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**NCAA TOURNAMENT: BRUINS' DEBUT AT BIG DANCE**

## Hoop hopes high at underdog Belmont

**By KATE HOWARD**  
Staff Writer

Whether or not the Belmont Bruins basketball team wins today's game in San Diego, Belmont University students are revved up for a sort of campus holiday to celebrate just how far their team has come.

"There's a real buzz on campus," said Belmont student Mitchell Hastings, 21. "It's the topic of conversation. You can overhear it just about anywhere."

Posters are plastered around university buildings, cheering on the team in

its first trip to college basketball's biggest tournament. NCAA Tournament brackets are scattered around the Carb Event Center so students can easily track their team's potential rise to the championship.

Nashville's small Christian school will play the UCLA Bruins in its first game in San Diego. Belmont students say it's not about whether their

Bruins win — though they would like that. It's just nice to be recognized.

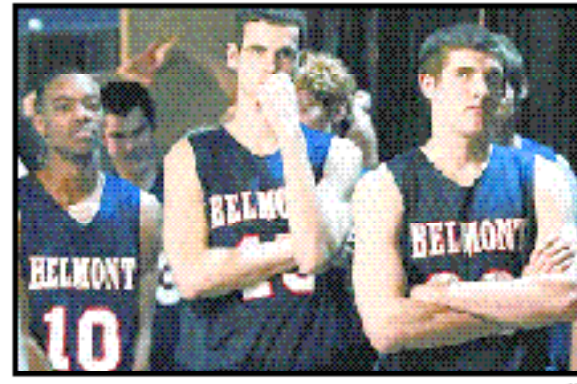
Focusing on what the team's already done is important to Hastings, a Belmont junior.

"There's been kind of a fatalism to it in past years, but now we have to realize how far we've come this year," he said.

"There's just a huge change here, because now we have all kinds of ... TV cameras and media," said Jennifer Lewis, 21. "But they deserve it. I don't



HASTINGS



Belmont players wait in the locker room tunnel for their chance to practice at Cox Arena in San Diego for their first-round game against UCLA today.

**BELMONT WATCH PARTY**

► The public is invited to Belmont's watch party for the Belmont-UCLA game. The event begins at 3:30 p.m. today at the Beaman Student Life Center on campus. Admission is free. Refreshments will be available.

**MORE IN SPORTS**

► UCLA hasn't seen a team that shoots 3-pointers as well as Belmont. **On Page 1C**

► UT means to prove that its No. 2 seeding was no mistake. **On Page 1C**

► Vanderbilt's season ends with a loss to Notre Dame in the first round of the NIT. **On Page 1C**

# Feds hit Clarksville-based worldwide child porn ring

27 people accused of trading photos, video in Internet chat room

**By BONNA de la CRUZ**  
Staff Writer

He called himself "G.O.D." and was the ultimate authority over the online chat room he ran from his Clarksville, Tenn., home — a site where people around the world traded pictures and live videos of child pornography, some involving an infant, authorities said.

And he used a biblically inspired online name, "Devil666," to share more than 1,000 child porn files of his own through the "Kiddiepics & Kiddievids" chat room he operated, according to federal court documents.



WELLER

A worldwide investigation into a child pornography ring led federal agents to the Clarksville apartment of Royal Raymond Weller, who was arrested last week for distributing child pornography.

In addition to Weller, who authorities say served as the "host" and "administrator" of the chat room, 26 others involved in the pornography ring were picked up in nine other states and Canada, Australia and Great Britain, according to U.S. Attorney Alberto Gonzales, who announced the bust yesterday.

Weller is in federal custody and has a hearing in Nashville today, when U.S. District Judge Aketa Trauger could consider whether to release him on bail. A magistrate had ordered his release on a \$10,000

**FOLLOWING THE TRAIL**

Federal authorities say Clarksville resident Royal Raymond Weller was the host of an international online chat room that spread child pornography throughout the U.S. and other countries.

