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Pasqual Maragall speaking yesterday at the conference / EFE

Maragall calls for Catalan nationhood in the Constitution

The president said that the revised constitution should bear in mind Catalonia's nationality, and urged Catalans not to back down over the issue

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Spain and its historical amnesia

VICENÇ NAVARRO

AC Milan to play Barça for Gamper Trophy

This year's annual Trofeu Joan Gamper on 25 August will see Barcelona playing Italian stars AC Milan for the Gamper trophy, a friendly match which the Catalan team plays every year against a different top-class club from around the world. See page 12.

Euro zone rates unaffected by oil price hike

The European Central Bank has decided to keep interest rates where they are, as a way of giving the euro zone some time to get on its feet. Analysts see the institution leaving rates unchanged until 2005. More on page 7

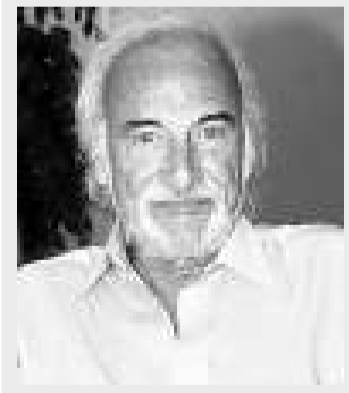


The trench from the Battle of the Ebre has been restored by archaeologists and will soon be open to the public / EL PUNT

Civil war trench in the Ebre valley to be turned into tourist attraction

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Hector Alterio appears in "I, Claudius" at the Grec festival



Ballet flamenco Juan de Juan

TORERO

coreography by **Antonio Canales**



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“Constitution should view Catalonia as nationality”

The Catalan president urges Andalusia not to adopt an attitude of denying its uniqueness

AGENCIES / ALEXLEFF

Catalan president Pasqual Maragall urged a conference audience at El Escorial in Madrid yesterday to consider the importance of “nationality” in the constitution. Speaking at the Universidad Complutense in a summer course titled *Nationalism in the 21st century*, he said for Catalonia it would be “disappointing” if the constitution should not preserve that precise term which denotes the peoples of Spain.

Maragall confessed that the timing of the autonomous statute reforms raises “some problems,” though they were not “irresolvable.” It would be a lot to ask, he explained, for Catalans to simply back down on the issue of constitutional revision when it is something which Catalans feel so strongly about. In his view, obstacles could be overcome if the state would adopt an “interim” statute of autonomy. The president also raised the possibility of the Catalan parliament using its power to propose a reform to the Spanish constitution. In any case, Maragall insists on his unrelenting trust of the Spanish prime minister, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, saying that he is “a man of his word.”

During a conference called *Diverse Spain and obstinate Catalonia. Catalonia in the Spanish political*

context, Maragall made a specific appeal to Andalusia. The southern territory should have a pivotal role in the reforms process which is about to get under way, he said, adding that it will be highly influential in designing, what he called a “customised suit” to fit a pluralistic Spain.

In Maragall’s opinion, Andalusia will find itself in a dilemma: whether to seek recognition for its uniqueness or to conform to the general attitude that denies all differences. The second option would be the easiest one, he noted, considering the fact that if Andalusia were to deny its own particularity it would be applauded by the rest of the territories, with a few exceptions. However, as head of the Catalan Socialist Party Maragall appealed to Andalusian socialist president Manuel Chaves, claiming that the southern territory would be making a “big mistake” by giving in to conformity. He would be denying “reality,” Maragall said. “It has to do with designing the rules of the game, excluding all privilege, not erasing the real existing distinctions so that it becomes clear that there is no privilege.” Maragall pointed at Andalusia’s “robust and singular culture,” which in his view is worthy of a push for the distinction of nationalities that make up Spain.



Catalan president Pasqual Maragall speaking yesterday at El Escorial / EFE

“Get over the Aznar syndrome”

Maragall made a poignant suggestion to Partido Popular (PP): to get over “the Aznar syndrome.” The Catalan president denotes the insistence upon an “untouchable” constitution as an Aznarian condition, referring to the former Spanish prime minister José María Aznar. Certain PP notables are already showing signs of recovery, including the party’s secretary-

general Mariano Rajoy and the mayor of Madrid Alberto Ruiz-Gallardón, both seeming more and more open to constitutional change.

Catalonia does not overlook the circumstances in the rest of Spain, Maragall said at El Escorial. Catalan socialists will not back down “until achieving a pluralistic Spain where its diversity is reconciled,” he said.

Report reveals more women in the job market in Catalonia than the rest of Spain and Europe

AGENCIES/NEILSTOKES

More women are active in the Catalan job market than either in Spain as a whole or Europe. Figures released by the Department of Work show that of all females of working age in Catalonia, 64.5% are an active part of the labour force. Women between the ages of 25 and 44 show the highest level of activity, which reveals the importance of education as these are also the women with the highest level of training. Catalan women also compare well to Spain

and Europe with a job occupation rate (the proportion of the active population in employment) of 56%.

Despite the positive figures, the director general of Relaciones Laborales, Mar Serna claimed, “the situation of women is still unsatisfactory.” She was referring to the gap that separates the situation of women from that of men. Fewer men in Catalonia are unemployed (7%) but of those in work almost 80% have permanent contracts compared with 75% of women. However, the worst

discrimination can be seen in salaries where a woman’s average wage is only 66% of a man’s.

Such differences based on sexual discrimination are reflected in collective agreements. Only 9% of such agreements contain clauses to promote the equality of opportunity for women. Mar Serna explained yesterday that she would give priority when handing out subsidies for industrial development to those companies that put into practice policies that promote sexual equality.



Mar Serna on equality in firms / EFE

HISTORY

Museu Marítim searching for people born in Barcelona on 15 April 1912

The exhibition *Titanic*, which is running at The Museu Marítim until 10 October, is trying to locate people born in the province of Barcelona on 15 April 1912, the date when the mythical ship *Titanic* sank and at the same time the day when all the 705 survivors of the tragedy were born again. The organisers of the exhibition are trying to find all the people born on 15 April 1912 in Barcelona to invite them to an event where they will be given souvenirs from the *Titanic* as well as a free meal — the same menu that was served on the legendary ship in the first-class restaurant on April 1912, when the *Titanic* sank after running into an iceberg. In spite of the extraordinary efforts of the media from the cities that hosted the exhibition, only two people showed up for the homage. The two 92-year-old women are from Zamora and San Sebastián and they received a homage from the local authorities and the organising team of *Titanic* Exhibition. The Museu Marítim is still looking for people born on 15 April 1912 and asks everyone who can provide information on the subject to call 933 429 920 or 652 90 80 82.

FORUM MONTERREY 2007

The director of Unesco expresses his solidarity for Forum Monterrey

The managing director of Unesco, Koichiro Matsuura, expressed yesterday his full solidarity for the next celebration of the Universal Forum of Cultures, due to take place in the Mexican City of Monterrey in 2007. Yesterday Matsuura received at the headquarters of Unesco in Paris the governor of the Mexican state Nuevo León, José Natividad González Parás, officials of the Mexican and Spanish governments, as well as the Forum’s head of administration, Jaume Pagés, who officially announced to him that Monterrey has been chosen as the next city to host the international cultural event. According to representatives of the Catalan delegation, Unesco will collaborate with the Monterrey organisation in choosing the main topics and cultural activities for the next Forum. The event will cost 200 million dollars, 90 of which will be provided by the Federal Government, while the rest will be divided between the Government of Nueva León, the Monterrey City Council and private sponsors. A million visitors are expected to visit the next Forum, according to the Governor, who also mentioned that the event will place emphasis on content, as well as national and international diffusion. The Monterrey organisational committee will start work on Forum 2007 after having obtained the final endorsement from Unesco’s Executive Council in 2005.

A lesson for Asia from Catalonia

An Indian's view of Barcelona's inspiring journey from revolution and defeat to harmony and cultural pride

Where borders are broken and cultural difference is treasured, Sunanda K. Datta-Ray's finds an instructive model for his homeland to follow. This article was contributed to "Catalonia Today" by "The Telegraph" in Calcutta, India

SUNANDA K. DATTA-RAY

Barcelona football club's campaign for the Catalan language is one more reason why homage should be paid to Catalonia not only for its indomitable courage in the past. The present is equally inspiring. Although democratic socialism was wiped out in blood in the civil war that broke out this month 68 years ago, the argument of whether a multicultural country is a state of many nations or a nation of many states has been resolved here in harmony.

