



FAITH AND VALUES: TITHING IN TOUGH TIMES / B1

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50 CENTS

Vietnam miracle reunion

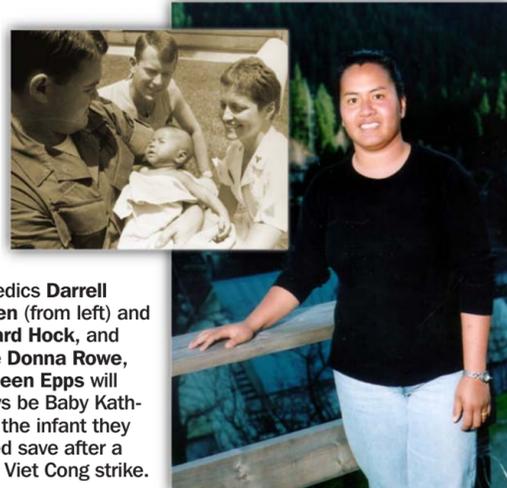
A woman's pursuit of her roots resurrects memories for metro residents of a baby's rescue and struggle to overcome war's brutality.

By **BILL OSINSKI** / bosinski@ajc.com

O DOWNIEVILLE, CALIF. — Out of the massacre came a miracle. In a Viet Cong attack on a village in May 1969, everyone was killed — except a baby girl found wounded in her dead

mother's arms. U.S. soldiers, helicopter crewmen, medics, nurses and doctors saved her life. They gave her a name, Kathleen. Eventually, the Americans came back home, not knowing what became of Kathleen. But they never forgot her. About 12 years ago, she began a search for answers about her past.

On Monday, they will finally meet again. Baby Kathleen is now Kathleen Epps, a Northern California wife with three daughters of her own. The prospect of Monday's reunion at a Texas army base thrills her, yet makes her anxious. "What would be an



To medics **Darrell Warren** (from left) and **Richard Hock**, and nurse **Donna Rowe**, **Kathleen Epps** will always be **Baby Kathleen**, the infant they helped save after a 1969 Viet Cong strike.

➤ Please see **MEMORIES, A6**

Mostly sunny
73°/43°, F6

SCORES

Marlins 7
Braves 4

INSIDE TODAY

USS Cole suspects escape

Ten key suspects, including two who are thought to have played key roles in the bombing of the USS Cole, escaped from a Yemeni prison, dealing a major blow to the investigation into the terrorist act blamed on the al-Qaida terrorist network. **A5**

U.S. Senate seat interests Franklin

Atlanta Mayor Shirley Franklin is "open to the option" of running next year for the U.S. Senate seat held by the retiring Zell Miller. **H5**

Aid deal favors airline industry

The U.S. House and Senate agree on a deal to help airlines and workers, and take it easy on restricting executive pay. **F1**

Downtown lanes close for bridge

Bad weather delayed construction on the 17th Street Bridge, but it will resume at 8 tonight with a lane each on I-75 and I-85 closing in the southbound lanes. **H2**

ON AJC.COM

➤ Special cams show construction traffic on the connector.

FEATURES

ABBY	C2
CLASSIFIEDS	N1
COMICS	C6
EDITORIALS	A15
LEGAL NOTICES	F4
MOVIES	D3
OBITUARIES	H6
TELEVISION	C3
WEATHER	F6

SECTIONS

MAIN NEWS	A
LIVING	B, C, D
SPORTS	E
BUSINESS	F, G
METRO	H

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Memorable holiday for Shiites



JEROME DELAY / Associated Press

Shiite Muslim worshippers mark the end of the Ashura holiday Friday by pounding their hands on their chest and head at the Kademiya Shrine on the outskirts of Baghdad. This is the first time since Saddam Hussein took power in Iraq that they can openly commemorate the holiday, in which Shiites remember the death in A.D. 680 of Imam Hussein, a grandson of the Prophet Muhammad. The imam's death led to the split in Islam between Shiite and Sunni Muslims.

