

Today	Friday	Saturday
High: 54 Low: 47 Precip: 30%	High: 58 Low: 47 Precip: 30%	High: 54 Low: 42 Precip: 40%

IN BRIEF

**Arafat collapses, three officials run his affairs**

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Yasser Arafat collapsed Wednesday night, was unconscious for about 10 minutes and remained in a "difficult situation," Palestinian officials said. A team of Jordanian doctors was called to treat the Palestinian leader. A Palestinian official

in Arafat's office said the Palestinian leader had created a committee of three senior officials, to run Palestinian affairs while Arafat was incapacitated.

**Kidnapped woman urges Britain to leave Iraq**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A kidnapped British aid worker made another plea for her life in a video aired Wednesday, urging Britain to withdraw troops from the country as some 800 British soldiers headed north toward Baghdad to bolster U.S. forces. The tape showed Margaret Hassan, the 59-year-old head of CARE International in Iraq, blinking back tears as she spoke.

**Oregon athlete and brewer Robert MacTarnahan dies**

PORTLAND — Oregon Sports Hall of Famer and beer brewer Robert

MacTarnahan has died. He was 89.

The most accomplished senior athlete in state history had attended the grand reopening of the MacTarnahan's Taproom in Portland on Monday, where he shook hands, slapped backs and touted the health benefits of his MacTarnahan's Amber Ale.

Born in Missoula, Mont., on May 1, 1915, MacTarnahan died in his sleep Tuesday morning at his southwest Portland home.

The Jefferson High School graduate began his lifelong commitment to fitness in 1936 at the Multnomah Athletic Club. But it was not until age 60 when MacTarnahan began amassing a long list of athletic victories.

MacTarnahan was a five-time National Masters Wrestling Champion and a seven-time National Masters 3,000-meter steeplechase champion. In all, MacTarnahan won more than 50 World Masters gold medals.

**Severe storms batter Ireland with wind, floods**

DUBLIN, Ireland — The city of Cork and several towns were severely flooded Wednesday as the year's strongest Atlantic storm arrived with heavy rain and wind gusts of more than 70 mph. No deaths or injuries were reported.

The River Lee, which runs through Cork, flooded the city's main roads with it up to 9.5 feet of water. Records say it was the worst flood since 1962.

— The Associated Press

**Sharon dismisses party rebellion about Gaza plan**

*The Israeli leader refuses to submit to opponents of his plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip*

BY JOSEF FEDERMAN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Ariel Sharon angrily dismissed a new rebellion in his Likud Party on Wednesday, saying he would not cave in to opponents of his plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip.

Bolstered by a parliamentary vote Tuesday, Sharon said he would stand firm against the rebels, who include his top rival, Finance Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, and pledged to pull out of Gaza and parts of the West Bank on schedule next summer.

"I know that many problems await us along the way. The disengagement will be carried out," Sharon told the newspaper Yediot Ahronot. "I am meeting the timetable that I have determined."

Also Wednesday, some 40 Israeli tanks and armored vehicles moved into the West Bank refugee camp of Jenin, exchanging fire with Palestinian militants, witnesses reported. No injuries were immediately reported.

Military officials said the raid was intended to root out Palestinian militants in the camp and was expected to last a number of days. Israel has frequently raided West Bank towns and refugee camps during the last four years of fighting.

Meanwhile, scores of top Palestinian officials descended on Yasser Arafat's West Bank compound in Ramallah amid news that the 75-year-old Palestinian leader's health was worsening. Arafat collapsed Wednesday night and remained in a "very difficult situation," Palestinian officials said. A team of Jordanian doctors was urgently summoned to treat the ailing leader.

In Tuesday's vote, parliament for the first time approved the dismantling of Jewish settlements in lands Israel occupied in the 1967 Mideast war that are claimed by the Palestinians for a state.

Sharon says his "disengagement" plan will improve security and ensure Israel's identity as a Jewish democracy. However, he also intends to keep large West Bank settlements and east Jerusalem, areas the Palestinians also seek for their state.

