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SKETCHBOOK ON NEWS 2

## Woman found guilty of couple's murder

Jennifer Deleon's husband and others still face trial in the slayings of Thomas and Jackie Hawks.

By CINDY CARCAMO  
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

**SANTA ANA** • A Long Beach woman accused of using her pregnancy and baby to win the trust of a retired couple and steal their 55-foot yacht faces life without the possibility of parole after a jury convicted her Friday of first-degree murder.

A jury of seven women and five men took 4½ hours to convict Jennifer Deleon, 25, of murdering Newport Beach residents Thomas Hawks, 57, and his wife, Jackie, 47.

Deleon, 24, was also found guilty of murdering the couple for financial gain. She is scheduled to be sentenced Feb. 23.

Thomas Hawks' son, Ryan Hawks, sighed with relief as the clerk read the verdict but also thought of what he called the "battle ahead."

"Though we won, we really did lose," he said. "We lost two of the greatest people we love."

Jennifer Deleon's defense attorney, Mike Molfetta, said Jennifer Deleon was an unwitting pawn manipulated by her husband in the November 2004 slayings of the couple.

Deleon had never even had a "parking ticket," Molfetta said. Her family declined to comment.

Deleon, a mother of two, was tried separately from her husband, Skylar Deleon, 27, and three other men. Prosecutor Matt Murphy said the husband, awaiting trial on suspicion of killing the couple, was the mastermind behind the killings but that his wife was a major player.

SEE YACHT • PAGE 5

"It's very festive, and for the kids, it's a nice way to start the holidays. The show is always nice, and the tree is always big and beautiful."

MICHELLE LYNCH, 32, NEWPORT BEACH



PHOTOS: KEVIN SULLIVAN, THE REGISTER

**ALL LIT UP:** Brenndan Warady, 3, of Irvine gets up close and personal with the tree moments after it was lighted Friday at Fashion Island.

## Turning on the glitter

By NIYAZ PIRANI  
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER



**SNOWFALL, ORANGE COUNTY-STYLE:** Santa Claus greets fans as fake snow falls during a parade in honor of his arrival Friday at South Coast Plaza. "This year the snow just kept coming and coming," said Bob Torres, 65, playing Santa for the 21st year.

"I'm excited to see Santa. He has a kind heart, and it's just a miracle how he can get to every house."

MATTHEW SERRANO, 8, DOVE CANYON

### THE MORNING READ

## Civil War vet gets civil resting place

William Crandall was the last one to die in Orange County.

By LORI BASHEDA  
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

By age 13, William Burton Crandall had run away from home to join the Union Army, taken a musket ball in his head and shaken the hand of President Lincoln.

The man deserves a dang headstone on his grave.

Crandall was the last Civil War veteran to die in Orange County. He passed on in 1945 at the age of 95 in a rest home in Orange.

At the time, he had no money and no family. The country was too busy burying World War II



William Burton Crandall shortly before he died in 1945

COURTESY FULLERTON LIBRARY

## Tests are in: schoolkids out of shape

Two of every three Orange County schoolchildren in grades five, seven and nine are unfit, according to results released Friday from the 2006 California Physical Fitness Test.

That's still better than results statewide, where nearly three of every four failed in aerobic capacity, flexibility, upper-body strength and other abilities tested.

Health experts and educators warn that too many kids are at risk of illness. "We still have a long way to go to eradicate the silent epidemic that is childhood obesity that has plagued our public schools," said Jack O'Connell, state superintendent of public instruction.

For breaking news, go to [www.ocregister.com](http://www.ocregister.com)

### THIS SECTION

## SILICONE BREAST IMPLANTS RETURN

AFTER A 14-YEAR VIRTUAL BAN AND DESPITE LINGERING HEALTH CONCERNS, SILICONE-GEL BREAST IMPLANTS ARE ONCE AGAIN AVAILABLE TO WOMEN.

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### LOCAL

## CORREA ADDS TO VOTE LEAD

Democrat Lou Correa built a 783-vote lead over Republican Lynn Daucher in their state Senate race.

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BO SCHEMBECHLER | 1929-2006

## WHAT A TIME TO GO

The legendary football coach with half-century roots in the Michigan vs. Ohio State rivalry died on the eve of perhaps the biggest matchup in the series' history.

