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A THUNDERSTORM OR TWO - HIGH 86, LOW 73

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Military



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FIREPOWER: A U.S. military Apache helicopter releases an anti-missile decoy flare. Pakistan is seeking \$2.5 billion in U.S. helicopters and other arms for battling insurgents.

Pakistan wants combat copters

By ELI LAKE

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Pakistan is seeking advanced U.S. attack helicopters and other weapons as part of a comprehensive arms package to bolster preparations for what its military is calling a "silent surge" of more than 100,000 troops into the mountain lairs of al Qaeda's senior leadership in the country's Northwest Frontier Province.

"I have been ambassador here for two years, and all I have to show for it is eight sec-

U.S. asked to supply arms for 'silent surge' against terrorists

ondhand Mi-17 transport helicopters for a war that requires helicopters to root out al Qaeda and the Taliban," Pakistan's ambassador to Washington, Husain Haqqani, said in an interview with The Washington Times.

The ambassador said, "Military operations would have been quicker and much easier to plan and execute if we had

the equipment. We have had tremendous attrition and a lot of loss of lives because of not having the right equipment."

The \$2.5 billion in arms that Pakistan has requested includes new helicopter gunships, including AH-1W and the Apache-64-D; armed helicopters, such as the AH-6 and MD-530 Little Bird; and utility and cargo helicopters, such as

the UH-60 Black Hawk, the CH-47 D Chinook and the UH-1Y Huey.

Pentagon Press Secretary Geoff Morrell said the U.S. government is aware of its ally's military wish list.

"The Pakistani military's interest in additional lift is well-known, and we have tried to help meet their needs by providing several Mi-17s. We will continue to try to help them acquire the helicopters and other equipment they require to de-

» see **COPTERS**, page A10

Gulf oil spill



Obama says BP will pay for worst coastal crisis

Pushes for changes in energy dependence

By KARA ROWLAND AND STEPHEN DINAN

Judge hears case on protection of wolves

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) | A federal judge heard arguments Tuesday on whether gray wolves in Montana and Idaho should be protected once more under the Endangered Species Act and whether those states can ensure the species won't be wiped out under their management.

Defenders of Wildlife, the Greater Yellowstone Coalition and other wildlife advocates sued the federal government after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service named wolves in the Northern Rockies a distinct population segment and removed them from the endangered species list in April 2009.

The Fish and Wildlife Service turned over wolf management to Montana and Idaho wildlife officials but left federal endangered species protections in place for wolves in Wyoming, where state law is considered hostile to the animals' survival.

Gray wolves were listed as endangered in 1974, but after a reintroduction program in the mid-1990s, there are now more than 1,700 in the Northern Rockies.

The population is one of the most well-studied and best-understood in the world, and the conclusion 15 years after reintroduction is that wolves will continue to survive under state management, Justice Department attorney Mike Eitel told U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy.

The only threat now is Wyoming's



A pack of gray wolves is shown on Isle Royale National Park in northern Michigan. Wolves in parts of the Northern Rockies and the Great Lakes region are coming off the endangered species list.

state laws, which do not offer protections against people killing wolves throughout most of the state, Mr. Eitel said.

Plaintiffs attorney Douglas Honnold told Judge Molloy the government should not be able to split the level of protection between the states — the entire northern Rockies population segment must be listed as endangered if a portion is considered endangered.

The plaintiffs also are challenging

how the Fish and Wildlife Service determined its minimum recovery population — at least 100 wolves and 10 breeding pairs in each of the three states — and the biology behind how the wolf population should be distributed among those states.

"We hope the Fish and Wildlife Service will go back to the drawing board and come up with something that will work," Mr. Honnold said.

Both sides say Judge Molloy's decision could shape whether the gov-

ernment can use political considerations, such as state laws and boundaries, in choosing how and where a species can be listed under the federal wildlife protection law.

Congress meant for the government to have flexibility in protecting species under the Endangered Species Act, and both the Bush administration and the Obama administration have approved the wolf decision by the Fish and Wildlife Service, Mr. Eitel said.

Consider an iPad for Dad, along with accessories

The rest of the world (and a good portion of the U.S.) may be preoccupied with the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa, but for many in this country, another date looms large on the horizon: Father's Day, which is Sunday.

