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**MAKE THIS THE YEAR OF WOMAN IN POLITICAL CONTROL: Senate President Lorraine Berry hard at work Monday, the first day in the life of the new 22nd Legislature. Earlier that day, Sen. Berry taught her male counterparts a lesson or two in political brinkmanship. She outsmarted, outmaneuvered and outplayed her politically challenged opponents by invoking a resolution to keep her Majority in power.**

*AVIS photo by HOPE REEVES.*

# Schneider to tax ATM users; crack down on delinquent real estate taxes

Governor Roy L. Schneider has asked the body of the 22nd Legislature to consider several bills he has forwarded to its membership which he said he considers to be of significance in reducing the government's deficit.

The Governor said that the first Bill is designed to Increase the Territory's cash flow by allowing of the Securitization of delinquent Real Estates Taxes. He added that the same matter was presented to the 21st Legislature on numerous occasions by members of the administration.

The Governor said that the second Bill would provide for a Transaction Fee for the use of Automatic Teller Machines.

"These Bills are but one part of our efforts to enhance our Treasury by bringing in more revenues to assist this Government in meeting its legal obligations," Governor Schneider stated in his transmittal letter to Senate President Lorraine L. Berry.

The Third item, the Governor said, will increase the bond cap for the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority.

"For the past year, WAPA has been developing plans to improve the reliability of water and power production in the Virgin Islands. We must provide the funding for capital system improvements now so that these territory-wide projects could be in place prior to the start of the next Hurricane Season," the Chief Executive noted.

Governor Schneider added that the increase will provide the Authority with the funds it needs to carry out other projects to complement the plans to bury major electrical lines.



Roy L. Schneider

This will be of great benefit to us not only in improving the environmental aspects by removing major overhead wires, but in increasing time time frame within which electrical power could be restored after a severe storm." Governor Schneider said.

The Governor concluded by noting that the favorable passage of this bill is essential since prior bond issuances have exhausted the existing bond ceiling.

# Governor tightens control; calls for sweeping reforms

Gov. Schneider forwarded several recommendations to the members of the 22nd Legislature during his state of the territory address on Monday night. One such piece dealt with the wrongful discharge of employees. If adopted, the "Virgin Islands Employment Termination Act," would replace the current "Wrongful Discharge Act."

"This proposal defines important terms and conditions, sets out the standards under which an employee could be terminated, protects the Rights and Claims of Employees wrongfully Terminated, lists the circumstances under which an employee could not be terminated, provides remedies to employees in termination cases, and most importantly, provides for Arbitration and Mediation. In addition, the bill provides for increased penalties for violations of the statute, and greater Oversight and Enforcement Powers to the Commissioner of Labor In Wrongful Discharge Cases," the governor stated.

The governor also submitted for the consideration of the members of the 22nd Legislature a Bill to Amend act No. 6069, as corrected, to establish additional permitted uses and conditions to accommodate Casino Gaming establishments.

The governor noted that the essential purposes of these House-Keeping Amendments are to ensure a more investor-friendly atmosphere. This bill would eliminate duplicitous Zoning Procedures, clarify Duties and Responsibilities between the Casino Commission and the Division of Enforcement, permit a more prudent use of Personnel, streamline the work of the commission, and provide technical corrections to the Tax Code to allow for better enforcement by the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue.

The Chief Executive has also submitted a recommended bill to amend the Virgin Islands Code, pertaining to the Medical Examiner's Office. The Governor has said that this proposal would place jurisdiction of the Medical Examiner positions under the medical examiner and provide for direct control by the Attorney General of investigations conducted by the medical and Deputy Medical Examiners.

Governor Schneider also submitted recommended legislation which would increase the penalties for violating the provi-

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*Rough Road Ahead For Burke Page 3*

*Simpson Puts Blame On Nicole Page 10*

*Gays Oppose ID System Page 16*

*Police Charge Woman Back Page*

# Education Board shirking its responsibilities yet it wants more power, says Benjamin

By ANGELA BORCHERT
Avis Staff Writer

While the V.I. Board of Education continues to vie for governance of the territory's public education system, St. Croix Federation of Teachers President Cecil Benjamin remains wary of the board's ability.

"They do have certain authority currently and they have not been using all of the powers that they have right now," Benjamin said. "I have a problem with that. If they have not been able to utilize all the powers that they currently have, why are they seeking more power to control the whole Department of Education?

"They have the right by law to oversee the management of the federal funds coming in the territory for education, and they have not been doing that. This is a lot of authority. They are responsible for certifying employees in the department, and most of the employees are not certified at this point."

Board of Education Executive Director Evadney Hodge said teacher certification criteria was recently revised by the board and sent to the Department of Education. Certification policy revisions include:

- people cannot enter the school system unless they are certified for the positions they will hold
- incoming teachers must be computer literate
- kindergarten through third-grade teachers must have bachelor's degrees in early childhood education
- teachers must submit self assessment plans, in which they determine their weaknesses and how to address them, in order to be recertified

Hodge said all V.I. public school teachers will be certified by Nov. 30, 1997.

Regarding the review of federal funding, "We have been unsuccessful in that endeavor," Hodge said. "For the past two years we have been working with the Department of Education trying to get information so we can actually start monitoring the federal funds. We have not been able to get the information that we need in order to review that expenditure. Now, we will no longer discuss. We will get it through other means."

According to Benjamin, the V.I. Education Department accounts for a quarter of the government's manpower - about 3,000 employees - and operates with a budget of more than $120 million per year.

"[Given] the amount of employees there, the amount of funding in the department, it is difficult for any politician to give up all that power to the Board of Education," said Benjamin. "I don't see how they're going to do it. That's a lot of authority there.

"But objectively and realistically, we in the AFT would prefer to deal with the Board of Education as a separate entity, providing they have all of the funds," Benjamin said. "If the board cannot be given the funds to manage the Department of Education, then it should be abolished.

"They want to be operating similarly to boards in the United States, in full control of funding, management, governance. But in the U.S. school districts, the Boards of Education raise their own revenues to pay for education services through property taxes, sales tax. They are totally independent. They run the system. They have the funds to do so."

In the Virgin Islands, the Board of Education depends on the money from the executive budget to run the public school system. Hodge said foresees no problems in accessing the money if the board takes over.

"We would need to examine the composition of the board and the qualifications of members running for the board, if we give them the authority to manage all the funds," Benjamin said. "You can't have any Tom, Dick and Harry sitting on the board and then give them $120 million."

"The system would be changed completely," Hodge agreed. "When we take governance authority, we'll have the entire staff of the Department of Education to work with. We are not taking it in isolation. It is implicit that a new system be worked out in order to accommodate that."

Members of the 13th electoral Board of Education sworn into office on Jan. 9, 1997 are Charles W. Turnbull, chairman; Yvonne H. Williams, vice chairman; Harry A. Daniel, secretary; and members Kwame Garcia, Donna Frett-Gregory, Gerald E. Hodge Sr., Keith E. Richards, Eulalie C. Rivera and Patrick N. Williams.

Hodge said the board members met in the Allegiance Hotel through the afternoon of Jan. 12 to develop a "comprehensive action plan" outlining the board's ultimate goal of assuming all the duties of the Education Department, as stated in the V.I. Code.

One tactic was to develop the following action committees, each charged with specific missions: teacher certification; legislative and federal government liaison; rules and regulations; school plants and facilities; curriculum and bilingual education; parental involvement and public relations; and financial aid.

# Commemorative march to mark MLK holiday

The local holiday celebration of the life and accomplishments of civil rights leader, Martin Luther King, Jr. will be steeped with youthful participation.

On Monday, Jan. 20, hundreds of young people from schools and community groups across the island of St. Thomas will gather for a commemorative march starting at Rothschild Francis Market Square at 9:00 a.m.

The march will proceed up Main Street and culminate with a special program at Emancipation Garden at 10:00 a.m. The entire community is invited to participate in the march and view the exciting program.

This year's theme is "Make Real the Dream: Frame the Vision for the 21st Century." Virgin Islands marchers, challenged with this theme, will sing "We Shall Overcome;" some will carry banners and others will be riding upon a float. The 1991 celebration of the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday will prove to be both educational and illuminating.

