

German officials, residents and shopkeepers go out of their way to make their American guests feel at home. In return, Americans are heavily involved in community activities, and have been for nearly 60 years.

Two years ago, when a flood threatened the old city center and its historic walls and gate, about 50 U.S. soldiers volunteered in the dead of night to help local crews fill sandbags and stem the rising water. They succeeded, and were later lauded by the mayor for their efforts.

The yellow ribbons that went up last Thursday "are a sign of the true friendship we have here" with the Americans, Hix said this week over a cup of coffee in the city center.

Yellow ribbons have become synonymous in the United States with hope, loyalty and a safe return, something Hix and Trupp are well aware of.

The idea to dress up Büdingen arose this past winter, they said, so when Lt. Col. Amy Ehmann, the commander of the 414th Base Support Battalion, informed city officials that an advance team would soon return from Iraq to pave the way for the rest of the squadron, Trupp went ribbon shopping.

"While we were putting them up," Trupp said, "some Americans stopped by to express their support."

For security purposes, Army officials are being cautious about what they say about returning troops. The expectation is that most, if not all, of the 1st Cavalry — as well as the 1st Armored Division — will be home by late July or early August.

"Can't wait for the boys to come home," Pvt. Jeremy Wolf said Monday.

"Yeah," added Pvt. Christopher Welch, who was standing nearby, "we're really looking forward to it. Hopefully, everything will be back to normal."

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They like Mike

STEPHEN P. WEAVER/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Oscar-winning actor and producer Michael Douglas poses for a picture with sailors from Patrol Squadron 26 in their Sigonella hangar Saturday afternoon. Douglas visited Naval Air Station Sigonella to meet with base personnel before appearing at the Taormina Film Festival in the nearby Sicilian town. Douglas signed autographs and spoke to many base reisdents. The squadron is deployed to Sigonella from Brunswick, Maine.

MRE menu continues evolving in 2005

New items debut on Capitol Hill to mixed reviews

BY LISA BURGESS
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — As they design the combat rations that will keep U.S. troops fueled and moving in the field, the specialists at the Defense Department's Combat Feeding Directorate sometimes look for meals that provide emotional nourishment, as well as physical.

With its echoes of Thanksgiving meals with family and friends, "stuffing," said Kathy-Lynn Evangelos, an executive assistant in the feeding directorate, "is comfort food."

The stuffing, with its chunks of sausage and fresh herbs, was the hit of the day Thursday, when directorate staff traveled from the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., to Capitol Hill to give civilians a taste of the latest in troop combat chow.

Pending troop approval, cornbread stuffing may make a 2006 appearance in Meals, Ready to Eat.

Natick food technicians were kept busy dishing up more than a dozen other entrees, ranging from cheesy ham and potatoes to beef burgundy. Some are destined for the field as soon as 2005, while others, such as the stuffing, are still waiting for a thumbs-up from troops who will test them this summer.

Natick is continuing a push to improve combat rations that began after Operation Desert Storm, when MREs were so bad "the best way to eat them was wearing goggles and with a bad head cold," according to Gerald Darsch, head of the combat feeding group.

Since 1993, more than 150 new items have been improved for inclusions in the meals, and menus are reviewed and reformulated on a yearly basis, Darsch said.

Troops also have more variety to choose from: 24 different MRE menus, instead of 12.

SEE MRE ON PAGE 8

Expanded MRE offerings

The Meal, Ready-to-Eat is used by all the services to sustain individuals during operations that preclude organized food service facilities. The following is a list of new MRE meals.

MENU 1
Grilled beefsteak with mushroom gravy and western-style beans
Jam
Cracker
Candy
Steak sauce
Dairy shake
Red pepper
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 2
BBQ pork rib
New England clam chowder
Cookie
Cheddar cheese
2 wheat snack bread
Electrolyte drink
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 3
Beef ravioli
Fruit, wet pack
Fudge brownie
Cheddar cheese
Veg.-flavored cracker
Chocolate-fortified drink
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 4
Cheese and veg. omelet
Hash browns with bacon
Toaster pastry
Jam
Cracker
Candy
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet C

MENU 5
Chicken breast fillet
Minestrone stew
Pound cake
Jalapeno cheese
Wheat snack bread
Candy
French vanilla coffee
Jalapeno ketchup
Spoon
Accessory packet B

MENU 6
Chicken fajita
Yellow and wild rice pilaf
Nut and raisin mix
Cheddar cheese
Tortilla
French vanilla coffee
Seasoning blend
Spoon
Accessory packet C

MENU 7
Chicken with salsa
Mexican rice
Shortbread cookie
Jalapeno cheese
Veg.-flavored cracker
Candy
Mocha-flavored coffee
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet B

MENU 8
Hamburger patty
Mexican-style macaroni and cheese
Nacho-filled pretzels
Bacon cheese
2 wheat snack bread
Cured beef snacks
BBQ sauce
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet B

MENU 9
Beef stew
Chocolate sports bar
Peanut butter
Cracker
Dairy shake
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 10
Chili with macaroni
Cookie
Jalapeno cheese
Wheat snack bread
Candy
Cocoa
Red pepper
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 11
Penne with veg. sausage in spicy tomato sauce
Dried fruit
Pound cake
Peanut butter
Cracker
Electrolyte drink
Seasoning blend
Spoon
Accessory packet C

MENU 12
Veggie burger in BBQ sauce (vegetarian)
Dried fruit
Cinnamon scone
Potato sticks
2 wheat snack bread
Chocolate-fortified drink
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet B

MENU 13
Cheese tortellini (vegetarian)
Spiced apples
Pound cake
Peanut butter
Cracker
Candy
Seasoning blend
Spoon
Accessory packet C

MENU 14
Vegetable manicotti
Fruit, wet pack
Pound cake
Peanut butter
Cracker
Ranger bar
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet B

MENU 15
Beef enchiladas
Refried beans
Cookie
Jalapeno cheese
Veg.-flavored cracker
Picante sauce
Chocolate-fortified drink
Red pepper
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 16
Chicken w/ noodles
Fruit, wet pack
Pretzels
Cheddar cheese
Cracker
Candy
Cocoa
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 17
Sloppy Joe filling
Baked snack cracker
Cheese
Shortbread cookie
Jalapeno cheese
2 wheat snack bread
Electrolyte drink
Hot Sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 18
Cajun rice with sausage
Cheddar-filled pretzels
Peanut butter
Cracker
Nuts
Chocolate-fortified drink
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 19
Pot roast with vegetables
Dried fruit
Cookie
Peanut butter
Cracker
Cocoa
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 20
Spaghetti with meat sauce
Blueberry-cherry cobbler
Cheddar cheese
Wheat snack bread
Electrolyte drink
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 21
Chicken tetrazzini
Cookies
Jelly
Cracker
Dairy shake
Seasoning blend
Spoon
Accessory packet C

MENU 22
Jambalaya
Pound cake
Jam
Wheat snack bread
Dairy shake
Hot sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 23
Chicken with cavatelli
Fig bar
Pound cake
Bacon cheese
Wheat snack bread
Carbohydrate-fortified drink
Hot Sauce
Spoon
Accessory packet A

MENU 24
Meatloaf with gravy
Mashed potatoes
Vanilla wafer cookie
Jelly
Cracker
Candy
Cocoa
Red pepper
Spoon
Accessory packet B

Source: DOD Combat Feeding Natick Soldier Center

PETER PHOTIKOE/Stars and Stripes

2005 MREs

What's new

■ Penne with spicy tomato sauce; sloppy Joe filling; chicken fajitas; cheese omelets with vegetables; tortillas; and hash browns with bacon

■ Smoke House almonds; Ranger bar; Cheese Nips; raisins, white chocolate/raspberry cookies; cinnamon scones; and blueberry-cherry cobbler

■ Carbohydrate-fortified beverage mix; carbohydrate-electrolyte beverage mix; jalapeno ketchup; and steak sauce

What's better

■ The texture of many foods, thanks to better processing methods. Rice stays separate and isn't mushy; beef chunks are grained and chewy, like normal steak, instead of that "mystery meat" quality.

■ More interesting seasoning. Many new entrees have clearly visible herbs, such as the oregano in tomato sauce, while others offer more sophisticated flavors, such as fire-roasted red peppers.

■ Condiments are also more varied — not just salt or Tabasco sauce. New meals also offer red pepper, spicy ketchup and seasoning blends.

What still needs work

■ Keeping the taste and texture of cheese in meals prepared with it. "Cheese doesn't do well," even with the improved MRE processing methods, according to Janice Rosado, a physical scientist at the Combat Feeding Directorate.

■ High cooking temperatures also prevent pasta from being offered "al dente," or chewy, although it isn't as mushy as it used to be, according to troop feedback.

Sources: Department of Defense Combat Feeding Directorate at the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center, Natick, Mass.; interviews with military and civilian taste testers.

LISA BURGESS/Stars and Stripes

A new energy gel, similar to the gels first popular among runners, is one of the Combat Feeding Directorate's nutraceuticals. High in carbohydrates, which provide immediate fuel for the body, the gel will be included in the First Strike combat rations due to be fielded in 2008.

Instant energy in a gel, gum

BY LISA BURGESS
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Defense Department's Combat Feeding Directorate is experimenting with ways to deliver instant energy to deployed troops — nutraceuticals.

A hybrid of the words "nutrition" and "pharmaceuticals," nutraceuticals are defined as any extract, from plant or animal material, that has health-related benefits beyond those obtained by normal nutritional means, according to the National Institutes of Health

In the future, the U.S. Army Soldier Systems Center in Natick, Mass., might field a pill that a soldier would pop "instead of a turkey dinner," or a patch that would stay on a soldier's skin for days, all the time delivering microdoses of highly concentrated nutrients, Combat Feeding leader Gerald Darsch said in a Thursday interview on Capitol Hill.

But for now, Natick has turned to the commercial world to produce its first two nutraceuticals: an energy gel similar to the ones popular among runners and a caffeinated chewing gum.

The gel, which actually has the consistency of a light cake frosting rather than sticky syrup, is high in carbohydrates and glucose, which provide immediate fuel for the body. Packaged in a lightweight pouch, the gel can be consumed on the move, Darsch said.

The energy gel will be included in the First Strike combat rations due to be fielded in 2008, and depending on its popularity, may be considered for inclusion in regular MREs or as a supplemental item, Darsch said.

SEE ENERGY ON PAGE 9

Scientist searches for remains of Vietnam GIs

BY MARGIE MASON
The Associated Press

KHONG TROI MOUNTAIN, Vietnam

For the past 12 years, C. Elliott Moore II has camped in mosquito-, leech- and snake-infested sites across Southeast Asia, searching for a sliver of bone, a tooth, a dog tag — anything left of U.S. soldiers still missing nearly 30 years after the Vietnam War.

A forensic anthropologist with the military's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, Moore decides where to dig and for how long in conditions plagued by erosion, scavenging and even bone-eating acidic soil.

For the 1,800 American families who long for answers and a small piece of their loved ones to bury, he is often the last hope.

"Vietnam was the war of my generation. So many paid the ultimate sacrifice to come over here and wage war for American policy of that time and, of course, it wasn't a very happy ending," says Moore, 53, smoking a Marlboro while perched on a thick root overlooking an excavation site.

"This is just one way I can pay my dues."

With a high draft number, Moore volunteered to fight in Vietnam in 1968. But he was turned down when doctors realized he had only 10 percent of his hearing — his deafness the result of experimental antibiotics used to treat pneumonia as a baby.

The son of a doctor and a nurse, Moore yearned to do medical work. But he was rejected by medical schools, and forensic anthropology became the answer.

AP

C. Elliott Moore II, an anthropologist for the U.S. military, has spent more than a decade searching Southeast Asia for a sliver of bone, a tooth, a dog tag — anything left of U.S. soldiers still missing after the Vietnam War. Moore had himself tried to volunteer for the fight but was turned down because of significant hearing loss. Rejected by medical schools as well, Moore found the answer as a forensic anthropologist.

In 1992, after earning his doctorate, Moore joined the Hawaii-based team, which sends men and women from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines in search of remains from as far back as World War II. Anything recovered is sent to Oahu where experts, including Moore, work to match DNA to lost soldiers.

"He's something of a legend to everyone," says Sardiaa Plaud, a civilian at the lab. "Everywhere you go, people know him."

All of the easily accessible Vietnam War sites have been picked clean, yielding more than 700 identified sets of remains since 1973.

The remaining locations are daunting. Some are situated on 65-degree inclines that require searchers to strap themselves to trees and form bucket brigades, passing soil to be sifted through metal screens in search of bone fragments.

The site on the Laotian border in central Vietnam is at 1,800 feet, so high the villagers call it "Khong Troi," or mountain with no clouds. Accessible mainly by helicopter, it's just off old Route 10, which once served as a North Vietnamese supply line.

Moore rattles off the history of the site, where two men in a twin-engine Cessna were shot down during a reconnaissance mission in 1968. Human remains have been recovered here, but the team of Americans and Vietnamese will not leave until the 120-by-120 foot area is fully excavated.

"They always give the tough sites to Hoss," said Army Capt. Octave "Mac" MacDonald, the recovery team's leader from Baton Rouge, La., referring to Moore by his nickname.

"I think that's pretty much because he's the best."

At 6-foot-4 and 270 pounds, Moore, of Stilwell, Kan., is a source of curiosity.

With his can of Copenhagen snuff, Cambodian scarf and wide-brimmed straw hat, one U.S. team member described him as a cross between Indiana Jones and the Marlboro Man.

He's worked hard to cultivate strong bonds with residents, who often recognize him in the remotest places, calling out a friendly "Hoss!" or "Doc Moore!"

"To get along with your counterparts, no matter which culture you're in, you break bread with 'em, drink their whiskey and eat their food," he says, laughing. "I've eaten about every kind of critter they have in this country."

He admits the months away from his wife, Ginny, their three children and six grandchildren aren't easy — especially since he's lucky to get home twice a year.

Moore says he gets immense satisfaction from helping return lost soldiers to their families, and he says his work also sends a message to soldiers in Iraq: No matter what happens, someone will bring them home.

MRE: Capitol Hill staffers uninspired after sampling expanded offerings

MRE, FROM PAGE 8

A larger selection is important for morale, First Sgt. Colin Rich, a combat veteran with the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment out of Fort Bragg.

"Variety is the spice of life," Rich, who attended the tasting session, told Stars and Stripes.

Variety is especially critical for the minority of troops who have to eat MREs for weeks, and occasionally months, on end: Darsch said he's heard from a one-star general deployed to Iraq who together with his troops ate "nothing but MREs, three times a day, for 118 days straight."

"I think that may be a record," he said.

Told that many servicemembers eat MREs for weeks at a time, Richard Hoar, a 22-year-old staffer on the House Committee for Education in the Workforce, looked startled.

"I feel bad for them," he said after eating his first military rations. "It's pretty bland."

Then he looked impressed.

"More power to them," Hoar said.

A fellow staffer on the education committee, 23-year-old Donald McIntosh, said the spread was uninspiring.

"It looked good when I first saw it, but everything tastes the same, honestly," said McIntosh of his first encounter with MREs.

"But I ate it all, if that says anything," McIntosh said.

"Tabasco helped," he said — a discovery made by countless chowhounds before him.

E-mail Lisa Burgess at: burgessl@stripes.osd.mil

Energy: Caffeine gum to deliver coffee jolt to servicemembers

ENERGY, FROM PAGE 8

The Marine Corps asked Natick to provide samples of the gel for Marines to try while deployed to Afghanistan and have been so impressed that service leaders "have now committed to buy" it in bulk, Darsch said. Funding has yet to be secured, however.

The second is Stay Alert Caffeine Gum, a cinnamon-flavored chew that delivers 100 milligrams of caffeine per piece — roughly equivalent to a cup of brewed coffee, which ranges from 80 to 135 mg.

Stay Alert is produced by Amurol Confections, which introduced a 50-milligram-per-stick gum in 1998.

Commercial versions of caffeine gum are readily available, but most offer considerably less punch. Jolt gum has 40 mg of caffeine, or less than half of Stay Alert, while Black Black, a Japanese brand, has just 10 mg of caffeine per stick.

Stay Alert is so powerful that package directions warn against chewing more than three pieces in three hours, or 10 sticks per day.

Like the energy gel, the five-stick packs of Stay Alert will be included in the First Strike combat rations.

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Construction not slowing Ramstein traffic

Necessity keeps airfield operating during upgrades

BY MARNI MCENTEE
Stars and Stripes

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — Ramstein's airfield management team is engaged in a high-speed balancing act.

Its airmen must juggle air operations at one of the busiest bases in the Air Force while helping coordinate work schedules and safety standards for dozens of construction projects around the airfield.

Neither mission can wait. At least 90 flights take off or land at Ramstein daily, carrying troops and cargo from Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Africa, as well as ill and injured patients from the war zones and around Europe.

All this air traffic has to work around a $400 million construction project to prepare the base to take over airlift operations from Rhein-Main Air Base in December 2005.

"We're sustaining a high operations tempo while building a brand-new airlift base underneath our feet," said Lt. Col. Clifford Puckett, commander of the 435th Operations Support Squadron.

"Ideally, we would shut the base down for 18 months. But, unfortunately, our nation's airlift needs are such that we can't take it offline," Puckett said.

A trip around the airfield Tuesday gave a snapshot of how complicated it can be to get it all done. The 13 members of the squadron's Airfield Management Team are helping manage more than 40 concurrent construction projects on the airfield, said Senior Master Sgt. Arturo Jayme, chief of the team.

All water, communications and fuel lines are being replaced. Two runways will be built along with several taxiways, two parking ramps and a state-of-the-art aircraft navigation system.

"Our airfield construction is by far the largest and most complex project taking place in the Air Force," Jayme said.

To make matters worse, up to three of the team's members are deployed at any one time, said Master Sgt. Keith Taylor, deputy chief of airfield management, who just returned from Iraq.

The ops tempo isn't expected to slow down in the near future. In fact, some construction may be extended to night shifts this summer to keep the project on schedule, Jayme said.

And contractors are supposed to finish the airfield's new runway so it can be used by January. If not, the current runway may have to be shut down earlier to allow for emergency repairs.

"I don't see 2004 being any quieter than 2003," Puckett said.

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MARNI MCENTEE/Stars and Stripes

A C-130 comes into view as its pilot practices a touch-and-go landing near a construction project Tuesday at Ramstein Air Base, Germany. Base airfield management airmen are keeping air traffic at full volume while the base undergoes massive construction to get ready for the transition from Rhein-Main Air Base to Ramstein next year.

Hard work not unnoticed

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — The Air Force has named Ramstein's Airfield Management team the best in the service for 2003, according to a news release.

Part of the 435th Operations Support Squadron, the team was lauded for managing more than 40 airfield construction projects while ensuring that the base continued its busy strategic airlift mission.

The Air Force also named Senior Master Sgt. Arturo Jayme, chief of airfield management, as the Airfield Management senior noncommissioned officer of the year.

Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Stackhouse was named the team's Terminal Instrument Procedures Specialist of the Year.

— Marni McEntee

U.S., Russian sailors spend time on each other's ships

BY JASON CHUDY
Stars and Stripes

When Senior Chief Petty Officer William Bridgeforth joined the military 19 years ago, the Russian navy was the enemy.

Last week, it was his host.

Bridgeforth and Petty Officer 3rd Class Darrell Crawford of the cruiser USS San Jacinto recently spent the day aboard the Russian frigate Neustrashimy during exercise Baltic Operations 2004.

"It felt different to be up close and personal with, and talking to, someone that you had been trained and sworn to defend against," Bridgeforth said in an e-mail response to questions.

The San Jacinto and the Neustrashimy were working together in the just-finished BALTOPS exercise, which included more than 5,000 military personnel aboard 38 ships from 13 countries.

Part of the exercise included what officials called "cross-pollenization" of sailors between ships.

Cmdr. Dan Bates, the exercise public affairs officer, said that they "cross-pollenized" two or three sailors between the different ships.

"It allows sailors to learn from each other and also see how others live and operate," he wrote in an e-mail. "They compare notes on common operations like engineering and bridge watches."

Crawford and Bridgeforth were selected by San Jacinto to visit the Neustrashimy.

"The biggest difference in the two ships was the technology used," wrote Crawford. "For the most part it seemed that the Russians were more dependent on mechanical equipment, where we are more dependent on electronic equipment.

"Other areas, such as their flight deck and weapons systems, seemed to be about the same as ours, [but] with slight variations on procedures."

Neustrashimy is the Russian equivalent of a U.S. Navy frigate, having similar displacement — how ships are "weighed" — at about 4,000 tons and a crew size of about 215. San Jacinto displaces about twice Neustrashimy's weight and has a crew of about 365.

Sailors on both ships, Crawford said, share similar long working hours and spend their limited time off playing cards, watching movies or catching up on sleep.

Living and dining conditions for the Russian officers — their tour guides during their 10 hours aboard — were similar to those on San Jacinto.

"The food was very good," said Crawford, who's been stationed on two ships during his four years in the Navy. "Lunch consisted of an appetizer plate of beets, carrot salad and small pieces of herring, followed by cabbage soup. For the main course we had potatoes and sausage."

"It was good [but] somewhat of an acquired taste," said Bridgeforth. "I would say the potato and cabbage soup was great."

"One thing I did find out was that they do not have Internet or e-mail access like most U.S. ships do now," said Crawford, a Granite Falls, N.C., native. "It's the small things like that, [which] we take for granted, that they have never had."

The day after the visit by Crawford and Bridgeforth a few Russian sailors visited the U.S. ship.

"I would have to agree with a comment made by [Russian navy journalist], Capt. [Konstantin] Sobora," said Crawford. "It's not about the ships, it's about meeting new people and learning about them and their culture."

Bridgeforth agreed, saying a visit like this is helping to thaw the remains of Cold War tensions.

"I think they felt the same way because this is something (the Cold War) that we had no control over," said Bridgeforth, who grew up in Detroit.

"But now, views and ideas have changed. I am glad that I may have had some small part in that, maybe just through a firm handshake and a smile."

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ERIC BROWN/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Senior Chief Petty Officer William Bridgeforth of USS San Jacinto looks at a fireplug and other firefighting equipment on the Russian frigate Neustrashimy June 9. Bridgeforth spent the day aboard Neustrashimy during exercise Baltic Operations 2004.

Vietnam to allow U.S. to search for missing GIs

The Associated Press

HONOLULU — The Vietnamese government has agreed to grant U.S. investigators access to the country's national archives in their efforts to account for American soldiers missing in action from the war in Southeast Asia, the Defense Department said.

Archivists from both countries will have access to government records with permission to pursue leads wherever the information may take them, the Defense Department said in a news release posted last week on its Web site.

The senior U.S. official that oversees policy for POW/MIA accounting announced the agreement, among others, after three days of talks last week with high level Vietnamese officials.

"I'm very pleased at the outcome of our discussions here," said Jerry D. Jennings, deputy assistant secretary of defense for POW/MIA affairs. "This commitment from the highest levels of the Vietnamese government offers us the opportunity to achieve significant results."About 1,800 servicemembers remain missing from the Vietnam War, according to the military's Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command.

IN THE STATES

Wal-Mart suit now class-action

BY DAVID KRAVETS
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal judge on Tuesday approved class-action status for a sex-discrimination lawsuit against Wal-Mart Stores Inc. that has become the largest private civil rights case in U.S. history.

It could represent as many as 1.6 million current and former female employees of the retailing giant.

The suit alleges Wal-Mart created a system that frequently pays its female workers less than their male counterparts for comparable jobs and bypasses women for key promotions.

Wal-Mart, the largest private employer in the United States and the world's biggest retailer, sought to limit the scope of the lawsuit that was filed three years ago.

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Mona Williams told The Associated Press earlier Tuesday that the Bentonville, Ark.-based company will appeal and is confident that it does not discriminate against women employees.

No trial date was set.

U.S. District Judge Martin Jenkins took nine months to decide whether to expand the lawsuit to include virtually all women who work or have worked at Wal-Mart's 3,500 stories nationwide since 1998. His ruling makes the lawsuit the largest class action in the United States.

In morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange, Wal-Mart shares were down $1.02, or nearly 2 percent, at $53.91.

The ruling is pivotal because it gives lawyers for the women tremendous leverage as they pursue punitive damages, back pay and other compensation.

"I think it's a terrific victory for the women who work at Wal-Mart who have labored for years under working conditions where they have been told repeatedly they have been unsuitable for management and not suitable to make as much as men," said Joseph Sellers, one of the attorneys representing the women.

AP

Betty Dukes, right, poses with fellow plaintiffs, from right, Patricia Surgenson, Stephanie Odle and Christine Kwapnoski, in September. A federal judge on Tuesday approved a class-action sex-discrimination lawsuit against Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

Betty Dukes, one of the women spearheading the suit, said she was paid just $8.44 per hour during her first nine years working at a variety of positions at Wal-Mart's store in Pittsburg, Calif., while several men holding similar jobs but less seniority earned $9 per hour.

Williams said the ruling has nothing to do with the merits of the case.

"Judge Jenkins is simply saying he thinks it meets the legal requirements necessary to move forward as a class action," Williams said.

In a hearing last September, company attorneys urged Jenkins to allow so-called mini-class action lawsuits targeting each outlet.

Wal-Mart contends its stores operate with so much autonomy that they are like independent businesses with different management styles that affect the way women are paid and promoted.

Jenkins ruled that a 1964 congressional act passed during the civil rights movement prohibits sex discrimination and that giant corporations are not immune.

Senate OKs fine boost

WASHINGTON — In the latest effort to curb indecency over the airwaves, the Senate on Tuesday overwhelmingly approved raising the maximum fines for broadcasters and personalities who cross the line.

Under the measure passed by a 99-1 vote, the maximum fine for both broadcasters and entertainers would increase to up to $275,000 per indecent incident, up from $27,500 for license holders and $11,000 for personalities, for a maximum fine of $3 million a day.

The House passed a similar bill calling for $500,000 fines, and differences between the two must be worked out.

Nader's running mate

WASHINGTON — Presidential candidate Ralph Nader tapped longtime Green Party activist Peter Camejo to be his running mate, a move certain to boost the independent's chances of winning the Green Party's endorsement this week.

An investment adviser from Folsom, Calif., Camejo had been one of two leading contenders for the Green Party's presidential nomination this year. But he is little-known outside California.

From The Associated Press

Reader's Digest

Reader's Digest wants to find out which military service is the funniest.

