



### Top Stories

#### Olympic flame for Beijing Games lit amidst protest

On Monday, the Olympic torch for the 2008 Summer Olympics was lit in Olympia, Greece as per tradition. However members of various pressure groups broke through police cordons to protest against "the dramatic human rights situation in the country."



Credit: Cmapm

#### 'Big Brother' contestant Parker Somerville sounds off about the show and his aspirations

Wikinews interviews Big Brother USA castoff Parker Somerville about his experiences on the show, what he really thinks of some HouseGuests, and what's in store for him in the future.



(GFDL)

#### Final report blames instrument failure for Adam Air Flight 574 disaster

Indonesian authorities say the 102-fatality crash of Adam Air Flight 574 occurred when pilots trying to fix a navigational instrument failure accidentally turned off the autopilot, then



Credit: Anynobody (CC-BY-SA)

### Top Stories

didn't check instruments that would have told them their plane was out of control.

#### Wikinews interviews author and filmmaker Peter John Ross

Wikinews spoke with author and filmmaker Peter John Ross, who has made numerous short films and co-directed a feature, the WWII horror film Horrors of War. He told us why he makes movies and about his book, Tales From the Front Line of Indie Filmmaking, which has valuable tips for the filmmaker just starting out.

### Wikipedia Current Events

French President Nicolas Sarkozy says he might boycott the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympics if China continues its crackdown in Tibet.

- Adam Air Flight 574: A final report finds the 102 on board died when pilots preoccupied with an instrument failure did not realise the 737 was descending out of control.
- Iraq War: Heavy fighting rages in Basra as thousands of Iraqi troops battle Shia militants.
- The Comoros army supported by African Union troops invade Anjouan.
- The Tibetan government in exile estimates that the death toll in the 2008 unrest in Tibet is approximately 140.

#### 60 vehicle pile-up kills one, injures 30 in Austria

A large pile-up on an Austrian motorway has left one woman dead and at least thirty - up to thirty-seven - people injured, five seriously.

Ongoing storms depositing snow and ice across western Europe are believed to have contributed to the extent of today's accident which occurred between Vienna and Salzburg. The pileup involved at least 60 vehicles, and some reports say up to 70. It is thought the direct cause was a coach. Multiple trucks were also involved.

Numerous people required cut free from their mangled vehicles at the site on the A1 autobahn westbound, which is now closed in both directions. The crash was between Seewalchen and St. Georgen, to the north-east of Salzburg. The weather is making it difficult for ambulances and search and rescue helicopters to approach the scene. The deceased was a Spanish woman living in Switzerland.

The same storm has also caused a large number of road accidents in neighbouring Switzerland, which saw 70 centimetres (28 inches) of snow on Sunday with four metre (13ft) drifts. Hundreds of tourists are trapped in the Aeolian Islands near Scicily, Italy after five metre waves prompted a two-day suspension of ferry services and destroyed roofs. In the Netherlands traffic jams reached a total of 836 kilometers (519 miles)

long and Amsterdam's Schipol Airport saw delays while snow was shoveled off runways. Macedonia saw one fatality in the storms and Germany has also seen much snowfall.

### **Wikinews interviews author and filmmaker Peter John Ross**

Wikinews held an exclusive interview with American author and filmmaker Peter John Ross. The head of Sonnyboo Productions, an independent film studio based in Columbus, Ohio, he has made numerous short films as well as co-directed a feature, the World War II B-movie *Horrors of War*.

He has also written a book on filmmaking, *Tales from the Front Line of Indie Filmmaking*. He says that it "combines helpful articles for beginning filmmakers with narrative tales based on my experiences raising money for features and the crazy personalities that invade the world of microbudget filmmaking."

When asked why he makes movies, Ross replied, "There is no greater thrill than sitting in a room full of strangers watching the stories unfold with flickering pictures and sound. I live for the moments when I can sit there and watch the movies with people I don't know and really feel how they react to what I wrote or directed or edited."

#### *Interview*

Wikinews:

You've made several short films and co-directed a feature, *Horrors of War*. Tell us about them.

Mr. Ross: I could not afford film school, so I set out to make my own movies and teach myself filmmaking. Each short I made for the Internet had a specific goal in mind to teach myself some new

technique or challenge myself in a new way. To me it was all about "graduating" to making a feature film. After 5 years of making shorts online, most in digital, but some in actual film as well, I felt ready to tackle a feature film.

