



# Marianas Variety

Micronesia's Leading Newspaper Since 1972

Vol. 26 No. 167  
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Tuesday • November 2, 1999

Saipan, MP 96950  
Serving CNMI for 26 Years **50¢**

## Guam may see teacher exodus

By Jay Pascua  
Variety News Staff

**HAGATNA** -- The Guam Department of Education is concerned about the possibility of losing a total of 289 teachers, and 127 other employees including custodians, counselors, and administrators.

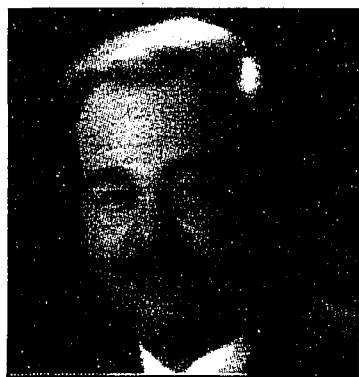
According to DOE spokesperson Tony Diaz, the department recently conducted an island-wide public school survey and found out that 122 teachers are thinking about early retirement while 32 are considering separation with compensation.

A total of 135 more teachers are uncertain.

"Anytime we [the Department of Education] have teachers leaving, we are concerned. So we are concerned every year. We have extraordinary concerns this year," Diaz said.

A provision in the new law created in the fiscal year 2000 budget allows teachers to return to service but only as "Teacher I". The title is an entry-level position.

Diaz said of the total 289, only



Mark Forbes

88 would consider returning.

Majority Whip Senator Mark Forbes (R-Sinajana) said the teacher retires and the General Fund both gain from the measure. Forbes said the teacher tends to benefit more because he or she would be making more with the combination of the annuity and salary.

The General Fund reaps the rewards of not having to pay benefits to teachers with a savings of potentially \$20,000, he said.

"Simultaneously, this means that teachers will be able to be retained in the classroom but the

general fund will spend less money," Forbes said.

Forbes remained optimistic and said he believes most teachers would not leave their students during the school year.

"I think most teachers are going to want to stay in the classroom and do good things for their kids because that is why they chose this profession in the first place," Forbes said.

Education Committee Chairperson Senator Lawrence Kasperbauer (R-Dededo) said there is a pool of certified teachers the Department of Education can tap to fill the possible need.

Kasperbauer said there are enough teachers in the Dr. Antonio Yamashita Educator Corps program, certified teachers not teaching but are still within the department, and retirees who could take up the slack.

"I do think the pool is adequate. It may take a little effort to notify all these individuals that we have a need, should it come to that, but I think there is an adequate pool.

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## Villagomez says USPS can now work on street names



Thomas P. Villagomez

By Jojo Dass  
Variety News Staff

**SENATE** Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez is set to submit the list of Saipan street names to the U.S. Postal Service to enable the latter to proceed with its plans for mail home delivery.

According to Villagomez, the streetnaming commission is done with its job, and so those who still have reservations should go through the proper procedures to reintroduce changes.

The U.S.P.S. has been waiting for the list that will enable it to implement the home delivery system. Villagomez's move is also seen to ease growing concerns of the Department of Pub-

lic Safety over difficulties in responding to emergency calls.

"I will submit a copy of the street names down to the post office and let them work on that. What we got is already in place. Anybody who wants to change it has to go through the legislative process, reintroduce any changes--we put it on the floor, we vote," said Villagomez.

Villagomez said there has apparently been no changes on the street names prepared by the commission that was created by the administration for the task.

This, despite protests by Rep. Melvin O. Faisao (R-Saipan), who recently complained about the alleged discriminatory manner by which the commission came out with the names.

Faisao, a congressman of Carolinian descent, said there is not enough Carolinian names on the list.

Villagomez maintained the street names has been "finalized" by the commission.

"If there were changes from the commission, then we have to adopt it. There was none," said Villagomez.

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## CPA turns over airport tower to private firm

By Haidee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

**THE SAIPAN** International Airport's air traffic control tower will be officially turned over today by the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) to a private firm contracted by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

CPA expects some \$600,000 in annual savings by privatizing the control tower, which is one of the few in the Pacific region that remains under government control and operation.

While the privatization of the tower actually started in October to allow for a "transition period," CPA public information officer Travis L. Coffman yesterday said the official turnover ceremonies will kick off today.

Six former CPA certified air traffic controllers have chosen to continue working at the tower which will now be operated by SERCO Management Services, Inc., while the other three who

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## Folks remember their departed loved ones

By Rene P. Acosta  
Variety News Staff

**BRAVING** the scorching heat of the sun, hundreds of people trooped to cemeteries yesterday to visit their departed loved ones.

All Soul's Day was a regular working day for government employees, but a huge crowd still showed up.

The November 1 trek as usual choked the streets leading to and from the cemetery.

Bearing elaborate flower pieces called "coronas," candles, and rosaries, a steady stream of people came to the Chalan Kanoa cemetery, with some people arriving as early as 6:00 in the morning.

Others were still seen cleaning graves in the late morning.

But while the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery was bustling with activity, the scene was different at the cemetery in Tanapag, which was earlier declared off limits to the public.

Visits to the cemetery may have been preempted by an enclosure put up by the US Army Corps of Engineers due to the threat of PCB exposure.

Although the graves had been cleaned, there were not much candles and flowers.

There were only about seven people present when the Variety

visited the place.

A man said Tanapag residents just dropped by for a few minutes to bring flowers and candles.

The government had ordered

the closure of the cemetery to protect the residents from getting exposed to the chemical.

The Army Corps capped the areas with plastic and corals.



People take time off their work to visit their deceased loved ones buried at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery in observance of the All Soul's Day yesterday.  
Photo by Haidee V. Eugenio

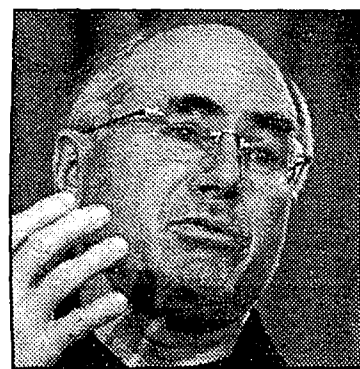
# Now or never for republic, Australian leaders warn

CANBERRA (Reuters) — Australia's historic republic vote this weekend could be the country's last chance to cut constitutional ties with Britain, politicians said on Monday.

Prime Minister John Howard, a staunch monarchist, and republican Labor opposition leader Kim Beazley, both said a "No" vote would drive another nail in the republic's coffin.

"I believe that if the referendum is defeated on Saturday then I think the desire of the community and the desire of the government will be for the issue not to be revisited in a hurry," Howard told Australian radio.

Beazley said if the republic was lost on Saturday he would have to question seriously the political merit of raising the issue if he won the next election due in 2001.



John Howard

"We would have to sit down and think very hard about our situation tactically," Beazley told another radio station.

"In the end politics is mathematics and the maths don't look good. If we don't get this one up, it's not going to be very easy to get another one up," he said.

Treasurer Peter Costello, a republican and frontrunner to succeed Howard as leader of the ruling Liberal party, also warned

a "No" vote would take the republic off the political agenda.

"If the (republic) vote goes down, we must accept the reality that a majority of Australians would prefer to keep the constitutional monarchy rather than change it," Costello told Australian television on Sunday.

"I think people of good will on both sides will have to accept the verdict," Costello said. On Saturday, Australians will be asked whether to maintain a constitutional monarchy, with Britain's Queen Elizabeth as head of state, or become a republic with an Australian president appointed by a two-thirds majority of parliament.

Opinion polls show republicans are unlikely to win. To succeed, they must gain a majority of votes nation-wide plus a majority of votes in at least four of Australia's six states.

And history is against them

with only eight referenda passing out of 42 since 1901.

Republicans are split, with those seeking a directly elected president siding with monarchists, urging people to vote "no" now and wait for another chance to vote for a people's president.

"If you want to vote for the president. Vote no to the politicians' president," said their full-page newspaper advertisement on Monday.

Labor's Beazley has pledged to hold another vote on a directly elected president, but only if republicans win this Saturday. Howard rejects such an option.

"There will never be, in my view, a willingness on the part of parliamentarians on either side, Labor or Liberal, at some time in the future to put forward the option of a directly elected president," he said.

## Mayoral candidates step up campaigns

PHILADELPHIA (AP)— The two men hoping to be Philadelphia's next mayor are stepping up efforts to reach as many voters as possible in the final days before the too-close-to-call contest goes to the polls.

The paths of Sam Katz and John F. Street crossed briefly on Sunday morning outside the Bright Hope Baptist Church.

Street was attending a service with fellow Democrat, Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer. Archer urged voters in Philadelphia, where Democrats outnumber Republicans 4-to-1, to stick with their party.

"Democrats are more sensitive to people's needs," Archer said, adding that the notion of the Republican Party as "compassionate and conservative doesn't hold any water whatsoever."

Polls have Katz and Street running neck-and-neck.

Street, trying to become Philadelphia's first GOP mayor in more than 50 years, made appearances at five churches Sunday. He was joined later by Washington, D.C., Mayor Anthony Williams.

Street said he felt confident of a victory Tuesday.

"I was Ed Rendell's partner in saving this city from the brink of financial disaster, reducing taxes, improving city services," Street said. "I have the track record."

The popular Rendell is barred from seeking a third consecutive term.

Katz also expressed confidence, saying he was "poised for a great victory."

"Most people in the city have decided, as we have encouraged them to, to look beyond partisan politics," Katz said.

# 'PX beer' buyers warned

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

REPRESENTATIVE David M. Apatang (R-Saipan) has warned the estimated 1,000 military personnel, war veterans, reservists and their families on Saipan against reselling "military beers" to stores, saying they are risking their privilege to buy the products cheap while facing the possibility of being subjected to federal law enforcement action once their involvement to the illegal activity of established.



David M. Apatang

Apatang, himself a veteran, at the same time said business establishments should stop buying the merchandise underground.

"There is a regulation. If they are caught abusing their privilege, it will be revoked. And if they are engaging in black market, that is a federal crime," said Apatang.

Apatang also asked the Department of Commerce to conduct consultations with officials of the U.S. Army Air Force Exchange Service on Saipan and Guam "to

see what kind of approach we can do to stop this problem."

"The thing," said Apatang, "...we should not penalize honest people who are privileged to buy there (AAFES store)."

"Those dishonest should stop doing that because sooner or later, they are going to be caught."

A case of beer at the AAFES store is pegged at \$13.50, an amount some \$7 lower than what it would cost one buying the same merchandise at a retail outlet.

The government has started

confiscating military beers from various stores. Just recently, Apatang said, some 16 cases were seized from an outlet in Dandan.

Alcohol, Beverage and Tobacco Control Director, Andrew Salas has said commerce department operatives can easily recognize a beer product bought from the AAFES store.

The U.S. Armed Force Veterans Association has, for its part, expressed willingness to help curb the illegal resale of beer products.

## Tenorio wants to allow farming within wildlife conservation areas

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

THE CHAIR of the House Committee on Natural Resources is "looking at the possibility" of allowing farming activities within designated wildlife conservation areas.

In an interview, Rep. Manuel A. Tenorio (R-Saipan) said this would allow for a "mixed use" providing livelihood for farmers displaced by Public Law 10-84.

The law requires that certain public lands be set aside as protected areas to safeguard endangered and threatened species.

"I am looking into the possibility of having the Department of Lands and Natural Resources work with federal government, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, so that we can have some control and minimum farming activities," said Tenorio.

He assured he will be "working within P.L. 10-84."

The House of Representatives has adopted Resolution 11-204

which was introduced by Tenorio in September.

In that resolution, Tenorio argued that "there is no specific finding in (P.L. 10-84) that other activities, such as grazing cattle and raising crops are incompatible with the stated purpose of protecting endangered species."

Tenorio noted that there were "several" farmers who have been grazing cattle and growing crops on some of the land excluded for wildlife preservation under the law.

These farmers, said Tenorio, have had their grazing permits revoked, and have been ordered off the land... without any offer of assistance in finding a new land, nor compensation for the costs associated with relocating their crops or cattle.

Tenorio said DLNR "should conduct a study" establishing whether minimum use of the preserved areas by the farmers will have any "negative impact" on the endangered, threatened or protected species.



Unmindful of the heat, this young man seemed to enjoy repainting the tomb of a deceased relative at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery yesterday, in commemoration of All Soul's Day. Photo by Haidee V. Eugenio

## EgyptAir Flight 990 had nothing out of the ordinary

(AP) — There was nothing out of the ordinary. Nothing suspicious. Just an annoying four-hour wait for 33 passengers leaving Los Angeles for Cairo, Egypt with a layover in New York, on EgyptAir Flight 990.

The Boeing 767 was late getting to Los Angeles on Saturday. The reason was routine - bad weather on the East Coast. Then a tire needed to be changed, food and fuel loaded, castoff pillows and blankets cleared from the aisles.

The five-hour leg to John F. Kennedy International Airport was uneventful. So, too, was its 12:57 a.m. landing Sunday. Then another 167 passengers got on along with

an 18-person crew.

There was nothing to indicate that in less than two hours, Flight 990 would no longer exist, destroyed off the Massachusetts coast.

The only passenger to get off in New York was grief counselor and EgyptAir consultant Ed McLaughlin. His services were needed in less than an hour. As an employee of the Family Enterprise Institute, he is hired by airline companies to do one of their worst jobs - notify and console the families of crash victims.

At Kennedy, 66 minutes passed before the twin-engine aircraft taxied from the gate, a normal interval

for such overseas flights. "There were no delays, no disruptions. No events that were untoward in any way," said Port Authority aviation director Robert Kelly.

Standard Time moved clocks back an hour, and 2:03 a.m. became 1:03 a.m. Sixteen minutes later, the jet wheels of Flight 990 left the runway.

The plane headed over the Atlantic on a common route that passes over Nantucket Island. From there, it would turn north, flying along the U.S. coastline toward Nova Scotia and Newfoundland, then follow a route over the North Atlantic toward Europe and its final destination in Egypt.

The plane was scheduled to land in Cairo on Sunday afternoon, local time.

Air traffic controllers cleared the plane to 33,000 feet, a typical altitude for long-distance flights.

There was no distress call. The last communication from EgyptAir's pilot came at 1:43 a.m. and was perfectly normal, authorities said.

About 2 a.m., the jetliner slammed into the Atlantic Ocean 65 miles southeast of Nantucket.

All 217 people onboard were believed dead. At least 60 were American tourists, some of whom planned to sail down the Nile or cross into Israel.

VOTE  
BOTA SI

## TORRES, William Sablan (Lee)

### House of Representatives

### Republican, Precinct # 3

BOTA LI  
IBOTO SI

- Thank You
- Si Yu'us Maase
- Olomwaay
- Maraming
- Salamat Po

**For your....**

- Support on Nominating Petition;
- Presence on Weekly Pocket Meetings;
- Assistance in Fundraising;
- Door-to-Door Canvassing;
- Presence on Republican Kick-Off Rally at Koblerville;
- Presence on Republican Good Luck Rally at Civic Center;
- Cheerful Road Waving;
- Republican Motorcade;
- Moral and Financial Assistance;

**and your VOTE of CONFIDENCE on November 6, 1999.**

## Worker says he was mauled by landlord

By Rene P. Acosta

Variety News Staff

A GUEST worker was allegedly mauled by his former landlord, Friday over an unpaid rent.

The victim, Roland Jingco, 32, claimed he was mauled by a certain Philip Babauta at the suspect's residence in Koblerville. Babauta, according to police authorities, is a brother of the CNMI's Resident Representative to Washington D.C., Juan N. Babauta.

The victim went to the Variety office yesterday morning, showing still unhealed contusions on his body as a result of the attack.

Jingco, who has been on Saipan for the past 10 years and currently working for the Pacific Micronesian Tours, said he went to his former landlord's house to inquire on the amount he still owes him in unpaid rent.

The victim had rented Babauta's garage. He had it

renovated into a three-bedroom house when he left.

Jingco claimed his initial conversation with the alleged suspect's wife, Aurelia, went well.

During their talk, he was told that he still owe the Babautas \$400 in rental fees.

Learning this, Jingco asked for a discount.

Jingco said when he left the Babautas' residence, most of his belongings including a cabinet, a table, a refrigerator and an air conditioning unit were left behind.

This caused him to went over and settle his financial obligation.

The victim said the wife then called her husband who was in the house at the time to relay Jingco's request for discount.

The suspect however, allegedly grabbed him in the neck, pound him against the wall and

attacked him causing him to fall on the ground.

Jingco claimed that as he was grimacing, Babauta allegedly kicked him more than once on his back. He was able to get up, ran, and called for police assistance.

When Officer Eric David arrived, the policeman reportedly did not arrest Babauta.

The victim sustained a broken left wrist as a result of the attack. Also, big visible black marks on the left hand and back portion of his body which are already on their healing stage were also visible.

Jingco said he was confident he can get a discount as his marble floorings worth around \$800, was reportedly used by Babauta.

Variety repeatedly tried but failed to reach the Washington Representative for his comments on the matter.

## Torres says more chemicals of another type left in Marpi

By Rene P. Acosta

Variety News Staff

ASIDE from polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) buried in Tanapag by the federal government, another type of toxic chemical is also believed to be present in Marpi, according to former congressman Stanley Torres.

Torres alleged that drums of chemical called Agent Orange were buried in a government lot located North of the Kan Pacific Golf Course in Marpi.

The chemical has an effect similar to the napalm bombed during the Vietnam war, Torres said.

According to Torres, the presence of the chemical in Marpi is not a secret to the Division of Environmental Quality especially to its director, Ike Cabrera. "Ask Cabrera about it, he knows it," the former congressman said.

Torres said the chemical was heavily used before the war and up to the Trust Territory period of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Apart from its war use, the Agent Orange was also used in the jungle to kill bush and small trees by burning them, said Torres.

The chemical was also reportedly used in Rota.

Torres said the shipment of the chemical on the island may have been extensively carried out shortly after the liberation of Saipan in July 1944 by the US forces.

Upon Saipan's "liberation," US forces still encountered sniper fire, Torres said.

This explains why the chemical was used, apart from the clean up of the island's jungle.

The former congressman said that at the end of the war, Saipan was heavily fortified with some 250,000 US soldiers present on the island along with munitions, chemicals and other war materiel.

The Pentagon several weeks ago released the names of states and U.S. territories wherein inactive nuclear weapons were stored. One of them is Guam.



# Rota water tank rehab set

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Utilities Corporation (CUC) announced yesterday that a number of Rota residents will soon need to get water directly from Water Cave for about three months as the existing one million water gallon tank in Songsong will be up for rehabilitation.

CUC already awarded the contract to rehabilitate the tank to Tano Group, according to Mariano Fajardo, CUC procure-

ment and supply officer.

Anthony Reyes, CUC deputy director for Rota, said failure to rehabilitate the tank immediately may force it to "collapse" and thus result in a worse water problem.

"It is critical. The top portion of the tank is very rusty and it may collapse anytime," said Reyes in a telephone interview.

The CUC official also said the project is currently one of his agency's priorities while the rainy season is still on. While the tank

is being repaired, Rota residents will be asked to source water directly from the Water Cave.

"We need to get this project going while it is still rainy season. Once it is summer, the resident will have problems where to get water. The Water Cave at that time will have a lower level, and we cannot even store water because the tank is under repair," Reyes explained.

The CUC official said this will be the first time that the water tank will be rehabilitated since it

was built in mid-'80s. The needed repair consists of sunblasting, repainting, and replacing the tank's top portion.

Reyes said the repair is set to get off the ground anytime soon. Unlike the Sinapalo area which has 24-hour water supply, Songsong residents are only able to have water in their faucets for certain hours during the day.

Reyes said CUC completely shuts off the water tank in Songsong by 8 pm to 4 am daily to allow water from the source to

replenish the amount used the previous day.

From 6 am to 8 am, CUC reopens the tank to allow households to have steady flow of water for their consumption especially for cooking, cleaning the house and taking a bath. The water tank is again opened from 5 pm to 6 pm.

CUC, however, said efforts are underway to restore the 24-hour water service in the area.

CUC is able to pump an average of 1.5 million gallons of water everyday in Rota.

## Nakamura, Babauta talk about FAS issues

KOROR (Palau Horizon) — Resident Representative to the United States Juan N. Babauta recently sought the views of President Nakamura on the proposed measure affecting Freely Associated States (FAS) as the CNMI prepares for its upcoming consultations with U.S. and the Marshall Islands.

Under the terms of compacts signed by the FAS with the U.S. federal government, citizens of these countries, including Palauans, are allowed to travel and reside in the U.S. and its affiliated territories, including Guam, and the CNMI virtually without restriction.

As a result, the U.S., particularly Hawaii, Guam and CNMI

have seen a substantial number of immigrants from the FAS, with each jurisdiction feeling different impacts from the influx of migrants.

In the case of the CNMI, Babauta noted that such immigration from the three FAS, particularly those from the Republic of Palau, provided substantial benefits to the CNMI by expanding the workforce, contributing to the community, and participating in the government.

Nakamura sat down with Babauta to tackle the issue, saying that the two parties can learn from each other and support each other's efforts in establishing and maintaining stable and rational immigration policies.



A sign clearly spells out the warning upon entering the Tanapag-Lower Base Cemetery which is believed to have been contaminated by PCB. Photo by Rene P. Acosta

## DPH works with US Health to train medical staff for PCB contamination

By Haldee V. Eugenio  
Variety News Staff

THE DEPARTMENT of Public Health (DPH) is now working closely with the U.S. Public Health Services' Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry for the training of several CNMI physicians to effectively address health problems associated with polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) contamination in Tanapag.

These medical staff from the Commonwealth Health Center (CHC) will be taught how to detect symptoms or problems caused by PCB for swift action.

At the same time, DPH is seriously studying the proposal to put up a clinic in Tanapag to ensure PCB-related health problems are also taken care of promptly.

Health Secretary Joseph Kevin Villagomez, however, said that the training of medical staff will not only focus on the health threats of PCB contamination to humans, but also to other pressing health problems like diabetes.

He also said individuals who will report symptoms will be taken care of, even if the symptoms are not associated with PCB contamination.

"I want to view it as much

more than PCB. It could be also for the first screening, if they have diabetes and we will begin the process of treating them. Even if it has nothing to do with PCB, still it is an opportunity to (work with USPHS)," said Villagomez.

PCB is a cancer-causing synthetic chemical used under the US Nike-Zeus missile program.

Long before the PCB contamination public hearing, DPH had already been in contact with the USPHS.

Gwendolyn Eng of the USPHS' Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry came to Saipan in June to work closely with concerned local agencies on the possible health hazards allegedly caused by PCB to Tanapag residents.

"What we are doing now is that we're working closely with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry . . . to train several of our local physicians on what to look out for PCB contamination, and to seriously look at having that clinic down there," said Villagomez.

Villagomez also expressed disagreement with the results of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-sponsored report which stated that



Joseph Kevin Villagomez

the PCB contamination poses "no significant impact to human health."

The health secretary maintained the health threats to humans exist. "They (federal agencies) went to the hospital and reviewed medical records and did some interviews. But we all know that people come to the hospital, they tell you one thing but there are things they won't mention to you," said Villagomez.

The health chief also said he was assured by U.S. Insular Affairs Director Danny Aranza of technical assistance to address health problems associated with PCB contamination.

"What he is doing is opening channels between us, CDC and his office for the PCB contamination.

And his office is willing to provide the technical assistance," said Villagomez.

He, however, said the issue was not actually tossed out between OIA and DPH when Aranza recently came to Saipan, but they are now constantly communicating with each other via e-mail.

Resident Representative to Washington Juan Babauta, meanwhile, expressed support in training CNMI medical staff and in building up a clinic in Tanapag as two of the fastest ways to address health problems.

"If CHC, as recommended by Sec. Villagomez can get those doctors trained as soon as possible, and if it's the fastest way, I think the cost associated with that . . . the CNMI should be reimbursed by the Army Corps of Engineers because we are not responsible for those capacitors being there," said Babauta.

DPH is repeatedly assuring Tanapag residents of immediate and thorough medical assistance if needed. Federal funds will also be tapped to ensure affected residents are given proper medical help if their health problems are found caused by PCB contamination.

# Vets' deal ends in court

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

DOCTOR Eugene R. Clothier has filed a lawsuit demanding \$315,000 in damages against a fellow veterinarian for alleged breach of contract over their business deal.

Clothier, through counsel Timothy H. Skinner, sought a preliminary injunction preventing defendant Dr. Del R. George from practicing veterinary services in

Saipan until the court decided the case.

According to the complaint filed in Superior Court, in 1998 Clothier hired Simmons and Associates Intermountain, Inc., a veterinary practice broker in Colorado, to list and sell his veterinary practice.

Skinner said George approached Simmons last June to inquire about Clothier's veterinary practice in Saipan.

Simmons provided George with plaintiff's cash flow statements, photographs of the interior of office, a list in assets contained in the office, and lease with his landlord.

Skinner said George made further inquiries to Simmons regarding Clothier's practice. The doctor was given access to plaintiff's business income taxes and additional confidential information pertaining to such practice.

Defendant also began the process of trying to obtain financing to purchase Clothier's practice, said Skinner in the complaint.

George advised Simmons that he wanted to obtain a financing commitment from a financial institution to purchase plaintiff's practice before going to visit Saipan.

Skinner said defendant executed last June 30 an asset purchase and sale agreement for Clothier's Saipan Veterinary Hospital.

Defendant agreed pursuant to the agreement to pay \$315,000 to purchase Clothier's veterinary practice.

The purchase agreement was subsequently executed by Clothier last July 2 and a few days later, George arrived.

Prior to signing the addendum extending the purchase

agreement's closing date, Skinner said George visited and toured plaintiff's veterinary hospital.

In a letter dated last Aug. 26, George, however, informed Clothier that six different financial institutions had turned down him for loans.

Defendant demanded the return of his earnest money and announced that his obligations under the purchase agreement were terminated.

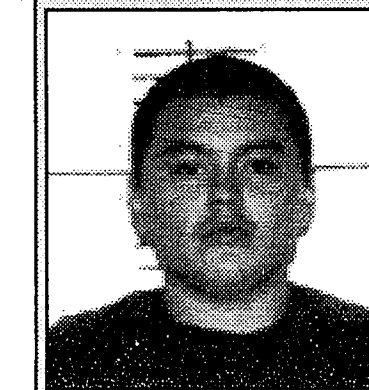
Skinner said the purchase agreement and its addendum required defendant to pay \$315,000 on or before Sept. 15, 1999.

"Defendant failed to diligently employ his best efforts to secure financing and instead attempted to evade the spirit of the bargain, exercised lack of diligence, was and is guilty of slacking off, and willful rendering of important performance," Skinner added.



Marianna, Cassandra, Mara and Jason stop for a photograph before starting out on their trick or treat adventure at Baza Gardens in Yona, Guam Sunday night. Photo by Eduardo C. Siguenza

## Appleby pleads innocent to escape



Shawn Appleby

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

SHAWN Appleby yesterday pleaded innocent to the complaint charging him for allegedly bolting out from the Department of Public Safety's Division of Corrections.

Appleby through court-appointed counsel waived reading of the information and advisement of his constitutional rights during the arraignment in Superior Court.

The 19-year-old Appleby pleaded not guilty to escape.

The court set a status conference for Nov. 23.

Court records showed that the defendant and two other prisoners allegedly escaped from DOC last Oct. 10.

Appleby's co-defendants—Jeromino S. Ada and Melvin N. Basa—had already pleaded not guilty of the charges.

Appleby is also currently serving jail term for the gunslaying of a Korean businessman during a robbery at a store in San Antonio.

Meanwhile, a Japanese national yesterday pleaded not guilty to charges that he was found in possession of cocaine and lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) at the Saipan airport last Aug. 21.

