

IN LIVING

'Idol' dad Eldrin Bell dances in Justin's shadow / E1

IN SPORTS

Tech superhero Hollings lives up to tattoo / D1



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Isolated showers, 89°/69°, C6

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INSIDE TODAY

Workload is heavy for Congress

Lawmakers return from their summer break to deal with Iraq, homeland security, the budget and a host of other pressing issues. B8

An 'appalled' warning to Bush

Nelson Mandela (below), South Africa's former president, rebukes the Bush administration for threatening to attack Iraq. A3



Politicians picnic with Labor

Democratic candidates, hoping to boost their chances for upcoming elections, drop by the second annual AFL-CIO Labor Day picnic. Metro, B1

Patrick Cuffy starts new life

Patrick Cuffy, the prosecution's star witness in the murder trial of former DeKalb Sheriff Sidney Dorsey, will get a new identity and a new life outside the Southeast now that he has been released from jail. Metro, B1

Radio exec moves west

Longtime Atlanta radio executive John Hogan will move to San Antonio to take over as chief executive of Clear Channel Radio. Business, C1

A year later, workers fatigued

In the year since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the American worker has gone from exalted to exhausted. Business, C1

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Big dreams for ragtag team



Georgia State University football player Otis Fraser explains the school really does have a team as he tries to sell a season ticket to Yahteesha Lindsay, a senior who eventually bought one.

GSU football hopefuls take ball and run with it

By MICHELLE HISKEY
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Jim Wallace thought his football career ended with his last high school game seven autumns ago. Then the old passion stirred unexpectedly last week after a class at Georgia State University. A bunch of big guys hollered and thrust season tickets at him in the main plaza.

A football team? At Georgia State? Wallace didn't want tickets. He wanted to get on the field. His school spirit zoomed with the prospect of getting more from GSU than an English degree.

"I just want to hit somebody in the mouth and get away with it," said a grinning Wallace, who at 6 feet 3 and 290 pounds played lineman for Stockbridge High School.

His recruitment took 15 minutes. He got handwritten directions to the practice field and instructions to bring \$125 (payment plan available) for pads, helmet and uniform.

"G-State Football" is a ragtag bunch of about 60 players with a tiny budget and a big dream. This sport, they believe, can bring traditional Southern spirit to a historically disconnected student body in downtown Atlanta.

It's a club sport. Unlike the Panthers' 14 varsity sports, football doesn't get financial

backing from the university. There are no scholarships for the players and no paychecks for the coaches. With help from some football-mad alumni, the club is scraping up players, finding unusually experienced volunteer coaches and selling \$5 tickets for its first season. That season begins Sunday at the University of South Alabama, with the first home game Sept. 15 against UNC-Greensboro at Adams Memorial Stadium.

Watching the team get started is like seeing farmgirls recruited to play baseball in "A League of their Own" or

the basketball misfits in "Hoosiers." No varsity football program at a college this size (27,500 students) would sign up, in late August, a rusty player like Wallace, who is 25 and the father of two.

"The only thing I have to work around now," he said, "is day care." A few nights before, players dressed for practice in the parking lot at the GSU fields in south DeKalb. They have something to prove to their school, themselves, or both.

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REMEMBER 9/11

Vigilance in Europe: nine held

Dutch arrest eight people on suspicion of aiding terrorists; man with gun detained in Sweden.

FROM NEWS SERVICES

With the one-year anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States just days away, authorities in two European countries took action Monday against nine men suspected of terrorist activities.

The actions came as Congress prepared to return to Washington today to wrestle over the centerpiece of Americans' security effort: the creation of a new Homeland Security Department staffed by 170,000 federal employees.

Monday's arrests in Europe also came a week after federal grand juries in Seattle and Detroit indicted six men on charges of conspiring with al-Qaida.

The arrests could signal heightened vigilance by authorities as the anniversary of the attacks approaches.

In Rotterdam, Netherlands, Dutch prosecutors said Monday that eight men had been arrested on suspicion of helping finance al-Qaida and recruit fighters for Osama bin Laden's network.

The men were detained Friday in different parts of the Netherlands, the National Prosecutor's Office said. Their names were not released.

Also Monday, a Swedish man suspected of planning to hijack an airliner was ordered to remain in custody while prosecutors

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FIRST PERSON

▶ The Sept. 11 attacks have altered Ginger Farmer-White's sense of security, but not her patriotism. A9

ON WEDNESDAY

▶ Security changes will subject foreign travelers to tougher scrutiny on arrival in the United States. Atlanta & the World



Charles Hines holds a photo of his father, Anthony, presumed killed in the World Trade Center attack.

Red Cross fund aids grieving Georgia families

By ALMA E. HILL
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Nearly half a million dollars has flowed from the American Red Cross to a handful of Georgia families since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York and Washington wreaked havoc on their finances, lives and mental health.

