

Group to release Iraqi vote investigation findings



The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq

Iraq's election commission will announce results of its investigation into reports of vote fraud today, officials said, while the tribunal overseeing Saddam Hussein's trial confirmed the chief judge has asked to resign. The Independent Electoral Commission of Iraq, has worked through the 50 or so serious complaints of voter fraud lodged after the Dec. 15 election, Safwat Rashid, an official with the panel, said Sunday.

About 2,000 complaints were filed, but the commission said only 50 had the potential to change vote totals. The governing United Iraqi Alliance, a Shiite religious bloc, has a strong lead, according to preliminary results. But it won't win enough seats in the 275-member parliament to avoid forming a coalition with Sunni Arab and Kurdish parties. Final election results have been delayed by Sunni Arab complaints of fraud. Although leading politicians have expressed hopes a government could be formed in February, most experts and officials agree it could

take two to three months. About 900 ballot boxes were checked for problems and a minority of those will be thrown out, Rashid said. He refused to say how many but noted the boxes hold only about 500 votes, meaning the overall impact would be minimal. The commission hasn't worked through the other 1,930 or so complaints, another elections official said. Those less serious charges wouldn't change any vote totals but could result in fines, he said. The international team assessing the IECI's handling of the voting

process also said it would release its final report Thursday. The IECI is expected to release uncertified final results shortly after that, perhaps as soon as this coming weekend. "The work of the team has been going fast, so we decided there is no need for a preliminary report," Mazin Shuaib of the International Mission for Iraqi Elections said. More complaints could be lodged after that, and it could take up to two weeks to study those complaints. Certified final results would then be announced, likely sometime in early February, opening the way for nego-

tiations over a coalition government. The tribunal overseeing the Saddam case said Judge Rizgar Mohammed Amin submitted his resignation for personal reasons and not because of government pressure. It said the trial would reconvene Jan. 24 as scheduled. Amin submitted his resignation after becoming fed up with criticism that he had let the proceedings against the ousted leader spin out of control, a court official said Saturday. The tribunal was considering whether to appoint a new judge to the trial, the official said, adding that officials had asked Amin to reconsider.

BRIEF NATION

DUGWAY PROVING GROUND, Utah

Space capsule brings comet dust to Earth

After a seven-year journey, a NASA space capsule returned safely to Earth on Sunday with the first dust ever fetched from a comet, a cosmic bounty that scientists hope will yield clues to how the solar system formed. The capsule's blazing plunge through the atmosphere lit up parts of the western sky as it capped a mission in which the Stardust spacecraft swooped past a comet known as Wild 2. "This is not the finish line. This is just the intermediate pit stop," said project manager Tom Duxbury of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif., which managed the \$212 million mission. About a million comet and interstellar dust particles, most smaller than the width of a human hair, are believed to be inside a sealed canister.

BRIEFS WORLD

JERUSALEM

Doctors say surgery will help Sharon's breathing

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon underwent a successful tracheotomy Sunday to help wean him off a respirator that has been helping him breathe, but the Israeli leader's failure to regain consciousness after a massive stroke was drawing increasing concern. The surgery to insert a plastic tube in Sharon's windpipe took less than an hour and followed a CT scan that showed no changes in the 77-year-old leader's brain. Though Sharon was taken off sedatives Saturday, he had not regained consciousness more than a day later. The hospital continued to describe his condition as critical but stable. The tracheotomy was necessary because the former tube to a respirator would have started to cause damage if it remained in place, said Dr. Philip Stieg, chair of neurosurgery at the Weill-Cornell Medical College in New York.



