

FINAL SCORES



### World Cup Uruguay's 'fighters' still stand

■ South America's last team plays the Netherlands today, 7C

By Pedro Ugarte, AP/Getty Images  
Luis Suarez: Illegal block "worth it."



### When the 'Kids' are away

■ Julianne Moore and co-star Mark Ruffalo get surprisingly intimate, 1D

By Suzanne Tenner, Focus Features, via AP  
Moore: A mom in *The Kids Are All Right*.

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

## Newsline

■ News ■ Money ■ Sports ■ Life



### Biden nudges Iraqi leaders

■ Urges Iraq's President Jalal Talabani, above, others to resolve impasse, 4A

### How did your mutual fund do?

■ At midyear, compare and decide, 6 pages in Money

### 'A Whale' joins oil cleanup

■ But bad weather postpones work of giant Taiwanese skimmer in Gulf, 5A

### Israel eases embargo on goods for Gaza

New rules allow consumer goods into Gaza Strip, but limits remain on construction materials, 4A.

### More young drug smugglers on border

Homeland Security officials say trend on the rise along border between the U.S. and Mexico, 3A.

### ■ Money: Local government jobs at risk

Up to 400,000 workers could lose jobs in the next year as states, counties, cities cut back. 1B.

### ■ Sports: Resistance to replay gives way

Recent missed calls in soccer and baseball help make the case for technology, instant reviews, 1C.

### ■ Life: 'Twilight' glows at the box office

Eclipse, the latest chapter in vampire franchise, takes in \$82.5 million over four-day holiday, 1D.

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**Top 10 U.S. ports**  
Cargo handled in 2008, in millions of tons.

Gulf of Mexico port	
South Louisiana, La.	234.0
Houston	212.2
New York and N.J.	153.5
Long Beach	80.2
Corpus Christi, Texas	76.8
New Orleans	73.0
Beaumont, Texas	69.5
Huntington, W.Va.	69.3
Mobile	67.6
Plaquemines, La.	63.7

Source: Army Corps of Engineers

By Anne R. Carey and Paul Trap, USA TODAY

27 Crossword, Sudoku 3D  
 Editorial/Forum 6-7A  
 Marketplace Today 3D  
 Mutual funds 9B  
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Maya Hoeltke: Family competes in "Olympics."

By Jonathan Palmer for USA TODAY

## They met our challenges

See how real people used our advice:

- Small Business Challenge, 4B
- Family Fitness Challenge, 6D



Susan Riegg: Started her own Botox business.

By Darren Haack for USA TODAY



By Victoria Anchoff for USA TODAY

"Honest recipe for recovery": Former Republican Lincoln Chafee, right, greets a supporter at Iggly's Doughboys & Chowder House during his independent run for governor of Rhode Island.

## A rebellion in the middle: Independents gain favor

### Centrists fuel big crop of contenders this year

By Susan Page USA TODAY

WARWICK, R.I. — Lincoln Chafee comes from a long line of Rhode Island governors, three in the previous four generations, all of them Republicans. Now the former Republican senator and mayor of Warwick is running for governor himself.

As an independent, no independent has been elected to lead a state for more than a decade, since pro wrestler-turned-politician Jesse "The Body" Ventura became governor of Minnesota in 1999.

But this year, there are three credible independent contenders for governor — a record.

### Cover story

If the "Tea Party" movement represents an uprising against the political status quo by the right, the independent campaigns and plausible prospects for gubernatorial candidates in Rhode Island, Massachusetts and Maine reflect a rebellion from the middle.

There are more signs of centrists stirring as national politics remain sharply polarized, a factor some candidates cite for leaving or being pushed from their old allegiances. Florida Gov. Charlie Crist, who became an independent candidate for the Senate when the GOP seemed certain to nominate Tea Party favorite Marco Rubio, now leads the three-way field. In California last month, voters approved a constitutional amendment to make primaries open and non-partisan, a measure intended to boost

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶

## Laws eye safety of towed trailers

### Highway deaths spur states' action

By Larry Copeland USA TODAY

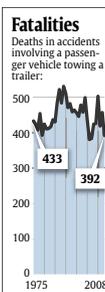
States are beginning to address a highway safety issue that previously had little visibility: motorists killed in accidents involving passenger vehicles towing trailers.

