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Records Management, White House Office of Subject Files - PP (Presidential Personal)

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W	12	14	5	1	12474	25337	12377	12211

Folder Title:

715481

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Handwritten Note	While You Were Out - To: POTUS - From: Kirbyjon Caldwell	1	12/11/2006	PRM;
002	Letter	[Letter] - To: POTUS - From: Stan Fornea	3	11/2006	P6/b6;
003	Note	[Note] - To: POTUS - From: Karen	1	12/11/2006	PRM;
004	Letter	[Letter] - To: POTUS - From: Bob C. Barnes	1	11/17/2006	P6/b6;
005	Note	[Note] - To: POTUS - From: Karen	1	12/12/2006	PRM;
006	Handwritten Note	While You Were Out - To: POTUS - From: Reverend Caldwell	1	12/15/2006	PRM;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - PP (Presidential Personal)

FOLDER TITLE:

715481

FRC ID:

12474

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
007	Handwritten Note	[Note] - To: POTUS and FLOTUS - From: Sue Nardelli, et al.	2	12/15/2006	PRM;

COLLECTION TITLE:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - PP (Presidential Personal)

FOLDER TITLE:

715481

FRC ID:

12474

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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715481

PP

Barcode Scanning Sheet



Collection Code: SECLOG

Staff Name:

Document Date:

Correspondent: RAUL YANES

Subject/Description: MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE THE PRESIDENT
HAS SEEN DEC 10 06 THROUGH DEC 16 06: DEC 10 06 --
ARTICLE FROM TODAY'S PAPERS "REVOLTED
REPUBLICANS" BY M.J. SMITH DEC 11 06 -- HOURLY
WEATHER FORECAST FOR WASHINGTON, DC,
CRAWFORD, TEXAS AND BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT, MD
DEC 11 06 -- 5 DAY WEATHER FOREC ...

SCANNED
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715481

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

DEC 10 06 THROUGH DEC 16 06

Slate

Slate Profiles in Giving

SPECIAL AD SECTION

Get Inspired

today's papers

Revolted Republicans

By M.J. Smith

Posted Sunday, Dec. 10, 2006, at 5:43 AM ET

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/10/06

[The New York Times](#) and [Washington Post](#) lead with variations on the Republican fall from grace. The NYT's top story addresses GOP divisions on Iraq, which the Iraq Study Group report helped to expose, while the WP goes with a mixed assessment of the party's time in power. [The Los Angeles Times](#)' top story is the first of a two-parter looking at strict anti-doping policies that have wrongfully punished certain athletes.

The Times' lead says Republicans' 2008 campaign could be [hampered](#) by intra-party squabbling over the war. Hawks, the paper says, have all but labeled the ISG report a worthless, while moderate Republicans are warning that a serious change in course is needed. The paper highlights comments on the report from Rush Limbaugh ("stupid"), the Wall Street Journal editorial page ("strategic muddle") and Richard Perle ("absurd"). And, oh yeah, The New York Post, which calls James Baker and Lee Hamilton "surrender monkeys."

On the other end of the debate are Republicans like Sen. Olympia J. Snowe, who says: "The American people are essentially unified in their intense dissatisfaction with the way things have progressed in Iraq." Weekly Standard editor Bill Kristol comments that the choice for party members will come down to Baker or John McCain, and the choice will have to be made soon. McCain, of course, has argued for more troops and rejects the ISG report's main recommendations.

The WP's [take](#) on Republican control of Congress, which ended with a 5 a.m. adjournment Saturday morning, says the party notched major accomplishments, including the welfare overhaul and significant tax cuts. But the paper is quick to add that, "measured against the ambitions of 1994, not much has changed." Federal bureaucracies and spending have grown despite Republicans' will to reduce them, the paper says.

The Post quotes a congressional historian who puts the last dozen years in context, saying they will be viewed as "brief and relatively inconsequential" compared to past eras that created Social Security and addressed civil rights, among others things.

The LAT's [doping](#) story raises serious issues with how the World Anti-Doping Agency operates, citing the use of disputed scientific evidence and heavy punishments for "accidental or technical" violations. The paper refers to the examples of several athletes being penalized for violations that resulted from ingestion of substances through common products, such as Vicks Vapor Inhaler. It also touches on the well-publicized cases of Marion Jones and Floyd Landis.

But while the LAT's analysis of the process used to test athletes seems solid, it also seems to put an enormous amount of stock in the word of some of those accused of violations. How is the paper so sure?

The NYT is the only paper to front a [piece out of Iraq](#), and it's definitely worth a read. The story looks at the large number of U.S.-supplied weapons on the black market in the country, and how their prices have skyrocketed recently. The Times' C.J. Chivers talks to gun dealers about guns funneled onto the streets by Iraqi police and army members. As an aside, the story notes that the type of Kalashnikov

Osama bin Laden has been photographed with is now considered a collector's item and fetches up to \$2,000.

The WP gives front page space to a piece out of [Lebanon](#), where protests against the government have continued. The story highlights the specter of Shiites being in reach of the most power they've ever had there, but notes that it's unclear what they'll do with it. The article is a nice primer on Shiite history in Lebanon, describing what the paper calls its "feudal" past.

The LAT goes above the fold with a [this-could-happen-to-you](#) piece, pointing out lax oversight when it comes to 401k retirement plans that has led to instances of embezzlement. The problem is not with larger companies, which often entrust their 401k investments to big firms unlikely to risk their reputations, but rather with smaller ones, which often oversee their programs in house, the paper says. The story details the case of a guy who saved \$230,000 through his 401k, only to have his company steal it.

The [must-read feature](#) of the day comes from the Post, which reports on citizens who volunteer to be execution witnesses in Virginia. It rounds up great quotes and anecdotes from some of the volunteers, including one woman fretting over what to wear and another who believes in "Old Testament eye-for-an-eye justice." The reporter follows the story to its sobering end, with a man being electrocuted, followed by a disturbing van ride for the volunteers.

Elsewhere, the NYT [looks](#) at indigenous groups' suspicions over a National Geographic Society DNA collection program seeking to better document ancient migration patterns. It also fronts a [dispatch](#) from the Central African Republic, whose porous borders have allowed the country to become a staging area for neighboring conflicts, further endangering an already struggling population.

The WP reports on the [money](#) race for the 2008 presidential election, with John McCain and Mitt Romney co-opting the Bush "rangers" and "pioneers" strategy of raising dough. The Post says it will take \$100 million to win the nomination, and raising large amounts of money early on amounts to winning an invisible primary. Democracy in action, folks.

Speaking of politics and money, [Rep. William Jefferson of Louisiana](#), accused by the feds of keeping \$90,000 in marked bills in his freezer, iced a reelection victory last night.

But, thankfully, the NYT reminds us in its magazine today that not all is lost. As part of its "[Year in Ideas](#)" roundup, it presents the beer-gut flask, which it describes as "an elegantly simple invention consisting of a neoprene sling that wraps around your neck and waist, much like a baby Snuggli, and a puncture-resistant polyurethane bladder that rests inside the Snuggli and can hold more than a six-pack of beer." I'm so buying that.

M.J. Smith is a writer based in Paris.

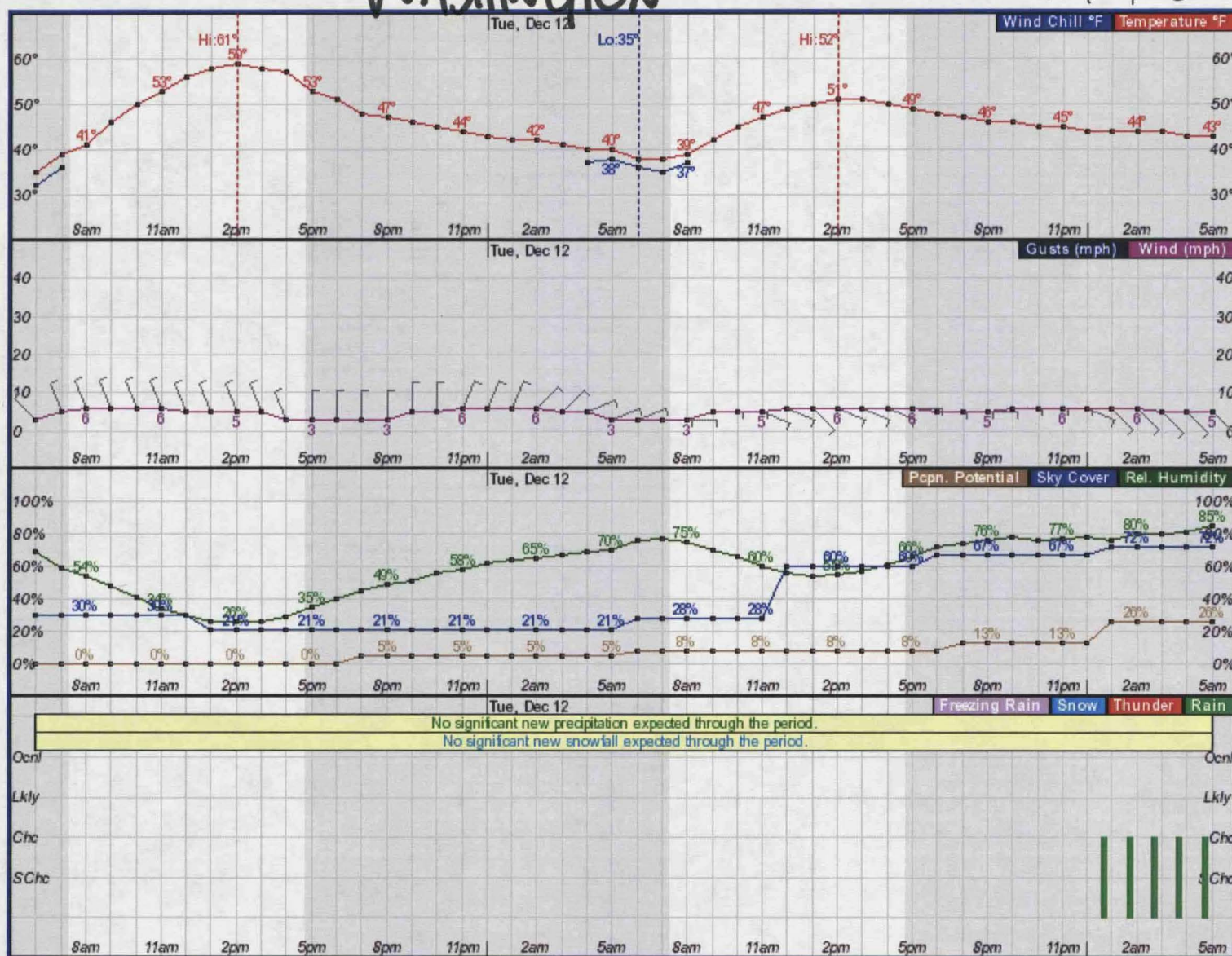
Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155236/>

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WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/11/06



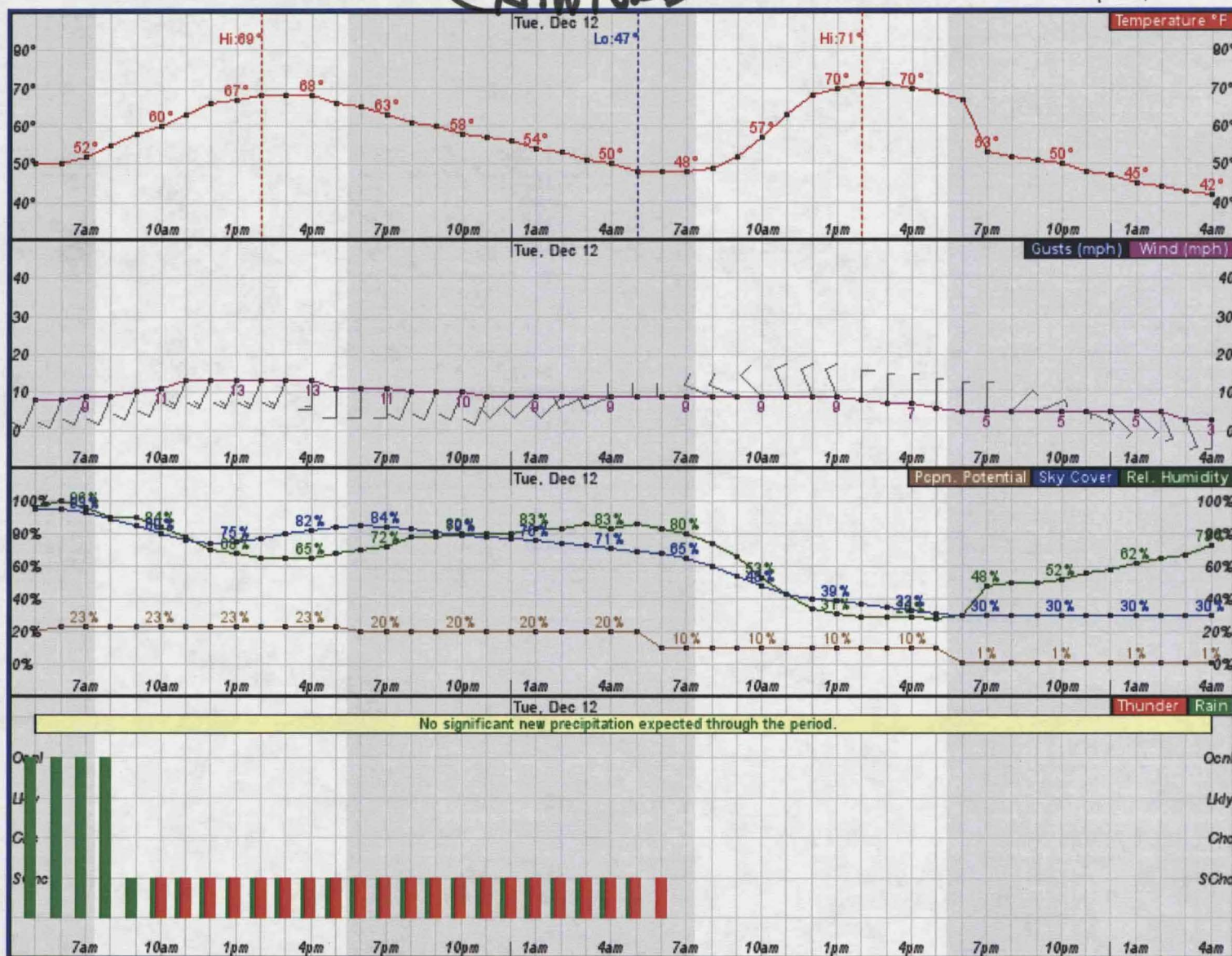
Monday, December 11 at 7am

Temperature: 39°F Wind Chill: 36°F Wind: NNW 5mph
 Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 30% Relative Humidity: 59%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

CRAWFORD

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/11/06



Tuesday, December 12 at 10am

Temperature: 57°F Wind: NW 9mph

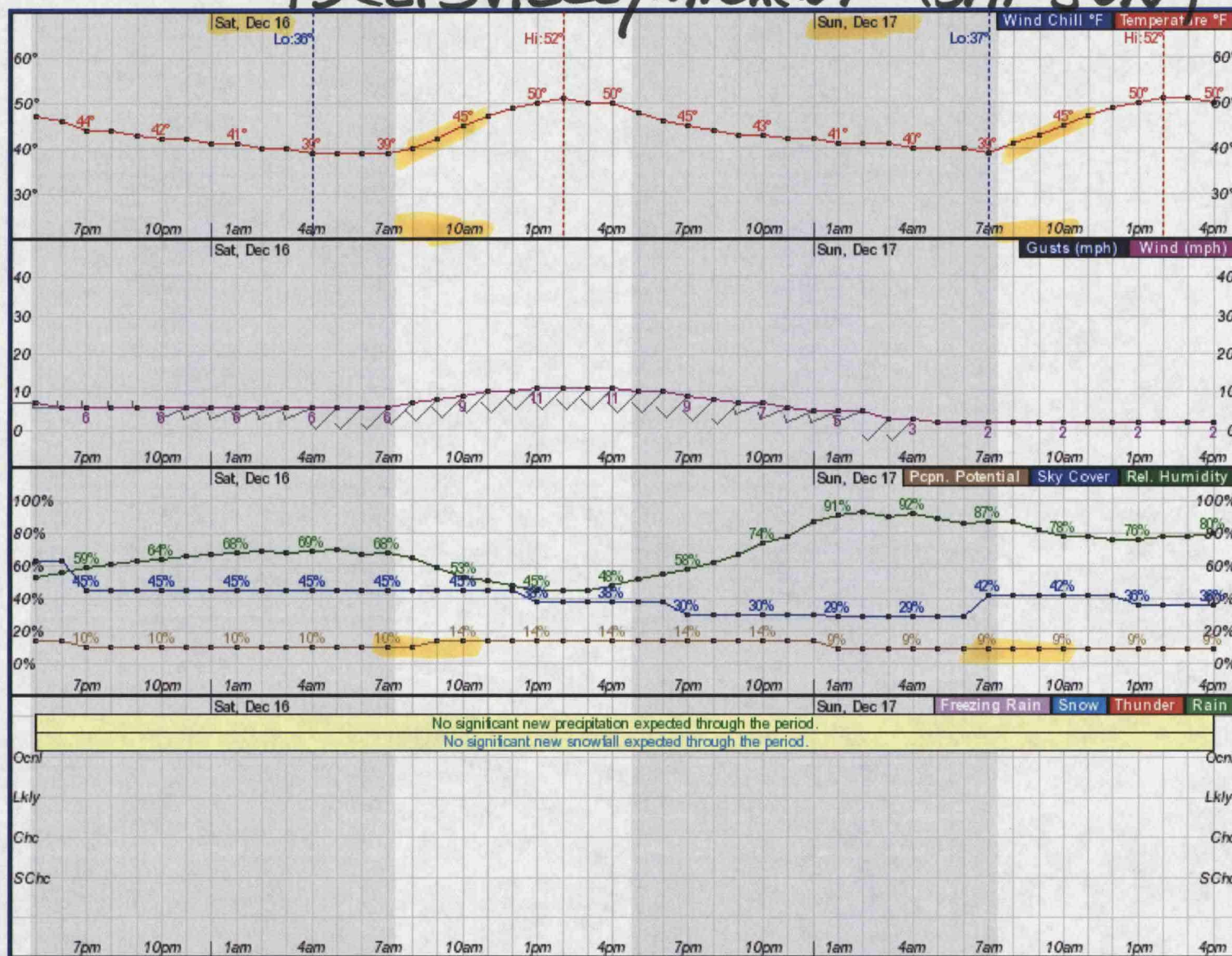
Precipitation Potential: 10% Sky Cover: 48% Relative Humidity: 53%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10%

BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT (SAT-SUN)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/11/06



Saturday, December 16 at 2pm

Temperature: 51°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: SW 11mph
 Precipitation Potential: 14% Sky Cover: 38% Relative Humidity: 45%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

**5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT**

Monday, 11 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/11/06

Monday: Mostly sunny. Winds north at 4 to 8 knots. Low 32°F. High 56°F.

Tuesday: Partly cloudy with patchy morning fog becoming mostly cloudy in the early afternoon. Winds northeast at 4 to 8 knots shifting southeast by noon. Low 36°F. High 52°F.

Wednesday: Cloudy with morning fog and rain showers ending in the mid afternoon becoming partly cloudy overnight. Winds south at 5 to 10 knots shifting west in the evening. Low 40°F. High 56°F.

