



### Top Stories

#### Iran: Detained British troops do not need to go to trial

Iran has said that the 15 British detained on March 23, do not have to go through any trial, this according to Ali Larijani, the highest ranking diplomat for Iran.

#### Virginia law bans mobile phone use by teen drivers

Newly licensed drivers under the age of 18 are prohibited to use mobile phones while driving. Virginia governor Tim Kaine signed a bill into law on Friday last week.

### Featured story

#### Mouse makes nest in cash machine, eats money

In Estonia, a mouse made its nest in a cash machine and spent the weekend eating thousands of pounds worth of bank notes. The critter was discovered after a customer making a withdrawal got half-eaten bills from the machine.

### Wikipedia Current Events

•Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko dissolves the parliament during a nationally televised speech, calling for early parliamentary elections on 27 May 2007.

•India's Foreign Secretary, Shivshankar Menon, says that Iran is likely to get an observer status in the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

•An earthquake and the resultant tsunami strike the Solomon

### Wikipedia Current Events

Islands, killing at least 15 people.

•The University of Florida Gators defeat the Ohio State Buckeyes 84-75 in the 2007 NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament championship game, becoming the first school in Division I history to win both the men's college basketball and college football titles in the same academic year.

•The United States and South Korea reach an agreement on bilateral free trade, concluding ten months of negotiations.

#### Canadian Public Safety Minister: New RCMP commissioner will be hired in June

Canadian Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day says a new and permanent commissioner for the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) will be hired in June.

Day said he is still not sure if the new chief will come from within the force who has worked up the ranks, or will be appointed from outside the force.

"We've said we want the best person," said Day. "That could be somebody who's worked their way up through the ranks, that inspires confidence from within. But we've also said that it can't be limited to that."

Bev Busson, the Deputy Commissioner, who has been doing the big job as the interim since

Giuliano Zaccardelli resigned over the Maher Arar incident, stating last December that she didn't want the post to be permanent for her.

Recently a parliamentary committee alleged mismanagement and possible fraud in the RCMP's pension plan.

Busson says that anyone with possible evidence will show up. Day also has called an investigation into the suspected "mismanagement and possible fraud" that the parliamentary committee found.

The investigation will be carried out in private but a report that has yet to be made public will be released. Day is resisting calls for a full-scale inquiry. A person to head the investigation has not been named.

#### Twins announcer Herb Carneal dies at 83

The Minnesota Twins are ready to take the field for their season opener Monday, April 2, but they will be doing it without their legendary radio announcer Herb Carneal. Carneal died at age 83 in his Minnetonka home Sunday of congestive heart failure. He had declared a week prior to his death that he would not announce the season home opener due to health concerns, but was hopeful to make a return later in the season.

Carneal's death marks the third consecutive year in which the Twins have started the season with a loss of someone close to the organization; veteran public address announcer Bob Casey died

March 28, 2005, and former Twin and Hall of Famer Kirby Puckett died March 6, 2006.

"Herb Carneal's voice was the signature element of Twins baseball for multiple generations of fans. Clearly he was one of the most beloved figures in Minnesota sports history. The Minnesota Twins will proudly dedicate the 2007 season to the memory of Herb Carneal," Twins President Dave St. Peter said. Last year, Twins uniforms bore the number 34, in dedication to Puckett; to mourn Carneal's passing, the Twins will wear black arm-bands, until a more permanent uniform patch can be designed.

In 1998, Carneal cut back his schedule to only include home games, thus avoiding travel, and he was only scheduled to announce 36 home games this season. A 1996 winner of the Ford C. Frick Award, Herb Carneal announced baseball for 51 seasons, and was the "voice of the Twins" since 1962.

### **2007 Cricket World Cup: Bangladesh vs New Zealand**

New Zealand beat Bangladesh by 9 wickets (with 124 balls remaining) in the Super 8 phase in the World Cup at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium, North Sound, Antigua and Barbuda.

This was Bangladesh's second defeat in three days in the Super 8 stage, having also lost convincingly by 10 wickets to Australia.

By contrast, New Zealand have yet to taste defeat.

Toss: New Zealand won, and elected to field first.

### **New video of captured British troops aired; protests at UK embassy in Tehran**

Iran state television broadcast a

new video of two officers among the fifteen British sailors and marines seized by Iran last week.

Yesterday, Iranian students demonstrated in front of the British embassy in Tehran over the incident.

