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Section: MP 96-610
Saving CNMI for 27 Years

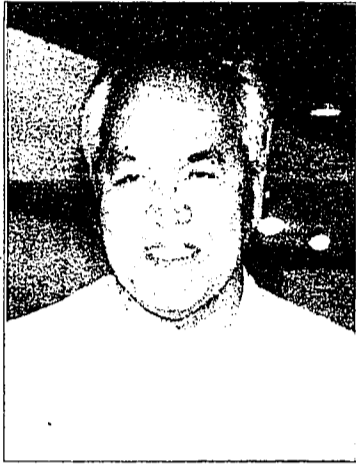
Historic meeting today

MANILA, Philippines - CNMI Governor Froilan C. Tenorio will meet with President Fidel V. Ramos in Malacañang today to discuss labor and trade relations between the Commonwealth and the Philippines.

The historic meeting between the two leaders comes on the heels of the Philippine government's decision to lift the temporary ban on the deployment of workers to the Northern Marianas.

The Philippine Department of Labor and Employment earlier recognized the CNMI government's efforts to institute labor reforms to ensure the safety and welfare of Filipino workers.

Such reforms were mentioned as part of the reasons for the ban's lifting.



Froilan C. Tenorio

Tenorio has long been looking forward to meeting the Philippine president cognizant of the need for a closer and more lasting relationship.



Fidel V. Ramos

Currently, there are close to 20,000 Filipinos residing in the CNMI out of the Commonwealth's 60,000 total population.

The governor, in recent public statements, have underscored the big contribution made by Filipino workers to the CNMI economy.

"The Governor is proud of the CNMI Filipino heritage and appreciative of the tremendous contributions of the CNMI's Filipino community to our economy and society," said Mark Broadhurst, the Governor's spokesperson.

"Governor Froilan C. Tenorio

is committed to ensuring that his progressive labor reforms are carried out and that the rights and welfare of Filipino workers on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are protected to the fullest extent of our local and U.S. laws," Broadhurst added.

Governor Tenorio is expected to discuss with the President recent measures the CNMI has

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Kinney amends complaint, now wants governor to pay damages

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

THE mother of a son claiming to be a pretermitted (omitted) heir to the estate of Larry Lee Hillblom yesterday amended her complaint filed earlier this month, claiming awards for various damages from the CNMI government and Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio.

Kaelani Kinney, acting as guardian for Junior Larry Hillbloom, originally filed a complaint before the District Court for declaratory relief, only asking that a law amending the CNMI Probate Code be declared

invalid as it violated the US Constitution.

In her amended complaint, Kinney also asked the court that she be given awards for general, compensatory, special, and punitive damages as may be proven at the trial.

In addition, she asked an award for damages resulting from violations of the US Constitution.

Kinney filed her complaint last June 6 after the amendments to the probate code, known as Public Law 10-10, was signed by Tenorio June 4.

The law barred her and other illegitimate children from filing

paternity claims unless they had been openly acknowledged by the deceased fathers as their own.

In her amended complaint, Kinney said Tenorio transmitted the law to the legislature last June 7 together with a transmittal letter allegedly admitting that the law was unconstitutional.

Tenorio, according to Kinney, acted outside the scope of his authority when he signed an unconstitutional law and transmitted it to the legislature.

Kinney also said the enactment of PL 10-10, was "arbitrary, capricious, and particularly

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With top officials away

'Actors' take on task of running NMI gov't

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff

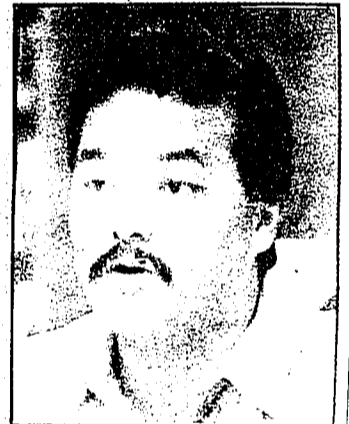
WITH GOVERNOR Froilan C. Tenorio in Manila for his historic meeting with Philippine President Fidel V. Ramos, the Commonwealth is left to grapple with a situation so rarely seen in years.

It is being run by "acting" leaders, both in the executive and legislative branches.

Under Section 8, Article III of the Constitution, when the governor is physically absent from the Commonwealth, the lieutenant governor shall be acting governor.

But if the lieutenant governor is also absent, or is otherwise unavailable, the presiding officer of the Senate shall be acting governor, the constitution says.

Lt. Gov. Jesus C. Borja is still on vacation in the US and is not



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expected back until later this week.

Tenorio has reportedly written Senate President Jesus R. Sablan informing him that he would be acting governor starting yesterday.

But Sablan himself is out of the Commonwealth, reportedly

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Bill to restrict entry of pregnant aliens

By Rafael H. Arroyo
Variety News Staff

A BILL has been introduced in

the House of Representatives to restrict the entry of pregnant alien women into the Commonwealth on tourist or short term business permits.

House Bill 10-260, authored by Rep. Malua T. Peter and co-sponsored by 12 other House members raises concern over how some alien women manage to enter the CNMI for the purpose of giving birth here and obtain US citizenship for their babies.

"There is a serious and continuing problem in the Commonwealth with aliens who are entering with tourist or short term business entry permits for the sole or partial purpose of giving birth to their child here within the CNMI so that such child can obtain US

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Weather Outlook

Mostly cloudy skies with isolated showers.



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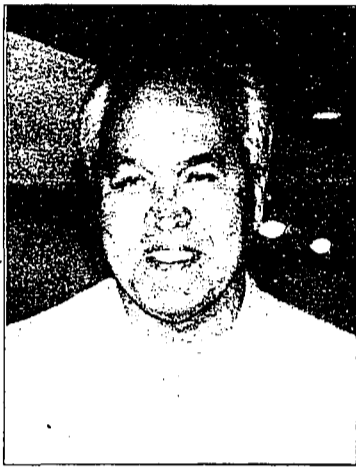
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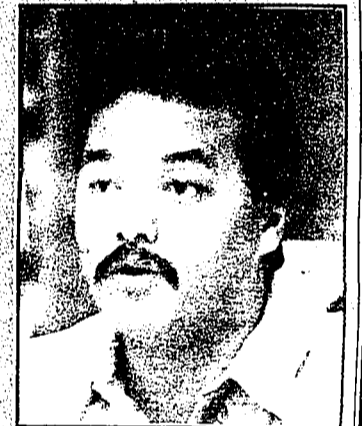
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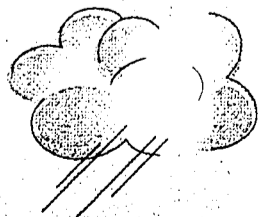
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Russians in runoff elections

By DAVE CARPENTER
MOSCOW (AP) - Deeply divided about who should shape their future, Russian voters threw President Boris Yeltsin and his Communist challenger into a runoff election and both candidates looked Monday to tough, former general for help.

Yeltsin, who rose to the challenge of Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov, was slightly ahead in Sunday's voting. But they each got only about a third of the vote from angry and worried Russians who have serious doubts about Yeltsin's reforms and Zyuganov's embrace of the Soviet past.

To win the runoff, both Yeltsin and

Zyuganov need to turn to Alexander Lebed, a political novice who was getting a solid 14 percent of the vote, easily outdistancing economist Grigory Yavlinsky and ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy in the 10-man race.

With 89 percent of the vote counted, 35 percent of voters were backing Yeltsin, whose reforms have also spawned crime and corruption. Zyuganov, who promises a return to the global might and controlled economy of the Soviet era, had 32 percent, the Central Election Commission reported.

Both Yeltsin and Zyuganov immediately set out to build coalitions

for the climactic runoff that will take place sometime in the next few weeks. Most of the dealing was going on behind closed doors.

In a television address to the nation Monday morning, Yeltsin said the choice in the next round was "crystal clear" and urged voters to unite behind him.

"Either backwards to revolutions and shocks, or forward to stability and well-being. Today as never before, we must be united," said Yeltsin, speaking in a strong clear voice.

Yeltsin's strategists reportedly arranged a Kremlin meeting Monday between the president and Lebed. Talks were also expected with Yavlinsky and eyesurgeon Svyatoslav Fyodorov.

Top Yeltsin strategist Yuri Butarin said the next phase of Yeltsin's campaign would focus on building coalitions.

Yeltsin could offer Lebed the defense ministry or even a deputy prime minister's job overseeing all of the security forces.

Yeltsin's presidency - and Russia's free-market reforms - may be riding on whether he can coax an endorsement out of Lebed that could help deliver his projected 10 million-plus votes.

"Victory in the second round will happen only if a coalition (with Lebed) actually happens and if turnout stays the same or goes up," Vyacheslav Nikonov, Yeltsin's chief campaign analyst, told Russian Public Television.