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Winds west at 5 to 10 knots. Low 41°F. High 54°F.

Friday: Partly cloudy. Winds southwest at 5 to 10 knots shifting northwest in the evening. Low 38°F. High 52°F.

WASHINGTON POST

*Mr. President -- Worth a read.
Mr. Vice President
The Unit of Staff*

Public Shaming of Prostitutes Misfires in China

Traditional Discipline Draws Angry Outcry

By Edward Cody

BEIJING, Dec. 8 -- To local officials combating Shenzhen's reputation as a den of vice, it seemed like a good idea, the perfect way to dissuade provincial girls from turning to prostitution in the big city and frighten away the men who patronize their brothels.

So after raiding the karaoke bars, saunas and barbershops where prostitutes often ply their trade, police officers in the southern Chinese boomtown paraded about 100 women and their alleged johns in the street, using loudspeakers to read out their names and the misdeeds they were accused of committing. News photographers snapped away while thousands of residents lined up to take in the show.

The spectacle, which took place Nov. 29 in the Shenzhen district of Futian, was in many ways unremarkable for a nation in which wrongdoers have long been subject to public humiliation. In particular, it recalled the Great Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and '70s, when Chinese accused of being intellectuals or reactionaries were routinely paraded in front of jeering crowds that found entertainment in ridiculing them, insulting them and sometimes beating them.

But times have changed, the Futian Public Security Bureau discovered. Instead of being praised for cracking down on vice, the Futian police came under a hail of criticism for violating the right to privacy of those who were paraded about in public.

The swift outcry, in newspaper interviews and on the Internet, provided a dramatic illustration of the distance this vast country has traveled since the Cultural Revolution, when many people embraced such tactics and even those who opposed them were afraid to speak up for fear of retribution.

The reaction helped explain why U.S. and other Western complaints about human rights

restrictions in China are sometimes ignored here. Although Chinese and foreign activists can point to many remaining abuses, particularly by police forces such as Futian's, many Chinese view the human rights situation as such an improvement over times past that they would rather emphasize how far they have come than how far they have to go.

"This shows that the public has a stronger sense of human rights and privacy protection," said Kang Xiaoguang, a sociologist with the Rural Development Institute at the People's University of China.

"Twenty years ago, this kind of parade would have been greeted with unanimous applause," he said. "But now it gets more criticism than support because more people realize their rights should be protected. And of course, they have more channels to voice their criticism, like the Internet."

An outraged Shanghai lawyer, Yao Jianguo, started the uproar over Shenzhen's tactics last Friday with an open letter to the National People's Congress, the Chinese legislature. In it, he charged that the Shenzhen parade was illegal under current laws and likely to have a "baneful influence" on the Chinese people and the country's reputation abroad.

"These people were just alleged criminals," Yao complained. "It was not yet determined that they had violated the law. The police publicly humiliated them, which violates the legal process. This brutal form of punishment has long been abandoned by our society with the development of civilization and a legal system."

The All-China Women's Federation also voiced a complaint, deeming the parade an insult to the image of Chinese women, news media reported. "The public parade damages the criminal suspects' self-esteem," a spokeswoman said. "With the development of human civilization, such barbaric punishment has no place in modern society."

The government made no official response. In Shenzhen, the municipal Public Security Bureau told local reporters it had nothing to do with the Futian district's parade. But it declined to say whether the spectacle was illegal or whether any Futian police officers would be disciplined.

fight the Kremlin. . . . He has continued this fight from London, and he believes he can overthrow Putin's team and return as an oligarch."

Markov described Berezovsky as a "world-class provocateur . . . a character from Dostoevski because he shows how intensive the dialogue can be between the human soul and the devil."

According to Goldfarb, Berezovsky "thinks of himself as a politician, not as a businessman," and is "a very rare combination of a passionate guy with a cool mind. He struggles between passion and reason." He called Berezovsky "outgoing, mercurial."

Tireless and fast-talking, Berezovsky has employed a well-connected public relations firm in London to handle questions for him. He declined an interview request for this article, although when Litvinenko was dying, Berezovsky said in a telephone interview that he had "no doubt" that his friend had been poisoned on the "order from President Putin."

Tim Bell, who was knighted after helping Britain's then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher win three elections, and his Bell Pottinger Group public relations firm have been handling inquiries about Berezovsky and lent help with the Litvinenko case. For example, it helped distribute the photo of a gaunt, bald Litvinenko in a hospital bed just before he died.

Some people in Moscow see Berezovsky's involvement as another campaign to ruin Putin's reputation internationally.

Litvinenko "had close contacts with some of the Russian oligarchs who fell from grace, including Boris Berezovsky, who lost the opportunity to buy off the authorities with his stolen money," Konstantin Kosachyov, chairman of the foreign affairs committee in the lower house of the Russian parliament, told reporters last month. "They did not want to put up with it and could have staged a deliberate action against Russia."

Prosecutors in Russia, meanwhile, had earlier accused Berezovsky of a host of crimes, including fraud and backing a violent overthrow of Putin's government. Berezovsky denies all the allegations.

To the annoyance of those who consider him an outlaw, Berezovsky has been photographed with Neil Bush, President Bush's brother. Bell, the public relations executive in London, said he introduced Berezovsky to Neil Bush in 2003. Berezovsky later became an investor in Ignitel Learning, Bush's educational software company.

Britain has granted the Russian political asylum; a British judge turned down a Russian request to extradite him, agreeing with Berezovsky that the charges were politically motivated.

After one extradition court appearance in 2003, Berezovsky triumphantly donned a rubber mask of Putin, a gesture that was seen as mocking the man once called his protege. Putin has landed his own punches, too. At a 2001 news conference, when asked about Berezovsky, he replied, "Who's that?"

Litvinenko, a former member of the Federal Security Service, the domestic successor to the KGB, accused the agency of involvement in apartment building bombings in 1999 in which 300 people died. He also said the security service had ordered him to kill Berezovsky.

Litvinenko said at a Moscow news conference in 1998 that a superior told him "that I had not allowed patriots to kill the Jew who had robbed half the country," according to a transcript.

Litvinenko's warning led Berezovsky to credit him "with saving my life."

Before this threat and his feud with Putin, Berezovsky narrowly escaped assassination. In 1994, while he was in a Mercedes 600 sedan, behind his driver and bodyguard, a bomb concealed in a parked car exploded, decapitating the driver. The bodyguard lost an eye, and Berezovsky suffered burns.

Among the many theories floating around the Litvinenko poisoning case is that somebody used his agonizing death to send a message to Berezovsky.

A flower vendor in Mayfair who sees Berezovsky coming and going said that "I have no idea what that man does," but that he is the only one in London who appears to have tighter security than the royal family.

Xu Desen, the Futian district Communist Party secretary, endorsed the parade as a good way to discourage prostitution. Speaking to local reporters, he praised police for the crackdown and said it would continue.

In ebbs and flows, Shenzhen and its surrounding suburbs have been waging a campaign against prostitution for several years now. But the sprawling city, ringed by vast expanses of factories staffed by workers away from their families for long periods, has remained the home of a flourishing sex industry.

Moreover, it abuts Hong Kong, where men know they can get a raunchy and comparatively inexpensive night on the town with just a quick train trip across the border. Several of the alleged johns who had been hustled down the street in yellow prison uniforms were from Hong Kong, the South China Morning Post reported.

But many Chinese citizens thought the police went too far this time. Over the past week, they have spoken out -- with relative anonymity -- on the Internet. A few upheld the tactic as effective dissuasion and noted that the prisoners wore surgical masks to shield their identities. But most agreed with Yao.

"Even while carrying out the law, police should well respect human rights," one commentator said. "Is there any article in Chinese law saying that police can parade people in front of the public? If there isn't, then who empowered you to do that?"

Another upset writer accused the Futian police of going back to the bad old days. "Public exposure? That was the kind of thing that happened during the Cultural Revolution," he said. "Those who made prostitutes parade in the street lost face just as much as those who were put on parade."

Focusing on the law, another contributor noted that prostitution is usually considered a violation of the social order and is punished by administrative detention rather than a criminal conviction and formal prison time. "These are legal citizens, enjoying dignity endowed by the constitution," the writer said, "so it is unlawful for the police to parade them in front of the public."

WASHINGTON POST

GOP Senator Calls Iraq Policy 'Absurd,' Urges Pullout

By Thomas E. Ricks

Sen. Gordon Smith, a moderate Oregon Republican, broke sharply with the Bush administration over the war in Iraq in an emotional speech on the Senate floor Thursday night in which he called for a U.S. pullout.

"I, for one, am at the end of my rope when it comes to supporting a policy that has our soldiers patrolling the same streets in the same way, being blown up by the same bombs day after day," he said. "That is absurd. It may even be criminal. I cannot support that anymore."

Smith, who has shown some maverick tendencies in the past, such as when he blocked the 2005 budget resolution until his GOP colleagues agreed to add billions of dollars to Medicaid, said that he had "tried to be a good soldier. . . . I have tried to support our president."

He said that Bush "is not guilty of perfidy, but I do believe he is guilty of believing bad intelligence and giving us the same." He said he would not have voted in favor of invading Iraq had he known what he knows now.

The positive events in Iraq, such as its elections and the toppling of the statue of Saddam Hussein, "now . . . seem much like ashes to me."

Speaking to a largely empty Senate chamber, Smith rejected the Iraq Study Group's key recommendation that the U.S. military reshape its approach to Iraq and focus less on combat operations and more on training and advising Iraqi forces. He said it seemed to him to be a "recipe for retreat," not an immediate withdrawal but rather "cut and walk."

He said he doubts that the bipartisan commission's approach is wise if it would simply delay the inevitable. The U.S. government, he said, should find a way to either "win or bring our troops home."

WASHINGTON POST

Annan Decries Failure To Halt Darfur Killings

Passivity of Most Governments Faulted

By Colum Lynch

UNITED NATIONS, Dec. 8 -- U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan scolded governments Friday for failing to halt mass murder in Darfur, saying that the world has not learned the lessons of Rwanda and Srebrenica, where genocidal killings in the early 1990s defied the global ability to stop it.

"Sixty years after the liberation of the Nazi death camps, and 30 years after the Cambodian killing fields, the promise of 'never again' is ringing hollow," Annan said in his final speech on human rights as the U.N. leader.

Annan said the failure to protect civilians in the Sudanese region marked a low point in recent U.N. history. In a speech organized by Human Rights Watch in honor of International Human Rights Day, he faulted the "shameful passivity of most governments" in the face of a government-backed military campaign that has driven more than 2 million people from their homes and killed hundreds of thousands.

Annan provided a gloomy assessment of the organization's performance in confronting abusers of human rights during his 10-year tenure. He charged that the U.S.-led fight against terrorism has helped erode human rights standards. He said the United Nations needs to pursue an "an anti-terrorism strategy that does not merely pay lip service to the defense of human rights but is built on it."

Human rights activists have credited Annan, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, with advocating human rights more aggressively than any of his predecessors. But his legacy has been clouded by his own failure, as the head of the U.N. peacekeeping department, to promote a tougher response to the mass killings in Rwanda and Srebrenica.

Annan said his tenure has been marked by some important innovations, citing the creation of war

crimes courts in Rwanda, the former Yugoslavia, Sierra Leone and Cambodia, as well as the establishment of the International Criminal Court. The Hague-based court is preparing for the possible prosecution of Sudanese perpetrators of the Darfur killings.

But he said the initial work of the new Human Rights Council, established this year by the U.N. General Assembly to hold the world's tyrants and dictators to account, has been discouraging.

The Geneva-based rights body has focused almost all its attention on condemning Israel's human rights record while remaining silent about rights abuses in Darfur, Burma and elsewhere. Annan said he hopes the council will confront Sudan in a special session on Darfur.

"The United Nations has a special stake, and a special responsibility, in promoting respect for human rights worldwide," he said. "I don't need to tell you that the U.N. has often failed to live up to that responsibility."

Annan made clear that he believes the U.N. membership bears the chief responsibility. He reserved some of his harshest criticism for Third World governments that, he said, have mischaracterized the U.N. human rights agenda as "a conspiracy by imperialist powers to take back the hard-won national sovereignty of formerly colonized people."

He also took an indirect swipe at China and Islamic governments that have defended Sudan. China, which relies on Sudan for oil, has repeatedly blocked U.S.-backed efforts to punish Sudan for rights abuses.

"There is more than enough blame to go around," Annan said. "It can be shared among those who value abstract notions of sovereignty more than the lives of real families, those whose reflex of solidarity puts them on the side of governments and not of peoples, and those who fear that action to stop the slaughter would jeopardize their commercial interests."

Annan said two pillars of U.S. counterterrorism strategy -- clandestine prisons and the promotion of tougher interrogation methods -- are playing into the hands of terrorists and ceding the moral

today's papers

Death Becomes Him

By Daniel Politi

Posted Monday, Dec. 11, 2006, at 5:02 AM ET

The [New York Times](#) leads with further proof of how Islamic militants are [operating freely](#) in northern Pakistan, resulting in what the paper calls "virtually a Taliban mini-state." In September the Pakistani government signed a peace agreement in North Waziristan but militants are "openly flouting" the terms of the accord, which critics say is critically flawed because it lacks any sort of enforcement mechanism. [USA Today](#) leads with word that outgoing United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan will issue several strong critiques of President Bush's administration in a [farewell speech](#) he will deliver today at the Truman Presidential Museum in Missouri.

The [Los Angeles Times](#) leads with a look at the intense competition in the Republican party over who will inherit the Bush family's powerful "fundraising and vote-getting machine." Any Presidential candidate who gets it will automatically have an [advantage](#) in the coming race for the GOP's nomination. The two leading candidates are Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney. Although aides close to President Bush seem to prefer McCain, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush's seems to be leaning toward Romney. The [Washington Post](#) leads locally but off-leads the recent [outbreaks](#) of food-borne illnesses and says they have exposed the ineffectiveness of federal and state regulations designed to guarantee food safety. Produce places a particular challenge because it is often eaten raw, and at the basic farm level self-regulation seems to be the norm. The *Wall Street Journal* tops its worldwide newsbox with a catch-up from the last hours of Congress, where, among other things, [lawmakers approved](#), and Bush signed, a funding bill to keep the government running until Feb. 15.

Islamic militants are using northern Pakistan to increase their ties with al-Qaeda, and train suicide bombers as well as foreign fighters. All of this adds up to a freely operating training area that could result in an increase in violence in Afghanistan next year. One of the clearest signs of al-Qaeda's influence in the area is the increase in suicide bombings, which was not a common tactic before 2001. One tribal leader says there are so many recruits willing to become suicide bombers that volunteers are sent home and told to wait their turn.

Annan has never kept secret his dislike for several of Bush's policies, including the war in Iraq, but the speech is unusually tough, and, according to experts, unprecedented in the history of the United Nations. Annan will talk about the importance of "respect for human rights and the rule of law" and warns that when the United States "appears to abandon its own ideals and objectives, its friends abroad are naturally troubled and confused." Referring to the war in Iraq, Annan will say the world only considers military action legitimate when "it is being used for the right purpose ... in accordance with broadly accepted terms." The *Post* publishes an [excerpt of the speech](#) in its op-ed page.

All the papers front the death of Gen. Augusto Pinochet, the [former Chilean dictator](#) whose government killed or disappeared more than 3,200 people. He was 91 and died of complications from a heart attack he suffered last week. Pinochet came into power after a U.S.-supported coup on Sept. 11, 1973 that toppled the elected government of Marxist President Salvador Allende. Pinochet then proceeded to lead the country for 17 years in a brutal dictatorship where approximately 29,000 people were tortured. Some in Chile and abroad supported Pinochet and credited him for instituting successful economic policies.

Almost immediately after Pinochet's death was announced, thousands took to the streets in Santiago to [celebrate](#) the former dictator's death. A smaller crowd of supporters also gathered outside the hospital to mourn. The celebrations turned violent last night, as [confrontations](#) led to wounded police officers and some demonstrators were arrested. In an op-ed piece in the *LAT*, Marc Cooper, notes Pinochet died on [International Human Rights Day](#).

The *WP* fronts an extensive look at how Sunni Muslims in some of Baghdad's traditionally mixed neighborhoods are increasingly being [targeted](#) by Shiite militias and are forced to flee. The story is not new, of course, but the *Post* does a good job of illustrating how the problem is getting worse and the increasing desperation of people who feel they have no choice but to run away as they see many of their neighbors disappear.

The *NYT* fronts a look at how the Iraqi government is [not spending](#) billions of dollars in oil revenues that could be going to build the country's infrastructure. There are several reasons for the lack of spending, but the *Times* points to "a strange new one" that amounts to government officials being so confused and scared about anticorruption measures they are reluctant to sign new contracts. Although Iraq's total capital budget in 2006 was approximately \$6 billion, only about 20 percent of that money has been spent.

Everybody mentions Iraqi President Jalal Talabani strongly [criticized](#) the Iraq Study Group report yesterday. He called it "dangerous" and says several of its plans threaten the country's sovereignty. He also accused the report of being condescending toward Iraq's people. "They are dealing with us as if we are an emerging colony, doing whatever they like," he said.

The *NYT* fronts the latest developments in the death of the former Russian spy in London, where the mystery has now [spread to Germany](#). Investigators say they found traces of polonium-210 around Hamburg. A Russian businessman, Dmitri V. Kovtun, flew from Russia to Germany and then to Britain where he met with former spy Alexander Litvinenko. Kovtun is in the hospital, apparently sick from exposure to radiation although his health status is unclear. German authorities said they have reason to believe Kovtun "might have brought the substance with him outside his body to Hamburg, and that he may not only be a victim but also be a perpetrator." German officials are frustrated with Russia because officials have not responded to its request to speak with Kovtun. Tensions had already risen between Russia and Britain, but these new revelations raise the possibility that the murder will [strain relations](#) between Russia and the whole European Union.

Everybody notes the [crowds](#) keep on increasing at the protests by Hezbollah and its allies in Beirut, as yesterday hundreds of thousands of demonstrators gathered to demand an end to Lebanon's current government. The leaders of the protests noted that time was running out before they would take further steps in order to topple the government. Although no rumors have been confirmed there are indications that a campaign of civil disobedience will now follow. Meanwhile, the *NYT* emphasizes the country's prime minister, Fouad Siniora, told reporters [he doesn't understand](#) "what is this great cause that is making them create this tense political mess and stage open-ended demonstrations."

The *Post* fronts, and everyone goes inside with, Sen. Barack Obama's first trip to New Hampshire, where he was followed by sold-out crowd and a huge group of reporters. He still hasn't announced whether he will run for president, and a final decision isn't expected until January. For now, the [hype](#) around a possible candidacy keeps building, and everyone quotes Obama saying he is "suspicious of hype." *Slate*'s John Dickerson says it is a smart move for Obama to try and "temper expectations for his candidacy. If voters stay in such a deep state of affection, they may get disappointed some day when he doesn't [walk on water](#)."

The *Post* fronts word that when the CIA refused a request from the State Department for the names of Iranians who could be sanctioned for involvement in a nuclear weapons problem, the agency turned to [Google](#) for answers. The CIA wanted to protect its information, but the State Department wanted to push for sanctions so it tasked a junior Foreign Service officer to search for terms such as "Iran and nuclear." It's easy to make fun of the plan, of course, but interestingly enough, European officials also wanted to protect their most sensitive names but ended up coming up with a nearly identical list of names, even though they insist Google was not used.

