

Broad View discussion topics for March 16, 2013

1 Pope Francis

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The choice of Cardinal Bergoglio does mark a series of firsts: the first non-European Pope in modern times...; the first Latin-American Pope; the first Jesuit Pope...; the first Pope to take the name of Francis...

2 Rioting in Brooklyn

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Protesters enraged over the fatal shooting of a teenager by police poured into Brooklyn streets for a third straight night Wednesday, pitching bricks, bottles and garbage in furious clashes with cops.

3 Obama wouldn't eat dinner with Republicans without official taster

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Following President Obama's lunch meeting with Senate Republicans on Capitol Hill, Maine Republican Senator Susan Collins described the food served and said the president was not able to eat since his "taster" was not present.

4 Obama budget delayed until April

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The Obama administration will release its 2014 budget more than two months late on April 8, according to congressional sources. The April release means President Obama's budget will be nine weeks late, as it was due by law on Feb. 4, the first Monday in February.

5 Germany bans three Islamic groups

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Authorities in Germany have banned three Islamist groups, accusing them of being "anti-democratic" and seeking to impose sharia law.

6 New lifeform found in buried Antarctic lake

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The bacteria, said to be only 86 percent similar to other types known to exist on Earth, was discovered in a water sample taken from Lake Vostok, which sits under more than 2 miles (3 kilometers) of Antarctic ice.

Nevada - State & local news

1 Ex-lover of Liberace facing burglary charges

A man who has claimed to be the ex-lover of the late entertainer Liberace is scheduled to appear in Reno Justice Court on Thursday to face a variety of charges stemming from the use of credit cards without the owner's consent.

2 Bill would make Blue Weimaraner Nevada state dog

There were barks and yips in the Nevada Senate as a Reno senator introduced a bill to make the blue Weimaraner the official state dog of Nevada.

Michigan - State & local news

1 Grand Rapids marijuana dispensaries raided by police

When Grand Rapids police raided the Mid-Michigan Compassion Club on Wednesday, they took the shop's medical marijuana, computer hard drive, surveillance cameras, cash, scales and signs.

2 Detroit gets emergency manager - last step before bankruptcy

The distressed US city – once one of the nation's most prosperous manufacturing centres – is now the largest US city... placed under state control. Governor Rick Snyder announced on Thursday that he had chosen Kevyn Orr... to be Detroit's emergency manager...

Sports

1 Female MMA fighter admits she was male until 2006

No wonder she doesn't hit like a girl.