Victory gives Palestinian Abbas mandate to resume peace talks Page 5

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Sandler ponders fatherhood after 'Spanglish' role

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Adam Sandler

Sailor identified but no details given for his death on sub

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High-tech tent city springs up in Sri Lanka

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Volume 63, No. 268 © SS 2005 J WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2005 50¢

Tsunami relief work pre-empts exercises

Spring Cobra Gold training in Thailand may be scaled down

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California pounded by storms off Pacific

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LOS ANGELES TIMES/AP

A woman in Ojai, Calif., is rescued Sunday by Ventura County Fire Department Capt. Kerry Ellison after she was trapped on top of her pickup truck when heavy rains caused the Matilija Creek to overflow. Ellison jumped into the raging stream with the victim and was pulled to safety by other members of the search-and-rescue team. A storm system was blamed for at least nine deaths during the weekend in Southern California.

NFL PLAYOFFS

Favre considering retirement after his four interceptions in home loss to Vikings

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Minnesota WR Moss stirs controversy with 'mooning' after TD

Page 30

Colts QB Manning voted NFL MVP day after torching Denver for 457 yards, 4 TDs

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COMING SOON

Scene on Sunday

Fashion can prove to be dangerous

Scene on Sunday

R&B crooner Mario turns 18

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

World

Vietnam bird flu: Another person has died of bird flu in Vietnam, the country's third death from the virus in less than two weeks, a doctor said Monday.

A 16-year-old girl from Dong Thap province died Saturday after spending two weeks breathing with a respirator at the Hospital for Tropical Diseases in Ho Chi Minh City, said hospital deputy director Tran Tinh Hien.

The girl, who had earlier tested positive for the H5N1 strain of bird flu, had eaten sick chickens, doctors say.

Widow to pursue protest: The widow of Philippines presidential candidate Fernando Poe Jr. asked the Supreme Court on Monday to be allowed to pursue her husband's electoral protest, which alleges the actor-turned-politician was robbed of the presidency.

Poe died of a stroke last month without conceding defeat to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo in the election last May. The actor and his running mate, Loren Legarda, alleged massive irregularities and fraud marred the polls, which they claimed to have won by 1.1 million votes.

There have been suggestions from Poe supporters that his widow, actress Susan Roces, should now lead the opposition.

Italy smoking ban: Italian office workers were taking their smoking breaks on the street Monday after a strict law that bans smoking in bars, restaurants, offices and other public spaces came into force.

Minutes after the law went into effect after midnight Sunday, a young man was fined for smoking in a bar in Naples, TV stations showed. The new law bans smoking in indoor spaces unless they have a separate smoking area with continuous floor-to-ceiling walls and a ventilation system, and is one of the most severe anti-smoking measures in Europe.

States

Pilot drinking case: The Supreme Court let stand Monday a lower ruling that allows Florida state prosecutors to pursue charges against two fired America West pilots accused of being drunk in the cockpit.

Without comment, justices turned aside the appeal from Thomas Cloyd of Peoria, Ariz., and co-pilot Christopher Hughes of Leander, Texas. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta had ruled in July that Florida's prosecution should have run its course before the federal courts got involved.

More work on Diana fountain: Workmen lift decking mats at the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain in London's Hyde Park on Monday to replace worn turf, extend the path and improve drainage. Repairs to the ill-fated fountain will mean it will be closed for four months, with plans to reopen on May 1.

Tulia drug busts: When former police officer Tom Coleman goes on trial in Lubbock, Texas, someone from his past plans to be watching in the courtroom: Joe Welton Moore, who spent four years in prison based on Coleman's discredited drug busts in Tulia.

Moore, who had been sentenced to 90 years, was one of dozens of people pardoned following a 2003 hearing to determine if some of the people arrested — most of them black — in the small farming community received fair trials.

Jury selection in Coleman's perjury trial was scheduled Monday, and was expected to last about a week. If convicted, he could face up to 10 years in prison and a $10,000 fine on each felony charge.

Peterson case reward: The five dog-walkers who found the decomposed bodies of Laci Peterson and her unborn fetus on the shoreline will split a $50,000 reward from a fund generally used for the safe return of missing persons.

"It is with great pain that we have to pay this reward," said Kim Petersen, executive director of the Carole Sund/Carrington Memorial Reward Foundation. "But it's better than spending years and years not knowing."

Two of the dog-walkers testified at Scott Peterson's murder trial last year.

Deadly gas leak: Crews in South Carolina worked Monday to neutralize and remove chlorine gas still leaking from a railcar damaged in a train wreck that killed nine people last week and injured hundreds more.

A day after patching a breach in the car, crews mixed the toxic gas with sodium hydroxide to turn it into liquid bleach, making it safer to pump it out of the railcar, said Thom Berry, state Department of Health and Environmental Control spokesman.

War on terrorism

Iraq drowning death: Despite a judge's order, the Army has taken no steps toward exhuming the body of an Iraqi who allegedly drowned after being forced into the Tigris River by armed U.S. troops, a soldier's attorney said.

Frank Spinner said Sunday that raises questions about how the government will proceed in its case against his client, Army 1st Lt. Jack Saville. He faces trial in March on charges of involuntary manslaughter, aggravated assault, obstruction of justice, conspiracy and making a false statement.

Stories and photo from wire services

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New tent technology creates relief center

BY JULIANA GITTLER
Stars and Stripes

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Marines from Okinawa's 3rd Force Service Support Group erected a miniature tent city inside a former horse-racing track in about a day, using technology that's been in their hands for less than a year.

U.S. military forces working in Sri Lanka have been operating from the U.S. Embassy in Colombo. As hundreds more Marines prepare to land on the island to begin reconstruction, the embassy operation has evolved into a larger joint entity, called Combined Support Group — Sri Lanka, in charge of U.S. assets and operations.

The command post at the racetrack will control logistics, communication and support. It will serve as the headquarters for U.S. commanders working in Sri Lanka and can coordinate among crews unloading military aircraft at the airport and Marine and other units working throughout the country. It also has space for liaisons from other countries and nongovernmental agencies.

"Really, any kind of support, including air and ground," said center chief Master Sgt. Michael Mendoza. "Coordinating movement of gear and personnel to where it's needed."

What makes the tent city unique is its quarters.

The operation is using a new tent system by the company Base-X. The tents are lightweight, easy to place and modular so they can fit the needs of the mission. Marines from Okinawa and Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station, Japan, who assembled them are singing the new tents' praise.

"It's spring-loaded; you pull it out and it pops right up," said Sgt. Kevin Roberts, with the Transportation Support Battalion on Okinawa.

The tents are pre-wired so they make it easier for electricians. Lights snap into place flush against the wall — Marines no longer will hit their heads on the hanging light fixtures of older tent models.

The tents have high ceilings and are lined in white so they're cooler. Rooms have channeled ducts to create central air or heat, with wide passages and open areas for breezes.

"It's a heck of a lot cooler than a GP [general purpose] tent because you can put AC in it," said Sgt. JohnPaul Cooley, administration noncommissioned officer.

The tents have heavy rubber decking to keep water out and to cushion the tent bottom against chairs.

The tents center around a high-ceilinged central dome with four wings — making it look like a turtle, Mendoza said.

"It has good lighting, it's cooler, it's open," he said. "The old GP tents, they're really limited."

One of its most attractive features has been simplicity.

The tents can be configured and changed into different patterns or space, depending on the need. They go up quickly, similar to a camping tent.

"With the other tents, the same system would take days," Mendoza said. "It took me five days to build the old ones with the same number of Marines."

One tent now can take three hours to pop up.

It's held together with Velcro and is supposed to withstand 100-mph winds. The tents proved some of their strength by weathering a typhoon during an exercise in South Korea in October, the second time the Marines used them since the tents arrived in April.

"This is the [third] time we've trained with these tents out in the field," Mendoza said.

They're lighter to carry than the oldest style GP tents,which used wood poles.

"They're still pretty heavy but they're a lot lighter than the GPs," said Sgt. Christopher David, supply administration noncommissioned officer from Iwakuni Marine Corps Air Station.

The tent village will be ready to house the operations center this week.

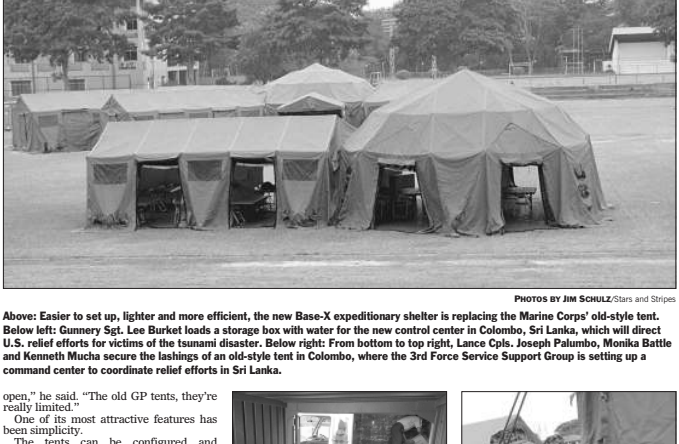
When it's fully operational, the center will serve as the workplace for about 200 people including liaisons from several countries and agencies.

Tens of thousands of dollars worth of communications equipment will allow officials to hold teleconferences and meetings with the rest of the world. It will provide units and commanders tactical and secure communications instead of the cellular phones currently used to communicate around the country.

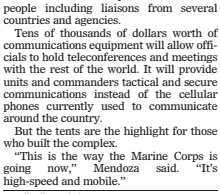
But the tents are the highlight for those who built the complex.

"This is the way the Marine Corps is going now," Mendoza said. "It's high-speed and mobile."

E-mail Juliana Gittler at: gittlerj@pstripes.osd.mil



PHOTOS BY JIM SCHULZ/Stars and Stripes



Above: Easier to set up, lighter and more efficient, the new Base-X expeditionary shelter is replacing the Marine Corps' old-style tent. Below left: Gunnery Sgt. Lee Burket loads a storage box with water for the new control center in Colombo, Sri Lanka, which will direct U.S. relief efforts for victims of the tsunami disaster. Below right: From bottom to top right, Lance Cpls. Joseph Palumbo, Monika Battle and Kenneth Mucha secure the lashings of an old-style tent in Colombo, where the 3rd Force Service Support Group is setting up a command center to coordinate relief efforts in Sri Lanka.

Sasebo accepting money for victims of tsunami

BY GREG TYLER
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — The base command, through the Religious Ministries Department, has announced it's collecting donations of dollars and yen for the American Red Cross's tsunami relief efforts.

Base commands and organizations are being asked to sponsor special projects and events designed to raise money for the Tsunami Disaster Relief Project, said a department spokesman. The deadline is Jan. 21 at noon.

"We've participated in several efforts recently at the base to assist victims of various disasters but we realized the magnitude of this disaster is just beyond what anyone could have anticipated," said Cmdr. Harvey Ranard, command chaplain.

More local stories on Page 11

"People here have asked about giving donations, so I approached the CO [base commander] and it was decided to steer the effort through the Religious Ministries Department and then give the donations to the American Red Cross," Ranard said.

"The Red Cross and the military have a history of cooperation and it's rated four stars," he added, "meaning the vast majority of donated money actually goes for assistance."

Donations should be delivered in a sealed envelope to the Religious Ministries Department on the Community and Education Center's second floor. On the envelope should be the name of the command making the donation, the amount, name of a point of contact and a phone number.

"One man just walked in here the other day and handed over a check for $1,000," the chaplain said.

Ranard wrote military commanders and tenant commands that "In case you are not aware, a shipment of clothing and food has already been dispatched to the area via one of our home-ported ships participating in the relief effort. It is unclear at this time if there will be any additional opportunities to provide relief of this nature.

"Donating funds is, however, one of the best ways to support relief efforts such as this," the chaplain wrote, "because it gives relief agencies the flexibility to purchase needed items at reduced costs and get them on site in a timely manner."

The student council at the Jack N. Darby Elementary School, Hario Housing Village, is making fund-raising plans for the Tsunami Disaster Relief Project. Later this month, at a school assembly, officials will announce how much money the school raised.

"On behalf of Capt. Michael James [base commander] and the Religious Ministries Department," Ranard said, "I want to thank everyone in advance for their thoughtfulness and support in this effort to help our neighbors in a time of need."

Call DSN 252-3380 for more information about the Tsunami Disaster Relief Project.

E-mail Greg Tyler at: tylerg@pstripes.osd.mil

AP

Sri Lankan tsunami victims watch as U.S. Marines from the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit based in Camp Pendleton, Calif., come ashore on Sri Lanka's south coast Monday. After days of delays, the Marines landed on Sri Lanka and Indonesia — the latest branch of the U.S. military to join its biggest peacetime humanitarian mission.

Marines land near battered towns in Asia

BY ERIC TALMADGE AND TINI TRAN
The Associated Press

MEULABOH, Indonesia — Marines zoomed ashore on a high-tech hovercraft carrying tons of food, water and a forklift to help repair this tsunami-wrecked town in Indonesia. In Sri Lanka, they splashed ashore with a bulldozer to repair roads and bridges.

After days of delays, the Marines landed Monday on either side of the disaster zone — the latest branch of the U.S. military to join its biggest peacetime humanitarian mission.

They arrived in the two areas hardest hit by the Dec. 26 earthquake-tsunami disaster, which are also regions racked by decades-old civil conflicts that have complicated the U.S. military deployment.

The landing in Indonesia came after several days of intense negotiations between the Marines and the local military, and was conducted on a much smaller scale than originally planned — only about 10 Marines were aboard, most of them crew.

"We're hoping that they will see that this went well, and ask us to come again," said Capt. Michelle Howard, commander of the Navy strike force that brought the Marines from the USS Bonhomme Richard.

In fact, the Marines hadn't expected to be in Indonesia at all.

Two of three U.S. warships carrying Marines and assigned to the tsunami relief mission were diverted away from Sri Lanka after the island nation scaled down its request for aid.

Nearly 2,000 Marines are now afloat off the Meulaboh coastline in two amphibious assault ships diverted from duty in Iraq. The ships carry two dozen helicopters, heavy equipment such as bulldozers and forklifts, and tons of food.

AP

Rescuers try to carry injured crew members from a Navy helicopter that crashed in Banda Aceh, capital of Indonesia's Aceh province, on Monday.

U.S. helo crashes during aid mission

BY PETER DEJONG
The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — A U.S. helicopter on a relief mission crashed in a rice paddy near the Banda Aceh airport Monday, injuring two servicemembers.

The U.S. military said the Seahawk helicopter "executed a hard landing" and there was no evidence it was shot down 500 yards from the airport in Banda Aceh, capital of Indonesia's hard-hit Aceh province and the hub of international aid operations. Lt. Cmdr. John M. Daniels blamed the crash on a "possible mechanical failure."

He said one person fractured an ankle and the other dislocated his hip. The other eight suffered "no significant injuries," he said.

Fifteen Seahawk helicopters from the Lincoln group have been flying up to nine hours a day on aid missions. Normally they fly a maximum of three to four hours a day.

The crash came amid heightened security concerns in several tsunami-hit areas with ethnic rebellions. United Nations staff in Aceh are on high alert, and armed guards patrol their compounds amid fears of rebel attacks.

In Washington, President Bush said the United States has a duty to continue helping the tsunami's victims, but he did not put any more money behind his commitment for long-term assistance.

After hearing Secretary of State Colin Powell's firsthand report of damage in the region, Bush told reporters "we'll see" if the United States will give more than the $350 million in relief already pledged.

Aftershocks from the massive Indian Ocean earthquake that spawned the killer waves, claiming more than 150,000 lives, continued to rattle survivors in the hardest-hit countries. A 6.2-magnitude temblor sent people scrambling from their homes early Monday in Banda Aceh. No injuries or damage were reported.

Indonesia: 50,000 bodies still scattered

BY JOCELYN GECKER
The Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — More than two weeks after a huge earthquake and tsunami killed 104,000 people in Indonesia's Aceh province, the government said Monday it is stepping up efforts to recover and bury up to 50,000 remaining bodies and to build shelters for survivors.

Welfare Minister Alwi Shihab said 58,281 bodies had been buried in the shattered region on the northern tip of Sumatra island and some 50,000 more are "scattered" around the region.

Corpses remain trapped in collapsed buildings and rotting under debris in canals and rivers, and their stench hangs over parts of the provincial capital, Banda Aceh.

Many of those killed have been interred in mass graves and workers are busy every day layering dirt and bodies on top of each another at the main burial site in the city.

On Monday, teams of workers on the outskirts of the capital worked in driving rain, burying 93 bodies in deep, water-filled pits before heaping dirt on top.

Shihab said the government was speeding its efforts to collect and bury the corpses, putting workers on two shifts.

He said the government was building 24 camps around the province to house those now living in tent cities. Wooden barrack-style buildings will replace the tents and the new camps will meet U.N. standards for water and sanitation, he said. Officials hope to complete the first of the camps in two to three weeks, Shihab said.

Shihab said 392,000 people in Aceh had been made homeless by the disaster. The government previously put that figure at 500,000.

He said no one was starving or unable to get medical care in Banda Aceh but fuel shortages were still slowing deliveries to rural areas. American helicopters have been flying supplies to remote towns.

The government puts Indonesia's death toll at 104,055, and Shihab said that was in line with U.N. estimates of between 80,000 and 130,000 dead. Indonesia was the hardest-hit country in a disaster that killed more than 150,000 across southern Asia and Africa.

S. Africa police warn of tsunami-related fraud

The Associated Press

PRETORIA, South Africa — South African police warned Monday that fraudsters posing as tsunami victims are soliciting funds worldwide through letters and e-mails in a new variation of an old African scam.

More than 4 million such letters have been circulated, the first sent out the day the disaster happened Dec. 26, the commercial branch of the South African Police Service said in a statement.

At least 15 variations exist, including one claiming to be from residents of a destroyed Indonesian village, and another from an individual claiming to be helping victims, police Superintendent Ronnie Naidoo said.

Recipients are asked to transfer money into a bank account.

"Please be aware that once the money has been sent, it will never reach the real victims of the disaster," police said in the statement.

The letters are modeled on Nigeria's notorious "419" scams — named for an entry in the west African country's legal code — the statement said.

Nigerian and other fraudsters posing as top officials have for years been sending letters and e-mails offering to cut recipients into business deals. Some of the same fraudsters are believed to be behind the latest letters, along with others from Asia and other parts of the world, Naidoo said.

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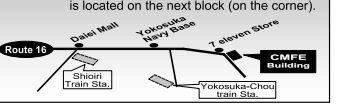

Persian Gulf forum addresses violence made against females

Leaders asked to take stand where women's rights are taboo

By Adnan Malik
The Associated Press

MANAMA, Bahrain — Human rights organizations and activists on Monday urged governments throughout the Persian Gulf region to take immediate action to combat violence against women in their societies.

"All governments must send a strong message to those responsible for violence against women that such violence is a crime and will not be tolerated," said Abdel Salam Sidahmed, Middle East program director for Amnesty International.

The regional forum, which brought together more than 60 participants, was organized to discuss ways of halting violence and discrimination toward women in the traditional, male-dominated Islamic nations — some of which have resisted Western concepts of the rights of women.

The subject is considered taboo in parts of the culturally conservative region.

A statement released on Monday called on regional governments to introduce legislation criminalizing "inherent" violence against women in their countries.

"Violence against women — whether perpetrated by state or non-state actors — must be criminalized," Sidahmed said in a release handed to reporters at the end of the two-day forum.

The conference recommended that a regional research center be set up to monitor the situation. It should work closely with other institutions that deal with violence against women, the statement said.

> *"We have to push and we will keep pushing for our rights."*
> **Ghada Jamsheer**
> Activist

The conference also appealed to the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council and Yemen to ensure there is no impunity for those responsible for acts of violence against women, provide appropriate housing facilities for battered women, and create hot lines linked to institutions that offer protection to the victims of violence.

The recommendations, which will be included in a letter sent to the governments of the GCC nations and Yemen, also urged them to ratify the International Convention to Eliminate All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Participants said they will pressure authorities to follow up on the recommendations.

"We have to push and we will keep pushing for our rights," said Ghada Jamsheer, who heads the Bahrain Social Partnership for Combating Violence Against Women.

The conference follows last July's fact-finding mission to the region by Amnesty International.

Participants praised Bahrain for its progress in women rights and for hosting the conference.

In April, Bahrain's monarch Sheik Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa appointed a woman to the Cabinet for the first time. Bahrain has women in its parliament and in senior posts in government ministries.

Mahmoud Abbas celebrates Sunday in the West Bank city of Ramallah after exit polls showed him as winner in the Palestinian presidential elections. Abbas was elected by a wide margin Sunday, winning a decisive mandate to renew peace talks with Israel, rein in militants and try to end more than four years of Mideast bloodshed.

AP

Abbas claims decisive victory

The Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Mahmoud Abbas was elected Palestinian Authority president by a landslide, results showed Monday, giving the pragmatist a mandate to resume peace talks with Israel — but also leaving him with the tough task of reining in powerful armed groups.

Abbas said Monday that the Palestinians are "ready for peace" with Israel.

"We extend our hands to our neighbors," he said. "We are ready for peace, peace based on justice. We hope that their response will be positive."

Israeli leaders welcomed Abbas' victory, but said they will watch closely how hard he tries to subdue militants. Abbas could easily lose his political capital over a major bombing or shooting attack, and while most militant groups signaled they are willing to give him a chance, not all have signed on to a truce with Israel.

Still, Abbas' victory in Sunday's vote held out the promise of a new era after four decades of chaotic and corruption-riddled rule by Yasser Arafat, who died Nov. 11. Abbas, who has spoken out against violence and has the support of the international community, promises to reform the government and the unwieldy security services.

Many Palestinians had high expectations of Abbas, widely known as Abu Mazen.

Abbas won 62.3 percent of the vote, according to final results announced by Hanna Nasser, head of the Central Election Commission.

His main challenger, independent Mustafa Barghouti, won 19.8 percent, while the remaining five candidates scored in the lower single digits. About 3.8 percent of the ballots were deemed invalid, and 3.2 percent were blank, Nasser told a news conference.

Rebel clashes kill 21

MANILA, Philippines — At least 21 combatants died Monday in clashes between renegade Muslim rebels and government troops in the southern Philippines, but an 18-month-old cease-fire remains intact, officials said. Malaysia, Brunei and Libya have some 60 cease-fire monitors in the southern Philippines who, together with government and rebel Moro Islamic Liberation Front representatives, were trying to reach the scene of the fighting, guerrilla spokesman Eid Kabalu said.

57 die in bus crash

BANGALORE, India — A bus driver apparently lost control of his vehicle and it plunged into a canal, killing 57 people, in southern India on Monday, police said. Nine people were rescued near Nalagundi, a village about 300 miles northwest of Bangalore, the capital of Karnataka state, said S.K. Singh, superintendent of police.

Abizaid meets leaders

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Gen. John Abizaid, the chief of the U.S. Central Command, held talks on Monday with Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf during a brief visit to discuss the situation in the region, U.S. and Pakistani officials said.

Abizaid is visiting Pakistan for "regular consultations," U.S. Embassy spokesman Greg Crouch said. He arrived on Sunday from neighboring Afghanistan, where he met with senior U.S. commanders and President Hamid Karzai, but made no public comment.

In the Pakistani capital, Islamabad, Abizaid met with Musharraf, a senior official in Musharraf's office said on the condition of anonymity. He did not have details of the meeting.

From The Associated Press

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2 GIs killed when Bradley hits IED in Baghdad

4 others hurt; Iraqi police official, son assassinated

BY DUSAN STOJANOVIC
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — A roadside bomb exploded in southwestern Baghdad on Monday, destroying a heavily armored Bradley fighting vehicle and killing two American soldiers, the military said, while insurgents shot dead Baghdad's deputy police chief and his son Monday, police said.

The Bradley is one of the more heavily armored vehicles in the U.S. arsenal, suggesting that the bomb was quite powerful. The U.S. Defense Department said last week that insurgents were increasing the size and power of the bombs they plant as they escalate their attacks before the Jan. 30 election.

Four American soldiers were wounded in the blast, which came four days after a powerful roadside bomb hit another Bradley Fighting Vehicle, killing all seven U.S. soldiers inside and destroying the vehicle. The U.S. military had earlier said Monday's blast destroyed an Abrams battle tank, but later corrected that.

Scores of police and regional government officials have been assassinated in recent months, part of the insurgents' campaign to try to instill fear ahead of the vote and to hunt down people who are perceived as collaborators with the U.S.-led coalition. Last Tuesday, gunmen shot dead the governor of Baghdad, Ali al-Haidari, and six of his bodyguards.

Iraqi Interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said Monday that the authorities have captured 147 suspected insurgents throughout the country, including the leader of an insurgent group just days after he took over for the previous chief, who was detained two months ago.

Allawi identified the man as Raad al-Doury. He took over the top post of Jaish Muhammad, which is Arabic for Muhammad's Army, from Moayad Ahmed Yaseen, detained in November. Allawi has accused Jaish Muhammad of killing and beheading a number of Iraqis, Arabs and foreigners in Iraq.

Baghdad's deputy police chief, Brig. Amer Ali Nayef was assassinated with his son, Lt. Khalid Amer, also a police officer. They were killed in Baghdad's south Dora district while traveling in a car on their way to work, Interior Ministry spokesman Capt. Ahmed Ismail said.

Gunmen sprayed machine-gun fire from two cars which were driving parallel with the police chief's vehicle, before fleeing the scene of the attack close to his home, police said. The two were alone in their car.

Al-Qaida in Iraq, the group led by Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, posted a statement on the Internet claiming responsibility for the Baghdad assassinations.

In a separate attack Monday, a suicide car bomb exploded in the courtyard of a police station in southern Baghdad, killing at least four policemen and wounding 10 others, police and witnesses said. A fake police car packed with explosives was used in the attack.

The Army of Ansar al-Sunna, one of the most violent militant groups in Iraq, claimed responsibility for the attack.

In other violence Monday, three Iraqi National Guard soldiers were killed and six were injured in the restive northern city of Mosul when their joint patrol with U.S. troops was attacked by a roadside bomb, said Maj. Andre Hance, a U.S. military spokesman. There were no American casualties.

The U.S. military said its forces accidentally killed a 13-year-old Iraqi girl and wounded a 14-year-old boy near Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, "when a 1st Infantry Division observation post engaged an area producing unidentified smoke outside of a local forward operating base."

On Monday, a militant group posted threats in at least two towns warning it would deploy "highly trained" snipers to target voters around Iraq during Jan. 30 elections.

AP

Iraqi policemen comfort each other as a U.S. soldier watches, after an explosion Monday outside the police station in Baghdad's neighborhood of Zafarniyah. A suicide car bomb — in a fake police car — exploded in the courtyard of a police station in southern Baghdad, killing at least four policemen and injuring 10 others.

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Sunday, at least 1,353 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count. At least 1,056 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said. The figures include three military civilians.

The AP count is 11 higher than the Defense Department's tally, last updated at 10 a.m. Friday.

The British military has reported 76 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 16; Ukraine, 16; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,214 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 947 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier assigned to Task Force Baghdad was killed Sunday after a patrol was struck by an explosive.

■ A Marine was killed in action in Iraq's Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the Defense Department:

■ Army Pfc. Daniel F. Guastaferro, 27, Las Vegas; died Friday in Ramadi, Iraq, when his vehicle crashed; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, Camp Casey, South Korea.

Witness in abuse trial says Graner punched Iraqi detainee

BY T.A. BADGER
The Associated Press

FORT HOOD, Texas — The alleged ringleader of the Abu Ghraib prison scandal went on trial Monday with witnesses telling a military court they watched him punch an Iraqi inmate in the face and saw him laugh while forcing prisoners to pose naked.

Spc. Charles Graner Jr. was the first soldier accused in the scandal to go on trial.

His case will be an important first test of the argument put forth by defense attorneys that the soldiers were ordered to soften up detainees for interrogators and had no choice but to obey.

A military guard testified Monday that he saw Graner punch an Iraqi detainee in the face a moment after a notorious photo was taken at Abu Ghraib prison.

Another witness said Graner was "laughing and having a good time" while making naked prisoners pose. Spc. Matthew Wisdom, the first witness in Graner's prisoner abuse court-martial, said Graner was among a number of guards who roughed up detainees on Nov. 7, 2003.

Graner, a 36-year-old former prison guard from Uniontown, Pa., is charged with conspiracy to maltreat Iraqi detainees, assault, dereliction of duty and committing indecent acts.

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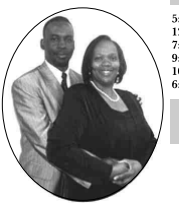

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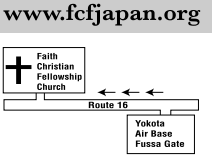

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IN THE STATES

More bad weather in California

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — More drenching rain fell Monday on Southern California, where a toddler drowned after being wrenched from her mother's grasp by a raging flood, a homeless man was killed by a landslide and a man was carried two miles down a swollen river before being rescued.

The wet, windy weather isn't expected to let up until Wednesday, with as much as 6 inches of rain forecast in the region through Tuesday and an additional 2 feet of snow at elevations above 7,500 feet.

"We're going to be getting more of the same, harsh weather," said Curt Kaplan, a National Weather Service forecaster.

The storm system was blamed for at least nine deaths during the weekend in Southern California.

A 2-year-old girl died after slipping from her mother's grasp as rescuers were lifting them from the family's vehicle, which got stuck in a flooded wash Sunday, said Los Angeles County sheriff's Lt. Don Ford. The woman had driven around barricades, Ford said. The child's body was found Monday.

Hundreds of accidents were reported Sunday on roads clogged by water, mud flows and fallen trees, and rockslides on Monday closed the Pacific Coast Highway near Big Sur, the California Highway Patrol said. And some Metrolink and Amtrak train service was canceled because of storm-related damage and mudslides.

In the Cerritos area, a man whose car skidded off Interstate 5 into a storm drain Sunday was swept two miles downstream, authorities said. Firefighters threw him a rope from a bridge and started pulling him up but he lost his grip and plunged back into the swift current. He was later pulled to safety. Two children in the car also were rescued.

The National Weather Service said downtown Los Angeles had received 5.16 inches of rain since Friday, including a record 2.58 inches on Sunday.

4 fired at CBS over discredited story on Bush military record

BY DAVID BAUDER
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Four CBS News staffers were fired Monday following the release of an independent investigation that said a "myopic zeal" led to the airing of a discredited "60 Minutes Wednesday" story about President Bush's military service.

The panel's 224-page report detailed dozens of missteps, including the reliance on documents that were allegedly forged to a circle-the-wagons mentality that compounded the damage.

CBS fired Mary Mapes, producer of the Sept. 8 report; Josh Howard, executive producer of "60 Minutes Wednesday" and his top deputy Mary Murphy; and senior vice president Betsy West.

Dan Rather, who narrated the report, was faulted for "errors of credulity and overenthusiasm," but was not disciplined by top CBS executive Leslie Moonves. Rather announced in November that he was stepping down as anchorman of the "CBS Evening News," but insisted the timing had nothing to do with the investigation.

CBS News President Andrew Heyward kept his job. The panel said Heyward had explicitly urged caution before the report aired.

Moonves had appointed former Republican Attorney General Dick Thornburgh and Louis Boccardi, retired president and chief executive officer of The Associated Press, to investigate what went wrong and they delivered their report last week.

"These problems were caused primarily by a myopic zeal to be the first news organization to broadcast what was believed to be a new story about President Bush's Texas Air National Guard service, and the rigid and blind defense of the segment after it aired despite numerous indications of its shortcomings," the panelists concluded.

