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CREATION DATE/TIME: 4-MAY-2000 09:40:24.00

SUBJECT: CBS 60 Minutes II, May 2, 2000

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CBS 60 MINUTES II

May 2, 2000

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BOB SIMON, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): The first American casualty of the Gulf War was Michael Scott Speicher, the navy pilot shot down over Iraq, the first night of the war and declared dead hours later. But there's increasing evidence to suggest that Scott Speicher did not die that night; that he may have ejected and survived.

TIM CONNOLLY: I argued that we owed it as a nation to go after Michael Speicher, that I quoted the fifth standard of the ranger creed.

SIMON (on camera): What does that say?

CONNOLLY: It says--among other things--it says I shall never leave a fallen comrade to fall into the hands of the enemy.

SIMON (voice-over): Did Speicher end up in the hands of the Iraqis? It's a question that haunts the navy's man in charge of the Gulf War.

(on camera): Do you think we may have left somebody behind in Iraq?

RET. ADMIRAL STAN ARTHUR, U.S. NAVY: We could have, yes.

DAN RATHER, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Last summer when John F. Kennedy's plane crashed, we all watched Ted Kennedy guide his family through yet another tragedy, as they gathered in Hyannis to deal with the loss.

SEN. EDWARD KENNEDY (D), MASSACHUSETTS: I remember the Friday night, I guess the night actually that he was lost, and we gathered in Ethel's house.

RATHER: How did they get through it? Some answers tonight from the senator and from his niece Caroline.

CAROLINE KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: Nobody was more amazing than Teddy last summer. And he really--I think if there was

anything that came out of that, I think it was that kind of an appreciation that I got for how lucky I am to be in our family.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

RATHER: I`m Dan Rather.

SIMON: I`m Bob Simon.

CHARLIE ROSE, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I`m Charlie Rose.

VICKI MABREY, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I`m Vicki Mabrey.

SCOTT PELLEY, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT: I`m Scott Pelley. Those stories tonight on 60 MINUTES II.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SIMON: The first casualty of war is truth. The poet Samuel Johnson wrote that 250 years ago. The first American casualty of the Gulf war was Lieutenant Commander Michael Scott Speicher, a naval pilot shot down over Iraq the first night of the war. Johnson`s words could well be engraved over Speicher`s tombstone in Arlington Cemetery, because there`s no evidence that he ever died; because he is the only American unaccounted for from the Gulf War. Because when Speicher was officially declared killed in action the U.S. military had never even looked for him. We started looking into the Speicher case a year ago. The deeper we dug, the more disturbing it became.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

(voice-over): Our search took us to the deepest desert of western Iraq, flat, arid, endless. Somewhere in this desolation, Scott Speicher`s F-18 crashed in the pre-dawn darkness of January 17, 1991, two hours after the war began.

GEORGE BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Just two hours ago, allied air forces began an attack on military targets inside Iraq and Kuwait. Tonight the battle has been joined.

SCOTT SPEICHER: I'm Scott Speicher of the VFA-81 out here on the ``Saratoga.''

SIMON: Scott Speicher was one of the best pilots on the aircraft carrier ``Saratoga.''

SPEICHER: I'd also like to say hello to my wife Joanne, my son Michael, and Meghan. I love you and I miss you. Send money.

SIMON: Speicher wasn't supposed to fly on the first mission of the war, but he refused to be left behind. Tony Albano was Speicher's roommate.

TONY ALBANO, SPEICHER'S ROOMMATE: Scott was the kind of guy who didn't--who would not want to be sidelined from the main action.

SIMON: Barry Hull was in Speicher's squadron.

BARRY HULL: When it just came down to flying the airplane, there was nobody like spike.

SIMON: Hull, Albano, and Speicher took off at 1:30 in the morning from the ``Saratoga. Their mission would be one of the most dangerous of the war: suppress enemy air defenses west of Baghdad. Near the front of the assault, two planes away from Speicher, was Bob Stumpf.

BOB STUMPF: The closer we got to Baghdad the more impressive the light show over Baghdad became. It was just an incredible anti-aircraft barrage.

HULL: Once we got in close to the target area, and I saw how much firepower Iraq had, I was terrified.

SIMON: Eight minutes from the target, Stumpf was startled by a huge flash in the sky.

STUMPF: I didn't know what it was at the time. I had no clue what was going on. I assumed that a missile had exploded nearby.

SIMON (on camera): But when you saw the flash, you didn't think right away, ``One of my colleagues is gone''?

STUMPF: No, not at all.

SIMON (voice-over): The fighters continued toward the target and dropped their bombs.

HULL: I got my last shot off, and now I turn south, and I'm going as fast as I can go. I want to get out of town.

ALBANO: I was up on the radio...

HULL: We're supposed to check in.

ALBANO: ... and I could hear other members in our striker checking out especially in our squadron.

HULL: Spike doesn't check in.

ALBANO: And I tried to contact him several times...

HULL: Just key in the radio and call in for Spike.

``Spike, I copy. Spike, skull, spike, you got me?''

ALBANO: ... and I never heard from him.

SIMON: The pilots returned to the Saratoga just before dawn, minus one.

HULL: He didn't get back to the boat, so we're assuming he--he had to divert.

SIMON: But during their intelligence debriefings on the ship, Dave Renaud, who had been the closest pilot to Speicher, reported seeing explosions five miles away, in Speicher's direction, at the same time Bob Stumpf witnessed that large flash in the sky. Renaud reported the plane had been blown to bits. He even drew a little circle on his map where he thought he had seen the fireball. The word that Speicher was missing reached Admiral Stan Arthur, commander of all allied naval forces in the Persian Gulf.

ARTHUR: the first report was, ``Airplane disintegrated on impact, no contact with the pilot.'' We really don't believe that anyone was able to survive the impact.

HULL: Then the skipper came down and got everybody

together and said, ``He didn't divert. He's--we don't know where he is.''
So at that point now we know something really bad has happened.

RICHARD CHAINEY (ph), SECRETARY OF DEFENSE: The
operation will continue.

SIMON: A few hour after the first planes had
returned to their ships, secretary of defense, Richard Chainey, gave a
press conference in Washington.

CHAINEY: As of 09:00 this morning, Washington time,
there has been a single American aircraft lost. It involves a single
casualty. I don't know if we want to identify the aircraft...

COLIN POWELL: It was an F-18...

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Was it a wound or a death?

CHAINEY: A death.

SIMON: On the basis of one account of a flash in the
night sky and 12 hours of radio silence, Secretary Chainey had just
declared Scott Speicher dead.

STUMPF: I just remember my reaction was, ``Well,
that seems very quick.' ' That seems--I don't know if I said ``premature'
to myself, but it seemed so. I'd just assumed they had some information
that we didn't know about.

HULL: I clung on as long as everyone else in the
squadron that Speicher was walking around in the desert doing his evasion
maneuvers, and would be rescued.

SIMON (on camera): Was any search and rescue
launched?

ARTHUR: We did not launch a search and rescue
mission, because we didn't have contact with him without the
communications. He went down in an area where you would not launch anybody
in to just start a systematic search pattern.

SIMON (voice-over): But that's the not the

impression the navy was giving to his wife, Joanne. On February 2nd, Speicher's commanding officer sent her this message--'All, repeat, all theater, search and effort were mobilized.'

And that wasn't all.

PETE WILLIAMS, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN: We still have reconnaissance flights flying all over Iraq.

SIMON: On March 7, 1991, right after the war, Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams assured Americans the military would comb the sands for every one of its fallen.

WILLIAMS: And we will intensify that search effort, and we won't rest until that's completed. It's the highest priority for us at this point.

SIMON: When the POW's were released at the end of the war, Tony Albano, Speicher's roommate, was sent to Saudi Arabia just in case Speicher was among the prisoners being freed.

(on camera): Did you think he might be among them?

ALBANO: I had some guarded optimism that he could have been in the group. I couldn't rule out anything. I stayed there till--till the last group came back, and--and then I was sent back to the ``Saratoga.''

SIMON: Back to the ``Saratoga,' without Scott Speicher.

(on camera): When Speicher wasn't among the POW's released by Saddam, there seemed little reason to believe he could still be alive. Then, weeks later, hopes dimmed even further. The Iraqis sent the Americans a pound and a half of flesh claiming it was the remains of a pilot named Michael. Now, Speicher's first name was Michael, and there was no other Michael among the missing. One DNA test and the case would be closed forever, but that's when things started getting strange.

VICTOR WEEDN, FORENSIC PATHOLOGIST: It's from this

tissue.

SIMON (voice-over): Victor Weedn, a forensic pathologist, tested the flesh.

WEEDN: I feel very comfortable in saying, ``This is not Speicher.''

SIMON: Were Saddam and the Iraqis trying to hide something or had they just made a mistake? Apparently no one asked, because the very next day, May 7, the navy began the process to officially declare Scott Speicher KIA.

WEEDN: After we submitted our test report, we hear that a decision was made to call Scott Speicher killed in action. I was a little surprised at that, because our test report didn't show that he was dead.

SIMON: Joanne Speicher was asked to sign off. The Navy sent her its best guess as to where Speicher was shot down. Since she had been told all search efforts had been exhausted, and no radio contact had been made with her husband, she agreed. The navy was eager to close its books and get on with the parade.

While America was publicly celebrating its victory with pride and patriotism, a private and lonely memorial service was being held in Arlington National Cemetery. There was no body, but there was now a tombstone in hallowed ground. Scott Speicher had joined the legion of fallen heroes, as President Bush acknowledged in his state of the union address.

BUSH: A few days after the war began, I received a telegram from Joanne Speicher, the wife of the first pilot killed in the Gulf, Lieutenant Commander Scott Speicher. Even in her grief, she wanted me to know that some day when her children were old enough, she would tell them that their father went away to war because it was the right thing to do.

SIMON (on camera): The case of Scott Speicher was closed and forgotten. And forgotten he would have remained, but then in December 1993, an army general from the tiny Gulf state of Qatar came here to the western desert of Iraq. He and his party were hunting for rare falcons, when they stumbled across another kind of bird which had fallen from the sky. It was a fighter jet, an American F-18.

(voice-over): The Qatari and his party took pictures--lots of them. The condition of the nose suggested the plane had not disintegrated in the air. The Qatari took his pictures and pieces of the plane to the American embassy in Doha, the Qatari capital. The photos and this piece of radar equipment were sent to Washington where a check was run on the serial numbers. The results stirred the Pentagon. Nearly three years after the Gulf War, Scott Speicher's jet had been located in the western desert of Iraq.

ARTHUR: And of course the thing that got my attention immediately was the fact that the pictures showed that the canopy was some distance from the airplane.

SIMON (on camera): Which means?

ARTHUR: That an ejection attempt had most likely taken place.

SIMON: When you saw those photos indicating that an ejection attempt had probably taken place, how did it make you feel?

ARTHUR: Not very good. Not very good.

SIMON (voice-over): The Pentagon went back and checked the satellite imagery it used to track scud launches during the war, and guess what it found? A crash site, with the outlines of a jet in the sand. It was Speicher's F-18, right where his fellow pilot had said it was, right where the navy told Joanne Speicher it was. Despite three years of assurances, no one in the U.S. government or the military had ever bothered to look for Scott Speicher's plane.

ARTHUR: You get this sinking feeling that there's something, something really wrong here; that you missed something. Is he there? Did he get out? If he got out, where is he? What can we do to find him?

SIMON: The world's greatest superpower can do quite a bit to find a missing man. But did it? The man declared dead by the Pentagon and the president might have walked away. The evidence in a moment.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SIMON: Why did secretary of defense Richard Chainey declare navy pilot Scott Speicher dead in the first hours of the Gulf war when there was no evidence to support it? We asked Chainey for an interview or even a statement. He declined. Why did the navy persist in declaring Speicher killed in action when there was no evidence to support that? Secretary of the navy Richard Danzig and his predecessor John Dalton did not want to answer our questions either. In fact, the more we learned about the Speicher case, the more reluctant Pentagon officials were to talk to us about it.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

(voice-over): These are the last pictures of Scott Speicher landing his F-18 on the ``Saratoga,'' just before the war began. Three years later, the Pentagon had photos and wreckage of that same plane in the Iraqi desert, and it had indications that Speicher may have ejected. That gave Admiral Stan Arthur, commander of all allied naval forces during the Gulf War, nightmares.

ARTHUR: My worst fear was what happens if someday he shows up in Baghdad on a TV screen, and it's a surprise to everybody? How would you explain that?

SIMON: There was no time to lose. It was April 1994,

and Arthur favored launching a covert mission into Iraq to check out the site. So did Tim Connolly, then the deputy secretary of defense in charge of special operations, but Pentagon policy officials were concerned about casualties. They wanted to ask Saddam for permission to go to the site under the Red Cross flag. Connolly couldn't believe it.

CONNOLLY: You don't preserve your options when you essentially announce to the Iraqi government that A, you know that you found a crash site, and B, you found something at the crash site that might lead you to conclude the pilot is alive. Because if, in fact, the pilot is alive and being held by the Iraqis, the pilot isn't alive anymore.

SIMON: Classified documents show that the chance of success for a secret mission was considered high, the risk of detection, low.

ARTHUR: I thought that we could probably get in there and out of there probably fairly easily.

SIMON: One might have thought that after not searching for Speicher the day he crashed or the next day or the next three years, the Pentagon would have grabbed this opportunity. One would have been wrong. A decision that should have taken days or weeks took months. And Tim Connolly simply didn't see the threat.

(on camera): The only people in the vicinity, at best, were bedouins...

CONNOLLY: Correct.

SIMON: ... who don't have much of an anti-aircraft capability.

CONNOLLY: Correct. But you know as well as I do, that there is a growing feeling in this country that our military should not be put in positions of risk.

SIMON: Taking off from an aircraft carrier the first

night of a war and flying near Baghdad, that's a high-risk mission?

CONNOLLY: That would fit my definition of high risk, yeah.

SIMON: Speicher got shot down, and three years later, no one's willing to take a low-risk mission to find out what happened to him?

CONNOLLY: Correct.

SIMON (voice-over): The climactic meeting was held in December 1994 in the Pentagon. The Secretary of Defense William Perry and the chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, General John Shalikashvili, would make the final call on how to approach the site.

CONNOLLY: I argued that we owed it as a nation to go after Michael Speicher. I quoted the fifth stanza of the ranger creed.

SIMON (on camera): What does it say? Remind me?

CONNOLLY: It says--among other things it says that, ``I shall never leave a fallen comrade to fall in the hands of the enemy.'' And I closed by saying--and I directed these at General Shali--I said, ``I will go out the door of this conference room to stand in the hall, and I will stop the first five people who walk by in military uniform, regardless of service or gender. I will explain to them what we are trying to do, and ask them if they will get on the helicopter. And I will guarantee you that all five will get on the helicopter.'' And then I shut my mouth. And the chairman said, ``I do not want to have to write letters home to the parents to tell them that their son or daughter died looking for old bones.''

SIMON: ``Old bones' '--was that the end of the meeting?

CONNOLLY: That was pretty much it.

SIMON (voice-over): That was it. No covert mission.

The U.S. government was going to appeal to Saddam Hussein. General

Shalikashvili would not talk to us about his decision, but Speicher's fellow pilots would, and did.

STUMPF: I had a visceral reaction. I thought that's what our armed forces were all about. I thought that we did, in fact, send our forces to recover somebody's bones, and that was our contract with our soldiers.

HULL: If his bones are out in the desert, go get them.

SIMON (on camera): Would you have been willing to go on such a covert mission?

STUMPF: I would have volunteered.

SIMON (voice-over): On March 1, 1995, Saddam agreed to allow American experts to visit the crash site. But because of what Baghdad called ``unforeseen bureaucratic delays,'' it took nine months before the Americans got there. Alan Liotta of the defense department's POW/MIA office helped put the team together.

(on camera): When you got there with your team, there was no cockpit, was there?

ALAN LIOTTA: Well, when we got there, that area that we were searching for had already been dug through and tampered with before we arrived.

SIMON (voice-over): The cockpit was missing. The Iraqis had gotten there first. Still, the Americans found a plane which had not disintegrated in the sky. They found the canopy, which ejects with the pilot, about a mile from the aircraft, spent flares and parts of a survival kit were also located. There was not a bone or a drop of blood or a trace of Scott Speicher anywhere. But towards the end of their six-day search, the Americans found a surprise in the sands.

CONNOLLY: There, laying on the desert floor is the flight suit.

