

DAILY

# Marianas Variety News & Views

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Monday • September 30, 1996

Saipan, MP 96950  
Serving CNMI for 24 Years

50¢

## Miller mounts attack



George Miller

### Harsh letter dashes hope on delegate bill, says Babauta

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

POWERFUL US Congressman George Miller (D-Cal.) has stepped up his campaign to thwart the CNMI's bid for a delegate in the US House of Representatives, Washington Representative Juan N. Babauta disclosed yesterday.

In a letter circulated among members of the US House yesterday, Miller again blasted the CNMI and took issue with its labor and human rights record in

lobbying the lower chamber against the passage of a bill to give the islands representation in Congress.

According to Babauta, the ranking Democrat's renewed attack could effectively dampen the chances of the delegate proposal getting approved by the current Congress.

"This (letter) is going to kill any chances at all of the delegate bill getting through Congress this year. When you have a well-respected, 10- to 12-term member writing a 'Dear Colleague' letter and expressing his concerns about

labor abuse, sweatshops and child labor, it tends to be very, very effective," Babauta said in a phone interview from his office Washington D.C.

H.R. 4067, co-sponsored by Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Cal.) with Rep. Don Young (R-Ak.) and several others, was approved by Young's House Natural Resources Committee in a vote taken earlier this month.

The bill is supposed to be endorsed for action by the full House any time this week but may not be taken up because of Miller's renewed attacks. Both



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### Despite rebuff from club workers

## Union to continue organizing-- Mott

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

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The result of the election, held Friday afternoon at Tokyo Tower nightclub, was 0 in favor and 29 against forming a union. There were 10 ballots contested by the club's management, however.

Of the 10, according to Mott, one was cast by a worker recently fired, and nine were by those who have "walked out" of the clubs they were working for.

The club workers who voted Friday were from Tokyo Tower, Roppongi and Club X.

"I don't consider that the union lost," union organizer Vic Perez yesterday said. "We did a lot in creating awareness among the nightclub workers."

Mott said the union will continue educating workers.

"This particular campaign is an experiment," he said. "The

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## '97 budget passes in back-to-back sessions, now headed to governor

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THE SENATE and the House of Representatives held "back-to-back" sessions Saturday to pass the budget bill three days before the start of the new fiscal year.

But though the bill has yet to be transmitted to Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, Variety sources said a veto is already "imminent."

Tenorio is reportedly not pleased with the revisions made on his budget recommendations.

In case of a veto, however, a legislator told the Variety that both houses could muster sufficient votes for an override.

The bill would appropriate \$237,368,400—an increase of

\$14.3 million from the previous fiscal year's budget—for CNMI government's FY 1997 operations and activities.

The Senate started deliberations on the bill at around 3:30 p.m., while the House session began at 4:30 and was finished an hour later.

The version of the bill passed by both Houses included several amendments proposed by the Senate.

House Minority Leader Dino M. Jones (D-Saipan) yesterday said he and other House members decided to accept the Senate amendments rather than prolong the deliberations on the bill.

"Our main concern was to pass a budget bill before the end of this fiscal year," he said.

However, Jones said the Senate amendments were "unrealistic."

"They changed the budget of the executive branch, and took away some funds from it," he said.

"We in the Legislature expect the administration to perform efficiently. But how is this possible when we changed the amount and the language on the administration's expenditure provisions?"

Jones, together with Vice Speaker Jesus T. Attao (R-Saipan), Ways and Means Chair Ana S. Teregeyo (R-Saipan) and Rep. Rosiky Camacho (D-Saipan), voted "yes with reservations."

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## House burns in Papago

By Ferdie de la Torre  
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AN HOUR-long fire of still unknown origin totally razed a house in Papago area Saturday afternoon.

The fire, which reportedly broke out at 3:30 p.m., also damaged a pick-up truck nearby.

No one was reported injured in the blaze.

Residents living near the area told the Variety that after a power outage, they heard an explosion coming from the tinhouse.

Thick smoke followed as fire quickly gobbled up the whole one-storey house which was unoccupied at the time.

The house, owned by a certain Andres Camacho, is reportedly being rented by three families.

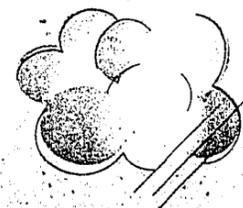
The occupants, all employees of Tropical Laundry and Gozum Construction, were at work when

the fire occurred, it was learned. Investigators are still looking into the cause of the blaze.

Meanwhile, an unidentified person/s sneaked into the King's

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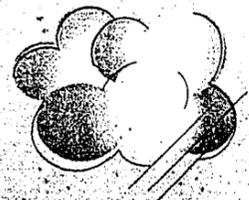
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# UN Council: End fighting

By LOUIS MEIXLER  
UNITED NATIONS (AP) - The Security Council called indirectly on Israel to close a tunnel that sparked off fighting between Israelis and Palestinians leaving at least 70 people dead. The vote late Saturday was 14-0, with the United States abstaining. The United States had opposed bringing the Palestinian-Israeli dispute before the Security Council, instead pressing for talks between Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

## US abstains in vote to stop Arab-Israeli bloodshed

Madeleine Albright said after the vote. "We abstained because we wanted to make sure the parties on the ground had the best possible opportunity to conduct this meeting." Washington at first agreed to the text of a compromise resolution, and the council announced a vote for 6:30 p.m. Saturday. But as council President Alfredo Lopes Cabral was preparing to call the meeting to order, U.S. officials told him they needed more time. The vote finally came more than three hours later, after the other 14 members demanded it. Council dip-



Yasser Arafat



Benjamin Netanyahu

riots and gunbattles between Palestinian police and Israeli soldiers. The resolution calls for the "immediate cessation and reversal of all acts which have resulted in the aggravation of the situation." It also "calls for the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians to be ensured." Some 56 Palestinians and 14 Israelis have been killed since the violence began Wednesday. "We needed this compromise so that the council can speak with one voice and to say that the actions that have been taken should be stopped, the question of the tunnel should be reversed," Egyptian Ambassador Nabil Elaraby said.

The vote came after Friday's all-day debate in which representatives, including foreign ministers, sharply criticized Israel. At the meeting, Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov called the violence a "direct result" of the policies of the Netanyahu government. Arab states insisted on a resolution and had at first demanded one that directly called on Israel to close a tunnel near Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem. The opening of the tunnel led to

## Palestinians throw stones as Israel gov't opens controversial tunnel

By DIANNA CAHN  
JERUSALEM (AP) - Defying world opinion, Israel on Sunday reopened a tourist tunnel whose completion last week triggered the worst violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip in decades. Palestinian teen-agers hurled stones at Israeli guards posted at the passageway's exit. The U.N. Security Council had passed a resolution late Saturday that indirectly called on Israel to close the tunnel. The vote was 14-0, with the United States abstaining. However, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed Saturday night that the tunnel "will always be open." The passageway, which runs along the Al Aqsa Mosque compound, Islam's third holiest shrine, was opened last week under direct orders from Netanyahu. He said it laid bare important chapters of Jewish history. The opening triggered stone-throwing clashes and gun battles between Palestinians and Israeli troops that left 72 people dead. Palestinians feel the passage undermines their control over the Muslim shrines and their claims to east Jerusalem as a future capital. Netanyahu has said the tunnel does

not endanger the shrines and is 250 meters (820 feet) from the nearest mosque. Israel had closed the tunnel Friday and Saturday, apparently to calm the situation. Israel's decision to reopen the tunnel worsened prospects for a meeting soon between Netanyahu and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. Aides had said a meeting could take place as early as Sunday. Arafat told the Israeli daily Yediot Ahronot in an interview published Sunday that he would only agree to a one-on-one meeting with Netanyahu if he received assurances that concessions would be made. "If it were to involve the closure of the tunnel, and the setting-out of a timetable for the implementation of the Oslo (autonomy) accords - sure, yes," Arafat said when asked whether he would meet with Netanyahu. "But there wouldn't be much of a point to a meeting just for the sake of a meeting," the Palestinian leader said. Palestinian officials have said Arafat is holding out for a meeting with Netanyahu under the auspices of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and with a clear understanding of the outcome. However, Israel has hardened its

position in recent days. Though Netanyahu last week was ready to meet with Arafat quickly and without preconditions, he now insists the violence stop first. Palestinian officials have said Arafat is holding out for a meeting with Netanyahu under the auspices of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and with a clear understanding of the outcome. However, Israel has hardened its position in recent days. Though Netanyahu last week was ready to meet with Arafat quickly and without preconditions, he now insists the violence stop first. Netanyahu spokesman David Bar-Illan said Sunday that Israel may disarm the 30,000 Palestinian policemen under Arafat's command if the violence escalates. Such a move would be a violation of earlier autonomy agreements, which called for an armed Palestinian force. If the troubles worsen, Israel will also insist on renegotiating the terms of the long-overdue troop pullback from the West Bank town of Hebron, Bar-Illan said in an interview with the Associated Press. The pullback from Hebron is also a cornerstone of Israeli-Palestinian autonomy agreements.

## Officials: North Korea agents took photo of airstrip, roads

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - The North Korean submarine found off South Korea's east coast was spying on roads and military airfields for a larger infiltration operation, the South's Defense Ministry said Sunday. The ministry's statement was the most detailed rebuttal so far of the communist North's claims that the intrusion was accidental. The submarine's discovery on Sept. 18 and South Korea's lethal hunt for the North Koreans who came ashore have raised tensions on the divided Korean Peninsula. The North insists the submarine was on a routine training mission when it developed engine trouble and drifted across the sea border. It has demanded the return of the submarine and its crew, and vowed "hundredfold or thousandfold" retaliation for the killing of troops from the sub. So far, 21 North Koreans have been killed or found dead so far. One other was captured. Four South Korean soldiers have been fatally shot in the manhunt, which is continuing. The Defense Ministry statement said a study of the North Korean agents' belongings showed the intruders had taken landscape pictures of a military airstrip just miles (kilometers) from where their sub was beached. The agents also were carrying a map on which they had marked

newly built roads in the region, the ministry said. "By all accounts, the incident is nothing but a combat reconnaissance activity aimed at additional, larger-scale military provocation," it said. In addition, it said: The submarine was armed with rockets. The agents it carried all were members of the North's guerrilla warfare unit trained in assassination, reconnaissance and sabotage, and were carrying automatic rifles and wearing South Korean military or civilian clothes. If the sub had drifted, wave patterns in the area would have carried it northward instead of taking it 100 kilometers (62 miles) south of the border. When North Korea started the Korean War in 1950, it established its first beachhead on the same shore where the submarine was found. That successful landing helped North Korea's main invading units overrun Seoul, the South Korean capital, in three days. The two Koreas have remained enemies since the division of their peninsula into the communist North and the capitalist South at the end of World War II in 1945. Their 1950-53 Korean War ended with a truce, and they still are technically at war. Their border is the world's most heavily armed.



## Strong quake in Southern RP

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - A strong quake with a preliminary magnitude of 6.2 shook a sparsely populated region in the southern Philippines, but there were no reports of casualties or damage, officials said Sunday. The quake jolted Surigao City, a sparsely populated area in a mountainous region 710 kilometers (440 miles) south of Manila,

at 10:10 p.m. on Saturday, an official said. It was centered 14 kilometers (8.7 miles) southwest of Surigao, according to Linda Amin of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology. The tremor was strong enough to cause possible damage to poorly-built structures or knock books off shelves.



About 10,000 protesters attend an anti-North Korea rally in Kangnung, northeast of Seoul, to protest the invasion of North Korean troops aboard a submarine on South Korea's east coast at Kangnung Monday. The banner says "We demand an apology by evil North Korean leader Kim Jong-il to South Koreans." AP Photo

# Palau cancels freedom day rites

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff  
PALAU has cancelled festivities to celebrate its Independence Day tomorrow, in the aftermath of the collapse of the K-B Bridge Thursday, that killed a former legislator and injured four others. President Kuniwo Nakamura announced the cancellation Saturday, after consulting with the Council of Chiefs, the governors of the different states, and the National Congress. Hours after the collapse, which cut off power and water in Koror, Nakamura declared a national state of emergency. The bridge connects Koror island, where the majority of Palauans live, to Babelthap, where Palau's airport is located. Telecommunications were also partially cut off. On Friday CNMI Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja extended their "deepest sympathies" to Nakamura and the Palauan people



Kuniwo Nakamura

in behalf of the CNMI. "The collapse of the K-B Bridge means a major break in the lifeline of your country. We of the Commonwealth stand ready in any way we can to help Palau at this critical time," Tenorio and Borja said. "Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with the family

and friends of James Rengil (the lone fatality), as well as with those whose lives have been altered by this tragedy," the two CNMI top executives added. Palau commemorates its second Independence Day anniversary Oct. 1 and had planned a Miss Palau pageant, boat races, and other activities. Also affected by the cancellation is the official Independence Day ceremony. Nakamura and his vice president, Thomas E. Remengesau Jr., made efforts during the weekend to restore

essential services, including power and water. According to a release from the Office of the President, government employees were also working "round-the-clock" to provide service by distributing drinking water to hamlets. Power was accordingly being provided to Koror households by rotation. According to the President's Office, governments and businesses throughout the world were responding "tremendously." The US was to send technical experts yesterday or today to help in the

probe of the bridge's collapse. A Guam firm (Foremost Co.) donated two tons of drinking water, which was transported by Continental Micronesia free of charge. Nakamura had asked the US government, through its charges d'affaires, Gerald Pasqua, for assistance, specifically a high-pressure water hose, a submarine power cable, and a ferry or barge to transport cars, supplies and people between Koror and Babelthap. The bridge had just undergone a year-long repair costing about \$2 million to lift a sag in its center.

## Manglona, Inos aide trade barbs

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff  
THE "WORD war" between former Lieutenant governor Benjamin Manglona and Rota Mayor Joseph Inos stepped up over the weekend as the two camps fired-off media releases denouncing the other. Manglona and Inos, the two candidates for the Republican Party's mayoral nomination, are trading accusations over alleged political harassment in the Office of the Rota Mayor.



Benjamin Manglona



Joseph Inos

A media release Thursday from Inos's chief administrative officer twitted former lieutenant governor Benjamin Manglona as a "want-to-be mayor," "old-time politician" making "shoot-from-the-hip accusations." "We will welcome an investigation by the attorney general and the public auditor," the media release said. "They won't find anything wrong. They will only find (Manglona) to have made false charges." Manglona, in his own media release Saturday, called the administrative officer "so defensive." "(T)he people of Rota know him and they know me, too. I will let them judge my sincerity and ability. The people know the answer and they will respond to it at the proper time," Manglona said. He said the chief administrative officer's media release "did admit... (communicating) concerns" to some employees.

"Apparently, some employees felt intimidated by the manner in which these 'concerns' were 'communicated,'" Manglona said. But according to the chief administrative officer, "proper administrative procedures" were followed. Manglona on Wednesday said some government employees working on Rota are being pressured to support certain candidates in the coming Republican primary elections. He said he was told that some employees are being threatened with non-renewal of their contracts, their checks are being withheld, and that they are being coerced to attend political rallies and meetings. Manglona said he will ask the Attorney General's Office and the Office of the Public Auditor to investigate the allegations. Inos, in an interview Thursday,

said there is no worse case of political harassment than making statements about alleged political harassment without naming names. "If there were political harassment, then why not file charges instead of making press statements?" Inos said. "And why can't Manglona name names?" Manglona has said he would not reveal the names of the allegedly "coerced" employees for fear that they may lose their jobs. "I promise that those employees would not be fired. So tell him (Manglona) to give us names," Inos said. He said even as mayor he can not just fire people. "It has to go through the usual Civil Service processes," Inos said. "There is really no time for lying. And I am willing to drop dead and go to hell if I'm lying. Can Manglona say the same thing?"

