



WIKINEWS PRINT EDITION

Lead Stories

Dennis Ritchie, C programming language creator, dies aged 70

Eyewitnesses challenge Egyptian state media impartiality in fatal protests

Iran continues to lash out at film industry

developer of the Unix operating system Dennis Ritchie died at home on October 8 after an extended illness, at the age of 70. Former colleague Rob Pike first publicly announced the death, which Alcatel-Lucent then confirmed.

Ritchie, born in Bronxville, New York on September 9, 1941, joined Bell Labs in 1967. There, with Ken Thompson, he helped develop Unix, an operating system on which are based many modern systems like Linux and Mac OS X. Unix provided the infrastructure that led the creation of the Internet. Between 1969 and 1973 he developed the C, one of the most used programming languages, that influenced many languages like C++, Java, and PHP. After Unix was rewritten, C was key to its portability. In 2007 he retired from his post as Bell Labs' head of systems software research.

Ritchie and Thompson were awarded the Turing Award in 1983, the IEEE

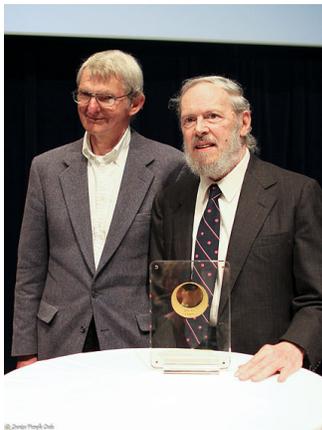
Richard W. Hamming Medal in 1990, the National Medal of Technology and Innovation in 1998, and the Japan Prize in 2011.

Eyewitnesses challenge Egyptian state media impartiality in fatal protests

With at least 24 dead, eyewitnesses to Sunday night's protests in Egypt assert state-run media broadcast unreliable information, and incorrectly claimed Coptic protesters provoked military action.

Challenging the official narrative provided by Egyptian state media channels, including Channel One and Nile News, blog reports and other social media coverage dispute early reports on Channel One that those protesting threw stones, and fired live ammunition, at military personnel. Further allegations assert coverage

Dennis Ritchie, C programming language creator, dies aged 70



Dennis Ritchie (right) being awarded the Japan Prize

Image: Denise Panyik-Dale.

The C programming language creator and co-

was selective, with footage of military vehicles pursuing and running over protesters not aired.

Nile News conducted interviews with injured on each side of the clash. Military and security barred protesters from reaching their building. Nile News anchor Hesham Assy said: " We did the best we could, given the circumstances, as it was very difficult to leave the building last night."

Despite this, journalist Mai Elwakil writing for Almasry Alyoum claims "the coverage [overall] seems to have led viewers to believe that Coptic protesters caused the violence."

Challenging the stance of state media, it is claimed the military fired upon protesters, and deliberately attacked them using excessive force. Members of the state media also question the coverage; state TV worker Taghreed al-Dossouky announced via her Twitter account, "I reject the Egyptian state media's coverage because it incites sectarianism, and I condemn all those who partake in it."

At least 24 people were killed and over 200 wounded as the

demonstration turned violent.

Iran continues to lash out at film industry

An Iranian court in Tehran yesterday confirmed film director Jafar Panahi's sentence to six years in jail, and a twenty-year ban on filmmaking. Charges against the award-winning director were summarised by state media as, "[...] acting against national security and propaganda against the regime".

In September, before the original sentence was handed down, Panahi lamented, "[w]hen a filmmaker does not make films it is as if he is jailed. Even when he is freed from the small jail, he finds himself wandering in a larger jail". With the ban now in-place, the filmmaker's This is not a Film, which premièred at Canne Film festival, may be his last work for two decades. The handheld-shot documentary covers Panahi' struggle with censorship whilst being prosecuted.

Panahi's is the second high-profile case this week; actress Marziah Vafamehr was sentenced to 90 lashes and one year in jail for starring in the controversial Australian-produced film My Tehran

For Sale, directed by Iranian-Australian Granaz Moussavi. The film is about a young Tehrani actress whose work is banned by the government.

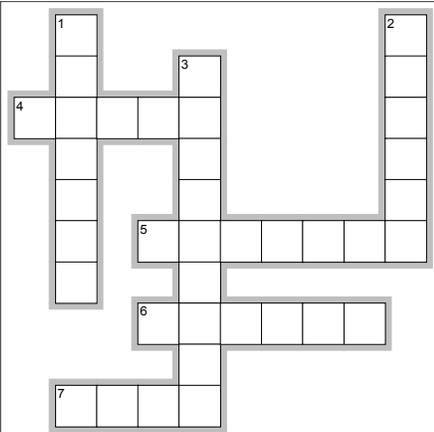
HAVE YOUR SAY

Is government censorship of the arts ever acceptable?

Iranian commentators heavily criticised the film, which is being distributed illegally in Iran, and in July Vafamehr was arrested. Producers Julie Ryan and Kate Croser state they "did not set out to produce a political film." Stressing, "[w]e definitely didn't set out to make a film that criticised the government". The role played by Vafemehr shows her with a shaved head, and without a hijab.

Australian Foreign Minister Kevin Rudd's office issued a statement condemning Vafemehr's sentence.

Puzzle of the day



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

4. a long wooden spear with a sharp iron head
5. a person who lives in solitude
6. a planet best known for its rings
7. the seventh month of the year

Down

1. an alternate name for the skull
2. an acute scarcity of food
3. a soldier hired to fight for a country other than his own

Quote of the day

In many matters children — not ensnared by dogmatism, passion, or erudition — judge far truer than adults.

~ Adolf Freiherr Knigge ~

Word of the day

nigh *v*

To draw nigh (to); to approach; to come near: nighing his hour, death is nighing

Commons Picture of the Day



Lörrach: Church of Rötteln, window in sepulchral chapel

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Image credit to Wladyslaw

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Quote of the Day

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

Word of the Day

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

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