

Former Tinian gaming consultant confirms:

'Casino behind on taxes'

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

A FORMER consultant for Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission (TCGCC) chairman Jose P. Mafnas has claimed that the Tinian Lone Star Casino Corp. had not paid any taxes to the detriment of the public.

Frederico M. Dela Cruz, who calls himself a "staunch casino supporter," claimed in a paper he submitted to the Variety that the temporarily closed down casino had not paid since it opened on April 28 last year the annual gam-

bling machine tax and the casino tax.

Dela Cruz, who also sits as director of the Marianas Visitors Bureau board, also claimed the Lone Star Casino had not fully paid its license fee of \$500,000.

The casino likewise had not paid late payment penalties due on all fees and taxes at 5 percent per month.

"The total amounts unpaid and overdue from Lone Star are unknown, even to TCGCC," he said.

However, he estimated them to run to \$500,000 to \$1 million. He

referred to these unpaid amounts as "financing being provided to Lone Star by the municipality of Tinian."

Dela Cruz cited section 53 (3) of the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Act of 1989, which states that "failure to pay fees and taxes shall cause the casino license to be automatically suspended on the 91st day past due."

He pointed out that Lone Star's initial licensing payment should have been fully paid on Jan. 21 last year when it was issued the license.

It was 91 days past due last April 22.

Lone Star's first casino tax payment, which is 13 percent of the monthly gross revenue, was due on May 7, 1995, and was 91 days overdue last Aug. 5, he added.

Yet, he said, the TCGCC did not even formally consider the suspension of Lone Star's license, Nico said.

He said he was "very frustrated" with the current casino affairs.

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Accountant accused of playing in casino with company money

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff

AN ACCOUNTANT allegedly stole \$2,100 from Triple J Motors and gambled the money at the Tinian Lone Star Casino.

Isabel Romolor was charged before the Superior Court with theft and theft by failure to make required disposition of funds.

If convicted to the charges, Romolor faces a maximum jail term of five years and \$5,000 fine.

Romolor, through counsel Deputy Public Defender David Juarez, entered a plea agreement with the government represented by Assistant Atty. Gen. James L.

Norcross.

Romolor agreed to plead guilty to theft. In exchange, the Attorney General's Office will dismiss the remaining charge.

Under the negotiation, the government will recommend a suspended imposition of sentence for a period of five years.

The defendant is required to pay \$2,100 in restitution to the victim, Triple J Motors before June 30, 1996.

Romolor must also pay \$1,000 fine in one year and perform 400 hours of community work service.

Romolor shall not be employed in the CNMI in any fiduciary capacity, involving the handling of money.

Court information showed that last Aug. 18 Romolor, employed as an accountant at Triple J Motors, received \$2,100 payment from a person.

The payment was supposedly to be deposited in the company's bank account.

Instead, Romolor kept the money and gambled it away on Tinian the following weekend, according to the plea agreement.

The defendant also admitted to the company's chief accountant, Ulysses Soriano Delotaro, that she had the remaining \$200 of the money.



Bernice Taitano lifts a big carton while cleaning the mess at the Superior Court yesterday. At the age of four, Bernice seems to know the importance of helping her mother who is in charge of maintaining the court.
Photo by Ferdie de la Torre

Man gets no jail term for growing marijuana plants

THE ATTORNEY General's Office has agreed to recommend a "no jail term" for a man charged with maintaining a marijuana plantation in Gualo Rai.

Assistant Atty. Gen. Christine Zachares will ask the Superior Court to impose five years' imprisonment, all suspended against Rudy C. Sablan.

Zachares agreed to come up with such recommendation after Sablan, through counsel Assistant Public Defender Theodore Christopher, entered a plea agreement.

Sablan was charged with manufacturing a controlled substance.

If convicted to the offense, Sablan faces a maximum of five years' imprisonment and \$2,000 fine.

Sablan agreed to plead guilty. Under the agreement, Sablan is required to pay \$1,000 fine within one year and contribute \$500 to the CNMI Drug Abuse Resistance Edu-

cation fund within six months.

In addition, the defendant is asked to perform 240 hours of community work service in one year.

Court information showed that on March 18, 1994 at 3:10 p.m., members of the Department of Public Safety Special Operation Bureau executed a search warrant at an alleged marijuana plantation in Gualo Rai.

During the surveillance, officers observed Sablan entered the plantation and transferred a water hose from a container to a plastic bucket.

The defendant was seen touching the marijuana plants.

The officers seized 108 marijuana plants and also found marijuana seeds in Sablan's possession.

The Guam Crime Laboratory verified that the seeds and plants confiscated were marijuana. (FDT)

Guam senator confident NMI will get exemption from fees



Mark Charfauros

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff
GUAM Senator Mark Charfauros said he will be pushing for an exemption for the CNMI on the Guam Customs inspection charges with or without support from the Gutierrez Administra-

tion.

In an interview during the opening ceremonies of the 10th CNMI Legislature Monday, Charfauros said he will make sure the exemption will be forthcoming even if it means having to override the governor.

"We maintain our commitment to exempt our brothers in the CNMI. It is now with the governor, but whether he supports this or not, it does not matter because the votes are there for an override," said Charfauros.

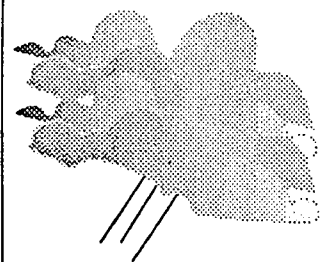
The Guam government is currently preparing the rules and regulations that would govern the implementation of the Customs and Quarantine Inspection fees.

The new user fees, to be assessed all passengers arriving at the Guam airport, is being pegged at \$10 per passenger and \$5 per cargo consignment.

Concerned that the new fees would jack up the domestic airfare between Guam and the islands of the Commonwealth, Guam and CNMI senators have

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Weather Outlook



Partly cloudy with a few showers

Clinton rejects GOP offer

By **SONYA ROSS**
WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton has turned down a new Republican offer to seek smaller savings from government health care and welfare, Republican officials said, even though one Republican called it "essentially a last offer."



Bill Clinton

Clinton also offered Monday to revise his latest proposal for savings in those categories, but by an unspecified amount, a Democratic source said. Monday's session, held despite a snowstorm that paralyzed much of the capital, lasted more than four hours and left many participants believing that a meeting scheduled for Tuesday could be pivotal.

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said the talks were "at a point where they're either going to get an agreement or they're not. It's not going to drag on for another number of weeks."

Congressional Republicans, led by Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and House Speaker Newt Gingrich, arrived Monday at the White House with a plan that would scale back \$72 billion from their proposed savings on the health care programs Medicare and Medicaid, as well as welfare, over seven years.

They even offered to let the president shift savings among the three programs, as long as the total reductions remained the same, said Republican congressional sources.

"They were just rejected," said Republican Rep. John Boehner, a member of the House Republican leadership who is not a bargainer but is following the talks.

Dole said negotiators should know by Tuesday night whether a deal was possible. He broke away from the talks briefly and returned to the Senate, where he said "there's a spirit of cooperation and credible negotiation" at the White House meet-

ing that Republican leaders found encouraging.

Some Republicans were more cautious in characterizing Monday's session. Two of them, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that before Republican leaders departed, Clinton told them that on Tuesday both sides should bring their final offers and a way to describe to voters why the talks broke off.

House Budget Committee Chairman John Kasich said the new Republican offer on welfare and the two big health-care programs is "essentially a last offer."

There is virtually no flexibility left in any of these numbers. Besides easing their proposed reductions in Medicare, Medicaid and welfare, Republicans also offered to drop about \$30 billion from their \$240 billion tax-cut package, Republican sources said. And they have lowered the \$383 billion in savings they are seeking from annually approved general government programs to less than \$350 billion.

The budget talks resumed Monday, the same day furloughed government workers headed back to their offices, except those in Washington

and elsewhere who were stranded by snowstorms.

The return to work resulted from Clinton's weekend announcement that he would meet Republican demands for his own new outline of how to balance the budget by 2002 using accounting by the Congressional Budget Office, which earlier he had criticized as being too pessimistic.

Republicans welcomed Clinton's decision to submit a plan, but criticized its contents.

The Republican proposal calls for \$168 billion in Medicare savings, \$33 billion less than in previous Republican plans, and \$185 billion in savings from Medicaid, \$30 billion less than they asked earlier, Kasich said.

On welfare, Republicans proposed savings of \$75 billion, \$9 billion less than before. The Clinton administration proposed \$45 billion in savings.

The president's new plan calls



Bob Dole

for restraining Medicare spending by \$102 billion and Medicaid spending by \$52 billion, and would cut only \$87 billion in taxes.

Kasich said House Republicans are close to agreement with conservative Democrats on a number for Medicaid.

Last Friday, House Republicans and conservative Democrats agreed on a Medicare savings of



Newt Gingrich

\$168 billion over seven years, compared with the Republican original plan for \$202 billion.

The battle over the budget has forced two partial federal government shutdowns, for six days in November and for three weeks through this weekend.

The temporary government spending measure approved by Congress expires on Jan. 26.



Federal workers hold a demonstration outside the State Department in Washington last week to protest the partial federal government shutdown. House Republican leaders dismissed a Senate plan that would send idled federal workers back to work.

Supporters of PM Bhutto abducted, tortured, killed

By **ZAHID HUSSAIN**
KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) - Three members of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's party were tortured by ethnic militants Tuesday before being shot, police said.

They said two of the victims died immediately, while a third was in hospital in critical condition.

No one has claimed responsibility for the killings, but police blame young gunmen belonging to the militant Mohajir Qaumi Movement, representing Indian Muslims who settled in Pakistan after 1947.

"We know the gunmen were young and we believe they belonged to the MQM," said Mohammed Akhtar, a police spokesman.

For the past one year, Karachi, Pakistan's financial hub, has been wracked by relentless ethnic violence.

The financial district has been battered by weekly strikes called by the MQM to protest Ms. Bhutto's government.

Mohajirs, who represent about 70 percent of Karachi's 12 million people, say they are treated like second class citizens, denied good jobs and education.

In the past year their struggle for equality has become increasingly violent. Militants regularly target members of Karachi's security force as well as known activists of Ms. Bhutto's liberal Pakistan People's Party.

Among the dead Tuesday was Abdul Bari, 55, a local councillor on the Karachi Municipal Council. Members of the municipal council are nominated because Ms. Bhutto has refused to allow local elections in Karachi until the violence subsides.

Sofar this year nearly 60 people have been killed in ethnically motivated violence. Last year ethnic killings reached 1,955.

On Monday three people were killed in Karachi, including a police inspector, the authorities said. On Sunday a bomb ripped through a passenger bus killing 12 people and wounding several more, many of them seriously. Police blamed the largest faction of the MQM led by Altaf Hussein.

Hussein, who is living in self-imposed exile in Britain, accuses Ms. Bhutto's government of using the police and paramilitary Rangers to destroy his political power base in Karachi.

Ms. Bhutto however has demanded Hussein's supporters lay down their arms and agree to a six month ceasefire before agreeing to local elections.

Filipino maid indicted on murder charges

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - A Filipino maid was indicted Tuesday on murder charges in the stabbing of the 79-year-old mother-in-law of her employer last year, the prosecutors office announced.

The Taipei Prosecutors Office said it is recommending a 10-year prison term for Angelina Canlas, 36.

Chen Lin Tsui-o, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, was fatally stabbed last November. The motive for the stabbing was not known.

Canlas then stabbed herself in an apparent suicide, but was rescued after being found lying next to the dead women in a bathroom with cuts in her chest, abdomen and neck.

Prosecutors said medical examination showed the maid was suffering from a temporary mental disorder at the time.

Canlas will stand trial soon.

Her employer, Wang Chia-chang, said Canlas was taken to doctors last September and October after saying she suffered from insomnia.

There are about 50,000 legal Filipino workers in Taiwan, according to the Council of Labor Affairs.

Filipino maids working overseas were involved in two highly publicized murder cases last year.

Last March, Fior Contemplation was hanged in Singapore for killing another maid and a child. Allegations that she had been framed led to a temporary diplomatic rupture between Singapore and the Philippines.

Later last year, in the United Arab Emirates, Sarah Balabagan was sentenced to death for killing her employer, who she said had raped her.

The sentence was commuted to one year in prison, a fine and 100 lashes.

Aftermath of federal shutdown in NMI Dirty parks, heaps of paperwork

By **Mar-Vic C. Munar**
Variety News Staff

A PILE of unfinished work and dirty parks greeted the federal officials and employees in the CNMI when they went back to work yesterday after a three-week shutdown triggered by the budget stalemate in Washington.

According to Department of Interior Field Representative Jeff Schorr, works pending in his office may not get done soon until federal offices in Washington formally resume operation.

"Federal offices in Washington would have been back to work (Monday in Washington) if it were not for the snowstorm," Schorr said. "Washington is on its second day of weather shutdown."

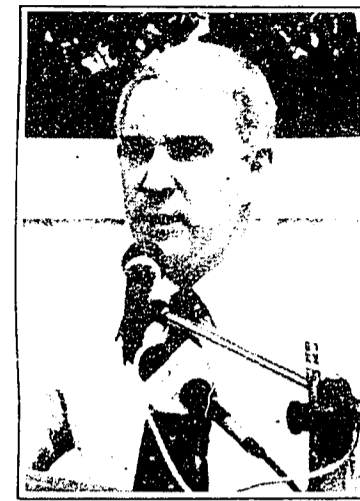
Local federal offices relied on cable news and newspapers reports to get update on developments in Washington because of subsequent communication halt.

"We went back to work yesterday (Monday in CNMI) based on the news from cable news network report," Schorr said.

A local federal agency which was badly affected by the shutdown was the National Parks Service, a sub-agency of the interior department.

Kim Uyebara, NPS acting ranger-in-charge, said several ongoing development projects were put on hold due to the unavailability of money.

Garbage piled up in some parts of the American Memorial Park and other portions were "pretty much like



Jeff Schorr
"A jungle," Uyebara added. Some people, nevertheless, still

came to use some portions of the park and bore with the mess, Uyebara said.

Community volunteers helped clean up the Microbeach part of the park when it opened last Sunday, Uyebara said.

The parks had been abandoned since the partial government shutdown began on Dec. 16.

President Clinton signed last Saturday a Republican bill that sent back to work furloughed federal workers.

The measure placed the federal government under continuing resolution only through Jan. 26.

"If they don't pass the budget by the 26th, then the parks will be shut down again on the 27th," Uyebara said. "We're getting tired of all these cleaning up... This park was built by the public and it's not fair that they can't use it."

In the same manner, labor complaints pending at the US Department of Labor's wage and hour division were shelved.

"There were no works done because we were shut down for weeks," labor investigator Barbara Rawlins said. "I hope that they do pass the budget so that this won't happen again; it caused interruptions in work and affected not only the people who are supposed to get paid but also the



Barbara Rawlins
people who need our services." Philosophical debate on the national budget keeps the federal people guessing on their fiscal fate.

"This is a major philosophical difference between two contending philosophies involving the financial future of America," Schorr said. "If the President and Congress failed to make a final agreement, then the government will continue to operate under a continuing resolution."

The US presidential election in November, Schorr said, would "become a referendum on the financial direction of (the US) government."

Chief executives in region to form new organization

THE HEADS of state of about seven Pacific island nations are finalizing plans to form a regional organization that will foster discussion on issues of common concern.

The two-day Conference of Chief Executives is set to take place starting tomorrow morning at the Guam Hilton.

The meeting will gather the presidents of Palau, Nauru, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and Kiribati, and the governors of Guam, the CNMI and the FSM states.

Expected to be the focus of the meeting is the formation of the Council of Chief Executives, a new regional organization of Pacific island heads of state being proposed by Guam Gov. Carl Gutierrez.

According to Public Information Officer Bruce Lloyd, Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio has started preparations to attend the regional meeting. He said the CNMI chief ex-



Froilan C. Tenorio

ecutive is expected to submit position papers on eight suggested topics of discussion.

"This is a brand new organization that does not even have an official name yet. This is a unique one in that even though there are a lot of regional forums, there has never been one that would gather all

Micronesian leaders," said Lloyd.

"This will be a good forum for a more organized regional exchange of ideas on vital issues facing the Pacific. What comes out of it does remains to be seen," said the governor's PIO.

According to a draft agenda obtained by the Variety, the first conference day will see participants putting forth their government's specific positions on issues ranging from tourism to the role of the US in Micronesia, from law enforcement to health care, from trade and economic cooperation, among others.

