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NEWS BRIEFING

A LOOK AT THIS MORNING'S HEADLINES

Washington physicist wins Medal of Science



SEATTLE (AP) — Nobel laureate Hans Dehmelt, a University of Washington physicist who helped perfect ways to trap and immobilize single subatomic particles, has been selected by President Clinton to receive the National Medal of Science.

Dehmelt, 73, will join seven other U.S. scientists at a White House ceremony Oct. 18 to receive the nation's highest scientific honor, the university said today.

"There are few things more important to a working scientist than to be recognized in his own country," Dehmelt said.

Dehmelt joined the Washington faculty in 1955 and holds the school's Boeing distinguished professorship in physics. He received the Nobel Prize in physics in 1989.

Two Canadians saved after three days on life raft

NEAH BAY, Wash. (AP) — A merchant vessel helped rescue two Canadians stranded in a life raft 660 miles off Neah Bay for nearly three days, the U.S. Coast Guard said.

The vessel, Hyundai Baren, picked up Charles Kinloch, 61, and his son Michael, 25, shortly after 6:30 p.m. Tuesday. Five-foot waves and 25-knot winds were reported at the time.

The men, from Kamloops, British Columbia, were to be transferred to a Coast Guard cutter for a medical evaluation. The father was suffering from exhaustion and possible broken ribs and shoulder, the Coast Guard said.

The 27-foot sailboat they had been on capsized Saturday. A Coast Guard C-130 airplane from Kodiak, Alaska, spotted the two in a raft earlier Tuesday while investigating emergency radio beacon signals.

Hyde Park to host meeting between Clinton and Yeltsin



WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton and Russian President Boris Yeltsin have agreed to hold an abbreviated summit meeting on Oct. 23 in Hyde Park N.Y., the White House announced Wednesday.

Clinton and Yeltsin spoke for 20 minutes Wednesday, discussing the upcoming meeting — to be held in conjunction with a United Nations session in New York — and recent peace developments in Bosnia, said White House spokesman Mike McCurry. The two presidents also discussed Tuesday's agreement in New York by Bosnian factions on a formula for sharing power once the four-year war ends.

Clinton told Yeltsin "we would welcome a Russian participation in the NATO-led force" that would go into Bosnia after a peace agreement to help enforce it, McCurry said.

High court to judge appeals in Rodney King case

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two former Los Angeles policemen convicted in the 1991 videotaped beating of Rodney King won a Supreme Court hearing Wednesday.

The justices said they will hear arguments by Stacey Koon and Laurence Powell that a federal appeals court wrongly ordered a trial judge to consider giving them stiffer sentences than they originally received.

Both men were sentenced to 30 months in prison. But the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered new sentencing after ruling that the original punishment was too lenient.

The verdicts set off three days of rioting in Los Angeles.

Journalist escapes from detention



MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP) — A Somali journalist who was detained for writing reports critical of militia leader Mohamed Farrah Aidid escaped Wednesday after 22 days in captivity.

Ali Musa Abdi, who worked for Agence France Presse and the British Broadcasting Corporation, said in a news conference he was treated badly while in the clan leader's custody.

He said he was kept blindfolded and handcuffed for the first nine days, and was forced to drink from the same container he used to urinate in. He said his hand and fingers were injured from the handcuffs.

Abdi, who appeared thin and tired, said he escaped after jumping a wall around the building he was detained in, near Aidid's radio station in the capital.

Nine miners die, 64 trapped in two flooded mines

PATNA, India (AP) — Heavy monsoon rains flooded four coal mines in northern India Wednesday, drowning at least nine miners and trapping 64 others.

Rescue workers, including 27 miners who escaped, were trying to pump water out of the flooded pits. But coal industry officials told Press Trust of India news agency that the trapped miners probably wouldn't survive.

Beginning Tuesday evening, eight inches of rain fell near the coal mines, located 125 miles south of Patna, the capital of Bihar state, said R.R. Mishra, a spokesman for the mine operator, Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

Water rushed into the mines quickly because the rains also flooded a nearby canal, which rose to more than six feet above its danger level, Mishra said.

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