Herald.com **FOR BREAKING NEWS, 24 HOURS**

WEEKEND

TONIGHT:

ALICIA KEYS, **PERFORMING WITH BEYONCE AND MISSY ELLIOTT, PLAYS BY** HER OWN RULES, 6G



TO BRAVE SUNDAY'S CROWDS: FOOD, SPIRITS AND MUSIC, MUSIC, MUSIC, 5G

NATION, 3A CHARGED AS **HUSSEIN SPY**

A FORMER CONGRESSIONAL AIDE IS ACCUSED OF BEING A SPY FOR IRAQ

METRO & STATE, 1B **ABORTION NOTIFICATION**

A VOTE IS LIKELY ON PARENTS' BEING NOTIFIED OF THEIR YOUNG DAUGHTERS' ABORTIONS

BUSINESS, 1C

LURE FOR FTAA: MORE FREEBIES

CITIES VYING TO BE FREE-TRADE **HEADQUARTERS ARE** OFFERING FREE HOMES AND LAND

SPORTS, 1D **PENALTY** FOR HOCKEY HIT

TODD BERTUZZI IS SUSPENDED THE REST OF THE SEASON FOR A HIT THAT BROKE A PLAYER'S NECK

WEATHER



HIGH 78 | LOW 61 | UV 9 Mixed sun and clouds over the weekend. Bryan Norcross' forecast, 8B.

INDEX

ACTION LINE	7B	LOTTERY	.8B
AMERICAS	.14A	LEONARD PITTS.	1B
BUSINESS	.1C	MOVIE TIMES	20G
CLASSIFIED	.1F	NATION	.3A
COMICS	50G	PEOPLE	4A
CROSSWORD	53G	TELEVISION	54G
DEATHS	4B	WEATHER	8B
EDITORIALS	24A	WEEKEND	1G
EL ODID A	1D	WODLD	10 A

TERROR ATTACK IN SPAIN | FULL COVERAGE, 22-23A

'THIS IS MASS MURDER'

10 BOMBS ABOARD 4 TRAINS KILL 190 IN MADRID



VICTIMS: Rescue workers, above, cover bodies near one of the trains damaged in the Madrid bombings. Two of the injured, left, wait for help near the Atocha station.

Separatists, al Qaeda suspected

■ Bombs rip through passenger trains during Madrid's morning rush hour in the bloodiest such attack in Spain's history.

BY MATTHEW SCHOFIELD Knight Ridder News Service

MADRID — The bombs

were hidden in backpacks. Then, just as workers and students in Spain's capital began their daily commute, 10 terrorist explosions blew apart trains. The blasts killed more than 190 people, wounded some 1,400 and left a scar on a

nation's psyche. Now the world wants to know: Who did it?

Government officials quickly blamed the attack, which came three days before national elections, on the Basque separatist group ETA.

The group has waged a bloody 40-year campaign for independence. However, a letter sent to an Arabic-language newspaper in London later claimed that the attacks were carried out by al Qaeda but

•TURN TO MADRID, 23A

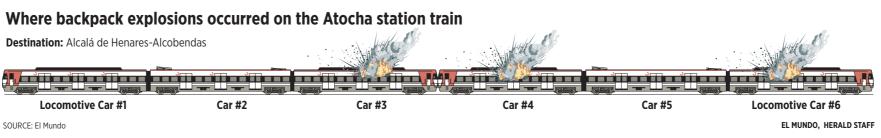
■POSSIBLE SUSPECTS: AL QAEDA HAS LONG HISTORY IN SPAIN, 22A ■ IN BUSINESS: STOCKS DROP IN MARKET REACTION TO BOMBINGS, 1C

Deadly backpacks The 10 bombs exploded in a 15-minute span.

A Radio control mechanism

B) Detonator activated. © Detonator sets off explosive.





PRESCRIPTION BENEFITS

Medicare drug costs ordered withheld

JOSE HUESCA/EFE

■ A White House health-cost estimator says he would have been fired if plan. he had told Congress of higher costs for a prescription-drug benefit.

BY TONY PUGH

tpugh@krwashington.com WASHINGTON — The government's top expert on Medicare costs

he told key lawmakers about a series of Bush administration cost estimates that could have torpedoed congressional passage of the White Housewas warned that he would be fired if backed Medicare prescription-drug

When the House of Representatives passed the controversial benefit by five votes last November, the White House was embracing an estimate by the Congressional Budget

*TURN TO MEDICARE, 2A

THE COURTS

Same-sex marriages halted in California

■ California's Supreme Court orders a halt to same-sex weddings in San Francisco. In Massachusetts, lawmakers give preliminary assent to a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage but allow civil unions.

BY DAVID KRAVETS

The California Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to samesex weddings in San Francisco on Thursday as Massachusetts lawmakers gave preliminary approval to a constitutional amendment to ban marriage for gays in the only state where it has been ruled legal.

Tearful couples were quickly turned away at San Francisco's City Hall, where 4,161 gay couples have tied the knot in the last month.

"We were filling out the application and they told us to stop," said Art Adams, who was the first to be denied as he and partner Devin Baker sought

*TURN TO MARRIAGE, 2A

CRISIS IN HAITI Fatal ambush cuts off

voyage to escape slums

■ Witnesses say gunmen killed up to 15 Haitians in a group of 115 trying to board a boat to escape the Port-au-Prince slums for

BY JOE MOZINGO

PORT-AU-PRINCE — Under the cover of darkness they trudged out across a wasteland of burning trash that juts into the sea. They handed over the savings they had scraped together and stepped aboard a waiting boat — 115 desperate people ready to set sail for Miami.

The bullet-riddled bodies began

floating up the next day.

"I was just trying to take a boat to anywhere because this country is hopeless," said Alex Sano, 19, who survived the Feb. 23 ambush in the Portau-Prince slum of Wharf Jérémie by swimming into the night.

Sano and a second witness said a group of thugs from the neighboring slum of Cité Soleil had stolen their money, then opened fire.

*TURN TO AMBUSH, 14A

■ HAITI'S NEW PRIME MINISTER BEGINS PICKING CABINET, WHILE ARISTIDE MAKES PLANS TO VISIT JAMAICA, 14A



WHARF JEREMIE: Boat people were robbed, shot in the bay below.