Yavlinsky, who stood fourth with 7 percent, also will be courted by Yeltsin although his supporters are all but certain to vote for the reform-minded president.

Zyuganov, who has long had his eye on Lebed, moved quickly Monday to try to secure his support, offering the gruff ex-general the prime minister's job in the event of a Communist victory in the runoff, said Agrarian party leader Mikhail Lapshin.

A visibly satisfied Lebed told Russian Television the fact that he had come in third was already a personal victory and said he would disclose Monday whether Yeltsin could count on his support.

Lebed voiced a desire for a government job that would "enable me to organize the struggle with crime, to prevent extreme forces - right or left, no difference - from plunging the country into the depths of bloody chaos."



President Clinton hugs his nephew, Tyler, 2-years-old, while his mother Molly, wife of brother Roger, looks on at the airport in Santa Monica, Calif., Tuesday. Clinton was departing for a speech in Glendale, Calif. AP Photo

President Clinton's use of excuses becoming an issue in US campaign

By RON FOURNIER
WASHINGTON (AP) - From the Whitewater scandal to a White House awash in FBI files, President Clinton weathers transgressions with the same line of defense. It goes something like this: "Oops."

Time and time again, the White House has tried to deflect congressional criticism and criminal probes by pleading ignorance, ineptness or simply stupidity.

How did piles of FBI files, some on prominent Republicans, end up at the White House? "Bureaucratic snafu," the president says.

Who put Hillary Rodham Clinton's billing records on a table near her private office? "I do not know," the first lady says.

Why did the White House fire seven travel office employees? Bad judgment, goes the explanation. "I'm very sorry," says Clinton.

Fueled by the belief that each controversy undermines the president's credibility, Republicans eagerly deride every White House explanation.

"Every time they get their hand caught in the cookie jar, they plead incompetence," Republican national chairman Haley Barbour said.

"They've elevated incompetence to a virtue," said Republican strategist Mary Matalin. Though it's not a new

strategy, Matalin said the Clintonites have perfected the imperfect.

The White House argues that Republicans are making mountains out of mice. Nobody's perfect, even the president, and voters are willing to forgive those who admit their mistakes, Clinton backers say.

Still, the FBI file flap reminded some frustrated aides of the hectic, troubled early days of Clinton's presidency.

Using ineptness as a defense has garnered mixed results. While polls show Clinton has survived embarrassment after embarrassment to lead Republican rival Bob Dole, many voters doubt the truthfulness of the president and first lady.

And three years of shoulder shrugging has not deterred independent counsel Kenneth Starr, whose Whitewater investigations gathered steam with the recent conviction of three Clinton associates.

The trend dates to the president's first full day in office, when he was forced to sack Zoe Baird as his nominee for attorney general. When word leaked that she had hired illegal aliens as household workers and failed to pay their Social Security taxes, Clinton blamed a slipshod review process.

"Nobody said anything to me about the taxes," he complained.

A few months later, he jettisoned the nomination of old friend Lani Guinier as an assistant attorney general after critics said her writings were too liberal.

"I had not read her writings. In retrospect, I wish I had," Clinton said.

When questions were raised in 1994 about a White House meeting in which

federal regulators discussed the Whitewater land deal, then-chief of staff Mack McLarty said the Clintons were in the dark.

How did Mrs. Clinton turn \$1,000 into \$100,000 on the commodities market? Nothing special: She just read The Wall Street Journal and kept in touch with an Arkansas pal who knew the market pretty well.

The most constant Whitewater defense has been to call the Clintons "passive investors" - and poor ones at that. "We made a bad investment," Mrs. Clinton said. "We lost money and there's not much more to add to it."

That explanation was enough to keep the story from becoming a campaign issue in 1992.

Even when speaking broadly, the Clintons trace their troubles to ignorance about the ways of Washington. "I really did not fully understand everything that I wish now I had known," Mrs. Clinton once said.

Clinton stuck to the ineptness defense last week, when pressed to explain why the White House received FBI data on more than 400 people. At first, he called it a "bureaucratic snafu." A few days later, he told reporters it was an "honest bureaucratic mess-up" and apologized.

"The first time I learned about it was when there was a newspaper article about it," the president said.

Snafu. Mess-up. Don't know. So sorry. Dole says the excuses are getting a little old. "If we had made this many mistakes in World War II," the Republican scoffed, "we wouldn't be here today."

Poll says voter support for Republican Congress wanes

WASHINGTON (AP) - A recent survey of congressional districts across the United States suggests Republican fortunes have fallen sharply among voter groups crucial to their success in winning control of Congress in 1994. The Washington Post reported.

Republican House candidates claimed about 53 percent of the vote in 1994, but a Post survey conducted in early May and carried in Monday's editions found that 38 percent of the voters questioned now support the Republican running in their district while 50 percent support the Democrat.

However, the lengthy analysis accompanying the figures points out that Democrats held a lead at this time two years ago that was only marginally different from their current one, only to see it swept away by Election Day.

This time two years ago, the Demo-

cratic lead was 49 percent to 42 percent.

The Post findings are consistent with a number of other samplings taken recently by Democratic and Republican pollsters working for various campaigns.

The story quotes a number of independent pollsters and analysts as saying they believe the Republican can close the gap again this year.

Others say things will be different this time, given voter reaction to a sitting Republican Congress and the dynamics of a presidential race at the top of the ticket.

The Post's poll figures were based on a telephone survey of 1,532 self-described registered voters conducted between May 10-19 by ICR Research of Media, Pennsylvania.

The poll had a margin of error or 3 percentage points.

Satake gets guilty verdict

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
THE SUPERIOR Court convicted self-confessed former Yakuza member Hideaki Satake yesterday of drug and traffic violation charges.

During a bench trial, Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro said after weighing evidence and credibility of witnesses presented, the court found beyond doubt that Satake is guilty of the charges.

Satake was found guilty of illegal

possession of controlled substance ("ice"), reckless driving, and no driver's license in possession.

Castro set the sentencing on June 24.

Assistant Atty. Gen. James Norcross, who prosecuted the case, said Satake is facing a maximum of six years' imprisonment for all three charges.

Court information showed that Satake was arrested when Police Officer Larry Sokau spotted him driv-

ing a sports car recklessly along Beach Road last Dec. 21.

The police also recovered 4.47 grams of "ice," a syringe, a .25-cal. pistol, and rounds of .25-cal. ammunition.

During a pre-trial hearing, the court dismissed the charges of illegal possession of controlled substance ("ice") with intent to deliver, and illegal possession of a handgun and ammunition.

In sworn statements he issued to a police investigator, Satake disclosed how their group conducted illegal drug transactions on Saipan using legitimate businesses as fronts.

Teacher weeps as he recounts how Mafnas beat him up

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
A PUBLIC School System teacher wept as he narrated before the Superior Court yesterday how Raymond C. Mafnas beat him in San Roque last Nov. 13.

During the start of a bench trial, Cesar P. Belocora, 41, shed tears as he recalled when Mafnas allegedly poked his finger at his head and face before mauling him.

Belocora, a Filipino teacher assigned at the San Vicente Elementary School, claimed he was on a hallway on the second floor of the three-storey apartment where his sister was staying when Mafnas arrived.

He said Mafnas went straight to his direction, asking him, in a loud voice, what he was doing in the apartment and why he was not working at the time.

The teacher said he introduced himself as he explained it was a school break.

Belocora said Mafnas' unruly behavior scared him because it was the first time he met the defendant.

He said to avoid trouble, he went downstairs to join three local friends. One of his friends handed him a can of beer.

After about five minutes, Belocora said Mafnas came, shook hands with the three local people in the group and talked to them in Chamorro.

The teacher said he told Mafnas: "Why you talked to me that way. We should be polite with each other. We are all human beings."

Mafnas, who was standing, approached and started poking his head and face with his finger.

The defendant then whispered to him: "Go and get fu...ed," said Belocora.

Belocora said while he was still sitting on the chair, Mafnas punched him on the left side of face, hitting him near the left eye.

"I fell down on the ground my face hit on the pavement. He then gave me a big kick on my right rib," the teacher told the court.

With his face bleeding profusely, Belocora claimed he crawled then stood up, limping towards the apartment to dial 911 for police assistance.

Mafnas, however, followed and punched him in the back and neck, but he still managed to get in the apartment, said the victim.

Belocora claimed he later asked Mr. Babauta, who was with the group, to bring him to the hospital.

Serafin Pablo and his wife May, who were both in the group when the incident happened, also testified for the government.

May said she overheard when Mafnas asked Belocora where the latter was working and why he was there.

May said Belocora introduced himself then later went downstairs.

