

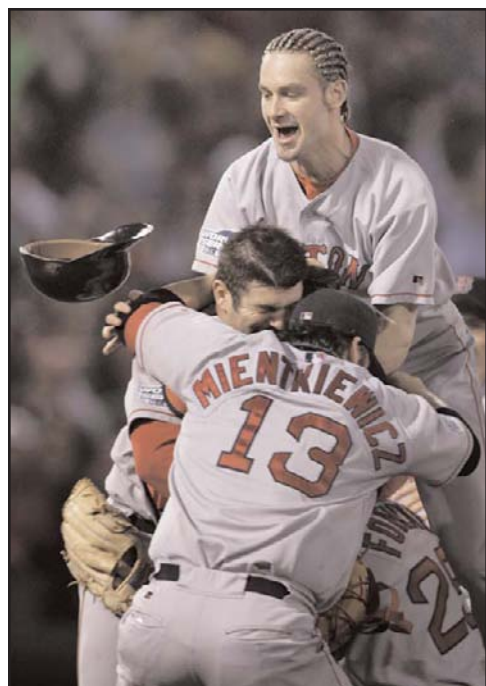


THURSDAY
OCTOBER 28, 2004

The San Diego

Union-Tribune.

EAST COUNTY
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PLUS TAX



Red Sox relief pitcher Bronson Arroyo jumped for joy after Boston defeated the St. Louis Cardinals last night to win the World Series in four games. Associated Press

RED SOX CURSE DIES AT AGE 86

Boston sweeps Cardinals for 1st Series title since '18

By Tom Krasovic
STAFF WRITER

ST. LOUIS — Now that the Boston Red Sox have won the 2004 World Series, the pundits and pooh-bahs can try to figure out what it all means.

"Some people have told me it's the biggest thing since the Revolutionary War," said John Henry, the club's principal owner.

A 3-0 victory over the dazed St. Louis Cardinals at Busch Stadium last night decided the 100th World Series in four games and gave the Red Sox their first World Series title since 1918.

Propelled by Johnny Damon's leadoff home run and Derek Lowe's strong pitching, the Red Sox turned baseball-mad New England into a weepy mess.

"It's grandmothers, it's granddaughters, it's not just men and older white men," Henry said when asked to describe Red Sox Nation. "It's the whole population of New England. It's quite remarkable."

Babe Ruth probably wondered why it took so long. Ruth pitched for the most recent Red Sox team that won a World Series, against the Chicago Cubs, but in one of the biggest blunders in professional sports, the Red Sox sold Ruth to the rival New York Yankees after the 1919 season.

Since then, the Yankees won 26 World

SEE Red Sox, A18

British troops begin deploying toward Baghdad

NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE
and ASSOCIATED PRESS

BASRA, Iraq — Britain began deploying about 800 of its Black Watch troops north toward Baghdad from their base in southern Iraq yesterday, the British military said.

Lt. Col. James Cowan said British troops left the southern city of Basra to head for a base in Hillah, about 60 miles south of Baghdad. They were accompanied by 40 U.S. Marines, he said.

The move is part of a coalition effort to bring order to Iraq before elections in January. The U.S. military wants the British to assume security responsibility in areas close to Baghdad, so U.S. Marines and soldiers can be shifted to insurgency strongholds west of the capital, including Fallujah.

Meanwhile, three Iraqi witnesses and a regional security chief told *The New York Times* that looters stormed the weapons site

SEE Iraq, A14

Record rainfall swamps city in day of flooding, spills, wrecks and rescues



Lisa Stolz tried to keep her balance while checking her mailbox near a giant puddle yesterday afternoon on Hunter Street in Ramona. John Gastaldo / Union-Tribune

San Diego marks wettest October

By Alex Roth, STAFF WRITER

Rain in San Diego isn't a weather pattern so much as an event, something for people to stare at and discuss, as if bearing witness to some strange cosmic occurrence. In an arid city where so many residents come from someplace else, rain is one of the few things that exerts a unifying communal force.

It makes people drive like idiots, to be sure, but it also can make them feel liberated and cleansed. So when yesterday's downpour set records for the date and the month since city statistics first were kept in 1850, people tended to get downright philosophical.

"I opened up my curtains this morning and I saw green," said Carolyn Schmal, a park aide at the South Carlsbad State Beach Campground. "Everything looks clean and healthy. You know what I mean? Fresh."

