



Top Stories

World celebrates new year for Gregorian Calendar



As midnight moves across the globe, millions of people are welcoming the new year with fireworks and other celebrations.

Teenager in Florida, United States skips school, goes to Iraq



Farris Hassan, a 16 year old high school student from Florida, decided to visit

Iraq and left for the country on December 11, 2005 alone and without having informed his parents.

Featured story

Bolivia's new president-elect brands Bush 'the only terrorist'



Bolivia's new president-elect Evo Morales has branded George W. Bush a "terrorist", and has referred to Condoleezza Rice as "Mrs Condolences" in an exclusive interview for Qatar's News Channel Al-Jazeera.

Wikipedia Current Events

- 25-year-old Scottish human rights worker Kate Burton and her parents are freed unharmed in the Gaza Strip by the Palestinian gunmen who kidnapped them two days earlier.
- A bomb explodes in downtown Palu, Indonesia, killing at least eight people and wounding 45 people.

Abducted German family freed in Yemen

Jürgen Chrobog, former state secretary in the German Foreign Office, his wife and their three sons have been freed, German foreign minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier confirmed at a press conference.

Steinmeier said the family was doing well. They were abducted on Wednesday in the east of the country while being on a tourism trip on the invitation of the Yemeni government. The captors were demanding the release of five tribesmen held by the government. The Yemeni defense minister was apparently the one who was able to negotiate the release.

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Sydney led the way with red lights on the Sydney Harbour Bridge and

over 80 000 fireworks over the water. It is expected to be one of the largest Celebrations, with over 1.2 million people.

In New York it is expected to be the second largest celebration, with between 800 000 and 1 million people, as the waterford crystal ball drops from time square. Many places drop various objects to celebrate new years, such as a giant M&M in Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania, or two pears in Fredericksburg, Virginia.

Colorado College Tigers win 41st annual Great Lakes Invitational tournament

The Colorado College Tigers beat the Spartans of Michigan State University in men's ice hockey on Friday, for the title of champions of the 41st annual Great Lakes Invitational ice hockey tournament at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

The Tigers, the team chosen to be invited into the tournament and appearing for the first time since 1965 in the tournament, led with a 5-0 lead during the second period, after which Michigan State switched goalies. The Spartans put freshmen Jeff Lerg into net, replacing Dominic Vicari, who was earlier given a penalty for his contact with a member of Colorado's team in front of the net. Michigan State junior Tyler Howells scored two goals during the second period, and Colorado student Brett Sterling made the Tiger's final goal for the night.

Colorado College took first place in the invitational, and Michigan State ended in second place, after their previous win over Michigan Tech at a score of 3-2. The Tigers previously beat the University of Michigan on Thursday, at a score of 6-1.

Meanwhile, the University of Michigan beat GLI co-sponsor Michigan Tech University with a score of 5-3 for a third place finish in the invitational earlier in the day.

With 2 minutes remaining in the third period, the University of Michigan went one up over Michigan Tech, breaking the 3-3 tie. Michigan Tech pulled their goalie with one minute remaining to gain a man advantage, but the strategy failed and allowed the University of Michigan to get another goal resulting in the final 5-3 score.

The game secured the third place position in the invitational for University of Michigan, and fourth place for Michigan Tech.

The final standings in the tournament are:

1. Colorado College
2. Michigan State University
3. University of Michigan
4. Michigan Tech

Distributed computing discovers largest known prime number

On December 15, 2005, a computing effort of the Central Missouri State University (CMSU), led by Curtis Cooper and Steven Boone, as part of the distributed computing project known as the Great Internet Mersenne Prime Search (GIMPS), discovered the largest known prime number,

divisible only by the number 1 and itself: 230,402,457-1.

The discovery, which marks the 43rd known Mersenne prime and the 9th discovered by GIMPS, was made by running a free downloadable program called Prime95. The CMSU team is currently the highest-ranked contributor to GIMPS with over 700 computers running Prime95.

Today in History

1801 - Giuseppe Piazzi discovered the first asteroid, 1 Ceres.

1801 - The Kingdom of Ireland merged with the Kingdom of Great Britain, adding St. Patrick's saltire to the Union Jack.

1818 - Frankenstein, or The Modern Prometheus, a science fiction by Mary Shelley, was first published in London.

1959 - President Fulgencio Batista of Cuba fled to the Dominican Republic as forces under Fidel Castro took control of Havana.

1995 - The World Trade Organization was created to replace the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

January 01 is New Year's Day

Quote of the Day

"Only connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion, and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer. Only connect, and the beast and the monk, robbed of the isolation that is life to either, will die." ~ E. M. Forster

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