

DeRienzo sues airline

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

CHIEF Public Defender Daniel DeRienzo has filed a civil lawsuit against Continental Micronesia Inc. and Getaway Travel Company, Inc.

DeRienzo, through counsel Timothy H. Skinner, sued the two companies for breach of contract, fraudulent misrepresentation, and false imprisonment.

The case arose from an incident that took place a year ago, when DeRienzo, his then pregnant wife Feng Faith Wang, and their one-year-old son Alexander were barred from entering Bali, Indonesia.

A few months before the trip schedule, DeRienzo inquired with Continental and Getaway Travel about the documents that might be required of Feng to enter Bali. Feng is a Chinese citizen holding a US green card.

On several occasions, agents of the two companies told DeRienzo that Feng would not need a visa, and that her green card would do.

Banking on the assurance made



Daniel DeRienzo

by agents of the two companies, the DeRienzos embarked on the trip on March 17, 1995.

When they reached Guam, where they were to take a Bali-bound flight, a Continental agent again gave them assurance that Feng would not have any problem with travel requirements.

But upon arrival in Bali, only DeRienzo and Alexander—who are both US citizens—were allowed entry

Ruslan Subiantoro, Continental's airport manager in Bali, told them that Feng's green card "was useless because Chinese citizens needed a visa in order to enter Bali."

DeRienzo tried to argue with Subiantoro, but the airline manager would not listen.

DeRienzo requested that he be allowed to buy tickets so they could change route to Singapore. But the airline manager refused to bargain, and declined the couple's request to allow them to stay over-

night on the island and to change their baby's clothes.

Instead, Subiantoro, threatened to have them arrested "for bringing in an illegal alien."

Eventually, the DeRienzos were herded to the departure gate and escorted back to the plane.

"The defendants' conduct... was extreme and outrageous so as to go beyond all possible bounds of decency; was atrocious and utterly intolerable in a civilized society," DeRienzo stated in the complaint filed March 19 before

the Superior Court.

The defendants, DeRienzo added, had breached their "duty to observe good faith and fair dealing in all of its contracts" with their clients.

"Defendants Continental Micronesia Inc and Getaway Travel Company, Inc. breached their respective duty of due diligence and reasonable care by misrepresenting to plaintiffs that a passport and a valid US green card were sufficient for Feng Faith

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Acting Gov. Jesus C. Borja (right) smiles as US Navy Pacific Commander Adm. David L. Brewer III receives a \$37,482 check as initial payment for the return of some 16 hectares of land under the Tanapag Harbor lease. Borja and Brewer signed an agreement that would allow local use of the area for economic development.

Dela Cruz declines Borja offer to run in '97 election



Jose S. Dela Cruz

FORMER Supreme Court Chief Justice Jose S. Dela Cruz has turned down an offer to be Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja's runningmate in the 1997 gubernatorial elections.

This was learned yesterday from Borja who said he is now considering a list containing names of possible lieutenant governor choices for the Democratic Party.

"I have talked to him (Dela Cruz), but he is not interested," said Borja in an interview with reporters.

Dela Cruz, who retired from the bench last May, for a while seemed a good and likely choice

for Borja, having served with the latter in the Supreme Court.

Dela Cruz and Borja were law partners prior to serving as two of the first justices of the high tribunal.

"I will be discussing the list with the party," said Borja. "My feeling at the moment is I have to wait for the party although I have to make the decision."

Borja confirmed there are three prominent women achievers in his list of possible runningmates, namely Esther S. Fleming, Frances DLG. Borja and Maria Pangelinan.

He, however, has yet to make up his mind on his choice.

Earlier reports indicate Independent Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider may also be a possible candidate although he had publicly disclosed plans of seeking the office of the Washington representative.

Borja earlier this month formally announced his bid for the Democratic Party's gubernatorial nomination.

The lieutenant governor decided to seek the governorship after Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio announced late last year he would no longer be seeking a second term of office.

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Military terminates part of Tanapag Harbor lease

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff

THE UNITED States government yesterday relinquished interest in a piece of property covered by an existing lease negotiated by the US and the CNMI under the Covenant.

In afternoon ceremonies in Capitol Hill, US Navy Commander in chief for the Pacific Command Adm. David L. Brewer and acting Gov. Jesus C. Borja signed a partial termination agreement returning some 16 hectares of land in the Tanapag Harbor area back to local control and use.

"It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here to sign this buy-back agreement. We are looking forward to the development of the port," said Brewer in a statement prior to the signing.

"I personally pulled into this

port area back in 1988 and so I am looking forward to this as it has some nostalgia for me," said the admiral. "We're very hopeful that this would basically benefit the people of Saipan and the CNMI in their economic development. We remain committed to a partnership with the CNMI."

Under the agreement, the CNMI was to pay the US \$937,482 for the return of the 16 hectare parcel.

During yesterday's ceremonies, Borja presented Brewer a check worth \$37,482 as partial payment for the buy-back. The remaining \$900,000 was to be paid within one year.

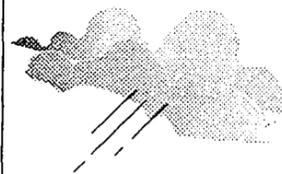
Part of the Tanapag Harbor leasehold is being given back to the Saipan government to allow for port-related development in the area.

The Commonwealth Ports Au-

thority has lobbied for the leaseback so it could plan more improvement projects in the vicinity of the commercial port.

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Weather Outlook



Partly cloudy
with isolated showers

Cultist admits murder raps

TOKYO (AP) - A former senior member of the doomsday cult Aum Shinri Kyo admitted in court Monday that he spread the lethal nerve gas on Tokyo's subways, and apologized in tearful testimony.

"I have no excuse," Hayashi said in a trembling voice at the Tokyo District Court,

In connection with Tokyo subway attacks

Japan's public television NHK quoted him as saying, "I am so sorry I just don't know how to express my apology."

Hayashi, a 49-year-old former cult doctor, faces murder charges in the March 20, 1995 attack that killed 12

people and injured more than 5,500 others.

Prosecutors had accused Hayashi of releasing sarin, a World War II-era nerve gas, by piercing one of two plastic bags containing it inside the subway during morning rush hour.

Hayashi was on one of the five subway cars bound for central Tokyo which were to pass the same station in the heart of Tokyo's government district just past 8 a.m.

Two Kasumigaseki subway officials died as they tried to clean up the puddles and leaking plastic bag left by Hayashi. As prosecutors presented the

charges in court, Hayashi dropped his head and his body began shaking because of crying, according to news reports. "Compared to their admirable act, what a stupid crime I, a doctor whose task is to save people's lives, committed!" Hayashi told the court. "I feel so ashamed."

Prosecutors also charged Hayashi with supplying equipment and antidote for the attackers and of hiding evidence afterward.

In his previous court appearance in December on a separate charge - hiding and helping other cult suspects - Hayashi had admitted his in-

volvement in the subway attack.

Cult leader Shoko Asahara also faces murder charges for the subway attack. He also faces more than a dozen other charges for murder, kidnapping and illegal drug production.

Asahara's trial was to have begun last fall. But his abrupt firing of his only lawyer on the eve of the proceedings pushed the trial date back to April 24.

About 170 Aum cultists are in jail, for charges ranging from bicycle theft to murder. Several trials involving the subway gassing have begun, but there have been no major verdicts yet.

Prior to Hayashi, some other senior members has also implicated Asahara in the crimes.

Thailand set to ban British beef imports

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - Thailand will ban imports of British beef and dairy products beginning this week to protect its citizens against mad cow disease, a health official said Tuesday.

Most imported beef in Thailand comes from the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

At least 10 people have died in Britain from eating beef from cattle infected with the disease.

Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, the human equivalent of mad cow disease, has never been reported in Thailand.

Pakdee said he will wait for a report from the World Health Organization on whether the cow disease can infect humans before deciding to lift the ban.

Pakdee Pothisiri, secretary-general of the Food and Drug Administration, said that he did not believe any Thai companies have imported British beef, and he was checking whether any have imported dairy products from Britain.

But the ban will be implemented just in case, he said.

Campaign begins in Korea

By REID G. MILLER
SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - Campaigning began Tuesday for a parliamentary election seen as a referendum on President Kim Young-sam and his efforts to end corruption in South Korean politics.

The president's clean-up campaign has already landed his two immediate

predecessors and a host of lesser officials in court on charges of bribery, treason and mutiny, but opponents say his own hands may not be entirely spotless.

The president's carefully cultivated image as Mr. Clean was tarnished only three days before the start of the campaign when one of his chief aides was arrested and charged with taking \$180,000 in bribes from businessmen.

Kim promised an internal investigation of his administration to root out any further irregularities.

The April 11 election pits some 1,300 candidates for 153 seats in the 299-seat unicameral General Assembly.

The remaining 46 seats will be divided among the parties on a proportional vote basis.

China ends military exercises

BEIJING (AP) - China on Monday closed out a series of military exercises that failed to intimidate Taiwan and cooled its war of words with the island's leaders.

With the end of the land, sea and air drills, the Taiwan Strait, the 200-kilometer (125-mile) strip of water separating the island and mainland China, fell quiet for the first time in 18 days.

Tensions in the strait have been at their highest since 1958, when China shelled Taiwanese-controlled Quemoy and Matsu islands.

The concluded maneuvers came menacingly close to other Taiwanese-held islands, and the presence of two U.S. aircraft carriers and their escort ships, sent as a warning to Beijing, added to the sense of volatility. Ships and planes could resume normal travel without altering course as of 6 p.m. (1000 GMT), China's state-run Xinhua News Agency said.

The exercises, which had been scheduled to end Monday,

proved China's military could launch a combined assault on a beachhead, Xinhua said.

Beijing had hoped its show of force would scare Taiwanese voters away from President Lee Teng-hui in last Saturday's presidential election, Taiwan's first ever under universal suffrage. Beijing suspects Lee of edging Taiwan toward outright independence and away from reunification.

With Lee having taken a healthy 54 percent of the vote, China tried to strike a more conciliatory tone. "We believe the door to negotiations is still open," China's Foreign Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang said Sunday.

Shen said Beijing was awaiting a response from Taiwan on a longstanding offer to prepare for a high-level meeting and for talks on direct mail, air and trade links, or increased cultural and economic exchanges.

But Shen repeated that Taiwan must first give up its pursuit of independence and support reunification - conditions China

has maintained all along.

China began eight days of missile tests off Taiwan's two main ports on March 8, and followed it up with nine days of live-fire air and naval maneuvers near the midway point in the strait, the unofficial boundary between the antagonists.

The latest exercises, centered on offshore islands, brought Chinese and Taiwanese forces within 10 kilometers (6 miles) of each other.

Beijing claims Lee wants to abandon the doctrine that China and Taiwan are one country and must be reunited. That goal has existed as long as both sides' status as de facto separate states: ever since the Nationalists fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing China's civil war.

In his victory speeches, Lee did not signal any concessions. However, he promised to try to improve relations with the mainland.

China has stood firm on reunification, peacefully if possible, by force if necessary.

Lin: We're not lobbying



James Lin

SGMA president irked over wage issue

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff
GARMENT industry leader James Lin is annoyed over suggestions that garment manufacturers have been lobbying for their exemption from the proposed wage increase.

"We've never spent money to lobby," said Lin, president of Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association.

Lin was reacting to reports that garment firm owners had peddled influence with the Wage and Sal-

ary Review Board into recommending wage hike exemption for the industry.

"I have a personal friend in the House but I've never lobbied with him," Lin said in a telephone interview. "I always tell him to use his own judgement and he knows what is good for the CNMI."

Lin maintained, however, that the industry could not afford the proposed 30-cent hourly wage increase.

The House of Representatives recently passed House Bill 10-

158 which seeks the implementation of wage increase by April 1. The bill is awaiting action by the Senate.

Speaker Diego Benavente pushed for an across-the-board increase, and rejected the board's recommendation to spare the garment industry.

Lin said he was irked by the House's insistence that the industry could withstand a wage increase.

"Why do they assume that we make too much money?" Lin

asked. "If they want to increase wage, then they may do so. They don't have to say anything more."

