

Unionists stage big rally today

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

A DEMONSTRATION by contract workers will greet visiting US senators when they hold a meeting with federal officials at the Horiguchi building this morning.

Union leader Christian Mistica said about a hundred workers from four local companies are expected to show up for the rally.

Mistica said the workers hope to be able to present to US officials their labor grievances.

The contract workers will also press for a federal takeover of the local labor and immigration department, and the implementation of the 30-cent per hour increase in minimum wage.

Speaking for the workers, Mistica said they want the CNMI labor and immigration department to be placed under federal control "to prevent whitewash and unfair decisions

involving labor complaints."

He said nonresident workers feel that the close ties between some labor officials and company owners place the complainants in a nonwinning situation.

Sens. Frank Murkowski, Daniel Akaka and other members of the federal delegation will meet with CNMI-based federal officials.

Mistica said labor attorney John Cool and Hawaii-based union leader Elwood Mott will lead the demonstrators.

Joining the rally are workers from Hafa Adai Beach Hotel, Keeraku and Reuken Restaurant, Dai-Ichi Hotel and Saipan Grand Hotel.

Other demands of the workers include:

- Immediate resolution of their labor complaints; and
- Immediate approval of their requests for temporary working permits and service contract agreement.

CRM readies permit for L&T mall project

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE Coastal Resources Management board is set to approve next month the permit for the construction of the Garapan Shopping Mall, the controversial project of the L&T group of companies.

A draft of the coastal permit is now being reviewed by the board members, who are slated to meet on March 6.

The 144,420-square-foot mall will house a major retail outlet, a five-plex theater with room for two additional theaters, and a food court. Accessory buildings, with

an 18,212 square-foot floor space, will also be built to include a post office, food pad, bus shelter, and common areas.

The complex stands on a 38,574-square-meter lot leased by the government.

Rep. Stanley T. Torres and Jeanne H. Rayphand are seeking from the Superior Court the revocation of the lease, saying the government had been short-changed in the deal.

They claimed the fair market value of the lease set by a hired appraiser at \$10.8 million was low and that the true value was

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Ex-director of Natural Resources passes away

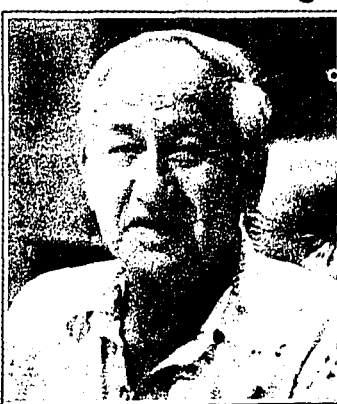
FORMER director of Natural Resources Nicolas M. DL. Guerrero passed away last Saturday, February 17, this was learned.

He was 67.

The cause of Guerrero's death was not immediately known.

Guerrero who served as head of the Natural Resources Department under the Larry I. Guerrero Administration is survived by his wife, Helen and

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Nicolas M. DL. Guerrero

Police officer found hanging

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

A POLICE officer died in an apparent suicide at an apartment in Garapan Saturday morning.

The Variety gathered that PO1 Antonio Cepeda Tomokane Jr., 27, was discovered hanging in his room.

Tomokane was already dead when his brother went to the apartment to see him.

The officer had locked himself in his room.

As of yesterday afternoon, the

Department of Public Safety has not released its initial reports on the incident.

Some police officers and Tomokane's relatives, however, confirmed that the victim had indeed been found hanging.

A few weeks ago, Tomokane was accused of assaulting his girlfriend and another man at a nightclub/restaurant in Oleai.

He also filed a countercomplaint.

The lady has dropped the case. Tomokane, a member of 11th

Police Cycle, reportedly was among the top five cadets in a graduation ceremony of the police academy in 1992.

He was last assigned at the DPS Bureau of Motor Vehicle.

The officer was survived by three children and parents Antonio C. Tomokane and Jovita B. Tomokane.

Last Dec. 28, a male inmate was found dead hanging inside his cell at the DPS.

Investigators said the inmate committed suicide.



Visiting US Senators Frank Murkowski (R-Alaska), left, and Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) stand alongside a wreath they placed in front of the Code of Honor monument at the American Memorial Park yesterday. The two members of US Congress are on island for discussions on labor and immigration reform issues.

Murkowski, Akaka allay fears of US immigration takeover

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

VISITING US senators yesterday allayed CNMI government's fears of a federal takeover of immigration control.

But the senators' assurance is, of course, not without a catch.

Hawaii Sen. Daniel Akaka said federal intervention will not take place if the CNMI government "will carry its responsibilities" under its agreement with federal authorities.

Akaka, along with Alaska Sen. Frank Murkowski and other members of the federal delegation, met with Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio and other local officials to discuss labor issues in the Commonwealth.

Office of Insular Affairs Director Allen P. Stayman has warned

of a federal takeover of immigration if the CNMI continues to back off its commitment to raise the minimum wage, and fails to restore the immigration cap.

In separate press interviews, Akaka and Murkowski said they had been hearing about labor and human rights complaints in the CNMI.

At yesterday's meeting with local officials, the two senators said they got "reassuring reports of positive steps to deal with the problems."

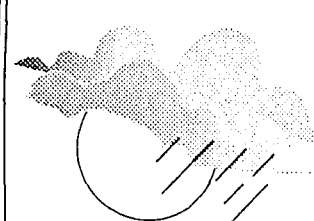
"At this point in time," Akaka said, "we hope we would not need any federal intervention."

For his part, Murkowski said "it is far too early to suggest that there's any form of consideration of takeover."

The federal authorities' present concern, Murkowski said, "is to

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Weather Outlook



Mostly sunny with isolated showers.

51 die in RP ferry tragedy

BACOLOD CITY, Philippines (AP) - An aging wooden ferry which failed a safety check last week capsized after it began swaying in strong waves and panicking passengers rushed to one side, officials said Monday. At least 51 people died and 15 were missing.

The ship was carrying more than 200 people, twice its legal passenger capacity of 100, when it sank Sunday evening, Philippine Coast Guard officials said.

Norberto Nepange, captain of the 75-ton ferry ML. Gretchen I, said the boat was waiting several hundred meters (yards) from port to dock because of low tide when it began being battered by strong waves and wind. As the ship rocked, panicked passengers climbed onto its roof deck and ran to one side, causing the ferry to overturn, he said.

The roof deck also collapsed, pinning some of the victims, Lt. Cmdr. Feliciano Dy of the Coast Guard operations center said.

The dead included 31 children, he

said.

Glenda Destacamento, a 25-year-old survivor, said the ferry captain told passengers to jump overboard when the vessel began disintegrating. "As I grabbed and put on a life jacket, a boy clung to me. I told him to hold on but when waves struck as we drifted, he was gone," she told The Associated Press.

The ferry had been ordered out of service last week by the Maritime Industry Authority for being unseaworthy, Coast Guard official Edmund Tan said. It was not clear whether it had received permission to resume operations.

The vessel was approaching Cadiz, 480 kilometers (300 miles) southeast of Manila, in Negros from nearby Bantayan Island in Cebu province when the accident occurred.

Arnie Santiago of the national Maritime Emergency Response Division said several other old wooden ferries of the same design had been ordered out of service Monday for safety checks after the accident.

Iraqi military defector plans to return home

By SCHEHEREZADE FARAMARZI JERUSALEM (AP) - A prominent Iraqi defector told a Palestinian newspaper that he plans to go back because Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is moving toward democracy.

"My country has begun paving the road toward comfort and confidence," Lt. General Hussein Kamel Al-Majid, a former confidant of Saddam, head of his weapons programs, and his son-in-law, said in Sunday's edition of the Al-Ayyam daily newspaper.

"Only hope what is taking place in Iraq is not just a passing current," he said in an interview in Amman, Jordan.

He did not say when he might go back.

Majid defected to Jordan in August with his brother, Col. Saddam Kamel Al-Majid, deputy head of the Iraqi president's palace security, and their wives, both daughters of the Iraqi leader.

Information he provided forced Baghdad to hand over vast amounts of data on Iraq's clandestine weapons programs to U.N. weapons inspec-

tors. Majid said he was in contact with the Iraqi government, "Baghdad makes contacts and we respond."

And he expects the U.N. Security Council to allow Iraq to sell its oil.

"Iraq is taking a step toward accepting the Security Council resolution and toward a democratic path and holding elections," Majid said. "For these reasons, my return and the return of many who seek an improvement in the situation is normal."

The Security Council has refused to lift sanctions imposed when Saddam invaded Kuwait in August 1990 until it is satisfied that Iraq has dismantled its program to build weapons of mass destruction.

On Sunday, U.N. and Iraqi negotiators reached a tentative agreement on key issues in oil-for-food talks. An agreement would let Iraq sell oil to buy food and medicine for the first time. It had previously refused the offer as an infringement of its sovereignty.

Majid denied that his decision to return to Iraq was made because of pressure from Jordan's King Hussein.

2 car bombs kill 12, wound 35 in Algeria

By RACHID KHIARI ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) - Two car bombs exploded Sunday night, killing 12 people and wounding 35 others celebrating the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan in this North African wracked by an Islamic insurgency.

Witnesses said the bombs exploded around 6:30 p.m. (1730 GMT) in Ain-Nadja just south of the capital, Algiers, and in Ain Taya to the east. Seventeen of the wounded were reported to be seriously hurt.

No one immediately claimed responsibility for the bombs. But suspicion immediately fell on

Muslim militants who have been fighting to overthrow Algeria's military-backed government and install strict Islamic rule.

A week ago, in the worst bloodshed of the year, 21 people were killed and 100 others wounded in two car bombs in Algiers, one targeting a building that housed Algerian newspapers.

Sunday's bombs were powerful and heavily damaged buildings within a radius of several hundred meters (yards). Unidentified witnesses said the explosions could be heard throughout the capital, and they put the death toll at 12.

He said charges were being prepared against the boat captain and owner for overloading.

Only 59 people were listed on the ship's passenger manifest, officials said.

Ship overloading often accounts for the high casualties in many sea accidents in the Philippines.

Last Dec. 13, dozens of people were killed when the overloaded MV Kimelody Cristy caught fire off For-

tune Island, 80 kilometers (50 miles) southwest of Manila.

The Philippines had an average of 224 sea accidents a year in 1982-1990, compared to 270 in Indonesia and 730 in Japan, according to a study by the Japan International Cooperation Agency.

But the Philippine casualties averaged 661 dead and missing yearly during the period.

In contrast, Indonesia had an aver-

age of 273 dead or missing and Japan had 261.

The Philippines was the site of the world's worst peacetime maritime disaster.

A collision between the ship Dona Paz and a tanker in 1987 left 4,341 people dead.

In October 1988, about 500 people died or were never found when the ferry Marilyn sank during a storm in the central Philippines.

US gaming industry eyes center to study compulsive gambling

By CURT ANDERSON WASHINGTON (AP) - The U.S. gaming industry, which some experts say depends on compulsive players for a sizable chunk of its profits, is creating the first national center to study problem gambling.

The National Center for Responsible Gaming, to be in Kansas City, Missouri, will not be an attempt to hide or explain away the problem, said American Gaming Association President Frank J. Fahrenkopf Jr.

"We do not want to make the mistakes the tobacco industry made, saying, 'Smoking is good for you,'" Fahrenkopf said in a recent interview.

The center will attempt to identify profiles of problem gamblers and recommend pro-

grams for prevention, intervention and treatment.

At a time when legalized gambling is booming nationwide, there is some evidence that compulsive gamblers are a cornerstone of the industry's profits.

Research has indicated that up to half of the industry's revenues come from the 4 percent who are problem gamblers, said Earl Grinols, a University of Illinois economist who has studied the issue.

"If you could prevent every problem gambler, the revenues would drop by one-third to one-half," Grinols said.

Tom Irwin, director of the Missouri Gaming Commission, said the industry would be foolish to deny the existence of problem gamblers, and is probably moti-

vated more by a need to shore up its public image.

But, Irwin added: "We look at all of this with a fairly jaundiced eye."

Gambling's growth, and its effect on communities, also has become an issue this winter in the Republican presidential race.

Pat Buchanan argues the spread of organized gambling is resulting "in the destruction of families... the corruption of legislators." Indiana Sen. Dick Lugar has raised concerns about what gambling is doing to the national character.

Kansas City is the location of Boyd Gaming Corp.'s gambling riverboat, one of eight licensed in Missouri. Boyd is providing seed money for the research center at the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Flagging peace in Bosnia seems to gain new life

By LIAM McDOWALL

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) - Bosnia's flagging peace process has gained new life after a Rome summit, where Balkan leaders pledged to reunify the divided cities of Sarajevo and Mostar and apparently agreed on rules for pursuing war criminals.

The summit also yielded agreement for more talks between Serb, Croat and Muslim officials. The first session is scheduled Monday on the USS George Washington in the Adriatic Sea.

Despite the progress, hundreds of panicked Serbs fled their parts of Sarajevo over the weekend as the Rome summit reaffirmed they must relinquish those areas to the Muslim-led government.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic and his new ally, Bosnian Serb prime minister Rajko Kasagic, urged the Serbs to stay put and trust international supervision of government police, who began taking control of Serb Sarajevo next weekend.

But Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic, still asserting his claim to prominence despite indictment for war crimes, accused the world of forcing his people out and said no guarantees could make Serbs stay in the Bosnian capital after it is reunified March 19.

"I'm afraid it's too late for the Serbs in Sarajevo," Karadzic told The Associated Press. "Many of them have left already, and many more will leave in the days to come."

Forcing the Serbs out and pressuring them over war crimes and mass graves

are merely "the laundering of the international community's conscience," Karadzic told Serb mayors from all over Bosnia, summoned to his stronghold of Pale.

His comments signaled continued defiance of the peace agreement negotiated for him by his former mentors, Milosevic. The accord bars indicted war criminals like Karadzic from office.

Yet Karadzic promised to "follow the results" of the Rome conference at which Milosevic and other Balkan leaders pledged to respect the peace accord.

That indicated the Serbs will resume contacts with the NATO-led peace force. The Serbs cut off contact after the Bosnian government's arrest of two Bosnian Serb army officers and the pair's subsequent extradition to the war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

The resumption of contacts was agreed in Rome, U.S. mediator Richard Holbrooke said.

The Rome meeting also reportedly yielded new rules for arresting war criminals, which would prevent random arrests by the government but also enhance NATO powers for such detentions.

The new rules appeared aimed at increasing pressure to force Karadzic and Bosnian Serb Gen. Ratko Mladic, who has also been indicted as a war criminal, out of office. Milosevic so far has been unable to do that.

Karadzic told The AP it was "better now than never" that sanctions may be lifted against the

Bosnian Serbs if they comply with the peace accord. But ordinary Serbs and their leaders demonstrated their lack of faith in coexistence by fleeing en masse from Hadzici, a grim industrial suburb west of Sarajevo.

This weekend's flight was the first organized exodus in buses provided by Serb authorities.

"We're taking everything, even the traffic signs," said Slavko Pusara, a secretary in the mayor's office. "How can we trust NATO? They bombed us too," he added.

The western alliance launched air strikes on Bosnian Serb facilities last summer and now heads the 60,000-strong force international peace force.

Tens of thousands of Serbs have said they will flee. Many say they fear retribution after nearly four years of Serb siege and bombardment of Sarajevo. But others this weekend reported being under orders to flee.

In several cases, the Serbs are exhuming bodies of loved ones and taking them with them.

In Rome, the weekend's 25 hours of intense negotiations hit snags in talks over the fate of southwestern Mostar, where murderous tension divides Muslims and Croats. The two former enemies are supposed to share not only that city, but a federation controlling 51 percent of Bosnia.

Wardlaw warns of suit

By Ferdie de la Torre

Variety News Staff

COMMONWEALTH Health Center Administrator Angela M. Wardlaw is set to slap a civil lawsuit against Department of Public Health Services Secretary Dr. Isamu J. Abraham.

