World flu epidemic fear rises, Mexicans shelter

Fears of a global swine flu pandemic grew with new infections in the United States and Canada on Sunday, and millions of Mexicans hid indoors to avoid a virus that has already killed up to 80 people.

While the only deaths have been in Mexico, the flu is spreading with 20 cases in the United States and six in Canada, and possible cases as far as Europe, Israel and New Zealand.

Offering a glimmer of hope in Mexico, President Felipe Calderon said most of the roughly 1,300 people in the country suspected of having the fatal flu have been given a clean bill of health.

The United States declared a public health emergency and a top official at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or CDC, said she feared there would be deaths in the United States as the new strain of flu spreads.

From Light to Dark for 1 Hour

By Eden Smedley
Christchurch

Earth Hour is a global event that helps people knowledge about climate change and how to slow it down. Earth hour in Christchurch was a success with several thousand people participated and saved 8.1% of power which is lower than last years 12.8%.

On Saturday Christchurch turned off their lights for 1 hour and some people went to Cathedral Square to support Earth hour. Also apartment buildings and other big buildings turned off their lights in support.

Also places all over New Zealand were supporting Earth hour like Auckland and Wellington. In Auckland the sky tower turned off its lights and was a ‘sight to see’.

Masked travellers in one of Mexico’s Airports
Not so Fun Water Park at Cobham

Reported by Brendan Chin

In the last couple of weeks at Cobham Intermediate School, waterblaster guys have been showering kids, decorating bikes with paint chips and competing with teachers at shouting contests while teachers are teaching. Nothing too bad eh? Some students think not.

They may be just waterblasting the roofs of classrooms so that Cobham can have their roofs repainted but there have been complaints about them waterblasting at peak hour times. A number of kids have had to go home with wet pants because their bike has been totally soaked from these waterblaster guys spraying their bikes.

One sad-looking kid complained that he had to go home having an uncomfortable feeling in an embarrassing spot where people could see it. About half the people asked in Room 19 agreed that these waterblaster guys were waterblasting at an annoying time. Kyran Gray said he knows quite a few people affected by these waterblasters, not just having wet bike seats but being a bit wet on the shirt as well. Vincent Curd a member of Room 19 quoted, “Those waterblasters absolutely soaked my bike and when I looked at them they didn’t seem to show any remorse”. Ribu Dhakal, also a member in Room 19, does not think that these waterblaster guys were annoying. “They were just doing their job on relatively warm days so the water just dries up”.

So there are two sides of Water Park thrill at Cobham but in a few days the waterblasters will be gone to cause chaos and stress at another building or buildings so kids shall be safe from waterblaster guys, for now.

Billy the Hunted One

Finn Lanham

Have you seen him?

William Alexander Stewart, The 47-year old male has been evading police since February for six weeks. The last time he was seen was in Hororata picking up two hitchhikers. He has five warrants for arrests and has committed many burglaries and car thefts while on the run.

A Teddington Farmer said ‘Stewart had been sleeping in Gebbies pass in the hills behind the property before venturing down to the farm’s shed. He helped himself to a nice meal of hot pies and coffee before carving a thankyou note into the table and leaving. He then stole one of the farm motorbikes and blasted through a police cordon towards Governors bay early on march 22.

It was clear he was having a lot of fun and games however police had called his antics ‘silly’. Senior sergeant Stewart Munro said, “last week Stewart was playing a silly game” and “getting a kick out of it”. The Teddington farmer said Stewart who had popped up in Tai Tapu the day after he had evaded police in Governors bay, obviously had some bushcraft skills as it was a long hike over the hills.

In conclusion William Alexander Stewart a 47-year old male evading the police has been everywhere you can think of and is still finding places to hide from the police. He has stolen cars and robbed houses and may do so again. On march 22nd he was sighted at Governors bay. Have you seen him?
ACC CRACKS DOWN ON HUMPTY

Vincent Curd

Humpty Dumpty, a resident of New Zealand, has suffered serious injuries to his shell after his parachute failed to open after jumping off his 30cm garden wall. Dumpty, a refrigerator polisher by trade, is under full ACC protection, but according to him there is a problem. “ACC is refusing to pay my compensation and insurance money”, quoted Dumpty. “It’s absolutely horrible. I am in no fit state to earn money through the job I love.”

Justin Case, the ACC chairperson in charge of Dumpty’s case says that it is impossible to pay Dumpty compensation because of one simple reason.

“The accident is far too subtle for compensation”, said Case. “Anyone can jump off a 30cm height without sustaining any serious injuries”.

Despite the numerous times Dumpty has protested saying that eggs have a very fragile body, ACC is continuing to ignore him. Dumpty has contacted his lawyer and is threatening to sue ACC unless he gets his compensation. The case shall be taken to court tomorrow.

