

Bomber kills 26 at Italian base in Iraq

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NASIRIYAH, Iraq — A suicide bomber blew up a truck packed with explosives at an Italian paramilitary base Wednesday, killing at least 26 people. The United States struck at the Iraqi insurgency hours later, destroying a warehouse in Baghdad and chasing attackers who were seen firing mortars.

The Nasiriyah attack was the deadliest against a U.S. ally since the occupation began and

appeared to send a message that international groups are not safe in Iraq. It came on the same day the chief U.S. administrator for Iraq went to the White House to put forth proposals on transferring more authority to Iraqis.

Col. Gianfranco Scalas said 18 Italians were killed: 12 Carabinieri paramilitary police, four soldiers, a civilian working at the base and a documentary filmmaker. A spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition

said at least eight Iraqis also died. The bomber — whose nationality was not known — also died.

The blast wounded 79 people, 20 of them Italians, hospital sources and Italian officials said.

Italians were stunned by their nation's single worst military loss since World War II and its first in the Iraq campaign. At Rome's tomb of the unknown soldier, the green-white-and-red flag rippled at half-staff.

CONGRESS

FROM PAGE 3

event's donors. In its contract with the Carolina Union Activities Board, the group reserved 50 seats. "These were the students who helped publicize the event, who helped land the event," Costas said.

At the speech, 78 seats were reserved — nine for the event's donors and the rest for members of his organization, Costas said.

The organization opened about

40 of the reserved seats to audience members about five minutes before Stein's speech began.

This conflict comes after Finance Committee members were upset by the number of seats reserved at political commentator Ann Coulter's speech earlier this fall.

"That's why we felt that we were right in being able to question this," Kleysteuber said. Congress didn't question the Coulter speech, she said, because it was the "first strike."

Kleysteuber said that at Stein's speech College Republicans also failed to acknowledge the funding they received through student fees as mandated by the Student Code.

Costas said he thinks the decision "is a petty political situation."

But Kleysteuber said the situation is far from political. "It is not a sanction on the group. It is not anything permanent."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

SCHOLARS

FROM PAGE 3

future," Mlyn said.

He added that a major transition in the financial infrastructure of the program might be implemented as early as the next calendar year.

These fiscal changes will take place in the midst of an outside evaluation, which is designed to provide program officials with suggested modifications.

The evaluating committee will include members who are not affiliated with either participating uni-

versity but who are familiar with institutions of higher learning, said Robert Thompson Jr., chairman of the program's University Coordinating Committee.

"There is nothing routine about the Robertson program, but this is a routine evaluation," he said.

Robertson Scholars said that they also think the program offers recipients a unique college opportunity but that there is room for improvement.

Chris Scoville, a junior Robertson Scholar at Duke, said making the transition between campuses is hard on students.

On top of scheduling courses that will transfer to their home school, participants must deal with the hassle of switching campuses for a four-month period.

"That's a huge stress for a lot of people," Scoville said.

Mlyn admitted that the program still is experiencing some growing pains but said the overall product has been a great success.

"We're absolutely satisfied and we're always changing things," Mlyn said. "We're learning as we go."

Contact the University Editor at udesk@unc.edu.

GROWTH

FROM PAGE 3

"We have seen recently that our enrollment growth funding is essentially the majority of new funding that we have," Davies said. "Tuition receipts have gone up, so one can draw the conclusion that those receipts are being used to fund enrollment growth."

Rand said he dislikes the idea of using tuition hikes to pay for enrollment growth. He said he hopes the economy will rebound and provide lawmakers the necessary revenue to support continued growth.

Joni Worthington, UNC-system associate vice president for communications, said tuition raises are one of the few avenues open to university officials to support contin-

ued growth.

A proposed increase in the percentage of nonresident students admitted to UNC-system schools might complicate the growth issue further, said Lisa Kimbrough, communications assistant to House Co-speaker Richard Morgan, R-Moore. Increasing the number of out-of-state students wouldn't help generate enough revenue to fund enrollment growth, she said.

Regardless of the funding source, Davies said, a certain amount of funding is crucial to sustain enrollment growth. "We have to have the funds to provide for new students if we're going to accept new students."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

CLOSINGS

FROM PAGE 3

of the sheriff's department have been key in reopening our doors," he said.

Although Avalon and W.B. Yeats are being reopened, Foster emphasized that revenue officials are continuing to develop an appropriate payment plan.

"We are currently working on a resolution," he said.

In the meantime, Markscheid said, he hopes residents will continue to visit his reopened businesses.

"More than anything, I'd like to stress that we are open."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

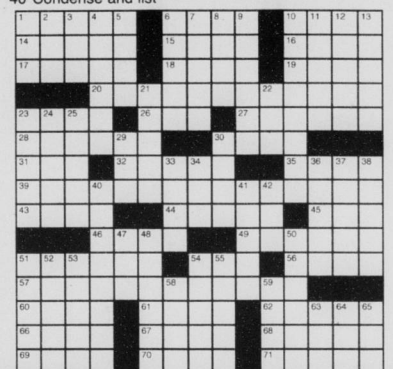
THE Daily Crossword

By Philip J. Anderson

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Initial
 - 6 Partner of Mary and Peter
 - 10 Obligation
 - 14 Run off to wed
 - 15 Writer Buchanan
 - 16 — avis
 - 17 Dame
 - 18 Abu Dhabi ruler
 - 19 Saroyan's "My Name is —"
 - 20 Start of a Kathy Norris quote
 - 23 Coup d'—
 - 26 FDR follower
 - 27 Be nervously irresolute
 - 28 Bridge error
 - 30 Creedence Clearwater Revival hit
 - 31 Bank pymt.
 - 32 Rio de la —
 - 35 Plane-crash investigation grp.
 - 39 Part 2 of quote
 - 43 Writer Seton
 - 44 Forest space
 - 45 Bandleader
 - 46 Actress Theda
 - 49 Formed whirlpools
 - 51 Discerning
 - 54 Health resort
 - 56 Archipelago member
 - 57 End of quote
 - 60 So long!
- DOWN**
- 1 Boggy lowland
 - 2 Worldwide workers' grp.
 - 3 Balderdash!
 - 4 Elf in person
 - 5 Adolescent
 - 6 Chick calls
 - 7 Confess
 - 8 BTU part
 - 9 City on the Rio Grande
 - 10 Riding a wake

- 11 Terra firma
- 12 Astronomer Tycho
- 13 More docile
- 21 Knickknack spot
- 22 Resembling: suff.
- 23 Author Jong
- 24 Mortise mate
- 25 Unable to sit still
- 29 Govt. publishing grp.
- 30 Volcanic flow
- 33 Pond scum
- 34 Up to, briefly
- 36 Macri figurines
- 37 Writer Madame de —
- 38 Back of a 45
- 40 Condense and list
- 41 Standard of perfection
- 42 Beatty or Forem
- 47 Ocean off Mass.
- 48 Meal
- 50 Straightforward
- 51 Fall flower
- 52 Extend a look
- 53 Saturn satellite
- 54 Outpouring
- 55 Handbag
- 58 Polish river
- 59 To boot
- 63 Backstabber
- 64 Spanish gold
- 65 Absolutely!



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