Working with many of the people I had been for years, we set out to make an ambitious World War II Nazi Zombie Werewolf movie. *Horrors of War* is an homage to the "B" movie tradition, in that grindhouse style. We used the Internet to promote and market the film by putting out MAKING OF segments and helpful filmmaker tips.

WN:*Horrors of War* was shot entirely in Ohio, which doubled for France and Germany, on a shoestring budget. How did you manage this?

Mr. Ross: We used World War II re-enactors in the film as featured extras; they in turn brought tanks, armoured cars, authentic weapons and uniforms, and more. We shot a D-Day re-enactment on Lake Erie with 300 extras and even a real P-51 Mustang buzzing overhead. This made our movie look a whole lot bigger and better. When I was on a train trip in 1997 going from Paris to Heidelberg, I noticed that the hills, grass, and trees all reminded me of Ohio. For our film, we chose the pine tree locations to represent Germany, as they are similar to the Ardens, and other parts of the state to represent France.

WN:You've written a book, *Tales from the Front Line of Indie Filmmaking*. Tell us about it.

Mr. Ross: My book combines helpful articles for beginning filmmakers with narrative tales based on my experiences raising money for features and the crazy personalities that invade the world of microbudget filmmaking. *Tales*

From the Front Line ends with my journal entries on going from short films to making my first feature film and the struggles therein. It's available at Amazon.com for sale and I think it's a good read for anyone starting out making movies in the era of web videos and aspires to make feature films.

WN:Why do you make movies?

What inspires you to do this?

Mr. Ross: There is no greater thrill than sitting in a room full of strangers watching the stories unfold with flickering pictures and sound. I live for the moments when I can sit there and watch the movies with people I don't know and really feel how they react to what I wrote or directed or edited. I love to tell stories and moviemaking is one of the most unique and immersive ways to tell a story. The payoff is always when you get to show your movies, especially in a theatrical setting.

WN:Do you have any advice for the amateur filmmakers reading this?

Mr. Ross: Start small, then work your way up. Help on other people's productions and get an idea of what it really takes to make a movie, then start making small movies with a cheap camcorder and really get good at the art of telling stories with a camera before investing a lot of money into gear. It's the artist, not the brush that counts. Everyone thinks because they watch a lot of movies or TV that somehow qualifies them to make a good movie. No one thinks because they listen to a lot of music, they can buy a guitar and suddenly play like Jimi Hendrix. Why should movies be any different? Much like music, filmmaking requires practice to get good at it. Making short movies for the Internet is great practice. Go

for it.

### **EBay to make PayPal mandatory for UK sellers**

According to an announcement on Monday by United States-based on-line auction website eBay, the option to accept payments via PayPal service will be mandatory for United Kingdom sellers beginning in April 2008, with the exception of auctions relating directly to the sale of motor vehicles.

The announcement claims that the move will help improve confidence as well as further reducing the limited amounts of fraud which occur on some types of transaction. Sellers with low feedback, or who list specific items, such as computer software are already required to accept payment via PayPal.

Under the new policy, sellers will however still be able to accept payments via other services, provided they are on eBay's approved list. Google Checkout, a competitor to PayPal in the field of retail payment services, is notably absent from the list of accepted payment methods.

### **Final report blames instrument failure for Adam Air Flight 574 disaster**

A final report released today by the Indonesian National Transport Safety Committee found that Adam Air Flight 574 crashed because the pilots were distracted by an instrument failure. The loss of the budget carrier's Boeing 737 into the sea near Sulawesi on New Year's Day 2007 left all 102 on board missing and presumed dead.

The report found that the 737, registered PK-KKW, suffered a Inertial Reference System (IRS) failure. While pilots were

troubleshooting for this navigational system they first unintentionally disconnected the autopilot, then failed to monitor other instruments informing them they were approaching the sea, crashing into it and destroying the aircraft.

The flight had been a scheduled domestic passenger service between Djuanda Airport at Surabaya and Sam Ratulangi Airport at Manado, and disappeared from radar screens at 35,000 feet.

National Transportation Safety Committee head Tatang Kurniadi told a press conference "This accident resulted from a combination of factors including the failure of the pilots to adequately monitor the flight instruments, especially in the last two minutes of the flight. Preoccupation with a malfunction of the Inertial Reference System diverted both pilot's attention from the flight instruments and allowed the increasing descent and bank angle to unnoticed...

