DIFFERENT WAYS TO VIEW THE WORLD

The traditional map of the world is a geographic marvel. But look at the world through the prism of population, child mortality, greenhouse gas emissions or even toy exports and countries morph into new shapes. Suddenly, the map reveals so much more.

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO POPULATION

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO CHILD MORTALITY

THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

For more about the making of these maps, PLEASE SEE PERSON OF INTEREST PAGE 2

It’s how, not where

Olympic Stadium plans could either ruin or fulfill Olmsted’s Chicago park vision

By Blair Kamin

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rederick Law Olmsted was America's greatest landscape architect, a poet of dirt and rocks and trees who saw urban parks not as spaces of soothing bounty but as public places that would bring together an industrializing nation divided along class lines.

Among his greatest works: New York City's Central Park and Chicago's Washington Park, which Mayor Richard Daley proposed last week as the site for a $1.5 billion stadium for the 2016 Olympics.

Not surprisingly, some open-space advocates recoiled. By its very nature, which includes an above-ground portion of the stadium atop the classics while keeping a monkey, monoculture atmosphere that Olmsted designed, the site would be a tropical field, as well as cultural events.

In essence, they compared the planning of a monument on the lawn to the “Teddy pumpkins,” said Jerry Ahlstrom, executive director of the Openlands Project, a Chicago environmental group.

“If it loses the park, it loses the democracy,” he said. “It means to me this plan would destroy the legacy of Dunham in that park.”

Looking beyond Obama-mania: Is he ready yet?

By David Mendell

Amid all the breathless national media coverage of U.S. Sen. Barack Obama's last weekend to a high-profile political fundraiser in Iowa, a key analysis was missing: What did Iowans' Democratic candidates really think of him?

As the hosts of the first presidential contest in the country, Iowans are a special breed of political consumer, more discerning and critical than the typical American voters. They are accustomed to presidential-ready candidates catering to their political interests and dazzling them with crisp oratory and folksy glad-handing.

In short: They are a very tough crowd.

Upon the Illinois senator's arrival, the event was billed, much like his own media circus, as the presidential moment of the 2006 campaign. Iowans are the West Coast's great democratic experiment, the health care of the political process in the United States.

But then again, Obama himself couldn't help but think that Iowa's judgment was skewed by an edge. The senator is not only the first black president of the Senate, and not only the first African-American to run for president, but also the first ever to speak at the American Legion's national convention. Still, it's a long way from the Warren County Fairgrounds in Iowa to the Oval Office.

No one is all good or all evil

By Emily L. Hauser

Why You Should Care About Reinhold Niebuhr

Niebuhr was a pivotal figure for a generation of activist religious thinkers. His work was characterized by a resonant tension, a contemplation of sin to the end. "I believe," he wrote in 1967, "that God endures a democratic culture in the world for all time and with all his power, that human beings are the only hope for the salvation of the world, that God will and does direct human history so as to fulfill the good over evil in history," he wrote. "I see human history involved in the contradictions and the evil."
**The justice who changed a way of life**

By Michael Tackett

WASHINGTON — It’s still quite easy to remember the fullboards that dotted the South in the 1960s because the courts had fundamentally changed their way of life.

More than three decades after Warren’s death, the high court prepares to open its new term on the first Monday of October, and it could well represent the start of a conservative alternative to the liberal court that he led so fundamentally.

That single act changed history’s course.

For years before the Civil War, the South was divided over slavery. But for me these maps bring home the true scale of things in a way that numbers would be clear. As time goes by, however, the map would not tell the whole story. As time goes by, however, the map would not tell the whole story.

**While the cat’s away...**

In the Thai prime minister learned last week, when foreign leaders go overseas, they sometimes get overlooked. A few examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEADER</th>
<th>SUCCESSOR</th>
<th>WHY LEADER WAS AWAY</th>
<th>DETAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thaksin Shinawatra</td>
<td>Abhisit Vejjajiva</td>
<td>For a conference in Singapore</td>
<td>The most significant result was that the new leader was not as popular as his predecessor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Former President Mohammed Zahir Shah</td>
<td>King Mohammad Daoud</td>
<td>For medical treatment in India</td>
<td>The king was overthrown by a military coup.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Former President Mohammad Reza Pahlavi</td>
<td>Mohammad Reza Pahlavi (Shah)</td>
<td>For a conference in Cairo</td>
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<td>Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew</td>
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**The scale of things**

Mark Newman creates maps that illustrate statistics, showing how data can change the shape of the world.

**Fine Point**

A look at the week in Washington

Mark Newman creates maps that illustrate statistics, showing how data can change the shape of the world.