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U.S. nabs Saddam military leader suspected in attacks

American jets hit militant targets in Fallujah; 14 killed Page 3

Puzzling gas prices

Understanding how AAFES determines costs can be difficult, exchange officials say

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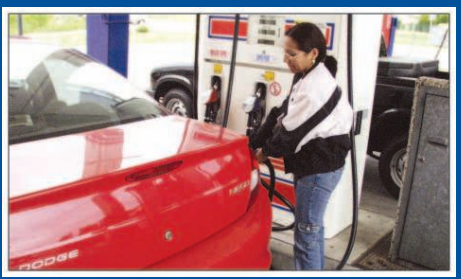
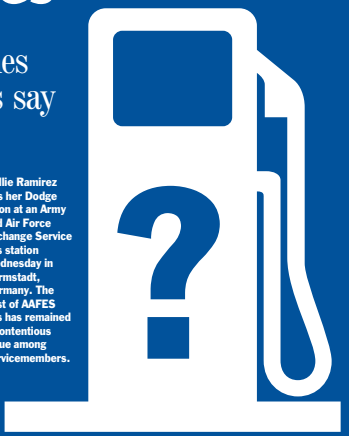


Nellie Ramirez fills her Dodge Neon at an Army and Air Force Exchange Service gas station Wednesday in Darmstadt, Germany. The cost of AAFES gas has remained a contentious issue among servicemembers.



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States

Coal mine accident: Five Pennsylvania miners who narrowly escaped a 2002 coal mine accident that trapped nine others in a flooded tunnel for three days have sued the mine's owners and operators, alleging they knew or should have known of the dangers.

The miners allege that they suffered from post-traumatic stress, anxiety, depression and shock, and have spent money on medical care.

The miners were part of a crew that escaped as millions of gallons of icy water surged into the Quecreek Mine, 70 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, on July 24, 2002, after they were warned by another nineman crew deeper in the mine.

Haitian arrests warning: The State Department's top diplomat for Latin America says he is "concerned" about the arrests in Haiti of supporters of former President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and cautioned the interim government to observe the rule of law.

Roger Noriega, assistant secretary of state for Western Hemisphere affairs, said that while the situation in Haiti has improved dramatically since Aristide left the country on Feb. 29, political, socioeconomic and security problems remain.

Still, Noriega added, recent arrests by the interim Haitian government, such as that of Aristide's former prime minister, Yvon Neptune, trouble the Bush administration. Noriega's criticism of the interim government was remarkable, given the strong U.S. support for Aristide's successors.

Mount Rainier identification: A body found on Mount Rainier has been identified as one of two Montana climbers who were swept to their deaths while ascending the treacherous Liberty Ridge route.

Warm weather melted enough snow and ice for a climber to spot the remains of Ansel Vizcaya on Tuesday about 9,300 feet up the north face of the 14,411-foot Washington peak, said Michael J. Gauthier, Mount Rainier National Park search and rescue supervisor.

Vizcaya, 29, of Missoula, Mont., and his climbing partner, Luke Casady, 29, of Stevensville, Mont., apparently did nothing wrong but were pinned down by a sudden storm and then caught by an avalanche, Gauthier said.

Embattled sheriff: The sheriff of one of the nation's most troubled jails is dodging possible suspension and firing by taking time off for the rest of her elected term.

Fulton County, Ga., Sheriff Jackie Barrett faces several investigations involving a rap video filmed in a maximum-security wing of the Fulton County Jail, deplorable conditions at the facility and a money-losing investment of $7.2 million in public funds.

Barrett, the nation's first female black sheriff when elected in 1992, still may be prosecuted in a federal probe of the use of taxpayer dollars in an investment fund that lost $2 million, and for taking campaign contributions from businessmen who stood to benefit from those investments.

Nursing home fire: Lax safety standards and inaccurate information about fire drills contributed to the deaths of 16 people in a fire at a Hartford, Conn., nursing home last year, federal investigators say.

A report issued Friday by the U.S. Government Accountability Office also faulted the staff of the Greenwood Health Center for failing to properly apply the nursing home's fire response plan, particularly by not shutting doors to patients' rooms after the Feb. 26, 2003, fire started.

Afghanistan election: An Afghan woman receives her voter identification card as others wait Sunday at a voter registration center in Kabul, Afghanistan. The country's oft-delayed presidential election will take place Oct. 9, but a parliamentary vote originally scheduled to be held simultaneously was put off until the spring. According to the Joint Electoral Management Body of Afghanistan, an estimated 6.5 million eligible voters have registered to vote, with 38 percent of them women.

World

Chechnya killing: A local leader of Russia's main pro-presidential party was shot to death in Chechnya early Sunday in what the region's prosecutor said was a contract killing linked to the Aug. 29 presidential election.

Tamara Khadzhiyeva of United Russia, which supports President Vladimir Putin, was killed by masked gunmen at her home in Shali, southeast of the Chechen capital Grozny, an official in the Moscow-backed government said on condition of anonymity.

Three attackers broke into Khadzhiyeva's home at about 3:30 a.m. and shot her at point-blank, the ITAR-Tass news agency quoted Chechnya's chief prosecutor Vladimir Kravchenko as saying.

Militants in Saudi Arabia: Saudi Arabia announced Sunday that it has received 27 wanted militants from a number of countries.

An unidentified official did not provide other details, except to say that the militants were handed over by "brotherly" countries, a term usually used to describe Arab and Muslim states.

It was not clear whether the 27 had surrendered to Saudi diplomats or were arrested.

British mock-terror attack: Some 2,000 emergency service personnel rushed to the scene of a mock poison gas attack Sunday as part of Britain's biggest ever terror exercise.

About 400 Army and Red Cross volunteers posing as civilian casualties filed out of the National Exhibition Centre in Birmingham at 9:30 a.m. Police arrived at the scene some 15 minutes after the theoretical gas attack and sealed off the area, followed by fire crews and ambulance staff.

West Midlands Police said the drill, titled Exercise Horizon, was the biggest of its kind ever staged in Britain.

Sudan talks on hold: Talks to end the slaughter of tens of thousands in Sudan's Darfur region have been put on hold indefinitely after two rebel groups walked out saying the Sudanese government has ignored existing peace agreements, an African Union mediator said.

The failure this weekend of what was to be a fresh round of talks raised new doubts about chances for ending the bloodshed and its accompanying refugee crisis.

Tens of thousands of black Africans have died in more than a year of violence that's turned into a systematic slaughter blamed on Arab militiamen.

War on terrorism

Polish troops in Iraq: Poland will keep troops in Iraq at least through the end of 2005, but firmly intends to reduce its presence at the start of next year, the nation's prime minister said Sunday.

Poland, which commands a 17-nation force in south-central Iraq, is required by a U.N. resolution to remain in Iraq until the end of 2005. But Polish leaders haven't determined what role their country will play after that, Prime Minister Marek Belka said during a visit to Camp Babylon, the force's headquarters in Iraq.

He said Poland will start "thinking about changing the nature of our military presence" after 2005.

Photo and stories from wire services

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U.S. nabs Iraqi military leader, strikes Fallujah

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — In their continuing effort to quash the insurgency, U.S. forces said Sunday they had detained a senior commander of Saddam's elite Republican Guard, who was suspected of planning and financing attacks against Iraqis, Iraqi security forces and coalition troops.

Also on Sunday, in the sixth U.S. airstrike since last month, American jets hit a position in Fallujah purportedly used by foreign militants, demolishing a house and killing 14 people, hospital and local officials said.

Interim Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi gave the go-ahead for the attack, according to his office and the U.S. military.

And an Islamic web site posted Sunday a statement attributed to a group close to Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi offering a reward of the equivalent of $280,000 to whoever kills Iraq's interim prime minister.

On Friday, Iraqi national guardsmen and coalition forces captured Sufyan Maher Hassan in a raid in Tikrit. He was being held at a local multinational force detention facility, said Maj. Neal O'Brien of the 1st Infantry Division.

Hassan was the Republican Guard commander responsible for units defending Baghdad during the war. A relative of former leader Saddam Hussein, Hassan was blamed for the quick fall of Baghdad.

In recent weeks, insurgents also have stepped up attacks on local officials and police, whom they view as collaborators with the U.S.-led coalition forces.

Two car bombs targeting police exploded in the city of Tikrit on Sunday morning, killing two police officers and wounding five others, Iraqi authorities said.

Tikrit was Saddam's hometown and remains a hotbed of the violent resistance against U.S. forces.

In previous airstrikes in Fallujah, the United States said it was targeting safe houses used by the network of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the Jordanian militant blamed for masterminding car bombings and other attacks in Iraq.

The latest attack targeted foreign militants' "fighting positions and trench lines near the remains of a house," according to a statement by U.S. Brig. Gen. Erv Lessel. About 25 fighters were there just before the attack, he said, citing Iraqi and coalition intelligence sources.

Local residents said the attack destroyed a house filled with civilians.

Allawi has promised strong cooperation with the Americans in rooting out terrorism and said after a July 5 airstrike in Fallujah that his government had provided the intelligence for the strike.

Allawi consulted with U.S. forces Saturday about the strike, his office said.

Explosions from the strike rocked the city at about 2 a.m. Scores of people ran to the scene and dug through the wreckage looking for survivors. One witness, who declined to give his name, said the house belonged to a "very poor family." Angry crowds gathered around the house, chanting "God is great."

"We heard the sound of jetfighters and then we heard four explosions in the house occupied by civilian residents," Lt. Saad Khalaf of the Fallujah Brigade, the local defense force.

The attack killed 14 people and injured three, according to Saad al-Amili, a Health Ministry official.

U.S. Marines besieged Fallujah, a hotbed of resistance, for several weeks last spring and then handed over security to the new Fallujah Brigade, made up of local residents and commanded by officers from Saddam Hussein's former army. Many of those who fought the Marines joined the brigade.

Meanwhile, a statement on an Islamic Web site by "Khalid bin Al Walid Brigade" has labeled Allawi as an "American stooge" and said that its assassination unit has vowed to kill Allawi and other Iraqi leaders.

U.S. authorities last week have raised to $25 million from $10 million the reward for information leading to the arrest of al-Zarqawi, the Jordanian militant suspected of masterminding a wave of terror attacks in Iraq. Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden has a $50 million bounty on his head.

Al-Zarqawi's al-Qaida-linked terror network has claimed responsibility for the attacks on police and security forces in Iraq that killed hundreds. He is also believed to be behind the beheading of two hostages, American Nicholas Berg and a South Korean Kim Sun-il.

AP

Iraqi National Guard soldiers prepare to dispose of a stockpile of old Iraqi military weapons Sunday in Shuaiba, near Basra, Iraq.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 886 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 654 died as a result of hostile action and 232 died of nonhostile causes. The department did not provide an update Saturday.

The British military has reported 59 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 death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 748 U.S. servicemembers have died — 545 as a result of hostile action and 203 of nonhostile causes.

The latest deaths reported by military:

■ One soldier was killed Saturday after his vehicle was struck by a roadside bomb near Beiji, Iraq, about 90 miles south of Mosul.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

Iraq to appoint ambassadors to 43 nations

By Nadia Abou El-Magd
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq announced Sunday it would appoint ambassadors to 43 countries in a move designed to normalize relations with other nations just three weeks after the United States handed power to an interim government.

The ambassadors, many of whom would be sent to neighboring Arab countries, were to be appointed Monday, Foreign Minister Hoshyar Zebari said during a joint news conference with U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage.

Armitage, the highest-ranking U.S. official to visit the country since the June 28 transfer of sovereignty, earlier met with interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi and President Ghazi al-Yawer.

The officials discussed security cooperation between the two countries and efforts to have much of Iraq's nearly $120 billion in debt forgiven, Allawi said.

AP

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage, right, listens Sunday as Interim Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi speaks in Baghdad.

"We are indebted to the United States for its support and continuing support both in liberating Iraq and reconstructing Iraq," Allawi said after the meeting.

Armitage said the officials spoke about the security situation, the political process leading to January elections and efforts to rebuild the economy.

"We understand that Iraq's people need more electricity, more water, more jobs — and we are determined to find ways to help the government meet these needs," he said.

Earlier in the day Armitage and the U.S. Mideast envoy, William Burns, met with Kuwait's deputy prime minister to discuss the war on terror and the situation in Iraq.

"They talked about the views of Kuwait about how things are going in Iraq, bilateral relations and the war on terror," according toa U.S. Embassy spokesman said.

The officials spoke with Sheik Nawwaf Al Ahmed Al Sabah, the interior minister and deputy prime minister.

Kuwait was the launch pad for the war that toppled Saddam Hussein more than a year ago and the small, oil-rich nation fears that instability in Iraq could spill over its borders.

Philippines pullout may be complete by Monday

By Jim Gomez
The Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines — The Philippines pledged to complete the withdrawal of its peacekeeping contingent from Iraq as early as Monday, fulfilling a demand made by Iraqi insurgents threatening to behead a Filipino hostage.

The kidnappers holding Filipino truck driver Angelo dela Cruz said earlier they would release him if all Philippine peacekeepers are withdrawn before the end of the month.

Foreign Secretary Delia Albert said in a statement Sunday that the remaining 22 peacekeepers from the original 51-strong deployment would make an "exit call" on the new Polish commander at Camp Charlie in Iraq's Babil province on Monday.

They would be accompanied by Roy Cimatu, a special envoy of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo helping Filipino diplomats in Iraq secure dela Cruz's release.

"After the call, the remaining contingent will then proceed to Kuwait, and from there, return to Manila by commercial flight," Albert said.

The Philippine Embassy in Kuwait is arranging their flight back to Manila, she said. Some peacekeepers who earlier left Iraq are due home Monday, officials said.

Controversial Iraqi newspaper reopens

Closed by coalition troops for 2 months, mouthpiece of 'Sadrist' movement reinstated

BY TAREK EL-TABLAWY
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's interim prime minister issued a decree Sunday reopening a controversial newspaper that had been closed by U.S. officials in March, sparking months of fighting between U.S. forces and militants loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr.

Meanwhile, after a two-month lull between major public appearances, al-Sadr showed up in Najaf in an unannounced visit to the Imam Ali shrine, one of Shiism's holiest sites. The mercurial cleric was ushered into the mosque as guards and aides cut a path through hundreds of chanting and cheering supporters.

Al-Sadr's "appearance and the disappearance was for security reasons," said Ahmed al-Shaibani, the cleric's spokesman in the holy city of Najaf.

The weekly Al-Hawza was the mouthpiece of al-Sadr's "Sadrist" movement, routinely carrying his fiery sermons on its front page along with articles sharply critical of the U.S.-led occupation, which formally ended June 28.

Iraq's former American governor, L. Paul Bremer, ordered the newspaper closed for two months on March 28 for allegedly inciting violence against coalition troops.

The closure and the arrest a few days later of a close al-Sadr aide in the holy city of Najaf sparked an anti-coalition uprising by militiamen loyal to al-Sadr in Baghdad and across Shiite areas in central and southern Iraq. A series of truces ended the fighting, which had raged on and off for two months.

Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi, himself a Shiite, ordered the paper reopened in an effort to show his "absolute belief in the freedom of the press," his office said in a statement.

Bremer's decision to close al-Hawza had drawn condemnation from members of the now-defunct Governing Council, who said it ran counter to talk of securing freedom for Iraqis.

The order to reopen al-Hawza appears designed to broaden Allawi's base of support as his administration struggles to tackle a worsening security situation while trying build national support for the new government.

Al-Sadr and his top aides have repeatedly called Allawi's unelected government illegitimate, but said their movement was prepared to adopt a wait-and-see policy as the country prepares for a general election due in January.

Bremer's closure order expired May 28, but al-Hawza's editor in chief, Abbas al-Robai, has said that trying to resume publication then could have exposed the newspaper's editorial staff to arrest.

Slain contractor's family says U.S. stonewalling info

The Associated Press

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — Family members of slain American businessman Nicholas Berg are being stonewalled by the U.S. government as they try to find out exactly what happened in the weeks before he was kidnapped and beheaded in Iraq in May, Berg's father said.

Among other details, the Bergs want to know whether Berg, who had been in Iraq seeking work for his fledgling telecommunications company, was being held by allied or Iraqi forces before his kidnapping, The Philadelphia Inquirer reported.

"If it weren't for the fact that they were stonewalling us, I think I might have been able to put behind me this need for information," said Berg's father, Michael Berg, an anti-war activist from West Chester. "But it's the fact that they won't come forth with information that makes me wonder why."

Michael Berg said the government "has been persistent in its complete apathy toward us."

Berg's body was found May 8 in Baghdad. He was last seen on April 10 when he left his Baghdad hotel. His family has maintained the U.S. government contributed to his death because Berg was detained for about two weeks in Iraq, by either Iraqi police or the U.S. military, and missed his flight home. By the time he was released, anti-American violence had increased.

The Pentagon maintains it was Iraqi police — not U.S. forces — who detained Berg for 11 days. But the Iraqi police chief has denied that his forces in Mosul took Berg into custody. Berg also was questioned three times by the FBI, and was urged to leave Iraq, U.S. officials have said.

The family also wants to know whether there was contact between the kidnappers and American representatives, as purportedly claimed by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi in the video of Berg's murder and an audiotape released earlier this month.

> *"At some point, there's got to be... a clearer understanding of who had control over Nick's custody and his release."*
>
> **Rep. Jim Gerlach**
> Berg family's congressman

The Bergs' congressman, Rep. Jim Gerlach, said he has received written accounts of Berg's arrest and detention from officials with the State and Defense departments, but that there "are still a lot of unanswered questions."

Gerlach said he has been frustrated, too, in his attempt to have a combined briefing of all the departments involved. If that doesn't occur, he said he wants a congressional hearing.

"At some point, there's got to be ... a clearer understanding of who had control over Nick's custody and his release," Gerlach said.

State Department spokesman Steve Pike said that he wasn't aware of Gerlach's request, but that the department is "always open to contact with the Berg family."

While Nicholas Berg was being held, a State Department official and FBI agents told his parents that he was in U.S. custody; after his release, Berg told his family the same. But U.S. officials later said that information was in error and that he was actually being held by Iraqi police.

Get the best prices at Wong-mart

SHERREE CASPER/Courtesy of U.S. Army

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin R. Wong of Charleston, W.Va., stocks the innovative post exchange at Forward Operating Base Rough Rider known as Wong-Mart, as "clerk" Spc. James R. Smith assists. Soldiers at the base in Mandali, Iraq, have set up their own convenience store and named it after Wong, who oversees the operation, and as a takeoff of retail giant Wal-Mart. Members of the West Virginia Army National Guard deployed to the base can buy items ranging from potato chips to DVD players. About twice a month, a truck joins a convoy and drives several hours to Baghdad International Airport where items are purchased from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service store. The goods are then sold for the same price at Rough Rider. Wong said average daily sales at the store, which opened on Easter, are between $5,000 to $6,000. The money is used to buy products for the next run to the airport. The guardsmen are part of 1st Infantry Division-led Task Force Danger.

Taliban commander detained

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. forces have detained a former Taliban commander near the Afghan capital, two months after feting him for backing the country's new order, officials said Sunday.

American troops seized Ghulam Mohammed Hotak in Wardak province, southwest of Kabul, on Saturday, Defense Ministry spokesman Gen. Zaher Mohammed Azimi.

Mohammed, his brother and one of his nephews were detained "because they have links to the Taliban," Azimi said.

Azimi didn't elaborate, and U.S. military officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Beheading video surfaces

CAIRO, Egypt — Images of an American hostage being decapitated surfaced Saturday on an Internet site known for carrying the statements of Islamic militants.

The gruesome videotape appeared three days after U.S. authorities announced the search for the body of Paul M. Johnson Jr. had been called off.

Still photographs of Johnson's beheading had been posted June 19 on some of the same militant Islamic forums that on Saturday provided links to the newly released video footage.

Johnson, a 49-year-old engineer for U.S. defense contractor Lockheed Martin, was kidnapped June 12.

Militant group claims responsibility

CAIRO, Egypt — A statement purportedly by al-Qaida-linked militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi claimed responsibility Saturday for a suicide bombing that killed two people and wounded 47 at the Iraqi National Guard headquarters south of Baghdad.

A statement, signed by the military wing of al-Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad group, said, "one lion of the Martyrs Battalion hit the Iraqi National Guard."

The statement surfaced on an Islamic forum on the Internet that frequently carries statements said to be from al-Zarqawi. There was no way to verify its authenticity.

The statement also vowed to continue attacks.

From The Associated Press

Army steps up voter registration efforts

BY RICK EMERT
Stars and Stripes

BAGHDAD — This election year, the U.S. military is taking extra steps to give deployed servicemembers the means to cast a vote that counts.

In 2000, many absentee ballots from servicemembers deployed or stationed overseas did not arrive in time to be counted. Now, in post-Sept. 11, 2001, America, with servicemembers fighting terrorism on two fronts, a revamped voting process should ensure that the voices of deployed troops are heard clearly from the Middle East and Southwest Asia.

The Army is taking lessons learned from the 2000 election, and affording soldiers the opportunity to register and get their absentee ballots in earlier, according to 2nd Lt. Kyle Missbach, 1st Cavalry Division voting assistance officer.

"[Absentee voting] for the last presidential election was a debacle," Missbach said. "I want to ensure that soldiers are given the opportunity to register and vote and have their say."

The 1st Cavalry Division has distributed Standard Form 76 to all its units in Iraq. From there, unit leaders got the federal voting postcard into the hands of individual soldiers last month, according to Missbach.

The postcard is used both to register to vote and request an absentee ballot from the state a servicemember plans to vote in, he said.

The form also can be printed from the Federal Voting Assistance Program Web site: **www.fvap.gov**.

Missbach recommends that soldiers complete and mail the form by Aug. 15.

Even those who are already registered to vote should send in the card, because it's the simplest and surest way to get an absentee ballot, he said. Within three to five weeks after mailing the card, soldiers should receive absentee ballots, which in turn should be filled out and mailed by Oct. 11.

"That's not a hard and fast date," Missbach said. "If they miss that date, it's just not as much of a certainty that their vote will be counted."

Soldiers can vote in their home state of record or in a state where they have an established residency. Each state has different procedures for how the absentee votes are tallied, Missbach said.

Another step the Army is taking to ensure soldiers are getting the chance to vote comes in the form of a massive census of all soldiers. Army leaders will physically meet with every soldier to verify their name and Social Security number and that they have been given a chance to register and vote, Missbach said. That survey runs Tuesday through Aug. 15.

Yet another check for the 1st Cav included an inspector general's inspection of the division's Voting Assistance Program before it left Fort Hood, Texas, for Iraq, Missbach said.

Finally, Armed Forces Vote Week, from Sept. 3-11, raises awareness about the absentee ballot election process at installations throughout the Department of Defense, Missbach said.

In Afghanistan, officials staked out dining areas, setting up voting registration booths at entrances where troops line up to eat.

"Most said they had already taken care of registering," said Maj. Bryan Jacobson, the voting registration officer for North Dakota National Guard's 109th Engineer Group, who helped with the effort a few weeks ago.

"A surprising number, however, said 'no thanks, my vote doesn't count.' It was kind of discouraging," he added.

The Army will not — and cannot — track who has registered or voted.

"Every citizen has the right to register and vote if they so choose, or not to register and vote if they choose," Missbach said. "We don't have any kind of command influence on whether they vote."

All the effort seems to be paying off.

In Aghanistan, hundreds registered with voting assistance officers. Capt. Lindy White was one of them.

"I just got my absentee ballot for the primaries last week," said White, a staff officer for the Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division.

Supply specialist Sgt. Alma Lewis, from Houma, La., said she's registered, but plans to boycott the presidential elections.

"I don't like either candidate," Lewis said. "Bush is the reason we're over here, and Kerry hasn't said anything promising at all."

Sgt. Robert Whitney, an Indiana reservist with the 221st Ordnance Company stationed at an outpost along Afghanistan's border with Pakistan, said he intends to register, but hasn't yet.

"I feel strongly about voting, because I want Bush to win," said Whitney.

Some soldiers completed the federal voting postcard before they deployed.

"I have registered to vote in Texas," said Sgt. DeForest Robinson, Headquarters Distribution Company, of the 1st Cav's 115th Forward Support Battalion, in Baghdad. "I fully intend to vote. We're the ones out here on the front line, and we need to have some input on the election."

"I haven't missed an election in 18 years," said Staff Sgt. Leigh Toland, 81st Brigade Combat Team, Logistical Supply Area Anaconda in Balad. "My wife will forward my absentee ballot. Will it count? I think as much as it ever does."

Staff Sgt. Clifford Banta, also from the 81st, is on his first deployment, but will cast his vote as he does every year.

"If they receive my ballot in time, I don't know why it wouldn't count," Banta said.

Other servicemembers, such as Air Force Capt. Tom Bucci, a Central Criminal Court of Iraq lawyer, are seasoned veterans when it comes to casting absentee votes.

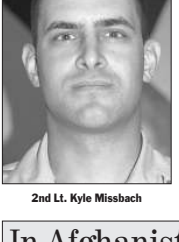
"I'm stationed in Ohio, and vote in Connecticut, so I've voted by absentee ballot for years," Bucci said. "It will be a little bit tough here [because of possible mail delays]. I'm more concerned about the soldiers, Marines and airmen out in the field being able to get their ballots in."

With all of these tools in place to give soldiers an opportunity to vote — even the most remote forward operating base in Iraq has a voting assistance officer — all troops should get the chance, Missbach said.

"I think most soldiers feel that it is important to vote," Missbach said. "In part, that is because of what happened in the last [presidential] election and, in part it is because they are over here fighting for our rights that are so important — like the right to vote."

Jon R. Anderson in Afghanistan contributed to this report.

E-mail Rick Emert at: emertr@mail.estripes.osd.mil



2nd Lt. Kyle Missbach

Staff Sgt. Clifford Banta

Staff Sgt. Leigh Toland

In Afghanistan: 'I vote because I can'

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — The first time Capt. Randall Newman voted was in a fighting position during basic training in 1988.

"I had just turned 18 and guess my parents made sure I was registered," said Randall. A drill sergeant came over to him during war games and said, "here, fill this out," he said.

Sixteen years later, Newman is now a transportation officer with the Germany-based 21st Theater Support Group deployed in Afghanistan.

He hasn't missed an election yet. And even inside a combat zone, he doesn't intend to start now.

"I guess I see it as an obligation," said Newman, who was already registered before deploying here, but registered again "just to make sure," when his voting officer handed him a registration card.

When asked why he feels so strongly about voting, he struggled for an answer.

As a kid, he said, his parents always made sure they took him along to the local elementary school when they cast their ballots. "They felt very strongly about voting," he said, a sense of civic duty they passed on him.

In a country struggling to register voters for its first elections since the Taliban was ousted almost three years ago, Newman nodded solemnly and said: "I vote because I can."

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Americans accused of running private jail appear in court

Group claims they had contact with DOD, says they rounded up genuine Taliban, al-Qaida suspects in Afghanistan

BY STEPHEN GRAHAM
The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — Three Americans accused of detaining and abusing Afghans on a freelance search for terrorists appeared in an Afghan court for the first time Sunday, insisting they had contact with the Pentagon, a senior judge said.

The group's leader, a former U.S. soldier called Jonathan K. Idema, acknowledged operating a private jail outside of Afghan law, presiding judge Abdul Baset Bakhtyari said.

But Idema insisted his team had rounded up genuine Taliban and al-Qaida suspects in their makeshift jail until their arrest two weeks ago — and that al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden wanted him dead.

"Bin Laden has half a million dollars on my head," Idema shouted at an Associated Press Television News reporter who tried to film him during the preliminary hearing. The reporter had to leave.

Afghan authorities have charged the Americans and four Afghan accomplices with hostage-taking and assault for allegedly detaining and abusing 11 men in a house in the capital. They face up to 20 years in jail if convicted.

U.S. and Afghan authorities deny any links to the self-styled task force, describing them as vigilantes on a personal quest to fight terrorism. The men wore military gear and fooled both Afghan police and NATO peacekeepers into thinking they were legitimate.

Idema, a convicted fraudster who is featured in a top-selling book about the war that ousted the Taliban in late 2001 and who has also worked with U.S. television networks, appeared in court Sunday in pressed khaki fatigues.

Abdul Baset Bakhtyari, the presiding judge said the men allegedly tied their detainees' hands, hooded them "and poured cold or boiling water over them during interrogations."

He had no information on allegations that Afghan forces found several prisoners hanging from their feet when they raided the illegal jail.

The defendants acknowledged that they had acted illegally, while insisting they were part of the United States' global "struggle against terrorism," Bakhtyari said.

"They said they were a nongovernment group but that they had private contact with the Pentagon," Bakhtyari said. He said the three gave no details. "They couldn't provide any evidence."

It remains unclear whether the defendants had picked up innocent Afghans of were on the trail of genuine militants.

Working out the kinks of life in the war zone

BY JON R. ANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan — After months at a remote firebase in Afghanistan, Pfc. Mike Lambert has been a little grumpy lately.

To ease his mood, Lambert's buddies bought him an hour alone with a woman from Kyrgyzstan. A woman with strong hands.

Inside a small cubical walled off with heavy blankets, the lights low and music playing softly, Lambert hangs his dusty assault rifle on the wall.

The woman orders him to strip to his shorts and lie down on the narrow table.

Lambert smiles shyly.

Welcome to Bagram air base's new Day Spa. Right next door to the base Burger King, which still hasn't opened for business, the Day Spa is one of several popping up on U.S. military installations throughout the Central Asian war zone.

"This is amazing," groans Lambert as the masseuse goes to work, kneading his back like so much Play-doh. "I never thought I'd get something like this in the combat zone."

Spc. Christopher Cashell, a mechanic with 25th Infantry Division's Aviation Brigade, enjoys a combat-zone rubdown.

The spas are the brainchild of a South Korean businessman and were set up through a military contract. The first opened at the U.S. air hub at Kyrgyzstan last year. Since then, spas have been opened at U.S. installations in Uzbekistan, Kabul and now Bagram.

With waiting lists sometimes five days long, the Day Spa and its dozen masseuses have quickly become one of Bagram's biggest morale boosters since opening in April.

Fifteen dollars buys an hour-long, full-body massage. Add $5 and American's front-line warriors in the fight against terror can get a facial as well.

A very popular half-day special, says manager Nazira Ishenbaeva, is a full body rubdown, a manicure, pedicure and body wax. The price: $40.

"They leave feeling very relaxed," says Ishenbaeva, adding the male soldiers can't get the bikini wax, "only the back wax."

And just in case troops might confuse the services being offered at the spa for more infamous war-zone stress busters from wars gone by, a conspicuous sign right next to the cash register offers the following warning: Anyone soliciting any sexual or indecent services/acts are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

"They're very professional," says Master Sgt. Terri Bly, a regular customer at the spa.

"It's a nice atmosphere. They really know what they're doing."

Assigned to the 325th Combat Support Hospital, Bly says an hour-long rubdown was just the ticket after a particularly brutal run on July 4th.

"I was really sore," she says. "It was exactly what I needed. I kept saying 'Thank you!' it felt so good."

"When I was first told about this place, I thought they were joking," said Spc. Christopher Cashell. "It's crazy. This is not the kind of place I thought I find in combat zone. Not on base, anyway."

But he's very glad it is. A mechanic for the 25th Infantry Division's Aviation Brigade, Cashell is here for his third visit since it opened a few months ago.

"I try to come here on my reset day," says Cashell. "We're not supposed to say 'day off' because we're really on duty 24/7 over here, so we say 'reset day' instead. But coming here is as close to a day off as you'll ever see."

Back on the table, Lambert's expression is one of complete bliss as the masseuse works her way down his body.

"Oh my God, this is great," he says. "I am definitely coming back."

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PHOTOS BY JON R. ANDERSON/Stars and Stripes

Pfc. Mike Lambert, an infantryman with 1st Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment, says a full-body rubdown at Bagram air base in Afghanistan was just the ticket to cure his combat-zone grumpiness.

Iran says 9/11 hijackers may have entered nation

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI
The Associated Press

See related stories on Page 10

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran said Sunday some al-Qaida operatives blamed for the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks may have illegally passed through Iran from Afghanistan months before striking in America but dismissed as "fabrications" U.S. reports that Tehran may have facilitated the 2001 attacks.

"It's normal that five or six people may have crossed the border within a couple of months without our knowledge … our borders are long and it's not possible to fully control them," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi told reporters.

Asefi was responding to a September 11 Commission report, expected Thursday, that says Iran may have facilitated the 2001 attacks in the United States by providing eight to 10 al-Qaida hijackers with safe passage to and from terrorist training camps in Afghanistan.

