



Levi Stukes leads UGA

SEC TOURNAMENT ON TO ROUND 2 / C1

3 ladies on tour
Beyoncé • Alicia Keys • Missy Elliott

IN LIVING

Atlanta Journal-Constitution

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2004

ajc.com

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If your favorite color is chrome

... then you're definitely not looking at your wheels as merely transportation. More like a glittering expression of who you are.

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No vow of silence for TV's 'Monk'

Award-winning actor Tony Shalhoub, on a visit to Atlanta, answers five nosy questions.

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The cost of nasty is going up

Powerfully perturbed members of Congress vote to raise the fine for broadcasting indecent acts on radio or TV from the current 10-to-20-grand range to a half-million dollars — per naughty bit.

Business, B1

Gentlemen, start your motor drives

When Georgia's photogenic governor decides to squeeze himself into a NASCAR replica for a quick spin around the state Capitol, the cameras are sure to start clicking.

Metro, D1

Danger, Will Robinson!

Robots have advanced light-years from the old arm-waving bucket of bolts of sci-fi kitsch to Pentagon-friendly lethal weapons carriers.

A13



PAUL WHITE / Associated Press

Firefighters carry out a body and look for others Thursday after bombs ripped through commuter trains in Madrid. Two injured people (below) wait for aid outside the Atocha train station. It was Spain's worst terrorist attack ever, and who did it was not immediately clear.

TRAINS ATTACKED

Ten bombs tore through three Madrid trains during rush hour Thursday morning, causing massive damage and death.



Sources: Knight Ridder Tribune, Associated Press



ELIZABETH LANDT / Staff



JOSE HUESCA / Associated Press

BLASTS IN SPAIN KILL 192

IN THE U.S.:

Security officials get a chilling reminder of the vulnerability of public transit.

By EUNICE MOSCOSO emoscoso@ajc.com

Washington — The U.S. Department of Homeland Security said Thursday there were no plans at present to raise the nation's terrorist alert level in the wake of the bombings in Spain.

The level is currently at yellow, an elevated level and the middle of five.

"We do not have any threat reporting indicating similar threats directed toward the U.S.," said Brian Rotherkasse, a department spokesman.

However, Amtrak said it was increasing patrols of its police force and canine units and expanding electronic surveillance of railroad bridges and tunnels, The Associated Press reported.

Spokesman Dan Stessel said electronic surveillance of bridges and tunnels was intensified, and Amtrak reinforced its message to employees to report suspicious activities to police.

"That gives you another 20,000 sets of eyes," Stessel said.

U.S. officials downplayed the importance of a letter purportedly from al-Qaida claiming responsibility for Thursday's deadly blasts in Madrid and stating that an attack on the United States was

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IN MADRID:

Bombs rip through commuter trains in meticulously planned bloodbath.

By DON MELVIN dmelvin@ajc.com

Madrid, Spain — In a coordinated attack Thursday, 10 bombs exploded on commuter trains in the Spanish capital, killing at least 192 people and injuring 1,400 more.

"An act of barbaric terrorism has engulfed Spain," King Juan Carlos said on national television of the worst terrorist attack in the country's history.

Spanish officials immediately blamed the Basque terrorist group ETA for the morning massacre, but as the day wore on, an unsubstantiated claim received by an Arabic newspaper in London and the discovery of a stolen van containing detonators and Arabic-language tapes of Quranic verses began to turn attention to al-Qaida.

Spain and Britain were the most prominent European allies of the United States in the invasion of Iraq last year. The claim of al-Qaida responsibility received at the London offices of the Al-Quds al-Arabi newspaper said Spain was being punished for that alliance.

Officials said late Thursday they were investigating all possibilities.

The first bomb exploded at 7:40 a.m., with the other explosions coming within 15

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INSIDE, A12

Attacks could be work of Basque separatists, Muslim extremists — or both.

ON AJC.COM

Updates on the attack and photos from the scene.

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Harrick Jr.: I took 'pride' in teaching

Remember the no-brainer final exam? Check out ex-UGA coach's attendance policy.

By ALAN JUDD ajudd@ajc.com

Athens — Jim Harrick Jr. thought he deserved an award — Teacher of the Year.

Students, he said, loved the course he taught at the University of Georgia: Principles and Strategies of Basketball. After

all, he made attendance optional, just like the final exam. Every student enrolled in the fall of 2001 — all 39 of them — got an A.

"I got great reviews" from students, Harrick, an assistant basketball coach at UGA at the time, told the NCAA more than a year later. "I thought I was

doing a great job."

Harrick's popularity as a teacher came at great cost. Amid allegations of academic fraud, Harrick lost his job a year ago, along with his father, head coach Jim Harrick Sr. University officials yanked the basketball team out of the Southeastern Conference and

NCAA tournaments. The school faces sanctions from the NCAA. And that infamous final exam, which posed multiple-choice questions about how many points a three-point goal earns and the number of halves in a game, made

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Bicoastal slap at gay marriages

By BOB KEEFE bkeefe@ajc.com

Advocates of same-sex marriage suffered a double-barreled setback Thursday, as states on opposite sides of the country moved to prohibit such unions.

The California Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the city of San Francisco to

immediately stop issuing marriage licenses to homosexual couples, a month almost to the day after the city set off a national debate by allowing gay weddings. The state's highest court said the city was violating California laws which declare that marriage is between a man and woman.

In Massachusetts, the state Legislature Thursday gave preliminary approval to a state constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriages but allow civil unions.

Opponents of same-sex marriage hailed the bicoastal actions as a major victory, and said it was more proof that the country as a whole is against the

idea. "This is a momentum swing," said Glen Lavy, senior attorney for the Alliance Defense Fund, a conservative group that sued to stop same-sex marriages in San Francisco. "But frankly, you've got people up in arms all around the country

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BEN MARGOT / Associated Press

Jeanne Rizzo and partner Pali Cooper (right) learn they are too late to get married Thursday in San Francisco.

