

Date and Time: Saturday, May 4, 2024 2:35:00AM EEST

Job Number: 223498743

Documents (20)

1. [No Headline In Original](#)

Client/Matter: -None-

Search Terms: "Hizbullah" OR "Hezbollah"

Search Type: Terms and Connectors

Narrowed by:

Content Type
News

Narrowed by
Publication Type: Newspapers; Timeline: Jul 31, 2006 to
Apr 15, 2007

2. [Mission failed THE WAR OF IDEAS, SEP 11-FIVE YEARS ON; · 50,000 DEAD · VICIOUSNESS BEYOND BELIEF · DYSFUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT · LAWLESS POLICE · A COUNTRY DIVIDED](#)

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3. [Will women rule the world?](#)

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4. [Saviours in a strange world](#)

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5. [The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on](#)

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7. [Eureka!](#)

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Apr 15, 2007

8. [It's a funny old game Three years after he was thrown to the wolves for blurting out a racist remark on ITV, the flamboyant football pundit Ron Atkinson has a new job, pacing the touchline at lowly Kettering Town FC. But, as Big Ron tells Nick Duerden, he's still gunning for a glorious comeback. Photographs by David Harrison](#)

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9. [2006. The year in pictures: Part 1](#)

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10. [Mark Shurtleff: Attorney general tackles Utah 's toughest issues](#)

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11. [Age of terror, age of illusions: Part One: I remember the anger I felt watching the endlessly repeated images of the towers collapsing. But there's another kind of anger -- a more cerebral one toward the intellectuals of our time who contributed to all that destruction through their hostility toward the mores and traditions of western civilization.](#)

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12. [So dumb it smarts: Bye-bye '06](#)

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13. [Mark Shurtleff: Attorney general tackles Utah 's toughest issues](#)

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15. [*The dark side of multiculturalism: In the shadow of Sept. 11, it is time to confront the unsettling truth that radical multiculturalism creates tribes that could destroy the society that produced it*](#)

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16. [*Harvesting minefields: 100 million landmines are buried in more than 70 countries. The hidden legacy of war, they continue to maim and kill without discretion. In 1996, Canada championed an anti-mine treaty and convinced most of the world to sign. Now, even as the campaign struggles, Canada has all but disappeared from the scene*](#)

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17. [*Whose Iran ?*](#)

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19. [*The Power of Green*](#)

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No Headline In Original

Canberra Times (Australia)

August 9, 2006 Wednesday

Final Edition

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Section: A; Pg. 10

Length: 1032 words

Byline: The Canberra Times

Body

Petrol delusions Those who think that a cut in federal petrol excise tax will be a panacea for high petrol prices are deluding no one but themselves.

The long-term trend in world - and Australian - petrol prices is nowhere but up.

This is primarily a function of increasing international demand, static or falling supply, and continuing international political stability, particularly in oil-producing regions such as the Middle East.

The simple fact is that petrol prices - long term - are not going to drop below current levels. Anyone who thinks otherwise also believes in fairies!

All a cut in petrol excise tax will do is two things: One, create a very short-term price reprieve and delay the inevitable upward trend in petrol prices. And two, cause a permanent cut in excise revenue of millions of dollars to no long-term benefit to anyone.

Don Sephton, Greenway Kim Beazley and John Howard both agree. Petrol costs us too much. But apparently, removing any of the 42c (after GST) federal excise that we pay on each litre would cost them too much.

So there's bipartisan agreement that we need to keep on paying while they feign concern.

Kim's answer? Use more ethanol.

But ethanol pays no excise at all, Kim.

So it'd cost you too much.

Take the excise you'd lose off the petrol price, and save us the messing around. Now there's growing pressure from the biofuels industry to let them sell 20 per cent-plus ethanol blends.

But what Kim and that dodgy industry don't tell us is that, not only are ethanol's claims to green-ness suspect, but the stuff contains 30 per cent less energy.

Fact is, we'd need 43 per cent more ethanol (than petrol) to do the same job.

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Tom Waring, Ainslie John Howard says he is not responsible for the price of petrol because the rising world price of oil is beyond his control.

We all know Mr Howard consistently avoids responsibility for the negative outcomes of his decisions, but I seem to recall that the world oil price began its current upward spiral just as the Bush babies threatened and then invaded Iraq.

Oil has continued its ascent as the decisions of these brave, non- combatant warriors have degenerated into military fiasco and as they have failed to condemn and discourage further global violence such as that recently initiated by Israel.

Over 10 years the Howard Government has steadfastly refused to implement a significant alternative fuels policy capable of cushioning Australia's petrol prices as has been implemented by other nations.

In attempting to act out his master's jibe of "man of steel", Mr Howard has repeatedly failed to demonstrate he has the guts to accept responsibility for his actions and policies.

Tony Clegg, Stirling Respect for the fans The Raiders attract a hard-core base of approximately 8000 fans who gladly turn up in any weather to see their beloved team go around.

The vast majority of these people were Raiders fans long before Clinton Schifcofske joined the club and will no doubt remain so after his departure.

During his time at Canberra, I believe Raiders fans have shown him nothing but respect.

So, to hear him say, "if we can't get 20,000 people here for our last home game, you people are kidding yourselves" was a low blow.

He obviously meant to direct that comment to the 10,000 people who weren't there but, unfortunately, it was said to us, the fans who were.

If you want more than the hard-core fans to turn up, the team needs to consistently perform at a level that warrants that support.

Respect works both ways.

Instead of chastising the spectators who weren't there, he should have been praising those who were.

Jim, Megan and Jeff Street, Fadden Terrorist confusion The war between Israel and Lebanon continues. Israel, with total air superiority - plus the "larger bombs" now being supplied by its peace-loving ally, the US - is winning the war against the women and children, but not faring as well against Hezbollah.

It is easy to label Hezbollah as a terrorist organisation, but I expect that the Lebanese see it as their equivalent of "the thin red line" - all heroes fighting against overwhelming odds.

I am, in fact, no longer sure which side our leaders are referring to when they use the word terrorist. Will someone remind me? And at the same time, tell me what happened to the UN's legal obligation to intervene and rectify the Palestine situation in accordance with, I think, Article 1 of its charter?

Edmund Fitzgerald, Dickson Bogan defined A Bogan, Don Sephton (Letters, August 8), is any denizen of that part of Australia from Texas to Hungerford, and within 300km on each side of the Queensland-NSW border.

We enjoy drinking, pig-shooting, wear check flannelette shirts and have no common sense or good taste. We vote informal as a bloc.

Our geographic reach is flexible; residents of Taree and like communities, for example, may readily qualify for Boganhood, usually with little or no burdensome paperwork.

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The CSIRO has reported sightings as far south as Greenway and Grenfell, enormously distant from the pleasant village which gives them its name.

There is some evidence that the convict counterfeiter Greenway, along with the drunken scribe on the obverse of his old \$10 note, may have been founder Bogans.

Jack Woodforde, lead guitarist, The Bogannaires, and convener, ACT Right to Laugh, Melba Fine industry dopes It is laudable that athletes who seek an unfair advantage by taking performance-enhancing drugs are getting caught and penalised.

The recent positives by Floyd Landis and Wendell Sailor are testament to the effectiveness of the anti-doping regimes in place.

However, these athletes are replaceable.

For every Landis or Sailor there are hundreds of athletes clamouring to take their place.

In this sense, the athletes are pawns in the multibillion-dollar sports industry. The current system of banning athletes presumes it is entirely the fault of the individual.

Maybe we need to start going up the economic chain to the organisations funding the sport.

I wonder how quickly the use of performance enhancing drugs in cycling would disappear if the cycling teams, national sporting federations or even the UIC were fined a couple of million euro for each reportable offence.

Jason Mazanov, Canberra

Load-Date: August 8, 2006

Mission failed; THE WAR OF IDEAS, SEP 11-FIVE YEARS ON; · 50,000 DEAD
· VICIOUSNESS BEYOND BELIEF · DYSFUNCTIONAL GOVERNMENT ·
LAWLESS POLICE · A COUNTRY DIVIDED

Sydney Morning Herald (Australia)

August 26, 2006 Saturday

First Edition

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Section: NEWS AND FEATURES; News Review; Pg. 29

Length: 2921 words

Byline: Paul McGeough

Body

THE plans are a state secret, so just where Starbucks and Krispy Kreme doughnuts will be is a mystery. But as the concrete hulks of a 21-building complex rise from the ashes of Saddam Hussein's Baghdad, Washington is sending a clear message to Iraqis: "We're here to stay."

It's being built in the Middle East. But "George W.'s palace", as Iraqis have dubbed the new US embassy, is designed as a suburb of Washington.

An army of more than 3500 diplomatic and support staff will have a sports centre, beauty parlour and swimming pool. Six residential blocks each will contain more than 600 apartments. The prime 25 hectares were a steal - actually a gift from the Iraqi Government. And if the five metre-thick perimeter wall doesn't keep the Iraqis at bay, then the built-in surface-to-air missile station should.

Guarded by a dozen gangly construction cranes, the site in the heart of the Green Zone is floodlit by night and is so removed from Iraqi reality that its entire construction force is foreign.

After almost four years, the Americans still can't turn on the lights for Iraqis, but that won't be a problem for the embassy staffers. The toilets are the same: they will always flush on command. All services for the biggest embassy in the world will be self-contained and operate independently from the rattle-trap utilities of Baghdad.

Scheduled for completion in June next year, this is the only US reconstruction project in Iraq that is on track. Costing more than US\$600 million (\$790 million), the fortress is bigger than the Vatican. It dwarfs the edifices of Saddam's wildest dreams and it irritates the hell out of ordinary Iraqis.

On a recent visit to the real Baghdad - outside the Green Zone - a deepening sectarian separation was immediately evident in the personal stories of everyday living. Abu Zamaan, a Shiite truckie who often updates the Herald on life in the capital, had some very personal news: "My daughter is upset because I blocked her wedding plans. He was a nice boy - rich and a good job - but he was a Sunni."

Making fake identification papers has emerged as a thriving new business opportunity as Shiites and Sunnis try to blur their allegiances in a city where a name can be a death sentence. Men called Ali, Jafar, Moussin and Hyder are

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almost certainly Shiites - they face summary execution at Sunni checkpoints. Omar, Marwan and Khalid are Sunni names that cut little ice with the Shiite death squads.

The Shiite taxi driver, SalwanAl-Robian, was unlucky. A couple of weeks ago he used his false papers for the first time to get through a Sunni checkpoint south of Baghdad. But, his companions told the Herald, he gave himself away by invoking the name of Imam Ali, the Shiite saint, rather than that of Allah as a Sunni would, when he exclaimed at his good fortune in surviving the roadblock. The gunman heard him, and he was dragged off. His family recovered his body from the Tigris River a few days later.

Sunni graffiti artists now daub city walls with slogans such as "Shiite families out" and "Shiite dogs". Meanwhile, Shiite men roar with laughter at DVD recordings of Shiite comics mocking Sunnis about their forthcoming outing to Al Sada, a lawless section of the capital where Shiite death squads dump many of their victims.

In Baghdad, all roads lead to the morgue. Despite webs of spin from Baghdad to Washington and London about the nature of the violence in Iraq - is it an "undeclared", a "low-grade" or a "nascent" civil war? - this establishment on the city's northern side comes from the pages of Dante.

It reveals the unvarnished truth of this deepening conflict: the body count rises steadily - more than 1800 mutilated corpses were trucked in from across the capital last month, a significant rise on the June toll of almost 1600. Across the country, almost 3200 Iraqis died violently in June.

Coping with this flood of the victims of suicide bombings and mass murders is an impossible task for morgue staff. The Iraqi police make an effort to be out before sunrise, to gather corpses from the killers' favourite dumping spots before the broiling heat of the day makes it an impossible task.

At the morgue, the bodies are divided along sectarian lines. The viciousness of the killings is sickening. Sunni victims of Shiia violence usually have holes drilled in their heads and joints and are found near the Shiia slums of Sadr City; Shiia victims of Sunni violence are often shot in the head or decapitated and are usually dragged from the tepid waters of the Tigris.

Up to 200 bodies are delivered each day. Sometimes there is the dignity of a body bag; but often body parts are delivered in banana boxes which have been discarded at city bazaars.

The Iraqi Government threatens morgue staff with reprisals if they dare reveal information to reporters, because the data they hold is such a devastating indicator of the Government's - and the Americans' - failure.

But one of the doctors agrees to talk to the Herald if his name is not published: "It just gets worse, especially in this heat. The bodies have been in the sun for so long that they fall apart in our hands, just like that.

"It's a nightmare. At home I can't say anything about it to my family. And how can we believe it'll get any better - we don't have enough doctors to do the autopsies and we're getting more and more bodies every day."

AFTER almost four years of trying to build Washington's democracy beachhead in the Middle East, US Defence officials concede the violence in Iraq is at its worst - by the body count, by public support and by the ease with which Sunni insurgents and Shiite militias exploit gaps in American forces which are spread far too thinly to make a difference.

At most critical points the Americans misread the social, tribal, political and military landscape and have wrong-footed themselves by denying evolving realities that were all too apparent - the events they declared to be "turning points" were actually "tipping points".

Distrust of Washington in all of the Iraqi factions has robbed the US of what it believed was an easily won regional trump-card: control of Baghdad. But Iraq is a democracy in name only. The elected parliament doesn't function and despite mouthing support for the niceties of the democratic process, it is hard not to conclude that Iraqi leaders

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have more faith in achieving their goals by letting the violence run than by taking part in any US-managed national dialogue.

The dynamic has changed. Sunnis who campaigned for US forces to leave Iraq now insist they remain to protect the Sunnis because the Shiia majority has a taste for blood. Shiites who welcomed the American invaders now declare the US to be an enemy bent on robbing them of their centuries-old dream of control of the country.

It's remarkable that George Bush has waited until now to - reportedly - vent his frustration at the failure of the Iraqis "to appreciate the sacrifice the US has made in Iraq". Ironically, about the same time as the August 14 White House meeting at which the President wondered aloud about the ability of yet another Iraqi government to turn the tide of violence, a Baghdad factory owner was mimicking the American President to the Herald: "We give them Pepsi, the internet and mobile phones and they're still not happy. What more do they want?"

The combined forces of the US and the Iraqi Government number more than 400,000, but the country remains a lawless jungle. The Americans say they get thousands of "actionable tips" from Iraqis; they kill or capture more than 500 insurgents a week and they are defusing twice as many roadside bombs now as they were in January.

But graphs of car bombings, armed attacks and civilian deaths keep climbing. It's the same with the estimated ranks of the Sunni-backed insurgency - more than 20,000 and rising. And almost half the Iraqi respondents to a recent poll approved of attacks on US forces.

Iraqi and other agencies now estimate the death toll since the March 2003 invasion stands at 50,000 or more.

But in a country trying to rebuild itself, there is another disturbing development: more than 40 per cent of its professional classes have fled abroad since the invasion. They include an estimated 12,000 doctors who have been driven away by the murder of 2000 of their colleagues, the kidnapping of 250 more and salaries that stagnate at little more than US\$400 a month.

The US Committee for Refugees and Immigration estimates that close to 900,000 Iraqis have fled their country since 2003. Iraqi Airways has more than doubled flights to Damascus to cope with the exodus; bus services on the treacherous desert route to Jordan have gone from two to 50 a day; and taxi passengers who used to pay US\$200 for a ride to Amman now are gouged for US\$750.

Those who are stuck among the rotting garbage piles in Baghdad take what precautions they can. As statistics cry failure on so many fronts, Washington's stated plan for US forces in Iraq to "stand down as the new Iraqi forces stand up" is being shredded daily along with the lives of innocent civilian victims in the streets of Baghdad.

Much of the terror is organised by private militias that have infiltrated the Iraqi security forces and these militias are operated by the key political parties in Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's administration - his Government would fall without the political support of one of the worst offenders, the radical Shiite clerical leader Moqtada Al-Sadr and his Mahdi Army militia.

In Basra, deep in the south, there is little Sunni insurgency activity. But there is much violence as Shiite militias and warlords fight for turf and British and American officers accuse neighbouring Iran (Shiite) and Saudi Arabia (Sunni) of arming the factions. The country's second-biggest city becomes more Islamicised by the day: music and liquor shops have been bombed out of business, women are made to wear headscarves and board games are being outlawed, much as kite-flying was criminalised by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

Whatever the Americans have done in Iraq has usually been too little, too late.

The June death in a US bombing raid of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the Sunni insurgency leader and al-Qaeda point man in Iraq, was a powerful combat victory, but the absence from the battlefield of the Jordanian-born terrorist has failed to staunch the blood-letting.

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Zarqawi's stated objective was to foment unstoppable sectarian war. In a sense his work was done with the February bombing of a revered Shiite shrine at Samarra, north of Baghdad. Unlike Bush, Zarqawi could go to his grave, rightly claiming: "Mission accomplished."

The two sides are dug in for the long haul. On one side, disparate Sunni insurgency cells which now show great unity and common purpose - the religious rhetoric is the same; their leadership is Iraqi - not foreign; and they have defeated a US counter-insurgency push to divide them.

On the other, the Shiites use the well-stocked resources of the US-trained and -funded Iraqi security forces. A senior figure in al-Sadr's Mahdi Army says: "We can get anything we need. We are a professional force - we have proper command-and-control structures; organisation is strict; and after the victory for Hezbollah in Lebanon, we feel stronger and more powerful because we have seen what a Shiite force can achieve."

He then took time to make clear who the enemy was: "We will fight the Sunnis till they have a clean heart towards Shiites. But we have to fight the Americans too, because they are with the Sunnis against us."

DESPITE all the hand-wringing in Washington and Baghdad, the new, US-trained, funded and equipped Iraqi police service is riddled with corruption and sectarian murderers.

The Iraqi Army is not much better. On the flight into Baghdad, an American official told the Herald of the challenge a colleague faced as he arrived to lecture the senior ranks of the Iraqi forces on military ethics. This, he said, is how an Iraqi general introduced him to the class: "Don't worry - we'll do it their way while the Americans are here ... and then we'll do it our own way."

IN A city of 7 million people, 25 or 30 violent attacks a day might sound insignificant. But the pervasive uncertainty and the randomness of the strikes has crimped the personal space of ordinary Iraqis much more tightly than was the case in the days of Saddam Hussein's dictatorship.

Communities are barricading themselves and recruiting vigilante squads or pleading to the militias for protection. Children are kept indoors and few adults stray from the confines of their workplace, their houses and the nearby homes of friends. Simple errands become fraught logistical operations.

When the Herald accompanied a Shiite resident of suburban Al-Salam City on a shopping expedition, we became trapped in gridlocked traffic for 90 terrifying minutes. It was impossible to move. Behind us was a mesh of checkpoints thrown up in the wake of a roadside bombing. In front of us chaos, because the police had set up a routine checkpoint just where a two-kilometre queue of cars waited for petrol at a petrol station that had run dry.

Barging through the middle of all this, sirens blaring and guns firing, was a convoy of police vans with heavily-guarded prisoners on the back of each - except that in Baghdad, you can never be sure that the men in uniform are policemen or that their prisoners are not hostages being whisked off to a rubbish dump execution.

Neither can you be sure that while that "police" convoy inches past you that it will not become a target for another bombing.

As we sat there, it was not just the 50-degree heat of summer that had our Shiite driver in a bath of perspiration. He angrily hurled a Pepsi can out the window, shouting: "How can we be expected to live with all this dread and fear?"

"Under Saddam all we had to do was keep our traps shut, but now we never know who will strike ... or when. We used to have one Saddam, but now we have thousands and we don't know what their rules are."

INCREASINGLY, there is talk of dividing Baghdad - and the entire country.

As the Prime Minister, al-Maliki, shows signs of the same isolation and ineffectiveness that beset his predecessor, a senior government official articulated what many observers suspect, telling reporters: "Iraq as a political project is finished - the parties have moved to Plan B."

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The Tigris is a natural "Baghdad wall". Sunnis dominate to the west of the river; Shiites to the east and, in the minds of some, this would be a logical and manageable carve-up as those who are driven from their homes seek refuge on "their" side of the river.

Washington trumpeted the new Iraqi constitution drawn up in 2004 as the glue that would bind the Iraqi nation, but the observers who warned that it was a recipe for partition, if not the disintegration of the Iraqi state, are being proved right.

Powerful Shiite political figures now use the lack of security to justify a three-state federation in which each statelet would stand its own army to fend off that of the other two.

Abdul Aziz Hakim, leader of the Iranian-backed Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq, is pushing a nine-province Shiite state in the south - with about 60 per cent of known oil reserves - along the same lines as the Kurdish fortress that exists in the north.

The Sunnis would be left in the west and the middle of the country with virtually none of the country's rich resources and a festering, divided capital which would have only nominal control of the nation's affairs.

American and British officials, who in the early days of the US-led occupation touted the south of the country as a model of post-Saddam stability, now complain that it is captive to Shiite warlords and militias who are laying the groundwork for Hakim's grand design.

The nominal enemy for the US in Baghdad is the militias and criminal gangs, but the force they are up against is Iraqi indifference - if the centre doesn't hold, nothing holds. But the Iraqis didn't ask for democracy so much as an opportunity to slice and dice the country's people and resources riches according to their own agendas.

Perhaps one of the most dangerous signs of things to come in Iraq is the fading authority of the Shiite's reclusive spiritual leader, Grand Ayatollah Ali Al-Sistani. Before the Samarra bombing in February, his fatwas were an effective restraint on Shiite revenge for Sunni attacks. Not any more. Last month he called on "all sons of Iraq [to] stand shoulder to shoulder [to] reject hatred and violence", but the killing spree picked up a notch.

"We warned about this," Hytham Hussein, the adviser to Hakim, explained. "Young people will not observe fatwas when they want revenge for the suffering of their families."

This is not the first Western intervention in the Middle East. But most previous efforts were about putting down money and arms to keep the home bowsers primed. This time the foreigners' gift of democracy has unleashed a perfect storm of nationalism, religious fundamentalism and tribal war that threatens Washington's whole grand design for the region.

The neoconservative who urged the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 were convinced that if Saddam Hussein was eliminated, then Iraqis would instinctively default to the ways of democracy.

If this is democratic Iraq, welcome to the new Middle East.

CASUALTY WARD

Doctors in Iraq
Registered before
2003 invasion: 34,000
Who have left
Iraq since 2003: 12,000
Murdered since 2003: 2000
Kidnapped: 250
Percentage who will
work outside Iraq: 20%

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Graphic

PHOTO: FOUR GRAPHS: Iraqi civilians killed by violence, Jan06-jul, Estimate of Iraqi civilians killed since the start of the war: 41,100-44,600(August 13, 2006); Daily attacks by insurgents, Jan04- Jul06; Local opinion, Iraqis who approve of attacks on US-led force in Iraq, Overall-Sunni; Those who think ousting Saddam Hussein was worth it, Overall, Kurds, Shiite, Sunni; Source: Bookings Institute

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Will women rule the world?

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Byline: Sarah Baxter

Body

Germany is already governed by a woman. In America and France women are trying to seize the presidency from men. Are we ready for a triumvirate of Iron Ladies? Sarah Baxter watches the barricades fall

The black limos were lined up bumper to bumper outside the Chinese restaurant near Capitol Hill where Hillary Clinton was hosting a party last week. Washington's power elite had gathered to honour the senior senator for New York, Charles Schumer, a master tactician who helped to win Congress for the Democrats last autumn. But it was Clinton, the junior senator for New York, who was the alpha politician in the room.

Wearing a light-grey trouser suit (a masculine touch) and a necklace with a gold and ruby cross (don't forget the religious vote), Clinton was at her most playful and charming. "It was here that we had our first date," she said to Schumer with feminine coquetry.

If she fails to win the White House, it will not be for want of trying. Clinton is covering all the bases in what has so far been a very astute campaign for the Democratic nomination. She is acting as tough as Margaret Thatcher on national security; as tender as a "mom" who cares about the kind of village it takes to raise America's children; and a teeny bit sexy.

"I think you look very nice," a Gulf war veteran told her at a town hall meeting in Iowa last weekend.

"Thank you!" she glowed.

If she continues to perform well in the polls, the sequel to Living History, her memoir of life as first lady, could be Making History, the story of America's first woman president. Indeed, given her talent for forward planning she probably titled her first book with its follow-up in mind.

Two other, very different, women are also making history.

Hillary -even her campaign team calls her that -is an international superstar who draws crowds and the media wherever she goes. Angela Merkel, the German chancellor, is less of a celebrity but has the undeniable advantage of already being in power. With glamorous Segolene Royal courting the voters of France, a powerful triumvirate of women could soon be ruling the West in partnership with a flummoxed Gordon Brown or an increasingly feminised David Cameron.

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At the Washington party last week, Clinton's friend Elizabeth Bagley, ambassador to Portugal in the mid-1990s, was thrilled by the prospect. "It's fabulous. They would be a wonderful team. They could end the isolation of the Bush era. They are all strong women but they also know how to compromise."

It was, Bagley explained, because "women are multitaskers. We're constantly negotiating between our husbands, our jobs and our children".

Is she right? There have been formidable "iron ladies" before, such as Thatcher, Golda Meir in Israel and Indira Gandhi in India. They shone brightly but were no more likely to pass on the torch to other women than Elizabeth I, who decapitated Mary Queen of Scots, her rival for the throne. One former aide to Lady T says he never heard her mention bringing on women: "She surrounded herself with the brightest and the best of the time and they were primarily men."

Marilyn Davidson, a psychology professor at Manchester Business School who has studied women's ascent to power, said: "When Margaret Thatcher was elected we thought, 'Ah, this is the first of many.' But it didn't really happen. She was a bit of a one-off. She had this queen bee syndrome. Although she used her femininity and sexuality, she liked to be up there by herself."

Thatcher, however, was the product of the same pre-war environment that had shaped her bitterest male critic, Edward Heath. She beat the men on their own terms. In contrast, the arrival of Angela, Sego and Hillary in positions of leadership marks the outcome of a decades-long process of post-war empowerment that has seen girls overtake boys in school and leave them behind. Women now make up 57% of university entrants and outnumber men in every subject including maths and engineering.

"Enough women have gone through the pipeline by now and are ready to take on these leadership positions," says Christina Hoff Sommers, a fellow of the conservative American Enterprise Institute and author of *The War Against Boys*. "It's exciting. But they will have to be fair minded and not get carried away by feminist ideology."

Clinton will largely keep mum about feminism and women's rights on the stump. They are still risky territory. For as women enter the highest levels of politics and the boardroom some men are wondering: "What about us?"

The game is not over yet:

women still have to pass a fearsome battery of tests with voters of both sexes. From their foreign policy to their husbands and hairstyle, everything is up for scrutiny.

If Clinton or Royal were to slip up, they could go into freefall. According to Peter Kellner of YouGov, the polling company, women do not get many chances in politics. "They are like a dog with one life rather than a cat with nine lives," he says.

There is evidence to suggest that voters are still resistant to women leaders.

They have the best chance of winning when their country is ready for a political sea-change, as Britain was in 1979. Thatcher, Kellner notes, won an equal number of men's and women's votes (45%) in that first election victory, but traditionally more women vote Conservative than men. In 1974, when Heath lost an election after taking on the trade unions, 7% more women than men remained loyal to the Tories.

In America the pollster Scott Rasmussen recently asked whether voters were ready to elect a woman president: 78% said they were. The picture changed when he asked whether they believed their friends, families and co-workers would do the same.

Only 51% agreed. "My interpretation is that the truth lies somewhere in between," he says.

The Clinton camp believes it has the votes of women aged 18-32 in the bag, but this demographic group tends to vote Democrat anyway. They will only make a difference if Clinton can entice enough young women voters to the polls who would have stayed at home.

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Older women are a tougher sell, particularly in the Democratic primaries, according to Elizabeth Bagley. "They're the ones who are not sure that Hillary can win. We are going to have to work on them."

The first box Clinton, 59, has had to tick is defence and national security: hence her early Senate vote to authorise the Iraq war, which she rues but does not dare disown.

She has proved to be a delicious target for comedians. Saturday Night Live, the satirical television programme, had a Hillary stand-in explain recently: "I think most Democrats know me. They understand that my support for the war was always insincere. Of course, knowing what we know now, that you could vote against the war and still be elected president, I would never have pretended to support it."

Jon Stewart of The Daily Show, who is venerated by the left, has taken aim at her post-invasion zig-zag. Her new policy on Iraq, he quipped, was: "America, let's pull over and ask for directions."

It was Ali G who posed the question: could you really trust a woman to stand up to evil dictators because "the worse you treat 'em, the more they want you"? Clinton herself got the biggest laugh in Iowa when she asked last week: "And what in my background equips me to deal with evil and bad men?" She has since claimed unconvincingly that she didn't really mean Bill.

In the days before she announced her presidential candidacy, she was in Iraq and Afghanistan for the umpteenth time, talking sagely to generals and political leaders about military strategy and playing up her tough-on-security "iron lady" side.

This did not impress Ann Coulter, the acerbic right-wing columnist, who wrote last week that Thatcher and Clinton shared "the lack of a Y-chromosome and ... hmmm, you know, I think that's it".

WHEN 52-year-old Merkel made her bid to be Germany's first woman chancellor in 2005 the electorate had a different goal: to be less macho and confrontational with the United States, still its top ally despite their disagreements over Iraq under Gerhard Schroder's government. Merkel had a comfortable opinion poll lead, but she only scraped through at the head of a coalition government. Was there last-minute resistance to handing power to a woman? Analysts think it had more to do with her plans to shake up the German welfare state than her gender.

Merkel does not have children and dislikes kissing babies on the stump. When she got married for the second time she was so unromantic and undaughterly that she told her parents: "By the way, I got married yesterday."

She has only grudgingly accepted that "the fact that I am a woman is unavoidable".

Gerd Langguth, her biographer and a professor of politics at Bonn University, says: "Merkel has never been interested in comparisons with other women. She always says, 'I'm me', but Germans often compare her to Mrs Thatcher. Like her, she was a scientist and an outsider in the early days of her political career."

She can also be ruthless. She was former chancellor Helmut Kohl's "madchen" the token "girl" in his government - but she later showed her mettle by rounding on him in print when he was ensnared in a party funding scandal.

One woman commentator complained that "animal rights groups have a better chance than women's organisations at getting the chancellor's ear". But Merkel can be "very charming" in the negotiations required by Germany's coalition government, says Langguth. "She is liked by men because she knows what she wants and is very direct."

President George W Bush welcomed Merkel's election as an opportunity to forge a new alliance with Europe after getting the brush-off from Schroder. Without committing troops to Iraq she has successfully revived Germany's influence in Washington. Yet Bush crossed the line when he sneaked up on her and gave her a playful Texan "one-second" back massage at the G8 summit in Moscow last year. She looked appalled and threw her hands in the air. He slunk off, embarrassed.

Segolene Royal would probably have flirted back. The French politician's sexiness is a powerful campaign tool in her bid to become France's first Madame la Presidente. When magazines printed pictures of her in an azure bikini,

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one tabloid swooned: "To think that she is 53 years old!" When a male voter told her, "You're even better looking than they said", she responded seductively, "So are you".

"She is a bit like Marianne, the ideal of the French republic," says Rejane Senac-Slawinski, a political scientist. "A strong politician, a good mother, but also the kind of woman every man would like to marry."

With four children -the youngest is a girl of 14 -Royal is also something of a fertility goddess in a country that is obsessed with keeping up its birth rate.

Former prime minister Laurent Fabius, a rival for the Socialist nomination, struck the wrong note with voters by sneering, "Who'll take care of the children?" when she announced her intention to run for president. In a country that values motherhood, her ability to combine work with family is considered an inspiration for women who might otherwise put their careers and good looks ahead of having one or more offspring.

IN common with Clinton and Merkel, Royal looks far more attractive today than she did a decade ago, when she wore sober-coloured skirts, drab blouses and velvet bows in her hair.

Clinton's hairstyle changes from neat Alice bands to curls were the subject of a good deal of satire when she was at the White House in the Nineties, but she has settled for the sensible attire of the professional working woman instead of playing the pretend role of home-making, cookie-baking first lady.

Even Merkel has her own personal style guru now, although one wouldn't necessarily know it from some of her fashion faux pas, such as the gossamer pink suit she wore to a Wagner concert in Bayreuth. When Langguth first met her in 1990, she was a jeans-clad spokeswoman for the last government of East Germany.. "She dressed like a student," he recalled. "She wasn't interested in her looks, but she knows how important they are in politics. She is a more modern dresser now."

Just as Thatcher changed from a Seventies housewife to an Eighties power dresser with pheromones that enticed presidents Ronald Reagan and Francois Mitterrand, so Royal has undergone a top to toe makeover including getting her teeth fixed.

She could be overdoing the sex appeal: internet websites have been spreading rumours of an affair with a former head of Renault, which her camp has denounced as a lying "dirty tricks" campaign. Her poll numbers have dipped sharply in the past weeks from a two-point lead over Nicolas Sarkozy, her wily conservative rival, to an eight-point gap in his favour last week (54% to Royal's 46%).

"Is Segolene Royal up to the job?" Liberation, the left-wing newspaper, asked woundingly last week.

Unlike Clinton, she has been embarrassingly gaffe-prone on foreign policy. Royal was recently fooled into chatting on the phone with the supposed prime minister of Quebec by a French radio prankster. She also thanked a Hezbollah politician who accused Israel of Nazism for "being so frank" and was obliged to complain later that she had misheard him.

In what could turn out to be a cautionary tale for Hillary another reason for Sego's difficulties is her partner's giant ego. Francois Hollande, the father of her children and secretary-general of the French Socialist party, clearly believes he should be the one in the Elysee.

"Kings always take back power. Queens only last a certain time," he said snarkily last month.

It is as well for Clinton that Bill is her biggest booster. Having served eight years in the White House, Hillary is his only way back to the seat of power that he loved. At least he can say: "It's wonderful my wife is president, but I got there first."

Plans have already been laid to keep the Clintons apart on the campaign trail in case he upstages her. But there is still the nagging worry: what if he humiliates Hillary with another spot of extramarital sex? Aides insist he has learnt his lesson, but he could upset her meticulously planned election campaign.

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WITH France jaded by the cynical presidency of Jacques Chirac, and America thoroughly sick of Bush and the war in Iraq, it is a timely moment for Royal and Clinton to stake their presidential claims. So is the future **female**?

Certainly politics is being feminised, and not only by **women**. David Cameron has been talking about released prisoners needing love, and male politicians are becoming more family friendly as issues such as the balance between life, work and childcare come to the fore.

Male fears of a **female** takeover could be a little premature, however. Clinton and Royal are not the only candidates of change appealing to the voters. Sarkozy is running as the antithesis of the ossified Chirac, while Clinton could face strong competition from Senator John McCain or Rudy Giuliani, the former mayor of New York, both of them Republican party mavericks who appeal to independents.

And even with **women** in power in America, France and Germany, what difference would it really make? DeAnne Julius, one of the best-connected **women** in Britain (she was on the Bank of England monetary policy committee and now chairs Chatham House, the foreign policy think tank) says: "When you look at who makes the decisions, there are very few **women**."

The Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC) last month released a report called Sex and Power, which claimed that **women** were still being sidelined into the "mummy career track" because they cannot combine long hours at the office with raising a family. **Women** still represented just 10% of directors at FTSE 100 companies and 20% of MPs, the EOC noted. At the present rate it would take 200 years for **women** to achieve parity in parliament.

But the EOC report underestimates the potential cultural revolution of having a number of **women** in power simultaneously, with the ability to inspire and, in some cases, give a leg up to others. Macho, Catholic Chile, for instance, is now led by President Michelle Bachelet, a moderate socialist who deliberately gave half the jobs in her cabinet to **women**.

"The symbolic importance of having **women** in power is more important than the substance but it could motivate girls and **women** to raise their aspirations," Julius says.

She also agrees that the presence of Angela, Sego and Hillary at the helm could usher in a new era of international co-operation. "**Women** are not as pompous, self-important and worried about their egos as men. They get down to business," she says.

Thatcher, Golda Meir and Indira Gandhi certainly got down to business. But co-operative they were not: each took her country to war. They remain famous for their gutsy conviction politics rather than their ability to compromise. If the future is **female**, it will not be monochrome. Vive la difference!

INTERNATIONAL RISE OF THE RULING **WOMEN**

Isabel Peron became the world's first **female** president when she assumed office in Argentina in 1974 following the death of her husband, President Juan Domingo Peron. Unlike his second wife, Evita, who was almost deified by Argentinians, she became unpopular and was overthrown.

Sirimavo Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka was the first **female** prime minister in history.

A tough socialist, described by a colleague as "the only man in the cabinet", she was in government three times between 1960 and 2000. Her estranged daughter, Chandrika Kumaratunga, became president and clipped her wings.

Golda Meir was one of the founders of the state of Israel and became prime minister -aged 70 having survived cancer -in 1969. Another "only man in the cabinet" and the first "iron lady", she authorised the assassination of Palestinian terrorist leaders and the annexation of conquered lands, and she led Israel in the 1973 Yom Kippur war.

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Indira Gandhi was prime minister of India twice. During her first premiership (1966-77) she fought Pakistan and ultimately ruled by decree under a state of emergency. Her arrest and trial triggered her political rebirth. She was reelected in 1980 but assassinated in 1984.

Margaret Thatcher, the only women ever to have served as prime minister in the UK, transformed Britain from "the sick man of Europe" into one of its most successful economies during her 11 years in power. She was ousted in 1990 by her male cabinet colleagues.

Jenny Shipley of the conservative National party, who became New Zealand's first female prime minister in 1997, fell out with the macho leader of her coalition partners and lasted only two years. Her Labour successor, Helen Clark, is better at whipping male ministers into line and is still there after eight years.

Scandinavia has also had a crop of female leaders, one of them highly controversial. The reliable Gro Harlem Brundtland was Norway's prime minister three times between 1981 and 1996. Tarja Halonen has been Finland's president since 2000. And in 2003 Finland also briefly had a woman prime minister, Anneli Juola, who resigned after being questioned by police. She was subsequently acquitted of aiding and abetting the revelation of state secrets that had embarrassed her political opponents.

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Saviours in a strange world

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Body

Many Jews had a lucky escape during the Holocaust when Arabs risked their own lives to rescue them. Deirdre Fernand reports

Anny Boukris was just a child when the soldiers came knocking at the door. The year was 1942, and German troops were occupying her town and her homeland of Tunisia. Boukris lived with her parents, Jacob and Odette, in the seaside town of Mahdia, along its eastern shore. She and her brothers and sisters wanted for nothing. Jacob, a Jewish businessman, was doing well; they could even afford a maid.

All that changed with the fist at the door. Since the arrival of German troops that year, the family had suspected something would happen. They had stocked up on food, packed their family heirlooms into a boxroom and placed a bookcase in front of the door.

All to no avail. The soldiers inspected the house, found the hiding place and took all their precious belongings. Anny minded her stamp collection being confiscated. Their house was being requisitioned as a barracks, the soldiers said, and they had only an hour to leave. Anny's father kept his wits about him. He quickly arranged for his family to find refuge in an old factory nearby. Aunts and uncles joined them, and although the living conditions were far from satisfactory for everyone, they all felt safe enough.

A few weeks later came another knock at the door. This time the caller was no German but a local man, the son of a wealthy landowner. "You are all at great risk," he told them. "You must leave straight away." In the middle of the night he drove them to his farm, about 20 miles away. There they stayed hidden for four months, until the Germans had been driven out of the country and they could return home. It was only then that Anny came to understand the significance of the rescuer in the night.

The man was 32-year-old Khaled Abdelwahhab, a prominent and well-connected Arab from Mahdia, who made it his business to fraternise with German officers so he knew what was going on. Handsome, sophisticated and educated in the West, he made an agreeable companion and would sit drinking with them into the early hours. He knew, for instance, which brothels they frequented, which *females* they lusted after. He had also heard tales of local girls, many of them Jewish, being abducted for sex and never being seen again.

One night, one of the soldiers confided to him that he had his eye on a beautiful Jewish woman with blonde hair and blue eyes, whom he was going to take away "for his own pleasure". When Abdelwahhab realised that the blonde he intended to rape was Anny's mother, Odette, he sprang into action. He plied the soldier with drink, and when he eventually fell into a stupor, Abdelwahhab drove directly to the farm and whisked everyone to safety. "We left like

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that," Anny recalled. Abdelwahhab, who later married and had a daughter, became a lifelong friend of the Boukris family. Forever an honoured guest, he was always invited to celebrate the sabbath with them, sitting down to share chicken couscous and memories. There, around that table, they would talk of the war. Arab and Jew shared a special bond.

Abdelwahhab's heroism in saving Odette from abduction and rape and rescuing her entire family from persecution and possible death would have been forgotten were it not for the efforts of one remarkable historian of the Middle East, Robert Satloff. A 44-year-old American of Jewish descent, he has devoted the past four years to searching out lost heroes of the Holocaust. Not just any heroes, but Arabs such as Abdelwahhab. "He could so easily have been killed if the German officer had found out that he had tricked him to save a Jewish woman," he says. Executed swiftly, perhaps, or tortured to death in any of the 104 "punishment" camps then being built across the Sahara.

Satloff's quest for good men took him not to Europe, where 6m perished under the Nazis and where virtuous men like Oskar Schindler and Raoul Wallenberg risked everything to save lives, but to the shores of North Africa, where France's possessions of Morocco, Tunisia and Algiers and its Jewish population had fallen to the Germans.

"We all know the horrific stories of the Jews who died in Europe under the Nazis," he says. "I wanted to look at the long reaches of the Holocaust. Persecution was not just a European story. I wanted to investigate what happened to Jews living among Arabs when the Nazis arrived. Their stories have been overlooked for far too long." He reminds us that had allied troops not driven the Germans from the African continent in 1943, then the 2,000-year-old Jewish communities of Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, and maybe Egypt and Palestine too, might have met the fate of their brothers in Europe.

The result of his detective work, which drew upon scores of interviews with witnesses and survivors of pogrom, is contained in his newly published book, *Among the Righteous*. "I set myself a simple goal," he says. "To tell the story of one Arab who saved the life of one Jew." He had in his mind a saying from the Koran: "Whoever saves one life, saves the entire world." This passage echoes the Jewish exhortation: "If you save one life, it is as if you have saved the world."

Satloff, who runs the influential think-tank the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, began to dig in wartime archives and libraries but could find little about the half-million Jews of North Africa. There were bare statistics nearly 5,000 were killed in air raids or as a result of forced labour but few details. Questions hung in the air. What became of the Jewish families in Casablanca and Algiers when the tanks rolled in and the jackboots marched? What happened when Vichy, the collaborationist government of Marshal Petain, brought in anti-semitic laws?

As Sir Martin Gilbert, the respected historian of the Shoah, points out, the fate of Jews outside Europe has only recently emerged as a topic of interest. It was not until 1997 that Yad Vashem, Israel's national memorial and library of remembrance, published its first volume on the wartime persecution of Jews in Libya and Tunisia. And it was only last year that three documentaries on the plight of North African Jews aired on Israeli television.

Then another, larger question began to bother Satloff. Could there ever have been an Arab Schindler? An Arab Wallenberg? As the world remembers, Oskar Schindler, whose story was told by Thomas Keneally in the award-winning *Schindler's Ark*, was the German factory owner who defied the SS to rescue as many as 1,300 Jews. Wallenberg, a Swedish diplomat working in wartime Budapest, is credited with saving as many as 100,000 Hungarian Jews.

In pursuit of his Arab Schindler, Satloff, who is fluent in Arabic, French and Hebrew, moved with his wife, an economist at the World Bank, and two young sons to Morocco in 2002 and began his research in earnest. He turned himself into a Simon Wiesenthal in reverse: where the legendary Nazi hunter, who died last year, sought criminals to bring them to justice, Satloff sought champions. Over steaming cups of sweet mint tea in houses and cafes, he listened to tales from the past. Some people were eager to speak of their wartime tribulations, as if they had been waiting all their lives to unburden themselves; others were more guarded. Acceptance and suspicion of him went hand in hand.

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In the event, he found not one saviour but many. Wherever he went he collected stories about Arabs welcoming Jews into their homes, sharing their meagre rations, guarding their valuables so Germans could not confiscate them, and warning leaders about SS raids. Abdelwahhab, who died in 1997 aged 86, features prominently in his gallery of heroes, along with Si Ali Sakkat, a former mayor of Tunis who hid 60 Jewish workers who had fled a labour camp, and Si Kaddour Benghabrit, the rector of a Paris mosque, who helped 100 Jews evade persecution in 1940. Similarly, the Bey of Tunis, Tunisia's wartime ruler under the Germans, is reported as having told members of his government: "The Jews... are under our patronage and we are responsible for their lives. If I find out that an Arab informer caused even one hair of a Jew to fall, this Arab will pay with his life." As one old gentleman from a small town in Tunisia remarked, "The Arabs watched over the Jews."

Satloff is prepared for such tales of Arab derring-do to stir controversy. Denial of the Holocaust in Arab lands is not uncommon. The leader of Hezbollah, Hassan Nasrallah, has declared to his supporters that Jews invented the "legend" of the Holocaust. Hamas's official website has labelled the Nazi effort to exterminate Jews "an alleged and invented story with no basis". And recently, President Bashar al-Assad of Syria told an interviewer he doesn't "have any clue how (Jews) were killed or how many were killed". So if the Shoah never happened, or has been exaggerated, how can Arabs such as Si Kaddour Benghabrit or the Bey of Tunis have played any part in it noble or otherwise?

It was witnessing the 9/11 attacks that prompted Satloff to embark upon his book. Watching the twin towers collapse, an event he saw from the relative safety of a Midtown office building in Manhattan, he wondered what he, as a Jew, an American and an Islamic scholar, could do to bring together warring ideologies. In his mind, the plume of smoke rising from the towers conjured up the chimneys of the death camps. "I decided that the best thing I could do would be to combat Arab ignorance about the Holocaust," he says. "And the most effective way of doing that was to tell a positive story. Any history that I wrote had to involve the Islamic world and its Arab heroes." As he points out, in a fractured, fragmenting world, dialogue is both desirable and essential.

Today, Schindler and Wallenberg are perhaps the most famous men to have been officially recognised by Yad Vashem as "righteous among the nations". They are just two of the 21,310 Gentiles honoured for risking their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. Individuals come from Chile and Croatia, Lithuania and Latvia, but there is no representative on that list from Tunisia, Morocco or Algiers. "There are Turkish and Bosnian Muslims cited," says Satloff, "but nearly 60 years after the war, no Arab has ever been officially recognised."

Perhaps the testimonies of women like 71-year-old Anny Boukris, whose mother was rescued by Abdelwahhab, hold the clue. She spent years trying to tell people about her family and the debt they all owed to the dashing young Arab. But none of her neighbours wanted to know. Satloff, who checked her story with several sources, has his own explanation: "I came to the sad conclusion that there are two main reasons that no Arabs have been included among that righteous list. First, many Arabs (or their heirs) didn't want to be found, and second, I think many Jews didn't look too hard."

Officials from Yad Vashem have expressed interest in Satloff's work. Throughout his research he has been in contact with its Department of the Righteous, which scrutinises the credentials of candidates, and he will be making all his files available to them. The final decision to afford the honour is made by an independent public committee comprising Holocaust survivors, lawyers, historians and individuals, and is chaired by Supreme Court judges. "But Yad Vashem doesn't act like a detective agency," says Satloff. In practice, the process of recognition, a painstaking and laborious operation, is usually initiated by Holocaust survivors or their families and that has not yet happened. "So far, the commission has yet to receive a request to recognise a person as 'righteous among the nations' from an Arab country," says a spokesman.

Whatever the outcome, Satloff already has one victory under his belt. By providing documentary proof of their incarceration, he has helped dozens of survivors of 100 labour camps in Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia gain thousands of pounds' compensation from the German government. And if he has his way, maybe Khaled Abdelwahhab, the elegant and good-looking man he calls "the Paul Newman of Tunisia", will become the first righteous Arab. No wonder that after 25 years of writing about conflict in the Middle East, he calls this "the most hopeful story I've written".

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In order to understand the bravery of these Arab heroes, it is necessary to put their behaviour in context. As a remark by the philosopher Edmund Burke warns us, "It is necessary only for the good man to do nothing for evil to triumph." There were plenty of men who did nothing.

From the beginning of the second world war, Nazi plans to persecute and eventually exterminate Jews extended throughout a great swathe of Arab lands. Though Germany and its allies controlled this region only briefly, they made substantial progress towards that goal. From June 1940 to May 1943, the Nazis, their Vichy French collaborators and their Italian fascist allies applied in Arab lands many of the precursors to the Final Solution. These included not only laws depriving Jews of property, education, livelihood, rights of residence and free movement, but also torture, slave labour, deportation and execution. Though there were no death camps, many thousands of Jews were consigned to more than 100 brutal labour camps. The very first concentration camps to be liberated by allied troops in late 1942 were in Algeria and Morocco. About 1% of North African Jews (4,000 to 5,000) died under Axis control, compared with more than 50% of European Jewry. As Satloff says, "These Jews were lucky to be in Africa, where the fighting ended relatively early and where boats not just cattle trucks would have been needed to take them to the ovens in Europe."

In this world, Arabs were both willing participants and collaborators. They worked as interpreters, going house to house with SS officers pointing out where Jews lived, oversaw work gangs and guarded prisoners in labour camps. Without a compliant populace, the persecution of Jews would have been impossible.

Were Arabs merely following orders? An interviewer from the US Holocaust Memorial Museum once put that question to Harry Alexander, a Jew from Leipzig, Germany. After his father was taken to Sachsenhausen and his brother to Buchenwald, he managed to escape to France. There French authorities sent him to the notoriously harsh Vichy labour camp at Djelfa in the Algerian desert. "Nobody told them to beat us all the time," he said. "Nobody told them to chain us together. Nobody told them to tie us naked to a post and beat us and to hang us by our arms and hose us down, to bury us in the sand... No, they took this into their own hands and they enjoyed what they did."

Satloff tracked down another survivor of the camps, Morice Tondowski, a 92 year-old Polish-born Jew, to his retirement home in Ilford, Essex. He had joined the Foreign Legion in France but was stripped of his rifle under Vichy's anti-semitic laws and sent to Berguent labour camp in Morocco. Tondowski told him about one of the worst kinds of punishment, the tombeau French for tomb. Prisoners who were judged not to be working hard enough were forced to dig holes and lie in these faux graves for weeks on end, day and night. Surviving only on 175 grams of bread and one litre of water a day, they lay in their own waste. If they made the slightest movement they would be beaten. One of Tondowski's best friends, a fellow Pole, died after weeks in the tombeau. "I think of him all the time," the old man told him.

It is little wonder that Satloff prefers to dwell on the humanity of men like Si Ali Sakkat, another of his local heroes, who died in 1954. He was the Tunisian landowner who came from a noble Muslim family that could trace its lineage back to the Prophet Muhammad. After a career in public service, including a stint as mayor of Tunis, he retired to his splendid 740-acre farm outside the city with fields of grazing sheep and shady olive groves. Not far away from his land was an Axis labour camp. At a critical point of the battle for Tunisia, fighting broke out in a nearby valley. Amid the bombs and gunfire, a group of about 60 Jewish workers seized the opportunity to escape and found their way to Si Ali's property.

"They were lucky to come to his door," says Satloff, who struck up a friendship with Si Ali's grandson. "He didn't hesitate to offer each of them food and lodging. This was a man of ready and simple kindnesses." Opening up his outbuildings and barns for them, the country squire sheltered them for weeks until allied troops, on their way to Tunis, could liberate them.

Just as remarkable are the actions of Si Kaddour Benghabrit. Perhaps the most influential Arab in Europe, he was the rector of the Great Mosque of Paris. Under the noses of German occupiers, he saved as many as 100 Jews by allowing his staff at the mosque to issue them with certificates of Muslim identity, with which they could evade arrest and deportation. Two months after the Germans took control of France, they caught up with the scam and ordered

Saviours in a strange world

Benghabrit to stop. When Satloff visited the mosque to investigate this claim, he was shown a letter telling Benghabrit to desist. It read: "The occupation authorities suspect the personnel of the Mosque of Paris of fraudulently delivering to individuals of the Jewish race certificates attesting that the interested persons are of the Muslim confession." For reasons that are unclear, or perhaps because the Germans lacked firm evidence, no action was taken against Benghabrit. He died in the 1960s and is buried in the same holy place that gave so many Jews a lifeline.

In recording these stories, Satloff's work is far from finished. Now back living and working in Washington, a regular on the university-lecture circuit, he is still discovering more heroes. What next? A sequel? A film of the book? "I've only scratched the surface," he says. "We know not all Arabs joined with the European-inspired campaign against the Jews. The few who risked their lives to save them provide inspiration beyond their numbers."

In the final days of his last research trip, he came across the story of a group of Arab shepherds from western Tunisia, who hid fleeing Jews. "When the Germans came looking for Jews, the Arabs would say they are their cousins," he was told. But the race against time is on. Those who lived through the war are dying out. Just eight weeks after telling her story for the first time in 60 years in all its stirring detail from the hammering on the door to the midnight flight Anny Boukris breathed her last

Among the Righteous: Lost Stories from the Holocaust's Long Reach into Arab Lands (Perseus Books, £ 15.99), by Robert Satloff, is available at the BooksFirst price of £ 14.39, including p&p. Tel: 0870 165 8585

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End of Document

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

The Toronto Star

December 24, 2006 Sunday

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Section: NEWS; Pg. A07

Length: 3203 words

Body

The public life

1. Spot the faux oddity among the federal Liberal leadership hopefuls:

- a. Bob Rae once sought the Ontario NDP leadership.
- b. Scott Brison once sought the federal Tory leadership.
- c. Martha Hall Findlay once sought the Bloc Quebecois leadership.
- d. Michael Ignatieff spent all but a year or so of his adult life outside Canada.

2. Ignatieff's campaign-trail suggestion that Quebec be granted "nation" status, eventually conflated by Stephen Harper into a successful Parliamentary motion to that effect, spurred claims among other cultural groups demanding similar recognition, including:

- a. Leafs Nation
- b. Timbit Nation
- c. Holt's Nation
- d. iPod Nation
- e. Borat Nation
- f. all of the above.

3. Canada's Green Party selected as its new leader:

- a. David Suzuki
- b. Al Gore
- c. Elizabeth May
- d. Hedy Fry

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

Match the new leader with the jurisdiction:

4. Premier Shawn Graham

5. President Felipe Calderon Hinojosa

6. Premier Edward (Steady Eddie) Stelmach

7. Prime Minister Shinzo Abe

a. Mexico

b. Alberta

c. Japan

d. New Brunswick

8. On his farewell visit with George W. Bush, outgoing Japanese prime minister Junichiro Koizumi prevails on the American president to escort him on a tour of:

a. the Grand Canyon

b. the Statue of Liberty

c. the Everglades

d. Graceland

9. The first woman speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, third in line to the presidency, is:

a. Diane Feinstein

b. Olympia Snowe

c. Nancy Pelosi

d. Claire McCaskill

10. Didn't the Segway (the self-balancing scooter that looks like a lawn mower) get off to a similar start?

a. line-ups for PlayStation 3, which turns out to be incompatible with many existing PlayStation games.

b. the Smart car-ette.

c. Obamamania.

d. all of the above.

11. At about the same time this fall that word leaked of a Harper-government ban on the Martin-era use of "innovation" in industry ministry documents, the U.S. Department of Agriculture unveiled its new euphemism for the 4.4 million Americans it estimates suffer from chronic hunger:

a. "nutrition-challenged"

b. "unstable intake"

c. "very low food security"

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

12. Of the December incident in which the First Lady and two other guests wore identical \$8,500 (U.S.) red Oscar de la Renta gowns to a White House reception ...

- a. Barbara Bush
- b. Letitia Baldridge
- c. Bjork

... said, "They all should have congratulated one another on their good taste and the fact that they could afford the dress."

13. In a sign that the proliferation of online diaries is getting out of hand, which blogger recently ranted in his blog about getting stuck in traffic: "You gibber and you chew your tie and rend your shirt"?

- a. Canadian MP Garth Turner
- b. Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk
- c. British MP Boris Johnson
- d. U.S. Congressman Ray Cox

Communicator-in-chief

14. Spot the faux Bushism:

- a. "I'm the decider, and I decide what is best. And what's best is for Don Rumsfeld to remain as the secretary of defence."
- b. "I aim to be a competitive nation."
- c. "I know Laura was wearing that same Oscar DeRezenta dress as the two other ladies, but I didn't see any need for her to go upstairs and change. Is a dress so important?"
- d. "I was not pleased that Hamas has refused to announce its desire to destroy Israel."
- e. "The point now is how do we work together to achieve important goals. And one such goal is a democracy in Germany."
- f. "I think - tide turning - see, as I remember - I was raised in the desert, but tides kind of - it's easy to see a tide turn - did I say those words?"

But, it's true, we don't know his handicap. In golf, that is.

15. Appointed Canadian ambassador to the United States this year, he told Time "I don't know if the current President plays golf. But his father does, and I do know him." Possibly ...

- a. Hugh Segal
- b. Barbara McDougall
- c. Michael Wilson
- d. Perrin Beatty

... didn't notice that Dubya had to be interrupted from a round of golf for his reaction to the "friendly fire" death of four Canadian soldiers in Afghanistan by a trigger-happy U.S. jet-fighter pilot, and was on the links when he offered

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

this curt response to a suicide bombing in Israel: "I call upon all nations to do everything they can to stop these terrorist attacks. Thank you. Now watch this drive."

As The World Turns

16. Which story was so improbable that even the supermarket tabloid Sun didn't publish it?

- a. Global Warming Reveals Ancient UFO
- b. Tora Bora Tourist Tycoons Plan Amazing New Resort: Osamaland!
- c. Retired Army General Says White House Not In Denial About Iraq

17. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, president of Iran, is in denial about

- a. the curvature of the Earth
- b. the Big Dipper
- c. gravity
- d. the Holocaust

18. The new secretary-general of the United Nations is:

- a. former British foreign minister Douglas Hurd
- b. former South Korean foreign minister Ban Ki-Moon
- c. former French foreign minister Dominique de Villepin

19. Next month, German Chancellor Angela Merkel will be only the second woman to host a G-8 summit. The first was:

- a. Tansu Çiller
- b. Kim Campbell
- c. Margaret Thatcher

20. In January, Michelle Bachelet was elected first woman president of:

- a. Turkey
- b. Chile
- c. Malaysia

21. Who is poised to become the first woman to lead France in the history of the Republic in next spring's presidential election?

- a. Edith Cresson
- b. Segolene Royal
- c. Michelle Alliot-Marie

22. The staff of Hillary Clinton, frontrunner to win the Democratic presidential nomination in 2008, spent several weeks last summer squelching speculation of an affair between Clinton's husband and

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

- a. Scarlett Johansson
- b. Belinda Stronach
- c. Elizabeth Dole

Culture

Match the title with the author:

- 23. Everyman
- 24. The View from Castle Rock
- 25. Moral Disorder
- 26. State of Denial
- 27. An Inconvenient Truth

- a. Alice Munro
- b. Al Gore
- c. Bob Woodward
- d. Philip Roth
- e. Margaret Atwood

28. Patterned on Where's Waldo?, our nominee for dubious children's book of the year - featuring cartoons of the anti-hero and its evil stooges camouflaged in the scenery - is:

- a. Where's Pol Pot?
- b. Where's Bin Laden?
- c. Where's Leona Helmsley?

Now playing at the Octoplex

Match the film with the actor or director:

- 29. Beyonce Knowles
- 30. Sarah Polley
- 31. Leonardo DiCaprio
- a. Away From Her
- b. Blood Diamond
- c. Dreamgirls

Jerry Falwell didn't make the cut?

32. True or false? In a December cover story, the venerable Atlantic Monthly, which took a neo-con turn a few years back, includes Richard Nixon among its "100 Most Influential Americans Of All Time."

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

Overhyped non-events of the year

Match the subject with the descriptive:

33. Katie Couric

34. O.J. Simpson

35. The Iraq Study Group

36. James Frey

37. Barry Bonds

a. Dismayed that plans to author a book on how he would have murdered his wife and her boyfriend - except that he didn't, of course - were nixed by Rupert Murdoch, owner of the publisher that tentatively agreed to publish the abomination.

b. Becomes first sole female anchor of a U.S. network newscast.

c. Its long-anticipated December report says the Iraqi occupation is a mess (who knew?), and goes to agonizing lengths not to lay out a new approach fundamentally at odds with George W. Bush's stay-the-course strategy.

d. His bestselling memoir, A Million Little Pieces, is exposed as largely fiction.

e. Alleged steroid user, tax evader and perjurer. Can't we just leave it that he's always been a narcissistic dork?

Uh, no?

38. This item is about George Stroumboulopoulos. George Stroumboulopoulos hosts CBC's The Hour. Actually, George Stroumboulopoulos is The Hour, as George Stroumboulopoulos would be the first to explain. A few months after the flop of George Stroumboulopoulos's ABC reality show The One, hosted by too-hip-by-half George Stroumboulopoulos and cancelled after four episodes, a January 2007 Toronto Life puts George Stroumboulopoulos on the cover and asks:

a. "Can George Stroumboulopoulos learn humility from Mike Bullard?"

b. "Can George Stroumboulopoulos spare himself the fate of Ralph Benmergui?"

c. "Can George Stroumboulopoulos, a music geek from Malton, save the CBC?"

Thou no longer shalt

Match the jurisdiction with the bans:

39. Wearing denim at school.

40. Smoking in indoor spaces.

41. Considers fines for putting feet up on park benches.

42. Implements a dress code forbidding facial piercings, jeans, T-shirts with logos and exposed tattoos, insisting, according to a city spokesperson, that "We're not trying to limit anyone's freedom of expression."

43. The production and sale of foie gras.

44. The serving of food containing trans-fats in restaurants.

a. New York

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

- b. Calgary
- c. San Bernardino
- d. Toronto
- e. Chicago and California
- f. the state of Western Australia.

Who let the dogs out?

Match the individual with the incident:

- 45. Michael Richards
- 46. Mel Gibson
- 47. Michael Ignatieff
- 48. Wesley Snipes
- 49. Andrew Young

- a. Subjected police officers arresting him for drunk driving to an anti-Semitic rant.
- b. Recanted after saying he didn't "lose any sleep" over civilian deaths in a Lebanese town during last summer's Israeli attacks on Hezbollah guerrillas.
- c. Assigned by Wal-Mart to enhance its image in low-income inner-city districts, the former Atlanta mayor accused consecutive generations of Jewish, Korean and Arab shopkeepers of exploiting customers in black neighbourhoods. The retailer promptly condemned the statements and severed ties with the spokesman.
- d. Exploded at two black hecklers during a comedy club appearance, labelling them with the "n-word."
- e. Charged with income-tax fraud.

No, no,

Mr. Vice-President,

it was my bad

50. On Feb. 11, U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney accidentally shot Harry Whittington, a 78-year-old Texas attorney and friend, in the face, neck and upper torso during a quail-shooting incident on a Texas ranch. Whittington, who later suffered a minor heart attack from the shot pellets lodged in or near his heart, but recovered and was discharged from hospital Feb. 17, later:

- a. joked that Cheney should update his eyeglasses prescription
- b. appeared at a post-incident press conference in a quail costume
- c. issued a statement expressing concern for Cheney: "My family and I are deeply sorry for all that Vice-President Cheney and his family have had to go through this past week ... We hope that he will continue to come to Texas and seek the relaxation that he deserves."

Just so long as Dick remains Earth-bound in his 'undisclosed location'

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

51. Who predicted our worldly woes will end "once we spread out into space and establish colonies, our future should be safe"?

- a. John Polanyi
- b. Stephen Hawking
- c. Steven Spielberg

52. Pluto was demoted to the status of "dwarf planet" by an August decision of the International Astronomical Union, because the former ninth planet does not meet the planetary qualification of:

- a. orbiting the Sun.
- b. being massive enough to be a sphere by its own gravitational force.
- c. having at some point had a North American car named for it.
- d. having "cleared its neighbourhood" of dust and other particles with the potential to form "protoplanets."

Fun couples

Match the antagonists:

53. Outgoing United Nations secretary-general Kofi Annan.

54. Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who called for the destruction of Israel.

55. British comedian and film actor Sacha Baron (Borat) Cohen.

56. Then-U.S. Senator George Allen (R-Va.), whose failed re-election bid threw control of the Senate to the Democrats.

- a. the Bush administration.
- b. Kazakhstan.
- c. political campaign operative S.R. (Macaca) Sidarth.
- d. Simon Wiesenthal Center.

It's easy pledging green

57. Ranking of Canada and Kazakhstan in a survey of national performance in protecting the environment, publicized by Climate Action Network:

- a. 7 and 122
- b. 23 and 79
- c. 51 and 52

Annals of Commerce

58. Which of the following Canadian firms was not acquired by foreign interests?

- a. Inco Ltd.
- b. Vincer International Inc. (Inniskillin, Jackson-Triggs)

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

- c. Shoppers Drug Mart Inc.
- d. Sleeman Breweries Ltd.
- e. Four Seasons Hotels Inc.
- f. Hudson's Bay Co.
- g. Falconbridge Ltd.

59. The world's second-wealthiest man ...

- a. Ted Turner
- b. Warren Buffett
- c. Richard Branson
- d. Donald Trump

... donated his \$31-billion (U.S.) fortune to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Film noir

60. In the CTV biopic *Shades of Black*, Conrad Black & Barbara Amiel are played by:

- a. Woody Harrelson and Karen Black
- b. Albert Schultz and Lara Flynn Boyle
- c. John Malkovich and Karen Black

61. Depicted as a capricious spendthrift in *Shades of Black*, Amiel can take solace from the fact that:

- a. there are no nude scenes
- b. there are no newspaper box cards, dating from Amiel's brief stint as editor of *The Toronto Sun*, that read, "This is where you can pick up Barbara Amiel."
- c. the actress selected to play her is about three decades younger than Amiel.

62. True or false: In his 2006 biography of Black and Amiel, U.K. muckraking author Tom Bower writes that new household staff at the Blacks' London home in Cottesmore Gardens would be taken to the roof and instructed by the butler: "Make sure the landing lights are on at all times because Madame takes off from here on her broomstick looking for cats. She needs the lights to guide her return."

S'long

Match the abruptly departed with the circumstances of his exit.

- 63. One of the biggest foreign-policy disasters in U.S. history.
- 64. Fallout from the Maher Arar inquiry.
- 65. Resigned the Harvard presidency under pressure amid a faculty rebellion.
- 66. Alleged irregularities in his expense-account billing.
- a. Giuliano Zaccardelli, RCMP commissioner

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

- b. Tom Parkinson, CEO of Hydro One
- c. Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. defence secretary
- d. Lawrence Summers, former U.S. treasury secretary

More proof the 'End Times' neareth

67. Which of the following 2006 news items is fictitious?

- a. Japan slaughters 35 whales in the name of research.
- b. Iceland defies a global ban and slaughters an endangered fin whale.
- c. Between them, Dell Inc. and Apple Computer Inc. recall 5.8 million laptop computers with potentially faulty batteries after reports of spontaneously combusting Sony-made batteries.
- d. Three teens relieve themselves on Ottawa's National War Memorial on Canada Day.
- e. The CBC accidentally runs a porno flick visible behind a news anchor during a broadcast.
- f. In a promotion drive, a Six Flags amusement park in Illinois permitted queue-jumping for visitors who ate a Madagascar hissing cockroach.
- g. A Malaysian man is informed the telephone account of his deceased father is \$252 trillion in arrears.
- h. A Pakistani cleric publicizes a reward of \$1 million (U.S.), plus a free car, for the assassination of the dozen Danish cartoonists who defiantly depicted the Prophet Mohammed, a severe breach of Islamic law.
- i. Kuujjuaq, Que., a hamlet within the Arctic Circle, places an order for 10 air conditioners.
- j. More than a dozen members of an armed gang toss five human heads onto the dance floor of a bar in western Mexico.
- k Afghanistan's opium crop hits record levels.
- l. Keith Richards, 104, falls out of a palm tree in Fiji.

Well, that's a relief

68. After lengthy consultations, Pope Benedict XVI decides not to retire:

- a. holy cards.
- b. the Popemobile.
- c. Limbo.
- d. St. Peter.

In memoriam

Match the departed with his or her distinction.

69. Augusto Pinochet

70. Don Knotts

71. John Kenneth Galbraith

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

72. Wilson Pickett

73. Steve Irwin

74. Slobodan Milosevic

75. Glenn Ford

76. Kenneth Lay

77. William Styron

78. Robert Altman

79. Maynard Ferguson

80. John Profumo

81. Freddie Laker

82. Milton Friedman

a. World's tallest economist (6'8").

b. Blackboard Jungle.

c. Ruthless dictator who ruled Chile for nearly two decades.

d. British discount airline pioneer.

e. "Mustang Sally."

f. Genocidal Yugoslav president and Serbian ultra-nationalist for whom the term "ethnic cleansing" was coined.

g. Presided over collapse of Enron Corp. in second-largest bankruptcy filing in world history (after WorldCom Inc.).

h. Nashville.

i. former British war minister who resigned Cabinet in 1963 after lying about his affair with a 19-year-old prostitute whose other clients included a Soviet diplomat.

j. "Gonna Fly Now."

k. "Crocodile Hunter" and conservationist.

l. The Andy Griffith Show.

m. Nobel laureate U.S. economist.

n. Sophie's Choice.