In a telephone interview yesterday, Wardlaw disclosed that if Abraham will not lift the suspension order against her a federal civil right action will be filed.

Wardlaw said her counsel Anthony Long informed the secretary Friday that such suspension is unlawful.

The Variety tried but failed to get Abraham's response.

In the letter, Long explained that the administrator did not relinquish her constitutional right (freedom of speech) upon accepting employment with CHC.

The lawyer said Wardlaw cannot be disciplined for exercising

that right.

Long pointed out that Abraham issued it apparently because he disagreed with Wardlaw's testimony during Thursday's joint legislative Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) committee hearing.

In addition, Long said the suspension violated the administrator's constitutional right to due process.

The counsel claimed that before serving such suspension order, the subject person must be notified with the reasons.

The action, Long said, must be reviewed by the Attorney General's Office or personnel of-

fice.

Abraham's memorandum was not reviewed by anyone. It arises from vindictiveness as opposed to a legitimate concern, Long said.

He asked the DPHS top man to rescind the order citing that it has no basis.

Abraham imposed a three-day suspension against Wardlaw Friday, a day after the two top public health officials admitted they have "differences" before the HEW hearing.

The suspension without pay is effective today.

Abraham cited provisions in the Personnel Service System Rules and Regulations which gives him

power to suspend her.

The secretary also told Wardlaw to sit down with him to review the evaluation of her job performance when she returns to work on Feb. 23.

The secretary told the Variety that the suspension was based on the grounds of absenteeism, late to report on duty, and unprofessional conduct.

Abraham said the incidents happened a few days before and during the HEW hearing.

Wardlaw, president of the New York-based Wardlaw Group, signed a two-year contract with CHC. She arrived on Saipan in February last year.

Delay in PSS projects irks education official



Don Farrell

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

BOARD of Education vice chairman Don Farrell has expressed irritation over delays in the completion of several school projects.

During last week's meeting of the Board of Education, it was found out that delays were due to contractual problems and inability of funds.

Among the projects long over due are Tinian and Kagman school facilities and the Marianas High School gymnasium.

Farrell noted that the MHS gym was supposed to have been done two years ago.

"When we assumed office, we promised the students that they would have a gym," Farrell told the board. "That was two years ago, now I can't go back to MHS; I'm ashamed to

show my face to this students."

According to a report submitted by the PSS trades specialist, Oscar Babauta, the education agency has \$633,400 available funds for the MHS gym project.

In September and August 1995, the bidding announcement was advertised for the completion of the gym.

"Three interested contractors have submitted their bids which they all exceeded the available funds," Camacho's report said. "The lowest bidder was the AIC Marianas Inc. in the amount of \$1,309,117. The Department of Public Works has informed the contractor for being the lowest bidder and no negotiation has been conducted to this date."

Another PSS project in limbo is the installation of water tanks.

The report said Solid Builders, the contractor for the Water Tank project, had requested for extension of project deadline to Dec. 22, 1995.

The project was expected to be completed on May 8 last year.

"To date the contractor still fail to finish the project as committed," the report said. "The project is now long overdue and liquidated damages continue to accumulate on each calendar day at \$200."

"As of Feb. 15, the contractor has not completed the project," the report said.

An irked Farrell suggested that the PSS keep a list of delinquent contractors.

Speaker cautions governor on Covenant renegotiation

By Rafael H. Arroyo

Variety News Staff

HOUSE Speaker Diego T. Benavente disagrees with Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio's suggestion for a renegotiation of the Covenant if the federal government insists on taking over CNMI control of its own immigration.

In an interview, Benavente said he believes the Covenant should be left as it is despite mounting differences between the federal and commonwealth governments on labor and immigration issues.

According to Benavente, the CNMI stands to lose more than just immigration control if the Covenant is tampered with.

He said it was unthinkable for the governor to be moving for something that may not be in the best interest of the Commonwealth.

Tenorio was quoted in a news conference last week saying that the CNMI would better sit down and redraft the sacred pact that established the current political relationship between the CNMI



Diego T. Benavente



Froilan C. Tenorio

and the US.

The governor made the remark when asked about current moves by the federal government to push for the implementation of the US Immigration and Nationality Act in the CNMI.

Under the Covenant, the CNMI was given the privilege of controlling its own immigration, as well as enacting local minimum wage laws distinct from the US.

Other perks contained in the US-CNMI pact are economic in nature—the Headnote 3(a) duty-free entry of CNMI exports to the US and the privilege to establish a tax system that would encourage growth.

The specter of losing immigration control has been resurrected after the Legislature recently enacted a law deferring a preset minimum wage increase that was supposed to have taken effect last January.

The increase, which would have raised the minimum wage from \$2.75 to \$3.05, is provided for in Public Law 8-21 aiming to bring local hourly wage at par with the federal wage level by the year 2000.

In an interview yesterday, visiting Interior Director for Insular Affairs Allen Stayman said the federal government has previously stayed its recommendation for immigration take-over based on the premise that the local wages go up as outlined in P.L. 8-21.

With the schedule altered, he said: "There are consequences to the policies. For this particular one, one con-

sequence is that the Administration will reevaluate its position with respect to immigration."

But according to Benavente, given all the problems with the US, he still thinks the current Covenant should be protected and that its proposed renegotiation would not do the CNMI any good.

"I do want to caution the governor that there are issues at stake here. The Commonwealth status that we have, even with the kind of problems we're having, is one that is unheard of, almost hard to believe that we have."

Saying there is a lot of good things about this political status, he said leaders should even look at how to protect it.

"I really doubt we could make it better. The Cold War is over, the US is closing bases all over the world, there's no need for the two-thirds of property on Tinian. There's nothing for us to negotiate to get something better than what we have right now," said the speaker.

"I really feel it is very alarming for that kind of a statement to come from the governor. I really don't want to see this political status threatened. We must work together to protect it."

"We can solve all these problems with immigration, labor and minimum wage but it is very hard to find another deal. Even with all the problems we have on labor, immigration and allegations of corruption in government, this is still the best place in the world to live in and I am sure the people agree to that observation," he said.



GOOD-BYE, HELLO One lion says goodbye to Year of the Pig, the other says hello to Year of the Rat. Lion Dance, which is part of Chinese celebration of Lunar New Year, draws crowd at the lobby of Hyatt Regency Hotel yesterday. The show was organized by Chinese Association of Saipan in cooperation with Hyatt management.

Photo by Mar-Vic C. Munar

FORUM

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Impottansian Amendasion Numero 18 yan 2

Sumen presiso na inkemprende sustansian este i dos na amendasion yan sa' hafa na managuaha nu este na ginagao yan apruebasion ginen i delegaduta siha gi mina' tres na Konbension Konstitusion.

Uno gi intension Amendasion Numero 18 i para u amot i lehislatura nu i atoridatia man amenda probision Konstitusion Marianas ginen ayo i mafananaan "legislative initiative". Guia este na atoridat 'nai ha aprueba un' asunto ya mapega dispues gi balotu para i taotao u dinisio. I amendasion efektibomente ha chule' este na atoridat ya hanana' lo tatte gi taotao hafa dicho sustansian gobiernamento.

I rason na propio este na ginagao sa' i estorian lehislatura gi uson este na atoridat guaha abuso gi manera 'nai ha eksisia este na fuetsa. Pot ihemplo, ha aprueba un' attikulo 'nai para u hatsa pottamonedania (budget) gi dos guma' gi silensio na manera. Klaro na timalago' na u tuñgo i publiko hafa intensionia yan kao lehitimo i ha petsisige. Taya' inekuñgog publiko pot para ta ketuñgo sa' hafa na para tafan man'apase talo mas kontribusion tax pot operasionia. Estague' na rason na dicho yan propio na este na atoridat umanana' lo tatte gi taotao.

Yan gin ma' aprueba este na amendasion, hita ni publiko solu siña muna' guaha tinilaika gi todo probision konstitusion gi hilo' un'areglamiento ni debi u matatiye. Yan gin enfin debi u guaha tinilaika gi un'attikulo gi konstitusion ya manman hoñge hit na presiso na u matulaika, siempre tafachuchue' sin hafa na ditension. Estague' un'atmas publiko na debi ta suppotta sa' ti propio na unos kuantos ha' na señores yan señoras para u fan manulalaika gi un'dokumento ni tumatacho' komo achon areglamiento guine gi tano'ta.

Amendasion Numero Dos sustansiao na tinilaika gi kuetpon lehislatura. Ha ribaha i membron san papa' na guma deste 18 esta 13. Ha ekstende i tetminon representante deste dos años esta i kuarto. Hana' mapatte kada membro \$70,000 gi sakan pot para gaston offisinaña. Ha nae' mas fondu i Legislative Bureau para ke siña man emplea profesionat siha na empleao pot para u chineguie ni man presiso siha na inestudia yan gi matuge' lehislasion. Todo konsiderasion akto debi u mana guaha inekuñgog publiko yan dos separao na konsiderasion antes de u ma'aprueba osino ma' disaprueba.

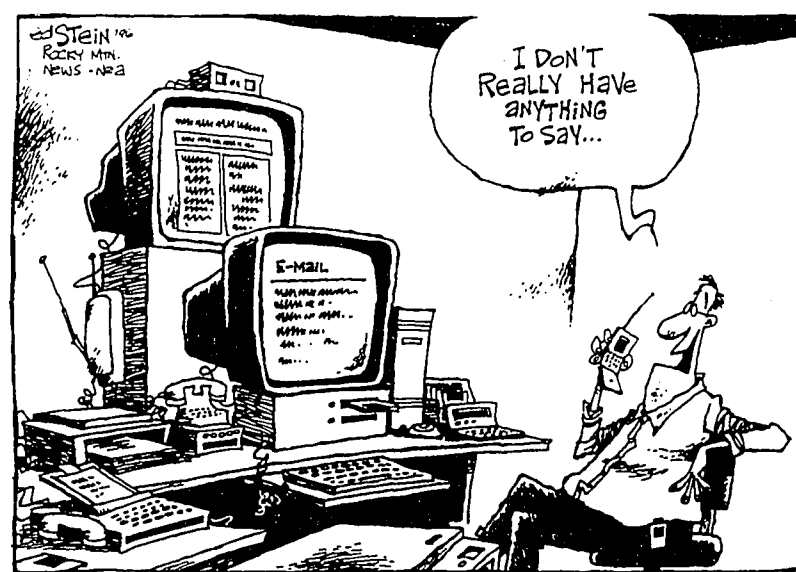
Iya Marianas mampos dikiki' na komunida ya ti presiso na u guaha megai na representante taimano i presente. Yan gin i lehislatura seso kumuentos pot para u maribaha i kuetpon gobiernamento, pues hoñgiyon yangin guia finenina hana' magahet hafa ha sesetmon. Lao mientras ti lilisto pumañot i mismo amot ni ha preskibe gi otro ramas gobiernamento, propio na hita nu i publiko ta ribaha hafa ha petsisige.

I mapatten kada lehisladot \$70,000 gi sakan pot para operasion offisinaña propio lokue' na tinilaika. Ensegidas, ha chaba' minimon hinesguan yan imbidioso na politika gi entalo' minoridat yan mayoridat. Mas siempre ha attende checho' niha yan asuntion linahyan sa' deste tutuhon areglao kada uno fondoña. I presente na areglamiento sumen namase' i minoridat sa' dididi' ha' na fondu mananae' pot nesesisadña. I mapropopone na tinilaika mas aseguro achogha' pot mas kabales na representasion.

Uno na atmas i lehislatura na sumen fatso gi papa' i presente na areglamiento i taya' fondoña parake siña man'emplea profesionat siha na empleao ni man kapas pot para u fan manayuda gi inestudian todo sustansiao na asunto gi preniparan akton lehislatura. Este na patte gi lehislatura siempre u manae' mas fondu kosake i Legislative Bureau u fan emplea mankualifikao yan kualidat na empleao gi inasisten checho' lehislatura.

I mapropopone lokue' na amendasion (2) hana' obligao na u guaha inekuñgog publiko gi todo lehislasion yan kompido dos separao na konsiderasion (1st and 2nd reading) kada akto gi pisin kada guma'. Este na tinilaika sumen presiso gi proteksion publiko sa' yangin i presente na sistema para u madalalake, memegaiña na akto u fan makonsidera gi hilo' hinemhom sin pattisipasion i taotao.

Sumen presiso na ta bota favorable este i dos na amendasion gi hilo' intension para tanana' lo tatte gi taotao i gobiernamento yan u guaha mas proteksion gi publiko gi todo konsiderasion preniparan lei. Si Yuus Maase yan Ghilisow!



ConCon COMMENTARY

by Bernard Zimmerman and Grace Suarez

"Bernard Zimmerman is a federal judge magistrate for the Northern District of California, former constitutional law teacher, and former partner in the law firm of Pillsbury, Madison & Sutro in San Francisco. He and his wife, Grace Suarez, also a constitutional law expert, served as unsalaried counsel for the Con-Con.

This is one of a series of commentaries by two of the Con-Con legal team's constitutional law experts who had not been in the CNMI before volunteering to assist the Convention."

An assessment of the product of the Convention

It was an incredible experience for me to watch the Convention wrestle with the principles that form the foundation of American democracy — principles like equality, fairness, clean government — and make them work for you and your children. The words are easy to say, but until you try to apply them to your everyday lives, as the Con-Con delegates have, you don't always appreciate what they mean and you sure don't appreciate what they cost.

Government for the people and by the people is a term I have heard many a time in my constitutional law work. If that sort of government is to long endure, it is because from time to time people like the elected Con-Con delegates will sacrifice their time and energy to fine tune the democratic system so that it can run smoothly for another generation or two.

I was very impressed by the number of times the word "children" was used in the Con-Con debates. I don't think a day went by when somebody in the Convention didn't speak of their children and grandchildren, and there probably hasn't been a Convention anywhere in the history of the world that has had that thought as a focus point.

I think that the Con-Con delegates have done the job so well, that I think this Constitution will long endure. I don't think you have to worry about defending these proposed Amendments. They are an excellent work product.

Your Constitution has helped make the CNMI the envy of Micronesia. My wife Grace and I have traveled around this region. And we have found that everyone in the rest of Micronesia wants to be in the CNMI. And one of the reasons they want to be here is because you have found something that works, and they would like to be a part of it. Your Constitution is a key to why your Commonwealth works.

The compromises

The compromises the delegates have made will keep a Commonwealth of people as diverse as you are working and living harmoniously together. To those, and I expect there are some — it is inevitable — who are temporarily unhappy with some of the Amendments, I would like to paraphrase Benjamin Franklin, who told some of the delegates who were reluctant to sign the United States Constitution: This Constitution may not be perfect, but it is the best Constitution we could agree on.

Yours is a great Constitution. Dangku! na si yu'us maase for letting us be a part of it.

THE 3rd Con Con AND THE Public

By: Stephen C. Woodruff

Making local gov't onerous

Mr. Woodruff's column yesterday had to be cut for space reasons. The following is the conclusion:

Making Local Government Onerous

Amendment 6 gives municipal councils broad taxing powers without reducing the Commonwealth-wide taxing power in any way or providing any kind of tax deduction or credit on Commonwealth taxes for local taxes paid. Thus, local governments will be able to raise revenue only by increasing the tax burden of citizens on that island, an action certain to be unpopular.

To compound the injury, the amendment freezes current appropriation and employment levels and requires that, beginning in 1998, appropriations by the Commonwealth legislature for local government be reduced by the amount of revenues raised locally. Thus, the amendment effectively freezes the amount of money that can be spent on local government during the next seven years, regardless of the amount of new taxes passed by the municipal councils.

