

CAMPUS NEWS

World and National News In Brief

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Somali pirates still holding captain

Somali pirates still hold sea captain Richard Phillips captive off the Horn of Africa. The drama, now in its second day, continues to unfold as the pirates and their hostage remain adrift in an enclosed lifeboat.



The high seas drama began yesterday when Somali pirates boarded the US-flagged ship Maersk Alabama and were thwarted in their attempt to hijack the freighter due to the crew of about 20 locking themselves in a room and later overpowering some of the pirates.

The pirates subsequently retreated to the lifeboat with the captain, who surrendered to the pirates to keep his men safe.

The United States Navy has a destroyer close to the lifeboat, with more warships on the way. They

have called in a negotiator from the FBI to facilitate the captain's release.
AP

Shriners may close six hospitals

Shriners, an organization that provides free care since before the great depression, may be forced to close a quarter of their hospitals due to rising costs and decreasing income.

The group, based in Florida, says that it is being forced to take \$1 million every day from its \$5 billion endowment to cover day-to-day costs and expenses. Since 2001, the endowment, which is tied to the stock market, has been declining. Donations, another major source of income for the Shriners, are also down.

The hospitals have treated more than one million children free of charge, and the proposed closing of six hospitals could mean longer drives or a simple lack of care for many patients.
AP

Angel's pitcher dies in car crash at 22

Angels pitcher Nick Adenhardt was killed early Thursday morning in a car crash just hours after the best major league outing in his career.

The 22 year old pitcher was pronounced dead at a nearby hospital. Two other passengers died immediately and one other is in critical condition.

The driver who ran a red light and caused the accident fled the scene and was arrested 30 minutes later. Due to previous DUI convictions, the 22-year-old could face murder charges.

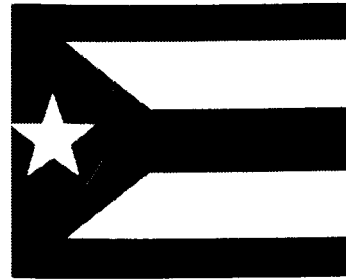
"The Angels' family has suffered a tremendous loss today," Angels' general manager Tony Reagins said in a statement Thursday morning. "We are deeply saddened and shocked by this tragic loss. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Nick's family, friends, loved ones and fans."
Yahoo Sports

US-Cuba relations softening

For the first time in nearly 50 years, tensions have eased slightly between the United States and our nearest island neighbor.

The Congressional Black Caucus traveled to the communist nation on a fact finding trip, with plans to report its findings to the White House.

"Our purpose was to see if there were preconditions on the Cuban side. We heard that there were no preconditions," Rep. Barbara Lee said Wednesday. "And, in fact, we wanted to find out if they were interested. We have to remember that every country in Latin America, 15 countries,



have normal relations with Cuba. ... We're the country which is isolated."

"I value the gesture of this legislative group," Fidel Castro wrote. "The aura of [the Rev. Martin] Luther King is accompanying them. Our press has given broad coverage of their visit. They are exceptional witnesses to the respect that U.S. citizens visiting our homeland always receive."
CNN

Simpsons to get stamp set

Culturally iconic cartoon family the Simpsons will soon be gracing your letters and packages as well as television sets starting May 7. The prime time dysfunctional family was chosen from about 50,000 suggestions submitted in 2008.

The comedy series is the longest running prime time sitcom. "This is the biggest and most adhesive honor 'The Simpsons' has ever received," creator Matt Groening said.



Bart Simpson, who is known to collect stamps, "will serve as a great opportunity to interest youngsters into stamp collecting," said David Failor, executive director of stamp services for the US Postal Service.

Failor added, "eyebrow-raising to say the least, this

witty, well-written pop icon continues to irreverently satire its parody of a middle-class family as it lampoons American culture."
CNN

Girl nearly loses hand in bizarre easter accident

A young girl's hand was nearly cut off in an Easter Egg hunt when she reached for a bird's egg on an illegal hunting trap.

Carina Faerber, 13, thought the trap held a chocolate egg. Instead, it held a bird's egg put there to attract weasels.

The girl's screams alerted people walking by, who called emergency services, according to the Austrian Times.

The girl was found with her nearly-severed hand hanging by just a thread of flesh.

The traps are illegal in Britain but are not banned in Austria if clear warning signs are placed beside them.

A huntsman came forward and claimed responsibility for setting the illegal snares.
Daily Star

All photos contributed

UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, APRIL 10	Swimming Pool 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.	Protestant Campus Ministry Worship Smith Chapel 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.	Junker Center 6:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Choirs of Penn State Behrend Water Pong Erie Hall 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.	Junker Center 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Late Drop Deadline	SATURDAY, APRIL 11	Protestant Campus Ministry Fellowship Smith Chapel 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Fac/Staff Pilates Junker Center 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	Volleyball Spring Practice Junker Center 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	THURSDAY, APRIL 16
Good Friday Worship Smith Chapel 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.	Martial Arts Club Junker Center 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.	KDR Path Meetings Reed Building Conference Room 113 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.	Fac/Staff Yoga Junker Center 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15	Smith Reading Series-Aimee Nezhukumatathil Smith Chapel 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Fac/Staff Pilates Junker Center 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	LEB Weekly Movie - Revolutionary Road Reed 117 10 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.	MONDAY, APRIL 13	Women's Film Series-House of Sand Reed Building Lecture Hall 117 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	Psych 270 Mock Trial Reed Building Lecture Hall 117 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.	Campus Crusade for Christ Weekly Meeting 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Fac/Staff Yoga Junker Center 12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	SUNDAY, APRIL 12	Varsity Water Polo	TUESDAY, APRIL 14	ToppSoccer	
Varsity Water Polo Junker Center					

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