May recalled that while Mafnas was talking to the group, Belocora interrupted telling Mafnas that he doesn't like the way he approached and talked to him.

May corroborated Belocora's statements that the teacher told Mafnas "to be polite with each other because we are all human beings."

The witness said she saw when the defendant slapped the can of beer which Belocora was holding.

She said Belocora, who was bleeding on the face, tried to run to his apartment, but the defendant chased and pushed him.

May said Mafnas offered the victim a ride to bring him to the hospital, but the victim refused.



Raymond C. Mafnas

May stressed she did not see Belocora attempted to hit Mafnas with a can of beer.

She said Belocora was so quiet when he came.

On the other hand, Serafin said he saw Belocora was bleeding. He did not mention, however, whether Mafnas assaulted the victim.

Serafin also testified that before Belocora joined the group, the latter put an elongated object inside a car located several meters away from their location.

Belocora claimed his sister only owns a car.

As of press time, Francisco Babauta, who was with the group, also testified for the government.

Mafnas was listed reported working for Census of the Department of Commerce. He was charged with assault and battery.

Belocora suffered laceration on the left face, abrasion on the left and right shoulder and neck, and hematoma on the right big toe, a medical record showed.

Mafnas has maintained innocent to the charges.

CPA proposes to change agency flag



Carlos A. Shoda

THE prototype of the proposed new flag of the Commonwealth Ports Authority was presented to the board meeting Friday by CPA Executive Director Carlos A. Shoda.

The present flag has an orange backdrop for the CNMI emblem, which was adopted in 1975 when the CNMI was a US trust territory.

The proposed one has two monochromatic colors, with sky blue (or

the sky) occupying the upper half and aqua marine blue (for ocean) occupying the lower half. In the middle is the CNMI emblem.

In 1981 the airport and the seaport were merged into a ports authority, thus justifying the change of the current flag design.

It was, however, suggested by one board member that the Commonwealth Ports Authority written on the flag be changed to CNMI Ports Authority since during international conferences delegates from other countries usually ask what to what Commonwealth the name refers to.

In the US itself several states are a Commonwealth like the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This had become a problem during such conferences, the board member said.

However, it was pointed out that the CPA name is in the statute and the issue of whether the CPA board can change it to CNMI Ports Authority was raised.

The CPA counsel has been tasked with looking into this matter.

— Rick Alberto

Man gets 2 years jail for 'ice' possession

By Ferdie de la Torre
Variety News Staff
THE SUPERIOR Court gave a two-year jail term yesterday against a man who was found guilty of illegal possession of crystal methamphetamine.

Pursuant to a plea agreement, Presiding Judge Alexandro Castro sentenced Raul L. Albelda to five years' imprisonment, all suspended except the first 24 months.

Castro ordered that the five years sentence will commence on Nov. 15 to run concurrent with the jail time imposed by the US District Court in a related case against Albelda.

The judge asked Albelda, who will be placed in an unsupervised proba-

tion, to obey all CNMI and US criminal laws.

Court information showed that Albelda was arrested and held in the Department of Public Safety's detention facility last Nov. 15.

The police executed the following day a search warrant at the defendant's room behind La Filipiniana Restaurant.

Officers recovered 12.6 grams of "ice."

Albelda entered a plea agreement with Assistant Atty. Gen. James Norcross. He admitted the charge of illegal possession of controlled substance.

The court accepted the agreement.

CUC installs Sinapalo lines

OVER 20,000 linear feet of new pipeline has been installed in Rota's Sinapalo II village, a news release from the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation disclosed.

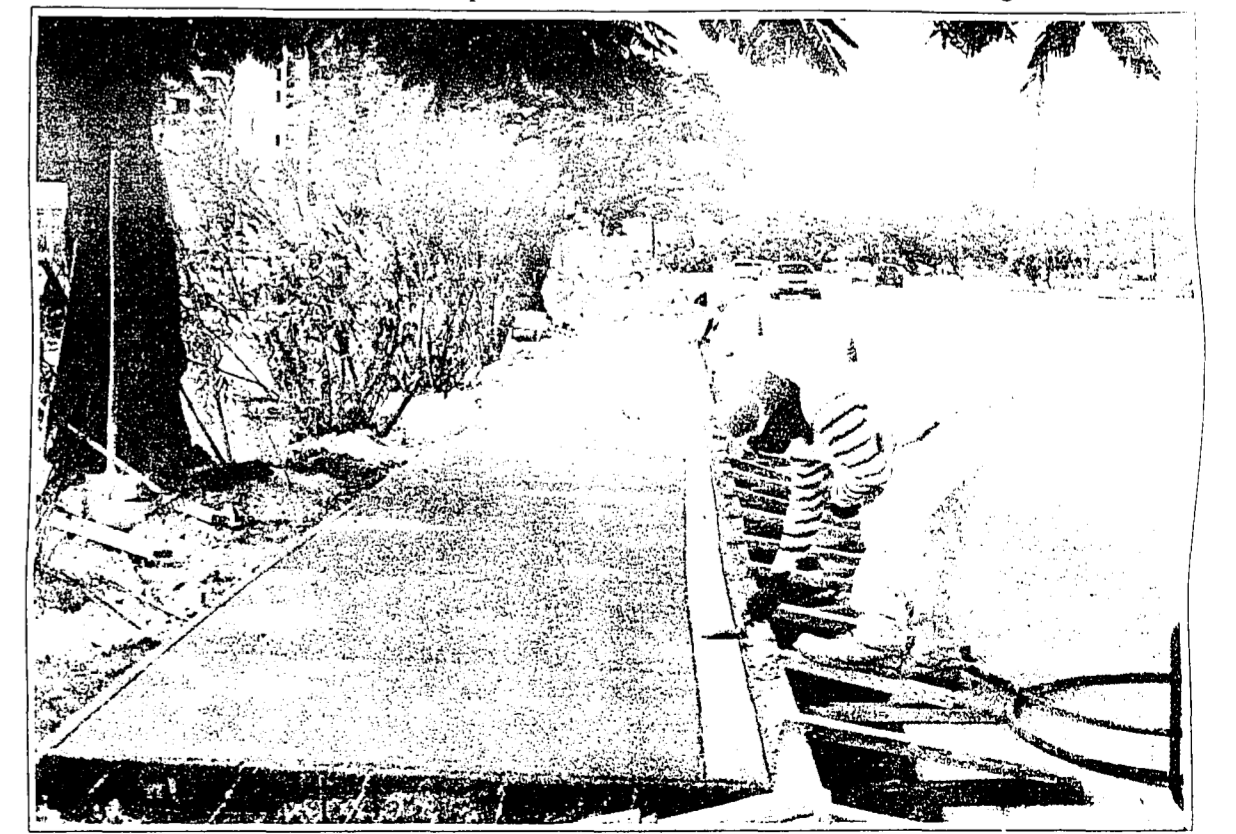
The waterline project was completed ahead of schedule, and residents in Rota are now encouraged to connect to the new system.

According to Rota Deputy Director Gerald Calvo, the utility wants to start pumping water through the new

system by June 30.

"In order to make that deadline, our Sinapalo II customers need to come to the Rota office to apply for these new services. Just as soon as we switch all of the customers to the new system, we will be able to disconnect the old water lines," Calvo explained.

The waterline project cost \$727,108 and involved the installation of six and eight-inch pipelines as well as water meters.



Sablán Construction workers do the finishing touches yesterday on the sidewalk in Garapan. The sidewalk is part of the government's beautification improvement project at the Carolinian Ut.

MICRONESIA CRAFTS EXHIBIT

JUNE 20 - JULY 12, 1996

WILSON PURPOSE CENTER, SUSU

SPONSORED BY THE COMMONWEALTH COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURE. IN PART THROUGH A GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS. DESIGN BY ROBERT HUNTER PRINTING BY R & M ENTERPRISES.

Terror campaign continues in Southern Philippine city

ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines (AP) - A grenade attack left a security guard injured Monday and two petroleum bombs were found before they detonated in what police say is part of a new terror campaign to derail peace talks in the southern Philippines.

The security guard was injured in a blast in front of a retail store along Zamboanga City's main street, Veterans Avenue, at 2:45 a.m. (1845 GMT Sunday), police said.

The latest attack prompted a high-ranking police official to issue an apparent shoot-to-kill order.

"Determine who are behind these bombings and eliminate those people," regional police director Teddy Carian told city police chief Edwin Soledad.

Investigators said the grenade blast

was targeted at a stockpile of liquefied petroleum gas tanks, which fortunately were empty.

Apio Capino, 51, the injured guard, told police one of two men on a motorcycle hurled the grenade into the empty tanks before speeding away.