The sporting life

83. Unlike the revered Pele, who could discreetly play dirty with the best of them, soccer star ...

a. Marco Materazzi

b. Zinedine Zidane

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

c. David Beckham

... managed to get caught on camera head-butting an opponent in the World Cup final in Berlin.

84. Name the competition from which Floyd Landis was expelled by his team after testing positive a second time for synthetic testosterone, a banned performance-enhancing substance.

85. True or false: A consistent Team Canada lost its matches with each of Switzerland, Finland and Russia by 2-0.

86. True or false: In one of its less subtle money grabs, Major League Baseball this year licensed the use of team names and logos on caskets and urns.

Splitsville

87. Ellen Barkin

88. Whitney Houston

89. Heather Mills

90. Kim Mathers

a. Ron Perelman

b. Paul McCartney

c. Eminem

d. Bobby Brown

The Sexes

91. In the December Esquire, actress Dana Delany of Kidnapped offers all but which of the following tips for men about dealing with women?

a. "A private plane will not make up for the fact that you have bad breath."

b. "If you just listen and let her cry, it will lead to deep, wet, soulful sex. If you like that kind of thing."

c. "Red roses are best. Any other shade hints at lack of commitment."

d. "There are two spots on women that need to be touched more: the back of the neck and the lower back. Fireworks."

92. In December a California state court rejected a defamation suit brought by which celebrity against US Weekly for asserting she had made a sexually explicit home video with her husband, concluding that the plaintiff has "put her modern sexuality squarely, and profitably, before the public eye"?

a. Madonna

b. Britney Spears

c. Laura Bush

Just what was said

93. "I sting those who rattle me, so don't mess with me, Condoleezza."

94. "I don't think I've ever been accused of seducing anyone, including my wife."

The stars, the stunts, the stats bring 'em on

95. "After all these years of inaction, will the prime minister finally get something done and do something the former government would not, and cancel the subsidies to big oil and big ass - big gas."

96. "They have skinny bones."

97. "Show me just what Muhammad brought ... and there you will find things only evil..."

98. "I think I'd just commit suicide."

99. "Every decade has an iconic blond like Marilyn Monroe or Princess Diana, and right now I'm that icon."

100. "Is that all you guys do, is read these books? You ought to get a life."

a. Stephen Harper, asked how he lured former Liberal cabinet minister David Emerson to defect to the Tories.

b. Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez in March, after the U.S. Secretary of State described said his country had become a "challenge to democracy." Chavez was handily re-elected later in the year.

c. Designer Karl Lagerfeld defending his use of skinny models, insisting that obesity was of much greater concern.

d. U.S. Senator John McCain (R-AZ) in late October, on the prospect of Democrats regaining control of both houses of Congress, which they did in the Nov. 7 midterm elections.

e. Jack Layton in Commons debate in December, on federal subsidies to the petroleum industry.

f. Pope Benedict XVI, who later said he was "deeply sorry" for the comment.

g. Paris Hilton in July.

h. Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. defence secretary, admonishing reporters for asking about revelations in the proliferation of Iraq post-mortem books.

N

Graphic

She's poised to become the first Speaker of the House in the U.S. Name that flick starring Leonardo DiCaprio. Meanwhile, in overhyped, non-event news ... He played Conrad Black in the TV biopic Shades of Black. You could say this soccer star was the head case of the year. Dana Delany has some advice for you guys. Listen up! George Stroumboulopoulos, host of CBC's The Hour and Toronto Life cover boy.

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Body

Shields understands nothing of the stakes

A recent column by Mark Shields on the Daily Herald's opinion page (March 5) shows how naive and ignorant his views really are.

Vietnam was a noble cause; the military did not lose the war, the Democrats cut and run. Since our military is run by civilians, the military had to abandon Vietnam, causing a genocide committed by the communists. That critical part is never reported.

Mark Shields is ignorant of military doctrine and rules of engagement.

He states that we did well in the "first Persian Gulf War" and implies that we are not doing as well today.

Desert Storm (the first Persian Gulf War) was fought out in the open; our forces fired on all enemy troops. Today, we are fighting terrorists on the streets of Baghdad.

These cowards hide behind women and children, so we may not be allowed to fire back in order to avoid killing civilians. Different war, different terrain.

If we abandon Iraq, a genocide will follow. Who will you blame?

In World War II, we did not have such restrictions. We continually bombed civilians in Germany and Japan. Hundreds of thousands of civilians died in order for the Allies to win in four years.

If we used today's rules of engagement during World War II, the war may have lasted 20 to 30 years.

Here is a news flash for Mr. Shields: the terrorist organizations Hamas, Hezbollah and al-Qaida are determined to destroy the United States. They wish to establish a world caliphate and make the United States an Islamic state.

If we allow the Islamic fascists to win in Iraq, we will end up fighting them here in our streets.

Everyone has to become familiar with our enemy; your life may depend on it. We in the military know what is at stake; do you?

Roman G. Golash

No Headline In Original

Palatine

Mexico's leaders have a lot of gall

I'm amused by the remarks made by the Mexican government about Americans building the fence along the southern border stepping about 30 feet onto Mexican soil.

They called it an "incursion." What arrogance!

This shows the influence and control their government has over ours.

They don't mention how many times their people have illegally come onto American soil, sometimes bringing weapons and drugs with them and just thumbing their noses at American laws.

This is the result of the Bush administration catering to their every wish, while ignoring the needs and safety of the American people, many of whom have been victimized.

Juan Hernandez made a statement that this situation would all be resolved "in a few weeks" - which I guess means that Ted Kennedy will push the amnesty/guest worker legislation which nobody wants.

Again, pandering to the Mexican government and ignoring the American people.

Our government ignores the cost involved in having these people here.

They equate that expense as resolving itself by the taxes they'll will pay once they are citizens -"they'll pay for themselves."

Isn't that what they said about Iraqi oil paying for the war?

Why is this American government so obsessed with courting Mexican favor?

Why are foreigners being favored over Americans?

We're being sold out!

I think our government owes us an explanation!

They're leading us down a dangerous, and very expensive path.

Mostly, they're giving our country and our sovereignty away.

Evelyn Edinger

Cary

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Eureka!

The Sunday Times (London)

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Byline: Bryan Appleyard

Body

What were the big ideas of 2006? The rise of atheism, the demise of multiculturalism and the objectification of men's bodies are just some of the concepts shaping our time, says Bryan Appleyard

Two thousand and six! What was that all about? Another blur of what Harold Macmillan called "Events, dear boy, events!" But wait, weren't there rather more events than usual? Didn't 06 seem a little heavy with happenings?

Well, there was an improbably blond James Bond in the buffed form of Daniel Craig, a new brutal incarnation of the imperturbable MI6 hardman who suddenly doesn't give a damn whether his martini is shaken or stirred but makes a fantastic new male pin-up. There was Iraq, of course, a bloody debacle, and Afghanistan, where the Taliban, fundamentalist grotesques, are back. There was the long, now you see it, now you don't, handover of power from Blair to Brown (or not Brown, if Blair has any say in the matter).

There was Rumsfeld toppled and the Israelis v Hezbollah in south Lebanon. There were Russian poisoners and Putin's power play with, well, power. I could go on, but you get the picture, it's just stuff, lots of it, big and small. But years, though arbitrary divisions of time, have themes. Years are remembered either for clear world-shaking moments -1914, 1917, 1939, 2001 as stepping stones to some specific future, or as moments in which ideas and opinions were condensed and/or transformed.

Years carry the weight not just of events but of ideas. For example, 1968 means something because of the student uprisings in France and the hippie revolt against Vietnam in particular and the military-industrial complex in general. The collapse of the idea of communism is branded for ever with the digits 1989. And 2001 was not just a terrorist attack on America, it was the launch of a new ideological world order.

Some of these ideas are obvious at the time, but many are not. History will tell us its versions of the full story much later. But, for now, all we have are these disconnected yarns, "whispers", in the always lovely words of the poet John Ashbery, "out of time".

So, in these terms, what can be said about 2006? Which are the ideas that shaped our world and will shape the year to come?

It has been, without question, a year of mighty geopolitical changes. The war on terror, launched from the still-smoking ruins of the World Trade Center, became, in Iraq, a war of attrition, often likened to Vietnam but equally well compared to the trenches of the first world war in which competing technologies -in this case of suicide bombings and remotely targeted missiles -produced only a lethal stalemate.

Eureka!

But, of course, far below the geopolitical radar life goes on. In the developed world, virtuality in politics and life tightened its grip on our imaginations. The spinners spun faster than ever and Tony Blair, the defining politician of his generation, continued to dazzle with his breathtaking ability to snatch survival from the jaws of apparently certain defeat.

With the rise and rise of digital connectedness, whole new communities with entirely new dynamics were formed. Social networking sites such as MySpace created their own pop cultures and bloggers started to grab the news agenda, the ideas of the many suddenly battling in real time with the ideas of the few. We were tuned out by iPods and tuned in by a deluge of competing voices, bellowing the odds across the invisible swamps of cyberspace.

The poor, in Africa especially, remained poor and the rich nations showed their usual inclination to do nothing about it. But the two richest individuals in the world -Bill Gates and Warren Buffett -showed how something can be done, using capitalist savvy to subvert state corruption and incompetence.

What follows is an admittedly subjective attempt to list the big ideas of the year, the ones that seem to me to carry the most weight and resonance and which are likely to continue to do so, at least in the near future. Bear with me because, through all the carnage, doubt and anxiety, the list has a happy ending.

Not that the new year will really be happy, they never are, but in the words of another great poet, Ezra Pound, "the light sings eternal/ a pale flare over marshes".

Atheism

Richard Dawkins's book *The God Delusion* relit old fires and got the ungodly hoards revved up. The new atheists, like the old, want to blame all the woes of the world on religion, in spite of the fact that two irreligious creeds, communism and fascism, were the two great woe-dispensers of the 20th century. But Islamic terrorism appears to confirm the new atheists' belief -though they don't seem to be as angry about that as they do Christianity.

Never mind, the atheist cult is back, aching to burn the unbelievers.

BitTorrent

The young don't like to pay for things on the internet. Napster, Kazaa and, latterly, LimeWire, demonstrated that in the virtual world anything could be free as long as it could be turned into a computer file. Lawyers have stamped their feet, but the technology keeps skipping away from them. BitTorrent is now a gigantic global file-sharing system. Something like two thirds of all domestic computer use involves file-sharing and half of that goes through BitTorrent. This points to a key effect of the internet -its deflationary power. The full economic consequences of the net's ability to take things that were worth a lot and deliver them free is yet to be felt, but it all began in 2006.

Blogging

Political blogging has now taken off in Britain with big bloggers such as Paul Staines (aka Guido Fawkes) and Iain Dale exerting real influence and seizing the agenda from the mainstream media. (Dale is also going into television on the net through his 18DoughtyStreet site.) Just about all the successful political blogs are on the libertarian right. Guido, in particular, has created his own form of libertarian satirico-anarchism. There are two reasons for this: a) to a rough approximation the left hasn't been able write for at least 30 years and b) the left is so keen on politically correct self-censorship and on dogma that, for example, America is to blame for everything -it cannot adapt to the wild, heretical style of the bloggers. Somehow the left will have to work this out or the Tories will sweep into power on a blog-powered tide of giggling, ribaldry and abuse.

Bondage

Daniel Craig played James Bond as top totty in *Casino Royale*, thus brilliantly resurrecting the Bond brand and turning him into the king of Male Bimbos in the process. This was the year when the objectification of the male form finally went mainstream. The MB is now the most desirable role for any man as it subverts any attempt to lock him into the misery of the palaeo-feminist dialectic. And women can't now complain about men ogling them.

Eureka!

Brownism

Gordon Brown brooded over the year like King Kong peering down at Fifth Avenue from the top of the Empire State Building. But the still unanswered intellectual question this posed was: what does Brown mean? His celebrated brainiac might has often been asserted but never demonstrated, so the Big Brown Idea remains shrouded in low cloud. Infrared goggles reveal a bizarre mix of neoconservative morality and old Labour economics, a noxious brew kept bubbling by the fiery myth of the great betrayal that supposedly denied him the leadership in the 1990s and whose effect is to tax us all endlessly.

Gambling

The most stupid activity known to man really took off in 2006. Online betting expanded while peculiarly horrible television shows, such as ITV's *The Mint*, found wholly new and ingenious ways to take money off poor people. Over in the City the pursuit of risk has paid off as never before with assorted traders, lawyers and bankers staggering home with unprecedented piles of bonus cash with which to drive the property market to ever more delirious peaks of frenzy. Risk, in short, has become the clearest route to the good life. In the late 1960s the writer Alan Harrington forecast a future in which chance would be our only God. We're nearly there.

History

As the world grew more dangerous and the babyboomer generation found themselves blinded by the spectacle of their own mortality, heritage became an urgent matter.

Boomer thinkers began to realise that their repudiation of the past in the 1960s meant that their children couldn't remember anything at all. They did not know what the boomers knew but had tried to forget -that health, wealth and civilisation hang by a thread and that the 20th century had seen a series of savage attempts to cut that thread. Suddenly we want the young to know the true cost of their peace and plenty. History is the new black.

Internet advertising

At the end of 2005 I was laughed at by media executives who told me the internet would not seriously affect their business this year. Well, told you so, told you so. Internet advertising rocketed, newspapers sales slumped and ITV is probably beyond the power of even Michael Grade, the resurrection man. The contortions of the mainstream media's attempts to cope with the seeping away of their revenue generators to the net has been one of the great comic consolations of my year.

Newspapers have attempted to become iPods (see Zune below) and television has plumbed new depths of idiocy and "interactivity" (see Gambling above). At some point, though probably not in 2007, because folly moves in five-year cycles, sanity will return and newspapers will remember what they are good at, which is being newspapers. Don't hold your breath.

London

It was a year in which London became grotesquely rich and absurdly expensive.

Thanks to a City boom and Brown's untypically generous tax regime for foreign residents, the capital is now rapidly becoming the financial centre of the world, its roads clogged with Bentleys and its offices entirely occupied by delirious estate agents. As a result, the M25 is becoming the frontier of a state within a state. This is a burning fuse, politically. Whether real explosive is attached may become clear in 2007.

Marriage

An idea whose time has come again: in affirming the socially desirable status of marriage, David Cameron took the dangerous step of injecting some old back-to-basics thinking into the still-ailing Tory body. Of course his marriage includes gay civil partnerships and, indeed, any domestic arrangement that shows signs of stability, but it's marriage nonetheless. This is an attempt to outflank Labour on the left that mirrors Labour's attempts to outflank

Eureka!

Cameron on the right by abandoning multiculturalism and seeming to get tough on asylum-seekers. Party politics aside, however, the new interest in marriage is an expression of a real mood change. People now want any kind of stability in a dangerous world.

Multiculturalism

Multiculturalism is dead. It had it coming. An ideology that defined a nation as a series of discrete cultural and political entities that were each free to opt out of any or all common orthodoxies was never a serious contender in the Miss Best Political System pageant. But, with Jack Straw's startling statements about the veil, with Trevor Phillips, the then head of the Commission for Racial Equality, trashing the ideology and with the spectacle of a Labour peer trying to persuade me she had never believed any of it and that it was time Muslims joined the mainstream, it is safe to say that Miss Multi-Culti was finally booted off the catwalk in 2006. In her place are a various attempts to emphasise a British way of doing things and a deep governmental impatience with the shoddy intellectual and political credentials of Muslim so-called "community leaders". Will it work? Let's hope so.

Neoconservatism

Neoconservatism died in 2006, buried beneath the broken concrete of Baghdad and southern Lebanon. Once the weapons of mass destruction case for the second Gulf war had evaporated, the Bush-Blair axis fell back on the central pillar of the neocon case -that freedom could be delivered on a fire-and-forget basis by a Hellfire missile. But it couldn't. Tribalism always trumps technology. That inept and diplomatically challenged technophile Donald Rumsfeld took the bullet for his president and a new realism was announced in the form of an attempt to engage with Syria and Iran. That can't work, either. But the hard truth for the Americans is that a doctrine that was actually stated in Kennedy's inauguration speech in 1961 -the proactive spreading of freedom around the world -has met its second nemesis, Vietnam being the first. It's a hard truth for us too. Like it or not, American freedom guarantees our own.

Nuclear power

The great green guru James Lovelock insists that nuclear is our only serious energy option. Softer greens and much public sentiment dissents from this, rationally because of Chernobyl and Three Mile Island and worry about what to do with the waste, irrationally because they see something creepy, even impious, about this mysterious power source. Politicians have edged cautiously towards nuclear and will edge further in 2007. The phrase "pebble bed" -describing a form of safe reactor -will enter the vernacular.

Olympics

Gradually, predictably, the 2012 Games in London is becoming a very dead, Dome-or Wembley-like albatross round the country's neck with rows, resignations and cost overruns signalling the structural tensions involved. Meanwhile, in 2008 Beijing is likely to take the entry cost for any aspirant Olympic city to a new, stratospheric high. London may be a richer venue but it does not have the right kind of money -that is, the kind that can be spent on the whim of central government. The argument for London pulling out of what, after all, is just a few weeks of fit people running, jumping and standing still, will grow stronger.

Watch slippery Red Ken Livingstone for signs that all is not well on Mount Olympus.

Phew...

...what a scorcher! And Met Men say there's more to come! It was the hottest year on record, yet another nail in the coffin of global warming scepticism. Also there were Al Gore's surprisingly gripping film, *An Inconvenient Truth*, and Sir Nicholas Stern's report on the economic effects of climate change. It was, in short, the year in which greenery became mainstream. A pervasive, and healthy, awareness of sin is at the heart of the matter. That we are abusing Gaia, the living system, seems obvious when contemplating the mess that humanity leaves in its wake.

Greenery is one good answer to the question posed by our inner sense that we are not quite right in the world. Science and guilt are a potent combination. This one will run and run until we fry.

Eureka!

Philanthropy

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation now dwarfs all other charities with an endowment of more than \$30 billion. Gates may have made terrible software, but, for his charitable endeavours he deserves the Nobel Peace Prize, though he is likely to be denied it by the anti-Americanism of the Swedish Academy. In October, America's second richest man, Buffett, pledged another \$30 billion to the foundation. This is an incredible testament to the American corporate imagination and one that should give all our knee-jerk anti-Americans pause. Gates and Buffett are doing more for the world than all the dinner party do-gooders, chuggers (charity muggers), telethon appeals, good-cause gimmick artists and political jobsworths combined. They have also spread the idea of big philanthropy to Britain. Big giving will be a leitmotif of the immediate future.

Pope

The German Benedict XVI inherited the papacy from the Polish John Paul II in April 2005. Assumed to be a cold hardliner, his first encyclical *Deus Caritas Est* startled with, among other things, a warm endorsement of erotic love. But his most important statement was buried by the controversy caused by a lecture delivered in Germany in September. Benedict quoted the views of a 14th-century Byzantine emperor - "Show me just what Muhammad brought that was new and there you will find things only evil and inhuman, such as his command to spread by the sword the faith he preached." A firestorm ensued. The strange thing about the quotation is that it is not structurally necessary to the lecture. But the important point was Benedict's faith in human reason, a faith that, to many Muslims, is blasphemous.

This suggests that, just as the central theme of John Paul's papacy was the confrontation with communism, so that of Benedict's may be the affirmation of the western intellectual tradition against fundamentalist Islam. This is another burning intellectual fuse.

Realism

A return to geopolitical realism was announced over the grave of neoconservatism.

The James Baker-Lee Hamilton Iraq Study Group signalled a "realistic" attempt to engage with the other big players in the Middle East theatre. Realism rejects the idealism of the neocons in favour of an acceptance of conditions as they are rather than as they should be. The problem is that it gives power and credibility to states such as Iran and Syria that deserve neither and that will, in the best Middle Eastern tradition, interpret diplomatic overtures as signs of weakness. We need a third way, a way of speaking softly and carrying a big stick. Watch out for foreign policy head-clutching in 2007.

Religion

The post-war belief that religion was just an awkward, infantile superstition that would be trampled beneath the marching boots of progress was fully laid to rest in 2006. The new militancy of atheism was clear evidence of the way religion is once more a big player on the world stage. The extremes are, of course, American Christian and Islamic fundamentalism, both of which claim to have literal and exclusive access to the truth of the human condition. But, between these two, more moderate forms of faith have also been finding a new confidence. Materialism, after all, is palpably not making anybody happier. Future politics can no longer be locked in the old humanist categories. This may be very bad news indeed. Or maybe not.

Russia

Russia's years of being a post-communist basket case are over. Grand old customs - notably assassination and coercion - have been reaffirmed. Granite-jawed KGB operatives have woken from their long, sulky slumber to return to the serious business of killing. Meanwhile Vladimir Putin is feeling a little too good about himself. He can manipulate Europe with energy supplies while the ineptitude of US policy in "post-war" Iraq has left him free to play the great game in the Middle East, deploying his disreputable clients, Iran and Syria. In 2006 the cold war began to re-emerge from the shadows. Expect more of the same.

Eureka!

War on terror

George W Bush's favourite idea has become an embarrassment and everybody is looking for a substitute. The Tories, in particular, have been asking assorted advisers if they can come up with anything better. The problems with the war on terror are, first, that Bush keeps saying it in a funny way -"Wawontear" -and, secondly, its association with the carnage in Iraq. Its great virtue, however, is that it does draw to the attention of people -the young in particular -that wars, these days, don't necessarily look like wars. They may just look like sudden piles of dismembered bodies putting a frustrating crimp in your schedule.

Nevertheless, expect a serious attempt at rechristening in the new year.

Weird sex

As a result of the ambivalencies of American law, the US pornography industry has successfully defended itself as "free speech". But, with the arrival of the internet the local has become the global and hard porn is available everywhere, in spite of the best efforts of the mullahs in Iran and the apparatchiks in China.

Sex has been mechanised and consumerised on an unprecedented scale. Its potential for creative variety has also been exposed. Where once a foot fetishist or a cross-dressing masochist would have been a rare oddity, they are mainstream hedonists now. "Vanilla" (ordinary) intercourse is a mere subcategory in a vast erotic pageant. The effect on marriage, we will see.

Zune

This is Microsoft's new music player, designed to undermine the iPod. Being made by Microsoft, a company with zero marketing instincts, it doesn't stand a chance.

But it draws attention to the whole bright, floating world of consumer technology.

Through networking, blogging, downloading, internet calls, gaming and God knows what else in 2007, new digital technology defines ever larger parts of our lives.

It is, to anybody over 18, bewildering. But it works and consumes little energy.

If we all spent our lives on the net and talking on mobiles instead of driving and flying, global warming would cease to be a problem. But, also, to be honest, I like this stuff. It makes me oddly happy, even though I am too old to grasp even 10% of what is going on. Much more is to come. I think this is good news. So there you go, an upbeat ending. The new year burns bright on the horizon. Have a good one. But, hey, let's be careful out there.

Load-Date: December 17, 2006

It's a funny old game; Three years after he was thrown to the wolves for blurting out a racist remark on ITV, the flamboyant football pundit Ron Atkinson has a new job, pacing the touchline at lowly Kettering Town FC. But, as Big Ron tells Nick Duerden, he's still gunning for a glorious comeback. Photographs by David Harrison

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Body

There are, perhaps, few sights in modern football more forlorn than the forecourt of Kettering Town FC. Sitting on a slight incline just off a ring road, it is a place of tired, pitted Tarmac and tellingly empty parking spaces. In one corner, there is a Wimpy burger bar that probably hasn't seen modernisation since the 1970s, and the souvenir shop opposite, which sells KTFC mugs for a pound, is housed in a prefab that has the air of an end-of-pier novelty kiosk to it. The stadium itself is rusting and wheezing, its aura which overwhelmingly suggests that The Beautiful Game is not necessarily played here with any regularity. Right now, on a damp and dreary Tuesday afternoon in late February, there isn't a soul in sight. All that's missing is the tumbleweed.

Which is why the gleaming black Mercedes looks so glaringly out of place. It belongs, this Premiership status machine, to the Conference North team's newly appointed director of football, Ron Atkinson, brought in to make some radical changes to the club's fortunes. "But with a budget," he notes, "significantly smaller than [Jose] Mourinho's." So far, a month in, it's going well, and Kettering sit second in the league. You'd have thought, though, that Atkinson was bigger than this and, yes, maybe he is. But three years since his racist slur on Chelsea's Marcel Desailly promptly cast him into purdah - or, to be more precise, into the welcoming arms of reality-based television - "Big" Ron is just happy to be back in football, whatever the level. Nevertheless, it's a long way from Old Trafford.

"You know what? It is, it really is," the man himself will later say, sitting large on a tiny chair in the club's closet-sized office, but looking every inch the formidable Ron Atkinson of legend, replete with mahogany tan and fat platinum watch. "And if you want the truth of it, even I thought my days of standing on a touchline in the rain and mud on a freezing winter's night was behind me. But it turns out they're not, and I'm grateful for it, I truly am. I'm enjoying myself here, more than I'd expected. You should see me come Saturday afternoons." He makes a fist and taps it

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against his chest. "I'm all... anxious. No, anxious is not it. Anticipation- ary. No, that's not it either. What is the word...?"

But all this is yet to come, and right now, at 3pm, I haven't yet met the man. I can hear him as I arrive, though, his mellifluous voice floating down a dark and dank corridor that runs around the stadium's perimeter. He is singing something old and classic, possibly Tony Bennett, more likely Frank Sinatra.

"E's in the shower, pull up a chair." This comes from Morrell Maison, Kettering Town's boisterous manager. Immediate hospitality aside, he wants to know who, precisely, I am and where I'm from. " The Independent? The independent what?"

When Kettering's flamboyant chairman Imraan Ladak first appointed Atkinson, a year after he'd installed Paul Gascoigne in the job and then sacked him (for reasons unclear) just six weeks later, it prompted initial consternation. Largely, it seems, because Atkinson was to work directly alongside team manager Maison, and sparks were sure to fly. Not because of Maison's colour (he's black), but rather due to overlapping responsibilities and that most prevalent of states in football: ego.

At least part of the reason he is back in football is down to last year's Sky One series Big Ron Manager, Atkinson doing for ailing Peterborough United what Gordon Ramsay did for struggling restaurants in Channel 4's Kitchen Nightmares. Fortunately for the show's producers, ego reared its head here, too, and the clashes between Atkinson and then-manager Steve Bleasdale were tempestuous. But here at Kettering, at least for the time being, he and Maison are putting on a united front.

"I'd like to think we complement one another," Maison says, spooning sugar into a cup of increasingly weak coffee. "And it's working well so far, Ron the boss, me the gaffer; it's all good. And it's great he's here because Ron is up there with the likes of Shankly and Cloughie [Bill and Brian respectively, long deceased managerial legends]. I tell my players that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for them, that they may never get the chance to work with this kind of calibre again."

Refreshed from his shower and now sitting across from the manager, meticulously ridding his trousers of imaginary lint as the compliments flow, Atkinson's already tanned face darkens further in a blush: "Good God man! That sounds suspiciously like an obituary, that does! I'm not dead yet!"

Maison continues: "I'm serious. Ron's up there with those guys, and my players can learn a lot from him."

Coffee sugared and mobile phone now trilling, Maison leaves us. In his wake, Atkinson winks, basking in the appraisal.

"Good lad, Morrell," he says, and then, as if to repay the compliment, he begins to praise the team they share responsibility for, if not quite for their skill and flare then for their pluck and fortitude. The players at Kettering are either handy teenagers with stars in their eyes or weathered journeymen nearing the end of their careers. The average wage is £15-20,000 a year and, while they are unlikely to appeal to aspirant Wags, they've a whole lot of commitment. Last Saturday, for example, they fought out an impressive 4-4 draw with Redditch United.

"But we were 3-0 up at one stage," he points out. "And we gave it away. We were lucky with the draw, to be honest. If the game had gone on any longer, we'd have lost it, definitely. I say to the lads, I say: if we want promotion this season [to the Nationwide Conference], we've got to battle. You don't get anything easy at this level, and if we ponce about, we won't win. Simple as that."

"Exactly!" shouts Maison, from down the corridor.

Ron Atkinson is one of football's original heavyweights. Never the most accomplished player - at Aston Villa, Oxford Utd and Witney Town - he did make an immediate splash as a manager, his flamboyant style coupled with the air (and wardrobe) of an entertainer giving him as much in common with Jimmy Tar-buck as Alex Ferguson. At the dawn of 1971, he was ready to hang up his boots in favour of a career in commerce, but his father urged him to

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take the top job here at Kettering instead. His managerial career was to prove a peripatetic one, in charge of West Brom, Man Utd, Nottingham Forest and, for just 46 days, Atletico Madrid, and forever more popular with players than the board. During his reign at Man Utd, for example, he was openly loathed by Bobby Charlton. The feeling was mutual.

"Not an easy man to like, Bobby," he says now. "Not an easy man at all. But then I've always been a training ground manager, and that tends not to work so well with the suits. Take this one particular club, for example, I won't tell you which, but I was sacked for spending too much time on the training ground and not enough time listening to the chairman prattle on about his yacht. You think I'm joking, but I'm not. I'm serious."

He is largely credited as the first British manager to nurture homegrown black talent. At West Brom in the late 1970s, his team included the three best black players in the country: Laurie Cunningham, Brendan Batson and Cyrille Regis.

"My track record in that respect," he likes to say, and so says it often, "is second to none. I'm a preacher of the basic belief that people are people, and I treat them with respect when they deserve it, whatever their colour."

Footballing achievements aside, what really put Atkinson on the cultural map, enabling him to reach the kind of mainstream audience normally well out of the range of most sporting pundits, was his move into the commentary box for ITV.

"European Championships, 1980, was my first time, and I never looked back," he says. And the reason he took to it so naturally? "I'd never think about being on the telly; that's the secret. Far as I was concerned, I was just sitting next to my mate and chatting like we were down the pub."

This approach, of course, was to ultimately contribute to his downfall, but, for over 20 years, he remained the most distinctive television pundit, his increasingly bizarre malapropisms often far more entertaining than the matches he presided over. In one World Cup, for example, he mused that Chile, "have three options: they could win or they could lose. It's up to them, the tide is in their court." On the subject of a player's cramp, he posited that, "in some ways, cramp is worse than a broken leg. But leukaemia is worse still, probably." And of one referee, he memorably uttered: "He was vertically 15 yards away. And he has a moustache." He could also be relied upon to provide a taste of his surroundings for viewers: "I came here to Nantes two years ago and it's much the same today, except that it's totally different. The red light district is still the same, mind you."

Ron, sitting not two feet in front of me, isn't amused.

"Those things I'm supposed to have said?" he scowls. "Never said them in the first place, mostly. All made up." Isn't there taped evidence to the contrary? He shrugs. "Well, that's as maybe, but most of them were exaggerated, or taken out of context..."

Something else he insists was taken out of context occurred in his last game for ITV. It was April 2004, Chelsea versus Monaco in what was a very disappointing game. At its conclusion, the TV feed over but the microphones still open, Atkinson was heard to say this of Chelsea's Marcel Desailly: "[He is] what is known in some schools as a fucking lazy, thick nigger."

The furore was immediate, and Atkinson, his reputation in tatters, promptly resigned. A statement of apology followed. "It was not an intentional comment, but it was an unfortunate one," he said. "I did not even know I had said it."

Brian Viner, sports correspondent for The Independent, thinks Atkinson had little choice but to go: "He would have been fired if he hadn't, because of course it was an appalling thing to say. Having said that, I do think he has since paid the appropriate price, and doesn't deserve to be cast out forever. Football commentary is certainly poorer without him."

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In his 1999 biography, *A Different Ball Game*, Atkinson suggests prejudiced namecalling within football often fell within "the reasonable bounds of banter", but adds that "you must come down hard on those that step beyond those bounds." Curiously, he now thinks his resignation was the wrong decision. "I should never have resigned, and ITV should never have accepted it," he states. "It was a stupid mistake, and I'll tell you why."

Unfortunately, he insists this next bit remain off the record, but it isn't very clear anyway, and does little to exonerate him. He concludes by insisting that he has received nothing but support from the public, and that even Des Lynam, formerly a virtual deity in the world of televised sport, thought he was wrong to go: "In his autobiography, Des says I should have sued ITV."

I ask him on what grounds, but he is now visibly agitated.

"Look, when I was told you were coming to interview me, I was led to believe this [episode] wasn't going to be involved." I remind him that I'd set up this meeting not via an agent or PR, but with him directly, and that no such promises were ever made. To gloss over what has become a defining moment of his public life, then, would be somewhat remiss, no? "Yes, but my public life has spanned 30 years. This other thing lasted 10 seconds... I just don't want to get involved anymore." He can't help himself, though. "People say I'm racist, but???"

He reaches into his jacket to retrieve his mobile phone.

"There, see? I've missed two calls this afternoon alone from Carlton Palmer [a black football player who served under Atkinson at Sheffield Wednesday and remains a good friend], so what do you think about that? This whole episode, it's crap. Crap."

Brian Viner later tells me about another black player, Paul McGrath, who has vociferously defended Atkinson: "I interviewed [McGrath] recently and he insisted that Ron wasn't racist. But he did recall training sessions when the manager would say, right, it's the coons against the rest."

This, Viner suggests, doesn't necessarily mark him as racist, but merely a product of the Love Thy Neighbour and Til Death Us Do Part era, when coon was, to some at least, acceptable.

Tony Finnegan is a former professional player who played alongside Ian Wright at Crystal Palace, and is now one of the sport's most prominent black agents.

"Do I think Ron is racist?" he asks. "No I don't. When you think about the amount of black players that played under him - well, if he had been racist, he would never have picked them." Like Viner, Finnegan simply believes Atkinson is indelibly old school. "We all have bigoted undertones in this country, especially in football, and I bet every single last one of us have said something like paki bastard, Irish twat, white git, whatever, in the heat of the moment, and that's all Ron did. I don't defend it - he should have known better - but that's football."

For his part, Atkinson, who has apologised unreservedly, now wants the incident put behind him permanently, and for everyone to leave it there. Would he like to return to punditry?

"Of course I would, absolutely."

This is something he effectively confirmed last summer, when he appeared on a website called Selfcasttv.com, airing his views on the World Cup from the vantage point of a plump sofa in his sitting-room. Not his finest broadcasting hour, perhaps, but confirmation that he has a deep need for his analysis to be heard and, more crucially, acknowledged.

"When I listen to these so-called pundits today, all I hear is them echoing the commentators. I never did that. I'm not necessarily saying I was the best in the business, but I don't know anybody who did it better. Do you?"

But he was never going to slink away quietly, not in this age where every celebrity blip is a docusoap waiting to happen.

It's a funny old game Three years after he was thrown to the wolves for blurting out a racist remark on ITV, the flamboyant football pundit Ron Atkinson has a n....

"Ron is absolutely perfect for TV," says his manager Corrinne Goodall, of First Artist Entertainment. Goodall has represented him for four years, and so might just be biased, but also has a point. "He is TV gold, and everybody knows it. After the [Desailly] incident, demand for him didn't die in any area except sport TV. And even there, behind closed doors, every sports producer has said to me that they want him back because he is so good at it. They just want someone else to take the first step, that's all..."

And so, while they wait for that to happen, Ron Atkinson has diversified. His first foray into the world of reality-based television - which Goodall makes clear she had no part in - was a curious one, a documentary entitled What Ron Said, in which he travelled to America to discover why his use of one racist word had ended his career. It made for uncomfortable viewing, largely because he seemed so confused throughout.

"I'm not going to talk about that on record," he says now, "because I was stitched up and it was crap, but I will talk about [BBC2's] Excuse My French [in which he was sent to Provence with Esther Rantzen and comedian Marcus Brigstocke to spend six weeks learning the language], because it was one of the best things I've ever done. I knew nothing of French outside of 'cul de sac' before, and now I do. 'La sommelier'," he tells me, beaming, "means wine waiter."

He next sung Sinatra on a Five celebrity talent show and has since fielded offers from various quiz shows, but it was last year's Big Ron Manager that made him realise, at the grand old age of 67, that what he ultimately pined for was a return to football.

"Certain mates of mine reckon I should be back in the Premiership, that today's managers aren't a patch on me, but that's not for me to comment on. All I can say is that I'm surprised at just how much I'm enjoying it here at Kettering."

It is at this point he struggles with how to describe his feelings on match days, ruminating over anxious and anticipation-ary before plumping for something else entirely: "Passion! A man's passion for the game never dies, you know. It never does."

The following Saturday, under a blanket of grey cloud cover, I sit beside men mostly 30 to 40 years my senior to witness Conference League football in all its haggard glory. Kettering Town verses Blyth Spartans is a bad-tempered, poorly attended game (just 1,100 through the turnstiles), and one presided over by a jobsworth referee intent on slowing its pace to treacle, and thereby racheting up the general air of annoyance. Atkinson remains a surprisingly meek presence throughout, standing in an expensive overcoat and sunglasses by the dugout, presumably in deference to manager Morrell Maison, who shouts orders from the touchline, often in vain.

It's a frustrating 90 minutes of missed opportunities and sporadic violence, taking on the ebb and flow of a Greek tragedy fuelled by meat pies and stale ale. And as it limps to a one-all draw, the ref even provides a climactic deus ex machina when he inexplicably shows the red card to Kettering's Andre Boucard after the final whistle, thus causing eruption on the pitch and a Tannoyed plea for calm in the stands.

On the plus side, the rain has held off, and for this small mercy we should be grateful. Afterwards, I ask Ron for an overview, which he delivers in textbook pundit fashion. "We-ll, you know, it was a battle, a right battle, and it wasn't pretty at times, I'll give you that, but we kept pegging away at it and I'm relieved we managed to squeeze out a draw. Not our best performance, certainly, but then," he concludes, in a manner we could perhaps have predicted and, in truth, secretly wished for, "at the end of the day, that's football, isn't it?" It most assuredly is.

Is this thing on?

When open microphones pick up more than they were supposed to

"I am pleased to tell you I just signed legislation which outlaws Russia forever - the bombing begins in five minutes."

It's a funny old game Three years after he was thrown to the wolves for blurting out a racist remark on ITV, the flamboyant football pundit Ron Atkinson has a n....

Ronald Reagan has a giggle during a soundcheck for a national radio broadcast, during the height of the Cold War in 1984.

"I want to understand??? how such a complete wimp like me keeps winning everything."

John Major comes clean after an interview with ITN political editor Michael Brunson when both men thought the microphones had been switched off. They hadn't been. He also described some members of his Cabinet as "bastards", adding he'd "crucify them", in July 1993.

"If the game is run properly as a professional game, you do not need 57 old farts running rugby."

Will Carling says what he thinks about the men at the top of rugby union before the sport's 1995 world cup. He later complained that the comments were "not made to camera".

"There's Adam Clymer, major league asshole from the New York Times."

George W Bush is heard using distinctly un-presidential language during his election campaign in September 2000.

"Patronising bastard."

Scottish First Minister Henry McLeish passes opinion on fellow Labour politician John Reid before a news conference in June 2001.

"These bloody people. I can't bear that man. I mean, he's so awful, he really is."

Prince Charles is overhead telling his sons exactly what he thinks of the BBC's royal correspondent, Nicholas Witchell, at a ski-trip press call. William gives his dad more sensible advice: "Keep smiling, keep smiling." March 2005

"The only thing that they have ever done for European agriculture is mad cow disease. You cannot trust people who have such bad cuisine. It is the country with the worst food after Finland."

French President Jacques Chirac manages to offend both the UK and Finland in the company of Russia's President Putin, Germany's Chancellor Schroder and a stray microphone in July 2005.

George: "Thanks for the sweater - it's awfully thoughtful of you."

Tony: "It's a pleasure."

George: "I know you picked it out yourself."

Tony: "Oh absolutely - in fact I knitted it!"

George Bush and Tony Blair have a cuddly chat over lunch and a live mic in July 2006. When chat moves on to the complicated situation in the Middle East, Bush says Syria should "get Hezbollah to stop doing this shit". He was, of course, referring to rocket attacks on Israel.

"He turned out to be a strong man, raped 10 women. I never would have expected it of him. He has surprised us all, we all envy him!"

Russian premier Vladimir Putin on Israeli President Moshe Katsav after news that the latter faces rape charges. It was later claimed his comments were a joke, the meaning of which had been lost in translation, October 2006.

Load-Date: March 25, 2007

It's a funny old game Three years after he was thrown to the wolves for blurting out a racist remark on ITV, the flamboyant football pundit Ron Atkinson has a n....

End of Document

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

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Body

(Photograph) - BOMB SIGHTS

Affluent Lebanese drive round a district of Beirut destroyed by Israeli bombing. Warplanes started targeting Hezbollah enclaves, roads and bridges in mid-July. Thousands fled their homes before a ceasefire was brokered several weeks later. Photograph by GETTY

THE 2006 TIMELINE

January - June

JANUARY 1, 2006

The mother of a British student, Katherine Horton, 21 (right), who is raped and killed on a Thai beach, hears her scream as she is attacked; they were talking on their mobile phones at the time. Two Thai fishermen were sentenced to death for her murder

January 4, 2006

The Israeli prime minister, Ariel Sharon, 77, suffers a massive stroke the second in just over two weeks throwing the Middle East peace process into turmoil. George Bush shares the concerns of the Israelis, saying: 'We are praying for his recovery'

January 7, 2006

Charles Kennedy (left) resigns as leader of the Liberal Democrats after admitting that he is an alcoholic. He says he has been 'inundated' with support from his party, but quits when it is clear that most of his colleagues will resign if he doesn't

January 8, 2006

Prince William, 24, begins his army training at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst. His brother, Harry, 22, who is halfway through his officer training, has said that he is looking forward to his older brother having to salute him when he arrives

PASS THE BABY

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

President Bush quickly returns a crying baby handed to him in July at a dinner with the German chancellor, Angela Merkel

SMALLS TALK

Opposite, top left: with Britain on high terrorism alert in August, Tony Blair hangs out his laundry aboard a luxury Caribbean yacht 14.

PLAY IT AGAIN, SAM

Top, far right: David Cameron larks around with his wife, Samantha, on a family holiday in the Mediterranean in September

HOOP-LA

Right: in May, the deputy PM, John Prescott, runs the country from the croquet lawn of his grace-and-favour country house

OPPOSITE Page: REUTERS. THIS Page: TOP LEFT, SPLASH NEWS; TOP RIGHT, BIGPICTURESPHOTO; CENTRE, ISFPHOTO. BOTTOM RIGHT: REUTERS/ALI JAREKJI

January 14, 2006

Dickins and Jones, one of Britain's oldest department stores, opens and closes its doors for the last time. Fashion pundits say the London store (left) has been suffering from an 'old and stuffy' image. It is expected to be turned into shops, offices and flats

JANUARY 21, 2006

An 18ft bottlenose whale weighing about seven tonnes becomes stranded in the Thames and sparks a massive rescue attempt. But despite rescuers' best efforts to keep it hydrated and move it to deeper water, it begins to convulse and dies

JANUARY 23, 2006

The FA announces that Sven-Goran Eriksson (left) will be leaving as England manager after the 2006 World Cup, two years before his contract ends. The Swede remained optimistic about England's prospects, saying: 'Let's go and win the World Cup'

JANUARY 29, 2006

The Arctic Monkeys' first album, Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not, becomes the fastest-selling debut album in UK chart history. A spokesman for HMV says: 'In terms of sheer impact, we haven't seen anything like this since the Beatles'

FEBRUARY 1, 2006

Colin Montgomerie, the golfer (left, with a friend), agrees to pay his former wife, Eimear Wilson, a divorce settlement close to £ 12.5m. Their marriage ended in 2004, with Wilson citing 'unreasonable behaviour' owing to his obsession with golf

GENTLE GIANT

Left: a basking shark swims alongside unfazed beach-goers at Porthcurno beach, Cornwall, in July. These plankton-eaters can grow up to 12 metres long

A HALF NELSON

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

Above: Bob Egan, part of a cleaning-and-restoration team, inspects the damaged face of Lord Nelson on Nelson's Column in London in April

HOME WRECKER

Below: in June, a disgruntled tenant of a caravan park in Bradwell-on-Sea, Essex, takes his anger out on the owner's house using a JCB digger

BOTTOM ROW, LEFT: anna branthwaite. right: epa/hugo philpott. MAIN PICTURE: APEX. TOP RIGHT: john stillwell/pa/EMPICS. centre RIGHT: Copyright of 2006 EASTNEWS/PETER LAWSON

FEBRUARY 7, 2006

The Egyptian-born Muslim cleric Abu Hamza al-Masri is convicted of 11 out of 15 charges, including ones for inciting murder and race hate. The preacher from Finsbury Park mosque has been in Belmarsh prison since May 2004 on terrorism charges

February 14, 2006

With a margin of 200 votes, MPs vote to ban smoking from all enclosed public spaces (left), including pubs, clubs and restaurants, from summer 2007. The health secretary, Patricia Hewitt, said: 'This is going to save thousands of people's lives'

February 16, 2006

The UN calls for the closure of the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay, alleging that some aspects of the treatment there amount to torture. The US dismisses the call, saying five of the UN investigators never actually visited the camp

GOING UNQUIETLY

Above: security officials restrain the loyalist killer Michael Stone after power-sharing talks at Stormont parliament buildings in Belfast in November

SCORCHED EARTH

Left: a man steps in melted tarmac in Plymouth in July, as soaring temperatures wreak havoc across the UK, causing schools to close, roads to melt and train tracks to buckle

TRIAL AND ERROR

Right: the drug-trial volunteer Ryan Wilson suffers horrific injuries, including damage to his fingers and toes, after the drugs he was given caused an adverse reaction in March

STORM OVER SWEDEN

This scene of devastation after Hurricane Gudrun swept through southern Sweden was a winning entry in Shell's Wildlife Photographer of the Year. With gusts of over 150 kilometres per hour, the storm killed seven, destroyed 75m cubic metres of forest, and left hundreds of thousands of households isolated, without electricity. Photograph by JOCKE BERGLUNA/SHELL WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY

February 17, 2006

An entire village in central Philippines is buried in a landslide following heavy rains lasting 10 days. The death toll is estimated at 1,260. A survivor describes 'boulders bigger than a house sweeping into the village'. A state of emergency is declared

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

February 20, 2006

In Vienna, David Irving (left), the British historian, is found guilty of denying the Holocaust and sentenced to three years' jail in Austria. He says: 'I made a mistake when I said there were no gas chambers at Auschwitz.' The charge was brought after a speech he made in 1989 89889

February 22, 2006

Lawyers for the Prince of Wales (right) are forced to release one of his private journals, which reveals his views on the Blair government ('all in such a hurry'), on the demise of the royal yacht Britannia, and on Chinese officials ('appalling old waxworks')

February 24, 2006

The mayor of London, Ken Livingstone (right), is suspended from office for four weeks, on full pay, for likening a Jewish journalist to a concentration camp guard. The Adjudication Panel rules that he acted in a manner that was 'unnecessarily insensitive' manner

February 26, 2006

The singer George Michael, 42, is arrested on suspicion of possessing class-C drugs when he is found slumped in his car at 2am in central London. In a statement he says it is 'my own stupid fault, as usual'. He is cautioned for possession of cannabis

February 27, 2006

MUD, BLOOD AND TEARS

As snipers pose a growing threat in Iraq, a US marine is rescued in Karma, in the south of the country, on the last day of October. Clockwise from left: Sgt Jesse E Leach, leader of an assault platoon, walks backwards towards Lt Cpl Valdez-Castillo, a comrade who has been wounded by sniper fire; Leach drags the injured man to safety; covers his wounds; then examines his injuries; and finally lifts Valdez-Castillo as a medical vehicle arrives to evacuate him. He is flown to a military hospital in Germany

February 27, 2006

Fourteen members of an international drug ring, dubbed the 'bling bling' gang (left) because of their lavish lifestyle, are jailed in London for a total of 178 years. Over a period of two years, the gang has imported crack cocaine worth £ 50m into the UK networks ever to operate in the UK.

ALL IMAGES: REDUX. BOTTOM, FROM LEFT: GETTY IMAGES/AFP/MARKUS LEODOOTER; CATHAL MCNAUGHTON/W PAROTA

; BEN STANSALL; METROPOLITAN POLICE

March 2, 2006

Sir Menzies Campbell (right), a former Olympic sprinter, is elected leader of the Liberal Democrats at the age of 64. Many felt his age was an issue during the campaign, but Campbell said he could see no reason why he couldn't still be leader at 72

March 4, 2006

Anti-war campaigners criticise Tony Blair for suggesting, on Michael Parkinson's chat show, that his decision to go to war in Iraq would ultimately be judged by God. Reg Keys, whose son was killed in Iraq, said his comments were 'abhorrent'

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

March 11, 2006

Slobodan Milosevic dies of a heart attack in his cell in the Hague, where the former Yugoslav president has been held since 2001 for crimes against humanity. Serbia's government refuses to hold a state funeral for him and does not attend his supporters' tribute (right)

March 14, 2006

Six men all healthy, paid volunteers end up in intensive care with multiple organ failure after taking part in a clinical drugs trial at Northwick Park hospital. Drug regulators later claim that Parexel, who carried out the trial, failed to follow correct procedures

March 28, 2006

Whitney Houston (left) is 'outed' by her sister-in-law Tina Brown as a crack addict who thinks she's tormented by demons. 'Everyone is scared she is going to overdose,' says Brown. In October, Houston appeared at a gala evening looking radiant

GLITTER SENT TO JAIL IN VIETNAM

Gary Glitter is led away to the cells by guards in Vung Tou, Vietnam, in March. The former glam-rock star began a three-year sentence, having been found guilty of molesting two underage girls

OOPS! I SLIPPED UP AGAIN

Above: Britney Spears trips in Manhattan in May while holding her eight-month old son, Sean. The singer, who has announced she is pregnant again, has faced growing scrutiny of her parenting skills

THE NIGHT BEFORE

Left: Mel Gibson laps up the party spirit in Malibu, California, in July, hours before being arrested on suspicion of drink-driving. The star apologised for anti-semitic remarks he made to an officer during the arrest

TOP LEFT: SCOPE FEATURES. TOP RIGHT: CAMERON LAIRD/REX FEATURES. CENTRE LEFT: REUTERS/IN TOUCH MAGAZINE. BOTTOM, FROM LEFT: RICHARD POHLE; AP PHOTO/PETAR PETROV; BIG

March 28, 2006

Thousands of schools are closed as local-authority workers including cooks and caretakers stage a 24-hour strike (right). Their protest is against controversial planned changes to their pension scheme and to their retirement age of 60

April 3, 2006

The AA says the number of teenage motorists dying in road crashes in England and Wales has risen, despite fewer young people holding licences. It suggests a curfew on teenagers driving late at night, when most accidents involving them occur

April 7, 2006

A swan found dead in the Fife town of Cellardyke is confirmed as the first case of the killer avian-flu virus in Britain since the scare began. After the swan (right) was found, almost 1,000 square miles in Scotland were placed under quarantine

April 11, 2006

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

The Iranian president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, announces to supporters in the holy city of Mashhad that Iran has joined the 'nuclear club' and is successfully enriching uranium. He adds that his country has no ambitions to make nuclear weapons

April 14, 2006

Michael Jackson (left) surrenders control over the Beatles' back catalogue, worth \$1 billion, to stave off bankruptcy. He bought the list in 1985 for \$47.5m, ending his friendship with McCartney, who complained he had to pay to perform his own music in America

SOLE-DESTROYING

Left: the javelin judge Lia Mara Lourenco is pierced in the foot by a javelin thrown during the warm-up of a national athletics championship in Sao Paulo, Brazil, in September. Above: Leicester Tigers' Tom Varndell gains unwanted exposure when Sale Sharks' Elvis Seveali'i tries to stop him in his tracks at the Guinness Premiership final at Twickenham in May

ZIDANE ADDS INJURY TO INSULT

Right: Italy's Marco Materazzi goes down after being head-butted (inset) by France's Zinedine Zidane in the World Cup final in Berlin in July. Zidane who was sent off for the assault said Materazzi provoked him by making insults about his mother and sister. According to a lip-reader, Materazzi called him "the son of a terrorist whore". Left: an unchoreographed move from the Czech Republic's Olga Prokuronova and Karel Stefel at the European Figure Skating Championships in Lyons, France, in January. After the fall, the couple withdrew from the competition, finishing 10th

THIS PAGE, TOP LEFT: REUTERS; TOP RIGHT: EMPICS; CENTRE: GETTY. OPPOSITE PAGE, MAIN IMAGE: AFP/GETTY; INSET: REX. BOTTOM, FROM LEFT: RICHARD POHLE; DANNY LAWSON

; NIKKI HATCHETT

April 18, 2006

Katie Holmes, 27, who is engaged to Tom Cruise, 43 (right), gives birth to their first child, Suri. Cruise, a Scientologist, startled fans when he said Holmes would give birth in silence. In fact it is the medical staff who are asked to remain quiet during Scientology births

April 23, 2006

The former Big Brother star Jade Goody is taken to hospital after collapsing during the London marathon. Earlier she said her preparations were 'eating curry and Chinese, and drinking'. She later said she hadn't had a clue how long the race was

April 24, 2006

At least 23 are killed and 62 wounded in three blasts in the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Dahab (left). Most of the dead are Egyptians on their spring holiday. The attack, thought to be the work of suicide bombers, is the third to hit Egyptian tourist areas since 2004

KICKS AND MISSES

Above: Mike Metzger, 30, sets a world record by becoming the first motorcyclist to complete a back-flip over the fountains at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, in May. Left: Germany's Nicole Hetzer, 26, wins the women's 400-metre individual medley freestyle in the Swimming World Cup series in Brazil in February. Far left: Spain's Pablo Ibanez narrowly misses a kick in the head by France's Florent Malouda in the World Cup in June. France won the game 3-

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

TOP: WPN; CENTRE LEFT AND RIGHT: REUTERS. BOTTOM, FROM LEFT: IAN LAWRENCE/SPLASH NEWS; REUTERS/ALEKSANDER RABI

MEXICAN WAVES

Farmers march on Mexico City in May to fight for land rights, wearing masks of the president, Vicente Fox. The naked protest by male and **female** farm workers has become an annual event. Photograph by AP PHOTO/EDUARDO VERDUGO

April 26, 2006

John Prescott, 67, admits he had a two-year affair with his secretary Tracey Temple, 43 (left), but says it ended 'some time ago'. The deputy prime minister also says he had discussed it with Pauline, his wife of 44 years, who was 'devastated by the news'

May 4, 2006

Steve McClaren (left) is appointed England's next football manager. The former Middlesbrough boss says: 'I'm results-orientated, and I'm here to do a job, win matches and make sure England over the next four years wins a major trophy'

May 5, 2006

The home secretary, Charles Clarke (left), recently embroiled in a scandal over foreign prisoners, is sacked in the biggest cabinet reshuffle of Blair's career. He chose to return to the back benches. He was replaced by the defence secretary, John Reid replaced him

May 10, 2006

The former supermarket cashier Michelle Dewberry, 26 (second left), wins the reality-TV show The Apprentice. She beat her rival Ruth Badger (near left) to land a £ 100,000- a-year job with Sir Alan Sugar's electronics company Amstrad

RIPE OLD AGE

Right: the Romanian Adriana Iliescu became the oldest woman in the world to have a baby in January last year when she gave birth to her daughter, Eliza Maria, at the age of 66. In May she sent her congratulations to Patricia Rashbrook, the British psychiatrist who became pregnant at 62 years old and who gave birth to a boy in July making her the oldest woman to give birth in Britain

TAKING THE HIGH ROAD

Above: the secretary of state for health, Patricia Hewitt, made an unusual entrance into Downing Street when her car was caught on a hydraulic blocking ramp as she was arriving at a cabinet meeting in March. The deputy prime minister, John Prescott, making his way to the same meeting as his unlucky colleague, looks on with what seems to be a mixture of amusement and sympathy his own car has suffered a similar fate in the past

LIVING ON THE EDGE

Right: the Norwegian daredevil Eskin Rønningbakken dices with death by doing a handstand stunt 1,200 metres above sea level on a mountain in Norway in protest against George Bush and US foreign policies in May. His previous death-defying stunts have included doing a handstand on top of four stacked chairs on the edge of the bridge between Sweden and Norway at Svinesund, and hanging by his toes off the Eiffel Tower in Paris

BOTTOMS UP

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

Right: strong winds in June hit Royal Ascot, Berkshire, where the famous race meeting returned after a year out in York while its grounds were redeveloped

BOTTOM ROW, FROM FAR LEFT: RUCKAS PICTURES; CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES; JONATHAN LODGE/THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

; EDMOND TERA KOPIAN

. MAIN PHOTOGRAPHS, CLOCKWISE FROM CENTRE LEFT: ALASDAIR MACDONALD/REX; EUROPICS; SINDRE LUNDEVOLD/REX; DAN CHARITY

May 11, 2006

Three animal-rights activists are each jailed for 12 years for 'conspiracy to blackmail'. They waged a hate campaign against the owners of a guinea-pig farm for six years, going so far as to dig up the grave of an 82-year-old woman and stealing the body

May 14, 2006

Geri Halliwell (right) gives birth to a baby girl, Bluebell Madonna. The former Spice Girl says that being a mother is 'like having my own little doll'. The father is the Hollywood scriptwriter Sacha Gervasi, whom Halliwell later banned from seeing the child

May 17, 2006

Sir Paul McCartney and Heather Mills McCartney announce they are to separate after four years of marriage. The couple who have a three-year-old daughter, Beatrice blame constant intrusion into their private lives for ruining their relationship

May 18, 2006

Dee Caffari, 33, becomes the first yachtswoman to circumnavigate the globe the 'wrong way' nonstop. The former teacher faced icebergs and storms on the gruelling 29,000-mile voyage against prevailing winds and currents, which lasted nearly six months

I AM THE WALRUS

In this award-winning shot, taken in October off the coast of Greenland, a clam-eating walrus kicks up a storm in search of its next meal. Walruses are bottom-feeders and use sensitive facial bristles to locate their food on the sea floor, raising clouds of sediment in the process

FOWL PLAY

Right: forsaking its usual diet of fish, in October a pelican in St James's Park, London, decides to make a meal out of a pigeon

ANIMAL SMACKERS

Far right, top: a competitor in Pattaya, Thailand, sets a new cobra-kissing world record in October when he plants a smacker on his 19th king cobra.

Far right, bottom: a gigantic moth sits on a zookeeper's ear when London Zoo launches its walk-through exhibition of tropical butterflies in May

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: GORAN EHLME/SHELL WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY; REX FEATURES; GETTY IMAGES; EMPICS. BOTTOM: BIG PICTURES

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

May 18, 2006

Lava streams down the slopes of Mount Merapi (left) Indonesia's most active volcano after an eruption the previous day that forced thousands of people living on its flanks to flee their homes. 'I am panicking,' said one villager. 'Merapi appears angry'

May 27, 2006

Angelina Jolie (left) gives birth to a baby girl, Shiloh Nouvel Jolie-Pitt, in a private clinic in Namibia. Brad Pitt is the proud father. Jolie later admitted she was 'terrified' during the labour. The government of Namibia helped to keep the press out of the clinic

June 2, 2006

Abdul Kahar Kalam (left), a 23-year-old of Bangladeshi origin, is shot in the shoulder by police acting on intelligence that there is a chemical bomb in his east London house. No such device was found. Later inquiries cleared the police of any wrongdoing

June 9, 2006

The drug Herceptin (right) is approved for use on the NHS to treat early-stage breast cancer. The decision followed a campaign in which many women threatened to shame their health authority when their primary health trust would not prescribe the drug

June 9, 2006

The day the World Cup kicks off in Germany, three Englishmen become the first hooligans to be arrested, for vandalising a taxi at Cologne airport. The news comes as a Home Office minister urges English fans to respect their German hosts

SILENT WITNESS

Left: a judge ordered Steven Aitken to be muzzled after he made violent outbursts at his trial in Florida. Aitken, who was captured after being shown on America's Most Wanted, received five life sentences in January for his offences, including seven bank robberies

DEMOCRATIC FIGHT

Above: police baton-charge pro-democracy protesters near the Narayanhiti Palace in Kathmandu, Nepal, in April. The 150,000-strong protest took place despite a pledge by King Gyanendra to restore democracy, amid warnings the government is close to collapse

SIEGE MENTALITY

Below: a gang member holds an inmate hostage at a prison in Parana, Brazil, in May. The gang staged a siege at the Campo Mourao prison, holding numerous prisoners and a police officer to ransom, while demanding the release of prisoners in Sao Paulo

BOTTOM ROW, FROM FAR LEFT: AP PHOTO/PURIWOWIYOTO; XPOSURE; AP PHOTO/LEFTERIS PITRAKIS; JEFF J MITCHELL/GETTY IMAGES. main PHOTOGRAPH: WPN/ST PETERSBURG TIMES. TOP RIGHT: AP PHOTO/GAUTUM SINGH. CENTRE RIGHT: WPN/AGENCIA ESTADO

June 10, 2006 The National Theatre production of Alan Bennett's The History Boys wins six prizes at Broadway's Tony awards in New York. 'You are insanely talented people,' Julia Roberts gushed on presenting the best-actor award to Richard Griffiths

June 15, 2006

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

The British government says the former Liberian leader Charles Taylor could serve a prison sentence in the UK if found guilty of war crimes. He faces 11 charges after allegedly backing rebels notorious for mutilating civilians in the Sierra Leone war

June 19, 2006

A Gustav Klimt portrait (left), which was looted by the Nazis in the second world war, reportedly becomes the world's most expensive painting when it is sold in New York for \$135m. The portrait, Adele Bloch-Bauer I, is known as the Mona Lisa of Austria

June 19, 2006

Sarah Jane Porter, 43, a hairdresser's receptionist, is sentenced to more than 32 months in prison for knowingly infecting her boyfriend with HIV. Her boyfriend described her as 'pure evil' after she allowed him to believe he had passed the virus on to her

BABES IN ARMS

Above: young Palestinian boys dress up as militants and brandish toy guns in Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, during the Hamas election victory rally in January

FORCES OF NATURE

Right: damage caused by a typhoon in the Philippines in December. Below: a dead swan, thought to be a victim of the H5N1 bird-flu virus, is lifted from an Austrian river in February

BOTTOM: REUTERS/NEUE GALERIE. MAIN PHOTOGRAPH: SIPA PRESS/REX. CENTRE LEFT: REUTERS. CENTRE RIGHT: ROMEO GACAD/AFP/GETTY

June 20, 2006

The pull-out of forces in Iraq begins, amid hopes that hundreds of British troops will be home for Christmas. 'By the end of this year there will be many places where Iraqis can replace Americans, British and foreigners,' says Jalal Talabani, Iraq's president

June 25, 2006

Nicole Kidman marries the country singer Keith Urban in an evening ceremony at a clifftop church in Sydney (right). The priest said he had 'a good feeling about their chances'. Guests included Rupert Murdoch and the actors Russell Crowe and Renee Zellweger

June 26, 2006

Clarence House reveals that Prince Charles paid £ 3.3m in tax last year the first time such a figure has been disclosed. Sir Michael Peat, Charles's private secretary, says Camilla cost taxpayers only £ 2,000 last year. Neither of them receives money from the Civil List

June 28, 2006

A landmark ruling ends the automatic ban on identifying children in family court cases. Fathers' rights campaigners say the ruling will demystify the working of the family courts. Judges stress that publicity will not be allowed to cause distress to a child

THE COMMON TOUCH

Clockwise from above: in September, Pope Benedict kisses a baby on a visit to his Bavarian home town of Marktl-am-Inn; Prince Harry makes a face at a young boy in Lesotho he is there in April to launch his new charity,

2006. The year in pictures: Part 1

Sentebale (Forget Me Not) in honour of his mother, Diana, Princess of Wales; the Queen meets Postman Pat at Buckingham Palace when she hosts the children's summer party in the grounds in June

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: KNA-BILD; PA; TIMES NEWSPAPERS. BOTTOM ROW: CATH MUSCAT/AAP

Graphic

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Mark Shurtleff: Attorney general tackles Utah's toughest issues

Deseret Morning News (Salt Lake City)

December 10, 2006 Sunday

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Byline: Doug Robinson Deseret Morning News

Body

Mark Shurtleff, Utah's attorney general, recently held a family meeting to discuss his political future. Should he run for office again in 2008?

His wife, M'Liss, and his children came down squarely against it.

"Daddy, I don't want you to be AG anymore," his daughter Danielle once told him tearfully.

Why would she? Shurtleff is considered the literal Antichrist by some polygamist groups. His Utah State Bar number is only further confirmation in their minds -- 4666, or "for" 666.

He has received death threats, one of which led to the arrest of a man with a sawed-off shotgun. At times law enforcement officials have urged him to wear a bulletproof vest and avoid windows in his house. He feels compelled to carry a pistol wherever he goes. (On the other hand, some polygamists reason that since he's the Antichrist, he can't be killed, so why bother.)

His wife and children complain that he is gone too much. M'Liss argues that even if another job took him away from home frequently, at least he would make more money. Recently, the Legislature raised his salary to \$90,000, which is what he was earning as a private attorney 15 years ago. Of the 225 attorneys who work for him in the Attorney General's Office, about one-third of them make more money than their boss.

"He could make three times as much if he were a private attorney," says one Salt Lake lawyer.

So will he run?

"I just held a fund-raiser," he says. "My plan is to run. But it's hard. There are things I'm not going to be able to finish in the next two years."

The 49-year-old Shurtleff will try to finish what he has begun, and there is much to finish. He has opened a number of Pandora's boxes in his six years on the job.

Shurtleff is a Republican and a Mormon, but if you think you can label him, you're mistaken. He has taken on polygamy, lobbied for hate-crimes legislation and opposed a proposed amendment to the Utah Constitution that would ban gay marriages, though he said he would defend that amendment after the Legislature passed it. He supported media shield laws and personal gun rights and has sided with illegal aliens on some issues. But the hallmark of his office so far has been his aggressive campaign against polygamy, turning the state's unofficial don't-ask-don't-tell policy on its head.

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His stances on these issues have so irritated some fellow Republicans that they threatened to cut funding for his office. He found himself opposing politicians on certain issues who had helped get him elected.

"My brother Kevin is always talking about principles," says Shurtleff. "Don't test the polls, don't worry about whether something will get you votes -- that's not the reason to make a decision."

So he expects to run for a third term, which is ironic because after the last legislative session he was so disillusioned by political back-room deal-making -- specifically, by politicians refusing to vote for a certain bill because the bill's sponsor once refused to vote for his bill on another issue -- that he told his division chiefs, "I'm done. I don't want to do this anymore."

Shurtleff, a former naval officer and a drill sergeant's son, will tell you he is not the same man he was when he first took office, not the same black-and-white, law-and-order man. He says he has become more compassionate and empathetic. Wrestling a knife away from one of your daughters with your bare hands will do that to a man.

So will sitting in a room with a victim of polygamy who is telling her story and sobbing. That's when he has a sense of mission about his job.

Shurtleff risked almost everything to campaign for the attorney general's job. He went into debt, spent the family's savings and cleaned out his kids' college funds, all for a position that offered a \$15,000 pay cut.

"It motivates you," he says. "If you lose, you're never going to pay off those debts. If you win, you can get help with fund-raisers."

M'Liss, who has a master's degree in speech therapy, took on extra work to help support the family and their five children.

"We're stressed about money," says Shurtleff. "It's hard. We're not putting away any money."

So why do it?

"It's simple," says Kevin Shurtleff. "We were raised on public service and making a difference."

Their parents, Leonard and Sandra, were both school teachers and active in grass-roots politics. They served five missions for their church. Leonard served in the National Guard and became principal of Bingham High School.

"We debated issues constantly around the house," says Kevin Shurtleff. "We picked a topic at dinner or family gatherings -- Vietnam, abortion, death penalty, whatever -- and tried to find solutions.

"We were real loud and opinionated, and Dad was in the middle of it. We still do it. Now our kids want to join in on the topic of the day."

Of Shurtleff's three brothers, Mike is a teacher and director of religion at the University of South Carolina; Keith is an Army chaplain and law school student; Kevin is an inventor, chemist and entrepreneur. All four of the brothers served LDS missions and were Eagle Scouts.

As a boy, Shurtleff was passionate about history, books and the military. He joined a military book club at 12 and dreamed of attending West Point. He awaited the arrival of the bookmobile in his Sandy neighborhood the way most kids looked for the ice cream truck.

No one would have described him as bookish, though. At 6-foot-4, one inch under his current height, he was a center on the basketball team and an offensive tackle (and team captain) on the football team at Brighton High School. During his senior season, an opponent delivered an illegal block into the back of his legs, tearing the knee's anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL. He put off surgery, strapped on a brace and managed to finish the season.