The association president said the legislators "don't know our real situation."

"They never approach us to find out what's really happening in the industry," he said.

Lin is also displeased by remarks that labor abuses are rampant in the garment industry.

"We're always being blamed for something that is not really happening anymore," he said. "The garment industry is doing its best to improve its workers' condition."

California AG accused of disregarding local laws

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
PETITIONER Kaelani Kinney has asked the Superior Court to issue an order sanctioning the Attorney General of California for allegedly disregarding CNMI local laws.

Kinney also requested for a court's order directing the AG of California specifically Deputy Atty. Gen. Yeoryios C. Apallas to refrain from participating in the Special Master's proceedings until it has complied with the local rules and designated an interested party.

In a motion to strike California AG's comments in Special Master's report, Kinney's counsel, David J. Lujan, said the court must not allow any party and non-party to flagrantly disobey the local rules.

Last Feb. 16, Larry Lee Hillblom's estate executor presented a letter from Apallas expressing intention to join the probate proceedings. Apallas requested

the Special Master proceedings be postponed 45 days in order to prepare.

Lujan said last March 11 Apallas "bullied his way" into the proceedings with ex parte communication and his purported filing of an opposition to petitioner David Moncrieff's motion for estate administration.

Lujan said Apallas' latest assault against the local rules came on March 15 in the form of a purported filing of California AG's comments regarding Special Master's report.

"Who does Apallas think he is that he can simply designate himself as 'interested party'? Does he think he is exempt himself from asking the court to be an interested party, unlike all the others?" said Kinney's counsel in his motion.

"Who does Apallas think he is that he can just walk his way into

the Special Master's proceeding and say the findings are fatally flawed, unsupported by the evidence, and therefore the conclusions wrong? Was he present during the entire hearings to listen to and observe the demeanor of the witness?" Lujan stressed.

Lujan contended that Apallas has an affirmative duty to investigate not only the law but also the facts before he comes barging into court with his dictates as to what is right and wrong.

The lawyer pointed out that if Kinney's son Junior Larry Hillblom is proven to be Hillblom's child, then the Charitable Beneficiaries would be entitled to nothing.

Meanwhile, Apallas wrote to Superior Court Presiding Judge



Kaelani Kinney



David J. Lujan

Alexandro Castro last March 11 recognizing the proper procedure in getting into the proceedings.

"We mean no disrespect to this court in not filing the preferred

procedure, but I must say, we have tried and to date have failed to line up local counsel because of variety of factors, among them conflicts of interest," said Apallas.

Caronel to open watch center

CARONEL Saipan announces the opening of a Caronel Watch Center at La Fiesta San Roque on Saipan. Caronel is a part of HCL, Micronesia, a subsidiary of the HCL group.

Caronel Saipan is the premier marketer of quality American and European brands such as Bally, Ray Ban, and Adidas sunglasses as well as Parker and

Waterman pens. HCL Micronesia through its Caronel business has had much experience in retail operations on Guam. The Caronel Watch Center at La Fiesta San Roque is the first effort of Caronel Saipan to open a retail outside of Guam. On Guam, Caronel has been identified with quality watch retailing for many years.

The new store will feature watch brands such as Rolex, Breitling, IWC, Oris Givenchy, Mahara, Revue Thomen, Universal Geneve, Van Cleef, Nina Ricci, Chopard and Tudor. In addition, popular brands such as Corum, Tag Heuer, Omega and Gucci will be offered. The store will open on April 1st, 1996.

NMI looks at Okinawa model for desal plant

THE Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will push for the desalination project which will initially benefit the central part of Saipan, it was learned.

One of the Governor's Water Emergency Task Force members, Juan S. Tenorio, who visited Okinawa to see its new desalination plant, said this project will be one of those recommended to Gov. Froilan S. Tenorio when the task force presents today the Water Master Plan done by Winzler & Kelly.

Tenorio told the Variety that the Okinawa plant is too big for the Northern Marianas, but "we're looking into that (concept)."

"We're looking into the desalination of the water at least for the central portion of Saipan," Tenorio said.

"It's a must that we must have that desalination, even if we have the new pipes and the new wells. So, the water task force would be recommending desalination to the governor," he added.

Much of the water produced by the CUC is salty, and desalination would make it potable.

Tenorio said the Commonwealth Health Center would become a testing ground for desalination in August or September.

The aim, he said, is to make the



Juan S. Tenorio

water coming out from the faucets in any area in the hospital drinkable.

The CHC installed its own water system, which makes use of the reverse osmosis method, but it is not working right now.

Because of this, the CHC buys water.

Tenorio said the firm which installed the CUC water system about seven years ago is being "pushed" to look into the resuscitation of the CHC water system.

In the meantime, the CUC is taking the lead in providing potable water for the hospital, Tenorio said.

— Rick Alberto



Santiago Toledo, right, Director of the Philippines' National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) shows to the media some 30 sacks of Metamphetamine Hydrochloride, locally known as Shabu after they were seized in a raid at a clandestine laboratory in Pampanga province north of Manila. The more than one ton of the illicit drug was the biggest haul in the country's anti-narcotics drive and has an estimated value of \$39-million U.S. dollars. AP Photo

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Members of the Grace Christian track and field team with their coach (third from left) do bending exercise to prepare for the annual school competition at the Micro Beach yesterday afternoon.

FORUM A Meeting Place For Our Opinions. . .And Yours. . .



Lack of full political representation in Congress

THIS month marks the 18th anniversary since the inception of our constitutional government, a derivative of the Covenant Agreement. Perhaps this is just as good a time to reflect upon the positive aspects of that document, including the glaring omissions that it failed to provide the newest group of Americans on this side of the Pacific.

The Covenant Agreement served as the umbrella institution which funneled more than half a billion dollars in grant funds for the construction and emplacement of basic infrastructure throughout the NMI. Combined with positive policies from within, i.e., labor, tax system, immigration control, among others, the NMI underwent phenomenal economic growth however a resource poor archipelago. We can't fault the Covenant Agreement insofar as the economic equation is concerned. If anything has gone wrong, we are responsible for them as a result of our inactions and indecisions or lack of foresight or a combination of all three.

The other side of the spectrum is political in nature. It is a rather unique and strange feature of the agreement—the lack of political representation in both chambers of our national legislative institution or the US Congress. Herein lies the very source of our problems in that although we are US Citizens, we are not represented in the discussions and subsequent decisions of issues that affect us directly or indirectly. It is an arrangement that is best described as a "Set-Aside" policy of our national government. For all intent and purposes, it is an arrangement that conveys HALF US Citizenship to Marianans and others in insular possessions of the US.

This rather unique though more strange an arrangement doesn't provide for direct representation in both branches of our national government. It is for this reason that there constantly exist conflicting goals and definition between agencies in the administration, the US House of Representatives and the Senate. This doesn't include the complete lack of goal and definition on our side of the Pacific. Nonetheless, it doesn't provide a forum nor a venue where constructive engagement occurs. It strengthens current "set-aside" policy to the extent where agency representatives dictate, at will, what must be done in insular areas.

While it is true that Congress can review actions of the administration, there's no constitutionally authorized agency assigned to check actions of the US Congress on US Citizens in insular areas. It has carte blanche authority to do literally anything it wishes to Americans residing outside the contiguous land mass of the US mainland. This open-ended authority puts insular governments at the mercy of the strongest policy makers that tread the dome on Capitol Hill. Policies, reasoned and relevant, whimsical irrelevant are dished out without our participation.

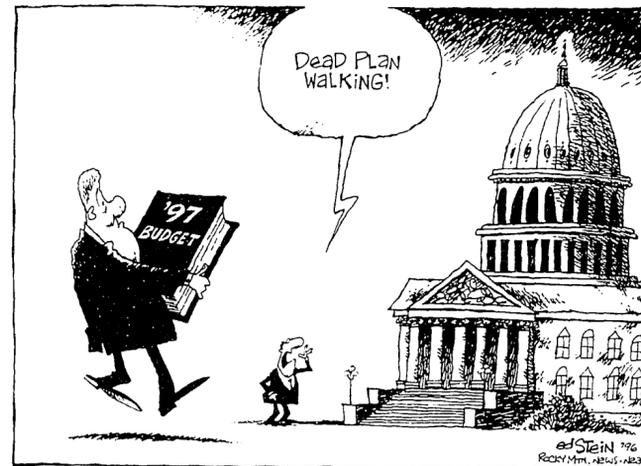
The problems that emerge from the "set-aside" policy of the federal government become even more pronounced and acutely frustrating when more of our friends in Congress have opted to retire from office. In other words, the new breed aren't necessarily wary of the history of our relationship nor do we matter in that they too have an entirely different agenda which doesn't augur well with the economic peculiarities of the islands. There's greater confusion every which way you turn.

The oversight hearings held several years ago provided the forum to display punitive attitudes of a very powerful legislative body against a powerless insular area such as the NMI. We were the scapegoat of all that has gone wrong in the textile states. Is it really our fault that the prohibitive wages forced the relocation of textile factories to the Maquiladores in Mexico? It is bad enough that we had to endure differing interpretations of US Customs regulations, let alone receiving the brunt of blames we weren't responsible for.

The lack of full political representation in an institution that decides the fate of nations and "other" Americans outside mainstream America is the very source of our problem. For as long as this is the case, we would have to endure the prevailing mood on Capitol Hill be it reasonable and relevant or otherwise. As much as I have supported the intent to grant the NMI a non-voting delegate, may I humbly withdraw such support in that we all know the history and sentiment of how voting members feel about insular representation. I refuse to be represented by a delegate whose vote counts when it doesn't matter or doesn't count when it really matters. This glaring omission definitely grants us half citizenship or half non-citizens which is tantamount to a status granted foreigners.

This "set-aside" federal policy on insular possessions is standard discrimination against, believe it or not, US Citizens. We may have endured it over the years. However, it doesn't change the fact that it is a discriminatory policy question. It is really disheartening that we have been kept outside the gate of full representation in our national Congress. This arrangement opens up the door for abuse by representatives and senators who have learned to do things the Chamorro Way—blame everybody else for all the evils that have contributed to job displacement and unemployment of their constituents when in fact the source of the problem is right beneath their noses at home.

I know that there'll come that fine day when He will call for me. I know that when that day comes, I will still suffer the humiliation of a half US Citizen. At least I have spoken my piece loud and clear. Many of us will endure the same humiliation and slights of a very powerful legislative body. This is one time in our political relationship that our national leaders should dig deep into their conscience if for any other reason than to come to terms with a familiar chorus we've heard time and again—equality! We will forever be a nation, one nation, separate and unequal. Until we have attained full representation in Congress, then and only then would there be greater meaning to the basic tenets of American Democracy "...from sea to shining sea". Thanks.



JACK ANDERSON and MICHAEL BINSTEIN
WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Arafat asserts he warned Rabin of assassins

WASHINGTON—Palestinian President Yasser Arafat repeatedly warned late Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that he was in danger of being assassinated by a fellow Jew.

In a recent one-hour meeting in Gaza with Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Arlen Specter, RPa., Arafat recounted in poignant detail how he tried in vain to prevent the murder of his peace partner. The notes of a source who was present in the room, along with a secret Palestine Liberation Organization memo, raise intriguing new questions about the Rabin assassination.

"Arafat kept telling Rabin to watch out for the Jewish extremist groups," one source who attended the meeting told us. "But Rabin kept blowing him off. Rabin didn't think a Jew would kill another Jew."

A second source in the room added: "Arafat told us about a whole series of meetings he had with Rabin, where he had warned him about the assassination. One time was when they were at the United Nations together for the (50th) anniversary party."

That warning came last October, just a couple of weeks before Rabin was gunned down by a radical Israeli student. Arafat pulled Rabin aside during the U.N. celebration to warn him that PLO intelligence reports suggested that Israeli and Palestinian extremists were joining forces to stop the peace process.

The October PLO memo we've obtained spells out Arafat's concern. The memo states that Avishay Raviv, the head of the radical Israeli group Eyal, met five times with leaders of Islamic Jihad and Hamas, two radical Arab groups, at the Palestine Hotel in Gaza last year.