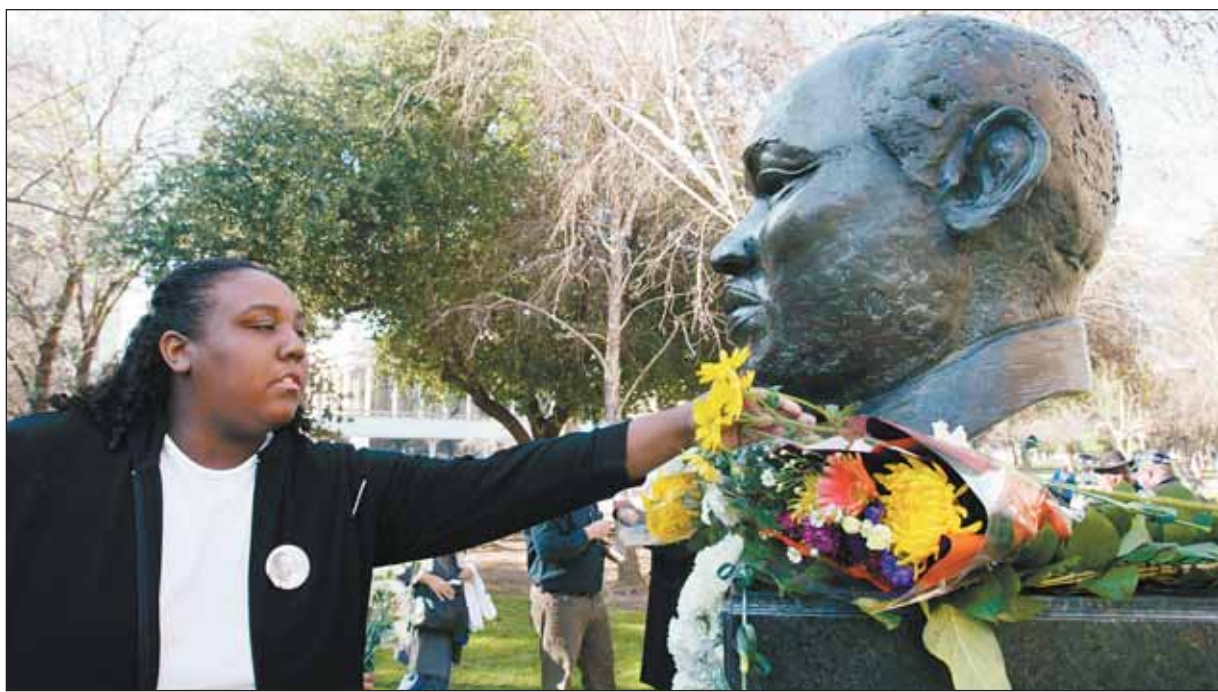
SHARON

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

Journalists among 500 Iraqi prisoners freed

The U.S. military on Sunday released about 500 prisoners cleared of ties to Iraq's insurgency, including a pair of journalists who had been held for months, U.S. military officials said. Majed Hameed, an Iraqi reporter for the Dubai-based Al-Arabiya network and the Reuters news agency, was released Sunday after four months in custody, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt said. Ali al-Mashhadani, a Reuters photographer and cameraman jailed since August, was also freed in the mass release of 500 prisoners from Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad, Reuters reported.

Remembering a leader

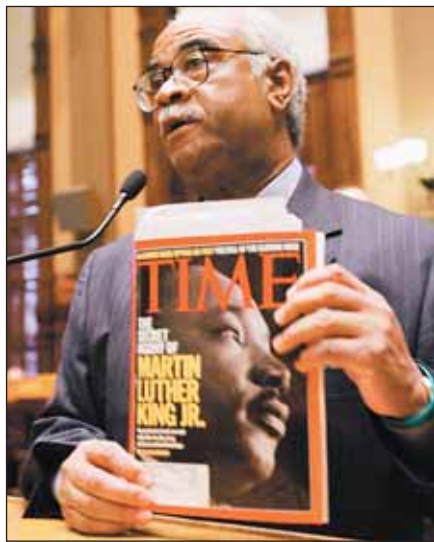


Jessica Blades places a flower on the bust of Martin Luther King Jr. during a ceremony at Fresno's (Calif.) Courthouse Park on Friday. Today marks the 20th anniversary of the King National Holiday, which honors the life of the civil rights leader.

