

Today	Friday	Saturday
		
High: 74 Low: 49 Precip: 0%	High: 77 Low: 50 Precip: 0%	High: 78 Low: 50 Precip: 20%

IN BRIEF

Tropical storm
barrages Japan

TOKYO — The death toll from a tropical storm in Japan rose to 12 Thursday after searchers found several more victims.

Tropical storm Meari has plowed through a wide swath of Japan since Sunday, causing floods, triggering deadly landslides and forcing about 10,000 people to flee their homes for shelters. Seventeen people were missing and at least 70 others had been injured.

Intruders in China
embassy seek asylum

BEIJING — Forty-four men, women and children using ladders clambered over a spiked fence around the Canadian Embassy on Wednesday in what appeared to be the biggest recent bid for asylum.

The group, which reportedly included two former political prisoners as well as North Koreans, was an embarrassing reminder of the dismal conditions in North Korea, officially China's ally.

Two sentenced to death
in USS Cole attack

SAN'A, Yemen — A Saudi suspected of being an associate of Osama bin Laden and a Yemeni militant were sentenced to death by firing squad Wednesday for the bombing of the USS Cole four years ago, the first convictions in the al-Qaida terror attack that killed 17 American sailors. The judge ordered four other Yemenis jailed for five to 10 years.

White House: Guard
never disciplined Bush

WASHINGTON — President Bush never was disciplined while serving in the Texas Air National Guard, never failed a physical and never asked his father or family friends for help to get him into the guard during the Vietnam War, the White House said Wednesday. The White House answers came in response to a dozen questions submitted by The Associated Press in light of new records detailing Bush's Guard service and allegations that have surfaced this election season.

Pilot completes first
stage of space flight

MOJAVE, Calif. — Ignoring a warning to abort the flight, a test pilot took a stubby-looking rocket plane on a corkscrewing, white-knuckle ride past the edge of the atmosphere Wednesday, completing the first stage of a quest to win a \$10 million prize. At nearly three times the speed of sound SpaceShipOne reached an altitude of 64 miles over the Mojave Desert.

— The Associated Press

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