Demonstrators threw stones, firecrackers and a smoke grenade but were prevented from entering the embassy compound by police. No damage was reported and no one at the embassy was injured. The BBC's correspondent on the location reported that the protestors were hardline Islamist students from Tehran University, who chanted "Death to Britain" and called for an apology from the UK for the incident and putting the seized soldiers on trial. Protestors also carried banners saying "finally wipe Israel from the face of the Earth".

The new video shows one of the servicemen, Royal Marine Capt. Chris Air, pointed to an area on a map where Iran says they were when the British troops were arrested.

"We were seized apparently at this point here on their maps and on the GPS they've shown us, which is inside Iranian territorial waters. And so far we have been treated very well by all the people here. They have looked after us and made sure there's been enough food and we've been treated very well by them, so we thank them for that," said Air.

Lt. Felix Carman is the second serviceman to appear in the video. Carman was also showing viewers where they were detained by Iranian forces.

"[It is] completely unacceptable for these pictures to be shown on TV,"

said a British Foreign Ministry spokesman, echoing previous statements from the Prime Minister Tony Blair and Foreign Secretary Margaret Beckett.

On March 23, the fifteen sailors and marines from the frigate HMS Cornwall were inspecting a ship, in what the UK identified as Iraqi waters, when they were surrounded by Iranian gunboats and taken into custody. Iran claims the UK forces were in Iranian waters, and are still detaining the fifteen.

### **Seinfeld on HBO award: "Awards are stupid"**

Stand-up comedian and sitcom star Jerry Seinfeld was "honored" Sunday in an HBO TV special entitled "Jerry Seinfeld: The Comedian Award," hosted by CNN's Anderson Cooper and featuring fellow comedians Robert Klein, Chris Rock, and Garry Shandling as panel members.

A several minute recording of Mr. Seinfeld's stand-up started off the event, but the focus was on the panel discussion. Topics included Jerry's decision to re-enter the world of stand-up comedy post-Seinfeld, his and Shandling's first gigs on The Tonight Show, and the panelists' typical methods for creating and presenting material. Klein also shared colorful anecdotes regarding his late mentor, Rodney Dangerfield.

Though the Las Vegas ceremony was taped in 2005, for reasons not known its inaugural airing was not until now, several years later. Although HBO execs claim it was not originally intended for broadcast, the panelists referred to the event on-camera as a "TV show".

Perhaps some of Seinfeld's derisive

on-camera commentary is to blame for the delay. "Your whole career as a comedian is about making fun of pretentious, high-minded, self-congratulatory, B.S. events like this one," he explained in his cutting acceptance speech as Cooper laughed uncomfortably with the crowd. "I really don't want to be up here."

This, after long-time colleague Robert Klein praised Mr. Seinfeld's lack of reliance on "mean-spirited" or "vulgar" humor. Klein sought to draw contrast between Jerry and Seinfeld co-creator Larry David, whose *Curb Your Enthusiasm* generates laughs from the sociopathic behavior of David's character.

Explaining that he and the other panelists were only in attendance because they owed HBO for getting them their starts, Seinfeld seemed to prove Klein wrong. "Awards are stupid," he said repeatedly. "It's a jerkoff."

The show's debut was April 1 at 9 p.m. ET/PT, and it is also available on HBO's On Demand service.

### **Nicolas Cage spotted in Washington DC filming National Treasure sequel**

Actor Nicolas Cage was seen around various Washington, D.C.-area monuments this week by Wikinews contributor Patrick Mannion, filming the sequel to 2004's *National Treasure*. He was seen on March 28 outside on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, sitting in his chair talking with a director. Cage has also been seen in the company of costars from the earlier film. The Memorial was closed to the public by police and park rangers while filming took place.

The sequel to the 2004 film,

entitled *National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets*, is currently filming through April 16. In addition to the Lincoln Memorial, crews were also spotted along the Capitol's small Reflecting Pool, outside the White House, and in Lafayette Square.

The District of Columbia hopes to see a large economic return on the film by granting the long-term filming rights and a financial incentive to keep filming in Washington on-location, instead of doing principal photography and then moving to another city where production costs are cheaper.

### **New Zealand PM drops in on Microsoft**

Prime Minister Helen Clark of New Zealand visited Microsoft's corporate headquarters in Seattle last week. She was welcomed by CEO Steve Ballmer, senior vice-president and CFO Chris Liddell, a New Zealander, and Microsoft New Zealand managing director Helen Robinson.

During the visit, they looked at ways technology could help the continuing growth of New Zealand's economic development. Ms Clark also examined Microsoft's newest productivity software, mainly including offerings in the areas of video conferencing and online collaboration tools. "There is no comparison" between Microsoft's technology and that of the Beehive, Clark said after the meeting.