What transpired at those meetings is still unclear, and Arafat intimates don't know if he learned of any specific threats to Rabin's life. But knowledgeable sources say Arafat interpreted this intelligence as a sign that radical Israelis were willing to assassinate their own prime minister to stop the peace process.

According to the notes of Arafat's conversation with Specter, which were obtained by our associate Ed Henry, here's how Arafat explained his attempts to caution Rabin about the possibility of being killed by his own countrymen:

"I warned Rabin many times in the presence of (Jordan's) King Hussein and (Egyptian President Hosni) Mubarak. Rabin said, 'It can't happen.'"

Arafat then thickened the plot by intimating that he had warned Rabin as far back as January 1995 after 21 young Israeli soldiers were slaughtered by a bombing at the Beit Lid bus stop. Islamic Jihad claimed responsibility for the act, but the PLO memo speculates that Israeli extremists might have also been involved. The memo says Arafat believes there has been "military cooperation" between Eyal and Islamic Jihad, and that Eyal knew about the Beit Lid operation in advance — a charge that Raviv denies.

In his conversation with Specter, Arafat seemed to connect Beit Lid to Rabin's assassination: "After 21 soldiers were killed in January, I had evidence about the leader of the Islamic Jihad and had him arrested and sentenced to 15 years for sending two guys to perform terrorism in Israel. Rabin didn't believe that Israelis could take actions such as assassination against him."

Then Arafat added: "At the U.N. (anniversary) in New York I warned Rabin again about Israeli fanatical groups. He didn't believe me."

At that point, Arafat held up a copy of the PLO memo and said: "I told Rabin, 'Be careful.'"

Shortly after Rabin's death, Raviv voiced support for the assassin, Yigal Amir. "We admire this lad for his sincerity, for standing behind his words," said Raviv. "We do not want to denounce this.... This man Rabin is responsible for the murder of hundreds of Jews and is another victim of peace."

Raviv was arrested shortly after the assassination because Israeli police and security officials suspected that he knew in advance of Amir's plans. He has since been released pending further investigation.

Police officials also told the court that Amir was a member of Raviv's organization. Amir, meanwhile, has alleged at his trial that Raviv told him many times that Rabin "must be killed."

All of this information left Specter's delegation with more questions than answers. Was Rabin's assassination connected to Raviv's meetings with Palestinian extremists? And does Arafat have more information that could shed light on the mystery?

"I left being puzzled," said one attendee. "If I had my way, I would have asked (Arafat) to sit down for another hour and I would have said, 'What else do you know about this?'"

Investors sue over pachinko

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
TWO Korean investors filed a civil lawsuit yesterday against two private companies for alleged fraud and breach of contract over a pachinko slot machine deal.

Jong Chul Go and Duk Man Kim, through counsel Eric S. Smith, filed the suit before the Superior Court seeking \$397,500 in special and exemplary damages.

Named defendants were World Trading Corp., and International K.S.T. Enterprises, Inc., doing

business as the Oriental Hotel and as an amusement machine operator respectively.

Also sued were Goo Ho Cho and Yong Cha Yi, shareholders and owners of WTC and K.S.T.

In the complaint, Smith said in 1995 while plaintiffs, Go and Kim, were residing at the Oriental Hotel Cho approached and asked them if they were interested in investing in a pachinko slot machine business in Saipan.

Introducing himself as operator of amusement machines, Smith said Cho told plaintiffs that if they

could provide \$25,000 for each pachinko slot machine, he would provide them the building location, the management, license, and permits needed to operate a pachinko parlor.

A contract was entered into on July 29, 1995 in which plaintiffs would invest \$297,500 for the purchase of 14 pachinko to be used at defendant's amusement place.

Smith said his clients gave \$148,750 representing half of the total amount as agreed as initial payment under the agreement.

Smith said defendant has failed to perform any of the covenants of the agreement and has not installed pachinko.

For breaching the agreement, the lawyer claimed that the plaintiffs demanded for the return of their money but defendant refused.

Smith pointed out that the defendant committed a fraud by deceiving the plaintiffs.

He said the defendant never had a license, authority or right to operate pachinko in the CNMI.

The Korean investors and defendant entered into a contractual

agreement last February in which defendant acknowledged that defendant owed to plaintiffs a debt of \$289,000.

Last September 13, K.S.T. sued Finance Secretary Antonio D. Cabrera and Finance seeking issuance of a temporary restraining order to prevent the lottery for pachinko licenses.

The court denied the request.

In line with K.S.T.'s suit, Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro then issued a ruling stating that Finance has the express authority to issue rules and regulations governing pachinko.



THE SAN Francisco De Borja Elementary School in Songsong Village, Rota has recently entered into its sixth year of operation. The school, which has an enrollment of 156 students from pre-school to seventh grade, is set to add an eighth grade by next year.

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR, LEGISLATORS, JUSTICES AND JUDGES, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES AND MAYORS, WILL CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 1996, AT 9:00 A.M., IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CHAMBER, NORTHERN MARIANAS COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.

THE PURPOSE OF THE PUBLIC HEARING IS TO SOLICIT PUBLIC COMMENTS, VIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR, LEGISLATORS, JUSTICES AND JUDGES, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES AND MAYORS.

THE GENERAL PUBLIC IS INVITED TO ATTEND. ANY PERSON WISHING TO TESTIFY, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHAIRMAN, HERMAN T. GUERRERO. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL MR. GUERRERO AT TEL. NO. 664-2282 OR FAX NO. 664-2390.

Herman T. Guerrero
Herman T. Guerrero, Chair

March 21, 1996

What US citizenship means

WHAT does it mean to be an American Citizen?

What holds our diverse society together?

Do we think of ourselves as Chamorro, Carolinian, Filipino, African, European, etc, first and as Americans second?

What does our national motto "E Pluribus Unum" (out of many one) mean to you?

Find out the answers at Jon Anderson show, tonight at 7 pm on MCV Channel 7.

The Commonwealth Council for the Humanities invites the public to join the panel discussion through phone calls.

Panelists are Sen. Eusebio Hocog, Secretary of Community and Cultural Affairs Thomas Tebuteb and attorney Ken Govendo.

The show is one event in a series of public forums being held as part of a nationwide project entitled "A National Conversation on American Pluralism and Identity."

The forums bring citizens of the Commonwealth together to focus on the meaning of US citizenship, particularly the duties, responsibilities

and privileges that come with it.

Sheldon Hackney, the new chair of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) initiated the project with the intent of encouraging Americans across the nation to engage in civil discourse about what they think and feel about being American.

As the US and its territories grow more and more diverse, it is important for people of all races and ethnicity to feel comfortable communicating with each other. In the national level, many signs of fragmentation are evident: debates over school and university curricula, disputes over immigration, ethnic rivalries and increasing use of violence as a means of resolving conflict.

The NEH believes that a broadly based exploration of the history, development, and nature of a plural society has become an urgent matter.

The show will focus on these issues with particular interest given to how people-different by ethnicity, race, or culture-interact within the framework of the Commonwealth society.

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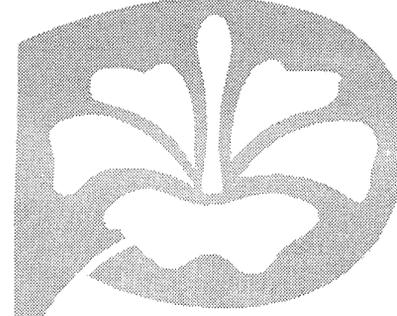
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Child abuse may serve jail term

THE ATTORNEY General's Office moved yesterday for the revocation of five years' suspended sentence against a man convicted of child abuse in 1993.

In a motion filed before the Superior Court, Deputy Atty. Gen. Loren Sutton said Manuel L. Seman has failed to comply with the terms and conditions of his probation. Sutton said Seman failed to report to the Probation Office and perform community work service.

On March 11, 1993, Seman

entered into a plea agreement with the government. He agreed to plead guilty of child abuse.

In exchange, the government recommended the dismissal of two other charges and impose five years' jail term.

Seman, however, was required to attend family counseling and alcohol evaluation at the Commonwealth Health Center.

He was prohibited from excessive consumption of alcohol.

The court accepted the

agreement and followed all recommendations of the government.

Seman would be detained for five years if it is proven that he had violated the conditions of his probation.

Meanwhile, the court dismissed without prejudice yesterday the case against a Japa-

nese national facing illegal drug charges for yielding 30 grams of "ice."

Associate Judge Edward Manibusan dismissed the case following a stipulation signed by the defendant Yoshihiro Yamashita, through counsel Juan T. Lizama, and Assistant Atty. Gen. James Norcross.

Yamashita was charged in the lower court with illegal possession of controlled substance, illegal possession of controlled substance with intent to deliver, and assault and battery.

The defendant was also charged in the US District Court in connection with the same incident. (FDT)

DEQ goes after smoke belchers

WHEN you push down on the accelerator pedal of your car or truck, can you see what's coming out of your tailpipe?

The Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Department of Public Safety (DPS), in joint effort, is continuing their efforts against motor vehicles that are emitting visible smoke.

The CNMI Air Pollution Control Regulations (Commonwealth Register, Volume 6, June 15, 1984) state that "no gasoline-powered motor vehicle shall be operated which emits visible smoke

while moving on streets, roads and highways; and that no diesel-powered vehicle shall be operated which emits visible smoke for more than five consecutive seconds while moving on streets, roads, and highways".

These regulations exist to ensure that air resources are protected against pollution, and that vehicle emissions do not threaten the public health.

Vehicle emissions which violate the standard are typically caused by lack of engine maintenance, which can lead to improper

combustion. Most of the time, emission problems can be solved with tune-up and a new air filter; other times, major engine work may be necessary.

DEQ and DPS ask that vehicle owners and operators, particularly those who operate heavy equipment and buses, should check their emissions and make any needed repairs. DEQ and DPS personnel are on the highways, monitoring visible smoke emitting from moving vehicles. Enforcement actions will be taken against violators.

Military . . .

Continued from page 1

There are also plans for a park in the area covered by the Tanapag Harbor lease, extending from the nearby American Memorial Park.

"This is a big thing for me. That area we have sought because of the need for economic development in that area," said Borja.

"It is right close to our seaport and it would be very advantageous for us economically to have that under our control again. With the signing of this agreement, that has become more true than ever and once we pay the balance, it will be very true," he said.

The negotiations for the partial termination of the Tanapag lease started in February of last year when Borja wrote the admiral asking whether the US government was willing to discuss the possibility of a buy back.

"That started the ball rolling," said Borja. "The admiral and his staff have been very cooperative and helpful in terms of suggesting ways and means on how we can expedite the return of these lands."

The parcel being returned comprises 39 acres (16 hectares) and lies between the Army Reserve and the Kaiser cement plant. It also includes the area known as the Puerto Rico Dump.

The agreement entails the return of the land at the same price the military leased the area in the early 1980s, taking into consideration inflationary and other factors.

The buy-back amount of \$937,482 was reached in accordance with a formula that takes into account the following:

- the number of years of use remaining to the US in the 100-year term of said lease agreement;
- the proportionate amount paid by the US for the premises in relation to the total lease payment amount pursuant to the January 1983 lease agreement; and
- an annual adjustment using the gross national product implicit price deflator from the time of the lease payment to the time initial payment is made by this

acquisition.

The lease of the Tanapag harbor is part of the 7,358 hectares of land in three islands leased out to the US military under section 802 of the Covenant.

Under the Covenant, specific areas on Tinian, Tanapag Harbor and the entire Farallon de Medinilla island were leased for 50 years and used by the US for defense purposes.

A separate technical agreement signed in 1983 governs the use of the leased land and provides the US with an option to renew the lease for another 50 years.

The same agreement also provided for a disposal mechanism should any of the leased premises not be required by the US or otherwise become surplus property under US law.

Except for the five-acre Army Reserve Center site, the US has never used or developed the 44 acre portion of the Saipan-Tanapag Harbor parcel, the new agreement recognized.