It wasn't until years later, after tearing the medial collateral ligament -- the MCL -- and the ACL, that he underwent the first of three surgeries to repair the knee. While running for attorney general, he was eating Motrin to stave off

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knee pain; after taking office he underwent knee replacement surgery. The surgery was successful enough that he was able to sky-dive as part of a fund-raising event for Boy Scouts, but since then he has injured the right knee in a game of beach volleyball and faces more surgery.

After graduating from high school, Shurtleff was nominated to West Point, but he scrapped his plans to attend the academy because, at the time, the Army wouldn't accommodate a church mission first. He served an LDS mission to Peru and took an undergrad degree from Brigham Young University and a law degree from the University of Utah. Then he was lured into the Navy by the promise that he could try cases in court immediately.

After serving in the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps (JAG), for five years, he worked in private practice in California for four years and then returned to Utah to serve as assistant attorney general and eventually deputy Salt Lake County attorney and commissioner before winning the state attorney general's job.

"I love elected office and the law, and AG was the perfect combination of that," he says.

Shurtleff packs a gun. He has a concealed weapons permit, and the pistol is always with him, either holstered on his side or placed in his briefcase.

"I hate it," he says. "It's an awesome responsibility to carry a gun or to think you might have to use it and make sure it's secure. I've got a gun safe."

He carries it to protect himself and his family. At the height of the hate-crimes controversy, he received threats on his life.

Police learned that a white Aryan-nation group had sent an order to an ex-con to firebomb Shurtleff's house.

"They caught the guy who had the note," says Shurtleff. "Stupid criminals. He had a sawed-off shotgun but no bomb."

Since taking the job, Shurtleff has made waves and enemies. He issued an opinion on the anti-gay marriage amendment to the Utah Constitution, saying it went beyond defining marriage as a man and woman; he contended that it denied basic rights for gay couples and therefore was potentially unconstitutional. To some, that made him anti-traditional family.

He waded into the gun fray at the University of Utah, announcing that the school's ban on guns, even by those with a concealed weapons permit, would be found unconstitutional.

The university sued him twice before capitulating.

"I was called a gun nut," he says. "But it's the law."

On the other hand, after he told the small town of Virgin that it was illegal to pass a law that made it unlawful not to carry a gun, he received angry e-mails calling him anti-American, one from a man who signed it, "One man and many bullets."

He also took up the cause of shield laws, which protect news media being forced to reveal confidential sources. He was recruited to lead a group of state attorneys general to file a friend-of-the-court brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case of New York Times reporter Judith Miller, who was jailed after refusing to divulge her sources for a CIA identity leak.

"I started reading everything I could," he says, "and I really became converted. There are so many occasions in which a reporter was able to use an anonymous source and ultimately truth came out and major corruption was revealed."

Because Utah is one of only two states that doesn't have a shield law, Shurtleff began pushing for legislation. "I met with opposition ... from cops and prosecutors," he says. "I got nasty e-mails. They're saying, 'If I'm a cop and you

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have information, you have to give it to me.' But justice is better served in the end. We got the bill going in the Legislature. It met with so much opposition. Legislators and cops are asking me, 'Why are you doing this? Are you out of your mind?'"

Prosecutors convened to discuss the issue without inviting Shurtleff and elected a delegation to visit the attorney general to tell him to back off. As a compromise, the issue was turned over to the Supreme Court Rules of Evidence Advisory Committee to formulate a reporter's privilege law.

But of all the issues that Shurtleff has undertaken, the one he never saw coming was his prosecution of polygamists. Like everyone else in the state, he had simply ignored polygamy in a tacit agreement of live and let live. The predominantly Mormon population was certainly nervous about anything that smelled like religious persecution.

"I challenge you to find one time during my first campaign that the word polygamy crossed my lips," says Shurtleff.

But shortly after Shurtleff took office, Tom Green began to turn up on national TV talk shows boasting of his polygamist lifestyle. He was flaunting it, rubbing it in the faces of prosecutors and the law. Juab County wanted to prosecute but didn't have the funds. Shurtleff provided funding and investigators, who were surprised by what they found.

"Did you know Green married his wife when she was 13?" they asked their boss. "And that this practice is widespread?"

Shurtleff had stumbled upon a practical way to take on polygamy; it was one thing if men were taking multiple wives to live their religion -- even if it was against the law, nobody wanted to take on religion. But sex with minors was another matter.

"We wanted to get him for child rape," says Shurtleff, "and there was a baby to prove it."

Shurtleff met with county prosecutors and offered to let them have the first crack at prosecuting polygamists on the rape charges. They declined. It was a political hot potato, especially for prosecutors in Washington County, where polygamists constitute a large voting block.

It fell to Shurtleff to prosecute. A group of polygamists from Hildale met with Shurtleff to try to head him off. "We think this is a gray area," they told him. His reply: "No, this is a crime, and you'd better stop. I'm going to prosecute every case."

Later, law enforcement officials discovered recordings of polygamist meetings in which one leader, Warren Jeffs of the Fundamentalist LDS Church, told them to destroy records and photographs of weddings that showed children marrying adults.

Says Shurtleff, "We had to make the choice early on: Is this about polygamy or is this about crimes being committed in a polygamous sect in the name of religion? We chose the crimes, the more serious of the two. This was child abuse -- we didn't want to be accused of religious persecution. And it was practical. If you prosecuted one polygamist for polygamy, where do you stop? You can't prosecute 20,000 people."

Shurtleff's resolve grew with each victim's story. Carolyn Jessop, who was married to Jeffs' No. 2 man, escaped with her eight children in the middle of the night. She sat in Shurtleff's office and told him stories of children being forced to kill animals with their bare hands to demonstrate obedience, of children being forced to quit school, of women being told that they don't need a job or an education because their only purpose is to marry and please their husband and have babies; of economic hardships and women having no way out of polygamy.

"I'm thinking, here's my witness," says Shurtleff. "But she told me she can't be a witness until she gets custody of her children, until she has a place to stay, a job, schools for her kids. That was an awakening for me. There aren't services available for people who are being victimized. They can't leave. They won't leave. So we created a safety net for the victims."

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Others have sobbed in Shurtleff's office as they related life in Jeffs' cult -- boys kicked out of their homes and community in the middle of the night, families having their houses taken and sold or given to someone else, men having their jobs taken on a whim. Jeffs was able to do much of this under the guise of a charitable trust the FLDS Church had filed with the state, Shurtleff says.

The trust was supposed to distribute property, profits and funds to the community according to need, but in reality Jeffs was fleecing the \$110 million trust to enrich himself and to reward those in his favor, Shurtleff believes. The state courts have taken control of the trust.

"It's ironic," says Shurtleff. "Even though those people hate me and think I'm trying to hurt them, I've made it so Jeffs can't kick them out of their house and job. We've protected their rights. We had been turning a blind eye to it, thinking it's just adults and nobody's getting hurt. That might be true for most, but there are a lot who don't have the protection of the law."

So Shurtleff has found himself on a personal crusade against polygamy, which has earned him more enemies than friends. There are those who think he gives the state a black eye by putting polygamy in the news; there are those who think he persecutes polygamists; and there are those who criticize him for not prosecuting the actual practice of polygamy.

"Aurelius said it's the fate of a leader to do men good and to be hated for it," he says.

Sitting in his office late one afternoon, Shurtleff is affable, friendly and surprisingly candid. He speaks freely and openly. When he took office, he told his official spokesman, Paul Murphy, not to manage him; he was going to speak his mind.

Says Murphy, "It seems like in half his press conferences he says, 'Paul told me not to say this, but....' I learned that he's going to speak from the heart and say what he thinks is right. That's just Mark."

There is a tuxedo hanging on the back of the office door, ready for the many speaking engagements that are asked of him. He usually shows up at such functions alone. M'Liss rarely appears with him in public.

"I'm sure some wonder, 'Where's his wife?'" says Shurtleff. "The deal was, someone has to be at the soccer games and school plays. If it comes between that and a fund-raiser, she's going to be with the kids."

He has five children. The oldest -- Ambra and Heath -- are 24 and 21, respectively. The other three children -- Danielle, 14; Tommy, 12; and Annie, 9 -- were adopted as so-called drug babies -- babies born to drug-addicted mothers who have addictions themselves. It took months to wean them from their addictions.

Danielle faces another challenge -- depression. On one occasion she was found holding a knife, threatening to kill herself. Shurtleff grabbed the blade and told her he would not let go. He was still holding onto the blade when police arrived and restrained her.

"She knew she couldn't do anything without cutting me, and I knew she wouldn't do that," says Shurtleff, who was cut, but not seriously.

His experiences with Danielle, he says, have forged a strong bond and softened him in many ways. "She's a good little companion and friend," says Shurtleff. "She's doing better."

He recalls that after she ran away on one occasion, he caught up with her in a parking lot and ordered her into the car. She defied him. He grabbed her and forced her into the car.

"I soon learned that's not the way you dealt with her," he says. "She didn't have control over this. I've changed in a lot of ways. I was a law-and-order guy, like my dad. I believed in obedience and rules. But maybe I've become less judgmental and more willing to look at all sides of an issue, trying to understand another point of view and empathize with them."

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Danielle tends to be defensive of people on the periphery -- the tattooed, the pierced, the different -- and that has rubbed off on her dad. She knows what it's like to feel isolated. She has changed schools three times to escape the cruelty of classmates who know about her problems.

"When someone has diabetes or cancer, people rally around you," says Shurtleff. "They shave their heads, things like that. But when you have a mental illness -- do you know what they said to her? 'What are you going to do, kill yourself?' I've learned to be more tolerant of people, especially people who might be hurting.

"The Republicans were mad at me over my stance on Amendment 3. I support traditional marriage and define marriages as a man and a woman, but the second part of that amendment was mean-spirited and hurtful. It wouldn't allow basic rights for gay couples -- visitation, remains, funeral plans, financial matters.

"They wrote them out of the Constitution, which meant they couldn't go to the Legislature with an issue. I talked to a gay man who had just lost his partner to AIDS. His partner's family kicked him out, had him escorted out of the hospital and got a restraining order. These are real people."

Shurtleff is passionate about many things beyond the scope of politics. He has written several unfinished novels. Now he is writing a historical fiction account on the life of Dred Scott that he is determined to finish in time for next year's 150th anniversary of the slave who sued for his freedom.

Shurtleff has been researching the book for five years. During his travels on the job, when his business is concluded, he stays an extra day to conduct research in Missouri and Alabama and other places where Scott's life unfolded. To write the way slaves would have talked, he reread "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and similar books to try to capture the flavor of the speech. After work and after the family is asleep, he writes from 11 p.m. until 2:30 or 3 a.m.

"I want everyone to know that Dred Scott was a hero," says Shurtleff. "It's hard, at the end of the day, to sit down and be creative."

A voracious reader, he usually has several books going at once and quotes freely from Cicero, Aurelius, Adams, Jefferson, Coolidge, Kipling, often making a point to memorize passages.

LDS author "Sterling W. Sill wrote that we ought to keep an idea bank," says Shurtleff. "When we hear a saying or a poem, we should put it our bank. So I try to memorize some things."

It has paid some big dividends. After visiting the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., he was struck by the words from Elie Wiesel's memoir, "Night," recorded on a wall in the Hall of Shoes. Shurtleff already had a soft spot for the Jewish people, having lived and studied in Israel for six months during a BYU study-abroad program. He memorized Wiesel's words on the spot, standing there in the Hall of Shoes. Then he bought Wiesel's memoir and reviewed it to keep it fresh in his mind.

A year later he was invited to Israel and was granted a meeting with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. He was promised just enough time to shake Sharon's hand and get a picture, but Shurtleff wasn't content with this. "If I may take a minute," he told Sharon. "I want you to know I'm not Jewish, but I love this country and I want to give you a gift." He proceeded to quote Wiesel's words from memory and teared up as he did so.

Sharon, too, began to weep. After Shurtleff was finished, there was silence. Sharon then postponed his next meeting so he could visit with Shurtleff.

The way Shurtleff remembers it, Sharon, a former general, told him, "My whole life I've killed people, my friends have died on my left and right, women and children have been killed. I'm so tired. I want peace. But if Arafat kills my people, I have to strike back."

A year later, Sharon suffered a stroke that left him in a coma, in which he remains. Jewish people in the United States saw a videotape of his meeting with Shurtleff and invited him to speak to a gathering of wealthy Jews in New York. He shared his meeting with Sharon with the audience, explained his passion for Israel and then dazzled them

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by singing an ancient Jewish song to them in Hebrew -- "Vi Juda le Olam Teshev." It has fostered a unique connection with the Jewish community.

Shurtleff has started a Utah chapter of the American-Israel Friendship League and facilitated several exchanges between the United States and Israel and the LDS Church.

He wears a blue bracelet on his right wrist with the names Udi, Gilad and Eldad engraved on it, along with the Jewish star of David. The bracelet was given to him by the family of Ehud (Udi) Goldwasser, an Israeli soldier being held captive by Hezbollah militants. Shurtleff visited Israel again earlier this fall on a fact-finding mission; the trip was paid for by Jewish groups.

Shurtleff also has cultivated strong ties to the Latino community because he has been sympathetic to the plight of illegal aliens. He has weighed in on various issues, such as allowing the children of illegals to have drivers' licenses and to pay in-state college tuition. As a result, he has been criticized for being pro-illegal aliens.

"I'm not," he says. "But we have a problem. I'm for resolving that problem in a way that is humane and workable. Kids didn't have any choice in this. What do you want them to do, join a gang? Let's have them learn English and get an education. They're going to drive anyway, so why not give them a license with their names, addresses and insurance on it? It's like the polygamy thing. They're here; we've got to deal with them. You can't deport 12 million aliens.

"Let's prosecute gangbangers, drug dealers and ID theft," he says.

He claims an affinity for the Latino culture. He speaks Spanish fluently, a carryover from his LDS Church mission, and two of his adopted daughters are from Mexico. Shurtleff has made stirring speeches to the Latino community.

Then-Mexican President Vicente Fox, who was visiting Utah at the time, was in the audience for one of those speeches and was so moved by it that when he returned home he started an official process to honor Shurtleff. Last month, Shurtleff flew to Mexico City to receive the Order of the Aztec Eagle, the highest award a Mexican president can give to a non-Mexican.

Once again, Shurtleff found himself on the front page, this time receiving an award from another country. Given Shurtleff's high-profile performance to date and his aggressiveness in office, there are some who think he is using the Attorney General's Office as a stepping stone.

"I can honestly say I have not looked that far ahead," he says. "I've always thought the Senate was it as far as political offices go. If there's any other office, maybe it will be the Senate, but not in the near future. My wife says the kids have to be grown."

Meanwhile, he will tell you he has uncompleted work to finish. E-mail: drob@desnews.com

Load-Date: December 10, 2006

Age of terror, age of illusions: Part One: I remember the anger I felt watching the endlessly repeated images of the towers collapsing. But there's another kind of anger -- a more cerebral one toward the intellectuals of our time who contributed to all that destruction through their hostility toward the mores and traditions of western civilization.

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Body

NEW YORK - I still see bodies falling. Standing at my hotel window, overlooking Ground Zero, it's not hard to visualize the flaming towers and the bird-like figures of human bodies plummeting through the air. I especially remember a couple leaping hand in hand into emptiness. In their flapping clothes they looked like big clumsy birds, desperate to fly.

There were others, of course. Dozens. According to one estimate, some 200 people jumped from the North and South Towers in the hour-and-a-half the buildings remained standing after the planes hit the World Trade Center on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001. Clerks and executives, cooks and waiters, patrons and clients; they leaped in a continuous stream from the four sides of the buildings, from the office windows of Cantor Fitzgerald, the bond-trading firm, from the Windows on the World restaurant that occupied the 106th and 107th floors, from the offices of the insurance company Marsh & McLennan. Writer Tom Junod, in a recent article in Esquire magazine, described the jumpers in heartbreaking imagery: "They jumped through windows already broken and then, later, through windows they broke themselves. They jumped to escape the smoke and the fire; they jumped when ceilings fell and the floors collapse; they jumped just to breathe once more before they died."

Some clearly hoped they wouldn't die. They used drapes and tablecloths as parachutes. It did no good. The force of falling tore the makeshift parachutes from their hands. And so they fell, bodies arcing and wheeling and tumbling through space, dropping at an ever-increasing rate of 9.8 metres per second. In the 10 seconds or so it took to reach the ground they were moving at more than 200 km/h. At that speed their clothes were shredded and stripped from their bodies.

For a while the television networks showed the jumpers, as they became known. You heard witnesses on the ground shouting in horror. "God. Save their souls. They're jumping. Oh, please God. Save their souls." And then the broadcasts stopped. Maybe it was too much horror on top of all the other horror. Maybe it was the realization that, no, this wasn't "almost like a movie." Indeed, in the days that followed it was as if a decision had been made at

Age of terror, age of illusions: Part One: I remember the anger I felt watching the endlessly repeated images of the towers collapsing. But there's another kind....

some level of collective unconscious not to show the full horror of these deaths. Most North American newspapers ran only a few pictures of the jumpers and then never ran them again. By then, of course, the images were indelibly etched in the collective consciousness. No one who witnessed the events of that day will ever forget them. The most famous picture, the one that probably ran on every news broadcast and in every paper, is that of the unknown "Falling Man," who, as Junod says, appears to have embraced this death in his last moments of life, dropping through the air like an arrow.

I remember him, certainly. There have been numerous articles about who he might have been, and even a BBC television program documenting the efforts to identify him. But the picture I have never been able to get out of my head is that of the leaping couple. I imagine them as a man and woman, but it could have been two women or two men for all I know. Even now, on the fifth anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, I still wonder who they were -- lovers, friends, colleagues, or strangers who met in their final moments and chose to die together rather than alone. What were their last thoughts as they leaped, hand in hand, into the void? How long were they able to hold on to each other before the laws of physics pulled them apart?

Naturally, I have tried imaging myself in such circumstances. My mind doesn't want to go there, veering away instinctively in the same way your body pulls back from a cliff edge. Still, you wonder. When American Airlines Flight 11 plowed into the North Tower at 8:45 a.m. it sliced through floors 93 to 99 like a scythe, tearing up offices, hallways, conference rooms, rows of desks, ripping out elevators and stairwells, cutting off escape from the higher floors. Hundreds died instantly. Hundreds more were left stranded on floors 100 to 107. Eighteen minutes later, at 9:03 a.m., the second plane slammed into the top of the South Tower, trapping about 600 people. Inside the buildings, temperatures would have approached 1,000 degrees Celsius as the flames consumed furniture, wiring, carpets and computers, creating a tornado of poisonous smoke that funnelled upward to the top storeys. Even the steel beams melted. What would you choose: Death by immolation and choking smoke, or death by a final act of will, a final assertion of a terrible freedom?

I step back from the window, rolling my shoulders to ease the sudden tension in my neck. It's as though my body remembers the anger I felt watching those endlessly repeated images of the towers' collapse; the roiling storm of smoke and the ashen humanity emerging from the clouds of pulverized concrete and flesh; the shell-shocked relatives stalking the streets with photographs of missing loved ones; the firefighters and police officers crawling over the smoldering mountain of rubble, the mobs dancing on the streets of Damascus and Tehran and Gaza, celebrating mass murder.

But there's another kind of anger, too; a colder, more cerebral anger toward the intellectuals of our time, the cosmopolitans and sophists who, unwittingly or not, contributed to all that destruction through their sophisticated hostility towards the mores and traditions of western civilization.

I return to my chair and the book I had been reading -- Samuel Dill's *Roman Society in the Last Century of the Western Empire*. At the time, Christianity was displacing the old pagan religion and the empire was under frequent attack from barbarians. The great weakness, though, as Dill recounts, was the empire's effete elites. He describes the period as a time when the ruling class -- politicians, bureaucrats, intellectuals, artists -- were cocooned in lifestyle luxury, unwilling to respond to the barbarian threat on the borders. "This self-centred contentment with the material pleasures of life, this rather vacant existence, gliding away in ease and luxury, and a round of trivial social engagements ... is the real reproach against the character of the upper class of that age ... Faith in the stability of the Empire and Roman culture is perfectly untroubled. There is not a hint of those dim hordes, already mustering for their advance ..." It was, Dill concludes, an "age of illusions."

Continued from PAGE B1

I put the book down and go back to the window to look out over the canyons of Manhattan and watch the lights come on in the buildings as night falls. I imagine those lights blinking out permanently. All it would take would be a nuclear bomb on a freighter or a truck, or even a vial of anthrax. And for the umpteenth time, I wonder whether we,

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like the fifth-century Romans, have become too decadent, too soft morally and intellectually. Decadence is not only a matter of artistic fashion or literary style; it is also a question of self-defence. A society that is unwilling to defend itself, and justifies that refusal with clever rationalizations, can only be described as decadent. This is especially true when the decadents include those elites that provide the ideas and concepts that guide society in its attitudes and conduct. When a society's opinion-makers, its teachers, writers, scholars, artists and thinkers, no longer uphold the values and traditions necessary for that society's survival, well, you're on the downward slope. The question thus needs to be asked: Is our time also an age of self-destructive illusions?

I

The question is, why are so many unwilling to acknowledge the threat Islamism poses to western civilization? More to the point, perhaps, why are so many so quick to blame the West itself, particularly the United States, for the attacks, as though the 3,000 who perished in the collapse of those 110-storey towers, including many Canadians, deserved their fate?

Sept. 11 was what the German philosopher G.W.F. Hegel would undoubtedly call a "world-historical moment"; which is to say, the terrorist attacks forced a fundamental shift in the way we think (or should think) about the world. Simply stated: On Sept. 11, 2001, a half-hidden war against western civilization and all that it represents was finally made explicit for all to see. Only the most naive or ideologically purblind deny this. "Is there a war on?" asks Italian philosopher Marcello Pera. "My answer is: from Afghanistan to Kashmir, to Chechnya, to the Philippines, to Saudia Arabia, Sudan, Bosnia, Kosovo, Palestine, Turkey, Egypt, Algeria, and Morocco, and elsewhere, in a great part of the Islamic and Arabic world, groups consisting of fundamentalists, radicals, and extremists -- the Taliban, al-Qaeda, Hezbollah, Hamas, the Muslim Brotherhood, Islamic Jihad, the Armed Islamic Group, and many others -- have declared war, jihad, against the West. They have said it, written it, diffused it in plain speech. Why should we not take action?"

The last five years witnessed gruesome terrorist strikes -- or threats of strikes -- around the world in the name of Islam -- suicide bombings in Bali and mass murder in Madrid and London, to name only the three most deadly. But there was also the beheading of filmmaker Theo van Gogh on an Amsterdam street. In May, a 24-year-old Pakistani immigrant was convicted in the United States of plotting to blow up a New York subway station. More recently, 17 young Muslim men in the Toronto area were arrested for plotting terrorist strikes in this country. In Britain, two dozen young Muslims are accused of planning to blow airliners out of the sky over the Atlantic. In Germany, two men were nabbed in late July after leaving suitcases loaded with bottles of gasoline, propane and detonators -- the makings of a firebomb -- on trains. In late August, Italian anti-terrorist police arrested 40 people in raids on mosques, Internet outlets and money transfer offices in cities around Italy. With all these terror plots in the works, how can anyone not believe there is a war between radical Islam and the West?

But many, it seems, still do. Former Liberal party leadership candidate Sheila Copps, for example, was recently quoted as suggesting the terrorist roundup in Britain is a conspiracy. "Could it be that this whole thing was an orchestrated overreaction to steer public attention away from the difficulties facing the Bush-Tony Blair fight on terrorism?" she asked.

Lenin had a label for people who think in such an unreal fashion. He called them "useful idiots." We heard a lot from such people during the Cold War. High-minded, well-intentioned they may have been, but in their naivete and ignorance they served as apologists for Soviet totalitarianism with their ill-thought criticism of all things western. A great many were academics and journalists. We're hearing similar appeasement psychology regarding Islamism. I can think of no better example than the reaction to former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi's remark that western civilization is superior to Islamic culture.

"We should be confident of the superiority of our civilization, which consists of a value system that has given people widespread prosperity in those countries that embrace it, and guarantees respect for human rights and religion," Mr. Berlusconi said in late September of 2001. "This respect certainly does not exist in Islamic countries. ... We must be conscious of the strength and force of our civilization."

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Not surprisingly, Muslims denounced him. "I consider his remarks racist, and by such remarks he has crossed the limits of reason and decency," said Amr Moussa, secretary general of the Arab League. In Turkey, the Islamist newspaper Akit described Berlusconi as "a new Mussolini." But the denunciations of western politicians and commentators were equally vitriolic. Amos Luzzatto, spokesman for the Italian Jewish Organizations, told La Repubblica newspaper: "In my opinion, one can not speak of the superiority of one culture over another." (You have to wonder what he would say about Nazi culture in Germany 70 years earlier.) The Belgian prime minister, Guy Verhofstadt, thought Mr. Berlusconi's remarks could have dangerous consequences. "I can hardly believe that the Italian prime minister made such statements."

It was, indeed, a surprising thing to say, considering the climate of opinion that prevails in western societies, particularly among the intelligentsia. As historian Keith Windschuttle says, "The statement was extraordinary because, although western superiority in every major area of human endeavour, especially in political and individual liberty, is patently obvious to everyone, it has become a truth that must not be spoken."

To say one civilization or culture is better than another is one of the Great Taboos nowadays, at least if you subscribe to the postmodern shibboleths of multiculturalism, multi-racialism, egalitarianism, relativism, post-structuralism, etc. There is one exception, of course. If the civilization you love to hate has its roots in European Christian culture, well, that's all right, then. You can have a nice career as a professor or a newspaper columnist denouncing the traditions and values of western civilization, even as you enjoy the best that civilization has to offer.

Nevertheless, Berlusconi was right -- assuming you think societies that allow religious freedom, free speech, human rights, etc. are "superior" to those that forbid the open practise of all religions, denounce non-believers as less than human and impose death sentences of those who dare criticize the faith. If you don't assume the former is better than the latter -- if you disagree with Berlusconi -- then you really need to ask yourself why you live in the West. To partake of its material benefits while denouncing its fundamental values is the life of a parasite. This isn't to say you're obliged to worship all things western. To the contrary, one of the secrets of the West's vitality is its openness to rational self-criticism (at least until recent decades). But to be "anti-western" while partaking of the benefits of western society is, to say the least, to live with a false and hypocritical consciousness. But that perhaps describes the zeitgeist for many contemporary intellectuals in these early years of the Age of Terror.

I

How this zeitgeist has come about, why it dominates the psyche of western elites, and whether it continues to hold sway -- the answers to such questions may well decide whether the West prevails in this war, or whether we are already seeing its decline and fall. The idea of the West in decline is a hoary trope, but societies don't always recognize when their moment in the sun has been eclipsed. The Muslims of the Ottoman empire did not think their hegemony was on the wane when the Turkish navy lost the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 to a fleet of Holy League ships. In fact, the Ottomans, who had not lost a battle since the 15th century, bounced back to reassert naval supremacy and control the coasts of the Mediterranean from the Straits of Gibraltar to Croatia and Slovenia for another century or so. Nevertheless, after the Battle of Lepanto, Islam never again threatened the heartland of Christianity, arguably allowing the West to devote its burgeoning energy to its own expansion. The Ottoman Empire, meanwhile, slowly fell apart, unbeknownst to most of its subjects.

So, too, today westerners might not notice -- or notice too late -- when one too many bricks have been pulled out of the western edifice. In any case, it can take a long time for a civilization to fall. The final collapse of the Roman Empire took at least a century -- from, say, the end of Emperor Valentinian I's reign in AD 375 to the sad and short rule of Romulus Augustus in AD 476. After that, well, it got very Dark Age very fast. The point, though, is nobody noticed the coming darkness, least of all the Roman elites. Even at the end of the fourth century, with the barbarians soon to sack Rome, "faith in the stability of the Empire and Roman culture is perfectly untroubled," says Samuel Dill. "There is not a hint (in the writings of Rome's elites) of those dim hordes, already mustering for their advance, who within twenty years will be established on the banks of the Garonne."

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The situation is equally disturbing today, if not more so. The Roman elites -- poets, rhetoricians, scholars, soldiers and senators -- may have been blind to the barbarian threat, lost to decadent pursuits, but they weren't actively promoting their civilization's destruction. The same cannot be said of contemporary western elites.

In the words of philosopher Marcello Pera, the western elites, particularly in Europe, are delusional in their views of the Islamist threat, and for much the same reason as the ancient Roman elites. In their denunciations of the United States and the war on terror they have chosen wrongly, says Pera, having "made a flawed analysis of Islamic terror -- based on an anti-American bias -- in the mistaken belief that it is a limited and easily contained phenomenon." He attributes this choice to the mistaken, if comforting, belief that "the terrorist war is an act of reaction rather than aggression." Westerners, Pera writes in an essay entitled "Relativism, Christianity and the West," have enjoyed peace for 60 years and are thus "inclined to believe that peace is a natural state and a natural right, and that perpetual peace can indeed exist." As a result they think no price is too high to achieve peace, "not appeasement, not massacres on its own soil, not even surrender to terrorists." Such an attitude betrays intellectual and moral impotence, says Pera. Tragically, it is this impotence that shapes the response of many western elites to the Islamist threat. Why this is so, why this zeitgeist dominates so much of the western mind, needs to be understood if the West is to recover from its decadent ennui.

I

In a 2004 speech, "The Spiritual Roots of Europe," Joseph Cardinal Ratzinger -- now Pope Benedict XVI -- said: "There is a self-hatred in the West that can be considered only as something pathological. The West attempts in a praiseworthy manner to open itself completely to the comprehension of external values, but it no longer loves itself; it now only sees what is despicable and destructive in its own history, while it is no longer able to perceive what is great and pure there."

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Pope Benedict also finds a parallel between the West's situation today and that of ancient Rome. "There is a clear comparison between today's situation and the decline of the Roman Empire. In its final days, Rome still functioned as a great historical framework, but in practice it was already subsisting on models that were destined to fail. Its vital energy had been depleted." In particular, the Pope points to Europe's low birth rate, its seeming unwillingness to reproduce itself, as evidence of decline. "Europe is infected by a strange lack of desire for the future. Children, our future, are perceived as a threat to the present, as if they were taking something away from our lives. Children are seen as a liability rather than as a source of hope."

Might Europe's reluctance to reproduce -- at least on the part of the non-Muslim population -- reflect a spiritual malaise, a psychic impotence, similar to that which afflicted ancient Rome? As commentator Douglas Davis asked in a recent National Post column, "Why would a civilization, at the height of its intellectual, cultural and technological power, seek to subvert its own values to appease a bunch of jihadist fanatics?"

The key reason is the ideology that currently prevails among the western intellectual class. As Keith Windschuttle explains in his essay, "The Cultural War on Western Civilization," recent decades have seen leading opinion-makers in the media, the universities, social and political institutions, and even the churches, promote the notion that the West's "superiority" is shameful and must be opposed because it is based on power and domination of others.

This is a radical change from past understandings of western civilization. Up until the 1960s, most intellectuals believed the West's achievements in political freedom, scientific advance and cultural development were largely explainable in terms of its own internal evolution: the inheritance of ancient Greece and Rome, the rise of Christianity, the Renaissance, the Reformation, the Enlightenment, and the industrial and scientific revolutions. This self-understanding is now rejected by the radical intelligentsia. As Windschuttle says: "Western political and economic dominance is more commonly explained not by its internal dynamics but by its external behaviour,

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especially its rivalry and aggression towards other cultures." Western achievement, in other words, has come at the expense of other civilizations. Ergo, the West is guilty of victimizing the world for its own enrichment. Therefore, westerners should be ashamed of their civilization. Its supposedly universal values -- reason, individual freedom, human rights, democracy, etc. -- are merely ethnocentric projections used to justify the West's imperialist exploitation of others. Even science is merely the "western way of knowing."

Admittedly, westerners have not always done well by other societies, and a rational critique of western abuse and exploitation is be welcomed. But this new radicalism goes far beyond self-criticism to constitute hatred of the West. Even if the West is guilty of many of the charges against it, says Windschuttle, that does not justify "an overwhelmingly negative critique of Western civilization itself."

The biggest factor contributing to this negative critique is, arguably, the West's history of empire-building. The critique might be warranted if it was only the West that engaged in imperial adventures. The fact is that every rising civilization has been imperialistic, including Islam, which from the seventh century through to the 16th century established its hegemony in the Middle East, the Indian subcontinent and North Africa through bloody conquest. Should Muslims now feel guilty about conquering what were once Christian lands in the Middle East and North Africa? Should they be expected to vacate those lands and return them to the Christian fold? The questions are purely rhetorical, but there's no gainsaying the hypocrisy in denouncing the West for its imperial past while letting other cultures off the hook. In any case, denunciations of western imperialism are, in many cases, unjustified.

Political theorist Lewis Feuer points out in his book *Imperialism and the Anti-Imperialist Mind* that western imperialism by and large brought improvements in social, economic and political conditions to those they ruled -- everything from better education and health to an end to slavery and tribal genocide. "Anti-imperialist literature has perhaps beclouded the great fact that the world's advances have been associated with the eras of progressive imperialism," says Feuer. "A progressive imperialism is one in which energies are liberated for the advancement of civilization and creative activity ... A rising, progressive people will be a correspondingly commercial, scientific, and imperialist people; such imperialism is not atavistic but creative. Decay comes when those energies have become effete."

Feuer distinguishes between regressive and progressive imperialism. The former, he argues, were devoted to pillaging their colonies, while the latter sought, at least to some extent, to improve social and economic conditions. Feuer offers Mongolian, Spanish and Soviet imperialism as examples of regressive imperialism. The Alexandrian, Roman, French, Dutch and British empires were more progressive forms of imperialism in that for all their errors and arrogance -- the British Opium War with China in the 1840s, for example -- their rule was generally beneficial. In modern times, imperialism brought improvements in social conditions and economic wealth to many regions of Asia and Africa. As well, Britain's outlawing of slavery throughout the Empire largely put an end to the slave trade, except in the Arab world. "Between the years 1860 to 1876 at least four hundred thousand natives, it has been estimated, were enslaved for use in the Middle East and North Africa," Feuer writes. Arab slave traders castrated thousands of African boys to turn them into eunuch slaves.

So why, Feuer asks, do "the writings of Arab and black ideologists alike evince no trace of an Arab-Muslim guilt" comparable to the guilt westerners are supposed to feel about their imperial past? Somehow, he says, the "white man's burden" has been transmuted into a burden not of power but of guilt that has been enthusiastically taken up by leftist intellectuals.

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(Continued on Part Two)

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So dumb it smarts: Bye-bye '06

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Body

JANUARY

Jan. 1: In a special group New Year's resolution ceremony, Mel Gibson, Michael Richards, Paul Martin, Donald Rumsfeld, U.S. Congressman Mark Foley, Britney Spears, Lindsay Lohan and the planet Pluto pledge: "This is the year I make everyone so proud of me."

Jan. 8: Brad Pitt plants the seed: Angelina Jolie is pregnant. Madonna, hearing that the baby may be born in Africa, puts in an adoption bid.

Jan. 9: On the federal election front: with no cameras mounted behind them at the televised leaders debate, no one sees Paul Martin pull a proposal to scrap the notwithstanding clause out of his ass.

Jan. 10: The Liberals, in new TV ads, charge that Stephen Harper wants to put soldiers with guns in Canadian cities, but the Liberals say not to worry. As long as they remain in charge, there'll never be enough working Sea King helicopters to get soldiers anywhere.

Jan. 11: Televangelist Pat Robertson says Ariel Sharon's stroke was God's doing but sheds no light on whether God is responsible for Robertson losing his marbles.

Jan. 12: A new report recommending the legalization of polygamy sparks fear among men who can't remember even one anniversary a year.

Jan. 19: Osama bin Laden puts out a "best of" collection of his warnings to America but, in a stunning miscalculation, releases it on eight-track.

Jan. 20: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad quietly begins work on an 18-page letter to U.S. President George W. Bush, unaware that anything longer than three paragraphs hasn't got a chance.

Jan. 22: Slippers once owned by a 19th-century Indian prince are stolen from the Bata Shoe Museum but, curiously, no one touches the flip-flops worn by Roseanne through a 1989 summer heat wave.

Jan. 23: Stephen Harper's Conservatives win a minority government, putting an abrupt halt to Paul Martin's ambitious agenda to...to...well, to continue being prime minister.

Jan. 26: Oprah Winfrey asks author James Frey whether he still stands by the first chapter in his supposedly true memoir, where he tells the Bush administration he's found the weapons of mass destruction.

FEBRUARY

Feb. 1: Justice John Gomery releases the second part of his report, suggesting ways to deal with corrupt governments, to which Canadians reply, "Hello? Did you catch what we did a week ago?"

Feb. 4: Editorial cartoonists, under siege around the world, start thinking, "What the hell, let's all just do Family Circus."

Feb. 6: Stephen Harper stuns the public by appointing a Liberal MP to his cabinet, prompting a forlorn Belinda Stronach to ask, "There was an opening?"

Feb. 8: Janet Gretzky, outraged by gambling allegations levelled against her and charges laid against Coyotes assistant coach Rick Tocchet, gives 10-1 odds he'll beat the rap.

Feb. 11: The Ontario NDP, furious that Buzz Hargrove endorsed Liberals, says he can't hang out in their refrigerator-carton clubhouse any more.

Feb. 12: U.S. Vice-President Dick Cheney says he regrets terribly shooting his friend in a hunting accident and feels even worse about gutting him.

Feb. 14: At the Ipperwash inquiry, former premier Mike Harris says what he actually said was "fogging engines," a reference to a machine used by his government's media relations division.

Feb. 22: Someone forgets to put a loonie under the Olympic ice this time. Meanwhile, members of Canada's men's Olympic hockey team look into a group rate for sex change surgeries.

Feb. 24: Condoleezza Rice says she's given it her best shot but there's no hope of peace between Martha Stewart and Donald Trump.

Feb. 26: Todd Bertuzzi starts pulling together an alibi when news surfaces that Guy Lafleur has been mugged.

Feb. 28: Mexican police say the lead suspects in the murders of two Canadians are no longer a couple of Thunder Bay women but two others going by the names of Thelma and Louise.

MARCH

March 1: Sir Paul McCartney and his wife Heather, supposedly in Canada to protest the seal hunt, have actually come to adopt a pup in the hopes it will save their marriage.

March 3: Those stolen slippers are returned to the Bata Shoe Museum, largely undamaged, but forensic experts tell police to be on the lookout for someone who uses Burt's Bees Coconut Foot Creme.

March 3: Baseball legend Barry Bonds, angered by rumours of rampant steroid use, rips a reporter's head off with one hand.

March 5: At the Oscars, Brokeback Mountain fails to win Best Picture, prompting charges that the Academy is anti-mountain.

March 6: World health officials, in a desperate bid to keep everyone in a perpetual state of panic, confirm that two swans in Poland may have bird flu. Meanwhile, scientists in Wisconsin can't figure out why avian flu is having so much trouble jumping from human to human, prompting the question: are they trying to solve this problem?

March 9: U.S. military officials say the notorious Abu Ghraib prison will close just as soon as new facilities for inmate humiliation can be found.

March 17: The Canadian Tire guy is killed by a red sign falling from the top of the screen.

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March 29: Hooters Air shuts down, even though most thought if any airline could stay afloat, it would be this one.

March 30: Ontario's Liberals, having lost three out of three by-elections, wonder whether the ol' McGuinty Magic might be slipping.

March 31: Stephen Harper, under attack for the dorky utility vest he wore at the Heather summit in Cancun, says, "You think this is bad? Wait'll you see me in my tunic in Vietnam."

APRIL

April 2: Strikes and labour unrest by young people in France get so bad, many are now refusing to burn cars.

April 4: New line added to CBC application form: "And what qualities would you bring to the position of Governor General?"

April 6: Belinda Stronach won't seek the Liberal leadership, explaining that before she could undertake such a project, she'd have way too many affairs to put in order.

April 7: Pressure mounts for Preston Manning to take over from Ralph Klein, particularly among the ever-powerful buggy whip constituency.

April 7: After a long time abroad, Michael Ignatieff says he will seek the Liberal leadership, just as soon as he's got his new campaign wardrobe from Simpson's and Eaton's.

April 11: A major soap company starts test marketing its new "Internal Cleanser" in the biker gang community - it rubs out anything and everything.

April 18: That Toronto neighbourhood with four beaches is now officially the Beach, as well as a nation within an amalgamated megacity.

April 18: Tom Cruise and Katie Holmes celebrate the birth of baby Suri, who's not only beautiful but looks suspiciously like Dawson.

April 20: Iran's president, whose name is becoming increasingly difficult to spell by year-end review writers, says that while his country perfects nuclear technology, it is stockpiling Diet Coke and Mentos.

April 21: Fired Leafs coach Pat Quinn, clearly unaware the "I'm a stripper" commercial is in his future, believes he can still reclaim his dignity.

April 25: Stephen Harper, saying the only thing he cares about lowering is taxes, leaves the Parliament Hill flag exactly where it is as Afghanistan casualties mount.

April 28: Leadership hopeful Bob Rae, seeking to put his NDP past behind him and prove he's a fully committed Liberal, sets fire to Jack Layton's moustache.

April 30: Doctors say Keith Richards was lucky that, when he fell from a palm tree in Fiji, he landed on his head, which apparently is incapable of sustaining any further damage.

MAY

May 1: Politicians across the U.S. must make other child-care arrangements as illegal immigrants stage a huge protest. Meanwhile, George Bush announces a new plan to discourage illegal aliens: placing an armed Dick Cheney along the Mexican border.

May 1: Toronto Councillor Rob Ford says he didn't mean to lie about being drunk and abusive at a Leafs game; he thought he'd been drunk and abusive at a Raptors game.

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May 5: Grief counsellors rush in after a minor earthquake hits Oakville, spilling several lattes.

May 12: George Bush says the U.S. government is not eavesdropping on its citizens' phone calls, merely tracking data, like who Americans call, how long they talk, who calls them and, by the way - Michael Moore, you might want to ease up on the pizza orders.

May 16: Forty mountaineers who passed a dying climber on Mount Everest say they wanted to help but they were going to a meeting.

May 17: Blayne Lastman says his father Mel has rejoined Bad Boy but noooooobody cares.

May 18: Heather Mills McCartney, filing papers that she's splitting up from husband Paul, names Belinda Stronach as the other woman.

May 20: Stephen Harper puts all his copies of the Kyoto accord into his blue box, then puts the blue box in a Dumpster. Meanwhile, Environment Minister Rona Ambrose calls a news conference to announce that clouds are pretty.

May 27: As Shiloh, the daughter of the two most beautiful people in the world, Brad and Angelina, is born, a bright new star appears in the night sky but it turns out to be paparazzi in a helicopter.

May 29: After a wildcat strike by the TTC, the slogan is changed from "The Better Way" to "Try Us Tomorrow."

JUNE

June 1: Liberal leadership candidate Joe Volpe sets up his new website, toddlersforvolpe.com.

June 2: A new comic book version of Batwoman reinvents her as a lesbian - like Batman and Robin are going to care, nudge nudge, wink wink.

June 3: Police arrest a group of young Canadian men who were said to be plotting to blow up the Parliament buildings, kill the Prime Minister and behead telemarketers who always phone you when you're having dinner. RCMP say that while the alleged terrorists' third goal was laudable, they had to be arrested for the other two.

June 4: George Bush alerts America to what may be the greatest threat yet: illegal immigrants in same sex marriages who think the Iraq war was a mistake.

June 8: Insurgency leader Abu Musab al-Zarqawi is killed in an Iraq safe house, prompting his followers to sue the real estate agent who called it a "safe house."

June 15: Bill Gates announces he's quitting as chairman of Microsoft, just as soon as he can work out a decent pension deal.

June 21: The CBC, in what has to be the greatest idea in the history of the public broadcaster, is bumping The National to simulcast a U.S. reality show, The One: Making Of A Music Star. Various CBC programmers await word of their promotions.

June 23: Saddam Hussein calls off a hunger strike after missing one meal (true!). Trial officials say it's a good thing he didn't extend it to two or they'd have given him everything he wanted.

June 27: The plug is pulled on the stage version of The Lord of the Rings but producers say they're confident theatre-goers will love its replacement, a musical based on Basic Instinct 2.

June 28: J.K. Rowling reveals that in the final episode of Harry Potter, her hero wakes up in bed with Emily from The Bob Newhart Show.

JULY

So dumb it smarts: Bye-bye '06

July 2: Ontario's psychics are told to find other work for two years while the province's property assessment division is retooled.

July 4: U.S. officials say a North Korean test missile that dropped into the Sea of Japan might have reached Hawaii if it had been equipped with a much larger rubber band.

July 5: Tim Hortons' good intentions go awry when, after opening an outlet in Kandahar, Taliban insurgents claim prizes on discarded cups Canadian soldiers forgot to roll up the rims on.

July 6: Conservative insiders aren't thrilled that, at a White House event, Bush referred to Prime Minister Harper as "Steve," but it beats the nickname the president wanted to use, "Beaver Boy."

July 10: As if those naked pictures of Heather Mills McCartney hitting the tabloids weren't bad enough, now some have surfaced showing her eating a seal burger with fries.

July 12: Hezbollah kidnaps a couple of Israeli soldiers along the border with Lebanon, figuring it can trade them for some Palestinian prisoners, all in a day's work, Bob's your uncle, what could be simpler.

July 13: Boom.

July 21: Prime Minister Harper, already in Europe, diverts his plane to rescue Canadians in Lebanon - but not before picking up essential supplies: photographers.

July 23: Two new reports: 1. Fewer students taking phys. ed. 2. Many people now too fat to fit into MRI machines. Hello?

July 27: Toronto city councillors and the mayor give themselves a 9 per cent raise, figuring voters will forget all about it by the November elections - one of those rare times when they turn out to be absolutely right.

July 28: CBC renames its new imported reality show The Two from The One when viewership doubles.

AUGUST

Aug. 1: The publicity campaign for Mel Gibson's new movie, AntiSemitico, gets a huge, unintended boost. Meanwhile, Mel's plans to make a movie with Barbra Streisand, Lethal Yentl, are put on hold.

Aug. 9: A suddenly ecstatic Toronto, desperate for a place to dump its sludge, gets a call from the Fox network, which has this show about O.J. in the works.

Aug. 10: Fluids are banned on airplanes, although, tragically, this does not extend to Air Canada coffee.

Aug. 10: A U.S. court raises Conrad Black's bail by another \$1 million, forcing the former newspaper baron to cut back from five- to four-syllable adjectives.

Aug. 11: Mike Douglas dies but, in a horrible mix-up, Merv Griffin is buried.

Aug. 12: Stephen Harper heads north, figuring he'll get a less chilly reception in the Arctic than at the AIDS conference in Toronto.

Aug. 14: Justice Minister Vic Toews says a law that will drag misbehaving children before the courts will cut thousands from the penitentiary budget by sending inmates to bed without their dinner.

Aug. 17: A British business magazine names Dalton McGuinty "personality of the year." Feel free to insert whatever joke you'd like here.

Aug. 24: Paula Abdul enters Pluto's orbit but, now that it's been delisted as a planet, no one notices.

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Aug. 28: Toronto officials, miffed at being left off a list of the top 10 North American travel destinations, say, "Oh yeah? Just wait'll we get the 2015 World's Fair!"

Aug. 30: Norwegian police recover the stolen Edvard Munch painting *The Scream* after being really quiet and hearing, "Help! I'm over here!"

SEPTEMBER

Sept. 4: Crikey.

Sept. 5: Toronto high school students will now be asked whether they are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered but, as to whether they can spell "Mississippi," who cares?

Sept. 12: In Nova Scotia, Deputy Prime Minister Peter MacKay and U.S. Secretary Of State Condoleezza Rice carve their initials into a tree.

Sept. 14: Sean Penn won't be charged with smoking in a hotel during the film festival after an investigation determines that the officials are scared to death of him.

Sept. 16: Pope Benedict says he meant no harm to the Muslim community with his comments about Mohammad and concedes doodling a few cartoons on a papal napkin might have been a bad call, too.

Sept. 17: Spinach joins carrot juice and bean sprouts on the list of tainted health foods that might kill you, but there's still no evidence a coffee and a doughnut ever killed anyone.

Sept. 22: This month's book club selections by Argentine president Hugo Chavez: Noam Chomsky's *Hegemony or Survival: America's Quest for Global Dominance*, *Fiasco: The American Military Adventure in Iraq* and, to lighten things up a bit, Rachael Ray's 30-Minute Get Real Meals.

Sept. 23: Rumours fly that Osama bin Laden is dead but, since his name hasn't surfaced on a list of Liberal delegates, it's assumed he's alive.

Sept. 24: The New York Times leaks a report finding that the Iraq war has actually made the world terrorism situation worse. This, apparently, is news.

Sept. 27: A new report says the Gardiner Expressway should be dismantled, put in a box and taken out and set up only on days when you're expecting a lot of people over.

Sept. 27: French and Canadian researchers, using special 3D technology to determine what's really behind the Mona Lisa smile, conclude she just had a bit of gas.

Sept. 27: Conrad Black, claiming he'd only dropped it off at the dry cleaners to get a stain out, tries to get his citizenship back.

OCTOBER

Oct. 1: U.S. Congressman Mark Foley concedes that when he invited male teenage pages to join his party, he wasn't referring specifically to the Republican party.

Oct. 2: North Korean dictator Kim Il-jong conducts a nuclear bomb test so powerful it rearranges his name to Kim Jong-il.

Oct. 7: As part of a major policy announcement, Liberal leadership frontrunner Michael Ignatieff calls a news conference to declare that anything he's about to say will be rescinded at the next news conference.

Oct. 9: In Caledonia, native protestors become agitated when a tactical team from the OPP gets their Tim Hortons order wrong.

So dumb it smarts: Bye-bye '06

Oct. 15: At their annual convention, year-end review writers debate whether readers get as far as October and, if not, do the jokes for November and December have to be that good?

Oct. 19: MP Garth Turner reveals Conservative caucus secrets and speaks out against government decisions but it's only after he takes a whiz on the Prime Minister's trousers that he's booted from the party.

Oct. 23: Canada's armed forces relaxes its fitness requirements slightly, saying applicants who have difficulty running 10 kilometres while carrying their equipment may use an SUV.

Oct. 25: And furthermore, says Rush Limbaugh, maybe it's time Rock Hudson stopped with this whole AIDS act he's got going on.

Oct. 26: Madonna goes on Oprah to make her case for adopting an African baby and, just by picking the right day to be on the show, wins her kid a car.

Oct. 28: Lottery ticket retailer: "Well I'll be darned, did I win again? What are the odds?"

Oct. 30: Bob Barker is to step down from The Price Is Right, the game show he has hosted since 1942.

Oct. 31: The Harper government breaks a key promise and kills income trusts, outraging many, except a relieved Dalton McGuinty, who says, "See? Conservatives do it, too."

NOVEMBER

Nov. 1: John Kerry, under attack for flubbing a George Bush joke, tries again: "Knock knock. Who's there? George. George Who? Five. Four to take the light bulb to Iraq and one to screw it in."

Nov. 2: Toronto's world's fair bid crumbles when, at a meeting among city, provincial and federal officials to discuss who'll cover any future deficit, no deal can be reached over who'll pay for the Timbits.

Nov. 4: Environment Minister Rona Ambrose acknowledges that while the journal Science says the world's commercial fisheries could collapse by mid-century, it's not clear whether this would affect fish sticks or Goldfish crackers.

Nov. 5: Deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein is sentenced to death by hanging, a symbolic event that at last brings peace, closure and stability to - hang on, there's some sort of a bulletin coming in.

Nov. 7: Britney Spears files for divorce from Kevin Federline, prompting Kevin to seek custody of their children, prompting Britney to countersue that she'll be keeping the children, prompting the children to ask whether there is a remote chance they could just be raised by wolves.

Nov. 8: While Donald Rumsfeld's removal from the Pentagon goes swiftly and efficiently, he has no post-employment plan and his retirement is plunged into chaos.

Nov. 13: Toronto's mayoral election result provides an important life lesson for everyone: You can get by on nice hair.

Nov. 19: Seinfeld alum Jason Alexander, watching Michael Richards apologize on Letterman, says, "So that's what I've gotta do for people to know I still exist."

Nov. 20: Toronto police discover that several tenants in a single apartment building were not only growing marijuana, but they also had a raw milk operation going as well.

Nov. 21: Madonna is rumoured to be heading back to Malawi for another child. Apparently, there is a sale.

Nov. 22: Stephen Harper says Canada needs 40 years to deal with smog and global warming and, yes, the ecological future of the planet is at stake, but you can't just turn the industrial world on a dime, you can't hurry

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something that is fundamental to how the country operates, environmental policy is not a night at the improv and, oh, by the way, Quebec is a nation.

DECEMBER

Dec. 1: Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain beats Elvis as the top-selling deceased artist and even makes it as a last-minute Liberal delegate.

Dec. 1: On CNN: "The Crisis Under Britney's Skirt: Day Nine." A new poll finds 92 per cent of Americans think Britney Spears is a complete twit for running around without underwear, but it turns out they're off by one vowel.

Dec. 2: Michael Ignatieff and Bob Rae end up with big Ls on their foreheads and they don't stand for "Liberal."

Dec. 5: A new study finds that Toronto's cops are overweight, don't eat properly and aren't getting enough exercise - in other words, they're like everybody else.

Dec. 6: RCMP commissioner Giuliano Zaccardelli quits, narrowly avoiding Stephen Harper's plan to determine which version of his testimony was the truth by sending him to Syria.

Dec. 6: The Iraq Study Group reports back to George Bush that the country America invaded three years ago has devolved into total chaos. "Good to know," the president says. "Only wish somebody mentioned something sooner."

Dec. 7: With the same-sex debate at long last dead in Parliament, Stephen Harper says the time is finally right to reveal the true nature of his relationship with Peter MacKay.

Dec. 8: Rotating brownouts possible as Hydro One deals with paying out Tom Parkinson's \$3 million severance.

Dec. 11: Delegates to Iran's Holocaust deniers convention run into trouble at the host hotel when the front desk says: "You made a reservation? Far as we can tell, it never happened."

Dec. 12: A Christmas miracle! Ontario's MPPs will get a 25 per cent raise, even though most people are getting 2 or 3 per cent max. Says Dalton McGuinty, "Santa was listening."

Dec. 18: Boring old Time magazine names "You," everyday people on the Internet, the Person of the Year, while the wild, Canadian version of Time gets jiggy and blows everybody's mind by picking Stephen Harper! Take that, Time USA!

Dec. 19: Another copy of the Iraq Study Group's report is catapulted into the air as an armed Dick Cheney shouts: "Pull!"

Dec. 21: Rona Ambrose says rumours she's about to be dumped as environment minister absolutely stink, the first time since she got the job that she's noticed air quality.

Dec. 23: Santa says the sleigh will be a little lighter this year since he won't be hitting the house of that Christmas-tree-banning judge.

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Graphic

Osama Bin Laden Michael Ignatieff Does Suri look a bit like Dawson? Saddam Hussein Jason Alexander Dick Cheney could solve U.S. problem of illegal immigration. JIM YOUNG reuters file photo The year just kept getting better for Stephen Harper. Not content with his fashion statement at a summit in March, the Prime Minister models

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a silk tunic at an APEC meeting in November. Canadian Tire guy Ted Simonett just before the big red sign fell. Mike Harris at the Ipperwash inquiry: "You think I said what?" If Brad and Angie's baby is born in Africa, will Madonna adopt? Conrad Black, left, may regret giving up Canadian citizenship. ap file photo If that's Diet Coke, hold off on the Mentos. North Korean leader Kim Jong-il's policies are a blast. Children of Britney Spears and Kevin Federline need options. Police solve the theft of The Scream by telling everyone to "Shhhh." Are Stephen Harper, left, and Peter MacKay, right, too cozy? If Brad and Angie's baby is born in Africa, will Madonna adopt? Mike Harris at the Ipperwash inquiry: "You think I said what?" Dick Cheney could solve U.S. problem of illegal immigration. ap file photo If that's Diet Coke, hold off on the Mentos. North Korean leader Kim Jong-il's policies are a blast. Conrad Black, left, may regret giving up Canadian citizenship. Are Stephen Harper, left, and Peter MacKay, right, too cozy?

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Mark Shurtleff: Attorney general tackles Utah's toughest issues

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Byline: Doug Robinson Deseret Morning News

Body

Mark Shurtleff, Utah's attorney general, recently held a family meeting to discuss his political future. Should he run for office again in 2008?

His wife, M'Liss, and his children came down squarely against it.

"Daddy, I don't want you to be AG anymore," his daughter Danielle once told him tearfully.

Why would she? Shurtleff is considered the literal Antichrist by some polygamist groups. His Utah State Bar number is only further confirmation in their minds -- 4666, or "for" 666.

He has received death threats, one of which led to the arrest of a man with a sawed-off shotgun. At times law enforcement officials have urged him to wear a bulletproof vest and avoid windows in his house. He feels compelled to carry a pistol wherever he goes. (On the other hand, some polygamists reason that since he's the Antichrist, he can't be killed, so why bother.)

His wife and children complain that he is gone too much. M'Liss argues that even if another job took him away from home frequently, at least he would make more money. Recently, the Legislature raised his salary to \$90,000, which is what he was earning as a private attorney 15 years ago. Of the 225 attorneys who work for him in the Attorney General's Office, about one-third of them make more money than their boss.

"He could make three times as much if he were a private attorney," says one Salt Lake lawyer.

So will he run?

"I just held a fund-raiser," he says. "My plan is to run. But it's hard. There are things I'm not going to be able to finish in the next two years."

The 49-year-old Shurtleff will try to finish what he has begun, and there is much to finish. He has opened a number of Pandora's boxes in his six years on the job.

Shurtleff is a Republican and a Mormon, but if you think you can label him, you're mistaken. He has taken on polygamy, lobbied for hate-crimes legislation and opposed a proposed amendment to the Utah Constitution that would ban gay marriages, though he said he would defend that amendment after the Legislature passed it. He supported media shield laws and personal gun rights and has sided with illegal aliens on some issues. But the hallmark of his office so far has been his aggressive campaign against polygamy, turning the state's unofficial don't-ask-don't-tell policy on its head.

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His stances on these issues have so irritated some fellow Republicans that they threatened to cut funding for his office. He found himself opposing politicians on certain issues who had helped get him elected.

"My brother Kevin is always talking about principles," says Shurtleff. "Don't test the polls, don't worry about whether something will get you votes -- that's not the reason to make a decision."

So he expects to run for a third term, which is ironic because after the last legislative session he was so disillusioned by political back-room deal-making -- specifically, by politicians refusing to vote for a certain bill because the bill's sponsor once refused to vote for his bill on another issue -- that he told his division chiefs, "I'm done. I don't want to do this anymore."

Shurtleff, a former naval officer and a drill sergeant's son, will tell you he is not the same man he was when he first took office, not the same black-and-white, law-and-order man. He says he has become more compassionate and empathetic. Wrestling a knife away from one of your daughters with your bare hands will do that to a man.

So will sitting in a room with a victim of polygamy who is telling her story and sobbing. That's when he has a sense of mission about his job.

Shurtleff risked almost everything to campaign for the attorney general's job. He went into debt, spent the family's savings and cleaned out his kids' college funds, all for a position that offered a \$15,000 pay cut.

"It motivates you," he says. "If you lose, you're never going to pay off those debts. If you win, you can get help with fund-raisers."

M'Liss, who has a master's degree in speech therapy, took on extra work to help support the family and their five children.

"We're stressed about money," says Shurtleff. "It's hard. We're not putting away any money."

So why do it?

"It's simple," says Kevin Shurtleff. "We were raised on public service and making a difference."

Their parents, Leonard and Sandra, were both school teachers and active in grass-roots politics. They served five missions for their church. Leonard served in the National Guard and became principal of Bingham High School.

"We debated issues constantly around the house," says Kevin Shurtleff. "We picked a topic at dinner or family gatherings -- Vietnam, abortion, death penalty, whatever -- and tried to find solutions.

"We were real loud and opinionated, and Dad was in the middle of it. We still do it. Now our kids want to join in on the topic of the day."

Of Shurtleff's three brothers, Mike is a teacher and director of religion at the University of South Carolina; Keith is an Army chaplain and law school student; Kevin is an inventor, chemist and entrepreneur. All four of the brothers served LDS missions and were Eagle Scouts.

As a boy, Shurtleff was passionate about history, books and the military. He joined a military book club at 12 and dreamed of attending West Point. He awaited the arrival of the bookmobile in his Sandy neighborhood the way most kids looked for the ice cream truck.

No one would have described him as bookish, though. At 6-foot-4, one inch under his current height, he was a center on the basketball team and an offensive tackle (and team captain) on the football team at Brighton High School. During his senior season, an opponent delivered an illegal block into the back of his legs, tearing the knee's anterior cruciate ligament, or ACL. He put off surgery, strapped on a brace and managed to finish the season.

It wasn't until years later, after tearing the medial collateral ligament -- the MCL -- and the ACL, that he underwent the first of three surgeries to repair the knee. While running for attorney general, he was eating Motrin to stave off

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knee pain; after taking office he underwent knee replacement surgery. The surgery was successful enough that he was able to sky-dive as part of a fund-raising event for Boy Scouts, but since then he has injured the right knee in a game of beach volleyball and faces more surgery.

After graduating from high school, Shurtleff was nominated to West Point, but he scrapped his plans to attend the academy because, at the time, the Army wouldn't accommodate a church mission first. He served an LDS mission to Peru and took an undergrad degree from Brigham Young University and a law degree from the University of Utah. Then he was lured into the Navy by the promise that he could try cases in court immediately.

After serving in the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps (JAG), for five years, he worked in private practice in California for four years and then returned to Utah to serve as assistant attorney general and eventually deputy Salt Lake County attorney and commissioner before winning the state attorney general's job.

"I love elected office and the law, and AG was the perfect combination of that," he says.

Shurtleff packs a gun. He has a concealed weapons permit, and the pistol is always with him, either holstered on his side or placed in his briefcase.

"I hate it," he says. "It's an awesome responsibility to carry a gun or to think you might have to use it and make sure it's secure. I've got a gun safe."

He carries it to protect himself and his family. At the height of the hate-crimes controversy, he received threats on his life.

Police learned that a white Aryan-nation group had sent an order to an ex-con to firebomb Shurtleff's house.

"They caught the guy who had the note," says Shurtleff. "Stupid criminals. He had a sawed-off shotgun but no bomb."

Since taking the job, Shurtleff has made waves and enemies. He issued an opinion on the anti-gay marriage amendment to the Utah Constitution, saying it went beyond defining marriage as a man and woman; he contended that it denied basic rights for gay couples and therefore was potentially unconstitutional. To some, that made him anti-traditional family.

He waded into the gun fray at the University of Utah, announcing that the school's ban on guns, even by those with a concealed weapons permit, would be found unconstitutional.

The university sued him twice before capitulating.

"I was called a gun nut," he says. "But it's the law."

On the other hand, after he told the small town of Virgin that it was illegal to pass a law that made it unlawful not to carry a gun, he received angry e-mails calling him anti-American, one from a man who signed it, "One man and many bullets."

He also took up the cause of shield laws, which protect news media being forced to reveal confidential sources. He was recruited to lead a group of state attorneys general to file a friend-of-the-court brief asking the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case of New York Times reporter Judith Miller, who was jailed after refusing to divulge her sources for a CIA identity leak.

"I started reading everything I could," he says, "and I really became converted. There are so many occasions in which a reporter was able to use an anonymous source and ultimately truth came out and major corruption was revealed."

Because Utah is one of only two states that doesn't have a shield law, Shurtleff began pushing for legislation. "I met with opposition ... from cops and prosecutors," he says. "I got nasty e-mails. They're saying, 'If I'm a cop and you

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have information, you have to give it to me.' But justice is better served in the end. We got the bill going in the Legislature. It met with so much opposition. Legislators and cops are asking me, 'Why are you doing this? Are you out of your mind?'"

Prosecutors convened to discuss the issue without inviting Shurtleff and elected a delegation to visit the attorney general to tell him to back off. As a compromise, the issue was turned over to the Supreme Court Rules of Evidence Advisory Committee to formulate a reporter's privilege law.

But of all the issues that Shurtleff has undertaken, the one he never saw coming was his prosecution of polygamists. Like everyone else in the state, he had simply ignored polygamy in a tacit agreement of live and let live. The predominantly Mormon population was certainly nervous about anything that smelled like religious persecution.

"I challenge you to find one time during my first campaign that the word polygamy crossed my lips," says Shurtleff.

But shortly after Shurtleff took office, Tom Green began to turn up on national TV talk shows boasting of his polygamist lifestyle. He was flaunting it, rubbing it in the faces of prosecutors and the law. Juab County wanted to prosecute but didn't have the funds. Shurtleff provided funding and investigators, who were surprised by what they found.

"Did you know Green married his wife when she was 13?" they asked their boss. "And that this practice is widespread?"

Shurtleff had stumbled upon a practical way to take on polygamy; it was one thing if men were taking multiple wives to live their religion -- even if it was against the law, nobody wanted to take on religion. But sex with minors was another matter.

"We wanted to get him for child rape," says Shurtleff, "and there was a baby to prove it."

Shurtleff met with county prosecutors and offered to let them have the first crack at prosecuting polygamists on the rape charges. They declined. It was a political hot potato, especially for prosecutors in Washington County, where polygamists constitute a large voting block.

It fell to Shurtleff to prosecute. A group of polygamists from Hildale met with Shurtleff to try to head him off. "We think this is a gray area," they told him. His reply: "No, this is a crime, and you'd better stop. I'm going to prosecute every case."

Later, law enforcement officials discovered recordings of polygamist meetings in which one leader, Warren Jeffs of the Fundamentalist LDS Church, told them to destroy records and photographs of weddings that showed children marrying adults.

Says Shurtleff, "We had to make the choice early on: Is this about polygamy or is this about crimes being committed in a polygamous sect in the name of religion? We chose the crimes, the more serious of the two. This was child abuse -- we didn't want to be accused of religious persecution. And it was practical. If you prosecuted one polygamist for polygamy, where do you stop? You can't prosecute 20,000 people."

Shurtleff's resolve grew with each victim's story. Carolyn Jessop, who was married to Jeffs' No. 2 man, escaped with her eight children in the middle of the night. She sat in Shurtleff's office and told him stories of children being forced to kill animals with their bare hands to demonstrate obedience, of children being forced to quit school, of women being told that they don't need a job or an education because their only purpose is to marry and please their husband and have babies; of economic hardships and women having no way out of polygamy.

"I'm thinking, here's my witness," says Shurtleff. "But she told me she can't be a witness until she gets custody of her children, until she has a place to stay, a job, schools for her kids. That was an awakening for me. There aren't services available for people who are being victimized. They can't leave. They won't leave. So we created a safety net for the victims."

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Others have sobbed in Shurtleff's office as they related life in Jeffs' cult -- boys kicked out of their homes and community in the middle of the night, families having their houses taken and sold or given to someone else, men having their jobs taken on a whim. Jeffs was able to do much of this under the guise of a charitable trust the FLDS Church had filed with the state, Shurtleff says.

The trust was supposed to distribute property, profits and funds to the community according to need, but in reality Jeffs was fleecing the \$110 million trust to enrich himself and to reward those in his favor, Shurtleff believes. The state courts have taken control of the trust.

"It's ironic," says Shurtleff. "Even though those people hate me and think I'm trying to hurt them, I've made it so Jeffs can't kick them out of their house and job. We've protected their rights. We had been turning a blind eye to it, thinking it's just adults and nobody's getting hurt. That might be true for most, but there are a lot who don't have the protection of the law."

So Shurtleff has found himself on a personal crusade against polygamy, which has earned him more enemies than friends. There are those who think he gives the state a black eye by putting polygamy in the news; there are those who think he persecutes polygamists; and there are those who criticize him for not prosecuting the actual practice of polygamy.

"Aurelius said it's the fate of a leader to do men good and to be hated for it," he says.

Sitting in his office late one afternoon, Shurtleff is affable, friendly and surprisingly candid. He speaks freely and openly. When he took office, he told his official spokesman, Paul Murphy, not to manage him; he was going to speak his mind.

Says Murphy, "It seems like in half his press conferences he says, 'Paul told me not to say this, but....' I learned that he's going to speak from the heart and say what he thinks is right. That's just Mark."

There is a tuxedo hanging on the back of the office door, ready for the many speaking engagements that are asked of him. He usually shows up at such functions alone. M'Liss rarely appears with him in public.

"I'm sure some wonder, 'Where's his wife?'" says Shurtleff. "The deal was, someone has to be at the soccer games and school plays. If it comes between that and a fund-raiser, she's going to be with the kids."

He has five children. The oldest -- Ambra and Heath -- are 24 and 21, respectively. The other three children -- Danielle, 14; Tommy, 12; and Annie, 9 -- were adopted as so-called drug babies -- babies born to drug-addicted mothers who have addictions themselves. It took months to wean them from their addictions.