An average of more than one person a day die in such crashes, according to federal data. The collisions often occur when poorly secured trailers break loose and careen into traffic — a problem resonating as the Fourth of July holiday signals the arrival of peak moving and recreational boating seasons.

A Virginia law that took effect last week requires that any vehicle towing another vehicle or trailer have a trailer hitch or similar device strong enough for the weight of the vehicle or trailer being towed.

At least four other states — Alabama, Hawaii, Louisiana and Tennessee — considered similar measures this year, and legislators expect to revisit the issue next year. Also, a Wisconsin state senator says he will introduce legislation next year.

"We've heard some really, really awful stories from here and from other states," says Wisconsin



state Sen. Dave Hansen, a Democrat from Green Bay.

Hansen says he was spurred to action by the April 20 death of Whitney Radder, a 19-year-old University of Wisconsin-Green Bay student who was killed when a trailer came loose from a pickup and crashed into her car on U.S. 41 in Howard.

Her death was one of hundreds tracked each year across the USA by Virginia traffic-safety activist Ron Melancon, the driving force behind Virginia's new law. Melancon, 46, founder of dangeroustailers.org, has campaigned for stricter laws and inspections of towed trailers since 2003.

"Our best course to prevent these needless injuries or deaths is through education, enforcement and vehicle design engineering to minimize the human-error factor," Melancon says. Regulations on passenger vehicles towing trailers vary widely from state to state. From 1975 through 2008, 15,211 people were killed in crashes involving passenger vehicles towing trailers, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

"We are committed to safety," says Pam O'Toole, executive director of the National Association of Trailer Manufacturers, whose 750 member companies make about 75% of trailers sold in the USA.

## No picnic in East as heat rises past 100

Humidity today will make it a 'lot worse'

By Judy Keen USA TODAY

A heat wave tightened its grip on the East Coast on Monday, bringing some areas the most intense temperatures since 2001 and forcing the opening of cooling centers in New York City.

Temperatures soared from the Mid-Atlantic into New England: 102 in Newark, N.J., 97 in Concord, N.H., 100 in Baltimore and Richmond, Va. "You have to go back to 2001 for temperatures of this caliber," Weather Channel lead meteorologist Mark Resler says.

Today, "humidity will crank up ... making it feel a whole lot worse," he says. Heat will ease slightly Thursday and Friday as a cold front approaches.

Demand for cold treats prompted Katie Hellbig, owner of Cape May Miniature Golf and Cocomo's Ice Cream in Cape May, N.J., to order 20 extra tubs of ice cream. The heat keeps customers off her golf course until evening, but highs in the mid-90s have them lining up for ice cream.

In New York, 100 cooling centers opened Monday. Today, more than 500 air-conditioned havens, including libraries and community centers, will be available, says Chris Gilbride of the New York City Office of Emergency Management.

"It's hot, and it's going to remain hot," he says, and people should conserve energy to avoid overtaxing energy grids.

Other steamy spots: **■ Havertown, Pa.**, where today's high is forecast to be 101. "I love it. I benefit from the hot weather," says Karen Perna, owner of Pop's Homemade Italian Ice. The slushy treats' best-selling flavors: mango, cherry and lemon.

**■ Poolesville, Md.**, where it was 97 degrees Monday. Ben Allnut, owner of Homestead Farm, says the area got less than 2 inches of rain in June.

On Saturday, with temperatures in the mid-80s, lots of customers came to pick their own fruits and vegetables on his 270-acre farm, he says. Abundant sun and hot weather have ripened peaches and blackberries about two weeks ahead of schedule.

**■ Bristol, R.I.**, where people watching its 225th annual Independence Day parade Monday gave water to marchers and doused them with hoses. "We had a good crowd, but the rescue people were keeping busy," parade chairman Dick Devault says.

**■ Richmond, Va.**, where John T. Carmack, medical director of the Retreat Doctors' Hospital emergency department, recommends caution for young children and seniors.

"Heat-related illnesses catch up with you before you know it," he says. Even healthy people should limit outdoor activity to 30-45 minutes at a time and drink lots of water. "When you're thirsty, you're already about 2% dehydrated," Carmack says.



By Sean D. Ellic, AP  
Cooling off: Kamal Kalkhoran, 8, left, his brother Kameal, 11, and Greg Cooper, 12, in Noank, Conn.

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