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Cabrera 'on way out'

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

SECRETARY Antonio R. Cabrera is on his way out of the Finance Department.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said he will soon ask Cabrera to head a special projects committee to take charge of the administration's 10 percent flat tax rate plan.

"He said he won't be able to handle both the secretary's job and the special projects," Tenorio said.

(But) I'm serious about this flat tax thing and I want him to head

Governor mulls 'new position' for Finance secretary



Antonio R. Cabrera

the team to work on that."

Asked if he's "dissatisfied" with Cabrera's performance, Tenorio said "Not true."

Variety sources, however, said the governor may be "displeased" with his Finance secretary.

"The word is, the governor is

not happy about him (Cabrera) 'being out of his office most of the time' whenever the governor needs him," a source said, "and the governor doesn't appreciate that. You know how the governor is--whenever he needs you, you have to be there."

The Variety tried to contact Cabrera yesterday for comment but as of press time last night, it has yet to receive a return call from the secretary.

With Cabrera as head of the Finance Department, the Tenorio administration claimed to have reduced the \$44 million deficit to

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Rent-a-car firm sues CPA, Shoda



Carlos A. Shoda

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

A RENT-A-CAR firm yesterday filed a suit for damages totaling \$300,000 against the Commonwealth Ports Authority and its executive director, Carlos A. Shoda, and acting enforcement/lease compliance officer, Herman R. Bermudes.

Tropical Rent-a-Car, in its complaint before the federal district court, accused the CPA

of unequally enforcing a certain provision of a concession agreement that all rent-a-car firms servicing the Saipan International Airport should only offer for rent cars the current year's model and that of the preceding year.

The complaint alleged that this provision was enforced only last March when through a letter dated March 11, the CPA "advised (Tropical) that it must comply with (the provision) of the Agreement and must cease renting older model vehicles."

The plaintiff claimed that when the CPA learned that the other rental car concessionaires were renting out older-model vehicles, the CPA did not seek to enforce the provision so that in a letter dated March 20, the CPA accordingly "reevaluated its position and allowed the rental of 1995 automobiles."

"This 'reevaluation' was in

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Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja pay their respects to the late Manuel D. Muna during state funeral rites held yesterday at the Multi-Purpose Center. Muna, a former lawmaker and long-time politician, was a member of the CPA Board of Directors at the time of his death.

Tenorio: Borja should resign

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja has to be "stripped" of his duties because "he (Borja) no longer has faith" in the administration.

Borja, who is running against Tenorio in November's gubernatorial election, should even re-

sign, Tenorio said.

"(But) I'm not going to tell him what to do," he added, "(though) if I were the lieutenant governor and if I'm running against the governor, then I would resign."

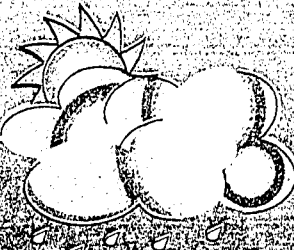
"I'm not asking him to do that. I'm just saying that it's proper that if he doesn't approve of this administration then he shouldn't be a part of this administration."

Tenorio said under the CNMI Constitution, the lieutenant governor doesn't have a specific job, but performs whatever duty the governor or the Legislature assigns him to do.

"I just feel that if he's running against me, I think it's appropriate that he should give up whatever I assigned him to do before,"

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WEATHER Outlook



Partly cloudy with isolated showers

BOS ordered to help in release of Hillblom specimen

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE SUPERIOR Court has ordered Larry Hillblom estate executor Bank of Saipan to support efforts seeking the release of Hillblom's alleged tissue specimen currently under the custody of Davies Medical Center in California.

Associate Judge Timothy Bellas on Friday asked the bank to favor petitioner David Moncrieff's move to effect the transfer of Hillblom's specimen

from Davies to Dr. Edward T. Blake, a coding phlebotomist.

By "support" Bellas means that the executor shall not be required to expend additional resources to actively join in Moncrieff's motion.

The judge prohibited BOS from further refuting positions asserted by Moncrieff in San Mateo County.

Moncrieff is guardian for Hillblom's alleged daughter Jellian Cuartero.

Bellas reiterated that the ex-



Timothy Bellas

traction of the specimen may lead to evidence relevant to the pending litigation of heirship claimants against the estate.

Bellas called off last month the extraction of Hillblom's tissue following opposition by Davies, which would like to be spared of the harassment associated with the specimen.

Moncrieff filed a motion to compel Davies to produce the specimen in the Superior Court of California for the County of

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Mobutu, Kabila face off

By TINA SUSMAN
POINTE NOIRE, Congo (AP) - A face-to-face meeting between Zaire's ailing president and the rival who controls nearly three-fourths of his country has resolved little - only that they plan to meet again.

President Mobutu Sese Seko did not announce his resignation, as had been predicted by diplomats aboard the South African naval vessel where talks were held Sunday. Mediators fear the talks were the last chance to secure a truce and prevent the rebels from marching on Zaire's capital, Kinshasa. All indications were that the rebels intend to keep advancing.

U.N. envoy Mohamed Sahnoun told reporters that Mobutu proposed a cease-fire and a transitional government to prepare the Central African nation for its first multiparty elections. Mobutu said he would hand over power to an elected authority, though he has never ruled out running himself.

But rebel leader Laurent Kabila, according to the statement read by Sahnoun, demanded that the rebels be allowed to take power as the transitional authority and that Mobutu cede power to them.



South African President Nelson Mandela (center) gestures during a press conference with Zairean President Mobutu Sese Seko (left) and rebel leader Laurent-Désiré Kabila (right) aboard the SAS Outeniqua in Pointe Noire harbour, Congo Sunday after the first face-to-face peace talks between the two rivals. AP

Sahnoun said there was "some tension from both sides" at the start of Sunday's talks. "But then there was a cordial tone, very African. There were no poisonous remarks."

Kabila agreed to a temporary

cease-fire before the meeting, according to Sahnoun, but it was not clear later whether the truce continued or that it ever had taken place. "As a gesture of good will he has ordered his troops to stop their advance on all fronts," Sahnoun said, reading a statement. "They would, however, defend themselves and reciprocate if they were attacked."

Kabila's forces claimed Saturday to have taken control of Kenge, the last major town on the way to Kinshasa, only 185 kilometers (115 miles) to the west. Rebels also took Lisala, Mobutu's birthplace, about 240 kilometers (150 miles) south of the president's hometown of Gbadolite, a rebel officer said.

During a news conference with a grim-faced Mobutu and smiling Kabila, Sahnoun told reporters aboard the naval ship docked in this port city that South African President Nelson Mandela, who was helping mediate the talks, would convene another meeting between the two men in six to 10 days.

Mandela emphasized that Kabila has not agreed to a permanent truce.

"The question of a cease-fire is not part of his vocabulary," he said. "What he is concerned with is that negotiations will lead to the end of hostilities."

Kabila had said Friday he would go to the talks only to secure "Mobutu's exit and the handover of power to the alliance." Otherwise, he said, rebel forces would

take the rest of Zaire within two weeks.

After the meeting, Kabila flew to Luanda.

Angola. He did not comment to reporters. The Portuguese news agency LUSA said Kabila was to meet with Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos. Zaire and Western powers have accused Angola of aiding the rebels with troops and equipment.

Mobutu left the ship without addressing reporters and was expected to fly back to Kinshasa. He has insisted he never would bow to Kabila's demand to resign, but his prostate cancer and international pressure may force him to do so. Sources close to the talks had said that mediators were seeking an agreement in which Mobutu would step down for health reasons and appoint an interim president until elections could be held. This would allow Kabila and his forces to peacefully enter Kinshasa.

Wearing his signature leopard-skin cap, a grim-faced Mobutu boarded the ship early Sunday. Supported by a cane in one hand and his wife Bobi Ladawa on the other, the ailing president was met by South African Foreign Minister Alfred Nzo and Defense Minister Joe Modise.

A White House official, responding to reports that U.S. envoy Bill Richardson was carrying a letter from Mobutu to President Bill Clinton saying that he would step down, said Saturday, "I would not read it that way."

Mobutu did send a letter to the United States last week in which he committed himself to negotiations with the rebels, said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity Saturday.

Number of children in Japan dips for 16th year

TOKYO (AP) - Japan marks its annual Children's Day holiday Monday with the smallest number of children since its first national census in 1920 - a consequence of a steadily falling birth rate.

Continuing a decline for the 16th consecutive year, the number of children aged 14 or younger fell by 320,000 from a year earlier to 19.52 million as of April 1, the government's Management and Coordination Agency reported Sunday.

Last year marked the first time since 1920 that the number has fallen below 20 million.

In a country notorious for costly and cramped housing and a demanding school system, many Japanese couples stop at one child to hold down expenses.

This has led to worries about car-

ing for an increasing number of elderly with a shrinking workforce.

The agency said children aged 14 or younger now account for 15.5 percent of Japan's population, down 0.3 percentage points from a year earlier and the second lowest proportion among major countries. Only Italy, with 15.1, has a lower percentage.

The Japanese figure compares with 16.3 percent in Germany, 18.8 percent in Sweden, 19.4 percent in France, 19.4 percent in Britain, 20.7 percent in Canada, 22.0 percent in the United States, 22.6 percent in South Korea, 26.7 percent in China, 33.5 percent in Brazil, 35.0 percent in Indonesia and 35.2 percent in India, the agency said.

In Japan, children accounted for 33 to 37 percent of the population up to 1955.

Iraq urges UN to speed up OK of food contracts

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) - Iraq urged the United Nations on Sunday to speed up approval of contracts for food signed under the U.N. oil-for-food deal, the official Iraqi News Agency reported.

Trade Minister Mohammed Mehdi Saleh told visiting U.N. officials that the committee supervising the deal has yet to act on contracts worth \$250 million, the agency said. He accused the United States of interfering with the committee's work, it said.

Yasushi Akashi, director of the U.N. Department of Humanitarian Affairs, arrived in

Iraq on Saturday to assess the deal and to determine whether Iraqis need further supplies.

The agency said Saleh told Akashi that Iraq already has the money in a U.N.-monitored account to purchase the food.

In December, the United Nations gave the go-ahead for Iraq to sell up to \$2 billion worth of oil for an initial six-month period to buy food and medicine for its people, who are suffering the effects of nearly seven years of U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait.

(Continued on page 13)

Israeli-Palestinian talks may resume

By HILARY APPELMAN

JERUSALEM (AP) - Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat will meet Tuesday with Israeli President Ezer Weizman in an effort to lay the groundwork for resuming the stalled peace negotiations.

U.S. Mideast envoy Dennis Ross is expected to follow up that meeting with a visit to the region later in the week.

The flurry of diplomatic activity raised hopes Sunday that



Arafat Netanyahu

the peace process's slide may have slowed and that there was progress toward restarting talks.

Contacts broke off in March

after Israel began construction of a housing project for Jews on a hilltop known to the Israelis as Har Homa and to the Palestinians as Jabal Abu Ghneim.

Located in a part of Jerusalem captured from Arabs in 1967 and claimed by Palestinians as a future capital, the project set off riots in the West Bank and was linked to a suicide bombing in a Tel Aviv cafe that claimed three Israeli

(Continued on page 13)

Kidnapped Colombian congressman found dead

By VIVIAN SEQUERA

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) - A congressman kidnapped by leftist rebels in June 1995 was found dead Sunday along with three guerrillas, apparently drowned after their boat capsized during a river journey, authorities said.

The body of Rodrigo Turbay Cote, former speaker of the House of Representatives, was found on a bank of the Caguan river in Caqueta state some 360 kilometers (220 miles) south of Bogota, police said.

A rebel communique received by an area radio station informed authorities that a boat carrying Turbay had capsized on the river

on Saturday night.

Turbay's kidnappers, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), are the country's oldest and largest rebel group. They had demanded that authorities finish construction of a stretch of road in return for his release.

Rivers are the sole means of transportation in most of Caqueta state, a FARC stronghold where guerrillas killed the governor last year and coca-growing peasants have rioted against government plans to destroy their drug crops.

Turbay's body was found near the village of Santa Fe del Caguan, the village's police inspector,

Henoc Encizo, told The Associated Press by telephone. He said drowning was the apparent cause of death and that the body showed no signs of torture.

The FARC communique received by the radio station in nearby Cartagena de Chiriqui said rebels had been unable to find Turbay's body. Colombian radio stations speculated that the rebels had been in the process of freeing the lawmaker.

The FARC is believed to be holding, in the same region, 60 soldiers it captured on Aug. 30 when guerrilla fighters overran a remote jungle base near the border with Ecuador.

\$31M rebated last year

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff

THE GOVERNMENT refunded at least \$30.9 million the last time it rebated taxes to individual and corporate taxpayers for the tax year 1995, the Department of Finance disclosed.

Preliminary figures provided the Variety by Finance Sec. Antonio R. Cabrera show a total of \$17 million in rebates were given to individual filers for that year while another \$10.7 went to corporate rebate recipients.

The department also gave out some \$3.1 million for earned income credit and another \$4,300 for overpayment refunds to arrive at the \$31 million total.

Among the companies who got the biggest rebates according to partial listings compiled by the Revenue & Taxation Division were Duty Free

Rebate listing shows DFS, MTC as among biggest recipients

Shoppers Saipan which got a total of \$3.49 million. Micronesia Telecommunications Corp. on the other hand got \$952,518 and Tan Holdings Group, \$583,135 in rebates.

Notably absent in the list is top Saipan business conglomerate J.C. Tenorio Enterprises, whose figures were not available for inspection.

The amounts in the list represent figures that have not taken into account rebate offset amounts, clarified Revenue and Taxation Director Rufin S. Inos.

This means other tax liabilities have to be applied to arrive at the actual dollar amount received, he added.

Bank of Guam on the other hand realized a rebate of \$481,831 while United Micronesia Development Association (UMDA) got \$479,309. Diamond Hotel netted

\$318,303 in rebates as Union Bank received \$341,963.

On individual filers, notable recipients of rebates include government officials, prominent business leaders, judges and other public figures.

Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja who filed jointly with wife Mary Anne, received \$4,594 while his running mate in the upcoming elections, former DLNR Sec. Benigno M. and Mira Sablan had \$7,496.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and First Lady Grace were not in the partial list showed to the Variety.

