



### Top Stories

#### Pakistan's Musharraf announces resignation

Pervez Musharraf, the Pakistani president who was facing impeachment, has announced in a speech that was broadcast on national television that he will resign from his position as President of Pakistan. He was facing impeachment on charges of violating the constitution and gross misconduct.



#### Beijing 2008: Michael Phelps wins eighth gold

The American Michael Phelps has set a new record for the most gold medals won in one Olympic games by winning his eighth gold medal of the 2008 Olympic games, beating the previous world record of seven that was set by Mark Spitz in the 1972 Olympic Games, which took place in Munich, Germany.



#### Merkel: Georgia will join NATO

"Georgia will become a NATO member if it wants to, and it does want to," German Chancellor Angela Merkel said during her Sunday visit to Tbilisi, Georgia. Merkel expected a very prompt withdrawal of Russian forces from Georgia and stated that Georgia's territorial integrity and its



### Top Stories

independence have to be respected.

#### Dorival Caymmi, Brazilian singer and songwriter, dies aged 94

Dorival Caymmi, a popular Brazilian singer and songwriter, has died today at the age of 94 at his Rio de Janeiro home. His death was caused by kidney cancer and multiple organ failures.

### Wikipedia Current Events

Egypt's upper house of Parliament is destroyed in a huge fire.

- North Korea declares Sweden its enemy and a United States war puppet.
- A bomb at a paramilitary police training academy in the town of Issers 60 km east of Algiers kills at least 43 people and injures another 38.
- French forces engage in heavy fighting with Taliban insurgents 50 kilometres east of Kabul, Afghanistan with 10 French soldiers dead.
- Russian and Georgian forces exchange prisoners of war.
- Russia begins to withdraw troops from Georgia proper according to eyewitness accounts.
- Russia temporarily closed its borders with Georgia and Azerbaijan to prevent terrorist groups from crossing into Russia.

### Wikipedia Current Events

•An Amnesty International worldwide movement for human rights reported on August, 14, that the assault of the Georgian Army on Tskhinvali included '14 hours of bombardment' of the city. Amnesty International is still gathering information on the reported heavy civilian casualties, as well as reported bombings of non-military targets leading to deaths of civilians and the destruction of civilian buildings.

•A United Nations aid convoy which entered Gori on Sunday reported evidence of large-scale looting. "While the buildings did not appear to be very damaged, there are clear signs of massive looting of both shops and private accommodations," the office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said.

•Alexander Stubb, the current Chairman of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe says that Russia has agreed to a beefed-up monitoring mission for Georgia's disputed region of South Ossetia.

•NATO cools relations with Russia  
NATO: Russia not honoring cease-fire terms

#### Egypt's Shura Council parliament building on fire

Fire broke out today at Egypt's Shura Council, the upper house of the Parliament of Egypt at around 16:00 local time. The number of casualties had reached 13 by 22:30. Officials said that most of the casualties were a result of

smoke inhalation and minor burns.

"The fire is currently limited to the Shura Council's second floor. We are still trying to determine the exact cause of the fire," the official said. "Parliament is currently on summer recess and very few people would have been in the building."

As of this article's publication, thick black clouds of smoke could still be seen billowing from the three-story building in downtown Cairo. A statement had been broadcast over a local TV network indicating that the evacuated employees said authorities told them they had ruled out terrorism and that the fire has been a result of a short circuit.

Fire engines and military helicopters reached the fire location and began trying to extinguish the flames. Ambulances were also seen in the area.

Parts of the ceiling on the top floor collapsed due to the fire.

The Egyptian Taxation building had also caught on fire.

### **Teen sex conviction in Australia for Mi-Sex manager**

Robert Jackson Yates, the former manager of the New Zealand and Australian New Wave band Mi-Sex, has been sentenced to a four-year jail sentence after pleading guilty to having sex with a minor.

The Victorian County Court heard that Yates, 62, met the girl through a website named Adult Friend Finder, where she claimed on her profile to be 18 years of age. The girl later revealed to Yates, through email exchanges with him, that her true age was 15. Yates flew to Melbourne, Victoria, where he met the girl and

had sex with her in a motel. The following day, the girl told her mother, who then contacted police.

Judge Meryl Sexton said that Yates must have known the girl was underage, and that the blame lay solely on Jackson's shoulders. "It's quite unbelievable that a man of 61 knowingly and deliberately set out to have sex with a female under 16," she said.

Yates pleaded guilty to two counts each of committing indecent acts with a child under 16 and of sexual penetration of a child under 16, and was sentenced to a four-year prison term, with a minimum of two years in prison before he is eligible for parole. He will also be placed on a registered sex offenders list for 15 years.

The band Mi-Sex was popular in Australia and New Zealand in the 1980s, most notably for their number one hit single "Computer Games".