Defendant Makoto Ibuka through counsel denied committing such crimes. He posted \$5,000 bail for his temporary release.

## Rota official charged for DUI using a gov't vehicle

By Ferdie de la Torre  
Variety News Staff

THE ATTORNEY General's Office filed yesterday charges against a staff of the Rota Mayor's Office who allegedly drove a public vehicle recklessly while under the influence of alcohol.

Andrew M. Ramos was charged with misconduct in public office, driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and reckless driving.

Assistant Attorney General James Benedetto stated in the complaint that the 51-year-old Ramos, being a public official, "did an illegal act under the color of his office" last Aug. 2.

Benedetto further stated that Ramos used an official government vehicle to "commit the offense of driving while under the influence of alcohol or did willfully neglect to perform the duties of his office as provided by law."

The prosecutor said Ramos drove the motor vehicle while he was under the influence of alcohol or "while he was under the influence of any drug or combination of drugs to a degree which rendered him incapable of safety driving."

The defendant, Benedetto added, drove upon a highway "in willful wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property."

There is No  
Hope in Dope



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**Blue Streak** PG-13  
4:45 • 7:00 • 9:30pm

**Three Kings** R  
5:00 • 7:30 • 10:15pm

**Lake Placid** R  
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SUGAR KING PARK



# FORUM

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

## BREWED

By Jojo Dass

### Maturity ?

COME SATURDAY, registered voters will be trooping to the polls to name their choices for the Legislature.

Several initiatives, including one seeking to create a casino industry on Rota, will also be on the ballot.

Thus far, the Republican incumbents appear to be maintaining a safe lead from their opponents — the Democrats, Reform party members and the independents.

What really gave the Republicans a head start are the resources they have, including the right media contacts that ensured visibility. My colleague Zaldy Dandan calls it the "power of incumbency," where money is mobilized and infrastructure projects start rolling in. Where visibility is maintained through an almost daily news reports about efforts to do this and that.

One could also just wonder at several road projects, for instance, that have suddenly become common sight: asphalt overlay, anti-skid road covers, roadside clearing, and so on.

On the other hand, the other aspirants' campaign trail seems to have been confined to village meetings and localized discussions.

They seem to have kept a low profile before media, which was probably due to the lack of resources.

Elections have always been a battle. And media, the arena.

There were no press releases, for instance, from the aspirants at the other camps spelling out their respective political platform and how they stand on certain issues, among them, education, the FY 2000 budget and the federal government's plans to extend labor and immigration laws into the Northern Marianas.

Some people are almost certain the Republican Legislature is headed for status quo.

But then again, there have always been dark horses in any race.

Besides, it is almost common knowledge that elections in the commonwealth is not really so much about party affiliation. Sometimes, it's about how many voters there are in the family.

The incumbents have been saying today's electorate has reached political maturity.

If any, this is what the coming elections will try to validate.

\*\*\*\*\*

SO WHY is Guam receiving Compact impact money and the CNMI is not ?

Why is the CNMI getting the least amount in federal grants compared to the rest of the territories ?

Why are there plans to take away \$9 million of the \$11 million allotted to the CNMI for capital improvement projects in the next fiscal year and have it given to the Virgin Islands instead ?

CNMI's Washington D.C. Resident Representative Juan N. Babauta and Insular Affairs Director Ferdinand Aranza can certainly work on these concerns for starters.

\*\*\*\*\*

STILL ON concerns, Babauta has said it may take some time before the PCB contamination of certain areas in Tanapag is addressed.

Babauta is battling to have Tanapag included in the National Priority List.

Chances however seem remote as areas with urgent needs to be cleaned-up — a meltdown for instance — are usually what comprise NPL.

I can just imagine what it's like to be left in the dark about a contamination issue lurking at my backyard as what Tanapag residents will have to put up with for the next years.

COKE PRICES  
FROM VENDING  
MACHINES  
COULD SOON BE  
BASED ON  
RISING  
TEMPERATURES...

PRICES WILL BE UP  
IN THE SOUTHEAST  
BUT SHOULD LOWER  
AS A COLD FRONT  
MOVES THROUGH.



## Info-Tech Corner

By David T. Hughes  
For the Variety

### What's your addiction quotient?

By David T. Hughes  
For the Variety

HOW MUCH time do you spend on the Internet a day? Do you find any excuse to log on and check email just to get a fast eNet fix? Are you involved in any of the several instant-messaging services and get depressed if no one rings you up?

Play games online? Shop online? Bank online? LIVE ONLINE?

Was America Online's decision to initiate flat rate pricing akin to manna from God to you because you were going broke from connection charges?

Do you check your favorite web sites hourly just to see if anything has changed since you last logged on?

How about spending so much time online with electronic friends that your family and corporal relationships suffer?

If you can answer in the affirmative to many of these questions the chances are excellent that you are well along the way to being or becoming an Internet or online junkie. There's little difference.

An online junkie spends most of his or her time within a service's pages, such as America Online. If you have an Internet account and spend a lot of time on web sites, chatting, etc. then your affliction fits that genre.

It's frighteningly easy to become addict to this wonderful medium. In many ways it's like carrying on a conversation with yourself because you can find areas that fit your personal needs and desires with just a few clicks of a button. No matter what floats your boat, the chances are astoundingly excellent there's a page, chat room or other digital kingdom waiting to welcome you with silken arms.

Ask yourself this question. How — LONG — do you THINK you are spending online? For

many of us we tell ourselves that a quick login to check mail and see who might be in one of the rooms. "I'll be on and off in just a few minutes and I'll fix dinner later," is what we tell ourselves.

Those rationales are the entrance to a black hole. It's easy to look up and notice that everyone has gone to bed, you are hungry and you have a burning desire to find personal relief. To your amazement the clock says you have been online HOURS and HOURS.

This condition is somewhat what an alcoholic goes through just before the DTs begin to set in. Granted, spending long hours online won't kill brain cells and it's perfectly safe to drive a car afterwards, but the psychological damage it can do has been the study of a horde of psychologists, psychiatrists and even Dr. Laura (grin).

There's a standing joke that women become "X"- widows (football, basketball, hockey, golf, etc.) during certain times of the year, their huddies or significant others sit down in front of the big screen and zone out. (I know, sexist — please, no letters!) Many of these ignored ladies are turning to a screen of their own ... a 17-inch computer monitor.

To be fair, many of us (we?) guys also turn to the little screen for solace.

Where's the best place to get help for the addiction? Try the proverbial "hair of the dog," or web sites that discuss the problem and offer solutions from those who have walked in the same shoes. (how many cliché's can I work into one sentence?)

The good news is there are lots of these sites available. Just go to any search engine and look for exact phrase "Internet addiction" and visit a few of them until you reach a comfort level.

How much time do I spend online a week? I'm afraid to tell you, but at least I can claim it's part of my job (grin). Is that denial?

## ANALYSIS

### Falun Gong fills China's spiritual void

By Jeremy Page

BEIJING (Reuters) — Guo was a two-pack-a-day smoker, gambled away his pay cheque on the Mahjong tables and got high on fiery rice liquor.

All that changed when he joined the Falun Gong, once a thriving movement preaching clean living, outdoor exercise and moral virtues but now an outlawed cult whose members are being hunted down by police.

"I had a good job and earned good money," said Guo, 35, a former manager at an oil company. "But physically and spiritually I had nothing. I was not a good person."

Guo speaks of his entry to the world of Falun Gong as a spiritual conversion.

Millions more have seen the same light, and their stubborn faith has deeply troubled the Communist Party.

At a time when the party's ideological pulling power has evaporated, Falun Gong has emerged with a message that seems just right for the times.

It offers comfort to those left stranded by China's modern consumer economy: the elderly, unemployed and sick. The stress on health is a big attraction in a society where the state no longer automatically picks up medical bills.

To others caught up in the consumer frenzy Falun Gong appears to satisfy a need for deeper meaning.

Three years after stumbling across a Falun Gong manual in a bookshop in northeastern Liaoning province, Guo has replaced his old vices with Buddhist meditation, Taoist precepts and Chinese calligraphy, which he practises daily with his wife, his children and his ageing parents.

His dedication drove him to Beijing this week to join hundreds of defiant adherents in protests in Tiananmen Square.

Day after day, police have detained dozens of ordinary citizens gathered in the square in a silent display of devotion and civil disobedience.

"I am not against the government. I am not against the Communist Party. But by the time I was 30, I had nothing to believe in but money," said Guo.

On his new clean lifestyle, he said: "I feel healthy, I work better and I have better relationships with people. I think I am a better person."

What is even more troubling to the Communist Party is Falun Gong's replication of many of the party's own structures and methods used in its early years.

A front-page commentary in the People's Daily last week, examining what made Falun Gong a cult, described its use of mind control, its hierarchical structure, its secrecy and the blind devotion of its members.

Falun Gong has also borrowed a chapter from the party's textbooks on propaganda, and even gone one better: its printed literature is wildly popular in China, but unlike the party it also makes extensive use of the Internet.

Falun Gong denies it has any organisation and is a cult, saying it poses no threat to the Communist Party.

But in the eyes of China's leaders, it subverts their monopoly on the hearts and minds of the people. They say the movement "seduces, brainwashes and blackmails," and threatens the stability of the nation.

"To be merciful or tolerant to a cult is to trample citizens' human rights," a government spokeswoman said on Thursday.

Beijing launched a massive campaign to vilify the group and arrest its leaders after more than 10,000 members suddenly turned up in April to squat outside the Zhongnanhai Chinese leadership compound to demand official recognition.

They banned the cult in July, labelled it a cult on Thursday, and tightened anti-cult legislation on Saturday.

Claiming 100 million members, Falun Gong is remarkable for its size, but it is just one of an exotic cocktail of religions, superstitions and cults that has sprung up to fill China's spiritual vacuum.

Christianity has flourished, with 10 million officially registered Protestants, four million Catholics, and millions more meeting regularly for unofficial prayer services.

"The world is so chaotic, we need something to believe in," one protester said last week as she sat quietly in the middle of the square. "Falun Gong helps to unite society."

Members follow the teachings of their U.S.-based leader, Li Hongzhi, who preaches salvation from a world corrupted by science and technology. Li is also fiercely anti-gay.

As the ranks of believers swell, so do fears of the 60-million-strong Communist Party that its authority will be undermined.

"The only reason we were banned is because our membership exceeded the Communist Party," said another Falun Gong member. Beijing says Falun Gong has just two million members.

Although members claim to have no leaders and no organisation, they meet regularly to practise Falun Gong and communicate with other members in China and overseas via e-mail.

"We can cross the divide between governments and peoples. Falun Gong transcends governments and nations because it teaches that all people are the same," said Guo.

## ANALYSIS

### How New York prepared for Y2K

NEW YORK (AP) — Forget the bottled water. Dump the cases of canned soup. Save the year's supply of batteries for Junior's Gameboy. When it comes to the Y2K computer glitch, New York's techno-types say the Big Apple bit first.

The city has been working since 1995 to replace microchips, hardware and software, and rewrite computer coding that otherwise would have thrown New York into chaos when the clock struck a second past midnight Dec. 31, 1999.

Programmers reviewed 65 million lines of computer code written in 65 different programming languages. The city replaced more than 10,000 computers and bought 50,000 new ones.

For starters, there were 677 "high-priority" systems to evaluate. Those were the ones left after Deputy Mayor Joseph J. Lhota deleted pseudo-important items some agency heads had listed as critical, like their scheduling software. (Get a calendar, Lhota told them.)

Despite a troublesome comptroller's audit which showed a number of city agencies behind schedule, those working on the bug say they've beat it.

"We are the best city in the country, actually I figure in the world, in terms of dealing with any sort of crisis," said Brian Cohen, executive director of the city's \$315 million Y2K project.

"If having an extra \$50 over the weekend makes you feel more comfortable, then you should do that," he said of New Year's Eve, 1999. "But your money is safer in the bank."

The city itself is printing an extra batch of paychecks. More police will be on duty, and emergency shelters will be opened.

Overseeing it all will be a staff huddled in a new \$13 million emergency crisis center. Built to withstand hurricane-force winds, bombs and power failures, it contains food and water for the 100 people who are supposed to know how to fix anything that goes wrong.

Y2K could be their greatest test. The problem dates back to the early days of computing, when programmers squeezed every bit of memory from their machines by using the last two digits to stand for a year. So 1987 became "87," and the Year 2000 was represented by "00." The shorthand creates problems if a computer mistakes "00" for 1900 when adding or subtracting a date.

If left uncorrected in New York, the glitch could have meant:

- 30,000 calls a day to the 911 emergency network transferred to the wrong local police or fire station.
- Traffic lights stuck on their midnight cycles, creating massive gridlock.
- A jam-packed Times Square plunged into darkness.

• Newer elevators shut down, mistakenly calculating that they hadn't been serviced in 100 years. (Older ones would be fine. They lack the microchips regulating more modern lifts.)

The mayor's office, the utilities, the Federal Aviation Administration, all agree such problems won't happen. Their computer programmers say they have burrowed into every technological crack to fix the so-called Y2K bug.

Working from an office littered with Y2K paraphernalia - including a battery-powered hat with a digital clock ticking down to Jan. 1 - Cohen has directed an army of city employees, consultants, electrical and communications workers in updating old-fashioned computers.

But the thing about Y2K is, no one will know for sure how bad it is until it gets here. And so the city is preparing for the equivalent of a three-day storm.

Deputy New York Police Commissioner Richard Sheirer, the NYPD's Y2K guy, says the technical aspects of the problem are under control.

From the 911 emergency response system, to the robots that disarm bombs, to computer-controlled fingerprinting devices, the department has tested each computer-driven component it uses.

But the police department's effort is just beginning. The big job comes New Year's Eve, when the department has to oversee the party of the millennium. It doesn't want a blackout to match.

Concern over the possibilities have driven some New Yorkers to ... do nothing unusual. While some Midwesterners are stocking up on ammunition and The Denver Post has published a Y2K recipe section advising how to make the most of canned beans, Manhattan stores haven't even ordered extra bottled

water. And no one seems to care.

"New Yorkers are used to hiding things and ignoring things and turning away from things," says Patrick Shannon, a city resident who spends 10 hours a day collecting news for a Y2K Web site.

"It does take a certain kind of blind spot to live in a city this big, with the diversity and adversity," he said. But there is one prevalent worry: electricity.

Many of the questions at a recent Y2K "community conversation" in Manhattan were about power.

• What happens if there's no heat? City schools will open, heated by their old coal-fired furnaces or by back-up generators.

• What happens if a widespread blackout triggers rioting? Police have canceled many vacations around the first of the year. About 35,000 cops will be on duty the last few days of 1999 and the first week of January 2000, roughly 3,000 more than ordinary.

"We plan for the worst and hope for the best," explains Sheirer.

Robert Hedlund, director of technology services for Consolidated Edison, said the 3 million households and businesses served by the utility in New York and suburban Westchester County should have no problem.

Con Ed's 10 generating stations have been inspected and found Y2K ready. They don't even use dates in manufacturing power. Hundreds of employees have looked over power lines, transformers and substations. They have also checked an estimated 5 million lines of computer coding.

"We really think that a New Year's Eve is going to be a non-event as far as electricity goes," Hedlund said.

As in every Y2K conversation, however, there are doubting Thomases.

A report by the city comptroller's office found the fire department and Department of Corrections unprepared for Y2K, although Cohen says follow-up inspections gave both better grades.

The city's physical preparation is only half the Y2K challenge. The rest is psychological. Despite New York's overall nonchalance, some people are worried. And worried people can become panicked if the power goes out or something else goes wrong.

Times Square will likely be the site of the world's largest millennial celebration, attracting perhaps 1.5 million people. Known for the icy temperatures and hard-partying crowd that usually accompany the festivities, it's hard to imagine a worse place to be if the lights went out, traffic jammed, the trains stopped running and everybody flipped.

The city is relying heavily on advanced public relations. City officials are already popping up at neighborhood events, and a brochure assures readers that technicians have updated the 911 emergency call system.

Although the vague wording leaves room for interpretation, group psychologists say the city is on to something.

Generalities like "Hospitals have been working hard to address areas in the medical industry ..." and "utility companies ... have assured us that power, gas, steam and telephone service will continue" may sound simplistic, but they can ease fear of a far-reaching computer problem people don't quite understand.

Francis C. Dunes, of the Society for the Advancement of Social Psychology, said the brochure lets people know government has an eye on things and helps by telling where to go for more information.

Still, plans won't be worth the paper they're printed on if a blackout in Times Square sends the crowd spiraling into chaos.

"When the people start to panic, the police have to react," Dunes said. "The best thing to do would be to make sure that the lights don't go out."

The following steps are recommended to prepare for Jan. 1, 2000, the date a computer problem known as Y2K could cause various service interruptions:

- Keep a three-day supply of nonperishable food, baby-food, diapers, water, and batteries for a radio. Also make sure there is a non-electric can opener and a flashlight in the house.
- Buy a first-aid kit.
- If you wish to have extra cash on hand, don't wait until Dec. 31 to take it out. Be discreet about the money you have.
- Keep copies of all financial records for the last three months of 1999 and the first three months after the new year; ask your financial institutions about their Y2K compliance.

## Marianas Variety

Serving the Commonwealth for 25 years  
Published Monday to Friday By Younis Art Studio, Inc.

Publishers:  
Abel and Paz Younis

Rafael H. Arroyo  
Zaldy Dandan Editor  
Associate Editor

P.O. Box 231, Saipan MP 96950-0231  
Tel. (670) 234-6341/7578/9797/9272  
Fax: (670) 234-9271

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# Merep wins Koror election

By Eileen O. Tabaranza

For the Variety

**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — Former Community and Cultural Affairs Minister Alexander Merep emerged as the winner in the Oct. 29 special senatorial election for the Second District of Koror which was left vacant with the demise of Senate President Isidoro Rudimch.

Merep garnered a total of 1,206 votes against the other contenders: namely, Alfonso Diaz, WWFM radio station manager and Gregorio Ngirmang, a new face on Palau's political arena. Diaz came in second with 825 votes followed

by Ngirmang with 608 votes. Merep would be the 14th senator of the 5th Olbiil Era Kelulau (OEK).

Unofficial tally results showed that Merep got more votes than the other two senatorial candidates in all voting precincts, except in Ngerkebesang and Ngermid, considered Diaz's fortress.

Results of the elections remained unofficial until the Office of the Election Commission (OEC) certifies the tally results on Wednesday.

In an interview, Election Commission Executive Director Bandista Rengulbai said that only 2,662 or 58 percent

of the total 4,553 registered voters cast their votes during the special election.

Rengulbai explained the low turnout of voters happened because none of the absentee voters or those who live on Saipan, Guam, the United States mainland and other countries has requested for ballot to be sent to them. Rengulbai expected this to happen because of limited time.

Asked how peaceful the election was, Rengulbai said the election was "really peaceful." "That day was peaceful, nothing happened. Most of the problems were resolved before the election," the executive director said.

As for Merep, he said that he was an appointee of the

Rengulbai said the election commission and the Attorney General's Office had resolved rumored issues on Ngirmang's alleged lack of residency, Diaz's dual citizenship, and Merep's resignation from the MCCA ministerial post.

"The law doesn't say that Ngirmang lacks residency. The law said that once you establish and live here for several years, you remain a resident even though you are outside of the republic," Rengulbai said. Ngirmang is a legitimate Palauan who lived on Palau for 20 years.

As for Merep, he said that he was an appointee of the

president which means that he does not need to resign because only those who are under public service are required to resign if they to run for a government office.

He also refuted such claims that Diaz is holding two passports. "It's not true. What do you think we let him run with the two passports? Those are rumors. He announced his U.S. citizenship in 1996," Rengulbai said.

"There are too many lawyers here. If you go to the restaurants, you hear plenty guys over there who interpret the law differently, the executive director said.

## Police exemption list debated

By Jay Pascua

Variety News Staff

**HAGATNA**—Senators yesterday did not get too far when the Guam Police Department's Sunshine Reform Act exemption list hit the legislative floor.

Senator Mark Forbes (R-Sinajana) made a motion to delete the first item on the list — The "Crime Investigation Reports (not adjudicated by Court of Competent Jurisdiction, or pending investigation)." Forbes said this portion of the list is redundant and already included in the default list.

Forbes said the default list is language in Public Law 25-06 [the Sunshine Reform Act] that spells out what needed to be kept out of the public eye across all government agencies. He said the list accounts for almost every circumstance.

Guam Police Department Legislative Chairperson Senator John Salas said the department needed to be specific to protect itself from possible litigation. Salas said there were lawsuits in the past because legislative language was too general and not specific enough.

Senator Joanne Brown asked Deputy Police Chief Ron Der-

vish whether the department made it a policy to release information related to an ongoing investigation.

Dervish said the department was directed to include all exemptions in case it was sued for not providing information under the Sunshine Act.

Forbes argued on the legislative floor that he wanted to be consistent with the approval of other exemptions to the Sunshine Act and also not create new exemptions.

"If all the exemptions in this bill remains intact I don't think there will be enough votes on the floor to pass it," Forbes said.

## Guam Legislature wants accounting of SPG funds

Variety News Staff

**HAGATNA**—The Legislature wants an accounting of the money used for the South Pacific Games (SPG), including a listing of all equipment which is under the inventory of the SPG Commission.

In a letter to SPG Commission Chairman Randall Cunliffe, Speaker Antonio Unpingco (R-Santa Rita) said the Legislature still has to receive an official report from the SPG Commission.

Pursuant to Public Law (PL) 25-01, Unpingco said a complete report of the 1999 South Pacific Games is required to be submitted to the Legislature within 120 days of the completion of the games.

The report, which was originally due on Oct. 12, is now 20 days overdue, the Speaker said. Although a report had been faxed to Sen. Alberto Lamorena V (R-Dededo), Unpingco said the Legislature considers the report incomplete and unofficial.

"I request that a complete and official transmittal of the final SPG Commission report be submitted to the Legislature via my office immediately. Further, please indicate within the report which purchases were made by the Commission under the waiver of the government's procurement laws," Unpingco wrote.

To expedite the purchase of needed supplies and equipment, the 1999 South Pacific Games Commission was granted a waiver from the requirements of the procurement law not exceeding \$500,000 and expiring at the time the final expenditure report is submitted to the Legislature.

PL 25-01 de-appropriated funds from previously completed capital improvement projects and made an appropriation to fund the 1999



Antonio Unpingco

South Pacific Games Commission.

A total of \$1.5 million was appropriated from the Tourist Attraction Fund (which Lamorena oversees) to the 1999 South Pacific Games Revolving Fund to plan, conduct, and host the 1999 South Pacific Games.

The law specified that the funds appropriated shall not be used to fund either administrative or contractual salaries and the funds shall be maintained separate from any other funds of the government of Guam.

Upon completion of the Games, the law requires the SPG Commission to adopt a resolution authorizing the disposition of equipment purchased for use during the Games.

For equipment to be disposed locally, first priority would be to dispose of the equipment to the Department of Education, Department of Parks and Recreation, and to the Guam's private schools.

Moreover, the SPG Commission is required to submit a monthly cash inflow and cash outflow report to the Speaker 120 days upon the completion of the Games as well as a complete report on the status of the SPG revolving fund.

# Gov't to hold Y2K conference

By Haidee V. Eugenio

Variety News Staff

VITAL government and private sector agencies are set to give presentations on the status of their computer and embedded technology systems' preparedness for the Year 2000 during the upcoming Y2K conference.

The event, which will kick off on Nov. 10, will be sponsored by the government's Y2K Task Force.

Bob Webb, the governor's special assistant for telecommunications

and Y2K task force chairmen, said the conference is one of the government's activities in providing public assurance that the CNMI is ready for the rapidly-approaching Year 2000.

"We would like to have members of vital government and private sector industries give short presentations regarding the status of their company or organization's preparedness for the change in millennium," said Webb.

Representatives from five critical government agencies are go-

ing to present Y2K preparedness status.

These offices include the Emergency Management Office (EMO), Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Department of Public Safety, Commonwealth Health Center and Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Private sector speakers will represent six vital businesses, including telecommunications, banking and finance, shipping/airline, fuel providers, hotels and computer retail.

Each speaker will be given a maximum of eight minutes for the presentation.

Webb said following the presentations, a question-and-answer session will be held to address any additional concerns.

Y2K, or the Millennium bug, threatens systems run by old computer programs which will interpret the Year 2000 as 1900, which has the same last two digits.

As a result, any program with a date such as billing, payroll, inventory, and bank accounts,

among others, could crash or give misleading answers starting January 1, 2000.

Webb said the task force is currently requesting concerned agencies to assist in identifying speakers to represent critical private sector agencies.

The task force also disclosed several "emergency responses" once Year 2000 strikes, including requiring certain government officials to report to EMO on 10 pm of Dec. 31, 1999 to assist on any Y2K problems or failures.

## Defense lists 'dead person' as a possible witness in libel case

By Eric F. Say

Variety News Staff

OVER 110 people crammed into Superior Court Judge Joaquin Manibusan's sala yesterday for jury selection in a civil slander and libel case that may take up to three weeks to finish.

As part of the jury selection process, prospective jurors are asked a number of questions enabling lawyers from both camps to weed out possible biases.

As part of the process, each legal team must tell jurors whom they may possibly call to the stand as witnesses when they begin to put on their respective cases.

Defense Atty. Curtis Van de Veld listed over 80 people he planned to call.

One of them was Gov. Carl Gutierrez's mother, Rita, which according to Variety news files, was buried in late September this year.

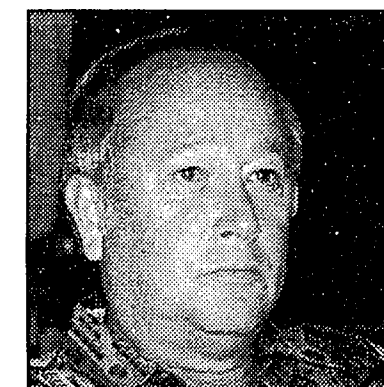
Initial charges which were brought by the Gutierrez family state former senator Mark Charfauros used his position as a lawmaker to allegedly commit slanderous act against the First Family, arising from his allegations that Carl T.C. Gutierrez II, ("Tommy") was involved in an alleged drug raid at the Golden Motel in Tamuning in July of 1997.

At the heart of the matter which the now selected jury of 6 men and 6 women with 4 alternates will have to decide is if what Charfauros did was right.

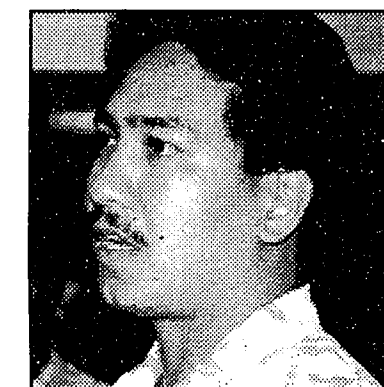
If they decide it was not then they will also have to decide what if any monetary damages should be awarded to the plaintiffs, the Gutierrez Family.

Of the many questions asked of potential jurors were whether they had political stickers on their cars and whether any were related to the parties involved.

In the first hour of jury selection, over 60 people had been



Carl Gutierrez



Mark Charfauros

excused because they said they could not be impartial sitting as a juror.

At the end of the lunch break only 52 people remained from the original 112 called in by the Jury Commissioner.

The governor sat by watching the day-long jury selection proceeding from a corner in the courtroom, while son Tommy conferred with his attorney

Randall Cunliffe.

First Lady Geri Gutierrez along with daughter Hannah sat near their Attorney Sandra Lynch.

Charfauros was supported by his wife who sat behind him during the trial selection.

Opening statements will begin Wednesday morning in Manibusan's courtroom starting at 9am.

## Penalty doubles after firm failed to comply

By Rene P. Acosta

Variety News Staff

THE DIVISION of Labor doubled the penalty it recently ordered against a company for failing to follow its order, as it earlier found out that its administrative order was taken lightly.

