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Pre-Medical Society & The Princeton Review advertisement. Includes 'Free Practice MCAT' and contact information.

Meredith Willson's 'The Music Man' advertisement. Features a photo of a child with a trumpet and performance details.

Asia takes measures to contain SARS

By Yeoh En-Lai THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SINGAPORE — Singapore authorities stepped up efforts to contain a deadly new virus this weekend, including issuing electronic wrist tags to keep track of those under quarantine.

about of Li Zhong Ying, a 33-year-old Chinese immigrant showing symptoms of SARS who escaped four days ago while she was under quarantine in Singapore. In Canada, site of the largest outbreak of SARS outside of Asia, three more people were killed.



MIRANDA KUO • KRT CAMPUS

Li Dong (wearing face mask), a 42-year-old government worker, purchases herbs that are claimed to prevent the contraction of SARS at Tong Ren Tang, a Chinese medicinal pharmacy in Beijing, China.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Venezuelan peace pact site bombed, destroyed

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — A pre-dawn bomb blast ripped through the building where Venezuela's government and opposition have been negotiating a peace agreement, destroying three floors but injuring no one.

The attack at about 2:45 a.m. Saturday came one day after the Organization of American States brokered a deal between the government and opposition to work toward a referendum on President Hugo Chavez's rule.

An opposition negotiator said the blast was intended to intimidate his delegation at the talks, while the government blamed "coup-plotting" sectors of the opposition.

The explosion destroyed the first three floors of the Teleport building in central Caracas. A night watchman and a technician, the only two people inside the building when the blast hit, were unharmed.

Malaysian journalists kidnapped in Baghdad

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Gunmen ambushed and kidnapped three Malaysian journalists in Baghdad, killing their Iraqi interpreter, officials said Sunday. Two Malaysian doctors were wounded in the attack.

The Malaysians were attacked while traveling in two vans early Saturday from the Sheraton Hotel in the Iraqi capital to a hospital, said Acting Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

Baghdad has been swept by waves of looting and lawlessness since U.S. forces moved in and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's hold on the capital was shattered.

Abdullah identified the three kidnapped journalists as Terence Fernandez, a reporter for The Sun newspaper; Anuar Hashim, a New Straits Times photographer; and Omar Salleh, a cameraman with the state-run Radio Television Malaysia.

Nigeria's first civilian-run elections end in fighting, two dozen deaths

By Glenn McKenzie THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LAGOS, Nigeria — Fighting between tribal and political rivals disrupted legislative elections in Nigeria's oil-producing south for a second day Sunday. At least two dozen people were killed in the voting and hundreds were forced to flee their homes, witnesses and election monitors said.

The vote for 469 seats is a key gauge of civil tensions a week ahead of presidential elections and an important test for democracy in the Africa's most populous nation. Military coups have scuttled Nigeria's previous attempts to hold democratic, civilian-run elections.

The voting began on Saturday but was extended to Sunday in several areas where the balloting was marred, particularly the Niger Delta.

The oil-rich region has been the scene of numerous clashes in recent weeks between Ijaw militants and government troops over voting districts the Ijaws say favor their ethnic rivals, the Itsekiris.

More than 100 people have been killed in the violence, which has shut down 40 percent of the country's oil production. Nigeria is the fifth largest supplier of U.S. oil imports.

On Sunday, sustained

automatic weapons fire delayed a second attempt to hold a vote in the oil port of Warri.

Witnesses said navy soldiers and Ijaw fighters were shooting at each other and spoke of between five and 10 people killed. Grace Akpete, a market vendor who fled the fighting, said she saw five bodies floating in the water.

The shooting died down after half an hour. By late afternoon, three elections stations opened, but most remained closed.

"I can't understand why one tribe can hold everyone else to ransom," said Johnson Atake, an Itsekiri waiting to vote Sunday in the port city.

Elsewhere in the Niger Delta, clashes between ruling party and opposition supporters killed 10 people in the town of Nembe, sent hundreds fleeing and left dozens of homes burned, human rights official Azibaola Roberts said, citing witnesses.

Five people were killed Saturday in an ambush on an opposition politician in eastern Enugu state. Gangs of "government thugs" traveling in state vehicles stole ballot boxes at gunpoint, said Ifeanyi Enwerem, director of the Justice, Development and Peace Center. The center has deployed thousands of observers to monitor the voting.

region to report cases.

In Hong Kong, authorities on Saturday said three more people died, raising its death toll to 35, while officials in Vietnam said a 69-year-old French doctor succumbed to the illness, bringing the death toll there to five.

Authorities throughout Asia were trying to stop the disease from taking a further toll on their economies.

But their efforts may have come too late.

Foreign buyers, uneasy about SARS, were canceling plans to attend China's biggest trade fair this month in the southern city of Guangzhou in Guangdong, where the disease is believed to have originated.

Last year, the Chinese Export Commodities Fair drew more than 120,000 visitors who signed deals totaling nearly \$17 billion, according to organizers. But the World Health Organization and foreign governments are warning travelers to avoid Guangzhou.

"It's really tragic. Cancellation faxes on my desk are now piled up above my shoulder," said a travel agent in Guangzhou, adding that the cancellations have come from "almost every country in the world."

Hong Kong and China have reported the highest number of deaths and cases.

To fight the perception that Hong Kong is spreading the disease to other countries, authorities were discussing how to take the temperature of every passenger on departing flights, Health Department spokeswoman Eva Wong said. Some 1,108 people in Hong Kong have fallen ill with the disease.

About a million people departed from Hong Kong's Chek Lap Kok airport in January, the latest figures available.

In Singapore, meanwhile, authorities have moved SuperStar Virgo, a luxury cruise line owned by Malaysia's Star Cruises with 13 quarantined crew on board to a designated dock on Sisters' Island, a few miles south of the city-state. No passengers were aboard.

In Singapore, nine people have died and 147 have been sickened by the disease. Vietnam, Canada, Malaysia and Thailand have also reported deaths.

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