The monthly magazine is celebrating the 50th anniversary of its "Humor in Uniform" column by running a contest to find the most humorous true anecdotes from military life. Active-duty, Reserve and retired servicemembers and their families can participate.

Entries must be submitted to www.rd.com/starsstripes by June 30. They also can be mailed to: "The Funniest Branch of the Military Contest," Reader's Digest, P.O. Box 1598, Newburgh, NY 12550.

Entries must include the entrant's full name, e-mail address and street address. Anecdotes should be no more than 100 words, true, original and related to the armed services.

The magazine's editors will select finalists from each service to appear in the September edition. Readers will then be asked to log on to www.rd.com to choose their favorite, and their votes will determine the winner.

The winner will receive an all-expense-paid trip for two to St. Kitts Marriott & Royal Beach Casino in the Caribbean. The other four finalists will receive $500. Those whose anecdotes are selected for publication in future "Humor in Uniform" columns will receive $300.

Conn. politics in play after governor quits

The Associated Press

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Once a GOP rising star, Gov. John G. Rowland is stepping down amid swirling corruption allegations, giving both Republicans and Democrats hope that they can somehow emerge stronger from the long-brewing scandal.

In a short speech Monday that barely touched on his legal difficulties, Rowland said he would leave office next week. He becomes the first U.S. governor in seven years to resign under pressure.

Rowland

Democrats hope Rowland's resignation will give them a better chance to reclaim the governor's office in 2006, while Republicans hope Rowland's departure came soon enough to give the party a chance to rebuild.

Lt. Gov. M. Jodi Rell, a Republican, will be elevated to governor when Rowland's resignation takes effect at noon on July 1.

But she hasn't said if she would seek the office in her own right when it's up for election in 2006.

State and federal authorities have been investigating allegations that Rowland took gifts and favors from friends, state contractors and state employees in exchange for political influence, an accusation the governor has denied. A special House committee also had been considering whether to recommend Rowland's impeachment.

On Tuesday, Rowland's attorneys continued their fight to block the testimony of former legal aide Ann George, who has been subpoenaed to appear before the federal grand jury investigating the governor.

Rowland, citing attorney-client privilege, argues that she cannot be forced to testify. But federal prosecutors argue that George worked for the office of the governor, not Rowland himself.

A three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals heard arguments in the dispute Tuesday in a closed session in New York.

With a Republican governor leaving amid turmoil, Democrats hope to reclaim the office they haven't held since the tenure of Gov. William A. O'Neill, who served from 1980 to 1991.

Three Democrats have already formally announced bids for governor in 2006: Stamford Mayor Dannel Malloy, New Haven Mayor John DeStefano Jr. and Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz.

State Dept. now says terror injuries up

BY BARRY SCHWEID
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Correcting an inaccurate report, the State Department announced Tuesday that acts of terror worldwide increased slightly last year and the number of people wounded rose dramatically.

The department also reported a decline in the number of people killed — to 625 from 725 during 2002. But in April, the department reported 307 people had been killed last year — a much bigger decline.

"The numbers were off," Secretary of State Colin Powell said, and "we have identified how we have to do this in the future." He also said the initial report was not designed "to make our efforts look better or worse."

The findings had been used by senior Bush administration officials to bolster President Bush's claim of success in countering terrorism.

Initially, 190 acts of terror were reported in 2003, a slight decrease from the 198 attacks reported for 2002. On Tuesday, the State Department said there were 208 acts of terror last year, a slight increase from 2002.

Thirty-five U.S. citizens died in international terror attacks last year. The deadliest incident was a suicide bombing in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in May in which nine Americans were killed.

The report did not include U.S. troops killed or wounded in Iraq, or the incidents there, in its report "because they were directed at combatants." Attacks against civilians and unarmed military personnel were included.

A total of 3,646 people were wounded worldwide in terror attacks last year, the report said. This represented a sharp increase from the 2,013 wounded in 2002.

In April, the department had said that 1,593 people were wounded in 2003, a sharp decline from the previous year.

The initial report was issued April 28. On June 10, the State Department acknowledged the findings were inaccurate. Powell attributed the errors partly to a new data system and said there was no attempt to manipulate the figures to buttress Bush's argument.

When the report was issued, senior administration officials claimed that it showed Bush's counter-terror campaign was a success.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the report was based "on the facts as we had them at the time. The facts that we had were wrong."

The April report said attacks had declined last year to 190, down from 198 in 2002 and 346 in 2001. The 2003 figure would have been the lowest level in 34 years and a 45 percent drop since 2001, Bush's first year as president. The department is now working to determine the correct figures.

Spaceship designer sees no rush to get paying customers

BY JOHN ANTCZAK
The Associated Press

MOJAVE, Calif. — The chubby-looking, stubby-winged aircraft that cracked the commercial space flight barrier this week may have made a great leap forward in aviation history, but the man who designed it believes we are still a long way from regular space tourism.

SpaceShipOne, designed by aviation pioneer Burt Rutan, soared to 328,491 feet above Earth on Monday, just a little more than 400 feet above the distance scientists widely consider to be the boundary of space. The flight lasted 90 minutes.

However, Rutan said there was a serious malfunction in part of the system that fine-tunes the flight controls. He said that will have to be fixed before the craft flies again.

Pilot Mike Melvill, who has set world records for altitude and speed and logged more than 6,400 hours of flight time in fixed-wing aircraft and seven helicopters, said the experience "blew me away."

"It was really an awesome sight," he said of gazing down at the Earth's curvature from 62 miles above, of seeing the planet in all its various colors and gazing at the California coastline from Los Angeles to San Diego.

"It was like nothing I'd ever seen before," he said.

"You really do get the feeling that you've touched the face of God when you do something like this," the 63-year-old pilot added.

His flight led to immediate speculation that the well-heeled would pay plenty for the experience. But Rutan said he has doubts space tourism will be feasible anytime soon.

SpaceShipOne was designed by one of two dozen teams trying to win the $10 million Ansari X Prize, which will go to the first that can launch a three-seat spacecraft to an altitude of 62 miles twice in 14 days. SpaceShipOne's effort is bankrolled by billionaire Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen, who is spending more than $20 million.

The three-seat requirement demonstrates the capacity for paying customers; the quick turnaround between flights demonstrates reusability and reliability.

But for a commercial venture to be successful, Rutan said he believes a spacecraft would need at least six seats.

AP

SpaceShipOne pilot Mike Melvill celebrates atop the craft at the Mojave, Calif., airport Monday following his trip to suborbital space. The privately developed rocket plane is the world's first commercial manned space vehicle and the first nongovernmental flight to leave the Earth's atmosphere.

AP

Mel Novilla of Brooklyn, N.Y., receives a wristband that will allow him to have his copy of Bill Clinton's "My Life" signed by the former president at a Barnes & Noble bookstore in New York on Tuesday. Fans lined up outside bookshops from Arkansas to New York to snap up copies of the former president's autobiography.

Fans line up for Clinton's book

BY SARA KUGLER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Eager for a few seconds of face time with their idol, hundreds of Bill Clinton's fans crowded along several city blocks Tuesday near a Manhattan bookstore where he was scheduled to sign copies of his new memoir, "My Life."

"Bill Clinton is a rock star," said Lynne Roberts, 37, who set up camp Monday night, nearly 15 hours before the signing was to begin. "He is our cultural icon and we miss him now more than ever, given everything that's going on in the world."

The Rockefeller Center Barnes & Noble planned to give out more than 1,000 wristbands that would allow customers to purchase several copies, but only one autographed by the former president, who was to arrive at 12:30 p.m.

Although fans were told there would be no time to talk to Clinton, Dana Scinto of Stamford, Conn., said she would try to convey a message anyway.

"I want to thank him for eight fun years where he didn't insult my intelligence or rule by fear like our current president," said Scinto, 39, as she waited on 48th Street, a short distance from the Fifth Avenue store entrance.

By 7:15 a.m., the line extended up and around Sixth Avenue and halfway down 49th Street.

Those who spent the night on the concrete said an atmosphere of camaraderie helped speed the waiting. Roberts said she played gin rummy with her boyfriend and read a newspaper before swaddling herself in a sleeping bag for a few hours' nap.

Clinton also was scheduled to sign books Tuesday night at Hue-Man bookstore in Harlem, where he has an office.

Bookstores in New York, Washington and Little Rock, Ark., stayed open late Monday night for buyers who wanted to snap up their copies right at midnight.

The Books-A-Million store in North Little Rock, Ark., staged a party with trivia contests that drew about 80 people. Those who attended also could sign up for a later drawing giving them an opportunity to have their book signed by Clinton.

Although initial reviews have called the book self-serving and dull, Garry Caldwell, 54, of Sherwood, Ark., said he wanted to read "My Life" to better understand Clinton's political legacy.

"I believe in listening to both sides of the argument and making up my own mind," he said. "I think he was a good president — I think he could have been one of the best presidents except for the scandals."

Alfred A. Knopf has given the memoirs a first printing of 1.5 million. Mary Ellen Keating, a spokeswoman for Barnes & Noble, said she expected the book to be the best-selling presidential memoir in the company's history.

To promote the book, Clinton has served as keynote speaker at BookExpo America, the publishing industry's annual national convention, and been interviewed by "60 Minutes," Time magazine and the British Broadcasting Corp., among others. Over the next month, he will visit independent booksellers, chain superstores, black-owned stores such as Hue-Man, and price clubs such as Costco.

Critics and Clinton's political opponents have not been kind to the book. Rush Limbaugh has said the book should be called "My Lie." The New York Times' Michiko Kakutani, in a front-page review Sunday, called it "sloppy, self-indulgent and often eye-crossingly dull."

Home exercise rooms focusing on yoga

BY LORI JOHNSTON
The Associated Press

STATHAM, Ga. — Mats, mirrored walls and gurgling fountains are replacing iron weights, bulky cardio equipment and loud televisions in some home exercise rooms as yoga enters the picture as a mainstream fitness option.

Some homeowners are requesting yoga rooms while others are getting the idea from show homes such as the Southern Living Idea House in the gated Georgia Club community near the University of Georgia and high-end home tours in other cities around the nation.

Atlanta interior designer Elizabeth Hutcheson said that some of her clients, especially older homeowners who can no longer do hardcore cardiovascular exercise because of the stress on their knees and joints, have requested yoga rooms in their homes — new and old.

More people are practicing yoga, and some are using private consultants so they can do chanting, deep breathing and poses like downward-facing dog in the "privacy of their own homes," said Hutcheson, a principal in H&L Design Group, which decorated the Southern Living Idea House.

The yoga room in that house, which opened for public tours this month, is outfitted with yoga mats and equipment provided by Hugger Mugger, a Colorado-based yoga products company, as well as a balance bar, mirrors, laminated wood flooring and a breezy ceiling fan.

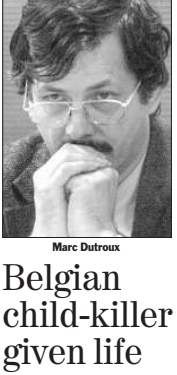
Rial Jones, a custom home builder in Orlando, Fla., said that young buyers and homeowners moving to the area from the West Coast as well as South American and Asian countries are asking for rooms to practice yoga and meditate.

"In these houses where we're doing game rooms and theater rooms and exercise rooms, even though they're large houses with many rooms, there's quite often not a place that's sort of away from the main activity center of the house," he said. "This provides a room that is away from all the high activity and noise of the house set aside with a nice view."

AP

Anne-Michelle Langlois, right, and fellow designer Elizabeth Hutchenson try out the yoga room of 2004 Southern Living Idea House located in Athens, Ga. The room includes a variety of workout tools.

IN THE WORLD



Marc Dutroux

Belgian child-killer given life sentence

BY ALEXANDER RATZ
The Associated Press

ARLON, Belgium — Belgium's most reviled criminal, Marc Dutroux, was sentenced Tuesday to life in prison for a spate of child kidnappings, rapes and murders that horrified the nation and drew international notoriety.

In verdicts broadcast live on national television, Judge Stephane Goux said he hoped the sentencing would offer Dutroux's victims a sense of closure.

"I hope your future will be better now, and that you move on," Goux said after reading a 50-page decision of more than 200 counts against Dutroux and three co-defendants, which listed the torture and sexual acts committed against minors.

Dutroux, 47, was convicted last week of abducting, imprisoning and raping six girls. He also was found guilty of murdering two of the girls, 17-year-old An Marchal and 19-year-old Eefje Lambrecks, as well as an accomplice, Bernard Weinstein. Two other girls starved to death while being held in a hidden dungeon in his basement.

Dutroux was handed a life sentence with no chance of parole because of "the danger he represents to society, Goux said.

His ex-wife, Michelle Martin, was sentenced to 30 years in prison. She was held responsible for the deaths of the two 8-year-olds, who starved to death while Dutroux was serving a short jail sentence for car theft. Martin testified she was too afraid to enter the basement to feed them.

An accomplice, Michel Lelievre, was sentenced to 25 years behind bars. He was convicted of complicity in the kidnappings and other charges.

The final co-defendant, Michel Nihoul, received a 5-year term for his part in a gang that smuggled drugs and people into Belgium.

The sentencing ended a 3½-month trial in a case that haunted Belgium for nearly a decade.

Russians chase Chechen rebels who killed at least 57 in attack

BY YURI BAGROV
The Associated Press

CHERMEN, Russia — Thousands of troops poured into a southern Russian city Tuesday, chasing Chechen rebels who set fire to police and government buildings in coordinated attacks that killed at least 57 people, officials said.

The dead included 47 law enforcement officers or officials, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported, citing Beslan Khamkoyev, acting interior minister of the republic of Ingushetia. A U.N. humanitarian worker was among the dead, authorities said.

Three high-ranking regional officials also were among the dead.

The attacks underscored the Russian military's failure to defeat separatists in neighboring Chechnya after five years of fighting, and raised new fears of spreading violence in southern Russia.

Many Chechen fighters trained and fought with the Taliban and al-Qaida in Afghanistan. Russia says many Arabs and other foreigners fight side-by-side with the Chechen rebels.

The Chechen militants also are said to receive support from al-Qaida and have strong contacts with the Wahhabi Muslim sect of Saudi Arabia, birthplace of al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden. The deeply fundamental beliefs of Wahhabism are believed to be bin Laden's spiritual foundation.

Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered authorities "to find and destroy" the militants, whose raid came amid preparations for an August election to replace Kremlin-backed Chechen President Akhmad Kadyrov, killed last month in a bombing. Kadyrov's death was seen as a significant blow to Putin's efforts to bring some stability to Chechnya, devastated by two wars since the 1990s.

"Those who can be caught must be taken alive and brought to trial," Putin told a Kremlin meeting of police and security officials in remarks on state television.

Shortly before midnight Monday, about 100 fighters armed with grenades and rocket launchers seized the regional Interior Ministry in Nazran, the largest city in Ingushetia, and attacked border guard posts there. They also attacked posts in the villages of Karabulak and Yandare, near the border with Chechnya, regional emergency officials said.

Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev told Putin that 15 officers from the Ingush Interior Ministry's central building defended it for nearly six hours in a bid to keep rebels from entering the jail cells and freeing captives, Interfax reported.

AP

People look at burned-out jeeps at Nazran, Ingushetia, on Tuesday. Thousands of federal troops streamed into the southern Russian city on Tuesday in pursuit of suspected Chechen rebels who set fire to police and government buildings killing at least 48 people.

Iran may release British sailors

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran said Tuesday it could release eight British sailors accused of illegally entering Iran's territorial waters depending on the interrogations, stepping back from earlier statements that they would be prosecuted.

"If the outcome of the interrogations of the British military men shows that they had no bad intention, they will be released soon," said Gen. Ali Reza Afshar, according to the official Islamic Republic News Agency.

The comments by Afshar, an Iranian Armed Forces spokesman, suggested a softening of Iran's position on the fate of the eight sailors, who were detained Monday in the Shatt-al-Arab as they were delivering a patrol boat for the new Iraqi Riverine Patrol Service.

The Shatt-al-Arab, known as the Arvand River in Iran, runs along the Iran-Iraq border.

Earlier Tuesday, Al-Alam TV said the sailors would be prosecuted "for illegally entering Iranian territorial waters."

In their television statements Tuesday night, the two British servicemen said they had entered Iranian waters by mistake. The broadcast, on Arabic language Al-Alam television, also showed the three British military patrol boats and weapons it said had been confiscated from the sailors.

"My name is Sergeant Thomas Harkins from the British Royal Marines. I do apologize for entering Iranian territorial waters," the one said on Al-Alam.

Source: British Ministry of Defence AP

A British government official did not dispute Harkins's name and rank.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw phoned his Iranian counterpart Kamal Kharrazi to ask for the release of the sailors, who were earlier shown on Iranian television blindfolded and seated cross-legged on the ground.

The Foreign Office said it had summoned Iranian Ambassador Morteza Sarmadi to demand an explanation of why the sailors were arrested on a "routine mission" in the Shatt-al-Arab waterway.

The waterway, Iraq's main link with the Persian Gulf that divides Iran and Iraq, has long been a source of tension between the neighbors.

The British Defense Ministry said the sailors may have inadvertently strayed into Iranian waters.

6 arrested in Bahrain

MANAMA, Bahrain — Authorities arrested six Bahrainis in pre-dawn raids Tuesday, alleging they have ties to al-Qaida, a defense lawyer said.

The official Bahrain News Agency confirmed six arrests, but said only that they were made "to prevent them from committing dangerous acts that threaten property and people."

The raids were carried out early Tuesday, when the men were taken from their homes, said Abdulla Hashim, a lawyer representing five of the suspects.

"My clients were picked up early this morning, and I believe they have no links to al-Qaida," Hashim said.

Brothers Yaser Kamal, 27, who owns a used car dealership, and Omar Abdulla Mohamed Kamal, 18, were among those arrested.

The four others detained were identified by attorney Hashim as Bassam Bukhuwa, Bassam al-Ali, Moheddin Khan and Ali Khan.

Bukhuwa, al-Ali and Moheddin Khan had been detained in February 2003 in a weapons case but were released.

From The Associated Press

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Electricity policy necessary

The June 16 article, "In Kuwait, Army enforces ban on electronic items," failed to acknowledge the extremely high risk that tent fires pose to personnel and equipment.

Electrical overloads from electronic items are responsible for nearly all tent fires. Depending on the type of tent, fire will destroy it in 40 seconds to two minutes.

Through an aggressive and proactive tent-fire prevention program, we have achieved a 96 percent reduction in tent fires in 2004 as compared to 2003.

Programs such as the one reported on at Camp Spearhead are responsible for this significant improvement. Our intent is to strike a balance between safety and quality of life, but where risk outweighs the benefit, we must accept some inconvenience.

The safety of personnel is of paramount importance to the command and efforts to prevent needless loss of life and injury will continue to be a priority.

Lt. Col. Stephen H. Hadley
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

Deserters should be punished

I am writing this letter in regards to "Soldiers have rights, too" (June 17) in which the author stated his belief that it is perfectly acceptable for soldiers to "stand up for what they believe in" even to include refusing the call of duty to fight in a war based on principles which they do not support.

According to his letter, these acts of desertion are not cowardly, and also should not be subject to harsh consequences.

Indeed, this is an all-volunteer service. Each soldier volunteers to make a commitment to serve his or her country and support the decisions of our government.

We have all raised our right hands and vowed to defend our country. Nobody is forced to take the oath and sign the dotted line. However, in doing so we show that we believe in those words and that we are aware of the reality of war.

The author was correct in pointing out that our country was formed by individuals who stood up for what they believed in. Those who led the American Revolution believed in a country where the citizens are given the freedom to make decisions for themselves. That includes the decision of whether or not to serve in the military.

There is no doubt that individuals who have chosen to desert our country in this time of need should be punished. They have not only discredited themselves, but also have broken a commitment to their fellow soldiers and the United States of America with their actions.

We are all adults who have made the conscious decision to enlist in the military. If along the way we realize that we are no longer compelled to serve, we are all given the option to not re-enlist.

Very few soldiers genuinely want to be deployed. We all miss the comforts of home and our families. But what would happen if all of us just decided we didn't agree with the war and refused to fight?

Fortunately the majority of those who enlist realize what they are getting into and have a profound respect for the nation they have sworn to defend.

After being deployed for 14 months and observing the quality of life of most Iraqis, I have developed a new appreciation for all the freedoms I enjoy as a U.S. citizen. Our government believes that by fighting in this war, we will ultimately preserve these freedoms and make America a safer place for those who live there.

Every soldier should take the time to review the Soldier's Creed and remember just what they signed up for.

We are fortunate to live in a country where we can make our own choices. If you make the choice to join the military service, it is your duty to fulfill your commitment and trust the decisions made by our government.

As American soldiers, we have made a promise to stand up for what we believe in by putting the needs of our country before our own. Refusing the call of duty is wrong no matter the circumstances, and it should be punished to the full extent.

Spc. Ashley L. Rentsch
Camp Arlington, Kuwait

Stay safe this summer

Now that school is out and there are children running all over housing areas throughout Europe, I would like to remind people of three things.

1. There are now kids running all over housing, to each others houses, and to the parks and playgrounds. Please drive the speed limit, or slower, and expect the unexpected, especially from the younger ones.

2. Parents, please remind your children that there are people who sleep early in the evening, or during the day, and they do not need to hear your children scream at the top of their lungs. There are two girls on my block who scream constantly, every day, and it honestly sounds like they are being hurt, but they are just seeing how loudly they can scream until 10:00 p.m. when they are finally taken inside. They keep me and several of my neighbors awake all the time.

3. Treat people the way you expect to be treated, and expect to be treated the way you treat others, whether on the road, in the stores, in base service facilities, or wherever you may find yourself interacting with others. Teach your children by example so that they will be considerate of others as well.

Thank you for giving me this opportunity to share my views, and have a happy and safe summer.

Deanna Rosario
Ramstein, Germany

Political parties are lacking

At the Hanau Post Exchange recently, I was subjected to the "Late Show with David Letterman" on several monitors.

I didn't watch, but I could not help but hear. Letterman was interviewing the bimbo of the day who spoke fluent bumper-sticker.

"This year, we will elect a president instead of having one appointed for us," she proclaimed smugly.

"We need a change," she continued.

Of course, the trained seals in the audience kept slapping their flippers together. If she had thrown them a fish, they might have done a number of tricks.

On the one hand, I envy both them and the unknown celeb. How simple life must be when one is so easy to please.

Yes, I know there are good reasons to vote against our current commander in chief, but no one — as yet — has given me a single good reason to vote for John Kerry.

I guess, I am too demanding.

If I can't vote for someone, my vote stays where it is. I don't want change, I demand improvement. (I, too, can speak bumper-sticker).

If Ms. Bubblehead of the Letterman show seeks only change, let her go out on her lawn and eat grass.

Meanwhile, I search for a candidate who has a history of integrity, ethics and who doesn't have to rely on huge donations from very shady sources.

Neither major party seems able to provide such a nominee.

Mark L. Williams
Giessen, Germany

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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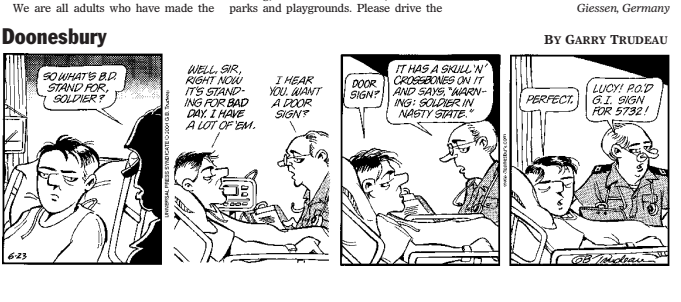
Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



OPINION

Clinton's quip on why communicates clearly

BY ELLIS HENICAN
Newsday

Among all the explanations that guys have given over the years, this one could very well be the greatest of them all.

"Just because I could," Bill Clinton said of his sweaty Oval Office encounters with the eager intern Monica Lewinsky.

Write that down to remember another day.

Really, it's perfect Clinton. Perfect perfect, too.

Simple. Straightforward. And who wouldn't believe an explanation like that? Again, Bill Clinton, who taught us so much about getting into trouble, teaches us also how to respond to that trouble, no matter how sticky the trouble is. He's the president who keeps on giving to his country, three-plus years into Chappaqua-time! The Monica explanation, delivered to Dan Rather for "60 Minutes" as part of Clinton's book-promotion campaign, has several things going for it, not the least of which is that it almost certainly is the truth. Part of the truth, anyway.

No, it wasn't just the eye-popping sexiness of the nubile Lewinsky physique packed inside a thong.

Clinton hooked up with her because she was willing and because she was there. And honestly, how many opportunities for cheap, casual frolicking does a married president really have? It's not like he can freely trawl the singles bars of Georgetown without somebody noticing him.

Ah, sipping on a strawberry margarita …

Tossing off clever opening lines …

Isn't that the president? "Hi-ya, Sweetheart. How 'bout you and me go jump up and down on Abraham Lincoln's bed!" Even Clinton didn't use that kind of maneuver, not so anyone has been yet able to prove.

At last, "just because I could" throws a big, wet blanket over the relentless anti-Clinton hit squads, which seem not to have missed a trigger-pull lately. And did you notice how Clinton wrapped his explanation in the bright floral paper of earnest-sounding self-criticism and some professed rejection of the easy way out? His simple explanation, Clinton said, is "the worst possible reason … I think that's just about the most morally indefensible reason that anybody could have for doing anything. There are lots of sophisticated explanations, more-complicated psychological explanations, but none of them are an excuse."

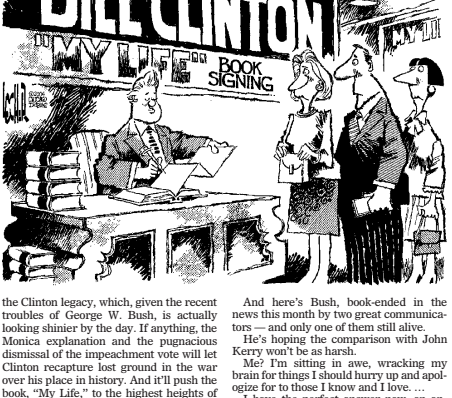
So there.

Beat yourself before your opponents start to beat you. A little self-flagellation goes a very long way.

People who know the Clintons on a more personal basis than I do have always said that, back in Arkansas, Hillary was pretty steamed about his famously frisky libido. But when they moved to Washington, D.C., and the fortress-fishbowl that is the White House, she figured, "Hey, how much trouble could he get himself into around here?"