The attacks claimed members of at least 60 Georgia families. Seventeen of those families lost a loved one on whose income they depended, the social service agency disclosed. The victims with Georgia ties include three fathers, two husbands, a stepmother and three sons. Eleven were someone's brother, six were someone's sister. There were five brothers-in-law, three uncles, two nieces and an aunt.

Most of those killed or presumed dead have become cases on the Red Cross's con-

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REMEMBER 9-11

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VICTIM RELIEF
No making up for loss, but needs can be met

▶ Continued from A1

Confidential Liberty Fund roster, an account the charity created to funnel more than \$988 million in donations to the families left behind.

As for those affected by any disaster, the Red Cross protects privacy by not disclosing names without consent. Two of the families interviewed for this article were located with the agency's help; names of the others came from public sources.

Most of the families interviewed readily discussed the assistance they had received.

"I get more questions now on how the money is being used than how my family's doing. So much of this has been turned into a financial issue," said Carolyn LaFrance of McDonough.

Her brother, Alan LaFrance, 44, a free-lance audiovisual technician, is presumed to have died on the 106th or 107th floor of the World Trade Center, where he was setting up for a conference when the planes hit.

But Barbara Spence of Douglasville, who lost her husband, Maynard, a consultant with Marsh McLennan in New York, declined to be interviewed. Robin Gann of Roswell, whose husband, Michael C. Gann, worked in risk management sales for Toronto-based Algonomics and was last heard from while attending a conference on the 106th floor, declined to discuss her loss or the help she has received from the Red Cross.

Donations pour in

The Red Cross took in more donations for Sept. 11 victims than any other charity in the country. By October, \$546 million had poured in to the Liberty Fund from around the world. The giving public assumed that every penny would go to the victims' survivors.

However, then-President and CEO Bernadine Healy announced that more than \$200 million of the contributions would be set aside for future terrorist attacks.

The Red Cross board of directors forced Healy's resignation in late October. Then it reversed the policy and pledged to disburse 100 percent of the money to victims' families.

The new plan called for cash grants to victims' immediate families for one year of living expenses. The maximum pay-

ment to about 3,395 beneficiaries from the fund's Family Gift Program will be \$121,000, said Marsha Johnson Evans, who replaced Healy in August.

Other relatives and people who either live or work near the attack sites are also eligible for assistance, though substantially less.

To date, the Red Cross has opened 55,416 cases and disbursed or committed \$708 million of the \$988 million Liberty Fund.

The remaining funds will be used for long-term needs of Sept. 11 victims, primarily for grief and mental health counseling.

Family members could need assistance for years, says Nancy Brockway, director of disaster services for the local Red Cross.

"We expect, coming up to the anniversary and the weeks following, that a lot of people will have a whole range of emotional issues," Brockway said.

Of the total Liberty Fund contributions, \$434,179 has been given to the 17 Georgia families who lost a relative whose income they depended on. Those who are eligible will receive payments through the end of the year or until they reach the \$121,000 cap.

A \$45,000 lump sum toward that amount will go to primary beneficiaries within weeks.

In addition, Georgia relatives who were not primary beneficiaries received about \$50,000 from the Liberty Fund, largely for travel to the attack sites and to attend memorials. Another \$9,000 was used for food and lodging for 78 international travelers who were stranded at Hartsfield International Airport when air travel was suspended following the attacks.

"We didn't depend on Alan financially," said LaFrance, a 40-year-old telecommunications engineer. "But things like getting home to New York and making sure our needs were taken care of have worked very well. The Red Cross has come through every time."

Scholarships funded Shelby White, a 57-year-old mortgage broker in Atlanta, also didn't receive income from his son, Adam. But because the 27-year-old pollution credit trader at Cantor Fitzgerald, a financial services company, didn't have any dependents, the senior White has received money from the Red Cross and other charities.



Cindy Taylor's 49-year-old brother, Vernon Cherry, who was a firefighter, died in the World Trade Center. "I still feel close to him. Physically, he's gone, but spiritually, he's right there," Taylor said.



Betty Dingle (above) lost her son Jeffrey (top), 32, on Sept. 11. In March, after a heart attack, she resolved to place her trust in God and has since found peace.

The Robin Hood Foundation in New York sent White \$10,000. Cantor Fitzgerald, which lost about 700 of its 1,000 employees in the attacks, sends him \$2,000 to \$4,000 a quarter. The payments from Cantor Fitzgerald will max out at \$100,000. The Red Cross gave White about \$2,400 so he, his wife and three other family members could go to New York for a memorial. The state of New York sent a check for \$50,000.

