

STATE

Teacher slaps child, surrenders license

SUMTER (AP) — A teacher accused of slapping a wheelchair-bound girl has voluntarily turned in his teaching license. Carlton Snow had been suspended without pay from his special education instructor job at Wilder Elementary School in Sumter since February. A police report says Snow struck a 12-year-old girl who suffers from cerebral palsy in the face with his hand on Feb. 11. The girl cannot speak, but a staff member reported the incident.

Lieberman says U.S. must prevent jihad

CHARLESTON (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate Joe Lieberman said Saddam Hussein, Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida terrorist network are trying to incite a global religious war, and said Iraq is the testing ground for the United States to prevent it. In South Carolina for a meeting Sunday with Charleston area Democrats, the Connecticut senator said President Bush was right to visit troops in Iraq on Thanksgiving.

Court records to be posted on Internet

GREENVILLE (AP) — Records from one of the state's busiest court systems will soon be on the Internet. Starting next year, the Greenville County Clerk of Court's office will put criminal and civil court records online, joining a handful of South Carolina counties that have their court records on the Internet. State Supreme Court Chief Justice Jean Toal said the ultimate goal is for all counties to go online and link to one another. Greenville County Clerk of Court Paul Wickensimer said social security numbers will be blocked and, for now, the documents won't be available online.

NATION

Disney chairman resigns from board

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Disney vice chairman Roy E. Disney has resigned from the media giant's board of directors, sources close to the company said Sunday. He reportedly called on chairman Michael Eisner to resign as well. Disney's resignation may be a pre-emptive move to avoid being forced off the board of The Walt Disney Co. The board's governance and nominating committee has decided not to recommend Disney for another term because he is over the mandated retirement age of 72, said the sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Microphones found at sheriff's office

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF. (AP) — Sheriff's officials said several wireless microphones discovered outside their headquarters could be the latest of several attempts by journalists to surreptitiously get information on the Michael Jackson molestation case. The devices were found in a brushy area where Sheriff's Department employees frequently take breaks and where reporters are not normally allowed. Officials did not say when they discovered the microphones.

McCain criticizes Congress spending

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress is throwing away astonishing amounts, "spending money like a drunken sailor," and President Bush shares the blame because he is not using his veto power, Republican Sen. John McCain said Sunday. McCain, an avid critic of spending for lawmakers' pet projects in their districts and states, said the president's reluctance to veto legislation makes it harder for congressional negotiators to kill such spending.

WORLD

U.S. to transfer 100 inmates from Cuba

SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO (AP) — More than 100 men and boys will be transferred in the next two months from the U.S. jail for terrorism suspects in Cuba, including a teenager who allegedly killed an American special operations soldier, a U.S. military official said. The first of two new transfers is scheduled for the end of December, and the other in January, the official told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity. The detainees would be released from U.S. custody, but it was unclear if any would face further detention or prosecution in their home countries.

Syria hands over 22 bombing suspects

ISTANBUL, TURKEY (AP) — Syria handed over 22 suspects to Turkey on Sunday in connection with four deadly suicide bombings in Istanbul, the semi-official Anatolia news agency reported. The suspects, all Turks, reportedly fled the country after the attacks, which targeted two synagogues in near-simultaneous bombings Nov. 15 and the British consulate and a British bank in twin attacks five days later. A total of 61 people were killed.

Vigils, seminars on tap for AIDS Day

ROME (AP) — Candlelight vigils, educational seminars and torchlight parades were planned around the globe Monday to mark World AIDS Day, while a U.S. delegation headed to hard-hit Africa to urge its leaders to increase awareness about the deadly virus. Athletes were also getting into the spirit: The International Cricket Council said Sunday that players from Pakistan, New Zealand, West Indies, Zimbabwe, England and Sri Lanka would wear red ribbons during matches Monday to show support

Iraq

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

killed in Afghanistan in November also were in an aircraft crash — an Air Force MH-53 special operations helicopter that went down near Bagram on Nov. 23. That crash is under investigation and may not have been caused by hostile fire. U.S. officials in Iraq said last week that the number of attacks against Americans have declined in late November, although fatal attacks against Iraqis seen to be working with U.S. occupation authorities have become more frequent. U.S. military officials attributed the decline in attacks on their troops to improved intelligence and their stepped-up offensive against insurgents. Lt. Gen. Richardo Sanchez, the top U.S. military commander in Iraq, told reporters Saturday in Baghdad that guerrilla attacks on U.S.-led forces have dropped by 30 percent in

the past two weeks, from a daily average of 35 to 22. Earlier this month, the total reached as high as 50 attacks per day, Sanchez said. Since the war in Iraq began March 20, 438 service members have died, according to an Associated Press tally based on Pentagon and Central Command announcements of each incident. Of the total, 299 are attributed to hostile action; the others are from illness, suicide or other nonhostile causes. By comparison, 97 U.S. troops have been killed in Afghanistan since that war began in October 2001. There are about 10,000 troops there, compared with about 130,000 in Iraq. The United States' allies in Iraq also have suffered losses. The British military has reported 52 deaths; Italy, 17; Spain 10, in-

cluding seven killed Saturday south of Baghdad; Denmark, Ukraine and Poland have reported one each. The American death toll, particularly in Iraq, where it appeared the worst was over when Baghdad fell in early April, is a politically sensitive subject for the Bush administration. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld frequently offers public statements of appreciation for the sacrifices. Last week, he made an unusual allusion to the horrific death toll in 20th century wars. "If one thinks back to the casualties of wars past — some 292,000 were killed in World War II, 34,000 in Korea, 47,000 in Vietnam — we can give thanks that our forces in this war have not faced casualties of such enormous magnitude," he said.


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www.defenselink.mil/news/Nov2003/d20031126.cas.pdf

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