The Division also ordered PST Inc., represented by Manny and Melba Villaga, to pay \$100 each day if it fails to meet its latest order.

The decision against the Villagas and the company was entered by Hearing Officer Jerry Cody on the original administrative case filed by a Bangladeshi, Abdul Hamid.

Hamid filed a complaint against the firm and the Villagas before the labor division wherein the two agreed to pay the complainant in the amount of \$496 to settle the

case.

The respondent, however, did not comply with the agreement which prompted the office to issue a determination, notice of violation, and notice of hearing against them.

The Villagas did not appear at the hearing despite being informed about it. They even submitted a pleading. This prompted Cody to declare a default decision against them and the company.

In his order, the hearing officer even doubled the penalty by capping an amount of \$992 plus the \$100 per day if the order is not met upon.

The firm was also censured by being permanently barred from employing non resident workers in the CNMI.

Hamid has already left the island and has returned to his country.



## An Invitation to All Family, Friends and Supporters

*Representative Maria "Malua" Taisakan Peter & Mr. David K. Peter and Children cordially invite you to a "Gathering" on Wednesday, November 3, 1999, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at their residence in Chalan Laulau. Please join them for this event.*

*Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay and Thank you for your continued support!*

**Please Vote "MALUA" November 6th. "PRECINCT 3 INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE"**

Paid for by the Committee to Re-elect Representative Maria "Malua" Taisakan Peter

**Exercise, not necessarily to lose weight, but to enhance circulation.**

**I promise...  
I Deliver...  
And Shall Continue**



**Please re-elect CONGRESSMAN FRANK G. CEPEDA**

Paid for by the Committee to Re-Elect Congressman Frank G. Cepeda  
Treasurer Eula Sablan

OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
NOVEMBER 6, 1999

ELECTION DISTRICT NO. 4-B

**SPECIMEN**

INSTRUCTIONS:  
1. Make an X or a check mark in the box before the candidate's name.  
2. If you wish to vote for a person whose name does not appear on the ballot, write in the name of the person under "Write-In". Write in the person's name in full and make an X or a check mark in the box.

CNMI REPUBLICAN PARTY	INDEPENDENT	CNMI REFORM PARTY	CNMI DEMOCRATIC PARTY
CANDIDATES FOR THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT (SAIPAN AND THE ISLANDS NORTH) - VOTE FOR ONE (1) ONLY			
<input type="checkbox"/> TEBORIO, Juan Pangelinan (Mergin) (Incumbent)	<input type="checkbox"/> GLEBERGER, Ramon Santos (Mergin)		
WRITE-IN			
CANDIDATES FOR HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOURTH ELECTION DISTRICT - VOTE FOR TWO (2) ONLY			
<input type="checkbox"/> PANGELINAN, Thomas Basa (Tort)	<input type="checkbox"/> OUTILUGUA, Jesus S. (Jaz)	<input type="checkbox"/> MESTIA, Joaquin Deleon Gutierrez	<input type="checkbox"/> JONES, Eusebio Morales (Dey) (Incumbent)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CEPEDA, Frank Gutierrez (Incumbent)	<input type="checkbox"/> SABLAN, Benigno Magaña		
<b>PLS. RE-ELECT</b>			
WRITE-IN			

**SPECIMEN**



## GTA, GTE Pacifica link up to offer Guam roaming service

NOW YOU Can Roam Too! GTE Pacifica activated its new Guam roaming capability as part of a joint service agreement with the Guam Telephone Authority (GTA). The new service will allow both companies roaming for all of their customers between CNMI and

Guam.

"The link up with GTA offers a perfect opportunity for both companies to bring this valuable roaming service to our cellular customers," said GTE Pacifica General Manager, David Rogers. "Use of the service will be simple: CNMI subscribers will be able to get off the plane and immediately begin using their Saipan or Tinian-based GTE Pacifica cellular number, while GTA customers will also be able to use their cellular phones in the CNMI."

Guam Roaming is automatic for all GTE Pacifica customers. No additional programming is required on activated cell phones and there are no roaming fees (regular airtime charges apply). Using the service is simple. GTE Pacifica customers roaming in Guam can dial local numbers using 7 digits.

Plus, they can call back to the CNMI by dialing (1 + area code + phone number). Calls are automatically billed to the home cellular telephone bill (regular airtime charges apply). To reach a GTE Pacifica or GTA cellular customer while they are roaming, simply dial their regular cell phone number.

Customers in the CNMI can try out GTE Pacifica's roaming feature absolutely FREE for a limited time. No airtime charges (offer ends November 15, 1999).

## GTE Pacifica announces cellular service on Rota

GTE Pacifica Announces Cellular Service on Rota

THE GTE Pacifica is set to put its Rota tower functioning by early next year.

In a media advisory, GTE Pacifica announced plans to offer cellular service on Rota. "We expect to have the Rota Cellular tower fully operational by the first quarter of the new year" said GTE Pacifica's General Manager, David Rogers.

"The equipment is on a boat now. This is really an exciting opportunity to provide world-class cellular service to all of the CNMI and is in keeping with our continued

commitment to the community."

In a recent interview, Rogers discussed the company's \$500,000 investment on Rota's Cellular Site.

"We are doing it because GTE Pacifica has made a commitment to the community to bring world class telecommunications to the islands in a friendly Micronesian way. The local leadership of the CNMI afforded us the opportunity to make these improvements through their willingness to allow business to function in a free enterprise environment."

## GWA lists contaminants in water

DRINKING water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants, the Guam Waterworks Authority (GWA) noted in its 1999 Annual Water Quality Report.

But the presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking water poses a health risk, GWA assured.

In compliance with the Guam Primary Safe Drinking Water Regulations, GWA said Guam's drinking water is monitored for all the regulated and unregulated contaminants as it leaves the island's potable water sources.

The "analytes" measured include:

\* Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;

\* Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from storm water runoff, wastewater discharges, or farming;

\* Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and septic systems;

\* Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial manufacturing processes, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and

\* Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of improper disposal of radioactive waste.

According to GWA, the Ugu Water Treatment Plant is required to meet specific turbidity standards. Turbidity is a measure of water clarity and is used as an indicator of filtration performance.

# Region airs climate change concerns

BONN (Pacnews) — Pacific island delegates have continued to play a prominent role in discussions, both in the full plenary meetings of the 175 countries who are Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and in the smaller contact group meetings on specific issues.

Pacific island countries also turned up in full force late last night for discussion on coastal adaptation technologies. Five Pacific island countries spoke out at the plenary meeting, supporting the statement by the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS) presented by the Bahamas.

The AOSIS statement thanked the Climate Convention Secretariat for its informal report on decision tools to evaluate alternative adaptation strategies to climate change. Delegates asked the Secretariat to formalise the paper, incorporate views expressed, and bring it to the attention of the Conference. This could then serve

as the basis for a more in-depth approach to the issue of adaptation.

AOSIS told the Conference that while many initiatives on coastal adaptation were under way, costs and human resources had often stifled progress in implementing such initiatives.

It said small island states needed regional climate models, and individual sectoral models would also be useful - for example in agriculture, hydrology and certain coastal areas such as lagoons, as these could apply differently to small island states.

AOSIS suggested that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) could cover initial work, followed by more formal consideration by the Climate Convention's technical advice bodies, or through a workshop.

AOSIS strongly urged a Climate Convention meeting or workshop on the issues of adaptation technologies, adaptation strategies and on developing a practical

long-term approach to adaptation within the context of the Climate Convention. It also suggested regional workshops on adaptation should be held for national climate change teams and committees, saying this would enhance regional participation and capacity building.

AOSIS noted that funding for adaptation would limit the overall process of developing adaptation strategies and implementing options, and said this Fifth Conference of the Parties to the Climate Convention provided opportunities for all countries to work towards adaptation funding.

Tonga told the plenary meeting that coastal adaptation was an item closely attached to the hearts of people in Small Island Developing States (SIDS). Its delegate noted that coastal adaptation did not involve simply building sea walls or barriers to prevent storm surges or guard against other extreme events.

"Coastal adaptation to us is also, for example, breeding drought and salt resistant crops, making alternative provision for drinking water, and preventing erosion and land degradation," Tonga's delegate said.

The Republic of the Marshall Islands stressed the significant and compelling need for research in all aspects of coastal adaptation assessment and options. Its delegate said there was a special need to analyse coastal adaptation in relation to regional and local circumstances, through regional meetings.

She said there was an urgent need for information sharing and dissemination on these issues because small island states already had to adapt to climate change. She suggested that as a next step in the area of information sharing, the Climate Convention Secretariat could create a website to make possible a widespread exchange of information.

"This could then emphasise the

urgent need for research at the regional level," she said.

She strongly supported the Bahamas' call, on behalf of AOSIS, for a regional workshop on coastal adaptation, and said there needed to be a structured approach to coastal adaptation: first, appropriate vulnerability assessments; and then detailed plans and proposals.

Tuvalu noted that its islands were on average less than two metres above sea level, and it welcomed the work the Climate Convention Secretariat was doing on coastal adaptation technologies. However, Tuvalu said while reporting and research on this issue was vital, it was also crucial to begin taking actions to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

"To this end we are keen to see appropriate funding for adaptation technologies," its delegate said.

"Hence we are strongly of the view that an adaptation surcharge should apply to the three flexibility mechanisms, under the Kyoto Protocol."



GTE Pacifica General Manager David Rogers (seated) with his hardworking team (from left) Jim Calderwood, Sandy Barry and Inos Yamada.

### BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LICENSING PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Pedro P. 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 Wednesday, November 3, 1999 at 10:00 AM at the Board's Office located on the 2nd Floor of the Island Commercial Center Building in Gualo Rai, Saipan. Agenda for the board meeting is as follows:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Call to Order   | 8. Investigator's Report   |
| 2. Determination of Quorum   | 9. Committee Reports   |
| 3. Review and Action of Agenda   | 10. Old Business   |
| 4. Review and Adoption of Minutes - October 1999 Board Meeting Minutes | A. Applications for Board's Review                                   |
| 5. Communications from Governor's Office & Legislature                 | B. Adoption of Proposed Amendments to the Regulations for Appraisers |
| A. Governor's office   | 11. New Business   |
| B. Legislature   | 12. Miscellaneous Business   |
| 6. Chairman's Report   | 13. Adjournment of Meeting   |
| 7. Board Administrator's Report  |  |

/s/ Francisco Q. Guerrero  
Chairman

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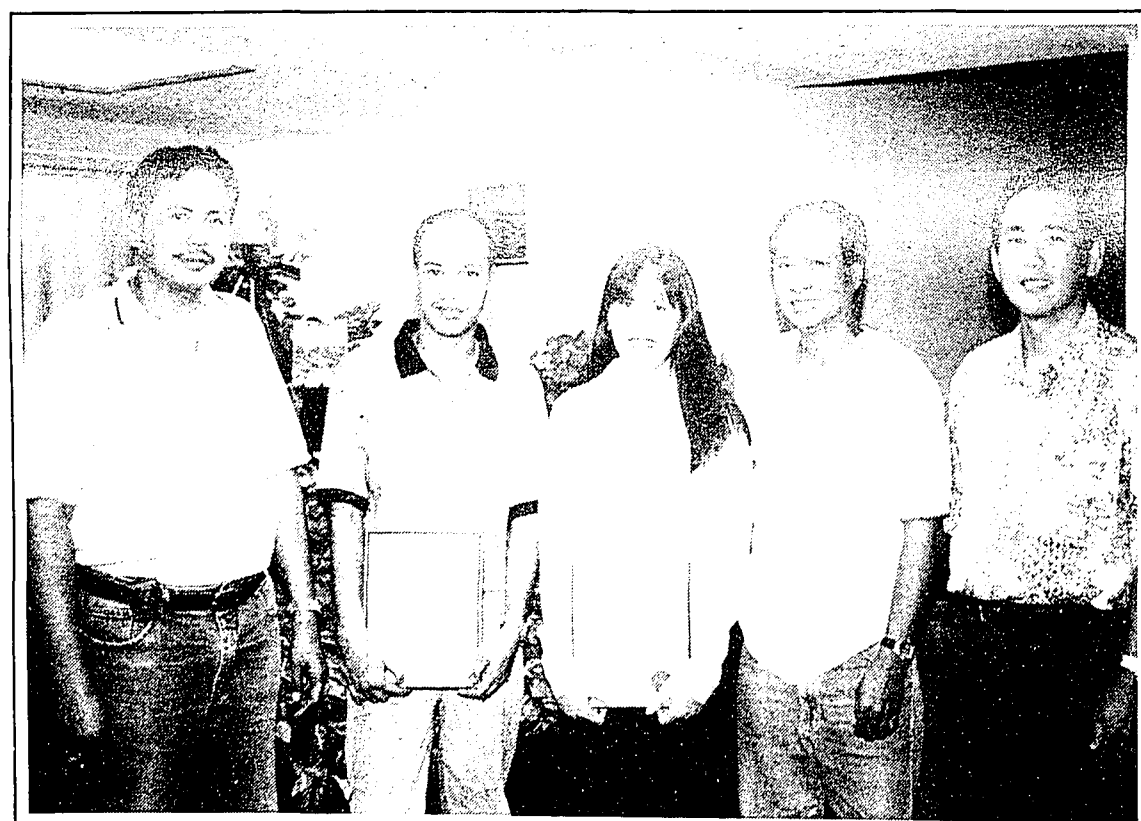
## Power outage in Kagman

THE COMMUNITY Utility announces that there will be a power outage on Wednesday, Nov. 3 beginning at 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

The outage is needed to replace a conductor in the area. The af-

fected customer will be in the Kagman I area.

In order to install the new system, the utility will turn off the power to protect the lives of its customers and employees.



CMS Management has recently recognized its deserving employees. Mercidita Buenviaje, Employee of the 2nd Quarter and James Vega, Employee of the 3rd Quarter received their certificates of recognition together with \$200 cash reward. Both of them will have a chance for a free round trip ticket to Philippines and another \$200 cash, if chosen as Employee of the Year 1999.

## Kiribati has new port facility

TARAWA (Pacnews) — The completion of the two-year new port project in Kiribati this week, will also see the establishment of the Kiribati Port Authority separately and independently from the Kiribati Shipping Services Limited (KSSL).

Deputy Secretary for Information, Transport and Communication, Riitei Maninraka said this is a conditional part of the new port project agreement signed between the Japanese and Kiribati governments, that once the project completes, the authority should come into operation.

The Kiribati Port Authority Act was first established in 1990, as part of the government's institutional capacity building plans in its Shipping and Port sectors to enhance efficiency in these areas.

He said the two services, since the colonial era had been working together under the then Shipping Corporation of Kiribati, which then changed and became the Kiribati Shipping Services Limited, after the enactment of the Kiribati Port Authority Act.

An establishment plan for the Kiribati Port Authority compiled by the task force, appointed by the Ministry of Information, Transport and Communication is now under perusal with comments by the ministry before it is submitted for further consideration and endorsement by Cabinet.

The plan consists mainly of the authority's proposed organisational structure and staffing, assets, initial working capital and other important logistical arrangements.

### ROOTS

BEYA'  
TUHU'  
LENCHO'

### PERSONAL DATA

Born: August 8, 1956  
Spouse: Juan Aldan Ichihara  
Parents: Juan Atalig De Leon Guerrero  
(Late) Trinidad Santos Borja De Leon Guerrero  
Parents - (Late) Jose San Miguel Ichihara  
In-Law: (Late) Teresa Rosario Aldan Ichihara  
Children: Belinda, Roselle, Keoni, Brigette,  
Kenneth Joel, & Ricky

### POSITION SOUGHT:

REPRESENTATIVE FOR PRECINCT #1,  
12TH CNMI LEGISLATURE

### EDUCATION

Master of Education (M.Ed.)  
Educational Administration  
University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1992

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)  
Liberal Studies  
(Bilingual Education) with High Honors  
University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1981

### HONORS/AWARDS

CNMI Legislature House Resolution  
1995 Outstanding Pacific Educator  
1995 International Space Camp Recipient, Huntsville, AL  
1994 CNMI Teacher of the year  
1994 Koblerville Elem. School Teacher of the Year

### EXPERIENCE

1998-present 1996-1998 1989-1996 1986-1989 1984-1986 1981-1984 1981 1979-1981 1978-1979	Retired Educator Koblerville Elem. School Koblerville Elem. School G.T.C. Elem. School G.T.C. Elem. School Garapan Elem. School University of Hawaii at Manoa Tanapag Elem. School Tanapag Elem. School	Principal Classroom Teacher Principal Vice Principal Vice Principal Chamorro Teacher Training & Educational Leave at UHM Classroom Teacher
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A member of numerous professional groups in education.  
Has attended numerous continuing professional development and workshops.  
Very active in community involvement.

A proven and dedicated educator and a LEADER.

"ICHIHARA FOR THE STUDENTS"  
"ICHIHARA Para I Taotao-ta"

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Brigida Dlg. Ichihara  
Chairman: Jose N. Santos, Treasurer: Barbara Macduff



"Para I Taotao-ta"

"Committed, Able & Willing  
To Serve the People of CNMI"

ICHIHARA  
BRIGIDA DELEON GUERRERO (BORJA)

For HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES Precinct No. 1

VOTE DEMOCRAT!





# Palau pursues illegal aliens

By Eileen O. Tabaranza  
For the Variety  
**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — The Division of Immigration (DOI) is now aggressively in pursuit of overstaying alien workers.

The new effort is part of the campaign the DOI launched in September against illegal overstayers.

In September alone the DOI apprehended 124 alien workers in Koror for overstaying and for not carrying their permits when immigration officials conducted inspections. Most of the apprehended workers were Chinese and

Filipino.

Based on DOI statistics, there are around 5,400 alien workers issued with permits on Palau. Out of that figure, 3,425 are Filipino workers.

Chinese workers, who are mostly employed in a sole garment factory here, came next at 1,237.

Under the law, overseas contract workers are required to carry their permits at all times.

"It (inspections) won't stop. It's a daily thing. Everyday, there are overstayers. Today we get the list and go out and

check these people again," DOI Chief Benito Thomas said in an interview.

Thomas pointed out the division has been regularly doing the inspections, but is trying to do it daily even though they are understaff.

He stressed that if his staff are not at the airport, they are out in the field doing the inspections, adding that the immigration does not intend to hire more officers just for this job.

Thomas pointed out that the reason why there are many overstaying workers is that the labor division is sometimes

delayed in processing the workers' applications for renewal. "Some of them would tell us that their applications have been submitted to the labor office. They don't have permits with them and we have to call the labor office to verify," the chief said.

Thomas said Immigration would strictly impose the \$100 a day up to \$500 fine for overstaying, but added that none of the workers was ever charged with the fine since they have no money to pay. Instead, they put them in jail for 24 hours.

"If we find somebody who

is overstaying, we will give them a 10-day grace period to leave or within that period they have to come up with their permits," he said.

The chief said there were instances wherein the employers are to be blamed for not paying their workers' contract renewals.

There were also instances wherein these workers have to leave the island after being found overstaying. If they refuse to cooperate with the immigration office, Thomas said their case should be lodged before the Attorney General's Office.

## Nakamura pushes for review of Palau's Special Prosecutor Act

By Malou L. Sayson  
For the Variety  
**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — Palau President Kuniwo Nakamura has called for a review of the Special Prosecutor's Act, saying the law needs to be studied and strengthened.

Nakamura made the call in light of the court battle involving two of his members of his Cabinet — his chief of staff Temmy Shmull and Special Prosecutor Michael Rosenthal.

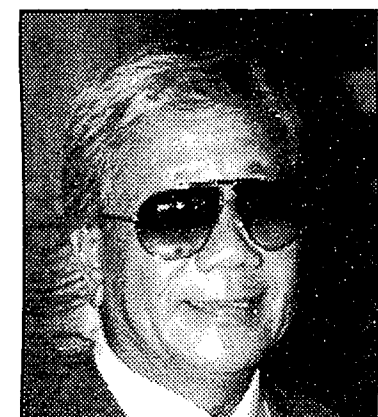
Rosenthal filed last Oct. 13 criminal charges against Shmull for alleged public misconduct and other illegal activities related to driving and use of government vehicle beyond office hours.

The chief of staff, on the other hand, filed last Oct. 20 charges of "unlawful misconduct" against the special prosecutor for hiring an assistant special prosecutor even though it is not provided for under the Special Prosecutor's Act.

"The Act needs to be looked at. There are areas that need to be refined and clarified," said the president, who was himself the author of the said law.

Nakamura stressed that the conflicts involving his right hand man and his appointed special prosecutor should have been resolved before reaching the court.

"The court is the last place to



Kuniwo Nakamura

resolve conflict.

"If either one or both of them are found guilty, I'm going to do something. I wish them both well," he said as he noted that he is going to "step in" at some point in time if public interest so requires.

Nakamura stressed the law was intended to provide for the prosecution of "white collar crimes."

"That's the whole purpose when I crafted the law," he pointed out.

He said the law is close to two decades old and therefore needs to be looked at and see if it is still consistent with the changes that have taken place on Palau.

"As the author, I never intended to give power to whoever the prosecutor is to cover any type of crime," he said.

He added that if the provisions of the law are not clear, then they should be corrected.

The Office of the Special Pros-

ecutor is very independent and whoever is in that office must be "clean, must be very clean," he said.

"The special prosecutor must uphold that office to the highest standards and without any questionable conduct... without reproach," the president pointed out.

Besides the encompassing powers given to the special prosecutor under the Act, he is given an authority with "the greatest degree of independence that is consistent with the president's constitutional and statutory accountability for all matters within the jurisdiction of the executive branch."

The law further provides: "The Special Prosecutor will determine to what extent he will inform or consult with the president about the conduct of his duties and responsibilities."

On the charges of "unlawful conduct" filed against him, Rosenthal told Palau Horizon that the complaint has no merit. "I am confident that Mr. Shmull will not prevail."

Rosenthal said he is given the authority to hire staff as may be necessary to carry out the functions of the office and enter contracts with attorneys licensed to practice before the courts of other jurisdictions in order to have such attorneys make appearance in such courts on his behalf.

Meanwhile, Philippine Con-

## Arson suspect is nabbed, charged

By Malou L. Sayson  
For the Variety  
**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — A middle-aged Palauan married to a successful businessman on Palau was charged Friday with four counts of arson for "wilfully and maliciously" putting to blaze a residential apartment, including business establishments adjacent to the building in Ngerbeched, Koror.

Slapped with criminal charges filed before the Supreme Court Trial Division was Felicia Scott who was allegedly responsible for setting on fire Ongalibang's Apartments; the Owens Mess residence located right next to the apartment; and the offices of Micro laundry and beauty salon and SGV Electronics.

The suspect was also arraigned on the same day and was freed on a \$5,000 bail.

A two-page affidavit of probable cause signed by Det. Charles Masters said the suspect was seen at the scene of crime shortly after a fire was noticed coming out of one of the rooms in the apartment.

Rogelio Menor, an eyewitness and a resident of the Ongalibang Apartments, told Palau Horizon that he heard some noise—like someone pounding at the door with a hammer—coming from the room of Jersey Iyar, a policeman.

Menor, who was then standing outside the apartment somewhere at the right side of the pathway, looked at his watch, which clocked in 2:07 a.m. Later, he saw Felicia go upstairs to the parking area and come back about two minutes later.

According to Menor, Felicia went inside Jersey's room. He heard the tearing of the curtains. Then Felicia came out slamming the door close and went to the third floor or the parking area again. At that time, Menor saw Willy Techemang and his daughter Wijama coming from the parking area and that was when the eyewitness decided to show up. Menor walked up to meet Willy and Wijama, who were then joined by Benedict Idesiyar. [They] talked for a while beside Jersey's room. Menor said, "she [Felicia] came back and even chatted with us for a minute and then proceeded to Jersey's room."

Menor noticed Felicia knocking on the door of Jersey's room. "When nobody answered, she got inside while Willy and I went upstairs but we kept a look at the room," Menor said.

Willy and I saw another person alighting a white sedan parked in front of the apartment. The person was identified later by the two as Noel Yalap who asked where Felicia was. After a while, the two saw Felicia coming out from Jersey's room. "She was in hurry, saying to Yalap: Let's go. Let's go," said Menor. The two, according to Menor, proceeded to the parking area.

"We followed them to the parking area until they left. Then we decided to go down and sleep," said Menor.

"But shortly after, I smelled something like burnt clothes... then I saw white smoke coming out from Jersey's room," he said.

sul General Antonio S. Curameng when contacted reserved comment considering that the suspect was given 30 days to file an appeal.

But Curameng called the outcome "a triumph of justice."

Curameng attended four consecutive days of trial which for the most part was a closed door

session. His presence was meant to demonstrate the Philippine government's full and strong support for the victim in her fight for justice.

The Philippine Embassy commended the victim for her courage in trying to get conviction for the defendant.

## Fighter jets trail RP plane over Spratlys

MANILA (Reuters) — Two fighter jets believed to be from the Malaysian air force tailed two Philippine military surveillance planes flying over the disputed Spratly Islands but there was no confrontation, Philippine diplomats said on Sunday.

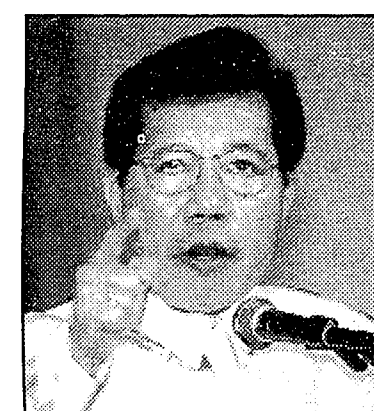
They said the incident occurred on Thursday in the vicinity of a rocky outcrop called Investigator Shoal, which both the Philippines and Malaysia are claiming.

On sighting the Philippine aircraft, the fighter jets swung 180 degrees and momentarily tailed the Filipinos, who later disengaged, the diplomats, who asked not to be identified, told Reuters.

The fighters were flying at lower altitudes and the Philippine planes were able to take photographs of them, they said.

Philippine Defence Secretary Orlando Mercado said no confrontation occurred.

"There was none... They just



Orlando Mercado

saw each other, nothing else happened," Mercado said by telephone.

In June, the Philippines protested to Malaysia about Kuala Lumpur's construction of a helipad and two-storey structure in Investigator Shoal. Malaysia rejected the protest, saying the shoal was within its exclusive economic zone and the structures were for scientific research.

The Spratlys are a cluster of potentially oil-rich isles, reefs and shoals in the South China

Sea claimed wholly or in part by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

Manila filed a diplomatic protest with Hanoi last week, accusing Vietnamese troops of firing shots at a Philippine military reconnaissance plane flying over a reef in the part of the Spratlys occupied by Vietnam but also claimed by the Philippines.

The plane was not hit.

Manila is pushing for a regional code of conduct in the South China Sea to govern actions by rival claimants and prevent accidental conflicts in the area.

Adoption of such a code is one of the issues expected to be discussed at an informal summit in Manila in late November of member countries of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

Four of the Spratlys claimants - the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei - are ASEAN members.

## Red Cross raises \$5,820 for fire victims

By Eileen O. Tabaranza  
For the Variety  
**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — Total contributions solicited by the Palau Red Cross Society (PRCS) to aid the victims of the fire that razed down the Ongalibang Apartments and several other businesses in Koror last Oct. 22 reached \$5,820 to include \$1,820 cash donation.

On its part, the PRCS has given out \$4,000 worth of vouchers to 81 fire victims, \$50 for each adult victim and \$25 for each child for them to buy personal items.

There were 57 adults and 24 children that were affected by

the fire that broke out at pre-dawn on Friday.

Aside from clothes and monetary contributions, PRCS Chairperson Francisca Blailes said Red Cross is also soliciting basic things like kitchen wares, canned goods, blanket, towels, lotion, among other things that could help the victims.

