



GETTY IMAGES
BIG NAME: Tiger Woods' charity has partnered with the PGA Tour to create a new golf tournament in the D.C. area.

Tiger brings tourney to D.C.

July 4th event at Congressional

By Tim Lemke and Barker Davis
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Big-time golf is returning to the Washington area with a roar. The PGA Tour yesterday said it reached an agreement with the Tiger Woods Foundation to hold a new tournament over the July Fourth weekend, marking a reversal of fortune from less than a month ago, when it appeared that Washington would go without a stop on golf's major circuit.

Sources said Congressional Country Club in Bethesda likely will be the host for the event this year, pending approval from the club's members. The tournament will take place July 5 to 8.

The tour is planning a press conference for March 7 in Washington — to be attended by Woods and PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem, at which they will confirm the location of the tournament and reveal its title sponsor.

"After an extensive search, we are very excited about our partnership with the Tiger Woods Foundation to bring a PGA Tour event back to our nation's capital over the Fourth of July holiday celebration," Mr. Finchem said.

The Tiger Woods Foundation will be the tournament's primary host and main charitable beneficiary. It is expected that Woods, the world's top-ranked and most high-profile golfer, would be a fixture at the tournament, although he may skip this year's event to be with his wife, Elin, who is pregnant with their first child. She is expected to give birth sometime in July.

The Washington area, which had hosted a PGA Tour event for 30 years, appeared at risk of going without a stop after sponsor Booz Allen Hamilton backed out of sponsoring the event held

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U.S., N. Korea to normalize ties

By Andrew Salmon
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

SEOUL — North Korea's top nuclear negotiator was on his way to the United States yesterday for talks on issues that a State Department official said would include the first steps toward the normalization of diplomatic relations.

The trip, which coincides with the first high-level talks between North Korea and South

Work for 'full diplomatic relations'

Korea in more than four months, reflects the rapid easing of tensions with President Kim Jong-il's regime since North Korea agreed this month to freeze its nuclear program in exchange for heavy fuel oil and other concessions.

Kim Kye-gwan, North Korea's vice minister of foreign

affairs, arrived in Beijing yesterday and was expected in San Francisco tomorrow, a State Department official told The Washington Times. He will continue to New York for talks with his U.S. negotiating counterpart, Christopher Hill, which will likely begin early next week.

At a State Department brief-

ing yesterday, spokesman Sean McCormack said the two would begin a process of normalization described in the nuclear deal concluded with Pyongyang on Feb. 13 in Beijing.

That agreement calls for the two countries to open bilateral talks "aimed at resolving pending bilateral issues and moving

toward full diplomatic relations."

Meanwhile, Japan announced today it will hold talks with North Korea next week in Hanoi hoping for progress in a row over abductions that has led Tokyo to shun a six-nation nuclear deal with Pyongyang.

"After coordinating with North Korea, the first working-level talks for the normalization

see KOREA, page A15

Doubts trigger 416-point Dow dive



FRENZIED: Traders worked on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange yesterday as the Dow Jones Industrial Average suffered its biggest decline since the September 11 attacks.

Sell-off follows plunge in China, Greenspan's hint of a recession

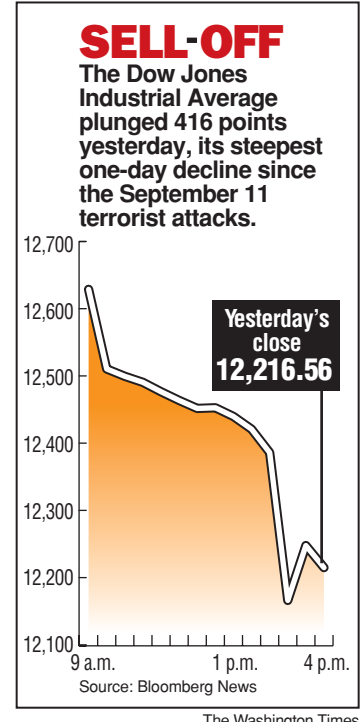
By Patrice Hill
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Dow Jones Industrial Average plunged 416 points yesterday, the most since the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, as worries about the U.S. economy suddenly surged and sent inflated stock markets tumbling around the world.

The chain reaction started in China, where a 9 percent drop in the main stock index, the worst in 10 years, was triggered by government moves to quell stock speculation and a speech by former Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan pointing out that profits in the U.S. have peaked and the business cycle may be drawing to a close with a recession possible — though not likely — by year-end.

After reverberating in trading in Asia and Europe on Monday night, doubts about the U.S. economy were reinforced by fresh data yesterday raising fears that the U.S. housing and manufacturing sectors are headed back into recession as a result of sharply tighter credit conditions and the end of a capital spending boom.

"It's a mood swing to more concern about the economy,"



said Alexander P. Paris, analyst at Barrington Research Associates Inc. He noted that the darker outlook likely will be underscored by news today that economic growth slowed to 2.5

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New lawmakers seek war debate

Democrats cite public opposition

By Christina Bellantoni
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Congressional Democrats — especially new members — are clamoring for action on the Iraq war, citing polls showing that American voters want to change course, but leaders have delayed significant action.