That achievement outweighs the failure that darkened a generation's horizon. "It was in Spain that men learned that one can be right and yet be beaten," Camus wrote, "that force can vanquish spirit, that there are times when courage is not its own recompense. It is this, doubtless, which explains why so many men, the world over, regard the Spanish drama as a personal tragedy." True, perhaps, but Spain also promises new life to thousands of Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis. Friends on the *La Vanguardia* newspaper in Barcelona, one of Spain's oldest, suggest the city might have as many as 200,000 south Asians.

Barcelona has endured what Calcutta's fashionable parlour pinks degraded to self-serving rhetoric. It is a city that lived revolution, suffered war, experienced hardship and practiced brotherhood. "One had breathed the air of equality," George Orwell wrote as a volunteer fighter against fascism.

"THERE ARE NO PYRENEES"

Today, it is the centre of a proud region that blazes another trail. Driving from Portvendres in France to Portbou in Spain or taking the train from Figueres in Spain to Cervera in France has even greater relevance for Asia's fractured unity. The vision behind the comment, "Henceforth there are no Pyrenees," apocryphally attributed to Louis XIV when his grandson's assumption of the Spanish crown plunged Europe into war, has at last been realised. Customs and immigration checks have vanished; so has duty-free shopping. The seamless robe of European unity holds the message that the dream of Charlemagne and Napoleon can be realised without violence.

Intrigued by the scimitar nose of the only other occupant of the hotel

lift in Tarragona, an elderly man with snow-white hair and rose-pink cheeks, I asked if he was Spanish. "Catalan," he replied, reminding me of an encounter in Kiev airport as twilight descended on the old Soviet Union. The man next to me wanted to buy the elastic-sided English boots I was wearing. Was he Russian? No, Ukrainian. Placing both his hands together, palms downwards, on the left, he said "Ukrainian!" and repeated the same gesture on the right, saying "Russian!" I gathered he meant that they were two different peoples living side by side.

MAKING THE COUNTRY

The nose could have been a relic of the Romans, whose splendid ruins dominate Tarragona, of Moorish conquerors who were not finally driven out till the 13th century or of the 70,000 Moroccan and Algerian soldiers General Francisco Franco imported to crush the elected republic. Tourist literature calls Catalonia "a European country" of 31,980 sq km and six million inhabitants. Oriol Servià, a local racing driver, participates in international events as a Catalan, not a Spaniard, and sports Catalonia's red and yellow stripes. Barcelona FC's slogan, "Fent país", means Making the Country. "We are not trying to be political," says the club president, Joan Laporta, "our aim is to simply make a country, to stand up for the country's right. Hence the slogan."

But the Esquerra Republicana de Catalunya is political. It has threatened to oppose the European constitution, which will be submitted to a referendum, unless the European Union explicitly addresses Catalonia's social, economic, democratic and environmental concerns. The party chief, Josep-Lluís Carod-Rovira, wants a meeting with the president to discuss terms. Gazing into the crystal ball of the future, will the leaders of Kashmir, Tibet, Tamil Eelam, the Shan, Kachin and Karen states, Aceh and Moro — or any other restive Asian minority with a territorial definition — ever be able to stake a similar claim? Rebels or nationalists, these groups have each proclaimed a version of Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy. Each is clamouring for some form of *autodeterminació*. Each awaits its own *ruptura pactada* — pragmatic arrangement — with central authority.

The Asian nation that comes most vividly to mind in Barcelona is



Pakistanis in the Raval (Barcelona) watching an India-Pakistan cricket match / LLUÍS CRUSET

Bangladesh, and not merely because of its physical presence along the broad road called Passeig de Gràcia, where jaunty lads from Barisal and Faridpur sell scarves, belts and sunglasses under the shadow of Antoni Gaudí's architectural fantasies. My instant rapport with them evokes Catalonia's linguistic ties with Valencia, the Balearic Islands and France's Roussillon district. The Catalan language was banned, first by the Bourbons in 1714 and then by Franco in 1936. Oblivious of historical similarities with the nation that has given them refuge, the boys urge me to stay on, laughing aloud when I plead a 30-day visa. Their own visas expired many months ago. Some never had one. Their families sold everything to raise enough money to send them to Morocco from where they made their way to Spain. One youth who spent a month in an island jail — he knows it only as *mahasagarey dweep* — speaks warmly of the Spanish police for helping his rehabilitation. They have promised him his "papers".

A more canny spirit dominates the Rambles, the wide promenade that sweeps down from the mountains to the sea and is Barcelonas main artery, where loudspeakers once bellowed revolutionary songs night and day. The Rambles is now crowded with cafés, kiosks, jugglers and entertainers. Its pavements are lined by souvenir shops whose street-smart Indian owners sell 52-cent stamps (needed for postcards within Europe) for 60 cents. Who sponsored me, asked one youth only to be answered by a colleague, "He doesn't have to be sponsored. He can get a visa. Can't you see he's aged?"

A COUNTRY OF ROBUST OPPORTUNITY AT A HIGHER LEVEL

They, too, have no knowledge of history, but their Spain is not somewhere to get lost in. For Indians, it is a country of robust opportunity at a higher level. I remember the embarrassment of my old friend, Pilu Roy Chowdhury of Santosh, for many years Spain's honorary consul in Calcutta, over reports of coal and old

Centurion tanks being exported from India to apartheid South Africa with misleading end-user certificates from rich Indians in Spain. Even the Pakistani selling roses as we dined off the Ronda Sant Pere feels comfortable in Barcelona. Catalans might traditionally resent the *xarnego*, as migrants from other parts of Spain are called, and "Negroes, No" was scrawled in a telephone kiosk. But south Asians don't stand out physically as in Britain, and that is a major step towards integration.

Is the Catalanism that so easily accepts foreigners a matter of race, residence, culture or a mix of all three? Is a Malaysian *boomiputra* (literally son of the soil, borrowed from the country's Hindu past) born or created? Most are indisputably ethnic Malays, but Muslim settlers who subscribe to Malay culture and values, which have never been defined,

Spain promises new life to thousands of Indians, Pakistanis and Bangladeshis

Taking the train from Figueres to Cervera has greater relevance for Asia's fractured unity

The Rambles is lined by souvenir shops with street-smart Indian owners

also qualify for inclusion. Such flexibility saves a nation's soul from atrophy.

Of the many manifestations of Catalan assertiveness, the most poignant for Asia lies in a memorandum to King Alfonso XII promising not to weaken or attack "the glorious unity of the Spanish fatherland," but also warning against trying "to stifle and destroy regional life in order to substitute that of the centre." Stumbling on the Pyrenees of the mind as a Spaniard takes over as president of the European parliament with its 732 members representing 25 countries and 20 languages, Asians have to remember that although they gave Europe algebra and gunpowder, Europe leads the world in political evolution. Its recent history confirms that regionalism reinforces larger unity. Visiting the shrine in Figueres of one of Catalonia's most distinguished sons, albeit a fanatical Franco supporter, I read the message of Salvador Dalí's melting clocks, "Time is fluid, not rigid." So are constitutions that survive with strength.



Beach in Calella obtains "Quality" classification

Garbí beach, in Calella, is the first Catalan beach to obtain the "Q quality flag. This flag is granted by the Institute of Spanish Tourist Quality (ICTE) and duly identifies Garbí beach as a quality beach. This is only the sixth beach in Spain to receive this classification.



Ruiz Zafón to speak at Mercè

Carlos Ruiz Zafón is the celebrity who has been selected to give the opening speech at Barcelona's local festival, *Festes de la Mercè 2004* next month. Carlos Ruiz Zafón, who will read his speech on Thursday 23 September at Saló de Cent, in the Barcelona City Hall, is the author of *La sombra del viento* (The Shadow of the Wind), the most successful Spanish best-seller of the last few years. His books have been translated into several languages.

Catalan traditional groups to perform in Austria

Twenty Catalan groups will take part in the 17th International Sardana Gathering and Folkloric Band Show, in Graz, Austria this weekend. This gathering has been held since 1988 in different European cities in order to promote Catalan culture.