Moreover, the meaning of "local government" to be affected by the funding restriction is unclear. The Post Convention Committee asserts that this applies only to the offices of the mayors and municipal councils. Nothing in the amendment itself or the Analysis, however, indicates that the term has such a

narrow meaning. Indeed, the *Inos v. Tenorio* decision would indicate a much broader meaning, since the mayor's expenditure authority and other powers reach much farther, extending to the resident departments.

At a minimum, these and other proposed constitutional provisions are rigid and inflexible and may make it difficult or impossible for local government to adapt to real needs over time.

Incidentally, voters may be interested to know something about approximate per capita government spending in the three senatorial districts, computed based on U.S. citizen population. For Rota this figure is less than \$6,000. On Tinian, it is about \$7,500. On Saipan, it is over \$8,000. That is the amount of government spending in each senatorial district for each U.S. citizen man, woman, and child.

What is needed is not Amendment 6. What is needed is a commission to study the local government issue, examine what can be learned from various U.S. jurisdictions, determine what functions and powers should be exclusively local, what central, and what shared, and what structures and legal principles will make the Commonwealth government as a whole, including local governments, work best for the people on all the islands. The

Continued on page 8

Letters to the Editor

What about 702, AI?

Dear Editor:

MR. Stayman makes a big fuss about the six month postponement of the NMI minimum wage. He stated in your Monday issue that the postponement violated the understanding that the US government and the CNMI government had.

If "understanding" is the basis of US-NMI relationship, what can Mr. Stayman say about US breach of the understanding of the Manglona-Guerrero multi-year financial assistance, the continuing failure to pay for compact impact, etc.?

Why is Mr. Stayman so adamant, perhaps fanatically paranoid about

30¢ agreement. And can Mr. Stayman tell us whether he or the US government would be responsible for the consequences of this 30¢ agreement?

If businesses close down or relocate, would he or the US government provide us jobs and revenue to the government for public services?

I look forward to Mr. Stayman holding a press conference to address these issues before he leaves.

Thank you so much.
LUCY LISUA ROSARIO
General Delivery
Koblerville

Setting the record straight

Dear Editor:

The letter from former Third Con-Delegate Juan S. Tenorio which appeared in Monday's edition contained a number of misrepresentations and distortions.

Mr. Tenorio's statement that during the convention I was sent various convention materials and my comments requested in writing is an outright LIE. I obtained copies committee reports and proposed amendments only by requesting them, and often I made the photocopies myself. Nothing was ever formally transmitted to me, and the only requests for my comments were informal and oral.

When I did comment, my views—like those of the CNMI bar association, Presiding Judge Castro, Northern Marianas College, and the Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy organization, among others—were largely or entirely ignored. Nevertheless, I wrote two letters to the delegates, in addition to the one acknowledged by Mr. Tenorio. Those letters ran 9 and 12

single-spaced pages respectively and covered much more than Mr. Tenorio admits. At least one appears in the Official Proceedings of the Convention.

Besides those letters, I provided additional information and observations to the convention through individual delegates. This included my views on Article (Amendment) 4. I also discussed several matters with convention legal counsel. My columns have accurately reflected the facts with respect to what was previously made known to the convention.

Mr. Tenorio clearly has a serious misconception of the duty and role of the public in constitutional matters. Democracy may be inconvenient but it is the only protection we have against tyranny. Neither I nor any other member of the public had any obligation to leave our jobs and go to the convention in order to have a right and responsibility to speak later.

Continued on page 8

Wage board not part of the deal, says Stayman

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff

THERE was no previous understanding between the CNMI and US governments about a wage review board and so its existence may be no reason why the scheduled minimum wage increase should be deferred.

This was the gist of a statement issued yesterday by Interior Director for Insular Affairs Allen Stayman as he reiterated his message about possible federal action as a result of the postponement of the wage hike.

"We thought we had a deal that the CNMI will implement the wage law but it is clear that it has backslided in that area," said Stayman in an interview with reporters yesterday.

"In our recommendations to Congress and in our earlier discussions with the CNMI, there has never been discussion on a wage board. The Administration does not support the concept of a wage board," he pointed out.

Stayman in an earlier statement said the CNMI should consider reversing its earlier action on the wage issue before a recommendation on immigration takeover is sent to US Congress.

The scheduled wage increase, which would have taken effect last January, was stalled for six months upon the recommendation of the

Wage and Salary Review Board.

The Legislature froze the minimum wage at the 1995 level to allow the statutorily-created board to complete its study on the impact of the 30-cent wage increase.

House Speaker Diego T. Benavente when contacted yesterday responded saying the House may have to await a recommendation from the Wage and Salary Review Board prior to taking any action reversing the deferment.

"We're not disregarding Mr. Stayman's concerns, I am not going to say that we're not willing to consider such action. But right now, the leadership's position is that we will wait to hear the report that will be forthcoming from the wage review board," said Benavente.

But according to Stayman, the issue of a wage board was not a consideration during discussions between the CNMI and the federal government on labor and immigration reform last year.

"Our recommendation to Congress was based upon the assumption that the CNMI was going to implement its law phasing in the federal minimum wage over six years. If the CNMI chooses to change that, we certainly feel that it's appropriate for us to reconsider our position as well," said



Allen Stayman

Stayman.

The Interior official stressed that while the federal government believes in local self-government, the CNMI should be aware that there could be ramifications to actions being taken.

"The CNMI is local self-governing. Obviously the Legislature can pass any laws. My point was simply to say that there are consequences to the policies and that one consequence to this particular one is that the Administration will reevaluate its position with respect to its recommendation to US Congress," Stayman said.



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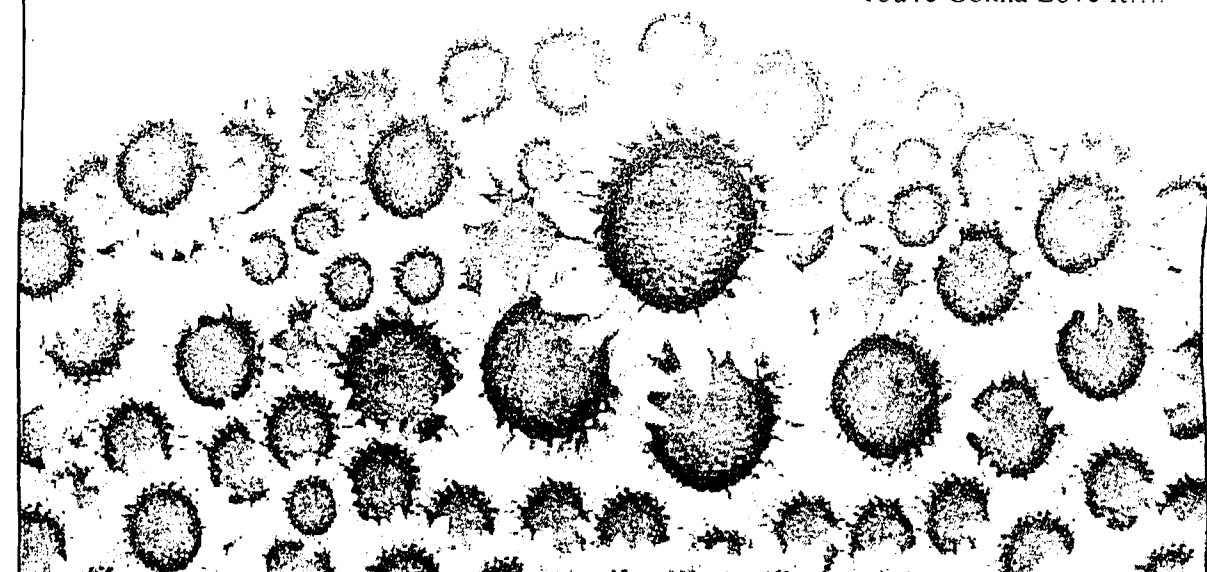
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CUC fears 'economic nightmare'

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Utilities Corp. has asked the House of Representatives to act expeditiously on its request for funds for its power improvement projects.

Utilities Executive Director Timothy Villagomez said the poor power situation and the inability of the CUC to serve some of its customers due to lack of funds "creates an economic nightmare for both the utility's financial status and the ability of the CNMI to promote itself as business mecca."

Villagomez informed Rep. Crispin DL. Guerrero, chairman of the committee on public utilities and transportation and communication, that



Timothy Villagomez

CUC customers throughout southern Saipan "are already experiencing power fluctuations and power outages."

Villagomez said CUC has number of commercial customers who cannot be connected to CUC system because the power distribution wires are outdated and too small.

"The corporation must immediately secure funding for substations, voltage regulators and a new high voltage wiring system," Villagomez said in a letter to Guerrero. "By way of this letter, I am encouraging you to expedite the assistance of the PUTC in these matters."

CUC is also badly in need of money for its water projects.

The agency earlier requested Finance Secretary Antonio Cabrera for reimbursements of water project expenses incurred as a result of the Governor's water emergency declaration.

"Reimbursements to CUC is due," Cabrera wrote Villagomez.

However, the finance chief said "there is no authorized funding under Public Law 9-66."

Cabrera thus advised the CUC official to submit a request to the Saipan Legislative delegation for appropriation.

CRM...

Continued from page 1

\$18.8 million.

The complaint filed by Torres and Rayphand named respondents Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio, Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Benigno M. Sablan, Public Lands Director Bertha T. Camacho, and L&T.

The respondents asked for the dismissal of the complaint, claiming the plaintiffs had failed to state a cause of action.

But Associate Judge Edward Manibusan upheld the case last Nov. 6.

According to the draft permit, the CRM program agencies "have determined that the proposed project...conforms with the Coastal Resources Management Program policies and objectives."

The CRM has also waived the project's compliance with the park-

ing space requirements since the granting of the waiver "will not result in direct or significant adverse impacts to coastal resources."

The CRM noted, too, that "over 90 percent of the required number of parking spaces has been provided for."

According to Sablan, the board does not have anything to do with the legal aspect of the project. "That's for the court to decide."

Sablan said the bottom line is that "they (L&T) do have a lease agreement."

He added, though, that if the court "finds that the lease is null and void, then we will terminate the permit."

Sablan said he was sure the six-man board would approve the project since "the plan is sound and environmentally friendly."

For the project to be approved, the decision by the board has to be unanimous, meaning, there is no single dissenting vote.

Murkowski...

Continued from page 1

evaluate the problems."

"We've heard that the government is making significant commitments to ensure that there is a minimum of unlawful actions associated with minimum wage, low workers condition, immigration violations," Murkowski said. "It's not a perfect world but there's certain evidence that they're attempting to address the problems."

Murkowski said the governor and members of his Cabinet presented a "very encouraging report."

"They made a presentation to show how about bad the previous situation was and the advancements that they are making."

As for the minimum wage row, Murkowski said this may be resolved if the governor will take the issue back to the legislature and reinstate the original agreement "to achieve the minimum wage level which was to be up to federal standard."

Ex-director...

Continued from page 1

daughter Anna. The former director during his term was credited with initiating technology programs meant to boost the agriculture sector.

He figured prominently in the negotiations for the Melon Fly project initiative which was started in the early nineties with the Okinawa prefecture in Japan.

The program, however, failed to materialize.

Rosary for the late former official is being said nightly at the San Vicente Church. Last respects may be paid on Saturday February 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

He will be laid to rest at the Chalan Kanoa cemetery after a mass of Christian burial at 4 p.m.

Outage postpones class

TWO Feb. 17 NMC Community Services classes have been postponed till Feb. 24, 1996 because of the Saturday power outage at the College.

The postponed classes are 1) "Macintosh the Basics" and 2) "Home Plumbing Made Simple".

Wage Board hits federal dictates

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THERE have been strong vocal resentments aired lately from CNMI officials on the "dictates" by the federal government on certain aspects of local governance, particularly wage and number of alien workers.

The other week Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio sent a message to the United States government: Let the CNMI determine the number of alien workers who will be allowed to work in Saipan's

Triple J's 3rd annual scholarship launched

TRIPLE J Motors and Triple J Mitsubishi has announced the kickoff of their "Third Annual Student Scholarship Program," which will feature local students in a new series of television advertisements.

Interested high school juniors and senior will be eligible to compete for a total of \$5,000 in college scholarship prizes, which will be awarded later this year by Triple J management.

Auditions for the commercials has started this month. A total of eight students will be selected to star in four television commercials. The commercials will air on both local cable companies during the months of March through May, 1996.

Two top prizes of \$2,000 will be awarded based on talent and popularity. Second prizes of \$500 will also be awarded in both categories.

The community will be invited to vote for their favorites student actress or actor by placing votes at either Triple J location on Beach Road.

The recipients of the most votes will be awarded the popularity prizes. The prize monies must be used toward each winner's college education.

"I can't say enough about the great job the students have done over the past two years. They also learned a lot while producing their own commercials," said Wayne Hunt, general manager of Triple J Motors. "This is one of our favorite promotions of the year - we enjoy working with the kids and it gives us an opportunity to be a good corporate citizen by helping students to go to college."

Vets to meet

THIS IS to inform all Veterans and Members of the US Armed Veterans Association that the regular monthly meeting for February is hereby set for Feb. 22 (Thursday) at 1830 hours at the Minachom Adao Pavilion, Killili Beach.

This meeting will also be our last to enroll interested veterans in joining the VWF club for the CNMI. Your presence therefore is very much appreciated. For more information, please contact Joseph C. Reyes, President at 234-5860/7861.



Jack Torres

enant...."

Now, even the chairman of the WSRB, Jack Torres, has his own mis-

garment industry.

"If we need a certain number of workers for our economic development, then we just have to have that, or we close down everything and just wait for the federal government to give us all the money we need," he was quoted as saying.

Again, Tenorio blamed the US for the deferment of the 30-cent wage hike, saying it never bothered to name a representative to the Wage and Salary Review Board (WSRB).

"Maybe if we have a representative from the federal government on the wage review board, we could have avoided what happened," he said.

On the US' threat to take over immigration, Tenorio said he would do "everything within my power not to let them do that. I would like to think that those are our rights under our Cov-

givings.

On the wage hike issue, he commented, during a talk with mediemen: "This is one thing I don't understand, why does somebody have to tell you what to pay?"

Torres hates to look at the wage hike as a mandate. "I want to look at it as a reality, unless the federal government is willing to be responsible for consequences of any policy that they seem to be mandating."

"I don't think the Commonwealth should proceed in that direction," he added.

Torres emphasized that if the US is going to mandate, "then they should be willing to be responsible for consequences," such as unemployment, business flight, and loss of revenues.

"If they believe that their policy is a

sound one, then what happens after that? Then they should be willing to be responsible," Torres said. "We live here; we're gonna live with those decisions. The federal government is 9,000 miles away from here. Unless they're willing to be responsible, then I don't see that the Commonwealth should go along with what dictated policies they may give the Commonwealth to implement."

Torres said even among state governors, there is a clamor for less federal mandate.

"What the governors of the states are saying is that the states know better and that they should do away with these mandates because it's very costly, and it's the states that take the consequences. It's easy to mandate and leave it at that—no corresponding responsibility," he noted.

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CPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOTICE OF MEETING

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

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

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

Victor B. Hocog
Chairman, Board of Directors

Date: 2/14/96

Tiger shark killed three men?

THOUSANDS of people in Papua New Guinea's northcoast town of Madang crammed the waterfront Sunday to see the carcass of a tiger shark, reputed to be the killer of three men in the past ten days.

The shark, measuring four meters long and weighing 341 kilograms, was caught on a bait set by Madang residents after governor Peter Barter spotted it from his helicopter, the Post-Courier reported

Monday.

But provincial police commander Robert Kalasim later voiced doubts that it was the shark responsible for the gory deaths of three men and the serious wound-

ing of another.

Chief Inspector Kalasim said the shark's insides showed only the remains of a big turtle.

He said if they find human remains inside it, this would convince him it was the right shark. He said at this stage he did not

think it was the right shark. Kalasim repeated his warning to people to stay out of the sea until the coast was clear.

