



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH

Chaos follows quake

Haitian president Rene Preval • “Schools have collapsed. Hospitals have collapsed. There are a lot of schools that have a lot of dead people in them. All of the hospitals are packed with people. It is a catastrophe.”



RICARDO ARDUENGO • Associated Press

People search for survivors under the rubble of a collapsed building Wednesday in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. The quake flattened the president's palace, hospitals and schools.

CAPITAL DEVASTATED

Muffled cries heard from inside wrecks of buildings

BY SIMON ROMERO
New York Times

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI • Survivors strained desperately Wednesday against the chunks of concrete that buried this city along with thousands of its residents, rich and poor, from shantytowns to the presidential palace, in the devastating earthquake that struck Tuesday.

Calling the death toll “unimaginable” as he surveyed the wreckage, Haiti’s president, Rene Preval, said he had no idea where he would sleep. And the poor who define this nation squatted in the streets, some hurt and bloody, many more without food and water, close to piles of covered corpses and rubble.

Limbs protruded from disintegrated concrete, muffled cries emanated from deep inside the wrecks of buildings — many of them poorly constructed in the first place — as Haiti struggled to grasp the unknown toll from its worst earthquake in more than 200 years.

“Please save my baby!” Jeudy Francia, a woman in her 20s, shrieked outside the St. Esprit Hospital in the city. Her child, a girl about 4 years old, writhed in pain in the hospital’s chaotic courtyard, near where a handful of corpses lay under white blankets. “There is no one, nothing, no medicines, no explanations for why my daughter is going to die.”

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DANIEL MOREL • AFP/Getty Images

A Haitian woman is covered in rubble on Tuesday in Port-au-Prince after a quake measuring 7.0 rocked the impoverished Caribbean nation. Buildings were toppled, and there was widespread damage and panic, officials and AFP witnesses said.

THE IMPACT HERE

St. Louisans in Haiti share their accounts of disaster

BY STEPHEN DEERE
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It started off slowly — just some slight shaking in a nation full of unrest.

Matt Davids of St. Louis reassured a group of frightened orphans, telling them everything was going to be OK.

“I soon realized it would not be OK,” he wrote in an e-mail to the Post-Dispatch.

The ground roared, rising several feet, then dropped. A water tank on the roof broke open, drenching him. He grabbed a 3-year-old who was screaming and rushed outside.

Davids, 35, is a volunteer staff member at a Port-au-Prince orphanage run by St. Ann-based Amer-Haitian Bon Zami. Davids and four other St. Louis-area volunteers have been sleeping in a cornfield next to the orphanage, fearing their building may be unstable.

Through a satellite Internet link, Davids got word back home that he’s safe. Tens of thousands of others on the island have not been so fortunate.

Across St. Louis, people waited by phones, nervously watched television reports and sent messages on Facebook trying to learn the fate of their loved ones. Meanwhile, churches and nonprofit organizations sprang into action, helping to organize shipments of medical supplies and food.

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ABB will take cue from staff

Experts in workplace violence say such an employee-focused recovery is the way to go.

BY STEVE GIEGERICH
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Four days after one of their employees opened fire on eight co-workers, killing three before turning a weapon on himself, the ABB Inc. leadership team convened to discuss the next step in the aftermath of the nation’s latest case of workplace violence.

“The decision was unanimous and immediate,” said ABB spokesman Bob Fesmire, attended Monday’s meeting. “We will open when the funerals are over.”

Barely 24 hours later, another rampage erupted at an Atlanta truck-rental facility,

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FINAL FUNERAL

Carlton Carter recalled as ‘wonderful spirit.’ A2

BACK IN THE CAGE

Mark McGwire gets down to business of hitting, relieved and “ready to move on.”

SECRECY WAS KEY

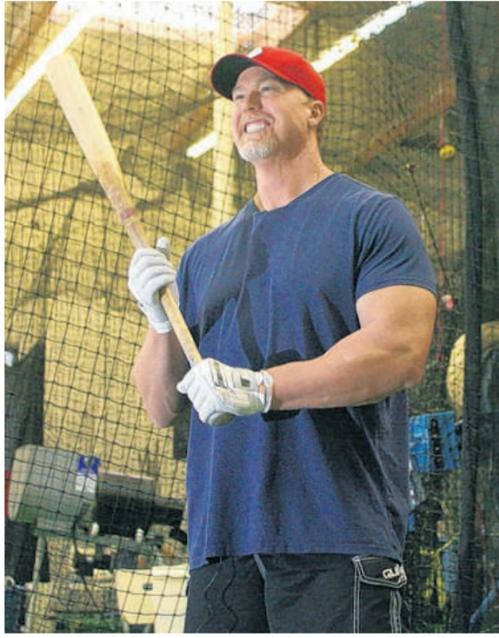
Only Mozeliak, DeWitt knew that McGwire planned to admit steroid use.

SPORTS • C1

HEALTH RISK

Steroids can boost performance, but they also have serious side effects that are still being debated.

STL HEALTH • B1



CHRIS LEE • clee@post-dispatch.com

Cardinals hitting coach Mark McGwire conducts a training session with Brendan Ryan and Skip Schumaker on Wednesday in Huntington Beach, Calif.

Stepping up to the plate



Judge ousts fire board chief

Northeast president ‘flagrantly abused his power,’ ruling says, created ‘a board of one.’

BY ELIZABETHE HOLLAND
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CLAYTON • A St. Louis County judge on Wednesday ordered that the president of the Northeast fire district board be removed from office immediately, saying he broke the law and “intentionally and flagrantly abused his power.”

Associate Circuit Court Judge Dale Hood’s order exercised the powers of the full Northeast Ambulance and Fire Protection District Board without a quorum and majority vote of the board.

In effect, Hood wrote, Edwards made the board “a board of one, rather than the legal three-member board.” County prosecuting attorney Robert P.

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