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Saddam's sons killed in U.S. raid

By Sarmad Jalal
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOSUL, Iraq — Saddam Hussein's sons Odai and Qusai died in a blaze of gunfire and rockets Tuesday when U.S. forces, acting on a tip from an Iraqi informant, stormed a palatial villa in northern Iraq. The U.S. military claimed their deaths will blunt Iraqi resistance to the American occupation.

The six-hour raid was the most successful American operation since the war and comes as a much-needed tonic for U.S. troops, who recently have suffered a dozen attacks a day by Saddam loyalists and other anti-American groups.

News of the sons' deaths touched off celebratory gunfire in Baghdad and at least one southern city. But Lt. Paul Bremer, Iraq's top civilian administrator, cautioned "there will be some people who will be pretty unhappy that we killed these two guys."

Four coalition soldiers were wounded and two other Iraqis were killed in the raid, but Saddam was not among them. The house belonged to Nawaf al-Zaydan Muhammad, a Saddam cousin and tribal leader in the region.

"We are certain that Odai and Qusai were killed today," Lt. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez told reporters in Baghdad. "The bodies were in such a

condition where you could identify them."

The identifying marks included Odai's scars from a 1996 assassination attempt, a senior defense official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The daily attacks on U.S. occupation troops are thought to be the work of former military officers and Baath Party leaders loyal to Saddam and his family — especially the sons, who played primary roles in the military and feared security services.

"Outstanding," said 1st Lt. Greg Wilson, 33, with the Florida Army National Guard in Baghdad. He clapped his hands and said: "One step closer to getting home."

Both Odai (pronounced oh-DEYE) and Qusai (pronounced koh-SEYE) ranked second only to their father in the deposed regime. They were Nos. 2 and 3 on the U.S. list of 55 top former Iraqi officials wanted by Washington. The United States had offered a \$25 million reward for information leading to Saddam's capture and \$15 million each for his sons.

The White House applauded the action.

"Over the period of many years, these two individuals were responsible for countless atrocities committed against the Iraqi people and they can

U.S. forces killed Saddam's sons

Saddam Hussein's sons Qusai and Odai were killed in a massive firefight in Mosul on Tuesday when U.S. forces surrounded and then stormed a palatial villa. The sons were Nos. 2 and 3 on the U.S. list of 55 most-wanted Iraqi officials.

Qusai Saddam Hussein
Saddam's second oldest son, 37, headed the country's intelligence and security services, his father's personal security force and the elite Republican Guard.

Odai Saddam Hussein
Saddam's eldest son, 39, controlled propaganda in Iraq and allegedly oversaw the torture of athletes who failed to perform.

- Head of the paramilitary Fedayeen Saddam, and helped eliminate opponents
- Iraqi allies say he murdered at will and tortured with zeal
- Routinely ordered his guards to snatch young women off the street so he could rape them
- London-based human-rights group claim he ordered prisoners to be dropped into acid baths as punishment
- Headed the Iraqi Olympic Committee which was accused of torturing and jailing athletes
- Ran Iraq's most popular newspaper and Youth TV channel

SOURCE: Associated Press

Aggie study hall



Senior construction science major Sarah Henricksen studies for her finance class at the Jack K. Williams Administration building Tuesday afternoon. Students often study in the shaded outdoor hallways of the Administration building.

Regents to weigh tuition increase

By Jodi Rogers
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Board of Regents will vote on whether to increase tuition by \$9 per credit hour Thursday and Friday at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

The board will also receive input from Student Body President Matt Josefy and a representative for A&M President Robert M. Gates on the tuition hikes.

The proposed tuition increase would take effect January 2004. Gates said tuition would again increase in the fall of 2004 because the University wants to invest more in its faculty.

Bob Wright, A&M System spokesman, said Gates' representative will ask the board for approval of the tuition increases.

"All they're going to do is basically present it to the Board, just like they presented it to the students. Then (the board will) ask questions, and then they'll vote on it," he said.

BOARD — of — REGENTS

Meeting Thursday and Friday

Will discuss:
Proposed \$9 per credit hour tuition increase

Authorization for A&M President Robert M. Gates to sign an agreement to transfer the Athletic Ticket Office operations to the 12th Man Foundation

RUBEN DELUNA • THE BATTALION
SOURCE: TEXAS A&M SYSTEM

Wright said he is unsure of how the board will vote.

"You never know with the board. I couldn't tell you one way or the other," he said.

Joey Perot, a senior speech communication major, said he looks at the tuition increase like an investment.

"To get a quality education from a university like A&M, when afterward you know how much that

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Dairy Center still slated for closure

By C.E. Walters
THE BATTALION

The Dairy Science Center, which Texas A&M officials announced would close in February, is still semi-functional, said J.W. McNeill, associate head of extension for the animal science department.

Although cow milking has ceased, the heifer development program is still active, McNeill said.

McNeill said there was nothing else he could have done to change the administrators minds.

"(The decision to close) was largely economic driven," he said.

McNeill said the program employed two full-time employees and 15 part-time student workers.

In a memo, McNeill said all laid-off employees who asked for jobs would receive them. So far, two or three former employees have requested work and have been found new jobs, he said.

