



Top Stories

Second blast at coal mine in Donetsk, Ukraine



Utah taser incident triggers debate and death threats

Video of man being tasered by Utah police is released after victim claims the UHP's internal investigation was not progressing.



Wikipedia Current Events

- Al Qaeda in Iraq militants attack the Shiite village of Dwelah in Diyala, killing at least 13 people.
- Turkey claims that it has attacked PKK positions in Iraq, inflicting significant losses.
- Former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto begins her election campaign for the January 8 General Elections.
- The nomination of Shahbaz Sharif, brother of Nawaz Sharif, is rejected because of pending criminal charges against him.
- In another regional leadership reshuffle following the 17th Party Congress in the People's Republic of China, Minister of Commerce Bo Xilai is appointed the CPC Chongqing Committee Secretary, replacing Wang Yang, who is now Party Secretary in Guangdong. Zhang Dejiang resigns from his posts in Guangdong.
- 2007 Belgian government formation: Formateur Yves Leterme resigns.
- British Home Secretary Jacqui Smith issues a terrorism warning ahead of Christmas.

On Thursday November 29, the tourists were traveling in a Mercedes-Benz 4x4, near a gate to the park when the driver "miscalculated" the turn onto a bridge crossing the Letaba river, causing the car to plunge over the edge, flip over and fall into the river below with the roof in the river's water.

No names have been released as authorities are attempting to contact the family members of those killed. It is not known if the driver will be charged.

Venezuela to vote over constitutional reform on Sunday

This Sunday Venezuelans will decide whether a series of constitutional reforms should be approved or not; among these reforms, one issue which has received widespread media attention is that the new constitution will allow presidents to be re-elected without term limits.

The amendments—which will affect 69 of the 350 articles—have already been passed by the Venezuelan National Assembly (Asamblea Nacional de Venezuela). Now the referendum will take place on Sunday, being the last step required before the reform can come into effect.

According to Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez, the constitutional reform is needed to complete the country's transition to a "socialist republic". The 1999 Constitution had already increased the

Featured story

Wikimedia Foundation among World Economic Forum's 2008 Technology Pioneers

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM The Wikimedia Foundation has been selected by the WEF as



one of the 2008 Pioneers of Technology for its "potential for long-term impact on business and society, demonstrating visionary leadership and having a proven technology."

Five tourists die in car crash in South African park

Five tourists including a child, have been killed in a car accident in Kruger National Park in South Africa. Four of the tourists were from Austria and one was from Germany. The driver survived the crash with minor injuries.

Wikipedia Current Events

The United States wins its first Davis Cup since 1995 taking an unbeatable 3-0 lead over Russia in the final in Portland, Oregon.

presidential term of office from five to six years, with the possibility of re-election. The previous constitution did not allow re-election.

Other disputed aspects are the autonomy of the Central Bank and reforms known as the "new geometry of power"; the opposition has argued that the reform is an attempt of granting even more power to Chávez. The President has argued that the reform is, on the contrary, a new "equation" to grant more power to the people.

ETA fighters kill Spanish guard in southern France

A Spanish civil guard was killed today and another seriously wounded in the town of Capbreton, on the southwest coast of France, in a shootout with suspected members of the Basque separatist group ETA.

The events occurred around 8:30 a.m. UTC, when the two plainclothes guards were entering in their car after leaving a coffee shop in the locality. They were then assaulted by two men who fired on them. Agent Raul Centeno Pallón died on the scene instantly, while Fernando Trapero Blázquez was injured seriously and is in a coma.

The civil guard were taking part in a joint surveillance operation with French police against ETA in southern France, when the two guardsmen were apparently detected and identified by the suspected ETA members. After the attack, the two suspected ETA members, and a woman who was with them, fled in a car. Having traveled about 70 kilometers, the two men abandoned the vehicle and robbed another car. The driver of the hijacked car was kidnapped,

put in the trunk and finally left tied to a tree.

This is the first fatality blamed on ETA since it ended the last cease-fire in June, although it has carried out many non-fatal actions.