Obviously, Hillary didn't adequately account for the intern pool.

None of this talk will do any damage to



the Clinton legacy, which, given the recent troubles of George W. Bush, is actually looking shinier by the day. If anything, the Monica explanation and the pugnacious dismissal of the impeachment vote will let Clinton recapture lost ground in the war over his place in history. And it'll push the book, "My Life," to the highest heights of the best-seller lists.

The publisher, Alfred A. Knopf, has ordered 1.5 million for the first printing alone.

And here's Bush, book-ended in the news this month by two great communicators — and only one of them still alive.

He's hoping the comparison with John Kerry won't be as harsh.

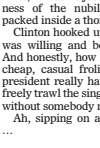
Me? I'm sitting in awe, wracking my brain for things I should hurry up and apologize for to those I know and I love. …

I have the perfect answer now, an answer I learned from a master of self-made trouble, getting in and getting out.

You know why I did it, whatever it was? "I did it just because I could."

Al-Qaida, Saddam linked — in hatred of America

John C. Bersia



The latest conclusions from the 9/11 commission — that Saddam Hussein and Osama bin Laden never developed a cozy relationship and that the United States essentially was unprepared for the 2001 attacks — strike me as stunning in only one way: their obviousness.

Saddam and bin Laden were destined, by the very nature of the transnational, revolutionary, ideological forces driving their respective camps, to clash. Even at times when the idea of teaming up against a common enemy such as the United States may have tempted them, it was unlikely that any long-term, meaningful, trusting, cooperative bond would have emerged.

Saddam had set his sights on leading the Arab world, inspired partly by his Baath Party's vision of cultural unity and partly by his ego — a path that led to invading Kuwait in 1990. Some analysts have argued that Saddam, after failing to anticipate the overwhelmingly negative global response to Kuwait's subjugation, accepted and even relished the impending battle with the U.S.-led coalition — despite the prospect of certain defeat.

Perhaps Saddam hoped to follow in the footsteps of one of his heroes, former President Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, who elevated his own stature in the Arab world by confronting Israel. Even in the advent of defeat, Saddam stood a chance of reaching mythical status among the frustrated and dispossessed of the region. Indeed, despite the war's disastrous results for Iraq, Saddam's star steadily rose during the 1990s, as he continued to defy the United States and its allies.

Thus Saddam had no need for a strategic alliance with al-Qaida or any other organization that might seriously have competed for influence. It is no secret that bin Laden and his cohorts aspire to extend their control over the Middle East, North Africa and parts of Europe and Central Asia. That result would represent merely the beginning of al-Qaida's insidious plot to undermine the concept of civilization that most people embrace.

Saddam also knew that bin Laden despised everything about him. He probably had about as much faith in al-Qaida's overtures as European countries had recently when they rejected bin Laden's purported proposal of a trade — a moratorium on attacks in Europe if the nations of that region would withdraw from their military operations in the Middle East.

At the same time, it makes sense that Saddam's minions would have interacted with their al-Qaida counterparts. Saddam's regime maintained contact with a number of terrorist groups — and provided assistance and safe haven to some of them — to advance his broad objective of disrupting adversaries. …

Of course, al-Qaida succeeded in harming the United States in ways that Saddam had only imagined. Consequently, the group's attractiveness increased to some of the same frustrated and dispossessed people that Saddam once courted.

Before the U.S.-led intervention in Iraq, al-Qaida saw the value and seized the opportunity of dispatching operatives to Iraq.

More joined them in the confusion of the conflict and its aftermath, and Iraq quickly became a center in the war against terrorism — a position it did not previously hold.

That development, combined with the fierce resistance of Saddam loyalists and others opposed to the intervention, has confounded U.S. officials. And they struggle for new strategies to deal with the rapidly changing realities, just as they did on Sept. 11.

That the nation's leaders appeared to operate in a fog after the 9/11 attacks stemmed as much from the lack of historical preparedness against terrorism as it did from shock, confusion, poor communication and uneven coordination. … From the beginning of the current wave of global terrorism, which dates from the 1970s, one U.S. president after another failed to mount a coordinated, sustained, hard-hitting, global campaign of diplomatic, economic, clandestine and military initiatives against terrorists. …

Those who believe that the Bush administration has exaggerated the war against terrorism delude themselves. The threat is frighteningly and dangerously real, from the battlegrounds of Iraq to the streets of America.

John C. Bersia is an Orlando (Fla.) Sentinel columnist.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY

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YOUR MONEY

Use debit cards cautiously

By Jeremy Kirk
Stars and Stripes

YONGSAN GARRISON, South Korea — As Community Bank customers receive their new debit cards, consumer advocates warn that the increased convenience comes with increased risks.

If someone takes your card and manages to get in your account, federal law limits financial liability. But if you voluntarily give your personal identification number to someone, that individual could legally be considered your agent, opening you up for greater financial liability, bank officials said.

But that's an extreme case. Debit cards, however, do expose consumers to a higher level of liability than regular credit cards. Liability rules were included in a pamphlet sent with the Community Bank debit cards:

■ If you inform Community Bank within two days of a loss or theft, you are liable for no more than $50.

■ If you do not inform the bank, and the bank can show that they could have stopped someone from using the card without your permission, you can lose up to $500.

■ If transfers appear on a statement that you did not authorize, the bank should be informed immediately. If written notice is not received within 60 days after the statement was mailed, you may not get back any of the money you lost after that 60-day period.

According to Public Interest Research Groups, a consumer watchdog that tracks banking issues, many banks have pledged to limit liability to $50 or less. Massachusetts has a law for this limit, but other states may not.

There is no charge for replacing a lost card, said Gary Morgan, Community Bank's Pacific theater manager. Similar to other banks, a $1.50 fee will be charged if the debit card is used at an ATM other than Community Bank's. But there are limits on daily account activity using a debit card.

When cards are used without inputting a PIN, it is called an offline transaction. For the Community Bank Visa debit card, the daily limit for offline transactions is $309, which may be a combination of ATM withdrawals — one that is currently not functioning but allowing withdrawals on good faith — or purchases, Morgan said.

So, it's possible to go to the post exchange with a debit card, select the credit button and the sign for the transaction. Even though it is not a credit card, the transaction will become an offline debit transaction.

For banks, that type of transaction is the most profitable, according to Public Interest Research Groups. Banks receive a percentage fee of up to 2 percent of every offline transaction amount. For PIN-based online transactions, banks get a flat fee between 7.5 to 10 cents, according to the group's Web site.

For online transactions — those requiring a PIN — the daily limit is $2009, with purchases limited to $1,500 and automated teller machine withdrawals limited to $509, according to the Community Bank Web site.

Consumers can use the cards on the Internet or off-base in the countries where they live as long as Visa is accepted, Morgan said. The bank that handles the particular merchant's transactions will determine the exchange rate, he said.

Though it may sound like common sense, here's an additional reminder: Don't give out the pin number for the new Community Bank check card you receive in the mail.

While check cards — also known as debit cards — are generally more secure than credit cards because a PIN usually must be inputted when a purchase is made, it's just as risky if someone else knows your number, Morgan said.

"The PIN number should never leave their lips — even to a friend," Morgan said.

Don't write the pin on the back of the card, either, he said.

Consumers throughout South Korea, Japan and Okinawa have started receiving their check cards courtesy of Community Bank. The Defense Department recently renegotiated its contract with Bank of America, and part of that contract includes provisions for debit cards and other features such as online banking.

E-mail Jeremy Kirk at: kirkj@pstripes.osd.mil

MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week High	52-week Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
10,753.63	8,871.20	Dow Jones Industrials	10,371.47	-44.94	-.43	-.79	+14.11
3,090.07	2,352.87	Dow Jones Transportation	3,065.24	-3.43	-.11	+1.94	+28.00
283.52	229.46	Dow Jones Utilities	278.13	+1.63	+.59	+4.21	+10.60
6,798.12	5,430.77	NYSE Composite	6,545.16	-21.42	-.33	+1.63	+17.95
1,278.81	938.73	Amex Index	1,224.60	+5.00	+.41	+4.35	+27.47
2,153.83	1,598.25	Nasdaq Composite	1,974.38	-12.35	-.62	-1.45	+22.58
1,163.23	960.84	S&P 500	1,130.30	-4.72	-.42	+1.65	+15.14
618.46	473.90	S&P MidCap	593.29	-1.59	-.27	+3.00	+24.55
606.42	437.20	Russell 2000	568.74	-1.80	-.32	+2.12	+29.43
11,371.14	9,227.46	DJ Wilshire 5000	10,990.87	-43.27	-.39	+1.77	+17.30

NYSE MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NortelN If	397010	4.54	+.10
Lucent	258067	3.52	+.05
GenElec	220779	32.60	+.02
Wachovia	176862	45.02	-1.50
Motorola	169654	17.54	+.20
AMD	153811	14.10	-.79
TexInst	125406	23.00	-.18
Pfizer	106724	35.30	-.23
HewlettP	96103	20.79	-.13
ExxonMbl	94061	44.73	-.25

AMEX MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
NasdI100Tr	642874	36.15	-.29
SPDR	228027	113.20	-.43
SemiHTr	136784	35.72	-.16
iShJapan	46874	10.30	+.08
DJIA Diam	40979	103.81	-.38
iShR2000	29015	113.37	-.45
SP Fncl	27088	28.43	+.06
WheelR g	24439	2.84	-.01
SP Util	24022	23.70	+.16
BemaGold	21714	2.68	+.01

NASDAQ MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Microsoft	1108463	28.35	...
Intel	634339	3.80	-.13
Cisco	475391	22.87	-.55
Intel	419038	27.52	-.12
Oracle	371643	11.15	+.01
Sandisk	271494	39.37	+4.57
TASER s	229328	38.45	+4.68
SunMicr	215243	4.09	+.01
ApldMatl	161713	18.03	-.11
Dellinc	130226	34.62	-.19

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Alliant Techsystem	...	15	62.85	-.80	+8.6
Armor Holdings	...	54	34.40	+.80	+31.0
Boeing	.80	22	46.50	-.39	+17.5
Computer Sciences	...	16	43.45	+.27	-1.8
Engineered Sup Sys	.07	26	56.07	+1.85	+5.5
General Dynamics	1.44	19	98.94	-.74	+9.5
General Electric	.80	22	32.60	+.02	+5.2
Halliburton	.50	...	29.81	-.22	+14.7
Harris Corp.	.40	33	47.30	-.51	+24.6
Allied Signal	.75	24	36.26	-.28	+8.5
L-3 Communications	.40	22	63.75	-.01	+24.1
Lockheed Martin	.88	21	50.50	-.18	-1.8
NorthrpG	1.84	23	105.04	-1.07	+9.9
Raytheon	.80	37	34.73	-.37	+15.6
Rockwell Intl.	.56	20	35.02	-.38	-1.6
Sequa Corp.	...	43	57.00	+.77	+16.3
Texas Instruments	.05	28	23.00	-.18	-21.7
Textron Inc.	1.30	36	59.19	-.11	+3.7
United Technologies	1.40	18	88.70	-1.25	-6.4

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	NAV	Chg.	YTD %Ret.
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	36.18	-.17	+2.0
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	50.92	-.32	+1.7
Amer Century Inv: Ultra	25.96	-.13	+2.8
Fidelity Spartan: Eqidx	40.07	-.16	+2.4
Fidelity Invest: Adv GrStrat p	18.10	-.06	+2.8
Fidelity Invest: A Mgr	15.70	-.03	+.6
Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA	30.50	-.14	+.9
AIM Investments A: Const p	21.38	-.11	-.6
Fidelity Invest: GSB	28.68	+.07	+1.1
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	28.59	-.14	-.2
Fidelity Invest: Overse	31.48	-.14	+3.7
Fidelity Advisor T: EqInT	26.80	-.11	+3.9
Scudder Funds S: GroincS	20.58	-.12	+1.9
AIM Investments A: WeingA p	12.27	-.07	+1.6
Putnam Funds A: GlbEqty p	7.56	-.04	+3.3
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.25	-.04	+3.0
Merrill Lynch I: BalCap	26.74	-.06	+1.2
Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS	39.18	-.85	+2.0
Fidelity Advisor T: OverseaT	35.72	-.03	-.4
Lord Abbett A: DevGrA p	14.71	-.07	-1.9
Scudder Funds S: Income S	12.66	+.01	-.2
Merrill Lynch I: GlGrMRg	18.10	...	-.3
Scudder Funds S: Devel	17.92	-.10	-4.9
Putnam Funds A: GlGvA p	12.17	...	-1.0

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro	$1.2417
British pound	$1.88
Japanese yen (June 24)	106.00
S. Korean won (June 23)	1,186.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	$1.8305
Canada (Dollar)	1.3592
Denmark (Krone)	6.1428
Egypt (Pound)	6.18
EU	$1.2102
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7994
Hungary (Forint)	210.79
Iceland (Krona)	72.76
Israel (Shekel)	4.4944
Japan (Yen)	108.39
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	6.8764
Philippines (Peso)	56.24
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7500
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7177
S. Korea (Won)	1,158.20
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2498
Thailand (Baht)	40.95
Turkey (Lira)	1,692,537

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

PRECIOUS METALS

London close

Gold	$396.50
Silver	$5.89

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.00
Discount rate	2.00
Federal funds market rate	1.00
3-month bill	1.315
30-year bond	5.37

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America, Bloomberg.com

Sending e-mail straight to trash

Q. For 18 months I have e-mailed the White House. My question is this: If they don't like what you are saying, can they block you from sending e-mail to the White House? — Mel Pohl, Tamarac, Fla.

A. Just about everybody in business (and politics is business, too, Mr. P.) eventually encounters some customer, constituent and/or critic whose e-mails become bothersome, and, just as you suspect, there are ways of cutting off unwelcome messages.

I lack the kind of security clearances that would let me know whether the government can stop citizens from sending e-mail to the White House, but it's possible to route all incoming messages from a pesky voter directly into the trash bin.

If I decided your notes were cutting too close to the bone, I could create what is called a rule to order software like Microsoft Outlook or Outlook Express to deep-six every incoming message from anybody named Mel Pohl.

I could even order the software to reject all incoming notes from the Internet service provider that you use.

The White House, for example, could set up Outlook to monitor all incoming mail and send to the trash can everything sent from addresses ending in JohnKerry.org. The rules can even be drafted so that any given keywords such as "disagree with" anywhere in the message text will be enough to deep-six a message.

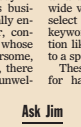
There is much more than ideology at stake here. It is not uncommon for an unhappy customer (or reader) to mail bomb somebody by sending them large numbers of messages to clutter their mailbox and thereby get attention.

Here's how to censor such stuff: In Outlook, click on Tools and then select Rules and Alerts.

Outlook Express uses a Message Rules choice instead. Either way you will find a set of wizards that will let you create a wide variety of commands that select e-mail by sender name, keywords, etc., and then take action like moving targeted notes to a specified folder.

These rules can be a godsend for harried e-mail users because they can be set to do things like automatically send all messages from valued customers or family members to a special folder, thus ensuring that important stuff never gets lost in a morass of spam.

Ask Jim



Jim Coates

Q. Hi, Jim. I work in Excel spreadsheets a lot. Is there a shortcut to changing the direction of the next cell where data is entered? Sometimes I need it to move laterally across the page and other times down for tabulating numbers.

Could the command be programmed into a function key maybe? — Michele Spader @garden.net

A. Hi yourself, Michele. I don't work with spreadsheets because that is in charge at the job and at home don't let me anywhere near the money, but I do play around with them a lot.

That's a wordy way to say your answer is simplicity itself: To move the cursor in Excel one cell to the right just hit the Tab key. To make it drop down to the cell below, use the Enter key. To back up from right to left, or from below to above, just hold down the Shift key while tapping Tab or Enter.

Contact Jim Coates via e-mail at: jcoates@tribune.com or via snail mail at the Chicago Tribune, Room 400, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago IL 60611. Questions can be answered only through this column. Add your point of view at: www.chicagotribune.com/askjim

Cents and Sensibility

Money tip of the day

Appraising jewelry

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — Before you bought a used car, you'd have it checked out by a mechanic. So, too, when you buy valuable jewelry, you should get it appraised first.

Appraisals should include: the estimated replacement value of the jewelry, a description of all characteristics of the piece, a list of gem treatments (that is, the use of oil, heat or other things to enhance the gem's appearance), a photograph of the gem, classification of the gem as natural or synthetic and the manufacturer, metal and karatage of the mounting.

You might print out a copy of the ACORD 78, an insurance-industry standard form for jewelry appraisals.

You can get it from **www.jcrs.com**.

EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms with gusty winds. Highs in the lower to mid 60s and lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Britain, Ireland: Cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon with gusty winds. Highs in the 60s and lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms and morning fog. Highs in the upper 70s to upper 80s and lows in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

France: Cloudy with rainshowers in the north and partly cloudy in the south. Highs in the 70s and lows in the mid 50s to mid 60s.

Northern Germany: Cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms with gusty winds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the mid 40s to mid 50s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid to upper 60s and lows in the upper 40s.

Hungary: Partly cloudy with morning thunderstorms. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 50s.

Northern Italy: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s and lows in the upper 50s to mid 60s.

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the 80s and lows in the lower to mid 60s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the 70s and lows in the upper 50s to lower 60s.

Norway: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 50s to lower 60s and lows in the upper 40s to lower 50s.

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the 60s.

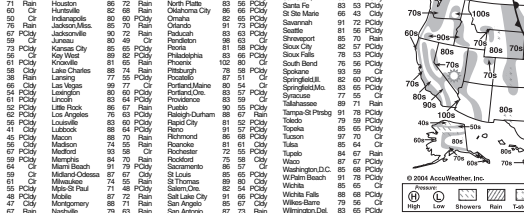
Turkey: Partly to mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the 60s.

For current weather watches, warnings, and 5-day forecasts go to the USAFE Operational Weather Squadron home page at ***https://ows.sembach.af.mil***

AFRICA

	Hi	LO		Hi	LO
Cape Town	64	46	Mogadishu	82	72
Dakar	82	73	Nairobi	70	54
Freetown	84	74	Rabat	80	63
Kinshasa	82	67	Tripoli	102	71

MIDEAST



THE WORLD

	Hi	LO		Hi	LO
Amsterdam	66	53	Manila	87	78
Bahrain	108	84	Mexico City	73	57
Beijing	88	67	Montreal	69	53
Beirut	80	70	Riyadh	109	84
Bermuda	83	75	Rio de. Jan	81	65
Caracas	81	65	Seoul	83	67
Helsinki	67	50	Sofia	77	56
Hong Kong	89	82	Sydney	65	47
Lisbon	79	63	Tokyo	82	71

SUN & MOON

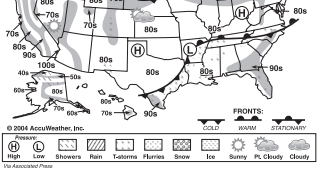
	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (London)	0336	0336
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	0517	0517
Sunset (London)	2024	2024
Sunset (Frankfurt)	2139	2139

New moon 06/17 | First qtr. 06/25 | Full moon 07/02 | Last qtr. 07/09

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

	Hi	Lo	Otlk
Abilene,Tex.	82	66	Cldy
Akron,Ohio	78	58	PCldy
Albany,N.Y.	79	74	Cr
Albuquerque	88	63	PCldy
Allentown,Pa.	81	59	Cr
Amarillo	87	66	PCldy
Anchorage	68	51	PCldy
Asheville	80	61	Rain
Atlanta	85	69	Rain
Atlantic City	81	64	PCldy
Austin	87	71	Rain
Baltimore	84	65	PCldy
Baton Rouge	86	71	Rain
Billings	83	53	PCldy
Birmingham	84	69	Rain
Bismarck	73	45	PCldy
Boise	94	63	Cr
Boston	84	63	Cr
Bridgeport	75	57	Cr
Brownsville	91	78	Rain
Buffalo	74	57	PCldy
Burlington,Vt.	76	52	Cr
Caribou,Maine	63	49	Rain
Casper	83	46	PCldy
Charleston,S.C.	90	75	PCldy
Charleston,W.Va.	84	59	PCldy
Charlotte,N.C.	86	67	Rain
Chattanooga	83	66	Rain
Cheyenne	77	52	Cr
Chicago	77	60	Cldy
Cincinnati	79	60	Cr
Cleveland	79	62	PCldy
Colorado Springs	81	52	PCldy
Columbia,S.C.	90	71	Rain
Columbus,Ga.	88	71	Rain
Columbus,Ohio	79	60	Cr
Concord,N.H.	84	50	Cr
Corpus Christi	87	76	Rain
Dallas-Ft Worth	85	67	PCldy
Dayton	77	59	Cr
Daytona Beach	92	73	PCldy
Denver	81	56	Cr
Des Moines	81	61	PCldy
Detroit	78	58	Cldy
Duluth	61	38	Rain
El Paso	86	66	Cldy
Elkins	75	54	PCldy
Erie	76	61	PCldy
Eugene	82	52	PCldy
Evansville	81	62	PCldy
Fairbanks	79	56	PCldy
Fargo	61	41	Cldy
Flagstaff	77	45	PCldy
Flint	77	56	Cldy
Fort Smith	84	67	PCldy
Fort Wayne	76	59	PCldy
Fresno	96	64	Cr
Goodland	87	59	Cr
Grand Junction	92	61	Cr
Grand Rapids	77	55	PCldy
Great Falls	82	48	PCldy
Green Bay	70	47	Cldy
Greensboro,N.C.	85	67	Rain
Harrisburg	81	62	Cr
Hartford Sgqfld	84	57	Cr
Helena	84	54	PCldy
Honolulu	84	75	Cr
Houston	86	72	Rain
Huntsville	82	68	Rain
Indianapolis	80	60	PCldy
Jackson,Miss.	85	70	Rain
Jacksonville	90	72	Rain
Juneau	60	49	Cr
Kansas City	85	65	PCldy
Key West	89	82	PCldy
Knoxville	81	65	Rain
Lake Charles	88	74	Rain
Lansing	77	55	PCldy
Las Vegas	99	77	Cr
Lexington	80	60	PCldy
Lincoln	83	64	PCldy
Little Rock	86	67	Rain
Los Angeles	76	63	PCldy
Louisville	83	63	PCldy
Lubbock	88	64	PCldy
Macon	88	70	Rain
Madison	74	55	Rain
Medford	93	58	Cr
Memphis	84	70	Rain
Miami Beach	91	79	PCldy
Midland-Odessa	87	67	PCldy
Milwaukee	74	55	Rain
Mpls-St Paul	71	48	PCldy
Mobile	87	72	Rain
Montgomery	88	71	Rain
Nashville	79	63	Rain
New Orleans	88	76	Rain
New York City	85	69	Cr
Newark	86	67	Cr
Norfolk,Va.	83	71	PCldy
North Platte	83	56	PCldy
Oklahoma City	86	69	PCldy
Omaha	82	65	PCldy
Orlando	91	73	PCldy
Paducah	83	63	PCldy
Pendleton	98	63	Cr
Peoria	81	58	PCldy
Philadelphia	83	66	PCldy
Phoenix	102	80	Cr
Pittsburgh	78	58	PCldy
Pocatello	87	51	Cr
Portland,Maine	80	54	Cr
Portland,Ore.	83	57	PCldy
Providence	83	59	Cr
Pueblo	90	55	PCldy
Raleigh-Durham	88	67	Rain
Rapid City	81	52	PCldy
Reno	91	57	PCldy
Richmond	86	68	PCldy
Roanoke	81	61	Cldy
Rochester	72	55	PCldy
Rockford	75	58	Cldy
Sacramento	88	57	Cr
St Louis	85	65	PCldy
St Thomas	89	80	Cldy
Salem,Ore.	83	54	PCldy
Salt Lake City	91	66	PCldy
San Angelo	85	67	Cldy
San Antonio	87	73	Rain
San Diego	69	64	Cldy
San Francisco	67	54	PCldy
San Jose	75	56	PCldy
San Juan,P.R.	89	78	Cldy
Santa Fe	83	53	PCldy
St Ste Marie	66	43	Cldy
Savannah	91	72	PCldy
Seattle	81	56	PCldy
Shreveport	85	70	Rain
Sioux City	82	57	PCldy
Sioux Falls	78	53	PCldy
South Bend	76	56	PCldy
Spokane	93	59	Cr
Springfield,Ill.	82	60	PCldy
Springfield,Mo.	83	65	PCldy
Syracuse	77	55	Cr
Tallahassee	89	71	Rain
Tampa-St Pbsbg	91	78	PCldy
Toledo	79	59	PCldy
Topeka	85	65	PCldy
Tucson	97	70	Cr
Tulsa	85	64	Cr
Tupelo	84	67	Rain
Waco	87	67	PCldy
Washington,D.C.	85	68	PCldy
W.Palm Beach	91	76	PCldy
Wichita	85	65	Cr
Wichita Falls	88	68	PCldy
Wilkes-Barre	79	56	Cr
Wilmington,Del.	83	65	PCldy
Yakima	98	54	Cr

THE UNITED STATES TODAY



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STARS AND STRIPES

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Marshmallow fine

FL MIAMI — A teacher's aide who forgot to put away her marshmallows and hot chocolate at Yellowstone National Park last year was taken from her cruise ship cabin in handcuffs and hauled before a judge, accused of failing to pay the year-old fine.

Hope Clarke, 32, crying and in leg shackles, told the judge she was rousted at 6:30 a.m. by federal agents after the ship returned to Miami from Mexico. She insisted that she had paid the $50 fine before she left Yellowstone, which has strict rules about food storage to prevent wildlife from eating human food.

U.S. Magistrate Judge John O'Sullivan, who had a copy of a citation indicating the fine had been paid, apologized to Clarke, who spent nearly nine hours in detention, and demanded that the U.S. attorney's office determine what went wrong.

Students to pay for prank

MA METHUEN — Ten students who broke into Methuen High School, released hundreds of crickets and scattered some dead fish can avoid criminal charges by apologizing, paying for the cleanup and working for the School Department.

Under an agreement approved by police, the students agreed to send letters to the principal, perform community service for the School Department and pay $300 each.

If completed by Sept. 1, the complaints of trespassing and injury to a school will be dismissed, said First Assistant Court Magistrate Maria Teresa Abascal.

But, at a hearing in Lawrence District Court, Abascal warned that if any one of the 10 does not comply or gets in any further trouble, all 10 will be charged.

