

## Jury's verdict on Itibus case today

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE SEVEN-man jury is expected to come up today with a verdict on the trial for murder suspect James L. Itibus.



James L. Itibus

As of press time, the jurors listened to the closing arguments of Deputy Atty. Gen. Loren Sutton and Itibus' counsel Brien Nicholas in the Superior Court.

After the arguments, Associate Judge Timothy Bellas will give final instructions to the jury. Deliberations among the jurors then to follow.

Sutton, chief of the AG's Criminal Division, said there are enough pieces evidence to show that Itibus and state witness Ryan Babauta assaulted Bangladeshi security guard Nazrul Ansary.

Sutton said there is no doubt based on evidence that Itibus also slashed and injured Sunil

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## House may go for April hike

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

THE LEADERSHIP of the House of Representatives is likely to reconsider its earlier decision to move back the scheduled minimum wage increase by six months.

This was learned from House Speaker Diego T. Benavente who said they may be inclined on supporting the governor's proposal to increase the local minimum wage by April.

According to Benavente, such action is needed due to adverse feedback from the federal gov-

ernment notwithstanding lingering concerns over the impact a wage hike may have on the economy.

"This was discussed in our luncheon meeting with the two US senators although I haven't had the chance to present it to the leadership," said the speaker in an interview yesterday.

"I am still worried about economic impact. We created the wage board because of that worry but I realize now there is something else we have to be even more concerned about and that is the federalization of the minimum wage or the takeover of immigration," Benavente added.

Talk about the possibility of federal intervention in the areas of minimum wage and immigration has been revived as a direct result of the move to defer the wage increase.

Interior official Allen Stayman and US Senators Frank Murkowski and Daniel Akaka were on island this week warning of possible adverse consequences to the CNMI's failure to keep its



Diego T. Benavente

commitment to raise the wage level on schedule.

In an apparent effort to avert a clash with the US on the issue, Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio submitted to the Legislature a legislation seeking to cut short the wage hike delay from six to three months.

The Legislature, through an override move late last year, enacted a law freezing the CNMI

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## Will federal takeover mean residency to alien workers?

By Mar-Vic C. Munar  
Variety News Staff

THE PERSISTENT talks—or threats—of a federal takeover of CNMI immigration has triggered different speculations as to how it might affect alien residents and workers in the Commonwealth.

Some alien workers hope it would guarantee them a better deal in terms of their labor condition; while not a few bear the notion it would provide easy

access to becoming a US citizen.

"It's hard to tell," says John Cool, a private lawyer and former assistant attorney general. "It depends on what the plans would be."

But definitely, Cool adds, "there's a need here in the Commonwealth for the continued presence of more workers."

But he says the hope of some aliens to become US citizens by virtue of the immigration takeover is out of the question.

"But there maybe a possibility for some who have been here for a long time, who have special skills, and doing important jobs, to be given residency status," Cool said.

But this will require sponsorship by their employers, he said.

"A large number of nonresident workers would be converted to H2 (or temporary work) category," Cool said.

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## New bill on gov't hiring sees House action today

By Rafael H. Arroyo  
Variety News Staff

A NEW bill seeking to allow continued government hiring of non-resident workers is expected to see action today when the House of Representatives convenes for a session.

According to Speaker Diego T. Benavente, legislation to amend Public Law 7-45 has been prepared and is set for introduction. It will be an alternative bill in lieu of House Bill 10-65 which was vetoed by Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio earlier this month.

Tenorio vetoed H.B. 10-65 primarily due to the provision prohibiting the use of manpower services in the hiring of medical professionals for the Commonwealth Health Center.

Both houses of Legislature then attempted to override the governor's veto but the move failed in the Senate by a mere vote.

In a move to secure the governor's approval on the hiring extension, Benavente said the new bill will no longer seek to do away with the practice of manpower

agency hiring but would only focus on extending agency exemptions to the year 2000.

"We will be going to session primarily to amend 7-45 and take out the governor's opposition on the earlier bill which is the use of manpower services," said Benavente in an interview yesterday.

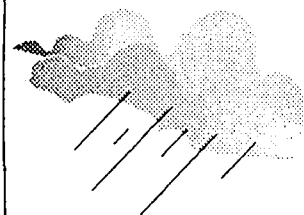
"I would then be introducing through a separate legislation that

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US Interior Insular Affairs Director Allen Stayman (left) presents Labor Director Frank M. Camacho a plaque in recognition for the latter's efforts in helping improve the labor situation in the CNMI. Looking on at center is Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

## Weather Outlook



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.



# Buchanan beats Dole in NH

By JOHN KING  
MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) - Conservative commentator Pat Buchanan carried his America-first themes against immigration and international trade deals to victory in the Republicans' first state primary, knocking Bob Dole from his year-long perch as Republican front-runner.

Dole, however, refused, to the defeat in the New Hampshire primary as a setback and said he would fight on "for the heart and soul of the Republican party."

Thirty states are holding primaries over the next five weeks.

Lamar Alexander, former governor of Tennessee, was a close third. He said his own moderate ideas, because of the Senate majority leader's poor showing, are now the most viable as an alternative to Buchanan's radical views.

President Clinton won the Democratic primary without any nationally known opponent. He had much to celebrate - the contentious Republican race was exposing divisions sure to fester in the contests ahead.

With 88 percent of voting precincts reporting, Buchanan led with 47,744 votes for 27 percent; Dole had 46,476 for 26 percent; Alexander had 40,521 for 23 percent, and multi-millionaire publishing heir Steve Forbes had 21,605 for 12 percent.

"People voted their hopes not their fears," Buchanan said in declaring victory for "the good men and women in middle America."

He vowed at a post-vote rally that if he becomes President, "never again will young Americans be put under U.N. command."

He has called for a five-year moratorium on legal immigration and a U.S. pullout from global trade agreements.

The Buchanan victory throws the race into turmoil for the primaries ahead, which determine delegates to the Republican National Convention in August.

If not candidate gains a majority of delegates over the next few weeks, the nomination could be determined in the convention.

Buchanan's dramatic victory came in the state where he launched his 1992 primary challenge to George Bush.

It followed a victory in Louisiana caucuses two weeks ago and a surprisingly strong second-place showing behind Dole in Iowa last week.

For 72-year-old Dole, it was another depressing New Hampshire night.

His 1988 presidential campaign got off to a winning start in Iowa but was derailed here. He vowed it would not happen again, promising to get back on the winning track next week in North and South Dakota, and Arizona.

Alexander, however, said it was time for the party to realize that Dole was too weak a candidate, and to rally around him. "This is a tremendous win," was how he cast running third.

All week long the Republican establishment worried about the prospects of a Buchanan victory. His protectionist trade views are anathema to economic conservatives.

At the bottom of the ballot, New Hampshire's results were likely to winnow the eight-man field.

Publishing heir Forbes was tied for

the New Hampshire lead a month ago but seemed to wilt as moderate voters migrated to as choice between Dole and Alexander. Forbes was finishing a distant fourth here, hardly a happy return on the \$20 million of personal funds he has poured into the race.

Indiana Sen. Dick Lugar, California Rep. Robert Dornan, anti-abortion candidate Alan Keyes and Illinois businessman Morry Taylor also had little to show for their New Hampshire efforts. All finished far down the line.

Delaware votes next on Saturday, followed by North Dakota, South Dakota and Arizona next Tuesday.

More than two dozen states vote in a frenetic month after that, including Florida and Texas, the Midwest industrial states and then California. By March 26, more than two-thirds of the Republican convention delegates will have been chosen.

New Hampshire's electorate was more diverse than conservative-dominated caucuses in Iowa and Louisiana. A third of

Tuesday's Republican primary voters described themselves as independents and a third as moderate.

Also, six of 10 voters who completed exit surveys had an unfavorable opinion of the religious right and two-thirds opposed the Republican platform plank calling for a constitutional amendment banning abortion.

Asked which issue mattered most in deciding how they voted, one in four cited the economy and jobs and one in five cited taxes. Roughly 15 percent said the federal budget deficit.

In clear reflection of the race's volatility, 60 percent said they settled on their choice in the final week.

The exit poll was conducted by Voter News Service, a consortium of The Associated Press, ABC, CBS, CNN and NBC.

Dole offered himself as a "mainstream conservative" eager to cut taxes and balance the budget and briefly ran an ad calling Buchanan

extreme.

Buchanan ran to the right of the major candidates on social issues, proposing to outlaw abortion and keep homosexuals out of his administration.

And he confounded them by running left of them on trade, promising to end global trade deals and slap tariffs on Japanese and Chinese goods.

As colorful as he is controversial, Buchanan spoke of his "army of peasants with pitchforks" poised to topple the Washington political establishment.

Alexander, in his own words, tried to "scoop up the middle." He called for ending the federal welfare and food stamp programs, shifting all job training to the states and creating a new branch of the armed services to patrol the borders.

But he appealed to moderates with pledges to strengthen the Clean Air and Clean Water acts. He said Buchanan had "wrong ideas" for a party dedicated to free markets.

## Serbs order evacuation of all their areas in Sarajevo

By LIAM McDOWALL

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) - Playing to the fears of Serb residents in Sarajevo, Bosnian Serb leaders have attempted to unleash a mass flight of their people from the capital.

But the organized exodus never materialized Tuesday. Perhaps hampered by the snow, only a trickle of cars, trucks, tractors and even horse-drawn carts carrying fearful Serbs left the city.

Most Serb leaders vehemently oppose the provision in the Bosnia peace accord that reunites the country's symbolic heart, Sarajevo, under Bosnian government control by March 19. NATO plans to begin a gradual transfer on Friday.

Kris Janowski, a spokesman for the U.N. refugee agency, angrily accused Bosnian Serb leaders of trying to trigger mass flight for their own ends.

"A number of people have left, but it's not the mass exodus the Serb authorities appear to want," Janowski said.

TV broadcasts urging people to leave are "part of a campaign of manipulation to get people out, to create a psychosis," he added. Bosnian Serb television and radio repeatedly broadcast messages that Serb authorities would provide buses, food and fuel for those wishing to leave. Serb leaders appealed to their followers to abandon their homes in areas that are to be handed to the Muslim-led government.

Roads into Serb-held districts of Sarajevo were clogged with empty buses and trucks struggling through heavy snow, apparently en route to pick up Serbs and their belongings.

The U.S.-brokered peace accord, which seeks to end 3 1/2 years of war, partitions the country into two entities - one Serb, the other a Muslim-Croat federation.

Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serbs' political leader who has been indicted by an international war crimes tribunal, insists that Serbs cannot coexist with other ethnic groups in the capital.

Gojko Kljickovic, the Bosnian Serb official responsible for resettling

Sarajevo Serbs, said he expected 18,000 people to be evacuated over the next two days.

In the northern Sarajevo suburb of Vogosca, Serbs removed piles of documents from the town hall Tuesday and set them ablaze. Workers stripped the building of everything of value, down to doors and old chairs.

The move appeared designed to scare residents by underscoring an absence of Serb authority in the neighborhood, which is to be handed over to the government on Friday.

Western diplomats say an estimated 50,000 people remain in the five Serb neighborhoods slated to be handed to the government. Janowski said he thought 20,000 had left since the peace accord was initiated in November.

The pre-war population of the Serb-held areas was 120,000.

Yet not all Serb leaders were calling on Serbs to leave.

Maksim Stajic, a senior Sarajevo Serb official who was among the first to meet with government officials after the peace took effect, urged Serbs to think twice before departing.

# Senator denies 'deal' with Tenorio



Thomas P. Villagomez

By Rafael H. Arroyo

Variety News Staff

THERE were no "under-the-table" deals with Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio concerning the aborted override attempt on the bill that would have extended the hiring of non-resident workers in government.

This was the assertion made by Saipan Senator Thomas P. Villagomez who said his vote against

the override move was based on the dictates of his conscience and was not in any way meant to gain favors from the Administration.

Villagomez, who is floor leader of the Senate, shocked his colleagues in the leadership when he opted to support the governor's veto of House Bill 10-65 during a session last week.

The override attempt failed by one vote—Villagomez's. Only five senators went against the governor's veto when a successful override requires at least six votes.

Immediately, there were speculations that the Saipan senator may have supported Tenorio on the issue of government alien hiring in exchange for the "expeditious consideration by the Administration" of a pending land exchange involving Villagomez's father, Manuel.

There were also those who were saying that Villagomez's opposition was possibly meant to frustrate the leadership of Sen. Jesus R. Sablan, whose presidency Villagomez was after earlier this year.

In an interview yesterday,

Villagomez admitted his father has a pending land exchange application with the government and that he has previously asked Public Lands Director Bertha Camacho what was causing the delay.

He, however, denied ever striking any deal with the governor over the supposed land exchange and his vote on H.B. 10-65.

Governor Tenorio in an interview this week also denied any deal with Villagomez on the same issue.

"The understanding on the land exchange is between the Administration and my dad," said Villagomez. "I am not involved in any deals to expedite the transaction but I have raised my concern about the delays, more as a concerned individual," said Villagomez.

The supposed land exchange transaction involves the government's acquisition of a Rota piece of property owned by Manuel for which the latter is seeking a property in the Obyan Beach area, Villagomez said.

According to the Saipan senator, he voted against the override based on his position that no government agencies, other than the Commonwealth Health Center, should be allowed to keep non-resident staffs.

H.B. 10-65 provides for an extended exemption for a number of government agencies from the general restriction on hiring of non-US citizens, up to the year

2000.

The bill was vetoed by the governor who said government should not be hiring foreign workers anymore and that government employment should be a privilege reserved for locals and US citizens.

"When we gave government agencies a previous exemption to this restriction in Public Law 7-45, they should have had enough time to address the shortage of manpower. The government has been very lax and accommodating on hiring non-residents when we have a large number of locals who want to work in the government," said Villagomez.

He added that should H.B. 10-65 become law, the local people would continue to be at a disadvantage in terms of government employment.

Besides, Villagomez noted that he had in the past stated his position that he would only support legislation in as far as it would provide a hiring exemption for CHC doctors, nurses and other medical professionals.

When asked if his opposition to the override was because he was sore about not being elected president of the Senate, Villagomez said he harbors no ill-feelings towards Sablan.

"I have already committed myself to supporting Sen. Sablan's leadership. I do not deny that I had earlier expressed interest in the presidency and did actively



Froilan C. Tenorio

pursued the post. But when the Senate agreed it will support Sen. Sablan, I would not mind," said Villagomez.

"Now, I have no interest in getting the presidency. I have no interest in changing the organizational setup of the Senate. My only interest is my constituents and all I am asking is that my decision as a representative of the people be respected.

"If I hurt anybody with my vote, it is not intended to irritate the leadership, the Republican Party or anybody else," said the senator.

"My vote is in no way to be considered as one meant to satisfy the governor. What I'm trying to satisfy is my conscience and my constituents are my primary consideration," he added.

## PSS continues recruitment of teachers from US mainland

EDUCATION Commissioner William S. Torres announced that the Public School System is recruiting teachers from the mainland through recruitment fairs and direct recruiting at prestigious universities and colleges in the states.

In a news release yesterday, the commissioner said PSS has constructed Rita Sablan, a former principal of Garapan Elementary



William S. Torres

School and former Deputy Commissioner for Curriculum & Instruction as PSS west coast recruiter to actively recruit teachers at Washington State University, Oregon State University, Willamette University, University of Washington, University of Oregon, Central Washington University and other universities and career expositions throughout the US.

Also assisting in the recruitment effort is the principal of Koblerville Elementary School who will serve as a national recruiter for the PSS when she relinquishes her position at the end of this school year.

Universities where they will be recruiting include San Francisco State University, San Jose State University, California State University at Fresno and California State University at Hayward.

They both will recruit at the University of Northern Iowa Overseas Recruiting Fair on February 28-March 3, 1996 and at the International Services School Job Fair in San Diego on March 7-10, 1996.

The Commissioner added that the PSS has also contracted with Severina Ogo who is stationed in Guam and working out of the CNMI Liaison Office as the PSS recruiter there.

According to the Commissioner, PSS will be able to fill the anticipated teacher vacancies through this intensive recruitment effort.

He also stated that the PSS has been pleased with all the assistance in recruiting prospective teaching staff that has been extended to our recruiters from colleges and universities in the mainland.



BEDS OF SEEDLINGS. Northern Marianas College agriculture extension agent Bill Cabrera, research technician Anthony Tudela, and extension workers Manuel Mesa (partly hidden) and Tony Taitano (left to right) appreciate the eggplant and tomato seedlings that they have prepared for free distribution to interested individuals.

### PALAU NATIONALIST PARTY REPUBLIC OF PALAU 96940

## MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF PALAU

THE time has come for the people of Palau to tell their leaders what they want and need in the immediate months and years ahead and in the next century. The upcoming Political Convention, February 28 and 29, hosted by the Palau Nationalist Party will provide the forum where representatives of the people throughout the Republic will discuss, debate, and select the candidates for the offices of the President and Vice President, whom we will elect in the November general election.

The selection of nominees for the President and Vice President is critical because we can no longer afford to have a government that has no direction and a public services the people receive. Furthermore, we must select a team of leaders who will ensure that the Constitutional Convention shall be held in the year 1997 to review and to re-adjust our constitution to conform with existing realities and to provide for a meaningful progress in the Republic. There are too many layers of government in Palau. This must be changed. The National Civil Service System is overloaded, top-heavy, and is extremely costly. This must be changed. Our educational system does not produce young people whose skills and expertise are needed now and in the decades ahead. This must be changed. Our foreign policy is inadequately explained at best, and at worst, it is contradictory or does not exist at all. This must be changed.

Palau needs changes. The Political Convention that will be held at the end of this month will provide the mechanisms for those changes.