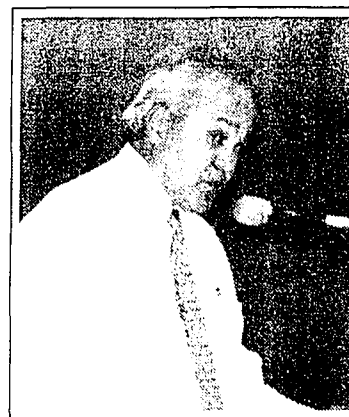
Resident Representative Juan N. Babauta and wife Diana received \$4,690.

Senate President and Mrs. Jesus R. Sablan got an \$11,637 refund while Speaker and Mrs. Diego T. Benavente



Top employees from various government agencies gather for yesterday's selection of Employee of the Year during ceremonies kicking off Public Service Recognition Week.

Tenorio to public servants: 'A lot more work to do'



Froilan C. Tenorio

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio, saying there are still a lot of unfinished work in the government, yesterday challenged public servants to "make this the best government ever to serve" the Commonwealth.

"We are far from finished, my friends; we have a tremendous amount of work to do," Tenorio said at the Public Service Recognition ceremony held at the Multipurpose Hall in Susupe.

Seventeen employees were conferred the "Department Employee of the Year," kicking off Public Service

Recognition Week celebration.

Speaking in hoarse voice, Tenorio said he "will not be satisfied until this government is the most efficient, lucrative, caring local government these islands have ever seen."

He said he wants the CNMI to be a "role model not just for the other territories, but for our nation as well."

Tenorio told the government workers not to rest "until our departments and agencies and each of us in our daily responsibilities are certain that the job we have performed has benefited the public by giving them better service and more opportunities for a caring, responsive government to help them."

The governor said when he assumed office four years ago, he was greeted by a "tired government and an even more tired work force."

"And what did I do? Did I tell you to take a break, relax, put your feet up because the work can wait? No way. I told you to work faster, better, produce more, and if you didn't, I told you there was no room for you in this government," Tenorio said, reading a speech written in candid tone and notably with less archaic crafts than the usual.

Tenorio said he recognizes the civil workers' contributions to the government's accomplishments.

"But, friends, today, instead of slapping you on the back for 'a job well done,' the governor said, 'Task more of you once again.'"

"I challenge you all to make this the best government ever to serve the good people of the Northern Marianas," he said.

"Let us not sit back and 'pat ourselves on the back,' let's march forward toward that day when we cut the ribbon to unveil the most efficient, best managed local government our islands have ever seen," he added.

Named Department Employees of the Year were Donna Cruz, of Office of the Governor; Elias M. Rangamar, DCCA; Joseph S. Ada, DOIL; Michael M. Takai, DPS; Reynaldo P. Femaz, DPW; Tina Marie Sakisat, Commerce; Michael A. Reyes, DLNR; Emilia T. William, Finance; Thelma Mafnas Tarkong, DPHS; Jacinta Q. Kapileo, AGO; Joaquin Blanco OMB; Manual C. Quitano, CUC; Cristy N. Kintol, CDA; Henry A. Mendola, CPA; Arnold J. Jimeno, OPA; Annie V. Sablan, Retirement Fund; and Rain A. Raed, Public Defender's Office.



Rufin Inos

got \$1,874.

Senate Vice President Paul A. Manglona and wife Lydia were rebated \$4,706 the list showed.

Lawmakers in the listing include Rep. Karl and Virginia Reyes, \$14,334; Sen. Thomas P. Villagomez, \$3,121.57 (jointly filed); Sen. Paul A. and Lydia Manglona \$4,706; Sen. Eusebio and Mrs. Hocog \$4,744; Rep. Heinz and Susana Hofschneider, \$4,131; Rep. Joaquin and Marian Adriano, \$2,663; and Rep. Stanley and Ana Torres, \$1,074.

Tenorio Administration officials

whose names were seen in the list were Health Sec. Isamu Abraham and wife Tee, \$6,010; CPA Executive Director Carlos Shoda, \$32,486 (joint); Public Defender Dan DeRienzo and wife Faith, \$2,159; the Governor's Executive Assistant Herman T. Guerrero, \$3,809; Cultural and Community Affairs Sec. Thomas and Tapita Tebuteb, \$948; NMC President Agnes McPhetres, \$2,269 and the governor's legal counsel Doug Muir, \$4,076.

Members of the CNMI Judiciary were also noted in the list. Supreme Court Chief Justice Marty Taylor who filed jointly with wife Celina got \$19,549 in rebate, while Superior Court Presiding Judge Alex and Carmen Castro received \$10,261.

Other members of the bench noted in the list were Judge Edward Manibusan, \$10,680 (joint); Judge Miguel S. Demapan \$12,334 and Judge Timothy Bellas, \$27,084.

Prominent business leaders whose names were noted include DFS Vice President David and Lisa Hawkins, \$8,062; Efrain F. Camacho and Martha, \$331,472; and Bar Association President Michael and Rosario White, \$25,509.



Gov. Tenorio's secretary, Donna Cruz (left) receives her award as the Office of the Governor's employee of the year. At right is Tenorio's Special Assistant for Administration Vicente T. Attao.

Man 'chases' people with machete, 'bites' policeman

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A MAN was arrested for allegedly chasing people with a machete at a residence in China Town Sunday morning.

The suspect, Estanislao Sungao, also allegedly bit an officer at the Department of Public Safety Division of Corrections when he was taken to the Detention Facility.

Public Safety Information Officer PO3 Cathy Sheu said it was reported Sunday at 8:15 a.m. that the 55-year-old Sungao, armed with a machete, chased other people.

Sheu said no injuries were reported to the victims.

There was no information

whether Sungao was under the influence of alcohol or drugs when the attack occurred.

In other police report, a 29-year-old woman was arrested for alleged shoplifting at Duty Free Shoppers in Garapan Saturday morning.

Ping Guo Li of Garapan was caught by a DFS employee taking a wallet without paying it.

Also in Garapan, a Japanese tourist reported that her purse containing Japanese money, US dollars, visa and travelling cards was stolen at Hyatt Hotel's lobby Saturday morning.

Meanwhile, the DPS has been investigating two cases of child abuse which were reported Friday night.

Manamkos delight tourists

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

ABOUT 80 elderly men and women, or manamkos, yesterday "invaded" the Pacific Islands Club and delighted the hotel's Japanese guests. The guests observed several of the manamkos fashioning fans, hats, baskets, rice holders, and birds out of palm tree leaves. Some other manamkos demonstrated their skill in making mwar mwar, the local flower headdress.

Other manamkos played billiards and cards or just whiled their time chatting with one another at the recreation hall of PIC.

The manamkos were there as guests of the PIC and the Marianas Visitors, which treated them to a buffet lunch as part of the CNMI Tourism Week celebrations.

In previous celebrations, the MVB took the manamkos to various historical spots of Saipan.

This year, the MVB decided to do something different for the senior citizens by treating them

to a "day of fun and relaxation."

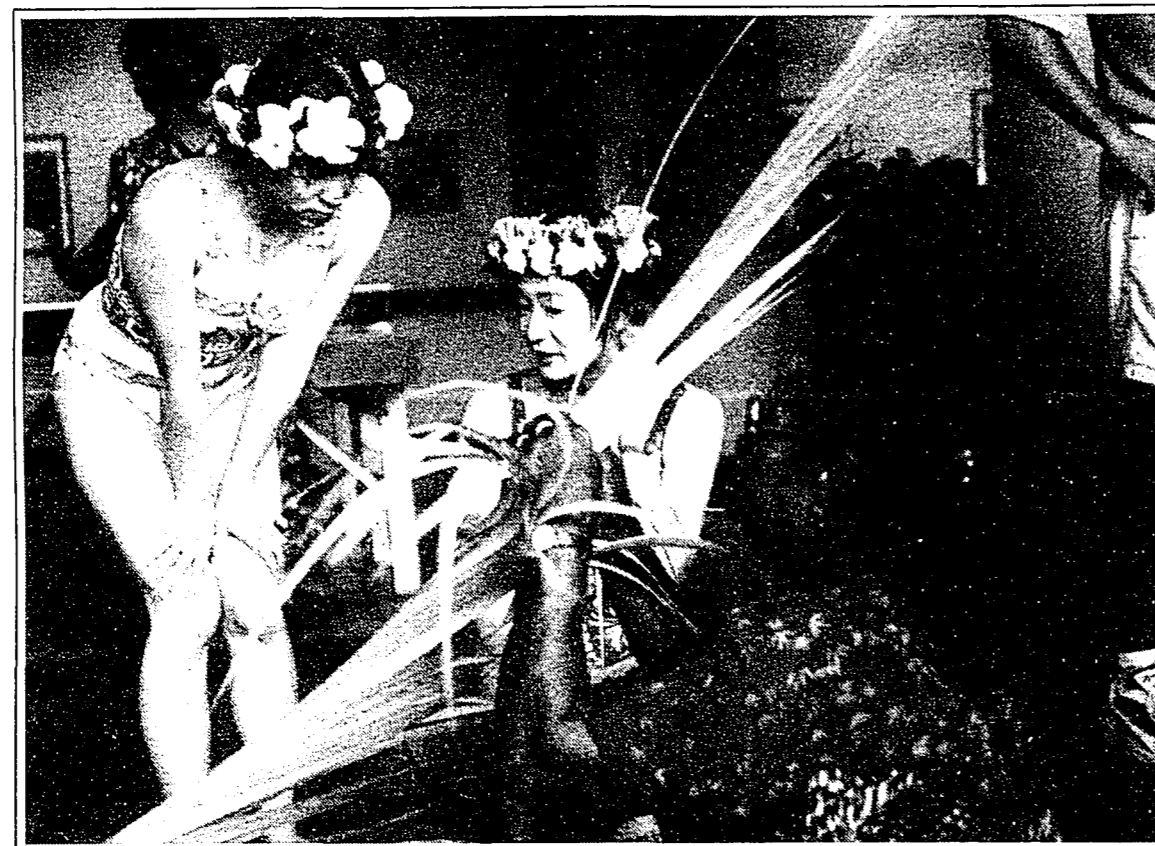
For the past four years, according to MVB's Rita S. Benavente, the MVB has always allotted a day for the manamkos during the celebration of the Tourism Week.

"Respect for the elders and showing them due importance have been part of our local culture," Benavente said.

One of those showing her palm-weaving skill was Virginia Sablan, 75. She made with adroitness "katupat," where one puts rice for cooking. Sablan said she learned to make the katupat from her father when she was 14 years old.

Japanese tourists frolicking in the hotel's swimming pool were momentarily distracted by the manamkos. They took a respite from their watery activity to ogle at the products made by them from palm leaves. They also posed delightedly with the manamkos.

"Incredible!" one gushed at one decorative item a manamko weaved.



SHOWING IT STEP BY STEP. A manamko shows two PIC guests how to weave a hat from coconut palm leaves yesterday.

Sidewalk cafes, promenades soon in 'revitalized Garapan'

THERE ARE plans to close certain portions of Garapan's tourist district to vehicular traffic to allow the construction of sidewalk cafes and shaded promenades under the Garapan Revitalization Project, the Administration disclosed.

"We need to clean this place up," Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio said during the kick-off ceremonies of this year's tourism week in the heart of Garapan.

"The future of our Commonwealth depends on the health of tourism. And the health of tourism depends on our ability to be a really attractive tourist destination."

The revitalization of Garapan, known as Special District Garapan, is a key part of the Governor's proposed clean-up.

"Next year, if all goes as planned, the entire street will be closed to all vehicular traffic," the release said.

Where the street enters Beach Road, there will be a gateway to a shaded pedestrian promenade with sidewalk cafes and boutiques, it added.

"It will be a place where families will come on Sunday afternoon," the Governor said.

The concept has captured the imagination of local business persons. Frank Aldan of Tropical Gardens just donated 80 street trees for the Special District.

"He was so enthusiastic," Special Assistant for Planning Evelyn J. Tenorio said. "He wanted to do something."

The Tournament of Champi-

ons donated \$50,000 last year and will be donating again this year.

Hafadai Hotel has pledged \$50,000, and other hotels have expressed keen interest in contributing to the revitalization of the district. DFS is pledging a significant amount.

"This kind of development depends on the commitment of our entire community—the public and the private sector. I congratulate everyone who is working so hard to make Special District Garapan a reality," said Tenorio.

The Special District Garapan is part of an island-wide revitalization plan. For more information about the plan and how to get involved, call 664-2245.



A computer-produced rendition of the planned promenades and family areas planned for the Garapan tourist district.

CUC offers electrical safety tips

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

MAY is National Electrical Safety Month.

Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, in his proclamation, reminds the public that injuries can be prevented by following simple electrical safety precautions.

He encourages CNMI residents to check their homes and workplaces for possible electrical hazards, as well as to test their smoke detectors and replace the detectors' batteries annually.

He cited statistics showing that over 700 people die annually from residential electrical fires.

Damage to property arising from electrical fires amounts to over \$1 billion yearly.

"The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is actively helping to

move this effort (to educate the public about the importance of practicing electrical safety) forward in order to reduce the number of electrical injuries and deaths from electrical hazards," Tenorio says in his proclamation.

The CUC, for its part, said it has joined forces with the National Electrical Safety Foundation to raise the public awareness of electrical safety.

The CUC tells the public to remember the four R's of electrical safety, namely:

- Respect the power of electricity;
- Read and follow the operating instructions that come with every electrical product;
- Replace worn or frayed electrical cords; and
- Relocate appliance cords so children can't pull on them, pets can't chew them, and grown-ups won't walk on them.

Bill proposes ID system

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

REPRESENTATIVE Melvyn Faisao has proposed the issuance of identification cards to all Commonwealth residents to be used as a device to monitor population and migration.

Faisao's proposal is contained in House Bill 10-19, titled "Saipan & Northern Islands Residential Identification Card Act."

The system, according to the bill, could be used as a device to track and monitor the composition of the CNMI population, to enable the government to "effectively address the issues of population increase, migration and identification of various ethnic groups."

The current population of the Commonwealth consists mostly of non-indigenous people, Micronesians, and alien workers.

The ID card system, the bill said, "can readily assist the government with the development of Compact

Impact data collection and policy formulation" related to the presence of Micronesians who are allowed free entry into the CNMI under the Compact of Free Association.

The bill seeks to allow any CNMI resident who does not have a CNMI driver's license to get a residential card that bears personal data.

The ID card, which would expire every three years, would be issued by the Bureau of Motor Vehicle, for a fee of \$7 for minors and senior citizens, and \$15 for citizens outside the two categories.

