



Top Stories

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Featured story

Experts: obesity is a bigger threat than AIDS or bird flu



According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 1 billion people in the world today are overweight, and 300 million of those are obese. Obesity and overweightness cause many health problems, including type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease, hypertension and stroke, and certain forms of cancer

Wikipedia Current Events

- Maria Sharapova wins the U.S. Open defeating Justine Henin-Hardenne in straight sets.
- BBC's The Proms 'Last Night at the Proms' took place at Royal Albert Hall in London. The proms were simulcasted to cities across the United Kingdom like Glasgow, Swansea, Belfast, Manchester and London Hyde Park. More than 100,000 people attended the festival in London and elsewhere. The proms are currently in their 112th season.
- Tens of thousands of protesters begin their anticorruption protests against President Chen Shui-bian in Taipei, Taiwan.
- Space Shuttle Atlantis lifts off from John F. Kennedy Space Center in Florida to begin STS-115.
- A 4.4 magnitude earthquake affects Israel and the West Bank. No injuries are reported.
- NATO-led forces in Afghanistan say they have killed 40 more Taliban rebels in the ongoing offensive in the south.

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before nightfall, 25 SWAT officers and 12 dogs swept through a field where he was suspected to be hiding. He gave up at around 8:00 pm local time. Phillips surrendered, with his hands up in the air.

"A few of my guys had spotted him in an open field, the helicopter zeroed in on him," said Lenny DePaul, commanding officer of the US Marshals Service fugitive task force. "Very good news," he said.

Fridays search started just before 2:00 am.

Phillips looked dirty, and exhausted in a photo of him in the back of the police car. He spoke with one-word answers, answering "yes" when asked if he was Ralph Phillips, and also if he had received a copy of the federal complaint charging him with unlawful flight to avoid prosecution.

Phillips was taken to a jail in Buffalo. He will appear in court today, facing a charge of attempted murder in connection with the shooting of a state trooper on June 10.

Eight Californians seriously ill after eating live shellfish

Eight Californians contracted a rare lung infection after eating live sawagani crabs at several southern California restaurants.

The freshwater crabs, also known as river or regal crabs, were purchased in several restaurants, including Riptide Rockin' Sushi &

Teppan Grill in Mission Viejo and Chomp Rockin' Sushi & Teppan Grill in Fullerton. The crabs were infected with a parasite called *paragonimus*, a flatworm similar to lung fluke.

The parasite travels to the lungs six to ten weeks after ingestion. Symptoms include coughing, diarrhea, breathing problems, chest pain, abdominal pain, fever, and hives. The worm can spread to other organs, including the brain.

According to Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia, about 5,000 Americans die of foodborne illness every year.

Pope tells Canada to end gay marriage

Pope Benedict XVI told Canada to end gay marriage and instructed Roman Catholic politicians to not vote for gay marriage, urging them not to sacrifice their personal beliefs for the sake of opinion polls and social trends. Benedict met with Ontario bishops at the Vatican in Rome.

"In the name of tolerance, your country has had to endure the folly of the redefinition of spouse," the Pope told the bishops. "In the name of freedom of choice, it is confronted with the daily destruction of unborn children." "When the Creator's divine plan is ignored, the truth of human nature is lost."

Neil McCarthy, director of public relations for the Archdiocese of Toronto, said yesterday that Benedict XVI's latest foray into the gay marriage debate came directly in response to issues the visiting Ontario bishops would have raised.

He said Catholic bishops from Quebec and the Atlantic provinces

also made a visit to the Vatican this year, asking a response from the Pope on other matters of concern in Canada, such as unemployment and declining church attendance among young people.

Pope John Paul II, Before his death last year, denounced Canada for its drive to legalize same-sex marriage.

Parliament passed legislation in June 2005 that made Canada the fourth country in the world to allow gay marriage.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper said he will revisit the issue and that members of Parliament will be asked this fall whether they wish to reopen the debate.

Truck crashes through downtown Toronto sink hole

A garbage truck in downtown Toronto crashed in a sink hole next to a construction site. The truck sank beneath a roadway Friday morning after the pavement gave way into a large sink hole.

The driver is safe, suffering only from a sudden fright. The truck went down so quickly that the driver was forced to jump out about seven feet as the rear end of his vehicle crashed through at an angle.

"He was very frightened, he was distressed, definitely," said a police officer at the scene shortly after the accident. "He said it sank quite rapidly in the beginning and it is actually continuing to sink."

Engineers had to wait more than 12-hours to give approval to tow the truck out. "From what we can tell there isn't a water main at this location," city engineer Maurizio Barbon said.

Engineers described a hole similar in size to a small backyard swimming pool.

It will take a few more days to find out what caused the sink hole.

Kimi Räikkönen on the pole of 2006 Italian Grand Prix

Kimi Räikkönen won the qualification on the FIA Formula-1 Italian Grand Prix on the Autodromo Nazionale Monza racing track. Michael Schumacher, who will declare his future in Formula-1 on Sunday after the race, came second. BMW Sauber's Nick Heidfeld placed third, one of his best results so far.

