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George Bush: Rescue plan will get through

George W. Bush vowed to get the USD 700 billion economic rescue plan through congress in a statement to the media made today.



SpaceX rocket successfully orbits on fourth attempt

Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (SpaceX) successfully launched and sent into orbit a Falcon 1 rocket, which was launched yesterday at 23:15 UTC from the Ronald Reagan Ballistic Missile Defense Test Site at Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific Ocean.

US pastors plan to defy law and endorse candidates

The Alliance Defense Fund has called on 35 pastors across the country to break IRS tax laws and endorse presidential candidates during sermons. The pastors will draw on Bible passages tomorrow in a protest organized by the group of conservative Christian lawyers.

Anti-Scientology protest material removed from YouTube following threats of legal action

The video sharing website YouTube has removed several anti-Scientology videos following threats of legal action. Wikinews found that at least 11 videos have

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been removed from the site following Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) notices served on YouTube by Dr. Oliver Schaper, Scientologist and self-described advocate of the Church of Scientology's rights to free speech. Dr. Schaper, in an interview with Wikinews reporter Jason Safoutin, denied involvement in a previous run of DMCA requests involving similar video material.

Wikipedia Current Events

Dutch food giant Unilever began recalling Lipton-brand milk tea powder in Hong Kong and Macau after they were found to contain traces of melamine.

- Chinese police report having arrested 22 people on Monday over melamine tainted milk products.
- Shares of major Irish banks rise sharply following the announcement of a State guarantee of all deposits in Allied Irish Banks, Bank of Ireland, Anglo Irish Bank, Irish Life & Permanent, Irish Nationwide Building Society and EBS, worth an estimated €400 billion. The guarantee includes Bank of Ireland branches in Northern Ireland while the coverage of AIB's subsidiary, First Trust is still under discussion. Deposits in foreign-owned banks remain guaranteed to €100,000.
- 147 people are dead after a human stampede at the

Wikipedia Current Events

Chamunda Hindu temple near Jodhpur in India.

- At least 35 people die when a bus collides with a milk tanker and catches fire in central Pakistan, police say.
- 30 suspected mobsters arrested around Naples in "war against the Camorra."
- Pirates deny reports of three of their own killed in a shoot-out aboard the Ukrainian ship (MV Faina) off the African coast.
- The Dow Jones Industrial Average goes up almost 500 points, following its largest one day point drop in history yesterday.

Woman slashed to death, man steals \$6 for beer

A teenager slashed a woman to death as he attempted to steal \$6 off her -- to buy beer. The 16 year old boy, Alan Tanguay, now faces a first degree murder charge over the death of 58 year old Patricia Kaliszeski from Palm Bay, Florida.

Tanguay told investigators he was approached by Kaliszeski with a knife as he was burgling the house. He took it from her and used it to attack her, before hitting her over the head with a lamp.

Tanguay is currently being held in a juvenile holding area but he could also face an adult charge over the incident.

When police accessed his account

on a social networking web site, they found statements describing how he enjoys gory violence, "like people getting their neck slit and tounge pulled out."

One witness told police that the teenager claimed to have killed before and also that "he has a rule — if he finds someone in the house during a burglary, he has to kill them".

It is not known whether Tanguay has already appeared in court or when he is scheduled to appear, according to police.

Over 100 people die in stampede at Hindu temple near Jodhpur, India

Over 100 people died in a massive stampede at the Chamunda Devi temple Jodhpur, in the western state of Rajasthan, India. 168 people were killed, with just as many injured. A temple wall collapsed, causing panic among ten of thousands of gathered Hindu worshippers who then began to run for safety, causing the stampede. Several are still believed to be trapped under the rubble.

According to Malini Agarwal, a Jodhpur police officer, over 10,000 Hindus had gathered at a temple to perform their religious rites. Most of the injured have been transported to the nearest hospital and appeals were being made for the remaining pilgrims to be calm and peaceful.

In August another deadly incident resulting from a stampede occurred in the second day of a nine-day religious festival at the Naina Devi Temple in Himachal Pradesh state; more than 130 people were killed due to panic in Northern India.

Another incident in January 2005 saw more than 250 Hindu worshippers killed in a stampede near a remote temple in the state of Maharashtra.

Hundreds of victims still unidentified three months after Typhoon Frank

Typhoon Frank stormed across the Philippine Sea June 21, 2008 capsizing numerous boats, killing hundreds and leaving an estimated 1,330 missing in total including 820 passengers and crew from the MV Princess of the Stars ferry.

