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Babauta tries to stop funding cut

Regula urged not to endorse 50% reduction in Covenant funds

By Zaldy Dandan

Variety Associate Editor

IN A LAST ditch effort to prevent the reduction of the CNMI's Covenant funds, Resident Representative to the U.S. Juan N. Babauta has informed Congress that the islands have already appropriated funds from previous federal grants.

The CNMI's man in Washington, D.C., in a letter to House Interior Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Ralph Regula (R-Ohio), said the Clinton administration's proposal to cut the islands' Covenant funds is premised on the commonwealth's failure to use previous grants.

However, Babauta added, the CNMI now has \$103.2 million in



Juan N. Babauta

capital infrastructure projects (CIPs) "being built, designed or prepared to bid--hardly the picture of inactivity painted by the President's budget proposal."

Still, in an interview yesterday, Babauta said he fears that the appropriation process has already 'gone too far."

The Clinton budget proposal for fiscal year 2000 includes a provision that would reduce the CNMI's Covenant funding for CIPs from \$11 million a year to \$5.58 million for the next three years.

"It may be difficult to prevent the proposed reduction of our Covenant funds," he said.

"But that doesn't mean we will stop in our efforts to prevent it. I hope my latest letter would show [Regula] that we have made significant progress in using the previous years' Covenant funds."

Continued on on page 54

Austerity cuts gov't spending by \$20-M



Pedro P. Tenorio

By Aldwin R. Fajardo Variety News Staff

HAD IT not been for the immediate implementation of a government-wide austerity program, the actual fund deficit by the Commonwealth government would have exceeded the \$20million mark, according to Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio.

The Tenorio Administration incurred \$11.3 million budget deficit during the fiscal year 1998, adding to the previous year's \$57 million deficit left by the previous administration which registered a whopping \$22.5 million increase than the FY1996 figure of \$34.9 million.

An analysis report released by the Department of Finance noted that if expenditures had continued at the FY 1998's first quarter level, total expenses during that year would have reached \$256.5 million, which would

Continued on on page 54

BOS seeking FDIC membership

By Aldwin R. Fajardo Variety News Staff

AFTER the launching of its automated teller machines service, Bank of Saipan is now securing membership from the largest financial institution in the United States — the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Bank of Saipan's move came in light of the increasing volatility of the local financial sector, as well as to pacify worries of its private depositors since FDIC provides a more concrete assurance that their money is safe.

Tomas B. Aldan, BOS president and chief executive officer, disclosed efforts are now underway for Bank of Saipan's eventual membership with the FDIC. The bank is expecting full accreditation by next year.

The move is expected to boost Bank of Saipan's competitiveness and resilience, since affiliation with FDIC has been a major consideration among depositors and bank clients when choosing an institution because there is something to fall back on in case a bank goes bank-

rupt.
"This means that deposits will Continued on on page 54

2 Torreses, Fitial make up GOP Precinct 3 slate

By Zaldy Dandan

Variety Associate Editor

FORMER speaker Benigno R. Fitial, former House floor leader Stanley T. Torres and former Education commissioner William S. Torres will be included in the Republican Party's Precinct 3 slate, well-placed sources revealed yesterday.

The three will join the party's three incumbents, Vice Speaker Jesus T. Attao, Reps. Heinz S. Hofschneider and Melvin L.O.

Freshman Rep. Bennet T.

Seman, who has said she is reconsidering her earlier decision not to seek reelection, will not run, the Variety was told.

The two other Precinct 3 incumbents are Maria T. Peter, a Republican who ran as an Independent in 1997, and Maximo L. Olopai, a Democrat.

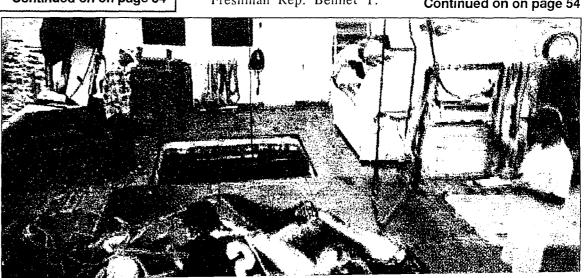
Former congressman Torres, in an interview, said only the party's Precinct 3 Club is authorized to comment on the composition of the slate.

He admitted, however, that the Continued on on page 54

Changes to fair worker benefits law on the way



In an interview yesterday, House Speaker Diego T. Benavente said the proposed amendments incorporate all comments and suggestions raised by the business community, which has earlier stressed the implementing rules and regulations of Public Law 11-74 have failed to clarify am-



Gore declares 2000 bid

CARTHAGE, Tenn. (Reuters) - Vice President Al Gore declared himself a candidate for president of the United States on Wednesday, vowing to erase a "decency deficit" and bring values of faith and family to the White House.

In front of the courthouse in the tiny town of Carthage and flanked by three generations of his family, Gore, 51, placed religious values and morality at the centre of a speech that seemed to be a conscious effort to distance himself from the personal scandals personified by President Bill

"There is a hunger and thirst for goodness among us ... If you entrust me with the presidency, I will marshal its authority, its resources and its moral leadership to fight for America's values," Gore declared.

"These are our deficits now: the time deficit in family life, the

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culture, the care deficit for our little ones and our elderly par-

"With you help, I will take my own values of faith and family to the presidency to build an America that is not only better off but better. And that is why today I announce that I am a candidate for president of the United States,"

Joining Gore were his 86-yearold mother, Pauline, his wife, Tipper, and their four children, including his eldest daughter, Karenna, who is due to give birth to Gore's first grandchild later this month. His father, Albert Gore Sr., who served 32 years in Congress, died in 1998 at age 90.

Clinton, on a seven-day trip to Europe, watched Gore live on television in Paris and pronounced it "a terrific speech." A White House spokesman said Clinton was particularly impressed that Gore offered "specific ideas and specific

THE UNIVERSITY

Vice President Al Gore speaks during an education forum as wife Tipper (left), looks on Wednesday afternoon in lowa City, lowa. Gore formally announced his intentions of seeking the 2000 Democratic presidential nomination earlier in Carthage, Tenn.

as president."

Police said an estimated 5,000 people thronged the narrow square in front of the courthouse, spilling two blocks down

plans for what he wanted to do Main Street, cheering and chanting "Go Al Go."

It was from this same town with a population of about 3,000 that Gore launched all his previous campaigns, starting in 1976 when he first ran for the U.S. House of Representatives. The family owns a cattle and hog farm just outside town in the rolling green hill country of central Tennessee.

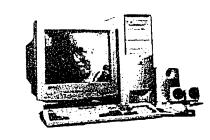
Gore faces only former Sen. Bill Bradley of New Jersey for the Democratic Party nomination and has the overwhelming support of the party establishment. In the past six months, he has been piling up endorsements while building a wide lead in campaign contributions.

Still, he begins the campaign on an uncertain note. Polls have shown Gore trailing Texas Gov. George W. Bush, the Republican front-runner, by between 10 and 20 percentage points and two polls this week from New Hampshire, which will stage the crucial first primary of the campaign early next year, showed Bradley closing the gap on the vice president.

Gore has to perform a difficult balancing act, claiming credit for the economic successes of the two Clinton administrations while distancing himself from Clinton's personal scandals and articulating a new vision for the future.



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'THE BEST AFTER-SALES SERVICE ON ISLAND...'

Tinian has enough water'

Variety News Staff

CITING enough water supply, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) yesterday assured residents of Tinian that water shortage is unforeseen in the immediate future.

Currently, CUC is able to pump some 1.3 million gallons of water on a daily basis which are "more than enough" for the need of some 700 residential and commercial customers of the utilities agency, according to Gregorio Castro, CUC deputy director for Tinian.

Castro added that only Tinian has a 24-hour water supply on the whole of CNMI for at least the last five years.

rightnow. Tinian residents should not worry because we have more than enough water supply every-

about two to three years from now prevent that from happening," Castro said, as he clarified an ear-

"And even if a new water well is not immediately built, a water problem will be experienced in but we are addressing this now to lier report stating a serious water problem within the next few

Castro, however, does not dismiss the possibility of serious water shortage in few years' time if a new water well is not built within

The use of the new water well will give way to the rehabilitation of the more than 50-year old Maui water well which will have to be temporarily closed down.

"The amount of water we are pumping everyday does not go down but if we do not rehabilitate the old Maui well, it will surely go down and it will collapse. Although we have enough water now, we have to prepare for the future," he said.

The bidding for the construction of a new water well is expected to be out next week or the week after, and will take six to eight months before it will be fully operational.

CUC's assurance came out de-

spite uncertainty of payment of overdue developer's tax by the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Ca-

Castro said Dynasty has to pay at least \$700,000 in overdue developer's tax to the Tinian municipal government immediately to have the Maui well repaired.

S.Y. Chung, Dynasty's accounting division chief, yesterday said the top management has not yet disclosed the date of its next payment but said the hotel will pay its obligations.

"We are paying partially, depending on the cash flow," said Chung.

The Variety repeatedly tried but failed to get hold of Dynasty's

Castro also said the Tinian Legislative Delegation is looking at reprogramming some local funds and is also tapping federal grants for the rehabilitation of the Maui well which was built right after World War II.

Around 525 of the customers in Tinian are residential, while the rest are commercial establishments.

In related news, certain parts of Rota, particularly in the Songsong area, have been experiencing water shortage since last week due to a drastic decline in the water level of the island's major source of potable water.

CUC, however, is on its heels addressing the problem.

Compact impact study completed this year

By Aldwin R. Fajardo Variety News Staff

THE CNMI government is expecting to release a complete comprehensive study of Micronesian migration into the Northern Marianas under the provisions of the Compacts of Free Association signed between the governments of the United States and of the Freely

Associated States. Commerce Secretary Frank Villanueva has been named chairman of the committee that will review impacts of the Compacts to the Commonwealth government's depleting coffers.

A complete report is expected to pave the way for the eventual reimbursement by the US government of the expenses incurred by the CNMI in hosting thousands of Palau, Marshalls and Federated States of Micronesia residents in the islands.

Villanueva said his department will work closely with the committee created by Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to complete within the year a comprehensive Compact Impact study of Micronesian migration into the CNMI.

He said the fiscal impact of the citizens of the Freely Associ-Continued on page 48

2 TCGCC commissioners get flak

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

A FORMER official of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) has lodged an official complaint before the body's chair claiming that at least two TCGCC commissioners should be reprimanded for misconduct.

In a letter he sent to TCGCC Chair Vicente M. Manglona, former commissioner Jose P. Cruz urged that disciplinary action be taken against Commissioner Jeffrey M. Hofschneider for "consuming too much alcohol during

Cruz claimed he saw Hofschneider "consuming alcohol" in at least five separate incidents from April 26 to May 17 at a time when the latter supposedly should be working.

Cruz also recommended that similar action be taken against another TCGCC official, Commissioner Jose P. San Nicolas "for

Tenorio welcomes Guerrero's challenge nance, said the midterm elec-



Records showed that Xiao and

five other defendants assisted the

Continued on page 48

Juan P.Tenorio

By Jojo Dass Variety News Staff

SENATOR Juan P. Tenorio yesterday welcomed former utility chief Ramon S. Guerrero's Senate bid in the November polls,



Ramon S. Guerrero

saying the move is "good for the people because they now have choices."

Tenorio, who chairs the Senate Committee on Resource, Economic Development and Fi-

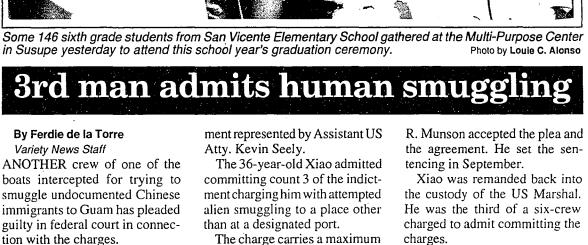
tions time for him to get his "report card," expressing hopes the electorate is "satisfied" in his performance.

"I welcome it. I think it is good for the people because now they have... choices. Rather than just being unopposed, I think it will be good for the

people in general," said Tenorio, in an interview.

"Four years ago, when I ran for office... (and) was asked to make a remark, I said that the other person have to stand on his record and I'll stand on (mine). Four years later I still have the same message," he

Tenorio, who is seeking a sec-Continued on page 48



tion with the charges. Jin Zhan Xiao and court-appointed counsel signed a plea agreement with the US govern-

penalty of up to 10 years' impris-

US District Court Judge Alex

Castañeda settles EEOC harassment suit for \$350K

By Ferdie de la Torre BUSINESSWOMAN Elizabeth P. Castaneda has settled for \$350,000 a sexual harassment suit filed against her and her firm by the US Equal Employment Opportunity

Commission on behalf of some former bar waitresses. Under the terms of the consent judgment which was obtained by EEOC, Castaneda and EJ International, doing business under the names of Moods and Music and The Colonel's Place, are individu-

ally responsible to pay the settlement amount. According to EEOC's press

statement, \$50,000 each shall ties and five identified class members who were former waitresses at Moods and Mu-The EEOC filed the com-

plaint in 1998 asking the US District Court for the NMI to provide back pay and compensation to the workers-Jennifer Parinas, Omnie iainab Hapa and other class members-for unlawful employment practices and conduct.

The lawsuit alleged that emplayees were subjected to repeated sexual harassment by customers in private Karaoke

Continued on page 46

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

EDITORIAL

Curing the deficit

THE STEADY downturn in revenue collections and the burgeoning deficit has again heightened anxieties over the state of the Commonwealth's finances. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, in his recent State of the Commonwealth address, said 1998 was one of the most challenging years in the history of the islands. We agree.

Not so much because it was the year when good 'ole Teno assumed his third term in office, but moreso because it was the year when he saw how a whopping \$57 million deficit climb to \$65 million, all in a matter of three

The severity of the financial mess he inherited necessitated a no-nonsense approach at belt-tightening and so his Administration was forced to implement an intense austerity program.

And he proved it can be done. All it takes is strong political will, emanating from the top down to the ranks.

Since then, the deficit was slowly reduced. Gov. Teno's pronouncement of a \$20 million savings from government's operations in FY 1998 is definitely welcome news and deserving of praise.

But the problem is, despite the seemingly effective drift at frugality, the government is still beset with the spectre of a steadily crumbling economy. Tourism is down, retail business is sluggish, the unemployment rate is rising and revenues are miserably declining. So despite reported gains brought about by a rigid austerity campaign, the ripple effects of such an economic slowdown have again caused the budget deficit to balloon to an unbelievable \$68 million.

True, most of that figure was incurred during the previous administration. But the mere fact that the figure does not get reduced and even continues to swell does not augur well for the administration. Having a growing deficit figure means the CNMI continues to sink deeper in debt and recovery less and less achievable.

Government ought to do something more drastic and more sustainable.

As Teno himself put it, cutting expenses is only half of the solution. Raising revenues through economic growth is the other half. Since the latter is difficult to achieve unless the Asian economies recover, there is no other way but to do more of the first, no matter how much it hurts.

By further reducing expenditures government can realize more surplus money to dedicate towards public services and eventually towards deficit

For any plan to be truly effective, though, it has to be taken with resolve and finality. That is where a change in policy can come in handy.

Currently, there exists a provision in the Constitution that requires the government to wipe out the deficit it creates in any given fiscal year within the

While the mandate of such a provision is clear, the absence of a penalty and enforcement clause creates room for non-compliance and continued noncompliance. Government, it appears, tends to be less concerned about reducing the deficit because the two-year requirement has traditionally not been followed and enforced.

Especially serious is the fact that such a resulting complacency will encourage more deficit spending and ultimately lead to an increasingly untenable deficit figure.

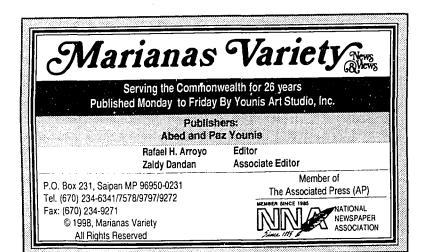
The most important aspect of any corrective measure to this problem is to create a policy that would really prevent government from spending more than what it collects in revenue and penalize non-compliance to the constitutional timetable for deficit reduction.

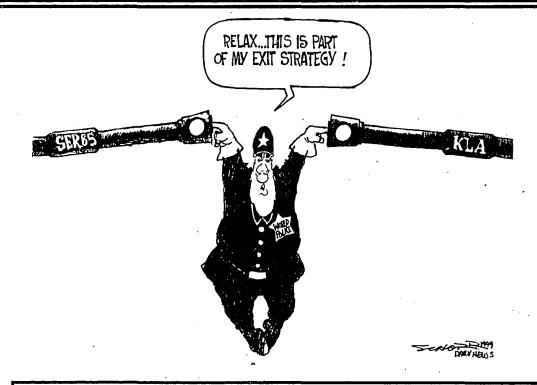
Without such a drastic step, it appears, any effort will remain futile.

Something should be done—be it by legislation or by Constitutional amendment—to get government penalized for not following the rule on zeroing out the deficit

That way, the financial bind the CNMI is in would not be allowed to worsen and government ultimately becomes more capable of bringing its finances in order at the soonest possible time.

Otherwise, deficits and shortfalls will be here to stay and the financial situation will continue to remain hopeless.







Not again

[T]he distortion of history will only lead to untoward consequences, among which is the mental conditioning of a people so that their policies become warped, their goals misdirected.

— Renato Constantino Philippine Graphic, April 1968

WE SHOULD find it disturbing that as this century ends, a university professor is still teaching a version of history concocted a hundred years ago as part of the US armed forces' "pacification" campaign in the Philippines.

In an article published on the PDN's opinion page, University of Guam professor Dirk A. allendorf rehashed the version with which Filipino and American heads were drilled in elementary and high schools: The Philippines "rebelled" against lawful US tutelage in 1899. "True independence" came in the Philippines on July 4, 1946.

This version, sadly, has already calcified into a myth, and is now also known as the "history" of Philippine-US relations.

But to understand properly, as Professor Ballendorf would put it, we must go back to history

The Philippines waged war against Spanish colonial power, and won. As the US military officers would later admit to Congress, the Filipinos by 1898 were in control of the entire archipelago except for the heart of Manila—Intramuros. Headed by European-educated patriots, the revolutionaries drafted a constitution for Asia's first republic and formed a government apparatus for the entire archipelago. On June 12, 1898, Philippine independence was declared "under the protection of the Mighty and Humane North American Nation."

Because independence can only be won from, and not granted by, a foreign power, the Philippines can rightly claim that June 12, 1898 is the day. Which is also why the US celebrates 1776 as the year she won independence, and not 1782, which was the year Great Britain, in a peace treaty, recognized the former colonies' freedom.

At any rate, the Filipinos' supposed allies in 1898, the mighty and humane US, announced that she was taking over as the new colonial boss. Now because the US went to war against Spain putatively to free oppressed Cuba, then-President McKinley found it difficult to explain to the American people that the war would end in the subjugation of another country similarly oppressed by Spain, the Philippines. Hence the need for myths.

Employing legal legerdemain that President Clinton's lawyers in the impeachment trial would have been proud of, McKinley told the American people that, technically, the Philippines was under US sovereignty as stated by the treaty America signed with Spain. He didn't mention, of course, that Spain was no longer in control of the islands she was supposed to be handing over to the US. Moreover, Washington, D.C. denied the existence of an independent Philippine government; the Philippine republic's official representative who sought audience with McKinley was all but ig-

The Philippines, alas, was way ahead of her time. There was no CNN, no satellite TV news crews that could broadcast live from the boondocks of Southern Luzon and reveal how the US was "pacifying" a "handful of rebels." This was, in addition, 1898 when democracy was still considered by some of the era's white intellectuals as a vulgar form of government. Now imagine their reaction to the establishment of a democratic republic in Asia. The horror.

In any case, as one of the more candid American historians wrote in a 1912 work that was never used as school textbook, the McKinley administration "'play[ed] politics, using the military arm of the [US] government for the two-fold purpose of crushing opposition [in the Philippines] and proving [to the American people] that there was

The US military's pacification campaign involved the use of more than 120,000 American soldiers. The then "in vogue" racism combined with deadly US firepower would be fatal to 600,000 Filipino men, women and children. The cost of the war, which the US authorities insisted was an "insurrection," was over \$600,000,000 at a time when the dollar was literally good as gold. The war was among the most brutal in history, lasting for seven years (1899-1906) and not two as Professor Ballendorf and the rest of standard history books would tell us. The "official" version maintained that the "insurrection" ended in 1902 with the surrender of the last of Aguinaldo's generals in Luzon. The guerrilla resistance from that year to 1906 was dismissed as "banditry."

Continued on page 5

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor must carry the full name of the writer and signature, with a telephone number (in case of faxed or mailed letters) for verification. Letters addressed to other publications or to third parties and those endorsing particular political candidates are discouraged. All letters are subject to editing. The Variety reserves the right to reject any letters. Name withheld and unsigned letters will not see print.

Let's be level-headed on casino

Dear Editor:

This is an open letter to the People of Rota.

The Casino Initiative to be voted on this coming November presents an alternative vehicle to improve Rota's economic condition. Let us not be emotional about this issue.

Levelheadedness is essential in looking at the advantages as well as the disadvantages of a casino. Certainly, there are two sides to every

Study the proposed initiative

carefully and imagine the possibilities it will bring to improve the livelihood of everyone on Rota. Here are some of the benefits I

see from having a Casino:

• Employment for all local

· Health insurance to all fami-

• Subsidies on utility bills.

· Scholarships for our students.

• Training opportunities to all workers.

 Assistance to families in times of need. • Upgrading of facilities and

equipments. Financial assistance to start a business

•Providing facilities for the youth and senior citizens.

Assisting farmers, fishermen

tune a little, but it's still the same

So now, according to him, all the

elected leaders (except Washing-

ton Rep. Juan Babauta), SGMA,

HANMI, and the Chamber are un-

trustworthy? Does he believe that

Rep. Juan Babauta favors a federal

The only people that tell him that

they think a federal takeover would

be a good idea are the people that

agree with him. That's a minority

of the people. A vasrt minority. He

Doesn't he think the people talk

to their Representatives? It's not

takeover, too?

clamor as it was 15 years ago.

substations.

and craftsmen in marketing their

• Improving all our infrastructures; airport and seaport; power, · More funding for the protecwater and sewer; roads and farm areas; village and agriculture homestead; parks and tourist sites; pub-

lic buildings and historical sites. Construction of schools and college facilities.

 Construction of public schools libraries.

 Construction of vocational and technical schools.

· Construction of police and fire

• Construction of a Health clinic. Construction of a water reser-

• Installation of traffic signs and

· Support for athletic and cultural programs.

tion of our indigenous plants, birds and other wildlife. Opponents will employ all kinds

of scare tactics. From mild statements like "We are not ready;" "There are other business alternatives;" "Give Tinian a chance," to the more radical statements like "There will be family disintegration, prostitution, drug abuse, compulsive behavior and greed."

However, look around you and be honest with yourself because all of these are already present in our midst. Don't be a hypocrite.

I challenge those opposing the casino project to show us the way to improving the economy and the livelihood of the people.

We all know that there is no perfect world. We always have to balance the good and the bad.

However, the opportunity to have a better life is now within our grasp. This alternative financing of our economy is but one avenue which

we should not be discarded lightly. I urge you therefore, to weigh the benefits or problems a casino will bring to Rota so you can make an informed decision before yoù vote.

JUSTIN S. MANGLONA

Pierce responds to Govendo

I would like to respond to Ken Govendo's letter in the June 11. 999 Variety entitled "Tell Congress what people want."

Ken Govendo is one guy that can look right in the face of the truth and deny it emphatically because it doesn't fit his purpose. George Miller is the same way. Maybe that's why they communicate so well.

Todeny that people of the Commonwealth would rather earn their own way, and would prefer to go back on the federal dole is bsurd. But it fits his purpose.

His purpose is to destroy the garment industry. His purpose is o destroy our economy and the ight to go your own way. His purpose is to federalize the CNML He may have changed his

like the UShere in Saipan, or Tinian, I would venture that the CNMI

has one of the highest voter turnouts in America. The people elected

should do his own poll.

They do it every election. Doesn't

he think the leaders represent their constituency here?

Elected leaders weigh many factors before they cast their votes. And, their votes carry more weight and responsibility that yours or mine. They hear everything before they must take their responsibility. All sides.

I think today it's now a matter of "needs," not "wants." Tenyears ago, it was a lot easier to talk about what we wanted. Today, and I'm not so sure he understands this, it's a matter of neces-

Mr. Editor, I remember Ken Governdo turned someone elses' phrase, in the Variety, when he talked the "Giant Sucking Sound."What's that we hear coming from him?

RICHARD A. PIERCE

Kudos to Rota Leaders

Dear Editor:

Please print the following in response to Senator David M. Cing's comment on his readiness to call in the Red Cross to help the Rotanese people.

If Sen. Cing would only try to understand what Rota's mayor is implying, he would not be so sar-

But unfortunately that's his character — a strange person.

Sen. Cing is better off spending his energy trying to build the badly-needed airport infrastructure to support their gaming industry than wasting it in his usual negative political tactics.

After all, it is the Rotanese people that will determine their economic future.

Having a small-scale gaming

industry on Rota would complement the gaming industry on Tinian via the "Spirit of Good Luck.'

Completing, that when a player does not have such good luck on Rota, the player will eventually decide to try his/her luck in Tinian because it's the closest casino establishment, and vice versa.