Three men were attacked by a shark or sharks in the Madang seas on February 7. Two died from their wounds and the third, a medical student survived. But a fourth man was attacked by a shark in Madang on Friday while standing on a rock in waist deep water. He also died from severe wounds....Pacnews

Outages irk businessmen

BUSINESSMEN in Tonga's capital Nuku'alofa say the frequent power blackouts in Tongatapu have affected their businesses, especially those with frozen goods. They say brief power blackouts Sunday night and this morning, resulted in goods being damaged in stores and bakeries.

The general manager of Morris Hedstrom, Abdul Shah, says the power blackouts do not really affect his company, as they have stand-by generators to take-over immediately when power is disrupted.

Meanwhile, the chief-generator-engineer of the Tonga Electric Power board, Solomon Niusini says several faults have been identified as the cause of the blackouts.

He says efforts are being made to fix a particular fault, and engineers from Australia will be in Tonga to help in the...Pacnews

FSM five-year plan of action

A ONE day workshop will be held tomorrow in Pohnpei to finalize preparations for a final draft of the Federated States of Micronesia's five-year plan of action beginning in 1997.

Acting secretary of the department of health services, Jefferson Benjamin, said the workshop will be conducted by UNICEF's Assistant programme officer Dirk Karmm.

Benjamin said workshop participants will review the UNICEF mandate and the status of the program development in the Federated States of Micronesia and re-introduce country program exercises.

Four working groups will be established during the workshop to deliberate and report on health, nutrition, education and social mobilisation in the FSM....Pacnews

Setting ...

Continued from page 5

ond. Further, no one can respond effectively without concrete proposals to react to, but once the convention came out with particular language, it wasn't inclined to change anything, regardless of comments. Dr.

Camacho has well described how the convention really worked. The fact is, certain persons, Mr. Tenorio included, had an agenda, and the overall product was designed to fit that agenda.

Mr. Tenorio apparently also misunderstands the significance of the Analysis when referenced in my columns. The Analysis represents the reasoning of the delegates in adopting the proposed amendments. Much of the Analysis was taken directly from the committee reports the delegates relied upon to make decisions. By reference to the Analysis I am able to demonstrate the faulty reasoning and puffery that was used to sell various changes to the delegates.

Obviously, I have had more time to study and evaluate the work of the convention in the five and a half months since it adjourned sine die. I believe the people are entitled to the benefits of that review. As an aside, the public may be interested in knowing that the draft official Analysis I was given during the convention ran to 100 pages, and I was given less than 24 hours to comment.

The Constitution vests the decision on whether to reject or accept proposed amendments in the people. There is a reason for this. The word isn't "rubberstamp," and people aren't puppets.

In making their decision, the people have a right to the best information and analysis they can get, whether it was previously submitted to the convention or not. Like the framers of our Constitution, I have confidence in the wisdom and intelligence of the voters. They are fully able to read and listen to the arguments and decide which have the greater merit. I wonder what Mr. Tenorio is afraid of.

Sincerely,
Stephen C. Woodruff

Asia welcomes 'Year of the Rat'

By JOHN LEICESTER
HONG KONG (AP) - Jampacked trains in China. An exodus from Hong Kong. Highway snarls in South Korea.

Millions of Asians hurried home to celebrate the Lunar New Year on Monday, saying goodbye to the Year of the Pig and hello to the Year of the Rat.

The Lunar or Chinese New Year brings many parts of the world's fastest-growing economies to a grinding halt. Money markets close and fac-

tories fall silent for the holiday, which officially lasts three days but can stretch to a week or more.

This being the Year of the Rat, the rodents are all the rage, from giant parade models to tiny gold statuettes. If some of them look suspiciously like Mickey Mouse, that's OK. The Chinese word for rat and mouse is the same.

In China, millions of workers travel home for the big festive holiday of the year, although by Sunday, the migration was tailing off. Beijing's

normally teeming railway station appeared empty, with just a few dozen last-minute travelers rushing through its cavernous main hall.

Crowds thronged Beijing's largest temple fair at the Temple of the Earth park to watch lion dances and stilt-walkers and, in a modern twist, sing a little karaoke.

At Hong Kong's airport, extra staff worked to cope with an expected 14 percent increase from last year's traffic.

In South Korea, some 28 million of the nation's 44 million people were expected to head home. The 140-kilometer (87-mile) journey from Seoul to Taejeon, a provincial capital, took seven hours Sunday instead of the usual 90 minutes.

The holiday is the one time when frenetic Hong Kong really unwinds. Feasting replaces faxing, and Hong Kongers return to their roots.

The streets grow eerily quiet as families reunite and temples fill up. Up to a million or more of Hong Kong's 6 million people were expected to travel abroad, mostly to visit relatives in neighboring China.

The Chinese lunar year is represented by one of 12 zodiac animals. Recent rat years include 1996, 1984, 1972, 1960, 1948, 1936, 1924, 1912 and 1900.

Choi Hing Wah, a Hong Kong fortuneteller, says rat years are generally unpopular. But, she adds, "rats do have their good sides." She says people born in rat years are thought to be sociable, decisive and clever. Leung Ping-cheong, a municipal rat catcher and rodent aficionado, thinks it was all a mistake. The gods who created the zodiac meant cats, but the rats tricked their way in, he says. That's why "the rat and the cat are now eternal enemies."

The gods are still keenly felt at New Year. Thus it's not a

good idea to use a knife, lest you injure the spirits guarding your celebration. Brooms also are best left untouched, to avoid sweeping away any New Year good luck.

With the approach of New Year, Hong Kong's skyscrapers and shopping malls blaze with colored lights and display dwarf mandarin trees, favored because their Chinese name sounds "good luck."

Special foods are eaten to symbolize wealth. Friends and relatives greet each other with cries of "Kung hei fat choi!" - Cantonese for "Wishing you good fortune!"

For street-combers, there are bric-a-brac and used furniture discarded in pre-holiday housecleaning.

Firecrackers, meant to scare away evil spirits, are banned in Hong Kong, but Hong Kong people are compensated with a fireworks extravaganza over the harbor Tuesday, funded by Hong Kong business.

Toddler takes care of baby sister after mother dies

VANCOUVER, Washington (AP) - For two days after his mother died in their apartment, 2-year-old Thomas Hubbard fed his baby sister cereal and took care of her, not letting in the new baby sitter because she was a stranger.

Through the door, he told her his mommy was sleeping.

Paramedics later found the mother, Patti Sue Jones, in bed with a book over her face, as if she'd been reading.

An autopsy failed to pinpoint a cause of death for the 36-year-old woman, but there was no evidence of foul play, deputy coroner Brian Miller said Sunday.

While his mother lay dead, Thomas, nicknamed "Tray," watched over his 1 1/2-year-old sister, Kiana.

"Somehow he knew she needed something to eat," said Bella Yost, Jones' mother. "I'm just amazed."

Thomas, who turns 3 in April, also knew Kiana was wet, but the best he could do was stuff toilet paper into her diaper.

"The situation was not horrible for him because his mom was just asleep for a very long time," said Lynne Hubbard, Jones' sister.

According to a police report, the baby sitter, 28-year-old Sarah Patrice McLatchey, arrived for her first day of work last Monday afternoon. Thomas didn't let her in when she knocked because he didn't know her, Hubbard said.

McLatchey then called the apartment, but got an answering machine.

She called Jones' employer and found out that Jones, a data entry operator, hadn't gone to work.

McLatchey returned to the apartment Tuesday, but Thomas wouldn't let her in. McLatchey came back a few hours later, and Thomas, using a chair to reach the knob, opened the door.

When McLatchey asked Thomas to wake his mother, he tried but couldn't. McLatchey then called for paramedics.

Miller said Jones could have been dead for as long as two days. Nobody recalled talking to her after last Sunday, when she was seen in a park.

The children are being taken care of by their father, Thomas Ray Hubbard. The parents were never married, but he was seeking shared custody.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform all CNMI business establishments that no individual or employee of the CNMI government is authorized to purchase items or incur expenses on behalf of the CNMI government without an approved purchase order specifying the item(s) to be purchased.

Therefore, the CNMI government cautions all business establishment that the CNMI government will not be liable for any items purchased or expenses incurred without an approved purchase order or an independent contract issued by the CNMI government.

Edward B. Palacios
Director, Procurement and Supply

Fiji to host Pacific leaders

FIJI is to host a meeting of the Pacific Island Leaders in July. The invitation was extended by prime minister Sitiveni Rabuka in Hawaii. The four-day meeting will begin July 10 and is expected to be held at the Sheraton Hotel in Fiji's western town of Nadi, the Sunday Post reported Monday.

Vanuatu will elect new PM

THE VANUATU parliament meets in a second extraordinary session today, Tuesday February 20. The sitting was called by the speaker, Maxime Carlot Korman, to elect a new prime minister, after the prime minister, Serge Vohor, resigned on February 8.

The first extraordinary meeting last Monday was closed on a technicality after arguments over its validity to elect a new prime minister.

Vohor was forced to resign after six members of his main ruling Union of Moderate Parties joined opposition Unity Front members to sign a vote of no confidence against his two-month old government. Carlot Korman, the prime minister from 1992 is expected to be voted back to the prime ministership.

He has told MPs in his summons for today's session due to begin at 8.30am that he would resign 1 minute before the sitting....Pacnews

Rabuka is in Honolulu attending a meeting of the Standing Committee of the Pacific Islands Development Programme. The meeting chaired by the Cook Islands prime minister, Sir Geoffrey Henry, is being attended by Pacific island leaders. Among issues discussed was PIDP's budget which has been reduced by over 50 percent following huge budget cuts by the US government.

The East-West Center, which

PIDP is attached to, has had its budget slashed by the US government from US\$12.2 million to \$11.5 million. As a result PIDP is expected to get less than \$200-thousand this year.

Member countries expressed their concern, but decided that PIDP should come up with options about how to fund the organization.

However, the options are expected to be discussed when the island leaders meet in Nadi in July....Pacnews

Finances mismanaged?

PAPUA New Guinea Opposition leader Roy Yaki has claimed that the World Bank may have decided not to release the fifty million Kina (\$US 37.3 million) because the present government is mismanaging its finances. And the country will face serious problems with its new reforms if the World Bank decides to stop further release of the funds.

Yaki said the use of sixty four million Kina (\$US 47.85 million) in a trust account for direct payouts to government ministers and backbenchers is an

example of government's mismanagement of funds.

The opposition leaders said the World Bank was expected to release about fifty million Kina (\$US 37.3 million) to assist in the implementation of its reforms including the provincial and local government system.

Yaki and the shadow finance minister Masket Langalio urged the government to stop the unwise use of funds and drastically reduce public expenditure before the nation collapses under the new reforms....Pacnews

Making ...

Continued from page 4

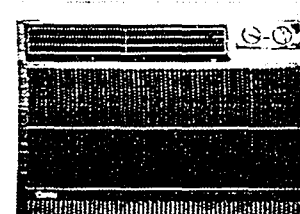
commission could then recommend constitutional amendments and changes in the law providing a solution that will endure for many years to come.

The problem of local and central

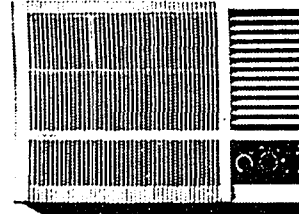
government is a difficult and complex one. But it is one which can be solved. What is needed is for an appropriately representative group of people to sit down in good faith, concentrate on this one subject alone, draw on appropriate resources and expertise, and work out the details. The result would benefit us all.

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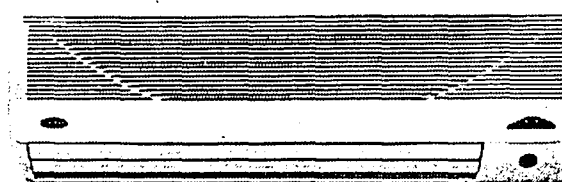
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GOP rivals grilled about past

By SANDRA SOBIERAJ
CONCORD, New Hampshire (AP) - Republican rivals Bob Dole, Pat Buchanan and Lamar Alexander wrestled with their pasts as they tried to shore up prospects for winning - or just surviving - the New Hampshire presidential primary.

With two days to go before the pivotal contest, the race has grown increasingly volatile. For Dole, deadlocked with Buchanan for first place in weekend polling data, every vote is crucial.

Dole moved up a planned endorsement by former rival Phil Gramm even though polls showed the Texas senator had minimal support here when he quit the race last week.

Some surveys released this weekend included Alexander in a three-man tie for first, while others placed him sol-

idly behind Dole and Buchanan. Publisher Steve Forbes has steadily sunk to a distant fourth.

Fighting for an outright win, Buchanan defended controversial statements on women and race from his earlier campaigns and editorial writings by saying Sunday "the statute of limitations has run out on those things."

Dole, haunted by the 1988 loss here which knocked him out of that race, tried Sunday to lower the stakes in Tuesday's balloting - though he earlier insisted it would determine the nominee.

By an evening rally in Exeter, Dole was considerably more upbeat: "I smell victory in the air. We will start ending the era of Bill Clinton on Tuesday night here."

In his own appearance on television news shows Sunday, Alexander was again dogged

by questions about his lucrative financial dealings and his 1985 proposal to enact a state income tax in Tennessee - issues raised in new Dole ads.

"Senator Dole is running a negative, desperate campaign. His campaign must show me moving up very rapidly if that's all he has to say about our future," Alexander said on NBC.

He denied any financial wrongdoing and pledged not to raise marginal income tax rates if elected president.

Forbes made several campaign stops sandwiched between two television appearances and a paid half-hour of live television broadcast, where he fielded mostly sympathetic questions.

He said he would "absolutely" take his fight for the nomination all the way to the Republican convention in

August.

In endorsing Dole Sunday - instead of next week in South Carolina as planned - Gramm warned the success and image of the Republican Party rested on keeping the nomination from Buchanan.

Gramm gave Dole an even bigger lead in the endorsement game; he's backed by 24 governors and 29 senators. Dole also got the nod Sunday from

The Boston Globe, one of the most widely read papers in the state's voter-rich southern tier.

After a breakfast stop at a Manchester working-class restaurant that President Clinton has claimed a good-luck charm, Buchanan characterized his surge as a political revolution of "peasants with pitchforks."

He brushed aside charges of "extremism" as evidence that he's on the verge of winning.

Gramm turns his support for Dole

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire (AP) - Just four days after he quit the Republican presidential race, Texas Sen. Phil Gramm endorsed Bob Dole on Sunday and warned the success and image of the Republican Party rested on keeping the nomination from Pat Buchanan.

"I believe that Bob Dole is the one Republican candidate in this race today who can bring together economic conservatives and who can bring together social conservatives and who can make the Republican Party again one united party that is committed to beating Bill Clinton and committed to changing America," Gramm said in delivering his support.

Most senior Gramm supporters among elected Republican officials have quickly rallied to Dole's side.

Yet there remain deep doubts in the party about Dole's strength,



Phil Gramm

with the next 10 days viewed as the crucial test. Dole's backing among senators and governors will be sorely tested if he loses New Hampshire - even more so if former Tennessee Gov. Lamar Alexander fares well.

2 Navymen killed as US Tomcat crashes

By MATTHEW FORDAHL
SAN DIEGO (AP) - An F-14D "Tomcat" fighter jet crashed into the Pacific Ocean during routine flight exercises off the Southern California coast, killing the two crew members, a Navy official said.

The jet was part of the Fighter Squadron 11, which was taking part in a two-week operation with the USS Carl Vinson, said Doug Sayers, spokesman for Miramar Naval Air Station in San Diego.

The crash happened about 12:30 p.m. Sunday 120 miles (195 kilometers) off the coast, he said. The circumstances of the crash were not immediately known.

The names of the dead were being withheld pending notification of relatives. The crash was being investigated, Sayers said.

The Carl Vinson is based in Alameda, California. Fighter Squadron 11 is based at Miramar in northern San Diego.