Youthful celebrants for the program at Emancipation Garden include the choirs of Charlotte Amalie and Ivanna Eudora Kean High Schools, along with Addelita Cancryn and Bertha C. Boschulte Jr. High Schools. A small gospel group called Chosen will also render a musical selection.

In addition, there will be poetry readings by students of Sts. Peter and Paul High, Addelita Cancryn Jr. High and Ivanna Eudora Kean High Schools One of the major guest speakers for the program will be Senate President of the 22nd Legislature of the Virgin Islands, Lorraine L. Berry.

The local commemoration will also blend with national celebrations. The program will incorporate a national bell ringing ceremony.

Precisely at 1:00 p.m. bells around the U.S. Virgin Islands will ring simultaneously. The bell ringing will coincide with the national bell ringing which occurs at 12:00 noon eastern standard time.

The event is being organized by the Department of Tourism's Special Events Division. For further details please contact Audrey Callwood or Ana Bertrand at 774-8784.

# How To Cut Fuel Cost

Avis Staff Writer

Rising gasoline prices on St. Thomas and St. John may have a pronounced effect on the local economy, according to Virgin Islands Energy Office Director Alicia Barnes James.

"The average resident in the territory consumes about 330 gallons of gasoline annually for transportation and other purposes," said James.

Based on the survey released by Licensing and Consumer Affairs, gasoline prices in 1996 averaged about 40 cents more for St. Thomas/St. John compared with St. Croix. This 40 percent differential for gasoline means $6.8 million in added expenses for consumers and businesses on St. Thomas and St. John.

James emphasized that this money leaves the territorial economy because all petroleum products consumed here are imported.

"Using the Virgin Islands Energy Office Jobs and Economic Impact model, which is a stool developed to analyzed the impact of energy on territorial economy, the higher gasoline prices mean that the economy lost about 140 jobs in 1996," said James.

She linked the job loss to the employment that would have been created had businesses and consumers spent their money on other goods and services, rather than for more costly gasoline.

James encouraged motorists in the territory to follow guidelines developed to maximize fuel efficiency.

"For every mile per hour over 55, the average vehicle loses almost two percent in fuel economy. The Energy Office is advising motorists to drive at a moderate speed, usually between 35 to 45 mph," said James.

Motorists should also not idle their automobile engine for longer than 30 seconds.

"We have found that motorists obviously get no fuel efficiency while their car is idling and that driving slowly for the first few minutes is a much more efficient way to warm up a vehicle," said James.

Motorists should keep their tires inflated to the manufacturers highest recommended level. Driving on under-inflated tires dramatically shortens the life and wastes approximately one mile per gallon of gasoline.

"We recommend that tire pressure be checked every two weeks while tires are cold," said James.

Motorists can contact the Virgin Islands Energy Office at 772-2616 for additional tips on fuel efficiency.

# *Sewage spill under control*

By ANGELA BORCHERT
Avis Staff Writer

After an extended line failure, Public Works employees fixed the Campo Rico sewage station. Public Works Commissioner Ann Abramson said the task was accomplished by cleaning 4,650 feet of sewage line.

"Through the cleaning process we were able to remove many years of build-up of internal pipe scaling, sludge and major grease deposits that appeared to have been the major cause of the discharge line clog," Abramson said.

The overflow of waste water experienced around Campo Rico since Nov. 22, 1996, resulted in increased bacterial levels. Due to possible health risks, the public was advised to stay out of the sea water at Frederiksted Beach and White Bay, west to Sandy Point, and in the areas surrounding the Campo Rico station until further notice.

The Department of Planning and Natural Resources is responsible for testing the water for safe bacterial counts.

For more information, call PWD Utilities Director Edsel Hansen at 773-1290, ext. 263, or the DPNR commissioner's office at 773-1082.

# 4th quarter tax deadline

By ANGELA BORCHERT
Avis Staff Writer

The deadline for fourth-quarter tax payments for 1996 passed at 5 p.m. yesterday.

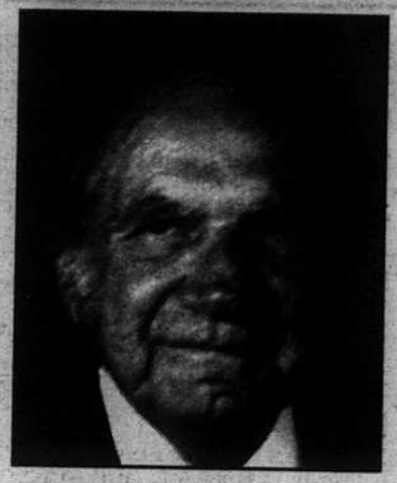
Taxpayers who failed to pay their estimated taxes on time are now subject to penalties for the delinquent quarter. But there is an exception.

"If a taxpayer files form 1040 or 1040A for 1996 by Jan. 31, 1997, and pays the outstanding tax balance in full with the return, the taxpayer is not required to make the estimated tax payment for the fourth quarter of 1996," said V.I. Internal Revenue Bureau Director Joanne Bozzuto, who warned residents not to use this payment option as an excuse to procrastinate.

"The fact that a taxpayer anticipates filing his return by Jan. 31, 1997, and subsequently fails to do so does not constitute a reason to waive the estimated tax penalty for failure to make the fourth quarter payment on a timely basis," Bozzuto said.

While many taxpayers still owe the government, others are beginning to receive their 1994 tax refunds in the mail. IRB officials have not said when 1995 refunds will be distributed.

For more information or assistance deciphering the tax payment requirements, call the IRB's Office of Chief Counsel at 773-1040, ext. 226, on St. Croix or 774-5865, ext. 249, on St. Thomas.



Sidney Lee

## Another view of the Senate opening

By SIDNEY LEE

The press particularly in St. Thomas reported the new senate opened in 'chaos' this past Monday, Jan. 13, - highlighting some expected divisiveness. Actually the swearing-in was very stately taking place in a pagoda erected in the garden of the legislature in St. Thomas.

There was a formal program with the presentation of the colors. Gov. Roy Schneider and Lt. Governor. Kenneth Mapp gave remarks. The anthem and V.I. march was played and Chief Territorial Judge Verne Hodge administered the oath of office to the 15 elected representatives.

Two formal session to organize the new legislature immediately followed in the Senate Chambers.

Sitting in the President's chair Sen. Lorraine Berry called the session to order. All the newly elected senators were in their assigned seats as were the officers to be of the new majority of the Senate. All senators were in previously assigned seats with chairs available along side for family members. All the members realizing the majority was in effective control took their places.

This was orderly with no pushing or shoving that would ordinarily be considered any kind of chaos.

Senator Berry called the session to order and immediately offered a resolution naming the officers, and committee chairman. On a roll call vote the resolution passed with all eight members of the proposed majority voting yes.

Members of the newly designated minority wanted to object and were chagrined that Sen. President Berry occupied the chair and presented the motion. The objection had no real substance. The rules of the past legislature don't govern a new legislature. Having the past president call the session to order would have been chaotic delay with long points of order made follow by rulings of the choice and then vote to sustain or upset the ruling of the chair.

There are several ways used in the past to begin a new ses-

See LEE, Page 39

# Hansen says she and three senators will be Burke's biggest obstacles

By HOPE REEVES
Avis Staff Writer

Sen. Alicia Hansen Monday offered her successor the best of luck as majority leader, suggesting anyone in that position will certainly need it.

"If (Sen. Carol) Burke feels she can take on Celestino White and *Sen. (Adelbert) Bryan*, then it's time for me to step back because she must be damned good," said Hansen.

Hansen was stripped Friday of her position as majority leader when she and Sen. David Jones were tossed out of the coalition. While she claims losing that post was for the best, Hansen suggested yesterday Burke may not be equipped to handle it.

"This is a position no one would have talked me into as a freshman - as a matter of fact, I waited for my sixth term to accept the position of majority leader," said Hansen. "One must be fully knowledgeable of the issues, understand their colleagues, especially the senior ones, and understand that a lot of maneuvering takes place on the floor that can't be learned in any book."

According to the veteran St. Croix senator, Berry chose Burke because she could shape and mold her, because she wanted someone she could "speak through." Berry, said Hansen, wanted someone who would carry out the president's agenda, not her own.

