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Volume 2, No.75 © EPSS 2004 MIDEAST EDITION FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2004

String of attacks kill at least 89 in Iraq

3 U.S. soldiers among dead in coordinated violence

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AP photos

Heaviest fighting reported around Baqouba

Right: U.S. troops watch a plume of smoke rise above the town of Baqouba from battles in the city between Iraqi armed militants and U.S. troops and Iraqi police Thursday. Above: Meanwhile, armed militants drive through the streets of Fallujah, chanting pro-resistance slogans after battles with U.S. forces there. Militants launched coordinated attacks against police and government buildings across Iraq on Thursday, less than a week before the handover of sovereignty. The heaviest fighting raged in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, where two American soldiers were killed and seven were wounded, the U.S. 1st Infantry Division said. The third American soldier was killed in Mosul.

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

World

Afghanistan opium poppies: Afghan authorities have destroyed around 37,000 acres of opium poppies so far this year, the interior minister said Thursday.

According to U.N. estimates, about 180,000 acres of poppies were harvested in the country in 2002 — enough to make about 350 tons of heroin.

Previous eradication efforts have failed to seriously dent poppy cultivation, partly because of the lack of income-generating alternatives for farmers impoverished by years of war and drought.

Ingushetia death toll: Ninety-eight people were killed in this week's militant attacks in the southern Russian region of Ingushetia, regional officials said Thursday, and a top Russian military officer said three militants had been detained on suspicion of taking part in the spree of violence.

Three days after the Monday night attacks, questions still swirled about where the militants came from. Ingush President Murat Zyazikov, a former high official of the Federal Security Service, said in an interview published in the Russian government newspaper Rossiyskaya Gazeta on Thursday that "it was, so to speak, an international squad" intent on destabilizing Ingushetia, which borders on war-shattered Chechnya.

Bahrain militant detainees: Bahrain released six citizens on Wednesday night who had been detained on suspicion of militant activities.

Advocate-General Sharif Shadi declined to say why the six Bahrainis had been detained in pre-dawn raids on Tuesday.

States

Scott Peterson trial: A juror dismissed from the Scott Peterson murder trial criticized the prosecution's case on Thursday, saying there had been no good explanation of how or why Peterson would have killed his pregnant wife, Laci.

Justin Falconer, replaced Wednesday by an alternate, told reporters outside the courtroom that he would have found Peterson not guilty.

He said that he did not believe the prosecution's argument that Peterson was motivated by an affair with massage therapist Amber Frey or by financial concerns.

Jealous wife's fatal attack: Lawyers representing the children of a cheating husband, who was fatally run down by his wife in a jealous rage two years ago, and representatives of a hotel and detective agency say they've reached a tentative settlement in a lawsuit stemming from the slaying.

The twin sons of orthodontist David Harris and their half-sister had sought damages from the Nassau Bay Hilton Hotel and the Blue Moon Investigations agency of Webster.

Papers filed in the lawsuit alleged that Blue Moon, which Harris' wife hired to photograph her husband with another woman, should not have told Clara Harris that the two were at the hotel.

The hotel's management was also accused in the lawsuit of failing to provide effective security, notify police in time to prevent Harris' death or train employees to deal with domestic disputes.

Saudis offer amnesty: Crown Prince Abdullah of Saudi Arabia reads a brief announcement on behalf of his half-brother, King Fahd, on state television Wednesday announcing a limited amnesty for Muslim militants who surrender in the next month. Abdullah said they will not face the death penalty and will only be prosecuted if they committed acts that hurt others.

Alleged mall terrorist: The attorney for a man charged with plotting to bomb an Ohio shopping mall said his client was "stripped of his identity" while in federal custody.

Attorney Mahir Sherif said in an e-mail to The Associated Press that after Nuradin Abdi's arrest last November, he was booked into an immigration jail under the name "John Doe."

Authorities accuse Abdi, a Somali refugee, of plotting with admitted al-Qaida member Iyman Faris to blow up a shopping mall.

Valenti successor: Hollywood studios are set to start finally winnowing down potential replacements for Jack Valenti as head of their trade group, although sources said they expect picking a successor to take until at least July.

Sources with the major studios said one name at the top of Motion Picture Association of America's list is Dan Glickman, a former Kansas congressman who served as Agriculture Secretary under President Clinton. Also considered a top candidate is former Pentagon spokeswoman Victoria Clarke, now a communications and government affairs adviser to cable giant Comcast Corp.

Rudolph bombing trial: A federal judge on Thursday delayed Eric Rudolph's trial in a deadly abortion clinic bombing from August until next year, ruling his lawyers needed more time to prepare.

Military

1986 Berlin disco bombing: A federal court Thursday upheld the prison sentences of four people convicted in the deadly 1986 bombing of a West Berlin disco, rejecting appeals from both prosecutors and the defendants.

The blast at the La Belle disco, which a Berlin court ruled in 2001 was planned by Libya's secret service, killed two U.S. soldiers and a Turkish woman and injured 229. The defendants received sentences ranging from 12 to 14 years in prison.

Prosecutors maintained the jail time was too short and sought a retrial, while the defendants said the sentences were too harsh.

Desertion case: Supporters of a soldier who refused to return to Iraq after a two-week leave urged the Army on Wednesday to give him an honorable discharge, even though he was convicted of desertion last month.

A military hearings officer from Fort Stewart, Ga., heard testimony from character witnesses in a closed hearing to determine if Camilo Mejia should receive conscientious objector status. The hearing was held at the Fort Sill Regional Correctional Facility, Okla., where Mejia is being held.

Illegal parts case: A man accused of trying to illegally export parts in 1999 for fighter jets used in Iran told a federal judge Wednesday the allegations were untrue.

Hamid M. Butt, 71, ran an aircraft parts supply business in Humble, Texas, that had 95 percent of its customers in the Middle East.Butt is charged with violating the Arms Control Export Act, which carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a $1 million fine.

War on terrorism

GI's alleged terror ties: A U.S. soldier accused of trying to help al-Qaida has been ordered to stand trial at a court-martial but will not face the death penalty, Army officials said Wednesday in Seattle.

Spc. Ryan G. Anderson, 26, who was raised as a Lutheran but converted to Islam, was arrested in February and charged with five counts of trying to provide the terrorist network with information about U.S. troop strength and tactics as well as methods of killing American soldiers.

Stories and photos from wire reports

Correction

In June 17 editions editions of Stars and Stripes, Point Blank Armor was identified as the sole manufacturer for Interceptor Body Armor. On Sept. 30, 2003, Second Chance Body Armor, Inc., was contracted to produce the Interceptor.

Comics, horoscopes and advice every day in Stars and Stripes

Messages of Support

Stars and Stripes

★ Hope you all come home soon. America misses all of you. You guys take care of things there and we'll take care OUR HOMES here. God Bless each and everyone of you. Take care. DANA!

★ To any member of the military, My name is Jennifer and I would just like to thank you for the job you do and the risks you take. I can't even begin to imagine being so far away from my husband (or wife in some of your cases) and children. I may never meet you or even hear from you again after you read this message, but just know that we are here, we do support you, and, if it were possible to send hugs via e-mail, please consider yourself hugged. Again thank you so much for all you do. Stay strong and come home soon! Love ya mean it, Jennifer

At least 89 killed in attacks across Iraq

Three U.S. troops among dead in series of coordinated insurgent strikes

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
The Associated Press

BAQOUBA, Iraq — Insurgents launched coordinated attacks Thursday against police and government buildings across Sunni Muslim areas of Iraq less than a week before the handover of sovereignty. The strikes killed 89 people, including three American soldiers, and wounded 318 people, Iraqi and U.S. officials said.

Twelve American soldiers were wounded.

Most of the deaths were in Mosul, where 44 people were killed and 216 injured in attacks that included a string of car bombs.

Clashes also occurred in Baqouba, Ramadi, Baghdad and other areas.

The extent of the attacks was a clear sign of just how powerful the insurgency remains — and could be the start of a new push to torpedo Wednesday's transfer of sovereignty to an interim transitional government.

Iraqi police, entrusted to take a larger role in security after the handover, appeared outgunned and unable to hold positions in most of the cities under fire. American troops raced to offer support, using aircraft, tanks and helicopters to repel the guerrillas.

Saad al-Amely, an official at the Iraqi Health Ministry, said hospitals were flooded with the wounded.

The military wing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's group, the Tawhid and Jihad movement, claimed responsibility for the attacks in a statement on an Islamic Web site. The statement said that members of the "martyrs' battalion" had carried out a number of "blessed operations."

President Bush, who is appealing to NATO to help quell the escalating violence, updated members of Congress about the situation in Iraq during an hourlong meeting at the White House.

The heaviest fighting raged in Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, where two American soldiers were killed and seven were wounded, the U.S. 1st Infantry Division said.

U.S. aircraft dropped three 500-pound bombs against an insurgent position near the Baqouba soccer stadium, said Maj. Neal E. O'Brien, a U.S. 1st Infantry Division spokesman.

Insurgents roamed the city with rocket launchers and automatic weapons, seized two police stations, and destroyed the home of the police chief of surrounding Diyala province.

In other attacks, a man dressed as an Iraqi policeman detonated a car bomb near a checkpoint manned by Iraqi and American soldiers in the southern Baghdad district of Dora, killing four Iraqi soldiers. Three U.S. soldiers tended a wounded American soldier as he lay on the road, his helmet nearby. Black smoke and flames rose from a burning pickup truck.

AP photos

Above: An Iraqi man looks at the destruction of the Ramadi, Iraq, police station after a militant attack Thursday. Insurgents launched coordinated attacks Thursday against police and government facilities across Sunni Muslim-dominated areas of central and northern Iraq, killing at least 89 people, including three U.S. soldiers, U.S. and Iraqi officials said. Below: An injured Iraqi man walks down the street outside the hospital in Baqouba, Iraq, after battles in the city between Iraqi armed militants and U.S. troops and Iraqi police.

Attackers also set off an explosion as a military convoy passed in Baghdad, injuring one soldier.

Also in Baghdad, insurgents attacked four Iraqi police stations using mortars, hand grenades and AK-47s on Wednesday and Thursday.

Police fought back, defending the stations with minimal assistance from coalition forces, a U.S. statement said.

At Baqouba's main hospital, doctors standing in pools of blood struggled to deal with a steady stream of wounded.

Civilian cars, including pickup trucks, raced to the emergency ward, bringing people with gunshot and shrapnel wounds.

"May God destroy America and all those who cooperate with it!" screamed one man in the corridor. Another who drove up outside the hospital screamed, "Oh God, Abbas is dead." He later carried in the body of a young man with a bullet hole in the back of his head.

The city, which has a mix of Sunni and Shiite Muslims, was almost deserted by late morning. U.S. gunships flew low over the city, some swooping down on suspected rebel hideouts in palm groves. Some motorists flew white flags from atop their cars to ensure their safety.

U.S. tanks, some firing their machine guns, moved into the city center by the afternoon.

There was no sign of police on the streets, but targets attacked by the rebels in the early morning hours — including the governor's office, police headquarters and the coalition's local offices — were heavily guarded by police.

Guerrillas also targeted security forces in the northern city of Mosul, where car bombs rocked the Iraqi Police Academy, two police stations and the al-Jumhuri hospital. Security forces lost control of the Sheikh Fatih police station following a car bombing, but U.S. forces recaptured the station after subduing insurgents firing from a nearby mosque.

One American soldier died in Mosul, U.S. officials said. Mosul's governor imposed a 9 p.m-6 a.m. curfew, and the city television station urged people to stay home for the "general good."

In Baghdad, U.S. officials projected calm.

They had been predicting a surge in attacks meant to derail next week's transfer of sovereignty, which marks the formal end of the American-run occupation.

Iraq's interim prime minister, Iyad Allawi, said the attacks were an attempt to harm the Iraqi people and "to foil the democratic process."

He said the situation was under control.

"We are going to defeat them. We are going to crush them," he said at a ceremony marking the transfer of the final 11 government ministries to Iraqi control. "We expect more escalation in the days ahead."

To the west of Baghdad, explosions and shelling shook Fallujah, believed to be the nexus of the Sunni Muslim rebellion. Armed men ran through the streets, and Iraqi police and insurgents appeared to be working together, witnesses said. U.S. forces clashed sporadically with insurgents at the edges of the city, but did not try to enter the center.

U.S., Iraq agree to immunity for troops

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — American troops serving in Iraq would be immune from prosecution in local courts under an agreement in principle between the United States and the interim government in Baghdad.

"The president wants to make sure that our troops are protected," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Thursday.

He said members of the military would face justice in the American legal system rather than in local courts.

"You're talking about parts of the world where due process may not be guaranteed," McClelland said.

He said the United States and Iraq already have agreed in principle on an immunity arrangement and that final details were being worked out.

"The coalition will make sure that our troops have proper immunities," McClelland said. "That is a high priority. We have similar arrangements around the world in countries wherever U.S. forces are deployed or diplomats are present to insure that there are proper legal protections for our personnel."

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, 842 U.S. servicemembers have died since the beginning of military operations in Iraq last year, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 622 died as a result of hostile action and 220 died of nonhostile causes.

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

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 704 U.S. soldiers have died — 513 as a result of hostile action and 191 of nonhostile causes, according to the military as of Wednesday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ No deaths reported.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

‘Neither rain, sleet, snow … or sandstorms’

Military post offices getting the hang of Mideast delivery

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN
Stars and Stripes

QATAR — For troops throughout Central Command’s area of operations, staying in touch with loved ones can be tough. Often there are no phones to pick up or computers with Internet access to fire off e-mails.

Many have to fall back on the centuries-old method of writing letters. More than 80 military post offices throughout the Middle East and Southeast Asia help those cards, letters and packages reach their final destination, according to Air Force Maj. Lonnie Hammack, who oversees postal operations for the area.

Hammack said military postal workers in the region deliver more than 5 million pounds of mail a month. That’s more than 650,000 parcels or letters. In addition, Hammack said, more than 1 million pounds of mail head out of the theater each month.

“Within the responsibility of transporting mail, we have to make sure we have enough airlift capabilities to bring mail in from the U.S. and get it to the troops, and vice versa,” Hammack said.

Postmaster Tech Sgt. Craig McCorquodale said that along with the high mail volume, another challenge post offices face is the tough weather.

“Neither rain, sleet, snow … or sandstorms [will stop the mail],” joked Air Force Staff Sgt. Albert King, manager for the handling of official and registered mail.

Delivery by air is the preferred method, Hammack said, but sometimes the mail has to be driven to remote locations. Timely delivery is important and can be challenging, he added.

“Personally, I’ve received most of my letters in five or seven days,” Hammack said. “Anywhere from 80 to 85 percent of the mail arrives at its destination in less than 10 days.”

Hammack said that according to regulations, standard mail delivery should take between 12 to 18 days. The post offices in the region are beating that with an average delivery time of 12 to 16 days.

Earlier this year, Congress and the White House forwarded more than 300 mail complaints to the Government Accounting Office, which then conducted a survey. More than half the troops surveyed said they were dissatisfied with the mail system, waiting four weeks or longer for mail. They added that the slow delivery times had a negative impact on morale.

> *“One of our biggest challenges after the war kicked off was finding ways to get the mail transported to the troops at the forward bases once it arrived at the major mail hubs.”*
>
> **Air Force Maj. Lonnie Hammack**

Hammack said that when Operation Iraqi Freedom started, it was hard to transport the mail into country.

“One of our biggest challenges after the war kicked off was finding ways to get the mail transported to the troops at the forward bases once it arrived at the major mail hubs,” Hammack said. “Most military transport, both ground and air, was being used for transportation of troops, food and ammunition. It took time to establish a reliable network of commercial air and ground transportation for mail.”

Hammack said constantly moving units created another challenge. The units were moving rapidly, and he said the mail would follow them whenever information on the unit locations were available.

Currently, there are more than 60 flights each week into Southwest Asia carrying mail, Hammack said. Those flights fly into one of five major hubs. More than 100 regional flights then carry the mail to forward bases.

In addition to more air delivery capabilities, Hammack said improved coordination between the services, more training for postal personnel and more postal equipment and supplies helped improve the mail process. While deployed, military postal clerks handle all aspects of mail delivery. They separate and retag mail for proper routing, as well as handle all registered and official mail.

“It’s different [here] because I work in the Post Office in Yokota [Air Base, Japan], so I don’t do the stuff I do here,” said Airmen 1st Class Juan Melendez, who said he feels a bit like Santa Claus. “I like making people feel good — seeing they’re happy when they get packages.”

Hammack said that the troops who run the post offices work hard to ensure customer satisfaction.

“Our postal troops have a tough job and work long hours,” he said. “They’re dedicated to it and they see the results of it when that [servicemember] gets that mail.”

While the Air Force is responsible for the overall operation of all post offices throughout the region, each branch of the service runs individual offices on its camps. Hammack said all post offices are inspected once a year, to ensure they’re all on the same page.

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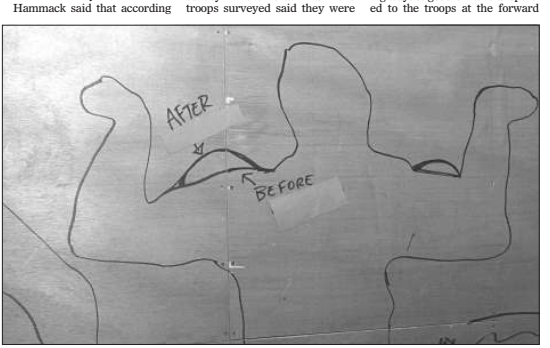
PHOTOS BY FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes

Postal clerk Airmen 1st Class Juan Melendez, left, and Staff Sgt. Albert King, official and registered mail manager, are almost lost behind a stack of boxes. Postal clerks deployed to the Middle East work all aspects at the post offices, not just the normal duties they preform at their home base.



Military postal workers jokingly drew what their physiques looked like before and after deployment to the Middle East. More than 5 million pounds of mail travel through more than 80 post offices in the region each month.

Hammack: Ballots won’t be a problem this election

QATAR — While some absentee voter ballots didn’t count in the 2000 presidential election due to poor postmarkings or not arriving on time, military post offices throughout the Middle East are working to ensure every vote will be counted in November’s election.

According to Air Force Maj. Lonnie Hammack, who oversees the operation of more than 80 post offices throughout the region, a Government Accounting Office report showed that poor postmarkings resulted in some ballots not being counted in the 2000 presidential election.

“In order for a ballot to be valid, it has to have a good postmark,” Hammack said. “[In 2000], they either had no postmark or it couldn’t be read.”

Hammack said he’s already addressed the problem so the same thing won’t happen in the upcoming election. He said every post office in the region has been checked to make sure equipment is up to par.

“If the postmarking equipment is worn out, we ordered new [equipment],” Hammack said. “They must have all the new equipment in place by Aug. 1.”

In addition to new equipment at some post offices, Hammack said postal workers also have a Postal Balloting Action Plan, which outlines all the steps his post offices are taking to ensure ballots get to the States in time.

“Transportation of the mail wasn’t a big issue in 2000, but some didn’t make it back in time,” Hammack said. “We’ve been checking transit times to see if we have weak links in the routes. If we do, we can see how we can speed up that segment.”

While military post offices are doing all they can to ensure absentee ballots arrive on time, Hammack said it’s important for the voters to do their part. He said for those in the Middle East, most ballots must be requested by Aug. 15 and mailed out by Oct. 11.

— Fred Zimmerman

View from sidelines doesn't suit Company D

Marines find it hard to stand by while fellow battalion members are stuck in a firefight

BY CHARLIE COON
Stars and Stripes

CAMP BAHARIA, Iraq — It's a desperate feeling for a Marine not to be able to join the fight when members of his company are less than two miles away, perhaps fighting for their lives.

Marines from Company D, 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, watched a firefight Thursday morning from inside Camp Baharia, standing on top of buildings and vehicles, knowing one of their platoons was involved.

The Marines watched as helicopters flew over the city of Fallujah, firing missiles that sent up big clouds, and listened as mortar rounds exploded and rifle fire sounded. About 25 of their peers were in combat, and there was nothing they could do.

"You're here confined to camp, and the only way you're going to get hit is by a lucky mortar round," said Cpl. Joseph Lorek, 19, of Mentor, Ohio. "You know your friends are getting shot at, and you can't do a damned thing from back here."

Third platoon was just finishing its shift at about 7:30 a.m. when it was fired upon as it patrolled Route 1. Explosions and the sound of rifle fire echoed over the camp. Another platoon prepared to leave the base. Four Light Armored Vehicles were staged and ready to roll.

Marines stood on top of them and watched the fight in the distance over the wall that surrounds the base.

"We're kind of anxious," said Lance Cpl. Samuel Herzberg, 20, of Norman, Okla., as he stood atop his LAV-25 waiting to be sent into the battle. "You know everyone else is out there getting some [fire], and you don't want to leave them there hanging.

"I'd just really like to get out there and help them out."

The Marines back at the camp heard rumors that a helicopter was shot down and that members of their company had been wounded. No one knew anything for sure.

As the morning turned to afternoon, the sound of exploding mortars became more frequent. It was reminiscent of April, when fighting in Fallujah between the Marines and insurgents was intense.

Lorek said it was not like standing on the sideline of a football game, pleading to the coach to be sent in.

"Here, you can always put more players in," said Lorek, whose platoon has the capability of firing TOW missiles. "It isn't like a football game where you can only play 11 guys.

"There's definitely use for us out there, especially us TOW gunners, because they say there are [insurgents] in buildings. We could just blow up the building and take out the guys in it."

It turned out four Marines were injured, none seriously, according to company commander Capt. Ladd Shepard. He said at least seven insurgents were killed.

Shepard said more troops weren't sent in because there were already adequate numbers in the fight, including helicopter and air support.

One of the Marines who was in the fight, Sgt. Jack Leuba of Accident, Md., said later that he knew how the Marines left back at the base felt.

"We've been in their shoes," Leuba said. "It's the worst feeling in world knowing you got friends out there fighting their hearts out and you're stuck here sitting on a cot drinking a soda. You just want to go out there and do your job.

"You want to make sure they're OK. You want to be there with them. Instead, you kind of feel like you're letting them down."

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CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Marines from the 2nd Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, Company D, watch explosions in the city of Fallujah from atop their Light Armored Vehicles at neighboring Camp Baharia, Iraq.

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Report: GIs face charges in death of Iraqi prisoner

The Associated Press

DENVER — The military plans to charge two intelligence soldiers in the suffocation death of an Iraqi general during an interrogation last fall, according to a newspaper report.

Charges of negligent homicide and involuntary manslaughter will be filed against Chief Warrant Officers Lewis Welshofer and Jeff Williams, The Denver Post reported in Thursday editions, citing a Pentagon document obtained by the newspaper.

Welshofer was not at home Thursday and his wife declined comment except to say he does have a military lawyer. Fort Carson spokesman Lt. Justin Journeay confirmed an investigation was under way but provided no details.

Williams did not immediately return calls seeking comment Thursday. The Judge Advocate General's Office also did not return calls.

Welshofer, a member of the 66th Military Intelligence Group, has said he did nothing wrong. He is accused of sitting on the chest of Iraqi Maj. Gen. Abed Hamed Mowhoush and covering his mouth while the air force commander was wrapped in a sleeping bag, according to the document.

Mowhoush, 57, died during interrogation Nov. 26 at Qaim, Iraq.

His death certificate lists homicide as the cause. The military has said Mowhoush died from asphyxiation due to smothering and chest compression.

The CIA said one of its agents may also have been involved and referred the case to the Justice Department for investigation. Two other soldiers face dereliction-of-duty charges in the interrogation, the newspaper reported; they were not named in the Pentagon document.

Welshofer and Williams were reprimanded by their commander earlier this year and were forbidden from conducting further interrogations, the Post reported.

PHOTOS BY FRED ZIMMERMAN/Stars and Stripes

Local Kuwaiti workers fold up a 60-person tent Tuesday on Camp Wolverine. The camp, which was the Aerial Port of Debarkation, is set to close in several weeks. All operations have moved to Camp Doha, Kuwait.

Camp Wolverine to close

Closure poses challenge for troop movement in Kuwait

BY FRED ZIMMERMAN

Stars and Stripes

CAMP WOLVERINE, Kuwait — The once-busy camp looks like a ghost town as the tents that stood in perfect alignment slowly come down. While still home to some support personnel, Camp Wolverine will officially close in several weeks.

The camp's main purpose was to act as the Aerial Port of Debarkation, or APOD, for troops heading to or coming from Iraq. The APOD operations, along with its more than 600 personnel, have moved to Camp Doha. Other tenant units on Camp Wolverine are moving to various camps throughout Kuwait.

The land where Wolverine once stood, which is near the Kuwait City International Airport, will be turned back over to the Kuwaiti government. According to Army Capt. Tom Wargo, Security Force commander at Camp Wolverine, the area will be turned into a free-trade zone and new airport terminal.

Wargo said having the APOD near the airport was convenient, and the move to Camp Doha has added some "speed bumps." He added that in addition to the Kuwait City airport being used for departures, Ali Al Salem Air Base will see an increase in traffic. Camp Doha is about halfway between the two airports.

"The big challenge now is the [distance] between Doha and KCIA [the airport] and Ali Al Salem," Wargo said.

With longer transit times between the camps, Wargo said the chances for problems increase. For example, if a bus broke down on Camp Wolverine, troops could carry their bags to the flight line and not show up late. But now, if a bus breaks down, a replacement vehicle will have to be found, and the chance of troops missing a flight increases.

Army Lt. Col. John Donovan, commander of the 847th Personnel Services Battalion who is currently coordinating all APOD functions, agreed that transportation is now the No. 1 concern. He said transportation coordination has been problematic, but not to the point where it has compromised the overall mission.

"Things that ran smooth there, aren't yet smooth at Doha ... everything was internal at Wolverine, and now it's external," Donovan said. "It's like going from a job where you walked to work, to now commuting an hour."

In addition to the new commute, Donovan said the APOD also must get used to working out of smaller facilities. He said everything from billeting to parking to briefing rooms are smaller than what they had on Camp Wolverine.

Another challenge APOD personnel faced just after the move was an increase in business. Donovan said the Rest and Recuperation program is back into high gear and there was a small surge of units moving through for what he called "OIF two-and-a-half."

Donovan said that Camp Doha personnel, not just those with the APOD, have been a great help since the recent move.

"I've got nothing but praise for the soldiers and leaders of tenant units on Camp Doha," Donovan said. "Everyone has pitched in to help. No one is concerned about guarding their 'territory' — everyone is working to help those soldiers [who are deploying to Iraq]."

Local Kuwaiti workers load a tent onto a forklift Tuesday on Camp Wolverine, Kuwait. The land where Wolverine once stood, which is near the Kuwait City International Airport, will be turned back over to the Kuwaiti government.

E-mail Fred Zimmerman at: zimmermanf@pstripes.osd.mil

DOD allows next of kin to view casket transfer at Dover AFB

BY BRIAN FALER

Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department will allow families of U.S. troops and others killed in Iraq to watch their loved ones' caskets be removed from military transport planes at Dover Air Force Base, according to a little-noticed memo issued last month.

In clarifying its policy, the Pentagon said it would allow troops' next of kin or a "designated representative" to attend as remains are transferred from planes to vehicles that carry them to the base mortuary, where they are prepared to be sent to local funeral homes.

The department supplies an honor guard to attend what it calls a "dignified transfer" of the bodies, an often-brief event that is an important emotional marker for some military families.

But until the Pentagon's May 26 memo was issued, it was not clear to some families whether they were allowed to watch the transfer.

Sue Niederer of Pennington, N.J., whose son, Army 2nd Lt. Seth Dvorin, 24, was killed in February, said she was told she could not watch the transfer. "What they said to me was: 'If you want to go to the base, you're going to stand outside like everybody else. You will not be permitted under any circumstances to actually meet the plane,' " she said. "I wanted to see my son hit American soil. I wanted to kiss my son's casket. I wanted to go welcome him back to the states."

