

# STARS AND STRIPES®

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TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2006

50¢

# Bush orders relief supplies to Lebanon

Military: Most Americans who want to leave have been evacuated Pages 6, 12



STEVE MIRAZ/Stars and Stripes

A 2nd Cavalry Regiment soldier drives a Stryker vehicle off the U.S. Military Sealift Command Ship USNS Mendonca early Monday morning in Bremerhaven, Germany. The ship unloaded the first of 129 Strykers, which now will be transported to the 2nd Cavalry in Vilseck.

## 2 DAY

QUOTE  
OF THE DAY

**"It's like stealing candy from a baby today."**

— First Lt. Christopher Doggett, as Marines pulled all manner of ordnance from desert scrub bushes and patches of reeds along canal beds during a raid in Iraq.

See story on Page 8

LIST  
COMING SOON TO DVD

- August 1**  
"Roving Mars"  
"The Shaggy Dog"  
"Yv for Vendetta"  
**August 8**  
"Brick"  
"CSA: The Confederate States of America"  
"Larry the Cable Guy: Health Inspector"  
"The Lost City"

— MCT

COMING  
SOON

Personality  
Parade  
on Sunday

Kelly Rowland

TODAY  
IN STRIPES

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**American Roundup** .....18-19  
**Classified** .....24-28  
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## Carved stone proves puzzling

CONCORD, N.H. — In 1872, so the story goes, workers digging a hole for a fence post near Lake Winnepesaukee in the central part of this New England state found a lump of clay that seemed out of place.

There was something inside — a dark, odd-looking, egg-shaped stone with a variety of carvings, including a face, teepee, ear of corn and star-like circles.

**ROCK AND A MYSTERY**  
The Associated Press  
And there were many questions: Who made the stone and why? How old was it? How was it carved? To date, no one has been able to say for sure, and the item has come to be known as the "Mystery Stone." Seneca Ladd, a local businessman who hired the workers, was credited with the discovery.

"As Mr. Ladd is quite a naturalist, and has already an extensive private collection of relics and specimens, he was delighted with the new discovery, and exhibited and explained the really remarkable relic with an enthusiasm which only the genuine student can feel," an article in *The American Naturalist* said that November.

Ladd died in 1892, and in 1927, one of his daughters donated the stone to the New Hampshire Historical Society. The stone, surround-

ed by mirrors showing off its symbols, is on display at the Museum of New Hampshire History, where it was last exhibited in 1996.

All the symbols on the 4-inch-long, 2 1/2-inch-thick stone are open to interpretation. On one side, it has what looks like inverted arrows, a moon, some dots and a spiral. Another side shows the ear of corn and a depressed circle with three figures, one of which looks like a deer's leg.

The *American Naturalist* suggested that the stone "commemorates a treaty between two tribes." Others have guessed the stone is Celtic or Inuit. A letter to the historical society in 1931 suggested it was a "thunderstone," which, the writer said, "always present the appearance of having been machined or hand-worked; frequently they come from deep in the earth, embedded in lumps of clay, or even surrounded by solid rock or coral."

Another curious detail is that there are holes bored in both ends of the stone, with different size bits. Each bore is straight, not tapered. Scratches in the lower bore suggest it was placed on a metal shaft and removed several times, according to an analysis done by state officials in 1994.

"I've seen a number of holes bored in stone with technology that you would associate with prehistoric North America," said Richard Boisvert, state archaeologist.



JIM COLE/AP

The "Mystery Stone" is on display at the Museum of New Hampshire History in Concord, N.H. The stone is believed to have been discovered in 1872 by workers digging for a fence post near Lake Winnepesaukee.

The analysis, which included comments from geologist Eugene Boudette, concluded that the stone is a type of quartzite, derived from sandstone, or mylonite, a fine-grained, laminated rock formed by the shifting of rock layers along faults. The rock type was not familiar to New Hampshire, but the state could not be ruled out as the source, Boudette said.

WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?  
Explaining customs from around the world

Q: I heard that a camel spider jumped onto a guy's face while he was sleeping and because it has anesthetic poison in its bite, kept biting him without waking him up. What's up with that?



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY NOGA AMI-RAV  
Stars and Stripes

A: Ah, one of the best urban legends from the desert. Make that desert legends.

Anyway, the beast commonly known as the camel spider is not technically a spider at all — it's a solpugid, which, along with spiders, is a member of the class Arachnida. The camel spider is also known as the wind scorpion, and despite what you've heard, has no glands through which it can secrete any kind of poison, particularly in its pinners. Camel spiders are the subject of a host of legendary claims: they can grow to the size of a dinner plate, can run 25 miles per hour, can jump up to six feet, etc. Those are all false.

But, hey, the thing is pretty scary enough on its own.

According to a National Geographic article from earlier this year, the camel spider/wind scorpion/sun scorpion can grow to have about a five or six inch leg span. Their top speed is maybe ten miles per hour and they feed on scorpions, crickets, other bugs and sometimes small mice or birds. The eight-legged creatures do not have venom.

Legends about the spiders have been circulating since the first Gulf War, when U.S. troops started finding them in the desert. Some species can also be found in the deserts of Mexico and the southwest United States. In Mexico, they're known as "mataveneros," which translates as "deer killers."

Got a question about goings-on in the Midwest? E-mail Stars at: news@mail.strips.es.osd.mil

## SU/DO/KU

© Puzzles by Pappocorn

			2	3	1						
8	7			6			5				
6			9			7			8		
		4	5		7	6			1		
	2							9			
3		7	1		4	8					
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	9			3				6	4		
	5	6	7								

Difficulty: Very Easy

Yesterday's solution

2	9	3	1	4	6	7	5				
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8	1	5	7	2	6	3	9	4			
5	7	9	8	3	2	4	6	1			
4	6	8	9	1	5	7	2	3			
3	2	1	6	7	4	5	8	9			
6	5	2	3	8	9	1	4	7			
1	8	4	2	5	7	9	3	6			
9	3	7	4	6	1	8	5	2			

Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see [www.sudoku.com](http://www.sudoku.com).

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# Strykers begin arriving in Germany from U.S.

## First wave of more than 300 armored vehicles to make way to Vilseck

BY STEVE MRAZ

Stars and Stripes

**BREMERHAVEN, Germany** — Three weeks and 9,500 miles down. Only three days and 400 miles to go.

The first of more than 300 Stryker armored vehicles of the 2nd (Stryker) Cavalry Regiment arrived Monday in northern Germany at 7 a.m., having survived the 21-day ocean trip from Tacoma, Wash.

"It feels great," said Staff Sgt. Michael Ferrara, a squad leader with the 1st Battalion, 2nd (Stryker) Cavalry Regiment. "We're ready to get them over to Vilseck and start training."

Once unloaded from two U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command-controlled ships, the Strykers will be transported by rail to the regiment's new headquarters in Vilseck. The first of the eight-wheeled vehicles are scheduled to arrive in southwest Germany by Thursday.

"The Stryker brigade is a big deal," said Lt. Col. John Hanson, commander of the 838th Transportation Battalion, which is involved in the port mission. "It's been one of the most important developments in the U.S. Army over the past couple of years. These are the first vehicles that have arrived in Germany that will be permanently stationed in Germany."

With its wide-set headlights, angled chin and slanted forehead, the green Stryker could be said to resemble a bullfrog. A heavily ar-



STEVE MRAZ/Stars and Stripes

**Pfc. Ben Zibutis with the 1st Battalion, 2nd (Stryker) Cavalry Regiment, out of Vilseck, Germany, brings a Stryker vehicle to a stop Monday morning at the port in Bremerhaven, Germany. It is one of more than 300 Stryker vehicles that will arrive in Bremerhaven during the next few days. The shipment represents the first large group of Stryker vehicles to arrive in Europe. The vehicles will now be transported by rail to Vilseck.**

mored bullfrog.

The vehicle, brought into Army service in 2002, represents a focal point in the Army's transformation.

Its primary purpose is to safely move infantry around the battlefield. The Stryker has better range and can transport more troops than a Bradley fighting ve-

hicle. The 19-ton Stryker, designed to maneuver easily in close and urban terrain, can be deployed via a C-130.

"The Stryker — for the fight-

ing we're doing in Iraq — it's the best vehicle we have," Ferrara said. "It saved me lots of times over in Iraq. I can't say enough about it."

Also, the Stryker can withstand more punishment than a Humvee, Ferrara said.

"The Stryker's a lot better than a Humvee," he said. "I've been through five (improvised explosive devices) with a Stryker, and we've had no problem. With a Humvee, it's pretty chaotic."

This summer has been marked by change for the roughly 3,500 soldiers of the 2nd (Stryker) Cavalry Regiment. The first of the soldiers and their families moved from Fort Lewis, Wash., to Vilseck, earlier this summer. Now that their primary vehicles have arrived, the soldiers can get around to training in their Strykers.

Soldiers with the 21st Theater Support Command out of Kaiserslautern are taking part in the Bremerhaven mission by getting the Strykers prepared for rail movement. Maj. Marc Hamilton, executive officer of the 200th Materiel Management Center, said it's great to be a part of the historic mission.

"We're supporting Army transformation," he said. "It's great to have the Strykers here in Europe. It's great to be a part of history to have these guys rolling onto the port — the first Strykers here — and see them go on to Vilseck."

E-mail Steve Mraz at: [mrazs@mail.estrimes.osd.mil](mailto:mrazs@mail.estrimes.osd.mil)

## DODDS hires new district superintendent

Department of Defense Dependents' Schools-Europe officials have announced the hiring of a new superintendent at the Isle District Office.

Ronald G. McIntire, who currently holds the same position at the DODDS-Europe Bavaria district, will take over the new post in August.

The Colorado native holds undergraduate and graduate degrees from Western State College of Colorado and a doctorate from the University of California at Los Angeles.

McIntire began his career in education as a classroom teacher

in Las Vegas, and has taught at several universities as well.

His administrative experience includes positions as deputy superintendent of the Houston schools, superintendent of schools in Park City, Utah, and DODDS-Europe Brussels District Superintendent.

The Isles District superintendent oversees 17 Department of Defense Education Activity schools in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Belgium and Bahrain.

## Scheduled power outage in Italy canceled

Base officials have canceled the power outage scheduled for Thursday at the U.S. Navy support site base in Grigignano, Italy.

The outage is now tentatively rescheduled for Sept. 3, from midnight to 5 a.m.

Power will be out for most of the support site base during scheduled preventive maintenance on the power system by the Italian electrical provider, officials said.

From staff reports

# 'Berlin Brats' to have school

## Alumni schedule to attend range from Class of '48 to Class of '92

BY KEVIN DOUGHERTY

Stars and Stripes

Approximately 230 alumni and former teachers of Berlin American High School are expected to attend a reunion later this week in the German capital.

Few if any of them have returned to Berlin since German unification, so the novelty of moving about the city unnumbered is one highlight many of the so-called "Berlin Brats" don't want to miss.

Alumni have "begged me to take them back to Berlin," said Jeri Glass, director of the Berlin American High School's Alumni Association. "They haven't seen the reunited city."

They also haven't seen some of their old schoolmates for a spell, though this is one of the more active alumni groups for Defense

*"[Alumni] begged me to take them back to Berlin. They haven't seen the reunited city."*

**Jeri Glass**

Director, Berlin American High School Alumni Association

Department schools.

Glass said her association holds reunions every few years.

Next week's reunion runs from

Thursday to Sunday morning.

In all, including family and friends, the alumni party will consist of about 380 people.

For many, the highlight of the reunion will occur on Friday, which organizers have deemed "School Spirit Day."

School colors — maroon and white — will be the order of the day as alumni tour the old elementary school and the two sites where the high school existed from 1946 to 1994.

Glass said the oldest alumni attending is from the Class of '48, while the youngest is a graduate from the Class of '92.

Anyone wishing to learn more about the association or the reunion can visit the group's Web site at [www.BerlinBrats.org](http://www.BerlinBrats.org).

E-mail Kevin Dougherty at: [doughertyk@mail.estrimes.osd.mil](mailto:doughertyk@mail.estrimes.osd.mil)

## Clarification

A July 23 story about American troop interactions with Afghan National Army units contained a unit designation that was incomplete. The American unit in the story is the 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 10th Mountain Division.

## Bilingual AF officers eligible for job swap

BY LISA BURGESS  
Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — Air Force officers and some noncommissioned officers who are fluent in a language other than English might be eligible for an exchange program that lets them swap jobs with a member of an allied nation's air force.

The purpose of the U.S. Air Force Military Personnel Exchange Program, or MPEP, is for the Air Force to strengthen ties with the air forces of allies and make it easier to operate together in times of crisis, according to the Air Force message outlining the program.

There are 166 exchange positions available in the program, of which 163 are reserved for officers; three are reserved for NCOs. Active, reserve and Air National Guard airmen are all eligible to participate.

In an exchange, two airmen of equivalent rank and specialty would take each other's job for two years, plus travel and training time. Families are authorized to move to the host country along with their Air Force sponsor.

Details about the Military Personnel Exchange Program are also available at Air Force Instruction 16-107 at: [www.e-publishing.af.mil/publications/af/16/af16-107/af16-107.pdf](http://www.e-publishing.af.mil/publications/af/16/af16-107/af16-107.pdf) or [publications@af.mil](mailto:publications@af.mil)

## U.S. carrier to test crew, guests for TB

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — All 4,800 crewmembers of the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan and 1,200 family and friends will be screened for tuberculosis in an initial round of tests showed a small number of people were infected, Navy officials said.

Tests were conducted after a sailor was hospitalized two weeks ago with active tuberculosis. He had been aboard the ship when it returned to San Diego after a six-month deployment. Families and friends were on the ship from Hawaii to San Diego.

The Navy tested 776 people who might have met the infected sailor and 34 tested positive, said Capt. Frank Chapman, who added that none of the 34 showed symptoms of active tuberculosis and none were contagious. Less than 1 percent of those who test positive develop the active disease, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The infected sailor has been released from the San Diego Naval Medical Center but will remain in quarantine at home until he is no longer considered infectious, military officials said.



Sgt. Carlos Bracero of the Landsstuhl, Germany-based 236th Medical Company lives up to the motto "Mission First" as he werts his gaze from the Bulgarian dancer during a party Sunday at Bezmer air base.



PHOTOS BY CHARLIE COON/Stars and Stripes

Bulgarian dancers kick up their heels during a performance Sunday afternoon at Bezmer air base, Bulgaria. The group was performing at a party to celebrate the conclusion of the exercise Immediate Response 2006 between U.S., Bulgarian and Romanian troops.

# Troops make merry in Bulgaria

BY CHARLIE COON

Stars and Stripes

BEZMER AIR BASE, Bulgaria — Sometimes people who work hard, play hard.

After nearly two weeks of travel, training and exercises in 90-degree heat, the soldiers from Immediate Response 2006 cut loose on Sunday. Since one of the goals of the exercise was to make friends, a party with the U.S., Bulgarian and Romanian soldiers seemed to fit.

The cooks at the Novo Selo Training Area and the nearby Bezmer air base prepared a barbecue of steaks, burgers and ribs. Bulgarian musicians and dancers entertained. DJs played music.

At Novo Selo, where the party started later and ended later, troops from all three nations partied into the night. Bulgarian civilians — interpreters, cleaning women, cooks — who were hired to work during the exercise joined the festivities.

Staff Sgt. Stephen Garansi might have been the most loved guy. He was handing out the beer tickets, and the line was long.

Soldiers hadn't had a chance to drink alcohol since arriving in early June. After working and training every day for nearly two weeks, many were ready for a

## REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

Charlie Coon

cold one. Or three. Troops and workers were given tickets that were good for three half-liter Zagerka. Alcohol by volume: 5.0 percent.

Garansi said 1,560 cans of beer were purchased at a cost of 14,000 Bulgarian leva, or \$900.

Not everyone was drinking, though.

"I'm a nondrinker," Garansi said. "Don't like the taste (of beer). Never did."

## Helos train, too

While most troops for the exercise were based at Novo Selo, 143 others were working out of the air base at Bezmer.

The 15 helicopters that flew out of Bezmer logged more than 400 hours during the exercise, according to Sgt. 1st Class Terri Clavon of the Landsstuhl, Germany-based 236th Medical Company.

Among the missions: medical evacuation training with Bulgari-

an pilots and crews, quick-reaction support for ground troops and an air-assault mission into Romania.

"It's good preparation for when I do go downrange," said Spc. Saluki Sultan of the Katterbach, Germany-based 601st Air Support Battalion. "I talked to people who said it's similar to Iraq in terrain and heat."

In addition to the 236th and the 601st, the Bezmer-based units included the Katterbach-based 3rd Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment, the Mannheim, Germany-based 44th Signal Battalion, and 7th Army Reserve Command.

## 'Dust-off' medals?

Capt. Jerry E. Murphy is a "dust-off" pilot.

That's slang for someone who flies a helicopter into a potentially dangerous landing zone, then takes off after the dead and wounded are loaded on board. Medevac is the commonly



Murphy

used term.

It's a risky job, not just for the pilots but for the medics who get off of the chopper with nothing but a 9 mm pistol on their hip to retrieve their brothers and sisters in arms. Sometimes they must dodge bullets or run between burning vehicles to do it.

Murphy, of the Landsstuhl, Germany-based 236th Medical Company, was with the 45th Medical (Unit) during a one-year deployment to Iraq.

"We evacuated 3,800 (troops) the year we were there," said Murphy, who this month trained with Bulgarian pilots as part of Immediate Response 2006.

It's a shame, Murphy said, that there's not a medal to validate the feats of dust-offs and their mates. No Combat Infantry Badge, no Combat Action Badge.

There's a bill before Congress to establish a Combat Medical Aviation Badge, and he hoped people in high and low places help persuade their elected officials to push it through.

If passed, Murphy said, the badge would be awarded retroactively to pilots and medics from the Vietnam War.

For more information: [www.dustoff.org](http://www.dustoff.org)

E-mail Charlie Coon at: [coon@mail.estripes.osd.mil](mailto:coon@mail.estripes.osd.mil)

# Some can now share GI Bill with spouse

Stars and Stripes

ARLINGTON, Va. — The Army has instituted a pilot program that would allow re-enlisting soldiers to share GI Bill benefits with their spouse, an Army news release says.

"A soldier must choose between a full Selective Reenlistment Bonus or a slightly reduced SRRB with the ability to transfer over \$18,000 in benefits," said Army spokesman Sheldon Smith.