Initially, the checks only added to White's sorrow. "I was feeling kind of weird about it," he recalled. "It felt odd to get these checks because of your son. Then someone told me it was an event that happened. The next event is you go on with your life and do the best thing you can."

Last spring, he established the Adam Shelby White Scholarship Fund at North Atlanta High, a financial services company, didn't have any dependents, the senior White has received money from the Red Cross and other charities.

The Red Cross gave Taylor, a teacher at the private Horizons School in Atlanta, \$3,500 as reimbursement for three trips to New York, one of which included her husband and daughter.

The last visit was in June, when Taylor and her six siblings held a funeral for the brother she'll fondly remember as a firefighter and singer who performed for pleasure and at his colleagues' funerals.

Taylor hasn't decided whether she'll go back to New York for a Sept. 11 memorial, because the last visit was so emotionally draining. "The Red Cross asked me if I wanted counseling, and I

White expects a \$45,000 check from the Red Cross any day. He will share it with his ex-wife, Adam's mother.

Betty Dingle, 61, a Tucker retiree, hasn't received as much charitable aid because her son left a widow and children.

She used to rely on the \$700 to \$800 that her 32-year-old son, Jeffrey Dingle, would send from New York each month to supplement her pension. He died while attending a conference on the 106th floor of the north tower.

The loss of her youngest child, a financial analyst for Encompass in New York, was more than Dingle could bear. She suffered a heart attack in March, which she attributes to a combination of anxiety, stress and grief.

"I've grown to understand what happened. He would want me not to worry," Dingle said. "But when you have someone you've loved and nurtured for 32 years all of a sudden wiped away from you, it's hard."

Jeffrey Dingle was married with two young children, making his widow, Nicole, the primary beneficiary of charitable aid. Nicole Dingle has applied for the \$45,000 gift from the Red Cross.

Betty Dingle has received more than \$4,800 from the Red Cross, and the charity pays for weekly counseling. "No financial gift could replace or restore what I lost, my son," Dingle said, "but the God that I serve will make a way for me."

Trauma shows itself Like Carolyn LaFrance, Cindy Taylor of Mableton tapped the Red Cross' Liberty Fund to travel to New York in search of relatives immediately after Sept. 11.

Taylor, 43, drove up to look for Vernon Cherry, her 49-year-old brother, who was a New York firefighter. He has not been found.

The Red Cross gave Taylor, a teacher at the private Horizons School in Atlanta, \$3,500 as reimbursement for three trips to New York, one of which included her husband and daughter.

The last visit was in June, when Taylor and her six siblings held a funeral for the brother she'll fondly remember as a firefighter and singer who performed for pleasure and at his colleagues' funerals.

Taylor hasn't decided whether she'll go back to New York for a Sept. 11 memorial, because the last visit was so emotionally draining. "The Red Cross asked me if I wanted counseling, and I

didn't think I did. But when I went to New York, I couldn't cross the Brooklyn Bridge or go downtown," she said.

LaFrance will return to New York next month, also with the help of the Red Cross. The agency gave her about \$150 when she drove up right after the attacks. When she goes next week for the first anniversary, she and her son will ride Amtrak in a sleeper car because she doesn't want to fly.

Flying in from Ireland Joseph Dowling's niece, Mary Yolanda Dowling, an administrative secretary, didn't even have to go to work on Sept. 11. But she went to her 92nd-floor office at Aon Corp. in the south tower to clean off her desk. She had resigned, effective Sept. 12.

"Her uncle, who lives in Atlanta, learned later from media reports that his 46-year-old niece was last seen holding a door, directing people down a stairway during the chaos.

Joseph Dowling did not seek any assistance from the Red Cross. However, the Justice Department flew Dowling and his wife, Betty, to New York in November for a memorial service and paid the expenses of Dowling's son, who lives in Belfast, Northern Ireland.

The Irish Red Cross paid the airfare and hotel expenses of five other Dowling family members, who also live in Ireland.

Coping with grief Charles Hines, a 32-year-old stockbroker who lives in Marietta, is still coming to grips with his father's death.

Anthony Hines, a Florida retiree, was in New York, pre-tapped the World Trade Center, to cash in some stocks and bonds on Sept. 11.

"We haven't been able to confirm that he was actually there," Hines said, noting that his father is listed as a missing person.

Hines has been seeing a grief counselor provided by the Red Cross.

He felt his father's death was certain earlier this month when his mother marked her birthday. Even though she and Hines' father divorced in 1979, Anthony Hines always called Aug. 6 to wish her a happy birthday. The call didn't come this year.

Now mother and son are considering the Red Cross' offer to send them to New York for the memorial.

"As it gets closer to the time, there's some dread," Hines said, "because it forces me to deal with it. But I think I have to. If I keep putting it aside, I'll just never deal with it."

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