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Current News Now

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House GOP Calls for Repeal of Ban on Assault Weapons

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Conservative House Republicans, supported by several Democrats, proposed Friday to repeal the ban on assault-style weapons.

Republicans have made a top priority of lifting the ban, which was part of last year's \$30-billion anti-crime law initiated by the Clinton Administration. The repeal bill was introduced by members of the House Firearms Legislation Task Force.

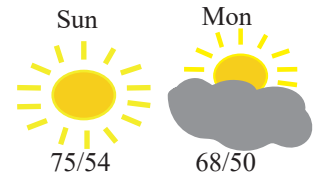
The House plans to vote in May on the bill, and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole (R-Kan.),



who led the battle for the ban and the Brady handgun control law. Schumer said he was particularly concerned about a provision in the bill that reaffirms the right of individuals

to use any firearms at home for self-defense. People who were denied that right could bring civil lawsuits in federal court seeking damages. "It repeals hundreds of . . . laws

that allow states and localities to determine who could have a gun in their home," Schumer said in an interview. "This is the most extreme position that I have seen in a long time." **pg 2**



This Is How We Do It!
Learn the lyrics and the story of the song that everyone's listening to. **pg. 8**

How are your stocks doing?

Dow Jones sits at 4199.67, check out the rest of the report on **pg. 6**

Ben Crenshaw wins emotional Masters

Augusta Chronicle

Ben Crenshaw might not have won the 1995 Masters Tournament had Carl Jackson not taken the "caddie shortcut" to the edge of the ninth fairway at Augusta National Golf Club to save some time. **pg. 5**

George C. Edwards Jr. Dies; Wrote Ruling on Wiretapping

The Wahington Post

George C. Edwards Jr., 80, a former federal appeals judge and author of the ruling that banned secret wiretapping, died April 8 at a nursing home. He had Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases. **pg. 7**

100 Mafia Warrants Issued

Associated press

ROME — Italian police Friday launched a dawn blitz across western Sicily, issuing arrest warrants for almost 100 Mafia suspects accused of being involved in a string of murders stretching back more than 20 years, officers said. **pg. 10**

3 Hotel Owners to Be Arraigned

Associated press

Three building owners face arraignment this month on criminal charges after city inspectors found tenants of two Skid Row hotels living in potentially life-threatening conditions. **pg. 10**

Giraffe Birth Is First In 16 Years At Portland Zoo

Associated press

The first baby giraffe born at the Washington Park Zoo in the past 16 years needed only about half an hour to learn to walk. But the birth took more than five hours as the baby's long neck and nose appeared about an inch at a time, according to zoo spokesman Steve Cohen. **pg. 13**

6 Teen-Agers Die When Car Collides With Freight Train

Associated Press

CASTLE ROCK, Colo. — A freight train collided with a car full of teen-agers apparently trying to beat it across tracks at a rural crossing Saturday. All six youths were killed.

The Burlington Northern train was heading north at 43 m.p.h. when it collided with

the two-door Volvo sedan. The car rolled and burst into flames, state Highway Patrol spokesman Scott Nathlich said.

The Douglas County coroner's office identified the victims as: the driver, Nathan Gladwin, 17; Tom Maestes, 17; Mike DeBoo, 17; Mike Budinger, age not available;

Tera Relfschneider, 16, and Bev Linton, 15. All were from Littleton, Colo., about 20 miles south of Denver. No one aboard the train was injured.

Authorities don't know how fast the car was traveling. The teen-agers apparently were trying to beat the train to the crossing. Nath-

lich said alcohol may have been a factor in the crash.

The crossing did not have guard gates, but Nathlich said flashing red warning lights were going off at the time of the crash.

Authorities were investigating whether the youths were at a party shortly before the midnight accident. **pg. 11**

Costner Dances With Destiny

The LA Times

S trapped atop the boat's mast 40 feet up, Kevin Costner looked to sea as the calm waters off the Big Island of Hawaii suddenly changed. As the vessel turned into the growing swells, the star of "Waterworld" slammed five feet in either direction, his body banging against the stuntmen nearby.

Most of the crew had already packed up for the day. Costner was left in his precarious perch, struggling against the elements. The strong winds and wildly rocking craft made it dangerous to lower him to safety. For 30 minutes, he was forced to ride it out.

When the day's filming had ended, the exhausted star made his way back to his movie trailer. It had been too close a call—even for one of Hollywood's biggest risk-takers.

"I nearly died today."

His words to a close friend left a chill in the air.

That moment of reflection came during one of the longest and most grueling productions in movie history. **pg 12**

After a Four-Month Medical Break, Violinist Midori is Back on Stage

The LA Times

No longer a prodigy, Midori can still startle. The 23-year-old violinist surprised the musical world in September by suddenly retreating from public performances. She canceled a week's worth of concerts with the New York Philharmonic, announcing she was taking four months off, due to what a Philharmonic spokesman called a "digestive disorder." It was the first time she had dropped so completely out of circulation since her surprise

debut, at the age of 10, with the New York Philharmonic. Last fall, reports surfaced that she was actually suffering from an eating disorder, which again brought up questions of the appropriate care and handling of child stars, whether they are tennis or string players. For her part, Midori had no comment. Then, as promised, the 5-foot-1 violinist returned to the stage in January, embarking on the first segment of her 1995 European tour and playing in New York and Detroit, among other places. **pg. 9**



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