"The Cockpit Voice recorder revealed that both pilots were concerned about navigation problems and subsequently become engrossed with trouble shooting Inertial Reference System (IRS) anomalies for at least the last 13 minutes of the flight, with minimal regard to other flight requirements. This included identification and attempts at corrective actions."

He also supplied a number of statistics concerning the final moments of the flight. Whilst in a right bank with sustained elevator input pushing up the nose the aircraft reached Mach 0.926 and 3.5g. The airspeed had reached 490 KCAS by the end of the

recording. Investigator Santoso Sayogo said that the high speed impact caused the plane to disintegrate.

Adam Air had suffered previous navigational problems. In 2006 another B737 suffered a navigational problem and flew into a radar blackspot, leaving it lost for several hours before performing an emergency landing hundreds of miles from the intended destination. Sayogo said today that in the three months preceding the accident the airline had registered 154 defects in PK-KKW's navigational equipment.

The accident has had wide-ranging effects. The crash, coupled with Adam Air Flight 172, which snapped in half during a hard landing, and Garuda Indonesia Flight 200, which overshot the runway in Yogyakarta, killing 21, prompted the European Union to add all Indonesia's airlines to the list of air carriers banned in the EU. Earlier this month another Adam Air flight departed the end of a runway during landing, injuring five and damaging the plane. This prompted the authorities to ground Adam Air for three months after a regular evaluation, after which they may be permanently shut down. The airline is also in financial difficulty. All the accidents involved Boeing 737s.

### **'Big Brother' contestant Parker Somerville sounds off about the show and his aspirations**

In the past two months, Parker Somerville, a videographer for the website TMZ.com, transitioned from an average guy leading an ordinary life, to living in an extraordinary voyeuristic existence, and back again to the beginning. Simply put, it was a transition from reality to reality,

with a two-week detour in reality television. Somerville was a former contestant on the CBS reality TV staple *Big Brother*, currently in its ninth installment.

Evicted on Day 14, Somerville hoped to have another chance to play the game, but came in second in the special "America's Choice" poll to bring back a former HouseGuest (the poll results were eventually not used at all and nobody was brought back). Now freed from a three-week sequester, Somerville was interviewed by Wikinews reporter Mike Halterman and he discussed his thoughts on *Big Brother*, how he and his fellow HouseGuests were portrayed and received, and what he plans to do now that his experience is, for the most part, over.

Somerville will return to *Big Brother* on finale night in five weeks. Please check your local listings for time and channel. *Big Brother* airs on CBS in the United States, Global in Canada, and E4 in the United Kingdom.

#### *Starting in reality*

Mike Halterman: So, you've been billed on the show as a paparazzi for TMZ.com. Tell us exactly what you do at your job. What was your most exciting work-related celebrity sighting?

Parker Somerville: It's pretty exciting, and also at times it can be pretty boring. I simply wait outside of major Hollywood hot spots, and get sound bytes and reactions from celebrities and public figures. Sometimes it can be awkward, but for the most part, it's pretty entertaining. My most funny/exciting work-related celebrity encounter was with Wesley Snipes. He had us running up and down the street for like 5-10 minutes! And he was in a full

suit! How random?! It was exhausting, but funny as hell!

MH: How much exposure did you have to *Big Brother* before you were selected to go on the show?

PS: I was never really an avid watcher of *Big Brother* before I was selected to become one of the HouseGuests. I knew about the show, but just didn't make time to watch it. I can count on one hand how many times I actually watched the show, and that was just because nothing else was on TV at the moment. Before I went in the house, I did watch Seasons 3 and 6 just to kind of familiarize myself with the game. I must say, it's pretty interesting and I may watch future seasons.

MH: Who influenced you to audition?

PS: Nobody really influenced me to audition. I just saw a random ad on craigslist, and was like, "Why the hell not? Meet a few people...possibly win some cash...Ummm...okay..."

MH: In a previous interview I conducted with Canada's Next Top Model winner Andrea Muizelaar, she said that she believed reality shows cast people who are perhaps unstable, to make for better television. Do you feel that's true?

PS: I don't believe the name of the game is to find the biggest whack-job and stick a mic and camera on them for good TV. I think the producers of these shows carefully look for the best mix of people to create a story around them. They look for who's going to get along with who, who's going to feud, who's going to be the peace keeper, hook-ups, and so on. Don't get me wrong, everyone loves to watch drama as long as it's not them, so of course they are going to look for people with

personal issues but I don't think that's all they cast for. If you think about it, the people with personal issues could grow from their experience and become better people after seeing how they were portrayed. Who knows?

