

## News in a Minute



### China, Taiwan rebuilding ties

TAIPEI, Taiwan — China cooled its rhetoric and ended its war games Monday, and Taiwan proposed a significant trade concession to Beijing, suggesting that both sides want to end their eight-month war of nerves.

China sent thousands of troops on military maneuvers near Taiwan and test-fired ballistic missiles in a failed attempt to undercut support for Taiwan's president, whom Beijing accuses of harboring dreams of independence.

Monday's developments indicate that the two rivals, having plunged into a confrontation that alarmed their Asian neighbors and drew in the U.S. Navy, are now looking for ways to get relations back to normal.

The end of the war games had been scheduled, and Taiwan warned another may be imminent, although not so threatening. But China's move coincided with a shift in emphasis from vilifying President Lee Teng-hui of Taiwan to talking about what must be done to restore the peace.

Taiwan, for its part, offered to partially meet a fundamental Chinese demand by establishing direct trade links with China.

### Smuggled Freon seeps into U.S.

NEW DELHI, India — Smuggled CFC gas from India has been seeping into the United States by the ton, allowing American motorists to stay cool for less this summer but prolonging the threat to the Earth's ozone shield.

The U.S. Customs Service says the contraband chlorofluorocarbon-12, the air-conditioning gas commonly called Freon, has suddenly become its No. 2 problem, behind illegal drugs.

One scheme broken up in Florida — with an Indian connection — involved CFC-12 worth \$52 million. The U.S. government, meanwhile, has lost possibly hundreds of millions in tax revenues because of coolant smuggling. And big business has an investment of billions riding on weaning the world from CFCs and getting it hooked on new chemicals.

A 1987 treaty, the Montreal Protocol, phases out CFCs because of evidence that the compounds damage the upper atmosphere's ozone layer, which shields Earth from most of the sun's ultraviolet radiation and prevents skin cancer and other illnesses.

### Nicotine nasal spray approved

WASHINGTON — Hard-core smokers are about to get new help in kicking the habit: a nasal spray that gives them a shot of nicotine from a bottle instead of a cigarette.

Nicotrol NS is a pump bottle that holds 100 milligrams of pure nicotine that smokers can inhale to ward off cigarette cravings. It is to be sold by prescription only to adult smokers trying to quit, the Food and Drug Administration announced Monday.

But the FDA warned that smokers could become as dependent on the nasal spray's nicotine as they are on cigarettes. Scientists already discovered one desperate woman who plotted ways to get the nasal spray for a year when she ran out of a three-month supply received during a research study.

Smokers should try to use the spray for just three months — and never longer than six months, the FDA said.

McNeil Consumer Products of Fort Washington, Pa., will begin selling the spray later this year, but would not reveal an exact date or price.

## Property

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nate their own jobs, he said.

But if schools don't look at those options, Wesely said, less money would be spent on classroom materials and quality teaching staff.

Sen. Chris Beutler of Lincoln said the legislature needs to take a stand on where cuts should be made in the education system.

"Why don't we take the heat instead of letting local school boards take the heat?" Beutler said.

An amendment, proposed by Sen. Eric Will of Omaha, stating that classroom funding should be

the last budget line to be affected by property tax relief was added to the bill.

The Will amendment made the intentions of the bill more clear, senators agreed.

"It comes closer to saying that we deem education of the children to be the primary goal of the schools," Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha said.

Chambers said he felt passing the bills would not reduce property taxes. The bills contained too much "intent" language and would not really force taxes down.

"It's smoke and when the wind of reality blows, it's going to dissipate and be gone," Chambers said.

# Dole returns to Kansas for heartland homecoming

RUSSELL, Kan. — It is the place where he delivered the newspapers, braved the dust bowl and drew strength from neighbors when he thought he would never walk again. He has always been a hero here, but Bob Dole came home to Russell on Monday as something else: a winner. Finally.

"I have come here to celebrate dreams that have come true," the certain Republican presidential nominee told a homecoming rally at Russell High. "There are still more to realize, not just for me — but for America."

Barely two sentences into his remarks, Dole's eyes welled with tears and his voice faltered as he tried to thank the people of Russell for supporting him when he came home from World War II severely wounded, nearly paralyzed.

"Some debts can never be repaid," Dole said. "But I have come to Russell to acknowledge mine. I will never forget your kindness and your care. I will never forget your sacrifice and your prayers."

For Dole, it was an emotional homecoming to celebrate victory in his third try for the Republican presidential nomination.

And for his campaign, it was an opportunity to introduce America to the other Bob Dole. Not the blue-suited Senate majority leader from the Sunday talk shows, but the hardscrabble son of the heartland who lived in a basement apartment, worked the soda fountain at Dawson's Drug,

went off to war and fought his way back from near death.

"I know sometimes that life can be unfair, sometimes it can be painful, sometimes it is difficult," Dole said. "These lessons left their mark on me. I am a plain-spoken Kansan but I found my philosophy in the poetry of America. I certainly have limitations, but I will never apologize for who I am — because I am one of you."

Dole's visit included a stop at his childhood home and a walk through town, past the storefront that used to be the drug store where he worked as a soda jerk.

Along the way, he encountered 96-year-old Alice Mills, one of his childhood teachers. Dole also stopped in at the local GOP headquarters where he was greeted by three of the original "Dolls for Dole," women who wore red skirts and sang in Dole's first congressional campaign in 1960.