Michael Berg of West Chester, Pa., whose son Nicholas, an American contractor working in Iraq, was beheaded in May, said he also was denied access to the base, despite a personal plea from Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. At a May 12 committee hearing, the senator asked Rumsfeld if the Pentagon would allow Berg to see the coffin transfer. "Be happy to," Rumsfeld said, according to a transcript of the hearing.

A spokeswoman for the Delaware air base said that before the recent memo, families were prohibited from watching the repatriations.

But Charles Abell, the principal deputy undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said that while the Pentagon does not encourage families to visit Dover, it has never barred them. He said the May 26 memo puts existing policy in writing.

The department will not allow anyone attending the transfer to photograph or make any other kind of visual recording of the proceedings. It also continues to ban members of the news media from covering the transfers.

Researcher Madonna Lebling contributed to this report.

Stars and Stripes

Messages of Support

Hello! This is a message that I hope will be received by our dear friend Scott. Scott is an Army helicopter mechanic based out of Fort Worth Texas. We want him to know that he is in our thoughts and prayers every second of every day. We hope that he, as well as all of our U.S. soldiers, return home safely and finds comfort in this message. We love you and are praying for your safe arrival home soon - Love Always, Rebecca, Bess, Jillian and many many more. R. Kusters

Stars and Stripes

Messages of Support

Matt, Just a message to let you know that we all love you are are thinking about you everyday back here in Tennessee. Hope you and your fellow Rakkasans are doing well. Try to get in front of that Channel 5 camera if you can, we'd like to see you! Everyone here is doing well and sends their love... me, Lindsay, Stryper, Hi-Hat, Kahler, and of course all of my family, the McKinney family (especially Grandmother), your mom & dad, Grammie & Grampie & all of the Schutz's. Everyone at the dojo says hello also. Take care and we'll see you soon! Love, Sharon

I would like to send a message to my husband R. Carnahan and the rest. Please take care and get home safe. We love you and miss you. God Bless. M. T Carnahan

I just want you all to know that we are all behind you and support you in what you have to do. God bless and protect each and every one of you in the days to come. To my brothers and sisters in the Cavalry I say Owens! George - ex-1st Cav. Tank Commander

THANK U, THANK U, FOR ALL THE TIRELESS WORK THE TROOPS ARE DOING. GOOD BLESS U ALL. DS When u believe, you will know.

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Troop realignment will be a long process

Senior Pentagon leaders told members of House adjustment could last through 2010

BY LISA BURGESS
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The process of adjusting U.S. forces around the world, including returning some troops now stationed abroad could last through 2010, senior Pentagon leaders told members of the House on Wednesday.

"What we're going to have is a process that rolls for months and years," Douglas Feith, undersecretary of defense for policy, said during a House Armed Services hearing on the realignment of the global defense posture.

Defense leaders have completed an internal analysis and consulted with their counterparts both in countries where U.S. troops are likely to be drawn down, such as South Korea and Germany, and countries where the Bush administration is considering new posts, such as Bulgaria and Romania, Feith said.

Pentagon officials have come to grips with "gross numbers of how many forces we expect to bring back to the United States," Feith said.

Defense officials plan to present their conclusions in a report to Congress in July, he said.

Some committee members said that the administration already has taken too much time developing its plan, and not worked enough with Congress in the process.

The report "was supposed to be completed on July 1, 2003," said Rep. Gene Taylor, D-Mo. "Why has it taken so long?"

Marine Lt. Gen. James Cartwright, the Joint Staff's director of force structure, resources and assessment, replied that developing the plan "has been difficult" and "more complicated than we thought it would be.

"We're trying to work on that," Cartwright said.

Rep. Solomon Ortiz, D-Texas, said that the Bush administration has not expended effort in consulting with Congress on the posture plan.

"What we know about [the plan] is what we read in the news media," Ortiz said.

Rep. Joel Hefley, a Republican from Colorado, also said the HASC members have been left in the dark, leading to embarrassment when constituents turn to their elected leaders for information.

"People ask us questions, and we don't have any answers," Hefley said.

The Pentagon leaders worked to soothe ruffled feathers.

"Congress has an important role to play here, in many respects," Feith said.

Ray DuBois, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, promised to outline "the major muscle moves … the major building blocks" of the review to the HASC committee during a closed, classified briefing to follow.

> *"What we're going to have is a process that rolls for months and years."*
>
> **Douglas Feith**
> undersecretary of defense for policies

Along with the big picture, Pentagon leaders also have developed "specific ideas about which units we might want to move where, and what kind of facilities we may want to put in different places," Feith said.

Feith declined to offer any specifics during the open hearing, but like DuBois, pledged to share more information with House members in the classified session.

And "within a few weeks," Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld will go to the White House to offer President Bush "a package of fairly specific ideas," Feith said.

However, what Bush will decide, "is not that [the plan] is going to happen, because we can't decide that unilaterally," Feith said. Instead, the president will decide "that he'd like to pursue a general set of ideas."

Prom there, State Department and defense officials will "move forward from consultations to negotiations with the specific countries involved, and see if we can work out various things," Feith said.

The plan is likely to change as a result of those negotiations, Feith said.

"Some of what we're planning … is not doable [either] because we can't get the kinds of legal arrangements or [we can't get the] commitments that we want."

On the other hand, "We may find that some countries are so eager to work with us on certain things that the deals they're offering us induce us to change some of our plans."

Regardless, the repositioning process will be a long one, opening up the likelihood that U.S. units will remain stationed where they are overseas for several more years, DuBois said.

"Units returning to the United States may not happen in 2006 and 2007," DuBois said. "It may happen in 2008, 2009, 2010."

Hefley said he was particularly concerned about the realignment's potential effect on military families, since Pentagon leaders have sketched a scenario in which most families are based in the United States while their sponsors are sent periodically sent overseas for several months at a time for training exercises or missions.

Although extended separations are understandable in wartime, in times of peace, "I would be very reluctant to separate military families more than they already are," Hefley said.

Feith said that the administration's plans "should actually contribute to a better situation for families than currently exists."

He described instances in which families move with their sponsor overseas, only to have the servicemember deploy to yet another place, leaving his dependents alone in a foreign country.

"One of the goals" of the global posture readjustment, Feith said, "is to alleviate those problems."

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Family fun at Hessenpark

PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

It was free fun, food and drink for more than 2,000 soldiers and family members of the 1st Armored Division stationed in Hesse as they were invited to a family fun day open house at the Hessenpark open air museum by the German state's minister president Roland Koch on Thursday.

Right: Kids enjoy hopping in the bouncy castle.

Above: Amanda Bowlsby, 5, gets a butterfly painted on her face at the family fun day/open house at Neu Anspach, Germany.

Left: Tied to an elastic harness, Pfc. Doug Hess, left, and Spc. Jonathan Nelson, of Wiesbaden's 27th Transportation Battalion, see who can place the football the farthest on the Velcro strip.

Court: Article 32 hearing to remain open

Stars and Stripes

The U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals has ruled that an Article 32 hearing for a soldier charged in a fatal stabbing at a nightclub at Mainz-Kastel, Germany, will remain open to the public.

The hearing — the military equivalent to a grand jury — will determine if Pvt. Nestor Velazquez will stand trial for murder.

The Wiesbaden-based soldier is charged with one count of murder and three counts of aggravated assault after a dispute at the Euro Palace disco, on the evening and early morning of April 18-19.

During Velazquez's Article 32 on June 11, the prosecution asked the investigating officer, Lt. Col. Steve Steininger, to close the proceedings in order for six additional witnesses to testify in private.

After consulting with the convening authority, Col. George Latham, Steininger decided to close the hearing. But Velazquez's attorneys appealed the decision, and Steininger suspended the hearing until the appeal could be heard.

In its June 21 ruling, the appeals court said the convening authority failed to give "any sufficient specific and substantial reasons" to close the hearing.

Among the reasons the court cited in its ruling was the sexual harassment case against then-Sgt. Maj. of the Army Gene C. McKinney.

In that case, the Army announced it was closing McKinney's Article 32 hearing to the public. But lawyers representing ABC News and other news organizations filed a writ with the Court of Appeals, which determined that the hearing must remain open.

A decision has not been made as to when the Velazquez's Article 32 hearing will resume, said Hilde Patton, V Corps spokeswoman.

AF C-17 pilot drowns in Sicily swimming pool

BY JASON CHUDY
Stars and Stripes

An Air Force C-17A pilot transiting through Naval Air Station Sigonella, Sicily, drowned Tuesday afternoon in the swimming pool of a local off-base hotel.

The pilot was identified as 1st Lt. Steve Hatton of the 14th Airlift Squadron, 437th Airlift Wing, of Charleston Air Force Base, S.C. He was in Sigonella on a crew rest.

Hatton had been swimming at the Sigonella Inn, a few hundred yards from the NAS I complex main gate, according to the base public affairs office. Officials said that the swimming pool is a popular after-work hangout for sailors.

Public affairs officials did not have much information on the incident because it occurred off base, but said that an off-duty Navy corpsman started cardiopulmonary resuscitation on Hatton at the scene.

Naval Hospital Sigonella dispatched a medical team to the hotel around 2:45 p.m. Hatton was taken to the hospital on NAS I, and later pronounced dead.

Hatton is a Lakewood, Colo., native and flew C-17s in support of both the Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom operations.

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Italian authorities and Air Force safety officers are investigating the death.

This is the fifth death involving U.S. military personnel near naval bases in Europe in less than two weeks.

On June 12, three Naples, Italy-based sailors were killed in an early morning car crash on the Tangenziale expressway which runs through the city [see related story on Page 10].

Less than a week later, another sailor died in a car crash near the Naval Station Rota, Spain.

All Navy units in Europe will be holding mandatory safety training by the the end of next week in preparation for the Fourth of July weekend, said Lt. Karen Armstrong of the Navy Region Europe public affairs office.

Armstrong said that regional commander Rear Adm. Stanley Bozin is putting out a "personal for" message to all European base commanders mandating the stand down, which means the bases will effectively shut down for the duration of the training.

The stand down for the Navy Region Europe staff will run about four hours, she said.

Armstrong said that safety stand downs are held periodically, especially around major holidays. This current stand down is not being driven by the previous deaths, but "special attention will be focused on the motor vehicle accidents."

E-mail Jason Chudy at: chudyj@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Monthly WWII readings

A new program called "From D-Day to V-E Day" will coordinate monthly readings and discussions with events leading to the end of World War II at the European Regional Library-Support Center on Mark Twain Village in Heidelberg, Germany.

Under the free program, which begins this month and continues until May 2005, participants will read a World War II-themed book selected each month by the library and the office of the U.S. Army Europe's historian.

The first meeting, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Monday, will focus on John Keegan's "Six Armies in Normandy." A copy of "D-Day — Code Name: Overlord," a three-part DVD box set, will be raffled off to meeting participants.

For more information, call DSN 370-6678 or civilian 06221-57-6678, or e-mail **reflib@ima-e.army.mil**.

Charter designation

The Senate has passed legislation designed to grant a federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, Inc.

The legislation, introduced by Sen. Paul Sarbanes, D-Md., would honor the 5.7 million Americans who fought and sacrificed their lives during the Korean War. The legislation was included during consideration of the FY 2005 Department of Defense Authorization Act.

From staff reports

Senate OKs $447B defense spending bill

BY PAULINE JELINEK
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a massive defense spending bill that, at $447 billion, still only covers a fraction of war costs in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The vote Wednesday night capped weeks of wrangling over missile defense, the Iraqi prisoner abuse scandal and numerous other proposed amendments.

The bill, which now must be reconciled with a similar House bill passed a month ago, includes a military pay raise, an increase in the size of the Army and billions of dollars for weapons systems.

Lawmakers voted 97-0 shortly before midnight on the bill, which authorizes Pentagon and Energy Department defense programs for the budget year that begins in October.

The measure includes $25 billion for the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. But the Bush administration plans to submit a supplemental budget at the start of the next calendar year, after November's election, that is expected to seek at least an additional $25 billion for the two ongoing military campaigns.

Defying the White House and Pentagon, senators also included a provision to add 20,000 troops to an Army stretched thin by the war in Iraq, the global war on terror and other commitments around the world.

Lawmakers have for months heard complaints from families of service men and women who have served repeated deployments or been forced to remain on duty after their obligation has ended under a Pentagon device called "stop-loss."

The Senate bill would increase the Army by 4 percent, to 502,400. The House version would add 30,000 Army soldiers and 9,000 Marines over three years.

The House also would delay for two years the next round of military base closures, set to take place next year. But, generally, the Senate authorization bill mirrors the House version, for instance also including an across-the-board 3.5 percent pay raise for military personnel and higher danger pay.

It authorizes $10.2 billion for a missile defense system and billions more for such programs as the F/A-22 Raptor aircraft, Joint Strike Fighter and DD(X) destroyer program.

Senators passed an amendment earlier Wednesday requiring President Bush to report to the Republican-controlled Congress on his efforts to stabilize Iraq. But they rejected one that would have forced him to give an estimate of how many American troops will remain in the violence-plagued country a year from now.

Drawing out the deliberations Wednesday was a heated debate over the growing Iraq prisoner abuse scandal, as Democrats pushed for an amendment requiring the administration to hand over memos on prisoner treatment and interrogations.

In the end, Republicans defeated a measure that would have declared all U.S. officials bound by anti-torture laws and required Pentagon reports on interrogation techniques, the number of detainees denied POW status, Red Cross findings on U.S. military prisons and a schedule for trying terror suspects held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

While Wednesday's action authorized the defense programs, senators now must approve an appropriations bill to actually give the administration the money.

The House on Tuesday approved a $417 billion defense appropriations bill covering only the Defense Department programs.

The Senate Appropriations Committee on Tuesday approved a similar $416 billion defense spending measure.

Change of command

Col. Gary D. Langford will take command of the 41st Field Artillery Brigade at 10 a.m. Thursday in Babenhausen, Germany.

Langford replaces Col. Charles C. Otterstedt who moves on to be deputy operations officer at Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va. Langford's last assignment was as operations officer for the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo.

Langford, a 1983 graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, is a graduate of the Dwight David Eisenhower fellowship program of graduate studies with a master's degree in leadership, and of the U.S. Army War College with a master's degree in strategic plans and policy.

Smith replaces Finke

Col. Philip J. Smith will replace Col. Jon E. Finke as commander of the 1st Personnel Command at a ceremony at 2 p.m.on Thursday in Schwetzingen, Germany.

Smith's previous assignment was deputy director of the Personnel Transformation Directorate, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, at the Pentagon. Finke will become the adjutant general, Army Forces Command at Fort McPherson, Ga.

First PERSCOM is based at Tompkins Barracks, Schwetzingen.

2 Apache pilots dead

RICHMOND HILL, Ga. — An Army Apache helicopter crashed at Fort Stewart, killing two pilots, the Army said.

The helicopter went down in a wooded area Tuesday night, but the Army didn't immediately say what caused the crash.

The aircraft was assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division's 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment based at Hunter Army Airfield, about 30 miles away from Fort Stewart.

The names of the soldiers killed in the crash were held until their families are notified. No one else was on board.

The Army Safety Center was sending a team to investigate.

From news and staff reports

AP

York County car dealer Ronald Neff leaves a Virginia Dealer Board fact-finding conference with his attorney, Robert Byrum, right, in Richmond, Va. Neff, owner of Carland dealership, is accused of selling overpriced used cars to Marines and soldiers from North Carolina.

Va. car dealer denies swindling U.S. troops

BY SONJA BARISIC
The Associated Press

RICHMOND, Va. — A Virginia used car dealer accused of pressuring young enlisted military members stationed at North Carolina bases into buying overpriced cars said Tuesday that he has done nothing wrong.

Ronnie Neff, owner of Carland in York County, testified briefly at the end of a four-hour informal fact-finding conference before the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board.

The testimony included complaints from nine servicemembers who described feeling pressure to buy cars after they were given rides several hours away from base and arrived at the dealership as late as midnight.

"We've never pressured anybody to buy a car," Neff told reporters afterward. He denied inflating car prices and also said the hearing before state regulators was unfair.

The dealership is accused of using deceptive acts or practices and defrauding retail buyers by not fully explaining details within the sales contracts and not properly identifying itself in advertising. If the allegations are proven, the dealer's license could be suspended or revoked and the dealership could pay up to $1,000 in civil penalties for each violation of law.

There was no immediate ruling in the case.

A sailor now stationed at the Navy hospital in Portsmouth testified Tuesday that he bought a car from Neff last November when he was stationed at Camp Lejeune.

Christopher Anderson said he found a card on top of a pay phone in the barracks that listed a phone number and offered a $1,500 discount but did not give the company's name. He said he called the number at 3 or 4 p.m. and was told that a driver was already at Lejeune and would pick him up.

He said he and another passenger repeatedly asked the driver how far away the dealership was.

"He keeps telling us, 'Five, 10 minutes down the road — we're almost there,' " Anderson said.

Anderson said they arrived at the dealership around 11 p.m. the night before Thanksgiving and he bought a Jeep. It was unclear how long the ride lasted. The price of the vehicle was $7,900 but the completed paperwork indicated the cost was $10,500, Anderson said.

Naples sailor's sister suffers an aneurysm

BY JASON CHUDY
Stars and Stripes

The sister of a Naples sailor seriously burned in a June 12 car crash suffered an aneurysm while visiting her in San Antonio, where she is being treated.

Memory Ward, sister of Petty Officer 3rd Class Amber Ward, suffered the aneurysm while at a hotel, according to Army officials. Her condition was unavailable.

Amber Ward is listed in critical condition at Brooke Army Medical Center burn unit, which is in the central Texas city.

A Omaha, Neb., TV station reported that the Wards' parents are in San Antonio with the women. The sisters are from Blair, Neb., about 20 miles north of Omaha.

Amber Ward, 24, and Petty Officer 3rd Class Darnicia Clay, 20, survived a fiery crash that killed three other Naples sailors. Both were pulled from the burning vehicle by a member of the base's security department, who was in another car.

They were taken to a local Italian hospital and later flown to Landstuhl Region Medical Center in Germany, then on to San Antonio.

Clay is still listed in critical condition.

Killed were Seaman Chad Creary, 21, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a cryptologic technician assigned to the Naval Security Group Activity; Seaman Damein D. Verrett, 22, of Los Angeles, a dental technician assigned to the Branch Dental Clinic; and Petty Officer 3rd Class Brittany M. Smith, 20, of Benbrook, Texas, a master-at-arms with the base Security Department.

Italian officials have not determined the cause of the crash, Naples public affairs officer Lt. Cmdr. Lisa Braun said Thursday.

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IN THE STATES

Court won't make public Cheney task force records

BY GINA HOLLAND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration won't have to reveal secret details of Vice President Dick Cheney's energy task force before the election, after the U.S. Supreme Court ruled Thursday that a lower court should spend more time sorting out the White House's privacy claim.

In a 7-2 decision, justices said the lower court should consider whether a federal open government law could be used to get task force documents. Even if that court rules against the administration, appeals would tie up the case well past November.

At issue was a 1972 open government law, the Federal Advisory Committee Act, which requires government panels to conduct their business in public, unless all members are government officials.

Lawyers for groups, both liberal and conservative, that brought the suit, said until the government produces some papers it won't be clear who drafted the government's policies. Environmental groups say the task force was composed mainly of energy industry officials and they were shut out of the proceeedings.

The case had become a potentially embarrassing election-year problem for the administration. Thursday's decision buys the administration more time. If it loses in the appeals court, the administration can return to the Supreme Court in another extended appeal before having to release information.

Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, writing for the majority, said the federal district court judge who ordered records opened to the public had issued too broad a release of documents, without giving appropriate deference to the White House.

The president is not above the law, Kennedy wrote, but there is a "paramount necessity of protecting the executive branch from vexatious litigation that might distract it from the energetic performance of its constitutional duties."

He said "special considerations applicable to the president and the vice president suggest that the courts should be sensitive to requests by the government" in such special appeals.

The issues in the case have been overshadowed by conflict-of-interest questions about Justice Antonin Scalia, who sided with the majority.

Scalia defiantly refused to recuse himself from the case, rejecting arguments by critics who said his impartiality was brought into question because of a hunting vacation that he took with Cheney while the court was considering the vice president's appeal.

He and Justice Clarence Thomas wrote separately Thursday to say U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan "clearly exceeded" his authority in ordering the administration to release records.

Justices Ruth Bader Ginsburg and David H. Souter said in a dissent that Sullivan should be allowed to consider what records should be released. They said it was not enough for the Bush administration to request blanket protection from having to make records public.

'Farenheit 9/11' heats up

AP

Michael Moore, left, with his wife, Kathleen Glynn, center, and Lila Lipscomb, right, is greeted by Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe, second from left, as they arrive for a preview of Moore's film "Fahrenheit 9/11" in Washington on Wednesday night. The film is a critical representation of the Bush administration leading up to and after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. On Thursday, the conservative group Citizens United asked the Federal Election Commission to investigate whether ads for the film violate campaign finance law regulating when commercials may feature a presidential candidate.

Stars and Stripes

Messages of Support

Hurry Home we all miss you, today it is raining here and very cold, today we miss you all more and more. We think about you all day and night. The news has us right there with you every step of the way. The sun will shine for all of us as soon as you all return home. GO USA!!!!!!!! V. Kirkpatrick

Hello, Although our unit is not deployed, our hearts and prayers go out to all those that are and are on the front lines or supporting the front lines. We, the families, want you to all know that we support you and are behind you all the way. We love you and miss you...and PRAY for your safe return home. God Bless each and every one of you!! "One Unit, One Family" K. Moore

To the peace keepers: I am grateful and proud to be a citizen of United States. The small percentage of people protesting do not understand the value of Freedom. We must fight for Freedom. The support you have is much larger that the protest. Be strong. Be Proud. Thank you. L. Migliore

I am very proud of all of you and for the efforts of every single individual involved in this endeavor to rid the world of these horrible people. I use the word "people" lightly as they are really the lowest form of human life. Please keep the faith knowing that we are all behind you and praying foryour safety. J. C. Renda. Wilmington, DE

Thank you for defending our freedom. God Bless you. God Bless the USA. I pray for you all daily. Know in your heart that the nation is behind all of you.

We are all so very proud of you. Please know that the will and prayers of the American people are with you. We support what you do. Regardless of how individuals feel, our nation only wants to see its men and women come home safe and sound. Keep your spirits up. Pray for Gods help and guidance. Remember the good times in your life. Rely on humor when you can. Resolve to come home to those you love. Be strong, keep the faith, do your best. We love you and are praying for a quick and safe return. May Gods love and protection be with you now and forever. LTC J. M. Johnson

To all the men and women in the United States of America's Military: We the American public are standing steadfast behind you all. The very vocal minority (mostly over paid celebrates) definately do not speak for the vast majority of us. We all want you to know that we are PROUD of YOU! You are our HEROES. You have stood up to be counted, and taken on the awsome responsibility of defending our freedom. We will stand by you. We know that you fight for us. GOD BLESS YOU ALL! Kathy and Gary, Utah, U.S.A.

J. Cedeno, You know I have you in my heart every moment. I miss your smile, your cleaning frenzies, your touch. The cat and dog are still breathing, and I only bought a few things so far. HEHE I love you babe. We are keeping it strong here. Loving you always, Fresca

Dear Son, F. Craig, We miss you, and be assured that everyone we know and everyone we love are praying for you, and praying for the coalition of "Freedom Iraq". Our hearts go out to you in the utmost ways. We are proud, we have always been especially proud of you. That will NOT change. We are in agreement that you are safe. Probably working hard, finding the enemy and the weather most difficult at times. JJ Prindle called, is praying for you EVERY day, John Gilbert called to support, David called as well; also a letter from George in Korea last week with your letter (kuwait address). God's Speed, Love. As Always, God Bless, Keep you and your soldiers (Convoy, Supplies Unit +) safe and provided for in every way.

Love Always, Mom C. W. Hilliard

You all make me proud to be an American! Please be safe and come home soon. Please email back if you are interested.

Nine hurt in Detroit fireworks shooting

Police seek gunman who fired into crowd at summertime celebration

BY MIKE RAMSEY
The Associated Press

DETROIT — A gunman opened fire into a crowd that had gathered downtown for the city's annual fireworks display, injuring nine people and forcing hundreds of revelers to scatter.

Police Chief Ella Bully-Cummings said early Thursday the shooting apparently followed an argument and that innocent people were caught in the crossfire.

Police questioned several people but had made no arrests in the Wednesday night shooting at the Hart Plaza area, city spokesman James Tate said.

He would not say whether police knew the shooter's identity or target.

"There were a lot of different accounts of what happened," Tate said.

Bully-Cummings said investigators recovered a handgun and had a good description of the suspect.

Nine people, ranging in age from 18 to late 40s, were shot, police said.

One victim, a 22-year-old man, was in critical condition with a bullet wound to his heart, police said.

Eight people were treated at Detroit Receiving Hospital.

Of them, two were listed in critical condition, three as stable and one as temporarily stable, and two were treated and released, said hospital spokeswoman Karen Wood.

At the site of the shooting, yellow police tape was used to cordon off the scene.

Inside the area, a bike, backpacks, coolers and blankets were scattered about.

Hundreds of thousands of people packed into downtown and along the Detroit River that runs between Detroit and Windsor, Ontario, to watch the display, a summertime tradition that celebrates the bonds between the cities.

One witness won't return.

Andrea Bobo, 23, of Detroit, said she was about 30 feet from where the shooting took place and had seen several fights in the area before the fireworks display.

"I don't think I will ever come back again," Bobo said.

During the 1991 fireworks display, a white woman was assaulted and five black women pleaded no contest to charges, further straining race relations in the city.

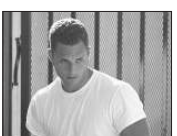
Two facing charges in AOL spam scam

BY ERIN MCCLAM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Millions of AOL customers were hit with junk e-mail after an America Online insider stole the Internet giant's subscriber list and sold it to spammers, prosecutors say.

The scheme resulted in AOL customers being sent unsolicited advertisements for herbal penile enhancement pills and Internet gambling come-ons, prosecutors said Wednesday.

Prosecutors said Jason Smathers, 24, stole 92 million AOL screen names while working at AOL offices in Dulles, Va., and sold the list to a Las Vegas man, Sean Dunaway. Dunaway used it to send gambling ads and then sold it to spammers, a criminal complaint said.



AP

Sean Dunaway, 21, walks away from the Federal Courthouse in Las Vegas. Dunaway was charged with conspiracy after allegedly purchasing a stolen list of 92 million America Online customer screen names from an AOL employee, and then using it to promote an Internet gambling operation and selling it to spammers.

Smathers' list also included customer ZIP codes and credit card types, prosecutors said. AOL said it did not appear that Smathers had gained access to credit card numbers, which the company keeps in a separate facility.

Smathers and Dunaway, 21, were arrested and charged with conspiracy.

"We deeply regret what has taken place and are thoroughly reviewing and strengthening our internal procedures as a result of this investigation and arrest," AOL spokesman Nicholas Graham said.

AOL, owned by Time Warner Inc., has about 32 million customers worldwide, Graham said. Many customers register several different screen names for family members or themselves.

David Kelley, the U.S. attorney for Manhattan, said the arrests were two of the first prosecutions under federal anti-spamming legislation that took effect early this year.

Dunaway declined to comment after he left a federal courthouse.

Secret Service agents confiscated his computer equipment when they arrested him Wednesday, said his lawyer, Kevin Kelly.

Smathers was to appear in court in Virginia. No lawyer for him could be located. Each man could face up to five years in prison and at least $250,000 in fines if convicted.