## MVB Board considers bureau's privatization

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff  
THE Marianas Visitors Bureau board of directors has created an ad hoc committee to look into the possibility of privatizing the MVB. Board chair Antonio Guerrero appointed during a board meeting Friday new board member Elizabeth Rechebe to head the committee. Guerrero stressed during the meeting that Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio himself had expressed a desire to look into the possibility of privatizing the MVB. Privatizing the MVB should free the agency from the clutches of political interference, Guerrero later told the Variety in an interview. Guerrero said tourism, as the CNMI's most important industry, should be kept away from politics. The MVB board chairman has gone to Honolulu to see for himself how a privatized visitors bureau like Hawaii's operates. "They're doing a good job," he said. He said most politicians he talked to also agree with the idea of privatizing the MVB. But even if the MVB is privatized the government still has to set aside funding for its operation. "Even Hawaii can't operate on its own. They have government funding." At present the MVB is partly funded by certain percentages from the container and hotel room taxes. Guerrero said perhaps part of the Tinian casino taxes could go to fund the MVB operations. "We only need the assistance of government through guaranteed subsidy," he said. Guerrero's idea of a privatized MVB is an agency functioning autonomously similar to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce. The government would still be represented, perhaps through the Department of Commerce. Guerrero said he foresaw the MVB being privatized starting the time he was appointed by the governor to the board. He said privatizing the MVB would need a legislative action by first dissolving the present setup, which is a product of a reorganization over a year ago.

## Federal court prevents sale of more Lasco vehicles

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff  
THE US District Court has granted a motion preventing for an indefinite period the sale of more cars and property allegedly owned by employer Jonah D. Vandergrieff. The motion had been filed by nine Filipino employees who had sued Vandergrieff, owner of the closed down Lasco Manpower Services, for damages after they were allegedly evicted from their barracks following their filing of a labor case over their \$100 monthly housing fee. Vandergrieff had been found by the labor division to be a "major violator of the labor law" and "abuser of contract workers." Vandergrieff has since then fled from Saipan and is believed to be in

the Philippines. The preliminary injunction order prohibits Vandergrieff, Lasco, a certain Ms. Dai Ya Qun aka Dai Ya Qiu, their agents and employees, and the Pacific Freight Forwarders from selling and shipping to the Philippines or elsewhere Vandergrieff's motor vehicles, personal effects, and other property until the legal ownership of the property is determined by the court. The vehicles include two 1992 Mitsubishi Mirages, with license plates AAT 959 and AAU 067. During a hearing last Sept. 20, Dai claimed she owned the Mirage AAT 959, but later in a subsequent hearing, she told the court she erred and that in fact she owned the Mirage AAU 067. The plaintiffs—María Elena Bautista, Adelaida dela Cruz, Eduardo Grupo, Placido Manalo, Robert

Saavedra, Zenaida Espinosa, Antonio Pascual, Arthur Bismar, and Stephen Dolino—presented evidence showing that both vehicles were bought by Vandergrieff last year but titled under Dai's name. According to the court the title of the property does not necessarily show the status of ownership. The evidence presented by the complainants also showed that there was a personal relationship between Vandergrieff and Dai and that the ultimate consignee of the vehicles was Vandergrieff. "Defendant Vandergrieff and Ms. Dai are so inextricably intertwined in their social or business dealings that it seems probable that the vehicles and the personal property belongs to defendant Vandergrieff," District Judge Alex R. Munson agreed.

Earlier last Sept. 9, Munson issued a temporary restraining order on the sale and transfer of the Vandergrieff vehicles and property. The TRO was only in effect for 10 days. The TRO specifically specified a Cherokee, but this vehicle was no longer mentioned in the preliminary injunction order. The other vehicles the court mentioned in its latest order is a silver 1992 Mitsubishi Mirage (plate number AAU 077) whose ownership was transferred to Dai last July 23; a 1988 Kia Besta Pass van (registered to Vandergrieff); a four-door 1988 Subaru sedan (insured as Vandergrieff's vehicle but its license plate and title ownership are unknown); a four-door 1987 Toyota Camry sedan (also insured as Vandergrieff's vehicle, with the license plate and title ownership

unknown). The court also ordered the Pacific Freight Forwarders to keep Vandergrieff's personal property under its possession until further order. Dai and whoever use the vehicles should keep them insured and maintain them in their current condition except their normal wear and tear. In preventing the shipment of Vandergrieff's vehicles and personal property, Munson explained that this would enable the complainants to "satisfy any portion of a judgment that might be rendered in their favor." If the vehicles and other personal property would be shipped off island, "this would result in irreparable harm to the plaintiffs, and the balance of hardship, therefore, tips in their favor," Judge Munson said.

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



## Guerrero misses the boat

INTERESTING how one can miss the boat even while standing at the port waiting for its arrival and departure. That was the case in point when Historic Preservation Officer Joseph Deleon Guerrero attempted to correct "historical inaccuracies" in an earlier article I wrote dubbed "What's in a Name?" First he came out swinging insinuating that this column "is primarily intended to entertain". I'm not about to engage in a lengthy discussion about the role of columnists nor test his level of comprehension given that he's established it himself as highly suspect. This occurs when one fails to get his facts together to ensure that it isn't half-facts. And indeed my friend did just that which became "real entertainment" for all the misses rather than hits.

Believe it or not, our illustrious "historic preservation officer" never came to grips with the fact that I was after the truth in terms of origin and definition of our island's name, Saipan. He was far more interested in inflicting insinuations and in the process failed to set his version of historical data straight. His ramblings became even more entertaining and I relish every minute of it.

If Guerrero is the alleged resident expert of local history, he simply fails to answer my search for the historical origin and definition of SAIPAN. I was challenging all concerns, including Guerrero, to explain this part of history. And I wanted the Chamorro origin and definition of the name of this land where I was born to live and die. At least I wanted to be at peace with the history of the names of these islands which Guerrero tried, I reiterate, "tried" to answer with nothing but insults emanating from one's grand immaturity. You realize, sir, that there must have been an indigenous name for the Marianas Archipelago before the Spaniards came? What is it? Can you get to the point and provide us the origin and definition of Saipan in Chamorro?

Being part Carolinian, I find Guerrero's presumptuous assertion that the "Carolinians came up with a relevant term of their own language to approximate the indigenous Chamorro name" highly racist. Is he disputing this part of local history in the absence of a Chamorro definition to prove his case? What's mind boggling in his quest to set "historical facts straight" was the lack of it. Nowhere in his dissertation did he explain the origin and meaning of the name of our island, Saipan.

If Guerrero's reading comprehension goes beyond the intermediate level he would have understood that I never asserted that Chamorro originated from "don't moro". It was a literal translation extracted from a speech by a student in intramural speech contest between then Hopwood High School and Mt. Carmel. He would have understood that it was never a personal concoction. It is an obvious case of the brain not being in gear as he engaged his mouth.

I admire your prolificity in instituting alleged historical facts. Perhaps your office can help all Chamorros identify, once and for all, where did we really come from: the Philippines or Malaysia? We're ready to march into the next millennium and we haven't factually establish this missing equation in the origin of Chamorros. The Carolinians know where they came from and perhaps this is one reason that they are at peace with themselves. Chamorros don't and I'm afraid it remains that confused and still missing part of our own history. Perhaps our alleged resident expert in local history can clarify this matter once and for all.

Mind you, a lot of what you find in this column are about major events in the islands, all of which will become a part of history. At least I know that this scribe has contributions documenting my perceptions of vital events that affect the indigenous people of these islands. Do you? Evidently, who's your ghost writer? A haole, Chamorro, Chamure or Chamorro? I look forward to your next words of wisdom.

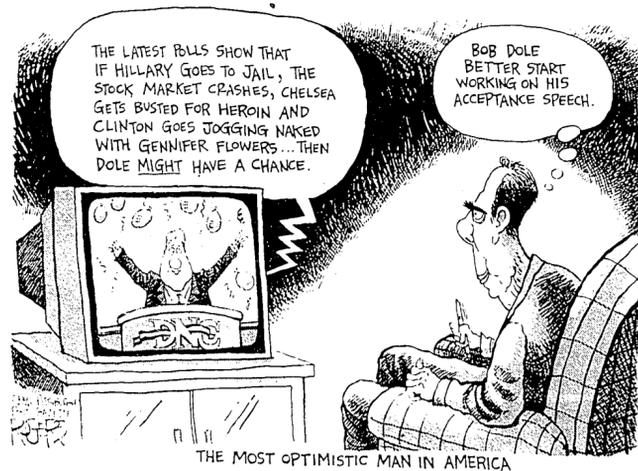
## Local artist must stick with originality

Recently, I've been listening to local music via the air waves from the various artists between here and Guam. We even have rap Chamorro music which may be the fad or call it contemporary, but hardly cultural. Anyway, it's a form of an expression that meets modern day Chamorros.

But a lot of what we hear today are adaptations. In other words, music taken from an original and translated into the vernacular. Sure, Kenny Rogers and others now have their music in Chamorro. I am not disputing the work of local artists in this matter. However, I find it a lazy musician's way of making quick bucks from a piece of music where the lyrics or meaning of the songs do not have any relationship at all. Woe! Did you secure the permission of the original artist to completely alter his piece of work?

Furthermore, most of the so-called "local songs" are about "neni" or a love affair gone sour. Yeap! I can literally predict from the introductory that this music is, again, about "neni". We have too much of neni that I start wondering if this isn't the in-thing among most couples treading this island. Certainly, it somehow confirms the rise in divorce cases. So why work on adaptations when you can get your material from court?

We have to start writing music about other pertinent subjects including the ghost of Chalan Kanoa, majestic Laulau Bay, Managaha Island, hills of Pagan, deep blue waters, romantic shores, full moon over Tanapag bay, etc. Well, I've written some of my own and hope to give to some artist with the appropriate voice. But please let's stay away for a little while from neni? Ai si neni, the next thing we know taigae esta si neni sa matulaika pot palaosan gineni lancho. Perhaps the Commonwealth Council for the Arts can organize something in this regard if for any other reason than to encourage all artists to try their hands on a new subject.



JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER  
**WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND**

## Pressler did a flip-flop on telecom bill

WASHINGTON—Sen. Larry Pressler, R-S.D. wants his rural constituents to know how much he's done for them this year. What he doesn't tell them is that he worked quietly behind the scenes to defeat a measure that he's now touting on the campaign trail.

As chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, Pressler was one of the key movers behind the landmark telecommunications bill that passed the Senate last February. The bill wipes away 60 years of regulations and opens up competition between local and long-distance telephone carriers, cable TV companies and other telecommunications interests.

When the bill was moving through the Senate, Sens. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, and John D. "Jay" Rockefeller IV, D-W.Va., offered an amendment that sought to make the bill easier on rural areas, including Pressler's home state of South Dakota.

Their provision required telecommunications providers to supply discounted service to public schools, libraries and hospitals in rural areas—where prices are often steeper than in urban locations.

But Pressler, whose reelection campaign has been greatly helped by contributions from the telecommunications industry, opposed the amendment when it came up for a Commerce Committee vote. A Pressler spokesman told us Pressler "supported the intent" of the amendment, but "thought that certain changes had to be made. He voted against it but qualified it with saying, 'I just don't want to be on record as supporting certain aspects of this amendment,'" which were later deleted.

After opposing the amendment in committee, Pressler voted for the measure once it reached the light of day on the Senate floor. And he voted in favor of the final bill, which passed the Senate by an overwhelming margin.

Now Pressler finds himself in the race of his political life against Democratic Rep. Tim Johnson. Not surprisingly, a Pressler campaign commercial makes no mention of his original opposition to the Snowe-Rockefeller plan.

"Now he's putting us in the driver's seat on the information highway," the ad boasts. "Telemedicine for rural areas, lower phone bills."

Democrats, who are eager to win back their Senate majority in November, charge that Pressler's initial opposition to the measure was "bought and paid for" by telecommunications interests.

According to the non-partisan Center for Responsive Politics, these groups gave Pressler nearly \$100,000 in PAC contributions in 1995-96, compared with only \$31,500 when Pressler was part of the Senate minority.

UNDER THE DOME—A story we reported last month has put in jeopardy millions of dollars in federal subsidies paid to the operator of a notorious agricultural sweatshop.

The Maine-based DeCoster Egg Farms is accused of running a foul of federal safety and wage regulations. The Labor Department recently recommended fines of \$3.6 million after an investigation found employees working and living in conditions that Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich has called "as dangerous and oppressive as (in) any sweatshop we have seen."

DeCoster, the world's largest producer of brown eggs, is accused of forcing laborers to work 10-hour shifts while paying them for only three-and-a-half hours, forcing workers to live in highly unsanitary conditions, and failing to get proper medical treatment for workers with serious injuries.

In 1995, one worker had three fingers cut off in an unguarded belt-and-pulley drive. Though he was promised medical help, the assistance did not arrive for several hours.

Even as these abuses were taking place, we reported, DeCoster was raking in millions of dollars in federal subsidies. Agriculture Department numbers show that DeCoster had received \$14.3 million between 1991 and 1995 through a subsidy program designed to boost brown egg exports to Hong Kong. DeCoster is also scheduled to receive an additional \$962,665 through another export promotion program, according to USDA figures.

But Rep. John Baldacci, D-Maine, tells us he's been assured by key Agriculture Department officials that DeCoster will be cut off the government dole until the company complies with all applicable laws and regulations.

"You certainly can't be writing checks from the Treasury when they're not meeting basic living health and safety standards," Baldacci noted.

# Bus driver files \$2.5M lawsuit

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

A FORMER bus driver of the Pacific Development, Inc. has sued the company and two other persons demanding \$2.5 million in damages in connection with an alleged assault incident in 1994.

Vicente M. Muna sued the PDI, PDI supervisor Matsina Leuta, and PDI manager Yoichi Matsumura for battery, negligence, unlawful termination, causing his arrest, intentional interference of contract, defamation, and infliction of emotional distress.

In the civil suit filed before the Superior Court, Muna, through counsel Bruce Berline, said in July 1994 PDI hired him as a bus driver until he was fired in November on the same year.

Muna's job was to pick up tourists from the different hotels and take them to the shopping malls or the various tourist attractions around Saipan.

The complaint stated that on Nov. 19, 1994, Muna stopped his bus at the Duty Free Shoppers in Garapan to drop off tourists.

While parked at DFS, Muna received a call on the radio from Leuta, who was on duty and acting in his supervisory capacity.

During the radio conversation, Leuta became angry and instructed Muna to wait for him at DFS.

Upon arriving at DFS, Leuta started shouting at plaintiff and threatening with his job.

Leuta then publicly fired Muna, while both of them were standing in front of DFS.

Muna was stranded at DFS since he could no longer drive PDI's bus, the complaint said.

Muna asked Leuta to give him a ride, but he refused and started to drive away. Plaintiff turned and walked away from Leuta.

Leuta exited his car and brutally beat plaintiff with his fists and a hand held radio retrieved from the truck, the complaint said.

Leuta struck plaintiff several times on the head and body with the radio, causing head lacerations and contusions.