As he delivered his speech, Dole choked back tears several times, staring down at one point to collect himself after telling the packed high school gym, "It was here I learned not to wear my heart on my sleeve. But I also learned to feel deeply for my country and my family — that some things are worth living for, and some are worth sacrificing for."

As he campaigns, the 72-year-old son of the Depression is hounded by questions about whether he is the right man to lead the nation into the next century. In Russell, Dole looked to the past to try to make his case.

*"I have come here to celebrate dreams that have come true. There are still more to realize, not just for me — but for America."*

**BOB DOLE**

Republican presidential candidate

"It is my deepest belief that the coming generation deserves an America like the nation I have known," Dole said. "And it is my deepest fear that this administration is squandering an inheritance it does not value — undermining values it does not understand."

Speaking to reporters on the flight to Kansas, Dole was asked what message he hoped his homecoming would bring to the American people.

"I guess that I haven't forgotten where I am from and what I am about and who I am," he said. "I think you are a product of where you are born — where you grow up."

Nostalgically retracing his childhood, Dole recalled getting visits from both the local Democratic and Republican chairmen after recovering from his wounds. In the end, he chose the GOP because Kansan Dwight Eisenhower "was sort of our hero," Dole said.

## First Lady visits Bosnia to offer thanks to troops

MARKOVICI, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Protected by sharpshooters, Hillary Rodham Clinton swooped into a military zone by Black Hawk helicopter Monday to deliver a personal "thank you, thank you, thank you" to U.S. troops.

"They're making a difference," the first lady said of the 18,500 Americans working as peacekeepers in Bosnia.

Mrs. Clinton became the first presidential spouse since Eleanor Roosevelt to make such an extensive trip into what can be considered a hostile area, though others have visited hot spots.

She was proud of the distinction: "To be here on the ground is something I wanted to do so that maybe people back home would see it — not through the eyes of the secretary of the Army or someone in a position in the military — but like Eleanor Roosevelt, who has always done everything first, to visit the troops to say thank you."

Accompanied by her teen-age daughter Chelsea, the first lady plunged into a grueling goodwill tour designed to boost troop morale in Bosnia and highlight efforts by Bosnians, Croats and Muslims to resolve deeply held differences.

Standing on a dusty, makeshift boardwalk near an out-of-the-way military hospital, Mrs. Clinton said,

"For the first time, children are playing again. Farmers are in their fields. People are moving into their homes."

The first lady acknowledged several "bumps in the road," a point underscored just three days ago when a U.S. soldier was killed in a vehicle accident. Mrs. Clinton visited the soldier's driving companion in the military hospital.

"It's not going to be easy," she said, pointing to the flight of Serbs from areas of Sarajevo they held as the city came under Bosnian control. "Feelings are very deep. There is a lot of pain. There is a lot to get over — a lot to forgive if there's going to be reconstruction and reconciliation."

But this was a day of celebration and celebrities — a day for the U.S. troops helping to uphold the Bosnian peace accord. Mrs. Clinton hosted a USO show with comedian Sinbad and singer Sheryl Crow and briefly addressed the gathering.

Under hard, gray skies, the first lady told 1,000 cheering soldiers, "The first thing I want to say on behalf of the president and everybody else is thank you, thank you, thank you."

But the highlight of her trip were visits to two fortified posts outside the U.S. base in Tuzla. Even President Clinton, restricted to the base by bad weather in January, did not see as much of this war-racked region as Mrs. Clinton did Monday.

## Interest rate cuts unlikely, analysts say

WASHINGTON — Only a few weeks ago, the U.S. economy appeared to be flat on its back and in desperate need of a boost from the Federal Reserve. Now, good economic news has convinced many analysts that the central bank is through cutting rates and might even start increasing them after the November election.

Central bank policy-makers meet Tuesday for one of their eight-times-a-year reviews of the economy and interest rates. The central bank cut rates for a third time at the last such meeting, on Jan. 31, and there had been widespread expectations of further rate cuts. But that has all changed.

Analysts said the big switch in their views occurred because after months of disappointing economic statistics, things have suddenly turned around with a rash of statistics from retail sales to factory orders all pointing to a rebound.

David Jones, chief economist at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co., said he believed the Fed's three rate cuts will be the extent of central bank easing, given that the economy apparently has regained its footing.

## Funerals

Continued from Page 1

major, said she lived across the hall from Dyer and they went to floor parties together.

"When I read about it in the Omaha World-Herald, I busted out crying," Feurt said.

On Abel nine, floormates of Behlen remembered their time with him.

Jason Raffaele, a sophomore who lived down the hall from Behlen, said the two would talk late at night when Behlen finished working at Pizza Hut.

Raffaele said he worked at the night desk in Abel Hall. Behlen

would return from work around 1:30 a.m., so the two talked about music and stereos.

Behlen told Raffaele about a nice stereo system he was putting in his car and said he would show it to him when it was installed, Raffaele said. He never got to see it.

Brad Belina, a sophomore meteorology major, said he always liked talking to Behlen because he was always so easygoing.

Matt Honke, a freshman from Columbus, said he had known Behlen from high school.

"Any time you ever talked to him, he was always joking around about something," Honke said.

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