

SATURDAY

Vanquishing vandalism

Teens volunteer to remove graffiti

Metro/Region, 1B



Stanford vs. Kentucky, 3:42 p.m. Utah vs. North Carolina, 6:10 p.m.

Louisiana Tech, Tennessee win

Sports, 1C



Negative name could be a killer

Below

The Arizona Daily Star

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Lawyers seek dismissal of death counts against pair

Drugs didn't kill infant, county coroner says

By Jon Burstein

The Arizona Daily Star

The death of a 7-week-old Tucson infant garnered national attention last year after authorities arrested her parents, alleging the baby died from drinking her mother's breast milk tainted with heroin and methadone.

But the coroner who conducted Eve Powell's autopsy says he doesn't believe the infant died of a drug overdose, even though traces of drugs were found in her system, according to court records.

New attorneys for the parents, Amoret Powell and Robin Johnson, are asking a Pima County judge to dismiss murder charges against them, arguing dozens of possible explanations exist for Eve's death.

"I think this was a tragedy that happened and something that happened through no fault of the parents whatsoever," said Michael Bloom, Johnson's defense attorney. They were absolutely devastated. In addition to dealing with the loss of Eve, they were publicly identified as the worst kind of murderers.

Prosecutor Kathleen Mayer said yesterday that she will fight the dismissal. Tucson police arrested Powell, 25, and Johnson, 34, two weeks after Eve's July 11 death from oxygen deprivation. They each face a second-degree murder charge and four counts of child abuse.

After Eve's death, Powell and Johnson admitted to authorities that they used heroin and methadone — a drug that helps wean addicts of heroin — nearly every day according to grand jury testimony by Tucson police Detective Phillip Chaffin.

Both Bloom and Powell's attorney, Michael Musman, declined to comment yesterday on whether the parents had drug habits.

Coroner Andrew Sibley of the Pima County

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Monograms may matter to mortality

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Maybe names really will hurt you. People with initials such as ACE or GOD are likely to live longer than those whose names spell out words like APE, DUD, RAT or PIG, a study suggests.

The study, conducted by researchers from the University of California at San Diego, looked at 27 years' worth of California death certificates.

People with monograms such as JOY or WOW had a better chance of living longer — and were less likely to commit suicide or die in an accident — than those with neutral or meaningless initials such as JAY or WIK or those named, say, BUM or UGH, said psychologist Nicholas Christenfeld.

He presented his findings yesterday in New Orleans at a meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

"The argument is that there's some psychological symbolic factor that can exert its impact cumulatively over the years," Christenfeld said. "You get teased at school, wonder what your parents thought of you — maybe fate is out to get you — but at every stage it's a little tiny depressant to be called PIG, or a little tiny boost to your esteem to be called ACE or WOW," he said. "All we can do is look at the final outcome."

The findings do seem to support the idea that liking your name and

See NAMES, Page 5A

Jonesboro weeps



Jonesboro, Ark., children are consoled at the funeral of middle school student Paige Ann Herring, who drowned 12 two weeks ago. Natalie Brooks, 12, also was buried yesterday. The girls were two of four students and one teacher gunned down Tuesday. Story, Page 11A.

Report finds Contreras had lung infection

Boys Ranch youth ill long before death

By Rhonda Bodfield

The Arizona Daily Star

A California youth died at the Arizona Boys Ranch on March 2 of complications from a lung infection that filled his chest with 2 1/2 quarts of pus, autopsy results show.

Nicholas Contreras, 16, collapsed and could not be revived after Boys Ranch employees forced him to perform remedial exercises.

The Pima County Medical

Examiner's Office found that the infection was present for several weeks before his death, although it was unclear how fast the fluid accumulated.

The Sacramento County Probation Department placed Contreras at the Boys Ranch's Oracle facility on Jan. 5, after he was convicted of joy riding in a station car.

Chief Medical Examiner Bruce Parks determined that Contreras died of complications from an infection called empyema in his left chest, which typically is triggered by pneumonia. Symptoms include difficulty breathing.

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Bid to get passport puts Keating in prison for violating release

By Tim Steiner

The Arizona Daily Star

Charles H. Keating Jr. turned himself in to deputy U.S. marshals in Phoenix yesterday and will spend this weekend imprisoned.

Keating violated his pretrial release conditions by applying for a passport, said his attorney, Stephen C. Neal. Neal said he hopes to argue for his client's release Monday in Los Angeles.

Keating, 74, is awaiting an appeals court decision on his 1993 federal conviction for fraud and racketeering. U.S. District Judge Mariana Pfaender threw out that conviction in 1996, but prosec-

tors appealed her decision.

The indictment against Keating still stands, but he had been free under the conditions of pretrial release. Among those conditions was that he surrender his passport and not leave the country, Neal said.

Keating received an offer to consent on the construction of a luxury hotel in Belize, Neal said. So he decided to ask prosecutors and Pfaender to let him go.

"We approached prosecutors to see if the prosecutors would consent for Mr. Keating to travel out of the country to go to

See KEATING, Page 13A

FDA green-lights first pill to treat impotence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Millions of men will soon have access to the first pill to treat impotence, a long-awaited therapy that promises to be easier to use and less embarrassing than traditional treatments.

The Food and Drug Administration approved Pfizer Inc.'s Viagra yesterday, saying it helped about two-thirds of impotent men improve their sexual function.

The prescription pill becomes the first non-surgical treatment for impotence that doesn't have to be either injected or inserted directly into the penis.

And unlike other remedies, it does not cause an erection unless the man is sexually stimulated. Pfizer said it would begin shipping

"This drug does not change libido or desire, . . . and it's not going to have any impact on normal men."

Dr. Harin Padma-Nathan

Director of The Male Clinic

Viagra to pharmacies within two weeks, with a wholesale price of \$7 per pill. The FDA said Viagra should be used only once a day, about an hour before intercourse. Impotence specialists hope the pill will encourage more patients to seek medical help.

Only 5 percent of the estimated 10 million to 20 million impotent Americans get treatment, but the pill could increase that number to 20 percent very quickly, said Dr. Harin Padma-Nathan of the University of Southern California.

The pill has also been much-hyped as a sexual revolution for healthy men merely seeking to increase or improve their sexual activity.

But it works only in men with a medical problem, stressed experts who are concerned about the potential for abuse.

"Yes, it's an erection inducer, but only

See IMPOTENCE, Page 12A

WEATHER

Cool and windy Clouds and winds are expected to increase this afternoon, with the high temperature in the mid- to upper 60s. Tonight's low will be in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Yesterday's high was 68; the low was 46. Details on Page 15A.

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Play Ball!

Do you know which Diamond-backs pitcher spent three years in the Dodgers organization as a catcher, trying to beat Mike Piazza to the majors? If not, check out our special section on the expansion team. It's got player profiles, schedules, Bank One Ballpark's layout and more.

Tomorrow in The Arizona Daily Star



More Madness

A separate section devoted to the men's and women's Final Fours, plus a final look back at the UA's basketball season.

Teens and taxes.

Many teen-agers don't have to file an income tax return — but they should. Find out how to get back these hard-earned dollars.

Rocky Point

It's a lot more than a place for spring break. Families find it a great, year-round vacation spot.