Revenues from the collection would be distributed as follows: 10 percent for the CNMI Youth Congress; 15 percent for the Public School System; 25 percent for the Job Training Partnership Act; 20 percent to Saipan road projects; 10 percent to the Northern Island Mayor's Office for field trip related to costs; and 20 percent to the Department of Public Safety.

Hearing on public lands



David M. Cing

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio yesterday said he may show up and testify in today's Senate hearing on public lands.

"I think I should be the one to testify on behalf of the administration," Tenorio said.

"I want to answer all the (Senate committee's) questions and concerns."

A Tenorio critic, Sen. David M. Cing (D-Tinian), has scheduled the public hearing on the status of the Division of Public Lands and pending public land transactions.

The chair of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointment and

Tenorio says he may testify before Cing panel today

Government Investigation, Cing told the Variety that he will hold similar hearings on Tinian and Rota.

He said the public hearings will give the general public information on the status of public lands, and "the opportunity to air their concerns regarding (land deals), and to clarify any confusion that may exist."

With the recent override of Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's veto of a bill that would reestablish an autonomous board of public lands, all land transactions are "in limbo," DPL Director Bertha Camacho told the Variety last week.

The new law took away the governor's authority to manage public lands, and gave it to a yet to be formed Board of Public Lands.

Tenorio has said he will not make any appointments to the board, and will even challenge the new law's constitutionality.

The House of Representatives has passed a bill that would temporarily allow the governor and DPL to act on pending land deals, but only for a period of 90 days or until appointments to the board have been confirmed by the Senate, whichever comes first.

Tenorio said he will not sign the bill which now heads to the Senate.

At least two senators—Cing and Senate Vice President Paul A. Manglona—have said that they will oppose giving Tenorio a "blank check" to act on pending land trans-

actions.

Meanwhile, Tenorio said he met yesterday with the leaders of the Legislature regarding a bill that would grant scholarships to CNMI students who want to become teachers.

He said he and the legislators

have "arrived on an understanding."

"We will sign an agreement that they will introduce and adopt the amendments I suggested," Tenorio said.

"They will come out with their own amendments, and once they pass the bill I'll sign it."

Party issued Borja 'rubber check'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE DEMOCRATIC Party had issued a "bouncing check" representing refund of the candidacy fee paid by gubernatorial candidate Lt. Gov. Jesus Borja to the party's Central Executive Committee.

The Lt. Governor's Office yesterday faxed

to local media agencies photocopies of the Bank of Guam check marked "Not Sufficient Funds," and the "Returned Item Advice" from First Savings and Loan, where Borja deposited the check amounting to \$1,523.63.

The check issued April 16, 1997



Jesus Borja



Dan Quitugua

bears check number 1134.

There was no immediate statement from Borja.

Democratic Party chairman Dan Quitugua was off-island, according to his secretary. There was no other party official available to give comments.

Borja had paid the candidacy fee of \$1,500 in January.

He had demanded that the party refund his money in light of its refusal to hold a primary between him and Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, who was later endorsed by the Central Executive Committee as the party's standard bearer

in the November elections.

On April 17, Quitugua returned Borja's money plus a five percent interest, "in light of public statements suggesting concerns about the adequacy of financial backing to support" Borja's candidacy.

Esteves brothers plead not guilty to gun raps

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

TWO brothers accused in gun-related charges yesterday pleaded not guilty during their arraignment at the federal district court.

Francisco and Gregorio Castro Esteves were remanded back to the custody of the United States Marshal after Judge Alex R. Munson found them potential risks to the community and did not grant them any bail.

The arraignment for the Esteves brothers' co-accused, Martin Evangelista Reyes, was deferred to another date.

The US government, through Assistant US Atty. David Wood, argued before the court against temporarily releasing the brothers saying the government was not certain that all the guns related to

the conspiracy had been turned over to authorities.

But the counsel for the two accused, Timothy Skinner, said Wood's claim was only a speculation as he said there was no evidence that the defendants still had guns hidden.

In the case of Gregorio, Munson said he was being denied bail until a third party custodian acceptable to the court can be presented.

Francisco, a previously convicted felon, has been charged with two counts of possession of firearm and ammunition and with conspiracy to possess a stolen firearm.

Gregorio, on the other hand, is charged with conspiracy to possess a stolen firearm, possession of a stolen firearm, and conspiracy to dispose of various firearms to a convicted felon.

2 in 'hollow block attack'

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE ATTORNEY General's Office charged yesterday two men who allegedly beat and struck a man with a hollow block and rocks in the head on Tinian Sunday.

John SN Shai Jr. and John Peter Sablan were charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and assault and battery.

According to court documents submitted by Assistant Atty. Gen. Alan Lane, on Sun-

day at 2:30 a.m. Shai and Sablan struck the victim several times in the head with pieces of hollow block and rocks.

As a result, the victim suffered severe cut requiring immediate medical attention.

Lane said both suspects admitted to beating up the victim.

Shai admitted to striking the victim in the head with a hollow block. The victim said Sablan also hit him with a hollow block or a rock.

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Baltimore inks NMI police pact



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BALTIMORE Police Commissioner Thomas C. Frazier has signed a partnership agreement negotiated by Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, the Administration said in a news release.

The signing was held in conjunction with a Baltimore visit by Commissioner of Public Safety Jose M. Castro, who will handcarry the agreement back to Saipan for the Governor's signature.

"This agreement will strengthen the ability of DPS to protect public safety in the Commonwealth," said Castro after the signing.

"This will increase our knowledge, our resources, and our capability to serve the people of the Northern Marianas islands."

The agreement covers a full range of police activities with particular focus on homicide and other violent crimes, drugs, activities with particular focus on homicide and other violent crimes, drugs, organized crime, community policing, and evidence collection and analysis.

Told of the signing, Tenorio expressed satisfaction that the agreement, which was already effective on an informal basis, had been formalized.

"The protection of our people from crime and drugs is one of the most important goals of this administration," said the Governor, "and with the assistance of our friends from Baltimore, we are going to do just that."

The agreement establishes an exchange program, under which police officers and other DPS for training and practical experience.

Representatives of the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) will go to the CNMI to assist and train DPS officials in modern police techniques. The exchanges do not have to be even.



Jose M. Castro

However, in the first exchange, which is scheduled for June, one homicide detective and one burglary detective will be exchanged in each direction.

Castro also reported to the Governor that BPD had offered to donate police dogs to the CNMI.

During a tour of Baltimore's K-9 training center, Castro was told that BPD would train dogs and DPS officers at no charge to the Commonwealth.

The dogs would all be trained to do routine patrol and protection work. They and their handlers would then receive specialized training in finding drugs, explosives, guns, or chemicals (such as arson accelerants).

The offer included customs as well as the police, according to Castro, who said he would meet with Finance Secretary Antonio R. Cabrea upon his return to discuss cooperation in this area.

Under the agreement, BPD will also share techniques developed by its Cold Case Unit, which has been highly successful in solving homicides that had remained open for several years.

Castro, who also attended seminars on Asian organized crime during his trip to the mainland, is expected to return to Saipan on May 11.

Battered RP stocks get biggest gains in 3 years

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Battered Philippine stocks posted their biggest single-day gain in more than three years Monday, ending a six-day thrashing in which the market's chief index had plunged 300.68 points, or 10 percent.

The Philippine Stock Exchange Index jumped 130.77 points, or 5 percent, to 2,736.42, after slipping 42.52 points on Friday, when it closed at a 16-month low.

Investors shook off early jitters Monday and snapped up low-priced stocks late in the session, traders said.

Last week, investors were spooked by a spate of poor corporate earnings reports for the first quarter. Concerns over

a possible glut in the high-end property market and the impact on local banks also undermined investor confidence.

"Investors have adjusted to the new reality. All the bad news has been discounted. They've accepted that economic and corporate earnings growth will be slower this year," said Noel Reyes, vice president for research at Anscor-Hagedorn Securities.

Reyes said foreign investors - net sellers in recent days - have resumed buying, apparently convinced that the market had hit bottom on Friday.

Analysts said a decline in inflation in April as well as the continued rally in Wall Street also inspired the market.

RP inflation slows to 4.6%

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Inflation in the Philippines slowed to 4.6 percent in April compared to a year earlier, with all areas except services registering lower rates of increase, the government said Monday.

The April rate compares to 4.8 percent in March, and is a hefty decline from the 11.3 percent recorded in April a year ago.

The increase in the consumer price index was lower than economists had expected. Most analysts had forecast that April's inflation rate would be between 4.8 percent and 5 percent.

Except for services, where inflation remained unchanged at 11.5 percent in

April, all other index groups registered lower rates compared to the previous month, the National Statistics Office said.

Inflation for food, beverages and tobacco, which has a hefty weighting in the consumer price index, dipped to 1.8 percent in April from 1.9 percent in March. Fuel, light and water declined to 9.4 percent from 10.5 percent.

Rice and corn prices were lower in April.

Inflation has been declining steadily since last year, when prices shot up because of food supply and distribution problems. For all of 1996, inflation averaged 8.4 percent.

Discoverer of Tasaday tribe, Elizalde dies at 60

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Manuel Elizalde Jr., a Filipino industrialist who said he discovered the Tasaday, a primitive tribe in the southern Philippines, has died after a lingering illness, his family said Monday. He was 60.

Elizalde died Saturday at his home in suburban Makati, his family said. An employee of one of Elizalde's companies said he died of bone cancer.

Elizalde, who served as national minorities minister under the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos, claimed to have found the Tasadays living in caves in a rain forest in South Cotabato province in 1971.

Marcos declared the Tasaday, who numbered in the dozens, an indigenous tribe and set aside timber-rich lands for them.

But some Philippine scholars branded the Tasaday a hoax that Marcos perpetrated to gain international publicity for the Philippines.

In 1988, then President Corazon Aquino, Marcos' successor, said the Tasaday were a legitimate Stone Age tribe and those seeking to discredit them were simply out to rob them of their ancestral lands.

Mrs. Aquino told an international conference of tribal minorities that the Tasaday controversy underscores the need to protect primitive cultures from exploitation.

A Philippine congressional committee said a one-year study substantiated the Tasaday claim. Its report said there was no credible evidence to substantiate claims by several professors at the University of the Philippines that the Tasaday were a hoax.

Scholars who defend the Tasaday say they are descendants of Manobo-speaking tribesmen who fled their coastal village more than 700 years ago to escape pirates.

They fled into isolated jungle caves, and over the centuries reverted to a Stone Age culture, supporters say. Others believe the Tasaday remained in isolation because they feared diseases such as smallpox, which were rampant in coastal areas.

Elizalde at one time was president of the family-owned Elizalde Steel Consolidated Inc., and was vice president or a board member of at least 11 other companies.

He was forced to leave the country in 1983 after a falling out with then first lady Imelda Marcos. He lived in Spain and Costa Rica before returning to the Philippines in 1987, after Marcos was ousted in a popular revolt.

President Fidel Ramos nominated him as ambassador to Mexico in 1993 but later withdrew his name because of strong public opposition to the choice because of Elizalde's past connection with Marcos.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Civil Service Commission hereby gives notice that the Board will meet on Monday, May 12, 1997 and Tuesday, May 13, 1997. The Board will convene at 10:00 a.m. on both days, at the Commission's Office, Capitol Hills, Saipan. Additional information concerning this hearing is available at the Commission's Office, Building No. 1211, Capitol Hill, Saipan. The Commission may also be reached at phone numbers 322-4363 and 322-6954 or fax number 322-3327.

AGENDA

- CALL TO ORDER
- ROLL CALL
- HEARING ON APPEAL OF ADVERSE ACTION OF DAVID MEYERS
- ANNOUNCEMENT
- ADJOURNMENT

/S/EUGENE A. SANTOS

Chairman

Civil Service Commission



Leftist workers clench their fists as they sing patriotic song during a Labor Day rally in Manila. About 10,000 workers joined the protest. AP

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SPECIALIZING IN WOOD PRODUCTS AT WHOLESALE PRICES

Independent expert probe sought for sugar mills in Fiji

SUVA (Pacnews)—The Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) has agreed to an independent expert assessment of its four mills to determine their state of preparedness for the 1997 crushing season.

This follows concerns expressed by the Sugar Cane Growers Council about the poor performance of the mills last season, Radio Fiji

reported.

Council Chief Executive Grish Maharaj says the FSC has assured him that the mills have undergone extensive maintenance and will be ready before the season starts in June.

In another development, Maharaj says the Sugar Cane Growers Council has decided to defer the implementation of major policies and projects in the

sugar industry.

He says the decision stands until a solution is found to the expiry land leases under the Agricultural Landlord and Tenants Act.

Maharaj says they want the government and the Native Land Trust Board to ensure an amicable solution is found, because their failure to do so will seriously affect the industry.

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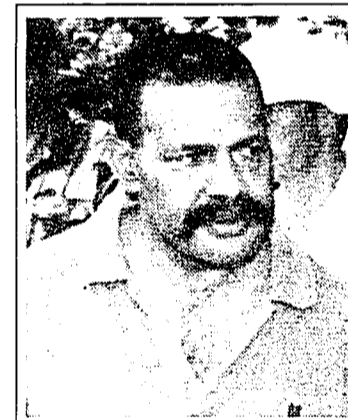
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234-9797 ☎ 234-9272 or Fax No. 234-9271.



Marchers carry a banner criticizing government ineffectiveness in stemming a rising crime rate during a protest against violent crime in downtown Taipei on Sunday. The march, joined by about 30,000 participants, was sparked by the recent kidnapping and brutal murder of a popular performer's daughter. AP

Military, police try to defuse confrontation over Singirok



Jerry Singirok

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) - Military and police chiefs met Monday to try and prevent an ugly confrontation after rumors circulated that former army commander Brig.-Gen. Jerry Singirok would be arrested.

Singirok led an army mutiny on March 17 against the government's plan to use London-based mercenary firm Sandline International to crush a 9-year-old secessionist rebellion on Bougainville Island.

Meanwhile, police raided the offices of three leading activist groups Monday, seeking evidence related to the government's employment of the mercenaries.

Singirok's mutiny sparked street protests, riots and looting, which forced the prime minister, defense minister and finance minister to step down while a judicial inquiry is held into allegations of corruption in the Sandline contract.

The Papua New Guinea government foreshadowed after the mutiny that Singirok could face treason charges.

Angry soldiers took up arms at

Murray Barracks headquarters in Port Moresby on Monday morning after rumors spread that police were on their way to arrest Singirok, who still resides in the commander's house.