Smathers was not authorized to have access to the screen name list, which is kept in Dulles, but used another employee's access code last year to steal it, prosecutors said. AOL fired Smathers on Wednesday.

Prosecutors did not immediately say how much they allege Dunaway paid Smathers for the list, but they said Dunaway later paid him $100,000 for an updated version of it.

Dunaway then offered the list to spammers, charging them $2,000 for lists containing names beginning with a single letter of the alphabet or $52,000 for the entire list, the complaint said.

At least one spammer used the list to send advertising for herbal penile enhancement pills, prosecutors said.

Fatal storm tears through Wisconsin

AP

Brian Danne tapes plastic over his broken car window after strong storms caused considerable damage on Wednesday night in Waupun, Wis. Crews worked to restore power and clear debris after a tornado spawned severe storms, which tore through Wisconsin. One 53-year-old man was killed by the storm in Markesan.

Teachers keep Va. student with weapons calm

The Associated Press

MANASSAS, Va. — A 12-year-old boy brought 100 rounds of ammunition, a knife and flammable fluid to his Prince William County school last week, and he burst into a school office and threatened about a dozen employees, students and parents, police said Wednesday.

Police, school officials and witnesses described what happened at Bull Run Middle School after the seventh-grader was discovered loading a rifle in a bathroom and before police stormed the building, The Washington Post said in a story in Wednesday's editions.

Two teachers who unexpectedly came to the office but then left and the calm presence of mind of another teacher kept the incident from spiraling out of control, they said.

The teacher told the boy, "You don't want to do this. Think about this and what will occur. Calm down," said Edward L. Kelly, Prince William County school superintendent. "He just bought time" before a police officer arrested the boy.

IN THE WORLD

Bus blast in Istanbul kills 4, wounds 14

AP

Police officers examine the scene of a bus bombing Thursday in Istanbul, Turkey. Earlier, another blast hit an Ankara hotel.

Second bomb explodes in Ankara, just days before Bush visits Turkey

BY JAMES C. HELICKE
The Associated Press

ISTANBUL, Turkey — A bomb exploded on an Istanbul bus Thursday, killing at least four people and wounding 14, and another bomb went off in front of the Ankara hotel where President Bush is to stay before Monday's NATO summit, wounding three.

Police said they suspected far-left Marxists in both attacks, the latest in a series of blasts — most of them small, without casualties — ahead of the NATO gathering. Bush arrives in Ankara on Saturday night to meet with Turkish leaders before heading to the summit in Istanbul.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said, "These terrorist attacks are intended to disrupt preparations for the upcoming NATO summit." He added that Bush's schedule would not be changed.

Istanbul has been the scene of al-Qaida attacks in the past, but many Turks also are angry over Bush's visit because of high opposition to U.S. policies in neighboring Iraq.

The Istanbul explosion occurred as the bus passed through the residential Fatih district, about five miles from the summit's venue.

The bomb — a concussion grenade — exploded in the lap of a woman in her early 20s who apparently was transporting the device when it accidentally went off, said Istanbul Gov. Muammer Guler. The woman was among the four killed, said Korhan Tavilogl u, a doctor at Capa Medical Center.

"It was apparently a bomb that was being carried," Guler said. "It is understood that the target was neither the bus nor the passengers aboard."

Concussion grenades produce a loud noise and shock wave but usually cause little damage — unless they go off in a confined area. Thursday's blast blew out bus windows and tore through passengers.

"I saw the bus, its windows broken. People on the bus were in a panic. They were trying to escape and the driver was struggling to open the door," said Murat Gulen, a pharmacist whose shop is across the street.

Witness Necdet Devrim told NTV television that he saw "injured people on the floor. They were screaming and bleeding. Arms and legs were on the street — it was an awful scene."

About a half-dozen small sound bombs have exploded in Istanbul in recent days, injuring several people. Leftist groups have used the bombs in the past.

"We are considering the likelihood of a Marxist-leaning organization" being behind the attack, Istanbul's governor said.

The blast in Ankara, about 250 miles east, went off 75 yards from the entrance to the Hilton hotel, injuring a civilian and two policemen.

The officers were approaching the package containing the explosive after an anonymous tip that a bomb was placed nearby, Police Chief Ercument Yilmaz said. The blast tore off the foot of one officer, while the other suffered scratches on his face, said Adil Surat, head of the trauma unit at Hacettepe University hospital, speaking to the Anatolia news agency.

A small Marxist group, MLKP-FESK, claimed responsibility for the Ankara blast, private NTV television reported. Police would not comment on the report.

Bush is scheduled to meet Sunday with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan and President Ahmet Necdet Sezer in Ankara.

Bush is among a number of NATO leaders, including British Prime Minister Tony Blair and French President Jacques Chirac, who are to attend the summit starting Monday.

Militant Islamic, Kurdish and leftist groups have carried out past attacks in Turkey, and scores of people believed to be linked to such groups have been detained in security sweeps in recent weeks.

Concerns about security have grown in Turkey since November, when four suicide truck bombings killed more than 60 people in attacks on two synagogues, the British consulate and a London-based bank. Prosecutors say a Turkish al-Qaida-linked cell carried out those attacks.

Security in Istanbul is expected to be extremely tight for the NATO summit.

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Stars and Stripes reporter Terry Boyd speaks with Servicemembers from Triple Deuce at Firebase Purgatory.

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From left to right, Sgt. Wesley Parkhurst, Spec. Robert Isaacks , Terry Boyd, and Pfc. Michael Greenwood.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Where are the politicians?

I would like to comment on the letters "Stop the name calling," and "Differing opinions are good" (June 20).

The letters are from the hearts of the writers. But what we all must consider is the fact that we are only privates in the big game of politics.

We can say all we want and it does not matter. The ones that do matter are the ones that make the big dollars, the politicians, the ones that know what to say at the right time and can bring in the big money.

It's like the good supply sergeant who can get you what you need when you need it with a little stealing, borrowing and dealing that the commander does not want to know about.

That supply sergeant is a lifesaver.

An article on Page 9 the same day stated that Americans rank the military overall as a most trustworthy institution.

We have the best men and women serving our country. I believe if we would assign military personnel as aides to all congressmen and senators, they could keep a close eye on what is the truth. Then they could tell the Americans the truth, just like retired Air Force Lt. Col. Robert Patterson did in his book, "Dereliction of Duty," about his days as an aide to then-President Clinton.

The book shows the truth about what really was going on at that time.

Clinton, a man who forgot everything when questioned by investigators, now remembers everything and is making millions from his own book.

The job as an aide requires a lot of long hard hours, but our military men and women are used to that.

We have learned to do anything and everything, without anything. Meanwhile, our politicians do nothing.

I do not remember hearing anything about any of our politicians being in harm's way in Iraq. Yet, they always have the military there protecting them.

Edward McGaha
Heilbronn, Germany

Reserve, Guard want answers

I am with one of the many units that were extended in Iraq and Kuwait, and it is very upsetting that every day we open the Stars and Stripes all we read about is the 1st Armored Division.

I am a single father of five children, and every unit that was deployed over here last year has been in Iraq or Kuwait for more than 400 days, when we were only supposed to be here 365 boots on ground.

I know that many families were ready for their sons and daughters to return from a long year away from home, and believe me it was a long year.

I am in a transportation company and we had to haul the 1st AD in when the unit was sent here. And we are the ones who will send their equipment home to them.

What are the generals doing for our families back in the States? We have wives and husbands that need support and they are getting nothing but cold shoulders and empty answers.

Why is it that we all signed the same contract, but the Reserve and the National Guard soldiers get treated differently?

I have served 15 years in the Army, and this is the first time I have felt that no one cares about the common man who stood up and said he will defend the Constitution and the United States, whatever the cost.

We have doctors, policemen, college students and so on here fighting the same war, but all you hear about is the 1st AD.

We need to recognize the rest of the troops that got extended. The families who are waiting back home need answers to their questions.

Kennith Robinson
Kuwait

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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Fulfill your enlistment

This is in regards to the letter "Soldiers have rights, too" (June 17).

A soldier has responsibilities, as well as rights. When an individual enlists, he takes an oath. He is not forced to enlist; it is a volunteer military.

Soldiers know that the military is not a "summer camp," that what they are trained for is combat related.

I am fairly sure the oath does not say "to defend the United States, as long as you think it is OK, or as long as you would rather not be doing something else, or as long as you are happy being where you are, or until it is not what you want to do, or until you miss home."

My daughter enlisted in the Marines. She is an MP in Iraq, she works on convoy runs. She does not want to be there, but that is her responsibility.

She would rather be in the United States, but she is fulfilling her duty to protect it however she is asked. My daughter is in harm's way daily, and for another person in the military to decide they do not want to do that anymore does not sit well with me.

What a shape the world would be in today if those young people on June 6, 1944, decided they did not want to hit the beaches, or the young men in the Pacific decided those islands were not worth fighting for.

Yes, it is a volunteer military. You volunteer to serve the United States of America for your enlistment term.

Sheryle Guess
Hickory, Ky.

Protect our troops

I was disgusted when I read the article "Mortars strike fear in Camp Kalsu GIs" (June 19).

In the article, it was stated, "... a tent that has shrapnel holes in the canvas ... ."

How on earth does a tent receive a shrapnel blast if it is protected by sandbags? Unless it is a direct hit, or an air burst occurs? I hope our troops are protected at every base, from the smallest to the largest, by the best means possible. If not, why not?

Who are the commanders responsible for the overall setup at each designated base? Should sleeping areas be dug out? Should post exchanges be completely surrounded, from top to bottom with sandbags, even if it means a quantity of smaller stores, rather than just one large one? Are there too many open areas that could be protected by sandbags?

Isn't it the commander's duty to design each base with the highest level of protection possible? He has experienced soldiers and engineers at his disposal, not to mention valuable input from the troops on the ground.

Surely, out of all the bases located in Iraq, there must be room for improvement. If there is no room for improvement, then I stand corrected.

Paul DesJardins
RAF Mildenhall, England

All soldiers deserve badge

I'm writing in response to "Soldiers should earn badge" (June 16) about who deserves to wear the Combat Infantryman Badge and combat patch.

I'm a soldier from 1st Infantry Division's 1st Squadron, 4 Cavalry Regiment. I wear my combat patch and I do it with pride along with everyone else in my unit.

I agree with the writer that he deserves his patch and CIB, but who is he to say that I don't? Once everyone from Operation Iraqi Freedom 1 leaves, that doesn't mean mortars will quit flying and improvised explosive devices will quit exploding.

Soldiers are still risking their lives whether they are with OIF1 or OIF2.

Some people say that I don't deserve my patch because I'm a helicopter mechanic and I stay on base most of the time; I'm not out looking for the enemy.

Were the soldiers who died in Balad's post exchange looking for the enemy? No, but they deserve every medal or award that you could possibly fit on a pair of Class As because they gave their lives for the mission.

Sgt. Gregory Vasquez
Forward Operating Base Mackenzie, Iraq

Doonesbury

BY GARRY TRUDEAU

OPINION

Israelis have settled on bypassing extremes

BY YOSSI KLEIN HALEVI

JERUSALEM

With an unstable government that represents only a minority of parliament and a ruling party battling over withdrawal from Gaza, Israel appears to be hopelessly divided.

In reality, however, Israelis have rarely been more united on a vision of national policy, even if the political system hasn't yet managed to reflect that consensus.

A new centrist majority agrees on two essential insights about the Arab-Israeli conflict. The first is that the occupation is untenable and will ultimately destroy Israel as a democratic state with a Jewish majority. The second is that the root cause of the conflict isn't the Israeli occupation of the territories won in the 1967 Six-Day War but the Arab refusal to accept the legitimacy of Israel in any borders and the Palestinian leadership's unwillingness to control terror.

The Israeli consensus repudiates both the "Greater Israel" camp on the right and the Peace Now camp on the left, which together dominated political discourse for decades. The Greater Israel camp insisted that settlements would bring security and that Israel could forcibly incorporate a hostile Palestinian population while remaining a decent society. The Peace Now camp insisted that territorial concessions would end the conflict and that Israel could arm tens of thousands of terrorists from Yasser Arafat's PLO, put police uniforms on them and turn them into allies against other Palestinian terrorists.

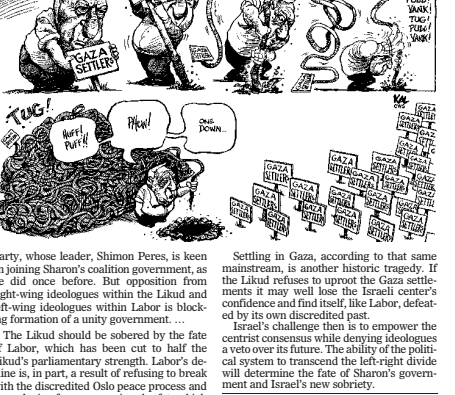
The illusion of a Greater Israel ended with the first intifada in the late 1980s, when many Israelis became convinced that the Palestinians had a legitimate grievance and that the Arab-Israeli conflict was a struggle between two compelling national narratives. The illusion of a negotiated peace ended with the current intifada, when suicide bombers, encouraged by mainstream Palestinian leaders, convinced Israelis that the Palestinians' real dream isn't the creation of their own state so much as the destruction of the Jewish state.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's plan for unilateral withdrawal from Gaza and the construction of a fence through the West Bank (which will almost certainly be followed by some form of unilateral withdrawal on the West Bank) emerged from the demise of both illusions. If we can't occupy the Palestinians or make peace with them, most Israelis now reason, then the only option is to withdraw to borders that Israel can unilaterally determine.

Thanks to Sharon, who has refashioned himself as the face of this new perspective, Likud has emerged as the party of the hard-line but pragmatic mainstream. Yet the recent rejection, in a party referendum, of Sharon's Gaza withdrawal plan has left many centrists feeling politically homeless.

Ironically, Sharon's policies resonate far more deeply among the general public than they do within his own party. …

Though Sharon remains committed to withdrawal from Gaza, he lacks an effective political mechanism with which to implement it. Ideally, Sharon would now form a national unity government with the Labor Party, whose leader, Shimon Peres, is keen on joining Sharon's coalition government, as he did once before. But opposition from right-wing ideologues within the Likud and left-wing ideologues within Labor is blocking formation of a unity government. …



The Likud should be sobered by the fate of Labor, which has been cut to half the Likud's parliamentary strength. Labor's decline is, in part, a result of refusing to break with the discredited Oslo peace process and to apologize for empowering Arafat, which mainstream Israelis view as one of the greatest mistakes Israel ever inflicted on itself.

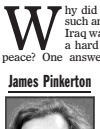
Settling in Gaza, according to that same mainstream, is another historic tragedy. If the Likud refuses to uproot the Gaza settlements it may well lose the Israeli center's confidence and find itself, like Labor, defeated by its own discredited past.

Israel's challenge then is to empower the centrist consensus while denying ideologues a veto over its future. The ability of the political system to transcend the left-right divide will determine the fate of Sharon's government and Israel's new sobriety.

Yossi Klein Halevi is an associate fellow of the Shalem Center in Jerusalem and a contributing editor of the New Republic. This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

Book shows Marines in Iraq fight preconceptions

James Pinkerton



Why did the United States have such an easy time winning the Iraq war — and is having such a hard time winning the Iraq peace? One answer comes from a new book, which makes a simple point: A killer elite can change a regime, but it can't change a country.

The book, bluntly but aptly titled "Generation Kill: Devil Dogs, Iceman, Captain America, and the New Face of American War," is by Evan Wright, a reporter for Rolling Stone magazine who was embedded with the U.S. Marines on the road north to Baghdad last year. Wright's publication is known for its left-of-center sympathies, but his style owes more to Hunter S. Thompson than to any sort of political correctness.

And that explains why the book is frankly admiring of the Marines — and so revealing as to what they are really like.

Wright's Marines are not the stoic demigods, resplendent in their dress blues, that we see unsheathing their gleaming-steel swords on primetime TV commercials. Nor are they the citizen-friendly figures heading up the annual Christmastime "Toys for Tots" campaign.

As one Marine recalls, "We must say 'Kill!' 3,000 times in boot camp. That's why it's easy." An officer briefs his men: "The bad news is, we won't get much sleep tonight. The good news is, we get to kill people." And bring death they do. One Marine observes, "You're supposed to feel up after killing people. I don't."

Yet these men are not monsters. They give their food to women and children; they prevent a mentally disturbed officer — disparagingly dubbed "Captain America" and "a retard" by his men — from abusing POWs. They stage a mini-mutiny in order to get a wounded boy — accidentally shot by a Marine at night — medically evacuated to a military field hospital.

But still, these men are killing machines. And if that fact doesn't fit the sanitized, made-for-TV image of American "liberators" — well, these Marines don't care. One reacts indignantly to a letter from an American child who wants the Marines to know that she is praying for peace: "I'm a death-dealing killer. In my free time … I sharpen my knife."

Indeed, much of the book might come as a surprise. Wright observes "a widespread, though usually unvoiced public perception that the military is a refuge for the socio-economic dregs of society, people driven in by lack of jobs or paucity of social skills." But, in fact, he argues, a significant percentage of the officers and enlisted men are the children of professionals, even graduates of Ivy League schools.

But all these Marines, no matter what their background, are united by one thing: their alienation from mainstream American society. "The life they have chosen is a complete rejection of the hyped, consumerist American dream as it is dished out in reality TV shows and pop song lyrics. … Their highest aspiration is self-sacrifice over self-preservation."

So what's the problem here — we won the war, right? The answer to that question, of course, looks a bit more complicated than it did on May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared a end to major combat operations.

For one thing, the Marines are, as they proclaim, "the few."

Those few won the war by racing straight to Baghdad, killing anybody who got in their way. But in doing so, they bypassed many who were still armed and dangerous. This lightning-speed war was in keeping with stateside theories of 21st century military "transformation," but it didn't square with the old-fashioned need to physically occupy the conquered country.

Today, Iraq is still full of weapons of non-mass destruction, notably rocket-propelled grenades. Whether those weapons were in Iraq all along — or have been imported since — the brutal fact is that anti-American guerrillas have a substantial stockpile of deadly armaments. This failure to disarm the Iraqi population must be reckoned as a major failure of the military mission.

That's not the fault of Wright's "devil dogs." As one of them says in the middle of the fighting, "You know, I don't miss anything from home." For these Marines, home was where the heart of darkness was.

James Pinkerton is a columnist for Newsday.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Wings turn 40

NY BUFFALO — This may be the only city in America where a man in a foam chicken wing hat would not be bounced from a meeting with top officials.

On the contrary, Buffalo's "wing king," Drew Cerza, was more than welcome Monday as Mayor Anthony Masiello, Erie County Executive Joel Giambra and the region's tourism chief, Richard Geiger, gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the spicy Buffalo wing.

Invented at Buffalo's Anchor Bar in 1964, the wing has its own festival each Labor Day weekend. After the birthday festivities, the Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau sent Cerza on the road for a four-city tour to promote the festival, and the rest of the region's assets.

The wing tour includes stops in Pittsburgh and Erie, Pa., and Cleveland and Columbus, Ohio.

Infant dies in bathtub

TX McALLEN — A woman was held Tuesday in lieu of bond in the drowning of her 10-month-old baby girl at a South Texas motel room.

Investigators say the 21-year-old Mexican national was arrested after the girl was found floating face up in a bathtub Sunday. The mother was accused of leaving two older children unsupervised in the tub with the water running while she left the room to make a call on a pay telephone. That was when the younger girl crawled in to join them.

Alma Luz Mendoza was arraigned Monday by McAllen Municipal Judge Kathleen Henley on two counts of child endangerment and one count of manslaughter. The judge set bond at a combined $20,000.

Let me hear ya holler!

NC SPIVEY'S CORNER — Kevin Jasper's "expressive" holler was also a winning one, bringing him the title of top yeller for the second time at the 36th annual National Hollerin' Contest.

Jasper, who also won in 2000, used an "expressive" holler, which he said is used for fun. Other yellers had more purposeful calls — to bring in cattle for milking or husbands for dinner.

Dr. Michael Zellinger, one of the judges, said the quality of a good holler is made with vocal control and authenticity.

John-Mark Herring, 13, was the only contestant in the teen division this year, guaranteeing him the title for a second time for his rendition of "fire truck sirens" and a "good morning holler."

"The good morning holler is one the old-timers did back in the day to let people know they were feeling good," Herring said. "It keeps the tradition alive."

The event, held on Saturday, benefits the Spivey's Corner Volunteer Fire Department.

Birds over fireworks

WA CARNATION — Rockets' red glare and bombs bursting in air may not be the best thing for baby birds, so a local Fourth of July fireworks display has been relocated to avoid disturbing an osprey nest.

Biologists determined that the eggs could hatch about July 4 and recommended an alternative site for the fireworks to avoid disrupting the two parents.

"The noise and obviously the flashes in the dark — the birds would have no ability to get used to something like that," state biologist Ruth Milner said.

Rather than shooting off skyrockets and starbursts over the Tolt Middle School athletic fields, the show will be held about half a mile away at Told MacDonald Park, organizers said.

Ospreys, also known as fish hawks, can be two feet long with a six-foot wingspan. They are protected under state and federal law, and their nests may be moved from artificial structures only after the birds fly south in the fall, Milner said.

Community pool leaking

WI GRAFTON — Just as hot weather is finally arriving in Wisconsin, the village swimming pool has sprung a leak — to the tune of 35,000 gallons a day.

Local officials must decide whether to make the repair, which could shut down the pool for four weeks, or live with the leak through the swimming season — and pay $8,500 in extra expenses to keep the pool filled.

Last summer, the Family Aquatic Center got 27,041 visitors over 75 days. Officials expected it would again bring in about $125,000 in revenue, about covering the operating costs.

The leakage of 35,000 gallons a day is about one-10th of the pool's volume. A fill valve automatically keeps the water level up.

Giddeyap!

Whiplash the monkey rides his border collie at the El Kadir Shrine Pro Rodeo at the NEMO Fairgrounds in Kirksville, Mo.

Blossom burglar

VT BURLINGTON — South End residents are keeping their eyes peeled for a possible flower burglar.

One couple has had three raids on their annuals this year. Jager Di Paola Kemp Design was hit, too. A flower bed at the Indigo Salon was destroyed. Handy's Lunch lost 35 marigolds, geraniums and pansies from its bright flower bed in one night.

Owner Earl Handy said the spate of burglaries is a shock given how "tight-knit" the neighborhood is.

No one in the area has seen anything.

Resident Gayel Favali is "irate, to say the least."

Deputy Chief Walt Decker said police are stepping up patrols in the area.

"It's such a low theft," Favali said. "What kind of person would do that? It's like stealing your pet."

"Stealing flowers," Handy said, speaking past the lunch crowd at his diner. "That's just not right."

Homeless evicted

HI HONOLULU — Homeless people illegally camping at a beach on Oahu's North Shore were evicted Tuesday by state and city law enforcement officers.

Those living at campsites at Mokuleia were given 10 minutes to pack up and move.

The illegal campers were given eviction notices June 11, and were told they would be evicted if they remained on the beach after June 16, said Deborah Ward, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Advocating for the Kid

NM SILVER CITY — Silver City officials are asking Gov. Bill Richardson to leave Billy the Kid alone.

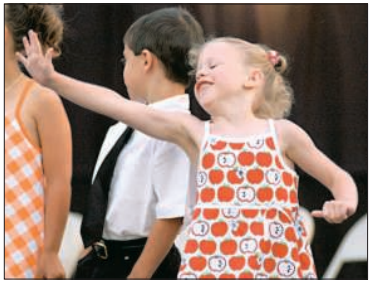
Lincoln County Sheriff Tom Sullivan launched an investigation last year with DeBaca County Sheriff Gary Graves into the Kid's 1881 death. They want to exhume his remains from a Fort Sumner grave and compare the DNA with that of his mother, Catherine Antrim, who is buried in Silver City.

Richardson has supported the investigation, saying it's time the truth is known now that DNA technology is available.

Both Fort Sumner and Silver City have fought the exhumation efforts, and on Monday, Silver City officials asked Richardson to disassociate himself from the investigation.

Sullivan has been investigating the Kid's escape from the Lincoln County jail 123 years ago. He has said the impetus began more than a decade ago when he visited a Hico, Texas, museum dedicated to Brushy Bill Roberts, who claimed to be the Kid.

Sullivan also wants to prove Sheriff Pat Garrett killed the Kid on July 14, 1881, in a Fort Sumner house. At least two people, including Roberts, later claimed to have been Billy.



I love you all

Savanah Whitehead gives a big wave to the crowd during the Little Miss and Little Mister contest at the Daviess County Fair in Elnora, Ind., on Tuesday.

Alaska watersports

Ashley Troutt kneeboards in Gastineau Channel near Sandy Beach in Juneau, Alaska, on Tuesday. Juneau, located in a temperate rain forest, experienced a fifth-straight day of temperatures in the 80s.

Population foundation

Young crabs from a Maryland hatchery are shown before being released in a tributary of the York River in Virginia. Among the calm backwaters sheltered from the river, Virginia Institute of Marine Science students plan to determine how practical stocking hatchery-reared crabs might be to rebuild the bay's diminishing blue crab population.

Watch out, fish

A group of fishermen wait for the start of the Wal-Mart FLW Bass Tournament on Wednesday at Mooney Bay Marina in New York. The professional tournament stop on Lake Champlain is the last on the 2004 schedule before the tour championship.

One in the box, one in my tummy

Kayli Nicholson, 4, eats a fresh strawberry while out picking them with her father in the pick-your-own fields at Harlow's Sugar House in Putney, Vt., on Tuesday.

Extra-special horse for extra-special riders

Holly Cairl, 15, right, holds Sam, a Belgium draft horse, steady as Equi-librium camper Jonathan Kuchinskas, 17, removes the saddle after a riding session in Snydersville, Pa. Equi-librium is a nonprofit organization that offers therapeutic horseback riding for people with special needs.

Art purchase pays off

NH DUBLIN — The friends pooled their money and paid $3,200 for a painting at a church auction. Five months later, they put it up for sale at Sotheby's in New York. The winning bid: $489,600, more than 150 times what they paid.

The roughly 13-inch by 11½-inch panel of the Madonna and child turned out to be the lost third of a 14th-century triptych painted by an unknown Sienese artist. It was donated to the church auction by Jessie Hale, of Dublin, whose family had owned it for nearly 100 years.

Word of the painting's worth has spread around town, and some residents say the buyers have a responsibility to donate some of their new fortune to Hale and the church.

Buyer Rick O'Connor said he and his friends considered offering some of the money to Hale but may change their minds because of the hostility they've encountered.

Grandma thwarts robber

OH TOLEDO — Rita Dipman had seen enough, heard enough. When it started to happen to her, she was ready.

"If people don't fight back, it's gonna continue," she said.

On Sunday afternoon, Dipman, 52, was eating at a Subway sandwich store with her 3-year-old granddaughter when a man robbed the store.

Seeing the commotion, Dipman scooped up her granddaughter and fled, but the fleeing robber caught up with them, brandished a knife and tried to grab Dipman's purse.

He might have picked on the wrong grandmother.

"He yanked and I yanked back," Dipman said. "I wasn't gonna let this guy get the better of me. I was gonna protect my granddaughter, and I wasn't gonna let him hurt me."

Dipman's granddaughter screamed, and the man fled without getting the purse.

"I was trying to save her life, and I think by her screaming she might have saved both of us," she said.

Hispanic majority near

TX HOUSTON — Hispanics are on pace to outnumber whites in Texas by 2020 and they may even do it sooner, according to new state population estimates.

The Texas State Data Center's biennial population projection, released this week, is based on figures that show Hispanic growth continued in the financially troubled early 2000s while all other groups held steady.

Hispanic growth was more rapid from 2000 to 2002 because fewer people were coming to Texas while the economy was down, but the Hispanic birth rate in the state was much higher than that of other groups, said Texas state demographer Steve Murdock.