Family feud, new book threaten to distract from King's legacy

By ERRIN HAINES
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ATLANTA
On the eve of what would have been Martin Luther King Jr.'s 77th birthday, his legacy is under attack and its greatest defender is unable to speak. King's widow, Coretta Scott King, is recovering from a stroke that partially paralyzed her, and on Saturday made her first public appearance since last year's King holiday observance, smiling from a wheelchair at the Salute to Greatness Dinner. The couple's four children are divided over whether to sell the family-run center that promotes King's teachings. And the spotlight is again hitting King's human side in a new book that cites extramarital affairs and a nasty split with a civil rights colleague, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, a story that threatened to overshadow King's humanitarian contributions on the 20th anniversary of the King National Holiday. Despite the distractions, those who stood by King's side in the civil rights movement say the memory of the self-named "Drum Major for Justice" is untouchable. "Dr. King's legacy is as sound as a rock," said Tyrone Brooks, a Georgia state representative from Atlanta who worked alongside King in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which King co-founded in 1957. Rumors of womanizing by King and



Rep. Tyrone Brooks, D-Atlanta, pays tribute to Martin Luther King Jr. and calls for a moment of silent prayer for King's widow, Coretta Scott King, who is recovering from a stroke she suffered last summer.

feuds with Jackson and others have long been popular topics in media and books like "And the Walls Came Tumbling Down," the memoir written decades ago by King's former right-hand man, the Rev. Ralph David Abernathy. Historian Taylor Branch's book "At Canaan's Edge," released last week, is the latest. In the book, the third in Branch's

series detailing King's life and the civil rights movement, the author writes of an affair King reportedly revealed to his wife the year before his 1968 assassination. U.S. Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., a civil rights activist interviewed by Branch, said King's stature will always make him a target. "We get in the habit of trying to tear down noble figures from time to time. I think it's just human nature," said Lewis, who met King at age 18. "He was not a saint, he was just another human being." The King Center for Nonviolent Social Change, site of his tomb, was founded by Coretta Scott King soon after her husband's death. Last month, the center's board of directors broached the possibility of selling it to the National Park Service. Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young, along with two of the Kings' children, Dexter and Yolanda, and King's sister, Christine King Farris — all lifetime board members — are in favor of it. But Martin Luther King III and his sister Bernice object to any sale and are threatening legal action against Dexter, the board's chairman. Bernice and Martin III say they should have done more to prevent the center from falling \$11 million into disrepair. "Tearing the center's unique and essential elements apart, its physical memorial and its living legacy, only diminishes them both, thereby weakening, not strengthening, the cause to which my father and mother gave so much," Martin Luther King III said.



Protesters chant anti-U.S. slogans during a Sunday demonstration against a reported CIA airstrike that Pakistan says killed innocent civilians instead of intended target Ayman al-Zawahri.

Officials: missile missed target

Al-Zawahri skips dinner invitation, escapes U.S. attack

The Associated Press

PESHAWAR, Pakistan
Al-Qaida's No. 2 leader was invited to a dinner marking a Muslim festival on the night of the devastating U.S. missile strike in a Pakistani border village, but he failed to show up, Pakistani intelligence officials said Sunday.



AL-ZAWAHRI

Ayman al-Zawahri sent aides instead, the officials said, and investigators are trying to establish if any of them were among the at least 17 people killed in the attack, which sparked a second day of anti-U.S. protests across the country Sunday. About 10,000 people rallied in Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, chanting "Death to America" and "Stop bombing innocent people." Hundreds also protested in Islamabad, Lahore, Multan and Peshawar, burning U.S. flags and demanding U.S. troops leave neighboring Afghanistan. Ghafoor Ahmed, a leader in the coalition of Islamic groups that organized Sunday's rallies, told demonstrators in Karachi that Pakistan's president, Gen. Pervez Musharraf, should resign. "The army cannot defend the country under his leadership," Ahmed said. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., and other American lawmakers on Sunday defended the airstrike. "This war on terror has no boundaries," McCain told CBS. "We have to go where these people are, and we have to take them out." David Almay, a White House spokesman, declined to comment directly on the airstrike, saying only, "President Musharraf is a valued ally and partner in the war on terror, as is Pakistan." Pakistan says it does not allow U.S. forces on its soil to attack or hunt militants. The government condemned the attack and lodged a diplomatic protest Saturday, saying it had killed innocent civilians.