The last mishap involving a jet from Fighter Squadron 11 was Feb. 22, 1994, when two aviators bailed out of their F-14D Tomcat about 900 miles (1,500 kilometers) southwest of San Diego. The jet crashed into the ocean and the crew members suffered minor injuries.

Sunday's crash was the 31st involving an F-14 jet since 1991.

The most recent military crash before Sunday's happened Jan. 29 in Nashville, Tennessee, when a Navy F-14 returning home to Miramar slammed into a neighborhood shortly after takeoff. Two crew members and three people on the ground were killed.

Police probe tunnel collapse

By KOZO MIZOGUCHI

TOKYO (AP) - Police in northern Japan investigating a tunnel cave-in that killed 20 people are reportedly looking into whether any criminal negligence was involved in the collapse.

The government, meanwhile, was on the defensive Monday over complaints that it took far too long to dig out the bus and determine the fate of those trapped.

The victims, 19 of whom were

Possible criminal negligence looked at

aboard a commuter bus and one who was driving a passenger car, died when the tunnel was smashed Feb. 10 by a falling rock the size of an office building.

It took workers a week to reach the buried bus and remove the bodies. Police said everyone aboard was crushed to death.

During the drawn-out rescue

effort, families kept a vigil near the site, hoping someone might have survived the cave-in and freezing temperatures in the days that followed.

The excavation was widely criticized as ineffective and slow. It took workers a full day after the accident just to decide how to proceed, and four tries over the next several days to blast apart the giant rock so digging could begin.

Chief government spokesman Seiroku Kajiyama, however, defended the rescue effort, saying it had been carried out under difficult conditions.

"It is categorically inappropriate to say that the work was delayed or inadequate," Kajiyama told reporters Monday.

The investigation by prefect-

ural (state) police was focusing on whether the cave-in could have been predicted, the national Asahi newspaper said in Monday's editions.

The Hokkaido Development Bureau, responsible for road maintenance in the area, has said it had conducted daily visual checks of the tunnel and that one a day before the cave-in showed nothing abnormal.

Officials have said rockfall is a common problem along the rugged coast, 550 miles (880 kilometers) north of Tokyo, where the tunnel is located. Eighteen months earlier, a slab of rock twice as big as this one peeled away from a nearby mountainside, but did not hit any roadway.

Meanwhile, the tiny fishing villages of Furubira and Yoichi, home to most of the

victims, were grieving for lost friends and family.

"In Mourning," said notices posted all over Furubira, where 12 of the 20 victims were from. One housewife told the Asahi there were seven funerals to attend in her neighborhood alone.

Hatsutaro Honma, a 78-year-old newspaper carrier, said it was painful delivering newspapers with the sad news of the fate of lifelong friends. "Everyone is like relatives in this town," he told the Asahi. Authorities have closed the tunnel highway for an indefinite period.

On Monday, officials reopened an old tunnel linking the two seaside towns.

It is so small it can only accommodate one-way traffic, which will be controlled with a signal.

The bus itself was pulled from the smashed tunnel on Sunday for inspection.

Food company execs charged in girl's death

ADELAIDE, Australia (AP) - Prosecutors said Monday they will file charges against three food company executives after a four-year-old girl died from eating sausage contaminated with bacteria.

Nikki-Deane Robinson died last year after she consumed salami-like sausage manufactured by Garibaldi Smallgoods.

Paul Rofe, the Director of Public Prosecutions in South Australia, said the company's directors Lou and Philip Marchi along with its financial controller Neville Mead will be charged with

manslaughter.

They will face a maximum sentence of life in prison if convicted.

The company, which went out of business after the death, also faces a large fine.

An inquest into the girl's death found that the company produced and sold contaminated products which resulted in a food poisoning scare across Australia.

Health officials said 22 children and three adults were hospitalized after eating contaminated sausages.

Some suffered permanent kidney damage from the bacteria's dangerous side effects.



Former Buddhist Monk Yodchat Suaphu, center, is led into a Thai court for sentencing for the murder of British tourist Johanne Masheder last December. Yodchat, 21, was given the death sentence, he had pleaded guilty to the murder of Masheder, who was taking a trip around the world after graduating from law school. (AP Photo)

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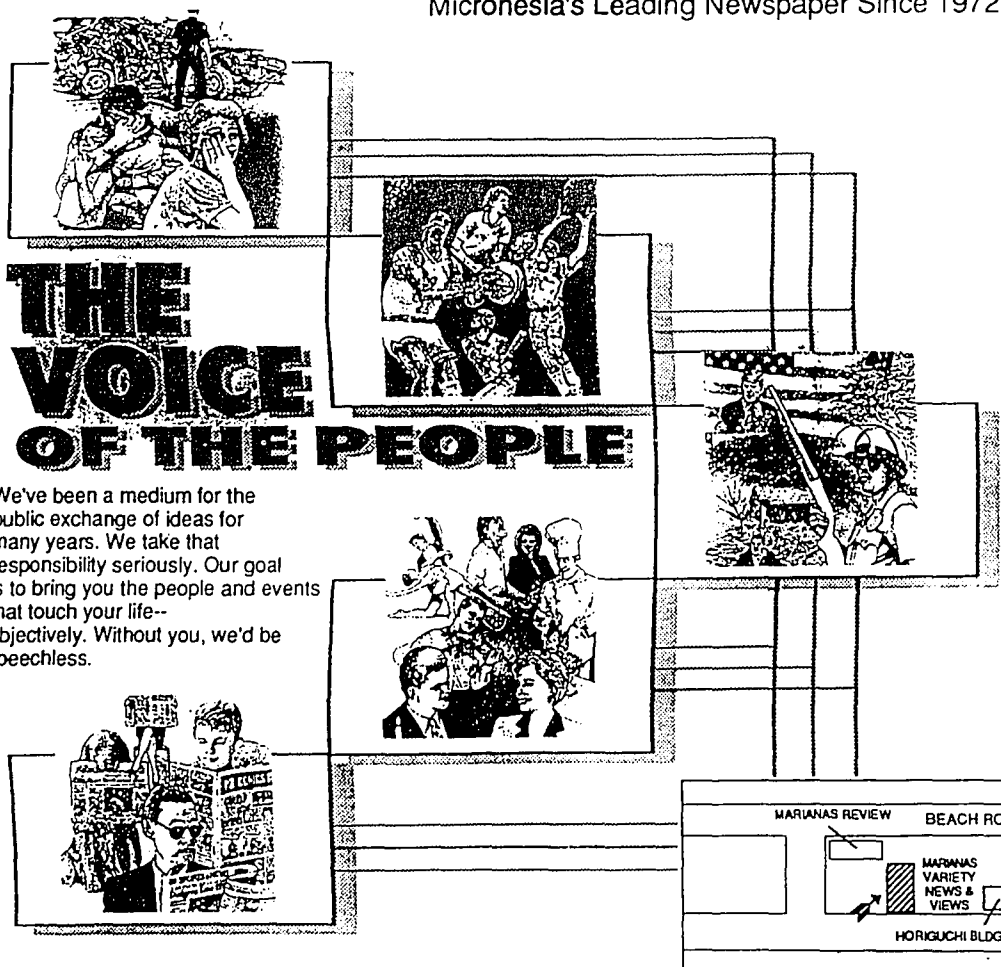
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Socialists defend images in TV ad

By CIARAN GILES
MADRID, Spain (AP) - The governing Socialist party stood by its election advertisement on Sunday despite criticism of its subliminal images ridiculing opposition leader Jose Maria Aznar and linking his Popular Party to oppression and destruction.

In the video, run on national television Friday, rapid-sequenced images showing atomic explosions, snarling Dobermans and puppets on strings are woven into criticism of Aznar and his party.

The video tries to glamorize Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez's 14 years in office by showing scenes of the 53-year-old Socialist leader smiling and kissing children spliced with spit-second images of mini-skirted women and world-renowned Spanish cycling champion Miguel Indurain.

Battered by a series of political and financial scandals, Gonzalez' party is expected to be heavily defeated by Aznar's group in the March 3 elections.

Two newspapers, El Mundo and ABC, ran still photographs of the video images on Sunday, accusing the Socialists of using shady methods to boost their flagging campaign.

Aznar sent a letter to Gonzalez demanding that the video be withdrawn immediately.

Socialist party administrative secretary Cipria Ciscar responded with a letter defending the advertisement, saying it had not been designed to please the Popular Party, which he accused of trying to curtail freedom of expression.

Ciscar said the video's images were meant to capture the Popular Party's tendency to place everything done by Gonzalez's government in a negative light.

Subliminal images can be seen by slowing down a video. Though their use has been banned in television commercials in many countries, including Spain, it was not immediately known whether they are legal in election ads.

Michael Jackson shops in London

LONDON (AP) - Elusive pop star Michael Jackson emerged Sunday from his luxurious London hideout to buy some toy soldiers and mingle with street performers.

Fans staging a round-the-clock vigil at the Lanesborough Hotel in central London ran screaming after Jackson when he set out to Hamley's toy shop.

He spent 300 pounds on a complete set of toy soldiers there,

then went into a Disney store where he admired Mickey Mouse watches, posed for photos with fans, signed autographs and shook hands. Eventually he chose a plastic Winnie the Pooh lunchbox.

At the Trocadero Rock Circus he admired his wax likeness, then headed to Covent Garden shopping district.

Jackson, in London to perform at Tuesday's Brit music awards, wore his black surgical mask, trademark hat and red fleece

jacket.

A fire-eater who was performing at the Coven Garden Piazza mistook him for an imposter and removed his black surgical mask

When he realized the man was Jackson, he complained the superstar was taking away his business, and Jackson gave him a "substantial" financial contribution," said Sony representative Jonathan Morrish, who was with the star.

Police capture drug baron who denied payment from Jackson

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP) - A 24-member special police team captured the drug baron known as Marcinho VP, who denied that Spike Lee paid him to film a Michael Jackson video in the Dona Marta shantytown he rules, the Jomal do Brasil reported Sunday.

Marcio Amaro de Oliveira, 26, was captured Sunday in the Good Faith district of his shantytown of 13,000. He told police he did not

charge the megastar to film in Dona Marta.

Michael Jackson and director Spike Lee filmed a sequence for the video "They Don't Care About Us" in the slum last week.

Media reports said Lee paid off the drug lord to film safely in the jumble of shacks, open sewage ditches and maze-like alleys. Drug gangs control Rio's 660 slums, dictating laws and deciding who enters.

Lee has said that producers paid "somebody" for permission to film, but he didn't know if they were drug dealers.

Officials had criticized the filming, calling it bad publicity for the city

Guitarist Brownie McGhee dies at 80

OAKLAND, California (AP) - Brownie McGhee, a guitarist and singer who helped popularize the blues style of the Piedmont area of the Carolinas, has died. He was 80.

McGhee died of stomach cancer Friday at Summit Hospital in Oakland.

In the early 1940s, McGhee, a native of Knoxville, Tennessee, and harmonica player Sonny Terry came together and started generating attention for the Piedmont blues, a mesh of guitar and harmonica.

The pair's first engagement was a civil rights benefit in 1942. They went on to become popular on the New York folk scene in the 1940s, working with such artists as Woody Guthrie and Lead Belly.

When Terry joined the cast of "Finian's Rainbow" in 1947, McGhee formed Brownie McGhee and His Mighty Rockers. He also founded a blues school in Harlem and worked as a studio musician.

Terry and McGhee worked together on Broadway in Tennessee William's "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," in the mid-1950s and later in Langston Hughes' "Simply Heaven."

The duo recorded and toured in the United States and Europe until the late 1970s, when they broke up.

McGhee went on to a solo career and appeared in the film "Angel Heart."

He recently started the Blues Is Truth Foundation, designed to give scholarships to young musicians.

McGhee is survived by three daughters and three sons, as well as 16 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Opposition focuses campaign on Jerusalem

By HILARY APPELMAN
JERUSALEM (AP) - Drawing the battle lines for Israel's upcoming elections, Israel's main opposition party claimed Sunday that the future of Jerusalem is at stake.

"This election is a real referendum," Likud party leader Benjamin Netanyahu said. "It's a referendum about the future of Jerusalem ... whether we can have peace with Jerusalem, or Jerusalem divided."

Prime Minister Shimon Peres denied Likud charges that he has been negotiating in secret to give up parts of the holy city to the Palestinians, and pledged to keep Jerusalem united under Israeli rule.

"The prime minister stressed that the entire government is united around the principle of not dividing Jerusalem," government secretary Shmuel Hollander said after the weekly Cabinet meeting.

Netanyahu said secret talks over the fate of Jerusalem were being conducted in Europe, and complained that PLO activity in east Jerusalem "cast a grave shadow and grave doubt over Mr. Peres' statements that he will keep Jerusalem united."

The political division of the city has already begun, Netanyahu said, citing the Jan. 20 Palestinian elections in which east Jerusalem residents were allowed to vote.

"Physical partition follows political partition, surely as



Shimon Peres

night follows day," he said, comparing Jerusalem to Berlin.

Labor party Secretary-General Nissim Zvili called the Likud charges "an absolute lie" and warned they could backfire by raising expectations among Palestinians and the world that the future of Jerusalem is negotiable.

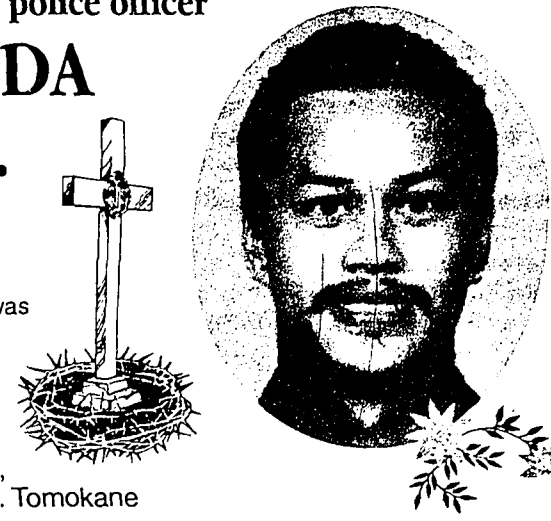
While Likud's charges are not new, the opposition's decision to make Jerusalem the center of its campaign could complicate future Israel-PLO talks by drawing the government into hard-line commitments before the elections, which are set for late May or early June.

Government officials pledged Sunday that the city, whose eastern portion was captured from Jordan in 1967 and later annexed, would never again be divided.

Death and Funeral Announcement

of the late police officer

ANTONIO CEPEDA TOMOKANE, JR. (BLANCO)



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

Predeceased by:

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

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

Grandparent : Asuncion C. Blanco

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

Brother : Jeffrey B. Tomokane

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

(02/12/96)

SUMMER JOB

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

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

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

RESPECTFULLY,

FELIX NOGIS
JTPA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ROSARY ANA CONCEPCION DELA CRUZ

Also known as
"TAN ANAN PUTUGAN"
or
"TAN ANAN AKIN KASERU"

We, the family of the late Ana Concepcion Dela Cruz would like to invite all our relatives and friends to join us for the Fifth Anniversary Rosary of our beloved Wife, Mother, Grandmother, and Great-grandmother.

Nightly Rosary is being said at Nick and Tannie's residence in As Perdido, starting February 17, 1996 at 7:00 P.M. Final day of the rosary will be on Sunday, February 25, 1996. A final day mass for the repose of her soul will be offered at 5:00 P.M. on Saturday, February 24, 1996 at San Antonio Church.

Following the mass there will be a Dinner at the residence of Nick and Tannie Salas in As Perdido.

We thank you for your thoughts and prayers.

THE FAMILY

BUCKLE UP SAIPAN!

Death & Funeral Announcement

NICOLAS MUNA DE LEON GUERRERO



Better known as "Nick Guerrero" was called to his eternal rest on Saturday, Feb. 17, 1996 at the age of 67.

