



# READER INFORMATION

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## CORRECTION POLICY

The Dispatch strives to be fair and accurate. The newspaper corrects any significant errors of fact brought to the attention of the editors. If you think an error has been made, call 614-461-5271. Corrections will be printed below.

## CORRECTIONS

► The day lily shown in a photo on Page 11 of Sunday's Home & Garden section was a Bela Lugosi. The photo caption indicated otherwise.

► In 2001, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services revealed that it improperly withheld nearly \$13 million in child support from more than 57,000 poor families. Because of a reporter's error, a graphic on Page A4 of Sunday's Dispatch included a different year.

## CUTTING

FROM PAGE A1

that many youngsters in the neighborhood.

"It's getting real out here, brothers," Mitchell says.

AIDS educators working with the Tobias Project, which addresses the problem of HIV and AIDS among blacks, are taking their message to the black man's sanctuary, the barber-shop.

"If you believe that safe sex will stop the spread of HIV, then your customers will, too," Mitchell told the barbers.

The barbershop is second to the church as a welcoming place for blacks, said Eric Troy, program manager of the Todd A. Bell National Resource Center on the African-American Male at Ohio State University.

"The barbershop for the black men is our country club," Troy said. "All you need is to be black and male. Whether you have a Ph.D. or no degree ... you're not judged."

Barbers are being tapped to pass along accurate information about the virus that causes AIDS, using a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention model called "popular-opinion leader," Mitchell said.

He uses a mix of locker-room phrases and medical terms to teach barbers how to bring up the topic, listen effectively and give a "risk-reduction" mess-



SHARI LEWIS | DISPATCH

Preston F. Mitchell II, holding HIV/AIDS notes, said barbers are being asked to relay information using a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention model called "popular-opinion leader."

age. Since January, barbers at five Columbus shops have received five sessions of training in their shops while working on customers.

The training helps them crush common myths and pass on stark truths:

- AIDS is no longer a gay white man's disease.
- Pretty women can carry

HIV.

- Sex protection is needed for every act.
- AIDS is not just a problem in Africa.

Condoms and information on testing are dispensed along with haircuts and shaves.

The effort is paying off, Mitchell said. "We have people come in to test, and they get the information from the bar-

bershops. We have the barber-shops call us and say, 'Hey, we need condoms.' "

Customers are picking up both the condoms and the message, said Bobby LaVette, a co-manager at First Impressions barbershop, 1885 E. Livingston Ave.

LaVette, who has a friend who was recently diagnosed with HIV-positive, shares facts about

the virus with young customers.

"That makes them listen, hearing something they've never heard," said LaVette, 37. "We talk to kids in a way so they are more receptive."

For some barbers, the training is sobering. In the Cut manager Diarra Bradley, 30, a few deep breaths. The bleak statistics blew his mind.

"That stuff is scary. It's spooky," Bradley said after his first training session.

"People need to hear it and stop doing what they are doing," he said, adding that having unprotected sex is "playing craps with your life."

As customer Ben Lacey sat getting a cut at Bradley's shop, the words of caution started to sink in.

"I started thinking about staying safe," said Lacey, 21. "Usually if you go to a health fair or something, it doesn't sink in. Some people don't communicate on a level we can relate to."

Ebony Johnson, 27, was surprised to hear the discussion about HIV and safe sex at First Impressions during her 5-year-old son Jared Hampton's haircut. But she's glad to know that, if he has questions when he gets older, he can get accurate information from his barber.

"A lot of people, especially teenagers, coming in here will listen to them," she said. [sheri.williams@dispatch.com](mailto:sheri.williams@dispatch.com)

## GAMBLING

FROM PAGE A1

"If you're going to support legislation that is supposed to prohibit gambling, you should not have carve-outs," said Andrea Lafferty, executive director of the Traditional Values Coalition.

Other conservative and antigambling groups are supporting the legislation, sponsored by Reps. Bob Goodlatte, R-Va., and Jim Leach, R-Iowa.

John Kindt, a business professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, calls the Internet "the crack cocaine" of gambling.

"There are no needle marks. There's no alcohol on the breath. You just click the mouse and lose your house," he said.

Craig has considered similar bills several times. In 2000, now-disgraced lobbyist Jack Abramoff led a fierce campaign against it on behalf of an online lottery company.

Online lotteries are allowed in the latest bill, largely at the behest of states that use lotteries to augment tax revenue.

Pro sports leagues favor the bill, arguing that Web wagering could hurt their integrity.

The horse-racing industry also supports the bill because of the exemption it would get. Betting operators would not be prohibited from any activity allowed under the Interstate Horseracing Act. That law, written in the 1970s, set up rules for interstate betting on racing. It was updated a few years ago to clarify that betting on horse racing over the Internet is allowed.

Greg Avioli, chief executive officer of the National Thoroughbred Racing Association, said the mention of horse racing in the bill is "a recognition of existing federal law," not a new exclusion.

