

CHANNEL ONE NEWS SHOW SCRIPT 5/19/08

TOPICS COVERED:

- Myanmar Journalists
- News of the Day
- 19 Year Old Professor

CHRIS: HEY GUYS, IT'S MONDAY, MAY 19TH. I'M CHRIS BROWNE AND CHANNEL ONE NEWS STARTS RIGHT NOW!

CHRIS: THE DEATH TOLL FROM THE CYCLONE THAT HIT MYANMAR OVER TWO WEEKS AGO HAS RISEN TO NEARLY 80 THOUSAND BUT AID AGENCIES ESTIMATE ITS CLOSER TO 130 THOUSAND.

CHRIS: THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN WILL STARVE TO DEATH IN TWO TO THREE WEEKS UNLESS FOOD IS RUSHED TO THEM, AN AID AGENCY WARNED SUNDAY.

CHRIS: HELP IS POURING IN FROM AROUND THE WORLD, BUT MYANMAR'S GOVERNMENT IS STILL LIMITING ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS. AND IT'S NOT JUST AID WORKERS THAT ARE BEING KEPT OUT OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY, SO ARE FOREIGN JOURNALISTS.

CHRIS: IN THE U.S., FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IS A RIGHT GUARANTEED BY THE FIRST AMENDMENT. BUT IN A COUNTRY WITH VERY FEW FREEDOMS, FOREIGN JOURNALISTS ARE TAKING BIG RISKS JUST TO GET INFORMATION OUT. NOW KIM FERDINANDO HAS THIS ONEVOICE REPORT ON FREEDOM OF THE PRESS.

KIM: CNN REPORTER DAN RIVERS WAS ONE OF ONLY A FEW FOREIGN JOURNALISTS ABLE TO REPORT FROM INSIDE MYANMAR, A TIGHTLY CONTROLLED AND SECRETIVE NATION.

(SOT: Dan) "Been having to sneak in and out of hotel through the back stairs so that they don't know I'm here because we understand that the authorities are looking for me specifically. There's someone coming."

KIM: AFTER THE CYCLONE HIT THE COUNTRY, REPORTERS FROM AROUND THE WORLD PETITIONED TO GAIN ENTRY BUT ALL WERE DENIED. SOME, LIKE RIVERS, SNEAKED IN.

(SOT: Dan) "It's difficult not to get completely paranoid and ridiculous here cause you kinda like feel that everyone is potentially military intelligence and looking for you."

KIM: RIVERS BEGAN REPORTING ANONYMOUSLY, BUT AS THE SITUATION INTENSIFIED HE DECIDED TO PUT HIS FACE ON CAMERA. A MOVE HE SAYS MADE HIM A MARKED MAN.

(SOT: Dan) "I almost got caught in the last town."

KIM: THAT'S BECAUSE A MILITARY DICTATORSHIP, KNOWN FOR ITS BRUTALITY, RULES MYANMAR AND HAS CONTROLLED THE FLOW OF INFORMATION WITHIN THE COUNTRY SINCE 1962.

KIM: HOW STRICT IS MYANMAR'S CONTROL OF THE PRESS COMPARED TO OTHER COUNTRIES WITH OUT A FREE PRESS?

(SOT: Bob) "We rank Myanmar number two in the world in terms of censorship, right behind North Korea."

KIM: BOB DIETZ IS THE ASIA PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR THE COMMITTEE TO PROTECT JOURNALISTS. HE SAYS THE MEDIA WITHIN MYANMAR IS CENSORED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

KIM: SO IN GENERAL THE PEOPLE IN MYANMAR ARE NOT SEEING THE IMAGES OF DEATH AND DESTRUCTION THAT WE HERE IN THE U.S. ARE SEEING?

(SOT: Bob) "No, the government wants to portray a much different picture, it wants to portray itself as in charge, as government reacting and responding and handing out assistance to the people of the country."

KIM: THIS IS WHAT THE MYANMAR GOVERNMENT SHOWS THE WORLD, ARMY OFFICERS HELPING. BUT AID WORKERS AND JOURNALISTS REPORT A DIFFERENT STORY. MILES UPON MILES OF DESPERATE SURVIVORS LINING THE ROADS AND BEGGING FOR FOOD AND WATER.