The decision of the people of Rota to have a gaming industry on Rota will help Tinian as well.

The people of Rota are a proud people and they want to be able to substantially contribute to the CNMI general fund.

I personally salute the Rota leadership for exploring ways to revive and stimulateRota's economy as promised. Keep it up!!!

WILFRED TAISACAN

Good lawmakers need not worry about 'short terms'

Dear Editor:

Some politicians are better than

others, true or false? The HLI 11-9, according to some politicians, is necessary since the twoyear term distracts the politician from his duties as he or she "worries" over re-election on every other year.

Well, that is precisely the intention of the two-year term; so that politicians, especially those with poor performance will worry over re-elec-

Obviously, the good performer has nothing to "worry" about.

A house member has two years to convince the voter to let him or her keep the job. You see, the framers of the US

Constitution has intended the twoyearterm to insure that "we the people" don't get stuck with a bad politician. That is why "we the people" want you to "worry" over keeping your

nice job. Now, I can understand politicians whining over the cost — the other reason stated — to get re-elected.

That's why they invented lobbyists and brown paper bags. And the "strong supporters" seeking jobs who bring the food and the bears to the pocket meetings. Have you ever wondered why it's called pocket meet-

I still am puzzled over how the Legislature convinced the voters to double its budget at a time when the economy was at rock bottom.

There were several initiatives on the ballot in the last election and I think that voters were just overwhelmed and confused.

Placing more than one initiative in

an election confuses the voter. Ap-

parently, it's a strategic advantage for the Legislature; a rather sneaky one at Society's only protection against despotic government is the informed

It is the duty of this government to make sure that all initiatives are numbered and sample copies of the ballot are made available to the public at least sixty days before the election.

Election day at the polls is not the time to hand copies of initiatives to the public. Sample copies should be inserted into newspapers every week. If House members are truly wor-

ried about how to better serve their constituents, they should instead consider the potential benefits of a unicameral body elected at-large to serve an entire island instead of little pockets of political interests called pre-

For such a small place the political machinery is really blown out of proportion. Reminds me of a king's throne; it's always too big for the man sitting in it.

JOSE C. MAFNAS

'Retain current members of Legislature'

Dear Editor:

It is my firm belief that it is crucial for the people of the Commonwealth to consider reelecting most, if not all, the incumbent candidates seeking to retain their respective offices this coming midterm elections. My reasons are

First, by keeping our good leaders in office, a sense of continuity will be maintained, which in this case spells "P-R-O-G-R-E-S-S". In other words, rather than going through the obstacle of planning anew (should new leaders be elected), by maintaining our cur rent leaders, I am sure that the necessary actions on "already planned" CNMI projects will pro-

ceed undisturbed. Furthermore, I am quite certain that it will take a "miracle" to totally revive our economy, therefore, it is unfair to judge the perforances of our leaders based on the overwhelming economic recession presently affacting the entire Pacific Rim.

Second, with the little means our government has to work with, our good leaders still managed to render essential services to our communutities. I have witnessed our leaders at work numerous times and I must say it is quite impres-

Third, and most importantly, we the people must be mindful that a harmonious relationship between the Administration and the 11th CNMI Legilature has been estab-

THis is a key factor, for it provides leeway for compromises, effective passage of strongly needed legislation and a uniform stance in dealing with the many challenges facing our islands.

Without this type mutual relationship, there will be a lot of unfinished business, bickering, and resentment among our leaders which is quite futile for our I believe that what we need

right now is consistency, thus I

ask that we all confide with our

present CNMI leaders and reelect

KIMO MAFNAS ROSARIO

them back into office!

Not . . .

There is a school of thought that defends the "sanitation" of such episodes of US history on grounds that to depict them otherwise would weaken the American people's trust on their nation and the ideals she stands for. Yet the most important component of these ideals is adherence to truth and a visceral abhorrence toward lies and, what amounts to the same thing, propaganda. Further, to use history as a morale booster is to indulge in mythology.

The values that America stands for are, strictly speaking, human. And they are rooted in the human intellect's greatest achievements and loftiest aspirations. They belong to every nation and race that would wish to benefit from them. At the same time, to "transgress" against these ideals even while we profess adherence is evidence not of their inherent weakness. but of *ours*.

Like capitalism and democracy, the US is imperfect. Still, like capitalism and democracy, she has the endless capacity to correct mistakes; to be better. America could better understand what she is and what she means to the rest of the world if her "weaknesses," her "errors" and the myths to explain them away could be driven out into the light of real history, where they could finally wither before the unforgiving glare of truth.

Survey: Prices of oil products up

Variety News Staff

FICKLENESS of the global markets is slightly affecting Northern Marianas with local prices of three major oil products posting a trifling increase earlier this month, a survey conducted by the public works department's Energy Division disclosed.

Just last April, higher product cost due to the rising prices in the Singapore regional market forced major oil companies Mobil Oil Mariana Islands and Shell Marianas Corporation to increase local prices by five cents a gallon.

In its June 8 survey of gasoline stations, the Energy Division reported an average of 0.03 cents increase in Mobil prices of unleaded fuel to \$1.859 from the previous month's \$1.829.

According to the survey report, prices of super unleaded fuel in the local retail market increased by an average of 0.04 cents per gallon in both Mobil and Shell gas stations in the islands.

Retail price of diesel sold in Shell and Mobil gas stations jumped from \$1.739 to \$1.769

per gallon. In December last year, it is sold at \$1.645 in Mobil retail outlets and \$1.669 in Shell stations, according to the survey report from DPW's energy divi-

Business analysts doubt that the increase in fuel prices would pushmark-upprices of commodities up, they believe the development would translate to additional expense for both individual consumers and investors.

Analysts said the increasing retail prices of petroleum products will have a direct negative effect on individuals driving their own cars, or companies that provide transportation to their em-

When it increased fuel prices in April, Mobil attributed the move to the significant slowdown on crude oil production and the rising prices in both global and regional markets.

Oil companies operating in the CNMI in August last year adjusted prices of petroleum by an average of \$0.4 per gallon akin to the implementation of Public Law

and upon completion of recruit training, he was rated in the top ten percent of the marines graduating and was

meritoriously promoted to the rank of Private First Class. After his graduation, he then attended the Infantry Training School at Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, California. Upon graduation from Infantry Training School, he was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Lance Corporal and transferred to India Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines,

During his tour with India Company, 3/5, he filled the billet of Fire Team leader within his squad. Later, he was then

transferred overseas to 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines; based in Okinawa, Japan. Shortly after arriving, he was sent on the

Battalion Landing Team 3/9 to Southeast Asia for deployment and later was meritoriously promoted to Corporal and was assigned the duty of Squad Leader within the platoon. In April of 1980, he was screened orders and transferred

to Charlie Company, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, Camp Pendleton, California. While serving with Charlie Co. 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, he participated in "The "Iranian/Afghanistan Contengency Operation". Upon his return from his deployment, he received orders for Marine Barracks, duty, Marine Barracks Guam. He was assigned to the

first platoon as the guard chief responsible for Ninety Marine Security Force. There, he was also tasked to conduct

After serving two and a half years at Marine Barracks Guam, he returned to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton for

duty with Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 1st Marines, where he served as an Infantry Unit Leader. While with 1st Marines, he was attached and deployed with the 11th Marine Amphibious Unit (MAU) on a Western Pacific

Once again, he returned to Camp Pendleton and received orders to Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Edson

Range Area in July 1990. He served as a Primary Marksmanship Instructor to the recruits and filled the billet of Chief

Marksmanship Instructor for Delta Range. During Desert Storm, he supervised the qualification of over forty thousand Marines and recruits including Navy personnel, in marksmanship training. In April of 1992, he received orders to Drill Instructor School at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Ca. Upon graduation from Drill Instructor School, he was assigned to Delta Company, Frist Recruit Training Battalion, where he werved as drill instructor, senior drill instructor, and was then transferred to Charlie Company to fill the billet of Series Gunnery Sergeant. He was the

In June of 1995 he reported for duty as Small Arms Weapons Instructor and Range Chief of Ranges 312A and 313A for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, California.

Master Sergeant Ogumoro;s personal decoration's include the Navy Commendation Medal and Navy Achievement

Master Sergeant Ogumoro is married to the former Felicidad V. Kaipat of the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and has seven children; Sarilyn 17, Ambrose Jr. 15, Leiana 13, Raquel 12, Richard 7, Ann Margaret 5 and

training for Navy Security Augmentation Force against terrorist attack and jungle training.

first Marine in his drill instructor class to receive his black belt in training recruits.

Continued on page 48

Master Sergeant AMBROSE T. OGUMORRO on your Retirement from the Marine Corps, which was held on June 11, 1999 at the Headquarters & Headquarters Squadron

Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, San Diego, California

Master Sergeant Ambrose T. Ogumoro was born in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands on 21 May 1958. He attended Oleai Elementary

School and Marianas High School, graduating in 1977 and briefly attended

Valley Vocational School in La Puenta, California. He enlisted in the United

States Marine Corps on February 10, 1978, as and on the same day he went to boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, California. Throughout recruit training, he was assigned as a squad leader for setting a good example



From left, Public School System's Louise Concepcion, Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos and SVES PTA President Roman Benavente witness the graduation ceremony of San Vicente Elementary School held at

APIL to ask US to pay unpaid T.T. employees

By Jojo Dass

Variety News Staff

THE ASSOCIATION of Pacific Island Legislatures (APIL) will ask the federal government to re-

lease some \$15 million in compensation for some 900 Micronesians who worked for the Northern Marianas Islands' Trust Territory government but was a paid half the amount their US counterpart got.

The move came following a proposed resolution CNMI Rep. Dino M. Jones filed during the just-concluded APIL meeting, urging the special regional body to request that the US government pay back the former TTG

In his proposal, Jones specifically asked that APIL "request the US Department of the Interior and the United States Congress to grant Micronesian employees of the former Trust Territory government the same pay rates given to" TTG workers on Saipan from Jan. 9, 1978 onward.

Jones said the issue of "discriminatory wage compensations" for the Micronesians "femains unresolved," noting that there have been attempts by the affected individuals to pursue legal action on the matter.

However, the case did not prosper as the courts claimed having no jurisdiction on the matter.

"To date, there are hundreds of these Micronesian employees still living in the Marianas Islands who still feel that compensation should be warranted on the basis of the American legacy for equal rights throughout the 1960s," said Jones.

"Such individuals are only searching for fair compensation for services rendered to the former Trust Territory government," added Jones.

Jones' resolution was likewise signed by commonwealth Representatives Manuel A. Tenorio, Ana S. Teregeyo, Bennete T. Seman and Senate Floor leader

"We are not about to retire the from the services that are necessary. At this time, because of the situation in the economy, things are basically being put on hold in order to continue to provide the services," said Benavente.

all veterans in the CNMI to obtain

their DD-214 showing discharge

from the military and entitling

The United States Department

of Veterans Affairs has earlier

committed \$1.5 million to the

CNMI government for the con-

The Veterans Affairs Office has

build the proposed project.

them to all veterans' benefits.

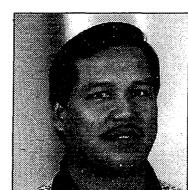
"It doesn't mean however that we should not concern ourselves with the deficit," he added.

Benavente said austerity measures being implemented by the Tenorio administration "justifies" skipping the deficit pay-

"I'm satisfied with the austerity measures and the physical programs of the government. Just as long as we don't see government waste for example, then it justifies action on not paying off the deficit. The priority is going to be always what the people needs now," said Benavente.

He said he will have to talk to the governor on how to address the constitutional stumbling

"I would like to speak with the governor and try to make a Continued on page 47



By Louie C. Alonso Variety News Staff

AFTER the Department of Com-

munity and Cultural Affairs got a

new piece of land for the overdue

State Veterans Cemetery project,

the Veterans Affairs Office is now

looking to complete the whole

construction of the veterans'

According to data released by

the Office of the Governor, the

completion of the veterans' cem-

etery is part of the goals of the

project by year 2000.

By Jojo Dass

THE PRESENT economic conditions compel government to consider deferring payment for the \$86 million budget deficit to continue vital services, according to House Speaker Diego T. Benavente.

to start an aggressive outreach to an additional 800 burial sites for both current and future veterans

Vets cemetery ready by 2000

The Division of Public Lands had provided the agency with 20,000 square meters of land area in Marpi for the project in 1995. However, in 1997, the veterans

struction of the cemetery pending proof of the availability of land to

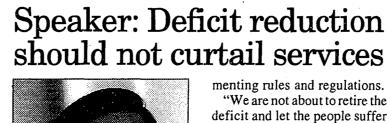
and possibly their families.

15,000 square meters of land because the site can only accommodate a capacity of 300 burials and crypt interments.

VAO has only received the new land, which is located across the road going to Banzai Cliff last May, which measures 8,000

According to the report, by having the new location, VAO was able to save on land acquisition

Additional savings to the government of approximately a half a million dollars will be realized by downsizing the chapel.





Diego T. Benavente

Variety News Staff

In an interview yesterday, Benavente said he will be seeking an audience with Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio to discuss the possibility of skipping payment for the deficit and use funds instead on government programs.

The Constitution requires that government retire the deficit in two years though the provision does not have specific imple-

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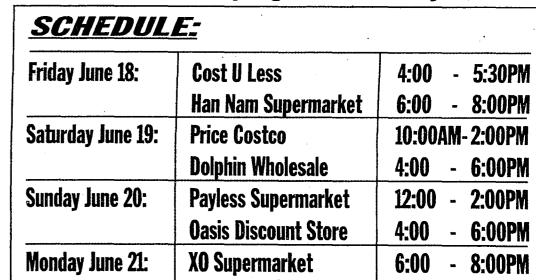




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Tinian water pipe upgrade

By Haidee V. Eugenio Variety News Staff

WATER distribution in Tinian is up for further improvement as the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) yesterday announced the scheduled upgrading of water pipes in the San Jose area which will be the first ne in a period of 30 years.

Gregorio Castro, CUC deputy director for Tinian, said the galvanized water pipes — which easily get rusty and therefore may contaminate water supply and result in leaks — will be upgraded to plastic pipes or PVC

Pete P. Reves

"This will make the (water) distribution better, and the leaks will be eliminated. We have been losing water because of pipe leakages," said Castro, adding that this will also prevent water rationing from happening in the island.

Only Tinian-has a 24-hour water supply on the whole of CNMI for at least the last five

He pointed out that San Jose will be the first area in Tinian to change its water pipes as part of Continued on page 48

ABC reminds on license renewals

THE ALCOHOLIC Beverage and tobacco Control Division reminds all licensed business establishments that applicants for Alcoholic Beverage Control license renewals are now being accepted. Application forms may be ob-

tained at the Department of Com-

merce Building on Capitol Hill. The deadline for filing of renewal applications, including payment of fees, is on June 30.

All licensees whose renewal fees remain unpaid as of June 30 will automatically be suspended Continued on page 48

Words of Thanks

The Aghurubw Warriors Stick Dancers wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to those of you who have helped us in our fundraising trip to San Diego for the Retirement Ceremony of Master Sergeant Ambrose T. Ogumoro.

MR. & MRS. ROCKUCHO BILY & FAMILY

ROKUCHO R.F. BILLY, Tony T. Taitano & The Aghurubw Warriors Dancers

More banned medicine seized

Variety News Staff DESPITE the existence of a law banning the entry of foreign overthe-counter and prescription drugs into the CNMI, the Customs Ser-

vices continues to confiscate six to 10 large trash bags of these items in a month, it was learned.

A recent Customs report showed 331.4 pounds of banned medicine were confiscated in ther brought by or consigned to Chinese garment firms' employ-

May, majority of which were ei-

This brings to approximately 1,300 pounds the estimated total

Guam Coast Guard receive praise for effort vs illegals

Variety News Staff

HAGATNA — The recently passed fiscal 2000 Department of Defense Reauthorization bill includes a provision commending the US Coast Guard of Guam for efforts in dealing with the illegal immigration activities on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands over the past year.

Close to 1,000 undocumented Chinese nationals have landed on Guam shores or have attempted to enter Guam since the beginning of the year.

The Coast Guard Cutter Morganthau was deployed recently to help in the patrol efforts of Guam and surrounding

The efforts of the US Coast Guard on Guam has been recognized. The personnel place themselves at risk when they encounter the vessels because the process is dangerous and requires a good sense of the law and humanitarianism, Guam Delegate Robert A. Underwood said in a previous interview.

Others measures included in the reauthorization, actively pursued by Underwood, include the approval for Guam Power Authority to do repair work on Navy owned electrical substations in Hagatna and Harmon. GPA will conduct the operation to ensure that the substations are in working condition when they are evengovernment.

Underwood said this would benefit both the Navy and the local community.

Directive language was also included in the bill to protect U.S. shipyards from foreign competition. The provision will require the Maritime Administration to report all emergency repairs during the last decade to U.S. vessels outside the U.S. and Guam.

It has been questioned whether emergency repairs are legitimate

emergencies and if they are being done in foreign ship repair facilities when they should be done in US or Guam ship repair

volume of prohibited medicine seized by Customs since the start of the year.

Customs is thus urging the Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association (SGMA) to remind its member-companies on the provisions of the "Rules and Regulations Governing the Importation, Storage, Sales and Distribution of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Prod-

Because of the seeming ignorance of garment employees on the said law, Customs is also eyeing a sharp increase in the volume of banned medicine disembarking from the Saipan International Airport for this month of June.

"We want garment firms to tell their people not to bring in these drugs because Customs will surely confiscate them at the airport.

"They continue to bring in these drugs from China and for May alone, we had 331.4 pounds of drugs confiscated," Customs airport enforcement branch reported. SGMA officials could not be

reached for comment. Customs pointed out that majority of the confiscated drugs have non-English labels which is a violation of the multiple provisions of the law governing this matter.

Under the new regulations, foreign prescription drugs will no longer be allowed to enter the CNMI unless they are accompanied with registered doctor's prescription, is consumable for 90

days only, and is intended only for personal - and not commercial use.

The law also prohibits the entry of over-the-counter drugs from foreign countries other than the U.S. mainland. Moreover, authorized over-the-counter drugs are those approved by the U.S. Food and Drugs Administration.

Its implementation is pursuant to Public Law 11-40, otherwise known as the Pure Food, Drug, Cosmetic and Device Act.

While the bulk of the total 331.4 pounds of confiscated medicine were from China, the rest come from Korea and the Philippines.

All these medicine also undergo verification by a pharmacist from the Commonwealth Health Cen-

Capt. Greg Sablan, Customs airport branch manager, earlier said most of the medicine seized from Filipinos were meant for pasalubong or as present for their friends or relatives here.

Owners or recipients of these drugs have the option of either sending them back to their country of origin or allow the Customs to dispose them through the use of incinerators.

Customs has been working closely with the Department of Public Health to ensure that no unauthorized prescription and over-the-counter drugs enter the CNMI since the ban started early

Palau delegate's chiefly title under questioning

For the Variety KOROR (Palau Horizon) — The Office of the Special Prosecutor (OSP) has traced possible violation of the Ngatpang Constitution arising from the issue involving Del. Surangel Whipps, who by assuming the title of Chief Rekemesik, appointed his son to be the acting

governor of Ngatpang. The issue was put up front as an offshoot of the civil raps filed under Civil Case No. 99-137 by the special prosecutor (SP) against seven members of the 5th Olbiil Era Kelulau (OEK).

Originally, there were eight OEK members in question to include Ngatpang Del. Surangel Whipps for alleged "double dipping and conflict of interest."

But in the case filed by SP Michael Rosenthal last May 3 only seven OEK members; namely. Senate President Isidoro Rudimch, Senate Floor Leader Seit Andres, Senators Santos Olikong and Lucius Malsol; Delegates Antonio Bells, Elia Tulop and Allan Seid were cited as defendants.

When asked why he dropped Whipps from the roster, the SP cited various reasons to include reclusion on the part of Whipps from participating in any discussions or meetings of the traditional chiefs in Ngatpang and the delegation of his authority as



"elected" governor to his son,

Whipps issue would be dealt with separately from the case filed last May 3.

Ngatpang State Executive Officer Gilbert Demei told that when Del. Whipps assumed the traditional title of Chief Rekemesik last year, he appointed his son, Mason, on Nov.

in accordance to the Ngatpang State Constitution Article IV,

The appointment authorized Mason Whipps to perform all the duties vested upon him as the governor of Ngatpang State pursuant to Article VI Section 1 of the Ngatpang Constitution.

CNMI, other US areas to benefit

Y2K bill now up to Clinton

By Haidee V. Eugenio Variety News Staff

THE LEGISLATION which seeks to limit legal liability for defendants in lawsuits in line with the so-called Y2K computer problem is now up for action from Pres. Bill Clinton after the U.S. Senate passed it on Tuesday.

Through lobbying efforts by governments of various federal territories, the original version of S. 96 which was sponsored by Sen. John McCain was revised to specifically include the CNMI and other insular areas in the protections and benefits afforded to by the said legislation.

Despite the presidential veto threat on the bill, however, CNMI's Washington Resident Rep. Juan Babauta expressed hopes the concerns of the Clinton administration will be resolved immediately.

"It is very important to businesses in this community that we are treated same as anybody else in the U.S. and this bill ensures that . . . We are very grateful to Sen. McCain for including us in

existing account. Instead of as a separate loan.

NORWEST FINANCIAL



the bill." Babauta told Variety. Meanwhile, CNMI special assistant for telecommunications Bob Webb said the Commonwealth's lawyer in Washington D.C. — Tom Crowe — is currently working closely with legislators to ensure the Y2K bill will be signed into law.

Webb, who is also the chairman of the CNMI Y2K Task Force, added the governments of CNMI, Guam, Virgin Islands, American Samoa and any other

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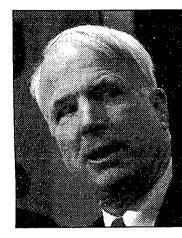
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John McCain

U.S. territories may come together once again to push for the signing of the bill.

Babauta also gave credit to the efforts of Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan "for their leadership" on the matter. Concerns are also focused on

the high cost of Y2K litigation as experts warned it could exceed \$1 trillion, far more than the cost of fixing the problem. Under the measure which was

passed by a 62-37 vote, defen-

pensatory damages only in relation to the problems caused by the Y2K problem, and punitive damages would be capped to \$250,000, or three times the amount of compensatory damages, for businesses with fewer than 50 employees or a net worth of \$500,000 or less.

Clinton, according to reports, has threatened to veto the bill as it stands, and it is different than a House-passed companion measure, meaning the bill must head to a House-Senate conference committee to hammer out the dif-

Supporters claim that if Congress and the president cannot agree on the matter, it will hurt Democratic support in the hightechnology community.

The Y2K, also called the Millennium bug, is a result of old computers' limited memory. A two-digit entry was used for the vear instead of a four-digit entry. i.e., 99 instead of 1999.

Therefore, when the year 2000 strikes, programs that have been coded with the two-digit year codes will interpret the year "00" to be "1900."

As a result, any program with a date such as billing, payroll, inventory, and bank accounts. among others, could crash or give misleading answers starting January 1, 2000.







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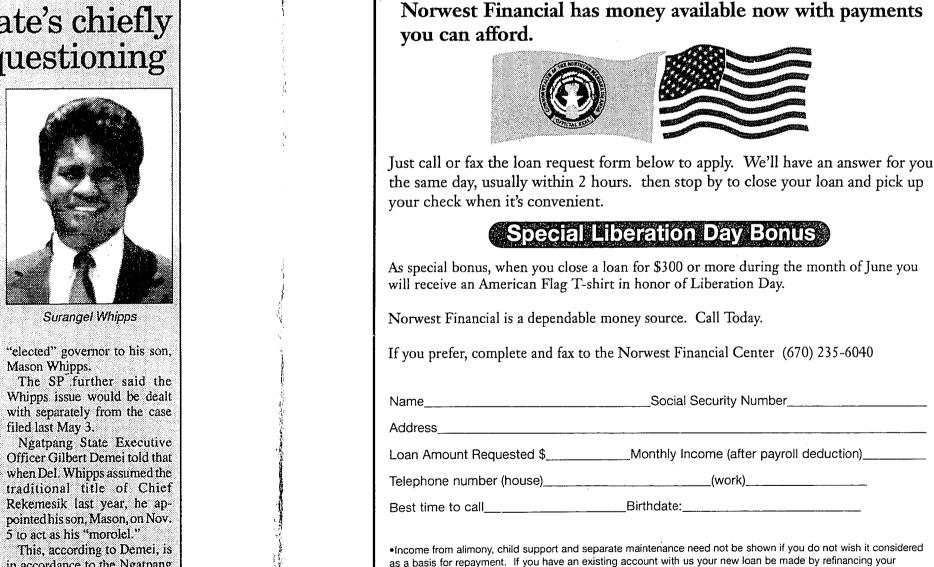




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CNMI second only to Hawaii in coral reefs

Variety News Staff **THE COMMONWEALTH of the** Mariana Islands has the second most largest coral reef among territories of the United States in the Pacific with a covered area of about 579 square kilometers, the National Oceanic and Atmo-

spheric Administration reported.