Several minutes later, police said, a hotel worker at the Summer Lodge downtown answered a phone call and was told to go into a room where a liter of gasoline in plastic container with a fuse and match sticks ready to be ignited was found.

A similar discovery was also reported by employees of Apo Lodge located near a thickly populated area, police added.

Carian would not name any par-

ticular group who are possibly behind the apparently related incidents but said they are "people who don't want Zamboanga City in peace."

Monday's blast was the 12th since March 10 to hit Zamboanga, a port city 850 kilometers (530 miles) south of Manila.

Dozens of people have been injured in the explosions from grenades and homemade bombs.

Investigators and political analysts are saying the attacks are meant to destroy the ongoing talks by government and Muslim rebel leaders to end the two decade-long rebellion in the southern Philippines.

But while some investigators readily point to extremist Muslim groups as the culprits, others think the attackers could be right wing extremists who do not want Zamboanga to be placed under a Muslim administration.

In the ongoing talks, the Moro National Liberation Front of Nur Misuari wants most of Mindanao to be placed under an autonomous government lead by Muslim authorities.

Among the nine cities sought to be covered by the proposal is Zamboanga, a traditional Muslim trading center but whose population had long become predominantly Christian.

Another round of talks by the government and MNLF committees are scheduled in Davao, another southern city west of Zamboanga, on Wednesday.



Filipino World War II veterans enjoy watching the celebration of the country's Independence Day at Manila's Rizal Park last Wednesday, June 12, 1996. The veterans who are now too old and too weak to directly participate in the celebrations, are now occupying the best seats of the grandstand as they are honored for giving the new generation the freedom they now enjoy. AP Photo

Economy gets in full swing, says speaker

SPEAKER Jose de Venecia said yesterday that Philippine economic modernization is in a full swing, its per capita income annually rising to beyond \$1,000, an unprecedented record attained three years ahead of schedule.

Addressing the Philippine Independence Day celebration at the St. Francis Hotel before a jam-packed audience of Filipino-American economic leaders, De Venecia said that President Ramos and Congress approved a law - R.A. 8179, on March 28, 1996 that would enable Filipinos who have become American citizens to acquire 5,000 square meters of urban land or three hectares or rural land in the Philippines.

The House Representatives leader will motor to California's capital, Sacramento to separately address the California State Assembly and the California Senate, unprecedented for a Filipino or Asian leader.

Manila Bulletin

Ramos lectures mayors on traffic, flood, pollution woes

MANILA, Philippines (AP) - Alarmed by Metro Manila's worsening flood, traffic, pollution and housing problems, President Fidel Ramos took local mayors Sunday on a helicopter tour to see what was wrong.

"I want you to keep your eyes open. You should know what's happening around," Ramos told them before they boarded the helicopters.

All of the capital's 17 mayors, except one who is bedridden, joined the one-hour aerial inspection of uncollected garbage, clogged waterways and pot-holed roads, said a press statement from the presidential office.

They also saw slums, smog, illegally parked vehicles and other road obstructions.

In a discussion later of what to do about the problems, Ramos told the mayors: "What we need is a little more dedication and personal commitment from you. You are part of our team and we are just one family here, that's why we must help each other."

Manila's notorious traffic jams and reputation as one of Asia's most polluted cities have been seen as obstacles in Ramos' campaign to turn his country's lagging economy into a competitive one.

More than a third of Metro Manila's 7 million people are squatting, or illegally occupying government or private land, researchers say.

Floods remain a perennial problem despite millions of dollars spent on drainage and river dredging projects.

There long have been studies recommending such steps as re-



Fidel Ramos

ANNOUNCEMENT

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For confirmation and participation, contact:

Jess Sanchez	664-3706
Andrea Alepuyo	664-3706
Pat Camacho	664-3700
FAX:	664-3707

Or write to:
Jess Sanchez
CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
Administration Office
P.O. Box 1370
Saipan, MP 96950

****Note:** House and apartment owners are expected to be ready to provide transportation for teachers from the Relocation Fairs to the houses and apartments, and back to the teachers' hotel.

Gov't goes after land fraud

THE OFFICE of the Attorney General yesterday urged people who may have acquired public land improperly to come forward, and settle things to avoid possible prosecution.

"We would like those people

whose lots have grown in questionable ways to understand that if they come forward voluntarily, allow their land to be surveyed, and then quitclaim deed the public portion back to the CNMI government, they will be released

from any and all civil and criminal liability in connection with the taking of that land," Assistant Attorney General Thomas E. Clifford said in a news release.

At the same time, Clifford cautioned that if the government is forced to resort to legal action then the persons responsible will be prosecuted to the full extent under the law.

allegedly taken under false pretense.

The office also announced that in a third case the landowner has stepped forward voluntarily and returned public land that had been surveyed as part of his lot, Clifford said.

The more recent case involves two pieces of government land in the Chamugi region of Rota. The lots were chosen because they involve one of the largest alleged takings of public land, at nine-plus hectares.

"We're taking the case with the biggest discrepancies first, always with the hope that the landowners will cooperate, return any public land taken, and eliminate the need for litigation, which is expensive and time-consuming for everyone involved," Clifford said.

"The goal here is to recover public land that has been improperly taken, so that the CNMI people, and their children and their children's children can use and enjoy all of the land that is rightfully theirs, and not just that portion that the elites of the previous generations failed to confiscate."

Questions about these cases can be addressed to the Office of the Attorney General at 664-2341.

DFS to allow MVB booth under condition

By Rick Alberto
Variety News Staff

OFFICIALS of the Duty Free Shoppers said the Marianas Visitors Bureau may set up a display booth at the Saipan International Airport but it should be subject to the former's approval as to the items for distribution.

and we told him where to go, how to do it."

Pierce said they had never said no, adding that "there are some people who are insinuating that we are trying to block off everybody coming in."

"We're willing to listen and work with the people," she stressed.

Under the master concession agreement between the DFS and the CPA, small concessionaires cannot sell what the DFS sells, she said.

"We're not in this for the lawsuits, we're in it to recover public land. But if folks don't cooperate, then we really have no choice but to put the case before the court, regardless of who is implicated by the relevant documents and witnesses," Clifford said.

The Assistant Attorney General said he is hopeful that as cases move forward and more are filed, other landowners will come forward voluntarily and return public land.

The AG recently filed its second lawsuit to recover public land

and we told him where to go, how to do it."

Pierce said they had never said no, adding that "there are some people who are insinuating that we are trying to block off everybody coming in."

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NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for UPGRADE POWER SERVICE AND STANDBY GENERATOR, AT SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS, CPA Project No. CPA-SA-002-96 will be received at the office of the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 1055, Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950, until 2:00 PM, July 19, 1996, at which time and place the sealed bids will be publicly opened and read.

The project, in general consists of the construction of a new emergency generator building, procurement and installation of two new generators along with the demolition and removal of the existing generator building. In addition, the airport service road is to be realigned and a new electrical vault will be constructed. All work is to be in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within two (2) months from the receipt of bids. Depending upon availability of funds, CPA reserves the right to hold such bid in effect for three (3) months from the date of bid opening.

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

All mechanics and laborers on the project shall be paid no less than minimum prevailing wage rate established by the CNMI Government. A copy of the Department of Labor Wage Rate Determination is applicable to this contract and is made a part of this specification (See Section 70-24).

Each bidder must complete, sign and furnish, prior to award of the contract (CPA Project No. CPA-SA-002-96) the "Bidder's Statement on Previous Contracts Subject to EEO Clause", a "Certification of Nonsegregated Facilities" (See Proposal).

Required Notices for All Contracts.

a. The bidder must supply all the information required by the bid forms and specifications.

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

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

The apparent low bidder and any known first tier subcontractor will be subject to a pre-award, equal opportunity compliance review by representatives of the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Program, U.S. Department of Labor, before the award of the contract for the purpose of determining whether the bidder and/or his subcontractors are able to comply with the provisions of the equal opportunity clause.

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

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

Contract documents, including plans and specifications, may be examined at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, or can be obtained from this office upon the payment of Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00) for each set of documents. This amount is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made by check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT TERMINAL BUILDING, at 10:00 AM on June 28, 1996 to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Consultant, in writing, at least five (5) days in advance for answers at this pre-bid conference, with a copy of same mailed simultaneously to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority. Attendance at the pre-bid conference and site visit are considered essential to the potential contractor's understanding of the project elements.

Each prospective bidder shall file with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, at the above Saipan address, a notice of his intention to bid in a form substantially similar to that supplied herewith, not less than six (6) calendar days prior to the date hereinabove designated for opening of bids.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids in accordance with Section 3.2(7) of its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ CARLOS A. SHODA
Executive Director

Tonga finance minister predicts good year ahead

TONGA's minister of finance Tutoatasi Fakafanua has predicted that 1996-97 would be a year for economic and financial development for the country.

