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The award honors Beasley for discovering the link between hepatitis B and liver cancer and for his ground-breaking work on transmission of the virus, including the discovery that infected mothers pass the virus to infants during childbirth. "The Prince Mahidol Award is well-deserved recognition for 30 years of outstanding work, which includes proving that the hepatitis B virus is the major cause of liver cancer, a controversial idea at the time," said David Low, president of UT-Houston, in a written statement.

"So far we haven't seen any satisfactory platform from all five candidates," said Chen. "We will keep pushing them and continue to do so in the Legislature when it opens a new session on February 18." Chen added that they might hold large protests in Taipei on March 12, a week before the elections if none of their demands are met.

Whether Taiwan should declare independence is out of question, Chen told reporters from seven Japanese media companies that included NHK, Nihon Keizai Shimbun, Sankei Shimbun, Yomiuri Shimbun and Mainichi Shimbun. The former Taipei mayor said he is opposed to including Lee's redefinition of Taiwan's statehood in the Constitution, and will not change the name of the ROC.

Government Information Office Director-General Chao Yi has requested that two state-run newspapers which were criticized for their stance in the presidential race lay off 200 to 300 workers to reduce their deficits. The Kaohsiung-based Taiwan Shin Wen Daily News and the Taipei-based Taiwan Shin Sheng Daily News were sister newspapers run by the Taiwan Provincial Government.

A Shin Wen Daily News executive attributed the paper's deficit to a sharp decline in advertising revenues last year. On the average, monthly revenues amounted to only NT\$20 million, which was much lower compared with its monthly income of NT\$90 million during the early 1990s.

But Madeleine Albright, the U.S. secretary of state, in a speech she gave a few days ago praised Putin as "one of the leading reformers." While increasingly suppressing democracy and human rights, China continues to expand its armaments on a large scale with the support of its economic strength.

Their military intimidation directly targets the U.S., and has the tendency to challenge the U.S. with the frenzied attitude, "One of us will have to be reasonable, and it won't be me." Wake up, American leadership. Democracy is the source of American leadership, and is the significant protection of world peace.

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It also said that the Chinese Youth Peace Corps, an offshoot of the KMT Department of Youth Affairs, solicited donations from the Swedish government. The organization is not related to the Lien-Siew campaign headquarters. The campaign office added that what the Corps had done with the relief goods had nothing to do with the election drive.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs officials said all relief goods were collected by the Central Emergency Command in Nantou. None of these donations were transferred to KMT agencies, they said. The Legislative Yuan's Supra-Party Alliance, which supports independent presidential candidate James Soong, held a press conference yesterday accusing the KMT of buying votes with the donated blankets.

He was detained by the FBI after allegedly assaulting crew members on a Los Angeles-Taiwan flight, forcing the pilot of the Taiwanese carrier Eva Air flight BR005's Boeing 747, with 365 passengers on board, to divert to Anchorage Friday. Cheng, 27, was eventually subdued after a flight attendant, a fellow passenger, the cabin crew chief, the co-pilot and even the captain of the plane were assaulted, the South China Morning Post said.

The Chinese minister's visit is the first by a top foreign official since Friday's elections which saw a huge upset for the country's conservative factions at the hands of the reformists close to Kahatami. It is also the first to Tehran by a Chinese official of his rank since 1994, and is seen as aimed at boosting ties that have cooled over the past few years, notably in terms of defense cooperation.

A spokesman for United Microelectronics Corp., Taiwan's No.2 chipmaker, said its chip factories were running at full capacity throughout the holiday. "You may cause some trouble in the United States asking people to work on holidays," Alex Hinnawi said. "But there is no such problem here.

Bank of Taiwan Vice President Wang Kao-ching said the authority will handle the case according to related regulations but will allow Lin to file his response to the Control Yuan first before punishing him. Meanwhile, Huang Wen-tai, the prosecutor in charge of the investigation, said he could not determine whether Lin had violated the Criminal Law since he has not received the formal report from the Control Yuan.