*Daniel Politi writes "Today's Papers" for **Slate**. He can be reached at todaypapers@slate.com.*

Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155239/>

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To President
Date 12/11 Time 6:50 ☒ AM ☐ PM

WHILE YOU WERE OUT
M Todd Gregg
of _____

Phone Numbers

Office _____
Area Code _____ Number _____ Ext. _____
Voicemail _____
FAX 603-964-1976
Pager _____
Mobile _____
e-mail _____

- ☐ Telephoned
☐ Please call
☐ Returned your call
☐ Called to see you
☐ Wants to see you
☐ Will call again
☐ URGENT

Message

Relayed
verbally



AMPAD
EFFICIENCY®

Operator

Reorder
#23-000

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Handwritten Note	While You Were Out - To: POTUS - From: Kirbyjon Caldwell	1	12/11/2006	PRM;

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715481

FRC ID:

12474

OA Num.:

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NARA Num.:

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FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0215-F 1

2014-0072-F

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To President ☐ AM
Date 12/11/06 Time 2:15 ☐ PM

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M. Peter Conway

of _____

Phone Numbers

Office _____
Voicemail _____
FAX Relayed
Pager Verbally
Mobile _____
e-mail _____

- ☐ Telephoned
- ☐ Please call
- ☐ Returned your call
- ☐ Called to see you
- ☐ Wants to see you
- ☐ Will call again
- ☐ URGENT

Message

Appreciated your wave
from the motorcade today.
He sends his very best.



AMPAD
EFFICIENCY®

Operator _____

Reorder
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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Letter	[Letter] - To: POTUS - From: Stan Fornea	3	11/2006	P6/b6;

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Droege, Philip C.

From: Meyers, David R.
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 8:25 AM
To: Droege, Philip C.
Subject: FW: Stan Toner?

Phil,

This was sent to you yesterday (stamped December 11). Can you make this change, or bring it back to me and I will make the change?

Thanks.

David

From: Sherzer, David
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 6:48 PM
To: Meyers, David R.
Subject: RE: Stan Toner?

let's do stamp with "exact date unknown. sometime between nov 22-dec 11" (since he may have gotten it at camp when he went up on the 22nd) thanks

From: Meyers, David R.
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 4:04 PM
To: Sherzer, David
Subject: RE: Stan Toner?

Great. Thanks.

From: Sherzer, David
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 3:58 PM
To: Meyers, David R.
Subject: RE: Stan Toner?

we're not exactly sure when he this. i would just do early december - december 11 when u stamp it for phs.

From: Sherzer, David
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 9:33 AM
To: Meyers, David R.
Subject: RE: Stan Toner?

it's stan fornea, the chaplain at camp david. i'm trying to find out when the President got the note. stand by for that.

From: Meyers, David R.
Sent: Tuesday, December 12, 2006 9:30 AM

12/13/2006

To: Sherzer, David
Subject: Stan Toner?

12/13/2006

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Note	[Note] - To: POTUS - From: Karen	1	12/11/2006	PRM;

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Letter	[Letter] - To: POTUS - From: Bob C. Barnes	1	11/17/2006	P6/b6;

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From Secretary Baker**Keller, Karen E.**

From: Charlotte.Cheadle@bakerbotts.com on behalf of jbaker@bakerbotts.com
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2006 2:12 PM
To: Keller, Karen E.; cosjbb; Hadley, Stephen J.; krove@who.eop.gov; Bartlett, Dan
Subject: Niall Ferguson Piece

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN**12/11/06****TO:** Karen Keller for POTUS

Josh Bolten

Steve Hadley

Karl Rove

Dan Bartlett

Here is an article by some one who "gets it."

Another way to interpret this report is 'Stay but don't screw up'

By Niall Ferguson

10/12/2006

"Persuasion involves both incentives and penalties," Henry Kissinger once remarked. "So there is an element of implied coercion." Last week saw the publication of a masterpiece of persuasion. But whom will it persuade? And with what sticks and carrots?

Most commentators have interpreted the report of the Iraq Study Group as a well-crafted admission of defeat. Predictably, that was exactly how President Bush himself reacted to it. "I... believe we're going to succeed," he told reporters on Thursday. "I believe we'll prevail... One way to assure failure is just to quit, is not to adjust, and say it's just not worth it."

Addressing one of the report's key recommendations, he bluntly declared that Iran and Syria "shouldn't bother to show up" for negotiations about Iraq if they don't "understand their responsibilities to not fund terrorists" and if the Iranians won't "verifiably suspend" their uranium enrichment programme.

Yet anyone who bothers to read the ISG's report carefully — as opposed to skimming the executive summary — can see that it neither proposes "quitting" Iraq nor pins serious hope on Iranian or Syrian assistance. Quite the reverse.

12/11/2006

Persuasion in the realm of grand strategy is more a matter of rhetorical art than science. The first essential step is to identify your target audience. Most readers of the report assume that it is directed at President Bush. That is wrong. Its principal target audience is Congress, and particularly the new Democratic majorities in both houses. And the aim is not to persuade a stubborn president to admit defeat. Rather, the report's aim is to persuade legislators that withdrawal from Iraq — no matter how much their constituents may yearn for it — is not an option. The report's other intended readership is Arab governments throughout the Middle East. The message for them is the same: an American exit from the region is what you most have to fear.

The second step in the process of persuasion is to conjure up a nightmare vision of the future if the action you envisage is not taken. In *The Economic Consequences of the Peace*, for example, John Maynard Keynes depicted Central and Eastern Europe laid waste by anarchy and civil war, if the 1919 Versailles Treaty were not revised and Germany appeased. In his 1946 "Long Telegram", George F Kennan portrayed the entire world subverted by a ruthless Soviet Union, if the United States did not adopt a policy of retaliation and containment. Both masterpieces of persuasion; both highly influential.

The worst-case scenario proposed by the Iraq Study Group is the one about which I have been writing since February: "Sectarian warfare, growing violence [and] a slide toward chaos", leading to "the collapse of Iraq's government and a humanitarian catastrophe". Here are the report's most important lines: "Neighbouring countries could intervene. Sunni-Shia clashes could spread ... across the Islamic world. [There could be] Shia insurrections — perhaps fomented by Iran — in Sunni-ruled states. Such a broader sectarian conflict could open a Pandora's box of problems."

The consequences would be much more than a propaganda victory for al-Qaeda and a humiliation for the United States, which is what they worry about on Capitol Hill. In such a conflagration, no Middle Eastern government — with the exception of the fundamentalist Shiite regime in Teheran — could feel secure. And that is precisely why Arab rulers should dread an American exit.

Step three in the art of persuasion is to propose remedies that sound attractive to your target audience. These the ISG has produced, and in profusion. But you need to read the small print of all 79 recommendations. Consider the long-anticipated "diplomatic offensive to build an international consensus for stability in Iraq and the region". Much has been made of the willingness of the ISG's co-chair, James A Baker III, former Secretary of State, to open negotiations with Iran, once a reviled member of President Bush's "Axis of Evil", as well as with Syria, no friend of the United States.

"A nation can and should engage its adversaries and enemies," declares the report in a sentence that Mr Baker must surely have written, and should offer them "incentives as well as disincentives". Note that word "disincentives". Mr Baker's idea here is not to go cap in hand to Damascus and Teheran. Rather, as he explained to the press this week, it is to "flip the Syrians" by appealing to Sunni solidarity, and to isolate the Iranian regime by exposing its "rejectionist attitude".

In other words: get the leaders of all Iraq's neighbours into the same room and play "spot the Shia". The calculation is that if Iranian aspirations to regional hegemony can be laid bare, then it will be much easier to get broad support for some serious "disincentives".

Now for the small print on troop numbers. "By the first quarter of 2008," the report says, "all combat brigades not necessary for force protection could be out of Iraq. At that time, US combat forces in Iraq could be deployed only in units embedded with Iraqi forces, in rapid-reaction and special operations teams." This has been widely interpreted as the first step towards the exit. It says "out of Iraq", right?

Wrong. Look more closely at some of the report's other recommendations:

- The number of US military personnel embedded in Iraqi army battalions and brigades should be increased from 3,000 or 4,000 to between 10,000 to 20,000.

- The number of US police trainers should be expanded.
- The US Department of Justice should lead the work of organisational transformation in the Ministry of the Interior.
- A Senior Advisor for Economic Reconstruction in Iraq is required.
- The State Department should train personnel to carry out civilian tasks associated with a complex stability operation... It should establish a Foreign Service Reserve Corps.

Does that sound like "out of Iraq" to you? I'd say it sounds more like "stay in Iraq". Only this time, don't screw up.

Other recommendations support that interpretation. The ISG clearly regards the training of the Iraqi army as having been woefully under-funded, noting that "the entire appropriation for Iraqi defence forces for 2006... is less than the United States currently spends in Iraq every two weeks". Clear implication: Spend more. Nor should American economic assistance to Iraq have been allowed to decline; the report recommends that it should now be increased to \$5 billion per year. Other recommendations include more fluent Arabic speakers at the US embassy and more experienced analysts at the Defence Intelligence Agency.

The media have fixated on the possibility of a quantitative reduction in US troops — which is in any case conditional on there being no "unexpected developments in the security situation on the ground" — while missing the underlying argument for qualitative improvement.

Hats off, then, to Mr Baker and his team. This turns out to be a classic work of persuasion. Its target audiences have been well chosen. Its worst-case scenario is plausible. And its recommendations are so carefully phrased that they sound like disengagement, while actually signifying better engagement.

Not all works of persuasion are heeded. Keynes's call for a cancellation of reparations and war debts went unheeded in the 1920s; when it finally happened during the Depression, it was too late.

Kennan's plea for containment of the Soviet Union was interpreted by Harry Truman as a mandate for confrontation not coexistence; by 1950, Kennan was deeply disillusioned by the escalation of the Cold War. We must hope the Iraq Study Group's report fares better. It is certainly not the exit strategy Americans want. But it might just help avoid a Middle Eastern Armageddon.

- Niall Ferguson is Laurence A Tisch Professor of History at Harvard University and author of 'The War of the World' (Penguin)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/11/06

Mr. President,

11.20.6

Just wanted to tell you that I'm thinking of you and cheering you on! Our country and the world are better for your actions and leadership. Sending you lots of love and prayers! Hugs to you + Mrs. Bush, and Barney too! Love
Marquise Mure

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12/12/06

5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT

Tuesday, 12 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

Tuesday: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy in the early afternoon. Winds northeast at 4 to 8 knots shifting southeast by noon. Low 34°F. High 59°F.

Wednesday: Cloudy with morning fog and rain showers ending in the early afternoon becoming partly cloudy overnight. Winds south at 5 to 10 knots shifting west in the evening. Low 43°F. High 56°F.

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Winds southwest at 5 to 10 knots. Low 42°F. High 58°F.

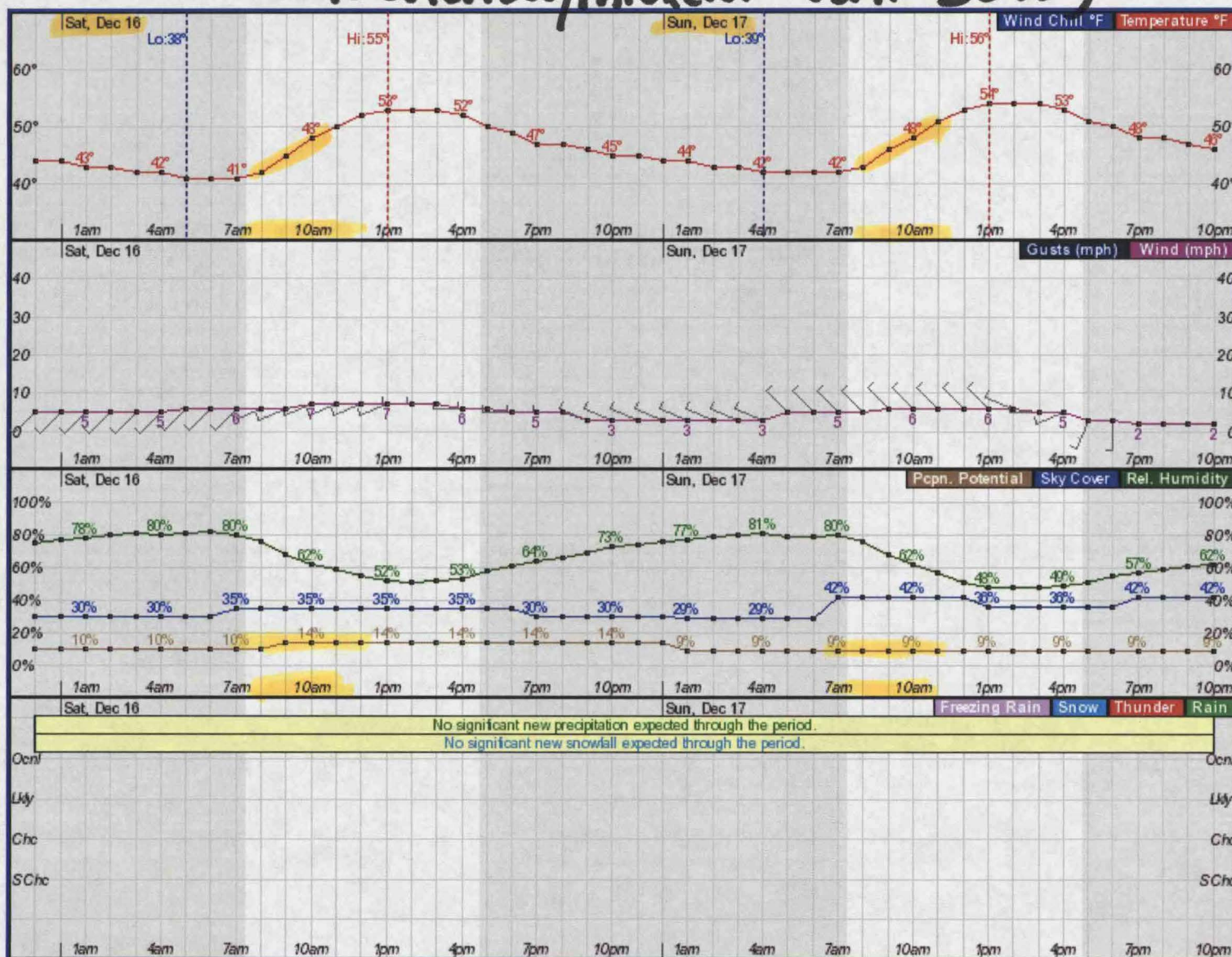
Friday: Mostly sunny. Winds southwest at 5 to 10 knots shifting northwest overnight. Low 40°F. High 57°F.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Winds northwest at 5 to 10 knots shifting south in the evening. Low 40°F. High 57°F.

BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT (SAT-SUN)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

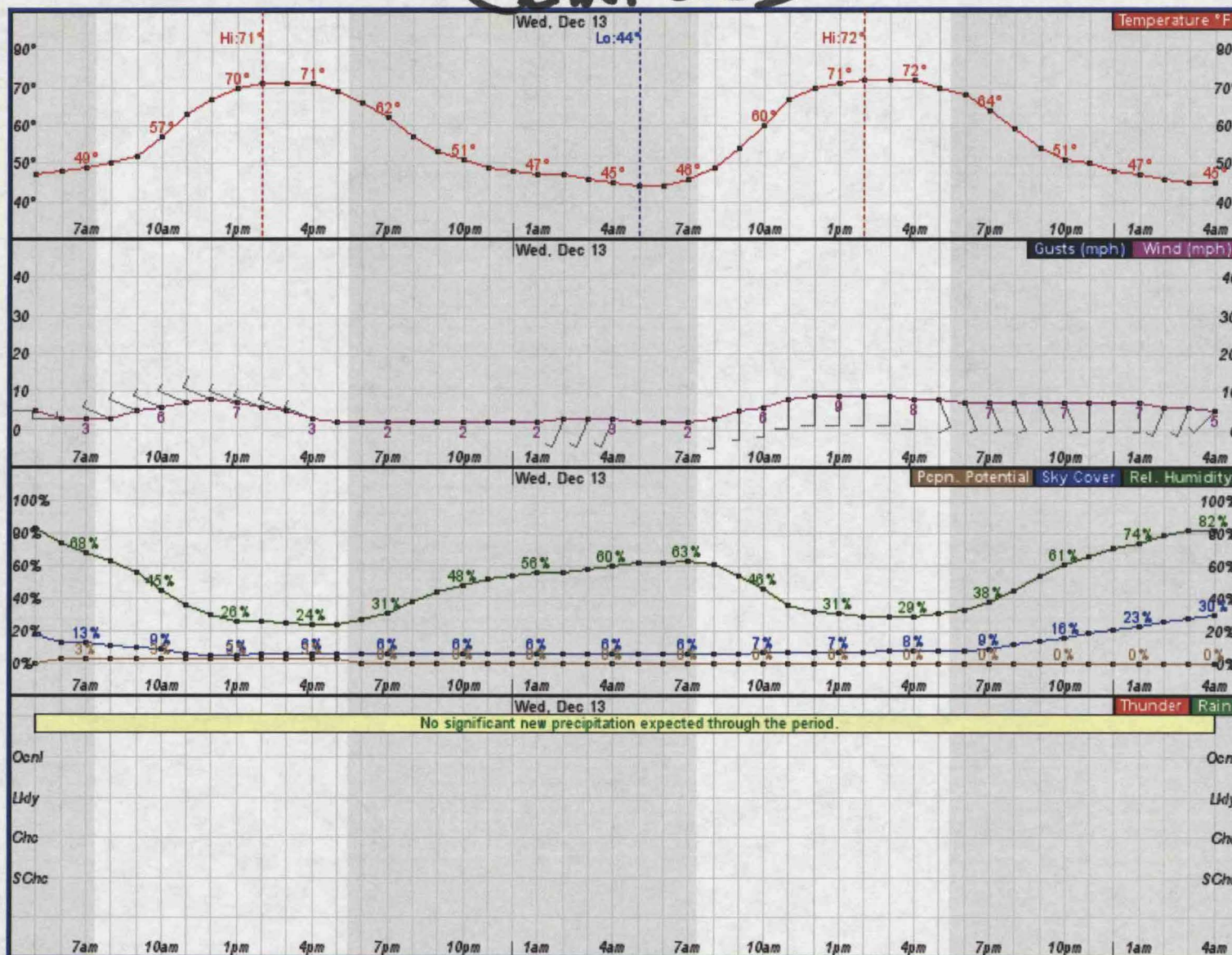
12/12/06

**Sunday, December 17 at 6am**

Temperature: 42°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: NW 5mph
 Precipitation Potential: 9% Sky Cover: 29% Relative Humidity: 79%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

