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Six sections ¥ 68 pages



Beaver County soldier's death a homicide

Paytas and another person argued before he was shot.

BY BRIAN BOWLING
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

A Beaver County soldier's killing last month in Iraq was a homicide, the Army said Monday.

Pvt. Dylan Paytas, 20, of Freedom, and another individual were arguing before Paytas was shot several times Nov. 16 at a forward base in Baqubah, said Christopher Grey, a spokesman for the Army's Criminal Investigation Division in Fort Belvoir, Va.

Paytas' killer was neither an Iraqi soldier nor an Iraqi civilian, Grey

said. He would not say whether the shooter was another American soldier. No one has been arrested in the case.

The Defense Department defines homicide as a service member killing a fellow service member.

Grey referred questions about the circumstances of Paytas' slaying to the Army's Central Command in

Iraq. Command spokesman Lt. Col. Barry Johnson said he could not provide further details until the criminal division concludes its investigation.

A 2003 Freedom Area High School graduate, Paytas was a combat engineer assigned to the 3rd Brigade Troops Battalion, 3rd Infantry Division, of Fort Benning, Ga. Paytas

deployed to Iraq in January and was due to return home next month. He was buried Nov. 26 with military honors.

Grey said the Army would tell the soldier's family the results of its investigation before disclosing anything publicly.

SEE PAYTAS ¥ A5

Massacre recounted

First witness describes a human meat grinder

The trial was marked by outbursts from Saddam and a co-defendant.

BY AAMER MADHANI
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

BAGHDAD — The first witness to appear in court Monday for Saddam Hussein's trial was able to keep his composure as he recounted the 1982 massacre of Dujail in a vivid, albeit rambling, monologue.

He spoke of an intelligence service building where he and his family were imprisoned that was so crowded there wasn't enough room for everyone to lie down to sleep. He calmly described seeing bits of hair and blood under something he described as a human meat grinder.

But when Ahmed Hassan Mohammed, 38, began telling the court that his teenage brother was savagely beaten and tortured with electric shock by Saddam's henchmen, he broke down.

"They beat him in front of my father," said Mohammed, tears streaming down his cheeks. "He was bleeding. ... He was bleeding from his back."

Chilling and detailed, Mohammed's testimony marked a haunting moment in Iraqi history as he accused Saddam, who sat just a few feet away

SEE SADDAM ¥ A4



DAVID FURST/GETTY IMAGES

Former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Barzan Ibrahim al-Tikriti (background) berate the court during their trial Monday, held under tight security in the heavily fortified Green Zone in Baghdad. Saddam and seven others face charges that they ordered the killing of nearly 150 people in the mainly Shiite village of Dujail, north of Baghdad, after a failed attempt on the former dictator's life in 1982.

Senate race may bring religion into voting booth

Santorum, a one-time altar boy, and Casey, a past Jesuit volunteer, say their faith is key.

BY DAVID M. BROWN
TRIBUNE-REVIEW

An anticipated electoral showdown next year between U.S. Sen. Rick Santorum and Pennsylvania Treasurer Bob Casey Jr. will produce lots of talk about faith.

And that might be fine with Democrats, even though national opinion polls show Democrats trail Republicans badly when voters are asked which political party is more friendly toward religion.

Santorum, 47, a Penn Hills Republican, has long championed faith-related initiatives in his rise to national prominence. But Democrats point to Casey, 45, of Scranton, as the party's poster boy for a new faith in some of that old-time religion.

Both say their religious beliefs have an impact on their politics and actions as government officials.

"It's had a tremendous impact in a very positive way," Casey said. "I don't think you can



Casey



Santorum

always equate religious teachings with action by government. But I do think faith has inspired me and a lot of public officials to take action."

Santorum said: "Religion certainly has an influence on me, as do other things. ... It's not determinative, but certainly it plays a role."

Democrats are trying to steal a page from the GOP strategy of courting religious voters, which helped the party regain the White House in 2000 and strengthen its control of the Senate and House in 2004.

In July, Senate Minority Leader Harry M. Reid, D-Nev., launched a new Web site aimed at religious voters, titled "A Word to the Faithful." One picture shows Reid and others,

SEE RELIGION ¥ A2

Lesser DeLay charge thrown out

The former House majority leader still faces allegations of money laundering.