Ritual killings in Nigeria

Arrested suspects and body parts that were discovered by Nigerian police at religious shrines in forests near the town of Okija in the eastern state of Anambra are shown at a police station in Okija, Nigeria yesterday. Police say that a secret sect had carried out the killings as part of a ritual.



John Wayne stamp to go on sale in US next month

Movie star John Wayne, known to many of his fans in the US as the Duke, will get his own postage stamp next month. The US Postal Service will release the 37-cent stamp, the latest addition in the Legends of Hollywood series. There will be a special ceremony at Grauman's Chinese Theatre in Los Angeles on 8 September, a day before the stamps go on sale.

Ryanair plane sports "Catalunya Turisme" logo

The first plane from the discount airline Ryanair with the logo "Catalunya Turisme" painted on its side arrived at the Girona airport yesterday. The logo is frequently used in tourism promotional campaigns by the Generalitat (Catalan government).



Work on the trench is set to be completed by November, following months of restoration work by archaeologists / EL PUNT

Republican trench from Battle of the Ebre to be opened to the public

Archaeologists recover key site from decisive Civil War battle

NATÀLIA BORBONES/NEIL STOKES

A trench dating back to the Spanish Civil War is to be opened to the public this autumn. During the decisive Battle of the Ebre in 1938, republican forces dug trenches as part of their defence of la Fatarella before being overrun by rebels on 7 or 8 November. The present archaeological work by the Consorci Memorial dels Espais de la Batalla de l'Ebre (Comebe) has recovered a 50 metre stretch of this trench system that includes two shelters, both with two entrances each. Although the trench is located on private land, the owner has ceded the use and management of the terrain to Comebe.

Helped by the work of a group of archaeologists, the trench is in an

excellent state of conservation, despite 66 years of erosion which has reduced its height from 150 centimetres to just over half a metre. It is believed that some ten soldiers and a corporal were billeted in the trench. Objects found during the dig include bullets, hazelnuts and rusty tins. In one of the refuges that served to protect the soldiers from air raids can be seen a small fireplace.

The recovery project, costing nearly 12,000 euros, is a pioneering excavation in sites related to the Spanish Civil War. "In fact, we are treating it as an experiment," comments Isabel Moreno, the conservationist for the dig. On 16 November, the restoration of the trench is set to be completed, allowing the unveil-

ing of one of the most important sites from the Battle of the Ebre open to the public. The director of Comebe projects, David Tormo, explains that the restoration work "will enable the public to know how the soldiers lived here for four months, and visualise the territory of Terra Alta where the communication and provisioning lines for the republican army were managed."

Also on 16 November, full of symbolism for being the day the Battle of the Ebre finished, Comebe have planned to open *Les Veus del Front* (Voices from the Front) in their Pinell de Brai centre. This exhibition will explain the role of the press and propaganda in the Battle of the Ebre.

The last great offensive of the Spanish Civil War

The Battle of the Ebre was the last great battle of the Spanish Civil War. By 1938 the republican forces were running into trouble and in order to relieve pressure on Catalonia and Valencia from the advancing nationalist troops, the Spanish prime minister approved a full-scale offensive across the river Ebre. The republican attack began on July 25, 1938 and was initially successful. However, the nationalists, with their superior air power, forced the republicans back. Fighting resembled World War I with both sides launching full-frontal attacks on entrenched positions with little success and great loss of life. It was, in fact, the last time the International Brigades made up of foreign volunteers were used before they were withdrawn after a couple of months. By November, the nationalist firepower was impossible to resist any longer and the republicans, with 100,000 soldiers out of action and with the loss of most of their equipment, were forced back. The republic were effectively finished as a fighting force.



Excavations at the Battle of the Ebre site / EL PUNT



A crater that was made by yesterday's car bomb attack is clearly visible. The attack took place about 75 kms from Baghdad / EFE

Car bomb south of Baghdad kills nine, US helicopter shot down

Guerrillas detonate a car bomb outside a police station in Mahawil

AGENCIES

Guerrillas detonated a car bomb outside a police station in a town south of Baghdad yesterday, killing nine people in the latest attack targeting Iraq's fledgling security forces. In a day that saw heavy fighting in the Shi'ite holy city of Najaf, fighters loyal to Moqtada al-Sadr also shot down a US helicopter.

The car bomb attack in Mahawil, about 75 kilometres south of Baghdad, wounded at least 24 people, Iraq's health ministry said. Five of those who died belonged to the Iraqi police force, while four were insurgents battling the newly-formed government.

Iraqi government spokesman Sa-

bah Kadhim said three masked gunmen opened fire on the police station in the town, about 40 miles south of Baghdad, and then fled. A bomb in a minibus then exploded outside the building. A US military statement said the police station was attacked by "a significant number of aggressors" believed to be members of the militia. The statement said the attackers used heavy machine guns, rocket-propelled grenades, mortars and small arms in an assault on the police station.

"Iraqi national guardsmen quickly reinforced Iraqi police, and the two units successfully defended the station from the attackers. Upon arrival of the marines, Mehdi Army

members withdrew into the city's exclusion zone," the military said. "The attack is an overt violation of the ceasefire agreement reached in June between coalition forces and Moqtada Sadr." But Sheikh Mahmoud al-Sudani, a spokesman for Sadr, said US forces and Iraqi police had attacked first, and that the cleric had ordered his militiamen not to fight back. Sadr launched an uprising against US-led forces in April, and hundreds were killed in weeks of fighting in Shi'ite areas of Iraq.

A US military spokesman said the crew of the downed helicopter were wounded and evacuated. Sadr's aides said the cleric's Mehdi Army militia had shot down the aircraft.

Israel begins pullout from Gaza as violence continues

AGENCIES

Israeli troops and tanks withdrew from a number of densely-populated Palestinian areas in northern Gaza yesterday, scaling back an incursion to stop militants firing makeshift rockets into Israel. At least four Palestinians were killed in clashes in the Gaza Strip on Wednesday as the army thrust deep into the north of the occupied territory, expanding a month-old campaign against rocket-firing by the Islamic militant group Hamas.

Israeli army sources said yesterday's troop movements did not mean the army was about to end its mission in Beit Hanoun to stop the Qassam rockets. "There are some changes but the operation against Qassams is still ongoing," an army source said. Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz indicated the army



Israeli soldiers service a tank at a military camp near the Gaza Strip yesterday / AP

might widen its operations in Gaza if it fails to stop militants firing rockets into Israel, many of which have hit the nearby town of Sderot.

Meanwhile, the United Nations agency for Palestinian refugees says it is evacuating all its non-essential foreign staff from the Gaza Strip due

to the continuance of Israeli operations in northern Gaza, the BBC reports.

A rocket killed two people in Sderot in June. Violence has increased in Gaza since Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon unveiled a plan to evacuate settlers in 2005.

FRANCE

Seven die in riding centre fire

French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin has visited the scene of a violent blaze at a horse-riding centre in the Alps where at least six teenagers and an instructor died overnight. A young woman was also seriously injured and two other people were reported missing after fire struck the centre in Lescheraines in the Savoie region, a local government spokeswoman said. The victims, aged between 13 and 15, were asleep when the fire occurred.



GERMANY

German police probe 80 deaths after arresting nurse

German police investigating a male nurse who admitted killing 10 elderly patients with lethal injections are checking whether he deliberately caused 70 further deaths, authorities said yesterday.

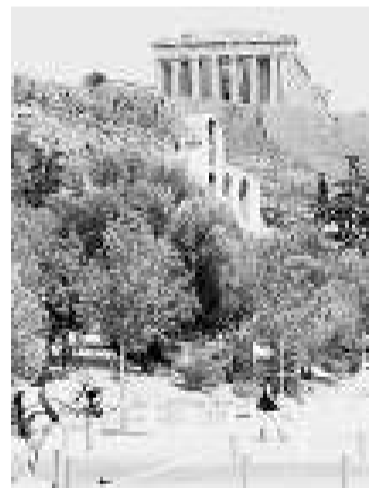


INTERCEPTED. A would-be immigrant is treated by Red Cross members after being intercepted in Fuerteventura, in the Canary Islands yesterday. Around 70 people, 10 of them from Asia, have been detained over the past 24 hours attempting to reach Europe via the coast of Fuerteventura, the closest of Spain's Canary Islands to the African coast.