In August of 1994, Borja and then Pacific Commander Edward Kristensen signed a lease back and disposal agreement that returned a portion of the military retention land on Tinian.

Under the 1994 agreement, the US unconditionally released 600 hectares of Tinian land and leased some 3,164 hectares back to the CNMI government.

Dela Cruz . . . Continued from page 1

Although there has been a lot of speculation about who his runningmate will be, Borja has remained mum on the issue, except saying his lieutenant governor should be one who would complement him well as governor.

"It would have to be a per-

son of course, with whom I can work together. So it will be a person that he and I, or she and I can work together with primarily. And of course, it would have to be a person who is competent, and trustworthy," said Borja in an earlier interview.

DeRienzo . . . Continued from page 1

Wang to enter Bali, Indonesia," the complaint reads.

DeRienzo is asking an award of \$75,000 in damages for "the

physical harm suffered by Wang," plus other compensatory damages for breach of contract and fraudulent misrepresentation.

Keep Saipan Clean & Beautiful

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The 1996 Queen's Committee seeks young women between the ages of 16 and 24 to help raise funds and compete for the 1996 Liberation Day Queen. Your effort will be rewarded by:

- Participating in the history of the Liberation Day Event.
- Serving as a role model for the CNMI community.
- Receiving recognition as contributor to charitable causes.
- Receiving recognition as potential leader of the community.

The support of both the candidates and the sponsors is needed to make this year's festivities successful. Please call Mina Ada at 234-6208 or 234-6280, Saipan Mayor's Office or Margarete Duenas at 235-7303, Saipan Municipal Council.

Open Invitation to the General Public

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual State of the Washington, D.C. Office Report

at a Joint Session of the 10th NMI Commonwealth Legislature

on Tuesday, April 02, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. at the Multipurpose Complex in Susupe, Saipan.

Your presence is appreciated

Please note that the date has been changed from March 28, 1996 to April 02, 1996

CDA: Privatize CUC power operation

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE chairman of the board of a government money-lending institution yesterday said he favors the privatization of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s power component.

Juan S. Tenorio of the Commonwealth Development Authority said he believes the water component of the CUC should continue to be subsidized because water is a necessity.

The CDA will become majority owner of the CUC in the event of conversion into equity of CUC's defaulted debt to CDA.

"You can live without power, but water is a must, number one, for sanitary purposes. We can live without the air conditioner."

He also said that in all parts of the world, water is subsidized by the government.

Even if it is privately run company, the government still subsidizes water, he added.

He said power should not be subsidized by the government because "it should be self-sufficient."

A feasibility study on the privatization of the CUC is about to start.

Once it starts, the study would be finished in 60 days.

Tenorio has just attended, together with five others from the CNMI, a 10-day program on privatization in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Tenorio said "we're in the process of making studies on privatization."

"So, in the event that the lawmakers are ready to privatize at least we have a study whether to privatize or not, whether it's

good or not," he said.

He said their biggest concern in any privatization move is employees, who stand to lose their jobs. "There are entities in government that we can privatize and none of the employees would be losing their jobs, and there are entities, too, that if we privatize are going to hurt a lot of people."

He said there should be placement for workers affected by privatization.

Tenorio said that in the case of the Saipan, which is a small island, 45 percent of the workforce are employed in government offices, whereas in big nations only 15 percent are government employees and the rest of the labor force are in private companies and offices.

In such big nations, according to Tenorio, even if some government entities are privatized, the affected personnel could still be absorbed by the private industries.

In the CNMI, he added, indiscriminate privatizing "would hurt some of the people."

Even then, he said, there are still some functions that can be privatized, like the laundry room

DPS sobriety checkpoints

THIS is to inform the general public that the Department of Public Safety will be conducting sobriety checkpoints this coming Saturday and Sunday (March 30, and March 31, 1996).

Exact time and location for the sobriety checkpoints will be announced at a later date.

NMC next destination of accreditation team

THE NORTHERN Marianas College will be seeing the site visit of a team of college professionals representing the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, from March 26 to 28.

The visiting team will be composed of Dr. Clyde Sakamoto, Chair, of Maui Community College; Dr. Carol Barnes of California State University, Fullerton; Presley Etibek of Palau Community College; Donald Saguchi of East Los Angeles College; Deborah Sweizer of Santa Rosa Community College, and Michael Unebasami of University of Hawaii Community Colleges.

"There are certain times this week when College employees and the general public are invited to visit one of the team members," NMC said in a news release.

The times and places are as follows: March 26, 6-7 pm (building A-room 8); and March 27, 8:30-9:30 am (building A room 8), also 12:30 pm (building 1-room 5).

and kitchen of the Commonwealth Health Center.

The CHC has in fact privatized its lab, pharmacy, and hiring of nurses.

Tenorio said the CUC may also privatize the security and meter-reading functions as well as the overhauling of the engines.

"So those are things that you

don't need daily supervision from the staffs. At least 30 to 40 percent you can privatize, where private companies can do the job," he said.

He said, though, that if the Legislature and the administration decide to privatize the CUC, "it would take a long time before we can finalize (its) privatization."

He also pointed out the concern on "whether a private company can do a better job than the government."

"Right now the present management of CUC and board of directors are doing so well, so we ask ourselves, 'Should we privatize or not?'" Tenorio said. "If a government entity is doing well, why privatize?"

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Nakamura focuses on population issues

PALAU President Kuniwo Nakamura yesterday attended the opening of the National Population Policy Leadership Conference to show his administration's support for the important conference.

In his opening remarks, the President stated his position that "there are currently a number of different population issues which confront Palau that we must candidly and clearly look at if we are to ensure a raised standard of living for our people."

One such issue mentioned is population distribution and density in Palau.

He went on to say that Babeldaob, the largest land mass in the

Micronesia region next to Guam, has a far smaller population compared to Koror, with a population density 17 times more, or more than two-thirds of the entire population here.

This being the reason for increased urban congestion and over-burdened infrastructure in Koror, the President expressed his optimism that his administration's efforts on many fronts, including Babeldaob Road and electrification, fiber optic telecommunication systems, and other infrastructure development projects, will ensure a more evenly distributed population in the country in the near future.

In addition, the President mentioned two major population related challenges that Palau faces.

In a news release yesterday, Nakamura said the need to implement policies designed to bring back or attract skilled and productive Palauans overseas to assist in the country's rapid growth and development has become imminent.

The other related challenges is that "we must create a unified, comprehensive and fair policy which limits the number of alien workers here."

To attract overseas Palauans, the President mentioned a growing economy that creates potential and opportunities for individuals as the

primary factor.

He then expressed his confidence that in the years ahead new jobs and economic opportunities will be created "to bring back our brothers and sisters from abroad."

More specifically, he said that "this Administration has made it a top priority to encourage responsible, sustainable development in the visitor industry."

In his remarks to population conference participants, President Nakamura noted the need to discuss and focus on the growing number of foreigners which increased from 11% in the mid 1980s to close to 25% at the most recent census in Palau.

Over this period, the unemployment rate for Palauans has not gone down, indicating that many foreign workers are taking jobs that Palauans might otherwise have.

The President went on to underline the importance of population policy saying that it is related to all aspects of social planning.

He expressed his confidence that conference recommendations will be of great value to the Republic in the future.

In June 1995, Nakamura created by Executive Order a Committee on Population Policy and Children to formulate a National Population Policy for the Republic.

A month later in July, the committee, in conjunction with the South Pacific Commission's Population Project and the Office of the President conducted a population seminar under the theme: Strengthening the Information, Education and Communication Component of the Population Program of the Pacific."

Traditional leaders agitate for rights

TRADITIONAL leaders in the Cook Islands are agitating for rights to have a say in the running of the country. House of Ariki president, Pa Upokotini Ariki, has expressed the House's discontent with the way the government has run the affairs of the Cook Islands, RNZI reports.

And, she derided prime minister, Sir Geoffrey Henry, for not consulting about the problems facing government long before the country's economy

deteriorated to the stage it has now. She says times have changed and so should attitudes towards the roles of traditional leaders.

Large amounts of land currently used by the government belong to traditional leaders. Pa Upokotini Ariki, like her mother, the late Pa Tepaeru Ariki, has gone public in voicing her disappointment in the way the political leaders of the day have conducted the affairs of the Cook Islands.....Pacnews

Aussie gov't rejects PNG aid request

THE Australian government has rejected a Papua New Guinea request for additional military help for the troubled island of Bougainville, Post Courier reports.

PNG made the request after it ordered its troops back onto the island. Australia's defence minister, Ian McLachlan, says PNG has not asked for specific additional assistance, but rather it has asked for extra logistic support. He says somehow PNG will find a peaceful solution to the problems on the island.

Mr. McLachlan says PNG has requested some logistics support from Australia, but there is in place a supply arrangement where PNG can get certain non-lethal material and supply line will continue to operate. He adds Australia will not make any special arrangements.

Australia provides training equipment and advisers to the PNG defence force, but has insisted that any Australian-supplied material should not be used on Bougainville....Pacnews

New political party launched in W. Samoa

A new political party has been launched in Western Samoa. The Samoa All People's Party is led by Matatua Maimoaga, who is one of the prime minister's cousins and one of two women in parliament, RNZI reports.

Matatua, who has been crossing the floor on several controversial legislations over the years, had told reporters she has officially left the ruling Human Rights Protection Party.

She says she and her supporters have been alarmed at the level of corruption in some government departments and corporations.

Matatua says declining accountability can also be seen in the fact that the public money's account have not been audited for the past five years. She says her party is also alarmed at what she calls the mismanagement of public assets such as Polynesian Airlines, which has resulted in huge over-seas debts....Pacnews

Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund PUBLIC NOTICE

The NMI Retirement Fund Board of Trustees/Worker's Compensation Commission will hold a regular meeting on Friday, March 29, 1996, at 6:00 p.m. in the Fund Conference Room, first floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan. Interested persons are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 234-7228.

AGENDA

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
- C. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
- D. REPORT OF THE HEARING OFFICER
- E. REPORT OF THE LEGAL COUNSEL
- F. REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
- G. REPORT OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE
- H. CORRESPONDENCE
- I. OLD BUSINESS
 - 1. Commonwealth Credit Union-Update
 - 2. Fund's Office Building-Update
 - 3. Commonwealth Judicial Complex-Update
 - 4. RFP - Consultant
 - 5. Money Managers Meeting-Update
 - 6. H.B. 10-3
 - 7. Audit Report - FY95
- J. NEW BUSINESS
 - 1. WCC Self-Insurance Regulations
 - 2. H.B. 10-177
 - 3. H.B. 10-179
- K. MISCELLANEOUS
 - 1. Merrill Lynch- Financial Markets Update
 - 2. Report of the Technical Analyst
- L. NEXT MEETING
- M. ADJOURNMENT

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS OFFICE OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION PUBLIC NOTICE

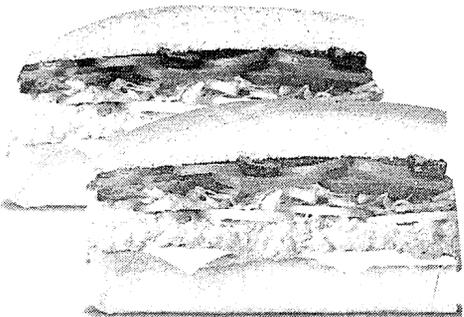
The Civil Service Commission will hold HEARINGS on April 2, 3, & 4, 1996, at the Commission's Office in Capitol Hill, Saipan. The board will convene at 9:00 a.m. on all days. Additional information concerning the hearings is available at the Commission's office in Capitol Hill, Saipan.

AGENDA

- APRIL 2, 1996
 - I. CALL TO ORDER
 - II. ROLL CALL
 - III. HEARING ON GRIEVANCE OF MARIA DELOS SANTOS
 - IV. ADJOURNMENT
- APRIL 3, & 4, 1996
 - I. CALL TO ORDER
 - II. ROLL CALL
 - III. HEARING ON APPEAL OF ADVERSE ACTION OF ALFRED P. TAITANO
 - IV. ADJOURNMENT

/s/EUGENE A. SANTOS
Chairman, Civil Service Commission

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March 15, 1996

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We named this golf course Kingfisher Golf Links after a little blue bird that flies over the course. It is our symbol of "good luck". We hope this course will also be a symbol of "good luck" for Saipan and its people. As you can see from every hole on the course, Kingfisher is built overlooking the magnificent and mighty Pacific Ocean.

