



Top Stories

Telephone network access on iPhone unlocked by teen



Further arrest made in connection with shooting of Rhys Jones

A third teenager, a male aged 16, has been arrested on suspicion of the murder of Rhys Jones two days ago in the Croxteth area of Liverpool.

Featured story

Scottish archaeology student discovers 5,000 year old chewing gum in Finland

An archaeology student from Scotland has discovered a 5,000 year old piece of chewing gum on a dig in Finland.

Wikipedia Current Events

- A Georgian official announces that Georgian forces have fired on a Russian aircraft claimed to have violated Georgian airspace, possibly shooting it down.
- United States District Court judge William Hoeverler rules against former Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega returning to Panama after he completes his sentence in a United States prison stating that there was no reason why he shouldn't be

Wikipedia Current Events

- extradited to France to face a prison term there.
- Citing a "very reliable" source at the Miami University, the Swedish broad sheet newspaper Norra Skåne reports that Cuban leader Fidel Castro is dead.
- Quebec City mayor Andr e Boucher dies of a heart attack at 70.
- Part of the Montreal Metro and the street above are closed off after the formation of cracks at McGill station, causing severe traffic problems in downtown. There is no indication as to when the road or station will be re-opened.
- At least 20 people are killed in Peloponnese, Greece as a result of 150 wildfires burn out of control: two regions have been declared as disaster areas.
- A Florida judge sentences John Couey to death for the rape and murder of a 9 year old girl Jessica Lunsford in Citrus County, Florida.
- Russia sells Venezuela 98 Ilyushin Il-114 aircraft.
- Flood warnings are in place in 10 US states from Ohio to Texas with at least 25 people believed to have died in the past week.
- Mexican oil platforms resume production following the end of the threat from Hurricane Dean.
- Three British Army soldiers die in Afghanistan in a suspected friendly fire incident.

Wikipedia Current Events

- Bangladesh eases curfew arrangements in place in its major cities following a reduction in street violence.
- Sixty suspected Al Qaeda in Iraq gunmen attack police facilities in Samarra, Iraq resulting in at least 3 deaths and 9 injuries.
- Ban Ki-Moon, the Secretary-General of the United Nations urges the Government of Myanmar to show restraint in its treatment of students and pro-democracy activists who have been protesting against the regime.
- At least four Pakistan Army soldiers die in a suicide bomber attack on a military convoy near Miranshah, the main city of North Waziristan near the Afghan border.
- The explosion of a car bomb outside a police station in the Basque city of Durango, Spain is believed to be the first attack by the separatist group ETA since it called off a ceasefire in June.
- Dozens of people are rescued from floods on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland.

Further arrest made in connection with shooting of Rhys Jones

A third teenager, a male aged 16, has been arrested on suspicion of the murder of Rhys Jones two days ago in the Croxteth area of Liverpool. This most recent development follows the arrest and bailing of two teenagers on

suspicion of murder yesterday. All those arrested so far have been local.

Merseyside Police have also today released more information about the killing. An abandoned bicycle has been found in an area "with a different postcode to the shooting", which is now being investigated. Officers also confirmed descriptions of the killer's firearm, with a police source saying: "The murder weapon is described variously by witnesses as a black handgun with a long barrel." The source went on to state that they "don't know what the motive was", stressing that "inquiries are ongoing and further arrests possible" and that the investigation is "at a very early stage".

Earlier in the day, there had been further calls for people with information surrounding the incident to come forward, including messages from Phil Neville and David Moyes, captain and manager of Everton F.C., the football club that Rhys supported. There will also be a minute's silence in memory of Rhys held ahead of Everton's game against Blackburn on Saturday, and players from both teams will wear black armbands.

The police have said they were disappointed with the current response from the public to appeals to identify the killer. Assistant Chief Constable Patricia Gallan said: "We need to get this killer off the street. Within this community people know who is responsible for this crime." She added, in a message aimed at the killer: "If you are responsible for this crime, come and tell us and hand yourself in." Merseyside Police have guaranteed the protection and anonymity of any

witness who comes forward.