"(Berry) demonstrated that clearly (Monday)," said Hansen. "When Sen. White requested the budget allotments through the chair to the majority leader, Sen. Berry responded. Sen. Burke spoke for seven minutes and the president spoke for 35, carrying out the role of majority leader. You must be extremely strong to stand up to Sen. Berry in caucus and then come out and do your job for the people."

Sens. Stephen Frett, White, Bryan and Hansen herself will be Burke's biggest obstacles, said Hansen.

Burke admitted Monday the position of majority leader would be a "true challenge," but said she felt confident she could rise to the occasion.

"It's not going to be easy, but if I remain focused and committed, I know, from the bottom of my heart, the truth will set us free," she said. "In the interests of the people and in an effort to promote the betterment of the Virgin Islands, we must all work together."

Burke said last night she took heart in the support of her colleagues, noting their confidence in her character and leadership ability was telling. The "naysayers," she said, will always be there to criticize.

"Before accepting the position, I thought it through," said Burke. "I know there are certain unknown elements that I face, but I have faith and every confidence in myself. I've looked at the Legislatures over the years and how they interact, and I've been able to see things the players cannot see. I think that's to my advantage. Time will tell."

It was not in her interest that she accepted the position, but in the interests of St. Croix, she said, adding, "I accepted majority leader so that the position could stay on St. Croix."

Sen. Jones said yesterday he, for one, wouldn't be thorn in the new majority's side. Even though he was expelled from the current majority, the senator noted he held no allegiance to his minority colleagues and had no intention of waging war against the majority.

"I intend to continue working on behalf of all the people, whether I'm in the majority or the minority," he said. "I don't intend to be an obstructionist or impede progress and I will work with all 14 of them to move the agenda forward."

Though he didn't attack the majority directly, Bryan didn't offer the impression Monday he would be easy to work with this term. In fact, he ridiculed the "foolish and ignorant" promises to work together made by his colleagues.

"It's not we must work together, it's you must work with us," he said, directing his comments to the non-natives in the group. Bryan pointed out that when a person goes to "Arkansas," or anywhere else, he must do business the Arkansas way, not try to transform the system to fit his own style.

"I'm here and you may not agree with me," he continued. "But I will make a big difference in the Virgin Islands. ... I would not be here if the voters didn't want me here. You cannot contain me."

Before concluding his commentary, Bryan launched a scathing attack on the media and outsiders, accusing the "cabals" and "Sanhedrins" of corrupting Virgin Islands society.

## *Minority senators await budget allotments*

By HOPE REEVES
Avis Staff Writer

Sen. President Lorraine Berry has yet to release budget allotments to minority senators, despite repeated promises to get the information out expeditiously, said Sen Hansen yesterday.

"As of 5:10 p.m. today (Tuesday), I had received nothing, verbally or in writing, indicating the allotment had come," said Sen. Hansen. "I really don't care what it is, $200,000 or $10,000, just let me know."

Sen. David Jones, also a member of the eight-member minority, said yesterday he's received no word either.

Hansen noted that her concerns over funding were for her staff, not herself.

"I have people working for me today who don't know if they'll have a job tomorrow," she said. "It's not fair to them, or to any other senators in the minority, not to know what they're operating under."



Sen. David Jones



Sen. Alicia Hansen

Requests for minority budget allotments were made by Sen. Celestino White during Monday's organizing session and by Hansen several times Monday and Tuesday.

White, majority leader of the 21st Legislature, brought to the floor rumors minority senators would receive allotments of $150,000, versus the $450,000 going to members of the majority. To this, Sen. Berry responded, "Don't judge me on your standards of the 21st Legislature."

When asked about the procedure used to divvy up the Legislature's annual budget, both Hansen and Jones claimed there was none.

"There's no formula per se, its a function of what the individuals in the majority caucus decide they want to give us," said Jones. "To the victor goes the spoils, so to speak."

Sen. Berry could not be reached for comment last night.

Members of the majority include: Sens. Berry, Miguel Camacho, Carol Burke, Roosevelt David, Adlah Donastorg, Holland Redfield, Judy Gomez and Vargrave Richards. Minority members are: Sens. Hansen, Jones, White, Adelbert Bryan, Stephen Frett, Almando Liburd and Allie-Allison Petrus.

# Harvey: It's only a rumor, Davila has not been fired

By HOPE REEVES
Avis Staff Writer

Widespread rumors Police Commissioner Ramon Davila was dismissed are just that - rumors, said Police spokesman Venetia Harvey yesterday.

The AVIS checked up on numerous calls from officers claiming Davila had become another casualty of Schneider's alleged cabinet firings and discovered the reports were false.

Davila himself refused to comment on the matter, diverting any inquiries to Harvey.

Janette Millin, Government House senior public information officer, said yesterday she'd also heard nothing of Davila's ouster and Naomi Joseph, president of the Police Benevolent Association, chalked the reports up to "talk." "Ramon is here," said Joseph. "He's in the building, he's in his office doing his job. Any rumors he's out are probably just like what they were saying about (Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs Commissioner Vera) Falu." Political insiders say that Falu, Labor Commissioner Lisa Harris-Moorhead and Property and Procurement Commissioner Alvin Davis will be leaving their Cabinet posts soon.

# Travel forecasters: Business travel reaches plateau

**By KAREN SCHWARTZ**
**AP Business Writer**

NEW YORK (AP) — The number of business trips has reached a plateau, and the head honchos, not the foot soldiers, are more often on the road.

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This winter, about 59.5 million business trips are forecast — the same as last year, the Travel Industry Association of America said. And while the number of trips remains the same, fewer people are taking them, meaning those who do travel do so more often.

The leveling off of business traffic could be because companies are increasingly watching expenditures as the cost of travel rises.

"When airfares go up, there's a tendency to explore your options," said AT&T spokesman Burke Stinson.

But the plateau also might be the result of technology, which has allowed people to meet via telephone and video conference, and to communicate using e-mail.

"The clarity of the thinking within electronic mail can move a project along sometimes at a faster pace than a lot of schmoozing" in person, Stinson said.

In a trend that has developed over the past few years, TIA, a trade group that promotes travel, said it appeared more business trips were being taken by people with higher incomes, possibly because corporate downsizing cut out many middle managers who previously did the leg work.

"With the demographic shift of who is traveling, it's the bigger spenders" on the road, said TIA spokeswoman Shawn Flaherty.

TIA surveyed 1,500 adults in late October about their plans for business or convention travel over the winter, when about 20 percent of all work-related trips are traditionally taken. The survey had a margin of error of three percentage points.

Among the findings:

—Eighteen percent of travelers said they were very or somewhat likely to travel on business this winter, a decrease of four percentage points from last winter. At its peak, 27 percent expected to travel in the winter of 1992.

Likewise, the number of travelers who said they were unlikely to travel this winter for business reached a high of 80 percent. That's an increase of four percentage points from last year, and compares with a low of 72 percent in the winter of 1992.

—A third of those expecting to hit the road were professional or managerial employees, and 30 percent of travelers were from households with incomes of at least $50,000.

—Nearly two-thirds of the trips were expected to be taken by solo travelers.

At AT&T, Stinson said there was no clear change in the number of upper managers who were traveling. While the New Jersey-based telecommunications company has been downsizing some departments, it has expanded others.

## Financial Market Report

January 14 - Stocks tallied solid gains Tuesday, boosted by lower long-term interest rates and optimism about the outlook for inflation and corporate earnings.

On Wall Street the Dow Jones industruial average was up 53.11 points at 6,762.29, surpassing Monday's record close of 6,709.18.

Broader measures were posting strong gains as well, drawing a boost from an early rally in the bond marked.ogressed.

