June 8, 2008

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# **Top Stories**

# Clinton to suspend campaign



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The Clinton
campaign has
announced that
Hillary Clinton will
suspend her
campaign for the
Democratic
Presidential
nomination on
Saturday.

# Critics of Robert Mugabe speak at Africa World Economic Forum

African politicians have recently met at the 2008 World Economic



Credit:Eric Miller (CC-BY-SA 2.0)

Forum on
Africa, where
they discussed
a variety of
different
issues,
including the
current

situation in Zimbabwe.

# UN summit results in pledge to mitigate food crisis

A three-day United Nations (UN)



summit, bringing together leaders from 181 countries, has wrapped up with a

pledge by all attending countries to address the global food shortage crisis. Key actions cited include doubling the world's food production by 2030, providing resources for farmers in poor countries and increasing humanitarian aid in times of crisis.

# Missing European divers found alive

Five European divers who recently went missing in Indonesia have been found alive by police. The divers disappeared after being swept away by a huge wave off the coast of Indonesia.

### Wikipedia Current Events

The Lord's Resistance Army, reportedly drafting recruits and acquiring new weapons, kills at least 23 people in attacks against south Sudanese troops.

- •Hillary Clinton suspends her presidential campaign and endorses Barack Obama as the Democratic candidate for President of the United States in the 2008 election.
- •UEFA Euro 2008 begins in Austria and Switzerland.
- •Attackers exchange gunfire with guards at Kosovo's Prime Minister Hashim Thaci's home.
- •Cuba offers free sex reassignment surgery.
- •In tennis, Ana Ivanović defeats Dinara Safina to win the French Open.
- Plymouth Argyle goalkeeper, Luke McCormick is held on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving.

# Founder of UK sports car manufacturer TVR dies in Spain

Trevor Wilkinson, who founded the UK performance car manufacturer TVR has died at his home in Minorca, Spain. He was 85.

Wilkinson, from Blackpool, left education at 14, getting an apprenticeship at a local garage. In 1946 he bought a local wheelwright's business, which he renamed Trevcar Motors, which sold and repaired cars, as well as undertaking light engineering work.

He built his first car the following year. It was a two-seater based on an Alvis Firebird chassis for his own use. He then formed TVR Engineering, the name derived from his own - TreVoR. The first TVR was unveiled in 1949. It was a two-seater with an alloy body and a mutli-tubular steel chassis.

The first production TVR was initially called simply the 'Mark I', but became known as the Grantura. This M-type glass fibre bodied car was to remain in production, in a modified form, until 1980, when it was replaced by the Tasmin, which had an angular wedge design.

Wilkinson himself left TVR in 1962 to form another engineering business, which specialised in glass fibre construction. He moved to Minorca after retiring.

The TVR Car Club website announced yesterday that he had died in Spain. The news was confirmed by a spokeswoman for Minorca's Mateu Orfila Hospital. According to the TVR Car Club's site "He was aware of the serious nature of his final illness but, according to a friend, took it in

stoical fashion that was typical of the man."

## Critics of Robert Mugabe speak at Africa World Economic **Forum**

African politicians met at the 2008 World Economic Forum on Africa, where they discussed a variety of issues, including the current situation in Zimbabwe.

Simba Makoni, a former finance minister in Zimbabwe, said the chance of a free election in Zimbabwe was low: "Conditions have been created in the country as a whole, but particularly in the rural areas, where there is no prospect of any semblance of a free and fair election."

The Secretary General of the main opposition party in Zimbabwe, the Movement for Democratic Change, also criticized the upcoming elections, saying that they were "merely legitimizing the kleptocracy."

He continued his speech to the forum. "The regime is increasing the decibels of insanity. At every level it is telling the international community in a loud and clear voice that it is not prepared to play by the rules, it is not prepared to listen to logic, and most importantly it is not prepared to listen to democracy and the voice of its people."

# Explosion and fire kill three at **Indian petrochemical plant**

Three workers have died after an explosion and fire at a Reliance Industries petrochemical plant in Nagothana, Maharashtra, India.

