

Christmas in the City

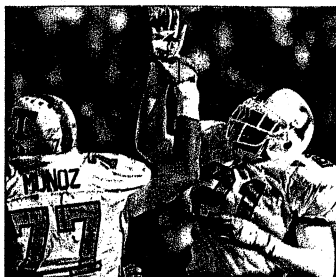
A complete guide to all the events

Beast of burden

HIPAA regulations promise privacy, prove problematic



New feature focuses on the culture and heritage of the region LOCAL B1



Winning again

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SUNDAY

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Saddam: U.S., Israel making war

He was given no choice, he says

By Sameer N. Yacoub
Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — President Saddam Hussein said Saturday he had no choice but to accept a tough new U.N. weapons-inspection resolution because the United States and Israel had shown their "claws and teeth" and declared unilateral war on the Iraqi people.

In an open letter to Iraq's Parliament, Saddam said he hoped the inspectors would help the U.N. Security Council "to see the truth as it really is about Iraq being completely free of weapons of mass destruction."

The advance team of inspectors is expected in Baghdad on Monday after a four-year absence. Under a new resolution approved last week, the inspectors are empowered to go anywhere and interview anyone to determine if Iraq still has banned weapons. Failure to cooperate fully could bring a U.S.-led attack.

Saddam told Parliament in the letter he accepted the resolution "because your enemy, the alliance between Zionism and the American administration has ... after showing its claws and teeth, decided to wage war unilaterally against our people."

"If the unjust persist in their wrongdoing, then you know that the potentials and obligations that we carry from our revolution to withstand all injustice will ensure

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Poll: In public favor, Iraq war would be low, but not lowest

By Thomas Hargrove and Guido H. Stempel III
Stamps Howard News Service

A new conflict with Iraq would be likely to go down as one of America's less-popular wars.

Americans still relish the country's superpower status and support the 1.4 million-member military. But they fear that enemies will attack the United States in the coming decade, according to a survey of 1,001 adults conducted by Scripps Howard News Service and Ohio University.

The poll found that a second Iraqi war would be less popular than the major military engagements in U.S. history. The country's conflicts with Vietnam, Korea, Mexico and Spain are even less popular.

"When we look at the Vietnam War or even at the Spanish-American War, there is less confidence and support for what are perceived as foreign engagements that do not directly pertain to America's

Please see POLL, page A14

U.S., Russia near deal to ship uranium to Y-12

By Frank Munger
News-Sentinel senior writer

OAK RIDGE — If a U.S.-Russian deal is completed as expected early next year, the Y-12 National Security Complex will begin receiving regular shipments of highly enriched uranium from Russia.

The nuclear material would be used to fuel several research reactors in the United States, including the High Flux Isotope Reactor at Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

The proposal calls for the purchase of 250 kilograms — about 550 pounds — a year for up to 10 years, according to Bill Brumley, the federal manager at Y-12. The

price tag is still being negotiated, he said.

Brumley said officials hope that a government-to-government agreement will be reached in December, followed by a contract signing in February.

"Our target is to have delivery of the first shipments in May," Brumley said.

Y-12 personnel have already made one trip to Russia to prepare for the shipments, he said. The project is part of an international effort to reduce the risk of weapons-usable materials getting into the hands of terrorists or others seeking a nuclear capability.

Please see URANIUM, page A15

'HE WAS THERE'



The Rev. Anthony Pemberton and his wife, Michelle, of the New Life Apostolic Church survey the tornado-damaged second floor of the church. On Nov. 10, the Mossy Grove, Tenn., church was near the center of the hardest-hit area of the tornado but did not fall. "It was like the Lord wrapped his arms around us," said parishioner Jody Summers.

Mossy Grove parishioners credit God with saving their lives

By Jeannine F. Hunter
News-Sentinel staff writer

MOSSY GROVE, Tenn.

Sermons, spirituals and sacred texts give it voice: In the midst of a storm, there is peace.

Peace abided in the sanctuary of New Life Apostolic Church as pandemonium abounded outside the church last Sunday during the evening worship service.

This spiritual home to close to 100 people was battered by a tornado, one of 13 reported to have hit Tennessee that day. The Mossy Grove church was near the center of Tennessee's hardest-hit section — a five-mile stretch of Morgan County between Lone and Little Brushy mountains.

"Honest to God, when my husband said for everyone to worship God — you may not believe me — but as we praised Him, there was no doubt that He was there," said Michelle Pemberton, whose uncle, the late Jack Solomon, established the church in 1975. "There is an initial fear, but then I began to pray for God's will to be done and if it was meant for me to go home then, then I was ready."

As the wind roared above and around the Pentecostal church, 80 people inside prayed.

Please see CHURCH, page A10



Joe M. Albaugh, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, talks with Linda Hester and members of her church as they sit on the front steps of her home, which was demolished by a tornado that struck the Mossy Grove community in Morgan County. Albaugh on Wednesday joined Gov. Don Sundquist on a tour of communities hardest hit by last weekend's storms.