SIMON: A tattered flight suit--they could barely believe their eyes. It did not seem to be bloodied. It did not seem to have been there very long.

CONNOLLY: Looks like you had just thrown it on the desert floor 10 or 15 minutes before. Now immediately, it begs the question of where has the flight suit been?

SIMON: There were definite signs Speicher could have survived an ejection. But that's not what the Pentagon told the American people on December 19, 1995, just days after the crash team returned to the United States.

KENNETH BACON: Nothing the team found indicates that the pilot survived the crash.

SIMON: In fact, the investigators reported the crash site provided no evidence Speicher had died. Only now does the defense department acknowledge this, and only grudgingly.

LIOTTA: We know from the evidence that we recovered and from our crash site investigation that there was an ejection. What we do not know is, what was the condition of the pilot during that ejection sequence? The F-18 has some very interesting statistics. Ninety percent of pilots who eject survive that ejection sequence. Was he part of the 90 percent or was he part of the 10 percent?

SIMON: CBS News has learned there wasn't a drop of blood or any remains whatsoever on the flight suit, shown here on a model. Speicher's roommate Tony Albano was asked to identify the suit.

ALBANO: It looked like the right size. The patches on the sleeves on the upper left side looked like the--and also on the left or right breast area, looked like the patches that he had on his flight suit. To me, that looked like his flight suit.

SIMON: And investigators now agree. But none of that explains why, if Speicher survived the crash, no one ever received his

radio call. And as retired Air Force General Buster Glosson, who helped run search and rescue, tells it, no radio call, no rescue. Glosson now a CBS consultant says before the war, pilots were told...

RET. GENERAL BUSTER GLOSSON, AIR FORCE: ``If you only have one thing, make sure this stays with you. This is the most important single thing for your rescue, or your recovery, or us finding you if you go out of that airplane.''

SIMON: Which takes us back to the ``Saratoga'' minutes before Speicher took off. Ted Phagan was in charge of the pilots' radios, and he was a worried man that night. Speicher and his fellow pilots had just been given a new radio.

TED PHAGAN: I've never seen this radio, and it was much larger than the radio that was in their vest, and it didn't fit. It extended probably two to three inches higher than the other radio, and the flap that came down to secure the PRC-90 radio--the one that they usually had--would not fit over this, this new radio that they gave them.

SIMON (on camera): Did this worry you?

PHAGAN: Extremely. But as the pilots are walking out, I'm telling them, I said, ``You know, you're going to lose this radio, if you have to eject.''

SIMON: You said that?

PHAGAN: I said that, yes. I said that to several pilots. I said, ``If you eject, it's not going to stay. It's going to go.''

SIMON (voice-over): So when the pilots returned to the Saratoga after that first mission, minus Scott Speicher, Ted Phagan told anyone on the ship who would listen that if Speicher had survived, he was on his own.

PHAGAN: Basically I says, ``If Lieutenant Commander Speicher ejected, he doesn't have a radio. You know, and if he's still

alive, he's wandering around in the desert with no communication.''

SIMON: By the second launch, Phagan had fixed the problem with a new flap.

(on camera): So, this was a flaw that only was there during the very first launch, and during the very first launch, one pilot was lost, and his name was Speicher?

PHAGAN: Right.

SIMON: And if you think the navy brass has ever asked Ted Phagan about the radios that night, you'd be mistaken.

GLOSSON: That's very tragic and sad, the way you described it. I'm appalled that a commander of a fighter organization would permit his people to take off if that, in fact, was the case.

SIMON: But a radio was no guarantee of a rescue. A fear of casualties meant fewer search and rescue attempts.

GLOSSON: We only rescued three people. That meant every time a fighter pilot got into an airplane to fly a mission, if he was shot down his chances of being recovered even if he was alive was less than 20 percent. That's deplorable.

SIMON: By mid-1996 even General Shalikashvili, the man who had vetoed the secret mission, was growing uneasy. 60 MINUTES II has learned the general wrote to the CIA expressing his misgivings about Speicher's status, misgivings which Admiral Arthur--now retired--has had for years.

(on camera): Do we have any evidence at all that he's dead?

ARTHUR: None that I'm aware of.

CONNOLLY: We have none. I don't believe we have any evidence that tells us he's dead.

SIMON (voice-over): Yet, the navy hasn't budged. To this day, Speicher's status remains ``killed in action.''

(on camera): But now, with mounting evidence that he survived the crash, and without a single shred of evidence that he ever died, U.S. Intelligence agencies are launching a new search, and this search isn't just for old bones. The government is not ruling out the possibility--slim though it might be--that Scott Speicher could be alive today somewhere here in Iraq.

(voice-over): American investigators tell 60 MINUTES II, an Iraqi defector recently made his way into Jordan with a story. In the first days of the war, he had driven an American pilot--alive and alert in his flight suit--from the desert to Baghdad and the authorities. The defector was given a photo lineup. He pointed right at Scott Speicher. The defector passed a lie detector test twice. He was convinced he had seen the only American unaccounted for in the Gulf war.

(on camera): Do you believe he could be alive today?

LIOTTA: We're exploring every single possibility. The real answer to that question isn't necessarily what my office believes. The answer is what does Saddam know, and what can Saddam Hussein provide us?

SIMON: If you could see Saddam today what would you ask him?

LIOTTA: Does his government have knowledge of our pilot, either dead or alive. We would like to have him show us conclusively that, in fact, there is no record of our pilot being in his prisons.

SIMON (voice-over): We went to the head of the Iraqi air force, General Khaldoun Khattab, a member of Saddam's inner circle.

GENERAL KHALDOUN KHATTAB (through translator): We handed over all the prisoners, all the pilots after the war. Why would we keep one pilot, whether he is dead or alive?

SIMON (on camera): Did you ever hear anything about

what might have happened to the American pilot who was shot down?

KHATTAB (through translator): It's possible he was seriously injured after he ejected from the plane, and there are lots of wolves in the area. Maybe he was attacked by wolves.

SIMON (voice-over): We went to the crash site a few weeks ago, 150 miles southwest of Baghdad, a million miles from nowhere. The Iraqis cooperated, sending armed guards along to protect us from wolves, they said.

After nine years, much of the plane has been lost to the desert, to the Iraqis, to the Americans who came with their shovels four years ago. But enough remains to pose a number of haunting questions. If he survived, could he move? Which way did he walk? How far did he get? Was he found? Where is he? Most haunting of all is the fact that for nearly five years, no American came looking. That's what still torments the man who sent Speicher into battle, the commander of allied naval forces in the Gulf War.

(on camera): Do you think we may have left somebody behind in Iraq?

ARTHUR: We could have, yes.

SIMON (voice-over): So where is Scott Speicher's real tomb? This empty grave in Arlington? Or this monument of metal in the desert? Or should there be no tomb at all?

(END VIDEOTAPE)

RATHER: He has held his family together for almost 40 years. How does Ted Kennedy do it? Some answers tonight from the senator himself, and from his niece, Caroline, in interviews with CBS NEWS correspondent Gloria Borger.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

GLORIA BORGER, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (on camera):

He is the patriarch of his family and the patriarchs of the Democratic Party. After 37 years in the Senate it's no secret where Edward M. Kennedy stands on the issues. What's hard to figure out is just who he is and what keeps him going. Last summer, when John F. Kennedy, Jr.'s plane crashed, we all watched Kennedy guide his family through yet another ordeal as they gathered in Hyannis to try and cope with the loss. We went back there with Senator Kennedy 10 days ago.

KENNEDY: Well, that was a very difficult time. We've had, you know, the difficult losses in the family. I remember the Friday night--I guess night, actually--that he was lost, and we gathered at Ethel's house. I think we better walk along.

BORGER (voice-over): Talking about loss is not the way Kennedy gets through it. He just moves on.

KENNEDY: You try to live with the up side and the positive aspects of it, the happier aspects and the joyous aspects, and try to muffle down the other kinds of concerns and anxiety and the sadness of it, and know that you have no alternative but to continue on. And so you do.

BORGER (on camera): How are you consoled? What consoles you?

KENNEDY: The prayers, the notes make a great deal of difference to me. And they did last summer. I suppose I don't do as well as maybe others in being able to sort of talk about those inner feelings and emotions that have been very close to my--deep in my heart and soul. And I don't do that terribly well.

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: I guess it's hard for me to realize that people don't see Teddy the way that we in our family do.

BORGER (voice-over): Caroline Kennedy-Schlossberg almost never gives interviews, but she sat down with us at her home in Manhattan to talk of her uncle.

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: Nobody was more amazing than Teddy last summer. He really. I think if there was anything that came out of that I think it was kind of an appreciation that I got for how lucky I am to be, you know, in our family. And he really just did--he was everywhere; he took care of everything. He really brought people together in an amazing way.

BORGER (on camera): Who is the Ted Kennedy that you know?

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: I think the thing that sets him apart from everybody is his thoughtfulness and his sort of huge heart. He's just there for all of us all the time. He has been really for my whole life. He loves kids and he is really a piper. He was that way for me and my brother growing up and all my cousins, and now he's doing it all over again with another generation of great-grandchildren.

BORGER: When he talks about what it was like for him growing up, what does he say to the kids?

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: You know, being able to look at it through him and through the generations, they really begin to get a sense of history and, you know, what things are like--you know, what Boston was like. And it's just a fantastic way for them to learn about their family and the past.

BORGER (voice-over): As a child, Teddy spent a lot of time with grandpa Fitzgerald, the irrepressible mayor of Boston known as ``Honey Fitz.'' He loves telling stories about him. When he tells them to the family, this is how he does it.

KENNEDY: Well, he'd get up very early in the morning, and he'd call Clem Norton, who was a figure in the last hurrah, and he'd go down to the fish pier in Boston to find out what fish was a pound. And then he'd say to Norton, ``Norton, let's go over and watch the bows row over in Cambridge.'' And Norton said, ``Fine, Honey Fitz.'' And

the two of them would get in the car, and they'd go over and watch the sculls row along. ``Who's that boy?'' ``Oh, that's young Tarrington, isn't it? Father in the insurance business.'' ``Write that down.'' ``Who's that number three? Isn't that young Givens' boy?'' ``Yes, it is.'' ``Write that down.''

And grandpa would go on down and meet these presidents of insurance companies or banks, impress them, tell them how their boy was doing.

My name is Ted Kennedy.

(APPLAUSE)

BORGER: The family patriarch also has a day job. Kennedy is a full-fledged Senate baron. He's third in seniority and first in demand on the stump in Iowa--at least on this day--for Vice President Al Gore.

KENNEDY: Now, are you glad to see old Kennedy? Are you glad to see me?

BORGER: For Kennedy, politics and family are inseparable. And Teddy is his mother's son.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Our children were always told they had been given unusual opportunities, so they had unusual obligations.

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: He was incredibly close to my grandmother. And I think he really shares her faith. But I think they learned a lot about politics from her. And she was really the person who, you know, made it fun and got everybody off on that track, more than a lot of people realize.

BORGER: What people also don't realize is how many of Kennedy's issues have a family story behind them.

(on camera): Health care, minimum wage, civil rights, voting rights, immigration. How is somebody who was born to such

great wealth, ends up devoting his life to these issues?

KENNEDY: I look at all the causes which I'm involved in through a human face. I've seen what long-term care, with my parents here in this house, the difference that has made to our family on long-term care. I had a son who had cancer--lost his leg to cancer, and had that treatment every three weeks for three days. I know what parental leave is really all about.

BORGER: Senator, this is sort of an amazing historic room we're in right now.

KENNEDY: Well, that's right.

BORGER (voice-over): Senator Kennedy opened the family home in Hyannis to us. Being there is like walking through a museum. The images of the Kennedy's at play here are easy to recall--carefree, young, athletic. The brothers remain frozen as they were. There is no model for an aging Kennedy brother, no road map for the later years. The sunroom is filled with Teddy: the youngest of nine, the family favorite, the child of privilege.

In another room a new wife, Vicki Regi (ph). On the piano in the living room, pictures that still breathe politics: his father, Joseph Kennedy, Sr., ambassador to England; brother Bobby, attorney general; and Jack, the president. It's our history; it's his flesh and blood.

KENNEDY: This piano was the piano my mother played, and she played very, very well. One of her wonderful songs that--towards the end that I used to sing to her was ``Sweet Rosie O'Grady.''' And it's--Sweet Rosie O'Grady; my dear little Rose; she's my special lady most everyone knows and when we are married how happy we'll be; I love sweet Rosie O'Grady and Rosie O'Grady loves me.

BORGER: Kennedy also likes to reminisce about his brothers. When he first became a senator, Boston based northeast airlines

was about to lose its roof. So, he had a little talk with the president.

KENNEDY: So I remember going to my brother and saying, ``Look, you got it in 1959, 1960. We just want to keep just what you started off.'' And he said, ``That's your problem now.''

(LAUGHTER)

Very quickly, too. I mean, he didn't really give me much more time than that.

BORGER: His other brother, Bobby, was a senator from New York when Ted was still learning the ropes. A little family competition developed over naval bases in their states. They were called in to see secretary of defense Bob McNamara.

KENNEDY: He said, ``I have to close one of the two of them.'' And Bobby just roared with laughter on that kind of thing. He said, ``You brought me all the way over here? You and I are close, bob. We've just gone through the Cuban missile crisis, and you bring me over--close Teddy's.''

(LAUGHTER)

BORGER: With his brothers gone, he's been the one to fill the void for a generation of Kennedys.

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: He's just been sort of a godfather, a grandfather all rolled into one. He's done it for all my kids. Actually, the stuffed animal that Rose sleeps with is called Uncle Teddy, not teddy. So he's just, you know, an incredibly active presence in their lives, and someone that they think of as, you know--they know whenever he comes around, you know, it's going to be fun.

BORGER: Senator you are the patriarch of this family; you are the role model now for your children and for your grandchildren. But it hasn't always been that way. There was Chappaquiddick and there were other times over the years I'm sure you'd rather forget. How did you find your way out of it?

KENNEDY: Well, I'd made mistakes in my past, but I've always tried to learn from them, and I've always tried every day to be a better person. And being down here reminds me of all the forces in my life that were just so powerful and continue to be inspirational to me--the great sense of family that I have being here. And they remind me of those important forces, the importance of faith in my life.

BORGER (voice-over): Still, a picture of JFK Jr. on his office wall is tough to handle.

(on camera): ``To Teddy. I could have gone on forever, but no introduction could match the eloquence of your example. You're always there for all of us, and I'm proud to let the world now. Love, John Kennedy.''

KENNEDY: (UNINTELLIGIBLE) here. So these are some of the other things around here.

BORGER (voice-over): Other pictures bring other memories. The senator was much closer to Jackie Kennedy than many of us realized.

KENNEDY-SCHLOSSBERG: They really had a special affection, and I think I probably saw it the most, when Ed and I got married and Teddy gave me away. And I think it was really, you know, obviously a big day for my mother as well. He just really helped her through all that.

KENNEDY: It was touching in so many different ways. I mean, her gown had the little shamrocks on it. It was something that I think, you know, her father would have been very, very touched by. And I know underneath it all is the fact that you're missing a person that you--we all loved, and would have been very proud of her--and that's her father.

BORGER (on camera): The first time, I think, we all mourned with your family was when President Kennedy was shot.

KENNEDY: Well, that was really one of the occasions, and obviously the one that's had the most sort of public aspect. But I'd lost my brother Joe when I was a boy, a small boy, and he'd been a great hero of mine, and my sister Kathleen--and now other members of the family. And it's--Just a day doesn't go by where I'm not thoughtful about them and don't miss them. I mean, I do in a very, very real way. And it's still a very--those are raw occasions that are very close to the surface in terms of my life, I think, and for all of the members of our family.

BORGER (voice-over): Raw because it never ends. Most of us are allowed to grieve privately--not Ted Kennedy. He's the family eulogizers, the memorializer.

(on camera): So when somebody says to you, you know, there's a curse on the Kennedy family...

KENNEDY: I don't--I don't--no that's not--in many respects, we've been very, very fortunate and very lucky. I mean, I understand that every day of my life. I'm basically, a hopeful and optimistic person. I believe deeply in hope. I believe, you know, in the--you know, in love, the power of love.

BORGER: I want to read you something that Jackie Kennedy wrote actually to you in a thank you note after you gave Caroline away at her wedding here. And I'll just read you a part of the letter. ``On you, the carefree youngest brother, fell a burden a hero would beg to be spared. Everyone is going to make it, because you are always there with your love. Jackie.''

