

BRIEF STATE

INDIANAPOLIS
Lilly CEO received raise, made \$15.2 million in '06

Eli Lilly and Co. raised the salary of Chief Executive Officer Sidney Taurel 4 percent last year to \$1.65 million, bringing his total compensation for the year to \$15.2 million.

The Indianapolis drug maker cited the company's 6 percent sales increase in 2005 and "strong headcount control" as chief reasons for the raise, according to a proxy statement the company filed Tuesday with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Taurel's compensation total listed in the proxy includes a \$2.8 million bonus and an award of \$5.4 million in restricted company shares. It does not include \$3 million Taurel made exercising stock options.

BRIEFS NATION

ORLANDO, Fla.
Astronaut charged with attempted murder

A NASA astronaut accused of trying to kidnap a romantic rival for a space shuttle pilot's affections was charged with attempted first-degree murder Tuesday and released from jail after posting \$25,500 bail.

"The intent was there to do serious bodily injury or death," said Orlando Police Sgt. Barb Jones, referring to a new steel mallet, knife, rubber tubing and large garbage bags that police found in Lisa Marie Nowak's possession.

Nowak, a 43-year-old Navy captain and married mother of three, had already been charged with attempted kidnapping, attempted vehicle burglary with battery, destruction of evidence and battery.

Nowak was released from jail late Tuesday. She was escorted by chief astronaut Steve Lindsey and a bail bondsman on her way to get fitted for an ankle bracelet that would track her whereabouts.

If convicted of attempted murder, she faces between 30 years and life in prison, authorities said.

Police said Nowak drove 900 miles, donned a disguise and was armed with a BB gun and pepper spray when she confronted a woman she believed was a competitor for the affections of Navy Cmdr. William Oefelein, an unmarried fellow astronaut.



NOWAK



OEFELEIN

BRIEF WORLD

LONDON
Video shows U.S. pilots before British soldier killed

A leaked cockpit video published Tuesday captures a dramatic exchange between two American pilots whose voices choke up when they learn they have killed British soldier Lance Cpl. Matty Hull in a 2003 friendly fire incident in Iraq.

"I'm going to be sick," one pilot says, later adding "we're in jail, dude."

Neither pilot from the Boise, Idaho-based 190th Fighter Squadron was disciplined in the U.S. military's own investigation, which concluded the pilots followed the procedures and processes for engaging targets, Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Tuesday.

The leaking of the tape strained relations between the Department of Defense and their British counterparts, who were previously given a DVD of the classified video.

Grand jury audiotapes played at trial

Libby describes his memories of CIA leak

By MATT APUZZO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

On grand jury audiotapes played at his trial on Tuesday, former White House aide Lewis Libby said he learned about a CIA officer from Vice President Dick Cheney, forgot it, then learned it again from NBC News reporter Tim Russert a month later.

The complicated history of Libby's recollections is at the heart of his perjury and obstruction trial in exposing the identity of Valerie Plame, a CIA employee. She is married to war critic and former Ambassador Joseph Wilson.

Libby's 2004 grand jury testimony conflicts with testimony at his trial by a former White House press secretary, a former New York Times reporter, a recent vice presidential spokeswoman, a former CIA official and a former State Department undersecretary.



LIBBY

All testified that Libby discussed Plame with them. Libby said in about eight hours of grand jury testimony that he did not remember Plame coming up in any of those conversations. Special Prosecutor Patrick Fitzgerald has told jurors for weeks that Libby lied.

Meanwhile, the long-anticipated testimony by Cheney as well as Libby himself may not materialize. Libby's lawyers indicated this week

that Cheney was potentially a witness and Libby might decide against taking the witness stand.

In audiotapes from Libby's grand jury testimony, Fitzgerald walked Libby through the Bush administration's response to Wilson's suggestion in 2003 that the government had twisted pre-war intelligence about Iraq.

Libby told the grand jury he was "disturbed ... upset's a fair word I guess" by Wilson's July 6, 2003 attack on the administration in an op-ed piece in The New York Times.

As for Cheney, "I'm sure he was upset," Libby added.