**DOW JONES INDUSTRIAL AVERAGE**
**6,762.29 +53.11**

Companies that employ Virgin Islanders

| Stocks | Clo. | Cha. | Stocks | Clo. | Cha. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AA | 85 | +1 1/8 | Woolworth's | 21 1/4 | +1/4 |
| Amerada Hess | 60 3/4 | -1/8 | | | |
| American Exp. | 16 | -1/4 | **Other companies of V.I. interest:** | | |
| ATNI | 58 1/4 | +11/4 | AmericaOnLine | 39 5/8 | +1 5/8 |
| AT & T | 38 7/8 | +1/4 | Berk. Hathaway | 34,700 | +1400 |
| Chubb Corp. | 56 | +1 7/8 | Boeing | 107 | + 1/4 |
| Chase Bank | 89 3/4 | +2 1/4 | Bristol Myers | 118 5/8 | +2 5/8 |
| Coca Cola | 55 | +1 | Home Depot | 51 | unch |
| GM | 607/8 | +3/4 | IBM | 167 | +3 |
| Kmart | 11 | - 1/8 | Intel Corp. | 147 1/8 | +1/4 |
| Little Switz. | 4 7/8 | +1/16 | Microsoft | 85 | +1 13/16 |
| McDonald's | 44 1/4 | -1/8 | P. Morris | 115 3/8 | +5/8 |
| Tod Hunter | 8 3/4 | unch | PNC Corp. | 383/4 | +7/8 |
| Wendy's | 21 1/8 | -1/8 | | | |

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|---|---|---|
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| FULL SIZE BED B/M | $249.00 | $139.00 |
| QUEEN SIZE BED B/M | $299.00 | $249.00 |
| KING SIZE BED B/M | $399.00 | $299.00 |
| DRESSER W/MIRROR | $499.00 | $299.00 |
| 4-DRAWER CHEST | $199.00 | $ 99.00 |
| NIGHT STAND | $ 99.00 | $ 49.00 |
| PANEL HEADBOARD | $149.00 | $ 79.00 |
| 5 pc. BEDROOM | $899.00 | $599.00 |

| | Was | Now |
|---|---|---|
| Complete BEDROOM w/Queen Bed | $1,499.00 | $1,099.00 |
| Rattan 3 pc. Living Room | $1,099.00 | $ 899.00 |
| Rattan Table w/4 Chairs | $699.00 | $499.00 |
| Table w/4 Chairs | $299.00 | $149.00 |
| 15 cu. ft Refrigerator | $799.00 | $599.00 |
| 18 cu. ft Refrigerator | $899.00 | $699.00 |
| 20" Gas Stove | $399.00 | $299.00 |
| 30" Gas or Electric Stove | $599.00 | $399.00 |
| 9 cu. ft. Chest Freezer | $599.00 | $399.00 |
| Ex- Large Capacity Washer | $599.00 | $439.00 |

## Soldier pleads guilty to Fayetteville killings

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — A Fort Bragg soldier has pleaded guilty to assault charges in connection with the 1995 shooting deaths of two black civilians.

In a plea bargain with prosecutors, Randy Lee Meadows agreed Monday to testify against Army Pvts. James Burmeister and Malcom Wright. The two men are charged with first-degree murder in the deaths of Jackie Burden and Michael James.

Jury selection in Burmeister's trial is scheduled to begin next week. Wright will be tried later.

Prosecutors claim that the three men, all members of the 82nd Airborne Division and white, drove to Fayetteville on Dec. 7, 1995, in search of blacks to harass.

After Ms. Burden and James were shot, Meadows drove off, leaving Burmeister and Wright behind, prosecutors say.

Police have said the two were killed because they were black.

The shootings prompted an Army examination of racism and extremism in the ranks. Investigators concluded there was little evidence of racism in the military.

## Dennis Rodman leads Blackwell's Worst-Dressed Women's List

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cross-dressing basketball bad boy Dennis Rodman led Mr. Blackwell's 37th Annual Worst-Dressed Women List, a roll-call of fashion misfits that included Glenn Close, Helen Hunt and Goldie Hawn.

The acid-tongued Blackwell, who was designing dresses for the rich and famous when he originated the list in 1960, annually skewers celebrities in what he says is an effort to encourage fashion consciousness. This year he included a man, Rodman, for what he said is the basketball star's bad habit of dressing in drag.

"In fishnet and feathers, he's a unisex wreck," Blackwell said in unveiling the list yesterday.

Blackwell had praise for some celebrities. Gwyneth Paltrow, Lauren Bacall, Madonna, Fran Drescher, Whitney Houston, Chelsea Clinton, Bette Midler, Winona Ryder, Sharon Lawrence and Christine Baranski were hailed as "fabulous fashion independents."

The worst dressed list:

1. Dennis Rodman
2. Glenn Close
3. Lisa Kudrow
4. Helen Hunt
5. Goldie Hawn
5. Diane Keaton
6. Sarah, Duchess of York
7. Elizabeth Shue
8. Drew Barrymore
9. Claire Danes
10. Lori Petty

# Commuter plane's engine replaced days before crash

By BURT HERMAN

DETROIT (AP) — The right engine of the Comair twin-engine turboprop that crashed in a snowstorm had been replaced five days earlier during regularly scheduled maintenance, the company said yesterday.

Asked whether that was a factor in the crash, Comair Inc. spokeswoman Meghan Glynn said: "No. But I can't comment further."

All 29 people aboard Comair Flight 3272 died Thursday when the Embraer 120, en route from Cincinnati, nose-dived into a field 18 miles from Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

The pilot apparently shut down the right engine during the flight. Investigators have said the three controls used to shut the engine down — switches and levers in different areas of the cockpit — were found among the wreckage in the "on" position.

It isn't known whether the crew or the force of the crash engaged the controls, but the corresponding controls for the left engine were not activated and there was no sign of in-flight fire in either engine, investigators said.

The Kentucky Post reported yesterday that Comair replaces engines in those airplanes every 11,500 hours. Ms. Glynn said the replaced engine had not logged 11,500 hours yet, but she didn't know the exact number.

In Monroe, county medical examiner Dr. David Lieberman said workers had recovered remains of all the victims from the crash and identified three-quarters of them. He said he hoped to identify the rest by tomorrow.

National Transportation Safety Board investigators at the crash scene yesterday transferred wreckage to a building where they will try to piece it together to help figure out what went wrong.

Flight recorder and cockpit voice recorder information released Monday night indicated an apparent stall warning 17 seconds before the crash, signaling a possible loss of lift. The craft nose-dived and rolled, then crashed. Pilots had reported no engine or system trouble, the NTSB said.

The recorder information released Monday night showed that the flight appeared routine for most of the trip from Cincinnati.

Thirty-eight seconds before the crash, the plane was traveling at 192 mph and was leveling off at 4,000 feet with the wings level, the autopilot on and the landing gear and flaps up, NTSB spokesman Paul Schlamm said.

The plane then started turning left and for five seconds the autopilot attempted to compensate, but the plane kept turning for 12 seconds, the angle increasing and the nose dropping despite autopilot compensation, he said.

By 17 seconds before the plane went down, the recorders indicate that it slowed to 167 mph and underwent "a rapid upset in roll and pitch," Schlamm said.

Within a five-second span, he said, the plane's nose went from three degrees up to 50 degrees down, and inside two seconds the plane's 40-degree left bank had increased to a nearly inverted, 146-degree angle, he said.

Investigators said it was still too early to speculate on what caused the crash, and that engine failure and pilot error were just two areas being looked at.

"We go in with an open mind and look into everything," said NTSB spokeswoman Shelly Hazle.

# Inmate found wandering around bus station

By CASEY COMBS

PITTSBURGH (AP) — When a babbling, seemingly deranged man was picked up in a Texas bus station, medical workers ignored his claims that he had escaped from prison in Pittsburgh.

"Nobody really took the guy seriously," said Larry Johnson of Houston's Ben Taub Hospital. "These people always see people who claim to be who they're not: Visitors from Mars or the CIA."

Thomas Berkelbaugh, however, was exactly who he said he was: one of six inmates who used power tools to tunnel under a maximum-security prison wall and up through an outside warehouse last week. The others remain at large.

Berkelbaugh, 48, sentenced to 10 to 20 years behind bars for armed robbery, was high on amphetamines and talking to himself when he was spotted wandering through a downtown Greyhound station early yesterday, police said.

A guard called an ambulance, and Berkelbaugh was taken to the hospitals emergency room around 2a.m. He became visibly angry when staffers ignored his claims that he had tunneled out of the State Correctional Institution at Pittsburgh with five other inmates last week.