SPORTS 1



### NATION & WORLD

## KIDNAPPED GUARDS SOUGHT

U.S. and Iraqi forces hunted for kidnapped Western security guards after police freed two Americans among a group seized two days earlier.

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## A CONSUMER VICTORY

Jeanne Brewer believed she had been ripped off by a car repair shop. She fought back and got results.

MARKETPLACE 1

### SHOW SATURDAY

## NOT QUITE A LEGEND YET

R&B phenom John Legend, who plays Anaheim on Tuesday, is a major talent whose act needs work.

SHOW SATURDAY 1

### COMING TOMORROW

## EVIL UNVEILED

After years of pressure, millions of documents that reveal the Holocaust from inside slave-labor and death camps are being unsealed.

NEWS 1



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### WEATHER

Today ☀️ 68° 83°  
Tonight 🌙 61° 57°  
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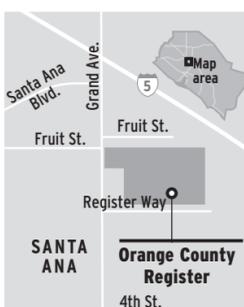
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**MAIN NUMBER**  
**1-877-4 MY REGISTER toll-free**  
1-877-469-7344  
**Main office:**  
625 N. Grand Ave., Santa Ana  
**Mailing address:** P.O. Box 11626,  
Santa Ana, CA 92711-1626  
**E-mail:** [customerservice@ocregister.com](mailto:customerservice@ocregister.com)

**NEWS**

**Editor Ken Brusic:** 714-796-2226  
**e-mail:** [local@ocregister.com](mailto:local@ocregister.com)  
**Main number:** 714-796-7951  
**Front Page:** 714-796-2200  
**Local:** 714-796-6869  
**Business:** 714-796-6826  
**Features:** 714-796-2330  
**Sports:** 714-796-7804

**OPINION**

**Editorial Director Cathy Taylor:**  
714-796-7980  
**Letters to the editor:**  
**E-mail:** [letters@ocregister.com](mailto:letters@ocregister.com)  
**Call:** 714-796-3631  
**Fax:** 714-796-3657  
**Mail:** P.O. Box 11626,  
Santa Ana, CA 92711-1626

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**TODAY'S CORRECTIONS APPEAR ON:**  
Marketplace 1

# In Hanoi, Bush cites obligation to Iraq

The president also focuses on the deepening ties between Vietnam and the U.S.

By **DAVID E. SANGER** and  
**HELENE COOPER**  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

**HANOI, VIETNAM** • President Bush, visiting a country that forced the United States into a humiliating withdrawal three decades ago, declared Friday that Vietnam's transition to a modern, growing economy gave him hope about what could be rebuilt from the ruins of Iraq. But he added that the lesson he drew from the bitter American experience here was that "we'll succeed unless we quit."

"We tend to want there to be instant success in the world," Bush said after lunch here with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia, "and the task in Iraq is going to take a while." Avoiding mention of how the Vietnam War ended, Bush instead focused on the deepening economic and diplomatic ties between the two countries.

"History has a long march to it," Bush said in response to a question about how he felt about arriving here as the second American president to visit since the war's end. "Societies change and relationships can constantly be altered to the good."

Bush arrived in Vietnam on Friday for the annual Asia Pacific Economic

## Ho Chi Minh looms large over Bush visit

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HANOI, VIETNAM** • Ho Chi Minh, dead for 37 years, still shadowed President Bush practically all day.

Each of Bush's meetings Friday with Vietnam's president, prime minister and Communist Party chief took place beneath huge bronze busts of the revolutionary leader who later became prime minister and then president of North Vietnam.

The setting produced some striking imagery and an interesting juxtaposition for Bush, who has made it a goal to spread democracy throughout the world.

Cooperation forum, a weekend gathering of nations from both sides of the Pacific Ocean. White House officials knew that his attendance would prompt comparisons between Iraq and Vietnam, and Bush seemed determined not to get drawn into that discussion. Instead he talked about modern Vietnam as a place that is putting its economic future in order, an example of "how people can reconcile and move beyond past differences."

Still, the day was filled with jarring imagery. When Bush spoke of driving by the lake into which Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., parachuted nearly

At the presidential palace, Bush, his Vietnamese counterpart, Nguyen Minh Triet, and their wives sat in ornate white chairs in front of a large floral arrangement and beneath a large bust of the bearded Ho, who died in 1969.

