

WORLD IN BRIEF

Associated Press

Hundreds expected for hearing on Longview coal-export terminal

LONGVIEW, Wash. — Hundreds of supporters and opponents are expected at a federal hearing Monday about a proposed coal-export terminal along the Columbia River in southwest Washington.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is taking comments on its draft environmental review of the project at a public hearing in Longview.

Millennium Bulk Terminals-Longview is proposing a project in Longview to handle up to 44 million metric tons of coal a year. Coal would arrive by train from Montana, Wyoming and other states to be stored and loaded on ships for export to Asia.

Company CEO Bill Chapman and other proponents are scheduled to speak at an afternoon rally.

Opponents worried about potential train accidents, increased vessel traffic and other issues say they'll turn out in large numbers as well.

The state is also doing its own separate environmental review of the project.



KMIR-TV via AP

The scene of crash between a tour bus and a semi-truck crashed on Interstate 10 near Desert Hot Springs, near Palm Springs, in California's Mojave Desert Sunday. Multiple deaths and injuries were reported.

Dreams do come true: Ruby slippers project passes goal

WASHINGTON — Smithsonian officials are "over the rainbow" after reaching their fundraising goal to help preserve the ruby slippers from "The Wizard Oz."

The Smithsonian launched a Kickstarter campaign last week to raise \$300,000 to help preserve the slippers that whisked Dorothy back to Kansas at the end of the movie.

Officials say they reached their goal late Sunday night thanks to more than 5,300 supporters in 41 countries across six continents. They say they'll announce a stretch goal today involving a character who traveled down the yellow brick road with Dorothy.

The slippers have been one of the most beloved items at the National Museum of American History. The Smithsonian wants to put the money toward a technologically advanced display case that will preserve them for future generations.

Iraq forces shell IS near Mosul; group urges airstrike probe

BARTELLA, Iraq — Iraqi forces shelled Islamic State positions outside Mosul today as fighting to retake the extremist-held city entered its second week and a rights group urged a probe into a suspected airstrike that hit a mosque, killing over a dozen civilians.

The purported airstrike in northern Iraq struck the women's section of a Shiite mosque on Friday in the town of Daquq amid a large Islamic State assault on the nearby city of Kirkuk. That assault was meant to distract the Iraqi forces and their allies from the massive operation around Mosul, the country's second largest city.

Human Rights Watch said Daquq's residents believe the attack was an airstrike because of the extent of the destruction

and because planes could be heard flying overhead. The New York-based watchdog said at least 13 people were reported killed.

The U.S.-led coalition and the Iraqi military, which are waging the offensive to drive IS from Mosul, are the only parties known to be flying military aircraft over Iraq.

Col. John Dorrian, a U.S. military spokesman, said the coalition had "definitively determined" that it did not conduct the airstrike that killed civilians in Daquq, and had shared its findings with the Iraqi government, which is carrying out its own investigation.

With email dumps, WikiLeaks tests power of full transparency

LONDON — WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange first outlined the hypothesis nearly a decade ago: Can total transparency defeat an entrenched group of insiders?

"Consider what would happen," Assange wrote in 2006, if one of America's two major parties had their emails, faxes, campaign briefings, internal polls and donor data all exposed to public scrutiny.

"They would immediately fall into an organizational stupor," he predicted, "and lose to the other."

A decade later, various organs of the Democratic Party have been hacked; several staffers have resigned and Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton has seen the inner workings of her campaign exposed to the public, including disclosures calling into question her positions on trade and Wall Street and her relationship with the party's left.

Some see the leaks as a sign that Assange has thrown his lot in with Republican rival Donald Trump or even with Russia. But others who've followed Assange over the years say he's less interested in who wins high office than in exposing — and wearing down — the gears of political power that grind away behind the scenes.

Clinton aides suggested email jokes, say hacked messages

WASHINGTON — Hacked emails from the personal account of Hillary Clinton's top campaign official show her aides considered inserting jokes about her private email server into her speeches at several events — and at least one joke made it into her remarks.

