



Susana Gonzalez/NewsMakers

**SMOKEY ALERT:** Smoke billows from the Popocatepeti volcano Monday behind the town of Puebla, Mexico. The increased volcanic activity caused the Popocatepeti volcanic center to raise a yellow flag to indicate the level of alert regarding the volcano. If the alert is upgraded again, the village will be evacuated.

## Clinton makes move to political sidelines

■ As the end of his term nears, the president prepares to vote today, works toward finishing bills and continues to lend support to the First Lady and Gore.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - With the campaign for the White House speeding toward the finish around him, President Clinton spent Monday quietly signing bills and, for the first time in years, preparing to vote for a presidential candidate other than himself.

The president was traveling Monday night to his home in Chappaqua, N.Y., so he could rise bright and early on Election Day to cast a ballot for his wife, Hillary, in the New York Senate race, and for the Democratic presidential ticket of Al Gore and Joe Lieberman.

But beyond that, the president's schedule was vague, indicating - for him - a clear shift to the political sidelines. "I expect he'll spend the rest of the day secluded away from the press, hiding from all of you," White House spokesman Jake Siewert said of Clinton's Election Day plans.

Clinton did not mention the election during his lone public appearance Monday at a ceremony for the signing of debt relief legislation.

Instead, Clinton heaped praises on Irish rock star Bono for his commitment to lowering the debt burden of poor nations.

"And next year, when I'm just Joe Citizen, I'll do my part, too," Clinton said.

Siewert said the president "felt like he's played a valuable role this year" raising money for Democrats and stirring up the party's base, even though his on-the-

road campaigning was severely restricted and his relationship with Gore obviously bore the strain of those restrictions.

"He's said he has thought for a long time now, for two years, that Al Gore would win this election, and he continues to believe that. And he certainly expects and hopes that his wife will win," Siewert said. "But these are decisions that are in the voters' hands. And, frankly, what we expect here doesn't have much to do with what happens on the ground (today), but we're hopeful."

The president spent the weekend stumping for Democrats in California, New York and Arkansas, then returned to Washington and a desk piled with work.

Besides the debt relief bill, Clinton signed a stack of "innocuous" bills, such as one involving OSHA standards for workplace injuries from needles and other sharp objects.

Clinton was keeping up with developments in his wife's and Gore's campaigns Monday, Siewert said.

There were also tentative plans for Clinton to make more get-out-the-vote telephone calls on Tuesday, "just to remind people of the importance of voting," Siewert said, but final arrangements had yet to be made.

"The reality is that this might be a long night. We'll make an assessment tomorrow and see where we are," Siewert said.

*"And he certainly expects and hopes that his wife will win."*

Jake Siewert  
White House  
spokesman

### World/Nation

The Associated Press

#### ■ Pakistan

Woman blows up daily newspaper office

KARACHI - A powerful bomb ripped through a newspaper office in the restive port city of Karachi on Monday, killing at least three people and wounding five others, police said.

The explosion severely damaged the building of the Urdu-language daily Nawa-e-Waqat, shattering doors and windowpanes, blowing out walls and parts of the roof, witnesses said. Fire and smoke billowed from the building as firefighters and rescue workers rushed the victims out.

Rescue workers said they had taken out all the victims and two unidentified charred bodies. The injured people suffered severe burns, they said.

An unidentified woman who died in the explosion carried the bomb inside the office, said Mohammed Moenuddin, chief of the bomb-disposal squad.

No group has taken responsibility.

#### ■ Belgium

Lawsuit: Cigarette smuggling may have cost the EU billions

BRUSSELS - The European Union has filed a civil suit against U.S. tobacco companies Philip Morris and R. J. Reynolds Tobacco alleging they are involved in smuggling cigarettes into the 15-nation EU.

The lawsuit accuses the companies of breaching the U.S. Racketeering Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, EU Budget Commissioner Michael Schreyer said Monday.