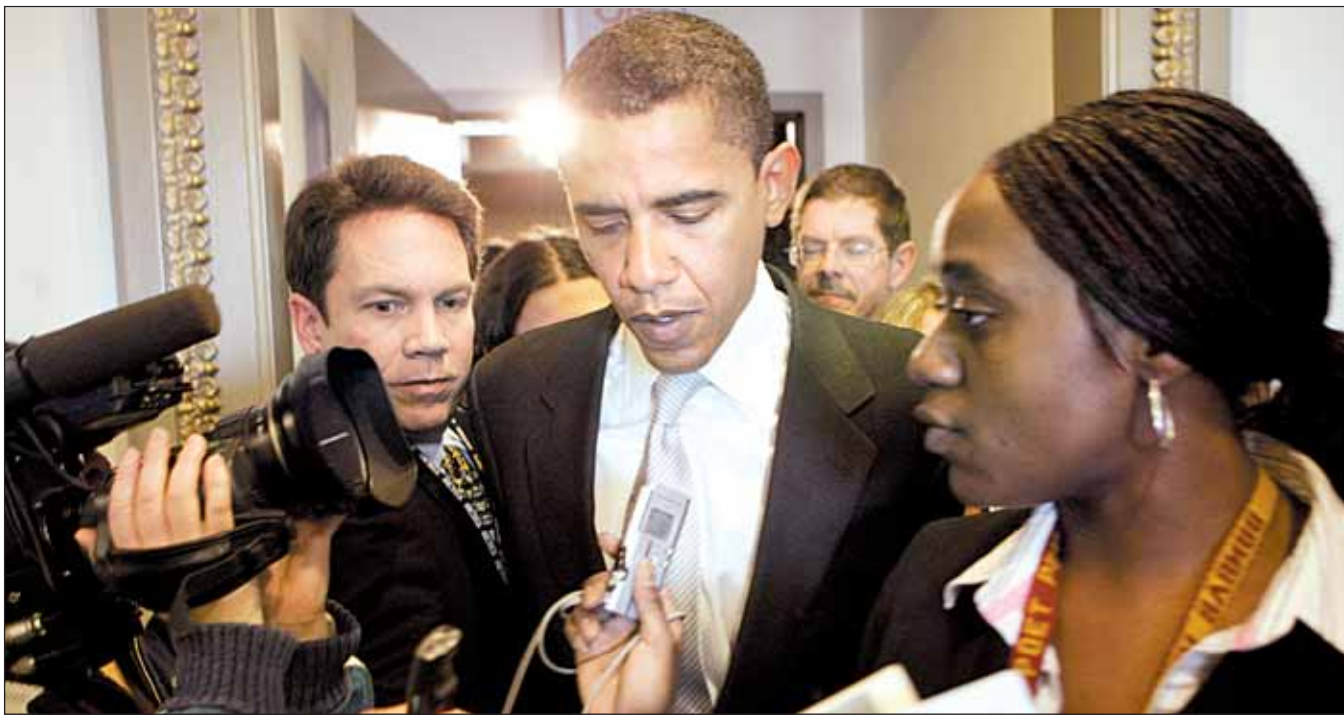
To rebut Wilson's assertion, Libby said Cheney told him to leak an intelligence report saying Iraq had vigorously begun trying to acquire uranium from the African nation of Niger.

Cheney had already told Libby at that point that Wilson's wife worked for the CIA, a fact that Fitzgerald says Libby relayed to Miller. Libby says he forgot all about Plame until days later, when Russert told him about it.

Russert is expected to testify today and will be a key witness because his recollection of that conversation is at odds with Libby's.

THE WAR AGAINST TERRORISM

House prepares to vote against Iraq buildup



AP PHOTO

Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., center, talks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington on Tuesday. Obama joined two lawmakers in proposing a measure to stop President Bush from increasing troops in Iraq.

Democrats still working on nonbinding resolution

By DAVID ESPO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

The Democratic-controlled House is planning to vote next week on opposing President Bush's Iraq troop buildup in a wartime clash between Congress and commander in chief.

The precise nature of the nonbinding measure remains to be determined, officials said Tuesday, although Brendan Daly, a spokesman for Speaker Nancy Pelosi, said it would focus on the opposition to the surge in troops.

The Pentagon is in the midst of implementing Bush's order to raise troop levels by 21,500, part of a plan to help quell sectarian violence in Baghdad.

Across the Capitol on the Senate side, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Tuesday that U.S. forces might be able to

start leaving Iraq before the end of the year, if daunting conditions including subdued violence and political reconciliation are met.

Bush's revised strategy has sparked strong opposition among Democrats, and officials said that Pelosi and Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, D-Md., had both pledged to their rank-and-file that next week's vote would merely be the first attempt to pressure the president to shift course in the war. Other legislation will be binding, they said.