CRAWFORD

12/12/06



Tuesday, December 12 at 7pm

Temperature: 62°F Wind: M 2mph

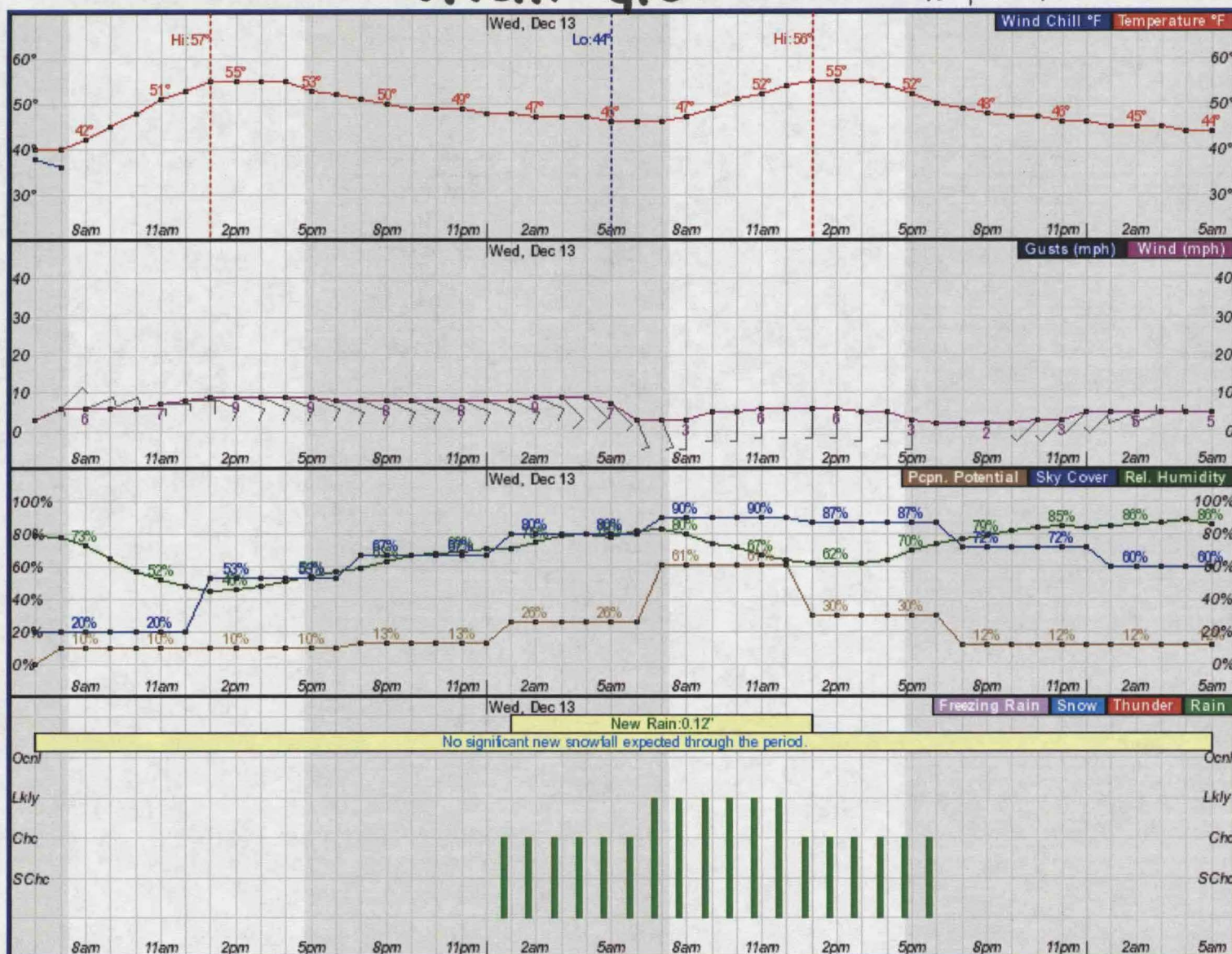
Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 6% Relative Humidity: 31%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10%

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/12/06



Tuesday, December 12 at 7am

Temperature: 53°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: E 8mph

Precipitation Potential: 10% Sky Cover: 20% Relative Humidity: 48%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

**[PRINT]** ESPN.com: Baseball

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/12/06

[Print without images]



Tuesday, December 12, 2006

Report: Gagne agrees to \$8M deal with Rangers

ESPN.com news services

The Rangers reportedly have lured a second player from the Dodgers in as many days.

Le Journal de Montreal reports that former Dodgers closer Eric Gagne has agreed to a one-year, \$8 million deal with Texas. The Rangers reached a preliminary agreement on a one-year, \$6 million contract with former Dodgers center fielder Kenny Lofton on Monday.

Gagne had season-ending surgery July 8 to repair a herniated disc in his lower back. He is expected to be healthy and ready to pitch when spring training begins in mid-February.

Gagne was limited to 14 games and eight saves in 2005 and two outings with one save this year. He had surgery in April to remove a nerve from his pitching elbow -- the same arm that required elbow-ligament replacement surgery in 1997.

Gagne became a closer in 2002 and was an immediate success, saving 52 games that year, a franchise-record 55 in 2003 and 45 in 2004. He set a major league record with 84 consecutive saves from late 2002 to mid-2004.

He won the NL Cy Young Award in 2003, when he went 2-3 with a 1.20 ERA and 55 saves, two shy of the record Bobby Thigpen set with the Chicago White Sox in 1990.

Information from The Associated Press was used in this report.

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12/12/06

Slate

Slate

Profiles in Giving

SPECIAL AD
SECTION

Get Inspired

today's papers

Hearing Voices

By Daniel Politi

Posted Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2006, at 5:15 AM ET

The *Washington Post* leads with President Bush's meeting with a group of [military experts](#), who told him they disagreed with two of the main recommendations put forward by the Iraq Study Group. The experts, consisting of three retired generals and two academics, expressed particular disagreements with the committee's suggestions to decrease U.S. combat troops and to ask for Iran and Syria's help. Although these are views shared by the Bush administration, the American people have a different opinion, says *USA Today* in its lead story. According to [a new poll](#), the majority of Americans want U.S. troops to leave Iraq within the next year, although only 18 percent believe that will actually happen.

The *New York Times* leads with discussions currently under way among several of Iraq's major political parties to create a [coalition](#) that could rival the influence of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. The *Los Angeles Times* leads, and everyone else goes inside, with gunmen shooting and killing the [three young sons](#) of a Fatah party intelligence officer in Gaza City. The *Wall Street Journal* tops its worldwide newsbox with President Bush's efforts to gather advice on Iraq, and also mentions the work under way in Iraq to form a new political coalition, which it describes as "anti-Maliki."

The meeting with the military experts is part of a [listening tour](#) the White House is undertaking before it is set to announce its new plans for Iraq before Christmas. The views of these military experts were not particularly surprising, since four of them had already questioned parts of the ISG's report. Regardless, the fact that the White House asked for their opinion is seen as one more sign the president is gathering support for a new plan that ignores several of the bipartisan committee's recommendations. In addition to expressing skepticism over the report, the group of experts also recommended the president make some changes in his national security team. The *Post* says this suggestion "is likely to fuel Pentagon rumors" that Marine Gen. Peter Pace will be removed as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Today, Bush will meet with Iraqi Vice President Tariq al-Hasemi at the White House.

Although most Americans admit they [don't know enough](#) about the ISG's recommendations to say whether the White House should adopt them, those who claimed familiarity with the report said they agreed with its suggestions. But most said the administration wouldn't implement the proposals. President Bush's job-approval rating is 38 percent, which is five percentage points higher than when the poll was taken right after the midterm elections.

Two Kurdish groups, a Sunni party and a Shiite party backed by Iran are the ones currently discussing the creation of some sort of [coalition](#). They invited Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki to join the discussions but he hasn't out of fear the group intends to push him out of power. U.S. officials, who have long been eager to decrease Sadr's power seem to be pushing for the coalition. The *NYT* notes that although a new partnership across sectarian lines could advance U.S. goals it also carries the risk of Sadr feeling threatened and push for more [violent uprisings](#) as a result.

As the three children were leaving for school [yesterday morning](#), men wearing black masks riddled their car with bullets, killing the kids and their driver. The father, who was not in the car, had escaped an attempt on his life in September. Fatah party officials are accusing militants of deliberately targeting children and the episode risks increasing the already-high tensions between different political factions.

Hamas officials denied any involvement in the attack, and condemned the murders.

The *LAT* catches late-breaking news out of Baghdad, where two [car bombs](#) exploded early this morning, killing at least 54 people and wounding 148. The U.S. military announced a bomb killed three American soldiers yesterday.

The *Post* off-loads word that a small Pentagon [task force](#) has been going to dangerous areas of Iraq for the past six months to try and revive factories that were abandoned by the Coalition Provisional Authority. The idea is to create employment for Iraqis in order to try and discourage Iraqis from joining the insurgency. Officials believe high unemployment rates are pushing people to do anything they can for money, including placing bombs or attacking U.S. troops. When the U.S. invaded Iraq, officials hoped private companies would take control of the previously state-run factories but the heavy fighting has kept would-be investors away.

The *Post* goes inside with Democratic leaders in Congress announcing they will put a stop to all earmarks until they enact changes to lobbying rules. At the same time, the incoming chairmen of the House and Senate Appropriations committees said they would [extend current funding levels](#) until the 2008 fiscal year, which begins on Oct. 1. The outgoing Congress left most of the spending bills incomplete when it adjourned on Saturday morning, but it extended funding until Feb. 15.

The reelection of Rep. William J. Jefferson of Louisiana, who had \$90,000 in his freezer, has complicated things for the Democratic leaders in the House, says the *Post*. Leaders are trying to figure out how they should treat the congressman, especially since talk of ethics was a central campaign theme. A source said that although Nancy Pelosi has considered not placing him on a [committee](#), she is likely to assign him one that has a low profile. Jefferson was removed from the powerful Ways and Means Committee in June, after allegations of the bribe money surfaced. Although Jefferson has not been indicted, sources said he probably will be in the first six months of 2007.

The *LAT* fronts the various ways in which Republican Rep. Gary Miller of California has used his position as a member of Congress for [personal gain](#). The paper talked to some of his staffers and got a hold of correspondence, which all adds up to several questionable practices. Among other things, the congressman is said to use his staff for personal purposes, pay for rent in his real-estate firm using campaign money by claiming it is also his campaign office, pushing his position to get concert tickets, as well as to pressure city council members to purchase his land. The claims all add up to an impressive description of abuse of power by one of the richest members of Congress.

The *Post* goes inside with word out of the National Security Agency, who said yesterday they never monitored the telephone communications of the [late Princess Diana](#). The NSA admitted it had 39 documents with references to Diana, but these were not the results of monitoring her calls. The denials come as [British media](#) have reported that unspecified intelligence agencies were listening to her conversations on the day she died. A CIA spokesman said any implications that the agency had tapped Diana's phone were "rubbish." The British newspapers that published the reports said they got the information from leaks of a Scotland Yard report on Princess Diana's death due to be released on Thursday. *Slate's* Mickey Kaus isn't [convinced](#) by the denials.

Osama bin-who? ... The *WP* carries a [wire story](#) that reports the incoming Democratic chairman of the House intelligence committee, Rep. Silvestre Reyes, pretty much failed a pop quiz he got from a [Congressional Quarterly](#) reporter. Worst part is, the questions weren't even that difficult. When asked whether al-Qaeda is Sunni or Shiite, Reyes answered, "Predominantly – probably Shiite." When he was asked to describe Hezbollah, he didn't even give an answer merely saying, "Hezbollah. Uh, Hezbollah

... why do you ask me these questions at 5 o'clock?" Reyes' office issued a statement yesterday: "As a member of the intelligence committee since before 9/11, I'm acutely aware of al-Qaeda's desire to harm Americans." Well, guess that covers it then.

*Daniel Politi writes "Today's Papers" for **Slate**. He can be reached at todayspapers@slate.com.*

Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155351/>

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Date 12/13 Hour 11:45 am

To Mr. Hadley

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Secretary Rumsfeld

Of _____

Phone () MLP Cell () 12/13/06

FAX () _____

E-Mail _____

Telephoned	Returned Call	Left Package
Please Call	Was in	Please see me
Will Call Again	Will Return	Important

Message Sec Rumsfeld said that
according to Gen Pace, in October,
November, and up to December 8
coalition forces have

Killed: 1125

Captured: 4765

Rumsfeld doesn't need to talk
unless you have questions or
need more info

Signed Peter

REORDER NO. 50-226

given to POTUS
by Mr. Hadley.

To President
Date 12/12/06 Time 4:02 ☐ AM ☐ PM

WHILE YOU WERE OUT

M Karl Rove
of _____

Phone Numbers

Office _____

Voicemail _____

FAX _____

Pager _____

Mobile _____

e-mail _____

☐ Telephoned

☐ Please call

☐ Returned your call

☐ Called to see you

☐ Wants to see you

☐ Will call again

☐ URGENT

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/13/06

Message

re: Gerald Turner



AMPAD
EFFICIENCY®

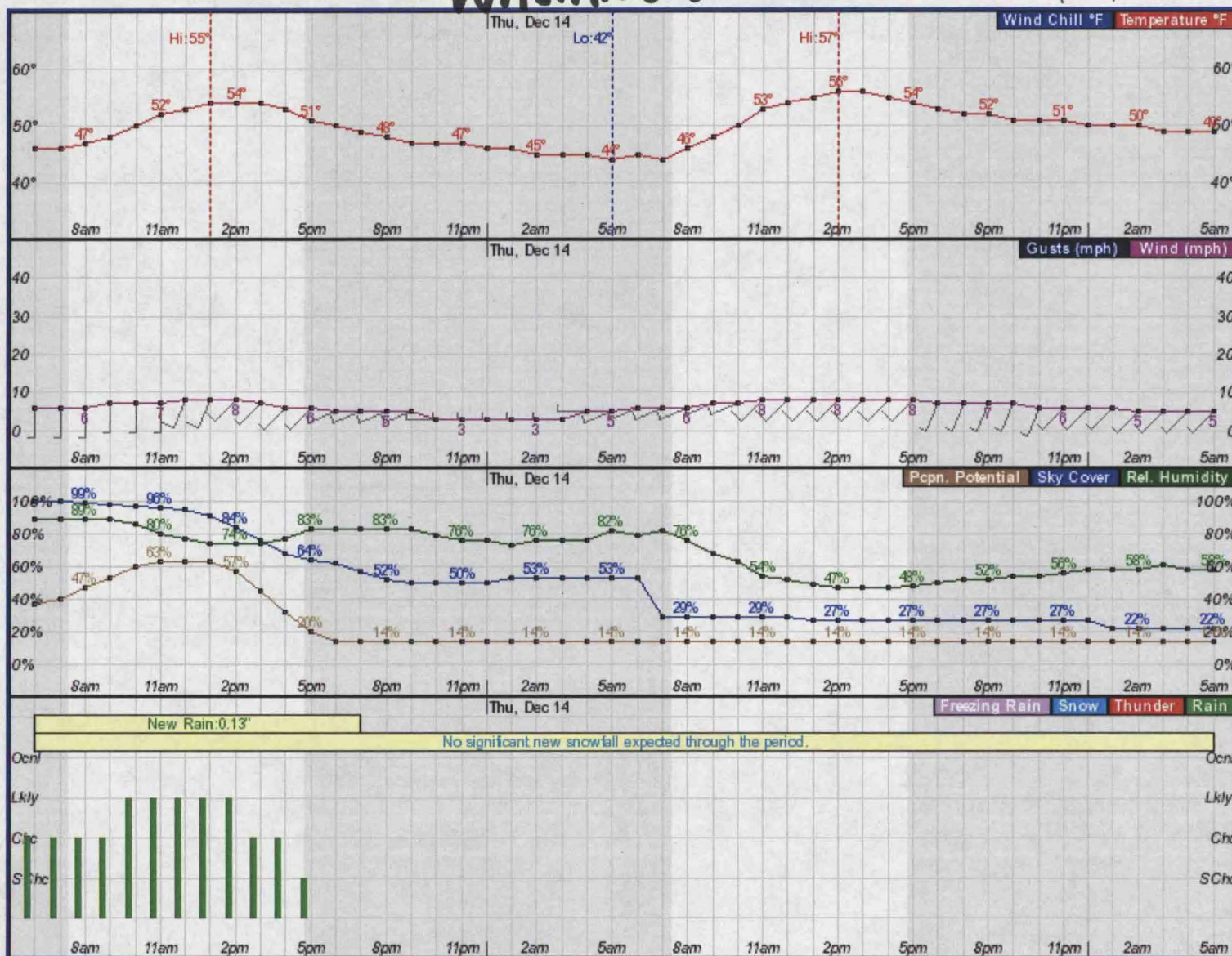
Operator

Reorder
#23-000

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/13/06



Wednesday, December 13 at 9am

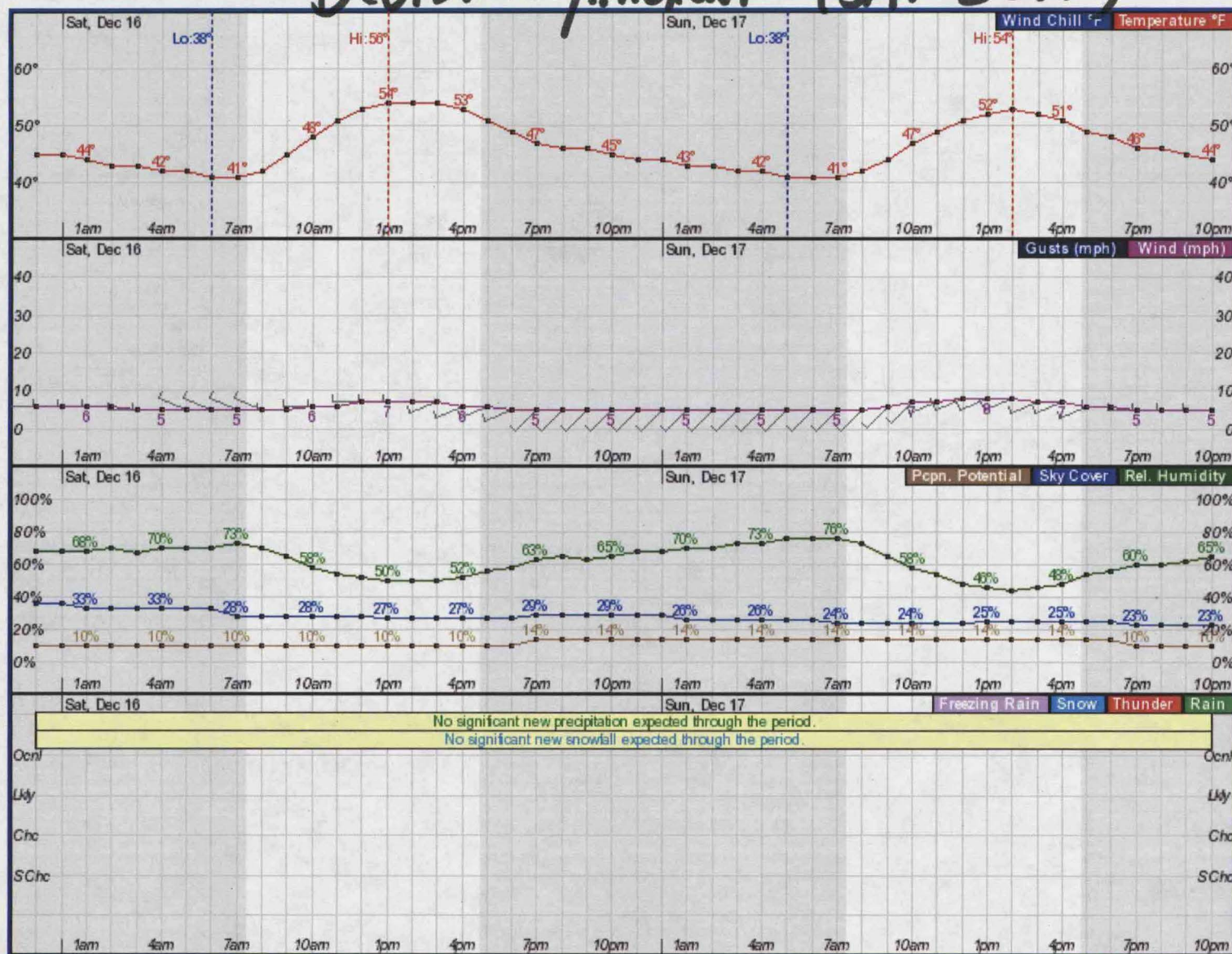
Temperature: 48°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: S 7mph

