

IN BUSINESS: TAX PROCRASTINATORS CAN GET A RESPITE FROM FILING, BUT NOT PAYING. SEE PAGE C6

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Pfizer's Takeover Of Pharmacia Gains Final Approval

Immediate impact for pharmaceutical giant is uncertain

By **GEORGINA GUSTIN**
Day Staff Writer

Pfizer Inc. announced Monday that the Federal Trade Commission has approved its takeover of Pharmacia Corp. and ex-

pects the two companies to combine by the end of this week, after the deal is officially finalized.

The nearly \$58 billion purchase of Pharmacia, announced last summer and approved by European regulators in February, has been long anticipated by the more than 6,000 employees at Pfizer's Groton-New London campus.

Nonetheless, company officials said they would have to wait for some time to find out how the merger will affect them.

"What's going to be forthcoming in the

'Obviously, these are two large companies with global operations, and combining them is going to take time, and we're going to do this with great thoroughness and great thought.'

Andy McCormick, a Pfizer spokesman

very near future is how this announcement is going to impact Research and Development, and specifically the people here," said Liz Power, a Pfizer spokeswoman.

"When our 'Day One' happens later this week, that's just the corporate level announcement of how our new company, the overall picture, will look," she said. "And then soon after, we'll have some more information about how that's going to impact each of the operating divisions."

In a statement issued Monday, Pfizer said the companies will begin operating as one

company later this week, but did not give a specific day.

"We have to notify the (Securities and Exchange Commission) and the New York Stock Exchange on our plans to combine operations and trade our stock as a single company," said Andy McCormick, a Pfizer spokesman. "The colleagues of the companies will have meetings with their management about 'Day One,' and then we'll be up and running.

See **PFIZER** page **A3**

AMERICA AT WAR

WAR ENTERS NEW PHASE

U.S. SHIFTING MILITARY'S ROLE TO SECURITY

Additional War Coverage

The retired U.S. general who will run postwar Iraq flew to Iraq on Monday on a mission to remake the country's politics, a process that he predicted would be messy and contentious. **A4**

The list of countries with likely chemical, biological or nuclear weapons programs includes such U.S. allies as Israel, Egypt, Pakistan, India and Taiwan. **A4**

When the USS Toledo pulls into its berth at the Naval Submarine Base this afternoon, it will be the first local submarine home from the war with Iraq. **A5**

Dissatisfied with documents U.S. Rep. Rob Simmons, R-2nd District, presented in defense of his support of the war with Iraq, a group of antiwar activists returned the papers to the congressman's office Monday in a coffin marked "Truth." **A5**



DAVID GUTTENFELDER/AP

■ A U.S. soldier points a handgun at a man arrested in Baghdad with a group of men driving a car filled with weapons Monday. Troops accused the men of attempting to ambush U.S. troops and local citizens claimed that the group was made up of non-Iraqi Arab fighters.

Pentagon: Combat operations in Iraq are effectively over

By **ERIC SCHMITT** and **BERNARD WEINRAUB**
New York Times News Service

Washington — The Pentagon on Monday declared that major combat operations in Iraq were over after U.S. forces took control of Tikrit, the last bastion of Saddam Hussein's government.

Meanwhile, senior Bush administration officials again accused Syria of harboring Iraqi leaders.

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell threatened Syria with economic or diplomatic sanctions if it continued to provide "safe haven" to fleeing officials of Saddam Hussein's government. Other administration officials accused Damascus of backing terrorists and amassing weapons of mass destruction.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer used even harsher language, calling Syria "a rogue nation" and its president, Bashar Assad, an

See **PENTAGON** page **A5**

Remaining 'axis' nations take note of results in Iraq

By **SONYA ROSS**
Associated Press Writer

Washington — The rapid collapse of Saddam Hussein's government may have served as a reality check for the other states in President Bush's "axis of evil," Iran and North Korea.

North Korea now says multilateral talks about its nuclear program — which the United States wants — are not a bad idea after all. Iran's former president, long allied with Islamic hardliners against the "Great Satan" America, is advocating a referendum on renewing ties with the United States.

Other countries, too, are feeling the heat. Syria found itself Monday on the receiving end of stern warnings against allowing Iraqi leaders to slip across its borders. Secretary of

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In Waterford, The Vigil Goes On

Parents maintain hope for missing Marine son

By **PATRICIA DADDONA**
Day Staff Writer

Waterford — Morning prayers to Buddha. Pink roses from a friend. And, in their sun-room, a collage of photos of their son's smiling face.

These are the things that help the parents of

U.S. Marine Cpl. Kemaphoom A. Chanawongse get through the day.

Their 22-year-old son, nicknamed Ahn, has been missing in Iraq since March 23.

Last weekend, Paul and Tan Patchem learned that seven American Army prisoners of war had been found alive. But they also were informed that five of the six Marines missing from Chanawongse's unit since a March 23 fire-fight near Nasiriyah were reclassified as killed in action.

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■ Paul and Tan Patchem, parents of Marine MIA Cpl. Kemaphoom Chanawongse, look at banners hanging in their Waterford home signed by local people offering words of support for the family.

JENNIFER LYNN PAGE
The Day

BALLARD SEES BIG RATINGS FOR NEXT PROJECT

Search for ancient wrecks to be broadcast live in U.S.

By **JOE WOJAS**
Day Staff Writer

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO, NATIONAL Geographic magazine asked Robert D. Ballard to describe the future of deep-sea exploration. The magazine published an illustration that

Mystic

showed an expedition being beamed from the depths of the ocean back to scientists and students who watched it live. Today, that picture hangs outside Ballard's office at the Institute for Exploration at Mystic Aquarium, a daily reminder of the dream.

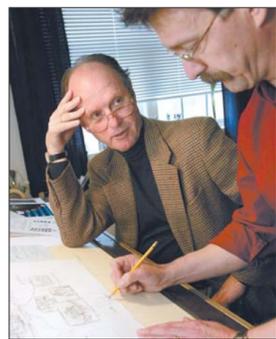
This summer, Ballard's dream will become reality as his 41-day expedition to find and excavate ancient wrecks in the Mediterranean and Black seas is beamed back live to the United States. It will be seen at the aquarium and the University of Rhode Island on MSNBC and via Internet 2 technology. Ballard envisions people watching from

their homes one day.

The 60-year-old Ballard believes the project will have more impact than even his discovery of the Titanic, ancient Phoenician ships or JFK's PT-109. People will be able to experience the same thrill of discovery that he did when the Titanic appeared out of the depths of the North Atlantic 18 years ago.

"It's all coming together for me. It's taken me 22 years to get to this point, so needless to say I'm excited," Ballard said last week as he drove to Cape Cod to check on the construction of Hercules, a \$1.5

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■ Institute for Exploration president Robert Ballard reviews a scientific illustration with illustrator Paul Oberlander at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution last week.

JENNIFER LYNN PAGE
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INSIDE TODAY

NEWS

Backing Off

U.S. military success in Iraq appears to have shocked North Korea into trying to peacefully resolve the standoff over its nuclear activities. **A2**



A Musical Life

Eighty-five years ago, Edith Martyn of Niantic was introduced to a piano, and her passion for gospel music and the piano has never wavered. **B1**

WEATHER

Warming Up

Today, mostly sunny, breezy and warmer. High 69. Wednesday, sunny early, then cloudy with a chance of rain. High 69. **D8**

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