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# Critics pick Oscars

Who should win, who will win. A&E.



# In Full Bloom

Flower show opens. B1.

SUNDAY  
MARCH 5, 2006

# The Philadelphia Inquirer

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# Current Phillie took speed 'every day'



Jim Salisbury

CLEARWATER, Fla. — There were times, as recently as last season, the Phillies player said, when he wanted the rush quickly. So he ripped open the capsule and poured the contents directly onto his tongue.

The image might sound startling, but inside a modern major-league clubhouse, it was not.

A couple generations ago, players swigged "red juice" when they needed a little pick-me-up. Over

## A new ban on amphetamines has one player coming clean.

time, the energy booster became available in neat little capsules affectionately called "greenies."

"Speed," said the current Phillie, who asked not to be named, for fear of tarnishing his reputation. "It's bad for your car-

dio. It's unhealthy. But I did it."

He did it every day for the last few seasons, and so, he estimated, did half the position players in the big leagues.

For decades, Major League Baseball, like other sports, turned

a blind eye to illegal amphetamine use. Greenies were as much a part of the game as pine tar, rosin, and the 162-game grind. Not anymore.

As part of its toughened policy against the use of performance-enhancing substances, particularly steroids, baseball is testing for amphetamines for the first time this season, and those found using them are subject to penalties. See SALISBURY on A14

## More Baseball

### The Spring Classic?

Baseball is banking on its true world series becoming a hit. C1.

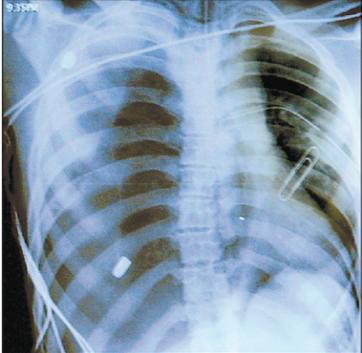
### Phils spanning the globe

Clearwater is missing 10 players who are in the first World Baseball Classic. C12.



# Heart of the E.R.

For Temple trauma surgeon Amy Goldberg, rebuilding young bodies shattered by violence is only half the battle.



9:32 p.m. An X-ray shows a bullet lodged in the chest of an 18-year-old patient. The paper clip marks the entrance wound.

By Natalie Pompilio  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

The young don't want to die. They fight against the blood spilling from their bodies, the oxygen draining from their lungs. They will twist and shout and beg someone — any of these strangers surrounding them — to save their lives.

Amy Goldberg, chief trauma surgeon at Temple University Hospital, knows this. She has seen it, dozens of times, usually young black men struck down on the city's streets.

So it was on a recent winter night when police rushed in with an 18-year-old who had been shot once in the chest. His arms and legs flailed wildly as a team of doctors and nurses struggled to undress him and hold him down. He kept lifting his head, looking around wildly and trying to bite, despite one nurse's efforts to keep him still. His appearance didn't seem that dire: only a small amount of blood showed on his shirt and chest. There was no exit wound through his back.

His shouts were often unintelligible — sounding like, "no" and "stop" and "let me go" — but then he repeated one sentence in a clear voice: "I don't want to die."

See TRAUMA on A16



9:39 p.m. Amy Goldberg evaluates the young man's condition, what has been damaged, and what needs to be done. "I'm really looking to do more than what we can do medically," she says.

ELIZABETH ROBERTSON / Inquirer Suburban Staff

# Experts: Patches + heat = danger

Heat can make medicated patches unsafe, even deadly, experts say. The FDA is taking a look.

By Dawn Fallik  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Medical experts say medicated patches, used by 12 million people for a range of ailments, can become unsafe when heated by exercise, soaking in a hot tub, or even a high fever. And they think patients should be warned.

"Most people don't realize that heat is going to increase absorption rates, even to toxic levels," said Michael Cohen, director of the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, an industry watchdog in Huntingdon Valley.

Last week, the Food and Drug Administration said it was launching an "exhaustive review" of the safety of the patches themselves. Part of the review specifically studies how heat affects the products.

The FDA investigation comes eight months after the agency announced a probe into 120 deaths linked to fentanyl patches, which are used for chronic pain. In November, the agency issued a warning about birth-

See PATCHES on A18

# Iraq paralysis feeds political paralysis in U.S.

We can't stay, and we can't go.

As the United States nears the third anniversary of its war in Iraq, there is irrefutable evidence that our military and political options are narrowing, that President Bush's democratization dream is lethally imperiled, that we are hostage to events beyond our control, and that nobody can agree on whether our troops should be better off digging in or pulling out.

The fog of war has frozen domestic politics. Bush's "stay the course" stance is being soundly rebuked in the polls, yet the Democrats, still divided among themselves, haven't come up with a better idea, a consensus alternative. Meanwhile, the clock ticks. The danger of a full-blown civil war — predicted 18 months ago by the CIA, but dismissed at the time by the Bush team — grows with each passing day.

In political terms, this See POLMAN on A6

## THE AMERICAN DEBATE



Dick Polman  
Political Analyst

## INSIDE

India, Pakistan can't be compared, Bush says. A2.

Hatred and suspicion persist between Shiites and Sunnis. A3.

Iraqi leader assured U.S. that troops will stay as long as needed. A4.

# Passing the joystick to a new generation

By Lini S. Kadaba  
INQUIRER STAFF WRITER

Rosanne Corcoran's thumbs fly around the purple GameCube controller at warp speed.

"Gotcha!" she gloats, as her alter ego, Bowser, throws Mario out at third in an intense game of Mario Superstar Baseball in the family room of her Trappe home.

"Darn," mutters 8-year-old Rosemary Corcoran, staring at the 52-inch TV. Her

## Video games now scoring with children of the earliest fans.

fingers mash buttons as she scrambles to help Mario recover.

Rosemary really wants the bragging rights that will accompany this win. Rosanne, you see, isn't just another child glued to a console.

Rosanne, a woman who's got game, is

Rosemary's 38-year-old mother. A generation of children who have played video games, like, forever, has come of age — as gamer parents.

As these mothers and fathers enter the real world of Little League and parent conferences and dance recitals, they are not putting down their joysticks. They are escorting their children into the land of pixels.

See VIDEO GAMES on A12



High 47,  
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INFORMATION FOR LIFE

