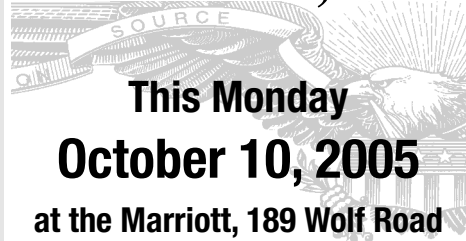


# What's Coming Up?

SPECIAL EVENTS, PROMOTIONS AND HAPPENINGS IN YOUR TIMES UNION



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**October Special Events**  
Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Oct. 1-10.....7067  
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Columbus Day - Oct. 10.....2015  
Canadian Thanksgiving - Oct. 10.....7036  
Yom Kippur - Oct. 13.....7036

**HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH**  
**NAME ENGLISH/SPANISH**  
Federico Garcia 5207 / 5191  
Jorge Amado 5208 / 5192  
Jenniffer Lopez 5209 / 5193  
Ricky Martin 5210 / 5194  
Antonio Banderas 5211 / 5195  
Frida Kahlo 5212 / 5196  
Gloria Estefan 5213 / 5197

**SUPPORT GROUPS 2050**  
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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

# Driverless 'bots go head-to-head, sort of

Three robotic vehicles finished a Pentagon-sponsored race across the Mojave desert Saturday and achieved a technological milestone by conquering steep drop-offs, obstacles and tunnels over a rugged 132-mile course without a single human command.

The vehicles, guided by sophisticated software, gave scientists hope that robots could one day wage battles without endangering soldiers.

"The impossible has been achieved," cried Stanford University's **Sebastian Thrun**, after the university's customized Volkswagen crossed first. Students cheered, hoisting Thrun atop their shoulders.

Also finishing was a converted red Hummer named H1ghlander and a Humvee named Sandstorm from Carnegie Mellon University. The Stanford robot dubbed Stanley overtook the top-seeded H1ghlander at the 102-mile mark.

"I'm on top of the world," said Carnegie Mellon robotics professor **William "Red" Whittaker**, who said a mechanical glitch allowed Stanley to pass H1ghlander.

The Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, plans to award \$2 million to the fastest vehicle to cover the race in less than 10 hours. The taxpayer-funded race was intended to spur development of robots that could be used on the battlefield without remote controls.

The race announcer did not immediately declare a winner because 22 of the 23 robots left the starting line at staggered times at dawn, racing against the clock rather than each other.

The so-called Grand Challenge race is part of the Pentagon's effort to cut the risk of casualties by fulfilling a congressional mandate to have a third of all military ground vehicles unmanned by 2015.

Last year's much-hyped inaugural robot race ended without a winner when all the self-navigating vehicles broke down shortly after leaving the starting gate.



DAMIAN DOVARGANES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

**STANFORD** Racing Team's Volkswagen Touareg unmanned vehicle Stanford Roadrunner 03, from Palo Alto, Calif., is the first vehicle to cross the finish line in the 2005 Grand Challenge robot race Saturday in the Mojave Desert.

### Photographer charged with hitting children to get a shot

A photographer was charged with child endangerment and battery for allegedly striking a 5-year-old child with his camera and shoving another out of the way to take pictures of **Reese Witherspoon** and her children in Anaheim, Calif.

**Todd K. Wallace**, 44, was charged Friday and was due back in court Wednesday, Assistant City Attorney **Patrick Ahle** said.

The photographer also is charged with battering the 5-year-old's mother, who is a friend of Witherspoon, and two employees at a Disney theme park, said Anaheim Police Sgt. **Rick Martinez**.

Wallace became angry when the "Legally Blonde" star and her friends declined to be photographed Sept. 2 at Disney's California Adventure and cursed them, Martinez said. Wallace was initially cited for misdemeanor assault and battery of the two employees.

The incident left some of the children in tears.

### Lawyer denies cocaine belonged to Boy George

A lawyer for **Boy George** is denying that drugs found in the British singer's

New York apartment belonged to him.

Authorities said the singer, whose real name is **George O'Dowd**, was arraigned on drug charges early Saturday.

He had called 911 to report that his home had been burglarized around 3 a.m. Friday, said Detective **Kevin Czartoryski**, a police spokesman.

Officers arrived at O'Dowd's apartment and discovered a small amount of cocaine next to a computer, police said. They were continuing to

**GEORGE**

investigate.

The singer was released Saturday without bail after being charged with fourth-degree criminal possession of a controlled substance, allegedly more than an eighth of an ounce of cocaine, said **Barbara Thompson**, a spokeswoman for the Manhattan district attorney's office. He was scheduled to return to court on Dec. 19.

"It was a small amount of drugs," lawyer **Lou Freeman** told the New York Post for Saturday editions. "He does not know where it came from. He's had a lot of people in his house."

"A man who has something to hide does not call police," he said.

### Star of underwater TV drama fears what's beneath surface

**Lake Bell** has a name that's perfect for starring in a new underwater TV drama. If only she had the courage to match.

"I'm not a big fan of the ocean because I'm scared of what lies beneath," Bell said recently during a break in filming of NBC's "Surface" in Wilmington, N.C. Among her fears: undertow and man-of-war jellyfish.

