



# WIKINEWS PRINT EDITION

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### Top Stories

#### Belgrade: demonstration against independent Kosovo escalates into riots

In Serbia's capital Belgrade, protesters have broken into the United States embassy, and have set fire to an office. The break-in followed massive protests against Kosovo's independence that was declared last Sunday.

#### 2008 United States presidential election

The race for the White House also includes independents and third party candidates, representing views that may not be acknowledged by the major party platforms.

See [http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Category:2008\\_United\\_States\\_presidential\\_election](http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Category:2008_United_States_presidential_election)

#### Explosions target ethnic Albanians in Croatia

Blasts destroyed two vans owned by ethnic Albanian shop owners at two different locations in Pula, a city in the Croatian region of Istria.



### Featured story

#### Several earthquakes shake Nevada

Several small earthquakes have been reported near Wells, Nevada after a large magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck the region just after 6:00 a.m. (pacific time)

### Featured story

causing at least one injury and collapsing dozens of buildings.

### Wikipedia Current Events

Mozilla Firefox reaches 1/2 billion downloads.

- A Santa Barbara Airlines flight goes missing in Venezuela with 40 passengers.
- An emergency landing of a senator helicopter takes place in Afghanistan. In the helicopter were senators, John Kerry, Joe Biden, and Chuck Hagel. The cause of the landing was probably because of mechanical failure.
- The European Broadcasting Union is considering to relocate the 2008 Eurovision Song Contest in Belgrad due to security concerns (the Serbian National Final has been postponed).

•150,000 Serbs have gathered for a rally in Belgrade to protest against Kosovo's declaration of independence over the weekend.

•Small group of hooligans break into the United States embassy in Belgrade and set fire to consular office section.

•A charred body of a protester is found in the United States embassy.

•An official says the United States Navy has shot down USA 193, a spy satellite in a decaying orbit, over the Pacific Ocean. (AP via Breitbart.com) Officials believe the targeted hydrazine fuel tank

### Wikipedia Current Events

was destroyed, and no longer poses a threat.

- A special prosecutor clears South Korean president-elect Lee Myung-bak of fraud allegations.
- Magnitude 7.5 earthquake strikes the Indonesian province of Aceh.
- Singapore is elected by the International Olympic Committee as the first city to host the Youth Olympic Games in 2010.
- An earthquake of 6.3 Magnitude hits 11.1 miles east/southeast of Wells, Nevada. It is 2.2 miles deep, and is known to have felt as far away as Twin Falls, Idaho, about 125 miles away, and Salt Lake City, Utah, about 180 miles away.
- Gazprom, Total and StatoilHydro incorporated the Shtokman Development Company, a joint operating company to develop giant Shtokman gas field.

#### East Timorese President regains consciousness

The President of East Timor, Jose Ramos-Horta, has woken from the induced coma he was put in following an assassination attempt. The President, who was shot by rebels on February 11, is still in a serious condition requiring more surgery, but is recovering, according to the doctors treating him at the Royal Darwin Hospital in Darwin, Australia.

Jose Luis Guterres, the East Timorese Deputy Prime Minister, has flown to Darwin, and says that

one of the President's first concerns upon regaining consciousness was for his country. "One of his first words was to mention to his close relatives to look after the people of East Timor," he said.

### **Pakistan opposition parties form coalition**

Pakistan's two major opposition parties, the Pakistan Peoples Party and the Pakistan Muslim League (N), have announced they will work together to form a new government after defeating allies of President Pervez Musharraf in Monday's parliamentary elections.

The leaders of the two parties, former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif of the Pakistan Muslim League, and Benazir Bhutto's husband Asif Ali Zardari of the PPP, made the announcement today at a joint press conference. "We have agreed on a common agenda. We will work together to form a government together," said Sharif. A smaller opposition party, the Awami National Party, will also be helping the new government, according to the party leaders.

"The future of democracy is within our grasp," Zardari said. "We will strengthen the parliament, we will strengthen democracy, we will work together for Pakistan. We will make a stronger Pakistan."