Stairs collapse; boy hurt

NY NEW YORK — An 8-year-old boy was hurt and 40 tenants were rescued after a staircase crumbled in a Brooklyn apartment building, authorities said.

The boy, whose name was not released, was standing on an upper level of the staircase inside 433 Dean St. in the Park Slope section when the stairs collapsed at 9:25 p.m. Saturday.

He was taken to Lutheran Medical Center in stable condition, the Fire Department said.

Others escaped the five-story building's top floors through Fire Department ladders, said Firefighter Paul Iannizzotto, a department spokesman.

Buildings Department spokeswoman Ilyse Fink said the stairs collapsed because they had been improperly maintained.

The department issued a violation to the building's owner, she said.

Evidence room plundered

TN NASHVILLE — An investigation into corruption at the Memphis Police Department has revealed that nearly $3 million worth of drugs and dozens of guns couldn't be found by authorities looking into evidence room thefts.

The revelation came in a state audit, which was released Tuesday and was prepared to help federal authorities investigate abuses inside the police department's evidence room.

So far, 16 people, including two civilian employees but no commissioned police officers, have been charged in a scheme that links thefts from the evidence room to a cocaine dealing ring. Five of those defendants have pleaded guilty.

The case was sparked by the arrest of drug dealer Eric Brown, 35, who exposed the theft of drugs and guns from the Memphis Police Department. He has said he sold drugs stolen from the police "property room," where evidence from criminal investigations is stored.

3 days on a Ferris wheel

MO ST. LOUIS — Six people say they have a claim on the world record for consecutive hours on a Ferris wheel after three days spent on a ride at Six Flags St. Louis.

The roughly 36-hour record will be submitted to Guinness World Records this week. The riders got off the wheel twice during the contest that began Wednesday, due to lightning. They ate and slept on the wheel, and had privacy curtains and portable toilets.

The contest was in honor of the 1904 World's Fair, which was held in St. Louis and featured a Ferris wheel.

At the end of the contest, all six riders were entered into a drawing for $1,000, which was won by Rhonda Crocker, 42, of Bonne Terre.

The five other riders were each given $500 from Six Flags, three-year season passes to the park and concert tickets.

Backyard burial brawl

WV JUNIOR — A man diagnosed with a terminal illness is fighting officials for the right to be buried in his back yard.

Dan Vest has emphysema and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

The Vietnam veteran said after town officials found out about his wishes they passed an ordinance outlawing burials on personal property within city limits.

Vest said he plans to sue the city, but representatives from the Barbour County Circuit Clerk's office say nothing has been filed to date.

Stories and photos from wire services

YOUR MONEY

Volkswagens: Better for manhood than for quality

Click and Clack

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

Dear Tom and Ray:

What's happening to the VW brand? I used to think VW cars were made to last forever and were built with incredible German precision and care. Now I find out that all of the small models they sell in the United States, like the Jetta I'm considering, are made in Mexico. Not to slam Mexican workers, but I have to believe it will take Mexico — like Japan in the 1950s — a couple of decades to get up to world-class manufacturing standards. On top of that, I have searched for reviews of the Jetta and other recent VW cars by automobile experts. Many of them have mentioned fit and finish problems, and poor construction. So, would I be stupid to pay $20,000 for a 2004 Jetta when I could replace my 1998 Chevy Malibu with a 2004 model for the same price? The Malibu is bigger, gets about the same gas mileage and comes with more standard features. But the Jetta is really cool. Please give me a reason to buy one instead of another boring Malibu! — Bill

TOM: Well, the Malibu and Jetta are really different cars, Bill. It's like asking us to compare a sombrero with a fedora. But first let's deal with the factual part of your question.

RAY: Yes, it's true that VW has some quality problems. The Initial Quality of its Puebla, Mexico, plant, according to J.D. Power and Associates, is slightly below the industry average. And when you look at J.D. Power's more meaningful Vehicle Dependability Study, which measures problems three years down the road, VW is way below average. That's certainly troubling.

TOM: You might be right — it might take Mexican plants some time to perfect their build quality. When you look at vehicles that were 3 years old back in 2003, the Mexican-built vehicles do have more problems than average. How many more problems? It varies from plant to plant. Nissan's plant, for instance, is only a hair below the industry average (hardly worth noting), while one of the Ford truck plants and Volkswagen's Puebla plant are really far behind.

RAY: So, are Mexican workers less capable of building good cars? Not necessarily. It's very hard for us to know whether the problems are attributable to worker error, other problems like poor engineering and design, or cheap parts selection on the manufacturer's part. One analyst at J.D. Power estimates that at least two-thirds — and probably more — of the long-term problems are engineering and design issues. And we'd be inclined to agree with that assessment.

TOM: In any case, VW does need to improve its quality, but that doesn't answer the question of whether you should get one.

RAY: I think you should, Bill. You clearly think the Jetta is cool, sporty and fun to drive. The new Malibu, while quite a nice car — and a very good deal — is more designed for a family. It's supposed to compete directly with the Toyota Camry and offer comfort, size and lots of amenities.

TOM: So if driving fun is your top priority, get the Jetta. Reliability isn't everything, Bill. I mean, my wife will tell you I'm reliable, and look what she got stuck with.

RAY: You're clearly looking for a little more excitement in your life. So you burn a little oil? So the windshield seal leaks and the carpet mildews a bit? C'mon, Bill. Don't be such a sissy! Car-Pay-Diem!

TOM: Yes, even under warranty, it's still a hassle to have to take your car in for repairs. But it's the price you pay for becoming a hipster, Bill. So, enjoy your Jetta. And don't forget to fill out your J.D. Power questionnaire so we'll know if VW is doing any better in the quality department.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk section of **cars.com** on the World Wide Web. Distributed by King Features Syndicate Inc.

Survey: 1 in 4 credit reports has mistakes

BY MARCY GORDON
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — One in four credit reports has errors that are serious enough to disqualify consumers from buying a home, opening a bank account or getting a job — and an overwhelming majority contain mistakes of some kind, according to a survey released Thursday by a consumer group.

Serious errors found in the credit profiles maintained on some 90 percent of American adults include consumer accounts incorrectly listed as delinquent or in collection or that actually belong to another person, said the report by Public Interest Research Group.

Of the 197 credit reports collected from people in 30 states, 79 percent had some sort of error, while 54 percent included personal identifying information that was misspelled, outdated, belonged to someone else or was otherwise incorrect. Thirty percent contained credit accounts that consumers had closed but that remained listed as open. Nearly 8 percent were missing major credit, loan or mortgage accounts that indicate creditworthiness, PIRG said.

"The big credit bureaus and big business tolerate big mistakes in credit reports," said Ed Mierzwinski, PIRG's consumer program director. "But those mistakes ruin the financial reputations of hardworking Americans."

The three largest credit-reporting agencies — Equifax, Experian and Trans Union — collect information from banks, mortgage companies and other creditors and from public records related to lawsuits, bankruptcy filings and tax liens.

They sell the consumer reports to credit grantors, as well as landlords, employers, insurance companies and utilities, which increasingly use them to help determine the likelihood that a person will pay obligations.

The people who provided information for the survey were members of PIRG — an arrangement that a spokesman for the credit-reporting industry said unfairly skewed the results.

Also, in conducting the survey, PIRG "unilaterally decided what is a serious error," said Norm Magnuson of the Consumer Data Industry Association.

Spokesmen for Experian and Trans Union didn't immediately return telephone calls seeking comment on the PIRG survey. Equifax spokesmen couldn't immediately be reached.

PIRG and other groups advise consumers to examine their reports from all three credit bureaus at least once a year and before applying for new credit. The reports are available without charge in several states, and will be provided free nationwide by late next year.

PIRG also called on Congress and state legislatures to strengthen consumers' right to seek redress in the courts when a credit bureau or creditor fails to protect personal data or comply with an investigation.

Previous studies by consumer groups also have shown frequent errors and omissions in credit reports. Besides being denied new credit, a consumer with an inaccurate report can unfairly be charged high interest rates as a "subprime," or potentially risky, borrower.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week High	52-week Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
10,753.63	8,871.20	Dow Jones Industrials	10,479.57	+84.50	+.81	+.25	+16.29
3,090.07	2,352.87	Dow Jones Transportation	3,139.27	+61.44	+2.00	+4.40	+33.24
283.52	229.46	Dow Jones Utilities	280.10	+2.10	+.76	+4.95	+11.82
6,798.12	5,430.77	NYSE Composite	6,602.34	+48.53	+.74	+2.52	+19.54
1,278.81	938.73	Amex Index	1,255.85	+24.14	+1.96	+7.01	+30.67
2,153.83	1,598.25	Nasdaq Composite	2,020.98	+26.83	+1.35	+.88	+26.10
1,163.23	960.84	S&P 500	1,144.06	+9.65	+.85	+2.89	+17.30
618.46	473.90	S&P MidCap	601.95	+5.34	+.90	+4.50	+25.70
606.42	437.20	Russell 2000	580.15	+8.26	+1.44	+4.17	+30.90
11,371.14	9,227.46	DJ Wilshire 5000	11,132.33	+100.20	+.91	+3.08	+19.28

NYSE
MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Lucent	475459	3.83	+.12
NortelN lf	355757	4.79	+.20
GenElec	325634	33.42	+.57
WalMart	232739	53.55	-.51
MicronT	167915	14.46	+.60
FordM	164322	16.36	+.36
Pfizer	149378	34.96	+.06
TexInst	147005	24.32	+.47
ExxonMbl	143802	45.46	+.56
AMD	128740	15.40	+.73

AMEX
MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Nasd100Tr	916181	37.12	+.44
SPDR	347125	114.75	+1.00
SemiHTr	208259	37.58	+.78
iShJapan	86700	10.38	+.04
iShRs2000	79340	115.97	+1.72
DJIA Diam	47294	104.93	+.76
SP Fncl	38334	28.64	+.07
SP Engy	25667	31.89	+.53
WheatR g	25527	2.86	-.08
OilSvHT	23130	72.03	+1.31

NASDAQ
MOST ACTIVE ($1 OR MORE)

Name	Vol (00)	Last	Chg
Cisco	711709	23.97	+.75
JDS Uniph	667463	3.80	+.22
Microsoft	580374	28.30	+.01
SiriusS	514043	3.01	+.01
Intel	510386	28.52	+.48
CienaCp	467238	3.54	+.41
Oracle	445048	11.15	+.03
ApldMatl	373619	18.97	+.42
CareerEd s	296692	44.11	-14.47
JnprNtw	288692	23.35	+2.49

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

Name	Div	PE	Last	Chg	YTD %Chg
Alliant Technosystem	...	15	63.54	+.59	+10.0
Armor Holdings	...	54	34.25	+.55	+30.2
Boeing	.80	23	50.67	+1.00	+20.2
Computer Sciences	...	16	44.85	+.70	+1.4
Engineered Sup Sys	.07	27	59.70	+2.36	+8.4
General Dynamics	1.44	19	100.15	+.97	+10.8
General Electric	.80	22	33.42	+.57	+7.9
Halliburton	.50	...	30.62	+.57	+17.8
Harris Corp.	.40	34	48.33	+.83	+27.4
Allied Signal	.75	24	37.51	+.75	+12.2
L-3 Communications	.40	23	65.35	+.83	+27.2
Lockheed Martin	.88	21	51.81	+.87	+.8
NorthrpG s	.92	23	53.18	+.58	+11.3
Raytheon	.80	37	35.41	+.33	+17.9
Rockwell Intl.	.66	20	35.57	+.52	-.1
Sequa Corp.	...	44	58.69	+1.53	+19.8
Texas Instruments	.09	30	24.32	+.47	-17.2
Textron Inc.	1.30	36	59.23	-.20	+3.8
United Technologies	1.40	19	89.61	+1.78	-5.4

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

Name	NAV	Chg.	YTD %Ret.
Fidelity Invest: GroInc	36.45	+.23	+2.8
Fidelity Invest: GroCo	52.24	+.90	+4.3
Amer Century Inv: Ultra	27.98	+.25	+5.0
Fidelity Spartan: EqIdx	40.55	+.34	+3.6
Putnam Funds A: GrInA p	18.29	+.15	+3.9
Fidelity Invest: A Mgr	15.79	+.07	+1.2
Frank/Temp Frnk A: SMCpGrA	31.15	+.40	+3.1
AIM Investments A: Const p	21.77	+.23	+1.2
Fidelity Invest: USBI	10.88	+.01	-.4
Fidelity Advisor T: GrOppT	28.97	+.27	+1.2
Fidelity Invest: Ovrsea	31.31	+.10	-.4
Fidelity Advisor T: EqInT	27.10	+.20	+5.1
Scudder Funds S: GroIncS x	20.72	+.15	+3.2
AIM Investments A: WeingA p	12.51	+.16	+3.6
Putnam Funds A: GlbEqty p	7.62	+.07	+2.1
AIM Investments A: ChartA p	12.37	+.09	+4.0
Merrill Lynch I: BalCapI	27.00	+.18	+2.2
Scudder Funds S: Intl FdS	39.01	+.34	+1.6
Fidelity Advisor T: OvrseaT	15.68	+.05	-.7
Lord Abbett A: DevGtA p	15.05	+.23	+.3
Scudder Funds S: Income S x	12.62	-.04	-.1
Merrill Lynch I: USGvtMtg	10.10	...	-.2
Scudder Funds S: Devel	18.33	+.26	-2.7
Putnam Funds A: GlGvA p	12.14	+.01	-1.0

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Euro	$1.25
British pound	$1.86
Japanese yen (June 26)	106.00
S. Korean won (June 25)	1,128.00

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3770
British pound	$1.8172
Canada (Dollar)	1.3456
Denmark (Krone)	6.1167
Egypt (Pound)	6.1800
Euro	$1.2090
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7983
Hungary (Forint)	210.62
Iceland (Krona)	72.355
Israel (Shekel)	4.5086
Japan (Yen)	107.29
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2947
Norway (Krone)	6.8804
Philippines (Peso)	56.03
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7501
Singapore (Dollar)	1.7129
S. Korea (Won)	1,159.70
Switzerland (Franc)	1.2444
Thailand (Baht)	40.98
Turkey (Lira)	1,492,537.00

(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	$400.85
Silver	$6.06

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	4.00
Discount rate	2.00
Federal funds market rate	1.00
3-month bill	1.315
30-year bond	5.38

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

Cents and Sensibility
Money tip of the day

Personal finance basics

The Dallas Morning News

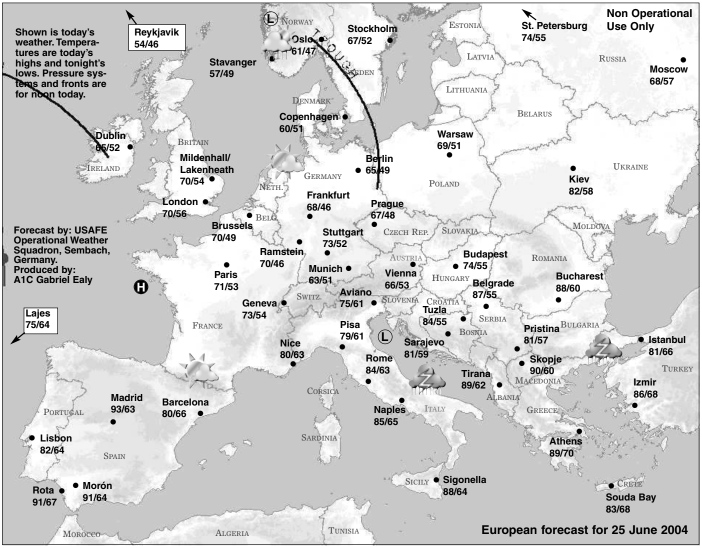
Dallas experts give this personal finance advice:

■ Spend less than you earn: "If you can do this, your chances are very good that you will succeed," said Lance Alston, a certified financial planner at JWA Financial Group Inc. in Dallas.

■ Avoid excessive debt: "Excessive debt is a sign of poor money management," said Viktor Szucs, a certified financial planner at Quest Capital Management in Dallas.

■ Zero in on what gives you earning power: "Determine if you're working in a job that exploits your unique talents," said Derrick Kinney, senior financial adviser at American Express Financial Advisors in Arlington, Texas.

■ Do something you love: "Life is too short to be doing something you don't like to do," Szucs says.



KEY: Sunny, Pt. Cldy., Mostly cldy., Cloudy, Showers, T-storms, Rain, Rain/snow, Snow; Cold frnt., Warm frnt., Trough, Occluded fr., Staty. front; Low, High

EUROPEAN FORECAST

Benelux: Partly cloudy with highs in the mid 60s and lower 70s and lows in the upper 40s.

Britain, Ireland: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers and high winds in Ireland. Highs in the mid 60s to lower 70s and lows in the lower to mid 50s.

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

France: Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 70s to lower 80s and lows in the lower 50s to lower 60s.

Northern Germany: Partly cloudy with highs in the mid to upper 60s and lows in the mid to upper 40s.

Southern Germany: Partly cloudy with rainshowers early. Highs in the lower 60s to lower 70s and lows in the lower 50s.

Hungary: Mostly cloudy with rainshowers. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.

Northern Italy: Mostly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the mid to upper 70s and lows in the lower 60s.

Southern Italy: Partly cloudy with highs in the mid to upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.

Kosovo: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the lower 80s and lows in the upper 50s.

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

Portugal, Spain: Partly cloudy with highs in the lower 80s to lower 90s and lows in the mid 60s.

Turkey: Partly cloudy with isolated thunderstorms. Highs in the upper 70s to mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s to upper 60s.

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

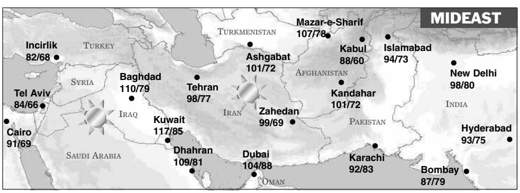
AFRICA

	HI	LO		HI	LO
Cape Town	68	40	Mogadishu	79	73
Dakar	82	72	Nairobi	72	53
Freetown	84	74	Rabat	83	66
Kinshasa	81	67	Tripoli	96	70

THE WORLD

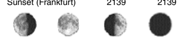
	HI	LO		HI	LO
Amsterdam	65	48	Manila	87	76
Bahrain	110	86	Mexico City	71	55
Beijing	85	68	Montreal	78	50
Beirut	80	69	Riyadh	110	83
Bermuda	84	74	Rio de. Jan	82	65
Caracas	80	65	Seoul	86	66
Helsinki	68	51	Sofia	83	58
Hong Kong	90	82	Sydney	61	45
Lisbon	82	64	Tokyo	78	72

MIDEAST



SUN & MOON

	Today	Tomorrow
Sunrise (London)	0436	0437
Sunrise (Frankfurt)	0518	0518
Sunset (London)	2124	2124
Sunset (Frankfurt)	2139	2139



First qtr. 6/25 — Full moon. 7/02 — Last qtr. 7/09 — New moon 7/17

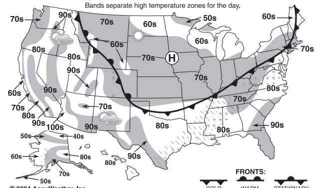
TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK

	Hi	Lo	Otlk
Abilene,Tex.	87	68	Cldy
Akron,Ohio	72	53	PCldy
Albany,N.Y.	76	56	Rain
Albuquerque	88	63	PCldy
Allentown,Pa.	82	61	Rain
Amarillo	80	59	PCldy
Anchorage	71	52	Clr
Asheville	80	64	Rain
Atlanta	81	68	Rain
Atlantic City	82	67	PCldy
Austin	88	70	Rain
Baltimore	84	66	Rain
Baton Rouge	82	72	Rain
Billings	76	52	PCldy
Birmingham	83	69	Rain
Bismarck	72	43	PCldy
Boise	92	63	Clr
Boston	75	61	PCldy
Bridgeport	77	63	Rain
Brownsville	87	77	Rain
Buffalo	67	52	PCldy
Burlington,Vt.	67	53	Cldy
Caribou,Maine	66	48	Rain
Casper	74	46	PCldy
Charleston,S.C.	90	76	PCldy
Charleston,W.Va.	77	60	Cldy
Charlotte,N.C.	86	69	Rain
Chattanooga	79	67	Rain
Cheyenne	71	48	Cldy
Chicago	71	51	Clr
Cincinnati	77	56	PCldy
Cleveland	67	54	Cldy
Colorado Springs	73	50	Cldy
Columbia,S.C.	88	71	PCldy
Columbus,Ga.	86	71	Rain
Columbus,Ohio	75	56	PCldy
Concord,N.H.	73	53	Rain
Corpus Christi	88	75	Rain
Dallas-Ft Worth	90	72	PCldy
Dayton	74	54	PCldy
Daytona Beach	92	73	PCldy
Denver	71	48	Cldy
Des Moines	72	54	Clr
Detroit	70	50	PCldy
Duluth	58	39	Cldy
El Paso	93	70	PCldy
Elkins	74	54	Rain
Erie	65	52	Cldy
Eugene	71	53	Cldy
Evansville	80	58	PCldy
Fairbanks	74	57	Cldy
Fargo	64	46	Cldy
Flagstaff	78	46	PCldy
Flint	69	47	PCldy
Fort Smith	87	66	PCldy
Fort Wayne	70	51	PCldy
Fresno	96	64	Clr
Goodland	73	56	Cldy
Grand Junction	89	60	PCldy
Grand Rapids	71	50	PCldy
Great Falls	74	48	PCldy
Green Bay	64	46	Cldy
Greensboro,N.C.	84	67	Rain
Harrisburg	83	65	Rain
Hartford Spgfld	76	59	Rain
Helena	78	52	PCldy
Honolulu	88	75	PCldy
Houston	87	73	Rain
Huntsville	78	68	Rain
Indianapolis	75	54	PCldy
Jackson,Miss.	84	69	Rain
Jacksonville	93	72	PCldy
Juneau	85	53	Clr
Kansas City	77	56	PCldy
Key West	90	83	PCldy
Knoxville	78	66	Rain
Lake Charles	83	73	Rain
Lansing	71	48	PCldy
Las Vegas	102	77	Clr
Lexington	80	60	PCldy
Lincoln	75	56	PCldy
Little Rock	83	66	Clr
Los Angeles	82	64	PCldy
Louisville	81	62	PCldy
Lubbock	87	64	PCldy
Macon	87	71	Rain
Madison	68	47	PCldy
Medford	87	56	PCldy
Memphis	85	68	Cldy
Miami Beach	90	79	PCldy
Midland-Odessa	91	68	PCldy
Milwaukee	66	49	PCldy
Mpls-St Paul	65	48	PCldy
Mobile	85	72	Rain
Montgomery	85	70	Rain
Nashville	78	65	Rain
New Orleans	86	75	Rain
New York City	79	69	Rain
Newark	81	66	Rain
Norfolk,Va.	86	72	PCldy
North Platte	75	52	PCldy
Oklahoma City	84	63	Cldy
Omaha	75	56	PCldy
Orlando	95	73	PCldy
Paducah	82	60	PCldy
Pendleton	95	64	Clr
Peoria	71	51	PCldy
Philadelphia	85	65	Rain
Phoenix	106	81	Clr
Pittsburgh	75	54	PCldy
Pocatello	87	50	PCldy
Portland,Maine	71	53	Rain
Portland,Ore.	73	58	Cldy
Providence	76	61	PCldy
Pueblo	81	53	Cldy
Raleigh-Durham	87	70	Rain
Rapid City	74	48	PCldy
Reno	88	56	Clr
Richmond	87	67	Rain
Roanoke	80	65	Rain
Rochester	65	51	Cldy
Rockford	71	50	Clr
Sacramento	85	53	Clr
St Louis	78	58	PCldy
St Thomas	89	79	Cldy
Salem,Ore.	72	55	Cldy
Salt Lake City	90	62	PCldy
San Angelo	88	68	Cldy
San Antonio	88	72	Rain
San Diego	72	63	PCldy
San Francisco	67	54	PCldy
San Jose	73	55	Clr
San Juan,P.R.	89	77	Cldy
Santa Fe	83	53	PCldy
St Ste Marie	61	41	Cldy
Savannah	90	73	PCldy
Seattle	70	56	Cldy
Shreveport	86	70	Cldy
Sioux City	74	52	PCldy
Sioux Falls	72	49	PCldy
South Bend	69	50	PCldy
Spokane	88	59	PCldy
Springfield,Ill.	72	52	PCldy
Springfield,Mo.	80	58	PCldy
Syracuse	68	54	Cldy
Tallahassee	91	72	Cldy
Tampa-St Ptrsbg	93	77	PCldy
Toledo	70	49	PCldy
Topeka	77	56	PCldy
Tucson	100	71	Clr
Tulsa	83	65	PCldy
Tupelo	83	69	Rain
Waco	90	72	Cldy
Washington,D.C.	84	69	PCldy
W.Palm Beach	91	78	PCldy
Wichita	77	59	Cldy
Wichita Falls	88	67	Cldy
Wilkes-Barre	77	56	Rain
Wilmington,Del.	85	65	PCldy
Yakima	97	60	Clr

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

Scheduled to ETS or PCS?

Check our Relocation Guide every Saturday to find Realtors at your new station.

Your Stripes. Your Story. Get it Daily.

STARS AND STRIPES

FACES 'N' PLACES

'Ghost' of a band

AP photos

The members of Wilco pose on a rooftop in New York last week with the Brooklyn Bridge in the background. Wilco's latest album, "A Ghost is Born," was released Tuesday. From left are John Stirratt, Nels Cline, Pat Sansone, Jeff Tweedy and Glenn Kotche.

Wilco takes yet another new shape with release of new CD

BY GREG KOT
Chicago Tribune

Wilco's forthcoming album, "A Ghost Is Born," ends not with a bang but with a wink. The final song, "Late Greats," takes a wry look at anonymity:

The best songs will never get sung
The best life never leaves your lungs
So good you won't ever know
You can't hear it on the radio

A listener familiar with Wilco's recent past will be tempted to hear those lines as at least partially autobiographical. Three years ago this month, the Chicago band was being shown the door by its old record company. Wilco's fourth record, "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot," wasn't deemed hit-worthy enough for Reprise Records to even bother releasing it.

Then a funny thing happened on the way to record-industry oblivion.

Wilco took back its album, released it on the Internet, and then sold it to another label, Nonesuch Records. More than 400,000 sales later, Wilco had become a commercial force and a cause celebre with its own made-for-TV-worthy script (little band trumps big corporation).

"Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" was named album of the year in the annual Village Voice critics poll, and the band concluded its 2002-03 world tour by selling out two shows at the Auditorium Theatre — a $200,000 weekend that by itself would've paid for the recording costs of "Foxtrot."

This noncommercial band suddenly was doing very well commercially, and "A Ghost Is Born" became one of the most anticipated releases of 2004. Then the floor began to give way, again. Keyboardist Leroy Bach quit the band a few months ago, the fifth defection or firing in the band's 10-year history. His amicable departure was closely followed by the hiring of two new musicians — guitarist Nels Cline and keyboardist Pat Sansone — on the eve of a world tour. Then band leader Jeff Tweedy checked himself into a rehab clinic to try to break an addiction to painkillers brought on by persistent migraine headaches.

"With the new band members and the new album, there was a lot of [expletive] at stake," drummer Glenn Kotche says. "We were going to be on the road the next two years. Jeff had to do this to get healthy; otherwise, it could've turned out bad for everyone."

Tweedy emerged from rehab a few weeks ago with the migraines under control, saying that he felt better than he has in years. And after a handful of canceled tour dates, the new six-piece lineup was preparing for the June 22 release of "A Ghost Is Born."

