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THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Investigators Give Details on Taiwan Crash

TAOYUAN, Taiwan — Investigators probing the deadly Singapore Airlines crash provided the most detailed description yet of how the accident occurred. Seconds after the Los Angeles-bound Boeing 747-400 began its takeoff, a front wheel hit a concrete barrier and the jet slammed into a construction crane that peeled open the plane's belly, said David Lee, an investigator with Taiwan's Aviation Safety Council. The crash killed 82 of the 179 people aboard, and dozens were injured.

Ford to Recall 430,000 Mustangs

DETROIT — Ford Motor will recall about 430,000 Ford Mustangs dating to 1994 because of a parking brake problem, the automaker said. The recall will affect model year 1994 to 2001 Mustangs with manual transmissions. Ford said the parking brake could sometimes slip, causing the car to move.

Judge Upholds \$145B Smokers' Verdict

MIAMI — A judge upheld a jury's record-setting \$145 billion damage award to Florida smokers, rejecting tobacco companies' claims that it would make them bankrupt. The final judgment opens the door on what is expected to be a prolonged appeals process in state courts. The tobacco industry must post a \$100 million bond to appeal and attorneys promised to do so immediately.

Lawyers Plan Slave Reparations Suit

A powerful group of civil rights and class-action lawyers who have won billions of dollars in court is preparing a lawsuit seeking reparations for American blacks descended from slaves. The project appears to be the most serious effort yet to get American blacks compensated for more than 240 years of legalized slavery.

World Watching Bush-Gore Battle

TOKYO — The world — from Bogota to Brussels, from London to Kuala Lumpur — is watching with increasing interest as the battle between George W. Bush and Al Gore comes down to its final days. In Western Europe, it's the death penalty election. For Chinese newspaper readers, the vote is a lesson in U.S. — style money politics. Kenyans wonder if a new president will make it harder to get U.S. visas.

More Rain Hits Flooded Britain

LONDON — Rain swept across Britain, swelling rivers already at bursting point as the country's most widespread floods in 50 years showed few signs of abating. Weather forecasters warned that the situation would probably get worse over the next 48 hours with more rain on its way.

Soyuz Successfully Docks with Space Station

KOROLYOV, Russia — The first residents of the international space station arrived at their home for the next four months. American astronaut Bill Shepherd, the station's skipper, and the two cosmonauts easily docked the Soyuz capsule a few minutes ahead of schedule.

World's Oldest Woman Dies

LONDON — The world's oldest woman, who attributed her longevity to whisky and boiled onions, died — six days short of her 115th birthday. Eva Morris died peacefully in her sleep at a nursing home in the central England town of Stone, staff said. Morris was recognized as the oldest woman in the world by the Guinness Book of Records in March.



Nurse Practitioner Mariah Taylor (left) is joined by neighbor Michelle "Mikey" Butler at a 20-year anniversary celebration for her north Portland pediatric health care clinic. (PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/PORTLAND/OBSERVER)

Heralded Pediatric Clinic Celebrates

A small North Portland health clinic that has been honored nationally for its outstanding work in providing pediatric healthcare for low-income residents is celebrating its 20th anniversary.

Mariah Taylor, executive director and one of the two nurse practitioners who work at the facility, founded the clinic on Nov. 3, 1980. The clinic moved to its current location at 5311 N. Vancouver Ave. in 1982.

Currently, it's the only community health facility in Portland solely dedicated to serving the health care needs of medically poor children.

The clinic assists about 2,000 patients each year, Taylor said. "Our commitment to the community and the increased need for service is what has created the fact that we still exist," she said. "We are striving and we are making an impact."

The clinic has received numerous awards for its service including the 1999 Newsmaker of the Year Award from KGW-TV and the Pride of Portland Award from the Downtown Lion's Club.

Most recently, the clinic received a \$50,000 grant from the Oprah Winfrey and Taylor was selected to be of Winfrey's Angel Network "for using her life in service to others."

Man Charged in Laurelhurst Bombing

A Washington man romanced a 14-year-old girl online and then became enraged with jealousy toward her ex-boyfriend, planting a bomb at his Laurelhurst home, according to investigators.