Likewise, the coral reefs that are present in the commonwealth's three islands have been described to be one of the best, and are generally in good condition compared to the resources of the other Pacific islands like Hawaii, Guam, and the American Samoa

In its report, NOAA said the islands rank second only to Hawaii, where coral reef resources extend to about 10,004 square kilometers, nearly having the combined total area of 10,762 square kilometers of all the coral reefs located within the Exclusive Economic Zones of the US Pacific islands

an assessment on the status of the coral reef and the pattern of their use in the Pacific islands as a guide for the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council, which is preparing a fishery management plan for coral reef ecosystems in the reion.

According to the NOAA report, majority of the coral reef resources in the NMI are located in Farallon de Medenilla, and in submerged shoals and banks.

The agency noted however that some of the reefs may have been damaged, especially those that are on Saipan, due to extensive coastal developments, and in Farallon and Pagan islands, due to the recent military exercise, overfishing, and volcanic activities.

The NOAA also noted that most of the fishing activities in the NMI have been conducted near shore, especially in the islands of Rota and Tinian.

Data from the commercial pur-Continued on page 47

Ex-CRM chief says he is prepared, confident

Variety News Staff FORMER Coastal Resource Management (CRM) director Felipe Q. Atalig broke silence on allegations he sexually assaulted a CRM staff, saying he is "prepared and confident" he

At the same time Atalig said investigation of the complaint leveled against him is taking too long" as no hearing has been set

can face the music and come out

"Of course, I am confident. I am always confident. I am very prepared," said Atalig, in an inerview following a state memorial service held for the late former acting presiding judge Felipe Agulto Salas at the Susupe Multipurpose Hall, Wednesday.

"We are still under status conference. Nothing has been set fort regarding a definite date for hearing," said Atalig.



Felipe Q. Atalig

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio recently fired Atalig over the sexual assault complaint.

The Attorney General's Office (AGO) has filed eight counts of various criminal offenses against Atalig for allegedly sexually molesting a CRM staff in March this year.

Atalig faces four counts of assault and battery, two counts of disturbing the peace, and two

Continued on page 48

Marshalls switches nuclear trust manager

By Giff Johnson For the Variety

MAJURO - The Marshall Islands replaced Salomon Smith Barney as manager of its \$80 million nuclear trust fund with another American financial giant, Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. Top officials indicated they were dissatisfied with the return on the investment fund provided by the U.S. govern-

Finance Minister Tony deBrum today confirmed that the move was made to end supervision of the trust fund by Salomon Smith Barney, which has managed the fund since its inception at the beginning of the Compact of Free Association between the United States and the Marshall Islands in

DeBrum downplayed the significance of the shift to Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, saying that it "doesn't mean that Smith Barney is no good." He added: "It was just time for a change." The nuclear fund was established in the mid-1980s to pay out \$18 million annually for 15 years to Marshall Islanders for health injuries and land damages from the 67 American nuclear tests conducted at Bikini and Enewetak atolls.

In testimony submitted to the U.S. Congress late last month. Marshall Islands Ambassador Banny deBrum said the Marshall Islands had "made known our concern that the interest earned by these funds seem rather low in view of the extremely successful U.S. stock market activity in recent years. Our Finance Secretary has been working with the Bank of New York to ascertain the nature of the problem and if reassignment of the assets is deemed advisable, it shall be done."

The Finance Minister noted that "Dan Roland (Salomon Smith Barney's Guam-based senior vice president who has supervised the nuclear fund since 1987) is still managing some funds for us."

The Marshall Islands Social Security investment fund is under Salomon Smith Barney's supervision, as are multi-million dollar investments for several of the nuclear-affected atolls.

DeBrum indicated that the main issues motivating the change to Morgan Stanley had to do with fees and the rate of return on the investments, which he said was a bit below where the Marshall Islands felt it should be.

Ykuta, who was at the time an employee of Lufthansa, was About three years ago, the "enthusiastically enjoying him-Marshall Islands removed 75 perself" at the party when his supecent of the nuclear fund from rior, Sambile, allegedly objected

Fund shuts door on gov't request "Even if the government pursues it, it won't help the Fund at THE NMI Retirement Fund all... We are putting this issue stands pat on its decision not to

"If we give back their contribution, the contribution will increase and the unfunded liabil-Camacho.

Indeed, the Fund wants the issue laid to rest as it cited "no win" situation for both the government and the pension sys-

Fund Board chairman Vicente Camacho yesterday disclosed the Board chose to decide against the request as it will result in the increase in the government's current 24 percent contribution rate to avoid pensions. The Fund also said it stands to wiping out the resources available for retirees' pension. But

the public coffer. Moreover, if the amount of refund will be credited to the government's account, it will. not pay for the unfunded liability of the Fund, Camacho added.

Settlement in \$4-M

Grand Hotel case OK'd

doing so will surely further hurt

By Ferdie de la Torre

THE SUPERIOR Court has ap-

proved a request to settle the

\$4-million lawsuit filed against

Saipan Grand Hotel and other

defendants in connection with

the fatal mauling of a man at a

1997 Christmas party in the

Presiding Judge Edward

Manibusan ordered Alex

Hikuta, personal representative

and brother of the decedent,

Akino Ykuta, to settle the suit

for \$75,000 with all defendants

Manibusan in his order is-

sued Wednesday allowed such

settlement after reviewing

Hikuta's petition for approval

and consent to resolve the claim

Court records showed that to

collect payment for the death of

his brother, Hikuta sued Micro

ing business as Saipan Grand

Hotel, LSG Lufthansa Service

Saipan, Inc., Eduardo C.

Rupinta, Juanito Sambile, and

four Doe insurance companies.

According to the complaint

filed by lawyer William M.

Fitzgerald, victim Ykuta was

allegedly assaulted by Rupinta

on Dec. 17, 1997 during

Lufthansa's Christmas party

held at Grand Hotel.

Pacific Development, Inc., do-

under wrongful death statute.

in the case.

Variety News Staff

Variety News Staff

service employees.

yield to the administration's re-

quest for refund of government

contribution to the pension sys-

tem following the termination

of membership of certain civil

ity will not decrease," said

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio ordered the Department of Finance and the Attorney General's Office to review the administration's

The government's request is in line with its efforts to settle its outstanding obligation of some \$20 million to the Fund which has reportedly has raised concerns on the unavailability of funds to pay future retirees

violate its own actuary study if it grants the request of the administration to deduct from the government's some \$20 million outstanding liabilities its matching contribution for employees who have withdrawn membership from the pension system.

Sambile allegedly permitted

"if not incited the beating" and

instead of stopping Rupinta or

calling for police's assistance,

he simply returned to enjoy the

The hotel's security guards

It was a bystander who called

the police, the complaint added.

Vkuta died at the Common

wealth Health Center on Dec

Hikuta, on behalf of his

brother, sued the the hotel and

Lufthansa for negligence. The

insurance firms were included

as they issued public liability

insurance policies for the two

that after conducting an inves-

tigation, depositions, and re-

searching the law, a settlement

was negotiated with defendants

Micro Pacific, Lufthansa, and

their respective insurance car-

The claim against Rupinta

and Sambile being "judgment

proof" will be dismissed, said

Under the agreement, defen-

dants shall pay Hikuta \$75,000

infull satisfaction of all claims

arising out of the death of

Akino, including any right to

Out of the settlement

amount, \$25,000 will be paid

to the law office of Fitzgerald

alone with costs that have

Workmen's Compensation.

Hikuta in the petition said

did nothing to stop the assault

or to summon police, the com-

The average annual refund is approximately \$3 million, but due to numerous terminations and resignations of teachers and other government employees this fiscal year, it will exceed

Based on this average, the

the \$3 million mark.

CNMI government may have contributed in excess of \$12 million this fiscal year.

Government contribution is 24 percent which is at least four times higher than the employee contribution of 6.5 percent.

Father's Day

Sunday, June 20th, 1999

Fund said it is estimated the Therefore, the government contribution can be estimated by multiplying the total amount refunded by four.

For every \$1 million worth of contribution refunded in a year, for example, the government will be able to get \$4 million.

Father's Day Brunch

You have always looked up to your father. Now show him you care by taking him to the most lavish brunch on the island. Yes, Giovanni's presents the Gourmet champagne brunch on Father's day featuring a myriad of Japanese delicacies, prime rib, suckling pig, a salad bar and a never ending

list of desserts. Bruno will mesmerize you with enchanting piano through out the morning For the luckiest father, there will be a raffle draw where we will be giving away a box of Davidoff Cigars. Priced at \$27 for adults and \$13.50 for children under 12.

Open 10:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

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Teppanyaki wants to congratulate and celebrate with Dads. So we are giving away a free glass of Champagne to every Dad in the room. Open 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m



Father's Day Brunch at Kil

"The way to a man's heart is through his stomach". Celebrate Father's day in style. Treat dad on his special day by dining at the Kili gourmet champagne brunch and enjoy by sitting back in the relaxed atmosphere and listening to the lovely tunes of the Spirals being played by your table side. Adults \$ 27 and children under 12 at \$ 13.50. Open from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Club at the Hyatt cards welcome



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Accessories

By MALOU L. SAYSON

KOROR (Palau Horizon) -

To eliminate red tape in land title

search procedures, the Bureau of

Lands and Surveys (BLS) and

the Clerk of Courts of the Na-

tional Judiciary (CCNJ) recently

signed a memorandum of under-

standing (MOU) to enable both

offices work together to bring

about efficiency into the present

convoluted title search system.

The BLS, under the National

Master Development Plan, on

one hand, takes the lead in so-

called geographic information

system (GIS) and by virtue of

Executive Order No. 163, is

tasked to establish the Palau

Automated Land and Resource

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For the Variety

Palau MOU will eliminate

land title search red tape

Asian fishers back at Marshalls

By Giff Johnson For the Variety

MAJURO — Proving that last year's fishing boom in the Marshall Islands was not a oneshot affair, Asian purse seiners and fish carriers returned in force to Majuro this week.

But, say Marshall Islands Marine Resources Authority (MIMRA) officials, the five carrier transshipment vessels and ten purse seiners in the lagoon today

CALROSE RICE

4 \$16.50

SPARERIBS

20 lbs

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PORK

CHOP

\$12.95bag

STEW

\$11.95bag

BEEF

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CHICKEN

DRUMSTICK

30 lbs

\$19.95cs

BAR-S

CHOPPED HAM

10 LBS.

\$14.95

TILAPIA

FISH

.99 ¢ lb.

50 LBS.

lands and neighboring Kiribati, coupled with the fisheries department's new pro-business attitude is luring tuna boats and carriers to Majuro.

Last year, the Marshalls saw a near tripling of revenues — from Christening!

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BUTT

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BEEF

SHORT RIBS

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TAILS

30 lbs

\$18.95cs

BAR-S

SLICED BACON

16 oz.

\$1.99

IMITATION

CRAB MEAT

1 LB.

\$2.39

\$18.95

CHICKEN

LEG QUARTERS

33.07 lbs

\$15.95cs

RIB EYE

STEAK

18.95bag

BEEF

OXTAIL

\$13.95bag

CHICKEN

THIGHS

30 lbs

\$19.95cs

BAR-S

JUMBO FRANKS

SAUSAGE ORIG.

ILB. .99¢

BLACK TIGER

SHRIMPS

head on 21/25

\$6.99

GREEN

SHELL MUSSELS

1/2 SHELL

\$4.39

(Wednesday) are only a fraction \$3 million to more than \$8 milof the tuna transshipment activity lion — from a dramatic rise in the that Majuro will see in the next number of foreign fishing vessels several months. through the sale of licenses, transshipment fees and spin-off busi-The return of tuna schools to the vicinity of the Marshall Isness the vessels and fishermen

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DIAMONDS

TUNA 7 oz.

VIENNA SAUSAGE TOMATO SAUCE

bring for local companies. "We're able to provide what they want, so the vessels are coming back," said MIMRA Director Danny Wase. Competitive rates for fuel and supplies, good services and a drastic reduction in government red tape is making Majuro an attractive transshipment center for the Asian fishing fleet compared to other Pacific islands, Wase said.

Majuro can expect to see as many as 30 carriers — the larger cargo ships used to transship tuna from a dozen fishing boats to canneries in American Samoa and Asia — in the lagoon at one time, with dozens more purse seiners as the fishing season won't hit its peak until July and August, said MIMRA licensing officer Glenn

COFFEE

39 oz

\$7.99

VINEGAR

1 GAL.

\$2.39

B.C. YELLOW

CAKE MIX

18.25 oz

\$1.39

CRISCO OIL

1 gal.

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8 oz

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SPRING-FIELD

COFFEE

CREAMER

22 oz \$2.39

SPRING-FIELD

FOAM CUP

\$1.19

CLOROX

1 GAL.

\$2.29

shipping in centrally located Majuro, the purse seiners cut weeks off their travel time to and from the fishing grounds, increasing the number of fishing trips

each vessel can make in a year. MIMRA charges minimal fees for the entry of transshipment vessels and purse seiners to increase the number of ship visits because of the spin-off economic benefits that the ships bring to the local economy.

"Last year, we got started at the end of the fishing season," Joseph said of Majuro's entry into the transshipment business beginning last September. "This year, we're starting from the very beginning."

Eight of the seiners to visit this week have been Taiwanese, while two have been Korean. Wase said that with diplomatic ties in place, Taiwanese fishing companies are seriously considering Majuro as more than just a port for transshipping fish.

"The Taiwanese are very sin-

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fishing-related activities here," he

Their interest extends to such fishing boat-related areas as the dry dock and net repair. "It's just a matter of time for it to happen,"

Environment to be focus of conference

By Rene P. Acosta Variety News Staff

ENVIRONMENTAL issues and problems affecting the Pacific region will come into focus as the Division of Environmental Quality holds a five-day conference at the Diamond Hotel

The meeting, funded principally by the United States Environmental Protection Agency and co-sponsored by the DEQ, is going to be held from June 21 up to 25.

Director Ignacio Cabrera said his office is going to present issues and concerns affecting the CNMI environment, especially on solid waste management, which is the island's most pressing problem.

On the other hand, David Chargualaf, who is a co-chairman of the seminar themed "Management of Pacific Island Resources for the Next Millennium," said they will also be giving reports on DEQ's marine monitoring and waste water projects.

Meanwhile, the office has also announced the launching of its 15-minute environmental video, which was shot on the three is-

The video, produced by Eclipse Video Production. shows the richness of the NMI's natural resources, while at the same time deeply encourages the community to preserve its beauty by doing their share of making the environment clean

Dededo Mall all set to open

Variety News Staff

HAGATN- Dededo Mall. Guam's newest indoor mall, will celebrate its grand opening on Saturday with special guests and dignitaries invited to a ribbon cutting ceremony to be held at the main entrance.

The 59,000 square-foot mall a new development project by Guam businessman Charles Lee, broke ground last year on Route 1 in Dededo. At present, 83 percent of the leasable space is occupied by 24 tenants, including an outside restaurant built for Taco Bell and a full service food court.

According to Lee, Dededo Mall is a value-added facility that differentiates itself from other retail outlets in terms of both scope and the quality of the customer experience.

FTZ plan is now being finetuned

By Jojo Dass Variety News Staff

THE PLAN to open a free trade zone in the Northern Marianas Islands is now at the "refinery

mill" as leaders of both the House of Representatives and Senate "see the urgency" to immediately come up with a finalized blueprint on the matter.

"It is in the refinery mill at the House, so to speak, to address some concerns of some members," said Sen. Juan P. Tenorio, in an interview yesterday.

"Overall," added the chair of the Senate Committee on Resource, Economic Development and Programs, "they (members of

the House Committee on Tourism and Commerce) see the urgency to really come up with something."

Rep. Oscar Babauta who chairs that committee has earlier said the group is finalizing mechanism of the proposed free trade zone.

Babauta has also said tax incentives to be offered to prospective investors will likely be hinged on the company's employment of resident workers.

Tenorio said the condition to hire resident workers in exchange for tax incentives is "fair" noting that the plan to open a free trade zone should likewise be held in the premise of how the

tions will stand to benefit from it.

mittee is looking at developing a pool of resident workers in the semi-conductor industry as this sector has consistently shown growth in the past several years.

Babauta conceded though that the commonwealth does not have enough trained and skilled resident workers to fill in the needs of a free trade zone.

Some quarters have been saying the commonwealth may not benefit much from the free trade zone as the investors "want everything served on a silver platter," refer-

commonwealth's future genera-

Babauta likewise said the com-

Information (PALARIS). The PALARIS is designed to serve as a central mechanism to

record title and location of real property and facilitate as well the sale, transfer, lease or sale of land

by the Palauan citizens Under the MOU, the BLS agreed to design a database structure for the tracking and inventory of information affecting the title of land; develop quality control procedures and standards as to how the data should be entered into the database and maintained; provide oversight and

leadership in the long-term in-

corporation of the database into

PALARIS, among others. To fasttrack the land title search procedures, the CCNJ agreed to assist the BLS in the development of the database and quality control procedures; maintain the database in accordance with the procedures developed and share the database with the PALARIS project.

Grads told: Pursue higher education

By Louie C. Alonso Variety News Staff

"If you accomplish something, be proud of yourself but remain humble and recognize those who have helped you along."

These were the words of the CNMI Female Athlete of the Year Xenavee Pangelinan in her keynote speech at the graduation rites of San Vicente Elementary School for school year 1998-1999 held at the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe yesterday.

Pangelinan, a graduate of SVES, told this school year's graduates that education challenge for the students is far from

"Pursuit of higher education is

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like running a marathon race. It takes hardwork, self-discipline and endurance. Your teacher is your coach, you are the runner and your parents are your fans cheering and encouraging you all the way to the finish line," Pangelinan said.

The three-time female athlete of the year encouraged the SVES graduates to set their goals early in life, which is to get a good educa-

"You may not come in first. But if you persevere, the greater reward of achievement and self-respect is yours at the end, and for the rest of your life," she added.

She also encouraged the parents present during the graduation ceremony to get involved with the

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education of their children.

Pangelinan said education does not stop at the end of the school day where it continues at home with parents and family mem-

"Everyone of us must always remember that we are responsible for every decisions we make, and for every actions we take. If you make a mistake, you must try to correct it. You should never put the blame on something or somebody other than yourself," she said.

Another speaker Vivian Sablan from Oleai Elementary School share the important concepts of effort, initiative, responsibility Continued on page 47

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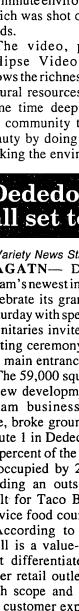
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Cabrera Recalls Miss Universe



brightly with a golden shell mask, a gift from the Miss Universe Or-

By Laila C. Younis

Variety News Staff The colorful, músical festivals and the warmth and hospitality of the people was enough for 1999 Miss NMI Universe Cherlyn Cabrera to fall in love with the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

"The festivals were amazing. They can go on for four days of everyone dressing up in large costumes and dancing on the street. It was unforgettable," said

"We were constantly surrounded by warm, friendly people

who made us feel at home. We even had our own fans asking for our autographs," she said, smil-

The 1999 Miss Universe recently concluded at the Universe Center in Trinidad and Tobago, and Miss Botswana Mpule Kwelagobe was crowned the new reigning Miss Universe.

Eighty-four delegates participated in the annual international competition which attracted thousands of visitors and millions of viewers from around the world.

"It really puts a test on your nerves. The stress and exhaustion is overwhelming, and you have to learn to deal with it in a positive way," said Cabrera.

"And I realized that as a representative, it is very important to put out your best because what



Queenly Smiles. 1999 Miss NMI Universe Cherlyn Cabrera shares a moment with 1998 Miss Universe Wendy Fitzgerald.

everyone sees through you is reflective of the CNMI," she said. The 24 year old beauty queen

also pointed out that she did her

best to promote the CNMI in the

"I talked to the local and international media members. I felt it was an opportunity to expose the Continued on page 47

local and international media.



1999 Miss NMI Universe Cherlyn Cabrera takes a break from National Costume rehearsals with



Cabrera (left) joins Miss Korea Ji-Hyun Choi, Miss Philippines (Miss Universe`1st Runner-Up) Miriam Quiambao, and Miss Mexico Silvia



International Neighbors. 1999 Miss NMI Universe Cherlyn Cabrera shines with Miss Singapore Cherl Marie Cardeiro and Miss Taiwan



New NMBPA Board rallies for support



Newly-elected Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant Association Board Members from top left, Public Relations Director Rena Camacho, Treasurer Deena Salas, Former Secretary Rose Guerrero (withdrawn), Vice-President Becky Cruz, President Tania Elias, National Director Jessica Barcinas, and Member Representative Lani Tudela.

By Laila C. Younis

Variety News Staff

As the 1999 Miss Universe Pageant drew to a close, the six new Board members of the Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant Association are laying out fundraising activities for the upcoming year.

And one of them includes a "Dunking Booth" at the 1999 Liberation Day Carnival starting possibly this weekend.

"With the generous support of Tano Group, Inc., we are constructing a dunking booth at the Carnival to raise funds for our upcoming activities," said NMBPA President Tania Elias.

"The attraction will be the chance to dunk our queens and NMBPA members in the spirit of fun. We are kindly asking the community for support and to please stop by," she said.

The NMBPA officers were elected just last March, and since then, they have been preparating for the Miss Universe Pageant held last May 26th and other upcoming activities.

"We are working together to reach all our goals for this year, which includes promoting our title holders, holding fundraising activities, and encouraging community involvement," said Elias.

"We have a good team and we are looking for more interested members. Please do not hesitate to see us if you would like to join a very worthwhile endeavor," she said.

The new NMBPA officers also

Olympus/Canon/Ricoh

Cruz, Treasurer Deena Salas, Na- Public Relations Director Rena tative Lani Tudela.

include Vice-President Becky tional Director Jessica Barcinas, Camacho and Member Represen-

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CCAC hosts Chen exhibit

Variety News Staff

THE COMMONWEALTH Council for Arts and Culture (CCAC) is hosting a one-manexhibit today at the Art Gallery in Capitol Hill featuring one of the famous female artist in the island,

The opening reception for the exhibit will start from 5 pm to 8

According to Tina Wabol-Foster, exhibit coordinator, the artist will display close to 40 paintings, most of which are for sale.

In an interview, Chen said she is excited for the event because it would be her first time to have a one-man-exhibit.

Chen's collection of paintings include island style, water color, oil pastel, charcoal and some Chinese paintings.

"I would like to share the beauty of the island and its people through to \$3,000. my paintings," Chen said. Arts Council said chen's ex-

hibit will run until June 30th where The young artist already had 15 all of her materials will be moved years in experience in the art field. to the CNMI Museum of History She is a member of the Fujian and Culture from July 2nd to July Provincial Youth Painter and Calligrapher Institute in China, and she is now a freelance artist on Saipan for 7 years.

> As a freelance artist, Chen has sketched hundreds of portraits for locals and tourists at La Fiesta and Flame Tree Arts Festival. She also participated in the "All Island Artist" exhi-

Last year, The Yellow Pages used two pieces of her artwork in the publication of its book.

For her merits, she won a Chinese National Award as an outstanding young calligrapher in 1988 while her painting "Happiness" won the grand prize in the 7th Youth Fine Art competition in Fujian Province, China

Last year, Chen was chosen as the Outstanding Visual Artist in the CNMI during the 14th Annual Governor's Art Awards.

Brahms brings out the best



THE COMMONWEALTH Museum of History and Culture was the venue on Sunday afternoon for an informal gathering of music lovers. Deborah Fisher, concert violinist who has played with the Chicago

symphony entertained the group of about 25 with a selection of Brahms' sonatas, modern pieces and two surprise medieval songs.

Museum director Paul Oberg and Denise Hewett were spontaneously joined by a member of

the audience, visiting U.S. Navy Lt. Jg. Ed Voelsing from one of the ships presently enjoying liberty in Saipan. They sang a piece by Henry VIII.

In another pleasant surprise, violinist Fisher discovered that another member of the audience, an officer from the same ship, the destroyer USS John McCain, had taken violin under the same violin instructor and played in the Chicago Symphony (although several years

The informal Sunday salon was the first of a new effort by the Friends of the Arts working

with the Friends of the Com-Continued on page 47



GCHC on Saipan outreach

By Marian A. Maraya

Variety News Staff

THE GUAM Comprehensive Hemophilia Care (GCHC) Program will be opening its doors to hemophiliacs on Saipan who are in need of the same sufficient treatment, said a visiting social worker from the Deptartment of Public Health and Social Services in Guam.

Rose Zabala, head of the GCHC

Educating people about hemophilia

By Marian A. Maraya Variety News Staff

OVER 300,000 people worldwide are severe Hemophiliacs and 80% of them are not provided with sufficient care.

This concern was brought up by Program Director of the Hemophilia Foundation of Nevada, Renee Paper at the 21st Annual American-Pacific Nursing Leaders' Council Conference (APNLCC) yesterday.

"Educating people about hemophilia may perhaps awaken them to the seriousness of this disorder," Paper stated.

Hemophilia is an inherited bleeding disorder that affect people of all ethnic groups all over the world.

"Even some physicians don't recognize the symptoms which are frequent or prolonged nosebleeds, heavy or prolonged menstrual bleeding, easy bruising, and others. They dismiss it because they think it's normal," Paper explained.

Families of hemophiliacs in the United States have been known to overreact when their kids start to bleed heavily so as a result, they always end up being brought to the emergency room, according to Paper.

"We should start treating hemophilia just like we treat diabetes. A disorder that can be treated in the home with adequate medicine," Paper said.

Hemophilia is most common among the male population.

In the CNMI, there are about seven to eight hemophiliacs as of last count.

