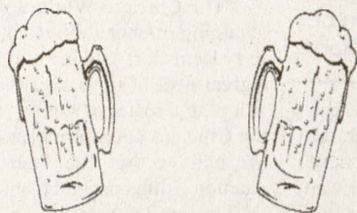


TICKETS GO ON SALE MONDAY 5PM

SUN Feb 13	MON Feb 14	TUES Feb 15	WED Feb 16	THUR Feb 17
9-MID Chem 102 Test Review Williamson		10-MID Phys 202 CH. 20A	10-MID Phys 202 CH. 20B	
2-4PM Math 131	4-6PM Math 131		4-6PM Math 131	4-6PM Math 131
4-6PM Math 142		4-6PM Math 142	6-8PM Math 142	6-8PM Math 142
Noon-2PM Chem 102 Test #1			8-10PM Chem 102 Ch. 17A	8-10PM Chem 102 Ch. 17B
6-8PM Chem 101 Ch. 4A	6-8PM Chem 101 Ch. 4B	6-8PM Chem 101 Test #3 Mawk		
8-10PM Chem 228 Ch. 18	8-10PM Chem 228 Harding/Tiner #1	8-10PM Chem 228 GG/Tiner #2		
10PM-MID Math 151 Part 1	10PM-MID Math 151 Part 2	10PM-MID Math 151 Part 3	10PM-MID Math 151 Part 4	10PM-MID Math 151 Part 5
	6-8PM Gene 301 Part 4	6-8PM Gene 301 Part 5	6-8PM Gene 301 Part 6	
8-10PM Chem 237 Lab	8-10PM Math 152 Part 3	10PM-MID Math 152 Part 4	10PM-MID Math 152 Part 5	

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Hijackers still hold hostages

STANSTED, England (AP) — A flight attendant appeared to be pushed out the back exit of a hijacked Afghan airliner while negotiations over the release of the roughly 150 remaining hostages hit a tense new phase Wednesday, after four crew members escaped out a cockpit window.

The rapport between hostage negotiators and the hijackers remained calm immediately after the escape, but grew worse four hours later at about 3 a.m., when the captors seemed to realize the crew had disappeared, police said.

At that hour, a man was seemingly forced out a back exit and left the plane down stairs, police said. It was unclear if the release was triggered by the hijackers' discovery that some hostages had escaped.

It was believed that 151 people including 21 children remained aboard the aircraft, which was hijacked Sunday.

"What we are not able to determine is whether any of the remaining crew on board or any of the passengers are able to fly this aircraft," said John Broughton, an assistant chief constable of Essex County police.

Police confirmed that the four men who climbed down a rope ladder from a cockpit window shortly before 11 p.m. Tuesday were Afghan crew members — the captain, second captain, first officer and flight engineer. They ran away from the plane toward a police containment area.

"Now we must set about restoring the trust that we had and developing a rapport again."

— John Broughton
Assistant chief constable

"Inevitably, the escape of these men did upset the calm atmosphere for a time and we have been working to restore that calm," said Joe Edwards, another assistant chief constable. "You can imagine their reactions when they discovered that the flight crew had gone."

The man apparently pushed out the back of the plane turned out to be a flight attendant. He was given medical attention for a graze on his forehead and was debriefed by police at Stansted Airport, north of London, Edwards said.

"After that, perhaps understandably things went quiet. They stopped talking to us for about an hour," Edwards said. "We made contact again shortly before 6 a.m. because we needed resupply fuel to the generator. And that was OK."

He said the tone of negotiations improved after that. "We never lost confidence. Now we must set about restoring the trust that we had and developing a rapport again," Broughton said. "Obviously it is going to be tense and difficult."

Four men, who were presumed to be hijackers, appeared briefly on the ground at the rear of the plane during the morning to collect fresh supplies.

The hijackers' demands were unclear. Speculation ranged from an elaborate play for political asylum to a bid to win the release of Ismail Khan, a former regional governor in Afghanistan who has been held since 1997 by the country's ruling Taliban movement.

