

'CNMI not ready for reunification'

But no problem with working closely with Guam, say leaders

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

STILL nursing the wound from Guam's rejection of a reunification almost three decades ago, residents of the Northern Mariana Islands are not likely to approve of proposals to reintegrate the Mariana Islands, government officials said.

Even House Speaker Diego T. Benavente doubts whether Chamorros in the CNMI are ready yet to politically and completely reunify with the indigenous people of Guam.

"I don't think that at this point, the indigenous people of the Commonwealth are ready for reunification. Definitely not total reunification, although I see no problem with pulling the resources together," Benavente said.

Senate President Paul A. Manglona shares the same view, stressing that economic coopera-



Diego T. Benavente



Paul A. Manglona

tion between Guam and the CNMI may indeed work wonders for the economic and business environment in the Mariana Islands.

"If reunification is to mean working together economically and culturally, I think that it is important that we work together. After all, we are one people and

we are in the same area," Manglona told Variety.

He said both Guam and the CNMI can work "cooperatively" in alleviating the problems faced by the Marianas' tourism industry, which suffered dramatic declines in visitor arrivals as a re-

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U.S. firm wants to fill in Preston Gates' shoes

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

A LAW firm based in the United States is proposing to represent the Northern Mariana Islands in Washington D.C., in lieu of Preston Gates which recently indicated it will no longer represent the Commonwealth in US Congress.

The law firm has been monitoring the legislative discussions in US Congress on issues relating to the formal relationship between the CNMI and the US, according to Steve Silver, who represents Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh.

The group is proposing to represent the Commonwealth on a lump sum, fixed fee basis of \$60,000 per month which should be paid in advance in the first week of each month.

Under the proposal, the CNMI would also be responsible, other than the monthly charge, for reimbursement of incidental costs including local transportation, photocopying, long distance telephone charges, overnight mail and postage.

"Additionally, any travel outside the Washington DC metropolitan area including meals, lodging and plane fare would be billed to the Commonwealth. Such travel would not be undertaken unless expressly requested by the Commonwealth," Silver said.

Robertson, Monagle and Eastaugh claims to have a strong, ongoing relationship with the House Resources Committee, the Senate Energy Committee and the Alaska Congressional Delegation.

Silver, according to documents obtained, worked with the US

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Feds probe some DOLI transactions

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE FEDERAL Bureau of Investigation is reportedly conducting a probe on alleged "anomalous transactions" involving some employees at the Department of Labor and Immigration.

The investigation was confirmed by the Governor's Public Information Office yesterday and that it is being conducted by federal and local authorities at DOLI. The office, however, re-

fused to elaborate.

It also stressed that as of yesterday no arrests have been made yet.

Sources said Federal Bureau of Investigation agents assisted by investigators from the Attorney General's Office, went to the Labor and Immigration Identification and Documentation System (LIIDS) last week.

The operatives then questioned three LIIDS employees--one male and two females, sources said.

Last Friday, the LIIDS section was shut down temporarily as investigators started gathering data and evidence in the office, sources said.

The three employees, according to the same sources, then allegedly resigned as a result of the probe.

LIIDS contains information and data about nonresident workers in the CNMI.

DOLI Secretary Mark D.

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CPA revenues are up

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

SHOWING signs of financial recovery, revenues generated by the Commonwealth Ports Authority in its harbor operations increased by 29 percent to \$411.676 in July from \$321,250 during the previous month, it was gathered.

CPA comptroller David S. Demapan, in a report, said the dramatic increase in cash receipts from seaport operations was triggered by the eight percent growth in revenue tonnage.

Cash outflows dropped by 10 percent, following a 10 percent reduction on payments for Capital Improvement Projects from

\$607,434 in June to \$537,809 last month.

Cash and equivalents balance was lightly up during the months under review. Cash available for operations total \$5.175 million.

Demapan said this money is used as debt service payment for both the 1998 bond and the Commonwealth Development Authority loan up to September next year.

"By then, I expect this balance to drop by \$260,000 a month. I strongly recommend that this amount be set aside into the sinking fund beginning next month."

He said that by December 1999,

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Concepcion may be released sooner under a plea bargain



Alma Concepcion

By Jacob Leon Guerrero
Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — Philippine actress Alma Concepcion pleaded guilty to a felony

charge in U.S. District Court last Friday in connection with the discovery of crystal methamphetamine or "ice" found in her possession upon arrival at the Guam airport last month.

The charge means she was aware that what she did was a crime, but not reporting it to authorities. The guilty plea was part of an agreement between the prosecution and her defense attorney.

According to Concepcion's attorney, Patrick Civile, she did not plead guilty to drug charges, and that they may be dismissed. Civile said

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Officials of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce led by its President Jose C. Ayuyu (left) are taken on a tour of UIC garment factory by James Lin (right, foreground), UIC's owner and SGMA chair.

Yeltsin fires his Cabinet

By MITCHELL LANDSBERG
MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin dismissed the Russia government Sunday and replaced his young prime minister with the Soviet-style leader he'd fired five months ago.

The surprise announcement came in the midst of one of the worst economic crises since the Soviet collapse, and one week after the Russian government effectively devalued its national currency, the ruble.

Yeltsin gave no reason for firing Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko, a 36-year-old former banker who had won respect from Western economists and some Russians even as he failed to stem the collapse of the Russian stock market and the steady degradation of the economy.

The president, on the last day of a five-week vacation, issued

Reinstates Chernomyrdin as Russian PM in lieu of Kiriyenko



Boris Yeltsin



Sergei Kiriyenko



Viktor Chernomyrdin

a terse announcement through his press service firing Kiriyenko and his cabinet and appointing former Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin as acting prime minister.

Although Chernomyrdin is generally respected in political and business circles, the sudden

change seemed likely to further undermine confidence in Yeltsin's leadership.

Yeltsin has a long history of firing top aides when things aren't going well, always trying to shift the blame and absolve himself of any responsibility. He has fired dozens of ministers during his years in the Kremlin.

"It's simply comical," said Vladimir Lukin, a leader of the liberal Yabloko bloc in parliament. He said the decision "reveals the deep confusion and uncertainty at the center of ex-

ecutive power," according to the ITAR-Tass news agency.

"It's not going to be good," said Charles Blitzer, a London investment banker who used to head the World Bank office in Moscow.

"It's hard to see where Russia goes from here when they appoint a prime minister who so demonstrably did little about the fundamental problems as prime minister before."

Chernomyrdin, who headed the Gazprom national gas monopoly during the Soviet era, was Yeltsin's prime minister

and steady right-hand man from December 1992 until this March, when the president said Russia needed new, more energetic leadership.

Yeltsin fought hard to get Kiriyenko ratified in parliament, angrily rejecting demands that he find another, more experienced premier. At one point, it appeared he might dissolve parliament because of the impasse over Kiriyenko's appointment.

Kiriyenko had barely been ratified when Russia's economy went into a tailspin, a victim of plunging world oil prices and the Asian economic crisis.

Since then, the young prime minister had been waging a losing battle to shore up the economy. He worked tirelessly to defend the ruble, negotiate loans with Western lenders and push reform measures through a hostile parliament dominated by communists and their allies.

Last week, the government conceded defeat in the fight to save the ruble, announcing Monday that it was effectively devaluing the currency by al-

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Tainted liquor kills 33, blinds 3 in south India

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Tainted liquor served at a village party killed 33 people, blinded three and landed 127 others in hospital in a southern Indian state, a domestic news agency reported Monday.

The dead included eight women in Paruveedhi village in the Tamil Nadu state where potent locally brewed liquor bought from a village shop was served to a large gathering Sunday night, Press Trust of India quoted police as saying.

The drink was suspected to be arrack, a hugely popular local brew, laced with methyl alcohol, PTI quoted senior police official Shakeel Akhtar as saying.

Four people had been arrested for manufacturing and selling the liquor. At least 30 policemen have been suspended in connection with the tragedy, the news agency said, but did not give details of the charges against them.

Liquor poisonings occur frequently in India. Unauthorized manufacturers operate from homes and mix methyl alcohol with the brew, which causes blindness and affects the nervous system.

Homemade liquor is cheaper than the cheapest brand sold at authorized shops. Increasing alcohol deaths have also provoked a violent movement for prohibition in several states in recent years.

Village women armed with brooms have publicly thrashed drunkard husbands and picketed liquor shops, but two provinces which officially banned liquor had to withdraw the move last year after huge tax losses to the government.

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION: CHIEF ACCOUNTANT OPENING DATE: 08/25/98
LOCATION: MVA Saipan CLOSING DATE: 09/08/98

DUTIES:
Direct the management and supervision of the Marianas Visitors Authority's accounting activities. Supervise and implements generally accepted accounting procedures and techniques. Prepare, utilizing computerized accounting, or directs preparation of reports which summarize and forecast MVA's financial position in areas of revenues and expenses based on the past, present, and expected operations. Directs determination of depreciation applicable to capital assets.

Ensures that MVA complies with all laws and regulations which may have a financial statement impact. Oversees the operation of the internal control system of the accounting department. May prepare an internal control policies and procedures manual.

Establish, or recommends to management on desirable operational adjustments due to tax code revisions. May arrange for financial audits of MVA. Prepare audit responses. May recommend financial planning, procurement, and investment of funds. Perform other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENT:
Bachelor's degree in Accounting from an accredited US college or university. Must have at least six (6) years of accounting work experience, including four (4) years of supervisory experience. A U.S. Certified Public Accountant (CPA) is desirable. Copy of a degree/official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the application.

SALARY: Ungraded. Salary depends on qualifications.
Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at telephone 664-3200 or 3201 for application forms. Deadline of application forms must be submitted to the MVA Office in San Jose no later than Tuesday, September 8, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.



Cuban President Fidel Castro makes a point during a speech at the Plaza Marcos Cabral in Bani, Dominican Republic Sunday. Bani is the birthplace of Dominican war hero Maximo Gomez. AP

Gingrich says House may seek wide-ranging report from Starr

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Speaker Newt Gingrich says the House of Representatives probably will seek evidence from all of Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's investigations of President Bill Clinton, not just the parts related to Monica Lewinsky, before deciding whether to launch an impeachment inquiry.

In his most extensive remarks about the investigation since Clinton's speech to the nation last Monday, Gingrich

right" to ask Starr for his findings on Clinton's role in the Whitewater real estate project and other investigations if his upcoming report to Congress is limited — as has been reported — to the Lewinsky investigation. Clinton admitted last week to having had sexual relations with Ms. Lewinsky, a former White House intern, despite earlier denying such a relationship.

Ada attacked the government for not being able to pay the Department of Corrections overtime,

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\$50M PSS budget 'unlikely'

By Haldee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff
HOUSE Speaker Diego T. Benavente yesterday expressed concerns on the inability of the government to appropriate \$50 million for the Public School System's fiscal year 1999 budget owing to the current economic crisis.

"We're not sure if the PSS can

get the \$50 million because we don't have that amount," Benavente told reporters.

In the proposed government budget proposal, only around \$41 million is appropriated for the PSS, which is \$9 million lower than the latter's earlier request.

The proposed budget also reflects a \$1.5 million cut in PSS money from the current year's \$42.5 million appropriation.

Benavente, however, said there is a possibility of increasing the \$41 million but it will definitely not reach the \$50 million mark.

"I don't think we will be able to find \$9 million more but there's a possibility of increasing the \$41 million," he said, adding that he looks forward to passing the budget before the next fiscal year starts.

The House failed to pass the whole government budget during

the Thursday session due to pressures from the health and education sectors which both received lower appropriations than expected. The Department of Public Health's budget was slashed by more than \$1.7 million.

Meanwhile, the Board of Education is not giving up. BOE chairwoman Marja Lee Taitano told reporters that the Board will stick to the \$50 million request when they meet with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio on Thursday and with House ways and means committee chair Rep. Karl Reyes today.

"We'll stick to the \$50 million request. We cannot exist on a \$41 million budget," Taitano said.

She added that a 600 increase in student population should automatically mean additional classrooms, teachers, materials and supplies and transportation.

"I urge everyone to please be mindful of the fact that the average cost per student year is about \$5,400."

Dynasty asks Teno to fast-track PROC talks

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff
STRUGGLING Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino is pressing the CNMI government to fast-track proposed exploratory talks with the People's Republic of China, aimed at opening doors to Chinese travelers who would want to visit the Northern Marianas.

Kui Fah Liew, general manager of Hong Kong Entertainment which operates Tinian Dynasty, said the local tourism industry needs a quick fix, especially when it comes to tapping new markets since Japanese nationals have been traveling less due to the devaluation of the yen.

"I am hoping that they do it [talks with the State Department and the PROC] fast," Liew told reporters, adding that proposals to open CNMI doors to Chinese visitors is the "great-

DOF appeals trial court ruling on pachinko suit

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
THE DEPARTMENT of Finance has appealed the Superior Court ruling that ordered the department to accept Elm's Inc./Town & Country Amusement's application for 177 pachinko slot machines.

Assistant Attorney General Alvin A. Horne filed the appeal Friday in the Supreme Court.

Town & Country sued DOF last March after then acting Finance secretary Esther Calvo rejected Town & Country's application and refunded the \$354,000 fee it earlier paid.

Calvo said the Department of Finance's (DOF) Division of Revenue and Taxation must be in receipt of a completed application before it could review the application.

But Town & Country's lawyer, Jay H. Sorensen, said that in order to fully complete the application, his client has to bring the machines into the CNMI and set them up for operations without any assurance that DOF will license them.

The requirement is unreasonable, Sorensen said.

He added that by rejecting Town & Country's application, DOF is, in effect, only allowing the licensing of pachinko machines that are already in the CNMI.

This is against the intent of the law on the operation of pachinko

APIL lauds Variety's publishers

THE ASSOCIATION of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) has adopted a resolution congratulating Abed and Paz Younis, Marianas Variety publishers, in connection with the circulation of a new newspaper based in Palau.

In filing Resolution 34-BOD-03, Guam Senator and APIL President Carlotta Leon Guerrero, said the Palau Horizon, an addition to the Younis Art Studio's (YAS) string of publications, "promises to be an informative and valuable source of news for the people of Palau."

Guerrero, in her resolution, moved to resolve that APIL express its congratulations and best wishes to the Younises for the Palau endeavor.

The Younises started publishing Marianas Variety 30 years ago and Guerrero said the home-grown newspaper "has been a valuable source of local, regional and world news to the people of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and other Micronesian jurisdiction," the resolution read.

Man wanted by authorities caught in Guam

By Jacob Leon Guerrero
Variety News Staff
HAGATNA — A man that escaped police custody several weeks ago was captured Sunday afternoon.

Joseph Gutierrez Lujan Lorenzo Jr., was recaptured in the Swamp Road area in Dededo. According to PIO Larry Flores, of the Guam Police Department, they received information about Lorenzo's whereabouts in Dededo.

GPD checked his relatives' house in the area and spotted him. When he saw them he entered a

black Toyota pickup truck, in order to evade capture. In his attempt, Lorenzo struck a patrol car.

Flores stated that the truck was a stolen vehicle, in addition the license plate was fraudulent.

Lorenzo was in police custody several weeks ago for family violence, and possession of a controlled substance. He escaped police custody at the Dededo Precinct.

Lorenzo has been charged with possession of a stolen vehicle, assault with a motor vehicle, fraudulent use of a license plate, and resisting arrest. He was booked and confined.

Gutierrez-Ada-Santos gubernatorial debate, blow-by-blow account

By Brandon N. Ashcraft
Variety News Staff
HAGATNA — Friday's debate night seemed like a professional boxing scene in a three-cornered fight.

Each of the three candidates for the Democratic Party's upcoming primary elections — Gov. Carl Gutierrez, Sen. Tom Ada and Sen. Angel Santos — had a large crowd of supporters to cheer for them.

The Gubernatorial Debate held at the Hilton in Tumon, was sponsored by the Micronesian Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

Santos fired the first salvo, attacking the Gutierrez administration for allegedly taking several Guam people to the "Dark Ages."

He was referring to a situation in which several families are forced to live in overcrowded areas, some 7,000 residents are roaming around jobless, and sick people having to leave the island for treatment.

Ada attacked the government for not being able to pay the Department of Corrections overtime,

and maintain quality public schools, while the governor and Lt. governor were both driving luxury cars.

He deplored that the government's War On Ice has been reduced to bumper stickers.

The Governor defended himself by recalling what it was like during his first few days in office. The government was facing a big deficit amid a \$2-million payroll that had to be settled.

He added that the economy was in chaos and the constant load shedding was a disturbance, as he had no power during his first few days

Kong.

Santos, for his part, said he already gave up 15 percent of his salary when he became a Senator; and that he would give up 50 percent more if he becomes governor.

Ada stated that he was ready to "weather the storm" as he mentioned that Guam needed to attract higher spending tourists, quoting the phrase "quality not quantity."

Melissa Leon Guerrero, of NewsTalk K-57, asked about public safety issue, bringing up the incident involving a five-year old girl who had been hit by a car while on her way to the bus stop in Yigo.

Santos replied that safety was definitely needed for money and that education was the "preventative



Carl T.C. Gutierrez



Tom Ada



Angel Santos

percent of their salary as governor in the wake of a worsening economy.

Gutierrez replied positively. However, he gave assurance that the "groundwork had been laid to avoid the [economic] dip." He added that Guam is poised to become a financial center like Hong

Santos asked why the rich Democrat was helping the rich Republican get richer, while the poor Democrat fought the poor Republican.

Brad Wong, of the Pacific Daily News, asked the candidates if they would be willing to give up 15

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Clarification: The Variety wishes to acknowledge its failure to aptly describe a frontpage photo that appeared in yesterday's issue as a composite photo of three Guam gubernatorial aspirants — Gov. Carl Gutierrez and Sens. Angel Santos and Tom Ada. It is not the intention of this paper to put any one of the three distinguished gentlemen in a bad light. — Ed.

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

BREWED

Jojo Dass

We're going down

"It's amazing," a friend once said, "how the economic downturn is actually making life a bit easier for those already here." To some extent, I think he's right.

I have a colleague who recently bought a 21-inch colored TV for — believe it — \$100.

Ferdie de la Torre says he already has more than enough TV sets back home he is thinking of — not seriously maybe — putting his newly-bought one by his lavatory.

Another colleague has just bought three pairs of brand-name rubber shoes for \$75. She had earlier bought another pair for \$25. She's keeping her eyes open for more.

And still another one combed novelty shops in downtown Garapan searching for \$3 items that, under normal conditions, would have easily been disposed of by curators at \$10 each.

It paid off. She did not get what she wanted though.

Nevertheless, she ended up with a huge wooden oriental mask she was head over heels with over the past several months.

The piece was priced at \$35 but was had under an installment plan with a deposit of as low as \$5.

You go everywhere on the island and you'll see shops announcing a 40- to 75-percent cut on prices of various items ranging from signature shirts to sound systems.

And we're not talking about B-shops here. We're not talking about the usual "rebate sale" or "school-opening sale."

We're seeing big ones disposing their stocks in a manner that would have been foolish had the economy was doing well.

Of course, there also are the "leaving-island" sales being held by people who'd now rather be anywhere than Saipan, or back home.

They're selling cheap too.

Like, the closer their departure date comes, the lower their prices get.

They sell barbecue grills, electric fans, air-conditioning units, you name it.

Nonresident workers, even the local folks, are experiencing a gold rush.

And nonresident workers, who have kept their hard-earned dollars tucked somewhere, are now coming out spending it, hopping from one shop to another, passing off tips on where a big sale is happening and telling stories about how one shop owner who held a prospective but definitely scrooge buyer by the door and said, "Take it."

"I wanted to hear him say 'Please,'" bragged the worker, a guy who could pass for a miser. He rarely spends. He got a wrist watch.

Saipan has become a haven for sale lovers, almost overnight. First to go were the Korean shops with their imported supplies.

And then not long ago, a big French shop closed down in a mad midnight sale at Garapan.

Everybody took everything.

Well, almost.

They went home with the shop's curtains and banners that sold cheap — \$2.

Even shopping baskets.

Souvenirs, they said.

Little did most people know that the "closing-down" sale would signal more similar events.

And it keeps popping up everywhere.

Just take a walk down Susupe, San Roque, Garapan, or Chalan Kanoa and you can't miss it — sale!

You can just drive down Beach Road or Middle Road and you'll see screaming announcements of "must go" items.

"Ironically," said my friend, "the downturn is sort of paying off... to the low-income people at least."