"We are trying to avoid a confrontation between police and soldiers," said a senior Defense Force member, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"Some of the Defense Force members are arguing that some officers are turncoats and are about to hand Gen. Singirok over. We don't want the situation to backfire and lead to bloodshed," he said.

He said that there had been no police presence at the barracks Monday.

The soldiers who had armed themselves at Murray Barracks earlier Monday were now under control, he said.

Acting Defense Force commander Jack Tuat and senior officers were meeting with police chiefs to try and clarify the situation, he said.

Heavily armed police holding search warrants raided the offices of PNG Watch, the PNG Trust, and the Individual Community Rights Advocacy Forum, Australian Broadcasting Corp. radio reported.

ABC quoted Margaret Ipa, who lives in the Forum compound, as saying police told her they were looking for "ammunition or fire arms" relating to the Sandline mercenary deal.

Police detained Melanesian Solidarity Group activist Jonathan Oata, one of the leaders of the anti-Sandline protests in March, ABC reported.

Mexico ups security for Clinton

By ANITA SNOW

MEXICO CITY (AP) - More than 1,000 government security agents spanned across Latin America's biggest city in preparation for U.S. President Bill Clinton's first state visit to Mexico on Monday.

Blue-uniformed riot police were stationed around the Hotel Presidente Intercontinental, where Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, arrive Monday evening for a two-night stay.

In an amphitheater a block away, about 60 soldiers in olive drab gathered for final instructions.

Mexican news reports said the U.S. security team arrived here Saturday night. On Sunday, it reviewed the routes and sites Clinton will visit.

The team must also protect Cabinet members arriving for a binational commission meeting opening Monday afternoon. Those VIPs include U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, Commerce Secretary William Daley, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Attorney General Janet Reno, as well as retired army Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the U.S. drug czar.

The Teotihuacan pyramids just outside Mexico City were to be closed

to the public during Clinton's visit there Wednesday afternoon. The government will ban protests outside the U.S. Embassy during his stay.

It was unclear how the ban would affect a protest scheduled for Monday morning about a block away at the Monument of Independence. The debtor's group El Barzon said it planned to dress the towering statue of a gold-colored angel "in mourning" to protest Clinton's visit.

At least some protests were inevitable in this sprawling capital of 8.5 million people, where several marches a day are commonplace. But observers said that indifference rather than protests were likely to mark Clinton's stay.

Mexicans' major complaint against the American government is the tightening of immigration laws they fear will spark mass deportations of Mexicans living illegally north of the border.

Clinton has offered no apologies. "I would remind you, all those that think that we somehow have a narrow-minded view: We let in almost a million people legally into this country last year," Clinton said in Washington on Saturday.

Illegal narcotics will also top the



President Clinton, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and daughter Chelsea depart Foundry Methodist Church following services Sunday. Clinton is traveling to Mexico Monday night for his first state visit before continuing on to Central America and the Caribbean. AP



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PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR CNMI WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

The Antidegradation Policy of the Water Quality Standards of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands requires that in making a determination for a Water Quality Certification, the Commonwealth shall assure that the protection and maintenance of the quality of the waters of the Commonwealth are an historic and legal right of the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

An application for Water Quality Certification must be submitted to the Division of Environmental Quality for any proposed activity that will impact the waters of the Commonwealth. Upon receiving an application, DEQ issues a public notification which describes the proposed activity and potential impacts on water quality, aquatic life and human health. A thirty (30) day public comment period will commence from the date of the first publication of the notice.

The Director of DEQ may conduct a public hearing to solicit comments of the application if a hearing is requested by the public. DEQ will make a determination for issuing a Water Quality Certification based upon a complete technical review of the application and the public comments received.

DEQ is soliciting comments on the following application for a CNMI Water Quality Certification.

1. **APPLICANT:** Mr. Jesus M. Elameto, Caller Box AAA, Saipan, MP 96950.
2. **APPLICABLE STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** CNMI Commonwealth Environmental Protection Act (Public Law No. 3-23); CNMI Environmental Regulations, Water Quality Standards, Parts 3 (Commonwealth Register Vol. 19 No. 01, January 15, 1997, as amended).
3. **LOCATION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** Chalan Kiya, Saipan.
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTIVITY:** Mr. Jesus M. Elameto is requesting a CNMI Water Quality Certification for a proposed discharged/placement of fill material into wetlands in order to construct a commercial building along Chalan Kiya, Saipan.

In general, the proposed project calls for filling of 3,003 square meters of shrub class wetlands on lot 2003-1New-2 (lot 2) and construction of a shopping center, and creation of 4,500 square meters of open wetland on lot 2003-1New-1 (lot 1) as mitigation. The lots are adjacent to each other and located in the same vicinity.

5. **IMPACT OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:** The impact on the proposed wetland filling project is an additional loss of existing wetlands. However, the applicant will be creating an open water wetland on adjacent lot as mitigation. The mitigation calls for construction of a minimum 1.1 acre of open water wetland on the adjacent lot 2003-1New-1. In addition, the project will create approximately 850 square meters of buffer along the edges which will be palustrine class wetland for a total wetland area of 5,350 square meters or 1.3 acres.

Written comments and inquiries should be submitted to DEQ within thirty (30) days of the first date of publication of this notice. Please mail comments to the Director, Division of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 1304, Saipan, MP 96950.

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM Request For Proposal RFP97-008

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting sealed proposals from firms interested in providing to the Public School system janitorial services for various schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The proposal requirement may be picked at the Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, during regular working hours except Holidays.

All proposals to be submitted must be facemailed "RFP97-008" and submitted to the Procurement and Supply Office situated on the third floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. June 03, 1997. Any proposal received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

A non refundable fee of twenty five dollars must accompany the proposal. The twenty five dollars may be a certified check, cashier's check, or other forms acceptable by the Public School System and made payable to the PSS Treasurer. The proposer is requested to submit with his proposal a copy of his business permit. The Public School System reserves the right to award a single or multiple award or to reject any or all proposal if it is to the best interest of the Public School System.

Should the Public School System foresee a need for a discussion with prospective proposer, please be informed that discussion may be conducted with responsible offeror for the purpose of clarification and to ensure a full understanding of, and responsiveness to the solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of proposals and such revision may be permitted after obtaining submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offer.

Inquiries to this RFP announcement may be directed to the Procurement & Supply Office at telephone number 664-3701/02.

/s/ WILLIAM S. TORRES /s/ LOUISE CONCEPCION
Commissioner of Education Procurement & Supply Officer



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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE
UNDERSIGNED, CHERYL D. GEORGE,
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To the public and all persons having transactions with World Trading Corporation dba Oriental Hotel, that effective April 29, 1997, all transactions with Oriental Hotel will be valid only if made under the new ownership, L & T Group of Companies, Ltd. From the said effective date, the new owner will not recognize contracts of services performed, rendered, or made under the previous management.

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Quick rescue averted a 'major sea tragedy'



Inflatable rafts rescue tourists from a sinking ferry off the beach resort of Phuket, Thailand Sunday. A significant number of foreigners were among the 600 passengers of the "King Ferry" when it hit a reef in the Andaman Sea. Officials said there were no reports yet of anyone missing or seriously injured. AP

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - Speedy rescue efforts by fishermen and the Thai navy averted what could have been a major tragedy when a ferry with 600 holidaymakers struck a coral reef and sank in southern Thailand, Bangkok newspapers said Monday.

No deaths were reported in the accident Sunday off the resort island of Phuket. The most serious injuries were a broken back and several cases of shock.

The English-language daily Bangkok Post quoted the commander of the area's air squadron, Capt. Siripong Thongtha, as saying that the work of two navy patrol vessels and four to five fishing boats in bringing passengers to safety averted what could have been one of the worst maritime accidents in Thai history.

But Maj. Gen. Suchin Visetrojana, the marine police commander, said the accident should never have occurred given knowledge about the route and conditions by the ferry operators. Suchin said he suspected the skipper on Sunday may have been a newcomer.

The 2,800-ton King Cruiser hit

a reef and sank near an island 17 miles (27 kilometers) off Phuket as it was carrying passengers to another popular spot, Phi Phi Island. The Bangkok Post said the ferry could carry up to 1,000 passengers, but another newspaper, The Nation, said its capacity was 722.

The rescue boats appeared quickly to begin plucking passengers from the vessel and the sea. A Thai navy helicopter pilot, Sukree Thongtha, hovered overhead instructing the rescuers through a loudspeaker to work quickly and leave the scene to avoid being sucked down with the sinking ferry.

Reports from passengers and officials said there were enough life jackets aboard and that the rescue proceeded with relative calm.

The tourists were mostly Thais taking advantage of a long holiday weekend, but there were also a number of foreigners aboard. Phuket, 690 kilometers (430 miles) southwest of Bangkok, is Thailand's most popular island resort with foreign tourists.

"I felt a big bump when it hit," said Tiffany Gibbs, a 24-year-old British vacationer from Hong Kong. "People were very quiet.

Some people were running and there was a scramble for the life jackets because the boat began to tilt very quickly, but people didn't panic," she said.

Gibbs said she heard no instructions from the crew about what to do after the ferry hit the reef.

"Everyone was frightened and getting sucked in under the water but once we were out we just swam away," she said.

Her friend, Steve Banner, 26, said they were afraid of sharks.

While the passage between Phuket and Phi Phi is sometimes prone to strong currents and rough seas virtually all the sharks have long been wiped out by local fishermen.

3 shot dead in apparent gang battle

MACAU (AP) - Gunmen on motorcycles shot and killed three men in a car in downtown Macau Sunday in the latest case of violence blamed on a gang war over gambling.

Police did not disclose the names of those killed but said the killers fled on several motorcycles.

The windows of the victims' car were shattered by bullets, witnesses said.

Police launched a massive hunt for the assailants, whose exact number was not known.

No motive for the attack was immediately given, but police have blamed the killing of 14 people so far this year on a gang war in this Portuguese enclave.

Last November, the official in charge of gambling was shot and injured as he was about to get into his car after work.

Macau's governor, Gen. Vasco Rocha Vieira, has urged people to have confidence in the police in the fight against organized crime.

Macau is a popular tourist and gambling enclave at the tip of south China. It reverts to Chinese rule in 1999.

Report on mid-air jet collision that killed 349:

Kazak plane veered from path

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - A Kazak jetliner left its flight path before colliding with a Saudi Boeing 747 last year, killing all 349 people aboard both planes, a newspaper said Sunday, quoting transcripts from black boxes.

The Kazakhstan Airlines Ilyusin-76 descended to an altitude below the 15,000 feet (4,570 meters) that New Delhi's air traffic controllers had ordered. The Indian Express newspaper said.

Air traffic control in New Delhi informed the Kazak pilots about the approaching Boeing 747 just

68 seconds before the crash. And 30 seconds later, the pilots were given flight details about the Saudi plane, the newspaper quoted civil aviation ministry officials as saying.

The two planes were on the same flight corridor, but their pilots were instructed to maintain a 1,000-foot (300-meter) vertical buffer zone between them.

The planes collided in November over Charki Dadri village, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) west of New Delhi.

Judge R.C. Lahoti, who is

heading a court of inquiry, has until May 15 to give his report on the crash. Lahoti was not immediately available for comment on the newspaper report Sunday.

The digital flight data recorder and the cockpit voice recorder are the so-called black boxes, recording conversations between the cockpit crew and air traffic control, and technical details.

The Saudi plane's boxes were decoded at the Air Accident Investigation Board, Farnborough, Britain, and the IL-76 equipment was decoded at the Interstate Aviation

Commission in Moscow.

A day after the crash, Indian air controllers released transcripts showing that the departing Saudi plane was told to maintain an altitude of 14,000 feet (4,270 meters) and the incoming Kazak aircraft was supposed to be at 15,000 feet (4,570 meters).

In an affidavit filed with the

judge last week, Kazak Airlines said its IL-76 was cruising at 15,000 feet (4,570 meters) 51 seconds before the crash, the newspaper reported.

But the plane dropped to 14,190 feet (4,325 meters) 26 seconds before the disaster because of severe air turbulence, Kazak Airlines officials said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

In the Matter of the Estate of
LARRY LEE HILLBLOM,
Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 95-626-D

ORDER TO APPEAR TO ALL PERSONS CLAIMING AN HEIRSHIP INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF LARRY LEE HILLBLOM

It is hereby Ordered that any person claiming to be an heir to the Estate of Larry Lee Hillblom, deceased, file a petition so alleging pursuant to the Rules of Procedure of this Court no later than sixty days after May 6, 1997, the first publication of this Notice.

No claim of heirship will be accepted by this Court after said date, and any person not timely filing an appropriate heirship claim within the time frame stated above shall be barred from sharing in the distribution of assets under the jurisdiction of this Court. This Order applies to all persons including infants, minor children and adults. Nothing in this Order shall be deemed to limit any defenses available to the Executor of the Estate, the Will beneficiaries, creditors or other heir claimants to such heirship petition or claim, including but not limited to the defense that such claims are already barred for failure to timely file.

Any person filing a claim pursuant to this Notice must pay all of his or her own costs, including but not limited to attorney's fees, relating to the claim. Any claim filed is subject to adjudication before this Court and is subject to opposition by other claimants, the beneficiaries and the Executor of the Estate.

BY APRIL 4, 1997 ORDER OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, THE HONORABLE TIMOTHY H. BELLAS

Israeli. . .

(Continued from page 2)

lives.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has reportedly been under pressure from the United States to make a goodwill gesture to rebuild trust with the Palestinians.

David Bar-Illan, one of the prime minister's top advisers, told The Associated Press on Sunday that Netanyahu will announce plans this week to build a housing

project for Arab residents of Jerusalem near Har Homa.

The government would provide roads, utilities and other assistance - perhaps even government-backed mortgages - for a "very substantial number of houses," Bar-Illan said.

The project would be in addition to Israeli promises to authorize the building of more than 3,000 apartments in 10 Palestinian neighborhoods.

A Palestinian official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the AP that Netanyahu's

government had promised the United States that it would not build new settlements in the West Bank and would stop expansion of building in the West Bank just north of Jerusalem.

The Americans have also proposed that Israel combine the initial two of three promised withdrawals from rural areas of the West Bank still under Israeli control - turning over 30 percent over to the Palestinians, the Palestinian official said.

Israel has not agreed to that proposal, the official added.

Iraq. . .

