Verbatim

'A stable is better, for there you have a donkey that carries a load and a cow that provides milk. The parliament is worse than a stable.'

MALALAI JOYA, female member of the Afghan parliament and longtime critic of fellow legislators whom she deems warlords. Joya was suspended after making the comment, in a television interview, comparing the parliament to a stable.

'Yes, indeed, this is a virgin birth.'

MAHMOOD SHIVJI, professor of marine biology at Nova Southeastern University, referring to a hammerhead shark mysteriously born in a females-only tank at the Henry Doorly Zoo, in Omaha, Neb. The incident prompted a team of scientists, including Shivji, to do research and find that some sharks can reproduce asexually.

'Some are rock stars. I am not, but I have a proven record.'

BILL RICHARDSON, Governor of New Mexico, officially announcing he will seek the Democratic presidential nomination.

1. 'I think as far as the adverse impact on the nation around the world, this Administration has been the worst in history.'

JIMMY CARTER, former U.S. President, in an interview with the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, sparking a hubbub in which a White House representative shot back that Carter is becoming "increasingly irrelevant."

2. 'My remarks were maybe careless or misinterpreted. But I wasn't comparing the overall Administration, and I certainly was not talking personally about any President.'

PRESIDENT CARTER, later saying his original comment was only in response to a question comparing George W. Bush's foreign policy with Richard Nixon's, which he called "good and productive."

For me, it doesn't make any difference. I don't look back.'

DANICA PATRICK, preparing to compete in the Indy 500 against two other women, Sarah Fisher and Milka Duno—the first time the race has seen such a high female presence.

Wonders of the World

45 million
Number of people who have voted so far in a Swiss company's Internet campaign to choose the seven "new" wonders of the world from among 21 historical buildings and monuments.

2,200
Approximate number of years since intellectuals in the Mediterranean and the Middle East selected the ancient seven wonders. Today, only one, Egypt's Great Pyramid of Giza, survives.

Muslim Outlook

71%
Percentage of U.S. Muslims who agree that in the U.S., people who work hard can get ahead; 64% of the general public agrees.

2.35 million
Number of Muslims living in the U.S.; of that number, two-thirds of adults were born overseas.

Medicine

43%
Increased risk of heart attack faced by people who take the diabetes drug Avandia, according to a New England Journal of Medicine study that prompted the Food and Drug Administration to issue a safety alert.

6 million
Number of people worldwide who have taken the GlaxoSmithKline drug. The company disputed the study but said its own analysis found a 30% increased risk.

Hurricane Season

6
Number of hurricanes in an average season. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration forecasts seven to 10 hurricanes for 2007.

153 million
Number of people who live within 50 miles of the U.S. coastline, more than half the population.

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Sources: BBC, Washington Post, AP, Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, MSNBC, USA Today.