

The Miami Herald



MONDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2005
35 CENTS | 103RD YEAR, NO. 103 | ©2005 THE MIAMI HERALD

FINAL EDITION

B R Y O G F2

MiamiHerald.com

HAPPY KWANZAA



TROPICAL LIFE, 8E

ISLAND HIP-HOPPING

CUBAN ARTIST DESCEMER BUENO MAKES HIS SOLO DEBUT WITH BIG-NAME BACKING



ALSO INSIDE

HEALTH, 5A

GET FIT WITH GOSPEL, SOUL

FITNESS MARKETERS TARGET BLACK CONSUMERS WITH CULTURALLY TAILORED MUSIC

LOCAL & STATE, 1B

MINIBIKE CRASH KILLS BOY, 15

TEEN DRIVER DIES AFTER ACCIDENT WHILE RIDING AROUND GOLF COURSE

SPORTS, 24D

TOP RUNNERS, BOWLERS

FULL-COLOR PRESENTATION OF ALL-COUNTY CROSS-COUNTRY AND BOWLING TEAMS

BUSINESS MONDAY, 20

TAKE A TEST ABOUT 2005

SOUTH FLORIDA BUSINESS NEWS, TRIVIA OFFER YEAR-ENDING CHALLENGE

WEATHER



SUNNY, BREEZY, COOLER
HIGH 70 | LOW 52

• Bryan Norcross' forecast, back of Section B
• Online: weather.herald.com

INDEX

ACTION LINE.....7B LOTTERY.....8B
AMERICAS.....19A MOVIES.....4E
CLASSIFIED.....1F NATION.....3A
COMICS.....12E PEOPLE.....4A
CORRECTIONS.....3A PUZZLES.....14E
CROSSWORD.....15E TELEVISION.....2E
DEATHS.....4B TROPICAL LIFE.....1E
EDITORIALS.....22A WEATHER.....7B
LOCAL.....1B WORLD.....27A

HEAT 97, LAKERS 92

A THIN WIN

The Heat's victory over the Lakers leaves a lot to be desired

■ Though the Miami Heat beat the Los Angeles Lakers on Sunday, the team triumphant looked about as lost as a winner ever could.

It is easy to fall for the superficialities, the vanities, the silliness. That's why the NBA put Heat-Lakers on the Christmas Day marquee Sunday afternoon while two dry champions — Detroit and San Antonio — had to settle for the national undercard. It was like watching U2 open for Jennifer Lopez.



IN MY OPINION
DAN LE BATARD
dlebatard@MiamiHerald.com

But glitter and glitz blind, and the rock-star Miami Heat has wrapped an awful lot of that around some pretty mediocre music. That's why everyone from

Donald Trump to Trick Daddy to A-Rod were in attendance Sunday to watch Miami's gasping 97-92 victory against the Los Angeles Kobes.

At this early point in the holiday season, Miami appears to be the colorful ribbons and packaging while Detroit appears to be the bejeweled gift. Detroit spanked Tim Duncan's Spurs by 15 on Sunday while Miami had to cover its eyes and pray that Lamar Odom missed a late three-pointer so wide open that the crowd gasped because the Heat didn't have a defender within two zip codes. Odom clanked it, a holiday gift.

Toronto has one home win this season — against Miami. Detroit beat Toronto by 33. Miami lost at home to Denver while Carmelo Anthony had 41. Detroit beat Denver, 114-89, holding Anthony to 12. Even with Shaquille O'Neal back, Miami barely squeezed by a Bulls team Detroit strangled

•TURN TO LE BATARD, 2A



AL DIAZ/MIAMI HERALD STAFF

AIR DEFENSE: Dwyane Wade of the Heat defends against the Lakers' Kobe Bryant in Sunday's game at AmericanAirlines Arena. The Heat won, just barely.

■ **THRILLER:** GARY PAYTON, A FORMER LAKER, STEALS THE SHOW IN HEAT VICTORY OVER LOS ANGELES, 1D

■ **MIAMIHERALD.COM:** FOR A PHOTO GALLERY FROM THE HEAT-LAKERS GAME, CLICK ON TODAY'S EXTRAS

WAR ON TERRORISM

Padilla case weaves web of risks for government

■ The terrorism case of Jose Padilla, dubbed the 'dirty bomber' after his arrest in 2002, poses a complex legal challenge for the Justice Department.