KENNEDY: Well, that's about as nice as you can get.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

RATHER: In the mail this week, a lot of letters about Mike Wallace's classic on the Reverend Al Sharpton.

Most of them sounded like this.

'Your aforning (ph) interview has cost you and your fellow phonies in the news business your credibility with the public.'

And this, ``Give me a break. Al Sharpton comparing himself to Martin Luther King. Other than both being black there is no comparison.'

Actually the Reverend Sharpton didn't compare himself to Martin Luther King. But that comparison was made in the story, by Mrs. Martin Luther King.

I'm Dan Rather. We'll be back two weeks from tonight with another edition of 60 MINUTES II.

Now here's a look at what's coming up on ``THE EARLY SHOW,' and on the ``CBS EVENING NEWS.'

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRYANT GUMBEL, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (on camera):

I'm Bryant Gumbel.

JANE CLAYSON, CBS NEWS CORRESPONDENT (on camera):

I'm Jane Clayson.

GUMBEL: This week on the early show, the high cost of medical care; how to protect yourself from going broke.

CLAYSON: Also, Vince Gill, Amy Grant and Cybil Shepherd.

GUMBEL: That and more this week on ``THE EARLY SHOW.'

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ANNOUNCER: On tomorrow's ``EVENING NEWS' getting college kids hooked on credit. The card companies are behind it, but wait until you hear who's getting millions to help them.

'Eye on America' investigates.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

END

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Don Fitzpatrick (Don Fitzpatrick <shoptalk@tvspy.com> [UNKNOWN])

CREATION DATE/TIME:31-MAY-2000 22:56:59.00

SUBJECT: 06/01/00 -- ShopTalk

TO: SHOPTALK (SHOPTALK@LISTSERV.SYR.EDU [UNKNOWN])

READ:UNKNOWN

Steven J. Naplan (CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [NSC])

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

DON FITZPATRICK ASSOCIATES

"SHOPTALK"

Thursday June 1, 2000

<http://www.tvspy.com/shoptalk.htm>

"Matthew Perry: The 'Friends' star smashed his
Porsche into an L.A. manse. Damn! There
goes two hours' pay."

--Jim Mullen's 'Hot Sheet' in
Entertainment Weekly

&&&&&&&&&&

Here's The Top of the Tube in Today's F*ST

O Condition of KGAN Photographer Improves

O CNN Celebrates 20 Years

O Fox Will Lead FCC Fight Station Ownership Cap of 35%

O NBA Playoffs Proceeding Apace

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SHORT TAKES

Tuesday KABC (Los Angeles) reporter Adrienne Alpert underwent a nearly two-hour surgery to amputate her left arm at the elbow and remove dead tissue in burn areas. Alpert is scheduled for more surgery Friday. She remains in critical but stable condition at the Grossman Burn Center in Sherman Oaks. Tuesday's operation involved nine people, including three surgeons, and lasted an hour and 50 minutes, said Grossman Burn Center's Larry Weinberg. Grossman called Alpert "one hell of a trooper." Barry, her husband, was in there with me and her words to him were, "Get my makeup kit." "Dr. Grossman anticipates on Friday a partial amputation of her right foot," Weinberg said. The extent of the amputation will be determined after consultation with an orthopedic surgeon. They're hoping to keep as much of the foot as possible. Doctors also changed out her tracheotomy tube so she will be able to talk in a couple of days, Weinberg said. Right now, however, her "vocal chords are inflamed," he said. Alpert's chances of complete recovery are now 75-80 percent, according to Grossman. There is always the difficulty that infection could spread throughout the body, although that was greatly reduced by removing part of her arm, Weinberg said. On Monday, news photographers drove their trucks around Grossman Burn Center to show solidarity with Alpert. (<http://www.abc7.com>)

30-year-old Peter MacNaughton, a news photographer at KGAN-TV, has been upgraded from critical to serious condition after he was shocked and burned on the job on Saturday, May 27th. He remains in the burn unit at University Hospitals in Iowa City with burns over 25-percent of his body.

MacNaughton was preparing for a live news report when the mast on the microwave van he was operating came in contact with an overhead power line. The contact caused a small fire and explosion, injuring MacNaughton. The accident happened at Squaw Creek Park in Marion as MacNaughton and a reporter were preparing for a "live" report on holiday weekend campers. The reporter was away from the van and was not injured. (<http://www.kgan.com>)

When he left ABC News 20 years ago for CNN, Bernard Shaw felt he was "walking the plank." "I could not see the future, but I knew I wanted to be a part of it," Shaw says. "I saw it as the last frontier of network TV news." This week, as CNN celebrates two decades on the air, Shaw says it has all "been one big shwoosh. I don't know where the time has gone." Thursday and Friday at 9 p.m. ET/6 PT, Shaw and other veteran CNNers will talk about high and low points on Twenty Years of Stories: This Is CNN, live from CNN's Atlanta headquarters and hosted by Larry King. As one of a handful of people who have been there the whole time, Shaw has covered most of the biggest news stories since 1980. That includes summits, the space shuttle Challenger explosion, the fall of the Berlin Wall. He was there when Chinese officials cut off CNN during its live coverage of

the student uprising in Beijing's Tiananmen Square in 1989 and in Baghdad with Peter Arnett and the late John Holliman in 1991 as U.S. bombs pummeled the city during the Gulf War. Some observers think it was during the Gulf War that CNN proved itself. "I can't embrace that," Shaw says. "People forget we were on the air a full decade before that. Our credibility was won in increments with our coverage of each individual story." Shaw says the one low point in CNN's history was its Tailwind report. CNN apologized in 1998 for reporting that the United States had intentionally gassed U.S. defectors during the Vietnam War. "Journalists' credibility is very fragile - and that was a threat to our credibility. We'll never make that mistake again." (USA Today)

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Fox will lead FCC fight Station ownership cap of 35%

By Michael Schneider

Dailty Variety

Fox will lead the fight against the 35% national TV station ownership cap, announcing Tuesday it plans to challenge the rule in court. Fox's declaration came mere minutes after the Federal Communications Commission announced that it had decided to retain the cap, which prevents station groups from reaching more than 35% of viewers nationwide. Meanwhile, the FCC also issued proposals that would revisit the dual network ownership rule and the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule.

The FCC had been expected to keep the 35% cap in place, despite heavy lobbying by the broadcast networks -- particularly Fox and NBC -- and some station groups, which could have seen their valuations skyrocket had the rule been changed. "The FCC decision today is a textbook case of arbitrary and capricious government actions," Fox Television chair-CEO Chase Carey said. "The national TV ownership cap long ago outlived its rationale and is now harming rather than promoting its original public interest objectives of diversity, localism and competition." Fox challenge Fox execs argued that the FCC's decision to maintain the ownership cap was inconsistent with the org's move to deregulate the industry in other ways, including its recent decision to allow TV station duopolies. "It flies in the face of everything else they do," said Bob Quicksilver, prexy of network distribution. "I don't think in court it will stand up to the challenge." In a release, Fox called the FCC decision "irrational" and argued that Fox would be able to launch more local newscasts by owning more stations if the cap were repealed. NBC execs declined to say whether the Peacock net would join Fox's suit. In a statement, NBC officials said they intend "to take action and are in the process of evaluating our options." Both NBC and Fox said the cap reflects potential reach of viewers rather than actual reach. "Even if NBC were to increase its ownership so that its stations covered 35% of U.S. television households, NBC's combined actual national audience share would be less than 10%," the network said in a release. Victory for NAB The FCC ruling was a victory for the National Assn. of Broadcasters, which

worried that abolishing the cap would alter the balance of power between networks and affiliates. That difference of opinion had led Fox and NBC to quit the NAB. The rift between the NAB and the networks kept the FCC from altering the cap. "The commission doesn't want to jump into a political quagmire," one source said. Proponents of the cap noted that the FCC had already increased the ownership limit, from 25% to 35%, as part of the 1996 Telecommunications Act. "The majority of Americans still get most of their news and public affairs information from broadcast stations, and it is vitally important that we encourage the widest possible dissemination of this information from diverse and antagonistic sources," wrote FCC chairman Bill Kennard in a statement. "Our structural ownership restrictions seek to promote this First Amendment principle." CBS execs remained publicly quiet on the FCC's decision to maintain the ownership cap, even though its station group -- reaching 41% of the country, post-Viacom merger -- is more affected than any other broadcaster. But CBS execs have said all along that they expect to divest and/or swap stations in order to comply with the limit. Eye execs are more interested in the FCC's decision to revisit the network dual-ownership rule, which is expected to be altered so that Viacom can keep UPN in its stable as well. "I am persuaded that there may be powerful arguments for modifying the rule to allow common ownership of an emerging and established network," Kennard wrote. A source close to CBS said the network was "pleased" that the commission is reconsidering the dual ownership rule. "We think that would be a substantial step in the

right direction," he said. Dissenting argument In a dissenting argument, FCC commissioner Gloria Tristani argued that dual-ownership between the Big Four and the two weblets "would further erode the already tenuous level of diversity available on the public airwaves." As for the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership issue, the FCC said it concluded that the rule should generally be retained. But the org also said there may be exceptions, "for example, given the size of the market and size of the newspaper and broadcast station involved." Broadcast execs have been lobbying for the cross-ownership rule to be eliminated altogether. One of the most affected companies is Tribune, which is in the process of acquiring Times Mirror. Tribune operates Los Angeles' KTLA and will soon publish the Los Angeles Times. (Daily Variety)

The synergy between the newly merged Viacom and CBS continues: VH1 is helping develop music reports for CBS' flagship station WCBS (New York). VH1's Rebecca Rankin, one of the three hosts of the "Daily One," will join WCBS anchors Dana Tyler and Stephen Clark Thursdays on the 4 p.m. newscasts with reports on the world of music. Down the road, VH1 will produce additional music content for WCBS's newscasts. Rankin, who also anchors special reports and specials for VH1, turns up regularly on CBS' "The Early Show." (NY Daily News)

Another reason to be at IRE in NYC this week-One on One coaching for investigative reporters/producers-FREE! For years one of the most popular events at the Investigative

Reporters and Editors Convention (IRE) has been the "show and tell" room where anyone can show a story and get feedback and ideas from peers. This year, the IRE convention <http://www.ire.org/training/ny00/> will include an even more personal coaching session. Some of the country's most honored investigative reporters (Nancy Amons (WSMV), Laure Quinlivan(WCPO), G. Stu Watson (WCNC), Chris Heinbaugh (KOMO) will join Al Tompkins of The Poynter Institute in offering one on one feedback sessions Thursday through Saturday. Signup for the more than 30 coaching sessions will be on site first-come first-served. The convention runs June 1-4th at the Hilton Waldorf-Astoria.

RTNDF is sponsoring the Broadcast Critique Center for radio and television journalists at the AAJA 2000 Conference in New York, NY. Critique sessions will be held Thursday and Friday August 23-26 at the Marriott Marquis. Seasoned news managers will be on hand to review radio (standard audio) and TV (VHS format only) tapes. These sessions are a unique opportunity for you to receive immediate and constructive feedback on your work. To sign up, fill out an application form that can be downloaded from <http://aaja.org/news/convention/highlights.html> and mail it to the April Elkjer at the national office, 1182 Market St. Suite 320, San Francisco, CA 94102. For more information call (415) 346-2051 x200 or email aprile@aaja.org. Bring appropriate work samples with you to New York. Please also state your preferred appointment time by indicating your first (1) and second (2) choice:

Thursday, August 24

___ 10am -- 11am

___ 11am -- 12pm

___ 2pm -- 3pm

___ 3pm -- 4pm

Friday, August 25

___ 10am -- 11am

___ 11am -- 12pm

___ 2pm -- 3pm

___ 3pm -- 4pm ACT NOW...Deadline to register is June 15!

Apply now for RTNDF's German Study Trip! If you are a full-time American radio or TV news journalist, you could be eligible for the fall 2000 study program in Germany (September 30 to October 15). The program is a two-week exchange, which can be extended for one to 14 additional days to pursue individual research projects, file stories for your station, or serve a fellowship at a German radio or television station. Applicants do not need to speak German to qualify. The RIAS Berlin Commission will pay for qualified expenses (travel, lodging and meals). The application deadline is June 15, 2000. For more information, please contact Michelle Loesch at 202.467.5206, michellet@rtndf.org. Please refer to RTNDF's web site at: <http://www.rtnda.org/awards/german/homepage.htm> for application instructions.

Zatso, Inc. announced that it has added a number of

stations Media General, Inc. recently acquired, to its Zatso Personal Newscast service. News from stations in Augusta, Ga.; Columbus, Ga.; Florence-Myrtle Beach, S.C.; Greenville-Spartanburg-Asheville, S.C.; Mobile-Pensacola, Ala.; Panama City, Fla.; Rochester-Mason City-Austin, Iowa; and Wichita-Hutchinson, Kan. has been added to the service. The Zatso service, currently available on the Internet, allows consumers to create and view a personal newscast. The service combines television news from local stations around the country and familiar national news content with each person's news preferences and a propriety algorithm to customize each individual's newscast. These new stations, recently purchased by Media General from Spartan Communications, join the video (and in some cases text and graphics) content from national sources Bloomberg Television, Court TV, C-SPAN, Ivanhoe Broadcast News, Nightly Business Report, Quokka Sports, Inc., Reuters, The Weather Channel, ZDTV and local stations owned by Allbritton Communications, E. W. Scripps, Meredith Corporation, Media General and Waterman Broadcasting Corp.

So far, the NBA playoffs appear to be a virtual instant replay of last year's run for the championship, in ratings terms. The four playoff games over the Memorial Day weekend averaged a 7.5 rating and a 16 share in Nielsen overnight numbers, against a 7.4/15 last year. That's interesting since the Western Conference finals features a major market team, the Los Angeles Lakers - instead of the San Antonio Spurs - against the Portland Trail Blazers. Friday night's Lakers-Blazers battle was NBC's high game so far this

year, scoring an 8.7/16, nearly 30% better than the Spurs-Blazers third game last year. But Sunday's fourth Lakers-Blazers game produced a 7.8/18, versus the 7.9/15 the Spurs-Blazers fourth tip-off drew last year. The rain-delayed Indy 500 on ABC this year may have dampened NBC's number. But Saturday's Knicks-Pacers hit a 6.0/15, quite a slide from the 7.9/15 the Spurs-Blazers scored last year. Presumably, this year's afternoon starting time may have compromised the Knicks big market drawing power. Last year, the Spurs-Blazers tilt was an early evening tip-off. The New York Knicks-Indiana Pacers will probably be as evenly matched in the ratings compared to last season as they appear to be thus far on the court. The Knicks-Pacers' Memorial Day game scored a 7.4 the opening game of their series produced last season.

(Broadcasting & Cable)

John F. Kennedy Jr. will become the subject of a Fox made-for-TV movie. Prince Charming: The John F. Kennedy Jr. Story is expected to air on Fox early next year, according to The Hollywood Reporter. JFK Jr. died July 18 with his wife, Carolyn Bessette, and sister-in-law, Lauren Bessette, when the plane he was piloting crashed near Martha's Vineyard, Mass. (USA Today)

Dream Team II: The cast is coming together on "American Tragedy," CBS' miniseries based on the book about the inner workings of O.J. Simpson's legal defense team. In addition to Ving Rhames as Johnnie L. Cochran, Christopher Plummer--who just played Mike Wallace in "The Insider"--and Bruno Kirby are finalizing deals to play Simpson lawyers F. Lee

Bailey and Barry Scheck, respectively. The project, to be written by Norman Mailer and produced by Barry Levinson and Tom Fontana, will air next season. (LA Times)

Still no HBO deal for canceled ABC series Sports Night. The channel wants 13 new episodes, but creator Aaron Sorkin is "trying to decide whether he has the energy to do this," programming chief Chris Albrecht says. Sticking point: HBO won't buy reruns. (USA Today)

AT&T said Wednesday it plans to carry adult pay-per-view films in a few months on digital cable systems. Adult films already appear on MediaOne systems, which AT&T will soon acquire. AT&T declined to indicate terms of its deal with hard core supplier The Hot Network. (Reuters)

Entertainment Network, which operates the VoyeurDorm.com site, has sued CBS in federal court for stealing its concept. The Web firm claims CBS ripped off its idea and seeks to stop CBS from airing the "Big Brother" reality series, bought for \$20 million from a Dutch TV producer. VoyeurDorm.com tracks activities of female students in a Florida "dorm," while "Big Brother" will follow 10 strangers living in a house when it debuts in July.