Precipitation Potential: 53% Sky Cover: 98% Relative Humidity: 89%

Rain: Chance (30%-50%) Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT (SAT-SUN)

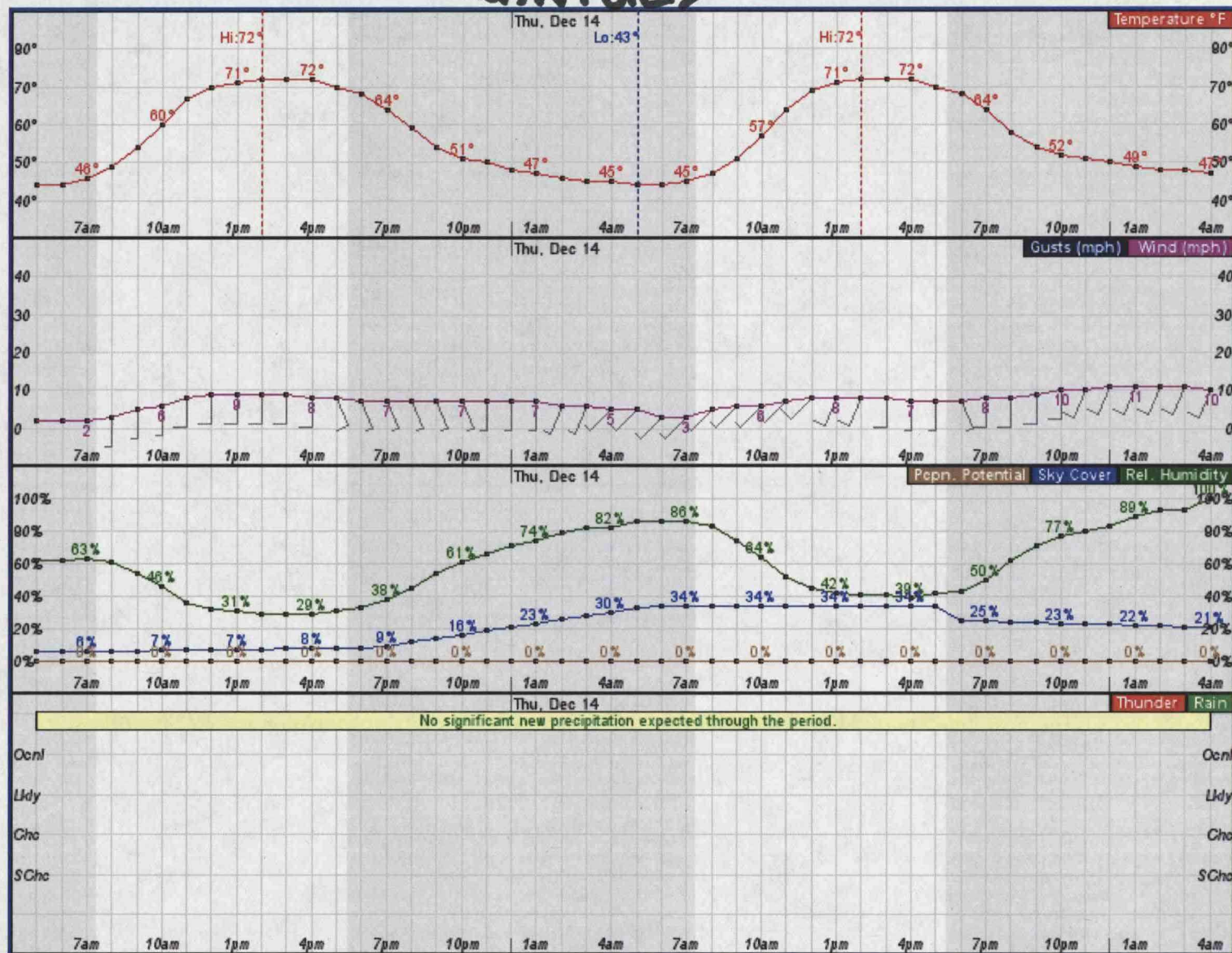
12/13/06

**Saturday, December 16 at 12am**

Temperature: 45°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: W 6mph
 Precipitation Potential: 10% Sky Cover: 36% Relative Humidity: 68%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

CRAWFORD

12/13/06



Wednesday, December 13 at 9am

Temperature: 54°F Wind: S 5mph

Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 6% Relative Humidity: 54%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10%

5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT

Wednesday, 13 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/13/06

Wednesday: Cloudy with morning fog and rain showers ending in the early afternoon becoming partly cloudy overnight. Winds south at 5 to 10 knots shifting west in the evening. Low 47°F. High 60°F.

Thursday: Partly cloudy. Winds west at 5 to 10 knots. Low 45°F. High 63°F.

Friday: Mostly sunny. Winds west at 5 to 10 knots. Low 43°F. High 63°F.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Winds west at 5 to 10 knots shifting southwest in the evening. Low 43°F. High 60°F.

Sunday: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy with rain in the late afternoon. Winds southwest at 10 to 15 knots becoming west at 15 to 20 knots in the late afternoon. Low 44°F. High 62°F.

today's papers

Sit and Wait

By Daniel Politi

Posted Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2006, at 5:00 AM ET

The *Los Angeles Times* leads with word from sources that military leaders at the Pentagon are likely to tell President Bush the United States needs to send more troops to Iraq. In addition, they will argue that U.S. forces need to carry out a new offensive against Muqtada al-Sadr. The *New York Times* leads, and the *Wall Street Journal* tops its worldwide newsbox, with the White House announcing that Bush would delay presenting his new strategy for Iraq until next year instead of before Christmas, as was initially the plan.

USA Today leads with Federal investigators and safety advocates declaring they are worried the Airbus A380 double-decker plane, which is the largest jetliner in history, will be exempt from new U.S. rules designed to prevent explosions in the fuel tank. An explosion in the fuel tank caused the crash of TWA Flight 800 in 1996. The *Washington Post* leads with a poll on American attitudes toward Iraq that for the most part echoes a *USAT* poll published yesterday. The majority of Americans say the United States is losing the war, and most support the proposals put forward by the Iraq Study Group.

Bush will be meeting with the Joint Chiefs of Staff today at the Pentagon as part of his listening tour. It's unclear how many more troops the military leaders will request, but what is clear is that their suggestions will, once again, run counter to several of the main points proposed by the Iraq Study Group. The *LAT* recognizes that even if military leaders are in agreement, everything could change once Robert Gates becomes Defense secretary. Interestingly enough, the *NYT* says the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff "is not expected to advocate a surge" in troops at the meeting with the president today.

Administration officials said Bush decided all of the issues surrounding Iraq are too complicated and he would rather not rush a plan out the door. The delay is largely seen as a sign that there continue to be strong disagreements between the president's advisers on how best to proceed. Officials also say the delay would allow Gates to be part of the discussion. The announcement immediately resulted in criticism from Democratic leaders and at least one Republican senator who said Bush does not appreciate the urgency of the situation in Iraq. The papers are not really skeptical of the it's-really-complicated line and for the most part don't explore the possible connection between this delay and the new polls that show strong public support for the ISG. Perhaps the White House hopes Americans will forget all about Baker-Hamilton over the holidays.

The *NYT* fronts news that Iraq has presented the United States a plan for its troops to take over most of the responsibility for security in Baghdad in early 2007. The plan was apparently submitted to Bush during his meeting with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki in Jordan last month. The U.S. military is currently analyzing the proposal. Although turning over control to Iraqi security forces is a stated goal of the administration, going through with this plan carries some very obvious risks. If these Iraqi security forces are infiltrated by militias, there are fears that giving them more power could lead to an increase in systematic attacks against the city's Sunnis.

The *WP* fronts word that the Army and Marine Corps will ask for a permanent increase in the number of service members. In addition two senior officials tell the paper that the Army will demand "full access" to the Army National Guard and the Army Reserves as it will ask the Pentagon to reduce restrictions currently in place for calling up reservists. Officials worry there may not be enough ground troops ready if another conflict springs up that would require them in large numbers.

The *NYT* fronts news that King Abdullah of Saudi Arabia told Vice President Dick Cheney that his country might give financial support to Iraqi Sunnis if the United States pulls out of Iraq and a sectarian war breaks out. The message was passed along during Cheney's trip to Saudi Arabia two weeks ago. The Saudi ambassador to the United States fired a

consultant who wrote an opinion piece in the *Post* two weeks ago that said a U.S. withdrawal from Iraq would lead to a "massive Saudi intervention." But Arab diplomats said members of the Saudi government share the views expressed in the column. Although the *WP* reported yesterday that the Saudi ambassador to the United States is resigning after only 15 months, the *NYT* mentions there hasn't been an official announcement.

The *WSJ* goes high, and everyone else stuffs, yesterday's early morning suicide bombers in Baghdad that killed 70 people, mostly day laborers who were at the square hoping to get a job. Including the dead bodies found, yesterday's death toll was at least 131, which is the highest since the bombing last month that killed 200 people. An Associated Press cameraman was also killed yesterday.

The *Post* goes inside with a dispatch from Chile, where approximately 60,000 people went to see Gen. Augusto Pinochet's body on Monday as it lay in a military chapel. About 5,000 people attended the former dictator's funeral.

The *WP* and *USAT* front news of an immigration raid yesterday on meatpacking plants in six states. Hundreds of workers were arrested on the charge of identity theft. There were no exact numbers, but officials said those who were detained had used stolen social security numbers when they were hired. The world's second largest meat processing company was shut down for much of the day yesterday.

The *NYT* and *WP* note inside a Democratic candidate won a longtime Republican House seat in the last Congressional election of the midterms. Ciro Rodriguez beat challenger Rep. Henry Bonilla in a runoff in Texas's 23rd Congressional District. Now Democrats have 233 seats in the House, compared to 202 for the Republicans.

Why didn't anybody tell me? ... The *Post's* Al Kamen publishes the content of an e-mail invitation for a telework meeting sent out by the Interior Department. The department includes several reasons why telecommuting could be beneficial to its employees: "With the wintry weather fast approaching, the price of gas fluctuating, and the threat of pandemic on the horizon, telecommuting is seen as a valuable option for eligible employees." No word on what exactly this risky pandemic consists of.

Daniel Politi writes "Today's Papers" for Slate. He can be reached at todayspapers@slate.com.

Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155427/>

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/13/06

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Done deal

Red Sox, Matsuzaka agree to six-year contract

Posted: Wednesday December 13, 2006 2:12PM; Updated: Wednesday December 13, 2006 3:03PM

By Jon Heyman, SI.com

Daisuke Matsuzaka has reached a deal with the Boston Red Sox for six years, \$52 million, a source close to the negotiations has told SI.com. The deal contains escalator clauses that could bring it up to \$60 million.

Matsuzaka is en route to Boston with Red Sox officials who traveled to Newport Beach, Calif., on Monday on owner **John Henry**'s plane and said they would return Wednesday with or without Matsuzaka. The team and Matsuzaka had a midnight Thursday EST deadline to reach an agreement.

The Red Sox called a news conference for Wednesday afternoon to introduce shortstop Julio Lugo, who agreed to a \$36 million, four-year deal last week. With the top Red Sox brass still en route, manager Terry Francona and assistant general manager Jed Hoyer were to attend that event.

Boston bid \$51.1 million last month for the right to negotiate with Matsuzaka. The Red Sox will pay that money to his Japanese team, the Seibu Lions.

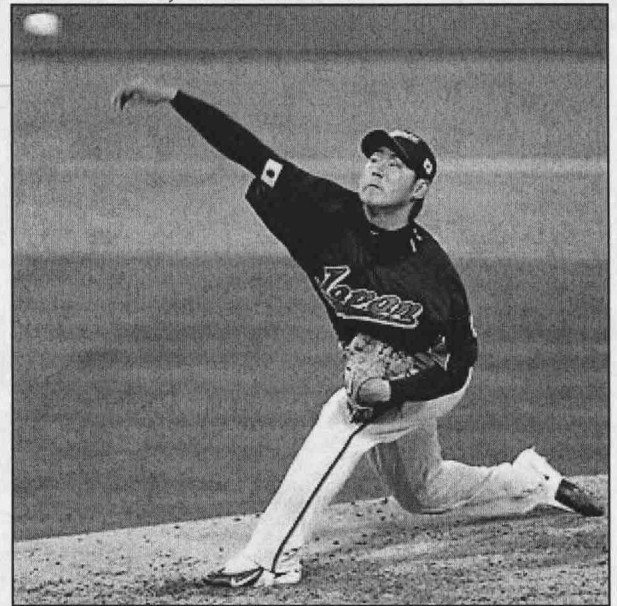
If a deal hadn't been reached, Matsuzaka's rights would have remain with the Lions and would not be offered to major league teams again until next November. He is not eligible to become a free agent in Japan until after the 2008 season.

Lucchino and general manager Theo Epstein showed up unannounced in California on Monday for face-to-face talks with Matsuzaka's agent, Scott Boras.

Red Sox officials left the building where Boras' offices are located shortly before 7 p.m. EST Tuesday, returned about four hours later and stayed for 40 minutes before leaving again.

The Red Sox had said they would present their second offer at the meeting. The large amount bid by the Red Sox for Matsuzaka's rights complicated negotiations. Boras said it shouldn't cause the team to decrease the salary he thinks his client deserves.

"Free agent pitchers who are 26 and have Matsuzaka-like ability receive salaries in excess of \$100 million over five or
<http://si.printthis.clickability.com/pt/cpt?action=cpt&title=SI.com+-+MLB+-+Red+Sox%2C+Matsuzak...> 12/13/2006



Including the \$51.1 million posting fee, the Red Sox will pay more than \$100 million for Daisuke Matsuzaka.

Donald Miralle/Getty Images

↓ ADVERTISEMENT ↓

Epstein agreed Matsuzaka is worth \$100 million, but his calculations include the posting fee.

"That magnitude is certainly the right ballpark for the commitment of the ballclub," Epstein said

Matsuzaka has a 108-60 career record in Japan with a 2.95 ERA and 1,355 strikeouts in 204 games. He was MVP of the inaugural World Baseball Classic last March, won by Japan.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

Find this article at:

<http://sportsillustrated.cnn.com/2006/baseball/mlb/12/13/matsuzaka.signs/index.html>

☐ Check the box to include the list of links referenced in the article.

12/14/06

today's papers

Foreskin Begone

By Daniel Politi

Posted Thursday, Dec. 14, 2006, at 5:28 AM ET

The [Washington Post](#) leads with word that in a meeting with President Bush, the Joint Chiefs of Staff recommended a [change in strategy](#) for Iraq that involves switching away from combat to training Iraqi security forces and looking for terrorists. The military leaders at the Pentagon were also quick to emphasize there is only so much the military can do in Iraq and urged for a larger focus on solving the country's economic and political issues. [USA Today](#) leads with the recommendations but with a [slightly different angle](#), saying the top U.S. commanders in Iraq developed the strategy and the paper does not mention the meeting with Bush.

The [New York Times](#) leads with, and the *WP* fronts, the National Institutes of Health announcing the results of two studies that seem to prove [circumcision](#) can reduce the risk of a man contracting HIV from heterosexual sex by half. The [Los Angeles Times](#) leads with the results of a [new poll](#) that shows Democrats have a positive view of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton but Sen. John McCain would beat her if the election were held today. This is seen as further proof of how polarizing Clinton is with the electorate, while also illustrating McCain's popularity among independent voters. But there is a large segment of self-identified conservatives who have an unfavorable view of McCain, while former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani received high approval ratings overall. The *Wall Street Journal* tops its worldwide newsbox with results from its [own poll](#) that show Bush's approval rating is at 34 percent.

According to the *Post* the Joint Chiefs of Staff do not favor a troop increase, but they are pressing for an increased role of the Iraqi army. Pentagon leaders want more U.S. troops to be embedded with Iraqi units. None of this is quite surprising, and, although no one seems to be talking about the withdrawal of most combat troops by early 2008, many of the proposals seem to echo a lot of what the Iraq Study Group said in its report. *USAT* outlines similar plans that were developed by U.S. commanders in Iraq at the request of the top U.S. military official in Iraq. The *LAT* continues to say "many military commanders" are advocating for an [increase in the number of troops](#). After the meeting Bush said he was "not going to be [rushed](#)" in coming to a decision about Iraq.

Two clinical trials in Kenya and Uganda were stopped when officials decided it would be unethical to continue without offering the uncircumcised a chance to go under the knife. This is exactly the same thing that happened in a similar study in South Africa last year, when the results were met with quite a bit of skepticism. But these two studies seem to be further proof of the possible [benefits of circumcision](#) and they were hailed as possible breakthroughs in the fight against AIDS. As a result of these studies, the two largest agencies that fight AIDS said they would now be willing to pay for circumcisions. Of course, everyone is quick to point out circumcision can only be part of a larger strategy to fight the virus since circumcision is far from a foolproof prevention strategy.

The *LAT*'s poll also reveals that 40 percent of Democrats said they don't know enough about Sen. Barack Obama to have an opinion on him. But it seems registered voters are still holding on to feelings that led to the GOP's demise in the midterm elections as 49 percent said they would prefer a Democrat to win the presidency in 2008. In their own [presidential polls](#), the *Post* and *WSJ* don't focus on a hypothetical contest but instead note how Sen. Clinton and former New York mayor Rudolph Giuliani lead their respective parties. Not surprisingly, voters see Iraq as the number one priority.

The *WP* fronts news that Democratic Sen. Tim Johnson of South Dakota was [undergoing surgery](#) last night after he became ill while at the Capitol yesterday. Aides said the senator did not suffer a stroke or a heart attack but they did not offer any more details about the surgery. The illness could have widespread national implications because if Johnson were unable to complete his term in the Senate, it would be the job of South Dakota's Republican governor to choose a successor. If he were to choose a Republican, the incoming Democratic majority would be over before it even takes over in January.

The *NYT* fronts, and the *WP* goes inside with, news that federal prosecutors are trying to get the American Civil Liberties Union to turn in [copies of a secret document](#) it got through a leak. Experts say it's the first time the government has used a grand jury subpoena for this purpose. The ACLU says the document has no information that should be classified, and accuses the government of trying to stifle free speech. Meanwhile, some scholars are comparing it to the [Pentagon Papers](#) case.

The *WP* fronts a previously undisclosed Pentagon report that looked into the conditions faced by three terrorism suspects being held at a [brig in South Carolina](#). The Navy's inspector general warned in 2004 that the way the prisoners were being held in solitary confinement, which included depriving prisoners of sleep and religious material, could violate U.S. detention standards.

Everybody goes inside with news that the Federal Election Commission fined three [527 groups](#) a total of almost \$630,000 for their role in the 2004 presidential election. The penalties were issued against Swiftboat Veterans and POWs for Truth, MoveOn.org's Voter Fund, and a League of Conservation Voters. This should put 527 groups on notice, said the FEC's chairman and added that if a group's sole purpose is to influence an election they have to register with his agency. The *Post* emphasizes that this is unlikely to change things since the law regarding these groups is still [unclear](#).