Soldiers in 120 Military Occupational Specialties deemed critical are eligible for the pilot program, Smith said in a Monday e-mail to Stars and Stripes.

"Enlisted Soldiers who have completed at least six years of service, re-enlist for a minimum of four years, qualify for a Selective Reenlistment Bonus (SRB), and are entitled to a Zone B or Zone C bonus will have the option to transfer up to 18 of 36 months of their MGIB (Montgomery GI Bill) entitlement," the Army news release says.

Based on the results of the pilot program, the Army will decide whether to make the program permanent, the news release says.

In 2002, Congress gave all branches of the service the power to allow military spouses to receive GI Bill education benefits, but only the Air Force has attempted to implement such a program. Air Force officials canceled the program after a one-year pilot program in which 1,200 airmen were eligible but only 60 families participated.



# U.S. troops free Afghan mullah to strengthen ties

BY LEO SHANE III  
Stars and Stripes

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE LAGMAN, Afghanistan** — In an effort to strengthen the relationship between area clerics and the new Afghan government, U.S. officials on Sunday released a Shajoy mullah implicated in the death of an Indian engineer in April.

Rias Mullah Abdul Ali Akundzada, who had been in the U.S. detention facility in Bagram since May, was handed over in Qalat to elders and religious leaders from the area, who pledged to keep him away from the Taliban and to work for peace in the region.

U.S. commanders admitted the decision is a risky one, since the only guarantee they have that Akundzada won't return to his illegal activities is the word of the holy men.

"But you never got to try it," said

Maj. Rafael Paredes, executive officer for Task Force Warrior, which oversees security operations in Zabul province. "If this were a kinetic war, and all we were doing was fighting, then maybe it would be different. But sometimes it's a different mission for us."

The decision to turn over Akundzada came after weeks of negotiations between Zabul provincial Gov. Delbarjan Arman, Shajoy leaders and officials from Combined Joint Task Force 76 in Bagram.

Akundzada had been identified by Afghan National Army intelligence as a Taliban sympathizer who provided lodging and information for transient militants.

They also said he helped provide contacts to the Taliban fighters who captured and beheaded an Indian telecommunications engineer working in the region. The attack was part of a cam-



LEO SHANE III/Stars and Stripes

**U.S. soldiers escort Rias Mullah Abdul Ali Akundzada out of a helicopter and onto the provincial reconstruction team headquarters in Qalat, Afghanistan. Akundzada was detained by U.S. forces for aiding the Taliban, but released Sunday at the request of other religious leaders from his district.**

paign of violence to intimidate all Indian workers into leaving the country.

But the elderly mullah also is a respected scholar in his region, and his arrest upset many villagers in the area, locals said.

On Sunday, Akundzada was contrite, saying he was "regretful of his past" and promised to "fully support the new government to the last drop of his blood."

The other mullahs who vouched for him made similar pledges, saying they would work for peace with the governor and

shun Taliban and foreign fighters' attempts to overthrow the new government.

Arman called the release proof that the new government is listening to its citizens, remains sensitive to the religious importance of the area, and continues to look for peaceful ways to build relationships and rebuild the country.

From the U.S. standpoint, the release also was a chance to show that detainees are treated well. Lt. Col. Frank Sturek, commander of Task Force Warrior, pointed out to the religious leaders that Akundzada was in good

health and good spirits upon his release.

"This is a great day for us, knowing that your efforts will help bring more peace and stability to Shajoy," he told them. "My preference is to never have to shoot another weapon."

After the handover the religious leaders presented a list of other prisoners they hope to have released. U.S. officials said they would review the list, but would not commit to any further releases until they can determine what threat they could pose if set free.

E-mail Leo Shane at: [shane@stripes.osd.mil](mailto:shane@stripes.osd.mil)

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# General: Lebanon evacuation nearly done

U.S. military helped pull out more than 8,000 Americans

BY BEN MURRAY  
Stars and Stripes

LARNACA, Cyprus — The commander in charge of the effort to get Americans out of Lebanon said Monday that almost everyone who wants to leave the country has already been pulled out, and the military will soon begin a significant withdrawal.

"It appears almost all of the Americans who wish to depart Lebanon have departed," said Marine Brig. Gen. Carl Jensen, commander of Task Force 59.

By Monday, more than 12,000 Americans had been pulled out of Lebanon in a week, more than two-thirds of them by military assets, Jensen told Stars and Stripes.

Most were taken out via the island nation of Cyprus, though about 1,600 were taken through ports in Turkey, he said.

The effort reached a crescendo at the end of last week, when up to 4,000 were being evacuated daily, but on Monday "There were only a few hundreds of Americans that chose to leave," Jensen said. With the flow of people leaving the embattled country ebbing, the military soon will be pulling out, he said. The situation was still too fluid to give specifics on which units will be going where, but Jensen said substantial drawdown of operations was imminent. "I would anticipate some immediate drawdown in the days to come."

Some assets would remain in the area to "keep our powder dry," he said.

U.S. military units involved in the evacuation include the USS Iwo Jima Strike Group and the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, with 2,200 Marines and sailors; three U.S. Navy ships currently assigned to Naval Forces Europe, including two guided-missile destroyers; Air Force C-130s and C-17s; the Air Force's 352nd Special Operations Group from England; and medical personnel from Ramstein Air Base and Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, both in Germany.

"The immediate fate of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit and the Iwo Jima Strike Group has not been determined yet," he said.

By the start of the week, the burden of Americans and other evacuees on Cyprus had been reduced, Jensen said, meaning that the need for flights of C-17 Globemaster IIIs would be reduced "dramatically," by midweek.

The flights have been used since Saturday to take Americans from Cyprus to Ramstein and points onward. "Every day, more Americans are leaving than are coming in," he said.

In the meantime, the U.S. State Department will continue efforts to pull more Americans out of southern Lebanon. Five hundred Americans had been evacuated from the area since the start of fighting in the area early last week, Jensen said.

E-mail Ben Murray at: [murrayb@mail.esrj.mil](mailto:murrayb@mail.esrj.mil)



PHOTOS BY SCOTT SCHONAUER/Stars and Stripes

Above: Americans from Lebanon leave a chartered ship in the port of Limassol in Cyprus on Saturday. Right: A girl sleeps in the arms of her father after arriving in Limassol.



## Grateful to escape, evacuees still find ride 'horrible'

BY SCOTT SCHONAUER  
Stars and Stripes

LIMASSOL, Cyprus — Americans being evacuated from war-torn Lebanon had heard a rumor floating along the pier that they would be taken away from the country in a cruise ship.

But what many evacuees had thought would be a luxury liner turned out to be closer to a ship of horrors. The toilets didn't flush. There was no toilet paper. The faucets spit brown water.

And there wasn't enough food or water for the nearly 1,000 people who rode the ship from Lebanon to Cyprus on Saturday.

"It was the worst," said Layal Aude, 21, of New York City. "It was horrible. We hopped on thinking it was nice, but it wasn't."

That doesn't mean evacuees weren't thankful to be on board.

"I regret that I'm leaving my home," said Priscilla Bechara, 16, who was traveling with her two brothers. "This is something new to me. But I had no choice."

The list of Americans wanting to flee the fighting in Lebanon continues to grow and is longer than State Department officials initially expected. An estimated 40,000 Americans live in the country and more than 17,000 people have requested the U.S. government to help them out.

The U.S. government has used a mixture of civilian and military planes, helicopters and ships to transport the thousands of people anxious to leave. Some Americans have complained the operation has been slow and disorganized, but many said they were just grateful to escape.

Some evacuees cried that the conditions were so miserable on the ship they said they wished they had found their own way out of Beirut. But Aude didn't regret getting on the ship and away from the danger and death.

She was visiting her grandmother when Israel launched its anti-terrorism assault 12 days ago in Lebanon in response to the capture of two soldiers by Hezbollah militia fighters.

She and her relatives fled to the mountains to escape the fighting. They returned to find her grand-

mother's apartment was buried in rubble. Shell-shocked families who lost their homes walked around aimlessly with no place to go, she said. "Yeah, I'm not going to lie," Aude said. "I thought I was going to die. I was shaking I was so scared."

She boarded the government-contracted ship along with Priscilla Bechara and her brothers Teddy, 14, and Waer, 13.

"When I saw the ship on the outside, I thought it was amazing," Teddy Bechara said. "Five stars, you know? But it turned out it to be a no-star."

The ship was supposed to travel to Turkey, but a mechanical problem forced the captain to steer the ship to Cyprus. The journey was ex-

pected to take three to four hours. It took more than twice as long.

The military had a supply of Meals, Ready to Eat on hand but not nearly enough to feed everyone. The ship also did not have enough water or beds. Tired children cried under the sweltering conditions, while weary adults grumbled.

As the trip dragged on longer, the situation became more of a challenge for a three-person Air Force medical crew from Kaiserslautern, Germany.

"I'm surprised they (the passengers) didn't riot," Staff Sgt. Alejandro Rojas, a medical technician from Ramstein, said after getting off the ship.

E-mail Scott Schonauer at: [schonauer@mail.esrj.mil](mailto:schonauer@mail.esrj.mil)

More Mideast stories on Page 12

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## Iraq unites to condemn attacks in Lebanon

BAGHDAD — Though embroiled in a bloody war over the future shape and identity of their country, Iraq's Sunni Arabs, Shiites, Kurds and even Christians have unified in condemning Israel in the face of its fight in Lebanon and the Hezbollah militia.

Condemnation of Israel's actions in Lebanon and the U.S. as Israel's backer have emerged as rare bridge issues, cutting across political, ethnic and religious lines.

Demonstrators loyal to radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr marched through Najaf on Sunday evening in support of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah, chanting "Death to America" and "Death to Israel."

## Taliban assaults spread to west Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — Heavily armed Taliban militants in pick-up trucks attacked a district headquarters Monday, killing three police, and four suspected suicide bombers on motorcycles were killed in a nearby city as the violence that has ravaged southern Afghanistan crept into the west.

Two coalition soldiers, meanwhile, were seriously wounded in a suicide car bombing near Kandahar, and two Afghans working for the aid group World Vision were gunned down after delivering medicine to a town in Ghor province.

The violence between resurgent Taliban-led rebels and Afghan and foreign troops came as NATO-led forces prepared to take over command of security operations in the hard-line militia's former southern heartland. This is a move that could lead to a reduction in the more than 21,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

## U.S., Iraq to work on revamping security plan

WASHINGTON — The six-week-old plan to beef up security in the Iraqi capital of Baghdad clearly is not working, and coming up with a new plan will be high on the agenda when President Bush meets with Iraq's prime minister, Bush's spokesman said Monday.

"It has not achieved its objectives," said White House spokesman Tony Snow. Bush praised the security plan during his unannounced visit to Baghdad on June 13, but since then sectarian violence has continued to rise.

Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki was to meet with Bush at the White House on Tuesday.

U.S. officials have signaled that the new plan — likely to be announced during al-Maliki's visit — will involve bringing more U.S. troops into Baghdad. Decisions on U.S. troop levels would be made mostly by Gen. George Casey, top U.S. commander in Iraq.

There are currently 127,000 U.S. troops in Iraq. The number of Iraqi and U.S. troops in Baghdad has recently grown from 40,000 to about 55,000.

From wire services



Courtesy of the U.S. Army

Soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, the 2nd Brigade, 4th Iraqi Army Division and local police search ammunition and weapons seized during Operation Gaugamela near Kirkuk, Iraq.

# Joint op in Iraq starts without one shot fired

Stars and Stripes

A combined operation by Iraqi and American troops near Kirkuk has been conducted without a single shot fired, but with 154 suspected insurgents in custody and more than 35 weapons seized.

U.S. soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, along with Iraqi army and police are continuing Operation Gaugamela, which launched last week; the operation included surrounding and searching the cities of Hawijah and Riyadh. The raids were targeted at suspected al-Qaida in Iraq members, officials said.

The operation was launched "following a request from local Sunni Arab leaders to rid the area outside of Kirkuk of terrorists, and as reports indicated a rise in the number of al-Qaida in Iraq moving into the area," officials said. The 10-day operation included searching some 25 villages and covered more than 900 square miles, officials said.

Some of those raids were carried out by Iraqi troops alone.

"This was the first time the Iraqis in our area have self-sustained during an operation," U.S. Army Capt. Krista Jekielek, the

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Sunday, at least 2,564 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

The figure includes seven military civilians. At least 2,026 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

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

The British military has reported 114 deaths; Italy, 32; Ukraine, 18; Poland, 17; Bulgaria, 13; Spain, 11; Denmark, four; El Salvador, Slovakia, three each; Estonia, Netherlands, Thailand, two each; and Australia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Romania, one death each.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A soldier was killed Saturday in Anbar province.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ No identifications reported.

1st Brigade's logistics representative to the Iraqi security forces, was quoted as saying in a news release. "It was a significant validation, showing they are capable of moving the necessary personnel and supplies required to perform their mission."

The Iraqi raids were a diversion from the main effort, U.S. officials said.

"It was my intent to disrupt insurgent operations and to deny them sanctuary in these communities," Col. David R. Gray, 1st

Brigade commander, said. "To do this, we made it look as though we were focused on the south, and then used the element of surprise to help us clear and control the areas to the north."

With U.S. and Iraqi ground forces surrounding Hawijah, other troops in nine UH-60 Black Hawk and eight CH-47 Chinook helicopters inserted into the city and moved to the market at the city center, where they started a door-to-door search of all 700 buildings in the city.

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# Marines' raid finds weapons, hostages

## Morning attack south of Fallujah part of operation to root out insurgent cells

BY MONTE MORIN  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP BAHARIA, Iraq — The hostages sat shackled in a cinder-block cavity beneath the desert floor.

In the wastelands above them, their captors built car bombs and stockpiled weapons in the parched wadis and thorn bushes south of Fallujah.

For weeks, the three prisoners — abducted Iraqi government workers — were left to sweat their fate in the cramped and fetid spider hole.

On Sunday, however, the hostages' freedom came suddenly and unexpectedly when a platoon of Marines from the 1st Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment swept over the insurgent lair, captured three dozen guards and tore open a trap door to the cell.

"These guys were pretty happy to see us," said Marine Capt. Brendan Fogarty, 30, commander of 1st Platoon, Weapons Company. "They told us they had been down there for a month."

The dramatic dawn rescue was the highlight of a massive, three-day operation aimed at rooting out insurgent cells and weapons stockpiles in the agricultural towns and desert flatlands south of Fallujah. Operation Spotlight, as it's called, involved three Marine companies and several Iraqi army squads who detained roughly half a dozen suspected insurgents and unearthed numerous weapons caches.

On Sunday, four enormous explosions thundered across the desert as engineers and bomb experts detonated a car bomb and scores of mortar rounds, rocket propelled grenades, artillery shells, machine guns, anti-personnel mines and bomb-building materials.

"It's like stealing candy from a baby today," said Lt. Christopher Doggett, 25, as engineers from the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion pulled all manner of ordnance from desert scrub bushes and patches of reeds along canal beds. "We're taking all their weapons away."

The operation follows a period of stepped-up insurgent

activity in the area, according to regimental commanders.

"The 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment used to live here, but they've moved," said Capt. Mark Maracle, assistant operations officer for the 1-25. "Since then, we think the insurgents have been using this area as a staging point for their operations in places like Ramadi, Fallujah and maybe Baghdad. We know they've used it to set up kidnappings and harass the public."

Marines have observed some insurgent activities by remote-controlled aircraft, including a suspected kidnapping. In that incident, the unmanned aircraft recorded insurgents placing a suspected hostage in a car and then followed the car to the hidden spider hole.

"Six guys went into the bunker and five guys came out," Maracle said several hours before the spider hole was raided by Marines. "Either he's a captive down there or he's dead."

Scores of vehicles, including Humvees, seven-ton troop transports and specialized mine clearing trucks, set out for three specific targets in the early morning hours Sunday.

Prior to the operation's kickoff, word had leaked out that Marines were planning to hit the area, and troops braced themselves for encounters with roadside bombs.

"One of our concerns is that operational security has been violated somehow," Maracle said shortly before the vehicles rolled. "Our intelligence reports that the insurgents know we're coming." "What they don't know is how many and when. They've been building berms and have been putting rocks on the road. Historically, the IEDs have been a lot more devastating."

While one portion of the force rolled to sites in a small agricultural town south of Fallujah, another element moved further south to the desert. It was just before dawn, around 5 a.m., when Fogarty's platoon, a scout sniper team and military dog handlers crept on foot to the spider hole.

"We'd never been here before, so we really didn't know what to expect," said Fogarty, a native of South Bos-



Marines prepare to blow up a stack of insurgents' weapons unearthed in the desert south of Fallujah on Sunday.

PHOTOS BY MONTE MORIN  
Stars and Stripes

To see more photos from the raid, visit [www.stripes.com](http://www.stripes.com).

ton. "Right away we start finding mortar rounds and artillery shells."

Aerial surveillance reported that there were three insurgents in the area of the target. Marines found the first one asleep about 100 yards from the hiding place. The other two were fast asleep on top of the bunker.

The Marines and dog handlers were on them in an instant.

"They did not see it coming at all," Fogarty said.

"Wherever you went, you just pulled up a rag and there would be something underneath," Fogarty said. "We even found a 10-foot rocket."

None of the insurgents who were captured Sunday put up a fight, although two mortars were launched at Marines much later in the day as they piled weapons for detonation at the spider hole site. The rounds fell wide of the mark and were answered by booms of counterbattery fire.

The only Marine injuries that occurred during the operation Sunday involved the crewmembers of a Humvee that had flipped into a canal while driving along the treacherous dikes that separate the muddy canals from area farmland. The men were evacuated by helicopter.

Commanders said they were very pleased with the amount of weapons they had discovered, but were even happier that they got to the hostages when they were still alive.

"It's exciting for us," said Maj. Chris Graves, of Headquarters and Support Company. "The hostages are the most important thing. Usually the outcome for someone getting kidnapped like that is not very good."

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Marine Lance Cpl. Dustin Jarnagin, 20, of Knoxville, Tenn., uses a metal detector to search for hidden weapons Sunday in desert scrub south of Fallujah.



# Photos from the Front

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**ABOVE** Maj. Richard Lazik, battalion support operations officer in charge with the 142nd Corps Support Battalion, hands a piece of candy to a child during a humanitarian assistance mission in northern Iraq last month.