The report cited documents purported to be from one of Bush's commanders in the Texas Air National Guard. The documents say the commander, the late Lt. Col. Jerry Killian, ordered Bush to take a medical exam and the future president did not. Killian also reportedly felt pressured to sugarcoat an evaluation of then 1st Lt. Bush.

Questions were quickly raised about the memo, with some document experts saying it appeared to be written on a computer not invented at the time they were supposedly written.

Although the panel said it couldn't prove conclusively the documents were forged, it said CBS News failed to authenticate them and falsely claimed an expert had done so.

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2. PRIZES: A total of twenty-nine (29) shopping spree prizes will be awarded as follows: three (3) shopping spree prizes will be awarded from eligible entries received from participating commissaries located in Japan; two (2) shopping spree prizes will awarded from eligible entries received from participating commissaries located in Okinawa; three (3) shopping spree prizes will be awarded from eligible entries received from participating commissaries located in Korea; one (1) shopping spree prize will be awarded from eligible entries received from participating commissaries located in Guam; and twenty (20) shopping spree prizes will be awarded from eligible entries received from participating commissaries in Europe (Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, Spain, Portugal, United Kingdom, Turkey, Greece, Iceland, Azores, Sicily, Sardinia, Crete). Each winner will spend a total of three (3) minutes in a participating commissary of the winner's choice located within the same geographic area as the commissary in which the winner submitted his/her winning entry to fill his or her shopping cart with as many items as possible (subject to the restrictions below). All of the items that the winner is able to collect in his/her shopping cart(s) during the three minute shopping spree shall be awarded to the winner as his/her prize. Shopping spree must be completed by no later than February 5, 2005, or prize will be forfeited.

Rules for the shopping spree:

- Shopping carts may not be staged around the commissary for winner to use in shopping spree. Winner may only use one (1) shopping cart at a time during the shopping spree. All shopping carts used in the shopping spree must be located in the commissary checkout area and the winner is required to return each individual shopping cart used in the shopping spree and exchange it for an empty shopping cart at the checkout area when cart is full.
- Cigarettes are excluded from the shopping spree.
- Winner may only select items from the approximately 200 items from the following categories: HBA/WBC, Vitamins, Batteries and Baby Diapers/Formula. Other than the categories excluded or limited as noted above, there are no limits on any other items in the Commissary.
- Only the winner may participate in the shopping spree. No other person may assist the winner during the shopping spree.

3. DRAWING: Each participating commissary will conduct a random drawing (the "Preliminary Drawing") from all eligible entries received in that commissary. Each participating commissary will select one (1) winner from the Preliminary Drawing. The winners of the Preliminary Drawing will be placed into the Final Drawing based on the geographic area of the participating commissary from which the entry was received. A total of twenty-nine (29) winners (consisting of three (3) winners from Japan, two (2) winners from Okinawa, three (3) winners from Korea, one (1) winner from Guam and (20) twenty winners from Europe) will be drawn via a random drawing (the "Final Drawing") from the entries drawn in the Preliminary Drawing. The Final Drawing will be held on or before January 28, 2005, and will be conducted by a representative of Webco or disinterested 3rd party, on behalf of Sponsor whose decisions shall be final and binding. Odds of winning depend upon the number of eligible entries received in each geographic area. All prizes will be awarded.
4. ELIGIBILITY: Employees of participating commissaries, The Pepsi Bottling Group, Inc., Pepsi-Cola Company, PepsiCo, Inc., Frito-Lay, Inc., Webco General Partnership, and each of their respective affiliates, officers, directors, agents, and employees or affiliates, distributors and advertising, promotional or judging agencies and immediate family and persons living in the same household as such employees are not eligible to win or participate in this Sweepstakes.
5. GENERAL TERMS: No substitution of prize is offered except as described herein, and transfer of prize to a third party is not permitted. Sponsor reserves the right to award a prize of equal or greater value in the event the published prize is unavailable. Void wherever prohibited or restricted by law. No groups, clubs or organizations may reproduce or distribute any portion of these rules to its members. All entrants, as a condition of entry, agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of Sponsor, which shall be final and binding.
6. WINNERS NOTIFICATION/CLAIMS: Potential prize winners will be notified by telephone or mail within five (5) days of the Final Drawing. Each potential prize winner will be required to sign and return an affidavit of eligibility and liability release and, where legal, a publicity release before he/she is allowed to participate in the shopping spree or prize may be awarded to another winner. If prize notifications are returned as undeliverable, such prize will be forfeited and awarded to alternate winner. All winners must agree to allow a prize agent to inspect the participating commissary. Neither the Pepsi Bottling Group Inc., Pepsi-Cola Company, PepsiCo, Inc., Frito-Lay, Inc., Webco General Partnership, nor their respective parents, affiliates, suppliers, distributors, and advertising, promotional or judging agencies from any and all liability, claims or actions of any kind whatsoever for injuries, damages or losses, including death, to persons and property which may be sustained in connection with the receipt, ownership or use of the prize or while preparing for, participating in, and/or traveling to any prize-related activity. Except where prohibited by law, winners must consent to the use of their name, voice, picture or other likeness, as determined by Sponsor, for promotional purposes without compensation.
7. For a list of prize winners, send self-addressed, stamped envelope for receipt by 2/15/05 to: Frito-Lay Three Minute Shopping Spree Sweepstakes Winners List, c/o Webco General Partnership, 3835 Concorde Parkway, Suite 700, Chantilly, VA 20151.
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Justices decline to hear gay adoption case

BY GINA HOLLAND
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court rejected an appeal Monday by four men who challenged Florida's ban on adoption by gay couples, avoiding another contentious fight over gay rights.

Florida is the only state with a blanket law prohibiting homosexuals from adopting children.

Opponents argued that the 1977 law, passed at the height of Anita Bryant's anti-homosexual campaign, was irrational because it excluded potential parents for thousands of abandoned children.

Supporters contend the state has the power to promote traditional father-mother families.

The high court's refusal to hear the case, made without comment, avoids a second showdown over gay rights there in two years.

Justices, in a historic civil rights ruling, barred states in 2003 from criminalizing gay sex. The court said then that states "cannot demean [gays'] existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime."

The ruling set off a firestorm of criticism by conservative and religious groups. Three justices also complained that the court, generally known for its conservatism, had gone overboard in pandering to the "homosexual agenda."

The latest case involves gay foster parents in Florida who want to adopt children in their care.

The American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, representing the parents, argued that the state unconstitutionally singles out gays, based on discrimination.

"The plain and well-understood purpose of the ban was to tell gay people to go back into the closet," ACLU attorney Matthew Coles told justices in a filing.

A three-judge panel of the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta ruled against the men a year ago. In July, the full court declined on a 6-6 vote to reconsider the case.

Court decisions

In developments Monday at the Supreme Court, the court:

■ Declined to consider dismissing a lawsuit seeking to hold gun manufacturers responsible for the 1999 shooting of a letter carrier by a white supremacist.

■ Let stand a lower court ruling that allowed Missouri's Ku Klux Klan chapter into the state highway litter cleanup program. The state had not wished to partner with the group because it discriminates based on race.

■ Declined to consider the proper standards for allowing individuals to file class-action lawsuits against corporations, in a case accusing six health maintenance organizations of fraud.

■ Declined to consider whether Pennsylvania officials were wrong to keep Ralph Nader off the presidential ballot last November.

■ Let stand a lower ruling that Major League Baseball did not have to rehire 10 umpires who were still out of work following a 1999 mass resignation.

■ Said it would not speed up a decision on whether to consider a challenge to President Bush's authority to name William Pryor to a federal appeals court while the Senate was on a holiday break.

■ Rejected an appeal from a Norfolk, Va., gun dealer, Bob's Gun & Tackle Shop, over a federal agency's authority to demand information about transactions involving used firearms.

— The Associated Press

Cheney's focus will likely change in 2nd term

BY EILEEN PUTMAN
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Like the man behind the curtain working the levers in "The Wizard of Oz," Dick Cheney has been called the real power in President Bush's administration, perhaps the strongest vice president in U.S. history.

But as Bush enters his second term, Cheney's role is in flux.

His chief task in Bush's first administration — mentoring a novice president with little foreign policy or legislative experience — has been accomplished. He remains dogged by heart disease and an FBI probe of a subsidiary of Halliburton, the company he once ran.

Indeed, some wonder whether Cheney, with no ambition to succeed his boss in the White House, will serve out his second term. And while he has redefined a job that traditionally involved attending ceremonial and campaign events or undertaking thankless policy assignments, there is speculation Cheney's influence is waning.

"He was so influential that it was almost insulting to call him vice president," said Paul Light, professor of public service at New York University. "He was a mentor, chair of the Cabinet, legitimizer, Rasputin — you name it — all rolled into one. Those roles have been chipped away over time."

Still, Cheney is likely to remain the administration point man on several fronts.

As Bush turns in his second term to forging his presidency's legacy, he is expected to use Cheney to push his domestic agenda — overhauling Social Security and the tax code — in Congress, where Cheney served for 10 years as a Wyoming congressman and where he still enjoys strong influence among House conservatives.

AP

Vice President Dick Cheney speaks Sept. 17 during a Bush-Cheney '04 Town Hall Meeting in Oregon City, Ore. Some wonder whether Cheney will serve out his second term.

With Republicans seeking to keep the White House in 2008, Cheney will likely be involved behind the scenes in promoting a candidate Bush can endorse as successor.

"One of the great gifts Cheney bestows upon Bush is he doesn't have any aspirations of being president," said Mike Franc, vice president for government relations at the conservative Heritage Foundation. With Al Gore, President Clinton's vice president, Franc said, "There was always a background tension because Gore himself harbored the presidential aspiration."

Franc conceded that early in his first term Bush, 58, "was deferring quite a bit" to Cheney, 63. But he said the two men have "a great partnership" and trust that will only be "deeper and fuller" in Bush's second term.

He dismissed speculation that FBI investigation into whether a Halliburton subsidiary improperly received lucrative federal government contracts for work in Iraq without competitive bidding was a serious distraction that could put pressure on Cheney to step down or render him ineffective.

Similarly, it's not clear that Cheney's health problems could shorten his time in office. In 2001, he had an implantable defibrillator inserted in his chest. The device is designed to activate automatically if needed to regulate his heartbeat. Cheney also takes medication to lower his cholesterol and has said he is exercising and eating more healthily.

John Nichols, author of the book, "Dick: The Man Who is President," said in an interview that Cheney may well "take a lesser role in the spotlight" as the political ambitions of Republican presidential aspirants emerge.

"Cheney is somewhat disempowered because there will be people moving to make a name within the administration and in the periphery of it," Nichols said. "He may even step back and allow someone else to have a definitional role."

But, he added, "My prediction is that Dick Cheney will remain in the second term the most powerful vice president in American history by quietly peopling" the administration "with folks he's familiar with and who are ideological and personal allies."

Defense: Judge applied law incorrectly in pregnant divorce request case

BY NICHOLAS GERANIOS
The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — When Shawnna Hughes discovered she was pregnant, her husband was in jail for beating her. She sought a divorce before his release, and he did not object — but a judge did.

Superior Court Judge Paul Bastine revoked Hughes' divorce until after she gives birth because her husband was not told she was going to have a child and paternity had not been established.

"It is the policy of the state that you cannot dissolve a marriage when one of the parties is pregnant," he said during oral arguments on the case last month.

Lawyers supporting Hughes' appeal said Bastine is misinterpreting a state law intended to standardize paternity and protect the rights of children and the state.

"No provision in state law authorizes a judge to decline to issue a divorce because the woman is pregnant," said the American Civil Liberties Union's Doug Honig. "Women should be able to choose for themselves when they want to end a marriage. That's especially important for women in abusive relationships."

But Bastine, who retired on Friday, said the issue is more complex. Attorneys for Shawnna Hughes did not immediately disclose that she was pregnant in the midst of the divorce proceedings.

Hughes, a 27-year-old medical assistant, is 7 months pregnant and says her estranged husband, Carlos Hughes, is not the father.

"I'm devastated," she said, calling her husband "very, very violent."

Carlos Hughes is in jail in Montana awaiting trial on federal drug charges and Bastine noted that Shawnna Hughes has a restraining order that prevents her husband from contacting her, even if they remain married. But women's advocates worry the ruling sets an unsettling precedent.

"This is a woman in domestic violence asking to get out of the relationship," said Hughes' attorney, Terri Sloyer. "We're telling abusers that if you can get her pregnant you can keep her married to you."

Tsunami relief missions cancel exercises

BY DAVID ALLEN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Regularly scheduled military exercises are being affected by the massive humanitarian relief effort now under way in South Asia, Marine Corps officials said.

Marines on Okinawa have canceled eight days of live-fire artillery training scheduled for Jan. 24 to Feb. 3 at Hijudai in Oita Prefecture, a Marine Corps spokeswoman said Monday.

And a Marine officer briefing family members of Marines and sailors deployed with the 3rd Marine Division in Indonesia told them the deployment may affect even Cobra Gold, the annual multilateral exercise held each spring in Thailand.

"Right now, it's still open," Col. Scott T. Campbell, commanding officer of the 12th Marine Regiment, said at the recent briefing. "But it might be scaled down to a tactical exercise without troops."

Last year's Cobra Gold exercise involved 13,500 U.S. troops, 5,500 Thais and a combined force of 100 military personnel from the Philippines, Singapore and Mongolia, as well as observers from 11 other nations. Besides forging joint warfare skills, each Cobra Gold exercise also includes humanitarian relief, skills now being put to use in the tsunami relief efforts.

A late March live-fire artillery exercise at a Japan Self-Defense Forces facility near Mount Fuji also may be canceled, Campbell said.

The 12th Marines are based on Camp Hansen, Okinawa, but must deploy to mainland Japan and Hokkaido several times a year for periodic live-fire training.

The artillery exercises were moved after protests from Okinawans who objected to an east-west highway being closed whenever live-fire training was conducted there. In 1997, at the Japanese government's request, live-fire training was moved to five areas: Hijudai on Kyushu, East and North Fuji, Ojojihara in Northern Honshu and Yausubetsu in Hokkaido.

The Japanese government funds the relocated artillery exercises, which are held four times a year and usually involve transporting some 420 Marines and sailors and their 155 mm medium howitzers to the Japan Self-Defense Force training areas.

So far, personnel from Okinawa deployed to South Asia for earthquake and tsunami recovery efforts include more than 1,000 Marines and sailors, about 320 airmen and 50 Navy Seabees, according to area public affairs offices.

A spokesman for the 18th Wing at Kadena Air Base said all six of Kadena's C-5 cargo planes are fully engaged in the humanitarian mission.

"That's why it's so quiet here today," Major Mike Paoli said Monday. "So far we've delivered 2.7 million pounds of cargo."

E-mail David Allen at: allend@pstripes.osd.mil

Clearing a path

JENNIFER H. SVAN/Stars and Stripes

Senior Airmen Matthew Carrizosa, a postal clerk at Misawa Air Base, Japan, clears snow outside the base post office Monday. About 10 inches of snow fell over the weekend. After an unseasonably warm and snowless December, winter has finally arrived in northern Japan. Most ski and snowboard resorts in the area are open and temperatures below freezing are forecast this week.

Advice from a space man

Former astronaut, Marine officer talks to Yokota elementary kids

BY T.D. FLACK
Stars and Stripes

YOKOTA AIR BASE, Japan — Retired Marine Maj. Gen. Charles Bolden told elementary students Friday that he wasn't exactly looking toward the stars — either on his shoulders or in space — when he was their age.

The Columbia, S.C., native wanted to be a garbage man, he told a laughing assembly of students at Yokota West Elementary School.

But through "hard work and lots of studying," he found himself a Naval Academy plebe, Marine pilot, NASA astronaut and, before retirement, deputy commander of U.S. Forces Japan.

"I'll tell you the things I did not want to do," Bolden said of his childhood. "I did not want to fly airplanes or go to space … because I didn't think I could."

Bolden told the children they can become anything they want — from astronaut to actor, athlete to doctor, if they follow his advice.

"You have to study hard, you have to work hard and you cannot be afraid of taking risks," he said.

"Don't wait until high school" before deciding to be serious about school, Bolden warned. He told them the basic math, science and reading they're studying now are fundamental.

Bolden stressed that not everyone has to be great at everything — but that "you need to do the best that you can do."

He also told the kids to take risks — but smart and measured risks.

Some of the students are hearing about "drugs, sex, alcohol and other very, very, very risky things," he said. He warned them to listen to their teachers and parents and to avoid the risky behavior.

Bolden wowed his audiences — the children visited in three different age groups for 30-minute assemblies — with slides of personal snapshots from some of his 608 hours of space-shuttle missions.

When asked what being in space was like, Bolden answered, "awesome … absolutely unbelievable." He described the odd feeling of weightlessness, how tough it was to eat when the scrambled eggs were floating above the tray and how he tied his "sleeping bag" on one end so it would float as he slept. He said that while traveling at 17,500 mph he would see the sun rise and set every 90 minutes. He also was able to watch the moons of Jupiter race around the planet.

Bolden teared up when telling a student the one thing he wishes he could change in his life was preventing the Challenger disaster, when NASA "lost seven tremendous folks." The space shuttle exploded shortly after liftoff on Jan. 28, 1986, killing everyone aboard.

Bolden, an independent consultant working from Houston, told the children they are the future.

"What I hope is that one of you will travel to … Mars," he said.

Ten-year-olds Keri Lawrence, Misa Brophy and Bailey Ulrich — working on a school Space Day project — spent about 10 minutes with Bolden after the assemblies, discussing life in space.

"It was really exciting because I've never met an astronaut before and I was able to get all the information for our report," Lawrence said.

Her teacher, Malcolm Downing, was glad Bolden came to speak.

"I'm tremendously impressed with the way he interacts with the kids," said Downing, the gifted-and-talented-program teacher at the school. "He talks to the kids and shares his life experiences. He has a good message to pass."

Bolden, who was stationed at Yokota from 1998 to 2000, was invited back by the base's Martin Luther King Jr. Observance Committee. During his stay, to last through late in the week, he'll also meet with various base organizations and speak to Yokota High School students.

He said he enjoys meeting and talking to children.

"I learn so much and get to share with them a segment of my life experiences to let them know normal people do … extraordinary things.

"They can ask you questions that you don't know the answer to and you can get to know what drives them, what motivates them," he said.

E-mail T.D. Flack at: flackt@pstripes.osd.mil

Navy identifies USS San Francisco sailor killed in sub accident

The Associated Press

HAGATNA, Guam — A sailor who had recently re-enlisted for five more years died when a nuclear submarine ran aground, damaging the vessel's bow but leaving its reactor plant intact, authorities said.

The sailor killed was identified as Machinist's Mate 2nd Class Joseph Allen Ashley, 24, of Akron, Ohio. He died Sunday of his injuries, said Jon Yoshishige, spokesman for the U.S. Pacific Fleet in Honolulu.

Ashley "was standing watch in engineering" when the impact occurred, and received head injuries "when he was thrust forward," said Navy spokeswoman Lt. Amy Gilliland.

The Navy said 23 other people were injured Saturday, when the USS San Francisco ran aground about 350 miles south of Guam. The submarine reached its home port of Apra Harbor here Monday under its own power, a Navy spokesman said.

The submarine was traveling at about 30 knots, or approximately 35 miles per hour, when it struck an underwater hill.

Navy medical personnel from Guam were brought aboard the submarine to treat the injuries, which included broken bones, lacerations, bruises and a back injury, the Navy said. The submarine has a crew of 137.

Dan Ashley — the seaman's father and a former electronics technician on Navy destroyers — spoke with Adm. Paul F. Sullivan, Commander Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet about the incident.

Dan Ashley said the Navy commander was originally reluctant to offer details, but that he insisted.

"This is our son," Ashley said. "We need to know what happened."

The extent of damage to the 360-foot submarine was not immediately determined, Yoshishige said. An investigation was being launched into the cause of the accident.

Just a few months ago, Ashley re-enlisted for five more years, his mother said. Friends and neighbors placed small American flags on the lawn of his family's home.

Although the family understands that "accidents like this can happen," they are nevertheless distraught and want answers, Dan Ashley said.

"That's a little bit hard," he said. "It's going to be difficult to accept, unless they have a good, logical reason" for the accident.

Stripes reporter Lisa Burgess contributed to this report.

Insurance company to refund $1.3M to GIs

By Leo Shane III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — Georgia's insurance commissioner expects more investigations and sanctions against insurance companies in the wake of a Texas firm's admission of improper insurance sales to troops in basic training.

Last week American-Amicable Life Insurance announced it would pay about $1.3 million to more than 900 Georgia servicemembers sold policies while in training, which is prohibited under Department of Defense policies and Georgia insurance sales regulations.

The amounts of the individual refunds will depend on how much each servicemember paid. The policies, which were sold in 2002, include all of the firm's Horizon Life Insurance plans for that year.

Company officials blamed a third-party seller for what they called a one-time mistake. But commissioner John W. Oxendine said he thinks the incident points to a larger problem of the industry exploiting military personnel.

"These refunds will in no way be the last step," he said. "We have an active investigation against six other insurance companies. We believe this does happen all the time."

One of those other investigations is focused on First Command, who last month agreed to pay an $8 million fine and refund about $4 million to customers given false information and promises about systematic investment plans.

Since the investigations began, several of the companies in question have been barred from business at Fort Benning in Georgia. The Department of Defense has asked all bases to provide details of their solicitation investigations since 2000 as part of a comprehensive review of the industry.

American-Amicable offered life insurance refunds in early 2004 after a similar illegal sales charge at Camp Pendleton, Calif. The company was banned from U.S. Army bases in Europe from 1998 to 2000 for similar soliciting violations.

Spokesman Mark Palmer said that after the latest charges, American-Amicable hired Carl Ross, the retired civilian chief of staff for training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center, to help revamp training and marketing policies, to ensure similar problems don't appear in the future. He added that American-Amicable has ended its contracts with all of the third-party sellers involved in the improper sales. The third-party seller involved in the Fort Benning case had no comment.

Oxendine said he thinks Georgia's investigations are just the start of what he hopes will be a nationwide crackdown on unscrupulous insurance and investment firms. "Ripping off soldiers has been happening since the Middle Ages, but it appears at times of war it gets more active," he said. "But we haven't really heard about it until recently.

"The military has taken care of everything (these troops) need, and for them to go outside that structure to complain is against what they've been taught."

Troops who bought the American-Amicable policies while training in Georgia will have 180 days to request a refund, but those stationed outside the United States won't have that timetable start until they return. All should be receiving notification by mail in the coming weeks. For more information, call (800) 656-2298.

E-mail Leo Shane at: shanel@stripes.osd.mil

Phone cards for troops

An ongoing Army and Air Force Exchange Service program has raised $1.2 million to put prepaid phone cards into the hands of troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The "Help Our Troops Call Home" program allows people without AAFES privileges to purchase phone cards online for servicemembers downrange. The program began in April, and, as of December, purchasers had spent $1,283,945 to buy 32,113 phone cards, according to an AAFES release.

The cost on the AAFES Web site, **www.aafes.com**, is $39 for a 550-unit prepaid card, $14.99 for a 200-unit card and $20 for a ship to shore card. Shipping is 37 cents for each type. There also are options to buy the cards in increments of 10 or 25 cards.

The costs per minute for the cards, according to the Web site, are 21 cents for the 550-unit card, 23 cents for the 200 unit card and 50 cents for the ship to shore card. These special rates are good through Valentine's Day, Feb. 14. The posted rates are for calls to the United States.

From staff reports

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FACES

Newman's car fire

A race car being driven by **Paul Newman** spun and caught fire Saturday at Daytona International Speedway in Florida, but the Academy Award-winning actor was not injured.

Newman was driving a Daytona Prototype sports car for next month's Rolex 24 when he spun on the road course, said **Adam Saal**, Grand American Series spokesman. The car did not hit anything, but the engine caught fire when Newman tried to restart the vehicle.

The fire was contained to the engine compartment, and Newman escaped without harm. He was taken to the track's infield medical center and released after a brief exam.

"I don't know what happened," said Newman, who returned to the track to watch one of his drivers, **Sebastian Bourdais**, test another car. "I'm fine. It just caught on fire somehow."

Model returns home

Czech supermodel **Petra Nemcova**, injured in the South Asian tsunami, has returned to Prague for further treatment, a news agency reported.

Nemcova, who appeared on the cover of the 2003 Sports Illustrated swimsuit issue, was vacationing in Thailand with her boyfriend, photographer **Simon Atlee**, when the waves swept through their beach hut. She reportedly clung to a tree for eight hours as the water swirled around her.

Atlee, 33, a well-known fashion photographer, remains missing.

Nelson 'glad' to help

For **Willie Nelson**, picking and singing to raise money for relief efforts from the South Asian tsunami is a natural gesture.

"There really are a lot of people who would like to do something," Nelson said. "We're glad to offer those people opportunities to help out in different ways."

The Austin Music Hall performance Sunday by Nelson and others sold out in less than seven hours, generating $75,000 for the Red Cross, UNICEF and CARE.

The Texas event joins a slate of concerts organized around the world, including New York City, India, Australia and the United Kingdom.

Old flame sues rocker

A woman who says she is a former girlfriend of KISS rocker **Gene Simmons** is suing him for slander, saying the bass guitarist made her sound like a "sex-addicted nymphomaniac" during a "rockumentary" on VH-1 television.

Georgeann Walsh Ward, 53, of Chester, N.Y., says in court papers that a photo of her appeared 11 times during the report on KISS, shown on the network several times in July and August, while Simmons claimed to have had sexual encounters with 4,600 women.

In the documentary, "When KISS Ruled The World," Simmons commented that "there wasn't a girl that was off limits, and I enjoyed every one of them," court papers say.

Simmons

Ward's papers say that because a photo of her with Simmons was shown during remarks about his sexual adventures, she was in effect portrayed as "wild" and "unchaste."

No spokesperson for Simmons could be reached for comment.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Japanese yen (Jan. 10)	102.00
South Korean won (Jan. 8)	1,031.00
Euro costs (Jan. 10)	$1.3569
Dollar buys (Jan. 10)	€0.737
British pound (Jan. 10)	$1.93
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.377
British pound	$1.8688
Canada (Dollar)	1.2323
Denmark (Krone)	5.6248
Egypt (Pound)	6.0702
Euro	$1.305/0.7663
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.7915
Hungary (Forint)	188.75
Iceland (Krona)	63.585
Israel (Shekel)	4.3937
Japan (Yen)	104.88
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2919
Norway (Krone)	6.2188
Philippines (Peso)	56.17
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.75
Singapore (Dollar)	1.649
South Korea (Won)	1,049.00
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1956
Thailand (Baht)	39.25
Turkey (New Lira)	1.4045

(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

New York Merc close

Gold	$418.90
Silver	$6.429

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	3.25
Federal funds market rate	2.25
3-month bill	2.32
30-year bond	4.85

Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America

Trying to be a 'big daddy'

AP

After a decade of wacky films, Adam Sandler's next big role may be a bit more grown-up

BY MIKE SZYMANSKI
Zap2it.com

LOS ANGELES

Adam Sandler smiles when he thinks back to his role as the reluctant father in the 1999 wacky comedy "Big Daddy." Now, he's playing a perfect dad to two children in his latest film "Spanglish" and he's itching to give it a try for real.

"I just recently started trying and I'm doing the best I can," Sandler cracks in his best little boy voice. "It feels good to try. But playing a father, well, I'm getting a little older and I do want that lifestyle. I do want children. I study dads more."

A little more than a year ago, Sandler married former model Jackie Titone, whom he met doing "Big Daddy" and who had small roles in his films "50 First Dates," "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," "Little Nicky" and "Eight Crazy Nights." During family reunions recently, the 38-year-old star has watched his brother with his two children, and says he wants a life like that.

"This character feels so much like my brother — he has two children, he has a wife, he works with me," Sandler says, dressed in jeans and a pink and red flowered shirt at a small news conference.

As the family hero in "Spanglish," Sandler acknowledges this is his most grown-up role to date. After four years on "Saturday Night Live" in the early 1990s, he became a box office success with hits such as "Billy Madison," "Happy Gilmore," "The Wedding Singer," "Anger Management" and "The Waterboy." Each time he seemed to play the same half-dumb immature geek.

But after surprising audiences with his serious romantic role in "Punch-Drunk Love" in 2002, he decided to grow up a bit in both his roles and in his life. When "As Good As it Gets" and "Terms of Endearment" Oscar-winning director James L. Brooks wrote this part of a serious dad for him, Sandler jumped at the chance to do something different.

"I loved his movies, every one he's done," Sandler gushes. "So when he wrote a movie and he wanted me to be in it, I was extremely excited but, in my head I didn't say, 'Oh, I'm gonna run away from my other stuff.' "

Expect Sandler to be wacky again — he's next working on a movie about a universal remote control that takes over his life, titled "Click" — but he hopes to do it as a real-life dad. He's watched his father and siblings as parents and continues to take notes.

"My parents would get a phone call saying, 'Hey, we're going away to Bermuda this weekend. You want to come? But, we're not bringing the kids.' My parents would go, 'No kids? Oh no, then we can't go.' That was my father and mother's sacrifice," Sandler recalls. "They didn't care about anything but the kids and I feel like that's a big part of my character."

Sandler says he gets his sense of humor from a father who "wasn't perfect and had a temper, which I took some of." He admits, "My father having a temper led to me developing a sense of humor to calm the old man down."

In "Spanglish," Sandler plays a restaurant owner whose wife (Tea Leoni) is a bit manic and harsh on their two kids — an overweight girl and a meek boy. They live with his alcoholic mother-in-law (Cloris Leachman) and they hire a maid who speaks no English (Paz Vega) and has a young daughter. Temptation arises as his marriage seems to be falling apart, but it's up to Sandler to keep them all together.

"Jim coached me through every scene and told me what he wanted," says Sandler.

The comedian doesn't speak Spanish well, but says "Paz taught me a few words that, if people weren't nice to me, I could tell them a few things." He also doesn't cook for himself like his character does, but thanks to a chef who was a consultant on the set, he learned how to make a mean BLT sandwich.

Sandler's co-stars say they loved working with him because he's so funny all the time. Leachman says, "He has no ego whatsoever; you can't find it."

Leoni, as his wife, does a rather painful sex scene with him where she gets a bit carried away with her running shoes. "We shot many takes of that scene and he was a trouper through it all," says Leoni.

"He always is his usual boyishly charming self."

Sandler recalls, "I was hurting! My poor chest! The camera kept rolling and Tea kept whacking. Like by take six, wow, my make-up girl would have to run in and put flesh color back on my chest."

Cents and Sensibility
Money tip of the day

Taking a break

The Associated Press

It's a new year and many of us are staring at a delicious new slice of vacation time. But will you have (or make) time to use it in 2005?

If you're a woman in the corporate world, using vacation time can be an even dicier proposition than it is for men. Many women are worried about keeping pace, moving up, battling gender barriers, balancing vacation time with what they already must take for children.

It needn't always be so, argues Mary Lou Quinlan, a former advertising executive who wrote "Time Off for Good Behavior: How Hardworking Women Can Take a Break and Change Their Lives," which is being released this month.

The book, which tells of Quinlan's decision to take a five-week break from her job, also covers the experiences of 37 other women professionals who decided their working lives required a break.

"When you're working really hard, it's not easy to see just how stressed you are," she writes.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Retired officers shouldn't lobby

We've come a long way since George Marshall didn't feel that it was appropriate for an officer to become politically involved by voting.

Now we have retired flag officers flacking for politicians and grouping together to take part in issue discussions that are only remotely related to the armed forces.