Felipe Massa, the second Ferrari driver and the previous Grand Prix winner, was fourth. Fernando Alonso, first Renault pilot, placed fifth. Alonso's position put Renault in the game tomorrow in the race, while his teammate Giancarlo Fisicella was tenth.

A very good qualification for both Honda drivers. Jenson Button and Rubens Barrichello finished 6th and 9th.

Räikkönen's teammate, McLaren Mercedes driver Pedro de la Rosa will start 8th after Poland Robert Kubica.

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Early indications suggest that there was no serious damage caused by foam debris, which was responsible for the loss of the Space Shuttle Columbia in February 2003.

The mission marks the resumption of the International Space Station assembly program, which began in 1998, but was halted after the Columbia disaster. The Shuttle, which is crewed by six astronauts, will install a truss section and solar panels at the space station.

Child killer Huntley releases confession tape

Sources have claimed that Ian Huntley, currently serving a minimum sentence of 40 years for the murders of two schoolgirls, Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman, has made a videotape confessing his crimes. It is believed that the video was made before a failed suicide attempt in his cell at Wakefield high security prison in West Yorkshire.

Huntley was found unconscious in his cell on Tuesday following a suspected overdose of anti-depressant drugs. It is believed he obtained the drugs from a fellow prisoner in exchange for the videotape. The actions of an alert guard at the prison saved Mr Huntley's life, he could have been dead before the existence of the tape came to light.

It is understood that managers at the Wakefield prison are transcribing the tape before sending transcripts to Cambridgeshire Police, who led the original investigation into the Soham murders.

Muslims in Gujarat hold anti-Pakistan rally

Muslim community members in Ahmedabad, India demonstrated

against the alleged involvement of Pakistan in Friday's blasts in Malegaon, that killed 38 people and injured hundreds, most of them Muslims. The protestors came out onto the streets, shouting anti-Pakistan slogans and condemning the blasts, which, they say, were orchestrated by the Pakistani Inter Services Intelligence to create a rift between Hindus and the minority community. Rauf Bengali, one of the protestors, also pointed out the fact that Hindu temples (most recently the one in Varanasi) were also targeted to cause a communal divide in Indian society. "We urge the Hindus and Muslims to stand united against such terrorist activities, directed to create communal tensions between the two communities," he added.

Indian security agencies have, in the past, found evidence that suggests the involvement of the ISI in anti-India activities such as providing shelter to militants and backing strikes in Indian cities. The situation was tense in Malegaon yesterday, but has since calmed down with no incidents of Hindu-Muslim violence being reported.

Bathurst to host Brock tribute according to Bathurst Mayor Norm Mann.

Brock, aged 61, died when he crashed his car during the Targa West rally in Western Australia.

Long regarded as "king of the mountain" in recognition of winning a record nine events such as the Bathurst 1000 at Mount Panorama, Brock was regarded as an icon amongst the Bathurst community.

Bathurst mayor, Norm Mann said

despite Brock having never lived in Bathurst, he was an honorary citizen. "Although he is not a local resident and has never lived here, Peter Brock was very much an honorary citizen of Bathurst and has over his career had a significant impact on the lives of many people in this community – our local radio station B-Rock FM is even named after him," said the mayor.

Mr Mann also said that preparations were being carried out at the National Motor Racing Museum at the foot of Mount Panorama for a display honouring the racing legend's life. The museum will also accept tributes to be passed onto the Brock family according to the Mayor.

The mayor promised that his council would host a fitting tribute to Mr Brock. "Council will make plans for a fitting tribute in honour of Peter's life and career in coming days."

Mr Mann's sentiment has been echoed by chairman of V8 Supercars Australia Tony Cochrane. Mr Cochrane said Bathurst would be the most appropriate place for a tribute to the motor racing icon. In a statement, Mr Cochrane said "The most befitting place for a tribute is Bathurst. He forged his name in motor sport on that mountain, I think the fans will come to expect something special and we will provide that. We will obviously give special thought to how we are going to do that and we will take into account the families' wishes."

Today in History

1813 - War of 1812: An American fleet led by Oliver Hazard Perry scored a decisive victory in the Battle of Lake Erie.

1897 - A peaceful labor

demonstration made up of mostly Polish and Slovak anthracite coal miners in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, United States, was fired upon by a sheriff's posse comitatus in the Lattimer Massacre.

1898 - Empress Elisabeth of Austria was fatally stabbed in Geneva, Switzerland.

1960 - Mickey Mantle hit what is thought to be the longest home run in major league baseball, an estimated 643 feet.

1990 - Africa's largest church, the Basilica of Our Lady of Peace in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire, was consecrated by Pope John Paul II.

September 10 is National Grandparents' Day in the United States (2006)

Quote of the Day

"Organisms are not billiard balls, propelled by simple and measurable external forces to predictable new positions on life's pool table. Sufficiently complex systems have greater richness. Organisms have a history that constrains their future in myriad, subtle ways."

~ Stephen Jay Gould

Word of the Day

galvanise; v

1. To shock or stimulate into sudden activity.
2. To coat with rust-resistant zinc.
3. (chemistry): To coat with a thin layer of metal by electrochemical means.

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