Danielle faces another challenge -- depression. On one occasion she was found holding a knife, threatening to kill herself. Shurtleff grabbed the blade and told her he would not let go. He was still holding onto the blade when police arrived and restrained her.

"She knew she couldn't do anything without cutting me, and I knew she wouldn't do that," says Shurtleff, who was cut, but not seriously.

His experiences with Danielle, he says, have forged a strong bond and softened him in many ways. "She's a good little companion and friend," says Shurtleff. "She's doing better."

He recalls that after she ran away on one occasion, he caught up with her in a parking lot and ordered her into the car. She defied him. He grabbed her and forced her into the car.

"I soon learned that's not the way you dealt with her," he says. "She didn't have control over this. I've changed in a lot of ways. I was a law-and-order guy, like my dad. I believed in obedience and rules. But maybe I've become less judgmental and more willing to look at all sides of an issue, trying to understand another point of view and empathize with them."

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Danielle tends to be defensive of people on the periphery -- the tattooed, the pierced, the different -- and that has rubbed off on her dad. She knows what it's like to feel isolated. She has changed schools three times to escape the cruelty of classmates who know about her problems.

"When someone has diabetes or cancer, people rally around you," says Shurtleff. "They shave their heads, things like that. But when you have a mental illness -- do you know what they said to her? 'What are you going to do, kill yourself?' I've learned to be more tolerant of people, especially people who might be hurting.

"The Republicans were mad at me over my stance on Amendment 3. I support traditional marriage and define marriages as a man and a woman, but the second part of that amendment was mean-spirited and hurtful. It wouldn't allow basic rights for gay couples -- visitation, remains, funeral plans, financial matters.

"They wrote them out of the Constitution, which meant they couldn't go to the Legislature with an issue. I talked to a gay man who had just lost his partner to AIDS. His partner's family kicked him out, had him escorted out of the hospital and got a restraining order. These are real people."

Shurtleff is passionate about many things beyond the scope of politics. He has written several unfinished novels. Now he is writing a historical fiction account on the life of Dred Scott that he is determined to finish in time for next year's 150th anniversary of the slave who sued for his freedom.

Shurtleff has been researching the book for five years. During his travels on the job, when his business is concluded, he stays an extra day to conduct research in Missouri and Alabama and other places where Scott's life unfolded. To write the way slaves would have talked, he reread "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and similar books to try to capture the flavor of the speech. After work and after the family is asleep, he writes from 11 p.m. until 2:30 or 3 a.m.

"I want everyone to know that Dred Scott was a hero," says Shurtleff. "It's hard, at the end of the day, to sit down and be creative."

A voracious reader, he usually has several books going at once and quotes freely from Cicero, Aurelius, Adams, Jefferson, Coolidge, Kipling, often making a point to memorize passages.

LDS author "Sterling W. Sill wrote that we ought to keep an idea bank," says Shurtleff. "When we hear a saying or a poem, we should put it our bank. So I try to memorize some things."

It has paid some big dividends. After visiting the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., he was struck by the words from Elie Wiesel's memoir, "Night," recorded on a wall in the Hall of Shoes. Shurtleff already had a soft spot for the Jewish people, having lived and studied in Israel for six months during a BYU study-abroad program. He memorized Wiesel's words on the spot, standing there in the Hall of Shoes. Then he bought Wiesel's memoir and reviewed it to keep it fresh in his mind.

A year later he was invited to Israel and was granted a meeting with Prime Minister Ariel Sharon. He was promised just enough time to shake Sharon's hand and get a picture, but Shurtleff wasn't content with this. "If I may take a minute," he told Sharon. "I want you to know I'm not Jewish, but I love this country and I want to give you a gift." He proceeded to quote Wiesel's words from memory and teared up as he did so.

Sharon, too, began to weep. After Shurtleff was finished, there was silence. Sharon then postponed his next meeting so he could visit with Shurtleff.

The way Shurtleff remembers it, Sharon, a former general, told him, "My whole life I've killed people, my friends have died on my left and right, women and children have been killed. I'm so tired. I want peace. But if Arafat kills my people, I have to strike back."

A year later, Sharon suffered a stroke that left him in a coma, in which he remains. Jewish people in the United States saw a videotape of his meeting with Shurtleff and invited him to speak to a gathering of wealthy Jews in New York. He shared his meeting with Sharon with the audience, explained his passion for Israel and then dazzled them

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by singing an ancient Jewish song to them in Hebrew -- "Vi Juda le Olam Teshev." It has fostered a unique connection with the Jewish community.

Shurtleff has started a Utah chapter of the American-Israel Friendship League and facilitated several exchanges between the United States and Israel and the LDS Church.

He wears a blue bracelet on his right wrist with the names Udi, Gilad and Eldad engraved on it, along with the Jewish star of David. The bracelet was given to him by the family of Ehud (Udi) Goldwasser, an Israeli soldier being held captive by Hezbollah militants. Shurtleff visited Israel again earlier this fall on a fact-finding mission; the trip was paid for by Jewish groups.

Shurtleff also has cultivated strong ties to the Latino community because he has been sympathetic to the plight of illegal aliens. He has weighed in on various issues, such as allowing the children of illegals to have drivers' licenses and to pay in-state college tuition. As a result, he has been criticized for being pro-illegal aliens.

"I'm not," he says. "But we have a problem. I'm for resolving that problem in a way that is humane and workable. Kids didn't have any choice in this. What do you want them to do, join a gang? Let's have them learn English and get an education. They're going to drive anyway, so why not give them a license with their names, addresses and insurance on it? It's like the polygamy thing. They're here; we've got to deal with them. You can't deport 12 million aliens.

"Let's prosecute gangbangers, drug dealers and ID theft," he says.

He claims an affinity for the Latino culture. He speaks Spanish fluently, a carryover from his LDS Church mission, and two of his adopted daughters are from Mexico. Shurtleff has made stirring speeches to the Latino community.

Then-Mexican President Vicente Fox, who was visiting Utah at the time, was in the audience for one of those speeches and was so moved by it that when he returned home he started an official process to honor Shurtleff. Last month, Shurtleff flew to Mexico City to receive the Order of the Aztec Eagle, the highest award a Mexican president can give to a non-Mexican.

Once again, Shurtleff found himself on the front page, this time receiving an award from another country. Given Shurtleff's high-profile performance to date and his aggressiveness in office, there are some who think he is using the Attorney General's Office as a stepping stone.

"I can honestly say I have not looked that far ahead," he says. "I've always thought the Senate was it as far as political offices go. If there's any other office, maybe it will be the Senate, but not in the near future. My wife says the kids have to be grown."

Meanwhile, he will tell you he has uncompleted work to finish. E-mail: drob@desnews.com

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Body

Cameron lacks muscle IT'S tempting to hope Big Dave Cameron has a cunning plan up his 'fair trade' sleeve and is only pretending to be ineffectual until just before the election.

Then he'll strip to the waist and build a security border at Dover with his bare hands.

Sadly, I'm a realist. By jumping on the bandwagon about the innocent Lebanese unaware of the rockets under the duvet and trying to talk tough about Bush, he's too late.

Dave's a damp squib and certainly not what many Conservative voters were waiting and hoping for to rescue us from this mad upside down nation where the tail wags the dog.

If a leader doesn't make an impact in opposition within a short time, he's lost the momentum. He's the political equivalent of the blind date with 'a great personality'.

CATHERINE CONNELLY, Kelvindale, Glasgow.

Jessie put at risk THE death of 15-year-old Jessie James in Manchester was shocking.

But what was a school child of his years doing roaming the streets in the early hours of the morning?

It has been stated that he was in the wrong place at the wrong time.

If he had been tucked up in bed, like any other youngster, then he would not have been so unlucky.

J. ALEXANDER, Edinburgh.

End McConnell tyranny TIM LUCKHURST is correct to suggest that Jack McConnell 'will go on promoting his self-righteous ideology of irrational moral relativism until he is defeated at the ballot box'.

The tyranny of McConnell's gay agenda can only be halted at the polls. That is why Labour (and its partners in crime the Liberal Democrats) will have to defend its record in government against a highly professional and totally reasonable campaign by the Scottish Christian Party next May.

Until now there has been no alternative to the secular fundamentalism of all the parties represented in Holyrood; next May it will be different.

No Headline In Original

Far from seeking to establish in Scotland some sort of Christian Taliban, the Scottish Christian Party will offer the electorate a chance to say that they have had enough of state-sponsored perversity and political correctness gone mad.

Rev GEORGE HARGREAVES, Scottish Christian Party, St Andrews.

Forget a bell, just shout YET more rubbish from those fools in Europe - and our equally idiotic politicians seem to accept it without question.

Do cyclists have to have a bell on their bicycles? What is wrong with the normal warning of: 'Get out of the way,' shouted as loud as you can. It's far better than any tinnysounding 'ding-ding' that would never be heard above the noise of traffic or thumping car stereos.

ROGER SEWELL, Dingwall.

Israelis acted in defence WHAT does Tommy Sheridan think he's doing?

He is off to southern Lebanon to 'assure them that the people of Scotland do not support the attack on their country'. He will also meet local people 'struggling against Israel's oppression'.

I take it he means he will meet some of his comrades in Hezbollah.

Not all the people of Scotland (or anywhere else) support your views, Mr Sheridan, on the terrorists you love so dearly.

The Israeli border was attacked and breached, Israeli soldiers were killed and some kidnapped, cities and towns came under rocket attack and civilians were deliberately targeted.

All this constitutes an act of war for which Israel retaliated, and in the circumstances showed remarkable restraint.

All nations have the right to defend themselves, including Israel.

TOMMY McCABE, Maryhill, Glasgow.

Agender of extremes I DON'T know why anybody is treating it as news that male university students have a slightly higher average IQ than female students.

It's been known for decades that most geniuses are male- and since geniuses tend to go to university, they will distort the average.

However, most people with severe learning difficulties - those who will never make it to primary school, let alone university - are also male, so it balances out.

CLAIRE M. JORDAN, West Calder, West Lothian.

An invitation to racists ON THE same page we see a lament for our freedoms from Mr John Cullen and some thoughts from Mr M. Naeem (Letters).

In a typical piece of Islamist warped logic, Mr Naeem states that only an expert should have a view about Sharia law. Well, there are several subjects I could name on which I am far from expert, but which I know to be simply evil.

I recommend a perusal of the Hadith and the Koran. Then they are more than likely to agree with Mr Cullen.

The next question is, what is to be done about it before racist groups take it on themselves to 'solve' the problem in their own way?

MARK HARWOOD, Pirnmill, Arran.

No Headline In Original

Slur on autistic children SHAME on Robert Harris for comparing the behaviour and attitude of Gordon Brown to that of a person with autism (Mail).

As well as being the mum of two autistic sons, I know many who are afflicted by this condition and they would be insulted to be compared to this devious, calculating man.

J. SHANKLAND, Kilbarchan, Strathclyde.

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The dark side of multiculturalism: In the shadow of Sept. 11, it is time to confront the unsettling truth that radical multiculturalism creates tribes that could destroy the society that produced it

Ottawa Citizen

September 10, 2006 Sunday

Final Edition

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Body

The day will come when we will rule America. The day will come when we will rule Britain and the entire world.

-- Sheik Ibrahim Mudeiris, speaking on Palestinian Authority TV, May 13, 2005

It is still a surprising sight on a North American street: A woman covered head to toe in a chaddor, with only her eyes showing above a black veil. Even here, in the Bay Ridge area of Brooklyn, where many recently arrived Muslim immigrants have settled, the chaddor remains comparatively uncommon.

At least that's my conclusion after a day wandering up and down Fifth Avenue, poking into kiosks, halal stores and Middle-Eastern restaurants. It is more common to see Muslim women wearing a hijab, with jeans and a blouse to match the scarf. But even they are outnumbered by the Hispanic and Chinese girls in their short skirts and high-soled shoes.

Maybe that's why I was surprised by the sudden sight of a woman walking alone in a full-black chaddor. I wasn't the only one. I was coming out of a Mexican restaurant on Fifth Avenue when I saw her. The four men on the bench in front of the restaurant stopped talking and followed the woman with their eyes. I was no better. I watched her walk away, the long black cloth flapping gently behind, revealing the figure of what I assumed was a middle-aged woman. Beyond that hint, there was no way to guess her age or appearance. I glanced at the men. Curiosity, hostility, and, maybe, even a tincture of fear; all those emotions seemed to flicker across their stiff faces.

Arabs have settled in New York as far back as the 1870s, many of them from Syria and what is now Lebanon. They settled around Washington Street, not far from where the World Trade Center would be built. They were bankers, manufacturers and importers of fine lace and linen. The majority were not Muslims, however, but Catholics. There were also Syrian Orthodox and Syrian Jews. "This community was an entrepreneurial community, it wasn't an educated community. It had been influenced by French imperialists," says Philip Kayal, a professor at Seton Hall University and the author of *New York: The Mother Colony of Arab-America, 1854-1924*. "They thought like Western Europeans for the most part." They learned English quickly and many married outside the community.

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The 1970s saw a new wave of immigrants. They were predominantly Muslim and from various Middle Eastern countries. Muslims from south Asia and Africa have added to the mix in recent years. Today, according to Louis Abdulatif Cristillo, of the Muslims in New York Project at Columbia University, there are about 600,000 Muslims in New York, of whom 200,000 are of Arab ancestry. There has been a major expansion of mosques since the late 1970s, with close to 140 mosques now in New York.

I had read that Bay Ridge contained one of the heaviest concentrations of Muslims in New York. Maybe so, but along Fifth Avenue, I saw a mix of cultures. There were churches for Catholics, Lutherans, Baptists and Jehovah's Witnesses. But there was also a mosque and a couple of Islamic community centres. A newsstand sold both English-language and Arabic papers -- Al-Ahram, Al-Hayat and Al-Quds al-Arabi. Along the avenue, from Senator Street to 77th Street, jewelry and shoe stores, bakeries and beautician shops, laws offices and real estate firms, all catering to Arab Muslims, mixed haphazardly with liquor stores, Mexican restaurants, Chinese herb stores, Dunkin' Donuts, Baskin Robbins and a Bank of America branch. The Tarboosh Cafe was near a German schnitzel restaurant. The Halal Food Market was down the street from a Salvation Army thrift store. The Alpine Cinema was showing the World Trade Center movie, while next door the Islamic Society of Bay Ridge displayed posters extolling the virtues of the Islamic life, in English and Arabic.

The only hint something was not quite right was a smashed window at the Islamic Society's community centre.

One broken window does not tell much of a story, of course. And my one-day visit to a single neighbourhood certainly didn't make me an expert on relations between Muslims and mainstream American society. Yet what I saw appeared to confirm what I'd read. Where Muslims in European cities have been ghettoized, effectively set apart from the non-Muslim population, Muslims in American seem to be more integrated into the larger community. On the surface at least, they seemed to be no more "apart" from mainstream American society than, say, the orthodox Jewish community in the Williamsburg area of Brooklyn, which I also visited. Indeed, it's probably fair to say that until the Sept. 11 attacks, New York's Muslim communities were regarded, by and large, as just another immigrant group, another ingredient in the great American melting pot.

In the aftermath of the terrorist strikes, however, that notion no longer holds sway. Muslim communities have received a lot more attention, none of it welcome. Brooklyn, for example, was the focus of several post-Sept. 11 sweeps by police and federal investigators. Many of the borough's 120,000 Pakistanis chose to leave the United States. And according to Geneive Abdo, author of Mecca and Main Street: Muslim Life in America After 9/11, the notion that the six million Muslims in the United States are well-assimilated and accepting of traditional American values and contemporary lifestyle is false.

In a recent article in the Washington Post, Abdo recounted the results of spending the past two years travelling the country, visiting mosques, interviewing Muslim leaders and speaking to young Muslim in universities and Islamic centres from New York to Michigan to California. "I found few signs of London-style radicalism among Muslims in the United States. At the same time, the real story of American Muslims is one of accelerating alienation from the mainstream of U.S. life, with Muslims in this country choosing their Islamic identity over their American one."

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Political scientist Samuel Huntington would not find Abdo's conclusions surprising. In his 2004 book, Who Are We? The Challenges to America's National Identity, Huntington looks at the effect of mass immigration from non-western cultures on the United States. The American political order, as he notes, was largely founded by British settlers who brought with them particular cultural values -- individualism, the rule of law and religious faith, to name a few. Subsequent immigrants generally accepted this pre-established culture and assimilated into what Huntington refers to as "America's Anglo-Protestant" system. Even waves of Muslim immigrants in the early decades of the 20th century were able to assimilate without sacrificing their faith. More recently, though, says Huntington, the American Creed -- as he calls it -- has been eroded by the unwillingness of many immigrants, particularly those from Arab countries, to assimilate and accept the traditional notions of American national identity.

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"Sept. 11 brought a revival of American patriotism and a renewal of American identity," Huntington writes. "But already there are signs that this revival is fading, even though in the post-Sept. 11 world, Americans face unprecedented challenges to our security."

It hasn't helped, he says, that cultural and academic elites promote a radical version of multiculturalism that undermines and effectively "denationalizes" the country. Indeed, nothing better exemplifies contemporary elite assumptions than multiculturalism. Multicultural theory asserts that assimilating immigrants from non-western countries is wrong because it presumes western culture is superior. Assimilation, in other words, is coercion. Liberal societies must accept not only the immigrants but also their cultures. Thus, the maintenance and even the assertion of cultural values becomes a fundamental right. Originally, of course, the elites that promoted this theory thought multiculturalism would amount to immigrants celebrating their native cultures while gradually adopting prevailing liberal principles of political order. Immigrants might hang trinkets from rearview mirrors, cheer soccer teams from the old country and hold festivals displaying the native cuisine and artifacts of their homelands, but they would, as it were, be good liberals.

Not surprisingly, multiculturalism was pushed beyond trinkets and restaurants. The original idea of multiculturalism as a way to promote tolerance and open-mindedness was kidnapped by the radical left and inflated to produce a variety of notions -- postmodernism, poststructuralism, postcolonialism -- all of which are essentially anti-western. So today, as Huntington remarks, multiculturalism is "basically an anti-western ideology."

Contemporary multiculturalism, at its most fundamental, is an appeal to and promotion of what historian Vincent Cannata has called "native nationalisms." In effect, the imposition of multicultural policies in liberal western countries resulted in the importation of cultural ascriptions and practices that are, in some cases, inimical to liberal traditions. Behind this is the assumption on the part of western cultural elites since the Second World War that nationalism is almost the equal of fascism. This, of course, ignores the context of nationalist expression. To wave the flag in Canada or the United States is not the same as waving the flag in Nazi Germany. To "stand up for America" is not necessarily a demonstration of xenophobia. For the elites, however, nationalism demonstrates one of the great sins of liberalism -- exclusion. To apply "nation" to a group or set of values is to exclude others. In today's globalized worlds, say the cosmopolitans, the nation-state been superseded by the realities of mass immigration, multi-ethnic populations and telecommunications.

This makes multiculturalism much more than a feel-good policy to make immigrants feel more comfortable in their new surroundings. Roger Kimball, a respected cultural commentator in the United States, summarized the situation in an essay earlier this year in *The New Criterion*: "We are now beginning to reap the fruit of our liberal experiment with multiculturalism. The chief existential symptom is moral paralysis, expressed, for example, in the inability to discriminate effectively between good and

evil ... The large issue here is one that has bedeviled liberal societies ever since they were liberal: namely, that in attempting to create a maximally tolerant society, we also give scope to those who prefer to create the maximally intolerant society."

Joseph Rhea, in his book *Race Pride and the American Identity*, offers an illuminating example of just how far the cultural elites will go in denigrating western civilization by comparing poems recited at two presidential inaugurations three decades apart. At President John F. Kennedy's inauguration in 1961, Robert Frost referred to the "heroic deeds" that marked the founding of the United States in 1776. America, Frost proclaimed, was established with God's "approval" and ushered in "a new order of the ages." "Our venture in revolution and outlawry/ Has justified itself in freedom's story/ Right down to now in glory upon glory." The United States, the poet concluded, was embarking on a new "golden age of poetry and power."

Thirty-two years later, at President Bill Clinton's inauguration, Maya Angelou's poem, "On the Pulse of Morning," portrayed a badly tarnished America. In fact, Angelou didn't once use the words "America" or "American." Instead, she identified 27 racial, religious, tribal and ethnic groups -- Muslim, Arab, Asian, Hispanic, Pawnee, Ashanti, Jews, Irish, Scandinavian and even Eskimos (Inuit, for politically corrected Canadians), among others. She denounced the

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repression these groups suffered at the hands of the United States' "armed struggles for profit" and its "bloody sear" of "cynicism." (How, you might ask, has the U.S. oppressed Scandinavians?) The United States, Angelou concluded, may be "wedded forever to fear, yoked eternally to brutishness."

Clearly, multiculturalists like Angelou see national identities as threats to peoples' tribal identities. You have to wonder what the dead white males -- Jefferson, Madison, Franklin, Hamilton, Washington, mostly of Anglo-Celtic extraction -- who established the American republic, drafted a constitution and wrote its Bill of Rights, would think of Angelou's intellectual shallowness. They wanted to establish a political order whose principles would help people overcome the tribal identities that had caused so much bloodshed throughout history.

But then Angelou's sentimental distortion of history is typical of the multicultural agenda, as anyone who's been on a North American campus in the past 30 years will recognize. The demands of multiculturalism have corrupted the curriculum, particularly in the arts and humanities and social sciences. As historian Keith Windschuttle says in his essay *The Cultural War on Western Civilization*: Until recent decades, most people raised in a western culture were taught that "Its art and its music were glories of its civilization." Literary critics, he says, once extolled the genius of western writers and their contributions to the betterment of the human condition. Nowadays, says Windschuttle, "much of the academic debate about western literary heritage claims that it is politically contaminated: *Othello* is ethnocentric; *Paradise Lost* is a feminist tragedy; *Jane Eyre* is both racist and sexist. Similarly, the teaching of western history has, in many cases, been reduced to a denunciation of the West.

Philosophers from Socrates to Hegel are regarded as "old, dead, white males" with nothing to say to the modern world; never mind that it was those dead, white men who articulated the concepts of freedom and tolerance that the new barbarians distort in perpetuating their anti-western program.

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These distortions gradually infiltrate the public mind, saturating it with a particular understanding of the world that is then translated into political and social action. The promotion of hyphenated identities -- say, Muslim-American or Lebanese-Canadian -- is a good example. As Roger Kimball observes, hyphenated identities are not merely descriptive, but also prescriptive. That is to say, they intimate a divided allegiance, a hesitant loyalty. "The multicultural passion for hyphenation is not simply a fondness for syntactical novelty. It also speaks of a commitment to the centrifugal force of anti-American tribalism." Substitute "anti-American" for "anti-western" and you have the long-term consequence of radical multiculturalism.

In this regard, the elites who promote multiculturalism are betraying one of the essential purposes of the liberal creed -- the creation of "citizens" who, in their capacity as rational human beings, are able to sublimate their tribalist instincts and derive their primary public identity from the larger political order. Australian philosopher David Stove explains the matter this way: The contemporary liberal West has attempted "to achieve a society which would be maximally tolerant. But that resolve not only gives maximum scope to the activities of those who have set themselves to achieve the maximally intolerant society. It also, and more importantly, paralyses our powers of resistance to them."

Modern liberalism, as historian Arthur Herman recounts in *The Idea of Decline in Western History*, is rooted in the 18th-century Enlightenment effort to emancipate people from religious and theological dogma. It was, in large part, a response to the religious warfare that had devastated Europe in the previous century. In pre-modern times it was assumed a person had meaning and purpose according to his or her place in the "great chain of being." Your "identity" was established by gods, kings and nature, and that identity was more often than not imposed by authoritarian powers, whether kings or bishops.

Enlightenment thinkers rejected this formulation, arguing that having a pre-determined position in life imposed on you without your informed consent because of your race, sex or religious heritage is a form of tyranny. As Herman says, "The classical liberal view originally sprang up precisely because its adherents recognized the dangers of insisting that individuals have significance only if they are part of a larger whole."

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Enlightenment philosophers -- Descartes and Spinoza, Leibniz and Locke, Kant and Hegel, to name a few -- championed human reason as the means by which men could overcome unjustified political and social authority. The great idea of classical liberalism -- and only in the West did this idea emerge -- was that the individual could raise himself above his determined status, could overcome his given circumstances by means of his powers of reason. Through reason a man could subdue the tribalist passions that enslaved him and thereby become free.

Thus, the capacity for reason is the hallmark of the free, mature, socially responsible individual. The true liberal recognizes that the institutions of civil society -- laws and constitutions, parliaments and universities, churches and social clubs -- serve the ultimate purpose of providing the conditions by which individuals can live the most fulfilling material life available. At the same time, the individual is rationally aware that those institutions are necessary for his well-being, and he therefore willingly supports them, sometimes at the sacrifice of his life.

This understanding of liberalism has shaped the political and cultural institutions of the West for the past two centuries. Admittedly, the modern project has been less than perfect. Colonialism and imperialism, fascism and communism, nationalism and anti-Semitism; all are perversions of the modernist thrust. Even the desire for freedom has produced horrors. The French Revolution began as a demand for liberty but degenerated into a campaign of terror in the name of freedom. The liberal revolution also prompted a counter-revolution that helped give birth to fascism and now influences the Islamists.

But modernity has also been challenged by various postmodern theories, including radical multiculturalism, that challenge the core concepts of western civilization -- reason and freedom. Postmodern theory asserts that appeals to universal reason are merely ethnocentric, a racist appeal to the superiority of western culture. Reason, therefore, is an excuse for repression and the imposition of power, and to expose it as such is to reveal the dark heart of the West. If Mark Twain's Huckleberry Finn can be analysed as a white-supremacist tract, as postmodern literary analysis contends, then maybe the entire western literary canon can be exposed as an ethnocentric expression of imperialist power.

In such a manner does the "postmodern virus," to borrow a phrase, infects social and political life, providing the theoretical basis for the anti-western slant now popular in academe. It regards the western literary and philosophical tradition canon as just so many dead white man imposing their values on women, minorities, gays and all the oppressed of the world.

Even our narcissistic obsession with self-esteem, the trivial pursuits of celebrity worship, the debasement of high culture and hedonistic rejection of tradition morality -- the institution of marriage, for example -- can be traced to the influence of postmodernist teachings that preach the relativistic gospel that there is no right or wrong, no "high" or "low" culture, only opinions, none of which are inherently any better than another.

Thus, says political theorist Richard Wolin, postmodernism rejects western-style rationalism, liberal institutions (constitutional democracy, the rule of law, etc.), language, and even the western idea of man, as a cultural dead end. Liberal bourgeois society is regarded as rationalistic, oppressive and, of course, imperialist and racist, he writes in his book, *The Seduction of Unreason*. "Paradoxically, whereas a visceral rejection of political modernity (rights of man, rule of law, constitutionalism) was once standard fare among counter-revolutionary thinkers, it has now become fashionable among advocates of the cultural left. Postmodernists equate democracy with 'soft totalitarianism.' They argue that by privileging public reason and the common good, liberal democracy effectively suppresses otherness and difference."

Paradox, indeed. Under the postmodern banner, liberal concepts such as freedom, equality and tolerance have been distorted by political correctness into their opposites. It is OK in the name of free speech to attack Christianity (Catholic or Protestant), but say anything critical of Islam and you risk being charged with hate speech. Multicultural policies intended to encourage people to honour their cultural heritage have been inflated to the point where immigrants reject assimilation in the wider society, thereby creating de facto cultural ghettos that are many cases hostile to the host culture. As Roger Kimball says, "What we have witnessed with the triumph of multiculturalism is a kind of hypertrophy or perversion of liberalism, as its core doctrines are pursued to the point of caricature."

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The great danger of multiculturalism, when taken to extreme, is that people think they can achieve a sense of identity, a sense of belonging, not as rational creatures capable of transcending the limits and restrictions of biology and geography -- which was the Enlightenment ideal that gave birth to liberalism -- but as members of a particular "tribe" or community and a particular history. This is a reversion to the kind of tribalism that produced centuries of warfare in Europe, and still plagues much of the rest of the world. Indeed, the idea that as a consequence of being born into a certain ethnic group you assume the duty of having to maintain and even promote the ancestral culture and its creed smacks of the same kind of ethnic nationalism that is fundamentally at odds with liberalism.

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There is considerable irony in this. Multiculturalism was born out of liberalism's belief in diversity and tolerance for difference. But like all utopian illusions it has fostered the kind of societal and cultural conditions that undermine liberal order. Which is to say that multiculturalism's reversion to tribes will, if taken to the extreme, destroy the society that produced it, in same way that an infection wreaks havoc on the body's immune system. Radical multiculturalism, in short, constitutes an enemy within liberal society. As Arthur Herman says: "Radical multiculturalism implies that American (read: Western) society systematically produces race hatred and social inequities, while cultural pessimism's various other offshoots and branches insist that our society is irredeemably racism, sexist, imperialist, homophobic, phallogocentric, greedy, and proto-totalitarian; or alternatively (for those of the political Right), corrupt, decadent, mindless, hedonistic, apathetic, morally bankrupt, as well as proto-totalitarian. In effect, the very things modern society does best -- providing increasing economic affluence, equality of opportunity, and social and geographic mobility -- are systematically depreciated and vilified by its direct beneficiaries."

Even a staunch multiculturalist like Nobel Prize winner Amartya Sen has recognized that the "sunny days" of multiculturalism are over in the wake of the terrorist threat. "The French and the Germans are very doubtful of the wisdom of the (multicultural) approach, and Denmark and the Netherlands have already reversed their official policies," he wrote recently in the Financial Times. "Even Britain is full of misgivings."

Some countries are already toughening their security arrangements -- without violating constitutional rights and freedoms. In Europe, for example, the Netherlands vigorously prosecutes mullahs who indulge in hate speech. The Dutch also limit immigration from the Middle East and deport Islamic extremists, including those with Dutch passports. Last year, French Interior Minister Nicolas Sarkozy introduced new anti-terrorism laws that allow the government to summarily deport residents and strip extremists of their naturalized citizenship. The British government introduced legislation that would make it a crime to associate with Islamic radicals, as well as allow the government to more readily deport those who support terrorism. As British Prime Minister Tony Blair put it. "Let no one be in any doubt that the rules of the game are changing."

Sen, too, seems to recognize multiculturalism took a wrong turn. In a nutshell, the multiculturalists forgot that in liberal societies freedom must take precedence over communitarian impositions. Considering his prominence as a supporter of multiculturalism, it is worth quoting Sen in full: "The history of multiculturalism offers a telling example of how bad reasoning can tie people up in terrible knots of their own making. The importance of cultural freedom, central to the dignity of all people, must be distinguished from the celebration and championing of every form of cultural inheritance, irrespective of whether the people involved would choose those particular practices given the opportunity of critical scrutiny, and given an adequate knowledge of other options and of the choices that actually exist in the society in which they live. The demands of cultural freedom include, among other priorities, the task of resisting the automatic endorsement of past traditions, when people -- not excluding young people -- see reason for changing their ways of living."

Perhaps, though, the most vivid example of multiculturalism's incoherence in the face of terrorism is an essay Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor wrote in 1989 about the Iranian fatwa against Salman Rushdie after he published his novel *The Satanic Verses*. In *The Rushdie Controversy*, Taylor acknowledges that writers cannot be expected to avoid dealing with sensitive religious symbols without betraying their own understanding of the world. Nevertheless, he maintains that in adopting the anti-religious and secular perspective of western liberal society,

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Rushdie ignored how religious symbols and dogmas mean a great deal to those who espouse them. To mock those symbols is to mock those existential supports that provide people with meaning in their lives.

"Rushdie's book is comforting to the western liberal mind," Taylor says, "(because it confirms) the belief that there is nothing outside their worldview that needs deeper understanding." In other words, Rushdie engaged in a deliberate act of "misrecognition," which, according to Taylor, amounts to doing damage to an individual or group.

Taylor's argument implies that even fundamental principles of liberalism such as freedom of expression have to bend to accommodate the feelings of others. "Any regime of free expression has limits which are justified by the possibility of harm on others," he says, noting the existence of libel laws and the taboo on shouting "fire" in a crowded theatre. In a world in which international migration is making societies less culturally homogeneous, he concludes, "the liberal mind will have to learn to reach out more."

Using the analogy of libel laws to challenge liberal principles is questionable. Libel laws offer redress to individuals - not groups -- who think their reputations have been harmed. What individual Muslims did Rushdie libel? How do you libel an entire religion? Taylor's standard, if taken to its logical conclusion, would forbid any criticism of religion since whatever you say is sure to offend some believer somewhere. As for the crowded-theatre comparison, that is a matter of self-preservation, not principle.

Taylor's one-sided insistence on tolerance and understanding suggests liberal societies must violate their most fundamental principles to accommodate a cultural "value" -- a fatwa, after all, asserts some kind of "value" -- that denies those very principles. Why is Rushdie supposed to be tolerant of how some Muslims see the world, but they are not obliged to be tolerant of his views?

The question points up an essential conflict between liberalism and radical multiculturalism. Why is western civilization required to dilute or deny its basic principles when confronted by cultures that reject those principles? More pointedly, what does a society do when confronted by even a small minority within an immigrant group that rejects the liberal principles of tolerance and diversity that inform multiculturalism? It is doubtful that liberalism can compromise on its most fundamental principles without becoming illiberal. As political theorist Brian Barry writes in *Culture and Equality*, "a liberal cannot coherently believe that liberal principles should themselves be compromised to accommodate the demands of anti-liberals."

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The Rushdie controversy, like the more recent controversy over the Danish cartoons, exposes the dark side of multiculturalism. While it is commendable for western societies to be open to other values, it is self-destructive to carry that effort to the point where you have so little regard for your own civilization.

Pope Benedict considers this strange self-loathing on the part of westerners in an essay titled *The Spiritual Roots of Europe*. "Multiculturalism, which is so constantly and passionately promoted, can sometimes amount to an abandonment and denial, a flight from one's own heritage. At the hour of its greatest success, Europe seems hollow, as if it were internally paralysed by a failure of its circulatory system that is endangering its life, subjecting it to transplants that erase its identity."

According to some observers, it is this self-hatred, and the doubt and uncertainty it engenders, that is at the root of West's hesitation to acknowledge the Islamist declaration of war. Italian philosopher Marcello Pera, for example, warns that the "winds of Munich" are blowing across Europe. He regards the opposition of European elites to the war in Iraq as a replay of the appeasement mentality that gripped Europeans in the 1930s and made them unwilling to confront Hitler and the Nazis until war was inevitable.

Pera attributes this self-hatred to the "guilt of the West" over the "horrors" of its past -- everything from colonialism and imperialism to Nazism and communism. Nonetheless, this self-loathing presents the greatest danger to the West in the conflict with Islamism, because it "weakens our cultural defences and prepares us for, or inclines us toward, surrender. Because it makes us believe that there is nothing for which fighting or risking is worthwhile."

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Thus, "the West is paralysed twice over. It is paralysed because it does not believe that there are good reasons to say that it is better than Islam. And it is paralysed because it believes that, if such reasons do indeed exist, then the West would have to fight Islam."

Obviously, war would not be necessary if there could be a reasonable and respectful dialogue between the West and Islam. But that would of necessity require the Islamists to "respect" western values, even if they don't wish to adopt them. But peaceful coexistence is exactly what the Islamists reject. As Hussein Massawi, a former **Hezbollah** warlord put it, "We are not fighting so that you will offer us something. We are fighting to eliminate you." Osama bin Laden has been equally warlike: "The rule to kill Americans and their allies -- civilians and military -- is a sacred duty for any Muslim," he said in February 1998.

They don't speak for all Muslims, of course. But even so, as recent events attest, a considerable number of Muslims are symp

Graphic

Colour Photo: Dan Loh, AP Photo; (See hard copy for photo description.);

Photo: Dan Loh, the Associated Press; (See hard copy for photo description.)

Load-Date: September 10, 2006

Harvesting minefields: 100 million landmines are buried in more than 70 countries. The hidden legacy of war, they continue to maim and kill without discretion. In 1996, Canada championed an anti-mine treaty and convinced most of the world to sign. Now, even as the campaign struggles, Canada has all but disappeared from the scene

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Dateline: INHAMBANE, Mozambique

Body

The rats are the size of small dogs and can sniff out a landmine in a tenth of the time it takes a human armed with a metal detector. Take Banda. The three-pound African pouched rat is scurrying across a small plot, kept in line by a harness and a leash-and-pulley contraption that resembles a clothes line. Banda has two handlers who stand across from one another, each connected to the mechanism by one ankle. The rat runs across the plot hunting for explosives. When it slows, appearing slightly confused, the handlers take large sidesteps and move leash and rat to fresh ground where Banda starts again.

It doesn't take long. Banda's whiskers twitch, he sniffs rapidly and scratches the ground.

In less than four minutes, he has sniffed out a landmine.

A handler presses a small gadget that emits loud, sharp clicks. At the sound, Banda drops interest in his quarry and runs over to claim a peanut and banana bounty.

The landmine is marked with a red flag and will later be removed by de-miners. Banda, meanwhile, continues the hunt that everyone, not least Banda, hopes will yield more treats.

Banda, along with his colleagues -- Solomon, Glory, Jennifer, Siku -- are in danger of giving rats a good name.

The African pouched rats are a recent innovation in the risky de-mining business and Mozambique has been their testing ground. Unlike humans, they can tell the difference between a buried explosive and harmless metal. Unlike dogs, relative veterans at landmine hunting, they don't get bored or attached to their handlers. Nor do they weigh enough to detonate mines. Because they are rats, they are always in supply.

The rats are a powerful tool in Mozambique's long and arduous struggle to clear the landmines -- the legacy of a civil war that ended 14 years ago -- that continue to kill and maim indiscriminantly.

Harvesting minefields: 100 million landmines are buried in more than 70 countries. The hidden legacy of war, they continue to maim and kill without discretion.

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Ten years ago, in one of the most innovative diplomatic initiatives in Canada's postwar history, then foreign minister Lloyd Axworthy brought together a motley crew from 50 countries, the United Nations and assorted non-governmental organizations. The goal was to develop a strategy to make Earth landmine-free. For years, talks on a universal ban had gone nowhere.

Axworthy, now president of the University of Winnipeg, recalls that the Ottawa conference was also headed for stalemate. On the night before delegates were due to leave, he convened a meeting of Foreign Affairs bureaucrats. Senior adviser Paul Heinbecker advocated Canada take a risky lead and announce a deadline.

"The next day I announced to the delegates that we were going to bring everyone back in a year to sign the treaty," Axworthy recalls. "One side of the room went dead silent and thought I was crazy, the other side started cheering."

It didn't come together perfectly -- Russia, China and the United States refused to sign -- but one year later in Ottawa, 122 governments endorsed the International Landmines Treaty.

For all its flaws and despite recalcitrant nations, Axworthy says the ban has not been a bust.

"If you measure it in terms of lives saved, and the prevention of maiming and injury, it has partly done what it was supposed to do. The trade in landmines has virtually ceased," he says.

He notes that injuries and deaths have dropped significantly. "They are running about 7,000 to 15,000 a year now. When we started the process a decade ago, we were talking 60,000 to 70,000 a year, maybe higher."

Yet Axworthy, honorary chairman of the Canadian Landmines Foundation, observes that Canada is far from the international leader it once was on the landmine front.

"Canada is missing in action," he says. "Canada is highly committed to its military role in Afghanistan, but meanwhile funding for de-mining has dropped substantially. It's not just this current government. It started under Paul Martin."

Media interest has also declined dramatically. Ten years ago, the anti-landmines movement had a potent champion in Diana, Princess of Wales, and although other celebrities -- notably Paul McCartney and his now estranged wife, Heather Mills -- tried to fill the void left by her death, no one has come close.

Today, agencies gathering landmine data estimate there are 100 million landmines in at least 78 countries, thousands more since the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel earlier this year.

Last year, 7,328 landmine casualties were reported in 58 countries, although the International Campaign to Ban Landmines says the true casualty figure is at least twice that. The reporting of landmine accidents in Mozambique, for instance, is hardly exact in a country where 60 per cent of the population can't access health care.

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In July, I drove with Aderito Ismael from the Mozambique capital of Maputo to Inhambane. Ismael works as the project manager for Handicap International, an international aid agency that since 2000 has run mine clearing projects and victim assistance programs in the heavily mined Inhambane province in the south of this east African country.

We were headed for Mavila, a small town that is part of the only Canadian-funded mine clearing project in Mozambique. More than half of Handicap International's annual \$1.2-million budget in Mozambique comes equally from the Canadian Auto Workers Union and the Canadian International Development Agency -- the rest is from the European Union. CIDA's commitment was for five years and the deadline is December. It will not be renewed. The CAW, which has appealed for the federal government to see the project through, says it can't do it alone.

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A stocky, 39-year-old former army sergeant, Ismael is on the front line of Mozambique's commitment to be mine-free by 2009. Donor countries are losing interest and de-mining agencies are moving out, so it's unlikely it will make the deadline.

Mozambique may be one of poorest countries on Earth, but Ismael suggests its relative stability may be working against it. "I think some donor countries are saying, 'Well, they've been at peace for 10 years, so they don't really need us.' Internationally, the focus is on Sudan, Iraq, Afghanistan and the growing problem of AIDS. People outside this country are not talking about mines in Mozambique."

Ismael was a soldier during Mozambique's 15-year civil war. It ended in 1992, leaving a legacy of hundreds of thousands of foreign landmines in its soil. It's a sad irony that despite being plagued by landmines, Mozambique has never manufactured a single one.

Mozambique rebels, financed first by the white government in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) and later by South Africa, attempted unsuccessfully to overthrow the country's first post-colonial government after Mozambique's independence from Portugal in 1975. The war, which ended when South Africa's first post-apartheid government cut off the rebels' supply of money and arms, displaced five million people and killed almost one million soldiers and civilians.

Landmines, or "coward soldiers," as Ismael calls them, were the favoured weapon of both sides.

Fourteen years after the war, the mines still threaten life and limb and impede the day-to-day economic welfare of the country's rural people. Acres of potential farmland lie unworked. Cashew and mango trees, which represent economic survival to hundreds of thousands, are untended.

Nobody kept maps or records of where the mines were buried. Devastating floods in 2000 compounded the problem by unearthing and relocating mines in Mozambique, wiping out markings at previously identified minefields. Community memory can help, but is often imprecise. As a result, landmines are often located only when someone steps on one.

The 2006 Landmine Monitor Report, produced by a team of international researchers and co-ordinated in Ottawa by Mines Action Canada, says landmines killed 23 people and injured 34 last year in Mozambique. Two of the dead and three of the injured were de-miners. Humanitarian agencies cleared 3.9 square kilometres last year -- roughly the size of New York's Central Park -- destroying 36,767 anti-personnel mines, three anti-vehicle mines and 1,063 pieces of unexploded ordinance (UXO). By most mine clearing standards, it is a good clearance rate.

The British agency Halo Trust, an NGO dedicated to the removal of war debris, cleared most of the mines in Mozambique and now believes the four northern provinces of Zambezia, Cabo Delgado, Nampula and Niassa are mine-free. The British agency, which employs more than half of the 838 de-miners in the country, plans to leave Mozambique next year.

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The 360-kilometre stretch of road to Inhambane from Maputo is Mozambique's main highway and dotted with modern gas stations complete with North American-style fast food. They are an incongruity in one of the world's poorest nations but serve a busy international truck route and the small but steadily growing tourism business from South Africa.

For all its problems, Mozambique is stunningly beautiful, attractively inexpensive and a tourist destination waiting to happen. But the highway is unpredictable with sudden cavernous holes. We passed crews working at glacial pace with ancient equipment. For every two or three men working, at least twice that number stood watching.

As the road cut through the countryside, we saw women in the fields, hacking at the soil with primitive hand tools. Some had babies perched nearby. They cultivate their land to feed their families. If they're very lucky, they may

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have surplus to sell. We passed small towns with roadside markets where women by the dozens stood side by side selling cashews and oranges.

During one pit stop, a horribly deformed young man the size of a child scurried over. Most of his body was withered and twisted, he darted along on his right foot, his elbow supported the left side. He approached with an empty cup and revealed a happy-go-lucky, slightly mad smile and a few badly worn, filthy teeth. I shovelled change into his cup. When the coin supply ran dry, he thanked me repeatedly before darting off.

Shouting over the roaring engine of his SUV, Ismael explained that during the war, government forces and rebels used villages as military bases and typically mined a wide perimeter. In the chaos of battle, he said, soldiers were killed by their own mines.

The mines were also used to terrorize. Paula Vaz, a Mozambique pediatric AIDS specialist, was working at a rural clinic during the war. She described to me how a truckload of severed heads arrived on the clinic's doorstep. A rebel gang had murdered innocents and laid their headless bodies along the region's only transportation route, a single lane dirt road. The gang buried landmines on either side of the road to maim or kill those who tried to skirt the bodies. "It was months before I could sleep," said Vaz.

As we passed women balancing baskets and packages on their heads, Aderito Ismael pointed to stretches of empty land. "You have to ask why it isn't being used," he said. "The answer, most likely, is that people are afraid to walk on it."

It doesn't help that people steal landmine warning signs -- usually a skull and crossbones -- to sell for scrap. "Truck drivers are the worst," he said. "But some local people do it, too. They even take the coloured tape (used to mark mined or de-mined land). We try to make them understand it is the same as them being murderers."

When de-mining started in Mozambique in the mid-1990s, it was a slower and dangerous manual process without animal or mechanical assistance.

Now that the process is more efficient and de-mining agencies are more optimistic, landmine clearance is falling off the agenda. Developing nations have been struck by AIDS, hunger and a lack of basic infrastructure. They all need outside funding.

"We can't get funds we need, which is unfortunate because de-mining is not expensive compared with many other donor inputs."

Ismael is at work on a business plan. "We need a clear picture of the overall situation," he says. "Even with the limited picture, we do not have the money to finish the job."

Josee Verner, Canada's Minister of International Co-operation, is responsible for CIDA but refused to be interviewed for this article. According to her agency, between Oct. 1, 2005 and March 31 of this year, Ismael and his teams destroyed 1,192 landmines and other explosives and cleared 74,144 square metres of land in Inhambane. Fifty-four mined areas have been given back to communities -- 43 of them cleared and 11 checked and found to be mine-free. Since 1999, Canada has spent \$11.5 million de-mining in Mozambique.

But now Canada is changing its strategy. Rather than funding dedicated to landmines, all future money will be lumped in with other foreign aid programs. Mozambique will have to choose whether or not to direct money to de-mining. Some fear the money will be absorbed by government and development agency bureaucracies and spent on more immediate problems rather than mine clearing.

"I wouldn't want to suggest CIDA is abandoning this project because their commitment is finite," says Carol Phillips, director of the CAW's International department through which the Mozambique project is monitored. "But in de-mining things are always changing and the cleanup is erratic and messy. These guys have been doing a fabulous job. What a shame to say 'Sorry, this is as far as we go funding you.'"

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What is frustrating, she says, is that everyone -- CIDA included -- knows it's a good project. "Why not reward a country for having a decade of peace and a commitment to peace? I don't see the point of chasing other conflicts until this job is properly finished."

Paul Hannon, who heads Mine Action Canada, one of the world's leading landmine NGOs, worries about Canada's slipping commitment. "It isn't a right or left issue, it's a right or wrong issue," he says. "If we have that political will, landmines are one problem we can cross off the world's to-do list."

Funding for landmine education has been scaled back across Mozambique and other landmine-infested countries. "Mine education all but disappeared six years ago," says Ismael, the father of four young children. "Teenagers today know nothing. Kids will try to break open a mortar bomb and end up dead. Mine education needs to be on the school curriculum, especially in rural areas."

The Canadian-backed Handicap International de-mining projects have pulled thousands of pieces of unexploded mines and shells out of the ground in Mozambique and doubtless saved many lives and prevented much devastating injury.

Faced with the prospect of Canadian money drying up, Ismael says he feels like he's "alone in a boat."

"With the Ottawa treaty, you have countries taking responsibility to get rid of their own mines and making sure the de-mining process is moving forward," he says. "Developed countries signed the commitment to help these countries to get rid of the mines. Look at the distances in this country. There is no way we can respond with the resources we have."

Without continued Canadian money, much of the work done since 2000 will be jeopardized and Handicap International will certainly fail in its goal to make at least three Mozambique provinces mine free by 2009.

At dinner one night, I ask Ismael how he remains committed given the chronic frustrations.

"You might be worried that your child will hurt a finger or something playing football," he explains. "In places like this, parents never know whether their children will go out to play and come back without legs."

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Arsenio Julio Mavila is the reason Handicap International de-miners are in this village. Last January, at the height of sub-Sahara summer, he was preparing to return from his family home to Maputo where he worked as a construction labourer to support his parents and seven younger siblings.

Without money for bus fare, he and three cousins decided to gather firewood to sell at the roadside. They entered the heavily treed area near the small complex of huts they call home.

The next thing he remembers is waking up in a hospital bed, the bottom part of his left leg missing.

Arsenio doesn't talk much, but even to an amateur psychologist it's clear he is traumatized. The mine likely blew away his chances of finding a wife and starting a family.

"I feel lonely," he says, "because I can't do what I was planning to do with my life. I lost my job in Maputo. I wanted to study to be a teacher."

Arsenio, now 22, knows how to read and write, at least a little. I asked how he has been affected by the accident. "Bad nightmares," he said, "but the worst seem to be past."

In Mozambique, support for landmine victims is slow to arrive, but he will eventually get an artificial limb. Still, in a flash of optimism Arsenio says he has to think to the future.

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"I have to think about studying and starting to do something," he says. "Perhaps a small business. I have to try hard and get over this. It doesn't help to think about it all the time."

Landmines have left countless of thousands in Mozambique without limbs. Despite the sterling work of numerous foreign NGOs, few have received the help they need. The health-care infrastructure is hopelessly inefficient, so many live without artificial limbs or other prosthetic aids. No one knows how many are in need. The government says about 30,000, but would be hard pressed to prove it.

Eileen O'Dwyer, an energetic, talkative Irishwoman, works in Mozambique for the U.K.-based POWER, an NGO that has been critical of the low productivity rate among Mozambique's prosthetic technicians.

"People are locked in their homes because they don't have a prosthesis or something as simple as a crutch," she says. "How much is a crutch -- \$15 or \$20?"

People in the urban areas have some services, but it's different for those in shanty towns, she says. They can't get to town on a mini-bus because it won't stop long enough for them to get on. People in wheelchairs have to pay extra. "The buses are always choc-a-bloc anyway."

She says prosthetic technicians should be producing 45 units a month but manage only two. She hints that technicians may be doing private business on the side with people who can afford to pay.

"Mind you," she sighed, "these people are making wages I wouldn't get out of bed for."

In a bare, one-storey concrete building in the centre of a bustling Maputo market, Manuel Amisse and Luis Wamusse are trying, with government approval but little money, to establish the Landmine Assistance Victims Network.

Amisse and Wamusse, both in their mid-40s, lost parts of their legs to mines as young men: Wamusse in 1982 while patrolling the Zimbabwe border; Amisse when he was a student, also collecting wood, 25 years ago.

Amputees in Mozambique and many other countries are low on the disability hierarchy.

"People think it's better to live with someone who is disabled by polio or some other illness," says Wamusse. "People think that when you lose part of your body, you also lose part of your mental capability."

When I ask what landmine victims need most, the answer is typically African. "They need their daily bread," says Amisse. "The government is providing some prosthesis and that's fine and good but of little use to people who have no way to earn a living."

Outside the building, taking shelter from a sudden, violent rainstorm, is Saozinha Matavele.

Her life changed when she ducked around a bush to pee. A landmine blew off her leg. She was 18 at the time with a five-year-old daughter. Soon after the accident, her husband left. "When the accident happened, I felt no pain," she recalls. "The real pain I felt was about two weeks later when I began thinking what I used to look like."

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Aderito Ismael is showing me his collection of mines, shells, grenades and other ordinance. There are those designed to maim and injure humans in the legs or upper body and there are anti-tank mines, designed to rip apart vehicles.

In the anti-personnel mine category there is something called a "group mine."

"If you step on this," he says, holding up a characterless, black, Hungarian-made, circular cylinder, "you will likely lose a leg or part of your leg. But this one, when it explodes, every piece of metal becomes like a bullet."

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He explains that some explode with the pressure of a human foot or initiated with trip wire. "Then you have bounding mines and directional mines that jump up and explode in the air. The point is to injure as many people as possible."

A remote-controlled, Cambodian-made, armoured flailing machine has expedited clearing in wooded or heavy bush areas. The operator, in a blast-resistance suit and hood, works levers behind a steel shield. The "Tempest," bought by the Canadian Auto Workers for the de-mining project, looks like a cross between some grown-up's giant toy and a rabid mammoth, as it mangles trees and rips undergrowth. The machine cannot withstand an anti-vehicle mine blast, so is used in the bush where anti-personnel mines are buried. The machine is usually good for two hours before it chokes into dust-induced silence.

When the ground is cleared, de-miners mark small plots and set about with dogs and rats.

Most Handicap International de-miners are ex-soldiers, both government and rebel. The initial qualifications are basic literacy, good health, a respect for rules and regulations and an ability to stay focused. Those not up to the job are weeded out during two months of intensive training.

"The work is high pressure and they have to stay focused," Ismael explains.

Community confidence in the work is important because when a field is finally cleared, de-miners have to convince people the land is safe. Most de-mining teams do this by walking on every inch of the land.

The de-miners work for two-month stretches, sleeping in a tent village and taking off every other weekend. At the end of the two months, they go home for two weeks. The top de-miners are paid about \$300 a month, about seven times the national average. Even by Mozambique standards, it isn't a fortune and likely supports half a dozen family members.

There are 19 team members -- including rat and dog handlers -- working to clear the minefield where Arsenio Julio Mavila was injured collecting firewood. I'm decked in a protective outfit, complete with hood and Perspex face guard. It's hot and uncomfortable and smells of a cocktail of human sweat. And this is only sub-Sahara winter -- around 24 Celsius.

Fernando Laisse, a 39-year-old father of four children aged between five and 18 years, is crouched with what appears to be a set of everyday gardening tools. With nerves of steel, he works for 30 minutes to remove mines from the soil before retreating to a rest area to refocus.

I ask how he became a de-miner.

"I was a soldier before, so I saw how bad the mine problem was," he said. "I feel I have a mission to clean the land and allow people to get back to normal lives."

"Did you ever put mines in the land?"

"No."

"Does the work scare you?"

"When I first started, I was very nervous. I know it's always risky but how else is there to survive? And it gets very hot and uncomfortable in the summer. I keep doing the work to take care and feed my family. De-mining is my profession. If I don't get another alternative way to survive, I will carry on doing this but if I find another way, I will probably take it."

I ask how he relaxes.

"After work I listen to music or read or help in the administration. We're not allowed to drink alcohol here because we always have to be fresh. It's always necessary to be relaxed."

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"Are your wife and kids scared for you?"

"They know exactly what I am doing. They know the food they eat comes from the de-mining business."

When all is said and done, de-mining is dirty, sweaty, dangerous work performed by most de-miners for a pittance. Rats and dogs can find the mines but only humans can dig them out of the ground.

LANDMINES IN NUMBERS

Number of landmines thought to be buried in at least 78 countries: 100 million

Reported landmine casualties in 2005: 7,328

Deaths: 1,743

Children killed or maimed: 1,518

De-mining workers killed or maimed: 115

Likely number of landmine casualties

in 2005, including non-reported incidents: 15,000-20,000

Highest casualty rates:

Afghanistan, Cambodia, Colombia

Types of anti-personnel landmines:

300+

Cost to produce one mine: \$3

Cost to remove one mine: \$300+

Number of countries that have signed the International Landmines Treaty: 154

Estimated stockpiles in major non-signatory countries:

China: 110 million

Russia: 26.5 million

United States: 10.4 million

Estimated number of anti-personnel landmines stockpiled by 131 signatory states before 1997

Ottawa Mine Ban Treaty: 260 million

Estimated number in 2005:

178 million in 50 states

Number destroyed in 2005: 700,000

Other large stockpiles:

Pakistan: 6 million

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India: 4 to 5 million

South Korea: 407,800

Largest dollar contributor to international de-mining: U.S.

Countries still known to be using landmines: Russia (in Chechnya), Nepal and Burma (Myanmar)

Non-state groups (rebels) planting landmines: 13

Estimated number produced each year and sold legally and illegally: 10 million

Origin of mines found in Angola: Belgium, China, former Czechoslovakia, Italy, South Africa, United States, former Soviet Union, Germany

Percentage of land unusable in Afghanistan and Cambodia because of mines: 35

Countries that reported final clearing of mines in 2005: Guatemala, Suriname

Estimated global funding for landmine clearing/victim assistance,

2005: \$376 million

In 2004: \$399 million

Largest contributor: United States (\$81.9 million)

Contribution of Canada, which ranked seventh on donor list in 2005: \$20.5 million

Top 10 recipient countries (in order): Afghanistan, Sudan, Angola, Iraq, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Mozambique, Laos

Examples of direct funding to help victims of landmines:

Canada: \$1.92 million

Australia: \$2.47 million

Norway: \$6.13 million

Belgium: \$1.34 million

United States: \$18.53 million

Some major donor countries

that increased funding last year:

Australia, France, Germany,

U.K., Italy, Sweden

Some that decreased funding:

Canada, New Zealand, Ireland, Denmark, United States, Japan

Sources: Landmine Monitor Report, 2006; International Campaign to Ban Landmines, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War.

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All dollar figures U.S.

Graphic

Colour Photo: Emmanuel Kwiteman, Reuters; A trainer in Tanzania holds a large African pouched rat trained in sniffing and detecting landmines. After the animal locates a mine, humans dig them out of the ground.;

Colour Photo: Tomas Cumbana, for the Ottawa Citizen; 'I feel lonely because I can't do what I was planning to do with my life. I lost my job ... I wanted to study to be a teacher' Arsenio Julio Mavila, 22-year-old landmine victim; Map: Map: Robert Cross, the Ottawa Citizen; In 2005, Canada contributed \$20.5 million toward landmine clearing/victim assistance. That amount ranked seventh on the global donor list.

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Whose Iran?

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Body

The Mahestan mall in South Tehran is sometimes called "the honeycomb" of the Basij, the Iranian youth militia, because it is here that Basijis, as the militia members are known, buy and sell banners for the Shiite festival of Ashura, as well as religious books and posters. Sombre, bearded young men in collarless shirts linger over tea behind stands selling tapes of religious singers -- cult celebrities who belt out tear-jerking laments for the martyrdom of Hussein and make a small fortune performing at memorial services. Omid Malekian, a 28-year-old employee of a Tehran petrochemical refinery and the son of a carpenter, was shopping at Mahestan on Dec. 16, the day after Iran's elections for city councils and for the Assembly of Experts, the 86-member clerical board that will select the next supreme leader should anything happen to the current leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. In the 2005 presidential election, Malekian voted for the winner, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, and when I asked if he was happy with the president, he answered frankly.

"Sometimes I am analyzing myself and thinking, Oh, we have done wrong," he mused. "He is very popular and friendly with the people, but sometimes when he is expressing his ideas, he doesn't think about the future or the consequences. He is a simple man."

In particular, Malekian suggested that Ahmadinejad had been incautious in his promises to improve the economy - promises he has yet to keep. There was another area, too, in which Ahmadinejad had faltered: "About the Holocaust," he said. "I don't know much about it, but from the reaction of the world, it seems he should have said something different."

Still, Malekian said that he voted for the most severe fundamentalist among the candidates running for the clerical Assembly of Experts. The campaign turned on the competition between two incumbents, Ayatollah Taqi Mesbah-Yazdi -- widely reputed to be Ahmadinejad's spiritual leader -- and Ayatollah Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, the pragmatic former president who lost the presidential race to Ahmadinejad in 2005. Each hoped to increase his share of the vote and thus his power on the assembly.

South Tehran is Ahmadinejad's heartland. It is here, in the less affluent neighborhoods of the city of 14 million where he was once mayor, that he rose from the obscure end of the seven-candidate roster in 2005, only to become one of the most popular figures in the Muslim world. Because liberal-minded Iranians boycotted the 2005 presidential election, and because Ahmadinejad so adeptly played the populist card, the militants, the unemployed

Whose Iran ?

and the cultural conservatives of neighborhoods like this one were in the driver's seat, steering the politics of this crucial nation while their opponents warned of their presumed doctrinaire views and political naivete.

Early on, Ahmadinejad's faction was expected to win last month's elections handily. But the results contradicted the conventional wisdom about the Iranian electorate. The president put forward his own slate of candidates for the city councils. It was trounced. By some reckonings, reformists won two-fifths of the council seats and even dominated in some cities, including Kerman and Arak. Some conservative city-council candidates did well, particularly in Tehran, but they were not the conservatives associated with Ahmadinejad: rather, they belonged to the rival conservative faction of the current Tehran mayor, Mohammad Baqer Qalibaf. And most significant, the vote for Rafsanjani for the Assembly of Experts dwarfed that of Mesbah-Yazdi by nearly two to one. By mid-January, Ahmadinejad's isolation even within his own faction was complete: 150 of 290 members of parliament, including many of Ahmadinejad's onetime allies, signed a letter criticizing the president's economic policies for failing to stanch unemployment and inflation. A smaller group also blamed Ahmadinejad's inflammatory foreign-policy rhetoric for the United Nations Security Council resolution imposing sanctions on Iran. As if that were not enough, an editorial in Jomhuri Eslami, a newspaper that reflects the views of the supreme leader, accused the president of using the nuclear issue to distract the public from his failed policies. Ahmadinejad's behavior was diminishing popular support for the nuclear program, the editorial warned. The Iranian political system seems to be restoring its equilibrium by showing an extremist president the limits of his power. But is it an equilibrium that can hold?

In part, last month's election results reflected the complexity of Ahmadinejad's skeptical, conditional and diverse constituency. They also demonstrated his isolation within the powerful conservative establishment, whose politics, however opaque, are determinative. At its center, Khamenei commands a faction known as the traditional conservatives. No elected leader can serve, let alone execute a policy agenda, without the acquiescence of the supreme leader and his associates. But was Ahmadinejad one of the leader's associates? Or was he, like his predecessor, Khatami, something of a political rival? The answer to this question should determine the extent to which Ahmadinejad's foreign-policy extremism and authoritarian tendencies are taken seriously as a political program. But it is a puzzle that has vexed political analysts since the president took office in August 2005, bringing with him a faction that was largely new to the post-revolutionary political scene. Composed partly of military and paramilitary elements, partly of extremist clerics like Mesbah-Yazdi and partly of inexperienced new conservative politicians, those in Ahmadinejad's faction are often called "neoconservatives." But to the extent that they have an ideology, it is less new than old, harking back to the early days of the Islamic republic. Since that time, the same elite has largely run Iranian politics, though it has divided itself into competing factions, and the act of wielding power has mellowed many hard-liners into pragmatists. Ahmadinejad's faction, on the other hand, came into power speaking the language of the past but with the zeal of the untried.

In 2005, many analysts believed that Ahmadinejad's elevation to the presidency must have been sanctioned by the supreme leader -- indeed, that it reflected a hardening agenda among the traditional conservatives. He would be the "secretary" of Khamenei, a number of reformists said to me that summer in Tehran. But the way Ahmadinejad governed was nothing if not divisive. He undertook the most far-reaching governmental housecleaning since the revolution itself, reportedly replacing as many as 20,000 bureaucrats. And when it came time for the elections last month, he offered his own slates of candidates, disdaining to ally himself with the traditional conservatives or with anyone else. For the Assembly of Experts, Ahmadinejad endorsed a ticket of scholars from what is known as the Haqqani circle, a group of clerics who cleave strongly to the notion of the divine state and disdain popular sovereignty and democracy.

The senior figure in this circle, Mesbah-Yazdi, already belonged to the assembly. But in the fall of 2006, buoyed by association with the populist president, his group put forward a wave of candidates in a bid to transform the assembly. Even after the Guardian Council -- an appointed body that answers to the supreme leader and that vets candidates and legislation -- had disqualified almost half the proposed candidates, including most of the reformists and a large number of Mesbah-Yazdi's students, clerics associated with Mesbah-Yazdi still stood a reasonable chance of winning dozens of the 86 seats. It was here that the ideological contest of the Ahmadinejad presidency was starkest. Were the public and the leadership ready to accept Mesbah-Yazdi's brand of extremism along with the populism Ahmadinejad had served up? And what did it mean if they were not?

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The 97-mile stretch of highway from Tehran southwest to Qom passes through a cratered landscape of magnificent desolation to the basin between a salt marsh and a desert at the foot of the Zagros Mountains. Middle-class, educated Tehranis often scorn and even fear Qom as the center of religious Puritanism and political repression. But for pious Shiites in Iran and elsewhere, the city is a pilgrimage destination, home to one of the holiest Shiite shrines, most of the living Shiite marjas (senior religious figures, literally "sources of imitation") and more than 50 seminaries, institutions that long pre-existed universities in Iran and where the works of the Greek philosophers have for centuries been studied alongside religious texts. Students, who number some 40,000, enter Qom at an average age of 17. Some of them continue their studies for decades, as Shiite religious learning has no set end point. Since the Islamic revolution, the seminary city has thrived as the government has spent lavishly on mosques and dormitories, nearly all with the same pale brick and blue tile facades. In recent years, Qom has absorbed waves of Shiite immigrants from Afghanistan and Iraq. There is an Iraqi bazaar not far from the holy shrine, and the sight of men in Arab dishdashas is commonplace.

Mesbah-Yazdi has a major presence here in the form of the Imam Khomeini Institute, the enormous seminary of which Mesbah-Yazdi is the head scholar. It holds Iran's most extensive library of scholarly books in English, totaling 11,200 volumes. It is the envy of the universities in Tehran. Mesbah-Yazdi, a fellow cleric told me, believed that it was important to understand Western ideas to better resist and refute them.

Born in 1934, Mesbah-Yazdi is an eminence grise among the ayatollahs of Qom, but age has not mellowed him. In the last decade he has become famous less for his learned philosophical exegeses (he posts his entry in the Routledge Encyclopedia of Philosophy on his Web site) than for his jeremiads at Friday prayers against popular sovereignty, free speech, *women's* rights and Islamic reform. Public execution and flogging are "a basic principle of Islam," Mesbah-Yazdi has said, and the government should regulate the content of speech "just as it checks the distribution of adulterated or contaminated foodstuffs." Because "Mesbah" sounds like the Farsi word for crocodile, he is known by his critics as Ayatollah Crocodile. (A cartoonist was once imprisoned for depicting him as a reptile, shedding crocodile tears as he strangled a dissident writer with his tail.)

At Ahmadinejad's invitation, members of Mesbah-Yazdi's Haqqani circle occupy several key government posts. But before Ahmadinejad came to power, they had been pushed mostly to the margins of Iranian politics, where they complained bitterly about the efforts of the reformist Khatami and his colleagues to advance their agenda through the elected branches of government. To the Haqqani scholars, it seemed that the reformists were challenging the doctrine of velayat-i-faqih, which is based on the sovereign power of the chief jurist, the supreme leader. "We shall wait to see what place these foxes who claim to be the supporters of reform will occupy in hell," Mesbah-Yazdi proclaimed. If Iranians believed in their supreme leader as the agent of God, second-guessing his judgment through elections was tantamount to holding a referendum on whether or not Damavand was the highest peak in Iran. What if 51 percent of the public said that it was not? "It doesn't matter what the people think," Mesbah-Yazdi was quoted as saying. "The people are ignorant sheep." He has also said, "Islam was the government of God, not the government of the people."

Mesbah-Yazdi's most open and media-friendly acolyte, Ayatollah Mohsen Gharavian, did not put the matter quite so strongly when, draped in the encompassing Iranian chador, I met with him in an unadorned office at a small seminary on one of Qom's dusty side streets.

"In the name of God, the beneficent and merciful," Gharavian intoned, "before coming to the main question and answer, I want to know where you got this chador. Is it from the United States or Iran?"

From Iran, I told him.

"Congratulations on seeing you in a very Islamic manner," Gharavian replied.

For a cleric who had been quoted as saying that despotism was not all bad and that public opinion was meaningless, Gharavian, who teaches philosophy at the Imam Khomeini Institute, did not have a severe presence. Rather, he was a big, courteous man of 54 with a reddish beard. The election to the Assembly of Experts was just a day away, and Gharavian was the hard-line candidate for the hard-line city of Qom. Still, he expected to lose, and

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he did lose. Amiably, he remarked that he had run and lost before, and that to win would have required a financial outlay of which he disapproved.

When it came to politics, he spoke mostly in evasions and platitudes. Democracy, he explained, was acceptable within the boundaries of Islam, and human rights were contained within Islam, but such rights should not include freedom of worship or freedom to believe things that are untrue or unwise. (His examples were the misguided beliefs of Nietzsche and Machiavelli.) The Islamic penal code required no modification in the modern era; its harshest punishments, he asserted, were no more violent than some American and European spectator sports. He appeared shocked by the suggestion that Iran held political prisoners and demanded an example. I offered the journalist Akbar Ganji, imprisoned for six years on account of his critical writings. Gharavian replied: "Did you read Mr. Ganji's manifesto? He questioned the whole establishment." Freedom of expression, he explained, did not include the freedom to "breach the peace of the society." He demanded, "Don't you have prisoners in your country?"