Lloyd said the CNMI's proposed topics of discussions are: Compact impact, medical referral, tourism, telecommunications, fisheries conservation and management, drug enforcement and interdiction, brown tree snake, nuclear toxic waste, child support enforcement, corrections and prison costs.



Newly-installed member of the House of Representatives Michael P. Tenorio (left) is congratulated by his parents, former Governor and Mrs. Pedro P. Tenorio after swearing in ceremonies at the House Monday. The former governor has indicated plans of a political comeback in 1997.

Hearings on education state plan set by PSS

THE Public School System Special Education Program wishes to inform the general public that the public comments period for the Special Education Program state plan for fiscal year 1997-99 is from December 15, 1995 through February 15, 1996.

Therefore, the public hearings for the island of Saipan are scheduled for January 29, 1996 at Marianas High School Cafeteria from 3:30 pm-7:00 pm and again on January 30, 1996 at Garapan Elementary School Cafeteria from 3:30

to 7:00 pm. The public hearing for the island of Tinian is scheduled for January 15, 1996 from 6:00-8:00 PM at Tinian elementary School Cafeteria.

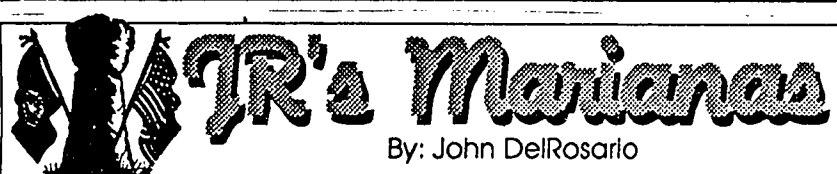
The public hearing for the island of Rota is scheduled to be held on January 18, 1996 at Rota Elementary School Cafeteria from 6:00 - 8:00 PM.

Copies of the state plan could be obtained at special education program office at Lower Base, at PSS Tinian and Rota Liaison offices.



Freshman Rep. Melvin O. Faisao (left) is greeted by Washington Rep. Juan N. Babauta after Monday's ceremonies. Babauta is also reportedly seeking the governorship in the next general elections.

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



By: John DelRosario

Snow in Paradise

AS the jumbo jet out of Tokyo makes its final descent into the Saipan International Airport, passengers were thrilled by the sight of tiny white human-like creatures moving about the island.

"Do you have that many Bugs Bunny on Saipan?" quizzed a female Japanese tourist.

"No! What you're seeing are real human beings," came the guarded reply from a local who was on the same flight.

"How come you have people as white as Fresh Milk?" pressed the tourist.

"The ones who are white are chronic users of ice or shabu. Their normal light brown skin has turned white," came the humiliating explanation.

"Very strange country. So maybe my friend is wrong when she warned me to hold on tight to my purse around hotel row," remarked the tourist.

"We have taken care of that problem already—purse snatchoo—at hotel row," came the embarrassed explanation.

"What about the fatal drowning of Orientals along the beach?" continued the tourist.

"Oh, we have taken care of that problem too. You see, we give anybody resembling an Oriental locally carved floaters so that they surface in our waters rather than drown," replied the local.

"So Saipan okay now?" asked the tourist.

"Definitely!" came the terse answer.

"Wow! Snow in the tropics, new kind of floating device and no more purse snatchoo, too!"

"I think you should dump your shabu before we land or you'll turn white as milk too." (Silence).

Land is the source of family unity in the islands since time immemorial. Recently, it became the very source of disunity. Said a friend: "When it doesn't involve the almighty US dollar, nobody cares. When it means dollar signs, everybody listens!" I suppose the definition of family land has translated into a family feud.

I listened to David Koch's travails on the homicidal death of her daughter. I feel for his family in the loss of a loved one so close to heart. Nonetheless, I am sure he will agree that the Department of Public Safety is doing its damned best to resolve not only his daughter's homicide, but other homicides as well. These freaky deaths send chills up the spine of every law abiding member of this community. I am sure that in time they shall be resolved. And I give credit to the hardworking detectives who go sleepless nights in their dedicated efforts to rid our community of heinous criminal activities. Meanwhile, we'll pray for your daughter and all those involved and committed to making these islands a safe place for our children.

Each day when I pick the newspapers from my front door, I see a steady drip of headlines about political feuds both at the national and local levels, discounting the new national obsession about a new form of "killing fields" where young toddlers are murdered by their parents who are chronic drug users.

Then there's assassinations of heads of states in Middle Eastern countries, hunger problems in Africa and heavy duty corruption by former presidents of South Korea; religious cult in Japan using lethal gas in the subways, etc. Makes you think when would all these events turn into real good tidings for a change. We're lucky we didn't have to resolve our problems with bullets or explosives, a strange norm between Palestinian and Israeli terrorists.

I watched an industrious Filipino friend work the clock fixing the front end of a truck dented in an accident. Under the scorching sun, he'd wipe his forehead as he unscrews nuts and bolts from the truck. He was rather organized making sure that every nut and screw is placed in a specific container.

He took off the two fenders and used a heater, rubber hammer and plyers to straighten the dent. He worked on his assignment until he applied a primer just before dusk. When the clock runs out, he readied the truck and locked parts he's removed in the cabin. I marveled at his stamina and skills. In the back of my mind, I know that if he were a local on a payroll he'd probably take long breaks in between and leave the rest for the next day.

I found out later that he works for a certain company then as, in his words, a U-Drive. I find this category of workers somewhat concerning. So I quizzed him what is the arrangement. Said he: "There are auto-shops here who need extra hands when it is really busy. I get paid the minimum wage while the U-Drive Owner receives his/her fees. The fee is much larger than what I receive by way of compensation."

I pressed who is the owner and he said: "She's the secretary of our biggest boss". Two things come into mind: 1). This could just as well be a form of slavery. 2). I want to know if the owner is a resident, an alien or what has she or he. Finally, the Department of Labor must move in and probe this form of slavery. It is diametrically unfair for the real worker who sweats it out while the U-Drive owner cracks a big grin at her boss throughout the course of the day with a huge fat pocket.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hooy from Mr. Lee

Dear Editor,

THERE he goes again. As tireless as ever in preaching a brand of political crap that has been repeatedly proven by history to be, well, crap.

But not for Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew who is such a dictator, a Manila publisher once noted, that he continues to rule his country despite retiring in 1990.

Some people's admiration for this man, though generally muted, is just as surprising.

In a recent Associated Press report, for example, Mr. Lee was quoted as saying that Asian societies are better off emulating Singapore's "strict and pragmatic" way of governance rather than Western democratic models.

Mind, the AP report did not have the badly-needed quotation marks for Mr. Lee's "strictness and pragmatism." Apparently, even AP considers Singapore's police state techniques of governance merely "strict" and "pragmatic."

Of course, if it were North Korea's Kim Jong-Il or Iraq's Saddam Hussein making the same claim, derision will, no doubt, seep through AP's watertight impartiality.

But probably because Mr. Lee, though an unabashed fascist, is also a loyal anti-communist ally during the Cold War years, the United States press tends to be more understanding. (During the height of the brouhaha over Michael Fay's caning, some U.S. commentators even suggested that Singapore's style in handling juvenile delinquents might also work in, say, New York or Los Angeles.)

Mr. Lee, however, has long given up on the United States and other Western democracies. His homilies are reserved exclusively for Asia, particularly for those poor, misguided countries who were stupid enough to adopt democracy, the Philippines among them.

During his recent visits to Manila, Mr. Lee had even made it a point to thoroughly malign his host country's commitment to democratic traditions. Like a true fascist, he also missed relishing the following irony: That he was allowed, despite being a foreigner, to freely speak his mind, a right which he seemed to enjoy, while, at the same time, denying its use to his own countrymen.

"Singapore's methods could give better results in Asian...societies than following the democratic model," says Mr. Lee.

Maybe. But only if the rest of the usually proud peoples of Asia accept not only a controlled press and a gerrymandered electoral system that guarantees the ruling party a majority in every election—but the following, as well:

- Public offices with signs saying "Long-Haired Men Will Be Served Last," which is, says *Atlantic Monthly's* James Fallows, complete with charts indicating exactly what constitutes "long" hair.
- A ban on chewing gum.
- A set of barbaric corporal punishments for minor misdemeanors.
- A eugenics policy wherein the State pairs up men and women whose marriages are expected to produce "better" offspring.
- A Big Brother of a State.
- An almost total disregard for the individual's rights.

But because it has, like a good whore, totally opened itself to foreign investments while at the same time remaining "clean," Singapore, its admirers say, did manage to be a "model of economic vigor, incorruptibility and social order."

Reminds one, really, of those paeans heaped on Hitler's Germany and Stalin's Soviet Union before World War II. Closer to home, there's the dictator Marcos who, during the early Martial Law years, was also praised for "fighting corruption" and "promoting economic progress and peace and order."

Blessed with, at least, non-thieving and more intelligent leaders who have no intention of dominating the world, Singapore avoided the fate of its leaders' ideological forerunners, and quietly became an economically-developed country.

And a morally-deceit one. Its artificiality vulnerable to the irresistible wave of democracy now lapping the entire planet.

Mr. Lee, a highly-intelligent man like his golfing pal Marcos, knows it.

Singapore, he told his country's captive press, will have to guard against the infiltration of Western ideals and values because the largely English-speaking Singaporean population has easy access to American thinking and writing.

And this is the same man who is so confident of authoritarianism's "correctness."

Mr. Lee, if dictatorships are indeed so much, in the long run, better than why is the United States, and not the Soviet Union, the sole remaining superpower?

Zaldy Dandan
Garapan, Saipan

Business upbeat about 10th Leg.

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE BUSINESS community is confident of a bright economic future ahead of the CNMI under the 10th Legislature.

"I think they (legislators) have a clear-cut direction now and have the opportunity to make a lot of changes for the betterment of the people and the business sector," said David Hawkins, vice president of Duty-Free Shop.

Hawkins, incoming vice



David Hawkins



Robin Enfield

chairman of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, predicts that the CNMI economy "will turn around with the Administration and the Legislature working together."

He pledged the business sector's commitment to support the Legislature "in the direction that they want to go."

Members of the 10th Legislature were sworn in on Monday, with a collective promise to set aside politics and work hand in hand with the two other branches of the government, the executive and the judiciary.

The new crops of lawmakers, according to JC Tenorio Ent. vice president Mike Sablan, offered the business leaders reasons to be "very excited."

"Many of them have good experience in business practice and theory," Sablan said.

Legislators with proper business background, Sablan said, it would certainly have a better understanding of concerns besetting the business industry.

He said the business community would work with the new Legislature in dealing with vital issues including labor problems, workers' immigration status and taxes.

Robin Enfield, general manager of the Micronesian Telecommunication Corp., said he expects the new Legislature to come up with laws "that make business run better and smoother."

He said that while the working relationship between business people and the government "has gone long way...the business sector will continue to work with the government to make the CNMI a nice place to live."

Tagaman to be held in October instead of May



Anicia Q. Tomokane

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

AN international sporting event that has put Saipan on the Western Pacific athletic map will be held in October, instead of May, the Marianas Visitors Bureau said yesterday.

The ninth edition of the Tagaman All Islanders Cham-

pionship Triathlon was moved after consulting with Sen Goku of Japan's All Triathlon Club, who is instrumental in scouting for triathletes in Japan.

MVB Managing Director Anicia Q. Tomokane said holding it in May would give little time for preparation.

Many of the annual Tagaman participants come from Japan. "So we're moving the Tagaman in October, and this would allow more companies to be involved and give the (Tagaman) committee a lot of time to put it together," she added.

She said the sporting event may be held on Oct. 5 or 12, a Saturday.

On 26th of the same month the Iron Man triathlon championship will also be held in Honolulu, but according to Goku, Tomokane said, "it would not be a problem to have our Tagaman a week or two before that."

The Tagaman committee had considered holding the event in May but on a smaller scale, rely-

ing mostly on local cooperative effort.

Tomokane said they aim to attract at least 350 participants both from here and other places including, aside from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Australia and the Philippines.

"I hope to see the 350 goal realized in October," Tomokane told the Variety.

She said the committee will start the preparatory work this month.

For the first time, Tomokane said, cash prizes will be awarded to winners.

She also said the committee is working to make the Tagaman winners qualify in the Iron Man competition, which limits the number of competitors after its popularity has attracted hundreds of triathletes.

"So one of the goals of this Tagaman is to not only increase the number, which translates to better exposure for us, but to serve as a qualifier for the Iron Man or anywhere in the world," she said.

The triathlon is a combination of the three sports of swimming, running, and biking.

Escape attempt foiled at Kagman detention center

AN INMATE at the Juvenile Corrections Unit in Kagman allegedly tried to escape while taken to the Commonwealth Health Center Monday morning.

The inmate, a 15-year-old boy, was allegedly brought to the Division of Youth Services main office before he was taken to CHC.

The boy allegedly requested to use the bathroom, but ran from custody.

Police said the boy was later arrested.

No other details were given.

In another police report, a 30-year-old man complained that someone stole his 11,000

yen, \$400 cash, passport, and other items at the Corral Ocean Point Monday afternoon.

In San Antonio, an unidentified person/s broke into the New World Market and took several items Monday morning.

Meanwhile, the Superior Court ordered the Department of Public Safety to arrest a man identified as Juan R. Ayuyu for failing to appear in a hearing the other day.

Ayuyu was charged with assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace.

Ayuyu allegedly tried to strike a woman with a large stick last Dec. 19. (FDT)

BOE prepares for special elections

By Mar-Vic C. Munar
Variety News Staff

THE BOARD of Elections has started preparing for another political exercise in March which involves the ratification of the proposed Constitutional Amendments.

BOE Executive Director Juan M. Diaz advises eligible CNMI voters who have not registered or those failed to vote during the Nov. 4 elections to register with the BOE office now.

The registration is ongoing at the BOE office in Garapan. Residents of Rota and Tinian may register with the local elections offices.

Eligible to vote are those who are US citizens; residents or domicile in the Commonwealth for at least 44 days before the March 2 exercise; not serving sentence for a felony offense.

Registrants are required to



Juan M. Diaz

bring identification papers such as US passport, driver's license and social security number. Registration will run until Feb 1, Diaz said.

The ratification exercise was originally scheduled simultaneous with the Nov. 4 elections but was postponed by the Legislature.



Dignitaries who attended Monday's inauguration ceremonies for the 10th Legislature included (from left), Guam Sen. Carlotta Leon-Guerrero, Second Lady Mary Anne Borja, and Washington Rep. Juan N. Babauta.

Call 911 for Emergency

Rota most forested CNMI island



By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff
AMONG the three major, inhabited islands of the CNMI, Rota is the most forested, according to the Coastal Resources Management.
A project paper prepared by the CRM on the development of a multi-species habitat conservation plan for the island of Rota says that 60 percent of the CNMI's third largest island is still covered by lush tropical forest.
"Unlike the islands of Guam, Saipan, and Tinian, Rota did not have its forests severely impacted by World War II battles and bombings," the

project description said.
It said Rota "still retains most of its avifauna and a healthy population of fruit bats."
What is most interesting is that, according to the paper, Rota is snake-free, which should make the island ideal for eco-tourism.
The papers said Rota has also not yet undergone the rapid development experienced by Guam and Saipan and that it "retains most of its unique natural resources."
These resources include the endangered Marianas crow and the Rota bridled white eye (a kind of bird), the

Marianas fruit bat, and several plant species that are indigenous to the island.
Rota, with a population of 3,000, has a land area of 32.8 square miles. It is 10.5 miles long and 3 miles wide.
It is the southernmost island in the Commonwealth.
Rota has always outstripped Tinian

in terms of the number of visitor arrivals.
In fiscal year 1995, it attracted 27,119 tourists as against Tinian's 8,091.
In 1994, visitors to Rota totaled 13,931, while in 1993 they numbered 12,060.
Rota has at least nine hotels.

Manila Newsbriefs

RP seeks help vs terrorism

THE GOVERNMENT will seek international help in the fight against terrorism amid a crackdown on suspected foreign terrorists, President Fidel Ramos said in a speech before diplomats at Malacang.
Director General Recaredo Sarmiento III, Philippine National Police chief, said the PNP is seeking help from a handful of Islamic countries are "high risk".
Immigration authorities said visitors from North Korea and Afghanistan are classified as "restricted" while those from a handful of Islamic countries are "high risk".
Director General Recaredo Sarmiento III, Philippine National Police chief, said the PNP is seeking help from international police to acquire information on people with terrorist records and identify those in custody in Manila. *The Philippine Star*

EVAT effects explained

THE EXPANDED Value Tax will hurt everyone, but some families will hurt more than others.
Families earning P1,500 a month, or P20,000 a year, will incur additional monthly expenditures of P50 a month, at least, as a result of the E-VAT's implementation. This is the low end.
The high end is P1,390 in monthly additional expenses, for families earning P21,500 a month or over P250,000 a year.
The NEDA said the E-VAT will cause the average monthly expenses for families to grow by 3 to 4.5 percent.
The E-VAT which took effect January 1, covers transactions on goods, property dealers and services, including hotels, rental companies, non-life insurance (except crop insurance) and newspaper publishing. *The Manila Times*

Iran, RP strengthen ties

PRESIDENT Ramos' visit to the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) said that Iran and the Philippines have strengthened ties on the socio-cultural and economic aspects, paving the way for more cooperation in the future.
Iran and the Philippines had been forced to cut ties when Khomeini became the ruler of Iran. *Today*

Ramos best for Interior?

