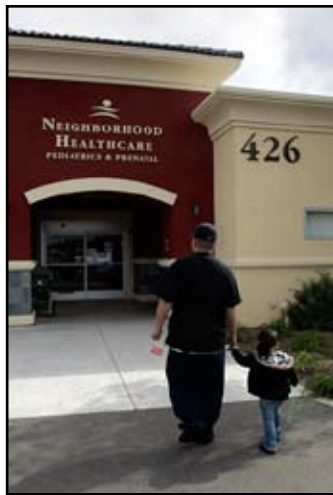


Obama applauds health industry

Representatives vow to cut costs in overhaul effort

By Erica Werner ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama praised the health care industry's promise yesterday to cut \$2 trillion in costs over 10 years...



Health care remedy: San Diego community clinics provide lifeline for the uninsured. E1

Drawing skepticism from lawmakers, Obama summoned representatives of the insurance industry, doctors, hospitals, pharmaceutical companies and labor groups to the White House for what he called "a watershed event in the long and elusive quest for health care reform."

It was a gathering of strange bedfellows. More than a decade ago, Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, designed a health care plan in secret, fought in-

dustry leaders over it and lost. Obama's consensus-building approach has already yielded some results. Insurance executives have offered to end certain underwriting practices such as refusing to cover individuals with pre-existing conditions or charging women higher rates than

SEE Health, A6

Shake-up in Afghanistan

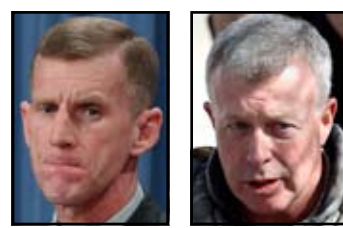
Pentagon sacks top U.S. commander to get 'fresh eyes'

By Elisabeth Bumiller and Thom Shanker NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David McKiernan, was forced out yesterday in an abrupt shake-up intended to bring a more aggressive and innovative approach to a wors-

ening seven-year-old war. Defense Secretary Robert Gates announced the decision at the Pentagon, saying that "fresh eyes were needed" and that "a new approach was probably in our best interest." Asked if the dismissal ended the general's military career, Gates replied: "Probably."

The move reflects a belief that the war in Afghanistan, waged against an increasingly strong Taliban and its supporters across a rugged, sprawling country, is growing ever more complex. Defense officials said



Lt. Gen. Stanley McChrystal (left) will replace Gen. David McKiernan as the top U.S. commander in Afghanistan.

McKiernan, a respected career armor officer, had been removed primarily because he

had brought too conventional an approach to the challenge.

He is to be replaced by Lt. Gen. Stanley McChrystal, a former commander of the Joint Special Operations Command who served in Afghanistan as chief of staff of military operations in 2001 and 2002 and recently ran all commando operations in Iraq.

Forces under McChrystal's command were credited with finding and capturing Saddam Hussein and with tracking and

SEE Afghanistan, A2

Atlantis' daring mission: final repairs for space telescope



The space shuttle Atlantis lifted off at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla., yesterday on a mission to service the aging Hubble Space Telescope for the final time. John Raoux / Associated Press

Shuttle soars toward Hubble

ABOUT THE MISSION

The seven astronauts on the space shuttle Atlantis are on an 11-day mission that will include more than 31 hours of spacewalks to repair the Hubble Space Telescope.

This will be the fifth and final servicing trip for the telescope, which was launched 19 years ago and is long overdue for a tuneup. In a series of spacewalks beginning Thursday, Atlantis' crew will install new instruments and repair old ones to restore the telescope to peak performance.

If all goes according to plan, the upgrades and repairs will keep the telescope going until at least 2014 and perhaps 2019.

SOURCE: MCT News Service

ASSOCIATED PRESS and THE WASHINGTON POST

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Space shuttle Atlantis blasted off yesterday for the Hubble Space Telescope on the most delicate and dangerous repair job ever in orbit — a mission so risky that for the first time, a second shuttle stands ready to rescue the seven astronauts if something goes wrong.