Mesbah-Yazdi's statements on most of these matters were a matter of public record, and they were even blunter. "If someone tells you he has a new interpretation of Islam, hit him in the mouth," he said in 2000. Two years later, he said, "The prophets of God did not believe in pluralism. They believed that only one idea was right." On Sept. 4, 1999, he said: "Killing hypocrites does not require a court order, as it is a duty imposed by the Shariah on all genuine Muslims. The order of Islam is to throw them down from a high mountain and kill them outright." He spoke the following month of the need to break the unnecessary taboo on violence.

If such a taboo existed in the Islamic republic, it had been broken. That year, a string of dissidents were murdered under suspicious circumstances. In the writings that led to his prison sentence, Ganji accused Mesbah-Yazdi of sanctifying such actions with whispered fatwas and members of the Haqqani circle of direct involvement in the murders. A member of the shadowy vigilante group Ansar-e Hezbollah, which had violently attacked student demonstrators in July 1999, lent credence to Ganji's claims with videotaped testimony in which he said that Mesbah-Yazdi had encouraged the group to assassinate a reformist politician. "Now, on the issue of whether I authorized the assassination of individuals," Mesbah-Yazdi declared unapologetically in March 2001, "I must say that Imam Khomeini, may God be satisfied with him, issued a decree saying that shedding Salman Rushdie's blood was a religious obligation and, therefore, he advocated resorting to violence as well."

Why Ahmadinejad would ally himself with these clerics remains something of a mystery. Contrary to popular belief, says Nasser Hadian, a political scientist at Tehran University and a childhood friend of the president, Ahmadinejad never expounded a particularly conservative moral or social agenda. Rather, says Hadian, Ahmadinejad was and continues to be inspired above all by Ali Shariati, the mid-20th-century theorist of radical Islamic egalitarianism. The president's agenda is redistributionist and anti-imperialist, Hadian says. That doesn't make him a democrat. Nonetheless, "he is basically using Mesbah," Hadian says. It is an alliance of political convenience.

Alireza Haghighi, a political scientist who teaches at the University of Toronto at Mississauga, agrees that the association between Ahmadinejad and Mesbah-Yazdi has been overstated. But in an article he wrote with his colleague Victoria Tahmasebi in International Journal, Haghighi documented yet another Ahmadinejad genesis story. Young Ahmadinejad led a politically and religiously conservative Islamist student group during the Islamic Revolution, the writers claim. When the leftist Islamist students proposed seizing the American Embassy in 1979, Ahmadinejad opposed the action as imprudent, but he suggested that if they went ahead with it, they should seize the Soviet Embassy as well. His plan rejected, Ahmadinejad found himself excluded from historic events and spurned by the Islamic left, which was at that time a powerful faction within the regime. His opposition to that faction ossified into a vendetta.

Soon after Khomeini's death, the Islamic left lost the factional battle for dominance. Its members wandered eight years in the political wilderness before returning as the reform movement. That, too, Ahmadinejad was anxious to crush. In that aspiration he would have found ample common ground with the Haqqani circle.

As president, Ahmadinejad looked to the extreme right rather than seeking allies among the traditional conservatives, and in so doing, he exposed himself politically. "They were very arrogant," Hadian said of

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Ahmadinejad and his camp. "They didn't want to make any compromises. He has stood against the entire political structure in Iran, not inviting any of them, even the conservatives, to be partners. You don't see them in the cabinet; you don't see them in political positions."

And for that there was a price to be paid. This fall, Rafsanjani, who had suffered a humiliating defeat at Ahmadinejad's hands in the presidential election of 2005, was reportedly persuaded to run again for the Assembly of Experts by the supreme leader or people close to him. Rafsanjani is a divisive figure in Iranian politics. He is widely perceived as a kingmaker, the power behind the rise of Khamenei to the position of supreme leader and that of Khatami to the presidency. But though he remains highly respected among clerics, Rafsanjani is not a beloved figure in Iranian public life. During his presidency, he adopted an economic liberalization program that involved extremely unpopular austerity measures; meanwhile, through pistachio exports, he had himself become one of the richest men in Iran. Political and social repression did not ease until Khatami, his successor, came into office.

Nonetheless, in the Assembly of Experts elections in December, Rafsanjani emerged as the compromise candidate of the reformists and traditional conservatives. One reformist activist described him to me as the very last line of defense against the extreme right. And Rafsanjani delivered a staggering blow, winning nearly twice as many votes as Mesbah-Yazdi. The neoconservatives, it seemed, had been slapped down much the same way the reformists had: the traditional conservatives had decided that the threat they posed was intolerable, and the voters had decided that the president associated with them could not deliver on his promises.

On the morning of Election Day, Dec. 15, there were long lines outside the polling places in central and east Tehran. A crowd milled about the front courtyard of Masjed al Nabi, a large mosque in the east. There were children, a television camera and a seller of balloons in the shape of rabbit ears. A middle-aged couple stood by the sinks normally used for ablutions; the woman wore a long, tailored raincoat and a conservative black scarf. Her husband explained that the election was very important to them. "We are choosing our future," he said through an interpreter. He was too sick, really, to move, but he had told his doctor that he could not forgo his civic duty to participate in the election.

Then I asked him if he saw big differences among the candidates for Assembly of Experts. "No," he said, "they are all the same."

What about the ones for city council?

"No," he replied. "They are all the same, too."

It is nearly impossible to have a political discussion with only one person on an Iranian street. Outside Masjed al Nabi, the first interloper was a clean-cut 35-year-old man in a plaid shirt who gave his name as Ali. "How can you say they are all the same?" he nearly shouted at the man who had been speaking. "We have candidates who are like the Taliban and others who are practically liberals. We have candidates who think women should be free and others who do not think so at all."

"I never heard of a thing like that," the first man said calmly. "The country has laws to decide these matters."

To my right, a woman in a chador heatedly exclaimed: "He's right! How can you say they are all the same? That's why we're here to vote, because they are all different. Our new president, Ahmadinejad, before the election he said women were free and equal. Now he says we should just make babies. Because he wanted our votes, he said good things."

The original couple took advantage of the hubbub to slip away. Mohammad, a 37-year-old in a running jacket, pushed his way into our circle. "I am not voting," he told me. "I want to choose my freedom. I don't want to vote for them. I'm sure that whether I vote or not, it makes no difference. I don't accept the Constitution of this country, and I hope I can change it without voting."

Ali was listening intently. "The people who are good in this thing accept the vote of the people not just for show and not just on Election Day," he told Mohammad. "Even in America it is the same; everywhere in the world it is."

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Everywhere in the world there are some people who are pro-democracy and others who are against it. Now people are more educated. One day, our democracy will be better than democracy in the United States, if we believe in it. We like our religion, our imams, God and Islam. We want democracy next to this. We don't believe in democracy and freedom the way it exists in other parts of the world. We want something of our own."

It was 5 o'clock when I left the crowded mosques of middle-class central and east Tehran for the deserted polling places of the affluent northern hills. In Tajrish, an election official told me that he had seen just 200 voters -- far fewer than in the presidential election less than two years ago. "All the mullahs are the same," he confided. "Everything always gets worse. Ahmadinejad is like a catalyst, speeding it up. The philosophical foundation of the state is not good."

The debates among ordinary voters go to the heart of a structural weakness in the Iranian state. Founded on two conflicting ideas -- the sovereignty of the people and divinely inspired clerical rule -- the Islamic Republic of Iran has suffered from a decadelong crisis of legitimacy. Nothing forced that crisis quite the way the reform movement did, despite, or perhaps even because of, its cautious temperament and legalistic methods. Over the course of Khatami's presidency, Iranians were faced with an inevitable question: What use was a supreme leader in a democracy, and what use were elections in a theocracy? The rise of Ahmadinejad, then his comeuppance, have forced those questions from the other direction. How far could the conservatives go in the authoritarian direction, and if not all the way, why not?

"In a sense, many people, including myself, we believe that Mesbah is right," Sadegh Zibakalam, a reformist Tehran University professor, reflected when I visited him at his mother's home in north Tehran in December. "Trying to make an amalgam of Western, liberal, democratic ideas and Shiite theology is nonsense. It doesn't work."

Later, he added: "Either Khamenei is infallible, or he's not. If he's not, then he is an ordinary person like Bush or Blair, answerable to the Parliament and the people. If he is, then we should throw away all this nonsense about Western values and liberal democracy. Either we have Western liberal philosophy, republican government and checks and balances, or we should stick to Mesbah. But to combine them? Imam Khomeini was so popular and charismatic. People rallied behind him and believed he was infallible. We never thought, What if the supreme leader is not supported by the people? The answer to this was brilliantly made by Mesbah: to hell with them."

Zibakalam described Mesbah-Yazdi's reading of velayat-i-faqih as a radical version of the one first proposed by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. But when I looked back through the lectures in which Khomeini first delineated the theory in Najaf in 1970, I found a vision strikingly similar to Mesbah-Yazdi's. At that time, Khomeini had little truck with popular sovereignty. He quoted the Koran and sayings attributed to Muhammad: "The prophet has higher claims on the believers than their own selves" and "The scholars are the heirs of the prophet." The only legitimate legislation was that which had already been made by God, and this would be administered by the learned jurist, who would rule over the people like a guardian over a child.

Nine years later, from his Paris exile during the revolution, Khomeini would approve a constitution drafted by more liberal associates. It was the blueprint for a parliamentary democracy, in which a council of clergymen would play an advisory role. This draft became the basis for the debate that occupied the first Assembly of Experts, convened to revise and approve a final constitution. After much discussion of the contradictions it engendered, the experts, many of them clerics, nonetheless yoked velayat-i-faqih to the republican structure they had been handed.

To this day, the structure of the Iranian state remains too liberal for the authoritarians and too authoritarian for the liberals, but the traditional conservatives at the center of power cannot resolve this obvious paradox at the republic's heart without relinquishing their own position. The best they could do was to revise the Constitution after Khomeini's death, greatly expanding the powers of the clerical councils and of the supreme leader at the expense of the elected offices.

Clerics I spoke to from the traditional conservative camp associated with Khamenei were paternalistic in their view of the state rather than outright authoritarian. They seemed to genuinely believe in a limited form of popular sovereignty -- guided, of course, by Islamic scholars so that the people would not fall into error but nonetheless necessary for the legitimacy of the state.

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It was this traditional conservative establishment that the reformists, many of them clerics, hoped to transform by introducing new policies through the legal channels of the state and by persuading jurists to assimilate new ideas about rights and freedoms into their interpretations of the sacred texts. One of the leading reformist theorists, Mohammad Mojtahed Shabestari, explained to me: "Many nations have influenced our jurisprudence. We could set aside some of the decrees of Islam today and bring some Western laws to replace them. This doesn't make us infidels."

After eight years in power, the reform movement found itself blocked by the conservative establishment, hamstrung by its own mistakes and unwilling or unable to shore up the failing economy. Ahmadinejad rose in its wake, campaigning not on ideological extremism but on populist blandishments. He would ease the financial pain of his countrymen, he promised, by bringing Iran's oil wealth to the people's tables.

As Omid Malekian had intimated to me at the Mahestan shopping mall, however, this was not a promise to make lightly. The Iranian economy has been mismanaged at least since the revolution, and to fix it would require measures no populist would be willing to take. Under Ahmadinejad, inflation has risen; foreign investors have scorned Iranian markets, fearing political upheaval or foreign invasion; the Iranian stock market has plummeted; Iranian capital has fled to Dubai. Voters I talked to pointed to the prices of ordinary foodstuffs when they wanted to explain their negative feelings about the government. According to Iranian news sources, from January to late August 2006 the prices of fruits and vegetables in urban areas rose by 20 percent. A month later, during Ramadan, the price of fruit reportedly doubled while that of chicken rose 10 percent in mere days. Housing prices in Tehran have reached a record high. Unemployment is still widespread. And Ahmadinejad's approval rating, as calculated by the official state television station, had dipped to 35 percent in October.

Iran is not a poor country. It is highly urbanized and modern, with a sizable middle class. Oil revenues, which Iran has in abundance, should be channeling plenty of hard currency into the state's coffers, and in fact the economy's overall rate of growth is healthy and rising. But as Parvin Alizadeh, an economist at London Metropolitan University, explained to me, what ultimately matters is how the state spends its influx of wealth. The Iranian government has tried to create jobs swiftly and pacify the people by spending the oil money on new government-run projects. But these projects are not only overmanned and inefficient, like much of the country's bloated and technologically backward public sector; they also increase the demand for consumer goods and services, driving up inflation.

Ahmadinejad has continued this trend. He has generated considerable personal good will in poorer communities, but hardly anyone I asked could honestly say that their lives had gotten better during his presidency. He fought to lower interest rates, which drove up lending, leading to inflation and capital flight. The government cannot risk infuriating the public with the austerity measures that would be required in order to solve its deep-rooted economic problems. But as long as its short-term fixes continue to fail, the government will go on being unpopular. The last two presidents have lost their constituencies over this issue. And so officials seek to distract people from their economic woes with ideological posturing and anti-Western rhetoric. Not only has this lost its cachet with much of the Iranian public, it also serves to compound Iran's economic problems by blackening its image abroad. "Iran has not sorted out its basic problem, which is to be accepted in the international community as a respectable government," Alizadeh said. "Investors do not take it seriously. This is a political crisis, not an economic crisis."

For a Western traveler in Iran these days, it is hard to avoid a feeling of cognitive dissonance. From a distance, the Islamic republic appears to be at its zenith. But from the street level, Iran's grand revolutionary experiment is beset with fragility. The state is in a sense defined by its contradictions, both constitutional and economic. It cannot be truly stable until it resolves them, and yet if it tries to do so, it may not survive.

Attention Shiite Shoppers Basijis, members of the Iranian youth militia, often gather at the Mahestan mall to buy religious goods. (Photographs by Newsha Tavakolian/ Polaris for The New York Times)

Graphic

Photos: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad looking down on Revolution Square in Tehran (center).

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Body

Heads they win, tails we lose. And yet another victory for the terrorists NO WORD yet from Tarique Ghaffur on yesterday's antiterror raids.

While Scotland Yard's most senior Asian officer was complaining to the National Black Police Association in Manchester about the 'unwanted' profiling of young Muslims at airports, his colleagues back at the factory were busy rounding up 24 people suspected of plotting to blow up planes.

All those arrested were young Muslims, mostly of Pakistani origin. Not that you'd have known it initially from some of the media coverage or from the official press conferences.

The BBC insisted on describing those detained simply as 'British-born'. The Home Secretary and senior policemen kept stressing that the operation and any terrorist atrocities which may have been thwarted were not in any way connected to 'communities'.

To reinforce the message, we were also told that Two Jags - minding the shop while Tony Blair is sunning himself on Barbados - was hitting the phones reassuring 'community leaders'.

Which 'community' could they all be referring to? The gay community? The crown green bowling community?

Just a hunch, but some of us worked out fairly early on that they may possibly be talking about the Muslim community. In case anyone did leap to that rather obvious conclusion, ministers and the police urged 'restraint'.

Restraint from what? When four young Muslims blew themselves and 52 others to kingdom come on London's transport network last July, there was no retaliation against their blameless co-religionists.

After all, Muslims were among the victims. When terrorists attack, they don't care who they kill. We are all targets.

So why the need to consult 'community leaders'? I don't remember Knacker of the Yard phoning the Bishop of Stepney before he arrested the Kray Twins.

Did they expect the good people of Walthamstow and High Wycombe to start burning and looting simply because the police had lifted from their midst men suspected of planning to commit 'mass murder on an unimaginable scale'?

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I would have thought they were as relieved as the rest of us that what threatened to have been a terrorist atrocity of horrifying magnitude had been prevented.

Even after the botched police raid at Forest Gate earlier this year, in which two young Muslim men were wrongly targeted and one of them was accidentally shot, the local community reacted with commendable maturity and peacefully went on with its daily business.

The only people working themselves up into a frenzy were George Galloway and his SWP boot boys; the Guardianistas; the East London branch of Islamonazis International Inc; and the usual pantomime army of nest-feathering opportunists from the Muslim Council of Britain.

(Incidentally, you may have noticed the peace-loving Forest Gate brothers, currently seeking Pounds 500,000 compensation each, managed to venture out of their taxpayer-funded five-star London hotel as far as the Wellington Barracks, where they allegedly screamed at Welsh Guardsmen: 'We hope you die in Iraq.') Some of the men arrested yesterday were picked up in Waltham Forest, which may partly explain the Forest Gate intelligence cock-up.

LET'S hope that this time the police have got it right. It would be devastating - not just for the security services, but for all of us - if there were worries that the Forest Gate fiasco would undermine the confidence of those involved in the fight against terrorism and discourage them from mounting similar operations. Yesterday's co-ordinated arrests demonstrate, to their credit, that it hasn't.

No doubt some of those taken into custody may turn out to be either peripheral to the plot, or completely innocent. If and when that happens, let's also hope that they desist from holding press conferences, moaning about 'Islamophobia', denouncing police brutality, and demanding a small fortune in damages.

It would be wonderful if, for once, someone wrongly detained on suspicion of involvement in terrorism came out afterwards and said something like: 'I am innocent, but I haven't.

recognise the police have got a job to do. We're all in danger from terrorism and sometimes mistakes happen. I was in the wrong company, in the wrong place, at the wrong time and I can see why their suspicion was aroused.

No hard feelings.' As I wrote on Tuesday: 'Passenger profiling and stop-and-search may irritate young Muslims. But that is not the fault of the authorities, it is the fault of their co-religionists. It's not Sikhs, or Methodists, or Zoroastrians flying planes into buildings or blowing themselves up on public transport.' Nor were there any Sikhs, Methodists or Zoroastrians arrested yesterday in connection with a plot to bring down as many as ten airliners bound for America.

All those held are Muslims and all would appear to conform to the classic terrorist profile. Ostensibly, there is little to distinguish them from thousands of other completely innocent young Muslims.

How many times have we heard, after the event, that a suicide bomber was 'just a normal lad who loved playing football'?

Hezbollah aren't the only terrorists who hide out among civilians.

I can fully understand why young Muslim men might resent coming under suspicion. But there's a war on. It might not be a conventional war, but it's a war all the same. If the attacks which the police claim to have prevented had taken place, the body count could have run into thousands.

On Tuesday, I wrote about the new survey which claims almost a quarter of British Muslims believe that the 7/7 attacks were justified because of the Government's support for the war on terror.

If that's only half right, it means 200,000 people living in Britain condone the mass slaughter of their fellow citizens on the streets of our capital city. The enemy within comes not as single spies but in battalions.

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Would the same number have cheered if the plot supposedly being planned by the men arrested yesterday had succeeded in murdering thousands more?

Will the self-appointed 'community leaders' whom the police and politicians are so desperate to appease now come out and unconditionally denounce those of their fellow Muslims who support terrorism - without any caveat about Iraq or Afghanistan and without seeking further political concessions?

Will they urge those they claim to represent to give every co-operation to the police and security services?

Don't hold your breath.

By lunchtime yesterday, the conspiracy-mongers were accusing the police of exaggerating the threat.

At precisely 11.21am, the presenter of Radio Five's morning show was already protesting about a 'backlash' on the strength of a single, perfectly reasonable email on the BBC's website wondering why some Muslims thought terrorism was the fit and proper solution to any real or imagined grievance.

LUNCHTIME today, the cries of 'fit-up' from the Islamonazis' useful idiots will have reached a deafening-crescendo.

The plot foiled yesterday may not have succeeded in bringing death to the skies. But the terrorists have managed to ratchet back our liberty another couple of notches.

Heads they win, tails we lose.

The panic measures introduced at airports yesterday made terror suspects of every single passenger, of every age, of every race, of every religion.

Businessmen were stripped of laptops, elderly women had their perfume confiscated, young mothers and their babies had their feeding formula taken away, children were deprived of their X-Boxes and PlayStations, iPods were treated like dirty bombs.

Like most 'emergency' measures, none of this is going away soon. We're going to have to get used to even longer queues, to standing in line with our passports and wallets in seethrough packets and our valuables and personal items of sentimental value consigned to the lottery of the baggage handling system.

The ordeal of air travel just got immeasurably worse. As I was writing this, my friend called to say he was due to spend the weekend in Majorca but can't face the aggravation at the airport, so he's staying at home. Another small victory for the terrorists.

Assistant Commissioner Ghaffur warned that profiling was 'criminalising' Muslims and causing 'anger and resentment'.

The actions of a few deranged Muslims have criminalised everyone who travels by air.

We are all being profiled now.

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The Power of Green

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Body

I.

One day Iraq, our post-9/11 trauma and the divisiveness of the Bush years will all be behind us -- and America will need, and want, to get its groove back. We will need to find a way to reknit America at home, reconnect America abroad and restore America to its natural place in the global order -- as the beacon of progress, hope and inspiration. I have an idea how. It's called "green."

In the world of ideas, to name something is to own it. If you can name an issue, you can own the issue. One thing that always struck me about the term "green" was the degree to which, for so many years, it was defined by its opponents -- by the people who wanted to disparage it. And they defined it as "liberal," "tree-hugging," "sissy," "girlie-man," "unpatriotic," "vaguely French."

Well, I want to rename "green." I want to rename it geostrategic, geoeconomic, capitalistic and patriotic. I want to do that because I think that living, working, designing, manufacturing and projecting America in a green way can be the basis of a new unifying political movement for the 21st century. A redefined, broader and more muscular green ideology is not meant to trump the traditional Republican and Democratic agendas but rather to bridge them when it comes to addressing the three major issues facing every American today: jobs, temperature and terrorism.

How do our kids compete in a flatter world? How do they thrive in a warmer world? How do they survive in a more dangerous world? Those are, in a nutshell, the big questions facing America at the dawn of the 21st century. But these problems are so large in scale that they can only be effectively addressed by an America with 50 green states -- not an America divided between red and blue states.

Because a new green ideology, properly defined, has the power to mobilize liberals and conservatives, evangelicals and atheists, big business and environmentalists around an agenda that can both pull us together and propel us forward. That's why I say: We don't just need the first black president. We need the first green president. We don't just need the first woman president. We need the first environmental president. We don't just need a president who has been toughened by years as a prisoner of war but a president who is tough enough to level with the American people about the profound economic, geopolitical and climate threats posed by our addiction to oil -- and to offer a real plan to reduce our dependence on fossil fuels.

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After World War II, President Eisenhower responded to the threat of Communism and the "red menace" with massive spending on an interstate highway system to tie America together, in large part so that we could better move weapons in the event of a war with the Soviets. That highway system, though, helped to enshrine America's car culture (atrophying our railroads) and to lock in suburban sprawl and low-density housing, which all combined to get America addicted to cheap fossil fuels, particularly oil. Many in the world followed our model.

Today, we are paying the accumulated economic, geopolitical and climate prices for that kind of America. I am not proposing that we radically alter our lifestyles. We are who we are -- including a car culture. But if we want to continue to be who we are, enjoy the benefits and be able to pass them on to our children, we do need to fuel our future in a cleaner, greener way. Eisenhower rallied us with the red menace. The next president will have to rally us with a green patriotism. Hence my motto: "Green is the new red, white and blue."

The good news is that after traveling around America this past year, looking at how we use energy and the emerging alternatives, I can report that green really has gone Main Street -- thanks to the perfect storm created by 9/11, Hurricane Katrina and the Internet revolution. The first flattened the twin towers, the second flattened New Orleans and the third flattened the global economic playing field. The convergence of all three has turned many of our previous assumptions about "green" upside down in a very short period of time, making it much more compelling to many more Americans.

But here's the bad news: While green has hit Main Street -- more Americans than ever now identify themselves as greens, or what I call "Geo-Greens" to differentiate their more muscular and strategic green ideology -- green has not gone very far down Main Street. It certainly has not gone anywhere near the distance required to preserve our lifestyle. The dirty little secret is that we're fooling ourselves. We in America talk like we're already "the greenest generation," as the business writer Dan Pink once called it. But here's the really inconvenient truth: We have not even begun to be serious about the costs, the effort and the scale of change that will be required to shift our country, and eventually the world, to a largely emissions-free energy infrastructure over the next 50 years. II.

A few weeks after American forces invaded Afghanistan, I visited the Pakistani frontier town of Peshawar, a hotbed of Islamic radicalism. On the way, I stopped at the famous Darul Uloom Haqqania, the biggest madrasa, or Islamic school, in Pakistan, with 2,800 live-in students. The Taliban leader Mullah Muhammad Omar attended this madrasa as a younger man. My Pakistani friend and I were allowed to observe a class of young boys who sat on the floor, practicing their rote learning of the Koran from texts perched on wooden holders. The air in the Koran class was so thick and stale it felt as if you could have cut it into blocks. The teacher asked an 8-year-old boy to chant a Koranic verse for us, which he did with the elegance of an experienced muezzin. I asked another student, an Afghan refugee, Rahim Kunduz, age 12, what his reaction was to the Sept. 11 attacks, and he said: "Most likely the attack came from Americans inside America. I am pleased that America has had to face pain, because the rest of the world has tasted its pain." A framed sign on the wall said this room was "A gift of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia."

Sometime after 9/11 -- an unprovoked mass murder perpetrated by 19 men, 15 of whom were Saudis -- green went geostrategic, as Americans started to realize we were financing both sides in the war on terrorism. We were financing the U.S. military with our tax dollars; and we were financing a transformation of Islam, in favor of its most intolerant strand, with our gasoline purchases. How stupid is that?

Islam has always been practiced in different forms. Some are more embracing of modernity, reinterpretation of the Koran and tolerance of other faiths, like Sufi Islam or the populist Islam of Egypt, Ottoman Turkey and Indonesia. Some strands, like Salafi Islam -- followed by the Wahhabis of Saudi Arabia and by Al Qaeda -- believe Islam should be returned to an austere form practiced in the time of the Prophet Muhammad, a form hostile to modernity, science, "infidels" and women's rights. By enriching the Saudi and Iranian treasuries via our gasoline purchases, we are financing the export of the Saudi puritanical brand of Sunni Islam and the Iranian fundamentalist brand of Shiite Islam, tilting the Muslim world in a more intolerant direction. At the Muslim fringe, this creates more recruits for the Taliban, Al Qaeda, Hamas, Hezbollah and the Sunni suicide bomb squads of Iraq; at the Muslim center, it creates a much bigger constituency of people who applaud suicide bombers as martyrs.

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The Saudi Islamic export drive first went into high gear after extreme fundamentalists challenged the Muslim credentials of the Saudi ruling family by taking over the Grand Mosque of Mecca in 1979 -- a year that coincided with the Iranian revolution and a huge rise in oil prices. The attack on the Grand Mosque by these Koran-and-rifle-wielding Islamic militants shook the Saudi ruling family to its core. The al-Sauds responded to this challenge to their religious bona fides by becoming outwardly more religious. They gave their official Wahhabi religious establishment even more power to impose Islam on public life. Awash in cash thanks to the spike in oil prices, the Saudi government and charities also spent hundreds of millions of dollars endowing mosques, youth clubs and Muslim schools all over the world, ensuring that Wahhabi imams, teachers and textbooks would preach Saudi-style Islam. Eventually, notes Lawrence Wright in "The Looming Tower," his history of Al Qaeda, "Saudi Arabia, which constitutes only 1 percent of the world Muslim population, would support 90 percent of the expenses of the entire faith, overriding other traditions of Islam."

Saudi mosques and wealthy donors have also funneled cash to the Sunni insurgents in Iraq. The Associated Press reported from Cairo in December: "Several drivers interviewed by the A.P. in Middle East capitals said Saudis have been using religious events, like the hajj pilgrimage to Mecca and a smaller pilgrimage, as cover for illicit money transfers. Some money, they said, is carried into Iraq on buses with returning pilgrims. 'They sent boxes full of dollars and asked me to deliver them to certain addresses in Iraq,' said one driver. ... 'I know it is being sent to the resistance, and if I don't take it with me, they will kill me.' "

No wonder more Americans have concluded that conserving oil to put less money in the hands of hostile forces is now a geostrategic imperative. President Bush's refusal to do anything meaningful after 9/11 to reduce our gasoline usage really amounts to a policy of "No Mullah Left Behind." James Woolsey, the former C.I.A. director, minces no words: "We are funding the rope for the hanging of ourselves."

No, I don't want to bankrupt Saudi Arabia or trigger an Islamist revolt there. Its leadership is more moderate and pro-Western than its people. But the way the Saudi ruling family has bought off its religious establishment, in order to stay in power, is not healthy. Cutting the price of oil in half would help change that. In the 1990s, dwindling oil income sparked a Saudi debate about less Koran and more science in Saudi schools, even experimentation with local elections. But the recent oil windfall has stilled all talk of reform.

That is because of what I call the First Law of Petropolitics: The price of oil and the pace of freedom always move in opposite directions in states that are highly dependent on oil exports for their income and have weak institutions or outright authoritarian governments. And this is another reason that green has become geostrategic. Soaring oil prices are poisoning the international system by strengthening antidemocratic regimes around the globe.

Look what's happened: We thought the fall of the Berlin Wall was going to unleash an unstoppable tide of free markets and free people, and for about a decade it did just that. But those years coincided with oil in the \$10-to-\$30-a-barrel range. As the price of oil surged into the \$30-to-\$70 range in the early 2000s, it triggered a countertide -- a tide of petroauthoritarianism -- manifested in Russia, Iran, Nigeria, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Sudan, Egypt, Chad, Angola, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan. The elected or self-appointed elites running these states have used their oil windfalls to ensconce themselves in power, buy off opponents and counter the fall-of-the-Berlin-Wall tide. If we continue to finance them with our oil purchases, they will reshape the world in their image, around Putin-like values.

You can illustrate the First Law of Petropolitics with a simple graph. On one line chart the price of oil from 1979 to the present; on another line chart the Freedom House or Fraser Institute freedom indexes for Russia, Nigeria, Iran and Venezuela for the same years. When you put these two lines on the same graph you see something striking: the price of oil and the pace of freedom are inversely correlated. As oil prices went down in the early 1990s, competition, transparency, political participation and accountability of those in office all tended to go up in these countries -- as measured by free elections held, newspapers opened, reformers elected, economic reform projects started and companies privatized. That's because their petroauthoritarian regimes had to open themselves to foreign investment and educate and empower their people more in order to earn income. But as oil prices went up around 2000, free speech, free press, fair elections and freedom to form political parties and NGOs all eroded in these countries.

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The motto of the American Revolution was "no taxation without representation." The motto of the petroauthoritarians is "no representation without taxation": If I don't have to tax you, because I can get all the money I need from oil wells, I don't have to listen to you.

It is no accident that when oil prices were low in the 1990s, Iran elected a reformist Parliament and a president who called for a "dialogue of civilizations." And when oil prices soared to \$70 a barrel, Iran's conservatives pushed out the reformers and ensconced a president who says the Holocaust is a myth. (I promise you, if oil prices drop to \$25 a barrel, the Holocaust won't be a myth anymore.) And it is no accident that the first Arab Gulf state to start running out of oil, Bahrain, is also the first Arab Gulf state to have held a free and fair election in which women could run and vote, the first Arab Gulf state to overhaul its labor laws to make more of its own people employable and the first Arab Gulf state to sign a free-trade agreement with America.

People change when they have to -- not when we tell them to -- and falling oil prices make them have to. That is why if we are looking for a Plan B for Iraq -- a way of pressing for political reform in the Middle East without going to war again -- there is no better tool than bringing down the price of oil. When it comes to fostering democracy among petroauthoritarians, it doesn't matter whether you're a neocon or a radical lib. If you're not also a Geo-Green, you won't succeed.

The notion that conserving energy is a geostrategic imperative has also moved into the Pentagon, for slightly different reasons. Generals are realizing that the more energy they save in the heat of battle, the more power they can project. The Pentagon has been looking to improve its energy efficiency for several years now to save money. But the Iraq war has given birth to a new movement in the U.S. military: the "Green Hawks."

As Amory Lovins of the Rocky Mountain Institute, who has been working with the Pentagon, put it to me: The Iraq war forced the U.S. military to think much more seriously about how to "eat its tail" -- to shorten its energy supply lines by becoming more energy efficient. According to Dan Nolan, who oversees energy projects for the U.S. Army's Rapid Equipping Force, it started last year when a Marine major general in Anbar Province told the Pentagon he wanted better-insulated, more energy-efficient tents in the Iraqi desert. Why? His air-conditioners were being run off mobile generators, and the generators ran on diesel, and the diesel had to be trucked in, and the insurgents were blowing up the trucks.

"When we began the analysis of his request, it was really about the fact that his soldiers were being attacked on the roads bringing fuel and water," Nolan said. So eating their tail meant "taking those things that are brought into the unit and trying to generate them on-site." To that end Nolan's team is now experimenting with everything from new kinds of tents that need 40 percent less air-conditioning to new kinds of fuel cells that produce water as a byproduct.

Pay attention: When the U.S. Army desegregated, the country really desegregated; when the Army goes green, the country could really go green.

"Energy independence is a national security issue," Nolan said. "It's the right business for us to be in. ... We are not trying to change the whole Army. Our job is to focus on that battalion out there and give those commanders the technological innovations they need to deal with today's mission. But when they start coming home, they are going to bring those things with them." III.

The second big reason green has gone Main Street is because global warming has. A decade ago, it was mostly experts who worried that climate change was real, largely brought about by humans and likely to lead to species loss and environmental crises. Now Main Street is starting to worry because people are seeing things they've never seen before in their own front yards and reading things they've never read before in their papers -- like the recent draft report by the United Nations's 2,000-expert Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which concluded that "changes in climate are now affecting physical and biological systems on every continent."

I went to Montana in January and Gov. Brian Schweitzer told me: "We don't get as much snow in the high country as we used to, and the runoff starts sooner in the spring. The river I've been fishing over the last 50 years is now warmer in July by five degrees than 50 years ago, and it is hard on our trout population." I went to Moscow in

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February, and my friends told me they just celebrated the first Moscow Christmas in their memory with no snow. I stopped in London on the way home, and I didn't need an overcoat. In 2006, the average temperature in central England was the highest ever recorded since the Central England Temperature (C.E.T.) series began in 1659.

Yes, no one knows exactly what will happen. But ever fewer people want to do nothing. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger of California summed up the new climate around climate when he said to me recently: "If 98 doctors say my son is ill and needs medication and two say 'No, he doesn't, he is fine,' I will go with the 98. It's common sense -- the same with global warming. We go with the majority, the large majority. ... The key thing now is that since we know this industrial age has created it, let's get our act together and do everything we can to roll it back."

But how? Now we arrive at the first big roadblock to green going down Main Street. Most people have no clue -- no clue -- how huge an industrial project is required to blunt climate change. Here are two people who do: Robert Socolow, an engineering professor, and Stephen Pacala, an ecology professor, who together lead the Carbon Mitigation Initiative at Princeton, a consortium designing scalable solutions for the climate issue.

They first argued in a paper published by the journal *Science* in August 2004 that human beings can emit only so much carbon into the atmosphere before the buildup of carbon dioxide (CO₂) reaches a level unknown in recent geologic history and the earth's climate system starts to go "haywire." The scientific consensus, they note, is that the risk of things going haywire -- weather patterns getting violently unstable, glaciers melting, prolonged droughts -- grows rapidly as CO₂ levels "approach a doubling" of the concentration of CO₂ that was in the atmosphere before the Industrial Revolution.

"Think of the climate change issue as a closet, and behind the door are lurking all kinds of monsters -- and there's a long list of them," Pacala said. "All of our scientific work says the most damaging monsters start to come out from behind that door when you hit the doubling of CO₂ levels." As Bill Collins, who led the development of a model used worldwide for simulating climate change, put it to me: "We're running an uncontrolled experiment on the only home we have."

So here is our challenge, according to Pacala: If we basically do nothing, and global CO₂ emissions continue to grow at the pace of the last 30 years for the next 50 years, we will pass the doubling level -- an atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide of 560 parts per million -- around midcentury. To avoid that -- and still leave room for developed countries to grow, using less carbon, and for countries like India and China to grow, emitting double or triple their current carbon levels, until they climb out of poverty and are able to become more energy efficient -- will require a huge global industrial energy project.

To convey the scale involved, Socolow and Pacala have created a pie chart with 15 different wedges. Some wedges represent carbon-free or carbon-diminishing power-generating technologies; other wedges represent efficiency programs that could conserve large amounts of energy and prevent CO₂ emissions. They argue that the world needs to deploy any 7 of these 15 wedges, or sufficient amounts of all 15, to have enough conservation, and enough carbon-free energy, to increase the world economy and still avoid the doubling of CO₂ in the atmosphere. Each wedge, when phased in over 50 years, would avoid the release of 25 billion tons of carbon, for a total of 175 billion tons of carbon avoided between now and 2056.

Here are seven wedges we could choose from: "Replace 1,400 large coal-fired plants with gas-fired plants; increase the fuel economy of two billion cars from 30 to 60 miles per gallon; add twice today's nuclear output to displace coal; drive two billion cars on ethanol, using one-sixth of the world's cropland; increase solar power 700-fold to displace coal; cut electricity use in homes, offices and stores by 25 percent; install carbon capture and sequestration capacity at 800 large coal-fired plants." And the other eight aren't any easier. They include halting all cutting and burning of forests, since deforestation causes about 20 percent of the world's annual CO₂ emissions.

"There has never been a deliberate industrial project in history as big as this," Pacala said. Through a combination of clean power technology and conservation, "we have to get rid of 175 billion tons of carbon over the next 50 years -- and still keep growing. It is possible to accomplish this if we start today. But every year that we delay, the job

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becomes more difficult -- and if we delay a decade or two, avoiding the doubling or more may well become impossible." IV.

In November, I flew from Shanghai to Beijing on Air China. As we landed in Beijing and taxied to the terminal, the Chinese air hostess came on the P.A. and said: "We've just landed in Beijing. The temperature is 8 degrees Celsius, 46 degrees Fahrenheit and the sky is clear."

I almost burst out laughing. Outside my window the smog was so thick you could not see the end of the terminal building. When I got into Beijing, though, friends told me the air was better than usual. Why? China had been host of a summit meeting of 48 African leaders. Time magazine reported that Beijing officials had "ordered half a million official cars off the roads and said another 400,000 drivers had 'volunteered' to refrain from using their vehicles" in order to clean up the air for their African guests. As soon as they left, the cars returned, and Beijing's air went back to "unhealthy."

Green has also gone Main Street because the end of Communism, the rise of the personal computer and the diffusion of the Internet have opened the global economic playing field to so many more people, all coming with their own versions of the American dream -- a house, a car, a toaster, a microwave and a refrigerator. It is a blessing to see so many people growing out of poverty. But when three billion people move from "low-impact" to "high-impact" lifestyles, Jared Diamond wrote in "Collapse," it makes it urgent that we find cleaner ways to fuel their dreams. According to Lester Brown, the founder of the Earth Policy Institute, if China keeps growing at 8 percent a year, by 2031 the per-capita income of 1.45 billion Chinese will be the same as America's in 2004. China currently has only one car for every 100 people, but Brown projects that as it reaches American income levels, if it copies American consumption, it will have three cars for every four people, or 1.1 billion vehicles. The total world fleet today is 800 million vehicles!

That's why McKinsey Global Institute forecasts that developing countries will generate nearly 80 percent of the growth in world energy demand between now and 2020, with China representing 32 percent and the Middle East 10 percent. So if Red China doesn't become Green China there is no chance we will keep the climate monsters behind the door. On some days, says the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, almost 25 percent of the polluting matter in the air above Los Angeles comes from China's coal-fired power plants and factories, as well as fumes from China's cars and dust kicked up by droughts and deforestation around Asia.

The good news is that China knows it has to grow green -- or it won't grow at all. On Sept. 8, 2006, a Chinese newspaper reported that China's E.P.A. and its National Bureau of Statistics had re-examined China's 2004 G.D.P. number. They concluded that the health problems, environmental degradation and lost workdays from pollution had actually cost China \$64 billion, or 3.05 percent of its total economic output for 2004. Some experts believe the real number is closer to 10 percent.

Thus China has a strong motivation to clean up the worst pollutants in its air. Those are the nitrogen oxides, sulfur oxides and mercury that produce acid rain, smog and haze -- much of which come from burning coal. But cleaning up is easier said than done. The Communist Party's legitimacy and the stability of the whole country depend heavily on Beijing's ability to provide rising living standards for more and more Chinese.

So, if you're a Chinese mayor and have to choose between growing jobs and cutting pollution, you will invariably choose jobs: coughing workers are much less politically dangerous than unemployed workers. That's a key reason why China's 10th five-year plan, which began in 2000, called for a 10 percent reduction in sulfur dioxide in China's air -- and when that plan concluded in 2005, sulfur dioxide pollution in China had increased by 27 percent.

But if China is having a hard time cleaning up its nitrogen and sulfur oxides -- which can be done relatively cheaply by adding scrubbers to the smokestacks of coal-fired power plants -- imagine what will happen when it comes to asking China to curb its CO₂, of which China is now the world's second-largest emitter, after America. To build a coal-fired power plant that captures, separates and safely sequesters the CO₂ into the ground before it goes up the smokestack requires either an expensive retrofit or a whole new system. That new system would cost about 40 percent more to build and operate -- and would produce 20 percent less electricity, according to a recent M.I.T. study, "The Future of Coal."

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China -- which is constructing the equivalent of two 500-megawatt coal-fired power plants every week -- is not going to pay that now. Remember: CO₂ is an invisible, odorless, tasteless gas. Yes, it causes global warming -- but it doesn't hurt anyone in China today, and getting rid of it is costly and has no economic payoff. China's strategy right now is to say that CO₂ is the West's problem. "It must be pointed out that climate change has been caused by the long-term historic emissions of developed countries and their high per-capita emissions," Jiang Yu, a spokeswoman for China's Foreign Ministry, declared in February. "Developed countries bear an unshirkable responsibility."

So now we come to the nub of the issue: Green will not go down Main Street America unless it also goes down Main Street China, India and Brazil. And for green to go Main Street in these big developing countries, the prices of clean power alternatives -- wind, biofuels, nuclear, solar or coal sequestration -- have to fall to the "China price." The China price is basically the price China pays for coal-fired electricity today because China is not prepared to pay a premium now, and sacrifice growth and stability, just to get rid of the CO₂ that comes from burning coal.

"The 'China price' is the fundamental benchmark that everyone is looking to satisfy," said Curtis Carlson, C.E.O. of SRI International, which is developing alternative energy technologies. "Because if the Chinese have to pay 10 percent more for energy, when they have tens of millions of people living under \$1,000 a year, it is not going to happen." Carlson went on to say: "We have an enormous amount of new innovation we must put in place before we can get to a price that China and India will be able to pay. But this is also an opportunity." V.

The only way we are going to get innovations that drive energy costs down to the China price -- innovations in energy-saving appliances, lights and building materials and in non-CO₂-emitting power plants and fuels -- is by mobilizing free-market capitalism. The only thing as powerful as Mother Nature is Father Greed. To a degree, the market is already at work on this project -- because some venture capitalists and companies understand that clean-tech is going to be the next great global industry. Take Wal-Mart. The world's biggest retailer woke up several years ago, its C.E.O. Lee Scott told me, and realized that with regard to the environment its customers "had higher expectations for us than we had for ourselves." So Scott hired a sustainability expert, Jib Ellison, to tutor the company. The first lesson Ellison preached was that going green was a whole new way for Wal-Mart to cut costs and drive its profits. As Scott recalled it, Ellison said to him, "Lee, the thing you have to think of is all this stuff that people don't want you to put into the environment is waste -- and you're paying for it!"

So Scott initiated a program to work with Wal-Mart's suppliers to reduce the sizes and materials used for all its packaging by five percent by 2013. The reductions they have made are already paying off in savings to the company. "We created teams to work across the organization," Scott said. "It was voluntary -- then you had the first person who eliminated some packaging, and someone else started showing how we could recycle more plastic, and all of a sudden it's \$1 million a quarter." Wal-Mart operates 7,000 huge Class 8 trucks that get about 6 miles per gallon. It has told its truck makers that by 2015, it wants to double the efficiency of the fleet. Wal-Mart is the China of companies, so, explained Scott, "if we place one order we can create a market" for energy innovation.

For instance, Wal-Mart has used its shelves to create a huge, low-cost market for compact fluorescent bulbs, which use about a quarter of the energy of incandescent bulbs to produce the same light and last 10 times as long. "Just by doing what it does best -- saving customers money and cutting costs," said Glenn Prickett of Conservation International, a Wal-Mart adviser, "Wal-Mart can have a revolutionary impact on the market for green technologies. If every one of their 100 million customers in the U.S. bought just one energy-saving compact fluorescent lamp, instead of a traditional incandescent bulb, they could cut CO₂ emissions by 45 billion pounds and save more than \$3 billion."

Those savings highlight something that often gets lost: The quickest way to get to the China price for clean power is by becoming more energy efficient. The cheapest, cleanest, nonemitting power plant in the world is the one you don't build. Helping China adopt some of the breakthrough efficiency programs that California has adopted, for instance -- like rewarding electrical utilities for how much energy they get their customers to save rather than to use -- could have a huge impact. Some experts estimate that China could cut its need for new power plants in half with aggressive investments in efficiency.

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Yet another force driving us to the China price is Chinese entrepreneurs, who understand that while Beijing may not be ready to impose CO2 restraints, developed countries are, so this is going to be a global business -- and they want a slice. Let me introduce the man identified last year by Forbes Magazine as the seventh-richest man in China, with a fortune now estimated at \$2.2 billion. His name is Shi Zhengrong and he is China's leading manufacturer of silicon solar panels, which convert sunlight into electricity.

"People at all levels in China have become more aware of this environment issue and alternative energy," said Shi, whose company, Suntech Power Holdings, is listed on the New York Stock Exchange. "Five years ago, when I started the company, people said: 'Why do we need solar? We have a surplus of coal-powered electricity.' Now it is different; now people realize that solar has a bright future. But it is still too expensive. ... We have to reduce the cost as quickly as possible -- our real competitors are coal and nuclear power."

Shi does most of his manufacturing in China, but sells roughly 90 percent of his products outside China, because today they are too expensive for his domestic market. But the more he can get the price down, and start to grow his business inside China, the more he can use that to become a dominant global player. Thanks to Suntech's success, in China "there is a rush of business people entering this sector, even though we still don't have a market here," Shi added. "Many government people now say, 'This is an industry!' " And if it takes off, China could do for solar panels what it did for tennis shoes -- bring the price down so far that everyone can afford a pair. VI.

All that sounds great -- but remember those seven wedges? To reach the necessary scale of emissions-free energy will require big clean coal or nuclear power stations, wind farms and solar farms, all connected to a national transmission grid, not to mention clean fuels for our cars and trucks. And the market alone, as presently constructed in the U.S., will not get us those alternatives at the scale we need -- at the China price -- fast enough.

Prof. Nate Lewis, Caltech's noted chemist and energy expert, explained why with an analogy. "Let's say you invented the first cellphone," he said. "You could charge people \$1,000 for each one because lots of people would be ready to pay lots of money to have a phone they could carry in their pocket." With those profits, you, the inventor, could pay back your shareholders and plow more into research, so you keep selling better and cheaper cellphones.

But energy is different, Lewis explained: "If I come to you and say, 'Today your house lights are being powered by dirty coal, but tomorrow, if you pay me \$100 more a month, I will power your house lights with solar,' you are most likely to say: 'Sorry, Nate, but I don't really care how my lights go on, I just care that they go on. I won't pay an extra \$100 a month for sun power. A new cellphone improves my life. A different way to power my lights does nothing.'

"So building an emissions-free energy infrastructure is not like sending a man to the moon," Lewis went on. "With the moon shot, money was no object -- and all we had to do was get there. But today, we already have cheap energy from coal, gas and oil. So getting people to pay more to shift to clean fuels is like trying to get funding for NASA to build a spaceship to the moon -- when Southwest Airlines already flies there and gives away free peanuts! I already have a cheap ride to the moon, and a ride is a ride. For most people, electricity is electricity, no matter how it is generated."

If we were running out of coal or oil, the market would steadily push the prices up, which would stimulate innovation in alternatives. Eventually there would be a crossover, and the alternatives would kick in, start to scale and come down in price. But what has happened in energy over the last 35 years is that the oil price goes up, stimulating government subsidies and some investments in alternatives, and then the price goes down, the government loses interest, the subsidies expire and the investors in alternatives get wiped out.

The only way to stimulate the scale of sustained investment in research and development of non-CO2 emitting power at the China price is if the developed countries, who can afford to do so, force their people to pay the full climate, economic and geopolitical costs of using gasoline and dirty coal. Those countries that have signed the Kyoto Protocol are starting to do that. But America is not.

Up to now, said Lester Brown, president of the Earth Policy Institute, we as a society "have been behaving just like Enron the company at the height of its folly." We rack up stunning profits and G.D.P. numbers every year, and they

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look great on paper "because we've been hiding some of the costs off the books." If we don't put a price on the CO2 we're building up or on our addiction to oil, we'll never nurture the innovation we need.

Jeffrey Immelt, the chairman of General Electric, has worked for G.E. for 25 years. In that time, he told me, he has seen seven generations of innovation in G.E.'s medical equipment business -- in devices like M.R.I.s or CT scans -- because health care market incentives drove the innovation. In power, it's just the opposite. "Today, on the power side," he said, "we're still selling the same basic coal-fired power plants we had when I arrived. They're a little cleaner and more efficient now, but basically the same."

The one clean power area where G.E. is now into a third generation is wind turbines, "thanks to the European Union," Immelt said. Countries like Denmark, Spain and Germany imposed standards for wind power on their utilities and offered sustained subsidies, creating a big market for wind-turbine manufacturers in Europe in the 1980s, when America abandoned wind because the price of oil fell. "We grew our wind business in Europe," Immelt said.

As things stand now in America, Immelt said, "the market does not work in energy." The multibillion-dollar scale of investment that a company like G.E. is being asked to make in order to develop new clean-power technologies or that a utility is being asked to make in order to build coal sequestration facilities or nuclear plants is not going to happen at scale -- unless they know that coal and oil are going to be priced high enough for long enough that new investments will not be undercut in a few years by falling fossil fuel prices. "Carbon has to have a value," Immelt emphasized. "Today in the U.S. and China it has no value."

I recently visited the infamous Three Mile Island nuclear plant with Christopher Crane, president of Exelon Nuclear, which owns the facility. He said that if Exelon wanted to start a nuclear plant today, the licensing, design, planning and building requirements are so extensive it would not open until 2015 at the earliest. But even if Exelon got all the approvals, it could not start building "because the cost of capital for a nuclear plant today is prohibitive."

That's because the interest rate that any commercial bank would charge on a loan for a nuclear facility would be so high -- because of all the risks of lawsuits or cost overruns -- that it would be impossible for Exelon to proceed. A standard nuclear plant today costs about \$3 billion per unit. The only way to stimulate more nuclear power innovation, Crane said, would be federal loan guarantees that would lower the cost of capital for anyone willing to build a new nuclear plant.

The 2005 energy bill created such loan guarantees, but the details still have not been worked out. "We would need a robust loan guarantee program to jump-start the nuclear industry," Crane said -- an industry that has basically been frozen since the 1979 Three Mile Island accident. With cheaper money, added Crane, CO2-free nuclear power could be "very competitive" with CO2-emitting pulverized coal.

Think about the implications. Three Mile Island had two reactors, TMI-2, which shut down because of the 1979 accident, and TMI-1, which is still operating today, providing clean electricity with virtually no CO2 emissions for 800,000 homes. Had the TMI-2 accident not happened, it too would have been providing clean electricity for 800,000 homes for the last 28 years. Instead, that energy came from CO2-emitting coal, which, by the way, still generates 50 percent of America's electricity.

Similar calculations apply to ethanol production. "We have about 100 scientists working on cellulosic ethanol," Chad Holliday, the C.E.O. of DuPont, told me. "My guess is that we could double the number and add another 50 to start working on how to commercialize it. It would probably cost us less than \$100 million to scale up. But I am not ready to do that. I can guess what it will cost me to make it and what the price will be, but is the market going to be there? What are the regulations going to be? Is the ethanol subsidy going to be reduced? Will we put a tax on oil to keep ethanol competitive? If I know that, it gives me a price target to go after. Without that, I don't know what the market is and my shareholders don't know how to value what I am doing. ... You need some certainty on the incentives side and on the market side, because we are talking about multiyear investments, billions of dollars, that will take a long time to take off, and we won't hit on everything."

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Summing up the problem, Immelt of G.E. said the big energy players are being asked "to take a 15-minute market signal and make a 40-year decision and that just doesn't work. ... The U.S. government should decide: What do we want to have happen? How much clean coal, how much nuclear and what is the most efficient way to incentivize people to get there?"

He's dead right. The market alone won't work. Government's job is to set high standards, let the market reach them and then raise the standards more. That's how you get scale innovation at the China price. Government can do this by imposing steadily rising efficiency standards for buildings and appliances and by stipulating that utilities generate a certain amount of electricity from renewables -- like wind or solar. Or it can impose steadily rising mileage standards for cars or a steadily tightening cap-and-trade system for the amount of CO2 any factory or power plant can emit. Or it can offer loan guarantees and fast-track licensing for anyone who wants to build a nuclear plant. Or -- my preference and the simplest option -- it can impose a carbon tax that will stimulate the market to move away from fuels that emit high levels of CO2 and invest in those that don't. Ideally, it will do all of these things. But whichever options we choose, they will only work if they are transparent, simple and long-term -- with zero fudging allowed and with regulatory oversight and stiff financial penalties for violators.

The politician who actually proved just how effective this can be was a guy named George W. Bush, when he was governor of Texas. He pushed for and signed a renewable energy portfolio mandate in 1999. The mandate stipulated that Texas power companies had to produce 2,000 new megawatts of electricity from renewables, mostly wind, by 2009. What happened? A dozen new companies jumped into the Texas market and built wind turbines to meet the mandate, so many that the 2,000-megawatt goal was reached in 2005. So the Texas Legislature has upped the mandate to 5,000 megawatts by 2015, and everyone knows they will beat that too because of how quickly wind in Texas is becoming competitive with coal. Today, thanks to Governor Bush's market intervention, Texas is the biggest wind state in America.

President Bush, though, is no Governor Bush. (The Dick Cheney effect?) President Bush claims he's protecting American companies by not imposing tough mileage, conservation or clean power standards, but he's actually helping them lose the race for the next great global industry. Japan has some of the world's highest gasoline taxes and stringent energy efficiency standards for vehicles -- and it has the world's most profitable and innovative car company, Toyota. That's no accident.

The politicians who best understand this are America's governors, some of whom have started to just ignore Washington, set their own energy standards and reap the benefits for their states. As Schwarzenegger told me, "We have seen in California so many companies that have been created that work just on things that have do with clean environment." California's state-imposed efficiency standards have resulted in per-capita energy consumption in California remaining almost flat for the last 30 years, while in the rest of the country it has gone up 50 percent. "There are a lot of industries that are exploding right now because of setting these new standards," he said. VII.

John Dineen runs G.E. Transportation, which makes locomotives. His factory is in Erie, Pa., and employs 4,500 people. When it comes to the challenges from cheap labor markets, Dineen likes to say, "Our little town has trade surpluses with China and Mexico."

Now how could that be? China makes locomotives that are 30 percent cheaper than G.E.'s, but it turns out that G.E.'s are the most energy efficient in the world, with the lowest emissions and best mileage per ton pulled -- "and they don't stop on the tracks," Dineen added. So China is also buying from Erie -- and so are Brazil, Mexico and Kazakhstan. What's the secret? The China price.

"We made it very easy for them," said Dineen. "By producing engines with lower emissions in the classic sense (NOx [nitrogen oxides]) and lower emissions in the future sense (CO2) and then coupling it with better fuel efficiency and reliability, we lowered the total life-cycle cost."

The West can't impose its climate or pollution standards on China, Dineen explained, but when a company like G.E. makes an engine that gets great mileage, cuts pollution and, by the way, emits less CO2, China will be a buyer. "If we were just trying to export lower-emission units, and they did not have the fuel benefits, we would lose,"

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Dineen said. "But when green is made green -- improved fuel economies coupled with emissions reductions -- we see very quick adoption rates."

One reason G.E. Transportation got so efficient was the old U.S. standard it had to meet on NOx pollution, Dineen said. It did that through technological innovation. And as oil prices went up, it leveraged more technology to get better mileage. The result was a cleaner, more efficient, more exportable locomotive. Dineen describes his factory as a "technology campus" because, he explains, "it looks like a 100-year-old industrial site, but inside those 100-year-old buildings are world-class engineers working on the next generation's technologies." He also notes that workers in his factory make nearly twice the average in Erie -- by selling to China!

The bottom line is this: Clean-tech plays to America's strength because making things like locomotives lighter and smarter takes a lot of knowledge -- not cheap labor. That's why embedding clean-tech into everything we design and manufacture is a way to revive America as a manufacturing power.

"Whatever you are making, if you can add a green dimension to it -- making it more efficient, healthier and more sustainable for future generations -- you have a product that can't just be made cheaper in India or China," said Andrew Shapiro, founder of GreenOrder, an environmental business-strategy group. "If you just create a green ghetto in your company, you miss it. You have to figure out how to integrate green into the DNA of your whole business."

Ditto for our country, which is why we need a Green New Deal -- one in which government's role is not funding projects, as in the original New Deal, but seeding basic research, providing loan guarantees where needed and setting standards, taxes and incentives that will spawn 1,000 G.E. Transportations for all kinds of clean power.

Bush won't lead a Green New Deal, but his successor must if America is going to maintain its leadership and living standard. Unfortunately, today's presidential hopefuls are largely full of hot air on the climate-energy issue. Not one of them is proposing anything hard, like a carbon or gasoline tax, and if you think we can deal with these huge problems without asking the American people to do anything hard, you're a fool or a fraud.

Being serious starts with reframing the whole issue -- helping Americans understand, as the Carnegie Fellow David Rothkopf puts it, "that we're not 'post-Cold War' anymore -- we're pre-something totally new." I'd say we're in the "pre-climate war era." Unless we create a more carbon-free world, we will not preserve the free world. Intensifying climate change, energy wars and petroauthoritarianism will curtail our life choices and our children's opportunities every bit as much as Communism once did for half the planet.

Equally important, presidential candidates need to help Americans understand that green is not about cutting back. It's about creating a new cornucopia of abundance for the next generation by inventing a whole new industry. It's about getting our best brains out of hedge funds and into innovations that will not only give us the clean-power industrial assets to preserve our American dream but also give us the technologies that billions of others need to realize their own dreams without destroying the planet. It's about making America safer by breaking our addiction to a fuel that is powering regimes deeply hostile to our values. And, finally, it's about making America the global environmental leader, instead of laggard, which as Schwarzenegger argues would "create a very powerful side product." Those who dislike America because of Iraq, he explained, would at least be able to say, "Well, I don't like them for the war, but I do like them because they show such unbelievable leadership -- not just with their blue jeans and hamburgers but with the environment. People will love us for that. That's not existing right now."

In sum, as John Hennessy, the president of Stanford, taught me: Confronting this climate-energy issue is the epitome of what John Gardner, the founder of Common Cause, once described as "a series of great opportunities disguised as insoluble problems."

Am I optimistic? I want to be. But I am also old-fashioned. I don't believe the world will effectively address the climate-energy challenge without America, its president, its government, its industry, its markets and its people all leading the parade. Green has to become part of America's DNA. We're getting there. Green has hit Main Street -- it's now more than a hobby -- but it's still less than a new way of life.

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Why? Because big transformations -- women's suffrage, for instance -- usually happen when a lot of aggrieved people take to the streets, the politicians react and laws get changed. But the climate-energy debate is more muted and slow-moving. Why? Because the people who will be most harmed by the climate-energy crisis haven't been born yet.

"This issue doesn't pit haves versus have-nots," notes the Johns Hopkins foreign policy expert Michael Mandelbaum, "but the present versus the future -- today's generation versus its kids and unborn grandchildren." Once the Geo-Green interest group comes of age, especially if it is after another 9/11 or Katrina, Mandelbaum said, "it will be the biggest interest group in history -- but by then it could be too late."

An unusual situation like this calls for the ethic of stewardship. Stewardship is what parents do for their kids: think about the long term, so they can have a better future. It is much easier to get families to do that than whole societies, but that is our challenge. In many ways, our parents rose to such a challenge in World War II -- when an entire generation mobilized to preserve our way of life. That is why they were called the Greatest Generation. Our kids will only call us the Greatest Generation if we rise to our challenge and become the Greenest Generation.

<http://www.nytimes.com>

Graphic

Photos: Ian Davenport

Robert J. Lang (Photograph By Dwight Eschliman For The New York Times)

Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec

Carin Goldberg [a homage to Rachel Carson]

Kiki Smith

Ian Flamm [AAA american flag decorating company]

Casey Reas

Cuartopiso (Photograph By Tom Schierlitz For The New York Times)

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Body

today we had a phrase "involving he and guthrie" p3 which any number of readers have humiliated us about. If you do not know the right case for a pronoun, drop the "and X" to see: you would say the matter involving HIM not the matter involving HE (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17apr02 16:09) Speech-recognition technology is being used increasingly to generate copy (not only CHULL . astray aliens!). Bear this in mind if something seems odd. There were two references on op-ed last night to Tborder societys in a piece about protecting our borders.

I guessed (and phoned writer to confirm) that he meant Tthe broader societys. Cheers!

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 16apr02 18:08) Pls note that state is lower case in this paper.

I've just knocked it (and territory) down 16 (sixteen) times in the one article!

Cheers!

(K MAY, 11apr02 18:50) More on captions.

Today we published a photograph on P4. The pic had 7 people who could be identified and who were named by the photographer. We published only two names. In such cases all names MUST be published. This is to help readers, not us.

(EDITORIAL, M STEVENS, 30mar02 9:38) A reminder that captions MUST help tell the story. Today's page 1 caption for the Pope photograph failed to tell readers the basic where, when and whys. More detail is needed in some of our captions.

(EDITORIAL, M STEVENS, 30mar02 9:23) re ST: from tonight, the only captions used in ST news pages should be those based on SDK I, which are assigned as fixed shapes....as always, downtable subs will have to ensure they look for any captions, since they won't be attached to story..ta (NIGHTSUBS, K LOVE, 30mar02 16:18) re SUNDAY: pls ensure all stand-alone stories, no matter how small, carry agency tags, especially domestic AAP copy..thanks att AAP (NIGHTSUBS, K LOVE, 30mar02 15:56) Our Redeemer's TSuffer the little childrens remark used wrongly in the CT on the weekend for second time in recent weeks and zillionth time over the years. It has nothing whatsoever to do with the suffering of children.

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(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 1apr02 9:07) style reminder: only The Canberra Times and The Times (London) get 'The' capped and italicised; for other papers, 'the' is lower case and roman (vertical).

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 29mar02 17:00) Reader's letter to the Editor: let Hyphen changes the meaning IN YOUR report of Mr How ard's address to the NSW State Council of the Liberal Party (CT, March 25, p.1) you quote him as saying, TI did not encounter any criticism of our illegal immigration poli cys.

Presumably Honest John would have preferred to see a hyphen between the words Til legals and Timmigrations.

Or is this a Freudian slip?

el,2 R. H. SPEAR Curtin Subbing tip: In spite of what many of us say, there is no justification for using, in writing (unless in direct quotes), constructions like Tto try and do somethings.

Obviously it should be Tto try to do somethings.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 25mar02 16:57) there will now be a separate roster for holidays, sn featshol in ba rosters.

Weekly rosters will now be posted up on the glass partition opp Andree, but can still be accessed electronically. however the format has changed.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 22mar02 18:16) If a book is mentioned in a story please check with the Lit office whether it is published here. Then we can prevent items like this morning's story about Salt which informed our readers who publishes it in Britain when it is available here mtc - we ran a review of it on March 9. Also, it slows the reader phonecalls asking how to get books or who publishes them (which take up a lot of time in the Lit office) if we put the publishin g details at the end.

Book. Author, Publisher.

pp. \$//.

(EDITORIAL, JMORAN, 25mar02 10:38) can anyone tell me what the correct name for the Snowy helicopter is, or what our style for it is?

(EDITORIAL, LFURSE, 22mar02 16:54) Answer: Snowy Hydeo SouthCare, but we just call it Southcare AN OLDIE BUT A GOODIE: There has been a return of the dreaded TTrap 0s. If anyone operating a Coyote ever gets this message, hold down the control key and press the / key. Then wait a few moments for changes to be recovered.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 22mar02 11:52) At least two people this week were unable to successfully write to an e-mail address published by us because of the hyphen inserted by our computer when the address ran over the line. Pls avoid this by knocking out the hyphen and using a (or). Cheers (EDITORIAL, KMAY, 20mar02 16:18) From next week Robert Macklin's Capital Times column will be published three days a week - Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.To help Robert with a good supply of suitable items I ask that we all pass on to him items for consideration.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 18mar02 19:15) FYR - The Pedal Power Mobile Contactability Nexus is made up of the following: Tony Shields - 0418 676 801/6262 5150; Marie Wensing - 0410 525 577; Neville Reece - 0411 827 144; Celia Walsh - 0412 541 447.

Thank you all.

(EDITORIAL, NGENTLE, 18mar02 16:27) re SUNDAY: just a reminder pls....in News we all start at 4pm on Sat...layout, downtable and check...any queries pls see me..ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 9mar02 16:53) my new home phone number is: 6295 1804 (EDITORIAL, RMESSANGER, 11mar02 10:39) does anyone know what en-tout-cas actually means? I know it's a brand name of a tennis court manufacturer but does it mean anything else in French?

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 11mar02 12:09) I'm told en tout cas means Tin every cases.

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Thank you researchers.

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 11mar02 12:29) reminder: gl headings are not to be squeezed (NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 8mar02 18:29) reminder about quotes in heads. Try to avoid them. Use other forms of attribution if needed. ta.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 8mar02 16:43) I don't think anyone can "suffer smoke inhalation" as a piece tonight, and not so long ago suggests. A person can be treated after inhaling smoke, or for the effects of inhaling smoke (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 8mar02 16:43) for those typesetting the poster: if you are using a Coyote terminal, the poster must be justified before sending it to T1.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 8mar02 16:33) does anyone out there know how to change text in capitals to lower case in microsoft word?

(EDITORIAL, KLAWSOON, 8mar02 15:10) CAPS TO LOWER CASE... Highlight the words to be changed then go into the format window and hit change case.

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 8mar02 15:12) EESS, in relation to compensating employees of failed companies . anyone know? Maybe Employees' Entitlements ?????? Scheme?

(EDITORIAL, KMAY, 5mar02 17:31) Employee Entitlements Support Scheme (EESS) (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 5mar02 17:55) WHO'S WHO DETAILS ON BRIAN KENNEDY, NGA DIRECTOR ft,b S,,,Brian Patrick Kennedy.

S,,,Born: Nov 5, 1961, Dublin.

S,,,BA University College Dublin; MA, PhD; Fellow Australian Institute of Management.

S,,,Exec Officer Dept Education, Dublin, 1982; Trainee/Adviser European Commission, Brussels, 1983; Other positions in Dublin: Researcher/Lecturer Chester Beaty Library, 1983-85; Exec Officer Govt Publications Office, 1985-86; Administration Officer Dept Finance, 1986-89; Assistant Director National Gallery Ireland, 1989-97.

S,,,Director, National Gallery Australia since 1997.

S,,,Married with two children.

cp,7 ' Source: Who's Who, 2002 << End of Column 1 >> < CORRECT-SET > <<END.COMPONENT @ UNDER>> Homo sapiens!

writing/sub-editing a two-word scientific name? there's an illustrated how-the-rest-of-the- world-does-it chart on wall next to my Coyote..

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 4mar02 9:49) We will probably be publishing many Mark Webber/family stories in coming years: Please note his dad is ALAN, as preferred by Saty's Forum and past Sunday Times and Chronicle stories, N O T Allan as on Page 1 today. Just remember, NOT as in Border (EDITORIAL, RMESSSENGER, 4mar02 9:44) Today's P1 sub might also have benefited from reading Saty's Forum or today's sport story to learn Aust's last F1 pt winner was Alan (one L) in 1986, N O T 1996 as we said up front today. In '96, Jones was too fat to get in a F1 car (EDITORIAL, RMESSSENGER, 4mar02 9:51) further to earlier message re Webbers, reporters may care to add to contact bks parents' (Alan and Diane) number 62558833 - it'll soon disappear into the silent number category as volume of calls increases (EDITORIAL, RMESSSENGER, 4mar02 14:06) guys and gals: a reminder that it is a person's title, name, then the quote. And pleeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeez introduce new speakers BEFORE the quote otherwise it is confusing for the reader. thanks ever so much.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 1mar02 17:05) anyone sent any e-mail today? what's error 21?