The *Post* goes inside with word from Homeland Security that the raids on meatpacking plants were the [largest of its kind](#) against one company and resulted in the arrests of 1,282 suspected illegal immigrants. *USAT* focuses on how the raids led to criminal groups that [steal documents](#) from Americans and then sell them to illegal immigrants, while the *NYT* looks at the possible consequences for [businesses](#). But while other media outlets are publishing several good stories about the consequences of these raids, which range from separated families, to abandoned [babies](#), and even accusations that workers at the factories were separated by [skin color](#), the papers largely ignore these angles.

The *Post* notes the tax bill congress passed in the final hours on Saturday morning included 520 [tax breaks](#) that amount to tens of millions of dollars in import tariff benefits for a group of companies. The way the breaks were added makes it mostly impossible to know who pushed for each benefit and lawmakers from both parties called for changes in the way things are done.

Everybody goes inside with violence in [Baghdad](#) that killed at least 34 people yesterday. The largest attack, once again, targeted men who were waiting for temporary work. Yesterday, the *LAT* looked into how the men who go seek temporary work face these [dangerous circumstances](#) every time they go looking for employment out of sheer desperation.

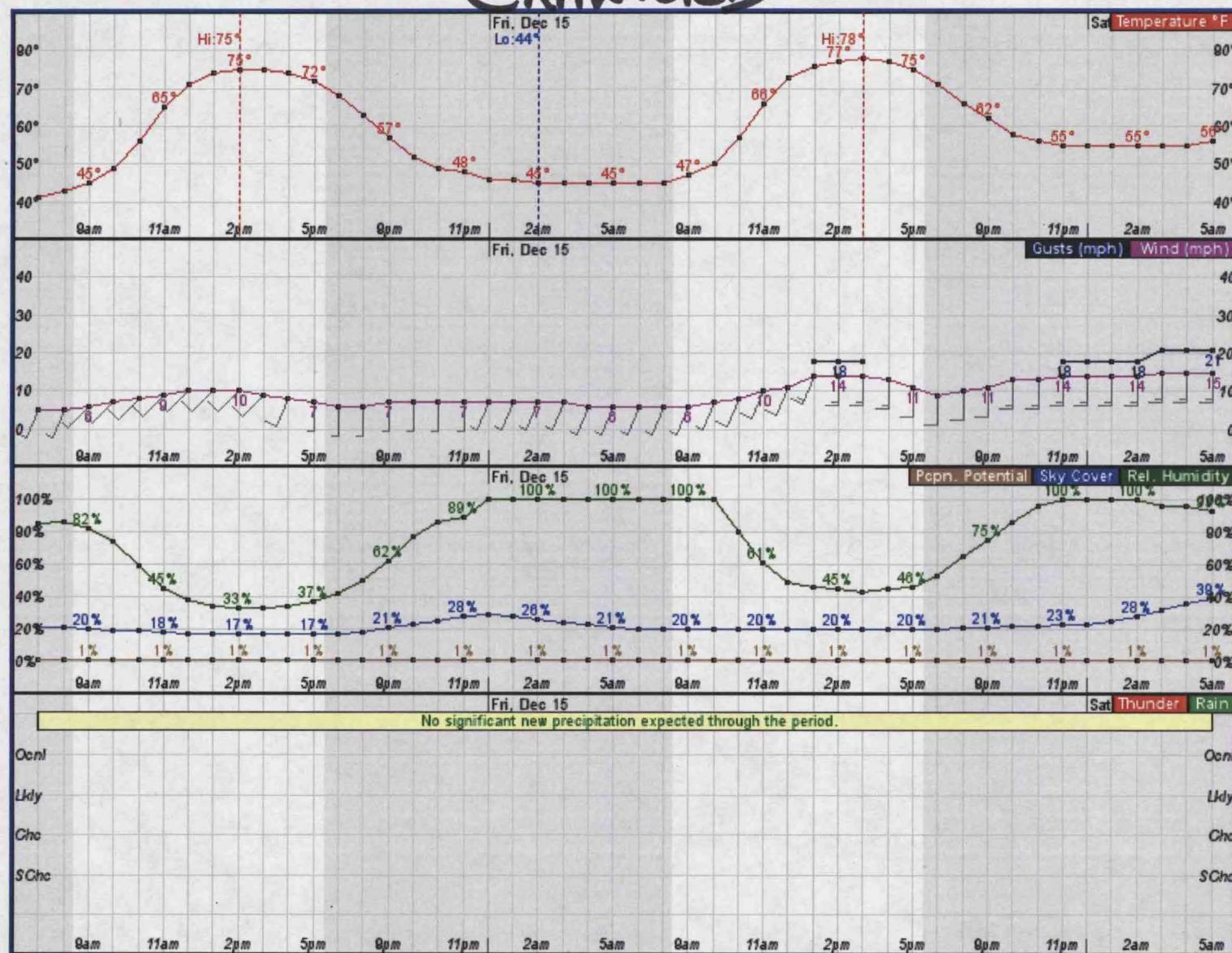
Everybody mentions the death of actor [Peter Boyle](#), who was recently known for his role as the father in *Everybody Loves Raymond*. Boyle also acted in movies such as *Young Frankenstein* and *Monster's Ball*. He was 71 years old.

Daniel Politi writes "Today's Papers" for Slate. He can be reached at todayspapers@slate.com.

Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155495/>

CRAWFORD

12/14/06



Friday, December 15 at 12am

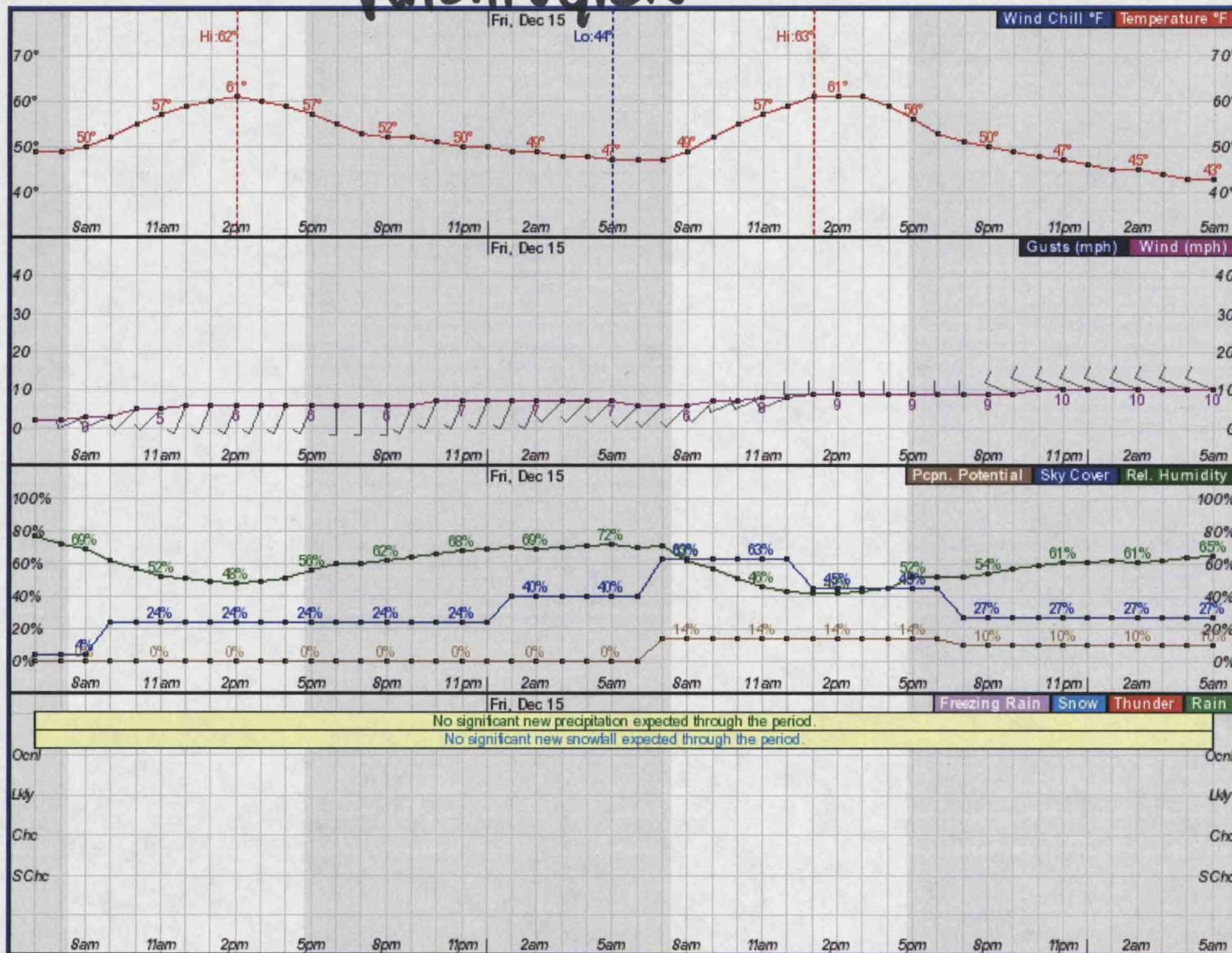
Temperature: 46°F Wind: SSW 7mph

Precipitation Potential: 1% Sky Cover: 29% Relative Humidity: 100%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10%

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/14/06

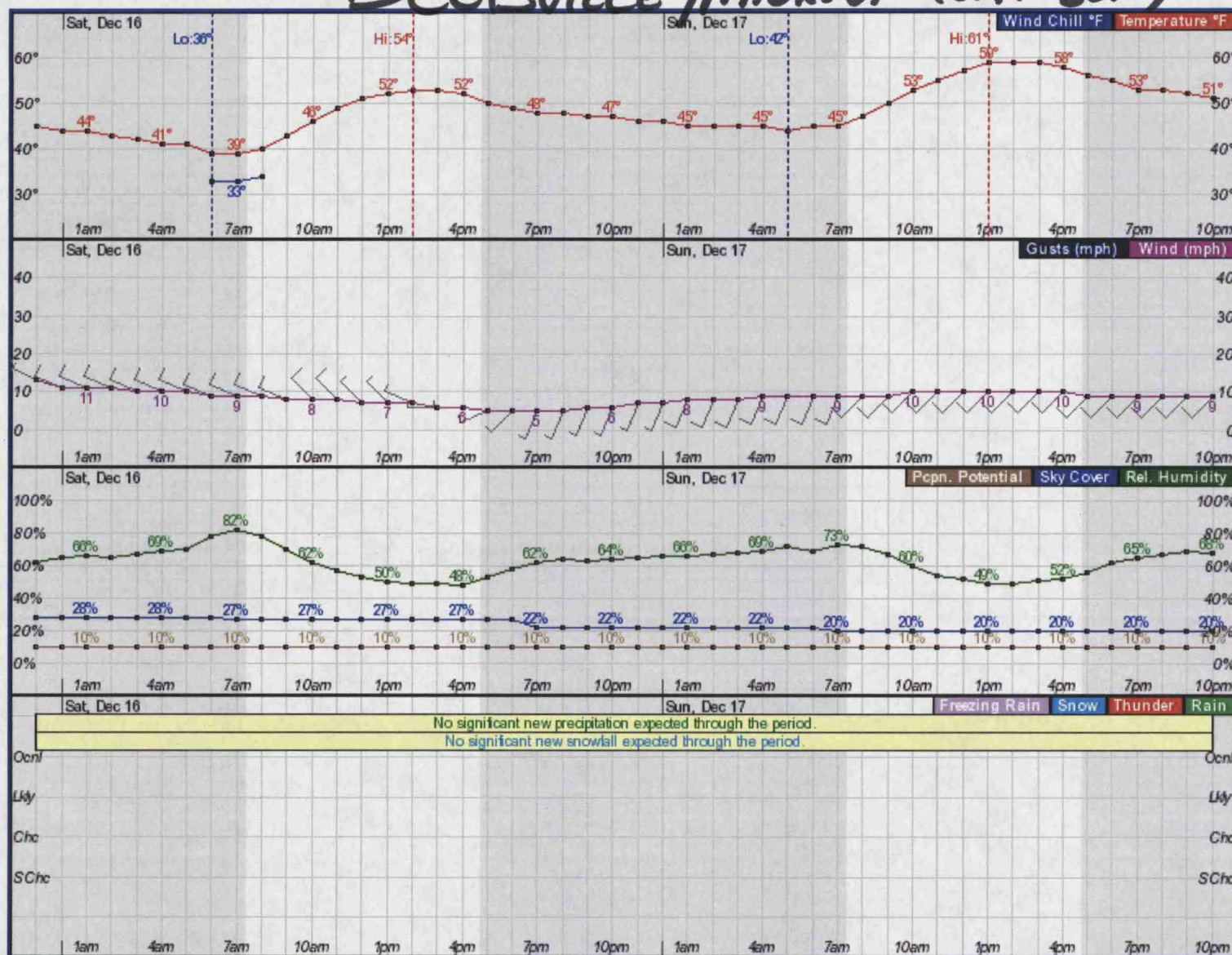


Thursday, December 14 at 10pm

Temperature: 51°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: SSW 7mph
 Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 24% Relative Humidity: 66%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT (SAT-SUN)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/14/06



Saturday, December 16 at 1am

Temperature: 44°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: WNW 11mph
 Precipitation Potential: 10% Sky Cover: 28% Relative Humidity: 66%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN
12/14/06

5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT

Thursday, 14 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

Thursday: Partly cloudy with dense morning fog. Winds west at 10 to 15 knots becoming southwest in the evening. Low 45°F. High 65°F.

Friday: Mostly cloudy becoming partly cloudy in the early afternoon. Winds west at 15 to 20 knots turning northwest overnight. Low 45°F. High 66°F.

Saturday: Partly cloudy. Winds northwest at 3 to 8 knots turning southwest overnight. Low 43°F. High 59°F.

Sunday: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy in the late morning. Winds southwest at 10 to 15 knots turning west after noon. Low 40°F. High 62°F.

Monday: Mostly cloudy becoming cloudy with overnight rain showers. Winds west at 15 to 20 knots. Low 48°F. High 67°F.

Another article from Secretary Baker

Keller, Karen E.

From: Charlotte.Cheadle@bakerbotts.com on behalf of jbaker@bakerbotts.com
Sent: Wednesday, December 13, 2006 6:38 PM
To: Keller, Karen E.; cosjbb; Hadley, Stephen J.; krove@who.eop.gov; Bartlett, Dan
Subject: Robert Kaplan Piece

TO: Karen Keller for POTUS

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/14/06

Josh Bolten

Steve Hadley

Karl Rove

Dan Bartlett

Here is another article that "gets it."

Debating Iraq | by Robert Kaplan

The Iraq Study Group

A reaction

.....

he mistakes made in Iraq since 2003 were so many and so serious that it is reasonable to argue that toppling Saddam Hussein was a wise decision, incompetently handled in its occupation phase. It is also possible to argue that the frequency and magnitude of the mistakes indicate a hubristic flaw in the concept of regime change itself, which I supported. Thus it is with humility and open-mindedness that I read the report of the Iraq Study Group.

The report may be less remembered for its details than for its double-edged political effect. On the one hand, it has been a catalyst to force the Bush Administration to initiate its own policy reviews, and step up its own diplomatic initiatives. That is an unmitigated good. On the other hand, by essentially making an end run around the Administration, the group risks seriously undermining it. But that is something the Administration can fix by emerging from all of these reviews with a decisive policy direction; professionally executed. Despite the election results, the Administration's fate may still be in its own hands.

The urge to dismiss the Study Group's report as a surrender document (as some neoconservatives have
12/13/2006

already done) is off the mark. Read carefully, it is a tough, intricate policy statement, albeit with serious flaws. There are pages herein that amount to a blueprint for a virtual, second invasion of the country*, were Iraqis to cooperate. Some sound bites may declare that “cut and run” is the theme of this slim book, but that’s not what the fine print says.

The Study Group says a precipitous withdrawal from Iraq could be so catastrophic that it might force the U.S. military to eventually return there. The Group dismisses the partitioning of the country as an unwise policy goal, since it would lead to the collapse of the security forces and is, in any case, impractical because of mixed populations in so many Iraqi provinces. The Group is open-minded concerning a temporary, small-scale troop surge in the Greater Baghdad area. Regarding the region, the report takes Iran’s nuclear enrichment program off the table as a legitimate negotiating item. It calls for Syria and other Arab countries to engage in direct talks with Israel. It calls for an international force, including U.S. troops, on the Golan Heights to provide the Israelis the security guarantees they would need in the event of a withdrawal. It says Syria must cede hegemonic ambitions over Lebanon, and cooperate with investigations of the assassinations of leading anti-Syrian political figures there. Rather than surrender, I detect an attempt at comprehensiveness.

The Group’s summary of the situation in Iraq is banal, but hard to argue with: the improvement of the Iraqi Army has been “fitful;” the state of the police is terrible; the results of the troop surge in Baghdad last summer, Together Forward, were “disheartening;” the Shia are broken down into factions that reward the extremes; the Sunni leadership, to the degree it exists, is shadowy—that is, barely existent; and the state of the Iraqi economy remains uneven, despite vast oil wealth. While none of this is new, the report is also meant for the general public, not merely for dedicated readers of blogs and newspapers.

The document’s core strategy, as the Group admits, is imperfect. It calls for changing the military mission from combat to the support of Iraqi security forces by 2008, even as we and the Iraqi government immediately launch what it labels a “New Diplomatic Initiative” in the Middle East.

The military piece envisions moving combat forces out of the fray, while we ramp up the number of trainers embedded with Iraqi units, who, themselves, will be augmented by quick reaction forces, search and rescue forces, and, in particular, special operations forces to hunt down al-Qaeda and add to the force protection of our trainers. The problem here, which the Group alludes to but does not address, is just how many special units are going to be needed—and how close to the action they will have to be—in order to adequately protect our embeds. When you subtract the combat brigades, but add in all the extra trainers and the force protection element, you may still end up with tens of thousands of U.S. troops in Iraq. I had predicted (in *The Wall Street Journal*, September 6, 2006) that by early 2008 we would have about 40,000 left in Iraq. The Iraq Study Group, again, rather than cut and run, appears to suggest a somewhat higher number.

The emphasis on training indigenous forces has its risks, though. Training an entire army of more than 300,000 troops to American standards will create the world’s most lethal ethnic militia if there are no legitimate institutions for it to represent. The Group, by warning of ethnic cleansing in 2007, at least seems vaguely cognizant of this risk. Training has to be tied to political reconciliation, or else such a strategy could contribute to genocide, rather than help prevent it. Smartly, the Group comes out strongly for dispatching our very best military personnel to training missions in Iraq, and for rewarding them through career enhancements. For years now, the Army has been sending the guys no one else wants to these missions, since the traditional way to promotion has been to command Americans; not foreign troops.

The Group, as I said, is open-minded to a temporary, small-scale troop surge. The risk of surging any troops is summed up in the Sixth and Seventh Books of Thucydides’ *Peloponnesian War*. I refer to the story of the Sicilian Expedition, in which the Athenians invade Sicily in support of allies there. But as problems mount with the operation, more and more reinforcements are sent, so that the consequences of failure rise from the merely serious to the monumental.