She said the European Commission, the executive body of the European Union, was seeking compensation for financial losses suffered by the EU and an injunction to prevent further smuggling.

EU officials declined to say how much compensation the Commission is seeking, but officials have alleged the EU's revenue losses through cigarette smuggling run into of billions of dollars.

Officials at the Brussels offices of Philip Morris, based in New York, and R. J. Reynolds, based in Winston-Salem, N.C., declined to comment.

#### ■ Great Britain

Queen Mother falls at home, breaks collarbone

LONDON - The Queen Mother Elizabeth broke her left collarbone in a fall at her home, her office said Monday.

The hugely popular 100-year-old mother of Queen Elizabeth II was treated by doctors at Clarence House, her home near Buckingham Palace, and was not hospitalized after the fall Friday afternoon, her office said.

Her eldest grandson, Prince Charles, said he would visit her Monday evening but had spoken with her on the telephone and found her "in remarkably good form."

She's "very chirpy," said her private secretary Sir Alastair Aird.

The Queen Mother, who had two hip replacements in her 90s, gets around quite well with the aid of two sticks, to the admiration of her legions of fans.

#### ■ Yemen

USS Cole bombers had help from officials

ADEN - The USS Cole who bombed the USS Cole got help from Yemeni officials who fought with them in Afghanistan in the 1980s, sources close to the case said Monday as the crippled Cole began a five-week trip home.

The destroyer was getting a piggyback ride back to the United States aboard the Norwegian ship Blue Marlin, which was carrying the 8,600-ton destroyer.

The Cole should reach its port of Norfolk, Va., by Dec. 10, said Frederik Steenbuch, manager of the Oslo, Norway-based ship company.

## FDA finds cold, diet-pill ingredient unsafe

■ The agency prepares to ban PPA in some medications; the substance may cause strokes, especially in young women.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - The government warned Americans on Monday to quit using dozens of over-the-counter cold remedies and diet pills that contain an ingredient that could cause hemorrhagic strokes, especially in young women.

The Food and Drug Administration is preparing to ban phenylpropanolamine, or PPA, which is found in products from Dexatrim to Triaminic, but legal steps needed for a ban will

take a few months, so the FDA asked manufacturers Monday to voluntarily stop selling PPA-containing drugs immediately - and replace the ingredient with a safer alternative.

For consumers, the FDA's unusually strong health warning says: "We suggest you stop taking the drug immediately and use an alternative."

Consumers should look for PPA in the ingredient list of all nonprescription cold relievers - brand names and generic or store brands - and choose decongestant pills containing the safe alternative pseudoephedrine or use nasal sprays instead, said FDA nonprescription drugs chief Dr. Charles Ganley.

There are no over-the-counter alternatives for diet pills, however,

so dieters will have to consult a doctor about prescription-only alternatives, Ganley said.

Some retailers and manufacturers moved Monday to take products off drugstore shelves.

Don't use PPA-containing Contac 12-hour Cold Capsules, but five other Contac versions contain the safe pseudoephedrine, so check the label, said manufacturer SmithKline Beecham Consumer Healthcare.

Whitehall-Robins Healthcare quit shipping PPA-containing Dimetapp on Monday. New liquid Dimetapp formulas that don't contain PPA will head for store shelves next week, with pill versions to follow later. Also, check Robitussin-CF - some stores are selling PPA-containing versions, and some are selling a new non-

PPA formula, in boxes flagged with a yellow band.

Even though manufacturers learned three weeks ago that the FDA's move was coming - when the agency's scientific advisers declared PPA unsafe - many spent Monday scrambling to decide what to do.

About 6 billion doses of PPA are sold in this country each year, the vast majority without a prescription. However, there are a few PPA-containing prescription decongestants, and the FDA asked their makers also to stop selling them while it moves to ban prescription use as well.

The risk of a hemorrhagic stroke, or bleeding in the brain, is very small to an individual user.