#### *"The detour"*

MH: You were really not that thrilled when Jen, the "soulmate" the show picked for you, was in a previous outside relationship with fellow HouseGuest Ryan. What were you thinking when Jen revealed the news to you?

PS: When I first found out about the secret, i was pretty pissed at Jen for not being honest with me from the start. However, I thought it was a pretty good idea to have that "secret alliance" with them because Jen and Ryan definitely didn't look like they were dating so nobody would have suspected it.

MH: Also, Allison, Ryan's partner, was shown on the television broadcasts as being probably more angry than you were. Who do you think was more angry about the developments, you or Allison?

PS: I think Allison was more angry with the secret than I was, just because she was forced to be in an alliance with Jen, and they didn't like each other.

MH: You were involved in some of the most dramatic moments we've seen this season, including, but not limited to, you waking up the entire house to find the person who had talked behind your back. Do you think being that direct was a good strategy for your game play? Also, viewers of the show gathered that you were unhappy with the way Jen played the game, but do you believe some of your actions cost you the game as well?

PS: I didn't really have a strategy when I went into the house. I was definitely myself for the duration

of my stay. I was very relaxed with everyone, cracking jokes and enjoying everyone's company. The great thing about me is that I can be your best friend, and your worst enemy. I'm cool, but the moment you cross me, I'll do a 180 on you. I guess that's the Aries in me! When I woke up everyone in the house, I wanted to let everyone know, "Don't take my kindness for weakness." When I heard that whole "snake" comment, it really pissed me off because I did absolutely nothing to make someone judge me so quickly. So I guess my direct approach to certain situations didn't help our current situation. But I know for a fact I wouldn't have been as pissed off as I was if I had control of my own fate in the house. Yes, I wasn't right for having a crappy attitude, but I don't believe I made a major contribution to our demise.

MH: How do you feel about Jen telling other HouseGuests that her real-life boyfriend Ryan was racist to ensure that she stayed in the game? Did you think that behavior crossed a line?

PS: [laughs] I was like, damn, could you drive the stake in any harder? I felt like we had Sheila's vote, and when Jen told her that, it only hurt us. I really didn't think it was any of the HouseGuests', or America's, business to know what Ryan's racial issues were. I felt like she was not being fair to him because like it or not, he was there to play the game, just like she was. And even if he was racist, who cares?

MH: You had said after leaving the house that you felt Matt didn't keep his word to you as far as vetoing your nomination. Now that you've watched past footage, do you still believe Matt wronged you?

PS: I never said that Matt didn't

keep his word. I knew he wasn't going to use the veto because he didn't want to become an early target. Well, at least that's what he told me beforehand.

In my speech, which they edited out, I asked him not to use it because the reason why we were nominated was because of trust issues. When I got out of sequester, I was talking with a few friends, and I was telling them about how Matt was cool as hell, and they said, "obviously you haven't seen the show."

What makes me salty at Matt is the fact that he wasn't straightforward with me because I saw what he said in the DR about the situation. Also, I jumped on the live feeds one day, only to see him talking crap about me with Smellsia (Chelsia, I call her "Smellsia" because Allison says her woman parts "down there" aren't too fresh!). I never once said anything bad about Matt inside the house and to see him just diss me like that really didn't sit well with me. I definitely had his back, and for him to talk crap on me, especially when I'm not there to defend myself, shows what kind of person he really is.

MH: What did you really want to say to Jen after you both got evicted so early in the game? You were very quiet when Julie Chen interviewed both of you...

PS: [laughs] You know damn well what I wanted to say to Jen! You saw my face. That was worth more than words.

*Coming full circle back to reality*

MH: This season, Big Brother made the press rather negatively compared to past seasons, specifically with incidents like HouseGuest Adam being fired from his job for a comment about "retards," Amanda being taunted that she should hang herself with

a noose "just like her father," and James performing in multiple gay pornography videos. What are your thoughts about all of these these events? When do you think the other HouseGuests will find out about James' past in pornography, if they find out at all? How do you think Chelsia will react?

PS: I think it's crazy. It's so funny that Adam has no idea what impact his words had to America. The other HouseGuests will find out at the wrap party, I'm sure of it. I think Smellsia won't care about James' past. Being the low-class trash princess that she is, she'll definitely not use protection after finding out the great news! Good luck with that! I wouldn't expect less from her.

MH: You were kept in sequester for a few weeks, and only recently allowed to return to your normal life. How does it feel being recognized as "that guy from the Big Brother show"?