(EDITORIAL, RMESSSENGER, 26feb02 9:37) error 21 is when the message you are sending is on the other screen. neil lade's suggestions of it being the one either side of 20 and 22 were less than helpful (EDITORIAL, RMESSSENGER, 26feb02 9:53) re SUNDAY: altho the P.2 Index (sn: sindex) is being done around the desk each

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Sat night, the Check sub will have task of updating page and folio details on the associated take sn: sind1 and should update date/OK in header to reflect this is done..ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 23feb02 14:30) re SUNDAY: drawers pls ensure that box around pic stories is full 1pt...pls particularly watch the rules used to draw artificial boxes, as these appear to default to .5pt on most INLs and need to be increased in weight to 1pt..thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 23feb02 15:58) As of today, each reporter who has been assigned a story will receive a daily reporters job list in their pigeon hole. Pls check every day. Pipes will update the list during the day, so keep in touch with him (EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 25feb02 10:38) for anybody who needs to know, he's Muhammad Ali (not Muhammed, as dmacdonald had him).

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 22feb02 11:42) Air Marshal (and other military marshals) has only one I. Marshall is a surname.

It was wrong on p1 today and correct on p2.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 21feb02 11:56) fcassidy points out that running an air force is one L of a job.

that may be a helpful mnemonic.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 21feb02 12:02) 200,000 Australian families have so far received a top-up payment of FTB while over 100,000 have received top-ups of their CCB.

So says Amanda Vanstone.

Can anyone more clever than I enlighten me?

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 20feb02 15:38) Family Tax Benefit and Child Care Benefit (CMYERS, 20feb02 15:50) Layout people: Pls be careful not to use colour dinkii on mono pages. some sneaking thru platemakers and costing editorial legitimate colour opportunities. thanks (NIGHTSUBS, AANDERSON, 19feb02 17:18) If anyone calls about daylight saving, it ends on March 31 and starts again 27 Oct.

Already had someone asking.

(EDITORIAL, MBACON, 18feb02 14:16) STYLE NOTE: reproductions of works of art such as paintings, drawings, etchings, even photographs, are not surrounded by keylines (because they could be construed as part of the work).

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 16feb02 12:00) Reminder to subs that captions have to contain enough detail to help tell the story.

Names of people who can be identified in photos are important and must be included in captions. If names are not given by photographers please pursue the photographer.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 16feb02 12:03) Style note: possessives of proper nouns ending in 's' take an extra 's' if such a sound is pronounced.

e.g. Keats's.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 13feb02 18:26) Style notes: Currency conversions should be rounded off to give the same degree of accuracy as the original amount. Foreign words and phrases are italicised (except in F&W). Italics also to identify a word being discussed or defined.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 13feb02 18:12) Style note: World War I and World War II are our standards.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12feb02 16:50) Style note: when the word '(to)night' is followed by a time, avoid the tautology 'pm'. pm is fine after '(to)day'.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12feb02 15:43) Style note: When a day or date appears in brackets as confirmation of the text, it should be put in wavy underline.

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(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12feb02 15:05) Style note: World War I and World War II are our standards.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12feb02 16:50) Style note: When a day or date appears in brackets as confirmation of the text, it should be put in wavy underline.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12feb02 15:05) Seasonal reminder: It is Saint Valentine's Day (not Valentines or Valentine's or Valentines' Day).

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 9feb02 12:17) A reminder that photo captions must carry sufficient detail to help tell the story.

Subs should not feel that they are limited to only one line. It is vital that subs view the relevant photo when writing captions.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 9feb02 16:29) take care, with future references to Peter McCoy, with suggestions that he still lives at Carwoola, Braidwood [or Captains Flat: KM]. Its current owners, who say they bought at arms length, say he has not been there since they bought it (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 8feb02 17:47) neil gives me an opening for another usage point: one in five people IS Chinese; one is the subject, not five. but of course one-fifth of people are Chinese.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 8feb02 13:34) typographical note: pls do not use ft,x at the end of a final leg of a story to make up for TXX lines shorts.

Use it in the longest legs to turn over a line or 2 (in several places if necessary).

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 7feb02 17:53) couple of style points: no pos in "five months pregnant" . no-one writes "one month's pregnant"/ nobody receives the Order of Australia; marion watson received the Medal of the Order of Australia (and it was taken away). no need to mention it now.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 7feb02 12:37) more style: ml means millilitres; Ml for megalitres. good that canberra's water consumption was down so much, but it was not really only 130 millilitres, as we said this morning.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 7feb02 13:24) SUBBING TIP: When subbing book reviews pls check that all the relevant data is there: title, author, publisher, number of pages, price and name of reviewer.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 31jan02 14:13) STYLE NOTE: Scientific names are printed in italic type.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 30jan02 18:14) STYLE NOTES: 1. parentheses inserted by the author into a direct quote take square brackets . double style [and shift double style]. 2.

When reporting distances in metric measures the abbreviation is hard up against the number. e.g. 200km.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 30jan02 18:11) pls remember to fill in all writer fields (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 30jan02 15:43) From tonight in news and sport, and from tomorrow in all sections, pic credits to go on the same line as captions using after caption and after pic credit. Font stays the same.

thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 28jan02 17:40) SUBS . Re new caption style: picby (instead of pu,picby) directly after the caption puts in an invisible mark white () and changes the font for the pic byline. Put after byline. tks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 29jan02 15:56) SUB NOTE: please use cursor hyphen to get a dash (so-called em rule) in body text...

(FEATSUBS, NLADE, 22jan02 16:22) Subs, pls remember to spell out (almost all) abbreviations the first time they are used in an article.

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(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 23jan02 16:51) LAYOUT SUBS: the new headline font garamond light (gl) will from today show on your inl screens as light italic, the best we can do to distinguish it from others.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 23jan02 16:55) plse don't put letters into the system from friends or contacts.

tell them to follow the instructions we publish every day on the letters page.

short-circuiting causes unapproved letters getting in, defo strife, duplications etc etc.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 24jan02 11:17) the UN Fund for Parental Activities requires China to adhere to the principles contained in the ICPD Program of Action in the 32 counties where it provides assistance.

Anybody know what ICPD stands for? not in acronym books i've searched.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 24jan02 16:38) forget my last message.

theanswer is at the bottom of the story i'm doing. In case you need to know, it's International Conference on Population and Development.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 24jan02 16:42) Editing note: sometimes web-site addresses need to be broken into lines. When this is necessary use instead of . Use trial and error method to get the lines as full as possible.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 25jan02 13:35) (FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 25jan02 13:23) further to david's note: but if the text is ragged right should be used.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 25jan02 13:09) Re web site names: please use (or, as MT says, in ragged right copy) to correct the system when it inserts hyphens.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 25jan02 13:35) LAYOUT SUBS: suggest you add page to pic names, eg, for page 4, howard2604, so if someone else has a pic howard26 they won't overwrite your pic. tks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 25jan02 19:54) we are occasionally running captions down the side of pics...pls leave in the caption any reference to the pic being 'Right' or 'Left' unless there is a very good reason to delete it....thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 26jan02 19:08) the names of the two obituary baskets are obitsalive & obitsdead (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 5jan02 13:37) can anyone say with certainty what we call a national of Belarus?

On several good authorities, a Belorussian.

thanks (EDITORIAL, JNICHOLSON, 4jan02 14:53) SUBS: triple sdk z changes QQ to begin quotes and UU to end quotes and to parmark.

Reminder to layout subs: make more use of breakout quotes and boxed stories pls, and there needs to be more use of headshots and factboxes where applicable, especially on the bigger pages. There's a bit too much grey happening.

cheers.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 20dec01 17:49) A reminder that Reconciliation Place is not a memorial. Any reference to it as a memorial must be attributed to those who argue otherwise.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 15dec01 10:36) re SUNDAY: pls place copy/pics a neat 8pts inside any box, and adjust width of columns accordingly to maintain 12pt gutters...ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 15dec01 15:39) amazing breakthrough in subbing technology: double+changecase makes a word in all caps become upper case first letter, lowercase all the rest in one keystroke - very helpful for stupid lawl ist.

(NIGHTSUBS, HWEBB, 5dec01 17:31) descendent and dependent have appeared in print in the last few days. both should end -ant as nouns. dependent is an adjective.

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(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 4dec01 19:57) Style is web site (KHOBSON, 30nov01 19:42) another gentle reminder: web site is TWO words, not one. Internet is capped.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 30nov01 13:00) psephologist - person studies elections. it comes from Greek psephos, meaning "pebble", because the ancient Greeks -- the first democrats, voted by casting pebbles (not to be confused with Koranic democracy which also talks of casting pebbles) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 30nov01 13:07) Pls see MOVIE GROUP and FILM CHAT in Fridge Door.

.ARE they two diifferent groups, or two versions of the same mob? They're both (?) going to see the same film at the same time!? I tried the phone number for Movie Group but only reached an answering machine. Cheers!

(KMAY, 26nov01 17:53) they are 2 different groups. movie group has been around for a couple of yrs. film chat has only just formed. they just happened to be seeing the same film on the same night.

(ESTANFORD, 27nov01 8:35) A new Tverbs for your list of Americanisms to avoid: to executive produce (something).

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 27nov01 16:31) re SUNDAY....as of this week, in World page stories we are going to use only capital cities in datelines, unless the location of a little- known city/town is crucial...eg battle zones in Afghanistan; or Bush has heart attack in Des Moines (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 24nov01 16:49) re SUNDAY: re captions... pls do not feel restricted to one line with captions, especially under big pics....there is a need for captions to be detailed, sometimes including quote from story...pls ensure you identify every identifiable person ...ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 24nov01 16:32) subs: it is always a good idea to spell-check stories AFTER writing headlines, captions, etc. a few errors in recent days in features and news - some caught in time, some making it to print - should serve as a reminder for those not doing so ...

(EDITORIAL, JBORRIE, 26nov01 12:14) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Peter EXT 307 if the matter is urgent.!!

(EDITORIAL, BILLW, 22nov01 10:00) we only rarely say someone or something is famous. If he/it is famous, then everyone knows it. If you have to say he/she/it is famous, there's a good chance he/she/it is not (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 20nov01 17:06) Just so we Bill fans can sleep tonight: IC1: White caucasian. IC2: Mediterranean.

IC3: Negroid. IC4 Indian/Pakistani. IC5: Chinese/ Japanese. IC6: Arabian/ Egyptian. Apparently Warden has an unlisted IC code all of his own!!

(EDITORIAL, FCASSIDY, 15nov01 14:53) a reminder: a person may have a de facto husband (or wife), but they do not, in our columns, have a de facto.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 14nov01 19:00) Reminder, if you'll allow me: Where a story refers to prices between, say, \$US60,000 and \$US20,000 these are clearly not precise figures and should be translated to round figures, say, \$A115,000 and \$38,000, not to precise \$A amounts.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 15nov01 14:23) dlandon spells out MBA as Master Builders Australia; has it changed from Master Builders' Association?

dlandon was right.

sorry i doubted himm.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 13nov01 20:28) reminder: acronyms are to be spelt out - LAPAC, ATSIC, GST, FBI, etc. pretty please.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 8nov01 21:54) re SUNDAY..just a reminder pls....we are using a lot of pointers off news stories back to columns, features, etc...our style is thus: words go here, Page xxie dash, words, comma, page number.....see and copy sn: sunpoint if needed..ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 3nov01 16:08) Your next ACT

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Assembly is Stanhope, Berry, Stefaniak, Dunn and Dundas (Ginn), Corbell, Quinlan, Gallagher, Humphries, Cross, Cornwell, Tucker (Mol) and Hargreaves, Wood, Macdonald, Smyth, P ratt (Brind). That's 8 ALP, 7 Lib, 1 Dem, 1 Green (EDITORIAL, AFRASER, 1nov01 10:23) a reminder (because I have just removed it from some copy) that it is actually a criminal offence to publish statements such as that "no questions will be asked" if stolen property is returned.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 1nov01 17:45) Do we have any Pakistani speakers in the house?

(EDITORIAL, JMOLONEY, 1nov01 16:11) There's no such language! Official language is Urdu, spoken by only 10% of population.

60% speak Punjabi.

Main language of govt and commerce is English, and there are a lot of Pashtu speakers in the north- west, specially now with refugee influx from Afghanistan over recent years.

(KMA, 1nov01 16:28) reminder: nobody is awarded the Order of Australia. The order is a group of people.

Those honoured are awarded the Order of Australia Medal or made a Member or a Companion of the order.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 1nov01 16:30) Could the person who keeps taking papers from the library over the weekend please refrain from doing so.

All papers are needed and thanks to you we are now short.

(EDITORIAL, SKENT, 29oct01 8:18) "Hopefully", in the sense ""it is to be hoped" (if it has such a sense, which I deny) is banned at the Canberra Times. You can use it, tho I can hardly see much occasion to as "full of hope" as in "it is better to travel hopefully than to arrive".

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 24oct01 17:35) the plural here of cactus is cactuses, not cacti. The word, though a latinism, was not even invented until the 18th century and must be regarded as having assimilated (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19oct01 18:14) Subs, pls leave changed text in wavy- underlined form (except for Relax copy) so that writers (especially interns) and check subs can see the changes that have been made. Going back in the history is a waste of time. Control p temporary removes such txt (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12oct01 15:56) Suggestion for group messages that are of use/interest only on the day of sending: putting (say) editorial,1 in the send field limits the life of the message to no more than 1 day; it will drop out at midnight.

editorial,2 would last 2 days, etc.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 10oct01 11:08) Anyone know whether Timor Lorosa'e is to be the name of East timor in future? (EDITORIAL, KMA, 5oct01 20:36) I do not know, but it is still East Timor in style until further notice (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 5oct01 21:05) another reminder. do not squeeze Sunday heads. and no thin spaces, changing point size either. you have to make them fit.

ta (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 6oct01 16:49) reminder, our style is to spell out just about every acronym. This means US, GST, SAS, ATSIC, NATO, etc are to be written in full early on in the story. It does not have to be first reference. ACT, NSW are not written in full.

cheers (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 6oct01 19:49) Is EMILY's list an acronym? Anyone know?

(EDITORIAL, KMA, 3oct01 20:48) For those interested, it appears to stand for Early Money Is Like Yeast. A fund to help ALP women get elected. Cheers.

(KMA, 3oct01 21:00) re SUNDAY: style change to Sunday Times for this week is an increase in the size of captions.... sdk I has been changed to 9.2 on 9.7 and is the preferred option...if you use the DECK tool, pls change point size to new size.....9.2 on 9.7...thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 29sep01 15:19) Can you cut down the vice-

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regal in future. it rambles on. all those ambos could have been collated into a single par; Dr H received the following letters of credence.

name, ambo Mexixo; name, ambo Japan etc.

(CHULL, 28sep01 7:51) we often say someone was released from hospital.

discharged is better . hospital is not captivity.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 27sep01 9:48) cf,fgd,8.5 SOUTHCARE: ft,b Snowy Hy dro Southcare Helicopter will celebrate its 3rd an niversary and official re naming, tomorrow (Saturday, September 22, 2001). Base will be open, 10am- 3pm.

Official proceedings be gin 11am. Activities will include: cake cutting; sausage sizzle and ACT Senior Concert Band.

He licopter will be on site for the community to have a closer look.

10250 Monaro Hwy, Symonston.

If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urgent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 20sep01 10:00) while paying NRMA insurance bill, I stumbled on an excellent website of Australian maps, including town maps, maps of outback etc... all downloadable at www.nrma.com.au (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11sep01 11:03) A message to all: the new postal address for Canb Times and Chronicle is PO Box 7155, Canberra BC 2610 not Canb Mail Centre.

(and just in case you are wondering - BC stands for Business Centre) (EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 12sep01 11:48) henceforth: didjeridu, not didgeridoo, as in ACOD.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 13sep01 10:29) re SUNDAY: re captions... pls do not feel restricted to one line with captions, especially under big pics....there is a need for captions to be detailed, sometimes including quote from story, without, of course, attempting to tell the full story..ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 15sep01 12:41) re earlier on electoral stuff. we do nothave to run a blurb, but we have to be utterly vigilant about names and full residential address being provided, suburb only published.

(CHULL, 17sep01 10:26) ken -- sn letcorrect18 tonight plse. also library is digging out election letters must carry full address blurb which we will have to run.

(CHULL, 17sep01 10:20) The oars are dipped, one final shove will see us home where the cold ales wait. Go me hearties go.

(NIGHTSUBS, RFERRIS, 16sep01 21:10) If we ever wondered about size of the transatlantic air trade, never seen so many jumbos parked at Heathrow early Fri morning.

Terminal 4 (busiest international airport in world, with 50 million pass movements a year) was like a ghost town...

(EDITORIAL, PBREWER, 16sep01 12:26) pls do not write headings on pic stories without seeing the pics...in most cases, the heads should be written to the pics as much as to the story (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 15sep01 19:37) please keep an eye on international datelines.

lots of the stori es are dated sept 14 so putting yesterday is not correct. fudge it where possible as Friday sounds dated. ta (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 15sep01 18:54) don aitkin asked us many months ago to abbreviate his University of Canberra to UC, not UNIC or UCAN.

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(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 4sep01 16:51) In fact, repeatedly, over many years. Ken May. for anyone who needs to know: Christina Ryan (wheel-chair bound Labor candidate in ACT elections) is Edna Ryan's granddaughter.

We featured Edna in the 75th. (An aunt rang) (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 4sep01 16:06) I have put a page into the Subs Phone Folder from Andy Menzies about IT support after hours numbers. The number is 0409664017 or 5553 short dial.

(NIGHTSUBS, LBLISS, 31aug01 16:23) tv guide and sport.

plse make daily habit of trawling ba tvguide and ba sportsletters for letters to ed. i put OK in topic field if they can be run (you still have discretion not to run for space etc unless I put MUST on it, then talk to me b4 rejecting.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 28aug01 10:34) what is our style on International Labor/ Labour Organisation Conventions when it is spelt both ways on the website...heaven forbid I should get a rude message from Mr Travis in the morning for stuffing it up....

(EDITORIAL, EMACDONALD, 21aug01 13:35) our only labor is the Australian Labour Party.

Otherwise labour.

Even the old DLP was Democratic Labour Party. American orga eg their dept of Labor is the Dept of Labour (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21aug01 16:13) alan langley informs me the border that appears around the new A3 page proofs cannot be removed - so be especially wary on full-page graphics and the like ...

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 21aug01 16:35) we keep referring to the ACT Council of Parents and Citizens' Association. The last word should be plural; it's a council of associations.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 21aug01 17:30) PLEASE DO NOT USE STRIKE.THROUGH IN SUNDAY COPY (FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 23aug01 16:35) GG's wife is called ann, not kathleen.... she is really kathleen ann, but goes by her second name.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 23aug01 16:40) anybody know what ISDN stands for? it's a kind of telephone line (EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 24aug01 14:05) Integrated Services Digital Network. tks dani.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 24aug01 14:07) "reverend" is an adjective, not a noun. it is not like mr or mrs. it sd not be used with just a surname, as we have done repeatedly in the last week. It sd be used with a person's full name (or with honorific and surname e.g.

The Reverend Mr Smith) (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 31jul01 17:05) "Historical" means belonging to history, i.e.

the past . not quite what the heading TAFP beating crime with historical drops (Sunday) meant to say. The right word in context would have been "historic" (memorable or assured of a place in history).

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 31jul01 16:05) is naltrexone a brand name and capped or a chemical name and not?

naltrexone is a chemical name; naltrexone hydrochloride is a white crystalline powder that comes in 50mg tablets. thank you all.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 31jul01 21:49) a leisure-time activity is a pastime, not a past time, as many keep writing.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 31jul01 21:07) re SUNDAY: News drawers.....Two things: 1) pls run a 1pt box around main pic story on each page until further notice.....any queries pls see me.....2) when using bold type, pls use tbs in formats on story, then reduce point size on INL to 8pt..thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 28jul01 15:21) Bureau of stats users (hardcopies): If you use the hardcopies of Stats that come in daily for any stories, could u please pass the booklet on to the Library when you are finished...it makes it easier than having to purchase second copies!

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(EDITORIAL, MDUTKIEWICZ, 30jul01 15:06) cockies = cockroaches? (p.7 heading yesterday.) The word is used for cockatoos, or farmers. The short form of cockroach is roach.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 26jul01 10:39) It's a day for messages about style matters. here are some more: a golfer has a caddie, not a caddy, and the people of Afgh anistan are Afghans; their currency is the afghani. a minister of religion is the Reverend John Smith and then Mr Smith (EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 24jul01 17:18) reminder: PAST TENSE in reported speech, will becomes WOULD, has becomes HAD etc. Also, a person's title, name, then comments. And introduce new speakers at beginning of quotes. ta.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 23jul01 20:07) please, please, please, please, please, please, please DO NOT USE THIN SPACES IN SUNDAY COPY.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 20jul01 11:01) may i remind you while the British Open is on that a player's porter is a caddie. a caddy is a container for tea.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 20jul01 16:22) how do you get the dots of the screen?

control n, thks (EDITORIAL, GCURRY, 18jul01 9:39) (EDITORIAL, GCURRY, 18jul01 9:36) There are Belconnen Fresh Food Markets, but not Belconnen Fruit Markets, as we said repeatedly on Sunday.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 17jul01 11:27) Bob McMullan has moved to the Reps he is no longer SENATOR Bob McMullan (p5 caption today).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 12jul01 10:04) Sunday Times layout subs: It is the Sunday Times style that on news pages captions for photos go under the photo they refer to. This is for reader ease.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 7jul01 8:28) a gentle reminder: pls do not use thin spaces or strike through in sunday copy. thks cherubs.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 6jul01 12:30) anyone remember how to spell erin brockovic(??)

Brockovich it is.

thanks (EDITORIAL, VBURGESS, 4jul01 16:26) Liv Ullman or Ullmann?in case you need to know in future: Liv Ullmann.

tk's for nothing. found out myself.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 29jun01 11:09) Apparently we fairly regularly call the Natural Heritage Trust the National Heritage Trust (as we did in Panorama on Saturday) and it would be a good idea if a story is to do with the environment to check which body is actually concerned (FEATSUBS, JMORAN, 25jun01 12:15) cabaret joint Het Paleis van de Weemoed means The Palace of Sadness (EDITORIAL, HMUSA, 20jun01 13:00) ralph b called back about anti-submarine seats - no they don't float to the surface if you ditch your car in the lake. It's a seat that stops you slipping down after impact and being strnagled the seatbelt.

Stupid 'well-known' car term, I think (FEATSUBS, NLADE, 20jun01 18:43) letter writer rightly complains that we frequently use the form ""he will try AND convince him" instead of "try TO convince h im" (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 19jun01 12:19) style reminder: we cap and italicise The Canberra Times and The Times (the London one). Other papers get lower-case Tthes and on ly the rest of the name in italics.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 19jun01 23:08) People from Afghanistan are Afghans, not Afghanis (page 1 and 3 on Saturday). An Afghani is the Afghan UNIT OF CURRENCY, equal to 100 puls. We've got this wrong several times lately. Cheers!

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(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 16jun01 2:22) a plea from a few callers to those who leave their mobile number on their voicemail - pls repeat it or speak slower. they have to ring back to get the number as it is too quick for them to write it down.

(EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 8jun01 11:42) ALL STAFF Under no circumstances are any staff members to accept reverse charge = phone calls unless authorised by Senior Management.

Regards Tamara Lloyd going over annual leave again for the umpteenth time, it is apparent that sometimes some of you are taking your leave forms straight to the pay office. You must not do that. Naughty! All forms must come by us - Jack and me for recording and signing.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 29may01 15:07) SUNDAY drawers: reminder pls that keylines around pics are 3pt...thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 26may01 14:06) SUNDAY: pls try to avoid quote marks and hyphens in headings..colons ok in moderation....ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 26may01 18:09) Our editor has instructed me to use the profession-specific re word for a strip- teaser in a piece about Gypsy Rose Lee does anyone know what that word might be?

Ken McGregor has it ecdysiast, from the Greek (wouldn't you know it?) word for shedding ...

(EDITORIAL, HMUSA, 17may01 16:26) To those of us subbbing ACT court reports: Justice Terence Higgins has only one r in his Terence.

Occasionally two of them get through. He gets cross. Please watch for this. ta, (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 17may01 17:50) we have just got our new phone books. good idea to put the old phone book including yellow pages in your car (very handy in these days of mobile phones). Idea 2: keep a whiteboard pen in the car so you can write numbers down on the windscreen ...mtc.

... it is safer than a pen and paper because you can see while you write.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 16may01 8:30) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 16may01 8:30) I have come to agree that ASYLUM SEEKERS (usually boat people) are not illegal immigrants. They have a right to come and claim asylum and the use of illegality suggests criminality.

Keep ille gal immigs for visa overstayers etc (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 11may01 18:01) SUNDAY drawers....where running story across top of page, particularly lead, pls use 5 legs (over width of page)...and generally keep to no more than 6 to 7cms deep....thanks SUNDAY drawers: when boxing pics or stories, pls use full 1pt box to contrast it with ad rules and folio rule...thanks (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 12may01 14:23) (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 12may01 18:21) Mother's Day has the apostrophe before the s (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 12may01 20:32) INL tabloid double- page spread: 1. Run (general glossary) GDK 4 on M-take of left- hand page. 2. Move any ads from right page to spread. 3. Printer output: B&W tabdbls & colour dice2dbl.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 10may01 17:54) could I very sweetly remind people that because I don't have instant system access, messages to me should have gateway in the second field so they come into my e-mail. In the past few days, I have missed important messages. Or use my mobile no.

(EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 10may01 13:36) our style is Ngunawal.

I am aware that one of the various Ngunawal factions styles itself Ngunnawal, but except for proper name references to their Ngunnawal Land Council, we follow style.

Orthography is a western, not Aboriginal concept (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 4may01 16:41) three recent illiteracies that spellcheck would not pick up: "an already taught seat belt"; a caption showing bigwigs "singing an agreement" and a "duel [rather than dual] proposal" (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3may01 10:16) a good example of why AFTER is generally preferable to FOLLOWING: AAP: A Commissioner's Inquiry will be held into the death of a motorcyclist following a high-speed police chase overnight.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3may01 10:10) reminder that million in copy is spelt out.

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\$17.3 million in copy but \$17.3m in heads. ta.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 1may01 22:24) who ever was looking for a number for Greg Barnes, Chair of the ARM, his number is 0419 691 846.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 24apr01 17:58) workers unite: it's important on saturday nights to follow the schedule pretty closely; the pages (little ones) have to go in pairs. Look at your schedule and you'll see it's a bit odd . but that's the go. ta (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 21apr01 19:22) FYI: The Canberra Tradesmen's Union Club is at Dickson, but is not the Dickson Tradesmen's Union Club, as we had on page 1 on Wednesday.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 20apr01 11:42) the architect of the NMA is Howard RAGGATT, not Raggart as it keeps appearing in the paper (EDITORIAL, CROSS, 16apr01 13:58) ssCondEr CondEr CondEr CondEr CondEr CondEr CondEr CondEr NOT Cond Or NOT CondOr Not CondOr Not CondOr Not CondOr NOT CondOr NOT Co ndOr Not CondOr Not CondOr Not CondOr NOT CondOr NOT CondOr Not CondOr Not CondOr NOT CondOr NOT CondOr NOT CondOr NOT CondOr (\$ALL, BROLLINGS, 10apr01 17:15) for some reason, spills don't like the use of word shift 3s. you just have to remove the unwanted today (or whatever it is) please. cheers (EDITORIAL, DGORREL, 9apr01 22:59) alumni is plural (masculine, correctly, but can be either sex in modern usage).

Singular is alumnus (m) or alumna (female, correctly).

You can't (shouldn't) say, or worse, write THe is an alumni of . . .s (as we did today). Cheers (GCOOKE, KMAI, 9apr01 18:47) language: Bahasa means speech or language. The language of Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia, of Malaysia is Bahasa Malay. We do not say a child is learning Francais or Deutsch; we say it is learning French or German. So saying learning Indonesian, or Malay. (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21jul94 19:37) Subject: Visitors Book Please can employees check that their visitors have signed the Visitors Book before taking them into the Building.

EXERCISE IN STATING THE OBVIOUS No 1: any copy for sunday Relax that comes over, sub only when there's nothing else to do. And, of course, those usual rules aply: no thin spaces, no wordshift3 etc and thus no worries. When subbed file in macintosh. Fanks (FEATSUBS, NLADE, 2apr01 11:03) References to Britain delaying a general election for the first time since World War II should be treated with care: The election date has never been announced, and Blair's current term could run until May 2002 (EDITORIAL, GCOOKE, 2apr01 14:16) Re your msg of "does anyone happen to know, roughly, what altitude we're at: Lake Burley Griffin is 1825ft above sea level . 556m. Most of Canberra, of course, is higher. My house (on the top of Charnwood hill) is about 623m, but there are higher ones.

(JNICHOLSON, KMAI, 30mar01 16:11) re SUNDAY: layout subs....when drawing shape for briefs, pls use INL format TABBRIEF.....pls do not use SUNBRIEF (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 24mar01 16:31) if you need to send me an individual message, please don't send it using this system, instead send an email to david.sibley@canberratimes.com.au because I am not on the SII system at my terminal, which is a PC not linked to the system.

Other than that, call me on ext 256 or my mobile quick dial 5571 - not being on the system is apparently the future for all reporters who get PCs when the coyotes kark it - it costs too much for the company to a coyote 3 licence to get me connected (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 19mar01 9:51) (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 19mar01 9:48) Stott Despoia is an underdog "but that does PHASE me" (p3 today). Perhaps, given some Democrat affinity for geomagnetism,schizophrenia, werewolfism etc, there may be a place for this, but the ordinary synonym for disconcert is FAZE (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 1mar01 9:28) re PIC stories: if you lodge an assignment in THE BOOK, can you pls also lodge a form with full details which the photographers can pick up on the run....

(EDITORIAL, KLOVE, 1mar01 14:56) For those who missed the message I'll repeat it: thin spaces between words in headings are banned.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 22feb01 21:58) If you need paragraph indents on all but the first paragraph, cancel the indent in the body tool, then put ge4fi,9 in the before field of column 1 in the column toolbox.

No Headline In Original

This 'get event' begins the indent at end of current par. There are 5 other options (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 21feb01 17:13) RSVP does anyone know how ABC's Allan Saunders of Radio National spells his name? one I or two?

Thanks. Alan Saunders one I (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 20feb01 17:27) fire training update: numbers to keep - Chief Fire Wardens are Matt O'Shea on 305, Dave Cook on 302 and Bob Willmott (nights) on 354. It is good practice to ring 000 in a medical or fire emergency.

Don't wait for SOMEONE ELSE to do it.

more on fire training: Remember 000 these days goes to an interstate call centre.

You will have to be specific about being in Canberra, ACT, and exactly where we are located.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 20feb01 17:05) A plea: when you leave messages for people, either in person or on their answer machines, say your name clearly, extra clearly. You would not believe how many calls we get from people who can't understand the names.

Also, your father and mother gave you a surname: use it please.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 19feb01 16:12) Reporters with bylines which include titles such as Political Reporter or Public Service Reporter should have a comma after their name. ie, VERONA BURGESS, Public Service Reporter.

Those who haven't been putting the comma in, pls do.

(EDITORIAL, RMIHAICH, 15feb01 20:12) gentle reminder again about getting receipts which say "GST inclusive" or receipts which show the break- up. Credit card chits are a problem, you must ask for a receipt. Take-aways and petrol stations are a trap. Ask for proper receipts.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 8feb01 16:16) a plea to get rid of the expression Tself- confesseds: No-one but oneself can confess for one. A person may be a self-styled genius, but surely merely a confessed thief.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 6feb01 18:06) Reminder: our style is web site, e-mail, online and Internet. Stay tuned (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 3feb01 17:08) When converting foreign currencies, round up/down.

\$US86,000 becomes \$A157,000 not \$A157,456. It looks silly and will probably be wrong the next day when exchange rate changes.

In world stories, convert first reference then use only \$A figures.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 3feb01 18:53) Please do not take papers, or pages from papers, off the reference file. Part of today's Age is already missing. If an item you want is not available from the cutting file, try the library. If that fails make a photocopy and return the paper.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 24jan01 18:13) FMA ACT stands for TFinancial Management and Administration Act. (KMA) Sunday layout subs: when using more than one pic to illustrate a story, or when doing a pic spread, aim to place captions under individual photos.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 27jan01 15:05) Georgi Curry's mobile is 0402 202 836 (KHOBSON, 27jan01 19:37) online, e-mail and web site.

(KHOBSON, 26jan01 18:59) just a reminder that Questacon is the National Science and Technology Centre, not Museum.

(EDITORIAL, AFRASER, 25jan01 14:01) Please do not take papers, or pages from papers, off the reference file. Part of today's Age is already missing. If an item you want is not available from the cutting file, try the library. If that fails make a photocopy and return the paper.

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(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 24jan01 18:13) guys and gals, please be careful with blocklines.

If the layout sub asks for one line, this must include the photo credit. cheers.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 20jan01 17:56) A vigneron grows vines. He practises viniculture or viticulture. A vintner is a wine merchant.

Wine is made by a winemaker. We have had one or two of these terms wrong lately.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 19jan01 9:55) Shiny new MLA Jacqui Burke has asked that she be referred to as "Mrs'." "That's my title and I love it," she said.

(EDITORIAL, FCASSIDY, 17jan01 16:32) re Leah's query: abduction is taking or detaining a person without their consent or (if a child) the consent of their guardian it commonly, but not necessarily, involves wicked sexual purposes. Kidnapping is abduction FOR RANSOM (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 16jan01 18:25) If anyone has cause to write, sub, caption anything in coming days about Alun Jones, Canberra prodigy at the Open tennis, note his name is unusual Alun. His family are ultraWelsh. It's been wrong in a supplement.

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 12jan01 16:46) please use asterisk and the full SII user in the writer field, not some quaint s[porting diminutive like ""KIRKY"" the system does not read KIRKY on DKIRKPATRICK...

and it is a pain in arse trying to find stories with ""KIRKY" by error and trial.

(EDITORIAL, WEBTEAM, 8jan01 6:43) the earlier message about writer field came from me when I was signed on as WEBTEAM early this morning.

I would hate anyone to think that John-Paul Moloney (who does most of the web work) was developing my fascist tendencies at such a young age.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8jan01 8:36) People pulling pics off the foreign/national server and saving to CT pic input: can you (if you are not already) use the file name convention date page name.jpg (e.g.

0409fire.jpg for a fire picture appearing on 4th of the month on page 9....mtc...

... the reason for the naming convention is to make it easier for the library and the Internet team to find image files. At present they have to wade through lots of files to find what they need for the website or to archive.

Easy to remember to put the date first and the page second, because that is in alphabetical order D before P.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 3jan01 16:47) re: file name convention for pictures. please when taking pics off any server or out of edit to CT-pic-input rename the file in the format 0514slug.jpg (where 05 is the date, 14 is the page number then slug then the suffix .jpg This will help the web team immensely. this morning we could find 2 out of 4 sport images; no world news images; 3 out of 4 page 1 images. we are half-way there. please keep at it. the web site (700,000 hits a month) is an important part of the CT.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 4jan01 8:58) anyone creating new STYL calls in the SII editorial system should tell me or alan langley what they propose doing so we can change the HTML converter for the internet site. At present it relies on STYL calls and new ones will throw it.

(\$ALL, CHULL, 3jan01 10:06) STYLE NOTE: Bahasa means speech or language. The language of Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia, of Malaysia is Bahasa Malay. We do not say a child is learning Francais or Deutsch; we say it is learning French or German. So saying learning Indonesian, or Malay.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21jul94 19:37) re Sunday: just a reminder re briefs.....pls use dateline on WORLD briefs, but not on NATIONAL/ LOCAL briefs...in Aust, pls write city into copy.....ta (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 23dec00 19:57) Nullarbor (with middle R). It comes from the Latin NULL and ARBOR meaning "no trees". it is not Aboriginal and has nothing to do with NULLA NULLAS. (p1 today).

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(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 21dec00 11:25) From 1 January all the staff phone numbers at the ANU will be changing. Prefixes '6249' and '6279' will be replaced by the new prefix '6125'. The final four digits of extension numbers will remain the same (EDITORIAL, SGROSE, 21dec00 16:28) going on hols and need to stop your paper: ring Jenny Bell on 340.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 20dec00 15:06) style tip: pls use (cursor key + hyphen key) for a dash in sentences. (it does make a difference) thks petals.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 19dec00 12:00) it is obvious from the evidence in the baby in the car case that identification will be in issue (part of the evidence is a witness from whose recollection a photofit was made. DO NOT USE any pic of Cooper (we have one) until further notice (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19dec00 16:33) Grammar note c16: One cannot have The latter of three or more things/people, only of two. The correct word to use for three or more is Tlasts.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 16dec00 13:45) re Sunday: just a reminder re briefs.....pls use dateline on WORLD briefs, but not on NATIONAL/ LOCAL briefs...in Aust, pls write city into copy.....ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 16dec00 18:01) re Sunday....attention Sat night layout drawers, including SPORT ...when using stories in BOLD, pls change heading command on COYOTE (not INL) from b to tbs.....(ie ft,b becomes ft,tbs) this replaces the alternative tb command and looks a lot better (EDITORIAL, KLOVE, 16dec00 16:40) A reminder, since many have forgotten or do not know that it is against the law (s117 Crimes Act, \$1000fine) to advertise or publish statements saying that "no questions will be asked" in relation to return of stolen property * (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 10jun97 18:10) Repeating (through necessity) Michael Travis's recent reminder: Reverend is an adjective, not a noun (as is parson).

It needs the definite article (the) before it, and first name, initials or a title (Mr, Dr etc) between it and the surname.

* (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 19aug00 12:18) If a person has a de facto spouse (ie they live together as tho they were married, tho they are not legally married) and you must refer to the de facto rather than the de jure situation, do so once. Then it is wife. Do not refer to as the "de facto".

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28aug00 18:12) my new mobile is 0407 226 892 if needed (EDITORIAL, RMACKLIN, 8dec00 13:27) As of the 1st of Jan all phone numbers at the Australian National University will be changing. The prefixes '6249' and '6279' will be replaced with the new prefix '6125'.

(EDITORIAL, CJACKSON, 5dec00 10:28) it's PAID, not payed, LAID not layed, for heaven's sake. We will be paid by a reader soon (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 5dec00 15:52) Please, please no more all-time records.

On world page today we had the absurdity of an 1845 rainfall ""all- time" record being broken this year. If it had been an ""all-time" record in 1845 it must have included the year 2000 (part of ""all-time") mtc a record is a record ...

it is the highest or lowest until that point in time. It cannot be an ""all-time" record because we do not know what the future (part of all-time) holds.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 28nov00 9:44) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 28nov00 9:43) E-mail from: tamara.lloyd@canberratimes.com.au Subject: Agatha Christie room Please note that all bookings for the Agatha Christie Room are to be made with Lisa or Jo from the Promotions Dept.

Please contact them in advance as it might already be booked. You can contact them by email or phone Lisa X309 or Jo X106.

Thank you Sunday Times subs: More on captions. If we know people's titles/ positions and they are relevant to the story please include that detail in captions.

Captions should help tell the story and therefore may require a little more detail.

Thanks.

No Headline In Original

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 18nov00 7:38) Sunday Times draw subs: where possible place captions UNDER each photo in news and sport pages. It is far easier for readers. Also ensure the correct Sunday caption style is used.

Any questions ask Kevin Love or myself.

Thanks.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 18nov00 7:34) Sunday Times draw subs: please do not use variations of the type face and type size in the body of stories. For Sunday's paper we have a set typeface and size that is not to be changed. Incorrect typefaces and sizes have been used in recent editions.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 18nov00 7:32) petty cash claims: larger amounts can be reimbursed straight into your bank accounts. They go in on Tuesdays and Thursdays - if you want this to happen, write 'Pay EFT' on your claim forms.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 16nov00 17:14) re Sunday...unless it's a short, punchy quote, can we pls introduce the speaker first, rather than introduction at end...thus...White House chief of staff John Smith said: TThis poll is a joke and....s..rather than TThis poll...s said White..

(NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 11nov00 17:35) re whitlam stories tonight: pls be careful with any references he makes to other people....witty is one thing, damaging/defamatory is another.

(NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 11nov00 21:24) v media contacts for Tax Office are: 6216 1901 or afterhours on 0401 147 127 ()the mobile is a duty phone).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 13nov00 16:02) brim-full should be written thus, not brimful.

it is not analagous to cupful but to knee-high. It means full to the brim; not a brim that is full.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 9nov00 17:28) Style Note 6 (commas used for parenthesis): The blah blah blah is blah blah blah and, according to Mr X, has been blah blah blah . rather than the common: The blah blah blah is blah blah blah, and according to Mr X, has been blah blah blah.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 24oct00 13:01) Style note 4: initials with surname are spaced thus: A.,B. Smith (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 21oct00 16:57) Style note 5: abbreviated metric units are hard up against the number. e.g. 3m 2kg 10km/h (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 21oct00 16:58) If you have an either/ or construction, there can be only TWO alternatives. If there are more, drop the either. Thrice in recent weeks, a correspondent has demonstrated to me, we have had thing like "He lived either in Canberra or Melbourne or Syd" (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 20oct00 10:43) re ag(e)ing: When a suffix is added to a word ending in mute e the e is dropped before a vowel, but not before a consonant. Except: the e is kept even before a vowel if it is needed to preserve or emphasise the soft sound of a preceding g or c.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20oct00 15:18) .. from Fowler (not me).

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20oct00 15:18) Comrades: Please be mindful of court reports where highlights of sentences are given in intros, and the full details later. We cut the later details from a piece today, so our readers don't know that the accused's jail time was backdated (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 19oct00 9:40) The writer field can be a useful tool for finding a writer's articles. However, the fact that the system now requires an * there means many people use an * but do not follow it with a name, making the whole exercise pointless.

Please use your name.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 14oct00 16:12) Helpful hint 1: The leader page template page is called (surprise! surprise!)

leaderpage. It works better than clipboard templates because there is only one, is up to date, & can be called up at any terminal. Just copy the shapes.

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(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 13oct00 12:21) Style notes 1: Quotes around a complete sentence include any punctuation; square brackets [(double style/ shift double style)] are used inside quotes.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12oct00 13:50) further to sq bkts: beware, occasionally the speaker may insert something in parenthesis, when round brackets are used.

sq bkts when the author or the sub is inserting something in a quote.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 12oct00 13:52) Style notes 2: The names of TV shows are in italic type; the singular of criteria is criterion; it is a good idea to check the spelling of names in blocklines with those in the accompanying story (and make them the same).

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12oct00 14:08) Style note 3: compound adjectives can be hyphenated to avoid ambiguity, adverbs should not be; World War II (not Two or 2); might is the past tense of may; km no matter how many of them, not kms; it is good to check the date when a story was written.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 12oct00 14:28) Defo warning.

Governments with their backs against the wall or about to fall are very dangerous on the defamation front. If they get thrown out the ministers often seek vengeance on the media. by all means be critical but also be careful . Journalists coming in for the kill and wounded politicians can make an unnecessarily rewarding feast for the lawyer vultures circling overhead.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11oct00 11:21) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11oct00 11:20) PLS DO NOT USE WORD SHIFT 3 (STRIKE.THROUGH) IN SUNDAY STORIES.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 5oct00 10:07) okay, this is getting serious. last warning before the shame files and/or cake penalties begin: sunday stories must be sent to macintosh. they must NOT contain strike-through. they must NOT contain thin spaces, coding, etc.

back to work.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 6oct00 10:53) the world press site offers access to 1026 daily newspaper websites in 192 countries: www.theworldpress.com (EDITORIAL, SGROSE, 3oct00 17:34) telephone symbol can be reproduced with: cf,epi1,12 Z * (EDITORIAL, 2mar99 16:16) the world press site offers access to 1026 daily newspaper websites in 192 countries: www.theworldpress.com (EDITORIAL, SGROSE, 3oct00 17:34) pls check the pub date of the stories you are subbing and send them to the appropriate basket, ie: sunday stories go to macintosh, not ctsun or food or any of the other interesting places i have been finding them. fanx, luv youze all.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 3oct00 12:37) re Sunday tab: just a gentle reminder re DOMESTIC briefs: no dateline or city of origin at beginning of brief. pls write these details into copy thus: TPRIME Minister John Howard announced in Sydney yesterday.....s (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 30sep00 16:18) we should not say something is priced Tfrom \$28-\$39s; the hyphen covers both from and to. either Tfrom \$28 to \$39s (preferably) or just \$28T-\$39s.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 21sep00 12:36) beware of the missing hyphen: shanahan names a Tsparkling winemakers, which means a winemaker who sparkles; but he really means a maker of sparkling wines, hence Tsparkling-winemakers.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 21sep00 13:57) reminder from accounts about cab vouchers: pls fill in the From and To sections of the voucher before you give it to the Cabbie.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 19sep00 10:57) pls remember to send sunday stories to macintosh when subbed, thks. also, helpful hint for layout subs: juddery's education dinkus and the techno dinkii should NOT be used at 100% - scale them down to one leg width. merci.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 19sep00 14:34) We must use French words sometimes, and we must get them right.

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The French pluralise the adjective as well as the noun. Thus, the plural of petit four is petits fours, and the plural of bon mot is bons mots.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 15sep00 9:47) a reminder from the GM that claims for hospitality should name the people you have hosted "contact" is not good enough.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 13sep00 12:18) Tlran is no longer viewed as a threat to any of the GCC countries.s . anyone know what GCC means?

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 8sep00 17:29) Gulf Cooperation Council, if you should ever need it.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 8sep00 17:32) ^^^ For those subs drawing pages for Sunday Times: if you are pointing off bottom of stories, pls use pointer slugged sunpoint (call it up and copy over) ..pls let me know if you have any problems with it...ta (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 9sep00 16:32) re previous message on pointers at bottom of stories.... likewise, if you are using reporter's byline as tag line at end of story, pls copy and use formats slugged: suntag (NIGHTSUBS, KLOVE, 9sep00 17:07) We have misspelt some Canberra names recently. It is Copland (not Copeland); Chisholm (not Chisolm) Calwell (not Caldwell) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11sep00 11:50) under way is never one word (FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 7sep00 17:08) To work out how long it will take to double your money at a fixed interest, divide the annual interest rate into 72, the result is the number of years it will take.

pls do not word-shift- 3 par marks, quad-lefts, etc. delete them 'cos the strike through will not always recognise them. thank you.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 31aug00 11:35) foreign languages: we have dutch, german, italian, greek, malay, indonesian, ukrainian, russian, spanish, vietnamese, hindi, macedonian, cantonese and mandarin speakers in TCT. List is on the board right at the back.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 31aug00 12:39) a reminder, prompted by a ref to Ainslie as the oldest school in Canberra, about NEVER (or hardly ever) calling anything the first, oldest biggest etc in this town of smartybums who would not hesitate to ring to point to Telopea, Hall, St Johns etc (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 31aug00 16:59) pls arrange ellipses ,,,. thus. separated.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 31aug00 17:24) style tip #4678905: WEB SITE IS TWO WORDS. elevenses penaltiesmay soon apply ...

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 1sep00 11:08) no squeezes or condensation of headings in the sunday edition, please, subs. the heading type faces do not accept them well (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 2sep00 18:47) If you are sending a message directly to Graham Downie, could you please use e-mail rather than SII.

(EDITORIAL, JWATT, 4sep00 16:21) remember sunday stuff to macintosh and no word shift three or double pars ie, , apparently that's what has been locking up SII mac, cheers (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 26jul00 10:33) A reminder, pls refrain from using acronyms in headings .

ACT, ACTU, UN, GST, NRMA, RSPCA, CSIRO are about the only exceptions. Pls check with check sub if you're unsure. Tks (NIGHTSUBS, BJONES, 24jul00 22:46) just a reminder that word shift three should not be used in sunday stories..

delete to your hearts content....

(FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 24jul00 12:10) Sunday Layout subs: Where possible place captions for photos immediately under the photo. The aim is to make it easy for the reader.

(EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 22jul00 9:13) To those who may need to know: hanging indent code ih,(points or picas of indent required) is activated by a on each line & will not work with . If in body text it should have fi before it (& fi,9 after). It is cancelled by ih (default is zero).

No Headline In Original

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 21jul00 14:35) please send all sunday stuff to macintosh again till i let you know differently - thanks....

(FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 21jul00 9:50) the kiwis have invented a chess computer program called LAMBCHOP (EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 21jul00 9:48) Pls avoid use of acronyms and people's names . unless they are very well known . in headlines. Tks (NIGHTSUBS, BJONES, 20jul00 22:39) AAAGGGHHH. The Prime Minister, John Howard, takes commas but Prime Minister John Howard does not. The time element goes AFTER the verb (he announced yesterday) and reports etc are not released, they are issued, published.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 19jul00 19:10) We do not use the phrase "inclusive of" as in "inclusive of GST" etc. "Including" invariably does the trick (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17jul00 18:25) chaps and chapettes: we are trying a new Sunday style. Cap the second word in intros only where the first word has LESS than 3 letters. If possible, rewrite the intro so it is only necessary to cap the first word.

If an intro begins with a name, cap only christian name.

Lately intros have had too many capped words. cheers.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 15jul00 16:48) (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 15jul00 16:47) just a reminder for those folk taking pages out to the spike: there is a production schedule taped to the desk next to the spike, and the time that you drop the page should be initialled on the schedule. pls help me, or Lyn Bliss will chase me. and u.

(EDITORIAL, KLOVE, 15jul00 23:06) reminder: 56c, not 56 cents; 9 per cent, not nine per cent. Please be careful with time references and honorifics which are all over the place tonight. ta (NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 10jul00 19:25) pls note, our style for web site (2 words). thks.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 10jul00 15:10) Schedules for Sunday edition now available. It is important that pages be subbed in the listed order, since a tabloid edition has to be output in pairs, back and front of book. ta (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 8jul00 16:50) Norma Allen has moved. her new number is 6241 8905 (EDITORIAL, JWATT, 28jun00 9:30) aban's direct number is 02 9282 3155 (EDITORIAL, JWATT, 7jul00 10:02) Sunday subs, please remember that there are no par marks in briefs, first word of story or dateline is capped and try to minimise quote marks in headings. Cheers (EDITORIAL, MSTEVENS, 1jul00 15:09) Norma Allen has moved. her new number is 6241 8905 (EDITORIAL, JWATT, 28jun00 9:30) fi stands for Tfirst indents. It has three parameters: left indent, right indent, and leading between paragraphs. It is activated by If nothing is put after it it defaults to zero. To initiate paragraph indenting use fi,9 NET, as in the total, or, sometimes, the profit after expenses, is spelled thus. We do not recognise NETT (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 16jun00 17:26) a very gentle reminder . please do not put relax sunday stories in ctsun, put them in macintosh (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 15jun00 18:39) don't let khardy write cream fraiche again; creme fraiche pls.

crescendo means an approach towards a climax; it is not itself a climax. see ACOD.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 15jun00 16:55) EEEK: Many writers/ subs get the tenses wrong in reported, or indirect speech. John Howard said, TI am 30 yers olds becomes Joh H oward said he was 30 years old. He said, TI will gos becomes he said he would go.

The change must still be made in an intro, despite the temptation to use the present tense. Cabinet would meet on Monday, the PM said. Most people write: Cabinet will meet on Monday, the PM said, which is wrong.

Has, will, can become had, would could etc (EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 14jun00 22:49) (EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 14jun00 22:47) Comrades: David Kemp has been clean-shaven for a year (p2) (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 14jun00 12:42) SUNDAY SUBS: pls note that the picture byline style for the Sunday edition has changed. SDK I has been amended so the byline sets flush right on the last line of caption. the new byline code can be added to any deck tool caption.

thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 7jun00 17:37) The Parliamentary Library has created an electronic brief on the Fiji coup for those interested in these events.<http://www.aph>.

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gov.au/library/ intguide/fad/fiji.htm BWEaver (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 31may00 15:05) a little more brainpower with subbing briefs please.

we often leave our readers guessing. Today we said the Queen was coming off the \$5 but didn't say who was going on it.

Other e.g.s abound. Don't just run the first par. add in bits to complete the story. if you cannot get the basic who what when where how why into 2 pars, take it out of the briefs column. ta.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 5jun00 11:57) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 5jun00 11:57) STYLE NOTE: Canberra's V8 street race is to be called the V8 Supercar race.

There is no need to refer to GMC 400. Cheers (EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 1jun00 19:41) please do not use the underscore in picture file names on the server. PCs cannot open these files. use the hyphen instead. also reminder to SII users: only use lowercase letters and numerals for storynames.

No caps, slashes, spaces, hyphens etc.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 1jun00 9:39) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 1jun00 10:00) a little more care with writing captions and headlines please.

several corrections in recent times where details correct in the story have been incorrect in caption or headline.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 1jun00 15:25) we should take more care to get an opposition/cross-bench view when we have govt hand-out, leak etc and also to get govt view when we have an opposition hand-out leak etc. (then i don't have to fill letters with ""rights" of reply.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 31may00 14:08) Kates column must carry a note that he is an economist employed by the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 30may00 11:10) Peter Kinght reports he has put the resource jump page used for internet training over theweekend onto the intranet. It is now the default Editorial page.<http://ct-net/ Editorial/default.htm>
(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 29may00 18:16) re jack's earlier message.

it means after you have logged in click on EDITORIAL at bottom left of your screen and a wonderful navigation weapon for journalists appears. better then any search engine you have ever seen.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 29may00 19:18) please keep the first line (kicker as i have labelled it) in the sunday headings short please: eg the rehabilitation of (new lines) SANDRA BULLOCK....

thank you (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 24may00 11:09) just as we don't say "he was charged with break, ewnter and steal" (but "breaking, entering and stealing") we do not say he was charged with "goods in custody". We say he was charged with having property reasonably suspected of being stolen (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 20may00 17:15) a warning to those who muck around with pics (ie, digital manipulation) for whatever reason, esp legit ones, eg using an old pic for promotional/illustrative purposes. the practice has cost a melbourne law firm \$300,000, the amt of damages awarded against them for defamation; despite altering a pic of two doctors in operating theatre so no-one would recognise them, they were recognised on front of brochure re med negligence and were sued for a mint.

the lessons to be learned: pics can defame as easily as words (if not more so); and recognition is in the eye of the beholder, not just the publisher.

pls welcome alexandra caples who is with us for a fortnight intern, from Launceston, ex Navy Sub Lt. Mobile is 0408367482 (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 22may00 16:16) pls do not refer to "a new book' in blurbs (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 18may00 12:46) the adjectival phrase "writer and amateur pugilist George Plimpt on' does NOT require

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commas around the name (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 18may00 12:50) further to cross: MUST not have commas around the name.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 18may00 13:23) when booking jobs for photographers please make sure you write it in the diary AND fill out request for photographer form.

(EDITORIAL, JWATT, 18may00 14:26) With letters to the editor we always prefer full address and publish suburb only, but the aim is to establish identity. It is not a rigid rule. If you have an email address and a suburb it will usually be enough, especially if the email address embraces elements of the person's name. If the letter is innocuous there is less need to be rigid. If the content of the letter has a potential for embarrassment if not sent by the purported sender then there is need for more care.

(CHULL) the mortgagee is the creditor, the mortgagor the debtor.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 12may00 12:07) please be aware that kickers for sunday aren't really kickers but a couple of words of the heading: eg martha stewart's (next line) beautiful life.

thanks again (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 11may00 18:20) pls remember we do NOT use honorifics in features stories ... thks (FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 11may00 16:39) pls remember, lower case earth when referring to soil; upper case Earth when referring to planet. and, first reference write out United States, then US. (no correspondence will be entered into) thank you (FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 10may00 17:24) To those who use the picture-desk Mac: Please do not close down the e-mail receivers Eudora and Outlook Express. They can be folded up without closing them down.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 10may00 12:37) A reminder to all subs working on Sunday Times. Names must be listed in photo captions if we can identify people photographed (EDITORIAL, MSTEVENSON, 6may00 7:45) style for datelines on sports stories with no bylines: Sport first line, city of origin of story second line, date (i.e. SATURDAY:) first word in caps of story itself (NIGHTSUBS, RMESSENGER, 6may00 17:04) when subbing sunday stories please delete text (word shift 3) doesn't get picked up in macintosh - also no , or stuff like that either. see me for more info if needed (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 8may00 10:43) the siege gunman in Qld is said by AAP to "have a fascination for guns". That means that guns are fascinated with the chap. I suspect he is fascinated [irresistably attracted] WITH or BY guns.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 1may00 11:32) [Editor's note: Both the Australian and New Zealand Parliaments have passed Anzac Day Acts.

Both say the name "shall be known as Anzac Day", using lower case. The Canberra Times, therefore, uses the style Anzac.] ((Editor's note in answer to a complaining reader by CRIS HULL) Subs please note military officers keep ranks after retirement.

We called a former vice-admiral 'Mr' today, sparking a stiff-nosed response.

(EDITORIAL, FCASSIDY, 25apr00 10:09) In fact we should always ask...some some former officers prefer the civilian prefix.

(EDITORIAL, GCOOKE, 25apr00 10:11) Please leave Outlook Express running on the picturedesk Mac. Closing it down is not necessary; the window can be closed without quitting.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 21apr00 13:01) A request from Geoff and Chero, who empty the big blue recycling bins: Please dont jam the bins full - only try to half fill them as they become too heavy to take downstairs to empty. Stack any excess stuff neatly on the floor next to bin.

(EDITORIAL, MDUTKIEWICZ, 19apr00 10:54) please justify stories after reading proofs. too many "corrected" stories are getting through under or overset or with coding knocked out, causing considerable headaches for the person seeing the pages off to production (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 18apr00 10:06) Proper nouns, with the exception (perhaps) of e e cummings and k d laing are to be capitalised in the normal way, and affectationssuch as the use of

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upper case in midword (CompuServe or aQuaviva) are to be regarded as logos, and not our reader-friendly style (JWATERFORD, 9mar99 16:30) if you change something to italic in a sunday caption please make sure you bold the rest of the caption up to the pic credit please (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 7apr00 15:28) If you lay in or sub a story that refers to a letter to the Editor on the Letters page, please check with the Letters page sub. I found out only by chance last night that 2 letters were thus referred to. They might not have been run but for that . .

. . serendipitous happenstance (to coin a phrase), since nobody had spoken to me or sent me a message about either of them, and we would have pointed to something that wasn't there.

Cheers.

(EDITORIAL, KMAY, 11apr00 0:14) FYI: The life of group messages can be limited by placing after the group name (such as Teditorials) a comma and the number of days it is desired that the message should stay in the system.

For example, this message has ,1 & will die at midnight.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 7apr00 10:57) Unless there is a computer problem, please do not close down the two graphics e-mail systems on the picture-desk Mac (Eudora and Outlook Express).

The windows can be closed but the systems should be left running.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 6apr00 15:36) Just a few things.

I'd like to see more use of hanging indent and ragged right on single-column stories.

Putting stories in panels a little more often would also be good to see.

Don't be afraid to use the occasional breakout quote and if so use: ss1 el,12eucf,gb,33 'nl,12 cc,10p6,gb,33 "cf,nim,11,14it,12nl,13bu,.5,4,,,x words here. gs1 ' This is the quote style that was set up for the Monday to Saturday issues.

Where picture stories are of a lighter subject it's usually a good opportunity to use bold text to help mix up the look of a page.

There's no need to go crazy and start using all of the above on every single story but there's certainly scope to use them more often.

Also, for those laying out finance, please give the main page big, bold treatment: minimum of 72pt headlines on the lead story and don't be afraid to use the main picture big for that same page.

Thank you.

with food and wine heads please make sure bottom line is pretty close to being full..

the top one can be a bit shorter if need be (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 4apr00 10:07) Just a note to say that trying to contact me via message system is useless as at the Assembly I am not attached to system. I can be contacted on speed-dial 5582 (office), 5581 (mobile) or through the twice daily copy-person round.

(EDITORIAL, NGENTLE, 1apr00 13:29) watch out for l instead of 1 in recipes.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 28mar00 11:48) Anyone using dialup lines should use the following setups. Please use only pc1 (6280 4353) or pc7 (6280 6719). DO NOT use pc2 (6280 5974). Your PC comms setup should be: 8bits, 1stopbit, parity NONE, half duplex. Use the highest speed available up +++ +++ to 19200 but not greater than 19200 baud. There is a problem with pc2 which will be fixed asap.

Thanks.

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(EDITORIAL, BILLW, 28mar00 11:48) PLEASE JUSTIFY ALL STORIES LAST THING BEFORE FILING TO CT BASKET S PLEASE JUSTIFY ALL STORIES LAST THING BEFORE FILING TO CT BASK ETS PLEASE JUSTIFY ALL STORIES LAST THING BEFORE FILING TO CT BA SKETS PLEASE JUSTIFY ALL STORIES LAST THING BEFORE FILING TO CT (FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 28mar00 15:35) can reporters please check Web addresses they put in stories to make sure they are correct. we have had a couple which did not exist. ta.

(EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 27mar00 20:17) Pls remember to check dates in copy when they are associated with days of the week.

They often do not correspond.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 24mar00 20:18) Pls remember that when a story by a writer for The Independent (or of any other imported syndicated piece) refers to Tthis countrys he does not mean Australia. The context needs to be added.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 25mar00 13:18) The use of , to reduce word spacing in headlines does not make them easy to read, and looks odd when one deck has reduced word spacing & another, especially in the same heading, does not. Surely condensing the type (& the spaces) uniformly is better.

(NIGHTSUBS, DWYATT, 25mar00 17:00) Anyone who needs to contact me can do so on my mobile. Speed dial 5475 or 041 7272 498. Cheers.

(EDITORIAL, SHANNAFORD, 26mar00 21:05) in heads better to use lower case e for things like e-commerce, e-mail, e-trade etc... if we use caps we are in danger of confusing with companies and products.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 27mar00 10:20) remember our style for numbers is: one to nine, 10, 1000, 10,000.

(FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 24mar00 14:02) Could writers pls put their names as well as the * in the writer field of story headers. Stories with * but no name are just as hard to find as those with nothing.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 24mar00 15:31) WRITERS with laptops or PCs trying unsuccessfully to send stories in by PC2 should should check the computer setup and make sure the data bits = 8. It's a quite new requirement, but without it you'll never get in. thanks.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 21mar00 21:29) memo cliché users: the lion's share is not most: it is all (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17mar00 20:27) Beating Retreat (the drummer plays the tune that means go back), NOT beating THE retreat See the ads for it P5 Thursday 16.3.

edition.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 16mar00 18:29) in case you ever have to assign a tv graphic, the convention is tv-a one-word description of pic-page number-publication date, eg, tvpilgrim720 (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 17mar00 10:25) i luv use all but, please, please, pretty please, when one line of caption is asked for - write one line only, when two lines are asked for

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 17mar00 12:31) because of the possibility of ambiguity, do not write that a 35 year-old Ngunnawal man has been convicted of rape, or whatever if all we mean is a man from Ngunanawal rather than a person claiming to be an original inhabitant (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 14mar00 18:01) Henceforce the Kates column is to carry a tag at the bottom identifying him as senior economist with the Aust Chamber of C ommerce.

(NIGHTSUBS, JWATERFORD, 14mar00 16:01) FYI letters basket is for APPROVED letters ...anyone dumping letters seeking publication please put to lettersin basket.ta (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 9mar00 10:08) If you ever need to know, MW stands for Master of Wine. It is a credential given by an English group. There are only a couple of MWs in Australia.

Anthony Hanson was in Canberra a couple of weeks ago doing a burgundy tasting. The word from Sandy Forbes.

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(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 10mar00 9:41) LAYOUT SUBS: Please use the following convention for naming ALL pics on your order forms to epm, instead of expecting a number to be allocated by epm: use the PUBDATE, PAGE, PIC DESCRIPTION.eg, 1003doggy, or 10C03piggy. do not exceed 12 characters.

Then you will be able to find your pix on the gdb, circumventing the temporary problem of epm not being able to enter keywords etc with their new macs.

thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 9mar00 23:58) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 9mar00 10:00) with recipes please put a " (double m) at the start of the second (and subsequent) line if an ingredient turns over two lines - see me for more clarification if needed... thanks (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 7mar00 10:22) To anyone phoning me when I am not in the office - if my mobile is turned off, it is possible I am at home.

Try there.

(EDITORIAL, GDOWNIE, 3mar00 9:00) when doing captions if there is an orange or white epm slip on the pic - it is likely that it has yet to go out to epm. please put them in the out- tray rather back on the top of terminals or to the lay out subs..

thanks (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 3mar00 10:06) pedants' corner: i've noticed of late instances of broken e-mail /Web addresses which start a line, for example, with a dot, as in .com.au -- shouldn't we aim to have the dot on the previous line as in @dailybugle.

(break) com.au.?

(FEATSUBS, GMETHERELL, 3mar00 11:48) names in blurbs and bylines for sunday are in lower case - please be aware (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 3mar00 14:04) if you receive copy via e-mail, pls run an 'sdk z' through it before coding or assigning to a page. this prevents words running together and therefore saves subs a lot of time. thank you.

(EDITORIAL, JBORRIE, 3mar00 14:35) in capitals so it might get through (this time): PLEASE JUSTIFY STORIES BEFORE SENDING THEM TO THE CT BASKETS (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 3mar00 16:34) please be aware that sunday captions are in bold so any italics will have to be word six-ed and then the rest of the caption word two-ed ... you will not be told AGAIN (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 3mar00 16:53) pls don't use 'art' or 'arts' in the headlines of arts stories (FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 2mar00 11:11) re the internet story: why can you write "stronger" stories if you are submitting them electronically?

and why do you have longer deadlines??

and good luck to anyone who can make a living freelancing at the CT (EDITORIAL, VBURGESS, 29feb00 15:57) pet owners have been waiting with bated, not baited, breath, as we said on p1 this morning. bated is past participle of an obsolete word bate, from abate = become less strong.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 29feb00 17:17) Hospice/nursing homes are not interchangeable, as per two headlines today, as any number of interested parties have pointed out.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28feb00 10:06) Please lay off the bucketloads of ""allegedlys" we sometimes add to yarns unnecessarily, like Holy Grail (p4 today). When no-one's charged we don't need them. We believe a crime occurred, otherwise we wouldn't put

... it in the paper. The allegation will come when the finger is pointed at someone.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 25feb00 10:19) a LAPAC is a Local Area Planning Advisory Committee, not one of the numerous variations i keep reading about in the CT (nor the chronicle attempt recently that got four letters wrong)

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(EDITORIAL, RCAMPBELL, 25feb00 13:43) do we have sacred CT style for the tower on Black Mountain...mu st we call it Telstra tower now?

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 24feb00 10:16) Black Mountain tower it is...thank you CT style groupies (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 24feb00 10:19) a friendly reminder to layout subs: if you receive e-mailed copy, pls run an sdk z through it before you code it so the text doesn't run together ... it saves the subs an enormous amount of time.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 23feb00 17:48) please avoid using words in the dinkus in headlines, thanks (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 22feb00 11:54) reminder about typesetting: No urgent typesetting should be given straight to typesetters. We are directed to give it to Bar rie Murphy or Sandra Harrison.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 22feb00 15:20) E-mail from: Tamara.lloyd@canberratimes.com.au Subject: DKS KEYS.....

Could anyone who accesses the door near switch please remember your DKS Key to let yourself back in.

The DKS System is there for security purposes and it can be quiet disrupting to our switchboard operators letting people back in when they are taking calls.

Thank you Tammy there is now a basket called sunmag where all features stuff for the sunday edition should go, be it a profile or gardening or a feature.. cheers (EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 17feb00 10:21) NYTimes stylebook: earth, moon, sun: lowercase, except in the specialised context of astronomy, usually in juxtaposition with other bodies and without a preceding the: how do Mars and earth fit into the pattern. The absence of Tthes is not the test for for capitalisation, as down to earth and move heaven and earth demonstrate.

Our style: if referring to one of the planets in the solar system, in an astronomical context, write Earth; if your ref is confined to this planet or globe, or to dirt, write earth. Generally, the absence of Tthes is a pointer to capitalisation, but one moves heaven and earth and is down to earth.

(FEATSUBS, JWATERFORD, 16feb00 18:44) Bruce Juddery's latest new number is: 62394259 (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 16feb00 9:23) before singing for help on the message system, please try a dictionary and the library first. there are dangers in relying on colleagues' memories and knowledge which may be not be accurate. If still stuck, then ask collegaues.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11feb00 10:54) please - no bylines on one or two col headshots (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 11feb00 17:11) What was the Australian Securities Commission (ASC) is now the Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC) (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 11feb00 17:46) Nobody is awarded the Order of Australia, as we said Sergeant Ron McFarlane was on p5 today. He may have been awarded the Order of Australia Medal (most likely) or made a Member or an Officer of the Order of Australia.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 3feb00 16:06) casuals : reminder that your pay is worked out from your time sheets. Pls sign the Casual Journalist Time Sheets and sign on at the commencement of your shift - don't leave it to the en d when you are tired and may forget.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 1feb00 9:38) Anyone wondering hoe to do an underscore (-) for use in web addresses and e-mails, it is word and the dash-key. Thanks to khardy for that one.