He gave social workers the phone numbers of family members to confirm his story.

"They made the obligatory call somewhat skeptically," Johnson said.

Berkelbaugh waived extradition yesterday, and two troopers flew to Houston to bring him back and ask him where the other five escapers, including two convicted killers, might be, said state police Commissioner Paul Evanko.

A stolen car that police believe the escapers took from a moving company near the prison was found in Dayton, Ohio. Police said the car had been in the parking lot since at least Friday night.

The escape was the fourth time since 1905 that inmates have dug a tunnel under the prison wall, state Corrections Commissioner Martin Horn said yesterday.

The prison will remain in lockdown, with inmates confined to their cells, until officials decide the building is secure, he said.

## Balloonist heading across Atlantic in transglobal attempt

CHICAGO (AP) — Sweeping along on powerful — and brutally cold — jetstream winds, millionaire adventurer Steve Fossett headed across the Atlantic yesterday on his quest to become the first balloonist to circle the Earth nonstop.

The 52-year-old Fossett, who lifted off from Busch Stadium in St. Louis on Monday night, was over the Atlantic Ocean 120 miles east of the North Carolina coast by yesterday afternoon and said all was well despite overnight problems with one of two heaters.

"The heater went down for a little bit, but it went back up," said Bo Kemper, project manager of the flight. "Steve is fine. He seems very upbeat. The weather looks promising to Portugal and Spain."

To succeed in his one-man mission, the softspoken Chicago securities dealer must spend 15 to 18 days in his chilly Solo Spirit capsule just 4 feet wide and less than 6 feet high. Temperatures of 40 degrees were expected inside the capsule and 50 below outside.

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EDITORIAL

# The intent of black English

What the Oakland district did has been misunderstood at least by some. The district did not decide to teach black English to students, nor did it decide to discontinue teaching standard English. What it decided to do was to teach black English to faculty members so they could better communicate with their students. That in itself doesn't seem to me an unreasonable thing to do.

Second, in the tradition of contemporary America, the district decided to take a run at the federal treasury by calling it a second language. Bobbing for federal funds is the norm among local governments these days, and the only surprising thing is that the federal government turned the district down.

There is, of course, no such thing as black English or white English or brown English. There are only two forms of standard English—American and British. There are several variations of nonstandard English, usually called dialects, which are a combination of incorrect pronunciation, incorrect grammar and slang.

There is nothing racial or genetic about the dialect of black kids. Black kids can speak and write standard English just like white kids— provided, of course, they are, also like white kids, taught it and encouraged to use it. And white kids can speak the black dialect. Having grown up in the rural South with black people, I can speak black dialect, though my slang would be out of date.

I really wish people would be as supportive of teaching standard English as they are outraged by the subject of black English. If I were a teacher, I'd be tempted to say, "Yeah, right, you people out there ignore the Hades out of the classroom until you decide to fabricate some controversy."

If I were a member of the Oakland school district, I'd say to non-Oakland residents, Where was your abiding interest in our efforts to educate our children before this topic came up? Nonexistent, that's where, so butt out."

Teaching English is the single most important task of American secondary education. Thinking and communicating are human beings' principle means of survival. We think and communicate in our native language. The more precise our knowledge of the language, the more precise our thinking and communication. The more precise our thinking and communication, the easier it is for us to solve problems.

Except for hermits, every aspect of human life— friendship, family, courtship, marriage, parenting, work, religion and politics—depends on communication.

It's possible for a person to learn to add, subtract, multiply and divide, and succeed in life with no more instruction in math than those elementary skills. But it is far more difficult for a person to succeed who cannot read, write and communicate clearly in standard English. Thus any child leaving high school deficient in English language skills has been handicapped, and the taxpayers who paid for his education have been defrauded.

But two more points need to be gleaned from this incident. We have to stop picking fights with each other. There are too many people in this country—journalists, demagogues, talk-show hosts and people widening their rear ends in academia and in think tanks—who have nothing to do all day but argue. And they will argue about anything, with or without knowledge of the subject. We need to focus on solving problems, not on winning arguments.

Second, let's learn to respect boundaries. Educating children in Oakland is the responsibility of the people in Oakland. Where does someone 2,000 miles away, relying only on secondhand information, get off telling the people of Oakland how to run their public schools?

CHARLEY REESE.

# Education can be key to abortion solution

Dear editor:

I would like to respond to the editorial "How Abortion Divides Our Country" that was submitted by Mr. Charley Reese and printed in the *Avis* on January 11, 1997.

**ABORTION IS SAD REALITY**

This is a rebuttal to Charley Reese's editorial in which he expounds on how abortion divides our country. Society has always been "brutish, violent and corrupt", it hasn't just recently "become" that way. History is our testimony. There are many sad realities of life; no one wants war, no one wants assisted suicide or euthanasia, no one relishes the idea of capital punishment, institutionalization, or Justifiable homicide.

And no, Mr. Reese, no one wants abortion. Life is full of agonizing decisions. Even though we may not agree with other peoples' opinions, beliefs, and choices, our country is built upon the right and freedom to make choices.

Civilization is segmented and compartmentalized, it has been the past, it is now and it will always be. Man has always justified the loss of life for the betterment of society. There are degrees of right and wrong and our children need to be educated as to when and why they are applicable. Laws are in place in an effort to do just that. Yes, there are contradictions in our laws, but as you know, there is very little that is black or white.

I think we can all agree that abortion is not good, but I also must say that I strongly oppose illegalizing it. There is an equally ugly flip side to your argument. I don't like the idea of forcing women to have babies. I don't like the idea of desperate women killing themselves in an effort to terminate a pregnancy. I don't like the idea of babies that birth mothers don't want. I can't imagine the questioning and prosecuting of women and physicians whenever a pregnancy ends in anything but a living baby. But here I go "dividing the country" again.

I don't agree with you when you say that there are only two possible outcomes when people can't arrive at a consensus; war or separation. There is a third, it's called compromise. In this case education can be the key to a solution. The more we teach people about sex and contraception the fewer unwanted pregnancies we'll have. Wouldn't it be the ultimate ideal if abortion were legal but unnessary? Imagine what a great accomplishment to our society that would be. Maybe then you could turn your attention to illegalizing guns....

Sandra Sanford

# *Chase defends its new banking hours*

Dear editor:

We read with dismay the Letter to the Editor in your Thursday, January 9th issue, titled Chase Bank crushing its loyal customers.

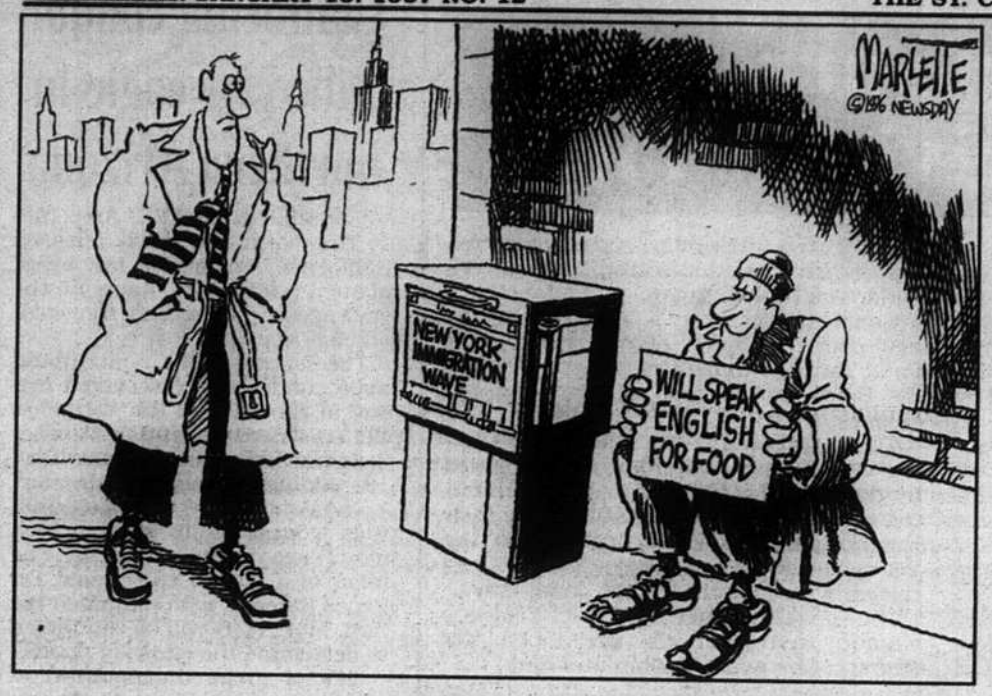
We feel that Chase is the leader in providing convenient, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year banking services to Virgin Islanders. in addition to our two branches, one of which is now open until 6 p.m. on Friday nights to meet the need of working customers, we have five Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) located throughout St. Croix. Many of these are accessible 24 hours a day and provide our customers with the convenience of being able to perform many banking functions at any time of the day or night, every day of the year. These include the ability to make deposits, transfer money between accounts, make loan and utility payments, and withdraw cash. Many customers of other banks also appreciate the convenience of our ATMs, and we are happy to provide this service for them. An additional machine is being installed in the Sunny Isle Pueblo store now and will be operational soon.

