



June 13th - June 20th



PICTURE OF THE WEEK



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PICTURE OF THE WEEK: Monkeypox Strikes the US

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the department of the government dedicated to tracking and eradicating diseases in the U.S., announced an outbreak of a rare virus called monkeypox this week.

Monkeypox is a virus similar to smallpox. It causes fevers, aches and rashes like smallpox, but in a milder form. The CDC has reported that there are 54 suspected cases in the U.S.--20 in Wisconsin, 10 in Illinois, 23 in Indiana and one in New Jersey. There have been nine confirmed cases of the virus. The confirmed cases are the first cases of the disease in the western hemisphere.

Monkeypox has never before been found outside of Africa. The disease was discovered in laboratory monkeys in 1958, but human cases were not discovered until 1970, in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Though it is called monkeypox, the virus is often carried by rodents, like rats and squirrels. Officials in the U.S. believe that the disease made its way to the U.S. via exotic rodents imported from Africa for sale as pets. Officials believe the imported rodents passed the disease to prairie dogs in pet shops. Almost all of the cases of Monkeypox in the U.S. have been traced to contact with an infected prairie dog. One case was traced to a rabbit that had probably gotten the disease from a prairie dog, and another case is believed to have been passed from a human patient to a health care worker.

Symptoms of monkeypox usually show up one to two weeks after a person catches the virus, and the rash, made up of pus-filled bumps, breaks out a few days after the first symptoms. The illness usually lasts two to four weeks.

There is no treatment for monkeypox; once someone comes down with symptoms the disease must run its course. However, monkeypox and smallpox are so similar that the smallpox vaccine can also help prevent monkeypox if the vaccination is done before symptoms develop.

Monkeypox has caused alarm because it is so similar to smallpox. Smallpox was once a very dangerous disease, but it was wiped out around the world many years ago.

Since the U.S. outbreak, the government has banned import of rodents from Africa and has also banned sale of prairie dogs in an effort to prevent spread of this new disease.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#)

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WEEKLY NEWS 1: U.S. Army Celebrates Birthday

On Saturday, June 14, 2003, the United States Army will celebrate its 228th birthday. Soldiers will hand out U.S. flags and "Support Your Soldier" postcards to people gathered at sporting events. The postcards will be given to people as they enter the stadiums. People will be able to sign the postcard and then send it to a soldier overseas.

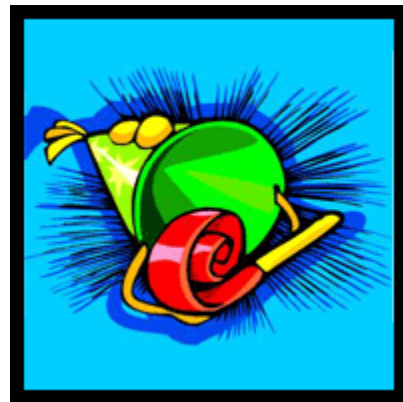
The Army plans to be at Major League Baseball games, Arena Football 2 matchups and NASCAR races. The Army has a theme for their birthday this year. The theme is: "U.S. Army -- At War and Transforming." Part of the celebration will also include bands performing the national anthem and other traditional Army songs.

June 14th, 2003 is also the day Flag Day will be celebrated in the United States. Flying the American flag on this day helps to show the Army that the citizens of the country support the troops and their efforts. It shows respect for the Army since it is also the Army's birthday.

Though the U.S. Flag and the Army are both very patriotic, it was not planned to celebrate the birthday of the Army and Flag Day together. The Army was born June 14, 1775, but Flag Day was not created until much later. On June 14, 1977, the Continental Congress adopted the first official flag. More than 150 years later Flag Day became a national holiday.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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Read WEEKLY NEWS 2: Preventing Child Abduction

WEEKLY NEWS 2: Preventing Child Abduction

On Thursday, June 12, 2003, a new summer safety program called StreetSentz(SM) was launched by Radio Shack, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the YMCA. The program will help teach kids and parents about ways for children to be safer during the summer.

The program's goal is to help keep kids safe from abuse and abduction. They will be giving away child identification kits to parents. The kits include all kinds of information that can keep a child safe, plus it informs parents about how to keep good records of their kids. These records--such as photographs and fingerprints--can help police identify missing children.

Some Radio Shacks will have the kits available in their stores, as well as information about the StreetSentz(SM) program. The program will be launched in 4 different communities this summer. People in Texas, Illinois and California may be able to participate.