"The beating continued after plaintiff fell to the pavement. The force of the blows were so tremendous that the radio's battery pack broke off," said Berline in the complaint.

After being treated at the hospital, Muna was told to rest.

However, instead of being able to go home, the plaintiff was arrested as a result of the Leuta's bringing false charges to the police.

After Leuta's unprovoked attack on plaintiff and because of his false accusations and criminal conduct against Muna, the latter was jailed for approximately 24 hours.

Plaintiff reported to Matsumura and relayed to him the entire incident, the complaint said.

Berline contended that PDI continued to employ Leuta in a supervisory position after it knew of his violent and dangerous disposition.

"Such actions by defendant PDI were reckless, callous and in gross disregard of its duty to

its employees," said Berline in the complaint.

The lawyer said each of the defendants acted outrageously, willfully and maliciously in firing Muna.

As a result of Leuta's statements to the police, Berline said

Muna was incarcerated and suffered damages, humiliation and emotional distress.

Berline added that Leuta's interference with the contract between PDI and Muna, encouraged the company to breach such agreement.

## CPA employee cited for 'misuse' of gov't vehicle

THE ATTORNEY General's Office has filed charges against an employee of the Commonwealth Ports Authority for allegedly misusing a government vehicle.

Deputy Atty. Gen. Loren A. Sutton charged Jose B. Aldan with three counts of misuse of a government vehicle before the Superior Court.

In his complaint, Sutton said last Sept. 19, Aldan, a government employee, "did operate a government vehicle plate ABD-724 leased by

CPA from Microl leasing with tinting material on its windows."

Aldan drove the vehicle with no identifying markings on the doors and used it more than 60 days prior to Sept. 19 without government license plates, said Sutton in the complaint.

Aldan has been summoned to appear in court on Oct. 11.

Violating a law on misuse of government vehicle carries a maximum penalty of three days' imprisonment and \$500 fine. (FDT)

## Kidnapping suspect may admit charge

A CHINESE man has agreed to admit the charges filed against him in connection with the kidnapping and beating of a man at the Capitol Hill Cemetery last March.

WuZheng, through counsel Joshua Berger, entered into a plea agreement with the government represented by Assistant Atty. Gen. James Norcross.

Zheng was charged with kidnapping, assault with a dangerous weapon, and attempted theft by extortion.

The defendant agreed to plead guilty to assault and battery, a lesser included offense of assault with a dangerous weapon.

The Attorney General's Office would recommend the dismissal of the remaining charges.

Under the agreement, Zheng would be sentenced to one year in jail, all suspended, except two and a half months with credit for time served.

The defendant would waive an appeal. He would be remanded to the custody of the CNMI Immigration upon completion of his jail term.

Court information showed that last March 5, the defendant with Lin Hua beat and struck Zhong Jun Lu at the Capitol Hill Cemetery.



## Planting Trees?

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and  
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## 322-4199

# High court reverses trial court order

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

THE SUPREME Court has allowed Larry Lee Hillblom's estate executor to use the assets of the late millionaire in defending the heirship claims asserted by his alleged pretermitted heirs.

In an opinion issued Friday, the high tribunal reversed the Superior Court's order which prevented the Bank of Saipan, the designated estate executor, from using Hillblom's assets for the probate proceedings.

The case stemmed from the petitions filed by Kaelani Kinney and David Moncrief, mother and guardian, respectively, of Junior Larry Hillblom and Jellian Cuartero. They are jostling for a share in Hillblom's estate which, upon the millionaire's will executed Jan. 12, 1982, should go to his two brothers Terry Hillblom and Grant Anderson, and the "residue"

## Ruling allows use of Hillblom funds to defend case



Kaelani Kinney

to a Charitable Trust. Peter J. Donnici has been appointed chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Superior Court Judge Alexandro Castro, in his Jan. 24 order, ruled that the beneficiaries under Hillblom's will should be the ones responsible for "establishing and defending their own rights



Larry Lee Hillblom

in the estate."

But the Supreme Court thinks otherwise.

Invoking two related doctrines, it holds that "an executor has a duty to defend by using estate assets to protect the interests of beneficiaries named in the will attacks."

The Court cited the Arkansas Supreme Court ruling in

*Swaffar vs. Swaffar.*

"It is clear from *Swaffar* that an executor's duty to defend the estate includes protecting the decedent's distributees mentioned in the will. The duty extends to defending against claims by alleged pretermitted heirs," the Court said.

The high tribunal said, the executor has raised the issue of whether Junior and Jellian are truly pretermitted heirs.

"In doing so," the Court said, "it is properly protecting the named beneficiaries of the will."

Otherwise, if the two children successfully proved that Hillblom is their father, "then the statutory interstate distribution scheme replaces the Will and the assets of estate are disposed of as if he died interstate. As result, the Will would not be set aside and the

beneficiaries in the will would take nothing," the court said.

The Supreme Court also overturned Castro's order against the reimbursement of legal fees to Bank of Saipan. Castro had pointed out that "it is neither the duty nor the prerogative of the executor to favor one claimant over the other."

"Because the executor has a duty to defend against the pretermitted heir claims," the high court said, "it is entitled to be reimbursed for its costs, including reasonable attorney fees."

"An executor is justified in defending an action on behalf of the estate when such litigation may adversely affect the beneficiaries and also divert assets of the estate. The cost of defense is a proper expense necessarily incurred in the administration of the estate."

## Bank of Guam declares 3rd Q stock dividends

BANK of Guam's Board of Directors has authorized the payment of common stock dividends at \$0.08 per share for the third quarter ending September 30, 1996.

Anthony A Leon Guerrero, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bank and Vice Chairman of the Board, stated that the Bank's continuing profitable performance has allowed the payment of dividends to shareholders.

Diligence and attention to detail by the management and staff has made it possible to maintain a high rate of return for our shareholders, who have given their support to us over the past twenty-four (24) years," he said.

The third quarter payment of the regular dividends will be for common stock shareholders of record as of September 30, 1996. Such dividends will be paid on the quarter ending September 30, 1996.

For more information, please call Anthony A. Leon Guerrero, President and Chief Executive Officer at (671) 472-5300.

## HPO meeting

THE Division of Historic Preservation, Department of Cultural Affairs, informs the general public that the Historic Preservation Review Board will hold its quarterly meeting on October 15, 1996.

The meeting will start at 9:00 am at the Division of Historic Preservation's office at the Saipan International Airport. Interested individuals are invited to attend this meeting.

Copies of the agenda for this meeting are available from the Division of Historic Preservation upon request.

**SAVE WATER**

# Info on NMI now on website

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

DESPITE the major role of the Northern Marianas in putting an end to World War II, these group of islands in the Pacific remains obscure to peoples in most parts of the

world.

And the insufficiency of literature about the CNMI often frustrates those who want to find information about the Commonwealth islands. Hence the government's thrust to put the Northern Marianas

on the world map.

The Tenorio administration started the project by hiring the world-class public relations company, the Lee Solters Inc. to make the CNMI's presence felt in the world, particularly in the tourism landscape.

The Saipan DataCom, Inc., meanwhile, has taken on the task ahead by putting the Northern Marianas is on the World Wide Web, which may be the first realization of the government's image-building thrust.

"We were the first company to bring Live Internet to the islands and the only company to develop a CNMI Website where people from around the world can find information ranging from history, to tourism and culture," said Steve Coleman, DataCom's general manager.

DataCom has been contracted by the Marianas Visitors Bureau to provide MVB with Internet Access Accounts to enable the agency to send

Email and research information on the World Wide Web.

DataCom has created a Webpage for MVB, which contains such information as places to visit, airlines that fly, the hotels available, and dive shops, restaurants, beach sports and a list of annual events.

"You can view it by using a Web Browser to find the CNMI Website at [www.saipan.com](http://www.saipan.com) and clicking the tourism link or by going directly to [www.saipan.com/mvb/index.htm](http://www.saipan.com/mvb/index.htm). MVB members are listed in the Webpage and we are working on developing more Webpages for the general membership," Coleman said.

MVB Webpage has also been posted on a Webserver connected directly to the Internet. "Anyone in the world can now visit the MVB site and learn a lot about tourism in the CNMI," Coleman said.

Coleman said the MVB Webpage will be updated every now and then until "the

point where MVB feels comfortable with the amount of information."

"The wonderful thing about Webpages is that they can be viewed by anyone in the world and they can be constantly updated and changed," Coleman said.

"When a client work with Saipan Datacom, they have the convenience of working with extremely skilled local Website developers and then have the speed and quality associated with posting a WebPage in the US mainland. This is because we operate a Webserver in the mainland which has its own dedicated high speed T1 connection directly in the Internet backbone."

Coleman said his company will soon enter into a similar contracts with the Saipan Chamber of Commerce for business information in the Commonwealth, as well as the executive department for information about political and government affairs.

## Jones bill to 'strengthen' Washington Rep's Office

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

A BILL to be filed by House Minority Leader Dino M. Jones (D-Saipan) would "clarify and expand the powers" of the resident representative's office.

The bill provides that in cases of conflict between the resident representative and the governor's special representative, the former would have administrative control.

But the bill would also bind the resident representative to the governor's policies regarding CNMI-federal relations "unless the Legislature...shall declare that it cancels or modifies the governor's policy statement."

Jones, in an interview Friday, said his bill would prevent conflicts between the resident representative and the executive and legislative branches of government.

"There were times when these conflicts confused Congress, which was, of course, bad for the CNMI," he said.

Jones said that by strengthening the office of the resident representative would help advance "the CNMI's economic and political agenda" in Congress.

The still unnumbered bill would raise the resident representative's annual salary from \$40,000 to \$60,000.

Included among the powers and duties the bill would give to the resident representative:

- To maintain and supervise the office at Washington, D.C.
- To represent the CNMI and its people on a full-time basis before

## P.A.W.S. to hold final pet clinic

PAWS (Pet Assistance and Welfare Services) will sponsor the last Immunization Clinic for this year on October 6, 1996.

The clinic will be held at the 4-H House, across from Marianas High School, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Immunization drive is for dogs and cats. Heartworm testing will also be available.

There will be preventative medicine and skin problem dips on sale.

The fee for all services is below-cost of the vaccine itself.

According to PAWS, is has serviced over 250 cats and dogs on island during the past three clinic making our pet population more healthy.

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and

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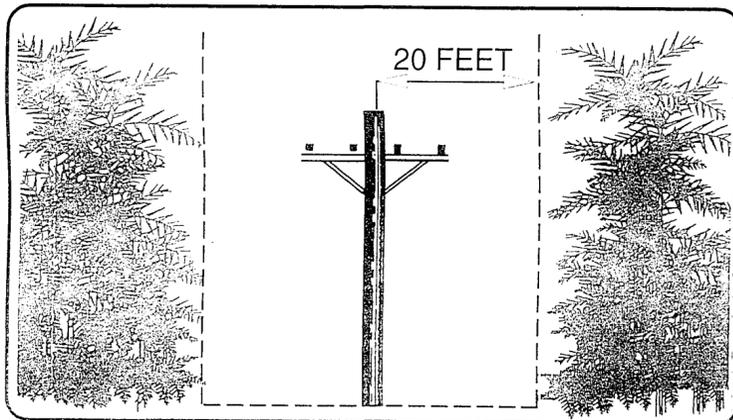
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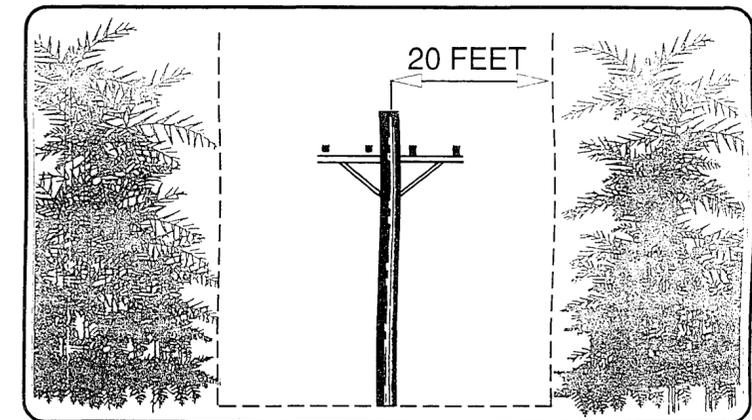
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# SC denies Aldan release

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff  
THE SUPREME Court denied Friday a request for temporary release filed by a man convicted of possession of drug and illegal firearms.

The court did not elaborate on its decision to deny the motion filed by Jesus Akiyama Aldan, through lawyer Steven Pixley.

"This order is based on the Court's consideration of the appellants' motion, the appellees' response and the order of the Superior Court dated

## SPC expert conducting workshops

FOR the past three and one-half weeks, Graeme Brown, a statistician with the South Pacific Commission (SPC), headquartered in Noumea, New Caledonia, has been conducting a workshop on "Data Analysis and Report Writing" at the Department of Commerce.

Six hours a day, ten staff members from the Department of Commerce, PSS Justice, and Tax and Revenue have been acquiring a range of techniques that will help them analyse data and put their analysis in readable form.

"It's like a laboratory," Brown said. "We've taken local data-the census. People can really see how it works."

A native of Canberra, Australia, Brown worked for the SPC from 1989-91, and returned to the Commission a year ago. "I like working with different cultures, both island and metropolitan. The staff of the PSC comes from everywhere, and the work takes me to different islands."

Brown does training about three months of the year, and the rest of year serves as a consultant. The most gratifying thing about his work is to see things come together, he said. "People are fearful of statistics. When they realize they can do it, it's wonderful. The level of enthusiasm here on Saipan is excellent. John Borja, director for central statistics at the Department of Commerce, is very keen on training."

The SPC funded Brown's airfare and per diem. The CNMI covered some in-kind costs, such as use of a department car.

Brown's workshop is the most recent of many services provided to the Northern Mariana Islands over the past decades in the area of fisheries, agriculture, women's issues, health care, and administration.

For more information about the programs offered by the South Pacific Commission and about the 36th South Pacific Conference, call (670) 664-2391.

Aug. 16, 1996 which denied the same motion filed by the defendant," Justice Ramon Villagomez wrote in a brief order.

Aldan was convicted on May 29 for possessing .74 grams of crystal metamphetamine locally known as "ice," and a .22 caliber long rifle with an expired license. He was sent to jail for five years "not subject to suspension, probation or parole." His case is currently on appeal at the Supreme Court.

In a motion filed Sept. 12, Pixley asked the Supreme Court to release Aldan pending appeal of his case.

He tried to convince the high court that his client "is not a flight risk and he does not pose danger to the community," citing the Superior Court's statement in its Aug. 2 order.

The Attorney General's Office blocked the motion and disputed Pixley's statement.

Acting Atty. Gen. Robert

Dunlop in saying that Pixley's client "is a flight risk and a danger to the community," recalled that Aldan "has been released on bail since Aug 21, 1995." Since that time, Dunlop said, "he was arrested and charged three additional times with drug and other offenses."

Dunlop disputed another issue raised by Pixley involving "the substantial questions of law."

Pixley questioned among other things the manner by which nine police officers arrested Aldan in his house in July last year.

Pixley said Aldan's rights under the Fourth Amendment were violated when the police officers "smashed through the doors of the home of the sleeping Aldan without first knocking and announcing their identities."

"Although the US courts interpreting a similar federal statute have allowed 'no knock' searches based upon a showing of exigent circumstances it is not clear that these cases are applicable to the

CNMI given the expanded right to privacy contained in the CNMI Constitution," Pixley said.