PROBABLY to end the jockeying for the position of interior and local government secretary, a senator proposed that President Fidel Ramos take on the job himself.
Senator Franklin Drilon said Ramos would be the best person to replace Rafael Alunan III, Interior and Local Government Secretary, who was given until June 30 to step down after he was blamed for rising criminality.
"If there is any aspect of governance that the President can assert expertise and superior knowledge it is in the area of peace and order, having been the Philippine Constabulary (PC) Chief for several years," Drilon said.
Senator Ernesto Maceda who wrote a resolution signed by 14 senators asking for Alunan's immediate ouster, said the best person for the job would be Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile, who was the defense minister during martial law.
The President's name stands out among other names which members of both chambers of Congress rattle off as possible replacements of Alunan. *Philippine Daily Inquirer*

Tight security for APEC

THE PHILIPPINE National Police will deploy more than 200 policemen at the Manila Hotel next week to provide security to the 18 labor ministers who will meet next week to provide security to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit meeting this year.
Intelligence reports have indicated that international terrorists were planning to disrupt the economic summit through assassinations and bombings of key government installations and commercial establishments. *Today*

Goods hoarders warned

A FAIR warning to hoarders and price manipulators: Change your ways, or else be prepared to pay fines of up to P2 million and jail terms of up to 15 years.
Trade Undersecretary Ernesto M. Ordóñez said there is no reason to increase the prices of goods like powdered milk, canned goods, juices, bread, sugar, cooking oil, flour and detergents because these are already covered by the original value-added tax. *The Philippine Daily Inquirer*

Coalition gov't won't last, says opposition

LEADERS of the opposition Unity Front in Vanuatu say the current three-week old coalition government of the Union of Moderate Parties and the National Unity Party will not last long.

Speaking at a news conference in the capital, Port Vila, today the UF leaders said the government was not supported by the people, including many members of the two governing parties and

the majority in the business sector.
The leader of the Vanuatu Pati, Donald Kalpokas, leader of the Melanesian Progressive Party, Barak Sopo, and the leader of Tan Union, Vincent Bulekon claimed that the government had been set up by some naturalized citizens for their own business gains. And to corrupt the wrongdoings and corruptions of their political friends.

They said in its attempt to bring back democracy to the country, Unity Front has submitted eight election petitions against 12 government MPs to the Supreme Court, alleging electoral malpractices including vote-buying during last November's general elections.
They said among the 12 are four government ministers, the prime minister, Serge Vohor, and speaker of parliament and former prime minister,

Maxime Carol Korman.
The court will begin hearing the petitions on February 12.
They UF leaders also expressed concern that some senior civil servants were being sacked by the new government for political reasons and not because they can't work.
They pointed out that the government was using public monies illegally because the current provision approved by the President to last until March allowed for only 11 ministries, and not 12 as the government now has.....
Pacnews

Shooting incident in PNG ordered probed

PAPUA New Guinea's defence minister, Mathias Ijape, has ordered an investigation into the shooting incident involving the Bougainville rebel peace negotiators returning from the Solomon Islands capital, Honiara, last week, the National Reporter Tuesday.
Mr. Ijape said in a statement Monday the incident was considered serious and the facts of the allegations by rebel leader Joseph Kabui must be uncovered through an investigation.
He said he had known and worked with Mr. Kabui on many occasions, and that Mr. Kabui gets carried away and makes all sorts of allegations at times, but he said this allegation sounded and looked very serious and

needed an investigation.
The minister said the only solution to Bougainville is negotiations through peaceful means, and that that is the Prime Minister and the PNG government's stand.
Senior rebel leaders returning to Bougainville after attending peace talks in Cairns, Australia, were fired upon by security forces near Koromira. Rebel sources said land based rebels returned fire and wounded a member of the pro-government resistance forces.
However, Mr. Ijape said the Defence Force must ensure that peace comes through peaceful negotiations and not by the barrel of a gun....Pacnews

New weather station

THE new US\$23 million Japanese funded weather station in Nadi will provide improved forecasting and warning of tropical cyclones and general weather for aviation, marine and the public, the Fiji Times reported Monday.
Director of Fiji's Meteorology Rajendra Prasad said this would result in mitigation of natural disasters among other benefits which will foster economic and social growth.
The first phase of the project, which began a few weeks ago close to Nadi airport includes the construction of a new building to accommodate all sections of the meteorological services and provide necessary space for expanded forecasting operations and new systems.
Mr. Prasad said the phase would also include Upper Air Observation and Basic Meteorological Observation equipment, which will replace the existing old Radiosonde facility and other ageing equipment.
The second phase will see the inclusion of new computer systems, and a Japanese Geo-stationary Meteorological Satellite and a NOAA's Polar Orbiting Satellite high resolution data receiving and processing systems.
The whole project should be completed by the beginning of 1998.....Pacnews

PNG trade unit

THE Papua New Guinea government is moving to set up a unit that will promote inter-regional trade and investment in the Pacific, NBC reported Tuesday.
The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is awaiting funds in the 1996 budget to establish honorary consuls in various island countries to promote Papua New Guinea.
Vice-minister for foreign affairs and trade Kevin Masive says this will also give substance to the development cooperation agreements negotiated with neighbouring countries.

Guam...

Continued from page 1
started discussions about the possibility of CNMI travelers getting spared from the new imposition.
Senators from Saipan and Rota have aired apprehension that the new fees would only curtail interisland travel between the territory and the Commonwealth as it is expected to be much more expensive.
On the other hand, another concern that was raised was that airlines serving the Guam-CNMI route may ultimately stop the service as they may find it less and less profitable.
But during public hearings on the exemption, Charfauros said officials of the Gutierrez Administration have expressed opposition due to rev-

enue concerns.
"This leads me to believe the Administration is not in favor of an exemption. They have come out and opposed the resolution during our public hearings, claiming we're going to lose over \$4 million. But when I put that into question, we were told it will only be less \$50,000," said Charfauros.
According to Charfauros, the \$4 million figure raised during the hearing took into consideration projected fees from all passengers including those that were "in-transit."
"I have made a commitment and Sen. Carlotta Leon Guerrero has made a commitment to have an exemption. It's really not going to cost us that much. We have verified that, it would be less than \$50,000."

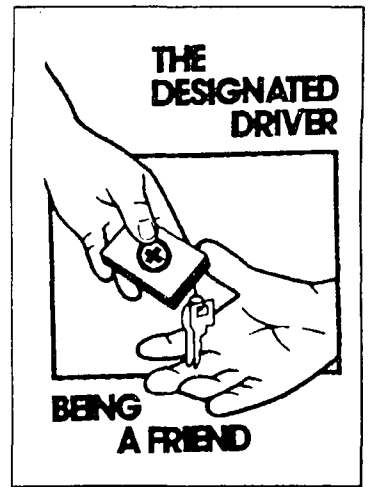
During the interview Monday, Charfauros said he is very optimistic that an exemption will be given CNMI travelers even if the Administration opposes it.
Being chairman of the committee that would approve the regulations governing the airport user's fees, Charfauros said he has good control of the matter.
"If we have to do an override, we will do it. But since I chair the committee that would approve the rules and regulations to grant the exemption, we can just amend the rules."
"So we can either do it by legislation or by amending the rules," he said. "I can rewrite the rules and regulations any way I want to. This means the committee can rewrite it and place an exemption."
He added that regardless of how the Gutierrez feels about the exemption, the mechanism to grant the exemption is with the Legislature.
"We are the policy-making body of Guam and we will give the exemption. The committee has taken a position that we want to extend it to the CNMI and so we will," said Charfauros.

Casino...

Continued from page 1
Dela Cruz recalled that the first group of TCGCC commissioners "failed to issue a single successful license in spite of the availability of seven applicants with huge cash flow backgrounds."
"Over four million dollars was collected in nonrefundable accounts and to no avail, the public of Tinian did not see evidence of casino success," he lamented.
Lone Star Casino closed down last month for an indefinite period accordingly to improve its facilities.



Philippine President Fidel Ramos, left, welcomes British Defense Minister Michael Portillo during the latter's courtesy call Wednesday last week at the presidential palace in Manila. The call followed a signing of the first defense cooperation agreement between the Philippines and Britain. AP



Fiji gov't under fire

THE Fiji government has come under bitter criticism for excluding Indians from being appointed as Fiji ambassadors, the Daily Post reported Tuesday.
Opposition MP Gaffar Ahmed slammed the government for continuing to practice what he called "racist" policies in promoting Indian civil servants. He questioned why no Indian was included among the four new ambassadors announced at the weekend.
Mr. Ahmed, a Labour Party MP from the western town of Ba, was commenting on the appointment of ambassadors to Britain, Malaysia, New Zealand and Papua

New Guinea by the prime minister, Sitiveni Rabuka. The four are all ethnic Fijians.
The opposition MP said the appointment was a deliberate act of the government to keep other races away, particularly Indians.
Meanwhile, the minister for information, Ratu Etuave Tavai, said he was disappointed that an MP has seen fit to see the appointments along racial lines.
He said the MP's view was narrow-minded, adding that all four new ambassadors were highly qualified and experienced....Pacnews

3 Aussies charged for illegal entry

POLICE and customs officials in Papua New Guinea's western provincial capital, Daru, have arrested the charged three Australians from Thursday Island with illegally entering PNG, the National Reporter Tuesday.
The trio were apprehended by a group of waiting customs and police officers after they put ashore at Daru about 7 pm on Sunday.
Southern divisional police commander Fred Sheekot said that the trio were alleged to have sailed from their village to Daru in a dinghy.
Mr. Sheekot said the three are two men and a woman. He added that police had also charged one of the men with being in possession of pornographic material and 50 rounds of live 22 ammunition. The defendants have been remanded and will appear before the District court on January 21....Pacnews

Fijian ethnic party to contest province

ANOTHER ethnic Fijian political party has decided to contest the controversial Tailevu province by election in early March.
The National Democratic Party (NDP) says it will fight the by-election on the issue of youth unemployment in the province.
The NDP candidate for the by-election is Malakai Kovekalou Seru who says he will focus on the youth issue in his campaign.
Radio Fiji reports Mr. Seru is a former civil servant who launched his campaign in Suva this week.
Mr. Seru says he also wants unused land in the province developed to

provide employment opportunities for the youth of the province.
Fiji's ruling Fijian Political Party will field its previous candidate in the September Tailevu by-election, Ratu Manasa Seniloli, while the opposition Fijian Association Party will again put forward its leader, Josevata Kamikamica.
The Tailevu seat has been vacant for more than six months since the former minister for Fijian affairs and Tailevu high chief, Adi Samanunu Talakuli Cakobau, resigned amidst controversy about her dual citizenship....Pacnews

New legal system

FJI'S police commissioner, Isikia Savua, is proposing an alternative legal system whereby young and first offenders will be dealt with outside of the court, the Fiji Times reported Tuesday.
Mr. Savua said the system, to be called the Pre-trial Diversion System, would primarily help first offenders change. It is being used in New Zealand, Australia and the United States. He said he was working on tailoring the system

to suit the special needs of the multi-cultural society in Fiji.
The proposed system will spare the offender from attending court. Instead, the offender will face the Pre-trial Diversion Committee which will be made up of elders and respected persons from the offender's own community.
The committee will deliver the punishment in the form of community labour or services....Pacnews

Condolences

VANUATU'S president Jean-Marie Leye Lenelgau, and prime minister, Serge Vohor have joined world leaders in expressing condolences for the death of former French president, Francois Mitterand, Radio Vanuatu reported Tuesday.
Mr. Vohor lauded him a statesman who sacrificed his time for his country and the world, particularly in defence of the rights of the people.
He said Mr. Mitterand was regarded by Vanuatu as an important partner in relations between Vanuatu and France since independence in 1980.
The two leaders registered their condolences at the French Embassy in Port Vila in a ceremony also attended by a number of government ministers.
In his response, the personnel advisor to the French Embassy, Olivier Lacroix, said the presence of the prime minister and president at the Embassy was a significant part of the relations currently enjoyed by France and Vanuatu.
Late Francois Mitterand died Monday after a long battle with prostate cancer. Pacnews

Advisory Commission on the Compensation of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Legislators, Justices and Judges, Resident Representative to the United States and Mayors
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 664-2282 • Modem 664-2283 • Fax. (670) 664-2390

PUBLIC NOTICE
THE ADVISORY COMMISSION ON COMPENSATION OF THE GOVERNOR, LT. GOVERNOR, LEGISLATORS, JUSTICES AND JUDGES, RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES AND MAYORS, WILL HOLD A MEETING ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1996, AT 2:00 P.M. IN THE GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE ROOM, MAIN ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN. INTERESTED PERSONS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL TEL. NO. 644-2282 OR FAX NO. 644-2390.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes
 - a. Minutes of November 21, 1995
4. Old Business
5. New Business
 - a. Review of Other Documents on the salaries and compensation for elected officials and judges
 - b. Report on Public Hearing
 - c. Other Matters
6. Announcements
Next Meeting
7. Adjournment

/s/ Herman T. Guerrero, Chair
Date: January 03, 1996

Security tackled in Aussie-Malaysia meet

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia (AP) - Regional security in the post Cold War-era will be on the agenda when the prime ministers of Australia and Malaysia meet next week, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

Prime Minister Paul Keating's visit to Malaysia Jan. 15-16 will be the first by an Australian leader in 13 years and signals a warming of relations.

Bilateral ties dipped to an all-time

low after Keating called Malaysian leader Mahathir a "recalcitrant" for boycotting the inaugural 1993 summit of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation in Seattle.

The Australian ambassador, John Dauth, said in an interview published Tuesday in the Business Times that security issues in the post-Cold War Asia-Pacific are only just beginning to take shape.

"The Cold War is over, the players are different. Each of the countries has great self-reliance and this has clear implications for security," he said.

"There are new players in the security equation now. While they are not necessarily malevolent, Dr. Mahathir himself has said China casts a long shadow over the region," Dauth said.

A loose security cooperation framework already exists in the region in the form of the Five Power Defense Arrangement comprising Australia, Malaysia, Britain, New Zealand and Singapore.

Although not an alliance, it requires the five partners to "consult

together" during times of external threat to Malaysia and Singapore.

Last month, Australia entered into a similar bilateral security cooperation pact with Indonesia, officially ending an era of mutual suspicion.

Malaysia's relations with Australia also were rocky through the 1980s after Malaysia executed convicted Australian drug traffickers, which Australia criticized as barbaric.

An Australian movie that depicted the slaughter of Vietnamese refugees in Southeast Asia also upset Kuala Lumpur, which said the insinuation was that Malaysians were the perpetrators.

"The fact that this visit is finally being made is testament that this

period is over, we can put that behind us," Dauth said.

"I think both sides have come to understand the mutual benefits in the bilateral relationship, and that this is not just a bit of old-fashioned historical sentiment," he said.

Malaysia next year is expected to become a major trading partner with Australia than their former colonial master, Britain.

"There are actually cold, hard benefits such as money, dollars... but also security benefits. Malaysia and Australia's security is indivisible," Dauth said.

He said Mahathir and Keating would also discuss cooperation in science and technology.

US education department awards \$12-M contract

PALIKER, Pohnpei - A contract of \$12 million over a five-year period ending November 30, 2000, has been awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to Pacific Regional Educational Laboratory (PREL) to operate a regional educational laboratory, according to an announcement from the office of U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye.

PREL's executive director, Dr. John W. Kofel, says the money will be used to continue operating the laboratory's program.

Over the next five years, PREL build on networks it has already established throughout the Pacific to assist educators and communities in developing and implementing improved strategies for effective schools that are appropriate for Pacific children, teachers, parents, and communities.

A heavy emphasis is placed on continuing applied research to further inform school improvement.

In addition, the laboratory will increase its assistance in develop-

ing appropriate technology capabilities throughout the region.