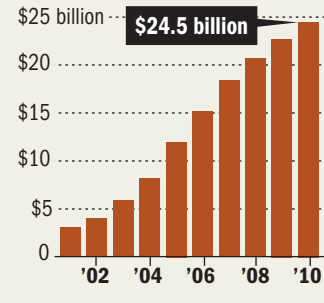
He said the racing industry has a strong future in the digital age and acknowledged the bill would send Internet gamblers to racing sites. "They'd return to the one place they can bet legally," Avioli said.

That bothers some critics. "Somehow we find ourselves in a situation where Congress has gotten in the business of cherry-picking types of gambling," said Rep. Robert Wexler, D-Fla. Wexler failed to win inclusion of exemptions for

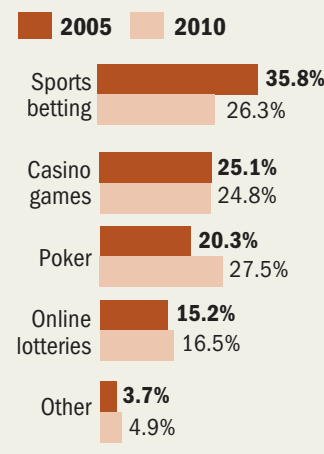
## Online gaming rise

Industry analysts predict that revenue from global gambling on the Internet will approach \$24.5 billion by 2010.

► Estimated global Internet gambling revenue



► Estimated revenue by game



Source: Christiansen CapitalAdvisors, LLC estimates

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dog racing and jai alai, both popular in Florida.

The Justice Department has taken a different view on the legality of Internet betting on horse racing. In a World Trade Organization case involving Antigua, the department said online betting on horse racing remains illegal under the 1961 Wire Act despite the existence of the more recently passed Interstate Horseracing Act.

The department hasn't enforced its view, but observers say the agency and the racing industry could go to court.

Regarding the House bill, Antigua Finance Minister Enrol Cort said yesterday, "I'm very surprised and quite disappointed that the U.S. Congress would be pushing full force ahead."

Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., is leading support for the ban in the Senate. The issue has not been debated in that chamber this year.

## NAME

FROM PAGE A1

become Abdul-Mahdi, a Shiite name that might provide safe passage through dangerous areas.

"I got a fake ID card to protect myself from the Shiite militias who are deploying in Baghdad and hunt Sunnis at fake checkpoints," said Omar Abdul Rahman, a 22-year-old university student.

The growing use of fake IDs reflects the spike in violence between Sunnis and Shiites since the Feb. 22 bombing of a revered Shiite mosque in Samarra — an attack that triggered reprisal killings of Sunnis and pushed the country to the brink of civil war.

Interior Ministry Maj. Gen. Mahdi al-Gharawi said officials are aware fake IDs are common but have more important things to focus on — such as stopping violence.

"They are issuing fake IDs in the Shiite areas and vice versa. It's illegal, but one can understand why they do it."

The problem was thrust into the spotlight Sunday when masked Shiite gunmen ambushed Sunnis in western Baghdad, singling out those with names commonly used by Sunnis to be killed.

Wissam Mohammad al-Ani, a 27-year-old Sunni callig-

rapher, said his false identification card has a Shiite name and it saved his life when he was approached by gunmen.

"When they saw it, they let me go," he said, adding that two young men standing with him at a bus stop in the Jihad neighborhood were seized.

Shiites are the majority in Iraq, but some Shiites also avoid attacks by Sunni-led insurgents.

Just last month, masked gunmen stopped two minivans carrying students northeast of Baghdad off, separated the passengers, ordered the Shiites from Sunni Arabs, and killed the 21 Shiites "in the name of Islam," a witness said.

Making fake IDs is relatively low-tech. Vendors can be found in empty houses and alleys.

The bookstore owner, whose shop is in a predominantly Shiite neighborhood and who declined to give his name for fear of reprisals, said he buys blank IDs from print shops. He then fills in the desired information and adds photos — a process known in the Baghdad street as "the change."

Most of his customers are Shiite drivers and construction workers planning to work in Sunni neighborhoods, with prices ranging from 5,000 Iraqi dinars (\$3.50) for a card that looks like one issued during

Saddam Hussein's regime to 50,000 Iraqi dinars (\$35) for a modern version.

Shiite militiamen, who are widely blamed for much of the sectarian violence, allow him to operate because he agreed to turn in any Sunnis who wander into his store.

He said the ID business spiked after the bombing in Samarra.

"Nobody did the change from Shiite to Sunni before that, when the real sectarian tension began," he said.

Sunni and Shiite names often can easily be distinguished in Iraq by tribe or clan, or because they refer to followers of Muhammad who split over who should lead Islam after the prophet died in the 7th century. Residential areas also can be telling, as they are increasingly segregated, with residents fleeing sectarian attacks.