Red Cross is coordinating with the Ministry of Community and Cultural Affairs in securing clothing, food, household wares and financial donations.

Blailes said they have received clothes donations from 16 people. She added that they have already sorted these

clothes to make sure that all are in good condition.

"We try and do as much as we can to help until they feel they are okay. We've given them over 1,000 pieces of clothes," the Red Cross chairperson said.

Blailes said the PRCS is trying its best to solicit and provide whatever basic goods the victims need to make their life a little bit better.

Blailes said there are around six volunteers who are facilitating the solicitation and donations from the public. Blailes is encouraging the public to donate clothes and basic goods for the victims.

## Jeepney runs into ravine in RP, at least 21 killed

ITOGON, Philippines (AP) — A passenger jeep plunged into a 160-meter (530-foot) ravine in a mountainous Philippine province, killing at least 21 people and injuring 13 others, police said Monday.

The accident occurred Sunday evening as the elongated passenger jeep, or "jeepney," suffered a sudden transmission failure and was unable to stop while descending along a curvy dirt road in Itogon in Benguet province, about 210 kilometers (130 miles) north of Manila, local

police said. It was the latest in a series of fatal accidents in the mountainous province.

Five people were killed and 44 others injured when the brakes on a minibus failed Saturday in another town in the province. On Oct. 20, a bus fell into a 70-meter (230-foot) ravine, killing at least six, including a former town mayor.

Vehicular accidents occur frequently in the region because of poorly maintained roads and vehicles, as well as reckless driving.

## Waiting house inaugurated

NGARCHELONG (Palau Horizon) — Vice President Tommy Remengesau, Jr. and state officials here have officially opened so called "waiting house" as part of Ngarchelong's dock improvement project.

The \$6,000 funding for the construction of said project was provided by the national and state governments as part of capital improvement project funds.

Ngarchelong Governor Aguon Tobias said state employees were the ones who constructed the project, which was completed late August of this year. It is situated right at the Ngarchelong dock.

"The waiting house is very useful to the people who are waiting for their transportation. Fishermen can use the

house as their waiting place," Aguon said.

Ngarchelong Del. Kerai Maruir said the state government had done the right thing of improving the dock because "it is a gateway to everything."

"The government thinks of bigger things. There are also small things that need to be done which make a big difference in the daily activities of residents," the vice president pointed out.

It (waiting house) maybe a small project, but it affects the livelihood of the residents, he added.

Once the 53-mile compact road project is completed, Remengesau, said a lot of people will migrate to Ngarchelong and other states of Babeldaob. EOT

## Man found guilty of raping Filipino waitress

By Malou L. Sayson  
For the Variety  
**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — Chief Justice Arthur Ngaraklong has found a man guilty of rape, and assault and battery committed against a Filipina working as a waitress in a restaurant in Koror.

The verdict against Yoshiwo

Tadashi was handed down by the chief justice last Oct. 22 after four consecutive days of hearing the case lodged before the Supreme Court Trial Division.

Assistant Attorney General Steven Carrara, who took over the case prosecuted the case while assistant Public Defender Gary Soberay took the side of the de-

fendant.

The sentencing hearing was scheduled on Nov. 23 at 9 a.m., thereby giving the defendant 30 days to appeal to the Supreme Court en banc.

The rape victim, when reached for comment said the verdict was a big triumph for her.

Meanwhile, Philippine Con-



Student protesters stage a rally in front of the Presidential palace Saturday in Manila opposing the recent announcement of oil companies to increase its prices. President Joseph Estrada met with the oil companies to ask them to stop the planned oil price but failed.



## Special report:

## US 'illegally' annexed island

By Giff Johnson  
For the Variety

**MAJURO** — American claims to sovereignty over Wake Atoll in the central Pacific are based on an annexation that violated international law, according to a front page article that appeared in Friday's Marshall Islands Journal.

The detailed discussion of Wake's history since the late 1800's is based on an article from the Journal of Pacific History, published by the Australian National University in Canberra by researcher Dirk H.R. Spennemann, formerly chief archeologist in the Marshall Islands who is now the cultural heritage manager of the Johnstone Center at Charles Sturt University in Australia.

Spennemann, who conducted exhaustive research in the U.S. National Archives, contends that Wake should have become a part of Japan's League of Nations Mandate at the end of World War I and would today be part of the Republic of the Marshall Islands - not American territory.

The Marshall Islands claims ownership of Wake, which it calls "Enenkio", but has not pushed its claim with the United States. U.S. officials in the Marshall Islands say the U.S. annexation was legal and the Marshalls does not have a legitimate claim to the atoll.

Spennemann's research raises numerous questions as to the legality of the U.S. claim

to Wake, which has been a U.S. military installation since the late 1930s. Originally a submarine cable relay station in the central Pacific connecting Hawaii with Guam and the Philippines, the military installation at Wake has more recently been downgraded to "caretaker status" with only a handful of residents.

Under a December 17, 1885 agreement, Spain sold its colonies in the eastern Pacific, including the Marshall Islands and Wake, to Germany. Wake was of little value to either the European or American powers during the middle and end of the 19th century. But the Spanish-American war in 1898 changed things dramatically, Spennemann said.

"The USA, having acquired Guam and the Philippines, found itself in dire need of reliable communications between the mainland and its new possessions," he said. Wake was viewed as ideal for a submarine cable relay station.

As a result, Wake was claimed several times by vessels going to or returning from the Philippines, which stopped to plant the American flag. This included the visit by the USS Bennington which officially raised the U.S. flag on January 17, 1899. But, said Spennemann, "in none of these cases had the annexation been authorized by the U.S. President or the Congress, although some sources purport that this was an official annexation."

Clouding the picture further is the apparent disappearance of essential papers documenting the annexation, coupled with significant confusion among U.S. government officials and reports about the claim to Wake.

Spennemann said that the date of the annexation, following on the heels of the Spanish-American war, and the involvement of U.S. troops en route to the Philippines "created the assumption that the U.S. annexed Wake from Spain." But if Spain had considered Wake still a part of its Micronesian holdings, the island would have been included in the negotiations of the Paris Treaty of Peace at the end of the Spanish-American war. "This was not the case," Spennemann said.

"In the eyes of Germany, Wake had been obtained from Spain as part of the Marshalls" when the two nations signed the treaty in 1885.

Why, then, didn't Germany object to this infringement on its territory? The aftermath of the Spanish-American war saw major realignment of colonial control over possessions in the region: the U.S. took control of the Philippines and Guam, Hawaii became a U.S. territory and the Carolines, Palau and the rest of the Marianas became German.

Control of Samoa and the economic interests that resulted "had been the focus of a long-running dispute among

Germany, the U.S. and England. The German government, which saw Samoa as a prize possession, did not wish to endanger any emerging agreement," he said. "In this game, Wake was a pawn."

With Germany's defeat in World War I, the ownership issue was conveniently forgotten, Spennemann said. But the fact that Germany - not Spain - claimed ownership of Wake is indisputable, Spennemann said.

In addition to the sale agreement of 1885, following the Spanish-American war, Spain and Germany signed another agreement on September 10, 1898 guaranteeing that Germany would eventually gain control of all Spanish possessions in the South Pacific that were not ceded to or otherwise disposed of by treaty with the United States.

"Even if the U.S. were in doubt as to the German ownership of Wake based on the 1885 agreement, the terms of the 1898 agreement and the non-inclusion of Wake in the Treaty of Paris (between Spain and the U.S.) unequivocally reconfirmed Germany's claim (to Wake)," Spennemann said.

Interestingly, noted Spennemann, the U.S. did not take aggressive action to enforce its sovereignty at Wake when the uninhabited island was being lived on and used by Japanese fishermen intermittently between 1902 and 1908. In contrast, he said,

when the same situation occurred on German-controlled Taongi and U.S.-controlled Laysan/Lisianski both countries acted to enforce sovereignty. "The U.S. did nothing to develop Wake or to enforce its sovereignty," he said.

Spennemann said the record demonstrates that "the annexation of Wake is far from straightforward."

Because Germany controlled Wake by the time of the Spanish-American war of 1898, "the U.S. annexation contravened international law, especially as Germany had been neutral" during the war, he said. "That the U.S. felt uneasy over the ownership issue becomes clear in light of the internal confusion on its own authority on the island and the government's reluctance to spell out details of the annexation."

"The disappearance of crucial documents relating to the U.S. annexation and the lack of material on a German-American agreement on Wake leaves a bad aftertaste especially in view of its implications: if the atoll had been annexed illegally, then under international law it would have remained German until the end of the First World War, and in 1919 have become part of Japan's Mandate over the former German possessions and, via the post-Second World War U.S. Trust Territory period, would today be an integral part of the Republic of the Marshall Islands."

## Outrigger pulls out from deal to operate Palau Hotel

By Eileen O. Tabaranza  
For the Variety

**KOROR (Palau Horizon)** — Triggered by the economic slump and apparent cultural differences, the Hawaiian Outrigger Palasia Hotels and Resorts Co. has given up managing a local branch.

As a result, the Outrigger Palasia Hotel Palau has been renamed Palasia Hotel Palau.

The former Outrigger Palasia Hotel Palau, was 100-percent owned by Palasia Resort, Inc., a joint venture of Midcorp, a local company owned by Koror Del. Alan Seid and family, Meriil Okeriil Corp., and its foreign partner Central Investment Holdings Corp., group of Taiwanese investors.

Since it opened in August

1998, the 165-room hotel had been managed by the Outrigger Hotels and Resorts Co., which is known for having an extensive experience in managing five-star hotels in Hawaii. The Outrigger also has a lot of properties in the Pacific region.

These were the reasons why owners of said hotel contracted Outrigger to manage it, Palasia Resort, Inc. and Midcorp Vice President Glenn Seid told *Palau Horizon*.

"They ended up the relationship. The relationship didn't work out. Our relationship broke up in a friendly manner. It was a joint decision that we both realized that business is down and it's very hard to maintain that relationship so we said why don't we terminate the contract," Seid explained.

Jason Kesolei, project manager of Midcorp, reiterated that the pull out was a "mutual agreement" both for the benefit of the management and for the owners, too.

"The Outrigger decided to pull out. They notified the owners," Seid said. "It's not so much about issues. Issue means something that you can work out because all of the financial issues have been worked out and settled before they left," Seid pointed out.

"It just like having a marriage that has different styles and systems whereby our partners, especially the Taiwanese and the owners, have different ways of doing things. They have different cultures

and languages. Those things that made it difficult to work out," the Palasia Resort vice president stressed.

He added these differences were being worked out since the hotel started its operations in 1998. One of the difficulties that was encountered then was when they opened the hotel, Asian economies were in a crisis.

"It was the Asian economic crisis which made it very hard not just for this hotel, but probably for other hotels all over the Pacific. It was just a wrong time to open," Seid pointed out.

He explained: "Even though, the Outrigger did their best, it was just an unfortunate time for opening the hotel and that's one of the reasons why we

couldn't pull the occupancy rate up to where we have projected."

Basically the reason why they could not raise the occupancy rate of the hotel was "not so much of their inability." They did a good job. It was just that the economic situation in the region was not favorable. If there was a lot of money coming in, there would be no problem, Seid emphasized.

Currently, the hotel is being managed by the owners themselves, as key people from the Outrigger had left already after the "break up."

Asked if they would be affected by the pull out, Seid explained that they are still maintaining the same key tour agents outside of Palau.

Read with your child everyday.

## Another plane tragedy

**NANTUCKET, Mass. (AP)** — As Coast Guard cutters searched Sunday off the island's south coast for wreckage of an EgyptAir jet, local officials braced for the grim possibility of debris and bodies washing up.

EgyptAir Flight 990 went down 60 miles off the remote island and authorities had to swing into action.

"All we're doing is gearing up for any eventuality," said Bud Glidden, emergency management director for the island of 8,000 year-round residents that swell to 40,000 people in the summer.

Still vivid in the mind of Glidden was the July 16 plane crash that killed John F. Kennedy Jr., his wife and her sister off the neighboring island of Martha's Vineyard. Plane parts, luggage and clothing washed up on Martha's Vineyard beaches for days after that crash.

Police officers on Nantucket were dispatched to Low Beach late Sunday morning after reports of

floating suitcases. But the objects turned out to be a group of seals, said police officer Brian Chadwick.

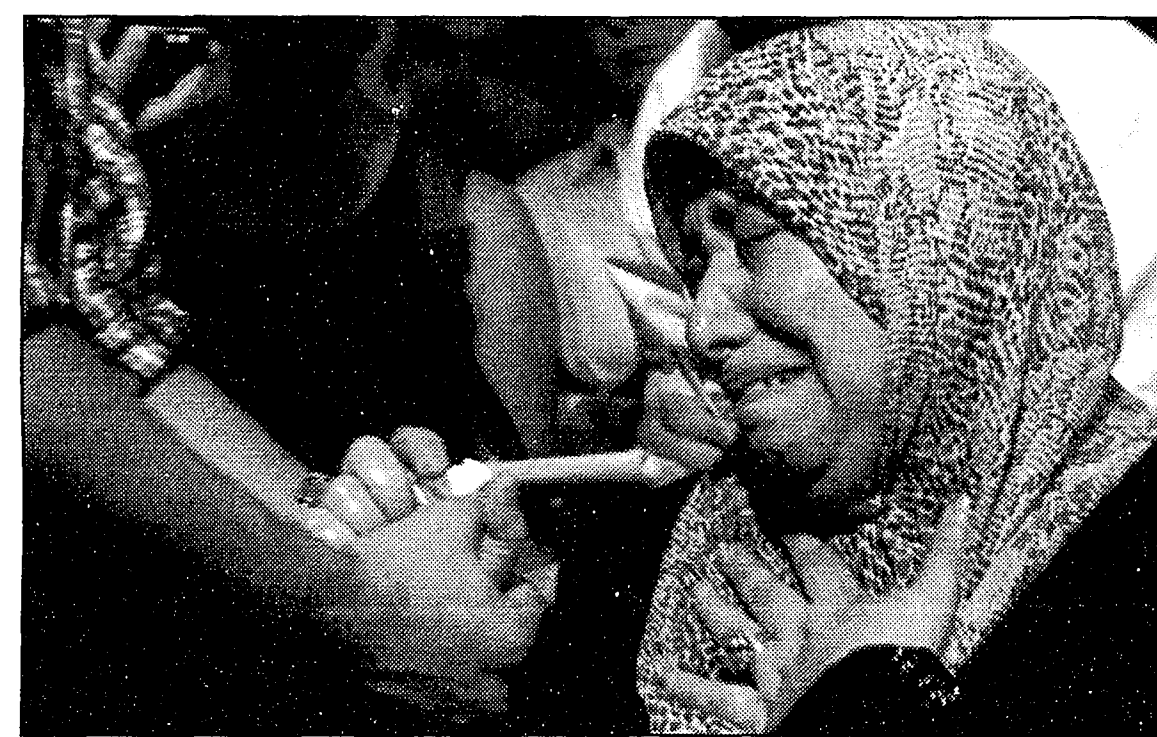
Debris from the plane was found not far from the spot where the cruise ship Andrea Doria sank July 25, 1956.

The luxury liner was heading from Italy to New York when it collided with a Swedish ship, killing 51.

Despite the massive search off the island's coast, most island activities went on as normal, including the town's planned Halloween children's parade.

Aure Hamel, 34, a lifelong island resident and mother of three, said that could be because the island had seen its share of ocean tragedies.

"The ocean is big and when you grow up on the ocean you learn that the ocean takes a lot of things away," Hamel said. "We've seen a lot of boats lost, and we've lost a lot of close friends on the ocean in a lot of different ways."



Suhair Hathout cries after receiving the news that her sister and brother-in-law who lived in Ohio were travelling on Sunday's EgyptAir flight 990 which crashed in the Atlantic Ocean. The plane was carrying 199 passengers and 15 crew members.

## FAA got plane bomb alert

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — A month ago, the Federal Aviation Administration issued an alert to airline and airport security personnel after agencies received an unconfirmed warning that a bomb would "soon be used" on a flight departing from Los Angeles or Kennedy airport in New York.

Officials said they had no reason to believe the disappearance of an EgyptAir flight on Sunday was caused by sabotage. Investigators were attempting to determine the fate of Flight 990 after takeoff from Kennedy International Airport. The flight originated Saturday in Los Angeles.

Many aviation warnings are investigated each month by federal agencies and the Sept. 24 alert said: "At this time, FAA has no information to corroborate the statements in the letter and assess them as lacking credibility."

Asked about the alert, David Leavy, spokesman for National Security Council, told The Associated Press, "I don't want to speculate on this until we have information."

A U.S. intelligence official said at midmorning Sunday that agencies were pursuing the possibility of sabotage, but, "There's nothing to immediately point toward that." Another official said there had been no recent threat that seemed relevant to the EgyptAir disappearance.

An FBI official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the person who made the claim cited in the FAA memo was in prison and that they had no information that the threat was related. The official also said that as of midday no groups had made any terrorist claims involving the crash.

The official said law enforcement agencies are reviewing past tips and phone traffic to see if

there was a lead that was passed over before and might be relevant after the plane disappeared.

"We don't want to sit around a week and then find out this was a crime and start investigating," the official said.

In a Sept. 24 "information circular," a copy of which was obtained by the AP, the FAA said several U.S. agencies received a warning by letter in August "that a bomb or explosive device with 'spiral expansion' would soon be used on a flight departing from either Los Angeles airport or New York's JFK airport."

The circular said the informant "identified himself as Luciano Porcari," and noted that "an individual with this same name hijacked an Iberian Boeing 727 during a flight from Barcelona to Palma de Mallorca, Spain, on March 14, 1977," before being overpowered and arrested.

The alert said the writer said "three of these devices were smuggled into the United States between 1992 and 1993, and that the devices cannot be detected on a metal detector because of the PVC (plastic) composition."

The alert was in effect until Oct. 30. EgyptAir Flight 990 departed Los Angeles on Saturday, Oct. 30, and stopped at John F. Kennedy International Airport, bound for Cairo. The plane took off from JFK at 1:19 a.m. Sunday en route to Cairo and disappeared from radar screens about 40 minutes later.

At a news conference in Cairo, the head of EgyptAir, Mohammed Fahim Rayan, said he had no information of any direct threat against his airline.

Last month, the FAA offered no comment on its alert.

"The FAA often sends out information on threats to ensure that airlines can properly implement security measures," agency spokeswoman Rebecca Trexler

said at the time.

"We do want to assure the public that the FAA works with law enforcement and intelligence agencies of the United States and other countries and we closely evaluate all threats and take appropriate security measures as warranted," Trexler added.

The FAA circular said a Luciano Porcari was sentenced to 10 years in prison on Jan. 25, 1979, but later escaped. In August 1981, he threatened to hijack another aircraft unless he was paid \$250,000. He was subsequently arrested in Italy and sentenced to nine years in prison on Jan. 27, 1982. The circular said he was released on Aug. 12, 1982.

In the warning received by letter "to several U.S. government agencies," the informant "claimed that between 1975 and 1983 eight of the devices were manufactured, that only three remained and that one was in the U.S."

He also said he had warned various U.S. authorities about the device before the July 1996 explosion of TWA Flight 800 off Long Island and the September 1998 crash of Swissair Flight 111 off Newfoundland.

The TWA plane had taken off from Kennedy airport en route to Paris, while the Swissair plane had taken off from Kennedy en route to Geneva.

After an extensive investigation, authorities ruled out a criminal act in the TWA crash. They now believe there was an explosion for an undetermined reason in the plane's center fuel tank.

The Swissair plane crashed 16 minutes after the pilots reported smoke in the cockpit. Authorities have not determined a cause but are focusing on the airplane's wiring and insulation material.

## Clinton: No sign of plane sabotage



Bill Clinton

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Departing for Mideast peace talks in Europe, President Clinton said there was no early indication of foul play in Sunday's EgyptAir crash.

"We do not know what caused this tragedy, but we will devote every necessary resource so that we can understand exactly what happened," the president said on the South Lawn of the White House. "At this moment, the thoughts and prayers of all of our people should be with the families of the passengers and crew."

Clinton was informed of the crash by his national security advisor, Sandy Berger, just hours before he was leaving for Oslo, Norway. He is meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who are seeking a permanent peace in the Middle East.

The leaders were gathering in Oslo to remember slain Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, whom Clinton called "one of the great heroes of this century."

"We will honor him by not only remembering his life but by pursuing his vision of a peaceful Middle East," Clinton said.

The president reinforced earlier statements that there was no obvious signs of sabotage in-

volved in the EgyptAir tragedy when he said he did not believe the crash would overshadow his mission in Oslo.

"Based on what I now know," he said, "I have no reason to believe that there is any element involved in this that would overshadow ... the work of peace."

Clinton telephoned Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who was not attending the talks, to express his condolences and assure Mubarak that every effort was being made for a thorough search and recovery effort, officials said.

Administration officials were not ruling out any possibilities until investigators could analyze radar data, the debris field, the flight recorders and information about people who had contact.

"There are any number of things that will provide us more factual information rather than guesses," said Jim Fallin, spokesman for the National Security Council.

The Navy was preparing to send the USS Grapple to the area where debris was found of the coast of Nantucket island, administration officials said. The Grapple, based at Little Creek, Va., is a search and rescue vessel that participated in the recovery efforts after TWA Flight 800 broke apart and fell into the Atlantic near Long Island.

The Coast Guard had a P-3 airplane in the air. The P-3 is a long-range reconnaissance plane that specializes in seeking out submarines along the ocean floor.

Vice President Al Gore said that the administration was "doing everything in our power to help find the cause of today's crash and learn whatever we can to prevent any such tragedies from occurring in the future."



# 2 doomed jets off same line

SEATTLE (AP) — The EgyptAir 767 that plummeted six miles Sunday to crash off the coast of Nantucket Island came off Boeing Co.'s assembly line immediately before a Lauda Air 767 that crashed eight years ago in a Thailand jungle.

Both planes were completed just days before Boeing's aircraft

assemblers went on strike, complaining of being over tired because they were forced to work too much overtime.

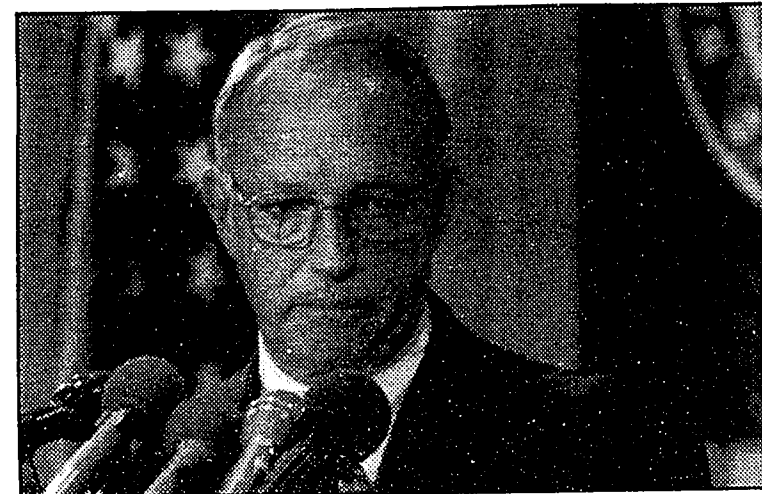
A Boeing spokesman said the company knew of nothing to indicate the two crashes were related, but added, "we're going to look at every possible scenario." The 1991 Lauda crash was caused

when a mechanism designed to brake the plane on the ground deployed in the air.

The EgyptAir model 767-300ER, for extended range, was assembled at Boeing's Everett plane factory in September 1989, the 282nd 767 to be built. The 767-300ER for Austria's Lauda Air left the factory about two



Boeing 767 jetliner is shown during its first test flight on Sept. 26, 1981. An EgyptAir Boeing 767 plane similar to this one is reported to have crashed while flying from New York's Kennedy International Airport to Cairo, Egypt.



Jim Hall, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, calls on a reporter during a news conference at the NTSB in Washington Sunday as he talks about the crash of EgyptAir's Flight 990 early Sunday morning off Nantucket, Mass.

weeks later.

Boeing Commercial Airplane Group spokesman Doug Webb said the company has no reason to think anything was wrong with aircraft assembled at that time.

However, the planes were built during one of the most turbulent times in the company's history.

Union Machinists at Boeing went on strike on Oct. 4, 1989, as the aircraft builder was struggling to meet delivery schedules during a period of record aircraft orders. In addition to money, a major issue in the 48-day strike was the heavy amount of overtime required of production workers, many of whom complained of being too tired to do their jobs properly.

During the crush of work in the late 1980s, some of Boeing's largest customers complained about poor quality. Those carriers later praised the company for fixing the problems, however, and backed up the sentiment by ordering hundreds of more jets.

The struggles of the late 1980s led to a compete revamp of Boeing's manufacturing, design and engineering processes, as well as the way the company worked with customers, employees and suppliers.

Both company and union officials have adamantly denied that aircraft could be sabotaged in the plant, saying there are too many safeguards and that any perpetrator would be easy to trace.

The 767, a twin-engine widebody, went into passenger use in September 1982 and is a

workhorse on transatlantic routes. It has not had an unusually high accident rate, with only three fatal crashes - the third occurring when an Ethiopian Airlines jet ditched in the Comoros Islands in 1996 after being hijacked and running out of fuel.

Prior to Sunday's crash, the EgyptAir plane had completed more than 30,000 flight hours over the course of more than 6,900 flights.

Investigators had no immediate indication of what caused the jet to suddenly dive from 33,000 feet into the Atlantic approximately 40 minutes after taking off on a flight from New York to Cairo.

The plane apparently had just reached cruising altitude. All 214 on board were believed killed.

The Lauda 767, which crashed on May 26, 1991, was climbing after taking off from Bangkok about 45 minutes earlier.

It had just passed 10,000 feet when the pilot and copilot received a warning light signifying a problem with the engine thrust reverser, a device that uses the power of the aircraft's two engines to brake the plane after it lands. On a 767, the reversers - one per engine - are engineered to activate only when the plane is on the ground.

Minutes later, as they were discussing what action to take, an engine reverser activated, sending the plane into an uncontrollable plunge. The 233 passengers and crew were killed.

## Visiting Egyptian canceled his trip home; glad he did

NEW YORK (AP) — An Egyptian man visiting a new grandchild in New York canceled plans at the last minute for a flight home on EgyptAir 990, his daughter said Sunday.

Said Abaza, 55, of Alexandria, Egypt, was eager to get home after spending five weeks in the Bay Ridge section of Brooklyn, but his daughter, Iman Mohammed, prevailed on him to postpone the trip for another week.

Mrs. Mohammed said her father, after learning of the plane's disappearance over the Atlantic early Sunday morning, expressed

thanks to God and added, "It is not a day for dying. If it was, I would be going."

She said she wasn't sure she had a premonition of the plane's fate.

"I didn't want him to go," she said. "What I feel - I don't know why. It just occurred to me that he should stay another week."

She said her father, a widower who does not speak English, was on his first trip to the United States. He has two daughters in New York and other family in Alexandria, where he makes leather bags.

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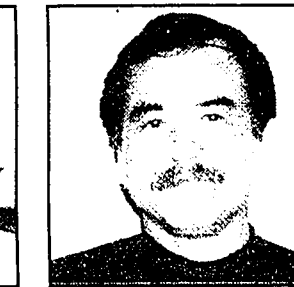
Rosiky F. Camacho  
 (Incumbent)



Juan C. Tudela



Florencio T. Guerrero



Antonio M. Camacho



Francisco Dlg. Demapan

### Election Precinct III



Max "Timmo" L. Olopai  
 (Incumbent)



Luis S. Camacho



Isidro "Sid" A. Sablan

### Election Precinct IV



Egedino "Dino" M. Jones (Incumbent)

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# Gore tackles social security

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrat Bill Bradley said Sunday that "discussion should continue" on whether to raise the Social Security eligibility age. Vice President Al Gore's campaign seized upon the remark as an indication of half-hearted support for the retirement program.