Cricket: India beat England in second one-day international

India have beaten England by nine runs in the second One-Day International of the series at the County Ground, Bristol, England.

India, having won the toss and elected to bat first, raced to 113 runs after the first twenty overs. Sourav Ganguly was caught off the bowling of Andrew Flintoff, who finished the innings as the top performing England bowler, taking 5-56. Sachin Tendulkar fell just short of a century, being caught behind on 99 runs. Tendulkar was surprised at the decision, and television replays were inconclusive as to whether the ball had hit his glove or not. Yuvraj Singh and Rahul Dravid added 63 runs before Singh was dismissed for 49. Dravid finished on 92 not out, helping India to an imposing total of 329-7 after fifty overs.

In reply England started quickly, recording 75 runs off the first ten overs. However Munaf Patel took two wickets in two balls to dismiss both the England opening batsmen. The England wickets fell regularly after that, with Kevin Pietersen and Paul Collingwood bowled by Piyush Chalwa for 25 and 27 runs respectively. Andrew Flintoff was dismissed for just nine runs, and despite 64 runs from Ian Bell, England needed 90 runs from the last eight overs with just three wickets remaining. Dimitri Mascarenhas hit 52 runs, including five sixes, and Stuart Broad hit 20 runs off the final over, but it came too late and England fell ten runs short of the 330 run target.

The seven-match series stands at 1-1 after two matches. The third match will be played at Edgbaston, Birmingham, on August 27.

British driver admits driving at 172 mph

Timothy Brady has admitted to a charge of driving at 172 mph (276.8 kmph) on a British A road. The 33 year old was caught driving his Porshe 911 on the A420 during a routine speed check by Thames Valley Police near Oxford. Mr Brady admitted the charge at the hearing taking place at Oxford Crown Court.

Mr Brady was clocked by police on a bridge and was later arrested four miles down the road after police used a car to block the road.

The speed is thought to be the highest ever recorded on a British road and is 100mph over the legal limit of 70 mph. Campaigners from Brake, a road safety charity, told the BBC that the offence was "shocking".

He is likely to receive a jail term and be disqualified from driving. The previous record was set by Jason McAllister, a car dealer from Aberdeen who was clocked doing 156.7 mph in his BMW M3.

Rumors of Fidel Castro's death circulating

Rumors of Castro's death began circulating today. PerezHilton.com was the first to "break" the news, saying that an official announcement would be coming at 4pm. No official announcements have been made. The Miami Herald acknowledged the flurry of rumors with a new article posted today, yet remained wary of the validity of the rumors.

Telephone network access on iPhone unlocked by teen

George Hotz, 17, confirmed on Friday that he has cracked the lock that joins the Apple iPhone to AT&T's wireless network and was using it on T-Mobile's network—the

only other major U.S. carrier compatible with iPhone technology. This crack opens up the phone, which is only being sold in the U.S., to use on overseas networks. "That's the big thing," said Hotz.

Hotz posted the complicated hack, which requires skill with both soldering and software and takes about two hours to perform, to his blog Thursday. He collaborated over the Internet with four other people, including two Russians, to develop the unlocking process that leaves all iPhone functions intact, with the exception of the "visual voicemail" feature.

With the hack available to the public, there is the possibility that some will buy U.S. iPhones, unlock them and send them overseas for profit. "That's exactly [...] what I don't want," Hotz said. "I don't want people making money off this."

Hotz said he wished he could have made the instructions so that users could modify the phones themselves. "But that's the simplest I could make them."

AT&T spokesman Mark Siegel said the company has "no comment" and referred questions to Apple.