PS: I know for a fact that some people are going to come off this show thinking they are the next best thing since ice cream. I still think I'm a nobody. Yeah, the opportunity was great, and the notoriety is cool but I'm still just same ol' Parker.

It's really funny that people come up to me and want to take their picture with me. A few times, when I was filming a star, all of a sudden I hear in the background, "Oh, my God, it's Parker!" I'm really flattered by all the attention and support I'm getting from the fans. I even signed a couple of autographs... Now that was weird. Those autographs are probably in the trash by now anyway. [laughs] I think I'm gonna keep my night job!

MH: What options, do you feel, are open to you now that your stint on reality TV is over? Are you going to

continue your job at TMZ, or do you hope to break into acting like previous HouseGuests have?

PS: I'm back to TMZ and back to normal life. I didn't come into this experience looking for fame. I really don't want to be a big time actor. It's not really my thing. However, I wouldn't mind doing some commercials or even a hosting gig just for the extra cash. It would be pretty sweet to have the Verizon Guy's job. I'm open for whatever comes my way.

MH: You were in the Big Brother house for all of 14 days. With that TV experience behind you, would you ever consider doing another reality TV show again?

PS: I would definitely do Big Brother again. I'm not too sure about other reality TV shows because I know I couldn't be myself on those shows. The greatest thing about Big Brother is that you don't have the camera crews and producers in your face to influence your behavior.

MH: Who would you hang out with after the show ends, and who would you rather not see again?

PS: I am more than likely going to keep in contact with the first four who were evicted [with me], and Natalie. Everyone else, I could care less about for obvious reasons. But who knows, I'm a forgiving person so we'll have to see... but for some of them, I really doubt it.

MH: There are eight contestants left from the original sixteen. Who are you rooting for to win, and why?

PS: Natalie! I think she's an awesome person. She's the only real person left. Everyone else is pretty much synthetic. I think she'll do great things with the money.

MH: And finally, do you believe the Big Brother "twist" this season (both the "soulmate" pairings and Jen and Ryan's outside relationship) "robbed" you of winning the game?

PS: Allison, Ryan, Jen, and myself had the best and worst situation in the entire house. I felt like my chances weren't all that great because I wasn't in control of my own situation. If we were singles, I know I would have lasted longer, but there's no use crying over spilled milk right? That's Big Brother for ya!

### **Over 70 businesses in Bristol, United Kingdom given zero star rating for food hygiene**

76 businesses in Bristol, United Kingdom have been given zero stars out of a possible five, for food hygiene, by the food department of Bristol City Council. This is considerably higher than the number of 0 star ratings awarded by neighboring councils. The scores, which are collected by inspectors from the council, are displayed on a website funded by the UK government.

Restaurants including Spice Out Tandoori on Wellington Hill West and Taste of India in the largely up-market area of Clifton have been presented with a zero star rating, in addition to restaurants like the Family Kebab House in Fishponds.

The owners of one of the restaurants on the list defended his restaurant. He said "we [workers at the restaurant] were visited before Christmas and have done what we had to do, which was to put up a new shelf and do some minor cleaning."

Customers of these businesses have told Wikinews that they are unconcerned by the changes. One,

a customer of the Spice Out Tandoori, told Wikinews that they "have no issues with the food" and that they "will continue to get my [the customer's] food here."

Some businesses were however, awarded with a five star award. One of these was Waitrose on Northumbria Drive, Henleaze. A customer there told Wikinews that it is "reassuring" to find out the shop received a five star award for food hygiene.

### **FDA warning on Honduran cantaloupes after salmonella outbreaks**

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the United States Department of Health and Human Services has issued a warning on cantaloupes from a Honduran company, after salmonella outbreaks in the United States and Canada.

The FDA stated that cantaloupes purchased from Agropecuaria Montelibano, a company which grows and packs cantaloupe in Honduras, should be thrown out because it has been connected to an outbreak of Salmonella Litchfield. The FDA has also blocked imports from the food packer to the United States. The FDA reported cases of fifty people in sixteen states in the United States, and an additional nine in Canada who became ill after eating cantaloupes. As of Monday fourteen people had been hospitalized.

The sixteen states in the United States with reported cases of illnesses are Arizona, California, Colorado, Georgia, Illinois, Missouri, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Utah, Washington and Wisconsin. Illnesses in Canada occurred in

British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Ontario and New Brunswick between January 19 and February 22.