ON THE MOVE

DIANA L. VARGAS, vice president and general manager of KTTV-TV, has resigned from the Fox affiliate to pursue other interests, effective June 30. She was the first woman

to head the station. A decision has not been made on her replacement.

JAMES MURDOCH will soon be named chairman/CEO of Star TV, Dow Jones reports. The youngest of Rupert Murdoch's four sons, James has been executive VP in charge of digital media at News Corp.

Cox Broadcasting named BRUCE BAKER Executive Vice President of television affiliates, effective immediately. Baker, a 16-year veteran of radio, cable television and broadcast television, is currently the vice president and general manager of Cox-owned WSOC-TV and WAXN-TV in Charlotte, N.C.

JagNotes.com announced the signing of an agreement with SUSAN MOLINARI. Under the terms of the agreement, Molinari will join JagNotes.com as a columnist covering coming and goings on Capitol Hill and in the White House, with an eye toward their impact on Wall Street. Her report, titled "Capital Know," will be published each Wednesday at 12:00 p.m. ET, with special reports as merited by news events.

ALAN RIOS is the newest member of the WWTV weather team. Alan will forecast the Monday - Friday 5:30PM and 11:00PM weather for the CBS affiliate in Cadillac-Traverse City, Michigan. Alan; who has the American Meteorology Society Seal of Approval; comes from KSNT in Topeka, Kansas where he did mornings. ALAN RIOS is represented by DAVID BRUNNER of DB & ASSOCIATES in Neffs, Pennsylvania. DBandA@webtv.net

KPHO (Phoenix) anchor JUNE THOMPSON has decided to leave the television station to devote more time to her family and to pursue creative projects at home. During her time with KPHO, June earned an Associated Press award for reporting and a regional Emmy for a special report on a local priest who has saved hundreds of children by starting an orphanage in Honduras. Her stories resulted in additional funds for the orphanage from people in the Valley. June will be leaving KPHO on June 2.

Honolulu Headline KITV4 News anchor KAREN WAYGOOD is leaving Honolulu to join CNN in Atlanta as a writer/editor.

SUSAN FETTERER leaves WTVQ in Lexington, KY for WKRN in Nashville, TN. She continues her career in Marketing as a promotion writer/producer at the ABC affiliate in the Music City!

NICOLE RAFIANI joins WSAV-TV in Savannah as a producer. Nicole is a recent graduate of West Virginia University and is represented by NANCY POPKIN, Vice President of Caruso & Company Professional Management Group. Nancy can be reached at 215-369-2952 or lilykins@prodigy.net.

[illegible]

Calling All Shots: The National Rifle Association is opening a theme restaurant down in Times Square. There's brainpower at work...I believe it's called 'Planet Homicide.' (David Letterman)

Packing Iron: The National Rifle Association's convention...was attended by 52,000 card-carrying members. It lasted 14 days. That's three days for the convention and 11 days to get everybody through the metal detectors. (Argus Hamilton)

Taking A Stand: Hillary Clinton's new opponent, Rick Lazio, "supports a woman's right to choose, whereas [Rudy] Giuliani supports his right to choose a woman. (Bill Maher)

The Reel Thing: [Disney's] 'Dinosaurs...is the most lifelike depiction of dinosaurs ever to show up on the big screen—not counting the...'Rocky' movies. (Kenny Noble Cortes)

Star Wars: An expert was on CNN saying the Star Wars missile defense system will never be built because it would cost one billion, trillion dollars. And that's even more money than they pay the cast of 'Friends'. (<http://www.tomslake.com>)

Poke'man is dead! Sales are off. "Da bomb" has bombed! In fact, on the way into work today, I think that was Pikachu I saw on the corner with a sign saying: "Will admit my real name's Mike for food." (Bill Williams/ acmehumor)

World Peace: Northern Ireland seems a bit closer to it. The Protestants have voted to return to power sharing with the Catholics. As one member of the Protestant group said:

"The gun has to be taken out of politics." That's funny □-
in this country, it seems everybody tries to bring guns
INTO politics! (Richard Burkard/ <http://www.LaughLine.com>

Hanoi Jane: Fonda says her main cause these days is
reducing the amount of teenage pregnancy. With Ted Turner
dating a woman half his age, we wonder if he's heard any of
her speeches!?! (Burkard)

#####

JOB OF THE DAY

TV NEWS PHOTOGRAPHERS/EDITORS, Secaucus, NJ

WWOR-TV UPN9News is seeking experienced creative
Photographers and Editors for freelance positions on our
Emmy Award-winning newscast. Must have thorough knowledge
of newsgathering and be ready to go. Must be willing to
work flexible hours and have a good driving record. Fax
resume immediately to Bruce Martin, News Operations Manager
(201)330-3849 or e-mail BMartin@WWORTV.com. WWOR-TV is an
equal opportunity employer

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: Burt Kearns

www.tabloidbaby.com

RE: Chicago Ratings

Some comments on the news item about the flagging ratings

for the WBBM Chicago's Carol Marin News at 10:

I recently spent several days in Chicago while on the promotion tour for my book, "Tabloid Baby" (a broadcast news memoir, primer and cautionary tale) and managed to catch Ms. Marin's newscast several evenings during Sweeps.

Based on this very select sampling, I'd venture that the low ratings have less to do with the show's no-frills good intentions and more with the cult of personality surrounding this obviously accomplished local newsreader and her fealty to the conventions of CBS News.

Of course, from PBS to the Tribs of the land, we automatically praise any attempt to rise above the clatter of local news hype. Yet is stuffiness the alternative?

Though the broadcast seemed to be the product of much hand-wringing about what was worthy of feeding the viewers, the content did not reflect a more coherent or cohesive view of the Chicago area than its competition.

Yes, there was a live interview with a neighborhood activist (whose point would be better made on a half-hour public access show), yet the feature on a dinosaur exhibit at the museum was unique only in the advanced age of the reporter.

And though there may have been less crime coverage, valuable newstime was taken up by truncated CBS network

feed reports voiced by (and promoting) Dan Rather.

Cosmetically, the show had the trappings of a sober-minded Sunday mornings public affairs show, yet it did bow needlessly to the conventions of the local frillery. For example, Ms. Marin alternated between standing and sitting positions. She exchanged "happy talk:" with the sportscaster, though all joking bowed to her "serious" sensibility.

I understand Ms. Marin made quite a statement by walking off her news show when it was allegedly 'compromised' by the inclusion of Jerry Springer (though she did fall conveniently into the arms of CBS network).

But the WBBM 10 p.m. news really comes off as an ego trip unlike anything I've seen in the local forum. Rather than a no-frills hard-bitten alternative to other local newscasts, the show reflected a pompous view from above, centered on one of the last local news personalities cut in the Murrow mold. Certainly it's unique, in that the anchor is a woman. But not compelling by any means. It's time for a rethink. Perhaps if she threw in a Jerry Springer commentary thee nights a week... Cheers.

=====

From: Greg Ampagoomian
spacereport@treknet.net
Solar Wind Productions

RE:Bob Gordon on Andrea Thompson

Why not? Does she have any journalism background. I don't remember hearing about one. Does she have any credibility at all? I don't think so. It won't be until we get the actors and lawyers off the news sets, and out of the newsrooms, that any credibility will return to local news. There are kids out there training specifically to do it. There are veterans with years of experience ready to sit in that seat. That's why not!

=====

From: Jennifer Horton

Reporter WEHT-TV

Evansville, IN

RE: Andrea Thompson

This e-mail is in response to Bob Gordon Jr.'s request for opinions concerning Andrea Thompson's recent move to an anchor desk. Mine (for what it's worth) is that it is a horrible idea that gives television news media a bad reputation. I don't know Ms. Thompson personally, so if she has any type of journalism background then I think it's fine if she wants to use it.

My money, though, is on the fact that the only reason she landed that job is that she's well known as an actor. So what will she do if (and when) faced with some sort of ethical dilemma in the field? Will she even have enough

information handy to make a judgement call? I doubt she'll do either one with very much accuracy.

Then there are the hundreds of us who went to school, learned our craft, and take the work very seriously. Yes, it's television news, but our anchors should be held to the same degree of journalistic integrity that all other news positions must possess. If the argument is that she will only sit on the desk, than that's a sad waste of a position and a sad waste of an opportunity to bring a person in who could contribute so much more.

As you can most likely ascertain, I remain firmly against hiring an actor to fill the role of professional journalist.

=====

Clair Wyant

cwyant@azstarnet.com

Tucson, AZ

Marymount College Sophomore (Palos Verdes, CA)

RE: East Coast Bias

After reading all of the letters in regard to all of the east coast bias, I am surprised that no one has brought up that two-thirds of the county's population lives in the Eastern and Central time zones. Would it make sense if they dealt with something as important like time towards the greatest number of people as possible?

=====

From: TSgt Gary R. Hughes
HughesGR@AFKN.KOREA.ARMY.MIL
RE: East Coast Bias

Abe Rosenberg wrote:

...I'm still backtiming, and trying to
get used to the weirdness, both at home and on the job.
Things like:
...Timecodes on national video feeds always three hours
off.
...It can make you nuts.
But perhaps a little insanity is a small price to pay for
beach days in February.

You're three hours behind NY?
Try 13 hours ahead!
But, like you said, perhaps a little insanity is a small
price to pay to have East Asia at your doorstep.

=====

From: Brad Thomas
brad.thomas@juno.com
RE: Stu Nicholson

Dear Don,

From someone who is not in the business, but has gotten the business from time to time, and who has looked into getting into it, a question.

Stu Nicholson listed a number of genuinely impressive reasons to stay in the business (or get into the business); but while I like the idealistic, poetic tenor of many of his reasons, I find they fly a bit in the face of the reality that I have personally experienced in TV News (and print journalism), have seen in TV News (and print journalism), and even what I have been told by News Directors whom I respect.

Stu waxes eloquent about "the story," the love of the story, the pursuit of the story, and frankly the pursuit of the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, via television news. I think his ode is moving and commendable, however it does not ring with great authenticity, even though he knows the business and is a professional. When I say it does not ring with authenticity, I mean that it does not reflect the reality of so very much of TV News, even though it may possibly ring true to some of those within the business, as they relax and reflect on the idealized, romanticized News "Service."

I do not question Stu's sincerity, but I would like to know whether you Don, agree that he conveys the reality of TV News.

The people I have spoken to (who are News Directors) have continually impressed upon me the imperative necessity of "communicating" news via headlines, sound bytes, e.g. 10 seconds, 15 seconds, 20 seconds, or at the most 30 seconds, in contrast to the news journal tomes Stu writes of, and which I would like to share with viewers.

So before I receive a cyber-firing from the business I'm not in, would you please say a few down to earth words on the subject. Thanks,

=====

From: John Corcoran

Pesky Gadabout, Los Angeles & The World

Corkczar@Aol.Com

RE: Inarguable Mockey

Ken Kurtz has taken the time (Shoptalk May 30) to mock an adage offered by "a local newscast" which suggests one way to offset high gas prices is: "Take fewer trips."

Yes, Mr. Kurtz, if indeed that is your name, mockage flows trippingly from the lips of those who would mock willy-nilly. Yet as the poet once wrote: "Remember if we mock the real truth, not mock truth, that truth shall remain true and our mockery unremockable."

Take the specific item Mr. Kurtz has mocked: When the mocked adage suggests "take fewer trips," the station is

implying or inferring--I've been out of school too damn long to remember piddley things like correct grammar usage--that fewer trips will save expenditures for gasoline, and hence cut gasoline expenditures.

Not, of course, in every instance. Fewer trips mean less gas consumption only if there is not a concomitant increase in trip length thereby to accomplish in the fewer trips what the more frequent aforementioned trips accomplished, or I'll eat my hat.

But if you take half as many trips of the same length, then you have saved roughly fifty percent of the amount and cost of gasoline expended for double the number you've taken, or "x." If you would normally pay \$1.60 a gallon, it is easy to imply or infer you are now paying the equivalent of \$0.80 per half-gallon. I think you'd have to agree this makes a mockery of Kurtz original mockery, may it please the court.

Or you could get a horse or like that whatsisname guy with the electric car, in which case you'd save oatage or amperage and could fertilize your garden for free.

But that's not why I write. This is why I write.

In his otherwise informative and well-reasoned letter in the same issue, Steven Agans of KCCI - Des Moines wrote:

"The benefits of having a separate or third operator in a

live shot scenario are unquestionably inarguable."

I just wanted to say that I absolutely love the phrase "unquestionably inarguable." That this is the best new phrase added to the English language in years is inarguably unquestionable.

I hope I've clarified matters.

=====

From: Ana Ng
user@techemail.com
RE: ENG safety

From Marian.

I just wanted to offer a different perspective. The comments of the longtime vets are well taken, but there's something else to consider. Take your small to mid-market station that finds itself strapped for shooters and finds that eager young'un, willing to take an opportunity with the low pay, trying to get experience. This station fills a vacancy, promising to train. Only, they know good and well they don't have the resources to train the newbie well or properly. Suddenly, you've got an individual out with hundreds of thousands of dollars worth of high voltage gear, inadequately trained and nowhere near aware enough of potential danger that can befall them. Every level of mgt., from Chief Photographer to News Dir. to Station Mgr.

is far more concerned with the news and advertising gathering. There are stations that barely address safety issues because it isn't a priority, don't even check driving records, and reporters focused on THEIR responsibilities are implicitly trusting these photographers with their lives AND their careers.

Of five stations where I've worked (only once briefly as a photog), only one posted a list of colleagues that were certified in CPR. This was a fairly small and cost-effective way to foster morale AND build an asset, seemed to me.

All the information in the world is of no use in a system in which someone doesn't know he needs it.

Gathering news, as so many of you are pointing out, is about more than just taking pictures and writing words.

Thanks for the forum.

=====

From: Bob Jacobs
bob_jacobs@enps.com
RE: Multi-Media

About five years ago, I tried to sell my general manager on the idea of cross-media partnerships. It wasn't a unique idea, but for the time it was considered somewhat radical.

My plan to was create agreements across television, newspaper, radio, and Internet lines. While remaining competitive, I thought we should "share" certain resources, all in the name of cross promotion, expanded coverage, and an attempt to reach a new audience.

Of course, at the time, the GM barely knew what a .com was, much less have the vision to see the possibilities. Maybe it was a good idea simply presented badly. Who knows? He's still in the GM chair, and I was given the opportunity to share my ideas elsewhere.

Anyway, today there's a new word that describes this cross-media platform. And the idea of "convergence" is sweeping across newsrooms, everywhere. We don't really know yet what it all means, but we all know it's coming.

The efforts of WFLA-TV and the Tampa Tribune in the Tampa Bay area are so exciting. We see live on-line polls on NBC, and even Peter Jennings invites us now to get more information from ABC's place on the web. News directors are jumping ship to .com's faster than station managers can kick them out the door.