During his budget statement in the Legislative Assembly Fakafanua said there was a slightly downturn in the economy for 1995-96 but that there was hope for the 1996-97 financial year.

This is the right time to put

Fiji foreign minister plans to quit

Fiji's foreign affairs minister, Filipe Bole, plans to quit cabinet. He is expected to hand in his resignation shortly.

Bole, who has been Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka's foreign minister since 1992, was weighing the options open to him and consulting with close allies, the Daily Post reported.

Bole was shocked and disappointed to read in the Daily Post that Rabuka said he had planned to drop him and replace him with Ratu Finau Mara, the parliamentary leader of the Fijian Association.

However, Rabuka has told the Daily Post that Bole's future in cabinet is secure because the person who was to take over had not done so.

Ratu Finau had been named as a replacement, but he told Rabuka that he had to clear some businesses before he could take up the cabinet position.

While Bole has refused to discuss the issue, close associates said he had been embarrassed by Rabuka's media statements.

They said the best option open to Bole was to resign.....Pacnews

Tonga posts 3.7% growth over 5 years

TONGA has recorded an average growth rate for the past five years from 1990 to 1995 at 3.7 percent.

After the high growth rate of almost 5 percent achieved in 1993-94, the economy declined to 2.5 percent, Radio Tonga reported.

Provisional figures provided by the statistics department showed a significant drop in the gross domestic product of 1.7 in 1995-96.

The drop not only testifies to the slowing down of the world economy, but also reflects slower tourism growth and the sharp decline in agricultural production from 5 percent in 1994-94 to -6 percent in 1995-96.

Trade, including business activities of restaurants and hotels, also contributed to the decline in growth at -5 percent.

The domestic economy review is part of the budget statement presented by the minister of finance for the 1996-97 financial year.....Pacnews

into effect proposals for improvement of the whole country's economy, he was quoted by Radio Tonga as saying.

Fakafanua said that for 2996-97 the ministry of works had the most allocation of 18,040,000 pa'anga (US\$15 million), followed by the education ministry with just over 13 million pa'anga (US\$10 million) and foreign affairs getting 11 million pa'anga (US\$9 million).

Other departments also saw increases in their budgets, while the ministry of defense services suffered the highest

budget cut from 8 million pa'anga (US\$6.3 million) last year to only 3 million pa'anga (US\$2.6 million) this year.

The auditor's department and civil aviation also suffered cuts to their budgets.

However, according to Fakafanua, 1996-97 budget establishes a firm base where Tonga can grow and flourish.

He also stressed that the implementation of policies accompanying the budget requires close cooperation and participation from all sectors of the economy to continue to make Tonga prosper.... Pacnews

CNMI observers attend Forum meet in Suva

THE Forum Regional Security Committee is meeting at the Forum Secretariat Headquarters in Suva for three days starting today.

Delegates from twelve Forum member countries have confirmed their attendance.

For the first time observers from the Commonwealth of the Marianas Islands will attend.

Specialist organizations such as the Customs Heads of Administration Regional Meeting CHARM, Pacific Island Law Officers Meeting PILOM, the Regional Heads of Prisons Meeting RHPM, the South Pacific Chiefs of Police Conference SPCPC, the University of the South Pacific Department of Law and the United Nations Development Program UNDP will also attend the meeting.

The security committee in par-

ticular has oversight of the Forum's program of law enforcement cooperation.

Under the program the SPF Secretariat runs project for training police and customs officials at both operational and managerial level focusing on drug enforcement and for legislative drafting to modernize and ensure regional consistency of law areas such as extradition and mutual criminal assistance.

The meeting will review progress in these projects and discuss emerging new issues in regional law enforcement such as money-laundering and intelligence sharing.

The resolutions of the meeting, together with the recommendations, will be submitted to SPF leaders for consideration at their meeting in September in Majuro, Marshall Islands....Pacnews

Indians travel to Fiji with dual passports

THE majority of people found to be traveling with dual passports into Fiji are Indians.

To keep this problem under control, immigration officers at Fiji airport have tightened up security checks on incoming visitors, the Daily Post reported.

The principal immigration officer, Western Joe Naewabau, told the Daily Post his office had confiscated ten passports of overseas trying to enter Fiji on dual passports.

He said it was surprising that

Indians make 90 percent of the total of people whose passports were confiscated after they were found to be travelling with dual passports.

An immigration source told the Daily Post immigration officers were able to detect people travelling with dual passports after they had been interviewed.

The source said it was easy for them to trace people who are carrying dual passports just after they have conducted interview with them....Pacnews

Kinney . . .

Continued from page 1

directed against" her in violation of her rights to due process and equal protection guaranteed by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments.

Kinney said the amendments "are designed to affect and do impair vested property rights of a class of illegitimate children who seek to exercise their statutory

rights."

One other claimant to the Hillbom estate is affected by PL10-10.

Under the US Constitution and the Covenant with the United States, only the courts can decide pending cases and controversies, Kinney argued.

TO ALL PALAUANS IN SAIPAN:

I thank all fellow Palauans in Saipan who attended my campaign introductory meeting on Sunday, June 16 at Grand Hotel. I extend greetings to those who were unable to come and request them to review my platform below.

MORA ROKUI EL CHAD ER BELAU EL NGARA SAIBAL:

AK OURENG A SULIR TIRAKEL CHAD EL NGARA SAIBAL EL MLO SEBECHIR EL MERA ONDIBEL ER NGAK ER SERA SANDEI, JUNE 16, RA GRAND HOTEL. AK OLDUROKL A YOROSKU EL MOR TIRKEL MLO DIAK EL MEI E OLENGIT A NGESEU ER TIR.

IBEDUL YUTAKA M. GIBBONS

FOR
PRESIDENT



EL MO
DAITORIO

SEPTEMBER 24, 1996, NATIONAL PRIMARY ELECTION, REPUBLIC OF PALAU PLATFORM FOR OUR NATION - BELAU ER KID

High Chief Ibedul Yutaka M. Gibbons is seeking the Office of the President of the Republic of Palau in the up-coming primary election in order to implement the following set of principles governing basic issues facing Palau:

I. CULTURAL HERITAGE

The elected national government of Palau has a basic responsibility to assure the preservations and enhancement of Palauan cultural heritage and national identity through creation of conditions in the country, provision of programs, activities, funds and enactment of laws in order.

- to enforce Palauan values such as MESES, KLDUNG, DUCH-ER-RENG, BLEKOKEWIL, OMENGULL MA OMELENGMES in schools, public or community organizations, and government functions.
- to instill honor and dignity in Palauan ethnic origin in clan, lineage, and family.
- to facilitate and give real support to the role of traditional councils of chiefs at the national, state and hamlet levels of government.
- to take positive actions to promote customs, traditional heritage, cultural functions and programs.
- to require teaching of Palauan language in all schools throughout the Republic.
- to require use of Palauan language in public and official communications and functions.

II. LAND

All lands in Palau must be returned to rightful owners in the states, hamlets, clans, lineages, and individuals in the next four years through improved and facilitated surveying, land hearings, and title certification. National government must take immediate steps:

- to provide the council of chiefs in each hamlet and state a role in determining titles to lands located within its jurisdiction.
- to set up a system in which the national government can request and obtain lands for its projects and programs in all states.
- to stop existing lawsuits or efforts by the national government, Palau Public Lands Authority or any national entity to invalidate or interfere with the return of public lands to the states through deeds in the 1980's.

I ask for your support so that we can preserve the dignity and honor of our cultural heritage and national identity to our newly independent nation.

PALAU CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 428 Koror, Republic of Palau
Phone: (680) 488-4458, Fax (680) 488-4457

Hideo Termeteet CHAIRMAN
Diimei Olkeril CO-CHAIRWOMAN
Emil Ramarui ADVISOR
Nancy Wong TREASURER

SAIPAN, CNMI CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE
Contact Persons:
Herman Balio Ngiraidong 234-5292
Monique Mariur 256-2826

Search on for 26 missing sailors

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) - Rescuers, aided by helicopters, resumed the search Monday for 26 missing sailors, believed drowned when their cargo ship sank off South Korea's south coast.

Six hours after the search resumed, maritime police said they had found no signs of life. They earlier said those missing, including 24 Filipinos, one Greek and one Egyptian, were presumed dead.

On Sunday, rescue ships found several life jackets and an empty lifeboat floating near the scene of the accident off the port of Tongyoung, 320 kilometers (200 miles) south of Seoul.

Fog and turbulent seas forced rescuers to suspend the search Sunday night. Maritime officials said their search Monday was assisted by 12

ships and three helicopters.

The missing sailors were all from the Cyprus-registered ship Anna Spiratou which sank after colliding with a Greek-flagged freighter, about 32 kilometers (20 miles) southeast of Tongyoung, Saturday night.

