

KICKOFF

National soccer team to play first N.C. exhibition in Triad Sports, B4



EXOTIC FRUIT

You could eat it — if only you knew how Flair, C1

Weather forecast for Greensboro, NC: Cloudy today with a good chance of rain, high in mid-70s. Tuesday: High, 85; low, 65.

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C 25 Cents

COLUMN ONE

Crayola payola offered after colors canceled

EASTON, Pa. — Lemon yellow lovers paled and raw umber enthusiasts took umbrage. Despite good-natured protests, Crayola retired those and six other colors Tuesday, saying it needed to appeal to a new generation of kids weaned on flashy video games and color television. Gone forever from the familiar 64-crayon box are blue gray, green blue, lemon yellow, maize, orange red, orange yellow, raw umber and violet blue. Now when people open the box with the sharpener in the back, they find cerulean, dandelion, fuchsia, jungle green, royal purple, teal blue, vivid tangerine and wild strawberry. A dozen people picketed during a ceremony unveiling eight new shades. Some carried signs reading "Binney & Smith, America Takes Umbrage" and "Indians Call It Maize, We Call It Gone." The demonstrators were invited to tour the factory, have a slice of cake and take home a souvenir box of crayons, a sort of Crayola payola.

Valued patient gets a deal

GLENWOOD SPRINGS, Colo. — Do all things get cheaper by the dozen — even children? Things are starting out that way for Richard and Stephen Keeler. Valley View Hospital, where Vicki Keeler had delivered six of her most recent children, provided its services free when she went there for her 12th. The child, Breanne Marie, was born in July. "I thought it would be nice to do something for us much over the years by having their children here," said John Johnson, the hospital administrator.

Sour forecasts ruin profits

BOSTON — Forecasting weather is an imprecise science, at best, but the chance that people might heed a bleak forecast that doesn't come true has some Massachusetts restaurant operators up in arms. All too often, they say, a television weather forecaster will predict rain or snow and instead the sun will shine over empty tables at their restaurants. While many people would like more detail in the forecasts, and a warning of even a chance of rain or snow that might affect their lives, some people in the restaurant business have mounted a campaign to get television prognosticators to tone down their predictions. The Massachusetts Restaurant Association has formed a "weather task force," which aims to educate meteorologists out of the way their nightly forecasts can affect business. "We're not asking them to say the weather's always going to be nice," said Cindy Eid, public affairs coordinator for the restaurant group. "We're looking for some responsibility on their part."

Obscenity ruling sticks

MARIETTA, Ga. — A Georgia judge has upheld a jury's ruling that the bumper sticker "Sh-- Happens" is obscene. "I guess this means we get to argue the dirty bumper sticker in the Supreme Court," said Michael Hauptman, James Cunningham's attorney. Cunningham was arrested in June 1989 after a Smyrna police officer spotted the sticker on his 1976 Dodge van. A jury in March convicted Cunningham of violating the state's obscenity law, and the judge fined the construction worker the maximum under the law — \$100. It was his second conviction under the statute. In May 1989, Cunningham pleaded guilty to having the sticker on his van and paid a \$35 fine. — From Wire Reports

Index table with categories: Bridge, Business, Classified, Comics, Crossword, Editorials, Flair, Hot Line, Landers, Obituaries, Sports, Television, Weather.

How to Reach Us: Circulation, Classified Advertising, News, Sports Scores, Classified Advertising.

Today's Chuckle: Some people eat like a horse. Some would eat like cows, but don't have the stomach for it.

U.S. sends troops to bolster Saudis

Bush urged to cap surge in oil prices

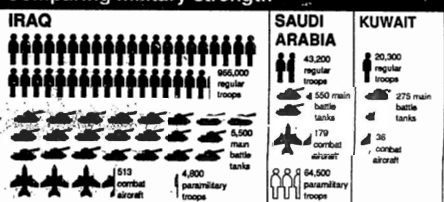
By STEVEN KOMAROW The Associated Press WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats charged Tuesday that oil companies are engaging in price-gouging and exhorted President Bush to stop it. "Someone is making a killing," Sen. John Kerry exclaimed at one of three hastily arranged public hearings on sharp increases in U.S. fuel prices after Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. Charles J. Di Bona, president of the American Petroleum Institute, vehemently denied the accusation. Critics of the oil industry are taking "a naive, one-sided view of how markets work," he said. U.S. oil companies had no choice but to pass on to consumers the higher cost of oil on the world market, Di Bona maintained, saying prices would drop if world prices fall. But angry members of Congress said Bush should jawbone industry leaders for price relief — in much the same way President John F. Kennedy did with the steel industry. Bush also was urged to tap the government's crude oil reserve. The aim would be to cushion American consumers against further economic repercussions from Mideast hostilities. Oil companies have raised gasoline prices by as much as 25 cents a gallon since Iraqi President Saddam Hussein sent his forces into neighboring Kuwait last week. Company executives said their prices are the result of increases in crude oil costs from \$16 a barrel in July to \$27 after the invasion. The American Automobile Association reported Tuesday that prices for self-service unleaded gas increased an average of 1.5 cents per gallon overnight and have averaged 12.6 cents higher than they were Aug. 1. The average is now \$1.20 per gallon, the highest since 1985, said the AAA, which checked 1,400 service stations nationwide. Tuesday's spate of hearings was an unusual occurrence during a congressional recess. But lawmakers were anxious to vent constituents' anger over price hikes. They were joined in this high-profile public interrogation by officials of state and local governments and consumer groups. Despite oil industry denials of price-gouging, several witnesses maintained, the evidence was otherwise. They complained that