The defense lawyer added that unlike the US Constitution, the CNMI Constitution "expressly guarantees a right of privacy to CNMI citizens."

Dunlop dismissed Pixley's argument saying the defense lawyer was "allowed to inquire into the basis for the search warrant," and to cross-examine the detective "as to the circumstances and the basis for the 'no knock' search warrant."

As for Aldan's firearm Pixley said it was not a prohibited weapon under the law.

But Dunlop disagreed.

The government lawyers said the sentencing provision under the Commonwealth law "encompasses all illegal weapons, and for a weapon not to be illegally possessed, the holder must have a valid weapon permit."

Dunlop, all in all, does not



Steven Pixley

believe that the issues raised by Pixley could reverse the lower court's conviction of Aldan.

"Even if it is decided that the case should be remanded for a further clarification in sentencing, it is likely the same result would be reached. The defendant would remain guilty of the possession charge."



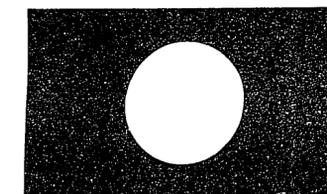
## Trim The Trees, Protect Your Power!

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) encourages customers to check around their homes and businesses for over-grown trees. As the typhoon season approaches, heavy rains and winds cause the trees to blow and fall into the power lines.

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**322-4199**



## Message from President Kuniwo Nakamura

# Congratulating all Palauans on the Second Anniversary of Independence

We kept the vision and faithfully carried out the mandate for a free and independent Republic of Palau. Our national dream of becoming a sovereign nation in Free Association with the United States of America became a reality on October 1, 1994. I thank God Almighty and congratulate the proud people of Palau as we celebrate the Second Anniversary of our Independence at home and abroad in the CNMI, Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S. Mainland. As we celebrate with commemorative events, let the new spirit of Palauan nationalism take hold and live on. Let the world know that democracy is alive and well in Palau. Let the world know that we are capable of governing and leading our nation to destinations only we shall determine. Let the world celebrate with us and witness the successful symbiosis between democracy and Palauan tradition in our experience.

We have good reasons to celebrate. Palau has political stability and economic potential that promise a bright future for all Palauans. The foundation and the building blocks for a Palau envisioned in the National Master Development Plan are in place. We cannot promise personal happiness to each and every citizen, but we can continue to provide economic, employment and educational opportunities for all Palauans who desire them.

We are independent but not alone. We are member of the world community and we have many friends and partners. Since October 1, 1994, we have established diplomatic and friendly relations with the United States, Japan, Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, Israel, India, South Korea, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, FSM, Spain, Portugal, Kiribati, and the list is growing. We celebrate independence with them and with our dear friends in Guam, CNMI, and the Republic of China.

Let us celebrate with open hearts and extend welcoming arms to all who wish to visit or invest in our country. We welcome you to make the most of our country's wonderful natural beauty and hospitable people. Let us work together to develop and internationalize our economy for our mutual benefit. Let us work together to preserve and protect the best in our cultural and natural resources for the benefit of all.

Let us celebrate and continue to work hard, for the best is yet to come.

# US House OKs immigration deal

By MARCY GORDON  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Landmark legislation to crack down on illegal immigrants, including placing controls on Social Security benefits and drivers' licenses, won House passage Saturday as part of a giant federal spending bill. The immigration package, aimed at stemming the tide of illegal immigration that sweeps some

300,000 people to U.S. shores, "secures America's borders ... protects American jobs and saves taxpayers billions of dollars," said Rep. Lamar Smith, the Texas Republican who is chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on immigration. Said House Speaker Newt Gingrich: "We cannot be open for those who will break the law."

The immigration package, attached to the spending bill which passed the House, 370-37, as lawmakers raced to adjourn and get on the campaign trail, now goes to the Senate. A vote there is expected on Monday. In marathon talks the night before, lawmakers and White House emissaries resolved a partisan impasse over how legal immigrants should be treated in

what had been a separate immigration bill. The stalemate had threatened to derail the bill, months in the making, which now is poised to become one of the most far-reaching pieces of social legislation enacted by the Republican-led Congress. The impasse also had complicated year-end budget talks as lawmakers pushed to tack the immigration measure onto the

spending bill. That prompted Republicans to accuse President Clinton on Friday of risking a government shutdown. As Clinton and the Democrats see it, the new accord turns the package back toward its original purpose of combatting illegal immigration and away from restricting benefits that legal immigrants can receive. White House spokesman Mike McCurry, speaking on Clinton's campaign plane flying to Rhode Island, described the deal as "very, very good. We're satisfied we have measures that will continue to protect America's borders while setting the right kind of standards for legal immigrants," he said.

The immigration provisions were coming first before the House, where Republicans - especially from California - had strenuously opposed accommodation with the White House. The negotiators agreed to limit the degree to which legal immigrants would be susceptible to losing certain benefits after a year on welfare. The White House had demanded limitations on legal immigrant benefits be dropped entirely. The compromise includes provisions allowing welfare workers to verify immigrants' legal status before giving them welfare checks. Illegal immigrants no longer would be allowed to qualify for Social Security benefits or public housing, and states could deny them drivers' licenses. In addition, the White House won a concession on its request that legal and illegal immigrants with AIDS or HIV infection be able to receive federally paid treatment.

"I find that inexplicable," said Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, a Mississippi Republican. He said the provision would be "a magnet" to attract people with AIDS to the United States. The earnings requirement for U.S. residents wanting to sponsor foreign family members coming into the country would be increased slightly: from the current 100 percent of the poverty level to 125 percent. The original immigration bill passed by the House called for a 200 percent requirement. The pledges of support signed by sponsors would become legal and binding documents. The immigration package also would roughly double the size of the U.S. Border Patrol, stiffen penalties for document fraud and alien smuggling and establish pilot projects for employers to verify job applicants' work eligibility. It would increase penalties on illegal aliens caught in this country. The repercussions for the November election in California, Texas and other border states are unmistakable, and the immigration fight in Congress became fierce in recent weeks.

But with the eleventh-hour agreement locked in before the 104th Congress adjourned, leaders of both parties were cheering.

# Congress itching to adjourn

By ALAN FRAM  
WASHINGTON (AP) - A weary U.S. House approved a huge spending bill and tighter immigration laws on Saturday, handing victories to both Republicans and Democrats just five weeks before the election and moving Congress to the verge of adjournment. By an overwhelming 370-37 roll call, the House shipped the 3,000-page package combining both measures to the Senate. That chamber seemed likely to vote final congressional ap-

## Spending bill breezes through House to Senate

proval on Monday and send it to President Clinton for his promised signature. The House vote was the chamber's last major business of 1996, and let members of the first GOP-controlled Congress in 40 years begin fleeing the Capitol for the campaign trail. The bill, completed at sunrise after all-night bargaining by White House and congressional negotiators, bears political

points for both sides. Final approval will allow Republicans to avoid a rerun of last year's federal shutdowns when the new fiscal year begins Tuesday. Clinton gets \$ 6.5 billion extra he wanted for education and other domestic programs. Both sides get a tough new immigration law to brag about. And incumbents get to go home and woo voters. But first, each side tried grabbing credit for their agreement.

When the bill finally hit the House floor shortly before 9 p.m. - about 14 hours after it was completed in all-night negotiations - Republicans lauded it. "We have a bill that's good for departments and agencies... good for taxpayers, and it's a good bill because it allows us to go home to our constituents," said House Appropriations Committee Chairman Bob Livingston, a Louisiana Republican. Democrats said they would support the bill, but couldn't resist contrasting it with earlier Republican versions that sought deeper cuts in many programs. Despite that political tug-of-

war, Clinton sent Republican leaders a letter urging Congress to approve the legislation and pledging to sign it. He said the deal "demonstrates fiscal responsibility and preserves those investment priorities important to the American people." The budget package contains \$ 244 billion for the Pentagon and \$ 145 billion for the departments of Health and Human Services, Interior and dozens of other agencies for fiscal 1997. Including funds for Medicaid and other benefit programs that are automatically paid, the measures contain about \$ 600 billion - more than one-third of the entire federal budget. The extra \$ 6.5 billion Clinton won was for schools, anti-terrorism, fighting drugs and a host of other domestic programs. To finance it, lawmakers will use an auction of spots on the broadcast spectrum and a fund that insures financial institutions, plus \$ 1 billion from the Pentagon's budget.

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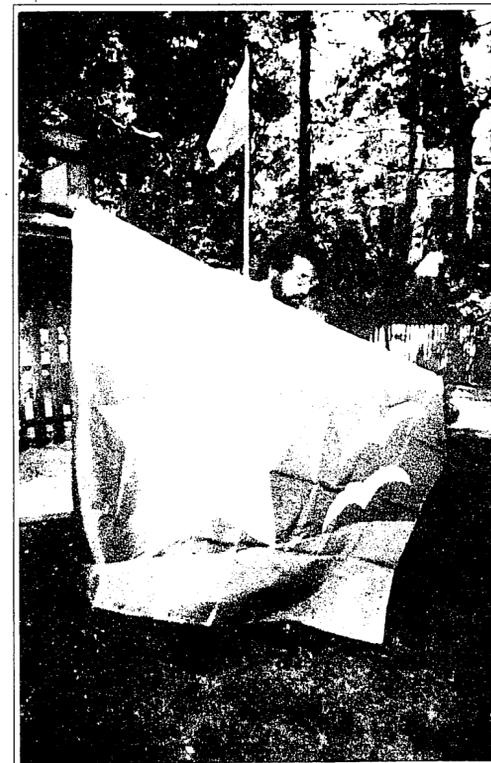
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## Corrosion is a concern for TWA investigators

SMITHTOWN, New York (AP) - As divers searched the ocean for the remaining pieces of TWA Flight 800, investigators said they were concerned that corrosion was eating away at the clues carved into the missing parts. Some metallurgists have said physical evidence may have been wiped away by the salt water on the plane parts, which have been underwater for more than 10 weeks.

"Sure, it's a concern," FBI Assistant Director James Kallstrom said Saturday. "Time is not our companion. But there is nothing we can do to bring it up any faster." Investigators said they need physical evidence, such as pitting or cracks in the aircraft's metal to help determine

whether a bomb, a missile or a mechanical malfunction brought down the Paris-bound jetliner off Long Island July 17, killing all 230 people aboard. Although the salt water may cause some rust, a metal expert working on the probe said that "holes through the metal, or evidence of a blast bending metal in or out, will still be evident." Kallstrom also noted that while some of the wreckage pulled up over the last couple of weeks showed signs of rust, none of the damage appeared to be too bad. More than 85 percent of the aircraft has been recovered and is being pieced together in a hangar. Investigators hope to recover the rest of the debris within the next two weeks.



Dan Koffman, of Pacific Grove, Calif., holds his Flag of Peace that has flown over the capitals of 16 nations. Koffman designed the flag for the International Day of Peace that was celebrated last Sept. 17. AP Photo

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# EU may join trade accord

By TIM KLASS  
SEATTLE (AP) - A potential breakthrough in free-trade talks covering products ranging from computer chips to cell phones was announced by trade negotiators.

Officials from the United States, European Union, Japan and Canada said they had agreed to negotiate an information technology agreement to present to the World Trade Organization's first ministerial meeting Dec.

9-13 in Singapore. The main obstacle to negotiations was removed near the windup of the three-day quadrilateral trade session, the 29th for the world trade superpowers, when the United States and

Japan agreed to delay the semiconductor council's first meeting by about a month and the European Union agreed to move toward lifting tariffs on semiconductors.

"This is an extremely important accomplishment for the quad countries," acting U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky said. By agreeing to lift tariffs on semiconductors, basically computer chips, the Europeans could join the council. A deal to lift tariffs entirely on information technology products by the turn of the century, Barshefsky said, would be "a market access package worth tens of billions of dollars to the quad countries alone."

U.S., Japanese and European Union negotiators are set to meet Thursday in Geneva to determine what specific products should be covered by an information technology agreement. Quad nations account for 63 percent of world trade, so an agreement would loom large on the agenda at the meetings in Singapore, which involve another 119 nations as well.

A council of representatives from each nation's semiconductor industry was mandated under a U.S.-Japan agreement that was reached last month in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Its purpose is to compile information on market size, growth and market share and provide the data to participating governments every three months.

The first meeting, initially set for late January, has been postponed until early March to give European Union countries time to prepare for removal of tariffs that now range as high as 14 percent on semiconductors, basically computer chips.

If they fail to act on tariffs by then, the panel will remain bilateral, Barshefsky said.

Until Saturday, the Europeans refused to negotiate on an information technology agreement because they were excluded from the U.S.-Japanese semiconductor deal.

Canada, the lone member of the quad without a semiconductor industry, supported the United States and Japan as a way to cut computer chip prices and thus help Canadian computer hardware and software manufacturers.

Delaying the semiconductor council meeting and offering a seat at the table is "a path-breaking step," said Sir Leon Brittan, the European Union's trade minister.

"Let's break the logjam," Brittan said. "I think this quad can best be described as the logjam-breaking quad."

# West Bank violence subsides

By ANTHONY SHADID  
RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) - As violence subsided in Palestinian areas, diplomats sought to arrange a meeting between the Palestinian and Israeli leaders. There were unconfirmed reports it could come as early as Sunday.

For the first time since the violence erupted, no one was killed on either side Saturday.

In a clear message that days of bloodshed must end, Yasser Arafat's policemen clubbed, coaxed and dragged away Palestinians marching on Israeli army posts and Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

But gunbattles subsided in Palestinian areas, where only a day before Palestinian police and Israeli soldiers fought their worst clashes in decades.

Fearing the situation was still too volatile, Israel's army laid siege Saturday to West Bank towns and villages.

Palestinians were barred from leaving their communities, tanks were deployed near Palestinian towns, and troop reinforcements were sent into the 144 Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

The army may re-enter Palestinian towns if the violence gets worse, military officials said. Such a move would mean an end to the peace agreements between Israel and the Palestinians.

"We are ready to respond with whatever force is necessary wherever Israel's security interests are endangered," said Maj. Gen. Uzi Dayan, the West Bank army commander.

The army chief, Lt. Gen. Amnon Shahak, said Israel was braced for suicide bombings by Islamic militants.

Arafat's armed men tried Saturday - sometimes reluctantly - to separate protesters from Israeli troops.

In the West Bank town of Ramallah, helmeted Palestinian police swung black clubs when a smoldering crowd of hundreds tried to push through the wall of uniformed men.

Fistfights broke out and police dragged away some men before the protesters dispersed after about two hours.

"Look at the way they're behaving," said a 20-year-old protester who gave his name only as Daoud. "They're acting like the Israelis."

The United States has pressured Arafat and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to meet soon to rescue peace agreements that may already be lost.

A diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the two were expected to meet Sunday at the Gaza-Israel border.

That meeting, the diplomat said, would be followed by another in Washington that would bring together the Israeli and Palestinian leaders, as well as Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein.

However, U.S. officials said prospects for a meeting between the two remained uncertain.

State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said the United States was working toward getting the sides together, "but we haven't gotten there yet."

Palestinian frustration over Israeli delays, including a long-overdue troop pullback from the West Bank town of Hebron, exploded into violence Wednesday after Netanyahu's decision to complete a tunnel near the Al Aqsa compound in Jerusalem, one of Islam's holiest sites.

Palestinians see the tunnel as a challenge to their claims on Jerusalem. Netanyahu called the tunnel a "non-issue" because, he said, Israel would always respect Muslim holy places.