"Even more people may (illegally) cross the border between Mexico and the United States," he said.

The Iranian spokesman said possible crossings through Iran happened months before the Sept. 11 attacks but Iran has since increased border security.

"Who knew Sept. 11 was going to happen?" Asefi told reporters.

John McLaughlin, the CIA's acting director, said Sunday it was known for some time that hijackers passed through Iran but he would not implicate the Iranian government.

"We have no evidence that there is some sort of official connection between Iran and 9/11," he said on "Fox News Sunday" program.

Iran insists it has made a significant contribution to the war on terror by arresting agents of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terror network, but the United States accuses Tehran of harboring — not cracking down on — al-Qaida fugitives.

Tehran also complains that instead of rewarding Tehran, President Bush included Iran in the list of his "axis of evil" partners together with North Korea and prewar Iraq under Saddam Hussein.

Asefi said Iran will remain committed to fighting al-Qaida.

Asefi said Iran was not surprised by the U.S. allegations.

"The more we approach the (U.S.) presidential elections, we will witness more of such news fabrications," he said.

Recent reports lend support to once-repudiated prewar claim

BY KEN GUGGENHEIM
The Associated Press

Although Bush cited only British documents that later proved to have been forged, intelligence files clearly contained other evidence of the truth of the claim (that Iraq had sought uranium in Africa).

WASHINGTON — It was one of the first signs that the intelligence used to go to war in Iraq was wrong: White House repudiation of 16 words in last year's State of the Union speech that had suggested Saddam Hussein tried to buy uranium in Africa.

Yet even as two recent reports sharply criticized prewar intelligence, they also suggested President Bush's claim may not have been totally off-base.

A British report concluded that Bush's statement and a similar one by Prime Minister Tony Blair were "well-founded." In his speech, Bush had attributed the uranium claim to the British government.

A Senate Intelligence Committee report found inadequate evidence that deposed Iraqi President Saddam had been rebuilding his nuclear weapons program. It cited various reports, however, that Iraq had sought uranium in Africa. Thus, although Bush cited only British evidence that was determined to have been inconclusive, other intelligence files clearly contained other inconclusive evidence of the truth of the claim.

The committee chairman, Sen. Pat Roberts, said he believed last year that the White House was correct in repudiating the uranium claim.

"Now I don't know whether it's accurate or not. That's the whole question," Roberts, R-Kan., said in an interview.

The White House's repudiation came after The New York Times published an op-ed column by former Ambassador Joseph Wilson, who was sent by the CIA to Niger to determine if Iraq had been acquiring uranium. Wilson said it was unlikely any uranium transaction had taken place and the administration appeared to have been manipulating the intelligence.

Republicans said Wilson was trying to boost the Democrats' presidential campaign and looked to discredit him and his mission.

In an addendum to the report, Roberts and two other Republicans accused Wilson of providing "inaccurate, unsubstantiated and misleading" information. In a letter to committee leaders Thursday, Wilson said a thorough reading of the report supports his public comments.

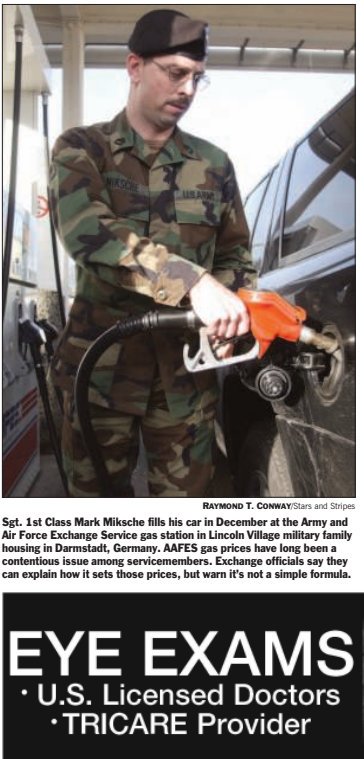
The CIA's acting director, John E. McLaughlin, told "Fox News Sunday," "I think there's some debate about what his report said or didn't say. I just don't want to take a position on it."

Bush, in his State of the Union address on Jan. 28, 2003, used the uranium intelligence to help make the case that Saddam was pursuing nuclear weapons. "The British government has learned that Saddam Hussein recently sought significant quantities of uranium from Africa," he said.

That claim came under scrutiny after the International Atomic Energy Agency determined that documents purportedly showing Iraq buying uranium from Niger were fake. The British have maintain consistently that their intelligence was not based on the forged documents.

But the Senate committee disclosed other intelligence suggesting that Iraq was pursuing uranium.

No good clues to solving gas price puzzle



RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Mikske fills his car in December at the Army and Air Force Exchange Service gas station in Lincoln Village military family housing in Darmstadt, Germany. AAFES gas prices have long been a contentious issue among servicemembers. Exchange officials say they can explain how it sets those prices, but warn it's not a simple formula.

AAFES officials say cost determination is complicated

BY WARD SANDERSON
Stars and Stripes

The exchange petrol pricing policy can make a puzzle fan abandon crosswords.

In July, prices charged by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service in the Netherlands plunged by as much as 19 cents a gallon. At the same time, gas prices went up in Britain and Germany.

AAFES officials say gas prices in all three countries are tied to U.S. fuel prices, which went down in July.

For fuel customers, or crossword fans, it can equate to a four-letter word starting with "W" and exclaimed in confusion.

"Everyone's always saying, 'What's up with the gas?' And AAFES never really gives a straight answer," said 1st Lt. Scott Spahr, an Army personnel and supply officer in Schweinfurt, Germany.

Exchange officials say they can explain it to customers such as Spahr, but it's not simple.

Exchanges in those three countries sell gas or redeemable coupons at prices reset each month to mirror U.S. trends. But hitting that target price is more of a goal than a reality, according to AAFES, because buying fuel from several sources abroad makes hitting a uniform price impossible.

In the case of the Netherlands, a drop in wholesale costs meant a drop in AAFES retail prices — despite retail costs rising at some other posts in Europe, according to Maj. David Accetta, spokesman for AAFES Europe.

According to the European Road Information Center, gas in the Netherlands was the most expensive in the European Union last month. But AAFES actually sold gas in the Netherlands at its "floor price" — in other words, without a profit — to give customers in the Netherlands some relief. Prices the exchange charges there are still approximately the same or higher on most grades compared to Germany and Britain.

Though the Army and Air Force Exchange Service attempts to mirror U.S. Energy Department averages, gas prices still vary from it.

Though the exchange attempts to mirror U.S. Energy Department averages, prices still vary from it. Prices can also deviate if the AAFES commander, Maj. Gen. Kathryn Frost, manipulates them to keep them lower.

She did so in May and June but not in July, which contributed to hikes seen in Britain and Germany.

Fuel on the fire

Not everyone is affected by these monthly adjustments.

Unlike the three previously mentioned nations, prices in some countries, such as Turkey, are set annually, meaning the price remains the same for 12 months.

And although coupons are sold at AAFES or Navy Exchange stores in Italy and Spain, the prices are set by a U.S. Navy contract.

In any case, gas comes from local suppliers, meaning prices can fluctuate from country to country. And to make matters more of a migraine, they fluctuate independently of the U.S. averages.

The exchange's July decrease in price in one country while raising prices in two others seemed to throw fuel on the fire for those who criticize AAFES pricing.

Exchange prices in Britain, Germany and the Netherlands are adjusted by looking out the rearview mirror: Prices are adjusted based on the previous four or five week's selling price of gas in the United States.

That means prices in the States can go down, while AAFES prices go up that same month. The reverse is also true.

The system angers Jim Crook, a customer in Hanau, Germany.

"AAFES gets gas from gas vendors here in Germany and some other neighboring countries, not the States," Crook wrote in a letter to Stars and Stripes. "So why does AAFES always want to raise its gas prices because the States raise their gas prices? If Germany or the countries from which AAFES gets its gas from raise the price, I could understand about a price hike."

Accetta said attempts to reflect U.S. prices began in 2001 after customer complaints. The exchange before had based its prices on a model that more closely followed normal supply-and-demand economics.

Nonetheless, commuting troops ask: The exchange price may be cheaper than European retail, but why does it still have to be so much? And who gets this money and why?

Spahr decided to spar. He wanted an explanation as to how much AAFES paid for its own gas, so he filed a Freedom of Information Act request.

He found out that during the month of May, the exchange charged from 78 cents to 91 cents above the raw cost it paid for fuel in Germany. A similar request made by this newspaper in 2001 — before the exchange attempted to follow Energy Department trends — showed the exchange previously added about $1 to the base cost per gallon.

According to data supplied to Stripes late last year, on a representative month when AAFES purchased gas for $1.02 per gallon in Germany, had dispensing costs of 20 cents per gallon and sold the gas for $1.70 per gallon, the result was a profit of about 48 cents.

"I just think the numbers are staggering," Spahr said.

Helping MWR

The exchange counters that it exists to do two things: Offer goods and services at low prices, and to make money for Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.

"It's a congressional directive," Accetta said. "We just can't say we're going to lower our gas prices to make our customers happy, then give MWR $3 million instead of $16 million."

Some soldiers still wonder about the purpose of the profit.

"They always say it's going to MWR, but I don't know where," Spahr said, "That's not tangible to me."

That money goes into the general MWR fund, according to Millie Waters, a spokeswoman for the Army's Installation Management Agency in Europe. The money that goes into MWR goes toward things such as golf courses, libraries, sports and recreations facilities, do-it-yourself automotive centers, arts and crafts shops, and leisure travel services.

Exchange critics also complain that AAFES does not pay the gas taxes that help set U.S. prices; therefore, its retail price should be lower.

SEE GAS ON PAGE 8

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$35 off any complete pair of eyeglasses or prescription sunglasses (frame and lenses)!

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Gas: It's a complex pricing formula

GAS, FROM PAGE 7

In a sense, the money the exchange makes on gas — and everything else — can be seen as both its profit and its tax: It pays for MWR and also subsidizes stores that aren't as profitable to keep costs down for troops deployed to Iraq, Kosovo and other areas.The money the exchange charges, Accetta said, includes the cost of its products and services; capital improvements like the new mini-mall that opened in Aviano, Italy, this month; and earnings for MWR.

All told, 63 percent of AAFES's total earnings from the sale of shoes, shirts, DVDs, fuel and other items go toward MWR programs. Last fiscal year that worked out to $11.8 million for U.S. Army Europe, and $5.5 million for U.S. Air Forces in Europe, according to AAFES.

Accetta also said that earnings from profitable stores help keep prices down in places such as Iraq.

"It's so much more expensive to move merchandise there, and to pay all the extra costs," Accetta said. "The numbers don't always add up to give AAFES a profit."

Exchange employees volunteer for six-month or one-year tours in hazardous duty areas. Accetta said all of that makes AAFES different from a corporate department store.

"It's not a privately held company, it's an authorized DOD entity. There's no corporate slush fund, there's no multimillion dollar stock options. We don't pay dividends to stockholders."

Despite that, whenever gas prices rise, American blood boils. Nellie Ramirez, an Army wife who recently filled up at an AAFES station in Darmstadt, Germany, may be an exception by circumstance.

"It doesn't bother me, because I need the gas," she said. She doesn't drive many miles. She lives on base. She drives only to shop for groceries, to pick up her children from school and to run errands.

But others, like Spahr, demand decimals and data.

"If that's the way it is, that's the way it is," Spahr said. "But it'd be nice to get the information out. …

"I know in the civilian world that always raised questions. Y'know, Enron and everything. I'd like to think that AAFES is above reproach, and I'm sure that they are. And the money does go to good things."

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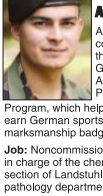
RAYMOND T. CONWAY/Stars and Stripes

German navy Pvt. Benjamin Behsler, center, demonstrates proper clearing techniques on a German G-36 automatic weapon to U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Elvin Arroyo, right, and German Army Sgt. Maj. Bernd Heinrich at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Germany, on Friday. Arroyo is coordinator of Landstuhl's German-American Partnership Program, and Heinrich is his German counterpart.

Stripes Spotlight



Army Staff Sgt. Elvin Arroyo

Arroyo coordinates the Landstuhl German-American Partnership Program, which helps troops earn German sports and marksmanship badges.

Job: Noncommissioned officer in charge of the chemistry section of Landstuhl's pathology department.

Age: 33

Family: Wife, Amber, and children Christian, 11, Caleb, 4, and twins Cristina and Cailey, 18 months

Hometown: Ponce, Puerto Rico

Stars and Stripes

GI helps others take shot at badges

BY MARNI MCENTEE
Stars and Stripes

LANDSTUHL, Germany — For the past five years, Army Staff Sgt. Elvin Arroyo has helped soldiers earn something they cannot get anywhere else in the world.

Arroyo is coordinator of Landstuhl Regional Medical Center's German-American Partnership Program. He helps Americans get their German sports badge and, for military members, their German marksmanship badge.

This year, Arroyo and his counterpart, German Reserves Forces Sgt. Maj. Bernd Heinrich, helped 59 people earn the sports badge, or German Proficiency Badge, and 56 earn the marksmanship badge, called the *Schützenschnur*. Since 1999, about 750 soldiers have earned the badges, Arroyo said.

Helping Americans participate is a big job for Arroyo — which he does entirely on his own time.

"I get about 100 e-mails every day from people asking me how to get involved in the program," said Arroyo, 33, of Ponce, Puerto Rico.

He volunteers because he likes to give back to the community. Plus, the badges are something U.S. troops won't find at their next duty station, he said.

"It's unique being assigned in Europe," Arroyo said. When he sees soldiers with the badge on their uniforms, he knows that he helped them earn it, and that's gratifying.

"The e-mails from colonels to privates thanking me for the opportunity are recognition enough and good reminders that I made a difference," Arroyo said.

To get the marksmanship badge, a U.S. troop has to fire with unfamiliar guns, such as the German MG-3 machine gun, the MG-38 rifle or the P-8 — a 9 mm pistol — with a certain degree of accuracy.

To get the sports badge, which also is open to civilians, soldiers have to complete running, swimming, shot-putting, ruck marching and long-jumping events.

Arroyo spends his weekends working as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the chemistry section at Landstuhl's pathology department.

Lt. Col. Donald Taillon, a clinical pathologist at Landstuhl, earned his badges last year.

He credits Arroyo with allowing him to participate in an event that helped elucidate German culture.

"A lot goes on behind the scenes and Sgt. Arroyo works hard to coordinate things," Taillon said. "I just think it was a really good opportunity and a chance to experience German military life."

Arroyo earned his own badge in 1999, shortly after moving to Germany. He took over as coordinator in 2002 after the former coordinator changed duty stations.

Between January and July, when the program finishes, Arroyo spends most Saturdays and Sundays on the program. His wife, Amber, a Department of Defense civilian worker, and their four children, including 18-month-old twins, often come out to walk along the ruck march trail.

"The night before one event his wife had the twins and even though he had been up the whole night, the next day he went out and supported the U.S. soldiers," Heinrich said.

"He does a great job, you know. He's like that slogan you have: Not for self but for others."

Heinrich has been helping coordinate the events for 15 years. Arroyo says he couldn't have done it without Heinrich.

Unfortunately, the Arroyo-Heinrich partnership is about to go on hiatus. Both said they need a break, so after all the awards are compiled from this year's events, they will leave the planning to others. Neither knows whether a replacement is forthcoming.

"Maybe someone will feel it," if the tournaments end, Heinrich said.

Taillon, for one, said he expected that would happen. He hopes the program will continue, with new coordinators.

"Somebody's got to step up," he said.

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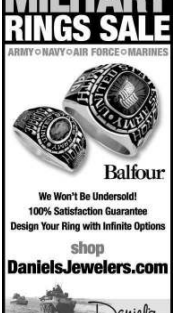
Georgia training to end

MOSCOW — The last of a group of U.S. military personnel training Georgian forces in anti-terrorism tactics will leave Georgia by the end of the summer, the U.S. ambassador to Russia said Friday.

The United States deployed between 80 to 100 military trainers to Georgia to help the former Soviet republic cope with fighters in its lawless Pankisi Gorge. The United States said the fighters were linked to the al-Qaida terror network.

From The Associated Press



Accused U.S. Army deserter now in Japan

Health problems may delay any U.S. action

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN
The Associated Press

TOKYO — Gripping a cane and looking haggard, an American accused of deserting the U.S. Army and defecting to North Korea arrived in Japan on Sunday and was immediately hospitalized, putting himself within the reach of U.S. authorities for the first time in 39 years.

Charles Jenkins, who vanished from his platoon in 1965 and later played devilish American characters in communist propaganda films, faces possible U.S. military prosecution on desertion and other charges in Japan, although American officials suggest they will delay taking him into custody.

Jenkins' arrival, broadcast live by Japanese TV networks, came amid a wave of public sympathy in Japan over the plight of his Japanese wife, Hitomi Soga, who married him after she was kidnapped in Japan by North Korean agents in 1978 and taken to the communist country. They have two daughters.

The family arrived on a Japanese government-chartered flight from Jakarta, Indonesia, where they held an emotional reunion after nearly two years of separation. Soga returned to Japan from North Korea with four other abductees in 2002, but Jenkins stayed behind with their daughters for fear of U.S. prosecution.

AP

Accused U.S. Army deserter Charles Jenkins and his Japanese wife, Hitomi Soga, arrive Sunday at Tokyo's Haneda International Airport. Behind them is their daughter Mika.

Japanese and American officials say Jenkins, 64, is in dire need of medical attention following an abdominal operation in North Korea and other health problems.

On arrival in Tokyo, he stepped painfully down the stairs to the tarmac, clutching his cane as Soga supported him. When someone shouted to ask him how he felt, he shook his head sadly as he limped to a bus that took the family to a hospital.

The Japanese government, eager to reunite Soga's family, has pushed for U.S. clemency for the North Carolina native, and stood by its position on Sunday that Jenkins' health should take priority over his legal problems.

"The Japanese government will provide all the necessary support so Mr. Jenkins can concentrate on his medical treatment for now," said Chief Cabinet Secretary Hiroyuki Hosoda.

The United States has maintained its right to pursue a case against Jenkins. He was never officially discharged from the military, and is subject to U.S. military authorities under an agreement between the United States and Japan, where some 50,000 U.S. troops are based.

But American officials, including U.S. Ambassador Howard Baker, have said in recent days that they are sympathetic to Jenkins' health troubles. Baker met with Japanese Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi on Saturday and said U.S. custody could be delayed.

Japanese officials say the United States had not yet officially asked to apprehend him.

"I think they all are still a bit nervous, but they seem to have hope," Kyoko Nakayama, the government's envoy for the North Korean abduction issue, said of Jenkins' family.

Maj. Gen. Charles W. Sweeney

Nagasaki A-bomb pilot dies

The Associated Press

MILTON, Massachusetts — Charles W. Sweeney, a retired Air Force major general who piloted the plane that dropped an atomic bomb on Nagasaki in the final days of World War II, has died at age 84.

Sweeney died Thursday at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, hospital spokeswoman Christine Johanson said. She did not disclose the cause of death.

Sweeney was 25 when he piloted the B-29 bomber that attacked Nagasaki on Aug. 9, 1945, three days after the Enola Gay dropped an atomic bomb on Hiroshima and six days before Japan surrendered.

About 70,000 people were killed in the explosion of the bomb, dubbed "Fat Man." It was the first bomb Sweeney ever dropped on an enemy target.

Sweeney was an outspoken defender of the bombings, appearing on CNN and speaking at colleges and universities.

Sweeney wrote a book, "War's End: An Eyewitness Account of America's Last Atomic Mission," to counter what he considered "cockamamie theories" that the bombings were unnecessary.

"I looked upon it as a duty. I just wanted the war to be over, so we could get back home to our loved ones," Sweeney told The Patriot Ledger of Quincy in 1995. "I hope my missions were the last ones of their kind that will ever be flown."

His B-29, the Bock's Car, is not as well-known as the Enola Gay, although the bombing was harrowing for the crew. The flight had fuel problems from the start, and clouds and smoke were covering the mission's primary target, the city of Kokura.

After making several dangerous passes over the city, Sweeney abandoned the primary target for Nagasaki. Only a break in the clouds allowed the bomb to be dropped, Sweeney said.

Sweeney became a brigadier general in 1956, and at the time was the youngest man in the Air Force to reach that rank. He retired in 1976.

Fleet Forces Command deputy retires

Vice admiral known as 'Big Al, the sailor's pal'

BY SONJA BARISIC
The Associated Press

NORFOLK, Va. — On his third day at the U.S. Naval Academy, Al Konetzni Jr. was asked to put down his "home of record" on a form.

Whether he was unfamiliar with the term or just miserably homesick, the New York City native decided to give the same answer as the person seated next to him: Miami Beach, Fla.

An upper classman spotted what he had done and proclaimed to the 1,000 students gathered in the mess hall: "Well, gentlemen of the class of 1966, we have our first 'zero' " — meaning Konetzni was "dumber than a box of rocks."

After 38 years of active duty, Konetzni retired Friday as a three-star vice admiral and deputy commander of the U.S. Fleet Forces Command and U.S. Atlantic Fleet, with a celebrity — broadcaster Larry King — lined up to speak at the ceremony.

Rear Adm. Kevin J. Cosgriff relieves Konetzni.

During his career, Konetzni became a submariner and rose through the ranks, eventually heading to Hawaii to become commander of the Pacific Fleet Submarine Force. In 2001, he came to Norfolk, where he bore much of the responsibility for more than 150 ships, nearly 1,200 aircraft, 18 major shore installations and 129,000 people during the war on terrorism.

Along the way, he earned the admiration of many sailors and a very different kind of nickname, "Big Al, the Sailor's Pal."

But he never forgot how much it hurt to be called "Zero" during his academy days. He became determined not to drop out, as the guy marked "Zero" the year before him had done; in fact, Konetzni graduated with merit. The experience also made him wonder what happened to others who were hazed and left — and strengthened his resolve to make things better for others.

"It always hit me, that loss of humanity," Konetzni, 59, said in an interview in his office. "Because perhaps if we had worked harder with them, helped them out, talked with them ... we may very well have been able to engender a mature individual who really can go on to bigger and better things."

Vice Adm. Al Konetzni Jr.

Konetzni carried that memory with him when he tackled the problem of high attrition among young sailors in the Pacific submarine fleet. The fleet was losing 25 percent of its sailors a year.

Determined to change the culture, Konetzni told commanders he would hold them responsible for keeping their sailors in the service. He also reduced working hours for sub crews while in port.

Attrition fell to 7 percent, and the Navy incorporated Konetzni's program as a model.

In Norfolk, as much of the Atlantic Fleet surged to fight in the Iraq war, Konetzni helped the chief of naval operations rethink how the Navy deploys. He is credited with being the principal engineer of the Navy's Fleet Response Plan.

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IN THE STATES

9/11 panel wants U.S. intelligence revamped

Report faults White House, Congress, government for terror attacks and aftermath

BY DAN EGGEN AND STEVE COLL
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The final report of the commission investigating the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks recommends a major restructuring of the nation's intelligence community and includes broad criticism of the White House, Congress and other parts of the U.S. government for failing to detect, thwart and better respond to the deadly hijackings, according to panel members and other officials.

The book-length report — being readied for public release on Thursday — has been endorsed by all 10 of the bipartisan panel's members. It features many of the findings that emerged from public hearings and staff investigations, including the conclusion that al-Qaida and Iraq did not form a close working relationship, commission officials said.

But the final report goes beyond the detailed findings of the commission's staff, scolding Congress for poor oversight of the nation's counterterrorism efforts and urging specific and dramatic reforms that include creation of a powerful national counterterrorism center, according to administration officials and those involved in drafting the document. The new center would have far greater authority than the Terrorist Threat Integration Center opened by the CIA last year, officials said.

Kean

The report also recommends a Cabinet-level office and director to oversee the CIA, FBI and other intelligence agencies, as the New York Times reported Saturday, but one official familiar with the report said that was only part of a broader reorganization aimed at shaking up the intelligence community.

The five Republicans and five Democrats on the commission have jointly agreed not to discuss details of their recommendations before the report is released.

The proposals follow two reports by the House and Senate intelligence committees that faulted the government's intelligence gathering, particularly at the CIA, and come amid a flurry of legislative proposals to remake the intelligence community.

The report caps a remarkable 20-month investigation in which the independent commission — created amid acrimony by Congress and initially opposed by President Bush — gained unprecedented access to closely held presidential briefings, transcripts of interrogations of high-level al-Qaida leaders and tens of thousands of pages of other classified material. The panel also privately interviewed Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney and their predecessors, Bill Clinton and Al Gore.

Through 17 detailed statements assembled by its staff and released this year, the commission has already dramatically altered the public understanding of how 19 al-Qaida hijackers were able to carry off the deadliest terrorist attack in U.S. history. The commission revealed, for example, previously unknown conflicts among al-Qaida's leaders and the hijackers, and told of a plot originally intended to involve 10 aircraft in an assault on the East and West coasts.

The panel has been racing over the past three weeks to finalize the report so that it could be released before a July 26 statutory deadline, the same day the Democratic Party's national convention opens. Commission officials feared that issuing the report that day could have opened the panel to political attacks. Nearly 600 pages long, the findings will be available through bookstores, the Internet and the Government Printing Office.

> *"The report that we will issue [this] week is a commission product and has been very carefully examined by the commissioners, line by line. ...."*
>
> **Lee Hamilton**
> a former Democratic congressman from Indiana and vice chairman of commission

Commissioners interviewed last week said the entire panel was involved in drafting and editing the findings, and reached agreement on how to address some of the most politically sensitive topics. As late as Saturday, officials said, the report was still being edited, and the panel continued wrestling with White House lawyers over classification issues.

"The staff statements were genuinely the work of the staff," said Vice Chairman Lee Hamilton, a former Democratic congressman from Indiana. "The report that we will issue [this] week is a commission product and has been very carefully examined by the commissioners, line by line. ... There are certainly topics in the report that were not touched on in the staff statements."

Several commissioners said the resulting report was not compromised by the desire of Hamilton, Chairman Thomas Kean, a Republican, and others on the panel to reach unanimity.

"We have not pulled any punches," said commissioner Timothy Roemer, a former Democratic congressman from Indiana. "We will have dynamic structural changes and a dramatic moving of the boxes to better reflect moving from a Cold War to a hot jihadist threat, but it's also important to keep your eye on tradecraft and nuts and bolts."

CIA's acting director opposed to commission's proposal

BY JENNIFER C. KERR
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rejecting a recommendation expected this week from the Sept. 11 commission, the CIA's acting director said Sunday a new national intelligence chief is unnecessary and that intelligence agencies have made changes since the 2001 attacks to better protect the country.

John McLaughlin said "a good argument can be made" for a Cabinet-level position to oversee the nation's 15 intelligence agencies and control their budgets.

But, he added, "It doesn't relate particularly to the world I live in. I see the director of Central Intelligence as someone who is able to do that and is empowered to do so under the National Security Act of 1947."

McLaughlin, who took over at the CIA when Director George Tenet left on July 11, also said the agency has disrupted a number of al-Qaida plots to mount attacks by air, sea and other methods in the United States.

"It's important to remember here that for these people, an attack in the United States is the brass ring," he told "Fox News Sunday."

The new post would represent the most drastic step in structuring the intelligence agencies since the CIA was created after World War II.

"With some modest changes in the way the CIA is set up, the director of Central Intelligence could carry out that function well and appropriately," McLaughlin said.

The CIA director now has loose authority over those agencies.

But the commission in a preliminary report found that the director did not hold enough power because the Pentagon controls more than 80 percent of the nation's intelligence budget. As a result, CIA requests to other agencies are often ignored.

The commission's final report, expected to be released Thursday, will highlight intelligence failures by the CIA and the FBI that enabled the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks to occur.

Nevada fires nearly contained

BY TOM GARDNER
The Associated Press

CARSON CITY, Nev. — Fire crews began heading home Sunday as an erratic fire that destroyed at least 15 homes and briefly threatened the governor's mansion in the state capital was declared nearly contained.

"They're getting a very good handle on it," fire information officer Mark Struble said Saturday. "If we can hold these lines for another 24 hours, it'll be very, very good."

The wind-driven fire, which blackened nearly 7,600 acres along a 4-mile stretch of the Sierra foothills, was 85 percent contained late Saturday. At one point, it had moved within one-half mile of the governor's mansion.

Bruner Fire Suppression teammembers out of Chilcoot, Calif., work to eliminate hot spots in the hills above the Lakeview Housing development in Carson City, Nev., on Saturday.
RENO (NEV.) GAZETTE-JOURNAL/*AP*

Fire officials said the blaze could be fully contained by Tuesday with good weather.

Meanwhile, officials broadened their investigation of the fire's cause. They initially said they suspected the blaze was started by teenagers in Kings Canyon the day before the fire erupted Wednesday, but said Saturday the fire could have started last weekend and smoldered undetected for days.

At its peak, roughly 1,900 firefighters were on the line, assisted by more than 120 engines, 16 bulldozers and 26 aircraft including three large air tankers.

Security lapse causes Los Alamos shutdown

The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — The Los Alamos National Laboratory director, tired of security lapses at the northern New Mexico lab, has brought nearly all work there to a standstill and is calling scofflaw "cowboys" out for a final showdown.

Pete Nanos took the unprecedented step Friday of broadening a stand-down of classified work to include all lab activities.

"We are doing this as part of an effort to ensure this laboratory operates safely and meets our national security obligations," Nanos said in a memo to all employees.

He said there will be exceptions to his order, so that critical missions and essential national security functions continue unabated.

Nanos made the announcement a day after the University of California, which manages the lab for the Department of Energy, ordered him to halt classified work at the lab. The action followed a security lapse last week in which two electronic data storage devices turned up missing.

Nanos blamed "cowboys" who are disobeying rules on the handling of sensitive material. "I don't care how many people I have to fire to make it stop," he said.

"If you think the rules are silly, if you think compliance is a joke, please resign now and save me the trouble," he said.

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Study: Drug delays onset of Alzheimer's in memory-impaired

BY MALCOLM RITTER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — People with a common memory disorder that often leads to Alzheimer's disease may be able to briefly delay that fate by taking a drug normally prescribed for Alzheimer's, a new study indicates.

But ultimately the drug Aricept doesn't cut the risk of getting the feared illness, despite an average delay of six months.

The lead author of the study, Dr. Ronald Petersen of the Mayo Clinic, said it was too early to make any recommendations for doctors and patients. He called the new results "a foot in the door" to finding more effective treatments.

The experiment is the first to show that Alzheimer's can be delayed in people with the memory disorder mild cognitive impairment.

The same study found no effect from vitamin E, long viewed as a possible weapon against Alzheimer's.

The experiment is the first to show that Alzheimer's can be delayed in people with the memory disorder called mild cognitive impairment, Petersen said. So researchers might be able to find other treatments that will produce more than the "modest" effect of Aricept, he said.

MCI may be at least as common as Alzheimer's, which afflicts some 4 million Americans. Petersen said it might appear in some 18 percent to 20 percent of people older than 65 who do not have Alzheimer's or other dementia. Most of these people go on to develop Alzheimer's, with about 10 percent to 15 percent receiving an Alzheimer's diagnosis each year, Petersen said.

People with MCI are more forgetful than normal for their age.

They repeatedly forget important things such as luncheon engagements and golfing dates, often enough that friends and family notice the problem. But they don't show other symptoms of Alzheimer's like impaired judgment or reasoning.

Petersen spoke in a telephone interview before presenting the study results Sunday in Philadelphia at the Ninth International Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders.

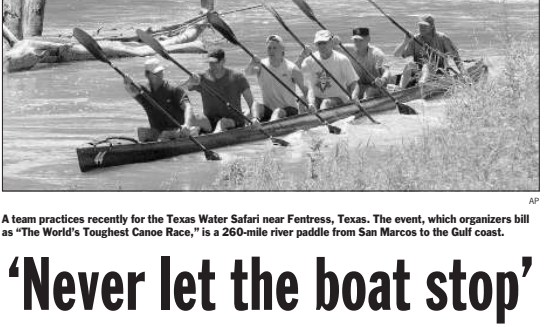
The study was financed by the federal government and the two companies that co-market Aricept in the United States, Pfizer Inc. and Eisai Inc. DSM Nutritional Products donated vitamin E.

The research included 769 MCI patients who took Aricept, vitamin E or a placebo pill daily. Those taking Aricept had a lower risk of developing Alzheimer's than patients on placebo did for the first 18 months of the study, but that difference evaporated in the following 18 months.