BY JAY WEAVER
jweaver@MiamiHerald.com

When federal prosecutors lost a major terrorism trial against a Tampa scholar this month, the shocking verdict raised doubts about a terrorist case in Miami against Jose Padilla.

Now, further complicating the criminal case is the possible U.S. Supreme Court review of Padilla's detention as an "enemy combatant."

Padilla, arrested in Chicago in 2002 amid accusations that he had planned to detonate a radioactive "dirty bomb" on American soil, has been in military custody.

But after declaring Padilla an enemy combatant, the Bush administration switched its position last month and tossed the former Broward County resident into the criminal justice system.

The U.S.-born Padilla, who traveled from Broward to the Middle East allegedly for al Qaeda training, was added to a federal indictment that claims he and others conspired to "murder, kidnap and maim persons" in an

•TURN TO PADILLA, 10A

ENVIRONMENT

Galápagos Islands face a complex stream of threats

■ Economic, political and environmental pressures are squeezing Ecuador's ecologically fragile Galápagos Islands.

BY STEVEN DUDLEY
sdudley@MiamiHerald.com

PUERTO AYORA, Ecuador — The town of Puerto Ayora might be the cleanest in Latin America. It recycles everything from lubricants to batteries. The number of cars allowed is limited. Birds dive into the bay to catch the bountiful fish. And sea lions sun themselves all around.

But Puerto Ayora has a problem: It's in Ecuador's Galápagos Islands, which have an ecosystem as fragile as the wings of a butterfly.

With its burgeoning population, an endless stream of tourists, an insatiable and powerful fishing industry and a corrupt and unstable national government, the islands — as Charles Darwin knew them when he visited in the 19th century and developed his famed origin of species theory — may be

•TURN TO ISLANDS, 20A

■ **MIAMIHERALD.COM:** TO READ PREVIOUS INSTALLMENTS OF THIS SERIES, CLICK ON TODAY'S EXTRAS

UP FRONT | DAY-AFTER SALE

BIG SALES MEAN BARGAINS — AND LOTS OF COMPANY AT MALL

■ Bargains will abound today, but brace yourself for the masses — and get an early start.

BY MADELEINE MARR
mmarr@MiamiHerald.com

You've got today off work. Do you really want to spend it at the mall?

"You'd think everyone would be exhausted," says Maria Prado, general manager at the Miami International Mall. "But for some reason the prospect of deals gives them a second wind."

Sound familiar? Just know you won't exactly be lacking in company. Dec. 26 has traditionally been one of the 10 busiest shopping days of the year, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers, a New York trade organization.

The Miami International Mall, for one, is girding for "fairly heavy traffic" today.

"The day after Christmas brings out a different kind of shopper," Prado says. "You've

•TURN TO BARGAIN, 2A

■ **MIAMIHERALD.COM:** WILL YOU BRAVE THE CROWDS OR ARE YOU ALL SHOPPED OUT? CLICK ON TODAY'S EXTRAS TO VOTE

TSUNAMI | ONE YEAR LATER

Rebuilding advances amid chaos

■ Indonesia's Aceh is a testament of the successes — and failures — of relief aid spending after the tsunami.

BY TIM SULLIVAN
Associated Press

BANDA ACEH, Indonesia — A year after the tsunami laid waste to Aceh, tens of thousands of people still live in a vast archipelago of shanty towns made of scrap wood spit back by the sea.

Along the coast of the Indonesian province, little remains of villages but swampland and ankle-high rubble. In hurriedly built plywood barracks, survivors are jammed together in windowless rooms.

Billions of dollars were pledged to help the survivors of the tsunami, which left at least 216,000 people dead or missing and displaced more than two million more. But many people remain desperately frustrated.

•TURN TO INDONESIA, 16A



BINSAR BAKKARA/AP

PRAYERS FOR THE SOUL: People in Banda Aceh, Indonesia, pray during a service for tsunami victims Sunday.

