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FREE



Toyoda testifies

Our 'priorities became confused,' he says

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Discovering Romanian treasures

A personal insight into a beautiful land

Travel P11



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Will this little GMO piggy get to market?

Genetically modified pork a step closer to Canadians' dinner tables

By JOAN DELANEY
Epoch Times Staff

Genetically engineered pigs developed at the University of Guelph have passed the first of several regulatory hurdles on the way to being approved for human consumption.

Environment Canada has determined that the university's transgenic Yorkshire pigs—so-called Enviropigs—are in compliance with the Canadian Environmental Protection Act and can be produced outside of the research context in controlled facilities where they are segregated from other animals.

Developed in 1999, the Enviropig is the first transgenic animal created to solve an environmental problem—phosphorus pollution of surface and groundwater in areas of intensive pig production.

Depending on its age and diet, manure from the Enviropig contains 30 to 70 percent less phosphorus than that of regular pigs. Enviropigs are able to digest a form of phosphorus in feed grains that regular pigs cannot, producing manure that is less environmentally damaging.

Steven Liss, associate vice-president of research services at the University of Guelph, says researchers have been working to develop an animal that has "less of an impact environmentally and can be produced in a more

'Health Canada does not have the trust of Canadians to approve this product or assess it for safety'

—Lucy Sharratt

sustainable fashion."

"I think there's a great deal among our community and population that would applaud efforts to reduce the environmental impact of animal production, and I think this would go a long way to increase the sustainability and lessen the footprint that pig production sometimes yields."

Submissions have been made to Health Canada and other federal agencies including the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to have the pigs approved for human consumption and commercialization. Liss declined to speculate how long it could take the various agencies to reach a decision.

Currently, no country has approved products derived from genetically modified animals for human or animal consumption.

PLEASE SEE GMO ON P3



FROM RIVALRY TO ROUT: Canadian players celebrate one of seven goals scored against Russia Wednesday night at Canada Hockey Place in Vancouver. LUIS ACOSTA/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Canada sends Russia packing

By MATTHEW LITTLE
Epoch Times Staff

VANCOUVER—In an epic matchup featuring a historic hockey rivalry, Canada sent Russia to an early exit from the Olympics after routing them 7-3 before a raucous home crowd in Wednesday night's quarterfinal.

Canada-Russia was predicted to be the gold-medal matchup. Instead, the Russians are gone without even reaching the semifinals.

Ryan Getzlaf scored Canada's first goal just two minutes into the game. Many more were to follow. It was complete Canadian domination.

The fans that filled Canada

Hockey Place to the rafters rarely dulled their deafening roar. Canada coach Mike Babcock said it kept the team pushing.

In a press conference following the game, the two coaches gave credit to each other, while acknowledging that the Canadian onslaught was impossible for the Russians to manage.

PLEASE SEE HOCKEY ON P8

Canadians tops in Americans' eyes, says poll. But is it mutual?

By CINDY DRUKIER
Epoch Times Staff

NEW YORK—Canadians love this stuff. We love being known for being nice. We hope that doesn't sound pathetic outside our borders, but it's true.

A Gallup poll published last week asked Americans for their perceptions of 20 nations that figure prominently in the news or U.S. foreign policy. For the second year running, Canada ranked first, with 90 percent of Americans viewing us favourably.

Britain ranked a close second at 87 percent, but never mind that, we were first and that's what matters. Interestingly, Germany ranked third, with Japan, Israel, India and France coming next, but now we're already getting into the

'No other relationship in the world is that of Canada and the U.S.'

—Mayor Hazel McCallion.

grey zone of mild indifference.

At the bottom of the heap, not at all surprisingly, was Iran with only a 10 percent favourable rating (probably by people with Canadian-Iranian friends). Next worst-rated were North Korea, Afghanistan and The Palestinian Authority, followed by Yemen, Iraq, and Pakistan.

PLEASE SEE POLL ON P2

Dubai identifies 15 new suspects in assassination plot

By STEPHEN JONES
Epoch Times Staff

Fifteen new suspects have been linked to the assassination of a Hamas leader in Dubai that crime police have blamed on the Israeli secret service.

The names of the suspects—from Britain, Ireland, France and Australia—were released alongside a warning that the United Arab Emirates would never allow outsiders "to settle scores on its territory."

The disclosure brings to 26 the total number of those allegedly involved in the killing of Mahmoud al-Mabhouh on Jan. 19.

All those named are claimed by police to have been Mossad agents travelling on stolen passports.

Israel has neither confirmed nor denied its involvement in the killing of al-Mabhouh, who had played a key role in supplying arms to the militant group from Iran.

PLEASE SEE SUSPECTS ON P5



PARADE: Hamas militants at a Feb. 17 rally in the Gaza Strip to honour the movement's assassinated top commander, Mahmoud al-Mabhouh. Mabhouh was assassinated last month in Dubai by a professional hit squad of at least 11 people carrying forged European passports, according to Dubai police. Hamas has blamed Israel for the assassination. MAHMUD HAMS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Hot temper has British PM in trouble

Bullying helpline says it received complaints from Gordon Brown's office

By SIMON VEAZEY
Epoch Times Staff

LONDON—The tears have turned to tantrums.

Last week, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown was widely lauded for a relaxed portrayal of his "human side" in a TV interview that saw him weep about the death of his son.

But the weekend saw the prime minister engulfed once again by criticism of his personality, as accusations of bullying stole headlines Brown hoped would announce a closing gap in the pre-election polls.

Rumours of a volcanic temper together with the image of a controlling, micromanaging "Stalin" figure are not new to Brown. But Sunday brought to light a new accusation in an article in the Observer newspaper claiming that the head of the civil service had warned the prime minister over his bullying of junior civil servants.

But when ministers rallied around their boss to deny the accusations, the founder of an anti-bullying charity stepped forward to claim that her charity had received phone calls from several staff at the prime minister's office.

In his new book serialized in the Observer, Andrew Rawnsley, the paper's chief political commentator, claims that the prime minister is notorious for losing his cool.

"Long-standing members of his inner circle had endured Brown's temper for years and accepted the tantrums as part of the price of working for a complex man they admired," says Rawnsley in his book, "The End of the Party," quoting one member of the office as saying, "Over the years, I've had all sorts of things thrown at me—newspapers, pens, Coke cans."

PLEASE SEE BROWN ON P4

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