The recent article about retired Gen. John Shalikashvili and others sending a letter challenging the fitness of a nominee for attorney general of the United States ("Vets' groups speak against Bush nominating Gonzales," Jan. 7) has really caused me to question if we have gone too far.

Anyone has a right to express his or her opinion, including Shalikashvili and retired Air Force Gen. Merrill "Tony" McPeak, but when they wear their stars and purport to speak for the military, I think that they have gone too far.

Our country is not well-served by an organized military lobby intervening in political affairs.

Army Col. Peter G. Drower (Ret.)
New City, N.Y.

Protective measures boosted

I am a tank company executive officer. I have seen many news stories and in-depth reporting about the lack of vehicle and body armor.

Beginning in Operation Iraqi Freedom II, no one deployed without the new interceptor body armor and small-arms protection inserts. There were people in OIF who did not have these and had to wear the standard Army-issue flak vest, which does not provide the ballistic protection that the interceptor body armor provides. The standard-issue flak vest is not good for ballistic protection, but it does provide some degree of protection from shrapnel.

However, vehicle armor is another story.

Upon arrival in Kuwait some vehicles were armored and some were not. The vehicles that were not still had to be driven and were fortified in any way possible through the use of sandbags and Kevlar blankets.

Upon arrival in our combat sector, we were told that we were going to receive eight up-armored Humvees. This did not happen, as only four were received. The point is not the lack of armor, it is the use of armor. I am in an armor battalion that has many tank and Humvee missions. We have implemented procedures that have maximized the effect of the armor and to this day have survived car bombs and roadside bombs with few casualties and no deaths. The armor on vehicles has been sufficient; it depends upon how it is used.

Armor is not the final answer to protecting the force. Policies such as chin defilade for Humvee gunners, ballistic eye protection, and proper use of all pieces of body and vehicle armor are essential. At the time the war started, measures to protect the force were not sufficient; these shortages were identified and are in the process of being corrected. Many of the changes that are necessary are due to a different type of war that we are fighting and winning. These shortages were quickly identified and are being fixed thanks to the taxpayers, our elected officials, and a Department of Defense that cares about its soldiers.

Capt. M. Andrew Koontz
Forward Operating Base Warhorse, Iraq

Proud to serve with military

There are many retired military and civilian Department of Defense workers in many different positions overseas. Some are returning to the war front and supporting the military.

We have made big sacrifices in leaving our families behind and Stripes editors should have a place in the paper to honor those who are serving again after retirement and also to honor some of our civilian partners.

I am stationed at Camp Bondsteel in Kosovo with the Army and Air Force Exchange Service. I'm not here for the money; I'm here because I got a second chance to be with the men and women in the military, to be side by side with them in the war front, and to make them feel safe and at home.

The only thing I wanted to say to thr troops is: You are not alone; we are here with you.

Nelson Delgado
Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo

Take care of veterans too

The tsunami in South Asia is one of the most devastating disasters in recent memory, and we should show our support as a nation.

However, isn't it interesting how the money can surface in the wink of an eye, how the flag can be flown at half-staff quickly, and how we instantly bend to the whining of the United Nations?

This is particularly interesting when the argument against our aging military retirees' promised health benefits is lack of money.

Also, our World War II and Korean War veterans are dying at the rate of more than 1,100 per day and flags are not flying half-staff for them. And the United Nations did not step forward with help for our recent catastrophic hurricanes and tornadoes. We cannot even afford the body armor and equipment to ensure maximum safety for our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

We are the most powerful and greatest nation in the world, yet we cannot adequately honor those who made this, and who are now making this, possible. Our politicians need to do what is right for our military, both active and retired. If we don't, how can we expect those on active duty today, making many of the same sacrifices we did, to remain on as the career backbone of the U.S. military?

I have stepped forward with monetary help for Sept. 11, disaster relief and for the tsunami relief effort. I just feel strongly that we should honor commitments to our own, as well as to others. Let us put our priorities where they belong — and not use the excuse of a lack of funding for our own, when we can immediately step forward for others, just so we look politically correct. They will all readily accept it and yet shortly be back bashing Americans.

Air Force Capt. Ron Shaw (Ret.)
Orem, Utah

The NEX best thing

I wanted to comment on recent talk regarding integration of the service exchanges in light of what I saw when TDY to Hawaii. I had the opportunity to visit the Navy Exchange at Pearl Harbor, and it was absolutely astounded with the quality of the shopping there. In every way, shape and form, the NEX there is superior to every Army and Air Force Exchange Service exchange I have ever visited, including the large exchanges at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., and Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

An exchange consolidation with NEX as the model would be a definite boon to those of us who suffer under AAFES currently. I find it an incredible disservice to those of us stationed outside of the continental United States that the Navy has found a way to support its personnel with quality merchandise and service while AAFES is apparently incapable of matching that excellence. Would someone from AAFES like to explain why this discrepancy exists? I cannot comment on the Marine Corps' exchanges because I have yet to visit one. The Marines here on Okinawa are subject to AAFES — much to their chagrin, I'm sure.

For those in the Navy who read my letter and may express disbelief at my description of NEX: You should try shopping at AAFES.

Andrew W. Rush
Kadena Air Base, Okinawa

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. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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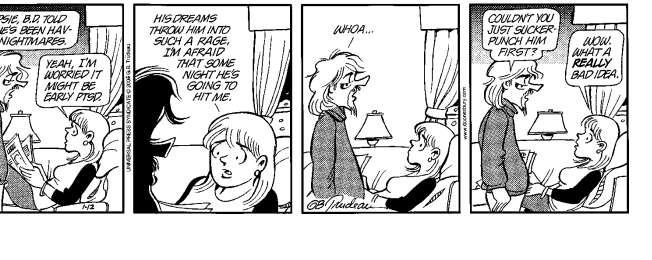
Doonesbury



OPINION

Keeping the wolves at bay after the tsunami

BY JANICE SHAW CROUSE

With thousands of children left orphaned by the South Asia tsunami, authorities are concerned for children's safety in a region where trafficking networks are entrenched and where markets for forced labor and sexual slavery thrive. There is fear that trafficking rings might be preying on children left vulnerable in the social chaos produced by the tragedy.

"For exploiters," said Lisa Thompson, who heads up anti-trafficking efforts for The Salvation Army, "any situation that leaves children homeless and orphaned is like the scent of a wounded animal to a wolf." Dr. Laura Lederer, who pioneered research on trafficking, echoed the same fears: "Places where there is political or economic instability, civil war or natural disaster are most likely to be targeted by traffickers."

Ambassador John Miller, who heads up the State Department's Trafficking in Persons office, summed up his concerns this way: "Trafficking of children has been going on in this region and elsewhere long before the tsunami. While cases of child trafficking resulting from the tsunami have yet to be confirmed, I believe wherever there is chaos, the opportunities for traffickers increase."

Dr. Donna Hughes, a University of Rhode Island professor and leading expert on trafficking, agrees: "Predators are always looking for ways to prey on the vulnerable, so it shouldn't surprise us that a disaster that creates victims and chaos has become a prime hunting ground for them. Still, we should remember that on many of these beaches, pedophiles and sexual predators abuse and exploit boys, girls and women every day of the year."

The affected nations are establishing measures to protect orphaned children. In the Aceh region of Indonesia where 35,000 children have lost at least one parent, police have been put on alert against exploitation of the children and special guards have been posted in refugee camps. Last year, Indonesia made significant progress in combating trafficking with 125 reported trafficking-related investigations, 67 prosecutions and 27 convictions. In addition, crisis centers were built and nongovernmental organizations began providing services to victims.

With such progress, Indonesia has laid a foundation for countering post-tsunami criminal activity and, since the tragedy, they have barred anyone from taking orphans out of the country until all are registered. Such moves will deter the traffickers, but officials fear that the proximity of Indonesia's ports already known as transit points for criminal networks may have enabled gangs to ship children out before officials could mobilize protective efforts.

India, too, is concerned about the exploitation of children orphaned by the tragedy. The government has accounted for all the children in the hardest-hit state, Tamil Nadu, and the government is building an orphanage and opening a bank account for each of the orphans. Tamil Nadu initiated action last year against 90 possible traffickers and 550 employers for child-labor infractions of children believed to be trafficking victims. Neither Thailand nor Sri Lanka has been as aggressive, but they are working with the hospitals to protect children and they already have stringent adoption policies.

In response to questions about what can be done to help in the affected nations, Ambassador Miller said, "Right now we have contacted [nongovernment organizations], our embassies and foreign governments with steps to take to reduce trafficking opportunities, e.g., registration of children in refugee camps, education of camp workers, warnings to children in camps, increased scrutiny at airports of adults accompanied by children, etc. We are in constant communication with charitable groups and international organizations on the ground to help us identify child trafficking situations and, pursuant to President Bush's anti-trafficking in persons initiative, to help us set up or expand anti-child-trafficking programs."

Certainly the threat to children at this critical time should provide added impetus for the affected nations to launch concerted efforts against pedophiles, because any abuse and exploitation against "the most innocent and vulnerable" is, in the words of President Bush, "a special kind of evil."

Janice Shaw Crouse heads the anti-trafficking efforts for Concerned Women for America, a Washington-based organization that promotes pro-life, pro-marriage and pro-family policies.

No one should warm to idea that SUVs are to blame

BY JAMES K. GLASSMAN
Scripps Howard

The tsunami the day after Christmas has so far killed more than 150,000 in South Asia and East Africa.

It was a terrible tragedy to which the world is responding quickly and generously. But, in some quarters, the tsunami offers an irresistible opportunity for exploitation — and not just by kidnappers of orphans to use as prostitutes.

Unscrupulous activists, who have so far been unable to enact a scheme for mandatory reductions in energy under the Kyoto Protocol on climate change, are telling whoever will listen, "See, we told you so!"

"The argument goes roughly like this," said an editorial in the Chicago Tribune. "Greenhouse gases, largely from the United States and industrialized nations, have fueled a global warming trend that is melting the ice caps and contributing to a rise in sea levels that might have caused or aggravated the South Asia disaster."

In a typical example, the Tribune cited Tony Juniper of Friends of the Earth in Britain saying, "Here again are yet more events in the real world that are consistent with climate change predictions."

Tom Toles, editorial cartoonist of The Washington Post, depicted a couple of Asians on a devastated island, looking at a newspaper with the headline, "CO2 Emissions." One comments, "Does it say what the West will be sending?" The other replies, "A six-foot increase in sea level."

And Voice of America broadcast an interview with Naomi Oreskes of the University of California, who claimed that the tsunami "highlights the need to take action on global warming." All of us are to blame, said Oreskes — "every single one of us who drives a car, heats our house, flies an airplane … anybody who basically lives in the modern world is involved in this activity."

Much of this shameful nonsense is simply the result of people being swept away by their own rhetoric — or their desire to raise money for their organizations. But at its root are two profoundly incorrect sentiments:

First is solipsism: We humans are the most powerful force on Earth. How can there be a disaster if we didn't cause it?

Second is naturism: If we humans didn't mess with Mother Nature, everything would be perfectly peachy.

To the contrary. Research indicates, more and more, that recent warming at the surface of Earth is mainly influenced by cyclical changes at the surface of the sun, where, as far as we can tell, no one is driving an SUV.

As for the tsunami itself: It was started by a huge earthquake, the violent, unpredictable handiwork of Nature or, if you prefer, God.

But didn't global warming raise sea levels to start with, making the tsunami more devastating? No. Sea levels in the northeastern Indian Ocean have been going down, not up.

But assume the worst — a global rise of 4 to 8 inches over the past century, as claimed by a United Nations group. Even an increase of an inch a decade is minimal, compared with a Dec. 26 tidal wave estimated at 30 to 40 feet high. And it could have been worse. The wave unleashed by the eruption of [the volcano] Krakatoa [on the Indonesian island of Rakata] in 1883 reached 100 feet or more.

The truth is that terrible, terrible things happen that can't be blamed on George W. Bush or any other human. The only way to mitigate them is through wealth and technological progress. As Glenn Reynolds wrote recently on TechCentralStation.com: "The best protection against catastrophes is a society that is rich enough, and diverse enough, to be well-prepared for all sorts of contingencies. Which means that economic growth, and the freedom that produces it, may be the best guarantor of safety for us all."

A rich society has the dikes to hold back the sea, the advanced construction to keep buildings from collapsing, the communications systems to warn of disasters, the roads to help people escape and the hospitals to treat the injured — not to mention the imagination and flexibility to respond to the unforeseen.

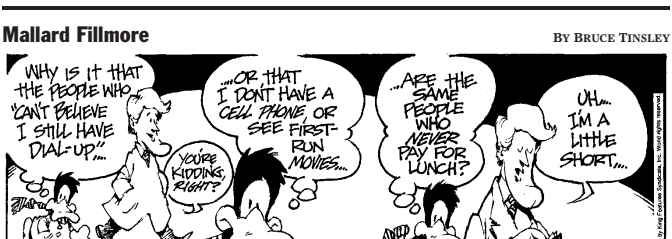
If there is any way at all to reduce the horrifying effects of a natural disaster like the one that just visited the Indian Ocean, it's to reduce poverty in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and the rest of the developing world — an aim that, by the way, would be beneficial even if there's never another tsunami.

The proper project for the next century is fighting poverty and encouraging economic growth — not exploiting fears and imposing a windmill-powered, no-growth society.

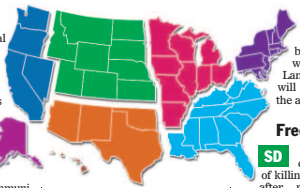
James K. Glassman is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute and host of TechCentralStation.com.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY



AMERICAN ROUNDUP



Smoking debate

CO DENVER — Several Denver City Council members want to resurrect a debate on smoking in restaurants and bars.

The city now prohibits smoking in most workplaces and public places such as the zoo, Botanical Gardens, and outdoor theaters and stadiums.

Smoke-Free Denver, a community coalition, plans to lobby the City Council starting this month to ban smoking in restaurants and bars.

Son's rowdy party

PA PITTSBURGH — Police haven't decided whether to file charges against the father of a 16-year-old boy who held a raucous, unsupervised New Year's Eve party at which his friends fired guns in the street and more than three dozen teenagers and young adults were arrested.

All those arrested, whose ages range from 13 to 22, were charged with underage drinking or disorderly conduct.

Police say they are investigating whether the host's father, Howard C. Gunter, 38, of Pleasant Hills, Pa., knew his son was planning a party when he chose to spend the night at a nearby hotel.

"I'm not very pleased about the parent's actions or lack of action," said Pleasant Hills Police Chief Floyd Nevling. "You don't go off and leave your 16-year-old son at home on New Year's Eve."

Escapee hides in store

NC CHARLOTTE — A prison escapee was arrested after hiding out for months in vacant Circuit City store, eating baby food stolen from an adjacent Toys "R" Us and watching DVDs, police said.

Jeffrey Allen Manchester made his home in a 4-foot-by-10-foot closet decorated with posters and model toys, played hoops with a mini-basketball net and watched "Spider-Man 2." Authorities say he routed water from Toys "R" Us and even installed a smoke detector.

Manchester is now being held without bond on six felony charges.

"I've never seen anybody so determined," said Officer Fred Allen, who spotted the hideaway in the store. "He wasn't going to make a stupid mistake. We had to find him."

Authorities say the 33-year-old Manchester sneaked out of the Brown Creek Correctional Institution on June 15 by clinging to the undercarriage of a truck. He was four years into a 45-year sentence on a robbery conviction from Gaston County.

Naked Wal-Mart greeter

IA MUSCATINE — A Wal-Mart greeter was sacked for apparently showing too much of his friendly side to customers.

Dean L. Wooten, 65, was accused of greeting customers with a computer-generated photo of himself in which he appeared to be naked — except for a carefully placed Wal-Mart bag — and of telling customers that Wal-Mart was cutting costs and the sack was the company's new uniform.

Wooten said he did not see the harm in the photo, which he said was made by a friend who spliced a picture of Wooten's head onto a shot of another man's body.

"When I first seen it, I pretty near died laughing," he said.

Postponing bison hunt

MT HELENA — Gov. Brian Schweitzer, fearing a "public relations nightmare" for Montana, said he wants to cancel a hunt for bison that wander outside Yellowstone National Park.

The newly inaugurated Democrat said he hopes to find a way to postpone the season for a year — it's set to start Jan. 15 — by either ordering the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks not to issue licenses, or by filling the Fish and Game Commission with new members who would reverse the decision to approve the hunt.

Schweitzer said he is not sure he can legally do the former, or has the time to do the latter.

The hunt was halted in 1991 after a barrage of bad publicity.

Some environmentalists have threatened more protests if a hunt takes place this year.

Artists agree to leave

NJ JERSEY CITY — Artists fighting eviction from a 144-year-old former factory agreed to leave in a deal in which the landlord will forgive back rents that may total up to $600,000.

About 60 artists who sued to remain in their studios in the sprawling brick building owned by New Gold Equities will vacate by March 1. Landlord Lloyd Goldman will also pay $35,000 for the artists' legal fees.

Homemade fun

From left, Kirsten Prince, 8, Savannah Jones, 5, and Katie Jones, 7, sled down a hill on a piece of cardboard at Rushton Park in Birmingham, Ala.

Free deer meat

SD RAPID CITY — The city is nearing its goal of killing 200 deer this winter after receiving complaints that a growing deer herd is eating homeowners' vegetation and causing traffic accidents. The city pays sharpshooters to kill the deer and gives the meat away. A similar program from 1996 to 2002 killed 878 deer within city limits.

Car seats big sellers

NC RALEIGH — A state law that requires children younger than 8 or less than 80 pounds to ride in car seats has caused a run on the equipment in stores around North Carolina. A dozen or more stores in the Charlotte region recently sold out of car seats. The law that took effect Jan. 1 aims to protect children who are too large for a car seat but too small for seat belts.

Gruesome charges

PA YEADON — A man was charged with raping and killing an aspiring teenage model, then cutting up her body, putting it in a steel drum and burning it with help from an acquaintance.

Delaware County District Attorney G. Michael Green said he will consider seeking the death penalty for Lamar Haynes, 29.

Haynes was charged with kidnapping, rape, first-degree murder, abuse of a corpse and other counts in the death of 15-year-old Deanna Wright McIntosh, who left home after an argument with her mother.

Authorities allege Haynes raped and killed Deanna at a house in Lansdowne just blocks from her family's Yeadon home.

Police chief blamed

FL TAMPA — The motorist blamed for causing a four-car wreck on an interstate entrance ramp was no mere run-of-the-mill driver: He was the police chief.

"I feel terrible," said Chief Stephen Hogue. "It was completely my fault."

Hogue was on his way to work and looked over his shoulder while trying to merge onto an interstate in his city-issued, 1999 Ford Crown Victoria. While he was looking, the traffic ahead of him stopped.

Hogue rear-ended a 2003 Volkswagen, which rolled into a 2000 Acura, which struck a 2003 Ford, police said.

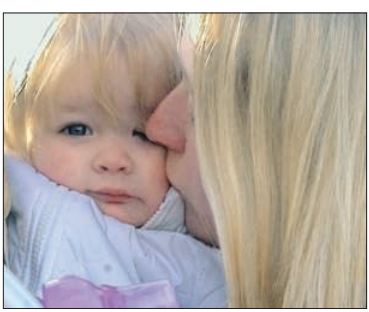
"I'm just grateful no one was hurt," said Hogue.

Officer Paul Hoffman gave Hogue a $120 traffic citation for following too closely. "We just want to do what we're supposed to do," Hoffman said.

Hogue's car sustained about $4,000 in damage to the front end. Besides the fine, he faces four points on his driver's license unless he attends traffic school.

Lemonade for a cause

Sarah Eiland, 6, right, holds a sign promoting a lemonade sale while Sydney Eiland, 4, center, and Sarah Roberson, 6, prepare drinks in front of the Eiland home in Mobile, Ala. All proceeds from the lemonade sale were to be sent to the United Methodist Relief Organization.



Come home soon, Mommy

Stephanie Bailey, 22, kisses her 16-month-old daughter, Elise Cummins, goodbye as she leaves Reno, Nev., with 80 other members of the Nevada Army Guard being deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

She's an artist at work

Rasha, an Asian elephant, paints an original work of art at the Fort Worth Zoo in Fort Worth, Texas.

A showy display

A peacock takes a stroll around Hart Park in Bakersfield, Calif.

Skiing with a kite

Saulius Muliolis of Euclid, Ohio, adds a splash of summery color to a wintry day as he kite-skis across Edgewater Park in Cleveland.

Always a good day to fish

Keith Blake drops a fishing line into the frozen waters of Lake Champlain at the break water of Rouses Point, N.Y.

Burned school reopens

DC WASHINGTON — A charter school reopened less than a month after it was ravaged by several fires.

Two fires were set Dec. 7 at the IDEA Public Charter High School in Northeast Washington. About a week later, the school was hit again. Parents and staff spent the last few weeks refurbishing the building. The fires didn't hurt anyone but caused $1 million in damage.

Football fans shocked

UT SALT LAKE CITY — Dozens of University of Utah fans attempting to storm the Fiesta Bowl field in a rite of football victory were each hit with a 50,000-volt electric jolt from police officers.

Among those shocked after the game in Tempe, Ariz., was a high-school student who says he and others just wanted to celebrate with their team and were not acting violently when they were zapped.

Arizona State University police spokesman Keith Jennings said the use of the weapons was in line with department policy. That permits the deployment of electronic incapacitators during physical altercations with police officers.

Jennings conceded, however, that only two people were arrested for scuffling with officers in the immediate aftermath of the game.

The officers used the weapons at Sun Devil Stadium in part "to protect the goalposts and the field" for an NFL game scheduled the following day, Jennings said.

"It was justifiable," he said. "They were also trying to protect people. If they go down to the field and knock over the goalpost, that sort of thing, we're liable if someone gets hurt."

Therapist pleads guilty

NY PLATTSBURGH — A former therapist for children who suffered sexual abuse or had behavioral problems pleaded guilty to molesting 10 of them.

Douglas Kennedy, 41, of Peru in Clinton County, faces up to seven years in prison under the plea deal. The victims, both boys and girls, currently range in age from 8 to 15, District Attorney Richard Cantwell said.

Kennedy worked for Behavioral Health Services in Plattsburgh from 1995 until he resigned in June 2004 after two victims came forward.

The 11-count indictment included charges of criminal sexual acts, forcible touching and endangering the welfare of a child.

When Cantwell asked Kennedy to elaborate in court, he described some of the incidents as "horseplay."

Authorities said they contacted 170 former clients during the investigation.

Kennedy is free on $2,500 bail and was scheduled for sentencing March 8.

Virginia changing road

VA ROANOKE — The Virginia Department of Transportation plans major changes to U.S. 220 from Roanoke to the North Carolina border that will cost an estimated $8.3 million.

VDOT plans to close 23 median crossovers along the 60-mile stretch to improve safety. It will also install new turn lanes at 11 locations and lengthen existing turn lanes in seven places, among other improvements.

Lottery and education

OK OKLAHOMA CITY — Lottery proceeds would fund a $500 million education bond issue under a plan supported by university presidents and the governor's office.

The money would be used for major building projects on campuses of the state's 25 public colleges and universities. The lottery approved by voters in November designates 45 percent of net proceeds for higher education.

Tsunami fines a no-go

TN CHATTANOOGA — A judge has rescinded his offer to dismiss traffic tickets for drivers who agreed to make a $100 donation to victims of the tsunami.

Municipal Judge Russell Bean had planned to offer the amnesty option for two weeks but had to end it after only one day amid questions about whether the program was legal. He also said it caused confusion for traffic violators whose cases were in other city courts.

"I watched the disaster on TV and that was why I became emotionally involved and wanted to do this," Bean said. "I do hope that this has created awareness for a need to help our fellow mankind."

The tsunami donation option allowed violators to avoid a fine of up to $50 and additional court costs, typically about $78, plus any loss of driver's license points and any report to insurance companies.

Avalanche kills skier

MT BOZEMAN — An avalanche in southwestern Montana killed one cross-country skier and injured another, leaving him stranded in the snow for two days until a rescue helicopter could pluck him to safety.

The injured skier was flown to Bozeman Deaconess Hospital. His name and condition were not released.

Sheriff Bill Briggs also would not release the name of the victim, one of five cross-country skiers caught in the slide in the Centennial Valley. The body was recovered.

Paid to baby-sit own son

NY NEW YORK — A Brooklyn man was charged with felony welfare fraud after he allegedly accepted $10,000 in child-care payments from the city for baby-sitting his own son.

Robert Brown, 31, did not disclose that he was the 11-year-old boy's father when he began receiving payments three years ago under a city program that subsidizes child-care providers for parents who are either on welfare or working part-time, prosecutors said.

Brown was listed as caretaker by the boy's mother, Essie Porter, 40. Their scheme unraveled when city workers checked the boy's birth certificate and saw Brown identified as the father, prosecutors said.

Both Brown and Porter pleaded innocent at their arraignment on welfare fraud charges in Brooklyn Supreme Court. They face up to seven years in prison if convicted.

Stories and photos from wire services

WEDNESDAY EVENING / JANUARY 12, 2005

MOVIES ● SPORTS

J		6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	●ESPNews	Pacific Report	The Parkers "Could It Be You?" Nikki goes on a blind date.	Arrested Development "Marta Complex" Michael extols love. (CC)	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition Designers, workmen and neighbors renovate a soldier's home. (CC)		Lost Three teams dropped in the middle of nowhere compete to reach the Statue of Liberty. (CC)		Pacific Report	The Tonight Show (CC)		Late Show (CC)
7	AFN-ATL	(5:46) Oprah Winfrey (CC)	(:35) Guiding Light (CC)		(:17) General Hospital (CC)	Headline News	Judge Judy (CC)	Today (CC)				The Sylvester & Tweety Mysteries	Buzz Lightyear of Star Command
8	NEWS	Hardball With Chris Matthews		The O'Reilly Factor (CC)		FOX News (CC)		Fox and Friends		Fox and Friends		American Morning	
9	SPORTS	●(5:00) NBA Basketball Teams to Be Announced. (Taped)			●NIBA Fastbreak (CC)	●SportsCenter		●College Basketball Louisville at Southern Mississippi. (Taped)				●SportsCenter	
10	SPEC	The Simpsons Homer bowls a perfect game.	Everybody Loves Raymond Robbing the cradle.	The Amazing Race (CC)		Andromeda "The Things We Cannot Change" Dylan is pulled into an alternate reality. (CC)		Wrestling the Mississippi		Friends Rachel buys an "antique" table. (CC)	Seinfeld Jerry takes pity on a former eigner. (CC)	The Daily Show (CC)	Blind Date (CC)
	AFN-FAM	Fairly Oddparents	Rugrats (CC)	Even Stevens	Kenan & Kel	Gilmore Girls (CC)		Degrassi: Next	Degrassi: Next	The Cosby Show	Home Improve.	Touched by an Angel (CC)	
	AFN-MOV	Attractions	Ent. Tonight	★★ "American Pie" (1999, Comedy) Jason Biggs.		(:44) ★★ "A Knight's Tale" (2001, Adventure) Heath Ledger, Mark Addy, Rufus Sewell.						★★ "Shoot to Kill" (1988)	
14	TMC	★★ "Blown Away" (1994, Suspense) Jeff Bridges, Tommy Lee Jones, Lloyd Bridges. A mad Irish bomber plots revenge on his former pupil. 'R'				★★★★ "Glory" (1989, Drama) Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington, Morgan Freeman. A young Union officer leads an all-black regiment. 'R' (CC)				(:05) ★★★ "Miami Blues" (1990, Drama) Alec Baldwin, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Fred Ward. A psychotic thief uses a detective's stolen badge. 'R' (CC)		(:45) ★★ "The Golden Child" (1986) 'PG-13'	
24	PBS	Dragon Tales Dragons are too tired to party. (EI)	Zoom Football game. (EI) (CC) (DVS)	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N) (CC)		Live From Lincoln Center "Sir James Galway at the Pentehouse" Flutist James Galway performs. (N)			The Congregation Conflict arises between a conservative United Methodist Church and a liberal congregation. (N) (CC)				Rachel and Andrew Jackson: A Love Story (CC)
25	SHOW	(5:00) ★★½ "Carry Me Home" (2003) 'PG-13'	(:45) ★★ "The Four Feathers" (2002, Adventure) Heath Ledger, Wes Bentley, Kate Hudson. A former soldier accused of cowardice must redeem his honor. 'PG-13' (CC)					HUFF "Cold Day in Shanghai" Melody returns to Huff's fantasies. (CC)		★★★ "The School of Rock" (2003, Comedy) Jack Black, Joan Cusack, Mike White. An unemployed guitarist poses as a teacher. 'PG-13' (CC)			
27	A&E	City Confidential "Ft. Lauderdale: Sin in the Sun" Career destroyed due to involvement with a prostitute. (CC)		American Justice "Cop Killers" An examination of cop killings cites recent notorious cases. (CC)		American Justice "The Perfect Wife" Roger Scaggs is convicted of murdering his wife. (N) (CC)		Road Warriors: The Biker Brotherhood (CC)		Biography "Dr. Robert Atkins" Dr. Robert C. Atkins promotes a low-carb diet. (N) (CC)		Crossing Jordan "Pandora's Trunk" Angling for a promotion, Det. Hoyt tries to solve a triple homicide. (CC)	
28	DISC	To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced		To Be Announced	
29	TFC	Wazz Up Wazz Up	Star Circle Quest	Yes, Yes Show		(:05) Insider	Special Assignment		Kumikitang Kabuhay Ayan	Morning Star		(:40) Masayang Tanghali Bayan	
30	CNN-I	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Daybreak				American Morning (CC)					
31	GOLF	●(4:30) European PGA Golf Deutsche Bank Open -- Final Round.		●Golf Central	●Golf Channel Academy	●Golf With Style	●Golf Academy Live		●Golf Academy Live Jim McLean.		●Golf Central	●Profiles of a Pro Cindy Fiom.	●Golf With Style
32	TLC	In a Fix "The Big One" Renovating a family room to give a couple a save haven for their new baby boy. (N)		Extreme Surgery Geoff makes progress after eight months, but still faces more surgery. (CC)		Storm Force "Tornado Alley" Film footage of tornadoes and first-hand accounts of their destruction. (CC)		In a Fix "The Big One" Renovating a family room to give a couple a save haven for their new baby boy.		Extreme Surgery Geoff makes progress after eight months, but still faces more surgery. (CC)		In a Fix "Family Beach Bar" Newlyweds' house is a mess. (CC)	
34	TOON	Samurai Jack	Dexter's Laboratory	Codename: Kids Next Door	Justice League	Powerpuff Girls!	Cartoon Cartoon	Cartoon Cartoon shorts.	Looney Tunes	I Am Weasel	Sheep in the Big City	Detective Squad	
35	ANPL	The Jeff Corwin Experience "My Favorite Encounters" Jeff discusses his favorite animal-encounters.		Miami Animal Police "Snakes on the Loose" An officer is called in to capture three escaped snakes at a farm.		Animal Face-Off "Lion vs. Tiger" How Asiatic lions and tigers choose their different habitats. (CC)		The Jeff Corwin Experience "My Favorite Encounters" Jeff discusses his favorite animal-encounters.		Miami Animal Police "Snakes on the Loose" An officer is called in to capture three escaped snakes at a farm.		The Most Extreme "Survivors" Creatures adapt to extreme environments. (CC)	
36	COM	(4:00) ★★★ "Dogma" (1999) Ben Affleck. (CC)	South Park School mascot. (CC)	South Park A superstore threatens South Park. (CC)	South Park A former classmate seeks revenge.	South Park The girls try to impress their idol.	South Park Cartman gains psychic powers. (CC)	South Park Stan helps the woodland animals. (CC)		Jeff Foxworthy: Totally Committed The comic makes observations on life. (CC)		USO Comedy Tour Maria Bramford; Mike MacDonald. (CC)	
40	NGC-A	Extreme Latitude	Stolen Treasures of Cambodia	Snake Wranglers Rattlesnakes.	Croc Chronicles "Cobra Fest; Cave Croc"	Dogs With Jobs "Nyack, Cinder, Clancy"	Tales From Belize "Guardians of the Lagoon"	Kung Fu Dragons of Wudang		Built for the Kill "Snake"		Hyenas: Bad Reputation Delving into the hyena's surprising world.	
42	SPIKE	★★½ "The World Is Not Enough" (1999, Action) Pierce Brosnan, Sophie Marceau, Robert Carlyle. James Bond must protect a murdered industrialist's daughter. (CC)						★★★ "Diamonds Are Forever" (1971, Adventure) Sean Connery, Jill St. John, Lana Wood. James Bond battles a space-crazy villain. (CC)					
43	FOX	That '70s Show Red drowns his sorrows. (CC)	That '70s Show Kitty extends an invitation. (CC)	The Simpsons Lisa lives in a tree for four days.	Seinfeld Jerry's in a weightlifting contest. (CC)	That '70s Show Eric tries his hand at vandalism.	Quintuplets Alayna and Parker send time apart.	Nanny 911 "Rock Family" Nanny Deb helps a family with their foul-mouthed, tantrum-throwing 4-year-old son. (CC)		News		The Simpsons Homer creates his own Web page.	Seinfeld Friend's gift giving is suspicious. (CC)
44	BET	Coming to the Stage		Coming to the Stage		BET Nightly News (CC)	Music Special	Source Awards 2004 Performances by hip-hop artists.				BET Late	
46	COURT	NYPD Blue "Waking Up Is Hard to Do" Sipowicz's mood reflects the outcome of Theo's medical test. (CC)		Cops Drive-by shooting; arrest of former cop. (CC)	Cops Dangerous brawl; sweep of crack houses.	The Investigators "Crimes of the Heart" Teen shoots classmate.		Forensic Files Flight attendant murdered. (N)	Psychic Detectives Psychic aids search. (N)	The Investigators "The Sounds of Silence"		Caught	Masterminds "Bill Dhaliwal" High-tech car theft ring.
48	STR-WLD	The Simpsons (CC)	The Drew Carey Show (CC)	Star News Focus Asia	Friends (CC)	Secrets of Psychics Revealed Psychics' tricks, ranging from faith healing to mind reading, are debunked.		Philly (CC)		Third Watch (CC)		Friends (CC)	Secrets of Psychics Revealed
50	LIFE	★½ "Don't Look Down" (1998, Suspense) Megan Ward, Billy Burke, Terry Kinney. A woman with a fear of heights seeks unusual treatment. (CC)				The New Maxwell's fear of intimacy. (CC)	The Golden Girls Blanche and Stan are dating. (CC)	The Nanny Fran and Grace held captive by sultan.	The Golden Girls A lesbian falls for Rose. (CC)	Providence "The Apartment" Robbie is drawn into a feud; Joanie fears Hannah may have tuberculosis. (CC)		Suddenly Susan Susan becomes a cheerleader. (CC)	Paid Program
51	ABCFAM	(5:00) ★★ "National Lampoon's European Vacation" (1985, Comedy) Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo.	Whose Line Is It Anyway? Valentine's Day. (CC)	Whose Line Is It Anyway? Weird newscasters. (CC)	The 700 Club (CC)			Family Matters Eddie's 21st birthday party. (CC)	Family Matters Urkel can read minds. (CC)	Guthy-Renker.com	Paid Program	The 700 Club (CC)	
53	HIST	The Bible Code: Predicting Armageddon (CC)		Bible Code II: Apocalypse and Beyond Military and intelligence organizations search for the code. (CC)		Hooked: Illegal Drugs and How They Got That Way "Marijuana" (CC)		UFO Files "UFOs in the Bible" Evidence of UFO activity in the Bible. (CC)		The Bible Code: Predicting Armageddon (CC)		Bible Code II: Apocalypse and Beyond Military and intelligence organizations search for the code. (CC)	
57	STR-MV	(5:30) ★½ "Desperately Seeking Susan" (1985, Comedy) Rosanna Arquette, Madonna, Aidan Quinn.	(:15) ★★ "Daredevil" (2003, Action) Ben Affleck, Jennifer Garner, Michael Clarke Duncan. A blind man is a lawyer by day and a superhero by night.					"Cave In" (2003, Suspense) Mimi Rogers, Ted Shackelford, Bruce Alipress. A woman's husband and son are trapped in a mine.				(:35) "The Target" (2002, Suspense) Christopher Lambert, Dennis Hopper, Diane Kruger. A bodyguard must protect the man who killed his parents.	
58	ADV 1	(5:30) Going to Extreme "Wet"	Next Wave Red and yellow-footed tortoises.	Total Adventure Kayaker Guy Baker.	●Adventure Challenge Searching for cave passages in a hollow Welsh hillside.		Shoot the Creature "Lesser Flamingos"	Chasing Time "Barcelona" Australian couple.	Game for It	Going to Extreme "Wet" Mawsynnarn, India, was declared the wettest place in the world in 1994.		Next Wave Red and yellow-footed tortoises.	Total Adventure One of the biggest granite walls.
59	MTV	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Never Before Scene: Elektra (N)	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	The Real World Karamo struggles with his anger.	The Real World The ladies switch beds. (CC)	The Real World Community service project. (CC)	The Real World Melanie seeks new friends. (CC)	The Real World Landon's ex-girlfriend arrives.
60	NICK	Hey Arnold! Sid seeks revenge; roller coaster.	SpongeBob SquarePants (CC)	Rugrats (CC)			SpongeBob SquarePants A treasure hunt.	Full House Joey runs for PTA president. (CC)	Full House Jesse and Joey may move out. (CC)	The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Hilarien visits. (CC)	The Cosby Show Denise finds perfect job. (CC)	Roseanne David sends Dan into a rage. (CC)	Roseanne Jackie's house buzzes with activity. (CC)

