

### Military Could Be Key To Venezuela's Future

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — Venezuela's military took center stage in the country's bicentennial celebrations Tuesday, and it likely will be a key player in the country's political future if Hugo Chavez is eventually forced out of the presidency by cancer.

Thousands of troops marched beneath thundering fighter jets and helicopters while an announcer's booming voice declared that the nation is "free, socialist, independent."

Top brass appeared alongside Chavez, a former paratrooper, as he saluted and addressed the parade from his presidential palace. The image brought to mind key moments of Chavez's career, such as a 2002 coup against him, in which military loyalists came to his rescue.

Despite the appearance of a fully unified Bolivarian National Armed Force, some analysts and former officers say there are long-standing internal divisions between those who solidly stand behind Chavez's drive for socialism and those who do not. If Chavez's health worsens, some believe latent tensions could erupt within the ranks and the military could end up playing a key role in any transition to new leadership.

"It's going to clearly be an important actor in the days to come," said Diego Moya-Ocampos, a political analyst with IHS Global Insight in London. He said the military is "the only institution that would have the power to put pressure on the political actors to generate outcomes."

### Report: 197 African Migrants Feared Drowned

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Nearly 200 African migrants were feared drowned Tuesday after a boat carrying them to Saudi Arabia caught fire off Sudan's northeastern coast, a semi-official news agency reported.

The Sudan Media Center said three migrants were rescued. The boat had launched from Red Sea State, one of Sudan's 26 states, and sailed for four hours in Sudanese territorial waters before the blaze broke out, according to the news agency.

Local authorities were still searching for possible survivors, it said. The report could not be independently confirmed.

The report said that the planning and execution of the illegal migrant smuggling effort took place in Port Sudan, a main port in the impoverished country. Port Sudan is the capital of the Red Sea State. The agency also said that the boat sank south of Sawaken, which is at the south tip of the Red Sea state.

The report said the owners of the boat, all Yemenis, have been arrested, although it gave no more details about them.

### Rescuers Search For Missing U.S. Tourists

SAN FELIPE, Mexico (AP) — They are fathers, fiances and experienced fishermen.

The seven U.S. tourists still missing two days after their boat capsized off Mexico's coast went to sea as they had for several years on the U.S. Independence Day holiday: They wanted to fish and have a good time.

On Tuesday, their shipmates anxiously awaited word as the Mexican navy and the U.S. Coast Guard expanded their search in the Gulf of California, holding out hope that the missing were able to survive in the gulf's balmy waters.

"Every hour he's still missing, hope gets hit with reality," said Gary Wong, whose younger brother, Brian, 54, of Berkeley, is among the missing tourists.

A local TV station in California erroneously reported that Brian Wong, who works in personnel for Alameda County and has two grown daughters, was the among the dead, leaving the family to calm his frantic wife.

### Landmark Gay History Bill Goes To Calif. Gov.

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — California lawmakers on Tuesday sent the governor a bill that would make the state the first requiring public schools to include the contributions of gays and lesbians in social studies curriculum.

The bill adds lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people as well as people with disabilities to the list of groups that schools must include in the lessons. It also would prohibit material that reflects adversely on gays.

Democratic Assemblyman Tom Ammiano of San Francisco says SB48 is crucial because of the bullying that happens to gay students. Republicans called it a well-intentioned but ill-conceived bill. The Assembly passed the bill with a 49-25 party-line vote.

"This bill will require California schools to present a more accurate and nuanced view of American history in our social science curriculum by recognizing the accomplishments of groups that are not often recognized," said Assembly Speaker John Perez, the first openly gay speaker of the California Assembly.

The legislation leaves it to local school boards to decide how to implement the requirement. It does not specify a grade level for the instruction to begin.

# Anthony Cleared Of Murder

## Mother Acquitted Of Killing 2-Year-Old Daughter

BY KYLE HIGHTOWER  
Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Casey Anthony's eyes welled with tears and her lips trembled as the verdict was read once, twice and then a third time: "Not guilty" of killing her 2-year-old daughter, Caylee.

Outside the courthouse, many in the crowd of 500 reacted with anger, chanting, "Justice for Caylee!" One man yelled, "Baby killer!"

In one of the most divisive verdicts since O.J. Simpson was acquitted in 1995 of murdering his wife, Anthony was cleared of murder, manslaughter and child-abuse charges after weeks of wall-to-wall TV coverage and arm-chair-lawyer punditry that one of her attorneys denounced as "media assassination."

Anthony, 25, was convicted only of four misdemeanor counts of lying to investigators who were looking into the child's June 2008 disappearance.

Anthony could get up to a year behind bars on each count when she is sentenced Thursday. But since she has been in jail for nearly three years already, she could walk free. Had she been convicted of murder, she could have gotten the death penalty.