Predeceased by his:

Parents : Antonio Diaz De Leon Guerrero & Ana Palacios Muna
In-law : Tokuji Shibata & Orio Shibata

Brothers, Sisters & Spouses:

Jesus & Antonia Ch. Manalisay
Maria LG. & Prudencio M. Cabrera
Lorenzo M. De Leon Guerrero
Nicolas M. De Leon Guerrero
Amparo M. De Leon Guerrero
Matilde LG. Waki-Brummer & Isamu Waki

Brother-in-Law:

Masawo Shibata

Survived by his:

Wife: Helen S. Leon Guerrero
Daughter: Anna Y. Leon Guerrero, Ph.D.
Son-in-Law: Brian Sullivan, M.D.
Sisters & Spouses: Amalia LG. & Antonio A. Diaz (Dec.)
Carmen LG. & Antonio S. Reyes (Dec.)
Antonia LG. & Francisco LG. Sablan (Dec.)
Lucia LG. & Jose R. Camacho of Portland, Or.

Brothers/Sisters-in-Law & Spouses:

Kazuo & Yoshiko Shibata of Kumamoto, Japan
Betsie S. & Ernest Yamamoto of Honolulu, Hi.
Lanko Shibata of Kumamoto, Japan
George H. Brummer of Yona, Guam

He is additionally survived by numerous nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces. Rosary is being said nightly at 8 P.M. at San Vicente Church. Last respects may be paid on Saturday, February 24, 1996, from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. at San Vicente Church. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 4 P.M. Internment will immediately follow at the Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Bus explodes in London; 8 hurt

By AUDREY WOODS

LONDON (AP) - An explosion tore through a double-decker bus in London's theater district Sunday night, showering the street with metal and glass and leaving injured people bleeding in the street. At least eight people were injured.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but suspicion immediately fell on the Irish Republican Army, which broke its 17-month cease-fire with a deadly bomb in London's Docklands nine days ago. A second bomb was defused in London last week.

Police said they received no warning before Sunday's bus explosion at 22:38 GMT on Wellington Street near The Strand.

Scotland Yard confirmed eight people injured and a number of "walking wounded."

The bus, on a scheduled route, exploded outside the Waldorf Hotel near Covent Garden, an area that would have been filled with theatergoers on any other night. There are no performances Sunday night.

Witness Anthony Yates, 26,

said he believed at least three people were dead, but this could not be confirmed. "I was walking down the road and I saw a big white flash in the sky."

"I looked and then I saw a double-decker bus but there was nothing left of it, it was completely blown to pieces."

"When the bomb went off, a taxi drove into the bus. ... There's a guy lying outside the bus saying 'my legs, my legs,'" he said.

BBC radio reporter Paul Rowan said: "There was metal and glass for around 50 yards (meters) all over the place."

"I saw one woman who looked in a very bad way, she was face down on the road with bad-looking head injuries."

American tourist Scott Grover, 32, from Boston, said: "We were walking along when we suddenly heard this almighty bang."

"The front of the bus was completely blown away but there didn't seem to be many people in it. ... There was de-

bris everywhere."

Mark Johnson, 25, from Toronto, Canada, was with friends in the Wellington pub on the Strand when they heard the huge bang.

"We were all in a complete state of panic. We were crouching down away from the windows. We ran outside and asked the bar manager to call the police and ambulance."

"We knew immediately what had happened. We were all saying 'oh my god, oh my god'. I don't know where all this hatred comes from."

"Many people rushed to the scene to help the injured," he added.

"I saw one woman who looked severely injured, she was lying in a pool of her own blood there was blood on her head. She was motionless."

Lawyer Raymond Levy was in his car only 30 feet (10 meters) from the blast.

"I thought there was only

the bus driver on board and when I got out of the car and got to the bus, he had got out but there were flames everywhere," he said.

"The engine was still running and I was very worried that the petrol would explode," he said.

With the help of a cab driver they undid the hood of the bus and turned the engine off, he said.

"There were a few passers-by around and one woman was in shock and was running down the road screaming," he said.

One person with blood streaming down his face was receiving medical attention on a street corner 25 yards (meters) from the bus.

Five injured men and one woman were admitted to St. Thomas's Hospital. Three with minor injuries were released but three had "significant" head injuries. Spokes-

woman Jenny Reid said the woman and two men who were in the bus at the time of the blast were still hospitalized.

Two injured people were taken to University College Hospital. One, a middle-aged man, was in intensive care with chest injuries, in a "serious but stable" condition, a spokesman said.

Several hours before the blast Gerry Adams, leader of the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party, made a direct appeal for talks with British Prime Minister John Major.

"At this very dangerous and this very risky phase of our struggle we offer the hand of friendship to John Major. We say to John Major, 'Pull back from the abyss,'" Adams told about 1,500 supporters in Catholic west Belfast.

"Don't see our hand of friendship as a sign of weakness," he added. "It is a sign of strength."

Salvage experts forced to abandon bid to haul tanker

ST. ANN'S HEAD, Wales (AP) - A gale forced marine engineers Sunday night to abandon the crippled super-tanker Sea Empress which is slowly leaking oil into the sea off southwest Wales. The area is an important wildlife haven.

The six-man team was taken off by helicopter, leaving the vessel buffeted by high seas and strong winds secured by only two tow lines to a tug. Tow wires snapped in a gale Saturday night during an initial attempt to gain mastery of the drifting, wallowing vessel.

"The vessel is not under as much control as we would like," said Joe Small, the Department of Transport's head of marine pollution control. But he said it was not in danger of breaking up.

Marine engineers hope to reboard the vessel when the weather eases and continue preparations for pumping oil from the damaged vessel's tanks into other vessels.

Helicopters and planes on Sunday

sprayed chemicals on oil seeping from the vessel, which is carrying about 38 million gallons (125,000 metric tons) of light North Sea crude.

The crew of Sea Empress was taken off Saturday and early Sunday as winds and seas rose.

The Cyprus-registered Sea Empress ran aground Thursday on St. Ann's Head at the tip of the western promontory guarding the mouth of Milford Haven estuary on the southwest coast of Wales.

The coast guard said that a 2-mile (3.2 kms)-long slick was breaking up before it reached two islands that are among Europe's most important bird nesting areas.

Milford Haven and the nearby islands of Skokholm and Skomer are home to internationally important bird populations.

On Saturday, police evacuated the 30 residents of St. Ann's Head, the village overlooking the site, because of the risk that escaping gas from any newly ruptured tanks could explode.

Peter Cooney, managing director of Acomarit (UK) Ltd., which manages the Liberian flag vessel, told Sky TV News he was encouraged by the fact that the tanker had been able to float free of the rocks.

"That indicates to us she has buoyancy ... and probably no more tanks have been ruptured," he said.

More oil continued to lead from ruptured tanks Sunday but experts said the flow had decreased.

Early estimates of the first spillage have been dropped from 1.8 million gallons (6,000 metric tons) to 300,000 gallons (1,000 metric tons). The Exxon Valdez spilled 11 million gallons of crude oil in Alaska in 1989. The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said the spill threatened guillemots, fulmars, gulls, shags and cormorants, as well as local populations of gray seals, harbor porpoises and bottle-nosed dolphins.

The Sea Empress had been headed for Texaco Inc.'s refinery at Milford Haven.



A towering cloud of acrid black smoke climbs above the burning wreckage of a train derailment in the Cajon Pass, about 10 miles north of San Bernardino, Calif., and 60 miles east of Los Angeles last Feb. 1. One crew member was reported injured with two others missing. (AP Photo)

Women dominate farming in China

By RENEE SCHOOF

YAN'AN, China (AP) - In the arid, yellow hills of Shaanxi, farmers still winnow grain by tossing it from baskets, stack sheaves by the doors of cave houses and grind it between farmyard millstones.

Farmlife in this poor area of north-central China seems timeless. But one crucial thing has changed - increasingly it is women who are running the farms.

Across China, millions of men have left tiny plots that are too small to provide a good income. Some find work near home in mines and rural factories. Others head to the cities, joining a floating population of migrant workers that has ballooned to at least 100 million people in recent years.

Still, farm families in China tend to hold fast to the long-term leases on their state-owned fields. As the men move on, the women are left to do the work.

In northern Shaanxi, where the Red Army found refuge during the civil war 60 years ago, most farming is still not mechanized.

In Houjiagou Valley, where electricity has yet to replace kerosene lamps, farmers build and maintain the mud walls of their terraces by beating the earth with shovels. Irrigation is by buckets of water hauled on shoulder poles.

But local women, helped by government training programs, are improving on the old ways and making more money.

"The status of women farmers is rising along with their income," said Zhang Yuhuan, a researcher with the Rural Development Institute in Beijing.

"Women now don't have to ask permission from their husbands when they want to buy something. For big purchases, husbands and wives discuss it and decide together," she said.

Xie Xiufeng, a 38-year-old teacher and women's federation leader in Baimao village in northern Shaanxi, began a new local industry by planting apples.

When she got a fat check for her first harvest, everyone wanted to join her. So Xie spent many evenings teaching other village women to read enough to understand pesticide instructions and sales receipts. The women's federation provided training in apple growing.

Commercial buyers are now willing to visit the remote village to buy a large crop.

At harvest time, Xie supervises while hired men haul baskets of apples downhill, balancing carefully to avoid bruising them.

Her family - a husband working in local government and two sons - had just enough to eat before that first apple harvest. Now they have more than 20,000 yuan (\$2,400) in savings and plan to move to a new cave house.

Xie expects to earn another 30,000 yuan (about \$3,500) from the apples this year, giving her family an income of nearly 7,500 yuan (\$900) per person. That compares to the national rural average of 1,500 yuan (\$190) per person.

"When I got married in 1976, I had no money and just two sheets. Now we have almost everything new - sheets, quilts, pillows, everything," she said.

A study this year by the International Fund for Agricultural Development found that many of China's

450 million rural women have their own income now. Millions have been able to take agricultural training courses sponsored by the government, and have become "more visible, influential and independent," the study found.

In Yan'an, the government-sponsored All China Women's Federation opened a training center for agricultural technicians in June. These women fan out to villages to teach better ways to grow vegetables, plant apple trees and raise chickens or pigs.

The biggest change is in women's self-confidence, said Wang Jiaxiang, a Beijing literature professor who visits rural areas to help with development work.

Wang has visited many villages where women do all the farming. Only the oldest women remember the days of complete subservience to men, when Chinese women rarely left their house and many were crippled by foot-binding.

"Learning agricultural skills involves getting together with other women and exchanging ideas," Wang said. "Without a sense of self-worth, equality is just talk."

Not all is rosy in this scenario. Women are less likely to migrate to the cities because they still are the traditional care-givers for children and elderly family members.

That means women are left with low paying jobs in the fields. In some cases, husbands leave for good, or find mistresses in the cities and rarely return home.

"Who knows what's going to happen to those husbands," said Wang. "And who suffers? The woman who gets left behind."

Farmers in China generally com-

plain about lagging income growth, high costs for fertilizers and other inputs, and various rural fees and taxes.

For women it can be worse because they face discrimination in government development programs aimed at male heads of households, the China Youth Daily recently reported.

Rural schools are underfinanced, and most dropouts are girls. Studies say only 48 percent of rural women

can read.

All these problems can be solved as China develops, said Xie Lihua, the editor of a magazine for rural women.

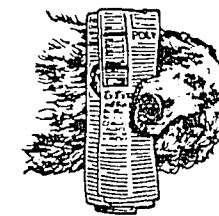
Xie, who visits and corresponds through letters with rural women all over the country, argues adamantly that it is wrong to say life is getting harder for women in rural China.

"It's a life of hardship, but they have hope," she said. "Real hardship would be having no hope."



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Chinese police shovel pirated CD's and video tapes before the goods were crushed by a steam roller at Miyun, north of Beijing. The Beijing Copyright Bureau staged the symbolic crushing of thousands of pirated goods to demonstrate China's efforts to comply with a Sino-US agreement on intellectual property rights. (AP Photo)

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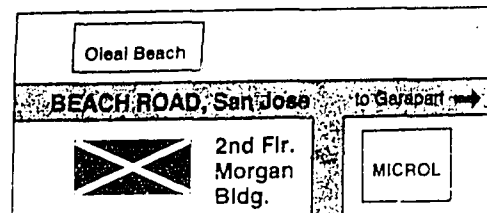


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POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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

MANDATORY QUALIFICATIONS:

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

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

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

STARTING SALARY: \$25,000 PER ANNUM, PLUS BENEFITS

Applicants should submit their resume to the Chamber of Associate Judge Timothy H. Bellas at the Superior Court no later than February 23, 1996. Anticipated starting date will be early to mid March, 1996.

King manuscript surfaces

CLAYTON, Missouri (AP) - For years, Martin Luther's 16th-century manuscript "Wider Hans Worst" was considered lost. But for nearly 50 years, the historically significant work was at a seminary in this St. Louis suburb.

The 80-page political and religious call to action, written in 1541, will come out of its vault on the Concordia Seminary campus one last time this week. Even its margin notes and corrections are in the theologian's own hand.

The manuscript arrived at Concordia Seminary in 1950 - mailed from New Jersey by a military chaplain. On Tuesday it will begin the journey back to its rightful owners in eastern Ger-

many. In a ceremony at the Concordia Historical Institute, its director will hand the manuscript to the director of a museum in Magdeburg, Germany.

At month's end, the manuscript will be the centerpiece at the German National Library exhibition in Berlin, marking the 450th anniversary of Luther's death. By summer, it will be permanently displayed in one of the 90 rooms of the Magdeburg Cultural History museum.

"We are very surprised and very happy," Matthias Puhle, director of the Magdeburg museum, told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch. He said it stoked his city's hope that other museum treasures missing since World War II may be recovered.

"This is the most important of the three Martin Luther manuscripts we had, because it is not just about the church but about politics that changed history here ... caused the overthrow of a duke," Puhle said. "Now we have

all three back."

During World War II, the museum treasure was moved to a salt mine 20 miles (32 kms) south of the city. In the turmoil, Dutch prisoners of war set the mine afire.

On April 12, 1945, U.S. Army officers reached the mine. During a two-week occupation, they reported that museum treasures had been destroyed in two fires.

That spring, a U.S. soldier said he found an 80-page manuscript on a factory floor in Magdeburg. A Baptist U.S. military chaplain, probably noticing the words "D.M. Luther" in gold leaf on its brown leather cover, gave it to a military chaplain from the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. The Lutheran took it home to New Jersey and in 1950 mailed it to Concordia Historical Institute.

"I sent it to you with the proviso that someday I plan to take it back personally and present it to the city of Magdeburg, when and if, the city is ever liberated from

the Russians," wrote the chaplain, the Rev. Theodore P. Bornhoeft. He died in 1990. His widow, Evelyn, a Florida resident, will attend the ceremony Tuesday.

The manuscript's safekeeping was always a concern.

The Rev. Dr. August R. Suellflow, the institute's director emeritus, told few people about it. No brochure or public list mentioned it.

For a couple of years, the safest place he could find was a locked, wooden file cabinet. Then the institute, with the largest Lutheran archives in the United States, moved to a new building. The Luther manuscript has been in its temperature- and humidity-controlled vault ever since.

It was briefly displayed three times and can be viewed here - for the last time - Tuesday morning. The exhibits were low key. Publicity was avoided.

"We always worried that if it got any attention, the Communists might hear about it and want it back."

said Suellflow.

After the fall of the Berlin Wall, he and the institute board began plans to return it.

The manuscript is on rich, cream-colored paper. The ink's iron content is high, and now it's a golden rust. Luther's letters remain clear. His words are neatly spaced. He made notes in the wide margins, apparently for a printer.

Much of the writing is a satirical political pamphlet. Its title, "Wider Hans Worst," means "Against Hans Worst." Hans Worst was a popular, fictional, 16th-century carnival buffoon who wore a sausage around his neck.