Rachel A. Brune/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

**ABOVE LEFT** Petty Officer 3rd Class Wesley Bofman, of Albuquerque, N.M., an aviation boatswain's mate handler, prepares to move an aircraft on the deck of the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise in the Persian Gulf. The Enterprise Carrier Strike Group is deployed as part of a routine rotation of U.S. maritime forces in support of the war on terrorism. It is also conducting maritime security operations in the region.

Marcel A. Barbeau/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

**LEFT** Soldiers from 6th Battalion and Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 101st Combat Aviation Brigade vie for the volleyball crown during the Fourth of July celebration at Camp Speicher, Iraq.

Casey Clark/Courtesy of the U.S. Army

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## IN THE STATES

## FEMA slashing cash assistance to victims of natural disasters

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The government emergency management agency FEMA is dramatically cutting the immediate cash assistance it gives to victims of hurricanes and other disasters to prevent abuses that cost it more than \$1 billion in last year's hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

The immediate aid given to disaster victims used to be up to \$2,000 per family but will not exceed \$500 per family, David Garratt, a deputy director at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, told The New York Times for a story published Monday.

Also, identities and addresses

will be checked before money is given out or victims are allowed to check into federally financed hotel rooms, he said.

Auditors say FEMA was defrauded of \$1.4 billion when the agency rushed to give emergency aid funds to victims during hurricanes Katrina and Rita, which hit the southeastern United States in August and September.

"There were an awful lot of lessons we learned last year," Garratt said.

The changes are to take effect immediately and are outlined in a letter being sent to governors and state emergency managers as the Atlantic hurricane season reaches its peak.

## New Miss Universe faints after win

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Zuleyka Rivera Mendoza's reign as the new Miss Universe got off to a rocky start when the 18-year-old from Puerto Rico fainted briefly after winning the crown.

Rivera passed out after posing for pictures and taking questions at a news conference after Sunday's show. She was given liquids and quickly recovered, said pageant spokeswoman Esther Swan.

Rivera, who was wearing a dress made entirely of metal chains, had been standing under hot stage lights for some time in the stifling auditorium when she began to topple over. Someone caught her as she fell.

Rivera, 18, won the title over 85 other contestants. Kurara Chiba-



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

**Zuleyka Rivera Mendoza, Miss Puerto Rico, is elated after winning the Miss Universe 2006 pageant Sunday in Los Angeles.**

na of Japan was first runner-up; Laurieanne Gilleron of Switzerland was second runner-up; and Lourdes Arevalo of Paraguay was third runner-up. Miss USA Tara Connor finished fourth.

A stunned Rivera covered her mouth with her hands as she was pronounced the winner. She beamed as last year's titleholder Natalie Glebova placed the crown on her head.



KARL MONDON, CONTRA COSTA (CALIF.) TIMES/AP

**Mike Dupray rides his Segway scooter through town Saturday during a record-breaking heat wave in Walnut Creek, Calif. Triple digit temperatures across California strained thermometers and air conditioners and prompted dozens of scattered electricity outages that left residents sizzling.**

## Calif. sizzles in the dark

High demand for air conditioning strains power grid

BY JORDAN ROBERTSON

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Power companies worked to restore electricity to thousands of customers throughout California early Monday as a scorching heat wave threatened to push the U.S. state into a power emergency with the potential for more blackouts.

Authorities were looking into several deaths possibly related to the high temperatures, which hit the triple digits in some areas on Sunday.

With temperatures again expected to top 100 degrees, power demand was projected to reach an all-time high Monday and prompt some voluntary blackouts, in which some businesses agree to have their power shut off temporarily in exchange for lower rates, according to the Independent System Operator, California's power grid manager.

Those blackouts could become involuntary if customers do not conserve electricity, said ISO spokesman Gregg Fishman.

"It's actually critical that people conserve power," Fishman said.

## More than 200,000 without power in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS — Nearly a quarter-million homes and businesses still had no electricity Monday as the city struggled to recover from last week's devastating thunderstorms.

The blackout kept air conditioners from running as temperatures soared into triple digits. Four deaths in the region had been blamed on the storms or the heat.

As of Monday morning, about 231,000 homes customers were still without power, according to Ameren Corp. That was down from the more than a half-million homes and businesses that lost power when the storms struck last week. Some 4,000 utility workers from as far away as Arizona have been working to restore service.

From The Associated Press

Heavy electricity use as people turned up their air conditioners caused blackouts throughout the state over the weekend.

Early Monday, some 100,000 power customers in Northern California and the Central Valley still had no electricity, along with 44,000 in Southern California. That was down from a high of 180,000 customers affected over the weekend.

In Modesto, a patient at Doctors Medical Center died Saturday of heart failure apparently caused by the heat after being admitted with a 106-degree temperature, hospital officials said. Two others were hospitalized with 108-degree temperatures.

In Arizona, heat is believed to have contributed to the deaths of two transient men in Phoenix over the weekend. One, believed to be in his 50s, died Sunday, and another, a 28-year-old man, died Saturday.

The deaths came during three days of record-breaking temperatures in Phoenix.

In New York, thousands of residents were facing their second week without power because of a blackout that at one point affected 25,000 customers. By Monday morning, electricity had been restored to about 22,000 of those homes, buildings and businesses, utility Consolidated Edison said.

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STARS AND STRIPES

# ACLU sues over ban on pickets at GIs' burials

BY GARANCE BURKE  
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—A Kansas church group that protests at military funerals across the nation filed suit in federal court Friday, claiming a Missouri law banning such picketing infringed on religious freedom and free speech.

The American Civil Liberties Union filed the lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Jefferson City on behalf of the fundamentalist Westboro Baptist Church, which has outraged mourning communities by showing up at soldiers' funerals with anti-homosexual signs.

The church and the Rev. Fred Phelps claim God is allowing soldiers, coal miners and others to be

killed because the United States tolerates homosexuals.

Missouri lawmakers were spurred to action after the church protested in St. Joseph last August, at the funeral of Army Spc. Edward Myers.

The law bans picketing and protests "in front of or about" any location where a funeral is held, from an hour before it begins until an hour after it ends. It makes it a misdemeanor violation, with fines and possible jail time that increase for repeat offenders.

A number of other state laws and a federal law, signed in May by President Bush, bar such protests within a certain distance from a cemetery or funeral.

In the lawsuit, the ACLU claims the wording of Missouri's ban seeks to limit the group's free speech based on the content of their message. They are asking the court to declare the ban unconstitutional and to issue an injunction to keep it from being enforced, which would allow the group to resume picketing.

"I told the nation ... that if the day came that they got in our way, that we would sue them," said Shirley Phelps-Roper, a spokeswoman for the Topeka, Kan.-based church. "The wrath of God is pouring out on this country."

Scott Holste, a spokesman for Missouri Attorney General Jay Nixon, said, "We're not going to acquiesce to anything that they're asking for in this lawsuit."



Wisconsin resident Michael Wilk holds his 12-year-old alligator "God" at Fox River County Park in Silver Lake, Wis. Wilk noticed white markings pop out against a backdrop of black scales to form the letters G-O-D.

DAVID TROTMAN-WILKINS/MCT

## Wisconsin alligator has 'God' on its side

BY COURTNEY FLYNN  
Chicago Tribune

SALEM, Wis. — Michael Wilk was tossing back a few beers with friends when he saw God on the side of his 4-foot-long pet alligator.

Wilk, 25, noticed white markings pop out against a backdrop of black scales to form the letters G-O-D. "When I first saw it, my jaw dropped," he said. "It's just sort of like a phenomenon on it."

Wilk did not notice the gator's unusual markings when it was given to him in December by another Wisconsin man who could no longer care for it.

Wilk and his friend, who houses the gator in another town, wanted to rehabilitate the reptile, which was skinny and small despite being 12 years old.

Then a couple of weeks later, when they were hanging out in Wilk's basement, the letters jumped out at them. "I was thinking when the guy gave him to us that he was trying to hoax us," Wilk said. "But ... it's real."

Alligators have naturally occurring, unique striping patterns that help camouflage them in the wild, said Harry Dutton, an alligator biologist with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. The markings appear to be legitimate and not done with a marker or by scratching the hide, Dutton said after reviewing pictures of Wilk's alligator.

Kent Vliet, an alligator biologist at the University of Florida, agreed. "That looks natural to me," Vliet said after looking at the photos. "I would suspect that's not been altered."

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Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America



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## IN THE WORLD

## Bush sends aid to Lebanon, opposes cease-fire

From staff and wire reports

WASHINGTON — President Bush has ordered helicopters and ships to Lebanon to provide humanitarian aid, but he still opposes an immediate cease-fire that could give relief from a 13-day-old Israeli bombing campaign.

"At the order of the president, humanitarian supplies will start arriving in Lebanon tomorrow by helicopter and by ship," White House spokesman Tony Snow told reporters Monday. "We are working with Israel and Lebanon to open up humanitarian corridors."

Announcing the assistance program, Snow said that there was no reason to believe an immediate cease-fire would stop violence in the Mideast and said instead the world should confront the destabilizing force of Hezbollah and its practice of using the Lebanese people as "human shields." Israel's bombardment has demolished Lebanon's infrastructure and killed hundreds.

Snow said Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice discussed the assistance with officials Monday during a surprise visit to Beirut and would talk further about the U.S. commitment later in the day as she continued on to Israel.

Snow did not give any more details about what the United States would send, other than to describe it as "a significant U.S. commitment."

The relief efforts could involve a combination of commercial and U.S. Navy ships, such as the High Speed Vessel Swift, which has been dispatched to the area along with eight other ships, said Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman.

"The U.S. Navy amphib evacuation support is essentially completed at this point, given the fact that we have now reached pretty close to what we think is — the State Department thinks is — the end of the assisted departures, we'll use a couple of the vessels to continue to have some capacity, but again, our efforts will be now shifting

to humanitarian assistance," Whitman told reporters Monday.

Whitman said he did not think U.S. troops would go ashore to deliver relief supplies in Lebanon.

Directed by the State Department, the U.S. Agency for International Development will be in charge of delivering relief supplies to Lebanon, Whitman said.

The supplies, which will include medical kits and blankets, were expected to begin arriving in Cyprus later on Monday, he said.

Asked if the four amphibous ships now in the region would be part of relief efforts, Whitman said "they could be," but added he thought that "fast vessels" would be used to deliver the relief supplies.

A State Department spokesman declined to comment Monday on how U.S. troops might be involved in relief efforts, calling the question hypothetical.

Plans for getting humanitarian aid to the Lebanese are still being developed, said

Navy Lt. Kevin Stephens, a spokesman for the task force coordinating evacuation efforts in Cyprus.

"The plans are still evolving. Obviously we have a great deal of capacity here in the area. I can't provide you any specific details at this point," Stephens said Monday.

Stephens could not say Monday whether the 2,200 Marines and sailors with the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, now on the USS Two Jima and its strike group, had been put on standby to participate in relief efforts.

A spokesman for the 24th MEU could not be reached for comment by deadline Monday.

In a Saturday e-mail to Stars and Stripes, 24th MEU spokesman Capt. David Nevers said the Marines were focused on evacuating Americans from Lebanon.

"We understand that we may be tasked with other missions in the days ahead. We've prepared for any one of them," he said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Jeff Schogol contributed to this report from the Pentagon.

## Rice visits Beirut as Israel pushes deeper into Lebanon

By KATHY GANNON

The Associated Press

SIDON, Lebanon — Israeli ground forces pushed deeper into Lebanon on Monday in heavy fighting and captured two Hezbollah guerrillas, while two aid convoys carrying food, generators and other badly needed supplies left Beirut for two southern cities.

Four Israeli soldiers were killed — two in fighting and two in a helicopter crash — and 20 were wounded, military officials said.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice made a surprise visit to Beirut to launch diplomatic efforts aimed at ending 13 days of warfare. Prime Minister Fuad Saniora told her his government is hoping to "put an end to the war being inflicted on Lebanon." He told Rice that Israel's bombardment was taking his country "backward 50 years."

An official close to parliament speaker Nabih Berri, a close Hezbollah ally, said his talks with Rice failed to "reach an agreement because Rice insisted on one full package to end the fighting," an official spoke on condition of anonymity, because the talks were private. David Welch, an assistant secretary of state traveling with Rice, said later it was "unfair" to say Rice's meet-

ing with Berri went poorly.

Israel has not bombed Beirut since Sunday afternoon and appeared to have stopped all airstrikes on the city in deference to Rice's visit. Rice later flew to Jerusalem.

Saniora has pleaded with Washington to press Israel to call a total cease-fire in bombardment that has demolished Lebanon's infrastructure and killed hundreds. President Bush has opposed an immediate cease-fire, saying the root cause of the conflict must be resolved.

Hezbollah leader Sheik Hassan Nasrallah said in remarks published Monday the priority is for a cease-fire and he was open to discussing ideas on ending the crisis.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan said he wants a meeting Wednesday in Rome on the Mideast violence to agree on a package including a cease-fire, deployment of an international force and the release of two Israeli soldiers abducted by Hezbollah.

Fierce fighting raged at the border as Israeli troops moved deeper into Lebanon to besiege the biggest town close to the frontier — Bint Jbeil, nicknamed the "capital of the resistance" due to its intense support of Hezbollah during Israel's 1982-2000 occupation of the south. Two Israeli soldiers



BEN CURTIS/AP

Lebanon's Prime Minister Fuad Saniora, left, and U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Jeffrey Feltman, top left, look on as U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice greets Lebanese Foreign Minister Fawzi Salouh, center left, as she arrives on Monday at Government House in downtown Beirut, Lebanon.

were killed and 20 were wounded.

Bint Jbeil holds strong symbolism for Hezbollah. Signs in the city tout its nickname, earned for its vehement backing of the guerrillas even while Israeli troops held the south. A day after Israel ended its occupation in 2000, Nasrallah went straight to Bint Jbeil for his first celebration rally.

Following an intense artillery barrage, Israeli troops took control of a hilltop in Bint Jbeil, but the rest of the town was held by

Hezbollah guerrillas, military officials said.

An Israeli helicopter crashed in northern Israel after hitting an electrical wire while making an emergency landing, killing both pilots.

Hezbollah said it caused Israeli casualties in hits on five tanks on the road to Bint Jbeil and around Maroun al-Ras, a hilltop village. Hezbollah continued its missile attacks on northern Israel, firing more than 80 rockets and slightly wounding 13.

## Jordanian MPs plead innocent at trial start

AMMAN, Jordan — Three Islamist lawmakers who attended the wake of the leader of al-Qaida in Iraq pleaded innocent to instigating sectarian strife when their trial began Monday.

Mohammed Abu Fares, Jaakar al-Hourani and Ali Abu Sakkar provoked widespread indignation in Jordan when in June they paid their condolences at the family home of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the Jordanian terrorist who planned the attacks on Amman hotels last November in which three suicide bombers killed 60 people.

## Thieves steal phone line as volcano rumbles

MANILA, Philippines — Thieves cut phone lines to steal about 30 yards of copper wire around lava-spilling Mount Pinatubo, crippling the communications of volcanologists who warned Monday that an explosive eruption could still occur.

"The copper wire may be worth a few hundred pesos, but it may spell the difference between life and death for residents near Mayon," said Ernesto Correo from the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology.

From The Associated Press

## Pakistan opposes weapons race in South Asia

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Pakistan opposes a nuclear and conventional weapons arms race in South Asia, a Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said Monday.

But Tasnim Aslam also declined to reject a report saying the country was expanding its atomic arms capabilities.

Monday's Washington Post cited independent analysts as saying Pakistan had started work on a new reactor at its Khushab

atomic site. The move, the paper said, could signal a major expansion of the country's nuclear weapons capabilities.

"This ought to be no revelation to anyone because Pakistan is a nuclear weapon state," Aslam said. "[But] I have no specific comments on Pakistan's facilities."

The White House on Monday sought to discourage Pakistan from expanding its nuclear weapons program after the Post reported

the country was building a powerful new reactor that could generate plutonium for 40 to 50 nuclear bombs a year.

"We have been aware of these plans and we discourage any use of this facility for military purposes, such as weapons development," said White House spokesman Tony Snow in reaction to the story. At the same time, he noted that Pakistan has not signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (and, therefore, they do develop their capabilities independently.)

Aslam defended Pakistan, saying it was not the first country to introduce nuclear weapons into South Asia. The comment apparently referred to archival India, whose nuclear program has fought three wars since 1947.

"We were not the first to test nuclear weapons in this region and that remains our position," Aslam said during a press conference. "We do not want an arms race in this region."

Pakistan conducted its only nuclear tests in May 1998 to match

those of India carried out earlier that same month. India detonated its first nuclear explosion in 1974.

The Washington Post cited an analysis by the Institute for Science and International Security.

News of the developments in Pakistan comes as Congress gets ready to take up a nuclear cooperation agreement between the Bush administration and India in which New Delhi would get access to sensitive U.S. nuclear technology for use in developing more stringent safeguards over its civilian nuclear reactors.







## OPINION

## A victory for Wal-Mart — and all shoppers

BY ANDREW P. MORRIS

CLEVELAND

U.S. District Judge J. Frederick Motz put at least a temporary hold on Maryland's attempt to force Wal-Mart into providing health-care benefits for its employees in the state.

Every person who shops at Wal-Mart or one of its competitors — which means just about all of us — should give Motz three cheers for helping to ensure that a business that has revolutionized the entire U.S. retail sector can continue doing so.

The legal issue in the case — brought by the Retail Industry Leaders Association — was straightforward. There is a federal statute that regulates employee benefit and pension plans, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (known by its initials, ERISA). The reason a federal law regulates these plans, rather than each state does so separately, is to protect employers that operate in multiple states.

If each state regulated benefit plans, multistate employers would have to hire an army of lawyers and accountants to keep up with the various state law requirements. That would make everything their companies sold more expensive.

Under Maryland's "Maryland Fair Share Health Care Fund Act," any private employer with more than 10,000 employees in Maryland that spent less than 8 percent of its total wages on health insurance costs had to pay the difference between its premiums and 8 percent of the payroll to the state.

Why 10,000 employees instead of 5,000 or 15,000? Because the 10,000-employee threshold put Wal-Mart — and only Wal-Mart — under the statute's requirements since the three other private Maryland employers with 10,000 or more workers spent more than 8 percent of their payroll on health care, or were specifically exempted from the law.

