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INTERNATIONAL

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Search continues for Everest climbers

BLIZZARD: A total of 30 people are stranded, missing or presumed dead on the mountain

KATMANDU, Nepal (AP) — Rescuers battled fierce winds Sunday as they searched for two Americans and six other missing climbers, and attempted to reach 22 people stranded on a 5-mile high pass on Mount Everest. The climbers, hailing from 11 separate expeditions, became disoriented or were forced to cut short their treks when a blizzard hit the world's highest mountain over the weekend.

There were reports that some of the missing climbers had died, but they couldn't immediately be confirmed.

Seaborn B. Weather, 49, of Dallas, who had been reported missing, has returned to a lofty Everest pass known as South Col, Nepalese Tourism Ministry spokesman Hari Sharan Shrestha said.

A separate expedition led by American Scott Fischer apparently became lost Friday while descending the summit to the 26,400-foot-high South Col.

Rescuers were hoping to reach Fischer, 40, of Seattle, who was

last reported Saturday afternoon as unconscious at a 27,000-foot site on the mountain, according to messages posted by Fischer's group on the Internet computer network.

The eight others in his expedition were forced to leave him — bundled up and with oxygen — to "concentrate their flagging strength" on getting another stricken climber and themselves to safety. They were in good condition and heading toward their base camp on Sunday, it said.

Much of the information coming off the 29,028-foot-high Everest was sketchy, derived from satellite telephone links between hikers and their base camps and Internet messages.

There were reports of deaths of missing hikers not confirmed by official sources:

—Relatives of Douglas Hansen, 44, of Renton, Wash., said they had been told he died. There were no other details of his situation.

—Three members of an Indian police expedition were reported missing and presumed dead, New Delhi officials told the United News of India news agency on Sunday.

—A Japanese mountaineers' association told Kyodo News on

Sunday that rescuers had found the bodies of Yasuko Namba, 47, of Japan and Andrew Michael Harris, 32, of New Zealand. The Tokyo news agency said Namba was only the second Japanese woman to reach the top of Mount Everest.

Both Namba and Harris were members of an expedition led by New Zealand climber Rob Hall. Internet reports said Hall remained missing near the summit Sunday with severe frostbite.

New Zealand Adventure Tourism Council chief executive Geoff Gabites confirmed Monday that the New Zealand expedition had run into serious trouble.

"It seems at least three climbers are unaccounted for," Gabites said. He said Hall's oxygen is believed to have run out. Alpine experts say no one has ever survived two nights in the open without oxygen on the south summit of Mount Everest.

Meanwhile, a Rhode Island 16-year-old who is trying to become the youngest climber to scale Mount Everest planned to press on with his expedition, the boy's father said Sunday.

More than 600 climbers have scaled Everest in the last four decades. Nearly 100 people have died trying.

AFRICAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

invites you to
A CELEBRATION OF AFRICA
Tuesday, May 14

- African movie presentations 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Cedar A, EMU
- African drum and dance workshop with Aliou Diout 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Fir Room. Everyone is Welcome
- "Africa's Place in the Global Economy—Past, Present and Future" 2 p.m., open panel discussion, Cedar A, EMU. The discussion will be related to Ali Mazrui's documentaries "The Africans"

African art displays throughout the day in the EMU lobby

DANCE MUSIC FUN

Maxtek

Purchasing Agent/Buyer
On Campus Interviews, May 21, 1996

Maxtek Components Corp., a joint venture company owned by Tektronix, Inc. and Maxim Integrated Products, is seeking a dynamic and committed individual to purchase components for its high-performance custom multi-chip module products. This individual will be responsible for developing ordering and inventory strategies to meet production and customer needs and fulfill growth, quality and profit objectives. This is an exciting and challenging position with the opportunity to make significant contributions.

Maxtek is a fast-growing ISO9001-certified hybrid micro-electronics company located in Beaverton, Oregon with over 250 employees. Its two parents are both world leaders in their fields. Maxtek offers excellent medical and dental insurance benefits as well as a 401(k) plan.

