{inside}



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie star in new movie



Rookie Joe Mauer leads Twins defeat of Tigers

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Stronger storms result of global warming

{by KATE COWGER} co-editor in chief

Is global warming making hurricanes more ferocious? New research suggests the answer is yes. Scientists call the findings both surprising and "alarming" because they suggest global warming is influencing storms now - rather than in the distant future.

However, the research doesn't suggest global warming is generating more hurricanes and typhoons.

The analysis by climatologist Kerry Emanuel of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology shows for the first time that major storms spinning in both the Atlantic and the Pacific since the 1970s have increased in duration and intensity by about 50 percent.

These trends are closely linked to increases in the average temperatures of the ocean surface and also correspond to increases in global average atmospheric temperatures during the same period.

"When I look at these results at face value, they are rather alarming," said research meteorologist Tom Knutson. "These are very big changes."

Knutson, who wasn't involved in the study, works in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory in Princeton, N.J.

Emanuel reached his conclusions by analyzing data collected from actual storms rather than using computer

models to predict fustorm ture behavior.

Before study, this most researchers believed global warming's contribution to powerful hurricanes was too slight to accurately

Top 10 most **Severe Hurricanes**

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Death of Saudi king prompts reforms

{by KATE COWGER} co-editor in chief

Saudi Arabia's King Fahd sought to modernize his desert kingdom while balancing change against tribal tradition and orthodox Islam, but a stroke a decade ago left him a ruler in name only during tumultuous times for the world's biggest oil producer. His death Monday came as the Saudi government pursues an aggressive clampdown on Islamic terrorism and unprecedented reforms. The portly, goateed Fahd inadvertently helped fuel the rise of Islamic extremism by making concessions to hard-liners in an effort to boost his Islamic kingdom's strict Wahhabi school of Islam for fueling terrorism.

It fell to Fahd's half brother and successor, Crown Prince Abdullah, to guide Saudi Arabia. Abdullah, who took on that role wary of close U.S. ties, oversaw the crackdown on religious militants after followers of Saudi-born Osama bin Laden launched a wave of attacks two years ago. He also pushed a campaign against extremist teaching and preaching and introduced the kingdom's first

sadness from many Arab nations, with Jordan announcing a 40day mourning period and officials jetting to Saudi Arabia to attend his funeral on Tuesday.

"Saudi Arabia has lost one of its dutiful sons, a leader among the most dear of its leaders and men," said Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Visitors who saw Fahd after his 1995 stroke reported he was barely aware of what was going on around him and could not recognize those

{today's forecast}



partly sunny with a chance of evening rain showers

66/89

Swimming dog makes history

Jake doggie-paddles from Alcatraz to San Fransisco

{by KATE COWGER} co-editor in chief

With a stomach full of scrambled eggs, Jake dogpaddled his way into history, leaving most of the serious and human - swimmers in his wake.

Organizers of the South End Rowing Club's 10th annual Alcatraz Invitational - a 1.2 mile swim from the infamous prison island to the San Francisco shoreline - say the 65-pound golden retriever is the first canine known to have made the crossing.

He was the only dog among more than 500 swimmers who lept into the chilly, choppy waters on Saturday, coming in 72nd overall. His time was 41 minutes and 45 seconds.

The crowd cheered as the 4-year-old pooch made his way onto solid ground, shaking sprays of water and dodging a woman who tried to put a medal around his neck.

"It was colder and rougher than we thought it would be," said Jeff Pokonosky, Jake's owner and swim partner. "Jake amazed me. He was very focused. He started out really fast. I was trying to slow him down. He increased his pace to stay with the pack."

The pair live in San Diego and swim 4 miles a week and bodysurf together, Pokonosky said. And Jake always eats scrambled eggs before a big swim.

Bill Wygant, president of the South End Rowing Club, said he was more than happy to allow a dog into the race, a first for the more than 100-year-old group.

This swim is about personal challenge," Wygant said. "Whether you are dog or human, it's whatever you can achieve that counts.'

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measure. Most forecasts don't have climate change making a real dif-

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ference in tropical storms until 2050 or later.

But some scientists questioned Emanuel's methods. For example, the MIT researcher did not consider wind speed information from some powerful storms in the 1950s and 1960s because the details of those storms are inconsistent.