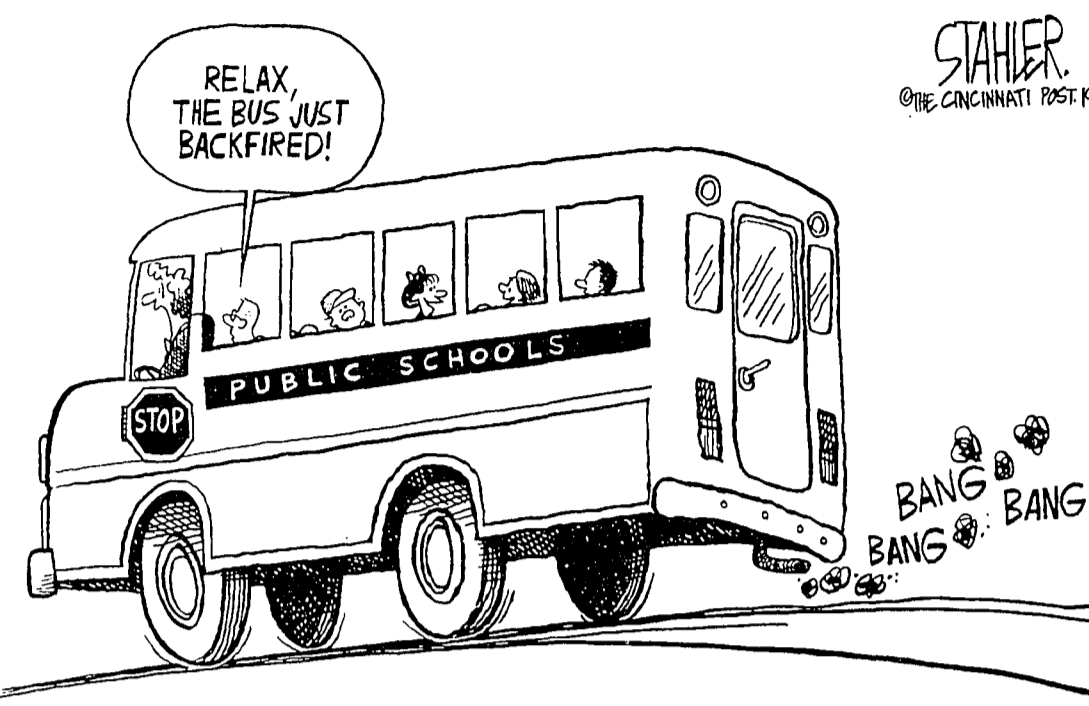
I think he's right too.

While establishments struggle to keep afloat, a new brand of consumers have emerged: The brand that won't buy until the shop finally gives up and announces a sale.

A state of mind is being developed under the present circumstances: One that keeps consumers praying that another shop goes on sale tomorrow.

And the bigger the price cut gets, the better.

We're going down deeper.



JACK ANDERSON and JAN MOLLER
WASHINGTON MERRY-GO-ROUND

Yeltsin in bind over burying Lenin

WASHINGTON — You might call it Russia's own Curse of the Mummy — the way President Boris Yeltsin is too politically frightened to bury the body of Vladimir Lenin. Since 1924, when the Soviet people asked for a prolonged open entombment of Lenin so that they could all pay their respects, his embalmed Bolshevik body has lain in an open, glass-encased coffin in Moscow's Red Square. For decades, Joseph Stalin used the giant mausoleum to help build a cult of deification around his predecessor's remains.

That cult is still strong, and it appears to our best Russian intelligence sources that the only man brave enough to remove the mummy is not Yeltsin, but a mere mayor — the popular chief executive of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov.

Yeltsin has made it clear that he wants to bury the body, and last fall he called for a national referendum to decide the issue. But he quickly backed off after harsh criticism from Communist Party officials. Although capitalism is taking root in Russia, Communists are still in control of the national legislature, the Duma, and still command wide public support. Party leaders are aghast at the prospect that the founder of the Soviet state should be deposited six feet underground.

Lenin's only surviving relative, niece Olga Ulyanova, also wants to keep Uncle Vladimir in his oversized sarcophagus. So Yeltsin, fearing political and social upheaval, backed off his referendum.

Lenin himself wanted to be cremated and buried next to his mother in a St. Petersburg cemetery, but Stalin would have none of it. He needed the cult-like worship of the more popular Lenin to help build his own support.

The decision to display may have also have two other unusual roots: One was the discovery of King Tut about a year before Lenin died. More significant may be a Russian Orthodox belief that undecaying remains were a sign of sainthood, suggesting a Stalinist manipulation of religionists to elevate the incorruptible body of Lenin to demigod status.

So Stalin formed the "Immortalization Commission" with all the urgency of the Manhattan Project. Egyptians had their mummies, but no race in modern times had tried to preserve a body for permanent display. Until recently, the method used was a closely guarded state secret, the key component being a 60-day-long chemical bath every 18 months.

Another key is the constant temperature

inside the glass of 59 degrees and 70 percent humidity. Lenin's flesh-type hue is accomplished by a special light filter in his tomb, and twice a week Lenin's face and hands get chemical touch-ups. (His brain was shipped to the Institute of the Brain where it was sliced into 31,000 pieces for close inspection. No telltale signs of extraordinary intelligence were discovered, Russian officials confided to us.)

Until the fall of communism, lines would snake all through Red Square as Soviet citizens waited for hours for a glimpse of the body. But in the last several years, the crowds have shrunk to a relative trickle, mostly foreign tourists.

But President Yeltsin has balked at actually ordering the removal since Communists and nationalists had such a strong showing in the December 1993 parliamentary elections. He apparently fears the public removal would create more public outcry than he can afford — whereas now the body, bereft of its honor guard and the masses, is relatively ignored.

A similar fate has befallen other embalmed former dictators. Mao Zedong's tomb has also seen dwindling visitors in the years since Deng Xiaoping slowly demoted the despotic leader of China's Cultural revolution. Like Lenin, Mao also requested cremation, but was ignored after his death in 1976.

The same also goes for Ho Chi Minh, founder of the Vietnamese Communist Party who died in 1969 and wanted to be cremated. Vietnamese officials ignored his wishes and instead gave him the full Lenin treatment, with Soviet officials called in as experts on the embalming. In fact, Ho's body still makes regular pilgrimages to Moscow for its special chemical bath.

If there's a certain sign that times are changing, however, it can be found in the death of Kim Il Sung, the late dictator of North Korea. Again, the Russian experts were tapped for their secret embalming techniques, as the North Koreans wanted desperately to preserve the man who ruled that hermit kingdom for 46 years. Kim's, Kim Jong II, is particularly anxious to display dad's remains so junior can remain in power.

Yet what was once a closely guarded state secret that Soviet officials only shared with "friendly" regimes is now available to anyone — for a price. Our sources say the cash-strapped North Koreans paid \$300,000 for the embalming techniques, showing that cash is now king, even when it comes to preserving the decaying symbols of a failed ideology.

Girl, 7, hit by pick-up

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff
A SEVEN year old girl was hit yesterday morning by an onbound pick-up truck on Dandan's main road, according to police.

The child was thrown 10 to 15 feet away upon impact, but afterward got up and ran away, Department of Public Safety spokesperson Rose T. Ada said.

She added that it was the driver of the 1989 pick-up who ran after the child and looked after her while waiting for the responding police officers and medics.

The child was brought to the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC), where she was declared "alert and responsive," Ada said.

However, she complained of abdominal pains and is still under observation, Ada said.

According to the driver's account to the police, the child suddenly ran out into the road, causing him to step on the brakes.

The child got hit nonetheless. Ada said the child's mother told the police that her daughter was on her way to the school bus stop when the incident happened.

Ada said the mother saw the incident herself.

"It was her who told us that the girl was thrown 10 to 15 feet away after she got hit," Ada said.

The pick-up, however, wasn't damaged, she said.

DPL has contractor for EIA

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff
THE DIVISION of Public Land (DPL) has finally chosen a contractor for an environmental impact assessment (EIA) of the planned homestead project in upper Tanapag, Vince Castro DPL Chief Planning Officer said yesterday.

However, Castro said it may still take some five more months before actual road clearing and construction can begin.

He explained such length of time will be spent on required studies of the site as well as on the "clearing" of necessary documents with concerned agencies like the Historical Preservation Office (HPO) and the Coastal Resource Management (CRM).

The study, a standard procedure, determines whether the homestead could pose threats to the site's ecological balance.

It is also expected to determine whether the huge abandoned World War II military dumpsite in the area is sitting on the project's site.

The project, it will be recalled, slowed down a few months back after officials said they could not discount the possibility that the tons of asphalt and other hazardous chemicals can pose a threat to the homestead's would-be occupants.

The Tanapag homestead project is part of government's plan to make an estimated 2,000 lots available to applicants within the next two years. Some 500 homestead lots will be built there.

Aside from Tanapag, government also intends to put more homestead lots in Koblerville, Kagman area and Capitol Hill.

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has, upon assumption of post early this year, vowed to include homesteads in his flagship projects.

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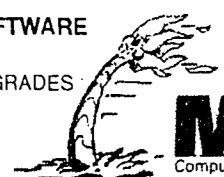
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DYS: 'Amend Juvenile Act'

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By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff

THE DIVISION of Youth Services Director Eloise Furey yesterday expressed her concerns on the proposed House Bill 11-158 otherwise known as the Juvenile Delinquent Act, stressing the bill must be some amended first before it passes into law.

"My concerns here are the age



Eloise Furey

factor, the depressions regarding the court and the legal mandate and guidelines that have to be considered," said Furey.

Under the proposed bill, a juvenile 14 years old or older who has been convicted of any offenses such as arson, aggravated assault, assault with a dangerous weapon, attempted murder, conspiracy to commit murder, solicitation to commit murder, first and second degree murder, kidnapping, rape, robbery with a dangerous weapon or with serious bodily injury and nighttime burglary or burglary while armed with a dangerous weapon, will be sentenced in the same manner as an adult.

Furey said the DYS is also concerned with the current resources. She added, "If this

housebill is passed without amendments, we're going to see the need for more facilities and more programs as well as funding. I am not only talking about DYS but in other areas too, such as the police department and the whole system."

The weakness of the juvenile code, according to Furey, is whether the court is allowed by statute to order conditions and how effective is enforcement against non-compliance of the stated conditions in the code.

Furey also added that DYS is looking for more preventive measures against juvenile delinquencies.

"Our staff is busy running right now in different schools. We in DYS, would like to see the implementation of delinquent programs in schools, the Division of Mental Health and other agencies like Karidat. But I believe that the most ideal place to do some preventive programs is in school."

"Before we look into this present juvenile code, let's look first on what's going on, what is working, what has to be expanded and change. We must consider what things are going to work. Having this new juvenile code does not necessarily mean that this is the answer to our problems," Furey said.

3 arrested in two assault incidents

By Zaldy Dandan
Variety News Staff

POLICE have arrested three men, including two security guards who allegedly punched a pawnshop manager, in two separate assault and battery incidents over the weekend.

Department of Public Safety spokesperson Rose T. Ada said Ashikuzzaman Khan, 25, and Hanif MD. Hossein, 23, with three other unidentified men, allegedly "attacked" Michael D. Arriola, 28, on Beach Road near Subway, Chalan Kanoa.

Khan and Hossein are both employed by Secure West, Int., Ada said, while Arriola is the pawnshop manager of Pink House.

Arriola told the police that as he and his boss were leaving Pink House at around 11 p.m. Sunday, they saw five men crossing Beach Road.

At this point, Arriola said he heard a "banging sound," and saw the van stop.

He said the five men then ran toward the van and began shouting at the female driver.

Arriola said he approached the five men to "calm them down."

However, they allegedly attacked him instead, Ada said. Responding police officers caught Khan and Hossein, but the three other suspects managed to get away.

Arriola sustained minor injuries, Ada said. In a separate incident, police on Sunday afternoon arrested Napoleon N. Singeru, 37, for allegedly assaulting Marcial Barao, 33.

Citing Barao's account, Ada said the two were having a drink at Barao's Chalan Kanoa residence when Singeru allegedly punched him twice in the face and attempted to stab him with a knife.

Barao told the police that Singeru had also hit him in a previous incident.

Ada said the case is now under investigation, and the Attorney General's Office will determine whether to file criminal charges against Singeru.



BETTER DRIVERS BUCKLE UP.

MVA wants seat in aviation task force

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

THE MARIANAS Visitors Authority has sought representation in Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio's aviation task force over concern on the impact of the airline industry's decision to reduce air service.

MVA Managing Director Perry John P. Tenorio said the agency realizes that the CNMI's tourism industry is dependent on reliable air service.

Perry said the government should play a greater role in attracting additional carriers to serve CNMI's market and in establishing a better working relationship with carriers which currently provide air service to and within the Commonwealth.



Perry John P. Tenorio

Perry in a letter on Friday requested Gov. Tenorio to appoint MVA Board Chairman David M. Sablan to represent the agency in the aviation task force.

"I am certain that his (Sablan)

vast knowledge of our tourism industry will be of great benefit to the aviation task force," said the managing director.

The CNMI's main carrier, Continental Micronesia had reduced its flights to the Northern Marianas because of the Asian economic turmoil.

Continental's move was expected to drag down the number of tourist arrivals in the CNMI.

Tenorio created the task force to study the dramatic changes in the airline industry and the decline in air service to the Northern Marianas.

The task force is chaired by Tenorio's key adviser, J.M. Guerrero. The Legislature appointed four other members in the task force.

Decline in Laulau Bay eco-system noticed

By Jojo Dass
Variety News Staff

LAULAU bay is having a decline in its coral reef ecosystem brought about by sediment-laden water runoff and a study is underway to determine whether large scale golf courses in the area have been causing this, according to the Division of Environmental Quality (DEQ).

In its Water Quality Assessment (WQA) report, DEQ said there was a concern about high turbidity levels at the bay which still do not meet CNMI water quality standards even during the dry season.

"Although... the land areas adjacent to these coral reefs are underdeveloped," the report said. "CNMI permits have been issued to large scale golf course resorts in these areas."

The division, said the report, is "actively collecting baseline data" to determine whether any changes in coral reefs can be correlated to the

activities of the golf courses.

The report noted that the south and southeast sides of the island are surrounded by fringing reefs which are frequented by SCUBA diving operators.

These operators supplement the tourism industry as well as residents who fish in these waters for sports and to feed their families.

"Because the coral animals that make up the reef are extremely sensitive to even minor variations in water quality... DEQ uses biocriteria monitoring techniques to look directly at the health of the coral reef," the report stated.

DEQ said coral reefs withstand a certain amount of acute stress and environment variation such as that caused by typhoons.

However, its report said compounding factors associated with sedimentation, including an increase in turbidity, may increase the stress to the reefs.

Helicopter flies patient from Rota

MACAW Helicopters yesterday morning dispatched its Air Ambulance helicopter to Rota to transport a critically-ill patient to Saipan.

The patient was flown directly to Commonwealth Health Center (CHC) helicopter landing pad.

Macaw President Mike Cunningham said "the mission went like clockwork."

The coordination with Saipan CHC and Rota Health Center personnel went very smoothly.

Rota's personnel were ready for the helicopter and loaded the patient very quickly. Saipan Health Center had personnel standing-by when the chopper landed at the CHC's heliport and the patient was off-loaded and was in the emergency room in a matter of minutes.

"CHC showed excellent teamwork and leadership," said Cunningham.

"They are very effective professionals."

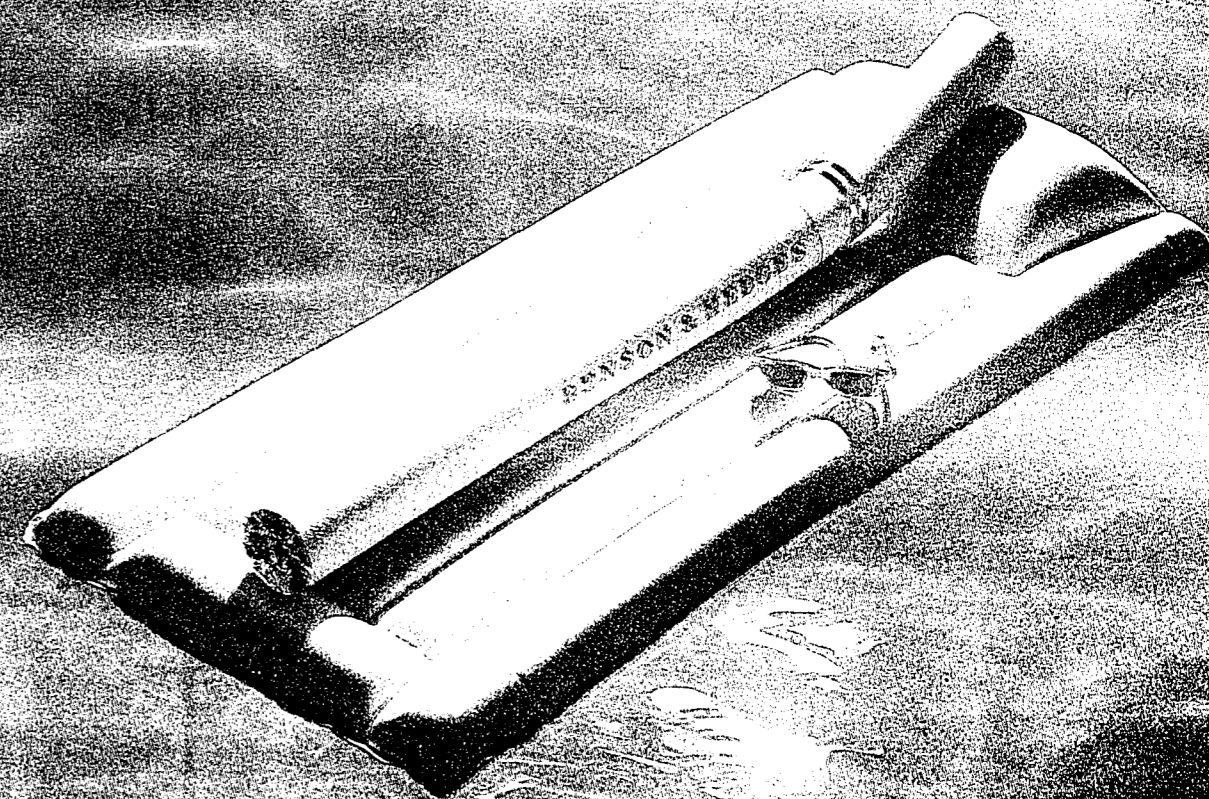
Macaw did not disclose the name of the patient for yesterday's flight, but did confirm that his condition was "a serious, life-threatening emergency."

Macaw, which operates the only federally approved Air Ambulance helicopter in all of Micronesia, was credited with saving one, possibly two, lives on August 5, in a pair of Air Ambulance flights that also transported Rota patients to Saipan.

Helicopters are considered an essential part of emergency medical care in the United States and Europe, where "the golden hour" of critical medical care is considered the crucial first hour after a patient becomes sick or injured.

"Residents of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands have come to expect the same standards of emergency medical transportation that are available in the mainland," said Cunningham, "and we're happy to be of service."

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NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with 1 CMC § 2675 (f) (1), the Division of Public Lands is hereby giving notice of its intended action in connection with the leasing of certain public land in Garapan, Saipan. As required by the afore-cited section of the public land law, this notice shall appear in this paper for a period of 8 days, and any interested party of the general public may submit comments, data, views, arguments of alternative proposals to lease the subject public land, within 15 days of this announcement, after which time the Division of Public Lands shall not accept any comments or proposals from any interested party. This eight-day notice shall commence 8:25:98 and end 9:3:98.

As further provided in 1 CMC § 2675 (f) (1) (A) to (E), the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- A. That portion of the Beach Road right of way immediately fronting the Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center and directly across from the Duty Free Shoppers in Garapan.
- B. The proposed Lessee in PKS Planning and Land Resources.
- C. Mr. Peter K. Barlas dba PKS Planning and Land Resources, a sole proprietorship, negotiated the proposed Lease Agreement.
- D. The property shall be used solely for the operation and maintenance of a gift shop dealing in the sale of luxury items, watches and time pieces, jewelry, perfume, cosmetics and consumer goods and premium quality male and female clothing and accessories.

The term of the proposed Lease Agreement shall be for a period of four years, with an option to extend for an additional two years.

The annual rental for the four-year period was negotiated after an appraisal of the subject land parcel was made. The minimum annual rental as negotiated will be \$1,550.00. The annual rental shall be paid quarterly on the first day of each quarter. At the end of the first four-year period of the Lease, the guaranteed annual rental payable by the Lessee to the Division for the next two years shall be based on eight percent (8%) of the fair market value of the subject lot, as required by 1 CMC § 2677 (d).

A complete copy of the proposed lease may be obtained at the Division of Public Lands, located in the JTV Commercial Building at As Lito, Saipan.

- D. No alternative proposals for the leasing of this parcel of public land has been received by the Division of Public Lands.
- E. The Director of the Division of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before 9:3:98 at the Division of Public Lands' Office at As Lito.