Broughton said the hijackers had made no "formal demands," other than requests for food, water and other comfort items.

The Ariana Airlines Boeing 727 had been headed to the northern city of Mazar-e-Sharif from the Afghan capital, Kabul, when it was seized early Sunday.

It then meandered across the former Soviet Union, stopping in Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia before arriving at Stansted early Monday.

In Kabul, an Ariana employee said today that Afghanistan's ruling Taliban had arrested several airline officials responsible for security checks on the hijacked flight. An Interior Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said several Ariana employees were questioned but were allowed to go back to work.

During two days of delicate negotiations, police have expressed optimism about the safe release of the hostages remaining — including 21 children.

According to some of the 22 passengers released before the plane landed at Stansted, the hijackers numbered between six and 10 and were armed with pistols, grenades and daggers.

"We will be asking the crew about conditions on board and about how many hijackers are on board," Edwards said.

A future with a Harley?



Business majors wait in line to talk to the Harley Davidson recruiters Wednesday at the Business Career Fair in the Wehner Building.

Russians search for rebel hundreds killed, injured village shellings decrease

URUS-MARTAN, Russia (AP) — Russian planes and artillery bombarded suspected rebel hideouts in Chechnya's mountains Wednesday, while militants reportedly staged several overnight attacks in Russian-controlled territory.

Russian shelling of three southwestern villages, where rebels were believed to be hiding after escaping the capital Grozny last week, eased. But automatic gunfire was heard through the night in the regional center of Achkhoi-Martan, in southwestern Chechnya.

Villagers in Shaami-Yurt, Katyr-Yurt and Gekhi-Chu reported heavy civilian casualties, with hundreds of people killed or wounded, and damage to close to three-quarters of the houses.

"We are innocent, why are you killing us?" one woman shouted at a passing Russian military truck Wednesday.

Refugees were streaming out of the villages as Russian forces moved in today to search for Chechen fighters. Four Russian helicopter gunships, flying in pairs, were making constant circles over the area.

Overnight, small groups of rebels attacked federal posts in two Russian-controlled districts in the southwest, Achkhoi-Martan and Urus-Martan, as well as in the eastern town of Argun, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported. The military reported no casualties in the firefights, which could not be independently confirmed.

In another Russian-controlled town, Gudermes, police confiscated 550 pounds of plastic explosives that were being stored in a private house, the Interfax news agency reported. It said police had also discovered a large collection of Islamic extremist literature.

Russian airplanes and helicopter gunships flew 110 combat missions over the past 24 hours, the military said today. The targets included Shaami-Yurt and Katyr-Yurt, as well as the Argun and Vedeno gorges leading to the southern mountains. The rebels use the gorges as supply routes and have bases hidden along the snowy slopes.

The military claimed Wednesday to have block-

aded more than 3,000 rebels in the Argun region, but said the militants had not succeeded in breaking the blockade, Interfax said.

The Russians have been trying to keep who fled Grozny last week from reaching the region, but said the militants had not succeeded in breaking the blockade, Interfax said.

The federal command said that some 300 still remained in Grozny, though it claims Chechen forces are in full control of the city. Hundreds of machine-gun fire and artillery could be heard in Grozny on Tuesday night, with occasional arching into the sky. Black plumes of smoke over the city following Russian artillery strikes on oil refineries.

"...after the completion of operations in Grozny, the troops will rest...and increase their efforts in the direction of the mountains."

— Igor Sergeev
Russian defense minister

als, tents and power generators to the Urus-Martan district, in southwestern Chechnya, the military said today, according to ITAR-Tass.

Defense Minister Igor Sergeev told reporters in Moscow that the military would soon start a serious offensive in the southern mountains, he reported.

He was quoted as saying that "after the completion of operations in Grozny, the troops will rest for a couple of days, service their weapons and military equipment, and increase their efforts in the direction of the mountains."

Russia's campaign in Chechnya began in September. It came after militants from Chechnya invaded the neighboring republic of Dagestan. Explosions blamed on Chechens tore through apartment buildings in Russia.

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