



### Top Stories

#### **Pigs fed contaminated pet food; meat sold to consumers**

The contaminated pet food that was recalled after it was found to contain a harmful industrial chemical called melamine, has been used as pig feed at a hog farm in Ceres, California.

#### **Islamic vigilantes acquitted of murder by Iran supreme court**

The members of a paramilitary group, who killed a couple for "moral corruption", say they are allowed to kill in defense of Islamic laws.

### Featured story

#### **Sealing ships trapped in ice off coast of Newfoundland**

About a hundred ships have been trapped in ice floes off the northeast coast of Newfoundland for a week now, during the annual seal hunt.

### Wikipedia Current Events

- At least 10 people are missing in Chile following a 6.2 magnitude earthquake.
- Space tourist Charles Simonyi and two crew from the International Space Station safely return to Earth.
- A member of the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels precision flight team crashes during an air show in Beaufort, South Carolina. The coroner's office confirms the pilot's dead. 8 people are reportedly injured.
- Mohammed al-Attar is sentenced

### Wikipedia Current Events

to 15 years in an Egyptian prison after being convicted of being a Mossad agent.

- An appeals court decides that the two candidates in the runoff election to decide the next President of East Timor will be current Prime Minister of East Timor José Ramos Horta and Francisco Guterres of Fretilin. Two of the unsuccessful candidates have announced that they will support Dr Ramos Horta.
- The United States and Australia issue travel advisories warning their citizens not to go to the Philippines due to a potentially imminent terrorist threat.
- Protests against the Bakiyev administration in Kyrgyzstan become violent as protesters fight with government security forces.
- Nigerian militants attack government buildings in the oil region hours before voters go to the polls in the Nigerian general election.
- A U.N. investigation finds that Romanian police officers killed two Kosovars as they demonstrated against the Ahtisaari Plan in Pristina, capital of Kosovo, in February 2007. The Romanian force has since left Kosovo.

#### **Blue Angels navy plane crashes in South Carolina**

An F/A-18 Hornet jet belonging to the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels squadron crashed in Beaufort, South Carolina Saturday. The pilot was killed while flying during an

air-show at Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort. The jet crashed into a neighborhood, sending debris scattering. Eight injuries and property damage were also reported.

The crash occurred approximately three miles beyond the air station near Pine Grove and White Pine roads, in Beaufort.

According to a Navy news release, the Blue Angels were performing the final maneuver of their routine when the accident occurred. "It was [the pilot's] second year on the team, and first year as a demonstration pilot." said the Navy. "The other five Blue Angel jets were not involved in the incident."

The cause of the accident is under investigation, but no other jets are said to be involved. In a news conference, Lt. Commander Anthony Walley said "Our squadron, and the entire U.S. Navy, are grieving the loss of a great American, a great naval officer, and most of all, a great friend." The pilot's name has not officially been released, but it is believed to be Lt. Commander Kevin Davis, 32, from Pittsfield, Massachusetts, as local media reports the number 6 jet was the one that crashed.

#### **2007 Cricket World Cup: England vs West Indies**

England have defeated the West Indies in the final game of the Super 8 phase of the World Cup at the Kensington Oval, Bridgetown, Barbados. The result decided little: England finished 5th in the Super

8s table, with the West Indies coming 6th.

The end of the match was tight with the result tipping in the balance for the last 5 overs. With just 3 overs left England needed 29 runs - looking unlikely to win the match, but Paul Nixon stepped up and hit 13 off the next over, with another 4 coming from extras, to turn the match round; giving England the upper hand. Despite being bowled out by Dwayne Bravo - who had earlier been involved in the dismissal of 4 other English batsmen (two from run outs, two from bowling and taking one catch) - tail enders Anderson and Broad gave England a tight 1 wicket win with just 1 ball remaining.

This was the last appearance for West Indies captain Brian Lara in international cricket: he has now retired from both Test and ODI cricket.

Toss: England won, and elected to field first.