The patients on Aricept who ultimately developed Alzheimer's disease took an average of 22 months to do so, about six months longer than patients on a placebo.

Bill Thies, vice president for medical and scientific affairs of the Alzheimer's Association, said vitamin E "is used by almost anyone who's worried about Alzheimer's disease," whether because of a family history or a sense of slipping memory, and users will probably continue to take it despite the study's finding.

As for the evidence that Aricept can delay the transition from MCI to Alzheimer's, "I suspect there will be a lot of people interested in that" among doctors, patients and families, Thies said.



AP

A team practices recently for the Texas Water Safari near Fentress, Texas. The event, which organizers bill as "The World's Toughest Canoe Race," is a 260-mile river paddle from San Marcos to the Gulf coast.

'Never let the boat stop'

Texas canoe race is all pain, but some gain

BY T.A. BADGER
The Associated Press

FENTRESS, Texas — The Texas Water Safari bills itself as "The World's Toughest Canoe Race," and judging from the long list of hazards that awaited the competitors over the weekend, that boating boast could well be the truth.

Start with the physical demands of paddling 260 river miles from San Marcos to the Gulf coast, dodging stumps, rocks, logjams and low-hanging tree branches.

Add the sapping South Texas summertime heat, blasting head winds and sleep deprivation.

Then there's the critters. Alligators, sharks, stingrays and fire ants make homes along the race course, and every boat has to carry a snakebite kit in case a paddler winds up on the business end of a water moccasin or copperhead.

And the big payoff for those who overcome these challenges and make it to the saltwater finish line at Seadrift on San Antonio Bay? "You get a T-shirt, a pat on the back and a meal at the end," said longtime racer Allen Spelce of Austin, this year's race director.

Meager rewards indeed, but they're apparently enough for the hundreds of paddlers who each paid $75 to test their mettle in this 42nd annual race, which was postponed twice this summer because heavy rains made conditions too dangerous.

More than 120 boats, with teams ranging from one to seven paddlers, were to head downstream Saturday on the San Marcos River, which flows into the Guadalupe at Gonzales. The first boat was expected to arrive in Seadrift by Sunday night.

"It will change you if you finish that race," said John Bugge, a 53-year-old plumbing contractor from College Station who will try to finish for the 27th time in 28 attempts, this year in a boat by himself.

Veterans agree that, while the race is extremely physical, mental discipline is what separates the winners from the also-rans.

"At some point your body is going to die on you," said Lee Deviney, 43, chief financial officer for the Texas Lottery Commission and five-time Safari competitor. "You have to will yourself to finish."

Racers also have to deal with dehydration from the heat and prolonged exertion, and the lack of sleep can lead to hallucinations.

"I've been in a boat where all three guys saw two fishermen ahead on the riverbank, and when we got there it was just logs," said Bugge.

The Safari's top teams go nonstop for 36 hours or more. Eating, drinking, napping and all other necessities are done on the move.

"The goal is to never let the boat stop," said Bugge, whose target time is 45 hours.

The Texas Water Safari has just a few major rules: only human-powered propulsion, no outside help except for supplying water and ice, littering gets you kicked out of the race, and no interfering with other teams.

Ten official checkpoints are spread along the course.

Teams have to reach each checkpoint within a certain time or face disqualification. The cutoff for finishing the race is 100 hours.

John Dunn, a fire-ant scientist at the University of Texas in Austin, was on Spelce's winning team last year and he's back for an 18th run. The ex-Army Ranger and former whitewater guide has been on the winning team in the open division nine times since 1993.

Dunn, 37, knows his boat is the one everyone else will be gunning for, which gives him and his teammates a mental advantage from the start.

"Between all of us in the boat, we've had 90 finishes and 36 wins," he said. "You don't know what it takes to win until you do it."

Schwarzenegger mocks state lawmakers as 'girly-men' over budget

BY PETER NICHOLAS
Los Angeles Times

ONTARIO, Calif. — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger mocked his opponents in the California Legislature on Saturday as "girly-men," and called upon voters to "terminate" them at the polls in November if they don't pass his $103 billion budget.

Using tough rhetoric that borrowed from his days as a body-builder and movie actor, the governor said that lawmakers are telling "lies" and are "back to their old habits" after a post-recall burst of bipartisan collaboration.

Legislators, he said at a rally in the food court of the Ontario Mills Mall, are "part of a bureaucracy that is out of shape, that is out of date, that is out of touch and that is definitely out of control in Sacramento."

He also said: "They cannot have the guts to come out there in front of you and say, 'I don't want to represent you. I want to represent those special interests: the unions, the trial lawyers.' ... I call them girly-men. They should get back to the table and they should finish the budget."

Democratic lawmakers, gay and lesbian advocates, and feminist groups bristled over the governor's comments, which were greeted with sustained applause by hundreds of people who were invited to the rally through automated phone calls put out by Schwarzenegger's camp.

The governor used the "girly-man" reference twice in the span of a 16-minute speech aimed at pressuring the legislature to pass his budget, now 17 days late. The remark is an apparent reference to an old Saturday Night Live skit parodying Schwarzenegger. Comedians Dana Carvey and Kevin Nealon played "pumped up" bodybuilders — "Hans" and "Franz" — with thick Austrian accents. Anyone without a muscled torso was dismissed as a "girly-man."

Though the four leaders in the Senate and Assembly are men, women chair some of the legislature's most influential committees, ranging from appropriations to energy. The California Legislative Women's Caucus' Web site lists 33 members — more than one-fourth of the legislature.

Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, a San Francisco Democrat, said he was "nonplused" by Schwarzenegger's comment.

"I don't know what the definition of 'girly-man' is. As opposed to his being a he-man?" Burton said. "I can't think of a way to have the he-man and the girly-men join hands around the Capitol and sing 'Kum Ba Yah.' "

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, also a San Francisco Democrat, said: "Those are the kinds of statements that ought not to come out of the mouth" of the governor. "He says he's going to 'terminate' members in November? I really don't know what he means by that. That's not funny any more."

IN THE WORLD

Arafat's offices torched

Palestinians protest appointment of relative as new security chief

BY LARA SUKHTIAN
The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Militants sacked and burned Palestinian government offices Sunday, the latest sign of growing anger over Yasser Arafat's decision to reach into his old guard and choose a loyalist relative as new security chief.

A confrontation was brewing among Arafat — reluctant to yield significant power, and Palestinian militants and even some of Arafat's own officers. They are demanding deep reforms and new faces, Palestinian analysts said.

The divide between the two sides grew with the appointment of Moussa Arafat, Arafat's cousin, as the new head of Palestinian security. Many Palestinians rejected Moussa as a symbol of corruption and cronyism, propelling long-held dissatisfaction into the open.

The internal Palestinian unrest was the most serious in more than a year. In 2003, protests against corruption forced Arafat to promise reforms and appoint a new government, led by Mahmoud Abbas.

He resigned after only four months.

The turmoil came as Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon planned to withdraw from Gaza next year, intensifying a struggle for power and influence among the various Palestinian factions.

Sharon said the trouble reinforced his contention that Israel cannot negotiate with the present Palestinian leadership.

AP

Newly appointed chief of Palestinian security forces Moussa Arafat, center, is surrounded by bodyguards as he walks by his new office in Gaza City on Sunday.

Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz called Arafat's reforms "an illusion" and said the Palestinian leader had retained his grip on power. "They are playing musical chairs," he told Israel Radio.

Sharon began coalition talks Sunday with moderate Labor Party opposition leader Shimon Peres. Sharon wants to rebuild his coalition government with parties that will support the Gaza pullout.

Also on Sunday, Israel's Cabinet Sunday approved the extension of a law banning Palestinians who marry Israeli Arabs from living in Israel.

The law, enacted last year for an initial one-year period, was extended by six months. It still needs parliamentary approval.

Arabs make up about 20 percent of Israel's population of 6.6 million, while about 3 million Palestinians live in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Many families were divided by cease-fire lines by Mideast wars, and over the years, marriage between the two groups has been common.

In Iran, lawyer protests trial of slain journalist

BY ALI AKBAR DAREINI
The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran's hard-line judiciary on Sunday abruptly ended the trial of a secret agent charged with murdering an Iranian-Canadian photojournalist, and lawyers for the victim's mother said the proceedings as "unacceptable."

It was not clear when a verdict would be issued in the case, which has strained ties with Canada and led to accusations among hard-liners and reformers within Iran's ruling Islamic establishment.

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Shirin Ebadi, who leads a four-member legal team representing Zahra Kazemi's mother, said the lawyers refused to sign the bill of indictment and walked out of the courthouse in protest.

"This court is unacceptable. The indictment is flawed and incomplete," he said. "A verdict issued based on this hearing won't be fair."

The court had only met three times in the trial of agent Mohammad Reza Aghdam Ahmadi, a counterespionage expert and the only person implicated by the judiciary in what is called the "semi-premeditated murder" of Kazemi. He pleaded innocent Saturday.

Ahmadi's lawyer Qasem Shabani said he expected his client to be acquitted.

Kazemi, a Canadian freelance journalist of Iranian origin, died July 10, 2003, while in detention for taking photographs outside a Tehran prison during student-led protests against the ruling establishment.

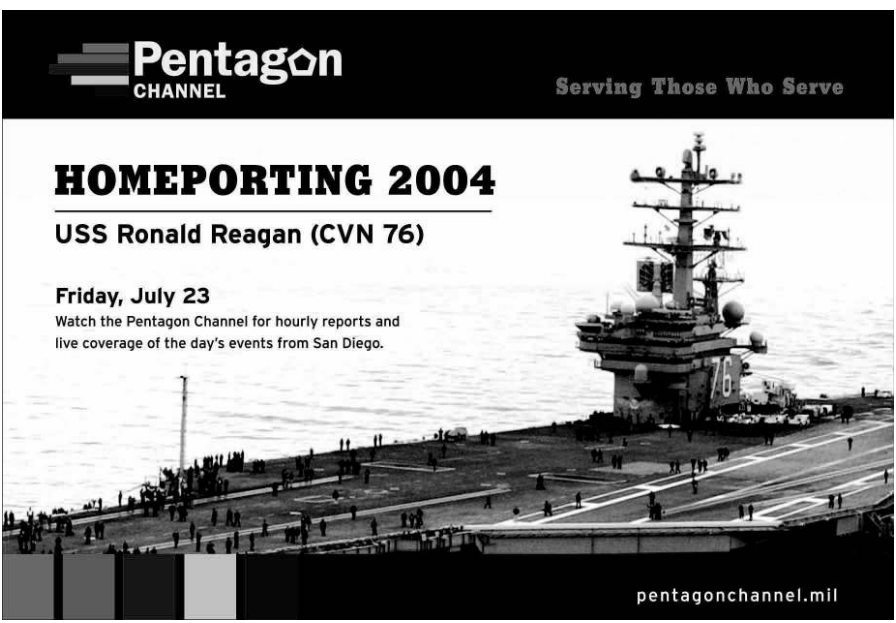
Iranian authorities initially said Kazemi died of a stroke.

Later, a presidential committee found that she died of a fractured skull and brain hemorrhage from a blow to the head.

Iran-Canada relations, strained by the slaying, further deteriorated after Iran rejected Canada's request for observers to attend the trial. When the Canadian ambassador was about to be recalled for the second time over the issue, Iran agreed to allow diplomats to watch.

But after allowing Canadian and European diplomats and media to attend on Saturday, officials closed the trial on Sunday, angering diplomats. The judge apparently didn't realize on Saturday that the Canadian ambassador was at the hearing.

"From the very beginning, we opposed the idea of sending a Canadian observer to the court and we still oppose that idea," said Iran Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Outgoing coach says thanks

After teaching 31 years overseas — 28 in Europe — I would like to say many thanks to all the people that have made these years so wonderful.

Throughout this period I've had the honor and pleasure to coach at Bitburg High. The Stars and Stripes sports department, Rusty Bryan and Mike Abrams, have delighted us with their great coverage and many stories over the years. They have covered games and championships, and given great support and coverage of our football camp the last five years in Bitburg. For this we are most grateful.

I was very honored to open Stars and Stripes on June 29 and read the article that was written by Rusty Bryan. This was greatly appreciated by me and my family and an article I will cherish as a reminder of the European experience.

I would also like to thank the Eifel community, AFN Eifel and the Eifel Times for their outstanding support and coverage over the years. Thanks to the many coaches who've supported the football camps and coached the many teams. You truly are professionals. Thanks to all my assistants over the years: because of you BHS football has been most successful.

It's been an outstanding journey and one that will never be forgotten. Leaving Europe to embark on new challenges will be difficult, but one our family looks forward to. Nothing will replace the years spent here and the many people who made my job such a pleasure.

The "voice of the Eifel," Denny Lemmon, and his outstanding Saturday announcing will always ring on my ears each Saturday in the States.

Thanks again, and I can only hope my new home in Reno, Nev., can be as rewarding as my life in Europe has been.

Coach Rik Carr
Bitburg, Germany

Don't bash the president

Backing President Bush does not mean we have to believe in everything he does or agree with all of his decisions. No one can agree with everything, and everyone makes mistakes.

Being president doesn't make someone superhuman or perfect. Look at our previous president, yet everyone applauded him. President Bush has become very unpopular and has suffered extreme criticism and yet he stands strong for what he believes is right. He is not swayed by protesters, nor is he allowing the media and the lies spread by the various news media to cause him to waver. He's doing his best to protect our country.

Our nation stands against an enemy that has no time limits or conscience and is not biased as to whom it destroys or how many, and we do not stand alone against this enemy.

Terrorism is an evil bacteria that must be destroyed. But before it can be destroyed, it has to get worse. Sorry, but that's the way it is.

Have you ever been sick, and the doctor gives you antibiotics? Well, the illness gets worse the first day as there is a battle in the body between the bacteria and the antibiotics.

Let us open our eyes and see that, first of all, the United States cannot do this alone; and second, it will get worse before it gets better. Anyone who thinks otherwise is deceived or living in a fantasy.

How utterly weak do we look when we bash our president in the face of our allies and our enemies? What must the enemy be thinking when they look at a nation that bashes its own leader?

Who cares why we went in there? Are we foolish to the point that we really believe it's about oil? And did President Bush really go in there killing innocent women and children?

Turn your focus off of Bush for just a moment and turn it toward those cowards who killed thousands of innocent men, women and children.

Remember 9/11? These ugly bombings and terror attacks have been going on long enough and the world should stand together and wipe out terrorism.

God bless America. Ooh! Did I say, "God"?

Sharon Bielby
Rhein-Main Air Base, Germany

Not the American way

In the letter "In Defense of Military Widows" (July 12), the writer claims that it is a "grave injustice" that military widows who remarry a non-military man lose their military benefits. He says this is not the "American way."

Is it truly the American way for someone to receive government benefits, courtesy of the taxpayer, without any end in sight?

Widows of retirees have earned this, but should all other widows receive a lifetime of government assistance? Even combat veterans don't get such a perk.

More importantly, if a widow remarries a non-military man, shouldn't he take the responsibility to provide for her? She receives whatever benefits and health coverage that come with her new husband's job, and if she still prefers the military coverage, there is another option: Her new husband (or even she herself) can join the armed forces and get them the same way the rest of us did.

Moreover, widows of servicemembers are covered by Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, which already pays out over $200,000 at the bare minimum.

I have every sympathy for military widows/widowers, but military assistance should go to those who need it the most, not to people who have moved on with their lives and no longer have any association with the military.

Capt. John H. Smith III
Gelnhausen, Germany

It's a matter of loyalty

After reading "Conservatives are like sheep," I was a little confused.

The writer states that he is a retired captain. Surely as a retired officer in the armed forces of the United States he would be familiar with a value called loyalty.

A statement such as "I support the president's action whether I agree with it or not" is merely an affirmation of loyalty that every servicemember should display, regardless of who the commander in chief is.

The captain's view on Vietnam leaves out the primary reason of why all of Vietnam is a communist nation today — after President Nixon successfully "Vietnamized" the war and had withdrawn almost all U.S. troops, the Democratic Congress voted to cut funding for the South Vietnamese military. They were betrayed. A historical fact, but not a popular view among the liberal media.

The liberal, anti-American slant of ABC, NBC, CNN and CBS is so blatant you would have to be an ignorant fool not to notice. He says that a group of retired officers, diplomats and Nobel Prize recipients have advocated that President Bush be voted out of office. If this same group told you to jump off a cliff, would you?

Should we take Nobel Prize winners seriously? The terrorist Yasser Arafat has one for "his efforts to promote peace in the Middle East."

I guess the Nobel Foundation forgot about the scores of Israelis that he's directly or indirectly butchered over the years.

Liberals in uniform are living a lie. Values such as integrity, loyalty and love of country that are ingrained into the armed forces are alien concepts to the left.

Tech. Sgt. Charles A. Bushong
Iraq

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

CIA wasn't only one hornswoggled by Iraq

BY JOHN HALL
Media General

WASHINGTON

The Senate's Intelligence Committee report on CIA blunders leading up to the Iraq war has touched off the first head-to-head clash of the presidential campaign.

This is more than preliminary, preconvention sparring. Although it's only July, cannons are blazing from both sides.

You would think that the new Democratic ticket would be writing a thank-you note. What a gift just before the party convention. But nothing is that simple.

When the committee [recently] claimed that the United States had gone to war on the basis of flawed intelligence — specifically a string of erroneous CIA findings that Iraq had stashed away weapons of mass destruction — it made no judgment about President Bush. Many Democrats seized on the report as an indictment of Bush's Iraq policy, and Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., said he had been misled into voting for the resolution of support for the war.

The Democratic standard-bearer, Sen. John Kerry, said of the administration: "They were wrong and soldiers died because they were wrong."

Yet, Kerry and his running mate, Sen. John Edwards, have brushed aside as "hypothetical" questions about whether they would have changed their votes in favor of the Iraq war resolution had they known in 2003 what they know now.

If a policy is branded wrong in retrospect, a question about a vote for the policy doesn't look all that hypothetical.

Vice President Dick Cheney said Kerry and Edwards had developed a case of "amnesia" about their votes. Kerry responded that he was proud of another vote he and Edwards cast — this one against an $87 billion appropriation to carry out the war.

You could almost hear the voices offstage, "Don't go there."

That's the $87 billion Kerry voted against after "actually" voting for it — made famous in a campaign commercial Bush used to disparage Kerry last spring as he was nailing down the Democratic nomination.

Meantime, Bush and Cheney seemed eager to prove they made the right choice in committing the nation to war.

Bush went to Oak Ridge, Tenn., with public opinion polls indicating steady erosion in support on Iraq. You would have thought he might have reflected on why he and the experts on Iraq were so convinced Saddam Hussein was hiding WMD.

Instead, a combative Bush said he was justified in going to war and would not retreat one inch from his controversial and unpopular policy of pre-emptive warfare.

Why was everyone fooled about the Iraqi weapons? The CIA wasn't the only institution that was hornswoggled. Saddam Hussein had convinced everyone else he had plenty to hide when he kicked weapons inspectors out of Iraq. Yet the latest evidence is that he had given up his quest for nukes in the mid-1990s, but wanted the world, and his own people as well as his own army, to believe to the end that he had nukes, as well as germ and chemical weapons … so his enemies would fear him more. …

Saddam's thought processes really don't matter much anymore. Or do they? If he had given United Nations inspectors free reign in his country — as they were supposed to have after his 1991 war against Kuwait — he would not have drawn the suspicion that he drew to himself and his country. But in his country, he needed that notoriety. And so, over here, there was an intelligence failure, a war, a big investigation and a campaign.

John Hall is the senior Washington correspondent of Media General News Service.

Gadhafi, Saddam equally evil: Why punish just one?

BY MONA ELTAHAWY

When the United States ended a 24-year chill and restored diplomatic relations with Libya on June 28, the first person I thought of was Baha Omary Kikhia. I interviewed her in Cairo, Egypt, more than 10 years ago during one of her many trips to the region to find out what happened to her husband, former Libyan foreign minister turned dissident Mansour Kikhia.

His case has too easily been lost in the lexicon of bloodier and larger crimes committed by the Libyans, such as the 1988 Pan Am bombing, which killed 270 people. But Moammar Gadhafi has been brutal to Libyans, too, and his various eccentricities should not blind us to the police state he has presided over since he assumed power in a September 1969 coup.

He may travel with Kalashnikov-armed female bodyguards, he may pitch tents at home and abroad for talks with officials, and he may pen such "classics" as the short story collection "The Village, the Village, the Earth, the Earth and the Suicide of the Astronaut," but none of these quirks should distract us from his abysmal human-rights record. Arbitrary arrests, a muzzled press, a ban on political parties and the squandering of Libya's oil wealth have never been laughing matters for Libyans.

And we should not forget Mansour Kikhia, who disappeared in Cairo in December 1993 while attending a meeting of an Arab human-rights organization he had helped found. Kikhia had defected to the United States in 1980 and was a U.S. resident who was four months away from receiving citizenship when he went to Egypt. A four-year CIA investigation found in 1997 that Egyptian agents turned over Kikhia — who had asked for Egyptian security protection while in Cairo — to agents of Gadhafi's regime, who spirited the dissident to Libya, where he was executed and buried in the Libyan desert.

My interview with his wife, a U.S. citizen, left me painfully saddened for her and her family. … I could not forget her during an assignment in Tripoli in 1996, when a Libyan government minder shadowed me at every turn and an official with the ministry of information asked me why we were so critical of Libya in the copy we filed at the Reuters news agency. And I will not forget her now, or the many others who have suffered from Gadhafi's regime, just because he is able to say the things he knows the Americans and British want to hear.

Gadhafi, claiming he had seen the light, accepted responsibility last year for the Pan Am bombing, agreeing to pay compensation to the victims' families (I wonder whether he has paid compensation to Baha Omary Kikhia) and to dismantle his chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs. If that last bit sounds familiar, it should.

President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair want us to think that Gadhafi's conversion on the road to Washington and London was due to the fear that he would end up in the same jail cell as Saddam Hussein. (Gadhafi's daughter Aicha, a law professor, has joined Saddam's defense team.) With no weapons of mass destruction to justify a war against a country that never threatened them, Bush and Blair are determined to hold on to their theory that the "war on terrorism" and the invasion of Iraq would bring rogue states in line.

But it's an odd argument they're making. In the absence of weapons of mass destruction, and with images of Saddam on trial for war crimes, they have been pushing the "removal of a brutal dictator" excuse for the invasion of Iraq.

How do they square this with their astonishing rush to embrace another ruthless dictator? Gadhafi's behavior of late has been uncomfortably close to brutal.

In May … a Libyan court sentenced five Bulgarian nurses and a Palestinian doctor to death by firing squad for deliberately infecting some 400 children with HIV. The medics had always protested their innocence and said they had been tortured by police, with beatings, sexual assault and electric shocks.

Expert witnesses for their defense included one of the team that discovered the AIDS virus, who said this was an epidemic caused by poor hygiene at the hospital, not by any international conspiracy. Isn't Bulgaria a member of the "Coalition of the Willing"? …

In London last year, Bush acknowledged that the United States and Britain had not always been on the right side of democracy when it came to the Mideast. "Your nation and mine in the past have been willing to make a bargain to tolerate oppression for the sake of stability," Bush said to Blair.

It's not difficult to imagine that just such a bargain, along with some good old-fashioned military and oil contracts thrown in, is the driving force behind the resumption of ties with Libya.

Mona Eltahawy is managing editor of Arabic Women's eNews and a columnist for the London-based newspaper Asharq al-Awsat. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY

India shuts thatched-roof schools

BY S. SRINIVASAN
The Associated Press

KUMBAKONAM, India — Authorities ordered the closure of hundreds of schools with flammable thatched roofs in a southern Indian state after 90 children died last week in a school fire, officials said Sunday.

Investigators said the blaze Friday at the private Lord Krishna Middle School in Tamil Nadu state was apparently sparked by dry coconut leaves being used as firewood in a makeshift kitchen. It then spread to the school's thatched roofs, which collapsed onto the students below.

K. Gnanadesikan, the state's education secretary, said the government had ordered all schools with thatched roofs to close for a week to build concrete roofs.

It wasn't clear how many schools would be shut, but about 500 of the 1,500 privately owned primary schools in the state have such roofs.

About 90 children were killed in the blaze. About 90 others who were injured have been released from hospitals, leaving 10 severely injured children still hospitalized.

"Nine children are recovering well. They will be OK," the area's government administrator, J. Radhakrishnan, told the AP. "But one remains in critical condition."

Each of the school's long, narrow and windowless classrooms had only one exit. The flames jumped quickly to the building's thatched roof, and many children couldn't escape.

Police investigators were at the site Sunday, measuring walls, burned bamboo poles, the floor and even some of the furniture, apparently to check if the school had followed government guidelines.

Sonia Gandhi, head of India's ruling coalition, also visited the scene and said the accident "has stunned the entire nation." She announced a $220,000 assistance package for the town, Kumbakonam.

AP

People offer flower petals at a memorial Saturday for the children who died in a fire at a school in Kumbakonam, about 215 miles southwest of Madras, India.

The police have arrested five school officials: the principal; his wife, who is a member of the school's management; his daughter, who helped run the school; and two kitchen workers. They were being held on negligence charges.

The school was one of thousands of similar private operations across India. They often use small, cramped rooms and cater to poor Indian families, charging the equivalent of $5 to $10 a month.

The schools often flout government guidelines.

Such schools have mushroomed as the cash-strapped government cut education spending and stopped building new schools. Many are located in crowded buildings without basic safety measures such as fire alarms and sprinkler systems. They rarely have playgrounds, athletic fields or open space.

Indian courts are now ordering bigger schools to admit a certain percentage of underprivileged students each year, even if they can't pay the high fees that average about $100 a month.

Public schools, while often better equipped than their private counterparts, can be far away and difficult to reach.

Almost all the children at Lord Krishna Middle School came from poor families.

-EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro	$1.2724
British pound	$1.91
Japanese yen (July 19)	107.00
S. Korean won (July 19)	1,129.00
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	$1.8709
Canada (Dollar)	1.3073
Denmark (Krone)	6.0194
Egypt (Pound)	6.2364
Euro	$1.2456
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7991
Hungary (Forint)	203.0
Iceland (Krona)	70.815
Israel (Shekel)	4.4924
Japan (Yen)	108.68
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	6.8400
Philippines (Peso)	55.98
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7509
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7002
S. Korea (Won)	1163.40
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2228
Thailand (Baht)	40.8
Turkey (Lira)	1,428,571.00

(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	$407.00
Silver	$6.70

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.25
Discount rate	2.25
Federal funds market rate	1.25
3-month bill	1.34
30-year bond	5.12

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

Cents and Sensibility
Money tip of the day

Saving for a bad day

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK — A car accident, busted boiler, sudden layoff or unexpected hospital stay can do significant damage to your finances — unless you had the foresight to maintain an emergency fund.

An emergency fund is simply a savings account or other investments set aside solely as a financial safety net. In her new book "Just Give Me The Answers," Sheryl Garrett, a financial adviser and founder of the Garrett Planning Network, said tapping a specific account for emergencies is better than building up credit-card debt or borrowing money.

How much you should save depends on your other financial obligations and monthly expenses, the number of dependents you have, the stability of your income, your access to low-cost loans and the state of the economy and job market.

Garrett recommends that you set aside three months' to six months' worth of living expenses when your job is secure and the economy is good. But if the economy is bad (assuming it would take you longer to find a new job), you should save six months' to a year's worth of expenses.

To calculate how much you should save, divide your annual net income by 12.

Multiply the resulting figure by the number of months for which you have to save.

This should account for all your major monthly expenses, as well as other charges that add up.

Make sure to contribute to your emergency fund regularly. Have the amount automatically deducted from your paycheck.

Keep the money in a savings account so that it earns interest. As the fund grows, you may consider moving some of it into a money market account or CD. But don't put it all in a CD — you'll pay a penalty if you need to withdraw money before the certificate of deposit matures.

The only time you shouldn't contribute to your emergency fund is when you have significant outstanding credit-card debts or personal loans. The high interest rates you'll pay on those debts outweighs any interest you'd earn saving with an emergency fund.

Militants claim they got threats from U.S.

The Associated Press

SAN'A, Yemen — A militant accused of involvement in an attack on a French oil tanker claimed in court Saturday he was threatened by American interrogators with death or transfer to a U.S.-run prison in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The 14 defendants also complained to the judge they had not yet been assigned defense lawyers, and, as they were escorted afterward to trucks to return them to their cells, they chanted, "long live (al-Qaida leader Osama) bin Laden. Death to America."

The 14 defendants — plus a 15th suspect being tried in absentia — are accused of planning and carrying out the Oct. 6, 2002, suicide attack on the Limburg tanker. One Bulgarian crewmember was killed and 90,000 barrels of oil spilled into the Gulf of Aden.

Some of the defendants are believed to be linked to bin Laden's al-Qaida terror network.

New leader in Portugal

LISBON, Portugal — Portugal's new prime minister and his Cabinet took office Saturday, ending more than two weeks of political uncertainty after the country's leader resigned to become president of the European Commission.

Pedro Santana Lopes was sworn in as prime minister of Portugal's 16th constitutional government at a ceremony with President Jorge Sampaio. He pledged to lead the conservative coalition government through the next two years of its mandate.

Santana Lopes, 48, has for the past three years been Lisbon's mayor and has never held a senior government post.

Tourist bus crashes

BERLIN — A Danish bus packed with young vacationers veered off a western German highway Sunday, smashed through the guardrail and fell 30 feet off a bridge. Two passengers were killed and 50 others were injured, police said.

The roof of the yellow double-decker bus was crushed when it crashed off the A1 autobahn near Euskirchen, southwest of Cologne, on the way home from the Spanish beach resort of Lloret del Mar.

Rescuers used metal cutters to free many victims.

Aboard were 64 passengers, ages 16 to 20, the driver and a substitute driver, police said. Authorities said the two dead were Danish nationals, but did not immediately release their names.

Excessive speed or other vehicles do not appear to have been factors in the crash, traffic police spokesman Georg Lesaar said.

Veteran thank-you

ALGIERS, Algeria — France will pay $79.2 million to Algerian veterans who helped free the country from the Nazi yoke in World War II, the French defense minister said.

Michele Alliot-Marie, on a three-day trip to the north African country in the midst of improving bilateral ties, also announced a cooperation accord that will involve sales of military hardware.

Alliot-Marie, speaking to reporters late Saturday, said France "is aware of what it owes Algeria" — which won independence in 1962 after more than 130 years of French rule.

Familiar face on stamp

VIENNA, Austria — California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is getting a birthday gift in his home country: a stamp in his honor.

The Austrian post office announced on its Web site that the $1.25 stamp will be released on the actor-turned-politician's birthday, July 30. Schwarzenegger, who will be 57, was born in the Austrian village of Thal near the southern city of Graz.

The stamp — which shows Schwarzenegger in a suit and tie with the American and Austrian flags in the background — is part of a collectors' series called "Austrians living abroad," the post office said.

From The Associated Press

EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Mostly cloudy with rain-showers. Highs in the 70s, lows in the mid to upper 50s.

Britain, Ireland: Partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the mid-60s to lower 70s, lows in the mid-50s.

Croatia and Bosnia: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid-80s, lows in the upper 50s.

France: Partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the upper 70s to lower 80s, lows in the 60s.

Northern Germany: Mostly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the 70s, lows in the mid-50s to lower 60s.

Southern Germany: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s, lows in the mid-50s to mid-60s.

Hungary: Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 80s, lows in the mid-60s.

Northern Italy: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid to upper 80s, lows in the upper 60s.

Southern Italy: Sunny. Highs in the upper 80s to lower 90s, lows in the mid to upper 60s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid-80s, lows in the upper 50s.

Norway: Partly cloudy with isolated rainshowers. Highs in the 60s, lows in the lower 50s.

Portugal, Spain: Sunny. Highs in the mid-80s to lower 90s, lows in the 60s.

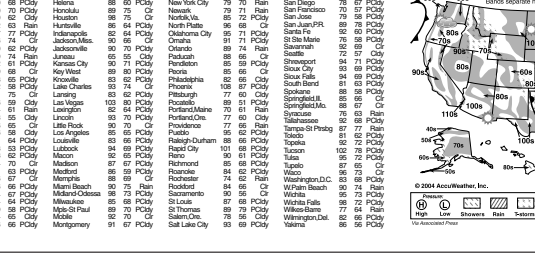
Turkey: Sunny. Highs in the lower 80 mid-90s, lows in the mid-60s to lower 70s.