Does anyone know how much one test costs? NT\$3 billion, said Liao. He argued that the TMD would be an even more difficult undertaking than the NMD. The United States has not ruled out Taiwan's participation in an East Asia regional missile defense system which China strongly opposes.

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The Philippines has diplomatic ties only with Beijing, which considers Taiwan a renegade province. Philippine aviation officials on February 18 scrapped the Manila-Kaohsiung route being serviced by China Airlines, claiming the carrier had exceeded passenger limits. The move reignited a 1999 dispute which led to the suspension of direct air links in October. Direct flights resumed after a January 28 agreement.

About half the dispensary customers have acquired immune deficiency syndrome, the disease that ACT UP SF says doesn't exist. "We see it as serving a community need, whether or not we agree with their diagnosis," said Michael Bellefountaine, one of the leaders of the group. While Bellefountaine is notorious in town for his flagrant tactics -- he's a particularly enthusiastic spitter -- on this particular day he is rather tame, placidly rolling a joint and discussing his group's controversial ways.

Friday's workshop was presented by the Coalition for a Drug-Free Cincinnati, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, the Christ Hospital Sports Medicine Institute and Anderson High School. The messages conveyed were so sobering that Dr. Stephen Pomeranz, chief radiologist and medical director for ProScan International, felt compelled to include slides of his joyful children along with those showing images of brains that had been compromised, injured or destroyed by drugs.

It was an eerie coincidence said some, a fine piece of symmetry said others. Charles M. Schulz died in his sleep just as the last "Peanuts" was loaded onto the last trucks for the last home delivery. His life and his work were completed on the same day, sharing the same national curtain calls.

Another sample home has three levels designed to be reconverted as needed throughout the owner's life. The basement and attic floors can be separate units or linked to the main floor by stairways. For a young single professional, the basement could be a workout gym or cash-generating apartment.

Cisco, which makes computer hardware used by many of the major sites, helped stem the attack against the online auction site, eBay Inc. Giancarlo added: "We do not ask Congress for new laws in the area of Internet security." An executive for Amazon.Com Inc., whose Web site fell under attack for more than an hour late Feb. 8, did not identify in his testimony any new laws the FBI might need, although the company said it supports better training and more money for federal agents to become digital detectives.

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Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., wants to amend federal wiretap laws to make it easier for authorities to trace vandals from the "zombie" computers where they implant their attack software. Under current law, agents require a wiretap order to examine data traffic flowing through those computers, even with permission from the machine's owner.

Others outside Congress are worried that lawmakers' eagerness to help trace attacks against lucrative technology companies -- which are gradually becoming powerful players in Washington -- could result in draconian surveillance networks. "It is clear that the private sector is stepping up its security efforts, with an effectiveness that the government could never match," said James X. Dempsey of the Center for Democracy and Technology.

The indicator, reflecting economic activities for the three months ahead, grew 2.9 percent from 105.7 points in December, the cabinet-level Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD) said. "Given an expansion in exports and domestic demand, Taiwan's economy would continue to prosper," the CEPD said.

Robertson stresses she does not want to institute change simply for its own sake into the 981-student school. Rather, she will experience the school for kindergarten through grade 12 and see what staff, parents, and students want to help it continue to flourish. "Unlike a man, women tend to create a tapestry out of the strands presented to them," Robertson said. "Milton has a long history that deserves to be listened to very closely."

Even troubled Indonesian aircraft builder PT Industri Pesawat Terbang Nusantara (IPTN) is actively seeking foreign partners and funding in its bid to become a leading Asian company in aircraft design, development and manufacturing of small to medium-sized civilian and military transport aircraft.

However, the crowd and the profits are not as big as before. "In the past two years, we earned about NT\$3 million during the Chinese New Year. But this year, we only earned half of that," complained a preserved food dealer at Tihua Street. A stallowner who sells three to four boxes of dried squid a day said the sales volume this year went down by about 10 percent.

"Speed will be a crucial element in the success of a business group like ours," Lin said. George Huang, corporate general controller of the Acer Group, said the contract was worth "around US\$100 million." The company's stock dropped NT\$2 to NT\$92 on the Taiwan Stock Exchange, where other technology stocks also posted losses.