The arbitrariness of the Maryland statute makes clear exactly why ERISA pre-empts state laws in this area. If local and state governments could simply instruct employers how much to spend on various categories of benefits, multistate employers would all soon find themselves entangled in a web of contradictory spending requirements.

Although Maryland's attorney general has vowed to appeal the decision to the Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit, that court is notoriously sensible on this sort of case. Maryland's chances of prevailing in court are slim, at best.

The problem with legislatures'

attempts to take a "fair share" of employers' revenues won't end here, however. It's easy to see why employers like Wal-Mart present such a tempting target to state legislators looking for a quick fix: They're large and they've got cash. Why not just take their money and spread it around to some local voters? Who could it hurt? It hurts us all. It hurts Wal-Mart shoppers, because legislative revenue grabs drive up Wal-Mart's costs — and thus its prices. It would hurt those who never set foot at a Wal-Mart, because the stores where those people shop would be under less competitive pressure from Wal-Mart to keep costs down.

It would hurt Wal-Mart's shareholders, which includes people with retirement investments in Wal-Mart stock, broad-based index mutual fund investors whose funds own Wal-Mart stock and many people who work at Wal-Mart, which offers employees a chance to buy its stock at a substantial discount.

In short, Maryland's legislature wasn't just trying to tax Wal-Mart — it was trying to tax us all. The men who drew up our Constitution in 1787 likely never imagined stores like Wal-Mart, laws like ERISA, or even products like health insurance. They did, however, imagine that one



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott, left, responds to questions during an radio interview with the Rev. Al Sharpton on Wednesday in New York City. Scott staunchly defended Wal-Mart's labor relations and health-care policies while taking telephone calls that included one from the head of a union-backed group campaigning against the company.

day the 13 disparate states they represented would truly be one national market in which firms would compete across state lines.

Even if they didn't know the exact nature of the benefits, they welcomed that competition. Unfortunately, today too many members of state legislatures act as Maryland's did, focusing only on their own narrow political interests.

Seeing a chance to take Wal-Mart's money to spend on

their constituents, they couldn't resist. When they did so, however, they taxed not only Wal-Mart but us all.

Judge Motz's well-reasoned and careful opinion was a first step toward reining in such behavior, but it will take all our efforts to prevent future legislatures from finding new ways to disguise tax increases as a "fair share."

Andrew P. Morris is Galen J. Roush professor of business law and regulation, Ford Case Western Reserve University School of Law in Cleveland.

## Cosby's blame-the-poor tour gives racism a free pass

BY MICHAEL E. DYSON

EVER since he battered poor blacks two years ago in his infamous remarks on the 50th anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, Bill Cosby has been taking to the road to spread his bitter gospel to all who will listen. In rigged town-hall meetings, Cosby assembles community folk and experts who agree with his take on black poverty: that it's the fault of the poor themselves.

It's often difficult to point out just how harmful that sentiment is, because Mr. Cosby's blame-the-poor tour is so destructive. By convincing poor blacks that their lot in life is purely of their own making, Cosby draws on harsh conservative ideas that overlook the big social factors that cause and reinforce poverty: dramatic shifts in the economy, low wages, chronic underemployment, job and capital flight, downsizing and outsourcing, and crumbling inner-city schools.

When they hear Cosby say that poor black folk should go to work, stay out of jail, raise their children properly and make sure they go to school, they nod their heads in agreement.

But it's one thing to say that personal responsibility is crucial to our survival. It's another to pretend that it's the only thing that matters. The confusion between the two positions is what makes Cosby's blame-the-poor tour so destructive. By convincing poor blacks that their lot in life is purely of their own making, Cosby draws on harsh conservative ideas that overlook the big social factors that cause and reinforce poverty: dramatic shifts in the economy, low wages, chronic underemployment, job and capital flight, downsizing and outsourcing, and crumbling inner-city schools.

None of these can be overcome by the good behavior of poor blacks.

As historian Robin D.G. Kelley argues, "All the self-help in the world will not elimi-

nate poverty or create the number of good jobs needed to employ the African-American community."

Furthermore, Cosby's insistence that race has little to do with the circumstances of the black poor places right-wing pundits who believe his denial is a sign of mature black leadership.

For most of his career, Cosby has avoided the subject of race. When approached by blacks to speak out on the subject, he has refused. "I don't have time to sit around and worry whether all the black people of the world make it because of me," he complained early in his career. "I don't want to be a crusader or a leader." Although he spurned the role of spokesman at the height of the civil rights movement, Cosby doesn't mind attacking the black poor now, while playing to stereotypes that plague their path.

One of those stereotypes is that poor blacks are lazy citizens who victim-monger while bemoaning the "white man." Such a view is undercut by what we know about the black poor: Most of them work, and few are paralyzed by their astute perceptions of persistent racism.

But Cosby is hellbent on denying that race and structural forces play any role in the lives of the poor — apparently because of his unsubstantiated fear that if these forces are acknowledged, the poor will lose their initiative, their desire to move ahead.

To borrow the language of philosophers: Personal responsibility is a necessary but insufficient condition for poor blacks to do better.

We also need social justice to give them real opportunity to exercise that personal responsibility. That's why Martin Luther

King Jr. didn't lead a behave-in to correct black morality, but a sit-in to protest racial injustice. (To be sure, King believed that for blacks to achieve "first-class citizenship," we must "assume the primary responsibility for making it so," even as we continue to "resist all forms of racial injustice.") Even conservative cleric T.D. Jakes argues that personal responsibility is "one-half of the solution" and that the "greater solution" is to combat "the lingering attitudes and bias that continue to fuel injustice."

The plane of black progress lifts on the wings of personal responsibility and social justice. Cosby is trying to fly the plane with one wing. With such a philosophy, it's bound to crash and burn.

Michael E. Dyson, a University of Pennsylvania professor, is the author of "Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost Its Mind?" and the winner of the 2006 NAACP Image Award. This column first appeared in The Washington Post.

## State of the Union

BY CARL MOORE



## AFRTS Television Schedule

Updated sports listings are available on the first Scoreboard page in the sports section or AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>  
All listings are in Central European Time. Please add one hour for the United Kingdom.

TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2006									
(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-EUROPE)	(TUESDAY)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(AFN-ENTERTAINMENT)	(AFN-PACIFIC)		
9:00 Angelina Ballerina	Movie "Identity Theft" (2004)	The View	Pull	Around the Services	Sports	Everybody Loves Raymond	Oprah Winfrey		
9:30 Lilo & Stitch: Melty	Docudrama Kimberly Williams-Faisley, Annabella Sciorra	The Weekly Update	The Weekly Update	Tavis Smiley		Everybody Loves Raymond			
10:00 Atomic Betty		Dr. Phil	The Sports List	Nightly Business Report		Dawson's Creek "Cigarette Burns"	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy!		
10:30 Mucha Lucha A magic apple	(4/6) Movie *** "Eris Brock-er" (2000) Emily Deschamps	ER "Ry Rides"	The Simpsons	Nightline		El News	Headline News		
11:00 What's New Scooby-Do?	Roberts, Albert Finney: A woman probes a power company cover-up over poisoned water.	Access Hollywood	Daily Show-Jon Stewart	Hardball		Blind Date	Around the Services		
11:30 What's New Scooby-Do?		CNN Live Today	The Colbert Report	The O'Reilly Factor		My Wife and Kids	That 70s Show		
12:00 SpongeBob SquarePants	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	WWE Great American Bash (Taped)	Guiding Light	News		Living Single (Part 2 of 2)	CMA Music Festival: Country Music's Biggest Party		
12:30 SpongeBob SquarePants		General Hospital	Judge Judy			Emeri Live			
13:00 Rocket Power	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Passions	Attack of the Show!			The Shopping Bags	Around the Services		
13:30 Blue's Clues "Blue's ABCs"	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Wheel of Fortune Jeopardy!	A Time in Mexico" (2000) Hayek, Johnny Depp			Without a Trace "Doppel-ganger"	That Tonight Show With Jay Leno		
14:00 Pinky Dinky Do	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Oprah Winfrey	The Sports List	CNN Live Today		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation "Spark of Life"	That Late Show With David Letterman		
14:30 LazyTown	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	The Weekly Update	The Simpsons	MSNBC Live		Sainfeld "The Money"	That Late Show With Craig Ferguson		
15:00 The Brady Bunch	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	Daily Show-Jon Stewart	MSNBC Live		The Simpsons	Judge Judy		
15:30 The Brady Bunch	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	The Colbert Report	MSNBC Live		Ghost Whisperer	Star Trek: Voyager "Gravity"		
16:00 Movie "Can of Worms" (1999)	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	WWE Great American Bash	MSNBC Live	Sports				
16:30 Voice of Malcolm McDowell, Michael Shuman	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
17:00 Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
17:30 Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
18:00 The Family OddParents	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
18:30 Kim Possible	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
19:00 Teamo Supremo	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
19:30 Dragonball GT	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
20:00 That's So Raven	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
20:30 The X's	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
21:00 Everwood "Just Like in the Movies"	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
21:30 Girls v. Boys	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
22:00 Depress: Next	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
22:30 Depress: Next	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
23:00 The Heaven "Don't Speak II of the Dead or the Living"	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
23:30 The Heaven "Don't Speak II of the Dead or the Living"	Movie *** "Pleasantville" (1998) Comedy: Toney Magnin	Headline News	That 70s Show	MSNBC Live					
WEDNESDAY, JULY 26, 2006									
00:00 Teamo Supremo	(11:00) Movie *** "K-9" (1989) James Brolin	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
00:30 Dragonball GT	(11:00) Movie *** "K-9" (1989) James Brolin	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
1:00 That's So Raven	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
1:30 The X's	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
2:00 Everwood "Just Like in the Movies"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
2:30 Girls v. Boys	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
3:00 Depress: Next	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
3:30 Depress: Next	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
4:00 The Heaven "Don't Speak II of the Dead or the Living"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
4:30 The Heaven "Don't Speak II of the Dead or the Living"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
5:00 Teleshopping: Tubby custard	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
5:30 Barney & Friends	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
6:00 Sesame Street	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
6:30 The Wonder Pets	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
7:00 Little Bill	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
7:30 Little Bill	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
8:00 Dora the Explorer	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
8:30 Go, Diego, Go!	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
9:00 Angelina Ballerina	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
9:30 Lilo & Stitch: Melty	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
10:00 Atomic Betty	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
10:30 Mucha Lucha	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
11:00 What's New Scooby-Do?	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
11:30 What's New Scooby-Do?	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
12:00 SpongeBob SquarePants	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
12:30 SpongeBob SquarePants	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
13:00 Rocket Power	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
13:30 Blue's Clues "Blue's ABCs"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
14:00 Play With Me Sesame	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
14:30 Layton Tootle Pootle	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
15:00 The Brady Bunch	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
15:30 The Brady Bunch	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
16:00 Movie *** "Franky Friday" (2003) Comedy: Jimmie Lee Curtis, Lindsay Lohan	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
17:00 Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
17:30 Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
18:00 The Family OddParents	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
18:30 Kim Possible "Go Team Go"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
19:00 Teamo Supremo	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
19:30 Dragonball GT	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
20:00 That's So Raven	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
20:30 Suite Life of Zack & Cody	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
21:00 Gilmore Girls "A House Is Not a Home"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
21:30 Best Friend's Day	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
22:00 Depress: Next	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
22:30 Depress: Next	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
23:00 The Heaven "The Anniversary"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		
23:30 The Heaven "The Anniversary"	(12:50) Movie *** "Patriot Games" (1992) Harrison Ford	Late Show-Letterman	Saturday Night Live	Around the Services	Sports	Late Night With Conan O'Brien	Good Morning America		

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## FACES

# 'Prada' star Hathaway far from haute

## Actress has Hollywood hot on her heels

BY HANH NGUYEN  
Zap2it.com

Despite playing royalty in her popular "Princess Diaries" films, "The Devil Wears Prada" star Anne Hathaway isn't part of Hollywood's elite that enjoys reigning over the red carpet.

"Gosh no, I don't feel part of the club," says Hathaway, wearing a yellow strapless Prada gown at the opening night premiere of her film at the Los Angeles Film Festival. "I feel like the biggest poseur in the world. I'm an impostor."

In the big screen-adaptation of Lauren Weisberger's best-selling novel, Hathaway's style-challenged character, Andy, enters the alien, ever-changing world of fashion when she becomes the assistant to Runway magazine's editor, Miranda Priestly (Meryl Streep). It's a universe where the latest is the only thing that matters and clothes are for revealing taste, not covering up.

For celebrities, the red carpet has become a runway of sorts, where the Paris Hiltons and Lindsay Lohan's strut their stuff. "If you are genuinely someone who cares about dressing like that, it's absolutely worth it," says Hathaway. "I'm not and I've always known that and I don't try to be."

A first soprano, accomplished dancer and the only teen ever accepted into the award-winning Barrow Group's acting program, Hathaway's passion lays in performance, not clothes. Like Andy, who aspires to become a serious journalist, she had to learn to appreciate the more serious, deliberate aspects of fashion and its far-reaching influence.

On her first day working at Runway, Andy receives a lecture on how her carelessly donned blue sweater is actually the result of a cerulean-hued line that was all the rage several seasons past. The trendy

color eventually trickled down to Andy's everyday mall-purchased wardrobe.

"I have a lot more respect for it as a business," the actress admits. "I understand fashion a lot more. Style, for me, is something I still can't get right."

Andy's dressing-down is one of Miranda's kinder moments. When she's not demanding Starbucks, Calvin Klein skirts or a top-name designer on the phone now, Miranda can be a little unreasonable. Andy's biggest challenges are finding a flight for Miranda out of Miami — during a hurricane — and a copy of "Harry Potter" — the coming, as-yet unpublished manuscript.

Hathaway, who refuses to name names, has had her own share of work-related horror stories.

"Actually, yes, I have," she says, "but I realize that if I have stories about them, they probably have stories about me. So I'm going to take the Fifth."

Despite the film's title, Hathaway found that working with Streep, even in character, wasn't a hellish experience at all.

"It was heaven. She, as a person, is kind of who I want to be," she enthuses. "And as an actress, she's beyond my wildest dreams."

"We talked an awful lot, but ... you don't like sit down and say, 'Well let me ask for your advice,'" Hathaway continues. "So just by observing her, just seeing the way she is — she's incredibly well-read and she's really intellectually curious and it just kind of rooted my desire to be like that."

**Anne Hathaway says her role in "The Devil Wears Prada" helped her appreciate the fashion business. "I have a lot more respect for it as a business," the actress admits. "I understand fashion a lot more."**

PAUL HAWTHORNE/AP



## Will Smith goes to Philly to combat violence

Will Smith returned to his hometown to participate in a march against violence Saturday.

The actor and rapper said he wanted to do something about the violence in the city, which had 380 killings in 2005 and appears likely to top that number this year.

"We're going to take this walk, hopefully draw a little attention to the problem and get some solutions," Smith said as he walked with his wife, Jada Pinkett Smith, in West Philadelphia, along with local officials and

members of the community.

The level of violence last week prompted the Philadelphia Daily News to call for the National Guard to patrol city streets.

Democratic Gov. Ed Rendell gave Philadelphia a \$7.5 million grant for 166,000 hours of police overtime to help deal with gun violence until state police free up 70 city officers by taking over highway patrols.

## Former 'McBeal' star ends hiatus with drama

Calista Flockhart says it's time to get back to work.

The former "Ally McBeal" star has spent the last five years at home with boyfriend Harrison Ford and her 5-year-old adopted son.

She returns to TV this fall as a right-wing radio host turned pun-



Flockhart

dit in the new drama "Brothers & Sisters." The show, which co-stars Sally Field and Rachel Griffiths, debuts Sept. 24 on ABC.

"I really want to go back to work. It just seemed like the perfect time and the perfect project," Flockhart told the Television Critics Association's summer meeting this week. She said she was especially happy to find a show with an ensemble cast of top actors.

"I wasn't going to be responsible for carrying the show and I would have a better schedule," she said.

Field also has kept a lower profile in recent years.

"It's a very interesting time in television," she said.

"Television obviously is having to compete with a lot of other things and it's having to change and grow and try new things."

## Stamos opts for 'ER,' hoping to revive career

John Stamos will become a regular on "ER" this fall, when Sally Field, Andre Braugher and John Mahoney will make guest appearances during the NBC medical drama's 13th season.

Stamos resumes his previous guest role from last season as Tony Gates, a savvy paramedic and medical student, network officials announced at the Television Critics Association's summer meeting last week.

Paula Malcomson ("Deadwood") will appear in a multi-epi-

sode arc as the widow of Gates' dead best friend and war buddy who is a single mother.



Stamos

of Dr. Abby Lockhart (Maura Tierney) in the season's second episode.

"ER" will premiere Sept. 21 with 12 continuous new episodes until its cliffhanger in December. The show will then resume after "The Black Donnellys" completes its first season.

From The Associated Press

## Man charged with shooting teen son

**NY** PERU — A man was charged with shooting his teenage son in the head.

Bruce Bonville, 60, was charged with shooting his son, Cory Bonville, 16, in the head following a domestic dispute.

Bonville had called 911 and told dispatchers he had just shot his son, state police said.

Cory, who remains in critical condition, was treated at Champlain Valley Physician's Hospital in Plattsburgh and later transferred to Fletcher Allen Health Center in Burlington, Vt., where he underwent surgery.

A Beretta semiautomatic pistol was recovered from the scene.

Cory Bonville's mother, Anita Bonville, and his sister, Kailey Bonville, were present at the time of the shooting, police said.

Police have not said what circumstances led up to the shooting.

## Pollock fishermen catch slew of useless squid

**AK** ANCHORAGE — They're pink, slippery and decidedly not cute, especially if you are a pollock fisherman in the Bering Sea pulling up a slew of unusable squid this summer.

The problem took on alarming proportions in early July when fishermen netted more than 500 tons of squid bycatch in one week, Josh Keaton, a resource management specialist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, said.

The amount of squid was about four times what might be expected.

While high rates of squid bycatch had occurred before, this time it set off alarm bells because the squid were caught near the start of the mid-June through September pollock season.

## Candidate wants 'None of the Above' on ballot

**TN** NASHVILLE — A software developer running for governor and the U.S. Senate felt so strongly that voters should have "None of the Above" as a choice that he made it his middle name.