I'm just curious to hear what others think of convergence and if they have any local success stories they'd like to share with those of us who believe the future of local news is in the diversity of the television medium.

~~~~~

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Communications at Syracuse University

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(Voice) 1-415-954-0700      (Fax) 1-801-457-2640

BE SEEING YOU!

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: hotline-alert@nationaljournal.com ( hotline-alert@nationaljournal.com [ UNK

CREATION DATE/TIME:20-JUN-2000 10:21:25.00

SUBJECT: Wake-Up Call! Kennedy Kidnapping Attempts!

TO: Thomas M. Rosshirt ( CN=Thomas M. Rosshirt/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Ian P. Alberg ( CN=Ian P. Alberg/OU=OVP/O=EOP [ OVP ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Brian A. Reich ( CN=Brian A. Reich/OU=OVP/O=EOP [ OVP ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: dennet\_t@ovp.eop.gov ( dennet\_t@ovp.eop.gov [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

Note: Some recipients have been dropped due to syntax errors. Please refer to the "\$A  
Hotline Wake-Up Call! is now available at  
<http://www.nationaljournal.com/pubs/hotline/extra/wakeupcall/>

In today's issue:

JFK Jr. was target of three kidnapping attempts.

-----  
To stop receiving these E-mail Alerts:

Type the word "unsubscribe" (without quotes) in the SUBJECT line and reply  
to this message.

-----  
The Hotline is published daily by National Journal Group Inc.  
-----

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jenni R. Engebretsen ( CN=Jenni R. Engebretsen/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME:23-JUN-2000 15:21:30.00

SUBJECT: JFK, Jr. plane crash

TO: Helen L. Langan ( CN=Helen L. Langan/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: James E. Kennedy ( CN=James E. Kennedy/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stephen N. Boyd ( CN=Stephen N. Boyd/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark J. Bernstein ( CN=Mark J. Bernstein/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Mark A. Kitchens ( CN=Mark A. Kitchens/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Anne M. Edwards ( CN=Anne M. Edwards/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Victoria L. Valentine ( CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer ( CN=Sarah E. Gegenheimer/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Heather M. Riley ( CN=Heather M. Riley/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jason H. Schechter ( CN=Jason H. Schechter/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Nanda Chitre ( CN=Nanda Chitre/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer M. Palmieri ( CN=Jennifer M. Palmieri/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jennifer I. Hoelzer ( CN=Jennifer I. Hoelzer/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Gilbert S. Gonzalez ( CN=Gilbert S. Gonzalez/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Lisa Ferdinando ( CN=Lisa Ferdinando/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jenni R. Engebretsen ( CN=Jenni R. Engebretsen/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Karen C. Burchard ( CN=Karen C. Burchard/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Dorinda A. Salcido ( CN=Dorinda A. Salcido/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Megan C. Moloney ( CN=Megan C. Moloney/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elizabeth R. Newman ( CN=Elizabeth R. Newman/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Richard L. Siewert ( CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Julia M. Payne ( CN=Julia M. Payne/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Joseph P. Lockhart ( CN=Joseph P. Lockhart/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Christine L. Anderson ( CN=Christine L. Anderson/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
talking points from ntsb:

the ntsb investigation of the crash of the aircraft piloted by John F.  
Kennedy, Jr. is on-going

The Board hopes to issue a final report sometime in July

as the report is not yet complete, any discussion about its contents would  
be speculation at this time

any further inquiries about the investigation should be directed to the  
National Transportation Safety Board

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: The New York Times Direct <nytdirect@nytimes.com> ( The New York Times Dire

CREATION DATE/TIME:26-JUN-2000 00:17:44.00

SUBJECT: National Headlines from NYTimes.com

TO: Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

NATIONAL HEADLINES

The New York Times on the Web

Saturday, June 24, 2000

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For news updated throughout the day, visit [www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

TOP NATIONAL NEWS

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Charges of Bias Challenge U.S. Death Penalty

Broad and troubling issues about the application of the federal death penalty have arisen. Most specifically, whether race and geography determine who is sentenced to die at the hands of the United States government.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400fed-death.html>

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Appeals Court Rejects Bid by Cuban Boy's Relatives

A federal appeals court in Atlanta has refused to reconsider the case of Eljan Gonz lez, leaving the United States Supreme Court as a last hope for the Miami relatives who want to prevent his return to Cuba.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400cuba-boy.html>

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High School Trend: An Extra Year

Postgraduate programs have begun drawing far more applicants and from a wider pool that for the first time includes a substantial number of students less interested in athletics than drama, music, or a more impressive academic profile.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400grad-edu.html>

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[www.nytimes.com/ads/email/trip](http://www.nytimes.com/ads/email/trip)

\-----/

#### New Evidence in a Fund-Raising Inquiry

A former official of the Central Intelligence Agency has provided fresh evidence to support accusations that a top Democratic Party official sought to enlist the agency to aid a major donor to President Clinton's 1996 re-election campaign.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/062400cia-intel.html>

-----

#### Appeals Court Upholds E.P.A. Plan to Reduce Flow of Smog to the East

A federal appeals court has upheld a new air-pollution program meant to drastically reduce smog that flows from the Middle West to the East.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400clean-air.html>

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#### After Defeat, Campaigner for 'Free Burma' Begins Anew

Simon Billenness and other members of the Free Burma Coalition, a national umbrella group, plan to begin a push this summer to get cities and states to pass new laws penalizing companies that do business with Myanmar, he said.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400nat-public-lives.html>

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#### Safety Board Still Studying Kennedy Crash

Investigators at the National Transportation Safety Board writing a report about the crash that killed John F. Kennedy Jr. last summer have not found a mechanical problem with his plane, but still has yet to reach a conclusion.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400kennedy-crash.html>

#### MORE NATIONAL NEWS

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#### Clinton Visits Olympic Training Center

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/062400clinton-titleix.html>

House Votes to Let Justice Dept. Accept Aid in Tobacco Suit  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/062400tobacco-spend.html>

Religion Journal: Early Antislavery Voice of 'The Last Puritan'  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/062400religion-journal.html>

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An Angry Gore Defended Role in '96 Fund-Raising to Questioner  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400wh-donate.html>

The Texas Governor: Bush Suggests Gore Supports Higher Gas Prices  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400wh-bush.html>

Excerpts From Gore's Interview With the F.B.I. on Campaign Fund-Raising  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400wh-dtext.html>

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Political Memo: Gore Raises Millions for 2000 While an Inquiry Takes Him Back to 1996  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400wh-gore.html>

The Convention Plans: Los Angeles City Council Approves \$4 Million to Bail Out a Host Group  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400la-convention.html>

The Investigator: A Trial Lawyer Who Is Linked to Jesse Helms  
<http://www.nytimes.com/library/politics/camp/062400wh-donate-conrad.html>

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RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Don Fitzpatrick <shoptalk@tvspy.com> ( Don Fitzpatrick <shoptalk@tvspy.com>

CREATION DATE/TIME: 5-JUL-2000 19:55:20.00

SUBJECT: 07/06/00 -- ShopTalk

TO: SHOPTALK@LISTSERV.SYR.EDU ( SHOPTALK@LISTSERV.SYR.EDU [ UNKNOWN ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

Steven J. Naplan ( CN=Steven J. Naplan/OU=NSC/O=EOP [ NSC ] )

READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:

DON FITZPATRICK's  
"SHOPTALK"

Thursday July 6, 2000  
<http://www.tvspy.com/shoptalk.htm>

"There are many great lamas who recognize me as something strange and from another time, who refer to me as one of them, something really deep. People all over the world come up to me and recognize me as a great spiritual leader."

-- actor (sic) Steven Seagal

&&&&&&&&&

Here's The Top of the Tube in Today's F\*ST

O Rosenheim & White Move To KPIX ☐- More SF Turmoil

O Anchor's Departure Rates Lengthy BBM Sendoff

O Gumbel Stumbles; Group Seeks Apology

O Fox Sued For Anti-Gay Actions by Grushow

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SHORT TAKES

This Just In: Former KRON news director DAN ROSENHEIM was named News Director at former crosstown rival KPIX in San Francisco. Rosenheim resigned from KRON on Saturday. He immediately hired his former assistant news director, LISA WHITE (she resigned late last week). This now means that KRON-TV has no general manager, no station manager, no news director, no assistant news director, no program director, and probably no sales manager (he's on vacation in Europe). Rosenheim is a former managing editor of the San Francisco Chronicle. He moved over to the television side of the family and he and former station manager Al Holzer were credited with turning KRON into a first-rate news operation. KRON was sold to New York's Young Broadcasting and the sale was completed last week.

With San Francisco media in turmoil -- (KRON, KNTV going independent while waiting for the NBC affiliation switch on Jan. 1 2002, Chronicle being sold to Hearst and the SF Examiner probably going out of business) □- look for Knight-Ridder's San Jose Mercury News to beef up their San Francisco news bureau (greatly) and go after the Chronicle's north bay readership. Also watch K-R to drop San Jose from the moniker and make the paper truly bay area as the Mercury News.

Former KCBS-TV, Los Angeles, Assistant News Director Fernando Lopez is now the General Manager at Telemundo station KVEA-TV, Los Angeles. Fernando is the first general manager at any Telemundo station to come from a news background. Mr. Lopez began his career as an intern at KVEA in 1985. Mr. Lopez plans to heat up the news war against Univision-owned KMEX-TV, Los Angeles. While KVEA now airs half-hour newscasts at 6 and 11 pm, next year Mr. Lopez will add a half-hour morning and noon newscast and a weekend newscast. His first order of business is to hire a news director and add 50 percent more staff to the newsroom. "I'm looking forward to the challenge, and it's the right place at the right time to take it to the next level. "It's home for me. I've always loved Spanish television. If I was going to come from the mainstream media, it was to make a difference. As a station, what we're going to have to do is have more of a news presence and be more in tune with the community." (Electronic Media)

When Walter Cronkite stepped down from "The CBS Evening News" in 1981, he took exactly 65 seconds to say goodbye. Last Friday, when Lester Holt signed off after 14 years at WBBM (Chicago), his valedictory production consumed some 6 1/2 minutes of the CBS-owned station's 5 p.m. newscast. It was a sendoff that would have made Ted Baxter blush. Although Holt neglected to tell viewers why he was leaving (his contract was up) or where he was going (reportedly to New York to work for MSNBC), that didn't seem to matter. Instead, Holt's swan song began with his co-anchor, Linda MacLennan, fondly reminiscing about their start together at BBM. Holt and MacLennan held hands as they segued into a video tribute showing highlights of stories he has covered and clips of him opening and closing newscasts and talking about himself in old station promos. There was contemplative Lester. Laughing Lester. Professional Lester. Self-important Lester. Witty Lester. Above all, sincere Lester. Appearing to fight back tears, Holt then read fan letters from three viewers, who all said how much they'll miss him. Holt went on to thank everyone from his on-air pals to the "managers, producers, writers, directors, assignment editors, desk assistants, artists, technicians, stagehands and makeup artists. . . . Thank you, Chicago, for making us your choice for news." While the sound effect of applause aired in the background, Holt and MacLennan hugged. Cue the music. Cut to commercial. Godspeed, Lester. We hardly knew ye. (Robert Feder's column in the Chicago Sun-Times)

In the wake of his profane remarks, the AFA isn't smiling. The American Family Association is seeking an apology from

newsman Bryant Gumbel after he was seen uttering a profane comment about a guest on CBS' The Early Show. Gumbel had just finished interviewing conservative pundit Robert Knight. The show was cutting to a weather report, but the camera suddenly switched to Gumbel getting up from his chair. He was seen mouthing "What a (expletive) idiot." The AFA at first wanted Gumbel's job, but Knight just wants an apology. "He didn't know he was on television." (USA Today)

"Early Show" news reader Julie Chen began her new assignment last night as host of CBS's "Big Brother," in which a bunch of strangers are thrown together in a house - and followed everywhere by cameras. Chen has concerns about her own house, or apartment, into which she's moving next month. Julie told her real estate agent, Leonard Steinberg of The Corcoran Group, that the place - now under construction and located near the late JFK Jr.'s loft - doesn't have enough closet space. Steinberg says Julie's "gigantic" wardrobe necessitates the space - and they're hoping to fashion some valuable closet space somewhere in the apartment. (Starr Report □- NY Post)

After second cancer bout, reporter Faith Fancher is ready to return nearly a year has passed. Fancher, the veteran broadcast reporter who is coming back from her second major battle with breast cancer. Fancher is scheduled to return to KTVU (Oakland/San Francisco) on a three-days-a-week basis starting July 10. She'll be working nights, mainly, and doing some "My 20th Century" segments. No challenge, it seems, is too severe for Fancher, who, after being diagnosed with cancer for the first time in March 1997, was blindsided by another blast of dreadful news last June. In Round 1 of the battle, Fancher underwent a mastectomy and reconstructive surgery. In her recent ordeal, she endured chemotherapy. Just when things were getting better, Fancher's road to recovery appeared to take another wicked turn for the worse around Memorial Day, when she discovered yet another lump. This one, however, turned out to be benign. In recent weeks, Fancher has been working out and making a few public appearances to hammer home to women the importance of mammographies and self exams. She also has started to write a book about her journey. (Contra Costa Times)

Groups representing broadcasters and broadcast news directors today asked a federal court to end a 20-year-old case involving federal rules that regulate on-air personal attacks and political editorializing. The petition, filed jointly by the Radio-Television News Directors Association and the National Association of Broadcasters in the U.S. Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia, says that the Federal Communications Commission has failed to act on the court's August 3, 1999, order to provide justification for the rules. The court at that time found no "explanation why the rules should survive" and ordered the FCC to "expeditiously" reconsider the rules. However, the FCC has taken no further action. Petitioners wrote the court Monday. The new petition asks the court either to vacate the rules immediately or to compel the FCC to act within three months and vacate the rules if the FCC misses that

deadline. The rules, originally adopted as corollaries to the Fairness Doctrine, are among the last remaining vestiges of that policy, which the FCC stopped enforcing in 1987. In response to RTNDA's and NAB's previous petition to vacate the rules, the court found last August that they served to "chill at least some speech and impose some [First Amendment] burdens."

GRAPHIC VISUALS. HOT BUTTON ISSUES. CONFIDENTIAL SOURCES. What are the considerations for making the tough calls and avoiding legal land mines? There are still a few slots left in Poynter's highly acclaimed seminar: Doing Ethics: Good Choices, Great Journalism (September 17-22). But you'll have to apply soon: THE APPLICATION DEADLINE: July 15. This seminar provides a great opportunity for reporters, photographers, producers, anchors, and designers, to gain a common language and approach to making the tough calls. Whether the subject is coverage of a tragedy, revealing wrongdoing in your community, or digital manipulation, you'll sharpen your decision-making skills and learn a process to help avoid ethical land mines. You'll review case studies and talk about privacy, source-reporter relationships, coverage of juveniles, and more. This is an excellent learning experience for teams from a news organization such as a reporter and a photographer or a producer and a designer. The tuition is only \$400 per person, and that includes your hotel stay during the seminar. (Come to St. Petersburg early or stay late and enjoy our white sugar sand beaches.) You can apply online at <http://www.poynter.org/classes/applyOL.htm>. If you need more information or would like us to fax you an application form, contact Jeannie Nissenbaum at 1-888-POYNTER.

NBC's numbers for its first four days of covering the Wimbledon tennis tournament averaged a 3.0 rating, 9 share in Nielsen overnights, a 25% increase over last year. Venus Williams' victory over Martina Hingis and Serena Williams' win over Lisa Raymond scored a 4.3/11 in Tuesday's coverage. (Broadcasting & Cable)

The California State Labor Commissioner has sued 20th Century Fox for failing to apologize for anti-gay remarks and actions made by Fox Television Entertainment Group chairman Sandy Grushow. According to the complaint, filed Friday in L.A. Superior Court, Grushow repeatedly humiliated Randy Stone, senior vice president of talent and casting for network television, by making remarks alluding to Stone's sexual orientation. Stone is gay. In March 1998, Stone inquired of Fox's human resources department about the company's parental leave policy because he was planning to have a child. Shortly thereafter, Grushow rescinded approval for Stone to take a planned annual business trip to New York. In June, Grushow told Stone that the situation was not working out at Fox and that he understood that Stone would want to make his family a priority, even though Stone had not told Grushow about his intention to take family leave. According to the complaint, Grushow told Stone that unless Fox could settle out his contract, he would be moved into a smaller office.

Stone was terminated in July 1998 on the pretext of poor performance and filed a complaint with the Labor Commission. Following an investigation, the commissioner concluded that Stone had been illegally discriminated against on the basis of his sexual orientation. Fox has refused to comply with an order of the Labor Commissioner that it issue and post an apology letter and desist from further discriminatory conduct. Fox could not be reached for comment over the holiday weekend. (Daily Variety)