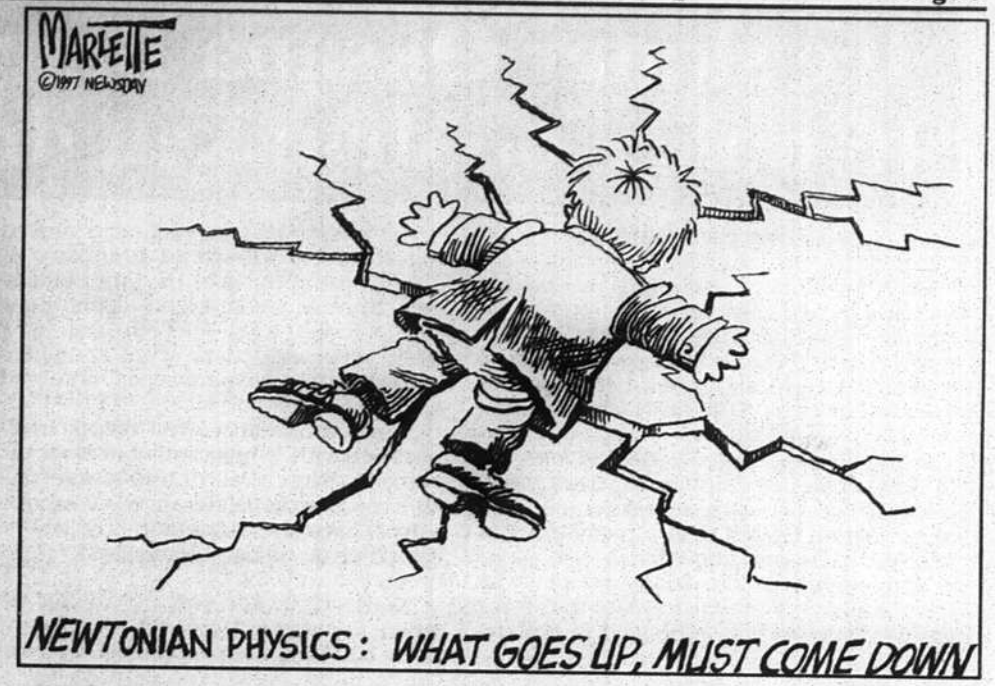
We're disappointed someone is unhappy about our change of Orange Grove branch operating hours and we sincerely hope that all our customers will continue to bank with us enjoying the convenience of all the innovative automated banking features that we are pleased to be able to bring to the Virgin Islands, now and in the future.

Jim Houlahan, Chase Bank, Eastern Caribbean Group Executive.

Mary Javery, Chase Bank, St. Croix Island Manager.






# Newt and Hillary: Strange bedfellow

**BY CHRISTOPHER MATTHEWS**

WASHINGTON - Newt Gingrich and Hillary Clinton find themselves the unlikely bedfellows of the New Year. While they spent their adult lives moving in opposite ideological directions, their political predicaments are now strangely the same.

Both face ethics questions over matters the general public, and most reporters, find murky. In the speaker's case, he is accused of using tax-exempt funds for a highly partisan, made-for-TV college course he once taught, and for giving inaccurate statements to the House Ethics committee. In the First Lady's case, she is being investigated for her legal work in an ancient land deal, and for some possibly inaccurate testimony about her role in the firing of White House travel office staff four years ago.

But in neither case, I hope readers on both sides will agree, do the alleged or investigated crimes match the degree of national passion that's been aroused. In both cases, the two stand guilty not so much of ethical infraction as of political miscalculation.

It is for their militance, not their morality, that both have been targeted by their enemies, given the cold shoulder by their political friends.

Newt Gingrich is the one currently in the spotlight. This coming week should, by all historic counts, have been a triumph for him. The Georgian stands to be the first Republican to retain the speakership through two elections since the 1920s. Like sill Clinton, the first Democratic president re-elected since FDR, his career is already one for the record books.

But that long view must be of little consolation to a man now fighting for his political life. To save his position, Gingrich has had to publicly admit and apologize for his infractions. He faces the further ignominy, perhaps later this month, of a formal vote of reprimand by the entire House of Representatives. As noted in an earlier column, he will be introduced to 100 million TV viewers on State of the Union night as a man whose ethical conduct has been singled out for public rebuke by the same body that elected him its speaker.

The First Lady's plight, while not so dramatic at present, is equally inglorious. A woman who arrived in the capital four years years ago with sky-high public approval and enormous influence in her husband's administration now stands deep in Whitewater with independent counsel Kenneth Starr circling her like a shark.

Anyone who doubts Mrs. Clinton's fall from power and grace should take a hard look at the White House staff now surrounding the president. Harold Ickes, the deputy chief of staff who shared her ideology and protected her interests, has been fired without pity. The new chief of staff, Erskine Bowles, the man who got the job Ickes wanted, could not be less attuned to Mrs. Clinton's brand of liberal policy activism. The head of White House domestic policy is a veteran of the decidedly centrist Democratic Leadership Council.

In the case of both Newt Gingrich and Mrs. Clinton, their current punishment is less calibrated to their ethical conduct than it is to their political militance. Gingrich made the mistake of stopping the government last year and of threatening the Medicare benefits of middle-class Republicans. Mrs. Clinton made the mistake of making lots of middle-class voters nervous that Big Government was getting ready to meddle in their health insurance.

By posing a threat to the great middle class, the first lady and the speaker became the Enemy No. 1 of the political opposition and Problem No. 1 of their political allies.

Their first resort was to hide. You had a better chance of spotting the faces of Gingrich or Mrs. Clinton on the side of milk carton in the weeks before the November election than on a paid TV ad.

Now, each in turn are paying the political price of putting ideology and militance ahead of shrewd, safe politics.

# Why we need to fast

**BY BENAZIR BHUTTO**

**VIEWPOINT**

Every year for a month, Muslims fast. From sunrise to sunset, unless ill, all Muslims abstain from any kind of food or drink

The month of fasting, which began last week, is a time of meditation and reflection. It's a month for special communion prayers, of slowing down the rush of everyday activities and getting together.

Many religions observe a form of fasting. Christians observe Lent, while Yom Kippur is the Jewish time. Even Bhuddists fast, as the famous statue of the fasting Buddha at Lahore Museum shows.

Our month of fasting is called Ramadhan. I remember as a teen-ager I would rush to join my father in the small garden outside his room just as the sun began to set. The whole family would gather to hear the siren that signaled the end of the day. We would break our fast with a date and water, and then dig into special spicy goodies. I look back on that period with nostalgia — a period of warmth and closeness with family.

All day, we would wait for the sun to set, feeling weak and tired as dusk approached. Once the night had come, we felt a tremendous sense of elation — a sense of the soul being cleansed and of being closer to God. It was a peaceful, harmonious weariness that never left us with strength to argue, debate or quarrel.

I think all human beings should take the time to fast, pausing and recalling the blessings of God. During the year, we eat when we are hungry and drink when we are thirsty. We take for granted what God has blessed us with. We do not pause to think of those who are not as fortunate as we.

So many parts of the world face famine and poverty, and in so many places, drinking water is scarce. In the rush of life, we often forget how lucky we are for having one basic needs fulfilled.