Palau National Party



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# FORUM

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



Giya Estados Unidos De America, i filosofian pattidan Republican fiet na debi un'fachocho' ya un'tohge gi dos adeñmo. I Democrats i gteftao nu i finkas ni ha rikokohe i gobiernamenton federat ya ha fofondou programan sosiat siha. Guine giya Marianas, atlibes este na filosofia i dos pattida.

I administrasion Governor Froilan C. Tenorio halie' na ti kombene na u makontinua fuñgion gobiernamenton siha ni kumompetensia direktamente yan i komunidan bisnis. Estague' na rason na ha petsige mabasihan este siha na setbision gobiernamento guato gi propio lugatna—i komunidan bisnis. Kontodo ayo siha na patte gi hospitat i siña mabasihan guato gi manibisnis esta hatutuhon chumogoe.

Ti na'manman este na programa sa' dipotsihe machochogue maseha mano na estado guihe lago pot para u ribaha gaston gobiernamento ya u asegura mas efektibo yan kualidat na setbisio para i taotao. Man payon hit man machugo' gi kichala maseha esta man echo hit taotao muna' dididi' na'bulacho este na programa lao ti nuebo na ideo. Memegaina na empleao gobiernamento hasoda' linibianon niha sa' i modun checho' niha ti presiso na u kepuno' siha pot para u ma'asegura na guaha ganansia kosake siña kontodo suetdon niha u kinubre. I empleao bisnis, debi u attiene checho' na osino mana' basta machochu'. Estague' i diffirensia gi entalo' dos klasen empleao.

Yangin mabasihan guato gi komunidan bisnis maseha hafa na fuñgion gobiernamento, ti kumeke ilegna na magtos lokue' responsabilidadat gobietno gi hilo este na kontrata. Siempre u guatdia para u asegura na todo probision gi kontrata man makomple dibuenamente. Ti malingo un'empleao chocho' gi este na tinilaika. Dispues, menos gaston gobiernamento yangin ha basihan fuñgion siha na mas propio gi bandan bisnis.

Lao pago ha sosoda' i pattidan Republican na dieras mauleg i programan Administrasion Democrats gi este siha na asunto yan otro sustansiao na asuntion linahyan. Ayo buente na hana' makondukta un'inekuñgog pot este na attikulo pot para u mana' guaha dididi' buruka kosake i publiko siña mana' fañgontento un'rato. Insutto este na finatinas gi intelihenten man edukao yan menhalom gi publiko.

I asuntion hinemlo', kulan un' kadenan aniyo na ti siña un'pula' osino magtos ennoa na alahas. Kada uno sumen presiso fuñgionia ya ti siña na un'disattiende sa' sumasanoa intakto gi entero asuntion hinemlo'. Este siha na asunto debi u guaha kabales na inestudia ginen i man mamatitinas areglamiento sa' dieras na didog i asunto siha. I programan mariferen malañgo un'dikiki' na patte gi entero litraton hinemlo'. Estague' na enlugat de u sige i lehislatura mama' i temton, maulegna u fatachoñg papa' maseha pot para u lie' i mapan asuntion hinemlo' kosake ti u faliño yangin matto guihe na eskalera 'nai debi una' guaha kabales yan sano na areglamiento hinemlo' para todos.

Lamegai na fuñgion gi hospitat debi u mabasihan guato gi komunidan bisnis. Kontodo otro siha na fuñgion tat komo maripean, kareta, setbision pentot yan katpenteria, maprintan matariat eskuela yan otro siha na setbisio 'nai kumompetensia i gobiernamento yan i komunidan bisnis. Nonfotmoyo' u noble na programan i gobiernota sa' siempre gi uttimo besis mapega gi propio lugat este siha na setbisio 'nai marebaha gaston gobiernamento yan guaha mas satton yan kualidat na setbisio para i publiko.

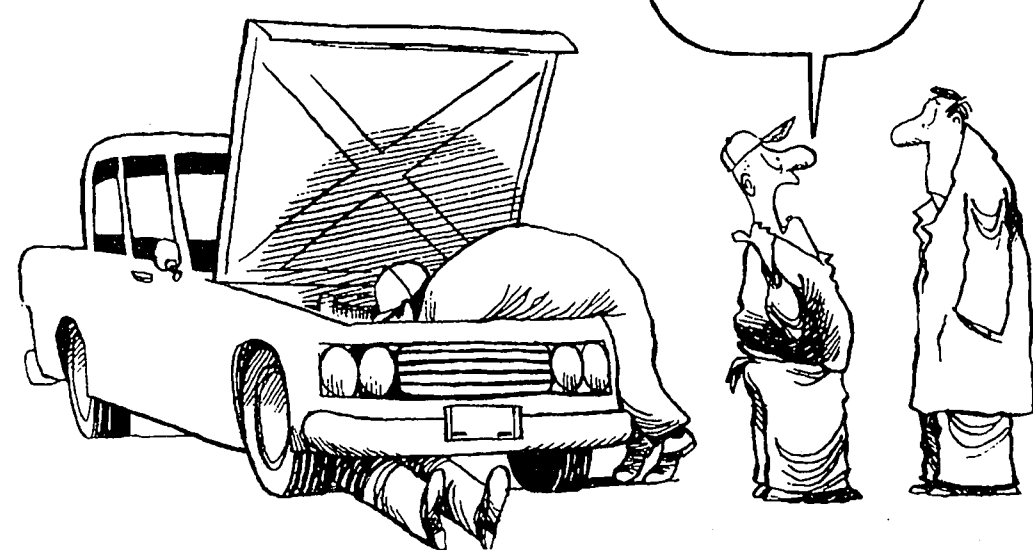
Siña ha' ti sen mames gi halom pachotta gi tutuhon, lao añogho na maug' yan antao na areglo para i man mamamaila' siha na tiempo.

\*\*\*\*

Presiso yan obligao lokue' na tatutuhon man eyag sumepara i taotao yan asunto. Pot ihempro, siña ha' tijamo fasun un'taotao ya ni hago mismo ti un'tuñgo sa' hafa. Lao yangin siña un'separa i asunto yan i taotao, mas siempre unnaen' maisa hao putdet kumomprende hafa i dicho asunto gi menamo.

Petsonatmente, megai besis 'nai hu fagchae' ti yaho i taotao ni humahame machochu'. Lao hu komprende na guaha responsabilidada ya pareho ham debi bai' n'chegue checho' mame osino fatso i maseñala na plano. Guaha na ni bai' kuentuse i prohimo lao 'nai matto i oran presentasion gi hafa mafaisen ham para bai' n'chegue, humame mona kumubre hafa monhayan esta incheque. Tatfoi tiguinaiyagho nu i prohimo, lao siña ham machochu' gi hilo profesionat na besis sin u entalo' kustumbre yan atetu osino maña. Presiso na tafan eyag nu este sa' megai besis 'nai huli' na mas attension tananae' i petsona ke dicho asunto. Si Yuus Maase yan Ghiliso!

STALER.  
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## ConCon COMMENTARY by Justo S. Quitugua

(Justo S. Quitugua served as an elected Con-Con delegate from Rota. He served as member of the Committee on Land and Personal Rights, and the Committee on Judiciary and Other Elected Offices.)

I WOULD like to speak about the accomplishments of our Convention for our local communities. The important provisions that we have made for the commonwealth central government, the Legislative Branch, the Executive Branch, and our new Article 4 on the Judiciary, deserve a high priority in the listing of accomplishments of our Convention.

But we should not overlook the important We have always been a family-oriented people. Many of our neighborhoods are clusters of family members. And our villages contain large groups of people who are related to one another. The amendments to the Constitution that we have adopted in this Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention strengthen us at the family and village level.

First, in many ways our Constitution and its Analysis now reflect a recognition that the rights guaranteed to each of us have corresponding obligations and responsibilities that we must meet in

order to make our government work. A fundamental obligation that each of us has is to ensure that we govern our islands for the security and well-being of all our people and for the solidarity of our Commonwealth. We value our solidarity and have a responsibility to preserve it and build upon it. I think that the debate and compromises reflected in our work here, which has been televised for all our citizens to see, shows our determination to meet this responsibility.

We have created a structure that will allow us to build strong local communities as our Commonwealth grows. We should not be bound by the recollections of the past, but should open our minds to the possibilities of the future using this new structure. We now have mayors and municipal councils with real local authority. They aren't just local offices of the Commonwealth government any more.

We can now think in a more constructive way  
Continued on page 5



## Reducing citizens' rights

AMONG other changes, Amendment 10 proposes changes to the constitutionally established taxpayer's right of action. This right guarantees to every taxpayer the ability to go to court and challenge illegal or improper government actions. If successful, the taxpayer's attorney fees and costs will be paid by the defendant.

This right gives ordinary citizens the ability to control their government, enforce the rule of law, and hold public officials truly accountable. The new language proposed by the Third Con-Con could significantly undermine this power.

The taxpayer's right of action, added by the Second Constitutional Convention, reads as follows in Article X, Section 7 of the current Constitution:

"A taxpayer may bring an action against the government or one of its instrumentalities in order to enjoin the expenditure of public funds for other than public purposes or for a breach of fiduciary duty. The court shall award costs and attorney fees to any person who prevails in such an action in a reasonable amount relative to the public benefit of the suit."

The Commonwealth Supreme Court has stated that this provision "is remedial in nature and should be liberally construed." Plainly, this is a powerful right to secure "a government of laws, not of men." It is an important way of demonstrating that public officials are not "above the law." It provides a means to help assure that democratic government prevails over party politics, family, and favor-

itism. Amendment 10 keeps the second sentence on attorney fees but changes the first sentence. Instead of a broad right of action "to enjoin the expenditure of public funds for other than public purposes or for a breach of fiduciary duty," the Third Con-Con proposes that the constitutionally recognized right exist only "to enjoin the expenditure of public funds in violation of this Constitution."

Thus, the guarantee of costs and attorney fees is also narrowed to this limited class of cases: those involving expenditure of public funds in violation of the Constitution.

Rather than a broad right to stop or prevent improper expenditures and breaches of fiduciary duties, the amendment recognizes only a right to enjoin expenditures which violate the Commonwealth Constitution. Gone is the ability to ground a cause of action on a statutory violation. Gone is the ability to base a complaint on a breach of fiduciary duty.

In these cases a plaintiff would have to find some other basis for standing than the Constitution. And they would have to find another basis for an award of costs and attorney fees.

Convention Legal Counsel Bernard Zimmerman and Deanne Siemer both represented to me that there was no intention to change the scope of the current right of action. These naked representations are not supported by the text

Continued on page 5

## Letters to the Editor

### Guerrero on Nabors

Dear Editor:

Bill Nabors wrote to you this week saying that he did not announce the Mayor's position at the public meeting. I was one of the sources for that story. To be accurate, Mr. Nabors told the Post-Convention Committee and staff that the Mayor would oppose Amendment #6 on Local Government, Amendment #2 on the Legislature, and Amendment #11 on Public Lands at the public hearing, but he did not tell us that in his public testimony when he was standing at the microphone. He told us that while we were sitting at the table in the Tinian Gym. The Variety's story says that Mr. Nabors "reported to the Post-Convention Committee at the public meeting on Tinian." That is entirely accurate, although perhaps not as detailed as Mr. Nabors would have liked.

In addition, I can report that the Mayor himself told the Post-Con-

vention Committee staff and Delegate J.P. San Nicolas at an earlier meeting on Tinian, called to plan for the public hearings and to ensure that the Mayor's office had every opportunity for input, that he would oppose Amendment #6, Amendment #11 and Amendment #2. At that time, he also stated his reasons, including the reduction in the number of Senators from 3 to 2, and the limitation on sale of homesteads for 25 years. The Variety's reports of the Mayor's position is entirely accurate on that score as well, at least as to what the Mayor also personally told the Post-Convention Committee. Mr. Nabors was at that meeting as well.

There was nothing inaccurate about the Variety's story.

Sincerely,  
Herman T. Guerrero  
Chair, Post-Convention Committee

### New Kagman polling place

THE OFFICE of the Board of Elections wishes to inform all voters, who are registered to vote in 1-B, San Vicente, and who are residing in Kagman II and III, Papago area, and northern Laulau that their new polling place will be located in Kagman, at the Agriculture station for the March 2, 1996 election of the proposed Constitutional amendments.

For additional information, please call the office of the Board of Elections at tel. nos. 234-6880 or 233-1061 during office hours from Monday thru Friday.

### Reducing . . .

Continued from page 4

and legislative history of the proposed amendment.

Courts construe every change in constitutional or statutory language as significant unless a contrary intent plainly appears (or the change is such that it is impossible to accord it any substantive meaning). The new language proposed by the Third Con-Con clearly is much different than the old.

This looks like a classic case of trying to fix something that isn't broken. And as everyone knows, trying to fix something that isn't broken is a sure way to break it.

Because of these concerns, I asked Ms. Siemer to back up her representation that no change in the current taxpayer's right of action was intended with specific language in the Analysis. I suggested that the Analysis state that "the Convention intends that taxpayer standing and attorney fees continue to be available in all actions it would have been under the former Section 9," and that the Convention "bases its revision of the language of this section on its understanding that judicial precedent in the Commonwealth already guarantees this result."

My suggested language was not incorporated into the Analysis. What's more, the Analysis states, "The Convention did not intend this amendment to affect any pending taxpayer suit filed under section 9." If the amendment does not change the existing taxpayer right of action, why is it necessary to specifically state that it does not affect currently pending actions?

Muddy Analysis

The Analysis does cite two pre-1985 cases recognizing taxpayer standing and states "the Convention did not

intend in any way to affect the law as declared in those and other cases." Problem is, one of those cases is simply a trial court decision and the other gave only a lukewarm endorsement. Those cases weren't enough for the Second Constitutional Convention, why should they be for the Third?

"The Convention simply wanted to clarify that any expenditure of public funds in violation of the Constitution may be enjoined," says the Analysis. The Supreme Court already said the provision is to be liberally construed; how is any clarification needed?

The Analysis frankly admits, "Taxpayer suits to enjoin spending not alleged to violate this Constitution, such as to stop spending alleged to breach a statute or ordinance, may continue to be filed as permitted by Commonwealth statutes and court decisions"—whatever that is.

According to the convention, the new text "provides a clear standard for the public and the courts." If so, it is a much narrower right of action. If so, courts will apply the plain meaning of the new constitutional text and never look at the legislative history. And the public will be the losers.

To use the words the convention's leadership and advisors used to describe the current constitutional text on taxpayer's right of action, the Analysis, at best, "lack[s] the desirable clarity."

This piece appears in the Variety as a guest column. Stephen C. Woodruff has been a resident of Saipan for 20 years, living here since 1974, except for three years in Hawaii when he returned to school for a law degree. He was Chief Consultant to the Second Constitutional Convention. He presently is Senate Legal Counsel. The views expressed in this article are his own.

### ConCon Commentary . . . Continued from page 4

about services on the local level. If we use the structure that the Constitution now provides, and use it wisely, we can move to a system in which the Commonwealth makes a financial contribution to local communities in the form of a grant of money, and it is up to the local communities how they want to use those Commonwealth funds. We can do this because the local communities will be making their own decisions about what is good for their neighborhoods and the families that live in them.

Local communities can enact their own ordinances. This means they can enforce their own ordinances as well. These ordinances can define the style of community that the families living there want to have. Local governments can sponsor cultural affairs, preserve traditions, as well as promote environmental awareness and protection, and ensuring that local businesses don't present an appearance that harms the community.

The Constitution takes away the power of the legislative delegations to make local laws. We don't need anybody at the Commonwealth level to do that for us any more. We can do it ourselves in our local communities. This is a great step ahead, if we choose to use it.

We tend to focus on the issues of money and power at the Commonwealth level because, for all the time that most of us can remember, we have had to depend on a central government for our laws and direction. But now we have moved ahead to a new era. If we use what the Constitution has granted,

we aren't going to be looking to the Commonwealth government for all our everyday needs. We are going to be cooperating with our families, our neighbors, and our local colleagues in our villages to tap the true strength of our people; and to make them truly the masters of their own surroundings.

I can point with pride to the new local school boards — to the school-based management that the Constitution has made possible. We are giving these local school boards an opportunity to take on all the responsibility for local matters that they can handle. We have made them elected, not appointed. They will come from the ranks of the families and villages to govern our schools directly.

I can point with satisfaction to the new acknowledgement of a municipal share in the revenues from public lands and natural resources located on those public lands. A new section in Article 14 allocates 5% of the revenues from natural resources covered by that article to the municipalities.

I can point with hope to the new responsibilities that the Constitution grants with its increased powers of recall. We can no longer grumble about our local elected officials and sit around waiting for the next election when we have a chance to vote them out. If we really think our local officials aren't doing their job — and this includes the Senators and Representatives who represent our islands in the Legislature — we can get 20% of the voters to sign a petition, put it on the ballot, and vote them out of office in 90 days. They represent us. If we let them continue in office when they are doing

a bad job — then we can't complain. It is our fault, not theirs. We have the power to control them during the entire time they are on the job. The new Constitutional amendments gives us the opportunity and places on us the responsibility to use it.

I can point with a sense of relief to the new protection for permanent preserves of our public lands on each of the islands so that our children can enjoy the wonderful beauty of our islands as we have. The comfort of our local communities will be supported by these preserves

because they will maintain our open spaces and our opportunities for relaxation within our own communities. And I am pleased that we have strengthened Article 12 and its protection of our privately held lands.

We have maintained the existing relationship between our Commonwealth government and our municipal governments. That is very important in the near term; and I have always supported the concept that the Commonwealth should share its power with the municipalities. But I am pointing to the new reality, beyond the old arguments about sharing Commonwealth powers. We have a real opportunity now to build our local powers; as much as we can support with our determination and our public participation in local affairs. As I look 25 or 50 years into the future, it is this new structure that I see changing our Commonwealth for the better — making it a comfortable, successful place to live.

I am proud to have served in the Third Northern Marianas Constitutional Convention.