Bill would make bringing knives to school a crime

By DEANNA MARTIN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS
Legislation that would make it a crime to bring knives to school could prevent supplies like scissors from making it into the classroom, some critics said. Supporters of the bill say it would close a loophole in state law. Currently, students can be expelled if they bring a knife to school, but can't be charged

criminally unless they threaten or harm someone with the weapon, said the bill's sponsor, Rep. Chet Dobis, D-Merrillville. His bill would make bringing a knife onto school property or a school bus a misdemeanor, even if a student did not threaten or hurt anyone with the weapon. The legislation is a response to a 2004 incident in which a 15-year-old Valparaiso High School student reportedly slashed five classmates in a knife attack during a

Spanish class. Two other students were treated for other injuries. Dobis, whose daughter was teaching the class, said the injuries could have been much worse. "Something very terrible could have happened," he said. "There's no school corporation that's immune." Authorities have said that James S. Lewerke, the student charged in the attack, told investigators he attacked his classmates after God told him to because they

were "sinners." He is living out of state while his case is pending. Dobis said police should be able to arrest students who have knives at school before they have a chance to hurt others. But other lawmakers say the bill goes too far. The legislation defines a knife as a weapon or item that can be readily adapted to be used as a weapon with a sharp blade capable of inflicting cutting, stabbing or tearing wounds.

DAILY JOURNAL READERS' GUIDE

MAIN PHONE NUMBER
736-7101
8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday

ADDRESS
2575 N. Morton St. (U.S. 31)
P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131

DELIVERY, BILLING QUESTIONS
736-2777; (888) 736-7101
6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday,
7 a.m. to noon Saturday.
Subscribers should call if they have
not received a newspaper by 7 a.m.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
736-2700; (888) 736-7101
8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2754

STORY IDEAS, NEWS TIPS
736-2712
After 5 p.m.: 736-2723
Fax: 736-2766
newstips@thejournalnet.com

SPORTS
Send sports scores, stories and
suggestions to:
rmorwick@thejournalnet.com

ADVERTISING
736-2786
8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday
Fax: 736-2713

POSTMASTER
Send address changes to:
Daily Journal, P.O. Box 699,
Franklin, IN 46131
Periodical Class Postage
Paid at Franklin, IN
Daily Journal (USPS 565-520)

VOLUME
Volume 43, No. 156

BACK ISSUES, DIGITAL PHOTOS
Copies of the Daily Journal are
available for six months. Digital
files of photos published in the
newspaper are available on CDs.
Please call 736-7101.

COPYRIGHT
© The Daily Journal, 2005
All rights reserved.

ABOUT THE DAILY JOURNAL
The Daily Journal is an award-winning newspaper published daily except Sundays and Christmas at 2575 N. Morton St., Franklin, IN 46131.
Founded in 1963, the Daily Journal is owned by Home News Enterprises L.L.C. and is one of Indiana's most widely recognized and honored community newspapers.
The Daily Journal is committed to responsible reporting, professional business practices and dedicated community service.
The newspaper is a member of the Associated Press, Hoosier State Press Association, Inland Press Association and Certified Audit of Circulations.

TO SUBSCRIBE
Subscription rates are listed below.
To subscribe, call 736-2777.

Single copy
Monday-Friday \$.50
Weekend issue \$ 1.00

Home delivery
Month \$10.40
Year \$118.80

Mail delivery
4 months \$49.00
8 months \$98.00
12 months \$147.00

Student
1 semester \$47.00
2 semesters \$96.00

Military
4 months \$42.00
8 months \$80.00
12 months \$113.00

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
P.O. Box 699
Franklin, IN 46131
letters@thejournalnet.com

MANAGEMENT TEAM

Publisher
Jeffrey W. Owen 736-2744
jowen@thejournalnet.com

Editor
Scarlett Syse 736-2749
syse@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor
Michele Holtkamp-Frye 736-2774
mholtkamp@thejournalnet.com

Assistant managing editor
Jennifer L. Gaskin 736-2721
jgaskin@thejournalnet.com

Circulation director
Mike Warren 736-2711
mwarren@thejournalnet.com

Delivery manager
Bruce Powell 736-2702
bpowell@thejournalnet.com

Advertising director
Christina Cosner 736-2750
ccosner@thejournalnet.com

Administrative manager
Linda Wirey 736-2751
lwirey@thejournalnet.com

Information technology manager
Kathy McDermott 736-2782
kmcdermott@thejournalnet.com

PAYMENTS
Payments can be made by cash, check, MasterCard or Visa. Readers also can sign up for E-Z Pay plan and have their monthly subscriptions deducted automatically from their checking accounts, Visa or MasterCard. Direct questions about payments to 736-7101.

WEB SITES
www.thejournalnet.com
www.djclassifieds.com