Luther characterized Duke Henry of Braunschweig-Wolfenbittel as the buffoon character. The Duke was a Roman Catholic who had argued with Luther's political leader, the elector of Saxony. Within a year after the pamphlet was published, the Duke's subjects rose against him, and he fled.

One of seven Iranian jailbreakers nabbed

TOKYO (AP) - One of seven Iranians who carried off the first jailbreak from a Tokyo prison in decades was caught by police Monday.

A Tokyo police spokesman said the six other fugitives, aged from 24 to 38, are still at large after escaping from the Tokyo Detention House in a predawn breakout last Monday.

It was only the second jailbreak from the heavily guarded deten-

tion house since World War II. The last escape from the detention house was in 1955.

The police spokesman identified the man arrested as Davod Moharam Zadeh Mogdam.

Police arrested Mogdam Sunday at an apartment just east of Tokyo. The catch was lucky - the apartment was raided for a separate investigation, said the spokesman, who requested anonymity.



Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto reacts to questions on bad debt of housing lenders from the main opposition New Frontier Party during a Budget Committee session of the House of Representatives of the Diet in Tokyo earlier this month. Hashimoto rejected opposition's demand to remove the outlay for the liquidation of the housing lenders, or "jusen," from the fiscal 1996 budget. Finance Minister Wataru Kubo is seen at left. (AP Photo)

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01 SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
01 BARTENDER-Salary: \$2.75 per hour
01 MANAGER-Salary:\$1,500 per month
01 ASSISTANT MANAGER-Salary:\$1,000 per month
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01 GARDENER-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.25 per hour
01 PLUMBER-Salary:\$900-\$950 per month
Contact: PHILIPPINE GOODS CONST., INC. dba Construction, Manpower Services, etc. Tel. 234-6485(2/27)T5677

02 MAINTENANCE MAN-Salary:\$3.00 per hour
02 INSTRUCTOR (SPORTS)-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
Contact: JY CORPORATION dba JY Reef Rider Tel. 235-5391(2/27)T222842

02 TRAVEL COUNSELOR-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
02 TOUR DESK CLERK-Salary:\$3.50 per hour
Contact: FANTASY LAND CORP. dba Fantasy Travel & Tours Tel. 235-3647(2/27)T222844

02 PHOTO LAB OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
01 TOUR COORDINATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
02 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
Contact: WEDDING WORLD ENTERPRISES, INC. dba PHOTO TOUR BANK Tel. 234-1010(2/27)T222845

01 SALESLER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
02 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
Contact: JEANETTE S. CAMACHO dba MJ Enterprises Tel. 322-2154(2/27)T222847

03 WAITRESS-Salary:\$2.80-\$3.10 per hour
01 BAKER-Salary: \$3.12-\$3.40 per hour
01 PUBLIC RELATION REPRESENTATIVE-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.05 per hour
01 COCKTAIL WAITRESS-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.85 per hour
01 FRONT DESK CLERK-Salary:\$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 FRONT DESK CLERK-Salary:\$3.05-\$5.00 per hour
02 COMPUTER OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$3.05 per hour
01 NIGHT AUDITOR-Salary:\$2.95-\$3.05 per hour
Contact: MICRO PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Saipan Grand Hotel Tel. 234-6601/3 ext 112(2/27)T5674

01 SECURITY GUARD-Salary:\$4.50 per hour
01 MECHANIC, GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$4.00 per hour
01 GREENSKEEPER-Salary:\$4.00 per hour
01 SECURITY SUPERVISOR-Salary:\$5.50 per hour
01 FRONT DESK CLERK-Salary:\$4.00 per hour
Contact: SAIPAN LAULAU DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba LaoLao Bay Golf Resort Tel. 256-8888(2/27)T5675

05 MASON-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
05 WAITRESS-RESTAURANT-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
15 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
22 GENERAL HELPER, MAINTENANCE-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
Contact: JONAH D. VANDERGRIFT dba Lasco Manpower Services Tel. 233-6330(2/27)T222855

10 WAITRESS-Salary:\$2.75 per hour
03 COOKS-Salary:\$3.00 per hour
02 INTERPRETERS-Salary:\$4.50 per hour
03 INTERPRETERS-Salary:\$4.50 per hour
Contact: U.S.A. SMILE-XIMEILING PARTNERSHIP dba Liu Fu Restaurant (Garapan) Tel. 233-0947(2/27)T222851

02 PHOTO LAB OPERATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
01 TOUR COORDINATOR-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
02 TOUR GUIDE-Salary:\$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
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Contact: MICRO PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC. dba Saipan Grand Hotel Tel. 234-6601/3 ext 112(2/27)T5674

01 SALESLER-Salary:\$2.

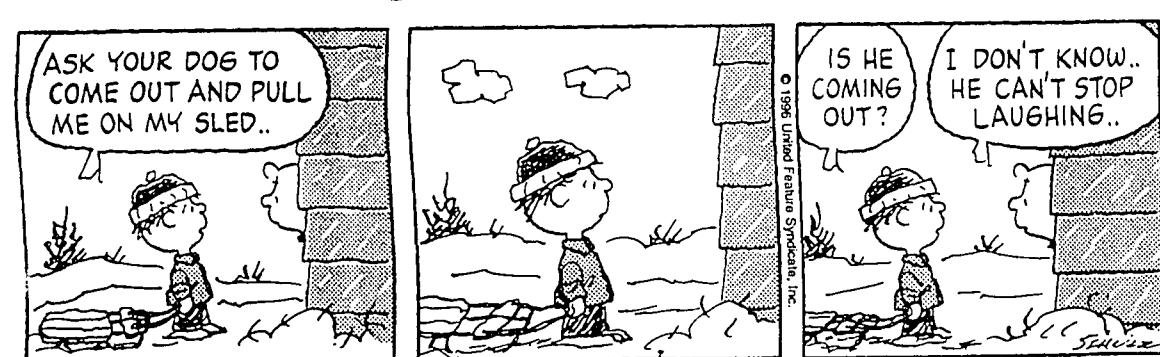
EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



Garfield® by Jim Davis



PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



By Stella Wilder

YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you have a distinctive point of view and an unconventional way of expressing yourself in your work. You are not the kind to follow rules simply because they've been handed down by your predecessors. On the contrary, you proceed according to Hoyle only when the mood strikes you. There is a roughish, wild side to your personality, and you depend on the element of surprise to see you through difficult situations. You do not usually make friends with people who embrace the status quo because you value change and you love a challenge. Although you are perfectly capable of operating within the system, you can still be quite critical of the way things work and you give your opinion freely.

Also born on this date are: Robert Altman, director; Charles Barkley, basketball player; Sandy Duncan and Jennifer O'Neill, actresses; Sidney Poitier, actor; Gloria Vanderbilt, fashion designer; Patty Hearst, heiress.

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

graph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 21
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Today you can come up with a plan to place yourself squarely on top in no time. Still, keep your eyes open and watch your back!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — The more you plan ahead today, the more you are likely to achieve in the days to come. Focus on details, and make sure to delegate authority.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You will need a lift today, and you can enjoy yourself greatly by following in the footsteps of one who offers a new adventure.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Some of your best work is yet to come, but you mustn't try to do too much too soon. Pace yourself, and build up to peak performance.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Stress can be reduced today simply by practicing the therapy of honest talk. Once you get things out in the open at home, recovery can be quick.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Someone with a score to settle may come to you for advice or permission. Take care! This is not a situation you'll wish to promote.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Take care not to reveal too much of yourself to the wrong people. In some situations, you will find it best to keep a secret.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Today you'll enjoy a brief moment in the spotlight. Although that time is brief, you can have a major impact on those around you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You are likely to need some help today, and you can kill two birds with one stone if you ask the right people for the right things.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You may have to put on a little show for someone today to get what you want. Remember, your sources will want something in return.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — This will be a good day to concentrate on issues concerning partnerships, special arrangements or private agreements. Do your homework!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You can surely capitalize on a stroke of good luck before the day is out. Someone may try to take your place, but you should stand firm.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

- 1 Minnesota player
- 8 Before
- 9 "Less —"
- 12 Cold Adriatic wind
- 13 ——— standstill
- 14 Reign
- 15 Actor
- 16 Ryan of "Sleepless in Seattle"
- 17 Russian river
- 18 Secondhand transaction
- 20 Soup bean
- 22 ——— Auv
- 23 Aircraftman
- 24 Male name
- 27 Jane, to Peter Fonda
- 31 ——— deco
- 32 Inlet
- 33 Lumber pieces
- 37 Mass transporting

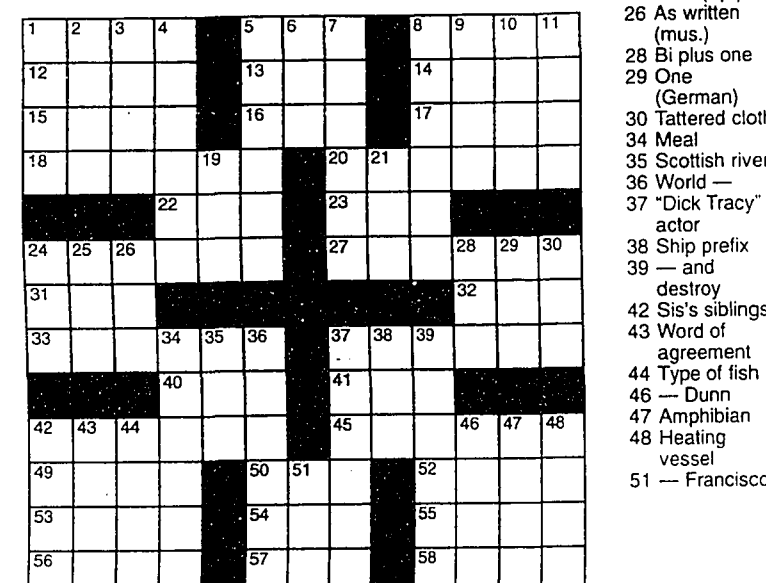
DOWN

- 40 Wide shoe size
- 41 Japan ending
- 42 Place for sticker
- 45 Another name for Ashanti
- 49 Actress
- 50 Follower (comb. form)
- 52 Debatable
- 53 Belonging to us
- 54 Corrode
- 55 Biblical character
- 56 Ammunition
- 57 Vessel's curved plank
- 58 Nothing (Sp.)
- 1 Construction beam (typical wd.)
- 2 Roused
- 3 Goddess of the rainbow

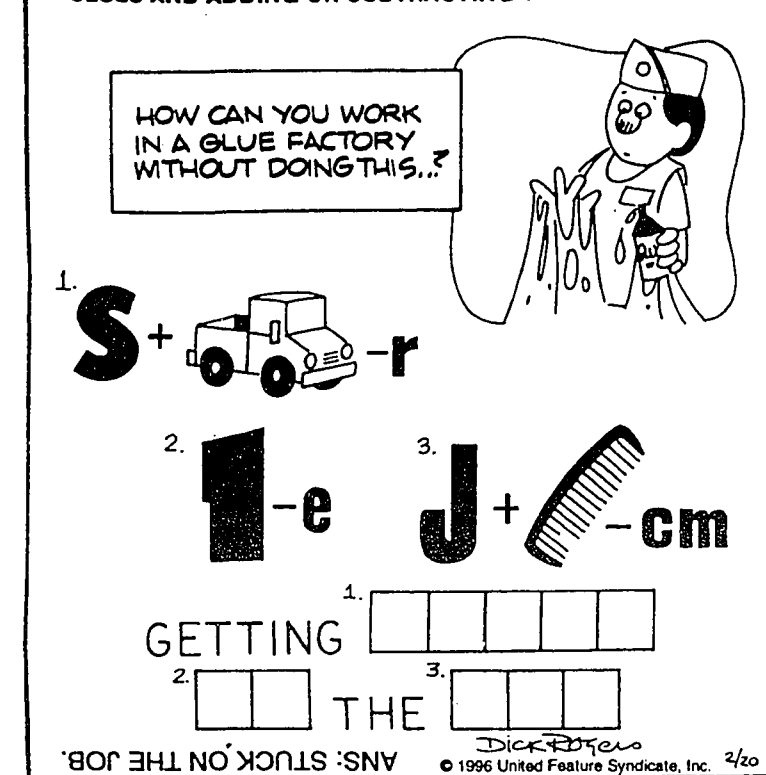
Answer to Previous Puzzle

WAZ ZEPPO GAB
EGO YARDS URE
TAU GROT LYRE
ROOTS HA
WS NTH BENITO
ETC EIDERDOWN
ERLE EON SUET
DUALISTIC SAO
STYLET GOA KP
ER GHANA
PLAN TATS RAT
HAM SWEET IDE
IST MOLDS DON

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"THE BLOCKBUSTER OF THE YEAR!"

CUTTHROAT ISLAND

Showing this Thursday, Friday & Saturday

THE MOVIE HOUSE Showtimes: Thurs: 7:00; Fri: 7:00; 9:30; Sat: 3:00, 7:00, 9:30

U.S. woman... Continued from page 20

cal slalom skiers and both Street and Lindh are relatively weak in the event. "Tonight is a huge party," Street said minutes after her win, offering another reason why the two might have pulled out. "I'm going to stay up all night long."

Street headed a contingent of North Americans who captured four of the five top spots in the downhill. She won in 1 minute 54.06 seconds, ahead of Germany's Katja Seizinger at 1:54.63 and Lindh in 1:54.70.

Former World Cup downhill champion Kate Pace of Canada finished

fourth, only .01 seconds behind Lindh, followed by American Megan Gerety in fifth.

"We've been in Europe for two months and we're going to be here another three weeks," Street said. "I think we needed something like this to boost us and get us going and give us that extra drive."

Seizinger, who beat Street in the '94 Olympic downhill, said she was surprised to capture the silver because she doesn't generally ski fast on flat and relatively easy courses like Sierra Nevada's.

Jarrett... Continued from page 20

oval track, apparently feeling out Jarrett for a weakness. Finally, on the last lap around, Earnhardt gave it a major effort.

On the backstretch, Earnhardt drove his car low but, just as Jarrett did in 1993 when he won his first Daytona race, he went right with Earnhardt and blocked his path.

For a brief moment, Ken Schrader, who finished third, drew alongside Earnhardt, taking away momentum from both Chevys.

Nicklaus... Continued from page 20

"Murphy's was just a pure unlucky break for him and Aoki's was just one strange hole. You don't get that very often."

Aoki's crumble began when he hooked his tee shot on the 13th hole into water.

After taking his drop 192 yards (173 meters) from the pin, Aoki left his approach short and left of the green, just feet from finding water again.

He then hit three wedges back-and-

forth over the green, before finally getting his fourth chip on and two putting. "I lost my patience," Aoki said.

That took Aoki from 2 under to 3 over and left the tournament to be decided by Nicklaus.

He did that on the par-5 14th, hitting driver, 4-iron and dropping a 10 1-2-meter (35-foot) downhill putt for eagle and a two-shot lead.

He would give one stroke back with a bogey on the 15, but parred the rest of the way to claim the \$112,500 winner's check.

There was suspense, however, on the 18th when Nicklaus' 7-iron from

"Picabo's gliding skills are just superior to everyone," Seizinger said. "And all the other racers around me were heavier than me."

Canada's Pace, on the rebound from a high-speed crash nearly two years ago and a knee injury earlier this season, said the course gave her confidence.

"I think if I had to build a downhill this is the type of downhill I would build," Pace said. "It was fun to be in the start today because I wasn't nervous."

Street was surprised at her wide margin of victory over Seizinger, who has already clinched this year's World Cup super-G title and is favored to win her first overall World Cup title.

They got back in single file and Earnhardt made three more moves coming off the final corner, diving low again, then high, then low once more. But he could not catch Jarrett, son of two-time Winston Cup champion and TV broadcaster Ned Jarrett.