Senate Democratic leaders announced yesterday that they will postpone for at least another week a debate on war policy, despite efforts by several senators pushing to hold a vote to repeal the 2002 war authori-

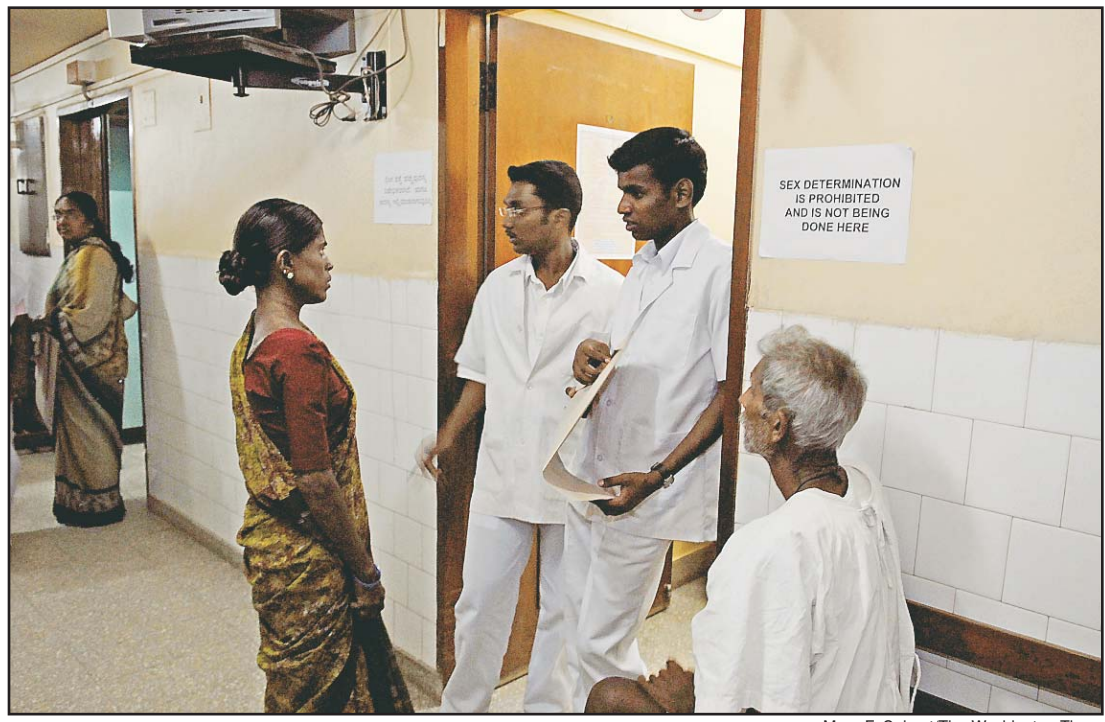
zation. "I would have liked to have done Iraq three weeks ago," said Sen. Jon Tester, Montana Democrat and one of the freshmen calling for a substantive Iraq debate.

During last week's recess, Mr. Tester found that people in his home state are irritated that nothing had been done yet on Iraq.

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• Bush will veto union rights for federal airport screeners. A12

Lots of stings, no pain



WRITING ON THE WALL: Signs posted outside a radiologist's clinic at Bangalore Baptist Hospital state that sex-determination tests are prohibited under Indian law. The law is often broken.

By Julia Duin
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Third of four parts
"In childhood a female must be subject to her father, in youth to her husband, when her lord is dead to her sons; a woman must never be independent." — Verse 5:148 in the Hindu laws of Manu
JAIPUR, India — Meena Sharma, a 26-year-old freelance reporter, knew there were massive violations of government law forbidding doctors from telling pregnant women the sex of their unborn children and using abortion to eliminate unwanted girls.

Just a wink for doctors who flout law

She approached Shripal Shaktawat, Jaipur bureau chief of the Sahara Samay TV network, with an idea he could not refuse. What if she lined up several pregnant women with TV cameras hidden in their purses who would say their fetus was a girl and they wanted an abortion? Miss Sharma would go along, playing the part of the



woman's aunt or mother-in-law. "It was an emotional issue for me," said the reporter, who remembers as a 14-year-old seeing one of her pregnant aunts being instructed by a physician

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INSIDE

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5 Sections, 52 Pages

Metropolitan

D.C. SCHOOLS — Mayor Adrian M. Fenty yesterday made his final pitch to take over the public schools, telling council members that he would increase student test scores, redesign the report card and explore offering bonuses to overachieving teachers and principals. **B1**



Fenty

U.S. to attend talks with Iraq, neighbors

By David R. Sands
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The United States said yesterday it would attend a pair of Iraqi-sponsored regional conferences in Baghdad over the next two months that will also be attended by archfoes Syria and Iran.

The meetings, called by the government of Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, would be a sharp break with the Bush administration's past refusal to en-

gage with Syria and Iran over the troubled Iraq conflict and growing regional tensions. The U.S. government accuses both of Iraq's neighbors of fueling insurgent violence against U.S. and Iraqi forces.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, scheduled to attend the second meeting in April with other regional foreign ministers, told a Senate hearing yesterday that Iraq was

see IRAQ, page A12

Maoris seek to limit number of migrants from Britain

By Paul Chapman
LONDON DAILY TELEGRAPH

WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Britons considering making a fresh start in New Zealand might find a less than warm welcome awaiting them after Maori politicians demanded curbs on immigration

to the islands. Lured by the attractive climate, majestic scenery, a high standard of living and the English language, thousands leave Britain each year to make new lives on the other side of the globe.

But Maori nationalists called on the government in Well-

ington last week to limit the number of migrants from Britain.

They accused the government of running a secret campaign to prevent the "browning of New Zealand" by encouraging large numbers of white immigrants so that they outnumber those of Pacific and Asian origin who would align them-

selves with the Maori minority.

The proportion of Maori in the population, currently 13 percent, is expected to grow rapidly over the next few decades because their birthrate is more than twice that of white New Zealanders.

The number of non-Maori New Zealanders would be

falling without the net gain from immigration, mainly because tens of thousands leave for Australia every year.

Tariana Turia, the founder and co-leader of the Maori Party, which holds four seats in Parliament, said: "What we are

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