Bradley, meanwhile, dismissed criticism from Gore that his proposal to help 45 million uninsured people get health coverage might actually drive up premiums and might bust the federal budget in future years.

"Any time you put out a big idea to deal with a big problem, it's vulnerable to scare tactics," Bradley said. "That is precisely what's going on here."

Appearing on CBS' "Face the Nation," the former New Jersey senator was asked about a Senate vote in which he backed a nonbinding resolution expressing support for raising the Social Security eligibility age from 67 to 70.

"My position is that the discussion should continue," Bradley said. "My position is that Social Security is the most important government program. It should be protected."

Bradley added that to ensure

Social Security's future solvency, the issue had to cease being "a political football" and become the focus of serious talks between Republicans and Democrats. But Gore spokesman Chris Lehane said Bradley's position on the eligibility age suggested a willingness to make fundamental changes that might undermine the program.

"He won't make firm commitment to defending the current age for Social Security," Lehane said. "We should keep that commitment."

Bradley spokesman Eric Hauser responded that Bradley's "commitment to Social Security is firm." He declined to discuss the eligibility age issue further. Gore aides, however, indicated the vice president may hammer Bradley on the issue in coming days.

Gore, appearing on ABC's "This Week," repeated his charge that Bradley's proposals to extend health insurance to all Americans would spend virtually all of the projected surplus over the next decade, end a cherished Democratic program in Medicaid and do nothing to keep Medicare solvent.

## Bradley says refusal to attack Gore wise



Bill Bradley

On Sunday, Bradley went door-knocking in a tree-lined middle-class neighborhood, mingling with residents preparing for Halloween festivities.

"I've done a good amount of (door-knocking) running for president," said Bradley. "It's a way of paying respect. If you do it with some, you are doing it for all. If you never do it then you aren't paying that type of respect."

With much of the Democratic Party's establishment in Gore's camp, Bradley was seeking support among college liberals from nearby Iowa State University using issues like his call for expanded health coverage.

Aides were quick to point out that the 50 people who gathered in a back yard Sunday to hear him speak are not traditional party activists, but newcomers to the political process.

There were some signs that Bradley insistence on avoiding verbal fighting with Gore was getting some support.

"We very much appreciate your efforts to keep the campaign civil," said Michael Mendelson, who answered one of the doors Bradley knocked.

In addition to narrowing the gap in some of the polling, Bradley has made himself competitive with the vice president financially, raising enough money to keep the contest going deep into the primary calendar.

"I consider this a joyous journey," said Bradley.



Vice President Al Gore is questioned about his presidential campaign by Cokie Roberts (right) during ABC's "This Week" on location in the Halloween tent at the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington Sunday. AP

"His health care proposal is definitely a throwback to an era where both Democrats and Republicans threw fiscal responsibility to the wind," Gore said. "If a Republican candidate had proposed eliminating Medicaid and taking away everything that's needed to save Medicare, Democrats would be up in arms."

Bradley said the disagreement over health insurance demonstrates how his approach to governing contrasts with that of Gore.

"It's a big problem. It deserves a big solution. I've offered that, and I think he's been

much more incremental in nature. So I think that would lead to us being very different kinds of presidents," Bradley said.

Gore also was asked about a Time magazine report on his campaign's hiring of feminist author Naomi Wolf as an adviser at a salary of \$15,000 a month. The magazine said Wolf is involved in everything from choosing shirt-and-tie combinations to changing public perceptions of Gore as a permanent No. 2 man.

Wolf is the author of several best-sellers on female sexual power. In her latest, "Promiscuities," she argues in part that

schools should teach such things as masturbation because it is more realistic than abstinence and safer than sexual intercourse.

Gore said Wolf's salary is "a third" of the reported amount - his campaign has drawn criticism for being top-heavy and overpaid - and that she is mainly working with his daughter, Karenna Gore Schiff, on Internet efforts to appeal to younger voters.

"She's a valued adviser and she'll remain one," Gore said. "We want to attract young women and young men to participate in this campaign."

## High court to hear frisking case

CHICAGO (AP) — William Wardlow spotted the unmarked police car and took off running - down a passageway and half a block more before pursuing officers caught him.

Officer Timothy Nolan frisked the convicted felon, found a .38-caliber handgun he was carrying and slapped on the cuffs.

Four years later, the case against Wardlow, 45, is before the U.S. Supreme Court, the center of a debate over individual rights and police power.

The court is to hear arguments Tuesday on whether officers were right to frisk Wardlow merely because he ran.

Courts in Illinois and nine other states have said fleeing at the sight of an officer does not create enough suspicion to warrant such a stop. Judges in seven other states have said that it does.

Wardlow was arrested Sept. 9, 1995, after fleeing an elite police unit sent into his tough neighborhood to break up criminal activity. While the police car was unmarked, no one disputes that Wardlow

knew he was fleeing police.

His conviction for illegal possession of a weapon by a felon was thrown out in 1997 by the Illinois Appellate Court, which said that fleeing police did not always create the telltale sign of criminal activity justifying a pat-down search.

The Illinois Supreme Court upheld that decision last year.

The possibility that the U.S. Supreme Court will settle the issue once and for all has focused national attention on the Wardlow case.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police and the National Sheriff's Association have filed friend-of-the-court briefs supporting Cook County State's Attorney Richard Devine, who will argue before the Supreme Court that Wardlow's conviction should be reinstated.

"It's our view that when there's unprovoked flight from a clearly identifiable police officer," Devine says, "police should be able to make a reasonable stop and inquire."

Defense attorneys say frisking an individual merely because he ran from the police would erode the freedom of

movement guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment.

The American Civil Liberties Union and the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund have joined Wardlow attorney James Koch in arguing that Illinois appeals judges rightly threw out the conviction.

"There are lots of reasons why people, whatever their reasons, don't want to wait around and talk to police," Koch says.

Wardlow was arrested in Chicago's violent Harrison police district.

Throughout the area west of downtown, unemployed men stare blankly from cracked and peeling porches, cocaine dealers peer furtively from alleys. In August alone, the district had nine killings, four arsons, 117 robberies, 273 assaults and 79 burglaries.

Wardlow at times went by his brother's name of Sam Wardlow, and was already convicted of burglary when he was found carrying the gun. He was released from a state prison in April after serving 18 months of a three-year drug sentence.

Koch declined to arrange an interview, saying his client is "getting his life together."

# Clinton to veto education bill

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — President Clinton Sunday again vowed to veto legislation passed by the Republican-led House that he said would reverse the nation's commitment to reducing class size and improving education.

Speaking to reporters departing on a trip to Norway, Clinton lauded a new report that showed that his class size reduction initiative had already brought more teachers into the classrooms and increased training for those already there.

"This report confirms that this targeted effort to hire more teachers is what local schools need and want," Clinton said, urging lawmakers to reconsider their plans to cut spending.

The House Thursday passed 1 percent across-the-board spending cuts - excluding benefits such as Medicare, veterans' pensions and food stamps - to save about \$4 billion and help meet Republicans' pledge of balancing the fiscal 2000 budget without using Social Security reserves.

Clinton criticized the legislation, noting that many Republican lawmakers had voted for an administration plan to hire the first 30,000 of 100,000 additional teachers for U.S. public schools just last fall.

"It makes mindless across-the-board cuts in everything from education to health to safety. If that bill passes, I will veto it," he told reporters.

"I don't think the proper response to our education challenge is fewer teachers, no accountability and across-the-board cuts in education," he said.

U.S. public schools are facing larger enrollments at a time when many teachers are retiring or planning to retire.

"Once again I ask Congress to put partisanship aside ... and work with me to reduce class sizes, increase quality in teaching, and increase performance in our schools," the president said. "We should be funding education strategies that work."

The Council of the Great City Schools issued a report on Sunday, concluding there was strong demand for the

dedicated resources provided by the administration's initiative and "that these resources are making a tangible difference."

The group, which represents the biggest U.S. urban public school systems, said 3,558 teachers had been hired in 40 of the biggest urban school districts, primarily in areas of highest need, such as literacy, mathematics and special education.

In addition, the programme had paid for 22,000 urban teachers to receive high-quality training.

The budget cuts, tucked into legislation worth \$327 billion to fund labour, education and social services programmes, will be voted by the Senate this coming week. Republicans do not have a wide enough majority in either chamber to override Clinton's promised veto.



President Clinton leaves the White House Sunday with Michael Casserly, director of the Council of Greater City Schools before departing to Oslo, Norway. AP

In Celebration of Her New Life

## Angelica Reyes Bermudes

(Kang Kang Julio)

**Date of Birth:** May 20, 1916  
**Died:** Oct. 29, 1999

**Predeceased by:**  
**Husband:** Jose Dlg. Bermudes  
**Father:** Jose Coloma Reyes (Julio)  
**Mother:** Maria Cabrera Reyes (Tamat)  
**Sisters:** Rosa Reyes Cabrera, Maria Reyes Pangelinan, Adela Reyes San Nicolas  
**Brothers:** Jose Cabrera Reyes, Juan Cabrera Reyes, Vicente Cabrera Reyes  
**In-Laws:** Jose Ayuyu, Antonio Duenas, Juan Pangelinan, Jose Pangelinan Tenorio, Andres A. San Nicolas, Alfonso Torres Dela Cruz  
**Great Grand Son:** Joseph Jr. B. Aldan

**Survived by:**  
**Children & Spouses:** Mariano R. Bermudes- Maisie/Micheal, Paula/John, Jr., Patricia, Vanessa/Omar (Justin), Candace/David (Christopher)  
**Brother/Sisters:** Herman R. & Shirley S. Bermudes - Patricia/Joseph (Angela)  
**Sister-in-law:** Helen B. & Wayne Smith- Christopher, Heather  
 Jose R. Bermudes & Susana Mendiola  
 Alfonso Cabrera Reyes  
 Anna Reyes Ayuyu  
 Maria Reyes Dela Cruz  
 Victorina Tudela Reyes

Her remains will leave CHC at 7:00 a.m. to the residence of Mariano R. Bermudes in Chalan Kanoa, Dist. 3 on November 5, 1999. Mass of christian burial will be offered at 11:00am at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, burial will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Lunch will be served immediately after burial at the residence above.





# San Francisco runoff likely

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—An 11th-hour write-in campaign and a crowd of challengers may force political powerhouse Willie Brown to defend his mayoralty in a runoff election.

Pundits once gave Brown a good chance of winning the majority he needs in Tuesday's election to become the first incumbent returned to the San Francisco post in 16 years.

But the late entry of Board of Supervisors President Tom Ammiano is likely to siphon off enough of Brown's support to require a Dec. 14 runoff between the top two finishers.

"It's a 99 percent chance that Mayor Brown is going to have to face a runoff," said Richard DeLeon, chairman of the political science department at San Francisco State University. "The odds are it will be against (former Mayor) Frank Jordan, but it could be Ammiano."

Brown, known for his elegant suits and imperious style, has been blasted by accusations of cronyism, with FBI investigating how contracts have been awarded - some to friends of the mayor - by several city departments.

Major issues include problems with the city's public transit system, which Brown rashly promised to solve in his first 100 days in office. That hasn't happened. And housing prices, especially the extremely tight rental market, are driving middle- and lower-income people out of town.

Ammiano said he got into the



U.S. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-San Francisco (left), and U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Los Angeles (center), join in a dance with San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown (right) during a campaign rally outside Brown's campaign office Saturday in San Francisco. Brown is seeking reelection as Mayor of San Francisco on Tuesday. AP

race on Oct. 13 because he felt a sense of "despair that was palpable" among the city's voters.

"Potentially, (his entry) could be huge, in the sense that there seems to be an enthusiasm for somebody other than the three major candidates and he comes in as somebody who's not marred by criticism from the debates or TV ads," said Bruce Cain, director of the Institute of Governmental Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.

The 14-way campaign has been so bitter that audience members left one debate in disgust after an hour of chaos and shouting. In billboards and

television ads, Brown and Clint Reilly, a political consultant-turned-candidate, have both run negative campaigns.

Brown's main competition was expected to come from Jordan, the former city police chief and mayor whom Brown defeated in 1995, and Reilly, a millionaire who has never held elected office and who was Jordan's campaign manager in that losing campaign. Ammiano, who is gay, draws support from the city's large and politically active gay community, and also has many non-gay liberals on his side.

A poll of 630 people last week for the San Francisco

Examiner and Oakland TV station KTVU found 35 percent favored Brown, with Jordan, Ammiano and Reilly each getting around 11 to 12 percent. More than one in four San Franciscans were undecided. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

While Brown and Ammiano do share supporters, DeLeon sees Brown as a traditional big-city liberal and Ammiano as more in the progressive mold, concerned with environmental issues, social justice and neighborhood preservation.

"If he does get in the runoff, I don't think there's any chance that he would actually win," DeLeon said of Ammiano. "Still, it would be a significant accomplishment."

## McCain's temper may yet become an issue

PHOENIX (AP)—While rising in the GOP presidential polls, Sen. John McCain is facing questions about what some Arizona political leaders view as his quick temper - and whether it might hinder him as president.

In a front-page article and separate editorial Sunday, The Arizona Republic said it wanted the nation to know about the "volcanic" temper McCain has unleashed on several top state officials.

Those who have been on the receiving end of a McCain up-roar include Republican Gov. Jane Hull, former Republican Gov. Rose Mofford and former Democratic Mayor Paul Johnson of Phoenix.

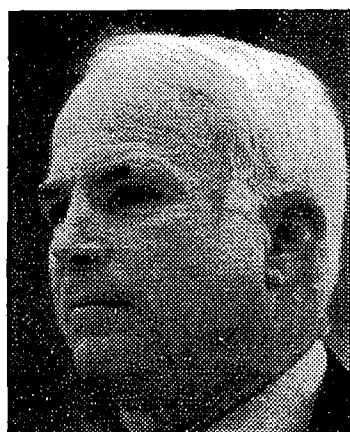
Mrs. Hull, a supporter of GOP presidential front-runner George W. Bush, has acknowledged that her relationship with McCain has been cool and told an interviewer recently McCain "has to keep control" of his temper.

A Hull spokesman, Francie Noyes, said Sunday the governor had no further comment on the matter of McCain's temperament and that "she wants to move on to other things."

But the Arizona Republic, which endorsed McCain for each of his five congressional races but has not yet made an endorsement in the presidential race, was direct.

It declared in an editorial: "If McCain is truly a serious contender for the presidency, it is time the rest of the nation learned about the John McCain we know in Arizona. There is also reason to seriously question whether he has the temperament, and the political approach and skills, we want in the next president of the United States."

McCain spokesman Dan Schnur said the criticism reflects McCain's emergence as a serious contender, resulting media scrutiny, and the fact that the former Vietnam POW "is a fighter and



John McCain

has always been a fighter."

"When a candidate moves up in the polls as quickly as John McCain has there's bound to be closer media scrutiny," Schnur said. "Show me a politician who's never offended anyone and I'll show you a politician who's pretty useless to his constituents."

Earlier in the week, McCain blamed the Bush campaign for helping plant recent temper stories and said the "hothead" portrayal was inaccurate.

"Do I insult anybody or fly off the handle or anything like that? No, I don't," insisted McCain.

Pam Johnson, executive editor of The Republic, said her paper's coverage decisions were made independently, not at the suggestion of anyone in the Bush campaign.

"A lot of the admirable qualities of Sen. McCain have been widely reported nationally. A lot of the temperament issues have not," said Johnson, who is in charge of the paper's editorial and news pages.

Even some of McCain's supporters acknowledge a short fuse, but say that should not disqualify him to be president.

"I think John McCain is as steady as they come. I've seen him get really passionate about issues, but I don't see it as losing control," said Rep. Matt Salmon, R-Ariz. He called McCain's passion refreshing.

# 'President Trump' bares plans

WASHINGTON (AP)—Donald Trump said Sunday that as president, he personally would handle U.S. trade talks and would restore respect from countries doing business with America.

The New York developer, considering a run for president as the Reform Party nominee, attacked the trade policies of a number of U.S. allies:

- France is "a terrible partner."
- Japan is "ripping us big league."

- Germany "wants to take over the world economically. They failed militarily."

- Saudi Arabians "have boats bigger than any boats you've ever seen. They have houses all over the world, including Palm Beach. ... This is getting a little ridiculous. I mean, the money they make."

On "Fox News Sunday," Trump also took aim at North Korea and China for ignoring U.S. overtures and building nuclear weapons. He branded Cuba's Fidel Castro as "absolutely a killer and should be treated as such."

He placed a large share of the blame on U.S. Trade Representative Charlene

Barshefsky - "Nobody ever heard of her" - and said he would hold that title in a Trump administration.

"My lawyers have checked, and the president has the authority," Trump said in a statement released by his presidential exploratory committee after his television appearance.

"Our trading partners would have to negotiate across the table from Donald Trump, and I guarantee you, the rip-off of the United States would end."

Figures announced two weeks ago showed the nation's trade deficit running at a record annual rate of \$252 billion through August. The deficit with Japan, at a record in July, was slightly narrower at \$6.4 billion in August but still was running 13 percent higher than in 1998.

On Fox, Trump said clues to the Clinton administration's trade policy can be found in the president's personal business deals.

"I do a deal a minute, and the one deal he did was Whitewater. That turned out to be, you know, unfortunate," Trump said. Clinton and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton, invested in the failed Arkansas land development that led



Real estate developer and possible presidential hopeful Donald Trump plays "Monopoly" with Melania Knauss Thursday in New York. Trump competed with more than 700 of New York's real estate executives for the title "Power Player of the Year" at the 7th annual "Evening of Monopoly" held by New York University's Real Estate Institute. AP

to a protracted independent investigation and, ultimately, the impeachment inquiry.

Even the Clintons' latest deal, a \$1.7 million house in New York's Westchester County, showed the president's lack of business acumen, Trump said. If Trump - who described himself as "by far the biggest developer in Manhattan" - had done the deal, he said, he could have saved the Clintons at least \$500,000.

"I know the house. My people know the house," Trump said. "They came up to me, they said, 'Why did he pay so much?' I said, 'I don't know.' So why do we give everything away to Japan?"

If Trump enters the 2000 Reform Party campaign, a decision he promised by the spring, a principal opponent will be Pat Buchanan. He quit the Republican Party and is to announce his candidacy Monday.

Appearing Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press," he was asked about Trump's idea to name himself trade representative.

"I think The Donald would be much better off at HUD, quite frankly: Housing and Urban Development," Buchanan said.

## Animals die in N.J. fire

OCEANCITY, N.J. (AP)—When the Ocean City Aquarium caught fire, firefighters feared its dozens of snakes, sharks and alligators were dead - until an 18-foot python slithered up through the ashes.

Then two large alligators appeared, and a few turtles.

And the firefighters' attention shifted to what creatures were still alive and lurking in the next puddle as they stomped through the aquarium's charred ruins in the dark.

"It would be hard to explain how one of your men got bit by a caiman while he was fighting a

fire," Fire Capt. Bill McDonnell said early Sunday as he helped direct cautious firefighters into the building after the flames had been extinguished.

The smoke and flames killed more than 60 reptiles and 100 fish and sharks.

Among the survivors: 20 turtles, 12 alligators and crocodiles, three boa constrictors, two pythons and a moray eel, aquarium owner Angelo Cuculino said Sunday.

The fire early Saturday evening destroyed the 11/2-story pink stucco building that houses the 4-

year-old aquarium and about 40,000 visitors a year. A neighbor reported hearing two explosions, and by the time firefighters arrived, the aquarium was engulfed in flames.

One of the first on the scene spotted was an 18-foot African rock python. Cuculino grabbed it behind the head and stuff it into a Styrofoam box.

His wife, June, carried a red-eared slider turtle to safety, and firefighter Ed Kooker rescued four caimans and stuffed them into wire cages.



Ocean City, N.J., firefighters place a 5-foot American alligator into a car after pulling it from the wreckage of a fire at the Ocean City Aquarium on Saturday. The blaze gutted the building containing some 100 dolphins, snakes, alligators, turtles and lizards. AP

## Churches conclude salvation dispute

AUGSBURG, Germany (AP)—Putting aside five centuries of differences in theology, Roman Catholic and Lutheran church leaders embraced at a service Sunday where they signed a declaration ending a dispute over salvation that sparked the Protestant Reformation and led to the Thirty Years War.

The 700 guests at Augsburg's Lutheran Church of St. Anna's and more than 2,000 observers in a tent nearby watched, applauded and hugged each other as officials from the two bodies stated that both churches believe the salvation of individual Christians is "justified" by God's love alone, not by human efforts.

From the Vatican, Pope John Paul II welcomed the signing as a "milestone along a difficult path full of joy, union, and communion among Christians."

During the Augsburg service, Bishop Christian Krause, president of the Lutheran World Federation, also spoke of the agreement's importance.

"For the first time in centuries

we are walking on common ground together," Krause said.

Martin Luther set in motion the Protestant Reformation on the same date 482 years ago, when he nailed his 95 theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, protesting the practice of selling indulgences to help believers gain forgiveness for their sins.

The dispute centered on the question of how to get to heaven. Catholics believe that people's actions can make a difference, while Lutherans believe salvation is based on faith alone. After 30 years of consultation among theologians, the two sides announced in June that they would sign the agreement to unite their beliefs on justification.

The agreement doesn't mean any immediate institutional change for the two churches. And as participants noted Sunday, there are still fundamental areas where the two sides disagree, such as over the Eucharist and the interpretation of the bread and wine used in Holy Communion.

Birthday Greetings to our Beloved:

Nov. 2- MINDA CASTRO

Nov. 7- INGRID MATSUMOTO

from all of us:

D' SHEPHERD'S CHOIR

## First Anniversary Rosary

We, the family of the late

† JOSE TORRES  
CHARFAUROS

(JOE BAKULO)

March 19, 1943 - November 11, 1999

Would like to invite our family, relatives and friends to join us in prayers as we commemorate the 1st Anniversary Rosary of our beloved husband, father and grandfather.

Rosary will be said nightly at 8:00 p.m. beginning Wednesday, November 3, 1999 at their residence in Marpo, Tinian.

On the final day, Thursday, November 11, 1999 the Anniversary Mass will be offered at 5:30 p.m., San Jose Church followed by the Final Rosary at 6:00 p.m. in Marpo, Tinian

(Dinner will be served.)

Please join us in Prayers.  
Si Yu's Ma'ase  
THE FAMILY



# Russia, N. Korea to revise treaty

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Russia and North Korea next week will overhaul a decades-old treaty that calls for Russian military backing for communist North Korea in the event of a war, a South Korean official said Sunday.

Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov is expected to visit North Korea Nov. 8-11 to sign a new cooperation treaty that emphasizes trade but excludes a mili-

tary alliance.

For several years, Russia has sought to rewrite the treaty, which was signed shortly after the Korean War. The 1950-53 conflict pitted Soviet and Chinese-backed North Korea against South Korea and U.N. troops, most of them Americans.

Relations between Moscow and North Korea have chilled since the former Soviet Union established diplomatic relations

with South Korea in 1990.

Cold War tension persists on the Korean peninsula, which is divided by a heavily fortified border since the two Koreas have still not formally signed a peace treaty.

Ivanov's visit to North Korea would be the first by a Russian foreign minister since Eduard Shevardnadze's 1990 trip.

Ivanov and his North Korean counterpart, Paik Nam Sun, are

expected to discuss Washington's plan to build an anti-missile defense system in Northeast Asia, said a South Korean foreign ministry official who spoke on customary condition of anonymity.

The so-called U.S. theater missile defense system is intended to protect ships and troops from re-

gional threats, mostly from short- and medium-range missiles.

North Korea rattled the region by firing a multistage missile over Japan and into the Pacific last year.

It reportedly has developed a more powerful missile which some U.S. experts say could reach Hawaii and Alaska.

## Falun Gong leaders charged in Beijing

BEIJING (AP) — Four leaders of the Falun Gong spiritual movement have been charged with organizing a cult and other crimes, the government said Sunday, a day after the legislature tightened the nation's laws on cults.

The four — Li Chang, Wang Zhiwen, Ji Liewu and Yao Jie — were charged with "organizing a cult to undermine the implementation of laws," the government's Xinhua News Agency reported.

Li, Wang and Yao also were charged with violating China's vague state secrets law, a measure often used against political dissidents. Ji and Yao were charged with running illegal businesses, the report said.

All four were believed to have been detained since the government banned Falun Gong in July. They were formally charged on

Oct. 19, and their families were notified a day later, Xinhua said.

While the government moved closer to putting Falun Gong's leading members on trial, more ordinary adherents tried to appeal in Beijing, saying the group was not a cult or a political threat.

"We just want to tell the government this decision is wrong and ask the government to investigate it again," said Liu Dongmei, who came to Beijing two weeks ago from the northeast city of Dalian. "We are not organized, and we are not against the government."

The legislature's move came three months after the government banned Falun Gong as a threat to communist rule and social stability and kicked off a huge propaganda campaign to vilify the group and its leader, Li Hongzhi, who lives in exile in New York.



Unidentified members of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, vote on whether or not to abolish the 12 existing Macao laws Sunday in Beijing, China. AP

## E. Timor, Spratlys to figure at ASEAN

MANILA, (Reuters) — Southeast Asian leaders will discuss East Timor's future and a code of conduct to prevent conflicts in the South China Sea when they meet next month, Philippine Foreign Secretary Domingo Siason said on Friday.

Siason said Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi, who would also be visiting Manila to meet the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) leaders, would make "an important declaration", but declined to elaborate.

Leaders of the 10-nation ASEAN will hold an informal summit in the Philippine capital in the last week of November and meet dialogue partners Japan, China and South Korea.

Siason said the summit would discuss economic and financial cooperation as well as security issues, including the situation on the Korean peninsula.

"There's even East Timor, what to do about East Timor the next three years because the United Nations will administer it," he told reporters.

Siason said there could also be "discussion and signing... (or) discussion and no signing" of a proposed regional code of conduct to govern actions of countries with competing claims over the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea.

The Philippines has been pushing for such a code to prevent accidental conflicts in the Spratlys, a



Domingo Siason

cluster of potentially oil-rich isles and reefs claimed wholly or in part by China, Taiwan, Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

Except for China and Taiwan, all the claimants are members of ASEAN.

Rival claims have sparked tension in the area. On Thursday, the Philippines accused Vietnamese troops, holding a reef that they both claim, of firing shots at a Philippine military surveillance plane and filed a diplomatic protest, expressing "greatest concern" over the incident.

Vietnam said it had full sovereignty over the Spratlys and said claimants there should exercise restraint.

Tension also flared in July when a Philippine Navy vessel sank a Chinese fishing boat in another area of the Spratlys. Manila said it was an accident while Beijing said its boat was rammed.

## Jiang starts visit to Saudi

DUBAI (Reuters) — China's President Jiang Zemin arrived in Saudi Arabia on Sunday on the first visit to the oil-rich kingdom by a Chinese head of state since diplomatic relations were established.

The Saudi Press Agency said Jiang was met in Riyadh at the start of the four-day official visit by King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah.

He is scheduled to hold talks with King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, who diplomats say has been increasingly managing day-to-day affairs in the kingdom.

Jiang arrived from Algeria on a six-nation tour which has also taken him to Britain, France, Portugal and Morocco.

Newspapers reported that the Chinese delegation would discuss a range of economic issues with a Saudi team headed by Finance and National Economy Minister Ibrahim Abdel Aziz al-Assaf.

They said trade had been improving since diplomatic ties were established in 1990, and particularly after Crown Prince Abdullah's visit to China last year.

The daily Saudi Gazette said the two sides could use the visit to discuss the World Trade Organisation, which both are seeking to join.