I MA PROPOPONE NA ATKILON TANO' PUBLIKO

Sigun gi ono (1) Kodegun Commonwealth Seksiona 2675 (f) (1), I Dibision Tano' Publiko ginen este manana'e notisia put I intension-na na aksion para ma atkilan tano' publiko giya Garapan, Saipan. Sigun gi notisidat ni mangangan na seksiona gi lai tano' publiko, este na notisia u anak gi gaseta ocho dias na tempo, ya hayi man interesante na petsona siha monahalom komento, fakto, inoina yan argumento pat tulaikan I ma propoponen na atkilon tano', gi halom kase (15) dias. U ma tubon este na anoncio gi 8:25:98 ya ufakpo gi 9:3:98.

Komu solamente i ma pribeniyi gi ono (1) Kodegun Commonwealth Seksiona 2675 (f) (1) (A asta E), i sigiente siha na infomatsion nisariaru na ma pupublika.

- A. Este na pidason tano' patte gi Beach Road right of way me' nan as Joeten Hafa Adai Shopping Center yan gaige gi manan Duty Free Shoppers direktamentu giya Garapan.
- B. Este i PKS Planning yan Land Resources I propoposion este na atkilon.
- C. Si Mr. Peter K. Barlas, Manehanti yan solamente dueñi i munejosio este na atkilon.
- D. Este na propiadat debi de umanasetbi gi unika manera komu gi operasion i gift shop ni para ufanmatendi cosas siha komu relas, alahas, paupau yan man tatiklo na upalot magagun famalaon yan lalaha.

I tetminun este i mapropoponi na atkilon para u kuatro (4) anos. Siha lukue maaxendi dos anos.

I apas kuatro anos esta manhas an ma negosio sigun i mafafinas na estimu i mas takapna na apas kada sakkun \$1,550.00. I apas kada sakkun debi de u ma fatinas utimo na dia gi kada quarterly. Gi utimun finenita na kuatro anos ni este na atkilan tano' osino komo ma rineba i atkilun despues. Gi utimno este kuatro anos na atkilon osino an marineba, i magarenea na apas para i Dibision gi halom dos anos debi de u gaige gi ocho pot sientu (8%) gi fair market value pot este tineteke na pidason tano sigun gi ono (1) Kodegu Commonwealth Seksiona 2677 (d).

I kumplida na kopian este na pripinopon atkilon siha machule gi Ofisanan Dibision Tano' Publiko ni gaige gi JTV Commercial Building giya As Lito, Saipan.

- E. Taya otro siha man na halom propopito gi Ofisanan Dibision Tano' Publiko pot este na pidason tano'.
- F. I Direktot Tano' Publiko debi u akseptu todo I man ma tugi na komento, inina yan argumento osino otro siba na propopito ginen man entresano na petsona siha antes de 9:3:98 gi Ofisanan Dibision Tano' Publiko giya As Lito.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL ATKILOON REEL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sangui aliéwal me bwángil mille 1 CMC § 2675 (f) (1), nge Divisional Public Lands ekke arongar toulap igha ekke mangtilye bwe ebwe adkilaat ehgús faluweer toulap iye elo Arabwal, Saipel. Igha efil bwe milikaa e ghomwólo meliol Alleghul Toulap, nge arongorong yeel nge ebwe toowow iloi simbang walara (8), aramas kka re tipali nge emwal schag rebwe schiwe meta mangemangir, tipeer me ngare yaar abwalway reel liiwelil pomw kka rebwe atkilap faluweer toulap yeel. Iloí seje me limiral (15) sangi igha e toowow arongorong yeel, mwiril nge Divisional Public Lands resobw bweibwoghólo milikaa e atotoolong sangir aramas ngare school busines. Arongorong ye walaral nge ebwe bwelela wóol 8:25:98 ngali 9:3:98.

Igha ebalw tee sangi mille 1 CMC § 2675 (f) (1) (A ngali E), nge infomatsion kka eghi fil nge eppwal atooowoo.

- A. Faluweer Toulap ye rebwe atkilap nge, ulummal Joeten Shopping Center me Duty Free Shoppers iye Arabwal.
- B. Pomwol atkilon yeel nge PKS Planning me Land Resources.
- C. Pomwol atkilon yeel nge tingoreeyal Mr. Peter K. Barlas dba Planning me Land Resources.
- D. Faluw yeel nge rebwe yaáyáá réel akamellol relas, jewelry, perfume, cosmetics bwal miongóghul mwáál me schóobwut. Lááláááááá igha rebwe atkilap ye ebwe faal faaw ráágh. Lease yeel nge emwal schaga rebw sbáwwee ngali bwal ruwoow ráágh.

Abwówsul ilóí faal ráágh nge rebwe tabwee sangi igha re apprais li loí yeel. Ghitigihal abwós nge a bwung bwe ebwe lo \$1,550.00. Abwówsul ilóí eew ráágh nge ebwe quarterly. Tabwee mille waluwu let meliól ebwaghúw (8%) reel fair market value reel faluw yeel igha rebwe tabwee aliéwal me bwángil 1 CMC § 2677 (d).

Eyor schéechéel kopya ad atkilon yeel ngali aramas ye e tipali meliól Bwulasyool Division of Public Lands iye elo iloi Tulo' Commercial Building As Lito, Saipel.

- E. Ewóór bwal eew meta schóowóschów reel igha rebwe atkilap faluw yeel.
- F. Samwóol Division Public Lands emwal bwe ebwe bweibwogh mangemang reel pomwol atkilon yeel sangir aramas kka re tipali mmwal 9/3:98 meliól, Bwulasyool Division Public Lands iye elo As Lito.

AROUND the Islands

The Around the Islands section covers community stories, local events, and cultural activities. Should you have a story you would like to share, or an event that needs to be covered, contact Laila at 234-6341

Eucon Int'l School opens

By Louie C. Alonso
Variety News Staff
A NEW private school, the Eucon International School, opened last Saturday.
Gov. Pedro Tenorio and Saipan Mayor Jesus C. Sablan graced the school opening ceremonies.

Tenorio said that EIS "has made its reaffirmation to the government's commitment for the good education of our children."
EIS accommodate students from Kindergarten III up to 12th grade. As of last Saturday, there are 230 students enrolled in EIS



Pedro Tenorio



Jesus C. Sablan

atmosphere and give the best curricula for the students.

The new school takes pride in having new facilities and modern equipments. The 18 EIS staff and teachers all came from the mainland.

"The difference of Eucon International School from here in Saipan is we are an American-based school and we are teaching the American Christian tradition. Our curriculum is based on American standards and our textbooks came from the US. And mostly, our facilities all passed the American standards," said Wei.

said the school will provide a solid and traditional Christian education in a good learning

and 50 others on the waiting list.

One of the objectives of EIS is to provide the international community with a solid educational institution that will aid them in the "rearing of their children and give them a true choice in educational values."

EIS promises to develop self-discipline and character in the students that will help the kids build Christian values and principles.

EIS president Christian Wei

PSS bilingual program needs assessment--BOE

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff
AFTER receiving complaints from parents of children who are failing in bilingual subjects, Board of Education chairwoman Marja Lee Taitano said the present bilingual program of the Public School System should be evaluated to meet current demands of the whole educational system.
Taitano pointed out that the bilingual programs take a very mechanical approach to lan-

guage instruction and thus, the ability to speak and construct Chamorro and Carolinian sentences does not guarantee mastery of these languages.
At the beginning of elementary schooling, students are rushed through the phonetic rules of grammar and is immediately introduced to orthography by grade three, it was said.
"By the fourth grade," said Taitano, "the able students may be able to sound out complete sentences without understand-

Continued on page 22

GES Students of the Week



Alvie Penalosa, fifth-grade student from Mrs. Borja's class, is a dependable girl. She is very cooperative and helpful in class. Her attitude toward school is excellent and she is doing great in her academic work.



Jocelyn Somol, third-grade student from Mrs. Thorpe's class, always does her best work and follows directions. She is a good listener and friend. Her classmates and teacher are glad that she's part of their class at GES.



Kenzie Guerrero, second-grade student from Mrs. Pagapular's class, is a great girl. She is kind and helpful to her friends. Kenzie is a good reader and can understand the stories she reads. She listens attentively and asks questions when she does not understand something.



Leena Renguul, sixth-grade student from Mrs. Gallardo's class, is a model student who always participates in class. She is a cheerful and friendly group leader who always helpful in class. She is member of the Math Olympiad, Junior Police Honor Society and is president of her class.



Rachel Pagarao, fourth-grade student from Ms. Byington's class, is an excellent student who always strives for her very best. She completes her schoolwork neatly and on time. She comes to school prepared and with a positive attitude.



Swayzer Ongill, first-grade student from Mrs. Schultz's class, has come to school ready to learn from the first day! He works hard, stays on task, listens well and completes his work. He sets a great example! Keep up the great work!

AROUND the Islands

The Around the Islands section covers community stories, local events, and cultural activities. Should you have a story you would like to share, or an event that needs to be covered, contact Laila at 234-6341

US garment execs visit, tour Saipan's factories

WORLD renown fashion industry giant Liz Claiborne International Ltd. recently concluded meetings with apparel leaders and government officials, and toured a half dozen of Saipan's garment manufacturing facilities, the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association (SGMA) said.

Daryl Brown, vice president and Divisional Controller for Liz Claiborne Int'l Ltd., was accompanied by Senior Regional Douglas Rogers of Polo Ralph Lauren; Lon Garwood, Pacific Buying and Marketing Service Ltd.'s Managing Director and Aron Cramer, vice president of Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), a business and human rights firm from San Francisco, during the numerous meetings and inspections.

The three-day visit to Saipan included meetings with the SGMA, officials and general membership, the Chinese Economic Development Association and the assistant director of the CNMI Division of Customs.

Liz Claiborne's Daryl Brown introduced SGMA to BSR's Aron Cramer, as a resource and con-



US apparel company executives from left, Lou Garwood, Douglas Rogers, Aron Cramer and Daryl Brown visit a factory with SGMA's James Lin (right).

sultant for the Association's work on their SGMA Code of Conduct. BSR has worked with many developing countries' industry leaders on human rights issues.

Cramer is most interested in supplying components and firms for the monitoring systems within the Code of Conduct.

Training in federal laws, buyers' inspection services and factory and dormitory compliance

were the focus of BSR's attention.

Liz Claiborne officials stressed the importance of continuing the Association's work with the implementation of its Code, as many mainland buyers are under pressure as a result of the Office of Insular Affairs' allegations of violations within the garment industry in Saipan. SGMA selected

Continued on page 22

Club 200 bares prizes

THE TENTH anniversary Club 200 dinner/raffle event promises to top other years. Along with the top prizes of \$25,000 cash, 1998 Toyota Camry, 1998 Nissan Frontier, \$10,000 cash, \$5,000 cash; the event planners have announced other prizes to encourage ticket buyers to purchase their tickets now and have a chance to win before the tickets sell out.

Other prizes just announced include the following (not necessarily in order):

- \$3,000 cash
- \$2,000 cash
- \$1,000 cash
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to Honolulu
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to New Caledonia
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to Palau
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to Bali
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to Guam
- Trip for two with hotel accommodations and \$200 cash to Sydney
- Intel Premium 200 Computer System
- Business package including a Motorola StarTAC Cellular Phone and a \$500 Pacific Security Gift Certificate
- Kitchen Package
- Living Room Package
- 10th Anniversary Wedding Band
- Six Tinian Casino Packages including hotel, meals and \$200
- \$500 Surf Turf Gift Certificate
- Pioneer 25 CD Changer Mini Stereo System
- Weekend Package at PIC with \$200 cash
- Weekend Package at Hyatt Regency Saipan with \$200 cash
- Weekend Package at Pacific Gardenia with \$200 cash
- Five consolation prizes at \$200 each

Also mentioned in the press release was the theme for the event
Continued on page 22

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

Announcement of Public Hearing and Notice of Availability of the Revised Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Military Training in the Marianas Territory of Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

SUMMARY: The U.S. Pacific Command (USCINCPAC) is announcing the availability of the above-referenced Revised DEIS. The revisions are based on comments received on the DEIS and on public meetings held on Guam, Tinian, Rota, and Saipan in March 1997.

The Revised DEIS has been distributed to various federal, territorial and commonwealth agencies, elected officials, individuals and organizations in the community, public libraries, and the media, including all parties who commented on the original DEIS, published in February 1997. A limited number of single copies is available at the address listed at the end of this notice.

The Revised DEIS evaluates alternative uses of DoD controlled lands on Guam, Tinian, Rota, and Farallon de Medinilla (FDM) for training by Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, National Guard, and Army Reserve forces stationed on Guam or transiting the region. Most of the training land uses described in the Revised DEIS are continuing activities; a small number of areas is also proposed for new training use. The alternatives are (1) No New Action, consisting of all ongoing land use for military training; (2) No Land Use, which is stopping use of one or more areas for training which has previously occurred; (3) the Preferred Alternative, which includes ongoing training land use and most, but not all, newly proposed training land uses; and (4) Not-Preferred Action Alternatives, which includes newly proposed training land uses which are not necessary to meet the purpose and need and which have significant impacts that cannot be mitigated.

The training areas on Guam proposed for continuing and new military training activities are Navy and Air Force sites (Andersen Air Force Base, Waterfront Annex, Ordnance Annex, Naval Computer and Telecommunications Area Master Station Finegayan and Barrigada), private lands along the Ylig and Talofolo Rivers, and a non-military paratroop zone in Dandan. Areas on Rota proposed for new and continuing training consist of the airport and a small area within West Harbor. Areas currently used for training on Tinian are within the Military Lease Area, with limited activities in San Jose Harbor. The entire island of FDM is used as a live fire range.

Proposed continuing and new training use of these areas includes field maneuvers and logistics support, aviation, amphibious landings, live weapons fire at existing and proposed range, underwater demolitions, naval gunfire, and aerial bombardment. The proposed action also includes construction or installation of facilities at several locations: a small arms range and mortar range on Tinian, breaching or shooting houses on Tinian, a logistics support base camp and security gates on Tinian, a sniper range and breaching house in the Ordnance Annex, extension of several small arms ranges in the Waterfront Annex, and crew-served weapons ranges on FDM.

Written comments on the Revised DEIS should be submitted in writing either to the address listed at the end of this announcement all written statements must be postmarked by September 28, 1998 to be incorporated in the official record.

ADDRESSES: Requests for single copies of the Revised DEIS and submittal of written comments for inclusion into the official record should be forwarded to Mr. Fred Minato (Code 231FM), Pacific Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii 96860-7300.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Fred Minato (code 231FM), by voice telephone (808)471-9338, facsimile transmission (808) 474-5909, or email fminato@efdpac.navyfac.navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), the USCINCPAC has prepared and filed with the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency the above-referenced Revised DEIS.

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Fund pushes Tinian project

By Haidee V. Eugenio
Variety News Staff
THE NMI Retirement Fund has expressed desire to push through with its project of putting up an office building in Marpo Heights in Tinian despite the current move of the Department of Public Lands to develop the area into a park and recreation area.

Administrator Edward H. Manglona said the Fund's Board of Trustees decided to go on with the project since the said land was already their own property.

"The Board decided to move on with its plans. DPL cannot do anything about it because they issued that deed for the land, and the Retirement Fund already owns it," Manglona told the Variety.

Manglona pointed out that this is actually the second time that the Fund's Tinian project is asked to be relocated to another area.

He said that after the original Fund property was appraised, Tinian gov-

ernment officials asked them to move out because the land will be used for something else. They were then relocated to its present site in Marpo Heights which was earlier designated as government complex, according to Manglona.

"That place is designated as government complex by a master plan and they measured that for us. Now they're telling us that they'll gonna use it for park," remarked the Fund chief.

Tinian Mayor Francisco Borja, Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano and Henry San Nicolas, chairman of the 7th Tinian Municipal Council, told the Board of Public Lands, through a letter, that the parcel of land that has been previously assigned for the Retirement Fund "conflicts with Tinian's current Masterplan Development Strategy."

The letter, a copy of which was obtained by the Variety, also indicated that the land that has been assigned to the Fund has been previously identified as the site for the

Marpo Heights Community Park and Recreation Center.

"We would like to request that the site allocated for the construction of the Retirement building be relocated to allow this site to be designated to the Tinian Municipality for the development of the Marpo Heights Park project," added the letter which was

addressed to BPL chairman Tomas Aldan.

Manglona added the Fund was not informed beforehand of the Tinian leadership's request to relocate the project.

"I don't think they want us to know it because they didn't say anything (about it) and did not provide us with

the copy (of the letter)," he said, adding that the Fund got hold of the letter only through a third party.

The subject was then brought up during the recent Board meeting where the body decided to move on with its plan of putting up an office.

Tamuning cafe robbed

By Jacob Leon Guerrero
Variety News Staff
HAGATNA — The Sushi Cafe, in Tamuning, was robbed Sunday evening.

According to PIO Ron Taitano, of the Guam Police Department, a man entered the cafe and ordered some soup.

The suspect appeared to pay the cashier, but just when the register opened, the man jumped on top of the counter and grabbed the cash tray.

The suspect fled on foot with \$500, he was seen heading towards the Payless Supermarket in Tamuning, along Marine Drive.

He is described to be possibly local, between 5'7"-5'8" tall, with a medium complexion, and around 30 or 35 years-old.

He was wearing a black baseball cap, with white DKNY letters on the front, a white T-shirt, Black Jeans, and slippers.

No injuries were reported and the case is still under investigation.

If you have any information call GPD at 472-8911 or CRIMESTOPPERS at 477-HELP.

Saipan Health Clinic sued

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
A PROVIDER of medical laboratory services has sued the Saipan Health Clinic and its owner —

The Diagnostic Laboratory Services, Inc. asked the US District Court to order defendants Health Professional Corporation doing business as SHC to pay \$225,647.74.

DLS, through counsel John D. Osborn, said at the request of HPC and SHC, DLS opened a lab facility at SHC in Dandan in mid-1997 and moved to their new facility in Chalan Kiya in Dec. 1997.

DLS's lab at SHC was staffed and equipped to draw blood samples from patients and prepare the samples for shipment to DLS labs in Honolulu and Guam for testing.

Initially, DLS billed patients or their health insurers directly for most of the lab services performed

through SHC. In March 1998, a CNMI law took effect requiring all alien workers in the CNMI to be screened for certain diseases, and the demand for lab services at SHC increased dramatically.

However, the alien health screening tests were medical expenses which were generally excluded from the patient's health insurance coverage.

Defendants approached DLS to discuss a means by which the demands resulting from the new alien screening requirements could be met.

As a result of these discussions, DLS agreed to charge screening costs directly to defendants.

Defendants, in turn, agreed to collect the screening costs from the tested patients or their employers and remit all amounts due to DLS within 30 days of defendants' receipt of invoices for DLS's services.

Continued on page 22

BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to PL 98-41, Section 11, Governor Pedro F. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus Sablan through the Board of Professional Licensing (BPL) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, September 1, 1998 at 10:00AM at the Board's Office located on the 2nd Floor of the Island Commercial Center Building in Garo Rai, Saipan. Agenda for the board meeting is as follows:

- Call to Order
- Determination of Quorum
- Review and Adoption of Agenda
- Review and Adoption of Minutes
- Approved Past Meeting Minutes
- Communications from Governor's Office & Legislators
- Secretary's Office
- Legislative
- Chairman's Report
- Board Administration - Report
- Investigator's Report
- Committee Reports
- Committee on Public Rules-Regulations
- Committee on Revisions of the Quality
- Communications and Criteria for Different Professions Under the Board's Jurisdiction
- Fees Review Committee
- Old Business
- Applications for Board's Review
- Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for Real Property Appraisers
- Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for Engineers, Architects, Landscapers, Architects and Land Surveyors
- New Business
- Miscellaneous Business
- Adjournment of Meeting

AS: MANUEL M. PANGELINAN
Chairman

Cultural Heritage Month Schedule AUG.-SEPT. 1998

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
23	24	25	26	27	28 9:00 a.m. PROCLAMATION Signing Ceremony Aging Center	29
30	31	1	2 HISTORICAL SITES FIELDTRIP (Every Wednesdays in the Month of Sept.)	3	4 3:00-6:00 p.m. OPEN HOUSE Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday. Cap. \$25,000. Wednesday: 6:00-8:30 p.m. Saturday: 9:00-1:00 p.m.)	5 9:00-1:00 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday)
6 6:00 a.m. Commemoration Mass Cultural Heritage Month Mt. Carmel Cathedral LABOR DAY PICNIC	7 LEGAL HOLIDAY LABOR DAY	8 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday)	9 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday)	10 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday)	11 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday) 6:00-11:00 p.m. KANTAN ISLA CONCERT Amphitheater	12 9:00-1:00 p.m. Micronesia Crafts Exhibit (Open everyday except Sunday & Holiday) 6:00-11:00 p.m. KANTAN ISLA CONCERT Amphitheater
13	14	15	16	17	18 8:00 AM-4:30 PM SYMPOSIUM Hyatt Regency Hotel	19
CHAMORRO CULTURAL WEEK CELEBRATION						
CULTURAL DEMONSTRATIONS						
20 7:30 a.m. MASS Carolinian Language Mt. Carmel Cathedral	21 8:30-11:30 am OPENING CEREMONY Carolinian Lift	22 8:30-11:30 am CULTURAL DEMOS. Carolinian Lift	23 8:30-11:30 am CULTURAL DEMOS. Carolinian Lift	24 8:30-11:30 am CULTURAL DEMOS. Carolinian Lift	25 8:30-11:30 am CULTURAL DEMOS. Carolinian Lift	26 6:00-11:00 am FISHING CONTEST UUMW PREPARATION Carolinian Lift
CAROLINIAN CULTURAL WEEK CELEBRATION						
27	28	29	30			
5:00-9:00 pm SPEECH CONTEST FINALISTS Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	5:00-9:00 pm ARTISTIC DISPLAYS Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	5:00-9:00 pm LOCAL FOOD DEMO/PREP Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	5:00-9:00 pm CULT. PERFORMANCE - COMM. Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	5:00-9:00 pm CULT. PERFORMANCE - SCH. Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	5:00-9:00 pm CULT. PERFORMANCE - SCH. Concession Booth/Cultural Entertainments	6:00-11:00 pm UUMW DINNER SHOW BATTLE OF THE BAND AWARDS

Cook Islands to sign climate change pact

APIA (Pacnews)—Cook Islands will soon sign the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

This was announced by Cook Islands Prime Minister, Sir Geoffrey Henry before he left for the South Pacific Forum Meeting in the Federated States of Micronesia.