[edit]
Hacked iPhone for auction on eBay

A second phone, which was also hacked by Hotz, was placed for sale on eBay, with bids now reaching US\$99,999,999 after starting at \$540. He states at the auction site "Soon, you will be able to buy unlocked iPhones everywhere, in fact probably before this auction ends. But this is the one that started it all. The one unlocked while the steps were posted live on the blog. This isn't just an unlocked iPhone, this is a

piece of history." However, Hotz also commented on the excessive bids showing up on eBay. "I'm sure these most recent bids are fake."

Research focuses on orchids mimicking female wasps

Anne Gaskett, a PhD student from Macquarie University in Sydney, has been conducting new research into the nature of the relationship between five species of native Australian tongue orchids and the orchid dupe wasp (*Lissopimpla excelsa*).

The research builds on an original discovery in the 1920s that the orchids convince male wasps that they are females of the same species. The wasps then attempt to mate with the flowers, before moving on, often to another orchid, thus pollinating them. The discovery received worldwide attention at the time.

"I wanted to know what it was about the five orchids that could persuade the male that they were all a female [wasp]," she says, adding that the flowers all look very different to the human eye, and that usually only one species of insect pollinates one species of plant.

"I have accumulated the first compelling evidence of an ongoing and escalating arms race between orchids and their unwitting insect pollinators," Gaskett, says, "Over generations the insects learn to avoid having sex with orchids, and this means only the most persuasive orchids reproduce, which drives the acceleration of orchid subterfuge."

Gaskett has discovered that the wasp, however, quickly learns to avoid the orchid, meaning that "...only the most persuasive orchids will continue to

reproduce," she says. She has also discovered that the flowers have various structures that feel like parts of a female wasp to a male, including mimic 'love handles', which the male would normally hold on to during mating. Gaskett says of this particular discovery that the flowers have "curves in all the right places".

Gasket has also used a spectrometer to analyse the colours of four of the orchids and a female wasp, and found that, although they look very different to humans, they actually match almost exactly.

Gasket's research is important to the conservation of the orchids, and to developing sensitive control methods for use against agricultural pests. She says of the wasps "these insects might be fools for love, but their role as orchid pollinators makes them indispensable."

Gasket has currently turned her attentions to the role of scent in the process, and is testing the effect of the perfumes of the orchids on the antennae of the male wasps.

Friendly fire kills three UK soldiers in Afghanistan

Three soldiers of the United Kingdom, part of NATO's mission in Afghanistan, ISAF, were killed in what is thought to have been a "friendly fire" incident, according to the UK Ministry of Defence. Two other soldiers were injured in the incident on Friday, when the soldiers were bombed by US F-15 jets which had been called to provide support after the patrol came under attack.

The apparent friendly fire incident took place Thursday evening northwest of Kajaki in Helmand

province when the British troops were attacked by Taliban insurgents. The ministry said that "during the intense engagement that ensued, close air support was called in from two US F-15 aircraft to repel the enemy. One bomb was dropped and it is believed the explosion killed the three soldiers."

The military said next of kin had been informed and said the incident would be investigated.

73 British soldiers died in Afghanistan since the start of the war in 2001.

Four-year-old boy attacked by Pit bull mix

Just before midnight Wednesday, four-year-old Taylor Bailey, nicknamed Bucky, was attacked by a neighbor's dog. The Staffordshire Bull Terrier mix named Money chased the boy after he stepped out of his mother's car, eventually knocking the boy to the ground and latching onto his leg.

The same dog had bitten the boy's father the week before, according to the family, although this has not been confirmed by police. He recognized the dog and alerted his mother to the dog's presence just moments before the attack. She urged her son to come to her, but the one-year-old, 85-pound (~39 kg) male broke free from his restraints and attacked the screaming boy.

The struggle lasted several minutes before the boy's mother, Melinda Walters, was able to fight off the dog, leaving her knees scraped and thigh scratched. The boy's legs were punctured, scratched and bruised with bits of flesh missing. "It didn't go away. It was just trying to grab me ... trying to kill me," the boy said. Walters was carrying her three-

year-old son Jason on her hip during much of the fight.