After a trial of a month and a half, the

Florida Ninth Judicial Circuit Court jury took less than 11 hours to reach a verdict in a case that had become a national cable TV sensation, with its CSI-style testimony about the smell of death inside a car trunk and its storyline about a seemingly self-centered, hard-partying young mother.

Prosecutors contended that Anthony — a single mother living with her parents — suffocated Caylee with duct tape because she wanted to be free to hit the nightclubs and spend time with her boyfriend.

Defense attorneys argued that the little girl accidentally drowned in the family swimming pool, and that Anthony panicked and concealed the death because of the traumatic effects of sexual abuse by her father.

State's Attorney Lawson Lamar said: "We're disappointed in the verdict today because we know the facts and we've put in absolutely every piece of evidence that existed." The prosecutor lamented the lack of hard evidence, saying, "This is a dry-bones case. Very, very difficult to prove. The delay in recovering little Caylee's remains worked to our considerable disadvantage."

Anthony failed to report Caylee's disappearance for a month. The child's decomposed body was eventually found in the

woods near her grandparents' home six months after she was last seen. A medical examiner was never able to establish how she died, and prosecutors had only circumstantial evidence that Caylee had been killed.

The jurors — seven women, five men — would not talk to the media, and their identities were kept secret by the court.

The case played out on national television almost from the moment Caylee was reported missing three years ago. HLN's Nancy Grace approached the case with the zeal of the hard-nosed prosecutor she once was, arguing that Anthony — or "the tot mom," as Grace routinely called her — was responsible for her daughter's death.

Anthony's attorney Cheney Mason lashed out at the media after the verdict.

"Well, I hope that this is a lesson to those of you having indulged in media assassination for three years, bias, prejudice and incompetent talking heads saying what would be and how to be," Mason said.

Without mentioning Grace by name, he added: "I'm disgusted by some of the lawyers that have done this, and I can tell you that my colleagues from coast to coast and border to border have condemned this whole process of lawyers getting on television and talking about cases that they don't know a damn thing about."

# Britain Shocked By Hacking Into Slain Girl's Phone

BY GREGORY KATZ  
Associated Press

LONDON — Britain's voracious tabloids may have hit a new low: The News of the World was facing claims Tuesday that it hacked into a missing 13-year-old's phone messages, possibly hampering a police inquiry into her disappearance.

Milly Dowler was found murdered months later and the report that her messages were tampered with has horrified Britons. Major advertisers — including Ford UK — have pulled their ads from the paper.

Britons are used to seeing their tabloid press harass royals, sports stars and celebrities, constantly eavesdropping and paying even the most tangential

sources for information about stars' sex lives and drug problems.

But the latest hacking case was met with revulsion from everyone from British Prime Minister David Cameron to movie stars to people who commented on Twitter.

"(It is) shocking that someone could do this, knowing that the police were trying to find this person and trying to find out what had happened," Cameron said while on a trip to Afghanistan.

The case has refocused the spotlight on the already tainted News of The World, part of Rupert Murdoch's global media empire at News Corp. It also comes as Murdoch is trying to engineer the politically sensitive, multibil-

lion-pound takeover of broadcaster BSkyB in Britain.

Milly's disappearance in 2002 while walking home from school in Surrey, south of London, transfixed Britain until her decomposing body was found six months later in the woods by mushroom pickers.

While police were pursuing all leads and Milly's parents were making dramatic appeals for information, a private investigator working for the News of the World allegedly hacked into her cell phone, listened to her messages and even deleted some to make room for possible new ones.

Mark Lewis, a lawyer representing Milly's parents, said Tuesday the suspected hacking may have hampered the police

investigation and he plans to sue the tabloid for its interference.

It was never determined how long the teen was alive after being abducted but the tabloid's actions reportedly came soon after her disappearance. Police realized some messages had been deleted, giving them and Milly's parents false hope that she was still alive.

"It is distress heaped upon tragedy to learn that the News of the World had no humanity at such a terrible time," Lewis said. "The fact that they were prepared to act in such a heinous way that could have jeopardized the police investigation and give them false hope is despicable."

He said executives at the newspaper should take responsibility and step down.

# Writer Files Assault Charge Against Strauss-Kahn

BY MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN AND PIERRE-ANTOINE SOUCHARD  
Associated Press

PARIS — A young French author has formally accused former International Monetary Fund chief Dominique Strauss-Kahn of attempted rape, breaking her long public silence with a dramatic account of fending off an attacker who ripped at her clothes as they fought on his apartment floor.

Tristane Banon's criminal complaint, which was filed Tuesday, was already spawning an ugly public battle that appeared to be dividing France and follows trans-Atlantic mudslinging over

the Guinean chambermaid who accused Strauss-Kahn of forcing her to perform oral sex in his New York hotel room.