This incident comes a day after the National High Court of Spain issued arrest warrants to round up 46 of 52 Basque citizens prosecuted and sentenced previously on accusations of supporting ETA's separatist ideas.

2007 Festival of Cabaret – preview

Next Wednesday, December 5, the 2007 Festival of Cabaret will begin in Zielona Góra. The event is to last 5 days, till Sunday, December 9. It is organised by Zielonogórskie Zagłębie Kabaretowe (English: Zielona Góra Basin of Cabarets).

The programme

The official opening of the Festival will take place at 17:00 (UTC) in the assembly hall of the University of Zielona Góra, 50 Podgórna Street, which is to be the main arena of the performances. Apart from the opening, the audience will see a show called Kabaret Teatr Absurdu "Żżżż" (English: "Żżżż" Cabaret Theatre of Nonsense) directed by Władysław Sikora. At 21:00 (UTC), among the events accompanying the Festival, it will be possible to watch a film titled *Zamknięci w Celuloidzie* in the "Kawon" club.

The second day of the Festival will be simultaneously the first day of the real contest, judged by the observers. Dno, Limo and Magda Mleczak cabarets will perform their shows at 17:00 (UTC) in the assembly hall of the University. At 21:00 (UTC) in the "Gęba" University club, the Playback Show is to take place; at the same time,

in "Kawon", it will be possible to take part in a scenic-cabaret experiment entitled *Nieustający skecz-sztafeta* (English: Neverending sketch-relay).

On Friday at 17:00 (UTC) the following cabarets will present their shows: Stado Umtata, NaPad and Artur Andrus. At 21:00 (UTC) the Kabaretowe karaoke (English: Cabaret Karaoke) in Gęba as well as a Piosenka mojego życia (English: The song of my life) lyrical-cabaret evening in Kawon are to begin.

Saturday will be the last day of the judged performances. At 16:00 (UTC) in the assembly hall of the University the audience is to see the shows by Ani Mru Mru and Ireneusz Krosny. Earlier, at 13:00 (UTC) in Zajazd Pocztowy, 78-80 Jedności Street, there will be an author's meeting with Grzegorz Miecugow, a co-author of the book "Kontaktowi, czyli szklarze bez kitu". At 20:00 (UTC) in the assembly hall of the UZ the life-improvised serial titled *Spadkobiercy* (English: The Heirs) is to begin. The last event of the Saturday evening will be the award of a silver and a few bronze Erich von Patisonh statuettes.

Sunday is the day intended for the performances of the cabarets from Zielona Góra. The audience will see the shows of cabarets connected with "Gęba" University club, including: Babeczki z Rodzynkiem, Ciach, Hlynur, Hrabi, Jurki, Made In China, Słuchajcie and Magda Mleczak.

The reports from the Festival will be free to see in Dzień dobry TVN (English: Good morning TVN) programme of a Polish commercial television channel TVN.

[The observers](#)

During this year's Festival two bodies will take on the duty of the observers, deciding about the final results: the Chapter of the Statuette and the Lodge of the Experts.

The Chapter of the Statuette will be made up of three representatives of the world of cabaret: Justyna Weight, Maciej Michalski and Krzysztof Szubzda; additionally, they are to be joined by two members of the audience. The following people will make up the Lodge of the Experts: Zofia Merle, Stanisław Tym, Wojciech Młynarski and Władysław Sikora.

In the opinion of the organizers of the Festival:

Quote

The Statuette is not an award for the value of the programme – it's an expression of admiration, respect or jealousy towards the recipient.

Blast in a coal mine in Donetsk, Ukraine

Another blast shook the Ukrainian coal mine Zasyadko in Donetsk, where over 100 miners died in a methane blast in November. According to the Russia Today TV, 8 miners have been hospitalised with burns and other injuries, and over 50 have received medical treatment. The channel reports the evacuation to be almost complete. "All have now been brought to the surface. There are no miners remaining below," an inspectorate duty officer told Reuters.

