



**Top Stories**

**U.S. President Bush nominates Supreme Court Justice**



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Harriet Ellan Miers to replace Sandra Day O'Connor as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

**Fatal blasts rock Bangladesh**

Dhaka: Two people were killed and 40 others injured in a series of bombings at courts in three districts of Bangladesh today (Oct 3, 2005), in an apparent repeat of the nationwide August 17 bombings, police said.

**Featured story**

**Ulcer bacteria researchers awarded 2005 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**



Warren and Marshall were awarded their prize

"for their discovery of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* and its role in gastritis and peptic ulcer disease." Before their discovery, peptic ulcer was often a chronic disease which was attributed to stress and lifestyle.

**Wikipedia Current Events**

- Up to 60 students have been swept away by powerful Typhoon Longwang in Fujian, south-east China.
- At least 11 people die during a stampede at a concert in Sangju, South Korea.
- On the first day of the U.S. Supreme Court's fall term, President George W. Bush nominates White House Counsel Harriet Miers to fill the seat presently held by Sandra Day O'Connor. The nominee has no judicial experience.
- Conflict in Afghanistan: Afghan troops kill 31 suspects following clashes in Paktika, in eastern Afghanistan.
- Millions of people view the solar eclipse which occurred at 10:31 UTC, mainly in Africa and south-west-Europe.
- A train derails and crashes in Datia, Madhya Pradesh in India, killing 16 people.
- NTL, the largest British cable television company, telco and ISP, announces its multi-billion pound purchase of Telewest, the second largest cable company, creating one of the largest companies in the British media industry.

control of the Internet with the UN. "We will not agree to the UN taking over the management of the Internet. Some countries want that. We think that's unacceptable." said US Ambassador David Gross, the coordinator for international communications and information policy at the US Department of State. "No intergovernmental body should control the Internet, whether it's the U.N. or any other." he said

"We are looking for a new cooperation model, a model that allows Internet governance and the laying down of public policy principles in co-ordination by all countries which are interested in the governance of the Internet because the Internet is a global resource," said EU spokesman Martin Selmay .

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) currently controls the root zone files for the Internet. ICANN is a non-profit organization responsible for the assignment of domain names and IP addresses. They are overseen by the US Commerce Department, who granted them the original contract to oversee these tasks.

Many nations have expressed their dislike for the US having sole control of the Internet. They suggest that such control should be given to an intergovernmental body, such as the UN. Other proposals include limiting ICANN to a solely technical role and set up a a new organization outside the to handle policy issues.

**Wikipedia Current Events**

- Former Manchester United footballer George Best reported to be in intensive care (due to a kidney infection) at Cromwell Hospital, London.

**US rejects EU proposal to give control of the Internet to the UN**

The United States has rejected a proposal by European Union officials to share more of the

This issue is scheduled to be discussed at the UN World Summit on the Information Society in Tunis, Tunisia, in November.

### **L.A. hospital ignores liver transplant waiting list; falsifies records**

St. Vincent Medical Center, a large organ transplantation center in California, says that a Saudi patient, who was 52nd on the state liver transplant list, got priority improperly and the action was covered up.

Hospital President Gus Valdespino confirmed that hospital staff members then falsified documents several times to cover up the maneuver, pretending that the transplant was for a patient who was near the top of the regional waiting list.

The medical community views giving preference to one patient for nonmedical reasons as "totally unconscionable," according to Dr. Douglas Hanto, of the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston. In this case, priority is believed to have been granted because the Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia would pay 25% to 30% more for the operation than U.S. insurance companies would pay.

No more than 5% of donated organs are permitted to go to foreign nations by the National Organ Network; however, St. Vincent provided about 8% of its organs to foreign nationals.

### **U.S. President Bush nominates Harriet Ellan Miers for Supreme Court**

United States President George W. Bush announced today his nomination of Harriet Ellan Miers

to replace Sandra Day O'Connor as Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. O'Connor announced her intention to retire on July 1, 2005.

Bush originally nominated John G. Roberts, Jr. to replace O'Connor, but, following the death of William Rehnquist, Roberts was renominated for and confirmed as Chief Justice of the United States.

Bush's nomination of Miers was not totally unexpected as she was reportedly suggested by senators from both political parties as a potential nominee, and she was leading Bush's search team for his second nominee. This mirrors Dick Cheney's selection as Bush's Vice Presidential candidate in 2000 after Cheney led the search team for that post.

