

# Reporter to testify on leak

WASHINGTON (AP) — Finally agreeing to testify, New York Times reporter Judith Miller's grand jury appearance throws a damaging spotlight once again on a White House whose credibility has been undermined in the criminal probe into the leak of a covert CIA officer's identity.

Freed after 85 days in a federal detention center, Miller was to testify Friday for Special Counsel Patrick Fitzgerald's investigation about her conversations in July 2003 with Vice President Dick Cheney's chief of staff, I. Lewis "Scooter" Libby.

Until a few months ago, the White House maintained for nearly two years that Libby and presidential aide Karl Rove were not involved in leaking the identity of Valerie Plame, whose husband had publicly suggested that the Bush administration twisted intelligence in the runup to the war in Iraq.

The timing of the criticism by former Ambassador Joseph Wilson was devastating for the White House, which was already on the defensive because no weapons of mass destruction had been found in Iraq. The president's claims of such weapons were the main justification for going to war.

Libby met with Miller just two days after Wilson blasted the Bush administration in a Times op-ed piece.

Time magazine reporter Matthew Cooper has testified recently that Rove and Libby had spoken to him about Wilson's wife that same week in July 2003 when Miller spoke to Libby.

In October 2003, with the criminal investigation gaining speed, White House spokesman Scott McClellan said of Rove and Libby: "Those individuals assured me they were not involved in this" leaking of Plame's identity.

Miller has been in custody in Alexandria, Va., since July 6.

The disclosure of Plame's identity by syndicated columnist Robert Novak on July 14, 2003, triggered a criminal investigation that could still result in criminal charges against government officials.

"My source has now voluntarily and personally released me from my promise of confidentiality regarding our conversations relating to the Wilson-Plame matter," Miller said in a statement Thursday. Her newspaper identified Libby as the source, saying that Miller and Libby spoke in person on July 8, 2003, then talked by phone later that week.

Miller is a veteran national security reporter. In the 1980s, she became the first woman to be named chief of the Times' Cairo bureau in Egypt.

For her work on Osama bin Laden in 2001, she won a Pulitzer Prize for explanatory journalism as part of a small team of Times reporters.

Starting in 2002, her stories about weapons of mass destruction in Iraq helped bolster the Bush administration's case for toppling Saddam Hussein.

# Basketball fundraising



Colby Community College men's basketball team members Micah Hagans (not pictured) and Curt Field (Dodge City) were two of the players who participated in the team's fund-raising car wash held on Saturday, Sept. 17. The event raised approximately \$340. The men's team, coached by John Woods, also assisted with the stage set-up and preparation for Celebration on the High Plains the preceding week at the Prairie Museum of Art and History.

# Student News

## Fort Hays State representative to visit Colby

Fort Hays State University admissions representatives and faculty members will visit 11 community colleges around the state beginning in October.

Sharon Thielen, assistant director of admissions, will visit Colby Community College on Oct. 10, Johnson County Community College on Oct. 11, Cloud County Community College on Oct. 12 and Kansas City Community College on Oct. 25.

Visits are also scheduled in No-

ember to Seward County Community College, Garden City Community College, Barton County Community College, Butler County Community College, Hutchinson Community College, Pratt Community College and Dodge City Community College.

Joining Thielen will be degree analyst Luci Williams and FHSU faculty.

For more information on how to participate, contact Thielen at (785) 628-4044 or slthielen@fhsu.edu.

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