Sir Geoffrey said becoming a party to the Protocol, the Cook Islands will be well placed to work closely with other Forum countries in future to strengthen inter-

national commitments to address the problems of climate change as well as to benefit from assistance that will be forthcoming for developing countries in the years ahead.

The protocol concluded in Kyoto Japan last December takes the process a step further, setting out specific commitments by developed countries to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

It also contains provisions for various mechanisms to be worked out to assist developing countries to cope with the adverse effects of climate change in years ahead.

South Pacific Forum open

PALIKIR (Pacnews)—The South Pacific Forum leaders summit has officially opened Monday morning at the capital town of the Federated States of Micronesia.

The two day summit will focus on the theme "From Reform to Growth: The Private Sector and Investment as the Keys to Prosperity".

The meeting is being attended by leaders and deputy leaders from the 16-member countries of the Forum.

A number of heads of governments of member countries including Australia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, and Samoa are not attending the Forum.

The 29th South Pacific Forum Leaders summit was opened by the host country's president, Jacob Nema.

The leaders will go on their retreat at the "Village" this afternoon.

Leaders told: Consider New Caledonia's status

PALIKIR (Pacnews)—The 29th South Pacific Forum officials committee has recommended to the Forum leaders to give favourable consideration to the admission of New Caledonia as an observer in the forum.

But the committee says such consideration would only be subject to a formal request from New Caledonia.

Any consideration is also expected to be subject to the endorsement of the Accords in the referendum to be carried out in New

Caledonia. If the recommendation is endorsed by the leaders during their two-day meeting with began in Palikir this morning, a representative of the government of New Caledonia would be invited to attend next year's South Pacific forum.

It is expected that the existing criteria for observer status at the regional organisation would have to be re-examined in the light of New Caledonia's admission at the forum.

Elsewhere in the Pacific Greenpeace urges leaders: Look at IAEA report closely

PALIKIR (Pacnews)—Environmental activist group, Greenpeace claims that the International Atomic Energy Agency did not directly look at the doses of contamination received by the thousands of workers at Fagataufa and Moruroa during the past thirty

Greenpeace has urged South Pacific forum member countries to bear in mind that even though the IAEA has suggested that radiation doses from contamination at Fagataufa and Moruroa

is likely to be low, there are still some very disturbing findings that should be considered.

Greenpeace has submitted its report to the pre-forum officials meeting highlighting a number of issues that have not been addressed by the IAEA.

Greenpeace claims the report did not directly look at the doses of contamination received by the fifty-seven thousand workers at the test sites over the thirty years of testing at the atolls not does it look at the doses re-

ceived by inhabitants living near the testing zones.

Ultimately Greenpeace has requested the Forum to press France to release a long standing report on the workers doses as soon as possible.

Greenpeace has requested that the Forum to also urge India and Pakistan to sign a Comprehensive test ban treaty in light of their nuclear tests in May this year.

It also calls on the Forum to request the United States to not conduct its sub-critical nuclear tests as well.

Pacific isles still wary of French nuke testing

MELBOURNE (Pacnews)—Pacific nations will call for further investigations of the effects of French nuclear testing in the region.

The annual South Pacific Forum leaders summit which begins today in the Federated States of Micronesia will express concern about a recent study conducted by the International Atomic Energy

Agency. The study, paid for by France found that current levels of radioactivity at the test site in French Polynesia pose no health risk.

But the head of Fiji's department of foreign affairs, Doctor Ahmed Ali says the study doesn't address concerns of Pacific nations and there should be a more comprehensive investigation.

Fiji hits France on Mururoa

PALIKIR (Pacnews)—Fiji has strongly called on France to accept full responsibility for any direct or indirect damage its nuclear testing at Mururoa and Fagataufa may have caused.

Permanent secretary for Fiji's foreign affairs Dr. Ahmed Ali says during debate at the pre-forum officials meeting on a report by the International Atomic Energy Agency on contamination on the two atolls, Fiji made its stand very clear that if the French is adamant that the two atolls are clean - France should open it up for independent researchers to study it.

The International Atomic Energy Agency report was accepted by the forum officials, but Fiji while sharing the same view as Greenpeace showed concern that the report should have looked at not only on contamination of the environment but the effects on the people.

Flosse to open PINA meet

SUVA (Pacnews)—The President of the French Polynesia, Gaston Flosse has agreed to open the 1998 Pacific Islands News Association (PINA) convention in Papeete on October 19.

President Flosse assured his full support for the convention during a meeting in Papeete with PINA's administrator, Nina Ratulele of Fiji.

During the meeting it was also confirmed that the French Polynesia territorial assembly in

Papeete will be used for the convention and special, low cost accommodation will be available for regional participants in the French Polynesia territorial sports centre which has airconditioned living quarters and a restaurant.


President Flosse's government has also agreed to provide FS2-million (US\$332,000) to help the convention's local organising committee.

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Cabinet stands by Clinton

By JANELLE CARTER
WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of President Bill Clinton's Cabinet expressed confidence Sunday in his leadership. But his admission of an inappropriate relationship with a former White House volunteer continued to make some prominent Democrats uneasy, even to the point of calling for his resignation.

"In the weeks ahead, the president must lead by putting the country's interest first," former Sen. Sam Nunn, Democrat of Georgia, wrote in a Sunday "Washington Post" article. "This means a voluntary and complete disclosure of all relevant matters concerning alleged acts of illegality to the independent counsel, to the congressional leadership and to the American people."

"This will require personal sacrifice and may even require his resignation," Nunn wrote.

Rep. Paul McClellan, a Pennsylvania Democrat, was even more blunt. "I cannot accept the proposition that a president who has lied pervasively under oath can continue in office," McClellan said Sunday on ABC television.

"I think the call for resignation is absolutely timely. ... The president's actions were morally repugnant," said McClellan, who is retiring from the House this year

But some Democrats waver over Lewinsky affair



President Clinton, wearing a gold-and-navy tie, gives a thumbs-up in this Aug. 6, 1998 file photo at a hotel in Washington, the day former White House intern Monica Lewinsky testified to the grand jury. According to published reports, the tie was given to him by Lewinsky and has drawn the interest of prosecutors investigating the president. AP

after three terms.

On Monday, Clinton testified before a federal grand jury investigating his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, then went on television and admitted an inappropriate relationship with the former intern.

Many people have expressed disappointment that he used neither the word "apologize" nor "sorry" in his talk.

George Stephanopoulos, a former Clinton confidant who has been fiercely critical of the president in recent months, said despite the admission, resignation is not warranted.

"For the president to resign now would be wrong," Stephanopoulos writes in the Newsweek magazine on newsstands Monday.

"President Clinton may have debased himself with his behavior, but we shouldn't debase the office with an impulsive overreaction."

He noted Clinton enjoys broad support in polls for his presidential ability, such as his decision to launch missile strikes against alleged terrorist sites in retaliation for the bombings of two U.S. embassies in East Af-

rica. Other Democrats expressed similar sentiments, particularly several Cabinet members.

"As an American citizen and as a friend of the president, I accept what he said on Monday," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said on ABC. "I know that he is determined and has the judgment and the ability to be a president that defends the U.S. national interest."

Defense Secretary William Cohen told NBC television: "I have confidence in his ability when it comes to leading the country on national security issues."

Many Democrats, including the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who has advised the Clintons during the scandal, said Clinton needs to speak to the American public again about the matter.

"I hope that he will in time, that he will say more," Jackson said on CBS television.

"I think he should have made it very clear to Monica, to her family. ... The responsibility should have been in his lap, and I think in time that as he has the healing, the strength overcomes the anger, that we'll hear even more of that contrition," Jackson said.

IRS on trial in case



Robert E. Rubin

By Jay Hughes
OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The Internal Revenue Service is on trial in a case that raises allegations of vindictive treatment of individuals and iron-fisted unethical collection tactics. This lawsuit wasn't filed by angry taxpayers, but by some of the IRS' own employees.

Three former managers in the Oklahoma City office say the chief of the collections division, Ron James, discriminated against them because they are white. James, who oversees collections in Oklahoma and Arkansas, is black.

Testimony in the first week of the federal court trial has portrayed a division in which James allegedly displayed preference for black employees and fanatically pursued punishment against anyone who resisted his policies.

The government began presenting its defense Friday. First Assistant U.S. Attorney Joe Heaton refused to comment on the case until the trial is over.

Government attorneys are expected to argue that while the employees may have been mistreated, there was no racial discrimination and, therefore, no violation of employment laws.

James has been on assignment in Dallas, although he retains his title in Oklahoma City, ever since a critical internal investigation of his division unrelated to the lawsuit.

Auditors concluded in December that pressure put on employees in his division to use harsher collection tactics violated some taxpayers' rights and IRS regulations.

"What he asked for was either unethical or illegal, and people had problems with that," IRS employee Kathy Howe testified.

James, who has already testified and is scheduled to testify again for the defense, described his managerial style as "autocratic with a participatory flair."

The lawsuit — which names only Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin as a defendant — was filed by Norma Woodard, former branch manager in the collections division; and supervisors Gary Hoeffken and Mona Meier. All claim James discriminated against them based on race and say they suffered

retaliation after they filed complaints.

The plaintiffs are seeking actual and compensatory damages and a court order prohibiting further discrimination or retaliation against them.

All three are on disability leave for various reasons, including job-related stress and the aftermath of the Oklahoma City federal building bombing. Mrs. Woodard and Hoeffken

testified that they were persecuted because they refused to go along with James' plan to promote minorities. They said he told them he intended to promote minorities because he thought there were too many white female supervisors in the division.

Both claim James proposed giving artificially high ratings to minority candidates for promotions.

Both say they refused, citing conflicts with IRS policy and federal employment law.

"After this, starting almost immediately, I was subjected to probably the worst treatment I have ever received," Mrs. Woodard said.

Hoeffken says James revived a dead internal investigation about allegations he made racist remarks to a black employee. As a result, Hoeffken says, he

was removed from his managerial job, assigned tasks like changing the locks on desk drawers, and eventually demoted.

Mrs. Meier testified that serious problems developed between her and James after she questioned rules he proposed that would force collections agents to conduct seizures in order to get good job evaluations.

The Lewinsky scandal and its effects on Democrats

By David Espo
WASHINGTON (AP) — Ask David Wu, Democratic candidate for a House seat from Oregon, whether President Clinton's trysts with Monica Lewinsky will affect his election chances and he says: "When it's all said and done, it will not be an issue."

"Oregonians are not talking about this inside-the-beltway brouhaha," he added, but about issues such as education and health care.

What about a pre-November campaign visit from Clinton? "We've got our schedule set already as to who's coming and as to who's not," he said with noncommittal care. "We are happy with our schedule."

Like Democratic candidates everywhere, Wu is attempting to calculate the impact of the Lewinsky affair on his own fortunes in an election little more than two months away.

How the scandal affects him and a few others like him, men and women running for open House seats in highly competitive districts, may be most important for the two parties nationally. Democrats need to gain 11 seats to capture the House this fall, and the struggle over seats like Wu's in and around Portland will be especially fierce.

"Open seats is where something like this, if it's negative or positive, could be felt," said Mark Gersh, a strategist with close ties to Democratic leader Sen. Dick Gephardt of Missouri.

So far, said Gersh and others, they see no sign of an impact.

It's early, though. Republicans have begun to raise the issue explicitly in some races around the country.

And a strategist with close ties to Speaker Newt Gingrich recently began a campaign to encourage activists to suggest to local reporters they question Democrats on the subject.

GOP pollsters say that even before Clinton's speech last Monday night, they had seen signs that Republican voters were more inclined to vote this fall than Democrats.

A poor Democratic turnout in 1994 helped trigger the landslide that delivered control of both houses of Congress to Republicans. This time, said GOP pollster Ed Goetz, "a 5 percent dampening of total Democratic vote would cause a net gain of somewhere between 15 and 20 seats in the House."

Another Republican pollster, Bill McInturff, said in addition to potentially depressing Democratic turnout, the Lewinsky case is "taking all the impact of the Democrats' capacity to deliver a national campaign message that accuses Republicans of being pro-tobacco, pro-HMOs and anti-Social Security."

Democrats counter that Republicans may suffer if they try to keep the focus on Ms. Lewinsky rather than on education, Social Security and health care and other issues.

"Democrats are closer to the public on this than Republicans," says Bill Carrick, a California-based Democratic campaign consultant. "The public really doesn't want to talk about this, and Democrats don't really want to talk about this."

"A lot of those (open) districts are suburbs and people are sick of this," added Gersh, speaking of Washington's focus on Lewinsky.

A sampling of Democrats in several open, competitive House seats in recent days underscored a strong determination to stress issues such as the economy, health care and educa-

tion, and keep their campaigns separate from Clinton's personal problems. At the same time, they sought to avoid prejudging a report expected from Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr.

"I'm out there every day talking to people," said Janice Hahn, challenging for an open seat on the California coast that is currently held by a Democrat.

"This subject does not come up. ... People want to talk to me about making sure we keep these beaches clean, the air clean, our drinking water safe," she said. "They want to know what we're going to do as a country to solve those problems," added Ms. Hahn. She said she would be receptive to a Clinton campaign visit in her district.

For his part, Wu said Oregonians

want to know about "issues that make a real difference in their lives: the quality of public education, whether Social Security will be there for kids, whether our economy here or nationwide will remain prosperous."

Mike Thompson, running for a Northern California seat being vacated by a Republican, said Clinton's troubles aren't an issue. "People in my district know me," he said. "I was born here, lived here all my life. They know that I'm not Clinton."

Baron Hill, running to replace a Democrat in Indiana, said, "As a citizen and a candidate, I wish we could get beyond this. But I realize we have to wait for this report, if there's going to be a report."

Also, "it never crossed my mind" to invite Clinton into the district to

campaign for him. Hill said.

"This is a local race, and I never imagined that he would take the time to come down here."

The issue of a visit by Clinton proved difficult to address for some.

Mike Taylor, running to replace a Democrat in North Carolina, said the president "has admitted wrongdoing and now must face the consequences of his action." He would not say whether he'd welcome Clinton into the district.

A spokesman for Patrick Casey, running for a Pennsylvania seat being vacated by a Republican, said Clinton's behavior with Lewinsky can't be condoned, "but we hope it can be brought to a conclusion now."



House Speaker Newt Gingrich makes some brief comments to the media after a public appearance Tuesday in Alpharetta, Ga. about President Clinton's admission of an inappropriate relationship with a White House intern. AP

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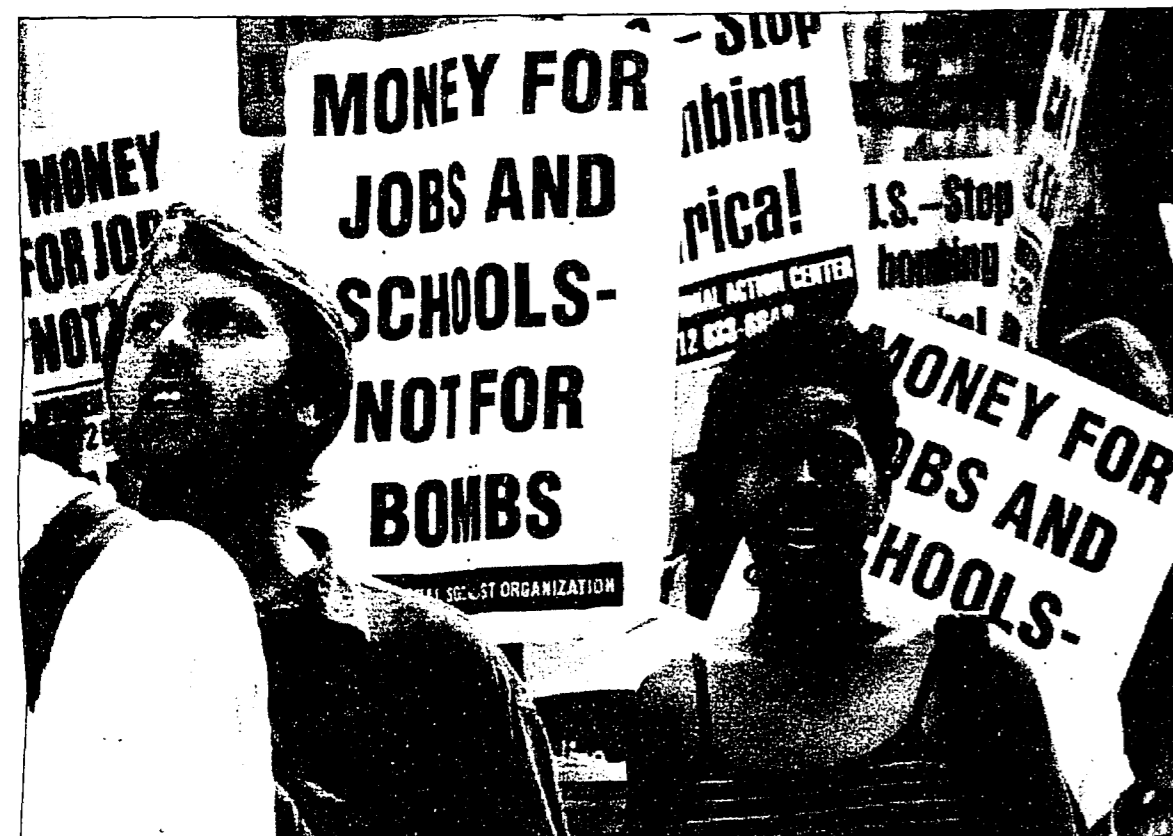
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Anti-war demonstrators gather in front of the United States Armed Forces Recruiting station in New York's Time Square Friday to protest against the U.S. bombings in Sudan and Afghanistan. AP

Ashcroft ad blitz promotes tax plan

By Libby Quaid
WASHINGTON (AP) — Sen. John Ashcroft will launch a \$175,000 television ad blitz in Iowa this week to hype a tax-cutting program designed to shape his potential presidential bid in 2000.

The Missouri Republican has already run \$26,000 worth of radio and newspaper advertising in Iowa, where voters won't make caucus choices for more than another year.

The new spots are aimed at generating name recognition for Ashcroft and support for his \$1.7 trillion tax-cutting program.

The plan is to Ashcroft as the flat tax is to Steve Forbes, who's expected to vie for the Republican nod in Iowa, traditionally the first state to nominate White House candidates.

By throwing in such ideas as paying off the national debt over 30 years, Ashcroft hopes to gain ground with fiscal conservatives while he reinforces his popularity among the GOP's social and religious conservatives.

The TV advertising follows a week of Ashcroft appearances in national news shows where he stridently called for President Clinton's resignation over the Monica Lewinsky scandal.

Ashcroft began his radio and newspaper ads two weeks ago during a swing through Iowa while his tax-cutting, debt-reduction pitch was still in development.

Advisers hope the new 60- and 30-second TV spots will reach



John Ashcroft

nearly 530,000 households over the next two weeks.