Technology programs will focus on facilitating communication of, and dissemination and access to educational information and products, including PREL's and its constituents.

Established in 1985 as the Pacific division of the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, PREL became an independent, non-profit corporation in 1990 when it was initially awarded a contract by the U.S. Department's Office of Education Research and Improvement (OERI) to organize and operate an educational laboratory in the Pacific region.

The laboratory's primary mission is to address the educational needs of the Pacific region comprised of 1.6 million people spread over 4 million square miles where 75 percent of the children live in rural, often isolated settings, and where more than 60 percent fall into common at-risk of school failure classifications.



Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko wave to visitors to the Imperial Palace in Tokyo from behind bullet-proof glass as members of the imperial family receive New Year greetings from well-wishers last Jan. 2.

ADB mission visits FSM, wants to sign MOU with government

PALIKIR, Pohnpei - Asian Development Bank's 1996 annual country programming mission to the Federated States of Micronesia arrived Chuuk Monday, the FSM president's office said.

According to a news release yesterday, the two-member Mission headed by Barend Frielink, Economist and Program Officer, will be in Pohnpei on January 12 to meet with FSM National and State Officials.

The mission will focus its discussions on the following: the outcome of the Consultative Group Meeting for FSM held in Manila early December 1995, and the implications for Bank's Program of assistance; secondly, the contents of the Bank's recently approved but not yet published strategy for the Pacific and for FSM; thirdly, the 1996 lending and technical assistance program; fourthly, the pipeline program for 1997 to 1999; and lastly the review of the recent developments.

On January 11, 1996, from 9 to 10 a.m., a courtesy call on Secretary Asterio Takesy, Department of External Affairs; from 10 to 11 a.m., the Mission is scheduled to pay a courtesy call on President Bailey Oler.

The Mission would like to sign, at the end of its mission, a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government, which will reflect the out-

come of the discussions and the understanding reached concerning the Bank's programs in the FSM.

In 1994, a Country Programming Mission headed by D. Sobel, Programming Officer and Mission Leader, visited the FSM and formulated a tentative list of loan and technical assistance (TA) projects for the Bank's consideration for the period 1994 to 1997.

The list included the following: \$12 million loans in 1994, of which \$6.0 million for agricultural development and credit; and \$6.0 million for Water Supply and sewerage.

A \$10 million loans in 1995, of which \$6.0 million was for education and skill development; and \$4.0 million for Power Development. A \$12.0 million loan in 1996, of which \$5.0 million was for Health and Population; and \$7.0 million for Transportation Infrastructure; and a loan of \$12.0 million in 1997, \$7.0 million of which is for the Second Fisheries Development; and \$5.0 million is for solid waste disposal and sanitation.

The Technical Assistance Programs in 1994 included the strengthening economic policy making; strengthening National and State Departments of Resources and Development; National Fisheries Policy; Water Supply and Sewer-

age; Corporate Planning and Training for FSM Development Bank; Privatization Master Plan and Manpower Master Plan, at a total cost of \$2.2 million.

Technical Assistance in 1995, in the amount of \$2 million was for improvement of Health and Population; Environmental Master Plan; Solid Waste Disposal and Sanitation; Transportation Infrastructure; Improving Land Use Patterns; Women's Policy and Action Plans; and Strengthening Curriculum for Education Sector.

The 1996 \$2.0 million worth of Technical Assistance for the following projects: the Second Fisheries Development, Coastal Marine Resource Management; Institutional Development for Transport Sector; Domestic Resource Mobilization; Industrial Sector Policy Sector Review; and Strengthening Budgetary Systems and Procedures.

The Technical Assistance proposed for 1997 in the amount of \$2.0 million include TA for Education II; Financial Markets Development; Formulation of post-2000 Medium Term Development Plan; Improving Income Earning opportunities for women; and Tourism marketing.

Chechen rebels seize hospital

By DEBORAH SEWARD MOSCOW (AP) - Chechen fighters and Russian troops fought pitched battles Monday after rebels seized about 100 hostages in a hospital in a town in southern Russia. At least six militants were killed and one wounded.

The rebel attack on the town of Kizlyar appeared similar to an incident in the city of Budyonnovsk in June when Chechen fighters seized hundreds of hostages to demand an end to the war in Chechnya.

Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin immediately convened the government to discuss the situation, and extra security forces were sent to the region.

Hundreds of Russian security forces ringed the main hospital in Kizlyar, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) east of the Chechen capital Grozny in the neighboring republic of Dagestan, Leonid Golovnyov, a spokesman for the Ministry of the Interior in Moscow said.

The rebels, who call themselves the "wolves," entered the hospital after they failed to seize an airport and a bridge in Kizlyar, Golovnyov said. Two helicopters were blown up at the airfield, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

The rebels were holding about 100 hostages, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

At least six of the group of about 50 rebels were killed, one was wounded, and another

was captured, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported. At least two Russian servicemen were wounded.

The Chechen militants, who are reportedly led by Salman Raduyev, the son-in-law of rebel leader Dzhokhar Dudayev, now control the first floor of the hospital. Golovnyov denied a Russian

news report that the rebels had seized a maternity home.

Raduyev was formerly a senior official in Gudermes, the second largest city in Chechnya, which was the scene of a bloody battle in December during which the rebels were driven out by Russian troops.

The rebels are demanding a withdrawal of Russian troops from

Chechnya and an end to the 13-month war in the breakaway republic.

Thousands of Russian troops poured into Chechnya on Dec. 11, 1994 to put down the republic's secessionist drive. Independent and official estimates say some 20,000 to 25,000 people died, mainly civilians.

Official: No famine in N. Korea till mid-'96

By SANG-HUN CHOE SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - Disputing widely reported prospects of mass starvation in North Korea, a South Korean official said Tuesday that the restrictive communist state is not expected to face famine until the middle of the year.

U.N. relief officials returning from the North have reported widespread hunger following massive flood damage last summer.

But South Korea, remaining tough against any immediate food aid to its rival, questions such dire predictions about food shortages in one of the world's most sealed-off societies.

"It is true that the North is having difficulties, but the situation has not reached famine or a political crisis," said Kim Hyong-ki, chief North Korea analyst on the Unification Board, a government ministry in charge of inter-Korea relations.

Kim told a meeting of unification-related officials he thinks that despite its serious food shortages, the North will be able to control its food ration program until June or July.

The assessment doesn't even take

into account the vast military stockpiles that the North could use to feed its 22 million people in emergencies, he said.

Earlier Tuesday, President Kim Young-sam accused North Korea of spending the bulk of its resources on its military, already the world's fifth largest, while begging for outside help.

He said Seoul is willing to help ease the North's reported food shortage if the country changes its hard-line policy toward South Korea.

The South Korean president did not spell out conditions North Korea should meet to receive aid. But Seoul officials have said the North should reopen bilateral dialogue and officially request aid.

South Korean officials believe that Western estimates of the North's food shortage are misleading because they do not include the vast stockpiles for its 1.2 million-strong military.

Last Saturday, Foreign Minister Gong Ro-myung said the North is not releasing those stockpiles. He argued that the North's government is not taking its own food situation as seriously as the outside world thinks.

Kim of the Unification Ministry said North Korea reserves 20 percent of its annual grain production for the military. Experts estimate the North produced 4 million tons of grains in 1995, far short of its 7 million-ton needs.

Kim said North Korea would try to meet the shortages with 800,000 tons of rice it obtained from outside in imports and donations, and with various frugality programs.

The North's chronic food shortages worsened after last summer's flooding devastated large stretches of farm land. The North claims the heaviest floods in 100 years left 500,000 people homeless.

In its first food aid to the impoverished North, South Korea gave the country 150,000 tons of free rice last summer. Further shipments were halted because of mounting military and political disputes.

U.S. defense officials have said the North's military has been tightening control of the country to head off dissent and possible food riots, assuming police functions and carrying out public executions that thousands are forced to attend.

Taipei to change road name seen as authoritarian remnant

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) - Moving to eliminate what some see as a remnant of authoritarian rule, Taipei's city government plans to change a street name originally chosen as a sign of respect to the late President Chiang Kai-shek.

Taipei Mayor Chen Shui-bian said Tuesday the public will be asked to suggest a new name for Chiehshou Road.

The name means "longevity," but Chen told a city government meeting Monday that since Chiang died in 1975, "there is no need to wish him longevity."

Anyway, it is impossible for him to live long anymore," Chen is a member of the Democratic Progressive Party, the largest opposition group to Taiwan's ruling Nationalist Party.

But the name change first was proposed last week by Taipei City

Councilors Chen Yung-teh and Chen Cheng-chung, both Nationalists.

Other Nationalist councilors and those of the opposition New Party, a conservative group, objected to the plan, saying that the street name does not have authoritarian implications and a change would cause inconvenience.

Chiang became China's leader in the late 1920s. His Nationalist government fled to Taiwan in 1949 after losing a civil war to Communist forces on China's mainland.

The road, less than one kilometer (0.6 mile) long, stretches from the Presidential Office to a traffic circle near the Foreign Ministry.

The other building sitting on the road is the Taipei Guest House, often used to house foreign guests.



Some 2,000 employees of the government telecommunications monopoly sound air horns in a demonstration outside the Legislature in Taipei last week. They demanded the government drop a plan to gradually open up the telecommunications market, an act which they said could force them to lose their jobs.

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Prison rioting spreads in Turkey

By YALMAN ONARAN
ANKARA, Turkey (AP) - Hopping to quell growing unrest at prisons around the country, Turkey fired two jail officials Monday and began investigating the deaths of three prisoners during a riot.

One of 29 guards held hostage by inmates was released Monday night, but it was not clear whether it was a response to the government's moves.

The trouble began after inmates in Istanbul's Umraniye prison rioted Thursday over complaints about living conditions. Officials stormed the facility and killed three inmates, and unrest surged in several prisons as word of the deaths spread.

In the latest incident, inmates at a prison in the northwestern city of Bartin took six guards hostage Monday, local prosecu-

tor Yasar Kizilhan said.

Officials said 23 guards and wardens were still being held by prisoners at Istanbul's Bayrampasa and Izmir's Buca prisons. It was not known in which prison the one guard was released.

All of the abductors are either accused or have been convicted of belonging to banned leftist organizations.

Negotiators have been seeking the immediate release of the hostages. The Justice Ministry said it has agreed to two inmate demands, which included the dismissal of the two top administrators of Umraniye prison.

The inmates are also demanding more flexible visiting hours, an end to censorship of periodicals and a halt to intimate body searches.

Human rights groups have repeatedly denounced treatment of prisoners in Turkish prisons, although most agree there have been improvements since the 1970s, when the movie "Midnight Express" depicted dire conditions.

Also Monday, some 650 inmates began a hunger strike at prisons in Bursa, Adana and Gaziantep to protest the shootings, officials said.

Saying they wanted to head off violence, police in Istanbul detained 500 suspected leftists at funerals

for the slain inmates. It was not clear whether they would be charged or released.

Three people were shot and wounded and 15 arrested over the weekend in violent street protests in favor of the prisoners.

International community has not done enough, Aristide says

By MICHAEL NORTON
PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) - Outgoing President Jean-Bertrand Aristide shot another broadside at the international community, saying it has not done enough to redress Haiti's foundering economy.

"Friendly nations helped us hold our elections, but we have not seen the same proportion of assistance for economic recovery," Aristide said in

a state-of-the-nation address at the opening session of the National Assembly.

More than \$500 million of the \$1.2 billion that international donors pledged in January 1995 has already been disbursed. Most has been spent on repairing roads and bridges and paying government debts and salaries.

But no new jobs have been created. More than 50 percent of the work force remains jobless or underemployed as the cost of living continues to climb.

There has been little investment, with business people wary about Haiti's prospects for political stability and security.

Many are waiting to see what happens after the U.N. military mission withdraws when its mandate expires Feb. 29 and Aristide hands over power on Feb. 7 to

Rene Preval. It will be the first transfer of power from one democratically elected president to another since Haiti won its independence from France in 1804.

Preval has asked the United Nations to extend the mandate for six months - a request currently before the Security Council - fearing the fledgling National Police force is neither competent nor equipped to keep the peace.

"Our friends in the international community will soon withdraw. How will we bear the standard of security then?" Aristide asked the National Assembly.

He said that disarmament of criminals and political extremists was "under way but not yet a luminous reality." That referred to another of his complaints that the international community has not done enough about disarmament.

Woman nabbed for fleeing with boy she tried to adopt

LUKA, Mississippi (AP) - A woman who fled her home almost two years ago with the boy she had tried unsuccessfully to adopt was arrested Monday, and the child was to be handed over to his biological father.

Mona Smith, 41, had raised Nathan since shortly after his birth almost seven years ago. She fled with the boy from Indiana in April 1994, after a judge ordered her and her husband to turn Nathan over to his biological father, Terry Vaughan.

Federal police would not say how they located the woman.

Mrs. Smith was charged with illegal flight to avoid prosecution. She also was wanted in Indiana with

interference of custody.

She was to be returned to Indiana in a few days, Calcagno said.

Nathan was being cared for by the state until Vaughan could pick him up, Calcagno said. Vaughan could not be reached for comment.

Vaughan had been fighting for custody since a former girlfriend gave birth to the boy.

Mrs. Smith and her husband, William, began the adoption process less than a week after Nathan's birth.

William Smith still lives in Indiana and said he had not known where his wife and Nathan were or why they moved to Luka. He said he will seek visitation rights with Nathan.

Foster sworn in as Louisiana governor

By GUY COATES
BATON ROUGE, Louisiana (AP) - On the place where his grandfather took the same oath 100 years earlier, Mike Foster was sworn in Monday as Louisiana's governor.

"This is your state," Foster, a Republican, said in a brief speech to the crowd of about 3,500 watching the ceremony on the grounds of the Old State Capitol.

"It belongs to no politician, no political party, no special interest, no newspaper, no group and no one person," he said. "It belongs to you. Now, you must govern it. My job will be to see you finally have the opportunity to do so."

Foster only briefly mentioned his grandfather, two-term Gov.

Murphy J. Foster.

"Despite his vision, I doubt that he could have seen that a century later our nation would have fought two world wars for freedom and liberty, that man would actually walk on the moon, that the diseases of death could and would be cured and prevented, or that his grandson would stand here and take the same oath for our state's highest office," Foster said.

He also touched on his favorite issues, including legislation to give most citizens the right to carry concealed weapons.

Foster, a millionaire contractor and sugar refiner, succeeded Edwin Edwards, a Democrat who stepped down after an unprecedented four terms.

Hundreds die in Zaire plane crash

By LOLO LUASU
KINSHASA, Zaire (AP) - A cargo plane plunged onto a busy downtown street just after takeoff Monday and tore through a crowded market, mowing down cars, shacks and people in a fiery skid that left more than 200 dead. Black smoke billowed from the wreckage as soldiers covered victims' bodies with white sheets.

As darkness fell over Kinshasa, a chaotic, crumbling city of 6 million, calls went out over national radio and television for people to donate blood to help survivors. The dead filled the city's four main hospital morgues.

No official casualty count was released, but hospital workers and news reports said more than 200 people died. A U.S. Embassy official said he had unconfirmed reports from embassy sources of 300 dead.

The government said the pilot and two crew members were Russian and all three had survived the crash. It called for two days of national mourning and grounded all

cargo flights until an investigation was complete. The largest state-run hospital in Kinshasa, Mama Yemo, had to turn away victims for lack of equipment and medical supplies.

"Bring your blood to save the injured. They need us to survive," Dr. Maholo Pelagie of the Kinshasa blood bank begged over state radio.

Information Minister Masegabio Nzanu said the plane, a Russian-made Antonov-32 twin-turboprop, was owned by the private cargo company, African Air.

The Minister of Transportation, Bernardin Munguldeaka, told Radio Zaire that the plane was at least 270 kilograms (600 pounds) overweight.

The An-32 is designed for payloads of about 4,500 kilograms (10,000 pounds). The plane had just taken off from Ndolo airport in Kinshasa when it plummeted to the ground. The plane skidded 200 meters (600 feet) across the street, smashing through cars and stalls in the Simba Zikita market before

screaming to a stop.

The airport, used for private planes and cargo flights, is in the heart of Kinshasa, five kilometers (three miles) from major hotels and embassies. It used to be Kinshasa's international airport.

"The plane just piled into the market," said John Escodi, a spokesman at the U.S. Embassy in Kinshasa. "It was the worst possible time for that market because it was very busy and it's located right at the end of the runway, across the street from the runway."

Kinshasa is covered with such markets, sprawling open-air mazes of hawkers selling anything from live chickens to clothing. Most of the dead were on the ground, said Kamanga Mutond, a Zaire radio reporter who visited the crash scene. "The plane was totally destroyed," he said.