Officials said they were working to contain an oil slick rapidly spreading from the sunken ship, which was carrying about 75,000 gallons of fuel

and other oil.

Fog had limited visibility to about 10 meters (yards) when the collision occurred.

The Greek ship Polydefkis safely entered the South Korean port of Pusan, about 300 kilometers (200 miles) southeast of Seoul. There were no reports of injuries among its 12

crewmen, who were being questioned by authorities.

Initial police investigation showed that the Cypriot ship sank after its side was rammed in dense fog.

The 14,900-ton Anna Spiratou was en route from the Russian port of Nakhodka to Taichung in Taiwan with a cargo of steel bars.

Reports: US fighter shutdown blamed mostly on human error

TOKYO (AP) - Human error led to the accidental downing of a U.S. warplane by a Japanese destroyer during joint exercises in the Pacific earlier this month, reports said Monday.

The warplane, an A-6E Intruder attack-bomber, was towing an airborne target when it was blown out of the air by the destroyer Yuugiri during the exercises 2,500 kilometers (1,600 miles) west of Hawaii.

The target was on a cable nearly 5 kilometers (3 miles) long, and nor-

mally firing would not have begun until after the plane had safely passed over the firing zone.

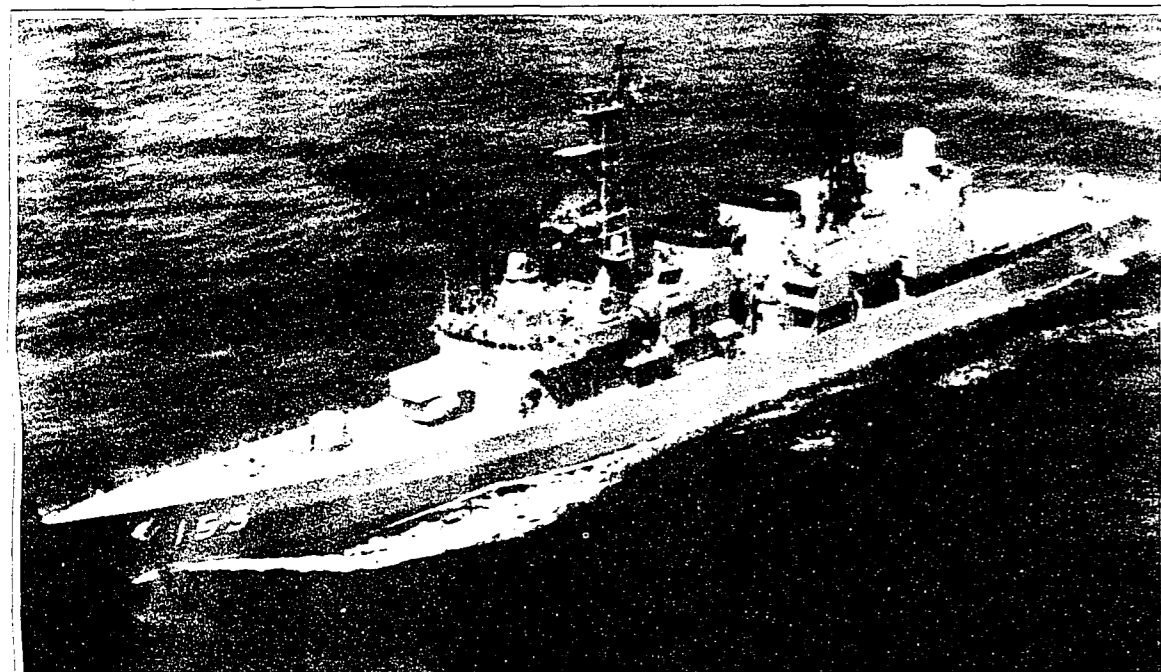
According to reports by the Tokyo Shimbun newspaper and the Kyodo news service, the order to fire was given too soon, indicating human error. Kyodo said the order was given before contact was made with the plane to confirm its position.

A spokesman for Japan's Defense Agency, which is investigating the June 4 accident, said the cause has not

yet been determined. He said the results of the agency investigation will be made public, but said no announcement date has been set.

The plane's pilot, Lt. Cmdr. William Royster of Kansas City, Missouri, and navigator-bombardier Lt. Keith Douglas of Birmingham, Alabama, both ejected and were rescued at sea.

Neither sustained serious injuries.



A Japanese vessel Yuugiri cruises in this undated file photo. The 3,500-ton destroyer accidentally shot down a U.S. A-6 Navy jet last June 4, 1996 during military exercises off Hawaii, a Japanese defense official said. The Yuugiri fired on a target towed from the A-6 jet but mistakenly hit the plane instead. The plane crashed into the Pacific Ocean, but two crewmen were rescued.

Japanese officials raid housing lender's office

TOKYO (AP) - Police and prosecutors, looking for evidence of shady loan practices, on Monday raided offices of one of the major housing lending companies due for liquidation because of a mountain of bad debts.

Dozens of solemn-looking men in suits filed into the headquarters and various branch offices of Japan Housing Loan Inc., which allegedly lent large sums of money to land speculators despite small chances of repayment.

The raid was conducted on suspicion of breach of trust. As is customary in Japan, it was informally announced in advance, and investigators had to push through crowds of journalists to enter the buildings. About 30 sites, which included loan recipients, were raided Monday. No arrests were reported.

It was the first raid on any of the six failed housing loan companies, called "jusen," the center of a bitter bad debt scandal.

The government has been under fire over the planned use of 685 billion yen (\$ 6.3 billion) in taxpayers' money to help liquidate the seven jusen.

Fueling the public anger is the fact that the jusen lenders helped speculative investment schemes, rather than homeowners. Government officials have said the public spending is necessary to maintain

the nation's financial system.

Legislation to liquidate the lenders already has passed the lower house, and was expected to be approved by an upper house committee later Monday.

To date, police have arrested top executives of two major borrowers from the jusen in connection with loan scandals.

A police spokesman refused to disclose details of the raids, whose targets included two borrowers - a golf course development company and a resort development company.

The Japan Broadcasting Corp. said Japan Housing Loan was suspected of having extended a total of 6 billion yen (\$ 55 million) to the two companies in 1991 knowing there were little prospect of recovering the money.

Japan Housing Loan, set up in 1976, held 1.19 trillion yen (\$ 10.9 billion) in bad loans at the end of June 1995, Kyodo News said.

Under the easy credit policy in the late 1980s, land prices skyrocketed. But after the collapse of the "bubble economy" in the early 1990s, banks were left holding as collateral land whose value had plunged.

Estimates for the total amount of bad debt in Japan's banking system run as high as \$ 800 billion.

Japan's trade surplus drops sharply in May

TOKYO (AP) - Japan's overall trade surplus dropped for the 18th consecutive month in May, falling 60.5 percent on burgeoning imports, the Finance Ministry said Monday.

The overall trade surplus fell to 231.68 billion yen (\$ 2.125 billion) in May from the previous year, down from 586.99 billion yen (\$ 5.385 billion at current exchange rates) in May 1995, the Finance Ministry said.

Among the overall import leaders were computers, office equipment, and crude oil, whose import value jumped by one-fourth because of rising oil prices.

Japan's politically sensitive trade surplus with the United States fell 39.6 percent in May for the 15th consecutive monthly decrease to 167.68 billion yen (\$ 1.538 billion).

A ministry official briefing reporters said the trend of a declining trade surplus is expected to continue. He added that imports were expected to continue to rise at a faster pace than exports.

The trend was also boosted by reverse imports, those coming from

overseas production site of Japanese manufacturers, the official said on the condition of anonymity, as is customary in Japan.

In trade with the United States, imports of semiconductors and other electronics parts rose 40 percent, meat products rose 63 percent and computer products were up 61 percent from the previous year.

Japan's trade surplus with the United States has long been an irritant, and sometimes has caused the yen to surge on the belief that Washington sought a weaker dollar to help American manufacturers improve their competitiveness abroad.

Following the easing of trade surplus, the dollar has recovered to 109 yen Monday, up from the low 80-yen range last summer.

Japan's trade figures are measured on a customs-clearance basis, and are not adjusted for seasonal factors.

The ministry began in April 1996 releasing trade data in yen terms only rather than both yen and dollar terms.

US, China push talks to brink of sanctions

Anti-piracy agreement looms

By CHARLES HUTZLER
BEIJING (AP) - U.S. and Chinese trade negotiators went down to the wire on Monday, apparently reaching an agreement on copyright piracy just under a deadline for imposing sanctions.

An agreement was likely, the official Xinhua News Agency reported shortly after a noon (0400 GMT) deadline imposed by Washington. Progress has been made during the past two days of talks, it said.