The sudden weakening of the maid's case because of New York prosecutors' doubts about her credibility revived hopes in Strauss-Kahn's Socialist Party that he could return to France and retake his position as the strongest potential challenger to conservative President Nicolas Sarkozy in the 2012 election.

Those hopes could be undermined by the 31-year-old writer's legal action, which is expected to set off a lengthy preliminary investigation by prosecutors into whether there is enough evi-

dence to pursue a case in France.

While many here saw Strauss-Kahn, 62, as a victim of rough U.S. justice, the French public may recoil at a drawn-out case in French courts brought by a woman whose mother is a Socialist Party official. Polls already have found French voters evenly divided over whether they want Strauss-Kahn to return, with women more likely to object to his reviving a political career.

A poll of 860 people conducted over the weekend by the magazine *Nouvel Observateur* found that 54 percent didn't want Strauss-Kahn to run in the Socialist Party primary, and 63 percent didn't believe that he would end

up running.

"He grabbed my hand, then my arm, I told him to let me go and that's when the fight started. He pulled me towards him, we fell down and fought on the ground for a few minutes," Banon told the news magazine *L'Express*.

She said she started kicking him with her boots, then finally broke free, ran down the stairs and called her mother from her car.

"I couldn't even drive I was trembling so much," she said. The Associated Press does not name alleged victims of sexual crimes unless, like Banon, they choose to publicly identify themselves.

### OBITUARIES

#### Sylvan 'Shorty' Jiricek

Sylvan "Shorty" E. Jiricek, age 87 of Yankton passed away on Monday, July 4, 2011 at the Avera Yankton Care Center, Yankton.

Funeral services will be at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, July 7, 2011 Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Chapel, Yankton with Rev. Ron Johnson officiating. Burial will be in the Garden of Memories with military graveside rites by the Ernest-Bowyer VFW Post # 791,



Jiricek

from 7-8 p.m. Visitations will resume one hour prior to the service at the funeral home.

Sylvan was born February 5,

Yankton and the SDARNG, Sioux Falls.

Visitations will be from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday, July 6, 2011 at the Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home, Yankton with the family present

1924 at home in Greenwood, SD to William and Bessie (Nedved) Jiricek. He was raised on a farm near Tyndall, SD and finished grades K-8. He married LaVelle Woods on January 15, 1948. He served in the U.S. Marines Corp in WWII. After his honorable discharge, he moved to Lake Andes and was lead crane operator during the building of Ft. Randall and Gavins Point Dam. He moved to Glendale, CA where he worked at Lockheed Aircraft for a short time then he farmed

near Wagner, SD for several years. He moved to Yankton in 1970 and worked several construction jobs in South Dakota and Colorado. He then worked for the City of Yankton until his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, LaVelle; 2 daughters, Linda (Elton) Wek, Yankton and Leslie (Lester) Thompson, Omaha, NE; 4 grandchildren: Lynsay and Laurel Wek, Yankton, Troy Burrus, Omaha, NE, and Shannon (Brad) Mahon, Verdel, NE, 2 sis-

ters and many other beloved family members.

He is preceded in death by his father, mother, 1 sister, 4 brothers, and a son-in-law.

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July 6, 2011

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www.opsahl-kostelfuneralhome.com

#### Elizabeth 'Betty' Hanson

Elizabeth M. "Betty" Hanson, age 89, passed away Sunday May 29, 2011 at Wheaton Franciscan/All Saints Medical Center, Racine.

Elizabeth was born in Yankton, SD January 28, 1922, daughter of the late Lee and Maude Gamble.

On June 5, 1943, Betty was united in marriage Rodney Hanson, who preceded her in death August 10, 1988.

She was a graduate of LaCrosse State Teachers College and was a Physical Education and English teacher at Darien High School in her younger years. Betty served on the Citizen's Advisory Board on desegregation of the Racine Unified School District in 1973 and 1974. She was an avid bridge player and enjoyed her times with her family and friends. She will be dearly missed.

Survivors include her children, Leslie Hanson D.O. of St. Louis, MO, Patricia (Steven) Wirth of Wauwatosa, Jack (Hilarie) Hanson of Grass Lake, MI; grandchildren,

James (Katie) Wirth, Kelsey Hanson, Matthew Wirth, John Alex Hanson, Kelly Moffit; brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 1533 Erie St, Friday June 3, 2011 with entombment at Calvary Cemetery, Racine, WI. Memorials to the Racine Zoological Society have been suggested.

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#### Clarence Courtney

Clarence Courtney, 78 of Yankton died Tuesday, July 5, 2011, at his residence.

Arrangements are pending under the care of Opsahl-Kostel Funeral Home and Crematory, Yankton.

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Send an on-line sympathy card at  
[www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com](http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com)

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