



Monday, February 18, 2002

What's Inside

MOVIES - Halle Berry, nominated for best actress for her role in "Monster's Ball," talks about baring it all. **E5**



HEATHER STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

LIFE - Doing your own taxes? TaxCut and TurboTax go head to head in the race to become your new tax software. **H1**

WORLD - The European Union will soon open its doors to up to 6 million Gypsies, Europe's largest ethnic minority. **A12**

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WEATHER

Cloudy, partly cloudy after midnight. High 35, low 20. Map, **B8**

You've been "Enroned"

Enron's failure leads to latest buzzwords

MICHAEL E. YOUNG
The Dallas Morning News

The words surfaced on Wall Street and on the Internet, in the sports pages and even in the nation's normally staid halls of government. We speak of Enron and its variants, of course, the hottest buzzwords in the American lexicon.

Sen. Ernest Hollings of South Carolina talks about an Enron administration in Washington, because of its links with the failed energy giant. Another Democrat, Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota, says he won't let the Republicans "Enron" the American people. And Rep. George Miller of California calls President Bush's spending package "an Enron budget."

That's just the beginning.

Investors who took a beating on Wall Street last year were "Nasdaqed." This year, they've been "Enroned."

When the University of Texas, a chance at the national title within its grasp, lost the Big 12 football championship game to Colorado, one sportswriter called it "a failure of Enronian proportions."

And when Tina Brown's much-hyped Talk magazine failed, one wag described it as "a little Enronish" - grand ambitions that came to naught.

Enron follows other worthies: Wal-Mart and the "Wal-Marting of America," unsuccessful Supreme Court nomi-

SEE ENRONED | **A12**

School Voucher Hearing Begins

Supreme Court will hear Cleveland school voucher case beginning Wednesday

DENNIS WILLARD AND
DOUG OPLINGER
Knight Ridder Newspapers

On Wednesday, the nine justices of the U.S. Supreme Court will focus on Cleveland and the controversial voucher program that lets parents enroll their children in private -- often religious -- schools using

public tax dollars.

Considered the most important case to come before the court this year, it has pro- and anti-voucher groups organized and poised to descend upon the nation's capital.

Demonstrations are planned Wednesday. A series of debates are sched-

uled in the days before and after the oral arguments.

The ruling, expected before the court recesses for summer in early July, will determine whether about 4,500 Cleveland children may return to school in September with a voucher.

The case has broad implications: A ruling against the

state could hinder the voucher movement across the country, while a ruling for the program would give momentum to vouchers and other choice ideas, including charter schools.

"It is significant. The word 'landmark' makes me nervous," said Judith

SEE VOUCHERS | **A12**



PHOTOGRAPH BY TOM PENNINGTON/FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

GARDEZ, AFGHANISTAN - A boy gather propaganda leaflets dropped from a plane last week urging Afghanis to support the new government.

U.S. Officials secretly tour Camp X-Ray

CAROL ROSENBERG
Knight Ridder Newspapers

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, CUBA - Senior Bush administration policymakers have made a stealth inspection of this base, seeking a formula for what to do with the 300 suspected terrorists at the offshore U.S. detention center here.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said last week that he would be briefed, perhaps this week, on proposed guidelines for military tribunals. Once signed by President Bush, military sources say, the guidelines would spell out the venue for the court, and this isolated U.S. Navy base on southeastern Cuba is considered a likely location.

Meantime, sources said this weekend that a senior State Department and White House delegation secretly toured the base Friday.

SEE X-RAY | **A12**

Refugee Program Resumes Slowly

22,000 refugees wait months for U.S. resettlement after Sept. 11

MICHAEL BAZELEY
Knight Ridder Newspapers

SAN JOSE,
CALIFORNIA -

In September, Zahida Palavra was on the top of world, anticipating the imminent arrival from Croatia of the daughter she hadn't seen in two years.

But a wait that was supposed to last days has stretched to four months.

And the Oakland, Calif., mother cries herself to sleep at night, wondering when she will get to hug her 22-year-old daughter and play with grandchildren she has never met.

Palavra's daughter and grandchildren are among 22,000 refugees stuck overseas, stranded after the United States suspended its refugee resettlement program last year in response to

the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Although President Bush has since restarted the program, the suspension created a huge backlog of refugees that aid workers say could take months to unclog.

In the meantime, refugees already in America, such as Palavra, are caught in an agonizing limbo, waiting to hear when their relatives will be able to join them.

The cribs Palavra bought for her two grandsons in the fall sit unused in her three-bedroom apartment. And her daughter, Belmonda Djogic, is suffering through a cold winter with her family in a one-room apartment in Croatia.

"I was really keeping my spirits up through Christmas," said Palavra, 43, who came to the United

SEE REFUGEES | **A12**

Olympic Figure Skating Scoring System Reviewed

President of International Skating Union proposes a simpler, fairer system

KEVIN FEE
Knight Ridder Newspapers

SALT-LAKE CITY -

The tawdry figure-skating scandal that has rocked the Winter Olympics took another twist Monday when the head of the figure skating union proposed a revolutionary point system to

reduce the chance of vote-swapping.

Ottavio Cinquanta, the president of the International Skating Union, revealed sketchy plans for a computer-aided system that, he said, should eliminate the type of controversy that engulfed the pairs competition here.

Under the proposed reform of a judging system, the traditional 6.0 system would be replaced by a far simpler way of grading

jumps, spins, footwork and other elements based on difficulty.

The plan also calls for 14 judges, rather than the current nine, but only the scores from seven of the judges would count. Judges wouldn't know whose marks would be used, limiting the possibility of a repeat of the improprieties that stunned the Salt Lake City Games.

Cinquanta called the proposals "a total revolution." "More importantly, I

promise this system will reduce to a minimum the prospect of bloc judging," he said.

Cinquanta presented the proposals to the ISU's council, and he said there was a "consensus" to approve them. But the reform package must still be approved by the entire ISU, which will meet in June in Japan for its biennial congress.

Currently, skaters start with a base mark of 6.0, SEE SCORING | **D1**



PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRIS WILKINS/DALLAS MORNING NEWS

Canadian figure skating partners David Pelletier (left) and Jamie Sale answer questions during a news conference. They were awarded a gold medal Friday, resolving a judging controversy that has led to reconsideration of the sport's scoring system.



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