- Gasoline prices hit a five-year high — A10
U.S. stocks stabilize, Japan market still reeling — A10

Key developments Tuesday in the Mideast



Comparing military strength



Experts: Iraqi leader backed into corner

By MICHAEL WINES New York Times News Service WASHINGTON — Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi leader, unexpectedly faced with a rapid and menacing global response to his invasion of Kuwait, increasingly is being backed into a corner from which his most likely options are to surrender or to lash out militarily, private and government experts on the Middle East said Tuesday. Those experts said that in the next several days he may well de-

cide whether to choose war, striking at Saudi Arabia in an attempt to capture or destroy oil fields on which the Western economies rely, or withdraw his forces into Iraq, perhaps through a face-saving negotiated agreement. Saddam also could choose to remain entrenched in Kuwait and hope that an international ban on trade with Iraq, imposed Monday by the United Nations, will crumble. But Saudi Arabia's decision to increase oil production, offsetting

Saddam



some of the shortage of 4 million barrels a day created by the United Nations embargo, makes that option increasingly unattractive. If Saddam backs down or is defeated, the experts say, he probably cannot long retain his grip on power. "The next 24 to 48 hours are going to tell the story," a government official who is kept informed of developments in the Gulf crisis said Tuesday. "What he's going to do is really

(See Saddam, A5)

Forest Oaks rejected black ACC official

Woman, country club disagree on why

By TAFT WIREBACK Staff Writer Forest Oaks Country Club two years ago rejected the membership application of an assistant commissioner of the Atlantic Coast Conference, the first black woman to hold the office in the ACC. At the same time Forest Oaks approved the application of a white, male assistant ACC commissioner. DeLores Todd, the rejected ACC assistant commissioner, says the club turned her down because of an unwritten policy excluding blacks. The club denies that it discriminates against blacks or other minorities. Forest Oaks' membership policies became an issue after a national controversy over the predominantly white membership of private country clubs that host Professional Golfers Association events, such as the K mart Greater Greensboro Open. The GGO is held annually at Forest Oaks. The controversy started earlier this summer when the founder of Shoal Creek Country Club in Alabama said his club was unlikely to admit black members soon. The PGA Championship is being held at Forest Oaks, near Birmingham, this week. The ensuing uproar sparked a ruling last week by the PGA Tour that clubs must make good-faith efforts to attract black members. Forest Oaks has no black members.

Delores Todd 'What is the use of applying?'

"I think most minorities would look at what has happened to me and think, 'Well, what is the use of applying?'" Todd said. Todd said she applied for Forest Oaks membership under an ACC program in which the club waived initiation fees for conference executives and the ACC paid their monthly dues. "One of the perks of my position was belonging to a country club," said Todd, one of six assistant ACC commissioners. Forest Oaks rejected her shortly

(See Forest Oaks, A6)

Rebel leader Prince Johnson, left, pauses after shooting a Liberian Friday. The victim, a relief worker, and another man that he is handcuffed to were accused of profiting from rice distribution. Seconds later, Johnson shot the wounded man again and killed him. The other man was freed after the U.S. Embassy intervened.

Liberian rebel threatens U.S.

By MICHAEL A. HILTZIK LA Times Wire Service NAIROBI, Kenya — Prince Johnson, one of two rebel leaders besieging the capital of Liberia, threatened Tuesday to attack a detachment of U.S. Marines unless the United States or another foreign country intervenes to halt the Liberian civil war. At the same time, a group of West African countries announced that they will send a joint military force into Liberia in an effort to end the conflict and set up an interim government. There was no indication of when the multinational force would be organized. More hostages were taken Tuesday, raising to 22 the number held by Johnson. The hostages include one American. About 14 to 16 foreigners were seized from a hotel on the outskirts of

(See Liberia, A6)