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

AFRICA

	Hi	LO		Hi	LO
Cape Town	71	45	Mogadishu	84	73
Dakar	85	75	Nairobi	70	49
Freetown	82	73	Rabat	80	62
Kinshasa	81	66	Tripoli	96	70

MIDEAST



THE WORLD

	Hi	LO		Hi	LO
Amsterdam	69	56	Manila	89	75
Bahrain	110	82	Mexico City	73	55
Beijing	86	70	Montreal	76	63
Beirut	86	74	Moscow	72	56
Bermuda	86	78	Rio de. Jan	74	65
Caracas	81	64	Seoul	82	72
Helsinki	74	56	Sofia	85	61
Hong Kong	90	82	Sydney	61	44
Lisbon	80	61	Tokyo	86	77

SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (London)	0559	0600
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	0538	0539
Sunset (London)	2208	2207
Sunset (Frankfurt)	2125	2124

New moon	First qtr.	Full moon	Last qtr.
17 July 04	25 July 04	31 July 04	7 Aug 04

TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

	Hi	Lo	Otlk																				
Abilene,Tex.	96	75	PCldy	Cleveland	77	62	Cldy	Harrisburg	78	66	Cldy	Nashville	85	67	PCldy	San Angelo	97	75	PCldy
Akron,Ohio	77	60	Cldy	Colorado Springs	88	60	PCldy	Hartford Spgfld	77	65	Rain	New Orleans	92	76	Clr	San Antonio	96	74	PCldy
Albany,N.Y.	76	64	Rain	Columbia,S.C.	90	68	PCldy	Helena	88	60	PCldy	New York City	79	70	Rain	San Diego	78	67	PCldy
Albuquerque	95	69	PCldy	Columbus,Ga.	90	70	PCldy	Honolulu	89	75	Clr	Newark	79	71	Rain	San Francisco	70	57	PCldy
Allentown,Pa.	77	63	Cldy	Columbus,Ohio	80	62	Cldy	Houston	98	75	Clr	Norfolk,Va.	85	72	PCldy	San Jose	79	58	PCldy
Amarillo	92	65	PCldy	Concord,N.H.	72	63	Rain	Huntsville	86	64	PCldy	North Platte	96	68	Clr	San Juan,P.R.	89	78	PCldy
Anchorage	69	53	Cldy	Corpus Christi	97	77	PCldy	Indianapolis	82	64	PCldy	Oklahoma City	95	71	PCldy	Santa Fe	92	60	PCldy
Asheville	81	59	PCldy	Dallas-Ft Worth	96	74	Clr	Jackson,Miss.	90	66	Clr	Omaha	91	71	PCldy	St Ste Marie	76	58	PCldy
Atlanta	87	67	PCldy	Dayton	80	62	PCldy	Jacksonville	90	70	PCldy	Orlando	89	74	Rain	Savannah	92	69	Clr
Atlantic City	82	67	PCldy	Daytona Beach	89	74	Rain	Juneau	65	55	Cldy	Paducah	88	66	Clr	Seattle	72	57	Cldy
Austin	98	68	PCldy	Denver	92	61	PCldy	Kansas City	90	71	PCldy	Pendleton	85	59	PCldy	Shreveport	94	71	PCldy
Baltimore	81	67	PCldy	Des Moines	89	68	Clr	Key West	89	80	PCldy	Peoria	85	66	Clr	Sioux City	93	69	PCldy
Baton Rouge	93	71	Clr	Detroit	83	65	PCldy	Knoxville	83	62	PCldy	Philadelphia	82	66	Cldy	Sioux Falls	94	69	PCldy
Billings	94	62	PCldy	Duluth	82	58	PCldy	Lake Charles	93	74	Clr	Phoenix	108	87	PCldy	South Bend	81	63	PCldy
Birmingham	88	65	PCldy	El Paso	101	75	Clr	Lansing	83	62	PCldy	Pittsburgh	77	60	Cldy	Spokane	88	58	PCldy
Bismarck	96	63	PCldy	Elkins	76	59	Cldy	Las Vegas	103	82	PCldy	Portland,Me	69	51	PCldy	Springfield,Ill.	85	65	Clr
Boise	93	66	PCldy	Erie	74	61	Rain	Lexington	82	64	PCldy	Portland,Maine	70	61	Rain	Springfield,Mo.	88	67	Clr
Boston	73	66	Rain	Eugene	78	55	Cldy	Lincoln	93	70	PCldy	Portland,Ore.	77	60	Cldy	Syracuse	76	63	Rain
Bridgeport	76	69	Rain	Evansville	86	65	Clr	Little Rock	90	70	Clr	Providence	77	66	Rain	Tallahassee	92	68	PCldy
Brownsville	97	78	PCldy	Fairbanks	76	58	Cldy	Los Angeles	85	70	PCldy	Pueblo	95	62	PCldy	Tampa-St Pmsbg	87	77	Rain
Buffalo	74	64	Rain	Fargo	91	64	PCldy	Louisville	83	66	PCldy	Raleigh-Durham	88	66	PCldy	Toledo	81	62	PCldy
Burlington,Vt.	78	63	Cldy	Flagstaff	83	53	PCldy	Lubbock	94	69	PCldy	Rapid City	101	68	PCldy	Topeka	92	72	PCldy
Caribou,Maine	74	61	Rain	Flint	83	62	PCldy	Macon	92	65	PCldy	Reno	90	61	PCldy	Tucson	102	78	PCldy
Casper	94	54	PCldy	Fort Wayne	81	63	PCldy	Madison	87	67	PCldy	Richmond	85	68	PCldy	Tulsa	95	72	PCldy
Charleston,S.C.	91	70	Clr	Fresno	96	67	Clr	Memphis	88	69	Clr	Roanoke	84	62	PCldy	Tupelo	87	65	Clr
Charleston,W.Va.	84	66	PCldy	Goodland	90	66	PCldy	Miami Beach	88	77	Rain	Rochester	74	62	Rain	Waco	96	73	Clr
Charlotte,N.C.	86	64	PCldy	Grand Junction	94	67	PCldy	Midland-Odessa	98	73	PCldy	Rockford	84	64	Clr	Washington,D.C.	83	68	PCldy
Chattanooga	86	64	Clr	Grand Rapids	84	64	PCldy	Milwaukee	85	68	PCldy	Sacramento	90	56	Clr	W.Palm Beach	91	74	Rain
Cheyenne	91	60	PCldy	Great Falls	89	58	PCldy	Mpls-St Paul	89	70	PCldy	St Louis	87	68	PCldy	Wichita	95	73	PCldy
Chicago	84	66	Clr	Green Bay	84	65	Cldy	Mobile	92	70	Clr	St Thomas	89	79	PCldy	Wichita Falls	98	72	PCldy
Cincinnati	81	61	PCldy	Greensboro,N.C.	86	66	PCldy	Montgomery	91	67	PCldy	Salem,Ore.	78	56	Cldy	Wilkes-Barre	77	64	Rain
												Salt Lake City	93	69	PCldy	Wilmington,Del.	82	66	PCldy
																Yakima	86	56	PCldy

THE UNITED STATES TODAY

As of noon, Eastern U.S. time

Bands separate high temperature zones for the day.

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Via Associated Press

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STARS AND STRIPES

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Canine crook

VA McLEAN — The cops caught the crook red-pawed.

An elderly woman complained to police that someone was stealing figurines from her yard in a Washington, D.C., suburb. Officers set up a spycam and caught their suspect in the act four times.

Police in Fairfax County say their bad guy is really a not-so-bad Labrador retriever named Magnum. The dog had been retrieving the figurines and bringing them home.

Police say Magnum's owner tried to find where the lawn ornaments were coming from, but failed. Now, all but two of the figurines have been returned — and those involved had a good laugh.

Ring, owner reunited

VT BURLINGTON — A 1937 Burlington High School class ring will be reunited with its owner's family.

Beverly Mae Lord apparently lost it in the 1940s in her back yard, where the ring was found earlier this year by the current owner who dug it up while gardening.

Dori Weigand said she believed the owner must have been a woman because the tiny ring hardly fit on her pinkie finger. The initials "BML" offered the only clue.

Weigand called The Burlington Free Press where an investigation using an old BHS yearbook, a marriage record, an online Social Security database and old issues of the newspaper led to the identity of the ring owner and her children.

Weigand said she would arrange a meeting with Rosario so she can return the ring to its rightful owner.

17 hurt in van accident

TX GRAND SALINE — Seventeen people were taken to hospitals in Grand Saline and Tyler on Friday after a church van overturned on an East Texas highway.

The accident happened on U.S. 80, about 15 miles northwest of Tyler, said Bonnie Willingham, a Texas Department of Public Safety dispatcher.

There was no word on the conditions of the 17, but none were airlifted, Willingham said.

The van apparently belonged to the Harvest Baptist Church in Mineola, she said.

There was no immediate word on what caused the accident, but investigators said only the van was involved, Willingham said.

Fox caught with papers

KS OTTAWA — Neighbors in a subdivision in this small eastern Kansas community have been out of the loop for weeks. Some sly fox had been stealing their Kansas City Star newspapers.

The bold burglar crept onto driveways while subscribers slept, grabbed a paper and ran.

The case was finally cracked recently when Steve Thompson caught the culprit: a red fox.

The fox had been taking the papers to a hollow behind the subdivision, Thompson said. He tracked the furry felon to a large pile of newspapers near its den.

"We always thought it was an early morning jogger," said Lionel Sutton, another subdivision resident.

The newspaper carrier even staked out the neighborhood to catch the canny criminal, Sutton said.

Aaron Scheve, a Kansas Wildlife and Parks ranger for the area, said such behavior is unusual, but not out of the ordinary. He said the fox probably used the papers to insulate its den.

Incensed over a nickel

WA EAST WENATCHEE — Sandi Bryan gave the state her two-cents worth over the five cents they claim she owes.

When the Washington state Department of Employment Security notified her that she owed money for an unemployment compensation overpayment more than six years ago, she picked up the phone.

She was being threatened with court action over a nickel.

Bryan said she asked the state employee who took her call on a toll-free line whether she should mail in a nickel taped to a piece of paper.

"I said, 'Do you realize for this nickel, you paid an employee to type this … [spent] 37 cents for postage, and you want me to pay for a money order and the postage?' " she said.

The response was that the money had to be paid properly, she said.

Bryan said she was overpaid when she was on unemployment for about three months more than six years ago but thought she had paid it all back.

That was until she got a notice dated June 18 that demanded payment of five cents, after which "the Superior Court warrant will be satisfied immediately."

Employment Security spokeswoman Kristin Alexander said the overpayment notices are sent to about 70,000 people a month with the average amount about $1,000.

New dam dedicated

Officials sign documents on a boat in the lock at Montgomery Point Lock and Dam near Yancopin, Ark., during a dedication for the facility near the mouth of the Arkansas River.

State appealing decision

MD HAGERSTOWN — The state is appealing a decision to reinstate a corrections officer who was fired when her nude photos appeared on the Internet.

An administrative law judge previously ruled that the First Amendment rights of Marcie Betts, 22, outweighed the impact the images might have on the state's ability to safely and efficiently run its prisons.

No more public access?

IN EAST CHICAGO — The city council is taking steps to eliminate the public access channel from the city's cable TV system, a move that critics say would mute programs critical of the city government.

Officials said the city wasn't trying to quiet opposition and that shows can get on cable by paying a license agreement.

Economy strengthening

SC COLUMBIA — The state added 5,600 new jobs in June, the Employment Security Commission said. About 3,500 service jobs and 3,400 leisure and hospitality jobs were added. South Carolina lost 5,700 local government jobs, mostly because of the end of the school year. While the job growth was small, the commission said it shows the state's economy is slowly growing stronger.

Taxes may go for buses

OR BEND — Voters could be asked in November to increase their property taxes to fund a local bus system. The fast-growing city is currently one of the largest cities west of the Mississippi with no fixed-route bus system. Voters will be asked for a property tax increase of about 19 cents per $1,000 of assessed value to fund a bus system.

City officials enter pleas

HI HONOLULU — A city wastewater official has pleaded innocent to theft and bribery charges for allegedly ordering city workers to do work at a private residence on city time and using city resources.

Harry Hauck III and Jay Gonsalves were indicted for an incident between July and August 2001. Both are supervisors at the Kailua Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Hauck pleaded not guilty.

Several employees from the Kailua plant filed a lawsuit in June 2002 against Hauck, Gonsalves and other wastewater officials over alleged abuses of overtime and city sources.

It feels so good!

Lucky is rinsed off by Jenna Watson (not shown) of West Bloomfield, Mich., at a Horseshows by the Bay's horse show in Traverse City, Mich. The competitions started on July 14 and will continue Wednesdays through Sundays until Aug. 1.

Fun at Homecoming

Makenzie Reinhart plays on a midway ride during the annual Wauseon Homecoming in Wauseon, Ohio.

Shadow soccer

Jesse Green, 15, works on his ball-handling skills with his friend Stephen Dixon (not shown). Jesse and Stephen are rising freshmen at Duluth High School in Duluth, Ga., and plan to try out for the school's soccer team.

Surfer memorial

A memorial is held at Pelican Beach Park in Satellite Beach, Fla., for Courtney Marcher, who disappeared while surfing in Hawaii. Surfer friends of Marcher, 22, paddled out for the conclusion of the service with the laying of a wreath.

Gearing up for competition

Dason Maloney, 9, of Tupelo, Miss., practices his slalom run at a private ski lake in Lee County, Miss. Dason is preparing for the state ski competetion in Brandon, Miss. Dason will compete in both the regional and national ski competetions later this year.

Robbery face off

OK ARDMORE — Gene McMahan put the hammer down on a would-be robber.

The 68-year-old McMahan was behind the counter at Taylor's Liquor Store when he saw a man walk into the nearby Boy's Food Store and point a weapon at the clerk.

He grabbed his claw hammer, locked the liquor store and went next door to confront the robber.

"It was going to be him or me," McMahan said.

He said the man threatened to shoot him, a fight ensued and both lost their weapons. The money was dropped and the robber ran away.

Christopher Ray Smith, 22, was arrested by police in connection with the robbery.

Police Lt. Rickey D. Lawrence said McMahan's crime-fighting behavior is not encouraged.

"There are times when things don't go right," Lawrence said.

"Realistically, it's best for citizens to get a description and a direction of travel and let us find the subject and put him in custody."

Portable toilet blows up

WV BLACKSVILLE — A man smoking in a portable toilet lit up more than a cigarette.

The potty exploded when a build-up of methane gas mixed with the lit cigarette, said a spokeswoman for Monongalia Emergency Medical Services. The methane didn't "take too kindly" to the lit cigarette, she said.

Emergency workers said the man was not severely injured and drove himself to the hospital after the stinky, smoky mess.

Court finds for school

RI PROVIDENCE — The state Supreme Court said a Catholic school can demand that a student cut his long locks, reversing a lower court ruling. Russell Gorman III filed a lawsuit nearly two years ago after he was expelled from St. Raphael Academy. The court said St. Raphael, as a private school, was allowed to devise and enforce its own rules, as long as they don't contradict public policy.

State files against agent

MO ST. LOUIS — The state attorney general brought a lawsuit against travel agent Tina Marie Flenoy for allegedly selling trips to Cancun to a high school reunion committee, then failing to provide the trips. Attorney General Jay Nixon obtained a temporary restraining order prohibiting Flenoy from operating as a travel agent and will seek full restitution and penalties.

Man charged

TX BROWNWOOD — A man who claimed last year that he was bitten by a rattlesnake in a Wal-Mart in Brownwood was arrested Thursday on charges of filing a false report.

Douglas Wayne Hatchett Jr., 32, of Bangs was arrested by Brown County sheriff's deputies. He was released on $2,500 bond.

Hatchett's girlfriend, 32-year-old Michelle Beam, surrendered to authorities later in the day and also was released on $2,500 bond.

The two were named earlier in the week in a complaint that alleges they falsely reported an emergency and compromised the safety of others by using emergency services.

Hatchett was treated with anti-venom at a hospital in September after he said he was bitten by a rattlesnake in the Wal-Mart shoe department.

If found guilty, they could face up to a year in the Brown County Jail.

Women facing charges

VT MONTPELIER — Two women will likely face charges of hate crimes for allegedly vandalizing downtown buildings, including drawing swastikas on them.

Authorities arrested Sarah Abair, 22, and Tonya Richards, 17.

The vandalism also included derogatory comments about a Jewish Montpelier police officer, said Police Chief Douglas Hoyt.

Hoyt said the two women were caught in the act by Montpelier police. The chalk images were photographed and later washed clean.

Cities' airports compete

IL CHICAGO — Chicago and Atlanta are on track to compete again this year for having the world's busiest airport.

O'Hare International Airport handled nearly a half-million flights in the first half of the year, more than any other U.S. airport, the Federal Aviation Administration said.

But Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport is on pace to handle the most passengers this year, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation.

The two cities have run neck-and-neck in recent years to claim the title. But it's a game of definitions and numbers on which even the experts don't agree.

O'Hare had 490,987 takeoffs and landings in the first six months of the year, the FAA said. Hartsfield had 481,390 flights. The O'Hare data surpassed the 2003 midyear totals by 39,813 flights, the FAA said.

From January through April — the latest data available — Hartsfield handled 12 million originating passengers, according to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics. O'Hare was second with 9.4 million boardings.

Prison in lockdown

NV INDIAN SPRINGS — High Desert State Prison is in lockdown, two days after an inmate was fatally injured and 18 others were hurt in a rock-throwing melee in an outdoor recreation yard.

Guards fired shotgun pellets toward the crowd of at least 60 medium-security inmates during Tuesday's riot, which lasted 20 minutes. Four inmates were taken to hospitals.

Degree policy changed

MS JACKSON — The Mississippi College Board approved a plan to allow students to take fewer hours to earn a bachelor's degree. The average number of hours required would go from 131 to 124. The board's academic affairs committee recommended the change.

The new policy will take effect for all undergraduate students first enrolled in the fall 2007 semester and afterward.

Stories and photos from wire services

She's gonna frame this one ...

AP

Actor Matt Damon takes a photo with Roxana Vidrio in front of the Egyptian Theatre on Saturday in Boise, Idaho, where his latest movie, "The Bourne Supremacy," was shown in a special preview screening. Damon and director Frank Marshall brought the movie to Boise to help raise money for the Boise Contemporary Theatre.

Marvel Comics sues Disney for show royalties

BY GARY GENTILE
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Marvel Enterprises Inc., creator of such comic book superheroes as "Spider-Man" and "The Incredible Hulk," is suing The Walt Disney Co. in a royalty dispute over animation programs aired on Disney's ABC Family channel.

Marvel is asking for nearly $55 million in compensatory damages, interest and other fees it says it is owed for royalties generated by made-for-television episodes of "Spider-Man," "X-Men" and "The Incredible Hulk."

The agreements at issue in the lawsuit, filed late Thursday in Los Angeles County Superior Court, were made before Disney acquired Fox Family Worldwide in 2001. The lawsuit claims Disney has not kept accurate records of royalties due under those inherited agreements.

Disney spokesman John Spelich said the company had not yet seen the lawsuit and could not comment.

Episodes of all three shows were made in the late 1990s and Disney inherited the right to air them and sell the shows on home video and into foreign markets, the lawsuit claims.

Marvel claims it is owed millions of dollars in royalties, including from the licensing of music associated with the shows.

It also claims Disney failed to aggressively market the shows, especially in light of the popularity the three titles have gained from the successful theatrical movies made by other studios.

"Indeed, although Disney is the heir to these important rights, it has treated these profitable properties as second rate," the lawsuit states.

The lawsuit, which claims $54.8 million in total damages, does acknowledge that Disney did pay some disputed royalties when asked.

New court date for Courtney

LOS ANGELES — A judge in Courtney Love's drug case ordered the rock star to appear in a Los Angeles court for sentencing within 24 hours after she is released from a New York City hospital.

Love's attorney, Michael Rosenstein, has said Love was hospitalized for a gynecological medical condition and will return to Los Angeles after being released.

Love pleaded guilty May 25 to a misdemeanor count of being under the influence of a controlled substance. She is expected to be ordered into a drug-treatment program.

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/

MONDAY, JULY 19, 2004

	AFN-EUROPE	AFN-KOREA	AFN-NEWS	AFN-SPORTS	SPECTRUM	AFN-PACIFIC
9:00	Dr. Phil	I Spy	The Beltway Boys	Beyond the Glory	The Wild Thornberrys	I Spy
9:30		Rocket Power	Fox News Watch		SpongeBob	Even Stevens
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy!	Bulls and Bears	Victor Awards XXXVIII The greatest athletes of the past year are honored. From Las Vegas.	The Simpsons	Jeopardy!
10:30	Guiding Light	Wheel of Fortune	Cavuto on Business		Happy Days	Headline News
11:00		ESPNews	CNN Daybreak		Average Joe: Hawaii	ESPNews
11:30	General Hospital	Advisory Block				Headline News
12:00	Headline News	60 Minutes II	Access Hollywood	British Open Highlights	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Counterfeit"	60 Minutes II
12:30	Judge Judy					
13:00	Today The U.S. Gymnastics Team announces competitors; David Rosengarten.	Cold Case "Hitchhiker"	Good Morning America	SportsCenter	Monster Garage Donut shop in a police car.	Cold Case "Hitchhiker"
13:30						
14:00		Without a Trace "Fallout" (Part 2 of 2)		Cycling Tour de France. (Taped)	New Detectives: Forensic Science	Without a Trace "Fallout" (Part 2 of 2)
14:30						
15:00	Lilo & Stitch "Nosy"	Pacific Report	Headline News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	Movie ★★★ "Roxanne" (1987, Comedy) Steve Martin, Daryl Hannah, Rick Rossovich.	Headline News
15:30	Digimon-Digital	The Tonight Show	World News			The Tonight Show
16:00	I Spy		The Early Show			
16:30	Even Stevens	Late Show				Late Show
17:00	Jeopardy!			SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys	
17:30	Headline News	Access Hollywood			SpongeBob	Access Hollywood
18:00	ESPNews	Movie ★★★★ "Adam's Rib" (1949, Comedy) Katharine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Judy Holliday.	FOX News	NHRA Drag Racing (Taped)	The Simpsons	Movie ★★★★ "Adam's Rib" (1949, Comedy) Katharine Hepburn, Spencer Tracy, Judy Holliday.
18:30	AFN Evening News				Happy Days	
19:00	60 Minutes II		Dateline NBC		Average Joe: Hawaii	
19:30						
20:00	Cold Case "Hitchhiker"	Movie ★★★ "Desk Set" (1957, Comedy) Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Gig Young.		2004 ESPY Awards From the Kodak Theater in Hollywood.	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Counterfeit"	Movie ★★★ "Desk Set" (1957, Comedy) Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Gig Young.
20:30						
21:00	Without a Trace "Fallout" (Part 2 of 2)		Headline News		Monster Garage Donut shop in a police car.	
21:30			Inside Politics			
22:00	Headline News	The Hot List		The Hot List	New Detectives: Forensic Science	The Hot List
22:30	The Tonight Show	Headline News	Headline News	The Hot List		Headline News
23:00		Today	Lester Holt	Around the Horn	Movie ★★★ "Roxanne" (1987) Steve Martin.	Today
23:30	Late Show			Pardon the Intrrptn		

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2004

00:00	(11:30) Late Show	(11:00) Today	Headline News	SportsCenter	(11:00) Movie ★★★ "Roxanne" (1987)	(11:00) Today
00:30	Access Hollywood		NBC Nightly News			
1:00	4 Qtrs	Sesame Street (EI)	ABC Wld News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	The Wild Thornberrys	Sesame Street (EI)
1:30			CBS Evening News		SpongeBob	
2:00	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Countdown With Keith Olbermann		The Simpsons	Sagwa-Siamese Cat
2:30		Rugrats			Happy Days	Wheel of Fortune
3:00		Dr. Phil	Hannity & Colmes		Ed "History Lessons"	Dr. Phil
3:30						
4:00		Oprah Winfrey	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced. (Live)	ER "Hindsight"	Oprah Winfrey
4:30						
5:00	Headline News	NBC Nightly News	BET Nightly News		The Residents "The Domino Effect"	NBC Nightly News
5:30	ESPNews	Judge Judy	Business Rpt.			Judge Judy
6:00	Headline News	Access Hollywood	Larry King Live		Movie ★★★½ "Return of the Jedi" (1983) Mark Hamill, Luke Skywalker and his comrades face a final confrontation.	Access Hollywood
6:30	Headline News	Guiding Light				Guiding Light
7:00	Sesame Street (EI)		NewsNight With Aaron Brown	ESPNews		
7:30		General Hospital		Totally NASCAR		General Hospital
8:00	Sagwa-Siamese Cat	Larry King Live	Paula Zahn Now	SportsCenter		Arthur (EI)
8:30	Wheel of Fortune	Animaniacs			Ebert & Roeper	Animaniacs
9:00	Dr. Phil	Taina	Nightline	Motorcycle Racing MotoGP.	The Wild Thornberrys	Lizzie McGuire
9:30		All That	Corps News		SpongeBob	All That
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Jeopardy!	Hardball With Chris Matthews	Motorcycle Racing MotoGP.	The Simpsons	Jeopardy!
10:30	Guiding Light	Wheel of Fortune			Happy Days	Headline News
11:00		ESPNews	CNN Daybreak	SportsCenter	Ed "History Lessons"	ESPNews
11:30	General Hospital	Advisory Block				Pacific Report
12:00	Headline News	7th Heaven "Healing Old Wounds"	The O'Reilly Factor	Great Outdoor Games From Madison, Wis.	ER "Hindsight"	7th Heaven "Healing Old Wounds"
12:30	Judge Judy					
13:00	Today The history of Calwoman; Mena Suvari ("Six Feet Under").	Movie ★★★ "Gladiator" (2000) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. A fugitive general becomes a gladiator in ancient Rome.	Good Morning America	SportsCenter	The Residents "The Domino Effect"	Movie ★★★ "Gladiator" (2000) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. A fugitive general becomes a gladiator in ancient Rome.
13:30						
14:00				MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	Movie ★★★½ "Return of the Jedi" (1983) Mark Hamill, Luke Skywalker and his comrades face a final confrontation.	
14:30						
15:00	Arthur (EI)		Headline News			
15:30	Animaniacs	Pacific Report	World News			Pacific Report
16:00	Lizzie McGuire	The Tonight Show	The Early Show			The Tonight Show
16:30	All That				Ebert & Roeper	
17:00	Jeopardy!	Late Show		SportsCenter	The Wild Thornberrys	Late Show
17:30	Headline News				SpongeBob	
18:00	ESPNews	Access Hollywood	FOX News	ESPNews	The Simpsons	Access Hollywood
18:30	AFN Evening News	Movie ★★★ "The Godfather, Part III" (1990, Drama) Al Pacino, Diane Keaton, Talia Shire. Mob infighting leads the Corleones into a bloody gang war.		Baseball Tonight	Happy Days	Movie ★★ "High School High" (1996, Comedy) Jon Lovitz, Tia Carrere.
19:00	7th Heaven "Healing Old Wounds"		FOX News	Beyond the Glory	Ed "History Lessons"	
19:30						
20:00	Movie ★★★ "Gladiator" (2000) Russell Crowe, Joaquin Phoenix. A fugitive general becomes a gladiator in ancient Rome.		FOX News	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	ER "Hindsight"	Movie ★★★ "Patriot Games" (1992, Suspense) Harrison Ford, Anne Archer, Patrick Bergin.
20:30						
21:00			Headline News		The Residents "The Domino Effect"	
21:30			Inside Politics			
22:00		The Hot List			Movie ★★★½ "Return of the Jedi" (1983, Science Fiction) Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford.	The Hot List
22:30	Headline News	Headline News	Corps News			Headline News
23:00	The Tonight Show	Today	Lester Holt	Around the Horn		Today
23:30				Pardon the Intrrptn		

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STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

NBC's donates $100,000 to film school

NBC, which is shooting its new police drama "Hawaii" on the islands, has donated more than $100,000 of new and used sound equipment to the University of Hawaii's film school in **Honolulu**.

Film school chairman **Chris Lee** said the list of equipment, much of which comes from "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno," fills 10 pages.

"I have to admit that I got giddy when I saw it," said Lee, a former president of production for TriStar Pictures and Columbia Pictures.

The film school currently uses laptops and small Sony video cameras, he said.

Bennett plugs online charter schools

William Bennett, the former education secretary and family-values advocate, is pushing Internet-based schooling.

Bennett

Bennett, who has kept a low profile since admitting last year to being a high-stakes gambler, was in **Santa Rosa, Calif.**, on Friday to plug the online charter schools for home-schooled students. The for-profit company Bennett chairs is providing the curriculum for the California Virtual Academy of Sonoma, a publicly financed charter school that will begin online instruction this fall.

Bennett's 5-year-old company, K12, says this year it will help teach an estimated 18,000 students in 11 states, including about 1,200 in California.

Dr. Laura on the move

Dr. **Laura Schlessinger** has withdrawn her application to lease a Stearns Wharf office in **Santa Barbara, Calif.**, where she planned to broadcast her nationally syndicated radio talk show.

Schlessinger

Schlessinger, who owns a sailboat in Santa Barbara Harbor, had expressed interest in leasing a 250-square-foot office space used by a city wharf maintenance supervisor.

However, city officials had debated whether that would be legal in an area that is zoned for businesses that are "ocean-oriented, visitor-serving and ocean-dependent and ocean-related uses."

From shock jock to sheriff?

An out-of-work shock jock is seeking a new job — sheriff.

Bubba the Love Sponge Clem, who was fired by radio giant Clear Channel Communications in February after it decided his raunchy radio show didn't fit its standards, will be the lone Democrat on the ballot for **Pinellas County, Fla.**, sheriff.

His name will appear on the ballot as "Bubba Clem." His given name was **Todd Clem** before it was legally changed to reflect his on-air moniker.

Clem will face either Chief Deputy **Jim Coats** or retired Ohio sheriff's deputy Tim Glassburner in November. Coats and Glassburner are vying for the Republican spot on the ballot.

Clem's sexually explicit morning show, which aired on stations in **Callahan, Clearwater, Port Charlotte** and **West Palm Beach**, prompted a $755,000 fine from the Federal Communications Commission earlier this year.

Close call for Prince Charles

A Royal Air Force plane carrying **Prince Charles** was involved in a "near miss" incident with a passenger jet earlier this year, air traffic controllers said Friday in **London**.

The National Air Traffic Service said neither plane had been in danger when the prince's jet neared the flight path of a Heathrow-bound Airbus A321 over southern **England** on March 24.

The service said both pilots filed an "air proximity report" after the incident, which occurred at about 11,500 feet.

It said an air traffic controller had acted quickly to correct the problem, and that the planes had remained 3.1 nautical miles apart horizontally and 900 feet apart vertically.

It said the Independent U.K. Airprox (air proximity) Board was investigating whether there had been a risk of collision.

"At no point was the safety of either aircraft compromised in NATS' view," the service said in a statement.

From The Associated Press

AP photos

George Clooney, left, signs autographs as he answers media questions in downtown Milan, Italy, in this 2001 file photo. Clooney, a Laglio, Italy resident, has developed a favorable reputation in the northern Italian town.

Laglio's favorite son

Actor George Clooney develops reputation as neighborhood good guy in northern Italian town

BY FRANCES D'EMILIO
The Associated Press

LAGLIO, Italy

George Clooney shoots baskets with the local kids, carries grandmothers' groceries uphill and works hard on pronouncing *buon giorno*.

He has international stardom and rascally good looks, but in this hamlet where Clooney owns an 18th-century mansion with a private dock on Lake Como, the star is simply *bravo* — Italian for "a good person."

Sure, the fans pitching tents outside Villa Oleandra are a nuisance, but locals say they don't mind the extra business their celebrity neighbor has generated since he bought the mansion two years ago.

"He's good and kind with everyone. All you have to do is not intrude on him," said Giordano Saibene, sunning himself on a narrow stone ledge with a view of the pine-shaded villa.

Intruding may include snapping photos — Saibene said Clooney's bodyguards once threw apples at a fan who was trying to take a picture of the villa.

Star-watching was at a fever pitch recently in Laglio, as fans searched for a glimpse not only of Clooney, but his co-stars in "Ocean's Twelve," which was wrapping up filming in Italy. Brad Pitt, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Julia Roberts and Matt Damon are in the sequel to 2001's "Ocean's Eleven," which is a remake of a the 1960 Frank Sinatra movie.

A lakeside view of George Clooney's villa Oleandra in Laglio on Lake Como in northern Italy. Clooney's 18th-century mansion has a private dock on Lake Como.

"Everyone was outside the villa. Old ladies and entire families. There were even those who slept in their car. It was a pilgrimage," said Nearco Folloni, owner of Laglio's Lanterna bar.