Sunni names include Abu Bakr, Omar or Othman, who are reviled by Shiite extremists who usurped power from Imam Ali, the prophet's cousin and the Shiites' most revered saint. Typically Shiite names are Abdul Zahra and Mussawi.

Some Iraqis recall having false IDs to avoid persecution during Saddam's rule, but the practice was rare because the former regime kept tight control over its subjects.

## AUDITS

FROM PAGE A1

Hamilton County officials also take issue with how state officials have handled the problem.

Jon Allen, spokesman for the state Department of Job and Family Services, yesterday acknowledged that it was unusual to wait a decade to review a county Job and Family Services agency.

"It was not common for urban counties to go so long. The reason for this is that we considered Hamilton County a lower-risk county," he said. "Auditing is a balance of resources and risks."

Allen said another reason the state agency was not so concerned about Hamilton County was because it was included in Montgomery's annual state audit. Still, he

couldn't say that the types of problems now being investigated—failure to follow state and federal regulations by commingling funds and unauthorized spending — would have showed up in a state audit.

Montgomery spokeswoman Jen Detwiler said such issues likely would not have shown up in a massive statewide audit, and they didn't.

"The review that's done at that level is not nearly as detailed as these program reviews that are done by the (state) department," she said.

The two state agencies responsible for such oversight offered their explanations yesterday after The Dispatch reported Sunday that an upcoming joint special audit would allege about \$1 billion in questionable spending.

As a result, an election-year financial bailout may be nec-

essary by the legislature as federal regulators are likely to seek the return of some money and impose potentially hefty sanctions on the state.

According to sources, the Job and Family Services portion of the audit will conclude about \$200 million in "findings for recovery" and \$800 million in "questionable costs," for which the county will have the opportunity to provide documentation.

Montgomery's office, which is working in tandem, has found an additional \$150 million in misspending, according to preliminary findings.

Hamilton County officials deny that all wrongdoing, insisting that the federal, state and local funds in question were spent properly and with approval from the state.

The audit is expected to be released next month. [ccandisky@dispatch.com](mailto:ccandisky@dispatch.com)

## PAPER CLIP

FROM PAGE A1

Dupuis, expect to move there in early September.

"This is such a cool community project. It feels right," MacDonald said. "And now that I think about it, I can't believe that another small town didn't think of it. It will literally put them on the map."

What's in it for the town? The answer requires a quick recap.

It began when MacDonald, an aspiring writer, doer of odd jobs and apartment dweller, advertised in the barter section of the Craigslist Web site that he wanted something bigger or better for one red paper clip. He first traded it for a fish-

shape pen, then posted on Craigslist again.

Roaming Canada and the United States, he exchanged the pen for a ceramic knob and kept on trading. By April, he had obtained a year's rent in Phoenix.

His adventure became an Internet blockbuster. He went on Canadian and Japanese TV and Good Morning America. He appeared on dozens of radio shows — one of which, in Los Angeles, was heard by a man who became a pivotal figure.

That man is Corbin Bernsen. You may remember him from his roles in the TV show L.A. Law and the film Major League.

Hip to the publicity-generating machine that is Kyle MacDonald, Bernsen contacted him

to say he was writing and directing a movie and would offer a paid speaking role as an item available for trade. MacDonald set out to find something Bernsen would legitimately want.

Seemingly disregarding good economic sense, MacDonald traded the year's rent for an afternoon with rocker Alice Cooper. Then in a move that really confused his blog readers, MacDonald bartered trade with Cooper for a snow globe depicting the band Kiss.

Re-enter Corbin Bernsen. You see, since the days when he'd get free stuff on promotional tours for L.A. Law, Bernsen has amassed a collection of 6,500 snow globes. "Put them all together and they sort of look like pop art," Bernsen said.

So MacDonald gave Bernsen the Kiss model and encouraged his blog readers to send the actor even more globes.

All this delighted the elders in Kipling, a town of 1,140 believed to have been named for author Rudyard Kipling.

Kipling is eager to stave off the perils of dwindling population by attracting new businesses, tourism and, above all, attention. When the local development coordinator, Bert Roach, heard about MacDonald's dream, he suggested that Kipling lure him.

Quickly the town purchased an unoccupied rental house on Main Street and offered it to MacDonald. Roach won't disclose the price because MacDonald says he doesn't want to

know. But Roach says it was well under the going rate in Kipling, which is about \$45,000 in U.S. money.

The town also pledged to put a giant red paper clip at a highway rest stop and hold an American Idol-style competition for the movie role. Participants will have to make a donation to the town's parks department and a charity.

Bernsen says that if the right person emerges in the talent show, he'd be willing to cast him or her as a lead. "Maybe a career is going to get started. Maybe it's going to be huge. Maybe that's the magic of Kyle."

MacDonald doesn't expect to live in Kipling forever. But he says he'll make it home while he settles down to write a book.

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