(EDITORIAL, NGENTLE, 1feb00 14:05) friendly reminder #267: please take care to note the number of lines asked for in captions and blurbs, etc.i'm not just amusing myself here - if i ask for two, i want two - no more, no less.

if you have a problem filling, ask me. thank you.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 28jan00 14:43) pls, pls justify all stories last thing before filing them. than k you.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 28jan00 14:28) Put *LETTERS in the writer field of the composite stories of letters that you do.

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Put *FCRANSTON in the writer field of Times Past. other than letters, just put *SUBS in anything else you have blank. ta (CHULL, 25jan00 9:03) it is Montagu island on the the south coast, without an e (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 25jan00 17:59) ignore earlier. my informant (national parks man) must be wrong he said it is named after captain cook's patron George Montagu but there are too many other references the other way.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 25jan00 18:11) how do I do a degrees sign?

(EDITORIAL, MREEDER, 24jan00 13:28) thank you all. We have several methods - one is double D, the other (much more complicated) method is to hold down shift and triple and then press zero.

(EDITORIAL, MREEDER, 24jan00 13:30) A tip: ft,b before a light byline will put in a 9pt paragraph indent, so pushing the byline off centre.

Just the cf,hel,9 is enough. Or, pu,bycf,hel , which puts in the extra lead.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 24jan00 14:08) pls remember to put *username in the writer field of all stories you create.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 21jan00 16:39) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 13jan00 10:00) Thank you to those journalists who let me, Elaine and Julie know when they are out of Canberra on business. Could everyoneelse do the same, really helps with handling your calls.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 12jan00 9:56) Pls be aware that hyphens are often incorrectly used in copy instead of dashes (and often commas can replace the ubiquitous dashes).

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 11jan00 16:26) let's all remember about keylines from this week. .6, best put on after pic is in and cropped (FEATSUBS, MHEPWORTH, 10jan00 10:30) when saving pics to CT pic input from the MAC world wire PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE do NOT use an underscore in the filename... it blocks PCs from accessing the file later.

when you rename the file use only letters and numbers...ta.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 7jan00 10:17) template page crosswords has been updated with the latest graphic shape for the new comics(date) graphic, which includes the rules and headings as well as the strips themselves. The fridge template story is assigned to this template page.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 7jan00 12:26) Gentle reminder:Beware wavy underline: it works in lite, but not in bold. Words not meant to be published got into the paper a couple of times recently. One was picked up in time, but it required a replat (which costs money and time).

Happy New Year.

(FEATSUBS, KMAY, 02Jan00 3:17) pls do not abbreviate million in text.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 21dec99 17:02) please, when you have made changes to a story after proofreading, be sure not only to justify, but to check that your changes have now thrown the length over or under, created widows, etc. thank you.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 18dec99 11:23) anyone getting letters to the editor electronically should transfer them to ba lettersin NOT ba letters.

the latter is for approved letters.

letters have to be approved for defo, taste, length, reasonableness etc.

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(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 16dec99 10:34) Mrs Forrest, who built a woolshed, was said on p1 today to be a critic of people suspected of FLAUNTING planning laws. Shd have been FLOUTING.

Flaunt means to display ostentatiously. Flout means to disobey contemptuously.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 14dec99 19:34) If you use dialup lines PC2, PC3 or PC7 to file copy the setup on your computer's communication software needs to be changed to 8 data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit. Eport lines are already 8 data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit. Please ask if you need help.

(EDITORIAL, PMAYOH, 14dec99 13:30) For heaven's sake: people are not RUSHED to hospital, as someone was again in Friday's paper.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 13dec99 10:32) Ed is correct, most people are not rushed to hospital because th at can exacerbate their injuries. Exception is heart attack.

(EDITORIAL, GDOWNIE, 13dec99 10:39) anybody know if Manaro Grammar School, Cooma, is/was spelt like that?

Manaro confirmed.

All please remember it in future. Predecessor of Canberra Grammar.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 9dec99 14:52) i was correctly chided by a reader for confusing birth rate with fertility rate. The latter relates to the capacity to have children, so a population might have a fertility rate of 100% but a birth rate of zero if no children were born that year.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6dec99 8:35) LAYOUT SUBS who have saved pages with pub date 31dec99 should use the following procedure if they wish to retain those pages: create a new page with a pub date of, say, 31dec00, and move or copy the shapes from the old page to the new.

tk's To create a page with a pub date of about 31dec00, use the syntax: tom+365.

this ads 365 days to tomorrow's date. tk's (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 30nov99 18:57) Jack's ruling on new NZ PM Helen Clark is for Ms Clark, not Dr.

(NIGHTSUBS, SHOPMAN, 30nov99 19:12) let cp,13.6 sq Journos,distracted by the picture ROBERT MACKLIN (CT, November 24, p.3) is unduly censorious of the Australian National Women's Soccer Team.

Professional sport is flesh for sale. It would be hard to degrade it further.

What disturbed me about the article was the (repeated) use of the word Tcalenders instead of Tcalen dars. The sub-editors must have been too preoccupied with the picture to pay much heed to the text! el,2 GEORGE NIKOLIC Woden If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 25nov99 10:00) Philippa Schroder is taking up a job with Professional Public Relations.

Philippa's new business tel is 62628071.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 24nov99 14:48) anyone know if we can get a little 2 to above the number as in 10 to the power of 2???

thanks all shift triple 2 it is. 10 (EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 23nov99 11:22) headline writers: a man who was the father of a heroin victim, asked us not to write 'shooting gallery' as it gives a totally wrong picture of what is being advocated.

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(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 18nov99 9:40) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 18nov99 10:00) Thair-braineds got another guernsey at the weekend, and always will...but it should be Thare-braineds as in having a brain like a hare...but I only know this because I was lucky enough to grow up in hare- infested Norfolk and saw hares being silly (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 15nov99 8:55) friendly reminder #347: please justify stories before sending them to the right day basket (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 12nov99 10:29) friendly reminder #364: please make sure after writing them that all headlines, blurbs and captions within a story end with a paragraph mark and not a or . thank you.

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 11nov99 12:24) please do not write 'telegram' style blurbs or breakouts, ie, with articles missing.

they just have to be re- written (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 11nov99 14:20) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 4nov99 10:00) peter karp/clive simmons stories are no longer to be accepted by us. he is aware... i have spoken to him this morning.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 28oct99 9:16) could people please make sure stories are justified before sending them to the relevant day basket (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 26oct99 15:32) ipage templates with a longer life (into 2003) have been created to replace the ipage99 series, which would have expired at the end of this year.

The new templates are ipage, ipagesat and ipagemon.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20oct99 11:39) the fun&games template pages have been given longer lives (into 2003). They are sn comics3, comics4, comics5, comics6 and petcare.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20oct99 12:22) no ellipses in headings, captions, breakouts, blurbs, please (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 20oct99 16:37) a longer-life crosswords/comics template page has been created.

It is sn crosswords.

xwords99 (with an expiry date early next year) still exists.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20oct99 16:38) Colleagues: Style for drop caps (as in captimes!)

First word, including the drop- cap letter, must have four letters, all capped. Only if it doesn't make four (like YOU, or IT) cap the second word. If a name, cap all letters in the name. Check SDK9.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 19oct99 18:35) two different subs in the past two nights have reduced the body type in stories. don't do it. it looks like crap.

only lawlist, drinks, award lists etc are exempt.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 15oct99 21:55) pls do not abbreviate million in text to m.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 15oct99 16:15) All pages in future are to be typeset to T1 (mono) and T2sep (colour). EPM may request variations on this: ie T1sep and T2 etc but rd, rdsep, infilm and inlsep no longer exist.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 13oct99 18:19) Tabloid subs in particular might be pleased to hear that they can now use CONTROL 6 to increase their page display to 60pc.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 12oct99 16:31) The snow shape, box and dinkus have been taken off the three ipage templates (ipage99, ipagesat and ipagee99mon) and saved for next winter on a template page called ipage+snow with a hold on it till 9 June 01.

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(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 9oct99 12:31) aace{aac}Harradine only lost the balance of power on June 30. He's still got his seat. (We called him a former Senator, p3 today) (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 11oct99 11:34) please do not use (and cut out of copy) ignorant use (which these days is almost all use) of the phrase "beg the question".

If "invites the question is appropriate, by all means use. Pls keep "beg the Q" for the petitio principle in formal logic (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 11oct99 11:48) a lot of the stuff going into wirefault winds up as error. those stories that make it in complete lose their keywords and styl.inl call that belongs in the styl field.

you need to replace styl call to use the story, or it won't justify or cast (NIGHTSUBS, MHEPWORTH, 11oct99 16:20) Lavish praise for Sally Hopman whose superb late-stop effort last night ensured we had E. Timor firefight on page one for second edition . beating all our rivals. Well done!

(NIGHTSUBS, BJONES, 7oct99 16:08) to klepto: the editor has agreed to pay the ransom you demand for the editorial teaspoon.

use dead-letter drop to specify method of payment.

(EDITORIAL, BBRAMMALL, 7oct99 15:59) Casuals . Clarification: you will be paid for the hours you have been rostered to work as a minimum.

You must be told in advance how many hours you are required to work. Current rosters cannot be changed.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 7oct99 11:15) Casuals, pls see me if you have any questions about the new agreement (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 7oct99 10:54) note to casual journalists continued: hours worked, not half shift or full shift. Fill in actual hours worked from tomorrow Friday 8 October please.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 7oct99 10:03) Casual journalists: Pls see Clause 25 of the new Industrial Agreement. As a result of this new agreement, one important change: pls fill in the time sheets with start time, break time, finish times. Casualjournalists will be paid for the actual (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 7oct99 10:02) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 7oct99 10:00) When subbing Timor reports, please make town and city spellings conform to those on the maps scattered around the subs' desks.

Los Palos is one that comes in as Lospalos, and Balibo sometimes comes as Balebo. Pls check if in doubt.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 3oct99 21:18) If you are putting in a story by a new contributor, please drop me details of name address, phone, email, something so I can contact them to pay them. It is a nightmare trying to keep up with them and for budget I have to do them promptly. Help (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 1oct99 11:57) plse remember to convert imperial measure to metric, and million should be spelt out in copy, not abbreviated to m (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 1oct99 17:12) temporary ipages for Sat and Mon (ipage2 and ipage4) and temp ldr page for Mon (leaderpage4) have been created.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 29sep99 11:32) i hope you won't need to use it but my mobile is 0407 226 892 (EDITORIAL, RMACKLIN, 29sep99 10:52) Reminder: our style is G7 not G-7 for the group of seven.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 27sep99 20:47) Please leave gold prices in \$US as that's the world standard.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 27sep99 18:33) If anyone takes an editorial car, pls sign yr name, time out and time in. Otherwise, if someone gets a speeding ticket when the speed cameras come into operation, you need to prove that it was not you.

Thanks.

(EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 27sep99 16:24) E-mail reminder: don't use double closing quote marks (s) in stories to be e-mailed.

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The s character stops any text following it from being e-mailed outside the building. Use two single closing quotes (") instead.

(EDITORIAL, PMAYOH, 27sep99 16:14) Proper nouns, with the exception (perhaps) of e e cummings and k d laing are to be capitalised in the normal way, and affectations such as the use of upper case in midword (CompuServe or aQuaviva) are to be regarded as logos, and not our reader-friendly style (JWATERFORD, 9mar99 16:30) As an occasional Weekender...I think it quite wrong for jnalists to solicit weekenders from businesss. those doing it now should know better but so should our bosses who exert no quality control over anything and let that happen.

and those same bosses should wonder why Weekenders have become essential as space fillers for features...they are always smarmy sucking, advertorial things and an embarrassment..

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 24sep99 7:57) i have only belatedly come across the great weekender correspondence.

Individual journalists should not solicit such things; indeed, the company does not, altho, we accept offers at our discretion, and, if they are interesting write about them (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 24sep99 17:42) where possible, pls leave any subbing instructions in crossout mode, so they survive if the story gets rejigged or cut. one got away from us last night.

(NIGHTSUBS, MHEPWORTH, 24sep99 15:11) NB: breakouts should not feature quote marks unless they are direct quotes, they should preferably be x shaped and they should not have full points unless they are two separate sentences. also, quotes within captions are T, not " (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 23sep99 12:48) there is now a basket called yearend where we should put all stories and ideas regarding the end of year liftouts...

(EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 22sep99 14:10) Just when the millennium begins [in fact, of course] it is 1.1.01] is a subject on which we are officially agnostic, becoz there is not enough time in the world to explain to those who think that it is 1.1.00.

If people make reference to the millennium in terms which imply one or the other, by all means report them if it is newsworthy. But do not adopt their definition if it is other than 1.1.01 and do not yourself write copy which suggests it is Jan 1 2000 (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 22sep99 15:37) BETWEEN is a preposition and takes the objective (or, to old latin hands, the dative) case. It is between HIM (not he) and John, between you and ME (not I) etc.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21sep99 15:46) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 16sep99 10:00) one bacterium, several bacteria. we had bacterias in food and wine today!

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 15sep99 12:37) can i suggest if reporters are taking their own photos to go with stories that they take off the date function...

it makes it hard to crop things to get rid of it (EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 15sep99 13:29) does anyone know where to find an underscore on the coyotes?

thanks all, i'm told it's word hyphen (EDITORIAL, KLAWSO, 13sep99 13:33) if you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify steve ext 380 or greg ext 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 9sep99 10:00) pls do not abbreviate billions in text to bn, and try for someth ing interesting in captions rather than just repeat headings or blurbs or state the obvious (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 9sep99 16:10) if you need to reach ross peake, while in nz, his speed dial is 5456.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 9sep99 14:50) Friendly reminder that we need to convert \$US figures to \$A when subbing copy from overseas sources, eg, Guardian piece on Indonesia on p9 today. And always be suspicious of figures that look at all dodgy.

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Indonesia is 1000 (yes, 1000!) times bigger than The Guardian said it is. And it became independent in 1949 (in fact on December 27 . nearly 1950!) not in 1945. And APEC stands for Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (forum)

(FEATSUBS, KMAY, 9sep99 2:55) hearing the word remediation/ remediated 3 times in one story on the ABC reminds me that the very preferred usage is remedy, remedying, remedied etc (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 7sep99 18:10) TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The GDK for use with electronic text copy for the Australian Cryptic Crosswords is 0.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 3sep99 16:13) fi stands for Tfirst indents. It has three parameters: left indent, right indent, and leading between paragraphs. It is activated by If nothing is put after it it defaults to zero. To initiate paragraph indenting use fi,9 (DWYATT, 2sep99 15:48) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 2sep99 10:00) ellipses are fine in text but NOT in breakouts, headings blurbs etc, puhleeese (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 2sep99 15:07) Can late stops please inform the blokes out the back (on 328) a) If there is to be a second edition. b) How many pages. c) Ring them when the last page has been typeset. d) Let them know ASAP if there is to be a third edition. Thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 2sep99 18:35) Catriona at Assembly is on 5582, Liz remaining on 348 (EDITORIAL, AFRASER, 1sep99 12:19) The bridge code hand has a default indent setting of 2p3 for the North and South hands. If this looks off- centre it can now be adjusted by putting in a measurement after hand. Less than hand,2p3 will move it to the left, more than 2p3 to the right.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 1sep99 16:25) Jose's mum says he (and she) don't take a hyphen in their Ramos Hortas (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 31aug99 14:03) Colour scan dockets should carry the name of the section as the category and the name of the story as the keyword. This helps the person who has to assign the graphic. e.g.

the read is on the ipage. So the category is ipage, the keyword read.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 28aug99 11:51) When reading proofs for second edition, pls justify story after making any corrections, to be sure it has not changed length. If it has, adjustments should be made by the sub doing the corrections. thankee, all.

(NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 30aug99 17:53) If you have any computer problems please update story "computerfix" or notify Steve EXT 380 or Greg EXT 368 if the matter is urg ent.!!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 26aug99 10:00) a reminder to everybody that if you are sick and not coming in, you must ring in early, either tell your supervisor, me, Elaine or Julie. Ta.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 25aug99 17:08) with recipes please put a " (double m) at the start of the second (and subsequent) line if an ingredient turns over two lines - see me for more clarification if needed... thanks (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 17aug99 9:57) You get your just deserts . what you deserve . if you are lucky. Desserts are sweet courses. We had desserts in the second editorial today.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 19aug99 10:04) Another one: acid sulphate in a road might leach, not leech, acids in a road.

Strictly, acids might leach into the soil from the road. We had leech in the highway story on p1 this morning.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 19aug99 10:28) ink trucks always come on Thursdays.

Don't park in the no parking areas near the press hall anyday, especially on Thursdays. There is lots of parking in Pirie Street off street parking, roughly behind the take away shop.

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(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 19aug99 11:39) friendly note #237: the last person to leave on a friday night might like to check that our epm out tray is empty as the copy people clearly don't.

it's not much use having photos that need to be processed sitting in here until saturday. thankyou ...

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 21aug99 9:04) please take care when referring to talk-back radio sleaze. Laws is in far deeper pooh than jones. and there is more evidence against Laws. We have (or can get) the Laws-bank document.

We have not seen the Jones-Optus document and when we do it may not be as clear-cut as the Laws matter.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 27jul99 17:08) Why do we ask the public to send listings in for timesout, fridge door and alive - and then not use many of them due to lack of space? These are well-read sections and I get many phone calls. (after I have sat here and typed them in all week) (EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 26jul99 9:22) E-mail from: Robert.Briggs@dva.gov.au Subject: CT page 3, 20/7/99 Dear Editor, Your story on page 3, headlined "Bega: action may have saved girls", provides good examples of the incorrect, and correct, use of "may".

First the headline. To any educated person from the United States or Britain, at least, "action may have saved girls" can mean only one thing, that some girls lives were saved, as the result of some person's actions.

But then, when the first line of the story is read, it says, "A failure by police and the judiciary to punish ...

may have led to the murders of two Bega schoolgirls". So, the girls were not saved, but were murdered.

That isn't what the headline said. The headline should have said, "action might have saved girls".

The third paragraph got it right when it said, "deaths could have been prevented", and no doubt this is what would have appeared in a headline with that verb. No headline would say "action can have saved" or "deaths can have been prevented", much less "action will have saved" or "deaths will have been prevented", yet the grammatical sense is exactly the same.

This particular mistake, though increasingly common in Australia, is not heard in other English-speaking countries. Do we really want to adopt, and perpetuate through our newspapers, grammar which is incorrect and disapproved by every English grammar published?

Yours sincerely, Robert Briggs 30 Derwent Street Lyons ACT 2606 (02) 6285 1228 (02) 6289 6579 There is a new e-mail address for editorial graphics on the right-hand picture- desk computer: graphics@canberratimes.com.au Edit folder must be open. Access through Apple menu, then it will automatically download into Graphics sub-folder in Edit.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 23jul99 16:13) please do not repeat key headline words/ phrases in blurbs... they just have to be rewritten.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 22jul99 11:39) pls note for style purposes that no-one is hyphenated and that cooperation is not (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 21jul99 15:27) A hint: When a helvetica light byline is used one can put in cf,hel,9 before it and el,3 after. Or, one can use pu,by + cf,hel with the usual .

If a ft,b is used before the first option it creates a 9pt indent, making the byline off centre.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 20jul99 10:49) Ken, this may help: the coordinates for sn comicsheads or comicsheadsc are x=49p6 y=353m and for sn crosswdsols or crosswdsolsc are x=20p7 y=549m.

(DWYATT, 20jul99 13:34) too many whitefellas are offended by us calling blackfellas blacks even though the black fellas (imbued with black consciousness) prefer it. So from here on in pls avoid ""black/s"" in headlines.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 20jul99 15:55) hark and hearken both mean listen, but only hark can be used in the expression hark back, which means recall . a different hark. probinson had hearken back in capital life.

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(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 13jul99 17:10) pbrewer should have said "raises, or poses, the question' on friday, not 'begs the question'. see usage note in ACOD.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 13jul99 17:28) I recommend the use of sw (set width) in condensing or expanding headings.

It allows some precision in adjustments and maintains the leading set in the toolbox.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 13jul99 17:49) In my recommendation of sw (set width) I neglected to explain that it requires a point size. e.g. sw,55 is a set width of 55 points. The suggested maximum condensing of serif types is 15% (more for sans serif faces); the maximum expansion is about 5%.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 14jul99 14:19) From today, whoever sends out arts pages (including panorama and sunday pages), and science pages, must print out an extra final proof (small version) and give it the news editor, or leave it on his/her desk. (We had two doubles in the past few days).

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 14jul99 16:57) when doing spare pages or parts there of please create new pages not makes changes to old ones. inl pages that have expired still exist but the stories drop off. they have to be layed out again (EDITORIAL, KHARDY, 16jul99 10:56) PricewaterhouseCoopers tells me it spells its name like that (without a cap W).

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 7jun99 21:47) FYI Isabell Coe (Ms) is the correct spelling and title, she informs us. Not ISOBEL, or Isabelle or Mrs. ...ta (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8jun99 10:11) when subbing food and wine recipes please don't put a anywhere for the body text is set left..

thanks again (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 1jun99 15:54) Rach Hill has asked me to let you all know that she has embraced modern technology and bought a mobile (0407 231 984).

Call her to say hi or if you have any other general health queries (24 hours).

She is, after all, serving the public...

(EDITORIAL, MLUDLOW, 31may99 16:19) Gentle reminder that Dave Rugendkye is no longer an Osborne Independent, just an Independent. We lumped him with the former teammate on Saturday.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 24may99 11:33) reporters. short intros please. The Tale of Two Cities begins with a sentence of 13 words, so it is not a case of dunning down. subs: if intros are too long cut them into constituent bits. (reporters: better you do it than have a sub do it) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 19may99 14:37) triple P gets the adiE symbol, which we use rather than Stg (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 12may99 16:31) in the interests of uniformity, pls make all dot points S, i.e.

double b and a thin space, tks (NIGHTSUBS, BJONES, 11may99 20:45) speed dial for catriona's mobile 5458 (EDITORIAL, JWATT, 11may99 10:22) Until I get the phone list updated: Emma Pearse now working on Times Out and Buz, after hours phone number is 62821689 (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 27apr99 14:10) A reminder: leader pages and ipage should be copied from the template pages, not pages from previous days. The reason is that sometimes adjustments are made for publication, and copying such a page means these adjustments are perpetuated.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 24apr99 11:32) Newspaper reference files are tools for use by everyone. Please do not cut, tear or remove any part of them. Someone thoughtless ly cut sections from " a dozen pages of last Saturday's edition (& removed a whole page) .. just the section I needed!

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 24apr99 15:03) alan anderson has found a way to rotate text in a fixed shape story without using the banner tool, and also by using negative lead and horizontal space, to move the story to its original x and y coordinate without the rotation going off the page I'm going to try it next week in the guide . the rotation is rotate,180 (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 26apr99 14:13) E-mail from: barry.millar@deo.defence.gov.au Subject: Dear Mr Macklin The standard of English expression displayed in journalism these days often leads to amusing - if not confusing -

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headlines and captions in our newspapers. For example, a caption on page 4 of today's Canberra Times would have us believe that, during WW II, Captain Dechaineux commanded a scale model of the HMAS Warramunga - a "pocket" battleship, no doubt!

Regards Barry Milar Our poor handyman has had to do things which you would never want to do yourself - get into a hopper and take out non-recyclable things. DONT put anything except plain clean paper into the recycling sulo bins. Files with wire tops, folders, plastic stuff was thrown in. DONT!

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 14apr99 9:14) p4 caption story.

should say EXALTED, not EXULTED. Former means revered. to exult is to leap for joy (which Buddhist monks do not do for fear of treading on ants).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 19apr99 11:54) when doing recipes for food and wine, if the ingredient turns over in to the second line please put an " before the second line and a on the first - thank you ...

(FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 19apr99 15:04) no honorifics in features please (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 19apr99 15:36) nb jack has banned the use of the word "raft" in contexts such as "a raft of" policies/ proposals/whatever.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 2apr99 16:09) Beware figures given, specially by Serbs, for number of Serbs in Oz.

Letter-writer, a demographic expert, says Ta very generous total of 50,000 Serbs.

Just a quarter of the 200,000 claimed. In the same way the Canberra total is 1500, not 4000.s at last we know: ABRI, the Indonesian military, is the Angkatan Bersenjata Republik Indonesia. I bet we never spell it out.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 1apr99 11:27) pls do not write headings with missing articles. they have to be done again. same with the words "a new book" in blurbs. it wastes an awful lot of time.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 1apr99 11:55) To those who one day may need to know: The Vice-Regal News now comes to us from GovernmentHouse by e-mail. It is addressed to features.editor and appears in ba features.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 30mar99 11:11) the graphic for the oped is d31p11a - it's a ragout being done by matt nolte (JROSENBERG, 30mar99 15:13) caramel easter eggs for only \$4 pkt. i only have 6 pkts left. he lp me if you can.

fundraiser for my daughter.

(EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 30mar99 14:32) norma asks could we pls watch out in her (or any) copy for the spelling of "a cappella" (singing without accompaniment). take away one of the "p's and you have created a prostitute (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 30mar99 11:42) beware references to Marion Watson...she has indicated a plea of guilty in the magistrates court. she has not be convicted, her lawyer points out. (Her lawyer no doubt wants her to change her plea in the Sup Ct so Higgins can let her off.)

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 29mar99 10:45) not Ta plumb jobs as in today's paper...Ta plum jobs..a job as nice as a plum (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 29mar99 8:56) now that Exhibition Park in Canberra has sustained its name for five years and every sign and popular reference is to Exhibition Park in Canberra (EPIC) and it is only rarely known as the show grounds we should now refer to it as Exhibition Park in Canberra (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 25mar99 13:41) a motoring section addendum to CT style: A damper is also a shock absorber. As in, race cars use hard damper settings.

(EDITORIAL, PBREWER, 24mar99 13:38) bill, i've changed the way chis salins sends her copy. cross and iwatt have udk c to put space at line endings and paragraph it. SDK1 will also do it (someone should keep track of it for other feat users).

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cheers. (AANDERSON, 19mar99 20:29) (FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 22mar99 8:50) Where you put an ONLY affects the sense.

Think about it. Only I went to town. I only went to town. I went only to town. I went to town only.

There's a diff between: I will only do this if... and I will do this only if... we use former too much when too much when we mean the latter (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17mar99 18:55) voice mail on phones: if you are going on leave and have programmed a message, leave your PIN with someone so the messages can be retrieved. If not, the voice mail may be reprogrammed with a PIN of 0000.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 11mar99 14:11) i've just sent the following to rhesner. you all know it, don't you?

biannual means half-yearly. the word festival is biennial, every two years.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 11mar99 16:31) To work out how long it will take to double your money at a fixed interest, divide the annual interest rate into 72, the result is the number of years it will take.

* (DWYATT, 9oct97 16:38) good news for people fed up with using those silly dick smith plastic suction-cup devices to record phone interviews. Found a plug-in Sony device which works superbly.

Have model number for those interested.

* (EDITORIAL, PBREWER, 26oct97 14:30) With letters to the editor we always prefer full address and publish suburb only, but the aim is to establish identity. It is not a rigid rule. If you have an email address and a suburb it will usually be enough, especially if the email address embraces elements of the person's name. If the letter is innocuous there is less need to be rigid. If the content of the letter has a potential for embarrassment if not sent by the purported sender then there is need for more care.

(CHULL) You can use the directory listing WR to get stories by writer, just as you use BA to get all stories in a certain basket.

So if you want all stories which have the word PLAYLAND in the writer field you go COMMAND D or CMD .D to get a directory prompt and fill out the fields WR PLAYLAND then hit COMMAND.

You may get asked for a list name. if so type SUBS in the list name.

(You can assign a default list name to the WR directory by writing it into your user defaults. COMMAND .

U go tot he bottom overwrite DE SUBS with WR SUBS.)

Penelope Layland or Peter Mayoh or I can help if needed.

Incidentally there are hundreds of lists available to give you directories of stories with various combinations of fields (username; spelled; topic; keyowrd etc etc....) a full list of the list names is in sn lists.

Proper nouns, with the exception (perhaps) of e e cummings and k d laing are to be capitalised in the normal way, and affectations such as the use of upper case in midword (CompuServe or aQuaviva) are to be regarded as logos, and not our reader-friendly style (JWATERFORD, 9mar99 16:30) phase (verb) to synchronise or carry out in stages. Do not usually use for a stage of a process. Faze - to disconcert. A completely different word (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 10mar99 9:39) COULD WE have contact numbers in things which tell readers about new services, etc. Todays :In Briefs' story about Veterans Advocacy Service brought a few calls for help in track ing them. Thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, LBLISS, 9mar99 11:16) In case it should ever matter, I was misinformed by the friend I rang about the meaning of ""nagila".

""Hava nagila" means, as nearly as makes no difference, ""come, let us be glad".

No Headline In Original

(LDIXON, 27feb99 16:32) Cables subs pleeease, especially sunday nights, run UK papers at start of the shift. Six pages of Monday Sport need some of those good reads early in the night, even if there's nought space, or anything you need, of the service (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 23feb99 9:48) if you ever need to know again, IEC stands for Introductory English Centre. You have to guess what that is.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 16feb99 22:26) Having identified the DIRECTOR of Public Prosecutions in the fir st reference, no need to spell out DPP in the second reference (p3 today) ... let alone make it into the non- existent DEPARTMENT of Public Prosecutions!

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 18feb99 14:28) Make-up folks: when the Supreme Court list doesn't lob, like las t night, pls ring Gaeleen Curley (6267 2735w and 6247 6207 h) coz there's always (barring the odd Xmas- thru-Jan day) a Supreme Court list Sun-Thurs nights inclusive (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 18feb99 15:44) can the latestop please fax Page 1 (in several bits) to the ABC (so CT gets mentioned on Radio National). The number has been programmed so all you have to do is put the ciopy face down on the fax hit 01 and Start. ta.

(NIGHTSUBS, CHULL, 18feb99 13:54) re latestop faxing page 1 to the ABC... the ABC is quickdial 18 on the fax machine...ta (NIGHTSUBS, CHULL, 18feb99 15:47) just a reminder that in recipes all references to one-third, one half etc must be changed to " or ' etc ...

(FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 16feb99 13:08) In case it's needed for Canberra Grammar School's next significant anniversary, the predecessor school was Manaro, not Monaro Grammar.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 11feb99 9:37) according to the Jordanian Embassy the correct spelling for the crown prince is Hamzah (NIGHTSUBS, JWATT, 11feb99 10:25) Briefs are read. They add to the story count and our range. I want briefs in all news sections of the paper - news, world, finance and sport - every day.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 11feb99 14:25) Writers...please ensure that if you are not the SII AAuthor of a story that you put your initial and surname in the KEyword field. some time we will want to capture old data for the library without losing authorship...also the webteam needs to know authorship when they get the words only because the byline is a dinkus...Subs please put first initial and surname of all external authors in the KEyword field. don't use the keyword field for anything but authorship.

reporters using frames created by subs, please put your first initial and surname (CHULL) in the KEyword field. similarly reporters filing by modem, email etc...

subs if the reporter hasn't done it can you put the name in and nag them ta.

* (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6nov98 8:57) Spare pages for ad shortfalls: subs must notify EPM that any pictures for these pages be put in sparehold AND be saved on scoop for ONE MONTH. All text must be sent to basket called spare. This is to avoid material dropping out of the system.

tk u.

* (EDITORIAL, RMIHAICH, 6nov98 18:54) THIS MEANS YOU, especially subs! Please put the name of the writer in the WRITER field. If you are the sub who first uses a story sent in by modem it is up to you to put the writer's name (initial and surname) in the writer field. DO IT, PLEASE.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 9feb99 9:53) could all program previewers please put the day of the program, , eg, Thursday, in the key word field, not the note field . and please remember to fill in the writer field . thanks (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 9feb99 9:25) reminder to fill out the writer field in every story please. initial and surname. external authors have to be keyed in manually. sii users can go SDK ! (exclamation mark). even if a sub has creatd the frame or the story was modemed in earlier.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8feb99 9:11) people can still use the keyword field for things like radio, fridge door, advertising supplements, crosswords etc just a before.

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the writer field is for the human name of the human who crafted the words.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8feb99 9:29) further to WRITER field. It is for human names only. Do NOT fill it out if it is wire copy (aap, ap, indep, guardian) fill it out for staff writers and contributors. ta. you can still use KEYWORD for non-human things like day of week for guide etc (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8feb99 15:42) Do we put anything in the writer field of a merged story that has several authors?

if one of our people has written the top bit that person's sname should stay in the writer field...ta (CHULL, 10feb99 17:44) if one of our people has written the top bit that person's sname should stay in the writer field...ta (CHULL, 10feb99 17:44) Do we put anything in the writer field of a merged story that has several authors?

(CHULL, DWYATT, 10feb99 17:28) can you please make sure the last thing you do before sending a story to the day basket is justify it!! it saves time at the make-up end - thanks (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 4feb99 12:30) Is Verna Coleman wife of Peter Costello or Peter Reith . anyone know?

tk's all. it seems that costello's wife is tanya nee coleman. i've left out the sentence about verna coleman.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 4feb99 13:51) please fill in header page and date details on all stories sent to graphic artists. they're needed for website and syndication filtering.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 4feb99 16:58) beware when subbing recipes that you change 1/2 to " please (FEATSUBS, KHARDY, 2feb99 14:06) a regular reminder to reporters to keep proper notes. date and time, name of who you spoke to, phone number.

notes of what they said.

make notes in a bound spiral notebook. when finished date the notebook.

keep it for six years....without good ...mtc (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 2feb99 14:14) ..cont .. notes we don't have a leg to stand on when it comes to opposing corrections, apologies or winning defamation actions. a reporters good notes enabled me this week to tell a leading computer company to sod off.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 2feb99 14:15) I want you all to know that the pseudo verb authored is banned from The Canberra Times. Think written, or if that's too tame, look up write in the thesaurus for an acceptable alternative. Don't use it, and change it if you see it in another's copy.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 26jan99 23:43) a letter slipped through with name and address supplied (my fault..though the request was not very prominent). In future NO name and address supplied letters to be published unless it has got the editor's or deputy editor's signature against it//ta (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 28jan99 9:10) ps remember not to use the words "new book' in blurbs. they only have to be changed (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 28jan99 15:04) Mailbag letters from children in the Fun & Games section MUST NO LONGER CARRY THE SUBURB where the child lives... only the name, age and school (if given). A weirdo has been phoning the kids and harassing them.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 29jan99 10:55) i have a useful book, compiled by the Country Press assn for publicity officers of community/sporting groups etc full of tips about getting things in the paper - what we want and expect etc. We would like to send it out to groups who might benefit from it - not the already professionalised groups (smith family, ACTCOSS etc) but voluntary groups etc. If you deal with any such groups, give a list to Lyn, so we can send off with a note (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 15jan99 10:28) Man/woman is a noun not an adjective: Ric Charlesworth was the first male [not first man] coach of women's hockey (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 14jan99 18:13) pages to rdsep and infilm until further notice (not just for tonight but possibly weeks to months!)

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 13jan99 20:28) PLEASE NOTE THIS LETTER TO THE EDITOR I WOULD like to comment on Frank Cassidy's article headed TStories take an inch and give a country kilometres (CT, January 9, p.C4).

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My real concern with many imperial-to-metric translations is that they often result in an appearance of exactitude not originally intended.

An article on the Science and Technology pages of this paper last year referred to the Mars satellite Phobos as About 25.7km wide. By quoting a measurement in kilometres to one decimal place the translator was implying that it was accurate to within plus or minus 50m.

However, the original article would certainly have read About 16 miles. The implied margin of error there was plus or minus half a mile, about 800m.

The conversion effectively increased the implied accuracy of the measurement by a factor of 16.

What is wrong with saying About 25kms?

Similarly, and even more ludicrously, Fahrenheit temperatures of 25° and minus 106° were converted to minus 3.89°C and minus 76.67°C respectively. The increase in implied accuracy here is around 56 times.

Surely minus 4°C and minus 77°C would have given us the idea nicely.

After one of this area's rare snow falls, a television news report quoted a police spokesman as saying that the snow was 50.8mm deep on the highway (he really said 2 inches). Another television report quoted an American farmer as stating that "You won't find a bear within 16.09km of here". It all gets a bit silly really.

I suggest that the next journalist who makes such inflexible conversions be taken out to the back 0.9144m and thrashed to within 25.4mm of his or her life. el,2 MIKE O'SHAUGHNESSY Spence FYI: Questacon dinkus is gn170 and has keyword questacon on GDB. tks.

(FEATSUBS, AANDERSON, 12jan99 20:18) We keep getting honours wrong (as in Queen's birthday, New Year).

On January 10 we said Pam Bishop, who works at Government House, was a recipient of "'Queen Elizabeth's personal award, the Royal Victorian Order". Certainly, she received the Queen's personal award, but it was not the order, it was membership of the order. she was made a Member of the Royal Victorian Order (MVO).

On the same page we said Marjorie Turbayne became "'a Member of the British Empire". She did not. She became a Member of the (Most Excellent) Order of the British Empire (MBE).

On another topic, chemicals are leached, not leeched, out of plastic bags, soil, etc.

(MTRAVIS) The blue book on the newsdesk's desk has not only addresses and phone numbers of staff and other useful numbers, but a constantly updated list of holiday bookings for editorial staff. Feel free to use it, but don't take it away.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 11jan99 19:40) LAYOUT SUBS: if you have the pleasure of doing the Monday computer pages, the front page has a new masthead, COMPUTING, GN666 (b/w) and GN666f (colour). it answers to keyword computing on the GDB.

ta (FEATSUBS, AANDERSON, 11jan99 16:42) further to earlier: SDK! will put your user name in the keyword.

also subs: if reporters file by email please put their user name in the keyword. same for contributors (initial and surname) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8jan99 10:56) a reminder to all writers/reporters: if you are not the SII author of a story (because it was created by a sub for a frame from example or was a leader) please put your user name in the KEYWORD field, so we have some hope of determining authorship of stories when we go electronic (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 8jan99 10:50) SDK s apparently puts the user's name in the SUB field of the header.

go for it!

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(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 7jan99 20:02) Remember RODERICK Campbell objects VERY strongly to being called just ROD in his byline.

(KMAY, 7jan99 18:48) For future reference.

UNSCOM's Richard Butler is a senior UN employee, not a diplomat.

He is a former Australian diplomat.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 6jan99 20:20) Yesterday we reported people were working longer hours.

How many seconds or minutes do these longer hours have?

(EDITORIAL, GDOWNIE, 6jan99 14:02) Could people who are likely to get the odd check sub shift and don't do it too often please make a copy of checksub in noticeboard. We've had a few omissions and mistakes in the p1index in recent editions. Thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 30dec98 16:52) we use lower case for the euro, just like the dollar, lira, peso etc.

(FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 30dec98 17:12) pls do not repeat keywords from straps, dinkuses in headlines. they have to be done again (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 30dec98 17:56) 'C not degrees Celsius. (double d for the ') please (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 31dec98 12:53) dear colleagues: xmas has always been banned in our paper; it appeared in selinger's column today. and if something ranges FROM something there must be a TO; selinger had things ranging from this, this, this and that.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 31dec98 14:52) to whome it may concern: I have created a template page called xwords99sat, which replaces fridge door with saturday's radio programs, which we have been neglecting.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 1jan99 12:23) Would everybody please read and follow the CT style for dropped caps as outlined in sn capping, in ba noticeboard?

It's also in the system stylebook, which you can read by pressing SDK9 and following the simple instructions at the top.

Thank you all.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 2jan99 17:54) after hours numbers for interns are: andrew heasley 62816305 and 0417 241050; Tammie Malone 62825748; Angelica Allermo 62625651; Leesha Furse 62427319 (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 4jan99 9:15) for those doing arts layout for the next three weeks: sydney festival dinkus (color) is called sydney. Mono is called sydneyb/w.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 4jan99 13:58) A few things to avoid, spotted by some of our more experienced eyes: 1. department Secretaries, not departmental pls, and simply Secretaries thereafter. 2.

Not ""down by Xper cent compared with last years, just ""X per cent lower than last year".....

.... and can we give one lot of cliched ""watchful eyes" a rest pls: those that have been making frequent and unneeded appearances in recent captions ?? ta (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 17dec98 14:58) PLEASE remember to avoid repetition of key words in heads AND blurbs. Tonight we have TIndigenous rightss twice. Cheers!

(FEATSUBS, KMAY, 9dec98 18:22) Memo subs and reporters: In court reports, people plead guilty or not guilty TO charges of naughty things; they plead guilty or not guilty OF the crime. So it is pleading guilty TO a charge or murder, but guilty of murder. Pls amend when you see.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 9dec98 22:45) please do not use an article or a preposition at the end of the line of a heading across two legs or more.

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(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 11dec98 16:53) fyi subs and others: President's Cup golf takes the 's.

(EDITORIAL, MWALLACE, 10dec98 17:09) The masthead was apparently justified after midnight last night, changing the date to the following day.

Could all subs who are doing late-stop or layout shifts pls grab a copy of TMas thead After Midnights atop my terminal at some stage.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 3dec98 18:21) when material comes in from our people on PC2 and dumps into wirefault can you please put the author's user name in the KEYWORD field (e.g. KLAWSO).

one day when the library goes electronic this may be the only way to find out who wrote it.

(NIGHTSUBS, CHULL, 24nov98 10:00) Can people using our macs please refrain from fiddling with our screen brightness. They are calibrated for colour work. Someone has played with Sandras and now it has to be recalibrated. Than kyou.

(EDITORIAL, KGUY, 25nov98 13:11) writers...please ensure that if you are not the SII AUthor of a story that you put your initial and surname in the KEYword field.

Some time we will want to capture old data for the library without losing authorship...also the webteam needs mtc .cont.. reporters using frames created by subs, please put your first initial and surname (CHULL) in the KEYword field. similarly reporters filing by modem, email etc...

subs if the reporter hasn't done it can you put the name in and nag them ta.

..cont .. need to know authorship when the get the words only because the byline is a dinkus...Subs please put first initial and surname of all external authors in the KEyword field. don't use the keyword field for anything but authorship...ta earlier message about KEywords for authors does not, of course, apply to wire copy from aap, guardian, indy. the aim is to enable tracing of authorship for internet, library etc (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6nov98 15:20) Spare pages for ad shortfalls: subs must notify EPM that any pic tures for these pages be put in sparehold AND be saved on scoop for ONE MONTH. All text must be sent to basket called spare. This is to avoid material dropping out of the system.

tk u.

(EDITORIAL, RMIHAICH, 6nov98 18:54) please make sure the PART PAGE and SUB fields in the header of every single story are filled in.... also can people using straplines and blurbs make sure those fields are filled in though the SUB field once filled need not be changed each night (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 5nov98 8:09) Yet another victim has been rushed to hospital, in a brief on October 26. Jack's edict that there will be no RUSHING, no MERCY DASHES and nobody being killed AFTER they were in accidents is not being taken to heart.

More deaths could occur.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 5nov98 18:07) i pushed the wrong buttons and it said "copy to move area" how do i retrieve it?

(EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 29oct98 9:49) f4 it is. thanks.

(EDITORIAL, ESTANFORD, 29oct98 9:54) ACT hansard is now at <http://hansard.www.act.gov.au> (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 29oct98 9:58) the following are some of the most commonly used words which come up in Techno and which need some sort of style ruling.

at last, the ruling, approved by Jack. online: one word The Net: upper case (no apostrophe); first reference Internet Internet: caps for noun, lower case for adjectives intranet: lower case The Web: caps web site, web page etc.: two

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words e-mail: hyphenated, no cap; OK as a verb (I e-mail him), and a noun (check your e-mail) but when talking about address, must always be "e-mail address" not "what's your e-mail?".

offline: one word homepage: one word hack: lower case World Wide Web: all caps attributions: caps, with lower e-mail address beneath unless the address specifies upper/lower italicise game names but not Web sites or program names please, please make sure if an e-mail address must break over a line, do not allow the system to insert a hyphen.

whole addresses on one line are preferable, but sometimes it is necessary to put in a to avoid the system hyphen. make a reference point before citing an e-mail address which should then appear in brackets: "you could join the Spice Girls and Madonna on Mr Blackwell's Worst Dressed List (<http://www.mrbblackwell.com/>)" THIS IS A LETTER FROM A READER SENT TO JACK E-mail from: ian.clark@anu.edu.au Subject: Caption on page three photo this morning Dear Sir, This is not for publication.

Never shy to experiment, one of your staff excelled him/herself this morning with National Gallery of Australia Senior Curator of Australian art Mary Eagle with....

Why not just plain Mary Eagle, the Senior Curator of Australian art at the National Gallery of Australia, with.....

OK, a few more letters, but there was plenty of room. Without going into the complexities of stacked honorifics, and their wrongs and rights, what about a simple explanation to him/her that this attempt at communication is (a) bloody hard to follow, (b) raising giggles when the intention is to be serious, and (c) not at all how people speak. A little attempt at standards, please.

Yours sincerely, Ian Clark Nice pic-lists of the new Howard ministry available from newsed for those who promise to eliminate "with" from as many news pieces as possible, except where it means alongside or similar. No sentences to begin with "with" this week. How about it?

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 27oct98 16:38) Melbourne Cup is always 3.20pm. Thanks turf fans (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 26oct98 14:25) right honourable is for some high officials, notably privy councillors.

honourable is for some lesser high officials, children of some ranks of the nobility and MPs.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 21oct98 13:34) p1 head "Beazley puts 11 new faces on front bench" is wrong.

the Labor party caucus elects (if you can regard a factional deal as an election) its front bench, the leader merely allocates the portfolios.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 20oct98 10:57) please put any requests for copypersons to go on errands thru Julie Watt. Impossible for copypeople to do all the separate jobs which are thrown at them, plus keep up with work here. Copy persons work under Julie's immediate supervision.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 16oct98 16:20) For the umpteenth time, especially tonight, please remember it is Gerhard Schroeder NOT Schroder. The problem comes from the Brit papers using an umlaut which does not translate to our system.

Agency copy gets it correct.

And it's Dr Kohl not Mr!

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 28sep98 17:20) FYI... We now have 2 output locations to the COLOUR proofer DICE and DICETAB....

DICE is for broadsheet colour pages scaled to 65% and DICETAB will give a 100% colour proof of a tabloid page..

* (EDITORIAL, ALANL, 19aug98 18:46) please do not repeat in a blurb key words already in the heading ... otherwise the lines have to be rewritten at the proof stage.

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(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 22sep98 11:50) Brian Nye is the President of the ACT division of the Liberal Party, and not, as our correction said, the director. The director is John Ryan (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 15sep98 17:01) reopen is one word.

no hyphen.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 17sep98 19:31) please note that it is not Channel Nine, it is the Nine Network; it's not Channel Seven, it's the Seven Network; not Channel Ten, Network Ten (and in Canberra Ten Capital, not Capital, or Capital Ten) - see advertising story on page 2 today (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 15sep98 10:46) SUBS: pls take the time to read stories at least TWICE. also, pls run a spell check AFTER you have written headlines, blurbs and captions. in fact, PLS RUN A SPELL CHECK.

some of sunday's stories would have been cleaner had they NOT been subbed...

(FEATSUBS, JBORRIE, 12sep98 13:38) we don't italicise Web sites or computer program names, only games. we do use double quotation marks, not single, unless it's a quote within a quote. full Techno style guide is soon to be released and will undoubtedly hit the bestseller list (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 14sep98 11:28) we've been referring to the musuem proposed for Acton as "the Australian Museum" it's correct name is the National Museum of Australia, or shortform National Museum (EDITORIAL, MMETHERELL, 11sep98 10:30) Dr Michael Wooldridge is Dr, not Mr, as changed in copy today.

Please, all, be aware of the sensitivities of these people!

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 11sep98 15:24) pse make one-line page-lead heads full out ... they have to be rewritten if they're short.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 9sep98 15:24) Pls note: honorific for Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, is in doubt: Monday's Vice-Regal calls her Her Excellency' (& her husband Dr'); an AAP article (The Age 3/9) called her Mrs'; reports last yr called her Dr', Professor', Ms' & Mrs'.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 5sep98 12:31) Message from Pat Bourne, first secretary at the Irish Embassy is that the embassy uses, and the President prefers, President McAleese.

(EDITORIAL, GCOOKE, 5sep98 12:53) panorama reminder pls: breakouts (without full points, unless they're two sentences) have to come from the spill portion of the story. pls avoid ellipses, square brackets, double quote marks within (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 3sep98 15:11) A general reminder to layout subs: do NOT enlarge a dinkus or go to fit the width of a bastard-measure column. All (or most) have been made at 10p7 width.

Leave them at 10p7.

(NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 29aug98 22:27) we had had an absolute raft of a raft of". Can we give this almost meaningless, not to mention moribund cliché, a rest betwe en now and, say 2001?

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28aug98 17:05) msg from barb: wld layout people pls check dummy off against their pages. there was a problem with an ad failing to appear on page 2 today.

(EDITORIAL, CROSS, 28aug98 11:20) bylines for interstate writers other than our own need an accompanying attrib line for AAP (or other agency).

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 27aug98 22:31) food and wine. these are words to be avoided in food and wine articles, coming as they do under 'food and wine' straps (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 25aug98 16:07) LAYOUT SUBS: with the exception of CT Page 1, please do not send Dice colour proofs to EPM or pressroom.

They are of no benefit to them. Pls send proof seps. thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 23jul98 17:56) Internet users who want best hansard access go to <http://www.aph.gov.au/hansard/> but DO NOT hit the first reference to House or Senate Hansard at the left (acrobat pdf version), rather go lower to COMPREHENSIVE SEARCH (text

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version) (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 22jul98 18:41) we have been requested by barrie murphy to not give instructions to the typesetters personally.

everything is to be put in their IN tray.

Special or urgent matters to barrie himself or to sandra harisson.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 20jul98 16:59) National Party luminary De-Anne Kelly spells her name thus.

(KMAY, 21jul98 1:15) double y gives square-root sign: (JROSENBERG, 20jul98 18:28) can everyone please watch out for "a cappella" which crops up at least once a week in the arts pages. two ps and two ls ...

(FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 16jul98 14:18) From tonight, fed court law list will lob separately by email into canberranews.

pls merge with other (set) stuff (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 16jul98 14:43) Style note: The Government . Federal or ACT . takes a capital letter when it is being referred to as the Government.

As an adjective . a government house (guvvie) or similar it does not.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 15jul98 15:51) SUBS: make sure that all stories to be published in the next day's paper have the pubdate field filled out and at the end of the night end up in the relevant CT basket (CTMON, CTTUE CTWED etc). Otherwise they don't get picked up by the website ..ta.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 14jul98 11:15) Anyone experiencing draughts from air- conditioning vents now that the air-con system's filters have been replaced, allowing an increased flow of air, could ring Ray Colbertaldo, the property mgr, on ext 127, who can adjust the flow at vents.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 9jul98 14:12) in the lead motoring story today we referred to Volvo's estimated expenditure as ""between \$2.2 to \$2.8 billion"; this means between 2.2 dollars and 2.8 billion dollars; shd have bn \$2.2 billion and \$2.8 billion; and, not to, in the middle.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 3jul98 13:44) Our guide, the Australian COD, says chilli (plural -ies) for the hot pepper, not chile, as Boddy spells it.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 2jul98 16:55) our style on referring to other newspapers.

We italicise The only with The Canberra Times and The Times of London.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 2jul98 16:11) Our style is to use an "a" in paedophile, despite the fact that the spellcheck says ""pedophile".

(FEATSUBS, ANEVILLE, 29jun98 16:48) Memo: remembrance is spelt thus, NOT remembrance or remembrance. We have had it both ways in the paper recently.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 22jun98 18:00) We have trouble in INL with Graphic space reservations giving rules around graphic that are not wanted. As a quick fix please delete the graphic space res before outputting the page. I'll try and correct the problem next week.. !!

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 19jun98 16:44) Ken - I see Govt is creeping back in again in Letters heads. It (and Dept and) is allowed in News pages but banned in Features pages.

(WGOODALL, 22jun98 10:40) Our flash new fax can fax A3 (EDITORIAL, JWATT, 22jun98 15:07) LAYOUT SUBS: final blacks of colour pages should now be sent from the Coyote, not INL. Call the page to the Coyote, enter infilm in the location field and CMD o. Technical reasons to improve pix.

Questions to me pls.

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(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 22jun98 16:48) gentle reminder #144: Rollerblades are a brand name. we should talk of in-line skates (EDITORIAL, AFRASER, 22jun98 13:21) A reminder with the German poll coming on: there's an umlaut on the o' in (Gerhard) Schroder, thus adding the e'.

Schroeder.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 17jun98 20:26) There are lots of widows creeping through, and it wastes time fixing them up. Please watch out for them.

(FEATSUBS, ANEVILLE, 15jun98 14:39) pls watch that rules are deleted when assigning illos and dinkuses, eg page 9 illo today (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 8jun98 11:38) Alan Anderson is taking leave from this evening for two weeks.

The help desk will be Peter Mayoh during the day, and Bill Wallis and Alan Langley at other times, on 5553.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 5jun98 14:25) a reminder: avoid articles and prepositions at the ends of multi-dek headings; they just have to be done again (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 4jun98 11:16) who was asking me about the anu's semester dates the other day?

They have provided an entire calendar of their academic years!!! Tis next to my terminal if you wanna look (EDITORIAL, VBURGESS, 2jun98 9:28) style note: no possessive apostrophe for citizens initiated referendums (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 29may98 14:37) Jack's definitive ruling on citizen-initiated referendums is thus: with a hyphen, and only one citizen.

the dums goes without saying.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 29may98 17:27) please no more RAFTS. We had a raft of highway improvements breaking the back of a highway this morning....people mixing metaphors like this are skating on thin ice and could lose their bread and butter.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 28may98 10:32) anyone subbing sport, please note: under no circumstances are we to refer to steve larkham (or anyone else for that matter) as the rugby union test five-eighth. no such position exists in rugby any more. it is fly-half. aap seems oblivious, as usual.

(NIGHTSUBS, MWALLACE, 19may98 15:30) After much debate..

This is our style for Mother's Day (NIGHTSUBS, MHUGHES, 9may98 18:45) Apparently the correct spelling for the Chief Executive of the Department of Urban Services is Rod GILMOUR.

(EDITORIAL, MDUTKIEWICZ, 11may98 9:49) LAYOUT SUBS - re boxes around pix: the system has been told to place a .8 box on by default, even though the toolbox might say 1 point. tks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 7may98 16:16) anyone know how to get the little squiggle symbol used in internet addresses on the coyote keyboard, it exists but I can't remember the combination of keystrokes needed (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 5may98 14:20) If anyone wants to make a note: ~~~~~ tilde (shift triple t)----- underscore (word hyphen) (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 5may98 14:25) just a reminder about repeating key words in heads and blu rbs. for instance, fashion this week has fashion in head, blu rb and in the dinkus - three is just beyond the pale.

(FEATSUBS, IWATT, 1may98 9:16) please remember to force justification of web site if they break lines, otherwise the system will put in a hyphen which some of the punters might think is actually part of the address.

(FEATSUBS, NLEEDHAM, 30apr98 11:01) to anyone who regularly or irregularly subs sport, please note that the half-back in league is a scrum-half in rugby union.

(NIGHTSUBS, MWALLACE, 29apr98 13:51) stories which go into macintosh basket don't need to have OPEN ITALS and CLOSE itals etc. they recognise coyote coding. it's only e-mail stories which corrupt in the transfer (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 27apr98 16:18) some new unrules: never use french in lieu of English; never use a

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big word where a diminutive word will suffice; minimise polysyllabic circumlocutions; tautologies are tedious and boring & oxymorons are plainly obscure (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 24apr98 12:54) Re Defamation.

If is no excuse to accurately report someone else's accusations.

Today we published Ken Jarrett's accusation that Elliott stole half of \$78 million. The fact Jarrett made this accusation on Channel Seven's Witness program and we transcribed it accurately is of no help.

We now have to prove the imputation that Elliott is a thief -- something the NCA could not do after two years of investigation and \$8 million in legal fees (the whole bloody editorial budget for a year).

We did not seek Elliott's comments, so we do not get the Lange defence, even if it were available for finance (as distinct from political matters).

In short, NEVER run stories that say nasty things about anyone unless: it is said in court, or it is said in parliament, or you have given them a full opportunity to respond AND you have very good grounds for believing the truth of it which will stand up in court AND you have referred it to Jack or me or someone else to legal. NEVER repeat other people's defamations; it is no defence, however accurately you quote them.

I just hope that Elliott and his lawyers don't see the article or think the CT is too small beer to chase. But if they do, we may have no choice but to grovel.

style note: please don't use hike when you mean rise - they take the same number of spaces, and style is to avoid hike unless it is accompanied by hairy-legs chaps and rucksacks (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 21apr98 20:54) Please, troops. How hard is it to include the time-date after the first reference to time-date in EVERY news report written?

Besides, it is a requirement, so how about it?

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 21apr98 18:41) style note: please do not use in headings names that are not instantly recognisable to the average reader.

(NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 20apr98 21:49) please be careful when putting in drop caps midtext that they don't cut in at points that interrupt the flow of the read. placing the drop a par or so above or below usually fixes it.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16apr98 14:42) aace{aac}just a request from us copypeople...if you look through the faxes before we have sorted them could you possibly put them back where you found them as they are getting mixed up with ones that have been sent or go missing around the office..thanx (EDITORIAL, DLANDON, 16apr98 17:34) Andrew Fraser has laid down sq rules for nightsubs we will adopt: Too many heads being squeezed, bugging integrity of typefaces. INL squeezes heads 4pc.

One sq makes that 8pc, two 12pc. So sqsq only for 72pt and above. no sq on text. ever.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 17apr98 8:43) My recollection is that the automatic squeeze is 6%. This was to emulate the compression we had using the old camera technique We used to be allowed to squeeze up to 10% on top of that. That makes a total of 16%. sqsq would give a total of 18%.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 17apr98 12:43) My surname is Macdonald.

Not MacDonald.

Not McDonald. I think the onus should be on the journo to at least spell their surname correctly and it should not be changed.

(EDITORIAL, EMACDONALD, 17apr98 10:21) Style note: Please remember, the Government (the Federal Government) is capped, government as an adjective is not = (government housing)Also, our style is not to use the slash, /, where a comma will suffice, as in 1998-99.

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(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 19apr98 19:43) watch the folio lines on mac pages ... earlier this week yet another was caught at the last minute by production with the wrong date on the page.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 8apr98 9:33) we are staring down the barrel of too many double dissolution triggers and the word is now in the gun. And we loyal Britz say "lease OF life"; it's septix what av invented the variant "lease on life" (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 8apr98 15:53) When was Irish Jack ever a loyal Brit? (KMAY a style whinge.the CT keeps publishing that, say, David Attenbor ough has a fascination for' elephant seals or, today, someone has a fascination for' fossils, this means it is the seals and fossils that are fascinated by Sir David & whoever tis..

I find Nicole Kidman fascinating but I doubt that I have a fascination for' her. I am fascinated by her or with her. and while I'm whingeing not rejoices on' as the other day but rejoices at' or rejoices over' (EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 6apr98 9:29) warden's whinge is not a style whinge, rather an appeal to use good English -- a far more important whinge. style is merely a choice of two or more equally correct ways of expressing something (e.g. NSW vs New South Wales).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6apr98 9:46) Jack has just confirmed that our usage should continue to be Opposition spokesman on . . .', not shadow minister for . . .'. Only shadows' are shadow treasurer' and shadow attorney-general'.

please, whenever a story mentions that something or other is on the internet, give the internet address, even if it sound like gobbledegook to you.

it saves secretarial staff having to answer phone queries, or running letters to ed later.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 2apr98 10:47) We're over- attributing again. Reith (p3), Military expert (p4) a nd Bayeh (p5) each had room for another relevant par when the unnecessary he said's were lopped. Let the tense do the job where it can (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 2apr98 13:49) petercole adams is now on ext 360 (EDITORIAL, EPEARSE, 31mar98 17:48) please avoid, even in quotes, "to the best of his knowledge" or "to my knowledge".

It may mean "as far as I know but I haven't checked" or "I am certain of this because I have checked ". Always try to find which the person means.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 31mar98 20:15) pse make sure copies of stories e-mailed to graphic artists go into ct*** baskets.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 26mar98 13:48) FYI: a file called engroleb.ttf on the P: (for public) drive is a true type font Engraver's Old English which is the closest thing yet to The Canberra Times masthead font for Windows applications, especially if you condense it by 10 per cent.

(\$ALL, CHULL, 25mar98 10:15) Guinness Book of records.... NN ...(we had it wrong and right on successive pages at the weekend)...remember it by a book of Numerate Notables.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 23mar98 10:27) a reminder that our style is title first then name, eg, mass murderer ian bushnell. Also, we use country not capital, eg US (not Washington) to blame for cold war.

(NIGHTSUBS, SHOPMAN, 21mar98 18:13) A reminder, since many have forgotten or do not know that it is against the law (s117 Crimes Act, \$1000fine) to advertise or publish statements saying that "no questions will be asked" in relation to return of stolen property * (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 10jun97 18:10) To work out how long it will take to double your money at a fixed interest, divide the annual interest rate into 72, the result is the number of years it will take.

* (DWYATT, 9oct97 16:38) pls, when writing blurbs for stories based on new books, do not use the words "in a new book" (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 19mar98 13:15) Please note: The German Social Democrat leader's second name has an umlaut and is thus spelt Gerhard SCHROEDER not Schroder.

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(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 10mar98 17:30) Anyone needing assistance to print out something from the internet, pls call on me. There is a way to do it without crashing the rips.

thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 9mar98 21:31) Letter to Editor on March 6, 1998 Crowd at Mardi Gras seems a bit inflated WHO COMES up with the crowd numbers? The Canberra Times reported 700,000 along the route of 2.5km. That is a total viewing length of 5km when allowance is made for spectators on both sides of the road. This in turn means 140,000 spectators per kilometre, if we are to accept that estimate of crowd numbers.

Assuming two people standing << End of Column 4 >> side by side occupy 1m, a single row of spectators results in 2000 spectators per kilometre.

Therefore, in order to have 140,000 per km in total, the spectators would have to average 70 deep, each side of the whole route of the Mardi Gras.

The television coverage I saw had as few as five, maybe up to 10 people deep. So a crowd somewhere between 50,000 to 100,000 seems more likely. Similar numbers were quoted for last year's crowd, and seem to have been uncritically accepted by the media.

el,2 ANDREW VEILANDS Weetangera I have a vague legal problem with a person mentioned once only, and then only at word 78 of a 101-word Bruce Juddery sentence.

It may prove central to our defence that no mortal could get that far into a sentence, but if so, why do we run them? Mr Pot.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3mar98 14:59) repeat warning that email coming in to your basket is not private and can be accidentally stumbled upon by people looking for other stories. Or worse, some twisted people can actually trawl for it. If something is private put P in the ACCESS field.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 2mar98 11:58) Here's a way to remember it. Hare- Clark electoral system.

The E is in the Electoral not in the Clark.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 26feb98 11:15) annual, biannual, biennial, millennium .

all come from latin annus, year, and all have two ns. Will people stop writing millenium . it seems to appear every day.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 26feb98 14:07) a reminder, for those who do not read addendum, that "elderly" is restricted to people at least 30 years older than the editor. This year, that's 76. We had a 59-year-old woman described as elderly today. That's hardly middle aged by my rule (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 26feb98 13:15) pmayoh mobile number is 5456 (EDITORIAL, JKILDEA, 21feb98 20:07) For information, the ruling party in Iraq is Ba'ath not Baath.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 22feb98 19:54) Zac has requested that no cardboard, cans, bottles, plastic or any thing other than paper is put into the recycling bins. Thanks Jo (EDITORIAL, JKILDEA, 17feb98 9:02) perhaps others know this already, but as I did not I will pass it on in case others are just as ignorant: fi apparently has three parameters . a left indent, a right indent, and a space between paragraphs.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 17feb98 11:56) A point to remember...

the time reference goes after the verb..

ie: The Prime Minister, John Howard, announced yesterday NOT yesterday announced...thanksAnother reminder... a person's title goes before their name.. ie The editor of The Canberra Times, Jack Waterford, said NOT Jack Waterford, the editor of The Canberra Times, said..thanks (NIGHTSUBS, MHUGHES, 14feb98 19:36) reporters: (sub editors are nearly trained!) : if you are taking pix from people, they must be labelled with return name and

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address. library, helen musa and I spent a lot of wasted time with an abusive man last week over his precious familypix (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 10feb98 11:37) for hanging indent: el,3 fi ih,9 par mark at end of each hi sentence/par.

after last hi sentence/ par with its par mark: ih fi,9 el,3 We have updated our version of STYL.INL to version 1.4. This was necessary as part of the Year 2000 upgrades.

This version corrects a couple of items like graphic scaling and if PAD AMOUNT is used it will justify the text out to the depth specified within the shape, unless the amount of underset is too great. So beware. If vertical justification plays up try setting pad amount (in the SHAPE TOOLBOX) to zero (0)....

(EDITORIAL, ALANL, 5feb98 15:34) Reporters: you must try to remember to insert the day/date after the first reference to today/yesterday/tomorrow in ALL copy. The ACT election means many reports are being held over, and we look fools if we get day/dates wrong when heldovers used.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 5feb98 16:27) RE: VISITORS BADGES~
 =====It appears that the visitors badges used at reception to escort clients/visitors into the building are becoming very scarce. Could I please remind staff that when you sign your visitor out to retrieve the visitors badge please.~ pls don't forget to day-date all yesterdays/ last nights, tomorrows. stories do get held over and this helps us keep it correct. thanks (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 1feb98 18:43) A full list of the Constitutional Convention candidates has been attached to each subbing terminal, and spare copies are under the time books, so there must be no excuse for us getting anything about them wrong. Please get one.

Pls photocopy last 1.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 2feb98 15:25) CORRECTION: The lists on terminals are of the ACT election hopefuls, not convention delegates. The full list of delegates is in today's wraparound.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 2feb98 16:24) pls don't forget to day-date all yesterdays/ last nights, tomorrows. stories do get held over and this helps us keep it correct. thanks (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 1feb98 18:43) When you are creating the i-page, pls remember to insert norules' in the keyword field. This stops the system putting rules around the ad in the top right-hand ear.

(FEATSUBS, K MAY, 29jan98 17:57) We would like examples of election literature, all parties, all constituencies, in the ACT. If people could bring in some examples of the stuff coming through their letter boxes, we would be very grateful.

(EDITORIAL, GCOOKE, 28jan98 13:18) To anyone who's looking for the National Multicultural Festival dinkus for arts pages this week it's called mcult (FEATSUBS, ANEVILLE, 20jan98 10:47) fire wardens' message: there are new emergency procedures instructions on the walls (1) on the sub editing notice board and (2) near the fax machines. Please read them.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 20jan98 14:50) Reinforcement: All copy filed MUST have the day-date included after the first time reference. So at least the first yesterday in EVERY report will have, eg, tuejan20, in brackets or crossed- out with word-shift-3.

"Today's' in copy should also have ID.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 21jan98 0:07) All graphics are to be put through the checking process, just as word copy is. The artists are being asked to make proofs of each graphic for the newsed or prod-ed, and wording, spelling and detail is to be scrutinised by checksub.

Jack's request.

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(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 21jan98 0:04) Ken, if you would like to get the keyword alongside the storyname when you call up ba ipage, use list storyname' (odd though this may seem). Also list subs3 gives a useful result with ba hcletters (grouping useful material at the left).

(DWYATT, 21jan98 17:12) G'day mate. Welcome back! The ipage now carries a small ad in the top right corner of the weather. We (featsubs) have to move it slightly to fit within the weather graphic.

Select, unlock, then change to: x=82p y=9m. Then lock again.

Oh, page is norules (DWYATT, 21jan98 14:31) television stories from wire agencies should go in tvguide basket, not goodtimes.

If you are unsure where a story could go, check with me or catriona, thanks (NIGHTSUBS, DSIBLEY, 21jan98 15:01) i don't want to make this a featsubs-wide rule, but please don't use ft,x in any page i have anything to do with. they are more trouble than they're worth in my view (FEATSUBS, IWATT, 22jan98 16:08) Memo all checksubs and potential checksubs: A copy of the schedule must go to EPM each night, including (a special one, if necessary) Saturday and Sunday nights, to ensure pictures are processed in the correct order. thanks all.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 23jan98 19:44) Reminder: All dollar figures in UK papers' copy are \$US for American syndication, and NOT \$A, and thus need to be converted.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 31dec97 16:23) there is now a template page sn crosswordsrt (as well as the standard sn crosswords), which can be copied when the crosswords, comic strips and radio programs appear on the right side of a page.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 24dec97 10:37) andrew fraser is going to tell the nightsubs that after a colon in a caption the next word begins lower- case. we'll revert to that.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 24dec97 14:42) <http://www.oanda.com/cgi-bin/ncc> is excellent currency converter. updated daily. and you can convert currencies historically, too. e.g.