But in the month of fasting, the rich and the poor, men and women are alike. In this, a message of equality is spread.

The importance of self-control and discipline is acknowledged through the act of fasting. It teaches us to resist this basic urge for a cause higher than ourselves: devotion to our Creator.

Islam emphasizes six aspects of fasting. The first of these is to control oneself. We are taught to resist temptation and overcome desire. All appetites are brought under control. Not only the objects of desire but desire itself must be forgotten. This is the way of the Mystics — a path of self-denial, simplicity and abstinence.

The second important facet of the fast is control of our utterances. Backbiting, anger and lying are tantamount to breaking the fast. Even if someone seeks a quarrel, one should reply, "I am fasting," instead of striking back.

The third important lesson is to speak and hear no evil. Listening to slander is as much a sin as to speak ill of others. Today, we have libel laws to prevent slander and safeguard against character assassination. But there would be no need for such laws if we evolved a human value system to respect and accept each other with our strengths and failings.

The fourth aspect is contemplation — to still the buzz of one's mind and concentrate it on prayer. This act has a profound physical effect: It reduces stress and hypertension, making people healthier. Thus, rituals of religion promote a healthy person, family and society.

The fifth facet is to remember God through acts of charity. Too often, we forget that the very verses of the Holy Book that summon us to prayer also tell us to be charitable. For a more advanced society, for a more caring society, it is important for us not to forget this. Muslims are called upon to give 2.5 percent of their income as assistance to the poor and needy. Widows, orphans and less affluent relatives should receive our help.

Finally, the sixth-lesson of the fast is a prohibition of corruption. It is a sin to break the fast at sunset with something that is not lawfully earned.

There is a famous episode in the life of the Second Caliph Hazrat Omar. It was the practice of Hazrat Omar to walk around the capital at night to know the state of his people and share their joys and sufferings. One night, he overheard a mother telling her daughter to mix water in the milk they sold, as it would bring more income, which would help amass her dowry. The daughter resisted her mothers instructions, despite the elder woman's insistence that no one was watching. "God is watching," the daughter replied, and her conscience was answerable to God.

The meaning of the fast is to make us aware that we are never alone, that we are forever in the presence of God with our conscience as our guardian. The month of fasting is a mirror in which we lay bare our soul to God.

After the fast ends, we have a celebration called the Eid. It's a time of joy and gaiety, dressing up, buying baubles, distributing sweets and putting up lights. My son and daughter plan to keep a fast this year, although I didn't instruct them to. This means Eid will be extra special for us.

Unfortunately, the fast also reminds me of how imperfect we people are. As soon as the month is over, we forget all the important messages of conscience, charity and control. We join the rat race with everyone, pushing and shoving others to climb up the slippery slope of success. We neglect our friends, our family and ourselves to meet the demands of work.

Perhaps that is why we need the fast. It pulls us back and makes us pause, forcing us to become better human beings — even if it is just for one month.

# Ice skater Oksana Baiul surrenders to police on drunken driving charge

By CHRISTINE HANLEY

BLOOMFIELD, Conn. (AP) — Oksana Baiul, the Ukrainian who skated to Olympic gold in 1994, surrendered to police yesterday on charges she drove drunk and recklessly when her Mercedes went off the road in an early morning crash.

Baiul, who received 12 stitches for a cut to her scalp in Sunday's wreck, was released on her own recognizance soon after turning herself in at a police station. No court date was immediately set.

"I apologize to the many people who have supported me in the past and I ask their understanding," she said in a statement.

The wispy 19-year-old, who moved to the Hartford suburb of Simsbury soon after winning the gold medal in Lillehammer, Norway, had a blood-alcohol level of .168 percent after she crashed her car while returning home from a night out, according to a hospital report obtained by The Associated Press.

Someone is considered drunk in Connecticut with a blood-alcohol level of .10 percent. The legal drinking age is 21. Under a new zero-tolerance law, underage drivers face the automatic suspension of their license if the blood-alcohol level is greater than 0.02.

Baiul was a few miles from her home when her green Mercedes skidded more than 100 feet, then veered off the road at about 2:30 a.m. Sunday. A passenger, fellow Ukrainian skater Ararat Zakarian, 30, suffered a broken finger.

Concern for Baiul's well-being was heightened as news of the accident filtered through Simsbury, a second home for Baiul and several other Ukrainian skaters.

Those gathered in the cafe at the skating center early yesterday were angered by the arrival of TV crews, some exhibiting protective parental instincts for their international star. Baiul, orphaned by the death of both her parents, has been raised by her coach, Galina Zmievskaya.

"She's so lost, that little girl," said one woman instructor as she laced her skates. "She needs a mom and dad."

# California condor killed by eagle in northern Arizona

VERMILION CLIFFS, Ariz. (AP) — The death of a newly released California condor will not affect plans to introduce more of the endangered birds into the wild, officials say.

The carcass of the 7-month-old male condor was discovered Friday at the base of the Vermilion Cliffs, where it and six other fledgling birds were released Dec. 12, wildlife officials said Monday.

The condor had a single puncture wound in its skull, which may have been caused by the talon of a golden eagle, said Dr. Bruce Rideout, who examined the bird. More tests will be conducted to determine the cause of death.

"It's a great disappointment and somewhat of a setback, but when you're involved with the restoration of an endangered species, you have to anticipate some mortality," said Bill Burnham, president of the Peregrine Fund, a conservation group working with the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Scientists said the bird — known as Number 42 — often roosted alone and failed to form social ties with the others, making it vulnerable.

The condor took a six-day foray away from the rest of its flock but was captured by a field crew and returned to the Vermilion Cliffs. The bird was rereleased into the wild on Dec. 27.

The remaining condors appear healthy and have developed a tight social unit, making them less vulnerable to predators, Burnham said.

Last month's release of the condors marked the first time the birds have flown in Arizona since 1924. The birds are equipped with radio transmitters and tags on their 9-foot wings that allow their flights to be tracked by a field crew based at the Cliffs.

Field crews put calf, deer and elk carcasses out at night for the birds, moving the carcasses farther and farther away from the Vermilion Cliffs, to which the birds have been returning, and toward the Grand Canyon.

The scavengers eventually will learn to find carrion for themselves and are expected to be soaring over the Grand Canyon within the next two to six months.

Humans shot, poached and poisoned California condors until only nine birds remained in the wild in 1985. A decision was made to bring all the remaining birds into captivity and the last wild condor was captured in 1987.

# Girl disembowled by pool drain will get $30.9m

By KIM GAMEL

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — A girl who was disemboweled when her bottom became pinned to the drain of a kiddie pool will receive $30.9 million under a settlement announced Wednesday.

Most of Valerie Lakey's small and large intestines were sucked out in the 1993 accident, and the girl, now nine, must spend at least 11 hours a day being fed intravenously.

A state jury Monday awarded the family $25 million in compensatory damages, the biggest personal-injury verdict in North Carolina history. The jury was to begin deciding whether to award punitive when the maker of the drain cover, Sta-Rite Industries of Delavan, Wis., agreed to a settlement.

"It was in the best interest of Valerie to get the medical expenses taken care of immediately," said family attorney John Edwards.

Sta-Rite will pay $25 million, while other parties, including Wake County and Medfield Area Recreation Club, agreed to pay $5.9 million.

Valerie, then five, was playing in the recreation club's wading pool in Cary when she became stuck against the drain cover. Her father, David, and three other adults could not dislodge her, and turning off the pump failed to ease the pressure.

The Lakeys argued that Sta-Rite failed to put sufficient warnings on its drain covers. Sta-Rite contended the cover was installed incorrectly.

The president of Sta-Rite said he felt it best to settle rather than go through a long appeal.

"This was a terribly tragic accident, and we feel great sympathy for Valerie Lakey and her family," James C. Donnelly said. "However, we also believe Sta-Rite was not responsible for what happened. Proper use of our product would have prevented the accident."

Edwards said similar accidents killed a California child in 1974 and another North Carolina child in 1981.

"This hazard exists in public swimming pools everywhere in the United States," he said.