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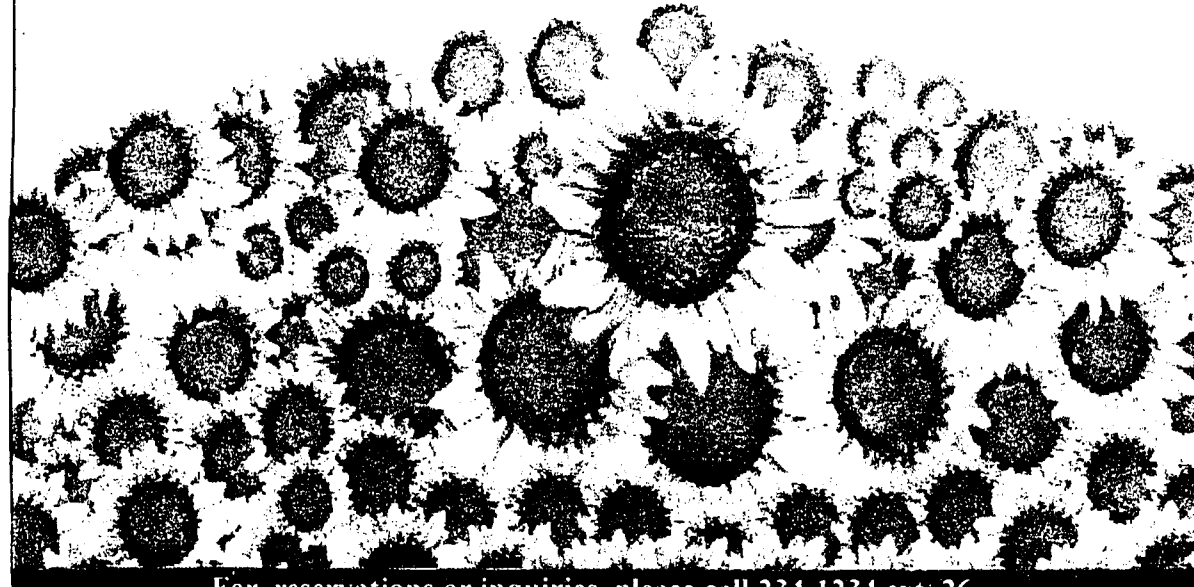
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Grace Christian Academy senior students look up at fellow students taking a ride in CUC power distribution bucket truck. The students toured CUC and learned about future job opportunities.

## CUC invites youth, parents to tour utility's facilities

THE BEST investment government can make is the time to spend teaching kids about the environment, electrical safety and water conservation.

This was the message imparted by the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) Board of Directors in a news release yesterday.

Dedicated to the youth of the community, the CUC Board has encouraged Commonwealth parents and students to tour the public utility facilities.

While the Board has spent that last two years strengthening the corporation's finances and management, executive staffers have been working hard to recruit future employees from Saipan,

Rota and Tinian Schools.

"Just ask any kid from Garapan Elementary, the Senior Class from Christian Academy, Oleai Elementary, Whispering Palms or Mt. Carmel School, and they'll tell you how much fun it is to visit their community utility," said Pamela Mathis, spokesperson for CUC.

The utility offers tours of its water operations, wastewater treatment facilities, power plants and even rides in the utility bucket trucks. CUC will also send its employees to the schools for guest lectures.

According to the utility's Board, students need to be encouraged to study technical occupations like biology, chemistry, electronics,

engineering, accounting, mechanics, hydrology and business management.

Says Mathis, "When the students tour our utility, we talk about the skills and college-level classes they will need to complete in order to work at the community utility. We also emphasize the important work that our employees are doing today—protecting the ocean by treating wastewater, improving the watersystem by managing our limited resources and taking care of the engines in the power plant."

Civic organizations and teachers who are interested in touring the utility may contact Mathis at 322-4033, ext. 10 or via Fax at 322-4323.

## Estate conferences on Hillblom to go on

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

WHILE temporarily suspending the proceedings related to the heirship claims against Larry Lee Hillblom estate, the Superior Court said the administration of the estate conferences will continue.

In an order issued yesterday, Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro said the conferences will be held on the first Friday of every month.

Castro granted a motion to temporarily suspend all heirship litigations pending the outcome of the estate executor's appeal before the CNMI Supreme Court.

The executor asked the lower court to stay enforcement of its Jan. 24 order to preserve the status quo of the heirship proceedings.

The order in contest prohibits the executor Bank of Saipan from using estate funds in actively defending against the heirship claims.

In granting the motion, Castro said he recognizes that the Supreme Court "may never have the opportunity to resolve the issue of first impression currently before it."

Castro said the proceedings effected by his order to stay, include the 20 percent of Carlsmith firm bill withheld relating to heirship claims and the issue of attorney-client privilege in connection with attorney billings.

Carlsmith is representing the executor in the proceedings.

Other issues put on hold are: discovery and scheduling order; motions to begin DNA testing; Kaelani Kinney's motion to set a deadline to appear to contest heirship claims; David Moncrieff's clarification of order for DNA testing and for commission to produce bodily samples; Moncrieff's motion to take depositions, and the transfer of any work product or documents within the executor's possession.

## Arrest of convicted felon sought for gun possession

THE District Court yesterday ordered the arrest of a convicted felon to answer an indictment charging him with unlawful possession of firearms.

Isamu Udagawa was indicted for two counts of convicted felon in possession of a firearm; one count of unlawful possession of a stolen firearm; and one count of unlawful possession of a firearm with obliterated serial number.

The indictment said that on Oct. 18 last year, Udagawa, having been convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment for over a year, received a 9 mm-cal. Smith and Wesson handgun and a .357-cal. Ruger revolver whose serial number had been obliterated.

Udagawa, according to the indictment, possessed the Smith and Wesson

handgun knowing it to be stolen.

He also allegedly possessed "in commerce" the Ruger revolver with an obliterated serial number.

Udagawa was, as of yesterday, in the custody of the CNMI Division of Corrections, Department of Public Safety, having been earlier charged before the Superior Court.

District Judge Alex R. Munson ordered the division to relinquish custody of the defendant to the United States Marshal.—Rick Alberto

## House wants Nakamoto's lease stopped

THE HOUSE of Representatives is asking Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio to cancel the public land lease agreement he previously signed with Nakamoto Development Inc.

Through a voice vote in a session last week, the House unanimously adopted House Resolution 10-8 which calls for the termination of the said lease.

The resolution, authored by Reps. Jesus T. Attao and Stanley T. Torres, was co-sponsored by 13 other House members.

It specifically seeks to stop Nakamoto's planned hotel development project in the Samoan Housing area in Garapan cognizant of the need to preserve prime beachfront property for the future generations.

"The Garapan Samoan Housing area could be put to better use and benefit for the Commonwealth," the resolution read.

### Samahan gathering.

THE monthly gathering of Samahan Lag. will be held on Feb. 25, Sunday, at Susupe Beach Park, at 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call Pastor at tel. 235-2374.

## McPhetres fears proposal may politicize education



Agnes M. McPhetres

By Rick Alberto  
Variety News Staff

THE president of the Commonwealth's government-run and only college yesterday aired her strong opposition to Constitutional Amendment No. 13, saying it would place the Northern Marianas College and public elementary and high schools under the "whims" of politicians.

"If that measure (amendment) is passed," Agnes M. McPhetres said in an interview, "it will challenge the autonomy and the integrity of the college."

She said the NMC is "the only college in the Western Pacific, including Hawaii...that never received a warning or a probation because of the provision in the Constitution protecting higher education from political intrusion and giving the board the full autonomy to administer."

She cited the case of the Guam Community College which was on probation last year precisely because of this lack of protection.

When a college is on probation, it does not have full accreditation. Thus, when a student of this college transfers to another school, the credits earned by the student will not be accepted his or her new school.

The new amendment, McPhetres claimed, puts the NMC "in the hands of politicians which is very dangerous."

Earlier, the NMC board of regents expressed its opposition to the proposed Constitutional amendment since it would accordingly eliminate the same autonomy it now enjoys.

McPhetres said the college, under the proposed amendment, may be run differently depending on who are in power.

Amendment 13 provides that boards of regents in postsecondary schools shall be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

"Education is a sacred thing. We don't play with human knowledge. (It should not be) taken away from the hands of the people and put into the politicians," she said.

Also, under the amendment, the NMC was deleted and replaced with postsecondary educational institutions. McPhetres said it would have been all right if only one institution was intended to be established.

She cited Guam which has two separate institutions. "These two institutions are not even articulating their program. So if you go to GCC (Guam Community College), your credit doesn't even transfer to UOG (University of Guam)."

She said even if the new amendment states that the higher institutions of learning will have autonomy, it will be "as provided by law." She thinks this "opens up a can of worm depending on how the law provides."

"This legislature may be pro-education, they would give the board (autonomy); next legislature would be anti-education, they would amend," she said.

"So we would be at the whim of the politicians, and politicians may not necessarily be in favor of education," she added.

The composition of the boards of regents, matters pertaining to their responsibilities, and the operation of the colleges shall also be as provided by law.

McPhetres said even the elementary and secondary education would be at the mercy of politicians.

For example, she said, the secretary of education (a new post under Amendment 13) "will be serving under the pleasure of the governor."

The secretary will be appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the Senate.

The amendment provides for three boards of education, one for each senatorial district, that shall administer the public elementary and secondary education system. The board shall also be responsible for the instruction in the school system.

McPhetres said she had "never heard" of this kind of setup "in my years of studies, of management, of education administration."

She said if this should be the case, the board members should work full time. Even then, she continued, "five board members can't run a ship."

McPhetres also said the setup may give rise to differences between the education secretary and the board members.

"If the secretary who sets policies and standards says one thing and the board feels differently, what happens then? There will be a chaotic situation. There will be lawsuits," she explained.

McPhetres also said the amendment will create "four central offices" (Office of the Secretary, Saipan office, Tinian, and Rota) instead of the current one.

This, she feels, would create more layers of bureaucracies whereas at present there is only one.

Consequently precious money is siphoned to four offices, with its complements of officials and staffs, instead of to only one, she said.

## Concon critics on Govendo Live

IT WOULD be an understatement that everyone has been in agreement on the work that was completed during the 3rd Constitutional Convention last year. But few would suspect the amount of criticism that has arisen since the start of the informational campaign by the Post Con Con committee.

Local newspapers have been a battleground of pro and con articles fighting for the election of the voting public. Has this criticism damaged

the credibility of the Con Con delegates? Is the criticism valid? And just whose best interests are really at heart and stake? The people of the CNMI or a select few? What do the voters need to know to make the best decision on Saturday, March 2nd?

It's back to the Con Con tonight's Govendo Live. Joining Ken on the program tonight are guests Ruth Tighe, a local journalist, and Senate Legal Council Steve Woodruff. Both guests have thoroughly studied the proposed

amendments and have arguably been among to most vocal against certain elements of the new amendments. Both will give their reasons why tonight. Be sure to get your phone calls and questions in for tonight's Govendo Live.

Govendo Live is a call in talk show that explores issues of deep concern for people living in the CNMI. Govendo Live airs tonight and every Thursday night at 7:00 pm on KMCV Channel 7.

## Court orders DPS to return seized truck

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE SUPERIOR Court ordered the Department of Public Safety yesterday to return a confiscated truck in 1992 to its real owner.

Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro dismissed the forfeiture case filed by the government against a 1988 Toyota Truck owned by Francisco M. Cabrera.

In an affidavit, Cabrera said since his vehicle was taken by DPS personnel on May 20, 1992, it has been in the police custody.

The government filed an action to forfeit the vehicle on March 29, 1993 in connection with a criminal case.

Cabrera claimed that DPS personnel used the vehicle in 1995.

"Since the filing of this action, the government has done nothing to prosecute it," he said.

Douglas F. Cushnie, attorney for Cabrera, said his client is being punished by the government through its conduct and therefore suffering prejudice by the continued pendency of this action and retention of the property.

There is no excuse for the government not to take final steps to resolve this case, he said.

The government agreed to dismiss the case for some other reasons.

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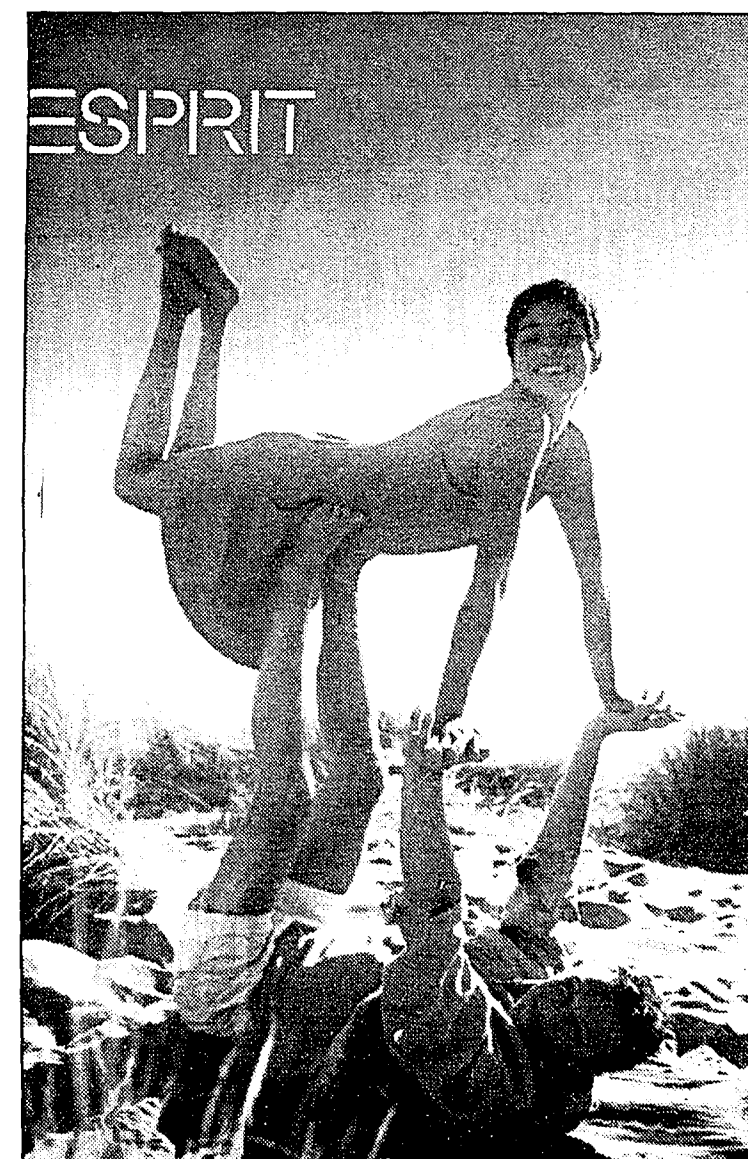
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# FSM revitalizing copra industry

PALIKIR, Pohnpei - Copra industry, the most traditional industry in the FSM may be revitalized if FSM Coconut Development Authority (CDA) pilot project, in manufacturing of coconut

cheese, coconut wine, coconut vinegar and nada-de-coco in the FSM for domestic consumption and for export purposes, proves viable, CDA Manager Namio Nanpei said.

According to the FSM Information Service, CDA has entered into contract with a professor at the Los Banos University in the Philippines to provide CDA with a plant layout and laboratory equipment needed for the project.

CDA also has rehired Chemist K. Puvaneswaran, from Sri Lanka to work with CDA on the pilot project. He is arriving Pohnpei in April.

An initial funding of \$50,000 was

appropriated by the FSM Congress to be utilized in the development of coconut products.

If the pilot projects proves successful and commercially viable, CDA hopes to privatize its operation like the Pohnpei Coconut Product (PCP) which is now operating as a business entity producing soaps, shampoos, cooking oil, body oil among other products for sale.

Asked about level copra production

increased from 900 tons in 1994 to 1,300 tons in 1995, it indicates that more efforts has been exerted in production of copra in response to the recent changing economic situations in the FSM.

Regarding the status of proposal by CDA for a Coconut Milk Project, most coconut processing countries have gone into the manufacturing of coconut milk.

If funding can be made available, CDA will implement the Coconut Milk Project, Nanpei concluded.

## PNG congratulates new Queensland premier

PAPUA New Guinea's prime minister, Sir Julius Chan, has sent a congratulatory message to the newly elected premier of the State of Queensland of Australia Rob Borbidge.

In a statement Sir Julius told Borbidge "your election to Queensland's high office is a fitting tribute to your strong political leadership of the Queensland Liberal Party and what your Party stands for in developing Queensland and its various relationships with the Australian Federal Government, and the differ-

ent states, as well as your closest neighbor to the north, Papua New Guinea."

Chan also saluted and extended his government's and the people's commendation and sincere appreciation to the outgoing premier of Queensland Wayne Goss.

Sir Julius re-assured Goss that the country has valued his contributions to the development of PNG and Australia's relationship, but particularly Queensland/PNG relations generated and built over the years....Pacnews

## Prisoners gang-raped?

POLICE in Suva are investigating alleged rapes committed by prison officers on inmates following complaints raised by a released prisoner, Anil Kumar Tuesday.

Kumar, a hairdresser, who was convicted of forgery, complained that prison officers gang raped and sexually abused him and three other inmates in return of a "good life in prison", the Fiji Times reported Wednesday.

He claimed they fell prey to 11 officers because of their homosexuality.

Kumar said the nightmares started in the condemned cells where officers would get the four prisoners to perform sexual acts through the bars

and enter their room one after another to rape them.

They had kept quiet about the sexual abuses for fear of brutal retaliation from the officers involved until two senior prison officers visited them suspecting something was wrong when the matter was reported.