Oz to US on July 1 1996.

good site to bookmark.

(\$ALL, CHULL, 15dec97 11:47) three things are inevitable, death, taxes and the CT's refusal to publish the scientific and common names of plants and animals the way the world of science does...but no doubt the world of science will come round.

A red-bellied black snake is just a snake a lay observer, perhaps the journalist, has noticed is a bit black with a bit of red on its belly. A Red-bellied Black Snake is Pseudechis porphyriacus, the species under discussion....

Anyone who wants to argue for the lower casing of common names should take the Little Eagle test. A little eagle could be any kind of young or stunted eagle...a Little Eagle is a species in its own right...

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 10dec97 9:10) From The Canberra Times stylebook: Do not use prior to: use before. Prior to technically means having greater priority, not before, so we will always use before instead. Thanking you for your cooperation in this and all style matters. newsed (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 7dec97 22:54) Pls don't file/run anything of disciplinary proceedings against an AFP officer Stephen Corrigan without refering the yarn to Jack, Cris or me.

There are two of them, and the good guy has lawyers (EDITORIAL, AFRASER, 5dec97 20:40) APEC currently groups Canada, the United States, Australia, B runei, Chile, China, Indonesia, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Hong Kong.

PLEASE NOTE: This morning's court story about the ADFA cadet, wrongly described him as coming from Duntroon. That was based on court information.

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Duntroon and ADFA are separate and students can NOT attend both institutions at the same time.

(EDITORIAL, MMETHERELL, 2dec97 9:20) the plural of incident is incidents, not incidence or incidences. An incidence is the rate at which something happens in a given time (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 29nov97 20:04) clergyman is the Reverend John Brown or the Reverend J. Brown, or even, if you don't know his first name, the Reverend Mr Brown.

Never Reverend Brown or the Reverend Brown.

Dr Konrad Raiser, named on Page 2 on November 20, should have been the Reverend Dr Raiser at second reference, if the Reverend was needed.

(MTRAVIS) cam, would you pls see that the motoring sub puts gn945f main motoring masthead on next week. they used a masthead called motormast this week.

gn945f has a new grey bar on it.

(AANDERSO N, 14nov97 19:07) (CROSS, 20nov97 9:03) 22helb reverse head, delete befled in before field for type on tone head, change 100 to 20 and 0 to 100 ft,s ft,h gbr,1,7,100,0 CAPPED HEAD ft,b drop,3,helb (CROSS, 29oct97 14:50) (IWATT, 19nov97 18:24) style note re akazar's story on page 1 today, the correct name of capital ten is ten capital, yes, I know it's pedantic but a name is a name is a name (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 19nov97 9:14) remember: sdk z at an early stage (before first justifying) removes the need to separate words in emailed copy (FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 13nov97 12:01) Logos (colour and mono) for Active Australia, the Life. Be In It replacement, now on GDB as actaust and actaustc (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 10nov97 16:51) EMAIL CHANGES: The SII email program has been changed today. Please make sure ALL incoming and outgoing Email is still working properly. The SUBJECT of the email story should now be entered into the NOTE field in the story header.

(\$ALL, BILLW, 6nov97 20:56) RE EMAIL SIGNATURE STORIES: You are advised to make these stories READ ONLY. To do this, place an R in the ACCESS field of the header.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 7nov97 20:12) One use for the new search function available for baskets, story names, desks etc (see ba noticeboard) is a search of ba stylebook for a particular word, or category. This eliminates the need to consult the index, then the chapter.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 6nov97 19:36) How to use the directory SEARCH prompt (Command d).

Example 1.

This will find ALL stories with the word SUBARU in basket CHULL.

All other fields can be left blank as the system will default those it needs.

Any PATH can be used, BA and AU are only examples.

Path BA Key CHULL List Name Proof Filter by Lines Search for SUBARU Lines pre search word(s) Case Suppress Line # Delim / -----Example 2.

This will find ALL stories with the word SUBARU and/or WINNER by author CHULL.

Path AU Key CHULL List Name Proof Filter by Lines Search for SUBARU/ WINNER Note: the / between words Lines pre search word(s) Case Suppress Line # Delim /-----Example 3.

This will find stories with ONLY all 3 words "SUBARU WINNER AGAIN" in the story by author CHULL Path AU Key CHULL List Name Proof Filter by Lines Search for SUBARU WINNER AGAIN Note: NO / between words Lines pre search word(s) Case Suppress Line # Delim / ---- It is best to use just one word and also you should put something in the KEY field.

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If the KEY field is left blank then the search will take forever because that will mean you are searching the TEXT of EVERY story in whatever path you have used.

As soon as the story is shown on the screen you can hit CANCEL to stop the search.

-----Meaning for other fields: Lines pre search word(s) 4 -- means show the 4 lines BEFORE the line with the SEARCH word.

Case x -- means make it case sensitive Suppress Line # x -- means suppress the line numbers on the left of the listing.

----- final reminder: no full points in panorama breakouts or spill headings pls (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 6nov97 18:01) Please do not cut or remove the right-hand- side newspaper files.

They are for reference only. Cut only from the ones on the left . and even then, only if you really need to.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 5nov97 19:55) a reminder pls to use single quotes in blurbs rather than double and not to be afraid to use colons in captions (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 6nov97 15:15) pls remember to take panorama pix out as soon as you've finished a story (they go in in the specially marked baskets out in epm) (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 5nov97 13:38) i understand you have made a ruling about bands, tv stations etc using plural verb for collective noun and singular for a single entity? cold you pls send an editorial message as such (or the correct thing if that's wrong) to save some fights?

(JROSENBERG, 30oct97 17:49) The rules are simple and are a matter of ordinary grammar rather than style.

A collective noun takes a group of people/ things and regards them as a unit: committee/ band/ council/ parliament/ bench/ mob etc.

When you are referring reporting what that group is doing collectively, it is followed by a singular verb: The committee is meeting The band plays rock and roll The council has voted to meet tomorrow The bench is considering its decision.

Asked about the family, John Howard said he was for it.

The Australia XI was chosen on merit The ministry was composed of fools and knaves Deacons Grant James is a new-look legal firm But if you are referring what to members of the group are doing separately, or individually, then, generally, a plural verb follows: The committee are returning to their homes The band are all fans of Beethoven The crew were at odds about what to do Sometimes it is a matter of what sounds right.

In which case use either but make sure pronouns agree: The jury was unable to reach its verdict or the jury were unable to reach their verdict The family were arguing about what to do about their home/ was arguing/its home Some collectives strongly suggest plurality: the Beatles were; The pair were, the two were. Follow your instinct. The word number is singular if preceded by the; plural if preceded by a: The number of journalists with science degrees is small A number of journalists were uneasy Collective inanimate objects eg luggage, china, cutlery, baggaage - always singular i have a pager, which is a far better option than messaging the system, esp if i'm in court full-time for a few days; direct dial 5441 pager no. 512834, or 269 0222 plus pager no.

* (EDITORIAL, RCAMPBELL, 2oct97 13:33) REMINDER: Please do not cut or otherwise remove anything from the newspaper reference files.

You may be the next person inconvenienced by incomplete editions.

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 1nov97 14:47) Black Hawk helicopters are fairly often in the news, and sometimes we spell them Blackhawk. Jane's has them two words.

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(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 2nov97 17:10) re finance. It is more important to run the full table of stocks than a big table of foreign exchange rates.

if stocks do not fit, first cut exchange rates to a run-on list, then trim some of the currencies, if still no fit spill to other page.

ta.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 23oct97 8:46) Irrespective of changing the time references on held-over stories subs would be wise to check whether they're still worth running especially when they've been widely published elsewhere. Publication of stories days late can be embarrassing.

(EDITORIAL, MTAYLOR, 23oct97 9:50) when creating pages for panorama: as normal, except key ctm in the edition field. namingconvention: ctm3-25 for page three (panorama) to be published on the 25th. and command x for tabloid, of course.

cheers (FEATSUBS, IWATT, 22oct97 13:15) the maitre d'hotel is the head waiter or steward.

it is often shortened to maitre d'. this should not be maitre'd, as we had it in a restaurant review today.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 21oct97 17:19) please please please don't use wavy underline in the ingredients of recipes. it throws out the style which then throws out the length. thanks (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 21oct97 15:23) splendid news from IT. SII at last has a full search engine to search the TEXT of stories in an author or basket directory. details in sn wordsearch. have a play with it. it is best way to learn. it will save much time looking for lost stories.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 21oct97 10:41) DIRECTORY PROMPT SEARCH CHANGE: (Command D). The search will now return ONLY the stories that match the search criteria. It is best to use only ONE word from the TEXT of the story.

If you search for more than one word then each word must be separated by / (\$ALL, CANRC:BILLW, 21oct97 9:47) Please don't use the Ulrike Conway shot we used last Friday. It was supplied by the alleged killer early on in the piece and upsets the family greatly. Another one is being forwarded to us (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 21oct97 15:10) subs: some guardian and independent writers refer to ""us" and ""we" etc as the English.

please change for Australian readers... (eg.

top p7 sunday).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 20oct97 11:59) A reminder: Dollar amounts in Guardian and Independent copy are \$US and need to be converted to \$A.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 20oct97 14:39) Feel the Power of Canberra is NOT a tourism slogan, as indicated in our headline today. The slogan was commissioned by Cantrade for all aspects of Canberra, and Canberra Tourism use it sparingly...plea from commissioner David Marshall.

(EDITORIAL, GCOOKE, 15oct97 9:43) Just a reminder please on all education photos include the names of the kids in the captions. It's one of the few drawcards we have for readers. Pic on p14 today missed out even the photographer provided names as far as I remember. tks (FEATSUBS, VBURGESS, 15oct97 10:38) As previously advised, the meeting room located behind the reception area is for your use for QUICK meetings with clients. This room is not to be used for staff meetings or interviews, which would in the ordinary course, take longer than approximately 5 minutes. It is just for quick discussions with clients. The key to the door will be kept with the receptionist and unlocked by her each morning. It would be advisable to let the receptionist know when you take your client into the office so you are not interrupted.

No Headline In Original

Regards,~ Maurice, Only a MAN can be cuckolded, despite what we nearly said in Wednesday's The Read. The wife of an adulterous man is a cuckquean, and she is cuckqueaned by him .

though I've never seen such a word used outside of a dictionary.

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 14oct97 23:46) "Net' meaning remaining after deductions, as in net earnings, net weight, etc is spelt thus: we do not have NETT as some seem to think, associated with money (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 8oct97 18:37) blurbs should complement, not echo headlines. could subs please try to avoid repetition, b/c your pearls of wisdom are just going to have to be changed.

(FEATSUBS, J ROSENBERG, 26sep97 10:44) a reminder about a curious provision of ACT Crimes Act (s117) which makes it a \$1000 fine for the author AND the publisher of published statements saying no questions will be asked' if stolen property is returned (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 23sep97 19:09) Singular Court martial: plural courts martial Queen's Counsel: plural Queen's Counsel; similarly senior counsel, not counsels Attorney-General: Attorneys-General etc (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 22sep97 17:53) spade as spade dept: let's say prostitutes, not sex workers.

(EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 22sep97 18:16) colliss parrett is not to be given any official title in letters.

just his suburb... info tells me he is inflating the significance of a very minor position. ta.

(CHULL, 17sep97 11:13) the email on long pars today underlines the fact that we do not always invite people in. With care and discretion do look to get to 12 or 16 words where it makes a story more inviting but still accurate. Even with my copy.

(NIGHTSUBS, J WATERFORD, 16sep97 19:49) to say as the paper often does (and again this morning) something like Fred Smith has a fascination for geese' surely means that geese find Fred Smith fascinating...I am fascinated with Nicole Kidman, but I have no fascination for her...as far as I know..

(EDITORIAL, I WARDEN, 16sep97 15:06) please make sure everything e-mailed to graphic artists (that's everything, including blurbs and captions) are spell-checked first. too many blues getting through to publication (which means more care proofreading, too, of course).

(FEATSUBS, W GOODALL, 10sep97 13:47) style: judgment, acknowledgment etc pse, not judgement, acknowledgement...

(FEATSUBS, W GOODALL, 10sep97 15:14) When tim fischer is talking of small and medium-sized businesses and then refers to SMEs, am i right in taking it that these are the same thing?

(EDITORIAL, M TRAVIS, 7sep97 18:07) incase you ever need to know, SMEs are small and medium-sized enterprises.

(EDITORIAL, M TRAVIS, 7sep97 18:11) Gentle reminder for political and sports stories, among others: 6-1, 10-1 etc are the odds against' something happening. When someone or thing is a raging favourite, he/ she/it is odds on', which can be written as 1-6, 1-10' or 6-1 on, 10-1 on ...

..1-6 odds-on', as we ran this morning, ain't no worse than no other double negative we (NIGHTSUBS, A FRASER, 8sep97 15:49) Please note that the road between Cabramurra and Khancoban is always closed every year during winter . by snow and by locked gates. In a rather garbled manner, we said this morning that it is open and clear'.

The road TO Cabramurra is kept open.

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 1sep97 20:33) a reminder if I may: hone means sharpen.

birds home or home in on their nests.

chemotherapy homes in on certain cells.

No Headline In Original

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 29aug97 14:48) anyone want to take a punt on how many nights the PM has spent in Canberra since he was elected? Or time in percentage terms????

I know you're all dying of curiosity - 178 days here; 228 in Sydney and 130 at other locations -hmmmp (EDITORIAL, JDARGAVILLE, 22aug97 17:46) press releases and media interview transcripts from the Prime Minister will drop automatically into a basket called PMONLINEas soon as his office puts them on the Internet.

we are working on building up a searchable database of them.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 21aug97 8:28) Stop writing "self- confessed". What other kind of confessed could there be. One can't confess for someone else.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21aug97 10:35) Please remember that \$s in UK papers' copy is \$US and need conversion to \$A (unless I have already converted amounts). Style is to convert once to \$A and then use ONLY \$A, but rounded . i.e. NOT \$A99,987 but \$A100,000.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 21aug97 17:49) DAMP: (as VT) check, discourage, cut off supply of air etc DAMPEN: to wet, moisten They coincide only as in throw cold water on.

One DAMPs not DAMPENS enthusiasm (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21aug97 17:58) Does anyone know if the site of Thailand's biggest pagoda is Nakorn Pathom or Nakhon Pathom?

(FEATSUBS, ANEVILLE, 7aug97 13:46) Re Thailand: it's Nakhon Pathom. Thanks to David Wyatt who came to the rescue!

(FEATSUBS, ANEVILLE, 7aug97 13:59) Can we in future state the PAGE number when pointing from p.1, instead of referring readers to the back page' when it is in fact exactly in the MIDDLE of the paper?

(Back of the second book . but there are four books.)

Cheeeeeeeeeeeeers.

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 6aug97 18:16) contact details for the smethurst hospital inquiry - telephone 2300608; fax 2300625; address GPO Box 557 Canberra City 2601 (EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 7aug97 10:07) if you add a parameter, eg, sunby,2 for two authors' names, sunby,3 for three, etc.

sunby alone will handle just one. thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 31jul97 22:42) my new address and home phone from today are: 13 Quiros Street, Red Hill. 2959925.

(\$ALL, CHULL, 5aug97 12:09) pls avoid headings with words which clash with straps, eg educat ion, food, wine etc (FEATSUBS, CROSS, 22jul97 11:32) Beware: Mr Reith is now Minister for Workplace Relations and Small Business (not Industrial Relations).

He was sworn in last Friday (July 18, 1997).

And Senator Christopher Ellison is new Minister for Customs and Consumer Affairs.

Please amend your ministry lists, if you have such.

Can night reporters please ensure that page 1 weather temp forecast tallies with that in the l page weather.

(EDITORIAL, RMIHAICH, 17jul97 20:26) do not mention PIVOT Personal Injuries Victims of Trauma in stories without referring to Jack or me.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 18jul97 11:33) in "Canberra's love affair with Albert' on p12 today were many quoted phrases enclosed in ellipses. It must have been a pain in the bum putting them in, and there's no need for them. It's obvious that a phrase in quotes is only part of a quotation.

No Headline In Original

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 18jul97 14:11) A plea from down table: before coding up and justifying copy that arrives electronically please use sdk z to remove joined words.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 17jul97 13:11) FOR HANGING INDENT: el,3 fi ih,9 par mark at end of each hi sentence/par.

after last hi sentence/ par with its par mark: ih fi,9 el,3 All layout subs should check features pictures folders and trash used pictures.

(FEATSUBS, PMAYOH, 15jul97 10:00) please try to avoid putting wavy underline in any stories with style recipe. it's a very temperamental, prima donna-ish style and doesn't like anything to interfere with it (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 15jul97 11:34) the word ESCAPEE is unknown at this address. the word we use is escaper. Although, alas, the latest Fowler (and any number of modern descriptive style guides) allow the former, we don't. we will when we have rapees, workees, desertees, drivees, etc And, for the record, given that I understand from the eagle-eyed Ken May that RAPEE has several times appeared in this paper, it is banned too. A rapee is presumably a rape victim, not rapist; in that limited (but still unavailing) sense the word is more defensible than escapee since the act is performed upon, not by the subject - the usual situation with -EE constructions.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 7jul97 19:17) Would everyone please remember that dashes in copy .

separating statements . are shift- hyphen, not just the hyphen. I know some terminals don't have them, but all the subbing terminals have; subs pls change any that come to you as hyphens. thankee (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 2jul97 18:15) the correct style for two-word scientific names, if we want to copy the rest of the scientific world, is first, generic name beginning with a cap, second specific name without a cap, all in italics. we have it wrong again today...

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 27jun97 13:08) reminder to all that visitors must be signed in and out of building. make sure your visitors return their badge at reception.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 27jun97 15:25) sdk z will put spaces between those annoying joined words in some stories, but it has to be done before justification and coding.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 19jun97 14:20) ACTION is, as I understand it, still an acronym (for ACT Internal Omnibus Network) and not a corporate name like Actew which was once an acronyn but no longer pretends to be. So, caps on ACTION (and NATO) pls (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 18jun97 10:28) Inherently ambiguous phrases such as "'four times smaller than" (p2 today) are to be avoided: "A quarter the size of" or whatever (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 18jun97 10:27) if anyone's interested, we have a national opera festival dinkus gn222 (apparently the festival's on for two months) (FEATSUBS, NLEEDHAM, 12jun97 15:40) Even my nine-year- old next-door neighbour was angrily complaining about the idiocy on p1 on Sunday. Tim Eriksson is TOBOGGANING, not snowboarding. You STAND on a snowboard . it's a snow version of a surfboard.

(KMAY, 9jun97 17:20) the suburb of CONDER is CONDER not CONDOR. It is named after Charles Conder, the artist. We get it wrong all the time and it makes us look very silly. A reader today threatened to cancel his sub if we do it again.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 9jun97 15:41) Prefer English to anything else eg A YEAR not PER ANNUM (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 6jun97 18:56) altho check of files shows that the CT has all-way bets fire-blight, fireblight, fire blight bill goodall has departmental document which (consistently) uses "fire blight".

cheers (EDITORIAL, MFOSTER, 5jun97 13:42) remember the time element goes AFTER the verb: he agreed yesterday, she said yesterday, NOT he yesterday agreed, she yesterday said.

thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 27may97 18:39) plead guilty of (an offence of) murder is our style. similarly one is found guilty of etc. it's because of the elided words (jwaterford, 26may97 11:55) please do not say (a la p1 story today)

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that x "admitted" something if (a) it's a matter of opinion (b) it's in the cited person's interest to say it. Had we said that the PM admitted the ALP was full of dolts, we wouldn't looked much sillier.

SAID (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19may97 18:47) Sometimes publishing a news story four days after it was written does more harm to the credibility of the paper and journalist than letting the story die a natural death in Canberranews - ie the vanstone story which was published today. tres embarrassing.

(EDITORIAL, EMACDONALD, 19may97 12:43) a handy little world atlas with gazetteer has joined the reference library in the middle drawer of my wee cabinet.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16may97 9:38) let's compare like with like. AKazar's "reducing their combined yearly earnings from \$60K before tax to about \$3600 for three months" looked bloody silly. Either: Last year they were making, between them about \$5K a month. Over the past 3 months, they averaged only \$1200.

Or any numberr of variants. Reporters should do it. If they don't subs should fix it.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 13may97 8:52) A knot is a SPEED of one nautical mile an hour, equal to about 1.85km/h. It is NOT a distance. Thus 60 knots an hour' as in weather story bottom of p.1 today is the same as saying 60 nautical miles an hour an hour'. Since few people, in these metricated times, have any meaningful concept of how fast this is, I think it makes more sense to use km/h . as the Weather Bureau does in its daily reports.

Besides, the numbers are nearly twice as big and sound more sensational.

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 12may97 17:39) please please please please: reported speech goes into the past tense. Jill Bloggs said she WOULD go to Albania (not "will"); the Budget WAS full of surprises Treasurer Peter Costello said (not "is"). Similarly, has becomes HAD, is becomes WAS, etc.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 11may97 18:22) LETTER TO THE EDITOR SINCE the British general elec tion I have read at least a dozen times, in your newspaper and others, that the result for the To ries was the worst for 150 years' or the worst since 1832' when the first Reform Act radically altered the composition of the House of Commons.

All these statements are false.

It is in fact the Tories' worst re sult since 1906.

When the Tories were defeated in the general election of that year, they were left with 132 seats out of 670. This time it seems they have held 165 out of 659.

It is also a fact that in 1906 the new Liberal Prime Minister, Sir Henry Campbell Bannerman, com manded an effective working major ity of 356, which makes Mr Blair's effective majority of around 180 seem almost paltry!

el,2 JOHN PARSONS Reid Layout subs: Pls update your notes. New B/W michael moore mugshot ms1151 replaces ms1150.

thanks (NIGHTSUBS, AANDERSON, 9may97 18:09) call it a principle, call it a whim but Actew is Actew not ACTEW and by now all reporters ought to know it. The subeditors have enough to do in unmangling (or mangling) copy without having to mechanically fix such matters (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 9may97 17:46) FYI: colour mugshot of bronwyn bishop is msc240 FEWER - followed by a plural noun, refers to quantity and discre te things. LESS is invariably followed by a singular or collecti ve noun (less water, bread) and refers more to volume than quan tity. Let's have fewer complaints about less money (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 8may97 10:40) Extra care must be taken with pages laid out by graphic artists: FINAL proofs MUST be gone over meticulously to prevent such bad blues as 1.

No heading on Junior Times lead on Sunday.

No Headline In Original

2. Esscence instead of Essence in The Guide cover heading today.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 5may97 9:00) please be careful with international stories.

there have been lots of errors in the todays/yesterdays.

always check the day ta g we give the story against the dateline.

thanks, over and out.

(NIGHTSUBS, KHOBSON, 4may97 17:34) Jenna Price new mobile phone number 0418 976 899 it should be programed into short dial 5661 soon (EDITORIAL, JKILDEA, 1may97 16:28) we have been requested to type the word LOCAL in the topic field of stories we create that have included in them material from AAP or other agencies. this will help sort out copyright bits for the Internet.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 2may97 8:10) prevalence - the proportion of cases in the community. Incidence - the number of NEW cases in the community in a given time (usually a rate/ proportion of community).

Eg prevalance of women in Canberra is 50 per cent; the inciddence about 1 % (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 2may97 10:48) Think about the right place for ONLY and the different meanings of: Only I hit the idiot; I only hit the idiot; I hit only the idiot; I hit the only idiot and; I hit the idiot only (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 24apr97 19:29) The next reporter to get COUNSEL (including as in Queen's Counsel, or the Office of General Counsel in the AG's Department) mixed up with COUNCIL will be counselled then sent to report Yass Council for a year (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 24apr97 19:26) Warning! If you ever have to send the ipage, always check the tv programs against the weekend guide. It is possible for the previous day's to be sent to EPM, as happened on Wednesday nite, so that we nearly published the same programs twice.

Also check that the previous day's weather has not been repeated.

(EDITORIAL, KMAY, 10apr97) Members of the MEAA should be aware that if, for any reason, they stop signing the time book for a week or more they are deemed to be off the time book. They can continue to sign to keep a track of their hours but it will not be recognised by the pay office. The time book year recommences in the new financial year and those wishing to sign it should be religious about it thereafter. The MEAA's official position is that, unless exempt due to grade, you should sign.

(EDITORIAL, MTAYLOR, 7apr97 15:19) alan has set up an sdk to remove wavy underline if anyone needs to, it's sdk r please make sure mastheads and pix that are meant to be colour are sent out as such.

production complaining that last night's late press start partly due to a page having to be redone because a colour element went out in b/w.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 26mar97 11:37) TABLOIDS: When creating tabloid pages, please in future replace the slash in the page name with a hyphen...

eg, tv3-24, not tv3/24. This is to assist EPM to pair up pages (eg, front and back) for typesetting.

thanks (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 24mar97 16:19) to change personal details on your voice mail dial 399 then 3 then 1 (EDITORIAL, JKILDEA, 21mar97 10:33) to dial a speed dial put a 5 in front of it ie courts 574 is now 5574 (EDITORIAL, JKILDEA, 18mar97 11:28) For layout subs: when copy comes through on the modem or from postmaster, run an SDK z through it before touching the copy. this will put a space in at the end of each line and will save poor overworked subs having to split all the joined words ...

by the time you code it up and start editing the copy, it's too late (FEATSUBS, JROSENBERG, 20mar97 11:55) anyone using a Microsoft spell- checkers: it is far better to select the option British English, rather than Australian English. The Microsoft Australian dictionary is a con job. It is American dictionary with a few slang words allowed.

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It uses all the US -ize and -or spellings which is a nuisance. The British dictionary is far closer to Australian usage than the "'Australian" dictionary (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 18mar97 14:59) please message me if you ever need to swap a keyboard. I don't like fixing keys that already work...

(EDITORIAL, JONP, 13mar97 10:14) Clichewatch. anyone who uses the expression rain did not dampen the enthusiasm...' in anything they write today will be cut out of my will....

(EDITORIAL, IWARDEN, 2mar97 13:31) all colour pix are now being sent by EPM to basket CTCOLOUR (EDITORIAL, RMIHAICH, 28feb97 20:33) Proofbook of colour mugshots of A.C.T.

Assembly members is on the News Editor's desk for consulting whenever you may need a system number. A copy is also in the Production Editor's top drawer.

(NIGHTSUBS, PMAYOH, 28feb97 17:35) proofbook of colour mugshots of a.c.t.

assembly members is in the green book drawer for consulting whenever you may need a system number.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 28feb97 17:27) the golfer is Peter Thomson, not Thompson.

(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 20feb97 13:07) Please be careful this (and every) Saturday: Sunday folios and straps don't change as others have ... double rules still across the top, same straps etc.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 20feb97 17:10) As improving technology makes it even easier to have a previousday's page strapped on to the press (as happened last week), late stops are, from tonight, to check a copy of the printed paper before knocking off.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 18feb97 17:03) please don't confuse grisly with grizzly (as in deputy chief ministers coming to a grisly end - Sunday).

Grisly, meaning horrific, has been in the language since the early 13th century.

Grizzly is a late 16th century newcomer meaning greyish. Grizzly was applied to american bears in the late 18th century.

the only grizzly end that any deputy chief minister could claim is whalan's beard.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 18feb97 15:53) nb, in features pages att Knight-Ridder Newspapers, not att KRT (FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 14feb97 11:32) ft,p is to be used when using the deck tool for a picture caption ft,d for blurbs and write-offs. ft,p will tell reuters and the other internet providers that it is a caption - both will still work and both from the deck tool box in INL (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 7feb97 16:48) pse make sure pix are moved from features folder to genprod before sending out proofs to epm. epm says this hasn't happened on three occasions this week and they've had to get peter mayoh to do the needful.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 7feb97 12:43) Now (this day) that the combined ages of my descendants is greater than mine, this grandfather discountenances the use of the word granny & other pejorative ageist appellations, esp when unequally applied to women & therefore also sexist.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28jan97 16:42) and remember: middle aged = 10 years older than the editor.

(This was a rule promulgated by Ian Mathews, a former Editor of this paper) (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28jan97 16:42) There is no such verb as hospitalised. Say taken to hospital; in hospital, or other alternatives. Thanks (NIGHTSUBS, JMORRIS, 27jan97 21:52) Joan, like many other fastidious wordsmiths, may abhor the word hospitalised' and assert that there are more elegant ways of expressing the idea.

Most, or many, of us would agree with her.

No Headline In Original

She may say that the editor has banned its use in The Canberra Times, or, from her exalted position, she may perhaps ban it herself. But she should beware of saying that there's no such word. It's included in at least 11 different dictionaries in this office, including DWYATT's Concise Oxford Dictionary edited by H. W. Fowler (THE Fowler!) and his brother.

And she can't simply dismiss it as an ugly modern Americanism.

It was used back in the mid-1600s (according to the two-volume Shorter Oxford) . long, long before the Yanks became culturally and thus linguistically dominant.

Even worse, they all allow hospitalisation (or hospitalization) too.

Incidentally, although all give its meaning as to send or admit to hospital', some extend the meaning to to treat in hospital' (including the 2-vol SO, which I reckon is the most authoritative lexicon we have, the Wombat notwithstanding) . . .

(EDITORIAL, KMAY, 28jan97 1:40) Sorry, Joan. Hope you'll forgive my lese- majesty.

(JMORRIS, KMAY, 28jan97 1:48) Down with all ugly words (EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 28jan97 11:36) David, of course, includes in this, Phil Lynch's recent TV report on plans to rectangularise' Bruce Stadium.

(EDITORIAL, BROLLINGS, 28jan97 17:06) Further to KMAY: hospitalise: the new (heretical) Fowler says hospitalise is a c1900 invention and, tho standard in American English, is still regarded with suspicion in Britain. 'Tis an ugly word not favoured here (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28jan97 11:33) New US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright is a Dr, not a Ms.

(NIGHTSUBS, SHOPMAN, 24jan97 18:54) the phrase to my knowledge' is highly discountenanced because it can mean (a) so far as I am aware [in short, I do not know]or (b) to my certain knowledge [because I have checked it]. It can , in short, mean anything.

Get it clarified if someone says it (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 16jan97 20:48) reminder: journalists under 40 are not allowed to use the words "due to' (unless they are referring to money owing) or "following' (unless they mean coming behind). they are banned as synonyms for because of or after (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 14jan97 18:15) please remember that recipes typed out the back which say " usually mean .

(FEATSUBS, KLAWSOON, 14jan97 12:24) to all staff. As we do more electronic publishing we must ensure the SII system can easily distinguish between agency material and material written by CT journalists and contributors.

Most of our computer programs that are picking up material from SII to translate material for electronic publication (now in Ausinet and Reuters Electronic service and later our own Web site and library) use SII's author field to filter out agency material over which we do not hold copyright.

We want all of the material produced by our staffers and contributors to be published electronically but do not want raw agency material over which we do not have copyright to be published electronically.

If you mix CT staff material with rewritten agency material, then it becomes CT material for copyright purposes and we can republish it electronically.

The traps are subs creating an SII story with their own name as SII author and copying raw agency material into it.

Please do not do it. Use a story with an agency author as the base.

The other trap is writers using an agency story as the base and adding their own and rewriting material creating a new piece of CT work with an agency as the SII author. Please don't do it. Create a new SII story with yourself as author and cut and paste those agency pieces you are going to rewrite and add to into that new SII story.

To whom it may concern: From Monday leaders will be named leader(date)a and leader(date)b.

No Headline In Original

(EDITORIAL, DWYATT, 3jan97 16:57) Sunday leader (Editorial Opinion) now takes strap gn375, which is correct width. thanks.

(AANDERSON, 27dec96 18:12) RNS wire copy is queued before it leaves AAP. This can delay stories for hours in busy periods. If you need a story quickly call AAP's Filing Editor (abbrev dial 634) or News Desk (abbrev dial 448) and ask for it to be moved to the top of the queue.

(NIGHTSUBS, PMAYOH, 28nov96 16:32) caution please in describing changes (eg to public service act) as reforms, which almost invariably suggests change for the better, not always self-evident (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 25nov96 19:50) should you ever get, when doing separations for a colour page, an ry error, that is, when you only get the black separation but the 3 other separations come out as a blank page with a computer message at the top, tell alan anderson immediately (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 22nov96 11:35) the word "literally" is banned in this newspaper.

The embarrassment of its almost invariable incorrect use overweighs the very very slight addition it can make to a story on the veryrare occasion when the reporter means what he/she writes (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 20nov96 18:21) please do not put thin spaces between metric measures, eg 10,m, it should be 10m (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 8nov96 16:20) please don't spike any education stories (particularly picture stories) however humble and un-newsworthy they might appear . send them to ba education instead, please, as we might be able to use them or bits of them in the Wednesday pages.

Thanks.

(EDITORIAL, VBURGESS, 7nov96 14:32) ALL SUBS - FYI: EPM requires the negs for ALL pics intended for colour use. If Photographers do not give you the negs, pls ask Peter Mayoh or myself to fetch them (or do it yourself) before the pic request goes to EPM. Thanks.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 4nov96 16:26) for those who may need it, juddery's phone number for the moment is 295 7824.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 29oct96 9:24) All layout subs should check features pictures folders and trash used pictures.

(FEATSUBS, PMAYOH, 29oct96 10:00) use of the = sign to mean equal 1st, 2nd or whatever in the chess column is banned, please change to equal (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 26oct96 11:06) reminder: par mark, not quad left, after briefs (NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 27oct96 19:29) layout people: nb stories we e-mail to artists must have page details etc in the header as though we were doing the page, before being sent to ct--- baskets; necessary for archives purposes.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 28oct96 15:17) pls note: from now on tag lines with book/ author details are to come AFTER newspaper/agency att. same style, after the quod ri ght.

(FEATSUBS, CROSS, 24oct96 13:23) It's straitjacket, not straightjacket. Four people missed it in the leader yesterday (including the Editor, who wrote it). But I caught it.

(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 23oct96 22:13) From today, any hard copy sent out with either a "Z" or "F" sii production input form will be created in the FEATURES basket. The FEATAUS and FEATWORLD baskets have been deleted. There is no need to alter the basket/topic names on the "Z" & "F" forms.

(FEATSUBS, PMAYOH, 22oct96 16:32) pro-euthanasia people say mercy killing in heads is biased. i told them hard to put euthanasia in head. they offer alternative s right to die, assisted suicide, medicide. i said they are equally long and biased other way, but they might fit sometimes.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 15oct96 17:01) there is now an "oped' basket into which i will shortly move oped candidates.

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(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16oct96 12:52) Please note: the SUNDAY basket has been renamed MAGAZINES. If you have the SUNDAY basket appearing in your basket list pressing command u will allow you to edit the list.

(FEATSUBS, PMAYOH, 16oct96 12:48) nb four-digit numbers take no comma, ie 1200 not 1,200 (FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 14oct96 13:58) in response to query last week: style is Internet, not internet.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 11oct96 18:27) After first reference to date/time in EVERY report, specify thus = wedfeb26, then strike through = put cursor on word, press keys WORD and FIG3 simultaneously.

This is a basic requirement, and not optional.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 10oct96 16:06) New editorial terminals have no shift- word-3. So instruction now reads: Reporters, after references to time/ date, write in time/date, eg: (satoct5). Subs will use clever Coyote terminals to cross out without deleting. The MUST still applies.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 10oct96 16:38) there is now a phone on the new nightsubs desk. it is 349.

(NIGHTSUBS, AANDERSON, 9oct96 17:33) help - how does one get rid of those stupid dots on the screen of one of those God-forsaken samsungs??

ok everybody - Ive got it - control n to put them on - options - preferences - click off nulls - to get rid of them. thank you one and all (EDITORIAL, EMACDONALD, 8oct96 18:29) CAB CHARGES are limited to two. If anyone has unused vouchers, they must be returned at end of trip. You should claim advance expenses to cover taxi fares within a trip. Any problems, pls call me.

(EDITORIAL, LBLISS, 8oct96 14:31) Canberra Times style for Super League is thus, in all references. Please add this to your style memory.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 4oct96 16:17) new dinkus for the national festival of australian theatre is gn234, not to be confused with another new dinkus, yet to be created, for the festival of contemporary arts (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 3oct96 11:44) there has been a change to the pic storage system in the server, our features folder is now in the edit volume, so that means you have to have the edit icon on the screen in order to open up features.

This is not in the gen prod volume so you will have to open up gen prod to drag your pic from features into the ct pic input - confused??

I'll show you how if you need a hands- on demonstration (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 19sep96 10:18) not for the first time in ian beverley's wine ratings, half-stars have appeared as quarter- stars; please watch for this... and david, it's worth speaking to the keyboarding boss (again).

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 18sep96 11:07) please remember to give photographers a credit (burnt on to the pic by graphic artist if necessary) when we use a mood pic ...

examples of omissions: the senate pic on c1 last satrunday and the mobile phones pic on mtl this morning.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 17sep96 9:17) SUBS pls note: software preparing archive material is expecting a user event 1 after bylines using pu,by. pls don't leave it ou t. thanks.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 12sep96 18:13) CORPORAL PUNISHMENT NOT TO BE REINTRODUCED From a letter to the editor from Judge Rod Howe: 1. It is not true that the discussion paper advocates the corporal punishment of children at school. It is true that the discussion paper proposes that, in certain circumstances, that conduct should not be a criminal of fence.

2. It is not true that the law proposed by the discussion paper is a loosening' of current criminal law.

On the contrary, so far as the crimi nal law is concerned, the proposals will make it more difficult for corpo ral punishment to lawfully take place.

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DALAI LAMA A SECULAR LEADER TOO IN A LETTER TO THE EDITOR: I NOTE the increasing tendency for the media to refer to the Dalai Lama as the exiled spiritual leader of Tibet". This is only half right. In 1642 (CE), ruler Gushri Khan delegated the actual government of Tibet to the Fifth Dalai Lama, thereby establishing a theocracy in the country. The current Dalai Lama, the Fourteenth, functioned as the sovereign ruler of Tibet from February 22, 1940 when he was consecrated on the Lion Throne of the Potala Palace in Lhasa, until the invasion of the People's Liberation Army and the Sino- Tibetan agreement of May 23, 1951.

Therefore, an accurate description of the Dalai Lama would be "the exiled secular and spiritual leader of Tibet" or, simply, "the exiled leader of Tibet".

Is it too much to ask?

MARK FRAYNE Isaacs (HEN MAY, 30aug96) The style on spill lines is Continued on Page 2' and Continued from Page 1' please.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 30aug96 15:40) St Clare's, not Claire's.

Canberra (Boys') Grammar is Canberra Grammar, not Canberra Boys' Grammar.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 30aug96 15:35) The head on the p7 pic-story this morning .

Birthing centre to be closed: Berry', while technically correct (with the attribution to Berry) makes us look silly when the whole point of the story was to show the Berry claim was nonsense (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 29aug96 13:58) gn644c (blue) masthead on top of market forces page in future, please. (not 644m, unless executives change their minds [again]) (FEATSUBS, KMAY, 21aug96 18:52) The first day of the new century is Jan 1, 2001, NOT Jan 1, 2000.

(CHULL, 8aug96 9:46) Therefore the Olympic Games in 2000 are the LAST of the second millennium . NOT THE FIRST OF THE THIRD MILLENNIUM!!!!!!

. despite what Olympic president Juan Antonio Samaranch said!!!! (Ken May) The wives of knights of the realm are referred to by surname only: Lady Stephens, Lady Fairfax etc, etc.

Not Lady Nancy Stephen, Lady Mary Fairfax etc. No other atrocities or infelicit ies attract anything like the correspondence this does (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 7aug96 11:16) The 4 files on the right end of the main newspaper reading bench are for reference. This purpose is best served by the files remaining intact, ie, no cutting of articles, tearing out of pages or removal of whole sections to read over lunch. Please!

self-confessed is tautological. Only the confesser can confess it (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 1aug96 22:49) The noun (naming word) is CALLUS (a bit of hardened skin) and the adjective (describing word) is CALLOUS (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 1aug96 10:43) SUBS pls be careful that print-ready stories go into the correct CTSUN, CTMON, etc, baskets because our archives are being fed from them.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 1aug96 12:34) Haredi Jews or Haredim are indeed ultra-orthodox but not as militant as Hasidim (according to Len Dixon).

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 1aug96 14:23) confession: I am a pedant - that is why around 10 per cent' should be about 10 per cent' - do not use around when you mean about. Around should be used in a geographic sense, ie, around Broome at about 3pm (EDITORIAL, DSIBLEY, 26jul96 16:11) ASSIGN NEW POSTER as a fixed shape story. tks.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 24jul96 23:48) RSVP NEW POSTERS +++ Write as usual. Assign poster story to new INL page at X=0, Y=0.

Proof for EPM as with any other page. thanks.

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(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 24jul96 23:45) there is a big difference between the greenhouse effect and the destruction of the ozone layer. p3 tues confused them.

Greenhouse comes from carbon dioxide build-up through methane and fossil fuel burning. ozone destruction come from fluorocarbons which are found in air- conditioners, fridges and the like. destruction of ozone layer would lead to dangerous extra UV rays buty not affect temperature.

Greenhouse would increase temperature but not affect UV.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 24jul96 11:00) Let's stop allowing through intros like today's p5 lead which had the bishop speaking on Friday. In a yarn like this, the time element didn't matter and we should've used the present tense.

Time ref could have gone in much further down (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 22jul96 14:47) put only near (usually just before) the word it actually modifies. There is a world of difference between each of: only Jack hit the cadet, Jack only hit the cadet, Jack hit only the cadet, Jack hit the only cadet and Jack hit the cadet only (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 18jul96 20:26) LAYOUT SUBS: Local pix will no longer be found on the Crosfield.

Photographers will send them to the new server, and provide you with two proofs. A slugline will be over or alongside the pic (depending on horiz, vert). Mark crop on a proof, fill out graphic order form (use the slugline from the proof in the keyword field) and send proof and form to EPM.

EPM will call up the pic from the server, using the slugline.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 9jul96 18:18) STAFF CARS - PETROL DOCKETS....when you fill a company car at shell station plse TAKE the yellow docket and return it to accounts payable (Shirley Basford) thanks Pete (EDITORIAL, PKNIGHT, 2jul96 16:03) there has been an embarassing number of literals, including in headlines and graphics, in the paper lately. Today SEPERATION p2, Port HEADLAND (pointers), Monday UNCERTANTIES etc.

More checking and care, and a roving eye on other's work pls (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3jul96 9:47) to help find pics in newswire, photographers will put the words CT NEWS in the slugline of all pics for canberra times news and the words CT FEAT in the slugline of all pics for canberra time s features (even if they come from outside contributors).

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 4jul96 17:26) please enter slugline info on newswire BEFORE importing pictures to mac, also: keep info as brief as possible due to the limitation of file name. See bobw for further help if r equired.

(NIGHTSUBS, BOBW, 28jun96 17:01) ian beverley advises (politely) that he did not mean to have quarter-stars in his wine review (a point which i tried to check by phone, and shd have checked on copy).

note for future reference that he awards only full or half stars. cheers.

(FEATSUBS, MFOSTER, 27jun96 10:24) for those unluckly enough to sub ian beverley over the next eight weeks, his temporary work number is 279,8518, please flag this message, you unfortunates (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 27jun96 15:21) Reporters should do their own currency conversions, of an accura cy proportional to the original figure. Thus, say (on \$US/\$A of 79c) \$US1b is about \$1.27b, \$US1m= \$1.27m, \$US550 = \$700, \$US93 = \$118 \$US6 =\$7.60 etc. Subs should not have to do all the work (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 27jun96 11:24) Education masthead now also in magenta: gn774f. Also without a byline: gn775f.

(FEATSUBS, AANDERSON, 18jun96 19:40) JOHN FARQUHARSON has suggested that anyone trying to contact him at home without success should phone his wife, celia, downstairs in the CT building, since she (usually) knows where he is. Extension 135.

Ta.

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(EDITORIAL, K MAY, 5jun96 22:51) P1 LAYOUT SUBS: Pls note there are now mastheads set up for full colour. They have the suffix FC. They will now be the norm.

thanks.

(NIGHTSUBS, A ANDERSON, 4jun96 21:09) Please do not move ads on page without consultation - our doing so on a forum page last friday created a problem. And, take care that the subjects of headshots remain in story after subbing (not the case on sunday p1 strip) (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 5jun96 11:16) we do not call amphetamines speed, unless we are quoting someone, and even then, for the sake of the uninitiated, we describe elsewhere in the text what they are.

Similarly, dope, shit, coke, etc (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 1jun96 19:37) most names of Aboriginal tribes are their own plural: X is an Aranda man, they are Aranda [or Ngunnawal] etc . NOT Arandas, Warlpiris, Pintupis, Ngunnawals, etc (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 29may96 17:22) with ps job cut shock horror stories please, if you can, put in actual numbers as well as percentages, and also look hard, if possible, to identify the Canberra-based component of it (EDITORIAL, J WATERFORD, 28may96 18:54) PUBLISHED LETTER TO THE EDITOR "Boondoggle" debased I AM DISMAYED. For many years I have contentedly lived with the understanding that the concoction ""boondoggle" was the American equivalent of the Australian ""jolly" or ""junket", the thinly disguised business trip.

Your columnist Mike Taylor (CT, May 23, p.11) has used it as a verb to suggest the meaning ""to fanny about", or more properly ""to vacillate".

Please tell me he is wrong.

el,2 JOHN BENSON Bundoona, Victoria Editor's note: Boondoggle as a verb, according to the Macquarie Dictionary, is to fritter away one's time on work that is unnecessary, pointless and time- wasting. If the Macquarie were to be regarded as an authority on such matters, Mr Taylor's use of the word would be defensible. But Mr Benson is probably right and the Macquarie, and Mr Taylor, are probably debasing a good word, which ought to be confined to the doing of useless things as an end in itself, with some suggestion of rorting involved. My idea of a boondoggle would include a parliamentary delegation to the Maldives or a job-creation scheme involving the digging and filling in of holes, but not honest effort which turned out to be in vain.

now that recipe has died, or rather, was still- born, I have refined it to include it in site-tools, so when you get a recipe ingredient that is on two lines, use a Triple J at the end of the first line, before the bu etc on the second line (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 28may96 10:33) please read and digest the law list style (in the subs' mail tray and under style in SDK9) before sending out or subbing the law list. It's becoming a dog's breakfast. There is also a specified order of courts which should be adhered to. cheers, (NIGHTSUBS, J MORRIS, 21may96 15:52) number to call copysetters over the road: 190.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 21may96 10:18) good news about food stories: recipe now appears to be working so coding for food stories has been simplified incredibly - subs should not have to change coding at all - any problems with it, let me know (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 21may96 10:13) sorry to say that recipe is not working as well as it did in the first story, and while alanl is working on it, trying to find out why it works perfectly in one story and not in another, we'll have to go back to the old coding (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 21may96 11:37) Can we please guard against captions like this morning's p3: Canberra has three lakes, not one (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 20may96 13:32) does anyone know the population of the ACT?

(EDITORIAL, IMCPHEDRAN, 19may96 19:41) 304,000 it is. thanks.

(EDITORIAL, IMCPHEDRAN, 19may96 19:44) Jack has decreed that Earth as a planet takes a capital letter. See adjustments to stylebook in SDK9, in both sections capitals and words to watch (EDITORIAL, J MORRIS, 17may96 15:53) read headings should be two decks x 3 legs or three decks across 2, according to text-space needs.

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(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16may96 8:51) sorry, that shld have been 4 dex x 2 legs, 3 dex the option x 2 if juggle needed to get the right compromise between a pic when we use one and the text.

also, drop,2s to break up text slabs please.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16may96 9:02) STYLE NOTE: ACTEW is not longer an acronym for ACT Electricity and Water; The Actew Corporation is now its actual legal name.

The Actew Corporation (lower case after first letter) first reference and Actew subsequent refs.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 14may96 14:39) I can endure it no longer: can I please ask that around be replaced by about when subbing if it is not being used in a geographical sense - it is a nonsense to say around 4pm' or around 400g' but ok to say around Sydney' refer style book (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 7may96 15:28) no more floating ads.

pse see me when there's a layout problem as a result.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 7may96 15:05) Any foxy snippets that are not news but the public need to know about can find a home in Off The Dish.

Please message me or send your tasty morsels to the Dish basket.

(EDITORIAL, SGROSE, 7may96 16:45) nerve-racking has no w. it's a reference to the rack, an instrument of torture.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 9may96 13:46) The first Howard ministry and Beazley's first shadow ministry are now listed in the style book . at the end of Section 3. Hit SDK9 to get in. Have a browse among other style info while you are there.

(EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 8may96 23:16) Almost everyone who gets their name in the paper complains of mistakes. It's nice to know that even the editor is not exempt.

Today's story about me was filed on Friday and referred to events that day; no one fixed the "yesterday" reference.

but several hundred of our readers know we are not much good at making routine checks. Perhaps the reporter should have had yesterday (Friday) in his/her copy. But any weekend sub should know that there is a high proportion of overset material (NIGHTSUBS, JWATERFORD, 5may96 16:06) use of the word performative, to mean performing, must be one of the best misuses I have seen to date. It is actually a grammatical term - refer to page 1317 of the Wombat. I sincerely hope never to see it used like this again (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 4may96 11:42) the word imperative is banned here, unless referring to voice in grammar. And THUS is on a critical list unless it means "therefore" or "in this manner" - phrases such as "thus far" etc are out (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21apr96 18:07) We may all LOATHE [detest] Mike Taylor but I am LOATH [reluctant] to blame him alone for the appearance of illiteracy with these words on p1 piece today.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17apr96 16:33) SUBS: if laying out SUNDAY P1, P1 sunmast c will give cyan masthead and black earpieces; P1sunmastC/ M will give cyan masthead and magenta earpieces.

(NIGHTSUBS, AANDERSON, 16apr96 17:54) A reminder: Our style is Hezbollah not Hizbollah for Lebanon stories.

(NIGHTSUBS, GWISEMAN, 15apr96 18:58) For future reference when referring to APS numbers. There are 130,000 Commonwealth public servants.

There are 300,000-plus workers in Commonwealth employment which includes Telstra, CASA, etc.

(EDITORIAL, MTAYLOR, 15apr96 11:20) Pre-empt means to get in advance of others and suggests forestalling; it does not means anticipate or cause, as was suggested by Rcampbell's piece today (March 29, 1996) which said a

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4 Corners piece pre-empted the Fitzgerald inquiry. It would have pre-empted it had it issued the Fitz report before its formal release or come out with its own report in advance, making the Fitz report otiose.

(Actually the claim, ever advanced by the A BC, that its report caused the Fitz inquiry is somewhat arguable (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 29mar96 11:41) Please beware when selecting headshots: Andrew Whitecross doesn't wear glasses any more (NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 28mar96 13:13) Please remember to count anything we can as a check. ie percentages, team lists, assembly votes, the number of people in a pic and the number named in a caption (see p15 this am).

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 28mar96 13:49) LAYOUT SUBS: if a page has 'ear' ads, you can save yourself the hassle of moving them and removing ad rules by entering 'ears' in the KEYWORD field of the create page prompt or the KEYWORD field of the M-take before typesetting.

Please ask if unsure...

* (EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 27feb96 17:59) the suburb is Conder; not Condor (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 26feb96 14:39) the second lib in the senate is stephe jitts a female.... do not assume it is a male stephen with the N missing. ta (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 11feb96 15:30) Small punctuation note: a person's initials are separated by a thin space (,). and there is a word space between them and the surname.

(FEATSUBS, DWYATT, 7feb96 20:51) I have set up jubileebasic on the INL terminal at my wednesday to sunday desk, if you should ever be as fortunate to layout this page (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 7feb96 15:50) should you ever be fortunate enough to lay out the jubilee page, the jubilee reporter's dinkus is gn182 and the strap for the page is gn215, so carve them into the back of your hands (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 7feb96 16:44) on to, not onto (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 30jan96 15:35) QUIPPED is a word that is banned (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 28jan96 16:25) MATTIAH MURALITHARAN is Wisden's way of spelling the Sri Lankan bowler called for chucking. AAP is not sure how to spell it. Please use the Wisden version. Ta (EDITORIAL, GMALLIN, 6jan96 17:02) Reminder: check your arithmetic, and then check again. EG we nearly had 15,000 a year turned into 400 a day in a story tonight: it is 60 (based on 250 working days).

400 did have an ancestor, but another multiplication (15%) had to be done on it (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3jan96 22:14) Bahasa means speech or language. The language of Indonesia is Bahasa Indonesia, of Malaysia is Bahasa Malay. We do not say a child is learning Francais or Deutsch; we say it is learning French or German. So say learning Indonesian, or Malay.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 21jul94 19:37) pleez remember that reported speech goes into the past tense. This means: Fred Nurk said his union WAS ready to set the world on fire. When Nurk tells you he Twill be at the meetings, this becomes: Nurk said he WOULD be at the meeting in reported speech (EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 18dec95 18:08) for the 694th time, CT style is Ms Jones said, not said Ms Jones , and the person's title, if not too cumbersome, comes BEFORE th e name: the committee's chairwoman, Jill Blah, NOT Jill Blah, th e committee's chairman.

till next time ...

(EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 17dec95 18:56) Jock Ritchie was an irascible check sub. He had red hair and a fiery temper. Once or twice he got so angry on the subs' table that he up and went home. He had a thick Scots accent but knew English well. He often helped several of us drink a bottle of Teachers after work.

He was about 45 when he left the CT. He died probably before he was 50.

(EDITORIAL, MTRAVIS, 15dec95 18:53) a gentle reminder that journalists must be shod on duty. This is a firm rule, originally instituted because of the risk of trays of hot leads falling on them. For goodness sakes: if we don't maintain standards soon the male subs will stop wearing ties!

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 15dec95 19:38) you must all be young enough to have used a hula hoop. i'm not, but i know how to spell it. comes from hula-hula, a Hawaiian dance. not hoola, as in khobson's piece this mng.

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(FEATSUBS, MTRAVIS, 12dec95 17:49) Reminder: no fucks in the paper which have not been passed by me (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 12dec95 18:00) an incidence is a rate, usually over time, sometimes also of number: the annual incidence of leprosy [fresh cases] in Aust is 18 cases or one per million.

PREVALENCE is the total number of cases (new and old), usually as a rate too.

They are different (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3oct95 17:14) NET (as in sum total, or sum total after all deductions) is spelt by us NET, not NETT. The latter has a history of sorts, but was never preferable in anyone's style, and has never been our style (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 17nov95 14:51) calicivirus (pronounced CAL EE SEE VIRUS) not calcivirus as we had this morning.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 13nov95 11:07) WRONG 'UN - two words, apostrophised, not one, sans apostrophe, as repeatedly this morning on our sports pages (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 13nov95 12:41) seeing the word PRESTIGIOUS in the bookerprize copy reminds me to remind you that this word is banned. In decent dictionaries (ie all except the Wombat) it means showy, flashy, tricky etc and is a first cousin of prestidigitation (sleight of hand) (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 8nov95 10:51) It is now possible to 'email' text between the SII system and the graphic artists' Macintoshes - very useful for screeds of text that have to be incorporated into page designs, tables and graphs. (Note however, that some characters - mainly quotes, hyphens or others on the shift- number keys - don't always translate. Best to check your copy against the artists' work.) As other work on the email system is completed in coming weeks, we will also be able to send messages or text files: 1) from the SII system to those with email accounts on a PC or Mac in editorial (including photographic, graphic artists, secretaries, jack, crispin and alan or myself on the help desk) 2) from editorial PCs/ Macs with email to users on the SII system.

===== How to email from SII to graphic artists: 1) Ready your text in the SII system and file and re-edit it (cmd . w) or (File and File-and- Reedit) 2) Get the # number from the story's header (the story name won't do). 3) Call up a message prompt (cmd m). In the two spaces in the "Send to:" field, fill in postmaster and gateway respectively. In the body of the message type: mail #1234 graphic.artists (where 1234 is your story's # number) 4) Send the message, then ask one of the artists to check their email.

===== Mike Johnson 10/10 INL people: A3 proofer problem seems to be fixed. By the way, if you ever have problems sending to PROOFA3E (or PROOFA4E), substitute a C for the E to send the proof to the machine next to alan anderson's desk.

(EDITORIAL, MJOHNSON, 23oct95 17:07) Page 1 INL subs: pse copy sn "P1 daymast m" (ie masthead with ma genta "Proudly Aust Owned" logo) - not "P1 daymast" (B&W) - when there is spot colour on Pg1. All Pg1 mastheads are in ba FIXED under keyword "P1 MAST".

(NIGHTSUBS, MJOHNSON, 19oct95 0:00) pse always return unused arts-pages pix to robert (dougal reviews excepted...

these can be returned to the pantry, or library if review goes without pic.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 16oct95 17:38) INL weather page subs: pse only crop cloud pattern graphic from the bottom - there is a day/date strip that runs over the top of the grphic. tks.

(NIGHTSUBS, MJOHNSON, 16oct95 19:34) could people pls refrain from using storynames, topics or keywords that begin with LEADER or LETTER unless they are in fact leaders or letters.

it stuffs up various UDKs and di rectories. many thanks.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 12oct95 10:40) PractiCe is the noun; practiSe is the verb. We get this wrong about four times a week. And "contact" - either as a noun or a verb will be banned "make contact with" already is -unless peopl e behave. Try "meet, ring, call, reach, speak to...touch etc" (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 10oct95 15:21) an incidence is a rate, usually over time, sometimes also of number: the annual incidence of leprosy [fresh cases] in Aust is 18 cases or one per million. PREVALENCE is the total number of cases (new and old), usually as a rate too.

They are different.

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Phrases such as "incidence rate" are tautologous (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3oct95 17:14) to deal with corrupted modem copy, ie: UU and QQ for open and close quotes, zzzz instead of par marks etc - use SDK triple z (NIGHTSUBS, RMIHAICH, 2oct95 18:25) peninsula the noun, peninsular the adjective.

(FEATSUBS, WGOODALL, 22sep95 13:55) Check subs: can we amend the index on wednesdays to include Tartss as well as Tentertainments.

Can be in one entry or two.

(NIGHTSUBS, AFRASER, 20sep95 18:27) just a bit of political correctness for your future info: our style is ""people with disabilities", not disabled people, people with epilepsy, not epileptics, etc etc. The idea is we don't define the person by their condition (PLAYLAND, 10sep95 19:57) The word "literally" is banned (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 6sep95 18:06) What about basically, hopefully, thankfully, prior to, whilst, purchase, assist launch (as a noun) aaaarrgh?

BBRAMMALL Yes, while I am in this fascist mood, them too (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 6sep95 18:10) Telstra rep rang to say we continue to call the Telstra tower on black mountain the Telecom tower despite complaints. see page 18 of saturday edition. the ""other outings" section.

(EDITORIAL, TCONNORS, 2sep95 14:19) Telstra thinks that because it has changed its name, we should call the Black Mountain Tower the Telstra tower. Personally, I think we should call it the Black Mountain Tower, should never have called it Telecom tower & not now call it Telstra tower (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 6sep95 10:49) There has been some confusion about spelling out acronyms. Style approved by Jack is that they can be used in first reference (i.e. in intros), so long as they are spelt out in second reference. And as with old style, they must still be spelt out.

(EDITORIAL, KHOBSON, 31aug95 20:47) For the millionth time, people are not AWARDED honours, imperial or Australian, they are MADE members, officers, Dames (eg Dame Pattie today) Knights etc (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 31aug95 11:47) MUGSHOT of french foreign minister herve de charette avail as ms2645.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 4aug95 21:34) our Elliott FORMERLY (instead of FORMALLY) arraigned..

headline on p5 today made us look like complete idiots (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 3aug95 11:40) please, please please every sub who even glances at a page proof double check all names in all blocklines against the story. it is utterly inexcusable to get them wrong (p1 monday). also subs writing blocklines...plse check against reporter's copy. ta.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 1aug95 9:22) "Said" is a very good, neutral and never boring word (it goes into the background like "the", "to", "of" etc) and almost always preferable to judgmental or value- laden words such as "claimed", "admitted", "responded" etc.

"Claimed" hints at a lie (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 27jul95 18:24) in these days of INL when KMAY is the "author" of all leaders, can the real leader writers please put their siii user name in the keyword field so that subs with queries do not have to chase around to find the writer. ta (EDITORIAL, CHULL, 21jul95 17:31) we don't refuse to service airplanes. we might play silly buggers with aeroplanes, or aircraft.

those who need to know this will know who he/she/it is (NIGHTSUBS, BBAMMALL, 12jul95 22:59) Headlines with may/ might in them are looked upon with disfavour!t's the LABOR Party (in Australia only); but work is LABOUR, the union movement is the LABOUR movement, and it's the Trades and LABOUR council (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 13jul95 13:56) new obits now in obits basket: bradman and larwood.

(EDITORIAL, WGOODALL, 5jul95 17:09) the French ambassador's name is spelt GIRARD not GIRAURD..

remember the French are non-U at the moment.

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(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6jul95 11:28) sn cinemabox, with what wee dougal's stars actually mean, has been updated with inl coding including nohead to assign as a boxed story (FEATSUBS, DSIBLEY, 7jul95 10:33) can we pleeez have a general message about the use of woman/man instead of female/ male. we had P1 today that Lundy was first woman president.

AAGGHH. (KHOBSON, 26jun95 16:50) hear, hear (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 26jun95 19:03) ALL INL SUBS DEALING WITH HARDCOPY ARTWORK FOR SCANNING: Where hardcopy artwork has to be finished off electronically (eg an artwork head added), it is important that the half-finished version does not get into the Graphics database (GDB). To prevent this, please fill out two GDB slips: 1) The first will go to Kath complete will all keyword, pg, date info.

(If Kath is not in, pse photocopy the artwork and leave the copy with the slip on her terminal so she knows the original has been sent out.)

2) The second GDB slip should have all the keyword etc info crossed through, and "Please scan and return to Kath's Mac" written in the instructions field.

I seek guidance from Saint Michael of the subs table. Is "messag e' a noun? If so, how can a sub ask people to "message' her?

(EDITORIAL, GDOWNIE, 19jun95 11:35) answer to downie she/he can't (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19jun95 11:49) ALL USERS: message system is chokka. TIP: If yr message is only valid for a day, pse add ,1 (a comma and a one) after the person or group's name (eg editorial,1 or jbloggs,1) to ensure the message dies accross the whole system after its use-by date.

(EDITORIAL, MJOHNSON, 14jun95 16:05) I'm somewhat embarrassed to say that I have succumbed to a mobile telephone's being pressed upon me.

I once swore it would never happen. [I once swore the same about working in Fyshwick.] It's 0411182559 (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 16jun95 18:20) there has been an outbreak of "claimed", "responded"" and other (sometimes loaded) substitutes for that excellent and almost almost preferable word "said", which never jars. "Claim', when used by us, means "he says this but it's unlikely to be true' (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 16jun95 15:09) reporters, file early, often and accurately We had Deane Terrell, the VICE- chancellor of the ANU, and fairly well known as such, as the Chancellor on Tuesday. The VC is the executive boss, the chancellor is largely a figurehead.

This sort of error makes us look very silly to many readers (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 15jun95 21:50) on to - always two words (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 9jun95 17:48) GDKcapE in general glossary can be used to correct copy in which the word "first' is always in caps and/or quad lefts need changing to These are quirks of copy filed via EPORT.

(EDITORIAL, AANDERSON, 31may95 18:57) please!!!! Be sparing on headline acronymphomania.

PCA for parents and citz was a droll insider joke unworthy of our foisting upon readers. TSS for Toxic Shock Syndrome was unspeakable. Only acro nyms that an average 15-year-old would instantly recognise, pls (NIGHTSUBS, JWATERFORD, 25may95 16:31) No,1, No,45, etc, are done thus, not number one, etc, as in aap and overseas copy.

Also Group 1, Race 5, Barrier 7, Class 6, not spelt out. if you fix it, i don't have to. ta (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 20may95 18:23) momentarily - a bad word which should not be used in any event - does not means (despite the americans) in a moment or at any moment: it means either: for a moment (the light flashed momentarily) or by the moment (the bacteria grew etc more (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19sep94 18:35) while on adverbs of time, watch PRESENTLY which, strictly, should mean SOON, or in a little while, but to some (esp yanks) has come to mean NOW, as in TMy 11-year-old is presently in six th grade.s It can't mean both at once; best avoided.

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(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 19sep94 18:42) for person doing sharemarket tables from now on. before running gdfs pls check that full transmissions have been received. industrials should be 715 lines (give or take 3 Or 4), mining 435 lines, leading miner 28 lines. ask for retransmission if not (LKENNEDY, 1feb94 0:26) INL MEMO: pls ensure there is a space between end of text and att so correct leading is maintained on last line (if no space, the last line of 9pt text gets the 7pt leading of the attribution and bumps the line above).

tk (NIGHTSUBS, AANDERSON, 5jan94 21:28) reporters using portables whose copy comes out in strikethroughon SII cana prevent this by starting their story with an @ sign. Incidentally the hat about the 6 (on IBM compatibles) will turn copy into bold and the @ turns it back to ordinary.

(EDITORIAL, CHULL, 6jan94 17:27) take some care in removing parentheses.

In court copy this week we quoted defence counsel referring to his client's owning a business (the name of which was already before court) which reporter put in brackets. The lawyer never mentioned the business and is angrily seeking a retraction of the suggestion that he doxxed in the good name and goodwill of his client's firm (NIGHTSUBS, JWATERFORD, 17dec93 15:25) The idea with Canberra Alive is to highlight noteworthy events, of interest to the broader community, for any given weekend. A system message on thursdays will prompt all to scour diaries / minds for such info.

Message please to CADETS. tks.

(EDITORIAL, MJOHNSON, 21dec93 16:28) Thus is not a word that should be used much, if at all. Strictly, it means, like this, or in this way and does not mean therefore.

Although there is a long history of pretentious adverbial uses based on an assumption that it is interchangeable with so, our style is not to adopt it. Thus far, in particular, is appalling.

If you mean ergo or therefore, prefer so or therefore: All cats are mammals. All mammals have fur. So cats have fur.

If you mean like this, thus is acceptable, but so or like this sounds better.

It is so which combines more naturally with far, much, forth and possibly a few others I cannot think of right now.

(EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 29nov93 11:44) please clear corrections through me, first, so I can check they are to style, so that any consequent action is coordinated, and so that we don't make blunders (of the sort I myself made on week end) of repeating incorrect info on the very day of correction (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 29nov93 9:44) (EDITORIAL, MJOHNSON, 30nov93 14:19) Please take care not to cover air vents when placing "light shields" on top of computer terminals. Covering the vents overheats the terminal, damages the circuit boards, is a fire hazard and is a prime reason for our terminals crashing.

...MTC....

. MC... Computer services suggests taping whatever is to be used as a shield in such a way that the vents are not covered. tks.

(EDITORIAL, MJOHNSON, 30nov93 14:18) one's HOME can be anywhere, even under a bridge, though most people make their homes in HOUSES, which is what builders build and real-estate agents sell. Use HOUSE usually to refer to buildings, HOME to evoke notion of family/ household (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 2dec93 13:51) anyone subbing a story with hdcc in the head can ignore the signal illegal point size. the sys does accept the condensation.

(NIGHTSUBS, JKIELY, 19nov93 18:40) there is still much confusion about quotes.

if a quoted phrase comes at the end of a sentence, the full point goes after the last quotation marks.

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if you are quoting an entire sentence, the full point goes before the last quotation marks. j (EDITORIAL, JKIELY, 19nov93 15:47) since Burns Philp (Canberra) PL and the listed Burns Philp are no longer connected, let us ever take care about letting anything through which might mix them up. Rod/Ian's device of reverting to BPC after first ref, along with disclaimer is fine (NIGHTSUBS, JWATERFORD, 18nov93 18:37) Something which is ""two times bigger thans X is ""three times as big ass X. It's like percentages, where we also often err: something which is 150 per cent of X is 50 per cent greater than X (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 18nov93 10:14) note correct spelling of SkillShare ... not Skillshare as we have had in the past (EDITORIAL, GHOBSON, 17nov93 15:55) give someone 25.4mm and they'll take 1.15 metres. there are some old sayings/cliches that can stand the risk of prosecution by the Metric Conversion Board for want of transalation. A ton of courage, an ounce of luck (Sunday p15) did not need translation (EDITORIAL, JWATERFORD, 15nov93 9:43) NSW and ACT are two of the very few words, which include Mr, Dr and other honorifics, which are ALWAYS abbreviated. AAP sends New South Wales - shorten it for us. thanks, (EDITORIAL, JMORRIS, 13nov93 18:16) for what its worth: I agree with critics of the media referring to the backpacker suspect as a schizophrenic.

It's an even worse version of TMother of threes etc, etc. Its an irrelevant, unsubstantiated label that plays into the ignorant's prejudices (EDITORIAL, MFRITH, 15nov93 12:51)

Load-Date: January 15, 2007

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