



THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

50¢

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TODAY'S QUICK READ

YOUR WORLD



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thousands flee volcano blast

A long-dormant volcano in Chile awakens, sending a plume of ash 20 miles up and forcing thousands to evacuate. The ash floats eastward for hundreds of miles across Argentina (above) to the Atlantic Ocean. Scientists say the small provincial capital town near the volcano could end up buried like Pompeii following Mount Vesuvius' ancient eruption. **A7**

Nation & World

U.S. special counsel raided: Agents raid the home and office of the nation's top protector of whistle-blowers, seizing computers in an investigation of whether he destroyed evidence potentially showing he retaliated against his own staff. **A3**

Georgia ends U.S. lethal-injection hiatus: The execution of a 53-year-old murderer is the first since the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of lethal injections. States that used the method had held off for about seven months while the court reviewed it. **A8**

Valley & State

Hospital officials charged in sex case: Four officials at Scottsdale Healthcare Osborn are charged with misdemeanors. Prosecutors say the four failed to report a suspected sexual assault of a stroke victim. **B1**

Today's editorial: It's up to the Legislature to make it clear that the duty of serving warrants belongs to the county sheriff. This is a matter of public safety. **B6**

Today's letter to the editor: The concocted recommendation for a Silver Star for Pat Tillman was fraudulent. The Tillman family should return the award to the Army. **B6**

Sports

Johnson at bat: The D-Backs' Randy Johnson shows an eye for pitches, walking with bases loaded, forcing in a run and more as Arizona defeats Philadelphia 6-4. **C1**

Business

Keeping cool at the mall: How will shoppers keep comfortable at all the new open-air centers when temperatures rise above 100 degrees? Experts say it's going to take more than mist. **D1**

Fannie Mae warns of falling home prices: A steepening slide in prices is accelerating the pace of foreclosures, Fannie Mae officials say as they outline plans for shoring up the company's finances after a \$2.2 billion first-quarter loss. The nation's largest buyer of home loans will slice its dividend and attempt to raise \$6 billion, mostly by issuing new shares. **D1**

Tonight

Free help with your finances: Chances are there's a money-oriented question or two you'd like answered. Tonight, you'll get that chance. Valley certified financial planners and other experts, working with *The Arizona Republic*, will be on call from 6 to 9 p.m. Call 602-444-4323 during those hours. To submit a question online, follow the directions at money.azcentral.com.

YOUR LIFE

Your money

Ideas for spending your stimulus check: Maybe it's time for pampering at the spa, or a trip with plenty of extras to San Diego. Or maybe it's a pair of mountain bikes or taking in a concert in Las Vegas. If you need ideas for how to spend the gift from Uncle Sam, we can help. **Arizona Living, E1**

Weather

Sunny: Some gusting winds. High 89. Low 60. **B10**

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Classified: Looking for a great deal? Find it inside *Republic Classified*, **CL1**, behind the **Arizona Living** section.

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Feds raid gun store tied to Mexican drug cartels

Agents say weapons at murder scenes came from Phoenix

By Sean Holstege
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Federal agents swooped down on a north Phoenix gun store Tuesday in the biggest weapons bust in years, highlighting Arizona's major role as an arms conduit to violent drug cartels in Mexico.

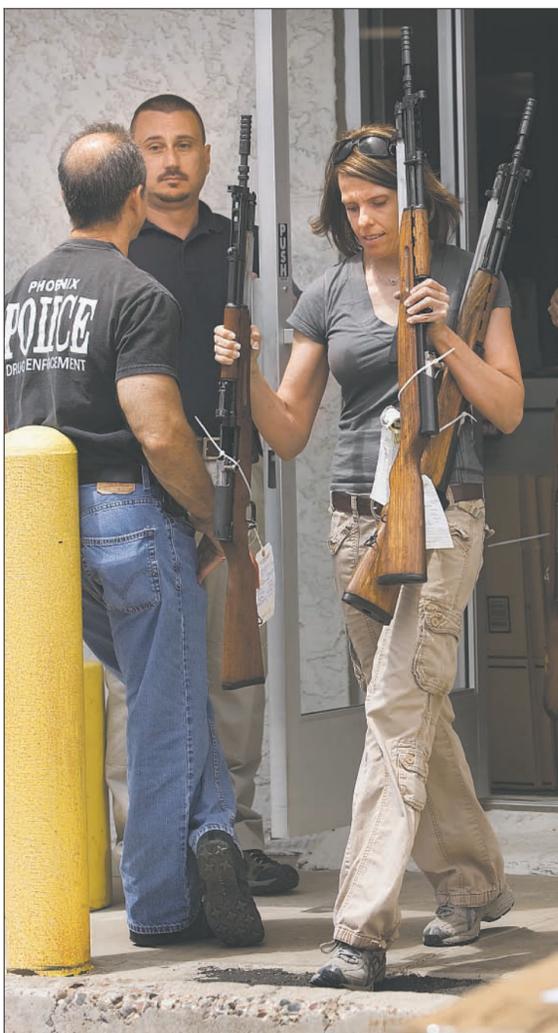
Authorities said the store was a source for at least 650 high-powered weapons, including 250 AK-47 automatic weapons, smuggled to drug cartels for use in the escalating Mexican drug war. That war left 2,500 dead last year, and Arizona weapons were used to assassinate police and battle army squads near the border, authorities said.