(Continued from page 2)

Iraq has complained that the United Nations has failed to process contracts promptly, delaying distribution. Some 500,000

metric tons (550,000 tons) of food supplies have reached Iraq since the agreement was put into action, U.N. officials said.

So far, only wheat flour has been distributed. The government said further supplies will go out this month.

The U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions on Iraq in 1990 and has said it will not consider lifting them until Iraq fully complies with U.N. monitors charged with overseeing the dismantling of Iraq's weapons programs.

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MAY 08, 1997

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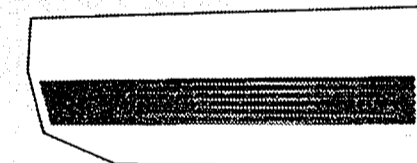
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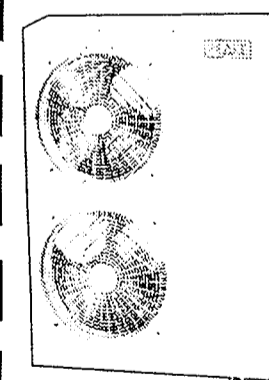
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Jews mourn Holocaust victims

By JACK KATZENELL

JERUSALEM (AP) - Israeli flags flew at half-staff, more than 2,000 teen-agers marched to the ruins of the gas chambers at

Auschwitz, and Germans read aloud the names of nearly 56,000 Nazi victims in an annual day of mourning for the 6 million Jews who died in the Holocaust.

"Never again will the threat of annihilation hang over our children," Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said at a ceremony Sunday in Jerusalem. "Never again will they have to live in fear and terror."

At Oswiecim, Poland, site of the notorious Auschwitz death camp, about 2,500 Jewish teenagers from around the world marched to the ruins of the gas chambers, retracing the steps of the people who died there.

Many of the participants lost relatives in the Holocaust.

"It is a very important part of my family history," said Lauren Eber, an 18-year-old high school student from San Francisco.

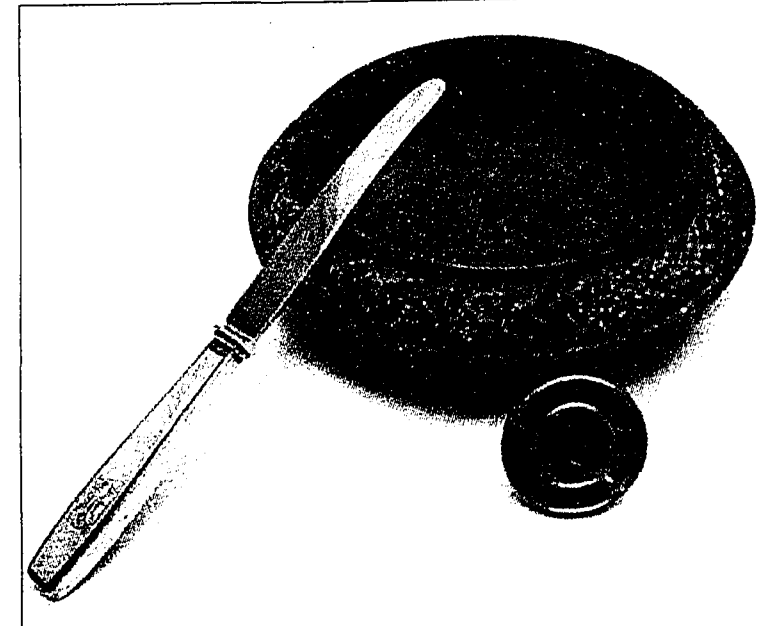
The marchers wore blue jackets with the white Star of David, and some carried the blue-and-white Israeli flag.

Hundreds of Jews also gathered at the site of the ghetto in Minsk, the capital of Belarus, to honor the 100,000 Jews who died in that former Soviet republic during World War II.

The Germans set out to destroy the ghetto 54 years ago as they retreated before the advancing Red Army. On Oct. 21-23, 1943, German soldiers walked its streets, killing any survivors.

The residents of the Minsk Ghetto formed eight guerrilla detachments, said Felix Lipetsky, president of the Organization of Jewish Prisoners of Ghettos and Concentration Camps.

"The whole world knows about the heroism of the Warsaw ghetto prisoners who organized a rebellion," Lipetsky said. "But unfortunately, they do not know much about the Minsk ghetto and other Belarusian ghettos." Berlin-



A swastika emblazoned ashtray, a lock and a silver knife, all of which belonged to Adolph Hitler are artifacts taken from the archives of the Yad Vashem Holocaust museum in Jerusalem Sunday. These artifacts will eventually be shown when the new, enlarged museum opens in the year 2001. AP

ers marked the day by reading aloud the names of nearly 56,000 Berlin Jews killed by the Nazis - a 26-hour task.

In Croatia, a country still struggling to come to terms with its wartime fascist past, Jewish leaders and government officials marked Holocaust remembrance day with ceremonies in the capital, Zagreb, and elsewhere.

About 30,000 Jews and a larger number of Serbs were killed in concentration camps of a puppet regime the Nazis established in Croatia.

President Franjo Tudjman fought the fascists as a member of the Communist partisans led by Josip Broz Tito, himself a Croat.

Since coming to power in 1990, however, Tudjman has not openly

condemned the fascist Ustasha organization that killed hundreds of thousands of Serbs, Jews, Gypsies and Croats.

Israel has consequently refused to establish diplomatic relations with Tudjman's regime.

Doubts over Bormann bones may soon end

By TERENCE PETTY

BONN, Germany (AP)-The offspring of Martin Bormann, Adolf Hitler's top aide, want genetic testing done on a skeleton found in 1972 so they can know for sure it is that of their father, the news magazine Focus said Sunday.

DNA testing on the skull and bones could finally lay to rest any lingering doubts about the true fate of Bormann, who helped organize the Holocaust and was the second-most-powerful man in the Third Reich.

Bormann vanished in Berlin as Soviet troops captured the German capital in the closing days of World War II. Bormann was sentenced to death in absentia at the 1945-46 Nuremberg war crimes trial.

Bormann's fate has long been a source of debate. There were reports he was killed by a Soviet artillery shell as Berlin fell but there were also rumors he was living abroad.

In 1972, construction workers in Berlin dug up a skeleton. Experts concluded the remains were Bormann's after a five-month examination that included making X-rays of the bones, studying the teeth, and using the skull as a model to reconstruct what its face would have looked like.

The specialists also determined that the man had probably died on May 2, 1945 - possibly by killing himself by biting down onto a cyanide capsule. That seemed to put the matter to rest.

However, there are some who remain unconvinced.

A newspaper in Paraguay reported in 1993 that Bormann had lived in that country for three years, had died in Asuncion on Feb. 15, 1959 and was buried in a nearby town.

Search on for 2 Texas separatists

By EDUARDO MONTES

FORTDAVIS, Texas (AP) - Authorities used planes and helicopters Sunday to scour rugged terrain for two armed members of a Texas secessionist group who fled into the mountains before their leader ended a weeklong standoff.

The air search went on while explosives and booby traps were cleared from around the trailer and cabin that the Republic of Texas group had declared its "embassy" in remote western Texas.

Officials seemed confident the two men could not last long in the hills.

"Eventually, they're going to get real hungry and thirsty," said Mike Cox, Department of Public Safety spokesman. He said the operation was becoming a "routine manhunt."

Richard McLaren, the self-styled ambassador of the group, was in custody along with five of his followers who held off state troopers in an armed siege that began with a brief hostage-taking on April 27.

McLaren and three others left their mountain hideaway after McLaren signed a "cease-fire document" with the Texas Rangers on Saturday afternoon. McLaren's wife had given up earlier in the day and another member left Friday.

Before the standoff ended, authorities watched as two armed members of the group disappeared separately into the mountains. Troopers didn't pursue them, not wanting to jeopardize the negotiations with McLaren.

Cox said at least 60 pipe bombs and 12 gasoline containers had been found at the encampment. The gasoline containers were apparently set up so they could be

set on fire, then poured down a roadway, he said.

He said the discoveries have reinforced "how good the decision was not to pursue them."

McLaren and three followers have been charged with organized criminal activity. The felony is punishable by up to life in prison and a \$10,000 fine. McLaren's wife, Evelyn, is awaiting arraignment on federal charges unrelated to the standoff.

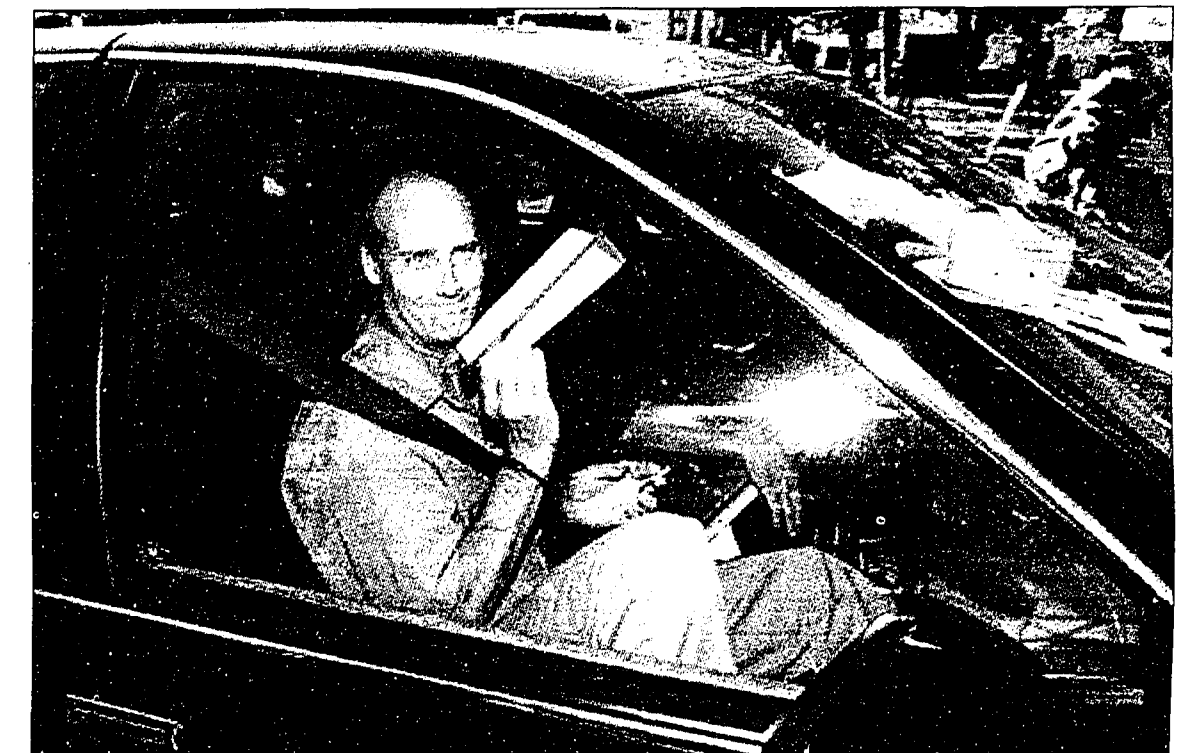
One of the two missing men, Richard Frank Keyes, is charged with organized criminal activity and aggravated kidnapping in connection with the hostage-taking that sparked the standoff. No charges have been filed against the other man, Mike Matson.

Residents of the Davis Mountains Resort subdivision, the isolated development where McLaren set up his erstwhile nation, tried to return to normal life Sunday as the police presence began to dwindle.

The stalemate began when several McLaren followers stormed the home of two neighbors and held the couple hostage to protest the arrest of a group member. Robert Scheidt was exchanged for the hostages last Monday, but the standoff continued. Scheidt later surrendered and was taken into custody.

McLaren heads one of at least three factions calling themselves the Republic of Texas. They believe Texas was illegally annexed by the United States in 1845 and are seeking independence.

Residents of the Davis Mountains Resort subdivision, the isolated development where McLaren set up his erstwhile nation, tried to return to normal life Sunday as the police presence began to dwindle.



Rick McLaren passes by reporters on his way into the Presidio County Jail in Marfa, Texas, after he was taken into custody with other Republic of Texas supporters on Saturday. McLaren and three followers abandoned their "embassy," a trailer in the remote Davis Mountains. Two heavily armed followers eluded authorities, fleeing into the woods.

Although residents were being issued identification cards allowing them to return to their homes, state authorities warned that some areas were still closed because of hidden pipe bombs and booby traps.

"You can't even tell what's

going on," said Kenneth Tucker, who returned home Saturday after spending much of the week in a tent with his mother. "It's just a normal day, really."

Other neighbors fear they haven't heard the last of McLaren. "I think the standoff is over,

but it's all just starting," said Randall Kinzie. "We haven't seen the last of Rick McLaren."

"I expect appeals, appeals. It's going to cost us millions. He's a very dedicated paper shuffler," added resident Malcolm Tweedy.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

18TH ANNUAL SAIPAN AGRICULTURAL FAIR

The 1997 Saipan Agricultural Fair Association is in its final preparatory stage for the May 24, 1997 Agricultural Fair Festival. ALL CNMI Citizens and eligible voters who are farming and residing on Saipan are urged to pre-register by May 23 during regular working hours at the Northern Mariana College - Land Grant Office. The location of the fair will be at the Civic Center Beach - 4H Building.

For further information, please call any of the following persons: Ms. Margaret Tudela, Ms. Polly Ormehelang or Sid Cabrera at 234-9024 Ext. 1700/1706/1707. Thank You and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

18TH ANNUAL AGRICULTURAL FAIR DERBY COCKER'S TRIBUTE 3 COCK DERBY

Open Qualification

Location: Saipan Cockpit
When: May 24, 1997
Weigh in Time: 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Entry Fee: \$300.00
Minimum Bet: \$200.00
Option: \$100.00 (1 & 2, 2 & 3, or any two)

Overall Winner will garner the perpetual trophy, the 1st place trophy plus the pot. The 2nd place winner will receive a trophy. The 3rd place winner will receive a trophy.

For any question regarding the scheduled 3 cock derby, please contact Mr. John Reyes at 234-9139/6169.



DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Safely Home: I am home in Heaven, dear ones, oh, so happy and so bright. There is perfect joy and beauty in this everlasting light. All the pain and grief is over. Every restless tossing passed. I am now at peace forever. Safely home in Heaven at last. And He came Himself to meet me in the way so hard to tread. And with Jesus' arm to lean on. Could I have one doubt or dread? Then you must not grieve so sorely for I love you dearly still. Try to look beyond earth's shadows. Pray to trust our Father's Will. There is work still waiting for you. So you must not idly stand. Do it now while life remaineth - You shall rest in Jesus' land. When all that work is completed. He will gently call you. Home Oh, the rapture of that meeting. Oh, the joy to see you come.