The crash was the second in two months involving a Zaire-based cargo plane, and the sixth west African crash in recent months.

On Dec. 18, a jet operated by Zaire's Trans Service Air-

lift, a charter company, crashed in Angola, killing at least 136 people.

On Dec. 3, a Cameroon Airlines Boeing 737 on a commercial flight slammed into swamps while trying to land at Cameroon's international airport, and 72 people died. Three Nigerian jets also have crashed in recent months, the latest in November.

On New Year's Day, 32 people were killed in Kinshasa when a truck crammed with people careened into a ditch. The country's public transportation system is in a shambles, so commuters often rely on huge trucks to get around the city.

Etienne Kokolo, a Zairian news photographer who was at the scene Monday said people were stunned over yet another fatal crash.

Mitterrand's death stirs mixed feelings

By CHRISTOPHER BURNS
PARIS (AP) - The death of Francois Mitterrand Monday stirred mixed feelings about the former Socialist president, who sacrificed the ideals of his own party to pursue European unity and secure France's global role.

When he stepped down last year after 14 years in power, the former leader, who was suffering from prostate cancer, was both reviled as a political fox and admired as a great statesman.

So at his death Monday at 79, feelings conflicted over a man who

left behind his leftist coalition broken and in disarray and a conservative government blaming Socialist mismanagement for a recession.

"I voted for Mitterrand, and I regret it bitterly," Claude Chabalter said at his sidewalk newsstand.

"We thought we had made a turn to the left, but the capitalists only increased their power."

But politicians on the left and right, albeit some grudgingly, paid homage to Mitterrand as France's most influential modern leader after his archrival Charles de Gaulle.

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16 dead, 200 hurt in train accident

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) - At least 16 people were killed and 200 injured when two speeding trains crashed into each other, rescue workers said Tuesday.

The accident occurred Monday evening at Kongaish village near Chandpur town, 40 miles (64 kilometers) east of Dhaka, the capital, an army officer supervising the rescue operation said in a telephone interview.

Fifteen bodies were recovered from the wreckage, while one other passenger died in a hospital, said Major Rezaul Karim.

The death toll is likely to rise, he said. Most newspapers said 16 people were killed, but one newspaper, Inqilab, said at least 40 people were feared killed.

Both the trains connect Chandpur and the southeastern port city of Chittagong.

The engines and two cars of each train jumped the tracks after the accident, the railway control room in Dhaka said.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known. But Dhaka newspapers quoting unnamed officials said telecommunication links between the two railroad stations were cut when the crash took place. Communication Minister Oli Ahmed ordered an inquiry into the accident.

The trains were crowded because an anti-government strike halted most trains, and road traffic Monday.

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NATO warns Bosnian soldiers

By SAMIR KRILIC
SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) - Taking a tough stance on its peacekeeping mission, NATO warned Bosnia's warring factions Monday that any more attacks on its troops will provoke deadly force.

NATO said rogue elements shot five times at alliance troops and twice at airplanes over the weekend. There were no injuries, but NATO said it has had enough.

"If our forces are threatened, they have every right and responsibility to attack the source," said U.S. Admiral Leighton Smith, commander of the NATO force in Bosnia. "It is not a good idea to continue."

Although it is not clear how effective NATO's heavy weaponry would be against isolated snipers, the alliance's battery of sophisticated weaponry could be a daunting deterrent. And NATO troops already have fired back hard on occasion, beginning when an Italian soldier was hit by a sniper last week.

NATO officials insisted that overall their mission is going well as reports surfaced that recent violence between Muslims and Croats in the pivotal city of Mostar was easing.

Failure to achieve peace in the divided southwestern city could bode ill for a Muslim-Croat federation.

"Both sides have managed to calm the situation," said Hans Koschnick, the European Union's administrator for Mostar.

But tensions remained high in the wake of ethnically motivated attacks last week that left a Croat policeman and a young Muslim civilian dead, and two Muslim policemen wounded.

Officials said more trouble was

possible. Muslims and Croats, largely divided by the Neretva River that bisects the city, so far have failed to agree on borders of their districts and Bosnian Croats seem unwilling to disband their local government as called for by the Bosnian peace agreement.

Mostar was among the worst hit by bitter Croat-Muslim fighting in 1993 and 1994.

A failure in Mostar would undermine the Muslim-Croat federation, which was awarded 51 percent of Bosnia under the U.S.-brokered peace deal signed in Paris Dec. 14.

The federation is the cornerstone of the peace plan, which was designed to end the 3 1/2-year civil war.

The Americans hope the federation will counterbalance the Serbs, who control the remainder of the Balkan state. If the Muslim-Croat entity collapses, the Bosnian Serbs will not feel bound by the Paris accord and fighting could erupt.

"In the last few days there were some incidents in Mostar and elsewhere," U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci said after meeting with Croatian officials in Zagreb, including President Franjo Tudjman.

"It is important that we all try to work to make sure that these kinds of incidents do not continue and that we meet the deadlines."

In another area that could threaten the peace plan, Bosnian Serbs in the Sarajevo suburb of Ilidza held two people from the government-held sector of the divided capital.

The Serbs claimed they were arrested after driving into their area wearing Bosnian government army uniforms, said NATO spokesman Lt. Col. Mark Rayner.

The Bosnian government, however, said that four civilians were



Spc. Martin John Begosh, 23, of Rockville, Md. is carried on a stretcher into waiting ambulance at a MASH unit in Zupan, Croatia last week. He was then transported onto a helicopter and flown to Hungary and then on to a military hospital in Landshut, Germany. He was injured when his vehicle hit a land mine in northeast Bosnia Saturday. (AP Photo)

being held and they were abducted from a main road leading into Sarajevo.

The detentions occurred Friday, the same day 16 other civilians were released by Serb authorities amid warnings from NATO.

People in the Serb-held sectors of Sarajevo are particularly edgy because the Bosnian peace agreement mandates that all of Sarajevo is to be governed by their former enemies.

Serbs say they worried about retaliation by Muslims and some have begun leaving for Serb-controlled sections of the country.

NATO commander Smith stressed Monday that his troops would not impede their departure.

But German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel in Sarajevo on a one-

day visit, urged the Bosnian government to instill enough confidence in Bosnia's Serbs that they will want to stay.

"There should be no mass exodus and no more refugees," Kinkel said.

Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic said after meeting with Kinkel that his government wanted the Serbs to stay.

"We don't want to see an exodus of Serbs from Sarajevo because this would prove that there cannot be a multiethnic Bosnia," he told reporters.

Serbs already have started to leave other areas they have to cede to Muslims and Croats under the terms of the peace agreement.

Also in Sarajevo, Bosnian Croat

and Serb army representatives agreed to a Red Cross plan for the release of all prisoners by Jan. 16. But the Bosnian government army delegation refused to sign, apparently because of a dispute over the number of prisoners being held.

Meanwhile, NATO and officials with the Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in The Hague, Netherlands, discussed how alliance troops in Bosnia can arrest indicted war crimes suspects.

The U.N. court has indicted 52 suspects including Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and his army commander Gen. Ratko Mladic, but has just one suspect in custody.

Those accused face charges ranging from rape and torture to genocide.

US-led commission to resume work on weapons

By SHAWN POGATCHNIK
BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) - The American-led commission seeking a workable way to disarm Northern Ireland's rival paramilitary camps is to resume its confidential discussions this week following a spate of IRA-style killings. The commission, unveiled Nov. 28 by the British and Irish governments on the eve of President Clinton's visit to both countries, is playing a potentially pivotal role in Northern Ireland peacemaking efforts.

Commission leader, former U.S. Sen. George Mitchell of Maine, and his aides said last month that the conclusive round of consultations will take place late this week.

Assistants to the commission in Washington on Monday said Mitchell expects to visit London on Thursday, Dublin on Friday and Belfast on Saturday before completing the report. Sources in both Dublin and London confirmed this itinerary and said it had been agreed last week.

The group is supposed to judge how the Catholic-based Irish Republican Army and Protestant "loyalists" should disarm - and whether they must start before negotiations begin on Northern Ireland's future.

That entrenched debate, with Britain on one side and the IRA-allied Sinn Fein party on the other, has brought the peace process to a standstill for several months.

The Mitchell commission expects to present formal written recommendations to the British and Irish governments next week.

Steadily refusing to disarm are the IRA, which stopped its 24-year campaign of violence against British rule in September 1994, and pro-British "loyalist" extremists, who matched the IRA truce six weeks later.

Police and streetwise observers have blamed the IRA for the killings of seven Catholic men, many of them alleged drug dealers, since the ceasefire.

Four of those slayings have taken place since the commission visited the British-ruled north and indepen-

dent south of Ireland last month.

All were claimed by a previously unheeded-of group called "Direct Action Against Drugs."

That label would provide convenient cover for the IRA, which remains active within its Catholic power bases but knows that admitting acts of violence now would pose political problems for its Sinn Fein partners.

Sinn Fein has refused to condemn the killings, arguing that they are inevitable given the unpopularity of the predominantly Protestant police in Catholic areas. The party's chairman, Mitchel McLaughlin, said there was no proof of who was behind the shootings.

"Of course it's the IRA," said the Rev. Denis Faul, a Catholic priest and one of Northern Ireland's most prominent human rights activists.

"Who else can hold families at gunpoint in Catholic areas, lay in wait for hours in these areas, and intimidate people into silence?"

There's only one group who can do that effectively, no matter what they call themselves these days.

Business & Trade

Boeing eyes \$3-B jet deal

SEATTLE (AP) - General Electric Co.'s jetliner-leasing unit is close to giving The Boeing Co. an order for as many as 60 planes valued at more than \$3 billion, a news report said Monday.

The unit also is expected in coming weeks to place an order with Europe's Airbus Industrie for at least 40 smaller jets valued at \$1.7 billion or more, the Wall Street Journal reported, citing unidentified people familiar with the nego-

Dollar traded lower against yen in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) - The U.S. dollar was trading lower against the Japanese yen at late morning in Tokyo Tuesday. Prices on the Tokyo Stock Exchange slipped.

The dollar edged lower during the morning trading, but it had support by some buying orders from falling below 105 yen, a Dai-ichi Kangyo Bank dealer said.

A lack of major economic news was putting the dollar somewhat in a correction stage, said the dealer who spoke on condition of anonymity.

At late morning, the dollar was traded at 105.08 yen, down 0.34 yen from Monday's close in Tokyo and also down from late New York trading overnight of 105.30 yen.

On the stock market, share prices slipped in moderate trading as participants continued to take profits from the index's strong advances last week, traders said.

The market's main index had gained some 800 points last week.

The 225-issue Nikkei Stock Average fell 53.31 points, or 0.26 percent, to 20,510.27 points at the end of the morning session. On Monday, the index had fallen 105.45 points, or 0.51 percent.

The Tokyo Stock Price Index of all issues listed on the first section was down 7.81 points, or 0.48 percent, to 1,613.61. The TOPIX had lost 10.61 points, or 0.65 percent, the day before.

The benchmark No. 174 10-year Japanese government bonds were quoted at 110.99 yen, up from Monday's close of 110.84 yen. Their yield fell to 3.000 percent from 3.020 percent.

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tiations. Nick Milham, a spokesman here for Boeing Commercial Airplane Group, said he could not confirm the report. Boeing allows its customers to announce orders they place.

Officials of GE Capital, which handles the company's leasing activities, could not be reached for comment. Its offices in Stamford, Connecticut, had been closed by a blizzard that shut down much of the Eastern United States.

The Boeing order is expected to include options for as many as 40 more plane purchases, which would push the value of the deal to well over

\$4 billion, the Journal reported.

The order will be mostly for the new-generation 737 planes, for which GE is the exclusive provider of engines, the newspaper said. The planes carry 120 to 180 passengers.

The order also is likely to include as many as a dozen orders or options for larger 767s or 777s, the Journal said.

GE's order of Airbus planes is expected to include mostly its line of smaller A-319, A-320 and A-321 models, the report said. GE provides about half of the engines for those lines.

Oil gas prices climb during NE blizzard

NEW YORK (AP) - Prices for crude oil and natural gas rose Monday as a blizzard continued to blanket the American Northeast - the country's chief heating oil consuming region.

Trading did not open on the New York Mercantile Exchange because of the storm. But oil rose in cash and futures markets abroad.

North Sea Brent Blend crude finished at \$19.22 a barrel, up 17 cents in London on the IPE.

Arab light crude oil was quoted at \$18.56 a barrel in northwest Europe cash markets, up 29 cents.

The storm that brought frigid cold and waist-high snow drifts to the Northeast prompted buying of the crude needed to make the fuel. Traders were also spurred to buy to nullify earlier positions by the closure of the Nymex.

The Northeast represents three-quarters of the nation's heating oil consumption.

On the Kansas City Board of Trade, which started trading natural gas futures this past summer, natural gas prices rose 1.5 cents to \$1.439 per 1,000 cubic feet.

DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

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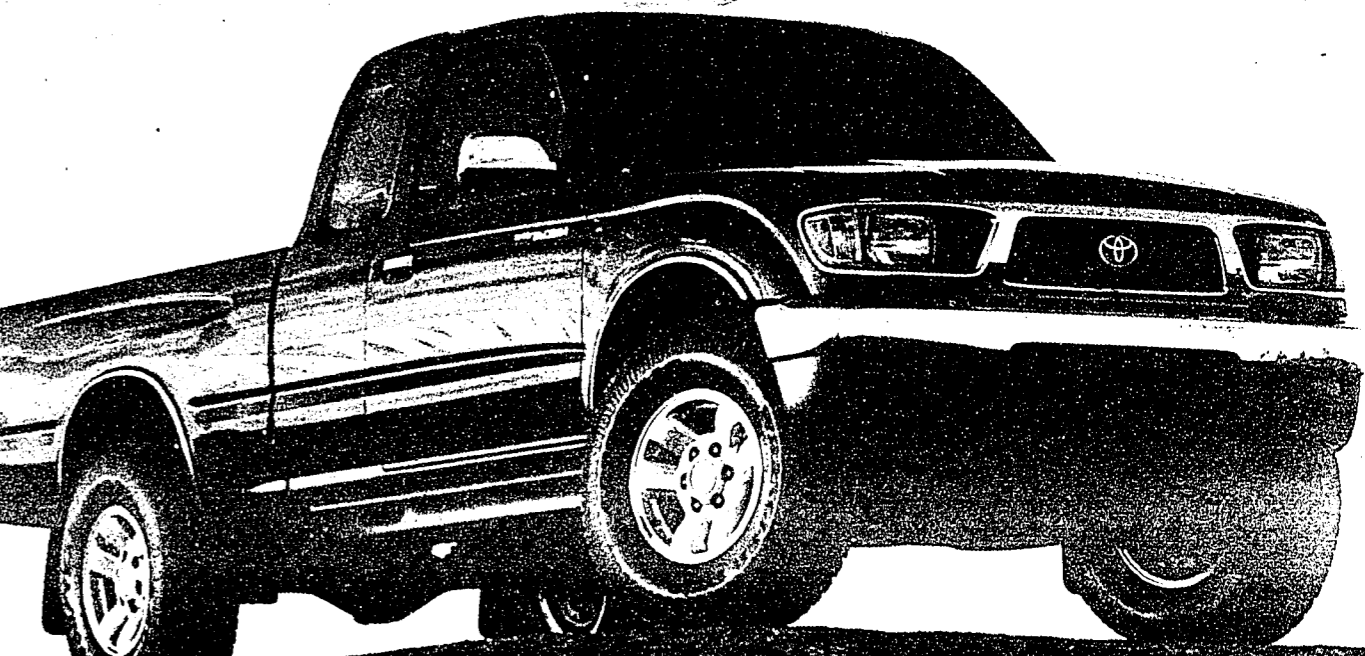
In his death, he now joins his: Father: Santiago Aguon Mother: Maria Mafnas Aguon Brothers: Antonio M. Aguon Ramon M. Aguon

His spirits and memories will live in the hearts of his Brothers/Sisters and their Spouses: Pedro M. Aguon/Rosa Ignacia A. Santos/Enrique Rosa A. Reyes/Jose (Deceased) Engracia A. Borja/Francisco Juan M. Aguon/Merced Joaquin M. Aguon/Antonia and numerous Uncles, Aunties, Cousins, Nieces, Nephews & Friends.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at the residence of his sister/brother-in-law, Engracia and Francisco T. Borja at I Denni Hill.

Last respects may be paid on Saturday, January 13th 1996 beginning at 8:00pm at his sister/brother-in-law residence in I Denni Hill.

