2 banks cut rates

To make loans affordable in times of crisis, say officials

"We've still the largest real-estate lender in Saipan and we work very closely with the Northern Marianas Islands Housing Authority. We feel that we probably can go down at least by one quarter percent for them and we're reviewing that rate right now. We're doing this not only because of the Fed action but also because money overall is cheaper right now," Fish said.

Bank of Guam, which also operates on Saipan, has likewise lowered its lending reference rate from 8.5 percent to 8.25 percent.

The Bank of Guam reference rate, sometimes called the prime rate, is the basis for interest rates charged in most commercial lending at the bank.

As a result, the interest rate charged by Bank of Guam on many loans will be adjusted downward, thus lowering customers' business costs.

In addition, Bank of Guam has also reduced personal loan interest rates to 11.5 percent for amounts up to $20,000 for as long as five years.

For long-term borrowers, Bank of Guam fixed rate mortgage interest rates for new loans have fallen to their lowest level in recent history.

Bank of Guam fixed mortgage

Gov't, Teno named in $100M taxpayer suit

Over environmental threat posed by dump

Gov. Pedro P. Teno, former Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja, the CNMI government, its agencies and top officials to effect the immediate closure of the Puerto Rico dump.

Lawyer William C. Campbell II on behalf of the CNMI taxpayers, sought damages in the $100 million taxpayers' lawsuit was filed yesterday against a $100 million taxpayers' law.

"This legislation now proceeds..." said the chief operating officer and executive vice president, said the bank is even considering stepping long-term residential mortgage loans in Saipan within the next 30 days.

Tougher job competition seen in Palau

By Aldwin R. Fajardo
Variety News Staff

KOROR, Palau — The government disclosed that competition for employment is starting to get tougher here, with employers more likely to hire local and foreign workers with better education.

The more education people have the better their chances in landing the better jobs in both the public and the private sectors, according to the 1998 Statistical Yearbook.

"At the present time, we have no intentions of increasing the minimum wage especially with the economic downturn," the governor told reporters.

He added that the recent signing of Public Law 11-22 is not meant to raise the minimum wage at this time. He said that the eleven to be formed review committee which is mandated by the said law will study possibilities of a wage hike.

"One of the reasons why the legislature passed the legislation is for the commission to come up with a recommendation as to when will be more appropriate to increase the minimum wage to come up with some recommendations to the legislature..." said the chief executive.

Teno assures there'll be no wage, tax hikes

By Aldwin E. Eugenio
Variety News Staff

GOVERNOR Pedro P. Tenofo yesterday assured there will be no minimum wage and tax increases during these times of economic uncertainties.

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**US House panel opens impeachment hearing**

**Debate on Clinton starts**

By John Whitesides

The House of Representatives opened debate on Monday on a formal impeachment inquiry against President Clinton, despite widespread Democratic doubts about the wisdom of proceeding. Speaker of the House Jim Wright, a Texas Democrat, called for the vote, which he said was "the right thing to do for the integrity of our institutions and the people we serve." Wright said he had been "weighed down" by the scandal and would not have voted for it if he had not received assurances from the legal counsel that the rules could not be violated.

The opening statements, such as they were, were made by the panel's Chairman, Rep. Henry Hyde (R-Ill.), who said the president's behavior had been "inexcusable" and that the House had a duty to hold him accountable. Rep. Jim McDermott (D-Wash.) said it was the president's responsibility to tell the truth and that he had failed to do so.

The debate is expected to last several days, with each side making its case and witnesses being called. The Senate is not expected to take up the matter until it is clear what the House will do.

**Senators air concerns over how AGO is run**

By Walter P. bórs

The Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a hearing on Wednesday to discuss concerns about the operations of the General Accounting Office (AGO). Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) said he was concerned about the office's management and oversight of its operations.

John Sununu, director of the Office of Management and Budget, defended the AGO's operations, saying that it was doing a good job. He also defended the AGO's independence, saying that it was able to conduct investigations without interference from the executive branch.

**Japanese land owners oppose expansion of Tokyo airport**

By Lawrie S. Roberts

A group of Japanese landowners has filed a lawsuit against the government in an effort to prevent the expansion of Tokyo's Haneda airport. The landowners say that the airport expansion will cause destruction of their farmland and harm to the environment.