Miers attended Southern Methodist University, earning both a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a law degree. She was in private practice from 1972 to 1999. She served one term as a member of the Dallas City Council, then as Chair of the Texas Lottery Commission. Since Bush's election in 2000 she has served in a variety of roles in his administration, and is currently White House Counsel.

Some critics have voiced opposition to Miers' nomination, noting that she has never served as a jurist or argued a case before the Supreme Court. The White House has responded that neither the late judge William Rehnquist nor 35 other past Supreme Court nominees had judicial experience before being named to the Court. It also noted that 10 of the last 34 justices appointed since 1933 were appointed directly from positions within the then-president's administration.

Senate hearings on the nomination have been scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 6, 2005 at 2:30pm

In the most recent process, Chief Justice Roberts was confirmed with a vote 78 to 22 in favor. In recent decades, confirmation hearings have become more contentious as politicians have tried to maintain a "balance" on the court. While Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg was confirmed easily in 1993 following a vote of 96 to 3, Justice Clarence Thomas was confirmed by a vote of only 52 to 48 -- largely along party lines.

The website justicemiers.com, which is running banner ads in support of the nomination was registered on September 29th, 2005 (several days before the nomination was announced) to the organization Progress for America. According to SourceWatch, Progress for America is a non-profit organization closely associated with the Bush administration.

### **Fatal blasts rock Bangladesh**

Two people were killed and 40 others injured in a series of bombings at courts in three districts of Dhaka, Bangladesh today, in an apparent repeat of the nationwide August 17 bombings (in which 3 people were killed and 150 injured), according to police.

One person was killed and five others were injured when a youth hurled a bomb concealed in a book at a court in central Chandpur district. The injured included court officials. In another attack in Luxmipur district, one person was killed and 30 others injured when

two youths hurled bombs at a court there, police said. In the third incident, bombs were exploded in three places in southeastern port city of Chittagong injuring at least five others.

An unexploded bomb was found in Mymensingh district, television reports said.

State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babor was unfazed. "We were prepared and we will face these very confidently," he told reporters "Some arrests were made as we were prepared".

Yesterday, two people were killed and three others were injured in a bomb attack at a tea stall in western Satkhira district.

According to reports, a leaflet was found at the site warning against keeping shops open during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan starting this week.

The Government has arrested dozens of members of the banned Jamatul Mujahedeen Bangladesh (JMB) since then.

### **Ulcer bacteria researchers awarded 2005 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**

Two Australian ulcer bacteria researchers, J. Robin Warren and Barry Marshall, are the 2005 winners of the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine [1]. The award winners were announced on Monday morning in Stockholm. The pair will equally share a US\$1.3 million cash prize.

Warren and Marshall were awarded their prize "for their discovery of the bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* and its role in gastritis and peptic ulcer disease".

[2] Before their discovery, peptic ulcer was often a chronic disease which was attributed to stress and lifestyle.

The Nobel Committee at Karolinska Institutet has awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine since 1901, when Emil Adolf von Behring won for developing a treatment for diphtheria.

This kicks off a week of Nobel announcements. The awards in Physics and Chemistry will be announced on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Nobel Peace Prize will be announced on Friday.

### **Today in History**

1830; Belgian Revolution: A provisional government in Brussels declared the creation of the independent and neutral state of Belgium, in revolt against the United Kingdom of the Netherlands.

1883: The Orient Express began operations.

1910: Manuel II (pictured), the last King of Portugal, fled to the United Kingdom when a revolution erupted in Lisbon and his palace was shelled. The Portuguese First Republic was proclaimed the next day.

1957: Soviet spacecraft Sputnik 1 was launched by an R-7 rocket from Baikonur Cosmodrome, Kazakh SSR and became the first artificial satellite to orbit the Earth.

1993: Russian Constitutional Crisis: Tanks bombarded the White House in Moscow, a government building that housed the Russian parliament, where demonstrators against President Boris Yeltsin rallied outside.

October 04 is Independence Day in Lesotho (1966); Ramadan begins at sunset (Islam, 2005); Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi (Catholicism).

### **Quote of the Day**

"If we do discover a complete theory, it should in time be understandable in broad principle by everyone, not just a few scientists. Then we shall all, philosophers, scientists, and just ordinary people, be able to take part in the discussion of the question of why it is that we and the universe exist. If we find the answer to that, it would be the ultimate triumph of human reason — for then we would know the mind of God." ~ Stephen Hawking

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