Because our problems in Iraq since 2003 have often been caused by a lack of troops, there is some hypocrisy among those who criticize the Administration for never having enough ground forces, and who now say we might gain leverage by having even less. In any case, more troops buys you time; not a solution. Assuming more troops in Greater Baghdad buy us a reduced level of violence for, say, 12, weeks, are we meticulously staffed and prepared for an intensive inter-agency process of reconstruction, job creation, training and equipping Iraqi forces, and furious diplomacy both inside and outside Iraq for every day of those 12 weeks? If not, we will fail again on an even bigger scale than we did this past summer.

The Group's envisioned diplomatic effort is, in fact, grand. It starts with the brutal realization that if the U.S. and Iraqi governments could stabilize the situation by themselves they should have done so by now. And so there is no choice but to now engage Iraq's neighbors. The strategy it lays out certainly sounds nifty: if Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki reconciles with the Sunnis, the Saudis will help him eliminate al-Qaida in Iraq. As for all the things we can offer the Syrians and Iranians that do not include the conquest of Lebanon and the building of a nuclear bomb, the report mentions accession to the World Trade Organization, full legitimacy and relations with the United States, weakening the Sunni Taliban on Iran's borders, return of the Golan Heights, and so on.

Here the members of the Study Group fall into the trap of confusing what they would want if they ran Syria and Iran rather than what the people who actually run these regimes want. The Group states that an Iraq in chaos cannot be in the self-interest of Syria and Iran, if only because of the refugees that would ensue. But maybe it is in their interest. Maybe the urge to humiliate the United States is so strong, maybe their sense of America's weakness and division is so acute, maybe their perception of Saudi fecklessness is so pitch-perfect, that a chaotic Iraq, at least in the short-term, actually enhances the throw-weight of the regimes in Damascus and Teheran. Recent Iranian history does show a proclivity for dialogue with us after shows of American strength, such as our victory in the first Gulf War and the early days of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Here the Group seems to rely more on hope than analysis.

The Group believes that a settlement of the Palestinian-Israeli problem will appeal to Iraq's two troublesome neighbors. To wit, one of my stated reasons a half-decade ago for supporting regime change in Iraq was that—successfully executed—it might give the United States the strategic heft to terminate two untenable situations: the presence of American troops in Saudi Arabia and that of Israeli troops in the occupied territories. An Israeli-Syrian accord that would return the Golan Heights to Syria's control could be a long-range benefit to Israel rather than a betrayal of it. Syria's increased militancy toward the Golan may indicate it is positioning itself for such a deal, brokered by the United States. But it could also be a deadly feint: getting back the Golan may be the last thing the Damascus regime really wants, as it would have to involve some level of Syrian diplomatic recognition of Israel and agreed limits as to the extent of Syrian involvement in southern Lebanon. It would also end an era of confrontation with Israel that would remove the *raison d'être* for the tyranny with which every military regime in Syria, including the current one, has governed for over half a century.

Still, the Group does have a larger point here, especially about engaging Iran. It states that by openly seeking dialogue with Teheran we will call their bluff. If they are truly uninterested in improving the situation in Iraq, or in normalizing relations with us, the offer to negotiate will make this transparent for the world to see—including millions of Iranians. (Recently I wrote on *The Atlantic's* Web site that if we drew-down forces without at least trying to engage the Iranians, we would bear all the guilt for a possible genocide of the Sunnis in 2007.) In fact, what the Iranians might actually fear is a very public American effort to engage them, while giving them no quarter on the nuclear issue. If there are splits within the regime in Teheran, and between the regime and its population, here is where we might see them.

Otherwise, the Group calls for increasing economic assistance to Iraq, for getting the U.S. Justice and other departments more deeply involved in the corresponding Iraqi ministries, for a senior advisor for Iraqi reconstruction to be appointed by the Administration, for forcing civilian agencies like the State

Department to adopt more of an expeditionary mentality, so that they fill all hardship positions before others. As I said, if the Iraqis do start to cooperate with us and with each other, rather than desert Iraq, the Iraq Study Group demonstrates an appetite for another go at the problem.

The Administration should co-opt this report—with adjustments, of course. Once again, ignoring some of the sound bites, read completely it is not an especially hostile document from the viewpoint of the Administration. It cries out to be partially plagiarized by the President. If he does not do this, then he will be truly on his own, utterly isolated. The report says that the main benefit of gradually reducing our military footprint in Iraq will be to free up forces to secure Afghanistan. For it isn't just Iraq that is in the balance, but Afghanistan, too.

The URL for this page is <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200612u/kaplan-iraq>.

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THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/15/06

today's papers

An Army of More

By Daniel Politi

Posted Friday, Dec. 15, 2006, at 5:01 AM ET

The *Wall Street Journal* tops its worldwide newsbox with word that the Bush administration is leaning toward sending as many as [20,000 more troops](#) to help stabilize Baghdad. The *Washington Post* leads with the top Army general calling for a growth in the force by at least [7,000 soldiers a year](#) and warned the current Army "will break" under current demands if something isn't done to increase the number of servicemembers. He also called on the Pentagon to ease restrictions on Army National Guard and Army Reserves. The *Los Angeles Times* leads locally but goes high with a look at how the Senate has never [forced any of its members to resign](#) due to physical or mental problems. Throughout history, there have been a few senators that were too incapacitated to show up, but were nevertheless allowed to keep their seat. As Sen. Tim Johnson, D-S.D., emerged from surgery and faces the prospect of a long recovery, this tradition could be a benefit to Democrats who hold the slimmest of majorities in the Senate.

The *New York Times* leads with new data that reveals there was a 15 percent decrease in the most common form of [breast cancer](#) in the time period of August 2002 to December 2003. *USA Today* leads with word from Pentagon officials that [flame-resistant](#) uniforms will become the norm for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan by early 2007. The uniforms resist catching fire for approximately nine seconds, which could be long enough to escape a burning vehicle.

Iraqi officials and many of the U.S. military commanders on the ground don't seem so keen on the idea of increasing troop levels. White House officials insist no decision has been made, but aides say Bush and senior administration officials "appear receptive to calls to temporarily send 15,000 to 30,000 new U.S. forces to Iraq."

Gen. Peter J. Schoomaker, the Army's chief of staff, said it was imperative that the Army increases its numbers for what he characterized as a long and dangerous war. "At this pace, without recurrent access to the reserve components, through remobilization, we will break the active component," he said. Schoomaker also seemed skeptical of the idea that more ground troops should be sent to Iraq. "We should not surge without a purpose, and that purpose should be measurable and get us something," he said.

All the papers front stories on Sen. Johnson, who has gone from being a [low-profile](#) lawmaker to the center of a political drama in Washington. The senator was apparently in stable, yet critical, condition after going through with an operation to stop bleeding in his brain. Everyone explains the senator's condition was caused by an abnormality in the [blood vessels](#) that was present from birth. The *WSJ* says patients who suffer the same problem as the senator have a good chance at [recovery](#) but it all depends on how much bleeding he actually suffered and whether it caused any permanent brain damage.

The *Post* focuses its Page One story about Johnson on Capitol Hill sources saying there will be "[tough negotiations](#)" next month on how the Senate would be organized if a member happens to leave, die, or switch parties. In 2001, an agreement allowed Democrats to get the majority after one senator switched, and Republicans are likely to want to keep the same sort of rules in place. Democrats will try to fight against it.

Researchers say the reduction in breast cancer rates could be due to the fact that millions of women stopped taking hormone treatments after it was revealed they could [increase the risk](#) of developing the disease. Overall, among women of all ages and all types of breast cancer, there was a decrease of 7 percent over the same time period. This was the first time studies have shown a significant decrease in what has become the second leading killer of women.

The *WP* fronts an interview with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice where she rejected the idea that the United States should be seeking the help of [Syria and Iran](#) to solve the problems in Iraq. Rice said the United States would have to give too many concessions to get their help. "If they have an interest in a stable Iraq, they will do it anyway," she said. Rice also emphasized the Bush administration would continue to pursue and promote democracy in the Middle East.

The *NYT* and *LAT* go inside with the White House [criticizing](#) Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson of Florida for going to Syria and meeting with the country's president. The White House said the meeting was inappropriate and undermined democracy in the region. Meanwhile, three more senators, including one Republican, plan to visit Syria in the next few weeks.

Everyone goes inside with the latest mass kidnapping in Baghdad. Uniformed gunmen went into a major commercial area of the city and [kidnapped](#) dozens of shopkeepers and bystanders (the *LAT* says "at least five dozen"). Later in the day, at least 23 people were released unharmed, apparently after they were able to show their identity cards that had names associated with Shiite Muslims.

The papers mention one of Iraq's vice presidents said the Bush administration has made the creation of a new [political coalition](#) one of its top priorities. Tariq Hashimi said Bush and other senior officials told him that for now this new coalition is "the only solution we have" to strengthen the country's central government.

Meanwhile a Congressional delegation led by Sen. John McCain and Sen. Joe Lieberman [arrived](#) in Baghdad to meet with U.S. and Iraqi officials. McCain reiterated his call for more boots on the ground and, according to the *NYT*, said military commanders are currently [discussing](#) the possibility of taking as many as 35,000 more troops to Iraq.

The *NYT* notes a suicide bomber [killed](#) four civilians in Afghanistan yesterday.

The *NYT* fronts word out of the Homeland Security Department that the United States is giving up on efforts to [track visitors](#) and determine whether they actually leave the country. Officials say creating the program with the existing equipment would be too expensive and reports say it will take anywhere from five to 10 years before new technology is created.

The *NYT* fronts, and everyone else mentions, the New Jersey legislature voted to allow [same-sex unions](#). Lawmakers had a mandate from the state's highest court to come up with a system that would allow gay couples to have the same rights as heterosexuals. The move was criticized both by gay rights advocates, who complain the law doesn't go far enough, and conservative groups.

The *WP* fronts, and the *LAT* goes inside with, news that Israel's Supreme Court [upheld](#) the military's use of "targeted killings" of Palestinian militants. The court, which ruled on the controversial topic for the first time, said the military should take extra care to make sure civilian deaths are minimized. In addition, the court also said an independent judicial review should follow each operation and recommended that the military compensate civilians who are caught in the crossfire.

Everybody mentions Israel [blocked](#) Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh from entering the Gaza Strip with \$35 million. After a long standoff, Haniyeh was allowed through, but only after he left the money with Hamas officials in Egypt. Palestinians say the money is desperately needed to pay salaries, but Israel insists the money would be used to fund terrorist attacks.

The *NYT* fronts, and everyone else mentions, a long-awaited investigation in Britain concluded Princess Diana's [death](#) was a "tragic accident."

The *LAT* fronts, and everyone mentions, the death of Ahmet Ertegun, who co-founded [Atlantic Records](#) and was responsible for supporting and shaping the careers of some of the biggest names in music. He made his name with such acts as Ray Charles, Ruth Brown, and Aretha Franklin. Ertegun died as a result of a brain injury he suffered when he fell backstage at a Rolling Stones concert on Oct. 29. "Few people have had a bigger impact on the record industry than Ahmet," said David Geffen. Ertegun was also a founder of the Rock and roll Hall of Fame. He was 83. *Slate* [interviewed Ertegun](#) last year.

Daniel Politi writes "Today's Papers" for Slate. He can be reached at todaypapers@slate.com.

Article URL: <http://www.slate.com/id/2155595/>

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5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT

Friday, 15 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/15/06

Friday: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy in the early evening. Winds southwest at 10 to 15 knots turning northwest in the evening. Low 42°F. High 65°F.

Saturday: Mostly cloudy becoming partly cloudy in the afternoon. Winds northwest at 8 to 13 knots turning southwest in the evening. Low 41°F. High 56°F.

Sunday: Partly cloudy becoming mostly cloudy in the late morning. Winds southwest at 8 to 13 knots. Low 40°F. High 62°F.

Monday: Mostly cloudy becoming cloudy overnight. Winds southwest at 8 to 13 knots turning north overnight. Low 47°F. High 66°F.

Tuesday: Cloudy with rain showers. Winds north at 10 to 15 knots. Low 46°F. High 51°F.

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Handwritten Note	While You Were Out - To: POTUS - From: Reverend Caldwell	1	12/15/2006	PRM;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
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COLLECTION:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - PP (Presidential Personal)

FOLDER TITLE:

715481

FRC ID:

12474

OA Num.:

12211

NARA Num.:

12377

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0215-F 1

2014-0072-F

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- b(1) National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- b(2) Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
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- b(4) Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
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- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

Withdrawal Marker

The George W. Bush Library

FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Handwritten Note	[Note] - To: POTUS and FLOTUS - From: Sue Nardelli, et al.	2	12/15/2006	PRM;

**This marker identifies the original location of the withdrawn item listed above.
For a complete list of items withdrawn from this folder, see the
Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet at the front of the folder.**

COLLECTION:

Records Management, White House Office of

SERIES:

Subject Files - PP (Presidential Personal)

FOLDER TITLE:

715481

FRC ID:

12474

OA Num.:

12211

NARA Num.:

12377

FOIA IDs and Segments:

2014-0215-F 1

2014-0072-F

RESTRICTION CODES**Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]**

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- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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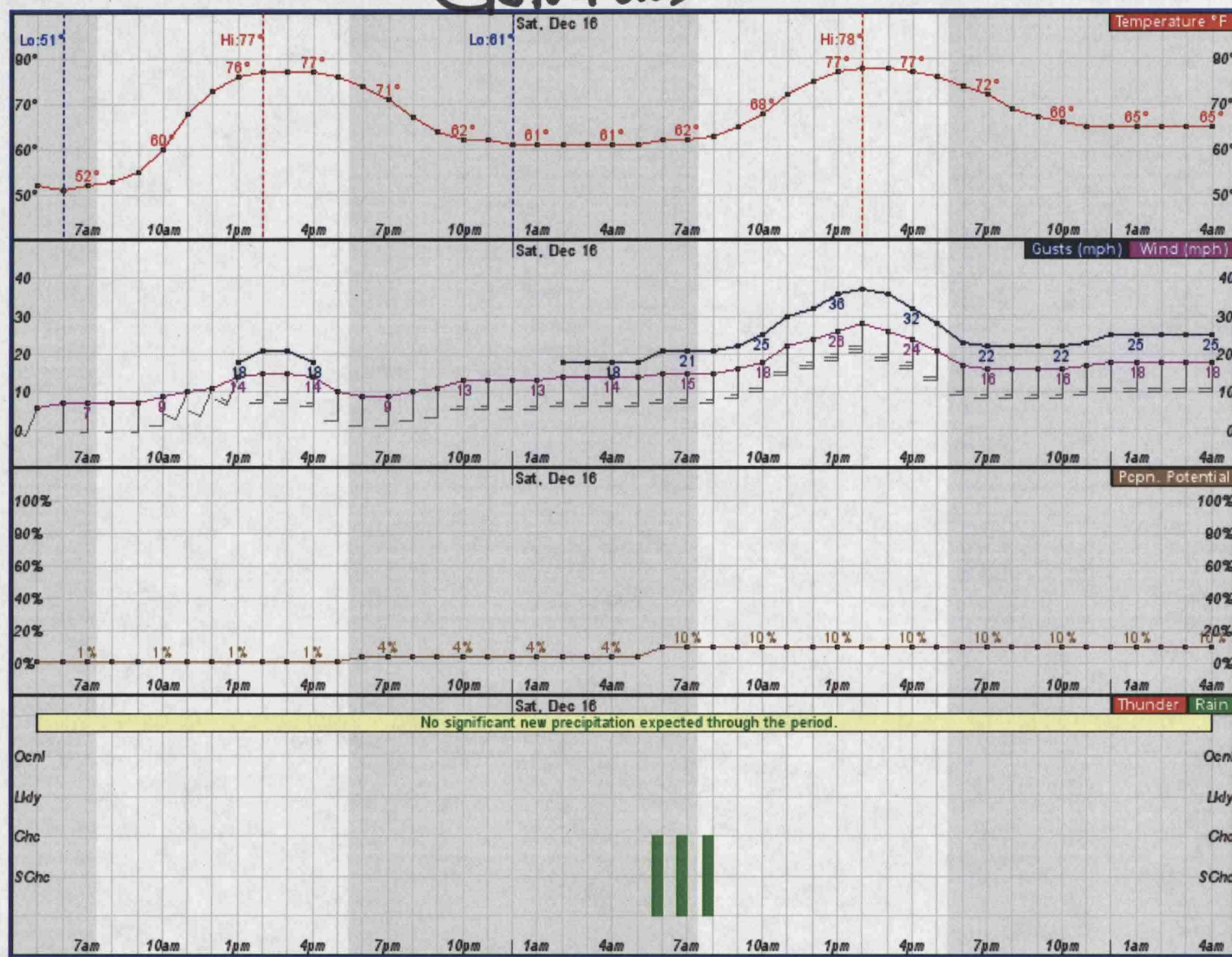
- A. Closed by Executive Order 13526 governing access to national security information.
- B. Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
- C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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- b(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- b(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- b(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- b(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

CRAWFORD

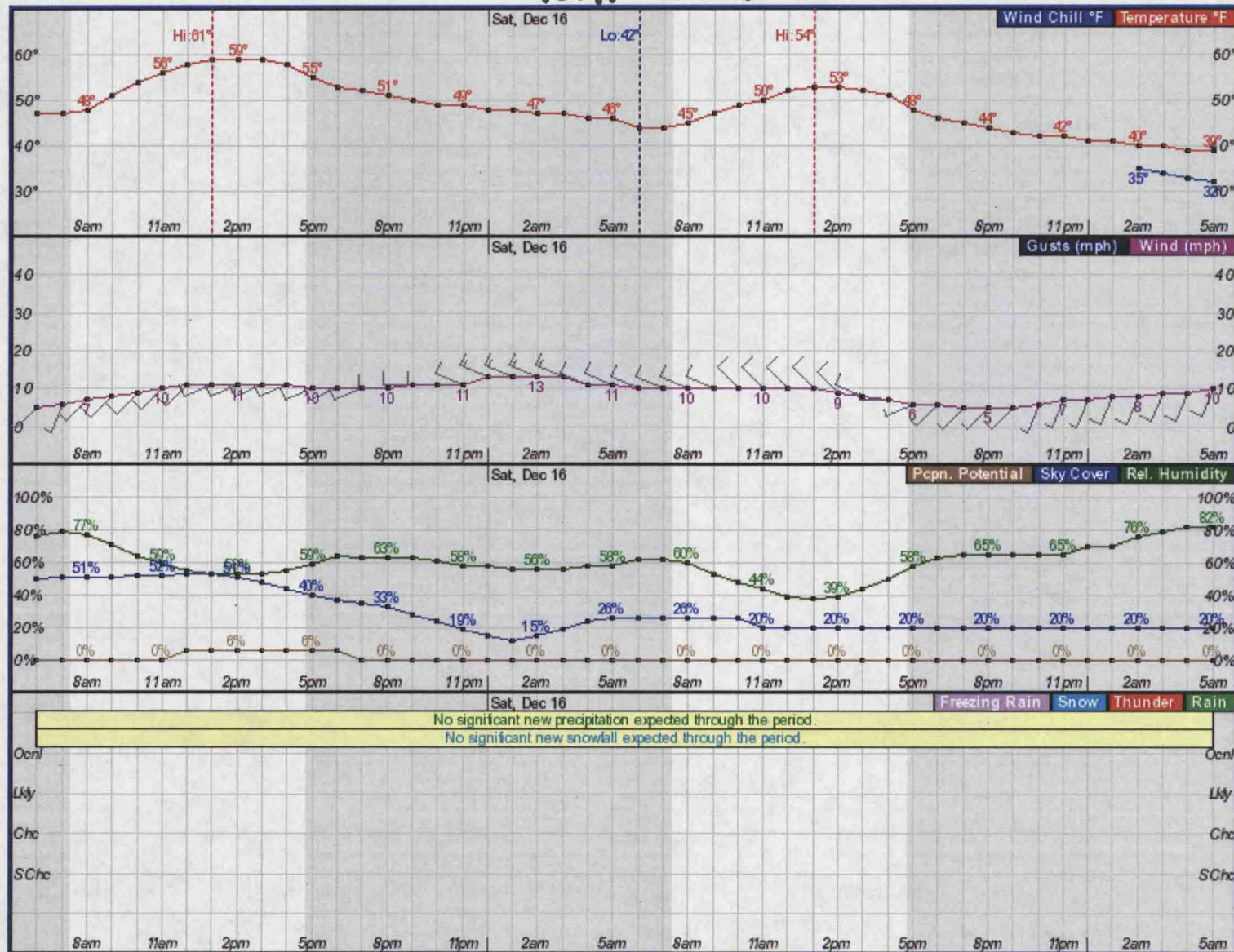
12/15/06


[Radars and Satellite Images](#)
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[7-Day Forecast](#)
[Tabular Forecast](#)