Zadari says the parties have agreed "in principle" to join together, although details of the agreement have not yet been finalized and remain unclear. "Governance is a serious business," Zadari said, "and everything cannot be decided at a two-hour meeting. We will be meeting again off and on."

The two leaders did not mention any plans to impeach Musharraf

from office, which would require a two-thirds majority in Parliament. But Zadari seemed to indicate that "pro-Musharraf forces" would not be included in the coalition. "I don't believe pro-Musharraf forces exist," he said.

One thing the parties have already agreed on is the reinstatement of judges fired by Musharraf during the state of emergency last November. "In principle there's no disagreement on restoration of the judiciary. We will work on the modalities in parliament," said Sharif.

One of the displaced judges is Chief Justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudary, who remains under house arrest in Islamabad. Pakistani lawyers protested his arrest in the capital and other major cities. Through smuggled cell phones, Chaudary spoke to the protesters, telling them, "Victory is not far off now." Police threw tear gas at the protesters, some of whom were hurling stones and burning effigies of the president.

The Pakistan Peoples Party won 88 seats and the Pakistan Muslim League (N) won 66 in the 272-member National Assembly. The pro-Musharraf Pakistan Muslim League only won 40 seats, thus losing their majority in Parliament.

### **Steve Wright found guilty of murdering five women in Suffolk, England**

Steve Wright has today, at Ipswich Crown Court, been convicted of the murders of five women found dead around the Suffolk town in England in December 2006. Tania Nicol, Gemma Adams, Anneli Alderton, Paula Clennell and Annette Nicholls all worked as sex workers in the area.

The first body, that of Gemma

Adams, was found on December 2. She had been reported missing on November 15. Tania Nicol, reported missing on October 30, was found December 8, approximately two miles away. On December 10, the body of Anneli Alderton was spotted by a motorist in woodland near to the village of Nacton.

The bodies of Paula Clennell and Annette Nicholls were found near the village of Levington on December 12.

Steve Wright was identified as a suspect after DNA evidence was found linking him to the murders. He was arrested on December 19 and charged two days later.

Following the conviction, Detective Chief Superintendent Stewart Gull who led the investigation said that, "These appalling crimes left a community, a county and a nation in a state of profound shock."

"Today's verdicts demonstrate how the combination of traditional police work and information from the public, coupled with cutting edge DNA science, can be so effective in today's crime investigations."

Wright will be sentenced at Ipswich Crown Court tomorrow, February 22.

### **Several earthquakes shake Nevada**

Several small earthquakes have been reported near Wells, Nevada after a large magnitude 6.0 earthquake struck the region at 6:16 a.m. PST (UTC-8).

The 6.0 quake, centered 12 miles (19 kilometers) from Wells had a depth of 5.6 miles (9 km) and caused at least 25 buildings to collapse. Damage to other

buildings and windows was also reported, and at least two water mains were ruptured. Several cars were hit by bricks as they fell of buildings. One person was hospitalized for a broken arm, but no other injuries were reported.

At least 30 aftershocks ranging from a magnitude 2.0 to 4.0 have been reported since the early morning quake. The quake could be felt as far away as California, Idaho and Utah.

Officials in Nevada are currently inspecting roads and dams in the region for damage. FEMA is also on their way to the area to help in the inspections.

### **Belgrade: demonstration against independent Kosovo escalates into riots**

In Serbia's capital Belgrade protesters have broken into the United States embassy, and have set fire to an office, which is now extinguished. The break-in followed massive protests against Kosovo's independence that was declared last Sunday. Approximately 150,000 protested in front of the parliament building in Belgrade when masked attackers broke into the building and tried to throw office-furniture out the windows.

Around 18:00, after the relay, a couple hundred rioters went to Kneza Milosa Street where the US embassy is located. At 18:15 they demolished a part of the embassy and burned it. They also attacked the Croatian embassy, which is around 100 meters from the US embassy on the same street. Around 19:00 police came and clashed with the rioters using tear gas. Riots were all over downtown Belgrade. As of 22:00 the situation was under control but there are still some riots in other streets.

The tear gas polluted a couple blocks, about 350 meters up to Vračar hill.