Rather than progressing in baby steps or simply refining its best moves, Wilco has turned each album into a new opportunity to reinvent itself. The sole exception was "A.M." (1995), which blended twang with punk, a tentative extension of Tweedy's work with Stirratt in Uncle Tupelo. "Being There" (1996) was the great leap forward, as it touched on everything from country-soul to noise rock. "Summerteeth" (1999) explored lush orchestral pop, and "Yankee Hotel Foxtrot" (2002) tucked meditative folk-rock songs inside meticulously layered soundscapes. Sprinkled in between were a pair of "Mermaid Avenue" albums with British folkie Billy Bragg that offered a fresh take on the lyrics of Dust Bowl balladeer Woody Guthrie.

Singer Jeff Tweedy of Wilco performs in New York last week. Tweedy is also the lead guitarist on the band's new album, "A Ghost is Born."

"A Ghost Is Born" is yet one more left turn down a dark alley of new possibilities. It finds Tweedy becoming an even more adventurous singer: the intimacy he conveys in the opening seconds of "At Least That's What You Said," the falsetto he unveils in "Hummingbird," the treacherous seductiveness he conveys in "Hell Is Chrome."

Then there's Tweedy's emergence as a lead guitarist, a job he had previously assigned to other, more technically accomplished musicians in the band. Now he's out front, taking solos that shriek and shudder like the poltergeist referenced in the album title. When he tears loose over Kotche's boisterous drumming in the final bars of "At Least That's What You Said," it's exhilarating.

Darin Gray, an old musician friend of Tweedy's from pre-Uncle Tupelo days, says the guitarist's willingness "to just put it out there, no matter what anyone says," has enabled him to take risks other artists avoid. "I don't think he's saying, 'Look at me, I'm a great guitarist,' but he's confident in his ability to express himself. Before he might default to other, more accomplished musicians, like Jay Farrar in Uncle Tupelo or Jay Bennett in Wilco, but now there are no crutches left."

When a lollipop hits your eye …

Halfway through his third song at a Norwegian music festival in **Oslo**, an object came flying out of the crowd and hit **David Bowie** in the eye.

Bowie

It was a lollipop, probably sent as a message of adoration since Norwegians call the hard candy "love on a stick."

Bowie wasn't seriously injured at Friday's Norwegian Wood Festiva. He backed off the runway, hunched over, and was assisted by his set crew.

Within moments, he was facing the crowd of 7,500. Swearing at the unknown culprit, Bowie said he only had one good eye. The other eye had been damaged in a childhood fight.

"Lucky you hit the bad one," Bowie, 57, said, demanding to know who threw the lollipop. No one standing in the cold and drizzle came forward.

Bowie grumbled about the person or persons responsible hiding in the crowd.

The artist's official Web site said the eye was checked and wasn't seriously injured.

Beyoncé-inspired toiletries

Tommy Hilfiger Toiletries has unveiled a new women's fragrance collection inspired by **Beyoncé**.

True Star, which contains contrasting florals and notes of toasted grains, was introduced Monday at a launch party in **London**.

Beyoncé

The collection, which includes eau de parfum, body lotion, shower gel and fragrance satin shimmer, will be available in October, the company said.

Beyoncé, 22, will be featured in a TV ad campaign singing "Wishing on a Star" a cappella. A national print campaign photographed by **Mario Testino** will show "Beyoncé in a way she's never been seen before," the company said.

Cruise thriller to get festival premiere

Tom Cruise's new thriller, "Collateral," will open the eighth annual Urbanworld Film Festival Aug. 4 in **New York**.

Cruise plays a contract killer who hijacks **Jamie Foxx**'s taxicab.

Cruise

Jada Pinkett Smith and **Mark Ruffalo** also star in the movie, directed by **Michael Mann**, which is scheduled to open in U.S. theaters on Aug 6.

" 'Collateral' is the perfect film to open this year's Urbanworld," festival founder **Stacy Spikes** said in a statement Monday. "This picture illustrates what the term 'urban' truly represents in 2004. Urban is about sensibility, not just ethnicity."

The five-day festival will include live staged reading, panel discussions and feature, documentary and short film screenings.

'Scrubs' star wins film fest's top prize

A record 20,000 people who attended the fifth annual Maui Film Festival in **Wailea, Hawaii**, honored **Zach Braff**'s "Garden State" with the award for best feature film.

Braff

Braff, who plays Dr. John "J.D." Dorian on the NBC series "Scrubs," accepted the award as the five-day festival concluded over the weekend.

"Garden State," scheduled for release in U.S. theaters July 30, is Braff's directorial debut. He also wrote the screenplay.

Braff, 29, stars as a man who returns home for his mother's funeral and breaks free of a lifetime of medication-induced passivity, striking up a relationship with a quirky young woman played by Natalie Portman. The film co-stars **Peter Sarsgaard** and **Ian Holm**.

Stories and photos by The Associated Press

Horoscope

Joyce Jillson

The Libra moon puts focus on who is with whom — it's not so much what you do this weekend but what company is involved that matters.

With Venus still retrograde for the next four days, using past lessons as guidelines for romantic choices is still the best way to go, as much as you'd like to take a chance. Loved ones must prove themselves.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (June 25). You're ready to tackle larger challenges this year! Setting your sights on new surroundings, you'll find inventive ways to move sooner rather than later by making the most of opportunities offered in the next four months. The right strategy is everything. Surrounding yourself with support will be key, and Virgo and Pisces are especially good at this. Your lucky numbers are: 9, 25, 40, 1 and 16.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Remember in the first grade when you planted a seed in a paper cup, and a few weeks later, the first sign of a green stalk started up through the soil? It's the same thrill. A project that's taken much mental energy starts giving back.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Your visionary powers are tremendous, but the hard thing is getting everyone else to respond in kind. This afternoon is an exercise in tolerance. If everyone could be as patient as you, the world would be more peaceful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You really know how to bring home the bacon. But now is the time to plug energy drains, while you still feel great. Start by acknowledging the knot in your stomach and deciding to communicate instead of holding back.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). It sure feels like your goals outnumber your resources 10 to one. Desires are stoked to such a level that you think you can't possibly keep up and do all you want to do. Take a breath, slow down, and be guided by your higher mind.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Participating in a group endeavor helps you cover a lot of bases at once. You'll make new connections, fill in some of the blank days of your calendar and also do something meaningful for your community.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Gaze, don't stare, into the eyes of love. Dare to let the old cliché about love ring true: Let it go, and watch it come back to you, probably on your terms. Work gets tedious — a sign that you need a treat to look forward to.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Let loose, blow off steam, figure out what's been stopping you, forgive, and forget. An introspective moment is all you need to break down a problem in your mind and solve it.

Hold loved ones to their word tonight.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Work is the best therapy for what ails you. Set a solid deadline to keep your mind from wandering, and work until you're the last one standing. When faced with a choice, rely on your instincts for extraordinary results.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Technical problems could get you up in arms if you let them. Whether it's a case of software rot or the disposal is stuck again, don't let it get to you. Love is the prize for the adventurous spirits who reach out and claim it.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Albert Einstein said, "In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity." This is especially true in regards to your family. Loved ones will cry out for your attention in one way or another, and you can provide them with deeply needed care.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). You'll strike a bargain — partially because your communication skills are top-notch now and partially because you won't be able to forgive yourself unless you walk away from the deal with what you want. It's called determination.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Your main astrological gift today is courage. While some would stick to what they know, you gravitate to what you don't know and will be an expanded, well-rounded spirit because of this quest. Self-confidence grows.

Creators Syndicate

Peanuts

Calvin and Hobbes

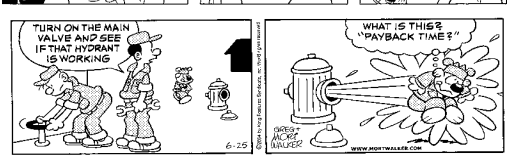
Jump Start

Zits

Cathy

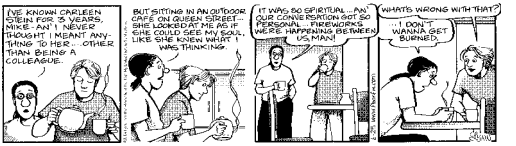
Hi and Lois

Beetle Bailey

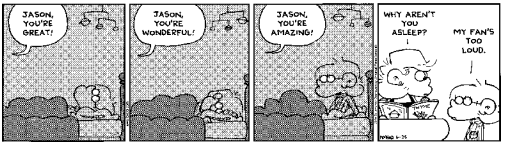


Red and Rover

Better or Worse



Foxtrot



B.C.

Baby Blues

Spider Man

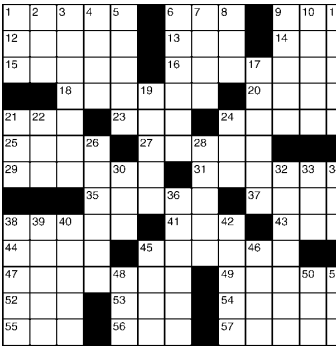
Blondie

Dilbert

Hagar

Garfield

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

1 Reed instruments
6 Personal question?
9 Horrible
12 Grable poster, e.g.
13 Part of H.R.H.
14 Faraway craft
15 Entanglement
16 Apologize, maybe
18 Did nothing
20 In due course
21 Biz deg.
23 Red Sox legend
24 Small-minded
25 Frobe of "Goldfinger"
27 Botticelli's "Birth of —"
29 Manage
31 Carelessness?
35 Onward
37 Profligate one
38 Daily trio
41 Gist
43 Bumped into
44 Not pizzicato
45 Lustrous fabric
47 First Chief Justice
49 Nonclerical people
52 Praiseful piece
53 "— Got a Secret"
54 Nimble
55 Checkers' option
56 Sea (Fr.)
57 Insomniac's need

Down

1 Photo- —
2 Cubbyhole
3 For the heck of it
4 Modern-day money
5 Spread out
6 Pant and puff
7 Be in charge of
8 Scrap
9 Too long in the toaster
10 Under way
11 Soft and fluffy
17 "Your Show of Shows" star Sid
19 Show a preference for
21 Leo's studio
22 Actress Arthur
24 One of the litter
26 Cookware coating
28 Hebrew prophet
30 Acceptable actions
32 Rival of Payne Stewart
33 Coloration
34 Nevertheless
36 "Casey at the Bat" penner
38 Primary course of study
39 Wear away
40 Had longings
42 Poolroom supply
45 Kevin Kline movie
46 Ride the bounding main
48 Carrey or Croce
50 Article in "Newsweek"?
51 "Uh-huh"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

6-25 CRYPTOQUIP

D M H K R R J K J H N Z S W Z P D W Z I F R F H S T Z F B D I I B R F W D M M Z S Z Q F J N , D I F B H F H K R P Y Z F P B H Q T Z ?

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: FEATURE FILM COMING OUT ABOUT A MASTER LADDER CLIMBER: "THE LORD OF THE RUNGS."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals O

Guests get a not-so-subtle hint

Dear Abby

Dear Abby: My fiancée and I recently traveled out of town to visit my best friend, "Frank," who recently married his sweetheart, "Gail." Frank graciously invited my fiancée and me to stay at their apartment. This had been our arrangement prior to his marriage, and I accepted the offer.

Each morning, my fiancée and I got up early and took our morning showers before our hosts. As we finished our showers, Gail would run into the bathroom with an armful of cleaning supplies and scrub it from ceiling to floor.

We are not dirty people. We didn't make a mess in their bathroom. We were a little offended, but said nothing. Was this her way of telling us she didn't want us staying there? Should we stay at a hotel next time we visit?

— Former Houseguest, North Olmstead, Ohio

Dear Former Houseguest: I'd say she conveyed that message pretty clearly. Considering the fact that they are newlyweds, I think you'd all be more comfortable were you to book a room at a nearby hotel or motel.

Dear Abby: I am a 42-year-old woman. To those around me I seem to have everything — great kids, a beautiful home, a career and a pretty good life. But deep down I am miserably lonely.

I divorced a cheating spouse eight years ago. I haven't been in a serious relationship since.

I have concentrated on my children, my career and my financial portfolio. But now that my kids are older and I have a lot of idle time on my hands, I miss being in a relationship.

I have tried singles groups, chat lines, and I'm even attending more social events, to no avail. I take good care of myself and look good for my age. But the 20- and 30- something competition makes it hard, if not impossible, to attract the kind of man I'd like to be with.

What advice have you for someone my age who has been benched for years and is ready to play ball again?

— Lonely in Georgia

Dear Lonely: Only this: Stop selling yourself short.

You have stability and life experience to offer, and a man with an eye for quality will appreciate it. Don't be discouraged; dating is a hit-and-miss game, regardless of age. You are only in the fourth inning, so get off your rusty-dusty, stay out there and keep on pitching.

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

JUMBLE

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

DIATS

EPPIR

STUCCA

KUSTEM

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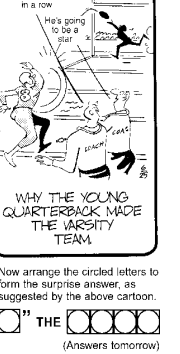
www.jumble.com

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion



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

Ans: HE " ○○○○○○○ " THE ○○○○○

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GLEAM BLOOD HEALTH PEWTER
Answer: The society matrons passed up the shoe repair offer because they were — WELL "HEELED"

Exclusion turns into silent feud

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: We moved into our house just over a year ago. In that time, my 5-year-old son, "Kyle," has made friends with three of the children who live nearby.

At first, I had play dates for the kids and moms at my house, and the neighbors reciprocated. A few months ago, however, one of the mothers (I'll call her "June") began excluding my son from play dates. We can see her house from our window, and when she has the other children over, Kyle cries and asks why he isn't invited.

Last Halloween, June organized the children in the neighborhood to go trick-or-treating. Kyle was never called. When I asked June about it, she said there wasn't enough room in her van to take him. June also organized an Easter egg hunt and did not invite Kyle. He was the only child in the neighborhood who was not included.

I have asked the other neighbors if they know what's going on, but they don't have a clue. Kyle has ADHD and can get hyper at times, but I am always there to calm him down. The other mothers tell me that he is not a problem.

Annie, these children have to live near one another for a very long time. June is pleasant whenever I see her. I still invite them for play dates at our house, and they always come. Should I ask her point-blank if there is a problem, or just let it go and hope for the best?

— Brokenhearted Mom in New Jersey

Dear N.J.: It's time to ask. It's possible Kyle's behavior, while not a problem for the other mothers, is somehow too stressful for June. It also could be that her son has indicated he doesn't want Kyle over. Kids often go through stages where they exclude others. If that's the case, June ought to talk to her son about fairness and kindness, and explain that hurting others is not acceptable behavior.

Dear Annie: I read the letter from "Louisville, Ky.," whose husband, "Walter," can't keep quiet, and I started laughing out loud. I read the letter to my wife, who also started laughing. Why? Because I am just like Walter.

I, too, have obsessive-compulsive tendencies. I, too, surround myself with white noise, whether it is music or the TV. I doubt that "Louisville's" husband is completely unaware of his obsession. And the fact that Walter refuses to allow her a moment's peace bothers me.

We obsessive-compulsive people are NOT tyrants.

After 14 years of marriage, my wife and I have been able to make it work.

— Another Walter

Dear Walter: Thanks for standing up for obsessive-compulsives everywhere.

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.

Creators Syndicate

Family Circus

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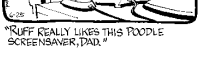
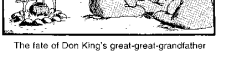
"Are you surprised I said that?"

Dennis the Menace



"RUFF REALLY LIKES THIS POODLE SCREENSAVER, DADA"

The Far Side



The fate of Don King's great-great-grandfather

Non Sequitur

SCOREBOARD

AFN schedule

(All times Central European. AFN-A: AFN-Atlantic; PAC: AFN-Pacific/Korea; SPT: AFN-Sports; dld: delayed; ed: edited; two-hour or 90-minute cut-down. Listings are latest available from AFRTS and subject to change without notice.)

Television

Baseball — Pittsburgh at Houston, 2 p.m. Friday (dld), SPT; San Francisco at Oakland, joined in progress at 4:30 a.m. Saturday, SPT; San Diego at Seattle, 9 a.m. Saturday (dld), SPT; Philadelphia at Boston, 7 p.m. Saturday, AFN-A; Anaheim at Los Angeles, 10 p.m. Saturday, AFN-A; Arizona at Detroit, 1 a.m. Sunday, PAC; San Diego at Seattle, 4 a.m. Sunday, SPT.

Boxing — Friday Night Fights, Felix Cora (13-0-2, 7 KOs) vs. Michael Simms (13-1-1, 11 KOs) for USBA cruiserweight title, 3 a.m. Saturday, PAC.

College baseball — NCAA College World Series (all on SPT): 6 a.m. and 8 p.m. Friday (dld); Best-of-three championship series, 2 p.m. (dld) and 7 p.m. (live) Sunday.

Hockey — 2004 NHL Draft, 6 p.m. Saturday, PAC.

Motorsports — NASCAR Trucks Black Cat 200, 2 a.m. Saturday, SPT; AMA Motocross, 6 p.m. Saturday (dld), SPT; IRL Suntrust Indy Challenge, 1:30 a.m. Sunday, SPT.

Tennis — Wimbledon 2004: Day 5, 6 p.m. Friday (live), and 1 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturday (both dld), all SPT; Day 6, 9 p.m. Saturday, SPT.

Radio

(Listings are feeds from AFN in California. Some might not air in all areas)

Baseball — N.Y. Yankees at N.Y. Mets, 1 a.m. Saturday; Anaheim at Los Angeles, 4 a.m. Saturday; Philadelphia at Boston, 7 p.m. Saturday; Chicago Cubs at Chicago White Sox, 10 p.m. Saturday.

College baseball — 2004 College World Series championship series: Game 1, 2 a.m. Sunday.

AFN-Europe can be reached at DSN 329-4444 or German civilian (+49) (0)069-156-88-444. 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 basketball

WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	7	4	.636	—
Indiana	6	5	.545	1
Charlotte	6	5	.545	1½
New York	6	6	.500	1½
Connecticut	6	7	.462	2
Washington	5	6	.455	2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	8	3	.727	—
Los Angeles	8	5	.615	1
Houston	7	6	.538	2
Phoenix	5	5	.500	2½
Minnesota	5	6	.455	3
Sacramento	3	7	.300	4½
San Antonio	3	9	.250	5½

Tuesday's games

Los Angeles 65, New York 49
Washington 78, Detroit 72
Connecticut 63, Indiana 58
Houston 63, Seattle 57
Phoenix 65, Minnesota 46

Wednesday's game

Detroit 65, Charlotte 60

Thursday's games

Minnesota at San Antonio
New York at Phoenix

Friday's games

Detroit at Connecticut
Los Angeles at Indiana
Houston at Sacramento

Soccer

Major League Soccer

Eastern Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
MetroStars	5	3	4	19	21	20
Chicago	4	3	5	17	14	12
D.C. United	4	5	4	16	15	18
Columbus	4	4	3	15	12	14
New England	2	4	7	13	9	13

Western Conference

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Kansas City	6	4	3	21	17	12
Los Angeles	6	5	3	21	27	24
San Jose	4	3	4	16	20	16
Dallas	4	4	3	15	13	12
Colorado	2	3	6	12	7	9

NOTE: Three points for victory, one point for tie.

Wednesday's games

MetroStars 3, Los Angeles 0

Saturday's games

D.C. United at Dallas
Colorado at Columbus
MetroStars at New England
Kansas City at San Jose

Sunday's game

Los Angeles at Chicago

Wednesday, June 30

Colorado at MetroStars

Saturday, July 3

MetroStars at D.C. United
Chicago at Columbus
Dallas at Kansas City

Sunday, July 4

New England at Colorado
San Jose at Los Angeles

Tennis

Wimbledon

Thursday

At The All England Lawn Tennis & Croquet Club
Wimbledon, England
Purse: $17.86 million (Grand Slam)
Surface: Grass-Outdoor

Singles

Men

First Round

Tommy Robredo (20), Spain, def. Potito Starace, Italy, 6-4, 6-4, 6-4.
Taylor Dent (26), United States, def. Ramon Delgado, Paraguay, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
David Ferrer, Spain, def. Victor Hanescu, Romania, 7-6 (5), 6-4, 6-7 (4), 7-5.
Alexander Popp, Germany, def. Nicolas Massu (15), Chile, 6-2, 5-4, 6-4.
Guillermo Coria (3), Argentina, def. Wesley Moodie, South Africa, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-3.
Sjeng Schalken (12), Netherlands, def. Lee Childs, Britain, 6-2, 6-1, 6-3.
Tommy Haas, Germany, def. Antony Dupuis, France, 2-6, 2-6, 7-6 (8), 6-4, 8-6.
Dominik Hrbaty (25), Slovakia, def. David Sanchez, Spain, 6-4, 6-2, 6-4.
Mark Hilton, Britain, def. Albert Costa, Spain, 6-1, 6-4, 6-3.
Vince Spadea (30), United States, def. Todd Reid, Australia, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.
Rainer Schuettler (8), Germany, def. Robin Soderling, Sweden, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 1-6, 6-2.
Thomas Enqvist, Sweden, def. Galo Blanco, Spain, 4-6, 7-6 (2), 6-4, 7-6 (1).
Karol Beck, Slovakia, def. Jonathan Marray, Britain, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 4-6, 6-3, 10-8.
Fernando Gonzalez (24), Chile, def. Martin Vassallo Arguello, Italy, 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.
Andrei Pavel (22), Romania, def. Andy Ram, Israel, 6-3, 7-6 (8).
Stefano Pescosolido, Italy, def. Dennis van Scheppingen, Netherlands, 4-6, 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (5), 10-8.
Andy Roddick (2), United States, def. Wang Yeu-tzuoo, Taiwan, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Julien Benneteau, France, def. Tomas Berdych, Czech Republic, 6-3, 7-5, 6-4.
Mario Ancic, Croatia, def. Luis Horna (33), Peru, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-3, 6-4.
Juan Ignacio Chela (21), Argentina, def. Lars Burgsmuller, Germany, 6-4, 4-6, 6-0, 6-2.
Greg Rusedski, Britain, def. Davide Sanguinetti, Italy, 7-5, 4-6, 6-2, 6-2.
Todd Martin, United States, def. Guillermo Canas, Argentina, 4-6, 6-3, 7-6 (4), 4-6, 9-7.
Kenneth Carlsen, Denmark, def. Richard Gasquet, France, 3-6, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (4), 6-7 (0), 6-4.
Igor Andreev, Russia, def. John van Lottum, Netherlands, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3.
Felix Mantilla, Spain, def. Kristian Pless, Denmark, 7-6 (5), 4-6, 7-5, 6-1.

Second Round

Robby Ginepri (27), United States, def. Fernando Verdasco, Spain, 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4, 6-3.
Lleyton Hewitt (7), Australia, def. Irakli Labadze, Georgia, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.
Roger Federer (1), Switzerland, def. Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 6-1, 6-2, 6-0.
Carlos Moya (9), Spain, def. Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 7-5.
Joachim Johansson, Sweden, def. Mardy Fish (14), United States, 6-7 (8), 6-3, 6-4, 6-4.
Sebastien Grosjean (10), France, def. Gregory Carraz, France, 6-1, 6-2, 6-2.
Goran Ivanisevic, Croatia, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 4-6, 7-6 (8), 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.
Feliciano Lopez (18), Spain, vs. Cyril Saulnier, France, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4, 6-7 (3), 8-6.
Juan Carlos Ferrero (6), Spain, def. Stefan Koubek, Austria, 4-6, 7-5, 5-7, 7-6 (6), 8-6.
Thomas Johansson, Sweden, def. Fabrice Santoro, France, 7-5, 6-2, 6-1.
Jan-Michael Gambill, United States, def. Daniele Bracciali, Italy, 6-7 (4), 7-6 (6), 6-3, 6-2.

Women

First Round

Maria Sanchez Lorenzo, Spain, def. Katie O'Brien, Britain, 6-4, 6-4.
Arantxa Parra Santonja, Spain, def. Dinara Safina (29), Russia, 6-0, 2-0, retired.
Tatiana Perebiyna, Ukraine, def. Christina Wheeler, Australia, 6-3, 6-2.
Silvija Talaja, Croatia, def. Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-4.
Milagros Sequera, Venezuela, def. Conchita Martinez (22), Spain, 6-4, 7-6 (6).
Silvia Farina Elia (14), Italy, def. Peng Shuai, China, 6-0, 6-4.
Amelie Mauresmo (4), France, def. Jelena Kostanic, Croatia, 6-2, 6-3.
Rita Grande, Italy, def. Mara Santangelo, Italy, 7-5, 7-5.
Virginia Ruano Pascual, Spain, def. Mary Pierce (24), France, 6-2, 7-5.
Tatiana Golovin, France, def. Alina Jidkova, Russia, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, def. Fabiola Zuluaga (19), Colombia, 6-4, 6-3.
Francesca Schiavone (18), Italy, def. Myriam Casanova, Switzerland, 3-6, 7-6 (4), 6-3.
Jennifer Capriati (7), United States, def. Claudine Schaul, Luxembourg, 6-2, 6-2.
Jennifer Hopkins, United States, def. Julia Vakulenko, Ukraine, 7-6 (5), 6-2.
Lisa Raymond (26), United States, def. Shinobu Asagoe, Japan, 6-3, 7-6 (4).
Sun Tian Tian, China, def. Tathiana Garbin, Italy, 2-6, 6-0, 6-2.
Paola Suarez (9), Argentina, def. Shenay Perry, United States, 6-2, 6-4.
Ludmila Cervanova, Slovakia, def. Barbara Schett, Austria, 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.
Henrieta Nagyova, Slovakia, def. Lina Krasnoroutskaya, Russia, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.
Els Callens, Belgium, def. Ashley Harkleroad, United States, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

Second Round

Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, def. Elena Bovina (20), Russia, walkover.
Denisa Chladkova, Czech Republic, def. Katarina Srebotnik, Slovenia, 7-6 (5), 6-0.
Maria Sharapova (13), Russia, def. Anne Keothavong, Britain, 6-4, 6-0.
Tamarine Tanasugarn, Thailand, def. Sandra Kleinova, Czech Republic, 6-3, 6-3.
Vera Zvonareva (12), Russia, def. Saori Obata, Japan, 6-1, 6-4.
Alicia Molik (27), Australia, def. Teryn Ashley, United States, 7-5, 6-4.
Lindsay Davenport (5), United States, def. Kristina Brandi, Puerto Rico, 6-0, 1-0, retired.
Ai Sugiyama (11), Japan, def. Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, 6-4, 6-4.
Tatiana Panova, Russia, def. Mashona Washington, United States, 6-3, 6-4.
Karolina Sprem, Croatia, def. Venus Williams (3), United States, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6).

Doubles

Men

First Round

Mahesh Bhupathi, India, and Max Mirnyi (3), Belarus, def. Hicham Arazi, Morocco, and Joshua Eagle, Australia, 6-3, 6-4.

College baseball

College World Series

At Rosenblatt Stadium
Omaha, Neb.
Double Elimination
Friday, June 18
Bracket 1

Georgia 8, Arizona 7
Texas 13, Arkansas 2

Saturday, June 19
Bracket 2

Cal State Fullerton 2, South Carolina 0
Miami 9, LSU 5

Sunday, June 20

Arizona 7, Arkansas 2, Arkansas eliminated
Texas 9, Georgia 3

Monday, June 21

South Carolina 15, LSU 4, LSU eliminated
Cal State Fullerton 8, Miami 3

Tuesday, June 22

Georgia 3, Arizona 1, Arizona eliminated
South Carolina 15, Miami 11, Miami eliminated

Wednesday, June 23

Texas 7, Georgia 6, Georgia eliminated
South Carolina 5, Cal State Fullerton 3

Thursday, June 24

Cal State Fullerton (44-22) vs. South Carolina (53-16)

Championship Series
(Best-of-three)
Saturday, June 26

Texas (58-13) vs. Cal State Fullerton-South Carolina Winner

Sunday, June 27

Texas vs. Cal State Fullerton-South Carolina Winner

Monday, June 28

Texas vs. Cal State Fullerton-South Carolina Winner, if necessary

Deals

Wednesday's transactions

BASEBALL
American League

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Acquired OF Anthony Sanders from the Colorado Rockies for a player to be named and assigned Sanders to Syracuse of the IL.