GREECE

Athens hit by power cuts

Some suburbs of Athens suffered brief power cuts yesterday, eight days before the city welcomes the Olympic Games, but government officials said that venues to be used in the event were not affected. A substation fault in the distribution network left the Athens regions of Glyfada, Nea Smirni and areas of the port town of Pireaus without electricity for a few minutes, state-owned electric utility company PPC said. "No Olympic facilities were affected by this power cut," it said in a statement.



SOUTHEAST ASIA

Indonesia and Singapore warn of militant attacks

Islamic militants are plotting more attacks in Southeast Asia and may be planning to kill officials involved in the war on terror in addition to hitting Western targets, top security officials say. Singapore warned that the Jemaah Islamiah group, linked to the al Qaeda network of Osama bin Laden, was plotting new attacks in Southeast Asia and may be activating dormant agents or cells. In Jakarta, the head of the anti-terror coordinating board at the office of Indonesia's chief security minister, said dozens of arrests had depleted militant ranks but small cells were still training for attacks in the world's most populous Muslim nation. Last month, Malaysia's police intelligence chief also said he believed Jemaah Islamiah leaders were regrouping and planning more attacks.

AFRICA

Sudan and UN agree Darfur plan

The UN special envoy to Sudan says he and Sudan's foreign minister have agreed a plan to tackle the humanitarian crisis in Darfur and to avert sanctions threatened by the UN Security Council. Jan Pronk, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan's special representative, told reporters yesterday: "The government of Sudan has to be commended for keeping its promise."

Kerry uses the price of crude oil as an electoral campaign weapon

Kerry argues bringing oil purchasing for the reserve to a halt will reduce oil prices worldwide

MICHAEL BUNN

Record high crude oil prices have once again taken centre stage in the United States presidential election campaign, leading to an exchange of accusations and counteraccusations between Republicans and Democrats on how to deal with the historic price rise.

The use of US strategic oil reserves has become one of the Democrats' main lines of attack in the campaign for the 2 November elections, which is still a very evenly-matched race. John Kerry, the Democrat candidate, is using oil and petrol prices to support his claim that the government is not paying attention to the economic hardship of much of the US population. Kerry has thus appealed to the Bush administration to stop filling up the strategic oil reserves, arguing that a reduced demand would bring down the record price of crude oil on the international market.

Speaking in Davenport (Iowa) on Wednesday, Kerry presented a series of measures to relaunch economic growth, saying that stopping oil purchasing for the reserve would



John Kerry, the Democrat candidate for November's elections, is using the sky-high oil prices as an electoral weapon / EFE

“immediately” alleviate the bullish pressures on petrol prices.

The White House did not respond directly to this request, though a presidential spokesman

had previously ruled out opening up the strategic oil reserves, considering this to be a measure only to be taken in the event of an emergency.

On previous occasions, the gov-

ernment has also rejected the suspension of crude oil purchasing for the reserve, which is stored in enormous natural underground caves in Texas and Louisiana.

British Navy admiral warns of imminent terrorist attacks on merchant shipping

MICHAEL BUNN

Admiral Alan West, the head of the British Navy chief of staff, has warned that al-Qaeda and other terrorist groups are making plans to attack merchant vessels. He was speaking to a journalist for the maritime magazine Lloyd's list while on board the frigate Grafton, which is moored in Gibraltar as part of the celebrations of 300 years of British sovereignty.

West said that he possessed “in-

telligence information which shows that there is a threat”. He said that secret service departments of Western governments believe that terrorists see merchant vessels as an attractive target, and are planning to blow up ships. “I can't give any details on this” he said, “but we are aware that they are planning to carry out such an attack”.

West also said that the risk of a terrorist attack was greater in ports and passing places such as the straits

of Gibraltar and Suez canal, where vessels accumulate in great numbers. He added that it was “almost impossible” for terrorists to attack a ship on the open sea, and emphasised the “importance of the Navy in protecting our merchant vessels”.

Terrorist threats to the shipping industry are nothing new; the French oil tanker Limburgoff was the object of an attack two years ago carried out off the coast of Yemen. This warning from Admiral West

comes following the arrests last Tuesday in Britain of various terrorist suspects, one of whom (the newspaper *The Times* reported yesterday) was allegedly the head of al-Qaeda in the United Kingdom, and who was planning an attack on London's Heathrow airport.

Meanwhile, the British government, who declined to comment on the news, insisted yesterday that they do not have any proof of a specific threat from al-Qaeda.

MEDICINE

Aids drugs curb HIV epidemic

The spread of the HIV virus is reduced by giving infected people drugs meant to treat Aids, according to Taiwanese research. Since 1997 Taiwan began providing efficient anti-retroviral drugs free of charge, halving the infection rate and showing that the drugs can reduce transmission of the virus, say the researchers. Although studies show that anti-retroviral drugs keep HIV positive carriers alive, the issue of whether they actually stop transmission of the virus has been hotly debated. The new study appears to suggest that they do. Experts are now urging that these drugs be made available to developing countries as soon as possible.

LATIN AMERICA

Economy to grow by 4.5%

The Latin American Economy will grow by 4.5 per cent this year, according to predictions published yesterday by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL). This figure is a full percentage point ahead of the 3.5 per cent prediction that the organisation had made for 2004 last December. According to the latest figures, Venezuela will lead the growth trend (12%), followed by Uruguay (9.5%), and Argentina (7.1%). Other predictions include Ecuador (5.5%), Panama (5.0%), Chile (4.8%), Peru (4.2%), Mexico (3.9%), Brazil (3.7%), Columbia (3.7%), Costa Rica (3.7%), Honduras (3.5%), Nicaragua (3.5%), Bolivia (3.3), Cuba (3.0%) and Guatemala (3.0%). Last in terms of growth are Paraguay (2.5%), El Salvador (2.0%), Haiti (2%) and the Dominican Republic (1%).

AFRICA

Locust swarms eat soccer field

A massive locust swarm has swept into the Mauritanian capital Nouakchott, devouring trees, bushes and parts of the city's main soccer field, residents said. The city's inhabitants lit fires and rattled tin boxes filled with stones to try to chase away the insects, which are swarming down from North Africa and threaten to unleash the region's worst locust crisis for 15 years.

54 Internacional Ceramic and Pottery Fair of Argentona

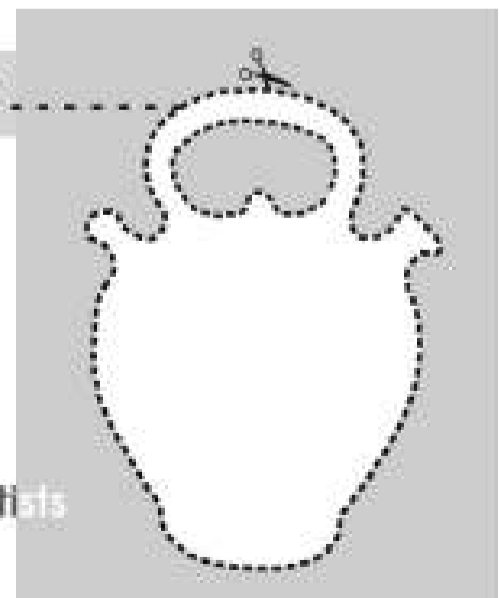


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Friday 6 August 2004

European Central Bank keeps rates steady at 2 per cent despite oil surge

Economists say tightened credit is due to fear of high energy prices or a slowdown in trade

REUTERS, FRANKFURT

The European Central Bank left interest rates unchanged at 2.00 per cent as expected yesterday, giving the euro zone economic recovery time to build even as surging oil prices boost inflation.

Economists say the ECB is reluctant to tighten credit until it is sure that a return of domestic demand, needed to sustain a fully-fledged recovery, will not be tripped up by high energy prices or a slowdown in the euro zone's main trading partners. Most analysts see the ECB keeping interest rates at current record low levels through into 2005. "Economic growth remains weak and inflation appears moderate," said Ulrich Beckmann, an economist at Deutsche Bank in Frankfurt, adding that oil prices had not yet fed through to unit labour costs. The ECB did not hold its usual news conference following yesterday's Governing Council discussion, which was held by telephone conference before policymakers take a four-week summer break.