The nearby Croatian embassy was also attacked. Rocks were thrown at the Canadian embassy building. This could be due to the fact that Canada has not said yet if it recognises Kosovo. Embassies of Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Belgium, United Kingdom and Germany were also attacked.

Around 80 people were injured, including 15 policemen. A Dutch journalist was attacked by rioters. People helped him escape, and he has been taken into hospital with broken bones. He is expected to be kept in hospital until the next day. Ambulances and medical cars were called to the scene to help injured people and protesters, some cars were attacked.

Two McDonald's restaurants on squares Terazije and Slavija were attacked. The restaurant on Slavija has been heavily damaged. Kiosks, stores and banks were robbed all over the centre of Belgrade. The protesters tried to attack radio/television station B92 but police had the scene under control.

"As long as we live, Kosovo is Serbia," Prime Minister Vojislav Kostunica told the crowd from a stage in front of the old Yugoslav parliament building in Belgrade, "We're not alone in our fight. President Putin is with us". A huge banner reading "Kosovo is Serbia" draped the front of the building.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Sean McCormack called out to the Serbian government to protect the U.S. Embassy. He said the U.S. ambassador was at his home and was in contact with U.S. officials.

The United States was one of the first countries, with the United Kingdom, France and Germany to recognize Kosovo as an independent state. Serbia however regards Kosovo as a province and is backed up in this by Russia, China and numerous other countries. Kosovo is 90% ethnic Albanian, with in the north a minority of ethnic Serbians. Belgrade has, however, not been in control over the Kosovo area since 1999, when United Nations took control.

High representative of the Serbian Radical Party, Aleksandar Vucic, said that "those who provoked Serbian people are equally responsible for destruction as rioters are." President of Serbia Boris Tadic and President of the National Assembly Oliver Dulic and other ministers called on peace.

### **John McCain denies romantic relationship with lobbyist**

United States Presidential candidate John McCain (R-AZ) has denied that he had a romantic relationship with a female telecommunications (Vickie Iseman) lobbyist and stated the suggestion that he displayed favoritism for her clients is "not true."

The denial follows a report in Thursday's New York Times that cited former advisors who believed McCain's relationship with the lobbyist had become romantic.

"I'm very disappointed in the article. It's not true," the likely Republican Party presidential nominee said as his wife, Cindy, stood beside him during a news conference called to address the matter.

"I've served this nation honorably

for more than half a century," said McCain, a four-term Arizona senator and former Navy pilot. "At no time have I ever done anything that would betray the public trust."

"I intend to move on," he added.

McCain described the woman in question, lobbyist Vicki Iseman, as a friend.

The New York Times quoted anonymous aides as saying they had urged McCain and Iseman to stay away from each other prior to his failed presidential campaign in 2000. In its own follow-up story, The Washington Post quoted longtime aide John Weaver, who split with McCain last year, as saying he met with lobbyist Iseman and urged her to steer clear of McCain.

But McCain said he was unaware of any such conversation, and denied that his aides ever tried to talk to him about his interactions with Iseman.

"I never discussed it with John Weaver. As far as I know, there was no necessity for it," McCain said. "I don't know anything about it," he added. "John Weaver is a friend of mine. He remains a friend of mine. But I certainly didn't know anything of that nature."

His wife also said she was disappointed with the news.

"More importantly, my children and I not only trust my husband, but know that he would never do anything to not only disappoint our family, but disappoint the people of America. He's a man of great character," Cindy McCain said.

The couple smiled throughout the questioning at a Toledo, Ohio hotel.

"We think the story speaks for itself," Times executive editor Bill Keller said in a written statement Thursday. "On the timing, our policy is we publish stories when they are ready."

McCain's remaining rival for the Republican nomination, former Arkansas Governor Mike Huckabee, called McCain "a good decent honorable man" and said he accepted McCain's response.

"I've campaigned now on the same stage or platform with John McCain for 14 months. I only know him to be a man of integrity," Huckabee said in Houston, Texas. "Today he denied any of that was true. I take him at his word. For me to get into it is completely immaterial."

The published reports said McCain and Iseman each denied having a romantic relationship. Neither story asserted that there was a romantic relationship and offered no evidence that there was, reporting only that aides worried about the appearance of McCain having close ties to a lobbyist with business before the Senate Commerce Committee on which McCain served. paper.

