

TRIBUNE-REVIEW

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Worthy of Western Pennsylvania 50¢
Four sections • 44 pages

Some experts believe Iraq's insurgency will spread

One fear is that Iran will stir up Shiite factions.

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — With the grim milestone of the 2,000th U.S. military death looming in Iraq, many wonder about the direction of the insurgency that killed most of them.

Experts think the country's increasingly regional-oriented politics will fuel the insurgency and spread it further inside Iraq.

Others put forward a simple, disquieting scenario: As long as U.S. and other foreign troops remain in Iraq, the insurgency will continue.

"It will become more chaotic," predicted Magnus Ranstorp of the Swedish National Defense College in Stockholm, Sweden. "It is obvious that the United

States is in Iraq to stay. If this is the case, the Shiites will likely join the Sunnis in the fight."

The 2,000 mark in U.S. military deaths is approaching at a time when Iraqi and U.S. officials are congratulating themselves that the Oct. 15 constitutional referendum and the start of Saddam Hussein's trial four days later passed without major bloodshed and destruction.

They also are upbeat about the grow-

ing efficiency and number — 200,000 at present — of Iraq's security forces, although some U.S. commanders say the Iraqis need 18 months to two years before they can fight the insurgency unaided.

Recent operations in western Iraq, especially in towns along the Euphrates River close to the Syrian border, are said to have been effective in disrupting the insurgents' supply lines and reducing the number of car bombs.

Stepped-up security has forced insurgents in recent weeks to largely abandon using car bombs and resort to indirect fire, such as lobbing mortar shells from afar, Interior Minister Bayan Jabr said.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, U.S. military spokesman in Iraq, said troops captured more than 300 foreign fighters and killed 100 members of al-Qaida in Iraq the past

SEE INSURGENCY • A5

Big Ben back in the saddle



PHILIP G. PAVELY/TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger and center Jeff Hartings celebrate a third-quarter touchdown Sunday against the Bengals at Paul Brown Stadium in Cincinnati. The score put the Steelers up 17-6. They went on to win, 27-13. Full coverage, D1.

100 years later, Einstein's work still fascinates

Experts will gather at Pitt today to try to explain his findings.

BY JENNIFER BAILS
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Never before in human history has so much been said with so little.

One hundred years ago, with a mere three letters and two symbols, mathematician and physicist Albert Einstein shook the founda-

tions of science and forever changed the way mankind thinks about the universe.

The equation: $E=mc^2$.
Most people can rattle off this formula by rote, but few understand its meaning. Yet it was a discovery that changed the course of human history, leading the world into the nuclear age.

Einstein — with a legendary brain and the wild hairdo that inspired Andy Warhol — has become a pop culture figure to millions

who can't make sense of his science.

But astronomer Andrew Connolly of the University of Pittsburgh encourages even nonscientists to try to comprehend the world's most celebrated equation and Einstein's other discoveries, because of their enormous implications.

"The breadth of Einstein's work and the impact he had is just phenomenal," said Connolly, who is among six researchers scheduled

SEE EINSTEIN • A5

Penn-Trafford strike on; no negotiations planned

The district says the teachers' latest proposal is worse than the last.

BY PAUL PATERRA
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Teachers in the Penn-Trafford School District are poised to strike today, leaving some

4,700 students out of the classroom.

Shaun Rinier, president of the Penn-Trafford Education Association, submitted another proposal to the district Friday and said he was willing to negotiate over the weekend. But as of Sunday night, he said he had not heard from administrators.

SEE PENN-TRAFFORD • A5

Paramedic Juan Saavedra loads Dave Green into an ambulance Sunday at the Key West Convalescent Center in Key West, Fla. The Florida Keys are under a mandatory evacuation as Hurricane Wilma approaches.



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Florida braces for one more hurricane

Wilma could be a repeat of Charley.

SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Hurricane Wilma was expected to slam Florida's southwest coast possibly as a Category 3 storm by 8 a.m. today, barrel across the state and emerge in the Atlantic near West Palm Beach by early afternoon.

For the state's west coast, it could be a repeat of Hurricane Charley, which demolished the Punta Gorda area in August

SEE HURRICANE • A5

MORNING BRIEFING

Weather
45-38



Colder with periods of rain today and tonight. A12

Nation/World

All 117 people on board a Nigerian airliner die when the Boeing 737 crashes and disintegrates in flames shortly after take-off from Lagos airport, the government confirms. A2

Harriet Miers does not have the votes now in the GOP-controlled Senate to be confirmed for the Supreme Court, and confirmation

hearings "will be make or break ... in a way they haven't been for any other nominee," a leading Democratic senator says. A3

Opinion

Bob Jubelirer is in deep trouble, says Dimitri Vassilaros. A11

Local

Operation Backpack, a nonprofit that provides suspected child abuse victims with

comfort items, is in need of funds. B1

Fayette commissioners review "wish lists" as they contemplate an operating budget for 2006. B1

Sports

Pitt still has a shot at the Big East championship if the team wins its last three games — including the season closer with West Virginia. D2

In a script right out of Fantasyland, Lucas Glover captured his first PGA Tour victory Sunday with birdies on the last two holes to win the Funai Classic at Disney. D2



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