



Actors from left to right: Michael J. Fox, Keri Russell and Dylan McDermott old the awards they won at the 56th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills Sunday. Fox won best actor in a television comedy series, Russell won best actress in a dramatic television series and McDermott won for best actor in a television drama series.

Russia vetoes release of report Butler outlines long-term UN monitoring for Iraq

UNITED NATIONS, Jan 26: The top UN arms inspector on Monday outlined long-term monitoring proposals for Iraq that could be implemented if the UN Security Council decides to turn the page on Iraq's disarmament in order to lift sanctions, reports AP.

Indonesia death toll up to 54 Military vows to hunt down ringleaders of riots

AMBON, Indonesia, Jan 26: Indonesia's military commander has vowed to hunt down the ringleaders of religious rioting that left at least 54 people dead as rescuers searched Tuesday for more victims, reports AP.



King Birendra of Nepal (Left) is greeted by Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee upon his arrival at the presidential palace for an official welcoming ceremony Monday. King Birendra is on a six-day official visit to India, and the guest of honour for the country's Republic Day celebrations.

Anwar Ibrahim's trial resumes Prosecution's conduct a shame, lawyers say

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 26: Denouncing the prosecution as "disgraceful," the lawyers of dissident Anwar Ibrahim demanded on Tuesday that the judge ignore key testimonies against their client, reports AP.

UN envoy holds talks with Taliban

ISLAMABAD, Jan 26: UN coordinator for Afghanistan Erick De Mul Monday visited the major stronghold of the Taliban militia Kandahar and held talks with senior Taliban leaders on ways to facilitate the return of UN aid staff to the war-ravaged country, reports Xinhua.

11 civilians killed in missile strike US blames Saddam for 'initiating attack'

WASHINGTON, Jan 26: US military officials say they regret the civilian casualties caused by an American missile attack in southern Iraq, but they say the blame lies with President Saddam Hussein for threatening US pilots patrolling Iraqi skies, reports AP.

Primakov proposes pact between Yeltsin, both houses of parliament

MOSCOW, Jan 26: Russian Prime Minister Yevgeny Primakov has proposed a pact between President Boris Yeltsin and both houses of parliament to ensure political stability in the run-up to elections, news agencies said today, reports AP.



Gladys Staines and her daughter Esther, 13, attend the funeral of her husband, Australian missionary Graham Staines and sons Philips, 10, and Timothy, 8, Monday, in Baripada, India. A group of Hindu radicals in eastern India attacked the family Saturday morning and burned the three alive while they were sleeping in their jeep.

Yeltsin talks to Albright over phone

MOSCOW, Jan 26: President Boris Yeltsin held a telephone conversation Tuesday with visiting US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright from the hospital where he has been recovering from a bleeding ulcer, officials said, reports AP.

Provincial election in Sri Lanka Kumaratunga's party takes commanding lead

COLOMBO, Jan 26: President Chandrika Kumaratunga's party took a commanding lead Tuesday in a provincial election, but independent monitors said intimidation by the ruling party was so widespread that the election should be declared void, reports AP.

BRIEFLY

- Fire kills 14 in Chinese factory: A fire killed 14 people at a company backed by Taiwanese investment in south China, the state-run Xinhua News Agency reported. AP reports from Beijing. The fire broke out in the early hours of Saturday in the Donggu Electric Co in Shijie township of Dongguan City in Guangdong. Xinhua reported late Monday. It said the 14 people died of suffocation. Faulty wiring in two old air conditioners was believed to have caused the blaze.
- Richardson to visit KSA: US Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson is to visit Saudi Arabia in February. The first such visit since 1990 to promote energy cooperation with the Arab Kingdom, a department of energy statement said Monday, AFP reports from Washington.
- Richardson's three-day visit with top Saudi energy officials and representatives of US energy companies aims at reinforcing bilateral relationships and promoting energy cooperation, the statement said. "These discussions underscore the importance of the kingdom and our bilateral relationship to energy security and stability worldwide," the statement quoted Richardson as saying.
- 4 killed in road accident in Vietnam: Four people were killed after a truck plowed into a food stall in southwestern Vietnam, police said yesterday, AFP reports from Hanoi.
- The four people were killed when the truck slammed into a food stall at Tien Giang on the Hanoi-Ho Chi Minh City highway on Friday, police told AFP. Three were killed on the spot after the driver of the speeding truck lost control in a curve and hit the stall. Another died on the way to hospital.
- Australian donation for Fiji flood: Australia on Tuesday donated 200,000 Australian dollars (US \$128,000) to help Fiji overcome disastrous floods that claimed seven lives and devastated large parts of the main island of Viti Levu, AP reports from Canberra.

Pressure mounts on BJP govt for action against anti-Christian violence

BARIPADA, India, Jan 26: India's Hindu nationalist government was under pressure from political allies and foreign governments Tuesday to punish the killers of an Australian evangelist and his two sons, the first victims of a Hindu extremist campaign against Christian missionaries, reports AP.

State Department says Discussion on sending US ground troops to Kosovo 'premature'

WASHINGTON, Jan 26: Any discussion of sending US ground troops to Kosovo as part of an international peacekeeping force is "premature," the State Department said Monday, reports AP.