The government has said that the airport expansion is necessary to meet the demands of international travel. The landowners have said that they will continue to fight the expansion in court.

**Italian PM struggles to save his government**

By Ginoia Giorgetti

Rome—Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said on Tuesday that he would work with opposition parties to form a new coalition government, but that he would not step down as prime minister. Berlusconi has faced growing anti-government sentiment in Italy over his handling of the economy and his personal life.

Berlusconi said he would consider forming a coalition with the center-left Democratic Party, but that he would not rule out working with the center-right Northern League. He said he would consult with other parties before making a final decision.

**Marinas Air plane figures in an ‘incident’ during test flight**

By Variety News Staff

The Marinas Air plane recently had an ‘incident’ during test flight in which the plane experienced a loss of altitude. The plane was carrying three people at the time, and all three were taken to hospital for treatment.

The cause of the incident is still under investigation, but it is believed to be due to a mechanical failure. The company has suspended all flights until the cause of the incident is determined.

**Guam visitors greeting program starts next year**

By Variety News Staff

The Guam Visitors Bureau is starting a new visitors greeting program next year. The program will provide information to visitors about the island and its attractions.

The program will be funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce, and it is expected to cost $2 million over the next three years. The Guam Visitors Bureau hopes that the program will help to attract more visitors to the island.

**NMI car sales down by 27% in September**

By Robert P. Torio

NMI car sales were down by 27% in September compared to the same month last year. The company said that the decrease was due to a number of factors, including the ongoing economic downturn and competition from other companies.

The company said that it was looking to increase its sales in the coming months by focusing on new products and improving its marketing efforts.
Time for U.S. to square up with the U.N.

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is about to make some bold moves on the world stage. The question is, can the U.S. square up with the U.N.?

The U.S. government is considering a number of reforms to improve its relations with the U.N. The reforms include increasing U.S. contributions to the U.N., improving U.S. representation on U.N. bodies, and addressing the issue of U.S. compliance with U.N. resolutions.

The U.S. government is also considering ways to improve the effectiveness of the U.N. in addressing global challenges such as climate change, peace and security, and human rights.

The reforms are intended to address the perception that the U.S. has been reluctant to take a leading role in the U.N. and has sometimes violated U.N. resolutions or made decisions that are not in the best interest of the U.N. and its member states.

The U.S. government hopes that the reforms will improve the U.N.'s effectiveness in addressing global challenges and strengthen the U.N.'s role as an international organization.

The reforms are expected to be announced in the coming weeks, and the U.S. government will work with other member states to ensure that the reforms are implemented effectively.

Yigo attorney arrested for allegedly choking own son

Yigo attorney arrested for allegedly choking his own son. The alleged incident took place on Monday, and the attorney was arrested for aggravated assault.

The attorney, ayd his attorney, is a well-known figure in the community and has represented several high-profile cases in the past.

The case is being investigated by the Guam Police Department, and the attorney is expected to be charged with aggravated assault.

The attorney's bond hearing is scheduled for next week, and the attorney is awaiting bail.

The incident has sparked debate in the community about the role of the legal profession and the responsibilities of attorneys to their clients.

The attorney's family has released a statement expressing their shock and concern about the incident, and the attorney has issued a public apology.

The attorney's arrest is the latest in a series of high-profile cases involving attorneys in the community, and the incident has raised questions about the ethics and conduct of the legal profession.

The community is waiting for the results of the investigation to determine the outcome of the case.
Newspaper Page: OCTOBER 7, 1998

**Palau up in tourism**

By Carol Reitan Rice

Tourism in Palau, which has flourished in recent years, has once again demonstrated its resiliency in the face of economic challenges.

During the first eight months of the year, tourism revenue and activity in the island nation have shown strong signs of growth, despite external factors that have affected other sectors of the economy.

Tourism revenue for the first eight months of the year is projected to increase by at least 15 percent compared to the same period last year, according to industry officials.

The Palau Tourism Authority, in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance and other relevant agencies, has been working to ensure that Palau continues to attract visitors from around the world.

**Education Island opens**

By Jacob Leong Guerrero

The newly-opened Education Island, a facility that is designed to provide a safe and nurturing environment for children, has received overwhelming support from the community.