College is supposed to help students learn to deal with the real world. But at Brigham Young University, that doesn't include MTV's The Real World. That's why Julie Stoffer, a junior at the Mormon school in Provo, Utah, is in trouble. She is one of seven twentysomething strangers - four men, three women - living in a New Orleans house in the current edition of the pioneering reality series. Living in a house with members of the opposite sex is a violation of BYU's Honor Code. The violation could get Stoffer thrown out. Stoffer, 20, says the videotapes prove there was no sexual hanky-panky. But she can't go back to school until officials rule on her actions. She is writing, at BYU's request, a detailed letter explaining "when were boys in my bedroom, till what time, what went on." (USA Today)

Latino advocates say they are happy that black actors like Andre Braugher, David Alan Grier and Mykelti Williamson appear to be getting juicier roles in the fall network television season, but they lament the lack of roles for them, American Indians and Asian Americans. "We don't want the slice of pie African American men are getting in Hollywood. We want the entire pie to be much, much bigger," said Alex Nogales of the National Hispanic Media Coalition, which met Monday at the annual convention of the National Council of La Raza in San Diego. The Latino advocates are especially perturbed by the fate of "American Family," the Gregory Nava pilot that CBS declined to pick up recently. But they took heart in Showtime's premiere of the Latino-oriented drama "Resurrection Boulevard." One of its actors, Mauricio Mendoza, said creation of that series alone has given work to more than 60 Latino actors and benefited other minorities. (LA Times)

Here's a new broadcasting-related website. It's <http://www.thetransmitter.net>. It's a message board website where people in radio and television can talk about everything they love and hate about the business and what's going on in their individual markets. You don't need to do anything special to post a message.

#### ON THE MOVE

PETER LUND, CEO of Dreamlife and former president/CEO of CBS has been named to the advisory board of dotTV. dotTV markets the .TV domain address.

WGN News (Chicago) has named MARK LaMET its Senior Investigative Producer. LaMet will be lead producer and manager of WGN's newly created investigative unit which will conduct long and short-term investigations, as well as

report on the "story behind the story." Prior to WGN-TV, LaMet was an investigative producer for Dateline NBC, the Chicago Bureau. He spent seventeen years at WLS-TV in many capacities from assignment editor to field producer to investigative producer. While at WLS, LaMet was selected to create and launch the ABC-7 "I-Team," during which time he conducted numerous award-winning investigations. LaMet has won many prestigious awards for his investigative producing including the National Associated Press Broadcast Award, Chicago Bar Association's Herman Kogan Award, RTNDA' Edward R. Murrow Award, Peter Lisagor Investigative Journalism Award and numerous Emmy Awards. LaMet is a native of Chicago. He earned his degree in political science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

ANGELICA SCHULTZ is the newest member of the WANE newsroom in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Angelica will co-anchor the primaryweekend casts and report affiliate. Schultz comes from KHSL in Chico, California where she anchored and reported. She also worked in Waterloo and Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Angelica Schultz is represented by David Brunner of DB & Associates in Neffs, Pennsylvania. DBandA@webtv.net

RICK MARTIN is now back in his hometown of Washington, D.C. hired as the Chief Assignment Editor at ABC affiliate WJLA-TV. He was the Assignment Manager for NBC's WCAU-TV in Philadelphia, Pa. Before that, Rick worked as an Assignment Editor at KYW-TV, in Philadelphia, and NBC's WRC-TV in Washington, DC.

DAVE KIRKLAND has accepted a position as Director of News Coverage for Fox Sports Net in Los Angeles where he will coordinate the network's coverage of breaking news, long-range projects and "big" events such as the World Series and Super Bowl. For the past two years, Dave has been the Managing Editor at KXTV, the ABC affiliate in Sacramento, and before that was the Assistant News Director for two years at KGTV, the ABC affiliate in San Diego. He returns to Los Angeles where he spent 15 years in a wide variety of producing positions at KNBC.

THUY VU is moving across the Oakland Bay Bridge to KGO San Francisco, where she'll be an anchor and reporter, effective July 31. Vu will co-anchor KGO's Sunday morning newscasts (7-8 a.m. and 9-10:30 a.m.). She will also report four days a week from the station's South Bay Bureau in San Jose.

Less than a week after Rod Perth resigned, The Jim Henson Company has promoted two executives to head up its television division. ANGUS FLETCHER and JULIE BLAKE have been named executive vice presidents and co-heads of The Jim Henson Television Group Worldwide. Fletcher, who will continue to be based on London, was formerly senior vice president of international production and distribution at the studio. Blake was formerly senior vice president of creative affairs at Henson's Los Angeles headquarters. Perth abruptly resigned last week, after serving only 15 months as president of Henson's TV division. (Broadcasting

& Cable)

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The FAA has started a safety check of airline maintenance operations....And to help, I've listed some signs that your favorite airline might have maintenance problems.

You might want to jump ship if....

- \* The seat belt has "MIR" written on it.
- \* The boarding music is from Cheech and Chong's "Up In Smoke."
- \* The plane's navigation system has a wet nose and a wagging tail.
- \* The prize for guessing halfway-there is a parachute.
- \* You're going down the runway and just before liftoff the pilot announces:

"OK everybody, jump!"

- \* You try to buy flight insurance and the machine tells you, "Get real!"

- \* The plane's nose cone is one of Pamela Anderson's old breast implants.

- \* The mechanic comes on board and you notice a Greyhound Bus ticket in his pocket.

Are you ready for the next voyeur show after "Survivor?" It's called "Big Brother" and starts on CBS next Wednesday. It features 10 people living in a two bedroom, one bath house together with 28 video cameras....It's torture! It's unbearable! It's like being in an "Olive Garden" commercial you can't leave! (Bill Williams)

Tennis Tourney: Wimbledon tennis continues. Anna Kournikova is the most lusted after, drooled upon, fantasized about star on the pro circuit today. And that's just in the women's locker room. (Alan Ray)

Bad Bryant: Bryant Gumbel was caught on camera making an offensive remark about a guest on his CBS morning show. His entire TV audience saw the slip. In other words, there were only a handful of witnesses. (Ray)

Singer Huey Lewis is 50 years old this week.  
 --Or as he calls it, half a Jagger.  
 --Now, I'm not saying 50 is old, but last night, getting out of the shower, Huey broke a hip trying to be square.  
 (Steve Voldseth)

New Reality Show: A new idea in game shows began Wednesday □- one that puts ten people in a house, where TV cameras will watch almost everything they do. Somewhere in Washington Janet Reno must be saying, "Why won't Congress let ME do this? Those Branch Davidian trials never would have happened!" (Richard Burkard/ <http://www.LaughLine.com>)

Big Brother: CBS timed the premiere of "Big Brother" to follow the weekly round of "Survivor." One hot rumor is that tonight's episode will have a nude scene. Maybe this will make "People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals" happy. The islanders may stop eating rats □- and start nibbling at each other! (Burkard)

#####  
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Investigative Reporter  
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220 E 42 St  
NYC 10017

pollykreis@aol.com  
pkreisman@tribune.com

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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

From: John Corcoran  
Pesky Gadabout, Los Angeles & The World  
Corkczar@Aol.Com  
RE: Is There Enough Big Brother Coverage on CBS?

Every so often I catch something on the local channels that seems to sum up the current state of the TV News Biz. Granted this most recent example took place July 4th, when the station was likely short-staffed. And I know the fill-in anchor is a first rate reporter, perhaps a tad rusty at anchoring. But all in all, it's worth repeating, weeping, and laughing over.

The Los Angeles CBS affiliate, Channel 2, "The Station of the People," carried a live shot from the site where a new network television program--it may be on CBS--called "Big

Brother" was about to begin it's contribution to the end of Society as we know it.

The story was a couple of minutes, maybe, of live and tape. By today's "news" standards, that's not unexpected. One could even argue that given the success of "Survivor," the story of a copycat show has some actual news impact.

They wrapped up the live shot, then went to a VO/SOT about Greenpeace protesters protesting logging in Russia. The story had some good TV-ready video. The anchor did the VO while the video showed protesters trying to board a moving logging ship.

It was an imperfect storming, however, and the Greenpeaceers were repelled. Just as the video ended, one protester fell about twenty feet from the side of the ship, landing directly in front of the moving Greenpeace boat. The anchor spotted this and ad libbed on camera: "I assume that protester was okay, there was nothing given us about injuries." (That's as close to an accurate quote as I remember.)

With the protester either dead in the water or safely rescued--hey, we dunno, they didn't tell us--the Station of the People moved on from the wet protester to an item for those who had their appetite whetted by the earlier "Big Brother" live shot. They got an entire fresh new package about the big "Big Brother" show--which I think is carried on CBS.

When the package ended, even more good news for "Big Brother" fans. They saw tease for an upcoming feature story the next day about, you got it, "Big Brother"--which I'm just about positive is a CBS show.

And so it seemed the newscast that didn't have a handle on whether a Greenpeace protester was now shark bait, was able to spare their Wacky Guy for the entire weekend, recreating the actual "Big Brother" experience in the actual "Big Brother" living quarters to be actually used for the actual show which--I looked it up-- IS on CBS . Who'd a thunk it?

Credit where it's due. I believe--my remote trigger finger is a little slow--the CBS affiliate led their newscast with a story about a local hostage taker, who shot five people before surrendering. The ABC and NBC affils appeared to lead with late breaking video of some fireworks spotted in the sky around the greater Los Angeles area.

=====

From: Ken R Kurtz  
krkurtz@juno.com  
RE:News Notes from the Underground:

Coolidge-isms, Sports Division

While many historians don't believe President Cal did say  
"When a lot of people are out of work, unemployment

Had to. It was the new track's first race.

=====

I'm wondering if ratings mean anything to NBC with their Wimbledon Coverage, or if they're just counting on tennis aficionados to tune in. I know that Wimbledon, England is five hours ahead of E.S.T. But with the advent of the Internet, it's much easier to just go on-line and get the results of the matches. I hope Saturday's and Sunday's final matches won't be on tape delay as well.

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Thus, our slogan:

"News Worth Repeating."

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Best regards.

[illegible]

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Communications at Syracuse University

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(Voice) 1-415-229-8331      (Fax) 1-415-421-3635

BE SEEING YOU!

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Jenni R. Engebretsen ( CN=Jenni R. Engebretsen/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 7-JUL-2000 08:54:29.00

SUBJECT: guidance requests asap, pls -- briefing at 10 am

TO: Philip J. Crowley ( CN=Philip J. Crowley/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: William T. Glunz ( CN=William T. Glunz/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Anne W. Bovaird ( CN=Anne W. Bovaird/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Elliot J. Diringer ( CN=Elliot J. Diringer/OU=CEQ/O=EOP@EOP [ CEQ ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Linda Ricci ( CN=Linda Ricci/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Meredith E. Cabe ( CN=Meredith E. Cabe/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Emily Karcher ( CN=Emily Karcher/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Katherine A. Brown ( CN=Katherine A. Brown/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sean P. O'Shea ( CN=Sean P. O'Shea/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kris M Balderston ( CN=Kris M Balderston/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Kymberly M. Escobar ( CN=Kymberly M. Escobar/OU=CEQ/O=EOP@EOP [ CEQ ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Daniel R. Wilson ( CN=Daniel R. Wilson/OU=OMB/O=EOP@EOP [ OMB ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Patrick M. Dorton ( CN=Patrick M. Dorton/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Beth Nolan ( CN=Beth Nolan/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Devorah R. Adler ( CN=Devorah R. Adler/OU=OPD/O=EOP@EOP [ OPD ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

CC: Richard L. Siewert ( CN=Richard L. Siewert/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
omb/ceq  
supp/anti-enviro rider -- any update this morning?

health care

medicare (nyt) -- Bush charges: POTUS/Gore are obstacles to keeping Medicare solvent, oppose bi-partisan medicare reform, cut budget

"family care" bill (wsj) -- coming soon from Kennedy and Dingell

also: dems to resume legis. on genetic discrim.; Kennedy/Grassley bill expanding Medicare for disabled children

where are we on these?

counsel

Bakaly (nyt, wp, wsj) -- charged with criminal contempt -- response?

death penalty (nyt A1, wp) -- can we confirm?

dpc

CO Board of Ed (nyt, wp) -- "In God We Trust" resolution -- admin comment?

nec

hi-b visas (wsj) -- complaints from minority groups on hl-b workers

prospects for a bill this year? Sperling quoted

provisions conditional for admin support?

oil (wsj) -- will Saudis go through w/increase? support from other OPEC members?

cab affairs

NTSB/JFK Jr. (nyt, wp, wsj) -- staff report on cause of crash

nsc

(nyt) congressional report -- corruption/Bosnia

(nyt, wp, wsj) Los Alamos -- US identifies 8 countries Lee may have tried to help

(nyt) okinawa/marine apology in sex case

(nyt, wp, wsj) AIDS -- UN resolution on counseling peacekeepers  
fair access to future vaccine

RECORD TYPE: FEDERAL (NOTES MAIL)

CREATOR: Lisa Ferdinando ( CN=Lisa Ferdinando/OU=WHO/O=EOP [ WHO ] )

CREATION DATE/TIME: 7-JUL-2000 09:07:56.00

SUBJECT: FOX Special Report, July 6, 2000

TO: Victoria L. Valentine ( CN=Victoria L. Valentine/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sean P. O'Shea ( CN=Sean P. O'Shea/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Sarah E. Gegenheimer ( CN=Sarah E. Gegenheimer/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Stephen N. Boyd ( CN=Stephen N. Boyd/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Rebecca J. Salay ( CN=Rebecca J. Salay/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robin M. Roland ( CN=Robin M. Roland/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Raj Adlakha ( CN=Raj Adlakha/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Paul K. Engskov ( CN=Paul K. Engskov/OU=WHO/O=EOP@EOP [ WHO ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Natalie S. Wozniak ( CN=Natalie S. Wozniak/OU=NSC/O=EOP@EOP [ NSC ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

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FOX SPECIAL REPORT WITH BRIT HUME  
July 6, 2000

BRIT HUME, HOST: Next on SPECIAL REPORT, a close Clinton associate expected to be indicted in the campaign finance scandal. Why are foreign governments hoping the U.S. missile defense test fails?  
And Jeff Birnbaum tries to answer the question, who

is Al Gore anyway?

First, other headlines.

(NEWS BREAK)

HUME: Welcome to Washington. I'm Brit Hume.

It appears the Justice Department investigation into the Clinton-Gore fund-raising scandal is about to move forward against a long-time friend and financial supporter of the president. Fox News has learned that prosecutors are seeking to indict James Riady, the billionaire leader of an Indonesian banking operation known as the Lippo Group.

For months, prosecutors have been attempting to interview Mr. Riady about several conversations he had with President Clinton, but as Fox News correspondent David Shuster tells us, time may be running out.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DAVID SHUSTER, FOX CORRESPONDENT (voice-over):

Barring a last-minute cooperation agreement, investigation sources say that James Riady, a long-time Clinton friend will be indicted as early as next week on charges of money laundering and conspiracy. Furthermore, sources say that prosecutors will view President Clinton as an unindicted co-conspirator.

The case, which still has to get through the office of the attorney general, dates back to 1992. Riady took a limousine ride with then-presidential candidate Clinton and promised to raise a million dollars for the Democratic Party. Riady made good on his pledge with the help of John Huang, Riady's employee at the Indonesian banking conglomerate known as the Lippo Group. Wire transfers began pouring in from overseas.

Last year, Huang pleaded guilty to money laundering, admitted the donations were illegal and told investigators about the Riady-Clinton conversation. For months, prosecutors have been attempting to interview Riady about the president, but defense attorneys acknowledge the talks have gone nowhere.

James Riady has surfaced before in other scandal investigations. His payroll at the Lippo Group included convicted Whitewater figures Webster Hubbell and former Arkansas governor Jim Guy Tucker. His name also came up at White House coffees. Vice President Al Gore, who has known Riady for 12 years, can be heard off camera mentioning Riady's name while referring to a media blitz paid for by donations to the Democratic Party.

AL GORE, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We ought to show Mr. Riady the tapes of some of the ads we have accumulated.

SHUSTER: But a Riady indictment might cause the greatest embarrassment for President Clinton. Riady visited Mr. Clinton at the White House more than 20 times, and a conspiracy allegation would fuel more criticism over the Justice Department's refusal to appoint a special counsel.

JOE DIGENOVA, FORMER INDEPENDENT COUNSEL: A decision about James Riady and his relationship with the president, and even the vice president, is precisely the type of conflict of interest that the regulations and the old independent counsel statute contemplated.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

SHUSTER: Still, there is no indication that the Justice Department is now considering an outside investigator or a special counsel. Justice Department sources are suggesting that the campaign finance task force will continue to handle the investigation and be responsible for the Riady indictment. That will likely be as far as the case will go, because James Riady is living in Indonesia and nobody expects him to return here to defend himself--Brit.

HUME: David, we're now getting word that Charles

Bakaly, whom we all remember is Kenneth Starr's former spokesman, has been ordered to stand trial this coming week on charges of criminal contempt growing out of alleged leaks during the Monica Lewinsky investigation. What is that all about?

SHUSTER: Well, Brit, many of the documents in this case were filed under seal, so these are the first documents to suggest that this case is actually moving forward to a trial.

Originally, Charles Bakaly was charged with violating rule 6-C, which is the rule governing grand jury secrecy. He was charged with leaking a story to "The New York Times" alleging that prosecutors might consider indicting President Clinton when he leaves office. That started the investigation. There have been reports and suggestions that Charles Bakaly hasn't cooperated in this probe and that may be part of the trial that plays out next week.