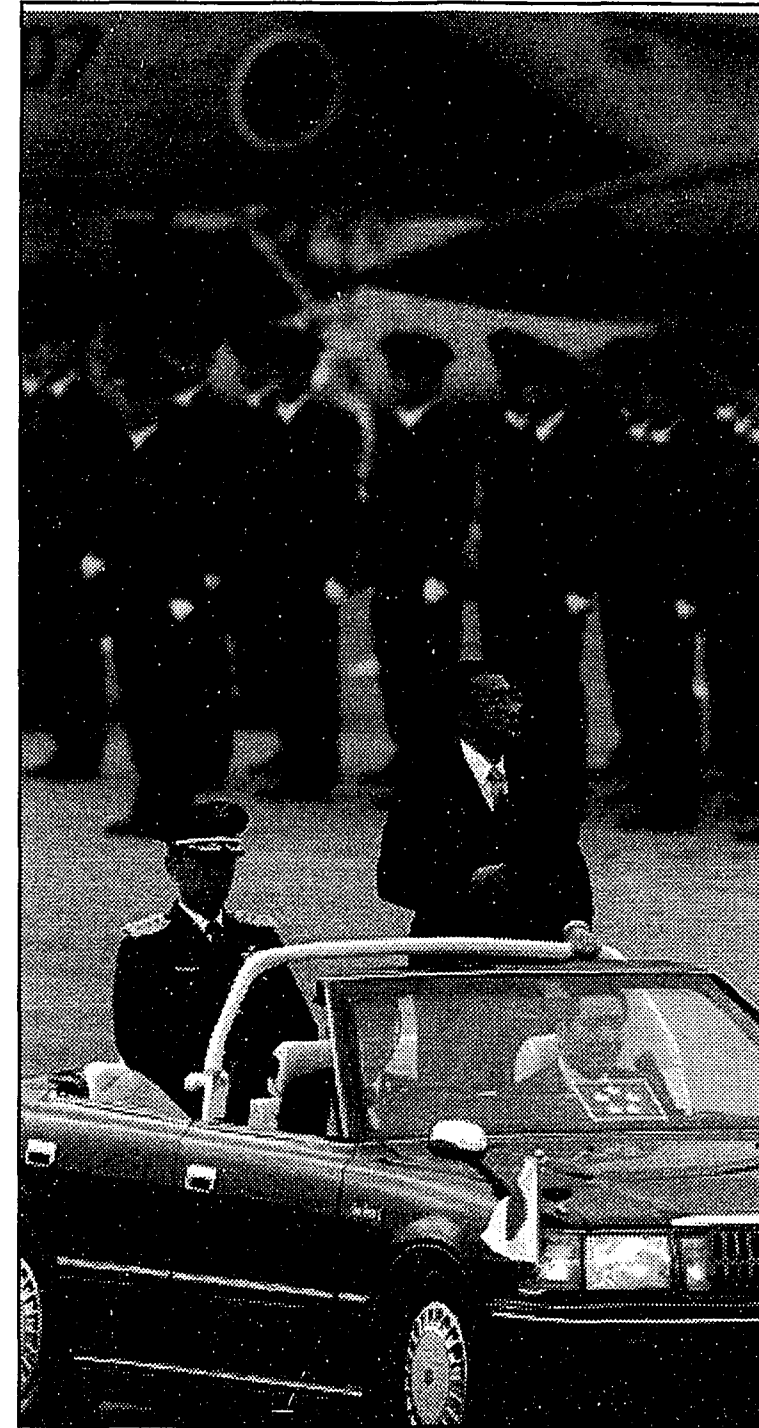
The Chinese ambassador to Saudi Arabia was quoted as saying the country was China's biggest trading partner in the Middle East and north Africa.

The Saudi Gazette said Saudi oil exports to China and other Asian states were increasing. Bilateral trade with China was \$1.7 billion in 1998.



Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika (right) welcomes Chinese President Jiang Zemin upon Jiang's arrival at Algiers airport Saturday. Jiang was in Algeria before flying to Saudi Arabia the next day. AP

# Obuchi eyes defense boost



Japan's Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi reviews soldiers of the Japan Self-Defense Air Forces during its annual air review at Hyakuri Air Base, northeast of Tokyo on Sunday. AP

TOKYO (AP) — Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi called Sunday for laws that would allow Japan's military to rapidly respond to outside aggression, a news agency reported.

"It is essential to prepare the necessary framework to counter possible attacks on our country," Kyodo News agency quoted Obuchi as saying during a visit to an air base in Ibaraki prefecture, or state.

The prime minister said it was urgent to create a system to quickly respond to various kinds of emergencies, referring to a suspected ballistic missile launch last year by North Korea and an incursion by suspected North Korean spy ships into Japanese waters earlier this year, Kyodo said.

He suggested that such laws

could be enacted at an early date, saying the government would "appropriately deal with" emergency legislation while paying attention to parliamentary debates and public opinion, Kyodo said.

Japanese have been on edge since communist North Korea test-fired a missile a year ago that sailed over their country and into the Pacific Ocean, rattling nerves across Asia. North Korea said it was launching a satellite.

In March, Japanese coast guard patrol boats and navy vessels fired warning shots after North Korean ships ignored orders to stop after entering Japan's territorial waters. The ships later fled.

With an eye on the tense security situation in Asia, Japan has

already taken steps to beef up its defense relationship with the United States.

Parliament passed a new set of security guidelines in May that allow Japanese forces to provide greater assistance to American troops in Asia and give the United States greater access to air- and seaports here.

Nearly 50,000 U.S. troops are stationed in Japan as part of a security agreement between the two nations.

Since the end of World War II, Tokyo's defense posture has been limited due to suspicion from China and other Asian countries invaded and occupied by Japan during World War II, and by the country's postwar "peace" constitution that restricts its military to self-defense.



U.S. Marines dash after getting off from a Japanese Self-Defense Forces' helicopter during a Japan-U.S. joint military exercise at JSDF's Aibano maneuvers range in Imazu in Shiga, central Japan Friday. This is one of two military exercises being held by the two nations in Japan between Oct. 27 and Nov. 19. AP

## Quakes recorded at Japan volcano

TOKYO (AP) — Japan's Meteorological Agency urged caution Sunday after hundreds of earthquakes were recorded near an active volcano in the southern part of the nation.

The agency said about 450 earthquakes were registered on the south side of Sakurajima, a populated volcanic island inside Kagoshima Bay, about 590 miles southwest of Tokyo.

The tremors, none strong enough to be felt by humans, were recorded between Saturday evening and Sunday morning, the agency said.

The 3,686-foot-high Sakurajima volcano has erupted 121 times so far this year, compared with 103 times in all of last year, the agency said.

The agency said activity at the volcano has increased slightly and urged caution as further volcanic activity was possible.

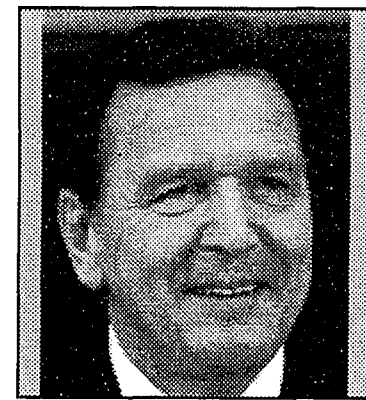
Japan, which sits atop four tectonic plates, is one of the world's most earthquake-prone nations.

## Schroeder calls for China to join G8, WTO

TOKYO (Reuters) — German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder called on Sunday for China to join the Group of Eight consultation process, and said Beijing should be admitted to the World Trade Organisation at the earliest opportunity.

"I think we should consider whether it would make sense for China to become part of the G8 structure," Schroeder told journalists travelling with him after arriving in Japan for an official visit.

Schroeder was due to meet Japanese government leaders and Emperor Akihito on the first leg of an Asian tour. He will depart for China on Tuesday for a visit postponed after NATO



Gerhard Schroeder

bombed the Chinese embassy in Belgrade during the Western alliance's air campaign against Yugoslavia earlier this year.

The G8 is a forum between the world's seven leading

industrialised democracies — the Group of Seven — and Russia.

"Russia is already involved. It is an important country. China is in no way unimportant," Schroeder added.

The Social Democrat leader did not give any details over how China might be brought into the G8 process.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin campaigned to win a place at the G7 summits — the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy and Canada — and Russian leaders now take part in some of the consultations at the Group's annual gatherings.

German government sources said France and Russia had expressed support for China to join

the G8, but they noted that Washington was more cautious.

Schroeder also spoke in favour of an early entry by China into the World Trade Organisation.

Beijing, which began negotiations on joining the WTO 13 years ago, broke off talks after the Belgrade embassy bombing in May. NATO says it hit the embassy by accident.

China resumed WTO entry talks recently, and there is pressure to wrap up the talks in time for a WTO ministerial meeting in Seattle in late November, which is expected to launch a new round of world trade talks.

Schroeder said he would also discuss the Seattle meeting with Japanese leaders.



# Ukraine runoff possible

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Incumbent Leonid Kuchma was leading Sunday in Ukraine's presidential elections, but appeared headed for a runoff after failing to win an outright majority in a tight contest with several left-wing candidates, an exit poll indicated Sunday.

Kuchma was expected to take about 40 percent of the vote, with Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko in second place with 20 percent, according to the joint survey. If the poll results bear out, a second round will be held Nov. 14.

The poll was released before any results from the voting were announced. It was conducted by three top polling agencies and commissioned by the Democratic Initiative Foundation, a private think-tank.

The election was a key test of Kuchma's popularity after five years of cautious, often flawed market reforms. He faced strong competition from several left-wing candidates who had advocated a return to Soviet-style state economic controls and closer ties to Russia.

Kuchma's main rivals were Symonenko; radical Marxist Natalia Vitrenko; Yevhen Marchuk, a moderate ex-prime



Leonid Kuchma

minister who favors pro-Western reforms; and Oleksandr Moroz, head of Ukraine's Socialist Party.

"I'm not clinging to power," a tired-looking Kuchma said after voting in downtown Kiev. "I voted for a better life for Ukrainians, which can only happen if we continue the present course."

It is that course that many of Kuchma's opponents want to change in this country of 50 million people. The incumbent ran against 12 other candidates in all.

"I've lived under Communism and I want to live under Communism and have a secure life," said Anna Palenova, a World War II veteran who voted

for Symonenko in the Black Sea port of Sevastopol.

Opponents accused Kuchma of stifling the media and blocking their electoral efforts during the heated and often dirty presidential campaign. On Sunday, Kuchma's camp accused its rivals of campaigning on election day while opponents charged the president's followers with trying to rig the vote.

Kuchma has failed to halt the worsening economic situation in Ukraine, once the Soviet Union's breadbasket and a major industrial zone.

Rampant corruption and red tape, paltry foreign investment and growing unemployment along with wage and pension debts have plagued his term in office, though he did manage to avoid civil unrest and improve Ukraine's international standing.

Kuchma's foes ran on platforms ranging from populist socialism to a limited market economy with varying state involvement. Many candidates advocated close relations with Moscow and opposed Kuchma's pro-Western bent.

"The Ukrainian people must choose whether they go in the direction of Europe or the opposite way, to direct dependence on Russia," said Hennadiy Udovenko, an ex-foreign minister and minor candidate.

Symonenko attempted to dispel fears of a Communist comeback, pledging to fight bureaucracy and protect honest businessmen. Symonenko has a large following in Ukraine and his chances were boosted by backing from a hard-line agrarian party.



Russian soldiers repair a track destroyed by Chechen militants near Chernylyonnaya, northeast of Grozny. Russia unleashed a new wave of air and artillery strikes against militants in breakaway Chechnya. AP

## France to respond to EU beef ruling



Lionel Jospin

LONDON (AP) — France has indicated it will respond by Thursday to a ruling by European Union scientists that British beef is safe, the EU's food commissioner, David Byrne, said Sunday.

France has refused to join the rest of EU which in August lifted a 3-year ban which had been imposed on British beef exports because of fears of a brain disease, known as "mad cow" when affects cattle. Britain has said it will sue unless the ban is lifted.

Prime Minister Lionel Jospin "expects to have a full review of France's ban on British beef during this week and to present a response to that by Thursday," Byrne said in a British Broadcasting Corp. television interview.

In a statement from its

headquarters in Brussels, Belgium, the European Commission said Byrne will discuss the dispute Tuesday with the French and British agriculture ministers, Jean Glavany and Nick Brown. French Consumer Protection Minister Marylise Lebranchu will also attend.

But there were new signs that both Britain and France want to smooth things over.

"We very much welcome this prompt action by France," the Agriculture Ministry said in a statement after Byrne's announcement. "This was what we wanted to happen."

Jospin, visiting Guadeloupe, said Saturday that French ministers had to study the scientists' report and make a decision together.

The dispute had provoked "a dimension of conflict that we hadn't wished to have with a fellow country in the European Union," Jospin added.

A poll published in a London newspaper, the Mail on Sunday, suggested that a narrow majority of Britons want to leave the EU because of the dispute.

It was the first time since 1983, when Britain was in an economic downturn, that a poll has indicated a majority in favor of leaving the EU.

## Belarus nationalists mark holiday

MINSK (Reuters) — A small group of Belarussians gathered on Sunday to honour the former Soviet republic's national identity but the country's nationalist movement was jolted by a formal split into rival factions. Several hundred nationalists lay wreaths on "Grandfathers' Day" at Kuropaty, the site outside Minsk where the Soviet NKVD secret police shot tens of thousands of people in the 1930s.

The gathering, barred from the city centre, was the first of its kind since police clashed two weeks ago with marchers opposed to President Alexander Lukashenko's plans to merge Belarus with Russia, its vast eastern neighbour.

"This is a hallowed day wiped from the people's minds under communism," said Leta Ustinovich, 60, as she placed a candle by the wooden cross marking the site uncovered largely in the 1980s during Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika reforms.

"It was restored, but they're trying to take it away again."

Security forces were out in

force in central Minsk to ensure no new assembly took place. Eyewitnesses said a number of people were detained in any event, including one elderly woman who laid flowers at a monument to national poet Yakub Kolas.

Dozens of people were injured and arrested in the unauthorised demonstration earlier this month, which attracted 20,000 people, the largest such gathering in several years.

Lukashenko dismissed the demonstrators as malcontents with no public support and paid by Western intelligence agencies.

The president wants a return to Soviet-era values and has made union with Russia his main policy since his 1994 election. Russia's communist-dominated parliament gave him a warm welcome last week, but the Kremlin declined all comment on his suggestion that a "union treaty" would be signed in December.

Western countries complain that Belarus has failed to respect human rights and urge him to talk to the opposition.

The Belarussian Popular

Front, the main driving force behind the country's nationalist ideals, split at the weekend into factions supporting its longstanding but now exiled leader Zenon Poznyak and a new "pragmatist" wing. Each section met separately at the weekend, making the split formal.

Poznyak, whose work was largely responsible for uncovering mass graves at Kuropaty, left Belarus three years ago for the United States and has since moved to neighbouring Poland.

Belarus was subjected to heavy Russian cultural influence under Soviet rule and had trouble forging a separate identity in the immediate post-communist period, enabling Lukashenko to capitalise on discontent prompted by falling living standards.

A delegation of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe this week noted growing human rights violations. "No country should find itself under the heel of a single man," the head of the OSCE group, former Romanian Foreign Minister Adrian Severin, said at the close of the visit.

# Clinton plays peacemaker

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton hopes his quick trip to Oslo, Norway, could begin a final push toward earning a place in history as an honored peacemaker.

Clinton has picked an agreement between Israel and the Arabs as his top foreign policy priority. It also could be his best chance for a shining legacy.

Israel and the Palestinians have given themselves until September to conclude an overall settlement. On Friday they decided to get started Nov. 7.

That schedule coincides with the winding down of Clinton's second term. He has nearly 15 months left in office, time enough for the president to play the role of prod or dealmaker.

At this point, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat are willing to try on their own. But if they get hung up on the tough issues, Clinton is just a telephone call away.

"We will be central to the peace process not only because the parties want us to be, but because it is a strategic interest of the United States," Sandy Berger, Clinton's national security adviser, said in a recent speech.

Clinton is ready after the rigorous training exercise in last year's successful West Bank diplomacy in rural Maryland.

At the beginning, in 1993, Clinton focused on domestic issues such as the economy and health care, and was slow to get to foreign policy.



President Clinton (center) presides over ceremonies marking the signing of the 1993 peace accord between Israel and the Palestinians on the White House lawn with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (left) and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat (right) in this Sept. 13, 1993 file photo. The parties that launched the historic Oslo peace accord are set to meet in the Norwegian capital this week to spur the hobbled process forward. AP

When he did concentrate on the outside world, the most pressing matters were conflict in the Balkans, the search for illegal weapons in Iraq and the need to set a course for dealing with Russia and China. He also made some bold strokes to settle the Northern Ireland problem. An agreement he nurtured, while tenuous, essentially is holding.

At this point, though, with the Monica Lewinsky scandal receding and peace prospects in the Middle East more promising than ever, Clinton has his

sights on an overall settlement between Israel and the Arabs as a final act.

He was flying to Oslo on Sunday with limited expectations on what will be a brief fling at Middle East diplomacy.

The trip is short; Clinton departs Norway on Tuesday. He will spend part of the time in a ceremony marking the fourth anniversary of the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister whose path to talks with the Palestinians was paved through quiet Norwegian diplo-

macy. Clinton has separate meetings set Monday with Barak and with Arafat. On Tuesday he sits down with them together.

At a White House news conference Thursday, Clinton said he did not want to raise expectations excessively for his talks in Oslo.

His aides said there was no chance, whatever Barak and Arafat tell him, that Clinton would get into the kind of marathon mediating he did on Maryland's eastern shore in October 1998 that helped produce a West Bank

agreement between Arafat and then-Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

The issues on the table are far tougher than the partial Israeli pullback negotiated in Maryland: Palestinian statehood aspirations, the future of Jerusalem, borders, the status of refugees.

"It is a very important occasion. ... I believe this meeting can help us resume momentum," Barak said in an interview reported in Sunday's editions of The Washington Post.

Ironically, the Oslo accords in 1993 anticipated a step-by-step approach in peacemaking, not the high-energy drive for a final settlement approved by Barak and Arafat and endorsed by the Clinton administration.

Barak's ambitious approach would go even further and aim for a quick peace treaty with Syria. That track is cold now, and without a Syrian presence in Oslo, Clinton is unlikely to make real headway on that track.

Rabin's view was that the Israeli people could not "digest" simultaneous agreements with the Palestinians and with Syria, both of which would call for giving up land and probably uprooting Jewish settlers. Barak, however, is ready to gamble - "I believe there will be negotiations with Syria in the next few weeks or months," he told the newspaper.

In Clinton, Barak has an American president prepared to spend the time before packing up in January 2001 and to position himself for a place in history.

## Barak, Arafat arrive in Oslo for summit



Ehud Barak



Yasser Arafat

OSLO (Reuters) — Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak arrived in Oslo on Sunday for talks on Middle East peace with Palestinian President Yasser Arafat and U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Arafat, the first of the three to arrive, landed at around 2130 GMT. Barak, Arafat and Clinton will hold a summit on Tuesday on the fringes of commemorations of the fourth anniversary of the assassination of Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Barak, who flew from Jerusalem, was to be met by Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik in a brief ceremony before travelling to central Oslo. Clinton is due to land at 0515

GMT on Monday and Arafat will arrive at 1300 GMT.

The leaders, meeting in the city where the original Israeli-Palestinian accords were secretly negotiated in 1993, are hoping to set a course towards a final peace deal next year.

They will attend a banquet at King Harald's palace on Monday night and a ceremony to honour Rabin on Tuesday in Oslo City Hall, where Rabin, Arafat and former Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres received the 1994 Nobel Peace Prize.

After the ceremony, they will meet for a three-way summit, scheduled to last two hours.

## No peace for Israel, Syria, Lebanon

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — The peace process that paved the way for Israeli accords with the Palestinians and Jordanians has so far failed to include Syria and Lebanon, the last two Arab enemies on the Jewish state's borders.

Negotiations have been frozen since 1996, with the main sticking point between Israel and Syria the return of the Golan Heights. Talks with Lebanon - over which Syria has great influence - cannot proceed without support from Damascus.

Short of a direct and active American involvement from the White House - a move certain to be welcomed by Syria - to get talks started, prospects for peace could weaken further, despite the optimism generated by moderate Ehud Barak replacing hardliner Benjamin Netanyahu as Israeli prime minister.

Sateh Nourredine, managing editor of the Beirut daily As-Safir, said there were several recent signs of weakening peace prospects.

Syria's key negotiator, Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa, had heart surgery and Nourredine said he will be off the job for a while.

Nourredine also sees the transfer of Martin Indyk from assis-

stant U.S. secretary of state for Near East Affairs to ambassador to Israel as an indication that Washington wants to focus on Palestinian-Israeli talks. And he noted that President Clinton, about to enter his last year in the White House, is having trouble getting Congress to approve funding for previous peace accords.

"We may have to wait for the arrival of a new (U.S.) president," Nourredine said.

Egypt was the first Arab state to sign a peace treaty with Israel, the historic Camp David accords in 1979. The Israelis and Palestinians held secret negotiations in Oslo, Norway, that led to the famous 1993 handshake on the White House lawn between Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

Jordan followed suit, signing a peace treaty with Israel in 1994. Other Arab countries then opened commercial contacts with Israel.

Even some radical Palestinian factions that first opposed the Oslo peace process now consider it a fait accompli that they might join.

But talks between Israel and Syria, which began in the early 1990s, broke off in February 1986 - four months after Rabin was assassinated and following a series of bombings in Israel by militant Pal-

estianians opposed to peace. Syria says negotiations should pick up where they left off and maintains that Rabin promised to withdraw from the entire Golan, which Israel captured from Syria in the 1967 Mideast war, in return for peace.

Israel says no such promise was made and Rabin merely asked what sort of peace and security arrangements Syria was prepared to offer if Israel did agree to withdraw.

Meanwhile, the nations also have been unable to agree on how to resolve the situation in southern Lebanon, which Israel has occupied since 1985.

Syria is the main power broker in Lebanon, with about 30,000 troops there. Lebanon wants an unconditional Israeli withdrawal from the occupied 10 percent of the country. Israel says it would like to pull its troops out but wants guarantees that its northern communities will not be attacked by Shiite Muslim Hezbollah guerrillas.

Lebanon would not provide such security guarantees and the guerrillas, although generally limiting their attacks to Israeli troops inside Lebanon, have refused to divulge whether they will stop fighting once Israel pulls its army out.



# Canada hints at tax cuts

OTTAWA (Reuters) — Canadian Finance Minister Paul Martin is expected to test drive a few ideas on new spending and tax cuts when he presents a fiscal update on Tuesday, but economists say specifics will be few and far between.

"I think it will be more fleshing out some of the broader details of the plans for the surplus," said Doug Porter, an economist at brokerage Nesbitt Burns in Toronto. "This document might be intended to frame the debate on what specific tax cuts to look at in the budget - how big and which ones."

The annual autumn update by Martin, to be held this year in Lon-

don, Ontario, has become one of the mostly closely watched event of the year after the spring budget. But this year's event lost much of its cachet when the 1998/99 budget surplus was unveiled ahead of schedule in September.

With last year's C\$2.9 billion surplus already revealed, analysts said Martin could update his forecasts for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001. Canada's fiscal year ends in March.

Economists expect Canada to realise a C\$6 billion surplus this year and a C\$10 billion surplus the next - a remarkable turnaround from the crushing C\$42 billion deficit inherited by Martin when the Lib-

erals came to power in 1993.

Martin in August said this year's surplus could hit C\$5.5 billion, including the standard C\$3 billion contingency reserve set aside to guard against unforeseen economic bumps.

Porter said Martin will certainly use the update to rave about Canada's robust economy, which in August notched a 13th consecutive month of growth. Canada is on track for annualized growth of about 4 percent in 1999, a pace well beyond most Western economies.

"That could almost be half of (his speech). There's no question

the economy has had an almost miraculous performance compared to what was expected a year ago," Porter said.

The tight-fisted Martin, considered the front-runner to succeed Prime Minister Jean Chretien in Ottawa's Liberal government, is also expected to respond - in a cautious way - to growing pressure to cut Canada's high taxes.

Canada's share of overall tax revenues-to-GDP, a common measure of a nation's tax burden, stands at 36 percent, a staggering 8 percentage points above the United States.

Analysts said Martin is almost

certain to unveil at least one specific tax cut next week - a reduction in employment insurance premiums to C\$2.40 from C\$2.55 for each C\$100 earned by a Canadian worker. The drop in premiums has become an annual event for Martin, who has been attacked over the growing C\$21 billion surplus in the employment fund.

The finance minister, who held two unprecedented meetings this year with private-sector economists to discuss the state of the nation's finances, might also start looking beyond his traditional two-year budget targets in the update.

## Marks & Spencer will now accept credit cards

LONDON (Reuters) — British retailer Marks & Spencer will announce that it plans to accept credit cards as a form payment in its stores, British newspapers reported on Sunday.

The Sunday Business and the Independent on Sunday both said the popular but embattled food and clothing retailer would announce an end to a century-old policy against credit cards when it presents its first half results on Tuesday.

Marks & Spencer said it could not confirm or deny whether it would announce that it had decided to accept major credit cards, but did say that it would deliver an update to investors on the debate when results are released.

The pressure to accept credit cards comes in the wake of an announcement from British rival John Lewis Partnership that it had decided to accept credit cards.

At present Marks & Spencer only accepts debit cards and its own customer credit cards.

## London to act over misold mortgages

LONDON (Reuters) — Trade and Industry Secretary Stephen Byers warned mortgage lenders on Sunday the government would take action if it uncovered evidence of malpractice in selling endowment mortgages.

Byers, responding to reports that thousands of borrowers may have to pay a higher premium than expected on underperforming endowment mortgages, said the government wanted to avoid a repeat of a scandal over mis-sold pensions.

"The previous government did nothing about (the pensions). I don't want to see a repeat of that in the mortgage area," Byers told GMTV.

"The first thing to do is see if there has been any mis-selling of endowment policies," Byers said. "There is a worry that those which were sold in late 1980s and early 1990s are not going to ensure that people are going to be able to pay off their mortgages at the end of the 25 year period."

Endowment mortgages, which are linked to stock market investments, carry more risk than straight repayment loans but consumer groups say they are sometimes pushed by commission-hungry advisers when a straight repayment loan - repaying inter-

est and capital - would be better.

Byers said a survey published at the weekend showed "there are difficulties and that some individuals will be asked to pay a higher premium."

"We will take steps," Byers said. "If there is clear evidence that there has been widespread mis-selling of mortgages, particularly as far as endowments are concerned, then we will take action to protect those individuals."

He said if borrowers were made aware when they took out their mortgage of the potential shortfalls they would have to face the consequences themselves.

But some may have been misled by salesmen working on commission who had a vested interest in understating the risk.

"What we have to do is go back to the situation when they took out the endowment policy and the information they were given at that particular time," Byers said.

Byers said after a meeting with mortgage lenders on Friday he would introduce changes in the law in November to ensure a standard method for calculating the annual percentage rate (APR) on a mortgage and that APRs show the total cost of a home loan over its entire term.

# 'House on Haunted Hill' tops Halloween box office

LOS ANGELES (Reuters) — "House on Haunted Hill" scared up record Halloween business in its first weekend at the box office, according to studio estimates issued Sunday.

The Warner Bros. remake of the 1950s William Castle movie grossed about \$15.1 million for the Friday-to-Sunday period, neatly matching its \$15 million production budget. The film revolves around four people who are offered \$1 million each to spend the night in a haunted mansion. It stars Australian Oscar-winner Geoffrey Rush and Danish actress Famke Janssen ("Goldeneye").