Providing care for hemophiliacs is an issue which is currently a problem in some parts of the world especially in the 10 island jurisdictions within the Pacific

To prevent HIV/AIDS, Think of the ABC's - Abstain, Be Faithful and use Condom.

carriers on Saipan an easier way to treatment since the nearest Hemophiliac treatment center aside from Guam is Hawaii.

"We want to share our resources to the people of Saipan because

we have identified several patients here and instead of flying to Hawaii which is too far, we are available," Zabala says.

Meanwhile, GCHC in coordination with the Department of Public Health is looking at bringing a hemophiliac care program to the islands.

"I had a chance to talk to Mr. Ned Arriola and he said that when this comes through that they just need to arrange a particular section in public health to handle

Some seven cases of hemophiliacs on island triggered the need for this program to be implemented, according to CNMI Nursing Association President,





Guam gears for tourism push



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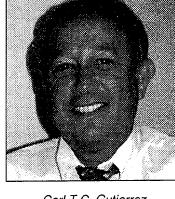
HAGATNA - Thanks to patient preparations and an aggressive marketing strategy, Gov. Carl T.C. Gutierrez said Guam is in the best position to make a tourism comeback when the Asian economic crisis recedes.

Speaking before the Young Tourism Professionals forum yesterday, Gutierrez said Guam is still on track towards getting 2 million tourists by the next decade as outlined in the Gutierrez-Bordallo administration's Vision

Although tourism is still down, Gutierrez said Guam has actually increased its share in outbound visitor traffic compared to its competitors at a time when overall numbers were dropping all over the world.

The governor attributes this success to aggressive marketing, diligent preparation, and unprecedented teamwork between the public and private sectors.

According to Gutierrez, \$53 million has been poured into a new sewer system, underwater



Carl T.C. Gutierrez

power and telephone lines as well as sidewalks in order to transform the Tumon area into a world-class tourism district.

By making use of the current lull in tourism activity, Gutierrez said the government has been able to undertake much needed improvement projects in the island's tourism infrastructure.

As a result, the governor said Guam is in the best position to benefit from the imminent recovery of the Japanese economy and the rest of the Asian region.

Stop engine while filling

Variety News Staff

A FIRE is more likely to occur during summer than in any other period of the year, and the NMI s now in the dry period.

So, as a precautionary reninder, the fire division of the Department of Public Safety has issued an statement advising drivers to stopped the engine of their car while a gasoline is be-

Likewise, they have been urged not to smoke while gas attendants are filling their vehicle in order to avoid tapping a

The public safety, in a release, reminded the drivers of Public Law 11-56 which created the Commonwealth Fire Safety Code and adopted the provisions of the Uniform Fire Code set under the International Conference of Building Officials and the Western Fire Chiefs Association which prohibited

"The passing of this law has made it illegal to leave your vehicles on and or smoking while gassing up at a fuel dspensing staion. Violation of this law will result in a civil and criminal penalty," it said.

The fine could reached \$50,000 or an imprisonment for not more than six months.

The fire division is instructing gas attendants to tell drivers to shut their engines off before pumping in fuel and report to its office any drivers found to have been violating the law.

It advised the attendants to write down the number of the vehicle and phone it to its office number 664-9003/4/5.

The public has also been asked to report to its office any gas stations whose attendants will fail to instruct the driver about the regulation.



BID INVITATION 023-99 - Aboveground Fuel Storage Tank

GMHA BID No.(s): July 01, 1999 @ 9:45 a.m.

Opening:

GMHA Cafeteria Conference Room

10:00 a.m.

A non-refundable amount of \$50.00 payable to Guam Memorial Hospital Authority is required as payment for two (2) sets of Invitation of Bid documents, which can be secured from the Materials Management Office on and after June 17, 1999. A receipt of payment should be obtained from the

NOTE: A pre-bid conference will be held on June 24, 1999, at 1:30 p.m. at the Cafeteria Conference Room. Vendors are encouraged to attend the prebid conference, there will be a site inspection after the conference.

Cashier at the GMHA Business Office, before applying for Bid documents.

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'Steel Magnolias' audition

AUDITIONS will open for the very popular play Steel Magnolias, a stage play focusing on the relationship of six women who have shared humor and sorrow all their lives but grow in character when diabetes brings tragedy to the family.

The Friends of the Arts hopes that this production will bring more attention to a very common situation within our community.

Auditions for the play, to be performed in the fall, will be held today, June 18 from 6:30 - 9:30 pm, on Saturday, June 19 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm and finally on Sunday June 20 from 3:00 - 5:00 pm. All auditions will be held in room 101 H (the building with the mural at Marianas High School).

The cast will consist of six women from age 17 to 70. All interested people are urged to try out. No experience is necessary and if you are not interested in an acting role, there will be openings for helpers in set design and construction, wardrobe and make-up



CAO seeks to assist jobless Carolinians

Variety News Staff

WITH the increasing number of unemployed Carolinians in the Commonwealth, the Carolinian Affairs Office is gearing up to develop programs and allocate some of its resources to reduce the high unemployment rate in the Carolinian community to "below CNMI average in five years."

Based on the report submitted to the Governor's Office, CAO is planning to work with the Office of Personnel Management, the Employment Division of the Department of Labor and Immigration, Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, Chamber of Commerce and other entitites.

CAO's plans to work with various groups and is set to provide training opportunities for entry level positions to high school graduates through the

Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), Northern Marianas College Basic Adult Education Program, and the Cooperative Education Program of Marianas High School.

The agency, headed by CAO Executive Director Frank Rabauliman, will compile a complete and accurate assessment of the placement of Carolinians in the workforce with follow up studies for comparative analysis.

As part of the agency's plan, it will also conduct mass education campaign through the general media including the Meeta Eyoor newsletter, Aramasasch television show and other village meetings.

And to assist in the promotion of the Refaluwasch language and culture, the agency will in crease the amount of literature and documents in Carolinian and

Continued on page 47

Reading program for parents

PARENTS, be a reading role model for your children, the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities (NMICH)

NMICH, a non profit organization under the National Endowment for the Humanities is offering this service for free to all interested parents all over CNMI.

Dubbed as "Motheread/ Fatheread", this reading program works with parents and teachers to show them how to use stories that would help children learn about the world they are growing

The program believes that all parents can become effective reading role models for their small

Children as young as six months old respond to stories because they recognize their mother's and father's soothing voice.

In a normal family environment, parents have the authority to impose rules and regulations on their children. This being the case, why not make this power work in a positive manner?

Reading is one useful thing to teach your children even at a young age. In fact, the younger the better.

This is the age where they are very receptive to things and sensations around them.

They register information like cottons absorb water.

This is why it is never too young to expose your children to litera-

NMICH believes that "Motheread / Fatheread"as a program is just the right way to bring families closer to

Reading stories to your kids is a wonderful quality time spent with

When a kid snuggles up next to you to hear a story, something magical happens.

Reading stories to your kids is also a good way to teach them a lot of things such as getting along with brothers and sisters, about sharing, about being different from other people, about feeling wanted and secure, about a grandmother's or grandfather's love and wisdom and others.

It brings the whole family closer together because the stories are about real people who live in a real world.

When your kids start young they develop a positive attitude towards reading and at the same time, it prepares them for school.

For interested parties, call 235-4758 or write to NMICH at AAA 3394, Box 100001, Saipan, MP

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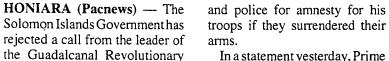
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bag

Gov't rejects amnesty plea from rebel leader

Solomon Islands Government has rejected a call from the leader of the Guadalcanal Revolutionary

The request was made late on Tuesday by the GRA leader, Joseph Sangu, after the Government announced the state of public emergency in Guadalcanal province, following ten months of



Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu SUVA (Pacnews) — Eighteen said the Government had no legal Pacific journalists and media stubasis to allow the militants to go dents have created news web-sites free when they have broken the in the region's first formal online publishing journalism course Ulufa'alu renewed calls on the based at the University of the

> Their sites, created as part of the 15-week Print and Online Journalism course with USP's journalism programme, were this week linked to the regional training and resource website Pacific Journalism Online.

South Pacific.

The new course, integrating print and online journalism for the first time, involves working

on the programme's training F'ıjı party may

SUVA (Pacnews) — Fiji's ruling People's Coalition junior part-

The issue was discussed at the Party General Secretary, Josaia

Gucake said members were not happy with the way Prime Minister Mahendra Chaudhry is treating the FAP.

The Party was recently left out nominees for the Upper House.

FAP parliamentarian, Peceli Rinakama said the caucus was told to withdraw from the coali-

newspaper Wansolwara.

Pacific news website

Previously, Internet publishing had only been taught in the finalyear course, Journalism Research. Participants on this course were

Island journalists create

from the Fiji Islands, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Vanuatu and included staff journalists on some Fiji news organisations.

Programme co-ordinator David Robie described the course as a popular development and said it would be repeated in the second

"Online publishing is increasingly important in Pacific news media, just as it is globally," he

Elsewhere in the Pacific

"It is important that our graduates are taught the fundamentals of web publishing along with more traditional journalism forms such as print, radio and television."

He said the integrated print and online journalism workshops paved the way for the journalism programme's proposed postgraduate courses for the new millennium which would use the Internet extensively.

The USP journalism programme has 63 enrolled students and media practitioners from eight countries in the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

Micro-credit scheme to help Pacific isles rural areas

SUVA (Pacnews) — A regional Credit Union meeting in Suva, Fiji has been told people who live in rural parts of the Pacific Islands region can benefit from micro-credit schemes if the schemes are properly man-

Director of the Hans Seidel Foundation, Jurgen Rein said as a donor for micro credit schemes around the region, the Foundation has found many Pacific Island countries lack financial services and ability to provide advice, even on small-scale businesses.

Jurgen said most Pacific Island Governments however acknowledge the credit union movement is an instrument for rural development.

"Credit unions are perfect tools to encourage self help, especially in rural areas. Missing infrastructure and services in many areas contribute to a lack of interest in these areas. Essential for a development is among others, the presence of financial services," he said.

He said the assistance the Foundation has given Fiji and other island countries were mainly focussed on the Credit Union League, as the umbrella organisation of the movement.

"The League has to sell its services. The more precious and valuable the services are, the higher the price and cost of provision for these services." he said.

bolt coalition

ner, the Fijian Association Party (FAP) has threatened to pull out from the coalition, weeks after they formed the Government.

FAP's caucus meeting this week.

by the Prime Minister in his nine

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5 RP soldiers killed in clash with rebels

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines (AP) — At least five government soldiers were killed and 10 others were missing in the worst fighting since Communist rebels withdrew from peace talks last month in the Philippines, the military said Thurs-

About 30 soldiers from the army's 73rd Infantry Brigade encountered several groups of New People's Army guerrillas while on patrol Wednesday in Calinan, an outlying district of Davao City, the military's Southern Command said.

The clashes continued until Thursday, with military helicopters pounding suspected rebel hideouts with rockets, it said. Several soldiers were wounded and at least two rebels were killed, the military

The military said the rebels were led by the same commander who was responsible for the abduction of an army general and a captain in February.

The abduction prompted President Joseph Estrada to suspend peace talks with the rebels.

The National Democratic Front, a Marxist umbrella group, withdrew completely from the talks last month after the Philippine Senate approved a Visiting Forces Agreement which allows the United States to resume large-scale military ex-

The rebels said the agreement violatedPhilippinesovereignty,but Estrada said the rebels were using it as an excuse to terminate the

The clash in Davao, about 960 kilometers (600 miles) south of Manila, followed a raid last week by NPA guerrillas on a police combat support camp in central Bohol province in which they seized more than 50 high-powered firearms without firing a shot.

Earlier, rebels raided a police station in Tumauini in northern Isabela province and carted away an undetermined number of assault rifles and ammunition. No one was hurt in the attack.

Rebel leaders said they would intensify attacks on "soft targets" nationwide after the talks broke

The rebels have been fighting for a Marxist state since the late 1960s, their rebellion fueled by poverty and injustice.

The rebels had a peak strength of about 25,000 guerrillas in the mid-1980s, but their ranks have thinned because of reduced popular support, factionalism, battle casualties

The military estimates the New People's Army now has about 7,500 armed guerrillas.

Drug abuse in RP at alarming levels

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — mainly marijuana and methamphet About 14 percent of the nearly 43,000 Philippine villages face serious drug abuse problems, feeding an illegal drug trade estimated at 250 billion pesos (\$6.7 billion) a year, officials said Wednesday.

Drug abuse remains at an alarming level in the Philippines despite a high-profile anti-drug campaign launched by the government this year, said Jewel Canson, an official of a government anti-narcotics

President Joseph Estrada has ordered police to concentrate on eradicating drug abuse this year after cracking down on kidnappings last

Canson, director of the National Drug Law Enforcement and Prevention Coordinating Center, said 6,020 of 42,979 villages nationing serious drug problems.

About 1.7 million Filipinos are hooked on various illegal drugs, he

Canson said the government is bringing the war against illegal drugs to the grassroots level by organizing anti-drug abuse councils in every village. More than 18,000 such councils have been established so far, he said.

Officials hope the councils will help police identify and apprehend drug traffickers and carry out information campaigns.

Since January, police have arrested 1,041 drug traffickers and users and seized 113.5 million pesos (\$2.98 million) worth of drugs,

amine hydrochloride, locally called

Of those arrested, 890 are suspected drug traffickers, including 16 foreigners and five police, said a report by police senior superintendent Reynor Gonzales, chief of the police anti-narcotics group.

Nearly 700 cases of drug trafficking and use have been filed by police this year, resulting so far in the conviction and sentencing to death of 34 traffickers. Twentyfive of those convicted were caught selling shabu, a powerful stimulant considered the most widely used illegal drug in the Philippines.

Police believe much of the shabu is smuggled from China.

The large shipments of the drug and its raw ingredients confirm that the Philippines' long unguarded coastline is being exploited by smugglers and drug manufacturers, officials said.

Drug trafficking is one of several crimes punishable by death. Under Philippine law, possession of at least 750 grams (26 ounces) of marijuana, 200 grams (7 ounces) of shabu and 40 grams (1.4 ounces) of cocaine, heroin and morphine are considered capital offenses.

The government's anti-drug campaign suffered a setback in May, when several ranking police officers claimed that the Philippine National Police chief, Roberto Lastimoso, was protecting major drug traffickers.

Lastimoso has gone on leave and is being investigated.





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RP warns airlines on 'open-skies'

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The Philippine government said Wednesday it may cancel flight rights of several Asian airlines unless they stop abusing the country's liberal open-skies policy and endangering the survival of flag carrier Philippine

Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Franklin Ebdalin said unless flight agreements under the open-skies policy can be satisfactorily reviewed, there will be "no other remedy" but to cancel the agreements.

"If there is justification for drastic action, then we will have to take it," Ebdalin said in an interview with the SNN television network.

PAL has blamed unfair competition from airlines in Singapore, Hong Kong, South Korea and Taiwan for much of its financial problems, charging that these airlines are competing unfairly by offering cheaper fares and exceeding limits on the number of passengers they may pick up in the Philippines. Ebdalin said flight rights have also been granted to some foreign carriers with no reciprocal

agreement being given to PAL.

A fresh capital infusion of \$200 million saved PAL from closure this month, but the funds will only keep it in business for less than a year.

According to reports, PAL is losing some 1.5 billion pesos (\$40 million) a year in revenues because of the surge in additional foreign flights to the Philippines. PAL contends that reducing competition from foreign airlines is a must for its survival.

It was under former President Fidel Ramos that flight rights were granted to foreign airlines under the so-called open-skies policy — and too easily, according to the administration of President Joseph Estrada.

Asked if Ramos' air policy had been too liberal. Ebdalin replied: "Yes." But he made

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clear there are no plans to cancel the open-skies agreements, but rather to review their terms and "correct imbalances."

The government is also concerned that the open-skies agree-

ment is allowing some foreign airlines to use the Philippines as a staging point for flights to destinations other than the carrier's country of origin.

Ebdalin said the government

plans to start talks with Taiwan later this month to renegotiate its air agreement, which will be followed by talks with Singapore, Hong Kong and South Korea.

Immigration chief bans cell phones pagers, pockets to prevent graft

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The country's immigration chief said Tuesday he has banned the use of cellular phones and pagers by immigration officers in Philippine airports to make it harder for corrupt officials to communicate with criminal groups.

Immigration Commissioner Rufus Rodriguez said he also has prohibited janitors in the immigration section of airports from wearing clothes with pockets to prevent them from collecting bribes for corrupt employees.

The immigration bureau has a

Raffle Drawing will be every SUNDAY at 1:00pm

NEED NOT TO BE PRESENT TO WIN.

reputation of being one of the country's most corrupt government agencies.

phones and pagers to receive the names of passengers they should pass through immigration.

Rodriguez said he also person-

harder for people who have paid bribes to identify the corrupt immigration official.

Despite the efforts to eliminate corruption, however, many rackets involving corrupt employees and criminal syndicates persist,

"They're really always two steps ahead of us,"Rodriguez told reporters.

Since the anti-graft campaign began in key air and sea ports. corrupt immigration personnel and criminal syndicates have shifted their human smuggling to unguarded coastal areas in the northern and southern Philippines.

The asking fees of corrupt emup, he said.

Under the current anti-graft campaign, Rodriguez said the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation has filed criminal and administrative cases against 141 immigration personnel, or more than a tenth of the agency's 1,020 employees. The cases have resulted in the firing of 14 and the suspension of 53 others.

Chinese and Indian nationals, he

Senator Miriam Santiago, who headed the immigration bureau in 1987, also focused on corruption in the agency, warning corrupt employees then that she would "chop you up into little pieces and feed you to the sharks in Manila Bay.'

But she added that the sharks



Many Filipinos without proper travel documents who want to work overseas pay money to "promoters," who in turn bribe immigration officials to allow them to pass without appropriate checks.

Corrupt officials have used cell

ally painted over the numbers on immigration counters at Manila's international airport to make it

ployees also have drastically gone

Rodriguez said years of corruption in the bureau have also led to an increase in foreigners staying illegally in the Philippines, currently estimated at around 40,000.

Most of the illegal aliens are

would probably not eat them "out of a sense of professional cour-



Just in case trouble worsens

US deploys near Korea

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — The United States is sending naval ships and planes to the waters off Korea to monitor events following a deadly exchange between the North and South this week, the Pentagon said on Wednesday.

Pentagon spokesman Naval Capt. Mike Doubleday told reporters the cruiser Vincennes, now in waters off Japan, would move off Korea with another ship he did not identify.

A number of EA-6B surveillance and electronic warfare planes were also going to the area to watch events, although Doubleday stressed the tension had eased since the exchange of fire on Tuesday in which a North Korean torpedo boat was sunk.

"I hasten to add the situation today is markedly different than it was yesterday," he said.

The aircraft carrier Constellation is leaving San Diego for the region on June 18, but Doubleday noted this was a previously planned deployment and the ship would take at least 10 days to get to the area.

Doubleday said a number of fighter and bomber squadrons had been on alert in the United States for some months in case of trouble in the region because the carrier Kitty Hawk, normally based in Japan, had been moved to the Gulf.

But there was no extra alert for those planes following the Korean incident, he said.

Doubleday said the ships and planes being sent immediately to the area would work "in a kind of an integrated way, so that we can maintain a very good picture of what is occurring that is of any kind of military significance."

He said they would be there "for some period of time, not expected to be very long, some period of time to just make sure that we're satisfied that there's no additional threat."

He added it was also "a way of demonstrating to our allies, the Republic of Korea, that we are there to support them."

After a week in which patrol boats from Stalinist North Korea and the South played catand-mouse along a long-accepted border line in the Yellow Sea, South Korea said it sank one North Korean boat and heavily damaged several oth-

Washington, which is considering a thaw in its relations with the North but has 37,000 troops in the South to deter an attack,

> Diabetics, to prevent foot amputation, join the foot clinic.



Singaporean Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong (center) gestures when he leaves Military Armistice Committee meeting room with accompanied security, officials and U.S. army escort person after observing Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) in Panmunjom Wednesday.

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both sides to try to defuse the situation.

Doubleday said seven South Koreans were wounded in the shooting incident but he had no details on the number of North Korean casualties. Reports from the region said 17 crew were killed when the North Korean torpedo ship sank.

Four North Korean patrol boats and three torpedo boats intruded into South Korean waters early on Tuesday, and several began firing on a Southern patrol boat, South Korea's Defence Ministry said.

It was their first naval clash in the Yellow Sea since the Korean War of 1950-53 and the worst incident since South Korean forces sank a Northern spy vessel off the southern tip of the peninsula in December, killing the spy boat's crew.

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Most Asian markets rise

HONG KONG (AP) — Asian markets closed mostly higher Wednesday despite fears of an increase in U.S. interest rates.

But Tokyo shares fell, amid concerns that higher U.S. rates could be harmful for Japan's economy, still mired in recession.

Japanese traders were awaiting consumer pricing data that would be released laters in the United States, with investors fearing any signs of U.S. inflation could prompt the U.S. Federal Reserve to raise interest rates.

The benchmark 225-issue

Nikkei Stock Average dropped 71.82 points, or 0.42 percent, to close at 17,210.18. On Tuesday, the Nikkei had gained 0.54 per-

Pessimism about the health of the economy among Japanese institutional investors also dragged

on share prices, said Kunihiro Hatae of Tokyo Securities Co. in Tokyo.

On the currency market, the U.S. dollar slipped against the yen, trading in a narrow range as investors held off ahead of the U.S. economic data. The dollar

bought 120.05 yen late Wednesday afternoon in Tokyo, down 0.10 yen from late Tuesday and below its late New York level of 120.40 yen overnight.

In Hong Kong, blue chips rose 1.7 percent as investors shrugged off interest rate worries.

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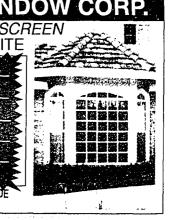
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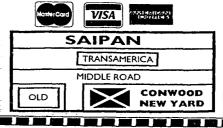
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The conference, to be held on June 21 at the House Chamber in Capitol Hill, is being organized by the Marianas Public Lands Trust

AltaMiraCapitalCorp., MPLT's consultant, will conduct the conference which will discuss investment fundamentals for the 21st century and the process of building portfolio and manager structure.

Speakers will include represen-

tatives from consulting firms such as AltaMira Capital Corp., and money management firms such as Montag & Caldwell Asset Management, Inc.; Palley Neadelman Asset Management, Inc.; Richmond Capital Management, Inc.; Baring Asset Management, and Lynch Jones & Ryan, Inc., the firm

Refund to MPLT.

MPLT executive director Bruce MacMillan said MPLT has commissioned these companies to help the Trust manage its investments

"As part of the contracts we have with money managers, they are to come here every year and make a presentation to [MPLT's board of trustees] on how they performed in the past 12 months," MacMillan

He added that MPLT takes advantage of that opportunity to ask representatives from the companies to share with the public their expertise in financial management.

"We ask them to make presentation in the form of a seminar in order to share information about money management issues to any of the interested parties, maybe within the government or the public at large," Macmillan said.

to the public free of charge, would be useful to individuals who are interested in investments as well as government agencies that deal with investing public funds such as the Retirement Fund, and the Commonwealth Development Authority.

"This is a benefit to the commu nity in the form of information that otherwise might not be available without spending money,' MacMillan said.

Montag & Caldwell: Low risk approach to investing

MONTAG & Caldwell, Inc., Gap, McDonald's and Procter one of the United States' premier growth managers, will visit Saipan in June for the annual meeting with the Marianas Public Lands Trust (MPLT)

Honored to be one of the investment managers serving the MPLT, Montag & Caldwell has traveled from their headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia to visit Saipan every year,

The Board if Trustees of MPLT structured the investment portfolio for the Land Trust in 1997 to maximize investment returns and reduce the overall risk of their portfolio by employing several investment firms according to their investment expertise in the market.

Montag & Caldwell provides MPLT the exposure to large capitalization growth portion of the stock market with investments in some of the largest, leading companies in the United States including Microsoft, Intel, Coca-Cola, Gillette, The and Gamble Co.

Montag & Caldwell was founded in 1945 and today manages in excess of \$30 billion, primarily for large institutional clients. Clients of Montag & Caldwell have experiences strong investment returns, exceeding the Standard & Poor's 500 Index over the last three, five, 10 and 20 year periods. The firm has produced investment results greater than 30 percent in each of the last four

the low risk growth approach to investing has allowed Montag & Caldwell to add value to client's investments through a focus on high quality, industryleading companies with strong earnings.

As an investment manager focused on growth companies, Montag & Caldwell's primary concern when a company's strong earnings growth but also be attractively priced based



upon the company's future earnings potential. This discipline has allowed the firm to perform most of the time when com-

> the stock market has been weak. The very disciplined investment process used by the firm has been in place since the early 1970's, producing strong returns for their clients' over the last 20 years, The investment team of 16 managers meets twice a week to determine the best investments for

pared with other equity manag-

ers, even during periods where

their clients,

The 30-40 companies selected for investments are the same in every portfolio they manage, except for client restrictions to ensure a consistent high quality product.

The investment has also demonstrated stability over time, as only manager has left the firm in the last 10 years and this was due to his retire-

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and we look forward once again to visiting your beautiful island in June for the annual meeting

We are a large-cap growth investment manager with a rich history of serving our clients since 1945

Our portfolios contain the stocks of such well-known U.S. Companies as Coca-Cola, Microsoft, Pfizer, the Gap and Walt Disney.