“It’s about time ACC listened to the voices of their patients, not their rulebook”, says Dumpty.

GINGERBREAD MAN GETS EATEN

Vincent Guan
Christchurch, New Zealand

Yesterday, on the 22nd of July 1717 in Auckland, a villager called the police as a mysterious animal attacked and ate the Gingerbread Man from Sweden. As the police came in their Lamborghini’s, the Gingerbread Man was dragged away by a something. The something called something is still confidential. When the police arrived they started looking for clues. The police commander Detective Inspector Aldof Hitler told us. "We went to the near by village and found a villager who said that the Nigerian baker was very annoyed."

The Nigerian baker who didn’t want to be named said that she was just about to give the man to her son but the man jumped away from death. But the thing tricked the man as he went to the river Amazon before eating it. The GINGERBREAD MAN Incorporated was very angry as their mascot gets killed. The police team are still on the case after the 12 hours of search. The villagers say that the culprit is going to be very, very sorry.

Big Bad Wolf has Incredible Blowing Abilities

Brendan Chin

Doctors of the Hospital of Fairytale animals that end up with injuries for being bad, found a new type of cancer in the Big Bad Wolf’s throat just yesterday. Originally, the Big Bad Wolf was in hospital because he was suffering from major burns, but now he has been moved to a research centre near the hospital.

Dr Piggy, the first to find this new disease, believes that the Big Bad Wolf has been able to blow down random houses because of this strange disease that he was diagnosed with. "It has been hard to do research because the wolf repeatedly says 'I'll get you little piggies!' in his sleep.

We could not get any more information due to the Big Bad Wolf’s ward being blown down but Dr Piggy did say that he needs more information on what happened to the Big Bad Wolf during the Major Burns incident.

The oldest piggy was then asked how it felt to be nearly blown over in his own house. “I was just about to have my dinner which was in a pot under the chimney when I heard a big hurricane blowing outside, I looked out the window and saw the Big Bad Wolf, when he couldn’t blow my strong brick house down he then climbed up onto roof and somehow fell into my dinner pot! It was quite a scary experience.”
A DRIVING AMBITION
Reporter: Vincent Curd

What do you get when you combine India’s growing domestic market and the global recession? The answer, a marketing script that could have been written for Nano motors.

Ambitious dreams were born when Indian industrialist Ratan Tata announced his plans to introduce the world’s cheapest car last January. By doing so, Tata hoped to introduce safe, modern and efficient motoring to India’s lower economic groups. However, when Tata released his 100,000 rupee car, the Nano, his ambition stepped up a notch: to challenge the world’s biggest car companies at their own game.

Even though the Nano is pitched at India, the Tata Group also has plans to take on the Gas-Guzzling car culture of Europe and the US. Tata, the chairman of the Land Rover and Jaguar companies has announced that there has been “considerable interest” in the West where the recession is doing its worst on high tech and high price products. The European Nano will be launched in 2 years time, the US version in 3.

When Tata designed the Nano he had the typical Indian family in mind.

“Here in India we see four people travelling by motorbike…I thought that they could travel safer by car”.

However, In the US, the Nano could be a popular option for young people who want a high quality-low cost car.

As well as the basic Nano, the company also unveiled the Nano Europa, an upgrade on the basic Nano based on the higher safety requirements of Europe. It does make the car more costly (4000 pounds, $10400), but it will include airbags, antilock brake systems and a few luxuries like a radio, a heater and fog lamps which the basic Nano does not include.

It is estimated with India’s growing market and its improved roads that over a million Namos will be sold this year.

The four door vehicle has the smallest footprint in India and can get around 23 kilometres. With its limited power an top speed of 105 kph, the Nano will be largely based for city use. “The Nano is good for business”, said Muraid Ali Baig, an independent auto analyst. “In the early days in India, a car was viewed as a rich man’s toy. Now it is part of everyday life”.

Such was the interest in the new car, the word “Nano” was the most searched word on Google in India on the day of the release.

Don’t get too excited though. Even if the down sides of the Nano will be patched up in the Nano Europa, some dread the prospect of a thousand Nanos clogging up India’s already crowded roads. Even if the Nano has low emissions, the effect of pollution may be nasty. “They say that everyone having a car is progress,” says Vinay Jaju, an environmentalist. “But I don’t see it that way. We need to save our resources or it all becomes a vicious cycle”.

The Basic Nano
Brawn GP take fabulous one-two win

By Vincent Guan
Room 19
Cobham Intermediate School

Never since 1954 has a debut Formula 1 team finished one-two. But yesterday the face of history changed. On the 29th of March 2009, in Melbourne, Australia the ING Australia F1 Grand Prix. There were 20 racers but only 1 winner.