The facility, which is located on the western side of the island, offers a range of educational and recreational activities for children.

**Unruly man is arrested**

By Jacob Leong Guerrero

A man who became unruly while attending a public event has been arrested for扰乱秩序.

The man was caught in the act of causing a disturbance, which led to his arrest.

**Newly-appointed OIA official**

The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) has appointed a new official to its team, following the recent resignation of the previous holder.

The new official, who brings with him a wealth of experience in the field, is expected to bring fresh perspectives and innovative solutions to the agency's operations.

**Business forecast for 1999**

The Business Forecast for 1999, which is compiled by economic analysts, predicts a promising outlook for the Palau economy.

The forecast suggests a steady increase in tourism revenue, driven by an influx of visitors from various parts of the world.

**Chamber urges workforce survey**

The Palau Chamber of Commerce and Industry has called for a workforce survey to be conducted in the CNMI.

The chamber believes that such a survey is necessary to determine the number of job positions available in the region, which would help to address the unemployment issue.

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By Jojo Dass

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The Division of Public Land (DPL), has signified good faith in the face of an economic crisis it is currently facing. A meeting was canceled after the Board failed to arrive in time for the meeting. A draft lease agreement was signed and a copy of the agreement to the Board of Directors, according to SLC officials, which is planning to build a cable car system from Kayangan Cliff to Boracay Cliff, DPL has agreed to include back provisions to the contract to maintain a department store in a cable car system.

In an earlier meeting was canceled after the Board failed to arrive in time for the meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to take this opportunity in extending our sincere appreciation and gratitude for those citizens, will be of great benefit to their families, and be a positive contribution to the strength and diversity of our island community.

CAI CAROLINIAN AFFAIRS INCORPORATED

MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to take this opportunity in extending our sincere appreciation and gratitude for those citizens, will be of great benefit to their families, and be a positive contribution to the strength and diversity of our island community.

The President of the United States, by Executive Order, has called upon the people of the nation to work together to overcome the dire consequences of unemployment of people with disabilities.

The CNMI Office of Vocational Rehabilitation supports the hiring of qualified persons with disabilities in both the public and private sectors of our Commonwealth.

The hiring of persons with disabilities will make an important contribution to our society by reducing the dependence of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on imported guest workers.

The employment of persons with disabilities will reduce government expenditures on support programs and increase government revenues when they become taxpayers.

Most importantly, employment of persons with disabilities will provide a better quality of life for those citizens, will be of great benefit to their families, and be a positive contribution to the strength and diversity of our island community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY VIRTUE OF THE FOREGOING, I, PEDRO P. TENDOÑO, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby proclaim the month of October 1998 as DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH, and call the government and private sectors of the Commonwealth to observe the month and support the appropriate programs and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 6th day of October, 1998.

PEDRO P. TENDOÑO

Governor
DLNR urge school: Plant trees

By Louie C. Alvarez

Happy New Year! Ho‘okipa Staff

This is a perfect time to plant trees for the people. Trees are the cheapest.

According to Mr. Kelvin Malakooti from the Animal Medical Clinic on Guam, because free spay and neuter services are available for pets of PAWS members, more and more Guam residents are getting their pets spayed and neutered. However, a lot of those pets have not been vaccinated. In order to correct this situation, a mobile immunization clinic sponsored by PAWS will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 1998, at the Guam Children’s Home, 570 Main Street, Santa Rita. Chip injections and rabies苗 shots will be given free of charge to dogs and cats.

The Guam Children’s Home is hosting a costume contest for the whole family. Parents and children will be nominated in this year’s contest. First prize $700* cash! Second prize $500* cash! Third prize $250* cash! For more information, please contact Bobbi Gtizzard at 322-9464. The children’s movie “Hocus Pocus” will be shown at 9:30 p.m. at the Guam Children’s Home.

The Phoenix Art Studio will have a special display of various handcrafts. There will be raffles for some of the items. The prizes will be given away at 4:30 p.m. on the day of the event. The Phoenix Art Studio is located near the Phoenix Art Studio in the same building.

For more information, please contact Louie C. Alvarez at 234-6341, ext. 8.