### **Space tourist returns to Earth after 14 day trip**

Charles Simonyi, a billionaire software engineer born in Hungary, has returned to Earth after a 25 million dollar trip to the International Space Station with mission Soyuz TMA-10. The original mission, planned to last 13 days, was extended to 14 days when landing was made impossible due to "boggy ground". Mr. Simonyi, Russian cosmonaut Mikhail Tyurin, and American astronaut Michael Lopez-Alegria made a successful landing in the Soyuz TMA-9 spacecraft on the Kazakh steppe in Central Asia on Saturday.

Mr. Simonyi was said to be "ecstatic" after rescuers helped him from the capsule and into a fur-lined chair. His first piece of food

back on Earth was an offering to returning space crews landing in Kazakstan - a green apple. The controllers supervising the landing burst into applause along with the families of the space crew as a giant screen displayed "It has landed!" in large red letters.

Simonyi commented "I feel terrific, it was a fantastic trip, it is good to be back," before relaxing in a special reclining chair. The two other returning men were said to be very tired after their 7-month visit to the ISS. "It is natural that those who spend a quite long period of time [in space] find it harder now," said Anatoly Grigoryev, head of a Russian biomedical institute responsible for the health of the cosmonauts.

### **Pigs fed contaminated pet food; meat sold to consumers**

The contaminated pet food that was recalled after it was found to contain a harmful industrial chemical called melamine, has been used as pig feed at a hog farm in Ceres, California, located in the United States.

At least seven urine samples taken from pigs at the American Hog Farm, were tested and the results came back positive for the chemical melamine. At least three samples from the feed used to feed the pigs were tested and those results also came back positive for melamine.

Reports say that at least 100 pigs from the farm were slaughtered and sold from the "custom slaughterhouse" that is operated on the farms site. The meat is then sold to different places as "individual orders" and is not sold commercially for supermarkets. The affected meat goes as far back as April 3 and the company is asking anyone who bought it to return the product or throw it out.

Despite the sale, California State Veterinarian Dr. Richard Breitmeyer says that no evidence has turned up to suggest that the meat that was sold entered the human consumption chain.

"There is no evidence that any products from this farm have entered the food supply. The risk to people right now is minimal," said Breitmeyer who also said that pet food from bags or boxes that have been torn or ripped, is sometimes reused as feed for small farms.

California's Department of Food and Agriculture investigated the company and found that it had received the contaminated pet food from Diamond Pet Foods, which supplies retailers with the pet food Natural Balance, one of the over 100 recalled brands of pet food. Authorities then quarantined the farm to further investigate the situation.

At least 1,500 pigs are on the farm.

As of the moment, no other farms are being investigated, but officials say that other farms may also be affected.

"In the course of our investigation, we may find similar situations in other parts of the country," said head of the Center for Veterinary Medicine at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Stephen Sundlof.

The FDA is continuing to investigate and Sundlof says that there is a possibility that the contamination of the pet food may be intentional.

"It would certainly lend credibility to the theory that it may be intentional. That will be one of the theories we will pursue when we get into the plants in China," said Sundlof.

Last month, Menu Foods was the first to recall all of its 60 million products of dry and wet dog and cat food after pets began to fall ill and in some cases died of kidney failure. The FDA found melamine in samples of Menu Foods pet food and in samples of wheat gluten, imported from China, which was used as an ingredient.

### 2007 Heineken Cup Semi Finals

This weekend sees the potentially ill-fated Heineken Cup semi finals take place. Llanelli Scarlets are to play Leicester, and in a repeat of last week's Guinness premiership clash, Northampton Saints face London Wasps.

#### Scarlets

The Scarlets are the last non-English side playing in the Heineken Cup, which is guaranteed to have at least one English team in the title. The Scarlets are the only unbeaten side remaining in the competition.

#### Leicester

Leicester arrive in the semi finals having knocked out the French side, Stade Francais. They are currently have 66 points in the premiership, which places them in second place after Gloucester (also on 66 points). Given that they've won the Anglo-Welsh trophy already, they have the potential to win the treble.

#### Northampton

In the Quarter Finals, Northampton played the French team, Biarritz. The game was played in the San Sebastian in northern Spain. After a low scoring game, Northampton defied predictions to win 7-6.

Northampton are facing relegation in the premiership, and although they will take the game seriously, it's possible that their minds may be elsewhere. It will be vital for

them to win their next premiership game. Should they fail to do so they will certainly be relegated.