We, the children and family wish to inform our friends and relatives that our dear and beloved father, grandfather and great-grandfather.

ODORICO IGOBOR SEMAN

Better known as "Tun Odo" March 7, 1916 - May 2, 1997

Was called to his eternal rest on Friday, May 2, 1997, at the age of 81, at the CHC Hospital on Saipan. In his death, he now joins his parents: Vicente Paron and Jacoba Igozor Sema, brothers/sisters-in-law: Felipe and Maria T. Sema; Joaquin; Esperanza T. Sema, and son: Odorico Jr.

His peaceful spirit and memories will live in the hearts of his brothers, sisters and in-laws: Maria C. Sema; Juan I. Sema; Lorenzo and Lucia S. Iriarte; Dr. Jose L. and Ramona S. Chong; Jose I. and Margarita B. Sema.

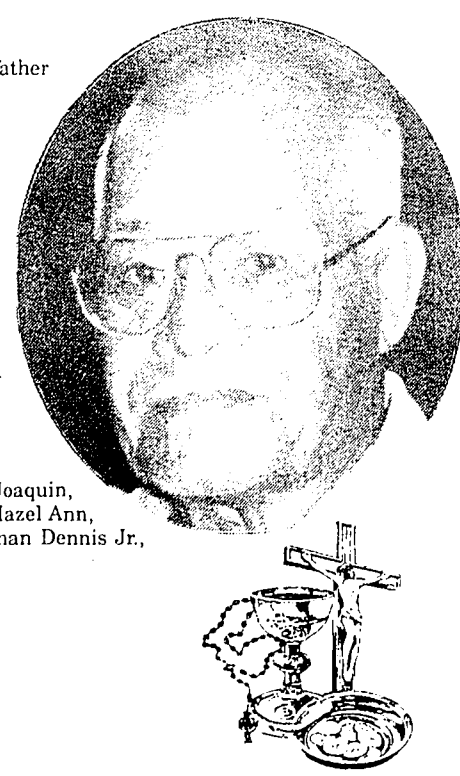
Children, spouses, grandchildren and great-grandchildren:

Congresswoman Ana and Joaquin Terego: Gil and Irene T. San Nicolas (Reneacia Ann, Gilbert Joaquin, Catherine Elisa), Geraldine (Gerana Lynn, Anticeto Benigno, Chantel Consolacion), Donald (Willaine, Hazel Ann, Donald Anthony, Paul Patrick, Ana Marie, Anthony Joaquin, Darren Lee), Dennis and Jerilyn (Jonathan Dennis Jr., Carmena Lynn, Coquina Lesh, Cara Laureen), Catherine, Derek Joaquin Jr. (Derek Palani); Michael G. and Julia Fujihira-Newman; Chantia Marie Pedro P. and Ana Fujihira-Lizama; Evangelina L. Coburn (Aadilah), Peter Jr. (Janee Nicole) Joaquin A. and Marci Fujihira; Thessie, Nathan, Douglas Antonio and Maureen Fujihira; Brandon, Wesley Ronald D. and Maria Ana Tomokane-Sablan; Lorna, Cherisse, Jarnes, Audrey, Sean Jose T. and Rosa Tomokane-Liwana; Joseph Lee, Dane Bla, Jake Aaron, Joan Ashley.

His peaceful spirit will be missed by numerous nieces and nephews.

Nightly Rosary is being said at 7:00 P.M. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa. Last Respects may be paid on Saturday, May 10, 1997 at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, beginning at 10:30 A.M. Funeral Mass will be offered on the same day at 4:00 P.M. at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, followed by Christian Burial at the Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Chalan Kanoa.

YOUR PRAYERS AND PRESENCE AT THESE SERVICES
WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED.
THANK YOU AND SEN DANGKULU NA SI YU'US MA'ASE.



Saudi royal house overflows

By CHARLES J. HANLEY
RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) - Scarcely a day dawns in this desert kingdom that doesn't deliver pilgrims to Mecca, oil to the world and yet another baby boy to the royal House of Saud.

Another prince among thousands, heir to a six-figure allowance, free phone calls, free kilowatts, free first-class seats worldwide. Another claimant to a penthouse office in government, to rich commissions on contracts, to lucrative business partnerships.

Another reason, in short, why Saudi Arabia's proliferating princelings may soon become Saudi Arabia's king-sized problem.

Already the neighbors are talking.

"Because of their undefined position in the power system, Saudi princes could generate uncontrollable crises," a Tehran newspaper observed from across the Gulf. An Israeli analyst foresees a "doomsday" when King Fahd's gray band of brothers passes power to the younger generation -

hundreds of competing cousins.

Inside this realm of sun, sand and secret police, contrary words about the House of Saud are rarely spoken aloud. But sometimes they're smuggled out, like the notes for "Princess," the memoirs of a Saudi royal.

"Sadly, many of the royal cousins were swept away by the sudden rush of riches," Princess Sultan, a pseudonym, said in the 1992 book. "My mother used to say ... we would never survive the wealth of the oil fields."

For now the Saudis survive quite well.

Up and down north Riyadh's boulevards, their new marble palaces gleam in the stark desert light, behind gates manned by red-bereeted royal guards. Their gardens flourish on water desalinated and pumped 300 miles (500 kilometers) from the Gulf. Rolls-Royces and Cadillacs cruise the quiet streets. At the nearby airport, private jets stand by for intercontinental shopping sprees.

In Jiddah and other commercial centers, House of Saud princes and close relatives sit, by one count, as chairmen of 520 Saudi corporations.

Here in the capital, princes hold strategic Cabinet posts - Defense, Interior, Intelligence - and others sit as junior ministers. Every provincial governor is a prince or in-law, and family members control key military staffs.

Stalin had his commissars. The House of Saud has its princes.

"The Saudi royal family ... virtually runs the country as a private fiefdom," says the American human rights group Freedom House.

Runs it so tightly, in fact, that

even basic information about the Saudis themselves can be hard to come by.

No "Debrett's Peerage" lays out pedigrees for an inquisitive public, as in Britain. No society pages celebrate rich-and-famous lifestyles. A half-dozen of the media-shy princes declined interview requests from a visiting journalist.

But enough is known to sketch in some details about the planet's biggest, richest royal family - although just how big is not necessarily one of those details.

A government source told a reporter there are 2,700 princes and princesses. Other estimates are higher. A U.S. government publication speaks of more than 4,000 princes alone in the early 1990s.

Said Aburish, an Arab-American who wrote a critical study of the monarchy, settles for 7,000 princes and princesses, and calculates males are being born at a rate of a few hundred a year.

The key to an exploding royal household: polygamy. Islam permits a man up to four wives, but rapid-fire divorce multiplies that among the royals.

King Abdel Aziz Al Saud, who founded modern Saudi Arabia in 1932, took at least 16 wives, who

bore him 42 sons. Those sons, including King Fahd, have married hundreds of women.

Some of their sons, the middle-aged third generation, have gained international fame: Prince Sultan bin Salman flew on the space shuttle Discovery; Prince Alwaleed bin Talal is a global tycoon and Michael Jackson's friend; Prince Khaled bin Sultan led America's Arab allies in the Gulf War.

But thousands of royals - including other lines of the Saud clan that also bear the "emir," or prince, title - spend their days in the leisurely obscurity of the oil elite.

"They watch movies, go to the country house, go to Europe to shop," said a young woman who socializes with princesses.

Behind palace walls, some idle twentysomethings also indulge in less healthy pursuits, she said: heavy drinking and drug use, vices that can cost commoners long jail terms, if not their lives, in this land of puritanical Islam.

"They're into cocaine, but they favor hashish," this insider said. "They bring it into the country themselves, because princes and princesses don't get searched."

Sex is also furtive. Some prin-

cesses inconspicuously take secret lesbian lovers, she said, rather than risk being branded as "loose," unworthy of a princely marriage, by dating a man.

"Marriages for love are rare," she said. "Even talking by phone with a man ruins a girl's reputation."

One result: Young Saudi royals have deluged a new telephone "chat" line, based abroad, where they talk about sex and personal problems endlessly and anonymously.

They can afford it. Free telephone service is part of the House of Saud birthright, along with free electricity, water and other public services, and free seats on the national airline.

The birthright also includes government cashup front, from an infant's first day. The minimum stipend is now about 40,000 riyals a month - almost \$11,000 - for a baby prince or princess, said a source with access to the accounts.

For a Saudi-sized family, the checks add up. And many adult princes receive huge government salaries on top of that - often for jobs in protocol and other "make-work" areas, diplomats report. In this male-supremacist society, princesses stay at home.

act for the estate in advising the Special Committees of the BOS Board with respect to all matters where there may be a conflict.

The judge said Webster shall remain in charge of the processing, evaluation and all recommendations to the court regarding the approval and payment for application for fees and or reimbursement during the period when he served as special administrator.

During the transition period, he shall prepare his final report.

"As to all pending and future matters in litigation and arbitra-

tion the Bank shall be considered the real property in interest as of today and shall take all necessary steps to be substituted for Webster as the real property in interest in such proceedings," said Castro.

The judge said the BOS with the assistance of Webster shall develop a protocol for the marshaling and disposition of assets of the estate.

BOS shall not receive any fee for serving as executor for the administration of the estate during the transitional period, Castro added.

American Memorial Park and the leaseback properties on Tinian and in Tanapag.

Borja used to be "in charge" of both the park and leaseback properties, and the overseeing of the memorandum of understanding with the Philippine government, which he said was "taken away" from him without prior notification.

Borja said he doesn't know the

basis for the governor's recent actions, but added that he feels "being prevented from doing positive things for the people."

Tenorio's running mate in the 1993 elections, Borja is now running against the governor as an independent candidate.

In earlier interviews, Borja said he will not resign as he was elected by the people to serve as lieutenant governor for four years.

Cabrera...

Continued from page 1

\$14 million.

Cabrera, in an earlier interview with the Variety, had said that the administration will "completely wipe out" the deficit by Oct. 1997.

Cabrera was appointed in 1995, replacing Maria D. Cabrera who resigned over policy differences with the governor over a multi-million dollar road construction project.

Tenorio yesterday did not say who will be named as the new finance secretary, but Variety sources said Deputy Secretary Gabriel DLC. Camacho may succeed Cabrera.

Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

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01 MANAGER-Salary: \$800.00 per month
01 ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATIVE-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
Contact: REN INC. Tel. 287-3398(5/13)T229050

05 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary: \$3.05 per hour
01 OPERATION MANAGER-Salary: \$3.50 per hour
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If you were not living on Saipan. Would you be home at a festive party with many like-minded people watching "Ellen"?

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Bilingual Flight Attendants

Continental Micronesia, the airline of choice for Micronesia and the Asia Pacific, is presently seeking Bilingual (English-Japanese/Chinese-Mandarin/Korean) Flight Attendants.

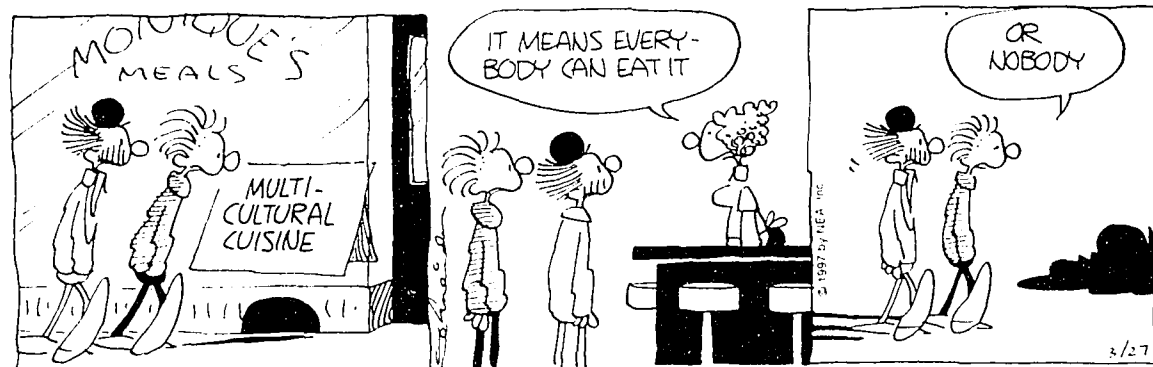
Applicants must read, write and speak English and Japanese (hiragana/katakana/kanjii), Chinese-Mandarin or Korean. Candidates without stated language skills need not apply. Qualified candidates must be at least 19 years of age, a high school graduate or GED equivalent, 5' to 6'2" tall with weight proportionate to height and meet all other flight qualifications. Must have authorization to work in the United States and/or its territories (possess U.S. Passport or green card). Other requirements include excellent communication skills and customer service experience and be able to work a flexible schedule. Applicants must be willing to relocate to Guam for the purpose of employment.

On-site interviews will be held at the Hyatt Regency Saipan, Gilligan's, Thursday, May 8, 1997. Interested and qualified candidates should arrive promptly at 9:00 a.m. Applicants will not be accepted after 9:00 a.m. Interviews will proceed immediately after initial screening. Selected candidates should be prepared for an all day event. Professional appearance and business attire is essential. Candidates selected for the Flight Attendant positions must be prepared to attend training in Guam on June 2, 1997.

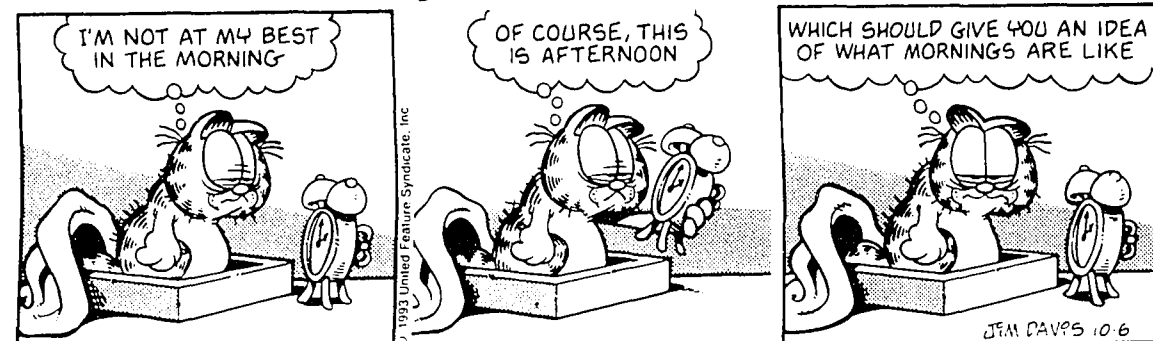
Please bring resume to the interviews on Thursday, May 8, 1997.