The State Election Commission voted 5-0 to mix the middle name from the ballot.

Now, David "None of the Above" Gatchell is challenging the commission in court to get the words on the Nov. 7 ballot. "I feel so strongly about this and I knew that it should be my name," he said. "That's who I am."

Gatchell, 58, ran as an independent in the 2002 governor's race on the platform that Tennessee election ballots should include a "None of the Above" choice for voters who don't care for any of the candidates.

## 2 die on wilderness hikes in southern heat

**UT** MOAB — Two people have died during separate hiking



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

trips in the rugged southern Utah desert country, once a teenager who got separated from her group in 110-degree heat, officials said.

A 28-year-old man from New Jersey died near Boulder while taking part in a 28-day survival course offered by the Boulder Outdoor Survival School, Garfield County spokeswoman Becki Bronson said.

"All day, they were hiking in the heat with very little food or water," Bronson said. "He was complaining about lack of water and cramping and still given very little water and it was still hot."

Students are intentionally given little food or water to simulate hardship conditions.

Elisa D. Santry, 16, of South Boston, Mass., died on the 16th day of a three-week Outward Bound Wilderness course near Canyonlands National Park. The temperature was about 110, said San Juan County Sheriff Mike Lacy.

## Weather brings swarm of snout butterflies

**TX** SAN ANTONIO — American snout butterflies are swarming parts of Central and South Texas as a result of erratic weather that created good conditions for the insects, experts said.



## Summer splashdown

Colby Patrick, 13, touches down after exiting the slide at the Dr. O.R. Nevitt Memorial Pool in Raymond, Wash.

"I'd probably say in the millions across the multicounty area is a fairly safe ballpark," said Mike Quinn, a biologist with the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department.

The abundance is probably due to the weather, he said. The prolonged drought destroyed the flies and wasps that kill the butterfly in the caterpillar stage. Then, heavy rains that fell in early July nurtured new growth on spiny hackberry trees, resulting in food for the caterpillars and nesting environment for the butterflies.

"This last weekend it was just amazing," said Robin Nowak, of San Antonio. "I saw hundreds and hundreds of them while I was out gardening, and they were as high in the sky as we could see."

## Mother indicted in fire deaths of 2 children

**OH** DAYTON — A grand jury indicted a woman on charges that she killed her 4-year-old and 4-month-old daughter by setting the family's house on fire. Her husband was also indicted on charges he sexually assaulted the boy.

Heather Silverman, 24, is charged with two counts of murder and three counts of aggravated arson. Her husband, Darryl Silverman, 25, is charged with two counts of rape of a child under the age of 10 and one count of gross sexual imposition.

"The story here is about two innocent children losing their lives at the hands of their parent and one of the children being molested during his life by his twisted father," prosecutor Mathias Heck Jr. said.

If convicted of the most serious charges each could face life in prison.

## Valedictorian sues school over religious freedom

**NV** LAS VEGAS — A high school valedictorian who had the plug pulled on her microphone as she gave an address referring to Jesus Christ has filed a lawsuit against school officials, claiming her rights to religious freedom and free speech were trampled.

Brittany McComb, 18, said she was giving her June 15 commencement address to some 400 graduates of Foothill High School and their family members when the sound was cut.

"God's love is so great that he gave his only son up," she said, before the microphone went dead. She continued without amplification, "...to an excruciating death on a cross so his blood would cover all our shortcomings and provide for us a way to heaven in accepting this grace."

McComb said she was warned that her speech would be cut off if she did not follow an approved script that deleted references to Christ and invitations for others to join the faith. But she memorized the deleted parts and said they anyway.



**Cascading summer**  
in Portland, Ore.

Kayla Grisby, 6, reacts to the waters of Salmon Street Springs' fountain



**Lightening up**

Lightning strikes as a storm moves through Reno, Nev.



**Water lasso**

Kayla Torrey, 11, of Medford, Ore., left, and Shanie Oswald, 10, of Shady Cove, Ore., cool off with water hoses they were using to clean the equestrian preparation area of the Jackson County Fair in Medford, Ore.



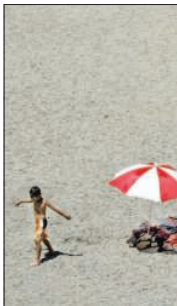
Angels with dirty faces

Tate Waldbright just had to taste the sand at D River Beach while visiting the Oregon coast with his parents in Newport, Ore.



Out of the blue

The Thunderbirds practice at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., in preparation for the Thunder Over the Red River air show.



Hot feet

Michael Wagner scurries across the hot sand at the Monte Rio beach in Monte Rio, Calif., as he tries to get to the Russian River to cool off.



Through the grapevine

Vineyard worker Miguel Ramirez gets a drink from a cooler during a break from the heat as the temperature exceeded 100 degrees in Napa, Calif.

## University sued over tainted surgical tools

**NC** DURHAM — A man who says his surgery with instruments washed in used hydraulic fluid left him with fevers and fatigue sued Duke University Health System over the incident.

The lawsuit came more than 1½ years after university medical officials admitted that a mistake in a Raleigh hospital it owns resulted in thousands of patients being exposed to the instruments.

The instruments were washed in used elevator hydraulic fluid that was drained into empty soap containers and later reshipped to the hospital when it ordered more soap for instrument washing machines. About 3,800 patients had surgery during November and December 2004 when the fluid was used in the machines.

## Nation of Islam leader sanctioned by judge

**IN** HAMMOND — Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan has been ordered by a federal magistrate to pay \$4,052 in legal fees for a couple suing his son for his role in a traffic accident three years ago.

U.S. District Magistrate Andrew Rodovich ruled that Farrakhan's lawyers had made excessive motions and used delaying tactics.

"The courts are very busy and don't have time for motions that don't have at least some merit," said Michael Back, attorney for Gladys and Charles Peterson of Gary.

The Petersons sought \$5,091 in legal costs. They filed a lawsuit in 2003 against Farrakhan and his son, Nasir Farrakhan.

## 8 immigrants found in tour bus compartments

**TX** KINGSVILLE — Eight illegal immigrants, including five children, were found hidden in the engine and baggage compartments of two chartered buses, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said.

The immigrants were discovered at the Sarita checkpoint after a search dog alerted officials to the engine compartments. All are Mexican nationals, with the children ranging in age from 8 to 14.

CBP officials said the compartments were dangerously close to the heat and fumes of the engine and exhaust system.

## Expelled cadet admits change machine theft

**MA** BARNSTABLE — A former Massachusetts Maritime Academy cadet was sentenced to a year of probation after admitting in court that he stole \$1,000 from a dormitory change machine last December.

Kevin Morrissey, 25, a former student association president who was expelled in January after unrelated allegations that became part of a public controversy over the firing and rehiring of the academy's president last year, said he's learned from his mistake and wants to seek reinstatement to the school.

Morrissey admitted sufficient facts to larceny of more than \$250

in Barnstable District Court. Besides probation, he was ordered to pay \$252 in court costs and to continue with counseling his attorney said he is receiving in Nashua, N.H.

## Recycling law may pay off with more than nickels

**HI** HONOLULU — The overall amount of litter collected during last year's "Get the Drift and Bag It" beach cleanup in Hawaii declined 17 percent from the year before, with the number of beverage containers plummeting 34 percent, according to the Ocean Conservancy.

Organizers and environmentalists believe the state's recycling law may account for the dramatic decline in discarded containers.

"Although there are probably too many variables to know if it is statistically significant, it is an encouraging trend," said Jeff Mikulian, director of Sierra Club of Hawaii. "While the overall amount of beach litter collected by this program decreased by 17 percent, the amount of beverage containers decreased twice as much."

## New civil rights office files first complaint

**RI** PROVIDENCE — A woman is accused of making anti-gay comments to a neighbor with AIDS in the first complaint filed by a new civil rights advocate in the state attorney general's office.

The Office of the Civil Rights Advocate was established under a bill proposed by Attorney General Patrick Lynch and passed last year by the General Assembly.

The newly appointed civil rights advocate, Special Assistant Attorney General Thomas Palombo, is responsible for targeting civil rights violations and will also be educating police officers and students.

A civil complaint filed by the attorney general's office accuses Theresa Deschenes, of Warren, of violating the rights of neighbor Kenneth Potts by using anti-gay epithets and threatening him with violence.

## Episcopal bishop OKs blessings for gay couples

**AR** LITTLE ROCK — Episcopal churches in Arkansas can offer blessing ceremonies for gay couples, the state's bishop said in a letter to clergy.

"It is my belief that seeking ways of recognizing and blessing faithful, monogamous same-sex relationships falls within the parameters of providing pastoral concern and care for our gay and lesbian members," wrote the Right Rev. Larry Maze, bishop of the 14,000-member Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas.

Maze noted in his letter sent to clergy that no other national or state Episcopal leaders have produced or approved official rites for the blessings of same-sex unions.

He said the ceremonies will be local observances in each church, not approved formal rites. Arkansas has banned gay marriage, so same-sex couples will have no legal standing in the state.

Stories and photos from wire services





## Quick Trips

# Worth hunting down

Cochem, Germany, bird show captures audience

BY RUSTY BRYAN  
Stars and Stripes

Those with a taste for the past can get a hefty dose of long-ago at Cochem, Germany's, Reichsburg Cochem (Cochem castle), in the Mosel Valley just two hours or so from the Wiesbaden area.

Although its noble, and later wealthy, inhabitants have long since departed this imposing Gothic pile perched 100 meters above the valley vineyards, Cochem castle today provides an insight into a 1,000-year-old castle, the look at the trappings of wealth in the late 19th century and a sample of a pastime about twice as old as the castle itself. Four times a day, except Monday, birds of prey soar above the ramparts in a demonstration of the 3,000-year-old sport of falconry.

Axel Schroeder keeps owls, hawks, falcons and even an eagle and a vulture on the grounds of the castle and runs the shows. The 40-minute demonstration emphasizes audience participation as well as speed on the wing.

Audience members, usually children, don leather gloves for the opening act. To the delight of their novice handlers, an intense European version of the American screech owl or a barn owl flits from one child to the other to earn scraps of meat.

Two Harris Hawks from Mexico follow the owls. The hawks fly back and forth from the castle walls to Schroeder, then perch on the shoulders of visitors, turning them into so many camera-laden, fanny-pack-wearing Long John Silvers. No peg legs, true, but there's a bird with real attitude next to your ear instead of some clownish parrot.

The program concludes with a lecture, in German, on falconry and a demonstration, by one of three falcons,



A hunting falcon wears its traditional hood, designed to keep the bird from pursuing prey prematurely, as handler Axel Schroeder explains the device's purpose and the sport of falconry at Cochem castle in Germany.



PHOTOS BY RUSTY BRYAN/Stars and Stripes

The 11th-century Reichsburg Cochem dominates a bend in the Mosel River, a medieval trade route between France and what is now Germany.

of the birds' spectacular hunting abilities. As attendant Sylvia Bente twirls a leather-and-feather lure around her head, the falcon swoops in again and again on strafing runs from high above the castle walls to intimidate its target into seeking refuge on the ground. When it does, the falcon pounces for what, in earlier times, would have been the kill.

For those who can manage the German language and the 50-euro fee per person, Schroeder offers a nine-hour Falconer for a Day program for participants over age 10. The program pro-

vides an introduction to falconry theory, followed by practical experience in training, feeding and handling the birds.

Forty-minute tours of the castle give a glimpse of the 19th century's idea of living large. Although the walls and keep date to the 11th century, the castle was destroyed by the French in 1689 and lay in ruins, its main two towers mere stumps, until the 1870s. It was then purchased by a wealthy Prussian businessman who rebuilt it as his family's summer home in his idea of medieval style. Its richness reflects his.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: [bryanr@mail.eastripes.osd.mil](mailto:bryanr@mail.eastripes.osd.mil).



PETER JAEGER/Stars and Stripes

## On the QT



Leave Autobahn A-48 (Koblenz-Trier) at exit 4, Kaiserseich-Cochem. The town of Cochem is 12 kilometers (7½ miles) away. Cochem also is accessible by the scenic B-49 highway, which runs alongside the Mosel River from Koblenz to Trier, by train from Koblenz or Trier, or by river cruise boat. To reach the castle, make the steep climb from the town center on foot or take shuttle bus No. 781 from Endertplatz in the town center to the base of the castle, about 100 meters from the gate. The bus runs twice an hour during peak visiting times, May 1-Oct. 31. Taxis are allowed to drive to the castle gate.



The castle is open daily from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Guided tours (in German, but with English leaflets and mostly bilingual guides) depart every 40 minutes or so and are mandatory to see the castle. Groups can schedule English-language tours in advance. Birds-of-prey shows are 11 a.m. and 1, 2:30 and 4 p.m. daily, except Monday.



Castle entry is 4.50 euros for adults and 2.50 euros for children 6-17. Family tickets, for two adults and up to three children under age 18, are 12 euros. Bird shows, which do not require a castle admission, are 3 euros for adults and 2 euros for children. Shuttle bus fare from town to the castle base is 2 euros (1 euro for children 12 and younger).



There is a terrace restaurant in the castle, moderately priced, with views over the Mosel Valley. Advance booking is required for the castle's weekend medieval banquets, four-hour events priced at 39.50 euros. The town contains numerous restaurants.



The castle Web site is [www.reichsburg-cochem.de](http://www.reichsburg-cochem.de). It's in four languages. Telephone 02671-255. For information about the birds of prey, call Falkneri Schroeder at 0160-99127380, or go to the Web site [www.falkneri-reichsburg-cochem.de](http://www.falkneri-reichsburg-cochem.de).

— RUSTY BRYAN



An owl prepares to touch down on a young spectator's leather glove during the daily birds-of-prey demonstration.



# Horoscope

Are you on fire with optimism? Do people finally seem motivated to scratch your back as you have been scratching theirs? Does the disco song "We Are Family" play in a corner of your mind? Then you're just grooving with the Leo solar transit. Take your place to the next level while both the sun and the moon are playing in the realm of the fat cat.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(July 25). Your talent meets just the right circumstances to shine this year. August shows you reordering your priorities so romance is higher on your list. Your adventure in September celebrates this fact. October shows you going to an informal, stimulating "school." December is great for your finances. Your connections with Gemini and Cancer people are stellar. Your lucky numbers are: 6, 17, 30, 22 and 45.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Your list for experience is activated. This helps you work, too, since the only thing that stands between you and your dream job is the knowledge that comes from diving in and getting your hands dirty.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** You have much to say, though it's inappropriate to do so. Holding your tongue is akin to sitting on a volcano — difficult at best, and probably futile, as well. Instead of complete silence, use a few choice words.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** People flow into and out of your life like the tide — with several demanding your attention all at once, and then nothing. Take advantage of the "nothing" moments by connecting with what YOU want for a change.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** You're self-assured and insightful. These qualities attract people who either need your help or are curious about what you might be able to tell them. Promise nothing, and everything you deliver will be considered a gift.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).**

As children of the sun, Leos

intuitively know that nothing is really out of reach. Though the sun is 93 million miles away, it caresses your skin or burns you, as the case may be. Today, be aware of that which influences you from afar.

## VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

The masculine and feminine polarities affect your day. You could get accidentally caught up in a battle of the sexes or struggle to balance these energies in your environment at work, or at home. Try a little tenderness.

## LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).

Your tendency to overthink things comes into play. When you feel yourself "going there," it's time to kick back with a lemonade and listen to the radio. The answers drop into your brain when you're on break.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** A dangerous quest is featured — though the level of danger is completely up to you. Note that some would consider giving your heart to someone the riskiest venture of all.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** You've been holding on to some emotional baggage that isn't even yours. So drop it easily by the wayside or send it off like a cannon. It makes no difference, as long as you let it go.

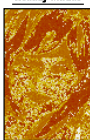
**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** It's the salesperson, not the product, that makes a sale. Promote an idea with all the enthusiasm you possess, and it is sure to catch on. The day ends on a romantic note.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're delving deeper into the line art of listening. Today's lessons include being sympathetic and trying to understand the other person's point of view. Your rewards for doing well are quite rich.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Finally, you can get your body to cooperate with you. Remember that you're first and foremost a soul, animating your earthly shell. Through spiritual work, you can heal, strengthen, balance, expand, control, and dance.

Creators Syndicate

## Holiday Mathis



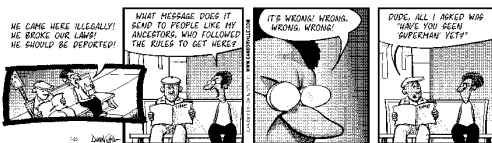
Beetle Bailey



Get Fuzzy



Candorville



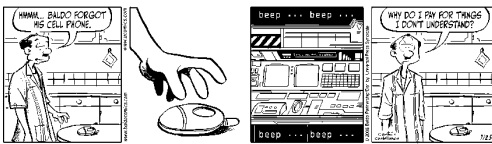
Meaning of Life



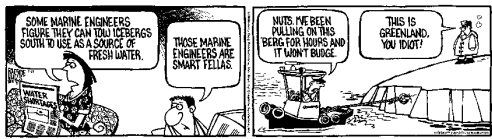
Out of the Gene Pool



Baldo



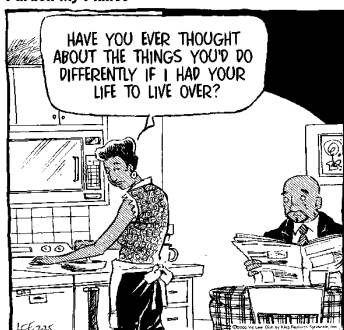
The Other Coast



Dilbert



## Pardon My Planet



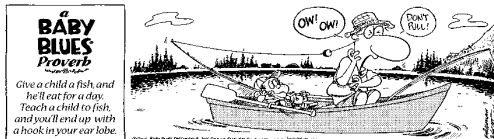
Fox trot



Garfield



Baby Blues



Jump Start



Zits



Red &amp; Rover



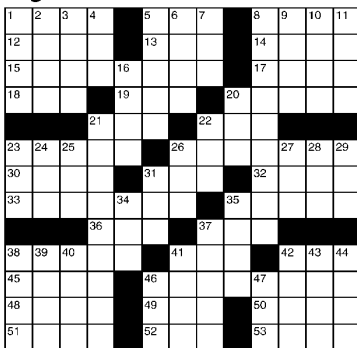
Hagar



Better or Worse



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## ACROSS

- 1 Dugout supply
- 5 Adage
- 8 Just okay
- 12 Mat meido
- 13 Chart format
- 14 Weapon of mouse destruction
- 15 Levin's Connecticut town
- 17 Pound of verse
- 18 Curvaceous character
- 19 Powell co-star
- 20 Mar
- 21 Baltimore newspaper
- 23 Spacecraft compartment
- 23 Dish
- 26 Honeycomb cell, basically
- 30 Roll-call reply
- 31 Moving truck
- 32 "Unh-unh"
- 33 Shirley Temple trademarks
- 35 Polar explorer
- 37 Driver's license datum
- 37 Spell down
- 38 Piccolo's cousin
- 41 Bishopric
- 42 Chiang —shek
- 45 Modern-day money
- 46 "Hurry up"
- 48 Jason's ship
- 49 "—town"
- 50 Presa's poem
- 52 Small pellets

## DOWN

- 1 Contemprible
- 2 Crafts' mate
- 3 Haberdashery rackful
- 4 Potential syrup
- 5 Get amorous
- 6 Ethereal
- 7 Become one
- 8 Terpsichorean specialty
- 9 Rice-shaped pasta
- 10 Ganges garment
- 11 October gem
- 16 Chimney channel
- 20 Chi squad
- 21 Ersatz ladder
- 22 Nerd-pack occupant
- 23 Third degree?
- 24 Maintainer's
- 25 Branch
- 26 Owns
- 27 Moo —gai pan
- 28 Make up your mind
- 29 Bottom line
- 31 Annoy
- 34 Gettysburg general
- 35 Leak slowly
- 37 "Cheers" orders
- 38 Phobia
- 39 Enticement
- 40 Persuade
- 41 Checkbook memo
- 42 Recognize
- 43 Verdi masterwork
- 44 Particular
- 46 Turn on the waterworks
- 47 No longer used, as a wd.