Marina Nikitina, a local officer of the Ukrainian's industrial safety agency Gosgorpromnadzor, informed the press that all of the 385 miners who were underground when the explosion occurred, have been already evacuated. According to her, the blast took place at 5.55 a.m. EET (UTC+2) in an isolated

part of the colliery at the deep of 1078 metres, where 63 people were working. An Ukrainian TV channel Kanal 5 reports the disaster has been caused by a methane blast. It informs also that Vitalij Shevchenko, the mine's general engineer, has been ousted from his post by the Ukrainian mining supervision.

It is the second explosion in two weeks that happened in the pit. The November 18 blast is regarded among the Ukrainian media as the worst coal-mining disaster in Ukraine's post-Soviet history.

Today's blast is a part of deadly series of accidents in the Ukrainian coal mining industry; in the Donetsk region alone about 200 people have died this year.

Amtrak train smashes freighter in Chicago

An Amtrak train collided with a parked Norfolk Southern freight train in Chicago on Friday. 30 people were injured, five of them Amtrak personnel who were most seriously injured.

Amtrak train 371, the Pere Marquette, started in Grand Rapids, Michigan and carried 193 people on board including six crew members. The train was in south Chicago heading towards its destination of Chicago Union Station when the crash occurred around 17:30 UTC. No injuries were reported among the crew of the Norfolk Southern freight train. Amtrak's locomotive, a GE Genesis, was derailed by the force of the impact, although the rest of the passenger train remained on the tracks.

All Amtrak trains between Chicago and Michigan are currently cancelled while workers remove the locomotive from the scene and

perform any needed repairs. A National Transportation Safety Board "Go Team" led by Ted Turpin was dispatched to the scene to conduct a federal investigation into the crash.

Today in History

1805 – Napoleonic Wars: French forces led by Emperor Napoleon I decisively defeated a Russo-Austrian army commanded by Czar Alexander I in the Battle of Austerlitz.

1823 – U.S. President James Monroe issued the Monroe Doctrine, a proclamation of opposition to European colonialism in the New World.

1942 – The Manhattan Project: Scientists led by Enrico Fermi initiated the first self-sustaining nuclear chain reaction in the experimental nuclear reactor Chicago Pile-1.

1956 – Cuban Revolution: The yacht Granma, carrying Fidel Castro, Che Guevara and 80 other members of the 26th of July Movement, reached the shores of Cuba.

1975 – The Pathet Lao overthrew the royalist government in Vientiane, forcing King Savang Vatthana to abdicate, and established the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

December 02 is National Day in the United Arab Emirates (1971) and Laos (1975).

Quote of the Day

December will be magic again.
Don't miss the brightest star.
Kiss under mistletoe.
I want to hear you laugh.
Don't let the mystery go now.
~ Kate Bush ~

Word of the Day

carry the message to Garcia; v
1. To perform a requisite task despite obstacles.

About Wikinews

We are a group of volunteer journalists whose mission is to create a diverse community where citizens from around the globe (including **you**) can collaborate to report the news on a wide variety of current events. By making our content perpetually available for free redistribution and use, we hope to contribute to a global digital commons.

Got news and no computer?**Call the Wikinews Hotline**

+1-866-653-4265
(toll-free in the U.S.)
+1-202-742-5918
(outside the U.S.)
+44-871-218-6397
(U.K. / Europe)

License

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution License. Articles published in this Print edition were created by Wikinewsies. Other content released under the GNU Free Documentation License.

To view a copy of the CC-BY license, visit:

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/>

or send a letter to

Creative Commons
543 Howard Street, 5th Floor
San Francisco, California, 94105, USA

To view a copy of the GFDL, visit:

<http://www.gnu.org/copyleft/fdl.html>

Wikipedia Current Events

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Current_events

Today in History

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

Quote of the Day

http://en.wikiquote.org/wiki/Main_Page

Word of the Day

http://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/Main_Page

About Wikinews Print Edition

For more information about Wikinews Print Edition visit:

<http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Wikinews:Print>