Cody Martindale, a former employee of the department and a junior agricultural development major, helped organize a petition to keep the department open. Martindale said the petition was signed by more than 6,000 people, including students, former students and dairy industry employees.

The petition was presented to administration officials including A&M President Robert M. Gates.

"(Gates) appreciated support for the program and said he trusts the administration below him to make the decision," Martindale said.

Waco police continue hunt for missing player's body

By Angela K. Brown
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WACO, Texas — Law enforcement officials searched a gravel pit near the Brazos River Tuesday for the body of missing Baylor basketball player Patrick Dennehy.

Waco police Sgt. Ryan Holt said no body had been found by Tuesday afternoon. Asked if he thought a discovery would be made soon, he said, "For the family of Mr. Dennehy, we certainly hope so."

Former teammate and roommate Carlton Dotson, 21, was charged Monday night with murder after he confessed to FBI agents that he shot Dennehy in the head "because Patrick had tried to shoot him," an arrest warrant released Tuesday said.

"Mr. Dotson provided specific information about the murder of Mr. Dennehy that would lead us to believe he committed the murder," Holt said, declining to release more details.

Holt said it's early in the investigation, and he wouldn't rule out any motive.

Dennehy, 21, was last seen on campus on June 12; his family reported him missing on June 19. The next day, Waco police said Delaware police told them a police informant said Dotson told someone he shot Dennehy in the head after the two argued.

Dotson was seen "during the late evening" on June 12 in Sulphur Springs, Texas, the hometown of his estranged wife, driving Dennehy's Chevrolet Tahoe, and told someone he planned to go to Maryland, the warrant said.

Dennehy's Tahoe was found abandoned, without license plates, in a Virginia Beach,

Va., mall parking lot on June 25.

About a month later, Waco investigators learned that Dotson contacted authorities in Maryland and requested to speak with FBI agents about Dennehy's disappearance. He "made this telephone call voluntarily of his own free will," the warrant said.

"Investigators learned from FBI agents in Maryland that Carlton Dotson confessed to shooting Patrick Dennehy," the warrant said.

Dotson attorney Grady Irvin said Tuesday afternoon the he had not spoken to Dotson since his arrest.

"I don't think he's in a mental state right now to be speaking to anyone in any lucid fashion," Irvin said.

Irvin said he would examine the arrest warrant and see if any comments that Dotson made in recent weeks were included.

"If it is, there is a significant likelihood that his competency to make those statements are in question," he said.

The search for Dennehy's body began Monday night after Dotson spent about two hours with authorities in Maryland, where Dotson lives in the small coastal town of Hurlock.

Waco investigators, some on horseback, searched Tuesday the river banks and a gravel pit surrounded by pastures, tall grass and sunflowers just miles from the Baptist-affiliated university where Dotson and Dennehy both were on the basketball team last season.

Baylor basketball coach Dave Bliss gave a brief statement Tuesday, saying the team and university were "shaken by the events that have occurred."

"We keep hoping this isn't true. It seems unreal, especially that a 21-year-old who always wore that big smile and couldn't wait for the season to begin might be gone," Bliss

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DENNEHY

Lynch returns home to West Virginia

By Allison Barker
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ELIZABETH, W.Va. — A delicate-looking Jessica Lynch returned home in a wheelchair Tuesday to a flag-waving, red-white-and-blue celebration that was pure small-town America, modestly saying in her first public appearance since her rescue: "It's great to be home."

"I'd like to say thank you to everyone who helped and prayed for my return," the 20-year-old former POW said in a girlish voice.

Lynch received a standing ovation as she entered a media tent in a wheelchair and made a brief statement with a large American flag as a backdrop. She wore a beret and a crisp Army dress uniform adorned with medals awarded Monday, including the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart.

The Army supply clerk appeared

nervous at first but seemed to gain confidence as she went on, proudly saying she had read "thousands of stories" recounting that when she was rescued, she told U.S. commandos that she was an American soldier.

"Those stories were right. Those were my words. I'm an American soldier, too," she declared.

Afterward, she was moved to a red convertible for a motorcade through Elizabeth and the five-mile trip to her home in Palestine, a community of about 300. About 2,000 people lined the route.

Lynch said that for a long time, she did not realize that her ordeal had captured the hearts of millions around the globe. "I read thousands of letters, many of them from children, who offered mes-

sages of hope and faith," she said.

Lynch's 507th Maintenance Company convoy, based at Fort Bliss, Texas, near El Paso, was ambushed March 23 near the Iraqi city of Nasiriyah in an attack that killed 11 soldiers. U.S. forces rescued Lynch at a Nasiriyah hospital April 1, while five other captured 507th soldiers, held apart from Lynch, were rescued April 13.

Lynch's rescue made an American hero out of the petite blonde who joined the Army to get an education and become a kindergarten teacher.

Suffering from broken bones and other injuries, the private first class arrived at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in the nation's capital on April 12 and spent more than three months there before she was released Tuesday morning. She arrived in Elizabeth aboard a Black Hawk helicopter, her left foot still in a cast.



LYNCH