

CHANNEL ONE TRANSCRIPT 9/7/07

THOMPSON: "I'M RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES."

JESSICA: TENNESSEE REPUBLICAN FRED THOMPSON ANNOUNCED ON "THE TONIGHT SHOW WITH JAY LENO" THAT HE IS RUNNING FOR PRESIDENT. MEANWHILE, ON A DIFFERENT CHANNEL, REPUBLICAN COMPETITORS WERE FULL THROTTLE INTO THEIR DEBATE. THOMPSON WAS WELCOMED TO THE RACE BUT POLITELY SCOLDED FOR NOT BEING THERE.

MITT ROMNEY: "THE ONLY QUESTION I HAVE FOR SENATOR THOMPSON IS, WHY THE HURRY? WHY NOT TAKE SOME MORE TIME OFF?"

TONY: GERMAN OFFICIALS ARRESTED THREE MEN TUESDAY AND ARE STILL LOOKING FOR AT LEAST TEN MORE. THE MEN ALLEGEDLY PLANNED TO BOMB RAMSTEIN AIR BASE AND FRANKFURT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. THEY ALLEGEDLY HAVE TIES TO AL-QAEDA, OSAMA BIN LADEN'S TERROR GROUP WHICH IS BLAMED FOR THE 9/11 TERROR ATTACKS.

SPEAKER: "WE DON'T HAVE TO ACCEPT THIS, WE DON'T HAVE TO BE PASSIVE... WE HAVE TO STAND UP."

JESSICA: NEARLY 2-THOUSAND STUDENTS HELD A RALLY ON THE CAMPUS OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. TO SUPPORT SIX BLACK TEENS UNDER FIRE IN JENA, LOUISIANA. THE 'JENA SIX' ARE BEING PROSECUTED FOR ALLEGEDLY ASSAULTING A WHITE CLASSMATE LAST YEAR. THEY WERE ARRESTED AFTER A BRAWL ERUPTED WHEN NOOSES WERE FOUND HANGING FROM A TREE ON THEIR CAMPUS.

STUDENT: "WE DON'T WANT FOR THEM TO FEEL LIKE THEY'RE GOING THROUGH THIS BY THEMSELVES. BECAUSE WHEN WE SEE THEM, WE SEE OURSELVES."

TONY: NORWEGIAN AND BRITISH FIGHTERS SCRAMBLED YESTERDAY TO INTERCEPT EIGHT RUSSIAN BOMBERS THAT FLEW NEAR NORWAY'S BORDER IN A SHOW OF AIR POWER BY THE RUSSIAN KREMLIN. INTERNATIONAL DEFENSE OFFICIALS SEE THIS AS THE LATEST MOVE BY RUSSIA TO REASSERT ITSELF AS A SUPER POWER. THE RUSSIAN MILITARY WAS A FEARSOME PRESENCE DURING THE 50-YEAR STAND-OFF BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION AND WESTERN NATIONS KNOWN AS THE COLD WAR. WHEN THE UNION COLLAPSED IN 1991, RUSSIA SIDELINED ITS MILITARY.

JESSICA: THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THAT BY 2013, ALL PASSENGER VEHICLES MUST COME EQUIPPED WITH SIDE AND SIDE-CURTAIN AIRBAGS. GOVERNMENT AND SAFETY EXPERTS SAY THE BAGS PREVENT SERIOUS HEAD AND TORSO INJURIES DURING SIDE IMPACT CRASHES, AND ARE CREDITED WITH SAVING MORE THAN 300 LIVES EACH YEAR. IN 2005, ALMOST 10-THOUSAND PEOPLE DIED IN SIDE IMPACT CRASHES.

TONY: TENSIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND ISRAEL ARE GROWING AGAIN. THE SYRIAN MILITARY SAID YESTERDAY ISRAELI WARPLANES BOMBED DESERTED AREAS OF SYRIA. NO WORD YET ON THE INTENDED TARGET. SYRIAN AIR DEFENSES REPORTEDLY OPENED FIRE IN RESPONSE. ISRAEL'S ARMY HAD NO COMMENT.

BRIAN WILLIAMS: HEY THIS IS BRIAN WILLIAMS AT NBC NIGHTLY NEWS IN NEW YORK. I WANT TO GIVE A SHOUT OUT TO MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL, MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL, IN MY HOMETOWN, MIDDLETOWN, NEW JERSEY. CLASS OF...OH, I THINK IT WAS IN THE 1970S.

TONY: WE'RE BACK. OKAY SO EARLIER, WE GAVE YOU THE POLITICAL HEADLINES, FRED THOMPSON ENTERING THE PRESIDENTIAL RACE AND THE RECENT REPUBLICAN DEBATE. NOW WE WANT TO KNOW HOW MUCH YOU KNOW ABOUT THE QUEST TO BE PRESIDENT IN 2008. YOU'VE GOT TEN SECONDS.