KIM: ANOTHER JOURNALIST, LAUREN MCNABB FOR GLOBAL NEWS REPORTING, ALSO FILED REPORTS FROM INSIDE THE COUNTRY.

(SOT: McNabb) "It's two weeks I think and you can still see a lot of trees down."

KIM: A LOCAL TRANSLATOR AGREED TO HELP MCNABB BUT FEARED BEING ARRESTED FOR ASSISTING A JOURNALIST. THE COMPROMISE, SHE BLURRED HIS FACE.

(SOT: McNabb) "They don't allow for the foreign people, they are afraid".

KIM: NOW, THE MYANMAR GOVERNMENT SAYS THAT THEY CAN'T LET JOURNALISTS IN BECAUSE THEY CANT GUARANTEE THEIR SAFETY AND THEIR PROTECTION.

(SOT: Bob) "Journalists don't go into countries saying protect me, take care of me. They say let me in, I'll asses the risk, I'll judge the risk, let me do my job."

KIM: AND FOR MANY JOURNALISTS, REPORTING AN IMPORTANT STORY IS WORTH THE RISK.

KIM: IF IT'S SO DANGEROUS, WHY DO THEY CONTINUE TO GO?

(SOT: Bob) "It's their job, it's what journalists do. The world is kind of looking at this and saying, 'we want to help, let us help' and the information about the best way to help is not coming out of there. What journalists do is individuals go down to the grassroots level, gather information, bring it out and tell the world what's going on."

KIM: KIM FERDINANDO, CHANNEL ONE NEWS.

ANNOUNCER: TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND THE OTHER FOUR RIGHTS PROTECTED BY THE FIRST AMENDMENT, CHECK OUT THE 1 VOICE FEATURE AT CHANNEL ONE DOT COM.

COMMERCIAL

CHRIS: NOW HERE'S A LOOK AT OTHER HEADLINES MAKING NEWS TODAY.

JESSICA: PRESIDENT BUSH AND FIRST LADY LAURA BUSH WERE IN EGYPT YESTERDAY. THE PRESIDENT ATTENDED THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM, WHERE HE SPOKE TO GLOBAL POLICYMAKERS AND BUSINESS LEADERS.

JESSICA: MR. BUSH CALLED ON ARAB STATES TO SPREAD FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY IN THE REGION.

(SOT: President Bush) "It is capable of a very bright future, a future in which the Middle East is a place of innovation and discovery, driven by free men and women."

JESSICA: EGYPT WAS THE LAST STOP ON THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR OF THE MIDDLE EAST. HE RETURNED TO WASHINGTON YESTERDAY.

ANNOUNCER: HE DID IT AGAIN! AT THE 133RD ANNUAL PREAKNESS STAKES ON SATURDAY, BIG BROWN DOMINATED A SECOND TIME, FINISHING MORE THAN FIVE LENGTHS AHEAD OF HIS COMPETITION.

ANNOUNCER: TWO WEEKS AGO, BIG BROWN WON THE KENTUCKY DERBY. WITH VICTORIES AT THE DERBY AND THE PREAKNESS, THE COLT IS NOW JUST ONE RACE AWAY FROM WINNING THE TRIPLE CROWN.

ANNOUNCER: THAT'S WHEN ONE HORSE WINS ALL 3 BIG RACES. THE LAST RACE TO WIN, THE BELMONT STAKES, WILL BE RUN IN NEW YORK ON JUNE SEVENTH.

ANNOUNCER: ONLY ELEVEN HORSES IN HISTORY HAVE WON THE TRIPLE CROWN. THE LAST TIME A HORSE ACCOMPLISHED THE FEAT WAS IN 1978.

JESSICA: CAN YOU IMAGINE MAKING IT FROM KINDERGARTEN TO SENIOR YEAR WITHOUT TAKING A SINGLE SICK DAY?