Ashcroft's program calls for an estimated \$1.5 trillion in tax cuts and a 30-year plan to pay off the national debt. Dubbed "A New Beginning," it also includes what he says would be a 90 percent reduction in subsidies for big corporations and measures to spur free trade.

Its centerpiece is the creation of a two-rate tax system: Three-fourths of all taxpayers, those who earn less than \$68,400 annually, would pay income taxes of 10 percent; those earning more would pay 25 percent of their income to the federal government.

"Virtually everyone who pays taxes in the United States will get a tax cut," Ashcroft said Friday in a telephone interview from New Hampshire. "We have an anticipated revenue which, together with spending cuts, makes this plan very realistic."

US job market stays stable

By EILEEN GLANTON
NEW YORK (AP) — Even as stock markets slump and corporate profits shrink, the job market should remain strong through the end of 1998, according to a survey released Monday.

In its quarterly survey of 16,000 U.S. businesses, Manpower Inc. found that 29 percent of the companies plan to add workers in the fourth quarter of this year.

Only 7 percent of the business surveyed plan to cut jobs, while 60 percent anticipate no change. The remaining 4 percent weren't sure, the survey said.

In the previous quarter, 32 percent of the firms expected to add jobs, 5 percent expected job cuts and 59 percent expected to maintain existing levels.

Manpower, the United States' largest temporary staffing firm, said hiring should remain strong in every region of the country except the Northeast, where just 24 percent of companies surveyed plan to hire new workers. The strongest growth should come in the South, where 31 percent of companies expect to add workers, followed by the Midwest and West at 30 percent each.

The job outlook is bright in every sector but the durable goods manufacturing area, where hiring plans have fallen for the second consecutive quarter, said Mitchell S. Fromstein, Manpower's chief executive officer.

He noted that the decline was moderate, with 28 percent of manufacturers planning to add jobs and 10 percent planning to trim the work force.

The durable goods industry includes automakers and manufacturers of big-ticket items like household appliances and computers.

The survey found several industries that typically trim payrolls in the fourth quarter are planning to add jobs this year. In the public administration sector, 22 percent of employers surveyed said they'll be hiring, while only 7 percent expect to cut jobs.

Also, construction showed unusual strength, with 29 percent of employers planning to hire and just 10 percent likely to cut back, said Manpower.

As always, the fourth quarter will be bright for retail workers as shops bring in extra employees for the holiday shopping season. Manpower found this year should be especially robust, with 39 percent of retail businesses planning to hire, and only 6 percent planning to trim jobs.

Manpower's survey was based on telephone interviews with 16,000 employers in 474 U.S. cities. The company said its figures have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

US vows fight vs terror

By JIM ABRAMS
WASHINGTON (AP) — If Saudi-bombing extremist Osama bin Laden were killed in further American action against his terror network, the United States would have no regrets about his death, Secretary of Defense William Cohen said Sunday.

No one would weep over the death of "someone who is that fanatical about killing innocent human beings," Cohen said on NBC television.

"If he has declared war against the United States, which he has, and if he is part of the command and control of that terror network, then if he is in the line of fire as such, that's his problem," he said.

An executive order prohibiting assassinations has been in effect since the mid-1970s, and the White House has stressed it was not targeting bin Laden in last Thursday's missile attacks on terrorist camps in Afghanistan. In a simultaneous exercise, ship-fired U.S. cruise missiles targeted a drug-manufacturing factory in Sudan, accused by the Americans of helping make chemical weapons.

Secretary of State Madeleine



William Cohen

Albright said the attacks were aimed not at bin Laden but at his command and control facilities "and generally against those who were involved in this."

"We do not think that just focusing on one single individual this way proves anything," she said on ABC television.

Nevertheless, officials have stressed that the United States has entered a new phase of aggressive counterterrorism in which suspected terrorists will be pursued.



Arlen Specter

"What bin Laden did was an act of war," Republican Sen. Arlen Specter said on Fox television.

"When you are at war it's not assassination." Bin Laden's group has been blamed for bombings at the American embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 257 people.

Specter, who last week asked whether the missile attacks were a means to deflect attention from Clinton's personal problems over the Monica Lewinsky affair, joined other Republicans Sunday in praising the



Sandy Berger

Democratic administration for its swift action.

"The intelligence community did a very good job leading up to the strikes last Thursday," Specter said.

Defense Secretary Cohen said planning for the missile strike began 10

days before it was executed, and Clinton approved it a week before.

Sandy Berger, the White House national security adviser, said on CNN that all Clinton's advisers on security, including the secretaries of defense and state, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and himself, recommended the operation. "The intelligence came together very quickly. We saw we had a target of opportunity."

Newsweek, in its edition on newsstands Monday, said the operation, code-named "Infinite Reach," was so secret that even people in Cohen's office weren't informed. It said one factor cementing the decision to attack was an intercepted mobile-phone conversation between two of bin Laden's lieutenants that clearly implicated them in the embassy bombings.

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A local UN delegation (bottom left) visits Sunday the pharmaceutical factory that was hit by U.S. missiles last Thursday. U.S. missiles were launched against the factory under the claim by American authorities that it was producing elements for chemical weapons. AP

Clinton assesses developments in Russia as summit gets near

EDGARTOWN, Massachusetts (AP) — President Bill Clinton, due at a Moscow summit in just over a week, will go ahead with the trip despite Sunday's shakeup in the Russian government, a spokesman said.

The United States' priority is that necessary economic reforms move forward, said P.J. Crowley, spokesman for Clinton's National Security Council. "Those policies are not specifically based on personality," he said. "We'll continue to work closely with the Russian government and watch the situation closely as it evolves."

Yeltsin dismissed Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko and the rest of his government in a surprise announcement Sunday. Another White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said U.S. intelligence officials earlier told Clinton to expect "some sort of Cabinet shakeup" from Yeltsin.

Capping a week of turmoil affecting Russia's economy and its currency, Yeltsin said Sunday he was reappointing former Prime Minister Viktor Chemomyrdin. During an earlier tenure as prime minister, Chemomyrdin worked closely with Vice President Al Gore and other U.S. officials but was fired by Yeltsin in March.

Crowley said Sunday the United States hopes Chemomyrdin's first order on his return will be to "work closely with the federal assembly, international financial institutions, leading sectors within the Russian economy and private investors, and others to improve the economic situation in Russia and restore investor confidence."

Clinton is vacationing on Martha's Vineyard until Aug. 30. He leaves Aug. 31 for two days of summit meetings with Yeltsin and members of the Russian parliament in Moscow.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Civil Service Commission hereby gives notice that the Board will meet on Thursday, August 27, 1998, and Friday, August 28, 1998, if necessary. The Board will convene at 9:00 a.m., on both days, at the Civil Service Commission's Office in Saipan. Additional information concerning this hearing is available at the Commission's Office, Building No. 1211, Capitol Hill, Saipan. The Commission may also be reached at phone numbers 322-4363 and 322-6954 or fax number 322-3327.

AGENDA

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL
- III. HEARING ON APPEAL OF ADVERSE ACTION OF EMERENCIANA PETER-PALICAN
- IV. ANNOUNCEMENT
- V. ADJOURNMENT

/s/ VICENTE M. SABLAN
Acting Chairman
Civil Service Commission

Northern Mariana Islands

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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QUALIFICATIONS: A minimum of a Bachelors degree plus at least 2 years of progressively responsible experience in claims investigations, preferably in the field of workers' compensation; or a combination of a high school diploma plus at least six (6) years of claims investigations, preferably in the field of workers' compensation or related program.

SALARY: Beginning salary ranges from Pay Level 27/01, or \$19,511.460, to Pay Level 27/05, or \$23,706.210, depending on qualifications and experience. Regular employee benefits apply pursuant to established employment rules and regulations in effect.

Interested persons may visit the NMI Retirement Fund office in the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, for an application and position description. Applications must be submitted no later than the end of the day of **Thursday, September 3, 1998**, to Mr. Edward H. Manglona, Administrator, NMI Retirement Fund, P.O. Box 1247, Saipan, MP 96950.

THE NMI RETIREMENT FUND IS A EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Compromise ends Hyundai dispute

By Y.J. AHN
ULSAN, South Korea (AP) — Management and union officials of strike-bound Hyundai Motor Co. reached a compromise Monday, ending a 36-day labor dispute at the nation's largest automaker.

The compromise allowing "a minimum level of layoffs" came in last-ditch government-mediated negotiations carried out over the past week. A breakthrough was made when both sides agreed on terms of the layoffs in overnight talks.

"The past one month was truly agonizing. I hope this will be an opportunity for both labor and management to live together peacefully," union leader Kim Kwang-shik told a news conference.

Labor Minister Lee Ki-ho, who led the last-minute mediations, praised the compromise, calling it "a great victory achieved through dialogue and concessions."

Hyundai's 26,000-strong union walked off their jobs July 20 in protest of the company's plan to lay off 1,583 workers. Hyundai had shed 6,100 workers earlier this year through early retirements.

But the compromise raised questions about South Korea's ability to ensure a flexible labor market, a key to wooing back

much-needed foreign investment. It was criticized by some as being too pro-labor.

Major business organizations, including the Korea Managers' Federation, blasted the government's role, accusing it of siding with the union because of the political risks involved in using police force to break up strikes.

"The legally guaranteed layoffs have failed in the case of Hyundai. This has set a bad precedent and will negatively affect other businesses," said Kim Young-bae, a managing director of the federation.

The labor union demanded that the company cancel the latest plans to lay off the 1,583 workers. Under Monday's compromise, the company was allowed to lay off only 277 workers, with the remaining 1,261 put on 1 1/2 years of unpaid leave.

The 277 workers to be laid off will be given enhanced severance payments and chances to be rehired by Hyundai Motor or other Hyundai subsidiaries, said a joint statement by both sides.

The company also agreed to contribute 5 billion won (\$ 3.8 million) to the workers' welfare fund and minimize legal action against union leaders who have led the labor disputes, outlawed by the government.



Kim Kwang-shik (2nd left) who led a month-long strike at Hyundai Motor Co., shakes hands with its chairman Chung Mong-gyu after management and union officials reached a compromise to end the strike at Ulsan, South Korea Monday. AP

The last sticking point was a demand by the union that the company drop lawsuits against 64 union leaders responsible for the strike. The company accepted the demand on the condition that the union "does its best to normalize plant operations."

Hyundai Motor, a key subsidiary of the giant Hyundai group, was the first major business to shed redundant workers. Observers saw Hyundai as a test of South Korea's will to keep its promise to ensure a flexible labor market.

After talks between Hyundai's management and union continued to stall, government mediators intervened. The government

ruled the Hyundai strike illegal but withheld the use of police force to end it because of its negative impact.

Resorting to force could have proved an embarrassment to President Kim Dae-jung, a former opposition leader who routinely criticized past governments of unfairly using police brutality to break up strikes.

Hyundai needed to reduce its work force because of sharply falling sales at home and abroad. Hyundai has been operating at 40 percent of its annual capacity of 1.65 million units.

Creation of a more flexible labor market was one of the reforms

South Korea promised in exchange for a \$85 billion bailout of its economy by the International Monetary Fund in December.

But accustomed to lifetime employment, Korean workers have resisted layoffs with a spate of strikes this year. And some commentators were predicting more to come.

"This kind of solution has the danger of inviting a second, third similar dispute," the influential Chosun Ilbo newspaper said in an editorial. "If a flexible labor market cannot be secured, as in this case, foreign investment cannot be expected," it said.

Doctor visits refused for Aung San Suu Kyi



Suu Kyi

YANGON, Myanmar (AP) — Myanmar's military government has barred doctors from visiting opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi, who is suffering from kidney problems, her political party said Sunday.

Suu Kyi has spent nearly two weeks camped inside a van on a rural road 19 miles west of Yangon in a nonviolent protest against the military regime's refusal to allow her to travel outside the capital.

Authorities are refusing to let her proceed to the city of Bassein, where she intended to meet members of her political party.

"The personal physicians of Aung San Suu Kyi were not allowed to see her Saturday," said Tin Oo, the vice chairman of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy.

Suu Kyi's doctors were per-

mitted to visit her twice earlier in the week. They said after examining her the first time that she was suffering from low blood pressure and some kidney problems. On Friday, they said her blood pressure had improved, but kidney problems persisted, along with bowel problems and dizziness.

Suu Kyi's supporters said Sunday they would hold the government responsible for her health.

On Sunday, the government said it had barred Suu Kyi from traveling to Bassein to protect her from an assassination attempt by rebels fighting for autonomy for the Karen ethnic group.

But the rebels denied the government claims.

"We would never do that," Ner Dah, a spokesman for the Karen National Union rebels, told The Associated Press in Bangkok. "We're working with her to achieve peace and democracy."

Suu Kyi has offered to end her protest if the government releases jailed members of her party who were elected to parliament.

The National League for Democracy won 82 percent of the seats in 1990 parliamentary elections, but the military, which has ruled Myanmar, also known as Burma, since 1962, ignored the result.

Disease devastates Japanese pearls

By Mari Yamaguchi
TOBA, Japan (AP) — Just over a century ago, an enterprising villager in this little fishing town on Japan's Pacific coast robbed Mother Nature of one of her most charming secrets — how to grow a pearl.

Now, nature is striking back. A mysterious disease the last several years has almost made Japan's pearl oysters an endangered species. Unless a solution is found soon, Japan's venerable pearl industry fears it may be on the way out.

If the oysters die en masse again this year, "most of us will be forced to quit," said Toru Nishii, a pearl grower who has been in the business for more than 40 years. "I'm afraid the entire industry will go belly up."

The die-off is causing some shortages on the world market and prices are rising, people in the American gem trade report.

Devin Macnow, executive director of the Cultured Pearl Information Center, a trade group in New York, expects the shortage to push prices up by 10 percent to 15 percent this year.

Elizabeth Parker, an appraiser for Curt Parker Jewelers in St. Louis, offered a similar prediction, but considers that modest given the situation. "I was very

pleased with the prices" at a fine jewelry trade show in June, she said. "They were not as high as I expected."

Although the bigger and more expensive South Sea pearls from Australia and Tahiti are gaining ground, Japan's Akoya cultured pearls still dominate much of the world market — including nearly 65 percent of sales in the United States.

But just keeping the Akoyas on the market has become increasingly difficult.

In 1996, only 56.6 tons of pearls were harvested in Japan, down 22 percent from the amount harvested in 1993, the year before the first widespread oyster deaths were reported. Those deaths were caused by a "red tide," a deadly plankton called heterocapsa.

What is killing the oysters now is unknown, but it is undeniably deadly.

The mortality rate surged to more than 50 percent last year, much higher than the average of 20 percent to 35 percent, according to Fishery Agency statistics. Of the deaths, about 92 million — or nearly 55 percent — were first- and second-year pearl-bearing oysters.

Some marine biologists suspect viruses, but their findings have been met with skepticism.

"We haven't been able to isolate any virus, at least at our lab here," said Dr. Toshihiko Matsusato, a pathologist at the National Research Institute of Aquaculture. "It could be even something totally unknown."

A government-led team recently speculated the culprit might be a shellfish parasite called Perkinsus, which devastated oysters in the Mississippi River delta nearly 50 years ago.

Since Kokichi Mikimoto, founder of Japan's top pearl company, Mikimoto and Co., started the industry 105 years ago by learning how to induce oysters to grow pearls, technological improvements have made the process relatively easy and amazingly exact. Even a tint of pink or extra glow can be added to harvested pearls.

But some pearl growers suspect artificial insemination and other scientific tinkering may have inadvertently spawned oysters that are more prone to disease.

"Decades ago, growing pearls was a lot of work, but oysters seemed healthier and happier" said grower Nishii. "Today, the environment is terrible. The ocean is polluted, and oysters are artificially enlarged so they produce larger pearls. Something's not

Continued on page 22

Village flees Serb onslaught



Serb policemen run for cover from sniper fire in the village of Zociste, 90 kilometers south of Pristina Friday. Serb forces entered the area two days ago but do not entirely control it. AP

By George Jahn
STUDENCANE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Amid swirling smoke and the boom of artillery fire, ethnic Albanian women and children scrambled over sun-scorched hills Sunday to flee the latest Serb assault.

The exodus included nearly everyone from this village in the southern province of Kosovo except a grizzled peasant who refused to budge.

"I leave my life in God's hands," Raif Makica declared as a tractor pulled out of his barnyard and headed for the mountains, dragging a trailer overflowing with all 20 members of his family, a few mattresses and enough food to last the day.

"I cannot leave my land. I cannot leave my animals," Makica said.

Sunday brought fresh assaults by Serb police and the Serb-dominated Yugoslav army, which hope to crush a rebellion by militant ethnic Albanians fighting to wrest Kosovo away from Serbia, the dominant Yugoslav republic.

Ethnic Albanians make up 90 percent of Kosovo's population of 2 million.

Hundreds have been killed in clashes between rebels and government forces since February. At least 230,000 people, mostly ethnic Albanians, have been forced to flee their homes.

After a string of defeats in recent weeks, the separatist Kosovo Liberation Army has

announced it will switch to guerrilla tactics rather than face the powerful Serb police and Yugoslav army in an open confrontation.

KLA commanders in Studencane said Sunday that Serb fighters were targeting villages across a 10-mile front southwest of the provincial capital of Pristina.

The attacks were thought to be in retaliation for reported KLA attacks Saturday and Sunday on Serb police and a Yugoslav army unit in the same region.

Civilians in the area — which includes the villages of Pecane, Recane, Studencane, and Samodraza — fled Sunday's shelling. Dozens of tractors moved along a dirt road toward nearby Pirane, pulling trailers overloaded with women and children, blankets and other household goods.

"They have been shooting since this morning," said Hanife Jahaj, cradling one of her two children.

For Jahaj, it was the second flight in less than a month — she had escaped to Studencane from a nearby village in early August after another Serb assault.

On a nearby hill, guerrilla fighter Bekhrim Hajdari peered through a rifle sight toward the hazy smoke rising several miles away where he said villages were being hit by tank and large-caliber mortar fire. He then drove away with another fighter

to search for casualties.

The assault began after police ordered residents early Sunday to evacuate a suburb of Suva Reka, a town 30 miles southwest of Pristina.

A report from the Serb-run Media Center said bodies of a mother and a daughter, aged 44 and 19 respectively, were found

near a road south of Suva Reka, blindfolded, hands tied and shot dead. The report said they were likely killed by "Albanian extremists."

Meanwhile, in Skopje, Macedonia, the premiers of Macedonia and Albania, both concerned with a spillover of violence from nearby Kosovo,

pledged Sunday to preserve peace in their countries.

"The crisis in Kosovo has caused concern, and Macedonia and Albania have most reasons to worry," Macedonian Prime Minister Branko Crvenkovski said, wrapping up a two-day visit by his Albanian counterpart, Fatos Nano.

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DON'T GAMBLE WITH DEATH...DON'T DRINK AND DRIVE

Clashes erupt in Hebron

By NASSER SHIYOUKHI
HEBRON, West Bank (AP) — Sporadic clashes on the dusty streets of Hebron between Israeli soldiers, Jewish settlers and Palestinians, some children, went on for several hours Sunday even as an Israeli army curfew kept most of the population indoors. Meanwhile, in the Gaza Strip, Palestinians burned American and Israeli flags in protest of the U.S. strikes against fundamentalist bases in Sudan and Afghanistan. In Hebron, Israeli soldiers scuffled with Jewish settlers and fired towards Palestinian children. Angered over the recent killing of a rabbi from their community, several settlers scuffled with Israeli soldiers and a group of settler children pelted Palestinian journalists with eggs, potatoes, and apples near one of six compounds Jewish residents occupy in Hebron. Settler children then headed towards the Palestinian-run vegetable market, closed since the curfew began Thursday. Israeli TV footage showed a handful of children, wearing traditional knitted skullcaps,

overturning market stalls and dumping produce on the ground. The violence dissipated for several hours and then scuffles between settlers and Palestinians broke out again when the army briefly lifted the curfew for two hours in the evening to allow Palestinians to stock up on food supplies. About 50 men and women settlers converged on the Arab market near their homes and began hitting Palestinian merchants and tossing carts. Palestinians fought back, throwing rocks and bottles at the settlers. Israeli troops on the scene shot several rounds of rubber bullets in the air to scatter the crowds. At least two Palestinians were arrested. Earlier, soldiers pushed back about 25 settlers as they attempted to cross into the Palestinian-controlled area of the city. At the checkpoint, a group of 30 Palestinian children, some as young as five years-old, threw stones towards the Israeli troops, who responded by firing rubber bullets and a stun grenade. Palestinian police eventually dispersed the stone throwers, pushing them back

out of range of the Israelis. No injuries were reported. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu urged Yasser Arafat, president of the Palestinian Authority, to condemn Thursday's fatal stabbing of Rabbi Shlomo Raanan, 63. "Israel demands that the Palestinian Authority condemn the murder and distances itself from any legitimization of any attacks against Israeli citizens in the West Bank," a Cabinet statement quoted Netanyahu as saying. Israel's Army Radio said the militant group Hamas had released a statement vowing more attacks on Jewish settlers, but the validity of the statement could not be independently confirmed. The Israeli Cabinet said that it was the policy of Netanyahu's government to strengthen and develop the Jewish area in Hebron, including Tel Rameida, where the stabbing took place Thursday night. It said permits would be issued for permanent housing to replace mobile homes at the site. Arafat's aide said the decision would only hurt the peace process.