Mass of Intention will be offered at 4:00p.m. at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Cathedral followed by burial services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.



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Monster storm buries East Coast

By ROGER PETERSON
NEW YORK (AP) - A blizzard of historic proportions shut down the Eastern United States at the start of the work week, stopping cars, trains, planes and just about anything else that moves. At least 46 deaths were blamed on the weather.

"The snow in some places was thigh-high. You had no idea whether you were stepping onto a curb or a snow-covered sink-hole. I did both," lawyer Ron Kuby in New York City said Monday.

Only emergency vehicles were allowed on many high-

ways and New York City streets, and all major airports were closed from Washington to Boston. Bus lines shut down, and passengers from one passenger train were stuck in a West Virginia hotel.

Hundreds of truck drivers and other travelers were stuck in truck stops, restaurants and highway service areas.

It was the third worst snowstorm on record for New York City, where 20.6 inches (52 centimeters) piled up in skyscraper-surrounded Central Park. Outlying Staten Island got more, with 27.5 inches (69 centime-

ters).
"It reminds me of when I was growing up in Iceland," said Olos Haggerty, trying to get a taxi to work in New York City.

The city's worst blizzard was the day after Christmas in 1947, when 26.4 inches (68 centimeters) fell. But there was little wind, unlike the blizzard of March 12, 1888, when 21 inches (53 centimeters) got heaped into drifts that reached second-story windows. The 1888 storm killed more than 300 people on the Eastern U.S. Coast.

Philadelphia received a record 30.3 inches (77 centime-

ters) of snow.
Baltimore got 23 inches (58.4 centimeters), just short of the 24.7-inch (63 centimeters) record set in the big blizzard of January 1922.

The most snow was in the Appalachian Mountains, with 43 inches (109 centimeters) in West Virginia.

Mail delivery was halted in Washington and New York City, and hundreds of schools were closed from Georgia to New Hampshire. New York City's 1 million schoolchildren enjoyed their first snow-canceled day since 1978. Classes were canceled until at least Wednesday.

Much of the federal government was shut down, and Republican presidential candidates Phil Gramm and Bob Dole had to cancel New Hampshire campaign treks because they couldn't get out of Washington. The United Nations also closed.

The New York, American and Nasdaq stock exchanges opened late for abbreviated sessions. But the storm shut down the New York Mercantile Exchange and the New York Commodity Exchange.

Doctors at one New York hospital said at least 12 people suffered carbon monoxide poisoning while sitting in cars with the engines running and the

tailpipes stuck in the snow.
Philadelphia city crews transported about 800 tons (726 metric tons) of snow and dumped it in the Schuylkill River, but the fifth-largest U.S. city still resembled a ghost town with drifts up to 6 feet (1.8 meters) high.

Major airports for Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Newark, New Jersey, Boston and New York City shut down. Drifts at New York's airports were as high as 20 feet (6 meters), officials said.

That backed up flights elsewhere. Between 700 and 900 TWA passengers bound for the Eastern United States were stranded overnight at St. Louis. Hundreds of people flying in from Europe to New York had to spend the night at Bangor, Maine.

The Pennsylvania Turnpike was closed almost all the way across the state and nonessential travel was banned from the New Jersey Turnpike. Roads were closed in half of Pennsylvania until Tuesday.

A barn collapsed on a Wilkes County, North Carolina, farm, killing some of the 17,000 chicks inside.

The remaining chickens, owned by Tyson Foods, all have to be destroyed because disease may set in from the extreme cold.



Chuck Korn of Grand Traverse Auto cleans one of more than 100 automobiles in an "overflow" lot in Traverse City, Mich. It took the staff about a day to clean snow off the parked vehicles, which were buried in over a foot fresh snow. (AP Photo)

ters) of snow.
Baltimore got 23 inches (58.4 centimeters), just short of the 24.7-inch (63 centimeters) record set in the big blizzard of January 1922.

The most snow was in the Appalachian Mountains, with 43 inches (109 centimeters) in West Virginia.

Mail delivery was halted in Washington and New York City, and hundreds of schools were closed from Georgia to New Hampshire. New York City's 1 million schoolchildren enjoyed their first snow-canceled day since 1978. Classes were canceled until at least Wednesday.

Much of the federal government was shut down, and Republican presidential candidates Phil Gramm and Bob Dole had to cancel New Hampshire campaign treks because they couldn't get out of Washington. The United Nations also closed.

The New York, American and Nasdaq stock exchanges opened late for abbreviated sessions. But the storm shut down the New York Mercantile Exchange and the New York Commodity Exchange.

Doctors at one New York hospital said at least 12 people suffered carbon monoxide poisoning while sitting in cars with the engines running and the

Southern California basks in sunshine

By JEFF WILSON
MALIBU, California (AP) - Tourists and sun-worshippers smeared on the suntan lotion in Southern California, where

one of the Eastern United States' worst winter storms in years was just an unpleasant image on TV.

"It seems unfair, but we'll take it," said restaurant manager Glenn Mast, looking over the sunglasses-wearing crowd on the sumptuous patio at Geoffrey's. "We've been real busy. Business is up 50 percent."

After a record 87 degrees (31 degs. Celsius) on Sunday, Los Angeles temperatures reached 80 Monday (27 degs Celsius) - 13 degrees (8 degrees Celsius) above normal.

"It's quite a shock to get out of the airplane from below zero to this beautiful weather," said Pat Tullar, 53, of Minneapolis, who was sharing tuna sandwiches with her husband on Surfrider Beach.

Pacific Coast Highway was jammed in places, and while tiny ankle-slapping waves made it a terrible day for surfing, surfers gathered anyway on the sun-roasted sands of Malibu.

"Here we are sitting around in bathing suits. What could be better? For January, you can't beat it," said surfer Gene Pello.

"It's a lot better than Wisconsin," said Dawn Zelensky, 21, of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, glistening from a fresh coat of suntan oil.

"We've been watching the snowstorm on the news and, well, laughing."

People and places

Normal life for First Family

WASHINGTON (AP) - Hillary Rodham Clinton says when the working day is done, the first family retires to its quarters and lets its hair down like everyone else.

"That's when the sweatpants and the jeans come on and the card games start and the yelling at the (American) football games and basketball games on TV," the first lady said in an interview with The Nashville Network.

"There's something about this house and certainly the position that is so intimidating, that when people look at the White House, they think, 'Those folks who live there must be living so differently from us,'" she said.

"But in the privacy of our own quarters and with our family and our friends, we try to be just as normal as we used to be... It's so important to remain who you were before you got here."

The interview is to be broadcast Jan. 16.

Suit prompts name change

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - A lawsuit by Catherine Deneuve gave a lesbian magazine named Deneuve an identity crisis.

The magazine has changed its name to Curve because the French actress claimed trademark protection, said Frances Stevens, publisher and editor in chief.

The change was effective with the January-February issue on newsstands last week. The 5-year-old glossy publication claims to be the nation's best-selling lesbian magazine with a circulation of 200,000.

Stevens denied the original name was inspired by the actress who had a love scene with Susan Sarandon in the 1983 vampire movie "The Hunger."

The publisher said the old name came from her own "first love," but she likes the new name, too, because Curve "is really hip and sexy, a celebration of feminine strength, of diversity."

Nixon's love of music

YORBA LINDA, California (AP) - If people were surprised to hear music coming from the Richard Nixon Library and Birthplace, they shouldn't have been.

The classical piano and jazz concert Sunday was part of an early celebration of the late president's birthday Tuesday.

Nixon, a music lover who took up piano at age 3, would have approved, said John H. Taylor, executive director of the library.

Nixon took lessons from an aunt, and though he may not have been accomplished, "he was an earnest pianist," Taylor said.

On Tuesday, Dimitri Simes, an expert on U.S.-Russian relations who advised Nixon during the last eight years of his life, will lecture on "Climbing the Highest Mountain: An Assessment of Richard Nixon."

Lemmon skips golf for movie

PEBBLE BEACH, California (AP) - Jack Lemmon is skipping a major professional-amateur golf tournament for the first time in more than 20 years.

His absence has nothing to do with his poor golf stroke, however. He will be in England filming a movie version of "Hamlet."

The 70-year-old actor has failed for 23 years to make the 54-hole cut to advance to Sunday play in the annual tournament. But when the AT and T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am begins Feb. 1, Lemmon plans to be in England filming a version of the Shakespeare classic starring and directed by Kenneth Branagh.

The cast also includes Robin Williams, Billy Crystal and Charlton Heston.

"I'm heartsick about it," Lemmon said of missing his chance to try for the finals with professional partner Peter Jacobsen.

"I firmly believe we would have made it," he said. "Peter and I could well have made it this year, and sure as hell, we will next year."

Sales gimmick nearly backfires

NEW YORK (AP) - It seemed like a good idea at the time: A New York car dealer, wanting to clear out December's inventory, offered customers free leases on luxury cars if it snowed heavily on Jan. 8.

The gamble may have cost New York City's Potamkin Auto Centers almost one million dollars.

The dealership had promised that all cars leased between Dec. 22 and Jan. 2 would be free if more than 4 inches (10 centimeters) of snow fell between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. in New York on Jan. 8.

With many businesses closed because of a blizzard, the dealership wasn't answering phones Monday.

The storm, which began Sunday, had dumped more than 20 inches (52 centimeters) of snow in New York by Monday evening, but forecasters couldn't immediately say whether 4 inches (10 centimeters) fell between 10 a.m. and 10 p.m.

A total of 204 customers took the gamble, signing up for 908,000 in leases, but Potamkin President Ted Bessen, who came up with the promotion, appeared to take it calmly.

That's because he paid Star Insurance Co. \$32,000 for liability insurance to cover the leases, The Wall Street Journal reported Monday.

The customers would still have to pay sales tax on the leases, which run from 200 to 800 a month and typically last two or three years, salesman Paul Koka told The New York Times.

Koka said business picked up after forecasters began predicting heavy snow the week after New Year's.

Man convicted for stalking Madonna

By LINDA DEUTSCH
LOS ANGELES (AP) - A homeless man who was shot by Madonna's bodyguard after scolding the walls of her estate was convicted of stalking and terrorizing the pop star.

After deliberating 4.5 hours, the jury convicted Robert Dewey Hoskins on Monday of five counts of stalking, assault and making terrorist threats. He will be sentenced Feb. 8.

Hoskins, 38, showed no reaction as the verdicts were read by a court clerk.

Madonna had refused at first to

testify at the trial, but finally did so last week after she was threatened with a \$5 million arrest warrant.

She told the jury she felt "sick to my stomach" about being in court with Hoskins and that her presence was only feeding his obsession with her.

"I feel incredibly disturbed that the man who threatened my life is sitting across from me and he has somehow made his fantasies come true," she said last week.

Prosecutors contend Hoskins twice scaled the walls of Madonna's estate last April and May and told her assistants he would either marry her or

slash her throat from ear to ear.

On May 29, Hoskins was shot and wounded on the estate by Madonna's bodyguard Basil Stephens. Stephens said Hoskins lunged at him and tried to strangle him.

Jurors were given a security camera videotape which showed a man identified as Hoskins wandering around the Hollywood Hills property.

Hoskins' lawyer contended the prosecutors brought charges that were too serious, and the only valid charge was trespassing. He contended that the guard used excessive force when he shot Hoskins.

Firecracker factory fire kills three

HONGKONG (AP) - A six-year-old child was among three people killed in an explosion at an illegal firecracker manufacturer in south China which also seriously injured 18 people, a newspaper reported Tuesday.

The explosion occurred at midday Sunday in Maoming city in Guangdong province, which borders Hong Kong, the pro-Beijing Ta Kung Pao said. It said the explosion was caused by workers who violated the working procedures in the factory.

Fire swept through three houses after the explosion, killing two people and the third died on his way to hospital, it said.

According to authorities, the factory was closed twice last year for operating without a license but it opened again illegally and employed a large number of children laborers, the newspaper said.

Wrong bullet brought to Jordan murder trial

LUMBERTON, North Carolina (AP) - The prosecution presented the wrong bullet as evidence while questioning the pathologist who performed an autopsy on Michael Jordan's father.

District Attorney Johnson Britt showed Dr. Joel Sexton a small plastic bag containing a bullet and asked him if he could identify it.

"No, I can't," Sexton responded. He said the bullet he took from James Jordan's body was a .38-caliber, and the bullet Britt showed him was a .32-caliber.

Britt immediately requested a recess, and the jury was dismissed. Out of the jury's presence, court officials determined the bullet had been put in the wrong envelope before being returned by a defense ballistics expert.


Judge Gregory Weeks said Britt can explain the mix-up to jurors but will have to call witnesses to do so.

Daniel Andre Green, 21, is on trial on charges of murder and armed robbery in the 1993 slaying of James Jordan, the 57-year-old father of the Chicago Bulls basketball star. He was shot while dozing in his car along a highway.

Larry Martin Demery, 20, pleaded guilty to murder in the slaying and agreed to testify against his longtime friend. Green could get the death penalty.

The .32-caliber bullet was taken from the body of a convenience store clerk whom Green and Demery are accused of robbing shortly before Jordan was killed. Demery pleaded guilty to robbery in that case; Green has not been tried.

Later, the trial recessed early because Britt did not have the proper witnesses to discuss the autopsy on Jordan's body.



DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

DAVID TAITANO ALDAN

BETTER KNOWN AS
"DAVID MARIA"

D.O.B: MAY 12, 1951

D.O.D: JAN. 07, 1996

Passed away in the Grace of Our Lord on Jan. 07, 1996 at the age of 44. Predeceased by his Parents-in-Law: Juan K. & Consuelo T. Nakatsukasa

Brother: Juan T. Aldan

Daughter: Genoveva N. Aldan

Grand Daughter: Devynor Marie Aldan

Survived by Parents: Jesus Agoun Aldan & Rosa Taitano Aldan

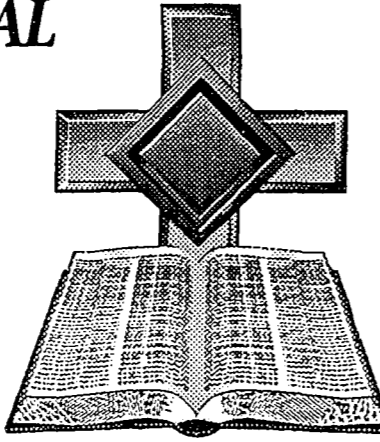
Wife: Maria Nakatsukasa Aldan

Children & Spouses: Eleanor A./Melvin P. Cepeda
Devyanne A./Chris V. Cepeda
Velma Lynn N. Aldan

Grand Children: David John A. Cepeda
Elysha A. Cepeda

Reared Daughter: Genoveva Marie A. Cabrera

Also survived by Brothers, Sisters, & Spouses:
Maria I. Taitano
Cornelio T. Castro/Joaquina V. Castro
Fermina C. Palacios/Francisco S. Palacios
Jose T. Castro/Margarita S. Castro
Jesus T. Aldan/Teresita B. Aldan
Escolastica A. Agulto/Francisco P. Agulto
Juliana A. Cabrera/Juan S. Cabrera
Vicente T. Aldan/Ellis Barcinas
Augustin T. Aldan/Olivia B. Aldan



Sisters & Brother-in-Law:
Magdalena N. Maratita (deceased)/Thomas C. Maratita
Ana N. Arriola/Francisco SN. Arriola
Pedro T. Nakatsukasa/Remedio L. Nakatsukasa

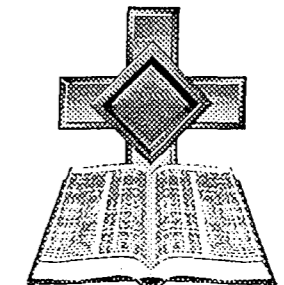
Family Friend: Lillian T. Duenas

Additionally survived by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Nephews and Nieces.

Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at his residence in (Afetna) San Antonio.
Last respect may be paid on Monday, January 15th, 1996 beginning 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Mass of Intention will be offered at 4:00 p.m. at San Antonio Church. Interment Services will follow at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery. Dinner will be served immediately after.

Thank You yan Si Yvonne Maase
The Family

Tenth and Fourteenth Anniversary



In loving memory of our beloved parents

Jose (20th) and Dolores (14th Anniversary) and brother Henry Pangelinan.

We, the family of the late Jose, Dolores, and Henry cordially invite all our friends and relatives to join us in prayer as we commemorate the 20th and 14th anniversary of our parent's and brother's passage into eternal life.

Nightly rosary will be held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Pangelinan in San Vicente beginning on January 7, 1996, 7:00pm.