- Contact Ms. Lynne Fuller at the U of O Career Center for sign-up details.
- Information session scheduled in the EMU Century Room A, May 20, 1996 from 5-7pm.
- U.S. citizens/Permanent resident status only please.

Deadline is May 20, 1996 by 4pm if registered.

India's Rao re-elected as congress leader

ELECTION: Current party to support left coalition that hopes to lead India's government

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was re-elected head of the Congress party Sunday, despite a general election defeat that is forcing him to step down as India's leader.

The current ruling party also offered to support a leftist coalition that hopes to lead India's next government. But some party leaders said they have not given up the idea of forming a Congress-led government.

The Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party won the most Parliament seats in India's general election but fell short of an outright majority. It has asked President Shankar Dayal Sharma for the right to form a coalition government.

Should the leftist alliance lead the next government, it would be the first time lower castes and other traditionally disadvantaged groups would have an important role in India's leadership.

Low-caste heroine Phoolan Devi, popularly known as the Bandit Queen, will be one of the new faces in Parliament. She beat a Bharatiya Janata candidate for a seat representing the northern state of Uttar Pradesh.

Devi, 35, for years led a gang of bandits and is alleged to have massacred upper caste men in revenge for her rape — a charge she denies. She served 11 years in jail before being released in 1994.

During her campaign, she portrayed her criminal career as part of a class struggle and vowed to never work for the upper castes.

"They will again beat up my brothers and oppress the poor and low-castes," Devi told The Associated Press Television in

Mirzapur. Although some party insiders had blamed Rao for Congress' poor showing, lawmakers who will serve in the new Parliament unanimously approved Rao as their leader.

Rao resigned as prime minister on Friday but will remain as India's caretaker until a new government is in place.

The Congress Party and leftist parties have vowed not to support Bharatiya Janata, accusing it of an anti-Muslim bias.

The leftist National Front-Left Front coalition also wants a chance to form a government. But infighting and its inability to find a popular leader have weakened the socialist-communist alliance.

Under India's constitution, Sharma may choose any party he believes will provide a stable government. His decision will come after all the election results are announced, possibly by Monday evening.

Voters ignore Yeltsin's attitude adjustment

CAMPAIGN: President Boris Yeltsin dropped his anti-Communist strategy

ASTRAKHAN, Russia (AP) — The reception awaiting President Boris Yeltsin at this decaying southern outpost of his fractious empire was as flat and tepid as the Volga River he sailed in on.

Nobody cheered when he stepped off the presidential cruiser *Rossiya* onto the hot, sunny dock. But Yeltsin is a practiced politician who loves to work a crowd, and he plunged in despite the lukewarm greeting.

Later, in the city park, few even bothered to listen to his speech. Instead, people argued fiercely among themselves about the June presidential election.

"I'm for the party of Lenin," said 75-year-old Mikhail Mitinsky, squaring off against a man passionately defending democ-

racy. "Yeltsin destroyed a great power and sold it off to the West."

Five weeks before the election, Yeltsin is plunging into territory dominated by Communist challenger Gennady Zyuganov with a new message.

The Yeltsin who campaigned along the Volga last week was not the fire-breathing anti-Communist of the early days of the race. He was Yeltsin the Munificent, Czar of all Russians, lavishing kingly gifts on almost anyone who asked.

Before Yeltsin left for Astrakhan and Volgograd, he was warned it wouldn't be smooth sailing. He was pulling even with Zyuganov — two independent polls released Sunday showed him neck-and-neck for the June 16 vote, and winning the likely runoff — but it looked like Yeltsin's Red Scare strategy was beginning to backfire.

Important supporters were urging moderation and warning that the country could be heading for civil war. Aides were worried about the provincial heartland, where the election will be decided.

Five thousand people turned out at a rally for Yeltsin's challenger in the city of Nizhny Novgorod on Sunday.

But pro-reform Gov. Boris Nemtsov complained to the Interfax news agency that he received only vague answers when he grilled the Communist candidate on the subjects of land ownership and the role that hard-line Communists would have in his government.

Yeltsin himself needs something to woo voters wavering between two Russias: the democratic market economy with its new and daunting demands and the old secure, paternal, centralized state.