The dog's owner, Marquita Mooney, 23, was ticketed along with a relative who was watching the dog. She said that rather than register the dog as a potentially dangerous animal—which involves an insurance bond, fees, kennel requirements and more—she would have the dog put down. Police reports indicate that the dog bit two other dogs about two weeks ago. Mooney has been ticketed for both incidents.

This is the second such incident in Minneapolis this month—seven-year-old Zach King Jr. was attacked and killed in his home last week by his family's pit bull—fueling the debate over banning pit bulls and other "dangerous breeds" in some communities. Since 1966, there have been four other deaths from dog attacks in Minnesota, all but one of which were of children seven-years-old or younger.

2-year-old dies in car in 100°F heat with windows rolled up

A two-year-old girl was found dead inside a car yesterday in Union Township, Cleveland.

The car was parked outside the Glen Este Middle School with all of the windows rolled up. High temperatures in the area reached 100°F (~38°C). Police said that the girl had been inside the car for hours before her death.

A friend of the family said the child was Cecelia Slaby, however police are not reporting any personal information.

The car was registered to the school's vice principal, Brenda Nesselroad-Slaby. The school staff had to report to work to prepare

for the start of school next week.

The family friend that indentified the girl also told News 5 in Cincinnati that Nesselroad-Slaby was scheduled to attend a 7 a.m. meeting, but decided that was too early in the day to drop off Cecelia, so she ran several errands instead. The source said Cecelia likely fell asleep in the car and Nesselroad forgot about her when she did go to the school, as she usually does not care for the child in the morning. However, police have not released any specific details. The family friend described Nesselroad as "mother of the year."

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says the temperature inside a closed vehicle setting in sunlight can raise nearly 20 Fahrenheit degrees (11 Celsius degrees) in just three minutes. Another three or four minutes, and the administration says a car's temperature can reach 125°F (~52°C). Heatstrokes occur when the body reaches a temperature of 104°F (40°C).

No charges have been filed.

An autopsy has been scheduled.

Aunt hires 12-year-old nephew prostitutes

In Donora, Pennsylvania a woman is being accused of hiring two prostitutes last November to have sex with her 12-year-old nephew. Police said details began to surface just this month.

The boy's mother said, "My anger is out of control."

The family is not being identified to protect the boy's identity and privacy.

However, police said 36-year-old Linda Van Pool is being charged

with soliciting prostitution, corruption of a minor, and endangering the welfare of a child.

The boy's mother reportedly is a bartender at Ray's Place in Donora. She says Van Pool came to the bar asking for eighty dollars for the boy. The mother says she never thought the money would be used for prostitutes. She said, "I just thought he would call his grandmother and wind up spending it at Wal-Mart or wherever...I didn't know that she would take him to those type of women. I didn't think they existed in this area. I thought you had to go to Pittsburgh for that."

Van Pool reportedly took the boy to two separate locations.

Police said the 12-year-old's father had passed away a short time ago and that the child was "acting up", so the sex was thought to be "a way to appease the boy."

Van Pool has been placed in the Washington County Correctional Facility on \$5,000 bond. The two prostitutes have not been arrested, but police expect that their arrests will come shortly.

Report: quarterback Michael Vick won't plead guilty to killing dogs

Atlanta Falcon's quarterback Michael Vick will enter federal court on Monday, but a newly published report says he will not admit to gambling or killing the dogs. However, Vick is expected to plead guilty to the charge of 'interstate commerce for the purpose of dogfighting.'

A source told ESPN he did not kill any dogs, but he was present when the dogs were being killed.

Vick faces a maximum of five

years in jail. However, a government source told the Associated Press yesterday that prosecutors would most likely recommend a sentence of 12 to 18 months in prison.

Three co-defendants in the case have already pleaded guilty and, if the case goes to trial, will likely testify against Vick.

Vick's future in the NFL is still uncertain.

Quebec police admit they went undercover at Montebello protest

Quebec Provincial Police (QPP) admitted on Thursday that three of their officers disguised themselves as demonstrators during the protest at the North American leaders summit in Montebello, Quebec.

