

# India deploys troops to prevent rioting

## around the world

By the Associated Press  
INTERNATIONAL

**GANDHINAGAR, India** — India deployed thousands of troops to prevent an eruption of Hindu-Muslim rioting today after attackers besieged a major Hindu temple complex in a raid that left 32 people dead, most of them worshippers.

India blamed its bitter rival Pakistan for the attack, which lasted 14 hours until Indian commandos stormed the temple at dawn today and killed the two gunmen. Pakistan denied the accusation.

The attack on the Swaminarayan Temple on the outskirts of Gandhinagar, Gujarat's capital, began Tuesday evening, when the gunmen attacked with grenades and assault rifles. Up to 500 pilgrims, priests, museum guides and souvenir traders were in the complex.

The gunmen eluded government forces for nearly 14 hours, lying quiet for long periods, then returning fire and lobbing grenades, said Brig. Raj Sitapathy, head of the New Delhi-based commando force that led the final assault.

The siege left 27 worshippers or temple workers dead, as well as two police officers, a commando and the two attackers. Seventy-four people were injured, including at least 23 police officers, officials said. No group claimed responsibility for the attack, and the gunmen were not identified.

**KARACHI, Pakistan** — Gunmen entered the offices of a Christian welfare organization in the southern port city of Karachi on Wednesday, tying office workers to their chairs and shooting each of them in the head at

close range, police and intelligence officials said. At least seven people were killed and another was critically injured.

The shooting was the latest in a string of violent attacks against Christians and Westerners, who have been increasingly targeted since Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf's decision to crack down on Islamic extremist groups and join the U.S. war against the Taliban and al-Qaida in neighboring Afghanistan.

The killings occurred at the third-floor offices of the Institute for Peace and Justice, or Idara-e-Amn-o-Insaf, a Pakistani Christian charity that does work in the city. Victims were tied up in chairs with their hands behind their backs and their mouths taped before being shot point-blank in the head, according to Karachi Police Chief Kamal Shah.

All seven of the dead were Pakistani Christians. One worker who survived the attack later died in a hospital, police said. It was not clear who was behind the attack.

### NATIONAL

**MONTPELIER, Vt.** — A federal judge in Vermont has declared the existing national capital punishment law unusable, a decision that could have implications for every defendant facing the federal death penalty.

U.S. District Judge William Sessions ruled Tuesday that the 1994 law had been rendered useless by a series of recent federal cases, including a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in June that found juries and not judges must hand out death sentences. The government

is appealing that ruling.

Sessions' decision comes two months after U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff in New York became the first federal judge to declare the federal law unconstitutional. He cited evidence indicating that innocent people have been put to death.

Unlike Rakoff, though, Sessions said capital punishment itself isn't necessarily unconstitutional. He said the sentence still might be carried out constitutionally if Congress fixed the law. Other federal judges, in Virginia and Pennsylvania, have upheld the Federal Death Penalty Act.

Sessions' ruling came in the case of Donald Fell, 22, who is charged with kidnapping and killing a woman in a November 2000 carjacking. Prosecutors said they would appeal.

**NEW YORK** — School superintendents who succeed in boosting student test scores will receive bonuses of up to \$40,000 under a plan that marks New York City's latest corporate approach to improving its school system.

Schools Chancellor Joel Klein announced the plan Tuesday at a news conference with members of a business group that will fund the program.

"Accountability for improving student performance must start at the top," Klein said. "Performance-based pay works in the private sector and should work as well in the public sector."

High school superintendents will have to improve student performance on the state Regents exams and reduce their schools' dropout rates to qualify for the bonuses.

The plan received a tepid response from the city's teachers union and from those who believe the bonuses will be difficult to win.

### WASHINGTON

**WASHINGTON** — Economic uncertainties heightened by the possibility of war with Iraq and a rare display of dissent within the Federal Reserve is raising expectations that the central bank might cut interest rates before the end of the year, economists say.

Although the Federal Open Market Committee voted 10-2 on Tuesday to hold interest rates steady, policy-makers cited "geopolitical risks" — something most economists viewed as a reference to Iraq — as a potential danger to the wobbly economy.