Since the tunnel was opened,

56 Palestinians, 14 Israelis and two Egyptians have been killed. Riyadh Zanut, the Palestinian health minister, said Saturday that 1,600 Palestinians were wounded.

At the United Nations, the Security Council passed a resolution 14-0 called on the two sides to immediately halt hostilities and resume peace talks. The United States, which has long opposed bringing the Israel-Palestinian conflict before the council, abstained.

The resolution calls for the "immediate cessation and reversal of all acts which have resulted in the aggravation of the situation."

It also "calls for the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians to be ensured."

In Tel Aviv, tens of thousands of Israelis attended a

peace rally and called for Netanyahu's resignation. Speakers also criticized the Palestinians for opening fire. "The peace is dying," read one banner.

Even though gun battles stopped, stone-throwing clashes erupted in several refugee camps and villages. From Jerusalem to Hebron, the landscape Saturday was littered with rocks, overturned trash containers and burned tires.

The clashes came despite fresh appeals by Arafat's official Voice of Palestine radio station to stop the bloodshed.

Arafat had encouraged the protests in the beginning to show his displeasure with the slow pace of peace. But as the days wore on, he appeared to lose control over the Palestinians and some of his own police, who battled with Israeli soldiers.

On Saturday, however, it was clear that the 30,000 Palestinian policemen were under serious pressure to end violence in areas they controlled.

Brig. Gen. Abdel Razeq Majaideh, a Palestinian commander, told his officers in Rafah in southern Gaza - one of the main flashpoints Friday - that they must arrest anyone trying to attack Israelis.

The closure of the West Bank was the most stringent since the territories were closed in March after Islamic militants set off four suicide bombs in Israel. Most of the 2 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza have been barred from entering Israel since then.

An Israeli government spokesman, Shlomo Dror, said soldiers were under orders to open the roads in humanitarian cases.



President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore greet supporters after a rally in Portland, Ore. Clinton and Gore capped a Pacific Northwest bus tour with their visit to Portland. AP Photo

## Raising awareness is the key to may telecommunications policy

There is no doubt in my mind that things are heating up in the telecommunications industry in the CNMI, that's for sure. The wires are buzzing with news, mostly news of much needed improvements in our communications systems and, indeed, news about new, lower long distance telephone rates. This "news" makes me happy as I am sure it does for the CNMI's residents and business.

As most people know by now, I have made the CNMI's telecommunications a priority in my administration. In making it a priority, I chose to make sure that this government does everything it can to ensure that telecommunications in the Northern Marianas are in line with the tremendous strides that have been made in recent years in technology, service, cost and quality all around our nation and the world. In short, I've told my Special Assistant for Telecommunications and Utilities to make sure the CNMI is not left stranded on the side of the road as the rest of the world zooms past us on the Information Superhighway of the 21st Century.

It is ironic that MTC's General Manager claims that my Special Assistant for Telecommunications is misinforming lawmakers and the public with respect to important telecommunications issues (Letters to the Editor, Sept. 20th). A review of the facts reveals that maybe the opposite is true: it is MTC that is misleading lawmakers and consumers. The people of the CNMI should not allow themselves to be misled or confused, which brings me to what has really become the centerpiece of our telecommunications agenda: raising awareness.

Following that thought, I would like to address the issues raised by MTC to, once and for all, set the record



FROM THE GOVERNOR'S DESK  
I MANEAHANTE PARA HAMYO/LEADERSHIP FOR THE PEOPLE

straight. MTC claims it is not "a big, bad company that imposes high charges on its customer." The fact is that MTC is a subsidiary of GTE which, according to MTC's own 1996 Telephone Directory, is "the world's 4th largest publicly-owned telecommunications company." Even with its recent rate reduction, MTC's long distance rates are still among the highest in the U.S. While a five minute domestic U.S. direct-dial residential call using AT&T in the 4,251-to-5,750 mile rate band costs \$1.75, a five minute call from Saipan to Hawaii (airline mileage distance: 3,701 miles) using MTC would cost \$4.95. These high rates speak for themselves. It must be remembered that MTC is a private company in business to earn profits for its GTE shareholders. Don't be fooled: like any other private company, MTC's profits come from the pockets of CNMI consumers.

MTC says long distance rates have come down as a result of competition. What they do not want to admit is that MTC's rates have come down recently due to pressure to implement rate integration as mandated by the federal Telecommunication Act of 1996. Rate integration would compel MTC to average its rate with mainland U.S. rates, resulting in significant off-island rate reductions. The 1996 Act requires the Federal



Communications Commission (FCC) to apply rate integration to the CNMI and other insular areas. The fact of the matter is that MTC's recent rate reduction to .99 cents a minute for off-island calls to Hawaii and the mainland U.S. took effect just two days after the release of the FCC's order adopting rules to implement rate integration and upon MTC renegotiating their agreement with AT&T. MTC's recent rate reduction and future rate reductions between new and August 1, 1997 - when rate integration goes into effect - can be traced directly to the rate integration mandate, not competition.

MTC states that my Special Assistant for Telecommunications "would have you believe that he is personally responsible for lowering long distance rate to the U.S." We have never claimed to be responsible for lowering rate for the consumers. But we are responsible for raising consumer awareness on this issue that's because we have done well in our research. We understand the issue as much as the industry does itself. In fact, we have labored tirelessly to educate the Federal Communications Commissions and to bring the issue of unfair telephone rates in the CNMI to its attention. And much to the chagrin of MTC, I am happy to say, my administration has been entirely successful.

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ful. We are not out to rob MTC of their profits; rather, we committed to ensuring that the CNMI consumer is protected and that each and every penny MTC or any other long distance carrier charges its customers is justified and well-earned.

Surely, my office did lobby aggressively before the FCC for rate integration in spite of MTC's opposition to the rate reducing proposal. More recently, my Special Assistant testified before the FCC in favor of true toll-free 800 service. Once again, the Governor's Office wants to be sure that CNMI consumers benefit from lower telecommunications rates and true toll-free calling just as consumers do in the rest of the U.S.

MTC attempts to explain how it charges consumers for what it refers to as "paid access" to 800 numbers. MTC says it has "no say whatsoever... what the rate would be for that call." The Office of the Governor filed Comments with the FCC in April 1996 advocating a special federally-implemented subsidy for 800 services in the CNMI and forwarded a copy to MTC. The subsidy, referred to as the universal service subsidy, would go towards the costly "paid access" component of 800 services and would allow MTC to make access to 800 numbers available to CNMI consumers for free (like elsewhere in the U.S.). Currently, to recover the long distance charges, MTC assesses a charge of .99 cents per minute for call for to 800 numbers of U.S. mainland businesses. It is important to realize, however, that these are charges for 800 TOLL-FREE CALLS! I am not aware of anywhere else in the contiguous U.S. where consumers are charged almost a dollar per minute to place a call to an 800 number. MTC could have supported the CNMI's proposal to help bring true toll-free calling to the Commonwealth, but elected not to.

On September 24, 1996, the Office of the Governor filed a letter with the FCC clarifying the CNMI's support for true toll-free access, as well as universal service support for 800 services. A copy of this letter has been forwarded to MTC. MTC is being given yet another opportunity to support this proposal, which could bring true toll-free 800 services to the CNMI.

Finally, MTC's General Manager claims that because of MTC's impending entry into the North American Numbering Plan, the company may lose its ability to carry paid 800 number calls. According to the MTC General Manager, "the CNMI will once again be cut off completely from calling 800 numbers where the business on the other end don't want to pay for the calls." Loss of the capability to provide access to 800 services to its customers would distinguish MTC's service territory as one of the only areas in the U.S. without 800 services. Clearly, if MTC allows this to occur, it will harm CNMI consumers and ratepayers. In Comments it has filed with the FCC, MTC has admitted that it can make "special arrangements" to ensure that 800 calling is retained for CNMI consumers. The Governor's Office suggests that MTC concentrate its efforts in this direction and my Office will fully support MTC in reaching such arrangements.

I do agree with one point MTC's General Manager made in his recent Letter to the Editor. I encourage both the Marianas Variety and Saipan Tribune to look closer at these issues and MTC's statements in order to ensure that accurate information is published.

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# UN envoy arrives in Kabul

By KATHY GANNON  
KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - A United Nations envoy arrived Sunday in Kabul to meet the Islamic rebels who captured Afghanistan's capital and ex-

ecuted a former president. Norbert Holl, the U.N. special envoy to Afghanistan, is expected to convey the Security Council condemnation of the killing of ex-president Najibullah, who had

been under U.N. protection since being ousted more than four years ago. Holl also may discuss the Taliban's decision to ban Afghan women from working and to close

schools for girls until further notice. In earlier contacts, Holl told the Taliban that the U.N. is bound by its charter to protect women's rights.

Girls schools were closed for a second day Sunday, and women workers of several U.N. offices refused to come to work. But the capital has been relatively peaceful since the Taliban took control, and fighting against the ousted government north of the city has tapered off.

The Taliban's decree against education and jobs for women is based on a strict reading of Islamic law that women should remain chaste, and on the tribal customs of Afghanistan.

Holl refused to talk to reporters as he got off his aircraft. He immediately was whisked away to meet Taliban leader Mullah Mohammed Rabbani, installed in the rocket-riddled presidential palace where

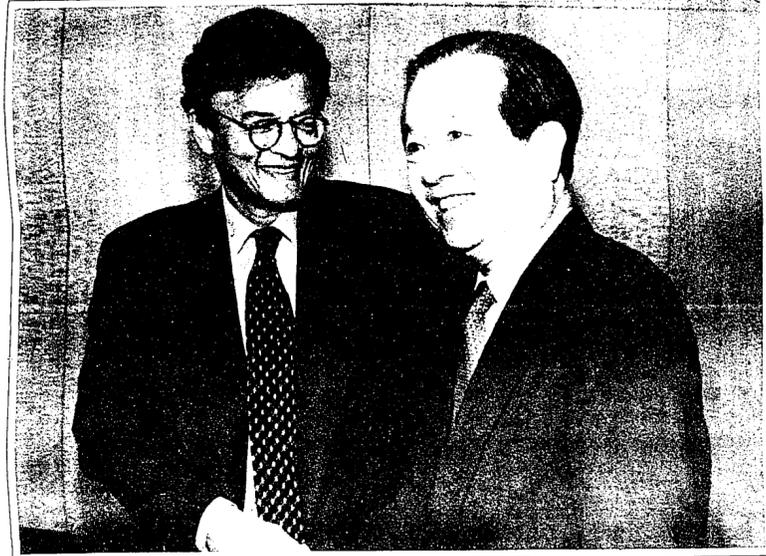
the new Taliban administration has been headquartered since overrunning the capital Friday.

Within hours of entering the city, Taliban fighters dragged Najibullah his brother Shahpour Ahmedzai, and two other aides from the U.N. compound in the heart of Kabul, where they had been in hiding since April 1992.

All were executed. The battered corpses of Najibullah and Ahmedzai were left hanging from a traffic post outside the presidential palace until late Saturday.

Some reports said that their bodies were thrown in front of a local hospital, but Taliban leaders said they had been handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Holl's Beechcraft propeller plane was the first fixed-wing aircraft to land at Kabul's civilian airport in more than a year. A Taliban tank was parked outside the bullet-riddled airport.



United Nations General Assembly President Ismail Razali, left, meets Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at the UN Monday Sept. 23, 1996. AP Photo

## Alleged massacre gunman to make first court appearance

HOBART, Australia (AP) - Martin Bryant, the man accused of murdering 35 people and wounding 19 others in a lone shooting spree five months ago, is scheduled to make his first court appearance in person on Monday.

Officials said Sunday tight security has been arranged for the Tasmanian Supreme Court where Bryant is to enter pleas to a total of 70 charges.

Police said a toughened glass screen has been erected around the dock where Bryant is to stand when he is formally charged with murder, attempted murder, grievous bodily harm, aggravated assault, wounding and arson.

Bryant could spend the rest of his life behind bars, if convicted. Australia does not have the death

penalty.

People entering the court building will be searched and the street outside will be closed to traffic during the hearing, police said.

Officials said that if Bryant pleads innocent, a trial is likely to be held in November.

Attorney-General Ray Groom has said a full trial could take up to six weeks to complete.

If Bryant pleads guilty, the court is likely to adjourn for sentencing, possibly later in the week. Prosecutors allege that Bryant shot high powered rifles at tourists and others at a picturesque historic site at Port Arthur, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of Hobart on April 28.

He was arrested the following morning after he allegedly set fire to a nearby guest house.

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## CUCRFP 96-0037 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF 3 MGD REVERSE OSMOSIS DESALINATION PLANT

### ADDENDUM NO.1

September 24, 1996

In order to obtain the best possible product for the CNMI and in response to the high number of requests for time extensions, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is making the following changes to CUC RFP 96-0037, Design And Construction of 3 Mgd Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant.

- The requirement for a bid bond equal to 2% for the first year's contract amount is waived. Upon award the contractor will still be required to provide a 100% performance bond and a 100% payment bond each equal to 100% of the contract amount.

All other information shall remain the same.

/s/ TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ  
Chairman, Governor's Water Emergency Task Force

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation  
Office of the Executive Director

## CUCRFP 96-0037 DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF 3 MGD REVERSE OSMOSIS DESALINATION PLANT

### ADDENDUM NO.2

September 26, 1996

In order to obtain the best possible product for the CNMI and in response to the high number of requests for time extensions, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is making the following changes to CUC RFP 96-0037, Design And Construction of 3 Mgd Reverse Osmosis Desalination Plant.

A Time Extension of 15 working days is being granted. The new due date for proposals is Friday, October 25, 1996.

/s/ TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ  
Chairman, Governor's Water Emergency Task Force

# Singapore hangs 6 drug traffickers

SINGAPORE (AP) - In the latest enforcement of its no-nonsense drug laws, Singapore has hanged six Singaporean men convicted of trafficking in heroin and marijuana, a newspaper reported Sunday.

The executions on Friday raised to 140 the number of people put to death in Singapore, which has a mandatory death punishment for trafficking in as little as 15 grams (a half-ounce) of heroin and 500 grams (1.1 pounds) of heroin.

The Straits Times said three of those hanged were arrested in April 1994 - Tan Seng Kim for attempting to export heroin and Ko Choon Kwang and Goh Joon Tong for abetting Tan.

They were sentenced last year, the Times said.

Also convicted for trafficking in heroin were Chng Seow Hong, 53, and Mazlan Sulaiman, 31, both unemployed men who were arrested separately in May 1995.

Oman Abu Bakar, a 40-year-old unemployed man was arrested in December 1994 for possessing 769.5 grams (1.6 pounds) of marijuana. Mere possession is deemed as trafficking and no sale needs to be proved.

The six men had their appeals rejected, the Times said.

It gave no other details. The narcotics bureau and prison authorities usually release the news of hangings only to the local media.



A group of Hong Kong Chinese citizens shout slogans against Japan's claim to the Diaoyu Islands during a protest march in Taipei. Japanese patrol boats last Monday drove away three boats carrying Taiwanese and Hong Kong legislators to disputed chain of islands in the East China Sea. The boats sailed within 70 meters (231 feet) of uninhabited Diaoyu islands - within the 12-nautical mile (22-kilometer) territorial waters limit claimed by Japan around the islands, he said. AP photo

# Sri Lankan troops moving closer to rebel stronghold

By OSHAN FERNANDO  
COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) - Government soldiers advanced to within

about 1.5 kilometers (1 mile) of the rebels' northern stronghold and were continuing their push Sunday, a mili-

tary official said. Soldiers backed by armor and artillery fought through moderate rebel resistance Saturday and moved about a kilometer (mile) towards Kilinochchi, said the official, who asked he not be identified.