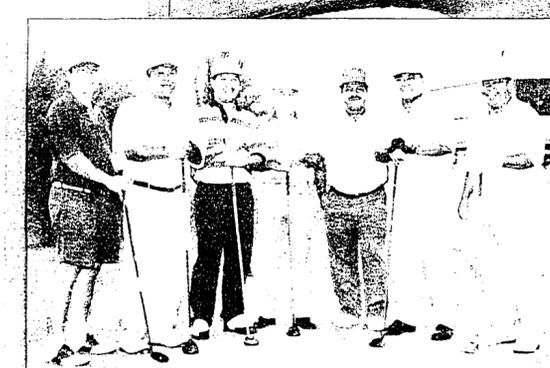
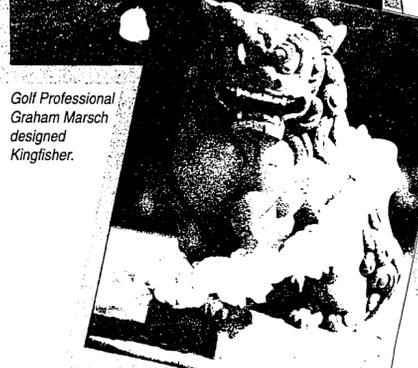
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Sincerely,

Tsuneo Murakami
President, Kingfisher Golf Links



Golf Professional Graham Marsch designed Kingfisher.



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'Braveheart' wins 5 Oscars

By BOB THOMAS
LOS ANGELES (AP) - "Braveheart," the epic about a 13th-century Scottish patriot, won five Oscars, including best picture and best director for its star Mel Gibson.

Monday night's best acting awards went to Susan Sarandon for her performance as a nun trying to redeem a condemned killer in "Dead Man Walking" and to Nicolas Cage as the alcoholic intending to drink himself to death in "Leaving Las Vegas."

"Antonia's Line," the story of a Dutch woman and her multi-generational family, won for best foreign language picture.

Cage, Sarandon bag top acting honors

In a year when no picture was an odds-on favorite, "Braveheart" proved to be the biggest winner. It collected Oscars for makeup, sound effects editing and cinematography, too.

The battle-filled saga tells the story of Scotsman William Wallace, who fought the English for freedom for his people.

"Braveheart" was Gibson's second outing as a director, the first being "The Man Without a Face" in 1993. He follows a line of actors turned director who have won Oscars: Robert Redford, Warren Beatty, Woody Allen, Kevin

Costner.

When her award was announced, Sarandon kissed her director, writer and lover, Tim Robbins, and walked to the stage to a thunderous ovation.

Finally winning on her fifth nomination, she thanked many co-workers and Sister Helen Prejean, whom she portrayed. Then she drew a laugh with an accolade to Robbins, her live-in partner.

"To my partner in crime and all things of the heart, the writer, the producer the director, the spirit, Tim Robbins. ... Thank God we live together."

Cage breezed to the podium and marveled that "Leaving Las Vegas" could be made for \$3.5 million, and on 16mm film stock when most movies are made on 35mm or 70mm film.

"I know it's not hip to say it but I just love acting and I hope that there will be more encouragement for alternative movies where we can experiment and fast-forward into the future of acting," he said.

Like Gibson, Emma Thompson also received an Oscar in another area of her craft, adapting the Jane Austen novel "Sense and Sensibility" for the screen. (She was named best actress for "Howards End" in 1992.)

The English actress told of visiting Austen's grave at Winchester Cathedral "to pay my respects and tell her about the grosses."

Supporting actor awards went to Kevin Spacey, the verbal con man in "The Usual Suspects," and Mira Sorvino, who played a prostitute in "Mighty Aphrodite."

Spacey thanked his mother for driving him to acting classes when he was 16: "I told you it would

pay off, and here's the pudding."

Sorvino thanked her father as the veteran actor openly sobbed in the audience. "When you give me this award you honor my father, Paul Sorvino, who taught me everything I know about acting," she said.

This year's biggest controversy surfaced as soon as the ceremony began. Host Whoopi Goldberg used her opening monologue to defuse the Rev. Jesse Jackson's call to protest the show because there was only one black out of 166 nominees.

Goldberg, who, like the show's producer Quincy Jones, is black, ridiculed Jackson's call for participants to wear multicolored ribbons.

Her message for Jackson: "You don't ask a black woman to buy an expensive dress and then cover it with ribbons."

Jackson led about 75 marchers outside the Hollywood offices of KABC-TV across town from the award ceremonies.

Demonstrations also were held in cities including Chicago and Washington, D.C.

Actors struggling with real-life pain brought the lavishly attired audience to its feet twice in teary ovations.

Kirk Douglas fought with stroke-caused paralysis on the right side of his face that slurred his words as he accepted an honorary Oscar - announced earlier - for "50 years as a creative and moral force in the making of motion picture community."

Douglas, who has never won an Oscar for acting, struggled to form the words as he thanked his family.

"I see my four sons. They are proud of the old man," he said. "Superman" actor Christopher Reeve, paralyzed by a horse-riding accident and breathing with the help of a tube in his throat, looked happily into the camera as he introduced a tribute to films that "courageously put social issues ahead of box-office success."

"What you probably don't know is that I left New York last September and I just arrived here this morning," Reeve quipped after curtains parted to reveal him sitting in a wheelchair.

In other awards, "Restoration" won for costume and art direction, and "Apollo 13" for film editing and sound. "Babe" took the visual effects Oscar.

The best foreign language film award was claimed by director Marleen Gorris, who declared: "Some people have called 'Antonia's Line' a fairy tale. Perhaps it is. And that is should win an Oscar as a fairy tale come true for all of us involved in its making."

Two films about the Holocaust won in their respective categories, documentary short and documentary feature - "One Survivor Remembers" and "Anne Frank Remembered."

The Oscars were voted on by 5,000 members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. Nominations are made by specific branches (actors nominate actors, cinematographers nominate cinematographers) while winners in almost all categories are decided by the entire Academy.

To vote in the documentary, foreign-language and short film categories, members must have seen all the nominated works.

Goldberg a confident, sassy hit with audience at Oscars

By LYNN ELBER
LOS ANGELES (AP) - Whoopi Goldberg came out swinging and sassy, and the audience loved her at Monday night's Academy Awards.

She was the self-assured woman in charge, queen of the evening in the classiest of black velvet and diamonds and with comic mate-

rial to match. She was going to have fun, and make sure everyone else did, too. With a rapid-fire monologue that launched the award ceremony, Goldberg set the tone for a snappy ceremony - and made it clear that politics might tinge the evening but wouldn't dominate it.

"I want to say something to all

the people who sent me ribbons to wear: You don't ask a black woman to buy an expensive dress and then cover it with ribbons," she said.

The ribbonless Goldberg then proceeded to wittily disarm all those who might criticize her, launching into an at-times fanciful list of causes seeking attention.

"I got a red ribbon for AIDS awareness. Done. I got a purple ribbon for breast cancer. Done. I got a yellow ribbon for the troops in Bosnia. Done. I got a green ribbon to free the Chinese dissidents. Done. I got a milky white ribbon for mad cow disease. Done. I got a rainbow ribbon for gay rights disease. Done. Done. Done again."

She even teased the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who had called for a protest against and a boycott of the Academy Awards because there was only one black nominee this year.

"I had something I wanted to say to Jesse right here, but he's not watching - so why bother," she said, drawing a big laugh from the house.

Emotional standing ovation greets Christopher Reeve

LOS ANGELES (AP) - There he was, sitting at center stage. Still more powerful than a locomotive.

With many wiping away tears, Monday night's Academy Awards audience gave the tuxedo-clad Christopher Reeve a standing ovation as he sat before them in his respirator-equipped wheelchair.

Paralyzed from the shoulder down in a horse-riding accident last May, the "Superman" actor urged Hollywood to produce more movies about social issues.

"What you probably don't know is that I left New York last September and I just arrived here this morning,"

Reeve began. "And I'm glad I did because I wouldn't have missed this kind of welcome for the world.

After showing clips from movies such as "Norma Rae," "Philadelphia," "Coming Home," and "Thelma and Louise," Reeve urged Hollywood to continue making such movies.

"Hollywood needs to do more," he said. "Let's continue to take risks. Let's tackle the issues. In many ways our film community can do it better than anyone else.

There is no challenge, artistic or otherwise, that we can't meet. Thank you."

Zedillo outlines industrial policy

By SARA SILVER
MEXICO CITY (AP) - President Ernesto Zedillo on Monday

announced a long-term industrial policy to increase the nation's competitiveness in manufac-

ing. The president promised \$12 billion (90 billion pesos) in gov-

ernment financing to help boost manufacturing industries, though details were not immediately available.

With a sagging domestic market over the past 15 months, Zedillo credited exports with preserving thousands of jobs and boosting whole industries during a steep recession.

"The first impulse towards a recovery comes from exports, which have increased significantly in the last year," Zedillo told a gathering of manufacturers at a meeting of the Confederation of Industrial Chambers.

Exports of Mexican goods, not including the products of "maquiladora" assembly-for-export plants, increased 30 percent in 1995 over the prior year.

Zedillo said his plan was meant to increase the competitiveness of Mexican exports, to encourage industrial groups to

produce more of the goods they export and to expand the Mexican market for domestic goods to reduce imports.

Confederation president Victor Manuel Diaz Romero welcomed the government plan.

He said the most pressing problems facing Mexican industries were outdated technology, a lack of industrial integration, a shortage of credit, high interest rates and dependence on imports.

Government credits available to manufacturers will triple this year to \$3.3 billion (25 billion pesos), with an additional 5 billion pesos (\$667 million) for small and medium-sized manufacturers to help restructure bad debts.

In addition, financing for the Mexican government export bank, Bancomext, will rise to \$8 billion (60 billion pesos) from last year's \$3.3 billion (25 billion pesos).

Thousands bid farewell to Mexican singing legend

By AMADO FELIX
MEXICO CITY (AP) - A mariachi band played as cabinet ministers and other dignitaries joined thousands of fans Monday in bidding farewell to Lola Beltran, the legendary ranchera singer who died over the weekend.

Beltran, known fondly as "Lola La Grande," or Lola the Great, lay in state in a mahogany coffin at the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico City, the site where a decade ago her career hit a brilliant high.

She will be buried in her home state of Sinaloa on Mexico's west coast.

At least 10,000 mourners filed past the bier at the palace and, earlier, at a funeral home when she was taken Sunday evening, shortly after she died at a Mexico

City hospital of complications from a recent heart attack. She was 64.

Sinaloa Gov. Renato Vega Alvarado, an old acquaintance of the family, was among the mourners. So was Agriculture Secretary Francisco Labastida Ochoa, also of Sinaloa, along with more than a dozen other singers, artists, composers and family members.

The mariachi band, instruments draped in black, played the song she will probably be best remembered for: Cucurucucu Paloma, an all-time

hit about a love-lorn dove that's been deserted by her lover.

Born Maria Lucila Beltran Alcayaga, Lola was enthralled at an early age by the lovely lilting melodies of Mexico's "ranchera" tradition. She cut more than 80 records and was featured in at least 60 movies during a career that spanned four decades.

"To me, she was the greatest singer ever and one whom Mexican songs great," said Margarito Alvarado, 40, a farmer who walked miles to be at the palace.

Toddler wanders through mountain by himself

By MARTHA MENDOZA
ZUNI, New Mexico (AP) - For two cold nights, 4-year-old Danny Finke wandered alone through the Zuni Mountains without anything to eat or heavy clothes to keep him warm.

More than 200 people searched for him on horseback, in vehicles and by air. Finally, the crew of a New Mexico National Guard helicopter spotted the lost youngster Monday and whisked him to safety.