The raid on X-Caliber Guns on North Cave Creek Road capped an 11-month investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, the Phoenix Police Department and the Arizona Attorney General's Office. Agents pored over evidence in the store, seized 1,300 weapons and closed down the business.

Authorities arrested store owner George Iknadosian, 46, and two brothers, Hugo Miguel Gamez, 26, of Mesa, and Cesar Boroguez-Gamez, 28, of Phoenix, who are suspected of trafficking the weapons. All were booked into a Maricopa County jail.

The bust was noteworthy because of the large number of

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TOM TINGLE/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Law officers (above) remove rifles from the X-Caliber Guns on Tuesday. Romanian-made knockoffs of the AK-47 seized at the store (below, at left) are displayed. Three men were arrested.



JACK KURTZ/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Guns seized, guns smuggled

Authorities who raided a north Phoenix gun store say guns purchased there were being smuggled to drug cartels in Mexico.

1,300 TOTAL WEAPONS SEIZED.	650 Weapons that authorities say were smuggled to Mexican drug cartels.	250 AK-47s included in shipments to Mexican cartels.
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Myanmar storm toll passes 22,000

Nation's policies slowing influx of foreign assistance

WIRE SERVICES

The number of dead in the Myanmar cyclone soared past 22,000 Tuesday amid signs the toll will rise even higher, as much of the disaster zone remained flooded by seawater, threatened by disease and out of reach of an international relief operation that is taking shape.

President Bush offered to send U.S. Navy units to help in the operation, pledged more than \$3 million in aid and sharply criticized the military-run government of the nation also known as Burma for delays in approving visas for emergency teams.

First aid shipment arrives, A4



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Myanmar soldiers rush to unload supplies Tuesday from a Thai transport plane at an airport in Yangon.

When Mexican wrestlers hit U.S. rings, cultures unite

By John Faherty
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

The room is divided roughly into two groups. On one side, a group of Anglos. On the other, Mexican-Americans and Mexican immigrants.

Each group is shouting. They are screaming for blood. They are passionate, and they are drinking beer. Lots and lots of beer.

But the 100 people are not shouting at each other. They are shouting with each other.

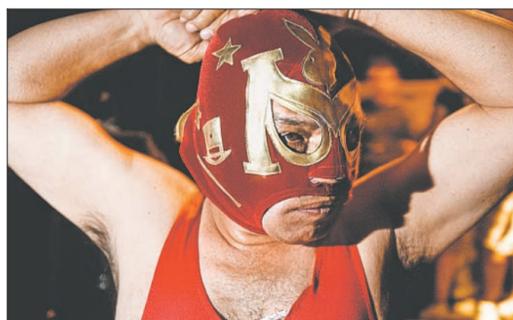
They are watching Jay "Mr. Show-

time" Garland fight Lucha Reigns in a makeshift wrestling ring at a Tempe bar.

It's American-style wrestling vs. lucha libre wrestling, and this may be one of the places left in the Valley where people from both sides of the border celebrate what they have in common, even if it is wrestling.

"Coming to wrestling events, it's real easy to get along," said Glenda Jarboe of Tempe.

Jarboe was at the April event to



Online now

See more of the action in a slide show at news.azcentral.com.

A mask transforms Jose Luis Yeo Santa Maria, 57, into a luchador.

PAT SHANNAHAN/THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

RACE FOR THE WHITE HOUSE

Big win in N.C. boosts Obama

Clinton pulls out Indiana, but odds are dwindling

ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Barack Obama swept to victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday night and declared he was closing in on the Democratic presidential nomination. Hillary Clinton scored a narrow victory in Indiana, but the night's results left her struggling to halt her rival's march into history.

"Tonight, we stand less than 200 delegates away from securing the Democratic nomination for president of the United States," Obama told a raucous rally in Raleigh, N.C., leaving no doubt he intended to claim the prize.

Clinton stepped before her own supporters not long afterward in Indianapolis.

"Thanks to you, it's full speed on to the White House," she said, signaling her determination to fight on in a campaign already waged across more than 15 months and nearly all 50 states.

Returns from 99 percent of North Carolina precincts showed Obama winning 56 percent of the vote, to 42 percent for Clinton.

See **OBAMA** Page A16



Hillary Clinton



Barack Obama

Analysis

Obama's decisive victory in North Carolina denies Clinton the two-state punch she needed. **A16**

In tight Senate votes, McCain not a maverick

When it matters the most, he seldom bucks his own party

By Ronald J. Hansen
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

Over the years, Sen. John McCain has publicly condemned Republican Party leaders and occasionally voted against the GOP on selected issues.

But an *Arizona Republic* analysis of his Senate votes on the most divided issues in the past decade shows that McCain almost never thwarted his party's objectives.

The presumptive Republican nominee arguably cast the decisive vote 14 times since 1999 to ensure Republicans got their way, and he had five other close cases where his vote may have made a difference, Senate

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