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/15/06



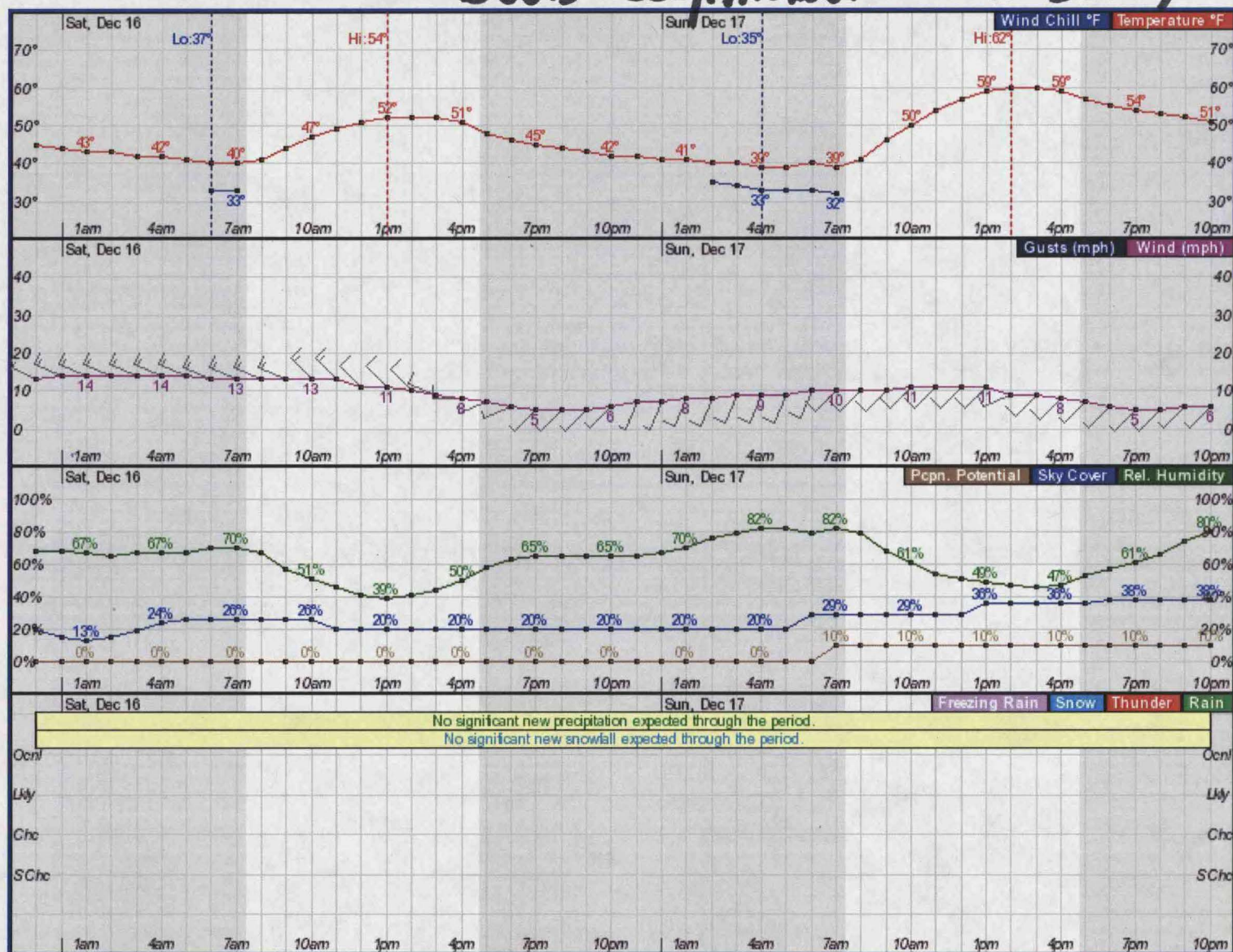
Friday, December 15 at 11am

Temperature: 56°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: SW 10mph
 Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 52% Relative Humidity: 59%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

BELTSVILLE/PARMENT (SAT-SUN)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/15/06



Saturday, December 16 at 5am

Temperature: 41°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: WNW 14mph
 Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 26% Relative Humidity: 67%
 Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

12/15/06

Movies of the Week

Movies Available as of December 15, 2006

This List Is Void after December 19, 2006

THE PRESTIGE

PG-13

130 Min.

Drama / Thriller / Adaptation

(Rated PG-13 for violence and disturbing images.)

Starring Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale, Michael Caine

*BUENA VISTA

• •

MARIE-ANTOINETTE

Not yet rated 123 Min.

Historical drama

Starring Kirsten Dunst, Jason Schwartzmann, Asia Argento

*COLUMBIA

THE PRESTIGE

****1/2**

Starring Hugh Jackman, Christian Bale, Michael Caine, David Bowie and Scarlett Johansson. Directed by Christopher Nolan. Produced by William Tyrer, Chris J. Ball and Valerie Dean. Drama / Thriller / Adaptation. Rated PG-13 for violence and disturbing images. A Buena Vista release. Running time: 130 Min.

It all begins in rapidly changing, turn-of-the-century London. At a time when magicians are idols and celebrities of the highest order, two young magicians set out to carve their own paths to fame. The flashy, sophisticated Robert Angier is a consummate entertainer, while the rough-edged purist Alfred Borden is a creative genius who lacks the panache to showcase his magical ideas. They start out as admiring friends and partners. But when their biggest trick goes terribly awry, they become enemies for life--each intent on outdoing and upending the other. Trick by trick, show by show, their ferocious competition builds until it knows no bounds, even utilizing the fantastical new powers of electricity and the scientific brilliance of radical inventor Nikola Tesla--while the lives of everyone around them hang in the balance.

MARIE-ANTOINETTE

Starring Kirsten Dunst, Jason Schwartzmann, Asia Argento, Rip Torn, Marianne Faithfull, Judy Davis, James Dornan, Shirley Henderson, Steve Googan and Rose Byrne. Directed and written by Sofia Coppola. Produced by Ross Katz and Sofia Coppola. A Columbia release. Historical drama. Not yet rated. Running time: 123 min.

When betrothed to King Louis XVI, the naïve and beautiful, Austrian-born Marie Antoinette enters the opulent French court, which is steeped in conspiracy and scandal. Without guidance, adrift in a dangerous world, the young girl rebels against the isolated atmosphere of Versailles and becomes France's most misunderstood monarch. Stripped of her riches and finery, imprisoned, and ultimately beheaded by her own subjects, the Queen of France became a toxic symbol for the wanton extravagance of the 18th century monarchy that incited to the French Revolution.

5 DAY WEATHER FORECAST
PROVIDED BY THE JOINT PRESIDENTIAL WEATHER SUPPORT UNIT

Saturday, 16 December 2006

WASHINGTON, DC

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/16/06

Saturday: Sunny. Winds northwest at 8 to 13 knots becoming southwest at 5 to 10 knots in the evening. Low 43°F. High 57°F.

Sunday: Mostly sunny. Winds southwest at 5 to 10 knots. Low 40°F. High 64°F.

Monday: Mostly sunny becoming mostly cloudy in the evening with widely isolated overnight rain showers. Winds west at 8 to 13 knots becoming northwest overnight. Low 46°F. High 68°F.

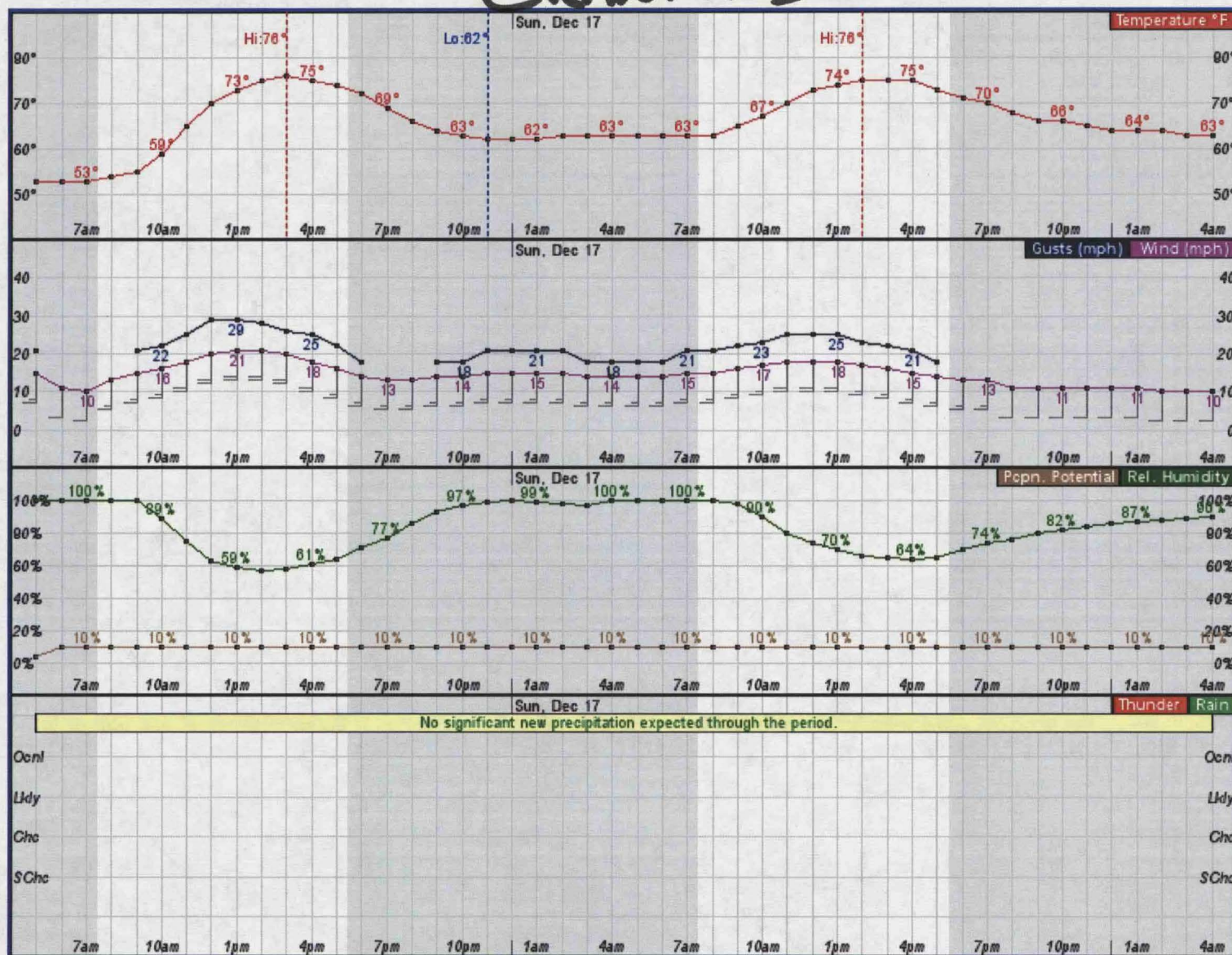
Tuesday: Mostly cloudy becoming sunny after noon. Winds northwest at 13 to 18 knots. Low 45°F. High 53°F.

Wednesday: Sunny. Winds northwest at 10 to 15 knots becoming southwest at 5 to 10 knots in the evening. Low 34°F. High 47°F.

CRANFOLD

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

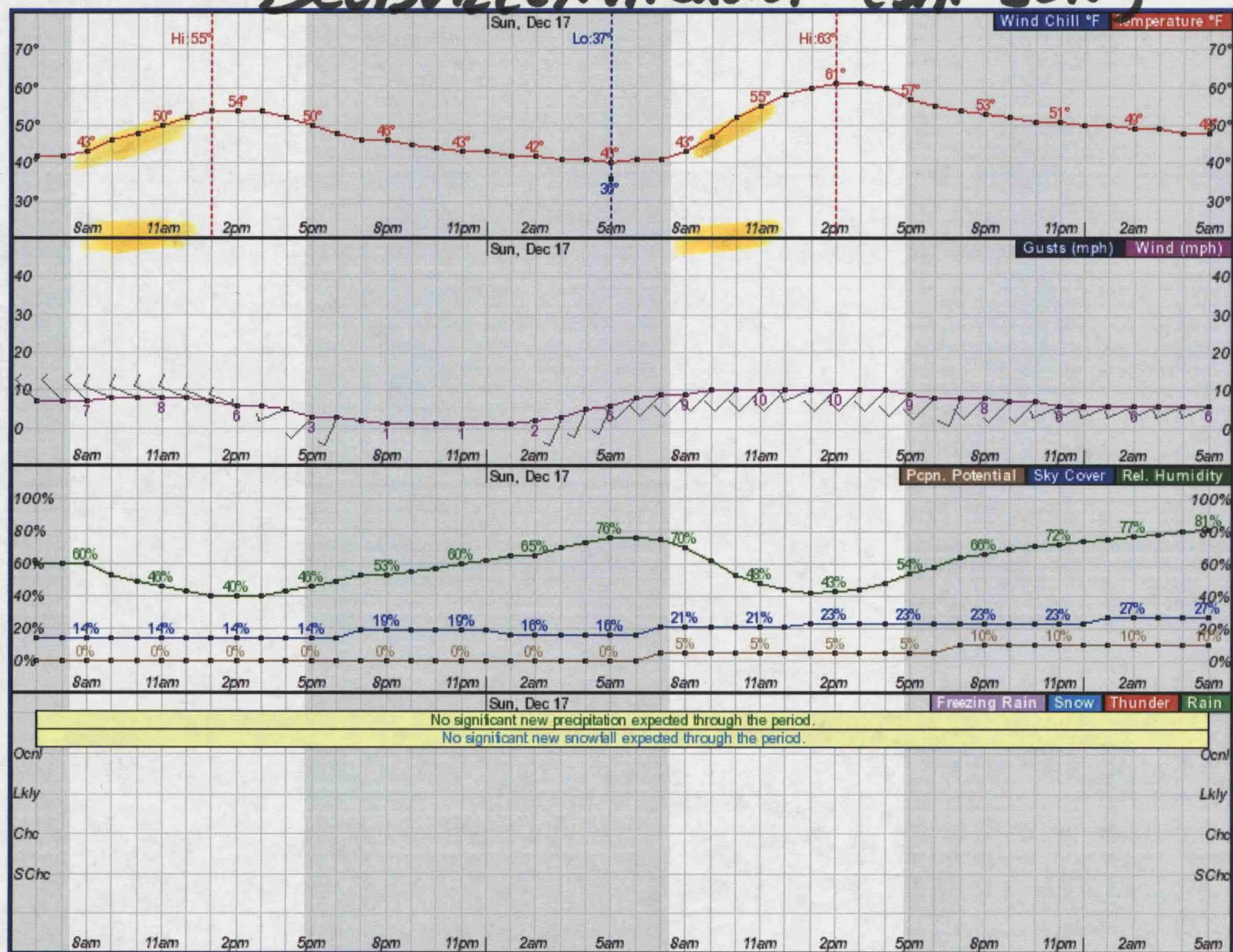
12/14/06


[Radars and Satellite Images](#)
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[7-Day Forecast](#)
[Tabular Forecast](#)

BELTSVILLE/PATUXENT (SAT-SUN)

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

12/14/06



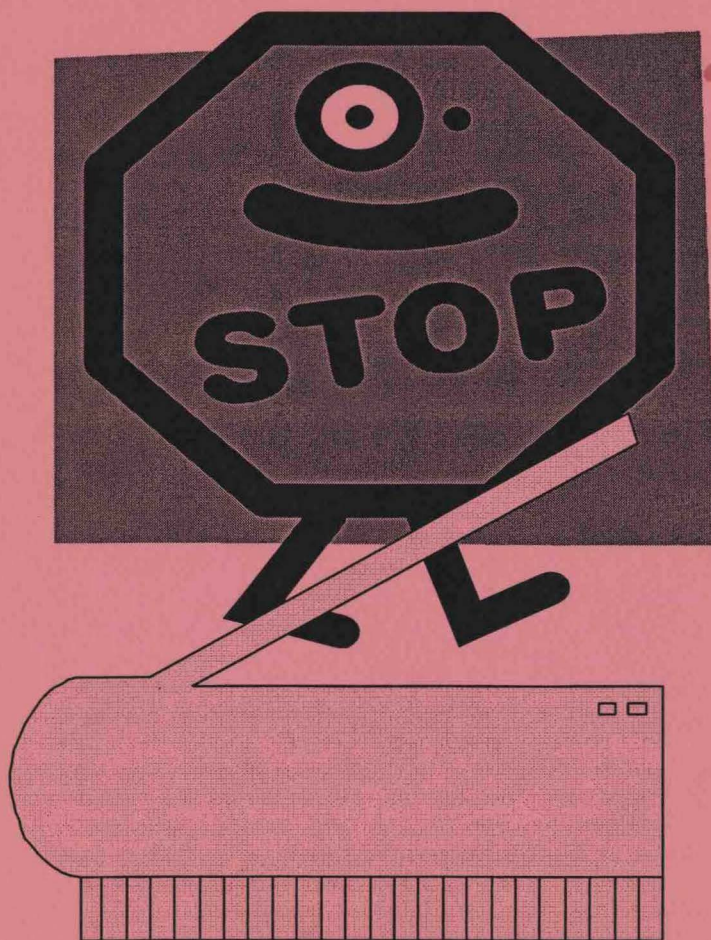
Saturday, December 16 at 2pm

Temperature: 54°F Wind Chill: N/A Wind: WNW 6mph

Precipitation Potential: 0% Sky Cover: 14% Relative Humidity: 40%

Rain: <10% Thunder: <10% Snow: <10% Freezing Rain: <10%

ORM
Scanning insert sheet



Remainder of case not scanned

Bob C. Barnes
President & CEO

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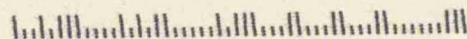
AUSTIN TX 787

20 NOV 2005 PM 4 L



The Honorable and Mrs. George W. Bush
ATTENTION: Karen Keller
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20502

20502+0000



DEC 04 2006

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