P.A.W.S., sponsors pet insurance campaign

PET ASSISTANCE and Workers Services (PAWWA) is a nonprofit organization to sponsor a low-cost insurance campaign for pet owners. Pet owners can register their dogs, cats, and guinea pigs for a low fee of $10.00. The insurance coverage includes routine care, hospitalization, and medications.

A representative of PAWWA will be at the event to answer any questions.

For more information, please contact Louie C. Alvarez at 234-6341, ext. 8.

MCS campaigns dys just another trick

By Louie C. Alvarez

Happy New Year!

A big campaign for this year is anything to do with the Family Safety Day. Kids need to be taught about the dangers of violence.

"In the current world, violence is the norm. We are all educated about violence," said Ely.

"Some of our kids are going to be taught the wrong thing. Violence is not proper. This is the best time to reach them while they are young. However, the saddest is the fact that they want to have HIV tests, they are going to be taught that it is wrong to be abusive or violent. It is wrong to be abusive or violent whether verbal, physical or emotional as this may lead to the disintegration of the family in the long run.

We are now accepting listings for our new Community Calendar series. Local events such as weddings, christenings, anniversaries, special occasions or occasions, achievements of local residents and activities of non-political local organizations and groups. We will be happy to list ongoing or yearly events such as club meetings, support groups, sports events, etc.

How to list your event with Community Calendar

• Listing must pertain to events or meets such as weddings, christenings, anniversaries, etc.
• Activities to be listed must occur in the Chamorro community.
• Activities to be listed must concern local residents.
• Activities to be listed must be free or low cost.
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For listing of your event, please call (671) 6-19-4687 or write to 234-6341, ext. 8.

We will contact you for your delivery location.

ANGELS - All 4-H, July 4th...

This is a wonderful celebration of Independence Day in which 4-H members and their families will have a chance to participate. The date for this event is Saturday, July 4th.

The American Red Cross (ARC), American Heart Association, and the Guam Fire Department are sponsoring a national community blood drive on Saturday, July 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The drive is being held in cooperation with the National Blood Drive Foundation. The drive is open to all blood donors age 18 and over who are in good health and meet the requirements set by the American Red Cross.

For more information, please contact Louie C. Alvarez at 234-6341, ext. 8.

According to the Guam Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the Guam Wildlife Service (GWS) is holding a blood drive on Friday, July 3rd, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Guam Wildlife Service office on Beach Road in Hagåtña. The drive is open to all blood donors age 18 and over who are in good health and meet the requirements set by the American Red Cross.

For more information, please contact Louie C. Alvarez at 234-6341, ext. 8.

St. John’s Church will hold its annual festival on Saturday, July 4th, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The festival will feature a variety of food and drinks, as well as games and entertainment.

For more information, please contact Louie C. Alvarez at 234-6341, ext. 8.

Artists tries hand at floral business

By Louie C. Alvarez

Happy New Year!

A local artist Xiao Ping is now accepting orders for custom floral designs. She is also taking commissions for custom paintings. She can be reached at (671) 6-19-4687 or 234-6341, ext. 8.

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**AGRO revive unrepairable**

Despite controversies:

**By Roderick S. Guadarte**

Agro Corporation and suppliers of the Marpi Depression in�gagement with the government over the redevelopment of the depressed area had run into a snarl. The corporation had previously filed a lawsuit against the government for violation of the terms of the agreement. The government had claimed that the corporation had not fulfilled its obligations under the agreement.

**Marshalls dispute widens**

Kabua rebukes Chief Justice

By Gil Johnson

On Monday the Marshall Islands President Kabua found that he had been rebuked by Chief Justice Jacob T. Gutierrez.

\[ olmadığını\]

The government had expressed concerns that the Chief Justice’s recent remarks were inappropriate and had called for a statement from the Chief Justice.

**El Nino draws fishing fleet to Majuro**

By Gil Johnson

The Majuro media reported that the Majuro government had received reports of a large fishing fleet heading to Majuro.

**3 MPs pay Bagoumugale on peace claims**

PORT MORESBY (The Epirus) - The Papua New Guinea National Parliament on Monday met to discuss peace claims in the Bagoumugale area.