In addition to leaving the crickets and fish in the school on May 19, police said the vandals drew lewd images, broke a jar of mayonnaise, scattered desks, discharged a fire extinguisher and urinated on a rug.

They were suspended for 10 days and banned from graduation ceremonies and senior-class activities.

Rescue copter suit

VA ROANOKE — The downdraft from a rescue helicopter forced a Lexington woman to the ground and broke her hip, according to a lawsuit filed on behalf of the woman's estate.

Ruby Graves, who died in 2003 at 84, was leaving Stonewall Jackson Hospital in July 2002 after an outpatient treatment when the helicopter passed overhead and its downdraft knocked her down, according to the lawsuit.

Graves' hip was broken in the fall, said Michael Cleary, the estate's attorney. The suit claims the injury was severe and permanent.

Cleary has named several defendants in the suit.

Protecting woods

NM ALBUQUERQUE — The city filed a condemnation lawsuit to protect 125 wooded acres around the Rio Grande from being developed as an upscale subdivision. City negotiations to buy the land failed May 20. The developer said he'd sell for $17.5 million, more than four times the city's offer.

Why not to mail cash

TX AMARILLO — A West Texas postal worker has been sentenced to seven months in federal prison for stealing cash from greeting cards.

U.S. District Judge Mary Lou Robinson sentenced Childress postal worker Mickey Wayne King in Amarillo's U.S. District Court on a charge of theft of mail matter by a postal employee.

King, who told inspectors he had been stealing mail for about two or three months, said he used the money to pay medical bills.

He admitted he stole about $900.

Judge couldn't connect

OR LA GRANDE — A prosecutor was briefly sent to jail along with the man he helped convict of manslaughter after the lawyer refused a judge's order to turn on his cell phone.

Union County District Attorney Martin Birnbaum was released after spending the evening in a La Grande cell about 40 feet away from the man he prosecuted.

Judge Phillip Mendiguren tried to reach Birnbaum with a jury question while the lawyer was on his lunch break, Undersheriff Dana Wright said. When Birnbaum returned to court, Mendiguren ordered him to keep his cell phone on. The prosecutor refused, and the judge cited him for contempt.

The prosecutor was to stay in jail through the weekend, but was able to return home just before midnight that Friday because of a state law that allows sheriffs to execute weekend releases early.

Great birthday gift

Emma Grady of Phoenix celebrates her 100th birthday by throwing out the ceremonial first pitch at the Arizona Diamondbacks-Tampa Bay Devil Rays game at Bank One Ballpark in Phoenix. Grady's son, Jim Grady, is at right.

Mayor's safety is costly

DC WASHINGTON — Police protecting Mayor Anthony A. Williams when he travels have charged more than $320,000 in expenses on government-issued credit cards, including bills for a Hawaii beachfront hotel, a Las Vegas nightclub and a posh New York City restaurant, it was reported.

Tony Bullock, spokesman for the mayor, said Williams' travels had helped bring business, jobs and investment to the nation's capital and that out-of-town security for the mayor was necessary.

"I don't think anyone would begrudge the costs of keeping the mayor safe," he said. "You don't send a sitting mayor into a strange city without security. It's not safe."

Out of the competition

NY COLONIE — A state trooper shot himself in the thigh and foot at a firing range in suburban Albany as he holstered his semiautomatic handgun, according to authorities.

Sgt. Jeffrey Carmichael, a training officer at the State Police Academy and 18-year veteran, was hurt during a shooting competition at the state's annual Police and Fire Games.

The weeklong event has more than 1,000 competitors from police and fire departments across the state.

State Police Lt. Glenn Miner said a routine investigation is being conducted, and a gun malfunction hasn't been ruled out.

Carmichael was taken to Albany Medical Center Hospital with the bullet still lodged in his foot.

Prison rap video

GA ATLANTA — A best-selling rapper filmed an unauthorized video at the Fulton County Jail while out on work release from another jail, embarrassed county officials said.

Part of a video was shot for rapper Clifford Harris, whose stage name is T.I., authorities said.

Harris was serving jail time in neighboring Cobb County on a probation violation when he received permission to leave the jail to make the tape at the Fulton jail, Cobb County Chief Deputy Sheriff Lynda Coker said.

A spokesman for Fulton County Sheriff Jackie Barrett said she had no idea a rap video was being filmed inside the 3,200-inmate jail. Deputies apparently allowed "four or five" men up to the seventh floor with a hand-held camcorder, Barrett said. Barrett said the deputies would be disciplined.

A splash of fun

Sarah Gordon-Macey, 2, splashes under the water rainbow in the Living Memorial Park water park in Brattleboro. Vt.

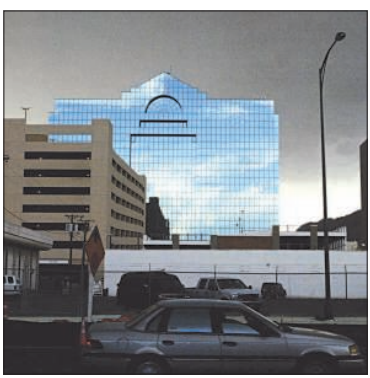
And the race is on

Driver Peter Hersey of Duxbury, Mass., foreground, and Bill Secrest of South Shore, Ky., drive a 1934 Ford Indy Racer through a thunderstorm on Interstate 10, between Jacksonville, Fla., and Tallahassee, Fla., in the first stage of the 2004 Great Race, a transcontinental rally race that began in Jacksonville and will conclude in Monterey, Calif., on July 4.

Jumping in to summer

From left, 10-year-olds Jacob Bagwell, Kimberly Aguillard, Kendra Hinnenkamp and Avery Chase, hustle for the finish at the Blast from the Past Summer History Camp at the West Baton Rouge Museum in Port Allen, La. Campers enjoyed several activites on the last day of camp.

Playing it cool Teri Shapiro, 43, of Ocala, Fla., gives her horse Lacey a cooling rinse at the James B. Hunt Horse Complex at the North Carolina state fairgrounds in Raleigh. They are attending the North Carolina Quarterhorse Youth Association Show.



Silver lining to every cloud The El Paso County Courthouse reflects sun and blue sky as a dark rain cloud blows over El Paso, Texas.

A fowl parade Sonja Jones of Key West, Fla., rides her bicycle down Duval Street with her pet chicken, Henry, during the ChickenFest Key West "Poultry in Motion" Parade. ChickenFest pays homage to the islands free-roaming poultry population.

All in the family Cousins, from left, Karlee Cahoon, 12, Mailei Jarman, 9, and Cassidy Jarmen, 11, zoom across Echo Lake in Bigfork, Mont. The children were visiting the area for the weekend with 39 of their relatives to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of their grandparents. The family is scattered throughout the northwest but has been vacationing in Montana for more than 30 years.

Maternity center needed

VA KILMARNOCK — A group of doctors and nurses wants a new birthing center to replace the region's only obstetrical unit, closed last year because of rising liability insurance. Family Maternity Center of the Northern Neck Inc., has until July 1 to file a certificate of public need with the state Department of Health for the proposed nonprofit facility.

Compensation sought

IA IOWA CITY — Hundreds of former nuclear weapons plant workers sickened from radiation are petitioning the government for easier access to benefit programs. The petition is designed to circumvent stalled investigations in many of the 1,041 claims filed by former workers at the Iowa Army Ammunition Plant in Middletown.

The complex made, tested and disassembled nuclear weapons from 1948 to 1975.

High-octane opening

KY HOPKINSVILLE — The Commonwealth Agri-Energy ethanol plant celebrated its grand opening. The farmer-owned company plans to convert more than 7 million bushels of corn into 20 million gallons of ethanol each year. The demand comes from cities where gasoline must be blended with oxygenate additives such as ethanol to curb emissions.

Good uses for bad ties

OH ORRVILLE — Fat and skinny, striped or plaid — Trinity United Methodist Church actually wanted neckties for Father's Day.

"We have ties that should have never been sold, much less worn," said Sharon Kowaleski, whose husband, David, pastors the church 21 miles west of Canton.

More than 500 ties were collected and at least 400 were stitched together to make altar cloths for Father's Day.

Kowaleski and church member Diane Painting cut the ties and sewed them to quilt backing, a material strong enough to bear the weight of the ties without tearing. The cloths are reinforced with dowels.

"Once we got the idea of what we wanted to do, the hardest part was starting out the color scheme," Painting said.

Zoo sets mood for gorilla

LA NEW ORLEANS — A gorilla sex video is getting regular play here. It's not the sort found easily on the Internet, but officials at the Audubon Zoo are hoping it'll inspire one of their gorillas into action.

Casey, 21, came to New Orleans two years ago on permanent loan from the Como Zoo in St. Paul, Minn.

The hope was that he would impregnate one or all of the Audubon Zoo's three female lowland gorillas — Binti and Fanya, both 28, and Binti's 8-year-old daughter, Praline.

Maloney got a tape of copulating gorillas from a camera used to monitor another zoo's gorilla area. It's played in the indoor cage where Casey spends his nights.

"He doesn't seem that interested at this point, but he likes watching television so he does watch it," Maloney said.

"Hopefully, he'll get some inspiration."

Jail: A family affair

TN McMINNVILLE — Lance E. Champion, 23, landed his entire family in jail.

He reportedly pulled in behind Deputy Lt. Stan Hillis across from the local jail and told Hillis he had violated the speed limit. By the end of their conversation, Champion was in custody charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and evading arrest.

Champion called his mother, Janice K. Champion, 48, who arrived with her 17-year-old son. The teen allegedly slapped the hand of a deputy who was gesturing for them to leave the area as Lance Champion's vehicle was about to be towed.

Janice Champion was then taken into custody, charged with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Officers say she was loud and refused to obey orders.

Her husband Hal Champion, 47, then arrived from church, was shot with a deputy's Taser and taken into custody on similar charges.

All were later freed on bond.

"This is a fine upstanding family," said the Champions' attorney Michael Galligan. "These deputies acted in a harmful and inappropriate manner. We feel their actions violated the law."

Sheriff Jackie Matheny is backing his men.

Taxi drivers seeing red

MA BOSTON — Boston taxi drivers are angry over a city proposal that they accept flat-fee $10 vouchers from delegates attending the Democratic National Convention. Drivers say the vouchers, combined with convention traffic and road closings, could mean they lose money going to and from Logan International Airport. Cab drivers and city officials were set to meet to discuss the proposal.

Accident with elk deadly

WA NORTH BEND — The guest of honor at a family Father's Day party was killed along with his wife and two relatives when their car hit an elk.

A fifth relative was critically injured after Jesus P. Reyna swerved to avoid hitting one elk but hit another on Interstate 90 about 40 miles east of Seattle, Lt. Colleen McIntyre said.

"The elk basically took the whole front end of the car and the windshield out and incapacitated the driver," McIntyre said.

The car then tumbled over a 60-foot embankment and landed upside down on a road below the freeway.

Killed were Reyna, 26; his wife, Josefina Alvarez, described by relatives as in her early 20s; his uncle, Rafael S. Gonzalez, 42, and Gonzalez's son, Enrique Gonzalez-Reyna, 19, all of Mabton.

Leonardo Gonzalez-Reyna, 20, another son of Gonzalez, was thrown from the car and listed in serious condition.

Only Reyna and his wife were wearing seat belts, investigators said.

The elk was killed.

Stories and photos from wire services

SMITHSONIAN/AP

With a magnifying glass, a viewer can make out individual blossoms on Mimi Hegler's "Hydrangeas," a 3-by-4-inch painting that is among 1,122 tiny artworks on view at the Third Exhibition of Fine Arts in Miniature at the Smithsonian Institution's Ripley Center International Gallery.

'Fine' art gets new meaning at Smithsonian

BY CARL HARTMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — It's not unusual to see art aficionados squint to see the details of a painting, but at this exhibit they have to squint just see some of the paintings.

With a magnifying glass, a viewer can make out individual blossoms on Mimi Hegler's "Hydrangeas," a 3-by-4-inch painting that is among 1,122 tiny artworks on view at the Smithsonian Institution's Ripley Center International Gallery.

A filigreed silver box, topped with a magnifying glass, contains the smallest works in the Third Exhibition of Fine Arts in Miniature: three ivory discs the size of shirt buttons, painted in watercolor. One depicts the Taj Mahal in Agra, India. Another portrays the Emperor Shah Jahan who ordered it built, and the third depicts his wife, Mumtaz Mahal, for whom it was built.

There are 516 artists from 16 countries represented at the show, which has pieces varying from landscapes, portraits, still life, watercolor, oil painting and prints to sculpture, enamels, porcelain and scrimshaw.

All are for sale at prices ranging from $100 to nearly $5,000.

Miniatures go back at least to medieval times, when artists painted pictures on the initial letters of sections in Bibles and other religious manuscripts. Before photography, miniature portraits were the way to keep the image of a significant other in a locket or pouch, or on a desk or dressing table.

John A. Thompson is president of the Miniature Painters, Sculptors and Gravers Society of Washington, which organized the show. He said it takes imagination, vision and knowledge to create miniature art works.

"Only surgery comes close to the virtuosity required of the miniature artist," he wrote in an introduction to the show.

Thompson, a retired Agriculture Department technician, has a piece in the show titled "On the C&O Canal, 1890." It's a miniature oil painting of how the Washington end of the Chesapeake and Ohio canal looked more than a century ago.

Liv Tyler expecting her first child

NEW YORK — Actress Liv Tyler is pregnant with her first child, a magazine reported.

Tyler, the daughter of Aerosmith lead singer Steven Tyler and Bebe Buell, is married to rock singer Royston Langdon, of the band Spacehog. Liv Tyler grew up in Portland, Maine.

Her baby is due this winter, People magazine said Monday.

Tyler, 26, played the elf princess Arwen in "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy.

She and Langdon married in March 2003 after a two-year engagement.

Tyler's other movies include "Jersey Girl," with Ben Affleck and Jennifer Lopez, and "That Thing You Do!"

From The Associated Press

AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 2004

	AFN-EUROPE	AFN-KOREA	AFN-NEWS	AFN-SPORTS	SPECTRUM	AFN-PACIFIC
9:00	Dr. Phil	Mechanics for Kids	Nightline	NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup Series -- DHL 400. From Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn, Mich. (Taped)	The Wild Thornberrys	Mechanics for Kids
9:30		Liberty's Kids (EI)	Headline News		SpongeBob	Liberty's Kids (EI)
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy!	Hardball With Chris Matthews		The Simpsons	Jeopardy!
10:30	Guiding Light	Wheel of Fortune			Happy Days "Haunted"	Headline News
11:00		ESPNews	CNN Daybreak		Super Millionaire	ESPNews
11:30	General Hospital	Advisory Block				Pacific Report
12:00	Headline News	The King of Queens	The O'Reilly Factor		Star Trek: The Next Generation "Descent"	8 Simple Rules
12:30	Judge Judy	The Bernie Mac Show		SportsCenter		The Bernie Mac Show
13:00	Today Shawn Wayans; luggage for summer travel.	Fear Factor	Good Morning America Former President Bill Clinton.		Mail Call	Fear Factor
13:30				Today at Wimbledon Marquee match from Wimbledon.	Legends of Airpower	
14:00		The O.C. Seth, Ryan and Caleb go to Las Vegas.			Secrets of War	The O.C. Seth, Ryan and Caleb go to Las Vegas.
14:30						
15:00	Between the Lions (EI)	Pacific Report	Headline News	SportsCenter	Movie ★★★ "Muriel's Wedding" (1994, Comedy-Drama) Toni Collette, Bill Hunter, Rachel Griffiths.	Pacific Report
15:30	Teamo Supremo (EI)	The Tonight Show	World News			The Tonight Show
16:00	Mechanics for Kids		The Early Show	Motorcycle Racing MotoGP.		
16:30	Liberty's Kids (EI)	Late Show				Late Show
17:00	Jeopardy!			SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys	
17:30	Headline News	Access Hollywood			SpongeBob	Access Hollywood
18:00	ESPNews	Movie ★★½ "Manhattan" (1979, Comedy) Woody Allen, Mariel Hemingway, Diane Keaton.	FOX News	Tennis Wimbledon -- Early Round -- Day 3. From the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, England. (Taped)	The Simpsons	Movie ★★★½ "Manhattan" (1979, Comedy) Woody Allen, Mariel Hemingway, Diane Keaton.
18:30	AFN Evening News				Happy Days "Haunted"	
19:00	8 Simple Rules		FOX News		Super Millionaire	
19:30	The Bernie Mac Show					
20:00	Fear Factor	Movie ★★★½ "Die Hard" (1988, Suspense) Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia, Reginald VelJohnson.	FOX News		Star Trek: The Next Generation "Descent"	Movie ★★★½ "Die Hard" (1988, Suspense) Bruce Willis, Bonnie Bedelia, Reginald VelJohnson.
20:30						
21:00	The O.C. Seth, Ryan and Caleb go to Las Vegas.		Headline News		Mail Call	
21:30			Inside Politics		Legends of Airpower	
22:00	Headline News	The Hot List			Secrets of War	The Hot List
22:30	The Tonight Show	Headline News	Headline News			Headline News
23:00		Today	Lester Holt	Around the Horn	Movie ★★★ "Muriel's Wedding" (1994)	Today
23:30	Late Show			Pardon the Interruption		

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2004

00:00	(11:30) Late Show	(11:00) Today	Headline News	SportsCenter	(11:00) Movie ★★★ "Muriel's Wedding" (1994)	(11:00) Today
00:30	Access Hollywood		NBC Nightly News			
1:00	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)	Sesame Street (EI)	ABC Wid News	College Baseball NCAA World Series Game 11 -- Teams TBA. From Omaha, Neb. (Live)	The Wild Thornberrys	Sesame Street (EI)
1:30			CBS Evening News		SpongeBob	
2:00		Play With Me Sesame	Countdown With Keith Olbermann		The Simpsons	Play With Me Sesame
2:30		Rugrats			Happy Days	Wheel of Fortune
3:00		Dr. Phil	Hannity & Colmes		One Tree Hill "Crash Into You"	Dr. Phil
3:30						
4:00	Baseball Tonight	Oprah Winfrey	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	The West Wing "Arctic Radar"	Oprah Winfrey
4:30						
5:00	Headline News	NBC Nightly News	BET Nightly News		Dominick Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	NBC Nightly News
5:30	ESPNews	Judge Judy	Business Rpt.			Judge Judy
6:00	Headline News	Access Hollywood	Larry King Live		Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	Access Hollywood
6:30	Headline News	Guiding Light				Guiding Light
7:00	Sesame Street (EI)		NewsNight With Aaron Brown	ESPNews	Masterpiece Theatre	
7:30		General Hospital		Totally NASCAR		General Hospital
8:00	Play With Me Sesame	60 Minutes II	Paula Zahn Now	SportsCenter		Hercules
8:30	Wheel of Fortune	Hey Arnold!				Hey Arnold!
9:00	Dr. Phil	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 3)	Nightline	College Baseball NCAA World Series Game 12 -- Teams TBA. From Omaha, Neb. (Taped)	The Wild Thornberrys	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 3)
9:30		Jackie Chan	Army Newswatch		SpongeBob	Jackie Chan
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy!	Hardball With Chris Matthews		The Simpsons	Jeopardy!
10:30	Guiding Light	Wheel of Fortune			Happy Days	Headline News
11:00		ESPNews	60 Minutes II		One Tree Hill "Crash Into You"	ESPNews
11:30	General Hospital	Advisory Block				Pacific Report
12:00	Headline News	Everybody-Raymond	The O'Reilly Factor	SportsCenter	The West Wing "Arctic Radar"	Everybody-Raymond
12:30	Judge Judy	Scrubs				Scrubs
13:00	Today Paige Davis; Teens in Training.	Who Wants to Marry My Dad?	Good Morning America	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)	Dominick Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	Extreme Makeover
13:30						
14:00		ER "Blood Relations"			Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	ER "Blood Relations"
14:30						
15:00	Hercules	Pacific Report	Headline News		Masterpiece Theatre	Pacific Report
15:30	Hey Arnold!	The Tonight Show	World News			The Tonight Show
16:00	Yu-Gi-Oh! (Part 1 of 3)		The Early Show	Beyond the Glory		
16:30	Jackie Chan	Late Show				Late Show
17:00	Jeopardy!			SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys	
17:30	Headline News	Access Hollywood			SpongeBob	Access Hollywood
18:00	Destinations	Movie ★★½ "Aliens" (1986) Sigourney Weaver, Michael Biehn. A task force goes to eradicate a hideous space species.	FOX News	Tennis Wimbledon -- Early Round -- Day 4. From the All-England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club in Wimbledon, England. (Taped)	The Simpsons	Movie ★★½ "Aliens" (1986) Sigourney Weaver, Michael Biehn. A task force goes to eradicate a hideous space species.
18:30	AFN Evening News				Happy Days	
19:00	Everybody-Raymond		60 Minutes II		One Tree Hill "Crash Into You"	
19:30	Scrubs					
20:00	Extreme Makeover		FOX News		The West Wing "Arctic Radar"	
20:30		Movie ★★½ "Revenge of the Nerds" (1984) Robert Carradine.				Movie ★★½ "Revenge of the Nerds" (1984) Robert Carradine.
21:00	ER "Blood Relations"		Headline News		Dominick Dunne: Power, Privilege & Justice	
21:30			Inside Politics			
22:00	Headline News	The Hot List			Journeys to the Ends of the Earth	The Hot List
22:30	The Tonight Show	Headline News	Army Newswatch			Headline News
23:00		Today Paige Davis; Teens in Training.	Lester Holt	Around the Horn	Masterpiece Theatre	Today Paige Davis; Teens in Training.
23:30	Late Show			Pardon the Interruption		

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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

DREAMWORKS PICTURES/KRT

Tom Hanks stars in "The Terminal," the third feature film that pairs the veteran actor and director Steven Spielberg. The first movie they made together was "Saving Private Ryan."

Hanks, Spielberg reunite to produce 'serious comedy'

BY TERRY LAWSON
Knight Ridder Newspapers

Tom Hanks had this problem. Having felt, he says, incredibly grateful that Steven Spielberg had given him a chance to do the sort of part he never imagined getting, Hanks spent the weekend following the first days of shooting "Saving Private Ryan" in Cork County, Ireland, dreading a confrontation he knew he had to have.

"This movie was really a big deal for me," says Hanks. "I had been pinching myself because I couldn't believe I was doing it. And then we start working, and I see that the 2½ pages of dialogue I had to shoot for the next scene were just bad, idiotic. And I knew I was going to have to talk to Steven about it. … So I get to the set, and I'm … fretting about this, and Steven comes in and says: 'Tom, that dialogue in the next scene is just unfixable, so I'm just going to take it out.' And it was at that moment I thought, you know, this thing really could work out."

The collaboration that began with "Saving Private Ryan" continues with the third feature film starring Tom Hanks and directed by Steven Spielberg. "The Terminal" was loosely inspired by the true story of an Iranian refugee who has been living in Charles de Gaulle International Airport in France since 1988, having arrived there with no passport. (He has since proved his political refugee status, but chooses to remain in the airport.)

"We talk about various projects a lot, pass things to each other," says Spielberg. "But we seem to know which ones will be right. 'Catch Me If You Can' we sort of knew from the start would be right. Tom was on this one before me, but when I got a look at a rewrite by Jeff Nathanson, I got excited enough to want to do it together."

Hanks had already signed on to "The Terminal," in which he plays Viktor Navorski, a citizen of a fictional Balkan state called Krakozhia. At almost the exact moment Viktor is going through customs at an unidentified New York City airport, a military coup in his country renders his passport invalid.

That leaves him unable to enter the United States or to return to Krakozhia, and Viktor's problem is exacerbated by an ambitious customs official (Stanley Tucci) who does his best to be unhelpful.

"Stanley is ostensibly the villain, but he's not really evil," says Spielberg. "The tone was everything in this, because we're telling a simple story. But we're hoping to make a point or two without being too obvious."

> *"Tom and I are on the same wavelength. We make movies together for the same reason we became pals."*
>
> **Steven Spielberg**
> Director of "The Terminal"

To Spielberg, the point was the way the United States appears to be moving away from being the great melting pot toward "tribalization."

"We're going through this period of self-segregation as the sociologists call it," Spielberg says. "But if you ever have occasion to be in the international lounge of a metropolitan airport, you realize the circumstances don't allow that. Everybody is doing the same thing. Waiting, worrying, wondering what's going to happen next."

As part of their research, Hanks and Spielberg spent a day with customs and immigration officials at Los Angeles International Airport, where they were taken to what is called, without irony, says Spielberg, "the secondary room."

"It's where people who have problems with their papers or status, or who have simply tried to innocently bring fruit or something prohibited in the country, go to wait and wait some more," says Hanks. "These aren't people suspected of being terrorists; they're just people who don't understand the rules or are caught in some bureaucratic snafu. Man, if you ever have an urge to see some really sad faces, that's where you want to go."

Neither Hanks nor Spielberg wanted to make a movie full of sad faces. Their "Terminal" is a place where an angry Indian immigrant (Kumar Pallana) or a sad stewardess from Nebraska (Catherine Zeta-Jones) can, with help from people very unlike them, rediscover the best parts of themselves. It's where a shy Mexican food service worker (Diego Luna) can find the courage to declare his affection for the suspicious African-American immigration clerk (Zoe Saldana), who daily stamps "rejected" on an ever-hopeful Viktor's visa application.

"It was more comedy than I've ever done before," says Spielberg, "but we've been calling it serious comedy. … I've definitely been lightening up after 'Ryan' and 'Schindler's List,' and that's a conscious thing.

"Tom and I are on the same wavelength. We make movies together for the same reason we became pals, I think. We both came from broken homes, so we tend to put a high value on families and being with our families. The things that make him smile make me smile, and we have a lot of the same interests — and that gets reflected in the movies."

'Kill Bill' sequel in works

Tarantino

Quentin Tarantino said Monday he plans to shoot a third part of the "Kill Bill" vengeance series.

Tarantino said part three would focus on the daughter of a hired killer that **Uma Thurman**'s character bumps off early in her revenge spree.

Thurman plays The Bride, who goes after her former lover and boss, Bill, after he kills her fiancé on their wedding day and leaves her in a coma.

Moore says he's not unpatriotic

Michael Moore's new movie, "Fahrenheit 9/11" has raised temperatures in Republican circles — and that's intentional. "I would like to see Mr. **Bush** removed from the White House," the filmmaker told the host of ABC News' "This Week with **George Stephanopoulos**."

Moore bristled at the notion he is being unpatriotic. Everything I do is about trying to make this a better country."