Other aspects of the program include forums where parents can come and listen to speakers talk about child safety. The speakers will teach parents how to keep their child safe from abduction. In some communities parents will be able to bring their child to the police station for fingerprinting.

Both the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and the YMCA are non-profit organizations that focus on kids and family. The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children helps law enforcement officials find missing kids.

--Written by [Carla Shives](#)

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Read WEEKLY NEWS 1: U.S. Army Celebrates Birthday

AROUND THE WORLD 1: Where are the Peaceful Words?

The military government of the Asian country Myanmar is holding a Nobel Prize winner captive. Her name is Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and she has been an activist for democratic change in Myanmar for many years. On May 30, her supporters fought with supporters of the military government, and Suu Kyi was taken into custody by the military leaders. Efforts were made last week to find her and ensure her release.



When Suu Kyi was taken into custody, nobody knew where she was being held, and many people feared that she was injured. The United Nations decided to send a representative named Razali Ismail to Myanmar to determine if she was being treated humanely and to attempt to negotiate her release.

During the first few days of negotiations, Mr. Ismail was not allowed to meet with Suu Kyi, but eventually, he was able to see her. He reported that she was in good health and good spirits, and that she was expected to be freed within then next two weeks. The military government claimed that they were holding her for her own safety and that they would not harm her.

In spite of the positive reports on Suu Kyi's condition, the international community remains concerned. Suu Kyi was confined under house arrest for many years, and the military government perceives her pro-democracy message as a threat to their power in Myanmar. They are right to fear her influence. In fact, her political party won a general election in 1990, but the military government would not give up power. Therefore, many people fear that her captors will not want to release her now that they are able to control her.

The United States is among the countries who are putting pressure on Myanmar's government to release Suu Kyi. In response to Suu Kyi's captivity, the U.S. Senate voted to place sanctions on Myanmar. This means that U.S.-Myanmar trade will stopped, Myanmar will not be allowed to borrow money, and the government of Myanmar will be prevented from using any money that they already have in U.S. financial systems.

The actions of the U.S. and the determination of the United Nations sends a strong message to Myanmar's military rulers that Daw Aung San Suu Kyi's efforts are highly respected and valued in the international community.

Suu Kyi won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her courageous efforts at democratic change in Myanmar. Although she knows that more freedom and a better life await her in other nations, Suu Kyi is determined to remain in Myanmar and fight for her cause. She says that she is inspired by leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King. Like these famous figures, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi will remain an inspiration for many people in Myanmar and other regions struggling for freedom--whether or not she herself is freed.

--Written by [Betsy Mesard](#)

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Read AROUND THE WORLD 2: Efforts to Free A Freedom Activist

SPORTS ZONE 1: US Open Golf Competition

Tiger Woods won't be the only golfer prowling the fairways and stalking the leader-board at this year's U.S. Open at Olympia Fields.

Woods, winner of 7 of the last 14 majors, will be favored to win the United State's National Championship but he will have plenty of competition-155 other golfers-including many who are playing better and more consistently.

Golfers bearing non-animal monikers will be bolstered by the course layout at Olympia Fields, weather, and rumors of a slump mired Woods.

The U.S. Open is traditionally set-up to challenge all but the very best professional golfers. Open courses have dangerous, deep rough, scary, skinny fairways and holes that stretch for miles. U.S. Open courses are usually so difficult that an even-par final score would land a player on the leader-board, if not the Championship.

Olympia Fields is decidedly easier than past U.S Open tracts. Players who cannot control their drives will as always be punished by the thick rough and narrow fairways, but not as forcefully as in the past. Coupled the thin rough and playable fairways with rain-soaked greens and fairways, short relative length (7,188 yards) and Olympia Fields has been rendered almost defenseless--opening the leader-board to players of varying ability.

Tiger Woods is also not as fearsome as he has been in the past-some claiming he is in the midst of a slump. For the first time since 1999 Woods is not the PGA's money leader. He has won only three times this year and is Major-less since capturing last years U.S. Open. Woods dismissed the claims of a slump at Wednesday's Open press conference

"I don't think I've ever been in a slump, no, I think my overall career has been pretty good. Ever since I came out of the womb and started playing golf, I've had a pretty good career."

Slump or no slump Woods will need to be at the top his game to beat back the throng of golfers vying for the Championship.