**Kabua, former maritime minister in charge of the coastguard**

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Body of sunken RP ferry’s captain found

MANILA, Philippines — The body of the captain of a Philippine ferry that sank last week was found Monday in an oxygen-saturated habitat under the vessel, officials said.

The captain, identified only as Rosario Orte, was identified after being rescued from a lifeboat about two miles from the sunken ferry.

The ship, with 400 passengers on board, sank as a typhoon hit the area last week.

The captain’s body was recovered by divers who inspected the ship for possible survivors.

Ferry’s captain found

BOWLES leaves White House to return to work

Bowles, who was a key figure in the administration’s economic strategy, had been criticized for his role in the administration’s handling of the economy.

The decision to leave the White House was announced by White House Press Secretary Joe Lockhart, who said the captain had been offered a key position at the Treasury Department.

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Body of sunken RP ferry captain found

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The missing captain of a Philippine ferry that sank last month in the country's busiest harbor was found floating in the water, and his body was delivered to the hospital, authorities said Friday.

The state-run Philippine National Police in the city of Manila said Friday that a body was recovered from the water near where the ferry sank last week. Police and coast guard personnel were searching for other missing passengers. The ferry had sailed from the southern province of Sorsogon to the capital city of Manila.

The ferry, with about 900 passengers on board, sank Wednesday night as it was crossing Manila Bay, the capital city's main waterway. Rescuers and coast guard personnel were searching for the missing passengers.

The ferry captain, who was identified as a 49-year-old man, was found floating in the water near the ferry's沉没地点. Police said they were working to identify the body.

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PAL employees return to work

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine Airlines employees returned to work after nearly two weeks of being on strike, according to the airline.

The airline said Friday it had received a memo from the labor department granting it permission to operate.

The employees had been on strike since Aug. 9, demanding better working conditions and a pay raise. The airline said it had met some of the employees' demands.

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Estrada to appoint VP as acting president while on trip

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine President Joseph Estrada said Monday he will appoint Vice President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo as acting president while he is on a trip to the Philippines next week.

Estrada said he made the decision after consulting with his cabinet ministers and top political allies.

He also announced that he will appoint a new cabinet minister to replace the one who resigned last week.

Estrada said he will travel to the Philippines next week to attend a meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders.

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Foreign capital rises 30% in RP for last 7 mos

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Direct foreign investments in the Philippines rose 30% in the first seven months of this year, according to the Board of Investments (BoI) of the Department of Trade and Industry.

The BoI said in a statement Friday that the rise in foreign investments was due to increased foreign direct investment (FDI) in the country's manufacturing sector.

The BoI said that FDI in the manufacturing sector rose 54% to $1.3 billion in the first seven months of this year compared to $808 million in the same period last year.

The BoI said that the rise in FDI was due to increased investment in the country's automobile industry, which is one of the largest in the Asia-Pacific region.

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Clinton airs Kosovo concerns to Yeltsin

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - U.S. President Bill Clinton has expressed concern about recent developments in Kosovo to Russian President Boris Yeltsin in a telephone call, according to a White House statement.

The White House said Clinton raised the issue of Kosovo with Yeltsin on Thursday and that the two leaders discussed the situation in Kosovo.

The White House said Clinton told Yeltsin that the United States was concerned about the violence in Kosovo and that the two leaders agreed to work together to find a peaceful solution.

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Bowles stepping down as White House chief of staff

By Laurence Kitchell

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - White House Chief of Staff Andrew Bowles on Monday said he will step down as chief of staff, becoming the third member of President Bill Clinton's Cabinet to resign this year.

Bowles, who was the key figure in the administration's decision to leave the White House as the president looks for a new chief of staff, said he had been told that Clinton would recommend him for other jobs.

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SUN & FUN BESON & HEDGES

A MOMENT OF PLEASURE WITH THE 100MM CIGARETTE

PAL Removes smoking from flights

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Philippine Airlines has removed smoking from flights as part of a management proposal to improve on-time performance.

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In a memorandum from the airline's chief executive officer, the airline said that it had been looking for ways to improve on-time performance and that it had decided to remove smoking from flights.

The airline said that it had also decided to reduce the number of flights that are delayed and that it had decided to improve the quality of service provided to passengers.
**Council for Economic Planning**

The report found that women provide overall direction on all phases of personnel administration within the station.

