



Cut back on mammograms, fed panel urges

Guidelines, which cite risks for women in their 40s, draw quick condemnation

BY ROB STEIN
WASHINGTON POST

WASHINGTON — Women in their 40s should stop routinely having annual mammograms and older women should cut back to one scheduled exam every other year, an influential federal task force has concluded, challenging the use of one of the most common medical

Drug shows promise to enhance a woman's desire for sex. Page 3

tests. In its first re-evaluation of breast cancer screening since

2002, the panel that sets government policy on prevention recommended the radical change, citing evidence that the potential harm to women having annual

exams beginning at age 40 outweighs the benefits.

"We're not saying women shouldn't get screened. Screening does save lives," said Diana Petitti, vice chairman of the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, which released the recommendations yesterday in a paper being published in today's Annals of Internal Medicine.

"But we are recommending against routine screening. There are important and serious negatives or harms that need to be considered carefully."

The task force's new guidelines, which also recommend against teaching women to do regular self-exams of their breasts and concludes there is insufficient evidence to continue routine mammograms beyond age 74, immediately triggered intense debate.

Several patient advocacy groups and many breast cancer experts praised the shift, saying it represents a growing recognition that more testing, exams and treatment are not always beneficial and, in fact, can harm patients. Mammograms produce false-positive results in about 10 percent of cases, causing anxiety and often prompting women to undergo unnecessary follow-up tests, sometimes disfiguring. [See **SCREEN**, Page 2]

CLIMATE EFFORT TURNS GLOOMY



CHRISTOPHER FURLONG/GETTY IMAGES

The coal-fired Fiddlers Ferry power station sends emissions into the night sky in Warrington, England. As world leaders prepare to gather for climate talks in Copenhagen next month, the resolve of the industrial nations seems to be weakening on a binding agreement.

With no bill in offing, U.S. is in a poor position to negotiate at summit on warming

BY LISA LERER
POLITICO

Shortly after Democrats took office last January, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) vowed the Senate would pass climate change legislation before the start of the international climate talks in Copenhagen.

But less than a month before the eyes of the world turn to Denmark, it's clear that there's no chance a bill will get through the Senate by then — a domestic policy failure that leaves the U.S. with a weakened hand as it seeks to negotiate a global warming treaty with the rest of the world.

At a climate meeting with world leaders in Singapore over the weekend, President Obama expressed support for drafting a limited, short-term political agreement at Copenhagen instead of a legally binding treaty.

"It was unrealistic to expect a full, legally binding international agreement to be reached between now and when Copenhagen starts in 22 days," said Michael Froman, deputy national security adviser for economic affairs.

Top administration officials say that U.S. negotiators are unable to commit to any "hard and fast" agreements without having a bill through the Senate. And if the U.S. delegation did make any strong commitments on climate change, that

could further jeopardize the chances of the Senate passing the legislation early next year.

"It's pretty clear that if they agreed to lots of things or made a big deal, that the backlash in the Senate would be astounding," said William Moomaw, a professor of international environmental policy at Tufts University.

The legislation already faces a steep climb through the Senate, regardless of what happens in Copenhagen. Progress has slowed since the House moved quickly to pass a bill last June, as high unemployment numbers and fierce debate over health care reform have pushed the environ-

[See **CLIMATE**, Page 2]

Obama, Hu talk global challenges

President urges China to play larger role on world stage

BY JENNIFER LOVEN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

BEIJING — Seeking help with an array of global troubles, President Obama said today that his closely watched talks with his Chinese counterpart are vital not just for their nations but the world.

Marking 30 years of relations between the United States and China, Obama said: "I think it's fair to say that our two governments have moved forward in a way that can bring even greater cooperation in the future."

Obama spoke after private talks with Chinese President Hu Jintao, as the two leaders began a larger round of conversations with members of their delegations.

In China for the first time, Obama joined Hu in sending cooperative signals. Their talks centered on nuclear proliferation, hurting economies, climate change, human rights, North Korea and Iran.

The pair sought to strike a balance between trading partners and competitors during Obama's weeklong trip to Asia.

"We believe strong dialogue is important not only for the U.S. and China, but for the rest of the world," Obama said, flanked by his national security team as the session began with great ceremony.

Hu reciprocated with kind words in public: "I look forward to having an in-depth relationship."

The presidents met at the Great Hall of the People, located on the edge of Tiananmen Square.

The buildup to the meetings in China brought a cautious balancing from the first-term U.S. leader.

A day before, Obama prodded China about internet controls and free speech during a forum with students in Shanghai. His message was not widely heard in the country; his words were drastically limited online and shown on

[See **OBAMA**, Page 2]

Newark Airport guard takes plea deal in Obama threat. Page 21

Hacker faces jail time for cyberattack

BY NIC CORBETT
FOR THE STAR-LEDGER

In January 2008, online hackers launched a massive attack on the Church of Scientology's websites, forcing the church to hire computer security experts to reinstate its online presence.

In the end, only one person, 19-year-old Dmitriy Guzner of Verona, admitted playing a role in the cyberassault. Tomorrow, three days before his 20th birthday, Guzner is expected to be sentenced by Judge Joseph A. Greenaway Jr. in federal court in Newark. Guzner, who has pleaded guilty to "unauthorized impairment of



Catch the video from the group "Anonymous" at nj.com.

a protected computer," faces up to 2½ years in prison and nearly \$119,000 in fines.

The online attack by members of a loosely formed, leaderless group called Anonymous was meant as an anti-Scientology protest. According to the Anonymous website whyweprotest.net, the group was upset by the church's attempts to suppress a leaked promotional video featuring actor and Scientologist Tom

Cruise, who made enthusiastic claims about the religion.

"I think they were relying on a very simple premise, that the number of people arrested and convicted of these kinds of attacks is very low," said Jose Nazario, manager of security research at Arbor Networks, which helps companies keep their websites secure.

On Jan. 17, 2008, Guzner and an undisclosed number of cohorts launched a distributed denial of service attack, or DDoS for short, against the religious organization's web presence, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Erez Liebermann. who [See **HACKER**, Page 2]



Dmitriy Guzner, 19, is to be sentenced tomorrow for his role in a cyber-attack against the Church of Scientology.

IN OTHER NEWS

A tax credit you might have to return

More than 15 million taxpayers could unexpectedly owe taxes when they file their federal returns next spring because the government was too generous. Page 3

Jersey's 'most serious problem'

Gov.-elect Chris Christie and his team got their first hands-on look at the state's finances yesterday, and Christie said the situation is bleaker than he expected. Page 21

The Greater Newark Holiday Fund

The 2009 campaign is helping needy families have a brighter season. Page 29.

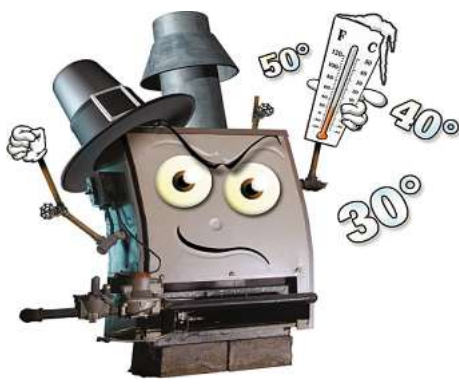


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