The bust was mounted in front of a facsimile of the Vietnamese flag, a gold star on a field of red, and was flanked on either side by the flags of both countries.

**NEXT WEEK**

President Bush visits Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon, in the southern part of the country.

40 years ago, he focused less on McCain's imprisonment than on the circumstances of his capture.

"He was, literally, saved, in one way, by the people pulling him out," Bush said.

McCain ejected from his plane and parachuted into the lake; he was sinking and fished out by the Vietnamese. However, Bush did not mention that the senator's rescuers subsequently stabbed him in the foot with a bayonet and smashed his shoulder with a rifle butt.

Maintaining a positive tone also required the president to say little, at least in public, about one-party Com-

munist Party rule here or the treatment of dissidents. Nor did he try to argue that promoting economic ties with Vietnam would gradually loosen the party's grip. That was the argument that President Clinton made for engagement with Vietnam when he visited.

But it was the Iraq comparisons that were the most difficult, because they required Bush to argue that Vietnam turned out well despite America's withdrawal, but that the situation in Iraq was so much more complicated that retreat was not an option.

"The Maliki government is going to make it unless the coalition leaves before they have a chance to make it," he said of Iraq's prime minister, Nouri al-Maliki. Turning to Howard, who sent Australian troops early into the Iraq conflict, he said, "And that's why I assured the prime minister we'll get the job done."

In their first trip out of the country since Republicans lost the House and the Senate, Bush and his top aides have found themselves on the defensive, parrying questions about whether Bush is still in charge back home. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, in an interview on CNBC in Hanoi on Friday, called the election results "not at all unusual."

"I would hope that people would realize the United States, of course, is a great democracy and it goes through these changes in government actually fairly frequently," Rice said. "Ronald Reagan lost the Senate in his sixth year. It's not at all unusual for presidents to lose seats in Congress in their sixth year. But they are then still president of the United States."

## CRANDALL: He'll be relieved of his post at rites Sunday

FROM PAGE 1

soldiers to think about veterans of a war that happened 80 years earlier. So Crandall was lowered into a pauper's plot at Anaheim Cemetery and forgotten.

For the next 61 years, his grave lay unmarked, bare but for the grass that grew over it. Not anymore.

Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War launched the Last Soldier Project in 2003, asking members to fan out and find the last Civil War soldier who died in every county in the country and make sure their graves are respectable.

Charles Beal relished the challenge. A "misplaced New Englander," Beal lives in Yorba Linda with his wife and son.

He and a handful of other Civil War descendants have taken it upon themselves to hunt down, photograph and map every Civil War grave in Orange County. They began sleuthing in the late 1990s, tromping through cemeteries on weekends.

"We spent days and days out there," said Paul Gillette, senior vice commander of the local camp of the Sons. "It was just a blast."

So far, 785 Civil War graves have been located. Many of the men buried in them helped shape Orange County.

The first Superior Court judge was a Union veteran who lost an eye in the battle of Pea Ridge, Ark. The first district attorney survived "the Hornet's Nest" at Shiloh. The first mayor of Seal Beach was a Union sharpshooter. And a Confederate soldier wrote Orange County's bill of secession from Los Angeles.

The last Confederate veteran to die here was Willie Ad-dams, who "carried six slugs in his body," his obit reads. He died at age 104 in 1941.

Four years later, Crandall succumbed to old age.

"The light went out with him," said Glen Roosevelt, commander of the local camp of the Sons. "That flame of the men who stepped forward to defend the Union."

In his search to locate Crandall's grave, Beal turned to old newspaper articles. They led him to Anaheim Cemetery. Turns out Civil War vet Erwin Barr donated a small plot in 1895 to bury destitute soldiers of the Grand Army of the Republic. Crandall has four other soldiers for company. Of the five, only three had tombstones, and one of those was broken.

Roosevelt petitioned the federal government to have a headstone made for Crandall.



PHOTOS: LEONARD ORTIZ, THE REGISTER

**PROPER ENDING:** Officers of Union Veterans of the Civil War gather at Anaheim Cemetery around the new headstone for William B. Crandall. From left in front are Paul Gillette, Glen Roosevelt and Charles Beal. Cemetery manager Bill Stelter is in the background.

