



Top Stories

Australia's Howard calls for nativity scenes

Australia's Prime Minister John Howard has made a plea to restore the religious meaning of Christmas. Mr Howard said he had "contempt" for arguments that the religious side of the Christmas season should be toned down...

President Alvaro Uribe asks Washington to stop meddling



Alvaro Uribe, president of Colombia, reportedly told the United States on Friday to stop meddling in the affairs of his country. The U.S. ambassador to Colombia asked the president to take steps to fight corruption that have plagued Colombian regional elections.

Wikipedia Current Events

- 42 people die following a stampede in the Indian city of Madras.
- Bono, Melinda Gates and Bill Gates have been named Time's Persons of the Year.
- Vice President Dick Cheney is on a trip to various countries including Oman, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. He made a surprise stop to Iraq today.
- USLS Political Science Society President Clint Diesto officially declared Mae Ann Sarabillo as Bangon PolSci Presidential Candidate.
- Philippines clinched 5th place in 2005 ASEAN Para Games in Manila, Philippines. Thailand is on the top with outblasted 84 golds followed by Malaysia

17 from Badgingarra and the disappearance of a woman from Broome in 1996.

Police will examine the details of the Falconio trial to construct a timeline of Murdoch's whereabouts. Police Sargeant Graham Clifford said "Murdoch's methodology and criminal profile were being scrutinised".

Imitation gun pointed at Australia swimmers during training

Photos have emerged in the Australian media of a 9mm imitation pistol being pointed at swimmers by a coach. The incident occurred at a swimming camp where a number of young swimmers were training for next year's Commonwealth Games.

At the camp, Nathan Schrag, a Royal Australian Navy trainer, aimed the pistol at two swimmers whilst simultaneously firing a real pistol in the air. The two swimmers in question had just completed a two hour set.

It is believed that swimmers as young as 16 attended the camp. The officials responsible for the programme have stated that such methods will not be employed in the future. Meanwhile, Rod Kemp, the sports minister, has said that there is no place for such behaviour in sports training.

U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security visit Dartmouth student over library book

Featured story

NYC transit deadline past, no strike or talks



Talks between the MTA and Transit Workers Union Local 100 (TWU) ended Friday morning at 06:00 EST (11:00 UTC) with no resolution or job action..

Cold cases in West Australia examined for Murdoch link

West Australian Police have begun a review of cold cases in their state following Bradley John Murdoch's conviction for the murder of British backpacker Peter Falconio.

Police believe that Murdoch from Broome, in northern Western Australia could be responsible for the Claremont serial killings in Perth during 1996 and 1997. Police have also indicated that they will be exploring the possibility that Murdoch had been responsible for the disappearance of Hayley Dodd,

Wikipedia Current Events

- Presidential elections are taking place today in Bolivia between Evo Morales and Jorge Quiroga.

A University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth senior was visited by federal agents in September, after he requested a copy of Quotations From Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, which is colloquially known as "The Little Red Book".

History professors Brian Glyn Williams and Robert Pontbriand reported that the student requested the book through the university library via an interlibrary loan, which the Department of Homeland Security monitors. The agents apparently told the student that the book was on a watch list.

The student was writing a research paper on Maoist communism for Professor Pontbriand's class on fascism and totalitarianism. Government monitoring of library loans is often viewed as totalitarian practice.

"My instinct is that there is a lot more monitoring than we think," said Dr. Williams.

English edition of Wikipedia is now larger than the Spanish Encyclopedia ESPASA



The English version of Wikipedia has reached 865,835 articles, 220 million words, 389,591 illustrations and pictures since January, 2001.[1].

Compared to the Spanish language Encyclopedia ESPASA, which has 117 volumes, 175,000 pages, 200 million words, 197,000 black and white illustrations, 4,500 color illustrations, 5 million bibliographic references and 100,000 biographies [2], the

English Wikipedia is now larger than the largest encyclopedia of the Spanish language.

The project to write ESPASA was founded in 1860 by José Espasa Anguera and continued in 1926 by Editorial Espasa-Calpe, which today belongs to Grupo Planeta. The main works were published in 1905 and consisted of 72 volumes. In 1931 a 10 volumes appendix was published which includes an update of the previous volumes.

The reference work has been periodically updated by the biannual Suplementos since 1935. The latest Suplemento was published in 2005. In 1997 the work included a World Atlas. It has taken ESPASA 145 years to get to the point where it is today. In 4 years Wikipedia has reached the same point.

An average of 1500 new articles are created on Wikipedia every day with around 23.4 edits per article.

Today in History

218 BC - Hannibal (pictured) had his first great victory over the Roman Republic at the Battle of the Trebia.

1865 - Slavery in the United States was abolished when the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution was adopted.

1961 - Indonesia invaded Dutch New Guinea to annex West Papua on New Guinea.

1966 - Epimetheus, one of Saturn's natural satellites, was discovered, but was mistaken as Janus. It took 12 years to determine that they are two distinct objects sharing the same orbit.

1987 - The programming language Perl was released by Larry Wall. December 19 is Republic Day in Niger (1958)

Quote of the Day

"It is better to die for an idea that will live, than to live for an idea that will die." ~ Steve Biko

About Wikinews

We are a group of volunteer journalists whose mission is to create a diverse community where citizens from around the globe (including **you**) can collaborate to report the news on a wide variety of current events. By making our content perpetually available for free redistribution and use, we hope to contribute to a global digital commons.

Got news and no computer? Call the Wikinews Hotline

+1-866-653-4265
(toll-free in the U.S.)
+1-202-742-5918
(outside the U.S.)

License

This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution License. Articles published in this Print edition were created by Wikinewsies.

To view a copy of this license, visit: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/> or send a letter to Creative Commons 543 Howard Street, 5th Floor San Francisco, California, 94105, USA

Audio Wikinews

Audio Wikinews is a free non point-of-view news radio program recorded daily.

<http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Wikinews:Audio>

About Wikinews Print Edition

For more information about Wikinews Print Edition visit: <http://en.wikinews.org/wiki/Wikinews:Print>