These are often deadly strokes, and survivors can be left disabled.

With millions of Americans swallowing PPA daily, the FDA estimated it could be to blame for 200 to 500 strokes just in people under age 50.

The FDA's records show 44 cases of hemorrhagic stroke among PPA users in the past 30 years. Most were women; the median age was 35 - including a few who died while using diet pills even though medical records showed they weren't overweight.

But the drug industry called the concern overblown and successfully argued more research was necessary.

So the industry's Consumer Healthcare Products Association funded a five-year Yale University study comparing PPA use among stroke survivors with healthy people.

## Report: Promote breast milk

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON - Breast milk is considered babies' perfect food, yet despite a decade of encouraging more American mothers to breast-feed their infants, not enough do. And among black women, breast-feeding is "alarmingly low," in the surgeon general's words.

So concludes a major new government report that calls for a cultural shift in how the nation regards breast-feeding - with policies to ensure that parents are told routinely why it's so healthy, that hospitals improve the teaching of mothers in how to do it and that workplaces make breast-feeding easier for employees.

"The culture of breast-feeding has been lost, especially in the low-income, African-American community," said Dr.

Yvonne Bronner of Morgan State University, who is working to counter the racial disparity with education and peer-counseling.

Add shortened hospital stays, and there's little time to ensure that new mothers aren't finding breast-feeding difficult or painful. So access to lactation consultants often proves key to not giving up.

Only 64 percent of American women breast-feed during their infants' first weeks to month of life. That's better than the 50 percent of a decade ago, but the nation missed the government's goal of having 75 percent of mothers breast-feeding newborns by this year.

But only 29 percent of all moms, and 19 percent of black mothers, breast-feed until their babies are 6-months-old - a crucial time period.

## Clinton ahead in polls; Lazio continues to fight

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBANY, N.Y. - The most-watched Senate race in the country roared through its final hours Monday, with Hillary Rodham Clinton planning rallies in cities from one end of the state to the other, and Rick Lazio hustling for votes in the suburbs.

Meanwhile, three new polls were released Monday, with one showing the first lady opening up a double-digit lead over her Republican rival. The two others had the race remaining very close.

"I've felt like the underdog throughout the entire race," Lazio told reporters while campaigning in the Hudson Valley town of Chester. "We were up against a lot, but you know what I have faith in? The fighting forces of New York."

Clinton and her supporters, meanwhile, were predicting victory.

"I'll fight for you, I'll stick with you, I'll go to the U.S. Senate and work my heart out for you!" a jubilant Clinton told 1,200 cheering supporters in Albany.

Earlier, Clinton stumped at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where she was joined by comedian Bill Cosby and Buffalo Bills quarterback Doug Flutie.

The first lady appeared energized despite a grueling endgame schedule that included a 15-hour day Sunday and five events Monday. In addition to the Buffalo and Albany stops, events were planned for Jamestown and Rochester, ending with a union rally in Manhattan featuring Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who is retiring.

Lazio looked tired but hustled throughout the day, with stops in and around New York City, including a Monroe diner, a Warwick senior center, a Brooklyn neighborhood,

*"We were up against a lot, but you know what I have faith in? The fighting forces of New York."*

Rick Lazio  
GOP Senate candidate

two train stations and a rally on Long Island. At some of the stops, he was joined by two of his most prominent Republican supporters, Gov. George Pataki and New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani.

Among the new polls, the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute had the first lady leading the Long Island congressman 51 percent to 39 percent, with a margin of error of plus or minus 3 points.

Advertising executive Jema Russo planned to vote for Lazio.

"One, he's from New York. Two, he has experience. Three, I'm from Long Island. Four, he's a family man," Russo said at a subway station in New York City.

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DAILY NEBRASKAN

### Weather

#### ELECTION DAY

Mostly cloudy  
high 35, low 26

#### TOMORROW

Mostly cloudy  
high 36, low 28