An Israeli soldier restrains a settler during clashes in the West Bank city of Hebron Sunday. Settlers angered by the killing of a Rabbi Thursday threw eggs, potatoes and apples Sunday at Palestinians and battled with Israeli soldiers. AP



Israeli President Ezer Weizman (right) points Sunday in Hebron at Baruch Marzel, a militant Israeli settler who heckled and cursed him upon his arrival to the Jewish enclave of Tel Rameida in Hebron. Marzel, a neighbor of the Rabbi who was stabbed to death by a Palestinian, called the moderate President Weizman, on a condolence visit to the Rabbi's family, a traitor who should be jailed. AP

Former Iran prosecutor slain

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Two gunmen fatally shot a former Iranian chief prosecutor on Sunday, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported. Assadollah Lajevardi, who also was a former head of Iran's prison system, was killed in his drapery shop in Tehran grand bazaar, the agency said. Police arrested one man. The Mujahedeen Khalq opposition group, based in Baghdad, Iraq, claimed responsibility for the attack in a state-

ment telephoned in to The Associated Press office in Cairo, Egypt. The group said the attack was timed to coincide with the anniversary of the 1988 "summary executions" of hundreds of political prisoners in Tehran's Evin Prison, which Lajevardi oversaw at the time. President Mohammad Khatami called on Iranian intelligence to catch the assassins and bring them to justice, in a statement broadcast on state

television. The television service praised the hard-line Lajevardi as an ardent supporter of the late spiritual leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and Iran's current leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Before the 1979 revolution, Lajevardi was involved in the bombing of the Tehran offices of El Al, the Israel state airlines. He also was jailed for two years for his part in an assassination attempt on a former Iranian prime minister in 1965.

Fatal shooting at US embassy in Albania

By Merita Dhimigjoka
TIRANA, Albania (AP) — Security guards at the U.S. Embassy in Tirana shot and killed an Albanian policeman who scaled the wall of the U.S. diplomatic compound Sunday, the Interior Ministry said. The motive of the break-in was not immediately known. But U.S. officials indicated the shooting appeared unrelated to recent reports of a possible terrorist attack against U.S. facilities in Albania. "We have reason to believe that this was an isolated incident of a particular person, although we are concerned about threats at all our embassies and Tirana is clearly one of them," Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told ABC-TV when asked about the incident. The shooting came a week after 120 heavily armed Marines tightened security at the American diplomatic compound in Tirana after U.S. officials said they received credible evidence of a plan to attack the mission.

Albanian police surrounded the embassy immediately after the shooting and sealed off surrounding roads, and U.S. Marines fortified the compound. Security at the embassy has been stepped up in recent days following the bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and again after retaliatory U.S. missile attacks on alleged terrorist sites in Sudan and Afghanistan. An evacuation of embassy staffers continued Sunday, but the Americans said it was planned and had nothing to do with the shooting. A ministry official who spoke on condition of anonymity identified the guards who shot the intruder as American, not Albanian. The policeman had at least two bullet wounds, one near the heart, and died soon afterward in surgery at a nearby military hospital, doctors were quoted by Albanian TV as saying. He was identified as Shkelqim Shehu, 35, from the village of Ndroq, 10 miles west of Tirana. He was a member of a police unit in charge of security at a Tirana bank. Relatives in Ndroq told Associated Press Television that Shehu, divorced and with two children, had an extremely poor family and was depressed. On Saturday night, they said, he told his mother he would not live to see age 40. No anti-American feelings were evident among relatives or family members. Albanian police surrounded the embassy immediately after the shooting and sealed off surrounding roads, and U.S. Marines fortified the compound. Security at the embassy has been stepped up in recent days following the bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and again after retaliatory U.S. missile attacks on alleged terrorist sites in Sudan and Afghanistan. An evacuation of embassy staffers continued Sunday, but the Americans said it was planned and had nothing to do with the shooting.

Saudi King Fahd back in hospital

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP) — Saudi King Fahd was hospitalized late Sunday less than two weeks after being discharged, diplomats said. The king, who is in his mid-70s, had his gallbladder removed by a team led by a U.S. surgeon on Aug. 12. King Fahd was admitted to King Faisal Specialist Hospital in the capi-

tal Riyadh, diplomats said in phone interviews with The Associated Press in Dubai. The diplomats, speaking on customary condition of anonymity, said they had no details about the king's condition. Hospital officials were not available for comment. This is the fourth time the Saudi monarch has been hospitalized this year.

Yeltsin . . .

Continued from page 2
 lowing its value to slip by up to 34 percent against the U.S. dollar. On Friday, all factions of the lower house of parliament, the State Duma, including those usually supportive of the government, had demanded Kiriyenko's resignation. The Duma also passed a resolution calling on Yeltsin to resign. Kiriyenko took the news of his dismissal calmly and continued working well into the evening, ITAR-Tass reported. At one point, he left his office to say farewell to striking miners who have been camped outside the government building all summer, and whom Kiriyenko had previously ignored. Duma Speaker Gennady Seleznyov said he welcomed Yeltsin's decision to fire Kiriyenko, whose government was "not capable of working efficiently," the Interfax news agency reported. However, he criticized the reappointment of Chernomyrdin. "This endeavor is unlikely to succeed since Kiriyenko's government, which survived just over 100 days, continued what the former cabinet was doing," Seleznyov was quoted as saying. Russians who heard the news on an otherwise quiet Sunday

evening expressed resignation at the president's mercurial leadership. "King Fahd 'How can I possibly make sense of it?'" asked Sergei Tikhonov, a sports magazine editor. "It's impossible. In America, your leaders give you reasons for things. Here we're told nothing. What are we supposed to think?" American intelligence had alerted U.S. President Bill Clinton to expect a Russian government shakeup, a White House official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Clinton intends to go ahead with a summit meeting with Yeltsin in a little over a week, his aides said. "We'll continue to work closely with the Russian government and watch the situation closely as it evolves," said P.J. Crowley, spokesman for Clinton's National Security Council. Chernomyrdin, a stolid figure who had seemed to offer a counterweight in the past to Yeltsin's bluster, had busied himself since being fired by laying the groundwork for a presidential campaign in 2000. Few political analysts think Chernomyrdin could win the presidency, although he could probably count on support from at least part of the business and banking establishment.

Gingrich . . .

Continued from page 2
 said Gingrich. "He doesn't define it." The Gingrich interview was conducted Sunday in Santa Maria, California. The speaker is on a swing of western states, campaigning for Republican candidates. Alluding to expectations that Starr is likely to send a report to Congress in September, Gingrich said the Judiciary Committee must review the findings out of public view before reaching any conclusion about a recommendation for a formal impeachment inquiry. "I'm not at all sure you can get to that this year and I'm not at all sure that it's a smart idea to try to get to that this year," said Gingrich.

Starr is likely to send a report to Congress in September. Gingrich said the Judiciary Committee must review the findings out of public view before reaching any conclusion about a recommendation for a formal impeachment inquiry. "I'm not at all sure you can get to that this year and I'm not at all sure that it's a smart idea to try to get to that this year," said Gingrich.

Concepcion . . .

Continued from page 1
 Concepcion is in good health and is looking forward to finally going home. Assistant Attorney General Joseph Tock said Concepcion is not getting off easy by going through with the plea agreement. Tock said that the maximum prison term for the felony is three years in addition to paying various fines. Tock stated that the Immigration and Naturalization Services will issue verdict against

Concepcion after her case is resolved in court, mentioning that she would have to go through an INS hearing. The hearing would be presided by an immigration judge through a phone line, where her U.S. visa may be suspended for up to 20 years. Concepcion's fate is slated to be determined on November 19, at her first sentencing in District Court, however pre-sentencing information may be forthcoming this week. Until then, the actress will remain a ward of Guam's Criminal Justice System.

CNMI . . .

Continued from page 1
 result of dwindling Asian economies, by promoting the islands as one destination. He added that Guam and CNMI tourism bodies should be combining efforts and resources to jointly launch an intensified campaign that would promote islands in the Marianas as one destination. "We should be promoting Guam and the CNMI as one destination, that will benefit both governments. We will save money and at the same time promote the area to overseas travelers better," he pointed out. At the same time, Benavente said there has to be stronger cooperation between the two governments, while stressing that it need not be total reunification but simply "pulling our resources together." "Some of the government agencies or private organizations might need to work together. I don't think that there will be any objection from the people if we would

be reunifying with Guam on the economic level," he explained. The House Speaker also agreed with observations made by political and business analysts that the CNMI cannot see progress while Guam's economy remains unstabilized, or Guam growing rich while CNMI stays poor. "I feel like working closely together with Guam is a necessary thing to do in times of economic hardships and slow business activity like these," he said. Aside from tourism, Guam Congressman Robert A. Underwood said there are a lot of opportunities for collaboration and cooperation between the Mariana Islands such as fisheries and other marine resources. "CNMI has a great potential to catching fish while Guam has the potential to be a good place for processing," Underwood said, adding that the Northern Marianas is also showing potentials for seabed mining. He also expressed apprehension that the Marianas may lose its seabed mining resources to other countries if the US government does not sign the Law of the

Sea Treaty by November. While admitting that collaboration is a difficult issue to talk about, he pointed out that the people should start accepting that reunification is a possible goal. "By making that a possible goal, we really have to understand how can we collaborate." "We can't collaborate if we are competitors and if we are competitors, we are not on the same level playing field. And if we are not on the same level playing field, then the competition might be unfriendly. The only way to avoid that is to talk about reunification openly," he told reporters. Manglona, however, said reunification issues should be consulted with the indigenous people of both Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands since they will have to decide whether they want reintegration or not. "Before this can be taken seriously, we need to bring the issue to the people, let them look at the options and from there, we will get a clearer picture of how we should proceed with this. But this has to be asked to the people both of Guam and the CNMI," he added.

U.S. . . .

Continued from page 1
 Senate in 1976 and has a diversified lobby and administrative law practice including privatization of Postal Service functions, municipal representation, environmental law and natural resources. He also served as legislative director and administrative assistant for US Senator Ted Stevens, and a recognized expert on the Interior Department and the regulation of federal lands. He disclosed that the group has come up with an assessment that the tensions within the Congress and the Administration on CNMI issues are at an all-time high. "Our conversations with members of Congress and staff have

led us to the conclusion that any CNMI lobbying team needs to take a less confrontational approach to working with the Congress and the Clinton Administration in resolving the tensions which currently exist between the CNMI and the US," he pointed out. The group is proposing a three-point general strategy which include seeking House Resources Committee Chairman Don Young's agreement to delay further discussion of legislation on the CNMI this year in an effort to obtain additional time for the CNMI government to develop and implement a detailed internal strategy to enforce its own laws and regulations. It also seeks to more actively coordinate Gov. Pedro P.

Tenorio's internal strategy with the offices of Chairman Young (R-Alaska) and his Senate counterpart, Sen. Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska) immediately, as well as to develop a proposed strategy to increase federal funding for the enforcement of immigration and other US laws. "We believe that this strategic framework would assist in quieting the rhetoric in the Congress on CNMI issues, and create a lasting opportunity to improve relationships between CNMI and the US without federal takeover," the proposal stated. The group also vows to bring order to the lobbying effort in a manner which dramatically reduces the costs of the Commonwealth.

CPA . . .

Continued from page 1
 this amount should accumulate to \$3.9 million which may be enough to cover any debt service payment due from either the 1998 bond or CDA loan, allowing CPA to be in compliance with the bond indenture. Net income by seaport operations was up by 21 percent from \$246,765 in June to \$297,537 last month. Demapan explained that this increase may be attributed to the eight percent hike from the revenue tonnage. At the same time, revenues from airport operations increased by 54 percent to \$1.455 million in July from the previous month's \$949,392. The bulk of this increase is contributed by the Federal Aviation Administration's reimbursement and liquidation of the receivable accounts, as well as contributions made by the Fed-

eral Emergency Management Administration. Cash outflows manifested an 11 percent reduction from \$1,533 million to \$1,376 million. This is attributed to the 33 percent drop in payroll expenditures. In June, CPA paid some \$950,000 in total wages to its employees, down to \$637,279 last month. Balance of cash and equivalents as of end-July reached \$17,256 million, registering a nearly one percent increase from the previous month's \$17,104 million tally. "Our working capital reserves amount to \$5,070 million. [This amount is] available to finance and operate the agency. Based upon our records, the numbers are very clear. CPA cannot sustain this level of reserves for the next two years," Demapan said. He said CPA management should implement austerity measures that would cut down personnel costs by 22 percent, add-

ing that savings from these measures should be used to cover for the debt service payment. The Ports Authority also posted a 12 percent improvement in its net loss last month. The International enplanement and deplanement, as well as the number of landings in comparison from last month reduced by one percent, three percent and one percent respectively. Zachares admitted that the LIHDS office was closed Friday but that it reopened yesterday, saying that "data were collected." Zachares also confirmed that three employees from LIHDS indeed stepped down from office. The secretary, however, refused to comment about the ongoing investigation.

BUCKLE-UP -SAIPAN

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus R. Sablan, through the Marianas Visitors Authority, hereby give notice that a Special Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 27, 1998, at 9:00 a.m., at the Marianas Visitors Authority Conference Room, Professional Building in San Jose.

AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters
 - a. Meeting call to orders
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes - August 13, 1998
- II. Committee Progress Report (Update)
 - a. Public Relations and Advertising
 - b. Policy
 - c. Personnel
 - d. Tourist Site Preparation
 - e. Visit 99
 - f. Finance
- III. Urgent Matters
- IV. Miscellaneous
- V. Announcement
- VI. Adjournment

/s/David M. Sablan
Chairman

POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Special Assistant to the Managing Director
Opening Date: 8/25/98
Location: MVA Saipan Closing Date: 9/08/98



DUTIES:

Assist the managing director at work related meetings, press conferences, or events. Coordinate in compiling and preparing materials for the monthly board meetings, attending meetings, monitoring and recording proceedings, taking notes and preparing minutes and disseminate final copies to the Board members. Draft memos, letters, speeches/remark messages and reports and other related documents and duties as assigned by the Managing Director. Prepare records and documents for meetings and conferences. Organize and maintain a filing system of all related Board documents such as correspondence, Board minutes, testimonies and others. Maintain daily, weekly and monthly appointments schedules for the Managing Director and Board members.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATION:

Bachelor's degree is desirable; plus four (4) years work experience, including two (2) years of supervisory experience in related field. Must be a computer literate, able to work flexible hours and hardworking. Copy of a degree/official transcript and police clearance must be attached to the qualifications.

SALARY: Ungraded: Salary depends on qualifications.

Interested persons may contact the Marianas Visitors Authority at telephone 664-3200 or 3201 for application forms. Deadline of application forms must be submitted to the MVA Office in San Jose no later than Tuesday, September 8, 1998 at 5:00 p.m.

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& Beautiful!**

Sudan . . .

Continued from page 21

of advice that they never followed. We told them: 'Don't send him out of Sudan because you will

Disease . . .

Continued from page 18

quite right."

Nishii said he has been forced to lay off seven of his eight employees over the last couple of years because of the

Club . . .

Continued from page 11

The theme is "Through the Decades."

Each of the five areas at the Hyatt Regency Saipan both in the garden area and at the poolside will be deco-

US garment . . .

Continued from page 11

a special committee to review the BSR proposal.

CNMI Customs Division Assistant Director Jose C. Mafnas, a

Saipan . . .

Continued from page 12

DLS is informed that defendants were paid cash up-front for the screening services DLS provided.

From March 1, 1998 to date, at

PSS . . .

Continued from page 10

ing their meanings. Obviously, there is a fundamental flaw with this approach."

Proposal . . .

Continued from page 7

Correction Center, they can easily integrate into the mainstream society.

"I was very disappointed that the needed basic education was not provided to all those juveniles who could not leave the center," she said.

2 workers . . .

Continued from page 7

and Rolando Quiroz will be decided in a subsequent order.

The 11 workers were among the 22 nonresident employees who were found by DOLI agents working on a construction project under the control of Tower Construction Co. last

Dynasty . . .

Continued from page 3

reasonable airfares, limited availability of flights and restrictive immigration protocol, not to mention non-existing easy international direct access to our lovely Tinian," Liew said.

Tinian Dynasty previously raised hopes that the five-star hotel-casino resort will be able to attract casino players and leisure tourists from mainland China and Hong Kong. Consider it a double whammy but recent reports indicated the continued devaluation of many currencies in Asia, following the decline of Chinese and

lose control over him." "Now, the United States has ended up with war with an invisible enemy," Salah el-Din said.

Turning to Sudan's request to the Security Council for an inspection of the Khartoum factory,

oyster deaths. Many of his colleagues also cut down their purchases from Ehime prefecture in southwestern Japan.

Officials believe oysters grown in Ehime, which supplies 80 percent of the pearl oysters used in Japan, may have been the origin of the outbreak

rated in five different decades.

Event goers are encouraged to dress in a particular decade and celebrate this event.

"The Club 200 is the premier event for the chapter raising approximately 60 percent of its budget and at the same time being the biggest party of its kind, it is really an

guest speaker at the SGMA meeting with the group, reported that not one instance was reported of any illegal transshipment into the United States, in meetings recently conducted with visiting U.S. Customs authorities in Saipan.

defendants' special instance and request, DLS has rendered to defendants and defendants' patients at SHC medical lab testing and other professional services worth \$225,647.74.

Despite demand made in writing on July 13, 1998 and numerous times

She added that the most common complaint that the Board gets from parents is when their child fails in bilingual classes when in fact the child is doing fine in all her classes.

2 workers . . .

Continued from page 7

June 4.

Soll discovered that Chengli, Shengde, Yonghua, and Minggang, all Chinese, has been transferred to the employment of Tower at earlier times.

The permits of the four Chinese workers, Soll said, had not yet been issued and all were eligible for TWA.

On the other hand, it was learned that Shongchun entered the Com-

monwealth in 1995 on a 30-day business permit, but he never departed nor changed his immigration classification.

Soll said Gorrome worked under a nonresident worker permit until its expiration in March of 1995.

"Gorrome is not employed and has no pending labor case and offers no legal reason to be in the Commonwealth," he added.

Dynasty . . .

Continued from page 3

Hong Kong currencies. The resort also suffered a big blow from the dramatic drop in the number of Japanese visitors to the Northern Marianas. Reports from the Marianas Visitors Authority noted an all-time 46 percent drop in arrival figures last month.

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio is keeping an open door to proposals that will aggressively help the government sell the Northern Mariana Islands in other tourism markets, including China and Hong Kong.

Tenorio added that he is willing to sit down with MVA officials to explore the possibilities of meeting with Chinese officials to include the Com-

the ministers said: "We want the United Nations to investigate U.S. allegations that this factory contains chemical weapons, but we will not accept other inspections because that would distract world attention from the issue of U.S. aggression."

and are urging growers to stick with their local stocks.

For the time being, shrinking demand at home because of Japan's recession and tighter purse strings around Asia because of its financial crisis have kept the lack of stock from driving up retail prices too far.

amazing event," commented Club 200 Chair Jerry Facey.

"The Red Cross is not a government agency. They rely on us."

For more information on how to purchase a ticket or to become a sponsor/donor for the event, please call the chapter office at 234-3459.

When questioned about OIA's funded investigation by Tom Gray, which indicated evidence of transshipment, U.S. Customs officials again stated that not one incident of transshipment into the U.S. from the CNMI has been recorded.

thereafter, defendants have failed and refused, and continue to fail and refuse, to pay DLS any portion of the sum.

As DLS continues to provide critical lab services to defendants, it is possible that the sum may increase if defendants do not pay for such services.

"My purpose for raising this issue is not to cast blame but rather, to bring awareness to a problem and to seek a collaborative effort to resolve it," said Taitano.

Criminal Division, also supports the age adjustment to 25 years old.

Meanwhile, Division of Youth Services Director Eloise Furey said the bill has pointed out strong points on the issue of accountability.

"This bill emphasized two stronger areas than the current statute, and that is pointing out the accountability of the juvenile, and the accountability of the parents," she said.

monwealth in 1995 on a 30-day business permit, but he never departed nor changed his immigration classification.

Soll said Gorrome worked under a nonresident worker permit until its expiration in March of 1995.