HUME: All right, David Shuster, thank you very much.

The Pentagon says all systems are go for Friday's anti-missile test. The launch over the Pacific Ocean is only expected to last 30 minutes, but its implications are far-reaching--in fact, the future of the U.S. national missile defense system could hinge on the outcome.

But as Fox News's Wendell Goler tells us, foreign nations are also monitoring the test and hoping it fails.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

WENDELL GOLER, FOX CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): On the eve of the national missile defense system's defining test, a group representing more than half the country's Nobel Prize-winning scientists warn building it would be a mistake.

HENRY KELLY, FEDERATION OF AMERICAN SCIENTISTS: It could certainly stimulate a Chinese missile build-up and encourage the Russians to maintain a dangerous launch on warning system.

GOLER: Most attention has been focused on Russia's opposition. President Vladimir Putin said earlier this week, building the system would undermine the global balance. U.S. officials say the system is not aimed at Moscow or Beijing.

RICHARD BOUCHER, STATE DEPT. SPOKESMAN: We have been quite up front about the fact that this consideration is not directed at any existing arsenal like the Chinese or the Russians.

GOLER: But China is even more opposed than Russia. Prime Minister Zhu Rongji introduced a new factor into the equation: Taiwan.

ZHU RONGJI, CHINESE PRIME MINISTER (through translator): The system would aim to put Taiwan in a sphere of protection. This would be blatant interference in Chinese affairs.

GOLER: U.S. officials say the missile defense would not be able to protect Taiwan, but China has other reasons to oppose it. With Russia's huge arsenal and multiple warhead technology, it could easily overwhelm the missile defense. China's entire arsenal of 20 single warhead missiles would be neutralized by a system that U.S. officials say is only intended to protect against threats from rogue states like North Korea, Iran and Iraq.

Meanwhile, critics say Friday night's test will be too easy--the Pentagon will fire a missile with a single decoy from Quajelein (ph) atoll and shoot an interceptor at it. The Pentagon says there is no point in making the test too hard.

REAR ADM. CRAIG QUIGLEY, PENTAGON SPOKESMAN: This is a walk before you run process. This is the way to evolve a system of this complexity, and we think it's the right path to take.

GOLER: Even if the test succeeds, the president says other factors may weigh against building the missile defense, which he opposed until it became an issue in the 1996 campaign.

(on camera): Analysts think Mr. Clinton will keep the missile defense from becoming an issue in this year's campaign by ordering the Pentagon to begin taking bids for construction the next president would feel free to cancel.

In Washington, Wendell Goler, Fox News.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: And coming up, find out what Al Gore is fired up about now. Stay tuned.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: Vice President Gore is on a campaign crusade to convince voters he has the right Medicare plan. He's been stumping all week, touting his health care proposal, and the vice president has been quick to tell voters how much money he's willing to invest in Medicare and other programs in an effort to show he's a man of the people.

Fox News's Jim Angle explains.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JIM ANGLE, FOX CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): Al Gore offered a group of seniors a show-and-tell on Medicare as he continued a week-long effort to portray himself as the protector of the common man standing against greedy corporations.

GORE: I want to fight for you. Not the oil companies. Not the pharmaceutical companies. I want to fight for you. And by golly, that's what I'll do.

ANGLE: Gore said the fundamental choice in this election is whose side the candidates are on. Without offering specific examples, Gore charged that George W. Bush is only protecting the powerful.

GORE: That's why the big oil companies are supporting Governor Bush. That's why the big polluters are supporting Governor Bush. That's why the HMOs and the insurance companies are supporting Governor Bush.

ANGLE: And Gore told this group of seniors that the pharmaceutical companies are intentionally charging them more than any other group. Gore rejected the industry argument that it pours many of its profits back into developing new drugs which save lives and avoid expensive surgeries and hospital stays. Gore says they're just price-gouging.

GORE: Somebody needs to call their hand and say, ``Wait a minute. You are spending twice as much on advertising and these other marketing expenses, including lobbying, than you are spending on research and development.'' So let's just have a little reality check here.

ANGLE: Actually, a reality check raises some questions about Gore's figures. The drug companies spend some \$24 billion a year on research and development--twice that much for advertising and lobbying as Gore argues would be \$50 billion a year. Industry sources claim it's actually about 1/4 that much.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

ANGLE: One of the purposes of Gore's new populist anti-corporate warrior mode is to project himself as a fighter. The other is to try to draw support away from consumer crusader Ralph Nader. But Gore isn't likely to get a break from Nader himself. He recently told reporters that Gore is--quote--''a plastic person, a great environmental impostor,'' and, concluded Nader, ``he doesn't know who he is anymore''--Brit.

HUME: And what do the Bush folks have to say about all of this?

ANGLE: Well, late today, the Bush people were pointing out that there is a whole slew, a handful of Gore advisors inside and outside the campaign who have, or do, work for the pharmaceutical

industry. They noted that Carter Askew, for instance, one of Gore's closest advisers, often his speech writer, the message man, once made ads, those controversial ads for the pharmaceutical industry, and long-time friend Tom Downey, a former congressman, once lobbied for them--Brit.

HUME: Was that the Harry & Louise ads?

ANGLE: It was not the Harry & Louise ad.

HUME: All right, Jim, thanks very much.

The New York Senate race is the first time a president's wife has sought public office, but the first lady's presence isn't giving the campaign, so far it seems, any particular dignity. Hillary Clinton and her Republican opponent, Congressman Rick Lazio both seem to be taking their campaigns to deeper levels of negativity.

As Fox News's Eric Shawn tells us, the campaigns are trading barbs in scathing fund-raising letters.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

ERIC SHAWN, FOX CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): It's getting nasty. Not five weeks into the New York Senate race, the battle between Hillary Clinton and Rick Lazio is turning ugly, and it happened faster than a New York minute.

CHRIS SMITH, ``NEW YORK'' MAGAZINE: It's going to be this way through November. I mean, everybody says, ``Oh, yes, we want to run a positive, issue-oriented campaign,'' but you can't name a contested close race for a major office in the last 15 years where it hasn't become a series of back-and-forth attacks.

SHAWN: In a fund-raising letter, Lazio brands his opponent this way: ``Hillary Clinton and her husband have embarrassed our country and disgraced their powerful posts. She covets power and control and thinks she should be dictating how other people run their lives.'' Lazio says he didn't write the words, but he does not disavow them.

SMITH: He's going to go after them on Monica Lewinsky and on Filegate--and that's legitimate.

SHAWN: For her part, Mrs. Clinton is hammering away at Lazio's congressional record, trying to link him with Newt Gingrich and right-wing Republicans, and in her fund-raising letters saying he was selected by--quote--``Republican Party king-makers.''

MERRYL TISCH, LAZIO SUPPORTER: In the fund-raising letter, when you are talking basically to who you believe your constituents are going to be, you can couch things in ways to draw distinctions between yourself and your opponent.

SHAWN: Merryl Tisch is a Lazio supporter and fund raiser who wants both candidates to focus on the issues.

TISCH: I just can't understand why, with so much at stake, people would choose to act like children in a schoolyard. This is not what this race is about.

SHAWN: But liberal radio talk show host Lynn Samuels thinks Lazio won't stick to the issues.

LYNN SAMUELS, WABC RADIO TALK SHOW HOST: He has nothing to talk about except to insult Hillary and Bill Clinton. That's all he has going for him. And that cute little face, you know--that makes him look so innocent when really he's just slick Rick.

SHAWN (on camera): Will either candidate turn the other cheek? Not in this town, pal. A Clinton campaign spokesman claims that--quote--``New Yorkers are getting tired of Rick Lazio's excuses, evasions and insults.''

It seems in this race, even the responses to attacks are attacks.

In New York, Eric Shawn, Fox News.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: Coming up next, Jeff Birnbaum tells us what Vice President Gore is for and since when he's been for it. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: Vice President Gore bristles at the idea that he has switched his positions on major issues over the years. He has steadfastly insisted, for example, that his position on abortion has always been in support of a woman's right to an abortion. But has it? And what about the vice president's positions on other issues such as gun control and gay rights?

Fox News contributor Jeff Birnbaum, the Washington bureau chief of ``Fortune'' magazine, has been looking into the matter and joins me now.

Now there have been criticisms that Gore is a guy who says one thing and does another, and so on--that being George W. Bush's frequently repeated phrase. What's the record on this?

JEFF BIRNBAUM, ``FORTUNE'' MAGAZINE: Well, I think that there is clearly an old Al Gore and a new Al Gore, sort of the 1980s Al Gore and the 1990s Al Gore. And he has been on both sides of most major issues. I think if the new Al Gore were to meet the old Al Gore, they wouldn't even like each other, some of their positions are so different.

HUME: Let's look at some of these positions.

BIRNBAUM: Well, on--let's go through them. On tobacco, for example, in the 1980s he was--he took tobacco industry money into his campaigns and spoke really affectionately of tobacco farmers and said he was among them. In the 1990s, of course, there is no more active opponent of the industry and smoking than Al Gore.

On abortion rights, during the 1980s, Al Gore voted against public funding for abortions and wrote constituents saying that he didn't much like abortions, was very much against it. In the 1990s, he is as pro-choice on the abortion issue as any liberal lawmaker in Washington.

On gay rights, for example--this isn't very often talked about--but on gay rights, during the 1980s, he said that homosexuality was abnormal. He said that it was wrong. He refused to take money from gay rights organizations. He voted against something that was called the Gay Bill of Rights. That was the 1980s. 1990s, Al Gore has gotten a lot of money from homosexual organizations and is one of the strongest advocates of gay rights there is in Washington.

HUME: Now, the change came when, really?

BIRNBAUM: After he was...

HUME: You're saying '80s and '90s.

BIRNBAUM: Right. He was a congressman from a conservative district in Tennessee at the end of the '70s and into the mid-'80s, in 1984 he was elected to the Senate. But once he reached that perch in the Senate, he became a national politician, and in 1987 he began to run for the Democratic nomination for president, and that is when, I think, we can trace most of the change from the old to the new Al Gore.

HUME: You mean the beginning of the change, or all these positions?

BIRNBAUM: Just about all of them. It was around this period. The change on gun control, for example. He was A-rated by the National Rifle Association--the gun lobby--for most of the 1980s. But--in fact, '84 was A-rated.

In 1987, when he began running for the Democratic nomination for president, he told Sarah Brady, who is a major gun-control advocate, and Handgun Control that he would do anything to get hand guns out of the hands of criminals and switched positions, when he was, in particular, running for the Democratic nomination in relatively liberal places on gun-control, like New York state where he needed a lot of votes. This was a ``New York Times'' story just on Thursday.

HUME: Now, there is nothing wrong with a politician changing positions. This happens. People change their minds on issues.

Opinions evolve. We've seen this in other political figures. Frequently, politicians will explain their change.

George W.--George Bush the elder did a complete change on abortion and attributed it to a devotion he had come to find to the idea of adoption as an option, it had happened in his family, and he spoke about that and did his best to make it appear at least that this was a conviction that he--a new conviction that he felt.

Has Vice President Gore done that? I mean, has he spoken openly of his changed views? And--I mean, I know he's been resistant to saying that he changed his views on abortion. But what about these other issues?

BIRNBAUM: Well, the record is pretty clear. I think he would say that he has evolved. It's--rather than a big change...

HUME: Does he say that?

BIRNBAUM: Yes. I think clearly he is...

HUME: Well, on abortion, he won't acknowledge it at all, though.

BIRNBAUM: No, on abortion. But on the issue of tobacco, he says that he is--has not--was not for smoking, so much, but did favor farmers. There are some nuances involved in some of these things. I think that his voting record...

HUME: For tobacco farmers, but not for tobacco use?

BIRNBAUM: Yes, exactly. And in gay rights, it was clear that there was a major change, at least in his rhetoric.

I--and I agree that all of us change and grow. And politicians change, let's say, more than the rest of us. But I think with the Gore flip flopping, this vacillation, it's more than usual, even for a politician, and I think we're reading in some of the polls a view of this. I think a lot of voters look at Al Gore and say, ``Does he know what he believes? Does he know who he is? Does he have confidence in himself?'' And I think enough people are saying ``no'' that the polls are reflecting it.

HUME: So in other words, you think this strong leadership number which he does poorly on reflects people's sense that he's flip flopped?

BIRNBAUM: Right. In a number of polls, there has been as much as a 10 or 12-point gap between George W. Bush and Al Gore on the question, who is the stronger leader, and I think it's because of this confidence in oneself that Gore is falling behind. Because when they see changes so often--changes, for example, even in staffing at the Gore campaign--they wonder, does he have enough sense of himself to be our leader, to command?

HUME: And to be the same guy on one day that he is on another, perhaps.

BIRNBAUM: Right.

HUME: Well, now what about these recent changes? Do you see Gore making, as campaigns do, sort of frequent adjustments and course corrections and so on. Most recently he's been the fighting populist pounding away, as you've noted, at the drug companies, and once again, at the tobacco companies and so on, oil companies and drug companies in particular. That has widely been attributed by observers to a response to Ralph Nader's populist appeal in some states, which is seen as a threat to Gore.

Is it your sense that this simply feeds this perception of him?

BIRNBAUM: Yes. Is he an old Democrat or a new Democrat? Lately, I think you can argue that he's been an old liberal Democrat...

HUME: You've got a little difficulty there. Here, let's give you some water.

BIRNBAUM: Pardon me. Well, thank you.

HUME: You know, Gore, of course, has consistently able to respond and adjust his campaign. He did it with Bradley, adjusted his campaign, and overwhelmed, swamped Bradley. So why should we not believe that his adjustments that he's making as he goes along here will not, you know, after some early criticism, perhaps be similarly convicted?

BIRNBAUM: Well, they could well, but the question is, does he know who he is? Is he the populist Democrat appealing to the liberal base as he is now, attacking drug companies, for example, or is he the Gore--the new Democrat who is for welfare reform, for example, and deficit reduction, as he was in the beginning of the Clinton campaign? The question is, do we know where he will be in November? And if the American public thinks otherwise, they won't vote for him.

HUME: Very interesting, Jeff Birnbaum. Great to have you. Thanks very much.

Coming up, find out what you can't smoke if you are attending the Democratic National Convention. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: The latest now from the ``Political Grapevine.``

The Republicans have announced that House Speaker Dennis Hastert will be the chairman of the party's convention in Philadelphia. His deputies will all be House members, Jennifer Dunn of Washington, Henry Bonilla of Texas, and J.C. Watts of Oklahoma; a woman, a Hispanic, and a black. Meanwhile, political tea leaf readers may note that Oklahoma Governor Frank Keating, a vice presidential possibility in some people's minds, has been named a ``national caucus team co-chairman for the convention,`` but another V.P. hopeful, Pennsylvania Governor Tom Ridge got no official convention role.

Fidel Castro says he was practically overcome with emotion at the sight of Elian Gonzalez, when the 6-year-old returned to Cuba last week. He said in a speech that not even after the Cuban Revolution or the Bay of Pigs invasion did he--quote--``experience such intense emotion as when he saw the private plane door open and Elian and his father emerge.`` Castro said Elian and his father had become--quote--``gigantic moral symbols of our homeland.`` Cuban dissident leader Oswaldo Pala (ph), who supported Elian's return to Cuba, calls the Castro government's propaganda campaign over the issue--quote--``a poisonous cloud,`` which he said obliterates all other political discussion.

The organizing committee for the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles is still \$3-\$4 million short of its fund-raising goals, but is steadfastly refusing to accept any money from tobacco companies. ``The New York Times`` quotes party officials as saying--quote--``We look forward to showcasing Los Angeles as the largest smoke-free city in the nation.`` Los Angeles forbids smoking in restaurants and many other public places, though the smog-filled city is usually not thought of as smoke free.

Nearly a year after John F. Kennedy Jr.'s death, a federal agency has issued its final report into the crash that took his life. Kennedy, his wife, Carolyn Bessette, and her sister Lauren all died when the plane he was flying plunged into the Atlantic Ocean.

As Fox News's Brian Wilson tells us, the report indicates Kennedy himself was at fault.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BRIAN WILSON, FOX CORRESPONDENT (voice-over): It took a year for the National Transportation Safety Board to recover the aircraft wreckage from 120 feet of water off the coast of Martha's

Vineyard and complete a detailed investigation. The final report from the NTSB lists the probable cause of the crash as ``the pilot's failure to maintain control of the airplane during a descent over water at night which was the result of spatial disorientation.''

In other words, John F. Kennedy Jr., a relatively inexperienced pilot, became confused when he lost sight of the horizon in the hazy conditions that night. Spatial disorientation is one of the most common causes of fatal aircraft accidents. Experienced pilots learn over time to trust their instruments, but JFK Jr. had completed only half of the training required for an instrument rating.

MICHAEL GOLDFARB, AVIATION CONSULTANT: He knew just enough to be dangerous. Less skill, less experience, he wouldn't have made the flight. More skill, more ability to rely on the cockpit instruments, he could have probably navigated safely.