Houston

Houston to rock Asia

Whitney Houston will make her debut concert appearance in **China** with a July 22 show in **Shanghai**.

Houston, 40, is widely known in **Asia** for her rendition of "I Will Always Love You," from the movie "The Bodyguard." The Grammy winner entered a drug rehabilitation center in March but received a lifetime achievement award at the Women's World Awards earlier this month in **Germany**.

Cancer talk encouraged

Richardson

Backstreet Boy **Kevin Richardson** understands that talking about colons can be an unpleasant subject.

"But if it can save someone's life, it's worth it," said Richardson, who appears in a series of public service announcements that urge children to discuss colon cancer and its treatment with their parents.

Richardson said he feels a responsibility to educate others about the disease that ended his father's life in 1991.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

Horoscope

Joyce Jillson

Mars, the planet of aggressive energy, is moving into fire sign Leo. It's high-drama time on the career front — lots of the kind of excitement you see on television shows about a certain line of work.

People rushing around, confrontations, high stakes — you'll find yourself thinking "ER" and "The West Wing" are nothing compared to real life!

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 23). This year brings remarkable changes for you, but you're in control of what happens! This month and next, you finally feel that you're steering your career in the direction of your dream. There's a social swell through August, and you may even decide to travel with friends. A beautiful commitment from a loved one is featured in September. Your lucky numbers are: 8, 25, 1, 11 and 29.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The morning features something to brag about. Don't name-drop, though, as it's not at all becoming and could serve to turn off the very person you'd like to impress. Keep a sense of humor about family life.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Friends of all ages, genders and locales will enrich you. Make an effort to attract people who are a joy to be near. You need help with a project that is growing to overwhelming proportions.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You've got the magic touch, but do be careful how you use it. Don't skip the research part of your project in order to get the high of being in action. You need mentors who can tell you the strengths and weaknesses of your project.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Learning more is what makes you rich.

Financial questions are deftly answered by an expert you know personally, but be wary of advisers you have to pay right now. It's likely their commission dictates their advice.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Everyone has his or her own way of making a difference in the world, and yours might be to simply be exemplary in relationships. Today's deft handling of people is proof. Some have to work at it, but social grace is natural to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Do your own thing this morning, while you're free to do it. It's no picnic to be in charge of as much as you are, but it is fulfilling at the end of the day to know that people can depend on you and you can depend on yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Self-esteem fluctuates, but that's because you care so much that things get done the right way. Remind yourself that you choose your thoughts. Tonight, you are adored, and if you go out, you will be publicly adored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Great reward requires equal risk. You'll be nervous to try new tasks, but that doesn't mean you shouldn't do it. Analyze the fear, understand it, and then, make a rational, logical decision about what to do next.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You get such a thrill from the beginning stages of a project that it's hard to duplicate the excitement in the middle and end stages. Stick to the plan. Finish! The rewards come at the end. Give yourself a mental pep rally.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Although you like to stay positive, this is one of those days when being ready for the worst outcome makes you confident indeed. At work, take on the bits and pieces of a problem instead of trying to solve the whole thing.

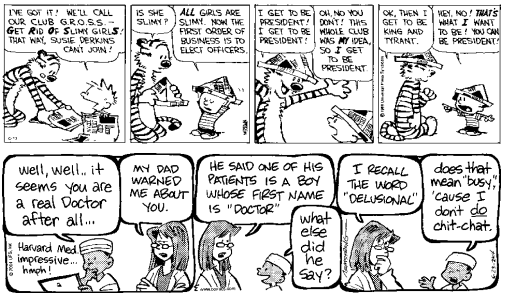
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). It's a psychic day, and you feel you're some kind of a vortex for coincidental happenings. It seems these strange occurrences are only happening to you, but maybe it's because you appreciate their meaning so readily.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Include comedy in the day's events — your body loves laughter, and it's scientifically proven that you could ward off disease and virus by laughing! In love, be the one to initiate and the one to say when enough is enough.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts

Calvin and Hobbes

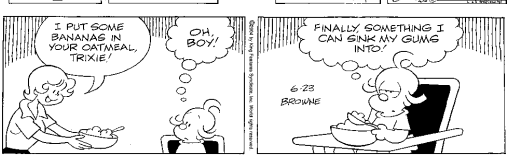


Jump Start

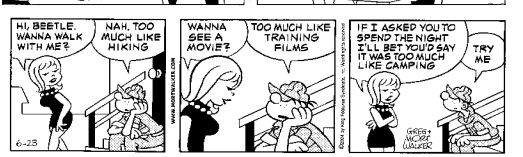
Zits

Cathy

Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey

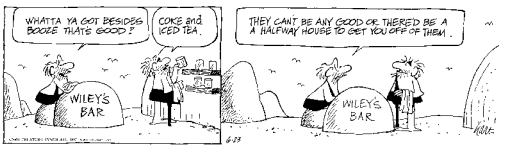


Red and Rover

Better or Worse

Foxtrot

B.C.



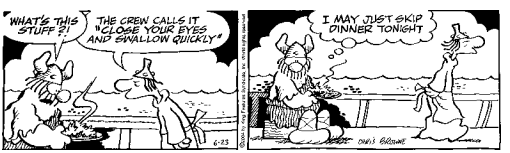
Baby Blues

Spider Man

Blondie

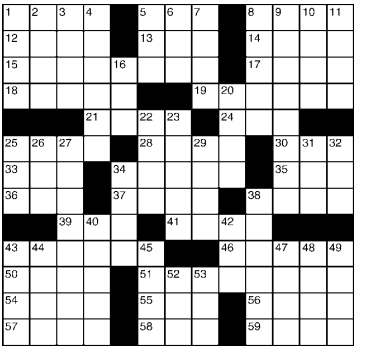
Dilbert

Hagar



Garfield

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

1 Cavort
5 Brylcreem dosage
8 Keep — (persist)
12 Concept
13 Work with
14 Carnival attraction
15 Be patient
17 Lothario's look
18 Strike zone's lower boundary
19 Quieted down
21 Methuselah's grandson
24 Trawler gear
25 Leave at the altar
28 Disposition
30 — out (just get by)
33 Big whoop
34 Jargon
35 Fresh
36 Cattle call
37 Stench
38 Advantage
39 Dallas sch.
41 Agts.
43 Speaks sheepishly?
46 Stinging
50 Contrite one
51 Act unrestrainedly
54 Masculine side
55 "— was saying, ..."
56 Hold the scepter
57 Unadorned
58 Navigation aid
59 Abound

Down

1 Put on the line
2 Valhalla VIP
3 Apportion
4 Inventor's protection
5 Grooved on
6 Bat wood
7 A March sister
8 Got up
9 Football position
10 Enjoy the hammock
11 Prepared to drive
16 Equi-
20 Destroy
22 In the thick of
23 Esteem
25 Predicament
26 Altar affirmative
27 Bit of unfinished business
29 Shrek, e.g.
31 Frat party item
32 Lamb's dam
34 Lummox
38 Accompany
40 Bart and Lisa's mom
42 Chum
43 — Mawr University
44 Waikiki wingding
45 Con game
47 Libertine
48 Capri, e.g.
49 Consider
52 Cable sta.
53 Lagniappe

Answer to Previous Puzzle

E	V	E	N		G	N	U		S	C	A	T
L	O	G	E		R	U	N		M	U	S	H
F	L	O	U	R	I	S	H		O	R	E	O
			R	I	D		I	S	O	B	A	R
S	T	R	O	P		A	N	A	T			
L	O	O	N		E	G	G	S	H	E	L	L
A	N	I		I	V	I	E	S		V	I	A
M	I	L	K	W	O	O	D		L	E	N	D
			V	I	C	S		H	A	R	D	Y
R	O	W	E	N	A		S	A	T			
U	N	I	T		B	A	T	T	E	R	U	P
D	I	S	C		L	I	E		N	O	S	E
E	T	C	H		E	L	M		T	E	A	R

6-23 CRYPTOQUIP

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Yesterday's Cryptoquip: EPITAPH CHISELED INTO A KIND DOG'S GRAVESTONE: "I NEVER MET A MAN I DIDN'T LICK!"

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: K equals T

One bride per reception, please

Dear Abby: I'm being married in three months, and through pure coincidence it turns out that one of my cousins is being married the same day. We're not close, as she was very competitive with me while we were growing up.

Her wedding will take place in the morning. I'm having an afternoon wedding with an evening reception. I assumed she wouldn't be able to make it to my reception because she'd be exhausted and want to spend time with her new husband.

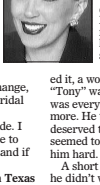
Well, I just received an e-mail from her saying she wants to attend. Ordinarily, that would thrill me. However, the catch is, she says there won't be enough time to change, so she wants to wear her bridal gown to my reception.

I think this is terribly rude. I mean, how long does it take to change? Am I being petty, and if not, what can I say to her?

— Frustrated Bride in Texas

Dear Frustrated: Although the rules regarding proper attire for wedding guests have become more flexible in recent years, it is still unacceptable for a guest to wear a bridal gown to someone else's reception. Tell your cousin that you will "understand" if she's a few minutes late to your reception, so she can change, and that she and her new husband should quietly seat themselves when they arrive.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: I'm 31, divorced and female. My marriage ended four years ago. I haven't dated much since.

When I least expected it, a wonderful man I'll call "Tony" walked into my life. He was everything I wanted and more. He treated me the way I deserved to be treated and seemed to like me a lot. I fell for him hard.

A short time later, he told me he didn't want a serious relationship. I was crushed but continued to see him. We dated for about two years and there were still no serious feelings on his part. Then, all of a sudden, he hit me with the news that he had fallen in love with someone else. I was floored. He had said he didn't want a serious relationship.

I can't seem to get over him. Every time I try, Tony calls me and wants to hook up. His new girlfriend will be moving here soon from another state, yet he still calls and wants to hook up with me. How can I let go and move on? I still love him.

— Can't Let Go

Dear Can't: Let me explain something. When Tony said he didn't want a serious relationship, he meant with YOU.

Wake up and smell the coffee. You are being used. The sooner you can recognize that fact, the sooner you'll be able to let go and say no.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at **http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby**

Universal Press Syndicate

Fiancée's TV timing unromantic

Dear Annie: I met my fiancée, "Donna," nine months ago. We've been engaged for three months and plan to marry in August. Although we are compatible in most ways, there is one thing that disappoints me, and I need an outside opinion.

The night we got engaged was a wonderful evening on board a cruise ship. When Donna and I returned to our stateroom, the first thing she did was hop into bed and turn on the TV. I was amazed that she would make such an unromantic move, but I chose not to bring it up and eventually fell asleep.

The next day, I told Donna that I thought watching TV was an unusual way to spend her engagement evening, but she felt it was no big deal. To her credit, she didn't do it again — until now. We spent last weekend at a fancy hotel, and Sunday morning started making love in bed. Next thing I knew, she turned on the TV.

Is this a sign that she has no interest in lovemaking? I'm really confused. The problem is serious enough that I plan to discuss it at a pre-marital seminar we have scheduled. Without some solution acceptable to both of us, it may be the end of this engagement.

— Where's the Romance in New Mexico?

Annie's Mailbox

Dear N.M.: We think the pre-marital seminar is an excellent place to discuss this, but here's our take on it: Either Donna is addicted to TV, or more likely, she is avoiding sex at those moments when the pressure to perform is most intense. During these special times, she may feel obligated to make sex memorable or believe you expect sexual "extras." She also may not enjoy sex as much as you do, and it's possible you over-romanticize the moment and have unrealistic expectations.

No matter how delicate, it is best to discuss these issues before marriage.

Dear Annie: You recently printed a letter about "Sue," the hard worker whose boss rewarded her by insisting she attend a company dinner. Sue was so unnerved that she quit. You may be right that Sue has anxiety attacks, but here's my opinion: I, too, cringe at the thought of after-hours gatherings with co-workers. As a wife and mother, my evenings and weekends are full of other obligations. After a long day on the job, I am just plain tired. Even a "reward dinner" is just one more thing to do.

If Sue's employer wants to reward her, how about a bonus or a paid day off?

— Mary in Pennsylvania

Dear Mary: You weren't the only one who said employees appreciate money more than any other "gift" from their employers. Bosses, take note.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to **annies-mailbox@comcast.net**, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.

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JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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GOMOR

GAIMBY

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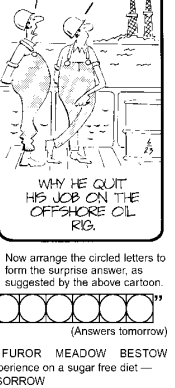
THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: IT WAS "_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

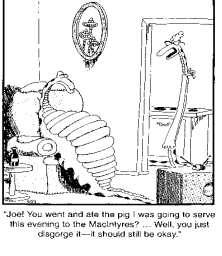
Yesterday's Jumbles: WHOSE FUROR MEADOW BESTOW
Answer: Easy to experience on a sugar free diet — "SWEET" SORROW

Family Circus

"Today at the dentist's I took a whole course in FLOSSophy."

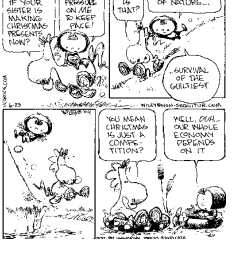
Dennis the Menace

The Far Side



"Joe! You went and ate the pig I was going to serve this evening to the MacIntyres? ... Well, you just disgorge it—it should still be okay."

Non Sequitur



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Experienced Nanny needed, Mainz Gonsenheim area, start July, references please, call 06124-506287

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Health Care 540

CNA/LPN/MA for full/part/time at Heidelberg MEDAC FP. Fax or email Resume to 757-420-6616 or Gschwein@neshold.com

Pediatrician Pediatric NP or PA for full or part time Darmstadt Health Clinic. Fax or email resume to 757-420-6616 gschwein@neshold.com www.neshold.com

Jobs Offered 630

Administrative Assistants wanted in Vilseck & Grafenwoehr. Computer/math skills a must, financial skills a plus. Salary plus bonuses. Two positions available. Call 09662/83/ext.a 316 or 0964-90680/ext.a 90820 (Graf).

Jobs Offered 630

Exp Nail Tech needed at the Nail Place, Hanau PX, full or part time, call Frank Clemens 06055-82880 or 06151-665020

Earn extra cash (approx $750.00 - 900.00) monthly delivering the Stars and Stripes door to door in the St. Leon - Rot based housing areas. For more details, please call Tom at 0172-6707342.

Pets 820

• Purchase of listed pets is at buyer's risk. German Dog Club e.v. recommends checking breeder's club membership before any purchase

Mini Dachshunds puppies, red piebald and black & tan avail w/papers and shots, $600, 0170-5357533 www.dashingdackels.com

English Cocker Spaniel Puppies, excellent w/kids, papers and shots, call 0160-9412489

Chow-Chow Pups red-black w papers, shots ex. w/kids $650 payments. Call 0179-6877763 & 06505-8419

Registered Persian kittens, w/basic shots and papers $350, call 06158-916548

West Highland White terrier, ten wks old, shots, wormed, all puppy supplies inc, call 0611-9744998

Real Estate 850

For Sale
Villa in Northern Italy
2 story, 7.5 room villa on 2000 sq. meters of land. Approximately 20 minutes from Bibione, Lignano beaches. Shown between 06-16-04 and 07-04-04 • Call for appt.
310.791.8745 or email villaveneto4me@aol.com

Real Estate 850

Relocating to Bethesda , MD-2-3 bdrm, 2 baths, brick colonial, in Kensington. 5 min. to NIMIC and USUHS. Near park and marc train, $2100 p - month, Please email if interested travelingeurope1 @yahoo.com

Apartment Uffhin 856

Darmstadt area, Top 3br apartment, BIK, balcony, for single or couple, rent 950eur -200 util, dep req, call 0173-6720181

Apartment Furn 860

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Religious Activities 871

Church of Christ
Very convenient to Wiesbaden, Mainz, and Rhein Main Area
Sunday: Bible Study 10:00 AM
Worship: 11:00 AM
Wed: Bible Study 7:00 PM
06146-84435 or 06181-9690415
Visit our Web Site @ www.mainz-coc.org

Real Estate 850

Wiesbaden - Apartments and Houses for rent. No realtor Fee. Call 06122-507943

Real Estate 850

House Unfurnished 878

For Sale or Rent: 2 new houses out to eachother, 189sEU ea. First hm 129qm, other home 120qm, both have 300qm yrds. 129qm hm has 4bdrms, the other 3 bdrms and 1 changing rm. Each has a bthrm upstrs and denists w/a sher, lvg rm, din rm, kitchn, strg rm, wash rm, and gar, solar energy, beautiful ten, 34km from Rmstn, 22 frm Kbwn, 06375-993310

House in St.Leon, 15 min to HD, 20 min to MA, 200qm, 4bdrm, livingrm, diningrm, 3 basement, 2bathrm, build-in kitchen, guest-toilette, 2storerm, hobbyrm, garden, garage, parking space, balcony, terrace, floor-heating, bus stop 50m, avail 1st July, A 1.400-util, no agent, 0160-3680388 (Bernd)

Markt-Einersheim-190sqm house, 300qm yard, 5bdr, 2.5ba, BIK, balcony and terrace, 2 car garage, 125euro warm, elec sep, call 0171-5757971

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Jobs Offered 630

MARKETING SPECIALISTS!

Are you interested in working in a fast-paced, high-visibility position? If so, the HQ USAREUR, G1, Civilian Personnel Directorate (CPD) in Sedelnheim, Germany may be the place for you. CPD is currently seeking a contract **Marketing Specialist.** Interested individuals must provide all required documentation by 2 July 04.

The selectee will be responsible for developing a strategic marketing plan, conducting written analysis, conducting independent research and personal interviews covering a wide range of civilian personnel topics. The selectee will format for publication a variety of articles, brochures, posters, and other materials using desktop publishing software such as Quark Express, Photoshop, and Adobe Acrobat. To obtain the necessary forms and application requirements, please contact SSG Desirae Peters at email rodney.walz@hqusareur.usarmy.mil or by phone at 06314-64-9450 or DSN: 375-9450. Email or phone contact must include the Solicitation Number: WR3CPF-04-T-0994.

Jobs Offered 630

Do You Want To Earn $800 or More? Contractor position open: Newspaper Home Delivery

Pick up: Heidelberg, Holiday Inn
Drop off: St. Leon/ Rot Economy Housing Areas

Please fax bids to: 06155-601-436

For more details please call:
Van Rowell DSN: 349-8477
Retail Sales Manager
Civ: 06155-601-477
or Steve Wade
DSN: 349-8382
Contracting Officer
Civ: 06155-601-382

Jobs Offered 630

EUROPEAN STARS & STRIPES VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFSET PRINT WORKER - $9.86 per hour

Requires demonstrated ability to learn mechanical and technical operations. Manual and mechanical trades experience. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. Will be exposed to noise and required to wear protective clothing/equipment.

LABORER- $8.16 per hour

Ability to lift, push, pull and carry objects of varying weights. Ability to read, write and follow oral and written instructions. Must be able to lift 50 pounds. Will be exposed to noise and required to wear protective clothing/equipment.

Positions are flex and hours will vary. Guaranteed at least 20 hours per week. Please provide references with your application. Please indicate the date you will be available for work. You may apply on line at www.chrma.hqusareur.army.mil. Please complete all the necessary forms 3433 and 3433-1

Scheduled to PCS? Check our **Relocation Guide** in Saturday's STARS AND STRIPES

Jobs Offered 630

ADVERTISING SALES ASSISTANT

JOIN THE STARS AND STRIPES TEAM TODAY!

NAF-SS-04-25 Pay/Plan/Series NF-1101 Grade 02 (Regular Part Time)

Salary: $8,39 - $11,00
Opening Date: 11-May-2004
Cutoff Date: 08-Jun-2004
Closing Date: 25-Jun-2004

Duty Station: GRIESHEIM, GERMANY

Special Info: Position earns commission bonuses. Position is part time.

Area of Consideration: **All** Interested and Qualified Applicants USAREUR Wide.

Duties: Reports directly to the Sales Associate in all general, daily advertising matters, assisting the Sales Associate with duties pertaining to the general administrative support of the advertising and marketing directorates. Supports the advertising account executive staff by scheduling daily and other ROP display advertising into the Baseview system, providing tearsheet proof-of-performance and affidavits, client mailings and file maintenance, preparing sales call and presentation materials, directing incoming written and telephone communications. Responsible for regular telemarketing solicitation of local retail accounts under the direction of the account executives and advertising director. Sells to and maintains a core account base of local advertisers as assigned by the advertising director. Performs other duties as assigned.

Qualification Requirements: Must have good writing and customer service skills. Must be able to work with little supervision. Must be able to type 40 words per minute. Data entry experience required. Must be able to read and comprehend the English language. Prior telemarketing experience required.

Conditions of Employment: Must be a U.S. citizen. All employees are required to enroll in Direct Deposit.

How to Apply

Email Resume: jobs@mail.stripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29486, APO AE 09211
Fax Resume: 001-49-6155-601421 (International) 06155-601421 (civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
In Person: European Stars & Stripes, Grieshein Kaserne, Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Grieshein, Germany

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International: **001-49-6155-601433/207**
Civilian: **06155-601433/207**
DSN: **349-8433/207**

Read Stripes online at www.stripes.com
Sun Bear Trading Services STARS AND STRIPES

Jobs Offered 630

CLASSIFIED SALES ASSOCIATE - FULL TIME

JOIN THE STARS AND STRIPES TEAM TODAY!

Announcement: NAF-SS-04-31
Pay/Plan/Series NF-0303 Grade 03

Salary: $21,000 - 24,000
Opening Date: 11-Jun-2004 Cutoff Date: none
Closing Date: 25-Jun-2004

CPAC: NAF - Stars and Stripes
Organization: EUROPEAN STARS & STRIPES
Duty Station: GRIESHEIM, GERMANY

Announcement Type: Special **Area of Consideration:** All interested and qualified applicants USAREUR WIDE. Relocation expenses will not be paid.

Duties: Sells, receives, places in-column classified line and display (such as Relocation Guide, Services Directory, etc.) advertising. Maintains accurate customer information in the database and files. Initiates call-back/solicitation programs. Advertises and sells special sections and promotions as assigned. Monitors all in-coming communications: telephone, fax, mail, e-mail and customer visits. Responsible for meeting daily deadlines. Substitutes and fills in on all classified matters/duties in the absence of classified co-workers.

Qualification Requirements: High School Diploma or equivalent plus progressively responsible clerical, office or other work that indicates the ability to acquire particular knowledge and skills needed to perform the duties of the position. Should be able to speak conversational German. Preferred candidates must be able to type 40 WPM and must have demonstrated Customer Service, Data entry and Sales experience.

Conditions of Employment: U.S citizen. All employees are required to enroll in Direct Deposit. WILL EARN SALARY AND COMMISSION.

How to Apply

Applications MUST be submitted using NAF Application for Employment, DA Form 3433, DA Form 3433-1 and a resume. Applicants serviced by this office may submit AE Form 215-3A-R. Prior military must include a copy of DD Form 214 (member 4 copy).

Email Resume: jobs@mail.stripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29486, APO AE 09211
Fax Resume: 001-49-6155-601421 (International) 06155-601421 (civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
In Person: European Stars & Stripes, Grieshein Kaserne, Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Grieshein, Germany

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International: **001-49-6155-601433/207**
Civilian: **06155-601433/207**
DSN: **349-8433/207**

DISTRICT MANAGER AT LARGE (NTE 13 MONTH)

JOIN THE STARS AND STRIPES TEAM TODAY!

NAF-SS-04-24 Pay/Plan/Series NF-0525 Grade 03

Salary: $31,500 - $40,000

Opening Date: 11-May-2004
Cutoff Date: 18-May-2004
Closing Date: 25-Jun-2004

Duty Station: GRIESHEIM, GERMANY

Area of Consideration: WORLDWIDE: Relocation expenses will be paid for CONUS HIRES only.

Duties: Recruits, trains and supervises carriers and/or contractor organizations in assigned area of responsibility. Responsible for sales, delivery, service and collections within assigned area. Analyzes distribution needs for deployment areas assigned and coordinating successful distribution within assigned deployment area. Must be able to successfully communicate with high-level military and civilian decision-makers to accomplish assigned distribution mission. Promotes the good will of European Stars and Stripes and assists with other newspaper needs that may be required due to staffing in assigned area.

Qualification Requirements: Minimum of 3 years experience as District Manager with daily newspaper. May substitute related circulation experience at ESS. May substitute knowledge of deployment areas and demonstrated ability to accomplish mission within military community. Demonstrated sales ability, leadership, supervisory skills, organization skills, and ability to be self-starter and work with minimal supervision.

Conditions of Employment: United States citizen. National Agency Check. Works to include nights, weekends, holidays as necessary, and outside in inclement weather. Driving extended distances required. Will be on extensive extended TDY assignments and may even be deployed if necessary. Travel is extensive and duty station is subject to change. Travel will be to places where living conditions are inadequate and often in war zones. Must have, or be able to obtain within 30 days of employment, and maintain a valid USAREUR vehicle operator's permit. Required to enroll in direct deposit. A valid motor vehicle operator's permit is required. Evening, weekend and holiday work will be required.

Positions offer full benefits including medical & life insurance and 401(k). Enrollment in retirement is mandatory for the first six months of employment. Supplemental allowances may be authorized. Quarters will be furnished. Travel and some transportation costs will be paid. Shipment of household goods is limited to 350 pounds. Shipment of Privately Owned Vehicle is authorized. Travel of family members is not authorized.

All employees are required to enroll in Direct Deposit. Employment is subject to successful completion of appropriate background checks as applicable.

How to Apply

Email Resume: jobs@mail.stripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29486, APO AE 09211
Fax Resume: 001-49-6155-601421 (International) 06155-601421 (civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
In Person: European Stars & Stripes, Grieshein Kaserne, Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Grieshein, Germany

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STARS AND STRIPES®

SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Atlantic; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-Sports; dtd: delayed; ost: one hour or 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.)

Television

Baseball — Oakland at Anaheim, 4 a.m. Wednesday, SPT.

Basketball — NBA Draft: Preview, 4 a.m. Thursday, AFN-A; Draft coverage, 1 a.m. Friday, SPT.

College baseball — NCAA College World Series: 1 a.m. (dtd) and 9 a.m. Thursday (dtd), SPT; 9 a.m. (dtd) and 9 a.m. Friday (dtd), SPT.