He didn't have word on the number of casualties.

The military was continuing to advance Sunday in two columns in the direction of Kilinochchi, about 280 kilometers (170 miles) north of the capital, Colombo.

The battle for the town is a crucial test for the military as it tries to wrest control of northern jungle towns that have served as refuges for Tamil rebels during a 13-year civil war that has killed more than 46,000 people. Government forces chased the guerrillas out of their urbanized stronghold, the Jaffna Peninsula, in December.

The rebels are fighting for a homeland for minority Tamils, who account for 18 percent of Sri Lanka's 17 million people. Sinhalese, who make up 75 percent of the population, form the country's establishment.

The military has said at least 625 rebels and 219 soldiers have been killed in the offensive, launched last Sunday - the worst fighting in the last two months. Most of the rebels were killed in their failed counteroffensive Thursday, which left 127 soldiers and 450 guerrillas dead, the military said.

## NOTICE TO VENDORS

The Secretary of Department of Community & Cultural Affairs, would like to remind all vendors doing business with the Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) Food Stamp that funds budgeted for Fiscal Year 1996 will expire on September 30, 1996. This means that if your business have NAP accounts receivables, you will be required to submit all outstanding invoices to the Department of Finance, Accounts Payable Section in order to get paid before September 30, 1996.

Vendors run the risk of not getting paid out of NAP's FY'96 funds by not submitting the outstanding invoices on or before September 30, 1996.

Should you have any question, please call Pat Palacios-de Beer or Cel M. Muna at telephone numbers 235-9889/90/92.

## US accuses Japan of hindering apple trade

SEATTLE (AP) - Japan is still dragging its heels on allowing imports of apples from the United States, U.S. trade officials said.

In a letter to Shunpei Tsukahara, Japanese minister of trade and industry, Acting Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky and Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman said Saturday that although the red and golden delicious varieties were approved in January 1995, "it now appears that Japan is unreasonably blocking the import of additional varieties of U.S. apples."

The letter, signed a day earlier and released at the conclusion of the quadripartite trade meetings between



Charlene Barshefsky

the United States, Japan, European Union and Canada, said discussions covering Fuji, gala, braeburn and Granny Smith apples over the past two years "have been frustrating and un-

successful."

There was no immediate response from Japanese trade representatives, said a senior U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity. The letter requested a reply by Oct. 7.

The same varieties are important from New Zealand, and those apples are treated for codling moth in the same way as U.S. apples, the letter said.

Japan has demanded that for each variety, the United States conduct costly tests to prove that cold storage and chemical treatment will prevent spread of the codling moth.

"We know of no scientific basis for such varietal testing," the letter said. "The variety of the product should be irrelevant."

## Microsoft takes away 'inappropriate' phrases from Chinese software

By GEORGE TIBBITS  
SEATTLE (AP) - Microsoft, which spent nine months adapting its Windows 95 program for use in China, is now scrambling to remove phrases that pop up in it describing the country's leaders as "Communist bandits."

The phrases were in editing software licensed by Microsoft from Taiwanese companies for its personal computer operating system. The Los Angeles Times reported the phrases included descriptions of China's leaders as "Communist bandits," and urged Taiwan's government to "take back the mainland."

Bryan Nelson, Microsoft's managing director for China, said Saturday the phrases were removed from unsold software. The company is also sending new soft-

ware to registered users and posting an update of Simplified Chinese Windows 95 on the Internet so customers can remove the phrases.

Microsoft began selling Windows 95 in China in March, but Nelson said he learned of the problem only a week ago. He noted the Chinese government, which worked with Microsoft to develop the software, made no formal protest and there were only "isolated" incidents of police trying to stop sales.

Nelson said the phrases, described by the company as "culturally inappropriate," appeared in utility programs called "input method editors" used to create characters in Traditional Chinese.

Although the Windows 95 version in question is written in simplified Chinese, the version of Chinese characters used on the mainland, it contains input method editors to create traditional characters used in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

In some input method editors, the program tries to anticipate and complete the phrase the user is trying to create. That's how the rogue phrases popped up.

Microsoft's Nelson said there were just a handful of troublesome phrases among the 70,000 phrases in the software. He added the company is trying to determine how the phrases got into the software and is checking to see if problems exist in other versions of Windows 95 sold in Asia.

This is not the first time Microsoft has been embarrassed while introducing software into other countries.

In August, Microsoft apologized to South Korea for suggesting in its Encarta 96 Encyclopedia that part of ancient Korea was ruled by Japan.

In July, it apologized to users in Spain and Mexico for a Spanish-language thesaurus that offered "savage" and "man-eater" as synonyms for the word "Indian."

## 14 executed in South China

BEIJING (AP) - Fourteen people were executed after court officials read their death sentences to a crowd of 10,000 people at the grounds of a middle school in Shenzhen, a Chinese newspaper reported Sunday.

Large sentencing rallies have been a regular feature of China's "Strike Hard" anti-crime campaign. The prisoners usually are executed at a different location after the rally by a shot to the back of the head.

Those executed in Shenzhen on Saturday had been found guilty of robbery, premeditated murder and assault, and kidnapping, the Shenzhen Special Zone Daily reported.

Shenzhen is a special economic zone in south China, near Hong Kong.

## At the movies

# Grant, Hackman in 'Extreme Measures'

By DAVID GOODMAN  
NEW YORK (AP) - Dr. Hugh Luthan (Hugh Grant) is a young doctor in a frenetic New York City emergency room. He spends his nights at Gramercy Hospital patching gunshot wounds and stabilizing crack overdoses for the relentless procession of people who end up on his table.

But Luthan's reward appears to be in sight, because he's about to leave his grueling job for the greener pastures of a research fellowship at New York University.

Everything looks to be on track, until orderlies wheel in a thrashing, incoherent man, found naked in the city streets with only a roll of plastic as protection. It appears to be just another "repair job" on the kind of faceless, marginal people the hospital sees everyday.

But the case quickly becomes a tantalizing mystery for Luthan. The unidentified man exhibits a fresh, newly sutured wound suggesting he's just had spinal surgery, and he's wear-

ing a hospital wristband. In between hideous seizures, the man "comes to" long enough to blurt out a few mangled phrases. Then his vital signs go flat.

"He's homeless, he's cold, he's stoned on God knows what, he dies. So what?" shrugs Luthan's supervisor (Paul Guilfoyle).

When Luthan tries to follow up by examining the man's medical files, they're gone, and so is the body.

Thus begins a tour through a familiar genre - the world of urban, high-tech paranoia. The ingredients are familiar. A likable hero who gets in way over his head and discovers a shadowy conspiracy that involves all kinds of people close to him.

The formula also calls for the hero to lose nearly everything and take plenty of physical battering as he closes in on the inevitable network of conspirators - in this case a program of secret experiments run by one of the nation's most prestigious neu-

rologists, Dr. Lawrence Myrick (Gene Hackman).

Yes, "Extreme Measures" promotes this formula to a T. It's a by-the-numbers medical movie that follows "Coma" and "The Fugitive" a little too closely.

But it's an extremely well-made formula thriller, with a smart script, tight pacing and good performances. You're gripped from the start!

The direction by Michael Apted ("Gorillas in the Mist," "Nell") is impressive. From an opening aerial shot of Manhattan that sinks menacingly downward to a dramatic escape scene unfolding at street level, the movie never really loses its rhythm or identity.

With the exception of a cliched, unconvincing fight scene in an elevator, Apted, who began his career making television documenta-

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## 97 budget . . .

Continued from page 1

Rep. Maria T. Peter (R-Saipan) left the chamber before the voting began. Majority Leader Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) and Rep. Melvin O. Faisao (R-Saipan), who were both absent, were "excused."

Under the approved version of the bill, Rota and Tinian would get an additional \$14.5 million each, which would include money for the islands' road improvement projects.

The bill would also take away the reprogramming powers given to the governor by the original House draft.

The bill's first version would have given the executive branch a total appropriation of \$124,139,600 of which more than \$39 million would go to the Department of Public Health.

The Office of the Governor's budget was pegged at more than \$16 million, while the Department of Public Safety would get around \$13.5 million, the third highest appropriation for an executive department or office.

The Public School System, however, with an appropriation of almost \$42 million has the largest budget allotment for a government corporation.

Rota and Tinian originally would have received \$13.5 million each.

The judiciary branch's budget would be a little more than \$5 million, while the Legislature would get close to \$5 million.

## House . . .

Continued from page 1

Jewelry in Garapan Wednesday night and took \$4,000 worth of assorted jewelry.

The suspect's shattered the front glass window and cut away the jewelry on display, according to Public Safety Information Officer PO2 Arnold K. Seman.

## Save Water

## DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT



# BENJAMIN BRIGGEMAN FLORES

also known as "MINKO"  
May 1, 1920 - September 23, 1996  
was called to his eternal rest at the age of 76 years.

He is predeceased by his:

**PARENTS:** Joaquin Aguon Flores and Yerma Briggeman Flores  
**STEPMOTHER:** Antonia Camacho Borja Flores  
**DAUGHTER:** Priscilla Arriola Flores  
**GRANDDAUGHTERS:** Maria Cora Belle F. Dela Cruz  
Priscilla Janice F. Villagomez

**PARENTS-IN-LAW:** Joaquin Cabrera Arriola and Ana Sablan Tudela Arriola  
**DAUGHTER-IN-LAW:** Ana Sablan Hofschneider Flores

His spirit will remain in the hearts of his:

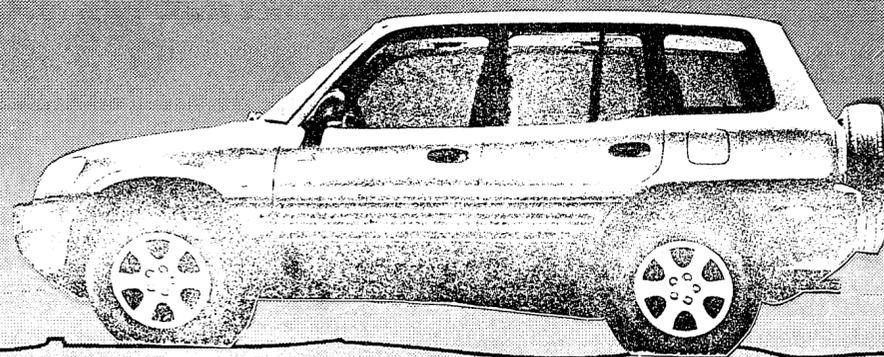
**WIFE:** Magdalena Tudela Arriola Flores  
**CHILDREN, SPOUSES, GRANDCHILDREN and GREAT GRANDCHILDREN:** Elizabeth F. & Manuel P. Villagomez (Warren & Antonette, Walter, Wally) Victoria F. and Dr. Ignacio T. Dela Cruz (Carole, Claire (Clinton), Claudine (Tannah), Carl) Augustin A. & Rebecca J. Flores (Benjamin) Francisco A. & Anna G. Flores (Frank II, Hanisha, Bryan, Kimberly) Leonardo A. & Eva W. Flores (Stephanie, Steven, Dwayne) Guillerma (Emma) F. & Stephen W. Martinez (Andrea, Joshua, Janelle, Gabriel) Leonisa F. & Mamento U. Maratita (Audie, LenWayne, Sheena, Priscilla, Lenette) Benita F. & Joseph D. Sablan (Kadienne, Kayleen, Keith, Kelvin) Edward A. & Jovita C. Flores (Magdalena) Bertha F. & Andrew L. Orsini (Celine, Andy, Vinni) Joseph A. & Larissa S. Flores (Joey, Monique, Maegan, Manuel) Karl Anthony A. Flores

He is also survived by numerous cousins, nieces & nephews.

Rosary is being said nightly at 7:00 p.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa.

Last Respects will be held on Tuesday, October 1, 1996 at the Mount Carmel Cathedral beginning at 8:00 a.m. Mass of Resurrection will be at 4:00 p.m. Burial will follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, Plaintiff, vs. HENRY DLG. SAN NICOLAS and ESTELLA C. SAN NICOLAS, Defendants.

**Civil Action No. 88-918**

**NOTICE OF SECOND SALE**

Following an unsuccessful first auction sale in this matter, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety, hereinafter referred to as auctioneer, and the Development Corporation Division of the Commonwealth Development Authority, hereinafter referred to as CDA, hereby give notice that all of the right, title, and interest of the defendants - Henry DLG. San Nicolas & Estella C. San Nicolas - in the following described real property will be sold at a second auction sale:

1. Tinian Municipality: Lot No. 006 T 85 (formerly Lot No. 008 T 49) as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 006 T 03, dated April 26, 1983, on file in said office, said land containing an area of 906 square meters, more or less, including all existing and permanent improvements on the real property; and
2. Tract No. 035 T 06, containing an area of 25,000 square meters, more or less, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Survey Plat No. 035 T 00, dated February 27, 1976, and including all existing and permanent improvements on the real property.

The auction sale will be open to the general public and will be held at the Department of Public Safety Office, Susupe, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m., on Wednesday, October 23, 1996, subject to the following announced terms and conditions:

1. Reserve: The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
2. Rights and Duties of Auctioneer: Consistent with the custom and usage applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, auctioneer shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
  - a.) To withdraw the property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
  - b.) To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
  - c.) To reject, on behalf of the seller, any and all bids.
3. Minimum Bid: The minimum bid for any property listed in this notice shall be the total amount of principal, interest, attorney's fees and costs of sale due and owing CDA by the defendants or the appraised value of the property - whichever is less.
4. Deposit: Payment: A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within ten (10) days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within ten (10) days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to CDA.
5. Change of Terms: Auctioneer and CDA reserve the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.

Dated this 26th day of September, 1996.

/s/Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety

**Miller . . .**

Continued from page 1

paing for the upcoming US elections.

In his letter, a copy of which was obtained by the Variety, Miller castigated the NMI for its alleged lack of action on labor and immigration reforms and said the islands does not deserve congressional representation at this time.

He urged other members not to support the proposal.

"Membership in the Congress represents a shared respect for the Constitution, the laws and the traditions that all Americans hold sacred," said Miller in the one-page letter.

"We cannot grant a seat in Congress to a jurisdiction where labor exploitation, human rights abuses, drug trafficking and governmental corruption persist. Nor should we ask taxpayers to spend nearly \$1.5 million a year to finance a seat for the CNMI," he said.

According to Miller, much as he has strongly supported representation for Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa and the Virgins Islands, he cannot agree to "representation at this time for the CNMI."

"Investigations by the FBI, the Department of Labor, the Resources Committee and others have found the CNMI government sanctions admission of huge numbers of immigrant guest workers, typically young girls from the Philippines, China and other Pacific nations who labor in sweatshops and other manufacturing industries," he added.

Many of these workers, he said, are frequently forced into prostitution, while others must endure oppressive living and working conditions including beatings, non-payment of wages, forced overtime and mandatory kickback payments to employers.

In addition, Miller said the FBI has found strong connections between organized crime in the CNMI and the importation of drugs to the US, especially crystal

methamphetamine or "ice."

But what Miller said he finds especially irritating is that the CNMI has "failed to address these problems for many years." He specifically mentioned the CNMI's failure to raise the minimum wage to federal levels as a rallying point.