Prison commissioner Apolosi Vosanibola confirmed that he had personally investigated the allegations while Police Assistant Superintendent Aisake Rabuku confirmed that the Criminal Investigation Department was conducting an investigation and had already received statements from the inmates and the officers allegedly involved....Pacnews

## Solomons trade union backtracks on strike

THE Solomon Islands Council of Trade Unions, SICTU, has withdrawn a threat for a nationwide strike. SICTU national secretary Tony Kagovai says the council has decided to withdraw the strike proposal over the Bank Debit Tax Act because of divisions among its members over the plan.

The national radio, SIBC,

quotes Kagovai as saying the council of trade unions will continue to monitor developments in the proposed amendment and implementation of the act, and will advise members on what action to take in future. The bank debit tax passed by parliament in December was one of the issues which forced trade unions to call for a nation-wide strike in protest....Pacnews

## Congressman announces bid for re-election

AMERICAN Samoan Congressman, Eni Faleomavaega, has announced he will stand for re-election in 1996, for an unprecedented fifth consecutive term in office. And, he has dismissed rumors that he will run for governor of the territory any time soon.

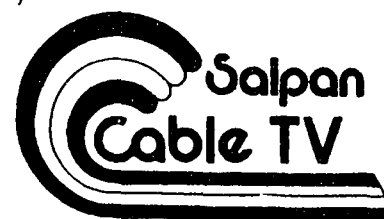
Faleomavaega says that the annual pay of more than US\$130,000 as a congressman compared to the governor's salary of \$50,000 dollars is not the incentive, RNZI reported Wednesday.

The congressman says money is not the issue and he believes he can help the people of American Samoa more in Washington than he could as Governor. He says his eight years in Washington has made him one of the longest-serving democrats on the House committee on International Relations which gives him a strong voice on issues related to the Pacific-Asia region.....Pacnews

## Saipan Cable TV Interruption

Saipan Cable TV is in the process of moving to our new Garapan location. As we move, we are improving our island-wide fiber optic cables, installing new fiber-optic cables, and transferring our fiber-optic transmitters from the old Oleai office to our new Garapan office. There may be intermittent outages between midnight Thursday night February 22nd and 6 a.m. Friday Morning, February 23rd.

As always, "We're Working To Bring You The Best"! We encourage you to join us as we bring the full benefits of the Information Superhighway to the CNMI, particularly providing all subscribers with sharp, clear Cable TV reception today and additional innovative digital services in the near future.



## The Philippines

# Church runs to aid of refugees

PUERTO PRINCESA, Philippines (AP) - The Catholic Church has promised to provide money and livelihood assistance for about 2,400 Vietnamese asylum-seekers living in a camp in Puerto Princesa, the mayor said Tuesday.

Mayor Edward Hagedorn said he met with nuns working among the Vietnamese and was assured of funding support if the Vietnamese were

allowed to stay in Puerto Princesa, 590 kilometers (370 miles) southwest of Manila.

On Monday, Hagedorn said the Vietnamese were welcome to stay in his city. But he stressed that their stay depended on their being given permanent residency status and a suitable relocation site by the Philippine government.

He said their future status needed to

be settled by the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, the Philippine Commission on Human Rights, the Department of Foreign Affairs and President Fidel Ramos.

Last week, the government forcibly repatriated 89 Vietnamese from the camp. Following sharp criticisms from the Catholic Church and others, it reversed its policy and said it would not force any others to return.

Foreign Affairs Secretary Domingo Siazon said the government is willing to find legal ways of granting residency rights to the Vietnamese. Tens of thousands of Vietnamese fled their homeland after the Communist victory in 1975. Many of them sailed to the Philippines, where the government and the United Nations established the First Asylum Camp in this city as a temporary shelter before their resettlement in the United States,

Canada and other countries.

Those still in the camp, however, were disqualified as political refugees and found to be economic migrants instead.

Maj. Gen. Carlos Tanega, chief of the Western Command, which administers the camp, said that if the government does not meet its own deadline to close the camp by June 30, it will be burdened by continued expenses to maintain the facility.

## Charges readied vs Malaysian fishermen

PUERTO PRINCESA, Philippines (AP) - Charges of illegal entry will be filed against 25 Malaysian fishermen caught last week in Philippine waters, authorities said Wednesday.

"They were caught poaching so we may also charge them with illegal fishing," said Senior Superintendent Marcelo Ele, police director for Palawan province.

Ele said the Malaysians were seized Friday by the navy on a fishing ship near Fearless Shoal off Palawan, 590 kilometers (370 miles) southwest of Manila.

Commodore Jose Divinagracia of the naval command in Puerto Princesa said

a navy patrol cornered the Malaysian ship several kilometers (miles) east of South Mangsee island, where another patrol had seized an Indonesian fishing boat with 13 men on board Feb. 13.

The Indonesian intruders were charged with illegal entry and poaching and are being detained at the Palawan provincial jail in Puerto Princesa.

Divinagracia said live fish were found inside the Malaysian ship, licensed under the name of Marbiah B.T. Abdul Rahim of Malaysia.

It was the third foreign vessel to be seized by the Philippine navy this month.



Philippine Marines disperse Vietnamese refugees as they try to block the runway at Puerto Princesa airport in the province of Palawan, where an Air Vietnam plane is waiting to repatriate 89 asylum seekers back to Vietnam. (AP Photo)



## PALAU NATIONALIST PARTY

P.O. Box 956 Koror, Republic of Palau 96940  
Tel. (680) 488-2987 • Fax (680) 488-2785

The Palau Nationalist Party is holding a Party Convention on February 28 and 29, 1996 at the Palau Marina Hotel.

This Convention is the first of its kind ever organized by a political party!

It offers Palauan people the opportunity to nominate candidates for the position of the President and Vice President for this year's upcoming elections with the full support of the Palau Nationalist Party!

The time has come for Palauans to contemplate and nominate individuals qualified and proficiently capable to do the job for the benefit of all, instead of one.

It's also the time for Palauans to understand the true meaning of "needs of the many outweigh the needs of the one!"

The Palauan Nationalists Party advocates that it's time we the people create "A Government.....For The People,.....By The People,...And Of The People" to better Palau's future!

## MARIANAS VISITORS BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

February 23, 1996, Friday  
MVB Board Conference Room  
Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg., 2nd Floor  
9:00 A.M.

### AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Call To Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S REPORTS
  1. Budget Committee
  2. PR & Ad Committee
- III. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORTS
- IV. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Tourist Sites Development Committee
  2. Utilization of the incarcerated for Field Operations' projects as restitution to community
- V. ANNOUNCEMENT
- VI. ADJOURNMENT



## Kato Kaelin concludes deposition on Simpson

By JEFF MEYER  
LOS ANGELES (AP) - A subdued Kato Kaelin ended a "difficult" three-day deposition Tuesday in the wrongful death lawsuit against his former host, O.J. Simpson.

The shaggy-haired Kaelin said the testimony was "tough, it was difficult." He and his lawyer, Michael Plotkin, refused to discuss specifics as they left the office of attorney Daniel Petrocelli, who is representing Ronald Goldman's family.

"I think that Mr. Kaelin has been giving very straightforward responses," Petrocelli said. "I think he's trying his best to tell the truth and remember everything that he

can."

The families of Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson are trying to prove that Simpson was responsible - and therefore liable - for their June 1994 deaths. The lawsuit, which seeks unspecified damages, was to go to trial April 2, but lawyers expect the drawn-out deposition process will force a date change.

Petrocelli said Simpson mumbled during Kaelin's testimony, but described the football star as "under control." He did not elaborate.

Simpson was scolded last week for muttering derogatory comments during Kaelin's deposition.

## Foreign companies find easy access to US military secrets

By JOHN DIAMOND  
WASHINGTON (AP) - Foreign-owned companies readily gain access to highly classified U.S. defense information through their American subsidiaries, congressional auditors said in a report Tuesday.

The General Accounting Office reached no conclusion on whether the access was authorized or not. But the congressional watchdog agency found lax controls in place to prevent the export of sensitive military secrets.

At stake is the integrity of some of the most closely guarded U.S. weapon programs, developed at a cost of tens of billions of taxpayer dollars, the GAO said in a declassified version of what was a classified report.

"Some of these foreign-owned companies are working on highly classified defense contracts, such

as the B-2 (bomber) the F-117 (stealth fighter jet) the F-22 (fighter) and military satellite programs," the report said. In one instance, the GAO found that a foreign national representing a foreign parent firm had reviewed the space and military technologies of a U.S. defense contractor to see if there were opportunities for cooperation with the parent firm. Another U.S. defense contractor had a foreign representative working on a computer system for the B-2 bomber.

The 54 foreign-owned companies working on U.S. defense contracts are from Australia, Austria, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland and Britain - all allies or friends.

But in a section that omitted the names of specific countries, the report noted that "Country A ... conducts the most aggressive espionage operation against the United States of any U.S. ally." A key goal of this spying is industrial technology to help improve that country's own defense industry, the GAO said.

During the 1960s, "Country B began an aggressive and massive espionage effort against the United States," according to the report. "By stealing the technology from the United States, Country B can have cutting-edge weapon systems without the cost of research and development."

In a reply to the report, Emmett Paige Jr., assistant secretary of defense for command, control, communications and intelligence, said the Department of Defense "agrees with most of the report" but with some exceptions. The controls now in place at U.S. defense firms that may be foreign owned or working in part-

nership with foreign companies adequately safeguard military secrets, Paige argued.

The 54 foreign-owned U.S. defense contractors hold a total of 657 classified contracts worth \$5.4 billion. The Pentagon imposes a variety of safeguards, in some cases requiring foreign parent companies to transfer control or ownership of stock in U.S. subsidiaries to U.S. citizens.

The GAO found a dozen companies that had negotiated exceptions to rules that would have normally restricted foreign representatives from obtaining access to top-secret, special access and other sensitive information.

All of these companies appoint a U.S. citizen trustee charged with safeguarding U.S. secrets. At six of the companies reviewed, the enforcement activity of the trustee "ranged from limited to nonexistent," the GAO said. In one case, the trustee had past business connections with the parent company, a violation of security regulations.

The GAO reported one case in which a foreign parent company fired a U.S. subsidiary president because the president had tried to enforce rules protecting military secrets.

The contracts held by foreign-owned firms include:

- Development of software for target selection and aircraft routes in a nuclear war.

- Maintenance of the Pentagon's Worldwide Military Command and Control System.

- Production of command destruct receivers to destroy missiles that go off course.

- Production of flight controls for the B-2, the F-117 and the F-22.



Suzuyo Takazato, Naha City, Japan, city assembly woman, gestures during a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington, to discuss the livelihood and human rights of Okinawan women and children from sexual violence. The Okinawan local government argues in court that the size of the U.S. bases there should be cut to protect islanders from crime and the effects of military exercises. (AP Photo)

## Smoke causes passenger panic

By The Associated Press  
SMOKE from American and Delta airliners a continent apart sent hundreds of passengers sliding down escape chutes Tuesday just before the planes were to take off. Dozens were injured in the incidents in New York and Portland, Oregon.

In Washington, meanwhile, a Continental Airlines plane overshoot a runway and got stuck in mud, the second landing mishap for Continental in as many days.

One passenger was treated for chest pains.

Thirty people suffered minor injuries and were taken to hospitals for evaluation, some complaining of back or neck pain. Four others were treated at the scene.

Gus Whitcomb, a spokesman at American's headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas, said the pilot of the Airbus A300 noticed smoke in the cockpit as the plane left the gate around 7 a.m. EST. Passen-

gers said there also was smoke in the cabin. No fire was found, and the plane was being checked further.

American's Flight 587, bound for the Dominican Republic with 180 passengers and a crew of 10, had been pulled about 150 feet (45 meters) from the terminal gate when the smoke was noted.

On the West Coast, Delta Air Lines' Flight 839 to Los Angeles was on a taxiway at Portland International Airport shortly after 7 a.m. local time when smoke was noticed coming from an auxiliary power unit under the tail.

Four injuries were reported as the 135 passengers and eight crew members used emergency slides

to leave the Boeing 767, said airport spokesman Doug Roberts.

There was no fire, and smoke did not enter the passenger cabin, authorities said.

Later Tuesday, Continental Airlines' Flight 1156, a Boeing 737 landing at Washington's National Airport, overshot a runway and became stuck in the mud.

## US gov't orders trains: Go slow after stations

WASHINGTON (AP) - Four days after a fiery crash outside Washington that killed 11 people, the U.S. government issued emergency rules requiring passenger trains to restrict their speed after leaving stations.

Passenger trains must limit speed to 30 mph (48 kmph) leaving stations, engineers will have to call out red or yellow signals to another crew member and railroads must ensure emergency exits are clearly marked and working.

"While the National Transportation Safety Board has not reached a final conclusion, enough questions have been answered to take actions

## Iraqi defector returns home

By JAMAL HALABY  
AMMAN, Jordan (AP) - Deserted by his friends and harangued by his homesick wife, Iraq's highest-ranking defector was back in Baghdad Wednesday with a reported pardon from his father-in-law, Saddam Hussein. But for Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel al-Majid, who is married to Saddam's eldest daughter Raghda, the future still looks uncertain after his ill-fated mutiny against the unpredictable and usually unforgiving Iraqi leader.

The state-run Iraqi television network reported late Tuesday that al-Majid and his brother, Col. Saddam Kamel - who is married to another of Saddam's daughters, Rana - and their entourage arrived in Baghdad after a 12-hour drive across the desert from Amman, Jordan.

It gave no details of how they were welcomed. But it said that Saddam had agreed to allow them to return after the defector pleaded for a pardon Saturday.

Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council, which Saddam heads, Monday "decided to approve his appeal and allow him to return to Iraq and deal with him as an ordinary citizen," the TV said.

An official at the Iraqi Embassy in Amman, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Tuesday after al-Majid set off for Baghdad that he "will be safe and welcomed in his country and will not be punished for his misdemeanor."

now," Transportation Secretary Federico Pena said Tuesday at a White House briefing.

The Federal Railroad Administration rules were to take effect at 12:01 a.m. Wednesday.

The deadly wreck occurred Friday evening after a Maryland Rail Commuter, or MARC, train passed a signal that was supposed to be yellow, requiring the train to limit its speed to 30 mph (48 kmph). The train then stopped at a station in Kensington, Maryland but when it left the station, it sped up to 63 mph (100 kmph).

Investigators don't know if the engineer forgot the earlier warning, overlooked it, or the signal malfunctioned.

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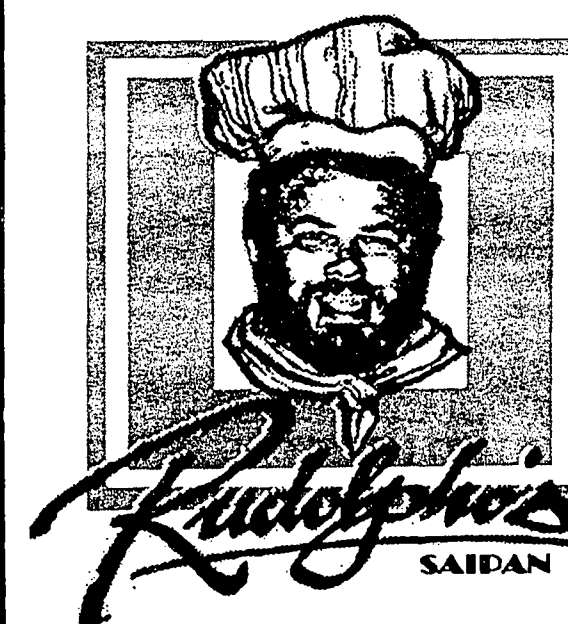
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# Tight security for Diana's visit



Princess Diana

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) - Government officials Tuesday were preparing special security arrangements for Princess Diana's private visit to the central Pakistani city of Lahore.

The princess is due to arrive shortly after noon Wednesday on a two-day trip, during which she will visit the hospital founded by former cricket star Imran Khan.

Although it is a private trip, Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has asked the provincial government of Punjab to provide full

security and protocol facilities. "Look, Lady Di is Lady Di, and even if she is on a private visit the government must provide her with security and formal greetings," said Yousef Salauddin, a close friend of Imran Khan's.

Provincial Finance Minister Afzal Sindhu will greet Diana on her arrival in Lahore.

"She is a very esteemed guest," Sindhu said. "She is the wife of the future crown of Great Britain, or at least the estranged wife."

It was unclear whether Diana

would accept an invitation to stay at the Punjab governor's residence.

During her trip to Lahore, Diana will visit the children's ward of Imran Khan's hospital. She will hand out gifts to celebrate Eid-ul-

Fitr, which marks the end of Ramadan, the Muslim holy month of fasting.

Also coming to Pakistan on Imran Khan's invitation are his mother-in-law Lady Annabel Goldsmith and rock star Mick Jagger, Salauddin said.

## Japan, South Korea in a territorial dispute

By MARI YAMAGUCHI  
TOKYO (AP) - Japan and South Korea announced competing claims Tuesday for 200-nautical mile economic zones around their countries, intensifying a territorial dispute over a barren group of islets.

But in an apparent effort to soften the diplomatic impact of the announcements, both countries deliberately avoided mentioning the islets by name. The South Koreans call them Tok-do, and the Japanese Takeshima.

The two countries have argued sharply in the past week over ownership of the tiny islets, which lie about halfway between them in the Sea of Japan, known as the East Sea in Korea.

The conflict has simmered for nearly a century, and reignited recently after both countries announced their intention to declare exclusive economic zones under the U.N. Law of the Sea Treaty.

The convention allows countries to exercise exclusive rights to exploit natural and fishery resources in the zone they claim, but the economic claim alone does not give a country the right to force others out of the area.

In making the Japan's announcement, chief government spokesman Seiroku Kajiyama said it hopes to open talks with South Korea on the economic claims as soon as possible, even before Parliament moves to ratify the U.N. convention.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto told reporters separately that "the key is how we can detach the territorial issues (from the economic zone) and conduct calm negotiations."