--Written by **By Rob Hawkins**

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SPORTS ZONE 2: The Rocket Man Gets 300

On Friday, June 13th, his fourth try at the elusive mark, Roger Clemens got his 300th win, becoming the 21st pitcher in major league history, and the first since Nolan Ryan in 1990, to achieve the mark. Clemens, in his 20th, and perhaps final major league season, is the only pitcher ever to be awarded the Cy Young six times in his career. The 300th win mark a major achievement in baseball lore, Clemens entered an even more exclusive fraternity on Friday, striking out his 4,000th batter: only Nolan Ryan and Steve Carlton have struck out more.

A sellout crowd of over 55,000 gathered at hallowed Yankee Stadium to cheer "The Rocket" on his most recent attempt at 300. Clemens started with a sizzle, striking out six of his first eight batters. Supported by three Yankee home runs, Clemens left in the seventh to see his lead successfully protected by left-hand reliever Chris Hammond: the first time the Yankees' Bullpen had successfully protected a lead for Clemens during his last two starts.

Notably, Clemens mother was not present to witness his to epochal achievements. Suffering from emphysema, a disease of the lungs, and from a serious bout of pneumonia, his mother, Bess, was only able to attend Roger's first attempt at 300, in Boston. To his mother, Roger simply said "I love you..."

Clemens started his career in 1986 with the Boston Red Sox, winning the first of his six Cy Young Awards in his third year. Playing there for 13 seasons, Clemens was traded to Toronto in 1997, the Red Sox feeling Roger was "washed up". In Toronto, Clemens posted back-to-back 20+ win seasons, earning two consecutive Cy Young Awards. In 1999 he made his way to the Yankees. In 2001 Clemens won his sixth Cy Young, becoming the first pitcher in major league history to start a season 20-1; he would finish the year 20-3 with an ERA of 3.51.

When the final out was recorded on Friday, against the St Louis Cardinals (who the Yankees had not played in more than three decades), Roger jogged onto the field... the tune of Elton John's Rocket Man playing over the public address system.

To baseball, Clemens has contributed much; most importantly, he has given so many so much to hope for, in times so otherwise depressing.

[Write your own story telling us what you think about this article!](#)



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Oldest Human Remains Discovered

A team of scientists from the University of California, Berkeley, recently reported that they have found three skulls in Ethiopia that are the oldest modern human fossils ever discovered.

The research team included some paleontologists, scientists who study bones, who have estimated the skulls to be about 160,000 years old.

The skulls found by the Berkeley scientists are exciting to researchers because they are the oldest human fossils with modern human features. There has been a gap in the fossil record between older human fossils, which often have thicker bones, more pronounced brows and protruding jaws, and modern humans, who have bigger foreheads and flatter faces. The skulls found in Ethiopia have the thicker bones of ancient humans, but many of the features of modern humans, leading some scientists to believe they represent part of the transition from ancient to modern humans.

The skulls were found near the village of Herto, about 140 miles from Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. The researchers have declared the fossils a subspecies of human that they have named *Homo sapiens idaltu*.

The scientists found other interesting things at the site, including stone tools and hippopotamus bones believed to be leftovers from the ancient humans' dinner.

--Written by [Nia Williams](#)

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: REVIEW: The Future of Hydrogen

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 2: REVIEW: The Future of Hydrogen

Have you ever worried about mankind being in trouble? Well, you should start, because we have a crisis on our hands! Mankind is running low on oil reserves, coal, and other fossil fuels. Not only that, but these sources of energy are damaging the earth when we burn them. A new energy source is needed to combat both dwindling resources and environmental hazards; hydrogen may be the best solution to both of these problems. Virtually limitless, hydrogen can be found in so many things; and, it doesn't pollute. Indeed, hydrogen can be safer than petroleum.... and it may be THE fuel for the future!

Who would've thought that something so simple as water could provide mankind with the next energy source? Hydrogen seems to be the perfect solution for humanities' energy crisis. Water can provide virtually limitless supplies of hydrogen. Indeed, hydrogen is one of the most abundant elements on our planet, being found in the ocean and atmosphere alike

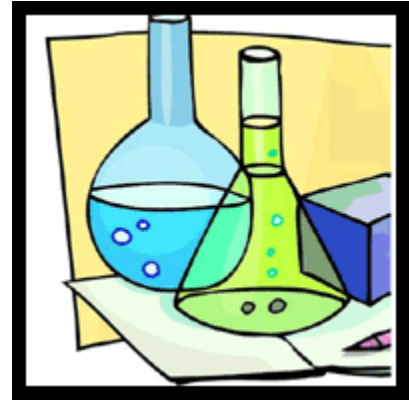
Traditionally created by using solar energy to separate the hydrogen and oxygen from the water, today's scientists are working hard to create new ways to produce and store hydrogen. Hydrogen is converted into electricity by use of hydrogen fuel cells. They are very efficient, but expensive to build. Because of the cost, hydrogen power plants won't be built for quite a while. Nevertheless, hydrogen may soon be added to natural gas and gasoline to boost performance and reduce pollution. Hydrogen could also serve to improve jet fuel. It is high in energy, so jets would need less fuel; and, weighing less than currently used fuels, the jets would be able to carry added cargo.