Acting U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky went to meet with Vice Premier Li Lanqing in the early afternoon, said a U.S. official who declined to be identified.

Barshefsky earlier told reporters she planned to meet with Li. A state department official said such a meeting would be a strong indication an agreement had been reached.

Negotiators worked until 2:30 a.m. (1830 GMT) and then resumed the talks later Monday morning.

Washington is demanding Beijing clamp down on illicit producers of U.S. films, music and computer software. If no agreement is reached, the United States plans to impose high punitive tariffs on \$ 2 billion of Chinese exports.

Barshefsky tried to keep deadline pressure on before the Monday morning talks.

"We'll have further discussions this morning, but we're pressing up against the deadline, and the deadline won't be extended," she told reporters.

Before the Monday session, a U.S. official who declined to be identified said progress was being made, but contentious issues remained to be resolved.

An unidentified Chinese negotiator said the "U.S. was still making strong demands over some issues," the state-run China Daily newspaper reported Monday. Both officials refused to elaborate on the proposals being debated.

Washington has asked Beijing to agree to new steps to comply with a March 1995 agreement to eliminate the piracy or face the sanctions. U.S. entertainment and software industry groups claim Chinese piracy costs them \$ 2.3 billion.

If the United States takes action, China has pledged to exact a heavier toll through punitive duties and by restricting access for U.S. companies.

Barshefsky's arrival late Friday, after two days of formal talks, spurred speculation that an agreement was near.

As the weekend wore on, both sides seemed to be repeating the brinkmanship played out in February 1995. Negotiations then passed a deadline for threatened U.S. sanctions before China agreed to crack down on copyright violators.

China maintains that it has complied with its 1995 commitments, but acknowledges that piracy has continued and that a cleanup is in the interest of its own growing economy.

This time, Washington wants China to take specific steps to make sure the 15-month-old agreement is enforced. Specifically, China should close plants illegally making compact disks, improve enforcement in Guangdong province near Hong Kong and other areas where piracy is rampant, strengthen efforts to stop copycat exports and let U.S. entertainment and computer companies into the domestic market to meet the demand for their products.

According to U.S. officials, Washington is demanding that China clean up 30 identified pirate CD plants, shutting down 10 to 12 of them and forcing the rest to sign licensing agreements or joint ventures with U.S. companies.

Most of all, Washington wants

clear guidelines to make sure police and customs officers enforce the agreement.

In the past few weeks, Beijing has hinted a new licensing system was being set up. It ordered that new CD

plants set up without Beijing's approval be shut down and has pledged no new ones would be opened.



A Chinese woman walks past a poster for the movie Broken Arrow at the entrance of theater in Beijing Wednesday. Chinese film officials warned Tuesday that China may ban Hollywood movies if a trade war erupts with the U.S. is threatening trade sanctions starting June 17 unless China takes action to enforce intellectual property right law.

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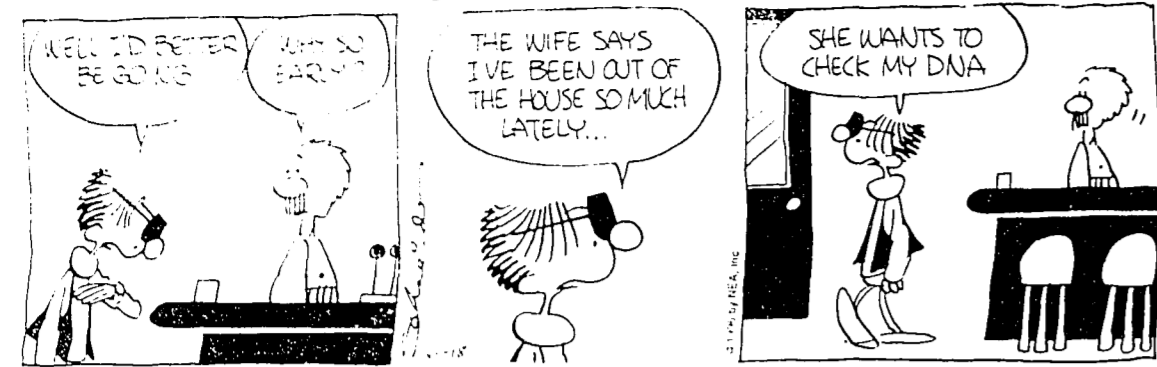
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STELLA WILDER YOUR BIRTHDAY

By Stella Wilder

Born today you are idiosyncratic and some people will find you downright difficult to deal with at times.

read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19 GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may be vulnerable today, and you should try to avoid anything that will bring you face-to-face with certain aspects of your past.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Common sense will win the day for you, but there will be times when you must break with tradition, follow your instincts, and experiment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Are you ready to vary your routine in favor of something which could be a great success or a resounding failure? You must take the risk!

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You will be asked to help with a project because of your considerable talent. Money may not be involved, but reputation will be key.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) — You may feel as if your progress is only meager at this time, but you will make more real headway than you know.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) — You can only do so much to prepare for today's activities, but if you trust your instincts and experience you should emerge victorious.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) — You may be thrilled to discover just how much someone you respect respects you in return.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Give yourself more credit at this time! You have accomplished a lot recently, and you have what it takes to accomplish even more in a short time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) — This will be a good day to try to combine travel plans with career maneuvers. If you can, set up meetings with people who can give you a boost.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) — Now is the time to play catch-up with a friend who has a major new project in the works. Chances are, you will want to be involved!

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — If you requests are specific today, you will receive much if not all of what you have asked for before the day is over.

CROSSWORD PUZZLER

ACROSS 1 Switzerland's capital 7 Frowns 12 Musical dramas 13 Of an artery 15 —, re, mi 16 Extending across 18 Violent whirlwind 19 — radio 21 Pedal digits 22 Spoke 24 Chastity's mom 26 Crosby, Sills, — and Young 28 Food additive (later)

Crossword puzzle grid with numbers and some filled-in letters.

KidSpot™ SOLVE THE REBUS BY WRITING IN THE NAMES OF THE PICTURE CLUES AND ADDING OR SUBTRACTING THE LETTERS.

Rebus puzzle featuring a man laughing, a car, and a car with a 'C' on it. Includes the text 'WHY DO PEOPLE LAUGH UP THEIR SLEEVES?' and 'THAT'S WHERE THEIR...'

Advertisement for the movie 'Flipper' featuring Paul Hogan and Elijah Wood. Includes showtimes: Thursday 7:00, Friday 7:00, Saturday 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00.

China bares Olympic goals

By RENEE SCHOOF BEIJING (AP) - China is hoping for Olympic gold this year in women's distance running and its other usual strong sports - table tennis, diving, gymnastics and shooting, sports officials said Monday.

After long and grueling preparations, China hopes to keep the No. 4 place in the medals tally that it earned in Barcelona four years ago. It holds out little hope for overtaking the United States, Germany and Russia.

Stuart ... Continued from page 20 female finishers overall, 1 st male and female over 50, and 1 st male and female under 15.

Becker ... Continued from page 20 his sixth Grand Slam title, and missed the French Open with a thigh injury despite his best clay form in years.

Holmes ... Continued from page 20 rang. Willis, a 27-year-old from Chicago, dropped to 16-5. He charged Holmes early in the first round, only to get in a couple of weak body shots.

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Pettitte ... Continued from page 20 1989, pitching seven strong innings as Minnesota stopped a four-game losing streak.

Top ... Continued from page 20 ing Yuki Sumitomo. The real marathon match of the tournament was in the girl's 12 and under where eleven year old Kana Aikawa outlasted her friend Mae Suzuki in a three and a half hour test of wills.

Bulls ... Continued from page 20 assists and three more of Chicago's 14 steals. He played his hardest in a third-quarter stretch when it looked like Seattle might be fighting its way back.

Stars. Gary Payton and Shawn Kemp. Jordan scored 22 points in Game 6, making only 5 of 19 shots, but went 11-for-12 from the foul line to lead his team in scoring as he did every game during the series.

expected to contend for gold medals in race walking and shot put. Besides Wang, top female track members of the Olympic team are Gao Hongmiao, Gu Yan, Wang Yan and Huang Zhihong.

Bevington and other teammates as he approached home plate umpire Al Clark. Bob Wells (7-1) won despite allowing six earned runs in 5 1-3 innings. Mike Jackson entered with one out in the eighth and finished for his third save.

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SPORTS



Bulls NBA champions

By CHRIS SHERIDAN
CHICAGO (AP) - After letting Seattle struggle back into contention in a series that first looked like a sweep for Chicago, the Bulls beat the SuperSonics 87-75 and grasped the championship in Game 6 of the NBA Finals. Their place in basketball history isn't as secure as it could have been, knocked down a notch by a dogged opponent. Still, the Bulls are NBA champions for the fourth time in six years because they finished their season on Sunday with the kind of all-around excel-

lent game they needed to put a final stamp on a season of superlatives.