The 200-nautical mile zone announced by Japan also includes a separate islet group to which Japan's claim is disputed by China and Tai-

wan. Japanese officials said they hoped for talks with China on those islands. Beijing is expected to ratify the sea-zone convention later this year.

Hours after the Japanese announcement, South Korean Foreign Minister Gong Ro-myung told a news conference that Seoul planned to adopt the U.N. convention "as soon as possible." He said it will require negotiations with neighboring Japan and China on how to delineate zones.

The minister said the zoning will focus on fisheries. South Korea will need to negotiate with Japan to revise their existing fishery accord and sign a new fishery agreement with China.

To bolster its claim, Seoul announced earlier this month plans to build a wharf on the islets, which it now controls with a small military detachment. Japan responded by reiterating its claim and demanding that South Korea drop the wharf plan.

The Japanese move riled the Koreans, who still harbor bitter memories from Tokyo's brutal 1910-1945 colonial rule, when many Koreans were stripped of their farmland, forced to speak Japanese and conscripted for slave labor. Seoul held a high-profile military exercise near the islets last week.

Although an annual affair, this year's naval and air exercise was initially canceled by the South Koreans, then rescheduled after the diplomatic fuss with Japan heated up. South Korea has parliamentary elections in April, and the government didn't want to appear to be appeasing Japan. Japan claims that it established military control over the islets in 1904 in its war with Russia. Six years later, Japan forced Korea to sign an annexation treaty, beginning 35 years of Japanese rule.

## Children of N. Korean officials being recalled

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - In an attempt to prevent more embarrassing defections, North Korea is ordering the sons and daughters of high-ranking officials posted abroad to return home, South Korean reports said Wednesday.

Many have already been ordered home, or are preparing to leave for home, the national news agency Yonhap said, quoting a government

official. Surveillance over children of the elite has also been heightened in the aftermath of the recent defections, the daily Kookmin Ilbo reported.

Last month, Hyun Sung Il, 36, the third secretary of the North's embassy in Zambia, defected here. His wife and a North Korean intelligence agent at the embassy had defected two weeks earlier.

Happy Birthday  
**Ruben George De Castro**  
on February 22, 1996  
May you have more b-days to come!  
from your wife Julie

# China notes rapid urbanization

By CHARLES HUTZLER  
FUYANG, China (AP) - A \$ 23 million road project can't lay pavement fast enough to accommodate the cars and trucks. Factories multiply so quickly there's not enough electricity and water to run them.

Yet people keep coming to Fuyang: The once-quiet county seat, if not rich, is booming.

In Fuyang's gritty progress, China's planners see the future. They are pitching the rapid transformation of towns into cities as a way around the country's most intractable problem: too many people and not enough land.

Moving farmers who are barely scraping by on meager plots into promising industries in cities - or so the theory goes - will raise incomes and encourage large-scale, more mechanized, productive farming.

It might also diminish the army of migrant laborers roaming the country in search of work. Its ranks are filled with at least 80 million peasants, by official count, and China's Communist leaders fear them as a potential source of unrest.

To accommodate the throng of unemployed and underemployed and keep them out of already overloaded metropolises, China - which tries to control what goes on inside its borders as much as possible - plans to increase the number of cities from 622 in 1994 to 1,003 by 2010.

China's 900 million farmers make up 80 percent of the population. But that is changing - fast. Hebei province, which surrounds Beijing, plans to move 8 million peasants into cities, most of them newly built, by 2000.

In Fuyang, 500 miles (800 kilometers) south of Beijing in eastern Anhui province, the pace is frenetic. Since the county seat and the surrounding area were declared a city four years ago, growth has averaged 30 percent a year.

Zhang Pengju sounds more like a real estate developer than the deputy mayor when he reels off Fuyang's changes: Some \$ 23 million is being spent to build or widen 80 miles (125 kilometers) of roads and three bridges; a \$24

million loan is being used to bring water from a river 20 miles (30 kilometers) to the south. Two power stations and a sewage treatment plant await funding or approval from Beijing, and an amusement park, a stadium and lots of public toilets are being built.

Even so, officials say the new roads and power stations will soon be overwhelmed. By 2000, the city's population is expected to double to 500,000. By 2010, 1 million.

"I feel very gratified," said Li Wei, Communist Party deputy secretary for the city.

"This was Anhui's Siberia. It was a poor, backward area," he said. "We're developing bit by bit, but it's still the Third World."

Fuyang's rise from the flat, dusty Anhui countryside has been fueled by carefully planned public works projects and the brisk, anarchic growth of peasant-run factories that have driven China's economy over the past decade.

Most of the factories involve labor-intensive processing of farm products, hides for leather goods, grain for liquor. The city's largest employer, a textile factory, does have some state-of-the-art equipment, Zhang said.

Because of its poverty, Fuyang was chosen as the site for a freight yard for the new Beijing-Hong Kong railroad and got the equivalent of \$310 million from Beijing to build the facilities, Li said.

Strategies pursued by other towns differ in detail, not goal.

Bozhou, 60 miles (100 kilometers) north of Fuyang, has encouraged peasants to grow herbs used in traditional Chinese medicine, and the city set up a market to attract buyers from pharmaceutical companies around the country.

"I can make more money doing this," said 15-year-old Yang Xianfeng, standing in front of his family's samples. They plant medicinal herbs on about one-third of their half-acre of land.

Growth has come at the usual price: Crime is on the rise, pollution is out of control and public health standards are lax.

"The biggest problem is the

quality of people," said Party Secretary Li. "They're not used to living in cities. We're turning a farm population into a non-farm population."

Zhang said Fuyang began a series of crackdowns in 1993 to stamp out the worst offenses: extortion, theft and rape. But drunken peasants still mill about the town center's broad intersection at night and young women offer to share cheap hotel rooms.

One new city that has managed to avoid these ills is Zhangjiagang, a national model being touted by the Communist Party. Its peasants-turned-laborers study a book listing prohibitions and admonishments for a healthy life.

Even smoking, the closest thing China's countryside has to a national pastime, reportedly is banned in public.

Whether the growth of smaller cities will keep peasants out of

the big ones remains to be seen. Fuyang hasn't tried to dissuade them. Zhang said some workers are encouraged to gain experience, for example, in Shanghai's more modern mills, then return to Fuyang with money and expertise.

And some peasants say the government isn't offering them a good enough deal to leave their land. Some work their fields by day and sell vegetables in the city markets by night.



New U.S. Ambassador to China James Sasser, second from left, walks past soldiers guarding Beijing's Great Hall of the People, after he presented his credentials to Chinese President Jiang Zemin Wednesday. (AP Photo)

## 2 killed as train derails in India

NEW DELHI, India (AP) - A New Delhi-bound train derailed Tuesday near a northern Indian city, killing two passengers and injuring nine people, railroad officials said.

Seven cars of the Rajdhani Express, an important train connecting Calcutta and New Delhi, jumped the rails near Mughalsara, 775 kilometers (480 miles) east of New Delhi, officials said on condition of anonymity.

A 72-year-old Delhi resident was killed, as was a one-year-old child. The child's mother was injured. At least nine people were injured in the accident, officials

said.

It was not immediately known how the accident occurred, but news agencies quoted unnamed railroad officials as saying that communist rebels may have tampered with the tracks.

The rebels have often targeted federal government property, such as trains, in their battle against rich land owners and corrupt government officials who, they say, deny poor people their rights.

Several other trains were held up across many states in the north following the accident. Rescue operations had begun, officials said. Details of the accident were sketchy.

### CPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to section 11 of Public Law 8-41, The Open Government Act of 1992, the Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby serves notice that it will hold its regular Board Meeting on Friday, February 23, 1996 at 10:00 a.m. at the CPA SEAPORT OFFICE Conference Room, Charlie Dock, Puerto Rico, Saipan. The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Call to Order
  2. Roll Call
  3. Adoption of Agenda
  4. Adoption of Minutes
- II. CORRESPONDENCE
- III. COMMITTEES REPORT
  1. Finance Committee
    - a. Adoption of Financial Statements
  2. Other Committees report
- IV. EXECUTIVE REPORT
- V. OLD BUSINESS
  1. Amendment to Existing Drug Policy
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
  1. 1996 Airportslympics - CPA vs. GAA on Guam
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENT (S)
- VIII. (Executive Session) LEGAL COUNSEL'S REPORT
- XI. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or an oral testimony on the above agenda items.

Victor B. Hocog  
Chairman, Board of Directors

Date: 2/14/96

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Oakland Technical High School Teacher David Christiano hugs fellow striking teacher Emma Bailey while picketing in Landmark Plaza Thursday, in Oakland, Calif. Oakland's teacher have walked off their jobs, with the earliest talks scheduled for Saturday. AP

## JOB VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) at the Saipan International Airport is looking for applicants for the following positions:

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- 1(one) Statistician/Accountant**
- 1(one) Firefighter Trainee**
- 1(one) Mechanic**
- 1(one) Electronics Technician**

The qualifications for **Plant Accountant** is a Bachelors Degree in Accounting with three to four years of accounting experience preferably in construction industry. Must be knowledgeable and experienced with the application of Quatropro and Microsoft Word from an IBM compatible computer.

The minimum qualification for the **Statistician/Accountant** is any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) and a minimum of two years of college education with concentration in business and accounting courses plus no less than five years of responsible work experience in accounting or statistics.

Applicants for **Firefighter Trainee** must be a high school graduate or equivalent and must be able to pass the National Fire Protection Association firefighter entry qualifications on Medical and Physical Fitness requirements.

The minimum qualifications for **Electronics Technician** is high school graduation or equivalent, and must successfully completed related or vocational and technical certification at a U.S. accredited trade or vocational school plus three years experience as an electronics technician.

The minimum qualification for **Mechanic** are that applicants must be high school graduates or equivalent, and successfully completed related vocational and technical certification at a U.S. accredited trade or vocational school plus three years of experience as an automotive and heavy equipment repair and maintenance operations of which one year pertains to supervisory experience.

Application forms are available at the Security Office on the First Floor of the Arrival Building at the Saipan International Airport or at the Second Floor Administration Office. Application forms must be accompanied by an updated police clearance dating back five years. For more information, please contact Tel: 664-3500. The deadline for submission of applications is February 23, 1996 at 4:30 pm.

## Realignment focuses sharply on Internet

REDMOND, Washington (AP) -Microsoft Corp. has announced internal changes intended to sharpen its focus on Internet-related products.

There will be no reductions in the company's 21,000-person work force and there will be no charge for the restructuring, company vice president Paul Maritz said Tuesday.

The changes also will have no immediate impact on products that consumers see.

The Platforms Group, responsible for Microsoft's core Windows product, is being realigned and its four divisions - business, consumer, developer and personal systems - reduced to three: Desktop and Business systems; Internet Platform and Tools; and Consumer Platforms.

Desktop and Business Systems will be led by Senior Vice President Jim Allchin and will have overall responsibility for Microsoft's family of Windows operating systems.

The Internet Platform and Tools Division will be led by Senior Vice President Brad Silverberg, and will be in charge of developing computer programs, developer tools and other products to provide Internet applications and content.

Senior Vice President Craig Mundie will lead Consumer Platforms, which will develop software for devices other than

personal computers, such as interactive television and handheld computers. It also will produce complete, integrated software systems for computer networks.

Allchin formerly headed the business division; Mundie, the consumer division; and Silverberg, the personal systems division. Senior Vice President Roger Heinen, who had led the developer division, "has chosen the occasion of his 45th birthday to retire after 23 years in the software industry," said Microsoft Chairman Bill Gates.

Last Thursday, Microsoft reorganized its Applications and Content Group, combining its Consumer Productivity Group with its Desktop Applications Division.

It also dissolved its Consumer Division, putting its functions into a new Interactive Media Division, which includes its on-line Microsoft Network (MSN), games and kids' products, the MSNBC venture with NBC, Microsoft's role in the Dreamworks Interactive joint venture, and the online magazine being edited by Michael Kinsley, formerly of CNN.

The new division is led by Senior Vice President Patty Stonesifer, who had been in charge of the Consumer Division.

## Ford apologizes over fiasco on ad pictures

LONDON (AP) - Ford U.K. Ltd., British arm of America's Ford Motor Co., apologized to workers and customers Tuesday after black faces were removed from artwork for an advertising campaign.

Four black assembly workers were among 25 from Ford's plant at Dagenham 10 miles (16 km) east of central London who posed for a promotional picture in 1991, their trade union said.

They found that their faces and hands had been colored white when the picture was resurrected to illustrate literature for the new Ford Credit Options scheme for auto buyers.

The four - a woman and three men - complained to a Transport and General Workers Union representative. The issue led to an investigation by Ford bosses and advertisers Ogilvy and Mather.

Rich Van Leeuwen, managing director of Ford Credit, said in a statement Tuesday apologizing to workers and customers: "We believe we have satisfactorily explained to the trade union that there was absolutely no racial motive."

"I apologize again for any offense the brochure might have caused to employees and customers, and we have taken steps to ensure that it does not happen again."

The company refused to comment on news reports that Ford offered each of the four 1,500 pounds (\$2,310) compensation.

Bill Morris, the general secretary of the union, said he welcomed Ford's apology but added: "This is an appalling situation which reveals the depth of racist attitudes in our society. The changes to the poster were deeply offensive to the people concerned and to the Ford work force as a whole."

Ford managers have withdrawn posters and scrapped thousands of copies of the booklet whose front cover carried the all-white line-up. The posters and booklets had been destined for Ford showrooms across Britain. The company in a statement said the "administrative error" occurred when a negative from an original photograph used for Ford's "Everything We Do Is Driven By You" advertising campaign five years ago was revived by mistake to promote the new Ford Credit Options scheme.

It was designed by advertisers to emphasize the pride and ethnic mix of the Dagenham work force to customers in Britain.

## Yeltsin woos small-business leaders

MOSCOW (AP) - President Boris Yeltsin told a convention of small-business leaders in the Kremlin on Tuesday that the fate of free enterprise is on the line in June's presidential elections.

Yeltsin promised the group of about 3,500 entrepreneurs that if re-elected, he would boost state support to small businesses and lower taxes. He also said he would try to streamline the confusing le-

gal system, which has contributed to the difficulties of doing business in Russia.

The president, who is seeking a second term, lags in polls, while the revived Communist Party is riding a wave of popular support. Yeltsin's campaign message has been that he is the only alternative to the Communists, who favor a return to more state control of the economy. "Russia's revival, its economic development and the growth of people's prosperity are possible only on the road of consolidating the market and democracy," Yeltsin said Tuesday to the Congress of Representatives of Small Enterprises.

Attempts to roll back market reforms, he said, "would deal a crushing blow to the country from which it might never recover."

Yeltsin himself has raised concern in business circles in recent weeks by firing top reformist ministers and promis-



Boris Yeltsin

"We must compensate for the social costs of the initial stage of reforms by encouraging small-business development and forming a stable stratum of efficient owners," Yeltsin told the congress Tuesday.

He said millions of Russians are involved in small business.

"The further we advance on the market road, the clearer it becomes that small business is one of the strongholds of the economy, citizens' well-being, society's social and political stability, as well as of its moral revival in a great many cases," he said.

The three-day congress is being attended by business representatives from around Russia. Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin was to address them later Tuesday.

In other economic news, Yeltsin named Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Kadannikov as Russia's representative to the World Bank, succeeding Anatoly Chubais, whom Yeltsin had dismissed.

ing potentially budget-breaking subsidies to ailing economic sectors.

Those moves came after Communists and ultranationalists did well in December's parliamentary elections.

Yeltsin has said he is trying to fine-tune the reforms to ease the hardships they have brought many Russians.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

(02/12/96)

## SUMMER JOB

THIS IS TO INFORM ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS THAT THE CNMI JTPA OFFICE IS SOLICITING ONE HUNDRED (100) APPLICANTS FOR THE YOUTH VACATION EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM. SPECIFICALLY, PRIORITY CONSIDERATION WILL BE ACCORDED TO THOSE STUDENTS BELOW THE POVERTY INCOME GUIDELINE (ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED). HOWEVER, DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF LOCAL FUNDING, THE PROGRAM MAY ACCOMMODATE THOSE STUDENTS WHO ARE CONSIDERED NOT ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS TUESDAY, MARCH 05, 1996. NO APPLICATION WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE ESTABLISHED DATE.

ALL STUDENTS ON GREEN TRACK ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT THE JTPA OFFICE LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS CUC, OR CONTACT MRS. LAURENT CHONG OR MR. MARTIN PANGELINAN AT 664-1701 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

RESPECTFULLY,

FELIX NOGIS  
JTPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## Protest against violence



Students raise their hands, painted white to symbolize they are free of blood stains, at a demonstration to decry terrorism and to mourn the shooting death of a law professor and former top judge in Madrid Thursday. More than 4,000 students took part in the protest at the Autonomous University of Madrid, where Francisco Tomas y Valiente, former president of Spain's Constitutional Court taught and was shot dead Feb. 14. Police suspect the Basque separatist group ETA. AP

## Zedillo promises jobs

By BILL CORMIER

MEXICO CITY (AP) - President Ernesto Zedillo, seeking to take the sting out of depressing new unemployment figures, assured workers that creating jobs is a top priority for his government, along with fighting inflation.

Zedillo spoke to a gathering of Mexican workers Tuesday, a day after the government reported the country's unemployment rate rose to 6.4 percent in January, compared with 5.2 percent the previous month.

The showing in January ended four straight months of steadily declining unemployment. Zedillo said seasonal factors were responsible for an increase in joblessness.

"Our priority at this time is the protection and creation of employment, but we will not neglect our fight against inflation," Zedillo said. Inflation dipped to 7 percent in 1994, but the collapse of the peso that December led to a 52 percent rate for 1995. Officials hope to keep inflation below 25 percent this year.

In another sour economic note Tuesday, Mexico's main IPC stock index - the key measurement of stock market performance - hit a new closing low for 1996, dropping 2.4 percent to 2,904.41

points.

