

# Israel to begin pulling forces out of West Bank around the world

**By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL**  
**JERUSALEM** — Israel's defense minister and a top envoy of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat agreed Israeli forces would begin pulling out of parts of Gaza and the West Bank town of Bethlehem to be replaced by Palestinian security. But the breakthrough was shadowed today by opposition from the Islamic militant group Hamas.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer and Palestinian Interior Minister Abdel Razak Yehiyeh reached the agreement late Sunday after a three-hour meeting in Tel Aviv, calling for "an immediate cessation of the violence."

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Mark Sofer called the deal "a glimmer of hope," but said Israel expected Arafat's Palestinian Authority to rein in Hamas and other militants.

But Hamas spokesman Ismail Haniya told The Associated Press today that his group will not stop its attacks on Israelis. He said the plan "is nothing but an Israeli plot to sabotage the intefadeh. The Palestinian uprising is legitimate self defense."

Sofer told the AP that the deal was contingent on Palestinians security forces taking control over the areas and halting Palestinian attacks on Israelis.

**KRAKOW, Poland** — Greeted by Poles in traditional embroidered dress, Pope John Paul II concluded his nostalgic journey home Monday with a Mass at a mountain monastery where as a youth he used to pray with his father.

Bells tolled as the popemobile approached the Kalwaria Zebrzydowska monastery, draped in Polish and Vatican flags, and a waiting crowd of some 18,000 people chanted "Your people welcome you, John Paul II."

Thousands more waving countrymen gathered along the winding 30-mile route to the sanctuary to catch a glimpse of Poland's favorite son on the final day of his four-day trip.

On his ninth visit to his native Po-

land, the ailing 82-year-old pope brushed aside any notion he might step down during his visit — though crowds have tried to cajole him to remain.

"Stay with us," a crowd of mostly young people chanted on Sunday, the third and final night of their vigil outside the archbishop's residence.

"In my heart and my mind forever," John Paul replied.

Then switching to the dialect of his beloved Krakow, he said: "The farewell wish to the one who departs is, 'May you come again.' I hope that this is your wish for me."

"Unfortunately, it's the farewell meeting," the pope said.

**NATIONAL**  
**AGNESS, Ore.** — Things had calmed down a bit along Oak Flat and the nearby town of Agness, a resort and fishing village on the Rogue River in southern Oregon.

Homeowners were watching the glow of a massive wildfire burning nearby, hoping for the best.

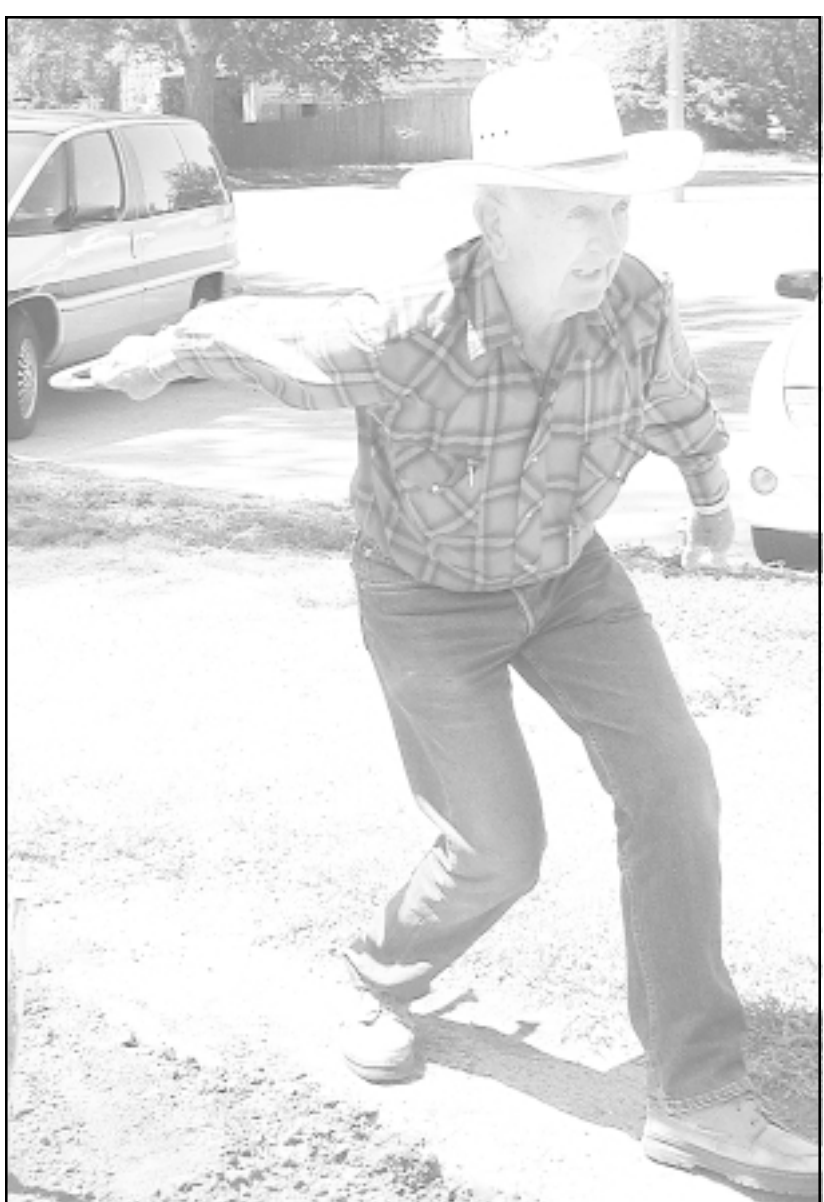
Then the fire exploded. Within an hour Saturday afternoon, the northwest flank of the fire blew up, raising huge billowing white and brown plumes of smoke 20,000 to 30,000 feet into the air.