U.S. President George W. Bush, Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Mexican President Felipe Calderón met in Quebec to discuss a proposed security, resource and trade initiative between the countries called Security and Prosperity Partnership (SPP), but dubbed NAFTA 2.0.

Police said, "At all times, they responded within their mandate to keep order and security." The QPP said, "At no time did the Quebec Provincial Police officers act as agents provocateurs or commit criminal acts. Also, it is not part of the policy of the police force nor is it part of its strategy to act in this manner. At all times, the officers responded to their mandate to maintain law and order."

A video of the incident had been posted on YouTube, which, as of this date, had received greater than 170,000 views. In the video,

the three undercover officers could be seen wearing face masks, dark clothes, and boots and milling about with other protestors. Some of the gathered demonstrators could be seen and heard telling the officers to leave, and tried to remove the officer's bandanas. The undercover officers retreated behind police lines and could be seen being put to the ground and arrested by the riot police.

Those at the protest said the officers were acting like agents provocateurs by provoking violence from within the crowd. Dave Coles, president of the Communications Energy and Paperworkers Union of Canada, confronted the three undercover officers on the protest line. He suggested the officers were there to cause trouble. "We're going to talk to our legal counsel and we'll decide what our next action is going to be," said Coles.

Squirrel banned from Finnish supermarket

Health authorities in Finland have banned a squirrel from visiting a SIWA supermarket in the central Finnish city of Jyväskylä.

The squirrel had previously been allowed in by the store's manager, Irene Lindroos, where it would enter daily via the open front door, and help itself to a Kinder Egg chocolate from the confectionary section. Once it had one, it would carry it back outside to eat it.

The appearance of the squirrel regularly amused customers, often with the effect of causing them to purchase Kinder Eggs themselves.

However, as of today, the squirrel has been barred from entering. "It's a decision of the health authorities. The door of the store has remained open all summer,

but now it will be shut," said an employee of the supermarket.

The squirrel had received widespread press attention earlier in the year. "I named it the Kinder-squirrel, after the treats. It always goes after them, other sweets do not seem to interest it as much," Irene Lindroos had said at the time. The sweets contain a small plastic toy, and Lindroos had said "It removes the foil carefully, eats the chocolate and leaves the store with the toy".

The squirrel was banned by the authorities because they decided that the terms of the Food Act meant it could not remain there. Lindroos told reporters the squirrel had become very popular with customers, saying that almost everyone who entered the store had asked about it. She added that one customer had made a donation of 30 Euros (41 USD) to fund the squirrel's continuing chocolate-taking.

Edinburgh Airport runway damage causes delays

At Edinburgh Airport, in Scotland on Thursday, numerous planes were delayed on the ground and several others were required to stay in a holding pattern in the sky, after damage to the main runway at the airport was found by airport maintenance staff.

Debris was discovered around 9:20 a.m. BST from an unknown source, which caused the runway to be closed.

A spokeswoman for the British Airports Authority (BAA) at Edinburgh Airport said, "Following an inspection, departing and arriving flights were allowed to continue to use the runway as normal. The impact on the airport's operation has been

minimal."

A report is expected to be released later detailing more information after further investigations have been carried out.

Two-year-old punished in dryer
Bobby Lynn Curtis, 27, admitted to putting his girlfriend's two-year-old daughter into a clothes dryer as punishment because she had "thrown a fit," police in Lumberton, Texas said Wednesday. Curtis faces up to 99 years in prison for the incident which he blamed on anger-management issues in a surprise news conference Wednesday morning at the Hardin County jail.

"I'm truly sorry what I've done," he told a reporter. Curtis, a construction worker, was bathing the child, whose name has not been released, Sunday evening while her mother was out shopping. The child objected to having her hair washed, which angered Curtis. "She just kept hollering. I kept getting madder and madder," he recalled.