"House" made almost as much as the next three films combined with box office receipts suffering their traditional seasonal decline in the face of competition from Halloween festivities. Just \$900,000 separated the fourth-to-ninth-ranked movies. Final data will be issued Monday.

Last week's champ, "The Best Man" (Universal) slipped to No. 2 with \$6.5 million in its second weekend. Paramount's "Double Jeopardy" was also down a notch, to No. 3, with \$5.4 million in its sixth weekend. DreamWorks' "American Beauty" rose two places to No. 4 with \$3.9 million in its seventh weekend.

According to Exhibitor Relations, which collects the stu-

dios' data, the top 12 films this weekend grossed a combined \$54.6 million, down 14 percent from a week ago, but up 13 percent from the year-ago period when previous Halloween record holder "John Carpenter's Vampires" opened at No. 1 with \$9.1 million and ended its domestic run with just \$20.3 million.

The top 10 contained one other new release, Miramax's fact-based "Music of the Heart," starring Meryl Streep as a Harlem violin instructor who teaches the instrument to inner-city kids. It opened at No. 5 with a pianissimo \$3.7 million from 1,349 screens, giving it a per screen average of just \$2,743.

Miramax senior vice-president David Kaminow said the opening was on target, and he was confident the film would benefit in coming weeks from strong word of mouth. About two-thirds of the audience was female, and half the total was over 35 years old. But children also made up a notable part of the audience, indicating it was playing as a family movie, Kaminow said.

"House on Haunted Hill" pulled in the under-25 crowd, which was evenly split between males and females, said Dan Fellman, president of distribution at Warner Bros. Its per screen average was a solid \$5,572, the highest in the top

10.

Among last weekend's openers, "The Best Man" lost just 28 percent of its audience as its 10-day total rose to \$18.1 million, about double its production budget. Director Martin Scorsese's parodied black comedy "Bringing Out the Dead" (Paramount), starring Nicolas Cage, fell 43 percent and four places to No. 6 with \$3.5 million. Its 10-day total is \$11.6 million.

Rounding out the top 10 were Fox's "Fight Club" down four places to No. 7 with \$3.3 million (17-day total \$27.7 million); Hollywood Pictures' "The Sixth Sense" up two to No. 8 (87-day total \$259.8 million); Universal's "The Story of Us" down four to No. 9 with \$3.0 million (17-day total \$22.3 million); and WB's "Three Kings" up one to No. 10 with \$2.5 million (31-day total \$53.7 million).

After 38 days in release, "Double Jeopardy" has earned \$98.3 million, while "American Beauty" has \$54.2 million after 47 days.

Warner Bros. is a unit of Time Warner Inc. Universal Pictures is a unit of Seagram Co. Ltd. Paramount Pictures is a unit of Viacom Inc. DreamWorks SKG is privately held. Miramax Films and Hollywood Pictures are units of Walt Disney Co. Twentieth Century Fox is a unit of Fox Entertainment Group Inc.



A model sporting a chocolate-made dress made by fashion designer Paco Rabanne (right) tastes a piece of the dress made by Olivier Lapidus and offered by another model during the fifth Chocolate show in Paris Sunday. The show attracted some 300,000 visitors last year. AP

## Clinton to take questions via web

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton plans to take questions on the Internet next month in a format allowing computer users to view his responses on live video.

The Nov. 8 session is sponsored by the Democratic Leadership Council, the moderate

political group the president once headed.

White House officials said the session will include Democratic office holders and leaders from a number of states discussing, along with Clinton, a range of issues including education, crime and civil government.

Internet users also will participate.

The electronic talk fest is being organized by Excite at home, a provider of Internet access and digital telecommunications.

The 90-minute session will begin at 7 p.m. EST.



Agnieszka Zakreta of Poland (center) raises her winning trophy after she won the Miss Tourism International Pageant 1999 in Kuala Lumpur Sunday. Also in photo are first runner-up Racquel Uy from Philippines (left) and second runner-up Ruut Kangas from Finland. AP

## Thais to use microchips to control stray dogs

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — Municipal authorities are offering to implant microchips in pet dogs in a bid to control the estimated 100,000 strays in the Thai capital, newspapers reported Sunday.

Under a campaign launched Saturday to better manage nearly 550,000 dogs in Bangkok, owners are encouraged to register their pets, the Bangkok Post reported.

For \$2.50 the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration will implant a microchip under the dog's skin, containing details of the dog's name, home address and vaccination records.

Authorities are planning to round up strays, in a bid to get rid of canines carrying rabies within five months.

Healthy stray dogs will be neutered. The BMA plans to then offer them to pet lovers for free.

## Teen sails around the world non-stop

MELBOURNE, Australia

(AP) — After 11 months alone at sea, Jesse Martin was given a hero's welcome Sunday when he returned to his home port in Australia to become the youngest person to sail non-stop around the world.

Martin, 18, was greeted by thousands of cheering spectators who lined the waterfront in Melbourne as he docked his 34-foot yacht, Lionheart.

Appearing a little shaky on his feet, Martin was given a bear-hug by his mother, Louise, the moment he touched dry land.

Martin left Melbourne in December last year to sail 30,000 miles around the globe,

unassisted and nonstop.

He said Sunday that along the way he was battered by huge seas, narrowly escaped a collision with a tanker and once hit a whale in the South Atlantic.

But the soft-spoken teenager was modest about his achievement.

"I've just put a little bit of sail up and done four knots all the way round the world - that's nothing special," Martin said.

Martin said he was now looking forward to having his first hamburger in almost a year.

"It feels great to be around people again and to smell the smells of land," he said.



Yunjong Suh, center, with mouth taped in protest, consults with another member of the San Francisco media watch group called Media Alliance during a meeting of the board of directors of Pacifica Radio Network Sunday in Houston, after a 17-day lockout of employees at that station. AP

## America trade ministers' meeting seen as a warm up to WTO talks

OTTAWA (Reuters) — Trade ministers of the Western hemisphere hope to take a step closer to the creation of a giant Americas free trade zone when they meet this week in Toronto, unveiling a pact to simplify customs procedures from north to south in the hemisphere.

Leaders from 34 American countries, excluding Communist Cuba, converge on Toronto Nov. 3 and 4 for an agenda-setting meeting on creating a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) - a free trade zone from Canada's Arctic to Argentina's Tierra del Fuego which they hope to have in place by 2005.

"In Toronto we expect ministers will agree to a significant business facilitation package - both in the areas of customs and in the area of what we're calling transparency," a senior Canadian trade official said.

The customs agreement, to be implemented starting in January 2000, will cover paperwork and other basics for transporting goods across borders.

It is the first significant accord in five years of talks on the proposed free trade zone, and is expected to be trumpeted as proof that the FTAA, plagued by slow progress and dissension among members, still has a chance to succeed.

The talks were set in motion in 1994, at a "Summit of the Americas" in Miami, when U.S. President Bill Clinton and leaders of 33 other nations agreed to create a free-trade zone comprising North, South and Central America and the Caribbean.

While the negotiations hold the potential for creating the world's largest free trade area, with 800 million people and a combined gross domestic product of almost C\$15 trillion, the failure of Clinton to obtain "fast track" negotiating authority from the U.S. Congress has all but frozen the talks.

The ministers also hope to emerge from the meeting with a common set of goals for the upcoming World Trade Organisation talks, now less than a month away, in Seattle.

FTAA officials looking ahead to November's WTO launch hope to emerge united against farm export subsidies, a key item on the Seattle agenda. Agricultural subsidies are a major concern for two major trading blocks within the FTAA - Mercosur, which comprises Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay, and NAFTA, made up of Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The United States, however, faces the problem of how to fit \$14.6 billion in emergency spending on its own farmers into world trade rules without harming the U.S. goal of freer international trade in agriculture.

Organisers of the Toronto meeting also fear it will be a warmup for the thousands of protesters expected to flood into Seattle in opposition to the WTO negotiations. Nongovernmental organisations aligned with environmental, labour and social causes have been invited to participate at the Toronto meeting - in a limited fashion - as a negotiating group dubbed the "civil society."



# Marianas Variety

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Contact: STAR FOUR CORPORATION dba Starlite Disco/Karaoke Club Tel. 234-5520(11/2)T33111

06 SECURITY GUARDS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: MENG'S CORPORATION dba Marian DLG. Tudela Tel. 234-5277(11/9)T33224

01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$650.00 per month  
Contact: ANNABELLE MAGSAYSAY dba Mican Group Int'l/Aqua Best Tel. 235-2782(11/9)T33223

01 (SUPERVISOR) SALES-Salary:\$3.30-4.50 per hour  
03 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.50-8.50 per hour  
Contact: YCO CORPORATION dba YCO Servistar Hardware/Jollibee/Liberty Plaza/YCO Construction Tel. 233-3112(11/9)T81304

01 WAITRESS-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: SO-IN CORPORATION dba Talent Music Box Tel. 233-1000(11/9)T33215

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Contact: BLT AMUSEMENTS INC. dba Fun Zone Tel. 322-4577(11/9)T33216

02 SUPERVISOR, COOK (JAPANESE CUISINE)-Salary:\$5.50-8.50 per hour  
01 ASST. CHEF (COOK)-Salary:\$5.50-10.00 per hour  
Contact: SAIPAN HOTEL CORP. dba Hafadai Beach Hotel Tel. 234-6495(11/9)T81289

01 CUSTOM TAILOR-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: ALICIA E. ABUEME dba AE International/Viralgi Tel. 233-1296(11/9)T33220

01 COOK HELPER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
01 CASHIER-Salary:\$3.05 per hour  
Contact: BOBBIE'S AMUSEMENT CO. INC. Tel. 235-2824(11/9)T33222

02 ACCOUNTANT-Salary:\$3.05-4.50 per hour  
Must have (2) yrs. extensive experience in the field of accountancy. Knowledgeable in computer operations - Realworld, Synchronics & Peachtree. Graduate of a (4) yrs. Acctg. course. With pleasing personality.  
Contact: TRANSAMERICA (SAIPAN) CORPORATION Tel. 234-1629(11/9)T81290

01 DUCT INSTALLER-Salary:\$3.95-4.50 per hour  
Food allowance: \$120.00 per month  
Contact: CHONG'S CORPORATION dba Chong's Corporation Tel. 234-6560(11/9)T81293

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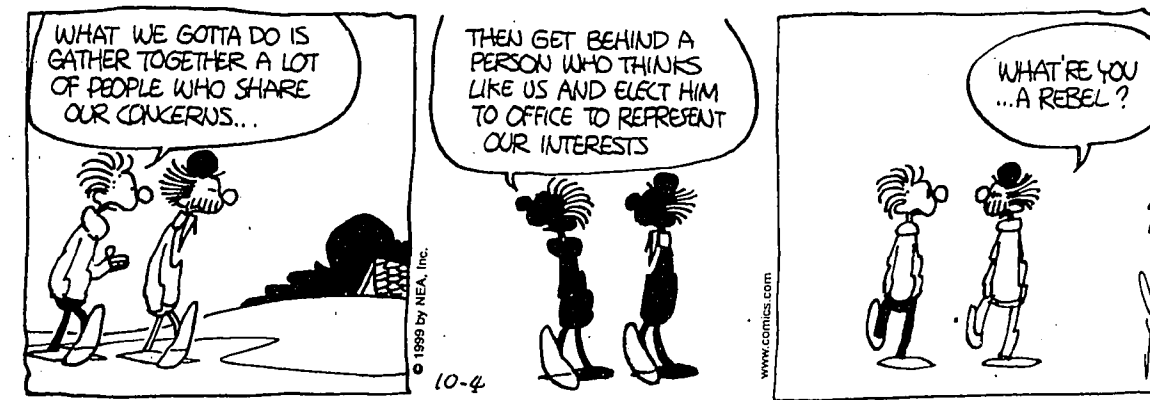
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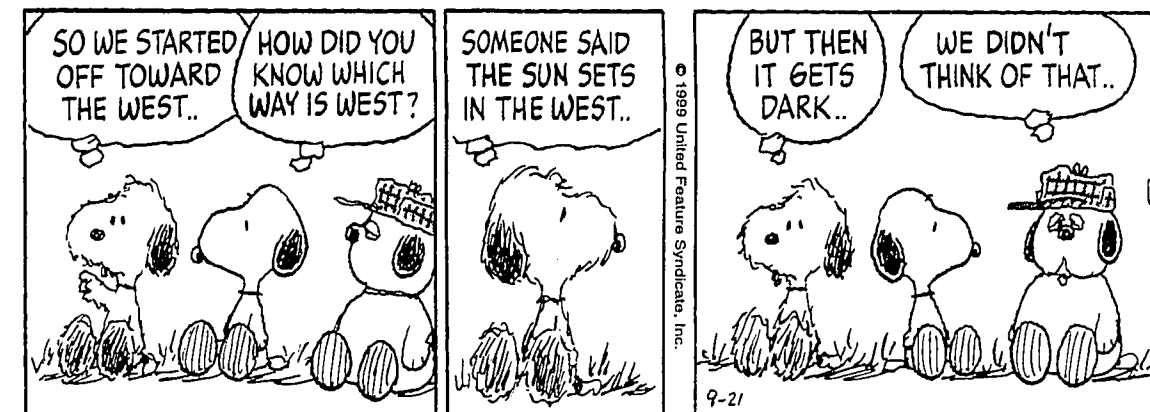
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### STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

Born today, you are destined for fame and fortune, but it is essential that you pinpoint just what you are most suited for in life before you can begin enjoying the progress, attention, and rewards which should rightfully be yours. Should you not excel as planned, you will have no one to blame but yourself, for you have what it takes to overcome any and all obstacles, including those who are presented to you by others. If others aren't going to help, you prefer that, at the very least, they stay out of your way and, of course, vice versa!

You are likely to be a robust, highly physical individual throughout your lifetime, and your longevity and staying-power will be noted in all things. You work hard, play hard, and to all things you dedicate your own special brand of enthusiasm. You are a highly involved individual.

Also born on this date are: Jimmy Connors, tennis player; Christa McAuliffe, teacher and Challenger astronaut; Mark Harmon, actor; Terry Bradshaw, football player and commentator; Keanu Reeves, actor.

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, NOVEMBER 3 VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** — If it's love you want, it's love you can have today, but you must be willing to give a little before you can get as much as you want.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)** — Reflection and self-analysis may be required of you today in heavy doses, so you can solve a particularly enigmatic personal puzzle.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)** — The weather outside may not suit your plans, but you'll be able to keep the emotional climate bright and sunny despite environmental obstacles.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)** — You certainly have what it takes today to play a leading role in your own affairs, but possibly also the affairs of others as well.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** — You may find yourself at odds with those who are usually quite supportive of you. You must ask yourself: is it something you said or did?

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** — You're not likely to enjoy a quick start today. You're in need of a little prodding and encouragement from a friend or loved one can work wonders.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** — Just because you do not fully understand a warning you receive from a friend or loved one today doesn't mean you mustn't listen to it!

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** — Someone you know has plans that may require you to keep your wits about you at all times, and watch for unexpected developments during P.M.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** — You may have to get away from your usual haunts today in order to renew your own point of view and solve problems in a creative manner.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** — You may have to keep your opinions of others very much to yourself today, in order to promote harmony among all those working closely together.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** — You must be willing to overlook a great deal today if you expect to get along with those whose methods are not in sync with your own.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** — You mustn't make the mistake of thinking that this weekend is a time to sit back and relax. On the contrary, there's much to do at this time!

### CROSSWORD PUZZLER

#### ACROSS

- 1 Forceful blow
- 5 Otologist's concern
- 8 — cut (oblique)
- 12 Greek letter
- 13 American humorist
- 14 Actress Skye
- 15 Similar item
- 17 Adopt
- 19 Surgical thread
- 20 Musical sounds
- 21 Egyptian goddess
- 23 — and dance
- 24 And so on (Latin abbr.)
- 26 Make a dull, heavy sound
- 28 McMahon and Harris
- 31 Peach St.
- 32 Medical

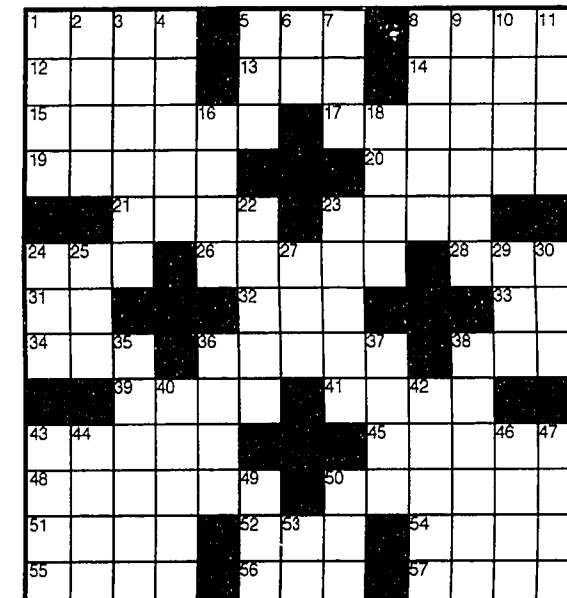
#### DOWN

- 1 Prejudice
- 2 First-rate (hyph.)
- 3 Quiescent
- 4 Flings of light
- 5 Siamese twin
- 6 Affirmative vote
- 7 Actress Peggy
- 8 Buffalo
- 9 Lol
- 10 The drinks are —
- 11 Golf mounds
- 16 Step —
- 18 Halt
- 22 Footwear
- 23 A loud kiss
- 24 Self
- 25 Sailor
- 27 Actress Thurman
- 29 Roman 502
- 30 Cul-de —
- 35 Spellbinder
- 36 Sci-fi film of 1954
- 37 Jekyll's opposite
- 38 Rich fabric
- 40 Steward
- 42 "Bonanza" star
- 43 Long, deep cut
- 44 — of thumb
- 46 — majesty
- 47 Concordes
- 49 — York City
- 50 Take to court
- 53 Famous frontierswoman (inits.)

#### Answer to Previous Puzzle

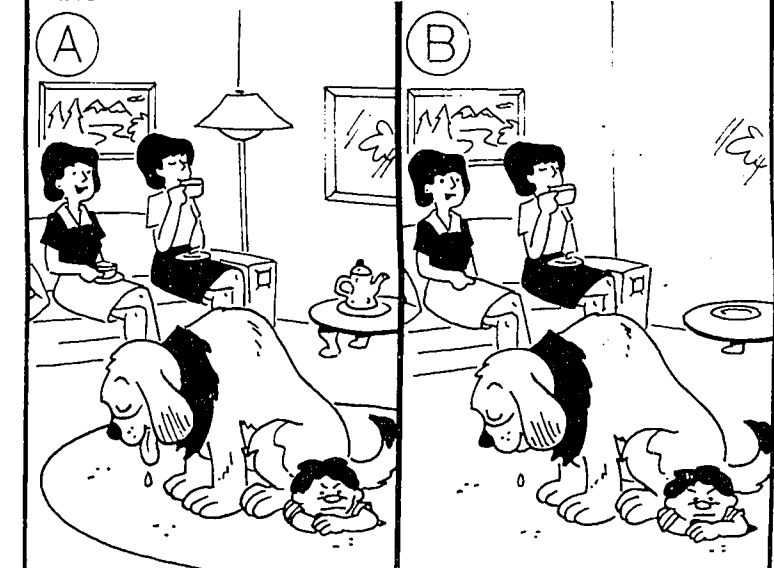
BURG USDA OAT  
ESAU BARD AVA  
NEGRO LIAISON  
TUNEUP RING  
SKIS AT HAS  
HIM OREGON CD  
ETE NL AG TUE  
AE MOYERS ORE  
SIS DD APES  
ESPN FIELDS  
LEADERS LIONS  
ARI MEOW EIRE  
LEN ETNA ULAN

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THERE ARE SEVEN THINGS IN DRAWING "A" THAT ARE MISSING FROM DRAWING "B." HOW MANY CAN YOU FIND?

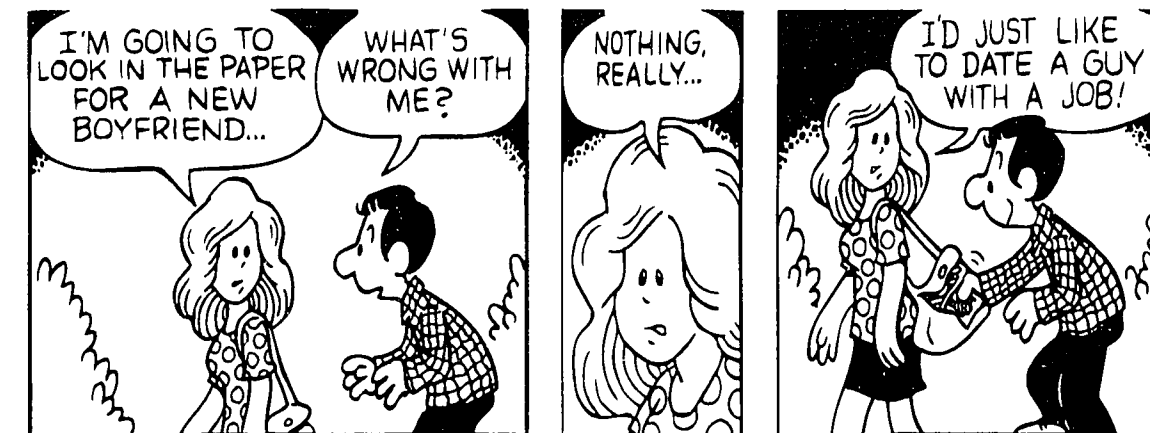
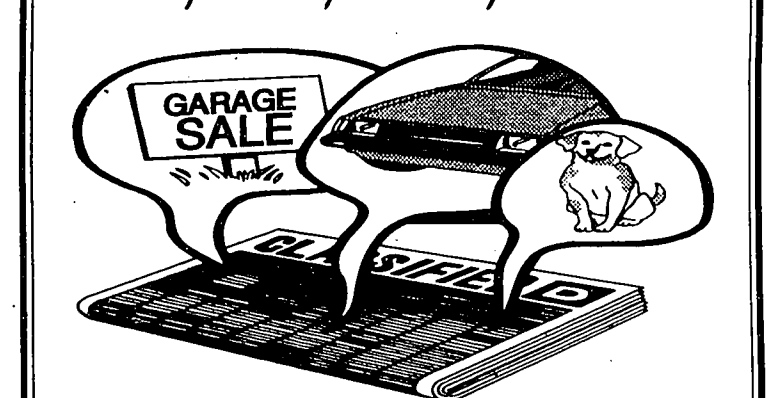


"He has a wonderful way with children."

ANSWERS: LAMP, PICTURE FRAME, TEA CUP, TEAPOT, TABLE LEG, DOGS TONGUE, CARPET.

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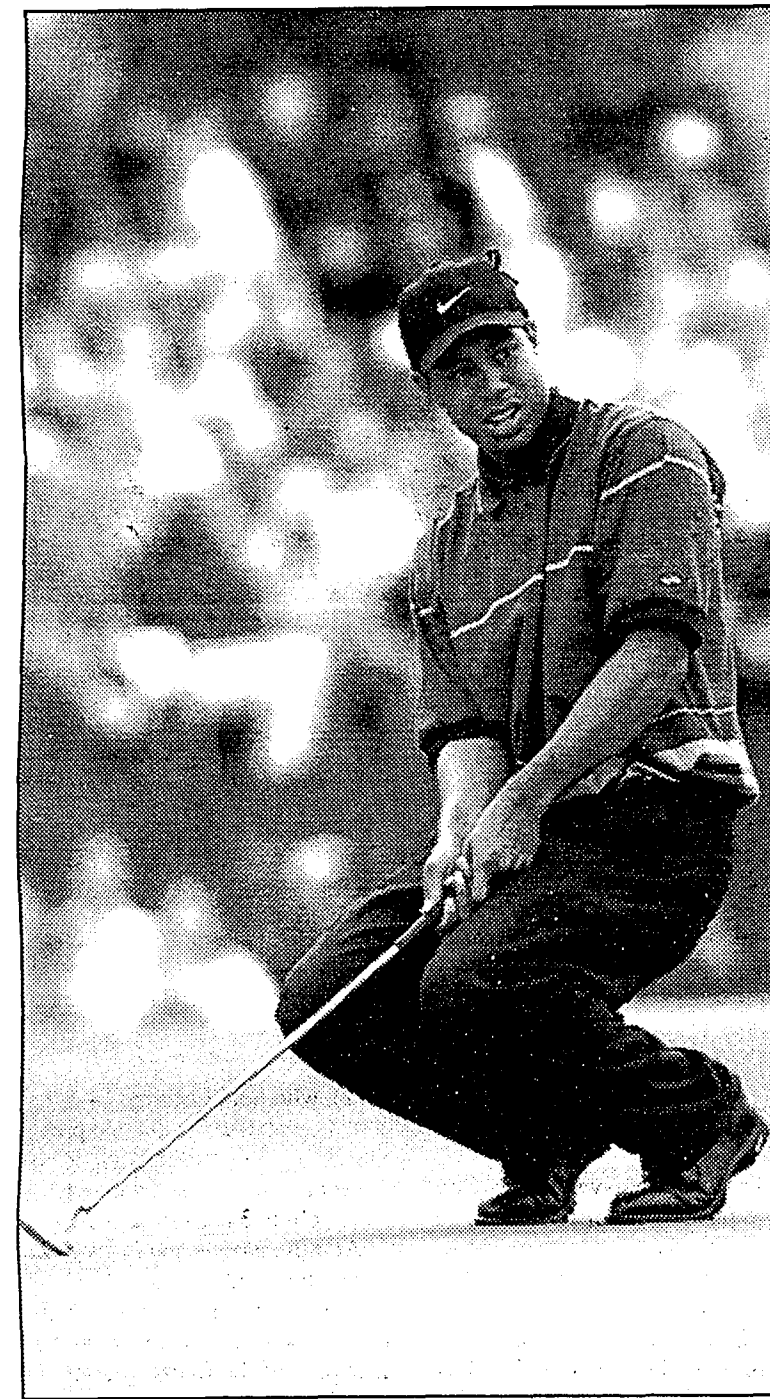
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# Woods wins Tour Championship



Tiger Woods, of Windermere, Fla., reacts after missing a birdie putt on the 17th hole during the final round of the Tour Championship Sunday in Houston. Woods finished 15-under-par to win the tournament. AP

**HOUSTON, Texas (Reuters)** — Tiger Woods won the Tour Championship on Sunday, but his four-shot victory over David Love III was not a time for celebration, only sombre remembrance.

On a day when most of the players in the 29-man field wore knickers to honour the memory of Payne Stewart, who was killed in a plane crash last week, Woods fired a final-day 69 to finish at 15-under-par 269. It was his seventh victory of the year, the most since Johnny Miller won eight in 1974.

Love finished at 67-273. Brent Geiberger was third at 69-274 with Chris Perry fourth at 72-275.

"There is a reason he is winning every week," Love said. "He is playing very, very well."

With his first place prize of \$900,000, Woods has now won \$5.6 million in prize money this

year, extending his own PGA Tour record. He has won seven times since May and in just 21 starts this year, a success average unprecedented on the Tour over the last two decades.

"I've been on a pretty good run since May," Woods said. "It goes to show you what hard work will do. Who knows how much better I can get?"

He took a three-shot lead over Perry into the final round and was rarely in trouble at Champions Golf Club, recording three birdies on holes five, nine and 14 and just one bogey, on the eighth hole. Perry birdied the first hole to cut the deficit to two strokes, but bogeyed the fourth hole and was never in contention again.

Love started the day six shots behind Woods and still trailed by six at the turn. He fired a three-under 32 on the back side with birdies on holes 10, 13,

and 17, but it was much too little too late.

