

The Boston Globe

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2003

DRIP IRRITATION

TODAY: Cloudy, breezy, showers, 53-58

TOMORROW: Clouds and sun, cool and windy, 57

HIGH TIDE: 5:15 a.m., 6:07 p.m.
FULL REPORT: PAGE B8



AP PHOTO/HUSSEIN MALLA

Shi'ite pilgrims thronged shrines in Karbala yesterday, the first time in about 30 years they could do so without fear of reprisal.

Shi'ites show they can't be ignored

Global diplomacy

The Bush administration's postwar emphasis will be on pressing countries to end support of terrorist groups and on combatting arms proliferation. **A21.**

Surprise proposal

France, an opponent of military action in Iraq, meets a US stance halfway by calling for suspension of economic sanctions. **A22.**

Iraq coverage, **A21-26.**

By Thanassis Cambanis

GLOBE STAFF

KARBALA, Iraq — Pounding their heads with machetes and daggers, their faces and clothes drenched in blood, Shi'ite pilgrims from all over Iraq mourned the death of their sect's founder yesterday, in a mass outpouring that was as much political as religious.

This week marked the first time in nearly 30 years that Iraq's majority Shi'a Muslims could pray

without fear of reprisal or execution by the government, and more than 1 million people flooded the holy city of Karbala to pay homage at the shrines of Hussein and Abbas, two of the most holy places for Shi'ites.

A jubilant crowd reveled in its newly recovered religious freedom by beating themselves until the city center shook with the sound of palms on flesh. Others whipped themselves with chains, and some

cut themselves with blades, a rite forbidden even by leading Shi'ite clerics.

"Haidar, O Haidar," they cried in unison, calling one of the names of Imam Ali, the son-in-law of the Prophet Mohammed, whom the Shi'ites consider his rightful heir.

Shi'ites remember Ali's bloody death at the hands of Sunni Muslims at the site of his murder in Karbala. Pilgrims wail and beat

KARBALA, Page A25

Plan seeks to refinance state's debt

Incentives, deep cuts in House budget

By Rick Klein

GLOBE STAFF

WORCESTER — House leaders today will unveil a budget that would cut \$350 million more from state spending than Governor Mitt Romney has proposed and would restructure the state's debt to free up \$600 million to spur economic development and help Massachusetts address its most urgent priorities.

The House Ways and Means Committee plan, which will be debated by the full House next week, will call for \$100 million in grants and low-interest loans for high-tech companies, funded through the debt refinancing.

House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran, addressing a group of business representatives yesterday, said the move would help Massachusetts win a "national competition" for the best technology jobs.

The rest of the savings from refinancing would be used to set up

about four so-called "pothole accounts," which would allow state leaders to move money, at their discretion, to take care of the most pressing needs in agencies and programs. The refinancing move would free up enough cash to fund the pothole accounts — typically, \$30 million to \$50 million for each fund annually — for between four and five years, House leaders say.

► **Bulger is seen keeping job under Finneran's plan. B5.**

Under the House blueprint, the state would spend about \$22.5 billion in fiscal 2004, about \$350 million less than Romney has called for and about \$300 million less than the state is spending this year. Finneran said the House must cut further than the governor because many of the savings Romney is counting on turned out to be unrealistic.

"We will cut spending, and we will cut spending dramatically," Finneran told the Worcester Young Businessmen's Association. "That is, in fact, the necessity."

While the budget would not raise taxes, it would impose about \$700 million in fees, fines, and

BUDGET, Page B5



GLOBE PHOTO/BRAD DOHERTY

San Juanita Anguiano at home in Los Fresnos, Texas, with a photo of her son, Edward.

Hope and fear keep watch

Mother of last missing GI knows son is still out there

By Sarah Schweitzer

GLOBE STAFF

LOS FRESNOS, Texas — For the mother of the remaining soldier identified as missing in action from Operation Iraqi Freedom, this is how an evening unfolds in a white stucco duplex on the outskirts of a small town bounded by sugar cane and cotton fields.

The television is on. The sound is muted. The screen shows Peter Jennings, his head cocked and lips moving. A picture flashes of a lead-

er in Saddam Hussein's regime who has just been captured by American forces.

San Juanita Anguiano stares at the image. Sleep has been nearly impossible for the 45-year-old teacher's aide, giving her eyes a distant quality of looking but not seeing.

"They're busy catching these people," Anguiano says. "But they can't find my son."