"Gorrome is not employed and has no pending labor case and offers no legal reason to be in the Commonwealth," he added.

Dynasty . . .

Continued from page 3

MVA chair David M. Sablan mentioned the value of being able to tap the huge Chinese market as he signified intentions to prod the governor to make representations with the People's Republic of China to include the CNMI in the list of destinations that Chinese nationals can visit.

Visitors from mainland China are allowed to come to the CNMI by invitation. At present, the CNMI government only allows Chinese with Hong Kong identification cards or British passports to visit the Northern Marianas.

Ukraine expects IMF loan

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine expects the approval of a \$2.2 billion IMF loan next week that would help the country overcome a financial crisis, President Leonid Kuchma said Sunday.

"That would be a significant moral, political and economic support," Kuchma said of the loan, recommended by a visiting International Monetary Fund mission last month.

Kuchma quoted IMF managing director Michel Camdessus as telling him in a weekend telephone conver-

sation that "the IMF shall not leave Ukraine alone with its problems at this difficult time."

Ukraine is experiencing a deep financial crisis caused by its massive foreign borrowing, the lack of foreign investors and inability to collect billions of dollars in tax debts.

The crisis has been aggravated by the ruble devaluation in Russia, which in turn pushed the Ukrainian hryvna down against the U.S. dollar and raised fears of further investor exodus and damage to trade with Moscow.

Ukraine's principal trade partner.

Kuchma, speaking on the eve of Ukraine's Independence Day, vowed that the former Soviet republic would overcome the crisis, the Interfax news agency reported.

"There are no grounds to be concerned today, but the ways of God are not known," he said.

Kuchma noted that emergency economic decrees issued earlier in the summer have helped some major investors stay in Ukraine. He voiced hope for more cooperation with the new parliament, the Verkhovna Rada,

elect in March.

Kuchma's fight with the previous legislature long has stalled economic reforms in Ukraine.

Although the new Verkhovna Rada has a significant portion of hard-line and centrist opposition lawmakers, Kuchma said its leadership "stands for a constructive cooperation" with the government.

Parliament speaker Oleksandr Tkachenko said Sunday that any further talk of a government-parliament confrontation would be "immoral."

"The fate of the people should be

above political ambitions," he said at a festive Independence Day gathering.

Tkachenko also spoke vaguely about a national revival program that would be worked out by Kuchma's government and parliament, saying his announcement has been coordinated with Kuchma.

He did not disclose details of the program, saying only it would correct the course of reforms so as to stimulate domestic producers and create new jobs.

Britain protests to Sudan over security at embassy

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — The British Embassy has protested to Sudan over its failure to provide security when a crowd stoned the embassy and tore down the British flag.

"Although we were assured that the forces would turn up, unfortunately they did not arrive in time to prevent extensive damage to the embassy," British spokesman Julian Reilly said Sunday.

About 500 demonstrators demonstrated at the embassy Saturday to protest British support for Thursday's U.S. missile attack on a pharmaceutical plant in north Khartoum. Protesters threw rocks at the embassy, breaking 52 windows.

One demonstrator entered the embassy grounds, climbed the flagpole and cut down the Union Jack. The crowd tore it to pieces and then dispersed within an hour.

No one was hurt, but Reilly said the damage could run into tens of thousands of dollars.

The embassy made several requests for security from Sudan's embassy police and the Foreign Ministry, but police showed up only after the crowd dispersed.

"We do think they could have done better," Reilly said.

The embassy advised the 250 British citizens in Sudan to "remain vigilant."

Sudanese Information Minister Ghazi Salah el-Din refused to comment on the lack of security.



Two unidentified relatives of an Omagh bomb victim are overcome with emotion as they listen to the service of remembrance behind the railings of the courthouse in Omagh Saturday. AP

Ruling party calls for changes in bank plan DOF . . .

Continued from page 3

By ADOLFO GARZA MEXICO CITY (AP) — Ruling-party legislators called on Sunday for Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo's to reduce by at least 30 percent a proposed \$65 billion bank bailout for bad loans made by private banks.

Ruling party congressmen in the past supported presidential initiatives with few questions and had previously offered vociferous support for the bailout, which commits the government to pay for the bad loans.

Legislators of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, will seek ways to reduce the cost of the \$65 billion bailout by at least 30 percent, party chairman Mariano Palacios said.

The PRI also proposed giving small debtors major discounts on their outstanding debts — up to 60 percent for farmers and fishermen and up to 45 percent for small businesses and mortgage holders.

The bank bailout began soon after the 1994 peso devaluation forced many debtors into falling behind on their payments, leading most Mexican banks to the brink of insolvency.

One of the criticisms made by the PRI is that Zedillo's bailout covered banks for 100 percent on defaulted loans, even though the banks had previously agreed to cover 25 percent of unrecoverable debt.

"There is no reason for us to give a

guarantee backed by the federal government" on risks that banks previously assumed, PRI Sen. Dionisio Perez said.

The ruling party's proposal, which resembles in some points the alternative plans presented recently by opposition parties, is a major turnaround in Mexican politics.

Until recently, Mexican presidents could count on PRI congressmen to routinely rubber-stamp their initiatives, but the ruling party lost its majority in the lower house of Congress in last year's mid-term elections.

Last March, Zedillo ran into a stiff opposition when he asked the lower

house to convert the bailout liabilities absorbed by the state-run Bank Savings Protection Fund, or Fobaproa, into public debt.

Opposition legislators were outraged that Zedillo did not inform Congress before contracting public debt, as established by the Mexican constitution. They also suspect many of the defaulted loans have been the product of insider lending and other corrupt practices by bankers with government ties.

Some former bankers and businessmen with loans in the Fobaproa fund are also reported to have donated millions of dollars to the PRI's 1994 presidential campaign.

It was Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas who ruled in favor of Town & Country.

Prior to his ruling last month, Bellas ordered DOF to stop issuing new pachinko licenses before he could decide on the lawsuit.

ing "for those of you in this government who are corrupt and sucking the blood of our children's futures, and those of you who are bringing in the ICE, the big fish, get ready because I am coming after you."

Gutierrez seemed flustered as he began his statement, he thanked everyone for their patience and support.

When all was settled the Governor continued by saying that he loved everybody, and that the two senators had no idea what he had been doing for the last three and a half years because they had been in Legislature trying to vote against him.

Gutierrez . . .

Continued from page 3

ative key" to the Government.

Ada added strong words as he mentioned that the Guam Police Department was at 40 percent manpower level. He added that deterrence should begin "at the village level." He stated that the Department of Public Works needed to research the traffic patterns around schools and make adjustments accordingly.

Gutierrez stated that parents should be responsible for children "such as five year olds," and that he would never let his children walk across a road. He added that the "community must come together," to educate their children in safety.

Jan Furukawa, of the Variety, asked the candidates if they support "Self-

Determination."

Ada said he believed in becoming a closer union with the United States.

Gutierrez mentioned that Guam was a very "proud people," and added it was the "right of the Chamorro people."

Santos mentioned that he was "afraid of commonwealth." He added that he had thought the federal government was the enemy when he "jumped the fence at NAS," but realized that they were not and that the "enemy was in our own house." He said that he had "no fear."

Duane George raised the question about Guam's perennial problem, the Ordot landfill, which Guam people have been longing to see closed.

Gutierrez responded by saying, "that it was not easy to find another spot for the new dump." He added that he would "never do anything that

was harmful to the people."

Santos said that Guam needed to adopt a Waste Management Program, adding, "we do not need an incinerator."

Ada mentioned that "the incinerator was not the way to go," because the "people of Guam will have to pay for it." What Guam should do, he added, is "reduce, reuse and recycle."

Brid Wong asked the final question: "Would you be willing to resign if corruption was found in your administration?"

Santos said corruption already existed in the Government. He brought up the "Oil Scam" issue that dates back to 1993. He added that he had documents proving the corruption as he added that the government was "like the fox guarding the hen house."

Ada said voters have to choose "a leader with a good character." Saying

that "humans do make mistakes,"

Ada said he would admit any mistakes that he may commit. "Trust begins with telling the truth," he said.

Gutierrez that the Attorney General did not make the deal in the "Oil Scam" Fred Black did and Guam received the money from the deal. He expressed that he had faith in the system, and that if corruption existed then he should "have been in jail for the last thirty years."

It seemed as if everything was said and done as the candidates prepared to give their three-minute closing remarks, but the "match" was not finished.

Ada closed by saying that Gutierrez "refused to acknowledge the problems of Guam," he added that he was ready to help make Guam an Island Paradise again.

Santos ended his statement by say-

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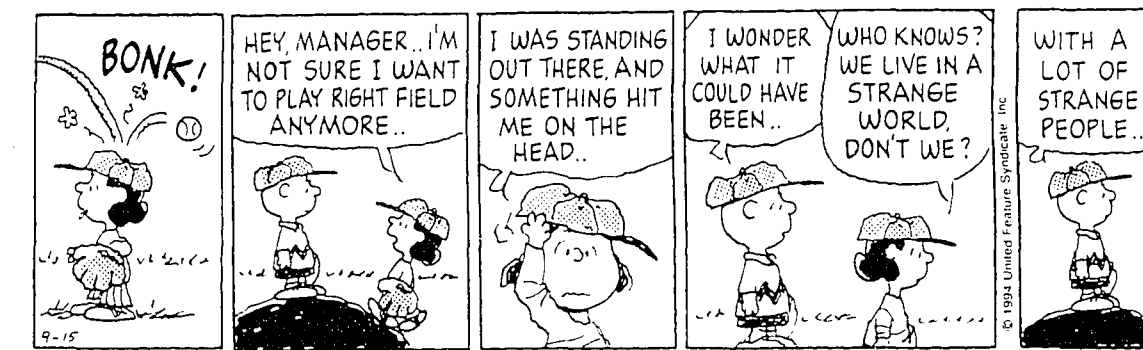
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STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

TUESDAY 25 1998
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There may be those who consider you just a little too honest and uninhibited, but usually these people are merely those who are jealous or envious of what you are able to accomplish. You are a special person, but you are quick to spot what is special in each and every individual.
To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY 26, 1998
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Make sure that you leave your name and number with those who are expected to get in touch with you. Do not make anyone read your mind!
ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You will want to extend every courtesy to someone who you feel is in the right place at the right time. Teamwork is the key.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Keep track of what goes on around you today. Even if it doesn't concern you directly, you can bet that you'll be influenced in some way.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may have to work harder than you thought to collect the information you require. Still, the ground-work you lay now can pay off well later.
CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You may feel the need to go off by yourself at some point today in order to get back in touch with the feelings you often have to suppress.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — The hard part will be getting started today, but once you do you'll find that you are quick to make progress and win results.

THURSDAY 27, 1998
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Pay close attention to all the signs you encounter today. You will learn something important about your current journey you hadn't expected.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You may not be feeling up to par today, but you can get a great deal done if you focus on those things that don't demand peak performance.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — A little creative effort can pay off mightily today and win you the praise and admiration of those who may have been doubtful at the start.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You must get together with others today to come up with a plan that can serve all concerned. Do not be afraid to take the lead.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You are going to have to do a little guesswork today before coming up with a plan that can be put into motion before the day is out.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You must be willing to let others know when they have or have not crossed the line. Now is no time to engage in off-limits humor.



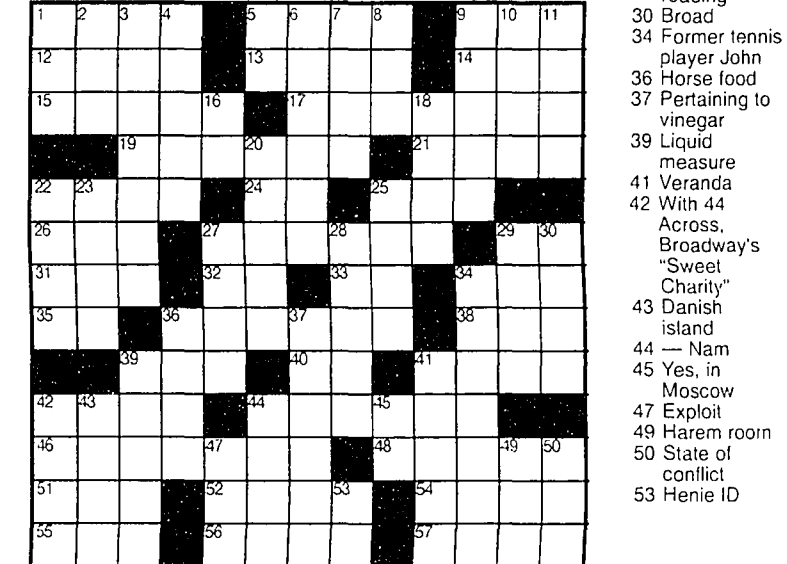
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22 Healthy
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THE MOVIE HOUSE

Torrid McGwire hits another HR, Cords drop another game to Pirates

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mark McGwire is hitting home runs so fast, he's rewriting history with almost every prodigious swing of his bat.

McGwire hit his 53rd homer to become the first National League player to hit that many in 49 years Sunday as St. Louis lost 4-3 to the Pittsburgh Pirates.

McGwire became just the third NL player to hit as many as 53 homers in a season, joining the Pirates' Ralph Kiner (54 in 1949) and the Chicago Cubs' Hack Wilson, who hit a league-record 56 homers in 1930.

McGwire, who broke Babe Ruth's record for homers over three consecutive seasons with a tape-measure homer Saturday, hit a 2-2 pitch from Ricardo Rincon deep into the left-field seats with two outs in the eighth inning.

McGwire's sixth homer in five days left him eight short of tying Roger Maris' record of 61 in 1961 with 32 games to play, and it rated him the rarest of ovals — a certain call on the road.

Astros 13, Cubs 3
In Chicago, Sammy Sosa's 50th and 51st homers carried far over the ivy-covered walls at Wrigley Field. The just couldn't carry the Cubs.

Sosa's 51 homers are the second-most in the club history and left him trailing McGwire by two in the race to overtake Roger Maris' 61.

The Cubs' club and NL record is 56 homers by Hack Wilson in 1930.

Craig Biggio hit a pair of three-run homers and Brad Ausmus had four hits, including a three-run homer, and five RBIs as the Astros increased their NL Central lead to 9½ games over Chicago.

Sosa had gone nine at-bats since his last homer Friday when he drove a 3-2 pitch from Houston's Jose Lima (13-6) completely over the bleachers in left-center field in the fifth inning.

The drive, that cut Houston's lead to 4-2, was estimated at 440

feet. With a crowd of 38,714 at Wrigley Field standing and chanting his name, Sosa stepped out of the dugout for a curtain call.

That was about all the fans had to cheer about until Sosa came to bat again in the eighth. Then he hit a 1-0 pitch from Lima deep into the left-field bleachers.

Padres 13, Brewers 11
In Milwaukee, Jim Leyritz's two-run double in the 10th helped San Diego win a wild one.

The teams combined for 33 hits against 12 pitchers in a game that took 2 hours, 3 minutes to complete the first four innings. Both teams had identical scorelines — 8 runs, 10 hits and 3 errors going into the fifth.

In the 10th, Steve Finley walked leading off and took third on a single by Greg Vaughn before Leyritz doubled to right-center off Bob Wickman (6-7). The Padres scored a run to tie it 10-10 in the ninth when Andy Sheets grounded into a double play.

Trevor Hoffman (4-1) pitched two innings for the victory.

Vaughn set a career-high with his 42nd homer, a 455-foot (138-meter) shot in the third inning that was the longest homer at County Stadium this season. He has 41 homers in 1996.

Diamondbacks 4, Mets 3
In New York, the host Mets blew a bases-loaded threat in the ninth inning.

Trailing by two runs, the Mets loaded the bases with no outs against Gregg Olson on singles by Brian McRae and pinch-hitter Lenny Harris and a bunt single by Luis Lopez.

But Olson struck out pinch-hitter Matt Franco, got pinch-hitter Carlos Baerga on an RBI grounder and retired Tony Phillips on a game-ending groundout. Olson got his 22nd save.

Al Leiter (12-5), who has the second-lowest ERA in the majors at 2.36, lost for only the second time in 11 decisions since May 17.

Brian Anderson (9-12) won for only the second time in a month despite allowing his major league-leading 33rd homer, a leadoff drive in the fourth by Edgardo

Martinez sizzles as Red Sox beat Twins

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Pedro Martinez pitched six shutout innings and Darren Bragg matched a career-high with four hits as the Boston Red Sox beat the Minnesota Twins 5-1 Sunday.

Martinez (17-4) allowed four hits, struck out three and walked one. He did not allow an extra-base hit after Otis Nixon led off the game with a double.

John Valentin had three hits, including his 16th homer and scored three runs for Boston, which leads Baltimore by eight games in the AL wild-card race.

Mo Vaughn and Mike Stanley also had three hits each for the Red Sox. The game featured the second match up in 11 days between Martinez, the 1997 NL Cy Young winner, and Brad Radke (10-12), a 20-game winner in 1997. It also included a brief discussion between the teams after Martinez hit Minnesota's Matt Lawton in the sixth.

Indians 4, Orioles 1
In Baltimore, Dwight Gooden won his third straight decision and Travis Fryman drove in two runs, leading the Cleveland Indians over the Baltimore Orioles.

Gooden (6-6) is 3-0 in his last five starts and has not lost since July 26. He allowed four hits and an unearned run in 6 1-3 innings to reach .500 for the first time since he was 3-3 at the All-Star break.

Cleveland won two of three from the Orioles during the weekend. Baltimore has dropped three of four, but still has baseball's best record since the break at 31-11.

Mike Jackson pitched the ninth inning for his 32nd save. Sidney Ponson (7-7) had not lost in nine starts and was 6-0 since his last setback on June 26.

Royals 11, Devil Rays 5
In St. Petersburg, Florida, Sal Fasano had a career-high four hits and hit consecutive home runs with Jermaine Dye as the Kansas City Royals beat the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

The Royals matched a season high with their fourth straight victory. Fasano went 4-for-4 and drove in three runs. He homered in the third inning, then added RBI singles in the sixth and seventh.

"The Royals' last four-game winning streak came May 24-29. The Devil Rays have dropped six of seven and fell 30 games under .500 (49-79)

for the first time. Pat Rapp (10-11), who pitched a shutout at Tropicana Field on May 13, gave up a three-run homer to Bubba Trammell in the sixth.

Dye's homer off Bryan Rekar (1-6) cleared the top of the left-field pole. Three pitches later, Fasano hit his seventh homer, an opposite-field drive down the right-field line.

Mariners 3, White Sox 2
In Seattle, Ken Griffey Jr. hit his AL-leading 43rd home run, ending his drought at 32 at-bats, and the Seattle Mariners beat the Chicago White Sox.

Griffey's two-run shot off John Snyder (4-2) tied the game at 2 in the fourth inning and gave North American baseball's four leading sluggers a home run sweep for the day.

Mark McGwire hit his 53rd homer for St. Louis, Sammy Sosa hit his 50th and 51st for the Chicago Cubs and Greg Vaughn hit his 42nd for San Diego.

Rookie Shane Monahan's home run in the fifth inning sent Chicago to its season-high fifth straight loss.

Paul Spoljaric (4-2) won for the first time in three starts this season. Jose Paniagua worked the ninth for his first major league save.

Tigers 5, Athletics 4
In Oakland, Seth Greisinger survived two home runs by Oakland's Jason Giambi and the Detroit Tigers held off the Athletics.

The Tigers won for the first time in six games and ended Oakland's season-high, six-game winning streak. Greisinger (3-7) gave up four runs and six hits in six innings.

Todd Jones pitched a 1-2-3 ninth for his 22nd save. Jimmy Haynes (9-6) took the loss.

Angels 3, Blue Jays 2
In Anaheim, California, Randy Velarde hit a go-ahead two-run triple and Chuck Finley won for just the second time in 13 home starts, leading the Anaheim Angels over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Toronto first baseman Carlos Delgado's throwing error in the seventh helped rally the Angels, who concluded a 5-2 homestand and stretched their AL West lead to three games over Texas. The Rangers played Sunday night.

Bonds hits 400 & 400

MIAMI (AP) — Barry Bonds homered Sunday, becoming the first player in U.S. major league history to hit 400 home runs and steal 400 bases.

The milestone came in the second inning when Bonds connected off Florida's Kirt Ojala for his 26th home run of the season.

Bonds has 400 home runs and 438 steals in a 13-year career. Three other U.S. players hit 300 homers and stole 300 bases — Willie Mays (660 homers, 338 steals), Andre Dawson (436 and 314) and Bonds' father, Bobby (332 and 461).

With one out and the bases empty, Bonds pulled a 1-1 pitch from Ojala into the right-field seats to give San Francisco a 4-0 lead.