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



7-25

## CRYPTOQUIP

BDLWZ YQ PDOFXRIQ DB

IF FXZ PZMDLLDL M GJ

YIQ, D XISZ GJFZL SDBDFZR

FITOTB IFFOIWFDGLB.

Yesterday's Cryptquip: IF YOU LIKE CORRECTING FALSE RUMORS AND MYTHS, DOES THAT MAKE YOU A FICTION RIGHTER?

Today's Cryptquip Clue: Y equals M

# Alcohol is mom's new solace

**Dear Abby:** My mother is in her early 40s. She has four children, including me. I am married and have two children of my own. Still living at home are my brother, 17, a sister, 14, and the 1-year-old baby, "Michelle."

Michelle is from another guy. Mom purposely got pregnant, knowing that "Tom" didn't want a child. Needless to say, they are no longer together, and Tom has nothing to do with Michelle. Mom is having problems with my brother and sister. They choose not to listen and have been in trouble with the law.

My mom is no longer working. She spends her days with the baby. She recently let slip that she wishes she could just die. She wants to commit suicide because she is just so depressed. No work, no child care, the kids don't listen, and she just isn't getting anywhere.

She said the only reason she won't do it is because she

doesn't want to leave me with the burden of caring for her baby. I'm attending college, my husband works, and my girls are in school.

I didn't know what to say, and Mom has now turned to alcohol. She's a great mother; she just has her hands full. I don't know if she knows she has a drinking problem, and I don't want to say it because I know she'll take offense. My little sister is not in any danger, but what can I do or say to help my mom? Please help me.

— Daughter in Santa Maria, Calif.

**DEAR DAUGHTER:**

When people start talking about ending their lives, that's the time to see they get medical and psychological attention. I don't know your mother, but she could be suffering from post-partum depression. (She could also simply be overwhelmed right now.) The first step in getting help for

your mother is to get her to an internist or family practitioner. If she doesn't have one, then her OB/GYN would be a good place to start.

If she can't handle your brother, then perhaps he should stay with his father for a while, or some other older male in the family. If that's not feasible because he's already in trouble with the law, he may need to be made a ward of the court. Not pleasant—but better than a life of crime begun as a teenager.

Once your mother's depression is under control, she may be less inclined to drink her troubles away. But if she continues drowning her sorrows, then Alcoholics Anonymous could help her. But only when she's ready to admit she has a problem. (They're in the phone book.)

Letters for this column—with your name and phone number—should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 60404, Los Angeles CA 90060. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uncensored.com/dearabby>.

UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby



## JUMBLE

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

NORIM  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

DICHE  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

LASSIA  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

VEEBAH  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Ans: "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □" THE "□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LINER TROTH DEFAME FINISH

Answer: Important to have on a road trip — A DESTINATION

## THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argrion



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

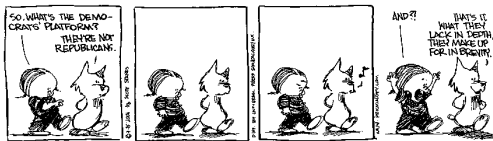
Boondocks



B.C.



Prickly City



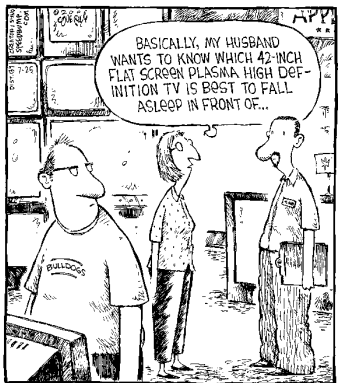
Bizarro



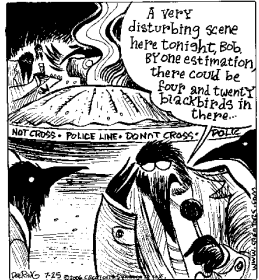
Non Sequitur



Speed Bump



Strange Brew



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## SCOREBOARD

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## Tuesday

**AFN Sports, 2 p.m.-MLB:** Minnesota at Chicago White Sox (six).

**AFN Sports, 2 p.m.-MLB:** St. Louis at Colorado Rockies (two).

**AFN Sports, 7 p.m.-Boxing:** Alan Golovov vs. Anthony Bonasone (six).

## Wednesday

**AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m.-MLB:** Arizona at Philadelphia Phillies (two).

**AFN-Xtra, 1 a.m.-MLB:** Detroit at Cleveland Indians (two).

**AFN-Xtra, 4 a.m.-MLB:** Toronto at Seattle.

**AFN-Xtra, 4 a.m.-MLB:** San Diego at L.A. Dodgers (two).

**AFN-Xtra, 4 a.m.-MLB:** Cincinnati at Houston (three).

**AFN Sports, 2 p.m.-MLB:** Boston at Oakland (two).

**AFN Sports, 2 p.m.-MLB:** Detroit at Cleveland (two).

All times are Central European (not indicated by broadcast). All listings are subject to change. Visit [www.afnusa.net](http://www.afnusa.net) for more information.

## Pro basketball

## WNBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE			
	Pct	GB	
Connecticut	16	7.39	
Indiana	15	9.25	
Los Angeles	15	9.25	
Charlotte	7	28.25	
Chicago	2	33.00	

WESTERN CONFERENCE			
	Pct	GB	
Los Angeles	16	6.67	
Sacramento	16	6.67	
Seattle	11	12.50	
Phoenix	11	12.50	
San Antonio	11	12.50	
Portland	11	12.50	

**Saturday's games**  
Phoenix 78, Charlotte 77  
Los Angeles 73, Indiana 68  
Seattle 91, New York 54  
Los Angeles 82, Sacramento 79

**Sunday's game**  
Connecticut 79, San Antonio 61  
**Sunday's game**  
Seattle 73, Washington 67  
Connecticut 91, New York 54

**Tuesday's games**  
Minnesota at Charlotte  
Los Angeles at Connecticut  
New York at Charlotte  
Los Angeles at Phoenix  
Seattle at Phoenix

## Auto racing

## Pennsylvania 500

**NASCAR Nextel Cup**  
Sunday  
At Pocono International Raceway  
Long Pond, Pa.  
Race length: 233 miles  
Time (start position in parentheses)  
1. (1) Denny Hamlin, Chevrolet, 200, 132.626  
miles, 5:20.190

2. (7) Kurt Busch, Dodge, 200, 1:02.788  
3. (2) Jeff Gordon, Chevrolet, 200, 1:15.861  
4. (4) Brian Vickers, Chevrolet, 200, 1:16.445

5. (12) Kevin Harvick, Chevrolet, 200, 1:16.445  
6. (16) Jimmie Johnson, Chevrolet, 200, 1:16.445  
7. (13) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 200, 1:16.445

8. (26) Bobby Labonte, Dodge, 200, 1:16.445  
9. (6) Jeff Burton, Chevrolet, 200, 1:05.720  
10. (37) Martin Truex Jr., Chevrolet, 200, 1:05.367

11. (20) Greg Biffle, Dodge, 200, 1:10.780  
12. (12) Kyle Busch, Dodge, 200, 1:08.275  
13. (10) Tony Stewart, Chevrolet, 200, 1:08.275

14. (27) Gordon, Chevrolet, 200, 1:07.720  
15. (18) Matt Kenseth, Ford, 200, 1:11.810  
16. (18) Ken Schrader, Dodge, 200, 1:06.939

17. (46) Dave Blaney, Dodge, 200, 1:04.331  
18. (10) Joe Nemechek, Chevrolet, 200, 1:04.331  
19. (22) Ryan Newman, Dodge, 200, 1:03.483

20. (30) Mark Martin, Ford, 200, 1:03.225  
21. (10) Joe Nemechek, Chevrolet, 200, 1:03.225  
22. (10) Tony Raines, Chevrolet, 200, 1:03.225

23. (37) Scott Riggs, Dodge, 200, 1:06.575  
24. (31) Casey Mears, Dodge, 200, 1:03.333  
25. (40) Greg Biffle, Ford, 200, 1:03.000

26. (37) Terry Labonte, Chevrolet, 200, 1:06.575  
27. (23) Red Sorenson, Dodge, 200, 1:06.575  
28. (40) Travis Kvapil, Chevrolet, 200, 1:06.575

29. (40) David Strydom, Dodge, 200, 1:06.575  
30. (25) Sterling Marlin, Chevrolet, 199, 1:07.432  
31. (3) Casey Kazan, Dodge, 199, 1:06.889

32. (25) Elliott Sauter, Dodge, 199, 1:06.889  
33. (46) Stephen Leicht, Ford, 199, 1:07.275  
34. (36) Kevin Swader, Dodge, 199, 1:03.125  
35. (32) Jeff Green, Chevrolet, 199, 1:06.889

36. (33) Jimmy Spencer, Chevrolet, 199, 1:06.889  
37. (32) Jeremy Mayfield, Dodge, 199, 1:06.889  
38. (41) Scott Wimmer, Chevrolet, 199, 1:06.889  
39. (16) Carl Edwards, Ford, 196, 1:00.125  
40. (16) Matt Waltrip, Dodge, 196, 1:00.125

41. (14) Clint Bowyer, Chevrolet, 194, 1:00.125  
42. (30) Kelly Petty, Dodge, 117, accident.  
43. (20) Dale Earnhardt Jr., Chevrolet, 157, accident, 89.088

Time of race: 3 hours, 46 minutes, 12 seconds.  
**Caution flags:** 7 for 29 laps.  
**Lead changes:** 13 among drivers.

**Lap leaders:** D. Hamlin 1-3; R. Newman 4-10; B. Keselowski 11-13; J. Schrader 14-15; D. Hamlin 16-18; K. Busch 19-27; B. Labonte 28-30; J. Johnson 31-34; K. Busch 35-37; B. Labonte 38-40.

**Top 10 finishers:** 1. D. Hamlin 2:23.0, 2. M. Kenseth 2:24.2, 3. J. Burton 2:24.4, 4. K. Busch 2:25.0, 5. K. Harvick 2:25.1, 6. D. Hamlin 2:25.1, 7. D. Hamlin 2:25.1, 8. J. Johnson 2:25.1, 9. J. Johnson 2:25.1, 10. T. Stewart 2:25.1.

## West Edmonton Mall Grand Prix

**Champ Car World Series**  
Sunday  
Edmonton, Alberta  
Race length: 200 laps (street course, 1.973 miles)  
(Start position in parentheses)

1. (3) Justin Wilson, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph  
2. (1) Sebastian Rodriguez, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph

3. (4) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph  
4. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph

5. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph  
6. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph

7. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph  
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45. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph  
46. (1) AJ Allmendinger, Ford-Cosworth/Lola/Rodriguez, 85, 1:01.117 mph

47. (7) Ed Carpenter, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
48. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
49. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

50. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
51. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
52. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

53. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
54. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
55. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

56. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
57. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
58. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

59. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
60. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
61. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

62. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
63. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125  
64. (13) Kasey Kahne, Mitsuura, Dallara-Honda, 109, 1:00.125

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RUSTY BRYAN/Stars and Stripes

Ramstein starter Finn Harrington delivers a pitch during Monday's Little League loss to Saudi Arabia.

## Ramstein still alive for semis despite 14-1 loss to Saudis

BY RUSTY BRYAN  
Stars and Stripes

KUTNO, Poland — Ramstein and Naples, the only military community teams involved in Little League Baseball's 2006 Transatlantic Regional Tournament, each suffered its third defeat Monday.

Ramstein (1-3), stayed alive for Wednesday's semifinals despite a 14-1 loss to six-time defending champion Saudi Arabia, while Naples (1-3) has little hope after losing 7-0 to London (3-1).

Ramstein can clinch a berth by beating Dubai in Tuesday's round-robin finale. Naples has to beat unbeaten Saudi Arabia and have Ramstein lose to advance.

**Saudi Arabia 14, Ramstein 1:** Rashad Brown blasted a home run over the right centerfield fence for Ramstein, the only run Saudi Arabia has allowed in four games.

Brown also tripled off Saudi

starter Matt Timoney, who allowed four hits in six innings and striking out 13. Devin Johnson doubled and Taylor Portman singled for Ramstein. The team had managed just one hit in Sunday's 1-0 loss to England.

Timoney also stroked one of the Saudi's three home runs, a two-run shot in a six-run fifth inning. First baseman Aaron Durely, who is 6 feet 8, clubbed a three-run shot in the first, and Andrew Holden followed Timoney's clutch with a two-run homer.

Ramstein starter Finn Harrington held Saudi Arabia to eight runs in the five innings he worked.

"Finn pitched a great game today," Brown said. "We just have to play our best tomorrow."

**London 7, Naples 0:** London pitchers tossed their second straight shutout, limiting the Italy champions to three hits.

Starter Cameron Bishop gave up two infield singles in the four

innings he worked while striking out eight. Anthony Tyree finished up, fanning four of the seven batters he faced. He ended the game by striking out the side.

Dustin Bratcher of Lakenhead stroked an inside-the-park home run for London (3-1), which also got a triple from Tyree, and a pair of doubles from Hayden Tren.

**Dubai 2, Brussels 0:** Joe Carrizo's bases-loaded single to center in the bottom of the fifth made a winner of starter Peter Barber and turned Tuesday's game against Ramstein into an elimination game for both teams.

The outcome also created drama for Brussels (2-2) — already assured a semifinal berth — should it lose to London on Tuesday. If Dubai (1-3) were to top Ramstein, it would vault into third-place on the basis of a head-to-head tiebreaker. Brussels would fall to fourth and into a semifinal matchup with Saudi.

E-mail Rusty Bryan at: [bryanr@mail.starsandstripes.com](mailto:bryanr@mail.starsandstripes.com)

## Hornish's charge can't reel in Kanaan

The Associated Press

WEST ALLIS, Wis. — Tony Kanaan held off a late charge by Sam Hornish Jr. to win Sunday's IndyCar Series race at the Milwaukee Mile.

Kanaan and his three Andretti Green Racing teammates dominated the top five positions for most of the race, but Hornish — who qualified second, but faded as he fell a lap behind the leaders in the first half of the race — suddenly found speed when it counted.

Hornish passed AGR's Darío Franchitti for third place after a restart with 16 laps to go, then passed AGR rookie Marco Andretti for second two laps later.

Hornish couldn't catch Kanaan at the end and finished second, maintaining the series points lead on a day in which his three closest championship pursuers struggled.

Hornish's Marlboro Team Penske car had a vibration in the closing laps and he didn't want to push it to try to catch Kanaan.

"I didn't know what was wrong with the car, but I didn't want something to happen and end up in the wall."

Tomas Scheckter finished third, followed by Danica Patrick. The race was marred by a late-race crash involving Kanaan and Patrick. Kanaan's car hit the wall, and Patrick's car hit the back of Kanaan's. Patrick's second straight fourth-place finish.

Patrick said she was happy to turn in a good finish for her crew, which has been working hard to assemble the new cars.

"At least it's paid off, right?" Patrick said.

Andretti dropped to fifth and Franchitti to sixth at the finish.

"The car sort of went out of balance in the closing laps, but we held it together for a good finish," Andretti said.

AGR's Bryan Herta also ran in the top five for most of the race but fell to seventh at the finish. It was Kanaan's seventh career series victory.

Andretti Green has struggled for much of the season, and came into Sunday's race without a victory or a driver in the top five in points. But Sunday's race left many top IndyCar Series championship contenders in the dust and shook up the standings.

Poland's Helio Castroneves collided with the lapped car driven by Ed Carpenter, bringing out a caution on lap 110. Castroneves waved off reporters as he hustled back to his team's garage area, where the crew tried to fix his car and go back out for points.

Castroneves re-entered the race on lap 142 but pulled out with 20 laps to go and finished 14th.

It was an even rougher day for Chip Ganassi Racing, as Dan Wheldon and Scott Dixon each fell out of the race in the early stages of the race. Wheldon finished eighth and Dixon was 10th.

## Racing roundup

Kanaan, the 2004 series champion, took the lead from Castroneves with a pass on lap 52. He had a total of 127 laps on Sunday. Kanaan had led only 21 laps in the first nine races of the season.

**Champ Car:** Justin Wilson made no mistakes this time, bouncing back from a disappointing finish in last year's Edmonton Grand Prix to pull away at the end Sunday in Edmonton, Alberta, for his first Champ Car victory of the season.

The 27-year-old Englishman, who lost a shot at victory when he crashed on a restart late in last year's race on the 1.9-mile, 14-turn temporary circuit, caught and passed 2005 winner and pole-starter Sebastien Bourdais just past the halfway point in the 85-lap race.