Dealers blamed the stock slide on fluctuations in domestic and international interest rates and trader disappointment with increasing unemployment.

The IPC last finished lower Dec. 29, 1995, at 2,778.47. The unemployment report comes as Mexico fights to create new jobs as part of an economic recovery. Mexico entered one of its deepest recessions in decades in December 1994 after the peso lost about 40 percent of its value.

"We Mexicans have corrected the causes of the crisis," said Zedillo on Tuesday.

Mexico is in a decade-long transition from a centrally controlled economy to a more open, free-market approach and many businesses are shedding workers to become more efficient and better compete in the global marketplace.

Mexico currently has a population growth rate of around 1.9 percent, which means that it must produce 1 million new jobs a year just to give work to those entering the labor market for the first time.

Since 1982, when the oil boom turned bust, Mexico has been producing around 600,000 new jobs a year, according to independent estimates.

## Cuba, Barbados ink investment accord

MEXICO CITY (AP) - Cuba and Barbados signed an investment treaty Tuesday, the first such accord between Cuba and another Caribbean country, the Notimex news agency reported.

The agreement, which promotes and protects bilateral investments, was signed by Barbados' foreign trade minister, Philippe Goddard, and Cuba's minister of foreign investment and economic collaboration, Ibrahim Ferradaz.

Goddard, on a five-day visit to Cuba that ends Wednesday, said, "Barbados has no reason to obey" the three-decade-old U.S. embargo against Cuba, Notimex reported.

A delegation of Barbadian businessmen is scheduled to visit Havana in April to explore investment possibilities, Notimex reported.

Since 1993, Cuba has signed similar investment treaties with

countries including Argentina, Bolivia, Britain, Chile, China, Colombia, Italy, Russia, Spain, Ukraine and Vietnam, the report said.

Goddard signed another accord Monday that eliminated the requirement for Barbadians and Cubans with valid passports to get visas to travel to the other country, the Cuban Foreign Ministry said, Notimex reported. The Barbadian diplomat also met with Cuban Foreign Trade Minister Ricardo Cabrisas to discuss issues involving the new Association of Caribbean States, which both countries belong to; and the joint commission between Cuba and the 14 members of the Caribbean Community. The commission, created at the end of 1993, arranges cooperation in the areas of culture, education, fishing, tourism, science and technology and trade and investment.

## Singapore growth lower

SINGAPORE (AP) - Economic growth in Singapore is expected to be 7 to 7.5 percent this year, slightly lower than an earlier government forecast of 7 to 8 percent, it was reported Wednesday.

The Straits Times quoted National Development Minister Lim Hng Kiang as saying

that the economy was "performing very well" and prospects in the region were opening up new opportunities for local companies.

Lim's comments were made during a lunar new year gathering sponsored by the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

## Steady price for coal

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) - The Australian coal industry's dwindling hopes of a price rise for thermal coal exports disappeared when negotiations established a steady price for the coming year.

Although the result is expected to cause some disappointment for producers, analysts said expectations had been cooling over the past week.

"I think they have got the best price they could get at the time," Peter O'Connor of Macquarie Equities said Wednesday.

"It's a soft market out there." Five Australian coal suppliers agreed with Japan's Chubu Electric Power Co to hold the benchmark price of thermal coal steady for the coming year at US \$30.22 (40.30 Australian dollars) per ton.

**ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS MEETS**

The Saipan Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at 7:00 p.m. at the Kristo Rai Church Social Hall Kitchen in Garapan, across from the Horiguchi Building. If you have a drinking or drug problem call 234-5100 and they will put you in contact with someone who might be able to help.

## Woman pronounced dead doing fine

FRANKFORT, Kentucky (AP) - Police Sgt. Ben Hellard pulled back the sheet to take a picture of the dead woman - and she started to move.

Helen Fincel, 95, was mistakenly declared dead Sunday after falling off her back porch and lying for several hours in near-freezing weather.

Hellard didn't notice anything unusual at first when he went to photograph Fincel, who was put on a gurney at the

hospital and covered with a sheet. "I've seen dozens of bodies in my 15 years as a police officer," he said Monday. "She looked as dead as any of them."

Only she wasn't. First, Hellard saw one of Fincel's eyes twitch. When he saw her head turn slightly and her chest slowly moving up and down, he notified a doctor, who confirmed Fincel was still alive.

Hellard planned to take the photo as a precaution: Fincel lived near a 79-year-old woman who was killed about two weeks ago.

Fincel's minimal vital signs apparently were a result of severe hypothermia, said hospital officials, who promised to investigate the mistaken

diagnosis. When she arrived at the hospital, her body temperature was 84 F (29 C) - the lowest the hospital's thermometer would record. Hospital administrator Ron Tyrer said the doctor who pronounced Fincel dead was not a regular employee and the hospital would stop using his services.

Fincel, meanwhile, was moved out of the intensive care unit Monday and was in fair condition. She was expected to be released by the weekend. Fincel's cousin Frederick Dolt visited her and said she seemed "very satisfactory." "She's a tough old woman," he said.

## Death and Funeral Announcement

of the late police officer

### ANTONIO CEPEDA TOMOKANE, JR. (BLANCO)

Better known as "TONY" of Garapan, Saipan was called to his eternal rest on February 17, 1996 at the age of 27

#### Predeceased by:

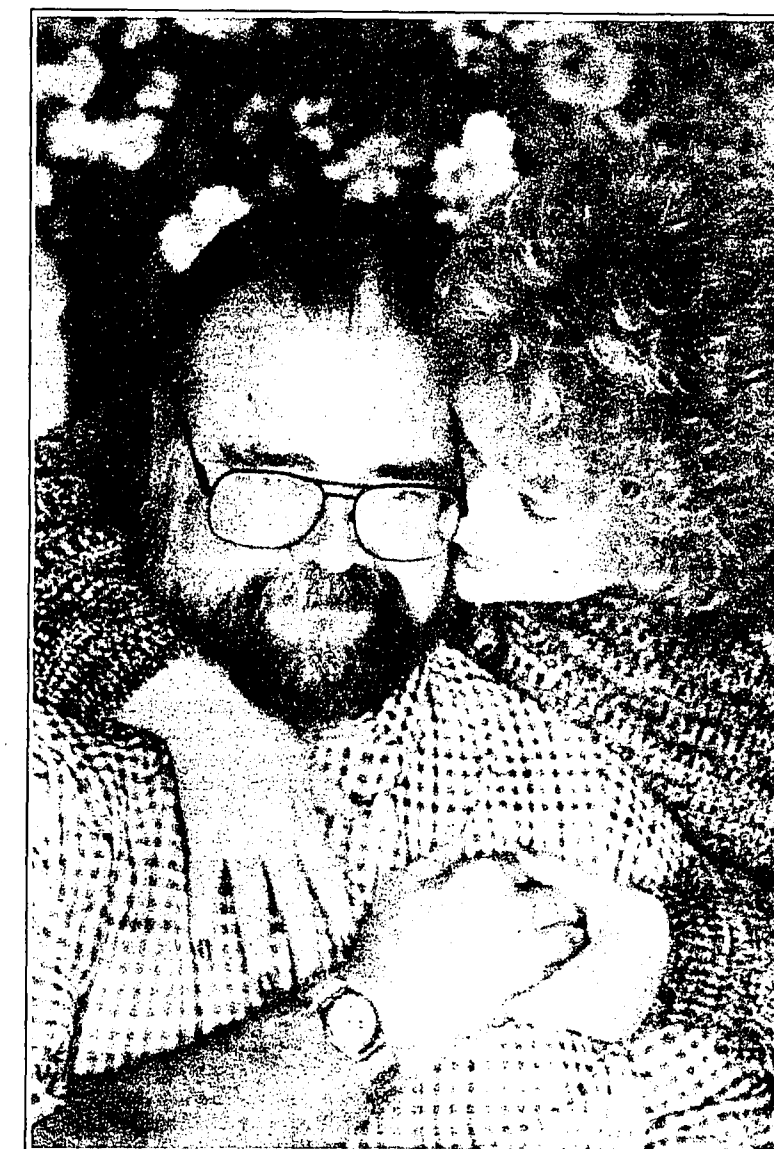
Grandparents : Manuel B. Blanco, Jose & Dolores C. Tomokane

Survived by : Children : Kevin Anthony, Kyle Malcolm & Tioni Antonio Cepeda Tomokane (Mitch) Parents : Jovita Blanco Tomokane Grandparent : Asuncion C. Blanco

Sisters, Spouse & Children : Zelma & Ronald T. Benavente (Jovina & Jalayne), Gina B. Tomokane (Jourdon)

Brother : Jeffrey B. Tomokane

He is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces & nephews. Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence of his parents, Middle Road in Garapan. Viewing of body will be on Saturday, February 24, starting at 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at his parents residence. Burial mass will be offered the same day (Feb. 24) at the Kristo Rai Church at 4:30 p.m. Interment will immediately follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.



Noreen McGuire hugs her husband, Michael, at their home in Santa Clara, Calif., Noreen is donating one of her kidneys to Michael on Valentine Day at Stanford Hospital. Michael is suffering kidney failure due to Diabetes. AP

## Conflict over Kevorkian's intent: To Kill or ease pain

By BRIAN S. AKRE

PONTIAC, Michigan (AP) - Dr. Jack Kevorkian stopped up his ears in a gesture of disdain as lawyers at his assisted-suicide trial argued over whether his primary intent was to relieve suffering or simply to kill.

Kevorkian put his fingers and, at times, cotton balls in his ears during opening arguments and initial testimony on Tuesday.

"Are you listening to this crap?" he said. He said he was instead reading a list of words to strengthen his vocabulary.

The 67-year-old retired pathologist is accused of assisting in the 1993 deaths of Merian Frederick, 72, of Ann Arbor, and Dr. Ali Khalili, 61, of Oak Brook, Illinois. They died by inhaling carbon monoxide.

The case is expected to hinge on what some see as a loophole in Michigan's now-ex-

pired assisted-suicide law, under which Kevorkian was charged. It provided an exception for someone who administered "medications or procedures if the intent is to relieve pain or discomfort and not to cause death, even if the medication or procedure may hasten or increase the risk of death."

During opening arguments Tuesday, defense attorney Geoffrey Fieger said relieving pain was the doctor's intention.

He told the jury that for Kevorkian's patients, death was the only choice. He asked the jurors what they would do if they took a sick pet to a veterinarian and were told the only humane option was to put the animal to sleep.

Kevorkian has assisted in at least 27 suicides since 1990. The only other time he stood trial was in 1994, and he was acquitted.

## DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

### DIANE MASGA INOS

1957-1996

PASSED AWAY ON FEBRUARY 19, 1996 ON HONOLULU, HAWAII

HUSBAND: Joseph S. Inos (Mayor of Rota)

CHILDREN: Joseph Jr., Vince Patrick, Wilbur Vic, Jodi-Anne, Kenny Joe; Step-son Perry & Wife Debra

INOS IN-LAWS: Cris & Dr. Rita Inos, Eloy & Dolores Inos, Rufin & Thelma Inos, Jose & Esther Basa, Ramon & Juanita Takai Ramon & Lucy Sablan

MOTHER IN-LAW: Ana Songao Inos

FATHER IN-LAW: Vicente M. Inos (deceased)

PARENTS (BOTH PRE-DECEASED): Bieuvenido Masga, Victoria Barcinas BROTHERS & SISTERS: Bill & Virginia Greathouse, Joe & Gloria Baptiste Vincent & Carmen Masga, Bienvenido & Lydia Masga, Rosemary, Ricky

Nightly rosary is being said at 8:00 p.m. at the deceased residence. Funeral services mass/Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 27, 1996 at San Francisco De Borja Church, Rota. Wake and Public viewing will be on Monday evening, February 26, 1996 at the deceased residence.



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 94-651**

IN RE THE ESTATE OF

RAIMUNDO H. MANGLONA,  
Deceased.

**SECOND AMENDED NOTICE OF PETITION FOR FINAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE ESTATE**

Date: April 2, 1996  
Time: 1:30 pm  
Judge: Demapan

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the undersigned counsel will bring the Petition for Final Distribution of the Estate in the above-entitled matter for hearing on the 2nd day of April, 1996 at the hour of 1:30 pm at the Superior Court, Saipan, CNMI.  
Dated this 6th day of February, 1996

/s/R. Darin Class  
Attorney for the Administrator  
Guadalupe P. Manglona

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

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

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 96-155**

IN THE MATTER OF  
RENEE HELMER,  
Petitioner,

**NOTICE**

Eileen Renee Helmer (present legal name) petitioned the Court for an order changing his/her legal name to Renee Sophia Newton (desired name).  
Please take notice that a hearing in this matter will be held on Thursday (weekday), the 29th (date) day of February (month), 1996 at 1:30 p.m. before the Commonwealth Superior Court in Saipan, CNMI Courtroom for the purpose of changing the name of the petitioner.

/s/CLERK of the Above entitled Court

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  - Commercial/ Industrial Use
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**Fax # 322-0969**

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**TEL: 233-0498/0694**

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GET EVEN**

**Jury's...**

Continued from page 1

C. Mollic, another Bangladeshi, with a knife.

The prosecutor said although Babauta struck Ansary with a piece of lumber on the head, it was Iltubus who delivered the final fatal kicks on the victim's head.

He said a testimony of Dr. Carlo Gino Domingo, a neuro surgeon from

St. Luke Hospital in the Philippines, indicating a swelling tissue on Ansary's head is consistent that the victim was being stepped on.

Sutton said even though Domingo and other doctors have some differences on their opinions, they all agreed that Ansary suffered massive and fatal injuries.

All pieces of evidence corroborated Babauta's testimony connecting Iltubus to the murder, he stressed.

Sutton said it was established that Iltubus planned to get the Bangladeshi's

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**60 Ft. Stand Cooler**

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Discount Grocery in As Lito  
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**POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Commonwealth Superior Court is currently accepting applications for an Executive/Legal Secretary position, which will soon be vacated.

**MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS:**

- Three(3) years experience in a secretarial position for a management level executive.
- In the alternative, three(3) years experience as an administrative assistant to a management level executive.
- Good secretarial skills, including use of computer word processors and must type 70 correct words per minute.

**DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:**

Applicant should have professional appearance and demeanor. Must be able to solve problems, be able to perform under time constraints, manage judge's personal appointment calendar and have good telephone skills. Must have the ability and initiative to improve office administration and efficiency. Some legal experience helpful.

**STARTING SALARY: \$25,000 PER ANNUM, PLUS BENEFITS**  
Applicants should submit their resume to the Chamber of Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas at the Superior Court no later than February 23, 1996. Anticipated starting date will be early to mid March, 1996.

presence from the Commonwealth "because there are so many of them around and are the ones taking our job."

The prosecutor said Iltubus' motive was evident when he attacked, using the same modus operandi, Ansary and Mollic, both Bangladeshi security guards.

Sutton also mentioned the testimony of Babauta's mother Dimola pointing to Iltubus in the murder and attack of the two guards.

On the other hand, Nicholas questioned the credibility of the testimonies of government witnesses—Babauta and his mother.

Nicholas said the government failed to present evidence against his client. The defense counsel said Babauta admitted he was the one who hit Ansary with a stick.

It was Babauta who also admitted having the wallet of Mollic, said Nicholas.

Nicholas said Babauta told the police that Iltubus stomped Ansary's head for about 10-15 minutes.

But when questioned in the court, Babauta said Iltubus kicked the victim between 5-6 minutes, Nicholas noted. When the government conducted a

test using a watch, the counsel said it appeared that the attack was only about 2.5 minutes.

Nicholas said Dr. Domingo and Ronaldo B. Mendez, a forensic pathologist from the Philippines' National Bureau of Investigation, testified that Ansary suffered very serious injuries.

He said Domingo stated that Ansary had no other injuries other than that on the right side of the head and a broken cheek bone.

"Who testified that he made a strong blow. It was Ryan (Babauta). James (Iltubus) never kick Ansary. Ryan did it (assault) in his own," Nicholas stressed.

Ansary was found lying on the pavement in Chalan Kanoa last Aug. 24. He was taken to the Philippines where he died on Sept. 2 at St. Luke Hospital.

Mollic was assaulted last Sept. 10. The AG charged Iltubus with first degree murder, robbery, aggravated assault and battery, assault with a dangerous weapon, attempted first degree murder, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Iltubus' elder brother Jose was convicted last Aug. 31 for assaulting three Bangladeshi nationals.

**House...**

Continued from page 1

minimum wage at the 1995 level until July 1st this year.

The implementation of the scheduled 30-cent wage hike, under Public Law 8-21, was supposed to have taken effect January 1, 1996.

It was moved by six months to give time for a Wage and Salary Review Board to complete its study on the effects the incremental increases may have on the economy. This was despite the insistence of many local businesses that they would not mind the latest hike.

In a letter accompanying his proposed legislation, Tenorio reiterated his earlier observation that deferring the wage increase would lead to new problems with the US government.

"My concern has been proven correct. The federal government has been very negative. Once again, our local control over immigration has been placed on the table and the proposal to federalize the minimum wage has been renewed," he added.

**Will...**

Continued from page 1

"Some of the managerial people will be coming in under H1 (professional) status."

Threats of immigration takeover were sparked by two major issues. One was the CNMI government's postponement of minimum wage increase, and the other, its failure to retain the immigration cap at the 1992 level.

Philippine Consul Generoso Calonge said the takeover—if it happens in the CNMI—would "guarantee better protection for workers who are here," but would certainly restrict the arrival of more alien workers because of a tighter immigration policy.

This would be harder for jobseekers from the Philippines to get in here, Calonge said.

A large percent of the Commonwealth labor force comes from the Philippines.

"Federal takeover implies a more

judicious enforcement of regulations," Calonge said. "Under the current system, no visa is required of a Filipino to come to the CNMI. Our workers are free to come despite the existing ban since it covers only three categories of workers."