CHRIS: I'M CHRIS BROWNE. SO WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IF I TOLD YOU YOU COULD BE MAKING MONEY FOR WHAT YOU'RE DOING RIGHT NOW? MEET TWO TEENS IN ARIZONA DOING EXACTLY THAT. ARIZONA TEENS CASSANDRA HARDIN AND TRAVIS JAGER ARE GETTING PAID JUST FOR SHOWING UP TO SCHOOL.

CASSANDRA: "AT FIRST I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT."

CHRIS: THEY'RE BOTH PART OF AN EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAM THAT PAYS STUDENTS TWENTY FIVE DOLLARS A WEEK **NOT** TO DROP OUT. THE PROGRAM WAS CREATED SO STUDENTS LIKE CASSANDRA AND TRAVIS WON'T JOIN THE TWENTY THOUSAND ARIZONA TEENS THAT **SHOULD** HAVE GRADUATED LAST YEAR, BUT DIDN'T.

TRAVIS: "YOU'RE GETTING PAID TO LISTEN TO A TEACHER TELL YOU THINGS YOU MIGHT NEED LATER."

CHRIS: TRAVIS SAYS THE MONEY WILL HELP HIM HIT THE BOOKS AND KEEP HIS GRADES UP.

TRAVIS: "FOCUS ON MY STUDIES. AND GET STUFF DONE, HELP OUT AROUND THE HOUSE."

CHRIS: AND CASSANDRA HOPES HER MONEY WILL GO TOWARDS COLLEGE TUITION.

CASSANDRA: "SO WHEN I'M READY FOR COLLEGE I DON'T HAVE TO GET ALL THESE SCHOLARSHIPS AND HELP FROM THE GOVERNMENT."

CHRIS: HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS LIKE DYLAN EBRIGHT SAY THAT SOME STUDENTS NEED A FINANCIAL INCENTIVE TO STAY IN SCHOOL. DYLAN DROPPED OUT A FEW YEARS AGO SO HE COULD MAKE SOME QUICK CASH.

DYLAN: "I WAS LIKE I CAN DROP OUT MONDAY AND BY FRIDAY HAVE A PAYCHECK."

CHRIS: BUT NOT EVERYONE THINKS THE CASH FOR CLASS PROGRAM IS SUCH A GOOD IDEA.

STUDENT ON STREET: "THE REWARDS YOU GET FOR EDUCATION ARE LONG TERM I THINK AND ITS WORTH MORE THAN JUST MONEY."

CHRIS: HERE IN NEW YORK, 25 BUCKS WILL GET YOU 3 T-SHIRTS, BUT FOR SUPPORTERS OF THE CASH FOR CLASS PROGRAM, IT'S A SMALL PRICE TO PAY TO KEEP KIDS IN SCHOOL.

STUDENT ON STREET: "I UNDERSTAND WHERE THEY'RE COMING FROM, BUT STILL, THEY SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PAY THE PEOPLE JUST TO STAY IN SCHOOL. BECAUSE THEY SHOULD HAVE THEIR INITIATIVE TO BE LIKE, 'I DON'T WANT TO BE POOR MY WHOLE LIFE; I WANT TO BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING AND MAKE SOMETHING OF MYSELF.'"

CHRIS: CHRIS BROWNE, CHANNEL ONE.

TONY: THINK IT PAYS TO STAY IN SCHOOL NOW? SEE HOW VALUABLE THAT DIPLOMA WILL BE AFTER YOU GRADUATE. CHECK OUT THE MONEY MAKER CALCULATOR ON CHANNEL ONE DOT COM.

TONY: ON AUGUST 1, A BRIDGE IN MISSISSIPPI COLLAPSED, KILLING SEVERAL PEOPLE. I'M TONY ANDERSON, AND THIS IS THE STORY OF JEREMY HERNANDEZ. A CAMP COUNSELOR WHO SAVED 50 CAMPERS FROM BEING KILLED THAT DAY. LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT THE STORY.

JEREMY: "IT WAS JUST LIKE ANY NORMAL DAY...I DIDN'T THINK NOTHING OF IT. I FELL ASLEEP ON THE WAY BACK CAUSE I WAS UP SINCE 9 O'CLOCK FOR SWIMMING LESSONS WITH THE KIDS. I FELT A BIG JERK LIKE THE CAR GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT. BUT I KNEW THAT WE WEREN'T IN AN ACCIDENT CAUSE WE WERE FACING LIKE WE WERE GOING DOWN TOWARDS THE RIVER. THEN WE HIT, AND I HIT MY LIP ON THE SEAT.