Since then Disaster Victim Identification (DVI) teams in Cebu City, Philippines made up of experts from the Philippines National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), the International Commission on Missing Persons (ICMP) and INTERPOL have painstakingly matched DNA from recovered bodies to that of blood samples donated by relatives of those still missing.

"The 23,000-ton vessel was also carrying tens of thousands of pounds of commercial insecticide and many bodies still remain trapped inside the wreckage" according to a recent press release from the ICMP.

"With fingerprint identification out of the question for most of the victims, and dental records not available, this leaves only DNA as a means of identification, with samples from recovered victims matched to those provided by the missing passengers' relatives."

An NBI-DVI report explains "DNA matches are made by comparing profiles from victims to a database of profiles from their relatives. A minimum of two close relatives [are] sought for each individual."

NBI-DVI has so far collected 1,916 blood samples from relatives of missing victims representing 809 missing persons. These samples are then matched against the 318 DNA samples from recovered bodies received by the ICMP.

"Almost three months have passed since our country was struck by one of the worst typhoons in memory, with 'Frank' causing the sinking of the Princess of the Stars with hundreds of passengers and crew on board," said NBI Director Nestor M. Mantaring in the press release.

"The NBI, through its DVI team, was tasked [with identifying] the victims of this tragedy. With help from INTERPOL and the ICMP, we have reached the 100th DNA-matched result which led to the identification and release of the bodies to their respective families.

"We are committed to doing this until the last possible victim is identified and returned to their family," he concluded.

George Bush: Rescue plan will get through

George W. Bush vowed to get the USD 700 billion economic rescue plan through congress in a statement to the media made today.

"Yesterday, the House of Representatives voted on a financial rescue plan that had been negotiated by Congressional leaders of both parties and my administration," Bush reminded the audience. "Unfortunately, the measure was defeated by a narrow margin. I'm disappointed by the outcome, but I assure our citizens and citizens around the world that this is not the end of the legislative process."

"Producing legislation is complicated, and it can be contentious. It matters little what a path a bill takes to become law," he continued. "We're at a critical moment for our economy, and we need legislation that decisively address the troubled assets now clogging the financial system, helps lenders resume the flow of credit to consumers and businesses, and allows the American economy to get moving again."

"I recognize this is a difficult vote for members of Congress. Many of them don't like the fact that our economy has reached this point, and I understand that. But the reality is that we are in an urgent situation, and the consequences will grow worse each day if we do not act. The dramatic drop in the stock market that we saw yesterday will have a direct impact on the retirement accounts, pension funds, and personal savings of millions of our citizens. And if our nation continues on this course, the economic damage will be painful and lasting." World and US markets today are up after severe declines yesterday. Most have recovered 30% of their previous losses, meaning that the potential government expenditure was similar to the market losses.

Bush then said that he knows "many Americans are especially worried about the cost of the legislation." He then attempted to justify the cost. "The bill the House considered yesterday commits up to 700 billion taxpayer dollars to purchase troubled assets from banks and other financial institutions. That, no question, is a large amount of money. We're also dealing with a large problem. But to put that in perspective, the drop in the stock market yesterday represented more than a trillion

dollars in losses."

If passed, the bailout plan would have allowed for the United States government to purchase devalued mortgage backed securities, resulting from the subprime mortgage crisis, from troubled financial institutions. The US Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said the plan could cost up to \$700 billion.

Today in History

331 BC – Alexander the Great of Macedon defeated Darius III of Persia at the Battle of Gaugamela, and was subsequently crowned "King of Asia" in a ceremony in Arbela.

1890 – At the urging of preservationist John Muir and writer Robert Underwood Johnson, the United States Congress established Yosemite National Park in California.

1898 – The Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration, currently the largest university focusing on business and economics in Europe, was founded as k.u.k. Exportakademie.

1949 – Chinese Civil War: Chinese Communist Party leader Mao Zedong proclaimed the establishment of the People's Republic of China.

2005 – Terrorist suicide bombs exploded at two sites in Bali, Indonesia, killing twenty people and injuring over 120 others. October 01 is National Day in the People's Republic of China (1949); Independence Day in Cyprus and Nigeria (both 1960), Tuvalu (1978) and Palau (1994)

Quote of the Day

Any customer can have a car painted any colour that he wants so long as it is black. ~ Henry Ford

Word of the Day

rarity n

1. A rare object.
2. A measure of the scarcity of an object.

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