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U.N. Searches for Possible Slave Ship Amid Mystery

COTONOU, Benin-Puzzled authorities tried to determine whether a ferry that pulled into port was a ship suspected of smuggling child slaves that was believed wandering for days in Africa's Gulf of Guinea. The arriving ship carried women and children - but apparently not the dozens of captives officials had expected. The U.N. children's fund kept up an alert for the possibility that there was a second ship actually carrying the slaves that might try to dock somewhere along the western African coast.

Crew Disputes Chinese Account of Incident

WASHINGTON — Navy crew members returning from 11 days of detention disputed China's account of the collision that brought downtheir surveillance plane, saying a Chinese pilot was at fault. President Bush said "tough questions" would be put to China at an inquiry. A senior Pentagon official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said crew members told debriefers they were flying level on autopilot and were on a fixed course and altitude when the Chinese plane struck the U.S. aircraft, coming from underneath. The Navyplane fell 8,000 feet after the collision.

Hawaii School Year Threatens to End in Disaster

HONOLULU—As children in other states enjoy year-end field trips or prepare for proms and graduation, Hawaii's 220,000 public school and college students are watching their school year fall apart in bitter statewide teacher strikes. Negotiations to settle the separate walkouts by public schoolteachers and University of Hawaii professors have dragged on 13 days. Teachers and professors are demanding pay raises that meet Hawaii's cost of living, something the governor says the state can't afford.

Gas May Approach \$3 a Gallon in Summer

Gas prices could jump to \$2 a gallon in some cities over the next two weeks and might climb higher and faster than the government's predictions when summer arrives, industry analysts said. Motorists may even be "looking at close to \$3 a gallon" in some places, one observer

RU-486 Debate Replaying on College Campuses

WASHINGTON — The debate over the abortion pill on college campuses is not just an academic exercise. Sevenmonths after the Food and Drug Administration approved the abortion pill RU-486 (mifepristone) for use in the United States, many universities have decided not to offer it, saying conditions for dispensing it are too onerous. Some students say the hands-off policy violates their rights.

Judge: Felons Have Right to DNA Testing

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - A federal judge ruled that felons have a constitutional right to DNA testing and ordered Virginia authorities to allow the tests for a convicted rapist who claims he's innocent. U.S. District Judge Albert V. Bryan Jr. said the Fairfax County prosecutor violated the civil rights of James Harvey by refusing to allow tests on evidence left from Harvey's 1990 rape and sodomy trial. The decision, which offers felons another avenue into federal courts through civil rights litigation, is believed to be the first

of its kind in the country. Jet Skis Banned from **National Parks**

WASHINGTON - Jet Skis and other personal watercraft will be banned in all national parks and recreation areas after two more summers under a settlement approved by a federal judge. The gasoline-powered personal watercraftare already banned from 66 of the 87 parks, recreational areas and seashores where motorized boats are allowed throughout the nation. Theorder by U.S. District Judge Gladys Kessler affects the remaining 21.



Airport Max Inaugural R

The new Airport Max light rail line took its first ride to Portland International Airport last week as part of a test run for transportation officials, business people and other governmental officials. The 5.5 mile track is about 96 percent complete and will begin ferrying passengers in September.



Dr. Flora Holden (standing) is the force behind the Judon Line Academy II, a northeast Portland program that takes kids school and helps them overcome their difficulties. The students at work are Mercy Garcia (from left) Chris Latta and Chasity Madrid.

Getting Kids Back on Track

A Local Academy Offers an Alternative Solution

By Joy RAMOS

PORTLAND OBSERVER THE expelled getting problems. Oftentimes, not allowed to re-attend or get properly placed. What's a to do in the meantime?

As a solution to the problem, the Judon Line Academy II, located at 3816 NE. 14th in

Portland was formed. By design, students can continue their education before they move on to another school or get their GED. "Many children with behavioral or psychological problems don't "fit in a square peg," but are very bright kids. Often times, the public school system can't find a place for them. It takes weeks or months to do so. The system sometimes doesn't react soon enough," explained Mary Holden, Executive Director of Give Us

This Day and founder of Judon Line Academy II. The academy acts as a gateway to provide at-risk kids with an interim education until the school system can find or design a suitable setting for them.

The concept for the academy began when Dr. Flora Holden decided to homeschool Chasity Madrid, foster child of Mary Holden,

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McVeigh **Execution** Countdown

BY REX W. HUPPKE

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TERRE HAUTE, Ind. — In the next several days, Timothy McVeigh will sit in his 8-by-10-foot cell at the U.S. Penitentiary and make a series of decisions about his death.

What does he want for his last meal?

Where does he want his belongings sent?

Who will receive his body?

McVeigh, 32, has lived with the specter of death since he was sentenced in 1997 for the Oklahoma City bombing, which killed 168 people. Now, with a little more than a month to live, the former GI faces various procedural steps leading up to his execution May 16.

"He's very familiar with all the protocols of the execution, and he deals with it in the way he deals with everything, in a very methodical, businesslike manner," said McVeigh attorney Nathan Chambers.

In the two weeks before his execution, McVeigh is expected to submit a witness list — which can include one spiritual adviser, two lawyers and three adult family members - and settle his personal

He also must submit a last meal request at least a week before the execution. The meal can come from the prison or any restaurant in the Terre Haute area but cannot cost more than \$20.

The bomber will also have to consider his last words. According to the recently published book "American Terrorist: Timothy McVeigh & the Oklahoma City Bombing," McVeigh has already chosen what

"I am the master of my fate

I am the captain of my soul."

It is an excerpt from William Ernest Henley's 19th-century poem Robert Jay Lifton, co-author of the book "Who Owns Death?,"

an examination of the psychology of capital punishment, said McVeigh may try to "create a kind of mythology" about himself in his final weeks.

"With McVeigh, it's very hard to know how he will behave

A Cautious Cincinnati **Lifts Curfew**

By JAMES HANNAH THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CINCINNATI - Promising to make police more accountable, the mayor lifted a citywide curfew Monday that helped end days of rioting over the police shooting of an unarmed black man.

"Now that the disturbances have subsided, they must never occur again," Mayor Charles Luken said. "We have an opportunity for a new Cincinnati."

However, the mayor did not lift a state of emergency, which allows him to impose curfews and other restrictions.

The 8 p.m.-to-6 a.m. curfew was imposed Thursday after three nights of arson, looting, attacks on white motorists and clashes with

Dozens of people were injured, more than 800 were arrested and arson damage was put at more than \$200,000 in the worst racial unrest in Cincinnati since the 1968 assassination of Martin Luther King Jr.

The streets were mostly quiet over the weekend, and city officials had hoped to lift the curfew because it was hurting businesses. The curfew was scaled back to 11 p.m. Sunday to allow more time for Easter celebrations.

Joining Luken at a news conference were religious, business and community leaders who have been discussing ways to address underlying causes of the violence.

"If we put our heads back in the sand, that sand will once again grow hot with rage. The opportunity will be lost," said Ross Love, speaking on behalf of black community lead-

The Rev. Damon Lynch, a black clergyman, said the city's black youths do not know how to channel their anger. "They just feel like nobody's listening," he said. "Their anger is not just at officers, but their own black leadership. The feeling is we're not listening. and we have to turn that around."

STORY CONTINUES ON PAGE B4