

Bill Jeopardizes Tax-Free Online Shopping

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bill that would allow states to collect sales taxes for Internet purchases has passed a test vote in the Senate. Under current law, states can only require stores to collect sales taxes if the store has a physical presence in the state. As a result, many online sales are essentially tax-free, giving Internet retailers a big advantage over brick-and-mortar stores. The Senate voted 74 to 20 Monday to take up the bill. If that level of support continues, the Senate could pass the bill as early as this week. Supporters say the bill is about fairness for businesses and lost revenue for states. Opponents say it would impose complicated regulations on retailers and doesn't have enough protections for small businesses.

All Boston Bomb Patients Likely To Survive

BOSTON (AP) — In a glimmer of good news after last week's tragedy, all of the more than 180 people injured in the Boston Marathon blasts who made it to a hospital alive now seem likely to survive. That includes several people who arrived with legs attached by just a little skin, a 3-year-old boy with a head wound and bleeding on the brain, and a little girl riddled with nails. Even a transit system police officer whose heart had stopped and was close to bleeding to death after a shootout with the suspects now appears headed for recovery.

"All I feel is joy," said Dr. George Velmahos, chief of trauma surgery at Massachusetts General Hospital, referring to his hospital's 31 blast patients. "Whoever came in alive, stayed alive."

Three people did die in the blasts, but at the scene, before hospitals even had a chance to try to save them. A Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer who police say was fatally shot Thursday by the suspects was pronounced dead when he arrived at Massachusetts General.

The only person to reach a hospital alive and then die was one of the suspected bombers — 26-year-old Tamerlan Tsarnaev.

Syrian Regime Focuses On Damascus, Coast

BEIRUT (AP) — After watching much of Syria's territory slip into rebel hands, President Bashar Assad's regime is focusing on the basics: shoring up its hold on Damascus and the strip of land connecting the capital with the Mediterranean coast.

In the past week, government troops have overrun villages near the Lebanese border and suburbs of Damascus, including two districts west of the capital where activists say regime forces killed more than 100 people. The advances have improved the regime's footing in strategic areas that are seen as crucial to its survival.

In many ways, Assad's government has little choice at this point in the civil war, analysts say. Rebels have captured much of northern and eastern Syria, seizing control of military bases, hydroelectric dams, border crossings and even a provincial capital. Those areas are home to most of the country's oil fields, and the losses have deprived the regime of badly needed cash and fuel for its war machine.

But those provinces — Raqqa, Hassakeh and Deir el-Zoura — are located hundreds of miles (kilometers) from the capital. Rebel advances there pose no direct threat to the regime's hold on Damascus — the ultimate prize in the civil war — and any effort to claw back the lost territory would demand manpower and military hardware, neither of which the regime is inclined to invest at the moment.

Instead, it has used its remaining airbases and military outposts in those areas to shell and bomb the territory it has lost in an attempt to forestall the opposition from establishing an interim administration in the rebel-held regions.

2 People Arrested In Canadian Terror Plot

TORONTO (AP) — Two men were arrested and charged with plotting a terrorist attack against a Canadian passenger train with support from al-Qaida "elements" in Iran, police said Monday.

Chiheb Esseghaier, 30, and Raed Jaser, 35, who live in Montreal and Toronto, were planning to derail a Via Rail passenger train in Toronto but posed no immediate threat, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police said.

"This is the first known al-Qaida planned attack that we've experienced in Canada," Superintendent Doug Best told a news conference.

RCMP Assistant Commissioner James Malizia said the two men had "direction and guidance" from "al-Qaida elements located in Iran," though there was no reason to think the planned attacks were state-sponsored. Police said the men did not get financial support from al-Qaida, but declined to provide more details.

"It was definitely in the planning stage but not imminent," RCMP chief superintendent Jennifer Strachan said. "We are alleging that these two individuals took steps and conducted activities to initiate a terrorist attack. They watched trains and railways."

Woodstock Star Havens Dies Of Heart Attack

NEW YORK (AP) — Richie Havens, who sang and strummed for a sea of people at Woodstock, has died of a heart attack Monday, his family said in a statement. He was 72.

Havens, a folk singer and guitarist, was the first performer at the three-day 1969 Woodstock Festival. He returned to the site during the 40th anniversary in 2009.

"Everything in my life, and so many others, is attached to that train," he said in a 2009 interview with The Associated Press.

Havens was born in Brooklyn. He was known for his crafty guitar work and cover songs, including his well-received impersonation of Bob Dylan's "Just Like a Woman."

The singer's website said he had kidney surgery years ago and that he never recovered enough to perform concerts like he used to.

Boston Marathon Bombing

Officials: Religion May Be Motive

Surviving Suspect Charged, May Face Death Penalty

BY DAVID CRARY AND DENISE LAVOIE
 Associated Press

BOSTON — The two brothers suspected of bombing the Boston Marathon appear to have been motivated by their religious views but do not seem connected to any Muslim terrorist groups, U.S. officials said Monday after interrogating the severely wounded younger man. He was charged with federal crimes that could bring the death penalty.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, 19, was charged in his hospital room with using a weapon of mass destruction to kill. He was accused of joining with his older brother, Tamerlan — now dead — in setting off the pressure-cooker bombs that killed three people and wounded more than 200 a week ago.

The brothers, ethnic Chechens from Russia who had been living in the U.S. for about a decade, practiced Islam.

Dzhokhar Tsarnaev communicated with his interrogators in writing, a less-than-ideal format that precluded the type of detailed back-and-forth crucial to establishing the facts, said one of two officials who recounted the questioning. They spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to publicly discuss the investigation. The two officials said the preliminary evidence

from an interrogation suggests the Tsarnaev brothers were driven by religion but had no ties to Islamic terrorist organizations.