"This is a wonderful course to protect a lead on because if you not sure about your swing, the greens are so large you can just dump it in the middle of the green and two-putt for pars, which is what I did," Woods said.

He has now won 14 times in his four-year PGA Tour career and the last 11 times that he has taken a lead into the final round.

The clothes worn by many of the players came from Stewart's apparel sponsor. Australian Stuart Appleby, who lost his wife in an auto accident last summer, went a step further by wearing Stewart's actual clothes and shoes, given to him by Stewart's wife, Tracey.

Woods and David Duval chose not to wear clothes reminiscent of the late golfer's colourful style.

## Report: Boxers paid to fix fights

**MIAMI (Reuters)** — More than 30 prizefights including one involving former heavyweight champ George Foreman have been fixed or tainted with fraud in the last 12 years, the Miami Herald reported on Sunday.

Some fighters took payments to throw fights while others took bribes to avoid injury and earn a quick paycheck, the newspaper reported, citing interviews with participants in the fights.

One-time world ranked heavyweight Tony Fuliangi said he faked a second-round

knockout by Foreman on Oct. 27, 1988, in Marshall, Texas, the Herald said.

"I really hate to say this because it's not good for the sport," the newspaper quoted Fuliangi as saying. "I took a dive."

The Herald report cited sworn statements and interview with more than 60 fighters, promoters, trainers, managers, matchmakers and commissioners.

Professional boxing has been shaken in recent months by a number of incidents including a March 13 title bout at Madison Square Garden in New York between Evander Holyfield, holder of the World Boxing Association and International Boxing Federation titles, and Lennox Lewis, the World Boxing Council champ.

Many expert observers were

shocked when the bout was called a draw, believing Lewis had clearly won. The decision raised questions about possible corruption or whether the judging was incompetent.

The bout spurred a Manhattan grand jury investigation into whether the judges received illegal payments and resulted in tougher rules in New York state-sanctioned matches.

A U.S. grand jury in New Jersey is investigating whether boxing sanctioning bodies committed fraud by selling rankings, which determine title fights and other matches.

In June the FBI raided the Deerfield Beach, Florida, offices of top boxing promoter Don King. The raid was connected to the New Jersey investigation, according to media reports.

## Swimmers. . . Continued from page 32

International will be competitive.

The high school will be a tossup between GCA, NMA, MBA, and MHS who probably has the edge.

Schools are allowed two entries in each event, (two boys and two girls) and one relay, and each individual is only allowed two individual events and one relay.

November 10th is the deadline for entries into the All Schools Championship, so schools should be preparing their athletes now.

## CPA. . . Continued from page 31

declined working with the new tower management were absorbed by CPA, Coffman said.

CPA gave the nine local controllers preferential treatment and the option to continue working with the new management or remain with CPA.

Carlos H. Salas, CPA executive director, earlier anticipated that most of the local controllers will stay with SERCO once they take over the operation of the tower mainly due to higher salaries based on national average,

and the opportunity to work in other towers elsewhere in the Pacific like Hawaii, Guam and even the U.S. mainland, particularly in California.

SERCO is the private firm which has a contract with FAA for the operation of most air traffic control towers in the Pacific region.

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, FAA officials led by Tim Cornelison and Willie Card, CPA officials and Board members, as well as members of the Legislature including Senate President Paul Manglona and House Speaker Diego T. Benavente are expected to attend the turnover ceremony this morning.

## NFL roundup

# Browns get first win

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Cleveland Browns finally won and the St. Louis Rams finally lost in U.S. National Football League action Sunday.

The expansion Browns got their first win in spectacular fashion Sunday, beating the New Orleans Saints 21-16 on Tim Couch's desperation, 56-yard touchdown pass to Kevin Johnson on the final play in the Superdome.

"I couldn't have thrown it another yard," Couch said. "I put everything I could into it and threw it as high as I could. It's a neat way to get your first one."

While the Browns became the last NFL team to get a win this season, the Rams became the last team to get a loss.

At Nashville, Tennessee, Steve McNair returned after a six-week absence following back surgery and led the Tennessee Titans over St. Louis 24-21.

The Titans (6-1) outscored the Rams (6-1) 21-0 in the first 14 minutes, more points than St. Louis had given up in any game this season.

Kurt Warner led a St. Louis rally by throwing three TD passes in the second half, including a 15-yarder to Amp Lee with 2:14 left that cut Tennessee's lead to 24-21.

Lorenzo Styles of the Rams recovered the onside kick, and Warner then drove the Rams to the Tennessee 19. Jeff Wilkins tried a 38-yard field goal, but his kick was wide right with 7 seconds left.

At New Orleans, the Browns (1-7) got a chance to win after the Saints (1-6) mismanaged the clock in the final minute. New Orleans called a timeout rather than let the clock run down before Doug Brien kicked a 46-yard field goal with 21 seconds left to put New Orleans up 16-14.

Couch then drove the Browns 75 yards in three plays, hitting

Johnson in the corner of the end zone despite a swarm of Saints defenders around him.

In other NFL games, it was Buffalo 13, Baltimore 10; Atlanta 27, Carolina 20; Washington 48, Chicago 22; Jacksonville 41, Cincinnati 10; New York Giants 23, Philadelphia 17 in overtime; Kansas City 34, San Diego 0; New England 27, Arizona 3; Miami 16, Oakland 9; Indianapolis 34, Dallas 24; and Minnesota 23, Denver 20.

Tampa Bay played at Detroit in a night game. The Monday night matchup is Seattle at Green Bay. Pittsburgh, the New York Jets and San Francisco do not play this week.

### Bills 13, Ravens 10

At Baltimore, Doug Flutie threw a 5-yard TD pass to Jonathan Linton with 1:35 left as Buffalo (5-3) rallied to hand the Ravens (2-5) their third straight loss.

### Falcons 27, Panthers 20

Tim Dwight caught a pair of TD passes from Chris Chandler as Atlanta won at home for the first time this season.

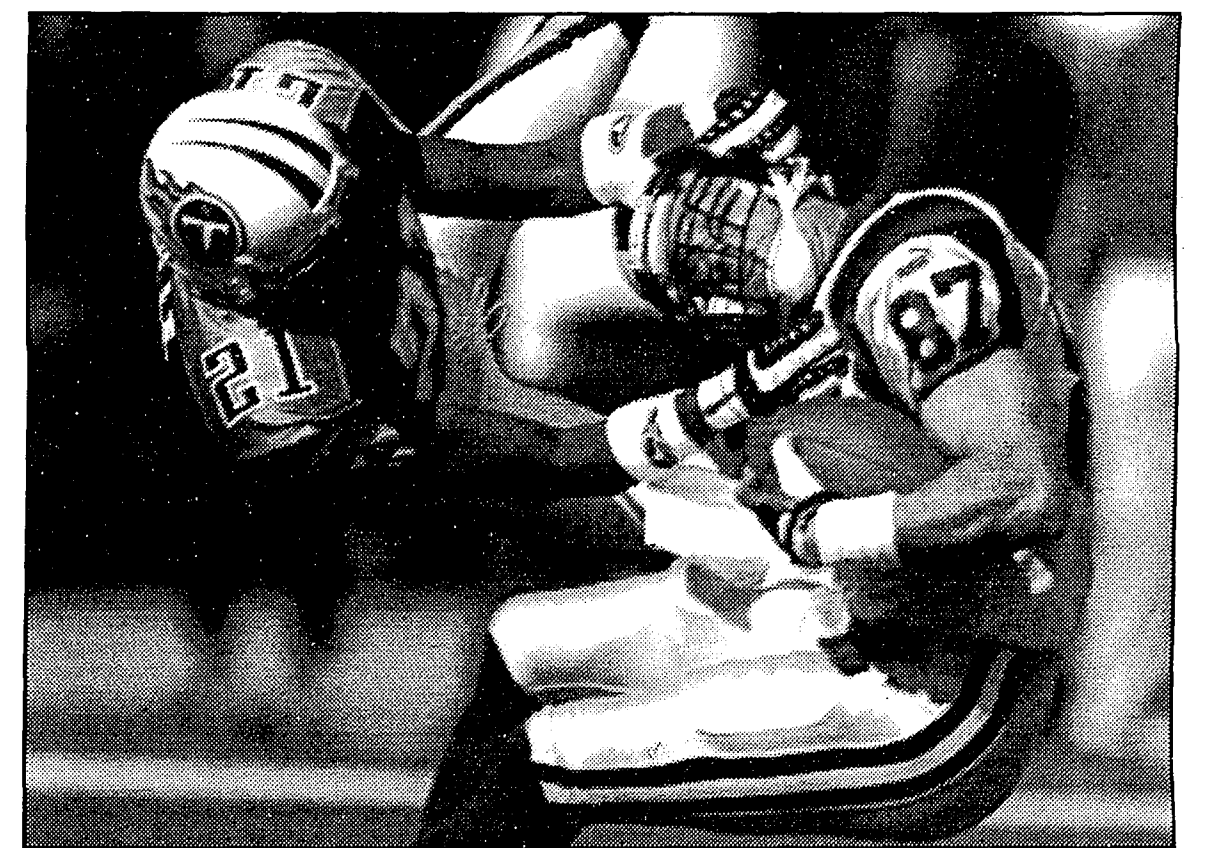
The Falcons (2-6) twice built 14-point leads before Carolina's Steve Beuerlein scored on a 1-yard sneak with 3:06 remaining. The Panthers (2-5) got the ball back at their own 29 with 15 seconds left, but Gerald McBurrows came up with his team's third interception against Beuerlein to clinch the victory.

### Redskins 48, Bears 22

At Landover, Maryland, 313-pound (140-kilogram) lineman Dan Wilkinson scored on an 88-yard interception return, and Stephen Davis rushed for 143 yards and two scores as Washington (5-2) beat Chicago (3-5).

Brad Johnson threw two TD passes for the Redskins, who led 45-0 in the third quarter.

### Jaguars 41, Bengals 10



Tennessee Titans cornerback Samari Rolle (21) brings down St. Louis Rams wide receiver Ricky Proehl (87) after Proehl grabbed a pass from quarterback Kurt Warner for an 11-yard gain in the second quarter on Sunday in Nashville, Tenn. AP

Fred Taylor, returning after missing four weeks with a hamstring injury, rushed for 126 yards in the first half as Jacksonville (6-1) handed Cincinnati (1-7) one of its worst losses ever.

Trailing 41-3 at home, Cincinnati's Jeff Blake threw a 15-yard touchdown pass on the final play to avoid the worst loss in team history.

### Giants 23, Eagles 17, OT

At Philadelphia, Michael Strahan scored on a 44-yard interception return in overtime to lift the New York Giants (5-3) over the Eagles (2-6).

The Giants extended their winning streak to three games.

### Chiefs 34, Chargers 0

At Kansas City, Reggie Tongue returned a fumble 7 yards for a touchdown as the Chiefs (5-2)

handed San Diego (4-3) its first regular-season shutout loss since 1992.

The victory gave Kansas City sole possession of first place in the AFC West.

### Patriots 27, Cardinals 3

At Tempe, Arizona, Drew Bledsoe matched his career high with four TD passes as New England (6-2) beat Arizona (2-5).

Bledsoe completed 14 of 22 passes for 276 yards, including two TDs to Shawn Jefferson.

Dolphins 16, Raiders 9

At Oakland, California, Miami's defense didn't give up a touchdown for the second straight week and shut down the NFL's top rushing attack.

Cecil Collins had a 1-yard scoring run and Olindo Mare kicked three field goals for the Dolphins

(6-1), who held Oakland (4-4) to 80 yards on the ground and pressured injured quarterback Rich Gannon into a 7-for-28 effort.

### Colts 34, Cowboys 24

At Indianapolis, the Colts (5-2) took the lead for good when Marvin Harrison beat Deion Sanders on a 40-yard TD catch on the first play of the fourth quarter.

Dallas (4-3) led 17-3 in the second quarter before Indianapolis began its comeback.

The Colts scored on all but one possession in the second half.

### Vikings 23, Broncos 20

At Denver, Gary Anderson kicked a 23-yard field goal with one second left to lift Minnesota (4-4) over Denver (2-6).

Cris Carter of the Vikings made eight catches for 144 yards and two scores.

## Villagomez. . .

Continued from page 1

"I'll write a letter telling (USPS) we have this thing in place," he added.

The commission was allowed an extension period to review the list following Faisao's protest during a July session of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

What really incensed Faisao during that session was the alleged inaction of the commission on his proposed Carolinian list, which was submitted late last year when the street naming bill became Local Law 11-3. The list came as an amendment that the

special body was supposed to consider within a 90-day period.

Faisao had made a proposal to have the names split in half — Chamorro and Carolinian — and dispersed proportionately.

Ray Diaz, Saipan Mayor Jose C. Sablan's representative to the commission, maintained the special body gave Faisao "ample time" to submit his proposed list.

He has also stressed that there are Carolinian names on the list — in district four, San Jose, Chalan Laulau, and Southern Garapan.

Diaz said public safety concerns demand that the island's streets be immediately given names, even as he lamented the project has been in its planning stage over the

past 11 years.

The matter takes its roots in the previous administration when then governor Froilan C. Tenorio, through Executive Order 94-3, abolished the street naming commission at the time and transferred the task to the Saipan Mayor's Office.

Then mayor Jesus S. DeLeon Guerrero, Faisao said, formed a new body that had no Carolinian representative.

To address the matter, Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez in 1998 filed a bill that became LL 11-3, which included Faisao's amendments, by itself, the result of a series of consultations with Carolinian leaders.

sidering other options.

"We shouldn't necessarily turn our backs on off-island recruitment. There are many qualified teachers off-island and we've recruited them in the past," Kasperbauer said.

However, the Department of Education's fiscal year 2000 budget does not include any money for off-island recruitment.

Diaz said the department might lose 127 other employees including custodians, counselors, and administrators.

## Guam may. . .

Continued from page 1

On the other hand, not knowing exactly how many will actually go through the retirement if it gets to be three or four hundred, then its going to be precedent [setting] I'd be very concerned about that," Kasperbauer said.

Diaz said Guam does not produce enough teachers to form a waiting list.

Kasperbauer said he is also con-

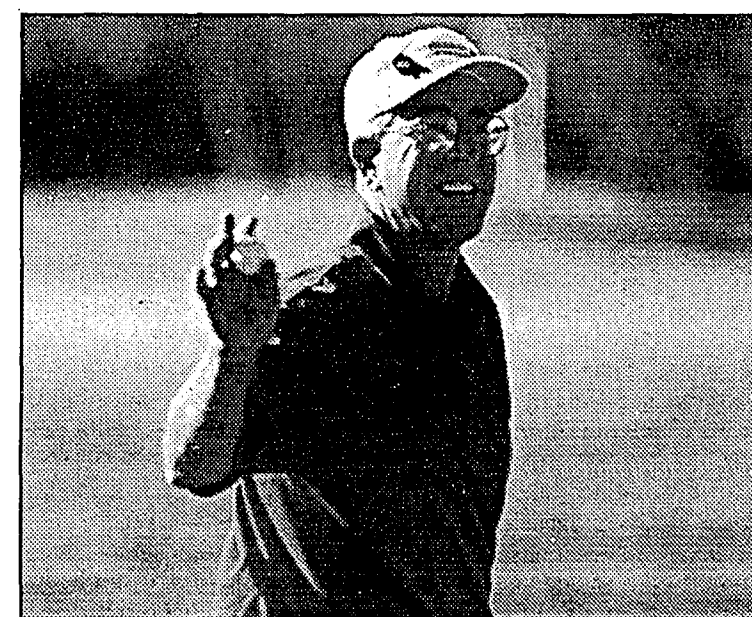
## Inman defends championship with Eagle putt

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Joe Inman's closing 6-under 65 Sunday included an eagle on the par-5 13th and he beat Bruce Summerhays and Dave Stockton by two strokes to successfully defend his title in the \$1.2 million Pacific Bell Senior PGA Classic.

Inman, winning for the second time as a senior, finished with a 14-under 199 total and earned \$180,000, the largest paycheck of his career.

Summerhays had a final-round 66, while Stockton, who entered the final round with a two-shot lead, had a 70. Each earned \$96,000. Inman made a 12-foot (3.6-meter) putt on the 514-yard hole for the 3.

"The eagle was big in my



Golfer Joe Inman acknowledges a cheering crowd after making a birdie on the 15th hole during the final round of the Pacific Bell Senior Classic at the Wilshire Country Club in Los Angeles Sunday. AP

round," the 51-year-old said. "But the shot of the day for me was that 5-iron through the trees on the sixth hole. From there on I really played well."

Inman put that 5-iron just two feet (60 centimeter) from the hole and tapped in for the birdie. Stockton had trouble at the No. 9 with a double-bogey 6. "I kind of let it get away," Stockton said. "On one hand I could have counted the shots I did not like but what killed me was the ninth hole."

Summerhays birdied four of the last five holes on the front nine but only managed one on the back side of his bogey-free round at the 6,575-yard (5,983-meter) Wilshire Country Club course.

"Stockton's double bogey put

everyone back into the ball game," Summerhays said. "I still had my chances. Another 66 was a good round of golf. But just not good enough."

Summerhays' five birdies all came on putts of 10 feet (3 meters) or less. "This was really a championship," Summerhays said. "A lot of people had a shot at this championship. Joe just took over on the back side."

John Bland shot a 64 for the day's best round. His 11-under 202 total put him in a tie with John Mahaffey, who had a 69.

Lee Trevino finished with a 68 and was tied with Bruce Fleisher and Bob Murphy at 203. Murphy finished with a 69 and Fleisher matched Trevino's 68.



## SPORTS



## Summer League championship

# Pirates vs. Pepsi/MGD series opener tonight

THE SAIPAN Stevedore Pirates defeated the Kautz Glazers, 15-4, Friday night as the pennant champs swept their playoff series, 2-0, to forge a showdown with Pepsi/MGD for the Summer League baseball championship. Game one of the best-of-five series starts tonight, Tuesday, at 6:30 p.m.

In their game Friday, the Pirates chased Glazers starter Jess Pua as they erupted for nine big runs in the first inning. Left fielder Chris Palacios wrecked havoc on the Glazers pitching rotation as he doubled, tripled, and doubled off of Pua and reliever Eric Kani in his first three plate appearance to lead the Pirates.

Palacios also scored twice and drove in three runs. Pirates pitching duo of Ed Diaz and fireballer Kelvin Kapileo shackled the Glazers bats surrendering 4 runs on only three hits in a shortened five inning game due to the ten run rule.

All the Pirates scored runs and had a hit each, except for batting leader Peter Sablan, who was held hitless at four time up.

The Pirates bats pounded on Pua early in the game with Mario Sablan, Ray Guerrero, and John Reyes starting the rally each hitting singles respectively to load up the bases. Clean-up man Peter Sablan failed to move the runners as he was retired on a flyout.

Chris Palacios came in and delivered big as he blasted a double to the deepest part of the field to bring home Mario Sablan and Guerrero. Designated hitter Fred Kaipat then connected for a single to put potential runners again on bases.

That prompted the Glazers to make a change with still one out in the first inning. Eric Kani, an infielder and at times assigned the task of manning the mound, came in relief to face another offensive threat, Tony Celis, who ripped a base hit to bring in Reyes and Palacios.

A costly throwing error by Glazers third baseman Mario Aguon which would have been the second out, allowed Craig Tenorio to reach first.

Jerome DeLo Santos, batting last, connected for the Pirates' seventh hit of the inning to drive in two more runs for a commanding 6-0 lead.

They scored three additional runs courtesy of two errors and a Hit By Pitch and went on to score one run in the second, two each in the third and fourth, and another run in the fifth to completely put the game away and never be threatened.

Facing a possible exit from the playoffs, the Glazers on the other hand, struggled offensively through most of the game with only Jess Taitano, Kani, and JJ Saralu being the only Glazers to get a hit. They scored their first run of the ballgame in the first inning when Ken Kalen

GAME STATS										
Pirates	POS	AB	R	H	RBI	Glazers	POS	AB	R	RBI
Mario Sablan	CF	3	3	1	0	Ken Kalen	CF	1	2	0
Ray Guerrero	2B	2	2	1	0	Dean Camacho	LF	3	0	0
John Reyes	SS	3	2	1	2	Jess Taitano	SS	3	0	1
Pete Sablan	3B	4	0	0	0	Ned Norita	C/SS	3	0	0
Chris Palacios	LF	4	2	3	3	Mario Aguon	2B/RF	1	0	0
Fred Kaipat	D/H	3	2	1	0	Chris Ada	RF/P	1	0	0
Tony Celis	C	4	1	2	2	Jess Pua	P/C	1	0	0
Craig Tenorio	LB	2	1	1	0	Bruce Norita	1B	0	1	0
Jerome DeLos Santos	RF	1	1	1	2	Eric Kani	2B/P	2	1	1
Eddie Diaz	P	0	0	0	0	Rick Quitugua	RF	1	0	0
J.J. Laniyo	RF	2	1	0	0	J.J. Saralu	P	1	0	1
Kevin Kapileo	P	0	0	0	0	George Magolna	P	0	0	0
						Greg Pua	CF	0	0	0

Base on ball: (2) Ken Kalen, Ray Guerrero, Craig Tenorio (1) Jean Reyes, F. Kaipat, J. DeLos Santos, Rick Quitugua, Jess Pua  
 Strikeouts: (2) Dean Camacho (1) T. Celis, K. Kalen, J. Taitano, N. Norita, J. Pua  
 Hit by pitch: (1) Mario Sablan  
 Error: (2) Dean Camacho, Ned Norita (1) Mario Aguon  
 Doubles: (2) Chris Palacios (1) Tony Celis, J.J. Saralu, Eric Kani  
 Triple: (1) Chris Palacios

Innings	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	R	H	ERROR	LOB
Pirates		9	1	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	15	15	0	7
Glazers		1	0	0	0	3	-	-	-	-	4	3	5	5

Pitcher	Team	INN	R	ER	H	2B	3B	HR	BB	SO	HB	WP	DEC
Ed Diaz	Pirates	2	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	-
Kevin Kapileo	Pirates	3	2	0	2	1	0	0	3	5	0	0	WIN
Jess Pua	Glazers	1	5	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	LOSS
Eric Kani	Glazers	1.2	5	1	4	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	-
Chris Ada	Glazers	1	2	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	-
Joe Saralu	Glazers	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	-
G. Magolna	Glazers	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	-

stole second after his leadoff walk, and scored on Taitano's single.

Held scoreless in the second through the fourth, the Glazers managed to sneak in three runs in the fifth inning but the game was already decided.

The Pirates pitching strategy worked against the Glazers bats thus the victory was in their grasp. Diaz pitched two innings, allowed a run on one hit, struck out one and walk three.

Kapileo, who worked the last

three innings and credited with the win, pitched three innings, gave up three runs on two hits, fanned five batters and surrendered three base on balls.

Game 2 will be played on Thursday, November 4 at 6:30 p.m. Game 3 will be held on Monday, November 8, at the same time.

Game 4 and 5, if necessary, will be played on Wednesday, November 10, and Friday November 12, respectively.

## Swimmers get ready for action

THE PRACTICE Swim Meet for the All Schools Swimming Championships was held this past Saturday at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, and was considered a success.

Part of the reason was the new swimmers who recently joined the Saipan Swim Club turned in some outstanding swims, and all will be counted on to strengthen the club's performances when they compete off island.

Swimmers who just started with the swim club in September, after having completed the Red Cross summer lessons, are expected to do well when they compete in Guam in January.

They are Andrew and David Perry, Rico Cruz, Arthur Welch, Katie Nichols, Brenda Atalig, Nicole Calvo, Shanne Joseph, Lily Jean Asanuma, Andrea and Alex Negrete, Michelle Cruz, Daniel Kim.

Several of them swam A and B times in their very first swimming competition.

There were many other swimmers who competed for their respective schools, and will do so for the championships on November 13, 1999.

All Saipan Swim Club members will compete for their respective schools, not the club.

Saipan Community School has won the previous six All Schools Swimming Championships Perpetual Trophy in the Elementary and Junior High Divisions; but will be hard pressed to repeat this year with more swimmers coming from programs in other schools. WSR, San Vicente, Whispering Palms and Saipan

Continued on page 30

## Organizers reschedule Veterans Day tourney

ALL INTERESTED teams, coaches and/or managers are being informed that there will be a final meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 10 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium Conference Room in preparation for the upcoming Veteran's Day Tournament to be held from Nov. 12 through Nov. 14.

All interested coaches/managers are advised to attend. Waiver forms may also be picked up from the individuals listed above.

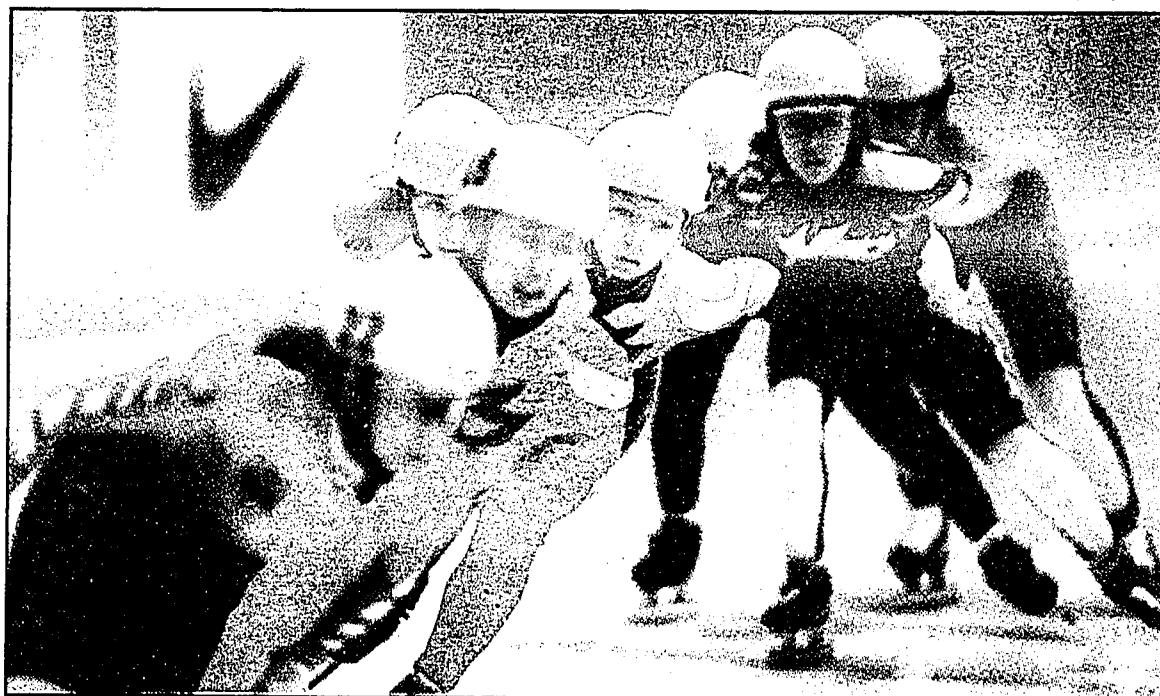
For more information, contact Robert Guerrero at 235-1580 or Liz Palacios at 235-9890/234-6946/236-3740.

In addition, the Saipan Softball Association informs all coaches/managers of the 1999 Men's Island Wide Fast-Pitch League that the following games (originally scheduled for Oct. 25, 1999) but were postponed due to the weather has been rescheduled to Sunday, Nov. 7.

The game times are as follows:

- Game 1 starts at 9 a.m., Tanapag Waves vs. Bad Boyz
- Game 2 starts at 11 a.m., Stevedore Mauleg vs. Hit & Run

For more information, you may contact Robert Guerrero at 235-1580.



A group of racers in the women's 3000-meter short track speed skating World Cup skate in the final draft around the track at the Peaks Ice Arena in Provo, Utah Sunday.

## SAIPAN

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