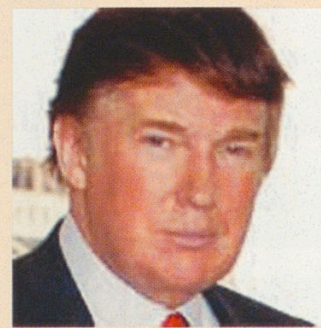




**PRISONER ABUSE.** The American prisoners were seen in the photographs smiling and giving a "thumbs up" while the Iraqi soldiers were being tortured in several different ways. For example, the prisoners were told to disrobe and dogs were placed on guard. Also, prisoners were forced to form pyramids while disrobed. Another way that the Americans tried to mentally and physically break down the soldiers was by covering their whole bodies in ice. After the pictures were released, the Iraqi insurgents sent the United States a video of an American civilian, **Nick Berg**, being beheaded. The reasoning for their actions was said to be in retaliation for the hazing and humiliation towards the Iraqi detainees. The American soldiers said that they were doing this in order to find out vital information on what the Iraqis were planning on doing next to the United States. Court marshals and investigations were arranged immediately.



**TRAINS IN MADRID** collided killing 200 people and injuring approximately 1,500 OTHERS. The two trains collided on the tracks March 11 at 8:16 A.M.. A military spokesman for al Qaeda in Europe said al Qaeda was behind the bombings in Madrid. The videotape, released by Interior Minister Angel Acebes and signed by Abu Dujan Al Afgani, says: "We declare our responsibility for what occurred in Madrid, just 2.5 years after the attacks in New York and Washington. It is a response to your collaboration with the criminals (U.S. President) Bush and his allies." In response to this attack, Spain elected socialist leader Jose-Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, replacing their former President, the popular party candidate, Mariano Rajoy, and withdrew Spain's troops from Iraq.



**ONE OF THE MOST VIEWED SHOWS** in America, was **The Apprentice**. Donald Trump, business magnet, hosted a reality show that hired Bill Rancic to The Trump Organization with a starting salary of \$250,000. The sixteen contestants were split into two teams. For 15 weeks, the teams received a dossier that explained the week's task, rules, and other instructions. Tasks ranged from having a lemonade stand in downtown New York to managing a Jessica Simpson Concert. At the end of every week the player from the losing team that Mr. Trump believed was the weakest player, was told by Trump himself, "You're fired."



**CINCINNATI USES TWO** million gallons of gas per year to keep the city flowing. Gas prices were the highest they have been in thirteen years. They exceeded two dollars per gallon.



**THE CICADAS HAVE FINALLY** arrived. After 17 years, the projected five billion arrived on May 21. Believe it or not, cicadas are said to taste good. But because they come in such large numbers, predators actually get tired of eating them!