Oil prices hit record highs this week due to surging worldwide demand and concerns about supply from key producers in the Middle East, Russia and Venezuela. Energy costs are keeping upward pressure on euro zone inflation, which was an annual 2.4 per cent in July, the same as in June and only just below May's 2.5 per cent rate. The ECB aims to keep inflation below, but close to 2.0 per cent.



The European Central Bank is located in Frankfurt/Main, in the west of Germany / AP

Euro zone companies are starting to feel the pinch. The world's top chemicals company by sales, Germany's BASF AG, said yesterday it had only partially passed on higher crude costs to its customers and may have to raise the price of the biggest

group of its plastic products. "If we are unable to implement higher sales prices in the short term, we see ourselves forced to forego (accepting) orders," said Wilfried Haensel, the head of BASF's styrenic polymers unit in Europe.

US light crude futures yesterday eased from a 21-year peak above \$44 a barrel struck on Wednesday, hovering above \$43 after OPEC reassured the market that it did have some spare capacity to add to supplies if needed.

Santander bank eyes London listing to pump up its Abbey offer while HBOS considers bid

AGENCIES / ALEXLEFF

Spanish bank Santander Central Hispano (SCH), which has agreed an 8.14 billion pound (12.3bn euro) bid for the UK's Abbey National, is considering a stock market listing in London, financial sources said yesterday, according to news agency reports. "They are working on it," said a source close to the bank in Madrid. *The Financial Times* reported on its web site yesterday that Santander was understood to be prepared to have a secondary listing in London if there was enough demand from Abbey shareholders. According to the leading business daily, it is rare for companies to list in London as a directly after a takeover bid for a UK

company.

SCH is offering Abbey shareholders 31 pounds in cash for each Abbey share. But some Abbey shareholders are not satisfied because they consider the amount too small, and many have no interest in holding shares in a Spanish company, according to *FT.com*. A number of Abbey retail investors own fewer than 1,000 shares.

Santander has its primary listing in Madrid, but a secondary listing would allow Abbey's retail investors to trade their SCH shares more easily through their UK stockbrokers, said the report. Santander representatives in Madrid declined to comment on the report.

The Spanish bank has secondary listings in Milan, Lisbon, New York and Buenos Aires. It had an 18-year run on the London trading floor but delisted in the UK last year because of lack of liquidity. SCH's proposed takeover is unique because the bank has one of the biggest retail investor bases of any UK company. The Spanish group has already said it will pay dividends to Abbey's retail investors in sterling and will set up free dealing facilities at Abbey offices to make it possible for shareholders to sell out.

Shares in Abbey closed at 575.5 pounds on Wednesday, on hopes that a counterbid might occur. Earlier this week, HBOS, the UK's

fourth largest bank, said it was considering a counterbid for Abbey, although it cautioned that no decision had been made. The HBOS offer poses a major competitive threat to Santander, but also to world banking, as the merger of the two would mean a consolidation of a third of the British mortgage market.

Abbey National has been selling off its non-core overseas operations. It said on Wednesday it was in advanced negotiations to sell Abbey National France, its French mortgage business, to BNP Paribas, the French bank. The Abbey arm is said to be worth about 25 million pounds (37.8 million euros) and employs about 219 people across France.

UNITED KINGDOM

Bank of England rates up 4.75%

The ECB's steady stance contrasted with the Bank of England, which as expected yesterday raised rates by a quarter percentage point to 4.75 per cent, its fifth rise since November, to stem a consumer spending spree and roaring house prices. Analysts will now look to the ECB's next interest rate decision and news conference on 2 September when the central bank will have fresh forecasts for euro zone growth and inflation. "We are expecting a change of rhetoric from the ECB, with slightly more hawkish statements through the autumn but until we see a decisive turnaround in the labour market, which we don't see until the end of the year at least, we can't see the ECB being persuaded to raise rates," said James Nixon, an economist at Barclays Capital in London.

CREDIT CARDS

Mastercard moves over 14 bn

Users of the Mastercard credit cards dispensed by Spanish banks made transactions of a total of 14.25 billion euros in the first half of financial year 2004. The figure is 19.7 per cent higher than last year, the Mastercard group said. This increase kept Spain at a steady third in Europe for the number of card transactions, behind the UK and France. Also, the second-quarter figure surpassed the average rise in Europe, which was 13 per cent, and 10.3 per cent worldwide.

TARRAGONA

Union bids for R&D centre home

The Spanish labour union UGT suggested yesterday that the town of La Secuita in Tarragona should be the location for the research and development centre Telefónica plans to build in Catalonia. Both Rovira i Virgili University and the La Secuita Chamber of Commerce have voiced their support of the candidature. The town council has passed ownership of a 60-hectare lot to the telecommunications company.

SPAIN INDUSTRY

Production index mostly up

The Industrial Production Index (IPI) went up in all the autonomous territories except for in Andalusia (down by 0.2%) and the Balearic Islands (-2.3%) compared to last year's ratings. Notably in Castilla-La Mancha the rating rose to 15.4 per cent.



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PLATFORM

VICENÇ NAVARRO

Is Spain suffering from historical amnesia?

Contrary to what is constantly indicated by the country's political and media establishment, the transition from dictatorship to democracy was not exemplary; in fact, the opposite is true. The huge dominance that conservative forces had in state structures explains the perpetuation of structural problems that have still not been resolved. For example, scant recognition in the Spanish constitution for a plurinational Spain, while the weaker left just had to accept this arrangement. And even more so, the historic silence over what the Republic, the Civil War and the dictatorship really was, has prevented the population from knowing what possible alternatives to our situation exist. Many younger people do not know, for instance, that the Republic accepted the distinctness of the Catalan and Basque nations within an institutional framework that was truly plurinational and upon which the new constitution should have been based, just as the left had proposed in their day.

This proposal was vetoed by the right and the successors of the rebellious army that continued to have a centralist, uniform vision of Spain. Alfonso Guerra in his memoir *Cuando el tiempo nos alcanza (1940-1982)* refers to the army's opposition to accepting the consensual proposals from the left that the new constitution be based on that of the 2nd Republic. Accepting that proposal would have meant recognising the illegitimacy of the military coup, something the army have never countenanced. Moreover, the fact that the army



Laying of wreaths at Forum 2004 for those executed by Franco's troops at the Camp de la Bota / IVAN VILA

have never condemned the armed revolt of 1936, have never paid tribute to soldiers shot for expressing loyalty to the democratic Republican government, or to soldiers that were expelled from the armed forces because of their commitment to democracy and liberty during the dictatorship, are very worrying indicators that army considers itself as the natural inheritor of the forces of revolt. It was this army, along with the right, which never accep-

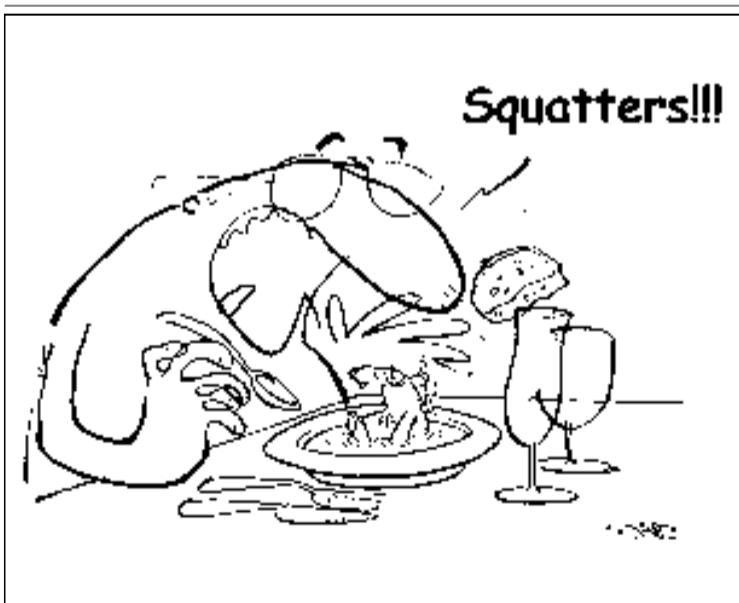
ted the plurinationality of the Spanish state. From here came the famous chapter of the Magna Carta of 1978, which established that the aim of the self-governing states was to deny Catalan and Basque distinctions, creating the famous "coffee all round".