We have outperformed the market over the past 3, 5, 10 and 15 years

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Continued from page 37

only" institutional brokerage firm, and is known for its superior execution capabilities. We concentrate on the equity and fixed income markets, and work only with professional investment managers. We do not have a retail sales force, a corporate finance department or investment banking arm to compete for our firm's resources.

LJR is owned and managed by its employees and is dedicated to providing its clients with quality, professional services. Because of our trading volume — and our client base of more than 1,400 institutional investors (money managers and plan sponsors) - LJR today ranks among the top tier of institutional brokerage firms.

Lynch, Jones & Ryan, Inc. has been a member of the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) since 1966. The firm is also an Associate Member of the American Stock Exchange, and a member of the Philadelphia, Boston and Chicago Stock Exchanges.

Lynch, Jones & Ryan has been built — and is centered — on its trading ability. This is reflected in our substantial trading volume which represents, on average, over four million shares per day, or nearly 1% of total NYSE dlaily volume. We also rank among AutEx's top agency trading firms, further evidence of our capability in block trading.

The Alta Mira Capital Corp:

How Consultants add

value: Manager search

tools provide, and blend that information with qualitative insights. A

broker's role is to suggest and sell more investments; this is how they

profit. Our only incentive is to provide our clients with the best

At AltaMira, our consultants provide invaluable assistance with the

most important aspect of investing: asset allocation. Research has

shown that asset allocation accounts for an estimated 91.5% of a

portfolio's return. We devise the best plan utilizing this research,

Q: You mentioned that consultants utilize new quantitative tools.

FG: These sophisticated tools assist people not only in evaluating the

performance of existing managers, but also in selecting new managers

Q: Are you saying that these quantitative measures are the only

FG: No, not at all. Regardless of the accuracy and sophistication of

devices we use, consultants' most important role is helping to make the

A consultant has to assist clients to make a "confidence-rating,"

deciding whether or not a specific firm will be able to deliver above-

average performance in the future. Quantitative tools are quite impor-

Q: Do plan sponsors know how to use these quantitative tools

FG: Yes, most do. But, they still need and want help in interpreting

Investment managers have always driven the questionnaire process;

Consultants add value because they synthesize quantitative and

Q: Is synthesis of research the primary contribution consultants

FG: No. Consulting firms have also refined the selection process and

Quantitative databases have their limitations. When it comes time to

select an investment management firm that the plan sponsor is comfort-

able with, a consultant is necessary to ensure that the plan sponsor has

Q: Has the manager selection process that consulting firms use

FG: Yes, a great deal. AltaMira is a perfect example of how

consulting firms have improved their services. Consultants have had to

In order to better meet each plan sponsor's needs, AltaMira through

its strategic alliance, has increased its number of manager search

specialists. By specializing, we are able to meet with all the managers

A large committee of senior consultants is normally used to provide

This committee helps us to ensure more accurate qualitative judge-

ments. In addition to refining these qualitative tools, we integrate

increasingly more accurate quantitative tools.

Q: Have the processes that investment management firms use

FG: Yes. Though the basic philosophy of many firms has remained

Continued on page 32

specialize due to the increasing complication of asset classes.

in fact, managers created most of the questions—they just assembled

qualitative judgement about the firm being considered.

these oftentimes-esoteric quantitative measures.

the questions that plan sponsors most frequently ask.

developed methods to collect and analyze information.

someone on their side of the table assiting in the process.

'Total Investment management'

investment management consulting firm based in Menlo Park, California. It is a founding member firm of the Investment Management Council.

AltaMira assists individuals, pension funds, trust and government agencies in reviewing their investment programs, developing portfolio manager structure, and

FABIAN GARCES is President of the AltaMira Capital Corporation. He is a

founding member of the Investment Man-

of Marianas Public Land Trust.

agement Council and the Lead Consultant

Mr. Garces was asked to discuss the

Q: Why does anyone need a consult-

FG: The consultant's role today is one

of assisting plan sponsors on how to use the

quantitative tools available to assist inves-

tors. We help interpret the information the

investment alternaltives to fit their situation.

instead of just "picking stocks."

How can these tools best be used?

important tools for manager selection?

tant, but they cannot do everything.

make to the manager search process?

qualitative research.

of different asset classes.

changed as well?

insight into the selection process.

ant—why not go straight to a broker?

changes and transitions that consulting has

undergone in the past 20 years, plus.

ensuring that all aspects of the investment program follow a wellconceived verifiable process. It provides comprehensive investment management services of the highest quality to fiduciaries, trustees, investment committees, and individual and family wealth.

AltaMira is comprised of investment consulting professionals whose diverse backgrounds and skills significantly enhance the capabilities and perspective that AltaMira offers its clients.

AltaMira works with clients on fee-based retainers and is free to secure additional technical services from leading third party pro-

The prime objective of AltaMira's client relationship is to define a decision making process, which maximizes the probability of achieving the client's stated investment objectives and fulfilling all its fiduciary responsibilities.

Fabian Garces is the founder and principal of AltaMira Capital Corporation. Mr. Garces has been active in he financial management and investment consulting industry since 1978.

"Our mission is to help our clients define and realize the objectives of their investment programs by providing them objective information, continuing education and expert advice with respect to the disciplined management of their investment funds," Mr. Garces said.

AltaMira's consulting services provide a comprehensive set of tools, as well as ongoing support for the institutionallevel management of its client's

It follows a five-step process that ensures that all aspects of its client's investment program follow a well-conceived and time tested, step-by-step approach. This process is designed to optimize portfolio returns, and has been used successfully by the largest of pension funds



The first step involves an analysis of the client's current position, investment programs,

including legal constraints. The next step involves the construction of optimal asset allocation models using data from Step One. Using computer models, AltaMira Capital assist its clients in evaluating different asset allocation alternatives (risk-return trade-offs) and in selecting the alternative most appropriate to fit client's investment objectives.

Step Three involves the creation of investment policy statement.

In accordance with policy guidelines, AltaMira will assist in identifying appropriate money managers that meet and pass quantitative and qualitative to diligence standards.



FRIDAY, JUNE 18, 1999 - MARIANAS VARIETY NEWS AND VIEWS-31

AltaMira Capital Corporation Investment Management Consultants

STEPS IN THE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT **PROCESS** ...the value of a prudent process

- Review and analyze your current investment program, particularly as it relates to your
- Refine your investment strategy and develop or modify an Investment Policy Statement
- Provide access to appropriate leading money
- Assist in the selection of custodians, brokers, money managers and of appropriate
- Coordinate brokerage and custodial services with institutional providers
- Produce supporting documentation and thorough analysis on the specifics of your
- Provide ongoing investment evaluation, advice, and educational support
- Operate solely on a fee basis, receiving no commissions or finder's fees from service

AltaMira Capital Corporation is an independent, institutional-level investment management consulting firm . AltaMira provides a full range of consulting services to fiduciaries/investment committees of public and private retirement funds, trusts, and endowments.. Founding member firm of the Investment Management Council ("IMC"), "AXIS for Investment Decision Making". Through Callan Associates Inc. ("Callan"), one of the largest and most respected consulting firms in the US, AltaMira has access to an exceptional number of resources. By using a team approach, AltaMira combines the benefits and experience of highly professional consultants to assist its clients in the development, implementation and monitoring functions of their investment programs. Provides on-going support with the management of investment decisionsWe have our offices headquartered in Menlo Park California:

California: 883 Oak Grove Ave. Menlo Park, Ca. 94025 ph. 650 - 328-8800 fx. 650 - 328-1958 The Pre-Eminent Source of Investment Management Consulting Sevices in the Pacific Rim

Baring Asset: Truly global

GIVEN its world-wide resources. multiple products and fully integrated global financial services, Baring Asset Management prides itself at being one of a handful of truly global investment management firms.

The company manages assets in developed and emerging equity and bond markets on behalf of institutional and private clients world-wide.

Its clients include pension funds, government agencies, corporations, insurance companies, charitable organizations and private individuals, as well as unit trusts, mutual funds and other collective investment products. In addition, it provides a full spectrum of offshore global custody, administration and trustee services for institutional and private

Like all world class teams, Baring benefits from well-defined disciplines, a transparent investment process and a clear organizational structure. "We also benefit from a strong resource base as part of the ING Group. These



strengths have enabled us to maintain our commitment to excellence in each area of our business," the company said.

"We focus our resources on each client's objectives. Client satisfaction is the best measure of

Providing its clients with superior service, Baring said, is integral to the growth of its business. It treats its existing clients as one of its most important sources of new funds under management and

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world over.

"Their satisfaction is clear testimony to the priority that we place on understanding and achieving our clients' goals.

"We bring a global perspective to the evaluation of investment opportunities in local markets world-wide," the company said.

Baring believes that the key to successful global investing is specialization in individual markets, coupled with adherence to shared investment disciplines and a glo-

"We have four major investment offices around the world with eight Specialist Investment Teams, ensuring that we maintain our in-depth local market knowledge. This structure provides our clients with real-time management of portfolios by our regional teams. Our research is based on a detailed understanding of the business and market environment in each region. Our investment managers and analysts make more than 3,500 visits world-wide each

History and Ownership

The Barings group was founded in 1762 and established its UK asset management team in 1958. Barings were among the first to open an investment management office in the Far East over 20 years ago and investment operations were launched in the US in the late 1970s. These activities were combined into one division, Baring Asset Management, in

It operates today as part of the ING Group, one of the largest financial institutions in Europe and one of the world's largest providers of integrated financial

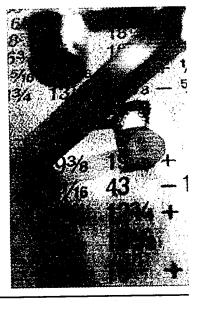
ING is committed to being a major competitor in the global asset management business through a number of its operating entities that serve different markets. Baring Asset Management represents a critical component of this strategy. In many of the

world's major pension markets, Baring Asset Management is the flagship of ING's investment management activities.

Consistent with ING's management philosophy for all of its operating subsidiaries, Baring Asset Management operates with investment and business management autonomy.

The ING Group is totally committed to the long-term development of Baring Asset Management through the spirit of partnership between the firm's staff and ING, the company said.

Underpinning this philosophy is the Baring Asset Management long-term incentive plan (LTIP). The LTIP program operates as an equity value incentive program that gives key personnel the additional motivation to grow our business and participate in that growth.



How... Continued from page 31

consistent, the investment management process has become more quantitatively oriented.

One major change has been in the approach to marketing products. Marketing used to be sales

Today, sales skills are still important, but client servicing has become an integral part of the marketing equation.

Q: How could investment managers improve their client reten-

FG: In addition to generating above-average performance, managers should maintain open and honest lines of communication with the client.

Initially, managers are almost always hired because of their performance. The plan sponsor client is not always aware of what characteristics might have produced that performance.

The manager should remind the client of the strengths and limitations of his/her style in the current market cycle.

The manager should always remind clients that downswings are bound to inevitably happen—they are a natural part of the market cycle. Unfortunately, too few managers do this.

Q: Is this sort of intimate contact realistic today? **FG:** No, not really. Corporate

restructuring and downsizing has pervaded the entire industry.

Executives simply don't have enough time or staff to meet with

and interview investment management firms.

Consultants, recognizing the importance of on-site interviews, have filled this void.

Q: How do you feel about participating managers' desire to know the results of a plan sponsor's

At AltaMira, it is always the lead consultantis responsibility to respond to finalists by letting them know two pieces of crucial information: 1) who won, and 2) if their firm did not win, why? The answer to the latter is sometimes difficult for managers to swallow, but I also think it reinforces the honest partnership between consultants and

Q: What is your final take on where the manager selection process stands today?

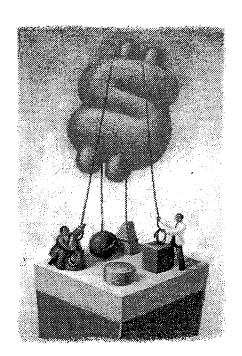
FG: The biggest change over the past several years is that plan sponsors, consultants, managers and master trustees are all working together to achieve the best results. We no longer have the types of turf wars we once had.

However, despite the fact that we work together, there remains a separation of interests. This is what makes the process work.

As consultants, we should never become involved in the business of being a broker; then, our interests would be torn between the best interests of the client and padding our own pocketbooks. We need to remain as neutral third parties.

Doing so ensures a significant savings to the plan sponsor; in addition, the plan sponsor receives

Continued on page 34



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Source: Analysis of total trading costs conducted by Elkins/McSherry Co. for Institutional Investor, November 1998. "The survey studied global trading by 135 large institutions in 1997 over 42 countries, more than 1,000 brokerages and more than 700 investment managers. The analysis covers 632,547 separate trades and about 28 billion shares traded."

Baring Asset Management Member of ING Group

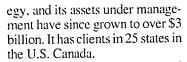
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Richmond: Helping CNMI investors

RICHMOND Capital Management has been helping the investors of the CNMI meet its financial goals for the Marianas Public Land Trust funds.

Richmond Capital, which is based in Virginia, was founded in 1982. Since its inception, Richmond Capital has consistently



Representatives from Richmond visit Saipan each year to meet directly with its clients. The company will be part of the 1999 Pacific Rim Regional Investment Conference to be held on June 21,



The company's vice president Howard Bos and managing director Jo Ann Stoddard will be among the speakers at the conference.

"We believe that experiences, dedicated professionals produce superior results," the company said.

It takes pride in having experienced people and an investment process that is repeatable.

"In the world of investments, there is no substitute for experience," the company said.

One of the most important reasons for Richmond Capital's success is that all of its portfolio manvesting. Each has many experience of bond investment experiences ranging from 13 to 30 years. Richmond Capital has been solely focused on fixed income

investments. Its strategy is to search for undervalued situations that provide additional yield and have the potential for price appreciation, These bonds are found in many areas; along the yield curve in various sectors of the market and in specific industries and com-

"Our search for value in he bonds is always driven by our focus in yield (income) which is the primary reason for owning bonds, Through our experience, we have found that bond portfolios comprised of undervalued securities and additional yield have a strong bias to provide excellent

How... Continued from page 31

more sound financial advice over-

Plan sponsors need to understand that the effectiveness of a consultant is optimized as the designer of the investment plan. The broker often makes investment decisions for the client, but the consultant is necessary to ensure that the best interests of the plan sponsor are

Twenty years ago, manager

searches consisted of little other than the plan sponsor's desire to split the fund. Things have changed.

Today, the manager search is only one part of a larger strategic process, including manager structure, and most importantly, asset allocation. I am proud knowing that AltaMira has successfully built the infrastructure required to provide our plan sponsor clients with opportunities and knowledge not available in this region before.

It is precisely in stormy conditions that an inexperienced crew

may be tempted to jump ship. Fiduciaries with the aid of an experienced consultant will have the wisdom and acumen to know that jumping ship will inevitably produce adverse consequences. Rather, during difficult or controversial periods, a steady hand will ultimately achieve optimum re-

sults over time.

The focused professional-consultant can be instrumental in assisting the trustees to navigate, guide and provide the ongoing education and support necessary

for trustees to become and maintain such level of prudent exper-

AltaMira Capital Corporation is an independent investment management consulting firm with offices headquartered in Menlo Park, California.

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Congratulations

Richmond Capital management would like to congratulate the Board of the Marianas Public Land Trust on their outstanding financial performance. In addition, Richmond Capital Management would like to commend the CNMI Legislature on their annual effort to bring sound financial advice to their community.

Jo Ann Stoddard, Managing Director, and Howard Bos, Vice President, will be attending the 1999 Pacific Rim Regional Investment Conference on Monday, June 21st, in Saipan.

Richmond Capital Management's Investment philosophy is that superior returns can be achieved, over time, by focusing on value in the fixed income area. We know that it is possible, through careful analysis and security selection, to choose securities which will provide superior returns over market cycles. Our search for value in the bond market is always overlaid by our focus on yield (income) which is the primary reason for owning bonds. We believe that bond portfolios which are composed of undervalued securities and additional yield have a strong bias to provide superior returns overtime.

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Value investing comes of age

By Raymond F. Pentz Palley-Needelman Asset Management, Inc.

YOU'RE up, you're down. You're in favor, you're out of favor. You manufacture a buggy whip or you're Amazon.com. You're a value manager or you're a growth manager.

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the performance of growth managers beginning in the 3rd quarter of 1990.

Value managers popped back in 1991 as the economy strengthened, only to fall back again in 1993,

cally and throughout the world have and will continue to have an impact on the performance of various styles of investment management. Since it is impossible to time the market, the case for multiple managers is

very strong.

In order to better understand why growth and value portfolios differ and why they react differently to changing events, let's take a look at some of the style attributes that we at Palley-Needelman, a large cap value manager, require in our portfolios.

remaining that way into 1999.

The repeated convergence and

divergence of events both domesti-

P/E stands for price/earnings. This ratio is a gauge of how "dear" or expensive a stock can be. The higher the ratio, the more expensive. For example, some of the Internet stocks today are trading at 100, 200, 300 times earnings.

Value managers would consider this too high a price to pay for something as ephemeral as future earnings. We want our portfolios to have P/E ratios below the market.

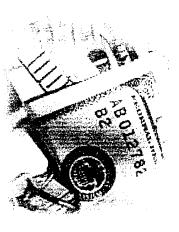
Yield, or the dividends that companies pay compared to the existing price of the stock, help to control volatility, especially in times of uncertainty. The higher the yield, the more "cushion" a stock is going to have when the capital markets get dicey. We want our portfolios with yields higher than the market.

Price/book is another measure of value and it is used quite extensively by consultants and creators of indexes, i.e., S&P/BARRA Value and Growth Indexes, to de-

group stocks, and therefore managers, as growth or value.

The higher the ratio in your portfolio of stocks the more likely you will be identified as a growth manager. As a value manager, we want our portfolios to have lower price/book ratios than the market.

Finally, the term Beta refers to the degree to which a stock or portfolio will move up or down relative to the market. Since the market is defined as having a Beta of 1.0, those stocks or portfolios with a Beta higher than 1.0 are deemed to be more "risky" than the market. We want our portfolios to have a Beta lower than the market. Now let us examine recent his-



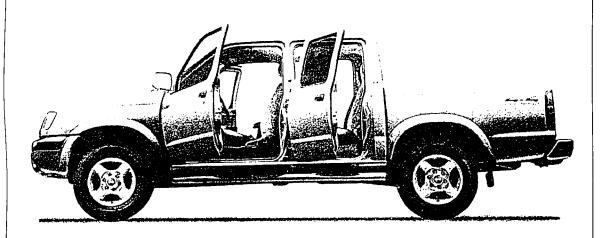
tory and some of the reasons that value may be coming back to life.

Look at the last four years of

We use the S&P 500 primarily because it is a broader index than the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Unlike the DJIA, the S&P 500 is capitalization weighted. This means that the larger companies that have high capitalizations (price x number of shares outstanding) have more of an influence on the movement of the index. The last four years of returns for the S&P 500 have an annualized return of 30.4%.

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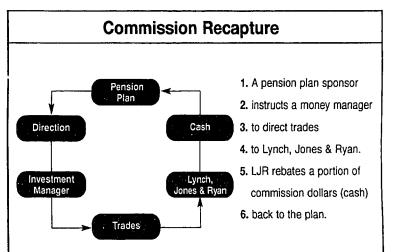
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All about LJR Sponsor Services

WHAT is Commission Recap-

LJR Plan Sponsor Services, a division of Lynch, Jones & Ryan, Inc., is one of the largest providers and the originator of commission recapture programs. We serve corporate, public and Taft-Hartley pension funds as well as endowment and foundation clients around the world. Our commission recapture program was developed to help funds reduce their transaction costs and save money.

According to the Department of Labor's ERISA Advisory



Committee Working Group on Soft Dollar and Directed Brokerage, commission recapture (a form of directed brokerage) "is when plan sponsors direct investment managers to execute a portion of their trades through a selected brokerage firm [e.g. LJR] to the extend the broker-

and trade execution.

The brokerage firm then rebates a portion of the commissions [or spread] to the pension plan. The pension plan can be rebated in cash or have the brokerage firm pay certain admin-

age firm is competitive in price

istrative expenses...

These recaptured commissions may be used in one of two ways. They can be rebated directly back to the fund on a monthly basis for reinvestment. Or, you can choose to pay authorized expenses of the fund. Examples of expenses typically paid by the fund include actuarial fees, consulting fees, and accounting and legal fees.

A Profile of Lynch, Jones &

Founded in 1966, Lynch, Jones & Ryan is an "agency Continued on page 30



Illegal immigrants demand repatriation

Taiwan cops taken hostage

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — Illegal Chinese immigrants released two police officers Wednesday after taking them hostage for more than 20 hours at a government detention center and demanding they be sent home quickly to the mainland.

The officers walked out of a dormitory after officials agreed to arrange for early repatriation for about 160 Chinese detainees involved in the hostage-tak-

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center for months waiting to be sent back.

As part of the conditions for the hostage release, two key abductors participated at a televised news conference to appeal for more humane treatment of the would-be immigrants.

"We did not come to do bad things but rather to seek an improvement of our lives," Lin Moging, in a white T-shirt, said. "We violated your laws but

still deserve humane treatment." Earlier, TVBS Cable News aired footage of a detainee speaking through an iron-barred window, accusing police of beating a Chinese inmate to death two months ago.

To secure the release of the police officers, authorities agreed that the hostage-takers would face no abduction charges in Taiwan, and that they would ask China to take back the



Two police hostages are seen walking after being released by illegal Chinese immigrants detained at a government detention center in llan county, Taiwan Wednesday.

people within one month.

Liu Li-ming, another abductor, said he took part in the hostage-taking because he missed his family at home.

Meanwhile, officials urged China to end a four-year freeze and restart talks about its dealings with Taiwan, saying the hostage-taking highlighted the

"It is no doubt the responsibility of mainland authorities to resolve the problems," said Shi Hwei-yow, secretary general of the semi-official Straits Exchange Foundation which handles exchanges with China. Shi blamed China for the delays in returning the would-be im-

The two police officers, Lu Chuan-fang and Lin Hu-shih, said they were abducted late Tuesday when they walked down the aisle of the detainees' dormitory, trying to calm the Chinese.

Television footage earlier showed white banners hanging outside the detention center in eastern Ilan, which read "Fishermen's Grievances" and "Give Justice to our Dead Compatriots."

The incident apparently was triggered by the recent mysterious deaths of three Chinese who succumbed to a muscular disease at the detention center, where 373 illegal immigrants now await their return to the mainland, police said.

Health officials began taking blood and urine samples on Tuesday, and scores of the Chinese started pounding on their beds and demanding an early repatriation, police said.

When the Chinese were granted demands to meet journalists around midnight on Tuesday, they claimed their hostages were in good condition, according to the newspa-

Early this week, the Ilan detention center reported three immigrants died of muscular inflammation, while nine others developed the same symptoms - weak legs and fatigue - and have been quarantined in a hos-

Health officials said the illness may have been caused by vitamin deficiency but they were still trying to find out the real

Taiwan and China were separated politically following a civil war in 1949. At least 5,000 Chinese are caught each year being smuggled to Taiwan on fishing boats, seeking a better life on the affluent island. Those caught often have to wait months in detention centers before Chinese authorities arrange for boats to take them back.

Shi proposed to speed up the repatriation process by sending the stowaways to a detention center in China where they can wait to have their identities checked before they are sent

He also proposed that China

share the annual bill of more

than 100 million Taiwan dol-

lars (\$3 million) that Taiwan

pays to detain the immigrants

and then ship them to islets near

the Chinese coast, where they

are picked up and taken to the

mainland.

Debate on female president heats up

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP) — The Koran, not the constitution, might help decide whether a woman will be the next president of the world's largest Muslim

By THANASSIS CAMBANIS

As Megawati party's win looms

Indonesian clerics, politicians and feminists bickered Wednesday over whether opposition figure Megawati Sukarno is suitable for the top job on the grounds of

The daughter of Indonesia's founding president Sukarno has emerged as the front-runner for the presidency.

Her Indonesian Democratic Party for Struggle has taken a commanding lead over 47 other parties in the June 7 parliamentary election with 60 percent of the votes tabulated. But it is unlikely to win an outright majority from the freest election in 44 years.

Megawati, who is a Muslim, now must garner support from minority parties to oust incumbent President B.J. Habibie when a special assembly of 500 legislators and 200 military and government appointees meets in November to select a head of state.

Some Muslim politicians say they will not support a female president and criticize Megawati's party for fielding too many non-Muslim candidates.

The conservative Muslim-oriented United Development Party, running third in the vote count, has declared that the next president should be "Indonesia's best Muslim son."

The influential Indonesian Muslim Intellectuals Association also has raised gender concerns.

"Like it or not, there are people who have no problem with a woman being a president, but there are those who cannot accept that," said its chairman, Achmad Tirtosudiro.

Other Islamic countries, such as Pakistan, Bangladesh and Turkey, have had female heads of government. But Indonesia's three presidents since independence in 1945 have all been male.

About 90 percent of Indonesia's 210 million people are Muslim. Although the sprawling Southeast Asian nation has a tradition of religious tolerance, Islam's political influence has increased over time, particularly since the down fall of authoritarian President Suharto last year.

Some Muslim politicians say sex discrimination runs counter to the teachings of the Koran, Islam's holy book.

