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Thursday, June 5, 2003

Full Moon by R. DeLuna



Traffic

Continued from page 1

patrolman, said he's interested in safe driving in Bryan-College Station because the traffic is unique here.

"Bryan-College Station is a mixture of advanced drivers and beginning drivers," he said.

He said younger drivers should be more aware of other drivers, because they often have their reactions on what they think is going to happen.

Since 1936, state laws say that you must signal 100 feet in front of an intersection. In modern traffic that's hardly ever the case, he said.

"It's imperative to signal a bit more in advance so other people can base their reactions on what you're doing," Pitts said.

Pitts taught defensive driving in the Memorial Student Center from 1991 to 1994.

Lt. Rodney Sigler, College Station Police Department public information officer, said the department uses education and enforcement to curtail bad driving habits.

Sigler said CSPD sends literature to Fish Camp each summer to warn incoming freshmen of breaking traffic laws.

"Drivers need to obey the law and stop for red lights," Sigler said. "Slow down and don't speed."

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#4 "When you can't even trust those pooping birds." By I. Flores



Troops

Continued from page 1

the attackers were coordinating their efforts.

"These are localized, decentralized attacks by those who were part of the old regime. I don't see a national effort across Iraq," McKiernan said Wednesday. "I don't see any pattern of centralized command and control over these incidents."

He said the spate of attacks signifies a last-ditch effort by Saddam's supporters — not a gathering resistance movement.

"I see it as the completion of the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime," McKiernan said at a news conference in Baghdad. "They don't want a democratic Iraq to succeed because they don't have a role in it."

In Fallujah and the neighboring cities of Ramadi and Habaniyah, the streets were quiet Wednesday as soldiers from the 3rd Infantry Division went on patrol. Residents went about their business, passing American forces without incident.

The road between Baghdad and Fallujah was crowded with U.S. Army trucks moving west.

Anger in Fallujah grew in late April, when confrontations between residents and American forces left 18 Iraqis dead and at least 78 wounded. Residents accuse U.S. troops of using excessive force and of not respecting Islamic practices.

As troops moved into Fallujah, other American infantrymen immediately began setting up shop at Habaniyah Air Base, built by the British in the early 1950s.

"I see it as the completion of the removal of Saddam Hussein's regime."

— David McKiernan
commander of U.S. ground troops in Iraq

was located northeast of Fallujah, and many military-age men in the cities, some in very good physical condition, have scowled or made obscene gestures toward U.S. troops.

"You can tell who used to be in the military," said Capt. Chris Carter, commander of A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment, which is occupying the air base.

At dawn Wednesday, the 2nd Brigade loaded 88 Abrams tanks and 44 Bradley Fighting Vehicles onto cargo trucks and dropped them off outside the two cities. The soldiers then drove the combat vehicles to their new positions and began establishing their bases.

There wasn't much to work with.

Most of the buildings had been looted after Iraqi troops abandoned the base, with almost everything that could be removed — including light switches and door frames — stolen.

The troops were greeted by curious shepherds, grazing sheep and goats on the base grounds. The soldiers began cleaning the old tin-roofed barracks to use themselves.

"It won't be that bad, once we get some fans blowing through here," Carter said.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Senate to hear FCC testimony on media

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers want the Federal Communications Commission to justify its decision to broadly relax decades-old media ownership restrictions, particularly a change that allows companies to own television stations reaching nearly half the nation's viewers.

The Republican-controlled FCC voted on Monday to ease regulations governing how many newspapers and TV and radio stations a company can own and in what combinations.

The party-line vote also allowed individual companies to own more TV stations in some cities and largely ended a ban on one company owning a newspaper and a broadcast station in a community.

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Mideast

Continued from page 1

notably the collapse of an initiative by Bill Clinton at the end of his presidency.

"I'm the master of low expectations," Bush said. "We accomplished what I hoped we'd accomplish."

The summit, marking Bush's biggest step into Mideast peacemaking, revived optimism in a region seething with suspicion and skepticism aggravated by the U.S.-led war against Iraq.

Sharon's government already had accepted the peace plan in principle despite deep reservations, and Abbas already had pledged to crack down on violence.

Bush welcomed Sharon's public commitment that "we will immediately begin to remove unauthorized outposts," a painful step for the prime minister since he is an architect of Jewish settlement expansion in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The president, flying to Qatar later, told reporters, "He said he would dismantle them. We now expect him to dismantle them."

The issue of Israeli outposts and settlements is

one of the most divisive points between Israel and the Palestinians. As for whether Sharon's promise went far enough, Secretary of State Colin Powell said, "It's a good start. It will show to the Palestinian people and to the world that Israel is prepared to do things that they were not prepared to do before this meeting."

Without their government's approval, Israeli settlers have placed trailers or tents on hilltops, some next to existing settlements, in Palestinian areas. The unauthorized outposts intensified the Palestinians' conflict with Israel during which more than 750 Israelis have died, including about 350 from suicide bombings. During the same period, more than 2,350 Palestinians have been killed.

Abbas spoke of the suffering of the Palestinians at the hands of Israel but went on to say, "We do not ignore the suffering of the Jews throughout history. It is time to bring all this suffering to an end."

"Some amazing things were said," Bush remarked later. "The prime minister of the Palestinian Authority talked about the suffering of the Jewish people. The prime minister of Israel talked about a Palestinian state."

House may pass ban on partial abortions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Culminating an eight-year struggle, congressional opponents of an abortion procedure they call partial birth abortion are on the verge of passing a law banning doctors from using it.

The House on Wednesday expected to approve the ban by a comfortable margin. A few minor differences with a Senate-passed bill are worked out, the legislation would go to President George W. Bush, who is ready to sign it into law.

Abortion rights groups say they would immediately go to court to challenge the law, which would be the first to prohibit a certain abortion procedure since the 1973 Supreme Court decision establishing the right to choose an abortion.

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THE BATTALION

True Brown
Editor in Chief

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