Curtis told police that he took the girl to the already running, hot dryer, put the child in it and turned it on. He left the child tumbling for about five seconds before getting her out. The child, who told her mother what had happened the following morning, suffered first- and second-degree burns to her arms. "Bobby put me in the dryer," she told her mother. She was treated and released from the hospital Monday. Her mother contacted the police and Curtis was arrested and jailed that night on \$150,000 bond.

Curtis, who had been living with his girlfriend for about a year along with her six-year-old son, two-year-old daughter and their

12-week-old baby girl, said that he had hoped the girl would be "too scared to say anything." He added, "I was hoping that being as young as she was, it was something she wouldn't remember."

One legal expert says that Curtis' news conference was an unwise move. Curtis was not represented by counsel at the time and may find it difficult to find representation now. "He should have kept his mouth shut," said Adam Gershowitz, a South Texas College of Law criminal law professor. "Whatever happens, I want to be able to see my little girl again," Curtis said.

Child Protective Services has determined that the child shall remain with her mother.

Police station attacked by car bomb in Basque Country. Two Guardia Civil injured

A police station of the Spanish Guardia Civil was attacked today Friday by a car bomb in the Basque city of Durango, injuring two policemen. It is believed to be the first serious attack of the separatist group ETA since it unilaterally ended a cease-fire in June. The blast caused serious damage to the police barracks in Durango, shattering windows and damaging police cars parked outside. Several nearby apartment buildings were also damaged. Police sources believe the bomb, estimated to contain between 80 and 100 kilograms of explosives, was detonated remotely by one of the two attackers who fled in another vehicle. Another car exploded about one hour later in the town of Amorebieta, possibly the one used by the activists to flee.

ETA detonated two small explosive devices on July 25 along the route

that the Tour of France used when the race dipped into northern Spain for a few hours.

ETA called the cease-fire in March 2006, but grew frustrated with a lack of government concessions in ensuing peace talks, and set off a huge bomb in a parking area at Madrid's airport on December 30, killing two people. It insisted then that the truce was still in effect, but finally declared it formally over in June, and Spanish security forces have been on alert ever since.

Former Timberwolf Eddie Griffin dies at 25

Former National Basketball Association (NBA) player Eddie Griffin died on August 17, 2007, at age 25 due to injuries sustained in an car crash, the Harris County medical examiner's office confirmed on Tuesday.

The former Minnesota Timberwolves forward, who was waived in March for violating the League's substance abuse program, ignored a rail road warning, drove his SUV through a barrier, and collided with a moving train at about 1:30 a.m., according to Houston Police. His vehicle caught fire and was soon engulfed in flames.

No identification was found and the body was badly burned. For that reason, dental records were used to identify him. Griffin, who played college Basketball at Seton Hall University, played for the Houston Rockets from 2001–2003, and the Minnesota Timberwolves from 2004–2007. The five-year veteran had been battling alcoholism since leaving Seton Hall.

Today in History

1537 – The Honourable Artillery Company, currently the oldest surviving regiment in the British Army, was formed by Royal Charter from King Henry VIII.

1609 – Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei demonstrated his first telescope, a device that became known as a terrestrial or spyglass refracting telescope, to Venetian lawmakers.

1875 – Matthew Webb became the first person to swim across the English Channel, traveling from Dover, England to Calais, France in less than 22 hours.

1920 – Polish forces under Józef Piłsudski successfully forced the Russians to withdraw from Warsaw at the Battle of Warsaw, the decisive battle of the Polish-Soviet War.

1944 – World War II: The Free French Forces and the French Resistance liberated Paris from the German occupation.

August 25 is Independence Day in Uruguay (1825).

Quote of the Day

The humourless as a bunch don't just not know what's funny, they don't know what's serious. They have no common sense, either, and shouldn't be trusted with anything. ~ Martin Amis

Word of the Day

ephemeral; adj

1. Lasting for a short period of time.
2. (biology) Existing for only one day, as with some flowers, insects, and diseases.

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