

## King School Gun Scare

A loaded .32-caliber revolver fell from the backpack of a 10-year-old boy April 27 at King Elementary in northeast Portland.

Fellow students told authorities they noticed the gun but didn't say anything initially for fear of a threat given by the boy that if they told, they'd get shot.

The student was taken into protective custody and given a

mental evaluation. It was determined the child did not have an anger problem, but had brought the firearm to school only to show it off.

He was described as a student with satisfactory grades and a quiet demeanor.

An investigation also determined the gun had gone missing from his home after being inherited from a family member.

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The Portland Observer Established 1970

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Send address changes to Portland Observer

PO Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208

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# U.S. Military Weaker

## Slower victories seen in future

(AP) — The U.S. military may not be able to win any new wars as quickly as planned because the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have strained its manpower and resources, the nation's top military officer told Congress in a classified report.

Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, described the U.S. military as in a period of increased risk, accord-

ing to a senior defense official, who described the report Tuesday on the condition of anonymity.

Myers predicted the risk would go down in a year or two, the official said. Myers provided the report to Congress Monday.

Still, the report says the U.S. military is able to win any conflict it becomes involved in, said Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman.

Among the most likely conflicts the Pentagon foresees in the near term are with North Korea and Iran, the two remaining members of President Bush's "axis of evil." The Bush administration accuses both of having ambitions to become a nuclear power; North Korea has already claimed it has nuclear weapons.

The U.S. military has timelines in place for defeating its potential

adversaries, given enough soldiers, tanks, aircraft and warships to do the job. But with so much of those resources tied up fighting insurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan, those timelines could slip, Myers said, according to the defense official.

About 138,000 American troops are in Iraq, according to U.S. Central Command. Another 18,000 are in Afghanistan.

## Prisoner Abuse Sentence Considered

### Pfc. England pleads guilty

(AP) - Jury selection started Tuesday for the panel that will recommend a sentence for Army Reserve Pfc. Lynndie England, who pleaded guilty to mistreating prisoners at the Abu Ghraib prison camp in Iraq.

England accepted responsibility for the smiling, thumbs-up poses she struck for photographs taken at Abu Ghraib that made her the face of the prisoner abuse scandal.

England, 22, pleaded guilty Monday to seven counts of mistreating prisoners, saying she let her comrades talk her into going along with the abuse.

The charges carry up to 11



Army Pfc. Lynndie R. England arrives with members of her defense team for her court martial at Fort Hood, Texas.

years in prison, but prosecutors and the defense reached an agreement that caps the sentence at a lesser punishment, the length of which was not released. She will get the lesser of the military jury's sentence or the term agreed on in the plea bargain.

Selection of a sentencing jury made up of officers and senior enlisted soldiers from Fort Hood

began Tuesday morning.

At Monday's hearing, England softly told the judge she initially resisted taking part in the abuse at the Baghdad prison, but caved in to peer pressure.

"I could have said, 'No,'" she told Col. James Pohl, the judge. "I knew it was wrong."

Pvt. Charles Graner Jr., labeled the abuse ringleader and the man

said to be the father of England's infant son, is expected to testify on England's behalf, perhaps as early as Tuesday.

Graner was convicted in January on a range of abuse charges and is serving a 10-year sentence in the military prison at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

England became a central figure in the Abu Ghraib scandal after photos emerged last year showing her and others sexually humiliating Iraqi prisoners.

England, from Fort Ashby, W. Va., said she knew all along that she could have refused to take part in the abuse. "I had a choice, but I chose to do what my friends wanted me to," she said.

England entered guilty pleas to two counts of conspiracy to maltreat prisoners, four counts of maltreating prisoners and one count of committing an indecent act. Prosecutors agreed to drop another count of committing an indecent act and one count of dereliction of duty.

## Rights Activist Dies at 90

### Fought for better education system

(AP) - Kenneth B. Clark, an educator and psychologist who spent his life working for racial integration and improvement in the education of black children, has died. He was 90.

Clark's daughter, said that her father died Sunday at his home in Hastings-on-Hudson. The cause of death was not immediately known.

Clark's pioneering study on the effects of racial discrimination was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in



Kenneth B. Clark

its historic 1954 ruling in Brown v. Board of Education, which declared segregation in public schools unconstitutional.

He was the first black professor to gain tenure at the City University of New York and was a distin-

guished professor emeritus at City College. He also taught at Harvard, Columbia and the University of California.

Clark never abandoned his belief in the importance of education in overcoming racism. "I think that white and blacks should be taught to respect their fellow human beings as an integral part of being educated," he said.

"A racist system inevitably destroys and damages human beings; it brutalizes and dehumanizes them, blacks and whites alike," he wrote.

His books included "Prejudice and Your Child" and "Dark Ghetto." He was a past president of the American Psychological Association. Among his honors were the NAACP's prestigious Spingarn Medal in 1961 and the Four Freedoms award in 1985.

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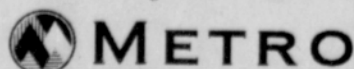
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1333 NW Eastman Parkway,  
Gresham

Cleveland High School  
3400 SE 26th Ave., Portland

Clackamas County offices auxiliary  
parking lot (behind Clackamas  
Promenade)  
9101 Sunnybrook Blvd.,  
Clackamas

Home Depot  
4401 SW 110th Ave., Beaverton

Tualatin High School  
22300 SW Boones Ferry Rd.,  
Tualatin

Davis Tool parking lot (formerly  
Epson Portland, Inc.)  
3825 NW Alcock Place, Hillsboro  
(located behind the post office  
on Evergreen Parkway)

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Sunday, May 15

Portland Community College  
Sylvania Campus  
Parking lot P 9  
12000 SW 49th Ave., Portland

4 to 8 p.m.  
Wednesday May 18

Metro Latex Paint Sales  
4825 N. Basin Ave., Portland  
(located on Swan Island)

Sunset Presbyterian Church  
14986 NW Cornell Rd., Portland  
(off Highway 26 at exit 65  
- Cornell Road)

## Africa worst for mothers, children

### Many kids fortunate just to survive

(AP) Africa is the worst continent to be a mother or child, and Mali is one of the worst countries, where one in eight children will die before seeing a first birthday, according to a study published Tuesday.

The State of the World's Mothers 2005, a report by Save The Children USA, studied 110 countries and details health and educational opportunities for mothers and their children.

"Conditions for children and mothers in the bottom-ranked countries are devastating," said Charles McCormack, president of Save The Children. "Many children are fortunate just to survive the first five years of life and have a chance to go to school."

In Burkina Faso, fewer than one in 10 women can read and write. In Ethiopia just 25 percent of the popu-

lation has access to clean water.

Scandinavian countries sweep the top rankings for the best places to be a mother, while countries in sub-Saharan Africa dominate the bottom tier, the report said. Out of the 10 worst countries to be a mother or child, seven are in Africa.

In Sweden, which tops the list, nearly all women are literate. In Ethiopia, only 34 percent of women are literate. A mother in Ethiopia is 37 times more likely to see her child die in the first year of life than a mother in Sweden.

The United States ranked 11th. "Save The Children argues that education, family planning and trained birth attendants are key in boosting child survival and well-being. Effective contraception use can save thousands of lives, it concluded.