"Despite the strong criticism, the CNMI government continues to resist efforts to raise its minimum wage to comparability with that of its neighbor, Guam. Products made by CNMI workers earning \$2.75 per hour then enter the US marked as 'Made in USA,' competing with

domestically manufactured products and deceiving consumers," he said.

"This irresponsible record does not merit a seat in the House of Representatives. Just as we have required other areas to meet certain standards to gain admission to the Congress, we must demand the CNMI demonstrate greater respect for the institution it seeks to join," said the California lawmaker.

"When the CNMI demonstrates that accountability, I will be the first to endorse representation. But the CNMI is nowhere near that threshold today."

**Union . . .**

Continued from page 1

people in the clubs did express some interest. They probably changed their minds."

He did not elaborate. But Mott added that Local 5 will continue to organize other club workers interested in forming a union.

Friday's election was the fourth consecutive defeat for union organizers.

Local 5 has previously won three union elections: at Hafadai Beach Hotel, Keeraku Restaurant and Saipan Grand Hotel.

It has lost, however, at Joeten Enterprises, Hyatt Regency and Dai-Ichi Hotel.

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**LOST PASSPORT**

Korean Passport owned by Ms. PARK, GWI WON was lost in San Antonio area. Any information regarding this matter, please call Ms. Park, Gwi won at 234-0571

**COMMERCIAL LAND FOR SALE**

LOCATION: SONGSONG VILLAGE, ROTA, CNMI (1,800 SQUARE METER) FOR INQUIRY CALL: (670) 532-0363/532-0213

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Approximately 800 square meters with 100 feet frontage on W-2 highway in Tanapag. \$75,000.00 for 55 year lease. Good commercial location, great investment. Call: 235-6633

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**LAND FOR SALE / LEASE**

**Fina Sisu Land**

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NO BROKERS PLEASE. Call 234-7119 or 235-0510 leave message

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**STRONG & ROUGH CERAMIC TILES** \$24/CASE (17 PCS) SIZE 12" X 12"

**HIGH QUALITY DOUBLE BURNER GAS STOVE \$110.00**

35LB GAS TANK/HOSE/REGULATOR-FREE 3 YEARS GUARANTEE

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**Joint Anniversary Rosary**

Vicente Olaitman Taman (32 Yrs.) Soledad Iguel Babauta (10 Yrs.) Lodrigo Rosario Camacho (15 Yrs.)

Rosary will be said nightly at 8:00 p.m. beginning Sunday, September 29, 1996, at the family's residence in Kagman 19. The holy mass will be at San Roque Church on the final day October 07, 1996 at 5:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at the family's residence following the mass. All our family's & friends are cordially invited to attend. Please join us in our prayers.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase From all the Family Salas & Taman Family

Martin Babauta Taman, (6 Yrs.) Vicente Babauta Taman (28 Yrs.)

**Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section**

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication  
NOTE: If some reason your advertisement is incorrect, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for one incorrect insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

**Employment Wanted**



**Job Vacancy Announcement**

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# STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you have a knack for getting your way, but this trait will not always be admired by those around you. Indeed, there are times when it may prove more a hindrance than a help because others will label you greedy and manipulative. Granted, unfavorable qualities plague everyone to a degree, but these characteristics are displayed in you in a highly visible and often inappropriate way. You will learn that it is best to lie low at times, rather than to voice your preferences and risk losing the respect of others. On the other hand, you will rarely have to do without something. Your prospects for marriage will be good, provided you choose a conservative, mainstream lifestyle. You see, there is something of the mischief-maker in your character, and you often choose the bizarre over the routine simply to surprise and shock those around you.

Also born on this date are: Angie Dickinson and Deborah Kerr, actresses; Lester Maddox, Georgia governor; Johnny Mathis, singer.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

**TUESDAY, OCT. 1** — You might experience several delays throughout the day. If you use your ingenuity, you can get around major obstacles. **SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You may run into someone today who seems to have special power over you. In fact, you have granted this person a great deal of authority. **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — If you concentrate on a single objective today, you can reach your goal by the end of the day. Any postponement at this time might spell disaster for you. **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — You must be willing to give a little more credit to someone who plays a small but pivotal role in your affairs. Share your rewards as well. **AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — Today, you may be under the influence of a strange but remarkable force which you cannot identify at first. You will know what's happening soon! **PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — You may find yourself expressing things in unusual ways throughout the day. Only you will know how to accurately describe the day's events.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Someone will request something from you today and you will have a hard time turning it down, despite the personal sacrifice it may require. **Taurus (April 20-May 20)** — Do what you can to find a little relief from something that has flustered you for a long time. Rest and relaxation have their place. **GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — Today, it will be important not to assign any more importance or meaning to a surprise development than is absolutely necessary. **CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — No, your plans haven't been ruined completely, but it may take some effort before you will feel as though you're really back on track. **LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — You must make sure not to link your own contentment too closely to the contentment of someone who plays only a peripheral role in your affairs. **VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — You will have a chance to show off your talent today and you will perform with a great deal of style. You will impress the boss!

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# CLOSERS

COLUMN CLOSERS BY KEN KURSON

Forty percent of all Swedes share just 20 surnames, with Johansson being the most common.

Diamonds, being made of carbon will burn just as readily as coal if heated strongly enough.

Just before the beginning of World War II, the U.S. Army ranked 19th among the world's armed forces — ahead of Bulgaria but behind Portugal.

Earth Tip: Compact fluorescent bulbs use about a third of the electricity of their incandescent counterparts and last up to 20 times longer. Though they cost more, they end up saving up to \$60 over their lifetime.

One of Aristotle's students, Theophrastus, is well-known as the father of botany. But he also developed a series of satiric universal characters, including Phaedrus, the Flatterer and the Grumbler.

A 19th century American trader named Gerrit Smith gave 120,000 acres of Adirondack wilderness to his abolitionist son for use by escaped slaves.

One in five of the world's 3 million physicians is Russian.

German chemist Robert Bunsen did not invent the gas burner that bears his name; he merely popularized its use.

Woodrow Wilson is the only U.S. President to have held a Ph.D.

At 5 1/2 billion years old, our sun is about half way through its lifetime.

1996 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

# CROSSWORD PUZZLER

## ACROSS

- 1 — and board
- 4 Lament (for)
- 8 Tea
- 11 "Don't Cry For Me, —"
- 13 — painting
- 14 Eastwood ID
- 15 The Lion
- 16 Punctual
- 19 — degree
- 20 Be indebted to
- 22 "Mr. —"
- 23 Case for small articles
- 25 H.S. course
- 27 Model's stance
- 30 Ida, time
- 32 Barn animal
- 34 Meshed cloth
- 35 "Ventil" star (init.)
- 37 In a ship (2 wds.)
- 40 Sun god
- 41 Noah's —
- 43 Craggy hill
- 44 Puppy noise
- 46 Make one's — stand on

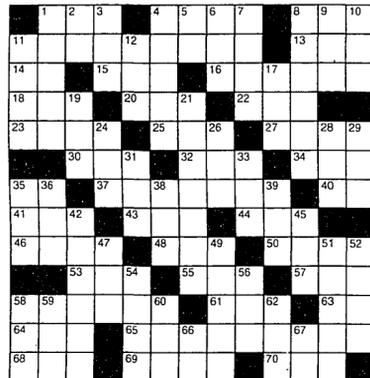
## DOWN

- 1 Star of "Grace Under Fire"
- 2 Actor
- 3 Dolores — Rio
- 4 "Blink" star
- 5 "Rocky" —
- 6 Econ.
- 7 Damage
- 8 "Boston —"
- 9 Joint
- 10 Carol —
- 11 Teen-ager's woe
- 12 Recent (prefix)
- 17 "Alley" —
- 19 Sing with lips closed
- 21 Call back for stage performers
- 24 Same (comb. form)
- 26 Tibetan gazelle
- 28 Sun, talk
- 29 Greek letter
- 31 Explosive (abbr.)
- 33 Twisted
- 35 "— humbug"
- 36 Sp. woman
- 38 — constrictor
- 39 Excavate
- 42 "Batman" portray
- 45 Before (prefix)
- 47 Type of music
- 49 Eskimo home
- 51 Dinner-table request (2 wds.)
- 52 Mardi —
- 54 Hodges and Gerard
- 56 "— Baby"
- 58 Word of discovery
- 59 Fish eggs
- 60 — Babylonia
- 62 Triumph
- 66 Lancaster ID
- 67 Olsen ID

## Answer to Previous Puzzle

FED IMPLY BIG  
RBI NIXIE ATA  
ABOARD KANSAS  
NEE ZEROS  
SINS OE SWEET  
HOE MIAS TIEA  
ON SALLIES RI  
RICK YOGA DIN  
ECLAT UN MEET  
ATHOS DEN  
KAREEM HANNAH  
ETE IRKED IDA  
NET RIMES IOT

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# Ohio, Pen State set showdown

By RICHARD ROSENBLATT NEW YORK (AP) - The stakes just got higher for Ohio State - and Penn State.

Thanks to victories on Saturday - an easy one for the No. 4 Buckeyes and a tough one for the No. 3 Nittany Lions - next week's Big Ten showdown in Columbus could provide the winner with a springboard to an undefeated season.

Ohio State, with a 29-16 win over No. 5 Notre Dame in its first visit to South Bend in 60 years, proved to coach John Cooper it is a team to be reckoned with.

"They were pretty good today," Cooper said after Stanley Jackson and Pepe Pearson each ran for two TDs as Ohio State (3-0) outclassed the Irish. "We just need to keep going."

Penn State (5-0), meanwhile, needed a 25-yard field goal from

Brett Conway with 1:23 left to hold off Wisconsin 23-20 in its first visit to Camp Randall Stadium in 26 years.

"This was probably the toughest place I've ever played in," Conway said. "Their fans were crazy. I wish our fans were like that. We learned a lot about how good we can be today."

Irish quarterback Ron Powilus, just 13-of-30 for 154 yards, a TD and two interceptions, summed up his team's loss: "The national championship is over. Now the best we can do is go 10-1."

Someone might be using the same words after Penn State plays Ohio State.

In other Top 25 games it was: No. 14 Florida 65, Kentucky 0; No. 2 Florida State 13, No. 11 North Carolina 0; No. 6 Arizona State 48, Oregon 27; No. 7 Michigan 38,

UCLA 9; No. 8 Nebraska 65, Colorado State 9; No. 10 Miami 45, Pittsburgh 0; No. 12 Colorado 24, Texas A&M 10; No. 19 Virginia 37, No. 13 Texas 13; No. 17 LSU 63, New Mexico State 7; Syracuse 52, No. 18 Virginia Tech 21; No. 23

West Virginia 13, Maryland 0; No. 24 Brigham Young 31, SMU 3; and No. 25 Northwestern 35, Indiana 17. In a later Top 25 game, No. 20 Kansas was at Utah.

No. 9 Tennessee, No. 14 Alabama, No. 15 Southern California,

No. 16 Kansas State, No. 21 Washington and No. 22 Auburn were idle. Both Nebraska and Penn State joined the 700-victory club. Other members are Michigan, Notre Dame, Texas and Alabama.



IT WAS THE LAST TIME HARRY WAS ALLOWED TO TELL THE KIDS A BEDTIME STORY.

# Yana . . .

Continued from page 24

of Fortune and Jet Holdings featured three fiercely-contested games that nearly went all the way to the end of the allotted 1-hour per player time control.

On board 1, Ely G. Buenaventura Jr. capitalized on a blunder by Roel Bince to notch victory in 42 moves, while Bob Catequista on board 2 eked out a pawn advantage against Manny Domingo in a highly-tactical endgame position to win the game. Domingo actually lost on time.

On board 3, Glenn Orlina translated a better mobility and control of center into a convincing victory against Ed

Benavente. Juan C. Tenorio & Associates' Jun Baja had to nurse a cramped position in his game against Roman Demapan who failed to maintain his positional advantage, and was even mated on the 43rd move.

Noli Pamatmat scored big against Checkmate's Joe Demapan who resigned on the 38th move of a Sicilian Defense game.

Checkmate's Sixto Igisomat lost by default on board 3 against Vic Diamzon.

The final team standings of the round-robin tournament: 1st—Yana Law Office, 20.5 points; 2nd—Essence of Fortune, 18; 3rd—Owens Enterprises, 16.5; 4th—Saipan Shooting Range, 15; 5th—Jet Holdings, 14; 6th—Juan

# Oreos . . .

Continued from page 24

Aside from the key defensive plays, Ellis went 2 for 3 and scored a run for the day's most exciting encounter. Aply supporting Ellis' fine showing were Pauline Tudela and The Variety's Prescilla Castro. Tudela went 3 for 3, including a run, for a perfect at-bats stint while Castro scored a double and

a run for the win. Ellis racked her second win in the season while Maryann Yamada took her second loss.

Polly Omechelang led the Power Raiders in matching Hot Pepper's record when they defeated the Mixers, 20-6, in the opening encounter. Omechelang tripled and scored a run as the complemented Begonia Odoshi's two run and two RBIs.

# Cepeda . . .

Continued from page 24

Clark Ngiraidong of the Tarzans; center Joe Lifofoi of the Hawks; and forward Wayne Pua of Ol' Aces I. Pat Guerrero (Panthers), Randy Pelisiman (Oceanic Heights), Abong Camacho (Ol' Aces I), Ray Suada (Ol' Aces II) and Jawn Joyner (Hawks) occupied the guards, center and forwards positions respectively of the league's second team.

Other winners include Jason Taisacan who ran away with the three-point shot title while his team, the Oceanic Heights, won the Sportmanship Award.

# Men's . . .

Continued from page 24

forfeiture decision over the D.F.S. Amigos.

Game 3 - The Bud-Light G-Force likewise won their game the easy way, a 7-0 forfeiture over Peleliu.

Game 4 - The Saipan Stevedore Che'Lus trailed Bud-Loc Light Keeper 7-6 after three innings of play but won the game never-the-less 7-0 when Keeper failed to field the required ten players after three innings of play for the third forfeiture of the night.

Beverly likewise added a perfect 3 for 3 enroute to scoring two runs and two RBIs for the Raiders.

In the over-all team standings, the Power Raiders and the Hot Peppers are currently on top with 2-0 win loss slates. Oreos tied its victim, Sakau, at third with an even 1-1 mark while the Strikers and the Mixers occupy the cellar with 0-2 records.

boner as he scored inside the paint as the Sixers regained the lead for good, 54-53, 1:22 remaining.

Ol' Aces bungled three attempts to gain back the driver's seat.

With 17 seconds left, an over-the-back foul called on Iginiof sent Cepeda to the free-throw lane.

The Sixers' center calmly sank both charities for the marginal baskets and the game's final score 56-53.

Ol' Aces launched several three point shots in a desperate attempt to send the game in overtime. None of which, however, found the mark as the Sixers played good defense in the dying seconds to win the game and the tournament with an unblemished mark.

Cepeda lead all scorers with his game high 30 points. Dave Sablan chipped in 11 markers.

Pua led Ol' Aces with 20 points while Iginiof added 19.

The Sixers earlier won the pennant by sweeping the elimination round with a perfect 8-0 win-loss mark.

In the battle for third, the Hawks, behind the 25-point performance by Joe Lifofoi, routed the Tarzans, 79-69 to take 2nd runner-up honors.

# Sportbits . . .

Continued from page 24

couraged to attend the important meeting.