Wilson may have had flashbacks to that inaugural Edmonton race at City Center Airport when the fourth caution flag of the Sunday race for Nelson Philippe's crash into a tire barrier just 16 laps from the end, bunched the field and put Bourdais right behind his rear wing.

But Wilson, who finished fourth last year, never gave the two-time defending series champion a chance to challenge him on Sunday. He pulled away after the green flag came out on lap 73, beating Bourdais to the finish line by 5.319 seconds — nearly the entire final straightaway.

A.J. Allmendinger, who came into Sunday with a three-race winning streak, ran a strong race to finish third. He was followed by Oriol Servià, Paul Tracy and rookie Will Power, the last driver on the lead lap.

"My car was just awesome all day," said Wilson, who now has three career victories, all for the RuSPORT Racing Team. "It was a great strategy by my engineers. It allowed me to run hard and catch Sebastien. Then he made a mistake and I was able to get past him."

Wilson got past Tracy to take second place by taking a short lead of fuel on his first pit stop on lap 37.

Wilson drove past Bourdais, darting under the leader on lap 54 in the 10th turn, a fast left-hand-er.

Bourdais got the lead back, but the Frenchman had to make his final stop on lap 64 after colliding with Alex Taglianini, and Wilson led the rest of the way.

"I thought it was going to be a really good day," said Bourdais. "Still, I would set me to pit. We would have pitte maybe four laps later and you never know what would have happened."

Still, Bourdais goes to San Jose, Calif., for next week's race leading Allmendinger by 24 points and Wilson by 27.

## Smoke: Earnhardt falls from top 10

SMOKE, FROM BACK PAGE

Dale Earnhardt Jr., meanwhile, is out of the top 10 after a hit from Dave Blaney sent him into the wall and out of the race. He finished 43rd for the second straight week and needed almost 30 minutes to cool off before coming out of his transporter.

Third in points two weeks ago, Junior is now 11th in the standings with just six races to go to qualify for the Chase.

"What am I supposed to do?" he wondered. "My motor blows up (last week) and now I got wrecked. I don't know what else to do."

Hamlin doesn't have such worries — not after scoring his second career victory. The first came six weeks ago when he recovered from a spin through the grass and needed to hold off NASCAR's heavyweights on a late restart.

This one was far easier, with Hamlin leading 151 of the 200 laps in what turned into a leisurely Sunday drive for one of NASCAR's budding young stars. He's eighth in points and if he can hang on another six weeks, Hamlin will find himself racing for the Nextel Cup title.

"We'll just keep plugging away. That's all we can

do," he said. "Fate is going to decide this race. We are in right now, we are just going to try and stay there."

Hamlin became the sixth driver to sweep the season at Pocono, and did it from the pole both times. Pretty impressive for a kid who had never seen the track before he showed up last month and used video games to learn his way around it.

"For Denny's first two times here, undefeated is pretty incredible," crew chief Mike Ford said. "Two poles, two wins, he really liked to track well."

Ford then packed the car up and prepared to send it to Indianapolis for the prestigious Brickyard 400 in two weeks.

Busch finished second to Hamlin for the second time this season.

"We kept adjusting on the car all day to tweak it up or kick it in the rear to catch up to Denny," Busch said. "He had a great race car, and the rest of us were battling for second."

Jeff Gordon was third and was followed by Brian Vickers, Kevin Harvick and points leader Jimmie Johnson.

Stewart, Bobby Labonte, Jeff Burton and Martin Truex Jr. rounded out the top 10.





JOHN FROSCHAUER/AP

Seattle players wait at home plate to greet Richie Sexson after he hit the game-winning home run off Boston's Mike Timlin during the ninth inning of Sunday's game in Seattle. The Mariners won the game 9-8.

## Sexson wins it for Mariners

### Walk-off homer in bottom of ninth sinks Red Sox

By GREGG BELL  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE—After giving up a tying home run to Boston's Jason Varitek in the top of the ninth inning, J.J. Putz landed his counter-punch.

Three of them, actually. Directly into the gut of Seattle teammate Richie Sexson.

Sexson was glad to take his buddies' blows Sunday. They came during a home plate celebration after his game-winning home run off Mike Timlin that aptly finished the Mariners' wild, 9-8 victory over the Red Sox at rocking, sold-out Safeco Field.

"Crazy game. Back and forth," Boston manager Terry Francona said.

"Weird," Putz said.

He was just getting over Varitek's jolting home run — the second Putz was allowed this season — and his fourth blown save in 23 chances. Then Sexson supplied his own stunner leading off the bottom of the ninth.

"The coolest thing in baseball is the walk-off home run. The whole team comes out. You get to punch the guy in the stomach," Putz said. "Yeah, I got in two or three good ones."

Sexson's shot off Timlin (5-1) came after Varitek drove Putz's slider off a second-deck restaurant window. Putz (2-0) had just struck out mighty David Ortiz and Manny Ramirez in succession.

That sequence came after Adrian Beltré hit the first inside-the-park homer at Safeco Field against Timlin, who allowed only one home run in 38 appearances before Sunday.

Boston failed to extend its AL East lead, which remained 2½ games over the New York Yankees.

"Totally my fault," Timlin said after giving up two homers for the first time since April 30, 2002.

Sexson hit his 20th home run but is batting just .227. He seemed offended by the notion that this was as big a contribution as he's had in his — and the Mariners' — maddening, uneven season. Seattle is four games under .500, yet only four games back in the AL West.

"Hey, I've had some good games now," the slugger said. "But against a great team, and with us still in the race, yeah, it's big."

To which Putz added: "Awesome. I bought him a beer as soon as I got in here."

Buying beer in an everything-is-free clubhouse? It fit this crazy day.

Beltré's zany trip around the bases put the Mariners up 8-7 in the eighth. His two-out drive off Timlin banged off the top of the left-center fence. Beltré kept running as Coco Crisp lost the drive in a blazing sun — the ball landed 10 feet behind him.

"I saw the third-base coach waving me home and I said, 'Oh, OK,'" Beltré said. "I had no idea what happened when I got to home plate."

Here's what happened: Manny Ramirez whiffed on a banded pickup try. Crisp's wild throw then missed two cutoff men. Beltré, with his batting helmet flying off and his jersey coming out at the belt, didn't stop until he slid home ahead of Mike Lowell's throw for the first inside-the-park homer in the seven-year history of Safeco Field.

It was Beltré's third RBI of the game. He hit a two-run double in a three-run first.

## Rookies Liriano, Weaver stay hot

The Associated Press

Francisco Liriano piled up 10 more strikeouts, while Jered Weaver won without his best stuff. Two of the top pitchers in the American League are rookies, and both have been nearly unkillable all season.

Led by Liriano's five effective innings, the Minnesota Twins tied a 40-year-old team record with 17 strikeouts Sunday in a 3-1 victory at Cleveland.

"That many?" Indians catcher Kelly Shoppach said. "Liriano was really tough, but give them all credit because this team can hit."

Minnesota relievers Pat Neshek, Dennys Reyes, Juan Rincon and Joe Nathan combined for seven Ks over four scoreless innings. The 17 strikeouts set a Cleveland record for a nine-inning game and tied the Twins' mark for pitchers set May 6, 1966, at Boston.

Liriano (12-2) gave up four hits and walked three in his third double-digit strikeout game this season. The 22-year-old left-hander has a 1.93 ERA and 125 strikeouts in 107 innings.

Weaver is running behind in a stirring Rookie of the Year race that also includes Boston closer Jonathan Papelbon and Detroit pitcher Justin Verlander, but only because the Angels' right-hander got a late start.

He became the first rookie in 25 years to win his first seven starts, leading Los Angeles to a 3-1 victory at Kansas City.

Weaver's ERA actually went up — from a minuscule 1.12 to 1.15 at 47 innings.

"What I was impressed with was the way Jered pitched around the fact he didn't have command of his breaking ball, although he wasn't missing by much," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "He was able to get his fastball over, and he threw some nice breaking balls when he had to. But he pitched without his best stuff."

Weaver (6-7) allowed one run and three hits in 6½ innings, striking out four Royals and walking four.

Robb Quinlan hit a two-run single off Brandon Loney (1-4), sending the surging Angels to their eighth win in 11 games. They improved to 15-4 in July

## AL Roundup

and 11-2 in their last 13 games at Kansas City.

The Twins are also on a roll, thanks in large part to their rookie ace.

Liriano is 8-1 with a 1.58 ERA in his last nine starts, and Minnesota is 31-8 since June 8. Cleveland, which had 10 or more hits in each of its five previous games, fell to 4-11 since July 4.

**Tigers 8, Athletics 4:** At Detroit, Carlos Guillen tripled, doubled and singled, and Nate Robertson (9-6) ended a three-start losing streak.

Magglio Ordonez added a two-run single and scored twice for the Tigers, who improved Sunday's best record to 46-32 with their fourth win in five games. Guillen also drove in two runs.

**White Sox 5, Rangers 0:** Jon Garland (10-3) came within two outs of a shutout and won his sixth straight decision, ending host Chicago's four-game losing streak.

The ill will between the White Sox and Vicente Padilla (10-6) resurfaced after Texas' starter hit Alex Clinton with a third-inning pitch. Garland responded by throwing the first two pitches of the fourth behind Ian Kinsler. But Chicago manager Ozzie Guillen was upset that Garland missed.

**Blue Jays 13, Yankees 5:** Vernon Wells hit two of host Toronto's five homers and the Blue Jays scored eight times in the third.

Troy Glaus, Eric Hinske and Reed Johnson homered in the third, helping Shaun Marcum (1-0) earn his first major league win. Wells and Johnson each had four RBIs for the Blue Jays, who took three of four in the series and moved within two games of second-place New York.

**Orioles 4, Devil Rays 2:** At St. Petersburg, Fla., Erik Bedard (12-6) pitched seven strong innings and threw his seventh consecutive start and Melvin Mora hit a tiebreaking single in the eighth.

Bedard (12-6) gave up two runs and three hits in a tight duel with All-Star Scott Kazmir. Bedard had nine strikeouts and three walks.

## Rodriguez's sloppy defense hurting Yankees, frustrating fans

By MIKE FITZPATRICK  
The Associated Press

Alex Rodriguez is stuck in a slump. Big one, too.

Right when the New York Yankees are in dire need of steady production.

His throws are wild, swings are late. And now he's back in Texas, where he can always count on a cold reception.

He must be getting used to those.

Playing in the Big Apple with a record \$52 million contract, Rodriguez is constantly under the microscope. Every failure is magnified, fodder for the back pages of the city tabloids or talk radio.

A-Rod has been booed at Yankee Stadium nearly all season for failing to come through at the plate. Now, it's his shoddy defense that's frustrating fans and — more importantly — hurting his team.

"I'm working through it," Rodriguez said recently. "It's not easy, that's for sure."

It's almost strange to hear him say something like that. So many things appear to come so easily to A-Rod on a baseball field.

But lately, he can't even make a routine throw to first base.

Or second, for that matter. Or home plate.

The two-time MVP committed five errors in a five-game span last week and led the American League in 18 going into Monday. Not exactly what you'd expect from the most talented all-around player in baseball.

In fact, it got so bad that manager Joe Torre made Rodriguez the designated hitter Saturday in Toronto — even with New York trying to snap a three-game skid.

It didn't help his offense any. Rodriguez went 0-for-4 with four strikeouts, including one with the bases loaded, during New York's 5-4 victory.

He finished 0-for-4 again Sunday in a 13-5 loss and was on a 4-for-27 slide going

into Monday night's series opener against the Rangers, his former team.

What's wrong with A-Rod? One major flaw is his footwork at third base. But the biggest obstacle is probably in his head.

Rodriguez made a pretty smooth transition from shortstop to third base when he joined the Yankees in 2004. He worked hard that spring to get comfortable and made only 13 errors all season — plus some dazzling plays.

He committed 12 errors last year, and his strong defense was a big reason he beat out Boston designated hitter David Ortiz for AL MVP.

Associated Press writer Rob Gillems in Toronto contributed to this report.





PAUL CONNORS/AP

Colorado catcher Jeff Closser, left, spins to tag Arizona's Stephen Drew during the second inning of Sunday's game in Phoenix. Colorado score four runs in the top of the ninth inning to win the game 9-7.

## Rockies rally in ninth inning

BY ANDREW BAGNATO

The Associated Press

PHOENIX — Trailing Arizona by two runs in the ninth inning Sunday, the Colorado Rockies appeared in trouble when Diamondbacks closer Jorge Julio ambled in from the bullpen.

Julio had posted four saves against Colorado since July 7.

"We had probably a little larger desire than normal to put something on him," Colorado manager Clint Hurdle said.

And that's what the Rockies did, stunning Julio with four runs on their way to a 9-7 victory over the Diamondbacks.

It was Julio's second blown save in 14 chances since he replaced Jose Valverde as Arizona's closer.

"We don't just go away," Hurdle said. "We play nine innings."

"I was real proud of the way the guys played, the way they battled, the way they were able to finish," Hurdle said.

Colorado had lost 11 of its last 12 games, a slide that began with a three-game sweep by Arizona in Denver. Julio (1-4) saved all three of those games,

as well as the second game of this three-game series, but the Rockies still believed they would solve him Sunday.

"I think we were due to get Julio sooner or later," said Colorado infielder Jamey Carroll, whose infield single started the rally.

The loss cost the Diamondbacks a share of first place in the NL West. They wrapped up a 7-3 home-stand and are in third place, one game behind San Diego. But the loss still stung.

"Come tomorrow, come later on, you realize it was a good homestand, but games like that hurt," Arizona manager Bob Melvin said. "That's a tough loss."

The Diamondbacks appeared headed for victory when they scored six runs in the fourth inning to overcome a 5-1 deficit. Connor Jackson, Luis Gonzalez, Shawn Green and Carlos Quentin each hit doubles in the inning against former Diamondback Byung-Hyun Kim, who lasted 3 1/3 innings, one out longer than his shortest start of the season. Gonzalez had three hits — a triple, double and single.

"This doesn't knock us down," Gonzalez said. "The positive thing is we won the series and that's most important."

## Soriano, Willis hope to stay put

The Associated Press

The Washington Nationals' new owners couldn't have asked for a better weekend.

With the fans waving their red "rally towels," Tony Armas Jr. pitched seven strong innings, Alfonso Soriano and Ryan Church homered, and the Nationals beat the Chicago Cubs 7-1 Sunday to complete their first home sweep in more than a year.

"It never hurts to have a lot of fans out here in the stands, rooting for you, behind you. It makes you feel good, no doubt about that," manager Frank Robinson said. "But you still have to go out and perform. We did that today. It kind of gets you up before the game starts, and we carried it into the game."

Soriano's homered in five consecutive series — but who knows how much longer he'll be helping the Nationals.

"We love Alfonso, we love what he does — lots of people do. Let's face it: He's a potential MVP candidate. It goes without saying that he's a superior player," incoming team president Stan Kasten said. "But, you know, our No. 1 mission is getting to be the best team we can as soon as possible."

Soriano isn't the only big-name player mentioned in trade talks who hopes he will stay put.

Dontrelle Willis pitched six innings without getting a decision Sunday in a 5-4 win over visiting Pittsburgh. Widely projected to lose at least 100 games this season, the Marlins are 34-21 since May 22.

"I don't care about myself anymore," Willis said. "I don't think I want me anymore. When I was 1-6, everybody wanted me. Now I've battled back and I don't hear anything. Nobody wants me anymore, but I'm happy where I'm at."

Dan Uggla homered in the third inning, then singled home the winning run with one out in

the ninth, helping Florida beat Pittsburgh.

**Cardinals 6, Dodgers 1:** Jason Marquis (12-7) became the NL's first 12-game winner, Juan Encarnacion homered twice and visiting St. Louis swept the season series from Los Angeles for the first time in the 115-year rivalry.

The Cardinals set a franchise record by homering in their 19th consecutive game. Scott Rolen and rookie Chris Duncan each added two-run singles in the fifth for St. Louis, which finished 7-0 against the Dodgers this year.

**Braves 5, Phillies 1:** Edgar Renteria homered and doubled home the go-ahead run in the top of the ninth inning to lift Atlanta.

Jeff Francoeur added a three-run homer in the ninth for the Braves, who snapped a two-game losing streak.

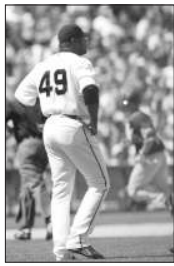
**Astros 8, Mets 4:** Pitcher Roy Oswalt touched off a four-run Houston rally with his second hit of the game for visiting Houston.

The victory ended a three-game losing streak for the Astros, who avoided a weekend sweep.

New York was leading 3-1 on Carlos Delgado's first-inning home run when Oswalt (7-7), who had signed to help boost Houston's first run, opened the fifth with a pop fly that fell off second baseman Jose Valentin's glove for another hit.

**Brewers 4, Reds 1:** Tomo Ohka hit two home runs in eight innings, a sign that he has recovered from shoulder problems, and the visiting Brewers avoided a three-game sweep.

Brady Clark singled home a pair of runs off left-hander Eric Milton (6-6), and the Brewers took on two in the seventh against recently acquired reliever Gary Majewski.



JEFF CHAPMAN

San Francisco's Armando Benitez, left, walks from the mound after giving up a tying home run to San Diego's Termel Sledge, right rear, in the ninth inning of Sunday's game in San Francisco.

## Padres beat Giants in 12, avoid four-game sweep

BY JANIE MCCAULEY

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Mike Cameron already had two flyouts to center field Sunday, and his luck had been similar all series with Steve Finley covering plenty of ground.

But Cameron finally found a gap in the biggest part of the ballpark — the key hit San Diego needed to get back on top.

Cameron tripled leading off the 12th inning and scored on a sacrifice fly by pinch-hitter Eric Young, and the Padres avoided their first four-game sweep in San Francisco in nearly 13 years with a 6-5 victory over the Giants.

San Diego also regained the NL West lead, moving a half-game ahead of the Giants by ending a four-game skid and snipping San Francisco's season-best five-game winning streak.

"It was big in the sense of our psyche," Young said. "This is July. Every team in this division knows it's going to come down to the wire in September. Everybody is jockeying for position."