JESSICA: WELL, JOSH KELSEY DID JUST THAT. HE'S GRADUATING FROM SAYRE HIGH SCHOOL IN PHILADELPHIA THIS SPRING WITH PERFECT ATTENDANCE, HAVING NEVER MISSED A DAY OF SCHOOL.

JESSICA: JOSH CREDITS HIS MOM FOR MOTIVATING HIM TO GET OUT OF BED ON THE DAYS HE DIDN'T WANT TO.

(SOT: Josh Kelsey) "Let's go, we're going to school. I'm tired; I don't want to go in. You're going to school. She was the main part, my mom made sure I went to school, made sure I was on time."

ANNOUNCER: NOT TOO LONG AGO, WE TOLD YOU ABOUT SPRINTER OSCAR PISTORIUS. HE'S A DOUBLE AMPUTEE WHO USES CARBON FIBER PROSTHETIC BLADES TO RACE.

ANNOUNCER: IN JANUARY, THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETICS FEDERATION BANNED PISTORIUS FROM COMPETING IN THIS SUMMER'S OLYMPIC GAMES. THEY SAID THE HIGH-TECH BLADES GAVE HIM AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OVER OTHER ATHLETES.

ANNOUNCER: BUT ON FRIDAY, THE COURT OF ARBITRATION FOR SPORT OVERTURNED THE BAN. PISTORIUS WILL NOW BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE FOR A SPOT IN THE BEIJING OLYMPICS.

JESSICA: CHINA HAS DECLARED THREE DAYS OF NATIONAL MOURNING FOR VICTIMS OF THE DEVASTATING EARTHQUAKE THAT HIT A WEEK AGO TODAY.

JESSICA: THREE MINUTES OF SILENCE WILL BE OBSERVED AT 2:28 PM, THE TIME THE QUAKE STRUCK. ORGANIZERS OF THE BEIJING OLYMPICS ANNOUNCED THEY WERE SUSPENDING THE OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY DURING THE THREE-DAY MOURNING PERIOD.

JESSICA: THE DEATH TOLL NOW STANDS AT MORE THAN 32 THOUSAND. AN ESTIMATED 220 THOUSAND WERE INJURED IN THE QUAKE.

CHRIS: IF YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP THE EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS IN CHINA, CHECK OUT CHANNELONE.COM. AND HERE WITH MORE IS OUR WEB PRODUCER, HANNAH VANWINKLE. HI HANNAH!

HANNAH: HEY CHRIS. WE'VE LAUNCHED A NEW FEATURE ON CHANNEL ONE DOT COM DEDICATED TO CHINA, WHERE YOU'LL FIND THE LATEST NEWS COMING OUT OF THE COUNTRY, AS WELL AS WAYS YOU CAN HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE EARTHQUAKE.

HANNAH: TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR AND CHECK OUT SOME OF COUNTRY'S ANCIENT SITES AND MODERN CITIES. LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CULTURE AND THERE'S ALSO TIMELINE GAME WHERE YOU CAN BEAT THE CLOCK AND ORDER MAJOR EVENTS IN CHINESE HISTORY, IT'S ALL AT CHANNELONE.COM.

COMMERCIAL

CHRIS: HEY GUYS, NOW IT'S TIME FOR OUR PLAY OF THE WEEK.

CHRIS: THE NEWTON RAILERS' RUNNING BACK DUSTIN MILLER TAKES THE PITCH FROM QUARTERBACK AUSTIN VERMILLION, TURNS THE CORNER, RUSHES PAST THE DEFENSIVE LINE AND TAKES THE BALL 65 YARDS FOR THE TOUCH DOWN.

CHRIS: THE LONG RUN TO THE ENDZONE WAS NOTHING FOR MILLER AND IT DIDN'T STOP. THIS TD WAS JUST THE FIRST OF MANY FOR THE RAILERS WHO WON THE GAME 53 TO ZERO.

CHRIS: WE'VE RECEIVED A LOT OF GREAT FOOTBALL AND BASKETBALL HIGHLIGHTS BUT WE KNOW YOU GUYS ARE MAKING BIG PLAYS IN SPRING SPORTS AS WELL.