Marlins fans gave the 34-year-old Bonds a standing ovation as he circled the bases. As he crossed home plate, Bonds tipped his cap and grinned.

Plans to honor Bonds for his achievement will be announced Monday.

Buenaventura . . .

Continued from page 27

Sunday's tournament was followed by a birthday bash in honor of CCA board members Terry Huber and Ronnie Alfonso (not Almer Santos, as earlier reported).

Meanwhile, CCA received a \$100 donation from Dr. Jun C. Binoya of Saipan Optical Clinic and a chess set and a clock from lawyer Rey Yana.

Lomantas said the \$100 donation will be included in the cash prizes for the upcoming 1998 Allied International Insurance Services Cup (AIIS) Individual Chess Championship Tournament.

The last day for registration is on Aug. 29. Sponsored by AIIS and CCA, the date for the round-robin tournament's opening day is scheduled for Aug. 30, and will be held at the Pacific Island Club.

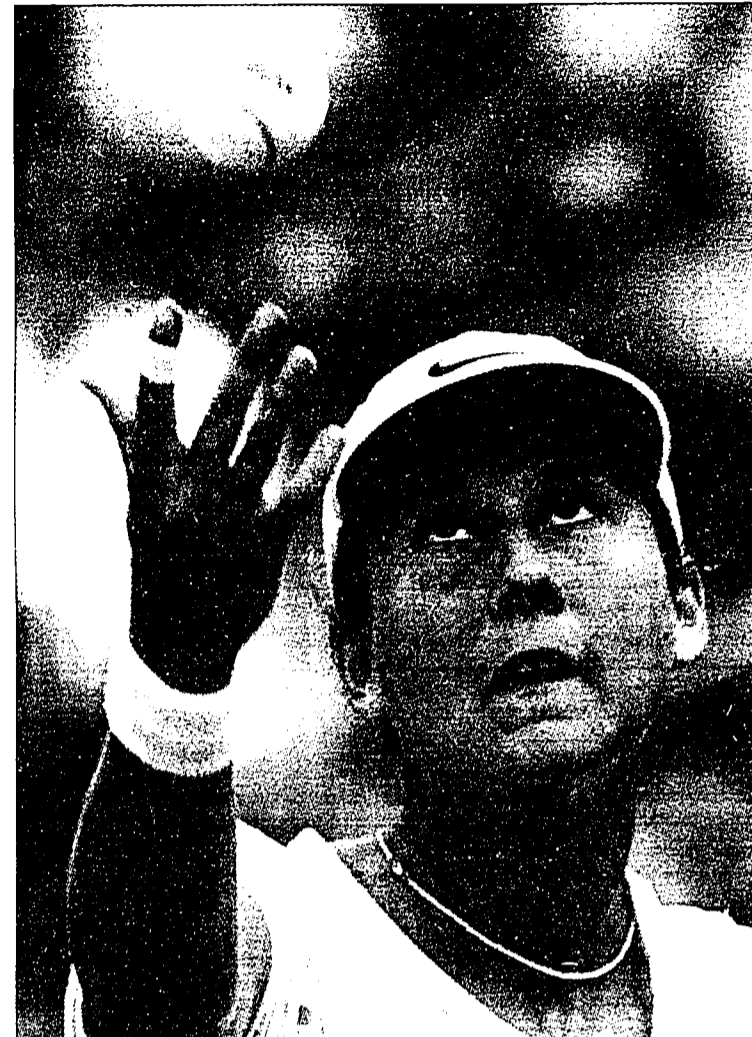
Pacific Gardenia is the other tournament venue. The games will begin at 10 a.m. Rescheduled games will be held at Pinoy Special on weekdays from 5 to 8 p.m.

There is an entry fee of \$25 for each player, and two categories for the tournament — bracket A, for veteran players, and bracket B for new players.

Each player will be given one hour per game. Cash prizes and medals will be given out to the winners.

Participating players will also get a CCA ID card, CCA rating and t-shirts courtesy of Maupac Distributors, Inc. and its promo manager Jobbie Macabalo.

Maupac is also donating banners for the tournament. For more information, contact Junel Lomantas at his daytime phone number, 233-3193, or through his pager, 234-4433.



Monica Seles throws the ball in the air to serve to Spain's Arantxa Sanchez Vicario during the finals at the du Maurier Open in Montreal. Seles beat Sanchez Vicario 6-3, 6-2 to win the du Maurier Open. AP

Seles wins du Maurier

MONTREAL (AP) — Monica Seles won her fourth consecutive du Maurier Open women's tennis championship Sunday with a convincing 6-3, 6-2 victory over Arantxa Sanchez Vicario of Spain.

Seles, 24, needed only 76 minutes to win the \$150,000 top prize for the hardcourt tournament at a sold-out, 10,500-seat Jarry Stadium. Sanchez Vicario pocketed \$60,000.

"I just think I have a good time here," said Seles about the hardcourt tournament that alternates between Toronto and Montreal. "I love both Toronto and Montreal and I've always thought that if you're relaxed off the court, you're probably more relaxed on the court, too. It just seems to work for me."

It was the first tournament title of the year for Seles, the former world No. 1, currently ranked sixth in the world, who showed she is in top form heading into the U.S. Open in two weeks.

Seles broke service for a 2-0 lead in the opening set and served out for the win. She broke Sanchez Vicario to open the second set and again for a 5-2 lead, while closing out the match without losing her service.

"Monica wasn't missing much today," Sanchez Vicario said. "She served really well and didn't give me many chances. I had a break point in the second set and really, that was my only chance. I don't think I played badly, she just played much better."

Seles faced only one break point in the match and lost only 10 points on her serve during the match.

Seles, who upset top-seeded Martina Hingis in the semifinals, and Sanchez Vicario, who had ended Jana Novotna's 19-match winning run, were each competing in their fifth du Maurier final.

Sanchez Vicario won in 1992 — beating Seles in the final — and 1994. Seles also beat Sanchez Vicario in the 1996 final en route to her four straight titles.

While Seles has struggled to regain her form since a fan stabbed her in the back during a tournament in 1993, she has dominated the du Maurier, beginning her comeback with a victory in the 1995 final over South Africa's Amanda Coetzer.

Her record in five du Maurier appearances is 24-1.

Singh wins Sprint Int'l.

By John Mossman
CASTLE ROCK, Colo. (AP) — Vijay Singh led wire-to-wire Sunday and punctuated his final round with an eagle on the 17th hole to capture the Sprint International for his second title in as many weeks.

Singh, 35, the newly crowned PGA champion, began the day with 33 points and a narrow 1-point lead under the modified Stableford scoring system used in this event.

He never relinquished it. Singh birdied five holes on his front nine, increasing his point total to 43 for a 7-point lead over Willie Wood at the turn. His potential runaway didn't materialize, however, and the victory wasn't clinched until eight holes later.

Nursing a 1-point lead over both Wood and defending champion Phil Mickelson, Singh played the 492-yard, par-5 17th hole perfectly. He drilled a 3-wood 306 yards uphill to the middle of the fairway, then hit an 8-iron to the back fringe. His downhill, curving putt from about 25 feet found the cup for a 5-point eagle, increasing his point total to 47.

Wood and Mickelson tied for second at 41, and Tiger Woods, who fashioned four eagles in the first three rounds but none on Sunday, finished at 38. Rocco Mediate was next at 37.

The International's scoring format awards 5 points for an eagle, 2 for birdie, zero for par, minus-1 for bogey and minus-3 for double bogey or worse.

Points accumulated over all four rounds. The field, cut at the halfway point, was cut again to the top 36 scorers and ties for Sunday's final round.

Singh's early birdie barrage gave him a seemingly comfortable lead. But after Singh's poor drive on No. 10 and subsequent bogey, Wood ran in birdie putts at the 11th and 12th holes, and the lead was trimmed to 2 points.

Kobayashi . . .

Continued from page 27

Continued from page 27

Corretja beats Agassi for RCA Championship

By Hank Lowenkron
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Alex Corretja survived a high-speed collision with a tennis ball Sunday to win an ATP championship in the United States for the first time in his career.

"I didn't know where I was. I didn't know if I was in Indianapolis or Barcelona (his hometown) or wherever," said Corretja, who was knocked to the court by a shot off Andre Agassi's racquet.

The momentum of the RCA Championships title match seemed to shift with the incident, and Corretja later saved four break points in a crucial third game of the final set for a 2-6, 6-2, 6-3 victory Sunday.

"It was just a normal point, but it is hard to see it that way when you're on the ground," Corretja said. "It was burning."

It was the third championship this year — but the first in the U.S. — for Corretja, No. 11 in the latest ATP rankings and seeded sixth in the tournament.

It was worth \$122,500 to the 24-year-old Spaniard. The victory cooled the hot summer streak of Agassi, the winningest player on the ATP Tour this year, who is 50-12 with the loss. He had won 19 of his previous 21 matches since falling to Germany's Tommy Haas at Wimbledon.

"I hit a little bit of a wall there," Agassi said of the sixth game when his smash decked Corretja. "I didn't get it back until the third set, and then he picked it up late in the third."

Agassi, a four-time champion this year, had defeated Corretja the previous four times they played. He appeared to be on his way to another triumph when he knocked Corretja down in the sixth game of the second set.

"I didn't have much choice," Agassi said. "It's not a good situation for either player. . . We both have to deal with it. I'd rather it be on my end of it than his."

Kucera earns first title in Pilot Pen tourney

By Donna Tommelero
NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Karol Kucera earned his first title on United States soil Sunday, beating Goran Ivanisevic 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 in the final of the Pilot Pen International.

The match was a study in contrasts: the steady, unflappable Kucera against the emotional and unpredictable Ivanisevic. On a couple close calls that went against him, the volatile Croat tossed his racket and ripped his shirt.

It also pitted the tour's top server against the top returner. Coming into the tournament, Ivanisevic had 666 aces in 44 matches. Kucera had a 36 percent return rate in 50 matches.

NL Standings AL Standings

Team	W	L	Pct.	GB	Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	65	44	.662	—	New York	94	33	.740	—
New York	72	58	.554	14	Boston	76	52	.594	18 1/2
Philadelphia	64	66	.492	22	Baltimore	69	61	.531	26 1/2
Montreal	51	80	.389	35 1/2	Toronto	66	64	.508	29 1/2
Florida	45	85	.346	41	Tampa Bay	49	79	.383	45 1/2
Central Division					West Division				
Team	W	L	Pct.	GB	Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	81	50	.618	—	San Diego	63	47	.568	—
Chicago	71	59	.546	9 1/2	San Francisco	69	61	.531	14
Milwaukee	62	68	.477	18 1/2	Los Angeles	64	66	.492	19
Pittsburgh	62	68	.477	18 1/2	Colorado	60	71	.458	23 1/2
St. Louis	62	68	.477	18 1/2	Arizona	49	82	.374	34 1/2
Cincinnati	59	71	.454	21 1/2					
Central Division					West Division				
Team	W	L	Pct.	GB	Team	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	81	50	.618	—	Anaheim	71	59	.546	—
Chicago	71	59	.546	9 1/2	Texas	68	61	.527	2 1/2
Milwaukee	62	68	.477	18 1/2	Seattle	59	69	.461	11
Pittsburgh	62	68	.477	18 1/2	Oakland	60	71	.458	11 1/2
St. Louis	62	68	.477	18 1/2					
Cincinnati	59	71	.454	21 1/2					

Little League gave McGwire his start

By David Kinney
WILLIAMSPORT, Pa. (AP) — Where did Mark McGwire's slug-ging streak start?

Try Little League. "It was just such a cute story," said his mother, Ginger McGwire, who, with her husband, John, is being honored by the Little League this week. "Mark did not play baseball until he was nine. Then, in his very first at-bat as a 10-year-old Little Leaguer, he hit a home run over the fence."

"I guess that really set the tone for him," she said. The first baseman for the St. Louis Cardinals hit his 53rd homer Sunday, moving him within eight

of Roger Maris' major-league record. The McGwires were involved with the Claremont (Calif.) American Little League for years. "John was a manager for 10 years, and I was a team mom, helping out at the concession stand," she said. "We had great times in Little League, with the team parties and the get-togethers. Plus, we won a few games along the way, and a league championship or two."

The McGwires came to Williamsport from their home in Mission Viejo, Calif. Mark couldn't make it; the Cardinals are on a six-game homestand.

SPORTS



Japan's Little Leaguers make history, win game

By DAVID KINNEY
WILLIAMSPORT, Pennsylvania (AP) — Sayaka Tsushima made history Sunday as the first girl to play for a Far East team in the Little League World Series, playing center field and going 1-for-2 with a single, walk and two runs as Kashima, Japan, defeated the defending champions from Guadalupe, Mexico, 6-1.

Starting pitcher Tetsuya Furukawa surrendered four hits, struck out seven and added an RBI double and a triple.

Kashima scored two runs in the second inning on a passed ball and two wild

pitches by Guadalupe pitcher Daniel Lopez. A pair of throwing errors on an otherwise routine sacrifice bunt in the fifth made it 3-0, and Furukawa followed with an RBI double.

A passed ball and Tomoyuki Okawa's RBI single gave Kashima a 6-0 lead in the fifth.

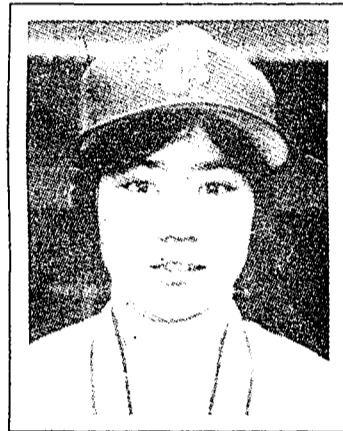
Guadalupe's sole run came on Jose Oregel's sixth inning home run.

The Latin American champions stranded seven runners. They threatened in the fourth and fifth innings, but Furukawa ended each inning with strikeouts.

Guadalupe returns three players from the 1997 championship team, and a coach from last year, Jose Valadez, is now the manager. Only one team has won titles back-to-back: Monterrey, Mexico — a town just a few miles (kilometers) from Guadalupe — in 1957-58.

The top two teams in the international pool meet Thursday with a trip to the finals at stake. The championship is Saturday.

Guadalupe left fielder Jorge Trevino was hit in the helmet by a fastball, but ran to first after a minute on the ground and stayed in the game.



Sayaka Tsushima became the first girl to play for a Far East team in the Little League World Series last weekend in the annual classic in Williamsport, Pennsylvania.



Hiromi Kobayashi of Japan blasts out of the sand on the 18th hole at Rush Creek Golf Club in the final round of the LPGA Rainbow Classic in Maple Grove, Minnesota. Kobayashi saved par on the hole to force a sudden death playoff with Tracy Hanson, which Kobayashi won on the first hole. She finished at 10-under-par. AP

Kobayashi wins Rainbow Classic

MAPLE GROVE, Minn. (AP) — Hiromi Kobayashi sank a 3-foot (one-meter) birdie putt on the first playoff hole Sunday to defeat Tracy Hanson in the LPGA Rainbow Classic.

After the two finished the final round tied at 10-under, Kobayashi and Hanson replayed No. 18 at Rush Creek Golf Course.

Hanson lost a chance for her first career win when her third shot flew over the green and went into the water.

Kobayashi, whose last win came in 1993 in Minnesota, took home a first-place check for \$90,000.

Kobayashi nearly didn't make the playoff, hitting her second shot on the final hole of regulation into the bunker in front of the green. She recovered nicely by blasting within 5 feet (1.5 meters) of the hole and making the par putt.

Kobayashi joined Liselott Neumann as the only players to win twice in Minnesota. In 1993, Kobayashi defeated Cindy Rarick in a one-hole playoff to win the Minnesota Classic at Edinburgh USA Golf Course in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

Second-round leader Michelle Estill had a chance to join the playoff, but missed a 10-foot (3-meters) birdie putt on No. 18.

Estill shot a 71 Sunday to finish tied

with Meg Mallon at 9-under par.

Mallon, bidding for her 10th career win and second in three weeks, led briefly on the back nine before a bogey on No. 16 dropped her back. She fired a final round 67.

Lisa Walters, Wendy Doolan and Leta Lindley all finished at 8-under par.

Completing the second round early Sunday morning after heavy rain cut short play on Saturday, Estill moved to 10-under par after four holes, but suffered three bogeys on the back nine to drop into the tie with Ward.

Many of the top players on the LPGA tour skipped the \$600,000 tournament.

Se Ri Pak, who has won two ma-

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Buenaventura tops chess tourney

By Zaldy Dandan
 Variety News Staff
ELY G. Buenaventura Jr. on Sunday scored 9.5 points in 12 games en route to topping the seventh and last leg of the CNMI Chess Association's chess active tournament at 13 Fishermen Memorial.

Buenaventura, who is the presi-

dent of the CNMI Chess Association (CCA), is the only player to have won the event twice.

His only losses were to the sixth leg winner Gerry Biniahan, who finished with 8.5 points, and to Rey Villamor, the fourth leg champion.

The first leg winner and CCA vice president Junnel Lomantas finished

second with 8.5 points, while Arthur Binadiles with 8 points emerged with the better tie break score than Lito Bermudez to finish third.

A record 13 players participated in the round robin tournament, in which each player is given only 15 minutes to finish a game.

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Local gym helps athletes pursue Micronesian medals

By Michael Wright
 Variety News Staff

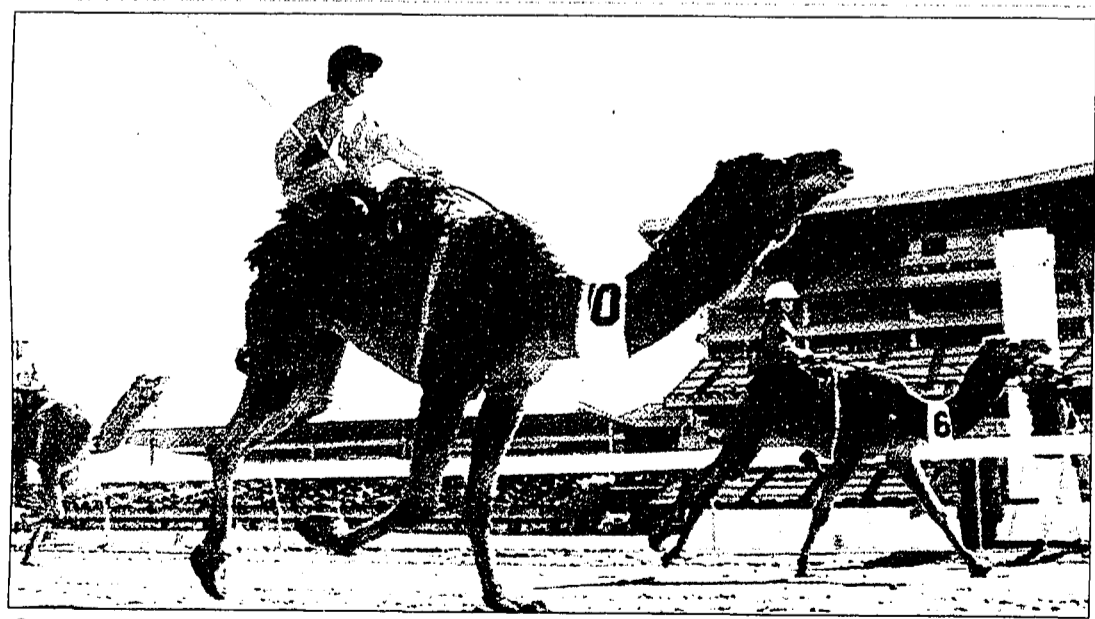
ALTHOUGH IT wasn't favored to do so, the CNMI Outrigger Canoe team won a gold medal in the 1998 Micronesian Games held earlier this month in Palau. And they got a little help.

Gold's Gym in Garapan donated three months of free memberships to the team members so that adequate facilities and the latest equipment were available in order to prepare for the Games. "We sometimes are perceived in the public eye as being a cosmetic gym for people who just want to look better," said Josephine Togawa, Co-owner of the gym. "But we want to help athletes develop skills and improve sports techniques."

Togawa feels the island's private sector can do more for CNMI athletes. "Everyone is proud of the athletes when they come home with medals. But the community should be doing more all the time to develop sports programs."

Togawa feels all island residents, but especially young people, can benefit from organized athletics. "When people concentrate on a sport, it keeps them out of trouble."

One suggestion, according to Togawa, is to implement more sports at the school-age level. "They should start at a very young age," she says. She also thinks separate funding needs to be set aside for the Micronesian Games, so athletes can be assured of participating, and not be scrambling for money at the last moment as many were forced to do in '98.



Camels named Modheia, left, Sandy and Will Show Ya, right, charge for the finish line during the third race of Sydney's first camel race meet at Royal Randwick Race Course last weekend. Although camels are raced in the outback, this is the first race meeting held in a major Australian city. AP

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