Museum antiquities looted

By **MIKE TONER**
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Iraqi mobs looted priceless antiquities from Baghdad's premier cultural history museum on Friday — turning archaeologists' worst nightmares into stark reality. A dozen looters roamed undisturbed among broken and overturned statues that littered the ground floor of the

sprawling National Museum of Iraq, according to Agence France-Presse. Two men were seen hauling away an ancient door frame. Empty wooden crates were scattered across the floor. The museum housed more than 100,000 artifacts spanning 8,000 years, including irreplaceable sculptures, inscribed tablets and carved reliefs from a half-dozen

cultures, including the Sumerian, Assyrian and Babylonian empires. Upstairs, portions of the museum seemed to have been spared from Friday's assault, and there was hope that the museum's 30 senior archaeologists had moved the most important collections to safety before the war.

➤ Please see **MUSEUM, A10**

Iraqi forces dissolve

U.S. focuses on Saddam's hometown

By **MIKE WILLIAMS** in Kirkuk
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and **LARRY KAPLOW** in Baghdad
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Saddam Hussein's armies in far northern Iraq gave up wholesale Friday, surrendering the major oil city of Mosul without a fight. As the troops left, looters ransacked the city. U.S. troops and Kurdish fighters occupied the city later in the day as thousands of Iraqi soldiers, unarmed and dressed in civilian clothes, started the long walk to their homes.

Saddam and his sons are "either dead or they're running like hell," said Gen. Tommy Franks, top commander of U.S.-led forces.

Remnants of Iraqi forces were reported gathering at the northern city of Tikrit, Saddam's hometown.

Tikrit was now "an area we're focused on as we continue our military operations," U.S. Major Gen. Victor Renuart told reporters. He said there were no substantial U.S. forces yet around the city, about 90 miles north of Baghdad, but warplanes had begun heavy bombing of the area.

U.S. forces also were working to seal off escape routes on the Syrian border.

Saddam's whereabouts as well as the Iraqi leadership have been unknown since the regime collapsed Wednesday. American intelligence officials said they had intercepted communications in which former Iraqi officials said among themselves that they believed

➤ Please see **IRAQ, A12**

COMING SUNDAY

THE ROAD TO Baghdad

A Georgia-based tank commander's battle to the Iraqi capital.

An AJC tribute to fallen heroes.



INSIDE, A7-13

➤ Saddam Hussein's soldiers in the north give up without a fight, then hit the road for home. **A11**

➤ The U.S. issues card-size wanted posters of leaders of Saddam's regime. **A13**

➤ A Marine applies to Harvard grad school — via satphone in the middle of a sandstorm. **A7**

ON AJC.COM

➤ Get a glimpse of the 'most wanted' playing cards and the day's photos from the war zone.

Burk's stand not Masters' top topic

IN SPORTS

By **DAVID A. MARKIEWICZ**
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➤ **Steve Hummer:** Tiger Woods shoots a 76, then begins climb back. **E1**

➤ **Major debut:** U.S. Amateur champ Ricky Barnes shoots a 69 and upstages Woods. **E7**

Four-page pullout, E7-10

Augusta — It's reverently called, "A tradition unlike any other," and most fans at the 67th Masters golf tournament today expect, and want, it to remain the same inside the gates of Augusta National Golf Club.

For the 30,000 people attending the third round, focus will be on whether defending champ Tiger Woods can recover from his less-than-stellar first-round performance Friday.

Outside, on five acres along

the road that fronts the club, there will be a gathering unlike any other in this city whose schools shut down for, and economy depends largely on, the Masters each year.

Today, Augusta National detractor Martha Burk makes her most visible stand, with hundreds of other demonstrators, a half-mile east of those hallowed gates in protest of the club's all-male membership.

After 10 months of pointed letters between Burk and club chairman Hootie Johnson, newspaper articles and TV

shows on the subject of single-gender clubs, wisecracks about Hootie "the old coot," and Martha, "the feminazi," it comes down to this:

A relatively civil, if voluble, discourse in a vacant lot on Washington Road in front of an apartment complex, with thousands of Masters fans driving by on their way to the club.

"I expect it is going to be a little noisy. I'm sure the event will affect our business [today], but that traffic has done that all

➤ Please see **MASTERS, A14**



BEN GRAY / Staff

Martha Burk's protest plays second fiddle to talk about if Tiger Woods can rally from a lackluster first round.