What tech items can you get Dad or, for that matter, a recent college grad? Here are some suggestions:

My No. 1 choice is Apple's iPad. And why not? More than 2 million have been sold in the first two months, and with good reason: This is a content-carrying device writ large, but not so large that it can't be carried easily.

The range of applications for the iPad — both in terms

of what it can be used for and in terms of the programs that can be run on it — is immense. It's not only a great way to carry music and view videos, but it's also a wonderful electronic reader, both using Amazon.com's Kindle application (which, as I've said before, provides a better experience on the iPad than the stand-alone Kindle does), and using GoodReader to handle Adobe Acrobat PDF documents, Microsoft Word files and so on.

Pair the iPad (\$499 to \$829 depending on configuration) with the optional \$70 keyboard dock and you've got something that's pretty close to a notebook replacement. It's not the full equiva-

On computers

By Mark A. Kellner

lent of a regular computer, and some users will be disappointed if they envision it as such. But for a lot of word processing, spreadsheet, presentation and photo work, as well as reading and entertainment on the go, the iPad is perhaps the greatest product of 2010, and quite possibly of 2011 and 2012.

Along with the iPad, get some accessories. One of my favorites is a self-adhesive (but also easy-to-remove) cover called a GelaSkin (available online from

www.gelaskins.com). It'll cost you \$30, but the stick-on product will protect the cover of your iPad (but not the screen itself) and offer a bit of flair. My personal choice was the camp British poster "Keep Calm and Carry On." You can select from a raft of designs or upload a picture and create your own — so long as the picture doesn't violate copyright or the firm's image upload policies.

GelaSkins offers a very nice alternative not only for iPads, but also for notebook computers, iPhones, BlackBerry devices and tons more. I just wish the firm had "skins" for the Apple iMac: I'd love to put something kicky on the back of my desktop computer.

Another highly useful item is the Kiwi U-Powered solar/plug-in charger. You can charge the unit's battery in sunlight, or plug it into a wall outlet or auto power socket. Then, connect the device to an iPhone, BlackBerry or other item — I didn't test it on an iPad — and you can get enough energy to make life bearable again. The charger costs \$49.99, and information is available at www.kiwi-choice.com.

If Dad (or the grad) is a digital photography buff — and who isn't these days? — the Eye-Fi Explore X2 8 GB memory card is a must, especially at the \$99 list price. The card lets you store hundreds or even thousands of photos and will

upload them via Wi-Fi to a predesignated sharing site such as Flickr or Picasa, giving you what is really unlimited storage.

Oh, and did I mention the geotagging, albeit available only when the card can "see" available Wi-Fi networks? What that means is you're likely to geotag photos taken at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum, less likely to tag shots snapped atop Skyline Drive. But if even 50 percent of your photos are automatically geotagged using this card, it's a valuable plus. Info: www.eyefi.com.

So there you go: three accessories and one tech superstar. Happy giving!

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mayor in 2002, but dropped out before the primary.

Gays also are trying to bolster their ranks on the D.C. Council, where two openly gay members, David A. Catania and Jim Graham, have been serving for more than a decade. Two gay Republicans are running for ward seats, Tim Day of Ward 5 and Marc Morgan of Ward 1.

Although gays are happy that the District finally passed medical-marijuana and same-sex marriage laws and has implemented several human rights and domestic policies that protect LGBT members, GLAA says its supporters shouldn't rest on those laurels.

GLAA issues questionnaires to candidates in each major election cycle and grades respondents according to their answers on gay issues. For instance, in the crowded 2006 Democratic mayor's field, Adrian M. Fenty won the gay community's support because he supported same-sex marriage.

Legalization of prostitution is another GLAA policy.

GLAA lays out its argument, "Prostitution: Legalize It, Regulate It, Zone It, Tax It," in Section 6 of the agenda, which discusses adult entertainment.

"Sex workers," including transgender and gay teens, shouldn't be criminally punished because sometimes they have no other option than to prostitute themselves, GLAA says.

"As advocates of the legalization of prostitution, we think it needs neither sanitizing nor glorifying," the draft agenda says. "It is not a profession filled exclusively with people who freely chose it from a host of other options. No doubt there are some in that category, like the college student turning tricks for extra cash. But too many turn to it by necessity."

The 2010 questionnaire will be sent to candidates after the final agenda is approved on or about June 22.