An initial alert was released from the FDA on February 22 about an outbreak of Salmonella Litchfield, and the warning about Honduran cantaloupes was issued Saturday. The FDA was aware two weeks ago that the outbreak could be tied to melons, and linked the outbreak to the Honduran supplier on Friday.

On Sunday, Honduran President Manuel Zelaya called the FDA alert "extreme and imprudent", and noted that the contamination from the cantaloupes was on the peel and that they could have come into contact with the bacteria after leaving Honduras. He said the United States did not present evidence that the bacteria originated in Honduras. President Zelaya told reporters: "It's unjust that the (U.S.) has declared a unilateral health alert without any laboratory or clinical tests." Fredys Cerrato, Trade Minister of Honduras called on the FDA to publicize details of its studies on the affected cantaloupe, and told CNN en Español: "This is causing us direct economic damage."

Foodborne illness caused by Salmonella bacteria can lead to symptoms including nausea, diarrhea, fever and abdominal cramps. Higher-risk groups such as children, the elderly and individuals with weakened immune systems can develop more severe symptoms. The FDA is continuing to investigate and monitor the situation with the individual states affected and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### **Olympic flame for Beijing Games lit amidst protest**

On Monday, the Olympic torch for

the 2008 Summer Olympics was lit in Olympia, Greece as per tradition. The Games of the XXIX Olympiad are scheduled to be held in and around Beijing, China from August 8, 2008, to August 24, 2008.

Members of Reporters Without Borders (RSF), and others, were able to break through the police cordon. "We cannot let the Chinese government seize the Olympic flame, a symbol of peace, without denouncing the dramatic human rights situation in the country," RSF said in a statement.

While Liu Qi, president of the Beijing Organizing Committee and a former mayor of Beijing, delivered a speech, at least one protester was able to run up behind him and display a flag that resembled the Olympic flag, except it was black and the rings were handcuffs.

The protester was quickly apprehended and Liu Qi continued his speech relatively uninterrupted. "The Olympic flame will radiate light and happiness, peace and friendship, and hope and dreams to the people of China and the whole world," he told the crowd.

"All we wanted to do was break into the torch relay and shout that this is a torch of shame as the Chinese government continues to kill hundreds of our people." —Tenzin Dorjee

"Shame on China. Don't send China's blood-tainted torch to Tibet. Free Tibet. Tibet is an independent country," shouted Tenzin Dorjee, a leader for Students for a Free Tibet, while he was taken by police.

"All we wanted to do was break into the torch relay and shout that

this is a torch of shame as the Chinese government continues to kill hundreds of our people," Dorjee said later. "They were stalking me from the moment I touched down to Greece," he added.

"The torch is the link between all athletes and citizens of this world; between all of us who believe in Olympism and the virtue of sport. It has the force to unite humanity and to stand for harmony." —Jacques Rogge

The torch is still scheduled to be carried around-the-world in a relay that will go through 20 countries, until arriving in Beijing for the start of the Games.

Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) has defended having the Games in China saying: "The major political leaders don't want a boycott."

In his speech Monday, he said, "The torch is the link between all athletes and citizens of this world; between all of us who believe in Olympism and the virtue of sport. It has the force to unite humanity and to stand for harmony."

Germany's Olympic Committee rejected a boycott of the games aimed at events in Tibet. Noting that the 1980 Summer Olympics boycott did not avert the Soviet war in Afghanistan, the president of the committee said they concluded that the role of sports is to start dialog and promote understanding — and not to exert political pressure.

### **Today in History**

1027 – Pope John XIX crowned Conrad II as Holy Roman Emperor.  
1636 – Utrecht University, one of the oldest universities in the

Netherlands and one of the largest in Europe, was established.

1971 – After the Pakistan Army attempted to curb the Bengali nationalist movement in Operation Searchlight, East Pakistan declared its independence from Pakistan to form Bangladesh, starting the Bangladesh Liberation War.

1973 – The Young and the Restless, the most watched daytime drama on American television since 1988, was first broadcast.

March 26 is Independence Day in Bangladesh (1971).

**Quote of the Day**

People say that what we're all seeking is a meaning for life. I don't think that's what we're really seeking. I think what we're seeking is an experience of being alive, so that our life experiences on the purely physical plane will have resonance within our own innermost being and reality, so that we actually feel the rapture of being alive. That's what it's all finally about. ~ Joseph Campbell

**Word of the Day**

intercalary adj

1. Of an extra day or month inserted into a calendar.

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