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell called Sharon Wednesday to congratulate him on the parliamentary victory. Powell called the parliament's action a step toward President Bush's vision of a Palestinian state living side by side in peace with Israel, a senior U.S. official

said on condition of anonymity.

Sharon won the parliament vote by a comfortable 67-45 margin, with seven legislators abstaining. But nearly half the Likud lawmakers and two religious parties voted against the plan, underscoring Sharon's break with his former hard-line allies.

Sharon had little time to savor the victory. Just before the vote, the National Religious Party, a key partner in the coalition government, said it would quit within two weeks unless Sharon pledged to hold a nationwide referendum on the pullout plan.

Four Likud ministers, Netanyahu, Limor Livnat, Yisrael Katz and Danny Naveh, voted for the plan and then immediately demanded Sharon accept the referendum demand or they would quit the government.

"We are acting according to our consciences," Netanyahu told Israel Radio. "We think the decision to go forward and to tear to shreds the people, the coalition and the Likud is a mistaken decision."

The turmoil raised doubts about Sharon's ability to go ahead with the planned withdrawals. The resignations of senior Likud ministers could cause the government to crumble, forcing Sharon to call new elections, or delay implementation.

But Sharon said he would not be swayed. While opinion polls say a solid majority of Israelis support the plan, he says opponents are pushing a referendum as a stalling tactic.

"I will never give in to pressure and threats," he told Yediot. "There will be no referendum on disengagement, as the ones behind this initiative are interested in sabotaging the disengagement plan."

Raanan Gissin, a top Sharon adviser, said the prime minister was confident he had enough support to push forward, with or without the rebel ministers, although he might need to reshuffle the government and bring in the moderate Labor Party.

"The prime minister is determined to continue, and if need be, he will change the structure of his coalition in order to move forward," Gissin said.

Sharon still needs several more parliamentary votes in the coming months to implement various stages of the pullout, and an upcoming battle over the annual budget could also threaten the government.

**Get-a Global Education!**

The University Studies Abroad Consortium, with programs in 24 countries, allows students to master languages and study disciplines — including business, fine arts and history — at distinguished, overseas schools. Soak up the vibrant culture and be transformed by the experience of living in a foreign land.

- Summer, semester and yearlong programs
- Wide range of academic courses
- Internships
- Language classes at all levels
- Field trips and tours
- Small classes
- University credit
- Scholarships
- Housing

UNIVERSITY STUDIES ABROAD CONSORTIUM **USAC**

HTTP://USAC.UNR.EDU • 775-784-6569

Your Gateway to the World

**Study Abroad this Winter Term!**

- Earn UO credit ("in residence") for your overseas courses
- Use your UO financial aid funds toward the full program costs
- Enjoy numerous educational excursions to places of cultural, historical and natural significance

**Many programs still have openings! Why not try:**

**London, England**

- Courses in politics, literature, art history, and theater
- Several short and long excursions, theater tickets included
- Live with a British family
- Study with UO English professor Henry Wonham, who will teach two courses, "Mark Twain's England" and "Wordsworth and the Lake District"
- Add spring term, too, and you can complete an internship in your major!

**Vienna, Austria**

- Courses taught in English in human rights, history, art and music history, urban planning
- Excursions in Vienna and Central Europe
- Live with a Viennese family
- Study with UO history professor Daniel Pope, who will teach "Thinking About Capitalism: The Austrian Contribution from Schumpeter to Soros"
- Choose winter term only, or enjoy a compact spring semester, and start your summer on April 9!

**Cologne, Germany**

- Courses taught in English in business, marketing, international negotiations, and German (all levels)
- Excursions to Belgium and the Netherlands
- Visits with local and global businesses based in Cologne
- Live with a German family
- Internships possible after the academic term ends

**Application Deadline: November 1**  
(Be sure to turn in your application forms and fee by November 1, and put in the requests for your recommendations and transcripts by that date as well.) For an advising appointment, please call 346-3207. For more information or an application, please visit <http://studyabroad.uoregon.edu>.

**Office of International Programs, 330 Oregon Hall, 346-3207**