Motor racing — Nextel Cup DHL 400, 9 a.m. Wednesday (dtd), SPT; Motorcycle GP of Catalonia, 4 p.m. Wednesday (dtd), SPT.

Tennis — Wimbledon 2004: Day 2, 1:30 p.m. Wednesday (dtd), SPT; Day 3, 6 p.m. Wednesday, SPT; Day 4, 6 p.m. Thursday, SPT; Day 5, 6 p.m. Friday.

AFN-Europe can be reached at DSN 329-4444 or German cv. 069-156-88-444. Commercial callers from outside Germany must drop the initial zero after dialing country code 0049. AFN-Atlantic's Web site is **www.afneurope.net**. Click on "television" or "radio" for latest schedules. AFN's parent organization, AFRTS at March Reserve AFB, Calif., can be reached at DSN (312) 348-1319 or commercial (909) 413-2319. Its Web site is **www.myafn.net**.

Tennis

Wimbledon

Tuesday
At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club
Wimbledon, England
Purse: $17.86 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Grass/Outdoor

Singles
Men
First Round

Karol Kucera, Slovakia, def. Oscar Hernandez, Spain, 6-2, 6-2.
Florian Mayer, Germany, def. Wayne Arthurs, Australia, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4).
Mardy Fish (14), United States, def. Ivan Navarro Pastor, Spain, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Feliciano Lopez (18), Spain, def. Richard Bloomfield, Britain, 6-4, 6-2, 7-5.
Dmitry Tursunov, Russia, def. Marat Safin (19), Russia, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 7-6 (1).
Jan-Michael Gambill, United States, def. Max Mirnyi (23), Belarus, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Cyril Saulnier, France, def. Michael Llodra, France, 7-5, 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-3 (3).
Sargis Sargsian, Armenia, def. Marc Lopez, Spain, 6-4, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.
Lu Yen-hsun, Taiwan, def. Jan Vacek, Czech Republic, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3, 6-2.
Joachim Johansson, Sweden, def. Arnaud Clement, France, 6-2, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (7).
Tim Henman (5), Britain, def. Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo, Spain, 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-2.
Wayne Ferreira, South Africa, def. Ivan Ljubicic (28), Croatia, 5-7, 7-6 (5), 7-5, 6-2.
Carlos Moya (9), Spain, def. Olivier Patience, France, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, 6-7 (6), 6-1.
Irakli Labadze, Georgia, def. Kristof Vliegen, Belgium, 6-2, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.
Mark Philippoussis (11), Australia, def. Christophe Rochus, Belgium, 6-3, 6-4, 6-2.
Ivo Heuberger, Switzerland, def. Flavio Saretta, Brazil, 5-7, 6-4, 6-1, 7-6 (5).
Xavier Malisse, Belgium, def. Jiri Novak (16), Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
Martin Verkerk, Netherlands, def. Nikolay Davydenko, Russia, 4-6, 6-3, 6-4, 7-5.
Alexander Peya, Austria, def. Jeff Salzenstein, United States, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.
Hicham Arazi (27), Morocco, def. Andre Sa, Brazil, 6-1, 6-4, 6-2.
Albert Montanes, Spain, def. Bohdan Ulihrach, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-2, 6-3.

Women
First Round

Nuria Llagostera Vives, Spain, def. Petra Mandula, Hungary, 6-3, 6-3.
Elena Bovina (20), Russia, def. Edina Gallovits, Romania, 6-1, 6-2.
Tamarine Tanasugarn, Thailand, def. Anna-Lena Groenefeld, Germany, 6-2, 6-0.
Maria Elena Camerin, Italy, def. Anca Barna, Germany, 7-5, 6-2.
Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Samantha Reeves, United States, 6-2, 6-4.
Meghann Shaughnessy (32), United States, def. Marlene Weingartner, United States, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (0).
Marion Bartoli, France, def. Chanda Rubin (17), United States, 7-6 (5), 6-3.
Serena Williams (1), United States, def. Zheng Jie, China, 6-0, 6-1.
Sandra Kleinova, Czech Republic, def. Elena Dementieva (6), Russia, 6-4, 1-6, 6-4.
Maria Vento-Kabchi, Venezuela, def. Martina Sucha, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-0.
Nadia Petrova (10), Russia, def. Flavia Pennetta, Italy, 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.
Stephanie Foretz, France, def. Stephanie Cohen-Aloro, France, 6-1, 6-3.
Jane O'Donoghue, Britain, def. Lindsay Lee-Waters, United States, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.
Emmanuelle Gagliardi, Switzerland, def. Tara Snyder, United States, 3-3, retired.
Elena Baltacha, Britain, def. Marta Marrero, Spain, 6-1, 6-3.
Karolina Sprem, Croatia, def. Laura Granville, United States, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, def. Jelena Jankovic, Serbia-Montenegro, 3-6, 6-1, 6-4.
Patty Schnyder (15), Switzerland, def. Akiko Morigami, Japan, 6-4, 6-1.
Elena Likhovtseva, Russia, def. Gala Leon Garcia, Spain, 6-2, 6-2.
Virginie Razzano, France, def. Svetlana Kuznetsova (8), Russia, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4.
Nathalie Dechy (25), France, def. Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, 6-3, 6-4.
Magui Serna, Spain, def. Eleni Daniilidou (30), Greece, 6-4, 6-2.

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	6	3	.667	—
Indiana	6	4	.600	½
Charlotte	6	5	.545	1
New York	6	5	.545	1
Connecticut	5	7	.417	2½
Washington	4	6	.400	2½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	8	2	.800	—
Los Angeles	7	5	.583	2
Houston	6	5	.500	3
Minnesota	5	5	.500	3
Phoenix	4	5	.444	3½
Sacramento	3	7	.300	5
San Antonio	3	9	.250	6

Saturday's games
Detroit 84, Sacramento 74
Minnesota 66, Houston 58
Indiana 70, New York 65
Seattle 74, San Antonio 61
Sunday's games
Connecticut 75, Washington 65
Charlotte 68, Los Angeles 63, 2OT
Monday's games
No games scheduled
Tuesday's games
Los Angeles at New York
Washington at Detroit
Connecticut at Indiana
Houston at Seattle
Minnesota at Phoenix

Soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	4	3	5	17	15	12
MetroStars	4	3	4	16	18	20
D.C. United	4	5	4	16	15	18
Columbus	4	3	3	15	14	14
New England	2	7	3	9	13	21

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	6	4	3	21	17	12
Los Angeles	5	4	3	18	21	17
San Jose	4	3	4	16	20	16
Dallas	4	4	3	15	13	14
Colorado	2	3	6	12	7	9

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games
MetroStars 2, Los Angeles 1
D.C. United 3, Columbus 1
Kansas City 3, New England 1
San Jose 1, Chicago 1, tie
Dallas 1, Colorado 1, tie
Wednesday's game
MetroStars at Los Angeles
Saturday, June 26
D.C. United at Dallas
Colorado at Columbus
MetroStars at New England
Kansas City at San Jose

Pro baseball

NL All-Star voting

Game to be held Tuesday, July 13
At Minute Maid Park
Houston
First Base

1. Albert Pujols, Cardinals, 1,149,068.
2. Jeff Bagwell, Astros, 925,869.
3. Sean Casey, Reds, 541,516.
4. Jim Thome, Phillies, 404,032.
5. Derrek Lee, Cubs, 346,587.

Second Base

1. Jeff Kent, Astros, 1,340,101.
2. Marcus Giles, Braves, 464,586.
3. Luis Castillo, Marlins, 438,976.
4. Roberto Alomar, Diamondbacks, 312,688.
5. Mark Grudzielanek, Cubs, 285,373.

Third Base

1. Scott Rolen, Cardinals, 1,310,385.
2. Aramis Ramirez, Cubs, 563,954.
3. Mike Lowell, Marlins, 494,970.
4. Morgan Ensberg, Astros, 489,021.
5. Adrian Beltre, Dodgers, 358,920.

Shortstop

1. Adam Everett, Astros, 725,629.
2. Edgar Renteria, Cardinals, 716,108.
3. Barry Larkin, Reds, 400,999.
4. Kazuo Matsui, Mets, 450,544.
5. Rafael Furcal, Braves, 368,203.

Catcher

1. Mike Piazza, Mets, 1,188,858.
2. Brad Ausmus, Astros, 671,370.
3. Paul Lo Duca, Dodgers, 490,883.
4. Michael Barrett, Cubs, 381,804.
5. Johnny Estrada, Braves, 351,310.

Outfield

1. Barry Bonds, Giants, 1,502,397.
2. Ken Griffey, Jr., Reds, 1,325,664.
3. Sammy Sosa, Cubs, 1,124,623.
4. Lance Berkman, Astros, 904,031.
5. Craig Biggio, Astros, 788,530.
6. Moises Alou, Cubs, 687,750.
7. Richard Hidalgo, Mets, 583,979.
8. Jim Edmonds, Cardinals, 515,077.
9. Miguel Cabrera, Marlins, 453,019.
10. Adam Dunn, Reds, 441,709.
11. Andruw Jones, Braves, 384,102.
12. Juan Pierre, Marlins, 312,718.
13. Chipper Jones, Braves, 284,670.
14. Corey Patterson, Cubs, 270,859.
15. Bobby Abreu, Phillies, 258,622.

College baseball

College World Series

At Rosenblatt Stadium
Omaha, Neb.
Double Elimination
Friday, June 18
Bracket 1

Georgia & Arizona 7
Texas 13, Arkansas 2
Saturday, June 19
Bracket 2
Cal State Fullerton 2, South Carolina 0
Miami 9, LSU 5
Sunday, June 20
Arizona 7, Arkansas 2, Arkansas eliminated
Texas 9, Georgia 3
Monday, June 21
South Carolina 15, LSU 4, LSU eliminated
Cal State Fullerton 6, Miami 3
Tuesday, June 22
Game 9 — Arizona (36-26-1) vs. Georgia (44-22)
Game 10 — South Carolina (51-16) vs. Miami (50-12)
Wednesday, June 23
Game 11 — Texas (57-13) vs. Winner Game 9
Game 12 — Cal State Fullerton (44-21) vs. Winner Game 10
Thursday, June 24
Game 13 — Texas vs. Winner Game 11, if necessary
Game 14 — Cal State Fullerton vs. Winner Game 12, if necessary
Championship Series
(Best-of-3)
Saturday, June 26
Bracket 1 Winner vs. Bracket 2 Winner
Sunday, June 27
Bracket 1 Winner vs. Bracket 2 Winner
Monday, June 28
Bracket 1 Winner vs. Bracket 2 Winner, if necessary

Golf

World ranking

Through June 20

1. Tiger Woods	USA	12.39
2. Ernie Els	SAf	10.96
3. Vijay Singh	Fiji	10.61
4. Phil Mickelson	USA	8.62
5. Davis Love III	USA	7.89
6. Mike Weir	Can	6.86
7. Retief Goosen	SAf	6.70
8. Padraig Harrington	Ire	6.21
9. Jim Furyk	USA	5.65
10. Sergio Garcia	Spn	5.17
11. Kenny Perry	USA	4.84
12. Chad Campbell	USA	4.73
13. Stuart Appleby	Aus	4.70
14. Darren Clarke	Nir	4.51
15. Adam Scott	Aus	4.41
16. David Toms	USA	4.09
17. Fred Couples	USA	4.06
18. Scott Verplank	USA	3.77
19. Jay Haas	USA	3.74
20. Choi Kyung-Ju	Kor	3.67
21. Nick Price	Zim	3.61
22. Chris DiMarco	USA	3.58
23. Shigeki Maruyama	Jpn	3.52
24. Steve Flesch	USA	3.50
25. Fredrik Jacobson	Swe	3.40
26. Jonathan Kaye	USA	3.30
27. Robert Allenby	Aus	3.23
28. Stewart Cink	USA	3.17
29. Paul Casey	Eng	3.16
30. Jerry Kelly	USA	3.05

Ryder Cup points

Through June 20
United States

1. Tiger Woods	1,726,667
2. Phil Mickelson	1,595,250
3. Davis Love III	979,107
4. Jim Furyk	788,479
5. Kenny Perry	750,107
6. David Toms	695,125
7. Chad Campbell	680,000
8. Steve Flesch	530,937
9. Fred Funk	511,959
10. Jeff Maggert	504,143
11. Jerry Kelly	498,625
12. Jay Haas	465,917
13. Chris Riley	446,786
14. Jonathan Kaye	446,757
15. Chris DiMarco	443,048

Europe
World Points

1. Sergio Garcia	Spn	219.10
2. Padraig Harrington	Ire	219.09
3. Darren Clarke	Nir	162.51
4. Miguel Angel Jimenez	Spn	154.33
5. Fredrik Jacobson	Swe	126.79
6. Paul Casey	Eng	101.76
7. Joakim Haeggman	Swe	93.64
8. Lee Westwood	Eng	90.39
9. Thomas Bjorn	Den	85.24
10. Ian Poulter	Eng	84.23

European Points

1. Miguel Angel Jimenez	Spn	1,358,126.76
2. Darren Clarke	Nir	1,248,015.17
3. Padraig Harrington	Ire	1,122,641.06
4. Paul Casey	Eng	987,628.34
5. Lee Westwood	Eng	945,530.61
6. Fredrik Jacobson	Swe	905,562.10
7. Joakim Haeggman	Swe	882,514.59
8. Brian Davis	Eng	871,103.18
9. Ian Poulter	Eng	851,584.37
10. David Howell	Eng	745,250.00

Deals

Monday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League
BALTIMORE ORIOLES—Acquired RHP Jason Grimsley from Kansas City for RHP Denny Bautista and agreed with Grimsley on a contract extension through the 2005 season.
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Purchased the contract of HP Vic Darenbourg from Charlotte of the Triple-A Intl Nelly Fernsfield outright to Charlotte.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Placed LHP Chris Hammond on the 15-day DL, retroactive to June 12. Called up INF Ramon Castro from Sacramento of the PCL.
National League
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Placed C Ramon Hernandez on the 15-day DL. Recalled C Humberto Quintero from Portland of the PCL.
SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Placed LHP Jason Christiansen on the 15-day DL, retroactive to June 19. Recalled LHP Noah Lowry from Fresno of the PCL.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Traded the fourth and 33rd overall picks in Thursday's NBA Draft to the Los Angeles Clippers for the second overall pick and an agreement to select C Predrag Drobnjak in Tuesday's expansion draft.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
HOUSTON TEXANS—Signed WR Sloan Thomas.
NEW YORK GIANTS—Named Beth Roche director of marketing services and youth program development.
ST. LOUIS RAMS—Signed OL Ben Nolt to a one-year contract.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Waived LB Jeremiah Trotter, TB Ty Myers, CB Jay Hatcher, CB Randy Jordan, T Jason Lenzmeier, G Isaiah Ross and G Jon Skinner.
WASHINGTON REDSKINS—Signed OL Jim Molinaro.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League
SAN JOSE SHARKS—Exercised their contract option on D Brad Stuart.

COLLEGE
ARKANSAS LITTLE-ROCK—Named Wes Flanigan men's assistant basketball coach.
BRIDGEPORT—Named Jay Moran director of athletics.
DARTMOUTH—Named Shay Berry and Tommy Deffebaugh men's assistant basketball coaches.
DREXEL—Named Amy Mallon women's assistant basketball coach.
KENT STATE—Named Marc Wilson and Jenna Lehmann women's assistant basketball coaches.
KUTZTOWN—Announced Clark Yeager, director of athletics, will resign to become assistant to the provost. Named Jack Entrikein interim director of athletics.
MISSOURI—Named Melvin Watkins men's assistant basketball coach.
MIAMI(OH)—Agreed terms with Bill Agronin, women's basketball coach, on a multi-year contract through the 2007-08 season.
PHILADELPHIA—Named Lynn Tuthman associate director of athletics and senior women's administrator.
RICHARD STOCKTON—Named Aimee Seward field hockey coach. Nick Aengenent women's soccer coach and Kristin Camm athletic trainer.
ST. JOHN'S, N.Y.—Named Joanth Nicolas women's assistant basketball coach.
SAM HOUSTON STATE—Named Jason Hooten men's assistant basketball coach.
WILLIAM & MARY—Named Scott Warner men's assistant basketball coach.
WISCONSIN-OSHKOSH—Named Erin Leinweber women's soccer coach.

TANK MCNAMARA

Bucs RB Pittman suspended 3 games

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. — Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back Michael Pittman was suspended by the NFL without pay for three games and fined an additional two games' pay Tuesday for violating the league's personal conduct policy.

Pittman was indicted last June in Arizona on two counts of aggravated assault for intentionally ramming his sport-utility vehicle into a car carrying his wife, 2-year-old son and the couple's baby sitter.

The seventh-year pro, one of the star's in Tampa Bay's Super Bowl victory two seasons ago, pleaded guilty March 25 to one count of endangerment in exchange for prosecutors dropping charges of aggravated assault and aggravated domestic violence.

NFL briefs

Pittman was sentenced to 30 days in jail and was released after serving 14 days. The sentence also included three years of supervised probation and a fine and surcharge totaling $4,500.

The running back's suspension begins on Sept. 5, when the Bucs open the regular season at Washington. He's eligible to return on Sept. 27, the day after Tampa Bay faces the Oakland Raiders.

Pittman is eligible to participate in all preseason practices and games.

This is Pittman's second suspension related to domestic violence. He missed the season opener with the Cardinals in 2001 after he was arrested in a previous case in the Phoenix area.

Resisting arrest charges against Patriots' Law dropped

MIAMI — Prosecutors dropped a final charge Monday against New England Patriots cornerback Ty Law, who was arrested in April after he allegedly led police on a brief foot chase through a popular nightclub district on Miami Beach.

Joel Hirschhorn, Law's attorney, said he previously discussed the case with prosecutors, who dropped the charge of disobeying a lawful command by a police officer and the traffic ticket prior to Monday's hearing.

Prosecutor Jonny Mosely dismissed the remaining charge of resisting an officer without violence at the hearing. Miami-Dade County Judge Jeffrey Schwarz also agreed to return Law's $150 bond.

Mosely had no comment on why the charges were dropped.

Law had been charged with resisting arrest without violence after Miami Beach police said the 30-year-old Pro Bowl player sped off in his Rolls-Royce after being pulled over for a lane violation.

Police had said they chased Law for about a half a block until he stopped again, but he pulled away and ran off. Police caught up with him after a short chase.

Not the same old Lefty

Open finish a hiccup, not trend for new Mickelson

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

SOUTHAMPTON, N.Y. — Phil Mickelson is a changed man, even if the ending looked all too familiar.

The lasting image of the 104th U.S. Open is not the six pressure-packed putts Retief Goosen made down the stretch to win his second major, but Lefty missing two short putts on the 71st hole that cost him a chance to go to Scotland next month chasing the third leg of the Grand Slam.

The first miss from 5 feet knocked him out of the lead. The second miss from 4 feet sealed his fate.

Same ol' Phil, right? Not anymore. This was merely a hiccup, not a trend.

The biggest difference between Sunday at Shinnecock Hills and Sunday at so many other majors is that no one expected Mickelson to mess it up.

This time, it was shocking.

"I thought it was going to come down to the 18th hole," Goosen said. "I didn't really expect Phil to make a double (bogey) at 17."

Mickelson's victory in the Masters made this U.S. Open look more like a close call than a blown opportunity.

"I've played what I think is very good golf for me," Mickelson said after his 71 left him two shots behind Goosen. "I feel like I'm onto good things. I feel like my preparation is better. I feel like my overall game is a better fit for this very tough test of golf."

Jack Nicklaus saw it coming late last year in the Presidents Cup, when Mickelson became the first American to lose all five matches. Lefty kept his spirits up, and worked harder than ever.

Nicklaus had a strong premonition that Lefty would be wearing a green jacket.

He also had a bad feeling watching Mickelson on the 17th green Sunday at Shinnecock Hills, especially after Goosen made a 12-foot birdie on the 16th hole to tie him for the lead.

"Here you are standing on 17, needing to make a putt to save par, and Retief birdies," Nicklaus said after watching the U.S. Open from his home in Florida.

"It made Phil's putt a lot longer," he said. "I've had it happen to me many times. You miss that first one, and suddenly you get frozen over the second. Because of what's going through your mind at the time, it's difficult to prepare yourself for the second putt. It's a shame for Phil, because he played a wonderful U.S. Open."

Nicklaus didn't miss many putts during his record run of 18 professional majors. But he missed his share, which explains why he has 19 runner-up finishes in the majors.

Mickelson now has four second-place finishes to go with his Masters victory, a record that now reads like a compliment instead of a failure.

Part of that is because he no longer has to explain why he hasn't won a major.

"As opposed to second this week being a negative, I look at it as a positive," Mickelson said. "Because I played such difficult conditions well and came so close and was able to shoot a good round on a very difficult Sunday."

Mickelson has never broken par in the final round of a U.S. Open, but this ought to count as one.

The final round was so difficult — in part because of the stubborn setup the USGA used to protect its precious par — that 28 players failed to break 80. Among them was Ernie Els, playing in the final group.

The best score in the final round was an even-par 70 by Robert Allenby.

Mickelson and Goosen shot 71 playing in the final two groups with the pressure of winning a major along for the ride.

"Some of the hardest scoring rounds we have in the U.S. Open happened to be the three events that I finished second — in '99, '04 and '02," Mickelson said. "And I think that I take a lot away from that. That tells me I can play under some very adverse and difficult conditions.

"And I'll enter these tournaments now with a lot of confidence."

The next major might be the real test.

Mickelson has never finished in the top 10 at a British Open.

Then again, he's never had so many shots in his bag.

A controlled fade off the tee has helped him keep the ball out of the thick grass. An understanding that length isn't everything has kept him from reaching for the driver on every hole.

Mickelson also has worked on his trajectory. He decided on a knockdown shot into the 13th green, which he left some 10 feet below the hole for a birdie that started his run of three birdies in four holes.

More than anything, his strength is preparation and confidence.

Mickelson is No. 1 on the PGA Tour money list, and with Vijay Singh starting to stall and Tiger Woods still searching for consistency, Mickelson is the leading candidate for player of the year halfway through the season.

Still, not many will forget that three-putt from 5 feet that kept him from winning his second major. Mickelson said the same thing he did after Bethpage — "It was a fun week" — but the disappointment was obvious.

Nonetheless, Mickelson left Long Island with the same attitude he brought to the U.S. Open.

He can't wait for the next major.

AP

Phil Mickelson reacts after sinking a birdie putt on 13 during the final round of the U.S. Open Sunday at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club.

Ovechkin confident he'll be No. 1 NHL pick, player

BY DAVE MOLINARI
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

Alexander Ovechkin respects Mario Lemieux. A lot. Calls him "the best player in the NHL."

He thinks a lot of Calgary's Jarome Iginla, too. Same with Owen Nolan of Toronto.

But ask Ovechkin if he has a hero in the NHL, and he doesn't mention Lemieux or Iginla or Nolan. Or anyone else, for that matter.

Except himself.

"I like myself," Ovechkin said. "I want to be No. 1."

Saturday, barring an almost unthinkable turn of events, he will be.

Regardless of whether Washington holds onto the top choice in the NHL entry draft, which seems likely, or trades it, Ovechkin will be the first player selected.

At that moment, the most highly touted prospect since Mario Lemieux in 1984 — not that, say, Eric Lindros slipped into the league unnoticed in 1991 — will officially become part of the NHL. And can begin proving that he's worthy of the hype that's swirled around him for the past few years.

Which, to hear some who have watched him play in Russia tell it, shouldn't be especially difficult.

"I think he is (as good as he's hyped)," Phoenix scout Ilkka Sinisalo said.

Ovechkin, a 6-foot-2, 212-pound left winger, had 13 goals and 10 assists in 53 games with Dynamo Moscow in the Russian Super League last season. Although he won't turn 19 until Sept. 17, he already has spent three seasons in the Super League, widely regarded as the second-best league in the world.

> *"In his draft year, Kovalchuk only played offense. Ovechkin, right now, he knows how to play both ways."*
>
> **Ilkka Sinisalo**
> Phoenix Coyotes scout

Ovechkin is a rare offensive talent, and is compared most often to Atlanta winger Ilya Kovalchuk. One striking difference: When Kovalchuk plays defense, it usually is an accident. For Ovechkin, it's a standard part of his repertoire.

"In his draft year, Kovalchuk only played offense," Sinisalo said. "Ovechkin, right now, he knows how to play both ways."

Mark Kelley, the Penguins' European scout, believes the comparisons to Kovalchuk are somewhat misguided because of some fundamental differences in style.

"Kovalchuk is a dynamic offense player," Kelley said. "Ovechkin plays with more power, and [interacts] differently with his linemates.

"Where Kovalchuk will end up having more breakaways and more spectacular goals, Ovechkin will get more goals from in front of the net and in the slot, with someone draped over him.

"He plays with power. He's a lot like [Jaromir Jagr]. Yags always had the really, really strong lower torso. In a lot of the power forwards, the power comes from the lower part of the body."

Coincidentally enough, the Capitals spent a couple of seasons trying to build a championship-caliber team around Jagr, an experiment management finally abandoned this past season. That explains why, if Ovechkin ends up in Washington, the Capitals aren't likely to label him the cornerstone of their rebuilding program.

"We've learned through our recent history," General Manager George McPhee said. "We were a pretty good team three or four years ago, a hard-working team that got to the (1998 Stanley Cup) finals and won a couple of division titles.

"Then, the last few years, we sort of went to the star system with several players, and it doesn't work. So we're going to try to integrate these (soon-to-be-drafted) players as just one player among 20 or 22 guys who have to play as a team."

The catch is, while McPhee wants to resist putting that kind of pressure on him, Ovechkin craves it. He not only accepts the expectations that go with his reputation, but embraces them.

"If I go to some team, I want to be a leader for that team," he said.

Ovechkin is conversant in English, which he studied in Russia. And even though his formal training in the language ended a couple of years ago — "I stopped learning English because I was busy," he said. "I have games, trips, practice" — he still picks up pieces of it from watching television, mostly sports highlight shows.

If Ovechkin continues to tune in after his NHL career begins, he can expect to see tape of himself on a fairly regular basis. Too many people who know too much about hockey expect great things from Ovechkin for him to be an unabashed flop.

Never mind that McPhee still isn't ready to publicly acknowledge what has been obvious from the instant Washington won the draft lottery in April: That Ovechkin will be grafted onto the Capitals' depth chart before the week is over.

"I try to avoid building up one player too much, because we're not going to disclose who we're interested in," McPhee said. "There are some good players at the top of the draft.