The fire broke out shortly after 11 a.m. in one of the facility's two linear low density poly-ethylene (LLDPE) units. The unit, which has a 60,000 tonne per anum (TPA)

capacity, had been shut down 24 hours before the accident for maintenance. Several people were injured as well as the three who were killed.

There are four production units at the plant, including another LLDPE unit with a 100,000 TPA capacity. None of these were affected by the The Daily Star, a tabloid fire, which was extuinguished within minutes without material loss, and production and supply of goods will not be affected.

An investigation has been launched to determine the cause of the accident.

# **TEPCA** protests the Taiwanese government on WiMAX in Taiwan

Taiwan Electromagnetic Radiation Hazard Protection and Control Association (TEPCA), an environmental organization set to promote environmental hazard warnings on electromagnetic radiation, protested over the potential health impact of electromagnetic radiation as Yingjeou Ma, President of the Republic of China, visited this show on the 2nd Day of 2008 WiMAX Expo Taipei (June 3).

"Base stations of WiMAX are unnecessary in Taiwan! The governmental people didn't care about the living and health of the public!" strongly stated Jiau-hua Chen, Chairman of TEPCA during the protest.

radiation was firmly higher than the international standards as some experts examined at the showground, according to the Taiwan Hakka Television, In addition, the TEPCA strongly appealed the governments and organizers to announce the place of base stations for health and

safety issue.

As a result of the protest, not only the information security, but also environmentalists disputed the future of WiMAX.

# **UK tabloid Daily Star pays libel** damages to Ozzy Osbourne

newspaper in the United Kingdom, has paid an undisclosed amount of libel damages to Ozzy Osbourne stemming from an inaccurate representation of his appearance at the Brit Awards.

Osbourne, famous for both his solo rock career and fronting the heavy metal band Black Sabbath, was hosting the show alongside wife Sharon and children Jack and Kelly. In an ensuing Star article titled "Ozzy Freak Show", the 59year old was portrayed as suffering from health problems that rendered his ability to host the show questionable.

The article claimed that he had collapsed twice before the show began, prompting the show's organisers to enter emergency talks debating whether Osbourne was fit to continue as planned or instead should be withdrawn and hospitalised. It also reported that the singer had used an electric buggy to move around behind the scenes and had been designated a place to sit in case he felt tired. All of these allegations were found to be false.

The on-site rate of electromagnetic At the settlement in London's High Court, at which the Osbournes were not present, Kate Wilson, representing Express Newspapers, apologised for the article and accepted that it should never have been published. Express Newspapers owns the Daily Star.

Osbourne says that the money will

go to his wife's charity, the Sharon preparing for their plunges! The Osbourne Colon Cancer Program.

# Second "Red Bull Flugtag **London" lands in Hyde Park**

The Red Bull Flugtag, an event that is hosted by 55 cities around the world, today returned to London, England's Hyde Park for the second time in the event's history. Wikinews was at the waterside of The Serpentine to report on the events of the day.

## Flugtag Information

The ticket-only event was last held in London in 2003. This year, 41 teams of inventors will be hoping to scoop one of the prizes on offer, with first prize being a choice of a full set of flying lessons (for one person), a group day out in an aerobatic aeroplane, or £5,000 ( $\sim$ \$10,000 USD), along with the title of Red Bull Flugtag Champions Serpentine to take photographs 2008. Second prize is a choice of gliding lessons for the whole team, or £2,500 (~\$5,000 USD). Third prize is a tandem parachute jump for the whole team, or £1,000 (~\$2,000 USD).

The teams are required to launch their inventions - some of which are as wacky as a giant Trifle or an aerodynamic toilet - from a 6 metre ramp into The Serpentine. The teams are scored based on their distance flown, level of creativity, and entertainment value and humour. The judges are of their on-ramp pre-flight performance. The judges for this years' competition include Strictly Come Dancing's Craig Revel-Horwood, model Jodie Kidd, BBC Fame Academy judge Carrie Grant, After a good number of teams, the As the last competitors start and Red Bull Flugtag London 2003 winner Tim Simpson.