Under House rules, Democratic leaders have the authority to advance a measure to the floor for three days of debate and a vote.

That stands in contrast to the Senate, where Republicans have so far blocked an attempt by Democrats to hold a full-fledged debate on a war that has claimed the lives of more than 3,000 U.S. troops.

House Democratic leaders charted their course as Gates told lawmakers the

buildup in troops is not the last chance to succeed in Iraq and "I would be irresponsible if I weren't thinking about what the alternatives might be."

Even as the Democratic leaders mapped plans to take symbolic votes against Bush's policy, two bills were unveiled during the day to force the president to move toward a troop withdrawal.

"The only people who believe there is a workable military solution for the conflict in Iraq is the Bush administration," said Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., in announcing legislation that would require Bush to complete the redeployment of American troops within a year.

Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois, a Democratic presidential hopeful, joined two other lawmakers in proposing a measure to block Bush from implementing his planned troop increase, and to begin a withdrawal by May 1.

Iraqi prime minister pushing to speed up security operation

By KIM GAMEL
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq

Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki complained Tuesday the long-awaited Baghdad security operation was off to a slow start and warned that insurgents are taking advantage of the delay to kill as many people as possible.

But he also reassured Iraqis that security forces will live up to their responsibilities.

The statement came as new checkpoints were erected and increased vehicle inspections and foot patrols were reported in some neighborhoods, providing the main evidence so far that U.S. and Iraqi forces

were gearing up for a major neighborhood-to-neighborhood sweep to quell sectarian violence in the city of 6 million.

Underscoring the dangers as the U.S. augments its force by 21,500 as part of the plan, the U.S. military announced the deaths of two more troops, including a soldier who was killed Tuesday by small-arms fire at a security post southwest of Baghdad, and a Marine who died Monday in Anbar province, west of the capital.

At least 51 Iraqis also were killed or found dead around the country, including eight slain by two car bombs in Baghdad.

"The operations will unite us and we will take action soon, God willing, even though I believe we've been very late and this

delay has started to give a negative message," al-Maliki said.

He urged his commanders to step up efforts to complete the preparations for the security plan, saying the delays had allowed insurgents to step up attacks that have killed hundreds in recent weeks.

"I say again, we have talked much about the operations, and while the Iraqis are waiting and waiting, the terrorists in turn have raised the level of the bombing operations and started killing people in mass numbers," al-Maliki told his commanders.

"Our slogan should be 'rest is prohibited, especially for military men, and day and night should merge in working to achieve victory.'"

Federal budget deal seems unlikely

Democrats left bristling over president's cuts

By ANDREW TAYLOR
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

Many of the necessary ingredients are there for the budget chefs in Washington to whip up a bipartisan deal.

ANALYSIS

Take the bountiful revenues that make it much easier to balance the budget. Add in the fact that it's not an election year, so politics shouldn't spoil the policymaking.

Warm with the relationships that have formed between key administration officials and lawmakers. Even having a government divided between a Democratic Congress and a GOP president can be a plus, especially a president looking for a recipe to establish his legacy.

But rather than improve prospects of agreement with Democrats, President Bush's proposal for next year seems to have left the budget kitchen in turmoil.

Bush's budget appeals to anti-tax GOP conservatives and advocates of private accounts within Social Security while slighting Democratic priorities like health insurance coverage for children in low-income families.

"I don't think that I can tell the president what to put on the table and not to put on the table, but I can tell him, 'don't pick a damn fight,'" said House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Charles Rangel, D-N.Y.

The poor start toward agreement on any number of budget issues dismays people like Senate Budget Committee Chairman Kent Conrad, D-N.D., who's hoping for action on the nation's long-term fiscal problems.

There's certainly no shortage of budget problems crying out for solutions: tax cuts that expire in four years unless renewed; federal retirement programs like Social Security and Medicare that need to be overhauled to absorb tens of millions of baby boomers, a looming hidden tax hike on the middle class under the alternative minimum tax.

Bush's GOP allies in Congress have made it clear they'll insist on no rollbacks on his tax cuts, even though such an agreement might make some of the tax cuts permanent instead of expiring at the end of 2010.

And if Democrats fall on their faces and are unable to pass a budget blueprint, that may be OK with the GOP, too.

"They have a responsibility to govern," said House Minority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio. "It's been clear for some time that they're likely to have a balanced budget, but they're going to raise taxes and increase spending."

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