Calonge—who worked in a Philippine diplomatic post in Washington for seven years before coming to the CNMI—said he based his theory on the system that works in the mainland.

"With federal control, the arrival of workers will be severely tightened because the H-1 visa," Calonge explained. Under federal rules, he said, a jobseeker can come in only if no US citizen applied for an available position.

"The vacancy in the position will be announced; they will make an effort to locate available US citizen before they welcome alien workers. The processing of employment will be more rigid," Calonge said. "For jobseekers in the Philippines who hope to come here, it might be hard to expect."

**New...**

Continued from page 1

will propose to restrict use of manpower services, especially for the hospital and the PSS," the speaker said.

According to Benavente, by having two different legislations, the governor can have the option of signing the extended hiring bill and veto the other measure restricting the use of manpower firms.

He said this approach would prevent the hiring bill from being hostage to the other.

"We believe separating it we can be solving the crisis at the CHC," said the speaker.

Benavente said the House is willing to take away the controversial provision if only to ensure that the governor will accede to the House's desire to address the impending manpower shortages at certain agencies.

Among the agencies that would be allowed to hire contract workers aside from CHC and PSS are: the Public Auditor's Office, the Department of Public Works, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., the Department of Finance, Marianas Visitors Bureau, the Northern Marianas College.

**Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section****Employment Wanted**

**Job Vacancy Announcement**

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01 SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.00 per hour

Contact: DEVELOP IDEAS CORPORATION dba Softland Computer Tel. 288-5860/287-0350(2/22)Th22767

05 IRONER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour

05 EMBROIDERY-MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour

02 PRODUCTION MANAGER-Salary:\$4.00-\$9.00 per hour

01 QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.50-\$6.50 per hour

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.50-\$6.50 per hour

02 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$3.50-\$6.50 per hour

Contact:WINNERS CORPORATION Tel. 235-1804(5/22)Th22755

02 H.E. OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.00 per hour

Contact:PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORP. Tel. 235-5086/92(3/07)Th223010

01 KITCHEN HELPER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour

Contact: JNM KINTOL CORPORATION dba Auntie Mag's Diner Tel. 288-0375(3/07)Th222955

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Contact: MICROL CORPORATION Tel. 234-5911/18(3/07)Th5752

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01 QUALITY CONTROL SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$7.00 per hour

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02 COMMERCIAL CLEANERS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
02 MAINTENANCE WORKERS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: TIRSO J. ADRIATICO dba Micronesia Woodcraft Ent. Inc. Tel. 235-7631(2/22)Th222758

01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$3.50 per hour  
Contact: SPECTRUM ELECTRIC INC. Tel. 322-4600(2/22)Th222756

01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$4.50-\$4.75 per hour  
01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary:\$4.50-\$5.75 per hour  
02 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$4.50-\$5.50 per hour  
Contact: HAWAIIAN ROCK PRODUCTS CORPORATION Tel. 322-0407(2/22)Th222764

01 MAINTENANCE WORKER-Salary:\$2.75-\$4.25 per hour  
Contact: MISA ENTERPRISES, INC. Tel. 234-6900(2/22)Th222763

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$900-\$1,000 per month  
Contact: GETAWAY TRAVEL COMPANY, INC. dba Getaway Travel Agency Tel. 235-8001(2/22)Th222768

01 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.20 per hour  
Contact: YANG JIN COMPANY dba Yang Jin Buying & Trade Information Service Company Tel. 235-2421(2/22)Th222769

01 OFFICE MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000 per month  
01 ADMINISTRATIVE CLERK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
01 BARTENDER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
01 COOK/RESTAURANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
01 COOK HELPER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
01 KITCHEN HELPER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
05 WAITER/WAITRESS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
06 MUSICIAN-Salary:\$25.00 per day/ \$650/month  
Contact: DANIEL C. & DAHLIA P. AREGIS dba Songbird (Restaurant, Bar, Karaoke) Tel. 322-4108 235-7762(2/22)Th222757

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
01 SALES MANAGER-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
Contact: ROYAL MARINIA INC. dba Niko Niko Giftshop Tel. 234-7550(2/22)Th222750

01 REPORTER-Salary:\$800-\$1,000 per month  
01 COMPUTER TYPESETTER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.50 per hour  
Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. dba Marianas Variety News & Views Tel. 234-6341/9797(2/22)Th5135

01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$2.75-\$4.00 per hour  
01 FARM WORKER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.50 per hour  
Contact: YOUNIS ART STUDIO, INC. Tel. 234-6341(2/29)Th5709

01 DISTRICT MANAGER-Salary:\$2,000-\$4,000 per month  
Duties: Manages general affairs for Flight Operations, Traffic Passenger Handlings, cargoes, Maintenance, Sales promotions, Administrative matters and other related duties as District Manager. Required Japanese speaking, writing & reading qualification. College Graduates, 48 months experience  
Contact: JAPAN AIRLINES CO. LTD. Tel. 234-6553/4(2/29)Th5708

03 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
Contact: NETWORK DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Choi's Tour Tel. 235-2200(2/29)Th222897

02 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$3.00 per hour  
Contact: SHARP TRAVEL & TOUR INC. Saipan Sharp Travel & Tour Tel. 235-0405(2/29)Th222898

02 WAITER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
10 WAITRESS(NIGHT CLUB)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: IMEX CORPORATION dba Asiana Karaoke Tel. 235-7861(2/29)Th222899

15 MASONS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
20 STEELMEN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
18 CARPENTERS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: E.C. GOZUM & CO., INC. Tel. 256-0331(2/29)Th222901

02 TINSMITH-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
02 ELECTRONICS TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
02 REPAIR/CONDITIONING TECHNICIAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED dba Food Plus Whole Sale Tel. 235-0202/235-3434(2/29)Th222894

02 COOK-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: H.O. LEE INC. dba Chung Hua Restaurant Tel. 234-7768(2/29)Th222893

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.35-\$5.00 per hour  
01 COMPUTER PROGRAMMER-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour  
Contact: PONCIANO C. & VIVIAN P. RASA dba P&R Enterprises Tel. 234-7712(2/29)Th222892

02 SECURITY GUARD-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
02 BARTENDER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: CHANPAC INC. dba Club Jama Tel. 235-9182(2/29)Th222891

02 LEGAL ASSISTANT-Salary:\$12,000-\$16,000 per annum  
Contact: LAW OFFICES OF ROBERT C. NARAJA Tel. 322-1392/1132(2/29)Th222890

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$1,100 per month  
01 ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-Salary:\$750 per month  
01 SALES REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$900 per month  
Contact: Micronesia Brokers (CNMI), Inc. Tel. 322-0318(2/29)Th222889

01 COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: MOTION AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR CENTER INC. Tel. 235-3481(2/29)Th222887

13 MASON-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
15 CARPENTER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
02 ELECTRICIAN-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: GTS ENTERPRISES, INC. dba GTS Construction Tel. 234-8803(2/29)Th222888

01 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary:\$3.75 per hour  
Contact: PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL MARIANAS INC. dba Midway Motors Tel. 234-7524/7525(2/29)Th5700

01 TRANSLATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour  
Contact: KAN PACIFIC SAIP



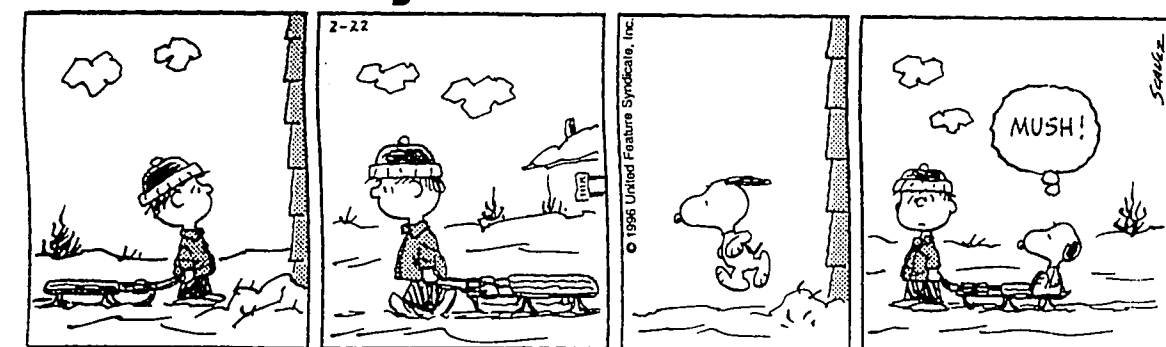
## EEK &amp; MEEK® by Howie Schneider



## Garfield® by Jim Davis



## PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



STELLA WILDER

## YOUR BIRTHDAY

by Stella Wilder

Born today, you are likely to enjoy a long and illustrious career in the field of your choice, but it will be absolutely essential to avoid the traps and pitfalls so prevalent in your line of work that puts you in the public eye. It is certainly likely that you will attract a wide audience simply as a matter of course. Self-control and careful discipline will be the keys to your success and to your private contentment as well. Overindulgence, in your case, could very well prove disastrous, though is never too late to change your ways.

You are never bashful about expressing yourself and sharing your ideas with those around you. There are times when you insist on having things your way, but you know how to win support for your plans and ideas and to get others to dedicate their efforts to your plan of campaign.

Also born on this date are: Sparky Anderson, baseball manager; Drew Barrymore, actress; Julius "Doctor J" Erving, basketball player; Edward M. Kennedy, U.S. senator.

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.

**FRIDAY, FEB. 23**  
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — It may be difficult to approach someone else with some careful and accurate criticism today, no matter how well you know each other.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — It is a good day to get over your timidity and let your feelings and plans be known, particularly if love and romance are part of the picture.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — Your eagerness to get on with it today may make it impossible for you to enjoy everything available to you at this time. Slow down!

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — You will be in for a big surprise today, and you would be wise to put yourself in the best array to prepare for something special that is just around the corner.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — You may feel as though you're crossing the line in some way, but it will be absolutely essential to keep moving in this same direction.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — Your hidden passions are likely to rise to the surface quite by surprise today. You'll realize just where your

affections truly lie.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — You will probably hit it off with someone who wants to share an important project with you. Get together soon and begin finalizing plans.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — You may be putting far too much importance on something that is actually quite trivial compared to other elements in the big picture.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — You aren't about to stop doing what you're doing at this time until you've reached your final destination. Today, an obstacle may surprise you.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — It will be time to take things a little more seriously, and to listen to what someone in authority has to say. You can learn a lesson.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — You don't have time for excuses today. You must simply do things correctly and hope to reap the rewards you desire.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — A last-minute development will certainly prove worth waiting for today, but you mustn't neglect other issues that prevail all day long.

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## CLOSERS

An attorney-turned-humor consultant assembles an annual index of the price of laughing. Taking into account such things as the price of rubber chickens and a copy of Mad Magazine, the Index has determined that the cost of laughter has risen by 4.4 percent over the past year.

Yes, there's a national blood bank for dogs. Founded in 1991, Hemopet supplies blood to more than 300 veterinary clinics nationwide.

Earth Tip: Twenty-seven million

acres of tropical rainforest are destroyed every year. Despite the fact that the rainforests are home to about 1/4 of modern pharmaceuticals and 1/2 of the world's plant, animal and insect species, they are being depleted for the short term gains sought by ranchers and others. Support organizations such as the Rainforest Action Network and avoid tropical hardwoods.

An American child from a one-parent home has about a 10 times greater likelihood of living in poverty than a child from a two-parent home.

ASCII is an acronym (pronounced "ask-ee") that stands for American Standard Code for Information Interchange. It is a binary code that forms

the basis for communications in most minicomputers and all personal computers.

Cottonwood weighs about 24 pounds per cubic foot, while oak weighs as much as 67 pounds.

A common myth holds that taxpayers who use the four-month extension instead of filing by April 15 are more likely to be audited. In fact, there is no correlation between extending the deadline and being audited.

Upon discovering that his wife had a lover, Peter the Great had the man executed. The man's head was then put in a jar of alcohol which the wife was forced to keep in her bedroom.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLER

## ACROSS

- 1 "Norma —"
- 8 Slender
- 12 And so on (abbr.)
- 13 Jupiter's wife
- 14 Occupied
- 15 —
- 17 "Submarine"
- 18 A Brown
- 19 Mario's dad (initials)
- 20 Affirmative vote
- 21 Tyrannosaurus —
- 22 — longg
- 23 Ballet movement
- 25 — Moines
- 26 Fulfill
- 27 — Force
- 28 Circuit
- 29 Actress
- 30 Can. prov.
- 31 Towns
- 32 Two (prefix)
- 36 Domesticates
- 38 Australian

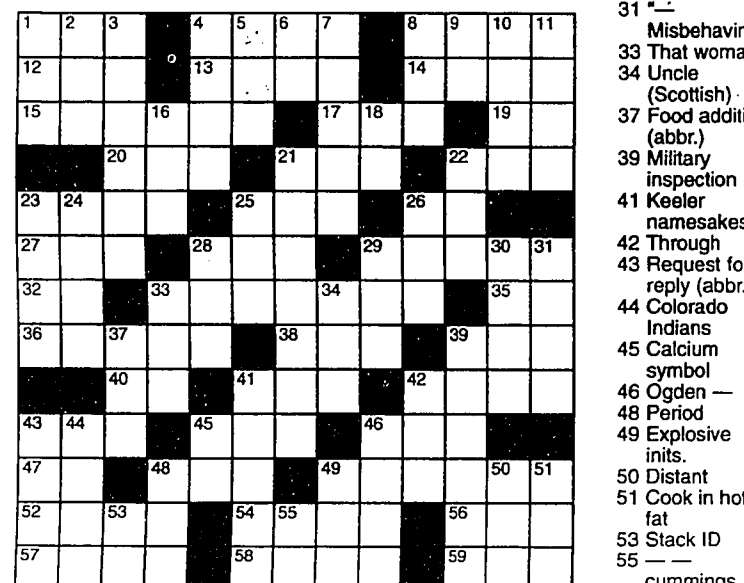
## DOWN

- 1 King (Sp.)
- 2 Dined
- 3 Chocolate —
- 4 Footwear
- 5 Actor Ayres
- 6 Negative prefix

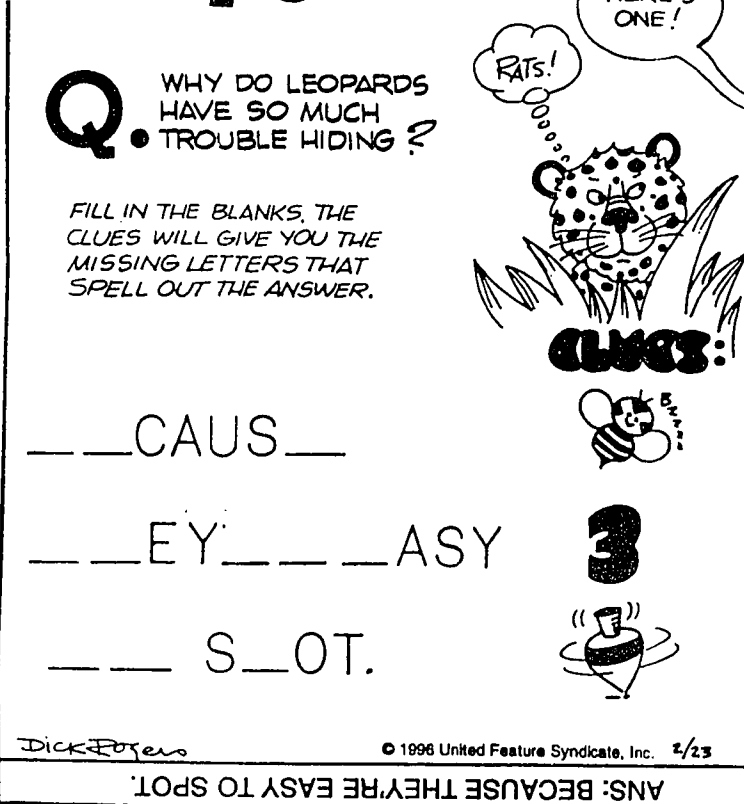
## Answer to Previous Puzzle

ZUBIN IBSEN  
HELENA LASTED  
ENVY GROSS SI  
RIA IGAVE RTE  
DT ALINE MALT  
SHINING NONES  
STAG POME  
ZONED RAIMENT  
APOD BERRY OH  
PIT ALICE TVA  
PA AWASH BEEN  
ATOLLS EWBANK  
EXIST DELLA

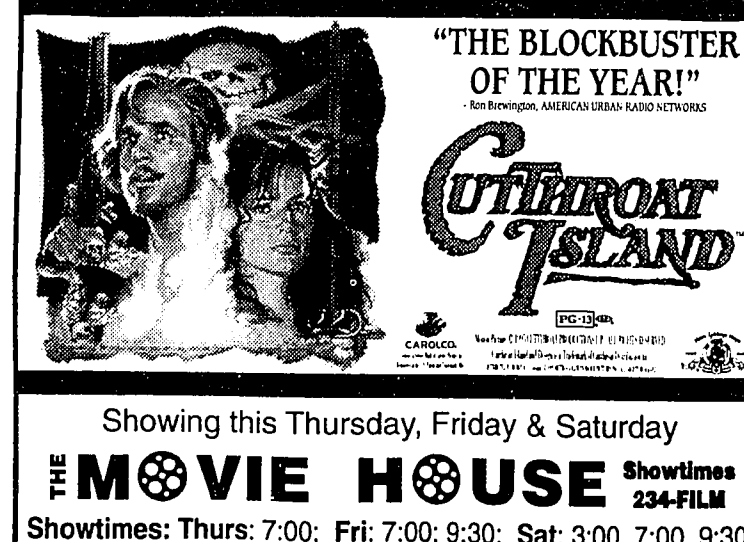
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## KidSpot™



ANS: BECAUSE THEY'RE EASY TO SPOT.