"The uncertainty over the timing and the consequences of military action is creating problems in the equity markets and boardrooms," said economist Joel Naroff, president of Naroff Economic Advisors.

Two of the 12 FOMC members, Edward Gramlich and Robert McTeer, wanted an immediate rate cut and voted against the central bank's decision to leave rates unchanged, representing the first double dissent since May 1998 and revealing a crack in the unified front the Fed often presents to the public.

"Gramlich is a pretty mainstream guy. This suggests to me that we will see a rate cut in November," said David Wyss, chief economist at Standard & Poor's.

Other economists also believe momentum for a rate reduction will probably grow between now and the Fed's next meeting on Nov. 6. But a rate cut is not a foregone conclusion by any means, they said.

**WASHINGTON** — President Bush says he is confident Democrats will support him by approving his drive to end Saddam Hussein's hold on Iraq.

Democrats said they were ready to back the president but not prepared to give him a blank check to wage war on the Iraqi leader.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., said Tuesday he hoped to reach a compromise by the end of the week with the administration on a resolution giving the president the authority to use whatever means necessary to deal with Iraq. He said his party, seeking to return attention to the economy before the election, wants a quick vote on the Iraqi resolution.

Bush, talking to reporters at the White House, said he was "confident that a lot of Democrats here in Washington, D.C., will understand that Saddam is a true threat to America. And I look forward to working with them to get a strong resolution passed."

**WASHINGTON** — Some top Democrats are distancing themselves from former Vice President Al Gore's criticism of President Bush's policy on Iraq while others are just keeping quiet.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman of Connecticut, Gore's running mate in the 2000 election, said Tuesday he did not agree with Gore's assertion that action against Iraq could detract from the overall fight against terrorism.

"I respectfully disagree with that part of it," said Lieberman. "I am confident the American military can do, and will do, both at once."

Terry McAuliffe, national chairman of the Democratic Party, said through an aide he would have no comment and House Democratic Leader Dick

Gephardt offered no immediate response.

**WASHINGTON** — Criticized for its handling of a large ground beef recall this summer, the Agriculture Department is toughening food safety policies and will begin randomly testing for E. coli at all meatpacking plants.

The policy reverses a 1998 directive that allowed some plants to be exempt from such tests and gives the agency greater authority to shut down packing plants where contamination is found.

"Strengthening food safety programs that protect consumers from foodborne hazards continues to be a top priority at USDA," Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman said in announcing the policy Tuesday. It is to take effect in a few weeks.

The news came just days after a congressional audit said the public could be sickened by tainted meat because the department's Food Safety and Inspection Service has been lax in enforcement.

Some members of Congress questioned the department after it recalled 19 million pounds of ConAgra ground beef this summer because of E. coli contamination — the second largest recall in history. The meat sickened 17 people in Colorado.

**Classifieds work!**  
899-2338

# Republicans expect to keep house control

By Carl Manning  
Associated Press Writer

**TOPEKA** — A decade ago, Republicans regained their traditional control over the Kansas House and have ruled it ever since.

This year's legislative races likely won't change that, but there's always an outside chance that political lightning could strike and put Democrats in charge.

"It's highly unlikely that the Democrats will take the majority. The only real question is what the majority will be," said GOP State Chairman Mark Parkinson.

Democratic State Chairman Tom Sawyer agreed, but added, "We will make some gains. It is a good year for Democrats."

The question is how many House seats Democrats can pick up. Republicans hold a 79-46 edge in the chamber. Contests for four-year terms in the Senate will be in two years. Republicans control that chamber 30-10.

All 125 House districts were redrawn this year to reflect population shifts based on the 2000 census. In most cases, the shifting boundaries meant incumbents gained some new constituents while losing old supporters.

The only district in which two incumbents face each other in the general election is the 62nd, where Bruce Larkin, D-Baileyville, is running against Dennis Pyle, R-Hiawatha.

In 63 of the 125 districts, the races are uncontested, with 40 Republicans and 23 Democrats guaranteed victory. All but three Republicans and two Democrats are incumbents.

That leaves 62 contested races involving 30 Republican and 15 Democratic incumbents, with 17 open seats, including one held by Majority Leader Shari Weber, R-Herington.