GIRL: "I WAS IN SHOCK. THE ONLY THING I REMEMBER IS JUST PEOPLE STARTED SCREAMING...THEY JUST STARTED SCREAMING. I HEAR NOISE, I LOOK BEHIND AND I SEE STUFF FLYING IN THE AIR, DUST, AND I JUST YELLED, 'THE BRIDGE IS FALLING!'"

J: "AND WHEN THE DUST SETTLED, ALL THE KIDS WERE SCREAMING, 'WE'RE GONNA DIE, WE'RE GONNA DIE. WE'RE GOING IN THE RIVER, THE BUS IS GOING BACK IN THE RIVER.' WHEN I SEEN THAT, MY HEART GOT TO BEATING AND I JUST JUMPED OVER THE SEAT. I MIGHT HAVE KICKED SOME KIDS IN THE HEAD IN THE PROCESS. BUT I OPENED THE BACK DOOR AND I KICKED THE COOLERS OUT AND I JUMPED OUT AND TURNED AROUND AND THE KIDS WERE RIGHT BEHIND ME."

GIRL: "HE GOT EVERYBODY OFF THE BUS...HE JUST KICKED OFF THE BACKDOOR AND TOLD EVERYONE TO GET OUT THE BUS."

JEREMY: "A LOT WENT THROUGH MY HEAD. SOME OF THEM WERE CRYING SO BAD THAT I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IF I COULD GET THROUGH THE SITUATION. ONE BY ONE. THE KIDS ARE SAFE. THEY'RE ALL ON THE GROUND. WE'RE ALIVE. WE'RE GONNA MAKE IT. I FEEL LUCKY THAT I WAS IN IT BECAUSE I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD HAVE DID IF I WOULD HAVE BEEN AT HOME AND I WOULD HAVE HEARD ON TV THAT ONE OF THE KIDS HAD DIED. I WORKED WITH THOSE KIDS FOR FIVE YEARS, SO THEY KIND OF FEEL LIKE MY KIDS, I FEEL LIKE A ROLE MODEL."

GIRL: "IF IT WASN'T FOR HIM, WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN DEAD OR WE MIGHT HAVE BEEN DROWNED IN THAT WATER...IF IT WASN'T FOR JEREMY."

TONY: THIS SUMMER ASHLEY BRIGNAC LEAD THE U.S. JUNIOR SOFTBALL TEAM TO VICTORY AT THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS. BUT IT'S HER WORK OFF THE FIELD THAT HAS MADE ASHLEY GATORADE PLAYER OF THE YEAR. IT LOOKS STRANGE AT FIRST, BUT ASHLEY BRIGNAC'S PITCH HAS WON HUNDREDS OF SOFTBALL GAMES AND SEVERAL HIGH SCHOOL CHAMPIONSHIPS. THE TEENAGER HELD A FOUR-POINT-0 GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND WAS CO-VALEDICTORIAN OF HER HIGH SCHOOL CLASS. SHE'S NOW GETTING READY FOR HER NEXT CHALLENGE... FRESHMAN YEAR ON THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA - LAFAYETTE TEAM.

ASHLEY: "I JUST WANT TO GO IN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE WITH THAT PROGRAM. MY GOAL AND I KNOW THEIR TEAM'S GOAL AND THE COACH'S GOAL IS TO MAKE IT TO THE WORLD SERIES AND HOPEFULLY I'LL BE ABLE TO BRING THEM THERE."

TONY: AND JUDGING BY THE HEAT SHE'S THROWING, HER CHANCES LOOK PRETTY GOOD.

CHRIS: HEY WHAT'S UP GUYS. ITS CHRIS BROWNE FROM CHANNEL ONE. I JUST HAD A LONG DAY IN THE STUDIO AND AFTER A LONG DAY THERE'S NOTHING BETTER THAN A NICE HARD WORKOUT. SO I THOUGHT YOU GUYS WOULD LIKE TO COME ALONG WITH ME AS WE GO TO MY GYM, HERE IN NEW YORK CALLED THIRD POWER FITNESS AND WE'RE ABOUT TO GO TO WORK.

CHRIS: IT'S FASHION WEEK IN NEW YORK CITY AND J-LO, USHER, AND FERGIE ARE JUST A FEW OF THE STYLISH STARS PERFORMING AT THE FASHION ROCKS SHOW FRIDAY NIGHT. SPEND YOUR SATURDAY COZYING UP WITH YOUR FAVORITE PAGE-TURNER TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL LITERACY DAY. ATTENTION TENNIS FANS! RACQUETS WILL BE SWINGING AT THE FINALS OF THE US OPEN IN NEW YORK ON SATURDAY AND SUNDAY. LAS VEGAS IS THE PLACE TO BE FOR THE MTV VIDEO MUSIC AWARDS SUNDAY NIGHT.

JESSICA: THAT'S IT FOR CHANNEL ONE NEWS. I'M JESSICA KUMARI. HAVE A GREAT WEEKEND EVERYONE.