National League

ATLANTA BRAVES—Placed OF Dewayne Wise on the 15-day DL. Recalled OF Charles Thomas from Richmond of the IL.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Recalled OF So Taguchi from Memphis of the PCL. Optioned C Cody McKay to Memphis.

SAN DIEGO PADRES—Activated OF Brian Buchanan from the 15-day DL.

Optioned RHP Ricky Stone to Portland of the PCL.

SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS—Activated RHP Brett Tomko from the 15-day DL.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Acquired F Sasha Pavlovic from Charlotte for a future first-round draft pick.

LOS ANGELES LAKERS—Announced G Derek Fisher declined to exercise his contract option for next season, making him a free agent.

MILWAUKEE BUCKS—Acquired F Zaza Pachulia from Golden State for a 2004 second-round draft pick.

SACRAMENTO KINGS—Announced G Anthony Peeler declined to exercise his contract option for next season, making him a free agent.

American Basketball Association

PHILADELPHIA SOUIRES—Named Jeffrey Wilson general manager.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

HOUSTON TEXANS—Signed S Jammal Lord. Released LB Kevin Smith.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Signed DE Marquise Hill.

NEW YORK GIANTS—Signed OL Mathias Nkwenti.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Named David Peart vice president of sales and marketing.

HOCKEY
National Hockey League

PHILADELPHIA FLYERS—Signed F Brent Robinson to a two-year contract.

SOCCER
Major League Soccer

D.C. UNITED—Acquired D Ezra Hendrickson from Dallas for a 2005 fifth-round draft pick.

TENNIS

ATP PLAYER COUNCIL—Elected Rainer Schuettler president, Luis Horna and Mark Knowles vice presidents, Ricardo Acioly player representative for the Americas, Tomas Carbonell player representative for Europe and Bob Brett international player representative.

COLLEGE

NCAA—Placed the Oregon football team on two years of probation for recruiting violations.

COLONIAL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION—Announced Northeastern will join the conference, effective July 1, 2006.

BUCKNELL—Named John Campbell men's assistant soccer coach.

GEORGETOWN—Announced the retirement of Joe Lang, athletic director, effective July 1.

GOUCHER—Named Julia Bergofsky women's lacrosse coach.

GWYNEDD MERCY—Promoted Paul Murphy to associate director of athletics. Named Mike Werner men's cross country coach, Lauren Bair women's cross country coach and Craig Schneider women's volleyball coach.

MERCYHURST—Named Kellie Kreuser women's assistant basketball coach.

MISSOURI—Named Mark Leroux men's golf coach. Named Chris Peters assistant swimming coach and recruiting coordinator for the men's and women's swimming teams.

OLIVET—Announced the elimination of the wrestling program, effective at the end of the 2004-05 season.

PRINCETON—Named Tony Newson men's assistant basketball coach.

ST. JOHN'S, N.Y.—Promoted Daynia LaForce-Mohn to women's first assistant basketball coach. Named Jonath Nicholas women's assistant basketball coach.

ST. MICHAEL'S—Named Chris Davidson men's golf coach.

TOWSON—Named Jay Eck men's assistant basketball coach.

WESTERN CAROLINA—Named L'Tona Lamonte women's assistant basketball coach.

WOFFORD—Announced the resignation of Samantha Young, women's basketball coach, to take an assistant position at East Carolina.

TANK MCNAMARA

Sprinter: Use of steroids began in '00

SPRINTER, FROM BACK PAGE

"She's continuing to train and doing very well."

Montgomery said Conte began giving him banned substances soon after the 2000 Olympics, and he followed the regiment for about eight months, the newspaper reported. He said he got no benefit from "the clear" and split with Conte in September 2001 over a money dispute. He set a world record of 9.78 seconds in the 100 meters the following year.

Montgomery also gave second-hand testimony implicating Bonds, the San Francisco Giants' slugger who has hit the third most home runs in baseball history. According to the Chronicle, Montgomery was asked during his testimony about Conte's dealings with Bonds, telling the grand jury that Conte said he gave the outfielder the steroid Winstrol.

Montgomery also testified that Conte told him Bonds switched to an undetectable steroid in 2003 when baseball introduced its drug policy.

"I have reason to have serious doubts about the accuracy of all that," Bonds' attorney, Michael Rain, told the Chronicle. "I doubt very much that Conte would be talking about anything he's giving to anybody."

Ramstein, Spangdahlem win USAFE soccer titles

Stars and Stripes

Ramstein's women and Spangdahlem's men completed undefeated runs through the 2004 U.S. Air Forces in Europe soccer tournament with title-game victories Wednesday at RAF Alconbury, England.

In the men's game, defending champ Spangdahlem scored in the first minute, then added four goals in the second half for a 5-0 win over Ramstein. Dale Davis scored twice, and Steve Haro, Richard Graham and Juan Martinez added one each, with Graham's coming on a penalty kick.

Both men's teams will participate in the Army-Air Force soccer championship tournament, which begins Saturday at RAF Alconbury. Ramstein opens against Heidelberg, the USAREUR and defending Army-Air Force champ at 2 p.m., while Spangdahlem plays USAREUR runner-up Vicenza at 4 p.m. The winners will play Sunday at 2 p.m. for the title.

In the women's game, Ramstein, also the defending USAFE champ, got the only goal in a tight game with Aviano when Tobi Erskine scored about halfway through the second half.

It marked the second time in the tourney that Ramstein had shut out Aviano.

There is no Army-Air Force tournament for women.

Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	44	25	.638	—
Boston	40	30	.571	4½
Tampa Bay	33	35	.485	10½
Toronto	31	40	.437	14
Baltimore	29	38	.433	14
Central Division				
Minnesota	39	31	.557	—
Chicago	36	32	.529	2
Cleveland	35	35	.500	4
Detroit	31	39	.443	8
Kansas City	28	40	.412	10
West Division				
Texas	39	29	.574	—
Oakland	39	31	.557	1
Anaheim	39	32	.549	1½
Seattle	29	40	.420	10½

Wednesday's games

Minnesota 4, Boston 2
Toronto 2, Tampa Bay 1, 10 innings
Baltimore 13, N.Y. Yankees 2
Texas 6, Seattle 3
Cleveland 9, Chicago White Sox 5
Kansas City 7, Detroit 3
Oakland 7, Anaheim 1

Thursday's games

Tampa Bay at Toronto
Minnesota at Boston
Seattle at Texas
Cleveland at Chicago White Sox
Detroit at Kansas City
Oakland at Anaheim
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore

Friday's interleague games

Chicago Cubs (Prior 1-1) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 5-4)
Montreal (Day 5-7) at Toronto (Batista 5-5)
Arizona (Webb 3-7) at Detroit (Johnson 4-7)
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Halsey 1-0)
Philadelphia (Abbott 0-1) at Boston (P.Martinez 7-3)
Colorado (Fassero 1-6) at Cleveland (Ja.Davis 2-5)
Florida (A.J.Burnett 0-2) at Tampa Bay (Brazelton 0-0)
Atlanta (Byrd 1-0) at Baltimore (Cabrera 3-3)
Houston (Miller 7-6) at Texas (Rogers 9-2)
Milwaukee (Obermueller 3-2) at Minnesota (Santana 5-4)
St. Louis (W.Williams 5-6) at Kansas City (Greinke 1-3)
San Diego (Lawrence 8-5) at Seattle (Moyer 6-2)
San Francisco (Schmidt 9-2) at Oakland (Zito 4-4)
Anaheim (Washburn 7-3) at Los Angeles (Lima 6-2)

Wednesday

Twins 4, Red Sox 2

MINNESOTA	ab	r	h	bi	BOSTON	ab	r	h	bi
CGzmn ss	5	1	1	0	Damon cf	4	0	0	0
Mntkw 1b	3	1	1	0	Bllhorn 3b	4	1	2	1
LFord lf	4	0	1	0	DOrtiz dh	3	0	1	0
Koskie 3b	4	1	1	1	MRmrz lf	4	0	0	0
THnter cf	4	1	2	3	Grcprr ss	4	0	1	0
JJones rf	4	0	1	0	Nixon rf	4	1	1	1
LeCroy dh	4	0	0	0	Millar 1b	3	0	1	0
Mauer c	4	0	1	0	Varitek c	4	0	1	0
Rivas 2b	4	0	1	0	Reese 2b	0	0	0	0
					Yukilis 3b	3	0	1	0
Totals	36	4	9	4	**Totals**	33	2	8	2

Minnesota 200 002 000—4
Boston 000 001 100—2

E—Bellhorn (9). DP—Minnesota 2. LOB—Minnesota 6, Boston 6. 2B—Koskie (9), Garciaparra (2), Varitek (11). HR—THunter (10), Bellhorn (8), Nixon (3). SB—Rivas (7).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Minnesota						
CSilva W,8-4	6 1/3	7	2	2	2	2
JRincon	1 2/3	0	0	0	0	1
Nathan S,20	1	1	0	0	0	0
Boston						
DLowe L,6-6	7	7	4	4	1	7
Timlin	1	2	0	0	0	1
Embree	1	0	0	0	0	2

WP—DLowe. T—2:43. A—35,233 (35,095).

Blue Jays 2, Devil Rays 1 (10)

TAMPA BAY	ab	r	h	bi	TORONTO	ab	r	h	bi
Crwfrd lf	4	1	2	0	Mnchno dh	3	0	1	0
Fick rf	3	0	1	1	HClark 1b	3	0	0	0
Baldelli cf	4	0	0	0	Jhnson cf	4	0	1	1
Huff 1b	3	0	1	0	Hinske 3b	4	0	1	0
JBtista rf	0	0	0	0	Zaun c	4	0	0	0
McGrff dh	4	0	0	0	OHudsn 2b	2	0	0	0
Lugo ss	3	0	0	0	Gomez ss	4	0	1	0
Blum 3b	4	0	1	0	Rios rf	3	1	2	0
Frdyce c	4	0	1	0	Berg lf	4	0	1	0
RSnchz 2b	3	0	0	0	Wdwrd pr	0	1	0	0
Totals	32	1	6	1	**Totals**	31	2	7	1

Tampa Bay 001 000 000 0—1
Toronto 000 000 010 1—2

One out when winning run scored.

E—Lugo (12). DP—Tampa Bay 3, Toronto 2. LOB—Tampa Bay 5, Toronto 9. 2B—Crawford (15), Fordyce (3), Gomez (4). SB—Rios (1). CS—JBautista (1), Hinske (4). S—RSanchez, HClark.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Tampa Bay						
Zambrano	8	4	1	1	4	2
Colome L,1-1	1 1/3	3	1	1	2	0
Toronto						
Halladay	7	5	1	1	2	8
Chulk	2	1	0	0	1	0
Frasor W,3-2	1	0	0	0	0	1

HBP—by Zambrano (Johnson). WP—Zambrano, Halladay. T—2:44. A—14,713 (50,598).

Orioles 13, Yankees 2

NEW YORK	ab	r	h	bi	BALTIMORE	ab	r	h	bi
BWllms cf	4	1	2	1	BRbrts 2b	4	2	1	0
Jeter ss	4	0	0	0	Newhn 3b	5	2	4	3
EWilsn ss	0	0	0	0	Tejada ss	5	3	3	4
ARdrgz 3b	3	0	0	0	RPlmo 1b	5	1	2	1
JaGbi dh	3	0	1	0	JvLopz c	4	0	2	0
Posada c	4	0	2	0	Mchado c	0	0	0	0
Flherty c	0	0	0	0	Gbbons rf	3	1	1	1
Matsui lf	3	0	0	0	Raines rf	0	0	0	0
Crosby lf	0	0	0	0	Matos cf	3	1	2	1
Sierra rf	4	0	1	0	Bigbie lf	4	1	0	1
TClark 1b	4	0	0	0	Hrst Jr dh	4	2	2	2
Cairo 2b	4	1	1	0					
Totals	33	2	7	1	**Totals**	37	13	17	13

New York 001 010 000— 2
Baltimore 300 400 42x—13

E—Sierra (1), Lieber (3), Tejada (12). DP—New York 1, Baltimore 2. LOB—New York 7, Baltimore 3. 2B—BWilliams (11), JaGiambi (8), Tejada (12), JvLopez (11), Hairston Jr. (6). 3B—Newhan (1). HR—Tejada (12). SB—Cairo (4), BRoberts (21). SF—Gibbons, Matos.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
New York						
Lieber L,5-5	3 2/3	11	7	5	0	1
Sturtze	2 1/3	2	3	3	1	4
Heredia	2	4	3	3	0	1
Baltimore						
Bedard W,2-2	5	7	2	1	3	3
Grimsley	2	0	0	0	0	2
BRyan	1	0	0	0	0	0
DeJean	1	0	0	0	0	1

Sturtze pitched to 3 batters in the 7th, Bedard pitched to 3 batters in the 6th. T—2:49. A—41,678 (48,286).

Rangers 6, Mariners 3

SEATTLE	ab	r	h	bi	TEXAS	ab	r	h	bi
Winn lf	3	1	1	0	MYong ss	5	1	2	0
JoCbra 3b	5	0	3	1	Blalock 3b	5	0	3	2
ISuzuki rf	3	0	0	1	ASrano 2b	5	0	1	1
EMrtnz dh	4	0	0	0	Fllmer dh	3	1	1	0
BBoone 2b	4	0	0	0	Txeira 1b	4	1	3	0
Olerud 1b	4	0	1	0	Dllucci lf	3	1	0	0
Aurilia ss	4	1	1	1	Mathws rf	3	0	0	1
DWilsn c	2	1	0	0	Brajas c	4	1	1	1
Hansen ph	1	0	0	0	Conti cf	3	1	1	1
Bcchca cf	4	0	2	0					
Totals	34	3	8	3	**Totals**	35	6	12	6

Seattle 000 011 100—3
Texas 100 005 00x—6

E—Aurilia (3). DP—Texas 1. LOB—Seattle 8, Texas 9. 2B—JoCabrera (8), MYoung (13), Fullmer (15). HR—Aurilia (3). SF—Matthews.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Seattle						
RFranklin L,3-5	5 1/3	8	6	6	2	4
JMateo	1 2/3	3	0	0	0	3
MMyers	2/3	1	0	0	0	1
Hasegawa	1/3	0	0	0	0	1
Texas						
Bierbrodt W,1-0	6	5	2	2	3	2
Almanzar	2	2	1	1	0	2
FCordero S,21	1	1	0	0	0	0

HBP—by RFranklin (Dellucci), by Bierbrodt (Winn). T—2:44. A—30,418 (49,115).

Indians 9, White Sox 5

CLEVELAND	ab	r	h	bi	CHICAGO	ab	r	h	bi
Blliard 2b	5	2	2	1	Rwand cf	5	1	2	1
Vizquel ss	4	0	0	0	Uribe 2b	5	0	1	0
Lawton lf	4	0	1	1	Thmas dh	5	1	0	0
VMrtnz c	4	2	1	0	CaLee lf	4	1	2	1
Blake 3b	3	2	2	1	Knerko 1b	4	2	2	2
Hafner dh	3	1	2	1	Vlentin ss	3	0	0	0
Merloni 1b	3	1	1	1	Crede 3b	3	0	0	0
Brssrd 1b	1	1	1	4	Burke rf	4	0	1	1
Gerut rf	4	0	1	0	SAlmr c	2	0	0	0
Crisp cf	4	0	0	0	Gload ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	35	9	11	9	**Totals**	36	5	8	5

Cleveland 001 112 040—9
Chicago 010 011 110—5

E—Vizquel (9), Lawton (2), Valentin (11). DP—Chicago 3. LOB—Cleveland 4, Chicago 7. 2B—Belliard (21). 3B—Uribe (4). HR—Belliard (4), Blake (12), Merloni (2), Broussard (2), Rowand (7), Konerko 2 (17). CS—Gerut (2). S—Vizquel.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Cleveland						
ClLee W,7-1	6	5	3	3	3	6
Betancourt	2	2	2	1	0	2
Riske	1	1	0	0	0	1
Chicago						
Buehrle L,7-2	7	10	8	8	2	4
MJackson	1	1	1	1	0	0
Darensbourg	1	0	0	0	1	0

Buehrle pitched to 3 batters in the 8th. HBP—by Buehrle (THafner). WP—Riske. PB—VMartinez. T—2:31. A—21,654 (40,615).

Royals 7, Tigers 3

DETROIT	ab	r	h	bi	KANSAS CITY	ab	r	h	bi
ASnchz cf	5	0	0	1	Grffnno 2b	5	1	0	0
Inge 3b	5	1	3	0	Beltran cf	5	1	1	0
IRdrgz c	5	1	3	2	MiSwy 1b	3	1	2	1
DYong 1b	3	0	1	0	Harvey dh	4	0	1	2
White lf	4	0	0	0	Stairs rf	4	1	0	0
CGillen ss	4	0	0	0	Randa 3b	4	1	2	1
Monroe rf	4	0	3	0	DBrwn lf	4	0	2	2
Thmes dh	4	0	0	0	Berroa ss	2	1	2	0
Infante 2b	4	1	1	0	ACstillo c	2	1	0	0
Totals	38	3	11	3	**Totals**	33	7	10	6

Detroit 200 000 001—3
Kansas City 400 000 03x—7

E—ASanchez (8), German (1). DP—Detroit 1. LOB—Detroit 9, Kansas City 10. 2B—Beltran (19), MiSweeney (13), Randa (16). 3B—Infante (4). HR—IRodriguez (10). S—Berroa, ACastillo.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Detroit						
Knotts L,4-2	6	8	4	4	4	9
Yan	1	0	0	0	0	0
German	1	2	3	0	1	0
Kansas City						
May W,5-8	7	9	2	2	0	4
Sullivan	1	1	0	0	0	1
Affeldt	1	1	1	1	0	2

HBP—by Sullivan (DYoung), by Knotts (MiSweeney). WP—Knotts. PB—IRodriguez. T—2:38. A—18,493 (40,785).

Athletics 7, Angels 1

OAKLAND	ab	r	h	bi	ANAHEIM	ab	r	h	bi
Byrnes lf	5	1	1	0	Eckstin ss	4	0	2	1
Kotsay cf	4	1	3	1	Figgins 3b	4	0	1	0
Httberg 1b	2	2	1	2	VGrero rf	4	0	3	0
Durazo dh	3	0	1	1	GAndsn cf	4	0	0	0
Crosby ss	5	0	0	1	JGillen lf	4	0	0	0
DMiller c	5	0	2	1	Erstad 1b	1	0	0	0
Scutaro 2b	5	0	0	0	Quinlan 1b	2	0	0	0
Kielty rf	4	1	1	0	Salmon dh	3	0	0	0
Germn 3b	4	2	2	0	BMolna c	3	1	2	0
					AKndy 2b	3	0	0	0
Totals	37	7	11	6	**Totals**	32	1	8	1

Oakland 000 120 220—7
Anaheim 001 000 000—1

E—Figgins (8). DP—Oakland 2. LOB—Oakland 10, Anaheim 5. 2B—Byrnes (18), DMiller (13), German (1), VGuerrero (24), BMolina (7). SB—Crosby (4). SF—Hatteberg 2.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Oakland						
MRedman W,6-3	7 1/3	7	1	1	1	6
Bradford	2/3	0	0	0	0	0
Mecir	1	1	0	0	0	1
Anaheim						
KEscobar L,4-4	6	6	3	3	3	6
Gregg	1 2/3	5	4	3	1	1
Turnbow	1 1/3	0	0	0	1	1

WP—MRedman, KEscobar. PB—BMolina. T—2:56. A—42,774 (45,030).

AL leaders

Batting—IRodriguez, Detroit, .364; Mora, Baltimore, .354; VGuerrero, Anaheim, .354; Harvey, Kansas City, .350; MRamirez, Boston, .333; MYoung, Texas, .330; ISuzuki, Seattle, .327.

Runs—VGuerrero, Anaheim, 61; Mora, Baltimore, 57; Lawton, Cleveland, 54; ARodriguez, New York, 51; MYoung, Texas, 50; Beltran, Kansas City, 50; Bellhorn, Boston, 50.

RBI—DOrtiz, Boston, 65; VGuerrero, Anaheim, 65; Tejada, Baltimore, 58; VMartinez, Cleveland, 53; JGuillen, Anaheim, 52; Blalock, Texas, 50; Beltran, Kansas City, 50; MRamirez, Boston, 50; IRodriguez, Detroit, 50.

Hits—VGuerrero, Anaheim, 101; MYoung, Texas, 99; ISuzuki, Seattle, 98; IRodriguez, Detroit, 94; Lawton, Cleveland, 90; Crawford, Tampa Bay, 86; Mora, Baltimore, 86.

Doubles—DOrtiz, Boston, 27; VGuerrero, Anaheim, 24; THafner, Cleveland, 23; VMartinez, Cleveland, 22; Damon, Boston, 22; Belliard, Cleveland, 21; VWells, Toronto, 20; CaLee, Chicago, 20; Posada, New York, 20; MRamirez, Boston, 20.

Home runs—MRamirez, Boston, 19; ARodriguez, New York, 18; Thomas, Chicago, 18; Blalock, Texas, 17; Konerko, Chicago, 17; VGuerrero, Anaheim, 17; DOrtiz, Boston, 16.

Pitching (8 Decisions)—ClLee, Cleveland, 7-1, .875, 3.86; KBrown, New York, 7-1, .875, 4.13; Rogers, Texas, 9-2, .818, 3.54; Mulder, Oakland, 8-2, .800, 2.91; Buehrle, Chicago, 7-2, .778, 4.49; Moyer, Seattle, 6-2, .750, 3.64; JRincon, Minnesota, 8-3, .727, 1.91.

Strikeouts—PMartinez, Boston, 95; Schilling, Boston, 93; Santana, Minnesota, 90; Zambrano, Tampa Bay, 84; Buehrle, Chicago, 81; Harden, Oakland, 78; Lilly, Toronto, 78.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	39	32	.549	—
Philadelphia	37	32	.536	1
New York	35	35	.500	3½
Atlanta	32	38	.457	6½
Montreal	23	46	.333	15
Central Division				
St. Louis	42	29	.592	—
Chicago	40	31	.563	2
Cincinnati	39	32	.549	3
Milwaukee	36	32	.529	4½
Houston	37	34	.521	5
Pittsburgh	27	41	.397	13½
West Division				
San Francisco	40	32	.556	—
Los Angeles	37	32	.536	1½
San Diego	37	34	.521	2½
Arizona	27	45	.375	13
Colorado	26	44	.371	13

Wednesday's games

Florida 6, Atlanta 0
Philadelphia 5, Montreal 2
St. Louis 10, Chicago Cubs 9
Cincinnati 6, N.Y. Mets 4, 12 innings
Colorado 3, Milwaukee 2
Pittsburgh 7, Houston 2
San Diego 4, Arizona 3
San Francisco 3, Los Angeles 2

Thursday's games

Philadelphia at Montrea
Cincinnati at N.Y. Mets
Colorado at Milwaukee
Atlanta at Florida
Los Angeles at San Francisco
Pittsburgh at Houston
Chicago Cubs at St. Louis

Friday's games

Pittsburgh (K.Wells 3-5) at Cincinnati (Acevedo 3-6)

Wednesday

Marlins 6, Braves 0

ATLANTA	ab	r	h	bi	FLORIDA	ab	r	h	bi
Furcal ss	4	0	1	0	Pierre cf	4	1	2	1
NGreen 2b	4	0	0	0	LCstillo 2b	4	1	1	0
JDrew rf	3	0	0	0	Cbrera rf	2	1	1	0
CJones 3b	4	0	0	0	Perisho p	0	0	0	0
JEstda c	4	0	1	0	BHwrd p	0	0	0	0
JuFrco 1b	3	0	1	0	Lowell 3b	4	1	2	1
AJones cf	3	0	1	0	Choi 1b	4	1	1	1
Mrrero lf	3	0	0	0	Conine lf	4	1	2	3
Thmsn p	1	0	0	0	AGnzlz ss	4	0	1	0
Thomas ph	1	0	0	0	Rdmnd c	4	0	0	0
JuCruz p	0	0	0	0	Penny p	2	0	0	0
DeRosa ph	1	0	0	0	Koch p	0	0	0	0
Almnza p	0	0	0	0	Easley ph	1	0	0	0
TSmith p	0	0	0	0	Nunez rf	0	0	0	0
Hssmn ph	1	0	0	0					
Totals	32	0	4	0	**Totals**	33	6	10	6

Atlanta 000 000 000—0
Florida 110 300 10x—6

E—LCastillo (3), Choi (4). DP—Atlanta 1. LOB—Atlanta 9, Florida 5. 2B—JEstrada (23). 3B—LCastillo (4). HR—Pierre (2), Choi (13), Conine (5). CS—Furcal (3).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Atlanta						
Thomson L,5-6	4	5	5	5	1	4
JuCruz	2	3	0	0	0	2
Almanza	2/3	1	1	1	1	0
TSmith	1 1/3	1	0	0	0	0
Florida						
Penny W,7-5	6	4	0	0	1	7
Koch	1	0	0	0	1	0
Perisho	1	0	0	0	0	1
BHoward	1	0	0	0	2	3

PB—Redmond. T—2:39. A—15,294 (36,331).

Phillies 5, Expos 2

PHILADELPHIA	ab	r	h	bi	MONTREAL	ab	r	h	bi
Rollins ss	4	1	2	1	Wlkrsn lf	4	0	0	0
Planco 2b	5	0	0	0	EChvez cf	4	1	2	0
BAbreu rf	4	0	1	1	Vidro 2b	3	1	2	1
Thome 1b	3	1	1	1	NJhnsn 1b	4	0	0	0
Burrell lf	4	0	0	0	OCbera ss	4	0	1	1
DaBell 3b	4	1	2	1	Sledge rf	4	0	0	0
Lbrthal c	4	1	1	1	TBtsta 3b	3	0	0	0
Mchels cf	3	1	1	0	Schndr c	3	0	1	0
Worrell p	0	0	0	0	EDiaz ph	1	0	0	0
BWgnr p	0	0	0	0	SKim p	2	0	0	0
Mllwod p	1	0	0	0	Tucker p	0	0	0	0
Crmier p	0	0	0	0	Bentz p	0	0	0	0
Glnville cf	1	0	0	0	Biddle p	0	0	0	0
					Carroll ph	0	0	0	0
					Ayala p	0	0	0	0
					CEvrtt ph	1	0	0	0
Totals	33	5	8	5	**Totals**	33	2	6	2

Philadelphia 011 102 000—5
Montreal 100 001 000—2

E—TBatista (7). DP—Montreal 1. LOB—Philadelphia 6, Montreal 7. 2B—BAbreu (16), Vidro (15). 3B—Rollins (4). HR—Thome (24), DaBell (7), Lieberthal (8), Vidro (7). SB—EnChavez (12). S—Millwood 2.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Philadelphia						
Millwood W,5-5	6 1/3	5	2	2	3	7
Cormier	2/3	0	0	0	0	0
Worrell	1	1	0	0	0	0
BWagner S,11	1	0	0	0	0	2
Montreal						
SKim L,3-3	5 2/3	7	5	5	3	1
Tucker	1/3	0	0	0	0	0
Bentz	2/3	0	0	0	0	0
Biddle	1/3	0	0	0	0	0
Ayala	2	1	0	0	0	0

T—2:47. A—4,209 (46,338).

