

# DAILY BRIEFING

A QUICK GUIDE TO TODAY'S SUN-TIMES

## METRO



Jay-Z and R. Kelly perform last year in Washington, D.C. —GETTY IMAGES

## Jay-Z fires back at R. Kelly

Kelly showed up late to just about every gig, blew off every chance to rehearse, threw tantrums at every venue and stormed off the stage over and over again in tears, Jay-Z said in the countersuit he has filed against Kelly's \$75 million claim against him. **PAGE 12**

## COLUMNISTS

MICHAEL SNEED

### BILL DALEY GETS DIVORCED

Former U.S. Commerce Secretary Bill Daley and his wife, Loretta, were quietly divorced Friday at the Daley Center after years of separation. **Page 4**



BILL ZWECKER

### Jacko's defense

Celebrity backers may paint accuser's family as opportunists. **Page 52**

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Andrew Greeley is fed up with pro football. **Page 47**

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Babying your skin. **Lifestyles, Page 56**

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## DEBRA PICKETT



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## I do have other interests, but while I've got your ear . . .

At a certain point, a person crosses a line between having a passionate interest in life and being a screaming, crashing bore.

There's the militant vegetarian who can't resist telling you about the tragic life of veal. And the bride who seems genuinely to believe that you care about her flower arrangements.

Or the sports fan who moves — very slowly — through the five stages of grief after every home team loss. Not to mention the new mother who thinks it's necessary to describe to you in great detail how her baby eats

and sleeps and poops.

But, among all the bores of the world, political bores are the worst. Particularly dangerous at parties, the political bore is a special variety of bore, one utterly unaware of the possibility that right-minded people *can* sometimes disagree.

### It's not nuke-u-ler

I've always tried to stay on the right side of the committed/obsessed divide.

I've attended Bible churches (OK, one Bible church, but it was in Texas, so it should count at least twice), and business lunches full of Republicans, and any number of events where the temptation to drop the phrase "civil liberties guaranteed in the Constitution" into conversation was almost overwhelming. But I've generally been polite, even deferential, smiling and saying nothing more than, "Oh, I'm not so sure about that..." or "Hmm, I hadn't thought of it that way..."

I considered myself a model of political decorum.

Then, on Wednesday night, I noticed the way The Boyfriend scrambled to the other side of the couch as soon as the State of the Union address began. He couldn't get away fast enough, particularly when I started yelling at President Bush's televised image, "Nuc-LE-ar! It's nuc-LE-ar!"

But that was nothing compared with the rant I let out once the speech was finished.

"I guess we're just done with Africa," I muttered. "Like the one mention in 2003 must have just fixed everything. No genocide in Sudan, no AIDS pandemic, no civil wars, no orphan crisis."

I'll spare you the rest, but you can pretty much imagine how it went. Basically, I've become Sally Struthers, without the lovable sitcom character part.

And if I don't find a way to deal with the enormous passion, anger, energy and sadness I feel about the children and families I've met in Africa — those who have had their lives forever changed by the AIDS pandemic — I will soon find myself with no one left to rant to.

I don't want to be a bore. And I especially don't want to be that guy on State Street with the microphone, telling people about hell.

### But is it art?

Because I would like to hold on to my friends, and possibly even keep getting invited to parties, I

seriously thought about changing my Thursday morning plans.

A note from a friend had recommended the photo exhibition now on display at the Chicago Cultural Center, and I was eager to see it. But I was also wary.

I knew that if I went to see "Pandemic: Imaging AIDS" on Thursday morning, I'd go right back into street preaching mode. Still, I couldn't stay away.

It's kind of like when you add a new word to your vocabulary and all of a sudden you start hearing it everywhere. The fate of African children orphaned by AIDS has grabbed hold of my imagination, and now, it seems, the children's faces are all around me.

They are hanging in glossy, almost-too-beautiful prints on the walls of the fourth-floor exhibit hall at the Cultural Center. They are peeking out from the few snapshots I took while I traveled in East Africa. They have started to show up in my dreams.

### Oh, right, objectivity

The exhibit at the Cultural Center is part of a larger awareness project that includes a book, an HBO documentary and a series of public forums. There are artistic works, by people like Robert Mapplethorpe and Annie Leibovitz, as well as documentary photos, taken mostly by journalists.

Those news photos capture images of the pandemic from the places where it is burning through lives right now: not just Africa, but also Southeast Asia and Eastern Europe. They are stark and compelling, and as I looked at them, I didn't see them as either journalism or art.

Instead, I connected them to the real people I've met whose life stories matched the ones described in their tersely worded captions.

I looked at the photo of a 13-year-old Zimbabwean girl holding her dying mother. The caption said that her father was already dead. And the first thought that entered my mind was how lucky she was to have had at least one parent with her for so much of her life.

That's not a normal thing to think, I know.

And I don't mean to ruin your day by mentioning it.

So maybe if I tell you that on the way back to the office from the Cultural Center, I stopped off at Starbucks and walked through the cosmetics section of Marshall Fields, you'll know I haven't completely lost myself.

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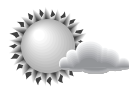
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**BASIC HOME DELIVERY RATES:**  
Daily and Sunday, \$4.14; Monday through Friday, \$2.20; Monday through Saturday, \$2.64; Friday through Sunday, \$2.38; Sunday Only \$1.50

## WEATHER



**Today:** Mostly sunny and mild with light winds. Mainly clear tonight. Highs in the upper 40s, lows in the lower 30s.

**Saturday:** Sunny to partly cloudy. Highs around 50, lows in the upper 30s. **Sunday:** Mostly cloudy with a chance for rain. Highs in the upper 40s, lows in the lower 30s. **Monday:** Cloudy with a chance for rain. Highs in the lower 40s, lows in the lower 30s. **Tuesday:** Cloudy with a chance for snow or rain. Highs around 40, lows in the upper 20s. **Wednesday:** Sunny and colder. Highs in the upper 30s, lows in the lower 20s. **Thursday:** Mostly cloudy. Highs in the lower 30s, lows in the lower 20s. ♦ **Details on Page 58**

## LOTTERIES

For tickets dated  
Thursday, February 3, 2005

### Illinois

Midday Pick 3—**641**  
Midday Pick 4—**3681**  
Evening Pick 3—**935**  
Evening Pick 4—**3813**  
Little Lotto—**02 18 22 25 39**  
Lotto Grand prize: \$15 million  
Mega Millions  
Grand prize: \$32 million

### Indiana

Midday Daily 3—**730**  
Midday Daily 4—**7765**  
Daily 3—**314** Daily 4—**6895**  
Midday Lucky 5—**02 21 22 30 34**  
Evening Lucky 5—**06 16 19 30 34**

Lotto grand prize: \$5.5 million

### Michigan

Midday Daily 3—**657**  
Midday Daily 4—**8525**  
Evening Daily 3—**738**  
Evening Daily 3 Double Draw—**279**  
Evening Daily 4—**1128**  
Fantasy 5—**14 17 20 21 24**  
WinFall jackpot: \$2.1 million

### Wisconsin

Pick 3—**936** Pick 4—**9942**  
Badger 5—**02 19 21 24 30**  
Super Cash—**07 09 10 12 14 19**  
Megabucks jackpot: \$1 million  
Powerball Jackpot: \$25 million