The Giants, who used all their position play-

ers, took a 5-4 lead on Pedro Feliz's two-run single in the eighth before Termel Sledge hit a tying homer leading off the San Diego ninth against Armando Benitez, the first long ball for Sledge since April 4, 2005.

Cameron tripled to the warning track in center against Brian Wilson (1-3), the seventh pitcher used by the Giants. Young followed with a sacrifice fly to center.

"We needed it bad," Cameron said. "Stopping the losing streak was the most important thing. ... I finally was able to get the ball by Finley. Leading off the inning gave us a couple of opportunities."

Jon Adkins (2-1) worked two innings for the win, and Trevor Hoffman got three outs for his 26th save in 29 chances. Mike Piazza also homered for the Padres.

San Francisco was trying to win six in a row for the first time since Aug. 30 to Sept. 5 last year and earn its first four-game sweep since taking four in a row at home against the Dodgers from June 21-24, 2004.

"It doesn't get any bigger than that," Padres manager Bruce Bochy said. "So many good things happened today, despite giving up the

lead there late. Those guys fought hard. I think anytime you're looking at getting swept in a four-game series, it's pretty ugly."

San Francisco rallied in the eighth against Scott Linebrink.

Shea Hillenbrand singled with one out before Barry Bonds' second walk of the game.

Ray Durham followed with an RBI single to make it 4-3, and Finley's bloop single dropped between three players in shallow center.

That loaded the bases and made Finley the 82nd player with 2,500 hits.

Feliz followed with a two-run single, and Padres catcher Rob Bowen lost his mitt when Durham barreled into him at the plate. The ball stayed away, but Finley got a hit at third after slipping as he rounded the bag. Still missing in his mitt, Bowen blocked the plate and caught a throw from shortstop Khalil Greene on the fly — in his hands before tagging Finley, who pulled up as he approached.

Bonds, who turns 42 on Monday, played eight innings and went 0-for-2 with his 82nd and 83rd walks this year.

San Diego avoided being swept in a four-game series in San Francisco for the first time since Sept. 24-27, 1993.

# Woods can't see the silver lining

## Tiger's imagination gives him edge on British Open courses

BY DOUG FERGUSON  
The Associated Press

HOYLAKE, England — Jack Nicklaus might have been right about Tiger Woods, even if he was looking at the wrong place.

Nicklaus cranked up the hype about Woods on the eve of the 1996 Masters, after he and Arnold Palmer played a practice round with the 20-year-old amateur. Nicklaus called him "absolutely the most fundamentally sound golfer that I've seen at almost any age."

Combining the Masters' victories of those two legends — that's 10 green jackets — and Nicklaus said the kid should win more than that.

But imagine if that practice round had been in 1995 at St. Andrews instead of a year later at Augusta National.

The conversation might have been different.

"This kid is absolutely the most creative shotmaker that I've seen at almost any age," Nicklaus might have said. "Take my three British Opens and the five won by Tom Watson, and he should win more than that."

It could happen.

By the end of his career, Woods might be identified more by the silver claret jug than the green jacket.

The Masters was thought to be Woods' domain ever since he set the course record (18-under 270) and won by a record 12 shots in 1997. Woods now has four green jackets, not quite halfway there to Nicklaus' prediction.

Augusta National is all about power, and Woods no longer holds exclusive rights in this game.

The British Open is about imagination, and he's peaked Sunday at Royal Liverpool he has no peer.

Woods was whisked away to the clubhouse late in the evening to sip champagne with the Royal & Ancient, where he re-

galed committee members with the shots he played — only one of them with a driver out of his 270 strokes — on his way to a two-shot victory over Chris DiMarco.

In his previous tournament, a tie for second at the Western Open, Woods had what swing coach Hank Haney described as his best week with the driver in five years. But after one trip around the firm, fast links of Hoylake, Woods realized he was better off playing it safe.

The course measured 7,258 yards, but it felt like 6,000 yards because of the crusty conditions.

Even though he easily could have taken the bunkers out of play by blasting driver over them, Woods continually laid far back by hitting his iron off the tee, leaving him long into the green. He reasoned that, even with a shorter iron, getting close to the pin was no bargain.

It paid off so many times over four days. On the second hole Sunday, he hit iron off the tee and played his second shot to about 25 feet. Sergio Garcia hit a driver over the bunkers and had only a flip sand wedge to the green, but he could get it no closer than 30 feet.

Ernie Els found out what can happen with a driver, hitting into a gorse bush Saturday on the seventh hole. Garcia found a bunker on the par-5 fifth hole Sunday that made him scramble for par. Woods played back with a 3-wood, then hit 5-iron into 25 feet for eagle.

"One of the most fascinating things of the week was to see the different strategies employed by different players," R&A chief executive Peter Dawson said Monday morning. "The vast majority of players hit far more drivers than Tiger did. He chose to play his way, and it actually resulted in him playing a longer golf course than the club does week."

"Tiger found the way to suit his game." Els played with Woods on Saturday and

was skeptical about his decision not to hit driver.

"At times I didn't think it was the right plan because he is so long off the tee he could have hit very short irons into some of the holes," Els said. "But he stuck to his plan, and it really worked out for him. He knows how to win these things, and it's going to be tough to beat him now."

But the brilliance of Woods went beyond leaving the driver in his bag for all but one hole.

Every shot was designed for a specific hole, whether that meant a towering shot or low and boring. His 4-iron from 190 yards to 12 feet on the 12th hole Friday was a low fade, while his 4-iron on the 14th hole that he made for eagle was a slight draw.

His caddy, Steve Williams, said he missed only three shots over 72 holes. "It was probably one of the best ball-striking weeks I've ever had as far as control," Woods said. "That's shaping the ball, moving my trajectory and different heights and controlling my spin going into the greens. It wasn't getting away from me. If I wasn't hitting it well, it would have been pretty different around here."

Woods led the field in driving accuracy — that might be a first — by missing only eight fairways all week. He was tied for second in greens in regulation (80.5 percent), and missed only one green Sunday. That led to his only bogey in a 5-under 67, which matched the best score of the final round, rare for the guy in the last group.

He now has three claret jugs, halfway home to the record six by Harry Vardon, one less than his collection of green jackets.

But a closer look at the record, and the constantly changing course at Augusta National, even more likely that the British Open might prove to be his best major.

He has finished out of the top 10 only three times at the British Open, and one of



MATT DUNHAM/AP

**Tiger Woods pauses while making a speech after winning the British Open at the Royal Liverpool Golf Course in Hoylake, England Sunday. It was Woods' first major victory since his father's death in May.**

those was at Muirfield in 2003 when he was two shots behind until getting caught in the whipping wind that sent him to an 81.

Woods came within one shot of a playoff at Royal Birkdale in 1998, and he was two shots away at Royal St. George's in 2003.

He will go for his third straight British Open — Peter Thomson in 1954-56 was the last player to do that — next year at Carnoustie, reputed to be the toughest links course in the world.

Woods probably won't be able to leave driver in the bag.

But odds are, he'll find another way.

# On both sides of Atlantic, Landis proves he's the man

PARIS — The wind was at his back now, gently rustling the banners along the Champs-Élysées and urging Floyd Landis on with a certainty he hadn't felt since he lit out of Pennsylvania Dutch country as a kid, vowing some day to win the world's greatest bicycle race.

On Sunday, Landis was every bit as good as his word.

He kept fighting, never stopped believing," he said, and the yellow jersey stretched snugly across Landis' slim shoulders confirmed

the wisdom of that. The first Tour de France of the post-Lance Armstrong era was captured by another American — on the same day and within hours of Tiger Woods winning yet another British Open — but nothing else about this race was the same. Instead of order and the inevitability that characterized all but one of Armstrong's seven straight

wins, Landis was hounded by chaos from start to finish, projecting an all-too-familiar frailty throughout. What he proved by the end was that you doubt his courage at your own risk.

Landis seized the lead several times only to give it back, and just last Wednesday, in one of the most shocking collapses yet witnessed on the Tour, he seemingly threw any chance of winning over the side of the Alps.

Abandoned by his teammates on a 113-mile ride up the mountains to La Toussuire, Landis plummeted from first place to 11th and lost almost nine minutes in the bargain.

"There are days when you crack, but on those days, you lose one, maybe two minutes. This was a crack," Robbie Ventura, Landis' coach said. "It was a detonation."

Yet the very next day, Landis attacked the first climb back up the same mountain range, a 125-mile stage to Morzine-Avoriaz, and didn't stop until he left his opponents in the dust. The gamble was so audacious, so headbashed and risky that as word of Landis' plan rippled through a peloton worn out after a week in the Pyrenees and Alps, several riders pulled up alongside and begged him not to try it.

"I just told 'em," Landis would recall. "Go drink some Coke, 'cause we're leaving on the first climb if you want to come along."

That epic ride was still the talk of the Tour late into Saturday night, just a few hours after Landis effectively locked up the race with a third-place finish in the 35.4-mile individual time trial to Montceau-les-Mines.

Armstrong and Belgian Eddy Merckx, two of the greatest champions the sport has ever known, were huddled in a back booth at the Hotel Costes, awaiting the largely ceremonial last-stage wrap-up to the Champs-Élysées.

"How crazy was that?" Armstrong said finally.

Rather than answer, Merckx, a five-time champion himself, shook his head slowly in disbelief. A moment later, though, he flexed his biceps.

"Strong," Merckx said, shaking his head again. "Just incredibly — unbelievably — strong."

Both men could have vouched for Landis long before that. Armstrong, because he picked up the then 26-year-old rider off a failing team and made him a key member of the winning U.S. Postal Service teams from 2002-04; Merckx because his son, Axel, is part of the Swiss Phonak squad that Landis vowed to victory after he left

USPS determined to become the leader of his own team.

"Floyd won this race," Armstrong said. "His strength was not his brain, his strength was his mind and his will."

Landis flashed those qualities even as a teenager, coming to cycling not as a pedigreed insider, but as a farm outsider and the most wilful of Paul and Arlene Landis' six children. Raised in a strict Mennonite home in a small town in Lancaster County, Pa., he began riding with pals just to get around. It quickly became an obsession.

"Their life was based around working — always hard work — and the rest of the time spent in church," Landis said. "They gave me things to do — they probably would've done that, anyway — but it's possible they gave me more because I would've been riding my bike otherwise."

But he did all the chores, then dressed in his cycling gear and a racing outfit to avoid offending the community's sense of modesty and took off for long solo rides every day at night. He became an accomplished mountain bike racer by age 18, spending less and less time in Dutch country before making a clean break two years later with a move to California. Soon after, Landis stepped out of the Mennonite religious fold, too.

"I wanted to get away and find out what there was in life, on my own," he said. "And the bicycle was a way of doing that."

What Landis didn't leave behind, though, was a voracious appetite for work. He made the segue from mountain bike competitions to road races because it was the only way to put food on the table. But in that endeavor, too, he carried over a piece of the past that would forge a champion — the willingness to go it alone.

Good thing, too, since both his calamitous fall from the lead and his phoenix-like rise the next day were accomplished with precious little help from his teammates.

Half a world away Sunday, back at the Martindale Mennonite Church in Landis' family still attends, the Rev. David Sensenig explained celebrating individual accomplishment is frowned upon in the faith. But on the lawn outside the Landis home nearby, alongside a sign that read, "To God be the glory" was another that acknowledged the long, difficult ride one of their own had completed with his virtues intact.

It said simply, "Floyd's the man."

Jim Iltke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at: jiltke@ap.org

Jim Iltke



# Pro Bowler Law agrees to deal with Chiefs

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Pro Bowl cornerback Ty Law agreed to a five-year deal with the Kansas City Chiefs on Sunday.

Law will replace Herman Edwards, who coached him with the New York Jets last year, when the veteran came back from a severe foot injury and led the NFL with 10 interceptions. Chiefs spokesman Bob Moore said Law was to

## Sports briefs

take his physical Monday. Edwards, who replaced Dick Vermeil as head coach of the Chiefs, is a former Pro Bowl cornerback and has vowed to revamp a Kansas City defense that the past five years has been near the bottom of the league.

The 32-year-old Law, a

five-time Pro Bowl selection, will pair with Patrick Surtain in what could be the Chiefs' strongest secondary since James Hasty and Albert Carter anchored the backfield in the mid-1990s. Law cost the Jets around \$6 million last year.

The Chiefs talked with Law last year before he signed with the Jets. They were one of several teams interested in picking him up this season.

## Williams has surgery on broken arm

MISSISSAUGA, Ontario — Ricky Williams had successful surgery on his broken left forearm, but there is no timetable for his return to the CFL's Toronto Argonauts.

Williams was hurt Saturday night in the first half of the Argonauts' 26-23 win over Saskatchewan when he used his

hand to break his fall on the turf at Mosaic Stadium in Regina.

The running back underwent surgery for an hour on Sunday, and the team said Monday that the operation was "by all accounts successful."

Williams is expected to miss at least four to six weeks of the CFL season. Argonauts coach Michael Clemons will try to make possible return date for Williams early next week, the team said.

He is playing in the CFL because he was suspended by the NFL for one year after a fourth positive drug test. Williams is still under contract with the Miami Dolphins.

## Rollins wins B.C. Open, now 10th in Ryder standings

VERONA, N.Y. — John Rollins shot an 8-under-par 64, edging Bob May by one shot to win the second time on the PGA Tour.

Rollins, who lost last year's B.C. Open by one shot to Jason Bohn, rolled in a 7-foot birdie putt on the final hole to beat May and pocket the winner's share of \$540,000. That moved him past \$1.2 million for the season and into 10th place in the Ryder Cup standings.

The 31-year-old Rollins, in his sixth year on the PGA Tour, made four birdies on the front side and three straight on the back to surge past third-round leader Gabriel Hjertstedt and finish at 19-under 269.

May (64) finished second for the third time in his career.

Shigeaki Maruyama rallied with a 65 to finish third at 17-under 271, his best finish of the season.

## Arbitrator awards Sabres' Briere \$5 million

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Buffalo Sabres co-captain Daniel Briere was awarded a one-year, \$5 million contract by an arbitrator Sunday.

Briere earned \$1,938 million last season, when he had 58 points in 48 games and added 19 points in 18 playoff games. If the Sabres accept the arbitrator's ruling, Briere will become the team's highest paid player, surpassing fellow co-captain Chris Drury's \$3.15 million.

The 28-year-old Briere is one of an NHL-high 10 Buffalo players who filed for salary arbitration this summer.

## James tops Roddick in final

INDIANAPOLIS — James Blake beat Andy Roddick 4-6, 6-4, 7-6 (5) to win the RCA Championships on Sunday afternoon.

It was Blake's second career win over Roddick in eight tries as he defended his status as the highest ranked American man. Blake, the tournament's No. 1 seed, is ranked sixth in the world; Roddick, the second seed, is ranked 11th. Roddick still hasn't won a tournament this year.

Roddick finished with 17 aces, but was consistently frustrated by Blake's foot speed. In the tiebreaker, Blake chased down one of many balls that appeared unreachable to go up 6-4. Roddick served an ace to make it 6-5, but Blake closed it out on the next point.

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## SPORTS



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Landis, Woods stick  
to winning plan, Page 34



SCRANTON TIMES-TRIBUNE, BUTCH COMEY/AP

Denny Hamlin takes a victory lap, as two race officials look on, after winning the Pennsylvania 500 on Sunday in Long Pond, Pa. It was Hamlin's second victory at Long Pond this year.

# Behind smoke, there's fire

## Hamlin blows away field; Stewart, Edwards among many that blow up at Pocono

BY JENNA FRYER  
The Associated Press

LONG POND, Pa. — Denny Hamlin hardly had to use his rearview mirror at Pocono Raceway, where no one was ever close enough to catch him.

But if Hamlin had taken a peek, he might have gotten a glimpse of the chaos unfolding behind him.

Tony Stewart tangled with Clint Bowyer and Carl Edwards, leading to aggressive driving penalties for Stewart and Edwards and hot tempers all over the garage. It all overshadowed Hamlin's season sweep at Pocono.

"Covering drama is more exciting than covering the race anymore," quipped second-place finisher Kurt Busch.

That was never more true than Sunday, with Edwards threatening to beat up Stewart and a seething Bowyer actually seeking out the NASCAR champion before he was intercepted on pit road.

Stewart, meanwhile, was pining for the days when the late Dale Earnhardt policed the garage and kept order on the track.

It began very early in the race when Bowyer pinched Stewart into the wall. Stewart responded with a wave out his window, then his own bump of Bowyer's car. It sent Bowyer spinning into Carl Edwards and earned Stewart a one-lap penalty for aggressive driving.

A furious Edwards later drove alongside Stewart and raised his arms as if to ask "what was that about?" and Stewart responded with a one-fingered salute that infuriated Edwards. He spun Stewart out on pit road to earn his own penalty, and vowed over his radio to fight Stewart after the race.

"I've got to choose my words carefully — if it weren't for the respect of the sport and the people watching and his team, he'd be out there bleeding right now," Edwards later fumed. "That's so frustrating. How can a person make it this far in life being such a jerk?"

"If you hold that guy up, like if he thinks you held him up, he gets so upset and then he can wreck two guys and give you the finger. That's spectacularly self-centered. I can't imagine being like that."

Stewart recovered to finish seventh, and got back into Chase for championship contention at 10th place in the standings. He seemed rather pleased with the day's events as he stood outside his car on pit road.

But as he gave his take, a furious Bowyer had marched out to meet with him — only to be unable to get past the front of the car.

Had he made it, Stewart might have been ready with a stern Earnhardt-like lecture.

"I think if the No. 3 car was here, I don't think we would have the same problems in



Carl Edwards  
NASCAR driver

Tony Stewart  
NASCAR driver

**"I've got to choose my words carefully — if it weren't for the respect of the sport and the people watching and his team, he'd be out there bleeding right now."**

*That's so frustrating. How can a person make it this far in life being such a jerk?"*

**"There is only a handful of guys that don't get it, but the problem that they are in good race cars and they don't run up front enough to learn from the rest of us how to race up front."**

this series as we have," Stewart said. "He always had a way of letting drivers know where they stood and when to move and when not to move. It's just the first-year and second-year drivers that don't understand that there needs to be a little give-and-take."

"There is only a handful of guys that don't get it, but the problem that they are in good race cars and they don't run up front enough to learn from the rest of us how to race up front."

SEE STORY ON PAGE 30

Mariners top Red Sox on Sexson's walk-off homer Page 32