Although Taiwan has largely maintained its job status than did the United States, according to this report, the unemployment rate has increased from last year's 45 percent, it said.

Even though the statement was made, the government has to strengthen its personnel administration.

A lawyer asked the minister to clarify the government's 30 percent by 3,019 in the first seven months.

The lawsuit was filed by an unidentified insurance company and former president Atsuo Miki, 63, Kyodo said.

The former bosses are accused of damaging the company bysubmitting false financial statements on losses incurred during fiscal 1997. The report said. The case could be linked to a mass

The lawsuit was filed by a former stockholder from the Tokyo area, Yukihira and his wife, 37-year-old a former stockbroker.

According to the lawsuit, Yamaichi falsely claimed

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**Bhutto, husband indicted**

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Bhutto, who has repeatedly denied the charges, was arraigned in court late Monday after being convicted of fraud and theft of the country and was represented by a lawyer for the prosecution.

Two months back, a court ear­lier had indicted Zardari and 12 other officials of the company for money laundering and 12 other charges.

Bhutto's government was overthrown last week by Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and her husband, Asif Ali Zardari, in a deal to end a political crisis and was represented by the lawyer for the prosecution.

**Indonesia welcomes Asian bond flotations**

**JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — Indonesia is set to issue $2 billion in bonds in the next two weeks as the Southeast Asian country tries to revitalize its economy.**

The bonds, which will be used to finance infrastructure projects, are expected to be sold to foreign investors, including those from the United States and Europe.

Indonesia has been working hard to attract foreign investment and stabilize its currency, the rupiah, which has been volatile in recent weeks.

**Malaysian PM: Economy strong**

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) — Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad said Monday that Malaysia's economy is strong and predicted it will continue to grow.**

Mahathir, 75, has been in power for 27 years and is one of Asia's longest-serving leaders. He has been criticized for corruption and authoritarianism.

**Bhutto told court she was never involved in corruption**

Benazir Bhutto told a Pakistani court Monday that she was never involved in corruption and that the charges were meant to ruin her political career.

The court has set the next date of hearing on December 16 for the corruption charges that Bhutto has already been convicted of.

Bhutto was ousted from power twice on corruption charges, but Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif refused to let her political career be over after one of the charges was acquitted.

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For ME peace impasse
Mubarak blames Israel

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak blamed Israel for deepening the Middle East conflict and said he feared an outbreak of violence if Israel did not hand over sovereignty to the Palestinians.

Under the deal, Palestinians would control 40 percent of the territory in the West Bank, Israel has assured Egypt, the first Arab state to sign a peace treaty with Israel after the 1973 war.

"I don't know how they (Palestinians) will react," Mubarak said. "If you want to avoid new violence, they need cooperation between the two sides."

Officials in Israel did not immediately comment on Mubarak's warning.

Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Monday he would visit the area to try to help the two sides resolve differences, but there was no indication of an immediate breakthrough.

Mubarak spokesman Nabil Elaraby said his comments were "an appeal to Israeli leaders to refrain from any action likely to lead to bloodshed and the deterioration of the peace process, and in the interests of the security of all people and the interests of the peace process.

The Israeli peace talks were arranged by U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who was due to arrive in the West Bank on Monday.

"If they don't happen, they won't go anywhere," Erekat said.

"We believe that without a clear and definite road map to peace, without both parties going back to the negotiating table, without a clear and absolute American initiative and all its positions and promises, I think we won't go anywhere," Erekat said.

Mubarak has long been one of Israel's major interlocutors in the Middle East peace process.

In the West Bank town of Jericho, also in the West Bank, the United States ambassador to Israel, Dennis Ross, met with Netanyahu and Palestinian vice President Saeb Erekat.

"It's about accord, not agreement," he said.

Annan arrived in Egypt late on Sunday to brief Mubarak on progress in the negotiations, her latest peace efforts before the opening of a new round of official talks.

"I hope Madame Albright will arrive on Tuesday and I hope she will bring some news," he said.

Israel's security minister, Moshe Arens, got the process off to a bad start by retaliating for two Palestinian attacks last weekend.