JAPAN TV

Afternoon
12:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (12)
1:30 Canadian-German Movie (2002): Liberty Stands Still (2:00)(12)
3:12 Grand Sumo: The 4th Day (1)
5:50 News (6)
Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:00 I Love Oliver Beene (3)(r)
7:25 Simple Rules (3)
8:00 U.S. Movie (2001): A.I.: Artificial Intelligence (2:54)(6)
10:00 News (1)
10:00 America's Top 40 (42)
12:15 Grand Sumo Digest (1)
2:20 Yomiuri Symphony House (4)
2:34 TV Series: Bull (6)
3:20 NFL: Teams To Be Determined (4)
4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (1)(r)

JAPAN TV-BS7

Morning
6:15 World News
7:15 World News
8:15 World News
9:15 World News Hour
10:10 BS Documentary: Qadhafi's Female Bodyguards
11:15 CNN News
Afternoon
12:15 CNN News
2:15 PBS NewsHour
3:15 CNN News
4:15 World News Hour
5:15 Asian News
Evening
6:15 CNN News
7:15 Asian News
8:15 World News
9:15 Economic News
10:10 BS Documentary: Series: Global Warming (3)
11:15 NBA: Denver Nuggets vs. Sacramento Kings
1:10 X-Games
1:35 Grand Sumo Digest
2:15 Asian News
3:35 World Amazing Sports
4:15 Asian News
5:15 World News Hour

WOWOW

Morning
7:30 Oswald No. 15
8:00 U.S. Movie (1947): Miracle on 34th Street (1:40)
9:40 U.S. Movie (2002): Dragonfly (1:45)
11:40 Angels in America No. 6
Afternoon
1:00 Spanish Movie (1999): All About My Mother (1:45)
2:50 U.S. Movie (1992): A League of Their Own (2:10)
Evening
6:00 U.S. Movie (1973): Paper Moon (1:50)
10:00 Swiss Movie (2002): War Photographer (1:50)
11:50 U.S. Movie (2003): Robert Capra: In Love and War (1:30)

JAPAN TV-BS11

Morning
10:00 Classical Music: Mitsuko Shiral and Hartmut Holl Concert
Afternoon
1:00 Grand Sumo Tournament, 4th Day (billingual after 4 p.m.)
Evening
7:00 NHK News
8:00 U.S. Movie (1993): Another Stakeout (1:55)
10:00 TV Series: Alias 2

MTV

Morning
6:00 Wake Up!
7:00 M Size Tuesday
8:00 Top Choice
10:00 Pure Music
11:00 Top Choice
Afternoon
12:00 YATAI
1:00 Pimp My Ride
1:30 Top Choice
2:00 Pure Music
3:00 Top Choice
5:00 U.S. Top 10
Evening
6:00 M Size Wednesday
7:00 Eminem Special: Shady Convention/News Now/Making the Video
9:00 Top Choice
10:00 Making the Video: Mase
10:30 Check the Rhyme
11:00 America or Busted
11:30 Pure Music
12:00 Rocks
1:00 M Size Wednesday
2:00 Rock On
2:30 Classic
3:00 Fresh
3:30 After Hours

Horoscope

Holiday Mathis

Responsibilities are numerous and bulky, but the reward for taking them on is equally substantial. During the void-of-course moon early today, let your subconscious do the heavy lifting for you. Relax, go slow, and do some day-dreaming. You'll pick up the time-saving details you would have missed had you been intent on forward movement.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (January 12). You're fearless — maybe because you sense that positive change is in the air this year. Most exciting is a surprising twist in your love life, occurring around February. If you're looking for new romance, your best chances are while traveling, at sporting events or in places of study, such as schools or libraries. Love signs are Scorpio and Sagittarius.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). Boldly push forward with your plans. Blithely scoff at any obstacles in your way. Do not let anything distract you from seeing your project through to completion. For rams, a touch of tunnel vision is a good thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). The universe whispers sweet nothings in your ear. Do something kind for yourself, such as getting a massage, facial, manicure or pedicure. You're likely to run into a friend while out and about and get all the latest dish.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). You feel more grounded and earth-bound than usual, which could make an air sign like you believe your wings have been clipped. It's really a blessing in disguise, however. Think about what is, not about what could be.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your soft inner self, the part you normally hide beneath that crab-like coat of armor, needs an extra love. You're feeling vulnerable and may see slights where none exist. Meditate. Get your rest. Rent a hilarious movie.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Others take you seriously and see you in a new light, with deeper love and more respect. You're able to speak with authority, yet are not afraid to ask for assistance when necessary. Your sense of duty and responsibility prevails.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your friends are pulling for you, helping you accomplish the basics. But why survive when you can thrive? Feeing overwhelmed is just a sign that you should add more responsibility to your plate. That way, you can prioritize.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). An unexpected deviation in your daily routine brings the "wow" factor — anything from an unforeseen opportunity to enjoy a beautiful change of scenery to a chance encounter with the next big love of your life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). An object of great emotional value to you — something for your home or reminiscent of childhood — was once out of reach but is now easily obtained. Money flows a little smoother, too, so splurge.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). A sibling or neighbor is looking out for you, making you feel nurtured and protected. Pay it forward with random acts of kindness for others. Someone in your social circle would love to hear from you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Sometimes, you just have to open your mouth and let out a long, loud, full-bodied scream. This is best done alone, in a closed-up car on a sparsely traveled road. You'll rest sweetly tonight.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Flirtation spices up your day. You could meet someone sassy or indulge in harmless games with an attractive co-worker. Keep it light — this one is purely for fun. If you're in a committed relationship, expect extra zing and zip.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Taking a practical approach to your love life pays off in surprising ways. Keep your head on straight, and you could suddenly reap rewards through your partner's friends and family. An exciting travel opportunity is possible, too.

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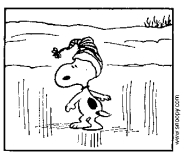
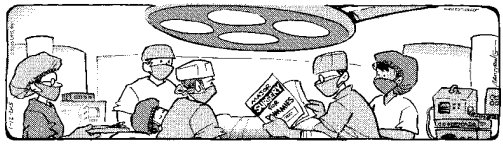
Peanuts



Calvin and Hobbes

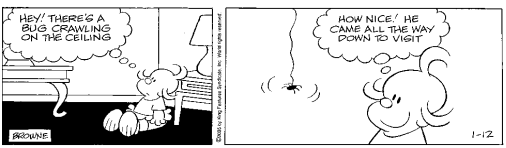
Jump Start



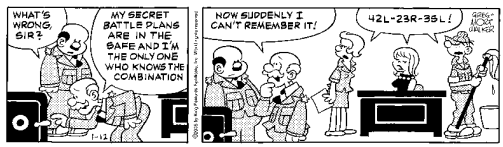
Zits

Cathy

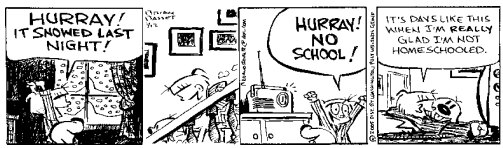
Hi and Lois



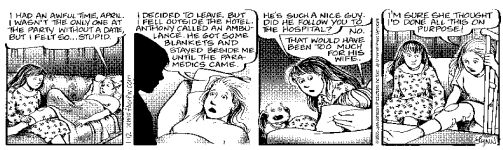
Beetle Bailey



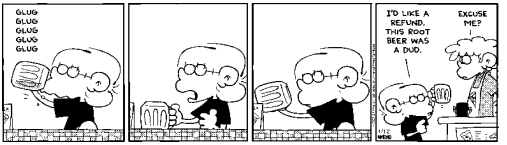
Red and Rover



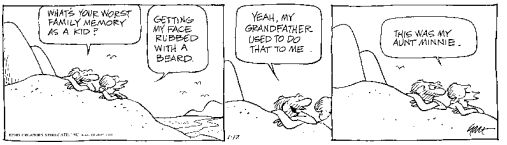
Better or Worse



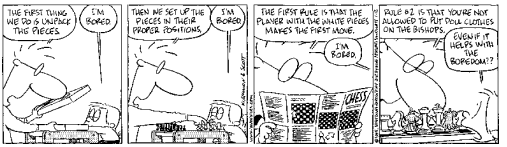
Foxtrot



B.C.



Baby Blues

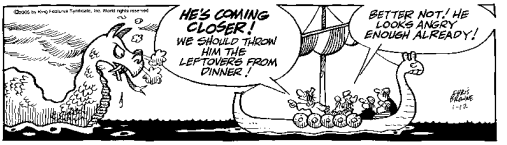


Spider Man

Blondie

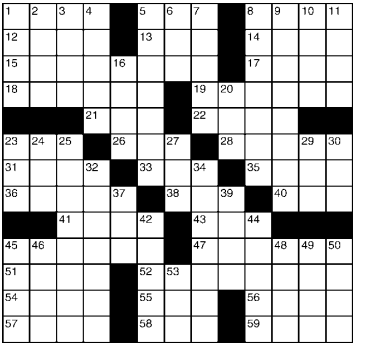
Dilbert

Hagar



Garfield

Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

1 Wields an axe
5 Crony
8 Gets ready to rumble
12 Rue the run
13 George's brother
14 Seethe
15 3/17 emblem
17 Wile E.'s supplier
18 Cauldron contents
19 Exploited
21 Seek damages
22 Sufficient, old-style
23 Manhandle
26 X rating?
28 Prepare to propose
31 Curved molding
33 Clark or Rogers
35 Ticklish Muppet
36 Fortune-tellers read them
38 Party bowlful
40 Drag
41 "Mona —"
43 Dawn goddess
45 Toy maker
47 Andean pack
51 "— Rhythm"
52 Agenda
54 "Smooth Operator" singer
55 Honest politician
56 Neighborhood
57 Stomped (on)
58 Disencumber
59 Jerry's longtime partner

Down

1 Padlocked fastener
2 Cave comeback
3 "Repeat that, please"
4 Big trucks
5 Trailblazer
6 Joan of —
7 Delibes opera
8 Ear shell
9 "Saturday Evening Post" illustrator
10 It goes without saying
11 Coaster
16 Defeat big-time
20 Affix a signature
23 Grammy category
24 Khan title
25 Affluent
27 Affirmative action
29 Down Under bird
30 Record
32 Sent forth
34 Gave way
37 Away from NNW
39 Lauren trademark
42 Sacrifice site
44 Dieter's lunch
45 Fine spray
46 Culture medium
48 Boggy terrain
49 Cruising
50 Musial or Lee
53 Kyoto cummerbund

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

1-12 CRYPTOQUIP

J P Y F Y O I S Z B M I S F T V S Y I S R V Z F T A Y U V Q M U T R R T M Y R Y D O J P T , X T ' M B S S D U T Y B B Q R X Y U A .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: AFTER THE FATHER LET HIS WEE KIDS HAVE SEVERAL FELT-TIP PENS, HE WAS A MARKED MAN.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals S

Past loves may incite jealousy

Dear Abby

Dear Abby: I have been married almost two years and am having problems with my wife's male friends. She has never had a lot of female friends, and she has had physical relationships with some of her male friends in the past.

We have had several arguments over her relationships with these men and my inability to trust them. I agree with her on that point; however, I would feel awkward if she confided in a male friend if she and I ever got into a tiff.

I am really troubled by this. I believe it opens a window of opportunity for the guy to make advances when she's at a low point. I recently was forwarded an e-mail from one of her male friends that referred to her as "Sweetie" and "Puddin' Pop." Is that right? Should I confront her on this? What should I do?

— Uneasy in Milwaukee

Dear Uneasy: Do not "confront" your wife, but do discuss your feelings with her. That you are uneasy about her continuing a relationship with old lovers is understandable. However, to expect a woman who has always related better to men than to women to forgo friendships with men seems unrealistic.

Please talk this out with your wife. She was honest with you about it. Trust her unless she gives you reason not to do so.

Dear Abby: I have met the woman of my dreams, the one who was made just for me, and the one I was made for. I am 29 and shy by nature. Before meeting "Jane," I never had a long-term relationship. I never took the chance because I was afraid of getting hurt.

Jane, on the other hand, is the opposite. She has had boyfriends since the age of 13.

We are both having trouble forgetting the past.

Although I know Jane loves me and her exes mean nothing to her now, she still mentions their names in passing every so often. She still has photos of them, old letters, gifts, etc. It's a constant reminder of her past, and of mine, which was alone and depressed.

Just thinking about Jane in another man's arms, and how alone I was, tears me up inside. Why does she have these old things if I am her true love?

— Wants No Reminders

Dear Wants No Reminders: Many people keep mementoes because they are souvenirs of happy times or memories. I'm sorry your past was lonely and sad, but for you to expect your girlfriend to come down with amnesia is unrealistic.

Since the souvenirs bother you, tell Jane how you feel. If she cares about your feelings, she'll put them away and store them with other dusty memorabilia.

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

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

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

STURY

PETIR

BRUPES

WALLOF

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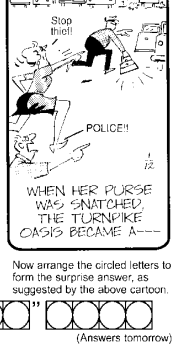
www.jumble.com



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

Ans: "_____" _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LADLE HOBBY MOSAIC BODILY
Answer: Hard to raise after spring planting — HIS BODY

Don't address adopted child's race

Annie's Mailbox

Dear Annie: My husband and I have been married eight years and have tried to conceive a child with no success, so we decided to adopt a child of another race. This isn't a problem for my husband, me, my parents or the community in which we live. However, some members of my extended family have shown themselves to be racist.

When the time comes for the child to move into our home, and if there is a baby shower, how do I deal with breaking the news to these relatives that the child is of another race?

— Lots of Love in Ohio

Dear Ohio: You don't have to "break the news." We assume they will figure it out if they see the child, and if they don't see the baby, you can send them a photograph announcing the adoption. You do not need to address the child's race any more than you would make an issue of the color of the baby's eyes. If the relatives make derogatory comments, remind them that this is your child and insist that they behave themselves.

Dear Annie: I just read the letter from "Need Advice to Give Advice," who asked how to help a friend going through a divorce. Here are some words of wisdom from a divorce lawyer of 21 years:

1. Don't badmouth the spouse. The couple may reconcile, in which case things will be awkward for you. Saying he's a big jerk doesn't necessarily make her feel better. It just says she had lousy judgment in choosing him in the first place or for still caring about him.

2. Do offer her opportunities to do fun things that make her smile and will lift her spirits. An invitation to do something on a Saturday night, when she may be feeling especially lonely, can be priceless.

3. Do include her in couples' activities. Lots of singles report feeling quite abandoned by their married friends.

4. Do be alert for signs of depression — weight gain or loss, lack of energy, failure to keep her residence clean and orderly, sleeping a lot, etc.

5. Do be sensitive to the unique needs of a newly single parent. Sometimes just finding time to get a haircut can be hard. Volunteer to baby-sit for a few hours.

6. Don't offer her legal or accounting advice, but do be alert to financial needs. A gift certificate for a cleaning service, a manicure or a restaurant can be welcome.

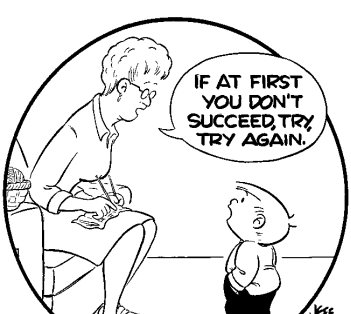
— D.F. in Indiana

Dear D.F.: Thank you for providing some good suggestions for those who wonder how to behave during a friend's divorce. You have helped someone today.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to **anniesmailbox@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



"Sounds time-consuming."

GRAFFITI

Dennis the Menace

"SINCE YOU GOT A RAISE, DAD, DOES THAT MEAN MY ALLOWANCE GOES UP, TOO?"

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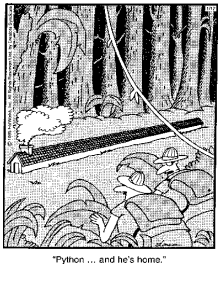
The Far Side



"Python ... and he's home."

Non Sequitur

The Pacific Forecast

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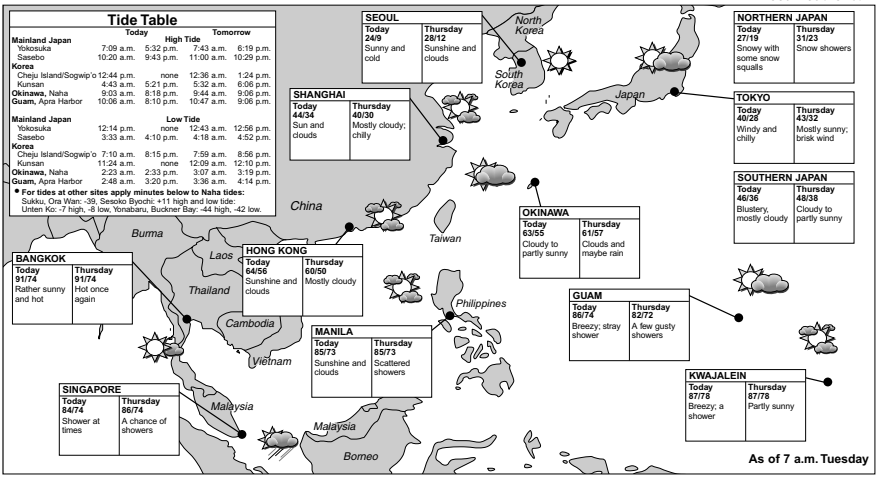


Tide Table

	Today		Tomorrow	
Mainland Japan		**High Tide**		
Yokosuka	7:09 a.m.	5:32 p.m.	7:43 a.m.	6:19 p.m.
Sasebo	10:20 a.m.	9:43 p.m.	11:00 a.m.	10:29 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	12:44 p.m.	none	12:36 a.m.	1:24 p.m.
Kunsan	4:43 a.m.	5:21 p.m.	5:32 a.m.	6:06 p.m.
Okinawa, Naha	9:03 a.m.	8:18 p.m.	9:44 a.m.	9:06 p.m.
Guam, Apra Harbor	10:06 a.m.	8:10 p.m.	10:47 a.m.	9:06 p.m.
Mainland Japan		**Low Tide**		
Yokosuka	12:14 p.m.	none	12:43 a.m.	12:56 p.m.
Sasebo	3:33 a.m.	4:10 p.m.	4:18 a.m.	4:52 p.m.
Korea				
Cheju Island/Sogwip'o	7:10 a.m.	8:15 p.m.	7:59 a.m.	8:56 p.m.
Kunsan	11:24 a.m.	none	12:09 a.m.	12:10 p.m.
Okinawa, Naha	2:23 a.m.	2:33 p.m.	3:07 a.m.	3:19 p.m.
Guam, Apra Harbor	2:48 a.m.	3:20 p.m.	3:36 a.m.	4:14 p.m.

For tides at other sites apply minutes below to Naha tides:
Sukku, Ora Wan: -39, Sesoko Byochi: +11 high and low tide:
Unten Ko: -7 high, -8 low, Yonabaru, Buckner Bay: -44 high, -42 low.

SEOUL
Today 24/9 — Sunny and cold
Thursday 28/12 — Sunshine and clouds

SHANGHAI
Today 44/34 — Sun and clouds
Thursday 40/30 — Mostly cloudy; chilly

NORTHERN JAPAN
Today 27/19 — Snowy with some snow squalls
Thursday 31/23 — Snow showers

TOKYO
Today 40/28 — Windy and chilly
Thursday 43/32 — Mostly sunny; brisk wind

SOUTHERN JAPAN
Today 46/36 — Blustery, mostly cloudy
Thursday 48/38 — Cloudy to partly sunny

OKINAWA
Today 63/55 — Cloudy to partly sunny
Thursday 61/57 — Clouds and maybe rain

BANGKOK
Today 91/74 — Rather sunny and hot
Thursday 91/74 — Hot once again

HONG KONG
Today 64/56 — Sunshine and clouds
Thursday 60/50 — Mostly cloudy

GUAM
Today 86/74 — Breezy; stray shower
Thursday 82/72 — A few gusty showers

MANILA
Today 85/73 — Sunshine and clouds
Thursday 85/73 — Scattered showers

KWAJALEIN
Today 87/78 — Breezy; a shower
Thursday 87/78 — Partly sunny

SINGAPORE
Today 84/74 — Shower at times
Thursday 86/74 — A chance of showers

Extended Forecasts

TOKYO
Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,
high 45, low 34.
Saturday: Rain,
high 46, low 36.

KADENA
Friday: Rain,
high 65, low 57.
Saturday: Partly sunny,
high 63, low 41.

SEOUL
Friday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,
high 29, low 12.
Saturday: Mostly sunny,
high 28, low 14.

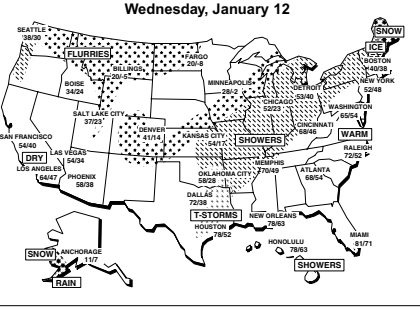
MANILA
Friday: Showers,
high 83, low 73.
Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,
high 85, low 73.

HAGATNA
Friday: Showers,
high 84, low 74.
Saturday: Periods of clouds and sunshine,
high 86, low 74.

Monday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	60/40	Los Angeles	63/55
Amarillo	66/39	Little Rock	66/56
Anchorage	18/3	Louisville	53/47
Asheville	65/38	Miami	80/66
Baltimore	58/32	Milwaukee	30/25
Birmingham	67/52	Nashville	60/52
Bismarck	13/-2	New York	50/35
Boise	39/23	Omaha	24/18
Boston	44/26	Orlando	80/58
Brownsville	83/66	Philadelphia	50/34
Buffalo	40/24	Phoenix	67/54
Burlington	39/14	Pittsburgh	45/33
Charleston, SC	74/46	Portland, OR	42/28
Charlotte	69/44	Portland, ME	39/17
Cleveland	39/28	Salt Lake City	46/35
Columbus, OH	43/36	St. Louis	48/44
Duluth	13/5	San Antonio	77/61
El Paso	71/46	San Diego	66/56
Hartford	41/24	San Juan	84/72
Helena	15/0	Tampa	79/60
Indianapolis	42/37	Tulsa	63/48
Jacksonville	74/50	Washington	60/38
Kansas City	35/30	Wichita	42/32

Wednesday, January 12



U.S. Extended Forecast

A warm front will lift northward across the Eastern Seaboard Wednesday and bring some rain and drizzle to places such as New York City and Boston. Some freezing rain may occur in interior sections of New England. It will be quite warm in the Southeast with some sunshine. There will be some rain over the Midwest and Great Lakes, along with gusty winds. Rain and snow showers will occur over the Four Corners region in the Southwest. On Thursday and Friday, much colder air will plunge south and eastward through the Midwest, Ohio Valley, and eventually the mid-Atlantic. Temperatures may drop 25-45 degrees in 36 hours after the cold front passes over a given location.

Wednesday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	91/74	Iwakuni	44/30	Sasebo NB	45/35
Beijing	39/18	Kadena AB	63/55	Sapporo	27/19
Camp Casey	26/9	Kunsan AB	33/21	Seoul	24/9
Christchurch	68/54	Kwajalein	87/78	Shanghai	44/34
Diego Garcia	86/77	Manila	85/73	Singapore	84/74
Hagatna	86/74	Misawa AB	29/21	Sydney	91/74
Hanoi	61/53	Osan	29/11	Taegu	34/20
Hong Kong	64/56	Perth	90/62	Taipei	65/52
Honolulu	78/63	Pusan	38/24	Tokyo	40/28

Wednesday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	90/72	Budapest	44/33	Kabul	42/15	Nairobi	83/54
Athens	58/45	Buenos Aires	97/70	Kiev	36/26	New Delhi	74/47
Auckland	66/54	Cairo	68/47	Kuwait	58/38	Oslo	36/29
Baghdad	59/36	Cancun	82/70	London	46/36	Paris	41/31
Barbados	83/67	Cape Town	79/60	Madrid	54/38	Rio de Janeiro	79/67
Barcelona	56/43	Geneva	45/33	Mexico City	72/46	Rome	53/40
Berlin	44/31	Istanbul	55/43	Montreal	33/31	St. Petersburg	34/28
Bermuda	71/62	Jerusalem	52/41	Mogadishu	88/74	Stockholm	40/29
Brussels	43/29	Johannesburg	84/58	Moscow	36/24	Warsaw	44/33

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- Please spell out each word. No abbreviations.
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Appliances 025

Foster, Okinawa - Household appliances for sale: Shark cordless sweeper, $20; Black & Decker Dust buster, $20; toaster oven, $30; Mrs. Tea, $30 and spice rack $10. Call 8646-4374 or e-mail sullygem@yahoo.com.

Humphreys - Sears washer, size air conditioner, three small air conditioners. All working good when replaced. Total for all four - $250.00. Call morningevenings (031)618-4706.

Kadena - Dirt Devil feathertube vacuum with attachments (12 amp), $15 Great condition, husband bought me a new vacuum for holidays. Call 633-9700 or e-mail carrietelgman@yahoo.com.

Kadena, Okinawa - Dehumidifier like new $90 paid $160. PCSing Call Mike Brown 0098-0 or email eric.roney@kadena.af.mil.