On the final day, Monday, January 15, 1996, the rosary will be said at 4:30pm. followed by the Holy Mass of Intention at 5:00pm. at the San Vicente Church.

Reception to follow immediately at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Pangelinan.

Your presence and your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Kindly Join Us the Family of the Late Jose, Dolores, and Henry Pangelinan

Airport plagued by more glitches

By STEVEN K. PAULSON
DENVER (AP) - Last week, it was Denver International Airport's balky ground radar system. This week, it's stalled trains. The problems at the city's new \$ 5 billion airport just never end.

Even the automated baggage system that was supposedly cured from its habit of chewing up luggage is causing trouble again.

"I refer to it as a snakebite. You try to recover and keep moving forward," said city spokesman Andrew Hudson.

Mayor Wellington Webb and United Airlines, the only airline using the automated system, insist it does not mangle luggage. Angry passengers called a radio station last week to disagree, with one passenger saying his bag "looked like it had been chewed on by an alligator."

The airline acknowledged it has not used the inbound part of the automated system since Dec. 22 because of a computer error that gave the system amnesia on where to deliver bags. The automated outbound system is still running.

The airport located on the prairie 25 miles (40 kilometers) north-east of downtown Denver opened Feb. 28 - \$3.2 billion over budget and 16 months behind schedule.

The automated baggage system was blamed for two of the four delayed openings, after it began mangling and ejecting bags during tests. Airport officials insist those problems were corrected and the airport's rate of damaged bags is no greater than at predecessor Stapleton International Airport.

But over the weekend, the automated subway that shuttles passengers among the three concourses broke down. Thousands

of passengers had to be put on buses to reach outlying concourses. At least one train stalled in a tunnel, and its passengers had to walk on the tracks to the nearest concourse.

The Denver Post reported Sunday that Federal Aviation Administration ground radar systems, which were supposed to make it the safest airport in the nation, failed on 75 percent of the days during a six-month period ending in October.

Weather tracking screens sounded alarms that couldn't be shut off, airplanes taxiing on the ground disappeared from radar screens, and a radar system for wind shear failed to detect dangerous microbursts. A radar glitch was partly blamed for an incident Oct. 23 in which a jetliner on landing approach nearly hit a maintenance truck on the runway.

Mike Boyd, an independent

aviation research analyst based in Golden, said many of the problems stem from design flaws. The city has repeatedly denied that.

Boyd said airport designers eliminated walkways next to the underground trains to save money, and rushed the automated system into service in an effort to open the airport on time.

"This is an indication of a poorly planned, sloppily built airport," said Boyd. "Unfortunately, the city is behaving like an alcoholic, trying to claim it doesn't have a problem."

Hudson said the city recognizes there are problems, and is working to fix them.

Tony Molinaro, a spokesman for United Airlines, the only airline with a hub in Denver, said there is no target date for getting automated inbound baggage working again. He said the airline is waiting for a lull in traffic before it resumes experiments.

Marianas Variety Classified Ads Section

DEADLINE: 12:00 noon the day prior to publication

NOTE: If some reason your advertisement is incorrect, call us immediately to make the necessary corrections. The Marianas Variety News and Views is responsible only for one incorrect insertion. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time.

Employment Wanted

Job Vacancy Announcement

- 01 CASHIER-Salary \$2.75 per hour
Contact: WILLY O. VALENCIA dba RUSTAN'S FOREIGN EXCHANGE TEL. 235-5103(1/10)W21979
- 02 PLUMBER-Salary \$3.05 per hour
Contact: FAMILY ALLIANCE CORPORATION dba FAMACOR TEL. 234-6670/9219(1/10)W21976
- 01 COMMERCIAL CLEANER-Salary \$2.75 per hour
Contact: JAPAN ENT. MARIANAS CORP. TEL. 233-6063/61(1/10)W21975
- 01 DIVING INSTRUCTOR -Salary \$5.50 per hour
Contact: JMC, INCORPORATED TEL. 233-2090(1/10)W21974
- 01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary \$600-\$700 per month
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- 01 WAREHOUSE WORKER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.05 per hour
Contact: NORTH PACIFIC ENT., INC. TEL. 233-3990(1/10)W21971
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Contact: WILLEM DE JONG dba JORETH, INC. TEL. 234-5000(1/10)W21969
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$3.00 per hour
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- 01 PHOTO TECHNICIAN -Salary \$3.05 per hour
Contact: DOLPHIN INT'L SERVICES INC. TEL. 234-5050(1/10)W5099
- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary: \$4.50 per hour
Contact: ANGEL P. CRUZ, JR. dba WORLD ELECTRIC & CONSTRUCTION CO., INC. TEL. 234-3569(1/10)W21992
- 01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary \$6.00-\$8.00 per hour
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- 01 TOUR COORDINATOR -Salary \$800 per month
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Contact: PAN PACIFIC INT'L. INVESTMENT LTD. dba SAIPAN ISLAND TOUR TEL. 322-8852/1744(1/10)W21977
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Contact: JULIETA D. CUNANAN dba D'ELEGANCE ENT. INC. TEL. 234-9227/6376(1/10)W21965
- 01 AUTOMOTIVE PAINTER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.10 per hour
01 WELDER -Salary \$3.00-\$3.30 per hour
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- 10 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary \$2.75-\$2.90 per hour
10 QUALITY CONTROL CHECKER (QCC)-Salary \$2.75 per hour
10 PRESSER(MACHINE) -Salary \$2.75 per hour
10 PACKER (HAND PACKAGER)-Salary \$2.75 per hour
10 CUTTER (MACHINE)-Salary \$2.75 per hour
01 BLDG. MAINTENANCE REPAIRER -Salary \$2.75 per hour
Contact: JIN APPAREL, INC. TEL. 234-3252/3(1/10)W21981
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02 SEWING SUPERVISOR-Salary \$3.00-\$4.50 per hour
03 MECHANICS(MAINTENANCE)-Salary \$2.75 per hour
01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary \$2.75-\$3.50 per hour
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02 CUTTING SUPERVISOR-Salary \$3.00-\$4.50 per hour
02 PRODUCTION MANAGER-Salary \$3.50-\$6.00 per hour
275 SEWING MACHINE OPERATOR -Salary \$2.75 per hour
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50 PACKER -Salary \$2.75 per hour
04 COOK-Salary \$2.75 per hour
02 PACKING SUPERVISOR-Salary \$3.00-\$4.50 per hour
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02 AUTO MECHANIC-Salary \$2.75 per hour
01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary \$3.00 per hour
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- 01 ACCOUNTANT-Salary \$780.00-\$880.00 per month
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- 01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary \$2.75 per hour
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- 01 CARPENTER-Salary \$2.75 per hour
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- 01 SALES MANAGER-Salary \$9.50-\$9.75 per hour
01 GENERAL MANAGER-Salary \$9.80 per hour
01 PLUMBER-Salary \$3.00-\$3.75 per hour
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- 04 COOKS-Salary \$3.05-\$4.00 per hour
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02 AIRCON TECHNICIAN-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
05 MASON-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 CARPENTER-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 PAINTER-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 ELECTRICIAN-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 BOAT CARPENTER-Salary \$900 per month
02 HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
02 HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC-Salary \$2.75-\$4.00 per hour
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02 BAKER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.20 per hour
02 WAITER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.20 per hour
03 KITCHEN HELPER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.20 per hour
01 DRESSMAKER-Salary \$2.75-\$3.20 per hour
01 BELL HOP-Salary \$2.75-\$3.20 per hour
01 NIGHT MANAGER-Salary \$2.75-\$5.00 per hour
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Contact: DIAMOND HOTEL CO., LTD. dba SAIPAN DIAMOND HOTEL TEL. 234-5900 Ext. 266 (1/24)W5248
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Contact: SAIPAN STEVEDORE COMPANY, INC. TEL. 322-6469/9320 (1/24)W5242
- 02 WAREHOUSEMAN-Salary \$2.75 per hour
01 BLDG. MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR-Salary \$2.75 per hour
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- 02 COOK-Salary \$2.75-\$3.00 per hour
Contact: KAIZOKU CORPORATION dba KAIZOKU RESTAURANT TEL. 322-5304 (1/24)W22088
- 01 ELECTRICIAN-Salary \$2.75 per hour
Contact: PEDRO C. SAN NICOLAS dba PAB CONSTRUCTION COMPANY TEL. 322-3045 (1/24) W22089
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- 01 CORRUGATE COMBINING MACHINE OPERATOR-Salary \$3.05 per hour
Contact: NICK'S & MICHAEL'S CORP. TEL. 234-3311/3399 (1/24)W22096
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- 01 REST. WAITRESS-Salary \$2.75 per hour
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- 01 MATERIAL HANDLING SUPERVISOR -Salary \$3.70 per hour
Contact: BASIC CONSTRUCTION SUPPLY CORP. TEL. 234-8779 (1/24) W5301

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will take Best Reasonable offer by 1/13/96.
Call 345-0002 Leave Msg.

Lost Passport

The passport of An Yu Ying was lost last August 31, 1995. The passport number is NO. 1158832. If found please call 234-7483

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS CIVIL ACTION NO.95-77
IN RE THE MATTER OF MARISSA DELORES A. MUNDO MINOR CHILD
BY: HENRY H. SAN NICOLAS ANA MARIE C. SAN NICOLAS PETITIONERS
You are hereby notified that the above-entitled matter has been set for hearing on the 25th day of January, 1996, at the hour of 9:00am, at the superior court in Tinian, commonwealth of the northern Marianas islands. Any person having interest in the above-entitled matter is requested to appear before the superior court on the date and time set forth above. Date this 8th day of January, 1996.
Deputy Clerk of Court

Supreme Court hears first software copyright conflict

By LAURIE ASSEO
WASHINGTON (AP) - Hearing its first case on copyright law and computer software, the U.S. Supreme Court compared the issue to musical scores and English grammar.

At issue during Monday's argument was whether copyright protection can be granted to the part of a computer program that tells users how to use the system. The outcome of the case, to be decided by July, could have a big impact on the bottom line of software companies.

The Lotus Development Corp. says it wrongly was denied copyright protection for the "menu command hierarchy" of its Lotus 1-2-3

software program. But a lawyer for Borland International Inc. - which Lotus sued for imitating its menu - told the justices a federal appeals court correctly threw out Lotus' lawsuit against Borland.

Lotus attorney Henry B. Gutman said the software's command menu is a literary work entitled to the same copyright protection given to musical scores or choreography.

But Gary L. Reback, representing Borland, said the words used in the command menu are more like basic English grammar, which cannot be copyrighted in the same way as written compositions.

Lotus 1-2-3 is a spreadsheet program that provides tabular

and graphic display formats. Users operate the program through its command menu.

The program was widely used after being introduced in 1983, and other companies began offering competition. Now an IBM subsidiary, Lotus, based in Cambridge, Massachusetts, sued Borland in 1990 over the command menus Borland used in its spreadsheet formats "Quattro" and "Quattro Pro."

A federal judge ruled that Borland had infringed on the Lotus 1-2-3 menu.

But the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the ruling and threw out the case. U.S. copyright law does protect certain aspects of computer programs, but the appeals court said the command menu does not qualify for such protection.

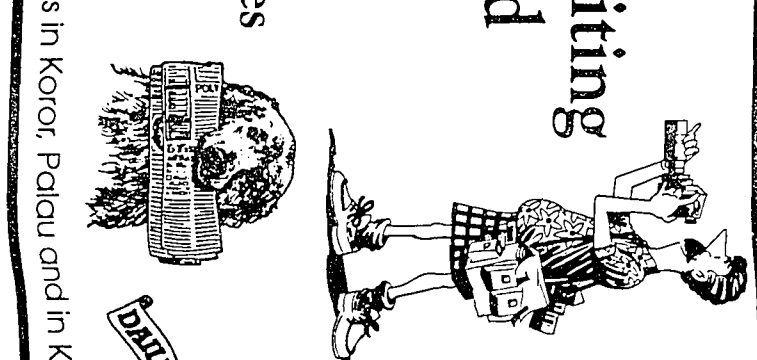


Randy Brubaker holds his two-years-old daughter Virginia as they observe the Remembrance Gallery at the Philadelphia Zoo last week. Cards, photos and flowers graced the hallways of the Carnivore House at the zoo on the first day of a month long memorial to the 23 primates that perished in the Dec. 24, 1995 fire. (AP Photo)



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STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today, you will not fade from view after you have taken your place on the walk of fame. Your character and your abilities will ensure that you remain front and center long after others have retired or abandoned their careers in favor of a more private life. You thrive in the spotlight, and the attention that you get each and every day provides you with energy and inspiration and the will to move on. You will not always be successful, but keep your eyes open and your mind on your work. Maintaining a positive outlook will enable you to accomplish more day after day.

Despite the attention you pay to your public image, you are also quite concerned with your private life, and you are never far from those whom you consider to be your family. Highly sensitive and considerate, you are generous and often willing to go out of your way for the sake of those around you. Also born on this date are: Pat Benatar, singer; George Foreman, boxer; Rod Stewart, singer-songwriter.

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

graph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

THURSDAY, JAN. 11
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — You will receive a surprise from a friend or loved one today which may ultimately change your life in a profound and permanent manner. Say yes!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — You may be in a position which requires you to lay down the law despite your usually tolerant and forgiving attitude. Do not hedge!

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — You can gather the facts and figures you need to put an end to financial or personal confusion by the end of the day.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You can make one or two surprising and remarkable claims today. Stand behind them one hundred percent. The sky will be the limit today!

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Just when you feel you're running out of steam, someone will come along and provide you with just the inspiration you truly need.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Despite your efforts, you may not be able to put the crowning touch on a current long-term project just yet. There will still be some loose ends.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You can take something quite conventional and raise the stakes considerably. This will turn it into something new and exciting.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You will receive encouragement from a surprising source today. This may inspire you to make a move in a new direction. Success beckons!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Today, your fulfillment may not be as important as the fulfillment of someone you've recently taken under your wing.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — Symbols will be everywhere today, and you must remain alert and be willing to consider even the most unusual meanings in the things you see and witness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — Unity and togetherness must not be sacrificed today, even in favor of the most remarkable financial gain. You can have both if you remain patient.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — Even though your intentions are honorable, some people may be suspicious of your current plans. They may feel you are up to no good.

Globally speaking, more people consider white to be the color of mourning than black.

There was no such person as Betty Crocker, but there was a real Aunt Femina.

At the very beginning of its long career, ketchup was a Chinese medicine.

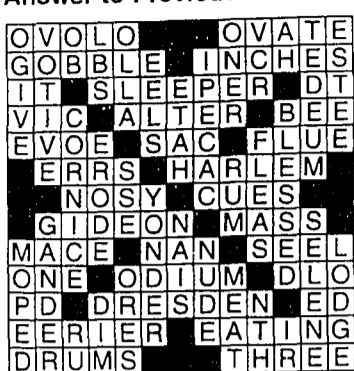
The very first champions of the American Football League were the Houston Oilers, who defeated the Los Angeles Chargers 24-16 in the playoff game.