Researchers are using new methods to analyze those storms and others going back as far as 1851. If early storms turn out to be more powerful than originally thought, Emmanuel's findings on global warming's influence on recent tropical storms might not hold up, they said.

"I'm not convinced that it's happening," said Christopher W. Landsea, another research meteorologist with NOAA, who works at a different lab, the Atlantic Oceanographic & Meteorological Laboratory in Miami. Landsea is a director of the historical hurricane reanalysis.

"His conclusions are contingent on a very large bias removal that is large or larger than the global credentials. But he also brought the kingdom closer the United to **6 6** Saudi Arabia States and agreed to a step that enraged many conservatives: basing U.S. troops on Saudi soil the 1990 after Iraqi invasion of

In his last years, the sickly

Kuwait.

Fahd was mostly a figurehead as the close relationship he nurtured with Washington deteriorated after the Sept. 11 terror attacks. Fifteen of the 19 hijackers were Saudis, and many in the United States blamed the

elections, for municipal councils earlier this year.

Saudi Arabia and the United States have also found themselves at odds over oil. Saudi Arabia is the world's largest exporter sitting atop a quarter of the world's

has lost one of its

among the most

dear of its leaders

and men

reserves known and America is the world's largest energy consumer. With dutiful sons, a leader reaching prices \$61 a barrel, Washington has been pushing the Saudis to pump more oil and bring prices down.

King Fahd, once a stickler who took a hand in the smallest details of government activities, stayed on the sidelines

as the kingdom dealt with those crises.

His death drew expressions of

who shook hands with him. Foreign dignitaries usually were allowed brief meetings, their visits lasting only as long as it took to film footage for the state TV stations.

On newscasts, the king was shown seated as he extended his hand to visitors or sipped coffee. Occasionally, policy statements, comments or speeches were issued in his name, and he was shown presiding at ministerial meetings when Abdullah was out of town.

Fahd, born in Riyadh in 1923, was proclaimed the fifth king of Saudi Arabia on June 13, 1982.

He assumed the throne just three years after two events in 1979 that would fuel extremism in Saudi Arabia: Avatollah Ruhollah Khomeini founded the strictly religious Islamic Republic in Iran just across the Persian Gulf, and radical Muslims briefly took over the holy mosque in Mecca, proclaiming the Saudi royal family

{next issue}

{news}

Scientists discover new planet

{sports}



{arts}



Hit group 98 degrees coming out with new album

FREE PRESS news: 1-3

features: 4-6

sports: 7-9

arts: 10-12





Space Debacle Astronauts make necessary repairs to the Discovery shuttle

{by KATE COWGER} co-editor in chief

As NASA mulled what to do about fabric dangling from Discovery's belly, two astronauts floated outside Monday with another key task: to replace a failed washing machine-sized spinning wheel that helps to steer the international space station.

Astronauts Stephen Robinson and Soichi Noguchi spent five hours exchanging the broken down 660-pound gyroscope, which failed in 2002, with a new one.

"Oh, the view is priceless," Noguchi said as he hitched a ride to Discovery's cargo bay on the outpost's robotic arm. "I can see the moon.'

With Robinson's help, Noguchi secured the controller aboard the shuttle and retrieved the new gyroscope for installation. After hours of tedious bolting and unbolting with specialized silver drivers, the pair completed the installation.

"This is just like putting in an airplane engine," said Robinson, a pilot.

"Just wiggling until you get it," Noguchi responded, causing his partner to chuckle.

"Yeah, exactly. Prepare to wiggle," Robinson said. Both continued bolting and wiggling until the unit was tightly attached.

Their seven-hour-plus spacewalk came a day after NASA officials said they may consider sending them to repair material dangling from Discovery's belly during a third spacewalk scheduled for Wednesday.

Before going back inside, Robinson and Noguchi gathered a pry bar and forceps from an outdoor tool box to use for the potential shuttle repair. It took both of them to force open the box, on a count of three. "Yeah!" they shouted when the lid finally popped open.

But there remains debate among engineers and others over how to handle what would be an unprecedented repair - and whether it is even necessary.

During their first spacewalk Saturday, the pair restored power to another gyroscope, which had stopped spinning in March. The gyroscopes are among four that help steer the station.

"Being outside was the most incredible experience I've certainly ever felt so far, and I almost can't believe we get to do it again," Robinson said Sunday as he prepared for his second or-