

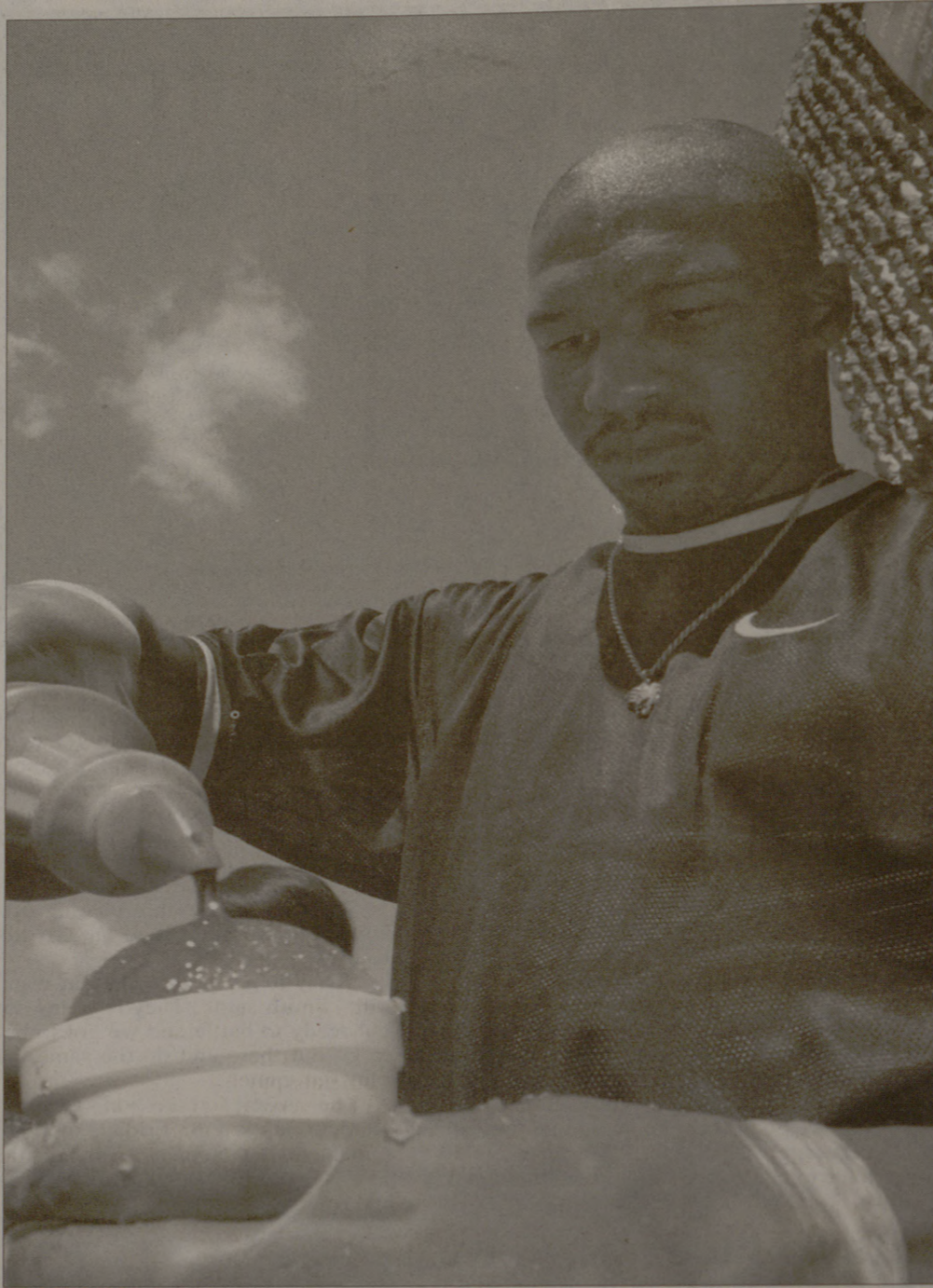
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Radio news from the newsroom of
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Snowball's chance



Ken Wycoff, a junior landscape architecture major, serves up a free blueberry sno-cone outside the MSC on Thursday. Wycoff is the director of advisers for MEDALS 2003, a program for high school students sponsored by Multicultural Services.

JP BEATO III • THE BATTALION

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nine charged so far in fatal Milwaukee child-mob beating

MILWAUKEE (AP) — One boy said he does not attend school because his mother does not know where to send him. Another was arrested for burglary before he was 10. His father is dead and, at 14, he is father himself. A third in the mob of boys accused of beating a man to death with broomsticks, shoes and poles said he took part because he didn't want anyone calling him scared. Seven were charged as adults Thursday with first-degree reckless homicide. The youngest of those held, a 10-year-old, was charged as a juvenile with part to the crime of reckless homicide. In the days since Sunday's beating, the statements from some of the boys have shed light on the group.

Martha Stewart resigns from stock exchange board

NEW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart, under federal investigation on suspicion of insider trading, resigned Thursday from the board of directors of the New York Stock Exchange. "I did not want the media attention currently surrounding me to distract from the important work of the NYSE and thus felt it was appropriate to resign," Stewart said in a statement Thursday. Earlier in the day, she sent a letter of resignation to NYSE chairman and chief executive Dick Grass before the exchange's board meeting. The Justice Department is investigating Stewart's sale of nearly 4,000 shares of ImClone Systems just before the stock plummeted last December on bad news about the company's highly touted

Prosecutors fight attempt to remove al-Qaida reference

BOSTON (AP) — Prosecutors fought Richard C. Reid's attempt to remove references to al-Qaida training from his indictment Thursday, a day before he was expected to plead guilty to trying to blow up an airliner with explosives in his shoes. In court documents filed late Thursday, prosecutors said allegations of Reid's involvement with the terrorist network are supported by witnesses "with personal knowledge of Reid's presence at al-Qaida training camps" and "corroborating circumstantial evidence." Reid, a 29-year-old British citizen who converted to Islam, is charged with attempted murder and seven other charges in the incident aboard a Paris-to-Miami flight on Dec. 22. Prosecutors said they oppose Reid's request that U.S. District Judge William Young strike the al-Qaida references from his indictment because the alleged training "is relevant to knowledge, motive, intent, planning and premeditation."

Busboy admits stealing identities of America's rich

NEW YORK (AP) — A restaurant busboy pleaded guilty Thursday to stealing the identities of more than 200 wealthy American celebrities and executives in a bid to loot their bank accounts. But he told the court he acted out of a sick compulsion, not greed. "I wish I could say that this was all about money, then I'd have a reason to explain why I've ruined my life," Abraham Abdallah said in federal court. Prosecutors say the Brooklyn busboy used the Internet and a dog-eared copy of Forbes magazine with an article on "The 400 Richest People in America" to compile the Social Security numbers, home addresses and birth dates of 217 CEOs, celebrities and tycoons. Prosecutors said he gained access to credit card accounts and attempted to transfer millions of dollars from such figures as Steven Spielberg, Warren Buffett and Martha Stewart.

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