This disparity she blamed "unquestionably" on the state of New Zealand broadband Internet access, which still uses the outdated copper 'local loop' system. She also referred to the importance of fibre optic networks, which "some are now calling the 'fourth utility'."

Mr Liddell responded that despite

New Zealand being behind in some areas, "...the rate of change is such that that is not really such a big issue. ...I don't see New Zealand at a disadvantage and one of the great things about New Zealand is we are early adopters of technology. Attitude is as important as current status."

"We have got what is radical telecommunications legislation reform, but you can't stand still and think that will do the trick either. We have got a lot of technological challenges but I think the will to address them," Ms Clark said.

Unlike other guests, Ms Clark was not given a copy of the new Windows Vista during her visit. Instead, she was given a glass plate and a paperweight.

The visit to Microsoft follows her meeting with United States President Bush.

### **Children killed during suicide attack in Afghanistan**

As many as five children were killed Sunday during a suicide bomb attack on a military convoy in Mehtar Lam, Afghanistan.

The children were close to the convoy when it was hit. Police said two soldiers and two civilians were also killed, and several civilians injured. Local witnesses report that over a dozen were injured in the bombing.

The convoy was moving through Mehtar Lam, the capital of eastern Laghman province, when a car packed with explosives detonated near the Afghan army vehicles. Mehtar Lam is approximately 100 km east of Kabul.

The Afghan soldiers were traveling back to their base after assisting citizens affected by recent flooding,

according to an Associated Press contact in the defence ministry.

### Argentinians mark 25th anniversary of Guerra de las Malvinas

Today marks the 25th anniversary of Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands, a British overseas territory. The public holiday will be marked by memorial services to remember the dead, but it is also an opportunity to reiterate the country's claim to sovereignty of the Falkland Islands.

### The US Supreme Court will not rule on habeas corpus for detainees

The US Supreme Court majority opinion was that "the will of Congress" should prevail on the provision of the Military Commissions Act of 2006 that was being challenged. The 6 to 3 decision means that detainees at Guantánamo will not be able file habeas corpus challenges in US courts.

### Russian scientist: Iran could create nuclear weapons

In an interview with Reuters, Russia's Secretary of the Public Chamber, President of the Kurchatov Institute, and a leading nuclear scientist, Yevgeny Velikhov said: "From a scientific point of view of course they could create nuclear weapons," and pointed to how the United States had underestimated the amount of time it would take the Soviet Union. "I consider biological, chemical and nuclear arms should be forbidden and that the holding and development of nuclear weapons should be considered a crime against humanity," he said.

### Nelly Furtado leads 2007 Juno Award winners

Canada's major music awards weekend ended Sunday night with

pop singer Nelly Furtado winning Juno Awards in five categories including best artist, best single for her song Promiscuous, and best album for her 2006 release Loose. Furtado was also host of last night's televised ceremonies from Saskatoon, the first time the province of Saskatchewan has hosted the Junos.

The Juno Awards began in 1970 as the Gold Leaf Awards and honour Canadian music achievements. Other winners included Dixie Chicks, Billy Talent, Tomi Swick, Mobile, and Gordie Sampson.

### Yushchenko calls early elections in Ukraine

President Viktor Yushchenko dissolved Ukraine's parliament and called early elections Monday. "My actions are dictated by the strict necessity to save the state's sovereignty and territorial integrity," he said in a televised address. However, members of the parliament said it would continue to function as-is, and would refuse to fund the election. Ukraine has been in a political turmoil as the president and his rival Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich position for power.

According to BBC News reports, the official election is set for May 27.

### Today in History

1882 - Jesse James, an outlaw in the American Old West, was shot in the back and killed for a bounty of 5,000 United States dollars.

1895 - The libel trial instigated by Oscar Wilde began, eventually resulting in Wilde's arrest, trial and imprisonment on charges of homosexuality.

1948 - The Marshall Plan, an economic recovery program established by U.S. Secretary of State George Marshall to assist the post-World War II re-building of

Europe, was signed into law.

1971 - Japanese tokusatsu television series Kamen Rider premiered, marking the beginning of the long-running Kamen Rider franchise.

1974 - The Super Outbreak of 148 tornadoes began, killing at least 315 people and injuring 5,484 in 13 U.S. states at the end of a very strong La Niña event.

### Quote of the Day

How far should one accept the rules of the society in which one lives? To put it another way: at what point does conformity become corruption? Only by answering such questions does the conscience truly define itself. ~ Kenneth Tynan

### Word of the Day

lexeme; n

- (linguistics) The abstract unit of vocabulary, roughly corresponding to the set of inflected forms from the same lemma.

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