BREAKING THROUGH THE BUNDLE

Martha Stewart returns to work

A beaming Martha Stewart returned to work, blowing a kiss and waving as she arrived to speak to cheering employees. After five months in prison and a weekend spent more comfortably at her 153-acre suburban estate, Stewart spoke to staff at Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc. in Manhattan, as members of the media looked on. With barely a pause since she was released from a federal women's prison in Alderson, W.Va., on Friday, Stewart addressed a staff diminished by layoffs in her absence. Although her company's stock has recovered from its low following her conviction, its price has fallen roughly 19 percent since her release early Friday, wiping away more than \$300 million in the company's market capitalization. Stewart, 63, said she had had "the tremendous privilege" of meeting a cross-section of people in prison and "learned a great deal about our country."

Gangs set fire to Dominican Republic prison

Rival gangs fighting for control of a provincial Dominican Republic prison set pillows and sheets ablaze, starting a fire that killed at least 133 people after rescuers were thwarted by a jammed entrance. Only 26 inmates were rescued from the public jail in Higuey, 75 miles northeast of the capital on the island's eastern tip, said National Police Chief Manuel de Jesus Perez Sanchez. Four inmates suffered bullet wounds, but he had no details. Guards could not rescue prisoners from the blazing cell block because the entrance was jammed, National Police spokesman Gen. Simon Diaz said. He did not know why the entrance was jammed. By late Monday morning, rescuers had pulled 133 bodies from the cell block.

Pope expected to leave hospital by Holy Week

Pope John Paul II is likely to be released from the hospital in time for Holy Week services that begin with Palm Sunday on March 20, the Vatican said. The pope has suffered no complications in a month. But doctors have cautioned John Paul not to use his second breathing crisis makes a complete recovery. Doctors will decide when the tube can be removed. Once the 84-services leading up to Easter on March 27.

Girl thrown from overpass survives

A 5-year-old Toronto girl is expected to make a full recovery after she was reportedly tossed by her father at least 50 feet onto Canada's busiest highway, police said. The girl's father was killed when he jumped from the overpass onto Highway 401 in north Toronto. Witnesses told local media they saw the man throw the girl before jumping. The incident happened early Sunday evening after police said the child's mother found a suicide note at her nearby apartment. The es said the screaming girl, dressed in a pink snowsuit, clutched the man's leg. Neither the man cars daily across the top of the city.

- Compiled by Sarah Moser from http://www.msnbc.com

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