"But as a pseudo-action star, I have to jump in ... to literally jump in and go," she said. "It's cool to be kind of a bad

ass. I'm not a bad ass, but I play one on TV."

And on "Surface," that means working on the water — be it in the ocean, on a boat or hanging out poolside. Bell's **Laura Daughtery** is an oceanographer who discovers mysterious sea monsters in the ocean.

The special effects are added in postproduction, forcing the actors to interact with a piece of tape playing the part.

For help imagining the creatures, Bell asked her former "Boston Legal" co-star **William Shatner**, who faced more than his fair share of aliens on "Star Trek," for advice on acting with something less than human. His guidance?

"He said to just make a lot of faces."

### Woman accused of helping singer's alleged shooter

A woman accused of helping a suspect hide after singer-songwriter **Marc Cohn** was shot was ordered to stand trial on an accessory charge.

**Patricia Vail**, 23, is accused of helping **Joseph Yacteen** hide from police after he allegedly fired a gun into a van carrying Cohn's band in a Denver parking garage on Aug. 7.

Cohn and driver-tour manager **Thomas Dube** were grazed by the bullet. Both were treated and released from a hospital the next day.

Cohn had a hit with "Walking in Memphis" and won a Grammy in 1992.

## THE GLOBALIST QUIZ

### Keeping the peace



Since 1948, there have been 60 U.N. peacekeeping operations around the world. Currently, there are 16 such missions with a total of 67,677 troops, police and military observers from 106 different countries. We wonder: Which country provides the most personnel for U.N. peacekeeping operations as of 2005?

- Answers: A. Bangladesh  
B. United States  
C. Nigeria  
D. Pakistan

### A. Bangladesh is not correct.

There are currently 8,812 Bangladeshi troops, military observers and police participating in U.N. peacekeeping missions — second-most in the world. Bangladesh accounts for 13 percent of the total U.N. peacekeeping force, while the country's share of the global population is 2.3 percent. Developing countries are often keen to provide troops, because they can earn hard currency through reimbursements from the U.N. In addition, soldiers from developing countries are often perceived as neutral — and thus easily acceptable as peacekeepers for warring parties.

### B. United States is not correct.

There are only 344 Americans participating in U.N. peacekeeping activities — roughly the same as the other four permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. China has 869 U.N. peacekeepers, followed by France (600), the U.K. (384) and Russia (331). Other major



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countries, such as Germany (290) and Japan (30), also have rather low numbers of peacekeepers. However, many Western countries contribute troops to various non-U.N. military operations, such as NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan.

### C. Nigeria is not correct.

Nigeria is providing a total of 3,175 personnel to U.N. peacekeeping missions, the seventh-largest contingent in the world — and the third-largest from Africa. Three other African countries also rank among the top 10 contributors: Ethiopia, Ghana and South Africa. Altogether, African countries provide about 30 percent of the world's U.N. peacekeeping troops.

### D. Pakistan is correct.

According to the United Nations, Pakistan had a total of 9,881 personnel participating in U.N. peacekeeping activities as of Aug. 31, 2005. Pakistan thus accounts for almost 15 percent of all U.N. peacekeepers currently deployed around the world. Moreover, the top 10 nations providing the most peacekeepers are all developing countries.

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## SATURDAY'S LOTTERY

<b>DAILY NUMBERS</b>	<b>TAKE 5</b>
► <b>Midday:</b> 0-0-4 ► <b>Evening:</b> 1-6-3	► 7, 20, 28, 34, 36
<b>WINFOUR</b>	<b>PICK 10</b>
► <b>Midday:</b> 3-7-5-5 ► <b>Evening:</b> 7-1-9-4	► 3, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 19, 20, 22, 34, 39, 41, 54, 58, 62, 64, 68, 69, 74, 79

### NEW YORK LOTTO

DATE	LOTTO NUMBERS	BONUS	POT
Oct. 8	7 13 23 24 32 43	44	\$11 mil. N/A
Oct. 5	7 14 22 32 40 51	36	\$9 mil. No winner
Oct. 1	4 9 14 16 37 53	26	\$7 mil. No winner
Sept. 28	4 6 10 12 43 46	30	\$5 mil. No winner
Sept. 24	19 27 36 45 53 55	30	\$3 mil. No winner

### MEGA MILLIONS

DATE	NUMBERS	MEGA	POT
Oct. 7	2 4 23 27 36	37	\$53 mil. No winner
Oct. 4	12 24 28 29 36	41	\$42 mil. No winner
Sept. 30	1 3 14 30 52	10	\$32 mil. No winner
Sept. 27	14 17 26 27 28	5	\$23 mil. No winner

The Center for Problem Gambling 24-hour helpline: 462-6531 or 1-800-437-1611

## CORRECTIONS

A story in last Sunday's Travel • Books section about the 50th anniversary of the publication of Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita" contained a punctuation error in the quote of the novel's opening. The excerpt is "My sin, my soul."

photo illustration was a collaboration by staff photographer Philip Kamrass and staff artist Richard Lovrich.

► *Accuracy is a fundamental of journalism, but mistakes sometimes occur. The Times Union's policy is to acknowledge errors promptly. Mistakes may be brought to the attention of the editors by calling 454-5420.*