Annan said conditions must be created to allow the deployment of a significant number of multinational troops, including a "radical change of policy and behavior... and the introduction of confidence-building measures..." such as a redeployment of police units, a declaration of amnesty and a freeze on violations of human rights.

Only Israeli concessions could bring about accord, Arens said.

"If that doesn't happen, they (Palestinians) will continue to move ahead whatever they want, and the two sides won't go anywhere," Arens said.

Israel has accused Egypt, the United States and the European Community of making concessions to the Palestinians.

"But Kosovar Albanian para­military forces also fought against the Titoist regime, people who were caught out during curfew Sunday."

Tenorio and others too numerous to mention, for their valuable help and expression of sympathy and personal help extended to us on the loss of

WE WILL REMEMBER YOU IN OUR HEARTS AND PRAYERS.
continued from page 14

the plan illegal. They claim the government will use the plan to "muster a majority in the lower parliament" for the move. The government has been accused of using the plan to increase the power of the President and narrow the role of the law in making substantial policy decisions.

The ministry's spokesman said the plan would bring in 586,000 jobs for the year. He said the plan also included a provision to allow 30 non-resident workers to work in the current economic sector. The plan also included a provision to allow 30 non-resident workers to work in the current economic sector.

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Weekends, you are being advertised in which you are ready to work. If you need more assistance, you can contact the following: 1-DEV-INVEST INT'L. INC. (1017)W28254. If you want to buy a new car, you should consider the following options: 1) AUTO REPAIR SHOP dba JH Enterprises (1017)W74564, 2) Computerland of Saipan (1017)W74564, 3) ROLAND A. AIZON/GEN. MANAGER (MASSAGE-PARLOR)-TOURISM ENTERPRISES (1017)W74550, 4) M.C.T. (CNMI) CORP. dba Marianas Variety News & Views (1017)W74541. For office space, you can rent the following: 1) AUTO REPAIR SHOP dba JH Enterprises (1017)W74564, 2) Computerland of Saipan (1017)W74564, 3) ROLAND A. AIZON/GEN. MANAGER (MASSAGE-PARLOR)-TOURISM ENTERPRISES (1017)W74550, 4) M.C.T. (CNMI) CORP. dba Marianas Variety News & Views (1017)W74541.

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Rios, Williams earn big

By Nona Starwitz
MCNEL Cayman - With $1.3 million on the line and his place in professional squash history at stake, Adrian Grant was not about to be stopped by anyone.

He snatched the title Saturday night, ending the long reign of No. 1-ranked Matthew Williams in a dramatic seven-game final at the Grand Slam of Squash international squash tournament.

The victory, Grant's third in as many tournaments, will put him on the same professional level as Williams and the other top players in the world.

“Why not me?” Grant said after the match. “I’ve shown I can do it.”

Grant, who had been struggling after winning his first Grand Slam last October in Miami, made his second title run in as many tournaments.

Williams, the defending champion, had come into the final with a 10-2 record against Grant. He defeated Grant in the finals of the U.S. Open and the World Championships of the World Series of Sports.

But Grant broke that losing streak Saturday night, winning 13-11, 10-12, 12-10, 11-9, 11-7, 13-11.

Grant’s victory is the biggest in the history of squash and the first time a man not named Williams has won the title.

He carried as a No. 3 seed and a 3-11 lifetime record into the tournament, but won it with just a 7-7 record in the regular season.

Grant outlasted Williams for nearly 90 minutes, then had to hang on for a 3-2 victory after losing the first two games.

Grant used a combination of speed, strategy anderves to beat Williams.

Grant said he was not surprised by Williams’ dominance.

“I knew he was going to be tough,” Grant said. “I thought he was going to win the tournament.”

Grant, a 26-year-old American from Pompano Beach, Fla., is the first American to win a Grand Slam title.

Williams, who won both Grand Slams in the Open, has won two Grand Slams in the World, and four in total, including three in a row.

Williams, 29, has been the top-ranked player since 1988 and holds the No. 1 seed in the world.

Grant, who has been ranked as high as No. 5, has been ranked as low as No. 20.

Grant has won 38 out of 54 matches this season and has won 12 of his last 14 matches.

Williams, who has won 54 consecutive matches, has won 12 of his last 13.