Cardinals 10, Cubs 9

CHICAGO	ab	r	h	bi	ST. LOUIS	ab	r	h	bi
TWalkr 2b	6	2	4	1	Wmack 2b	4	1	2	2
Barrett c	4	1	0	0	Rnteria ss	5	1	1	0
Bako c	1	0	0	0	Pujols 1b	3	2	1	3
Alou lf	4	2	1	1	Rolen 3b	3	1	0	0
SSosa rf	5	1	1	1	RSndrs rf	4	0	1	0
ARmrz 3b	5	1	1	2	Luna lf	3	1	1	2
DeLee 1b	3	1	3	0	Kline p	0	0	0	0
CPttson cf	4	1	3	2	Mtheny c	4	0	0	0
REMtiz ss	4	0	1	2	Tguchi cf	3	3	2	1
Frnswr p	0	0	0	0	Suppan p	1	0	0	0
Rusch p	2	0	0	0	Lnkfrd ph	1	1	1	1
Macias ph	1	0	0	0	Calero p	0	0	0	0
Beltran p	0	0	0	0	Tvarez p	0	0	0	0
Merckr p	0	0	0	0	MAndn ph	1	0	0	0
Rmlngr p	0	0	0	0	Eldred p	0	0	0	0
ROrdnz ss	0	0	0	0	Mabry lf	0	0	0	0
Grdzln ph	1	0	0	0					
Totals	40	9	14	9	**Totals**	32	10	9	9

Chicago 000 036 000— 9
St. Louis 003 023 11x—10

E—Alou (4), ARamirez (4), REMartinez (5). DP—Chicago 1, St. Louis 1. LOB—Chicago 11, St. Louis 4. 2B—Alou (15), ARamirez (20), DeLee (26), CPatterson (12), REMartinez (12), Renteria (15), RSanders (12), Luna (2). 3B—Lankford (1). HR—TWalker (11), Pujols (20). SB—DeLee (6), Taguchi (2). CS—TWalker (2). S—Mabry. SF—Womack, Luna.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Chicago						
Rusch	5	5	5	5	0	3
Beltran	2/3	2	3	2	1	2
Mercker	1 1/3	2	1	1	1	1
Remlinger L,0-1	2/3	0	1	0	1	0
Farnsworth	1/3	0	0	0	0	0
St. Louis						
Suppan	5	7	3	3	5	5
Calero	1/3	3	4	4	0	1
Tavarez	2/3	3	2	2	1	0
Eldred	1 1/3	1	0	0	0	0
Kline W,2-1	1 2/3	0	0	0	0	2

HBP—by Calero (Barrett). PB—Bako. T—3:24. A—43,127 (50,345).

Reds 6, Mets 4 (12)

CINCINNATI	ab	r	h	bi	NEW YORK	ab	r	h	bi
DJmnz 2b	6	1	2	1	Matsui ss	6	0	2	0
JCastro ss	6	2	2	0	Reyes 2b	5	2	1	1
Casey 1b	6	2	5	4	Piazza c	5	1	3	1
Grf Jr. cf	5	0	0	0	Floyd lf	5	0	1	1
Dunn lf	5	0	0	0	Hidalgo rf	5	0	2	1
LaRue c	5	0	0	0	Cmeron cf	5	0	0	0
WPena rf	5	1	2	1	Wggntn 3b	4	0	2	0
MMtws p	0	0	0	0	Valent 1b	2	1	1	0
Graves p	0	0	0	0	Zeile 1b	2	0	0	0
Hmmel 3b	5	0	2	0	McEwg 1b	1	0	0	0
Poppel p	2	0	0	0	Seo p	0	0	0	0
GWhite p	0	0	0	0	Wllams ph	1	0	0	0
JClark ph	1	0	0	0	Parra p	0	0	0	0
TJones p	0	0	0	0	Spncer ph	1	0	0	0
JaCruz ph	1	0	1	0	Stanton p	0	0	0	0
Redling p	0	0	0	0	Bttlco p	0	0	0	0
Freel rf	1	0	0	0	JPhllps ph	1	0	1	0
					Looper p	0	0	0	0
					Trchsel ph	1	0	0	0
					JoFrco p	0	0	0	0
Totals	48	6	14	6	**Totals**	44	4	13	4

Cincinnati 220 000 000 002—6
New York 002 010 010 000—4

E—LaRue (7). DP—Cincinnati 2, New York 1. LOB—Cincinnati 7, New York 8. 2B—JCastro (7), Reyes (1), Piazza (15), Hidalgo (16). HR—DJimenez (4), Casey 2 (15), WPena (6). CS—Hidalgo (3). S—Seo.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Cincinnati						
Van Poppel	5	8	3	3	1	1
GWhite	1	0	0	0	0	1
TJones	2	2	1	1	0	0
Riedling	2	2	0	0	1	2
MMatthews W,2-1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Graves S,28	1	1	0	0	0	0
New York						
Seo	5	8	4	4	1	1
Parra	2	1	0	0	0	1
Stanton	2/3	1	0	0	0	1
Bottalico	1 1/3	2	0	0	0	2
Looper	2	0	0	0	0	3
JoFranco L,1-4	1	2	2	2	0	0

T—3:43. A—32,423 (57,405).

Rockies 3, Brewers 2

COLORADO	ab	r	h	bi	MILWAUKEE	ab	r	h	bi
Miles 2b	4	0	1	2	Pdsdnk cf	4	0	0	0
Clayton ss	3	0	1	0	Spivey 2b	3	0	1	0
Helton 1b	3	0	0	0	Jenkins lf	4	1	1	0
PrWlsn cf	4	0	0	0	Ovrbay 1b	5	1	2	1
Castilla 3b	4	0	1	0	BClark rf	4	0	0	0
Burnitz rf	4	0	0	0	BHall ss	4	0	0	0
Hlliday lf	3	1	1	0	KGintr 3b	3	0	2	1
LWalkr rf	1	0	0	0	Moeller c	2	0	0	0
Greene c	4	1	1	0	Kschnk ph	1	0	0	0
Estes p	3	1	2	1	GBnntt c	0	0	0	0
Hrkala p	0	0	0	0	Cpuano p	1	0	0	0
Chacon p	0	0	0	0	Grieve ph	0	0	0	0
					LVzcno p	0	0	0	0
					Adams p	0	0	0	0
					Cunsell ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	33	3	7	3	**Totals**	31	2	6	2

Colorado 003 000 000—3
Milwaukee 000 100 010—2

E—Castilla (5). DP—Colorado 1. LOB—Colorado 5, Milwaukee 12. 2B—Castilla (23), Estes (1), KGinter (11). HR—Overbay (8). CS—Miles (2), Spivey (3). S—Podsednik, Spivey.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Colorado						
Estes W,8-3	7 1/3	6	2	2	3	6
Harikkala	2/3	0	0	0	2	0
Chacon S,14	1	0	0	0	2	0
Milwaukee						
Capuano L,2-3	7	7	3	3	1	3
LVizcaino	1	0	0	0	1	1
Adams	1	0	0	0	0	2

HBP—by Estes (Capuano). WP—Capuano, LVizcaino. T—2:58. A—19,964 (41,900).

Pirates 7, Astros 2

PITTSBURGH	ab	r	h	bi	HOUSTON	ab	r	h	bi
Kendall c	4	2	1	4	Biggio cf	3	1	0	0
JWilsn ss	4	0	0	0	AEvrtt ss	3	0	0	0
Ward 1b	4	0	1	2	Brkmn lf	4	0	1	0
CWilsn rf	4	1	1	0	Bgwell 1b	4	1	2	0
STorres p	0	0	0	0	Ensbrg 3b	3	0	0	0
Mesa p	0	0	0	0	JVzcno 2b	4	0	1	1
Mckwk 3b	4	1	2	1	Lane rf	4	0	0	0
Bay lf	2	0	0	0	Asmus c	4	0	1	0
TRdmn cf	4	0	0	0	Munro p	2	0	0	0
Castillo 2b	4	2	2	0	Wthers p	0	0	0	0
Vglsng p	1	0	0	0	Lamb ph	1	0	0	0
Simon ph	0	1	0	0	Gallo p	0	0	0	0
Mdows p	0	0	0	0	Hrvlle p	0	0	0	0
Stynes 3b	1	0	0	0	OPlmro ph	0	0	0	0
Totals	32	7	7	7	**Totals**	32	2	5	1

Pittsburgh 012 000 400—7
Houston 100 100 000—2

E—Castillo 2 (7). LOB—Pittsburgh 3, Houston 8. 3B—CWilson (3), Mackowiak (2), JVizcaino (1). HR—Kendall (2). S—Bay, Vogelsong, AEverett.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Pittsburgh						
Vogelsong W,2-7	6	2	2	1	3	3
Meadows	1	1	0	0	0	0
STorres	1	2	0	0	0	1
Mesa	1	0	0	0	1	0
Houston						
PMunro L,1-1	6 1/3	4	4	4	1	4
Weathers	2/3	2	3	3	1	1
Gallo	1	1	0	0	1	2
Harville	1	0	0	0	0	1

T—2:45. A—34,242 (40,950).

Padres 4, Diamondbacks 3

ARIZONA	ab	r	h	bi	SAN DIEGO	ab	r	h	bi
Hirston 2b	4	0	1	2	Brrghs 3b	3	1	1	0
SFinley cf	4	0	3	0	Cirillo 2b	4	1	2	1
DBtista rf	4	0	1	0	RVazqz 2b	0	0	0	0
LGnzlz lf	4	1	1	0	Payton cf	4	1	0	0
Hlnbrn 1b	4	0	1	0	Nevin 1b	3	0	2	0
Olson 3b	3	0	1	0	Bchnan lf	3	0	0	0
Tracy 3b	1	0	1	0	Rbnson lf	1	0	0	0
Cintron ss	4	0	1	1	Qintero c	4	0	2	2
Hmck c	4	2	2	0	Greene ss	4	0	0	0
RJhson p	2	0	1	0	Long rf	4	1	1	1
Clbrnn ph	1	0	0	0	DWells p	2	0	0	0
Dssens p	0	0	0	0	Lnbrnk p	0	0	0	0
					Otsuka p	0	0	0	0
Totals	35	3	13	3	**Totals**	32	4	8	4

Arizona 001 000 011—3
San Diego 000 002 101—4

One out when winning run scored.

DP—Arizona 1, San Diego 3. LOB—Arizona 5, San Diego 6. 2B—Hairston (8), SFinley (11), Hillenbrand (13), Hammock (12), Quintero (1). 3B—Hammock (2). HR—Long (1). SB—Burroughs (5). CS—Quintero (1).

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Arizona						
RJohnson	7	7	3	3	1	8
Dessens L,1-5	1 1/3	1	1	1	0	1
San Diego						
DWells	7	8	2	2	0	2
Linebrink	1	2	0	0	0	0
Otsuka W,5-2	1	3	1	1	0	0

DWells pitched to 1 batter in the 8th. HBP—by RJohnson (DWells), by RJohnson (Burroughs). WP—RJohnson, Linebrink. T—2:27. A—37,304 (42,445).

Giants 3, Dodgers 2

LOS ANGELES	ab	r	h	bi	SAN FRANCISCO	ab	r	h	bi
DRbrts cf	4	1	2	0	Drham 2b	4	0	2	3
Izturis ss	3	1	1	1	Tucker rf	4	0	0	0
L Duca c	4	0	0	0	FRdgez p	0	0	0	0
Beltre 3b	4	0	4	1	Eyre p	0	0	0	0
Vntura 1b	3	0	0	0	Rnsom ss	0	0	0	0
JHrndz 1b	1	0	0	0	Grssom cf	4	0	0	0
JEcrcn rf	4	0	0	0	Bonds lf	2	0	0	0
Grbwsk lf	4	0	0	0	Alfonzo 3b	4	0	1	0
Cora 2b	1	0	0	0	Przyns c	2	1	2	0
ShGren ph	1	0	1	0	Minor 1b	2	1	0	0
Weaver p	1	0	0	0	WFrkln p	0	0	0	0
Saenz ph	1	0	0	0	Mohr rf	0	0	0	0
Mota p	0	0	0	0	DCruz ss	4	1	1	0
Werth ph	1	0	0	0	Herges p	0	0	0	0
					JeWms p	2	0	0	0
					Feliz 1b	1	0	1	0
Totals	32	2	8	2	**Totals**	29	3	7	3

Los Angeles 200 000 000—2
San Francisco 030 000 00x—3

DP—Los Angeles 1, San Francisco 2. LOB—Los Angeles 7, San Francisco 8. 3B—DRoberts (6), Durham (3). SB—Izturis (12), Durham (4), Feliz (3). S—Weaver, Pierzynski.

	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Los Angeles						
Weaver L,5-8	6	5	3	3	2	4
Mota	2	2	0	0	2	1
San Francisco						
JeWilliams W,7-5	6	6	2	2	2	2
WFranklin	1	0	0	0	0	0
FRodriguez	2/3	1	0	0	1	0
Eyre	1/3	0	0	0	0	1
Herges S,19	1	1	0	0	0	0

HBP—by Weaver (Pierzynski). T—2:47. A—42,340 (41,584).

NL leaders

Batting—Casey, Cincinnati, .361; Bonds, San Francisco, .355; Overbay, Milwaukee, .346; JWilson, Pittsburgh, .341; Helton, Colorado, .338; Rolen, St. Louis, .336; Lo Duca, Los Angeles, .332.

Runs—Pujols, St. Louis, 61; ARamirez, Chicago, 54; Casey, Cincinnati, 54; BAbreu, Philadelphia, 54; Bonds, San Francisco, 54; Clayton, Colorado, 53; LGonzalez, Arizona, 52.

RBI—Rolen, St. Louis, 71; Castilla, Colorado, 57; Berkman, Houston, 55; ARamirez, Chicago, 54; Casey, Cincinnati, 54; Griffey Jr., Cincinnati, 54; Overbay, Milwaukee, 51; Pujols, St. Louis, 51; Thome, Philadelphia, 51.

Hits—Casey, Cincinnati, 99; JWilson, Pittsburgh, 98; Pierre, Florida, 90; ARamirez, Chicago, 90; Overbay, Milwaukee, 89; Loretta, San Diego, 89; Izturis, Los Angeles, 86; Biggio, Houston, 86.

Home runs—Thome, Philadelphia, 24; Dunn, Cincinnati, 20; Pujols, St. Louis, 20; Griffey Jr., Cincinnati, 19; Alou, Chicago, 18; SFinley, Arizona, 18; Bonds, San Francisco, 18.

Pitching (8 Decisions)—Milton, Philadelphia, 9-1, .900, 4.31; PWilson, Cincinnati, 7-1, .875, 3.54; Schmidt, San Francisco, 9-2, .818, 2.26; Clemens, Houston, 9-2, .818, 2.84; Zambrano, Chicago, 8-2, .800, 2.25; Pavano, Florida, 8-2, .800, 2.88; Carpenter, St. Louis, 7-2, .778, 3.95.

Strikeouts—RJohnson, Arizona, 121; Schmidt, San Francisco, 103; Clement, Chicago, 98; Clemens, Houston, 97; BSheets, Milwaukee, 95; Penny, Florida, 91; OlPerez, Pittsburgh, 89; Zambrano, Chicago, 89.

No reward

Padres' Wells outpitches Johnson, but bullpen deprives him of a win

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — In a matchup of perfect-game pitchers, David Wells outpitched Randy Johnson — and he still didn't get a victory.

Wells worked into the eighth inning and gave up just two runs, but the San Diego bullpen failed before Terrence Long's homer in the ninth gave the Padres a 4-3 victory over Arizona on Wednesday night.

"Runs have been scarce," Wells said. "They got me three runs tonight and I figured that would be enough."

NL Roundup

Since his last victory on May 5, Wells has given up just 10 runs in 40 2/3 innings but is 0-3 with three no-decisions.

This time, though, the Padres were facing Johnson, who was going for his 10th victory of the season.

"It was a battle of the 40-year-olds and nobody won," Wells said. "We both got no-decisions, but still it was a great-pitched game. You're always going to expect a good one out of Randy."

Johnson pitched seven innings for the visiting Diamondbacks. He gave up three runs and seven hits while striking out eight — leaving him eight shy of 4,000.

Elmer Dessens (1-5) gave up Long's homer off the right-field pole with one-out in the ninth.

"Any win's a good win," Wells said, "and Terrence got a good pitch to handle, and if you hit it down the line, the ball's going to go. He hit the foul pole, and that's a blessing in disguise right there."

The Padres swept a three-game series from the Diamondbacks, who lost their season-high sixth straight game.

Wells came out to start the eighth after being hit in the arm by a pitch from Johnson with one out in the seventh. Wells allowed a leadoff double and made way for Scott Linebrink, who allowed the run that made it 3-2.

In the ninth, Akinori Otsuka (5-2), pitching because stopper Trevor Hoffman had pitched in four of the previous five game, gave up a tying RBI single to Alex Cintron's to spoil Wells' outing.

Johnson failed to become the first 10-game winner in the majors, getting his first no-decision in a span of 14 starts.

"It's disappointing," Johnson said. "When I'm out there pitching, I want to put this team on my shoulders. That's my responsibility. It's what I'm about. I didn't get it done. I take the blame for that."

Phillies 5, Expos 2: At Montreal, Jim Thome hit his major league-leading 24th homer and Kevin Millwood won for the first time in eight starts. Millwood (5-5) pitched 6 1/3 innings for his first victory since May 11, allowing two runs and five hits. Billy Wagner pitched a perfect ninth for his 10th save.

Sun-woo Kim (3-3) was the loser.

Marlins 6, Braves 0: Brad Penny (7-5) allowed four hits over six innings to win for the first time in five starts.

Jeff Conine homered for the first time in more than a month to help host Florida hand Atlanta its sixth loss in seven games.

Juan Pierre and Hee Seop Choi also homered against John Thomson (5-6).

Cardinals 10, Cubs 9: So Taguchi scored the go-ahead run on Paul Bako's passed ball in the eighth inning.

Albert Pujols hit a three-run homer for the host Cardinals, his 20th. Steve Kline (2-1) retired the last five batters to beat Mike Remlinger (0-1).

AP

Atlanta's Rafael Furcal is tagged out trying to steal second by Florida Marlins second baseman Luis Castillo.

Reds 6, Mets 4 (12): Sean Casey hit his second two-run homer in the 12th inning off John Franco (1-4) and finished with five hits.

Wily Mo Pena and D'Angelo Jimenez also connected for the visiting Reds, who snapped New York's season-high five-game winning streak. Mike Matthews (2-1) pitched a hitless 11th and Danny Graves got his 28th save.

Pirates 7, Astros 2: Ryan Vogelsong allowed (2-7) two hits in six innings to win for the first time in 12 starts and Jason Kendall hit his first career grand slam to lead visiting Pittsburgh, which snapped a five-game losing streak.

Pete Munro (1-1) gave up four runs and four hits in 6 1/3 innings.

Rockies 3, Brewers 2: Shawn Estes had a run-scoring double off Chris Capuano (2-3) and reliever Shawn Chacon worked out of a bases-loaded jam in the ninth inning for his 14th save.

Estes (8-3) allowed two runs in 7 1/3 innings and Aaron Miles had a two-run single in the three-run third for the visiting Rockies.

Giants 3, Dodgers 2: Ray Durham hit a bases-loaded triple and Jerome Williams (7-5) allowed six hits and two runs in six innings in the host Giants' fifth straight victory and third in a row over Los Angeles.

Jeff Weaver (5-8) allowed five hits and three runs in six innings, retiring 10 of his last 11 hitters.

Piniella wants to use win streak as springboard

The Associated Press

TORONTO — Lou Piniella wants the Tampa Bay Devil Rays to keep thinking about their team-record winning streak, even though it's over.

"It should give us confidence for the rest of our schedule. We turned our season around," the Devils Rays manager said. "I'm proud of the way this team played. You can't keep something like this going forever."

The streak ended at 12 games Wednesday night with a 2-1, 10-inning loss to Toronto.

Tampa Bay (33-35) hadn't lost since June 8 against San Francisco. It was the longest winning streak in the major leagues since Arizona won 12 straight from June 18-30 last season.

"The streak showed that we can compete in the American League," Tampa Bay starter Victor Zambrano said. "We're going to keep showing we can win a lot of games."

AL Roundup

Toronto's Dave Berg led off the 10th with a single off Jesus Colome (1-1), Frank Menechino walked on four pitches and Howie Clark sacrificed. Reed Johnson then singled up the middle, scoring pinch-runner Chris Woodward.

Toronto tied it 1-1 in the eighth on Zambrano's wild pitch after Alex Rios singled, stole second and took third on a groundout. Zambrano led the majors in wild pitches last year.

Tampa Bay took the lead in the third against AL Cy Young winner Roy Halladay when Carl Crawford doubled and scored on Robert Fick's single.

Jason Frasor (3-2) pitched the 10th to cap Toronto's six-hitter.

"We didn't want them leaving with 13 or 14 in a row. We're desperate for wins, too," Frasor said.

Athletics 7, Angels 1: Mark Redman beat the host Angels for the first time in five career decisions, Scott Hatteberg hit two sacrifice flies and Oakland ended a four-game losing streak.

Redman (6-3) allowed one run and seven hits in 7 1/3 innings to beat Kelvim Escobar (4-4).

Orioles 13, Yankees 2: David Newhan, signed last Friday, had career highs of four hits and three RBIs and the host Orioles finished with 17 hits.

Miguel Tejada homered and drove in four runs for the Orioles, who had lost nine straight against New York, including seven games this year by a combined 70-35 score. Orioles rookie manager Lee Mazzilli, a former Yankees coach, beat mentor Joe Torre for the first time.

Twins 4, Red Sox 2: Torii Hunter had a home run and three RBIs for Minnesota and Carlos Silva (8-4) allowed two runs in 6 1/3 innings. Joe Nathan pitched the ninth for his 20th save.

Derek Lowe (6-6) gave up four runs and seven hits in seven innings as host Boston lost for the fifth time in eight games.

Indians 9, White Sox 5: Ben Broussard hit a grand slam in the eighth, his second homer this season, and Ronnie Belliard homered in his third straight game.

Casey Blake and Lou Merloni also homered for the visiting Indians. Paul Konerko hit two and Aaron Rowand one for Chicago, which has lost six of eight.

Cliff Lee (7-1) allowed three runs and five hits in six innings. Mark Buehrle (7-2) lost for the first time in 12 starts since April 20, giving up eight runs and 10 hits in seven-plus innings.

Rangers 6, Mariners 3: Nick Bierbrodt (1-0) allowed two runs and five hits in six innings to win for the first time since Oct. 4, 2001, with Tampa Bay.

The host Rangers (39-29) won their fifth straight to move 10 games over .500 for the first time since the end of the 1999 season.

Francisco Cordero worked the ninth for his 21st save.

Royals 7, Tigers 3: Dee Brown hit a two-run single in a four-run first and the host Royals also got RBI doubles from Mike Sweeney and Joe Randa.

Darrell May (5-8) allowed two runs and nine hits in seven innings.

Croatian teen topples Venus

Second-seeded American loses in two sets amid controversy

BY STEPHEN WILSON
The Associated Press

WIMBLEDON, England — Former two-time champion Venus Williams was upset in the second round of Wimbledon on Thursday, losing in straight sets to Croatia's Karolina Sprem in a match marred by an umpire's scoring error in the final tiebreaker.

The 19-year-old Sprem, ranked No. 30, outplayed Williams on Centre Court 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6) in the first major surprise of the championship.

The result was clouded in controversy over scoring in the second-set tiebreaker. Chair umpire Ted Watts incorrectly called the score 2-2, giving Sprem a point when she should have been taking a second serve.

Both players appeared confused, but neither disputed the call. Tournament referee Alan Mills confirmed the umpire made a mistake but said the result would remain.

It's the earliest defeat for Williams in a Grand Slam tournament since a first-round loss in the French Open in 2001. It's also her earliest exit from Wimbledon since going out in the opening round in 1997.

Williams won Wimbledon in 2001 and 2002 and lost in the past two finals to her sister, Serena.

Williams led 2-1 in the second-set tiebreaker when Sprem's first serve was wide and called out by the line judge.

Williams casually hit the ball back and Sprem hit a backhand into the open court with Williams standing still, figuring the point was over.

Watts called the score 2-2, but the players lined up in the same positions for what should have been a second serve. Sprem hit a 86 mph serve, and Williams hit a backhand return winner.

That should have made the score 3-1, but Watts called it 3-2.

Williams then led 6-3, giving her three set points. Sprem erased the first with a forehand passing winner and Williams wasted the second with a double fault and the third with a forehand into the net.

At 6-6, Sprem earned her first match point when Williams' forehand volley hit the top of the net but fell back on her side.

The match ended on the next point when Williams hit a forehand long.

Asked whether she considered questioning the score, Williams said, "Yes, but I didn't want to lose my focus. At the time, I felt that maybe I had lost track, or couldn't be sure. I thought I remembered her having only one serve, but then again, it's a long time ago now."

Elsewhere on Thursday, 2001 champion Goran Ivanisevic pulled out a five-set victory to set up a third-round match against former champion Lleyton Hewitt.

Ivanisevic, who missed Wimbledon the past two years with injuries and is retiring after this tournament, was his usual animated self as he came up with timely shots to outlast Italy's Filippo Volandri, 4-6, 7-6 (8), 1-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Ivanisevic will face Hewitt, who won the 2002 championship after the Croatian was unable to defend his title because of a shoulder injury. Hewitt, seeded No. 7, enjoyed an easy second-round victory on Thursday, defeating Georgia's Irakli Labadze 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.

Andy Roddick, meanwhile, took advantage of an early start and a break in the weather to complete a first-round victory over a Taiwanese qualifier playing his first tour-level match.

The second-seeded American finished off a 6-3, 7-5, 6-4 win over Wang Yeu-tzuoo on Centre Court in a match suspended by rain at 4-2 in the first set Tuesday. All play was washed out Wednesday, and rain interrupted play briefly Thursday afternoon.

Also advancing was third-seeded Guillermo Coria, who completed a match that lasted four days. The French Open runner-up needed just two points and two minutes to finish a 6-4, 6-7 (3), 6-3, 6-7 (3), 6-3 win over 106th-ranked Wesley Moodie of South Africa on Court 1.

Top-seeded defending champion Roger Federer beat Colombia an qualifier Alejandro Falla 6-1, 6-2, 6-0 in 54 minutes — one of the fastest men's matches in recent Grand Slam history.

Also reaching the third round were No. 6 Juan Carlos Ferrero, No. 9 Carlos Moya and No. 10 Sebastien Grosjean. Ferrero saved two match points in the fourth-set tiebreaker before overcoming Stefan Koubek 4-6, 7-5, 5-7, 7-6 (6), 8-6 in 3 hours, 38 minutes.

Women's first-round winners Thursday included fourth-seeded Amelie Mauresmo, a 6-2, 6-3 winner over Jelena Kostanic, and No. 7 Jennifer Capriati, who beat Claudine Schaul 6-2, 6-2 in 55 minutes.

AP

Karolina Sprem of Croatia (above), a 19-year-old ranked 30th in the world, upset No. 2 seed Venus Williams 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6) on Thursday.

Oregon football put on probation

No bowl ban or loss of scholarships enforced

BY ANNE M. PETERSON
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — An Oregon assistant football coach violated NCAA recruiting rules when he tried to lure a junior college transfer to the school in January 2003, resulting in a two-year probation for the school.

The Pacific-10 school remains eligible for postseason play and will not lose any scholarships, NCAA spokeswoman Kay Hawes said Wednesday.

The case centers on a "series of impermissible" contacts by the assistant and a national letter of intent that had a forged signature, the NCAA said. The athlete involved was not identified and does not attend Oregon.