Pitt liked to tool around in a rented motorboat, said Daniele Riva, whose family boatyard provided it. Riva said local authorities asked that boats not be rented "to the curious" who might disturb the stars at play. The Rivas, who have built boats for five generations for the rich who summer in Laglio, obliged.

Mariuccia Riva, Daniele's mother, said she first came across Clooney when he had locked himself out of the villa. Since then, he always tells her good morning.

"He says it like this, '*Buon giorno, signora*,' " Mariuccia Riva said, opening her mouth wide and rolling the vowels in an exaggerated imitation of Clooney's efforts to pronounce Italian.

Clooney is known for hopping into the boat with a white convertible top that he keeps at his dock, zipping guests across the lake to dine in other towns.

A Como newspaper published an appeal by Laglio's Catholic pastor, pleading to fans to leave Clooney in peace, saying Laglio's "tranquility" is its main selling point.

But Folloni contended celebrity is good for business: "Before, Laglio wasn't on the map. Now it is and we like that."

Townspeople say they have an easy relationship with Clooney.

"Maybe because none of us ever bothered him, he would invite us" to join him on a public basketball court, said Saibene.

Clooney would pedal the few miles to the court on his mountain bike, a basketball in his backpack.

The actor was cycling one morning when he saw Saibene's 75-year-old grandmother trudging home with bags of milk, bread and other groceries and carried them for her.

"This man in a cap and dark glasses stopped and asked if he could help. She thought he was an American tourist," Saibene said.

"She doesn't watch TV because she's in bed by 8 o'clock. She has hens and chicks to tend to."

Horoscope

Joyce Jillson

The morning gets off to an energetic start. Do as much as you can before noon because your motivation may wane when the moon goes void of course midday. These are the last few days of the sun's journey in Cancer. Now is the time to make your home run smoothly and stylishly because next week, you won't be bothered by such things.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (July 19). This year brings the fulfillment of a long-held wish. You'll be happy you never gave up the dream. Finances improve because of decisive actions you take in the next four weeks.

Artistic endeavors are lucky in August and may lead to love and travel. You're terrifically relaxed with a Libra or Taurus and will be able to be a better you because of their influence.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). The struggle is between you and you today. If you're too strict with yourself, you'll rebel and do nothing. So, instead, give yourself permission to do what you feel like doing. Colleagues credit your strengths.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An elitist circle opens up to you. It's like getting a hall pass to a new galaxy — you can observe for a short time before you must return to your usual realm. Later, you can choose whether or not you'd like to be a bona-fide member.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Matters of scale come up. You'll be wondering just how important your little problems are and to whom besides you. These are excellent points to ponder, and you could come up with the answer that it's not worth worrying over.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). There's a Chinese proverb that says, "Take chances. When rowing forward, the boat may rock." It's a rocky day for you, but you love being "out on the water," so to speak.

Romance depends on your ability to show your love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Even on hot July days, there can be a cold bite in the air around those people who just won't lighten up. But you're the warming agent that gets the room back to normal. That's why you're really needed at every gathering.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your project may be coming along nicely, but it's time to shake thing up. Find your own "test audience," and ask them to give you candid feedback — you'll get gold. Time and money won't be the only resources you'll save.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). This would be a high-pressure day except that you're having none of that. You're in the mood to live a little, and nothing is getting in your way. The more nonsensical and irrelevant an activity seems, the more you'll be attracted to it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Building on a small win will give you confidence. There was a time when you didn't know how in the world you would meet your aims, but now, you're discovering that you have abilities you can use to achieve your goals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You feel loose and lively. The stars lift some of the tensions you've been dealing with lately, and now, you fluidly adjust to the present situation. People may ask for your opinion, but you're wise not to give it.

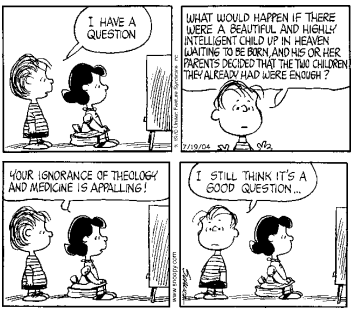
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You're willing to take in life fully, feel the hurts if necessary and be honored by the joys. This opportunity to develop spiritual wisdom is deeply personal and may be made more special now if you keep it to yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Motivation may be low, but you can counteract this by seeking encouragement. Stay around people who will compliment and inspire you. While you're looking for this, you'll end up lighting the fire of inspiration in someone else.

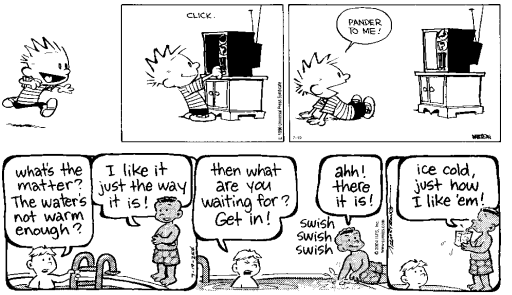
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). There's much in your environment to react to, but be pro-active instead. Take deliberate action — do something you've thought through many times in the past. One prudent move now will contribute hundreds of future successes.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start

Zits

Cathy

Hi and Lois

Beetle Bailey

Red and Rover

Better or Worse

Foxtrot

B.C.

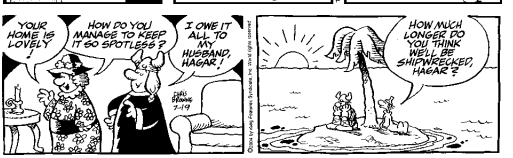
Baby Blues

Spider Man

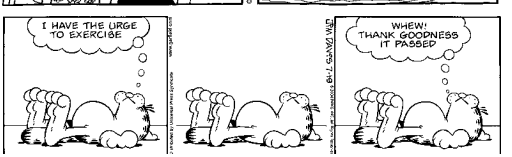
Blondie

Dilbert

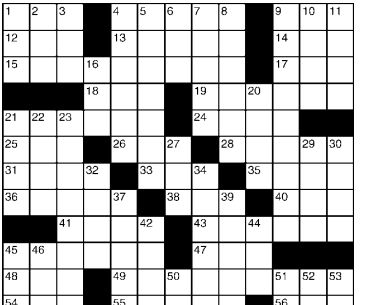
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

1 Sermon subject
4 Archaeologist's prize
9 Dan Rather's workplace
12 Big hoopla
13 Actress Verdugo
14 Beerlike beverage
15 "Dead Poets Society" motto
17 Wish undone
18 "— been had!"
19 Mill output
21 Hopkins' role
24 Verifiable
25 Simile center
26 Crafty
28 Man of many parts?
31 Crumbly deposit of earth
33 "Of course"
35 Longest wholly Spanish river
36 Ex-larvae
38 Sch. group
40 — standstill
41 Has a bug
43 Beaver State
45 The untold story?
47 Expert
48 First X?
49 Gnawing ant
54 Onassis, familiarly
55 Gives it a go
56 Infinitesimal
57 4-Down's "Matrix" role
58 Hybrid womens-wear
59 Ancient

Down

1 Pouch
2 Tennyson princess
3 Postal Creed word
4 "Speed" star
5 On in years
6 Floral garland
7 Klutzy
8 Funt prop
9 Mid-1800s luggage
10 On the racy side
11 Prophet
16 Refueling area
20 Brownish purple
21 Genie's hideaway
22 Jacob's brother
23 Thinly sliced meat in a sauce
27 "Uh-huh"
29 "— take arms against ..."
30 Ersatz morocco
32 Den
34 Cork
37 Votes in
39 Collar
42 Absolute
44 A billion years
45 Ollie's pal
46 Green land
50 "Flying Down to —"
51 Snake eyes
52 Wet wriggler
53 Visine target

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

7-19 CRYPTOQUIP

G Z D Y S B I D U T T D U B G Q T V W Q J D T Z D U G V Y F . V F S D W W W Q C D Q Y D C S W G Z U J D U B Q T D G Q W D G G I D .

Saturday's Cryptoquip: NOT WANTING TO FALL OFF THE BEAM, THE GYMNAST ALWAYS EATS A WELL-BALANCED DIET.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals T

Counseling off the cuff not easy

Dear Abby: Last Sunday I attended church as usual.

After the service, another woman and I started talking and the next thing I knew, we were having lunch together.

Over lunch, the other woman told me about her life.

She said that as a child she had been molested by her father and when she refused his sexual advances, he started to malign her socially, emotionally and mentally. She no longer lives in the same town with him.

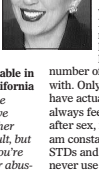
I have no experience or training as a relationship counselor, and found my tongue tied over her story. What should I have said to her?

— Uncomfortable in Northern California

Dear Uncomfortable: The proper response would have been to acknowledge that her youth had been very difficult, but that she's a survivor and you're glad she got away from her abuser.

It is unusual for someone to reveal that much to a stranger, and had the woman confided in me I would have asked if she'd had counseling to help her deal with it. If the answer was no, I'd have recommended she get it so she could lay her past to rest.

Dear Abby



Dear Abby: I desperately need some guidance because I'm afraid I'm putting myself in grave danger.

I lost my virginity when I was 16 to a boy I hardly knew. I am now 20 and off to college, and I have literally lost count of the number of men I have had sex with. Only a handful of them have actually been boyfriends. I always feel horrible and used after sex, not to mention that I am constantly worried about STDs and pregnancy since I never use protection. Yet I can't stop being promiscuous, and I can't settle down with any one person. My self-worth has disintegrated, and sex has become meaningless to me.

Abby, please set me straight. I'm so lost and don't know who to confide in.

— Scared and Ashamed in Washington

Dear Scared: Thank you for trusting me with your problem. When you get to school, check in with the student health center. You need to be examined — and treated, if necessary — for STDs. You also need to talk to a mental health professional to understand what has been driving your sexually compulsive behavior. (Often the reasons have nothing to do with sexual desire.) You are right that your behavior could have serious consequences, physically and emotionally. So please make getting professional help your first priority.

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

How to answer 'the kid question'

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Childless in the East," who asked you for a good response when people say, "When are you going to have kids?" My wife and I waited to have children. We shut up the insensitive clods by giving them an indignant look and replying, "I cannot begin to imagine how that would possibly interest you."

We both had good jobs and enjoyed traveling. We also saved and invested. We had children when we were ready, and by then, we could provide nicely for them and give them the quality of life they deserved.

— George in Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear George: We were overwhelmed with suggested responses. Read on:

Pensacola, Fla.: Years ago, my daughter was asked when she would have kids. I suggested she reply indignantly, "We'd NEVER do that! We're vegetarians."

Annie's Mailbox

Redding, Calif.: A friend once asked, "When are you going to have a baby?" My husband replied, "Well, we keep kissing and kissing, and nothing happens."

Jacksonville, Fla.: My best answer is, "When they come with a return policy."

Chicago: My sister's favorite response was, "On the third Thursday after the second blue moon of a year evenly divisible by seven."

People didn't ask twice.

Wisconsin: Here's mine: "If I wanted to hear the pitter-patter of little feet, I'd put shoes on my cat." Works for me.

Spokane, Wash.: I tell people, "I don't breed well in captivity."

East Coast: My husband's favorite answer is, "My wife and I prayed for 20 years for children, and then we found out that's not how you do it."

Indianapolis: I like this one: "I love kids. I had one last night with a glass of Chianti and fava beans."

New York: "We used to have two, but we traded them in for a new car."

East Coast: Tell them, "I can't bear children," then refuse to explain yourself.

Portsmouth, N.H.: When people ask, "When are you guys having kids?" just say: "I don't know. What have you heard?"

SciFi Fan: "When are you going to have kids?" Answer: "You mean you can't see them?"

Georgia: How's this: "I don't know. When are you going to have manners?"

New York: My husband would look dejected and say, "Well, you see, there was this accident at the factory . . . " People would immediately apologize.

Michigan: I tell people, "Oh, I've had several children, but the state kept taking them away, so I quit."

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.

NOOZE

SERCS

TAUMUN

FLERBY

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www.jumble.com

Ans: A ____ OF ____

(Answers tomorrow)

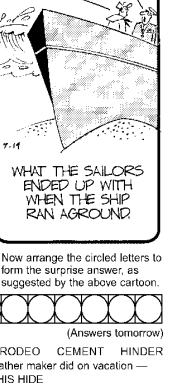
Saturday's Jumbles: DRAMA RODEO CEMENT HINDER

Answer: What the leather maker did on vacation — "TANNED" HIS HIDE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

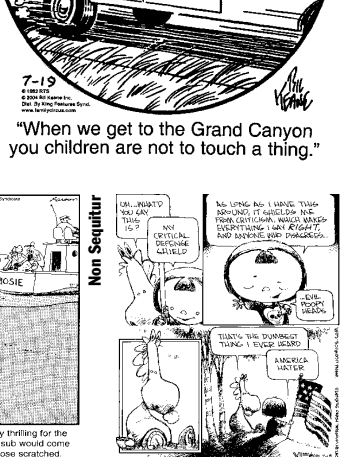
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

The 800/900 nos. have been DISCONTINUED.



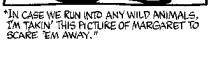
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Family Circus



"When we get to the Grand Canyon you children are not to touch a thing."

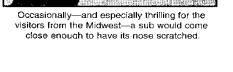
Dennis the Menace



"IN CASE WE RUN INTO ANY WILD ANIMALS, I'M TAKIN' THIS PICTURE OF MARGARET TO SCARE 'EM AWAY."

©Gary Larson

The Far Side



Occasionally—and especially thrilling for the visitors from the Midwest—a sub would come close enough to have its nose scratched.

Non Sequitur

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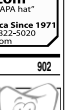

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TURKEY:	29c		

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STARS AND STRIPES

Financial Services 904

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Announcements 040

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS
in Europe for assistance call
49(0)1803-AAHELP
or www.aa - europe.net

English Theatre travelling group forming in Rhein-Main area, send resume and pic to J. Leverett, PSC 5 Box 213, APO AE 09050 or jackie148@yahoo.com

Announcements 040

FIND 1000s of shops
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www.APOFPOShipping.com

Automotive 140

Used cars from $700 to $3000, inspection guarantee, call 0171-6506602

Transportation 944

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1. Write an ad (be sure to include the item, price/or best offer (OBO) and phone number).
2. Select a 4, 7, or 30 day package.
3. Choose a category from the index running most days in Stars & Stripes Classified.
4. Decide which day you would like your ad to begin running, and submit with the appropriate payment on or before the deadline listed below. *

MONDAY	DUE NOON THURSDAY	FRIDAY	DUE 4 PM TUESDAY
TUESDAY	DUE 4 PM THURSDAY	SATURDAY	DUE NOON WEDNESDAY
WEDNESDAY	DUE 4 PM FRIDAY	SUNDAY	DUE 4 PM WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY	DUE 4 PM MONDAY		

PRIVATE PARTY PACKAGES

1. 4 lines for 4 days for $20.00 ($5.00 per additional line). §
2. 4 lines for 7 days for $30.00 ($7.50 per additional line). §
3. 4 lines for 30 days for $55.00 ($10.00 per additional line). §

† Private Party Rates apply only to individuals advertising personal merchandise or private property for sale, up to two major items such as a boat, motor vehicle or home. Commercial Rates apply to property and/or merchandise for rent and commercial operations. Employment Rates apply for Jobs Offered and Job Rates, For Commercial or Employment Rate Information contact Stars & Stripes Classified.
* Payment is required in advance in order to publish ads. Acceptable forms of payment include: Visa, MasterCard, Check or Money Order. Please do not send cash. If an ad is not received by the designated deadline, it will begin running the next available day. Please allow one extra day for all Federal holidays.
§ Classified ad lines include approximately 25 characters (this includes spaces) per line.

CONTACT STRIPES TO PLACE AN AD
24 hour e-mail & fax service (Phone Service 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)
E-mail: clasad@mail.estripes.osd.mil
Fax: Germany 06155-601-376
Phone: CIV 06155-601-447/328/212 or DSN 349-8447/8328/8212

Toll Free In Europe:	**Belgium:** 0800-7802	**Germany:** 0800-1011-271
Netherlands: 0800-0223804	**Italy:** 800-90266	**Spain:** 900-958304
U.K.: 0800-0858828	**USA:** 1-877-751-8352	

Customer Service: 06155-601437 or DSN 349-8437
FOR INFORMATION ON BUSINESS RATES OR ADVERTISING IN THE SERVICE DIRECTORY, CONTACT SEAN ADAMS AT CIV: 06155-601203 or DSN: 349-8203.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING COUPON

☐ 4 lines/4 days @ $20 ☐ 4 lines/7 days @ $30 ☐ 4 lines/30 days @ $55

Business Name: _____
Your Name: _____ Phone #: _____
Address: _____
Visa/MC # (circle one): _____ Exp.Date: _____
Category #: _____ Run Date(s): _____
Ad: _____

Send Payment to:
APO Address
European Stars & Stripes
Classified Advertising Department
Unit 29480, APO AE 09211

International Address
European Stars & Stripes
ATTN: Classified Advertising
Postfach 1330, 64546 Mörfelden

Deadline to place, cancel, or make any change to an ad is four business days prior to first date of publication. It's the responsibility of the advertiser to contact European Stars & Stripes Classified on the first date of publication to correct errors. If the ad has a typographical error that does not affect the integral value of the ad, i.e., misspelled words; wrong category (case-by-case); CAPS, bold, italicized incorrectly; it will be corrected, but no makegood will be given. Incorrect phone numbers, wrong price, wrong dates, make or model listed incorrectly will result in a makegood for one additional day. Stars & Stripes reserves the right to edit and return any and all ads considered inappropriate for publishing. **All classified advertisements are non-refundable.**

Announcements 040

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

60% off BMW 316i '00, Orient blue mett, full loaded, BMW alloy 225/50R, BMW wntr tires, 95k km, non-smoker, $13,500 obo, Friedberg area, call 0171-9910565

AUDI TT QUATTRO COUPE '04 papaya orange, 225hp, 6 spd, hid lltr seats, 18" alloys, xenon, 2600 mi, $33,500 obo. call 06221-5899965 or 0175-5126137

BMW 320i, '95, 71k km, German spec, auto, air, stereo, dual ab, TÜV/SUV to 05/06, great cond. $7500, 0171-5777988

BMW 320i Coupe M3 look, 2 owners, dbr maint, non-smoker, all orig, perfect shrm cond, $3350. call 0171-6429114

BMW 325i Touring '02, US spec, sport pkg, 13k mi, as new, $25,995, call 388-9398 06224-172642 after 1800

BMW 330Ci 2004, 54K mi, 6spd, US spec, Prem&CWW Pkg, NavSys, XKds, PkDist Ctl, $37k 0171-641-5531

BMW 520 '99, euro spec, NAV, tv, lthr & htd sts, 17" orig whls, fully loaded, 155k km, dbl ab, $12k obo, call 0641-9661333

BMW 735i '91, auto, lthr interior, 2500 mi, BMW 3 Series '96, 50deu, glazza@usa.com, 09723-2648

BMW 735i '92, Black, ac, all pwr, good cond, auto, new insp, $4000 obo, call 0160-93880845

BMW M5 '93, 120k km, Ger spec, 340 hp, 3.8L ex cond, $9,500 obo, For more info and pics see www.bmwmnegistry.com/detail.php?id=452 or call 0160-7123172

CHEVY CORVETTE Coupe '99, blue, removable top, 30k mi, many option, lots of extras, extra sharp, must see $28,800 in Ramstein, Call 0637-952813

Chrysler PT Cruiser '03, Tour edition, 18k mi, $14k obo, call 0162-931759

MERCEDES OWNERS -please call me before you sell, junk it or give it away. Klink, 06563164 www.klink-cars.de

Ford Aspire '94, US spec, ex cond, only 40k mi, 5spd, 2dr, abgs, $1300, call 06371619532 or 0637-4724

Ford Mondeo SW '00, black, 66k km, V6, pwr str, bwr brk, ex cond, many extras, ext. NAV, $9500 obo, 0160-93880845

Honda S2000 '00, Eur spec, ex cond, low mi, dbr maint, removable hard top, w/spare whls & snows, asking $21,500, call 09472-91781 or dan 466-4470

Motorcycles 164

GSX1300RK1 Hayabusa '01, BK km, maroon/silver, ex. cond. see pics www.healthybodies.us - click "For Sale" $7995 obo, 0172-6159569 or 434-5584

Honda Shadow ACE '02, 2k mi, saddle bags, pipes, windshield, plus extras, $4k, 06565-958644 or ukaysay@yahoo.com

Sport Utility Vehicle 172

Hyuandai SUV '01, 4wd, lthr int, 7 seats, cd, tv & vcr, airbag, 2.5 turbo diesel, asking $15k, +39 348-3577290 or 633-7766

Jeep Grand Cherokee '01, 49k km, 4.7l V8, full loaded, mint cond, blk, mnrf, CanadianUS spec, $21k, 0171-6359877

Jeep Wrangler Sport '01, slvr, v6 4.0L, soft-top, manual, approx 40k mi, $13k, call Chris 06105-450694

Toyota Tacoma Prerunner V5 '01 ac, amm cass/cd, auto, factory lmt, 2wh dr, $16000 obo 0160/1052327 or 01606761852

Trucks 174

Ford F-150 '97, 4.2L V6 engine, 15-18mpg, 5spd, Enkie wheels 285/60/18 Nitto, arc abs, clear corners $7000, 0170-1706408

Auto Repairs 182

Need Your Transmission or Engine Overhauled? Call John 0711-843794

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PCS Sale 780

English antique furniture, lawn mower, treadmill, weights, must see in Hanau area 06048-952008 or 0175-2632522

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

Beautiful male AKC reg English Bulldog, brindle and white, 5yrs old, $1500 very gentle, house broken, call 09662415934

Free to good home, 3yr old, pure-bred, female chocolate Lab, w/papers, spayed, house broken, good on leash, all shots, loves attention and children, acc included, call 0178-7724767

Jack Russel pups, 10wks & 8 mo old male, w/shots, already house broken, call 0163-6660470

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Pets 820

Chow-Chow Pups red & black, w/papers, shots ex. w/kids, payments, a must see, Call 0179-6877763 & 06505-8419

Apartment Unfurn 856

Larg 1 br apartment, small penthouse, Sat TV, both AFN and ASTRA rec, big terrace, 700euur +util, call Shiela 06181-15593

Must see large 2 br, big patio/balcony, car port, AFN cable and Sat TV, 800 +util, call Shiela 06181-15593

Near Darmstadt , nice 3br apartment, BIK, balcony, for single or couple, rent 950euur +450 +util, dep req, call 0173-6720181 or 0160-8400727

Apartment Unfurn 856

Homes/Apts for Rent - US 866

Relocating to WRAMC, WRAIR, NNMC or USUHS? 4br, 3 ba, house in MD, gormet kitchen, fenced in yard, 5 min walk to WRAMC commissary & PX, overlooking Rock Creek Park, close access to 495, avail Oct 1st or sooner, $2800/month, please email if interested travelingeurope1@yahoo.com

Restaurants 872

Greek resturant by Baumholder 10min drv in Thallichtenberg Kusler Str 21 Family operated it has delicious international foods - eu - e $1 open daily 11:30-14:30 & 17:00- 24:00

House Unfurnished 878

House for rent near Bensheim, a beautiful 3br, 2ba, house with yard, garage, and fireplace, 2 patios, basement rm, pets ok, 1250euu per month +util, call Dr Bach at 06251-4542

Language Classes 912

Want to learn Arabic? Native Arabic speaker is offering a chance to learn Arabic, beginner and advanced, call 06221-872962?

Travel 1000

"VACATION IN GARMISCH" Hotel Forsthaus Oberau 6 km Nth of Garmisch Hot tub/sauna 33eur PP, DBL occp, free brkfst, dogs welcome. 08824-9120 www.forsthaus-oberau.de

GARMISH American-owned vacation apartment 3br, 2b, priv fenced yard, kids pets ok, call for photos 06375-994710

Video 1020

350+ original US DVD's cost 8eur ea, email: jambamson@t-online.de list or call 09721-40632

Jobs Offered 630

Honest person, good references, looking to clean houses/ stairwells/PC/rugs & yardwork, WI area, Maria 0170-6764796

Nanny need ASAP for 1 year old. House sits during the school day from 8am-3pm. Prefer bilingual speaker, English & German. Prior experienced preferred. Please call Nikki Dyson at (Home) 0611-45—3599 or (Cell) 0611-705-5160. Provide References

Transportation 944

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Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Autos for Sale - Germany 142

Buses/Vans/RVs 158

Ford Windstar '00, seats 7, 2nd sliding door, rear ac, cc, pl, pw wind, low pkg, $7500, 3.8L, low pkg, Joe Lewis 06221-182328

GMC Hi Top Conv Van '94, CD, VCR, ac, auto, ps, pl, capt sts, ext/ab/ref, 110k mi, $6800 obo, 480-3673 or 0631-3502780

Pontiac Transport Van '94, V6, ac, auto, pw, pl, Germ spec, 160k km, asking $3k obo, call 09472-91781 or dan 466-4470

Motorcycles 164

GSX1300RK1 Hayabusa '01, BK km, maroon/silver, ex. cond. see pics www.healthybodies.us - click "For Sale" $7995 obo, 0172-6159569 or 434-5584

Mercedes 500SL Sport '97, US spec, 6k mi, dbr maint, ex cond, grey, fully loaded, snw tires, AMG whls, asking $8L, call 09665-954680 Vilseck

Nissan Micra '01, 80ps, econ, 3dr, auto, ac, rcod player, Germ spec, US tags, make serious offer, 069-15688240

Automotive 140

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rheinmilitaryhq@t-online.de
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Fax.: (0931) 2789682
www.militarycarsales.org

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US Spec

$40,995 2004 BMW 525iA
Sport/Premium
US Spec

$27,995 2004 BMW 325Ci
Sports, Steptronic
US Spec

STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Jobs Offered 630

EPS Global Services is currently looking for a full-time administrative assistant. Must be a U.S. ID card holder. Email your resume to Cheryl.cornelius@epscorp.com, fax to 0621-41166, or phone 0621-418900.

Jobs Offered 630

Lynsack Consultants Ltd.
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Jobs Offered 630

DISTRICT MANAGER AT LARGE (NTE 13 MONTH)

JOIN THE STARS AND STRIPES TEAM TODAY!

NAF-SS-04-26
Pay Plan/Series: NF-1101 Grade 04
Salary: $31,500 - $40,000
Opening Date: 14-Jul-2004
Cutoff Date: N/A
Closing Date: 31-Jul-2004

Duty Station GRIESHEIM, GERMANY
Special Info: RESUMUX IS NOT USED TO FILL NAF JOBS
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: 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.

How To Apply

Email Resume: jobs@mail.estripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29404, APO AE, 09211
Fax Resume: +49 (0) 6155-601421 (Civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
In Person European Stars & Stripes, Griesheim Kasern Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Griesheim Germany

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Civilian: 011 +49 (0)-6155-601433/207
DSN: 349-8433/207

Jobs Offered 630

Graphic Artist

JOIN THE STARS AND STRIPES TEAM TODAY!

NAF-SS-04-33
Pay Plan/Series: NF-1101 Grade 04
Salary: $31,500- $35,000
Opening: Date 25-Jun-2004
Cutoff Date: N/A
Closing Date: Until Filled

Duty Station: Griesheim, GM
Special Info: PCS cost not authorized.
Area of Consideration: All Interested and Qualified US Citizen Applicants.Europe Wide

Duties: Effectively composes, proofs and corrects display advertising for the Advertising Sales Unit, applying knowledge of Macintosh and PC hardware and graphic software to develop digital art and copy. Deals with customers and advertising staff directly with proofs and problems. Provides similar support of revenue generating, promotion or marketing activities and initiatives identified and scheduled for other departments. Operates a variety of equipment including scanners, Zip and Jazz drives, modems, and color printers. Works on special advertising, marketing and other projects as assigned.

Qualification Requirements: Experience as a Graphic Artist for a daily or weekly print publication. Digital data transfer knowledge and digital prepress working knowledge (experience with direct to film or late technology) and ability to work within stringent deadlines while performing a variety of advertising and production tasks. Ability to work well with others and follow instructions. Working knowledge of Quark, Adobe Illustrator and PhotoShop programs. A strong knowledge of English grammar, spelling and punctuation is required. Preferred candidate will have three (3) years experience as a graphic artist for a print publication and possess good organizational skills, including time management; ability to meet all display ad deadlines with demonstrated professionalism and customer service skills. Must be creative, flexible and regularly recommend means and methods to improve ad concept, design and/or layout.

How To Apply

Email Resume: jobs@mail.estripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29404, APO AE, 09211
Fax Resume: +49 (0) 6155-601421 (Civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
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Jobs Offered 630

Immediate Openings

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OFFSET PRINT WORKER

$10.29 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

$8.51 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.

How To Apply

Online: www.chrma.hqusareur.army.mil
Email Resume: jobs@mail.estripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29404, APO AE, 09211
Fax Resume: +49 (0) 6155-601421 (Civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
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Jobs Offered 630

Advertising Sales Assistant

(2 Regular Full Time)

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NAF-SS-04-35
Pay Plan/Series: NF-1101 Grade 02
Salary: $8.40 - $12.00
Opening Date: 07-Jul-2004
Cutoff Date: N/A
Closing Date: 19-Jul-2004

Duty Station: GRIESHEIM
Special Info: Position earns monthly commission bonuses.
Area of Consideration: All Interested and Qualified Applicants

Duties: Reports directly to the Director of Europe Advertising in all general, daily advertising matters, assisting Sales Associates with duties pertaining to the general administrative support of the advertising and marketing directorates. Supports the advertising account executive staff by scheduling advertising and 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.

How To Apply

Email Resume: jobs@mail.estripes.osd.mil
Send Resume: European Stars & Stripes, NAF Personnel Office Unit 29404, APO AE, 09211
Fax Resume: +49 (0) 6155-601421 (Civilian) 349-8421 (DSN)
In Person European Stars & Stripes, Griesheim Kasern Flughafenstrasse Geb. 4319, Griesheim Germany

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SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Atlantic; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-Sports; dld.-delayed; cut.-two-hour or 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.)

Television

Baseball — Milwaukee at Cincinnati, 1 a.m. Tuesday, SPT; St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 2 a.m. Tuesday, AFN-A; Boston at Seattle, 4 a.m. Tuesday, SPT; Chicago White Sox at Texas, 2 p.m. Tuesday (dld), SPT; St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 8 p.m. Tuesday, SPT; Florida at N.Y. Mets, 1 a.m. Wednesday, SPT; San Diego at Colorado, 4 a.m. Wednesday, SPT; Los Angeles at Houston, noon Wednesday (dld), SPT.

Boxing — Tuesday Night Fights, Peter Manfredo Jr. (21-0, 10 KOs) vs. Hassan Ali (31-1-3, 12 KOs) for vacant NABO junior middleweight title, 3 a.m. Wednesday, AFN-A.

Cycling — 2004 Tour de France: Stage 14, 2 p.m. Monday (dld), SPT.

Golf — British Open Highlights, noon Monday (dld), SPT.

Miscellaneous — 2004 ESPY Awards, 8 p.m. (dld) Monday, SPT.

Motorsports — NHRA Mile-High Nationals, 6 p.m. Monday (dld), SPT; German GP for motorcycles, 9 a.m. Tuesday (dld), SPT.

Outdoors — ESPN Great Outdoor Games V: noon Tuesday (dld), SPT; 2 a.m. Wednesday (dld), SPT.

Track and field — U.S. Olympic Trials, 6 a.m. Monday (dld), SPT.

Radio

(Listings are feeds from AFN in California. Some might not air in all areas)

Baseball — Philadelphia at Atlanta, 1:30 a.m. Tuesday.

AFN-Europe can be reached at DSN 329-4444 or civilian (+49) (0)69-156-88-444. 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**.