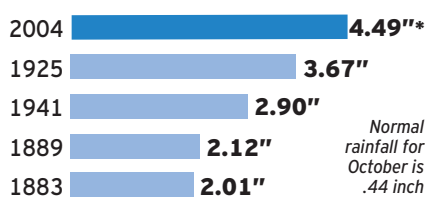
The previous record for rainfall in October at Lindbergh Field was 3.67 inches, set in 1925. Before Lindbergh Field was built, measurements were taken at nearby sites.

That mark was broken early yesterday, and the total amount of rain for this month was measured

Super soaking

All data are for the city of San Diego, dating to when record-keeping began in 1850.

RAINIEST OCTOBERS



RAINIEST DAYS

Date	Inches
1. April 5, 1926	3.23
2. Oct. 4, 1925	2.95
3. Feb. 6, 1937	2.71
4. Nov. 9, 1879	2.68
5. Oct. 27, 2004	2.66*
6. Dec. 22, 1945	2.60
7. Jan. 31, 1979	2.57
8. Dec. 10, 1943	2.56
9. Dec. 4, 1873	2.52
10. Jan. 12, 1882	2.49

*As of 9 p.m. yesterday

SOURCE: National Weather Service UNION-TRIBUNE

SEE Weather, A14

'03 audit stalls; city told probe is deficient

Firm says complete inquiry needed before it can proceed

By Philip J. LaVelle
STAFF WRITER

A widely anticipated audit of San Diego's 2003 books cannot be completed until city officials fully investigate whether "likely illegal acts" related to the pension system and City Hall's financial-reporting practices have occurred, according to the city's independent auditor.

In letters from KPMG to top city officials, the company says it has warned for months of deficiencies in a city-financed investigation of City Hall's financial-reporting practices.

KPMG, an international financial-services company, also objects to city suggestions that the firm promise to not require further investigation and to issue its audit "without regard to" the findings of the city probe.

"KPMG cannot accept any limitations on, or conditions for, the performance of our audit," Steven G. DeVetter, a partner in the firm's San Francisco office, wrote in a letter dated yesterday.

The KPMG letters were obtained yesterday by *The San Diego Union-Tribune*.

Other documents obtained this week by the *Union-Tribune* show that Securities and Exchange Commission investigators issued blanket subpoenas of 27 city bureaucrats April 22, seeking documents dating to 1996, when the city first authorized intentional underfunding of the pension system.

These documents also reveal that Mayor Dick Murphy and the City Council were asked this month to turn over the same sorts of records sought in the April 22 subpoenas.

SEE Audit, A15

Arafat's health deteriorates, spurs concern

Power struggle predicted if Palestinian leader dies

By Mohammed Daraghme
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat's health took a turn for the worse last night and he remained in a "very difficult situation," Palestinian officials said. A team of Jordanian doctors was urgently summoned to treat the ailing Palestinian leader.

A Palestinian official in Arafat's office said a special committee of three senior officials, including Prime Minister Ahmed Qureia, had been created to run Palestinian affairs while Arafat was incapacitated. However, other Palestinian officials, including his spokesman Nabil Abu Rdeneh, denied that such a committee had been formed.

Arafat's health crisis has highlighted how unprepared the Palestinians are for their leader's death, making a chaotic transition period all but inevitable. Arafat refuses to groom a successor; rival security chiefs have battled each other in the streets.

Arafat was eating soup during a meeting with Qureia, his predecessor, Mahmoud Abbas, and another official between 8 and 9 p.m. yesterday when he threw up, according to a bodyguard who was in the compound at the time.

The 75-year-old Arafat was taken to the clinic inside the compound, where he collapsed and was unconscious for about 10 minutes, the guard said. His doctors were

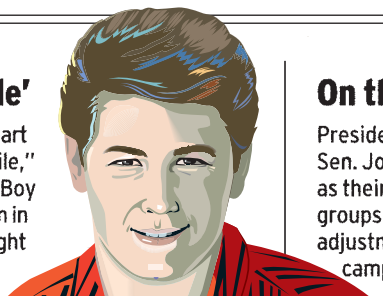


Yasser Arafat

SEE Arafat, A16

Reason to 'Smile'

Brian Wilson is taking heart from the release of "Smile," which the former Beach Boy and his band will perform in its entirety tomorrow night in Pala. **Night&Day**



On the trail

President Bush and Sen. John Kerry trade jobs as their aides and outside groups make strategic adjustments for the campaign's endgame. **A3**



Honoring the dead

With All Saints' Day on Monday and All Souls' Day on Tuesday, many find ways to mourn the loss of loved ones and remember their lives. **Currents, E1**

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