His only request: An apple. "That's one lucky little boy, and it speaks loudly of our volunteer search and rescue people," said Rick Goodman, state search and rescue resource officer.

Danny told his parents he spent most of his time walking after wandering off from his parents Saturday during a hike in Fence Lake, a remote farming and ranching community in the mountains about 20 miles east of the Arizona border. He disappeared after trailing behind them in a hilly area of ravines and pine trees.

A small snow storm hit the area later that day. The temperature fell to around 17 degrees, with wind chills of 10 degrees below zero. Danny's body temperature was far below normal when he was found late Monday morning, said David Kessler, clinical director of Zuni Public Health Service Hospital.

The boy was reunited with his parents, who are doctors at the hospital, and he was admitted for observation.

"He looks well," Kessler said. "His vital signs are good."



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the procurement of one (1) new tractor (models built from 1995 and up) for agricultural use with 2300/2500 RPM, 70-80 Gross HP, 6070 HP on PTO, two-wheel drive with the tire size 16.9 x 24 x 8 rear, 7.50 x 16 x 6 front, power steering, dual stage clutch, hydraulic system, diesel fuel, 12 volt system with all additional standard equipment and transmission of eight forward and four speed reserve with sliding collars and helical gears industrial yellow color, four cylinders, 450 RPM PTO. Please include in your proposal the cost, insurance, and freight (CIF) to West Tinian Airport.

Proposals must be submitted to the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Office of the Executive Director, P.O. Box 1055, Saipan International Airport, on or before March 29, at 10 AM at which time the proposal(s) will be publicly opened and read. The CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals pursuant to Section 3.2 (7) of CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations.

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London allays fears on 'mad cow' disease

By ROBERT BARR
LONDON (AP) - Hoping its words speak louder than its modest actions, the government told Britons Monday their risk of catching mad cow disease is "extremely small" and ruled out any new steps to curb its spread. But its chief scientific adviser revealed that two more suspected cases have been reported in humans, the European Union banned all exports of British beef, and Burger King restaurants joined the spreading boycott which threatens to devastate the nation's 4-billion-pound (\$6 billion) a year beef industry.

John Pattison, chairman of the government's advisory committee, told a news conference that two more possible cases of Cruetzfeldt-Jakob

Disease, the human variant of the degenerative brain disease, were being investigated in addition to the 10 disclosed last week.

"They are both still alive and it's very difficult for me to talk about the details of these cases," Pattison said. "Last week I said public confidence was hanging by a thread. Now public confidence has collapsed," Harriet Harman of Britain's opposition Labor party said in the House of Commons.

With the issue becoming increasingly partisan, Conservative lawmaker Tony Marlow shouted at Miss Harman that she was "a stupid cow." Essentially, the government stuck with the same advice that scared millions away from beef last week,

and led a score of nations, school cafeterias and fast-food restaurants to spurn British beef.

"I think that the government has tried to hide the problem. ... I am not going to buy beef and I am not going to buy anything made of beef," said Sara Walsh, 29, who was shopping at a central London market Monday night.

"If I have visitors at home now, I am not going to be serving them beef, that's for sure," said John Biddle.

But other shoppers were less concerned.

"Considering we eat tons and tons of beef a year, it's pretty unlikely to effect me. More people die of asthma," said Simon Horsley, 35.

Ranchers concerned disease could cause consumer panic

By KATIE FAIRBANK
DALLAS (AP) - U.S. cattle raisers are hoping Britain's mad cow disease will lead European countries to relax restrictions on American beef imports, but they're also concerned the scare could send domestic consumers to the chicken counter.

Britain's \$6 billion beef industry has been in crisis since Wednesday when the British government acknowledged Bovine spongiform encephalopathy, better known as BSE or mad cow disease, may be the most likely source of a similar brain disease in humans.

Thad Lively, director for analysis and evaluation for the Chicago-based U.S. Meat Export Federation, said Monday there is no danger to the U.S. beef supply because of stringent controls on domestic cattle and imports. He said American consumers should not be afraid.

"We want to highlight that we've never had a report of BSE in this country. We have controls in place," Lively said.

Mad cow disease broke out in Britain's herds 10 years ago. In the past decade, the U.S. Department of

Agriculture has examined over 2,660 specimens from 43 states and detected no evidence of the disease. The USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service said there has been no imported processed beef or cattle from the United Kingdom since 1989 and stringent restrictions have been in place for imports from other countries where the disease exists.

But the possibility of Americans turning away from beef could further hurt a cattle industry that has already watched wholesale beef prices drop 35 percent from a peak of \$1.03 a pound in 1993 to 68 cents a pound at the end of 1995, according to the National Cattlemen's Association in Colorado.

The decline was caused by a glut of meat on the market. More ranchers are selling their cattle because an ongoing drought has raised the price of corn feed and, at the same time, the devaluation of the peso has prompted Mexican ranchers to sell off their herds.

Now, U.S. cattle raisers will have to contend with the beef scare in Britain.

"Any time you have a question

about the meat supply, be it pork, beef or chicken, it causes concern," said Murray Edwards of Abilene Cattle Feeders, one of the largest cattle feed lots in Texas.

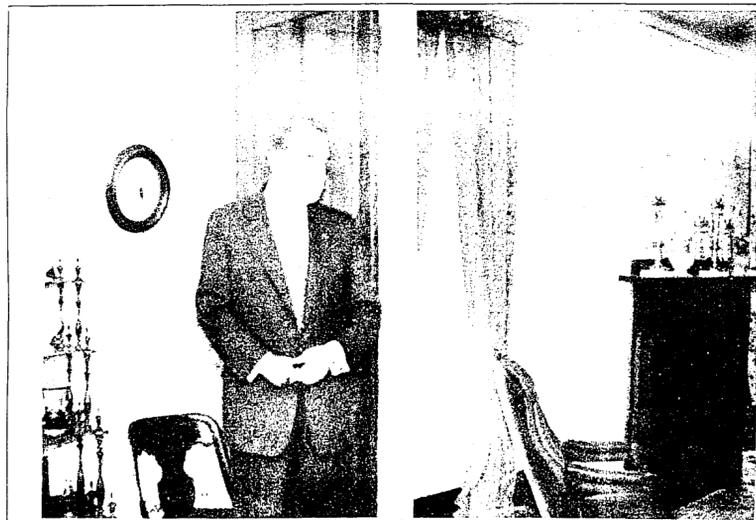
IF U.S. consumers get scared, cattle prices could weaken even more, Edwards said.

Still some industry insiders hope to find good news in the bad reports. Although, U.S. beef can't be exported to Britain or the European Union because of a ban on hormone additives, there is a possibility that there will be a second look at the restrictions.

"There's no reason that the hormone ban continues. If it was eliminated we could ship beef there," said Gary Weber, a specialist in cattle health and beef safety with the National Cattlemen's Association in Washington.

Still Lively, of the Meat Export Federation, remains nervous.

"In no way is this good news to anyone in the business," Lively said. "It's asking a lot of consumers to say 'British beef is bad, but American beef is OK.'"



Republican presidential hopeful Bob Dole stands in a corner of the living room of Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Ill., home looking around. Dole toured Lincoln's home before holding a "Dole For President Rally" at the State Capitol building. AP Photo

Skygazers marvel at comet

By CAROLYN THOMPSON
BOSTON (AP) - Other comets have come closer to Earth. Others have shone brighter. But as comets go, Hyakutake, the little greenish fuzball in the sky, is a heavenly reward for skygazers.

"All of the sudden, all of your neighbors who thought you were a little odd hunting for dim, little, distant galaxies in a telescope in your backyard in the middle of the night suddenly can step outside their door and there it is,"

said Alan MacRobert, an associate editor at Sky and Telescope magazine in Cambridge. "For amateur astronomers, these are wonderful times."

Hyakutake, making its first appearance in about 9,000 years, has been drawing countless eyes to the night sky.

"There's something about the appearance of a comet," said Brian Marsden, associate director for planetary sciences at the Smithsonian-Harvard Center for

Astrophysics. "I suppose it's the fact that you can have this thing ... just for a little while and know it's come from a great distance."

Hyakutake (hya-koo-TAH-kay), named for the amateur Japanese astronomer who discovered it in January, is the brightest burning comet since Comet West in 1976. It is visible throughout the Northern Hemisphere. Observers say there have been few more watchable comets this century, though the much larger

Hale-Bopp due to pass near Earth next year could top Hyakutake's show.

At Hyakutake's nearest point to Earth - about 9.5 million miles (15.2 million kilometers) away Sunday and Monday - sky-watchers said it had the brightness of Sirius, the brightest star in the northern sky. Its tail of glowing gases is an estimated 62,000 miles (99,000 kilometers) long.

A comet came closer to Earth as recently as 1983, but it was nowhere near as bright.

Experts say the comet will start to fade after Monday until the first week in April as it drifts farther from the Earth, but may brighten again as it gets closer to

the sun. It should become visible to people in the Southern Hemisphere in mid-May, MacRobert said.

Traveling 198,000 mph (317,000 kmph) as it rounds the sun, Hyakutake's orbit and the gravitational effects of the planets should bring it back this way in about 17,000 years. Halley's Comet returns every 76 years. "Things like this spur people to look up beyond the surface of our tiny little planet here, where we live our tiny little lives running around in tiny little circles,"

MacRobert said, "and see something of the bigger, wider universe that is out there for us waiting to see if we only look up."

US government approves pure DNA vaccine trials

WASHINGTON (AP) - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has approved the first human testing of a vaccine made with pure DNA in an attempt to find a way to protect against AIDS.

Apollon Inc. and the National Institutes of Health will test the experimental AIDS vaccine on 15 healthy people at the NIH hospital in Bethesda, Maryland.

Potential AIDS vaccines have been given to healthy people be-

fore. But this one marks the first time a healthy person has received the pure genetic material of any disease.

Apollon made the vaccine from a gene responsible for forming one of the surface proteins of HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Most vaccines against any disease involve injecting someone with the protein itself, after it has been killed so it is not infec-

tious. The idea behind DNA-based vaccines is to use the body's own cells to make a portion of that protein, not enough to be infectious but enough that immune cells will recognize the disease if it ever strikes.

There is no risk to these healthy volunteers because the genetic material is not infectious, said FDA vaccine expert Karen Goldenthal. "You couldn't get HIV from this," she stressed.

Apollon already tested the vaccine in HIV-infected patients with no ill effects. The new trial had been discussed at a federal AIDS vaccine meeting last month, but was officially announced Monday.

The new trial marks the earliest phase of a potential drug's testing, and is solely to assess the safety of pure DNA injections. All evidence to date suggests injected genes survive in the body for just a brief period.

Congress votes to disband federal tea tasting board

WASHINGTON (AP) - Calling it an anachronism that should have been done away with decades ago, Congress has voted to take the government out of the tea-tasting business.

The Senate, by a voice vote and with no debate, approved a House-passed measure Monday that disbands the seven-member Board of Tea Examiners, which was created 99 years ago. President Clinton was expected to sign the bill.

In a ritual dating back to 1897, the board has met two days each year in a Brooklyn warehouse to sniff, touch and taste tea from the world over to see if it is of a good enough quality to be sold in the United States.

Lawmakers tried several times previously to abolish the board -

which costs the taxpayer \$200,000 a year - but failed to do so as part of a broader Food and Drug Administration spending bill last year.

Critics of the board have argued that Americans should assume the responsibility of determining whether they like a particular tea well enough to buy and drink it.

"We don't have a Coffee Board or a Candy Board. We do not need this Tea Board," said U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, a Nevada Democrat, when the bill abolishing the board first passed the Senate on Feb. 1, and later was taken up by the House.

The board consists of six outside experts and one full-time employee from the Food and Drug Administration.



Mount Carmel Early Registration

Early registration for school year 1996-1997, is being accepted now. The fee is again \$40. However, if you apply by March 31, 1996 the fee is only \$20. Please note that enrollment is limited, so register now. For further information, call the Business Office at 235-1251.