WILSON: We now know the Piper Saratoga slammed hard into the waters off Martha's Vineyard nose first, impact speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour. But a subsequent investigation of the wreckage revealed no mechanical problems with the plane.

Because John Kennedy was a member of one of the nation's most powerful and influential political families, there were early hints the NTSB would stop short of blaming the accident on the pilot. But former NTSB investigator Vernon Grose says there is no sign the NTSB pulled any punches.

VERNON GROSE, FMR. NTSB INVESTIGATOR: They did acknowledge here that he failed to make the correct descent from altitude.

WILSON (on camera): One other interesting tidbit from the final report: 53 minutes before the plane crashed, JFK Jr.'s plane came close enough to an American Airline commuter plane to set off that plane's collision avoidance warning system. However, the NTSB says it did not qualify as a near miss.

In Washington, Brian Wilson, Fox News.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

HUME: Coming up, teachers' unions generally oppose performance-based bonuses, but could these programs help the nation's schools? We'll ask education expert and author Chester Finn, coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: The National Education Association, the nation's largest teachers' union has once again rejected the idea that teacher pay should be tied to the performance of students, but the NEA did decide to let local teachers' unions negotiate some form of job performance bonuses. With education being a major preoccupation of both major party presidential candidates, and with Vice President Gore having been endorsed by the NEA, the issue of teacher pay could wind up in the midst of the fall campaign.

To help sort it out we turn to Chester Finn, an authority on education who was an assistant secretary of education in the Reagan administration. Welcome.

CHESTER FINN, MANHATTAN INSTITUTE: Thank you very much.

HUME: Nice to have you back.

FINN: Appreciate it.

HUME: So what happened here with this NEA vote? There was a--the NEA leadership was for something that--well, you tell me.

FINN: The followership wasn't for. Well, you know, every fourth of July, the NEA has its convention somewhere and the leadership usually tries to position this enormous union on the good side of some education reform issue and make them not look like total stick-in-the-muds. This year the issue was merit pay, the notion that good

teachers might get paid more than bad teachers.

And the leadership went through this elaborate process of putting forward a resolution that would under very limited circumstances encourage local districts to experiment with certain kinds of merit pay, particularly the kind where teachers observe other teachers and say, we think that's a good teacher, and maybe they could get some more money.

HUME: So it wouldn't--but it wouldn't be based on student performance, even under the NEA leadership proposal?

FINN: It would never have been based on student performance. They were dead set against that. Meanwhile, it's important to note that six or eight communities around the country, including a couple of NEA cities are actually doing something like this. There are some experiments under way.

HUME: Not student performance, but what? Peer judgment or something like that?

FINN: Peer judgment, administrator judgments. And a couple of places, Dallas, Texas, for example, heading near student performance as a way of measuring teacher effectiveness. There is some very interesting research in this area on measuring teacher effectiveness by student test scores.

HUME: What does the research say?

FINN: The most important thing it says is that there are big differences from teacher to teacher in effectiveness if you look at the gains the kids in their classes make during the course of the year.

HUME: Now, does this establish that the teachers' abilities--or the teachers' effectiveness is the thing, or does it not establish it?

FINN: It doesn't make it the sole cause, but it sure shows patterns that are very suggestive that kids who get the very effective teachers several years in a row have their scores go like this. Kids that get the less effective teachers several years in a row go like this. The differences get very big. And so, there is some very interesting work being done on this. But no, the NEA was never going to endorse student achievement-based merit pay.

HUME: This may seem like a dumb question, but why?

FINN: It's deep in their credo that teachers should not be judged by the amount their students have learned. Why is this? It goes partly back to the industrial unions, the auto workers, the steel workers, the garment workers who didn't want to be judged by how many napkins they sewed, or how many tons of coal. This is old industrial union attitude, and the NEA, and to a lesser extent the AFT have swallowed it and have not given it up, even though they want to be called a profession.

I mean, whether an industrial union that thinks that way can actually claim to ever be a profession to me is nuts, but the NEA leaders, Bob Chase and his colleagues put forth this very limited proposal for--they would call it performance-based pay, and after endless debate, the delegates voted it down. They turned their back on their leaders. They said ``nothing doing'' and in fact they strengthened the wording of their previous resolution against every form of merit pay and performance-based pay.

HUME: So when I'm reading news stories that are telling me that they slightly softened their position, what does that mean?

FINN: Well, the newspapers really messed this one up. About two thirds of newspapers said the NEA came out against merit pay and about a a third of the newspapers, I think following a misguided wire service story, reported more or less the opposite. The only thing they ended up doing, and they had to do this...

HUME: Allow local autonomy?

FINN: Yes, but they always allow local autonomy. Local unions can do what they like regardless.

HUME: OK, so that's not the news? That's the olds.

FINN: That's--yes, exactly. The news is that the national leadership wanted to reposition the national union on this very sexy and very hot topic of...

HUME: Now, does--one assumes that teacher pay based on performance is popular with parents and with the public.

FINN: That's exactly why the politically correct thing for the NEA to do was to reposition itself.

HUME: Well, now, is this bad news politically for Al Gore, who is tied by virtue of an endorsement to the NEA possibly?

FINN: It could become that, especially if Bush exploits it cleverly.

HUME: Now, is there anything that he has said--you've followed his positions on education more carefully than I have--is there anything he has said that indicates that he would be willing to be aggressive on this, or not?

FINN: That Bush would?

HUME: Yes.

FINN: He's pretty clearly in favor of judging teachers by performance, but he hasn't, to my knowledge, embraced anything that you would call real merit-pay proposal. I don't think he wants to really irk teachers, and most of them do get irked by that notion.

HUME: But most of them also vote Democratic anyway, don't they?

FINN: Yes, though it was reported out of the NEA convention by NPR that a third of the delegates called themselves Republicans.

HUME: Remarkable. Chester Finn, great to have you, hope you'll come back and keep us up to date on this issue.

FINN: Will do.

HUME: All right, don't touch that remote, folks. Our all-stars are coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: Frederick, with a C., Barnes is the executive editor of ``The Weekly Standard.'' Morton, not Mortimer, Kondracke is the executive editor of ``Roll Call.'' And from the White House, Mara Liasson is the White House correspondent of National Public Radio.

All are Fox News contributors, and all may be able to enlighten us further on what it means that Charles Bakaly, Kenneth Starr's former spokesman is going to trial on charges of criminal contempt.

First of all, what is the case all about? David Shuster mentioned earlier it was about leaks that led to a story in the ``New York Times'' that said what, Mort?

MORT KONDRACKE, ``ROLL CALL'': Well, that said that the special prosecutor had concluded that legally it was possible to indict a sitting president for perjury, or something--that in other words, Ken Starr could have taken the facts of the Monica Lewinsky case and turned it into an indictment against Bill Clinton, which, of course, didn't happen. It was a ``New York Times''--it was not a big deal story.

HUME: In fact, I remember reading it and thinking that I knew that.

KONDRACKE: Yes, I mean, because lots of law professors and people--other people had said that it was possible, but coming out of the Starr office--everybody was very conscious of leaks. The Clinton administration was accusing Starr of leaking all over the place. So apparently, as best you can understand from the--what's public now,

there was an investigation of this. Bakaly was asked about it internally by investigators and apparently fibbed.

HUME: Well, he also was--he was let go by Starr, who referred the case--Starr referred the case to the Justice Department, which is now prepared to try him on charges of criminal contempt, but so far the exact details of the charges remain under seal.

What are we to make of this?

FRED BARNES, ``THE WEEKLY STANDARD'': Well, on the basis of what I know, it would seem to--it would strike me as a non-prosecutable case. In other words, if he leaked--if it's based on this information that the special counsel had found that the independent counsel had determined that the president was indictable, that's not grand jury information.

It's perfectly leakable--legally leakable information, if that's what he did and said publicly that, gee, we don't know where that information came from, that that's something he shouldn't have done, but I don't know why you would charge him with anything for that.

Now, if, in the investigation, he lied to investigators, that's a different thing entirely, and that may be what he's being prosecuted for.

MARA LIASSON, NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO: Right. And we're not--I agree with Fred. We're not quite--we're not completely sure that the leak is about Starr's opinion about whether or not the president can be indicted. If it is, I agree, that's not grand jury information, that's just Starr's legal analysis.

But it is interesting that he was kind of turned in by his boss. Starr is the one who referred him to the Justice Department. But if it's nothing more than Starr's opinion on the possibility of indicting President Clinton, I can't imagine that he's going to be convicted.

HUME: Unless, of course, he didn't--unless it is alleged that he failed to tell the truth in some forum where you are legally required to do so.

LIASSON: That's right. And he has always denied publicly leaking any grand jury information.

HUME: Right, but I wonder if he also leaked--I mean, has he also denied that he was the source of the story. That may be what the problem is.

LIASSON: Right, that's--that we don't know.

BARNES: He did.

(CROSSTALK)

KONDRACKE: ... from Starr's office.

HUME: Starr's office.

All right, now, what we don't know--the reason we don't know very much about this is a lot of this remains under seal, and while Judge Johnson, the chief judge down there, has OK'd the case and sent it to trial, she still has issues to resolve about what material may be introduced because a lot of that is grand jury information under seal, so a lot of this remains a little murky here. It's a little like trying to figure out something with your eyes closed. So that's the best we can do, folks. We're sorry.

Let's turn now to an interesting column that appeared this week by our colleague Michael Kinsley, who makes a career of sorts of spotting what he considers to be hypocrisy, and he has lampooned the national media and particularly the conservative movement for what he thinks is a case of selective blindness to a lot of policy prescriptions by George W. Bush which he considers to be big spending and the kind of thing they would climb all over Al Gore for.

And in his column he says--quote--''Bush promised to

triple the current funding for disability research to create a technology transfer fund. It would subsidize small business efforts to spend \$20 million buying computers so that disabled workers can telecommute, to swiftly implement the recently passed Ticket to Work Act," and he writes, "and on and on and on."

Well, gentlemen and lady, does he have a point?

LIASSON: I think he absolutely has a point. I think there is no doubt about it that George W. Bush is stealing a lot of plays from Bill Clinton, and the right is being absolutely silent about it. But what's interesting is, I have talked to conservatives who say, "Look, we don't like this. We think, you know, a lot of these spending proposals are not very good. But number one, we want to win."

And number two, as long as he doesn't break with Republican orthodoxy on the two issues that are the most important to Republicans--and that's abortion and tax cuts--if he wants to, in an era of big surpluses throw, you know, a couple of million dollars or a couple of billion dollars here and there at education and health care and low-income housing, which are not--never have been the top priorities for Republicans--but if he stays true-blue on tax cuts, and he sure has, it's a big tax cut he's proposing, he has stayed true-blue on abortion, they think that that's OK.

KONDRACKE: Well, you know, poor Michael, you know, has to find something bad to say about George Bush. He can't say "hooray," you know, George Bush has decided to become a compassionate conservative. He's got to sort of back into it by--and beat up on the right wing somehow. And the fact is that there will be more examples. Next week, Bush is going to speak to the NAACP, and then he's going on another compassionate conservatism tour and talk about, you know, what the government can do to help poor people, which is--which I think is great.

(CROSSTALK)

BARNES: Wait a minute.

HUME: Hold it, Mara, hold it, hold it. I'm going to let Mort finish here, and then Fred is about to explode.

(CROSSTALK)

KONDRACKE: You know, I mean, I think--and the thing is--I mean, Michael actually does have a very good last paragraph, which is typical Michael Kinsley, a great observation about how, you know, one party is always stealing the other party's ideas and adopting them for their own, and eventually, everything becomes mush in the middle, and terrific, wonderful.

BARNES: For those who hadn't noticed...

HUME: Mort Kondracke, professional moderate.

BARNES: ... no, but Mort is a charter member of the hooray school for Bush being a compassionate conservative. Mort often forgets that he is a conservative as well. One thing I'll--I'll say two things, since I'm the only representative of conservative media here--that may be worth something.

HUME: There are people who would suggest otherwise.

BARNES: OK, not many, though.

The amount of spending that Bush is proposing is dwarfed by the amount that Al Gore is proposing. But I'll have to say I have winced at a couple of his proposals that sounded like the one for 1,500 health care centers, it sounded more like LBJ Great Society stuff even than it did Bill Clinton. But it--look, here is why--it's not just abortion and tax cuts. It's because Bush has laid out an agenda that conservatives think is important, that it's so much more important than any of the spending on these small programs.

Missile defense, which Bush has laid out a strong platform on--a program on that, that has completely discombobulated the Clinton administration and forced them to have to consider missile

defense. Secondly, tax cuts, that Mara mentioned. Thirdly, Social Security reform, which Bush is the driving force on that--not an idea stolen from Democrats. It's a Republican idea that some Democrats have adopted. And lastly, Bush has talked about getting the corruption out of the Justice Department, which is a huge, huge issue.

HUME: A huge issue to conservatives?

(CROSSTALK)

BARNES: To conservatives in particular, but to a lot of other people as well.

LIASSON: But you know, don't discount just the sheer hunger to get the White House back.

BARNES: Well, that's a factor as well, of course.

LIASSON: Because Bill Clinton did this in '92, you didn't hear a whole lot of squawks from the labor movement and other elements of the left who had every reason to be suspicious if not downright angry about some of the things he was proposing. They want to win and there is no doubt about that.

Look at the Christian right. He never talks about abortion, though I think he's sent plenty of signals to them that they have nothing to worry about, but they're not--they don't want to upset the apple cart. He looks like he's doing pretty well and I think that's a big element of it, too.

KONDRACK: And there are--there is another example, Medicare. I mean, his approach to Medicare, he's going to provide a prescription drug benefit, but it's not going to be run through the same old Medicare bureaucracy. I mean, look, he is to the right of center, and you know, it's just that he's not as far right to center as, you know, some of his predecessors in that job, and surpluses make a lot of things possible that wouldn't be otherwise.

BARNES: I mean, that is the whole point of calling yourself a compassionate conservative. You're saying ``Look, I'm not like those other conservatives. I'm not Newt Gingrich.'' And he's adjusting for the fact that the country has moved a little toward the center.

HUME: All right, that seems to wrap that up and that probably does it for the panel here. Fred Barnes gets the last word.

Stay tuned, though, folks, for a look at the good hands president. We'll see who that is in just a moment.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HUME: Finally, President Clinton spoke at a dinner Wednesday aboard the USS Intrepid, which is now a museum in New York Harbor commemorating the long service of that fabled aircraft carrier, which was in service from 1943 until 1974. He was given a memento of the event, which led to this moment. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We have for the president this evening, a replica of this great ship--notice its durability.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HUME: And that's SPECIAL REPORT for this time. Please join us again next time. And in the meantime, stay tuned for news fair and balanced as always.

END

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The Clinton administration is planning to postpone the first federal execution in nearly 40 years due to a lack of clemency procedures and concerns about racial and geographic disparities in death penalty cases.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/070700fed-death.html>

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As Teacher in the Classroom, Internet Needs Fine-Tuning

Many had hoped the Internet would help close the education gap between rich and poor, but students and schools are experiencing growing pains as they experiment with the new technology.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/tech/00/07/biztech/articles/07class.html>

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Safety Board Blames Pilot Error in Crash of Kennedy Plane

John F. Kennedy Jr. probably became disoriented in the night sky on his final flight, leading to the crash that killed him, his wife and her sister, federal investigators said Thursday in their final report on the accident.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/070700jfk-crash.html>

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Representative John Conyers Jr. has asked Attorney General Janet Reno to investigate the death of a 32-year-old black man who was choked to death during a scuffle with security guards trying to recover a \$4 bracelet.

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/070700mi-mall.html>

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Colorado Board Urges Schools to Display 'In God We Trust'

Asserting that public schools have a duty to teach moral rectitude, the Colorado State Board of Education passed a resolution that encourages schools to display the national motto "In God we trust."

<http://www.nytimes.com/library/national/070700colorado-edu.html>

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A Spirited Campaign for Ohio Court Puts Judges on New Terrain

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The Vice President: Gore Highlights Differences With Bush on Medicare

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Allen Barra

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