Jenson Button, the leader in pole streamed off right at the start and led, followed by the former Ferrari driver Rubens Barrichello and the super streaky Sebastian Vettel. Then Barrichello, Nick Heidfeld, Mark Webber, Adrian Sutil, and the McLaren driver Heikki Kovalainen on lap 19 knocking most of them out.

After that Button’s lead went to 47.7 seconds to nothing. After 5 laps the safety car went and Button opened his lead again over Vettel. As the threat of the Ferrari’s faded, the Brawn GP racer held a pretty commanding lead until Lewis Hamilton starting charging from 18th from the grid. Also Robert Kubica started a mount back.

After another pit stop Barrichello slipped to 5th place. On the 55th lap Kubica wanting to get pass Vettel for 2nd made both of them crash and taking them out of the race, leaving Button to conquer the GP under the safety car. Button’s team mate also did well coming 2nd, Jarno Trulli coming from the pit stop at the start came 3rd and Hamilton came 4th.

After the race Matt Hope from room 19, Cobham Intermediate School, Christchurch New Zealand said, “A great performance by Jenson Button despite losing his job a few months ago.” It was true as Jenson won his 1st title this year jumping him to first place. Hope also said, “Also congratulations to the Brawn GP team which didn’t exist 3 days ago.”

The Brawn GP team has lots of talents in the future of racing.

Photographs from: www.telegraph.co.uk

Soccer balls take over park

By James McErlich
Christchurch

On the 22nd of February, 8th of March and the 15th of March children from around Burnside went to Avonhead Park to have a go at getting in to a soccer team for Burnside. The testing was hard because there were so many people with so little time but because it was managed so good everyone was put into the right team.

At the moment not all of the kids know what team they got in because the coaches haven’t contacted them yet but the teams are set. A few parents were asked the same question ‘How did you think it went?’ and they all answered the same “very organised”. The organisers also work at home with choosing the team which is a hard choice to make if two people have the same abilities.

There were tears hugs and lots of determined faces on the field all throughout the games when you got hit in the face or scored or just playing hard. Ready kids came in sweaty tired faces came out.” The hardest part was seeing everyone” said the organisers. The long time from 10am to 12pm made it hard for the kids to concentrate with all the days being hot didn’t make it any better.

Parents say that it is an opportunity for kids to have a go and get active and also it’s a morning off and at least you know that your kids are having fun. It is great for kids and parents so trial out for soccer.

PAK ‘N SAVE
Sudoku

For last years answers, please phone 0800 83 83 83

Lame Jokes INC

Q Why did the chicken cross the road?
A Because it wanted to.

Q What's brown and sticky?
A A stick

Q What’s pink and fluffy?
A Pink Fluff

The rest of these lame jokes have been removed by the World Health Organization for the safety of your respiratory system (too many people are groaning).
Weather Outlook

Brendan Chin

Today:
- Low 15°
- High 25°

Tomorrow:
- Low 10°
- High 26°

Wednesday:
- Low 16°
- High 24°

Thursday:
- Low 17°
- High 26°

Main Region Forecasts

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The following are jobs that are currently available, please call the The Yearly Herald on 0800 83 83 83 then say your preferred job.

Accountant  Jet Fighter Pilot  Salesman
Actors        Judge          Sailor
Acupuncture    Klanes Attendants  Secretary
Administrator  Lawyers          Social Worker
Architect      Liberian        Statistician
Babysitter     Makers of Stuff  Surveyor
Baker          Medical Consultant  Systems Analyst
Bouncer        Musician            Tailors
Bricklayer     Nappy Factory       Teacher
Car Dealers    Orchestra Players    Underwater Sports
Caretaker      Paid Assassin       Vet
Carpenter      Paper Round          Violinists
Doorman        Pharmacist            Web Master
Elephant Carer  Photographer        Wharf Guards
Filer          Police Officer        Writer
Fisherman      Queens Crown Polisher  X-Ray Specialists
Gardner        Real Estate Agent    Yodeller
Helicopter Pilot Receptionists  Zoo Keepers
Interior Specialists Reporter
This is Miss Universe Ukraine. She is another example of fashion this year. Her and Miss Universe Australia will compete for the international title of ‘Miss Universe’ along with many other contestants representing their country. This title is well known around the world and is an honour to have it.
**“Are you scared of Swine Flu?”**

**Matt Hope, 12**
In my opinion Swine flu is overrated and done up by the media. I don’t think this is going to be any worse to NZers than Bird Flu.

**Eden Smedly, 12**
No, because it’s in Auckland and does not pose a great threat to us down here.

**Alex McHugh, 12**
Not really...there are no deaths in NZ and we have treatment.

**Samuel Chung, 12**
NZ is isolated, and our cases aren’t that bad, so we should be OK.

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**Life insurance INC**

“Are you insured?”