

Pencil Sharpeners

by Erika Pontarelli Compart

- New Orleans signature statue of Louis Armstrong Thursday formed a fitting emblem for the city where the greatest jazzman of them all was born -- surrounded by a pool of slimy black water.
- The woman was clad in Code Pink's eponymous garb.
- Smith downplayed the "doomsday scenario" on global warning, saying that some scientists are overstating the perils of an increasingly hotter planet. "How much climate change is caused by human activity and how much is caused by the natural climactic cycle, I don't think there is a real consensus on," he said.
- Bags will now have to go through dog sniffers -- with a total of 190 working at 39 airports -- or be matched up with their passengers to make sure nobody checks in a bomb and leaves.
- Vets for Freedom sent out a call to its members last Friday to come to DC - on their dime. About 40 of them gathered briefly early Tuesday morning at the American Legion Building and, over coffee and bagels, were given a quick briefing on how to lobby a Senator and their senior aides.
- He was part of the congressional delegation to the Kyoto Protocol on climate change negotiations in 1997.
- Armed with a total budget of 3.6 million dollars, the committee has already taken a high profile fact-finding mission to Greenland in May, which Markey took with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi.
- The chairman has set 3 guiding legislative principals for the the two-year old committee.
- Receding floodwaters, have left a appalling scene, foul brown rings where two feet high floods seeped away from homes, and evidence of vandalism from the dangerous post Hurricane Katrina Days when looters ran riot.
- Five states already have laws addressing this, including Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Florida, Mississippi and Indiana.

- One soldier dons rubber gloves to turn over the body looking for identification, as a shocked sergeant waves away gawking journalists.
- For its encore, the band performed a rousing melody of "Its My Life"/"Livin' on a Prayer."
- Nathalie Gettliffe, a French woman charged in Canada with kidnapping her own children elected Wednesday to have her case heard in a trial with both a judge and jury. Gettliff is about five months pregnant with her French partner.
- The legislation would let small businessmen take out multi-million dollar loans, according to Rep. Jim DeMint's, R-S.C., office.
- President Bush said that agriculture – "we want to make sure that if somebody says their going to take our products into their country, they'll do it – and intellectual property" were two major sticking points.