Kadena, Okinawa - National 3-door Refrigerator/Freezer with Vegetable Drawer. Light Gray marble, 70"x24" Great shape, lots of room & ideal for off-base apartments. Available in 2-3 weeks. Paid $400, PCS sale $250. Call 893-7703 or papachinko@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Toastmaster Convection Oven/Broiler, 450 degree, 22"x12"x13" great for off-base apartments, can fit large baking dish for cakes, pizza, and lasagna. PCS sale $50. Call 893-7703 or papachinko@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Toshiba Air conditioner & compressor set. Cooler. Heater. Dehumidifier. Self-cleaning, on/off timer settings, remote control. Purchased 4 months ago, 5-year warranty for $780. PCS sale for $650 Call 893-7703 or papachinko@yahoo.com

Kadena - Whirlpool Dehumidifier. Like new. 50.00. Call Bill @ 633-0699

Kinser, Okinawa - Bissell Clear view Vacuum cleaner. Bag less. 12 amps, all attachments included. Recently put new belts, light, filters, and wheels. Almost brand new condition now. $45 calls 637-4368 jendr81@yahoo.com

Yokosuka, Japan - Korean Vacuum Cleaner 220V. One year old. Call Cuckoo LVC-2912. Very Powerful. Can't use in Japan. Worked great in Korea better than my US vacuum. $40. Free mailing Military mail. Pictures available. Email hon-ge@rhyoko.med.navy.mil

Arts & Crafts 080

Foster, Okinawa - 10 yards of burlap, $10.00 call 645-3107.

Announcements 040

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Autos for Sale - Japan 146

Atsugi - 93 Nissan March. Four doors, CD player, good tires, well maintained. Inspection, JCI and Road Tax until August 2006. Asking $1,000. Call 264-6449.

Atsugi - 94 Nissan Skyline: Dark grey, 4-door, automatic, power window, power locks, CD/AM/FM/Cassette, JCI until April 2005. Asking $2,500 OBO. Call Brad 264-6153.

Atsugi - 95 Mitsubishi Chariot: Cassette, new tires/battery and tune-up. JCI until May 2006. Asking $2,000 OBO. Call 264-3278 or 090-4223-5803.

Yokota - 1993 Nissan: Skyline GTS-1, black, 2-door, automatic, many extras, JCI until 2006 $3600 calls 227-8627.

Yokota - 1994 Honda Legend: Green, 2-door, automatic, CD player, power mirrors, JCI until July 2006, $2,700. Call 227-3496.

Autos for Sale - Korea 148

2003 Ford Escape XLT, Only 8,000 Miles, Dark Blue Metallic, light, fitters, and wheels. Almost brand new condition now. $45 calls 637-4368 jendr81@yahoo.com

Yokosuka, Japan - Korean Vacuum Cleaner 220V. One year old. Call Cuckoo LVC-2912. Very Powerful. Can't use in Japan. Worked great in Korea better than my US vacuum. $40. Free mailing Military mail. Pictures available. Email hon-ge@rhyoko.med.navy.mil

Autos for Sale - Korea 148

Osan - 1992 Ranger V6 - Automatic with OD AC ABS. Excellent wheels, tires, paint, & toolbox. Beautiful truck. $2,400 OBO. Call 017-346-2652 or email cody_grubb@yahoo.com for pictures.

Osan - 1996 KIA Pregio 9-Person Van. Automatic Trans-mission. Diesel. Blue with Gray Stripe. 170,000km. New tires in Sep 2004. Qualifies for the express bus lane. $2300. Call Steve or Dana at 031-664-7045 (work).

Red Cloud, Korea - 2003 Ford Escape XLT - Only 8,000 Miles - Dark Blue, Metallic, Power Windows, Power Locks, Leather, Air Condition, 6-Disc Changer Call Don at 732-9081 or 010-3040-7145.

Seoul - SM520 (Samsung car). 1998, 81000km, 4-door sedan, light blue, automatic, A/C, airbag, NO accident $5500 OBO. 017-727-9026 or 02-774-9026 (seoul).

Yongsan - 2002 Ford F150 XLT Longbed Pick-up truck. 4X4. FX4 Offroad package. Camper shell, Dark Blue Metallic, 35K miles, 5.4 liter V-8 Auto, ABS, AC, Tilthead, Captain chairs, PW, PDL, CC, AM/FM Cass - 6 disc CD, Exc condition, runs & drives great. $22,000. 010-4723-2157. my69superbee@hotmail.com.

Autos for Sale - Okinawa 152

Butler - 1997 Skyline R33 GT-R Fox Silver with Lose Tread 215. Many performance upgrades that were professional installed. More information can be obtain by e-mailing me at s30.sam@gmail.com or call Sam at 090-1514-4775

Courtney - 1991 Toyota Town Ace Van FOR SALE 1200.00 OBO JCI until April 2006, CD player, power, power lock. GREAT A/C. Available the end December call Heather 622-8746 or email yorkint@bww.com

Courtney - 1995 Nissan Skyline 4 door, JCI - 10/2006. Available Jan 15th due to PCSing. Must sell. $3500.00 OBO. Call 622-8746 or email yorkint@bww.com

Courtney - 1995 Nissan Skyline Blue with JCI until Jan 2007. Very low mileage, 4400r, Auto-matic, Power Windows, Power Locks, CD/FM etc. $2100.00 OBO. Contact Joseph 090-1857-8463 or 646-2009

Foster - 1994 Nissan Terrano SUV, Gunmetal Gray, 4-door, 6-cylinder, 22,600 kilometers. JCI until 12/05. Asking $3,000. Four wheel drive. Power steering and brakes. AM/FM radio and compact disk player. Power windows and locks with remote. Noticeably maintained. Call 646-3433.

Foster - 1990 Blue Mazda Familia. JCI good until April 2006. Cold A/C, CD player, automatic, $1800 OBO. MUST SELL! Email for pictures MelissaDeWayne@aol.com. Call 646-3586 (H) 641-2896 (duty)

Foster - 1990 TOYOTA MASTERACE SUPER VAN. Two everything, AM/FM Cassette Radio and Nice tires. Very well maintained and very dependable van. JCI Oct. 2006 Asking $1,500.00/OBO. POC: Ron @ 645-6831 or cruzer23@casio.mediatti.net

Foster - 1991 Blue Nissan Primera. JCI Feb. 06, 145,000 KM, A/C, CD player, Runs great. Well kept. Asking Tokyo $900, Available early Feb 05. Call Marc or Sherry @ 646-8258

Foster - 1991 Toyota Surf 4X4. Current JCI Jan 2006 $3000 OBO Turbo Diesel, Automatic, AM/FM Cassette, Cold Air Conditioning, Turbo Timer, Power Steering, Power Windows, Rear Window Wiper, Tinted Windows. In Excellent Mechanical Condition. Great for Family, Exploring and Diving! Contact Kumiko at 646-6797 for information or Ken @ 632-3805.

Foster - 1992 Black Honda Integra. JCI Sept 05, 73,000 KM, A/C, CD player, Runs Great, Well Kept. Asking Tokyo OBO, Call Marc and Sherry @ 646-8258

Foster - 1992 Nissan 180SX. JCI Apr 2006, SR20DET black-top, Nismo chassis, HKS suspension, 17" rims, full exhaust, Skyline Rear Wing, big brake conversion, Blitz air cleaner, Blitz meters, Cusco tension rods, $3500, billae86@otc.ne.jp or 090-2507-6528

Foster - 1993 Toyota Crown Automatic, all power, in good condition. Runs great. Asking $2500.00 Call Jr at 080-5039-4024 or home after 5PM 646-5011

Foster - 1993 Toyota Estima Emina 8 passenger van for sale: Automatic, Power Sliding Door, AC. $2000 OBO CALL JAY Kadena @ 646-6436 or CELL 090-6860-4842

Foster - 1994 Nissan Presea: Blue with JCI until Jan 2007. Very low mileage, 4400r, Automatic, Power Windows, Power Locks, CD/FM etc. $2100.00 OBO. Contact Joseph 090-1857-8463 or 646-2009

Foster - 1994 Toyota Estima: Automatic, Tinted Windows, Interior. $3,000. OBO. JCI 05/2005. Anti-lock Brakes, Fog Lights, AM/FM Radio, CD Player, Air Conditioning, Power Seats, Power Steering, Power Windows, Power Mirrors, Tinted Windows, Sunroof/moonroof. Low mileage 63K KM, very clean, new brakes and tires. Call 090-3796-0270 or 645-7802

Foster-1997 Toyota Cynos; silver, 2 door, automatic, Good AC, JCI till Apr 06, Sporty, $1000 OBO Need to sell. Dan 645-4968 or 090-6863-8253 or cohenc@hotmail.com

Foster - 91 Toyota Camry: Brand new JCI Due Dec 06 New A/C Cold as Ice! Asking $1500 but willing to negotiate. Call Eric & Shelley 646-4294

Foster - 91 Toyota Surf 4x4, Gray, power everything, cold air, heater, cruise control, anti-lock brush guards, good overall condition, very dependable. Asking $2,800 obo (willing to negotiate a great price). please call 646-2094 or email Eric1834@aol.com

Foster - 91 Toyota Town Ace Royal Lounge! Silver, Excellent Condition In and Out, Dual AC Cold!! Power Everything, Moon roof, Auto, JCI till June 2006 Asking $2,200 obo. Call 646-2094 or email Eric1834@aol.com

Foster - 92 Toyota Carina, very cold AC, automatic, JCI good until Sept. 05, runs good and is in good condition. Asking best offer in Jan $1,000 OBO. 645-3107

Foster - 93 Toyota LUCIDA 17" rims with low profile tires with extra set factory rims, power window, power lock, cassette/radio, sunroof, moon roof, $2,000 OBO, Make an offer I can't refuse. Must sell by Dec. JCI until June 2005. Call leave message. 645-5638.

Foster - 95 Honda Civic Hatchback, Blue, very clean, cold A/C, 2 doors, power locks & windows, JCI good until December 2006! Asking $2,500. OBO Call #646-4374 or e-mail sullygem@yahoo.com

Foster - 96 Honda Odyssey, Automatic, Gunmetal Gray, 7 Player, sunroof, excellent condition, very clean, JCI good thru July 06. Asking $5,000, call 646-8016.

Foster - Have to PCS for legal reasons, so its a shame one 5-15 for sale. Negotiable or best offer, that's it $6500. Call SIgt. Bale 645-3165 or 090-7929-8337. First one with cash in hand takes it.

Foster - MUST SELL (PCS in 2 weeks) - 1990 4WD Toyota Town Ace, Auto/AM/FM/A/C/D $1000 OBO or $1500 with JCI, JCI due 05. Call Neil or Myla at 646-4477, 090-6860-7190 or email at charleenj27@msn.com.

Foster - MUST SELL (PCS in 2 weeks) - 1990 White Toyota Camry. Excellent condition. JCI good until Nov 05. Auto/AM/FM/A/C, $1,500 OBO. Call Neil or Myla at 646-4477, 090-6860-7190 or email at charleenj27@msn.com.

Foster - 1989 Daihatsu Van: Great deal, $500.00 JCI until Dec. 26 2005, seats 8, new CD player, fan to drive, manual transmission. Please call Jackie 622-7241

Kadena - 1989 Town ACE Van - JCI good until June 2005 $400. Call Jackie 622-7441 or call at 080-5035-7977.

Kadena - 1990 Toyota Pickup: 4-door, Grey, PTL, 35" Snowtires, Rancho Shocks, 5-speed, diesel Need to sell quick! Asking $2500 OBO. Call Cyrus 633-2210 or email cyrus.medeiros@kadena.af.mil for pictures.

Kadena - 1991 beige Toyota Windom 3.0 (Lexus ES300): JCI until 26 May 05 Cold A/C, power everything, new brakes and tires, CD/MP3 player. $2,400 OBO. Call 633-8133, 080-1724-6223 or email shelmil@yahoo.com

Kadena - 1991 beige Toyota Windom 3.0 (Lexus ES300): JCI due 26 May 2005, no problems passing last time. Cold A/C, power everything, new brakes, tires, CD/MP3 player. $2,500 or OBO. Call 633-8133, 080-1724-6223 or email shelmil@yahoo.com

Kadena - 1991 NISSAN PULSAR GTI-R SR20DET engine, Red Rail, super front stabilizer bar, upper rear strut stabilizer bar, MOMO steering, Rally sump guard, Many more extras; 2Year JCI $3000 O.B.O call Kai 632-3022(H) 634-2505(W) 090-1033-2446 GREAT DEAL!!

Kadena - 1991 Toyota CorsaTercel: 4 Door sedan, blue, extremely reliable, great condition, only 2 known owners, (1 back door was broken, $40 fix and A/C needs recharging once a season $50 charge) asking $1450.00 or best offer call Jeff or Kim at 633-0953.

Kadena - 1991 Toyota Corse: Blue, Extremely reliable, Great Gas, mileage, Engine runs beautiful, JCI good until Jun 2006, Asking $1150.00 or Best Offer. This car is in great condition and will not let you down. Pls must see. Call 633-0953 After 5 or leave message.

Kadena - 1991 Toyota Levin Black, JCI April 2006. Asking $2,800 OBO. Power Windows And Locks. Minimal Body Damage on Passenger Door and Front Left Bumper Check it out in the Lemon Lot. Interested Call Tiffany (H) 634-9779 (H) 964-7338

Kadena - 1992, 2 door, gold, Mazda Familia, JCI until May 06. Sep 2005. Cold AC! Minor body damage but runs great. $ 1,300.00 will take payments. Call 983-7872

Kadena - 1992 Nissan Silvia: Gold, 2 door, gold, JCI is good until September 2005. Cold A/C, minor body damage but runs great. $1,300.00 will take payments. Call 983-7872

Kadena - 1992 Toyota Corina: Gray, JCI until Feb 2006, 1.5 cold A/C, new radiator and hoses, CD in cup holder, 1 owner, engine runs great, interior is clean, solid engine in this car. Asking $950.00 OBO. Call Jonathan 090-6863-8253 or email message if no answer.

Kadena - 1992 Toyota Surf, Silver, 4-door, JCI, Need to sell, divorce. $2,700. OBO. Everything works great, good condition. Please call Justin @ 633-0329

Kadena - 1993 Beige 2-tone Windom: V6, power everything, cold A/C, NEW A/C system. Have had regular tune-ups, oil changes, & tire rotations/alignment. Really are a great car. JCI MUST GO! $2,500(negotiable!) 633-0878 or 634-0222 or email kristinhaley@hotmail.com for details

Kadena - 1993 Toyota Levin 2 door, ice cold A/C, CD/MP3 player, moon roof, power sunything, new brakes, new battery, 16" rims, JCI 06/2006. Asking $1500 OBO call 633-2027.

Kadena - 1994 Acura Integra Cents black JCI until Jan. 2007 cold A/C cold p/s power window $2,200 obo. Call Jeff @ 090-1947-3565 or wk 634-3196.

Kadena - 1994 Black Toyota Evix: JCI until June 2005, Road Tax December 2005, New Brakes, Nice clean car, $2500 Call 633-7501 for more info.

Kadena - 1994 Honda Accord Wagon, Blue/Gray Interior, cold A/C, runs and looks great! JCI until July 2005. $2,750.00 OBO call Jeff (W) 634-2011 (H) 633-4115. Al Kadena Lemon Lot

Kadena - 1994 R32 Nissan Skyline With Bodyscope engine. $2000 OBO. Mail 633-5147 or email dakotaxrunner@yahoo.com

Kadena - 1994 Toyota Rav-4: Automatic, Blue exterior, Gray interior. $2,700. OBO. JCI 10/2005. Fog Lights, Power Windows, Power Locks, AM/FM Radio, CD Player, Air Conditioning, Power Steering, Power Windows, Rear Wiper, Power Mirrors, Tinted Windows, Sun-roof/Moon-roof, Premium Wheels. Your new truck begins in Sep 04. Chris Marsh 632-8814/633-4221

Kadena - 1996, 2 door, silver, Honda Integra. JCI good until Feb 2006. Cold AC. Runs great. CD player. $2,500.00 will take payments. Call 983-7872

Kadena - 1996 WHITE TOYOTA Windom. JCI due July 06. Excellent Condition! Cold A/C, CD/MP3 player, aftermarket exhaust $3490 OBO Call 633-8133, 080-1724-6223 or email shelmil@yahoo.com

Kadena - 1996 Honda Integra: Silver, 2-door, JCI good through February 2006. Cold A/C: runs great. CD player. $2,500.00 will take payments. Call 983-7872

Kadena - 1998 Toyota Chaser Tourer V Pearl White, Low KM, Clean, Auto A/C, power everything, 18" Chrome Rims, Apex Exhaust, Tein Suspension, Blitz Boost Controller, ETC-s Controller, ETC, $13500.00 O.B.O. 633.0047

Kadena - 2001 Saturn that PCCS was giving away! Nobody agreed to pay for the JCI before giving away the car. Lot sale price was $6000, selling for $3500 - I do the JCI at $4500 - you do the JCI. Email me at Christopher.koehnke@kadena.af.mil or call 633-1346

Kadena - 92 Skyline GTS-T: Automatic with boost controller and turbo timer. JCI until April 06. $3000. Call Ray between 6-9 at 633-6000.

Kadena - 94 Honda Civic Ferio: Includes JVC CD player and speakers. Cold A/C! JCI is good until July 05. Great car for mom & kids or teenage high school student. Great condition! Asking $1,800 or OBO. Call 633-5408 for details.

Kadena - 95 Honda Integra-4DR. Auto everything, cold A/C, runs great. Asking $2,500, call with an offer. Phone # 633-0294 or E-mail jamaurcgilchens@yahoo.com for pictures

Kadena - 97 Toyota Estima Lucida, Seven-passenger van, antilock braking system, dual sliding doors, CD, TV and Global Positioning System, 4-wheel-drive, parking trimmer, dual roofs, 83k km, new tires plus 1 set with alloy rims, excellent condition, runs perfect, JCI until June 2005 $8,500 Call 090-8433-5939 or e-mail dakotaxrunner@yahoo.com

Kadena - COOL JAPANESE BOXY CAR! 1997 Daihatsu Move. Great condition, Excellent condition, never had problem. Low mileage, only 73,000km. Leather seat, very spacious and clean inside. Cold AC, Power window and lock. JCI good till June 2006. Asking $4,200 OBO. Call 633-7446 or email dakotaxrunner@hotmail.com for pics.

Kadena - Must sell 1993 Suzuki Escudo, 4 wheel drive, automatic, CD player with 6-disc changer. JCI due Oct 2006. 1600 obo Call Jason 090-6863-8253 or new baby in the house and need the money! Call Kevin at 633-4364 or 090-6866-2675.

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STARS PASSES

Autos for Sale - Okanawa 152

Kadena - MUST SELL by Jan. PCS'ing! 1991 Chevy Lumina. 4door, blue, Power windows and locks. Runs Great and AC works Great! JCI is due next month. Asking $800 if interested, please call 633-8277 anytime to see or drive the car!!

Kadena - MUST SELL NOW - 92 Honda Accord Wagon: New tires, cold AC, JCI due Jan 09. PCS'ing Jan 4th must sell this week. $5500.00 OBO, all offers considered. Contact 633-1227 or email jhenry@cox.net

Kadena, Okinawa - MUST SELL! 91 Toyota Celica. Kenwood CD player w/6-disc changer, 2 12 inch subs + sub box, 520 watt amp. Fresh up gauges, 17 inch racing rims, and black lights. Many new parts too many to list. Call Kevin at 634-4, or 090-8669-9675

Kinser - 1993 Nissan Silvia - Great Car! Asking $3500 OBO Cold A/C, Pioneer CD/MD stereo, Brand new Speaker JCI due Aug 2006. Car has no problems! Call Cpl. Kinser 090-8669-9675 637-4611(H) gilbertjr@bhsig.usmc.mil

Kinser - 1994 Toyota Celica JCI III Spell 2005 New Ac pump and Timing Belt last year, RSH exhaust. No problems just hard to haul everywhere. $ $2900 637-4132 or 090-7587-1333.

Kinser - 92 Toyota Surf V6 Gold 4x4 Maroon & Gray: NON SMOKING Matching Maroon Mahogany interior, Sport guard, sunroof, 100disk CD player, 90,000 kilometers, interior air filter/purifier, running boards, Cold Air, JCI until late, 2006, Super Clean. Must sell, $4000 o.b.o. 637-4611 or email mescubatoo@aol.com

Kinser - 94 Skyline GTS-t Greddy turbo Blitz blow pipe off, GTR body kit, ATC racing steering wheel, fully tuned, new rear tires, frosty AC, CD player, tint, custom wire harness. Make an offer. Have pictures or come by & take a look at it. Call Jeremy at email jaglimer@gmail.com

Kinser - Toyota Windom: JCI good till Jan 08, A/C, Cruise, automatic power windows, steering, locks, tint, cold air, runs great, new front tires, $2, 200 OBO Call Melanie/Derrick at 637-3785.

Lester - 1992 Honda Vigor (Black) Well maintained stylish vehicle with low mileage, being only changed 10/03. Power everything, Cold/Hot A/C, Tint Control, Sony CD, 5 month old tires, JCI 11/2005, Asking $1400.00 OBO Contact Keith at 634-3 7 8 2 0 (W o r k) , 090-8669-0600 (Cell) email amandasmommie817@yahoo.com

Lester - 91 Toyota Lite Ace Van: With Japan JCI, brand new CD player Installed and Cold A/C. Reliable transport for only $1000 or your best offer. My email is sabizarre@hotmail.com, navy.mil or call Alex @ 643-7516.

Lester - Looking for a reliable cheap car. Here it is 1994 Honda Civic Wagon, Black, brand New! JCI. 10Disc CD Player will sell for $600 or best offer. Minor dent on the passenger side. Email me if interested. jlcolon@ned.navy.mil or give me a call @ 643-7516

Okinawa - 1991 Nissan Blue Bird, $1500. Great Family Car. Power everything and CD player. Clean inside and out! Call Mr. Franklin at 090-8669-0600 or 622-7561 / HM4 645-5003

Okinawa - 1991 Nissan Laurel, $1500, JCI until Feb 2009. Clean inside and out! Power everything and CD player. Call Mr. Franklin at WK645-3899 or 622-7561 / HM4 645-5003

Okinawa - 1991 Toyota Town Ace. Great van for a family. JCI is good until Mar. 09. The cooler ease box still works for those long trips up North or a nice picnic. I paid a lot more than this but I need to sell I am asking $2000. OBO Call 090-3795-2080.

Schwab - Must sell ASAP! 1990 Toyota Mark II. Good condition. JCI is good until Sept 2006. Call Anthony Magallanes at 625-3414/2676cell

Autos Wanted 156

Kinser, Okinawa - Needed: Free car or van in good condition. Please call Jeanene @ 637-2024.

Motorcycles - Okinawa 170

Kadena, Okinawa - 2000 Yamaha YZ125 Motocross Bike: Excellent shape and well maintained. $2100 Call Craig @ 6 3 3 - 2 5 8 9 or e m a i l bakers5@ocis.mediattt.net

Motorcycles - Okinawa 170

Kadena - Harley Davidson parts, new and used. Do not list. Discount prices for military members will ship anywhere in the pacific region MPS, please call 634-8277 or email at e m a i l h a r l e y s t e e l 1 @yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - 2001 Harley Davidson 883 Sportster upgraded to 1200. Blue, after market forward controls, exhaust, seat, grips, rear end. Do not have time to ride or maintain. First $6000 can have it. Call Reid at 633-7129 or email me at ren@oasis.mediattt.net

Auto Parts 180

Kadena, Okinawa - 4 Custom 17" rims with BRAND NEW Goodyear Eagle F1 Asymmetric 255/40/17, front 215/45/17, Asking $600 or make offer. Contact Jason Bryant at jbryant@oasis.net or by phone at 633-4432.

Yokota, Japan - Car Parts - HKS Hypermax V Coilovers, Available shocks for HCR-32, excellent condition, $800 OBO. Call 227-8836.

Baby Items 200

Foster, Okinawa - Avent breast pump used 2 times. Comes with 4 breast milk containers and accessories, 2 storage packs, carrying case, and extra parts still in packs. Asking $30 - FIRM. Email for pictures mamaofthreeboys@hotmail.com or call Tracy 646-5772.

Foster, Okinawa - Crib for sale with mattress, mattress protector pad, and 3 white crib sheets. Asking $80 - FIRM. Email for pictures mdotton@oasis.mediattt.net or call Tracy 646-5772.

Foster, Okinawa - PCS SALE!! Baby swing: Quiet wind with 2 speeds, excellent condition. $40 obo call 646-4158 or email dbaxter@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Baby girl clothes 0-3 months socks, sweaters, jackets, onesies, some never worn, moderately used, all gently washed. Size 0-3 month clothes too, make me an offer. Email me for more details 632-3118 or e m a i l m a r i a n n 1 6 4 @hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Costco Eddie Bauer edition DOUBLE stroller. Green/brown colored, very clean and in excellent condition. Pictures available upon request. $100.00 OBO call 633-6743 or email amandasmommie817@yahoo.com

Kinser, Okinawa - I have a blue fisher price-vibrating rocking chair. Good for baby's and toddlers. Asking for 20 dollars, email me at angelicbaby623@yahoo.com or call 634-6377.

Kinser, Okinawa - Umbrella Stroller - Excellent condition Asking $20 Call Mary at 637-4386 or 090 8294 1554 or email me at mcbaby@yahoo.com

Misawa - Evenflo discovery infant car seat/carrier with base and santitized with disinfectant, little faded from sun. Email phantom@msa.atmil.ne.jp for pics. $20 222-7854

Misawa - Graco jungle pass swing: Plays music, lights, has on batteries. Brand new. Daughter grew out of it before PCS'ing and didn't use but a month. Asking $40 Call Ann at 090-8294-1554 or email me at mcbaby@yahoo.com for pics. $30 222-7854

Misawa - Infantino infant pack and play: Excellent condition. Email Phantom@msa.atmil.ne.jp for pics. $30 222-7854

Misawa - Johnny jumper door frame swing toy. Brand new. $5 Call Phantom@msa.atmil.ne.jp 222-7854

Bicycles 220

Courtney, Okinawa - Black BMX bike for sale: Bought 2 years ago for $150 but, not biking much lately. Please call Nic @ 622-6625 or shady_styles@hotmail.com for more details.

Kinser, Okinawa - Boys bike for sale - $5.00 call 637-4386 or email jenn164@yahoo.com

Kinser, Okinawa - PCS Sale All items kept inside - Men's 18 speed Huffy Stalker FS, $50 excellent condition, Women's 18 speed Magna $40 excellent condition. Also have child seat to attach to bike for $15. Call 6 3 7 - 4 3 8 6 or e m a i l jenn164@yahoo.com

Book Stores 250

Foster - Chapman Piloting Seamanship Manual. Boat Handling Book and The New Basic Seamanship. Boat Handling Book. OBO. 645-3107

Foster, Okinawa - 3 New My First Large Pop Books & Cartridges: Once Upon a Rhyme, Tads Big Number Farm (cut from package of 3) and Leap to the Moon. $20 OBO 646-2642 or email buckson@oasis.mediattt.net

Foster, Okinawa - MATH 012 Introductory to Algebra 9th Edition, Lial, Hestwood, Hestwood. $50.00 Call 645-4277 in the evening or leave message during the day. Email tracy@oasis.mediattt.net

Foster, Okinawa -UMUC English 102 Literature eighth edition - For sale $45.00 OBO call 646-4673 leave message or email at cadamczo@hotmail.com No Markings.

Kadena, Okinawa - Are you a UMUC Student? Marketing 2nd COM 400 Textbook for sale: Marketing Models 7th Edition With CD-ROM 131TH - $20 Email edwardmitt@yahoo.com or call 633-0991 Wendy.

Kadena, Okinawa - Biology 101 and 102 Textbooks. Both Maryland University $40 for both or sale separately. Price is negotiable. Call 633-9043 or email jhamilton@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - GEOG 110 textbook. In excellent "new" condition. Asking $50 call 6 3 3 - 6 8 7 8 or e m a i l jhamilton@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa, NEEDED: UMUC Bio 100 Laboratory Manual, intro to fiction, poetry and plays, 3rd ed. $20, willing to pay reasonable price. Please call 633-6743 or email amandasmommie817@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Psych 336 (UMUC) Psychology of Women/Mind Bender Puzzles - 5th ed. $50, paid $75 new-excellent condition. Call Becky 633-6791 or email bo-nc@oasis.mediattt.net

Kadena, Okinawa - SPAN 111, 112, 211, and/or 212 Textbook, workbook, and cassettes. Same week. $65.00. 633-0878 or kristinhaley@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - UMUC Books for sale psycho, A journey good for 2/06 $10 ea, Ing $40, and social psyche psych 211 paid $65 sell $25 or $100 for both, both are latest editions and r in excellent condition. Call 633-4031 Amanda or Sgt Gate 19 @yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - UMUC Math 107, college algebra with trig Text and solutions manual 7th ed, $50; UMUC eng 102 Textbook: Pair 9110 all bookstore, yours for $80. Call Kristin 637-4178 or e m a i l kristinhaley@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - UMUCA SPANT I & 112 textbooks. Includes textbook, workbook, and English/Spanish dictionary in new condition. Paid $85 at bookstore, sell for $40. Call 6 3 3 - 0 8 7 8 or e m a i l kristinhaley@hotmail.com

Clothing 320

Foster - Great Party dress - Jessica McClintock designed, red sequined bodice with spaghetti straps - red taffeta. Size 7/8 Never worn $45.00. Call 645-3107

Foster, Okinawa - Karate uniform (black with white belt) size 6 $15.00 also orange, green, and yellow belts $5.00 each. Brownie and 2 Girl Scout uniform size 6/7 Make an offer. 645-3107.

Kadena, Okinawa - 2 bags full of maternity clothes, all from brand gap, express, limited, Tommy, J crew, Old navy, etc. tank tops, shirts, pants, everything great fit like mark. 50 bucks or best offer. Contact 6 3 2 - 3 1 1 8 or e m a i l leanamendoza@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Black leather jacket (size small) little thins late. Bought at Wilson's leather but never wore it. I thought it was too nice to wear. $100 shellmi@yahoo.com for pictures or call 633-8133

Clothing 320

Kadena, Okinawa - Dress size 6/7 brand new and never fright very sexy cut down the front, worn once paid $150 selling for 60 bucks. Call 632-3118 to come see or e-mail leanamendoza@hotmail.com for pictures.

Kinser, Okinawa - PCS Sale: Maternity clothes. S, M, L all seasons clothing. Dresses, shorts, shirts, pants, swimwear, eveningwear, casual wear $2 per item and up. Call 637-4386 or jenn164@yahoo.com

Kinser, Okinawa - PCS sale: Boys clothing and shoes. Size 4 & 4 Byear boy clothing. Shoe sizes vary from toddler to old child. Pick and choose or take all $50 cents - $3 per item. Call 6 3 7 - 4 3 8 6 or e m a i l jenn164@yahoo.com

Collectibles 350

Yongsan - WANTED: Panmunjom, Korea Souvenir Medal Set Seoul 1988 Olympic torch relay medal, nuamal national square and story committee memorabilia DMZ Contact: pilotpatscubamariner@yahoo.com

Computers 360

Foster, Okinawa - Sony Vaio Laptop PCG-Z505HP Intel Pentium P4 2.8 40 gig memory Slick slot. Comes with Windows XP home, office XP and others. Call 645-3107 or email spez@bathtimesapors.com

Kadena, Okinawa - 3Com 12-port Office/Home network hub for sale. Includes 3-50ft LAN cables (one cat5 and two cat5e cables) 100-240V). $30 or best offer. Email me at ryan.m.ferguson@gmail.com or email at james@infoster.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Cable/DSL Modem Linksys Cable/DSL router integrated 4-port 10/100 Mbps Ethernet switch. Excellent condition. $40 or best offer. Contact Jason at 632-3211 or email james@infoster.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Computer desk: Excellent condition, only 2 months old spent $250 @ Kadena Exchange. Will sell for $100 OBO. Call Kirk or Liz @ 632-3372.