10TH ANNIVERSARY ROSARY

The family of the late Dorothea Ochoch Hiroichi wishes to inform all families and friends that the nightly rosary of our beloved mother, grandmother, and great grandmother will start on March 22, 1996, at 8:00 pm at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Marino Hiroichi in Chinatown.

On March 30 (Saturday) at 6:00 a.m. in the morning the Mass of Intention will be held at Kristo Rai Church. The final rosary will be said on the same day at 5:30 p.m. at the Hiroichi's residence. Dinner will be served after.

Kindly join us. The Family

Kono(dec.) & Family, Takako(dec.) & Family, Runung & Family, Anchuch & Family, Upich Borja & Children, Benita & Family, Kyomi & Family, Jesus "Palau" (dec.) & Family, Tina & Family, Tani & Family, Marcella & Family, Terry & Family, Marino & Family, and including all the great grandchildren.

Death and Funeral Announcement

Ronald Salas DeBrum

born on July 11, 1950, passed away in the Grace of our Lord on March 24, 1996 at the age of 45.

Survived By His:
Brothers & Spouse: Edmund S. DeBrum & Leriza S. DeBrum
Leslie S. DeBrum & Eloise Kennely

Sister: Ida S. DeBrum
Niece & Nephew: Robert & Felicia S. DeBrum

Predeceased by his:
Father: Robert Anthony DeBrum
Mother: Felisissima Salas DeBrum

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00pm at the family residence in Chalan Kanoa Dist. #2.

Last respects will be held on Monday April 1, 1996 at 9:00am. Funeral Mass will begin at 4:00 p.m. at the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral. Christian Burial will follow after the mass at Mt. Carmel cemetery. Your presence and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase'

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
PUBLIC NOTICE

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION DIVISION AND THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (CDA) WILL MEET ON THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 1996 BEGINNING 10:00 A.M. MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, WAKIN'S BUILDING IN GUALO RAI, SAIPAN. GENERAL AND LOAN MATTERS WILL BE DISCUSSED.

/s/ JUAN S. TENORIO
Chairman, Board of Directors

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AGENDA FOR BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
Date: April 2, 1996, Tuesday
Time: 9:00 AM
Place: BPL Conference Room
1. Call to Order
2. Determination of Attendance & Quorum
3. Review and Adoption of Agenda
4. Review and Adoption of Minutes - March 5, 1996 Meeting Minutes
5. Communications from Governor's Office & Legislature
A. Governor's Office
B. Legislature
6. Chairman's Report
7. Board Administrator's Report
8. Investigator's Report
9. Committee Reports
10. Old Business
A. Applications for Board's Review
B. Legal Counsel's Opinion on PAO Letter re* Competitive Bidding*
11. New Business
12. Miscellaneous Business
A. WCARB Meeting Report
13. Adjournment of Meeting

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
CIVIL CASE NO. 96-159

CYNTHIA M. FLEMING, Plaintiff,
v.
RAYMOND M. ALVAREZ, Defendant.

SUMMONS
TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to serve any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, within (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, by delivering or mailing a copy of your answer to LONG & BROWN, Attorneys-at-Law, whose address is AAA 1797, Caller Box 10001, Oleari, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of filing. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to serve an answer in accordance with the Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court.
DATED this 5th day of February, 1996.
Clerk of Court

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Epidemic of rare disease in Haiti

By MICHAEL NORTON
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - A deadly and rare illness related to meningitis has attacked 70 people in southern Haiti this year, killing more than half of them.

U.N. spokesman Eric Falt said Monday that since health officials began recording cases of the blood disease meningococemia in March 1994, 200 cases have been reported, with about a 60 percent mortality rate. "Health officials, including U.N. officials, cannot quite ascertain whether it's an accelerating process or has reached a plateau," Falt said.

He had no details about victims, but young people under 21 are more susceptible to the disease because their immune systems are not well developed. Caused by the same meningococcus bacteria that infect the lining of the brain as meningitis, meningococemia infects the bloodstream and often is signaled by purple blotches on the skin.

The United States sees about 2,600 cases of meningococcal disease a year, fewer than 10 percent of them fatal.

Twelve cases of a rare form of meningitis, meningitis B, also were reported at the end of February and beginning of March in the town of Torbeck, 130 miles west of Port-au-Prince, the capital, said Dr. Carl Denerville, director of preventive medicine at the state university hospital.

No new cases have been reported recently, and that outbreak was considered under control, Denerville said Monday. Health Ministry officials were attending a seminar Monday and could not immediately be reached for comment.

The bacteria are contagious and spread easily at close quarters, especially in the cramped living conditions of southern slums, including those in Port-au-Prince.

Antibiotics are used to treat those affected, and a vaccine is available for outbreaks of most forms of the bacteria.

Falt said health officials were especially concerned because the most vulnerable populations, slum dwellers, risk being deprived of the minimal health services available.

Closings of clinics and other facilities threaten services to more than 200,000 people in Cite Soleil, Port-au-Prince's biggest slum, 300,000 more in 17 other slums in the capital, and tens of thousands in the sprawling Raboteau slum of Gonaives, Haiti's third city.

Health sources who spoke on condition of anonymity said they had been told of unidentified "bureaucratic delays in accessing donor funds" from a variety of sources, including the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.N. Children's Fund and the U.N. World Health Organization. It was not immediately possible to get comments from those agencies.

More than \$10 million in U.S. aid to Haiti, nearly half of it slotted for health, has been frozen by Republican congressmen citing alleged participation by government officials in about 20 political slayings last year, and lack of progress in investigating the killings.

Tens of millions of dollars in international aid also has been frozen because the Haitian government has failed to disinvest in state enterprises, as promised under a \$1.2 billion aid program agreed to last year.
President Rene Preval, who succeeded Jean-Bertrand Aristide in February, promised to start privatizing while he was on an official visit to Washington last week. He faces enormous opposition in the legislature, which must approve any disinvestment plan.

Marianas Variety
Classified Ads Section

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication

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02 DISC JOCKEY-Salary:\$3.05 per hour
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01 MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000 per month
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01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$630-\$635 per month
Contact: NINO'S INC. Tel. 233-9298(4/10)W6030

01 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05-\$3.75 per hour
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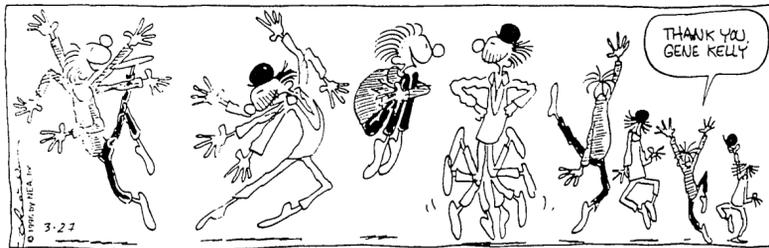
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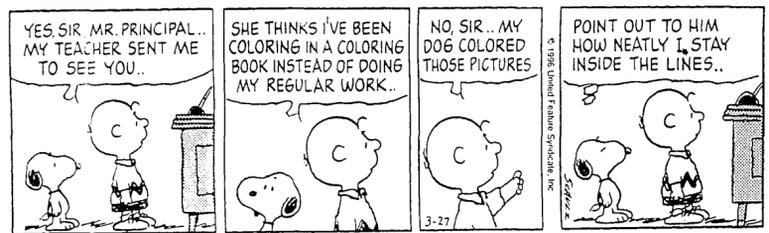
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STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are not the kind to do things in a hesitant, bashful or uncertain fashion even if you are doing something entirely new and unfamiliar.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You will want to get down to business today as early as you possibly can. Even if you have to see the sun rise, do not delay!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You may reach an important landmark today. This will signify that you have reached at least part of an important personal goal.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You will need a little help today coming up with fresh and refreshing ideas. You will not want to appear tired or worn-out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You must do your best to be civil to others all day long. Avoid being short-tempered, impatient or crabby with those closest to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Your surroundings may change quite suddenly today, and you will have to get used to a new way of doing things as a result.

CLOSERS

The pope's palace is called the Vatican because it is located on Vatican Hill, which in turn is believed to have derived its name from an Etruscan village called Vaticanum.

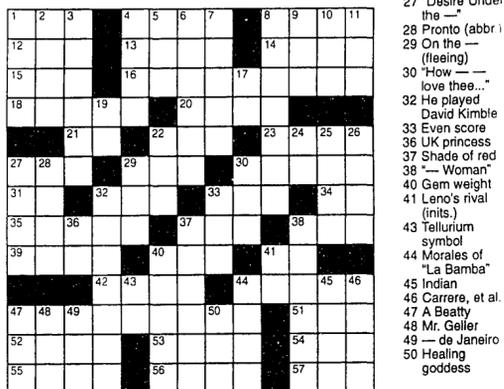
The sun and moon appear larger on the horizon because the eye instinctively compares them with objects on the ground. In the higher sky, without such points of comparison, the bodies appear smaller.

No mammal is native to Antarctica, although whales and a few species of seals are found in waters off the continent.

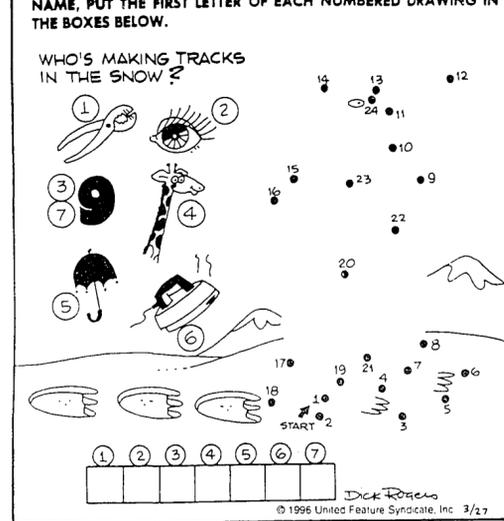
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ACROSS: 1 Blend, 4 'Misery' str., 8 Juncture, 12 Pension-pln. ints., 13 Dog in Garfield, 14 'Step' into office, 15 Election Da. mo., 16 Weak Kitchen utensil, 18 Anglo-Saxon, 20 Actor Marshall, 22 Heston role, 23 Commonly used name for monster, 27 Auricle, 29 Mr. Chaney, 30 Jones and Cain, 31 'M*A*S*H' star (inits.), 32 David Jarvi; Elliott series, 33 Craggy hill.

DOWN: 2 'Mad' —, 35 Title of respect, 37 Roman 102, 38 Burst, 39 Wash cycle, 40 So-so grade, 41 Med. worker, 42 Astensk, 44 Put into office, 47 Child-care facilities, 51 Three (prefix), 52 One of HOMES, 53 Continent, 54 — Leon!, 55 Celine —, 56 — Hatcher, 57 Affirmative, cooler, 11 Mountains (abbr.), 17 — Paso, TX, 19 E-H linkup, 22 Pig, 24 Macon's st., 25 Aware of, 26 Inv. request, 27 'Desire Under the —', 28 Pronto (abbr.), 29 On the (fleeing), 30 'How — love thee...', 32 He played David Kimble, 33 Even score, 36 UK princess, 37 Shade of red, 38 — Woman, 40 Gam weight, 41 Leno's rival (inits.), 43 Tellurium symbol, 44 Morales of 'La Bamba', 45 Indian, 46 Carrero, et al., 47 A Beatty, 48 Mr. Geller, 49 — de Janeiro, 50 Healing goddess.



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Saipan Major League Score Box

Table with 2 columns: Glazers vs Wheels. Columns include POS, AB, R, H, RBI for each player.

Base on ball: 2-M. Agnon, F. Pangelinan, 1-G.C. Camacho, T. Camacho, E. Sablan, M. Evangelista, R. Benavente. Strike out: 3-B. Castro, 2-M. Agnon, D. Camacho, J. Cabrera, R. Celes, 1-K. Kalen, G.C. Camacho, W. Ada, T. Camacho, M. Camacho, B. Quitoano, G.F. Camacho.

Running score table with columns for Team, 1-9, R, H, Error, LOB. Includes Pitcher stats for Roy Magoña, Wilber Ada, Elmer Sablan, and Tony Benavente.