Pro soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
MetroStars	5	6	5	20	29	29
D.C. United	5	6	6	21	23	23
Columbus	5	5	5	20	16	17
Chicago	4	6	7	19	18	20
New England	4	8	5	17	20	26

Western Conference

Los Angeles	9	5	5	32	33	26
Kansas City	9	4	4	31	25	14
Colorado	5	5	7	22	14	17
Dallas	5	6	5	20	17	22
San Jose	5	6	5	20	24	26

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Saturday's games

San Jose 3, Colorado 1
Los Angeles 1, D.C. United 1, tie
New England 1, Columbus 1, tie
MetroStars 1, Chicago 1, tie
Kansas City 1, Dallas 0

Saturday, July 24

Columbus at Colorado
Chicago at MetroStars
D.C. United at Dallas
Los Angeles at Kansas City
New England at San Jose

Pro basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	12	9	.571	-
Charlotte	10	8	.556	½
Connecticut	11	11	.500	1½
Washington	10	10	.474	2
Detroit	9	11	.450	2½
New York	9	11	.450	2½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Los Angeles	14	7	.667	-
Seattle	13	7	.650	½
Minnesota	11	9	.550	2½
Houston	10	12	.455	4½
Sacramento	9	11	.450	4½
Phoenix	8	11	.421	5
San Antonio	6	14	.300	7½

Saturday's games

Houston 72, Connecticut 56
Seattle 85, Washington 83, OT
Sacramento 79, Los Angeles 70

Sunday's games

San Antonio at Detroit
Charlotte at New York
Minnesota at Phoenix
Washington at Sacramento

Monday's game

Indiana at Los Angeles

Auto racing

Firestone Indy 200

Indy Racing League
Saturday
At Nashville Superspeedway
Gladeville, Tenn.
Lap Length: 1.33 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (5) Tony Kanaan, Dallara-Honda, 200, $100,400
2. (9) Sam Hornish Jr., Dallara-Toyota, 200, $82,900
3. (11) Helio Castroneves, Dallara-Toyota, 200, $69,600
4. (6) Darren Manning, Panoz G Force-Toyota, 200, $56,500
5. (12) Townsend Bell, Dallara-Chevrolet, 200, $51,600
6. (1) Buddy Rice, Panoz G Force-Honda, 200, $55,600
7. (18) Mark Taylor, Panoz G Force-Honda, 200, $46,400
8. (8) Scott Dixon, Panoz G Force-Toyota, 200, $43,300
9. (14) Kosuke Matsuura, Panoz G Force-Honda, 200, $43,300
10. (13) Adri Dan Fern Dandez, Panoz G Force-Honda, 200, $42,300
11. (20) Tora Takagi, Dallara-Toyota, 200, $40,800
12. (2) Vitor Meira, Panoz G Force-Honda, 200, $57,100
13. (4) Dan Wheldon, Dallara-Honda, 199, $38,500
14. (15) Scott Sharp, Dallara-Toyota, 199, $37,100
15. (19) Felipe Giaffone, Dallara-Chevrolet, 198, $36,000
16. (22) A.J. Foyt IV, Dallara-Toyota, 190, $34,900
17. (16) Alex Barron, Dallara-Chevrolet, 178, suspension, $33,600
18. (3) Bryan Herta, Dallara-Honda, 161, accident, $33,600
19. (10) Tomas Scheckter, Dallara-Chevrolet, 108, accident, $32,400
20. (7) Dario Franchitti, Dallara-Honda, 65, gearbox, $31,300
21. (17) Jaques Lazier, Dallara-Chevrolet, 64, mechanical, $31,300
22. (21) Ed Carpenter, Dallara-Chevrolet, 60, accident, $31,300

Race Statistics

Winner's average speed: 134.975 mph.
Time of race: 1 hour, 55 minutes, 34.6367 seconds.

Margin of victory: 0.3755 seconds.
Cautions: 7 for 52 laps.
Lead changes: 7 among 4 drivers.
Lap leaders: V.Meira 1-113, B.Rice 114-165, D.Wheldon 166-181, T.Kanaan 182-200.
Point standings: 1, T.Kanaan 395; 2, Dan Wheldon, 264; 3, Buddy Rice, 253; 4, H.Castroneves, 242; 5, S.Hornish Jr., 200; 6, S.Dixon, 188; 7, D.Manning, 187; 8, B.Herta, 177; 9, D.Franchitti, 173; 10, V.Meira, 167.

Dodge Dealers Ram Tough 200

NASCAR trucks
Saturday
At Gateway International Raceway
Madison, Ill.
Lap Length: 1.25 miles
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (14) David Starr, Chevrolet, 174, $54,210.
2. (11) Dennis Setzer, Chevrolet, 174, $37,425.
3. (13) Ted Musgrave, Dodge, 174, $29,015.
4. (6) Chad Chaffin, Dodge, 174, $21,775.
5. (12) Hank Parker Jr., Dodge, 174, $18,725.
6. (15) Matt Crafton, Chevrolet, 174, $15,625.
7. (5) Travis Kvapil, Toyota, 174, $15,150.
8. (23) Randy LaJoie, Dodge, 174, $15,050.
9. (17) David Reutimann, Toyota, 174, $13,450.
10. (8) Bill Lester, Toyota, 174, $13,250.
11. (28) Shane Sieg, Chevrolet, 174, $13,200.
12. (24) Chase Montgomery, Dodge, 174, $11,915.
13. (10) Andy Houston, Dodge, 174, $11,465.
14. (25) Paul White, Chevrolet, 174, $11,415.
15. (27) Tracy Hines, Chevrolet, 174, $11,865.
16. (7) Shane Hmiel, Chevrolet, 174, $12,565.
17. (2) Bobby Hamilton, Dodge, 174, $11,015.
18. (9) Carl Edwards, Ford, 173, $10,840.
19. (26) David Ragan, Ford, 173, $9,490.
20. (22) Brad Keselowski, Ford, 173, $9,565.
21. (30) Kelly Sutton, Chevrolet, 173, $8,440.
22. (32) Ken Weaver, Chevrolet, 172, $8,415.
23. (29) Brandon Whitt, Ford, 172, $8,390.
24. (29) Chris Wimmer, Ford, 172, $8,365.
25. (3) Rick Crawford, Ford, 169, accident, $8,340.
26. (18) Terry Cook, Ford, 160, accident, $8,315.
27. (16) Robert Huffman, Toyota, 160, accident, $8,290.
28. (19) Mike Skinner, Toyota, 159, $8,265.
29. (1) Jack Sprague, Chevrolet, 155, accident, $8,240.
30. (21) Jon Wood, Ford, 154, transmission, $8,720.
31. (4) Steve Park, Dodge, 149, $8,210.
32. (34) Ryck Sanders, Chevrolet, 51, engine failure, $8,200.
33. (33) Wayne Edwards, Chevrolet, 7, brakes, $8,190.
34. (31) Johnny Chapman, Chevrolet, 1, rear end, $8,155.

Race Statistics

Average Speed of Race Winner: 93.694 mph.
Time of Race: 2 hours, 19 minutes, 17 seconds.
Margin of Victory: 0.444 seconds.
Caution Flags: 9 for 36 laps.
Lead Changes: 15 among 9 drivers.
Lap Leaders: J.Sprague 1-3; B.Hamilton 4-27; J.Sprague 28-31; S.Hmiel 32-41; R.Crawford 42-51; D.Reutimann 52-66; D.Setzer 67-73; B.Hamilton 74-92; J.Sprague 93-94; S.Hmiel 95-106; J.Sprague 107; T.Hines 108-109; J.Sprague 110-113; S.Hmiel 114-166; C.Chaffin 167-173; D.Starr 174.

Top 10 in Points: 1, D.Setzer, 1,837; 2, B.Hamilton, 1,773; 3, C.Edwards, 1,671; 4, M.Crafton, 1,651; 5, C.Chaffin, 1,650; 6, T.Musgrave, 1,610; 7, R.Crawford, 1,603; 8, T.Kvapil, 1,564; 9, J.Sprague, 1,544; 10, J.Wood, 1,527.

Cycling

Tour de France

Sunday
At Nimes, France
14th Stage
119.62-mile leg from Carcassonne

1. Alfor Gonzalez, Kazakhstan, Fassa Bortolo, 4 hours, 18 minutes, 32 seconds.
2. Nicolas Jalabert, France, Phonak Hearing Systems, 25 seconds behind.
3. Christophe Mengin, France, fdjeux.com, 25 seconds behind.
4. Pierrick Fedrigo, France, Credit Agricole, 25 seconds behind.
5. Peter Wrolich, Austria, Gerolsteiner, 31 seconds behind.
6. Marc Lotz, Netherlands, Rabobank, same time.
7. Igor Gonzalez Galdeano, Spain, Liberty Seguros, same time.
8. Santiago Botero, Colombia, T-Mobile Team, 37 seconds behind.
9. Inigo Landaluze, Spain, Euskaltel-Euskadi, 41 seconds behind.
10. Egoi Martinez, Spain, Euskaltel-Euskadi, 43 seconds behind.
11. Robbie McEwen, Australia, Lotto-Domo, 14 minutes, 12 seconds behind.
12. Thor Hushovd, Norway, Credit Agricole, same time.
13. Danilo Hondo, Germany, Gerolsteiner, same time.
14. Stuart O'Grady, Australia, Cofidis Credit Par Telephone, same time.
15. Erik Zabel, Germany, T-Mobile Team, same time.
16. Janeck Tombak, Estonia, Cofidis Credit Par Telephone, same time.
17. Laurent Brochard, France, AG2R Prevoyance, same time.
18. Sebastian Lang, Germany, Gerolsteiner, same time.
19. Jerome Pineau, France, Brioches La Boulangere, same time.
20. Rolf Aldag, Germany, T-Mobile Team, same time.

Also

34. George Hincapie, United States, US Postal-Berry Floor, 14 minutes, 12 seconds behind.
38. Viatceslav Ekimov, Russia, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
39. Lance Armstrong, United States, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
58. Jose Azevedo, Portugal, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
62. Levi Leipheimer, United States, Rabobank, same time.
66. Floyd Landis, United States, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
67. Manuel Beltran, Spain, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
68. Pavel Padrnos, Czech Republic, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
70. Jose Luis Rubiera, Spain, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
74. Benjamin Noval Gonzalez, Spain, US Postal-Berry Floor, same time.
83. Christian Vandevelde, United States, Liberty Seguros, same time.
108. Roberto Heras, Spain, Liberty Seguros, same time.
180. Kevin Hulch, United States, Team CSC, 15 minutes, 36 seconds behind.

Overall Standings
(After 14 Stages)

1. Thomas Voeckler, France, Brioches La Boulangere, 62 hours, 33 minutes, 11 seconds.
2. Lance Armstrong, United States, US Postal-Berry Floor, 22 seconds behind.
3. Ivan Basso, Italy, Team CSC, 1:30 behind.
4. Andreas Kloden, Germany, T-Mobile Team, 3:18.
5. Francisco Mancebo, Spain, Illes Balears-B. Santander, 3:28.
6. Georg Totschnig, Austria, Gerolsteiner, 6:08.
7. Jose Azevedo, Portugal, US Postal-Berry Floor, 6:43.
8. Jan Ullrich, Germany, T-Mobile Team, 7:11.
9. Pietro Caucchioli, Italy, Alessio-Bianchi, 7:59.
10. Sandy Casar, France, fdjeux.com, 8:29.

Tennis

Mercedes-Benz Cup

Saturday
At The Los Angeles Tennis Center
Los Angeles
Purse: $355,000 (Intl. Series)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals

Tommy Haas, Germany, def. Cyril Saulnier, France, 7-5, 7-5.
Nicolas Kiefer, Germany, def. Jeff Morrison, United States, 6-2, 6-2.

Bank of the West Classic

Saturday
At The Taube Tennis Center
Stanford, Calif.
Purse: $585,000 (Tier II)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Semifinals

Venus Williams (1), United States, def. Amy Frazier (6), United States, 6-3, 6-1.
Lindsay Davenport (2), United States, def. Maria Vento-Kabchi (8), Venezuela, 6-3, 6-2.

Dutch Open

Sunday
At Sportingclub Bokkeduinen
Amersfoort, Netherlands
Purse: $450,000 (Intl. Series)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
Championship

Martin Verkerk (4), Netherlands, def. Fernando Gonzalez (2), Chile, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 6-4.

Mercedes Cup

Sunday
At TC Weissenhof
Stuttgart, Germany
Purse: $762,966 (Intl. Gold)
Surface: Clay-Outdoor
Singles
Championship

Guillermo Canas, Argentina, def. Gaston Gaudio (2), Argentina, 5-7, 6-2, 6-0, 1-6, 6-3.

Golf

B.C. Open

Saturday
At En-joie Golf Club
Endicott, N.Y.
Purse: $3 million
Yardage: 6,974; Par: 72
Third Round

Jonathan Byrd	67-65-68—200	-16
Ted Purdy	69-67-65—201	-15
Robert Gamez	75-61-66—202	-14
Tommy Tolles	67-69-65—201	-15
Notah Begay III	73-62-66—201	-15
John E. Morgan	65-68-68—201	-15
Camilo Villegas	65-70-67—202	-14
Neal Lancaster	67-67-69—203	-13
Chris Smith	69-65-69—203	-13
Steve Allan	72-68-64—204	-12
Jim Gallagher, Jr.	70-68-66—204	-12
John Senden	71-66-67—204	-12
Robin Freeman	70-67-67—204	-12
Hidemichi Tanaka	68-68-68—204	-12
Jason Bohn	67-68-69—204	-12
Pat Bates	70-68-67—205	-11
Omar Uresti	71-67-67—205	-11
Hank Kuehne	70-68-67—205	-11
Vaughn Taylor	71-66-68—205	-11
Joey Sindelar	68-69-68—205	-11
John Cook	69-68-68—205	-11
David Peoples	70-66-69—205	-11
Gabriel Hjertstedt	67-68-70—205	-11
Jay Williamson	68-67-70—205	-11
Daniel Chopra	68-65-72—205	-11
Todd Fischer	65-69-71—205	-11
Bill Haas	74-66-66—206	-10
Brenden Pappas	66-73-67—206	-10
Jim Carter	70-68-68—206	-10
Brett Quigley	66-69-71—206	-10
Kevin Stadler	65-70-71—206	-10
Richard S. Johnson	69-68-70—207	-9
Esteban Toledo	71-66-70—207	-9
Garrett Willis	66-71-70—207	-9
Craig Stadler	67-69-71—207	-9
David Edwards	71-71-66—208	-8
Mark Wiebe	69-70-69—208	-8
Wayne Levi	72-67-69—208	-8
Roger Tamblin	69-69-70—208	-8
Olin Browne	67-71-70—208	-8
Stan Utley	68-69-71—208	-8
John Rollins	71-65-72—208	-8
Mike Grob	71-71-67—209	-7
Wes Short, Jr.	72-69-68—209	-7
Brock Mackenzie	69-71-69—209	-7
Jason Dufner	69-71-69—209	-7
Tom Carter	67-72-70—209	-7
Greg Chalmers	68-71-70—209	-7
Kelly Gibson	64-74-71—209	-7
Fred Funk	74-68-68—210	-6
Hiroyuki Fujita	72-70-68—210	-6
David Sutherland	73-69-68—210	-6
Matt Hendrix	72-70-68—210	-6
Kevin Muncrief	70-71-69—210	-6
John Morse	71-70-69—210	-6
Kevin Na	70-70-70—210	-6
Mark Wilson	70-69-71—210	-6
Craig Bowden	68-71-71—210	-6
Michael Clark II	70-69-71—210	-6
Brian Kortan	69-68-73—210	-6
Roland Thatcher	66-68-76—210	-6
Lucas Glover	67-74-70—211	-5
David Ogrin	73-68-70—211	-5
Ken Green	69-71-71—211	-5
Mike Standly	74-69-69—212	-4
Jim Benepe	67-68-76—211	-5
Mike Heinen	67-75-70—212	-4
Trevor Dodds	67-68-77—212	-4
Brad Bryant	72-70-71—213	-3
Brandt Snedeker	69-73-71—213	-3
Billy Andrade	72-68-73—213	-3
Carl Paulson	69-70-74—213	-3
Tim Conley	72-70-72—214	-2
Danny Briggs	72-69-73—214	-2
Grant Waite	71-69-74—214	-2
Mike Springer	71-71-73—215	-1
Mike Sullivan	71-71-73—215	-1
Ken Duke	73-68-74—215	-1

LPGA Giant Eagle Classic

Saturday
At Squaw Creek Country Club
Vienna, Ohio
Purse: $1 million
Yardage: 6,446; Par 72
Second Round
a-denotes amateur

Michelle Estill	71-67—138	-6
Young-A Yang	67-71—138	-6
Meaghan Francella	70-69—139	-5
Laura Diaz	69-70—139	-5
Nadina Taylor	69-71—140	-4
Heather Bowie	72-69—141	-3
Leta Lindley	71-70—141	-3
Katherine Hull	75-66—141	-3
Dina Ammaccapane	74-68—142	-2
Jen Hanson	74-68—142	-2
Nicole Jeray	73-69—142	-2
Anna Acker-Macosko	72-70—142	-2
Amy Fruhwirth	71-71—142	-2
Heather Daly-Donofrio	71-71—142	-2
Emilee Klein	70-72—142	-2
Gloria Park	66-76—142	-2
Amy Hung	73-70—143	-1
Ji Yeon Lee	73-70—143	-1
Jamie Hullett	71-72—143	-1
Cathy Johnston-Forbes	71-72—143	-1
Kristi Albers	70-73—143	-1
Isabelle Beissegel	70-73—143	-1
Marilyn Lovander	69-74—143	-1
Donna Andrews	68-75—143	-1
A.J. Eathorne	75-69—144	-E
Seol-An Jeon	74-70—144	-E
Catherine Cartwright	74-70—144	-E
Mardi Lunn	73-71—144	-E
Jill McGill	73-71—144	-E
Mikaela Parmlid	73-71—144	-E
Angela Jerman	73-71—144	-E
Jennifer Kirkpatrick-Cooper	72-72—144	-E
Jean Bartholomew	72-72—144	-E
Michelle Guthis	72-72—144	-E
Chris Johnson	72-72—144	-E
Tina Fischer	72-72—144	-E
Yu Ping Lin	71-73—144	-E
Tammie Green	70-74—144	-E
Beth Bauer	74-71—145	+1
Allison Finney	73-72—145	+1
Kelly Rankin	73-72—145	+1
Dale Eggeling	72-73—145	+1
Juli Hilton	72-73—145	+1
Ashli Bunch	72-73—145	+1
Carri Wood	71-74—145	+1
Kathryn Marshall	71-74—145	+1
Candy Hannemann	75-71—146	+2
Jessica Reese	74-72—146	+2
Soo Young Moon	74-72—146	+2
Nancy Scranton	74-72—146	+2
Jackie Gallagher-Smith	73-73—146	+2
Joellyn Erdmann-Crooks	72-74—146	+2
Suzy Whaley	72-74—146	+2
Laura Myerscough	72-74—146	+2
Becky Iverson	71-75—146	+2
Ashley Winn	71-75—146	+2
Marcy Hart	77-70—147	+3
Kim Williams	75-72—147	+3
Riko Higashio	75-72—147	+3
Jenny Park-Choi	75-72—147	+3
Jenna Daniels	74-73—147	+3
Kristal Burton	74-73—147	+3
Angie Rizzo	73-74—147	+3
Michele Vinieratos	73-74—147	+3
I Mi Chang	72-75—147	+3
Kris Tschetter	72-75—147	+3
Laurie Rinker	72-75—147	+3
Jung Yeon Lee	72-75—147	+3
Audra Burks	71-76—147	+3
Kelly Lagedrost	71-76—147	+3
Kate Golden	70-77—147	+3
Patricia Baxter-Johnson	70-77—147	+3

Deals

Saturday's transactions

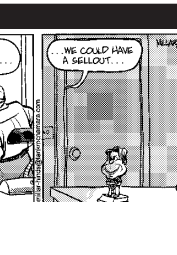
BASEBALL
American League
KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Activated OF Aaron Guiel from the 15-day DL and assigned him to Wichita of the Texas League.
MINNESOTA TWINS—Signed OF Ricky Prady.
OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Acquired LHP Adam Morris from San Francisco for cash and assigned him to Sacramento of the PCL.
TAMPA BAY DEVIL RAYS—Designated 1B Fred McGriff for assignment. Recalled OF Joey Gathright and called up INF Jorge Cantu from Durham of the IL. Optioned INF Damian Rolls to Durham.

National League
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Activated LHP Odalis Perez from the 15-day DL. Placed RHP Edwin Jackson on the 15-day DL.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
NEW ORLEANS HORNETS—Agreed to terms with C Chris Andersen on a two-year contract.

American Basketball Association
NASHVILLE RHYTHM—Signed G Desmond Cambridge.

TANK MCNAMARA



Dream: Major disappointment for Els

DREAM, FROM BACK PAGE

exempt for the next five years in the three U.S. majors and the PGA Tour. He can play the British Open until he's 65.

"I've won tournaments around the world before, but nothing on a stage like this," Hamilton said. "So to be Open champion is very special."

Mickelson looked like a winner when he saved par with an 18-foot putt at No. 9 and a 15-footer at No. 10, putting him in the outright lead for the first time. But he missed a 4-foot par putt on the 13th hole, ending his streak of 49 consecutive holes without a bogey at Royal Troon.

Ultimately, it cost him a chance to win his second major.

Despite a birdie on the par-5 16th, Lefty didn't give himself a good look at birdie on the final hole and had to settle for third place. He had never finished in the top 10 in a British Open, and now has gone 1-2-3 in the majors this year.

"The guys behind me were making the birdies, and I wasn't," Mickelson said. "I was just playing for pars and thought shooting even par was going to be good enough."

Lee Westwood of England birdied two of the last three holes for a 67 to finish fourth, his best ever at the Open. Davis Love III holed a 6-iron from 192 yards on the 18th hole for eagle to shoot 67 and tie for fifth.

Woods had a chance to get within one shot of the lead, but he missed a 6-foot birdie putt on No. 7 and was never the same. He dropped three shots the rest of the way, shot 72 and tied for ninth. It was his first top 10 in a major since last year at the British Open.

Still, Woods now has gone nine majors without winning and was reduced to an afterthought for much of a breezy afternoon along the Firth of Clyde.

"I had a chance this week," Woods said. "Hopefully, next time in the PGA I will win the tournament."

Hamilton, playing in only his eighth major, was cool as can be coming down the stretch and looked like a sure bet to win after chipping in for birdie from 30 feet on the par-3 14th to get to 10 under. Then he holed a 12-foot birdie on the par-5 16th to keep his cushion.

Els had to make birdies to keep up, and he came through with pure putts on the 16th and 17th.

Then came the wild 18th, where both players had a chance to win.

Nerves caught up with Hamilton when he pushed his iron off the tee and into the rough, then chopped it across the fairway next to a guard railing that restricted his swing. Making the shot even more difficult was that Els hit his approach to within the shadow of the flag, a 12-foot birdie attempt.

Hamilton chipped to 20 feet and missed to take bogey.

Els suddenly had a putt to win, which seemed impossible throughout the back nine.

He hit into the side of a hill on No. 10, had to take a swing with the ball level with his knees, and made double bogey. He played another shot with the ball nestled waist-high in a prickly gorse bush, and somehow salvaged par.

But with the claret jug only a 12-foot putt away, Els left it short.

He was the heavy favorite in the playoff — No. 2 in the world with three majors against a journeyman ranked No. 56 playing in only his eighth major.

But Hamilton played as though he had been working for this his entire life.

AP

Phil Mickelson's bogey on the 13th hole proved costly Sunday, as the Masters champion shot 68 Sunday and finished one shot behind winner Todd Hamilton and Ernie Els.

British Open scores

Sunday
At Royal Troon Golf Club
Troon, Scotland
Purse: $7.44 million
Yardage: 7,175; Par: 71
Final
(a-amateur)
x-won four-hole playoff

x-Todd Hamilton, U.S.	71-67-67-69	—274
Ernie Els, South Africa	69-69-68-68	—274
Phil Mickelson, U.S.	73-66-68-68	—275
Lee Westwood, England	72-71-68-67	—278
Davis Love III, United States	72-69-71-67	—279
Thomas Levet, France	66-70-71-72	—279
Scott Verplank, U.S.	69-70-70-71	—280
Retief Goosen, South Africa	69-70-68-73	—280
Mike Weir, Canada	71-68-71-71	—281
Tiger Woods, United States	70-71-68-72	—281
Darren Clarke, No. Ireland	69-72-73-68	—282
Mark Calcavecchia, U.S.	72-73-69-68	—282
Skip Kendall, United States	69-66-75-72	—282
Stewart Cink, United States	72-71-71-69	—283
Barry Lane, England	69-68-71-75	—283
Joakim Haeggman, Sweden	69-73-72-70	—284
Justin Leonard, U.S.	70-72-71-71	—284
Kenny Perry, United States	69-70-72-73	—284
K.J. Choi, South Korea	68-69-74-73	—284
Vijay Singh, Fiji	68-70-76-71	—285
Gary Evans, England	68-73-73-71	—285
Bob Estes, United States	73-72-69-71	—285
Paul Casey, England	66-77-70-72	—285
Michael Campbell, N.Z.	67-71-74-73	—285
Ian Poulter, England	71-72-71-72	—286
Colin Montgomerie, Scot.	69-68-72-76	—285
Jyoti Randhawa, India	73-72-70-72	—287
Rodney Pampling, Australia	72-68-74-73	—287
Takashi Kamiyama, Japan	70-73-71-73	—287
Shigeki Maruyama, Japan	71-72-74-71	—288
David Toms, United States	71-71-74-72	—288
Bo Van Pelt, United States	72-71-72-74	—288
Keichiro Fukabori, Japan	73-71-70-74	—288
Mark O'Meara, U.S.	71-74-68-75	—288
Nick Price, Zimbabwe	73-71-69-77	—290
Steve Lowery, U.S.	70-73-75-72	—290
Taart van der Walt, S. Afr.	70-74-74-71	—289
Tetsuji Hiratsuka, Japan	70-74-70-75	—289
Stuart Appleby, Australia	71-70-72-75	—288
Hunter Mahan, U.S.	74-69-71-75	—289
Kim Felton, Australia	72-67-72-78	—289
Charles Howell, U.S.	75-70-72-73	—290
Adam Scott, Australia	73-68-74-75	—290
Kenneth Ferrie, England	68-74-73-75	—290
Trevor Immelman, S. Africa	69-74-73-74	—290
Andrew Oldcorn, Scotland	73-70-71-76	—290
Alastair Forsyth, Scotland	68-74-79-70	—291
Jerry Kelly, United States	75-70-73-73	—291
Mattias Gjerdrum, Sweden	70-74-74-73	—291
Sean Whiffin, England	73-72-71-75	—291
Miguel A. Jimenez, Spain	74-71-71-75	—291
Paul Bradshaw, England	75-67-72-77	—291
Shaun Micheel, U.S.	74-69-72-77	—292
Raphael Jacquelin, France	72-72-73-75	—292
Ignacio Garrido, Spain	74-72-73-75	—294
Steve Flesch, United States	75-70-70-77	—292
Paul McGinley, Ireland	69-76-75-73	—293
Carl Pettersson, Sweden	68-77-74-74	—293
James Kingston, S. Africa	73-72-76-74	—295
Gary Emerson, England	72-71-76-74	—293
Paul Broadhurst, England	71-74-72-77	—294
Brad Faxon, United States	69-74-79-72	—294
Chris DiMarco, U.S.	71-71-78-76	—296
a-Stuart Wilson, Scotland	68-75-77-76	—296
Mark Foster, England	71-72-76-77	—296
Henrik Stenson, Sweden	68-74-78-77	—297
Rory Sabbatini, S. Africa	71-72-73-81	—297
Paul Wesselingh, England	73-72-76-77	—298
Martin Erlandsson, Sweden	73-70-77-78	—298
Bob Tway, United States	76-68-73-82	—299
Rich Beem, United States	69-73-77-81	—300
Christian Cevaer, France	70-74-78-82	—304
Sandy Lyle, Scotland	70-73-81-79	—303

Early slipup too much for Clarke to overcome

BY STEPHEN WADE
The Associated Press

TROON, Scotland — Darren Clarke can't help but wonder what might have been.

The Northern Irishman shot a 3-under 68, the best early round on Sunday, to finish on 2-under 282.

Clarke was headed for a great opening round on Thursday, 4 under after 17 holes. But on the 18th at Royal Troon, he took a double bogey to finish with a 2-under 69. Not bad, but not as good as he hoped.

"Momentum is important in any tournament, probably more so in a major," he said. "You need to get going and get off to a good start. Coming down 18 on Thursday I was in very good shape, made a mistake and never really regained what I had."

Clarke returned this week to a more standard putter, discarding his experimental belly putter.

"It's probably floating down the [river] Liffey," he said. "Probably it's sunk at this stage.

"My short game has been very weak this week," he added. "If it had been anywhere near what I would call respectable, then I may have been able to get into contention. Unfortunately, I wasn't.

British Open notes

"I had a cold putter and I wasn't chipping it close enough."

SILVER MEDAL: Stuart Wilson celebrated his 27th birthday on Sunday by winning the Silver Medal as the top amateur in the British Open. His best round was his first — a 3-under 68 — followed by 75, 77, 76 for 12-over 296.

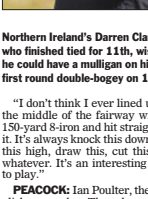
On Monday, Wilson will return to his job in a golf shop in the northern Scottish town Monifieth and reflect on his chances of turning pro. He turned pro briefly a half dozen years ago, and may try again.

"It has given me a lot of hope playing with these guys," Wilson said. "They are not doing anything I think that I can't do."

Wilson said he hoped to play the Walker Cup next year in the United States and then may think about going to tour school to earn his card.

ABNORMAL: David Toms, who closed with a 1-over 72 on Sunday, summed up the challenge the British Open presents.

"You have to make a lot of adjustments," he said. "It's like you never hit a normal shot.



AP

Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke, who finished tied for 11th, wishes he could have a mulligan on his first round double-bogey on 18.

"I don't think I ever lined up in the middle of the fairway with a 150-yard 8-iron and hit straight at it. It's always knock this down, hit this high, draw this, cut this, do whatever. It's an interesting way to play."

PEACOCK: Ian Poulter, the Englishman who Thursday wore trousers with a Union Jack design, sported a tartan design on Sunday. His golf was only so-so. He never broke par with rounds of 71-72-71-72.

His dress pleased some and outraged others. "You can't please everybody. Some people take offense at all the stuff you do."

Poulter was three over after five holes. "The last thing you want to do is post an 80-something wearing tartan trousers."

UNLV's Moore cruises to second Public Links title

The Associated Press

MAPLE GROVE, Minn. — Ryan Moore needed just 31 holes to beat Dayton Rose in Saturday's 36-hole match-play finals and win his second U.S. Amateur Public Links championship.

Moore, of Puyallup, Wash., and a senior-to-be at Nevada-Las Vegas, built a five-hole lead through 14 en route to a 6 and 5 victory over Rose. The win capped Moore's dominant week of golf at Rush Creek Golf Club, where he never trailed in his final five matches, covering 88 holes.

"I love having the lead," Moore said. "I enjoy being the guy people are coming after. But I put more pressure on myself to succeed that anyone else could put on me."

Moore, who won medalist honors at the NCAA championship last month by six strokes, earned the Public Links' Standish Cup for the second time in three years and secured a berth in the 2005 Masters. He's now 13-1 in match play at the last three Public Links championships.

Moore also became the Public Links' first multiple winner since David Berganio won in 1991 and 1993. He's the eighth multiple winner in the 79-year history of the event and the first player to win the NCAA individual championship and the Public Links title in the same year.

Golf roundup

Byrd maintains B.C. Open lead

ENDICOTT, N.Y. — Jonathan Byrd shot a 4-under 68 to maintain his one-stroke lead after the third round of the B.C. Open.

Byrd, who had never led a tournament after three rounds, was at 16-under 200 but had a flock of challengers in his wake.

Robert Gamez (65), Ted Purdy (65), Tommy Tolles (65), Notah Begay (66) and John Morgan (68) were a stroke back.

Second-round 67 puts Estill atop Giant Eagle leader board

VIENNA, Ohio — Michelle Estill shot a 5-under 67 on Saturday to share the lead with Young-A Yang, a second-year pro chasing her first career win, after the rain-delayed second round of the Giant Eagle LPGA Classic.

Estill and Yang finished the first 36 holes at 6-under 138.

The start of the second round was delayed by 2 hours, 15 minutes. More rain is predicted for the final round, with the field going off early in threesomes from the Nos. 1 and 10 tees in order to get the round in.

Two facing bans reach 200 finals

Sprinters Edwards, Grimes await hearings for positive drug tests

BY ROB GLOSTER
The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Two sprinters who might be barred from the Athens Games because of positive drug tests sped into the 200-meter finals Saturday in the U.S. Olympic track and field trials.

Torri Edwards, who faces a two-year ban if found guilty of using a banned stimulant, had the fastest time of 22.38 seconds in the semifinals of the women's 200. She already has qualified for the Athens Games by placing second in the 100.