Grant has the fourth-highest record in the world.

Grant, who has won five of his last six matches, is now ranked No. 2 in the world.

Williams, who has won six of his last seven matches, is ranked No. 1.

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**SPORTS**

**Rochall at MHS**

**Veteran teams prevail over rookie opponents**

**By Tony Celis**

Variety News Staff

THE KAWABANGA defeated the Serepeins of Pohnpei (SOP) 53-13 in yesterday’s preseason girls’ rochall game played at Marianas High School.

The veteran Rochall team Kawabanga “juiced” the SOP in four sets, 14-0, 13-3, 12-3, 14-2, and 10-5.

Sarai Kapihanaid 7 aces, 2 xunks, and a goal for Kawabanga. Teammate Sharma Iginoel served 6 aces and 4 xunks, to lead her team to the win.

In the boys division, the rookie team Tech Squared Boys (T2B) lost to the veteran Rochall team of Local Trukese Homies (LTH), 52-14. The T2B were likewise “juiced” in four sets, 12-3, 14-2, 11-0, 15-9.

Rudolph Phillips scored 4 aces, 3 xunks, 2 kees and 3 goals, and lead the scoring for the LTH’s victory yesterday at MHS Rochall court.

James Jeger, organizer of the local Rochall League stated yesterday that the, “Rochall League will begin competition games next week, possibly on Tuesday.”

**Club at the Hyatt Classic Golf tourney slated Oct. 17 at COP**

THE THIRD Annual Club at the Hyatt Classic will be held October 17 at Coral Ocean Point Resort.

The tournament format is a four person scramble. The tournament is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m., Hyatt said in a news release.

“We are looking forward to an existing day of golf, gourmet food, and great prizes, said Recreation Manager Chris Nelson. We have interesting hole in one prizes, long drive prizes, team prizes, and more. This is an event we do once a year and we intend to make it a true highlight!” continued Nelson.

“Our format allows people of all abilities to play together as a team, this is truly a tournament that everyone will enjoy,” continued Nelson.

Special features of this tournament include a sports massage station, cognac sipping station, cigar station, as well as many other surprises.

Golf traffic reports will be provided on air by Hot 98 and MCV will be covering the event and televising highlights.

A banquet following the tournament will be held at the Hyatt Poolside and will feature a sumptuous gourmet buffet. The fee for the tournament is $85 for Club at the Hyatt Members and $100 for Guests.

For more information, please call 234-1234 ext. 25 or 27.

**SSA gears for SPG**

**By Tony Celis**

Variety News Staff

THE Saipan Softball Association, (SSA) is wrapping up their ‘98 season, and is looking forward to overseas competition, according to Carol Ngiraidis, SSA Secretary.

At the conclusion of this year’s Men’s Fast Pitch and Co-ed League games, the association will then concentrate on the softball teams for the upcoming South Pacific Games (SPG).

Guam will be hosting the ‘99 SPG slated to begin in April. As the official sanctioning body, under NMSA, for the CNMI, the SSA is tasked with keeping records and statistics of its individual member players and teams.

Players must be members of the SSA to be eligible for the SPG team selection. Recorded individual statistics is critical. The records are used in the selection process for eligibility for the SPG team.

"We need to keep the players performances in perspective. Some softball veteran players are really good and may need only about two months of practice before sending them to the SPG," said in an interview at her office.

"While other players may have the potential, some lack the talent. Those players with less experience would need more than three months of practice so they can bring their skills up to the level needed for the SPG," said Secretary.

**NBA cancels entire preseason**

NEW YORK (AP)—After canceling the rest of its exhibition schedule, the National Basketball Association’s perfect record of never missing a regular season game because of labor dispute is in serious jeopardy.

The league, which had earlier called off the first four exhibition games, canceled the final 110 games Monday because of stalled labor negotiations with the players.

"At this point, our teams cannot possibly be ready to play any games before November," deputy commissioner Russ Granik said Monday. "It’s sad that we have been unable to have any meaningful negotiations."

The next collective bargaining session is set for Thursday. The league said decisions concerning possible cancellation of regular season games would be made next week. The season is scheduled to begin Nov. 3.

When the two sides finally meet again, they will have only a few days to strike a deal that would...