"In the Koran, it is very clear that there is no discrimination whatsoever between men and women. As a Muslim I can accept that a women can become a president," said Amien Rais, former head of a major islamic group.

Now chief of the fifth-ranked National Mandate Party, Rais could play a pivotal role in the new Parliament's balance of power. He differs widely on several fundamental policy issues with Megawati and has yet to say

leader, Abdurrahman Wahid, also

Another influential Muslim

has said Islam does not bar women from holding political office. His third-ranked National Awakening Party is expected to form a

coalition with Megawati's party.

"It's stupid people who have said that a woman can't be the leader," Wahid said prior to the

election. "They know nothing about Islamic history."

Ita Nadia, of the Kalyanamitra women's rights group, said objections to a Megawati presidency because she is a woman represent an attempt to block her agenda for political reform after decades of autocratic rule.

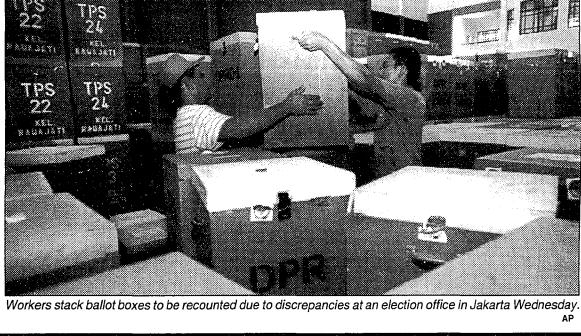
"The ruling elite could not discredit her party, so now they are trying to discredit Megawati," Ita



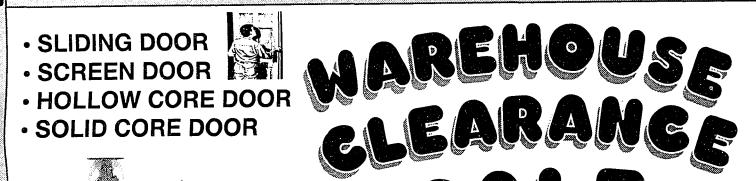


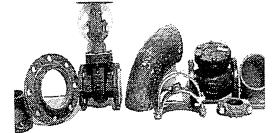
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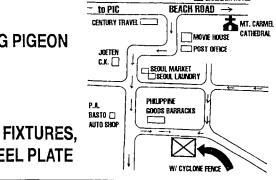
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Forbes campaign gets \$1M

By Thomas Ferraro
WASHINGTON (Reuters) —
Republican presidential candidate
Steve Forbes, who spent \$37 mil-

lion of his own fortune on his

1996 White House bid, raked in

\$1 million from others on

Wednesday for his 2000 campaign, aides said.

The publishing giant attracted the money at what was billed as his first major fund-raiser of the year, a \$1,000-per-plate event at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New

York City

Forbes raised less than \$40,000 during the first quarter of this year. Aides said he expects to collect about \$3 million during the second quarter, which ends June 30.

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Bids in duplicates and copies of business licenses must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked CUC-IFB-99-0022, to Mr. Mariano DLG. Fajardo, Procurement & Supply Supervisor. Bids will be accepted at CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Rm. #4, 3rd Floor, Joeten, Dandan, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 3:00 p.m., local time, Thursday, July 1, 1999. Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud after the bid closing time. Late submissions will not be considered.

Discussions may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit bids determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of, and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Offerors shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion and revision of bids and such revisions may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose or obtaining the best and final offers. In conducting discussions, there shall be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing offerors.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and to waive any defects in said bids, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ Executive Director



Steve Forbes

Forbes has said he intends to raise more money this year than any other Republican rival except the party's front-runner, Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

Bush is confident his campaign warchest will top \$15.2 million by the end of this month, aides said. He collected \$7.6 million during the first three months of this year, nearly as much as 10

party rivals combined.

While Forbes spent \$37 million of his own fortune on his last White House race, he also raised about \$5 million. He has refused to say how much of his money he may shell out this time around.

Like he did in the 1996 race, Forbes is declining to accept federal matching funds for the 2000 campaign, which means he will have no limit on how much he may spend.

Bush, concerned about Forbes' wealth, is considering declining federal matching funds as well so he won't be limited on spending, either, aides reiterated on Wednesday.

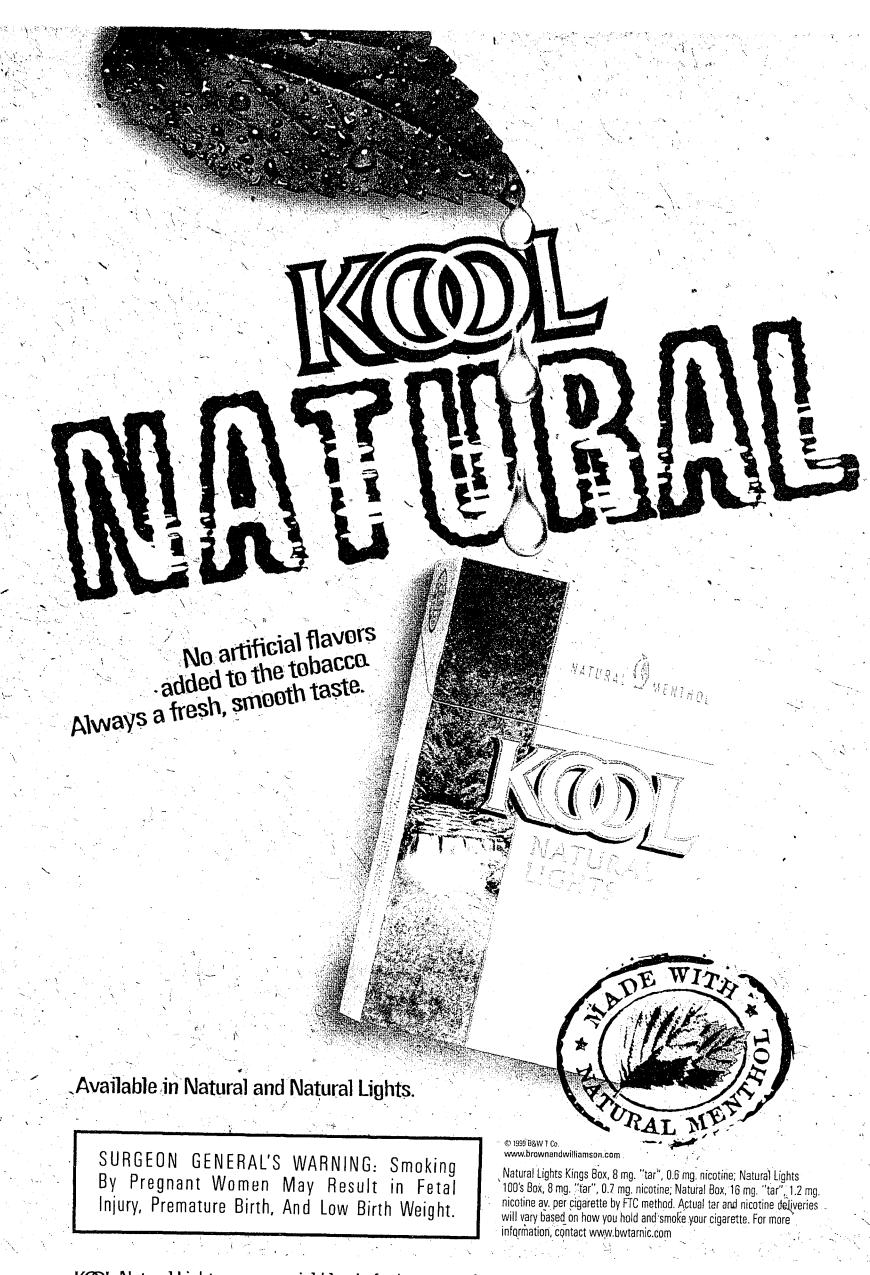
Bush is leading in the polls, the money and in endorsements, which include 12 members of the U.S. Senate, and 120 members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Forbes has been endorsed by only one member of Congress.



Presidential hopeful Steve Forbes celebrates with his family at his first official fundraising event Wednesday in New York. Pictured with Forbes, from left are: his wife, Sabina; and daughters Elizabeth, 11; and Sabina and Roberta, both 25.





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McCain raps Clinton, Gore

Ry Will Leste

WASHINGTON (AP)—Republican presidential candidate John McCain congratulated President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore for the Kosovo peace accord, but said Wednesday that they would be "better advised to show a little humility about their leadership during the war."

In a commencement speech at the National Defense University, the Arizona senator said the Clinton administration had underestimated the resolve of Yugoslav leader Slobodan Milosevic and made a critical mistake by ruling out the use of ground troops.

"It would be a tragedy far outweighing the enormous good that was achieved by our victory if we used it as a model for meeting future military challenges," he said.



John McCair

"We began that war, violating the most basic tenets of modern warfare ... hit the enemy hard from the start and never tell him what you won't do to win."

He said the Clinton administration "allowed us to stumble into war without adequate planning."



P.J. Crowley, a spokesman for the National Security Council said the Kosovo campaign fulfilled NATO's objectives without any combat casualties.

Bill Clinton

"What we are seeing today in Kosovo are the fruits of a very successful Kosovo strategy con-



Al Gore

ducted very professionally by NATO with obvious leadership by the United States and President Clinton," he said.

McCain, who supported U.S. involvement in the Kosovo conflict and made it a key issue in his campaign for the presidency, said

it highlighted the nation's failure to adequately fund defense programs. He singled out the shortage of cruise missiles and delays in deployment of the Apache helicopters.

Clinton has made sure that he and Gore, the Democratic presidential front-runner, have received their share of credit for the Kosovo peace accords, McCain said.

"I'm happy to congratulate the president and vice president for their contributions to our success," he said. "But they both would be better advised to show a little humility about their leadership during the war."

McCain attended the National War College, part of the National Defense University, in 1974 after his return from Vietnam, where he was held prisoner for more than five years.

Stray bullet in road rage shooting hits 5-year-old

IRVINGTON, N.J. (Reuters)

— A five-year-old boy was wounded in the face by a stray bullet as two motorists whose cars collided traded gunfire in a "road rage" shooting in northern New Jersey, police said on Wednesday.

Police said two cars collided on Tuesday night in a residential area of Irvington, a suburb of New York City. One or both of the cars rolled over in the collision.

The drivers, two men, got out of their cars, argued and exchanged gunfire, police said. The boy was struck while sitting in the back seat of a parked car.

He was in critical condition at University Hospital in Newark.

The two suspects ran from the scene, but their cars were impounded.

Pentagon hit for sale of excess ammo

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Democratic lawmakers on Wednesday decried the U.S. military for selling surplus supplies of armour-piercing ammunition capable of destroying a tank or crippling a helicopter.

"This is not something to shoot a duck with," said Illinois Democrat Representative Rod Blagojevich, co-author with California Democrat Representative Henry Waxman of a report on Pentagon sales of the surplus .50-calibre ammunition.

The sales are legal, but Blagojevich had hoped to offer an amendment ending them to the youth crime and gun bill being debated in the House this week. His amendment was not permitted, however, and he said he hopes to offer legislation at a later date.





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ALL BINGO BONANZA PARTICIPANTS MUST BE PRESENT BY 4:00 P.M. TO PICK UP THEIR BINGO CARD AT THE SUPERVISOR COUNTER JOETEN SHOPPING CENTER, SUSUPE



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STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 99-007

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bid from interested firms for the procurement of Cafeteria equipments for SY 1999-2000 for the island of Saipan. All items to be delivered must be CIF PSSPANDS. The specification package is now available and can be obtained at the Procurement and Supply Office situated on the 3rd Floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan during regular working hours, Monday through Friday except Holidays.

All bids submission must be submitted in duplicate and sealed in an envelope facemarked "IFB99-007", and submitted to the Procurement and Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan no later than 2:00 p.m. July 07, 1999 and which time and place all bids will be opened and read aloud. Late submission will not be considered under any circumstances.

The CNMI Public School System reserves the right to award on a single or multiple award or to reject any or all bids if in its sole opinion is to the best interest of the Public School System. All inquiries to this bidding announcement may contact Mr. Jess Sanchez, Food and Nutrition Program Administrator at telephone #664-3706/9/18 or by fax at 664-3717.

& RITA H. INOS, Ed. D. Commissioner of Education

/s/ LOUISE CONCEPCION Procurement & Supply Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM



PSS IFB 99-006

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of food and non food items for SY 1999-2000 for the Tinian Public School System, Tinian, MP 96950. All items to be delivered must be CIF Tinian Public School System. Specification requirements maybe obtained at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950 during regular working hours except

Bids in duplicate must be received no later than 2:00 p.m., July 08, 1999 at the Procurement & Supply Office situated on the 3rd floor of the Nauru Building, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950, and must be facemarked "IFB99-006: Food And Non Food For Tinian Schools For SY 1999-2000", at which time and place all bids will be opened and read aloud. Late submission will not be considered

All bidders are required to submit their responsibility determination documen tation in compliance to PSSPR3-301. Responsibility determination documents must be submitted in separate envelope envelope and facemarked "IFB99-006 Responsibility Determination" and the responsibility determination documents are due on the date, time, and place of the bid opening.

All documents received shall be the sole property of the Public School System, Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. The CNMI Public School System reserves the right to award on a single or multiple award or to reject any or all bids if in its sole opinion to do so is in the best interest of the Public School System. All inquiries to this bidding announcement may contract Mr. Jess Sanchez at the Food Services Program at telephone number 664-3709/

s Rita Hocog Inos. Ed. D.

PUBLIC NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

Pursuant to Title 6, Section 22 of the Saipan Municipal Code, the Office of the Mayor of Saipan hereby issues Notice of invitation to Bid for the operation of Bingo and Bato for the period of one (1) year commencing on July 4, 1999 to July 3, 2000.

The minimum bid for a Bingo License is \$1,000.00. The minimum bid for a Bato License is \$250.00.

All bids shall be accompanied by a deposit of twenty percent (20%) of the total amount bid. The deposit shall be in the form of a postal or express money order, cashier's or certified check or bank draft, payable to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Treasurer, Saipan, MP 96950. All bids must be sealed and submitted to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan on or before 3:30 p.m., June 21, 1999. No bid will be accepted after 3:30 p.m., June 21, 1999. All bids submitted on time will be publicly announced at 4:00 p.m., June 21, 1999 at the Office of the Mayor of Saipan at Afetna Square Building in San Antonio, Saipan, MP 96950.

For application forms and information, please come by or call the Mayor's Office at telephone numbers 234-6208 or 235-7304 between 7:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. and between 12:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

/s/ DAVID L. TOITOL Acting Mayor of Saipan June 8, 1999

Clinton eyes ban on 'abusive' child labor



President Clinton acknowledges applause in Geneva, Switzerland, where he addressed the International Labor Conference Wednesday.

By SANDRA SOBIERAJ

GENEVA (AP) - U.S. President Bill Clinton, opening a week's diplomacy in Europe in the aftermath of NATO's bombing campaign, urged governments worldwide on Wednesday to accept a new treaty banning what he called "vicious forms of abusive child labor."

"There are children chained to often-risky machines, children handling dangerous chemicals, children forced to work when they should be in school, preparing themselves and their countries for a better tomorrow," the president told the International Labor Or-

Clinton, the first U.S. president to address the ILO, arrived here at the start of a European swing whose agenda is dominated by peacekeeping in Kosovo and by economic agreements among the

industrial powers — chiefly an overhaul of Europe's financial systems and a package of debt relief for the world's poorest

In his speech, Clinton promised he would act promptly to send to the Senate for ratification the ILO's long-negotiated treaty intended to eradicate abusive child labor.

The organization, an arm of the United Nations, estimates that at least 250 million children, ages 5 to 14, work in developing countries - nearly half of them fulltime and tens of millions under exploitative and harmful condi-

A broad treaty on reducing child labor was negotiated by the ILO in 1972 but never mustered full support worldwide. The new treaty targets only the most egregious forms of child servitude, including forced prostitution, pornography, bondage and military service.

"Regardless of country, regardless of circumstances, these are not some archaic practices out of a Charles Dickens novel," Clinton said. "These are things that happen in too many places todaylem with the height of defenders, but playing in Germany has made me more confident,' Kang said.

Kim has built a harmonious team and the reason appears

"If the players want to drink they can drink," Kim said. "A glass a beer is very good for helping them enjoy themselves. I gave them a can each after the

England grabbed a first half goal when Jon Wyatt turned in a pass after a penalty corner and it went two up on 42 minutes through James Wallis.

English captain William Waugh showed he still had a sense of humor despite three previous losses.

"We were a bit shocked to be leading at halftime really," said Waugh. "And then going 2-0 up in the second half was not something we were used to really. We didn't know what to do."

Pakistan coach Khawaja Zakauddin bemoaned the new rules in force at this tournament which allows play to continue after the ball has struck a player's

"It was an improper time for this rule," he said. "The Champions Trophy is a big tournament."

England veteran Russell Garcia said the rule was well intended but not working properly. He said it favored the defensive team and would do nothing to bring fans to

Congratulations! DAVID EDGAR This years winner in SHELL / WENDY's & TRIPLE J's SUPER VALUE GIVEAWAY TRIPLE J MOTORS L-R: Juanita Seman (Wendy's Saipan), Elsa Edgar, David Edgar, James Blend (Shell Marianas), and Jay Jones (Triple J. Motors)

On Kosovo peacekeeping deal:

US, Russia make progress

By ROBERT BURNS

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) -U.S. Defense Secretary William Cohen said after eight house of talks with his Russian counterpart Wednesday that they made "some agreements in some areas" toward resolving a Russian-NATO standoff over Moscow's role in keeping the peace in

Refusing to provide details, Cohen told reporters that he and Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev would resume their discussions Thursday. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov will be discussing the same matters in Helsinki.

"We had a long, productive afternoon and evening, but we have more to go," Cohen said as he returned to his Helsinki hotel in the early hours of Thursday.

He said he had consulted during the evening with NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana, as well as with NATO's top military officers and the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington.

The Russian news agency Itar-Tass quoted Sergeyev as saying after his meeting with Cohen at the presidential palace in Helsinki, "We have reached an agreement on the structure of command of



Russian Defense Minister Igor Sergeyev (right) is welcomed on his arrival in Helsinki Wednesday by the Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari (left). Sergeyev along with his American counterpart Defense Secretary William Cohen are trying to resolve the issue of what role Russian peacekeeping troops will play in Kosovo.

the peacekeeping operation with the participation of the Russian military contingent."

Cohen was more cautious in his characterization of the talks.

"We have general understandings of each other's positions," Cohen said. "We've had some agreements in some areas, but until the entire package as such is resolved there can be no agreement. I know that some are reporting that an agreement has been struck. That is not the case." Nonetheless his tone was optimistic. The crux of the dispute is

NATO's demand — resisted by Moscow — that all countries participating in peacekeeping in Kosovo operate under a single

NATO-led command. "We are seeking ways in which the Russians can participate effectively within that commandand-control structure, and we will continue to work different formulations of it, but there has to be a unified command structure. I think

Cohen ruled out any compromise with Russia that would permit Moscow's troops to patrol in Kosovo under their own command. And comments by officials in Moscow seemed to hint at a compromise.

As Cohen and Sergeyev were meeting, Moscow sent a new convoy of supplies to the Russian force that unexpectedly took up a position last week at the airport near Kosovo's capital, Pristina.

"If we didn't have a measure of confidence we wouldn't have come here," Sergeyev said through a translator as he faced Cohen across a long table in the brightly lit Hall of Mirrors. "If we fail, it will just be a tourist visit" to Helsinki, he said.

The dispute centers on Moscow's demand that it play an independent role in Kosovo peacekeeping and that its soldiers have a separate sector to patrol outside NATO's command. Washington and NATO insist that all troops in Kosovo report to NATO.

In Moscow, Vladimir Putin, secretary of the Security Council, said Russia wanted to cooperate with NATO while retaining limited independence for its forces in Kosovo. A Russian officer could be part of the overall command

for peacekeeping forces, he said. Russia will insist on "a certain degree of independence in making decisions and in conducting the operations," Putin was quoted as saying by the Interfax news agency.

Meanwhile, Russia will press the United States for access to Hungarian and Bulgarian air space to fly troop reinforcements to Kosovo, Russian defense officials said.

In an interview aboard his plane en route to the Finnish capital, Cohen declined to say whether he would present any new proposals, but he noted that several options had been suggested during diplomatic exchanges in recent days. One idea is to give the Russians their own geographic "zone of responsibility" within a section of Kosovo that is commanded by U.S. or other NATO officers.

"We are now going to examine some of those options, try to be as creative as we can while still adhering to the basic principle that there must be a unified command," Cohen said.

Sergeyev, on arrival in Helsinki, said he believed his talks with Cohen would produce an agreement that the leaders of their two countries could sign.





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COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CUC-RFP-99-0020 May 28, 1999

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting proposals from qualified A/E engineering firms for providing Construction Management Services for the construction of the Lower Navy Hill Sewer Line and Upgrade of Four Sewage Pump Stations, in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). The project consists of two separate parts: (1) Construction of a wastewater collection system, and (2) Renovation and upgrade of 4 pump stations in various locations. The wastewater collection system (approximately 0.5 miles in length) is to be constructed in the central part of Saipan just north of the Navy Hill Intersection with Middle Road, The four lift stations are located in Gualo Rai, Sadog Tasi, and near San Roque. The estimated construction period is 200 days from the date of the Notice to Proceed.

All interested firms may pick-up a Scope of Work at the Procurement & Supply Office, Rm. #4, 3rd Floor at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg., during normal working hours, Monday through Friday, except for Government observed holidays. A pre-proposal conference for this project is scheduled for Wednesday, June 16, 1999, at 9:30 a.m., local time at the CUC Conference Room.

The scope of the Construction Management services will include, but not be limited to:

- 1. Critical review of the plans and specifications for errors, lack of clarification and potential conflicts having impact on the construction activity and schedules.
- Review contractor's submissions of work schedules, shop drawings, etc. and make appropriate recommendations to CUC. Conduct regular inspections to assure that the construction is in compliance with the approved drawings,
- specifications and the applicable codes, including submission of daily inspection reports and weekly progress
- Initiation of any change orders, if needed.
- Review the Progress Payment Requests from the contractor and forward them with appropriate
- Assist CUC in closing out the contract including obtaining the "As Built" drawings.

Offerors shall provide a certification signed by a principle of the company stating that the company has in the past, and is currently, in compliance with all applicable CNMI and federal labor laws. Should the company be enable to provide such certification, the company must provide a written explanation as to why, including a description of any violations of such labor laws and any remedial action taken. FAILURE OF THE COMPANY TO PROVIDE THE CERTIFICATION OR EXPLANATION IS GROUNDS TO REJECT THE ENTIRE PROPOSAL.

Proposals will be evaluated and preliminary selection made based on:

Qualification of the principal and proposed staff (25 points), Experience in similar projects (25 points), Proposed project approach (20 points), Time frame of the work (15 points), and Completeness of the proposal (15 points).

The three design firms which receive the highest rating will be invited to submit price proposals. CUC will then enter into negotiation with the one submitting the lowest price.

One (1) original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked CUC-IFB-99-0020 to Mr. Mariano DLG. Fajardo, Supervisor for Procurement & Supply. Proposals will be accepted at the CUC P&S Office, Rm. #4, 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Bldg., Saipan, MP 96950, until 2:00 p.m., local time, on Wednesday, June 30, 1999.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any defect in the proposal if, in its sole opinion, to do so is in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries should be directed to Mr. David Yamartino at telephone number (670) 235-7025-32, ext. 141.

TIMOTHY P. VILLAGOMEZ Executive Director · · ---

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Secretary of Public Works

INVITATION FOR BIDS DPW 99-IFB-020 June 4, 1999

Governor Pedro P. Tenorio and Lt. Governor Jesus S. Sablan, through the CNMI Public Assistance Office and the Department of Public Works, are soliciting sealed bids for the Repair and Improvement of the Rota Public Address Warning System, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project consists of providing an island-wide Public Address Warning System for the island of Rota. Bidders are encouraged to visit the island of Rota and familiarize themselves with the areas relevant to this project.

Scope of Work, project package and bid documents are available, at no cost, on or after Tuesday, June 8, 1999 at the Technical Services Division, Department of Public Works, Lower Base, Saipan.

A Pre-Bid Conference meeting will be held at 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, June 16, 1999 at the Conference Room, Department of Public Works, Gualo Rai Office, Saipan. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing to the Director of Technical Services Division, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Thursday, June 17, 1999.

An original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, Wednesday, June 30, 1999, at which place and time the bids will be publicly opened.

Bids with \$25,000.00 or more must be accompanied by a bid security of 15% of the bid amount. This security may be in the form of a bid bond, certified check, or cashier check. Certified checks or cashier's checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer with the name of the bidder on the face of the check. Bid bonds must be executed by a CNMI approved surety.

The Bidder determined by the government to be responsible and who submits the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government. Such bidders will be required to deliver contract securities in the form of Performance and Payment Bonds each in an amount equal to 100% of the contract price. Performance time for completion of this project is one hundred eighty (180) calendar days. Liquidated damages will be assessed at \$250.00 per calendar days for each day that the project is delayed beyond the established completion date.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Award of a contract is contingent upon approval from FEMA.