Oil sales are a large part of America's everyday economy. Although hydrogen can be great energy source, will it be too much for America's economy to make this large change? Dependency on fossil fuels forces America to lean on foreign countries. Nonetheless, it is believed that if hydrogen production is put in place, it can create up to 70,000 new jobs in California alone. But how many jobs will it take away from the petroleum industry, as that energy source begins to lose its markets?

It is predicted that hydrogen will be open for public sale by 2020. What new things await us then? We can only imagine!

Written by Lawrence, Fair Lawn, NJ
Thank you Lawrence for this wonderful article!

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 1: Oldest Human Remains Discovered

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

On June 18, 1983, the space shuttle Challenger was launched into space on its second mission. Aboard the shuttle was Dr. Sally Ride, who as a mission specialist became the first American woman to travel into space. During the six-day mission, Ride, an astrophysicist from Stanford, operated the shuttle's robot arm, which she had helped design. Twenty years earlier, Valentina Tereshkova of the Soviet Union was the first woman ever to travel into space.



On June 19, 1949 NASCAR staged its first Grand National event at the Charlotte, North Carolina Fairgrounds, marking the birth of NASCAR racing as we know it today. NASCAR stands for the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing. A crowd of 13,000 watched as Jim Roper won the inaugural event on the three-quarter mile dirt track at the Charlotte Fairgrounds. The Grand Nationals later became Winston Cup Series events.

Actress Helen Hunt was born on June 15, 1963. Hunt started acting as a child, appearing on The Mary Tyler Moore Show and Swiss Family Robinson. From 1992 to 1999, she co-starred with comedian Paul Reiser in the hit TV series Mad About You. She also appeared in several films in the mid-1980s and early 1990s, and won a Best Actress Oscar for her role opposite Jack Nicholson in As Good As It Gets. Most recently, Hunt has played in Castaway, a film with Tom Hanks.



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MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 1: Up and Coming Star

For those of you that know her, you already know her work, for those of you that do not know her, you are missing out. Up and coming star Hilary Duff is amazing. Not only does she star on Disney Channel Original Television Show, "Lizzie McGuire", she has also already starred in "Agent Cody Banks", opposite Frankie Muniz, and "The Lizzie McGuire Movie." Not only does she act, she also sings. She has her debut album coming out very soon.

I recently saw the new Lizzie McGuire Movie. Disney is really good at making these movies for kids. If you have even seen the TV show on Disney, you are up to date about who is in the movie. They are the usual characters/actors. Miranda, Gordo, Matt, the mom, and the dad. However, there is a new character.

In the movie, the gang all graduates from junior high school (middle school). For her summer vacation, Lizzie and her family go to Italy, along with Gordo. Once in Italy, Lizzie meets a handsome Italian pop star (the new character, played by Yani Gellman). He recruits her to become his singing partner. Lizzie is then transformed from being a regular American school girl into being a shining European pop sensation. Go see "The Lizzie McGuire Movie" is see the new up and coming star Hilary Duff. It's a good one!

--Written by [Tami Saslo](#)

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Read MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 2: Rugrats: Lost Again?

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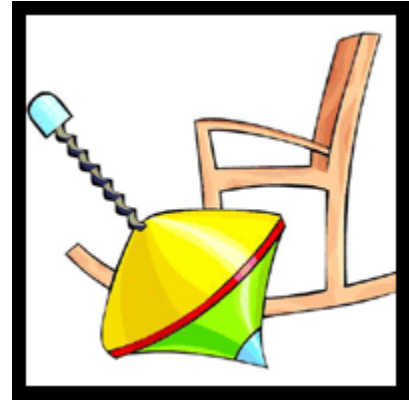
The folks at Nickelodeon Studios finally released another movie. Everyone has at least seen "Rugrats", the popular television show that Nick has had running for years, at least once in their life. Not only has Nick let Tommy and the gang have their own TV show, but has also let them have their own movie. Well, once again Nick is letting the brave little babies have yet another movie...also starring their Nickelodeon buddies, "The Wild Thornberrys'."