BY APRIL CASTRO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AUSTIN, Texas — A judge dismissed a conspiracy charge Monday against Rep. Tom DeLay but refused to throw out the far more serious allegations of money laundering, dashing the congressman's hopes for now of reclaiming his post as House majority leader.

Texas Judge Pat Priest, who is presiding over the case

against the Republican, issued the ruling after a hearing late last month in which DeLay's attorney argued that the indictment was fatally flawed.

When he was indicted in September, DeLay was required under House rules to relinquish the leadership post he had held since 2003. While yesterday's ruling was a partial victory for DeLay, he cannot reclaim his post because he remains under indictment.

The ruling means the case will move toward a trial next year, though other defense objections to the indictments remain to be heard by the judge.

SEE DELAY ¥ A5

Scientists now believe Titanic broke into 3 pieces

It had been thought the ship snapped in two.

BY JAY LINDSAY
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FALMOUTH, Mass. — Undersea explorers said Monday that the discovery of more wreckage from the Titanic suggests that the luxury liner broke into three sections — not two, as commonly thought — and thus sank faster than previously believed.

"The breakup and sinking of the Titanic has never been accurately depicted," Parks Stephenson, a Titanic historian, said at a conference at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

The ocean liner that was billed as "unsinkable" by its owner struck an iceberg on its maiden voyage and went down in the North Atlantic on April 14, 1912. About 1,500 people were killed.

Undersea explorer Robert Ballard located the bulk of the wreck in 1985, at a depth of 13,000 feet and about 380 miles southeast of

Newfoundland. He declared that the ship had broken into two major sections, and that is the way the sinking was portrayed in the 1997 movie about the catastrophe.

However, the latest expedition, sponsored by the History Channel, found two hull pieces, each roughly 40 feet by 90 feet and lying about a third of a mile from the rest of the wreck.

The explorers said the location of the wreckage indicates that the ship's bottom came off the ship intact — constituting a third major piece — and later broke in two.

MORNING BRIEFING

Weather

26 **A5**



Mostly cloudy with flurries today; very cold and windy tonight with flurries. **A18**

Nation/World

■ Iran says it is ready for constructive and serious talks over its controversial nuclear program, but Europe deems its position on enriching uranium unacceptable. **A3**

■ Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is in Europe with a message: Before Europeans protest alleged U.S. secret jails there, they should remember terrorism threatens them, too. **A3**

Health/Science

■ Several thousand U.S. children a year suffer strokes and some specialists fear they're on the rise. **A10**

Opinion

■ New is not always better on the battlefield, reminds Robert Novak. **A16**

Business

■ President Bush calls on American businesses to live up to their pension promises. **D1**

■ Sprucing up Tree City: More than \$7 million is being invested in the Forest Hills business district. **D1**

City & Region

■ A bounty hunter is convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the death of an unarmed fugitive last year. **B1**

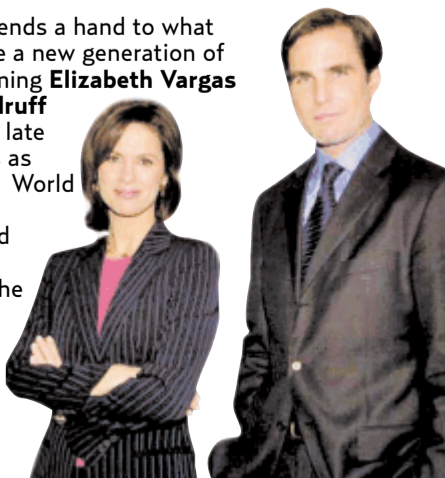
Sports

■ Sunday's loss to the Bengals puts the Steelers in a precarious spot: They need to win. **C3**

anchors for a new age

ABC News extends a hand to what it hopes will be a new generation of viewers by naming Elizabeth Vargas and Bob Woodruff

to succeed the late Peter Jennings as co-anchors of World News Tonight. Vargas, 43, and Woodruff, 44, also will lead the network as it expands onto the Internet and into the digital age.



Index

VOL. 117 # NO. 307
Advice **E7**
Bridge **E7**
Business **D1**
City & Region **B1**
Classified **F1**
Comics **E8**
Crossword **E7**

Editorials **A16,17**
Financial **D2**
Horoscope **E7**
Living **E1**
Lotteries **A18**
Movies **E5**
Obituaries **B4**
Sports **C1**
Television **E6**