Spurs overcome fatigue

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — The San Antonio Spurs overcame fatigue and a cold-shooting fourth quarter to win their 14th game in a row — one short of the franchise record — with a 95-88 victory Monday night over the New Jersey Nets.

Yacht . . . Continued from page 20

322-7337, 322-0933 or Kelly Bruce at 682-2879 and 256-7245. Meanwhile, the fifth annual North Pacific Hobie 16/Prindle 16 Championships will be held on April 21. It will Saipan's second biggest event this year after the Laguna Regatta.

Raptors . . . Continued from page 20

Ferry finished with 22 points and Michael Cage grabbed 14 rebounds for the Cavaliers, winners of four of their last five. Chris King led Vancouver with a career-high 20 points. Knicks 85, Mavericks 79. In Dallas, Patrick Ewing scored 17 of his 36 points in the third quarter and hit three critical shots late in the fourth period as New York extended Dallas' losing streak to 10 games.



Olympic schedule changes to allow Michael Johnson's double gold bid

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) — Does the United States need athletic heroes? The sport's top body thinks so, and changed the Olympic schedule to help Michael Johnson cement his role as the latest. Johnson's bid for unprecedented gold medals in the 200 and 400 meters gets a boost when the International Amateur Athletic Federation eliminated two overlapping days for the events.

NCAA championship to be aired live on radio

LOCAL basketball fans will not miss the live broadcast of the NCAA national semifinal and championship games because of school or work. KSAI radio will broadcast the semifinal doubleheader 8 a.m., Saipan time, on March 31 and the championship game at 11:45 a.m. on April 2.

Loners . . . Continued from page 20

time ran out, cutting Loners' final lead down to 13 points. There were 16 aces, one kunk, 12 kees and three goals scored in the game. Joanne Elimas was the final game's heavy hitter. She scored five aces, one kunk and five kees for a total of 22 points.

SPORTS



Loners bag ladies' rocball crown

THE Loners bagged the ladies' division rocball crown yesterday after winning the fifth game of the best-of-five title series in four sets, 42-29.

The series was won in a long

battle.

The Loners took the leading games. But after each win, the Sisters and Cousins Association evened the series.

The Loners took game one, 43-

17, but SCA evened the series, taking game two, 24-19. The Loners took game three, 23-9, but SCA again evened the series, winning game four, 38-30, for a two-game-each standoff.

The Loners finally won the title by winning the first three sets.

After a seven-point lead at the end of the first set, 16-9, the Loners widened their lead to 12 points, 32-20, going to the third set by taking the second set, 16-11.

The Loners secured their title bid in the third set when they

skunked SCA, 10-0, for a 22-point lead, going to the fourth and last set.

Sisters and Cousins Association came back late with some strength but not strong enough to catch up with the Loners. SCA was up by nine points, 9-0, when

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Toyota edges Glazers in 9th inning

TONY Benavente struck out nine batters and designated hitter Bob Lizama knocked in a winning run for Toyota Wheels' third straight win in the ongoing 13th Saipan Major League at the Francisco M. Palacios Ballfield in Susupe.

In the Monday game, Wheels edged Kautz Glass Glazers, 4-3.

Glazers starter Roy Magofna gave up two hits to Greg F. Camacho in the last five innings and struck out Bill Quitano in the bottom of the ninth inning. Bill Quitano was the first casualty with the score knotted at three all. Camacho then stepped up and ripped

a triple that drove in the winning run, just 90 feet away.

Glazers sent Wilber Ada from third base to the mound to relieve Manglona. He walked Manny Evangelista before Bob Lizama's fielder's choice scored Camacho for the win.

Wilber Ada's RBI double on starter Elmer Sablan at the top of the second inning placed the Glazers on top, 1-0.

The Wheelers evened up the score in the bottom half of the third inning with two more runs on Reno Celis' RBI single and Larry Guerrero's sacrifice RBI.

After a scoreless fourth inning, the Glazers tied the game at three runs at the top of the fifth inning when Ken Kalen reached base on an error and scored on Mike "Rock" Guerrero's sacrifice.

Greg C. Camacho then blasted the first fence homer for the tie.

Tony Benavente, who relieved Elmer Sablan, held the Glazers in the last 4 1/3 innings. He gave up one single to Tony Camacho.

The win gave the wheels sole possession of first place and pushed down the Glazers down to 0-2.

—By Francisco M. Palacios.

Yacht club gears for 2nd big boat regatta

THE Over the Reef Yacht Club will hold its second big boat regatta this Sunday.

Eight monohulls and one catamaran are expected to sail in the event.

The races' start point is at the Tanapag lagoon between the Smiling Cove Marina and Managaha Island. The course will lead down shipping channel, around the Okeeno Reef buoy,

three laps around the five-mile buoys, then back to the innermost shipping channel buoys for the finish.

A skippers' meeting is scheduled at 10 a.m. on March 31 at the Smiling Cove.

Boats will be handicapped based on the length of the waterline. A staggered start is scheduled with smaller boats starting at 11 a.m., while bigger and faster

boats will leave thirty minutes later.

Tim Bellas' Dolphin Runner won the first big boat regatta. The second placer in the event held last November was the Mapauna boat of David Wiseman. Edna Buchan's Caprice was third.

For more information, and for those interested to join the races as crew, call Mark Thomson at

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Raptors upset Bulls

TORONTO (AP)—The Toronto Raptors pulled off one of the most unlikely upsets of the NBA season Sunday, beating Chicago 109-108 when the Bulls couldn't free Michael Jordan for the final shot.

Steve Kerr took it instead, from about two feet behind the 3-point arc, and it hit the front of the rim and bounced away. The Raptors hugged and high-fived, sending the NBA's biggest crowd of the season, 36,131, home happy.

It was just the eighth loss of the season for the Bulls, who are still on pace to win an NBA-record 70 games. It also was Chicago's closest game of the year. Their other losses were by at least four points, and they haven't won a one-point game.

Damon Stoudamire scored a career-high 30 points, and his six 3-pointers gave him 27 and broke the rookie record of 125 set by Dennis Scott in 1989-90.

Spurs 100, Pacers 88

In Indianapolis, Chuck Person hit three 3-pointers in a 15-2 fourth-

quarter run as San Antonio defeated Indiana 100-88 for its 13th consecutive victory.

David Robinson topped the Spurs with 22 points and 13 rebounds, his 50th double-double of the season.

Person missed his first six shots against his former team before connecting for the first of two straight 3s with 10:03 to play, giving the Spurs an 81-75 lead. His second made the score 84-75 with 9:36 remaining, and his third put the Spurs ahead 91-77 with 7:38 to go.

Indiana never drew closer than the final 12-point deficit after that.

Cavaliers 90, Grizzlies 85

In Cleveland, Danny Ferry scored 13 fourth-quarter points as Cleveland held off a rally and sent Vancouver to its 18th consecutive loss.

The Grizzlies' losing streak is one away from their season-worst skid of 19 in a row, which lasted from Nov. 7 to Dec. 13.

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SSA Men's Fastpitch Score Box

(Statistics as of March 22)

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Mauleg	8	1	.889	—
Seabees 4	7	3	.700	1 1/2
D'9ers	6	3	.667	2
NOS Amigos	5	4	.556	3
Bud Ice	5	5	.500	3 1/2
Islanders	4	5	.444	4
Toyota	4	5	.444	4
Joeten Piao	2	7	.222	6
MTC	0	8	.000	7 1/2

Batting leaders (22 or more times at bat)

Name	Team	AB	Hit	Ave.
Ray Seman	Amigos	28	18	.643
Jess Peterson	D'9ers	25	16	.640
Pete Roberto	Bud Ice	22	13	.591
Dennis Ngeskebei	Amigos	25	13	.520
Greg C. Camacho	Mauleg	31	16	.516
Jeff Cabrera	Amigos	30	15	.500
Macario Scalliem	Amigos	26	13	.500
Joe Tenorio	D'9ers	32	16	.500
Nick Guerrero	Mauleg	36	18	.500
Larry Tenorio	D'9ers	25	12	.480
Tony C. Camacho	Bud Ice	25	12	.480

Runs: 21-Jeff Cabrera, 20-Ray Seman, 18-Mel Sakisat and Nick Guerrero, 17-Mark Toves

Doubles: 8-Nick Guerrero, 7-Mike Guerrero, 5-Mark Toves, 4-Greg C. Camacho and Tony C. Camacho

Triples: 5-Tony C. Camacho, 3-Greg C. Camacho. Seven players with two each.

Home Runs: 3-Jeff Cabrera, Greg F. Camacho and Frankie Torres, eleven players with two each.

RBI's: 17-Ray seman, 12-Greg C. Camacho and Mel Sakisat, 11-Greg F. Camacho, Tony Camacho, Jack Guerrero and James Diaz.

Strike outs: 61-Tony Satur, 21-Paul Roberto, 18-Norbert Torres and Joe Camacho, 13 Ben Sablan, 11-Max Pangelinan.

Pitching leaders

Players	Team	G	Inn	ER	Hit	W/L	ERA
Tony Satur	Red Dog	9	55	14	56	6-3	1.78
Ben Sablan	D'9ers	5	19	9	25	2-2	3.32
Max Pangelinan	Mauleg	7	38	21	48	6-1	3.87
Jess Manibusan	Amigos	9	39	22	71	4-2	3.95
Joe Sablan	D'9ers	5	17	10	37	1-0	4.18
Tino Camacho	Mauleg	2	85	14	1-0	4.38	
Paul Roberto	Bud Ice	9	43	28	57	5-3	4.56
John Camacho	Toyota	7	28	18	45	2-2	4.50
Jess Wabol	Red Dog	3	11	8	16	1-0	5.09
Norbert Torres	Islanders	6	26	19	53	2-4	5.16

Compiled by Ray D. Palacios for Variety Sports

Philippoussis pulls out of Aussie squad

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)

—z Mark Phiippoussis has declared himself unavailable for Australia's Davis Cup match against Japan in early April, preferring instead to prepare on clay for the Monte Carlo Open.

Team captain John Newcombe said Tuesday that Philippoussis will be replaced by Scott Draper on the squad for the April 5-7 matches in Osaka on hardcourt.

Draper will be joined by Pat Rafter, Jason Stoltenberg, Todd Woodbridge and Mark Woodforde, with the final team to be named at the draw on April 4.

Philippoussis will be in Monte Carlo during the first week of April to prepare for the Monte Carlo Open beginning April 22, Newcombe said.

"I am obviously very disappointed by Mark's decision," said

Newcombe. "However everyone has the right to make choices about what they want to do, but then they have to live with those choices."

"We took Mark to Russia as a junior to observe Davis Cup first hand, and we played him as a rookie in Hungary last year. I felt we had something important going in regard to Davis Cup."

Long jump champ undergoes surgery

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Ivan Pedroso, the world long jump champion, had surgery Monday to repair a torn thigh muscle and his doctor says there is a chance he will miss the Atlanta Olympics.

Dr. Rodrigo Alvarez Cambras, who operated on Pedroso, said in Havana

the operation was "successful," according to Prensa Latina, the Cuban news agency.

Cambras said Pedroso is going to try his utmost to be ready for the Summer Games, which begin July 19.

"I don't know if with that time he will be in shape for such a competi-

tion," the doctor said.

Cambras said 75 percent of the thigh muscle was damaged and not 50 percent as originally was thought. It was not immediately clear which thigh was injured.

Pedroso plans to start rehabilitation after a cast is removed, Cambras said.

Gov't men's slowpitch back in Susupe

AFTER one month of holding games at the Koblerville Ballfield, the Government Men's Slowpitch Softball League returned to its original venue at the Susupe Ballfield starting yesterday.

Games will be held at the Susupe

Ballfield every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday up to the end of the season.

Four games will be played each play day with the first game starting at 6 p.m. and the last game at 9 p.m.

The games for tomorrow: 6 p.m.

Mayor's Office versus Northern Marianas College, 7 p.m. Governor's Office versus Labor and Immigration, 8 p.m. Council Enforcers versus Department of Public Works, and Legislature versus Department of Finance at 9 p.m.