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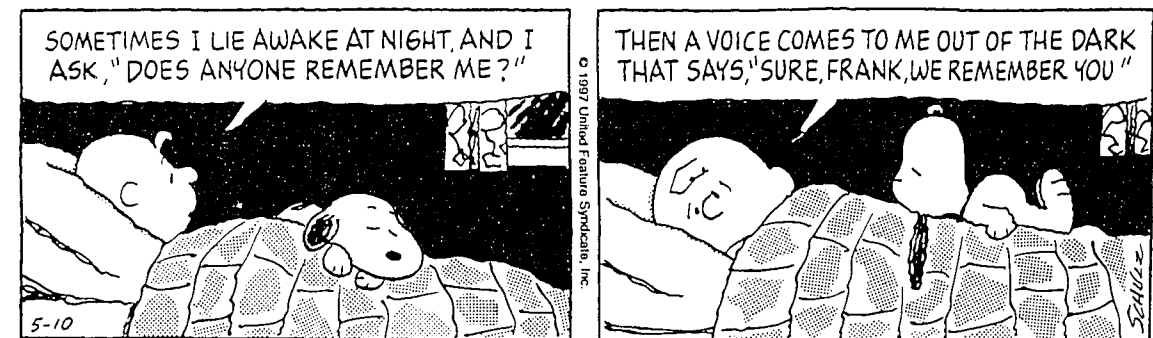
EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



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STELLA WILDER

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you are an energetic and colorful individual with such a strong personality that others find it difficult to ignore you in any situation! You are the kind to attract an inordinate amount of attention simply by walking into a room, and it's not because of anything you do, your personality is such that others are compelled to look in your direction, often against their will! Fortunately, you're not the kind to take advantage of this valuable, albeit unconscious skill, or you may find yourself turning into one of the world's great bad guys. Always be positive!

You are consistent, respectful and ever-vigilant. You know what is expected of you, and you insist on delivering. To you, there is no such thing as a slump, and you insist on performing up to par at all times. Only the most formidable obstacles do you take seriously.

Also born on this date are: Stewart Granger, actor; Willie Mays, baseball player; Bob Seger, singer, musician.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding para-

graph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Take care that you're not being too impulsive at this time, especially where a member of the opposite sex is concerned. Play it safe!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You don't have to make things as difficult for yourself as they may currently seem. Be more positive, accepting, and flexible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Even if you have things more difficult than expected today, the lessons you can learn and the gains you can score will make it worthwhile.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You can rely on a good friend to give you the emotional and spiritual strength you need. Focus on those things that provide serenity.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You may be a little more flirtatious than usual today. Take care that you don't take yourself too seriously; remember, it's all a game!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — This may be a good time for you to turn over a new leaf, but be sure to carry with you all the things that you have learned in the recent past.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You are going to have to work hard to convince someone that you can be completely trusted, but not because of anything you're doing.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You are going to want to apply a great deal of physical energy to everything you do today. Your enthusiasm may be at a new peak.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You can make great strides today, but take care that your attitude allows you to assimilate new information as it comes to you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You can be a little more open-minded today. Remember, not everything has to be the same now as it was then. The untried may work well for you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Someone who has captured your attention is likely to work very hard today for even more of your time and energy. Minimize personal risks.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Unpredictability can work wonders for you today, as long as you know that you're working toward a cumulative goal. Progress is swift now.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 — to black
5 Containing nitrogen (comb. form)
8 Cook in oven
12 Wild goat
13 Cry
14 Construction beam (2 wds.)
15 TV's Daisy Duke
16 Game of cards
17 — ho
18 Moe, Larry or Curly
20 Likenesses
22 Female ruff
23 Actor Alastair
24 Foot part
27 "Elephant Walk" star
31 — weight
32 Opp. of WSW
33 "Reasonable"

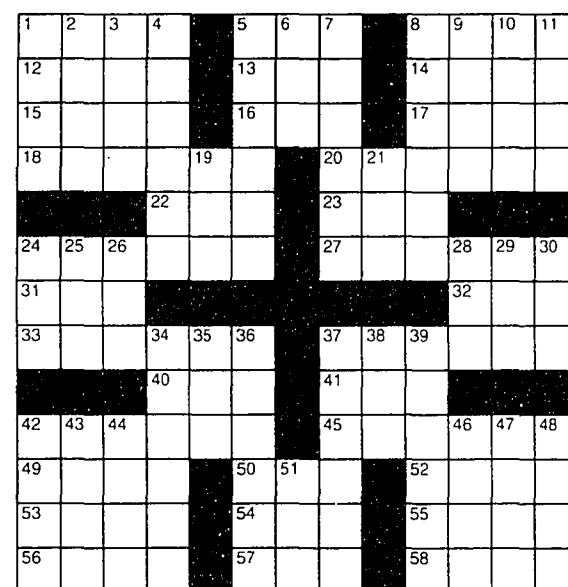
DOWN

- 1 Lies
2 Blind as —
3 Art — (1930s)

Answer to Previous Puzzle

XENON LILAC
BAMBOO BOOMER
IV ANIL GERE
NIL ASYET SID
GELS ENDOR SA
ERATO NEGATES
MOVIE NAVY
NEAREST SERUM
OX ERNIE SANE
NUT AERIE SAR
EDOM EDNA BC
TENACE EDGILY
DERMA ROONE

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OR BUY A **PAC** FOR YOUR KNEE?
CAN YOU SIT IN THE SHADE OF THE **NALP** OF YOUR HAND?
OR BEAT THE **NRUD** IN YOUR EAR?
CAN THE **FALC** IN YOUR LEG EAT THE **NORC** OFF YOUR TOE?
I DON'T KNOW—DO YOU?

ANSWERS: 1. KEY, 2. CAP, 3. PALM, 4. DRUM, 5. CALE, 6. CORN.

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1997 CNMI Little League Baseball

D-9ers down Falcons, 10-4

Team Standings	W	L
American Division		
San Roque D-9ers	8	0
Dandan Jets	5	3
CK Little Padres	4	3
Tanapag Falcons	4	4
SA Cardinals	3	4
Kagman Braves	3	6
YCO/BK YSS	0	7

By Erel A. Cabatbat

Variety News Staff

DEFENDING champion San Roque D-9ers bucked the one game suspension of team manager Manny Tenorio last Sunday to hack out a 10-4 victory over the Tanapag Falcons for their eighth straight win in the American Division of the 1997 CNMI Little League at the San Vicente Elem. School Ball Park.

In the first two games, the

Kagman Braves kept the YCO/BK Youth Servistar winless after posting a 5-4 squeaker while the Dandan Jets hammered an 8-4 win over the San Antonio Cardinals.

D-9ers 10, Falcons 4

Jonathan Camacho struck out 14 batters to hike his league leading strikeouts to 87 while yielding four hits and four runs, none earned, to lead the D-9ers to a 10-4 victory over the Falcons.

San Roque, playing without manager Manny Tenorio due to a one game suspension assessed by the CNMI Board because of a rule infraction, racked three runs in the first inning then leaned on a decisive two run burst in the top of

the fourth inning to put away the game beyond the Falcons' reach with a 6-3 lead.

Jonathan also figured prominently in offense by going 3 of 4, scoring two runs and knocking in three RBIs.

Sandy Camacho also turned in impressive stats for the winners with his 2 of 4 stints at the plate. The D-9ers' second baseman notched two runs and drove in three RBIs for the Kan Pacific sponsored team.

Bradley Alikisa led the Tan Holdings' Falcons' losing cause by going 3 of 3 from the plate with one run aside from knocking in three runs.

Braves 5, YCO/BK 4

The Kagman Braves, sponsored by Crystal Palace/Sako

Corp., withstood a furious comeback by the Youth Servistar to post a 5-4 thriller in the first game.

Ahead by four, 5-1, after five innings, the Braves had to overcome a big comeback by Youth Servistar in the top of the sixth to preserve the win.

YCO racked three straight runs highlighted by Aldebert Santos' two RBI double to cut the Braves' lead into a single run, 5-4.

Braves' pitcher Tyron Fitia clinched the win for Kagman by retiring Joshua Agnon for the out of the game.

Santos led the Braves' offense knocking two RBIs on 2 of 4 stints at the plate.

Jets 8, Cardinals 4

Dandan bounced back into contention after dealing the Cardinals their fourth straight loss in the tournament.

The Jets, who lost to the Falcons in the previous week, jumped to an early 7-0 lead after three innings of play to cushion a late surge by the PIC/Cong. David Apatang sponsored Cardinals in the last two innings of the game.

BJ Seman led the Jets to their fifth win in eight outings by going for a perfect 3 on 3 attempts at bat en route to scoring two runs and knocking in two RBIs.

Jack Manibusan added two runs with his 2 of 3 performance at the plate for the Juan Santiago Tenorio-backed team.

UMDA's...

Continued from page 20

after belting the ball 10 times in 20 swings.

Frances George is in fourth while John Reyes of the defending champions Toyota Wheels is running fifth.

George is averaging a .450 after hitting the ball nine times out of 20 attempts while playing for the Brewers.

Reyes, on the other hand, slammed 10 hits in 23 stints at bat for an average of .435.

Ed Kapileo of UMDA, Jojo Attao of the Sunrises, Tony Dela Cruz and Ron Benavente of the Wheels, Tony C. Camacho of the Brewers and Inosuke Yamada of the Aces comprised the top 10 batters of the league.

In the pitching race, Callahan took the lead after bringing his earned run average (ERA) to 0.00. The Aces' pitcher gave up nine hits with no earned runs in 13 innings that he manned the mound for UMDA.

Callahan is 1-0 in four games that he pitched for the Aces.

Roy Magofna of the Glazers is running second with an ERA 2.40 after surrendering 17 hits that resulted to four earned runs in 22 innings.

Chris Nelson, the starting pitcher of the Aces, is in third after giving up 15 hits in six earned runs in 22 innings for a

ERA of 2.45.

Nelson, however, leads the field with most wins with three against no loss.

Team Palau's Ryan Kenen is in fourth while Miller Lite's Joe Guerrero is in fifth to complete the league's top five pitchers.

Kenen has an ERA of 3.79 after giving up 19 hits that resulted to eight earned runs in 24 innings.

Despite a 1-2 record, Kenen leads the strikeout department with 30, one SO ahead of Nelson and five in front of Elmer Sablan.

Guerrero allowed 33 hits and 18 earned runs in 35 innings that he pitched for the Brewers for an ERA of 4.63.

Elmer Sablan of the Wheels, Ted Ngewakl of the Typhoons, Palau's Everett Ngiraidong, Kautz Glass' Chris Camacho and Melvin Sakisat of the Sunrises also figured in the top 10 list.

In the league's other statistical categories, Callahan leads the most runs department with 16 while G. Palacios, Jojo Attao and Ed Kapileo are tied for the lead in doubles with three apiece.

Thirteen players are next with two doubles each.

John Reyes tows the rest of the field in the triples derby with five while Paul Camacho is the current homerun king with two.

Lastly, Kapileo leads the RBI department with 12.

and Yamada.

Cabrera is also the current pacesetter in the most triples with four and in the RBI race with 13.

Mike Camacho is setting the pace in the most doubles with seven, just one in front of Peterson and three doubles ahead of Mike Muna.

Greg C. Camacho, Paul Camacho and David Kapileo are tied in the homerun department with three apiece.

In the most strikeouts category, Jeff Cabrera is leading the league with the most runs scored with 11 or one more than Greg C. Camacho, James Diaz, Dave Camacho, Peterson

J. Manibusan is third with 13.

1997 Major League Baseball

Braves scalp Pirates, 3-1

ATLANTA (AP) — Chipper Jones singled in one run and two more scored when rookie right fielder Emil Brown dropped a fly ball in a three-run third inning as the Atlanta Braves beat the Pittsburgh Pirates 3-1 Sunday.

Terrell Wade (1-1) allowed six hits in five-plus innings for the Braves, who lost the first three games of the series. Mark Wohlers got four outs for his eighth save, getting out of a two-on, two-out jam in the eighth.

Francisco Cordova (1-3) gave up five hits in six innings. The loss stopped a three-game winning streak for the Pirates, their longest this season.

Cardinals 8, Mets 2

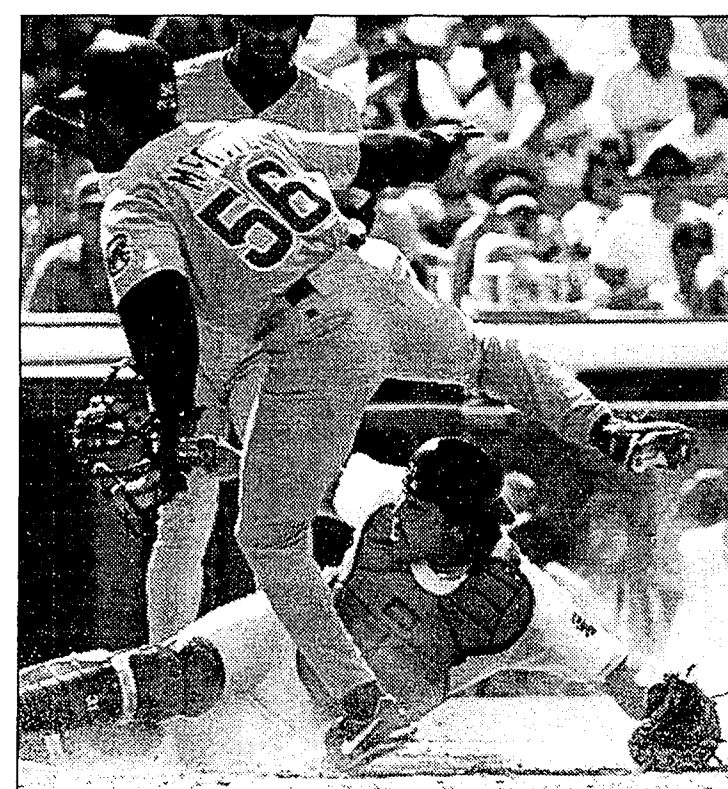
In New York, Todd Stottlemyre (1-1) allowed three hits in eight innings and Tom Lampkin drove in three runs. Ray Lankford and Willie McGee homered as the Cardinals salvaged the final game of the three-game series.