This is precisely the root of the so-called Spanish territorial problem, which could paradoxically lead to the disintegration of Spain. Not because of Basque or Catalan secession,

but because each request for distinction on the part of Catalonia and the Basque Country is followed by an identical request from other autonomous communities that do not accept this distinction for regions in Spanish territory. The recovery of a sense of historical memory would help the understanding of the misnamed Civil War, which was in fact a class war. In Catalonia, as in most other parts of Spain, the majority of the middle classes, the Church and the army among others, supported the military revolt, while the working classes resisted it.

In reality it is too often forgotten that most of the documents in the Salamanca archive are not papers confiscated from the Catalan government, but documents confiscated from unions and parties of the left from all over Spain. It is obvious that these stolen papers should be returned if the owning bodies so wish it. To accept their loss would be to indirectly legitimise the military revolt. Therefore the overwhelming need to recover the historic memory in all parts of Spain, including Castille, where thousands of Castilian workers were killed by the same ones who set up this archive. It makes no sense that the representatives of the popular classes should defend the right of conquest of those that oppressed their kind, using nationalist arguments that dilute the solidarity one expects from the left. This solidarity should not deny national plurality of the same popular class and accept that Catalonia, the Basque country and Galicia are distinct nations within Spain.

THE STING BY JAP



COMMENTARY

XAVIER CORTADELLAS

Democracy the only choice

There may only be one father and one mother in a family, but often there are quite a few children. Let's take a couple of kids who have reached that age when their appetite for going out has grown far beyond what is called common sense would advise. So, mother and father are forced to negotiate with them, which is something barely practicable: it's a conflict. First, there is the destabilising factor of the grandparents, the discrete shrapnel of the friends of your sons or daughters,

the radio-controlled torpedoes of other children's parents, the hydrogen bombs of what they see and hear on the television or in the street. Often when you're a parent and you want to remain firm in your opinion, you begin to think that you'd better get to like being called useless, an antique or a fascist. In our house we have decided to spread the categories around: the antique is my wife, I'm the fascist and the useless one isn't anybody because the rules of the game say that in a democracy, any point of view is legitimate.

"What about if we vote on it?" suggested one of my daughters the other day. The old party lost. The two girls both voted "yes", I voted "no" and my wife, who was cleaning the kitchen, came in to vote once the ballot box had been closed. I know that cleaning the kitchen should have been something for the four of us to share. But that's the way it went. When the electoral campaign starts up again, who knows whether we'll elect someone to go and do it or whether we'll choose to leave it dirty.



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Friday 6 August 2004



Héctor Alterio plays the title role in this Spanish language production / ARCHIVES

“I, Claudius” plays at Theatre Grec

The play is based on two historical novels about ancient Rome by British writer Robert Graves

ROBERT KIMPLETON

The play *I, Claudius* (Yo Claudio), originally written as a novel by Robert Graves and adapted for the Spanish stage by José Carlos Plaze, opens tonight at the Theatre Grec and is scheduled to run through Sunday. It forms part of the Grec 2004 performance series of the Forum of the Cultures.

The play tells the story of Claudius (*Claudio*, played by Héctor Alterio) a man living in ancient Rome, grandson of Emperor Augustus, during the decadent period of the Roman empire. Through a series of circumstances, he finds himself unexpectedly made emperor. In the play, Claudius is an old

man who shares his memories of his life and family with the audience. The play was adapted from two historical novels by Graves, *I, Claudius* and *Claudius the God*. Both books were also used as the basis for a mini-series for television produced by the BBC. Most of the characters Graves presents were real and the *Claudius* works are known for their historical accuracy.

Performances in Teatre Grec will be in Spanish. Shows start at 10 p.m. and ticket prices range from 12 to 28 euros. The Teatre Grec is located in the Montjuïc area of Barcelona. Information about ticket purchases can be found at the Forum web site (www.barcelona2004.org).

Torroella de Montgrí music festival brings the best in classical and opera to the Costa Brava

ROBERT KIMPLETON

Lovers of classical music and opera should not miss the music festival in Torroella de Montgrí (Costa Brava), which began last month and runs till 26 August. Scheduled for this month are the Czech Symphony Orchestra (13 August) and Il Giardino Armonico (orchestra, 19 and 23 Aug.) as well as Tölzer Knabenchor (22 Aug.). The festival specialises in music but also has other cultural activities such as drama performances and cinematic opera

productions. The town has a rich musical tradition which goes back to medieval times, when the music-loving Catalan-Aragonese royalty spent part of the year there.

The festival is held in the old medieval district of the town, where visitors can enjoy some of the town's archaeological and historical sites. Ticket prices for performances range from 18 to 60 euros.

More information about the festival can be found on its official web site (www.festivaldetorroella.org).

Teach yourself CATALAN

ANNA POCH GASAU



8 Quant val?

How much is it?

Today Mark is shopping at La Boqueria market. He is buying some fruits and vegetables.

Mark Hola. Voldria mig quilo de tomates, sisplau.

Venedor Com les vols, grosses o petites?

Mark Grosses. I un quilo de pastanagues, també. A quin preu van?

Venedor A un euro i vuitanta cèntims el quilo... Alguna cosa més?

Mark Sí, tres llimones i uns plàtans.

Venedor Els plàtans, els vols madurs o verds?

Mark Més aviat verds... I res més. Quant és?

Venedor Són vuit euros amb cinquanta-cinc.

Mark Em dóna una bossa, sisplau?

Venedor Oh i tant!

venedor/-a (m/f)	shop assistant
(jo) voldria	I'd like (formal)
mig/mitja	half
el quilo	kilo
la tomata	tomato
gros/-sa	big
petit/-a	small
la pastanaga	carrot
també	also, too
a quin preu van?	how much are they?
el cèntim	cent
alguna cosa més?	anything else?
la llimona	lemon
el plàtan	banana
madur/-a	ripe
verd/-a	green, unripe
més aviat	tending to be
res més	nothing else, that's all
quant és?	how much is it?
em dóna...?	could you give me...?
la bossa	bag
oh i tant!	definitely

More fruit & vegetables vocabulary

l'all (m) , garlic	l'enciam (m) , lettuce
el meló , melon	la poma , apple
la ceba , onion	la maduixa , strawberry
la patata , potato	el préssec , peach
la col , cabbage	la mongeta , bean
el pebrot , pepper	la taronja , orange

Key of the activity (30/07/04)

1 1 vols / vull / tenim / Teniu 2 presento / Vius / m'estic / Estudio / treballa 3 podem / tenim / puc / sóc 4 Parleu / parlem

This article is based on material adapted from *Teach Yourself CATALAN* by Anna Poch and Alan Yates, published by Hodder Headline, London 2004, ISBN 0-340-87055-9. Supplementary material and updates available via www.teachyourself.co.uk/tycatalantest.htm

Some shops

la botiga, shop

la botiga de queviures, grocer's

la carnisseria, butcher's

l'estanc (m), tobacconist's

la fleca, baker's

la fruiteria/verdureria, greengrocer's

la pastisseria, cake shop

la peixateria, fish shop

Grammar

A Direct-object pronouns

Going back to the dialogue, look again to the sentences:

Com les vols, grosses o petites? and **els vols madurs o verds?**, where **les** and **els** refers to a feminine plural object, the first and to a masculine plural, the last. Note that object pronouns can stand only in conjunction with a verb. As well as indicate plural (them), as above, and singular (it), they indicate gender. And finally remember that these words may vary its form according to their position with the verb and according to the spelling of the verb. Here we look at object pronouns placed before the verb:

	masc.	femin.	masc.	femin.
verb beginning with consonant	el	la	els	les
verb beginning with vowel or h + vowel	l'	l'	els	les

Some more examples:

Vols el préssec ara o el vols després?

Do you want the peach now or do you want it latter?

La carta? L'escric cada dia.

The letter? I write it every day.

B Spelling changes (g > gu), (j > g), (c > qu)

The changes of the kind seen in the parts of verb **tançar** (Lesson 7) also affect many feminine plural words. In the dialogue we find **pastanagues**, from a singular form **pastanaga**. Remember that the changes are made to reflect consistency of pronunciation. We also encounter **ja > ges** as in **taronja > taronges** and **ca > ques** as in **fleca > fleques**

Activities

1 Using the times (Lessons 6 and 7) answer the following questions. Here you have two examples:

A quina hora obren la fleca? (9 am)

Obren a les nou del matí.