# The Day Report

11:00am

On arrival at the Media Area, with the judges in tow, competitors are

weather is beautiful, and the public have turned out in force for the event. A large ramp dominates one end of the Serpentine, with large screens dotted around the venue.

#### 11:40am

The days entertainment has now begun, the large screens now filled 4:00pm with documentaries on the teams, hosts chatting, and team interviews live from the ground. The atmosphere is charged people are ready for the day, which has turned out beautifully, sunshine with a cool breeze.

## 1:00pm

The first team, the Loo-ny Tunes, are on the ramp, performing their opening performance. Wikinews has a correspondent on The from a head-on angle, and a correspondent in the media area to bring updates as they happen watch this space!

### 1:05pm

The Red Bull Flugtag 2008 has officially launched! The first team is ready on the ramp, giant screens displaying camera shots around Hyde Park - the emcees are on the ramp getting the crowd revved up for what promises to be a fantastic day of entertainment taking their positions in the pontoons - details of them are above!

#### 3:00pm

cloud has started to come in and the weather is getting colder - but that hasn't stopped 80,000 people turning out to watch these truly entertaining performances and nosedives! The scoring system has changed - please see the updated scoreboard below!

We have been treated to some sychronised swimming undeterred by the building rain and the freezing cold of the Serpentine. The judges are currently showing off their bribes including balloon sculptures, tshirts, and alcohol!

As the next team plunges off the ramp, doing a backflip as they go, and with angels falling into the Serpentine, we reach the halfway point. The rain is holding off for now, although a cold breeze has come along. Wikinews is stationed inside the Media Area on the South bank of the Serpentine, with a perfect view of the ramp and a reply screen next to us - and we have a photographer out and around the site. More photos will be available after the event - as our bandwidth is limited here.

#### 4:30pm

We have just had the longest distance flown today by The Cullinan Bird, gaining the maximum 30 points for distance (15 metres, however the glider flew much further than that).

#### 5:05pm

The show is currently on hold due to a problem in the lake - they are unable to retrieve one of the flying machines. We are being treated to a kite show with music - and the crowd has a chance to use the extensive on-site facilities!

#### 6:15pm

plunging off the ramp, it's time for Wikinews to leave the scene! Below are the final scores that we caught with 5 competitors left to take the dive.

Final Leaderboard Position Team Name **Points** 

Glad Winners 62 1 2 56 Flying Aguanauts 56 3 Dragons Tale

# Western Australian economy at crisis point say builders

Western Australian Master Builders Apache partners BHP Billiton and Association (MBA) vesterday demanded the Carpenter Government call an emergency cabinet meeting to avoid a "state of emergency" over the energy crisis gripping WA. A MBA spokesperson said that hundreds of workers have already been stood down, many without pay, and that the cost of building material is soaring.

The Minister for Energy, Fran Logan has admitted that the gas shortage caused by Tuesday's fire is damaging the economy as mining, manufacturing and construction industries wind back operations. Western Australia's two major brick producing companies have shut operations and Wesbeam's \$A100 million Neerabup pine production facility has been closed, their 130 employees have been stood down.

Wesbeam chief executive James Malone said, "It's an industrial tsunami in my view. It's a little ripple that has very quickly had a huge multiplying effect on the whole community".

Michael McLean, Master Building Association director said "It's a worst-nightmare scenario, and not one we could have imagined in our wildest dreams," building supplies are expected to start running out by the middle of next week.

Premier Carpenter has announced a meeting of ministers and industry representatives to take place on Sunday to discuss solutions to the growing crisis. Tim player has a certain amount of Wall, managing director of Apache

Corporation has said Apache is conducting a worldwide search for the parts need to repair the pipeline.

Major mining companies and Rio Tinto have already reported they are suffering with the loss of gas supply; the Chamber of Minerals and Energy has talked down the effect saying that they don't expect the crisis to take the heat off the booming mining industry.

Opposition leader Troy Buswell has describe the performance of Fran Logan as "absolutely dismal" noting that Mr Logan had experienced a similar incident in January this year, when a fire at Woodsides Karratha operations had a similar effect.