## Riley. . .

Continued from page 24

the short course championships — because: "the proscribed agent had no potential to enhance her performances or give her an unfair advantage".

"I was very relieved and elated," Riley told a press conference in Brisbane. "I felt like a whole weight had been lifted off my shoulders, but I'm disappointed Scott got such a harsh penalty."

FINA's statement said: "We decided to sanction her with a strong warning, as the consequences of any other decision would not be in proportion to the fault committed by the swimmer."

It noted that Volkars had given written statements in which he admitted giving Riley the "DiGestic" pill which resulted in the positive test.

"The FINA executive decided... to suspend him from all swimming activities for a period of two years starting from 1st December 1995," the statement said.

Volkars said was "devastated" but believed he still can coach his swimmers privately. He will not be allowed to be a member of any official

## Youth. . .

Continued from page 24

and helping them develop competitive skills in softball at an early age.

Saipan has about 10 year-round baseball and softball leagues, mostly catering to adults. But with the formation of the youth league, the youths also get the chance to enjoy the sport.

## Magic. . .

Continued from page 24

lar-season games on their homecourt, three shy of the league record held by the Boston Celtics.

Dennis Scott was 6-for-8 from 3-point range and scored 20 in the first half.

Bulls 102, Cavaliers 76

In Chicago, one game after Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen had almost all of the Bulls' points, the two sat back and let Ron Harper score a season-high 22.

## Tinian. . .

Continued from page 24

Nicolas booked second place with her catch totalling 20.93. San Nicolas captured the same category as she did last year.

Following San Nicolas was Leon Masga with a total catch of 18.51 pounds.

Although third in the total weight category, Masga placed first in the

Australian team or be accredited at any FINA-sanctioned event.

Riley had faced a maximum ban of two years, which would have ruled the 23-year-old out of the Olympics in Atlanta.

FINA honorary secretary Gunnar Werner said from Sweden the fact that the level of the banned drug was "very, very low" in Riley's first drug test and non-existent in a second test taken 24 hours later had proved the Australian's testimony was truthful.

The other major factor was that the banned drug would have in no way enhanced her performance," Werner said. "When we took all these facts together, FINA decided that the normal penalty of two years suspension from competition was far too high and unfair in this case," Werner told Australian Associated Press.

Riley won both the 100 and 200 meters breaststroke gold medals at the 1994 world championships in Rome, was named swimmer of the meet after collecting two gold medals at last year's Pan Pacific championships in Atlanta and was recently named Australia's Female Athlete of the Year for 1995.

Australian head coach Don Talbot praised the decision not to ban Riley.

"It's fantastic. It's very good for her and I know she'll be a very much relieved young lady until she realizes that Scott can't be there (in Atlanta)," Talbot said.

Talbot said it was possible Volkars still could be able to assist Riley with her preparation for Atlanta, saying the terms of the

coach's ban would need to be closely examined.

Australian Olympic Committee president John Coates said Wednesday that he believed Volkars deserved to be dealt with more severely than Riley because he held a position of authority as coach.

"Whether two years is appropriate or not I'm not sure, and I imagine Scott will appeal that. It probably isn't appropriate for me to say," Coates said.

"Coaches are in a position of responsibility and they've all been educated and briefed on what the medical code permits and does not permit and they know that when in doubt they should check it out."

Volkars, who described himself as a "moron" for giving Riley the tablet, coaches three other members of the Australian Olympic squad: Susie O'Neill, Elli Overton and Angie Kennedy.

Volkars said giving Riley the tablet — which had been prescribed for his wife — was "probably the biggest mistake" of his career.

He said would appeal his ban, saying he felt a suspension of three to six months would have been fairer in the circumstances.

"FINA has been in a tough position," Volkars said. "Australia has been fairly outspoken (on drugs) and obviously someone had to pay the penalty."

Volkars said he considered the two-year suspension "a little over the top and inconsistent with what they've done in the past."

fourth straight at Madison Square Garden.

The Bucks bounced back after losing their previous two games by 23 and 30 points. Robinson and Baker each had 11 rebounds, and Robinson was 12-for-12 from the free-throw line. The Bucks were 21-of-23 on foul shots and won despite making no field goals in the final three minutes.

The Knicks, whose six-game home winning streak ended, made only one field goal in the final three minutes and shot just 38 percent from the field.

Air Lines, Microl, Saipan Sunset Cruise, Pacific Islands Club, Hakubotan, Diamond Hotel, Duty Free Shop, Hafa Adai and Nikko hotels and the Micronesian Telecommunications Corporation for their contributions and support.

The next fishing derby is the 10th annual Rota Cliff Derby on June 14, 15, 16. For more information, call MVB at 234-8325 or fax at 234-3596.

Hardcor rallied to take the set, match 16-5, and won game two for a 2-0 lead in the series.

Pete Camacho was the game's heavy hitter with three aces and four-kees. Alex Olopai and Joe Mettao teamed up as Hardcor's heavy hitters with one xunk and nine kees between them.

Meanwhile, Tin Kun and Brotherhood will have a rematch of game two of their series today.

In a related development, tournament director Jim Feger said Pacific Trading, the local distributor of Pepsi, will sponsor the annual 10th international roccball goodwill games between Japan and Saipan next month.

## NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

SEALED PROPOSALS for THE SAIPAN HARBOR IMPROVEMENT ACC and PCC PAVING, AT SAIPAN TANAPAG HARBOR, SAIPAN, MARIANAS ISLANDS, CPA Project No. CPA-SS-002-96 will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 1055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, until 2:00 P.M., Friday, March 1, 1996 at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project provides for the asphalt cement concrete (ACC) paving of 10,000 square yards of the new Dock operations area. The areas to be paved shall comprise of a 2.5" thick overlay including all base course and bituminous materials necessary for its preparation. All aspects of this Project shall be in accordance with the plans and specifications. Construction must be performed without interrupting on-going port operations and concurrently with other construction activities of the Dock.

Proposals submitted must be available for acceptance for a period up to 120 days after the designated date for opening of proposals. CPA may award a contract on the basis of the initial offer received without negotiations. Therefore, the initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms.

The Project is being financed by funds from the CPA. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within two months (2) from the receipt of proposals. Depending upon availability of funds, CPA reserves the right to uphold such proposal in effect for four (4) months from the date of proposal opening.

This contract is under and subject to Executive Order 11246, as amended, of September 24, 1965, the Federal Labor provisions and the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) provisions as contained in the contract, specifications and proposal documents.

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI Government. CNMI prevailing minimum wage shall apply consistent with Section 70-24 of the general provisions.

Each proposer must complete, sign and furnish, prior to award of the contract the "Proposer's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities" (See Specifications).

## Required Notices for All Contracts.

a. The proposer must supply all the information required by the proposal forms and specifications.

b. The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA), in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, hereby notifies all proposers that they (proposers) must affirmatively insure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for award.

The proposer's attention is invited to the fact that the proposed contract shall be under and subject to the equal opportunity clause as set forth in Part III Section 302(b) of Executive Order 11246, as amended by Executive Order 11375 dated October 13, 1977, and Section 60-1.4(b) of the regulations of the Secretary of Labor (41 CFR 60-1) as implemented by Section 152.61 of the Federal Aviation Regulations, to the contract and labor provisions as set forth in Section 152.55 and Appendix H, Part 152, of the Federal Aviation Regulations, and to the applicable provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252) implemented by Part 21 of the Regulations of the Office of the Secretary of Transportation. Also, the proposed contract will be subject to the Contractor's Certification of non-segregated facilities.

The apparent low proposer and any known first tier subcontractor will be subject to a pre-award, equal opportunity compliance review by representatives of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, U.S. Department of Labor, before the award of the contract for the purpose of determining whether the proposer and/or his subcontractors are able to comply with the provisions of the equal opportunity clause.

If the proposer has participated in a previous contract subject to the equal opportunity clause and has not submitted compliance reports as required by applicable instructions, the proposer shall submit, prior to award of contract, a compliance report covering the delinquent period.

A proposer or prospective prime contractor or proposed subcontractor shall be required to submit such information as the Office of Federal Contract Compliance may request prior to the award of a contract or subcontract. When a determination has been made to award the contract or subcontract to a specified contractor, such contractor shall be required, prior to award, or after the award, or both to furnish such other information as requested.

Contract documents, including plans and specifications, may be examined at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, or can be obtained from this office upon payment of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) for each set of plan documents. This amount is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made by check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the CPA HARBOR PROJECT SITE OFFICE, at 11:00 a.m. on, February 16, 1996 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Consultant, in writing, at least five (5) days in advance for answers at this pre-proposal conference, with a copy of same mailed simultaneously to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority. Attendance at the pre-proposal conference and site visit are considered essential to the potential contractor's understanding of the project elements.

Each prospective proposer shall file with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, a notice of his/her intention to propose in a form substantially similar to that supplied in the specifications, not less than six (6) calendar days prior to the date hereinabove designated for opening of proposals.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in accordance with Section 3 (27) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/CARLOS A. SHODA  
Executive Director

Date: 1/31/96



# SPORTS



## Hardcor nears series sweep

HARDCOR has one agenda in the college/village roccball championship—sweep the best-of-five series

to retain the title.

Hardcor is doing just that.

In an impressive show of determi-

nation to defend their title, Hardcor spikers took the first two games of the best-of-five series against title challenger Buyaka Tuesday and yesterday at the Marianas High School Pugua Court in Susupe.

Hardcor started charting the outcome of the series in its favor by

beating Buyaka in game one by 17 points, 49-32, in three sets. Hardcor took all three sets of play.

Hardcor started aiming for another title by again frustrating Buyaka in the second game by nine points, 49-40, in four sets.

The two consecutive victories

placed Hardcor just one win away from winning another college/village world roccball title.

The defeats placed Buyaka on an uphill climb for the title in a come-from-behind fashion.

Buyaka has to defeat Hardcor in all

**Continued on page 23**



American Swim Club of Okinawa player JC Plott tries to sneak by four Saipan Swim Club tankers during the Saipan-Okinawa water-polo meet last weekend at the Kan Pacific Pool in Marpi. The Saipan swimmers, despite being fairly new to the sport, defeated the visiting team, 12-4, after four quarters of play.

## Magic routs Philadelphia

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—The Magic set an NBA record for home wins at the start of a season, improving to 28-0 at Orlando Arena with a 123-104 rout of Philadelphia on Tuesday night.

Orlando, which got 24 points

and 13 rebounds from Shaquille O'Neal, broke a 49-year-old standard set by the 1946-47 Washington Capitols team coached by Red Auerbach. The Atlantic Division leaders have won 35 straight regu-

**Continued on page 23**

## Riley cleared; coach gets 2-year suspension

BRISBANE, Australia (AP)—Dual world swimming champion Samantha Riley said Wednesday she was "elated" to have been cleared to compete at the Atlanta Olympics despite failing a drug test, while her coach Scott Volkens said he would appeal against a two-year suspension.

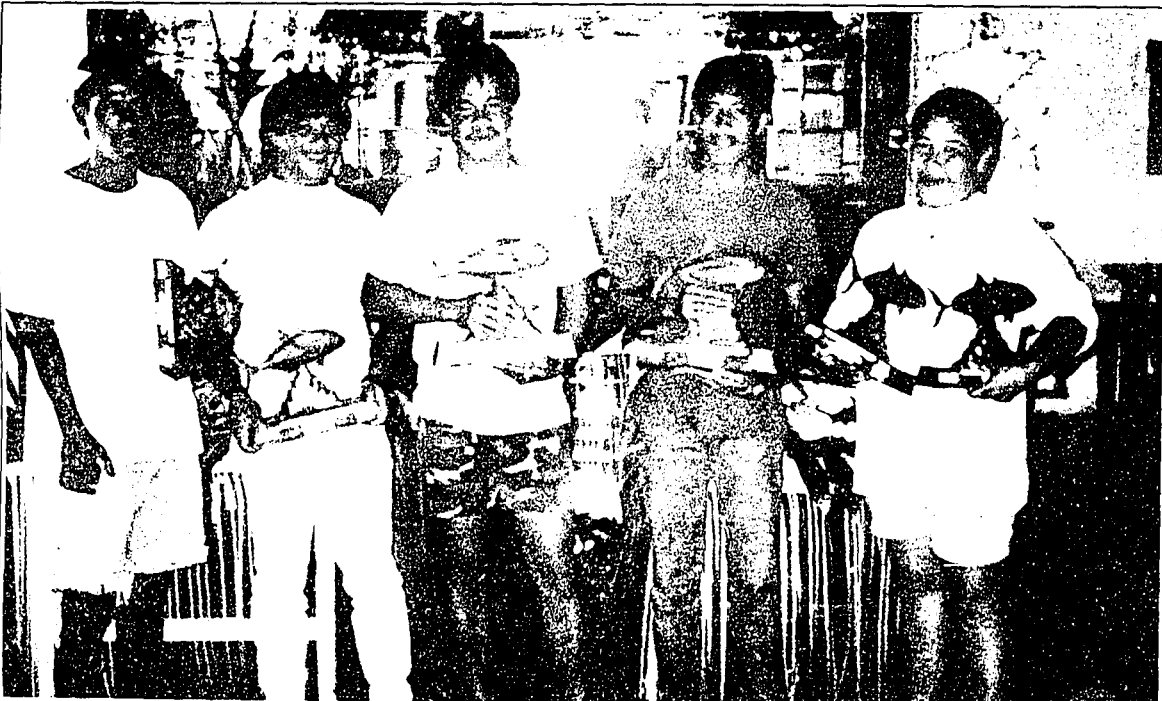
FINA, swimming's international governing body, issued a statement in Lausanne, Switzerland, late Tuesday saying Riley had been given a "strong warning" after testing positive to the drug dextropropoxyphene at the world short course championships in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, last December.

The banned substance was in a

prescription headache tablet mistakenly given to the reigning world 100 and 200 meters breaststroke champion by Volkens the day before she raced in Rio.

FINA said it had decided not to ban the Australian—who set two world records and won three gold medals at

**Continued on page 23**



Five of the top nine winners in the just-concluded 14th Annual Tinian Cliff Fishing derby held at Fleming Points in Tinian last weekend.

## Tinian anglers harvest top nine honors in cliff derby

ANGLERS from Guam, Korea and Saipan once again swarmed Tinian's Fleming Point last weekend for the 14th Cliff Fishing derby that saw Tinian anglers harvesting all top nine honors in the competition.

Thirty-four anglers, half of them from Tinian, two from Saipan, three from Korea and 10 from Guam spent three days and two nights at

Fleming Point I, II and III for the annual competition sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Bureau and the Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor's Offices.

A 15-man delegation from Korea earlier signed up but cancelled the trip when a holiday coincided with the event, derby coordinator Martin Duenas said.

Ludy Antiller captured first place

in the biggest fish category with his 20.93-pound Barracuda. Winsley Lagpey placed second with an 18.73-pound Dogtooth tuna, followed by Edward Quichocho in third with a 10.57-pound red snapper (Tagafi).

In the total weight category, Marcelino Biz captured a total catch of 22.92 pounds. Maggie San

**Continued on page 23**

## Johnson injured in game vs Clippers

INGLEWOOD, California (AP)—Magic Johnson strained his right calf in the first quarter of the Los Angeles Lakers game against the Los Angeles Clippers on Tuesday night and was declared out for the remainder of the contest.

Lakers spokesman John Black said Johnson's calf started bothering him in practice on Monday. He left Tuesday night's game after play-

ing just 1:03 and running up and down the court three times. He had no shot attempts, rebounds or assists.

Johnson came out with 8:23 left in the first period and immediately went to the Lakers' locker room.

Black said Johnson would be listed day-to-day starting Wednesday. The Lakers play the Clippers again Wednesday night at the Los Angeles Sports Arena. Tuesday

night's game was at the Forum.

The Lakers began the night with a 6-1 record since Johnson began his comeback against the Golden State Warriors on Jan. 30.

Johnson was coming off his best game since starting his comeback, scoring 30 points in a 119-114 win over Dallas last Friday night.

## Youth slowpitch league debut slated on March 3

THE FIRST island-wide Youth Slowpitch Softball League will kick off on March 3 with 11 teams competing in four age divisions.

The opening date was confirmed by league coordinator Joe Lizama who said that the team coaches and managers will have a meeting today, 6:30 p.m., at the Ada gym to finalize the final list of teams and to accept late registration, at the Ada gym conference room.

Five girls' and six boys' teams will compete every Saturday and Sunday. Saturday games will be played at 3, 4 and 5 p.m., while Sunday games are scheduled at 5, 6 and 7 p.m.

Divisions in the league include boys' 12 to 14, girls' 12 to 14, boys'

15 to 17 and girls' 15 to 17.

Three teams will compete each in the boys' and girls' 12 to 14 divisions, three teams in the boys' 15 to 17 and two teams in the girls' 15 to 17 age group.

Organizers of the league, which is being sponsored by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs' Sports and Recreation Division, started working on the inaugural season in December.

The league was organized to provide youths an opportunity to play the sport in a competitive environment, in line with the Sports and Recreation Division's program of providing youngsters a healthy sports activity

**Continued on page 23**

## SSA meeting for coaches, managers

Coaches and managers of the ongoing Saipan Softball Association's 1996 Men's Fastpitch League will have a meeting on Thursday, Feb. 22 at the Ada gym conference room at 5 p.m.

The agenda include the revised remaining schedule of the first round which will commence March 1, insurance waivers and other important matters.

For additional information, call Joe Torres at 234-6098 or Newman Techur at 234-5911.

## Gov't men's slowpitch meeting

The coaches and managers in the upcoming Government Men's Slowpitch Softball League will have a meeting on Feb. 22 at the Ada gym conference room.

For more information, call Richard Borja during work hours at 235-7303.

**Marianas Variety** News & Views

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