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Page 1

## Top Stories



Dalai Lama to Receive US Congressional Gold Medal

## Wikimania jury chooses Alexandria for 2008 location

According to an official mailing list post from Wikimedia Volunteer Coordinator, Wikimania 2008 will be held in Alexandria, Egypt.

## Featured story

# Augusten Burroughs on addiction, writing, his family and his new book

Wikinews conducted an in-depth interview with New York Times



bestselling author Augusten Burroughs about his settlement with the Turcotte

family, his battle with addction, his happiness in sobriety and why he would want breast cancer if he was a woman.

## Wikipedia Current Events

At least nine people die and 8 people go missing as a result of torrential rain in and around Tunis, the capital of Tunisia.

- •At least 20 people die following a landslide at an open pit gold mine near Suarez in Colombia's Tolima department.
- •Two people are dead after fifteen trucks collide in a tunnel at the Newhall Pass interchange on Interstate 5 in the U.S. state of California, closing the freeway.
- •At least 11 people are dead and 23 more injured after a natural gas explosion in an apartment building in Dnipropetrovsk in eastern Ukraine.
- •Four people are killed and over 50 injured when rear carriages of Probhati Express derails near Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- •Tens of thousands of people participate in a pro-government rally in Rangoon as Ibrahim Gambari, the United Nations envoy, returns to Southeast Asia.
- •Flooding after several days of torrential rain kills at least 23 people in Haiti with the town of Cabaret being worst affected.

## Euro 2008 Qualification: Republic of Ireland vs. Germany

Ireland 0-0 Germany

Germany have qualified for Euro 2008 after a 0-0 draw with Republic of Ireland.

It was an evenly contested match with many scoring opportunities. Bastian Schweinsteiger went off with a head injury in the 1st half.

Both teams had their chances until the final whistle was blown. But Germany ended up celebrating as they join co-hosts Austria and Switzerland for Euro 2008.

## Dalai Lama to Receive US Congressional Gold Medal

The 14th Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso will arrive in the United States on Tuesday and will meet with U.S. President George W. Bush. On Wednesday he will attend a ceremony in his honor where he will be awarded the highest honor in the U.S. for a civilian, the Congressional Gold Medal.

This also marks an historical moment as it is the first time ever that a sitting U.S. President will appear with the Dalai Lama at a public event.

The honor has not gone without protest. China objected, accusing the Dalai Lama of "separatist activities." China also condemned a meeting with Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel calling the meeting a mistake and that relations between the two nations were damaged.

"We would hope that the Chinese leader would get to know the Dalai Lama as the president sees him, as a spiritual leader and someone who wants peace," said White House spokeswoman, Dana Perino.

The U.S. decided to award the Dalai Lama with the medal due to "his many enduring and outstanding contributions to peace, nonviolence, human rights and religious understanding."

The Dalai Lama has been living in India since fleeing Tibet in 1959 during a failed revolt against Chinese rule.

## 2007 Rugby World Cup: **England 14 - 9 France**

England 14 - 9 France

Defending champions England have defeated hosts France 14 - 9 in the first semi-final of the 2007 Rugby World Cup at the Stade de France, Saint-Denis.

France had been favourites to win the match on home soil, having beaten England comfortably in two World Cup warm-up matches and overcoming favourites New Zealand in the quarter-finals. However England, having improved after stumbling early in their campaign to reach the semifinals after defeating Australia, won a tense match to reach their second consecutive final in a repeat of the 2003 semi-final.

England took an early lead when Josh Lewsey scored a wide try in the second minute, but Jonny Wilkinson missed the conversion. Lionel Beauxis scored two penalties for France to give them a one point lead in the 18th minute. Both Beauxis and Wilkinson missed has been compromised. chances to score with the boot later in the first half, and France went into the interval leading 6 -

Lionel Beauxis extended France's lead with a penalty early in the second half, but Jonny Wilkinson scored soon after to reduce the deficit back to one point. Neither

side could make a breakthrough until Jonny Wilkinson kicked a penalty with five minutes remaining to give England a two point lead. Three minutes later Wilkinson secured England's victory after kicking a drop goal.

England will play the winners of tomorrow's second semi-final between South Africa and Argentina in next week's final, while France will play the losers in the third place match.

## At least 2 die in 15 truck pileup in California

At least two people have died and at least eight to ten were injured after two semi trucks collided in a truck tunnel on Interstate 5 (Newhall Pass) between Los Angeles and Santa Clarita California, United States, causing the tunnel to be completely shut down on both north and southbound lanes.