It will be the last visit to the telescope, and the work will include five spacewalks in an especially high orbit strewn with space junk. The astronauts will try to fix equipment that was never designed to be tinkered with in space, and they will not have the option of using the International Space Station as a safe harbor in a crisis.

The improvements will extend the life of one of NASA's proudest achievements — a technological marvel that has yielded

breathhtaking pictures of distant galaxies and some of the celestial violence that shaped the universe.

"I have full confidence that they'll pull off a success and if they do, we'll have a Hubble for at least five, six, eight years more," said Ed Weiler, NASA's science mission chief.

About 30,000 people packed the launch site, eager to see NASA's fifth and final send-off to repair the 19-year-old telescope.

"At this point, all I've got left to say is, 'Let's launch Atlantis,'" commander Scott Altman said just before liftoff.

"Enjoy the ride, pal," replied launch director Mike Leinbach.

Hubble was passing almost directly overhead as Atlantis rocketed off its

SEE Hubble, A6

Battle lines drawn over luxury resort

Four Seasons fights to stay as operator of Aviara property

By Penni Crabtree STAFF WRITER

The long velvet gloves are off in an escalating legal dispute between the owners of the luxury Aviara resort in Carlsbad and the prestigious Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts, which manages it.

The resort's owners, Broadreach Capital Partners, had planned yesterday to bring in new managers after announcing Friday that it had fired the Toronto hotel management firm for failing to run Aviara in a cost-effective manner.

But Four Seasons said in a statement issued Saturday that it had "no intention to voluntarily relinquish its role as manager" of the resort. The management firm said Broad-

reach loaded the resort with debt in a refinancing, and now is having difficulty meeting its loan obligations.

"We will treat any action taken by you or your agents to force a change in management at the resort as an attempted breach of the peace and will respond appropriately," Four Seasons attorney Anthony Feeherry said in an e-

SEE Aviara, A6



The owners of the Aviara resort and the company that manages the luxury hotel in Carlsbad are enmeshed in legal wrangling. Charlie Neuman / Union-Tribune

Publishers see rise in e-book piracy

By Motoko Rich NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

For a while now, determined readers have been able to sniff out errant digital copies of book titles as varied as the "Harry Potter" series and best-sellers by Stephen King and John Grisham.

But now, some publishers say, the problem has ballooned as an expanding appetite for e-books has spawned a crop of pirated

editions on Web sites such as Scribd and Wattpad, and on file-sharing services such as RapidShare and MediaFire.

"It's exponentially up," said David Young, chief executive of Hachette Book Group, whose Little, Brown division publishes the "Twilight" series by Stephen Meyer, a favorite among digital pirates. "Our legal department is

SEE Books, A7



The Kindle is making it easier to read books in digital form. Amazon

American kills 5 fellow soldiers in Iraq

By Robert H. Reid ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD — A U.S. Army sergeant shot and killed five fellow soldiers following an altercation at a military counseling center in Iraq yesterday, officials said.

The attack drew attention to the issues of combat stress and morale among soldiers serving multiple combat tours over six years of war.

The suspect had been dis-

armed after an incident at the center but returned with another weapon, a senior military official in Washington said on condition of anonymity.

Attacks on fellow soldiers were not uncommon during the Vietnam war but are believed to be rare in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A brief U.S. military statement said the assailant was taken into custody following the 2 p.m. shooting at Camp Liberty, a sprawling U.S. base

on the western edge of Baghdad near the city's international airport.

President Barack Obama, who visited an adjacent base last month, said in a statement that he was "shocked and deeply saddened" by the report, adding that "my heart goes out to the families and friends" of all those involved "in this horrible tragedy."

After a meeting with De-

SEE Shooting, A3



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U-T VOICE | TIM SULLIVAN After riding Kentucky Derby winner Mine That Bird, Calvin Borel is changing horses for the Preakness. Sports, D1

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