



Tracy upstages LeBron

Magic's Tracy McGrady scores 41 points to LeBron James' 34 in overtime win against Cavaliers ■ 1, 13C

By Peter Cosgrove, AP

McGrady: James is "unbelievable."



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Pop's year of sizzle

From *Queer Eye* to a youth quake, pop culture ruled in 2003. What it means for 2004 ■ 9, 10D



Getty Images/USA TODAY photo illustration
Hilary Duff: Three films due.

WINE & SPIRITS

'The KGB pill': A sobering reminder of the Cold War

For the latest wacky anti-hangover remedy, we turn to those fun-loving guys at the KGB. Yes, the old Soviet spy agency is being touted as the "developer" of RU-21, or "the KGB pill," a concoction of "all-natural ingredients" that supposedly will ameliorate the effects of getting stinking drunk.

Dispatches

Spirit Sciences, the distributor selling the product, says RU-21 was invented by Soviet scientists to give to KGB agents. The plot: Spies could consume huge quantities of alcohol while pumping hapless targets for information, without those day-after drawbacks.



RU-21: For the 'morning after' too much to drink?

Skeptical? So is the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. "A hangover is one of the minor consequences of alcoholism," spokesman Ames Sweet says. The company found Igor Persidsky, 45, a Ukrainian-born doctor with a geriatric practice in Long Beach, Calif., to endorse the pill. It's not approved by the Food and Drug Administration, but it doesn't have to be, he says, because it's just a collection of vitamins. He tried it, had "a couple of glasses of wine, and I felt OK in the morning."

— Maria Puente