At the same time, they cautioned that they were still trying to verify what they were told by Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and were looking at such things as his telephone and online communications and his associations with others.

The criminal complaint containing the charges against Dzhokhar Tsarnaev shed no light on the motive.

But it gave a detailed sequence of events and cited surveillance-camera images of him dropping off a knapsack with one of the bombs and using a cellphone, perhaps to coordinate or detonate the blasts.

The Massachusetts college student was listed in serious but stable condition at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center with a gunshot wound to the throat and other injuries. His 26-year-old brother died last week in a fierce gunbattle with police.

"Although our investigation is ongoing, today's charges bring a successful end to a tragic week for the city of Boston and for our country," Attorney General Eric Holder said in a statement.



Tsarnaev

The charges carry the death penalty or up to life in prison.

"He has what's coming to him," a wounded Kaitlynn Cates said from her hospital room. She was at the finish line when the first blast knocked her off her feet, and she suffered an injury to her lower leg.

In outlining the evidence against him in court papers, the FBI said Tsarnaev was seen on surveillance cameras putting a knapsack down on the ground near the site of the second blast and then manipulating a cellphone and lifting it to his ear.

Seconds later, the first explosion went off about a block down the street and spread fear and confusion through the crowd. But Tsarnaev — unlike nearly everyone around him — looked calm and quickly walked away, the FBI said.

Just 10 seconds or so later, the second blast occurred where he had left the knapsack, the FBI said.

The FBI did not make it clear whether authorities believe he used his cellphone to detonate one or both of the bombs or whether he was talking to someone.

The court papers also said that during the long night of crime Thursday and Friday that led to the older brother's death and the younger one's capture, one of the Tsarnaev brothers told a carjacking victim: "Did you hear about the Boston explosion? I did that."

EPA Again Questions Keystone XL Pipeline

BY NEELA BANERJEE
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WASHINGTON — The Environmental Protection Agency issued a sharply critical assessment of the State Department's recent environmental impact review of the controversial Keystone XL pipeline, a move certain to complicate efforts to win approval for the \$7 billion project.

In a letter to top State Department officials overseeing the permitting process for the pipeline, the EPA lays out detailed objections regarding greenhouse gas emissions related to the project, pipeline safety and alternative routes. Based on its analysis, the EPA said it had "Environmental Objections" to the State Department's environmental assessment due to "insufficient information."

A State Department spokesman could not immediately be reached for comment. The State Department assessment concluded that Keystone XL, which would con-

nect Canada's oil sands to the U.S., would have a minimal impact on the environment. But the EPA analysis appears to challenge that conclusion.

The EPA's assessment came during the public comment period for the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement that the State Department issued last month. The study is supposed to be an exhaustive look at the effect of the proposed pipeline on air, water, endangered species, communities and the economy.

Other federal agencies have the right to comment on the assessment, but the EPA's is the one most anxiously awaited because a negative analysis by the regulator could raise barriers to the project's approval.

President Barack Obama said in late 2011 that he would decide the pipeline's fate, and a final decision is expected by the summer.

Congratulations



Yankton Therapeutic Massage Ribbon Cutting

The Yankton Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Committee hosted a ribbon cutting for Yankton Therapeutic Massage located at 231 Broadway Ave. Alisa and Justin Miller, owners. Alisa, a licensed certified massage therapist has extensive experience in sports massage, neuromuscular therapy, scar tissue therapy and reflexology. She also offers Hot Stone, Pregnancy and Relaxation options. Alisa works with clients that have Fibromyalgia, Multiple Sclerosis, Huntington's, Parkinson's, and Carpal Tunnel, Autism and many more disease and syndromes. Call Alisa at (605)689-4000.

YANKTON DAILY
PRESS&DAKOTAN

Obama Invites Female Senators To Dinner

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House says President Barack Obama will host female senators for dinner at the White House on Tuesday.

The dinner is part of Obama's ongoing efforts to improve the lines of communication with Congress and lay the groundwork for future compromise.

Last week, Obama shared a meal with a dozen Senate Democrats at a hotel near the White House, discussing immigration, gun control, the budget and other second-term priorities.

He's hosted two similar dinners for Senate Republicans in recent weeks. Obama has also traveled to Capitol Hill to meet with lawmakers from both parties.

Big Friend Little Friend Thanks You For A Successful 17th Annual Bowl-A-thon

On behalf of the Big Friend Little Friend, Inc we gratefully acknowledge your participation in the 17th Annual Bowl-A-Thon. Because of your generosity and volunteerism, we are able to further our mission in bettering the lives of children across all of the Yankton Community.



Every child should have the opportunity, confidence, character and support needed to lead a safe, healthy and productive life. They have a right to expect a fair chance to develop their talents and apply their energies in order to successfully contribute to society. Studies consistently show that the best hope for young people comes from mentoring.

Mentors make a difference every day.

Again, thank you for supporting our 17th Annual Bowl-A-Thon and for allowing a day of bowling fun for all the Yankton Community kids. We appreciate all you do for our program and the youth who are able to participate in mentoring programs!

Thank You,
 Stacy Starzl, Executive Director

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Our apologies if we misspelled or omitted your name from the list. Please accept our apology and let us know so we can correct it in our database and make sure that we do not make the same mistake in the future. 605-665-6365.

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Ashley Reiner specializes in the practice of Internal Medicine. She received her undergraduate degree from South Dakota State University and then went on to graduate from Union College in Lincoln, NE with a Master of Physician Assistant Studies. Reiner assists in providing comprehensive primary care to adults. She has certifications in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, American Heart Association CPR, and Nonviolent Crisis Intervention.

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