Playing with a focus and aggressiveness seldom seen earlier in the series, the Bulls beat the Sonics mainly with rebounding and defense - much of it by Dennis Rodman, who had 19 rebounds in one of the best games of his career.

They overcame a merely mediocre night by Michael Jordan, who nonetheless got the championship he pursued so hard following his 18-month retirement.

After the final buzzer, Jordan lay face down on the court, clutching the game ball as his teammates celebrated around him.

Scottie Pippen, Rodman and Harper exchanged hugs with coach Phil Jackson as they donned their championship caps.

Overcome by emotion, Jordan took the ball into the Bulls' locker room, where he again collapsed, his body wracked by sobs.

On a day celebrated in the

United States as Father's Day, Jordan's tears were for his father, murdered less than two months after the Bulls won their last title, in 1993.

"I knew he was watching," he said. "This was for dad. I'm very happy for him."

Jordan had 22 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, and was named the finals' most valuable player.

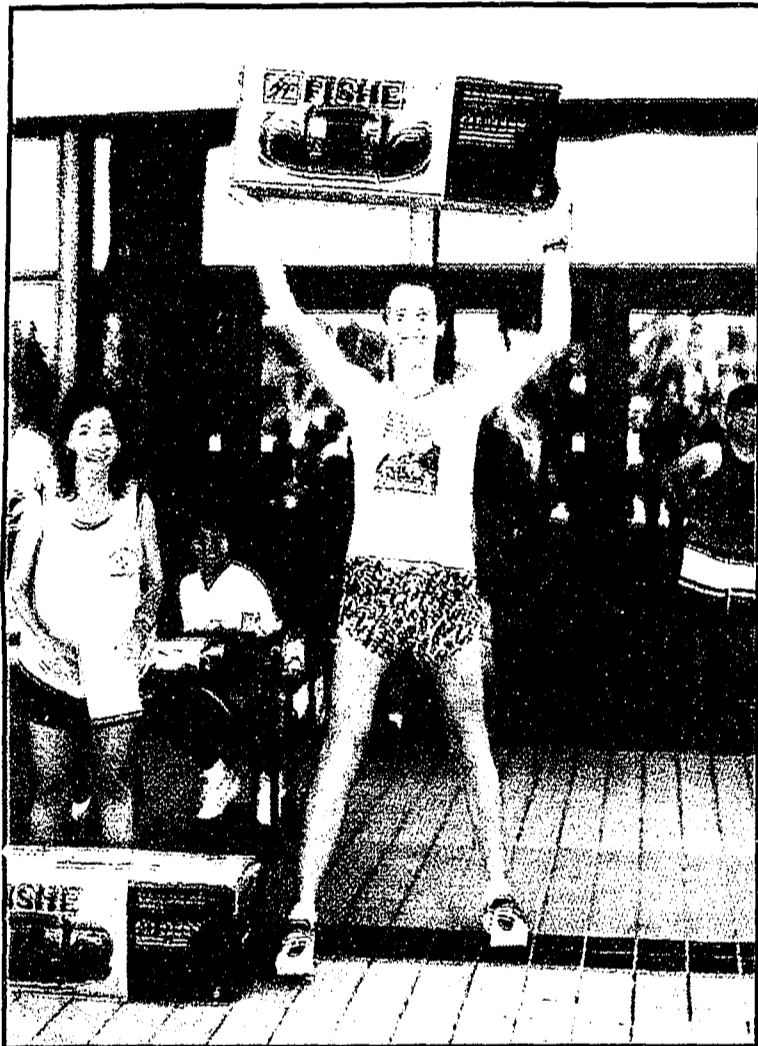
Jordan did not have the kind

of dominant game he has become known for, but every other member of the Bulls picked up the slack in a game Chicago controlled throughout the second half.

Scottie Pippen, who struggled with his shooting touch through the first five games, came back with 17 points, eight rebounds, five assists, four steals and three 3-pointers.

Rodman added nine points, five

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First place finisher Stuart Smith hoists his prize for topping last Saturday's 3rd Annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run as DFS Saipan Limited President Marian Aldan-Pierce looks on at left.

Stuart Smith continues Silver Streak domination

VETERAN runner Stuart Smith continued his domination of the annual Tom Picarro Memorial Fun Run, besting this year's event with a time of 21 minutes and 57 seconds.

The Fun Run, dubbed as the Silver Streak, took off Saturday morning with 95 motivated participants.

The crowd included youngsters (in strollers) of 4 months to adults of 71 years of age.

The event, sponsored by DFS Saipan Limited honors the memory of P. Thomas Picarro who was the Saipan Division president from 1979 until his untimely death in 1993.

All participants received a commemorative T-shirt or tank top, as well as a bag of goodies from DFS.

Mrs. Clara Picarro also provided prizes for the 1st male and

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Top junior tennis stars dominate UMDA meet

THE CNMI's top junior tennis players asserted their dominance over the weekend, capturing the most sought after junior titles of the year in the UMDA 1996 CNMI Junior Tennis Championships.

Seventeen year old J.J. Richardson wore down rival Jun Javier with a relentless barrage of attacking strokes to accrue the boy's 18 and under trophy for the second consecutive year. Javier looked poised and in

control for much of the first set before the constant pressure applied by Richardson began to take its toll. Javier led 4-3 with a game point to take a commanding lead before Richardson charged back to take the match 6-4, 6-2.

At the same time thirteen year old Hiroe Fujimoto, who has established herself as a force to be reckoned with in the women's ranks, belted blistering ground strokes off the forehand and backhand sides to derail the bid of the

elder Arisa Sakai.

Sakai, who at seventeen was the director of her first tournament, was kept off balance throughout the match before going down 6-4, 6-2 to Fujimoto.

Action in the 14 and under top division saw second seeded Raff Sohn upset top seed Alex Lee (13) to take the crown 7-5, 6-4.

Among the girls Min Ji Kim continued her ascendance with a 6-3, 6-3 victory over a hard play-

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Pettitte keys Yankee victory over Indians

NEW YORK (AP) - Andy Pettitte pitched five innings to win his fifth straight start and move into a tie for the league lead with 11 victories, sending the New York Yankees to a 5-4 win over the Cleveland Indians.

Pettitte (11-3) joined Cleveland's Charles Nagy as the AL's only 11-game winners. The left-hander gave up six hits and three runs, and needed help from three relievers to close out the Indians, who trailed 5-0.

After Cleveland pulled to 5-4 in the eighth, John Wetteland came on with runners at first and second, and

struck out Julio Franco to end the inning. Wetteland earned his 18th save.

Tino Martinez drove in three runs as the Yankees earned a split of the four-game showdown series between AL division leaders.

Manny Ramirez hit a three-run homer for the Indians, but Dennis Martinez (8-4) allowed eight hits in 3 2-3 innings.

Twins 4, Tigers 1

In Minneapolis, Rick Aguilera won his first game as a starter since

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Becker, Edberg set sights on Wimbledon tournament

By STEPHEN WADE

LONDON (AP) - Boris Becker and Stefan Edberg are back on grass, cracking serves and crashing the net - a sure sign Wimbledon is just days away.

The two old rivals, with parallel careers and five Wimbledon titles between them, look like threats to win Wimbledon again after playing a virtually even match Sunday that Becker won 6-4, 7-6(7-3) in the final of the Queen's grass-court tournament.

This is the most important warm-up for Wimbledon - and Becker and Edberg played that way. Becker's serve was on, his backhand was murderous - and only a player with Edberg's savvy could have stayed with him.

The 28-year-old Becker has already won the Australian Open this season,

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Holmes ends boxing career with KO win

By STEPHEN HAWKINS
BAY ST. LOUIS, Mississippi (AP) - Larry Holmes, a 46-year-old grandfather and one of boxing's great champions, ended his 23-year career with an eighth-round knockout of Anthony Willis in his 70th pro fight.

At the insistence of his family, Holmes is retiring, insisting that this was indeed his last fight. So he chose a bout at Casino Magic, where he fought eight times since 1993 on Sunday, celebrated in the United States as Father's Day.

After toying with his opponent for more than seven rounds, the former heavy-weight champion delivered a definitive right hand to Willis' temple 1:13 into the eighth round of the scheduled 10-round.

It was the 42nd career knockout for Holmes, who ended his career with a 65-5 record. All the losses were in championship bouts.

The customary scowl was on his face, but Holmes still managed to play to the crowd and flash smiles after exchanges of blows with Willis. At the end of the fourth and fifth rounds, after taking a series of body shots, Holmes grinned as the bell

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