

## [In the news](#)

Monday, December 11th, 2006

It's time again for my regular look at the news. No matter what's happening in the world, there's always another aspect of the story on the Web.

### **NASA shoots for the moon**

**In the news:** NASA has announced that it plans to build an outpost on the moon starting in 2020, with the goal to have it permanently staffed by 2024. Russia has asked to join the effort.

**On the Web:** Space.com's [All About the Moon](#) site is teeming with information about Earth's satellite, including the "Top 10 Cool Moon Facts" and "Top 10 Apollo Hoax Theories." Several articles cover what's at stake with a lunar station, such as the threat of moonquakes and the particulars of mining there.

### **Mysteries surround spy's death**

**In the news:** As former Russian spy Alexander Litvinenko was buried last week after being poisoned, reports surfaced of more people close to him being contaminated by the same radioactive substance used to kill him.

**On the Web:** Former CIA officers Peter Earnest and Bob Rayle and ex-KGB Maj. Gen. Oleg Kalugin discuss the fallout from Litvinenko's death and the mysteries surrounding it as part of [SpyCast](#), a 50-minute podcast from the International Spy Museum in Washington, D.C.

### **Iraq War raises concerns**

**In the news:** As the third anniversary of Saddam Hussein's capture by U.S. forces approaches Wednesday, 71 percent of Americans polled recently by the Associated Press expressed dissatisfaction with the way President Bush is handling the war in Iraq.

**On the Web:** [U.S.-Iraq ProCon](#) answers the question "Should the U.S. have attacked Iraq?" by looking at various related issues (weapons of mass destruction, Saddam's threat, Iraq's oil) and presenting arguments for and against them by the people and agencies involved. Run by the nonprofit organization ProCon.org, the site doesn't express its opinions but seeks to promote "informed citizenship by presenting controversial issues in a simple, nonpartisan pro-con format."

### **Wii controllers go flying**

**In the news:** Nintendo has warned users of its new video-game system, Wii, to use caution after receiving reports that the wireless controller has been sent flying during zealous game play, causing property damage.

**On the Web:** [Wii Have a Problem](#) chronicles incidents — with photographic and video proof — where a wayward controller has cracked TV screens and damaged other household items. But even the site doubts the veracity of one submission showing the baton-like Remote imbedded in the frame of a TV set.

### **Dad dies after being stranded**

**In the news:** Online journalist James Kim died from hypothermia after his family's car broke down in the snow-covered Oregon wilderness and he set out days later on foot to seek help. Searchers had found his wife and two young children safe in the stranded car before locating his body.

**On the Web:** Outdoor Life magazine has posted a complete [guide to winter survival](#) on its website in response to Kim's death. Take a quiz to see if you'd know what to do if you became stranded in a vehicle during a snowstorm, then learn how to survive and what to pack in emergency kits.

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