**1 In Tennessee**

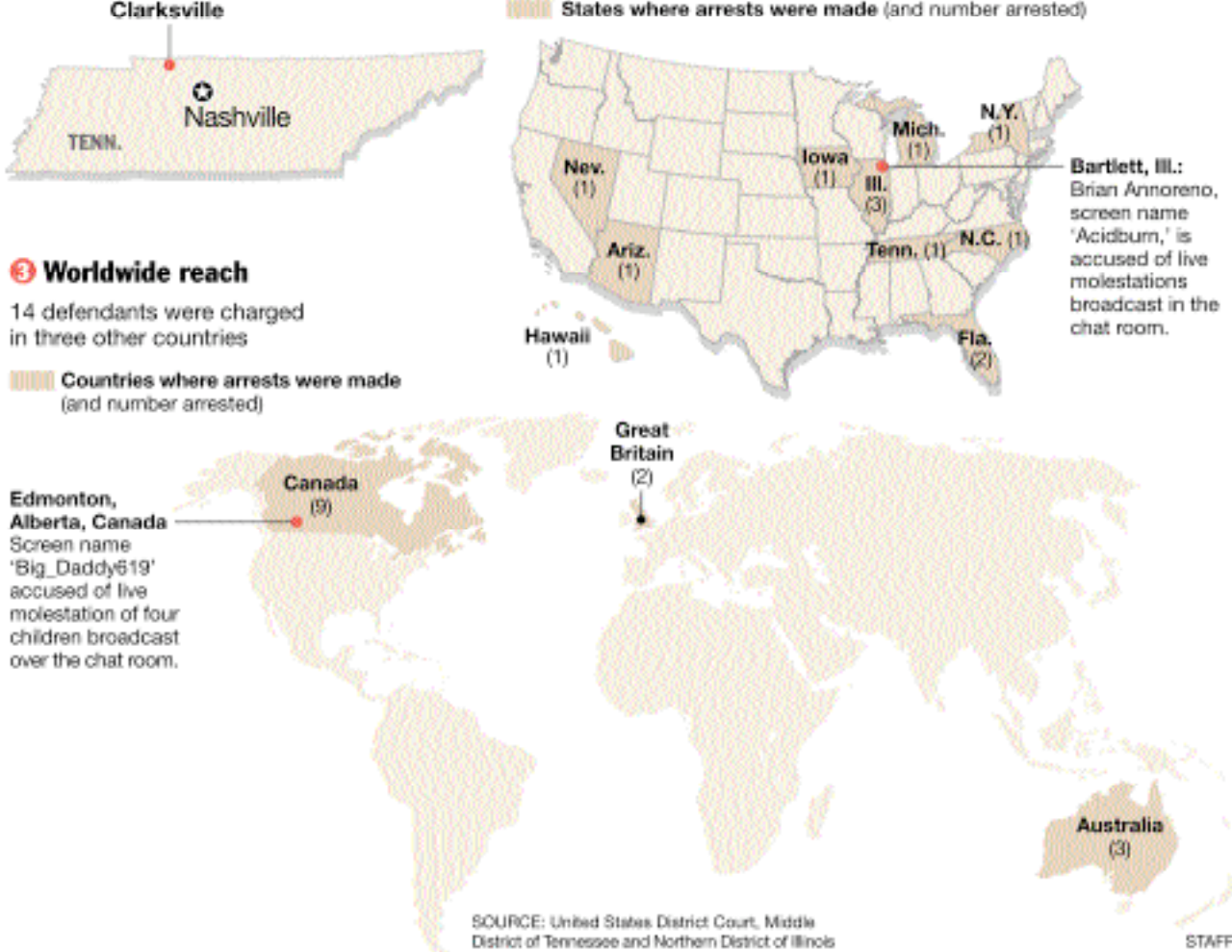
Weller, screen name 'G.O.D.', served as host of 'Kiddiepics & Kiddievids' Internet chat room.

**2 Across the United States**

Thirteen people in 10 states participated in the chatroom and shared files, including live molestations of children.

**3 Worldwide reach**

14 defendants were charged in three other countries



► Please see WELLER, 2A

## Hot Chesney to play rare Coliseum gig

Superstar is first touring act to hit stadium in six years

**By PETER COOPER**  
Staff Writer

For the first time in six years, a music performer is slated to headline a concert at the Coliseum.

Country superstar Kenny Chesney, who sold more concert tickets last year than any act in popular music except U2, will announce today that he will perform at the Coliseum on Saturday, July 8.

The last Coliseum show was pop act 'N Sync's May 14, 2000, concert.

Back then, the Coliseum was branded as "Adelphia." The Titans were coming off a Super Bowl appearance and boy bands were still popular enough for 'N Sync to play stadiums.

Chesney actually played the Coliseum in April 2000, performing for 50,983 people in front of higher-billed artists Martina McBride, Tim McGraw and George Strait.

Chesney has become country's biggest touring act, selling 4.3 million tickets over the past four years, second only to the Dave Matthews Band.

In his career as a headliner, Chesney has earned a gross total of \$183.7 million. According to *Billboard* magazine Senior Touring Editor Ray Waddell, Chesney's total tops Tim McGraw



INSIDE

► Aside from football, the coliseum hasn't seen much action. **On Page 3A**

► Dancin' in District dies. **On Page 1E**

► Please see CHESNEY, 3A

## As drug plan reprieve ends, some seniors will be without meds

**By RICHARD WOLF and RICHARD BENEDETTO**  
USA Today

**WASHINGTON** — Seniors and disabled Americans enrolled in Medicare's new prescription-drug program face more coverage disruptions in two weeks, state officials, doctors and pharmacists warn.

A special 90-day transition period, set by Medicare to prevent beneficiaries from losing any drug coverage, will end April 1.

Private insurance plans can then stop covering drugs they don't usually pay for. Most of the 36 states that stepped in on an emergency basis to help low-income beneficiaries also will stop paying.

State insurance counselors and health care advocates say the result could be a repeat of problems first encountered in January, when the program began. Thousands of beneficiaries were turned away from pharmacies when their records weren't found or their drugs weren't covered.

"Some of these people are going to be in really

► Please see MEDICARE, 3A

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## Regular military combat units replace Guard, Reserve troops

**By ROBERT BURNS**  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — The ranks of National Guard and Reserve troops on active duty for Iraq and the global fight against terror has fallen to just under 118,000, the lowest level since before the U.S. invasion of Iraq three years ago.

The reduction is a welcome trend for America's citizen-soldiers, who have been called to combat duty in numbers not seen in decades and who were further strained by last year's hurricane

relief efforts on the Gulf Coast.

The driving reason for the drop, Pentagon officials say, is that more active-duty combat units such as the Army's 4th Infantry Division are returning to Iraq after extensive reorganizations. Guard and Reserve units, the bulk of which are in Iraq and Afghanistan, were filling more combat positions while the active-duty force was being reconfigured.

The Pentagon says the decline in Guard and Reserve call-ups also reflects that some troops

whose specialties make them among the most frequently deployed have served their required time.

Lt. Col. Ellen Krenke said some "high demand" units such as military police, military intelligence and Special Operations forces had completed their 24 months of mobilization time. This means they are no longer available unless they volunteer.

The Army also is shifting more military police positions from the Guard and Reserve to the active-duty force. ■

**RESERVE LEVELS LOW**

The number of active duty National Guard and Reserve troops has dropped to its lowest level since March 2003.



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