The loss was the Mets' second in their last eight games and prevented New York from reaching .500 for the first time since April 5, 1996.

Mark Clark (3-2) lost for the first time in four starts, was tagged for six runs and eight hits in four innings.

Rockies 9, Phillies 0

In Denver, Roger Bailey (4-1)



Chicago Cubs' Brian McRae (56) is called out at home plate after an attempted steal from third base in the seventh inning against Los Angeles Dodgers and catcher Mike Piazza, Sunday in Los Angeles. Looking on is Cubs' Jose Hernandez who was up at bat.

scattered nine hits for only the second shutout by a Rockies pitcher at Coors Field, and Larry Walker drove in four runs and raised his league-leading average to .421.

The only other complete-game shutout for Colorado at Coors Field was by Mark Thompson against Florida last Aug. 6. Three

opposing pitchers have thrown complete-game shutouts at the hitter-friendly ballpark, which opened in 1995.

Vinny Castilla hit his 10th homer as Colorado reached 12 games over .500 for the first time. Calvin Maduro (2-3) allowed seven runs and nine hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Peterson...

Continued from page 20

is hitting nine of 15 swings for the identical marks.

Team Budweiser's Rusco Yamada completed the top five hitters with his .571 rate after going 8 of 14 appearances at the plate.

Tanapag Waves' Mel Aldan, Amigos' Jess Cabrera, and Mauleg's James Diaz are bunched in sixth, seventh and eighth spots with similar .500 batting records respectively.

Two more Mauleg mainstays fig-

ured in the top 10 batting leaders by grabbing the ninth and 10th slots.

Greg C. Camacho and teammate Joe Tenorio are currently hitting similar .474s after knocking the ball nine times out of 19 attempts.

In the pitching derby, Tino Camacho is towing the rest of the league's top pitchers. After pitching for seven innings in two games, Tino has yielded five hits and one earned run for an earned run average (ERA) of 1.00.

Camacho is 2-0 in the two games he manned the mound for the unbeaten Mauleg team.

SeaBees' Tony Satur is second while Amigos' Jess Manibusan and Nick Muna of Lite Beer are tied for third and fourth.

Satur is has an ERA of 2.25 after giving up 32 hits that resulted to nine earned runs in 28 innings. Satur leads the league with most wins with four. With Satur at the mound, the SeaBees are tied for second to fourth in the overall standings with a 4-1 mark.

Manibusan of the 2-3 running Amigos' squad surrendered 41 hits and nine earned runs in 24 innings for an ERA of 2.63 which Muna matched after getting tagged with 10 hits and

BARBS

BARBS BY PHIL PASTORET

Saying that something just couldn't happen to you is a way of tempting Providence to prove you wrong.

Deluxe dining: free extra sauce for the take-out chicken.

All keeping your fingers crossed will get you is cramps in your digits.

"Better late than never" applies to most things, but not to roof canal.

Hear about the owl with a sore throat? He couldn't give a hoot about anything.

Our minister says anyone who doesn't believe in the hereafter never had a bill collector here after the rent, here after the TV, here after the car...

Astronomy made easy: Those black holes in space you read about are nothing more than potholes in the galaxy.

You're getting to be a really, truly old-timer if you can tell us what a kid yelling, "Extra! Extra! Read all about it!" means.

The sole purpose of an airline meal is to keep you from wondering what that pilot is up to for a half-hour or so.

Diplomates: "A substantive decision has been reached" means the committee agrees on where to have lunch.

SPORTS



14th Organized World Rocball Tournament

Macaroni takes Men's title

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

MACARONI trounced Brotherhood in extra period in Game 4 for an insurmountable 3-1 lead in the best of five title series to win the Men's title with of the 14th World Organized Rocball Tournament at the Puguia Court of the Marianas High School.

Macaroni, the first-ever faculty team to play and win the crown,

won the first three sets before Brotherhood prevented the eventual champions from juicing the match by winning the fourth set.

The MHS faculty won the first two sets "match" 16-8 and 17-8. Macaroni continued to dominate Brotherhood bagging the third set "scunk" 12-0.

Needing only to win the fourth set to win the title outright, Macaroni, however, found the Brother-

hood alive and kicking in the fourth.

Trailing three sets to nil, Brotherhood put together a combination of solid defense and strong offense to hammer a 15-4 "match" win in the fourth to deny Macaroni a "juice" win send the game into O-Kan.

In the extra period, Macaroni simply asserted its might over the young Brotherhood team, 8-5, to

win the series and the title.

Brotherhood won the first game of the title series, 41-37 "juice" to grab the early lead.

Macaroni, however, won the next two games, 46-27 "juice" and 39-17 "juice" to post a 2-1 lead in the title series.

There were a total of four jams, 17 aces, 10 xunks, 20 kees and three goals scored in the game.

The MVP of the playoffs was Brian Karasek of Macaroni was adjudged as the Most Valuable Player of the playoffs after scoring a total of one jam, five aces, five xunks, 15 kees and three goals for a total of 61 points in four games.

This year's championships is the biggest so far in the 14 year history of rocball.



Wong Kam Po, center, of Hong Kong raises the trophy after winning the individual race of the Tour of the Philippines cycling competition during the awarding ceremony in Manila. With him are second placer Victor Espiritu, left, and third placer Placido Valdez, both of the Philippines. The 24-year-old Wong clocked 62 hours, six minutes and 28 seconds to win the 2,465-km (1,540.6-mile) race across the Philippine archipelago. AP

1997 Saipan Men's Fastpitch League's statistical leaders
Peterson, Guerrero take driver's seats

Saipan Men's Fastpitch League
Batting leaders: (Based on 12 or more times at bat)

Player	Team	AB	Hit	Batting
Jess Peterson	No Fear	15	10	.667
Jeff Cabrera	Amigos	19	12	.632
Dennis Ngeskebei	Amigos	20	12	.600
Tony Taitano	Seabees Four	15	9	.600
Rasco Yamada	Team Budweiser	14	8	.571
Mel Aldan	Waves	18	10	.556
Jess Cabrera	Amigos	16	8	.500
Dave Camacho	Mauleg	14	7	.500
James Diaz	Mauleg	18	9	.500
Greg C. Camacho	Mauleg	19	9	.474
Joe Tenorio	Mauleg	19	9	.474

Runs: (11) Jeff Cabrera (10) Greg C. Camacho, James Diaz, Dave Camacho, Jess Peterson, Rasco Yamada

Doubles: (7) Mike Camacho (6) Jess Peterson (4) Mike Huna (3) 3-players tie

Triples: (4) Jeff Cabrera (3) Al Santos, Rasco Yamada (2) 5-players tie

Homeruns: (3) Greg C. Camacho, Paul, Camacho, David Kapileo (2) Wilber Ada, Ed Kapileo

RBI's: (13) Jeff Cabrera (10) Dave Kapileo, James Diaz (9) Reno Celis, Paul Camacho

Pitching Leaders:

Player	Team	G	INN	ER	Hit	W/L	ERA
Tino Camacho	Mauleg	2	7	1	5	2-0	1.00
Tony Satur	Seabees Four	5	28	9	32	4-1	2.25
Jess Manibusan	Amigos	5	24	9	41	2-2	2.63
Nick Muna	No Fear	3	8	3	10	0-0	2.63
Ben Sablan	No Fear	4	16	7	19	0-2	3.06
John Camacho	Budweiser	4	26	12	34	3-1	3.23
John Camacho	Sunrisers	3	18	9	18	2-0	3.50
Luis Babauta	Brothers	5	32	16	62	2-3	3.50
Max Pangelinan	Mauleg	4	18	10	30	3-0	3.89
Joe Torres	Budweiser	2	10	16	16	1-0	4.20

Strike-Outs:

(33) Tony Satur (20) Luis Babauta (13) Jess Manibusan, Paul Roberto (12) Gus Aguon, John Camacho

Compiled by Ray D. Palacios
for the Variety

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

NO FEAR'S Jess Peterson leads the batting category while Tino Camacho of the defending champions Saipan Stevedore Mauleg is setting the pace in the pitching race after four weeks of action in the ongoing 1997 Saipan Men's Fastpitch League at the Susupe Softball Field.

Peterson has connected 10 hits out of 15 stints at bat for a batting rate of .667% to lead two Amigos and a SeaBee in the batting derby.

Jeff Cabrera is running second with a .632 hitting accuracy after belting the ball 12 times in 19 attempts.

Dennis Ngeskebei of the Amigos and SeaBees Four's Tony Taitano are locked in a joint tie for the third and fourth spots with identical .600s.

Ngeskebei slammed the ball 12 times in 20 attempts while Taitano

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1997 Saipan Men's Major League Baseball's individual categories
UMDA's ace leads batting, pitching races

1997 Men's Major Baseball League

Team	Win	Loss	Pct	GB
UMDA Aces	6	0	1.000	
Kautz Glass Glazers	4	2	.667	2
Toyota Wheels	4	2	.667	2
Miller Lite Brewers	3	2	.608	2 1/2
Team Palau	2	4	.333	4
Typhoons	1	5	.167	5
Sunrisers	0	5	.000	5 1/2

Batting Leaders: (based on 19 or more times at bat)

Player	Team	AB	Hit	Batting
Jeff Callahan	Aces	19	11	.579
Nick C. Guerrero	Brewers	19	10	.526
Ben Hocog	Aces	20	10	.500
Frances George	Brewers	20	9	.450
John Reyes	Wheels	23	10	.435
Ed Kapileo	Aces	29	12	.413
Jojo Attiao	Sunrisers	22	9	.409
Tony Dela Cruz	Wheels	20	8	.400
Ron Benavente	Wheels	27	10	.370
Tony C. Camacho	Brewers	20	7	.350
Inosuke Yamada	Aces	20	7	.350

Runs: (16) J. Callahan (11) E. Kapileo (10) J. Reyes, T. Dela Cruz, B. Lizama, G. Palacios

Doubles: (3) G. Palacios, E. Kapileo, Jojo Attiao (2) Thirteen players

Triples: (5) John Reyes (2) Sherman Ngraidong, Vinnie Sablan

Homeruns: (2) Paul Camacho, (1) Fourteen Players

RBI: (12) Ed Kapileo (11) N. C. Guerrero, J. Reyes, (8) Frances George

Pitching Leaders:

Player	Team	G	INN	ER	Hit	W/L	ERA
Jeff Callahan	Aces	4	13	0	9	1-0	0.00
Roy Magofna	Glazers	5	15	4	17	0-0	2.40
Chris Nelson	Aces	4	22	6	15	3-0	2.45
Ryan Kenen	Palau	6	24	8	19	1-2	3.79
Joe Guerrero	Brewers	5	35	18	33	3-2	4.63
Elmer Sablan	Wheels	6	34	18	48	3-1	4.76
Ted Ngewaki	Palau	3	13	8	16	1-1	5.54
Everette Ngraidong	Palau	3	13	8	16	1-1	5.54
Chris Camacho	Glazers	5	25	16	39	3-2	5.76
Melvin Sakisat	Sunrisers	2	9	6	13	0-0	6.00

Strike-Outs:
(30) Ryan Kenen (29) Chris Nelson (25) Elmer Sablan

Compiled by Frank M. Palacios
for the Variety

By Erel A. Cabatbat
Variety News Staff

JEFFCALLAHAN of the unbeaten UMDA Aces is leading both the batting and pitching categories of the 1997 Saipan Men's Major League Baseball at the Francisco M. Palacios Ball Field.

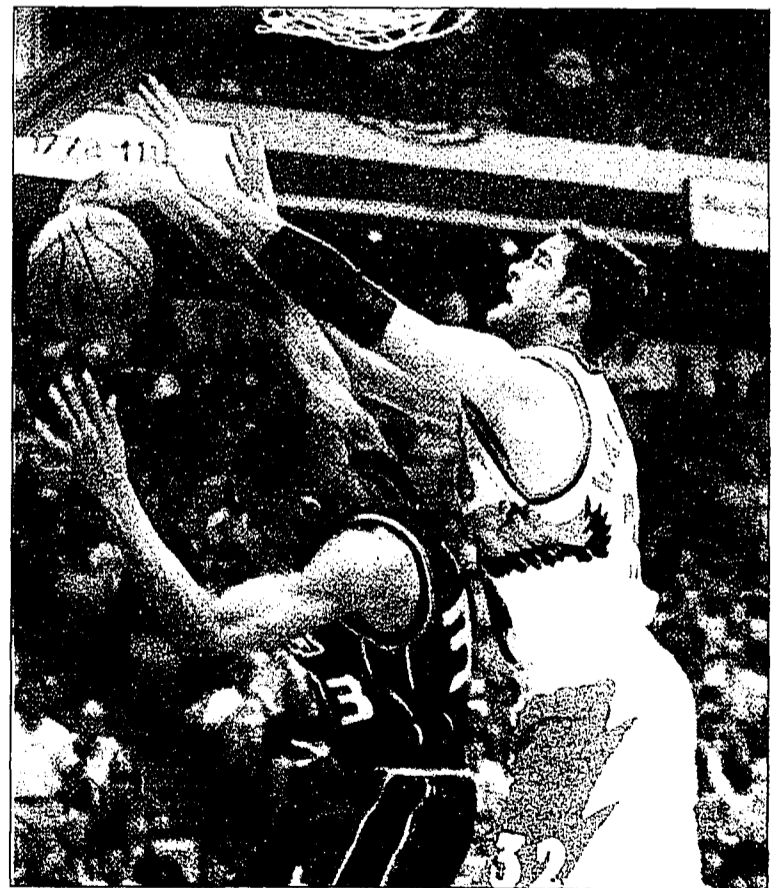
Callahan vaulted onto the standings after going 4 of 4 attempts at bat in leading the Aces to a 11-0 shellacking of the Kautz Glass Glazers last Friday night.

Callahan's perfect outing against the Glazers brought his overall batting record to .571% (11 hits in 19 attempts) to replace erstwhile leader Nick C. Guerrero on top of the standings.

The Miller Lite short stop is just a hit behind Callahan after connecting 10 hits in 19 plate appearances for a .526 batting average.

Callahan's teammate Ben Hocog is third with a .500 hitting average

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Atlanta Hawks Christian Laettner (32) goes over top of Detroit Pistons Grant Hill (33) during first period play at The Omni in Atlanta. AP

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