"I love it," she told a dinner in Iowa on August 14, 2015, noting she had opened an online account with Snapchat, which deletes posts automatically. "Those messages disappear all by themselves."

The crack scored a laugh from the audience, but the issue was plenty serious. About a month earlier, news broke of an FBI investigation into whether some of the emails that passed through Clinton's unsecured server contained classified information. Ultimately, the agency criticized Clinton for being reckless with classified information but declined to prosecute her.

NTSB to investigate bus crash that left 13 dead, 31 injured

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. — A maintenance crew had slowed down traffic on a California highway through the night Sunday, and the work had gone on for hours without problems. Then a tour bus returning to Los Angeles from a casino trip slammed into the back of a semi-truck.

The gambling jaunt ended in one of the deadliest wrecks in California history with 13 people killed and 31 others injured.

Authorities said the bus was going much faster than the truck, causing it to plow about 15 feet into the truck on Interstate 10 just north of the desert resort town of Palm Springs.

"You can see it was a substantial impact," California Highway Patrol Border Division Chief Jim Abele said.

It was not known if alcohol, drugs or fatigue played a role in the crash, but the bus was inspected in April and had no mechanical issues, Abele said. The bus driver was killed, and the truck driver received minor injuries.

The bus was coming from Red Earth Casino in the desert town of Thermal and was about 35 miles into its 135-mile trip back to Los Angeles.

CHP officers had been slowing traffic to allow utility workers to string wires across the freeway, Abele said.

Passengers told officials that most people were asleep when the crash occurred shortly after 5 a.m. Abele said it appeared the 1996 bus didn't have seat belts and likely didn't have data recorder that would reveal how fast the bus was traveling and whether the driver braked before impact.

Candidates clash in battleground states as Trump's path narrows

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Election Day just 15 days off, Donald Trump is fighting to preserve his narrow path to the presidency in must-win Florida today as Hillary Clinton tries to slam the door on her Republican opponent in battleground New Hampshire.

At the same time, Democrats continue to get help from President Barack Obama, whose high job approval numbers have made him a political force in the sprint to Nov. 8. The president lashed out at Trump and praised Clinton as he campaigned Sunday in Nevada, a competitive state in the race for the White House and the Senate.

Obama told Nevadans they have a winning hand in Clinton

and Senate candidate Catherine Cortez Masto, who is locked in a tight race to fill the seat being vacated by retiring Democratic Sen. Harry Reid. Democrats need to retain the Nevada Senate contest and pick up four new seats elsewhere to claim the Senate majority if Clinton wins.

Many Republicans fear that Trump's struggles could drag down his party's chances in competitive House and Senate elections across the nation.

The president was unsparing Sunday in his criticism of Trump, describing the billionaire businessman as unfit to be president. Obama also railed against Republicans and conservative media outlets for promoting "all kinds of crazy stuff" about him and his party's leaders. He cited as an

example the years-long questions from Trump and others about whether he was born in the U.S.

"Is it any wonder that they ended up nominating somebody like Donald Trump?" Obama said.

Trump, meanwhile, lashed out at his Democratic opponent on Twitter today, claiming that "Crooked Hillary" wants the United States to accept "as many Syrians as possible" from the war-torn region. Clinton has said Obama's plan to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees this fiscal year is a good start, but that the nation "needs to do more."

Trump was campaigning today in Florida, a state his advisers concede he must win to have any chance at becoming president.

Advertisement for 'The Natural Nook and The Windermere Foundation Proudly Present THE 5th ANNUAL FALL INTO THE NOOK FUNDRAISER' on October 27th from 5:30-7:30 pm at The Natural Nook Gearhart. Includes details about a fun-filled evening with food, wine, auctions, and prizes.

TV Listings table for Monday Evening, October 24, 2016. Columns include channel, time, and program name. Includes programs like KATU News, ABC World News, Jeopardy!, Wheel of Fortune, Dancing With the Stars, and various entertainment shows.