#### Wasps

Following Wasps victory over Leinster at Adams Park, Wasps fully expected to face Biarritz, but it was not to be. In an interesting twist, their Heineken Cup game against Northampton would immediately follow their Guinness Premiership match against that team. Wasps won that game, despite having to rest players such as Alex King and Lawrence Dallaglio.

Wasps have a good chance this weekend, and can boast three international captains in their ranks. Dallaglio, Vickery (both England) and Ibanez (captain of the French side which won the 6 nations).

#### Schedule

Both games take place at a neutral venue which has been selected by one of the sides previously selected by lot. The Leicester vs. Llanelli game will take place at the Walkers stadium in Leicester on Saturday. It will kick off at 3pm BST (2pm UTC).

The Wasps vs. Northampton game will take place in Coventry at the Ricoh arena. It will kick off at 3:05pm BST on Sunday.

The final will take place at Twickenham on the 20th May at 2:30pm (BST)

#### Results

In the Llanelli Scarlets vs Leicester game, Leicester won 33 points to 17. It was 16-10 at half time. Tries for leicester were scored by Goode, Jennings and Deacon. There were three conversions from Goode who also scored four penalties. For Scarlets, M Jones and Rees scored tries, S Jones converted twice and also scored a penalty.

The Northampton Saints face London Wasps later today.

### Strong 6.3 magnitude earthquake reported in Papua New Guinea

According to the USGS, a 6.3 magnitude earthquake has struck in the New Ireland region of Papua New Guinea. The time of the quake was reported at 5:12 p.m. local time [7:12 a.m. UTC].

The epicenter was 120 kilometers [74 miles] south, south east from Kavieng, New Ireland, in Papua New Guinea and had a depth of 410.4 kilometers [255.0 miles].

So far there are no reports of damage or injuries from the quake. No tsunami warning has been issued.

### Kent Hovind's appeal denied

Kent Hovind's March 2007 appeal was denied Friday, April 20, 2007. Hovind, a Pensacola young Earth creationist and operator of Dinosaur Adventure Land, along with his wife, Jo Hovind, were found guilty in November 2006 on 58 federal counts of "willful failure" to payroll taxes, structuring bank withdrawals, and obstructing federal agents.

On January 19, 2007 Kent was sentenced to ten years in prison and ordered to pay \$640,000 in owed funds to the Internal Revenue Service, pay prosecution's court costs of \$7,078, and serve three years parole once released.

In his appeal, Hovind contended that under the rule in a case called United States v. Davenport the crime is not the individual withdrawals, but is instead the total transaction, also known as the "unit of the crime." Thus, Hovind argued that in his case there was no "unit of the crime" "separate and distinct

from the alleged act of withdrawing, and without such a separate amount to be structured [. . .] there could be no crime alleged, and no conviction on any charge in Counts 13 through 57."

Had the judge ruled in Hovind's favor his sentence would have reduce Hovind's prison sentence from ten years to five years.

Jo Hovind sentencing was delayed pending the appeal. She will be sentenced soon though no date has been set.

**Today in History**

1500 - Portuguese explorer Pedro Álvares Cabral and his crew became the first Europeans to sight Brazil.

1913 - The Bolshevik newspaper Pravda was first published in Saint Petersburg, Russia.

1915 - Chlorine gas was released as a chemical weapon in the Second Battle of Ypres, the first large-scale use of poison gas in World War I.

1930 - The London Naval Treaty, regulating submarine warfare and limiting shipbuilding, was signed.

2000 - In a predawn raid, U.S. federal agents seized six-year-old Elián González from his relatives' home in Miami, Florida and returned him to his Cuban father.

April 22 is Earth Day.

**Quote of the Day**

It is certainly not then — not in dreams — but when one is wide awake, at moments of robust joy and achievement, on the highest terrace of consciousness, that mortality has a chance to peer beyond its own limits, from the mast, from the past and its castle-tower. And although nothing much can be seen through the mist, there is somehow the blissful feeling that one is looking in the right direction.

~ Vladimir Nabokov

**Word of the Day**  
 contemporaneously; adv  
 1. In the same period of time; during the same historical era.

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