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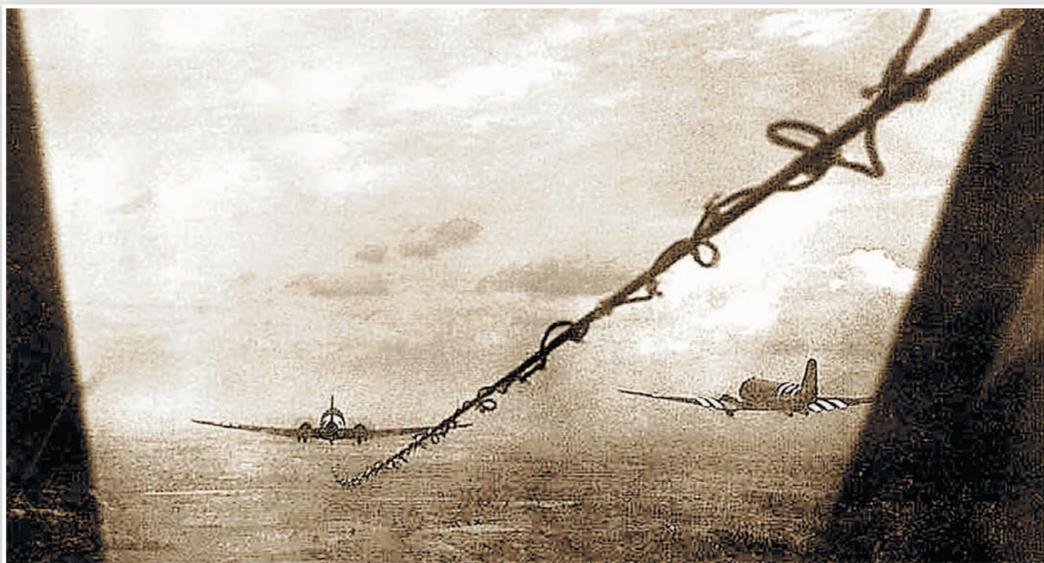


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## WWII GLIDER PILOTS SEEK CREDIT



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOEL ADDY

Noel Addy's glider is towed behind a transport on a training mission. The unarmed gliders had to land troops and gear in enemy territory.

## Seen as heroes now, losers then

By Aaron Mackey  
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

Each time Noel Addy flew his World War II glider over Europe, commanders predicted he'd live only 18 more seconds.

Towed behind a transport plane, Addy's armorless and gunless glider floated between German flak and machine-gun fire en route to landings behind enemy lines. On some missions, fewer than half of the gliders landed safely.

And the perilous flights completed by Addy, a Tucsonan, and 6,000 other glider pilots were only half the battle.

"After we hit the ground, we were part of the ground forces," Addy said.

After the gliders landed and unloaded paratroopers and equipment, the pilots traded their flight sticks for guns, helping take enemy positions and holding important checkpoints for the impending invasion.

Despite their clandestine missions and use of the latest combat technology, glider pilots weren't considered elite.

Made up of people who failed to qualify for pilot training or

were too old for standard flight school, the group was seen by commanders as inferior, glider pilots say.

Yet they still had to possess immense skill, setting down troops and sometimes thousands of pounds of equipment in fields in the middle of the night amid a barrage of enemy fire.

Now the remaining glider pilots are fighting for acknowledgement, as many have died and few people know about their somewhat obscure roles.

"I don't expect thanks or recognition or anything, but we haven't been given proper credit," said Don Manke, one of a handful of former glider pilots living in Tucson. "We had a lot of our glider pilots who acted in a singularly heroic manner."

Addy, now 88, didn't join the Army to become a pilot. He was

See GLIDERS, A4

On StarNet: Go to [azstarnet.com/slideshows](http://azstarnet.com/slideshows) to hear Noel Addy talk about his service flying unarmed gliders.