Kadena, Okinawa - For Sale! Computer Desk with filling cabinet purchased at Kadena Exchange $40, and social psyche psych 211 paid $65 sell $25 or $100 for both, both are latest editions and r in excellent condition. Call 633-4031 Amanda or Sgt Gate 19 @yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - HP Desk Jet 990c printer/scanner/copier Wireless ready! $30.00 HP Scan Jet 4300c Flatbed Scanner $20 Call 633-9700 or e-mail carrietagman@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Laser Printer $20...works well purchased at Kadena Exch Call 632-926 0068 or email carrietagman@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Light oak computer cart style desk, new condition $100. OBO. Call Chris at 633-6637.

Kadena, Okinawa - Small Computer desk: Black, 2 drawers. Very good condition. Asking $20 call 632-3118 or email leanamendoza@hotmail.com for pictures.

Sagamihara - Printer: Canon Scanner, copy, scanner and fax all in one. Asking $20 call 090-8 267-6100 or e-mail hay-984@hotmail.com.

Sagamihara - Electronics -computer RAM, 512mb pc133 Asking $20 RAM, 2 months old, $60. Call 227-8231.

Furniture 510

Foster - 4-drawer file cabinet/heavy steel tan brown down the front securing all four drawers. Asking $50 OBO. 645-3107

Foster, Okinawa - $300 beautiful solid oak coffee table - Sacrifice $150 Great for dominoes, dinner, retro style from off base, new $200+ asking $75 obo pix e-mail me singlemomre78@hotmail.com Call 646-6838 or 090-6163-5036.

Foster, Okinawa - King Size Mattress and Box Spring. Bought at furniture store a few months ago buying a tempur pedic. Must sell ASAP! Asking $400 obo. Please call 646-2094 or Eric1834@aol.com

Computers 360

Furniture 510

Foster, Okinawa - Dark gray couch and love seat. Both have 2 recliners. Must get rid of! $600 paid $1600. I also have a matching coffee table and end bed. Asking $200 paid $800 for it. You must provide transportation. Call Stephen Rolfe @ (W) 645-2656 or (H) 646-2958.

Foster, Okinawa - PCS SALE!! Glass Top dining room table with chrome legs with 4 high back black or 4 white chairs with chrome legs for $100 or all 8 chairs for $150. Call 646-4158 or email dbaxter@hotmail.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Black Queen/Full headboard with one end wooden highlight, mirror and mirror, one standing light and one hanging light. Black. Asking $300.00 OBO. PCS is on the 4th of this month or email kevitahamabe@yahoo.com. In Sagamihara.

Kadena, Okinawa - Corner Entertainment center. Will hold TV 32" (no more, it will stick out). The bottom has two side doors for movies and a shelf in the middle. In really good condition. Asking $110. Call 632-3372.

Kadena, Okinawa - Entertainment Center - Black glass, black wood, Scandinavian design. Size for TV 26" or smaller. shellmi@yahoo.com or call 632-3372.

Kadena, Okinawa - File Cabinets for sale: Two - black, metal, 4 drawer, letter size. $15 Each or $25 for both. Call 632-3372.

Kadena, Okinawa - FOR SALE! Glass coffee table - Black with really sturdy chair asking for $50 OBO. If interested, please call me at 633-9667.

Kadena, Okinawa - Korean Teakwood Hope Chest: For $150. Paid $280 new. Excellent condition. Call Bob at 633-1476.

Kadena, Okinawa - PCS SALE! Light oak/maple bookcase, 3 shelves, and 5 drawer dresser $100 for both. Paid $1000 for it, will sell for $400 please call 633-1227 or email jlwyson@yahoo.com for pictures and more details.

Kadena, Okinawa - Queen Bed for sale, Black and Gold. Headboard, box springs with mattress, armoire, holds most 27in TVs, dresser with matching mirror, nightstand, light wood, very beautiful, $3800 OBO call 646-2094

Kadena, Okinawa - Queen Bed Frame - Set - Light colored wood, includes: Bed, Armoire, Dresser with mirror, & night stand $3800 obo. Call 633-0536.

Kadena, Okinawa - Queen box spring, frame, bookshelf headboard with shelves, large 4 drawers dresser with floral etchings and matching mirror and nightstand dresser. Good condition fabricated in Korea. Great for someone on a budget $250. Call 6 3 2 - 3 1 1 8 or e m a i l papachinko@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Sofa & Love Seat $400 OBO. Excellent cream covers. Must sell PCS'ing in January, is asking $1500 - $1150 All Kirk or Liz @ 633-4007.

Kadena, Okinawa - Sofa table or coffee table $75. Email shellmi@yahoo.com for pictures or call 632-3372.

Kadena, Okinawa - Solid wood bunk bed medium brown in color. Ladder attached to side, & ladder included. Asking $250. Pairs of girls bedding and curtains for both beds extra $125. Call now. Won't last long. Call Diane at 633-6734.

Kadena, Okinawa - Large wood honey oak coffee table with 8 drawers - $175 obo. White & butcher block cabinet with 3 shelves. Stands 4' high, $20. Call 637-4351 or email mescubatoo@aol.com

Furniture 510

Kinser, Okinawa - Wood Living Room Coffee Table, honey oak color, Dimensions are Max. 21/2 ft x 4ft long, 8 drawers for storage. Call Rob 637-4351 or mescubatoo@aol.com

Misawa - Cream sectional sofa with pillows and cushions Good condition $100 Contact Jason at 83-9456 or pulidoa@heronet.ne.jp

Torii, Okinawa - Beige leather couch, and ottoman. Good condition. $250.00 or best offer. Call for appointment to view: 956-7559 home, 644-5676 duty, 090-8292-1886 Cell. PCS'ing in February 2005.

Household Items 560

Foster - 82x144 black our drapes (2) $15 each OBO (2) Cotton Karate uniforms with white belts size 6 $15.00 each, also orange, green and yellow belts $5.00 each. 645-3107

Kadena, Okinawa - King/queen size radiant star quilt in dark burgundy/red for $75. Call 926-2425 or email popec@kda.atmil.ne.jp

Home Electronics 570

Camp Courtney, Okinawa - Yamaha MX-830: Power Amp 830 watts, Receiver, Yamaha CX-1000 Control Amp. Remote control, Cords, Manuals, Boxes incl. Excellent Condition. You will find these items in above any longer. $1,000. OBO for Quick Sale. Contact Sgt. Dougherty 6 2 2 - 8 6 7 9 (Duty) dougherty.j@usmc.mil

Courtney, Okinawa - FINAL FANTASY XI - With PS2 HD, Original Box, Accessories already registered. Level 30 TP with UBER Mes gear, gil, etc. Asking $250 More details call Nic @ 622-6625 or shady_styles@hotmail.com

Courtney, Okinawa - PS2- FIFA NAIL FANTASY XI: Comes with game, 60G hard drive, manuals, free master guide, and 2 maxed level 90 character. I'm going to miss it but I don't have enough time $150 please call Nic @ 622-6625 or shady_styles@hotmail.com

Courtney, Okinawa - PS2 Category: Sports Game Sell for only $250!! Brand new, new and old gamers alike. Please consider! I need money! E-mail or call for more details. Ask for Nic @ Leister at 646-2163 or e-mail nicbrooks@aol.com

Foster, Okinawa - Play Station 2 games for sale: Only have 2 left Madden Football, Ultimate Fight and Fight Night 2004. Will sell for $30 OBO. Please call 6 4 6 - 2 0 9 4 or e m a i l Eric1834@aol.com

Kadena - 65 in HD Projection Screen: Brand new, Retail $1,500 for 2000.00 @ BX. Need room. $1400.00 Call 633-0385.

Kadena, Okinawa - Modded PS2 with 2 controllers, 3 memory cards, 40 games, 3 movies, vertical stand and 30 games. Asking $400 or best offer. Call Ryan at 632-3118 or email papachinko@yahoo.com

Kadena, Okinawa - Shine On Me Musical Mobile - paid $40 asking $25. Fisher Price Baby Plays Stunces, can use remote to repeat play. Only used for 6months paid $40 asking $25. Call 633-8133 or email shellmi@yahoo.com for pictures and detailed description.

Osan, Korea - RUSSIAN SATELLITE DISH & RECEIVER: One time payment of $500 About 10 Russian speaking channels. Call Jim 018-870-1089 or 031-667-6026

Home Electronics 570

Sagamihara Soundesign AM/FM Stereo, double cassette recorder, boom box speakers, remote control, two tape compartments, $60. Oak Design Entertainment Center in Excellent Condition, the TV compartment fits up to 27" TV, has three storage drawers and a large storage section with smoked glass door, $270. Call 267-9553 after 1830 hours or weekends.

Seoul Korea - 16 channel mixer. Good for live sound. Unopened. $250.00 Seoul Korea 011 730 4716

Seoul/Yongsan - For sale Panasonic 27" TV, DVD-Video, and VCR combination. Excellent condition. Manual and original box all for $450, please call Glen @02-749-7824.

Jewelry 610

Kadena, Okinawa - 10k Amethyst Ring with 10k matching pendant - Both are in excellent condition. Stunning set, especially if you like large stones. Like new, $150 OBO Call Jim at 6 3 2 - paulandbrit@yahoo.com or call 632-4124.

Kadena, Okinawa - Beautiful 14k white gold wedding ring, Princess cut center diamond surround 8 baguette side diamonds. Mint condition. Paid $1500 selling for $800 OBO. paulandbrit@yahoo.com or call 633-4124.

Kadena, Okinawa - MAJOR PRICE CUT! 14k white gold wedding ring center diamond princess cut with round & baguette side diamonds, weight 1.25ct t. w, paid over $1600,will sell for $800 obo. Jewelry box is not being worn, mint condition. paulandbrit@yahoo.com or call 632-0124.

Musical Instruments 740

Kadena, Okinawa - YANAGISAWA Tenor Saxophone, Model 0903-795-4444 or email h2oo2man@hotmail.com

Outdoor Living 775

Foster, Okinawa - 1 Sleeping Bag $4.00 call 645-3107.

Pets 820

Futenma Housing, Okinawa - OKI MISSING CAT, white belly, black back, Last Alfred at 646-5233 (Foster)

Kadena - free to good homes: Siberian husky and german shepard puppies; 7 wks., very cute, and will come with kennel. Email Amanda or Ken or email ryanstargaze19@yahoo.com for pics!

Kadena-FTGH 7 month old female mix lab puppy looks like other animals and loves little kids, needs a home where she can be her own, has all shots and is fleed. Email me if interested at kenber 2005. Also microchipped if comes with kennel. Email snowbunnie8511@hotmail.com 090-7632-5867

Kadena, Okinawa - FREE!! 3-months old kitten: Very sweet little kitten, all shots and litter trained. Asking $0 Call Mary at 090-7632-5867

Kadena, Okinawa - Bar Stools: 3 Arrow back swivel tops from Sears Mahogany finish - are 30 inches high. My husband bought them for me. Very sturdy bamboo ones instead. Perfect condition Asking $40 for the pair. Call Email Address elle.shannann@us.af.army.mil Phone 356-8861

Kadena, Okinawa - Personal Pet Carrier - Portable seats 1 person will deliver and set it up, Call 632-7361 or email h2oo2man@hotmail.com

Kadena - Searching for a small dog - Pomeranian - for my family. Raised in a small Baptist church church, but we have visited churches of similar denominations. Email us at wright8@oasis.mediattt.net

Sagamihara - Driver: New Calif. Adjustable sheepskin driver, height 3 degree never used $150. Call Dave 267-9553 or e-mail drodgers21@msn.com.

Yokota, Japan - Cordless drill, $25; Sheter table saw blade top, $50; 3 YTECH 2.4 GHZ cordless phones, $150; Call 227-2425.

Yokota, Japan - Wireless PS2 controller pair, $60; 50 DVD and Media, $25; 2.4GHZ computer, $550; 633 MHZ computer, $225; 333MHZ computer, $150; 20 inch Panasonic TV, $100; Sony VIAO laptop, 533MHZ with case, $535; Kenwood CD changer, $100. Call 227-2425.

Photography 830

Atsugi - Sony Cybershot F828 8MP camera. Only 4 months old. Works perfectly, just want to upgrade to DSLR. Comes with all OEM items. Will include 32MB memory stick. $700. Ask for Kevin at 264-6380 before 7pm JST

Kadena, Okinawa - JVC GC-QX3 digital camera 3.3-mega pixels AND JVC GV-SP52 photo printer - Prints very nice 4x6 pictures. Both work very well. Bought new ones. Will sell both for $175. Call Darla 633-0557 or 090-9782-8731

Toys 945

Courtney, Okinawa - Peg Perego JOHN DEERE GATOR Utility Truck 25qt (2.5ASMPH) and reverse too. New wiring harness. Retail price $775.00. Call 622-5285 or 090-8664-4860.

Sporting Goods 980

Foster - 14ft. TRAMPOLINE with safety net: Purchased less than 2 months ago, belong to the towers and can't keep it. Paid $1600 asking $800 Call 646-8992 or email Jennifer.Hernandez@us.af.mil

Kinser, Okinawa - 160 lb weight set, includes 6/press bar. 2-25#, 4-10#, 6-5#, 4-2#, spin collar. Never used. Selling for $115 or BO, will sell for less. Call 6 3 7 - 4 3 5 1 or e m a i l Jennifer.Hernandez@us.af.mil

Seoul/Yongsan - For sale Bow Flex Motivator with 210 pounds of weight, 2 exercise bars and training manual all in excellent condition. $550, sells at cost dollar. @02-749-7824.

Yokota - Wanted - Electric treadmill that folds and has safety key. Call 227-3302 or email DanRFlo@aol.com

Video 1020

Atsugi, Japan - 22 Videotapes of the classic 70's show "Good Times", 88 episodes total paid $220.00, but asking for $100.00 Call Sonia at 264-7319 or e m a i l s o n i a . e m a i l @yahoo.com

Kinser, Okinawa - Lots of Disney VHS movies, $3 each. Call 637-4386 or email mescubatoo@aol.com

Miscellaneous 1040

Courtney - Louis Vuitton black Epi leather Multicolore Carry-on luggage with wheels and matching pouch. Call 6 2 2 - 8 7 1 1 nickinbrizz@yahoo.com for information and pictures.

Foster, Okinawa - 82x144 Black out curtains (2) $10.00 each. Call 645-3107

Humpheys - New Refrigerator Double door with Ice Maker-$1000 Also New Gas Stove-$250.00 Large Korean Wardrobe-$200 Large Section-al Sofa and other house hold items. Make a deal on most items. Call Daryl or Jone at: 031-667-2686, Cell: 0 1 6 4 4 7 - 5 5 5 3 , Home: 031-739-7787

Kadena, Okinawa - Bar Stools: 3 Arrow back swivel tops from Sears Mahogany finish - are 30 inches high. My husband bought them for me. Very sturdy bamboo ones instead. Perfect condition Asking $40 for the pair. Call Email Address elle.shannann@us.af.army.mil Phone 356-8861

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AP

Stuart Appleby hits from the second tee during the final round of the Mercedes Championships on Sunday at the Kapalua Plantation Course in Kapalua, Hawaii. Appleby finished 21 under par to win the tournament for the second straight year.

Appleby defends title in PGA Tour opener

BY DOUG FERGUSON
The Associated Press

KAPALUA, Hawaii — Everything fell into place for Stuart Appleby, even before he showed up on Maui and made a successful defense of his title in the Mercedes Championships.

His wife is in Australia expecting their first child, but he was assured the birth would not happen until he got home.

Unable to hit balls a week before the tournament because of nerve problems in his left leg, stretching exercises made him fit enough to play.

And with the tournament up for grabs Sunday, Appleby got unexpected help.

The 33-year-old Aussie captured the season-opener on the PGA Tour, playing the final 55 holes without a bogey and letting everyone else collapse down the stretch for a one-shot victory.

"You'd have to say it's slightly surprising," Appleby said.

The biggest shock was what happened behind him.

Vijay Singh was tied for the lead until hitting a tee shot he never found on No. 13 to make triple bogey.

Ernie Els looked like a shoo-in to force a playoff until his tee shot on the par-5 18th ricocheted off a cart path and vanished into trees and shrubs.

Tiger Woods couldn't make a birdie putt that mattered.

And when Jonathan Kaye messed up a chip on the final hole, Appleby wound up in a position he never could have imagined until the first PGA Tour event of the year was in the books — a lei draped around his neck, the trophy in his hand and another sports car for his collection.

"I just had to keep my head down and do my thing," he said.

"I've never been a player that's had enough experience to run from that far behind. But it's nice to know that when the dice is rolling good, you just keep throwing."

He threw down a 6-under 67 in the final round for a one-shot victory over Kaye, becoming the first player in 22 years to win back-to-back in the Mercedes Championships, and the only player at Kapalua to have a round over par and still win the tournament.

"You look at where I was after round one, you would not have put any money on me," he said.

Appleby finished at 21-under 271 and earned $1.06 million for his sixth career victory, assuring himself a trip back to Kapalua next year.

Kaye closed with a 71, while Woods (68) and Els (71) were two shots behind. Singh (74) and Stewart Cink, who made two bogeys over the final three holes for a 71, were another stroke behind with Adam Scott (65).

Armstrong still unsure of plans for Tour

The Associated Press

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Lance Armstrong is still unsure about his plans for this year's Tour de France.

Armstrong on Monday said he plans to ride in several of the European spring classics before deciding in late April whether to try for a seventh consecutive Tour de France victory in July.

"I'll definitely be in France this summer," Armstrong said. "It just might not be on the bike."

Armstrong spoke as his Discovery Channel Pro Cycling Team announced its 2005 race schedule. The team's 28 riders from 15 countries will start 11 days of training in California on Tuesday, but it no longer has the laser-beam focus on winning the Tour de France above all else — as it has in years past.

"It's definitely a departure, beginning the year not focusing on the Tour," said Armstrong, the only six-time winner of cycling's most prestigious race.

Armstrong has promised his team's new sponsors that he will ride in at least one more Tour de France, but he offered several reasons for possibly waiting until 2006 to fulfill that obligation.

Sports briefs

Former CU PK Hnida says harassment began quickly

DENVER — A former Colorado kicker who says she was raped by a teammate and terrified of telling her coach about it said sexual harassment started the day she joined the team.

Katie Hnida said she is still haunted by what she went through.

"It's been five years, and it's still terrifying. It's still something that I wake up with and I deal with," Hnida said in an interview aired Monday on NBC's "Today."

At least nine women including Hnida have said they were assaulted by Colorado football players or recruits since 1997. No criminal charges have been filed, though Hnida said she is part of an investigation by the state attorney general and Boulder police.

"The investigation is very far from over," said Hnida, who first told her story of rape and mistreatment to Sports Illustrated last February.

The university issued a statement Monday saying it has asked Hnida to provide information about the alleged attack so action can be taken.

"Regretfully, she has chosen not to respond to these calls, but we understand that is her personal decision," the school said.

"We admire Katie's strength and perseverance in pursuing her dream of playing college football, and we wish her the very best in her future endeavors."

Hnida joined Colorado in 1999 as a walk-on but never got into a game. She transferred to New Mexico in 2002 and the next year became the first woman to score in a Division I-A football game, kicking two extra points in a 72-8 win over Texas State-San Marcos.

Colorado coach Gary Barnett was suspended for three months in early 2004 in part for comments he made after Hnida's story was revealed. He called her an "awful" player and said "not only was she a girl, she was terrible."

Hnida said her mistreatment began on the first day of practice when, on her way to the locker room, she was "surrounded by five men who were much bigger than I was asking me sexual questions."

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SCOREBOARD

AFN TV & Radio

Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.-NBA: Orlando at Boston (dld).

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Ohio State at Wisconsin.

AFN-Atlantic, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Louisville at Southern Mississippi.

AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.-College basketball: Alabama at Arkansas.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.-NBA: Miami at Phoenix (dld).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.-College basketball: Louisville at Southern Mississippi (dld).

Thursday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.-NBA: Los Angeles Clippers at Seattle (dld).

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.-College basketball: Georgia Tech at North Carolina.

AFN-Atlantic, 10 a.m.-College basketball: Kansas at Iowa State.

AFN-Sports, 11 a.m.-NBA: Houston at Dallas.

AFN-Sports, 5 p.m.-College basketball: Kansas at Iowa State (dld).

AFN-Sports, 7 p.m.-College basketball: Texas-El Paso at Nevada (dld).

AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.-NBA: Los Angeles Lakers at Denver (dld).

All times Japan and Korea Standard Time; dld indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit **www.myafn.net** for more information.

College basketball

AP Men's Top 25 fared

Sunday

1. Illinois (16-0) beat Purdue 68-59. Next: vs. Penn State, Wednesday.
2. Kansas (11-0) beat No. 8 Kentucky 65-59. Next: at Iowa State, Wednesday.
3. North Carolina (13-1) beat No. 22 Maryland 109-75. Next: vs. No. 9 Georgia Tech, Wednesday.
4. Wake Forest (13-1) beat Clemson 103-68. Next: vs. No. 22 Maryland, Tuesday.
5. Duke (11-0) beat Temple 82-74. Next: at North Carolina State, Thursday.
6. Syracuse (15-1) beat Seton Hall 75-50. Next: at Notre Dame, Monday.
7. Oklahoma State (11-1) beat Texas Tech 76-66. Next: vs. Missouri, Tuesday.
8. Kentucky (10-2) lost to No. 2 Kansas 65-59. Next: vs. Vanderbilt, Wednesday.
9. Georgia Tech (11-2) beat Virginia 92-69. Next: at No. 3 North Carolina, Wednesday.
10. Connecticut (9-2) beat Providence 66-59. Next: at Oklahoma, Wednesday.
11. Georgia (10-1) beat St. Mary's, Calif. 89-81. Next: vs. Loyola Marymount, Thursday.
12. Washington (13-2) beat UCLA 96-86. Next: vs. Oregon, Thursday.
13. Arizona (12-3) beat Stanford 87-76. Next: vs. Southern California, Thursday.
14. Iowa (12-3) lost to Ohio State 81-69. Next: vs. Minnesota, Saturday.
15. Texas (12-2) beat Baylor 79-60. Next: at Texas A&M, Wednesday.
16. Pittsburgh (11-2) beat Rutgers 66-63, OT. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Saturday.
17. Louisville (12-3) beat Texas Christian 86-61. Next: at Southern Miss., Tuesday.
18. Mississippi State (14-2) beat Mississippi 87-76. Next: at Tennessee, Wednesday.
19. Alabama (12-3) beat LSU 72-38. Next: at Arkansas, Tuesday.
20. Michigan State (10-2) beat Northwestern 87-58. Next: at Wisconsin, Sunday.
21. West Virginia (11-1) beat St. John's 64-60. Next: vs. Marshall, Tuesday.
22. Maryland (9-3) beat No. 3 N. Carolina 109-75. Next: at No. 4 Wake Forest, Tuesday.
23. Cincinnati (11-1) beat Saint Louis 69-53. Next: at East Carolina, Wednesday.
24. G. Washington (10-2) beat Duquesne 81-57. Next: at St. Bonaventure, Wednesday.
25. Boston College (13-0) beat Providence 69-60. Next: at No. 21 West Virginia, Sunday.

Men's RPI ratings

CARMEL, Ind. — The Rating Percentage Index (RPI) has been used by the NCAA since 1981 to supplement the selection of at-large teams and the seeding of all teams for the NCAA basketball tournament. This list is an independent duplication of the RPI with no input from the NCAA, which does not release the RPI to the public. The basic RPI is derived from three components: Winning percentage (25), schedule strength (50); and opponent's opponents' winning percentage (25). Games against non-Division I opponents are not used in calculating the RPI.

Through Jan. 9

	Div. I Record	Sched. Strength		
	W	L	Rating	Rank	RPI
1. Kansas	11	0	.6227	1	.7080
2. Oklahoma St.	10	1	.6629	3	.6972
3. Boston College	13	0	.6208	11	.6936
4. Wake Forest	13	1	.6325	15	.6929
5. Illinois	16	0	.5737	4	.6811
6. Duke	11	0	.5578	80	.6751
7. Arizona	13	3	.6170	13	.6730
8. Georgia Tech	11	2	.6155	26	.6599
9. Oregon	10	2	.6489	10	.6597
10. Washington	13	2	.6208	12	.6594
11. Gonzaga	11	3	.6388	13	.6525
12. Virginia	9	2	.6035	19	.6426
13. N. Carolina	13	1	.5478	94	.6395
14. UCLA	10	3	.6000	21	.6356
15. Temple	5	6	.7471	2	.6297
16. Ohio St.	14	1	.5734	45	.6280
17. Kentucky	10	2	.5601	77	.6262
18. Syracuse	15	1	.5220	127	.6257
19. Iowa	12	3	.5928	39	.6257
20. Wisconsin	10	3	.5990	33	.6255
21. Connecticut	9	2	.5733	46	.6224
22. Cincinnati	13	1	.5075	152	.6222
23. Alabama	12	3	.5784	49	.6196
24. G. Washington	10	2	.5706	59	.6187
25. Vanderbilt	11	3	.5952	36	.6176
26. Kent St.	8	4	.6494	8	.6153
27. Michigan St.	10	2	.5429	98	.6137
28. DePaul	9	4	.6282	18	.6118
29. Minnesota	11	3	.5688	61	.6107
30. Miss. St.	14	2	.5223	131	.6093
31. Arizona St.	13	2	.5106	147	.6085
32. Marquette	12	1	.4832	184	.6083
33. Massachusetts	7	5	.6491	9	.6071
34. Texas	10	2	.5284	121	.6066
35. S. Illinois	11	3	.5487	92	.6059
36. Oklahoma	11	2	.5052	158	.6051
37. Rice	7	4	.6322	16	.6023
38. Providence	8	5	.6405	11	.6010
39. Clemson	9	5	.6193	24	.6007
40. Colorado	8	4	.6152	27	.6003
41. Missouri	9	5	.5944	38	.5975
42. UNLV	6	5	.6403	10	.5966
43. Houston	9	6	.6220	22	.5951
44. S. Carolina	9	4	.5713	58	.5946
45. Villanova	8	2	.5488	91	.5940
46. Nevada	10	3	.5308	117	.5933
47. West Virginia	11	1	.4567	212	.5929
48. Arkansas	13	2	.5084	149	.5929
49. Pacific	10	2	.5131	142	.5923
50. Wichita St.	12	3	.5474	95	.5920

Conferences

	Div. I Record		Sched. Strength	
	W	L	Rating	RPI
1. Atlantic Coast	34	3	.5568	1
2. Pacific 10	95	43	.5846	2
3. Big Ten	104	49	.5886	1
4. Big East	114	35	.5548	5
5. Big 12	106	33	.5296	7
6. Southeastern	115	48	.5449	3
7. Missouri Val.	85	46	.5069	13
8. West Coast	76	45	.5083	11
9. ConferenceUSA	93	61	.5074	12
10. Mountain West	60	44	.5173	8
11. Western Atht.	68	53	.5129	9
12. Mid-American	90	64	.4983	15
13. Atlantic 10	62	85	.5505	4
14. Sun Belt	60	66	.5099	10
15. Colonial Athl.	62	61	.4903	16
16. America East	61	64	.4593	27
17. Big West	52	64	.4674	22
18. Southern	48	77	.4853	17
19. Ivy League	42	55	.4748	19
20. Horizon	61	64	.4872	16
21. Mid-Continent	36	69	.5064	14
22. Metro Atlantic	48	74	.4637	24
23. Ohio Valley	40	82	.4755	18
24. Atlantic Sun	46	74	.4505	29
25. Patriot	40	57	.4503	30
26. Southland	36	69	.4651	23
27. Big South	34	65	.4627	25
28. Big Sky	38	66	.4569	28
29. Mid-Eastern	40	94	.4599	26
30. Northeast	41	83	.4320	31
31. Independents	27	91	.4733	21
32. Southwestern	25	84	.4523	28

Sunday's men's scores

EAST

Alvernia 70, Wilkes 65
Boston U. 69, Binghamton 54
Briar Cliff 76, Berkeley College 51
Buffalo 56, Toledo 54
Carnegie-Mellon 86, Brandeis 69
Edinboro 87, Cheyney 72
Indiana, Pa. 86, East Stroudsburg 64
Maine-Farmington 95, Rivier 59
Mansfield 82, Lock Haven 61
Marist 71, Manhattan 67
Millersville 83, Slippery Rock 66
Monmouth, N.J. 74, Quinnipiac 71
Northeastern 73, Albany, N.Y. 70
Rochester 52, NYU 49
S. New Hampshire 70, LeMoyne 64
Stony Brook 73, New Hampshire 64

SOUTH

Christopher Newport 66, Salisbury 50
Florida Atlantic 81, Stetson 69, OT
Georgetown, Ky. 135, Marion 35
Guilford 74, Va. Wesleyan 64
Kansas 65, Kentucky 59
Maryville, Tenn. 86, Lasange 72
Memphis 60, Southern Miss. 46
Miami 67, N.C. State 66
Montreat 87, Tenn. Wesleyan 77
Randolph-Macon 75, Emory & Henry 65
Trinity, Texas 78, Rhodes 51
UCF 75, Jacksonville 57

MIDWEST

Bowling Green 88, N. Illinois 67
Dana 67, Mount Marty 58
Dayton 62, Cornell 51
Drake 65, Milligan 53
E. Michigan 86, Cent. Michigan 82
Evansville 69, Illinois St. 61
Iowa 64, Indiana St. 61
Ohio 77, Marshall 68
Polytechnic 62, Calif. Tech 47
RPI 69, Milwaukee Engineering 64
Rose-Hulman 74, Oglethorpe 55
S. Illinois 69, Creighton 61

SOUTHWEST

Dallas 63, Thomas More 58
Texas 79, Baylor 60

FAR WEST

Pepperdine 64, San Francisco 57
San Diego 68, Loyola Marymount 65

TOURNAMENTS

Greyhound Rock Classic Championship

Lincoln, Pa. 82, Kean 74

Third Place

Gwynedd-Mercy 85, Moravian 75

Radisson Invitational Championship

Scranton 69, Kings Point 48

Third Place

Susquehanna 66, York, N.Y. 58

Rinso Marquette Invitational Championship

Lebanon Valley 75, N. City 73, OT

Third Place

FDU-Florham 96, Chestnut Hill 76

AP Women's Top 25 fared

Sunday

1. LSU (14-1) did not play. Next: at Florida, Thursday.
2. Duke (15-1) beat No. 25 Virginia Tech 86-62. Next: at Virginia, Friday.
3. Baylor (12-1) did not play. Next: at Nebraska, Wednesday.
4. Michigan State (12-2) lost to Villanova 59-54. Next: vs. No. 15 Connecticut, Wednesday.
5. North Carolina (17-1) lost to No. 21 Maryland 92-77. Next: at N.C. State, Friday.
6. Michigan State (13-2) beat No. 18 Iowa 68-56. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Thursday.
7. Texas (8-4) did not play. Next: at No. 12 Texas Tech, Wednesday.
8. Stanford (12-2) beat Arizona 78-66. Next: vs. California, Thursday.
9. Ohio State (14-2) beat Liberty 66-51. Next: at Michigan, Tuesday.
10. Tennessee (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas, Thursday.
11. Minnesota (13-2) beat No. 23 New Mexico 75-35. Next: at No. 24 Purdue, Thursday.
12. Texas Tech (11-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 7 Texas, Wednesday.
13. Boston College (11-1) did not play. Next: vs. Villanova, Wednesday.
14. Rutgers (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. Pittsburgh, Sunday.
15. Connecticut (8-4) did not play. Next: at No. 4 Notre Dame, Wednesday.
16. Vanderbilt (12-2) beat South Carolina 88-43. Next: at Auburn, Thursday.
17. Georgia (12-4) did not play. Next: vs. Stetson, Monday.
18. Iowa (13-2) lost to No. 6 Michigan State 68-56. Next: at No. 9 Ohio State, Thursday.
19. DePaul (11-3) lost to Marquette 63-57. Next: vs. East Carolina, Friday.
20. Kansas State (10-3) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Sunday.
21. Maryland (11-2) beat No. 5 North Carolina 92-77. Next: at Georgia Tech, Thursday.
22. UCLA (10-3) beat Washington 74-63. Next: vs. Arizona State, Friday.
23. New Mexico (10-2) lost to No. 11 Minnesota 75-35. Next: vs. Utah Valley St., Thursday.
24. Purdue (12-2) beat Michigan 60-43. Next: vs. No. 11 Minnesota, Thursday.
25. Virginia Tech (15-1) lost to No. 2 Duke 88-67. Next: vs. N.C. State, Monday, Jan. 17.