The assistant, Gary Campbell, was suspended without pay for one week during the past school year, and he was not allowed to recruit until January. The university also restricted the number of coaches allowed off campus to recruit last season.

"We're trying to win the right way and we're not going to cheat," Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti said. "I feel very bad about this because it happened under my watch."

The case was resolved without a formal hearing. The NCAA's governing body agreed with the university's proposed penalties and did not impose additional sanctions.

"The violation was self-discovered here in the program, it was self-reported. We cooperated fully with both the Pac-10 and NCAA," said Bill Moos, Oregon's athletic director. "We're very proud of the fact we have not had a major NCAA violation in, I believe, 20 years. So we take this very seriously."

Bertuzzi gets assault charge for on-ice attack

The Associated Press

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Canucks star Todd Bertuzzi was charged Thursday with assault for a sucker-punch that left Colorado's Steve Moore with a broken neck and prompted widespread criticism of hockey violence.

The charges — assault causing bodily harm — were announced by the criminal justice branch of the ministry of the attorney general after an investigation that lasted four months. Bertuzzi was ordered to appear in provincial court July 9.

Moore was hospitalized after the March 8 attack with three fractured vertebrae, facial cuts, post-concussion symptoms and amnesia. Nerves in the neck area were also stretched. Doctors say it's not known if he can play again.

The NHL suspended Bertuzzi for the final 13 games of the regular season and Vancouver's seven playoff games. Bertuzzi also was left off Canada's roster for this fall's World Cup.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman plans to hold a hearing with the Vancouver star. Last month, Bettman gave no indication when that meeting might happen or if the indefinite suspension will be lifted.

Sports briefs

Marlins' Beckett likely headed to DL

MIAMI — Florida ace Josh Beckett is probably headed back to the disabled list.

Beckett, trying to recover from a strained back muscle, felt pain Wednesday while throwing for a second consecutive day.

He was hoping to start Saturday at Tampa Bay, but a team spokesman said Beckett's setback likely will land the World Series MVP on the 15-day DL for the second time in less than a month.

The Marlins were not sure who would replace Beckett (4-4, 3.86 ERA) in the rotation, but left-hander Darren Oliver is an obvious choice. He has started eight games this season.

Boston 2B Reese hurts thumb

BOSTON — Red Sox second baseman Pokey Reese is expected to miss at least two games with a partially torn ligament in his left thumb.

Reese was hurt during Boston's 4-2 loss to Minnesota on Wednesday when he dove for a ground ball. Team doctor Bill Morgan doesn't expect that Reese will need surgery.

Chinese officials misuse $13 million intended for 2008 Olympics

BEIJING — Chinese sports officials misused more than $13 million designated for the 2008 Beijing Olympics to build apartments for their staff, state media said Thursday.

The money diverted to apartment construction was among $15.9 million in misused Olympic funds found by an audit of the Beijing sports bureau, the Xinhua News Agency said.

Some $13.2 million was spent on apartments, with the rest invested illegally in companies, Xinhua said, citing a report to parliament by China's auditor-general, Li Jinhua.

Looking for a successful Formula

F1 still searching for ways to build American fan base

BY MICHAEL MAROT
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Formula One is the world's giant in auto racing. In America, it's barely a player.

At last week's U.S. Grand Prix here, tickets were a tough sell, the stands were filled with foreign flags and even Michael Schumacher, one of the world's biggest stars, talked about his anonymity in the United States.

"We have to get our act together," said Eddie Jordan, team boss of Jordan Ford. "We understand we have technology and we have newfangled cars, but we also have to reach out and make that extra effort."

Part of the problem is exposure. For nearly a decade, from 1991 until the U.S. Grand Prix came to Indianapolis in 2000, F1 didn't even hold an American race. The last U.S. driver in the series was Michael Andretti in 1993, an experiment that flopped.

But in a global economy that requires constant growth, F1 is rethinking its approach. It is considering adding a second American race, perhaps returning to the West Coast for the first time since 1983.

"Maybe we can squeeze another race in," F1 President Bernie Ecclestone said. "We need a lot more exposure."

Ecclestone would not discuss specifics of a new marketing strategy, but acknowledged changes may be needed.

There haven't been two F1 races in the United States since 1984, and the circuit has just two races each year in North America — the Canadian Grand Prix in Montreal and the U.S. Grand Prix in Indianapolis. For the first time this year, F1 ran them on back-to-back weekends to help cut costs and improve attendance.

AP

A giant American flag is paraded along the main straightaway before the United States Grand Prix at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Sunday. The race is the only American stop on the Formula One circuit, and officials are trying to find a way to attract American fans to a sport dominated by foreigners, such as champion driver Michael Schumacher, right. F1 is considering adding a second American race.

Making it three straight weeks, some believe, would help hold the interest.

"Americans like to be entertained and if we don't entertain them, it won't catch on — simple as that," said Tony Purnell, team principal of the Jaguar team.

> *"Americans like to be entertained and if we don't entertain them, it won't catch on — simple as that."*
>
> **Tony Purnell**
> F1 Jaguar team principle

Another problem is the lack of American names.

While most of the world considers F1 the highest form of racing, because of the technology, strategy and skill involved, Americans have no countrymen or teams to cheer for — and that doesn't appear to be changing.

Two years ago, Dan Gurney's attempt to field an all-American F1 team failed because of a lack of sponsorship.

Andretti's attempt was aborted after a partial season.

BMW Williams team principal Frank Williams has developed a friendship with NASCAR star Jeff Gordon, a driver he calls a "special talent" but who is unlikely to make the switch. Jacques Villeneuve, a Canadian with American appeal, won the 1997 world championship but now is looking for a ride.

Defending Indy Racing League champion Scott Dixon, of New Zealand, already has tested for Williams, who believes Dixon needs at least one more season on the IRL circuit before jumping overseas.

It's not a new phenomenon. The only Americans to win world championships are Phil Hill in 1961 and Mario Andretti in 1977.

Eddie Cheever, a former Indy winner and F1 driver, believes there's only one way to get more U.S. fans hooked.

"It's going to take an American team with an American driver," Cheever said. "That's the only way it's going to happen."

That will be difficult, though.

"I don't know that you could have an American team because everybody's based in Europe," Ecclestone said. "But you could do it with an American driver."

Even that may not be good enough.

From 1950-60, F1 sanctioned the Indianapolis 500 but few regulars competed. It didn't hold an actual race in the United States until 1959 at Sebring, Fla. Since then, F1 has stayed longer than eight years at only one U.S. track — Watkins Glen, N.Y., where it ran from 1961-80.

And while Indianapolis still ranks as one of the most-watched races on the F1 circuit, about 125,000 watched Sunday's race, attendance has declined steadily since the first USGP in 2000.

"It takes time to build events and attract people," Ecclestone said. "We need a lot more TV coverage and I think once we get those things, you'll be surprised."

Woods says caddie went too far in camera episodes

AP

Tiger Woods' caddie Steve Williams confiscates a camera during the U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills Golf Club on Sunday.

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

Tiger Woods conceded Wednesday that his caddie "probably went too far" by kicking over a photographer's lens and taking another camera from someone in the gallery at the U.S. Open.

But he also suggested tournament officials need to do a better job regulating cameras in the crowd and disciplining news photographers who take pictures in the middle of his swing.

Woods was never in contention in the U.S. Open, his eighth consecutive major without winning. He shot 76 in the final round and tied for 17th at 10-over 290, his sixth straight major over par.

His temper flared last Wednesday morning during his final practice round when photographers twice clicked during his swing on the 18th hole, causing him to halt his swing and eventually pick up his ball from the tee.

At the start of the second round at Shinnecock Hills, a photographer for the New York Daily News said caddie Steve Williams kicked over his camera as he was taking pictures of Woods during his practice swing.

In the final round, Williams saw someone in the gallery take a picture of Woods, walked into the crowd and took his camera away. It belonged to an off-duty police officer.

Cameras are not allowed once the tournament begins.

"It is important to understand that the crowds at certain tournaments can get out of hand," Woods said in a monthly newsletter on his Web site. "Steve and I know that he probably went too far and we will make sure that does not happen again. However, Steve was just trying to protect me and let his emotions get the best of him."

USGA executive director David Fay said on the NBC telecast of the final round that he instructed the rules official with the group to tell Williams to let security handle problems with the gallery.

"It's understandable at a certain level what he's trying to do, but we have professionals out there to deal with this," Fay said.

Woods' swing has come under more scrutiny than ever because of his split from swing coach Butch Harmon, and suggestions that his swing now resembles principles of Dallas-based Hank Haney, the coach of Mark O'Meara.

Two weeks ago at the Memorial, Williams placed the golf bag in front of a stationary camera at the Memorial that analyzed swings.

Also, while Woods practiced on the range Wednesday, Williams moved the bag to block the view of photographers taking pictures of his swing.

"Hopefully, in future events organizers will do a better job of screening cameras from fans and will also take a harder line on the credentialed photographers who snap pictures during mine and other players' swings," Woods said.

Mavs send Jamison to D.C.

Dallas trades for No. 5 pick, Stackhouse, Laettner

BY JAIME ARON
The Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks agreed Wednesday night to trade Antawn Jamison to the Washington Wizards for the No. 5 pick in the draft, Jerry Stackhouse and Christian Laettner, a source close to the deal told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

The trade can't be official until the NBA offices open Thursday.

By then, Dallas may be working toward other deals in its pursuit of Shaquille O'Neal.

While O'Neal remains the center of the Mavericks' dreams, the high pick also gives them the chance to take 7-foot-5 Pavel Podkolzine, a 19-year-old Russian.

Podkolzine or the pick also could be part of the package the Mavericks would offer the Los Angeles Lakers for O'Neal.

Dallas did not previously have a first-round pick in Thursday night's draft, having traded it last summer to Boston in the deal for Antoine Walker.

The Wizards had made it clear they weren't enamored with any of their choices at the top of the draft. Taking Jamison, a proven scorer over his six-year career in Dallas and Golden State, is a much safer move, even if he is owed nearly $58 million over the next four years.

For the Mavericks, all moves for the immediate future will be viewed as positioning for a prospective trade for O'Neal.

Other than the pick/Podkolzine aspect, the benefit of getting Laettner is that he's going into the last year of his contract, like Walker. That makes them commodities because their salaries — a combined $20.8 million — would open huge cap room next summer.

Their combined salaries puts Dallas much closer to the $23.5 million needed to get within the league-mandated 15 percent of O'Neal's $27.7 million price tag.

It's unlikely the Lakers would be interested in Stackhouse, who is due $7 million next season, $7.5 million the following year and $8 million after that.

Stackhouse has averaged 21 points per game over his nine-year career, but he played just 26 games last season because of injuries, mainly to his right knee.

This is the second time the Mavs have acquired Laettner. He played 53 games in the 2000-01 season, then was dealt to Washington in an eight-player trade that brought Juwan Howard to Dallas.

Dallas acquired Jamison last summer expecting to pair him at forward with Dirk Nowitzki, then bumped him to the bench when Walker arrived during training camp. He accepted the demotion and savored the team's success as he made the playoffs for the first time. He was rewarded by earning the league's Sixth Man award, but made it clear he wanted to be a starter next season.

AP

Georgia's Bobby Felmy, left, is caught stealing second base by Texas' Seth Johnston in the sixth inning in Omaha, Neb., Wednesday.

Riley confirms meeting with Lakers

The Associated Press

MIAMI — Miami Heat president Pat Riley confirmed Wednesday that he met with Los Angeles Lakers officials about their coaching vacancy, but stressed that no contract offers or demands were made.

Riley, in a statement distributed by team officials, said a meeting took place after Lakers owner Jerry Buss and general manager Mitch Kupchak asked for and received permission from Heat owner Micky Arison.

"During our discussion, which lasted a few hours, there was never any demands made by me nor was there ever an offer presented by them," Riley said in the statement. "It was simply a long philosophical discussion about the situation."

Riley did not specify when the meeting took place. On Saturday, he said through a Heat spokesman that he was seeking to extend his contract as Miami's president and that reports linking him with the Lakers' coaching search were merely "rumors."

The Lakers are searching for a successor to coach Phil Jackson, who helped the franchise win three NBA titles in five seasons. The announcement that Jackson wouldn't return next season was made last Friday, just three days after the Lakers lost to the Detroit Pistons in the NBA Finals.

Riley, a winner of 1,110 games in 21 seasons, led the "Showtime" Lakers of Magic Johnson and Kareem Abdul-Jabbar to titles in 1982, 1985, 1987 and 1988. He also coached the New York Knicks (1991-95) and the Heat (1995-2003), resigning from the Miami job four days before last season began.

NBA briefs

Source: Okafor up for final spot on Olympic team

With one roster spot remaining to be filled, the U.S. Olympic basketball team is expected to choose size over shooting ability.

Among the final candidates are Emeka Okafor, Brad Miller and Theo Ratliff, a source told The Associated Press on Wednesday.

Carmelo Anthony has accepted an invitation to join the team, but two members of the NBA champion Detroit Pistons — Richard Hamilton and Ben Wallace — have declined, two sources close to USA Basketball said on condition of anonymity.

Following a slew of withdrawals and rejected invitations, the unofficial U.S. roster now includes Duncan, Iverson, Anthony, LeBron James, Richard Jefferson, Stephon Marbury, Dwyane Wade, Shawn Marion, Amare Stoudemire, Lamar Odom and Carlos Boozer.

Fisher opts out of contract

LOS ANGELES — Derek Fisher, a key member of the Los Angeles Lakers the past eight seasons, opted out of his contract Wednesday to become an unrestricted free agent.

Fisher joins Kobe Bryant and Karl Malone in exercising options to become free agents.

Longhorns await CWS final opponent

BY ERIC OLSON
The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Texas will be resting while South Carolina and Cal State Fullerton meet again in the College World Series.

"The advantage is ours," Texas coach Augie Garrido said.

The top-seeded Longhorns (58-13), playing for their second national championship in three years, advanced to the best-of-three final with a 7-6 comeback victory over Georgia on Wednesday.

South Carolina beat Fullerton 5-3 to force a rematch with the Titans on Thursday night for a spot in the final.

South Carolina coach Ray Tanner and Fullerton's George Horton were considering using their top starters — the Gamecocks' Matt Campbell (10-5) and the Titans' Jason Windsor (12-4).

Windsor threw a three-hitter in beating Campbell and the Gamecocks 2-0 in the first round.

"We're here to win a national championship, and you can only do that if you get to [the finals]," Horton said. "If Ray uses Campbell and we use Windsor, then advantage Augie, I guess."

A South Carolina victory would set up a rematch of its 2002 CWS final against Texas. The Gamecocks (53-16) have advanced to the final three times, but have never won a title.

Fullerton (44-22) is seeking its fourth title. The Titans won in 1979, '84 and '95, all under Garrido.

The Longhorns are set to start All-American J.P. Howell, the Big 12 Pitcher of the Year, on Saturday in the first game of the best-of-three final. He allowed two hits in 6⅔ innings in Texas' 13-2 first-round victory over Arkansas.

In Texas' victory over Georgia (45-23), Carson Kainer doubled in the go-ahead run in the seventh inning, and Huston Street (6-1) pitched three innings of one-run relief. Georgia lost twice to Texas in the tournament, squandering a five-run lead Wednesday.

"They're a championship ballclub that continues to answer everything their opponent brings at them," Bulldogs coach David Perno said.

The Longhorns' rally marked the first time in the CWS that a team has rallied from five runs down to win since Stanford erased an eight-run deficit to beat Tulane in 2001.

"I believe that's the 27th time we've come from behind to win, so it wasn't our first rodeo," Garrido said.

In the second game, Jason Fletcher and Chad Blackwell combined to hold Fullerton hitless over the last five innings. Bryan Triplett homered and drove in the go-ahead run for South Carolina.

Fletcher (6-1) went six innings and allowed all five Fullerton hits. Fletcher and Blackwell combined to retire 16 of the last 17 batters after Ronnie Prettyman's bunt single in the fourth inning.

"Last night when I got the word I was going to start, I had chills going all night," Fletcher said. "I tried to call everybody I knew to let them know they should watch the game tomorrow. We deserve this, to be out here and still playing."

Blackwell earned his nation-leading 20th save.

"That's a little bit long for a closer to go three innings, but if you don't win, you don't play, so we ran him out there and it worked out for us," Gamecocks coach Ray Tanner said.

Mike Martinez (8-3) took the loss. He allowed five runs and 11 hits in 6 1-3 innings.

"Everybody wanted a day off tomorrow, but we're working," Horton said. "We got outplayed, plain and simple."

RACING STRIPES

A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS

Truex Jr. likes view from top

Martin Truex Jr.

AP photo

Busch Series leader benefits from Earnhardt Jr.'s friendship, tutelage in first full season on circuit

BY TERESA M. WALKER
The Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Life can't get much better for Martin Truex Jr. right now.

In his first full season, Truex leads the NASCAR Busch Series points race with four victories and five poles thanks — in part — to bosses Teresa and Dale Earnhardt Jr. giving him the best equipment and crew available.

"Life is good," Truex said with a smile. "No complaints from me. Winning races is what I love to do, and I'm just having a lot of fun with it."

And he's also become good friends with Earnhardt.

As his boss, Earnhardt provides top equipment through Chance 2 Motorsports, co-owned with his stepmother, and he offers tips to help Truex become a better driver.

As his friend, Earnhardt hangs out with Truex, playing racing video games.

"We've become real good friends," Truex said. "He's always putting some bug in my ear about something we're trying to do and how we're doing. He's been real great and a lot of fun."

It's a relationship only racing could have created.

Earnhardt is the son of the late Dale Earnhardt, who earned seven Cup championships and won 76 races. Truex's father also likes racing, but he never got beyond NASCAR's Busch North Series before giving up his seat to his son.

"Martin's doing great, and I'm really proud how he's handled the pressure," Earnhardt said. "We have a team that is capable of winning races and winning the Busch Series championship. There are no excuses, so that means the pressure's on Martin to perform."

Racing — and winning — comes naturally to Truex. He was just a toddler when he first started going to tracks around Mayetta, N.J.

Forget video games or sitting on the couch as a child. Truex was busy riding four-wheelers or his motorcycle with his friends. By age 10, he was rebuilding engines on his own, and he started racing go-karts at 11.

But it was his mother, Linda, who drove him to the track because his father was busy with his own races.

Truex won the junior class title in 1993 at New Egypt Speedway and took the New Jersey Championship Series in 1994 at the same track. He moved up to modifieds when he turned 18 and won his first modified race in his eighth start.

Yet his father could only give him advice during the week.

"He didn't get to come to the racetrack and help me," Truex said. "People helped me ... but I had to do a lot of learning on my own and figure out what was right and wrong."

By 2000, he was ready to move up to the Busch North Series, and his father yielded his seat.

"That was a big step for him. I don't know if I could ever do that for someone," Truex Jr. said.

Smart decision by Dad. The younger Truex finished the season 12th overall. He once again won in his eighth start, setting a track record at New Hampshire International Speedway.

In 2001, he ran his first Busch race at Dover and finished 38th.

He ran four more Busch Series races in 2002 with his best finish 17th at Dover while winning two Busch North races.

Truex attracted the attention of Richie Gilmore, head of racing operations for Dale Earnhardt Inc., who introduced him to Earnhardt.

Chance 2 hired Truex for six of his 10 Busch races in 2003, and he turned in three top-10s, including a pair of second-place finishes in the final two races of the year for the team. By December, Chance 2 offered him a two-year deal.

Truex has proven worthy of the job. He won his first race at Bristol in his fifth start this season and added victories at Talladega, Gateway and Nazareth. He has nine top-fives and 11 top-10s in 16 races.

Earnhardt isn't ready to rush Truex because he knows from personal experience how tough it is to jump to NASCAR's top level.

Winning the Busch title is Truex's goal for now. That leaves little time for a personal life or fishing, but Truex said he knows plenty of people could be in his place.

"It's about having a good opportunity with a great team and taking advantage of it," he said. "And that's what I feel like I'm doing."

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 16: Dodge/Save Mart 350, 10 p.m. Sunday, AFN-Atlantic

Last race: Ryan Newman, who led all drivers with eight victories last year, finally picked up his first of 2004 by taking the DHL 400 at Michigan International Speedway. Newman had not finished better than third in any of the previous 14 races this season.

Last year: Robby Gordon earned his second series victory despite being criticized for racing back to the yellow under caution on his way to the win in the Dodge/Save Mart 350. Runner-up Jeff Gordon said Robby Gordon passed teammate Kevin Harvick under a yellow flag that NASCAR said was perfectly legal.

POINTS RACE

After 15 of 36 races

1. Jimmie Johnson	2,220
2. Dale Earnhardt Jr.	2,213
3. Matt Kenseth	2,040
4. Bobby Labonte	1,954
5. Tony Stewart	1,945
6. Jeff Gordon	1,933
6. Kurt Busch	1,933
6. Elliott Sadler	1,933
9. Ryan Newman	1,859
10. Kevin Harvick	1,847
11. Kasey Kahne	1,821
12. Jeremy Mayfield	1,778
13. Jamie McMurray	1,722
14. Dale Jarrett	1,694
15. Rusty Wallace	1,674
16. Mark Martin	1,642
17. Casey Mears	1,594
18. Sterling Marlin	1,587
19. Brian Vickers	1,557
20. Robby Gordon	1,554

DRIVERS TO WATCH

Robby Gordon won both road-course races last year, and he could use a victory to move up from a disappointing 20th place in the Nextel Cup standings.

Tony Stewart, a former IRL champion, isn't a stranger to a road course's twists and turns. He won here in 2001 and qualified on the pole in 2002.

Casey Mears certainly has the pedigree to compete at Sonoma. The nephew of former Indy car star Rick Mears also raced in CART before moving to stock cars.

Qualifying record
Rusty Wallace, 99.309 mph, 2000.

Race record
Ernie Irvan, 81.412 mph, June 7, 1992.

FAST FACTS

Jimmie Johnson moved atop the championship standings with his fourth-place finish at Michigan, seven points ahead of Dale Earnhardt Jr. He has a series-leading 10 top-five finishes this season. ... Kasey Kahne recorded his fourth second-place finish of the season at Michigan. He is still searching for his first career victory.

BUSCH SERIES

This week: Alan Kulwicki 250 at West Allis, Wis. (Tape-delayed, 9 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Kurt Busch picked up his third victory of the season by winning the Meijer 300 at Kentucky Speedway. Busch started at the back of the 43-car field after wrecking his car in practice, moved into the top 10 by lap 47 and took the lead for good with two laps remaining.

Last race: Jason Keller won the CNC Live Well 250 under a yellow flag for his first Busch victory of 2003. Keller battled teammate Scott Riggs for about six laps before taking the lead for good on lap 231.

INDY RACING

This week: SunTrust Indy Challenge at Richmond, Va. (Live, 1:30 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Tony Kaanan recorded his second win of the season and took over the series points lead with his victory in the Bombardier 500 at Texas Motor Speedway on June 12. Kaanan led 145 of the 150 laps and beat teammate Dario Franchitti to the finish line by a quarter of a second.

Last year: Scott Dixon turned his first start at Richmond International Raceway into the most dominant performance in IRL history, leading all 206 laps before rain ended the SunTrust Indy Challenge 44 laps short of the scheduled 250.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK

This week: Black Cat Fireworks 200 at West Allis, Wis. (Live, 2 a.m. Saturday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Bobby Hamilton moved past Shane Hmiel with eight laps to go and won the O'Reilly 200 at Memphis Motorsports Park. It was his second win of the season and sixth with the series.

Last year: Brendan Gaughan overcame a mistake on the next-to-last lap and became the ninth winner in nine truck series races at The Milwaukee Mile.

CHAMP CARS

Last race: Sebastien Bourdais became the first driver to win two races this season after taking the Grand Prix of Portland. Bourdais led 85 laps of the 94 laps and finished 1.247 seconds ahead of Bruno Junqueira.

Next race: Grand Prix of Cleveland, July 3.

FORMULA ONE

Last race: Michael Schumacher's victory in the U.S. Grand Prix in Indianapolis was marred by an accident involving his brother, Ralf. Ralf Schumacher crashed into the outside wall on lap 10 and injured his back. He was released from the hospital Monday.

Next race: French Grand Prix, July 4, Magny-Cours.

War Is Tough on Families

Military life has enough challenges without worrying about how your loved ones will contact you... especially during times of conflict. I know, because I grew up in a military family and served as a Navy Admiral.

You can count on the American Red Cross to help you wherever you go. Whether you're at sea, or on an installation, we can help your loved ones back home get messages to you, or from you, in case of emergency. We can also help you through counseling and other needed assistance.

The Red Cross was there for my family, and we'll be there for yours. In fact, we support thousands of military families each year.

For more information, or to learn how you can help, please contact your local Red Cross or visit www.redcross.org. Thank you.

Marsha Evans
President and CEO, American Red Cross
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy (Ret.)

American Red Cross

Together, we can save a life

SPORTS

Canucks' Bertuzzi charged with assault for on-ice sucker-punch, Page 27

Report: Sprinter testifies he used banned substances

Montgomery also was told Bonds was given steroids

BY JOSH DUBOW
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Track star Tim Montgomery testified last year that he used performance-enhancing drugs, and also said the man at the center of a Bay Area ring told him he supplied slugger Barry Bonds with steroids, according to a newspaper report.

The San Francisco Chronicle's report in Thursday editions includes direct quotes from Montgomery's testimony to the federal grand jury that investigated the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative.

The newspaper did not say how it obtained the information. It is illegal to give grand jury testimony to the media.

The U.S. Anti-Doping Agency plans to seek a lifetime ban against Montgomery for alleged drug violations, according to two sources familiar with the letter who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Montgomery, the world's fastest man at 100 meters, was among dozens of elite athletes — including Bonds, New York Yankees first baseman Jason Giambi and Montgomery's girlfriend, Olympian Marion Jones — who testified.

Montgomery's lawyer, Cristina Arguedas, lashed out at the leak of her client's secret testimony from Nov. 6.

"No one can legally or legitimately have Tim's grand jury testimony, and if they think they have it, I would like to see it," Arguedas told the Chronicle. "Otherwise, there's no way I can respond to these blind allegations, and I'm not going to comment on it."

Montgomery

Montgomery reportedly testified that in 2001, BALCO founder Victor Conte gave him weekly doses of human growth hormone and a substance called "the clear." That substance was later determined to be THG, a previously undetectable steroid at the center of the BALCO scandal, which now threatens to keep some of America's top sprinters out of the Athens Olympics.

They include Michelle Collins, Alvin Harrison and Chryste Gaines, who have all been accused by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency of steroid use.

Collins, the 2003 world indoor champion at 200 meters and potential medalist at this summer's Athens Games, also was notified USADA would seek to ban her for life, according to her lawyer, Brian Getz.

Collins is a former Garland Lakeview Centennial sprinter who was a training partner of Jones. She is being investigated for possible doping by USADA but has not been formally notified she is the target of a probe.

Getz on Wednesday called evidence the agency is using to seek a ban against his client "woefully inadequate."

"The USADA is seeking a lifetime ban, and we will resist," Getz told The Dallas Morning News in a telephone interview for Thursday's editions.

SEE SPRINTER ON PAGE 24

V. Williams ousted

AP

Venus Williams disputes a call during her second-round women's singles match against Karolina Sprem of Croatia at Wimbledon on Thursday. The 19-year-old Sprem, defeated the two-time champion Williams 7-6 (5), 7-6 (6) in the first major surprise of the tournament. See story on Page 27.

Mavericks trade forward Jamison to Wizards for No. 5 pick in NBA Draft

Page 29

Racing Stripes: Busch Series points leader Truex Jr. learning a lot from association with Earnhardt Jr.

Page 30

Blue Jays end Devil Rays' team-record winning streak at 12 games

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