"Rugrats Go Wild" is about the Rugrats and their parents. The crazy crowd gets stranded on a deserted island. Tommy Pickles knows there's only one man who can help them get off that very island. That man is none other than Nigel Thornberry. However, Nigel gets hit on the head. In result, Nigel suddenly seems more like a 3-year-old than a grown man. Luckily, the babies have Eliza (from the popular "Wild Thornberrys") on their side. Eliza has ability to communicate with animals, she can even talk to Spike!

Will Tommy and the other babies make it back to their home? Go see "Rugrats Go Wild" to join the Pickles in their family adventures.

--Written by [Tami Saslo](#)

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Read MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT 1: Up and Coming Star

COMICS & POEMS 1: Aford Turtle, Comic Strip



--Written by [Aaron Riddle](#)

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Read COMICS & POEMS 2: Praying for Light, Poetry

COMICS & POEMS 2: Praying for Light, Poetry

Untitled

i have pieces of myself hidden inside the world
they lie in unmarked graves
i buried them
in firey seasons
in wet seasons
in light seasons
they surround my house
like flies in screens
they used to cry and dance and
move around the moon
and i can only watch
and put my hands around my face
praying for light beyond the sun

--Written by **By Justine Addison**

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Read COMICS & POEMS 1: Aford Turtle, Comic Strip

U.S. GOVERNMENT: Bush Issues Rules to Speed Up Introduction of Generic Drugs

One of the minor issues of the 2000 Election, prescription drug access, has recently come to the forefront of the Bush agenda. In a speech Thursday afternoon, President Bush parlayed rules to speed-up the introduction of cheaper, generic drugs--thus combating the rising prices of the comparable brand name drugs.

Currently, when a drug maker produces a new product, they have patent rights on the chemical formula and thus exclusive marketing and sales rights. As you can imagine, they can charge basically whatever they want for the drug, as they are the only person producing it at that time. When a drug company independently develops a generic--a cheaper alternative--to a brand name drug, the first drug maker (the one holding the patent) has the right to file a lawsuit against the generic drug maker. This lawsuit allows for a thirty-month stay, stopping the generic drug's entry into the market. In the past, the (drug) industry was allowed to file multiple lawsuits, which triggered multiple thirty-month delays, preventing generic drugs from becoming available for up to a decade. Bush has changed this provision, allowing for only one 30-month delay. In this time span, it is up to the FDA to complete all necessary steps to approve the generic drugs' safety and marketability.

There are currently House and Senate bills which run parallel to the President's current rule changes. These changes are expected to cut the average approval time for generic drugs to 17 months, and could save consumers in excess of \$35 billion over 10 years.

In the end, however, Bush's improvised rules are more limited than a Senate bill, and may thus face many legal challenges.

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Answer all of the questions on the quiz, then select the Score button to grade the quiz.

There are 8 Questions total.

1. What company made "The Lizzie McGuire Movie"?

- Universal
- Disney
- Miramax
- FOX

2. Who can talk to animals?

- Tommy
- Nigel
- Chuckie
- Eliza

3. How many golfers are in this years US Open?

- 155
- 156
- 165
- 166

4. What holiday is shared with the U.S. Army's Birthday?

- Flag Day
- Memorial Day
- Labor Day
- Presidents' Day

5. How many communities will participate in StreetSenz(SM) this summer??

- Two
- Three
- Four
- Five

6. Why do scientists think Homo sapiens idaltu is like a modern human?

- They had thick bones and protruding jaws
- They had thin bones and protruding jaws
- They had flatter faces and bigger foreheads
- They had stone tools

7. Most Americans who caught monkeypox probably caught it from:

- Monkeys
- African Squirrels
- Prairie Dogs
- Frogs

8. What is Daw Aung San Suu Kyi fighting for in Myanmar?

- Freedom
- Food
- Land
- Peace

9. Who claimed responsibility for the suicide attack in Jerusalem on Wednesday?

- Three different Palestinian groups
- Two different Palestinian groups
- Three different Israeli groups
- Two different Israeli groups

10. How much money are Bush's medicine rules expected to save consumers?

- 35 dollars
- 35 thousand dollars
- 35 million dollars
- 35 billion dollars

Score

Start Over