Sunday's women's scores

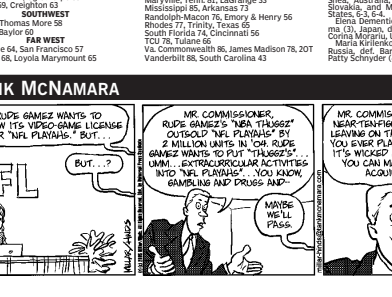
EAST

Brandeis 77, Carnegie-Mellon 60
Brooklyn 58, St. Elizabeth 54
Clarion 76, Edinboro 73
Dayton 78, Saint Joseph's 70
Edinboro 64, Cheyney 52
George Washington 58, Massachusetts 52
Indiana, Pa. 68, East Stroudsburg 56
La Salle 74, Rhode Island 67
LeMoyne 55, S. New Hampshire 42
Lock Haven 70, Mansfield 57
Maine-Farmington 76, Becker 45
Millersville 51, Slippery Rock 49
NYU 71, Rochester 61
Quinnipiac 53, Monmouth, N.J. 49
Richmond 66, St. Bonaventure 51
Temple 67, Fordham 51
Towson 78, N.C. State 67
Vassar 61, Russell Sage 48
Villanova 99, Notre Dame 54

SOUTH

Alabama 69, Kentucky 63, OT
Bridgewater (Va.) 84, Lynchburg 58
Charlotte 72, Memphis 65
Clemson 78, N.C. State 65
Delaware 73, Old Dominion 70
Drexel 79, N.C.-Wilmington 73, 3OT
Duke 88, Virginia Tech 67
East Carolina 66, Saint Louis 40
Florida 67, Auburn 60
Florida St. 65, Miami 56
George Mason 81, William & Mary 69
Houston 62, Southern Miss. 47
Louisville 74, UAB 59
Maryland 92, North Carolina 77
Maryville, Tenn. 81, LaGrange 33
Mississippi 85, Arkansas 73
Randolph-Macon 76, Emory & Henry 56
Rhodes 77, Trinity, Texas 65
South Florida 62, Cincinnati 56
TCU 78, Tulane 66
Va. Commonwealth 86, James Madison 78, 2OT
Vanderbilt 88, South Carolina 43

TANK MCNAMARA



Golf

Mercedes Championships

Sunday
At Plantation Course at Kapalua
Kapalua, Hawaii
Purse: $5.3 million
Yardage: 7,263; Par: 73

Final Round

S. Appleby, $1,060,000	74-64-66-67	-271	-21
Jonathan Kaye, $500,000	67-67-66-71	-271	-21
Tiger Woods, $350,000	68-68-69-68	-273	-19
Ernie Els, $190,000	66-68-68-71	-273	-19
Adam Scott, $211,333.34	69-72-68-65	-274	-18
S. Cink, $211,333.34	68-68-67-71	-274	-18
Vijay Singh, $211,333.33	66-65-69-74	-274	-18
David Toms, $130,000	71-67-72-65	-275	-17
Vaughn Taylor, $105,000	69-69-68-70	-276	-16
Sergio Garcia, $145,000	68-67-73-68	-276	-16
Craig Parry, $145,000	67-72-68-69	-276	-16
Woody Austin, $130,000	69-74-66-68	-277	-15
Jonathan Byrd, $120,000	70-69-71-67	-277	-15
Retief Goosen, $110,000	71-67-69-73	-280	-12
Mike Weir, $110,000	70-71-67-72	-280	-12
Bart Bryant, $91,000	69-72-69-71	-281	-11
John Daly, $88,000	70-69-73-70	-282	-10
Chad Campbell, $88,000	69-67-71-75	-282	-10
Rod Pampling, $83,000	70-72-69-72	-283	-9
Stephen Ames, $83,000	73-72-67-71	-283	-9
Mark Hensby, $83,000	70-73-71-69	-283	-9
Andre Stolz, $79,000	73-71-71-70	-285	-7
Joey Sindelar, $75,000	71-68-71-76	-286	-6
Heath Slocum, $75,000	69-70-72-75	-286	-6
Zach Johnson, $75,000	72-70-71-73	-286	-6
Ryan Palmer, $70,000	76-68-71-72	-287	-5
Todd Hamilton, $70,000	72-73-72-70	-287	-5
Brent Geiberger, $68,000	72-73-71-72	-288	-4
Steve Flesch, $67,000	72-72-73-72	-289	-3
Fred Funk, $66,000	74-74-67-75	-290	-2
Carlos Franco, $65,000	74-71-72-75	-292	

Tennis

Medibank Sydney International

Monday
At The Sydney International Tennis Centre
Sydney, Australia
Purse: ATP, $419,000 (mx.); WTA, $585,000 (Tier II)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
Men
First Round

Wayne Arthurs, Australia, def. Filippo Volandri, Italy, 7-6 (1), 6-7 (4), 6-3.
Fernando Verdasco, Spain, def. Tomas Berdych, Czech Republic, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Max Mirnyi, Belarus, def. David Ferrer, Spain, 6-1, 7-5.
Thomas Johansson (7), Sweden, def. Florian Mayer, Germany, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Feliciano Lopez (5), Spain, def. Todd Reid, Australia, 6-4.
Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, def. Jurgen Melzer, Austria, 7-6, 7-5.
Mardy Fish, United States, def. Robin Soderling, Sweden, 6-4, 6-4.

Women
First Round

Jelena Jankovic, Serbia-Montenegro, def. Elena Dementieva, Russia, 6-4, 6-2.
Magdalena Maleeva, Bulgaria, def. Sophie Ferguson, Australia, 6-7 (3), 6-2, 6-2.
Fabiola Zuluaga, Colombia, def. Denisa Chladekova, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-4.
Peng Shuai, China, def. Mashona Washington, United States, 6-4, 6-4.
Eleni Daniilidou, Greece, def. Conchita Martinez, Spain, 3-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Doubles
Men
First Round

Wayne Black and Kevin Ullyett (4), Zimbabwe, def. Tomas Cakl and Leos Friedl, Czech Republic, 6-2, 6-2.
Igor Andreev and Nikolay Davydenko, Russia, def. Jonathan Erlich and Andy Ram, Israel, 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (4).
Martin Damm, Czech Republic, and Jared Palmer, United States, def. Bob and Mike Bryan (2), United States, 6-2, 6-3.

Women
First Round

Liezel Huber, South Africa, and Lisa McShea, Australia, def. Daniela Hantuchova, Slovakia, and Martina Navratilova, United States, 6-3, 6-4.
Elena Dementieva, Russia, and Al Sugiyama (3), Japan, def. Lindsay Davenport and Corina Morariu, United States, 4-6, 7-6, 6-4.
Maria Kirilenko and Anastasiya Yakimova, Russia, def. Barbara Schett, Austria, and Patty Schnyder (4), Switzerland, 6-3, 6-4.
Bryanne Stewart and Samantha Stosur, Australia, def. Lisa Raymond, United States, and Rennae Stubbs (1), Australia, 1-6, 7-6 (5), 6-4.

Moorilla International

Monday
At The Domain Tennis Centre
Hobart, Australia
Purse: $100,000 (Tier V)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
First Round

Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, def. Jennifer Hopkins, United States, 6-4, 6-2.
Maria Elena Camerin (16), Italy, def. Martina Muller, Germany, 6-1, 6-4.
Dinara Safina (7), Russia, def. Laura Granville, United States, 6-4, 6-2.
Klara Koukalova, Czech Republic, def. Cara Black, Zimbabwe, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.
Nicole Pratt (2), Argentina, def. Liu Nan Nan, China, 6-4, 6-3.
Nicole Vaidisova, Czech Republic, def. Tatiana Perebiynis, Ukraine, 6-3, 6-4.
Shinobu Asagoe (4), Japan, def. Mara Santangelo, Italy, 6-4, 6-4.
Zheng Jie, China, def. Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, 4-6, 4-6, 6-3.
Casey Dellacqua, Australia, def. Alina Jidkova, Russia, 7-5, 6-4.
Li Na, China, def. Amy Frazier (1), United States, 7-5, 7-5.

Doubles
First Round

Kristina Brandi, Puerto Rico, and Kim Clijsters (1), Belgium, def. Rennae Stubbs and Nathalie Dechy, France, 6-3, 6-4.
Shinobu Asagoe (4), Japan, def. Mara Santangelo, Italy, 6-4, 6-4.
Zheng Jie, China, def. Mariana Diaz Oliva, Argentina, 4-6, 4-6, 6-3.
Casey Dellacqua, Australia, def. Alina Jidkova, Russia, 7-5, 6-4.
Li Na, China, def. Amy Frazier (1), United States, 7-5, 7-5.

Doubles
First Round

Kristina Brandi, Puerto Rico, and Kim Clijsters (1), Belgium, def. Rennae Stubbs and Nathalie Dechy, France, 6-3, 6-4.
Barbora Strycova, Czech Republic, and Jasmin Woehr, Germany, def. Maria Elena Camerin, Italy, and Maria Marrero, Spain, 7-6 (6), 7-5.
Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, and Dinara Safina (2), Russia, def. Marta Domachowska, Poland, and Nataliya Kruslina, Ukraine, Slovakia, 6-1, 6-1.
Jill Craybas and Laura Granville (3), United States, def. Alyona Bondarenko, Ukraine, and Anastassia Rodionova, Russia, 3-6, 6-1, 6-1.

Heineken Open

Monday
At ASB Bank Tennis Centre
Auckland, New Zealand
Purse: $426,000 (Intl. Series)
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles
First Round

Jose Acasuso, Argentina, def. Julien Benneteau, France, 6-4, 6-4.
Potito Starace, Italy, def. Mark Nielsen, New Zealand, 6-4, 6-4.
Fernando Gonzalez (5), Chile, def. James Blake, United States, 6-4, 6-4.
Cyril Saulnier, France, def. Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, 7-6, 6-4.
Vince Spadea (4), United States, def. David Sanchez, Spain, 6-0, 6-2.
Guillermo Cañas, Argentina, def. G.D. Jones, New Zealand, 6-0, 6-2.

Doubles
First Round

Martin Garcia and Mariano Hood (4), Argentina, def. Agustin Calleri, Argentina, and Robbie Koenig, South Africa, 6-4, 6-4.
Juan Ignacio Chela and Sebastien Prieto, Argentina, def. Daniel King-Turner and Mark Nielsen, New Zealand, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Cyril Suk and Pavel Vizner (2), Czech Republic, def. Tomas Cibulec, Czech Republic, and Dominik Hrbaty, Slovakia, 6-4, 6-3.

High school

Japan girls basketball
Lady Vipers tournament
Zama American 59,
International School of the Sacred Heart 29
At Camp Zama, Japan

ISSH	**5**	**6**	**5**	**16-29**
Zama	**15**	**15**	**17**	**12-59**

Leading scorers-Zama, Tiffani Wright 26, Elli Legaspi 8; ISSH, Mari Look 9, Wody Meier 6. Zama leading rebounders-Zama, Tiffani Wright 15, Emma Barrett 5, Kat Schultz 5.

Friday's summary
Zama American 39, Seisen Int'l 36
At Camp Zama, Japan

Seisen	**7**	**14**	**12**	**3-36**
Zama	**7**	**10**	**6**	**16-39**

Leading scorers-Zama, Tiffani Wright 19; Seisen, Yuri Kawamoto 13, Teresa Molina 10. Leading rebounders-Zama, Kat Schultz 11, Kate Sikiva 9, Tiffani Wright 8.

Deals

Weekend transactions

BASEBALL
American League

BOSTON RED SOX—Agreed to terms with 1B David McCarty on a minor league contract.

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Agreed to terms with RHP Kevin Millwood on a one-year contract.

NEW YORK YANKEES—Agreed to terms with DH Ruben Sierra on a one-year contract.

TEXAS RANGERS—Agreed to terms with C Rod Barajas on a one-year contract.

National League

NEW YORK METS—Agreed to terms with LHP Dae Sung Koo on a one-year contract.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Agreed to terms with Tony La Russa, manager, on a three-year contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Placed C Dessagne Diouf on the injured list. Activated F-C Scott Williams from the injured list.

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS—Placed G Marko Jaric on the injured list. Activated G Kerry Kittles from the injured list.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Signed F James Thomas to a 10-day contract.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

CHICAGO BEARS—Named Ron Turner offensive coordinator.

DENVER BRONCOS—Signed QB Matt Mauck from the practice squad. Waived RB Johnathan Reese.

COLLEGE

CREIGHTON—Announced sophomore men's basketball F Quincy Henderson has left the school and will transfer.

IOWA STATE—Suspended sophomore men's basketball F-C Reggie George indefinitely for violating team policy.

Sonics call on reserves to earn sweep of Heat

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Danny Fortson has gotten a kick out of playing against Shaquille O'Neal. With this kind of success, why wouldn't he? For the second time in a week, Fortson and the Seattle SuperSonics got the best of O'Neal and the Miami Heat.

The Sonics ended the Heat's franchise-record, 14-game winning streak in Miami last Monday and then beat the team with the best record in the East in the home rematch, 108-98 Sunday night.

NBA roundup

"I love Shaq," Fortson said. "He's a great guy and I admire him. Any time I'm out there on the court with him, it's an honor."

But Fortson is hardly in awe of the 7-foot-1, 325-pound center who was traded to the Heat by the Los Angeles Lakers last summer.

O'Neal had 28 points, 11 rebounds and five blocked shots in 38 minutes. Fortson answered with 18 points and 10 rebounds, and helped shut Shaq down in the fourth quarter when the Heat were outscored 13-1 in the final 4:40.

"It's good," the 6-8 Fortson said. "It gets you ready to play, for one thing. You got some guy you're going against, the strongest guy on earth. You're going to be ready to play."

The Sonics' reserves, led by Vladimir Radmanovic's 27 points, outscored the Miami bench 66-17 — including Fortson's output.

O'Neal didn't score after his three-point play with 7:38 left.

Acquiring Fortson from Dallas for center Calvin Booth has given the Sonics inside toughness and rebounding they lacked when they won only 37 games and missed the playoffs last season.

The streaky Radmanovic scored 11 of his season-high 27 points in the final quarter, when he made three of five three-pointers.

Radmanovic came within two points of his career high and shot 11-for-17, including 5-for-9 from three-point range, after being limited to a total of 12 points in losses at Washington and Orlando.

The Sonics won on a night when All-Star guard Ray Allen didn't perform like an All-Star. Allen, who scored 35 points in Miami, shot 6-for-17 for 15 points.

Eddie Jones scored 19 points, and Wade had 16 for the Heat.

Bothered by back spasms, Wade shot 3-for-11 after the first quarter.

If the teams are to meet again this season, it'll be in the NBA Finals.

"They got us twice in two close games," Wade said. "We look forward to seeing them later."

Knicks 113, Trail Blazers 105: At New York, Allan Houston had his best game of the season with 25 points on 8-for-12 shooting to lead the Knicks.

Jerome Williams had 15 points, six rebounds and four assists as New York ended a season-high four-game losing streak to get back to .500 (17-17).

Houston made four three-pointers while surpassing his previous season-high of 21, and Stephon Marbury had 20 points and 12 assists while outplaying his cousin, Portland rookie Sebastian Telfair.

Zach Randolph scored 27 and Ruben Patterson added 20 for the Trail Blazers, whose losing streak increased to three games.

Suns 124, Pacers 89: At Phoenix, Shawn Marion scored 21 points and Amare Stoudemire had 20 points and 14 rebounds to help the Suns win their sixth straight and NBA-best 30th game of the season, one more than last season.

Phoenix's 30-4 start ties the 1959-60 Boston Celtics and 1971-72 Milwaukee Bucks for the best start for a team with four losses in NBA history.

Joe Johnson added 15 points and Quentin Richardson 14 in the Suns' highest-scoring and most one-sided victory of the season.

Jamaal Tinsley scored 21 and Jermaine O'Neal 16 for the Pacers.

Rockets 116, Nuggets 98: Tracy McGrady scored 20 his 45 points in the fourth quarter and had 12 rebounds to help Houston pull away in Denver.

McGrady hit four three-pointers and was 7-for-9 overall in the fourth quarter, reaching 40 points for the third time this season — and the second in five games. McGrady finished 15-for-26, had five assists and blocked three shots.

Yao Ming added 12 points and seven rebounds for Houston, which shot 51 percent and went 11-for-19 from three-point range.

Carmelo Anthony had 27 points and Kenyon Martin added 15 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets, who have lost four straight.

AP

SuperSonics forward Nick Collison fouls Heat center Shaquille O'Neal in the second half of Seattle's second straight victory over Miami.

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	17	17	.500	—
Philadelphia	15	17	.469	1
Boston	15	19	.441	2
Toronto	13	22	.371	4½
New Jersey	12	21	.364	4½
Southeast Division				
Miami	27	9	.750	—
Washington	19	13	.594	6
Orlando	18	14	.563	7
Charlotte	8	22	.267	16
Atlanta	5	26	.161	19½
Central Division				
Cleveland	20	12	.625	—
Detroit	18	14	.563	2
Indiana	16	16	.500	4
Chicago	13	18	.419	6½
Milwaukee	12	19	.387	7½

Western Conference

Southwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	28	7	.800	—
Dallas	22	10	.688	4½
Memphis	18	17	.514	10
Houston	17	17	.500	10½
New Orleans	3	29	.094	23½
Northwest Division				
Seattle	24	8	.750	—
Minnesota	17	15	.531	7
Portland	14	18	.438	10
Denver	14	19	.424	10½
Utah	11	24	.314	14½
Pacific Division				
Phoenix	30	4	.882	—
Sacramento	21	11	.656	8
L.A. Lakers	17	14	.548	11½
L.A. Clippers	16	16	.500	13
Golden State	11	23	.324	19

Sunday's games

Toronto 109, Golden State 98
New York 113, Portland 105
Seattle 108, Miami 98
Phoenix 124, Indiana 89
Houston 116, Denver 98

Monday's games

Orlando at Boston
Portland at Philadelphia
L.A. Lakers at Minnesota
Golden State at Chicago
San Antonio at Utah

Tuesday's games

Charlotte at Cleveland
Milwaukee at Atlanta
Detroit at New Jersey
New Orleans at New York
Indiana at Memphis
Miami at Phoenix
Denver at Sacramento
L.A. Clippers at Seattle

Wednesday's games

Boston at Toronto
Portland at Washington
New Orleans at Detroit
Orlando at Minnesota
Philadelphia at Chicago
Milwaukee at San Antonio
Phoenix at Utah
L.A. Lakers at Denver
Houston at Dallas
Miami at Golden State
Seattle at L.A. Clippers

Sunday

Raptors 109, Warriors 87

GOLDEN STATE — Dunleavy 6-13 0-0 13, Murphy 2-14 4-4 8, Robinson 7-12 0-0 18, Chesney 2-7 0-0 6, Clayton 4-11 3-4 11, Petrus 2-8 0-0 5, Foyle 4-7 2-2 10, Fisher 5-9 0-0 12, Biedrins 2-3 0-0 4, Flores 0-0 2-2 2. Totals 34-84 11-12 87.

TORONTO — E.Williams 1-6 0-0 3, Bosh 8-9 5-7 21, Araujo 7-12 0-0 14, Peterson 9-11 1-1 21, Alston 4-8 0-1 8, Marshall 1-4 0-0 3, Rose 2-7 0-1 5, Palacio 0-6 2-2 2, Murray 4-8 0-0 10, Bonner 7-11 0-0 15, Woods 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 45-84 9-13 105.

Golden State	**23**	**21**	**17**	**26 — 87**
Toronto	**18**	**24**	**36**	**31 — 109**

Three-Point Goals—Golden State 8-14 (Robinson 4-6, Fisher 2-3, Pietrus 1-1, Dunleavy 1-2, Murphy 0-2), Toronto 10-18 (Peterson 2-2, Murray 2-3, Alston 2-4, Bonner 1-1, Rose 1-2, E.Williams 1-2, Marshall 1-4). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Golden State 43 (Murphy,13), Toronto 51 (Bosh,11). Assists—Golden State 17 (Claxton 5), Toronto 30 (Alston 7). Total fouls—Golden State 12, Toronto 21. Technicals—Golden State coach Montgomery, Fisher. A—14,372 (19,800).

Knicks 113, Trail Blazers 105

PORTLAND — Patterson 8-15 4-8 20, Randolph 11-19 5-7 27, Ratliff 1-3 0-0 2, Anderson 2-4 4-8 8, Van Exel 4-8 0-0 10, Telfair 1-6 0-0 2, Stoudamire 7-11 1-2 18, Outlaw 6-8 0-0 13, Przybilla 1-1 0-0 2, Frahm 1-2 0-0 3, J.Thomas 0-0 0-0 0, Seung-Jin 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 42-76 14-21 105.

NEW YORK — K.Thomas 8-15 2-2 18, Williams 6-11 1-3 15, Mohammed 4-7 3-6 11, Houston 8-12 5-5 25, Marbury 6-8 8-9 20, Ariza 7-10 0-0 14, Norris 2-6 6-10, Robinson 0-0 0-0, Sundov 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 41-70 27-30 113.

Portland	**23**	**19**	**32**	**31—105**
New York	**31**	**24**	**29**	**29—113**

Three-Point Goals—Portland 7-15 (Stoudamire 3-5, Van Exel 2-5, Outlaw 1-1, Frahm 1-1, Patterson 0-1, Anderson 0-1, Telfair 0-1), New York 4-9 (Houston 4-6, Norris 0-1, Marbury 0-1). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Portland 37 (Randolph 10), New York 36 (K.Thomas, Mohammed, Williams 6). Assists—Portland 20 (Telfair 7), New York 29 (Marbury 12). Total fouls—Portland 23, New York 20. Technicals—Portland Defensive Three Second. A—19,189 (19,763).

Sonics 108, Heat 98

MIAMI — Haslem 2-6 2-2 6, E.Jones 7-11 2-3 19, O'Neal 11-18 6-13 28, D.Jones 4-12 2-2 12, Wade 7-19 2-3 16, Doleac 1-3 0-0 2, Dooling 3-5 1-2 7, Anderson 1-2 2-2 4, Laettner 2-2 0-0 4, Butler 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 38-79 17-27 98.

SEATTLE — Lewis 5-14 1-2 11, Potapenko 1-1 0-0 2, James 0-0 0-0 0, R.Allen 6-17 2-2 15, Ridnour 3-12 5-6 12, Radmanovic 11-17 0-0 27, Fortson 5-7 8-10 18, Daniels 4-8 7-9 15, Collison 3-3 0-0 6. Totals 38-79 23-29 108.

Miami	**30**	**27**	**21**	**20 — 98**
Seattle	**24**	**25**	**32**	**27—108**

Three-Point Goals—Miami 5-16 (E.Jones 3-5, D.Jones 2-10, Butler 0-1), Seattle 9-27 (Radmanovic 5-5, Lewis 3-9, Ridnour 1-2, R.Allen 1-5, Daniels 0-2). Fouled out—E.Jones. Rebounds—Miami 46 (Haslem 12), Seattle 52 (Fortson 10). Assists—Miami 21 (D.Jones 7), Seattle 24 (R.Allen, Daniels, Ridnour 7). Total fouls—Miami 27, Seattle 24. Technicals—Miami Defensive Three Second 2, Lewis. A—17,072 (17,072).

Suns 124, Pacers 89

INDIANA — Curry 0-1 0-0 0, O'Neal 6-15 4-6 16, Foster 0-8 0-0 0, Tinsley 7-12 5-5 21, Miller 3-7 0-0 8, Croshere 1-9 2-4 4, F.Jones 2-6 0-0 4, A.Johnson 3-4 1-4 10, Harrison 5-9 0-0 10, J.Jones 3-8 0-0 7, Gill 2-2 1-2 5, Edwards 1-2 2-4 4. Totals 33-83 18-25 89.

PHOENIX — Richardson 4-10 3-4 14, Marion 8-11 4-5 21, Stoudemire 8-15 4-7 20, Nash 5-12 0-0 10, J.Johnson 7-14 0-0 15, Hunter 5-5 0-0 10, Jacobsen 3-6 2-2 9, Lampe 4-7 1-2 10, Outlaw 1-1 0-0 2, Barbosa 2-3 0-0 5, Voskuhl 3-5 0-0 6, Vroman 0-3 1-2 1. Totals 50-92 15-22 124.

Indiana	**17**	**25**	**17**	**30 — 89**
Phoenix	**35**	**30**	**32**	**27—124**

Three-Point Goals—Indiana 5-15 (Miller 2-3, Tinsley 2-3, J.Jones 1-3, Croshere 0-2, F.Jones 0-4), Phoenix 9-23 (Richardson 3-8, Barbosa 2-2, Lampe 1-1, Marion 1-3, J.Johnson 1-3, Jacobsen 1-4, Nash 0-2). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Indiana 38 (Foster 7), Phoenix 68 (Stoudemire 14). Assists—Indiana 18 (Tinsley, A.Johnson, Gill 3), Phoenix 29 (Nash 9). Total fouls—Indiana 17, Phoenix 19. Technicals—Harrison. A—18,422 (18,422).

Rockets 116, Nuggets 98

HOUSTON — McGrady 15-26 10-14 45, Howard 3-4 0-0 6, Yao 7-16 7-7 21, Sura 3-6 1-2 8, Wesley 3-8 3-4 12, Mutombo 1-4 0-0 6, Barry 1-2 0-0 5, Bowen 0-0 0-0 0, Barry 1-3 0-0 3, Taylor 5-10 0-0 10. Totals 42-81 21-27 116.

DENVER — Martin 6-13 3-4 15, Anthony 7-20 11-13 27, Camby 2-7 5-6 9, D.Johnson 4-5 0-0 11, Miller 1-4 1-2 3, Nene 3-6 2-3 8, Boykins 2-7 4-4 8, Russell 0-1 2-2 2, Elson 0-0 1-2 1, White 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 31-73 31-38 98.

Houston	**35**	**23**	**17**	**41—116**
Denver	**23**	**24**	**26**	**25— 98**

Three-Point Goals—Houston 11-19 (McGrady 5-9, Wesley 3-5, Sura 1-1, Barry 1-2, Barrett 1-2), Denver 5-13 (D.Johnson 3-4, Anthony 2-6, Boykins 0-1, Miller 0-1, Russell 0-1). Fouled out—None. Rebounds—Houston 49 (McGrady 12), Denver 45 (Martin 10). Assists—Houston 26 (Sura 6), Denver 22 (Martin 6). Total fouls—Houston 20, Denver 21. Technicals—Houston Defensive Three Second, Taylor, Sura, Anthony, Elson, Nene, Denver coach Cooper. A—18,227 (19,099).

Leaders

Through Jan. 8

Scoring	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Iverson, Phil.	30	296	240	867	28.9
Bryant, LAL	31	270	287	885	28.5
Nowitzki, Dall.	31	266	206	834	26.9
Stoudemire, Phoe.	33	317	228	862	26.1
James, Cleve.	32	291	168	776	24.2
Allen, Sea.	31	252	165	749	24.2
Ming, Hou.	31	261	167	695	24.1
Wade, Mia.	33	271	249	794	24.1
Garnett, Minn.	32	280	196	760	23.8
Arenas, Wash.	32	228	165	693	23.1
Jefferson, NJ.	33	238	227	733	22.2
Redd, Mil.	31	250	133	681	22.0
O'Neal, Mia.	34	290	166	746	21.9
Maggette, LAC	29	183	250	636	21.9
Marbury, NY	35	295	171	761	21.7
Lewis, Sea.	31	252	90	674	21.7
Pierce, Bos.	34	230	232	735	21.6
Francis, Orl.	32	227	218	687	21.5
Anthony, Den.	26	191	147	550	21.2
Hughes, Wash.	31	233	153	650	21.0

Cavaliers' Wagner hospitalized; Jackson has herniated disc

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Cavaliers guard Dajuan Wagner is in the hospital after missing the last two games with intestinal flu.

Wagner was treated Monday at the Cleveland Clinic for dehydration and gastroenteritis, the latest in a series of medical problems for the guard since he joined Cleveland.

NBA briefs

He missed 35 games as a rookie during the 2002-03 season, including his first 14 because of surgery for a bladder infection.

Last season, Wagner had an inflamed liver and pancreas that delayed knee surgery. He played in just 44 games.

Wagner has appeared in only 11 games this season, averaging four points and shooting just 33 percent from the field. He was listed as doubtful for Tuesday's game against Charlotte.

The Cavaliers could lose rookie guard Luke Jackson for the season if he needs surgery for a back problem diagnosed as a herniated disc. Jackson, the No. 10 overall pick in the draft, has been on the injured list with back spasms.

T-wolves' Madsen, Hawks' Willis go on injured list

MINNEAPOLIS — The Minnesota Timberwolves put forward Mark Madsen on the injured list with a broken left thumb Monday and signed John Thomas to a 10-day contract.

Madsen, in his second season with Minnesota and his fifth in the NBA, had surgery on Saturday after getting hurt in Friday's game against Philadelphia. He's expected to miss about six weeks.

Also on Monday, the Atlanta Hawks placed 42-year-old center Kevin Willis on the injured list with a strained lower back.

Rupp crowd can't disrupt Kansas in first road game

The Associated Press

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Kansas coach Bill Self knew what he was doing when he put together his team's schedule.

The second-ranked Jayhawks didn't play on an opponent's home court before Sunday, and many wondered how they would respond in a hostile environment, especially without injured preseason All-America Wayne Simien.

The answer: just fine.

In Simien's absence, less-touted inside players C.J. Giles, Christian Moody and Sasha Kaun combined to score 28 points as the Jayhawks beat No. 8 Kentucky 65-59.

Kansas (11-0) is 4-0 without Simien, including wins over Top 10 teams Georgia Tech and Kentucky (10-2). Simien is sidelined following surgery on his left thumb but could be back as early as next week.

The Jayhawks proved they can win on the road — even in front of 24,367 fans, the second-largest crowd in Rupp Arena history.

"We played a good schedule," Self said. "Our RPI and strength of schedule is No. 2 in America. We played good opponents, but we just haven't played away from home.

