

Rangers advance to World Series C1 for the first time

HIGH SCHOOL XTRA
L.C. Bird tops Clover Hill 14-13 C1
TimesDispatch.com, search: HSXtra

HOME & GARDEN D1

Tips for picking paint colors

Richmond Times-Dispatch

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Leaks detail abuse by Iraqis

Documents say U.S. often took no action when Iraqi forces mistreated captives

From Wire Reports

U.S. forces often failed to follow up on credible evidence that Iraqi forces mistreated, tortured and killed their captives in the battle against a violent insurgency, according to accounts contained in what was purportedly the largest leak of secret information in U.S. history.

The documents are among nearly 400,000 released yesterday by the WikiLeaks website in defiance of Pentagon insistence that the action puts the lives of U.S. troops and their coalition partners at risk.

Though the documents appear to be authentic, their origin could not be independently confirmed, and WikiLeaks declined to offer any details about them. The Pentagon has previously declined to confirm the authenticity of WikiLeaks-released records.

The documents, known in the U.S. military as "significant activities" re-

ports, describe in detail what U.S. troops in Iraq encountered on a daily basis from 2003 to this year, from daily casualty notifications and routine descriptions of attacks to sensitive intelligence tips and accounts of meetings.

The files also outline U.S. concerns that Iran's Revolutionary Guards were providing training and giving weapons to Shiite militias in a proxy war aimed at killing U.S. troops and Iraq's Sunnis.

The United States went to war in part to end the brutality of Saddam Hussein's regime. But the material depicts American officers caught in a complicated and

chaotic conflict in which they frequently could do little but report to their superiors when they found evidence that their Iraqi allies were committing abuses.

According to documents examined by the Guardian, a British newspaper, U.S. military officials failed to investigate hundreds of reports of abuse, torture, rape and murder. The documents cited by the Guardian said that as recently as December 2009, U.S. authorities were passed a video of Iraqi soldiers executing a bound detainee.



WikiLeaks editor-in-chief **Julian Assange** has said that he wished to expose war crimes.

See **LEAKS**, Page **A7**

Futuristic ride



DEAN HOFFMEYER/TIMES-DISPATCH

Jim Lorimer of 21st Century Motoring put a shine on the MonoTracer concept vehicle during its visit to the Richmond area yesterday. The electric version (left) of the two-wheeler, the E-Tracer, won the Progressive Insurance Automotive X Prize competition for super-efficient vehicles. **Details, Page B4 and TimesDispatch.com, search: video.**

Governor retreats on plans for ABC

McDonnell won't call special session but still vows to privatize

BY MICHAEL MARTZ
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Virginia won't be getting out of the liquor business anytime soon.

Gov. Bob McDonnell bowed yesterday to the reality that he doesn't have the votes to get his plan for privatizing Alcoholic Beverage Control sales through a special session of the General Assembly that he had planned to convene next month.

McDonnell abandoned the idea of a special session but vowed to introduce a privatization bill when the assembly convenes Jan. 12.

"We will privatize Virginia's ABC stores," he said in a statement yesterday. "The only question is timing."

Legislators and alcohol wholesalers say there's a much bigger question to be answered in the next two and a half months: Can the governor produce a plan that's better than the one buried yesterday?

"I haven't heard anybody, up to and including the speaker [of the House], endorse the plan as proposed and modified," said House Minority Leader Ward L. Armstrong, D-Henry.

However, House Speaker William J. Howell, R-Stafford, said yesterday that Virginia should "end the outdated government monopoly on the sale of distilled spirits" and called for "convening a group of lawmakers, wholesalers, distillers,

See **ABC**, Page **A5**

McDonnell will seek to rally GOP voters

He'll join Republican governors from Miss., La. in 5-state campaign swing



BY OLYMPIA MEOLA
Times-Dispatch Staff Writer

Gov. Bob McDonnell is embarking on a five-state swing with other Republican gubernatorial headlines to rally voters ahead of the Nov. 2 elections.

Gov. **Bob McDonnell** insists he won't run for president in 2012.

The trip, organized by the Republican Governors Association, puts McDonnell in Iowa and New Hampshire, among other states, on Wednesday and Thursday with Govs. Haley Barbour, of Missis-

siippi, and Bobby Jindal, of Louisiana. New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie and Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty will appear on different legs of the tour.

BREAKING NEWS

10/22/10 9:09 AM
TimesDispatch.com

"We want to do everything we can to incentivize our Republican base and independent voters to come out for our candidate," McDonnell said in an interview yesterday.

"I just think that this is a critically important year. I think Republican governors have the right idea on spending and



Barbour



Jindal



Christie



Pawlenty

See **GOP**, Page **A5**

French pension overhaul OK'd

Senate vote unlikely to halt protests that have cut gas supply

From Wire Reports

PARIS — Under pressure from the government, the French Senate voted yesterday to raise the retirement age to 62 from 60, a victory for President Nicolas Sarkozy after days of street rage, acrimonious debate and strikes that dried up the supply of gaso-



line across the country. President **Nicolas Sarkozy** has called the reform the most important legislation of his five-year term.

the retirement age threatens a French birthright.

Hours before yesterday's vote, riot police forced the reopening of a strategic refinery to help halt crippling fuel shortages.

Sarkozy made overhauling the money-losing pension system a centerpiece of his project to modernize France. Undaunted by weeks of strikes, he ordered measures to unblock fuel depots and refineries to get gas flowing again to desperate motorists.

See **FRANCE**, Page **A5**



47 **64**
9 a.m. noon
72 **69**
3 p.m. 6 p.m.

5th District seniors dial into campaign conference call
Metro B1

Va. textbook story suggests Civil War will never end
Editorial A8

Focus on the **ECONOMY** B4

\$30 million project bringing 372 jobs to Southside Va.

State jobless rate improves slightly to 6.8 percent



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