



Traveling Soldiers
Wire photo

British soldiers ride atop an armored combat vehicle in Basra, Iraq, Sunday Judge Raghib al-Mudhafar, chief of the Basra Anti-Terrorism Court said Saturday he reissued homicide arrest warrants for the two soldiers, rekindling hard feelings despite attempts by Iraqi and British officials to cool tempers.

Degrees in emergency management on the rise

WARRENSBURG, Mo. (AP) — He helped set up an airport shelter after Sept. 11 and coordinated response to a crippling ice storm. He's been a volunteer firefighter, worked as an EMT and did first aid in the mountains of New Mexico. And Brad Hubbard has academic credentials, too. He's about to complete a four-year program in crisis and disaster management.

At just 23, he's exactly what federal emergency officials want.

Hubbard is part of a wave of students in one of academia's newest and fastest-growing fields — broad programs in emergency management and homeland security seen as a partial solution to the ineffective responses to Hurricane Katrina and other disasters.

"This is all I ever wanted to do as long as I can remember," said Hubbard, a Leawood, Kan., native and a student at Central Missouri State University.

Eleven years ago, still reeling from flawed responses to hurricanes Hugo and Andrew, the Federal Emergency Management Agency launched an ambitious effort to ensure disaster officials at all levels of government were properly trained to deal with catastrophe.

"People got their jobs all kinds of ways," said Wayne Blanchard, who has overseen FEMA's Higher Education Project since its inception. "And generally not because they had any identified management competencies, but who you know."

Cronyism wasn't the only problem. Disaster management wasn't seen as a profession, and ad-

equate training was lacking for those in the field.

The Higher Education Project sought to change that by convincing colleges to offer degree and certificate programs in emergency management aimed at producing a new breed of professionals who could assume posts often held by appointees ill-equipped to deal with disaster.

Students scattered across the country go through research-based courses in subjects like quarantine and epidemiology; disaster-specific instruction for floods and earthquakes; lectures on politics, planning and leadership; and on-site experience in everything from community emergencies to the Asian tsunami.

Blanchard says there were four college programs in emergency management in 1994, but there are 121 today and another 110 programs under consideration. They're becoming so popular, there is a shortage of qualified professors to teach in them.

"Even before 9/11, all these programs had more business than they could handle," said David Neal, a professor in the Fire and Emergency Management Program at Oklahoma State University.

Salaries are on the rise in the field, to an average of \$45,390 annually, according to May 2004 figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, though managers in small jurisdictions can make half that and those in the private sector can make double. The U.S. Department of Labor projects emergency management will be one of the fastest-growing fields through 2012.

"Disasters are a growth business in this country," Blanchard said.

Observers say the result of the growth is a community of emergency managers with far different demographics than a decade ago. More have college degrees and more have chosen the field as a first career. They are younger and more diverse. And they have a blend of research-based knowledge with experiential education.

Blanchard said it could be another five or 10 years before the true fruits of the program are realized because those it attracted to the field are still in low-level positions without the authority to lead a response to a tragedy.

Many believe the problem lies not with individual emergency managers, but the system they work within, in which power and funding have been stripped away and those with the capacity to lead in a crisis are not in command.

"There has been success by these universities in producing educated emergency managers," Had-dow said. "But they are working in a system that doesn't take advantage of their talents and skills."

Even as interest from colleges has grown, the Department of Homeland Security has slashed the budget of the Higher Education Project, as it has for FEMA operations overall. Blanchard said his budget was about \$180,000 before the creation of Homeland Security and is currently around \$35,000 in the fiscal year, and although the next budget is uncertain, he's been told to prepare for working without program funding.

Cancer survivor, 71, wins homecoming crown

TABLEQUAH, Okla. (AP) — She wants to be known as an advocate for the elderly, but students at Northeastern State University know 71-year-old Muriel Saunders as their homecoming queen.

Saunders was crowned Saturday night during halftime ceremonies at Northeastern's football game against East Central University. Saunders was among five finalists for homecoming queen. All of the other finalists were in their 20s.

"I was overwhelmed the kids voted for me," Saunders said. "I really didn't expect it. I thought I might make a good showing."

Spectators cheered and applauded when Saunders' name was announced. After the coronation, students and well-wishers mobbed Saunders to have their photograph taken with her.

"I don't know what the big deal is. I guess it's because of my age," said Saunders, a graduate student from Muskogee and an 11-year member of the Muskogee School Board.

"When they first announced the homecoming queen, my friend Gaylynn Nance encouraged me to do it," Saunders said. "We mentioned it to people, and everyone supported it. I felt like it would be good to do, so I applied."

Nance, 46, was convinced Saunders would be named homecoming queen.

"I knew it would happen," Nance said. "She is so beloved by everyone — the faculty, the staff and the students. Muriel has gone through so much during her life. She is a 40-year cancer survivor."

Saunders said as queen she might be involved in some publicity duties for the university, but she is not sure of her official duties.

"I am an advocate for older citizens," Saunders said. "I want to change the image in this country people have of older people. Older people are not to be shoved aside."

Construction begins on biopharming company.

MARYVILLE, Mo. (AP) — Construction of a building that will house a controversial biopharming company on the campus of Northwest Missouri State University is scheduled to begin this week.

Groundbreaking for the Missouri Center of Excellence for Plant Biologics was Saturday, with Gov. Matt Blunt wielding a golden spade and pledging unwavering support for biotechnology.