He ordered another stone for Pardy Moon, a private in the Indiana infantry who was gored to death by his bull in 1896.

A third stone was ordered for Edward Sweeney, a private from a Pennsylvania regiment whose body was found half eaten by wild animals in 1909. Sweeney had been hobbling back to the Old Soldiers Home in West Los Angeles after mining for silver and gold in Gypsum Canyon when he met with either an accident or a killer.

On Sunday, up to 150 Civil War descendants and enthusiasts are expected to gather at the graves. They picked Nov. 19 because it is the anniversary of the dedication of the National Cemetery at which Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg Address (known in the Civil War community as "Remembrance Day").

Crandall will be the center of attention. In newspaper articles dating back to the 1930s, Crandall always tells the same story. And this is how it goes:

He was 12 years old in 1863 when he was traveling down the Hudson River on a riverboat captained by his father. A man named Alonzo Marsh told the boy he had just been drafted into the Union Army and

would Crandall like to take his place for the sum of \$300? Crandall sneaked off the boat at the next stop and enlisted.

Crandall told the Army he was 18 and he was assigned to the 52nd New York infantry.

On May 4, 1864, Gen. Grant led 118,000 Union soldiers

in the head and carried from the field, never to return.

Shortly after, the story goes, President Lincoln, visiting a soldier's hospital, came upon Crandall and asked his age.

When Crandall admitted he was 13, Lincoln purportedly exclaimed: "My God, I didn't

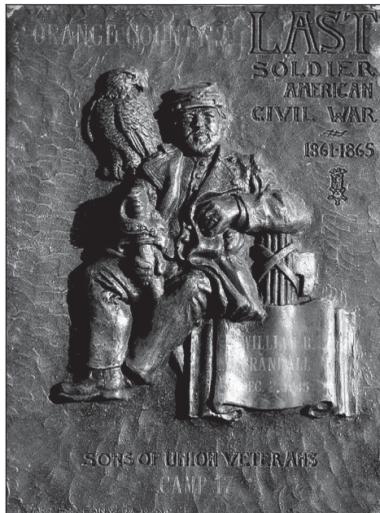
know we were taking them out of the cradle!"

Lincoln then personally discharged him from the Army. Crandall's story certainly was a fine one, from start to finish. But was it true? "We were a little skeptical," Roosevelt said.

So on his next business trip to Washington, D.C., Roosevelt visited the National Archives Reading Room. There, he struck gold, finding Crandall's 140-year-old service records, including special order No. 201, discharging the lad because of his age.

"When you see the order signed by Abraham Lincoln, you just sit back for a second and say, 'Damn. It really happened.'"

Along with the service records was a copy of a New York newspaper dated 1845 that printed a letter Crandall had sent to his folks, telling them he had been shot in the head and describing the chaos of the battle.



**REMEMBERED:** A plaque identifies Union Private William B. Crandall as the last Civil War veteran to die in the county.

right into the teeth of Robert E. Lee's army at Fredericksburg, Va. Crandall took shrapnel in his hand, but he soldiered on.

Two weeks later, one of the bloodiest battles of the war unfolded at the Spotsylvania Courthouse. Crandall was shot

"The rebel dead and wounded lay so thick that we could not help stepping on them," he wrote. "When I was hit I fell senseless ... I was carried from the field."

Roosevelt e-mailed home: "Found it. It's all true."

After the war, Crandall earned a living as a painter back East. He moved to Pasadena in 1919 to be with his son after his wife died. Later, Crandall moved in with the Woodward family of Yorba Linda (there appears to be a Methodist Church connection). The Woodwards sometimes threw Crandall birthday parties, inviting the community and the press. Crandall ("known by all as Uncle Burt," one old article reads) would regale the guests with Civil War stories.

His final address was a rest home in Orange. There he died, penniless.

Gillette has a speech prepared for Sunday's ceremony. "As the veterans here gathered are aware," he will tell the crowd, "a soldier cannot leave his post without being properly relieved. Crandall, you are now relieved; I have the post. Rest in peace."

The grave dedication begins at 1 p.m. Sunday at Anaheim Cemetery, 1400 E. Sycamore St.

**CONTACT THE WRITER:**  
714-796-6027  
[orlbasheda@ocregister.com](mailto:orlbasheda@ocregister.com)