At approximately 11:00 p.m. (pacific time), two semi trucks collided and at least 13 other trucks smashed into the wreckage causing a massive fire. Firefighters the Chiang Mai Charity are using foam to control the flames, which could take several hours to put out.

Officials say that the debris could take a day or more to remove and that a full inspection will have to be done on the tunnel before it can Thai Minister for Tourism and be used again because officials say that the structure of the tunnel

"It has impacted the structural stability of the tunnel," said John Tripp the Fire Chief for Los Angeles County who also said that there may be more people trapped in the sales for childrens' charities in the wreckage.

"We're going to have to do a very methodical search. There could be

unfortunately more people that were not able to escape," added Tripp.

The tunnel is 200 feet long.

## **Euro 2008 Qualification:** Scotland vs. Ukraine

Scotland 3-1 Ukraine

Scotland took a step closer to qualifying for Euro 2008 as a 3-1 win against Ukraine kept them top of Group B in UEFA EURO 2008 qualifying. The loss for Ukraine takes their tragic number down to 5 and could be officially be eliminated by the end of play at the end of the day.

Scotland took a 2-goal lead in the 1st 10 minutes of the match with goals from Kenny Miller and Lee McCulloch. Ukraine made things interesting when they pulled a goal back when Andriy Shevchenko scored off of Andriy Nesmachniy's left-wing cross in the 24th minute. James McFadden secured the win in the 68th minute.

## **Thai Tourism Minister applauds** Calendar

A small desk calendar, which started as a voluntary school project, has risen to unexpected heights of fame.

His Excellency Dr. Suvit Yodmani, Sports paid tribute to the young creators of the "Chiang Mai Charity Calendar" by travelling up from Bangkok to preside at the official launch of this initiative, which is designed to increase visitor arrivals to the Northern Thai city, and raise funds through calendar region. The event was held on October 5th 2007 at the recently opened Sofitel Riverside Hotel Chiang Mai, and attended by over

100 senior travel trade, airline media, consular and city hall representatives.

In an evening which included a presentation of how the calendar was conceived and created plus solo violin and classical quitar performances by students, Dr Suvit gave a talk about the future of the tourism industry in Chiang Mai, highlighting the importance of environmental issues, and close co-operation between the government and private sectors. He cited the Charity Calendar as an example of what could be achieved even by schoolchildren in terms of tourism promotion, and gave it his wholehearted support.

The evening concluded with the Minister presenting certificates of appreciation to the artists who painted the colourful images of the city which were chosen to be included in the non-profit calendar and representing why "Chiang Mai is a Wonderful Place to Live"

Offered as an unusual gift, the desk calendar is likely to carry its promotional message — in text and childrens' paintings — into homes and offices in countries around the world.

# Creationism dangerous in education: Council of Europe resolution

The Council of Europe
Parliamentary assembly (COE)
urged its member states to only
teach creationism as nothing more
than belief. The COE stressed the
potential threat to human rights
that may result from creationist
doctrines.

The adopted resolution targeting creationism is a reaction to growing fear in the COE member states that progressive scientific thought is threatened by the

advancement of fundamentalism and its perceived dangers. The British government marginalized intelligent design into 'religious' belief even before the adoption of the COE resolution.

## **Today in History**

1773 – The first recorded ministry of education, the Commission of National Education, was formed in Poland.

1806 – Battle of Jena-Auerstedt:
French forces under Napoleon
secure a decisive victory over the
Prussians, effectively eliminating
Prussia from the War of the Fourth
Coalition after only nineteen days
of fighting.

1926 – The first book featuring English author A. A. Milne's fictional bear Winnie-the-Pooh was first published.

1947 - Flying at an altitude of 45,000 ft (13.7 km) in an experimental Bell X-1 rocket-powered aircraft, American test pilot Chuck Yeager became the first person to break the sound barrier.

1981 – Hosni Mubarak was elected President of Egypt, one week after Anwar Sadat was assassinated. October 14 is Teachers' Day in Poland.

### **Quote of the Day**

There's an old African proverb that says "If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together." We have to go far — quickly. And that means we have to quickly find a way to change the world's consciousness about exactly what we're facing, and why we have to work to solve it.

~ Al Gore

## Word of the Day

homograph; n

 A word that is spelled the same as another, but has a different meaning and usually a different etymology.

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Today in History

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main\_Page

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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