The "thwop, thwop, thwop" of heavy-lift helicopters filled the normally placid skies above the river.

Crews gained ground on the fire's northwestern flank Sunday as they finished burning a fireline around Agness. With good wind conditions holding, they were expected to next conduct burnouts along the fire's western side near Pistol River and Gardner Ranch, where residents were under a pre-evacuation notice, fire officials said.

The blaze is the largest wildfire in Oregon in a century and the largest one burning in North America.

By Sunday, 435,654 acres had burned and more than 6,500 people were fighting the blaze, including 470 Canadians, 39 Australians and nine fire managers from New Zealand. The fire was 35 percent contained.



Dick Brock of Goodland pitched a horseshoe in the Horseshoe Pitching Tournament at the Sunflower Festival on Saturday. In its first year, the tournament attracted 24 participants. Brock placed second in the adult category.

Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

# Festival honors crop with sunflowers galore

**FESTIVAL, from Page 1**

said he was pleased with the turnout. "We had a good time," he said. "We had to turn four or five people away because we couldn't accommodate them."

Simmons said the extra activities must have worked. She said the Chamber had to make a trip to the store when its concession stand ran out of hot dogs. "That's a good sign," she said. "We know it's growing."

She said some winners still haven't picked up their prizes, and they can do that at the Chamber office.

Here are the top winners of games and contests, in order of finish:

**Hula Hoop:** Brad Geist (53:15), Jessica Geist (48:50), Keira Musil (18:06).

**Ring Toss:** Jodi Roane, Tyler Baker, Taylor Tomsic.

**Count the Petals:** Kerek Mason, Gabriella, Tavis Vrbka.

**Balloon in a Basket:** Jodi Herl, Kathy Wood, Skyler Williams.

**Sunflower Squares:** Tiffany Charron, Amy Floyd, Skyler Williams.

**Sunflower Seed Toss:** Christopher Geeska, Tanner Oharah, Lucas Wood.

**Sunflower Seed Spitting:** Kayla Long, Amber Cowan, Skyler Williams and Jacob Schnabel.

**Three-legged Race:** Jo and Jade Herl, Amber Cowan and Courtney Sheldon, Katy Shoemaker and Jenny Ong.

**Water Balloon Toss:** Dean and Daylene Oharah, Kade Sheldon and Jessica Bauman, Kayla Long and Elwyn Vatcher.

**Water Balloon Throw:** Aaron Twombly, Riley Oharah, Michael Rose.

**Duck Pond:** Kevin Amthor, Raquel

Tomsic, Alex Goodwin, Matthew Smith, Jessie Cooper.

**Jump Rope:** Kerek Mason, Page Seeger, Amy Beer.

**Bean Bag Throw:** Erin Twombly, Austin Avelar, Shonia Smith.

**Balloon Car Races:** Ben Waugh, Adrienne West, Jonathan McClung.

**Best Sunflower Floral Arrangement:** Marjie Schnabel, Marilyn Wenger.

**Best Sunflower Decorated Hat:** Carol Gattshall, Jo Simmons, Kathryn Kuhlman.

**Best Sunflower Crafts:** Kathryn Kuhlman, Hannah Blake.

**Garden Tractor Team Obstacle Course:** Amanda Hoffman and Alan Cebula, Cameron and Lisa Paxton, Lynn and Rich Hoffman, Sam Bostwick and Reagan Smith, Espirion Aquilar and Daniel Blake.

**Ping-pong ball race:** Jim Waldman, Laura McClung, Mike Short.

**Back-to-School coloring contest**

**Older kids:** Kayla Long, Debra, Chantel Coates, Brittany Medrano, Audrey Titus, Chloe Goodwin.

**Ages 2-3:** Alissa Wear, Lucas Wood, Matthew Wood.

**Horseshoe Pitching Tournament**

**Juniors, 10 and under:** Eric Ross, Dustin, Coy Johnson.

**Teens:** Eg Aquirre, Mike Smith, Daniel Blake.

**Adults:** Doug Johnson, Dick Brock, Kenny Hillmer.

**Business contests**

**Knott Just Books:** Kathryn Kuhlman, Dixie Myers.

**Garcia's Home Furnishings:** Michael Borgmann.

**Jacque's Hallmark:** Hannah Blake, Peggy Blake, Rebecca Musil.

**Webkansas.net:** Hannah Blake, Eric Ross, Curtis Ross.

## County reviews budget

There are not a lot of items on the Sherman County Commission agenda for Tuesday, but a review of the proposed budget may take up most of the time.

The commissioners are expected to extend the countywide burn ban for another week, but there is a chance for rain showers that may help.

The area remains dry despite recent scattered rain showers.

Treasurer Shelby Miller is to review copier bids with the commis-

ioners. She was to check out a Sharp copier being bid from Topside Office Supply.

Curt Way, public works manager, asked for a closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

The commissioners are to review proposed department budgets, and say they want to keep them as low as possible.

The commissioners meet at 8 a.m. in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway Ave.

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