INSIDE

- A lack of storm sirens contributed to Mossy Grove tragedy / A11
- Sam Vanable tells of one man's blissful ignorance of the storms / B1
- Ina Hughs describes the utter destruction in Mossy Grove / E1

Lions and tigers and \$500-a-day fines, oh my

Arkansas cats find haven in Kingston

By The Associated Press

QUITMAN, Ark. — Nearly all the big cats from a Quitman property should be resettled in their new home in Tennessee by early this week.

Fifty-one cats are being moved to Tigerhaven Inc., a nonprofit sanctuary for exotic cats in Kingston. The remaining four should be there by Tuesday, said Tigerhaven's Ken Roberts.

An ordinance the county Quorum Court passed prohibits "the possession, maintenance or confinement of innately wild, non-domestic animals, nonhuman primates, and venomous reptiles."

Scott Smith, vice president of Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge near Eureka Springs, Ark., had said the refuge would take all of the cats if it could raise enough money to move and house them, but welcomed Tigerhaven's

"We turned down at least 50 cats last month who needed rescuing in other states. We decided to take Henning's because we were afraid his cats were going to be put down."

— Tigerhaven's Ken Roberts

"We turned down at least 50 cats last month who needed rescuing in other states," Roberts said. "We decided to take Henning's because we were afraid his cats were going to be put down. I mean, what are you going to do when you're facing a \$500-a-day fine?"

required of 2005, state officials said. At Tigerhaven, the cats stay in large outdoor, grassy areas, but have indoor facilities in case of bad weather. Roberts said the sanctuary even has activities to keep the cats from getting bored, such as toys, hiding meat for them to find

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WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy and windy with a flurry. High 42.

Tonight: Cool with a moonlit sky. Low 29.

DETAILS, B10

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Church

Continued from page A1

Members said they dove under pews. Parents clutched their children and huddled underneath.

Ushers in the aisles and singers in the choir loft stopped singing and joined their families.

"It was like the Lord wrapped his arms around us," said Jody Summers, 40, as she swept a portion of the vestibule Thursday afternoon.

After an evening of praise songs, sermons and prayer Sunday, members heard commotion outside their two-story church.

Inside the sanctuary, everyone stared at the Rev. Anthony Pemberton, gauging his body language as a cue to their actions and thoughts.

Silently, Pemberton faced them with racing thoughts. "When the wind was blowing it sounded like the train, and I said to myself, 'Lord, take it on up over us,'" he recalled as he stood in debris in the sanctuary. "But the building began to shake and in an instant, what goes through my mind is, 'Are you going to destroy the building, Lord? Will we die? But I began to thank Him, and I told the people, 'We must pray.'"

Ceiling tiles above the front and center of the sanctuary were intact Thursday while others on the perimeter of the sanctuary were waterlogged. During the service, members said they buckled and dipped up and down like a raging sea.

The state fire marshal gave limited access for members to enter and assess the damage, though they are not permitted to use the building. Since mid-week, the pastor, church members and volunteers cleared as much as they could. Glass, police tape and siding littered the vestibule where exposed chunks of the roof were torn away. The vestibule was bright — the sun pouring in from the exposed roof enhancing light from a still hanging, barely touched chandelier.

"There were 80 of us in here, and not a one of us got a scratch," Summers said. "It's not possible to walk in here and not believe in God."



News-Sentinel photo by J. Miles Cary

Bethany Pemberton talks with her father, the Rev. Anthony Pemberton, in the foyer of the New Life Apostolic Church. On Nov. 10 the church in Morgan County was battered by a tornado.

Outside, church member Jeremy Biles, 21, unloaded tools from the back of a truck.

He approached fellow church members and volunteers who cleaned the church and nearby fellowship hall. "We constructed it with specifications used in Florida," said Biles' father, Kenneth Biles, 47, owner of K.T. Construction. "I drew up the plans to it. We had fund-raisers over the last 10 years to save the money." He stepped over debris and looked

down. "That floor tile, I placed each one right there," he said. On the gravel parking space in front of the damaged building sat trucks from Knoxville television stations and volunteers from the Red Cross, Boone, N.C.-based Samaritan's Purse and Asheville, N.C.-based Heart With Hands disaster relief agency. Volunteers offered meals to workers, police and church members as they crisscrossed the area. On the road, law enforcers from

throughout the region including the Loudon County Sheriff's Department, helped direct traffic. Onlookers drove slowly past, gaping at the scene of smashed barns, toppled roofs and debris — from billowy yellow pink insulation to clothing to furniture and personal effects — strewn everywhere. About 20 feet behind the church, two large century-old, trees were uprooted, showing root systems taller and wider than a mobile home.

"Look across the street and see everything knocked down, and then those trees behind us torn from the ground," Pemberton said pointing at the felled trees and turning in the direction of bulldozers across the highway. "People lost their lives, property was destroyed, and we knew we were going to die but we still praised God. ... If you meet someone who doesn't believe in God, tell 'em to come see me."

Jeanine E. Hunter may be reached at 865-342-8324 or hunter@news.com.

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