CHRIS: SO WHETHER YOU RUN TRACK, PLAY BASEBALL, SOFTBALL, OR LACROSSE SEND US YOUR PLAYS. YOU CAN UPLOAD THEM AT CHANNEL ONE DOT COM OR JUST SEND US A TAPE.

CHRIS: YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN THOSE BUMPER STICKERS THAT SAY, "MY KID IS AN HONOR ROLL STUDENT". BUT FOR THE MOM OF 19-YEAR-OLD ALIA SABUR, HERS WOULD SAY "MY KID IS A COLLEGE PROFESSOR".

CHRIS: NOW, JESSICA KUMARI HAS THE STORY OF AN ACADEMIC PRODIGY WHO BROKE A NEARLY 300-YEAR-OLD RECORD.

JESSICA: LIKE MOST NINETEEN YEARS OLDS, ALIA SABUR CAN BE FOUND ON A COLLEGE CAMPUS. UNLIKE MOST TEENS SHE'S HERE TO TEACH, A SURPRISE FOR THE STUDENTS.

(SOT: Tanjaneil Washington) "The first question we asked her is how did you do it so quick?"

JESSICA: ALIA'S BEEN ON THE FAST TRACK HER WHOLE LIFE.

JESSICA: SHE STARTED READING AT JUST EIGHT MONTHS OLD, FINISHED ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT FIVE AND WENT STRAIGHT FROM FOURTH GRADE TO COLLEGE.

JESSICA: SHE'S THE YOUNGEST AMERICAN FEMALE TO GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE AT 14, WITH HONORS. BY 16, SHE HAD HER DOCTORATE.

JESSICA: SHE'S ALSO A BLACK BELT IN TAE KWON DO AND PERFORMED AT HER FIRST ORCHESTRAL CONCERTO AT 11. WHEW.

JESSICA: AND IN FEBRUARY, JUST THREE DAYS BEFORE HER 19TH BIRTHDAY, ALIA WAS NAMED THE YOUNGEST COLLEGE PROFESSOR IN THE WORLD BREAKING A RECORD SET BY THIS GUY COLIN MCLAURIN BACK IN 1717.

(SOT: Alia) "And I thought to myself, you know what? It's been 300 years, somebody had to do it, why not me."

JESSICA: ALIA ADMITS SHE ISN'T GOOD AT EVERYTHING, LIKE BASKETBALL. SHE SAYS SHE LOVES CELEBRITY GOSSIP WEBSITES AND CAN BE ABSENT MINDED.

JESSICA: ALIA ALSO LIKES TO HELP OTHERS, WHICH IS WHAT BROUGHT HER HERE TO SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY IN NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. A CAMPUS RAVAGED BY 2005'S HURRICANE KATRINA.

(SOT: Alia) "Some people come and do Habitat for Humanity and they build houses but I don't think I would be very good at that so I try to do what I'm good at."

JESSICA: AND WHAT SHE'S GOOD AT IS TEACHING MATH AND PHYSICS.

(SOT:) "Is she a good teacher?"

(SOT: Christina Lee) "Yes she is. She's a wonderful teacher."

JESSICA: THE WORLD'S YOUNGEST PROFESSOR SAYS THROUGH TEACHING SHE'S LEARNED A LOT.

JESSICA: JESSICA KUMARI, CHANNEL ONE NEWS.

CHRIS: THAT'S IT FOR CHANNEL ONE NEWS, I'M CHRIS BROWNE AND HERE'S ONE MORE THING BEFORE WE GO.

CHRIS: IT'S SUMMER IN INDIA, WHICH MEANS ITS TIME FOR THE MANGO SEASON. AND IN THE WESTERN CITY OF MUMBAI, PEOPLE GOT A CHANCE TO PROVE THEIR LOVE FOR THE FRUIT.

CHRIS: THE SIXTH ANNUAL MANGO EATING CONTEST SAW MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN FIGHTING IT OUT TO SEE WHO COULD EAT THE MOST MANGOES IN THREE MINUTES. THE WINNER ATE 15 AND HIS PRIZE? A BOX OF FRESH MANGOES!