All bid documents shall become the sole property of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in bid documents in the best interest of the Commonwellh of the Northern

/s/Juan B Cepeda

Secretary of Public Works AWS

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN Director, Division of Proc. & Supply

/s/VIRGINIA C. VILLAGOMEZ Spec. Asst. for Management & Budget/ Government Authorized Representative

NATO, KLA work on weapons pact

By ANNE GEARAN

WASHINGTON (AP) — American peacekeeping forces are selectively disarming Kosovo Liberation Army members, even though the KLA is not bound to give up small arms under the Kosovo peace pact, the Army general commanding the U.S. contingent said.

At the request of the U.S. commander and others, NATO is negotiating with the guerrilla army to spell out whether and when the KLA must surrender weapons, Brig. Gen. Bantz Johnson "John" Craddock said Tuesday.

Meanwhile, Defense Secretary William Cohen spoke to his Russian counterpart for about 20 minutes Tuesday in preparation for a longer faceto-face meeting in Helsinki, Finland, on Wednesday, a Pentagon spokesman said.

Cohen hopes to defuse the standoff between NATO troops and about 200 Russians who have occupied the key Pristina airfield since Saturday. While insisting that Russia is welcome to help keep peace in Kosovo now that the Serb forces are leaving, NATO has so far refused to cede a separate patrol zone to Russia.

A second column of Russian troops arrived in Kosovo on Tuesday. Though the column is small - just 29 soldiers, ac-

cording to NATO — its arrival could increase the tension between Russia and the western

Sandy Berger, the president's national security adviser, talked Tuesday with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, to discuss a compromise. To bypass NATO and Russia's differences, a Russian general could report to the general of another country, who would report to the NATO peacekeeping command, White House spokesman P.J. Crowley said.

"We have pointed to Bosnia as a model," Crowley said, noting that the same sort of Russian-NATO command liaison has been used there.

The White House and Pentagon also said that even if Serb stragglers were likely to be in southern Kosovo past a midnight (2100 GMT) deadline for them to depart, Yugoslavia was largely in compliance with NATO orders to pull out. Serb forces, retreating in waves, must be out of Kosovo entirely by Sunday.

White House press secretary Joe Lockhart, in Geneva with President Bill Clinton, said on Wednesday that NATO had given the Serbs an additional 24 hours to vacate one zone because of road congestion. "Overall, we've found that the withdrawal has worked well."

Castañeda...

Continued from page 3

VIP rooms of the Moods and Music nightclub.

EEOC alleged that nightclub owner Castaneda knew about the sexual harassment and did nothing to stop the behavior.

The employees were recruited by Castaneda's manpower agency in the Philippines and came to Saipan expecting legitimate waitress jobs.

Instead, EEOC said, the workers were subjected to sexual harassment in the club, including physical sexual assault in the VIF rooms by customers.

With regards to a criminal case filed by the US Attorney's Office against Castaneda in federal court, the defendant pleaded guilty to charges of transportation and aiding and abetting transportation for illegal sexual activity and is awaiting sentenc-

William R. Tamayo, regional attorney in EEOC's San Francisco District Office, pointed out that sexual harassment of employees by customers in bars violates Title VII and will not

"Employers need to know that when an employee complains about customer sex harassment, the law requires the employer to take affirmative steps to remedy the problem. Employers must take measures to ensure sex harassment in the workplace is eliminated," said Tamayo in a press statement.

Susan McDuffie, EEOC San Francisco district director said,' this is an egregious case where many non-resident immigrant waitresses were subjected to sexual harassment, complained to management and had to run away from their employment to escape the harassment."

"We are very pleased this case has been resolved by a judgment for the maximum monetary amount," McDuffie said.

Daphne Barbee-Wooten, senior trial attorney in the Honolulu Local Office, who prosecuted the case, said Title VII assures that sex harassment is not a condition of employment and employees do not have to submit to harassment from customers nor from employers and co-workers.

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CAO

Continued from page 20

English circulating in the schools. CAO, according to the report, will also provide an instruc-

tional video in Carolinian and English to assist the bilingual teachers and other educators in

Brahms . . . Continued from page 16

monwealth Museum (presently being organized) to pick up on what the former Northern Marianas Music Society used to provide to the community once a month.

The new program will sponsor

Cabrera . . . Continued from page 14

islands and to help draw visitors,"

said Cabrera. "It was a wonderful learning experience, and I wish I had a lot more support and preparation before competing. But I felt I did the best I could and walked away with a better understanding about the whole process," she said.

As for Cabrera's plans, now that the Miss Universe Pageant is over, she says she will focus on educating and inspiring the island's youth.

"I would like to focus on promoting spiritual and physical health, and continue to be an advocate for healthy living," she

"I also had the chance to estab-

the Carolinian language and culture.

The office is now looking for ways to secure local and federal funding through the National Endowment for the Humanities, Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture, and others to fund subsequent printed or video documentation.

some artistic event, either musical, theatrical or artistic on the second Sunday of each month at the museum from 2:00 to 4:00

Admission is free to members of the Friends of the Arts and Friends of the Commonwealth Museum and regular museum admission prices apply to nonmembers.

lish ties with delegates from Hong Kong, Thailand and other Asian regions and I can assist the Marianas Visitor Authority in drawing more visitors from the region to come here," she added.

Of course, the young queen also added that none of this would have been possible if it weren't for the support she received during and after the Miss Universe competition.

"First, I would like to thank God and my family for all their love and support. And to Frank Eliptico, Jessica Barcinas, Aileen Farley, Trisha Tudela, Helene Lizama, Ernie and Mike Manglona," said Cabrera.

"Also to my employer, Pacific Island Aviation, MVA, Viralicci, Saipan Photo Lab, and the Northern Marianas Beauty Pageant Association. Un Dangkulu na si Yu'us Ma'ase," she said.

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CNMI . . .

Continued from page 10

chase survey showed that at least 136,653 up to 177, 377 pounds of coral reef fish and 2,240 up to 3, 425 pounds of spiny lobster have been landed in each of the year from 1992 up to 1994 in the CNMI, while a total of 168,235 pounds of sea cucumber were also harvested during the period of 18 months in between 1995 and 1996.

Grads . . .

Continued from page 13

and teamwork that graduates can use to become successful in the future.

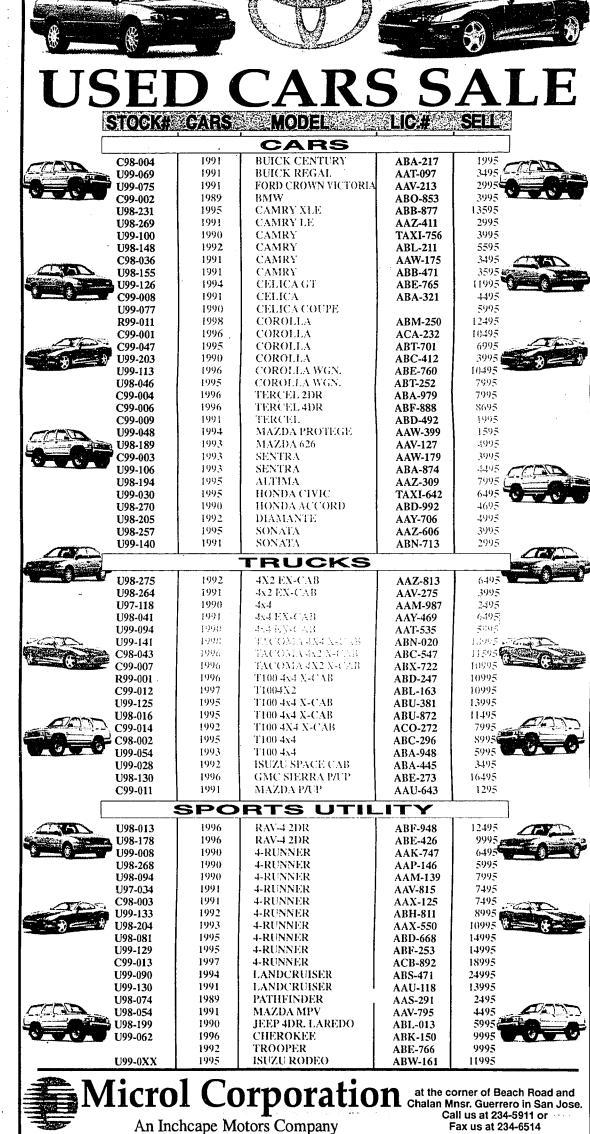
The graduation rites was attended by Education Commissioner Rita H. Inos, Louise Concepcion of the Public School System, Rev. Jesse Reyes, and the officials of the Parents Teachers Assocation of SVES.

Speaker..

Continued from page 7

determination," said Benavente The \$68 million budget deficit is being attributed to the current economic crisis.

It has, officials said, resulted to a dramatic increase in the cumulative deficit from \$57 million at the end of the previous administration to \$68 million as of the end of the last fiscal year.



Ex-CRM Continued from page 10

counts of misconduct in public office before the Superior Court. Atalig has categorically denied all allegations.

Court records however stated that in three separate incidents, Atalig "did unlawfully struck, beat and otherwise do bodily harm to the victimorhas sexual contact with another without that person's consent."

Assistant Atty. General Marvin Williams added that the former CRM director had an "unlawful nonconsensual intimate contact with the victim."

The incidents allegedly happened during a week-long beautification project CRM launched on Rota last

Court documents showed that Atalig allegedly tried to lure the victim into having sexual contact. The victim resisted.

Survey . . .

Continued from page 6

11-25, or the Fiscal Integrity Act of 1998, which repealed the sunset provisions in the local tax laws.

The government was expecting to generate an additional \$9 million from the new revenue-collecting measure. Public Law 11-25 brought taxes imposed on fuel to \$0.15 per gallon.

Tinian . . .

Continued from page 6

CUC's efforts of bringing better services to its customers.

So far, 615 CUC customers in Tinian have metered water supply, reversing the situation almost

Continued from page 6

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paid renewal fees, will automati-

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31, a new application must be **ABC** ... submitted for consideration by

the Secretary of Commerce. Application forms are now pursuant to 4 CMC Section available and may be received from the Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control. Division anytime between 7:30 am to 4:30 pm pended as of July 31, due to unon weekdays except on holidays.

five years ago where only about

37 customers had a metered water

CUC is able to pump some 1.3

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basis which are "more than

enough" for the need of some 700

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tomers of the utilities agency in

For more information please call the Alcoholic Beverage and Tobacco Control Division at 664-3061 or 664-3065.

FIRST ANNIVERSARY



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MARIANO CAMACHO **DELEON GUERRERO**

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We invite all relatives and friends to join us in commemorating the First Anniversary of his passing unto eternal life by attending the eight day mass celebration. Rosary starts on June 21 to 29 at 8:00PM at Koblerville Residence. On the final day, Tuesday, June 29, Rosary will be at 12:00 noon. Dinner will be served following the anniversary mass.

| Schedule | of | Masses |
|-----------|----|----------|
| Gerreaure | • | 11140000 |

| JUNE 21 | MONDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
|---------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
| JUNE 22 | TUESDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| IUNE 23 | WEDNESDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| IUNE 24 | THURSDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| IUNE 25 | FRIDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| JUNE 26 | SATURDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| JUNE 27 | SUNDAY | ST. JUDE CHURCH | 6:00A |
| JUNE 28 | MONDAY | MT. CARMEL CATHEDRAL | 6:00A |
| | | | |

From the Family Maria A. Deleon Guerrero & Children

ST. JUDE CHURCH

Compact. Continued from page 3

ated States residing in the Northern Marianas is one of the most important issues that will be addressed by the Department of Commerce, along with the special Compact Impact committee and the Central Statistics

Villanueva said the study also involves several CNMI government agencies in order to efficiently quantify the fiscal impact if the Compacts in the areas of health care, education and law enforcement.

He added the comprehensive study will be the basis for the CNMI's request for reimbursement from the federal govern-

In order to be consistent in the computation process, the Commonwealth government would be following the methodology used by Guam and Hawaii in the computation of the Compact's impact to the two

"If Guam's and Hawaii's methodology is acceptable to the Interior Department, we

should be following that direction," Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio

Tenorio said the CNMI will strongly press for fair and prompt reimbursement of the expenses incurred by the Commonwealth in hosting citizens of Palau, Marshalls and FSM in the islands.

During the last three years, preliminary government estimates placed CNMI expenses in relation to the migration of Micronesians to the islands under the Compacts of Free Association to around \$30 million.

Extension of health and other social services to citizens of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and Palau cost the CNMI \$12.8 million in 1997 and \$11.9 million last year.

The CNMI had been reimbursed by the federal government only once since the Compact of Free Association was sealed in mid-1980s. In 1992, CNMI received \$395,000 in technical assistance grant.

The CNMI had been billing the United States government for the Compact-Impact reimbursements since the 1980's but nothing has been finalized so far.

We, the family of the late

6:00PM



TUESDAY

Margarita Gepeda

WOULD LIKE TO INVITE ALL OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS TO PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS AS WE COMMEMORATE FIRST DEATH ANNIVERSARY INTO ETERNAL LIFE

ROSARY WILL BE SAID NIGHTLY AT 8:00 P.M. BEGINNING JUNE 21, 1999 AT THE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN CHINA TOWN.

ON THE FINAL DAY, JUNE 29, 1999. HOLY MASS WILL BE OFFERED AT 6:00 P.M. AT KRISTO RAI CHURCH. DINNER WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AT THE FAMILY RESIDENCE IN CHINA TOWN.

Your presence and prayers will be greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase HOWARD I. MACARANAS & CHILDREN

3rd . . . Continued from page 3

sailing of a ship carrying 141 Chinese immigrants toward Guam last April. The US Attorney's Office also charged in separate indictments nine other persons for allegedly

nese nationals to Guam.

Tenorio . . . Continued from page 3

grown "smarter," also adding that he will respect whatever the outcome of the November elections will be.

Asked if Guerrero stands a chance against him, Tenorio replied: "I cannot underestimate anybody. Everybody has a chance.'

"It is report card time for me so personally I... hope that the public was satisfied in the four years that I have been in this

office and I will definitely hope that the public will give me another chance to serve," said Tenorio.

smuggling undocumented Chi-

Tenorio, the Republican candidate in 1995, easily beat Democrat Mametto U. Maratita, and then Senate President Juan S. Demapan, who ran as independent candidate backed by the then Democratic administration.

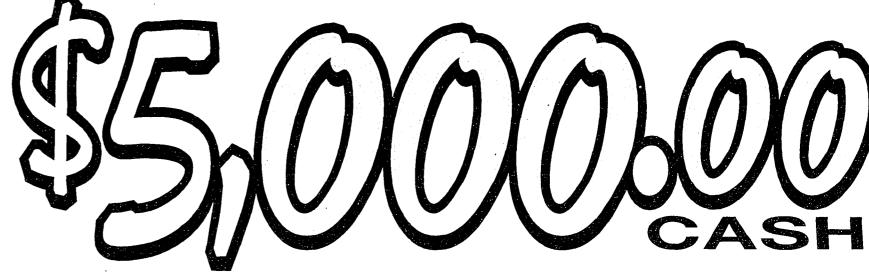
Demapan has earlier came out with a public statement endorsing Tenorio's reelection.

Guerrero announced he is running under the Reform Party of former governor Froilan C. Tenorio early this.

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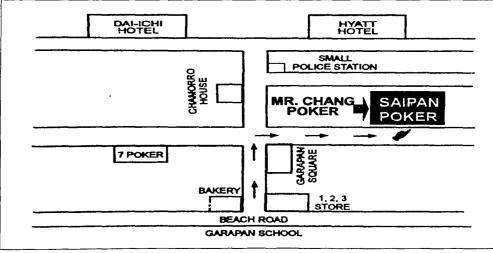
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Intro to Heptadology (Part I)

the number seven; Septem in Latin; Siete in modern Chamorro; Sab'bun in Arabic; Sapta in Sanskrit; Ch'i in Chinese; Shichi in Japanese; and Nilkop in Korean. In this article, and the next, I intend to take a look at some of the deep cultural history of the concept of Seven, or the Heptad, and to share with you some of the wellknown, and not so well-known ways in which this fabulous number is interwoven in your everyday experience.

First off, you all are intimately aware of the number seven as being the number of days in a week and a common duration in which we organize our activities. In fact in Greek, hebdomada (seven-ness) is the name for a week, which is septimana in medieval Latin, settimana in Italian, semaine in French, and simana in Chamorro.

In antiquity, when the universe was spherical with the motionless earth at the center. the number of planets was thought to be seven, and the correspondence between the days and the planets (and musical notes) was the basis for the names of the days. (The "planets" in increasing distance from

HEPTAD is the Greek word for the earth were Moon, Sun, Aphrodite (Venus), Hermes (Mercury), Ares (Mars), Zeus (Jupiter), and Kronos (Saturn)). Saturn was the seventh planet, and so we have the expression "the seventh heavon" as well as Saturday and the Hebrew "Sab-

> If we step into the time machine of our imagination and set the dial for a few thousands years ago, we see at the poetic beginnings of Western culture the mysterious and semi-divine figure of Pythagoras (fl. 500 B.C.E.). For Pythagoras, the metaphor of Number formed the Principles of All Things. Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy (spherics), and Music (harmonics), were thought to be all intimately related and formed the curriculum of the Quadrivium, the four branches of mathematics. Today, the study of Pythagorean mathematics is called Arithmology (which is related to but also much different from the much later notion of "Numerology").

Much of what we know of the ancient teaching of Pythagoras comes from the eminent Neoplatonist Iamblichus. Around the fourth century, A.D., Iamblichus wrote a work called The Theology of Arithmetic,

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Mathematical and Cosmological Symbolism of the First Ten Numbers. This introduction to what I have called Heptadology stems from that work. Iamblichus begins his presen-

tation On the Heptad by noting that seven "is not born of any mother and is a virgin." The reason for this, I believe, is that seven is a prime number, and is not the product of any other numbers. Even numbers were considered female in this system, and to have a mother, a number would have to be a product of an even number. It is considered a virgin because it does not "mingle" with any other number within the decad (from 1 - 10) in such a way as to produce any of the other numbers in the decad. That is to say, when you multiply seven by any other number from one to ten, you do not produce any number from one to ten. One, remember, was not considered a num-

This may seem far fetched, but perhaps not, especially if you were using the relationships of the first ten numbers as your conceptual framework for the explanation of everything. At any rate, this uniqueness of

ber, but the "father" of all num-

that, other than one, seven is the first "happy number," which, by the way, shows a nice relationship between seven and one. That is if you square seven you get forty-nine, then if you square four and nine, and add the result you get 97. Then if you square those two digits you get 130. Squaring those digits and adding them gives 10, and finally, squaring 1 and 0 and adding

To mention a few more modern properties of seven, we note that it is the first number that is the sum of four squares and no fewer: $2^2 + 1^2 + 1^2 + 1^2 =$ 7. Seven is also the largest prime number with one digit, as well as being the smallest number requiring two syllables in its English word name.

The next point Iamblichus makes is that if you sum the numbers from one to seven, 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7, the result is 28, the number of days in the lunar month and the second Perfect Number (it's proper divisors, 1, 2, 4, 7, 14 add up to 28). The moon also has four quarters of seven days each. Twentyeight is also the seventh trian-

Seven is also said to be the number of "ages" or "seasons" in a person's life: Child, boy ways you may form \$25.00.

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(or girl), adolescent, youth, man (or woman), old man (or old lady). Each stage is said to last seven years. One is said to be a child until the shedding of teeth, at 7 years; a boy or girl up to puberty or 14 years; an adolescent up to the growth of a beard or 21 years; a youth up to the general growth of the body or 28 years; a man or woman up to 49 years; and elder up to 56 years, and after that an old person. However, Iamblichus does not recommend retirement until

In subsequent times, the no-

to Heptadology.

that 7 is the first natural number which can be expressed as the sum of four squares and no fewer. Can you find the next two numbers with this property?

2. One is the smallest number lables? Four? Five?

Answers to Last Week's

5 times the square root of 5/24

2. The number is 45, since 4.5

3. There are twelve different

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO.: <u>RFP99-0048</u> FOR: <u>SECURITY SERVICES</u> OPENING DATE: <u>JULY 02</u>, 1999

GOVERNOR PEDRO P. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS R. SABLAN, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING PROPOSALS FROM INTERESTED QUALIFIED FIRMS OR INDIVIDUALS FOR SECURITY SERVICES. NTERESTED FIRMS OR INDIVIDUAL MAY PICK UP PROPOSAL ORMS AND SPECIFICATION AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING VORKING WORKS (7:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.)

/S/HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

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RFP NO. <u>RFP99-0046</u>
FOR: <u>MANPOWER SERVICES FOR COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CTR.</u>
CLOSING DATE: JULY 1, 1999 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

GOVERNOR PEDRO P. TENORIO AND LT. GOVERNOR JESUS R. SABLAN, THROUGH THE DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, ARE SOLICITING PROPOSALS FROM QUALI-FIED MANPOWER AGENCY (IES) TO PROVIDE TRAINED AND LICENSED NOLEX CERT FIED PROFESSIONAL NURSES, PHARMACY SPECIALISTS, RADIOLOGY TECHNICIANS MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS AND ELECTRONICS SPECIALISTS ON A CONTRACTUAL BASIS TO THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER (CHC). INTERESTED FIRMS MAY PICE UP PROPOSAL FORMS AND SPECIFICATIONS AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, PRO CUREMENT & SUPPLY, LOWER BASE, SAIPAN, DURING WORKING HOURS (7:30 A.M. TO

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

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NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

TO: Creditors of the estate of An

You are hereby notified that Gordon

Ichihara Marciano, of Saipan, has been

or of the estate of Ana Haape.

Administrator's attorney of record is

Reynaldo O. Yana of P.O. Box 52

Susupe Village, Saipan, Commonwealth

of the Northern Mariana Islands. All per-

sons having claims against the deceased

are hereby required to serve them duly

certified on the said executrix or her at

tomey of record at the addresses speci-

fied above, and to file them with the clerk

of the Superior Court of the Common

vealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,

ogether with proof of such service,

vithin 60 days of the date of the first

publication of this notice, or the claims

Dated this 16th day of June, 1999.

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

NOTICE TO FILE CLAIMS

TO: Creditors of the estate of David

You are hereby notified that Gordon

chihara Marciano, of Saipan, has been

pointed and qualified as administra

r of the estate of David Hape

farciano. Administrator's attorney of

ecord is Reynaldo O. Yana of P.O. Box

Susupe Village, Saipan, Common

vealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

All persons having claims against the

deceased are hereby required to serve

them duly certified on the said execu-

trix or her attorney of record at the ad-

lresses specified above, and to file them

with the clerk of the Superior Court of

the Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands, together with proof of

such service, within 60 days of the date

of the first publication of this notice, or

s/REYNALDO O. YANA

n the matter of the estate of:

DAVID HAPEI MARCIANO,

Civil Action No. 99-007D

apei Marciano, deceased.

Attorney for Administrator

appointed and qualified as administra

Haape, deceased.

Suite 102, Tanaka Building, Route 4 Hagatna, Guam 96910 472-1612 In the matter of the estate of: ANA HAAPE (a.k.a. ANA HAPEI),

In the Superior Court of Guam Civil Action No. 99-008D Jin Young KOH,

Hye Won KIM. Domestic Case No. DM 0374-99

Law Offices of Seaton M. Woodley, III

SUMMONS To the above-named defendant Hve Won KIM Suite | B-402

Maite, Guam 96927

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with this court and serve apon Seaton M. Woodley, III. Attorney it Law, attorney for the Plaintiff, whose address is Suite 102, Tanaka Building Route 4, Hagatna, Guam 96910, an an wer to the complaint which is herewith erved upon you, within thirty (30) days after service of this summons upon you exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

Dated: June 04, 1999

ENRIQUE E. AFLAGUE, JR. Deputy Clerk of Court

In the Superior Court of the

PARK, BOK SUN,

JO, SUK KON KOREA TOWN,

KIM, BI SOOK LEE and

KO, HAN-YOON Civil Action No. 98-847B

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE SALI

By virtue of a foreclosure judgmen ntered on December 9, 1999, Plaintiff Park, Bok Sun, obtained a judgmen against Defendants, Jo, Suk Kon, Korea Town, Inc., and Ko, Han-Yoon, in the amount of Two Hundred Forty Three Thousand Three Hundred Fifty Five Dollars and Seven cents (243,355.07) plus interest thereon, at the rate of nine percent (9%) per annum, from the date of the judgment. Kim, Bi Sook Lee subsequently was considered to be a Defen-

In said judgment, the Court directed

and authorized the public sale of a 55

year leasehold in a parcel of Middle Road

real estate, Lot No. 2003-2-1, in Chalan

auLau Village, Commonwealth of the

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at

a public auction to be held at the hour of

1:00 p.m., on Thursday, July 1, 1999, at the office of the Pacific Mediation

Center, located on the 2nd Floor of the

Inion Bank building, Oleai Center, Oleai

illage, Saipan, Commonwealth of the

Northern Mariana Islands, the 55-year

asehold in the aforementioned property

will be sold by me pursuant to 2 CMC

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s/JOHN B. JOYNER, Auctioneer

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Attorney for Administrator

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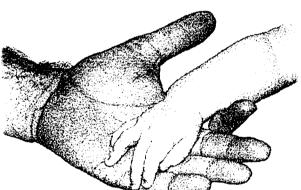
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seven formed a basis for associating it with the Goddess Athena (Minerva in Latin), since Athena was a virgin and unwed, and was said to be born from the head of the Gods, that is Zeus. Likewise, seven was said to be born from the Monad, or One, the head of all numbers. All that is was said to be an emana-

tion from the One.