"We're lucky to have won the lottery, and have a chance to pick the one we think is the best."

And that one, by almost any measure, is Ovechkin.

Fullerton's Romero throws Miami for loss

Titans get another CWS complete game, end Hurricanes' 13-game win streak

BY ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Ricky Romero threw a complete game, and Felipe Garcia went 4-for-4 to lead Cal State Fullerton to a 6-3 victory over Miami in the College World Series on Monday night.

Romero (13-4) allowed nine hits, struck out seven, walked two, and only got into trouble once.

The Titans have gotten complete games in their first two games at the CWS. Jason Windsor pitched a three-hitter in a 2-0 win over South Carolina on Saturday.

"Both of them are as good as anyone out here," Miami coach Jim Morris said. "The secret is getting into their bullpen. Not many people get into their bullpen when those guys are throwing."

In the earlier game Monday, South Carolina eliminated LSU with a 15-4 victory and will face Miami on Tuesday. The loser of that game will be knocked out of the CWS. The winner will play Fullerton on Wednesday.

Cal State Fullerton (44-21) has won seven straight and 29 of 34 games. The Hurricanes (50-12) saw their 13-game winning streak end.

Miami's J.D. Cockroft (9-5) struggled for the second year in a row in the CWS. He lasted only 3 2/3 innings — his shortest outing in 12 starts — and gave up nine hits and five runs. He was hurt by four Miami errors.

In a 13-2 loss to Texas last year, he allowed 10 hits and 10 runs and his teammates committed five errors in 3 1/3 innings.

The Hurricanes scored twice against Romero in the seventh to make it 5-3.

"I wasn't getting tired in the seventh," Romero said. "My mechanics were off and I got back to staying on top of the ball and throwing strikes."

AP

Cal State Fullerton's P.J. Pilittere, center, picks up starting pitcher Ricky Romero, with catcher Kurt Suzuki (3) joining in after Cal State Fullerton beat Miami 6-3 in a College World Series game Monday in Omaha, Neb. The Titans have won seven straight games.

In the early game, Kevin Melillo had four hits and was ejected and reinstated after a collision at home plate, leading South Carolina over LSU.

The Gamecocks trailed 3-1 before they scored six runs, four unearned, with two outs in the sixth.

South Carolina had the bases loaded with two outs when Nick Gardiner singled to right off Lane Mestepey (7-4). Landon Powell scored easily, but Melillo collided with LSU catcher Matt Liuzza after the ball bounced under Liuzza's glove.

Umpire Bob Homolka called Melillo safe, but immediately ejected him for not trying to avoid the collision.

South Carolina coach Ray Tanner came out of the dugout to protest, and after the umpiring crew consulted with supervisor Dave Yeast, Homolka's decision was reversed and Melillo was reinstated.

"He really didn't plow through him," Tanner said. "He kind of held up a little bit. Nobody went to the ground. You'd hate to see a player ejected in a game like this."

Jim Paronto, secretary-editor to the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee, said in a statement that Homolka initially believed the collision was caused by a flagrant act by Melillo but it was later determined that it was not.

"I was coming down the line and I could see Landon telling me to get down," Melillo said. "I was kind of looking to see where Liuzza was going to go, where the ball was going to take him, so I could try to take an angle and slide around him.

"The ball led him up the line and we collided a little bit. It was nothing intentional. He understood that."

The intent of the rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid violent collisions whenever possible.

"I'd be surprised if it wasn't reviewed," Yeast said.

It was the second CWS game in which the collision rule came into play. Georgia shortstop Justin Holmes was ejected for running into catcher Nick Hundley in the Bulldogs' 8-7 win. Holmes was out on the play.

The Gamecocks went on to score four more runs in the inning, three on throwing errors by the Tigers. South Carolina added six more runs in the eighth inning to seal the victory.

LSU (46-19) was knocked out of the CWS in two games for the second year in a row by South Carolina.

LSU, which had won two of three regular-season meetings between the teams, was dealt its worst loss since being beaten 15-4 by Mississippi State in 2002. It was the Tigers' worst loss in the CWS since Cal State Fullerton beat them 20-6 in 1994.

"We didn't defend the field well for a few innings," LSU coach Smoke Laval said. "We usually avoid the big inning, but this time we didn't and it seemed to snowball on us. We just needed a few more timely hits."

The teams combined for a CWS-record 34 singles.

Gamecocks starter Aaron Rawl (13-4) got the win after scattering 11 hits over 62/3 innings.

Family struggles to cope year after Dennehy's murder

BY ANGELA K. BROWN
The Associated Press

The shooting death of Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy a year ago has taken a toll on some of those closest to him.

Dennehy's mother and stepfather have filed for divorce after more than 15 years of marriage. Their problems seemed to escalate after Dennehy's death, said his stepfather, Brian Brabazon. Both continue to grieve for the 6-foot-10 player who dreamed of playing professional basketball.

"It's sadness now. The anger for me has subsided," Brabazon said. "I think about it every day. All I want is the truth to come out, why it happened and what happened."

Dennehy's former teammate, Carlton Dotson, is awaiting an August murder trial, where he faces life in prison if convicted of gunning down his friend in a field of chest-high weeds near the Waco campus.

The Baylor men's basketball program has acknowledged major NCAA infractions and faces self-imposed sanctions, stemming from misdeeds by the coach who has since stepped down. Baylor also plans to implement new recruiting policies, including criminal background checks for student-athlete transfers.

Baylor's president, Robert Sloan, said Monday that the past year was one of the most tragic and difficult for the world's largest Baptist university.

"It's very painful to experience the loss of a student in any circumstance, but especially circumstances like these," Sloan said. "What's important is to take whatever happened and learn from it."

Brian Brabazon knew something was wrong last Father's Day when Dennehy, 21, didn't call their Carson City, Nev., home. The couple's concern grew after they found out his friends and a coach hadn't heard from him in about a week.

The Brabazons reported Dennehy missing June 19, 2003 — seven days after authorities believe he was killed. His car was found June 25 in a Virginia Beach, Va., parking lot about 160 miles from Dotson's home in Hurlock, Md.

> *"I wanted Baylor to say they were wrong. They never said, 'We're sorry. We should have done this better.'"*
>
> **Brian Brabazon**
> Patrick Dennehy's stepfather

Dennehy's body was not found until late July, a few days after Dotson was arrested. Authorities have refused to discuss a motive or say whether Dotson led them to the body.

Dotson, now 22, remains jailed and is to be evaluated by a defense psychiatrist. His attorneys said they have not decided whether to seek an insanity defense.

After Dennehy disappeared, the men's basketball program was rocked with revelations of NCAA violations, which led to the August resignations of coach Dave Bliss and athletic director Tom Stanton.

School investigators later discovered that Bliss paid up to $40,000 in tuition for two players and improperly solicited $87,000 from Baylor boosters. The probe also revealed that staff members did not properly report some players' failed drug tests.

The infractions led to self-imposed sanctions, including reduced scholarships, an extra year of probation and reduced contact between coaches and recruits. The school also banned itself from postseason play this season.

Baylor also faced a wrongful-death lawsuit by Patrick Dennehy Sr., who had little contact with his son until a few years ago. But the judge threw out the case in February, saying the school never could have predicted the athlete's death.

Then last month, Valorie Brabazon, Dennehy's mother, reached an undisclosed settlement with Baylor after agreeing not to sue.

But Brian Brabazon, who raised Dennehy since he was a child, believes Baylor should have done more to protect his stepson.

"Originally, I wanted to bring Baylor down to its knees," Brabazon said. "I'm not a greedy person; I wanted Baylor to say they were wrong. They never said, 'We're sorry. We should have done this better.' "

Dennehy's stepfather said the family, especially Dennehy's teenage sister, continues struggling to recover from the death.

About every six weeks, Brabazon drives five hours to Dennehy's grave in San Jose, Calif., even if he can only stay for 20 minutes before driving back home. He said Dennehy's mother goes about once a month.

Brabazon said whatever prison sentence is meted out in Dennehy's death won't be enough because prisoners have rights.

"When we go back to San Jose, Patrick isn't coming out to give us a hug or to talk to us on the phone through a glass window," he said. "… No punishment in the world will make up for what happened."

Sex history of Bryant accuser debated

BY JON SARCHE
The Associated Press

EAGLE, Colo. — NBA star Kobe Bryant returned to court Tuesday for the conclusion of a closed-door hearing on whether the sexual history of the woman accusing him of rape can be used against her at trial.

Several forensics experts were at the courthouse, including Henry Lee and Michael Baden for the prosecution. Both men participated in the O.J. Simpson case.

The defense wants to introduce evidence it says will show the woman had multiple sexual partners during the week of her encounter with Bryant at a Vail-area resort.

It has suggested she had a scheme to attract attention from an ex-boyfriend and injuries found on her during a hospital exam could have been caused by sex with someone other than Bryant.

Prosecutors say the woman's sex life is irrelevant in determining whether she was assaulted. They have asked the judge to uphold Colorado's "rape shield" law, which generally bars the sexual history of alleged victims from being introduced as evidence.

State District Judge Terry Ruckriegle has indicated he wants to wrap arguments on the issue Tuesday. It will be up to him whether the sexual history can be admitted at trial.

Bryant, 25, has pleaded not guilty to felony sexual assault, saying he had consensual sex with the then-19-year-old woman in his hotel room last summer. If convicted, the Los Angeles Lakers star faces four years to life in prison, 20 years to life on probation and a fine of up to $750,000.

Both sides in the case say they could be ready for trial by late August. The judge has not set a trial date.

According to court filings, attorneys plan to use Baden to discuss injuries found on the woman. The defense is trying to bar his testimony, but details of the request are sealed.

Lee, a well-known expert in forensics, is expected to be called by prosecutors to counter the conclusions of a defense expert, Elizabeth Johnson, who runs a forensics practice in California.

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Bobcats move up to No. 2 in draft

Charlotte eyes either Howard or Okafor

BY JENNA FRYER
The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — No matter how many stiffs the Charlotte Bobcats take in the NBA expansion draft, at least they know they are getting either Dwight Howard or Emeka Okafor later this week.

The Bobcats made their first trade Monday, swapping picks with the Los Angeles Clippers to get the No. 2 overall choice and the chance to make either Howard or Okafor the cornerstone of their franchise.

The Bobcats have made no secret of their desire to obtain Okafor or Howard as one of the main building blocks for the league's 30th franchise.

Both were expected in Charlotte for workouts on Tuesday.

"We would be pleased starting our basketball team with either one of those young men," Bobcats coach and general manager Bernie Bickerstaff said. "They represent what we would like to become in terms of character, competitiveness and talent."

They gave Los Angeles the No. 4 overall pick and their second-round pick (33rd). The Clippers are expected to choose Peoria prep star Shaun Livingston with the fourth overall pick, believing the Chicago Bulls will pass on him at No. 3 because they would not want to use their lottery pick on a point guard for a third consecutive year.

"We will get the player we want with the fourth pick, and it improves our salary cap flexibility with regard to potential free agents," Los Angeles General Manager Elgin Baylor said. "We didn't say who we'd pick. We won't disclose that until draft day."

Charlotte also agreed to select Los Angeles center Predrag Drobnjak in the expansion draft.

Don't know much about Drobnjak? That could be a common theme with most of Charlotte's expansion picks.

The Bobcats have led everyone to believe they'll pass on big names and big contracts in the expansion draft, but disinformation is part of the game at this time of the year.

So is making deals, and coach-general manager Bernie Bickerstaff has been burning up the phone lines trying to create several scenarios for the Bobcats.

In one deal close to being finalized, Charlotte would acquire center Jahidi White, cash and a future draft pick from Phoenix — a deal that would give the Suns enough salary cap flexibility to make a run at free agents Kobe Bryant or Steve Nash.

THE CHARLOTTE OBSERVER/AP

Charlotte Bobcats vice president Ed Tapscott, left, and coach and general manger Bernie Bickerstaff hosted projected top picks Dwight Howard and Emeka Okafor for workouts on Tuesday.

But Charlotte could also force itself smack into the middle of other deals across the league. One rumored trade has Orlando sending Tracy McGrady to Houston for Steve Francis, but the deal is reportedly contingent on certain players not being picked in the expansion draft.

The Bobcats can muddy the waters by threatening to select some of those players and force Orlando and Houston to work with Charlotte to make the McGrady-Francis trade work.

"We're good listeners and good facilitators," Bickerstaff said. "We wouldn't try to do anything vindictive, but if it's something we can derive benefit from ..."

Charlotte can also wreak havoc by selecting restricted free agents. Once picked, they automatically become unrestricted and are able to sign with any team except the one they left.

The Bobcats have to select at least 14 players Tuesday, but only one per team. Bickerstaff has said he expects as few as five appearing on the opening day roster.

Still, there's enough unprotected talent available Tuesday for Charlotte to field a team probably capable of making a run at the Eastern Conference playoffs next season. But Bickerstaff insists he wants to take a long-range approach and has hinted he'll pass on the likes of Jerry Stackhouse, Antoine Walker, Eddie Jones and Brian Grant.

"We're looking for young players who need an opportunity to play, to get minutes," he said. "Players who've got skills, athleticism, and talent, but need opportunity."

So will anyone even recognize the players Bickerstaff does select? "Basketball fans will," he said.

Among the unprotected players the Bobcats are believed interested in are Sacramento's Gerald Wallace and Jason Kapono of Cleveland.

Trade: Rockets could boast McGrady-Ming duo

TRADE, FROM BACK PAGE

Lakers General Manager Mitch Kupchak said he expects to hear from O'Neal's representatives in the coming days to gauge whether O'Neal was sincere in his comments last week demanding a trade.

"Me and the Big Fella are trying to get to Dallas together now," McGrady told Florida Today.

"I do expect to meet with or speak to Shaquille's representatives in timely fashion. We've had three or four days now for everybody to wind down now, calm down a little bit. I'll get a better feel of where we stand at that time," Kupchak said. "I'm eager to hear what they have to say, and we'll take it from there."

If the Lakers are serious about trading O'Neal, the Mavericks could be an ideal trading partner.

Dallas owner Mark Cuban said he hadn't spoken to the Lakers yet.

"Will we? Most likely," he said. "But, you know, we also have to ascertain what's real and what's not real."

Dallas has one of the league's most talent-laden rosters, including several players whose combined salaries would be within the league-mandated 15 percent of O'Neal's $27 million salary for next season.

The hangup would be deciding the players involved. The Lakers would start by asking for Dirk Nowitzki. The Mavericks would be more willing to package Antoine Walker, Antawn Jamison or Michael Finley.

"I'd be hard-pressed to see us trading Dirk," Cuban said. "Dirk is as close to an untouchable as we'd get."

Still, the Rockets were said to be the leading candidate to acquire McGrady. A trade to Houston would team McGrady with Yao Ming, giving the Rockets an inside-outside nucleus few Western Conference teams could match.

Because of league salary cap rules relating to Francis' salary, such a deal could not be finalized until mid-July.

But Francis said he wants to stay in Houston.

"I thought we were really building something, something very good in Houston," said Francis, who has averaged 19.3 points, 6.4 assists and 6.1 rebounds in five seasons with the Rockets.

"Obviously, that's not the direction they want to go. I still think we could be a very good team.

"I'm not crying. Like I told you before, I know this is a business. Things like that happen. I'm not mad. I'm not upset. This is what they're trying to do. But like I said, I still think we could be something."

Francis told Houston television station KRIV that he talked with O'Neal on Monday and wants him as a teammate if he goes to Orlando.

High-risk sneezing, sleeping in season of bizarre injuries

BY KEVIN BAXTER
The Miami Herald

Even by baseball's usual comic standards, this has been a great year for injuries.

How can you not get excited about a season in which a future Hall of Famer lands on the disabled list with injuries suffered in a sneezing incident? Or in which three players are hurt in sleeping accidents.

Analysis

And how about Atlanta outfielder J.D. Drew, who missed three games after straining his neck while swimming in a friend's pond? And those are just the stories we believe. San Diego Padres pitcher David Wells, whose colorful personal life is the stuff of legend, tried out a number of explanations for the severed tendon in his right wrist and the cut on his left palm before deciding on this one: He tripped over a bar stool while playfully chasing a buddy who had tapped him on the back, falling on a glass and bottle he was carrying.

Uh, sure, David. Anything you say.

But then again, maybe it is true. After all, it's not the only strange injury Padres trainers have treated this year. Ryan Klesko missed more than a week with a back strain sustained when he stood for the national anthem, and pitcher Akinora Otsuka was hurt when he was hit in the face by a bat thrown to him by a fan requesting an autograph. Otsuka said he missed the bat when he became distracted by a piece of paper thrown at him by another autograph seeker, prompting this sage advice from manager Bruce Bochy: "Aki, next time, catch the bat and let the paper hit you."

(Vince Naimoli, managing general partner of the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, also was struck by a flying bat this season, though neither he nor his guest, Gen. Peter Schoomaker, the Army's chief of staff, were hurt. And they say Iraq is dangerous.)

Then there's the Baltimore Orioles' Larry Bigbie, who missed a start this year after stubbing his toe in his hotel room — although as stupid toe injuries go, that was mild. When Mark Grace played for the Arizona Diamondbacks, he broke his toe crossing the clubhouse to congratulate teammate Damian Miller on making the All-Star team. And St. Louis Cardinals minor-leaguer Mike Crudale broke his toe answering the phone last spring.

Oakland pitcher Rich Harden strained his shoulder turning off his alarm clock, and the Marlins' Bryce Florie crashed into sliding doors while sleepwalking.

The spate of injuries is no laughing matter for the players involved, of course, nor for Elliot Pellman, Major League Baseball's medical adviser, who was recently quizzed by a New York newspaper about the increased number of players on the disabled list. Through the first third of the season, debilitating injuries are up nearly 25 percent from last year, and some inside baseball are wondering if the sport's new drug-testing policy is to blame.

Players who freely used performance-enhancing drugs in the past have quit cold turkey, one theory goes, leaving them brittle and susceptible to injury. Medical experts, however, have been quick to dismiss that suggestion.

"It would be hard off the top to come up with a cause-and-effect explanation for that related to steroids," NYU medical professor Gary Wadler, a board member of the World Anti-Doping Agency, told T.J. Quinn of The New York Daily News. "I'm not sure that has legs."

Which means there really is no explanation for why the Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa, who is strong enough to hit 549 career home runs, could miss a month after hurting his back sneezing. But at least he was awake when he got hurt. In spring training, Oakland pitcher Rich Harden strained his shoulder turning off his alarm clock, and the Marlins' Bryce Florie crashed into sliding doors while sleepwalking.

Weeks later Tampa Bay's Rocco Baldelli was unable to play in the field in a regular-season game after he fell asleep propped up in front of the television and strained a muscle.

All are deserving of the Chris Brown Sleeping Disorder Prize, named for the former San Francisco Giant who begged out of a game once claiming he "slept on his eye wrong."

Even Sosa would have to admit all this is pretty funny .... if it didn't hurt so much.

Griffey, Bonds top NL All-Star voting

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A day after hitting his 500th home run, Reds outfielder Ken Griffey Jr. solidified his spot Monday in voting for NL starters in the All-Star Game.

Griffey, Barry Bonds and Sammy Sosa are the top three among outfielders. If they're elected, it would mark the first time in All-Star history that three members of the 500-homer club would start in the game outfield.

The All-Star teams will be announced July 4. The game will be played July 13 at Minute Maid Park in Houston.

Bonds (1,502,397) leads all NL players in the voting. The San Francisco slugger is in line to be a starter for the 11th time.

Griffey (1,325,664) became the 20th player to reach 500 career home runs. Sosa (1,124,623) came off the disabled list last week for the Chicago Cubs.

Also leading in NL voting are catcher Mike Piazza (1,188,858) of the New York Mets, first baseman Albert Pujols (1,149,068) and third baseman Scott Rolen (1,310,385) of St. Louis, and second baseman Jeff Kent (1,340,101) and shortstop Adam Everett (725,629) of the Astros.

See complete voting list on Scoreboard, Page 28

Briefs

Padilla out indefinitely

PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia Phillies right-hander Vicente Padilla will be sidelined indefinitely with biceps tendinitis and elbow inflammation in his pitching arm.

Team officials said Monday that Padilla will have an MRI on Tuesday and a bone scan Wednesday.

The former All-Star has been on the disabled list since May 29.

Orioles acquire RHP Grimsley

BALTIMORE — The Orioles got the right-handed reliever they needed, acquiring Jason Grimsley in a trade with the Kansas City Royals on Monday.

Baltimore gave up right-handed prospect Denny Bautista for Grimsley, who immediately agreed to a contract extension through 2005.

Grimsley, 36, is 3-3 with a 3.38 ERA in 32 appearances for the Royals this season.

Padres' Hernandez on DL

SAN DIEGO — San Diego Padres catcher Ramon Hernandez got a lucky break when Toronto's Howie Clark slammed into his left knee in a collision at the plate.

Hernandez, placed on the 15-day disabled list Monday, has a second-degree strain of his medial collateral ligament. The rest of the knee looks fine, trainer Todd Hutcheson said.

"I think we're pretty fortunate that this is all there was to the injury," Hutcheson said.

Hernandez, acquired with outfielder Terrence Long for center fielder Mark Kotsay in the offseason, anticipates a quick recovery.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	43	24	.642	—
Boston	39	29	.574	4½
Tampa Bay	34	34	.485	10½
Toronto	30	39	.435	14
Baltimore	26	37	.431	14
Central Division				
Minnesota	38	30	.559	—
Chicago	35	31	.530	2
Cleveland	34	34	.500	4
Detroit	31	37	.456	7
Kansas City	26	40	.394	11
West Division				
Texas	37	29	.561	—
Oakland	36	30	.599	—
Anaheim	38	31	.551	½
Seattle	29	38	.433	8½

Monday's games

Cleveland 5, Chicago White Sox 1
Anaheim 10, Oakland 3

Tuesday's games

Minnesota at Boston
Tampa Bay at Toronto
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore
Seattle at Texas
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox
Detroit at Kansas City
Oakland at Anaheim

Wednesday's games

Minnesota (Silva 7-4) at Boston (Lowe 6-5)
N.Y. Yankees (Lieber 5-4) at Baltimore (Bedard 1-2)
Tampa Bay (V.Zambrano 7-4) at Toronto (Halladay 6-4)
Seattle (R.Franklin 3-4) at Texas (Bierbrodt 0-0)
Cleveland (C.Lee 6-1) at Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 7-3)
Detroit (Knotts 4-1) at Kansas City (May 4-4)
Oakland (Redman 5-3) at Anaheim (Escobar 4-3)

Thursday's games

Tampa Bay at Toronto
Minnesota at Boston
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox
Seattle at Texas
Detroit at Kansas City
Oakland at Anaheim
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore

Monday
Indians 5, White Sox 1

CLEVELAND	ab	r	h		CHICAGO	ab	r	h	
Billiard 2b	4	1	1	1	Uribe 2b	4	0	0	0
Crisp cf	3	1	0	0	Pierzynski c	3	0	0	0
Lawton lf	4	0	2	0	Olivo c	1	0	0	0
VMartnez c	4	2	4	1	Thmas,gh	3	0	0	0
Blake 3b	4	0	1	2	Cabrera cf	4	1	2	0
Hafner dh	3	0	1	0	Knerko 1b	4	0	0	0
Merkin 1b	3	0	0	1	Rivas cf	4	1	3	0
Brssrd 1b	0	0	0	0	Vlentin ss	4	0	0	0
Sandrzyk f	3	0	0	0	Crede 3b	2	0	1	0
Gerut rf	1	0	0	0	SAlmr c	3	0	0	0
JMartnez ss	3	0	0	0	Mckman rf	0	0	0	0
Totals	**33**	**5**	**10**	**5**	**Totals**	**32**	**1**	**4**	**1**

Cleveland	000	010	300	—	**5**				
Chicago	000	100	000	—	**1**				

E—McDonald (3). LOB—Cleveland 6, Chicago 6. 2B—VMartinez (21), Crede (14). HR—Billiard (2), Blake (11), Rowand (6). CS—Crisp (6), Lawton (8). SF—Merloni.

CLEVELAND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Sabathia W,5-3	8	4	1	1	1	4
Miller	1	0	0	0	0	2
Chicago						
Schmidt L,5-6	7	8	4	4	2	4
Mjackson	⅓	1	1	1	1	0
Cotts	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Politte	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Darensbourg	⅓	1	0	0	0	0

Darensbourg pitched to 1 batter in the 9th.
WP—Sabathia (Blake), by Sabathia (CaLee). T—2:38. A—29,722 (40,615).

Angels 10, Athletics 3

OAKLAND	ab	r	h		ANAHEIM	ab	r	h	
Byrnes lf	4	0	1	0	Eckstin ss	4	2	1	2
McLmr 3b	4	0	1	0	Figgins 3b	4	0	0	0
Ordaz ss	4	1	0	0	Vidro rf	5	3	4	4
Dye rf	4	0	0	0	Quinlan 1b	5	0	0	0
Erberg 1b	4	1	1	0	Glaus,cf	4	0	1	1
Durazo dh	4	1	3	0	Gjillen lf	5	0	2	2
Kielty lf	3	1	0	0	Erstad 1b	5	1	1	0
RaCstro pb	3	1	0	0	1	Amzga 3b	0	0	0	0
Miller c	4	0	0	0	Mthlin dh	4	0	1	0
Scutaro 2b	3	0	1	2	BMolina,c	4	2	2	1
					AKndy 2b	3	2	1	0
Totals	**35**	**3**	**9**	**3**	**Totals**	**37**	**10**	**13**	**10**

Oakland	000	020	100	—	**3**				
Anaheim	000	041	14x	—	**10**				

E—Amezaga (2). DP—Anaheim 2. LOB—Oakland 5, Anaheim 8.2B—Durazo (12), Crosby (16), Eckstein (11), VGuerrero (22), Glanderson (7), BaVanon (7), BMolina (6). HR—VGuerrero (17).

OAKLAND	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Hardman L,3-5	5⅔	8	5	5	2	4
RRincon	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Duchscherer	2	4	4	4	1	1
Bradford	⅓	2	1	1	1	0
Anaheim						
Lackey W,5-8	8	7	2	2	0	4
Shields	1	2	1	1	1	0

WP—Harden, Shields. T—2:49. A—43,058 (45,030).