Detectives tracked the 41-year-old suspect on the Internet after the September bombing attack. "Timothy Goff had developed an internet relationship with a young girl which led to a physical relationship," explained chief Mark Kroeker.

Barry Hornstein, 59, was seriously injured when the bomb exploded in his driveway on September 27. Investigators believe Barry's son, Jack, was actually Goff's intended target.

"Goff was upset that Hornstein had a relationship with a girl that he had his intentions upon," Kroeker said.

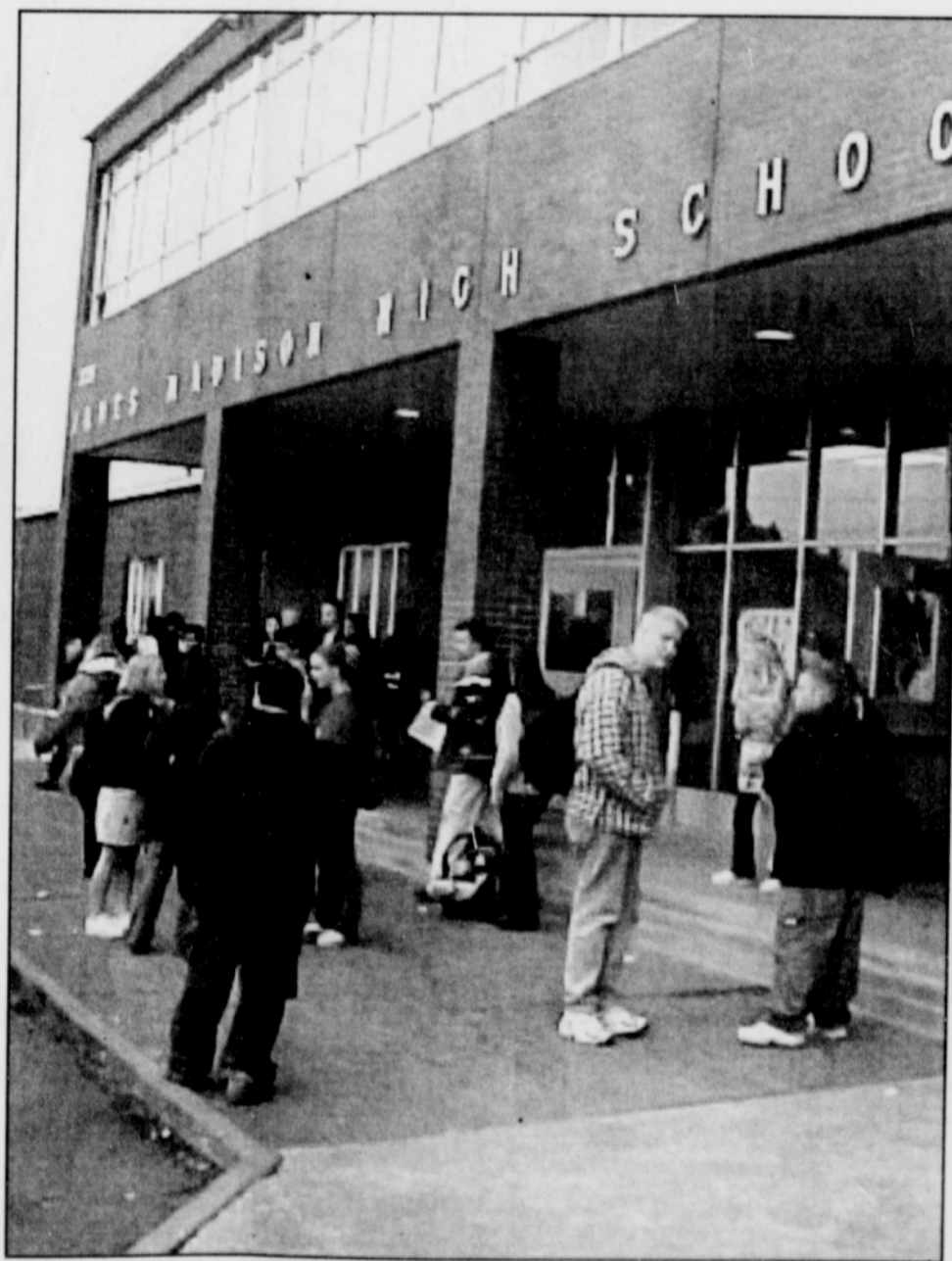
Investigators found threatening e-mails about Jack Hornstein on the Web and tracked them to the Washington man. They arrested Goff after finding evidence in his Port Orchard home that linked him to the bomb.