In later times, and in line with this tradition, seven became the number associated with Sophia. the Goddess of Wisdom and Glory- the feminine aspect of the One God. In the Old Testament, Proverbs, Chapter 9, Wisdom says, "Wisdom has built her house, she has set up her seven columns; she has dressed her meat, mixed her wine,...Come, eat of my food, and drink of the wine I have mixed!" Hence the "seven columns" become the "Seven Pillars of Wisdom" of Lawrence

of Arabia fame. In modern times, as noted in last week's article, we showed

them gives you one, the Monad.

 $7 \times 10 = 70$.

tion of seven as regulating the major periods of a person's life became embodied in the concept of a climacteric (climactericus). Every seven years were said to be a critical or turning point in a person's

I have hardly scratched the surface here in regard to the metaphysical, psychological, esthetical and mathematical implications of the concept of the number seven. But I am running out of time and space, and so will wait until next week to continue with this introduction

1. In the article we mentioned

requiring one syllable, seven is the smallest number requiring two syllables. What is the smallest number requiring three syl-

3. The following sequence has something to do with the number seven. Can you figure out its "secret" and write the next four terms? 0, 7, 41, 84,

1. Let A = 5 and B = 24, then is equal to the square root of 5 +

= one-half of 4 + 5.

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reau business and social group, confers

with department head to discuss and

formulate plans for soliciting business,

supervises and trains service represen-

tative. And must speak English and

01 ASSISTANT MANAGER, SALES-

To assist sales manager in plans and

dministers sales policies and programs

to foster and promote hotel patron, con-

sults newspapers, trade journal and

publications to learn about contem-

plated convention and social function,

directs workers engage in preparing pro-

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reau business and social group, confers

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formulate plans for soliciting business,

supervises and trains service represen-

tative. An must seak English and Japa-

01 ASST, MANAGER, MAINTENANCE-

Supervises and coordinates activities of

maintenance workers, engaged in main-

tenance and repairing physical struc-

tures and utility systems and hotel build-

ing and maintaining ground, direct work-

ers engaged in painting and performing

structural repairs and masonry wood-

taining utility system such as electrical

wiring and control heating and ventilat-

ing system and water distributing and

plumbing system and other related du-

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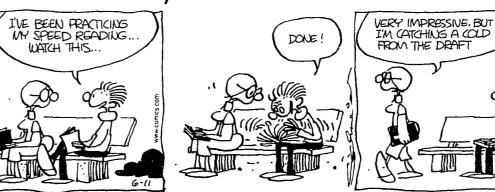
Prefer three bedrooms at least. Prefer Capital Hill, but other safe neighborhood would be considered. Prefer nice view, with 24-hour water. Call: PacifiCare at 235-0994 to leave message. Arriving on-island June 23, 1999.

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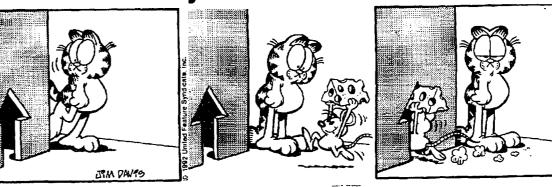
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STELLA WILDER

YOUR BIRTHDAY

FRIADAY, JUNE 18, 1999

Born today, you often insist on having things your way. You know how to win support for your plan and to get others to dedicate their efforts to your campaign. Therein lies your own very real success. You must always remember that you cannot do everything on your own, and, in fact, most things will require the involvement of others if they are to come to fruition. Unfortunately, you are not as expressive as you might be when it comes to the gratitude you owe to those who help you along the

road to success. There are times, of course, where you put your feelings into strong words which are rarely misunderstood. You may even enjoy a good-old-fashioned outburst of genuine emotion. When you are honest with your feelings in this way, you endear yourself to all of those who have

contact with you. Also born on this date are: Paul McCartney, singer, musician, former Beatle; Isabella Rossellini, actress, model; Rogert Ebert, film critic; Carol Kane, actress.

To see what is in store for you tomorrow, find your birthday and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, JUNE 19 GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

— You're going to want to get down to business today as early as you possibly can. If it means seeing the sun rise, so be it. this time Don't delay!

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A close friend may offer you an intriguing incentive today, but you may still have to follow your current path until you reach your destination. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — A personal experiment can pay off

handsomely today, and you're likely to get a valuable promise from a member of the opposite sex as a result. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) An adventure waits for you, but are you truly ready for it?

You may have one important

lesson to learn before the day is LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)— Developments today may leave you rather bewildered, but with a little effort, you can surely figure out which is which and what is what.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) - Someone may be playing a strange sort of guessing game with you today, but you will find the strength to call it quits and move on.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - You can avoid embarrassment today by being in the right place at the right time. Luck and timing will play a large role all day long.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You will want to associate closely with an Aries or Sagittarius native who, simply by

chance, has "all the answers" at

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — As always, communication is the key today, but you can surely be a little more imaginative and persuasive than you might usually be.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You can capitalize on your own mistakes today if you are quick to spot them and assess them correctly. Nothing can't be fixed at this time.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) - You may be waiting for the "officials" to make a decision that will affect you in the future. You've done all you can to

influence the outcome. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You may find that routine complications are far more annoying today than they have been in the past. Perhaps you're ready to move on.



CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS

13 A Chaplir

14 Summer

drink

15 "Seinfeld."

for one

Jungle" auth 18 — Tin Tin

19 Cooled 21 Actor Nick —

23 Destinies

27 Math term

35 Father

37 Gratuity

39 Negative 40 Drag

42 Female ruff

"Blackboard

Eight" 48 Spiritually 50 Order 53 Radiate 5 TV host 54 Mal de -9 is able to 55 Vowel

> 57 Among 61 Sue -Langdon 62 Mil. deserte 64 Ireland 65 - sequitur

> > 67 - estate

7 Opp. of SSW

sequence

DOWN

28 Fairy in "The 1 Fleur-de- --29 Roman 104 2 Kimono sash 3 Horse doctor, 34 Eastwood ID

for short 4 Stirred up 5 Females 6 Maiden loved

of "Cosby" 23 Datum 9 Comedian George – 24 Cookie with the creamy entrance 16 Of the eyes

1-9 @ 1998 United Feature Syndicate

Answer to Previous Puzzle

25 Smallest S 26 Perch 30 Prey 32 Wild ox

33 Score 36 Not a Rep. 38 "Lilies of the Field" Oscar 41 A Beatty 43 Sight organ

45 Calloway ID 47 Tantalum svmbol 49 Undersized 50 "— — and a

Woman" 51 Attorney Genera Janet — 52 Slangy affirmative

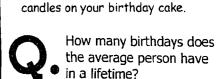
56 — Jima 59 Sp. woman 63 Expression of

by Dick Rogers

KidSpot.

THE PUZZLER Here's a little quiz you might think

about while you're blowing out the



To learn the answer, write the groups of letters in order, from shortest to longest.

ONE **RATIONS** THER **ECELEB**

ESTAR

SAIPAN LOVES THE MUMMY! HELD OVER! FINAL 3 DAYS!

ente ennem 1988 for la capez ficher du fair bes STAR WARS

DCKETOGEN ANSWER: ONE. THE REST ARE CELEBRATIONS.



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urged to register at the Dept. of Labor & Immigration, Division of Employment Services to the job/s being advertised in which you are qualified and available. For further assistance,

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233-4242(6/18)F31387 01 WAITRESS-Salary: \$3.05 per hour Contact: THE SAMURAI CORPORA-

F31455 03 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary:

Contact: SOON SIK CHOI dba Choi's

Contact: DOLPHIN PACIFIC (SAIPAN).

235-6784(6/25)F31475 01 MAINTENANCE REPAIRER. BLDG.-Salary: \$3.05 per hour

01 SALESPERSON-Salary: \$3.05 per

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in the insular areas."

migrate to the territory.

ing for CIPs.

CNMI CIP funding would then be

used to reimburse Guam for the

"impact" of allowing Freely Asso-

ciated States' (FAS) citizens to

In an earlier letter to Regula, the

chair of the US House Resources

Committee said the Clinton

administration's failure to review

the financial impact of the Com-

pacts with the FAS does not justify

the proposal to penalize the CNMI

by taking away its Covenant fund-

Congressman Don Young (R-

Alaska) has urged for the contin-

ued granting of \$11 million in Cov-

enant CIP funding to the CNMI as

provided by US Public Law 104-

Babauta... Continued from page 1

Babauta said his letter should "demonstrate that the CNMI is moving quickly to obligate the backlog money" it has received in

In his letter to Regula, Babauta said that since the beginning of 1998, the CNMI's new Republican governor, Pedro P. Tenorio, "has moved smartly to put...federal grants to work."

Moreover, Babauta said, the CNMI is the only insular area that matches federal CIP grants with local funds, dollar for dollar.

"This has not been easy for us to do, but, as we are demonstrating by our actions, we are committed to seeing this policy of increasing selfreliance through to its comple-

Austerity ...

Continued from page 1

push budget deficit by over \$20

aged to reduce professional service contracts expenditures from \$17 million to \$12 million; rental and leases from \$7.2 million to \$3.5 million; \$6 million in administrative and overtime expenses; and

\$500,000 in travel expenses. Tenorio pointed out that sig-"Immediate implementation of nificant savings realized from the belt-tightening measures has en-Commonwealth-wide austerity abled the government to reduce program have helped the governexpenditures to a level consistent ment narrow the deficit for FY with declining revenues without 1998 down to the \$11 million level. any major disruptions in the deliv-He said revenues for the 1999 ery of vital government programs fiscal year continue to show a draand services," Tenorio said.

He pointed out the austerity program helped replenish the Special Tax Rebate Trust Fund, which suffered a \$29 million shortfall discovered after the previous administration stepped out of office in January 1998.

Asked how it "feels" to return

Citing the Resources He added, "I ask you that you...to Committee's findings when it visstay committed to this policy...so ited Saipan and Tinian last Februthat the [CNMI] can continue to ary, Young said the amount is esprovide a model of self-sufficiency sential to the islands' reform and economic self-sufficiency efforts. The reduction in this fiscal year's

He praised Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio and the Legislature for aggressively obligating prior Covenant funds for CIPs, adding that the construction projects are detailed in a mas-

Since the mid-1990s, Babauta has been urging the CNMI leadership to appropriate the federal grants for CIPs, adding that Washington, D.C. "might take them away."

The CNMI, however, lacked the matching funds for the federal grants, and efforts by the previous administration to go into loan arrangements with foreign contractors were blocked by the Legislature, which considered them "most disadvantageous" to the common-

The governor said close to \$30 million in prior unpaid obligations to private vendors and contractors had also been settled due to the austerity program, while the government managed to appropriate supplemental funding for the scholarship program.

Nevertheless, Tenorio acknowledged the CNMI faces a very difficult financial period, with declining revenues and large budget deficit. "Until the Asian economies recover, it will be difficult for our economy to grow."

But he added these challenges should be used properly, especially in terms of restructuring the government to become more efficient, to eliminate waste and reduce un-

on the same island."

2 Torreses . . . Continued from page 1

matic decline with February pro-

jections being pegged at \$210 mil-

lion. However, expenditures

through the same period were esti-

With the government's austerity

program, the Commonwealth man-

mated at about \$3 million lower.

line-up has already been completed, but is still considered "unofficial" until the party makes an announcement.

Another legislator, who declined to be identified, confirmed -that the line-up does include Fitial, Stanley and William Torres, but added that the party is still waiting for Seman to officially confirm that she is not seeking reelec-

BOS...Continued from page 1

be insured by the FDIC thereby enhancing our customers' peace of mind," Aldan said.

While existing law requires that government deposits be fully protected by 110 percent of the bank's assets, it does not cover private depositors. Thus, Aldan said FDIC insurance will be welcome

Changes . . .

during which the House Speaker,

said Manglona, "passed around

copies (of the amendments) that

he will introduce and pass in the

"Because there is interest in

implementing this as quickly as

possible and because there are

problems in implementing some

of the regulations because it is

outside the authority of the ex-

Continued from page 1

next session.'

news for the bank's private sector

Aldan said the bank's decision a playing field similar to off-isthe largest American financial

When told that he will be run-

ning with Fitial, a high ranking

executive of a garment manufac-

turing company, Torres said, "I've

no problem with that-we all live

It will further enhance the services of the bank by giving customers the peace of mind that

o secure insurance from the FDIC would also bring the company at

land banks which are insured by

isting law," said Benavente, "there is a need to amend the law to allow this regulations to be implemented.

"Since members (of the Chamber and Legislature) felt that we don't want to carry this longer by amending the law, allowing for 30 days reaction period on the proposed legislation and for the comments to continue to come in, what we have done is we made the

amendments. "But more importantly we are

along with [then Republican Gov. Lorenzo I. DL Guerrero]."

highly critical of the garment into the party that expelled him in 1993, former congressman Torres First elected in 1989, Torres said, "I've always been a Repubwas reelected in 1991, 1993 and lican. It's unfortunate that I was 1995. He was the House floor expelled because I couldn't get

leader from 1992 to 1994. In 1997, he ran as an Independent candidate for senator, finishing a "strong" third place behind the two eventual winners, Thomas P. Villagomez and Pete P.

shared network based in Guam.

The network offers point of sale

Aldan said the heating compe-

tition in the Commonwealth's

banking sector necessitated the

bank's move to come up with an

ATM service. He also mentioned

the increasing needs and demand

regulations that are under the

proposal right now, including

those submitted by the business

(community)," said Benavente.

signature.

"It goes to the governor for

PL 11-74 amends the 1995

Resident Workers Fair Compen-

sation Act which mandates the

private sector to provide resi-

dent workers who earn a mini-

mum wage or \$3.05 an hour,

similar benefits given to non-

debit card and shared ATMs.

As a legislator, Torres has been

we can play better." Reyes, both Republicans. Robinson shot just 3-for-10 but had 13 points, nine rebounds, Earlier, Bank of Saipan launched seven assists, three steals and three its own ATM service, which is blocked shots. linked with Mari-Net, a regional

Spurs...

Continued from page 56

6 and 20 feet (2 and 6 meters), six

layups and seven foul shots for

the Spurs, who had a nine-day

layoff after sweeping Portland in

"We knew we'd come out a

little rusty," Duncan said. "It feels

great to get the first one. We know

the Western Conference finals.

Latrell Sprewell and Allan Houston had 19 apiece to lead New York, which got an emotional boost_but little else_from the unexpected return of Larry Johnson from a sprained knee.

The Knicks scored just 10 points in the second quarter and 14 in the fourth, undoing all the damage

start and staying within striking distance most of the way.

New York was still hanging around early in the fourth, pulling within six points on two occa-

"We've got to take away Jaren

another shot from the same spot to give the Spurs a 14-point lead.

from legitimate bank clients. 1999 Little Continued from page 56 Carl Martin - San Antonio Cardinals & Zach Concepcion going to incorporate all of those

Runner-Up Kautz Glass Glazers (19) Earned Runs Average King Paul Perry Santos - San Vicente A's (29.2 inn., 14 runs, 5 er., 15 hits, walk 20, strike out 50, decision 7-0, 1.01)

Jack Lizama - M.V. Reyes Ol'Aces (1.06) Runner-Up James Kintol - Dandan Blue Jays (84) Strike Out King Jack Lizama - M.V. Reyes Ol'Aces (79) Runner-Up 1999 Sportsmanship 1999 Regular Season MVP

John Peter C. Sablan - Garapan Pirates Brian Vergith - San Vicente A's 1999 Championship MVP 1999 Third Place Tanapag Braves M.V. Reyes Ol'Aces 1999 Fourth Place 1999 Runner-Up Champion Dandan Blue Jays 1999 Little League Champion San Vicente A's

1999 Little League Championship Blue Jays vs San Vicente Ats

| Dies laus | POS AB | R ł | I RBI | A's | PUS | AB | н | Ħ | MDI |
|------------------------------|--------|-----|-------|-------------------|------|----|---|---|-----|
| Blue Jays | | ïi | | Floyd DelaCruz | | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jonathan Techur | | | Ü | Joshua DelaCruz | SS | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| Matt Kintol | | | Ö | PaulPerry Santos | CF | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Franco Flores Mitch Rosco | | 1 | 1 0 | Elton Aguen | 3/18 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 - the Dables | G 1 | 0 1 | 0 0 | Brian Vergith | 18 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 |
| Jonathan Sablan | | | i O | Aldebert DLSantos | P | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Jayman Towai | P 2 | | Ó | Joseph L. Aguon | 28 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| James Kiniol | | | 0 0 | Jonathan Teregeyo | RF | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Paul Roberto | LF 1 | | 0 0 | Patrick Alepuyo | C | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Bill Fleming | RF 1 | | 0 0 | Cameron Grace | 38 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jack DLGuerrero | | | 10 | Robert Carnacho | AF | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Justin DelaCruz | | | 0 0 | Cabrera Ryan | UF | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Bernard Reyes | LF 1 | | 5 1 | Bill Sablan | Ū | ī | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL | 23 | 3 | ויט | Esteven Cruz | ÄF | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | TOTAL | | 23 | 6 | 8 | 6 |

Base on ball: (2) Elton Aguori (1) P. Alepuyo, M. Rasco, J. Sablan, P. Roberto Strike outs: (2) B. Fleming (1) F. Dela Cruz, P. Santos, L. Aguori, R. Carracho, J. Techur, M. Kintol, , flores, J. Sabian, T. Waymani, J. Amola, P. Roberto, J. Dela Cruz Hil-by-pitch: (1) R. Camacho, A. D.L. Santos Stolen base: (1) J. Sablan, B. Vergith Double: (1) B. Vergith Error: (1) B. Fleming, M. Rasco, J. Techur, P. Alepuyo

| COMININ | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|----------------|
| Team | 1 2 3 | 4 5 6 | 7 8 | 9 R H | ErrorLOF |
| Blue Jays | 0 0 0 | 2 1 0 | | 3 | 5 3 7 8 1 7 |
| SN A's | 1 3 0 | . 20- | | 6 | 0 1 1 - |
| Ditabor | Team In | n R ERH | 2B 3B | HR BB SC |) HB WP DEC |
| Aldebert Santos | A's 6 | 3 1 | 5 0 | 0 0 4 | |
| James Kintol | Jays | 12 4 3 | 5 0 | 0 0 0 | |
| Justin DLGruz | Javs | 3,1 2 1 | 3 1 | 0 0 3 | 1 1 0 |

Marpac Palau Softball League

| Schedule for Sunday (6/20/99) Teams | Time |
|--|-------------------------|
| Turtles vs Warriors Redtorch vs Fadang Bombers vs Outriggers | 10:00 11:00 12:00 |
| High Voltage vs Koror Tigers | 1:00 2:00 |
| Enforcers vs Sofang Bellias vs Angaur | 3:00 |
| Islanders vs Spec | 4:00 |

they did by getting off to a strong

Both times, Jackson stopped them from getting any closer by hitting 3-pointers. The second one gave the Spurs a 77-68 lead with 8:06 left, and the Knicks missed their next seven shots, committed two turnovers and lost Marcus Camby and Johnson to foul trouble in the next three minutes.

Jackson," Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "Obviously, Duncan's going to score. We've got to take everything else away." -

Duncan scored from in close



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Carrier Guam, Inc.

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SPORTS PROPERTY



Duncan sizzles in Game 1

Spurs stop Knicks

BV CHRIS SHERIDAN

SAN ANTONIO (AP)—A calm, efficient 33 points from Tim Duncan, a bunch of timely 3-pointers from Jaren Jackson and a little of everything from David Robinson were enough to give the San Antonio Spurs an 89-77 victory over the New York Knicks Wednesday night in Game 1 of the NBA Finals.

Before a crowd of almost 40,000, the second-largest ever at a finals game, San Antonio showed why it is a prohibitive favorite against the undersized, low-seeded Knicks.

Duncan was virtually unstoppable all game, shooting 13-for-21 and grabbing 16 rebounds. Jackson had the hot hand when his team neede it in the fourth quarter.

Jackson had five 3-pointers and scored 17 points for the Spurs who never let the Knicks make a Game 2 is Friday night at the Alamodome, and the Spurs will



New York Knicks center Chris Dudley (left) trys to knock the ball away from San Antonio Spurs forward Tim Duncan during the first game of the NBA finals in San Antonio, Tex. Wednesday. The Spurs won, 89-77. AP

have a chance for the longest playoff winning streak for one season in NBA history.

This was their 11th straight win in this year's playoffs, tying the 1989 Lakers. Los Angeles also holds the overall playoff record, winning 13 straight games in 1988-89.

If there's any solace for the Knicks, maybe it's the fact that the Lakers' big streak a decade ago didn't lead to a title. The Spurs haven't won one yet, either, but they sure looked ready to be a championship team.

San Antonio closed the first half with a 14-2 run to take the lead for good. It made New York play catch-up after that and slammed the door shut midway through the fourth by preventing the Knicks from getting anything resembling an easy basket.

Duncan did a little of everything offensively, making seven jumpers from anywhere between

Continued on page 54

Little League Division

San Vicente A's win both pennant, championship

AS WIDELY predicted, the San Vicente A's prevailed over the aggressive Dandan Blue Jays 6-3 in the Little League Division series to win both the pennant and championship titles.

It was one of the most outstanding, dramatic and thrilling baseball game witnessed by a jampacked crowd last Saturday at the San Vicente Elementary School baseball field.

Brian Vergith blasted three hits in three trips to the plate and also plated in 3 runs, as well as enough votes to earn the finals MVP.

Also, the stellar pitching of Aldelbert Santos produced 12 strike outs, 5 hits, and 4 walks as they led the A's to a second straight title. The loss was the Blue Jays's third suffered only at the hands of the

champion A's in the regular season and in the championship series.

Earlier, the Tanapag Braves stopped the Oleai Ol'Aces 11-9 in their own series for third place.

Magcalas, Kakuse lead in chess

HOPWOOD Junior High School's Paul Michael Magcalas now share the lead with Cavalry Christian Academy's David Kakuse in the 1999 Barney's Junior Chess Cup tournament.

The 13-year-old Magcalas defeated Christian Dela Cruz of William S. Reyes Elementary School (WSR) and Jemar Javier of Oleai Elementary.

Magcalas, like the 11-year old Kakuse, now has 3.5 points.

Kakuse's wins came at the expense of Javier, Oleai's Jo-

seph Lagare and Jimmy Joaquin. Kakuse earlier drew with WSR's Mark Ryan.

Sharing third-fourth places and a mere half-a-point behind are Kakuse's twin sister, Sophia, who also studies at Cavalry Christian Academy, and Jovencio Camacho Jr. of Koblerville Elementary School.

Sponsored by Barney's Restaurant in Chinatown, the roundrobin tournament is held every Sunday from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Nauru Building in Susupe.

Fifteen young players have

signed up for the event, which is organized by the CNMI Chess Association (CCA).

Meanwhile, CCA is inviting interested players to join the active chess tournament to be held this Sunday, also at the Nauru Building.

For more information, call any of the following: CCA president Ely G. Buenaventura at 234-6070 or 483-1618; CCA vice president Almer I. Santos, 236-3435; and reigning CNMI chess champion Manny Domingo, 235-2030.

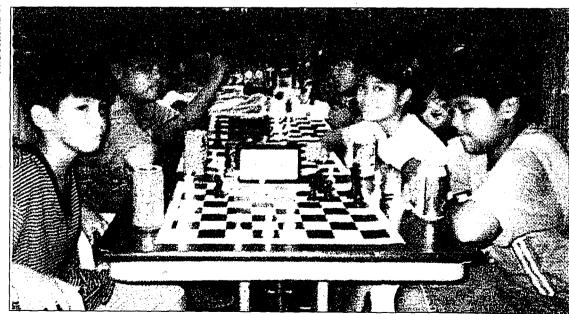
1999 Little League Division Awards

1999 Pennant Champion Runner-Up Champion Batting King Runner-Up Runs Champion Runner-Up Doubles Champion Runner-Up

Triples Champion

Homerun King Runner-Up Runs Batted In San Vicente A's (15-1 record) Dandan Blue Jays (14-2 record) Daryl Ada - M.V. Reyes Ol'Aces (20-33-606) Brian Vergith - San Vicente A's (25-43—581) Angel Falig - Tanapag Braves (27) B.J. Sabian - Tanapag Braves (26) John Peter C. Sablan - Garapan Pirates (10) Brian Vergith - San Vicente A's Carl Martin - San Antonio Cardinals, B.J. Sablan - Tanapag Braves & Franco Flores - Dandan Blue Jays (8) Thomas Joab - San Antonio Cardinals, Benwatchi Taisacan - M.V. Reves Ol'Aces, Matt Kintol - Dandan Blue Jays & Jason Reyes - St. Jude Hustlers (3) B.J. Sablan - Tanapag Braves (6) Aldebert Santos - San Vicente A's (4) John Peter C. Sablan - Garapan Pirates (26)

Continued on page 54



The CNMI's future chess champions: Jemar Javier (seated, second from left), Sophia (in front of him) and David Kakuze (seated on her right) and Jovencio Camacho Jr. (seated, extreme right) during round 3 of the 1999 Barney's Junior Chess Cup tournament at Nauru Building.

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