One of McCain's senior advisers, Charlie Black, told CNN that the campaign first learned in October (2007) the paper was working on a story about McCain's relationship with Iseman.

He said that information and documents provided to the paper disputes suggestions McCain tried to use his influence to help Iseman.

Black further said The New York Times was a liberal newspaper that was printing "rumors and gossip" in what he described as a

partisan attack on the conservative McCain.

"He doesn't do favors for anyone," Black said of McCain.

### **Explosions target ethnic Albanians in Croatia**

Pula, Croatia - Blasts destroyed two vans owned by ethnic Albanian shop owners at two different locations in Pula, a city in the Croatian region of Istria. There were no injuries in the explosions and there was no responsibility attributed.

Relatives of the shop owners attributed the explosions to the present situation regarding the declaration of independence of Kosovo. There are some 2,000 ethnic Albanians in Istria.

### **US Navy successfully destroys disabled spy satellite**

The United States Navy has successfully destroyed a crippled spy satellite in a decaying orbit, by intercepting it with a missile. A modified SM-3 missile was launched from the USS Lake Erie at 03:26 GMT this morning, and intercepted the USA-193 satellite around three minutes later. It has been reported that the satellite has broken into around 80 pieces, some of which have already re-entered the Earth's atmosphere. The SM-3 missile was designed to shoot down other missiles, however for this launch, it was modified to act as an Anti-satellite weapon (ASAT). This was the first time the US military had used an ASAT since 1985. China, however, destroyed an old orbiting satellite on January 11, 2007.

The satellite, which was known by the designations USA-193 and NRO L-21, was launched in December 2006, by a Delta II rocket. It was believed to have

been a new type of spy satellite, however it was reported to have failed within hours of launch. This resulted in it being stranded in a decaying orbit, with a full tank of potentially toxic hydrazine propellant. The officially stated purpose of destroying the satellite is to prevent possible contamination from the hydrazine, and protect public safety should it land in a populated area. Claims that the destruction was politically motivated — to demonstrate to China, who tested an anti-satellite weapon last year — or to ensure that the satellite's classified technology did not survive re-entry and land in a hostile country, have been denied by officials. Officials believe the hydrazine tank has been destroyed, however it will take about a day to confirm this.

The Chinese government, who recieved criticism from the US government for shooting down one of their own satellites last year, have claimed the satellite's destruction represents "possible harm to outer space security". Bryan Whitman, a spokesman for the US government replied that destroying the satellite was "about reducing the risk to human life on Earth, nothing more".

### **National Hockey League news: February 21, 2008**

#### *Tampa Bay Lightning @ Buffalo Sabres*

Chris Gratton scored to give Tampa Bay an early lead. After nearly 40 minutes without a goal, Brad Richards would put the Lightning ahead by two goals 1:03 into the third period. Derek Roy put Buffalo on the scoreboard two minutes later, but the Lightning added to their lead less than a minute after that when Vaclav Prospal beat Ryan Miller. Down 3-1 late in the game, the Sabres

needed something to happen, and that something came from #26 Thomas Vanek. He scored three consecutive goals, the first two 36 seconds apart, and the last one, the game winning power play goal, 2:25 into overtime. The Sabres snapped a two game losing streak, and a 7 game losing streak in shootouts. The Sabres out-shot the Lightning 46-25.

#### *San Jose Sharks @ New Jersey Devils*

Jonathan Cheechoo, in the closing seconds of San Jose's second power play, put the Sharks on the board early 35 seconds into the second period. Zach Parise tied the score 7:56 into the second, his 24th goal of the season. John Madden gave New Jersey their first lead of the game with 3:04 left in the second period, and Sergei Brylin would increase their lead 1:10 later. Kyle McLaren cut the Devils' lead in half, but despite doubling New Jersey's shots in the final period, couldn't put another past Devils goalie Martin Brodeur. Devils have now won their third straight, and the Sharks lose their fifth straight game.