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	36	31	.537	—
Florida	37	32	.536	—
New York	34	34	.500	2½
Atlanta	36	41	.472	4½
Montreal	22	45	.328	14
Central Division				
St. Louis	41	28	.594	—
Chicago	39	30	.565	2
Cincinnati	38	31	.551	3
Milwaukee	35	31	.530	4½
Houston	36	33	.522	5
Pittsburgh	26	40	.394	13½
West Division				
Los Angeles	37	30	.552	—
San Francisco	36	34	.514	3
San Diego	35	34	.507	3½
Arizona	27	43	.386	11½
Colorado	25	43	.368	12½

Monday's games

Houston 7, Pittsburgh 5
San Diego 3, Arizona 1
San Francisco 3, Los Angeles 2

Tuesday's games

Atlanta at Florida
Philadelphia at Montreal
Cincinnati at N.Y. Mets
Colorado at Milwaukee
Pittsburgh at Houston
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis
Arizona at San Diego
Los Angeles at San Francisco

Wednesday's games

Atlanta (Thomas 5-5) at Florida (Beckett 4-4)
Philadelphia (Millwood 4-5) at Montreal (Vargas 4-4)
Cincinnati (Van Poppel 3-2) at N.Y. Mets (Seo 3-5)
Colorado (Cook 1-2) at Milwaukee (Capuano 2-2)
Pittsburgh (Vogelsong 1-7) at Houston (Munro 1-4)
Chicago Cubs (Rusch 4-1) at St. Louis (Suppan 6-2)
Arizona (Johnson 9-5) at San Diego (O.Web 2-5)
Los Angeles (Weaver 5-7) at San Francisco (J.Williams 6-5)

Thursday's games

Philadelphia at Montreal
Cincinnati at N.Y. Mets
Colorado at Milwaukee
Atlanta at Florida
Los Angeles at San Francisco
Pittsburgh at Houston
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis

Monday
Astros 7, Pirates 5

PITTSBURGH	ab	r	h		HOUSTON	ab	r	h	
Kendall c	5	0	2	1	Biggio cf	4	2	2	0
McWilsn,ss	5	0	2	0	Ryan ss	5	0	2	1
Ward 1b	4	0	1	0	Brkmn lf	4	1	2	4
CWilsn rf	4	1	0	0	Kent 2b	4	0	1	1
Mckwk 3b	3	1	0	0	DMicell p	0	0	0	0
Bay lf	4	1	1	1	WMillr ph	1	0	0	0
TRdrm cf	4	1	2	1	Dotel p	0	0	0	0
Castillo 2b	4	1	1	0	Bgwell 1b	4	0	0	0
ANunez ph	1	0	0	0	Lamb 3b	2	0	2	0
Fogg p	1	0	0	0	Ensbrg 3b	1	0	0	0
GrBdow p	1	0	0	0	Asmus c	4	0	0	0
Jhnston p	0	0	0	0	DMrnno rf	3	0	0	0
STorres p	0	0	0	0	Wthers p	0	0	0	0
Simon ph	1	0	1	0	Brnfrth ss	1	0	0	0
					Rdding p	0	0	0	0
					Bulling p	0	0	0	0
					AEvrtt ph	0	1	0	0
					Lane rf	2	1	1	1
Totals	**36**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**Totals**	**32**	**7**	**13**	**7**

Pittsburgh	000	400	001	—	**5**				
Houston	000	051	00x	—	**7**				

DP—Pittsburgh 3, Houston 1. LOB—Pittsburgh 6, Houston 10. 2B—Bay (7), Simon (3), Berkman (18). HR—Lane (2). S—Fogg, JVizcaino.

Pittsburgh	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Fogg L,4-6	4	8	5	5	3	0
GrBdow	2	1	1	1	2	1
Johnston	1	2	1	1	3	0
STorres	1	0	0	0	0	1
Houston						
Redding	3⅓	8	4	4	1	1
Bullinger W,1-0	1⅓	1	0	0	0	3
Wtherspoon	2	2	0	0	0	3
DMicell	1	0	0	0	0	1
Dotel Sv,1	1	0	0	0	1	1

Fogg pitched to 6 batters in the 5th. Johnston pitched to 3 batters in the 8th.
HBP—by Fogg (AEverett). T—3:04. A—33,440 (40,950).

Padres 3, Diamondbacks 1

ARIZONA	ab	r	h		SAN DIEGO	ab	r	h	
Hirston 2b	4	1	1	0	Brghts 3b	2	2	1	0
Shtney cf	3	0	2	0	Loretta 2b	4	0	2	1
DBtista rf	4	0	1	1	BGiles rf	3	0	0	0
LGnzlz lf	2	0	0	0	Nevin 1b	4	1	2	0
Hnbrn 1b	4	0	0	0	Payton cf	4	0	1	0
Tracy 3b	4	0	1	0	Kelso lf	3	0	2	0
Clntron ss	4	0	1	0	Long lf	1	0	1	0
Brito c	2	0	1	0	Qledo c	3	0	0	0
Dson ph	1	0	0	0	Greene ss	3	0	0	0
Fossum p	3	0	0	0	Valdez p	2	0	0	0
Service p	0	0	0	0	Benson ph	1	0	0	0
Villarete p	0	0	0	0	Otsuka p	0	0	0	0
Cptrm ph	1	0	0	0	Giiillo ph	1	0	0	0
					Hffman p	0	0	0	0
Totals	**32**	**1**	**7**	**1**	**Totals**	**29**	**3**	**9**	**1**

Arizona	100	000	000	—	**1**				
San Diego	002	000	10x	—	**3**				

E—Brito (1). DP—Arizona 1, San Diego 1. LOB—Arizona 8, San Diego 3. 2B—Hairston (7), Clntron (17), Loretta (22). HR—Nevin (10). SB—Kelso (1). S—Hffmn.

Arizona	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Fossum L,1-6	6	6	2	2	1	5
Service	1	1	0	0	0	1
Villafuerte	1	2	0	0	0	1
San Diego						
Valdez W,6-3	7	7	1	1	3	2
Otsuka	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hoffman S,16	1	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Fossum (Burroughs). WP—Service. T—2:24. A—29,250 (42,445).

Giants 3, Dodgers 2

LOS ANGELES	ab	r	h		SAN FRANCISCO	ab	r	h	
Izturis ss	5	0	1	0	Drham 2b	4	1	1	0
Werth lf	5	0	3	1	DCruz ss	3	0	2	0
Mora c	4	0	0	0	Rnsom ss	1	0	1	0
Brdley cf	4	0	2	1	Grssom cf	4	0	0	1
ShGrein 1b	5	0	0	0	Bonds lf	3	1	1	0
LSuzuki c	4	0	1	0	Tucker rf	3	0	0	0
Beltre 3b	4	0	1	0	Alfonzo 3b	4	0	1	0
Ifzcrn rf	3	0	0	0	Feliz 1b	4	0	0	0
JHrndz 2b	1	0	0	0	Przynsc c	4	0	2	0
Ynturia ph	1	0	0	0	Mdlnr c	3	1	1	0
Cora 2b	0	0	0	0	Rueter p	2	0	0	0
JBrower p	0	0	0	0	Brower p	0	0	0	0
Drifort p	0	0	0	0	NPerez ph	1	0	0	0
Mota L,3-2	0	0	0	0	Nen p	0	0	0	0
DRbrts lf	0	1	0	0	FRdgez p	0	0	0	0
					Herges p	0	0	0	0
					Minor ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	**35**	**2**	**9**	**2**	**Totals**	**33**	**3**	**9**	**3**

Los Angeles	000	010	001	—	**2**				
San Francisco	000	010	011	—	**3**				

Two outs when winning run scored.

DP—Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 1. LOB—Los Angeles 11, San Francisco 9. 2B—Werth (11), Durham (6), Bonds (10), Pierzynski (10). SB—Ransom (1). S—DCruz.

Los Angeles	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
OPerez	7⅔	7	2	2	2	3
Drifort	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Mota L,3-2	⅓	2	1	1	2	0
San Francisco						
Rueter	6⅓	7	1	1	3	1
Brower	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Eyre	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
FRodriguez	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Herges W,4-2	1⅓	2	1	1	1	2

WP—Rueter, Herges. T—2:53. A—41,463 (41,584).

Ransom's delivery pays off for Giants

AP

Dustan Mohr, right, celebrates as he scores the Giants' winning run on Cody Ransom's single in the ninth inning while Dodgers catcher Paul Lo Duca can only watch.

Newcomer to rivalry with Dodgers singles home winning run in ninth

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — One-run games are becoming the norm when the Giants meet the Dodgers.

Cody Ransom, a newcomer to the rivalry — he was called up earlier this month after dominating Triple-A pitchers with timely hits — came through with the biggest hit of his career Monday night. He singled up the middle with two outs in the ninth, lifting San Francisco to a 3-2 win over Los Angeles.

"It was a lot of fun," Ransom said. "It's great to get a hit and help the team out. I was just going up to the plate trying to get a pitch to hit."

After Dustan Mohr's two-out single, pinch-hitter Damon Minor fell behind 0-2 to Guillermo Mota (3-2) before walking. Ray Durham also walked and Ransom got his fifth RBI of the season.

Ransom, on the Opening Day roster before going to Fresno on April 23, batted .309 (42-for-136) with 10 home runs and 21 RBIs in 36 games at Triple-A.

"My confidence is definitely a little bit higher. I'm just getting a chance to play," the 28-year-old Ransom said.

The Giants, who have won 12 of their past 13 at home, gained ground in the NL West race. San Francisco moved within a half-game of first-place Los Angeles by winning the opener of this four-game series that both clubs consider extremely important.

Matt Herges (4-2) pitched $1^1/_3$ innings for the win, but blew his fifth save in the top of the ninth when Jayson Werth singled to left to score pinch-runner Dave Roberts to tie it. That spoiled what would've been the first time Giants starter Kirk Rueter won back-to-back starts this season.

"It's June, but it is good," Giants manager Felipe Alou said. "A half-game is better than $2^1/_2$ any time of the year."

The Dodgers won five of six meetings against the Giants in April, including a three-game sweep in San Francisco — all one-run games.

"This is the way I expect these games to be all the time," Dodgers manager Jim Tracy said. "We're always playing them in close games, so there's no reason to expect anything different. …

"It's not like Mota to have control problems. If we'd gotten out of that inning, we'd have been in good shape, because Herges was out of the game, but it didn't happen."

Rueter allowed one run on seven hits in $6^2/_3$ innings, struck out one and walked three.

Odalis Perez avoided losing for the first time since May 21 at Atlanta. The lefty, who had won his last two decisions, gave up two runs on seven hits in $7^2/_3$ innings. He struck out three and walked two.

Perez scored on Milton Bradley's RBI single in the fifth to give Los Angeles a 1-0 lead, but the Giants answered in the bottom half.

Barry Bonds hit a leadoff double and tied the game on Edgardo Alfonzo's single.

Padres 3, Diamondbacks 1: Trevor Hoffman earned his 368th save to take sole possession of fourth place on the career list for the Padres, who won for just the fourth time in 13 games.

Hoffman, who was tied with Jeff Reardon, threw a perfect bottom of the ninth for his 16th save in 18 chances. Phil Nevin homered and Ismael Valdez (6-3) allowed one run and seven hits in seven innings.

Matt Bush, the Padres' top pick in the draft two weeks ago, was suspended indefinitely by the team a day after he was arrested at a bar in Peoria, Ariz., for investigation of trespass, disorderly conduct and assault.

Astros 7, Pirates 5: At Houston, Lance Berkman hit a tying three-run double and Jeff Kent drove in the go-ahead run in a five-run fifth inning for the Astros, who came back from a 4-0 deficit to win their second in a row.

Kent had to leave after the seventh inning after jamming his right pinkie while sliding into third base in the fifth.

A's still on short end against Angels

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Oakland Athletics weren't able to compete with the Anaheim Angels in the free agent market last winter. They haven't done much better against them on the field, either.

The Angels have won five of seven meetings against their AL West rivals, including a 10-3 romp Monday night that kicked off a four-game series.

Vladimir Guerrero, who signed a five-year, $70 million contract in January, went 4-for-5 with a homer and four RBIs to raise his total to 62 and tie Boston's David Ortiz for the league lead.

"You always want to play well against teams in your own division," pitcher John Lackey said following his second victory in his past eight starts. "The way we've been playing lately, it's just nice to get a win against anybody."

The Angels — beginning a 10-game stretch in which they will play Oakland seven times — had won just four of their previous 15 games after holding a three-game lead over Oakland on June 3. The A's sixth loss in their past seven games overall dropped them into a first-place tie in the AL West with the idle Texas Rangers, a full game ahead of Anaheim.

"We're still in a real good position and we haven't played our best baseball yet," Oakland left fielder Eric Byrnes said. "It seems like it's either the pitching that's picking us up one night and the offense another night.

"We've had kind of flashes of brilliance, but once we get things going and put everything together, I think we have as good a chance as anybody to win the division."

Guerrero's bat helped awaken a sluggish offense that was 1-for-11 with runners in scoring position in Sunday's 3-1 loss at Houston.

He drove in David Eckstein with a hard ground single off the glove of second baseman Marco Scutaro in the fifth and scored on Garret Anderson's double for a 4-2 lead.

Guerrero hit a 1-0 pitch from Justin Duchscherer to center field in the seventh for his 17th homer. In the eighth, he greeted submarine-throwing Chad Bradford with a bases-loaded two-run double inside the left-field line.

"He's a superstar, and you've got to expect those things out of people like that," Lackey said. "He's such a great teammate because he doesn't act like a superstar. He works as hard as anybody."

Indians 5, White Sox 1: C.C. Sabathia allowed one run in eight impressive innings, and Ronnie Belliard and Casey Blake homered in the first inning for visiting Cleveland.

Victor Martinez had a career-high four hits for the Indians, who moved within two games of the White Sox for second place in the AL Central.

AP

Anaheim Angels' Valdimir Guerrero celebrates his solo homer against the Oakland Athletics during the seventh inning at Angel Stadium.

S. Williams opens with straight-sets win

BY STEPHEN WILSON
The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Serena Williams opened her bid for a third straight Wimbledon title Tuesday with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over a Chinese player making her first appearance at the All England Club.

The top-seeded Williams wasn't her dominating self in a tougher-than-expected outing against 52nd-ranked Zheng Jie, who showed no signs of being overawed against the two-time defending champion on Centre Court.

Elsewhere, Marat Safin and Elena Dementieva were upset in the first round and Tim Henman survived a big scare against a grass-court novice.

"The most special thing is coming back as champ," Williams said. "Win, lose or draw it's a great feeling to be defending champion at Wimbledon. I don't get that feeling at any other Grand Slam."

The score was deceptive. The 20-year-old Zheng, with an especially strong backhand, stayed close in most games and pushed Williams for much of the 66-minute match.

But Zheng couldn't break Williams' serve, going 0-10 on break points. Williams also took advantage of Zheng's weak serve, teeing off on her second deliveries.

Williams curtseyed and blew kisses to the crowd afterward. But it wasn't a vintage display from Williams, who committed 24 unforced errors to go with six aces and 29 winners. She was less convincing than her sister, two-time champion Venus, who swept 106th-ranked Marie-Gayanay Mikaelian of Switzerland 6-3, 6-0 on Monday.

Serena hasn't won a Grand Slam title since beating Venus in last year's Wimbledon final, and had an eight-month layoff after knee surgery last August. She is bidding to become the first player to win Wimbledon three straight times since Steffi Graf in 1991-93.

In an early upset, sixth-seeded Dementieva of Russia — a finalist at the French Open — was bounced 6-4, 1-6, 6-4 by Sandra Kleinova of the Czech Republic. Dementieva, who had 67 double faults during the French Open, served her 11th double fault on match point.

Another Russian, No. 8 Svetlana Kuznetsova, was eliminated by France's Virginie Razzano, 7-6 (4), 3-6, 6-4. No. 17 Chanda Rubin was ousted by Marion Bartoli, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

There was also an early surprise on the men's side, with 19th-seeded Safin beaten by fellow Russian Dmitry Tursunov, 4-6, 7-5, 6-3, 7-6 (1). Safin was a quarterfinalist here in 2001, but Wimbledon remains his least successful Grand Slam event.

"I don't like to play on this surface," said Safin, the 2000 U.S. Open champion. "It's like a nightmare for me. After a while I just get bored. I lost motivation and I give up."

Watching Safin's match was former Russian president Boris Yeltsin, an avid tennis fan and player. Yeltsin was invited to sit in the Royal Box on Centre Court, but instead wandered out to Court 2 to watch the all-Russian contest.

The annual British rite of "Henmania" got off to a rocky start as Henman — seeking again to become the first homegrown player to win the men's title since Fred Perry in 1936 — struggled to overcome 89th-ranked Spaniard Ruben Ramirez-Hidalgo.

Henman, who has lost in the semifinals four times in six years, dropped the first set and faced two set points in the second before rallying to win 4-6, 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-2. He served his 13th ace on match point. It ended a shaky performance by Henman, who had 10 double faults.

Ramirez-Hidalgo, a 26-year-old who has never won a Grand Slam match, stepped on a grass court for the first time Sunday. Yet he stunned Henman and his devoted following on Court 1 by taking the first set and going up a break in the second.

The Spaniard had two set points at 6-4 in the second-set tiebreak but couldn't convert. He hit a backhand long on the first and Henman served a winner on the next. Henman won the next point with a drop volley and Ramirez-Hidalgo sailed a backhand long to drop the set.

After winning the third set, Henman was admonished early in the fourth by chair umpire Andreas Egli for using a profanity. Henman responded by slapping his own wrist. From 1-2, he won five straight games to close the match.

AP

Defending champion Serena Williams returns to Jie Zheng during their first round match on Centre Court at Wimbledon, Tuesday. Williams won the match 6-3, 6-1.

In a late Centre Court match, second-seeded Andy Roddick was matched against Wang Yeu-Tzuoo of Taiwan, but play was called off for the day due to rain.

First-round winners included No. 9 Carlos Moya, No. 14 Mardy Fish and No. 18 Feliciano Lopez. Wayne Ferreira, a 32-year-old South African, beat No. 28 Ivan Ljubicic in four sets to mark his record 55th Grand Slam tournament appearance. The previous record of 54 was held by Stefan Edberg.

Padres suspend MLB's top draft pick after arrest

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Matt Bush, the top pick in the baseball draft two weeks ago, was suspended indefinitely by the San Diego Padres on Monday, a day after he was arrested at a bar in Peoria, Ariz.

The 18-year-old Bush was arrested Sunday for investigation of trespass, disorderly conduct and assault, said a spokeswoman for the Peoria Police Department.

Bush, who was assigned to the Padres' rookie-level affiliate in Peoria, won't be able to play during the suspension, general manager Kevin Towers said.

Towers said the Padres were disappointed.

"The one thing that we try to do here, and it's very important not only at the amateur level but at the major league level, is the type of individual we bring into this organization is very important," Towers said Monday night.

"We want people to be real positive role models for kids and set good examples and represent not only the San Diego Padres, but professional baseball and San Diego in a very professional manner, and this is not a real good early indicator of something like that."

Bush, who starred as a shortstop at San Diego's Mission Bay High, was taken with the first pick in the draft on June 7. He agreed to a $3.15 million signing bonus.

Towers, who spoke glowingly of Bush on draft day, was asked if the arrest changed his opinion of the player.

"It certainly hasn't helped," Towers said. "He has yet to even play a game yet. These aren't some of the things that you like to see happen to a young man who's about ready to start his career. And it's not just for the kid. He's got teammates and people who are probably looking up to somebody like him to set an example. It's going to be very difficult."

Sports briefs

Super Bowl streaker fined

HOUSTON — A streaker who delayed the second-half kickoff at the Super Bowl was fined $1,000 Tuesday but avoided any jail time.

Mark Roberts, 39, of Liverpool, England, was fined by the same six-woman jury that found him guilty Monday of misdemeanor trespassing. That carries a maximum sentence of six months in jail and up to a $2,000 fine.

Jurors deliberated for about an hour before deciding on the sentence, courts coordinator Rachel Ferrel said.

"The whole reason I did it was to entertain people, America," Roberts said Monday. "If making people laugh is a criminal offense, I should be sentenced to prison for life."

Roberts jumped a knee-high barrier and paraded on the Reliant Stadium field after halftime of the New England Patriots' win over the Carolina Panthers.

Roberts ran on dressed as a referee, stripped down to a football-shaped G-string and shoes, then started dancing a jig at the 30-yard line for about a minute.

New England linebacker Matt Chatham leveled Roberts as he ran from security personnel. Roberts, who had the name of a gambling Web site scribbled across his chest, was hogtied and carried off the field by police.

Roberts' Web site claims he has pulled 380 similar streaking stunts but has never before been found guilty on criminal charges.

Costa Rica fires former U.S. soccer coach Sampson

SAN JOSE, Costa Rica — Former U.S. national soccer coach Steve Sampson was fired as Costa Rica's coach after his team struggled past a traditionally weak Cuban team in World Cup qualifying.

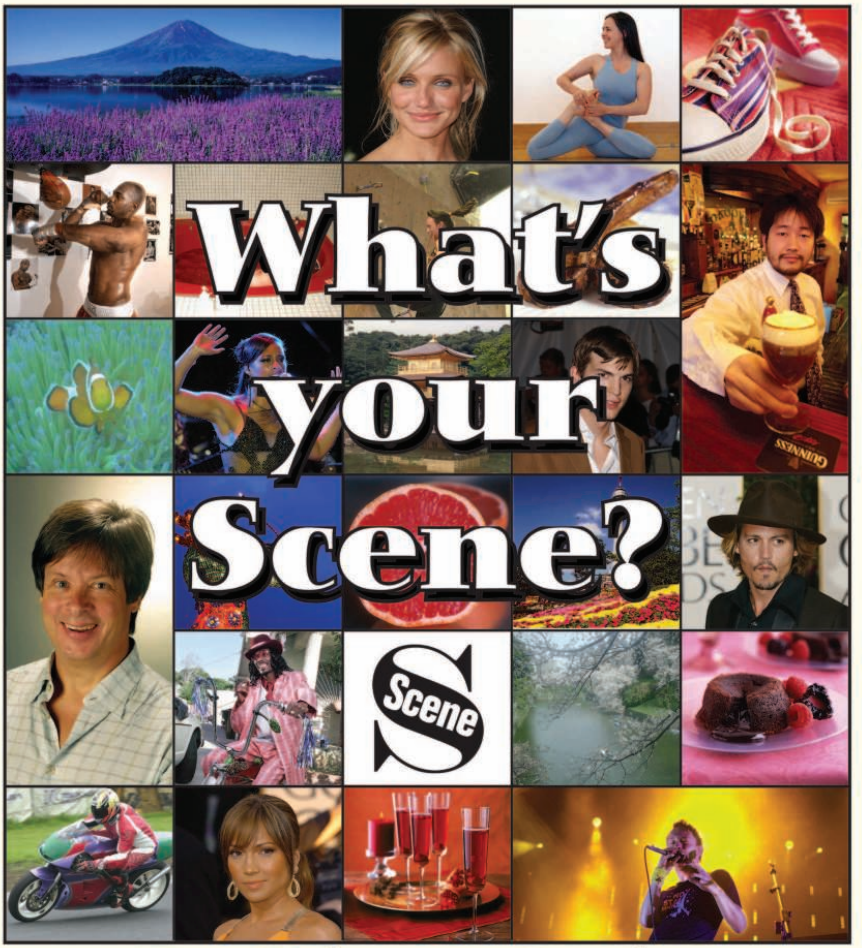
The Costa Rican federation announced the ouster Monday.

Costa Rica tied Cuba 2-2 on the road and 1-1 at home, advancing on a technicality to the next round of qualifying for the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

Costa Rica was eliminated in the first round of the 2002 World Cup, but its youth team qualified for the 2004 Olympics over the United States.

Sampson, who had coached at Santa Clara, replaced Bora Milutinovic as the U.S. coach in 1995 and resigned after the 1998 World Cup, where the Americans went 0-3 and finished last.

There's a new reason to celebrate this Fourth of July . . .



Buy Stripes on Sunday, July 4 to find out!

SPORTS

Cal State Fullerton staff remains in complete control as Titans knock off Miami, Page 30

Magic, Rockets talk blockbuster

Scoring champ McGrady would head to Houston for fellow All-Star Francis

By Chris Sheridan
The Associated Press

A new dynamic duo in the West, Tracy McGrady and Yao Ming, is a distinct possibility.

Executives from several NBA teams said Orlando and Houston were close to a deal sending McGrady, 25, the two-time NBA scoring champion, to the Rockets for a package including All-Star point guard Steve Francis, forward Kelvin Cato and guard Cuttino Mobley.

Francis' agent, Jeff Fried, told the Houston Chronicle in its online edition early Tuesday that Rockets General Manager Carroll Dawson told him the trade was near but not yet complete.

"I spoke to Carroll, and it was not a done deal," Fried told the newspaper. "It's close. It's subject to a few contingencies."

"Tracy has indicated he would like to play elsewhere, and we're trying to see what we can do," Magic executive Pat Williams said. "The issue is where he would sign [a contract extension]. Teams want to know what Tracy's plans are."

The deal also could be contingent on whether the Charlotte Bobcats select any of Orlando's unprotected players in Tuesday night's expansion draft.

The Magic also are receiving offers for the No. 1 pick in the NBA Draft Thursday night.

Charlotte and the Los Angeles Clippers already have shuffled the top part of the order, swapping picks Monday night.

The Bobcats get the overall No. 2 selection for the fourth and 33rd picks. Charlotte also agreed to select Los Angeles center Predrag Drobnjak in the expansion draft.

What promises to be a busy week began with loads of trade talk, though the Los Angeles Lakers apparently won't be putting any Shaquille O'Neal discussions on the fast track.

SEE TRADE ON PAGE 31

AP

A blockbuster trade involving Magic guard Tracy McGrady, shown driving against Lamar Odom, and Rockets point guard Steve Francis dominated the NBA rumor mill on Monday, while the Los Angeles Lakers waited to learn whether Shaquille O'Neal's trade demand is serious.

Defending champ not dominant

AP

Defending champion Serena Williams reaches for a shot from China's Jie Zheng during their first-round match on the Centre Court at Wimbledon on Tuesday. Williams won the match 6-3, 6-1, but it was tighter than the score suggests. See story on Page 34.

Giants' Ramson gets first taste of rivalry with Dodgers with decisive ninth-inning hit

Page 33

Outspending A's in offseason paying off for Angels on field

Page 33

Byrant accuser's history still issue in hearings Page 31