1994 NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS ASSN.

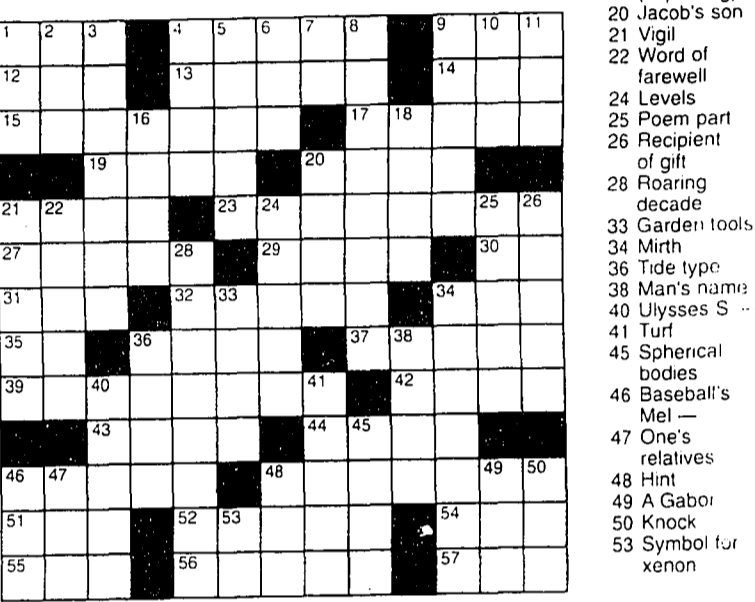
CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS
1 Tiny amount
4 Protective covering
9 Pig
12 Yes (Fr.)
13 Devastate
14 Anglo-Saxon money
15 Milwaukee county
17 Leaves out
19 Florida county
20 Mimics
21 Manners (abbr.)
23 Felt indignant at
27 Clever
29 Sell
30 River in Italy
31 — the season...
32 At what place?
34 Actor Voight
35 Symbol for cerium
36 Gaseous element
37 Electron tube
39 Bigness
42 Marmot
43 Rodents
44 Kind of fabric
46 African mammal
48 Messenger
51 Metal
52 Semirural area
54 Fed. agcy.
55 Explosive (abbr.)
56 Future plants
57 Bark

Answer to Previous Puzzle



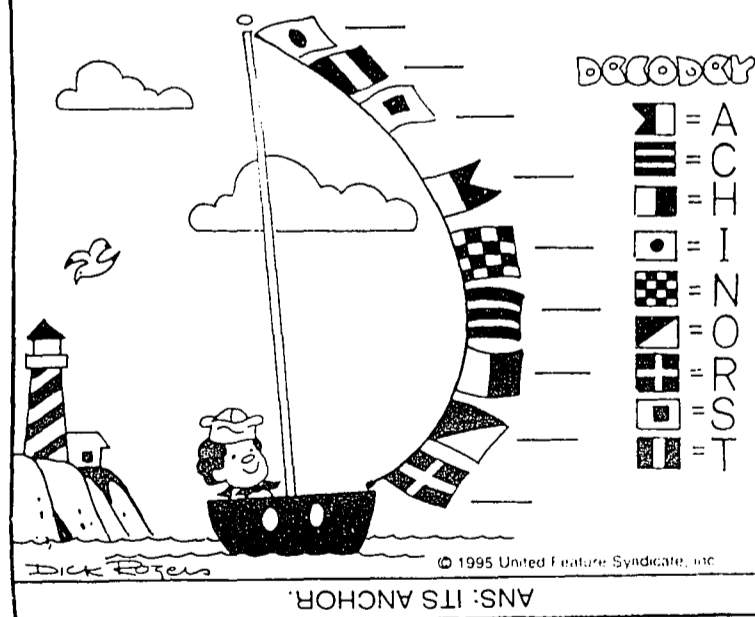
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Thurs: 7:00; Fri: 7:00, 9:45; Sat: 3:00, 7:00, 9:45

Faulk not expected to play in AFC championship

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Standout running back Marshall Faulk, who missed Sunday's victory at Kansas City, is not expected to play this week when the Indianapolis Colts visit the Pittsburgh Steelers for the AFC championship.

National team star joins U.S. League

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Eric Wynalda, who has played just a handful of games for VfL Bochum in Germany this season, agreed Monday to a contract with Major League Soccer. Wynalda, 26, has been in a public squabble with VfL Bochum, claiming treatment for his hernia was mishandled. The team responded by benching Wynalda, once dropped from the national team for fighting with a teammate in practice. "I'm tremendously excited about the opportunity to play my sport in my country," Wynalda said. "And I'm hoping to do great things for Major League Soccer."

Wynalda, a veteran of the 1990 and 1994 U.S. World Cup teams, has played four seasons in the German professional leagues, and is the second-leading scorer in U.S. history. He has 18 international goals, three behind Bruce Murray. Players joining the new American soccer league are either assigned to teams or will be chosen in the league's February draft.

African Cup to proceed on schedule

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — The African Soccer Federation said Wednesday its Africa Cup tournament will proceed on schedule, despite the decision by defending champion Nigeria to withdraw. Any penalties against Nigeria will be determined after the federation receives official notice of its withdrawal, an official at the Cairo-headquartered federation said. On Saturday, Nigeria announced that its national soccer team would not travel to South Africa to defend its title in the Africa Cup. Nigeria claimed South Africa would be unable to provide for the safety of Nigerian team members. South Africa led international condemnation of Nigeria's execution of nine human rights activists in November. The federation official, who asked that his name not be used,

Sampras...

Continued from page 20
play in the Colonial Classic, which begins Wednesday and continues through Saturday. Staubs did not immediately announce a replacement for Sampras, whose travel plans for the Australian Open are not known. Players confirmed for the Colonial Classic are reigning Australian Open champion Andre Agassi and fellow Americans Jim Courier and Michael Chang. Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia, Stefan Edberg of Sweden, Wayne Ferreira of South Africa and Patrick Rafter of Australia. The Australian Open begins Jan. 15 at the National Tennis Center.

Agassi...

Continued from page 20
which gives the Colonial Classic more significance than most exhibitions. Particularly so for Agassi, who has been sidelined by a chest muscle injury and has not played seriously since September. "Playing here helps my chances of winning in the Open, and that's great," said Agassi at a press conference on Tuesday. "It is crucial this week. My time away from the game, and the holiday season, makes this preparation more important." Not that Agassi took too much of a break over Christmas and New Year.

No player...

Continued from page 20
Puerto Rico. "I don't know what will happen next. I can go down. You never know." Sutton, on the ballot for the third time, got 300 votes. He was 324-256 lifetime. "He pitched a lot of games for me, won a lot of ball games for me," Sutton's former manager, Tom Lasorda, said Monday. "You talk about durability, the guy never missed an assignment. He was a winner. I'll tell you, he belongs in the Hall of Fame." There is still a chance someone will be enshrined during Hall of Fame induction ceremonies Aug. 4 in Cooperstown, New York. The Veterans Committee, which considers players no longer on the ballot, along with managers, executives and former Negro Leagues stars, will meet March 5 at Tampa, Florida. Jim Bunning, Nellie Fox and Gil Hodges are among those who may be chosen. "The absence of an electee this year emphasizes the exclusivity of membership in the Baseball Hall of Fame," said Hall of Fame president Donald Marr. Tony Oliva (170 votes), Curt Flood

SSC...

Continued from page 20
Robert Jordan, Jacoby Winkfield, Noriko Grandinetti and Jessica Jordan did not break any local record but finished in the top three of their age groups in the Manukai meet. (See meet results box for complete detail)

Result disappoints Perez

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — For Tony Perez, being inducted into Baseball's Hall of Fame would be the ultimate thrill, but the former member of Cincinnati's "Big Red Machine" took it in stride when he learned Tuesday that 1996 wasn't going to be his year again. "I can't say I'm upset, but I'm disappointed that the news isn't different," Perez, 53, said from his home. "As a person and as a player, getting into the Hall of Fame is the biggest thing that can happen. The biggest honor that can be bestowed upon you. I guess I have to wait another year and see what happens." For the first time in 25 years, the Baseball Writers Association of America failed to vote anyone into the Hall of Fame. Perez, who received 309 of the 353 votes needed for induction, was second in the voting to pitcher Phil Niekro, who received 321. In 23 seasons in the U.S. Major Leagues, Perez drove in 1,652 runs, 16th on the all-time list. He drove in 100 or more runs seven times and played in five World Series. His claim to fame, however, was as part of Cincinnati's feared "Big Red Machine" of the 1970s. Playing alongside the likes of Pete Rose, Dave Concepcion, George Foster, Ken Griffey and Dan Driessen, Perez earned

17th Annual Manukai International Invitational Meet Results

Event	Time	Place	Time	Place	Time	Place
Agana, Guam						
50 breast	49.09		100 back	1:18.80		
100 free	DNF+		200 IM	2:46.25	6th	
Jennifer Pierce			Justin Pierce			
50 free	34.87		50 free	31.09	7th	
100 free	1:16.34		100 free	1:08.91	6th	
50 breast	39.13	3rd*	100 breast	1:21.58	2nd	
50 fly	38.45		100 fly	1:16.05	DQ	
200 IM	2:59.27		200 IM	2:42.75	5th	
Keoni Ichihara			15 to 16 age group			
50 free	32.92		Robert Jordan			
100 free	1:15.22		50 free	28.48	8th	
50 breast	38.46		200 free	2:16.95	3rd	
50 fly	37.01	6th	400 free	4:44.96	2nd	
200 IM	3:03.03		100 breast	1:17.52	3rd	
15 to 14 age group			200 IM	2:41.81		
50 free	37.24		David Palacios			
100 free	1:27.19		50 free	28.48	6th	
200 free	3:10.90		100 free	1:01.92		
50 breast	52.49		100 breast	1:17.18	2nd*	
50 fly	35.49		100 fly	1:04.84	2nd	
200 IM	3:01.45		200 IM	2:26.25	1st	
Xenavae Pangelinan			Jacoby Winkfield			
50 free	33.43		50 free	26.95	3rd	
100 free	1:14.83		100 free	1:00.06		
50 back	38.37		100 back	1:11.94	2nd	
50 fly	35.42		100 breast	1:17.62	3rd	
200 IM	2:58.01		200 IM	2:33.18	3rd	
Audra Winkfield			Jessica Jordan			
50 free	33.19		100 free	1:11.71	1st	
100 free	1:12.72		100 back	1:04.11		
200 free	2:34.23	6th	100 breast	1:32.09	1st	
400 free	5:27.24	4th	200 IM	2:52.84	1st	
50 breast	44.20					
Colleen Macduff						
50 free	39.02					

CLOSERS

The American cities with the highest proportions of singles in their total adult populations are Washington, D.C. (two in three); Detroit (one in three); Los Angeles (one in four); Philadelphia (one in four); and Chicago (one in five).
Somehow researchers have determined that about 26 percent of all extramarital affairs involve a "old flame."
The odds of a U.S. soldier being

killed dropped from 1 in 48 in World War II, to 1 in 1,113 in Vietnam, to 1 in 2,667 in the Gulf War. At least part of this is due to improvements in medical evacuation procedures.

As you may already have suspected, 76 percent of all magazine cover models, 65 percent of all Miss Americas and 61 percent of all female TV news anchors are blondes.

You will find the phrase "God helps those who help themselves" not in the Bible but in Aesop's Fables. Actually, Aesop said "the gods," but otherwise it's the same saying.

SPORTS



No player elected to baseball Hall

NEW YORK (AP) — For the first time in 25 years, no player was elected to the U.S. Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, with 300-game winners Phil Niekro and Don Sutton and slugger Tony Perez again falling short Monday.

Not since 1971 had members of the Baseball Writers Association of

First shutout in 25 years disappoints Perez

America failed to elect a candidate. But with 75 percent support needed, Niekro received only 68.3 percent, followed by Perez with 65.7 percent and Sutton at 63.8 percent.

This was just the seventh time since the original selection in 1936 that the

association failed to elect anyone. Niekro, on the ballot for the fourth time, got 321 votes, 32 short of the 353 needed for election. The

knuckleballer had a career record of 318-274.

"I really have nothing to say," Niekro said in Atlanta.

Perez, on the ballot for the fifth time, was listed on 309 of the record total of 470 ballots. He had 1,652 RBIs lifetime, most among any player not already in the Hall.

"It's disappointing," Perez said from
Continued on page 19

After testing positive to drugs

Aussie faces 2-year ban

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — Australian professional cyclist Jeff Stewart faces a ban of up to two years after testing positive to drugs following his win in a race in Victoria state in November.

Stewart has ridden professionally for a team in Germany but is not a member of the national team or the

Australian Institute of Sport cycling program.

He will appear before the Australian Cycling Federation's medical tribunal on Jan. 16 where his penalty will be determined.

The ACF said in a statement that the Victorian state rider had been declared positive to the steroid test,

osterone following the Alpine Classic. "This was confirmed following the ACF's request for a counter-analysis of the 'B' sample (second sample) which was conducted by the Australian Sports Drug Testing Laboratory," the statement said.

Stewart could face an international ban of up to 12 months.

Agassi heads entries to Colonial Classic

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Andre Agassi is dressed all in black. He has a shaved head, a trim look and he means business.

The flamboyant American heads the entries for the eight-man Colonial Classic exhibition tennis tournament, the final warm-up event for the Australian Open.

Agassi, fellow Americans Michael Chang and Jim Courier, Stefan Edberg of Sweden, Yevgeny Kafelnikov of Russia, South Afri-

can Wayne Ferreira, Australian Pat Rafter and one player still to be named will compete in the event from Wednesday through Saturday.

A replacement had to be sought when 1994 Australian Open champion Pete Sampras withdrew on Tuesday, citing a fever.

The Australian Open, which Agassi won last year at the first attempt, starts next Monday —
Continued on page 19

Sampras withdraws

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Pete Sampras, the world's top-ranked tennis player, Monday withdrew from the Colonial Classic exhibition — the only event he was scheduled to play prior to the Australian Open.

Colin Stubbs, tournament direc-

tor the Colonial Classic, said he had been advised by the International Management Group (IMG) that Sampras has a fever and is suffering from influenza.

IMG said in its fax to Stubbs that doctors had advised Sampras not
Continued on page 19

Miller Lite Brewers' meeting

THE Miller Lite Brewers baseball team in the Saipan Major League will have a meeting with manager Tony Rogolifoi and coach Richard Borja on Saturday, 8 a.m., at the Civic Center in preparation for the 1996 season.

For more information, call Rogolifoi at 234-1001.



Prince Charles, with his son William, right, pose on the slopes above the alpine skiing resort of Klosters in Switzerland on the first day of their skiing holiday recently. AP

SSC tankers continue to break NMI records in Guam meet

SAIPAN swimmers continued to break local age group records when they competed in the recently concluded 17th Annual Manukai International Invitational Swim Meet at Agana Pool in Guam.

Four new records were set by Tamiko Winkfield in the 50, 100, and 400-meters free and the 50-meter breast stroke vents in the 10-and-

under age group.

In the 50-meter free style, Tamiko Winkfield placed third with a time of 36 minutes and 92 seconds; first place in the 100 free for completing the event in 1:21.57; third place for completing the 50 breast stroke in 48.68; and second place the 400 free style in completing it in 6:12.08.

Tamiko Winkfield won second

place in the 200 free style but fell short of breaking Saipan's record. He completed the event in 3:03.21.

Audra Winkfield broke Saipan's 200-meter free style record in the 11 to 12 age group when she clocked 2:34.23. Her time won her sixth place in the Guam event.

Jennifer Pierce broke the 50-meter breast record in the 11-12 age group

in 39 minutes and 13 seconds, while David Palacios' 1:17.18 time in the 100 breast stroke event in the 15-16 age group, broke a Saipan record and won him second place in Guam.

Three Japanese teams, the Nippon Athletic Service and the Komatsu and Sakata Swim Clubs, also competed and gave Saipan swimmers a run for their money.

The event was highlighted with trading of pins and gifts. One low point in the meet was when flu hit several Guam and Saipan swimmers, forcing them to sleep in between events instead of practicing. Even so, Saipan did well and the personal times kept dropping.

Saipan swimmers Roberto Santos,
Continued on page 19

Fundraising underway for 1st International Rocball Cup

FUNDRAISING activities to cover transportation expenses of the first Hawaii Rocball team that will compete against top local teams, and perhaps one team from Guam, is underway.

Rocball president and founder James Feger said solicitation of supports has been sent to various business agencies recently in hopes of raising \$8,000 for the air fare of the Hawaii team. Gabe White recently formed the Hawaiian team which is com-

Hawaii team to see action in Saipan

posed of college students from Hilo University.

Feger said that if the local organizers would be able to raise the money, it will hold College/Village Games to determine which local team will compete with Hawaii in the First International Rocball Cup.

Solicitation letters have been sent to Saipan Cable, Marianas Cable, Duty Free, Mobil Oil, Shell Marianas, Tan

Holdings, Shimizu, Micronesian Telecommunications Corp., Sablan Construction, Joeten, UMDA, Marpac, Pacific Trading and Marianas Visitors Bureau.

Meanwhile, round six and seven games of the on-going 1995-96 Rocball will be completed by the end of this month — provided there will be no cancellation and postponement of scheduled games.

Playoffs for the high school teams will start on Feb. 1, while the college village division will end the regular season in the first week of February; with the playoffs scheduled to start in the second week of February.

Following are round 6 and 7 games schedule:

Jan. 10 SCA vs Wild Locals
Jan. 11 Tin Kun vs Cronics
Jan. 12 Hot '96 vs No Prob

Jan. 15 Wild Locals vs Mix Blood
Jan. 16 No Fear vs Hardkor
Jan. 17 Buyaka vs Homeboys
Jan. 18 Hot '96 vs Brotherhood
Jan. 19 Affaires vs SCA
Jan. 22 Wild Locals vs Loners
Jan. 23 Hardkor vs Homeboys
Jan. 24 No Fear vs Buyaka
Jan. 25 Hot '96 vs Pwipwiis
Jan. 26 Mix Blood vs SCA
Jan. 29 Hot '96 vs Tin Kun
Jan. 30 Buyaka vs Hardkor
Jan. 31 Homeboys 2 vs No Fear