Quin horari fan a l'estanc? (4pm-8pm)

Obren de les quatre de la tarda a les vuit del vespre.

1-A quina hora obren la peixateria? (9.30 am)

2-A quina hora tanquen el supermercat? (8.45 pm)

3-Quin horari fan a la botiga? (10am-8pm)

4-A quina hora tanquen la fleca? (6pm)

5-Quin horari fan a la pastisseria? (9am-1.30pm) (5-8.30pm)

2 Put these words into plural:

botiga, pastisseria, all, mica, hora, estanc, mitja, poma

Barcelona FC to play AC Milan in this year's Gamper trophy

Special pennants advertising the match will appear in many of the city's streets

MICHAEL BUNN

On Wednesday 25 August Barcelona football club will be playing their annual friendly match the Trofeu Joan Gamper, a competition in which the team plays a different top class international club in homage to the man who founded FC Barcelona. For this year's Trofeu Joan Gamper — the 39th — Nou Camp will be welcoming the Italian team AC Milan. Thus the pitch will be filled with stars such as Shevchenko, Kaká, Rui Costa and Cafu, as well as Barcelona's own stars, including Ronaldinho and Deco.

To celebrate the event, many streets in Barcelona will be decorated with special pennants, and an official poster has been produced, which gives all the details on the match. The celebrations begin at 5 o'clock in the afternoon, when there will be activities designed to prepare the crowd for the match. Later on, at 8:45, there will be the presentation ceremony for all the players, and the organisation has promised some surprises here. After that comes the match itself, which will commence at 10:00.

The match will be sponsored by Barcelona beer company Estrella Damm, and at the end of last season there was a lot of discussion as to whether the Barcelona team — who

until now have never worn shirts featuring sponsors emblems — would finally succumb to the lure of marketing. However, President Joan Laporta has announced in China (where he is accompanying the team on their current Asian tour) that for the coming season, Barcelona will not be wearing shirts carrying any advertising. The president admitted that he had received several interesting offers from possible sponsors, but that they had finally been rejected. Meanwhile, a deal by which a "Barcelona" building is being constructed in Shanghai is now

This is the 39th annual Gamper Trophy, a friendly match against an international club

underway, and this project will bring the club considerable revenue. Laporta said "we are talking about figures similar to the income from sponsoring the Barça shirts, and the important thing is to bring in as much money as possible so as to be able to invest in Barcelona's sporting future". Thus the Barcelona players will continue to wear shirts "unspoiled" by marketing, continuing the tradition of the club.



How to buy your tickets to the Gamper

All those who are interested in seeing Ronaldinho and company play the satrs of AC Milan should go to www.servicaixa.com, from where they should follow the directions to the Gamper trophy page. The first page which sells tickets is for club members only, but if you click on "continuar" you will be redirected to the next page, which offers you the chance to choose your ticket price (30, 40 or 60 euros each) followed by a graphic which allows you to choose the section of the stadium you want to buy a ticket for.



Above, Japanese fans at the Barça friendly match; below, Henrik Larsson / EFE

Athens Games hit by first sports controversy as female tennis players call for boycott

REUTERS, ATHENS

The Athens Olympics grappled with its first sporting controversy Thursday when women tennis players threatened to boycott next week's Games if two German players were not cleared to play.

But with only eight days to go before the opening of the August 13-29 Games, the boycott was the only serious cloud on the horizon for the Greek capital, which has staged a remarkable turnaround in preparing for the world's biggest sporting

event. Public Order Minister George Voulgarakis, who is in charge of the massive operation to protect the first summer Games since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, said security forces had not detected any threatening "chatter" concerning a possible terrorist attack.

Ambulance workers called off planned strikes during the Games to support their demands for an Olympic bonus, an issue that other unions, including hotel workers, have taken up.



A farewell religious ceremony yesterday for the Russian Olympic team at the church of St. George at Poklonnaya Hill, Moscow / AP

WHAT'S ON

Friday 6 August 2004

FRIDAY

6

Concerts

ARENYS DE MAR

► **Pati del Calisay.** Concert by La Big Band, Adel Lee Davis & Her Blues Band. At 10 pm.

BARCELONA

► **La Pedrera.** *Fundació Caixa Catalunya.* Music from around the world, as part of *The Pedrera by Night*. Provença, 261. Friday and Saturday 9.30 to 12 pm. Tickets: 10 euros. Until August 28th.

► **Apolo.** Concert by DJ Fra. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 113.

► **Barcelona City Hall.** Concert by DJs Ralph Lawson and Tristan Da Cunha. At 12:30 am. Rambla Catalunya, 2-4.

► **Jamboree.** Latin jazz concert by Eduardo Tancredi. At 11:00 pm, Plaça Reial, 17.

► **La Boïte.** Pop rock concert by Heike. At 12:00 am. Diagonal, 477.

► **La Cova del Drac.** Concert by Anga Diaz-Fusion. At 11:00 pm. Vallmajor, 33.

► **La Paloma.** Concert by La Gardenia Blanca. At 6:30 and 11:30 pm. Carrer del Tigre, 27.

► **La Paloma.** Funky, house concert by Dj Kosmos and Sixis Motiongraphics. As part of *Barrio!*. At 2:00 am. Carrer del Tigre, 27.

► **La Terrazza.** Aciud house concert by Josh Wink. At 12:00 am. Poble Espanyol.

► **London Bar.** Power pop concert by Bom and Orquestra Inferno. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 34.

► **Los Tarantos.** Flamenco concert by Carbón de Caña. At 8:30 pm. Plaça Reial, 17.

► **Moog.** Concert by RObert X. At 1:30 am. Arc del Teatre, 3.

► **Razzmatazz Club.** Concert by Andy Rourke (The Smith). At 1:00 am. Almogàvers, 122.

► **Razzmatazz Loft.** Concert by Christian Smith and Mouse Up. As part of *Bugged Out*. At 1:00 am. Pamplona, 88.

► **Razzmatazz Lolita.** Concert by Mylo. As part of *Bugged Out*. At 1:00 am. Pamplona, 88.

► **Razzmatazz Pop Bar.** Concert by Esos DJ. At 1:00 am. Almogàvers, 122.

► **Razzmatazz Temple Beat.** Concert by DJ Akelarre. At 1:00 am. Almogàvers, 122.

► **Sala New York.** Soul, raggae funk concert by DJs John and Jonmai. As part of *Black Magic Sounds*. At 12:00 am. Escudellers, 5.

BEGUR

► **Pati de les Escoles Velles.** Concert by Melde-sohn Chamber Orchestra. At 10:30 pm.

Recommended | MARCELA TOPOR



Ranking Soldiers to perform on the Pedrera's roof

● La Pedrera, the Cultural centre of Caixa Catalunya, is offering every Friday and Saturday during August a series of concerts on the building's roof, where you can listen to good music while sipping a glass of cava and enjoying the views of Barcelona. *La Pedrera by Night* offers tonight a concert by the Barcelona band Ranking Soldiers, who will sing a collection of reggae

and Jamaican music. The band's members Hermano L. and Ben Jammin' have spent more than ten years singing Jamaican music and have shared the stage with some of the most famous artists of dancehall and reggae. *Pedrera by Night* will close on 28 August with Sara Flores' flamenco concerts. Tickets cost is 11 euros, which includes free refreshment.

Top-quality jazz at Pati Calisay in Arenys de Mar

● The 13th Jazz Festival is one of the most important summer events in Arenys de Mar. The festival runs every Friday throughout August in Pati Calisay and offers the best Catalan jazz and top international bands. Tonight the audience will surely enjoy the blues and soul of Adel Lee Davis & Her Blues Band. Other not-to-miss bands are The Black and White Gospel Singers, Manel Camp Quartet and La Vella Dixieland, who will close the festival.

Ancient handmade toys at the Toy Fair at Castellcir

● Although the toys used by our grandparents didn't have any batteries, buttons or screens, children enjoyed playing then as much as children do today. On Sunday 8 August at Castellcir, in front of the Town Hall, there will be a Toy Fair aiming to recuperate and avoid losing old toys. There will also be an exhibition with handmade toys, street giant games, all-times and international games, as well as a second-hand toy exchange and toy-building workshops.