\*\*\* Budweiser Chess Cup

The deadline for submission of interested parties to the forthcoming Budweiser Cup Chess Tournament is extended due to public request.

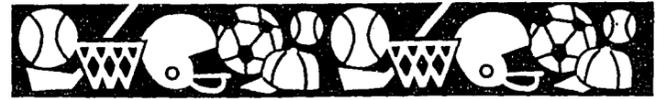
Entry fee is pegged at \$6 per individual. The new deadline will be announced later. For more information, call Vic Brana at Rambie's Restaurant, 234-6010. (EAC)

CNMI PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CNMI GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL RFP NO. RFP96-0153 FOR: JANITORIAL SERVICES OPENING DATE: OCTOBER 07, 1996 TIME: 2:00 P.M. INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS OR FIRMS MAY PICK UP BID FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN. /s/ EDWARD B. PALACIOS

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# SPORTS



# Yana bags chess crown

**By Zaldy Dandan**  
Variety News Staff  
NEEDING only a draw on all boards to clinch the title, Yana Law Office players opted for yet another display of their

chess prowess, crushing Club Jama 3-0 yesterday in the last round of the 1996 CNMI Chess Team Championship at Rambi's Restaurant. Amassing a total of 20.5 points out of

a possible 27, the undefeated Yana Law Office won 7, including 5 shut-outs, drawing only 1 of its 8 match assignments.

Essence of Fortune, propelled by its strong showing in the previous rounds and by its 3-0 domination of rival Jet Holdings yesterday, finished second with 18 points.

Owens Enterprises can only score 2-1 against Poor Pawns, which defaulted its board 2 game, to finish third with 16.5 points.

Idle Saipan Shooting Range finished

fourth with 15 points, while Jet Holdings ended up in fifth place with 14 points.

In the Yana Law Office-Club Jama match, team captain Rey Yana employed his better mobility and superior development to win against Tom Canaveral in 27 moves.

Onboard 2, Yana's steammate Almer Santos forced Marlon Yucampo to resign in an otherwise hopeless position on the 35th move, while board 3 gold medalist Lou Piliwale scored his eight consecutive win this time at the ex-

pense of Robert Perez.

While Owens scored an effortless win on board 2 with the no-show of Poor Pawns' Carl Pogue, board 3's Jun Ocena had to slug it out with George Hanus before winning in the endgame.

On board 1, Owens' highly-rated player Othello Gonzales was completely outplayed by Peter Sibly in a Sicilian Defense game. Sibly's attack against Gonzales' sking was flawlessly conducted, leading to mate in 42 moves.

The crucial match between Essence

**Continued on page 23**

## Oreos upset Sakau, Peppers, Raiders win

**By Patrick Telle and Erel A. Cabatbat**  
Variety News Staff

THE OREOS IX came from behind to upset defending champion Sakau while the Hot Peppers and Power Raiders scored their second successive triumphs yesterday in the ongoing 1996 Palau Women's Slowpitch League at the Koblerville Ball Field.

Down by 10 runs, the Oreos, behind the Annie Emiliano's three runs and three RBIs (Runs Batted In) and Grace Aldan's crucial base hits, came back strong in the later part of the game to deal Sakau's first loss dating back to the 1995-1996 season. Emiliano went 3 for 5 while Aldan went 3 for 4 and by important base hits to open up her team's amazing comeback. Jennifer Germanice picked her first win in the tournament while Jovie Omar took the loss.

In the second game, the Hot Peppers leaned on Sue Ellis' three defensive stops to score their second win in as many starts in defeating the Strikers, 4-1.

**Continued on page 23**

## Cepeda cops MVP plums

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
Variety News Staff

LUIS Cepeda of the San Antonio Sixers was named as the Most Valuable Player of the recently concluded 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League during its awards night held last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

Aside from winning the regular

season's most coveted plum, Cepeda scored a twinkill as he was also named as the unanimous winner for the play-offs MVP accolade. He led the Sixers in winning the youth league's cage title by defeating the Ol' Aces I, 56-53, in the championship game.

Cepeda averaged a whopping 37.6 points in eight games to lead the Sixers sweep the elimination round en route to

winning the pennant with an impeccable 8-0 win loss slate.

In the championship game, the Sixers' forward exploded for 30 big points including the game winning baskets in the dying seconds of the game.

In the league's All Tournament Selection First Team, Cepeda was joined by guards Bob Omar of Ol' Aces I and

**Continued on page 23**

## Men's Slowpitch Round-up

September 27, 1996 Results

**By Ray Palacios**  
For the Variety

**Game 1 -** The Town and Country Man Hoben started out slow but came back strong to defeat the U.J.C. Defenders 12-9 in the only game that went passed the regulation period last Friday at the Civic Center Softball Field. Man Hoben trailed 8-0 after two and a half innings of play but countered with the next twelve runs including eight runs in the bottom of the fifth for a 12-8 lead. The Defenders managed to pick up a run in the top of the seventh but were three runs short to the game up.

**Game 2 -** The J.C. Fadang won their first game of the season with a 7-0

**Continued on page 23**

## Sixers win youth cage title

**By Erel A. Cabatbat**  
Variety News Staff

LUIS Cepeda scored four points including two pressure packed free throws in the last 17 seconds as the San Antonio Sixers came from behind to edge Ol' Aces I, 56-53, to win the 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League last Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

Playing catch-up for most of the first half the Sixers came back strong in the final 20 minutes for

the scintillating victory.

Trailing by three after the first half, the Sixers strung six points against a lone basket from Romeo Igincoef to grab the lead, 38-37, with 17:40 remaining.

Then a spate of turnovers characterized the next three minutes of play with neither team scoring a basket.

Igincoef broke the scoring drought when he scored on a lay-up to give the lead back to the Ol' Aces, 39-38, 14:15 left. The Sixers regained the lead in the next play as Cepeda drove

strong to the basket, 40-39.

The lead continued to change hands as the two teams traded baskets going into the last five minutes of the ballgame.

Igincoef continued his assault towards the basket as he scored on another gung-ho drive to give his team a four point lead, 48-44 with 4:26 in the game clock.

Cepeda however exploded for five straight points, including a three point play, as he single handedly

**Continued on page 23**

## SPORTSBITS

### Budweiser Cup

TODAY will be the last day of submission of entries to the 1996 Budweiser Cup Intercommercial Basketball League which is tentatively set to open on October 15 at the CMS Basketball Court.

Entry fee is \$900 inclusive of uniforms and insurance. For more details, call Archie del Rosario of CMS at tel. no. 234-6159.

\*\*\*

### Soccer Clinic

The Soccer Clinic which was cancelled last Friday will push through today at the same venue at 3:30 to 5 p.m. Naomi Oney will be joined by former Nigerian professional soccer player Charlie Agwo in today's session.

\*\*\*

### Women in Sports

The Women in Sports meeting that was cancelled last week is rescheduled tomorrow Tuesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Conference Room. All leaders and organizers of various women's leagues and tournaments are en-

**Continued on page 23**

## Mariners win

IN OAKLAND, California, the Seattle Mariners, eliminated from the playoff race in the first inning when Baltimore won at Toronto, got an RBI double by Andy Sheets in the 10th inning to defeat the Oakland Athletics.

The Mariners were knocked out of playoff contention when Baltimore won 3-2 over the Blue Jays to clinch the AL wild-card spot. The final out in that game came just two minutes after the game started in Oakland.

Seattle had been eliminated from the race for the AL West title Friday night when it lost 8-1 at Oakland.

With one out in the 10th, Joey Cora singled off Mark Acre (1-3) and Sheets followed with his double to left-center to give Seattle a 4-3 lead. Four batters later, Paul Sorrento walked with the bases loaded off Buddy Groom for the Mariners' fifth run.

The winner was Rafael Carmona (8-3), who pitched one inning. Norm Charlton got two outs for his 20th save. Oakland's Terry Steinbach broke the AL record for homers by a catcher in a season. Steinbach's 35th homer, his 34th as a catcher, surpassed the mark set by Carlton Fisk of the 1985 Chicago White Sox. Steinbach homered as a pinch-hitter May 18 at Boston.



**YOUTH LEAGUE CHAMPS**— The San Antonio Sixers and their supporters display their championship and pennant trophies after edging the Ol' Aces I, 56-53, last Friday to win the 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym. Photo by Erel A. Cabatbat

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# SPORTS



# Yana bags chess crown

By Zaldy Dandan  
Variety News Staff

NEEDING only a draw on all boards to clinch the title, Yana Law Office players opted for yet another display of their

chess prowess, crushing Club Jama 3-0 yesterday in the last round of the 1996 CNMI Chess Team Championship at Rambi's Restaurant.

Amassing a total of 20.5 points out of

a possible 27, the undefeated Yana Law Office won 7, including 5 shut-outs, drawing only 1 of its 8 match assignments.

Essence of Fortune, propelled by its strong showing in the previous rounds and by its 3-0 domination of rival Jet Holdings yesterday, finished second with 18 points.

Owens Enterprises can only score 2-1 against Poor Pawns, which defaulted its board 2 game, to finish third with 16.5 points.

Idle Saipan Shooting Range finished

fourth with 15 points, while Jet Holdings ended up in fifth place with 14 points.

In the Yana Law Office-Club Jama match, team captain Rey Yana employed his better mobility and superior development to win against Tom Canaveral in 27 moves.

On board 2, Yana's steam mate Almer Santos forced Marlon Yucampo to resign in an otherwise hopeless position on the 35th move, while board 3 gold medalist Lou Piliwale scored his eight consecutive win this time at the ex-

pense of Robert Perez.

While Owens scored an effortless win on board 2 with the no-show of Poor Pawns' Carl Pogue, board 3's Jun Ocena had to slug it out with George Hanus before winning in the endgame.

On board 1, Owens' highly-rated player Othello Gonzales was completely outplayed by Peter Sibly in a Sicilian Defense game. Sibly's attack against Gonzales' sking was flawlessly conducted, leading to mate in 42 moves.

The crucial match between Essence

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## Oreos upset Sakau; Peppers, Raiders win

By Patrick Tellie and Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

THE OREOS IX came from behind to upset defending champion Sakau while the Hot Peppers and Power Raiders scored their second successive triumphs yesterday in the ongoing 1996 Palau Women's Slowpitch League at the Koblerville Ball Field.

Down by 10 runs, the Oreos, behind the Annie Emiliano's three runs and three RBIs (Runs Batted In) and Grace Aldan's crucial base hits, came back strong in the later part of the game to deal Sakau's first loss dating back to the 1995-1996 season, Emiliano went 3 for 5 while Aldan went 3 for 4 and two important base hits to open up her team's amazing comeback. Jennifer Germance picked her first win in the tournament while Jovie Omar took the loss.

In the second game, the Hot Peppers leaned on Sue Ellis' three defensive stops to score their second win in as many starts in defeating the Strikers, 4-1.

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## Men's Slowpitch Round-up

September 27, 1996 Results

By Ray Palacios  
For the Variety

**Game 1** - The Town and Country Man Hoben started out slow but came back strong to defeat the U.I.C. Defenders 12-9 in the only game that went passed the regulation period last Friday at the Civic Center Softball Field. Man Hoben trailed 8-0 after two and a half innings of play but countered with the next twelve runs including eight runs in the bottom of the fifth for a 12-8 lead. The Defenders managed to pick up a run in the top of the seventh but were three runs short to the game up.

**Game 2** - The J.C. Fadang won their first game of the season with a 7-0

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## SPORTSBITS

### Budweiser Cup

TODAY will be the last day of submission of entries to the 1996 Budweiser Cup Intercommercial Basketball League which is tentatively set to open on October 15 at the CMS Basketball Court.

Entry fee is \$900 inclusive of uniforms and insurance. For more details, call Archie del Rosario of CMS at tel. no. 234-6159.

### Soccer Clinic

The Soccer Clinic which was cancelled last Friday will push through today at the same venue at 3:30 to 5 p.m. Naomi Onye will be joined by former Nigerian professional soccer player Charlie Agwo in today's session.

### Women in Sports

The Women in Sports meeting that was cancelled last week is rescheduled tomorrow Tuesday, October 1, 5:30 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Conference Room. All leaders and organizers of various women's leagues and tournaments are en-

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## Mariners win

IN OAKLAND, California, the Seattle Mariners, eliminated from the playoff race in the first inning when Baltimore won at Toronto, got an RBI double by Andy Sheets in the 10th inning to defeat the Oakland Athletics.

The Mariners were knocked out of playoff contention when Baltimore won 3-2 over the Blue Jays to clinch the AL wild-card spot. The final out in that game came just two minutes after the game started in Oakland.

Seattle had been eliminated from the race for the AL West title Friday night when it lost 8-1 at Oakland.

With one out in the 10th, Joey Cora singled off Mark Acre (1-3) and Sheets followed with his double to left-center to give Seattle a 4-3 lead. Four batters later, Paul Sorrento walked with the bases loaded off Buddy Groom for the Mariners' fifth run.

The winner was Rafael Carmona (8-3), who pitched one inning. Norm Charlton got two outs for his 20th save. Oakland's Terry Steinbach broke the AL record for homers by a catcher in a season. Steinbach's 35th homer, his 34th as a catcher, surpassed the mark set by Carlton Fisk of the 1985 Chicago White Sox. Steinbach homered as a pinch-hitter May 18 at Boston.

## Cepeda cops MVP plums

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

LUIS Cepeda of the San Antonio Sixers was named as the Most Valuable Player of the recently concluded 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League during its awards night held last Friday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

Aside from winning the regular

season's most coveted plum, Cepeda scored a twinkill as he was also named as the unanimous winner for the playoffs MVP accolade. He led the Sixers in winning the youth league's cage title by defeating the Ol' Aces I, 56-53, in the championship game.

Cepeda averaged a whooping 37.6 points in eight games to lead the Sixers sweep the elimination round en route to

winning the pennant with an impeccable 8-0 win loss slate.

In the championship game, the Sixers' forward exploded for 30 big points including the game winning baskets in the dying seconds of the game.

In the league's All Tournament Selection First Team, Cepeda was joined by guards Bob Omar of Ol' Aces I and

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## Sixers win youth cage title

By Erel A. Cabatbat  
Variety News Staff

LUIS Cepeda scored four points including two pressure-packed free throws in the last 17 seconds as the San Antonio Sixers came from behind to edge Ol' Aces I, 56-53, to win the 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League last Friday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym.

Playing catch-up for most of the first half the Sixers came back strong in the final 20 minutes for

the scintillating victory.

Trailing by three after the first half, the Sixers strung six points against a lone basket from Romeo Igincoef to grab the lead, 38-37, with 17:40 remaining.

Then a spate of turnovers characterized the next three minutes of play with neither team scoring a basket.

Igincoef broke the scoring drought when he scored on a lay-up to give the lead back to the Ol' Aces, 39-38, 14:15 left. The Sixers regained the lead in the next play as Cepeda drove

strong to the basket, 40-39.

The lead continued to change hands as the two teams traded baskets going into the last five minutes of the ballgame.

Igincoef continued his assault towards the basket as he scored on another gung-ho drive to give his team a four point lead, 48-44 with 4:26 in the game clock.

Cepeda however exploded for five straight points, including a three point play, as he single handedly

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YOUTH LEAGUE CHAMPS— The San Antonio Sixers and their supporters display their championship and pennant trophies after edging the Ol' Aces I, 56-53, last Friday to win the 1996 Saipan Rotary Club Summer Youth Basketball League at the Gilbert C. Ada Gym. Photo by Erel A. Cabatbat