"You can't really get a gauge of where you are until you leave your own building. I think this was good. Sometimes when you play at home a lot, the pressure is on the home team when expectations are so high. I think getting away, it worked out fine. Our guys didn't act like it was our first road game of the season."

Giles, Moody and Kaun certainly didn't, outplaying Kentucky's more-touted frontline of Chuck Hayes, Kelenna Azubuike and Randolph Morris.

"We just knew we were as tough as they were," Giles said.

In the only other game involving a ranked team on Sunday, No. 15 Texas beat Baylor 79-60.

Giles, a freshman starting in place of Simien, went 5-for-5 from the field and finished with 10 points, six rebounds and two blocked shots. Moody, a junior walk-on, had 11 points and seven rebounds, while Kaun, a freshman who didn't play in Kansas' last game, added seven points.

Another inside player, freshman Alex Galindo, had four blocked shots.

"Our freshmen came through," Self said. "Moody came through, and that's the big thing. We've said all along, before we can be good, we've got to have some other guys come through other than Keith [Langford] and Wayne and Aaron [Miles]. Certainly, that was the case today."

Hayes, Azubuike and Morris combined to go 8-for-35 from the field, including an 0-for-8 outing from Morris.

"We just didn't do a good job," Kentucky coach Tubby Smith said. "We got shots up, but I thought it was poor selection not passing the ball back out and reposting. They took us out of our game. We weren't strong enough and disciplined enough to stay with the game plan."

All-Star CF Beltran, Mets reach preliminary contract agreement

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Carlos Beltran passed his physical, and the New York Mets scheduled a news conference for Tuesday to announce his $119 million, seven-year contract.

Beltran's agent, Scott Boras, and the Mets reached a preliminary agreement Sunday, and Beltran traveled from Puerto Rico to New York for the medical tests. The All-Star center fielder passed the tests, Mets spokesman Jay Horwitz said, and the team will hold a news conference at Shea Stadium to introduce their new acquisition.

New York's contract calls for Beltran to receive an $11 million signing bonus. Tuesday is the last day before a change in federal rules makes signing bonuses subject to increased taxes.

"I'm very satisfied because we reached a deal," Beltran told the Puerto Rican newspaper Primera Hora. "The Mets showed genuine interest all the way and were willing to commit the way I wanted them to.

"I hope the Houston fans understand because I'm very grateful to them. This was a very difficult process. The reason we could not reach a deal with the Astros was because of a no-trade clause.

"The Astros offered me a seven-year contract, but they would not give me a no-trade clause. At this stage in my career I want stability. To be in a city during all the duration of my contract. New York offered me that stability that Houston did not offer."

Across town, the Yankees planned to hold a news conference Tuesday to announce their acquisition of Randy Johnson. The Big Unit also was to have his physical in New York on Monday, the last step needed to finalize the drawn-out trade talks for a deal in which the Yankees will send to Arizona pitchers Javier Vazquez and Brad Halsey, catcher Dioner Navarro and $9 million.

Navarro will be sent to the Dodgers with pitcher William Juarez and two other prospects for outfielder Shawn Green and $10 million.

Green and Arizona reached an agreement in principle Sunday on a $32 million, three-year contract, which would allow that trade to be finalized.

"Our view of this is that we effectively traded Randy Johnson for Vazquez, Halsey, Shawn Green and $19 million," Arizona managing partner Ken Kendrick said.

The deal will give Green a $2 million signing bonus, $10.5 million this year, $8 million in 2006 and $9.5 million in 2007. The agreement includes a mutual option for a fourth year, with a $2 million buyout should the Diamondbacks decide not to retain Green.

Los Angeles is waiting on that trade before signing off on a $36 million, four-year deal with pitcher Derek Lowe.

Lowe said from his home in Fort Myers, Fla., he wasn't sure if a deal had been finalized, but he planned to be in Los Angeles on Monday.

"I'm flying to L.A. [Monday] morning, that is all I know," the 31-year-old right-hander said Sunday night. "I think I'm taking a physical."

Beltran, who helped Houston come within a victory of its first World Series last year, will become the 10th player in baseball history to agree to a deal worth $100 million or more — getting the biggest contract deal since Jason Giambi's $120 million, seven-year agreement with the Yankees in December 2001.

His average salary of $17 million will tie Houston's Jeff Bagwell for the seventh-highest, trailing only Alex Rodriguez ($25.2 million), Manny Ramirez ($20 million), Derek Jeter ($18.9 million), Sammy Sosa and Barry Bonds (both $18 million), and Giambi ($17.1 million).

Houston offered a guaranteed $100 million, seven-year contract, which included a $14 million option for 2012 with a $2 million buyout, an Astros executive said Sunday on the condition of anonymity.

If the option were exercised, the deal would have been worth $112 million for eight seasons.

Another person in the talks, also speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Astros owner Drayton McLane raised the guaranteed offer to $108 million Saturday night. That figure was disputed by the Astros executive.

McLane turned down Beltran's demand for a no-trade clause, which became an obstacle to a deal, perhaps a fatal one.

AP Sports Writers Bob Baum in Phoenix and John Nadel in Los Angeles contributed to this report

Chargers' Brees wants loyalty, long-term deal

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Drew Brees wants a little loyalty and commitment from the San Diego Chargers.

"I think the organization knows how I feel. I think I've made that known that I want to be here and I want a long-term contract," the Pro Bowl quarterback said Monday after the Chargers held their final team meeting.

"So really now, it kind of falls in their court. It's up to them to decide what they want to do."

The Chargers made a stunning playoff exit Saturday night, losing 20-17 in overtime to the New York Jets in a home wild-card game.

Brees has reached the end of his four-year contract. Many people think the Chargers will put the "franchise" tag on him and give him a $9 million contract. They then can either trade him or let him compete for the starting job with Philip Rivers, who they got in a draft-day trade to be their quarterback of the future.

The Chargers, who won the AFC West at 12-4, are expected to have $21 million available under the salary cap.

The Chargers aren't in a hurry to decide Brees' fate.

"I won't talk about our football business," general manager A.J. Smith said Monday. "I haven't a clue right now. Three weeks from now we'll huddle up and go over our players and options."

Smith did say that the team planned to discuss the coaching staff's future first. Marty Schottenheimer has one year left on his deal and the team has been negotiating an extension with his agent.

Brees was voted the Comeback Player of the Year after throwing 27 touchdown passes and just seven interceptions in the regular season. He threw for 319 yards and two TDs against the Jets, and was intercepted once.

He would just like to hear the Chargers say that he remains their starting quarterback.

"The important thing to me is the loyalty and commitment factor, you know, just saying, 'Hey, this is going to be our guy' and that sort of thing."

Patriots sign Poteat to help injury-riddled secondary

FOXBORO, Mass. — The New England Patriots signed cornerback Hank Poteat to their roster Monday, less than a week before their playoff game against the Indianapolis Colts and NFL MVP Peyton Manning.

The Patriots' secondary has been hit by injuries all season. Ty Law missed the last nine games and went on injured reserve last week; Tyrone Poole has been out since September; safeties Eugene Wilson and Randall Gay also have spent time on the injury list.

Poteat, who also returns punts, played in 41 games over three NFL seasons with the Pittsburgh Steelers and played in one game for the Tampa Bay Buccaneers.

NFL Briefs

He has played in two playoff games, starting for the Steelers in the 2002 wild-card game.

Poteat was waived by the Steelers before the 2003 season and signed with Tampa Bay. He played one game for the Buccaneers before he was released on Nov. 12, 2003. He signed with the Carolina Panthers before the 2004 season and played in two preseason games before he was released.

Terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Pro Player Stadium now Dolphins Stadium

MIAMI — The home of the Miami Dolphins is getting a new name, new management and a makeover that may include a roof.

Formerly called Pro Player Stadium and Joe Robbie Stadium before that, the facility where Miami has played since 1987 will go back to the name it went by while under construction: Dolphins Stadium.

Owner Wayne Huizenga had no success in finding a new naming-rights sponsor since Pro Player was bought out five years ago. The sports apparel company had signed a 10-year, $20 million deal with the Dolphins in 1996.

Plans are also in the works to expand the facility and possibly add a permanent or retractable roof, Huizenga said Monday.

49ers to interview Titans' Heimerdinger, Giants' Lewis

SAN FRANCISCO — Tennessee Titans offensive coordinator Mike Heimerdinger and New York Giants defensive coordinator Tim Lewis will interview this week for the 49ers' head coaching position, a San Francisco spokesman said Monday.

After dining together Monday night, Heimerdinger and 49ers owner John York will have a formal interview in St. Louis on Tuesday.

Lewis will interview on Wednesday, spokesman Kirk Reynolds said.

Heimerdinger has been in charge of the Titans' offense for five years, leading Tennessee to several franchise superlatives and helping Steve McNair win a share of the MVP award last season.

He was on the Denver Broncos' staff for five years before joining the Titans, but hasn't been a head coach since 1979 at Johnsburg High School in McHenry, Ill.

Lewis was the defensive coordinator of the Steelers for the final four seasons of a nine-year stint with Pittsburgh before Giants coach Tom Coughlin hired him a year ago. The former Green Bay Packers cornerback was the 11th overall selection in the 1983 draft, but his playing career was cut short by a neck injury in 1986.

Moss stands behind latest antics

BY DAVE GOLDBERG
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Randy Moss is almost sure to be fined for pretending to moon fans in Green Bay during a playoff win, according to NFL rules.

The league is looking into the star receiver's antics in Minnesota's 31-17 win over the Packers on Sunday and will announce its ruling later this week.

When asked whether the oft-fined Moss would be penalized again, a league spokesman recited NFL rules mandating discipline for "obscene gestures or other actions construed as being in poor taste."

A fine for the first offense under those guidelines is $5,000.

Moss has not previously been fined for such action, but paid a $25,000 penalty in 1999 for squirting an official with a water bottle.

In the last year, the NFL has dealt with a couple of highly publicized situations that many fans found objectionable. There was the Janet Jackson breast-baring episode during the halftime show of the Super Bowl in February and the steamy "Monday Night Football" introduction this season featuring Philadelphia receiver Terrell Owens and "Desperate Housewives" star Nicollette Sheridan.

On Sunday, Moss caught a touchdown pass in the fourth quarter and headed toward the goalpost. He then turned his back to the Lambeau Field crowd, bent over and pantomimed pulling down his pants.

"Just having a little fun with the boys," Moss told a Fox reporter as he left the field. "I hope I don't get in trouble by it, but if I do I'll take the heat."

Moss, making $5 million this season, declined comment Monday.

Vikings coach Mike Tice said he spoke Monday with Art Shell, executive director of the players' association.

"The league has called me," Tice said. "I didn't see it until last night."

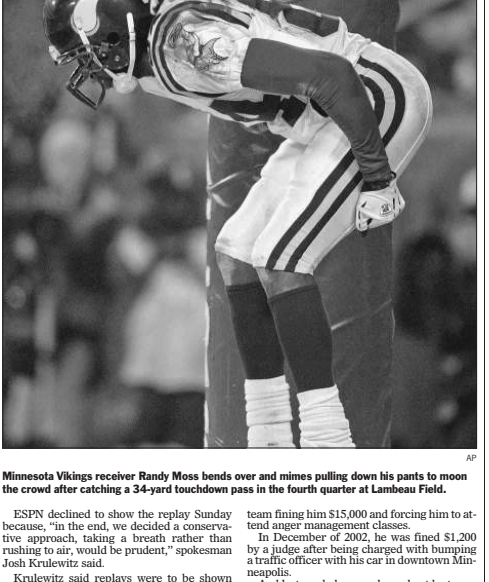
Tice added he always thought of Green Bay fans as having "a tremendous amount of class" but that he didn't think they acted that way Sunday.

Indianapolis Colts coach Tony Dungy said he saw Moss' action and, "I thought it was kind of humorous.

"Anyone who has played in the NFC Central knows what that's about. The fans in Green Bay have a tradition in the parking lot after the game where they moon the visiting team's bus," he said. "It's kind of a unique send-off.

"I had seen it seven times because when I was with the Vikings, we lost to them seven times up there," he said.

Fox did not show a replay of Moss' display during the game.



AP

Minnesota Vikings receiver Randy Moss bends over and mimes pulling down his pants to moon the crowd after catching a 34-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter at Lambeau Field.

ESPN declined to show the replay Sunday because, "in the end, we decided a conservative approach, taking a breath rather than rushing to air, would be prudent," spokesman Josh Krulewitz said.

Krulewitz said replays were to be shown Monday "conservatively, based on the NFL's and the Vikings' reaction to it."

Last month, Denver quarterback Jake Plummer was fined $5,000 for an obscene gesture.

Moss was originally fined $40,000 in 1999 for squirting an official, but it was reduced to $25,000 on appeal.

Moss verbally abused corporate sponsors on the team bus in 2001. That resulted in the team fining him $15,000 and forcing him to attend anger management classes.

In December of 2002, he was fined $1,280 by a judge after being charged with bumping a traffic officer with his car in downtown Minneapolis.

And last week, he was chewed out by teammates for leaving the field before the end of a loss in Washington. Center Matt Birk, one of the Vikings' leaders, confronted him and quarterback Daunte Culpepper also was upset.

Moss, his hair poofed out in a giant Afro, had four receptions for 70 yards and two touchdowns in Sunday's game.

After Moss' second score and resulting show, Birk just shook his head and smiled.

"That's Randy," he said. "You take the good with the bad."

Vikings: Pack penalties prove costly

VIKINGS, FROM BACK PAGE

Morten Andersen slipped and had his 29-yard field goal attempt get blocked, giving the Packers momentum midway through the second quarter with a chance to tie the game.

Free safety Brian Russell stepped in front of Walker on first down, picking off Favre's pass and returning it 14 yards to the Green Bay 28. Two plays later, Nate Burleson burned rookie Ahmad Carroll for a 19-yard touchdown catch that made it 24-10.

After a scoreless third quarter, the Packers pulled to 24-17 on Najeh Davenport's 1-yard plunge with 13:37 left. But penalty-prone Carroll committed two infractions, setting up Culpepper's 34-yard touchdown pass to Moss that gave the Vikings a 14-point cushion with 10:18 remaining.

Cornerback Al Harris jumped the slant-and-go route, and Moss — running on a sprained right ankle — hauled in the ball for an easy score.

"I expect a big game from Randy every single time we go out," Burleson said. "It's hard for him, because everybody gives him a lot of flak about certain things that he does, but really when it comes down to it that's a guy that I know I would rather have than any other receiver in this league."

Moss bought himself another week of scrutiny by pretending to pull down his pants and moon the crowd following a touchdown.

"Just having a little fun with the boys," he said. "I hope I don't get in trouble by it, but if I do I'll take the heat."

The Packers, who began 1-4, lost five of their nine games at Lambeau Field — where they've lost only twice in the playoffs.

"I was as disappointed as I've ever been after a loss," coach Mike Sherman said. "We are better than what we showed."

NFL playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Sunday, Jan. 9
Indianapolis 49, Denver 24
Minnesota 31, Green Bay 17
Divisional Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 15
N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh
St. Louis at Atlanta
Sunday, Jan. 16
Minnesota at Philadelphia
Indianapolis at New England
Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 23
NFC Championship Game
AFC Championship Game
Super Bowl
Sunday, Feb. 6
Jacksonville, Fla.
AFC vs. NFC

Sunday
Vikings 31, Packers 17

Minnesota	**17**	**7**	**0**	**7**	**—31**
Green Bay	**3**	**7**	**0**	**7**	**—17**

First Quarter
Min—M.Williams 68 pass from Culpepper (Andersen kick), 13:28.
Min—Moss 20 pass from Culpepper (Andersen kick), 9:50.
Min—FG Andersen 35, 6:06.
GB—FG Longwell 43, 2:42.
Second Quarter
GB—Franks 4 pass from Favre (Longwell kick), 10:24.
Min—Burleson 19 pass from Culpepper (Andersen kick), 6:33.
Fourth Quarter
GB—Davenport 1 run (Longwell kick), 13:37.
Min—Moss 34 pass from Culpepper (Andersen kick), 10:18.
A—71,075.

	Min	GB
First downs	18	24
Total Net Yards	384	306
Rushes-yards	26-123	29-105
Passing	261	201
Punt Returns	3-7	1-(-4)
Kickoff Returns	4-91	5-96
Interceptions Ret.	1-44	0-0
Comp-Att-Int	19-29-0	22-33-4
Sacked-Yards Lost	1-23	2-15
Punts	4-32.3	3-41.3
Fumbles-Lost	2-0	3-0
Penalties-Yards	7-56	8-55
Time of Possession	29:48	30:12

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—Minnesota, Culpepper 6-54, O.Smith 11-38, M.Bennett 9-31. **Green Bay**, Green 20-80, Davenport 5-14, Favre 3-7, Fisher 1-4.
Passing—Minnesota, Culpepper 19-29-0-284. **Green Bay**, Favre 22-33-4-216.
Receiving—Minnesota, Moss 4-70, Burleson 4-60, Wiggins 3-32, M.Williams 2-72, O.Smith 2-22, M.Bennett 2-12, Campbell 1-12, Robinson 1-4. **Green Bay**, Driver 7-78, Henderson 3-27, Franks 2-32, Walker 2-27, Chatman 2-25, Green 2-16, Luchey 2-10, Fisher 2-1.
Missed field goals—Minnesota, Andersen 27(BK). **Green Bay**, Longwell 28(WL).

Colts 49, Broncos 24

Denver	**0**	**3**	**14**	**7**	**—24**
Indianapolis	**14**	**21**	**0**	**14**	**—49**

First Quarter
Ind—Mungro 2 pass from Manning (Vanderjagt kick), 7:23.
Ind—James 1 run (Vanderjagt kick), :38.
Second Quarter
Ind—Clark 19 pass from Manning (Vanderjagt kick), 8:11.
Den—FG Elam 33, 5:19.
Ind—Wayne 35 pass from Manning (Vanderjagt kick), 4:29.
Ind—Manning 1 run (Vanderjagt kick), :06.
Third Quarter
Den—R.Smith 9 pass from Plummer (Elam kick), 9:01.
Den—Putzier 35 pass from Plummer (Elam kick), 1:10.
Fourth Quarter
Ind—Wayne 43 pass from Manning (Vanderjagt kick), 12:48.
Den—Bell 1 run (Elam kick), 7:45.
Ind—Rhodes 2 run (Vanderjagt kick), 2:02.
A—56,609.

	Den	Ind
First downs	18	27
Total Net Yards	338	529
Rushes-yards	21-78	24-76
Passing	260	453
Punt Returns	1-(-1)	1-9
Kickoff Returns	8-188	2-54
Interceptions Ret.	1-0	1-0
Comp-Att-Int	24-34-1	27-33-1
Sacked-Yards Lost	3-24	1-4
Punts	4-37.3	2-38.0
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0
Penalties-Yards	5-24	4-25
Time of Possession	30:42	29:18

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing—Denver, Bell 12-49, Droughns 8-29, Plummer 1-0, Indianapolis, James 18-63, Rhodes 5-12, Manning 1-1.
Passing—Denver, Plummer 24-34-1-284. **Indianapolis**, Manning 27-33-1-457.
Receiving—Denver, R.Smith 7-99, Bell 4-32, Droughns 4-28, Putzier 3-67, Lelie 2-27, Hape 2-8, Carswell 1-15, Watts 1-8. **Indianapolis**, Wayne 10-221, Clark 6-112, Harrison 4-56, Stokley 2-33, Pollard 2-28, James 2-11, Mungro 1-2.
Missed field goals—None.

Favre: QB's family to play large part in decision

FAVRE, FROM BACK PAGE

At 35, Favre feels the tug of family, not just football.

His father and brother-in-law died in the last 13 months. His oldest daughter attends high school in Mississippi and his wife, Deanna, is fighting breast cancer.

"It's not about me anymore," Favre said. "My wife has gone through some difficult times and continues to. So that is going to play into my decision-making."

Favre, scheduled to make $6.5 million in 2005, said he's never played for the money and won't start now.

"If I come back, I want to come back for the right reasons and that's to lead this team to the Super Bowl," Favre said.

He's pretty certain he has the offense to do that, but the defense needs a makeover.

Still, Favre said he didn't seek assurances from Sherman about personnel changes or acquisitions. He figures his job is simply to lead whatever players are on the field.

But for now Favre wants to get as far away from football as he can, at least for a while.

"My vacation is going home to Mississippi and hiding," he said. "I'll probably think about this game until whenever. And to block this game out and make a decision is going to be difficult. But I will try my best."

Colts QB Manning chosen as AP's NFL MVP again

Record-breaking passer receives 47 of 48 votes after sharing honor last season

BY BARRY WILNER
The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Peyton Manning's phenomenal season earned him his second straight Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player Award. He was nearly a unanimous choice.

The Indianapolis Colts' star quarterback, who surpassed Dan Marino and Steve Young with his passing prowess in 2004, earned all but one of 48 votes from a national panel of sports writers and broadcasters who cover pro football. Manning tied with Steve McNair for the award last season, but this time only Atlanta quarterback Michael Vick drew a vote.

Manning joined the likes of Joe Montana, John Unitas, Steve Young and Kurt Warner as quarterbacks with two MVP awards. Brett Favre is the only player to win it three times.

"Individually, I accomplished a lot in a short period of time," Manning said. "But no question, we did not win a Super Bowl in the time I've been here as a quarterback."

Ever the team man, and ever championship-oriented, Manning refuses to concentrate on his statistics. He might have thrown for 49 touchdowns, surpassing Dan Marino's 20-year-old NFL record. And he may have shattered Young's passer rating record with a 121.1 mark. And he might have established other league marks and a bunch more team records.

But to Manning, unless it all culminates in a championship, it's not what he's after.

"Just because you played well in Week 2 or Week 10 doesn't mean anything for the playoffs," Manning said. "Except that you're capable of doing it."

Manning was capable of doing almost anything in leading the Colts to a 12-4 record and the AFC South title. They routed Denver 49-24 in the first round of the playoffs — the MVP voting was held before the postseason — and play at New England on Sunday.

He also turned two of his previously unaccomplished receivers, Reggie Wayne and Brandon Stokley, into threats almost on a par with Manning's favorite target, perennial Pro Bowler Marvin Harrison.

All caught at least 10 touchdown passes and went over 1,000 yards in receiving — an unprecedented combination for three teammates.

"Peyton is such a competitor, he has such high expectations to go out and win," Wayne said. "You want to make a play for him and bail him out of tough situations."

Tough situations? Manning tends to make everything look easy.

Sort of like Young and Montana and Unitas and Warner and Favre did. But all of them have that championship along with their MVPs.

Manning doesn't.

And it drives him to do even more.

Road to Super Bowl figures to get tougher

Three of four visiting teams advanced to second round with victories in wild-card games

BY DAVE GOLDBERG
The Associated Press

The long-range weather report for Foxboro, Mass., on Sunday is partly cloudy with temperatures from 20 to 30 degrees. Not exactly the RCA Dome this week: no wind and 72.

Yes, Peyton Manning is great, the best active NFL quarterback and moving up the list of the best ever.

But beating a flawed Denver team 49-24 at home in the first round of the playoffs Sunday is not the same as going into frigid Foxboro against the winner of two of the past three Super Bowls.

Analysis

So far road teams have fared well in the playoffs — better than ever before in fact. Three of the four winners in the wild-card round were road teams. The Colts were the only home team to win and they'll be the best of the second-round road teams.

They will need all the skill they can muster — they have lost to the Patriots five straight times, including in last year's AFC championship game and on the opening night of this season, both times in Foxboro.

Indianapolis-New England will be the final game of next weekend's Super Bowl quarterfinals, which will begin with the other AFC semifinal, the New York Jets at Pittsburgh on Saturday. The Patriots are favored by 3 points; the Steelers by 9.

In the NFC, Minnesota will be at Philadelphia early Sunday after upsetting Green Bay 31-17, joining St. Louis as the first 8-8 teams to advance in the playoffs. The Rams, who beat Seattle 27-20 on Saturday, now go to Atlanta for a Saturday night game.

As in the AFC, these games are rematches. Philadelphia beat the Vikings 27-16 in the second week of the season, a day after Atlanta beat St. Louis 34-17 in the Georgia Dome. The Eagles are favored by 9 points, the Falcons by 7.

AP

Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning looks back to his bench after the Colts fumbled the ball during the fourth quarter on Sept. 9 in Foxboro, Mass. The Patriots beat the Colts 27-24. The opening-night loss was the Colts' fifth straight to the Patriots, including last season's AFC championship game.

The most interesting game will be in Foxboro, matching Manning and the other record breakers in the Colts' offense against the defending champs.

They also have the home weather advantage.

Of Manning's record 49 touchdown passes, 32 were indoors — 26 at home and six more at Detroit's Ford Field.

And in the five losses to New England dating to 2001, Manning has thrown just nine TD passes along with nine interceptions. Once again, he will be facing Tom Brady, who doesn't have Manning's numbers but has the title — two, actually — that Manning lacks.

So Foxboro will be a different story, though it probably will be more like this season's opener, a 27-24 New England victory, than last season's title game, a 24-14 Patriots win that wasn't really that close.

Manning threw four interceptions in the title game. He had just one in this season's matchup — in the end zone by the Patriots' Tedy Bruschi on a pass thrown from the New England 6 on the Colts' first possession.

The end of that game was also indicative of why the Patriots have won those two Super Bowls, had a 21-game winning streak over two seasons, and are just the third team with back-to-back 14-2 regular seasons. With the Colts in position for a game-tying field goal, Manning was sacked by Willie McGinest for a 13-yard loss, a typical big play by one of the many big-play guys for the Patriots.

Mike Vanderjagt, forced to kick from 48 yards after the sack, missed a field goal and New England won.

But the Colts seem confident they can keep their prolific offense going — even in Foxboro in January.

"When the playoffs come around, you definitely want be hitting on all cylinders," said second-year tight end Dallas Clark, who had six catches for 112 yards on Sunday. "I think we are, and the team keeps getting better every game."

Next weekend's other AFC game is also a rematch. The Steelers beat the Jets 17-6 in Chad Pennington's second game back from a bruised rotator cuff in his throwing shoulder. Pennington's passes fluttered in that game, and he threw three interceptions.

He was a lot more confident in New York's dramatic 20-17 overtime upset Saturday night in San Diego, and his arm looked a lot stronger, notably on a perfect 47-yard pass that hit Santana Moss in stride for a touchdown.

"Obviously I didn't play well the last time we played Pittsburgh, so those questions will be asked again," Pennington said Sunday.

Most of Pittsburgh's starters will have had two weeks off going into the game; the subs actually played well enough in the finale to knock Buffalo out of the playoffs.

So Ben Roethlisberger, who became the first quarterback ever to be voted NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year, will have rested his bruised ribs, and Plaxico Burress and other banged-up Steelers will be healthier.

Rested teams sometimes get rusty, though.

Probably not the Steelers — coach Bill Cowher won't allow it: He had the backups playing hard in Buffalo, and the starters surely will come out strong against the Jets.

Philadelphia, which started 13-1 before tanking its last two games, should be the prohibitive favorite in the NFC. But they will be without Terrell Owens and may have lost momentum resting most of their key players in those last two losses.

The Vikings have the offensive weapons to cause problems for the Eagles, although Randy Moss, who had two touchdown catches, was limping throughout the 31-17 win in Green Bay. But while their defense played well in Green Bay, it's inconsistent at best. Even without Owens, Philadelphia should move the ball.

St. Louis will have what it likes in Atlanta — an indoor stadium and a fast track. But the track also benefits Michael Vick, who ran for 109 yards and was 14-for-19 for 179 yards in the first meeting.

Moreover, the Rams are a bad road team — 3-6 now, with two wins in Seattle and the third over San Francisco, the NFL's worst team this season.

Maybe in the next round the home teams will actually have an advantage.

SPORTS

Beltran, Mets reach preliminary $119 million deal, Page 29

Vikings pick off Packers

AP

Minnesota Vikings receiver Randy Moss (84) tries to break away from Green Bay Packers cornerback Al Harris (31) after catching a pass in the first quarter of their NFC wild-card game Sunday in Green Bay, Wis. Moss caught two TD passes in the Vikings' 31-17 victory.

Moss, Minnesota stun Green Bay in NFC wild-card game

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Randy Moss and the Minnesota Vikings finally figured out how to finish.

They did it against their bitter border rival in an outdoor playoff game, no less, following an uproarious week that revolved around their moody star receiver's latest misdeed.

Moss caught two touchdown passes, staying on the field for every second, to help the sixth-seeded Vikings speed past the stunned Green Bay Packers on Sunday, 31-17.

"We never bought into the negativity," said Daunte Culpepper, who threw for 284 yards and four touchdowns and watched Minnesota's frequently dismal defense intercept Brett Favre four times.

The Vikings, joining this year's St. Louis Rams as the only 8-8 teams to win a postseason game, will travel to Philadelphia next weekend. The Rams play at Atlanta in the other NFC semifinal.

For the second straight season, Minnesota started strong and faded down the stretch — losing seven of the last 10 games. After missing the playoffs with a last-second loss at Arizona in 2003, the Vikings qualified this time only because the conference was so weak.

"They let us in," linebacker Chris Claiborne said, "and now they've got to kick us out."

Green Bay swept the season series with a pair of 34-31 victories on game-ending field goals from Ryan Longwell, including the NFC North-clinching win at the Metrodome on Dec. 24.

A Minnesota loss at Washington in the regular-season finale — remembered best for Moss' frustrated walk off the field as his teammates prepared to try a desperation onside kick — set up this rematch between teams supposedly headed in different directions.

On top of their second-half slump, the worst record over the final 10 regular-season games by any team in the 72-year history of the NFL playoffs, the Vikings came in with just two victories in their previous 22 outdoor games.

The Packers, meanwhile, won nine of their last 11 and appeared poised to make a serious run in a diluted NFC.

"I sure wish we could've went on and seen what we could've done," said Favre, who completed 22 of 33 passes for 216 yards and threw four interceptions.

Minnesota scored on its first three possessions, jumping to a 17-0 lead. Green Bay, which played without Pro Bowl receiver Javon Walker in the second half because of a bruised left shin, cut the deficit to seven on Favre's 4-yard touchdown toss to Bubba Franks.

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Favre left pondering retirement

BY ARNIE STAPLETON
The Associated Press

GREEN BAY, Wis. — Packers coach Mike Sherman has a lot of work to do overhauling his dismal defense and keeping his offensive line together. He just hopes he doesn't have to look for a new starting quarterback this offseason, too.

Sherman and Brett Favre met for 45 minutes about the quarterback's future after Green Bay's unanticipated early exit from the playoffs Sunday.

Favre

Favre, who threw four interceptions in the Packers' 31-17 loss to the Minnesota Vikings, said he didn't want his poor performance to play a role in his decision whether to retire or return to Green Bay for a 15th NFL season.

"It would be easy to walk off the field after that game and say, 'I've had enough,'" Favre said. "But I'm going to try to be as fair to myself and to this team as possible. I've had a lot of great games. This obviously was not one of them. But I can't base my decision on this game."

Sherman asked Favre not to let this game tilt his decision when he makes up his mind about 2005.

Favre is still on top of his game — he threw for more than 4,000 yards and 30 touchdowns again this season — and he's guided Green Bay to the playoffs 10 times, tops in the NFL during the salary cap era.

But losing hurts Favre more and more as the years go on and time ticks away on his stellar career.

Favre wanted to give Sherman an answer by the draft in April, but Sherman wants one much sooner and will give him a deadline by the time the players scatter to their offseason homes this week.

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Colts' Manning wins second straight NFL MVP Page 31

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