The \$23 million, 60,000-square-foot building will house Ventria Bioscience, a California-based company specializing in plant-made pharmaceuticals, and Northwest academic offices. State funds will pay \$10 million of the construction costs.

The building will house a plant biologics incubator, the graduate applied research center, two greenhouses, protein extraction and processing facilities, and testing laboratories.

"This is the only major capital project going on in this state and it's going on for one reason," said Rep. Brad Lager, R-Mo. "Because everyone came together to do some great things."

Ventria has been trying for months to win approval to grow genetically modified rice in Missouri.

The rice is enhanced with synthetic human genes that produce the proteins lactoferrin and lysozyme. Those proteins, normally found in human milk, saliva and tears, could be harvested and refined for use in medicines to fight diarrhea, dehydration and other illnesses.

Ventria first planned to grow test patches of the rice in Missouri's Bootheel, where most of the state's rice crop is grown. But that plan met with fierce resistance in the Bootheel from farmers who feared cross-pollination with their food crops and a resulting loss of markets for their rice.

That prompted the company to change plans and test its rice crops in northern Missouri despite concerns that the crop couldn't be grown in that part of the state.

Scott Deeter, president of Ventria, said the tests have been successful so far.

"We've actually had four trials in northwest and northeast Missouri," Deeter said Saturday. "All four were successful. What we're excited about is that we proved that we can grow rice effectively in this part of the state."

The rice eventually will be processed in the new facility at Northwest Missouri State. The first phase of the building is expected to be completed by November 2006.

Smoke-Free Establishments

Shopping:

- A.T. University
- Active Integrative Therapy
- Adair County Family YMCA
- Adair County Library
- Alltell
- Back to Nature
- Ben Franklin Crafts
- Blossom Shop Flowers & Gifts
- The Bridal & Formal Shoppe
- Body Kneads
- Brown Shoe Fit
- The Buckle
- Casey's both locations
- Cato Chuck's Auto
- Cook's Jewelry
- Crown Dental Group
- Dollar Tree
- Edna Campbell Bookstore
- Evergreens
- Fortney Photography
- Del Gregory, D.D.S.
- Jodie Gordon, D.D.S.
- Hastings
- Hidden Treasures
- House of Jesus
- Hy-Vee
- International Tours & Cruises
- JC Penney
- King Appliance & Furniture
- Kirkville License Bureau
- Kirkville Public School Campus
- Kirkville Yamaha Honda
- Kirlins Hallmark
- KLTE Radio
- Lovegreen
- Main Street Books & Gifts
- Maurices
- Meneely Home Day Care

- NEMO Foot Clinic
- New Image Home Care
- Northeast Camera & Photo Labs
- Northeast Regional Medical & Fitness Center
- Osteopathic Equipment
- Patty's University Bookstore
- Pickell Abstract
- Planned Parenthood
- Preferred Family Healthcare
- Radio Shack
- Rapture Beauty Salon
- Reflections 2000
- Rider Drug
- Jim Robertson Chevrolet-Toyota
- Sears
- Sieren's Palace
- Stage
- Stone Creations
- Tamara's
- Troester's Clothing
- Victim Support Services
- Vintage Book Shoppe

Dining:

- A&W/Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Bellacino's
- Crumbles & Cream
- Dairy Queen
- Hy-Vee's Kitchen
- Long John Silver's Seafood Shoppe
- North McDonald's
- Papa John's
- Radio Grill
- Subway
- Taco Bell
- Thousand Hills Dining Lodge
- Washington Street Java
- Wendy's

Since Only 27% of Missouri adults choose to smoke, shouldn't the other 73% of adults and 100% of children have a choice about breathing secondhand smoke?

For more information contact: Breathe Easy Kirkville • 900 E. LaHarpe, P.O. Box 767 • Kirkville, MO 63501 • 660.626.0650 • email: cearl@pfl.org

Welcome
To
Mainstreet Market
October 3rd - 7th

Breakfast Special
Sausage, Egg & Cheese on a biscuit
\$1.25

Sky Ranch Grill Special
Chicken Parmesan Combo \$4.19

New Spice Market entrees will be offered daily on the Main Event Line

This week: Pepper Parmigiano Roast Beef Focaccia - \$4.39

Classic Line			
Monday		Thursday	
Carved Beef Brisket	\$2.75/\$4.05	Carved Turkey	\$2.75/\$4.05
Chicken Carbonara Casserole	\$2.75/\$4.05	Beef Ravioli	\$2.75/\$4.05
Cheese Manicotti	\$2.75/\$4.05	Sesame Tofu	\$2.75/\$4.05
Tuesday		Friday	
Carved Pork Loin	\$2.75/\$4.05	Carved Roast Beef	\$2.75/\$4.05
Meatloaf	\$2.75/\$4.05	Basil Chicken	\$2.75/\$4.05
Bean & Cheese Chimichanga	\$2.75/\$4.05	Baked Ziti w/four cheese	\$2.75/\$4.05
Wednesday		Blimpie Special	
BBQ Chicken Breast	\$2.75/\$4.05	Grilled Beef & Cheddar Combo	\$5.59
Swiss Steak	\$2.75/\$4.05		
Broccoli Tofu w/rice	\$3.05/\$4.35		

Tierra Del Sol Special - Soft Beef Taco
\$6.65
Jazzman's Special - Tall Latte
\$1.89
Freshens Special - Small Sundae
\$8.89

Bonus bucks and Dining Dollars may be used on Sunday Evening in Mainstreet Market. You may not use your Block meals on Sunday except for our large pizza special.