# Wikinews interviews manager of site 'Lose The Game'

Jonty Haywood is responsible for the entire site Lose The Game at losethegame.com; a site dedicated to informing the masses about a game called "The Game" which Haywood says is widely spreading and popular game. Wikinews' Gabriel Pollard talked to Haywood via email while constantly losing The Game.

The rules of The Game are simple and easy enough to remember with only three basic rules. While there are variations of the rules spread across Internet just as The Game itself has spread, Haywood plays by these rules:

Rule 1: You are playing The Game. Rule 2: Whenever you think about The Game, you lose.

Rule 3: Loss must be announced.

One variation of the rules is including a grace period where a time in which to forget about The Game ranging from mere minutes to half an hour. However, Haywood says that a grace period is unnecessary.

Haywood says many people are playing The Game which takes advantage of the White Bear Phenomenon. The Cornwall, United Kingdom-resident has experienced people playing The Game on his worldwide travels, he has even experienced an American announcing loss at a cinema in Bangkok, Thailand.

"When I first went to university in Cambridge, a year after hearing about The Game in Cornwall, many people already knew about The Game, especially people from London."

"The number of active players is certainly in the millions, if not tens of millions," Haywood says, based on the fact that he has had 500,000 unique hits to his website, "50,000 members of the biggest Game Facebook group." Newspaper articles, radio mentions and webcomics featuring The Game are more reasons for the assertions of its popularity Haywood says.

"In my experience The Game spreads among a group of friends, eventually reaching the Internet and makes it to a new group of friends, etc.

"In addition, many people play actively by trying to make lots of other people lose The Game, often by initiating new players."

Even though many people play The Game, its history cannot be accurately retold. Haywood first heard of the game in 2001 and while there are some Internet posts relating to The Game that date back to 2002, one person

from London with claims to being the maker of The Game says he made it in 1996 with the "aim of annoying as many people as possible." Haywood says this London-origin story is the only claim that has "any kind of evidence". But he does say that he prefers to think that someone "discovered" The Game, and not invented it. "It's always been there, just waiting for someone to realise that they are playing, and hence lose."

Despite running a popular site about The Game - which has something "big" coming up and will be announced in the next few weeks - Haywood himself gets annoyed and irritated at The Game "all the time" and his losses range anywhere from days at a time to mere hours in between losses depending on the social situation. The Game is still fun to play however, he says, because of the distress you can cause on other people. "Although you can't be aware that you are winning The Game, it is still fun when your friends lose before you, or more than you. Even more fun is when they lose because of something you previously set-up, or an association you tried to make them make.

"I think it's a much more interesting game than it may first appear. It's also very abstract and a little thought-provoking, and it's good to see lots of young people enjoying it."

And for those who wish to lose less often, Haywood has some "strategies". "One involves trying to feel very annoyed after losing, with the hope that you will subconsciously learn not to lose like this. The other is to hit yourself when you lose, with a similar purpose," he says.

"Unfortunately, almost every strategy we have tried so far has backfired spectacularly."

# **Today in History**

1783 – Iceland's Laki craters began an eight-month eruption, triggering major famine and massive fluorine poisoning. 1887 – German-American statistician Herman Hollerith received a patent for his punch card calculator.

1949 – Nineteen Eighty-Four, a dystopian political novel by English writer George Orwell about life in the fictional totalitarian government of Oceania, was first published.

1950 – Thomas Blamey became Australia's first and currently only Field Marshal.

1995 – Danish-Greenlandic programmer Rasmus Lerdorf released the first public version of the scripting language PHP for producing dynamic web pages.
2004 – Ethiopian distance runner Kenenisa Bekele broke the world record for outdoor 10,000 m in Ostrava, Czech Republic.
June 08 is Dragon Boat Festival (2008); World Ocean Day

#### **Quote of the Day**

History does not always repeat itself. Sometimes it just yells, "Can't you remember anything I told you?" and lets fly with a club. ~ John W. Campbell

# Word of the Day

iota n

- Name for the ninth, and smallest, letter of the Greek alphabet.
- 2. A jot; a very small, inconsiderable, quantity.

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