Police charged Goff with rape of a child, as well as building the homemade bomb. They believe Goff had sex with Hornstein's 14-year-old ex-girlfriend.

Doctors had to amputate Barry Hornstein's right leg, just below the knee, after he was injured in the bomb explosion. Hornstein detonated the device when he tried to kick it out of his driveway, not realizing it was a homemade bomb.

Jack was targeted again later, when someone left a fake bomb in front of his new girlfriend's house in Kennewick, Washington.

Investigators said someone also posted threatening fliers about Jack at Grant High School, where he attended classes.



Madison Gains on Attendance

Students exit Madison High School after another day of hitting the books. The northeast Portland school is getting well-deserved praise for giant leaps in its daily attendance rate. Recent figures show attendance has grown by almost 21 percent in the last two years and now stands at 96 percent.

(PHOTO BY MARK WASHINGTON/PORTLAND OBSERVER)

Election Goes Down to the Wire

Big Turnout Puts Vice President Gore Ahead

Al Gore won three critical battleground states Tuesday, NBC News projected, taking Florida, Michigan and Pennsylvania to move ahead of George W. Bush in electoral votes, 183-144, as returns rolled in from the eastern half of the country. Americans turned out in extraordinary numbers, some of them waiting for hours for their chance to vote in the closest presidential election in decades.

Most of the biggest states in the East and the Midwest were falling into the vice president's column, including New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts and Illinois. Meanwhile, Texas and much of the rest of the Deep South went to George W. Bush, the Republican governor of Texas, according to NBC's analysis of voters' responses to pollsters' questions after they cast their ballots.

While other states in the South and Midwest were rolling in, Bush and Gore settled in for a long evening and waited expectantly for reports from Pennsylvania, where the polls closed at 8 p.m. ET.

Tim Russert, NBC's chief political correspondent, had predicted before the polls closed that if Gore won in Florida, Bush would have a tough time building a majority in the Electoral College. Bush's loss in Pennsylvania, as well, meant he'd need 10 of the remaining 12 so-called swing states to claim the presidency, Russert said.

The important result in Florida was delayed by massive turnout. Florida's polls closed at 7 p.m. ET, but NBC's Kerry Sanders reported that some people had been waiting in line to vote for up to three hours, and Gov. Jeb Bush declared that anybody still in line at 7 p.m. would be able to vote. Yet another key result comes after 11 p.m. ET, when polls close in California, where Gore's lead in pre-election polls was cut significantly in the weeks leading up to Election Day.

Jenny Backus, the Democratic National Committee's press secretary, predicted that "for the first time in three decades, this election will be decided by West Coast voters."

Still, given how close the race is and the fact that absentee ballots are significant in California and Washington while Oregon voted completely by mail, it could be another day before a winner is known.

The latest, and last, MSNBC/Reuters/Zogby daily tracking poll, released Tuesday morning, showed the vice president ahead of his Republican opponent by 48 percent to 46 percent. He had trailed Bush by similar margins for more than 10 days before nudging ahead Monday. But the difference remained within the poll's 3-point margin of sampling error and was a statistical tie.

"This is too close to call in both the popular vote and in several battleground states," said John Zogby, whose firm conducted the survey.

As polls began closing in the East, NBC projected that Bush had won in Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Virginia, Wyoming, both Carolinas and both Dakotas, in addition to his home state of Texas. Gore had won Connecticut, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont.

The fight for Congress remained tight. Hillary Rodham Clinton kept New York's Senate seat in Democratic hands, defeating Rep. Rick Lazio, and Democrats picked up a seat in Florida, where Bill Nelson defeated Republican Bill McCollum to replace retiring Sen. Connie Mack, according to exit polling data. But in a major loss for the Democrats hoping to regain the Senate, Sen. Charles Robb of Virginia lost to Republican former Gov. George Allen, NBC projected.

In the House, Republicans held on to two key seats in Kentucky, but several key races in Florida were too close to call.