Weber, a conservative, lost the Aug. 6 primary to moderate Bill Kassebaum, of Burdick, son of former U.S. Sen. Nancy Kassebaum. He's expected to defeat his Democratic opponent, Susan Mulryan, of Dwight.

Another open seat is in Wichita where Sawyer, a House member from 1987-98, faces token opposition from Libertarian Robert Loop.

Factors beyond the candidates' control could set the stage for a longshot chance for Democrats to take control of the chamber.

One is the gubernatorial race between Democrat Kathleen Sebelius and Republican Tim Shallenburger and how much pulling power each might have on the legislative races.

The last time Democrats controlled the House was in 1991-92, following Democrat Joan Finney's gubernatorial victory. They've previously had a majority in 1913-14 and 1977-78.

One recent media poll gave Sebelius a double-digit lead over her conservative Republican challenger.



# FLATLANDER 2002 FALL FESTIVAL

September 23 - 29  
DOWNTOWN  
GOODLAND, KANSAS

## Support The Festival - Buy Festival Buttons

**\$2.00 Pre - Festival Sales / \$3.00 Per Button, day of Festival**

Good for admissions and discounts. Lucky button drawings for valuable prizes during Street Festival. Collector buttons may be purchased at the Chamber Office or from Goodland High School Band students in advance or at Festival Information Booth (11th & Main) during the festival. For further information, call Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce at 785-899-7130.

**Street Festival**  
Saturday, September 28, 2002  
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Main Street

CRAFTS \* FOOD \* GAMES \* DRAWINGS  
ENTERTAINMENT \* SOUVENIRS  
Admission - Festival Button

**EARLY IRON OF WESTERN KANSAS ROD RUN**  
September 28 & 29

Saturday, Sept. 28  
Show & Shine Main St., 12th to 14th  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

DJ Dance\* VFW Hall - 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Sunday, Sept 29  
Show & Shine 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.  
Poker Run 10 a.m. to 11 a.m.  
Awards Ceremony Noon

### Punt, Pass & Kick

Competition at Cowboy Stadium  
Registration 9 a.m. - begins at 9:30 a.m.  
Boys & Girls from 8-15 years of age  
For more information, call GAC  
785-899-7242

### 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

Registration 8 am., Saturday, Sept 28  
Herl Chevrolet Parking Lot  
Boys & Girls Grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>  
Call Herl Chev. For more info. 899-2348

### STOCK CAR RACES

Friday, September 27  
6:30 p.m.  
Saturday, September 28  
5:30 p.m.  
Sherman County Speedway

### Carnegie Arts Center "A Day in the Life of Sherman County"

Contest - Photo Display  
Sept., 23-30

Children's Theatre  
"Jack & The Beanstalk"  
Sherman Theatre 3 p.m.  
Tickets \$1/Children under 12- FREE Admission

**FLATLANDER CHILI COOK-OFF**  
Team Entry \$10 -- Prizes will be awarded  
Begins 8:30 a.m. - Judging 12:30 p.m., Sat., Sept. 28

### SCRUFFY DOG CONTEST

Saturday, September 28  
11 am.  
11th & Main (West Side)  
Sign up at NWKS Animal Shelter booth

### NORTHWEST KANSAS BIKE SHOW

Saturday, Sept 28 - 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.  
Show Main St., - 28 Classes  
Games: :30 p.m., Bankwest Parking Lot  
Awards Ceremony 6 p.m.  
Parade of Motorcycles 8 p.m.

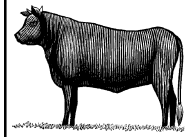
Sunday, Sept. 29 at 9:00 am.  
Sunday Service  
Breakfast 8 a.m.  
Poker Run 9 a.m.

### Sunflower Spinners Antique Tractor Show

13th & Sherman - Chambers Park



**OLD SCHOOL HOUSE DAY**  
Sunday, Sept. 29, 2002 1-3 p.m.  
"Experience a One-Room School Setting"  
Program and Refreshments  
Union School House (North of the Museum)



**FREE FREE FREE !!!**  
STREET DANCE — LIVE BAND  
**MAD COWS**  
11th Street (West Side)  
7:30 p.m. - 11 p.m.