Mickey Grimes, who faces a lifetime ban if found guilty of a second drug violation, moved into the men's 200 final by placing third in his semifinal.

If she gets to Athens, Edwards won't be facing defending Olympic champion Marion Jones in the 200. Citing fatigue, Jones withdrew from the event Saturday.

Jones failed to qualify in the 100, which means that as of now she won't be defending either of her Olympic sprint titles in Athens. She won the long jump in the trials, which also makes her eligi-

Olympic track trials

ble for the relays in the Olympics.

A change in the 100 team is possible because of Edwards' drug case. If she loses her arbitration hearing set for Monday, Edwards could lose her place on the team.

That would move the fourth-place finisher in the trials, Gail Devers, onto the team. But Devers, who already has won two Olympic 100 titles, has always wanted to win a hurdles title and could skip the 100 to focus on the hurdles. In that case, the fifth-place finisher — Jones — would make the team.

U.S. Olympic women's track coach Sue Humphrey said Devers will wait until after Sunday's hurdles final to decide whether to remain the alternate for the 100.

"If it happens that a lane opens up for whatever reason in Athens, you can be sure I will take advantage of it," Jones said.

Among those joining Edwards in the women's 200 final Sunday will be 18-year-old Allyson Felix and 20-year-old LaShaunte'a Moore — who said she was surprised at Jones' absence.

"I looked around [in the warmup area] and didn't see her," Moore said. "I was kind of shocked not to see her out there."

Grimes had a positive result for a steroid in an out-of-competition test this year. Grimes also was stripped of a gold medal in the 100 in last year's Pan American Games after testing positive for the stimulant ephedrine.

Grimes is an HSInternational track club teammate of Edwards. A third HSI athlete, hurdler Larry Wade, was named in a drug case this week. A source speaking on condition of anonymity said Wade tested positive for a steroid in an out-of-competition sampling.

The fastest time in the men's 200 semifinals was 20.00 by Shawn Crawford. Grimes had the sixth-fastest time.

Bryan Clay won the decathlon with 8,660 points, and world champion Tom Pappas was second with 8,517. Paul Terek won the third spot on the U.S. squad for Athens.

In the women's 100 hurdles, three-time world champion Devers moved a step closer to making her fifth Olympic team.

Devers, who has never won an Olympic medal in the hurdles despite being the world's best in that event for most of the past decade, was second overall in the quarterfinals with a time of 12.79. Joanna Hayes was fastest in 12.67.

Former Olympic champion Allen Johnson had the fastest time of 13.25 in the quarterfinals of the men's 110 hurdles.

Monique Hennagan won the women's 400, Melvin Lister captured the U.S. title in the men's triple jump and Breaux Greer won the men's javelin. Tim Seaman won the men's 20-kilometer race walk despite throwing up early in the race.

AP

Bryan Clay, above, won the decathlon in the U.S. Olympic track and field trials on Saturday in Sacramento, Calif., with 8,660 points. Clay will be joined in the Athens Games by Tom Pappas and Paul Terek.

IAAF: U.S. relay team should be stripped

BY AIDAN LEWIS
The Associated Press

GROSSETO, Italy — The International Association of Athletics Federations said Sunday that the U.S. 1,600-meter relay team, led by Michael Johnson, should be stripped of its 2000 Olympic gold.

The recommendation is tied to 400-meter world champion Jerome Young's positive doping test in 1999.

The IAAF, which held an unusual council meeting here, will now make recommendations to the International Olympic Committee.

"The consequences are implied," IAAF general secretary Istvan Gyulai said following the decision. "If the result is annulled, you don't get the medals for a result that doesn't stand. If someone is not eligible, that athlete cannot have a valid result."

The IOC is expected to endorse the IAAF's decision, probably before next month's Athens Olympics.

"The IOC told us that we follow your decision," the president of the IAAF, Lamine Diack, said.

The announcement came 2½ weeks after the Swiss-based Court of Arbitration for Sport ruled that Young, who ran in the 1,600-meter relay's opening and semifinal rounds, should be stripped of his Olympic gold because of a positive doping test for the steroid nandrolone on June 26, 1999.

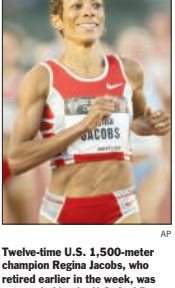
Young, who has denied taking a prohibited substance, was exonerated by a USA Track and Field doping appeals board on July 10, 2000.

"We don't consider it a triumph," Gyulai said. "We consider it our moral obligation."

The gold was the fifth and last for Johnson, the 200- and 400-meter world record holder who ran the anchor leg in the relay final. Other members of the team were twin brothers Alvin and Calvin Harrison, Antonio Pettigrew and Angelo Taylor.

The team members will be invited to present their case to the IOC during a hearing, either in person or in writing.

If the IOC sticks to the IAAF's recommendation, Nigeria would be upgraded to gold, Jamaica to silver and the Bahamas to bronze.



AP

Twelve-time U.S. 1,500-meter champion Regina Jacobs, who retired earlier in the week, was suspended by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency for four years for use of the steroid THG.

Jacobs suspended for steroid use

BY ROB GLOSTER
The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Regina Jacobs, who announced her retirement earlier this week, has become the fourth U.S. track and field athlete to receive a multiyear suspension after a positive test for the steroid THG.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency announced Saturday that Jacobs, whose long and remarkably successful middle-distance running career ended in disgrace because of the positive test, has been suspended for four years.

Jacobs, 40, accepted the ban and agreed to forfeit all of her results starting with her 12th national title in the 1,500 — which she won in last year's U.S. championships on the same day she tested positive for THG.

An arbitration hearing in Jacobs' case had been scheduled for Sunday.

"I have notified USADA that I will no longer object to their imposition of sanctions because I have already retired and want to avoid being subjected to what I believe would be an unfair hearing," Jacobs said in a statement released by her lawyer, Edward Williams.

Shot putter Kevin Toth and hammer throwers John McEwen and Melissa Price all also tested positive for THG in the 2003 national championships and were suspended for two years. Toth and Price forfeited the national titles they won in that meet.

European 100-meter champion Dwain Chambers of Britain flunked an out-of-competition test for THG last year and was suspended for two years. Kelli White forfeited her 100 and 200 world titles and accepted a two-year ban after admitting use of THG and other banned drugs.

THG was a previously undetectable steroid that was identified by anti-doping officials last summer. The Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative allegedly distributed the THG.

USADA also has charged four sprinters — including Tim Montgomery, the world record holder in the 100 and the boyfriend of triple Olympic champion Marion Jones — with use of THG and other steroids. All have denied steroid use and requested arbitration hearings. If found guilty, they face lifetime bans.

Four men connected to BALCO, including the personal trainer of baseball's Barry Bonds, have pleaded innocent to charges of distributing steroids to top athletes. No athlete has been charged with criminal wrongdoing.

Gardner wins first international wrestling title since '01

The Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland — Olympic champion Rulon Gardner won his first Greco-Roman international title in three years on Saturday, capturing the 264½-pound class in the Pytlasinski wrestling tournament.

Gardner defeated 2002 world bronze medalist Yuri Patrikeev of Russia 2-0 in the finals. In the semifinals, he beat 2003 world bronze medalist Mirian Giorgadze of Georgia 3-1.

Gardner is trying to become the first American to win two Olympic gold medals in Greco-Roman wrestling. The tournament was the last major tuneup before the Athens Olympics.

The title was Gardner's first outside the United States since the 2001 world championships, which came a year after his 1-0 upset of three-time Olympic champion Alexander Karelin of Russia in the Sydney Olympics.

Gardner, a resident of Cascade, Colo., was idle for nearly a year after losing a toe to frostbite while becoming lost during a snowmobiling trip in February 2002. He finished only 10th in last year's world championships in Creteil, France.

He rebounded from a third-place finish in the U.S. national championships in April to beat 2002 world champion Dremiel Byers in the U.S. Olympic trials finals in May.

AP

Andretti Green Racing's Tony Kanaan (11) increased his lead in the IRL driver standings to 61 points with a victory in the Firestone Indy 200 on Saturday in Gladeville, Tenn. It was Kanaan's third victory of the season.

Kanaan wins third IRL race

Teammate's misfortune helps driver pad series lead

BY TERESA M. WALKER
The Associated Press

GLADEVILLE, Tenn. — Dan Wheldon's bad luck turned into another victory for Tony Kanaan.

Kanaan saw Wheldon's right rear tire going flat after a tangle with Buddy Rice's car and grabbed the lead before holding off Sam Hornish Jr. in a 12-lap shootout Saturday night in the Firestone Indy 200.

After his third victory of the season, Kanaan said he felt sorry for his teammate who probably had a better car at the Nashville Superspeedway.

"His start was perfect. He made a decision on the setup I didn't believe would work, and it definitely worked pretty well. The beginning of the race I was thinking I should've gone that way," Kanaan said.

"Unfortunately, sometimes it doesn't go your way. Tonight it wasn't his fault. But he was in the wrong place at the wrong time."

Kanaan led only the final 19 laps, but that was enough to pad his lead in the IndyCar Series driver standings from 28 points to 61 over Wheldon, his Andretti Green Racing teammate. Kanaan also won at Phoenix and Texas.

Hornish, driving for the Penske team that won here last year with Gil de Ferran, tried to chase down Kanaan. Hornish appeared to be ready to pass Kanaan on the backstretch of the final lap but lost momentum.

Hornish finished second ahead of teammate Helio Castroneves, who was third for a second straight year here. Darren Manning was fourth with a Toyota engine, followed by Townsend Bell with a Chevrolet engine.

Rice, the pole-sitter who was trying for his second straight victory, led 52 laps before losing the lead to Wheldon, who gambled on a pit stop on lap 165 by not taking any tires on the IRL's only concrete track and beat everyone out of the pits.

Agassi pulls out of RCA to rest before U.S. Open

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Andre Agassi withdrew from the RCA Championships on Saturday, saying his 34-year-old body needs rest as he prepares for the U.S. Open.

Agassi said his oft-injured hip felt great coming off three matches this week in the Mercedez-Benz Cup in Los Angeles, but he didn't want to risk overexerting himself playing consecutive weeks.

"It was a concern of overload and playing too many weeks in a row through an important and big summer," Agassi said in a conference call from California. "It's a scheduling issue."

Agassi was the top seed in Los Angeles this week, but lost to lost to Tommy Haas 7-6 (5), 6-7 (6), 6-3 in the quarterfinals Friday.

Earnhardt Jr. treated for burns after crash

SONOMA, Calif. — Dale Earnhardt Jr. was treated for minor burns on his face and legs and hospitalized after an accident Sunday during practice for the American Le Mans Series Infineon Grand Prix of Sonoma.

Medical officials at Infineon Raceway described the injuries as "moderate-sized burns of moderate intensity." Earnhardt was flown to the University of California-Davis Medical Center in Sacramento as a precaution.

During a 30-minute practice, Earnhardt's Chevrolet Corvette C5-R spun and hit a barrier in Turn 8 of the road racing track, catching fire. Earnhardt got out of the car on his own before being assisted by safety crews.

Earnhardt, who competes in the Nextel Cup series, was to have driven in Sunday's ALMS race with veteran road racer Boris Said. The team withdrew the car from the race.

Diaz outpoints Sim to capture WBA lightweight title

HOUSTON — Juan Diaz captured the WBA lightweight championship in front of a hometown crowd by outpointing Lakva Sim of Mongolia on Saturday night.

The judges scored the bout 118-110, 116-112 and 118-111.

Sports briefs

Diaz (25-0) threw sharp combinations and went toe to toe with Sim (19-4-1) in a brawling match.

In other action, Continental Americas champion Rocky Juarez (21-0) outpointed Zaheer Raheem (25-1) in an IBF featherweight elimination match. Judges scored the bout 115-109, 113-111 and 114-110.

Kermit Cintron (24-0) captured the WBO interim and NABF welterweight championships by stopping Teddy Reid (22-6-1) at 2:04 of the eighth round.

Former IBF lightweight champ Spadafora TKOs Campos

PITTSBURGH — Former IBF lightweight champion Paul Spadafora won his second straight fight since moving up to junior welterweight, stopping Francisco Campos in the third round Saturday night.

Spadafora, from Pittsburgh, won the first two rounds and opened a cut above Campos' right eye before referee Rick Steigerwald stopped the fight at 1:02 of third.

Spadafora (38-0-1) looks toward a possible fall fight against Arturo Gatti, Ricky Hatton or Leonard Dorin. Campos, from Costa Rica, is 17-1-1.

Spadafora gave up his IBF 135-pound following a 12-round draw with WBC champion Dorin in a May 17, 2003, title unification fight in Pittsburgh.

Ali's daughter stops Eplion in fourth

BOWIE, Md. — Laila Ali had little trouble defending her International Boxing Association super middleweight championship Saturday night, stopping Nikki Eplion at 1:30 of the fourth round.

Ali (17-0, 13 knockouts), the daughter of Muhammad Ali, showed some of the speed and quickness that made her father famous.

She repeatedly cut off the slower Eplion (12-2-2), forcing her to the ropes or into a corner and unloading with flurries of punches.

Starr speeds to NASCAR truck win on last lap

The Associated Press

MADISON, Ill. — David Starr became only the second driver in NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series history to win by leading only the final lap, bumping his way to victory Saturday night in the Dodge Ram Tough 200.

Starr, driving a Chevrolet, nudged his way past Chad Chaffin in Gateway International Raceway's first turn and beat Dennis Setzer to the checkered flag by 0.444 seconds — about two truck lengths.

The race was scheduled for 160 laps, but was extended by caution a record four times for 14 laps.

Starr, who averaged 93.694 mph, won $54,210 for his first victory since October 2002 in Las Vegas. Ted Musgrave was third, followed by Chaffin, Matt Crafton, Travis Kvapil, Randy LaJoie, David Reutimann and Bill Lester.

Setzer, who entered the race with a six-point lead over Bobby Hamilton in the driver standings, extended his advantage to 64.

Nine drivers exchanged the lead a Gateway-record 15 times.

Earthquakes shake off winless streak

The Associated Press

MLS roundup

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Brian Ching scored twice to help the San Jose Earthquakes snap a five-game winless streak with a 3-1 victory Saturday over the Colorado Rapids.

In the 22nd minute, Landon Donovan collected a long pass and dished the ball to Ronnie Ekelund. The Danish midfielder found Ching, who beat former San Jose goalkeeper Joe Cannon.

Ching gave San Jose a 2-0 lead in the 50th minute, after Donovan twice failed to score. Donovan had a one-on-one chance against Cannon but didn't get a good shot. He soon had another shot but hit the left post.

Seconds later, Ramiro Corrales crossed to Ching, who tapped in his second goal.

Donovan converted his next chance, scoring San Jose's final goal from six yards in the 55th minute.

Second-half substitute Seth Trembly scored Colorado's only goal — his first of the season — with a blast in the 83rd minute.

Galaxy 1, United 1: Carlos Ruiz scored his MLS-leading 10th goal on a second-half penalty kick, lifting Los Angeles to a tie with host D.C. United.

Los Angeles (9-5-5) is unbeaten in its past five games. D.C. is 4-2-3 at home and 5-6-6 overall.

Crew 1, Revolution 1: In Columbus, Ohio, Kyle Martino scored in the 45th minute to help Columbus (5-5-5) tie New England (4-8-5).

MetroStars 1, Fire 1: Amado Guevara scored on a penalty kick in the 84th minute to give the visiting MetroStars a tie.

The MetroStars (6-6-5) remained atop the Eastern Conference standings despite a 1-3-1 record in the past five games.

Damani Ralph scored his team-leading eighth goal for Chicago (4-6-7).

Wizards 1, Burn 0: Tony Meola made three saves for his MLS-record 55th career shutout, and Diego Gutierrez scored for visiting Kansas City.

Meola, the MLS leader with seven shutouts, helped Kansas City (9-4-4) push its unbeaten streak to eight games. Dallas dropped to 5-6-5.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	57	32	.640	—
Boston	49	40	.551	8
Tampa Bay	43	47	.478	14½
Baltimore	39	49	.443	17½
Toronto	39	51	.433	18½

Central Division

Chicago	47	40	.540	—
Minnesota	48	42	.533	½
Cleveland	44	46	.489	4½
Detroit	43	47	.478	5½
Kansas City	36	55	.375	14½

West Division

Texas	51	37	.580	—
Oakland	49	40	.551	2½
Anaheim	49	41	.544	3
Seattle	33	56	.371	18½

Saturday's games

Minnesota 4, Kansas City 1
Chicago White Sox 5, Oakland 2
Baltimore 3, Tampa Bay 2
N.Y. Yankees 5, Detroit 3
Texas 4, Toronto 0
Anaheim 8, Boston 1
Cleveland 6, Seattle 5

Sunday's games

N.Y. Yankees at Detroit
Baltimore at Tampa Bay
Cleveland at Seattle
Boston at Anaheim
Chicago White Sox at Oakland
Minnesota at Kansas City
Toronto at Texas

Monday's games

Minnesota (Mulholland 1-3) at Detroit (Johnson 7-7)
N.Y. Yankees (Graman 0-0) at Tampa Bay (Bell 3-3)
Chicago White Sox (Schoeneweis 5-7) at Texas (Benoit 3-4)
Baltimore (Ponson 3-12) at Kansas City (B.Anderson 1-8)
Boston (Arroyo 3-7) at Seattle (Villone 3-2)
Cleveland (Tadano 1-0) at Anaheim (Sele 5-0)
Toronto (Towers 3-3) at Oakland (Saarloos 1-0)

Tuesday's games

Baltimore at Kansas City
N.Y. Yankees at Tampa Bay
Toronto at Oakland
Cleveland at Anaheim
Boston at Seattle
Minnesota at Detroit
Chicago White Sox at Texas

Saturday

Twins 4, Royals 1

MINNESOTA					KANSAS CITY				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
ShStwrt dh	4	0	1	0	DJesus cf	4	0	0	1
Jones rf	3	1	1	1	Grffnno 2b	2	0	0	0
LFord lf	5	1	2	2	MSwyr dh	4	0	0	0
Mrneau 1b	4	1	1	1	Harvey 1b	4	0	0	0
Thntcr cf	4	0	0	0	Berroa ss	3	0	1	0
Koskie 3b	4	0	1	0	DBrwn lf	2	0	0	0
Cstmrn ss	3	0	0	0	Raford rf	2	0	0	0
HBlnco c	4	0	1	0	ACstillo c	2	1	0	0
Rivas 2b	4	1	0	0	RStsta 3b	3	0	0	0
Totals	**33**	**4**	**7**	**4**	**Totals**	**26**	**1**	**3**	**1**

Minnesota	000	004	000—4
Kansas City	000	000	010—1

E—Hblanco (3), ACastillo (1), Gobble (3). DP—Kansas City 1. LOB—Minnesota 5, Kansas City 4. 2B—Jones (13), Rivas (10), Berroa (14). HR—LFord (10), Morneau (3). SB—LFord (12), Koskie (6). CS—Berroa (4). SF—Cstmrn.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Minnesota						
Santana W,8-6	8	1	1	0	4	9
Nathan 5,24	1	0	0	0	0	0
Kansas City						
Gobble L,5-7	6	5	4	4	0	4
Huismann	2	2	0	0	1	0
Bukvich	1	0	0	0	1	0

HBP—by Santana (Berroa), by Gobble (LFord). WP—Santana 2. T—2:30. A—30,094 (40,785).

White Sox 5, Athletics 2

CHICAGO					OAKLAND				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Rwand cf	4	1	2	0	Kotsay cf	4	0	0	0
Vlentin ss	3	0	0	0	McLmr 2b	3	0	0	0
McKrdz dh	4	0	0	0	Scutaro ss	3	0	0	0
CaLee lf	4	1	1	1	EChavz 3b	3	1	1	0
Knerko 1b	3	1	1	1	Dye rf	3	1	0	0
Crede 3b	4	0	1	0	Hrbrg 1b	3	1	0	0
Brchrd rf	3	1	0	0	Durazo dh	4	0	1	2
Uribe 2b	4	0	1	0	Crosby c	4	0	0	0
BDavis c	3	1	1	1	Kielty lf	4	0	1	0
					Mlhuse c	4	0	1	0
Totals	**32**	**5**	**6**	**5**	**Totals**	**33**	**2**	**4**	**2**

Chicago	020	001	200—5
Oakland	000	200	000—2

E—Valentin (13), Konerko (4), Crede (6). DP—Oakland 1. LOB—Chicago 3, Oakland 7. 2B—Durazo (16), Kielty (10). HR—Rowand (10), CaLee (12), Konerko (23). SB—EChavez (5).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chicago						
FGarcia W,7-8	6⅔	2	2	1	2	6
Marte	1⅓	1	0	0	0	0
Takatsu S,6	1	1	0	0	0	0
Oakland						
MRedman L,6-7	7	6	5	5	3	3
Lehr	2	0	0	0	0	0

T—2:36. A—26,285 (43,662).

Orioles 3, Devil Rays 2

BALTIMORE					TAMPA BAY				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
BRbrts 2b	5	1	2	0	Crwfrd lf	5	0	2	0
Newhn 3b	4	0	0	0	Baldelli cf	4	0	1	0
Tejada ss	4	1	3	1	Huff 3b	4	2	1	1
RPlmo 1b	3	0	1	0	JoCruz rf	5	0	1	0
JvLopz c	3	1	0	0	TMrtnez 1b	2	0	0	0
Bigbie lf	3	0	0	0	Lugo ss	3	1	0	0
HrsI Jr rf	3	0	1	0	Fick dh	2	0	0	0
LLopez dh	3	0	0	1	Cantu dh	1	0	0	0
Raines cf	4	0	0	0	THall c	2	0	0	0
Matos cf	0	0	0	0	RSnchz 2b	3	0	1	0
Totals	**32**	**3**	**7**	**2**	**Totals**	**33**	**2**	**7**	**1**

Baltimore	001	110	000—3
Tampa Bay	100	000	001—2

E—Broberts 2 (6), RSanchez (2). DP—Baltimore 1. LOB—Baltimore 7, Tampa Bay 11. 2B—Roberts 2 (28), Tejada 2 (22), Crawford (18), RSanchez (9). HR—Huff (15). SB—Crawford (39). CS—Hairston Jr. (6). SF—LLopez.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Baltimore						
Rzzuto W,7-6	5⅓	5	1	1	5	1
Groom	1	1	0	0	0	1
BRyan	1	0	0	0	1	1
Grimsley	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Julio S,14	1	1	1	1	0	0
Tampa Bay						
Brazelton L,2-3	4⅔	5	3	2	4	2
Harper	2⅓	2	0	0	0	4
Colome	1	2	0	0	0	1
Lorraine	1	0	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Grimsley (TMuff), WP—RLopez, Brazelton. T—3:11. A—18,571 (43,969).

Yankees 5, Tigers 3

NEW YORK					DETROIT				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Lofton cf	5	1	2	0	Infante 2b	4	0	0	0
Jeter ss	5	2	2	0	Hggnsn rf	5	1	2	0
Sffrnly 1b	5	1	3	3	IRdrgz c	4	0	0	0
ARdrgz 3b	4	0	3	1	DYong dh	3	0	1	1
JaGbi 1b	5	0	0	0	CGillen ss	4	0	0	0
TClark 1b	0	0	0	0	RWhite lf	3	1	1	0
Posada c	4	0	1	0	Pena 1b	3	0	1	0
Matsui lf	4	0	0	0	Munson 3b	4	1	1	2
Sierra dh	4	1	1	1	Inge cf	4	0	0	0
EWilsn 2b	4	0	1	0					
Totals	**40**	**5**	**13**	**5**	**Totals**	**35**	**3**	**9**	**3**

New York	100	030	100—5
Detroit	020	010	000—3

LOB—New York 9, Detroit 8. 2B—Lofton (6), CGillen (5), Higginson (16). HR—Sheffield (17), Sierra (9), Munson (14). CS—IRodriguez (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
New York						
OHrndz W,2-0	5	6	3	3	3	6
Quantrill	1⅓	2	0	0	0	1
Gordon	1⅓	0	0	0	0	4
MRivera S,33	1	0	0	0	0	1
Detroit						
Knotts L,5-4	5⅓	10	4	4	0	3
Yan	⅓	3	1	1	0	1
JWalker	2	0	0	0	1	0
Urbina	1	0	0	0	1	1

Yan pitched to 3 batters in the 7th. WP—Yan. T—3:01. A—41,857 (40,120).

Rangers 4, Blue Jays 0

TORONTO					TEXAS				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Jhnson lf	4	0	1	0	EYong lf	4	0	0	0
Hinske 3b	5	0	1	0	MYong ss	4	2	2	0
Wells cf	4	0	0	0	ASorino rf	3	1	3	1
CDigdo 1b	4	0	0	0	Teixra 1b	3	1	1	3
Zaun c	3	0	0	0	Mench rf	4	0	0	0
Rios rf	4	0	1	0	Kielty lf	4	0	1	0
OHudsn 2b	3	0	1	0	Blalock 3b	2	0	0	0
Phlips dh	4	0	0	0	Mathews cf	4	0	0	0
Wdwrd ss	4	0	2	0	Brajas c	3	0	0	0
					Alxndr 2b	3	0	0	0
Totals	**36**	**0**	**8**	**0**	**Totals**	**30**	**4**	**6**	**4**

Toronto	000	000	000—0
Texas	000	300	01x—4

E—Johnson (2), Rios (2), Teixeira (7). LOB—Toronto 13, Texas 6. 2B—Hinske (15), Rios (11), MYoung (19), ASoriano (15). 3B—ASorino (1). HR—Teixeira (20).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Toronto						
Lilly L,7-7	6	4	3	3	2	3
Lightenberg	1	2	1	1	0	1
Chulk	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Frasor	⅓	0	0	0	1	0
Texas						
Rdrdriguez W,3-0	6⅓	8	0	0	2	2
BShouse	1	0	0	0	0	1
Francisco	1⅓	0	0	0	1	2
Mahay	1	0	0	0	1	2

WP—Lilly. T—2:35. A—43,189 (49,115).

Indians 6, Mariners 5

CLEVELAND					SEATTLE				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Lawton lf	3	0	1	0	ISuzuki rf	5	0	1	1
Vizquel ss	3	0	0	0	Winn cf	5	1	3	0
MaDdl ss	1	0	0	0	Boone 2b	5	0	2	0
Hafner dh	5	1	1	1	Ibanez lf	4	0	1	0
Blake 3b	4	2	2	1	Olerud 1b	4	1	2	3
Brssrd 1b	4	2	3	2	Spiezio pr	0	0	0	0
Crisp cf	4	0	0	1	JoCrbs ss	3	1	2	0
Little cf	0	0	0	0	Leone 3b	3	0	0	0
					Olivo c	5	1	1	1
Totals	**37**	**6**	**9**	**6**	**Totals**	**38**	**5**	**13**	**5**

Cleveland	000	001	320—6
Seattle	020	010	020—5

E—ISuzuki (2), Leone (3). DP—Cleveland 2. LOB—Cleveland 8, Seattle 7. 2B—Hafner (18), Gerut (24), Broussard (16). 3B—Winn (1). HR—Hafner (12), Jacobsen (1). SB—Winn (11), BBoone (8), JoCabrera 2 (6). S—JMc-Donald.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Cleveland						
Sabathia W,6-4	6	6	3	3	5	7
Betancourt	1	2	0	0	0	1
Wickman	1	4	2	2	0	1
Riske S,5	1	1	0	0	1	2
Seattle						
RFrankln L,3-8	6	6	4	4	0	3
Sherrill	1⅓	3	2	2	0	1
JMateo	½	0	0	0	0	0
MMyers	½	0	0	0	0	2
Hasegawa	½	0	0	0	0	0

RFranklin pitched to 3 batters in the 7th. HBP—by Riske (JoCabrera), by Sherrill (Lawton). WP—Betancourt. PB—Olivo. Sherrill. T—3:24. A—36,154 (47,447).

Angels 8, Red Sox 1

BOSTON					ANAHEIM				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Damon cf	4	2	2	2	Eckstin ss	3	1	1	0
Bllhorn 3b	2	0	0	0	Figgins 3b	2	0	0	0
DOrtiz dh	3	1	1	1	GAndsn cf	5	0	2	2
Grcpnr ss	3	0	0	0	VGrero rf	5	1	1	1
Nixon rf	4	0	1	0	JGillen lf	4	1	1	0
Millar 1b	4	0	0	0	Erstad 1b	4	0	3	2
Kapler lf	4	0	1	0	Salmon dh	4	0	1	1
Mrbelli c	3	0	0	0	JMolina c	4	1	1	0
Reese 2b	3	0	0	0	ARdrdz 2b	2	1	1	1
Totals	**30**	**3**	**5**	**3**	**Totals**	**35**	**8**	**13**	**7**

Boston	000	010	020—3
Anaheim	301	003	00x—8

DP—Boston 1, Anaheim 2. LOB—Boston 6, Anaheim 9. HR—Damon 2 (12), DOrtiz (24), VGuerrero (21), AKennedy (6). SB—Figgins (21), S—Eckstein.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Boston						
Wakefield L,5-6	4	8	5	5	1	4
JoNelson	1⅓	2	3	3	1	2
JAnderson	1⅓	2	0	0	2	0
Mendoza	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1
Anaheim						
Colon W,7-6	6	3	1	1	5	1
Donnelly	1	0	0	0	0	1
ROrtiz	1	2	2	2	1	1
Rodriguez	1	0	0	0	0	3

HBP—by JoNelson (AKennedy). WP—JAnderson. T—2:51. A—43,746 (45,030).

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	48	42	.533	—
Atlanta	47	43	.522	1
Florida	45	45	.500	3
New York	45	45	.500	3
Montreal	32	58	.356	16

Central Division

St. Louis	56	34	.622	—
Chicago	49	41	.544	7
Cincinnati	48	43	.527	8½
Milwaukee	46	43	.517	9½
Houston	44	46	.489	12
Pittsburgh	41	47	.466	14

West Division

Los Angeles	51	38	.573	—
San Francisco	51	41	.554	1½
San Diego	49	41	.544	2½
Colorado	37	54	.411	14½
Arizona	31	61	.337	21½

Saturday's games

Philadelphia 8, N.Y. Mets 2
Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 5
San Diego 7, Houston 6
Chicago Cubs 5, Milwaukee 0
Atlanta 6, Montreal 2
Florida 4, Colorado 3
San Francisco 4, Colorado 0
Los Angeles 7, Arizona 6

Sunday's games

Montreal at Atlanta
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets
St. Louis at Cincinnati
Florida at Pittsburgh
San Diego at Houston
Milwaukee at Chicago Cubs
San Francisco at Colorado
Los Angeles at Arizona

Monday's games

Montreal (Biddle 1-4) at Pittsburgh (Fogg 6-7)
Florida (Willis 7-5) at N.Y. Mets (Erickson 0-0)
Milwaukee (Obermueller 3-5) at Cincinnati (Harang 5-2)
Philadelphia (Abbott 0-3) at Atlanta (Hampton 4-8)
Los Angeles (W.Alvarez 4-3) at Houston (Oswalt 8-5)
St. Louis (Carpenter 9-4) at Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 9-4)
San Diego (Valdez 8-5) at Colorado (Stark 0-4)
San Francisco (Tomko 4-5) at Arizona (Sparks 3-5)

Tuesday's games

Milwaukee at Cincinnati
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs
Montreal at Pittsburgh
Florida at N.Y. Mets
Philadelphia at Atlanta
Los Angeles at Houston
San Diego at Colorado
San Francisco at Arizona

Saturday

Phillies 8, Mets 2

PHILADELPHIA					NEW YORK				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Rollins ss	5	0	1	2	Reyes 2b	5	0	1	0
Pierce 2b	4	1	0	0	Matsui ss	5	0	2	0
BAbreu rf	5	1	2	0	Piazza 1b	5	1	1	0
Thome 1b	5	3	3	3	Hidalgo rf	4	1	2	0
Burrell lf	5	0	1	0	Floyd lf	4	0	2	0
Lbrthal c	4	1	1	1	McEwg lf	0	0	0	0
Polanco 3b	4	1	2	2	Cameron 3b	4	0	1	0
Glnville cf	4	1	1	0	Cmeron cf	2	0	1	1
Wolf p	2	0	1	0	JPhllps c	3	0	0	0
Cormier p	0	0	0	0	Morris p	0	0	0	0
Ledee ph	1	0	0	0	Parra p	0	0	0	0
Worrell p	0	0	0	0	Valdez p	0	0	0	0
Utley ph	1	0	0	0	TGlvin p	2	0	0	0
Madson p	0	0	0	0	VWilsn c	2	0	0	0
Totals	**41**	**8**	**12**	**7**	**Totals**	**36**	**2**	**10**	**2**

Philadelphia	031	000	004—8
New York	000	100	010—2

E—Matsui 2 (19), Wigginton (14). DP—Philadelphia 1. LOB—Philadelphia 10, New York 10. 2B—Rollins (21), Thome (21), Lieberthal (18), ToPerez (9), Floyd (13). HR—Thome (30), Piazza (17). SB—BAbreu (21). S—Wolf.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Philadelphia						
Wolf W,4-5	5⅔	6	1	1	3	5
Cormier	1⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Worrell	1	2	1	1	0	1
Madson	1	2	0	0	0	0
New York						
TGlavine L,7-8	6⅔	9	4	2	1	3
Moreno	1⅓	0	0	0	0	2
Parra	1	1	4	3	2	1

T—3:15. A—35,425 (57,405).