#### *New York Islanders @ Washington Capitals*

Alexander Semin put Washington up early in the game. Brooks Laich picked up a power play goal later in the first period to put the Capitals up by two. Miroslav Satan put the Islanders on the board near the halfway point of the game. Joseph Vasicek scored an unassisted goal 11:09 into the third period to tie the score. In a shootout, Mike Comrie scored the only goal needed for the Islanders to take their fifth straight win, a season high. The Capitals out shot New York 30-19; Rick DiPietro saved 28, most coming after Washington's two goals. Alexander Ovechkin, the current NHL points

leader, has not earned a point in his third consecutive game.

#### *Minnesota Wild @ Chicago Blackhawks*

The Blackhawks, who were shut out by the Wild in the season opener, finally got to return the favor. Patrick Kane gave Chicago an early 1-0 lead 3:49 into the game. They would put the Wild further behind them with back-to-back goals by David Bolland, his 2nd and 3rd of the season, the first one late in the second period, then again 5:40 into the third. Nikolai Khabibulin stopped all of Minnesota's 38 shots. Chicago wins their 4th of 5 games, while the Wild drop their second in a row. Rene Bourque assisted in both the Bolland goals. Kane, now with 51 points this season, increases his lead as the NHL's rookie points leader, now 2 ahead of Washington's Nicklas Backstrom.

#### *Calgary Flames @ Dallas Stars*

Alex Tanguay put the Flames up first, scoring a power play goal in the first period. Niklas Hagman tied the score for Dallas early in the second period. Tanguay, with his second goal of the night, retook the lead for Calgary on a short handed goal 30 seconds into the third period, then Dallas's Mattias Norstrom scored his first goal of the season to retie the score moments later. With 2:27 left in the game, Jarome Iginla scored his 38th goal of the season, the game winner, to give the Flames their second win in a row, and put themselves two points ahead of the Vancouver Canucks, and three points back from Minnesota, the division leader in the Northwest. Dallas lost their second of their past 11 games.

#### *Colorado Avalanche @ Anaheim Ducks*

Teemu Selanne scored his second goal of the season in a first period Ducks power play to give them the first lead of the game. Jeff Finger scored for Colorado to tie the score 8:12 through the second period. Andrew Brunette gave the Ducks their first lead of the game later in the period. Rob Niedermayer tied the score for Anaheim, which would send the game into overtime. In a shootout, Corey Perry scored the only shootout goal, which is all Anaheim needed. Jean-Sebastien Giguere stopped 26 goals, plus the three Avalanche shootout attempts, to pick up his fifth win in 6 decisions. Ryan Getzlaf assisted in Selanne's goal, his 45th of the season.

#### Other news

Detroit Red Wings defenseman Nicklas Lidstrom is expected to be out for three weeks after injuring his knee. Lidstrom, the NHL plus/minus leader with +39, as well as the points leader among defensemen, left Sunday's game in the first period after a hit from Colorado's Ian Laperriere. Stars forward Stu Barnes had eye surgery performed after partially tearing a retina in Saturday's game against Detroit, and is expected to miss a week.

With the trading deadline less than a week away, the Philadelphia Flyers traded defenseman Jim Vandermeer to Calgary for a third-round pick in the 2009 entry draft. Vandermeer, who started the season with Chicago, has 3 goals, 12 assists, and 71 penalty minutes this season.

#### **Today in History**

1819 – By the Adams-Onís Treaty, Spain sold Florida to the United States for five million U.S. dollars.

1943 – Members of the White Rose Society were found guilty of treason and guillotined by the Nazi regime in Germany.

1980 – At the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York, USA, the United States ice hockey team defeated the Soviet Union in an unlikely victory that became known as the Miracle on Ice.

1986 – The People Power Revolution, a series of nonviolent mass street demonstrations in the Philippines against the regime of President Ferdinand Marcos, began.

1997 – Scientists at the Roslin Institute in Scotland announced the birth of a cloned sheep named Dolly seven months after the fact. February 22 is Independence Day in Saint Lucia (1979), Feast of Cathedra Petri (Catholicism).

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

Life is short, and truth works far and lives long: let us speak the truth. ~ Arthur Schopenhauer

#### **Word of the Day**

smarmy adj

1. Falsely earnest, smug, or ingratiating.

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