Jarrett's winning margin was 0.12 seconds.

157 yards (141 meters) flew the green and settled in a sunken spot 71-2 meters (25 feet) from the green and 18 meters (60 feet) from the pin.

Nicklaus puted over the mound and the ball rolled within 1 meter (4 feet) of the pin. He made the putt for the one-stroke victory.

"I felt starting out that I was going to have to put a good number on the board, but I knew it was Aoki's tournament to win or lose," Nicklaus said. "I just wanted to put some pressure on him and try to be there. "If Aoki stayed in there, it was his to win, but if he didn't I wanted to be the one who was there."

Saipan... Continued from page 20

ries over Guam's Ed Morales at board three, Alex Queltire at board four and lawyer Roger Orio at board six.

Guam's Fred Loeper, who defeated Jun Baja in the morning game, likewise defeated Baja's alternate Noel Gante in the afternoon.

Team Saipan's better showing was brought about by the 2-0 performance of Remegio. Benavente and Mon Morales who shut out Guam's Roger Orio, Queltire and Ed Morales.

It was an even match at board two (Morton vs. Mondez), five (Catalay vs. Lomantas/Bince) and seven (San Pedro vs. Santos).

Villamin failed to prove expectations he would spearhead Saipan's campaign. He resigned from his first match with Perry and was mated in the second match.

In the first match, Villamin said he was playing white and was in a draw position in the last ten minutes of the game when he blundered in his 41st move by giving away a pawn that fortified Perry's winning advantage.

In the afternoon game, Villamin said Perry at once outplayed him in the opening moves.

"We were playing Pirc defense's Austrian attack variation. Playing black, Perry gained quality advantage in the middle of the game. I was still in position when Perry managed to force a mating combination prompting me to resign one move before getting mated. Technically the game ended in a mate," Villamin said.

The one-day event was a breakthrough for chess in the Marianas because it encouraged the visiting players to organize an association in Guam. Both Guam and Saipan players also agreed in principle to hold a big annual competition either here or in Guam.

H & R Block Saipan manager Romy Francisco gave away \$100 worth of gift certificate for a free 1995 private or corporate tax preparation each to Perry, Loeper, Remegio, Benavente and Mon Morales for their 2-0 record in the competition.

NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Required Notices for All Contracts.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals in accordance with Section 3 2(7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/CARLOS A. SHODA
Executive Director

Date: 1/31/96

CLOSERS

COLUMN CLOSERS
BY SARAH JOHNSON

The busiest day of the year for restaurants in the United States is Mother's Day.

Contrary to popular belief, carrots do not contain vitamin A. Carrots are rich in carotene, however, which is converted to vitamin A in the liver.

A whistle must be clean and dry on

the inside to produce a clear tone. Hence the phrase "clean as a whistle."

In addition to black and red ants, certain varieties of ants are brown, yellow, green, blue and purple.

In Japan, shredded newspaper and molasses is standard fare for cattle.

Although David Brewster patented his invention of the kaleidoscope before it hit the market in 1816, it was so popular and so simple to produce that he was soon overrun with competitors. Since he was unable to sue them all, the only money he made

from his invention was during the first few days.

Opossums have been on the earth for more than 45 million years.

The silver used to mint the very first U.S. coins came from Martha Washington's silver service.

In Lubeck, Germany, women were granted the same legal status as men and allowed to join the workers' guilds as far back as the 13th century.

The zipper used on the turf of the Houston Astro dome is the longest zipper in the world.

SPORTS

1st H & R Block team event

Saipan bests Guam in chess showdown

SAIPAN chess players bested Guam team with a two-point advantage, 9-7, in the first H & R Block Team Chess Invitational Sunday at Rambies' Restaurant.

Saipan took a 6-2, win-loss advantage in the morning pairings. Guam came stronger in the afternoon with a 5-3 performance—but was three wins short of winning the H & R Block title.

In the morning matches, Saipan's Pol Mondez, Walter Remigio, Ed Benavente, Junnel Lomantas, Mon

Morales and Almer Santos conquered their rivals from Guam at boards two to seven.

Only John Villamin and Jun Baja of Saipan failed to score victories in the morning play.

Villamin played at board one with Patrick Perry who was a 1989 and 1990 Hawaii State champion. Baja squared off at board eight with Fred Loeper.

In the afternoon match, Perry bested Villamin anew, while Morton and Red San Pedro evened their matchup

with Pol Mondez and Almer Santos, respectively.

Guam's Ted Catabay, who was downed in the morning match by

Junnel Lomantas, bounced back and defeated Lomantas' alternate player Ruel Bince in the afternoon game.

As Villamin sustained his second

setback in the afternoon match, teammates Remigio, Benavente and Morales scored respective second victo-

Continued on page 19

Bulls ram Pacers, 110-102

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Michael Jordan scored 44 points and Scottie Pippen had a season-high 40 — just the ninth time in NBA history two teammates had over 40 points in the same game — as the Chicago Bulls defeated Indiana 110-102 Sunday.

The victory extended the Bulls' current winning streak to five and bringing their league-best record to 46-5.

Dennis Rodman, the league's leading rebounder, contributed 23 to the victory as Chicago had a 52-44 edge on the boards.

Indiana, which defeated the Bulls 103-97 in the first meeting at

Market Square Arena this season and had three straight wins over the Bulls at home, had five players in double figures. Reggie Miller was high with 24 points, followed by Dale Davis with 14.

Sonics 118, Grizzlies 109

In Vancouver, British Columbia, Shawn Kemp had 25 points and 12 rebounds as the SuperSonics got their sixth straight victory. At 38-12, the Sonics' record is the best in franchise history after 50 games.

Tied at 93, the Sonics pulled away with a 9-0 run.

Gary Payton had 19 points,

Continued on page 19

Miller Lite Men's Basketball League

(Feb. 17 and 15 games results)

Team Standings		W	L
Sharks	10	1	
Brothers	9	1	
Toyota Wheels	8	1	
FT/SNE	8	3	
Sunisers	6	4	
Of Aces	6	5	
Of Aces II	6	5	
D'Oners	3	6	
Brewers	4	7	
Panthers	2	9	
Primos	1	10	
D'Fours	0	11	

Feb. 17 first game: Toyota Wheels team protested its match with D'Oners 4:20 remaining in the first half	
Feb. 17 second game	
Team: Of Aces II	
Players	No. 3P 2P FT F TP
Bob Omar	00 0 7 3/5 2 17
Wayne Pua	13 0 5 — 3 10
Ryan Camacho	15 0 7 1/1 5 15
Jimmy Hapdel	32 0 10 3/4 3 23
Dwayne Atalg	0 0 2 — 4 4
Kris Takawo	3 0 1 1/2 3 3
Randy Takisamen	12 0 2 1/2 0 5
Jason Taisacan	4 3 1 1/1 2 12
Elias Saralu	69 3 1 1/2 2 12
Total	6 36 11/17 24 101
Team: FT/SNE	
Players	No. 3P 2P FT F TP
Cosino	18 0 8 2/2 1 18
Sumaoang	16 0 2 9/13 2 13
R. Alegre	5 0 9 1/3 3 19

Bicera	15	0	5	2/5	3	12
Gutierrez	11	0	0	—	2	0
Biazon	7	0	1	—	3	2
Generao	17	1	3	2/6	1	11
Villegas	1	0	1	1/2	—	3
Total	1	29	17/31	15	78	

Halftime score: Of Aces II 51, FT/SNE 34

Feb. 15 first game: Sunisers won by forfeit over Primos

Feb. 15 second game

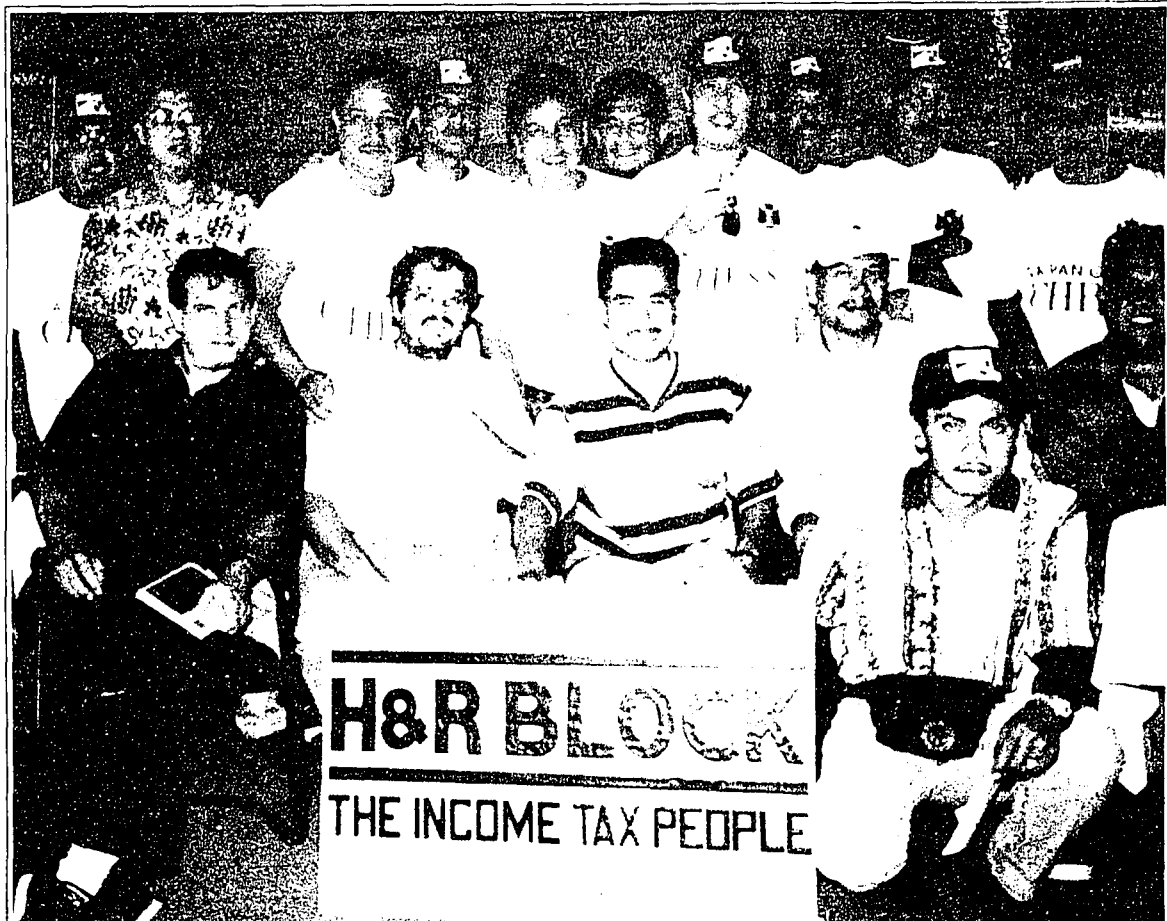
Team: FT/SNE

Players No. 3P 2P FT F TP | || Cosino | 18 | 1 | 9 | 14/14 | 1 | 35 |
Hartman	8	0	7	6/7	1	20
Gutierrez	11	0	3	—	4	6
Bayle	6	0	0	1/2	0	1
R. Alegre	5	0	10	8/8	4	28
T. Alegre	4	0	3	1/1	4	7
Total	1	32	30/32	14	97	

Team: Of Aces

Players No. 3P 2P FT F TP | || Winsor Peter | 11 | 1 | 10 | 1/1 | 1 | 24 |
Junior Rengul	6	0	7	2/2	4	16
Peter Camacho	7	2	9	10/12	5	34
Jerry Ayuyu	5	0	3	—	5	6
Elias Rangamar	31	1	2	—	1	7
Ron Atalg	9	0	0	—	3	0
Joe Taitano	12	0	0	—	2	0
Wayne Perry	3	0	0	—	4	0
Mari Meltao	14	0	0	—	2	0
Mike Majors	4	0	0	—	2	0
Tony Rangamar	16	0	0	—	1	0
Total	4	31	13/15	30	87	

Halftime score: FT/SNE 53, Of Aces 47



The participants in the first Saipan-Guam Team Chess Invitational (front row, from left) Fred Loeper, Patrick Perry, Teddy Catabay, Ed Morales, Roger Orio, and Red San Pedro of Team Guam. With them (back row, from left) are John Villamin, H & R Block Saipan manager Romy Francisco, Junnel Lomantas, Almer Santos, Ed Benavente, Walter Remigio, Ramon Morales, Pol Mondez, Roel Bince, Manny Domingo and Noel Gante of Team Saipan.

Nicklaus wins Suncoast Classic

LUTZ, Florida (AP) — With Isao Aoki's final round reduced to wreckage, Jack Nicklaus shot a 4-under-par 67 Sunday to win the U.S. Senior PGA Tour's GTE Suncoast Classic.

Aoki, who began the day with a five-stroke lead over Nicklaus, gave it all away with a 9 on the par-4 13th hole, and shot 77 to open the door for

Nicklaus' ninth career American Senior tour title.

Nicklaus finished with a 2-under-par 211, to edge J.C. Snead, who finished 1-under 212 after a closing 65.

Bob Murphy, who took a triple-bogey 8 on the seventh hole when his blast from a bunker caught the lip and

bounced back to hit his hat for a two-stroke penalty, finished third two shots back after a closing 69. Aoki finished 3 over to tie for eighth.

"I played well but those guys gave me the tournament with the things that happened," said Nicklaus, who eagled the 14th hole.

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U.S. woman skier dominates downhill

SIERRA NEVADA, Spain (AP) — A gold medal for Picabo Street and a bronze for Hilary Lindh convinced the American skiers there's no way to better that in the combined event.

Street, an Olympic silver medalist

two years ago, picked up her first gold in Sunday's downhill at the world championships, becoming the only American woman ever to do so.

Lindh won her first medal at a world championship to go with an Olympic silver from four years ago.

What more could they ask for in Monday's combined?

Although Street won the downhill portion of the combined and Lindh placed seventh, the combined is weighed in favor of the more techni-

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Jarrett holds off Earnhardt again to win Daytona 500

DAYTONA BEACH, Florida (AP) — Dale Jarrett held off Dale Earnhardt for the final 13 laps Sunday, extending Earnhardt's frustration for an 18th year in American stock car racing's premier event — the Daytona 500.

Earnhardt, a seven-time season champion at the highest level of American stock car racing — the Winston Cup, weaved his Chevrolet Monte Carlo back and forth throughout the final lap, unable to find a way

around Jarrett's Ford Thunderbird.

Just as in 1993, when Jarrett won the Daytona 500 for the first time, Jarrett held off Earnhardt and crossed the finish line about 2 1-2 car lengths ahead.

A crowd estimated at 150,000 packed the stands and infield in bright sunshine for the race, the first event and crown jewel of the National Association of Stock Car Auto Racing (NASCAR) season.

Stock cars, highly modified street automobiles that can reach speeds over 320 kph (200 mph), are extremely popular in the southern United States.

Earnhardt, who has finished second four times in the 500, including each of the past two years and three of the last four years, is an agonizing 0-18 in the only major stock car event he has never won.

"That's the Daytona 500," Earnhardt said. "We finished second

again. That's OK. We just didn't have anything to match those Fords.

"I was trying to get a run on (Jarrett), but he had a real strong race car."

Jarrett passed Earnhardt on lap 177 of the 200-lap, 500-mile (800-kilometer) race.

Over the last 10 laps, Earnhardt kept moving up and down the high-banked 4-kilometer (2 1-2 mile) Daytona International Speedway tri-

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Park tennis courts to close

THE AMERICAN Memorial Park tennis courts will be closed effective tomorrow, Wednesday, for resurfacing work.

Damaged and unleveled areas will be repaired to bring all four tennis and practice courts up to standard conditions.

The upgrading will take approximately three to four weeks, depending on the weather.

The AMP management apologizes for the inconvenience.

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