CADAQUÉS

► **Plaça General Escofet.** Concert by Quartet de Flautes de Barcelona. As part of *Del Barroc al segle XX*. At 7:00 pm.

CUNIT

► **Plaça del Casal.** Concert by The Marvellous Gospel Singers. At 10:00 pm.

LLANÇÀ

► **Casa de Cultura.** Concert by Mònica Orpí, Susanna Puig, Lluís Guinovart, Carles Puig, Ester Ramos, and Marta Alsina. At 10 pm.

MONT-ROIG DEL CAMP

► **Camp de Futbol.** Concert by Els Pets. At 12:00 am.

PLATJAD'ARO

► **Platja Gran, Cavall Bernat.** A capella jazz concert by Coda. As part of *Festa Major de Platja d'Aro*. At 11:00 pm.

REUS

► **Claustre de l'IES Vilaseca.** Concert by Orquestra Camerata XXI. At 10:30 pm.

SANT CARLES DE LA RÀPITA

► **Parc de Garbí.** Concert by Tempo Español. As part of *IX Festival Internacional de Guitarra*. At 10:30 pm.

SANT CRISTINA D'ARO

► **Església Parroquial.** Concert by Wen-Yu Shen, piano. As part of *Festival Internacional de Música de Cambra*. At 9:00 pm.

SITGES

► **Jardins del Prado.** Concert by Randy Greer. As part of *Jazz Sitges 2004*. At 10:30 pm.

Dance

BARCELONA

► **Gran Teatre del Liceu.** *Herrumbre* by Compañía Nacional de Danza. Mon to Fri 8:30 pm. Sat 5 and 9:30 pm. Until August 7th. Tickets: 5.75-76.75 euros. Rambles, 51-59.

Theatre

BARCELONA

► **Artenbrut Teatre.** *Élvino en un barco*, by Cia. Wai. Thurs to Sat 9:00 pm. Sun 6:00 pm. Check for tickets. Until August 29th. Perill, 9.

► **Teatre Nou Tantarantana.** *Diktat*, by Enzo Corman. Wednesday to Saturday 9 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Until August 22nd. Tickets: 13-16. C/deles Flors, 22. Tel. 93 441 70 22.

► **Versus Teatre.** Play *The backroom* by 4Produccions. Wed to Sat, at 10:30 pm. Sundays at 8:30 pm. Until August 29th. Tickets: 16 euros. Castillejos, 179. Tel. 93 232 31 84.

Miscellaneous

ARGENTONA

► **54th Ceramics and Pottery Festival.** From 10 am to 10 pm. August 4th to August 8th. Pottery exhibition by Yuhko Tanaka (Japan). Traditional earthenware shows. Lathe and rakú workshops. *54 Festa del Càntir*. August 4th. Traditional games with càntirs. Càntir lifting competition. Museu del Càntir. Plaça de l'Església, 9. www.museucantir.org.

BARCELONA

► **CCCB.** *Gandules '04*. DJ sessions and film screenings. At 8 pm. Montalegre, 5.

SANTA CRISTINA D'ARO

► **La Casa Màgica.** *5a Nit d'il·lusió*. International magic show with Xevi, Clemens Valentino, Andy González, Hjalmar & Gerda, Magic Andreu and Yunke. August 12th. At 11:00 pm. Tickets: 15 euros. Av. Església, 1.

Exhibitions

BARCELONA

► **MACBA.** *Arte y utopia: la acción restringida*. Works by Picasso, Braque, Duchamp and Rauschenberg. Until September 12th. Tickets: 4-7 euros. Pl. Àngels, 1.

► **CaixaForum.** *Estem segurs mentre tot es mogui* by Doug Aitken. Until September 26th.

XVIII FESTIVAL CASTELL DE PERALADA

118300/601518R

TUESDAY, AUGUST 10th, 10:00 p.m.

OPERA: THE MAKROPULOS, BY LEOS JANÁČEK

A production from Moscow's Hélikon Opera Theater

OVCHINNILOV DMITRY, NIKOLAI DOROZHKIN, ELENA GUSCHINA, ILYIN ILYA, DMITRI KALIN, SERGEI KOSTYUK, EKATERINA OBLEZOVA, SVETLANA ROSSIYSKAIA, MIKHAIL SERYCHEV, SERGEI YKOULEV and NATALIA ZAGORINSKAYA

CHOIR and ORCHESTRA OF THE HÉLIKON OF MOSCOW THEATER

DMITRI BERTMAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

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CT BACK

WEATHER

CROSSWORD

Summer heat returns

Patchy clouds will grow along the coast and in the mountains in the afternoon, otherwise sunny, with an increasing risk of showers in the Pyrenees. Sunshine in the Balearic Islands and Valencia, with a few afternoon clouds and isolated showers. The maximum temperatures are expected to rise up to 20 and 30 degrees in the Pyrenees and 30 and 35 degrees elsewhere. High humidity on the coast, especially in the afternoon. The visibility will be regular, with some morning mist inland. Light southerly winds in the afternoon, and northern winds in the Empordà.

Tomorrow

Sunny and dry everywhere in the country. High clouds in western areas, in the mountains and southern Valencia. Higher temperatures. The sea will be mainly calm, with a few swells in the Balearics.

THE SUN
SUNRISE 6.50 h
SUNSET 21.03 h

THE MOON
WAXING 23 August
FULL 31 July
WANING 7 August
NEW 16 August

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TEMPERATURES

STATION	Max.	Min.
Ampostà	31	25
Anglès	29	16
Banyoles	28	17
Barcelona	29	20
Botarell	32	19
El Vendrell	30	20
El Perelló	33	21
Falset	32	18
Girona	30	19
Igualada	30	17
La Bisbal d'Empordà	29	18
La Seu d'Urgell	27	11
La Quar de Berguedà	25	13
Lleida	34	18
Manresa	32	18
Montmeló	31	18
Olot	26	15
Roses	30	19
Sant Pau Segúries	24	12
Tarragona	29	22
Tàrraga	28	17
Vallirana	31	18
Vic	-	-
Vielha	24	12
Vila-rodona	32	30
Vilassar de Mar	28	21
Alacant	30	25
Castelló de la Plana	31	20
Palma	29	20
Madrid	32	16
València	30	22
Andorra	30	11
Berlin	30	18
Brussels	30	19
London	27	18
Paris	23	17
Prague	29	14
Rome	29	23

CATALAN LANDS / TOMORROW

EUROPE / FORECAST FOR MIDDAY TOMORROW

WEATHER INFORMATION 24H
807 012 012
Maximum tariff: Fixed 0.41 euros/min. Mobile: 0.76 euros/min.

ACROSS
1.Soviet secret police. 4.Acknowledged. 10.MGM's Lion. 11.Close. 12.Card game. 13.Discrimination based on age. 14.First month of Jewish calendar. 16.Ball holder. 17.Greek character. 18.Baton Rouge locale. 20.Mississippi (abbr.). 22.Harvested. 26.Smash. 29.Sufficient. 31.Be inherent. 33.____ Lanka. 34.Horrifies. 35.Decade. 36.Bakes unshelled eggs. 37.Eye infection.

DOWN
1.Lout. 2."I dream of ____". 3.Push upward. 4.Far away. 5.Surveillance. 6.Single. 7.Expect. 8.Otherwise. 9.Interbreeding population within a species. 15.____ radio. 19.Gone by. 21.Dried up. 23.Turns orange, as in metal. 24.Heron. 25.Querulous. 26.Boo. 27.1/12 of a foot. 28.Tai. 30.Loach ____ monster. 32.Stray.

ANSWERS

ACROSS
1.KGB. 4.Avowed. 10.Leo. 11.Finale. 12.Uno. 13.Ageism. 14.Tishri. 16.Tee. 17.Zeta. 18.LA. 20.MS. 22.Grew. 26.Hit. 29.Enough. 31.Inhere. 33.Sri. 34.Scares. 35.Ten. 36.Shirrs. 37.Sty.

DOWN.
1.Klutz. 2.Genie. 3.Boost. 4.Afar. 5.Vigil. 6.One. 7.Wait. 8.Else. 9.Deme. 15.Ham. 19.Ago. 21.Serer. 23.Rusts. 24.Egret. 25.Whiny. 26.Hiss. 27.Inch. 28.Thai. 30.Ness. 32.Err.

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