Addy, left, in his flight gear, and his fellow glider pilots were looked down upon by the pilots of powered planes. Yet they were never out of danger.

A comrade of Addy's, below, prepares for a training mission in his Waco glider. Many of the remaining glider pilots have died, and their wartime role remains obscure.



## Students, funds set to leave TUSD

Enrollment policy change may be costly

By Nathan Olivarez-Giles  
ARIZONA DAILY STAR

The Tucson Unified School District stands to lose hundreds of students next year — and the millions of dollars in funding that go with them — the result of enrollment policy changes and attendance trends.

The district's budget planning for next year projects a loss of only about 200 students and about \$760,000 in funding, said Superintendent Roger Pfeuffer, but that doesn't factor in how many students will be lost to other districts now that students can transfer out of TUSD.

Since fall, the Catalina Foothills and Tanque Verde school districts have been actively courting TUSD students. Their efforts have worked.

More than 400 TUSD students will be in classrooms outside the district next fall, which only complicates the district's future as it faces a \$7.8 million budget shortfall, possible school closures and an increasingly downward enrollment trend.

### DID YOU KNOW

Tanque Verde's and Catalina Foothills' push to recruit TUSD students began in August, after TUSD officials instituted an open-enrollment policy.

The change in policy came after a federal judge said the district's racial-balance mandate was unconstitutional.

Before that, TUSD had refused to release students to other districts due to the federal desegregation order it has been under since 1978. District officials anticipate being let out of the order, but they await a final decision.

That means TUSD could lose around another \$1.5 million in per-pupil funds from the state.

But TUSD won't officially know how many students it will lose to other districts until registration in late August, said David Scott, TUSD director of accountability and research.

"The reality is, every year we don't know how many kids are

See SCHOOLS, A4

On StarNet: Search by school for AIMS and AZ Learns test results at [azstarnet.com/education](http://azstarnet.com/education).

## BENEDICT XVI IN AMERICA

## Pope meets victims of clergy sex abuse

By Victor L. Simpson  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Pope Benedict XVI prayed with tearful victims of clergy sex abuse in a chapel Thursday, an extraordinary gesture from a pontiff who has made atoning for the great shame of the U.S. church the cornerstone of his first papal trip to America.

Benedict's third day in the U.S. began with a packed open-air Mass celebrated in 10 languages at a baseball stadium, and it included a speech to Roman Catholic college and university presidents.

But the real drama happened privately, in the chapel of the papal embassy between events.

The Rev. Federico Lombardi, a papal spokesman, said Benedict and Boston Cardinal Sean O'Malley met with a group of



LAURENCE KESTERSON / PHILA. INQUIRER  
The pope's meeting with abuse victims was a singular event.

five or six clergy-sex-abuse victims for about 25 minutes, offering encouragement. The group from O'Malley's archdiocese were all adults, men and women, who had been molested

See POPE, A4

## Arizona takes easy way to balance budget

But universities get a \$14.7M hit

By Howard Fischer  
CAPITOL MEDIA SERVICES

PHOENIX — Lawmakers agreed late Thursday on a combination of raiding the state's bank, cutting the budget and doing some short-term borrow-

ing to finally bring the current state budget into balance.

The deal, which got the blessing of Gov. Janet Napolitano, essentially takes all of the easy methods of bringing expenses into line with revenues. At this point, it's estimated that the budget is \$1.2 billion in the red.

And the situation could get worse if tax collections be-

tween now and June 30 are less than expected.

This package fills that gap largely by taking \$487 million out of the state's "rainy-day" fund, with another \$300 million coming out of special funds earmarked for other less-essential purposes. It also means no major cuts for most state agencies, although the three state universities will

have to slash spending by a combined \$14.7 million, with the exact split determined by the state Board of Regents.

But in agreeing to the immediate fix, Democratic and Republican legislative leaders simply deferred the more difficult decisions on how to balance next year's budget and a

See STATE BUDGET, A4

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VOL. 167, NO. 109



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