Sergeant Edward Anguiano, a 24-year-old ambushed in a convoy near Nasiriyah one month ago, is the only US Army soldier whose whereabouts are

MISSING, Page A26

Political parties sprouting in Iraq

By Elizabeth A. Neuffer

GLOBE STAFF

BAGHDAD — For decades, there was only one political choice in Iraq: the ruling regime's Ba'ath Party, which dictated every Iraqi's life through repression, violence, and fear.

But with the demise of Saddam Hussein's regime, so many political parties have suddenly emerged in Baghdad that it took Mustafa Hasan nearly all of yesterday just to visit them.

"I'm looking for freedom and democracy — this is what I've missed," said the 35-year-old sports teacher while at Iraqi Communist Party headquarters, number four on his list. "I'm going to see them all, and then choose."

These days, political barnstorming is in great supply, even if electricity is not. Every established Iraqi political opposition group — and some that were formed on the spot — has opened ad hoc headquarters here, settling into looted former government buildings to position themselves for this country's future.

Already, there is a dizzying panoply of parties anxious to fill

POLITICAL PARTIES, Page A24



REUTERS PHOTO

Wary of SARS, a policeman kept a traveler at a distance as he questioned him at a Beijing train station yesterday.

For China, a crisis of epidemic, image

By Indira A. R. Lakshmanan

GLOBE STAFF

HONG KONG — Last week, China was hushing up the scope of a frightening new disease and hiding suspected cases from World Health Organization investigators. This week, China's leaders fired two top officials blamed for withholding information about SARS and ordered state-run media to report that the number of infections in the capital was 16 times higher than previously admitted.

The sudden about-face is unprecedented in Chinese politics, long shrouded in secrecy and unaccountable to the masses or outside world. But the worldwide spread of the pneumonia-like

virus thought to have originated in southern China five months ago — and the coverup that followed — has done greater damage to Beijing's image than any crisis since the 1989 Tiananmen massacre. WHO and the European Union accused Beijing of hiding information, and US Health Secretary Tommy Thompson blamed China for contributing to the global spread of severe acute respiratory syndrome.

With airplanes and hotels empty and a blow looming to China's fast-growing economy, the government's new leaders came clean in an apparent effort to salvage credibility and forestall an exodus of investment.

CHINA, Page A17

Inside Today

Spirit of forgiveness in South Africa

Two men who were convicted in the slaying of American Amy Biehl help spread the works of a foundation in her memory. **Living/Arts, C1.**

For breaking news, updated Globe stories, and more, visit:

Boston.com



Features

Comics **B6-7**
Crossword **B6**
Deaths **D14-16**
Editorials **A18**
Horoscope **B6**
Lottery **B2**
Movies **C6-7**
TV/Radio **C8-9**

© Globe Newspaper Co.

Classified

Classified **D17-28**
Autos **D20**
Education **D11**
Help Wanted **D18**
Professional **D18**
Real Estate **D17**
Apartments **D17**
Comm'l/Ind'l **D17**
Market Basket **D20**
Yachts/Boats **F6**
Legal Notices **D19**



BACKED BY BUSH — The president endorses another four-year term for Federal Reserve chief Alan Greenspan. **D1.**

Little behind Clonaid, files reveal

But publicity raises funds, membership

By Raja Mishra

GLOBE STAFF

The fringe scientific group Clonaid, which earned international notoriety last year by claiming to have cloned a human baby, has no address, no board of directors, and only two employees, according to sealed court documents obtained by the Globe. Yet the group is pushing forward with

plans to charge dozens of prospective cloning patients up to \$200,000 apiece for its services.

The picture that emerges from the documents, as well as from interviews with Clonaid's tiny staff, is of a disorganized, amateurish effort that nonetheless has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars and has plans to gross even more.

Clonaid asserts it has continued work at full speed, allegedly cloning its fifth baby recently, though no proof has been offered.

And the Raelian sect has seen its dues-paying membership swell

by 10 percent because of all the publicity, according to its founder.

"People are trying to laugh them off, but there are plenty of people who are gullible, who believe what Clonaid says and that may fall victim to their scheme," said Bernard Siegel, a Florida lawyer who unsuccessfully challenged the group in court to appoint a legal guardian for the supposed first clone. "It's terrible that they prey on people who have these hopes."

Clonaid announced last December that it had created the

CLONOID, Page A20