### **New York City residents lift bus off pregnant woman**

A New York City resident is dead after she was run over by a bus.

33-year-old Donnette Sanz, a traffic agent for the city police department was crossing a Bronx intersection at East 188th Street and Webster Avenue when a van pushed her into the path of an oncoming school bus that then pinned the seven-month pregnant woman.

"We was riding along, coming down the hill," John Dargan, a passenger in the van, told the Daily News. "He said, 'Oh, my Lord, I don't have no brakes.' It happened so quick."

Approximately 30 people helped

lift the bus off of the woman. "I ran out of my house to join 10 people trying to lift up the bus," said Cheryl Brown, 47. "At first, we couldn't get it up, so then another 10 people ran over to help, and we got the bus up and the lady out." After being freed from beneath the bus, Sanz was then transported to St. Barnabas Hospital where her baby was delivered by caesarean section.

Sanz survived the birth, but died an hour later. The 1.5 kg boy, named Sean Michael, was initially classified as being in critical condition, but later showed signs of improvement.

The van's driver, 72-year-old Walter Walker, was arrested on charges of criminally negligent homicide and driving without a license. He pleaded not guilty.

"The light turned red, and I couldn't stop. I tried to miss her." said Walker to the New York Post. Police said the brakes on Walter's van were in such poor condition that the vehicle was unsafe. Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said that Walker already had 20 suspensions on his driver's license.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg offered condolences to Sanz's husband, Rafael. "It's a terrible poignancy that Donnette's son's birthday will now coincide with the day his mother died," Bloomberg said in a statement.

Sanz's colleagues have set up a memorial at the intersection where she was killed.

### **Biden's Georgia visit raises speculation about VP nod**

Upon the request of Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, Senator Joe Biden of Delaware made a visit to the Republic of

Georgia, which is currently under seige by Russia. Biden is considered to be a top choice on Barack Obama's list for presidential running mates because of his foreign policy expertise and 35 years of experience in the United States Senate. His trip increased speculation about Obama's selection, although Biden stated that the aim of the trip is "to get the facts first-hand and to show [his] support for Georgia's people and its democratically-elected government." Obama staffers confirmed that they had discussed the trip with Biden staffers before he left.

Biden met with President Saakashvili to discuss Georgia's situation, thereby allowing Biden to gather and transmit the information obtained during that meeting to the Senate as part of his duty as the Foreign Relations chairman. Georgia was invaded by Russia over the disputed territory of South Ossetia. The two nations signed a cease-fire and Russia has claimed that it has started to withdraw its troops to South Ossetia. Georgian and American officials have doubted this claim. So far in the armed conflict, 197 Georgian soldiers and 74 Russian soldiers have been reported dead. As many as 115,000 people have been displaced because of the fighting.

Biden ran for president of the United States of America in 1988 and again in 2008, but each time fell short of obtaining the Democratic Party nomination. In 1988 he was forced to withdraw his candidacy after claims of plagiarism and left the race in 2008 after unpromising results in the Iowa Caucus. Biden is among a list of possible Democratic vice-presidential candidates that

includes Virginia Governor Tim Kaine, Senator Evan Bayh of Indiana and former Senator Sam Nunn of Georgia. The trip was seen as a boost to Biden's prospects as a vice-presidential candidate, accentuating his foreign policy credentials. Biden is scheduled to return from the visit on August 18. He is scheduled to speak at the Democratic National Convention on August 27, the same day the vice-presidential nominee is scheduled to speak.

John McCain backers and possible Republican vice-presidential nominees Senators Lindsey Graham and Joe Lieberman were expected to visit Georgia as well.

**Today in History**

917 – Byzantine-Bulgarian Wars: Bulgarians led by Tsar Simeon I drove the Byzantines out of Thrace with a decisive victory in the Battle of Anchialus.

1794 – American troops defeated the Western Confederacy, a Native American alliance, at the Battle of Fallen Timbers, the decisive battle of the Northwest Indian War.

1804 – The Lewis and Clark Expedition, exploring the Louisiana Purchase, suffered its only death when Sergeant Charles Floyd died, apparently from acute appendicitis.

1991 – Singing Revolution: Estonia regained its independence from the Soviet Union.

1998 – The Al-Shifa pharmaceutical factory in Sudan was destroyed by a bombing attack launched by the United States in retaliation for the August 7 U.S. embassy bombings. August 20 is St. Stephen's Day in Hungary

**Quote of the Day**

There probably is no more important quest in all science than the attempt to understand those

very particular events in evolution by which brains worked out that special trick that has enabled them to add to the cosmic scheme of things: color, sound, pain, pleasure, and all the other facets of mental experience. ~ Roger Wolcott Sperry

**Word of the Day**

bivouac n

1. An encampment for the night, usually without tents or covering.
2. Any temporary encampment.
3. (dated) The watch of a whole army by night.

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