Reds 7, Cardinals 5

ST. LOUIS					CINCINNATI				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Wmack 2b	4	0	0	0	Freel cf	3	2	1	0
Rnteria ss	5	0	2	0	Larkin ss	4	1	2	1
Pujols 1b	5	1	2	2	Casey 1b	5	0	1	1
Edmnd cf	5	0	2	0	Dunn lf	5	2	1	0
Cedeno rf	3	1	1	0	DMnnz 2b	4	1	2	0
MAndrn lf	4	0	0	0	Wilkrsn rf	2	1	2	2
Kline p	0	0	0	0	Vlentin c	4	0	2	0
Mtherny c	4	1	2	1	Larson 3b	1	0	0	0
Luna 3b	3	1	0	0	Castro 2b	2	0	1	0
Mrquis p	2	0	1	0	Lidle p	3	0	1	0
Eldred p	0	0	0	0	GWhite p	0	0	0	0
Lnkfrd ph	1	0	1	2	Tbrns p	0	0	0	0
Kmp p	0	0	0	0	JaCruz ph	1	0	0	0
Tvarez p	0	0	0	0	Graves p	0	0	0	0
RSndrs rf	1	1	1	0					
Totals	**37**	**5**	**11**	**5**	**Totals**	**34**	**7**	**13**	**7**

St. Louis	000	000	311—5
Cincinnati	000	030	022—7

E—Womack (9). DP—St. Louis 1. LOB—St. Louis 8, Cincinnati 10. 2B—Luna (4), Lankford (14), DJimenez (16). HR—Pujols (24), Larkin (5), Dunn (26), WPena (12). SB—Freel 2 (17). S—Cedeno, Freel.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
St. Louis						
Marquis	5	9	4	4	2	4
Eldred	1	2	0	0	0	0
King	⅓	0	0	0	0	0
Tavarez L,2-3	⅓	1	1	1	0	0
Kline	⅓	1	2	2	0	0
Cincinnati						
Lidle	6⅓	6	3	3	2	5
GWhite	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Tbrns W,4-2	1	0	0	0	0	1
Graves S,34	1	2	1	1	0	0

HBP—by Tavarez (Freel). By Marquis (WPena). T—3:04. A—30,092 (42,271).

Padres 7, Astros 4

SAN DIEGO					HOUSTON				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Brrghs 3b	5	2	2	1	Biggio lf	5	0	1	0
Loretta 2b	4	2	3	2	AEvrtt ss	4	1	2	0
BGiles rf	3	1	1	0	Lamb ph	1	0	1	0
Klesko lf	4	1	0	0	CBeltrn cf	5	0	1	0
Long lf	3	0	1	2	Brkmn rf	4	1	2	0
Payton cf	4	0	2	0	Ausmus c	4	0	1	0
Qntnro c	3	0	1	0	Bowell 1b	4	1	1	1
KGreen ss	4	1	0	0	Ensbrg 3b	3	1	1	0
DWells p	3	0	0	0	RChsnc c	3	0	1	0
Neal p	0	0	0	0	JVzcno ph	1	0	0	0
Hoffman p	0	0	0	0	Lidge p	0	0	0	0
Otsuka p	0	0	0	0	Oswalt p	1	0	1	0
Bragg ph	1	0	0	0	Hrvile p	0	0	0	0
Giffnn p	0	0	0	0	Lane ph	1	0	0	1
					Gallo p	0	0	0	0
					DPmno ph	1	0	0	0
					Withers p	0	0	0	0
					Asmus c	1	0	0	0
Totals	**33**	**7**	**8**	**6**	**Totals**	**37**	**4**	**10**	**4**

San Diego	200	050	000—7
Houston	000	012	010—4

DP—Houston 1. LOB—San Diego 4, Houston 8. 2B—Bragg (13), Loretta (30), Ensberg (11), 3B—AEverett (2). HR—Loretta (9), Berkman (17), Bagwell (12). CS—Loretta (2). SF—Long.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
San Diego						
DWells W,5-5	5⅓	7	3	3	0	0
Neal	1⅓	1	0	0	0	1
Linebrink	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Otsuka S,1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Hoffman S,24	1	1	0	0	0	1
Houston						
Oswalt L,8-8	4⅔	8	7	7	1	3
Harville	⅓	0	0	0	1	0
Gallo	2	0	0	0	0	2
Weathers	1	0	0	0	1	2
Lidge	1	0	0	0	0	3

WP—Oswalt, Harville. T—2:52. A—39,714 (40,950).

Cubs 5, Brewers 0

MILWAUKEE					CHICAGO				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Pdsdnk cf	4	0	0	0	Theriot 2b	4	1	1	0
BClark rf	4	0	2	0	ROrdnez ss	3	0	0	0
Jenkins lf	4	0	1	0	SSosa rf	4	1	2	1
Ovrbay 1b	3	0	2	0	Alou lf	3	2	1	1
KGintr 3b	3	0	0	0	Cntrrmn cf	4	1	2	1
BHall ss	3	0	0	0	DeLee 1b	4	0	0	0
Moeller c	3	0	0	0	Macias 3b	2	0	1	0
Erksn 2b	3	0	1	0	Barrett c	3	0	1	0
BShets p	2	0	0	0	Mddux p	3	0	1	0
Kschnk ph	1	0	0	0					
LVzcno p	0	0	0	0					
Kinney p	0	0	0	0					
Totals	**30**	**0**	**6**	**0**	**Totals**	**30**	**5**	**8**	**4**

Milwaukee	000	000	000—0
Chicago	100	100	03x—5

E—KGintner (5). DP—Milwaukee 1, Chicago 3. LOB—Milwaukee 3, Chicago 4. HR—SSosa (17), Alou (20), CPatterson (11). SB—Macias (2). S—Rodriguez.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Milwaukee						
BSheets L,9-6	7	6	2	2	1	8
LVizcaino	⅓	2	3	3	1	0
Kinney	⅓	0	0	0	0	1
Chicago						
Maddux W,8-7	9	6	0	0	0	4

WP—LVizcaino 2. T—2:05. A—40,033 (39,345).

Braves 6, Expos 2

MONTREAL					ATLANTA				
	ab	r	h	bi		ab	r	h	bi
Wlkrsn lf	3	1	0	0	Furcal ss	4	1	0	0
NJhnsn 3b	3	0	0	0	Jones 3b	4	1	2	1
Vidro 2b	2	1	0	0	JDrew rf	4	1	1	1
CEvrtt rf	3	0	1	1	CJones 3b	2	0	0	0
Sabathia c	4	0	1	0	Giles 1b	4	0	1	0
OCabrra ss	4	0	0	0	Smoltz p	0	0	0	0
Schrdr c	2	0	0	0	Lroche lf	2	0	0	0
EChvez cf	3	0	0	0	Ajones cf	4	0	1	0
Ar Jr. p	2	0	0	0	Thmas lf	3	1	2	0
Bentz p	0	0	0	0	RuCrtz p	0	0	0	0
HMatoe ph	1	0

El Duque gives boost to Yankees' beat-up rotation

The Associated Press

DETROIT — The New York Yankees might have found a solution to their pitching woes that doesn't involve Randy Johnson.

While the Yankees explore a trade for the Arizona ace and wait for Kevin Brown and Mike Mussina to come off the disabled list, Orlando Hernandez has filled in quite well.

El Duque won for the second time in two starts since returning to the major leagues, beating the Detroit Tigers 5-3 Saturday night.

Hernandez allowed three runs and six hits in five innings, striking out six and walking three. Last weekend, he beat Tampa Bay 10-3 in his first major league game since 2002.

"It has helped a lot that my teammates are so happy about my return," Hernandez said through a translator. "I feel good, but I just need to keep working on my location so that I don't keep throwing 100 pitches in five innings."

The Cuban right-hander, believed to be 38, had shoulder surgery in May 2003 to repair a small tear in his rotator cuff, and he was brought up to patch a rotation missing Brown (bad back) and Mussina (sore elbow).

"It's great to see him back — I know how hard he has worked to get here again," teammate Jason Giambi said. "It's going to be huge if he can pitch like this for us down the stretch."

Hernandez's fastball topped out in the high 80s, but he baffled Tigers batters with an assortment of breaking pitches, including a roundhouse curve that was clocked as low as 56 mph.

"I don't think he's the same velocity-wise, but he's smart," Tigers manager Alan Trammell said. "He knows what he's doing out there, so even if he doesn't come at you with the same fastball as he once did, he's very effective."

Paul Quantrill, Tom Gordon and Mariano Rivera finished. Gordon struck out four in 1 2/3 perfect innings, and Rivera got three straight outs for his AL-leading 33rd save in 34 chances.

Gary Sheffield homered and drove in three runs for the Yankees before a crowd of 41,857, the third-largest in Comerica Park's five-year history. Detroit, which matched its 2003 wins total Friday, lost for just the third time in nine games.

Gary Knotts (5-4) dropped to 1-3 in his last five starts, giving up four runs and 10 hits in 5 1/3 innings. He is 0-3 with an 11.48 ERA in his career against the Yankees.

"I thought I had good stuff and was making good pitches," he said. "They have an All-Star lineup and they are going to get their hits."

The game was delayed slightly in the second inning when the Comerica Park emergency buzzer and lights went off. A recorded announcement said there was an emergency in the stadium, but the scoreboard quickly informed fans that it was a false alarm.

Angels get Colon past rough start

The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The way Bartolo Colon's pitch count was rising, it didn't look as though he'd be around for the fourth inning — let alone the sixth.

His teammates made it easier for him to stick around, staking the struggling right-hander to a five-run lead through four, and the Anaheim Angels went on to beat the Boston Red Sox 8-3 Saturday night despite two home runs by Johnny Damon.

"From the start, I always think I'm going eight or nine innings," Colon said. "After the first two innings, I reduced that to think I could still go seven. I was trying to be a little too fine early, and it cost me a couple of walks."

Colon (7-8) won his second straight start after going 1-6 with an 8.45 ERA in his previous 10 outings. The right-hander allowed a run and three hits, including the first of Damon's homers. He struck out one and walked five.

Colon threw 48 pitches in the first two innings, allowing five of his first nine batters to reach base — but still managed to keep the frustrated Red Sox off the board. He walked Mark Bellhorn and David Ortiz on 3-2 counts with one out in the first, then got behind Nomar Garciaparra 2-0 before retiring him on a double-play grounder.

"After the second inning, we just saw better command of his fastball," pitching coach Bud Black said. "He wasn't missing by much, and he didn't give in. Bart can throw a strike when he wants, but he wasn't missing so terribly that he had to throw the ball right down the middle."

Gabe Kapler singled with two outs in the second, and Colon walked the next two batters before escaping the bases-loaded jam on Damon's flyout. He threw just 17 pitches the next two innings — 15 for strikes.

Vladimir Guerrero and Adam Kennedy homered, helping the Angels win for the seventh time in nine games. Darin Erstad and Garret Anderson each hit a two-run single.

Tim Wakefield (5-6) gave up five runs and eight hits in four innings.

AP

Baltimore Orioles shortstop Miguel Tejada tags Tampa Bay Devil Rays' Carl Crawford at second on a pickoff attempt during the second inning on Saturday in St. Petersburg, Fla. Crawford was out on the play.

Switch-hitting Teixeira joins select company in Texas win

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Mark Teixeira hit a three-run homer and Ricardo Rodriguez combined with three relievers on a shutout to lead the Texas Rangers over the Toronto Blue Jays 4-0 Saturday night.

Teixeira hit his 20th homer of the season in the fourth inning after Michael Young singled off Ted Lilly (7-7) and Alfonso Soriano walked. Soriano, the All-Star Game MVP, added an RBI single in the eighth off Vinnie Chulk.

Teixeira became the fifth-youngest switch-hitter to hit at least 20 homers in his first two seasons. Mickey Mantle, Eddie Murray, Ruben Sierra, and Chipper Jones reached the milestone at a younger age than the 24-year-old Teixeira, who hit 26 as a rookie.

Rodriguez (3-0), coming off a three-hit shutout of Cleveland on July 8, allowed eight hits in 6 1/3 innings, giving him 15 1/3 consecutive scoreless innings. Rodriguez was sidelined April 17 to June 5 while recovering from appendicitis, then went to Triple-A Oklahoma for six starts.

AL Roundup

Rodriguez, Brian Shouse, Frank Francisco and Ron Mahay combined for Texas' fifth shutout of the season. The AL West-leading Rangers (51-37) matched the 1996 team for the best record after 88 games in club history.

Alex Rios had three hits for the Blue Jays, who lost their fifth straight and were shut out for the sixth time this year.

Lilly allowed three runs and four hits in six innings.

In Saturday's other AL games:

White Sox 5, Athletics 2: Freddy Garcia won for the third time in four starts since his trade to the White Sox, leading host Chicago over Oakland.

Paul Konerko, Carlos Lee and Aaron Rowand homered for the White Sox, who won for the second time in their last 17 games at Oakland.

Garcia (7-8) is 3-1 with a 3.95 ERA since Seattle dealt him to the White Sox on June 27. He allowed two runs — one earned — and two hits in 6 2/3 innings, striking out six and walking two.

Twins 4, Royals 1: Johan Santana allowed one hit in eight innings, and Lew Ford and Justin Morneau hit back-to-back home runs for visiting Minnesota.

Santana (8-6) improved 6-2 with a 1.43 ERA in his last eight starts, allowing only a leadoff double to Angel Berroa in the second inning as the Twins stopped a five-game losing streak.

Orioles 3, Devil Rays 2: Miguel Tejada had three hits and an RBI, leading Rodrigo Lopez and Baltimore past host Tampa Bay.

Lopez (7-5) allowed only one run despite walking five in 5 1/3 innings.

Indians 6, Mariners 5: Ben Broussard hit a tiebreaking single in the seventh inning and drove in three runs, sending C.C. Sabathia and visiting Cleveland to a victory over Seattle.

Devil Rays cut McGriff

Struggling slugger seven HR short of 500

The Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Fred McGriff was cut Saturday by the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, seven home runs short of 500.

McGriff, 40, struggled after the Devil Rays brought him up from Triple-A Durham on May 28, hitting .181 with two homers and seven RBIs in 27 games. He hasn't homered since June 17 against Mark Eaton at San Diego.

Tampa Bay designated him for assignment, meaning the Devil Rays have 10 days to trade him, send him outright to the minors or place him on waivers.

"If a major league club has interest in Fred, we'll let him go," Tampa Bay General Manager Chuck LaMar said.

McGriff is tied with Lou Gehrig for 21st place on the career home run list. He was trying to join Ted Williams, Willie McCovey and Eddie Murray as the only players to reach 500 homers after turning 40.

"It's not an easy situation," manager Lou Piniella said. "Hopefully, somebody will pick him up and give him a further opportunity. I was hoping things would be different. But the organization wanted to get younger, and that's really what we're doing."

The Devil Rays called up outfielder Joey Gathright and infielder Jorge Cantu from Durham. Utilityman Damian Rolls was optioned to Durham.

"I'm sentimental when it comes to Fred, but there comes a time I have to make a decision to put our best team on the field," LaMar said.

A Tampa native, McGriff played for the Devil Rays from their inception in 1998 until a 2001 trade to the Chicago Cubs.

McGriff has 2,490 hits and 958 extra-base hits, 30th on the career list. He has homered in a major league-record 43 ballparks.

Asked if falling short of 500 home runs would keep McGriff out of the Hall of Fame, Piniella said it shouldn't.

"I don't see where seven home runs make a difference," Piniella said. "He's had a marvelous career."

No. 297 is a gem

Cubs ace throws first shutout in three years

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Greg Maddux pitched a six-hitter for his first complete game in exactly one year and his first shutout in three years, leading the Chicago Cubs to a 5-0 victory over the Milwaukee Brewers on Saturday.

Sammy Sosa hit his 556th homer and Moises Alou also homered for the Cubs.

Maddux (8-7) earned his 297th victory and his first shutout since a six-hitter against Tampa Bay on July 17, 2001. The 38-year-old right-hander pitched his first complete game since an eight-hitter against the New York Mets last July 17. Maddux retired eight of his first nine batters and struck out the side in the eighth.

NL Roundup

"As far as a day to pitch on, this was as easy it gets," Maddux said. "It was cool, the wind was blowing in and all the mistakes were hit at guys.

"There was a lot of balls down the middle, but they were hit right at people. A few of the double-plays today were mistake pitches. Sometimes the ball bounces your way."

Ben Sheets (9-6) gave up two runs and six hits in seven innings while striking out eight.

Phillies 8, Mets 2: Jim Thome hit his major league-leading 30th homer in the ninth inning to blow open a close game. Visiting Philadelphia led 4-2 when Thome homered off Jose Parra with one out, his third hit of the game. Jimmy Rollins added a two-run double in second.

Randy Wolf (4-5) allowed one run and six hits in $5^{1}/_{3}$ innings to win for just the second time in 10 starts.

Tom Glavine (7-8) allowed four runs — two earned — in $6^{1}/_{3}$ innings and has lost five straight starts for the first time in his career.

Mike Piazza hit his 17th homer in the eighth.

Reds 7, Cardinals 5: Adam Dunn hit a tie-breaking three-run homer in the eighth inning as host Cincinnati cooled the Cardinals.

After Julian Tavarez (2-3) hit Ryan Freel with one out, Steve Kline walked Barry Larkin, then surrendered Dunn's 26th homer.

St. Louis, which had won 10 of 11 games, entered the seventh inning trailing 4-0, but rallied to tie the game on Albert Pujols' 24th home run in the eighth.

Larkin and Wily Mo Pena also homered for the Reds, just 2-7 against St. Louis this season.

Todd Jones (8-2) allowed one run and three hits in $1^{1}/_{3}$ innings. Danny Graves pitched the ninth for his major league-leading 34th save.

Padres 7, Astros 4: Mark Loretta hit a two-run homer to spark a five-run fifth and David Wells won his third straight decision.

The host Astros (44-46) have dropped four straight and eight of 10 and trail NL Central-leading St. Louis by 12 games.

Wells (5-5) gave up three runs and seven hits in $5^{1}/_{3}$ innings, and Trevor Hoffman pitched the ninth for his 24th save. Roy Oswalt (8-8) gave up seven runs and eight hits in $4^{2}/_{3}$ innings.

Braves 6, Expos 2: Marcus Giles hit a tie-breaking, two-run homer in the seventh inning and Russ Ortiz continued his domination of the visiting Expos.

J.D. Drew and Adam LaRoche had solo homers for the Braves, who won for the 14th time in 18 games and stayed one game behind Philadelphia in the NL East.

Ortiz (11-6) won his fifth straight start and improved to 4-0 this season against the Expos. He allowed one hit — an RBI single by Carl Everett in the first — and pitched around five walks in $7^{2}/_{3}$ innings. John Smoltz got the final four outs for his 17th save in 19 chances.

Pirates 4, Marlins 2: Tike Redman's tying single sparked a three-run rally in the eighth and Pittsburgh extended its home winning streak to nine games, its longest since a 24-game run in 1978.

Marlins starter Carl Pavano took a 2-1 lead into the eighth, only to be lifted for closer Armando Benitez after Jason Bay doubled with one out.

Benitez (2-1) had pitched 11 consecutive scoreless innings spanning eight games, but this time allowed five of the first six batters he faced to reach base. Redman's run-scoring single tied it, pinch-hitter Tony Alvarez had a go-ahead sacrifice fly and Jack Wilson singled in another run.

Giants 4, Rockies 0: Jason Schmidt allowed four hits in eight innings for his 12th straight victory, beating Colorado in the 26th shutout in Coors Field history.

The Giants managed just three hits, but Barry Bonds had a two-run double in the eighth after being walked twice. That was more than enough for Schmidt (12-2), who struck out eight and walked two in combining with Jim Brower and Scott Eyre on a four-hitter. Schmidt has not lost since April 26, a span of 16 starts. Jack Sanford won 16 straight decisions for the Giants in 1962.

Dodgers 7, Diamondbacks 6: Pinch-hitter Robin Ventura hit a two-run homer in the ninth as visiting Los Angeles beat Arizona.

Adrian Beltre had an RBI single earlier in the inning off Mike Koplove, who hit two batters, walked one and gave up three runs while getting just one out. Koplove left after allowing Beltre's hit. Brian Bruney (2-3) relieved and got an out before Ventura homered.

Eric Gagne struck out the side around a single in the ninth for his 25th save in 26 chances.

> *"As far as a day to pitch on, this was as easy it gets. It was cool, the wind was blowing in and all the mistakes were hit at guys."*
>
> **Greg Maddux**
> Chicago Cubs pitcher

AP

Pittsburgh shortstop Jack Wilson leaps to grab an errant throw from catcher Jason Kendall as Florida baserunner Juan Pierre steals second during the fifth inning of Saturday night's game.

No pain in Prior's 5-minute session

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Mark Prior threw for about five minutes on a flat surface Saturday before the Chicago Cubs played the Milwaukee Brewers.

"For the most part I felt pretty good," Prior said.

Pitching coach Larry Rothschild also was encouraged by the workout.

"He threw pretty much without pain," Rothschild said. "He threw breaking balls, he threw some fastballs with arm acceleration to them and everything came off pretty well."

Prior, who felt some aches, missed the first two months of the season with a sore right Achilles' tendon and tender elbow. He left Thursday's game against Milwaukee in the second inning when he felt discomfort in the elbow.

MLB briefs

Prior was scheduled for a more intense bullpen session on Sunday. The Cubs haven't decided if he will make his scheduled start Tuesday against St. Louis.

"It's possible, but I would be very guarded," Rothschild said.

Prior was upset about speculation that he might need surgery.

"People outside the locker room have no idea what is going on," Prior said. "People are writing irresponsibly and saying things irresponsible. They can say whatever they want, but they don't know the facts."

Halladay will make next start

ARLINGTON, Texas — Toronto right-hander Roy Halladay will make his scheduled start on Wednesday in New York against the Yankees despite concerns about his sore shoulder.

Halladay, the reigning AL Cy Young winner, allowed six runs and seven hits over four innings in Friday night's 11-2 loss at Texas, his shortest outing of the season.

Halladay was on the DL because of soreness in his right shoulder and has made seven starts since he was activated on June 12, going 2-3 with a 5.85 ERA. He walked 13 during that span.

"We'll see how he does over the next couple of days and go from there," Blue Jays manager Carlos Tosca said. "He's still scheduled to make his next start."

Halladay, 7-7 this season after going 22-7 in 2003, said after Friday night's game that he has a tired arm, but didn't think there was anything seriously wrong.

Reliever has elbow surgery

CINCINNATI — St. Louis Cardinals pitcher Mike Lincoln will miss the rest of the season after having elbow ligament replacement surgery.

The right-hander was 3-2 with a 5.19 ERA in 13 relief appearances. He's been on the disabled list since May 4.

Top riders relax during Tour's 14th stage

BY JOHN LEICESTER
The Associated Press

NIMES, France — After two torrid days in the Pyrenees and more pain lurking in the Alps, Lance Armstrong and other top riders caught their breath Sunday, allowing Aitor Gonzalez of Spain to win the flat 14th stage.

Armstrong finished in 39th place alongside overall leader Thomas Voeckler. They both had the same time, meaning Voeckler kept his 22-second lead on the five-time champion for at least another day.

Gonzalez was among 10 riders who were so far down in the overall standings that the main pack, which included Armstrong, did not chase the small group that surged ahead with about 55 miles left.

The stage win was Gonzalez's first in three Tours and the first by a Spanish rider in this year's showcase race. The main pack was way behind, still pedaling, when the Spaniard crossed the line in Nimes, the picturesque end of a 119.6-mile swing through southern France from the medieval fortified city of Carcassonne.

Armstrong, aiming for a record sixth straight Tour de France title, and Voeckler finished 14 minutes, 12 seconds behind Gonzalez. The Texan is expected to take the lead from Voeckler, a Frenchman who has shown surprising resilience, in the Alps and two time trials in this last week of the three-week race.

Jan Ullrich, the 1997 Tour winner who had two disastrous days in the Pyrenees, placed 21st, also with the same time as Voeckler and Armstrong. The German remains 6:39 behind Armstrong overall — out of contention for the Tour title.

AP

Danilo Hondo, Erik Zabel, Thor Hushovd and Robbie McEwen battle at the end of Sunday's 14th stage of the Tour de France. McEwen padded his lead in the Tour's sprint standings.

Italian Ivan Basso, the last real threat to Armstrong, placed 31st — still 1:17 behind Armstrong overall.

Australian Robbie McEwen solidified his campaign to win the green jersey awarded to the Tour's best sprinter by dashing to the line ahead of other speedsters. His 11th-place finish earned him 15 points in the green jersey competition, taking his total to 225.

Erik Zabel of Germany, who picked up 11 points by finishing 15th, is second in the sprinters' standings with 212 points.

Norwegian Thor Hushovd, edged at the line Sunday by McEwen, is third with 209 points. McEwen, who also won in 2002, is well-placed to take his second green jersey title at the finish in Paris on July 25 — if he makes it over the Alps this week.

Gonzalez, winner of the 2002 Tour of Spain, broke away from his small group with just over 3 miles left. The nine other cyclists in his escape group couldn't organize an effective chase, allowing Gonzalez to build a small lead that he held to the finish.

"I felt the ideal moment to attack and I gave everything I had," he said.

It was the third victory for his Fassa Bortolo team in this Tour.

"It's an enormous satisfaction for me," said Gonzalez, who has never completed a Tour and is still 24:34 behind Armstrong overall, with no hope of a top-three finish. "Until now, things had not gone as I wanted. But today victory is here."

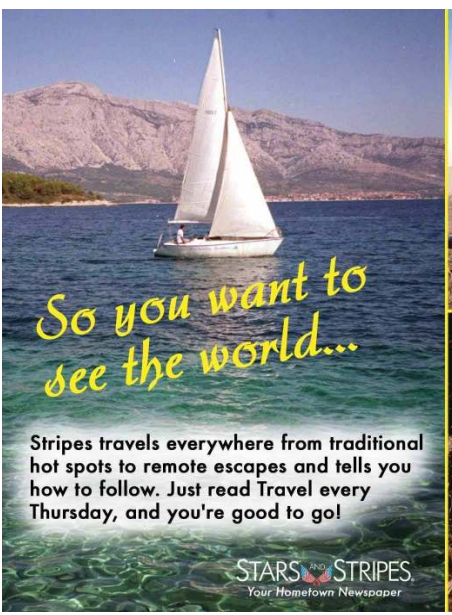
Two French riders in the escape group, Nicolas Jalabert and Christophe Mengin, made a late but fruitless effort to catch Gonzalez. They rolled in second and third, respectively, 25 seconds behind the Spaniard's mark of 4 hours, 18 minutes, 32 seconds.

The first 60 miles were quick and tiring on legs already aching after two days of grueling climbs in the Pyrenees, where Armstrong overpowered other favorites, clearing his path to another title.

Because none of Sunday's 10 breakaway riders represented a threat to Armstrong, Vockler and others, there was little point chasing them. The main pack, already looking forward to a rest day Monday, eased up as the escapees disappeared into the distance.

"We started to unwind," French rider Richard Virenque said. "Some of the boys are exhausted."

Riders will use the rest day to regroup, treat injuries and steel themselves physically and mentally for three days in the Alps. The first Alpine stage Tuesday, 112 miles from Valreas to Villard-de-Lans, takes riders up seven climbs, including a steep 7½-mile ascent of the Col de l'Echarasson.



SPORTS

TAMPA BAY

McGriff cut by Devil Rays seven homers shy of 500, Page 33

Dream come Troon

Journeyman Hamilton wins British Open in playoff

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

TROON, Scotland — Toughened by a 12-year journey through some of the most obscure outposts in golf, Todd Hamilton finally arrived in a major way Sunday with a playoff victory over Ernie Els to win the British Open.

A year ago, he didn't even have a PGA Tour card.

After a hard-fought final round at Royal Troon and four extra holes against one of the best players in the world, the 38-year-old American won the claret jug and was introduced as the champion golfer of the year.

What a ride!

Hamilton made four pars in the playoff, the last one the toughest of all. From 40 yards short of the cup, he used a utility club to bump the ball along the crusty grass to within 2 feet of the cup. Els had one last chance, but missed a 15-foot birdie putt.

Hamilton knocked in the final putt, started to retrieve it from the hole, then realized what he had just done. He let out a whoop, raised his arms in the air and hugged his caddie, Ron Levin.

For the second year in a row, the silver jug went to a player no one could have imagined at the start of the week. But unlike Ben Curtis, who was ranked 396th when he won at Royal St. George's in his first major, no one will ever call Hamilton a fluke.

Not after he beat back a leader board loaded with majors champions.

Not after he refused to get flustered when Phil Mickelson took the lead with eight holes to play.

And certainly not after going toe-to-toe with Els in a pressure-packed playoff.

"It was truly a blast," Hamilton said.

Hamilton, an 11-time winner on the Japanese tour, thought he had hit the big time when he birdied the final two holes for a one-shot victory over Davis Love III in the Honda Classic in March.

Now, his name is on the oldest trophy in golf, alongside names like Bobby Jones, Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus and Tiger Woods.

Hamilton was fighting back tears as he prepared to hoist the jug.

"We've got a great champion," said Els, who had a chance to win in regulation until missing a 12-foot birdie putt that sent the British Open into its fifth playoff in the last 10 years.

For Els, it was another major setback.

He had one arm in the green jacket until Mickelson made an 18-foot birdie on the final hole to beat him by one shot at the Masters. Els played in the final group at the U.S. Open, two shots out of the lead, and shot 80.

Els had to make 10-footers for birdie on the 16th and 17th holes to keep his hopes alive at Royal Troon. And when Hamilton bogeyed the 18th hole in regulation, the Big Easy had a 12-foot putt for the win.

But he left it short, and his putter let him down in the playoff. He missed a 12-foot birdie putt on No. 1, and fell behind when he overshot the third extra hole, the par-3 17th, and missed a 10-footer for par.

Hamilton made sure he never caught up.

"Coming so close obviously is disappointing," Els said. "To get into the playoff from where I was, you've got to take the positive."

Els shot 68 in the final round and earned a dubious distinction.

He had all four rounds in the 60s for the second time in a British Open without winning; the other time was at Royal St. George's in 1993.

Hamilton closed with a 2-under 69 to become the sixth consecutive American to win the Open at Royal Troon.

They finished at 10-under 274, one shot ahead of Mickelson.

Hamilton, who finally got his PGA Tour card in December, earned about $1.35 million and is

SEE DREAM ON PAGE 29

AP

Todd Hamilton jumps into the arms of his caddie Ron Levin after winning the British Open at Royal Troon golf course in Troon, Scotland on Sunday. Hamilton defeated South Africa's Ernie Els in a four-hole playoff.

THE OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP

Leading scores after the final round of the 133rd British Open at Royal Troon:

x-Todd Hamilton	71-67-67-69–274	-10
Ernie Els	69-69-68-68–274	-10
Phil Mickelson	73-66-68-68–275	-9
Lee Westwood	72-71-68-67–278	-6
Thomas Levet	66-70-71-72–279	-5
Davis Love III	72-69-71-67–279	-5
Scott Verplank	69-70-70-71–280	-4
Retief Goosen	69-70-68-73–280	-4
Mike Weir	72-69-71-67–281	-3
Tiger Woods	70-71-68-72–281	-3

x-won in four-hole playoff

Full-field scores on Page 29.

Spaniard captures flat 14th stage as Armstrong bides his time

Page 35

Maddux shuts out Brewers, moves step closer to 300th career win

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Points leader Kanaan notches third IRL victory

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