# Jurors deliberate whether ABC should pay up to $1.9 billion

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Jurors deliberated yesterday whether ABC should pay as much as $1.9 billion to Food Lion for an undercover, hidden-cover report that alleged the grocery chain sold rotten meat.

Food Lion denied the 1992 "PrimeTime Live" story, but the lawsuit challenged only ABC's methods. The jury last month found ABC producers committed fraud and trespass by lying on supermarket job applications to get their hidden cameras inside three stores in the Carolinas.

Jurors deliberated for 5 1/2 hours yesterday, then went home without reaching a verdict. They were due back in court Wednesday morning.

The jury gave Food Lion $1,402 in compensatory damages to cover the cost of hiring and training the producers. The company asked jurors to award between $52.5 million and $1.9 billion in punitive damages.

ABC's lawyer said the jury didn't have to award punitive damages at all because the network had learned its lesson.

The jury — which began deliberating just before 10 a.m. — must determine whether the defendants consciously broke the law. ABC employees, including "PrimeTime Live" anchorwoman Diane Sawyer, testified that the undercover probe was approved by ABC's lawyers and executives and they thought it was legal.

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# Tips from "The Drug Store"

## Do Cholesterol-Lowering Drugs Cause Cancer?

**By Joe and Teresa Graedon, Ph.D.**

**Q. Is there any possibility that cholesterol-lowering drugs like Mevacor could cause cancer? My doctor wants me to take it, but when I looked Mevacor up in the PDR I noticed a mention of tumors in animals and that scares me.**

**I have a friend who takes Lopid for high cholesterol. Would it be safer?**

A. The food and Drug Administration has left us all in the lurch. The official package inserts for the most popular cholesterol-lowering drugs (Lopid, Mevacor, Pravachol, Zocor) warn of carcinogenicity in animals. The feds don't tell physicians or patients how to interpret this information.

An article in the Journal of the American Medical Association (Jan. 3, 1996) discusses this question and points out that "...humans are exposed to doses similar to those that cause cancer in rodents." Whether this means there is a hazard, however, has not been determined. The authors of the JAMA study suggest that such drugs should be prescribed only for people at high risk of heart disease.

We are sending you our Guide to Cholesterol and Heart Health, which summarizes the benefits and risks of medications used to lower cholesterol and describes non-drug alternatives.

Anyone else who would like a copy may send $2 with a long (No.10) stamped, self-addressed envelope to Graedons' People's Pharmacy, No. C-125, P.O. Box 52027, Durham, NC 27717-2027.

According to the JAMA review, niacin and cholestyramine (Questran) may be safer, although they have more side effects.

**Q. Is it true that hypothyroidism can make people clumsy? This seems totally bizarre to me, but I was told that my klutziness might be due to an inactive thyroid gland.**

A. The only accurate way to diagnose a sluggish thyroid gland is with a blood test. One symptom of hypothyroidism is altered reflexes. For some, that may manifest as clumsiness or slow movements.

More characteristic problems include constipation, dry skin, cold intolerance and fatigue. Swelling around the eyes, excessive menstrual flow, slow pulse, brittle fingernails and hair loss are also typical. If you have several of these symptoms, you should schedule a visit with your doctor. Hypothyroidism is correctable with synthetic thyroid hormone.

**Q. I am in my early 30s and concerned about increasing male pattern baldness. I have been a product in my pharmacy that contains the same ingredient as Rogaine but at half the price.**

**Can you tell me what minoxidil is and how it works? Is it a hormone? I am interested in side effects and the likelihood that I will experience benefit.**

A. Rogaine (minoxidil) used to be available only by prescription, but now can be purchased off the shelf either by brand name or in generic form. Originally developed as an oral medication for high blood pressure, minoxidil is not a hormone. Scientists have not yet unlocked the secret of exactly how minoxidil works, although it may improve circulation in the scalp, enhance DNA synthesis or enlarge hair follicles.

Minoxidil stipulates hair growth in about 30 to 40 percent of men. It works best in people whose hair loss is mild to moderate. A new study found that it is possible to boost the effectiveness of minoxidil by combining it with tretinoin (the ingredient in Retin-A).

Adverse reactions to topical minoxidil are unusual. Itching and skin irritation are the most common.

* * *

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Write to them in care of this newspaper or e-mail to PHARMACY@mindspring.com.




GARY SCHUMACHER
Owner of
The Drug Store
V.I. Licensed Pharmacist
& Community Activist

The Drug Store

*The cold & flu season is here with a vengeance and will be through March. We can't guarantee that you won't get "the bug" but we can provide you with information that will make you less likely to catch it. We will run this series for the next couple of weeks. You can stop in either drug store and pick up a complete copy.*

1). WASH GERMS AWAY Colds and flu spread in two ways according to Jack Gwaltney, M.D., Professor of internal medicine at the University of Virginia and has studied colds for more than 30 years. His studies show that the most common transmission route is hand to hand or hand to object. The RHINOVIRUS, which causes half of the 200 varieties of colds, can live on objects for days. It takes just one or two microscopic viral particles in your eye, nose or mouth to start an infection. Numerous studies show frequent hand washing is one of the best ways to thwart the two to four colds adults average every year. (Children get up to 12). Cold and flu viruses also spread by aerial assault; coughs or sneezes propel airborne droplets into the air. The best way to keep germs grounded is to sneeze or cough into tissues and promptly discard them.

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# Globe agrees to return crime-scene photos in tiny beauty queen slaying

By STEVEN K. PAULSON

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — A supermarket tabloid that ran crime-scene photos of slain 6-year-old beauty queen JonBenet Ramsey agreed yesterday to return the pictures, along with two others it didn't publish.

In return, Boulder County agreed to drop a lawsuit that sought to block The Globe from publishing any more of the crime-scene photos, said Mike Kahane, a lawyer for the tabloid.

The weekly *Globe* ran five photos in the issue that hit newsstands on Monday. The photos show a garrote — a cord-wrapped stick that might have been used to strangle JonBenet — and a rope around one of her wrists.

Whoever leaked the pictures could face theft charges, authorities have said. An investigation is under way into how the *Globe* obtained the photos.

Kahane said that under the agreement, "we deny all wrongdoing, we deny all liability." The 1.3-million-circulation tabloid based in Boca Raton, Fla., also reserves the right to republish any of the photos that it ran Monday, and to publish any material it obtains in the future, he said.

The paper will return two other crime-scene photos that it obtained but did not publish, Kahane said.

Madeleine Mason, deputy county attorney, said the county was more concerned with two photos that *The Globe* did not run because authorities did not know what they showed.

The agreement was "the best way to resolve the issue," she told a news conference yesterday.

Police and County Coroner John Meyer have said publication of the photos could damage the investigation by revealing details known only to the killer and police.

"They were stolen from my office," Meyer said of the photos. "No matter what the source was, it's stolen material."

Meanwhile, *The Globe* announced it will match the Ramseys' $50,000 reward for information leading to arrests in the killing of JonBenet, 1995's Little Miss Colorado.

JonBenet's body was found in the basement of her home Dec. 26 after her mother reported finding a ransom note on a stairway. Police said the girl was strangled but would not confirm reports she was sexually assaulted and her skull fractured.

Six people who work for the coroner's office or the photo lab that processed the crime-scene film have taken polygraph tests and more are scheduled, Sheriff George Epp said.

McNeill declined to comment on Newsweek and ABC reports that semen was found near JonBenet's body and that DNA tests were being done.

Meanwhile, John and Patricia Ramsey have hired former FBI agent John Douglas, the inspiration for an investigator in "The Silence of the Lambs," to investigate their daughter's death.

The Ramseys previously hired attorneys, private investigators and a spokesman, Pat Korten. Korten declined to say what Douglas' role will be.

"The detectives are conducting their own investigation, and that's the way it should be," Korten said. "But when we have information that would be valuable for their work, we share it with them."

# Simpson puts his credibility against his ex-wife's

By LINDA DEUTSCH

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — At his civil trial, O. J. Simpson has employed some of the same themes that got him acquitted of murder: claims of conspiracy, corruption and contamination of evidence.

But a new "C" has been added — credibility. Simpson has pitted his credibility against that of Nicole Brown Simpson, asking the jury to believe his tale of a blissful marriage and reject her claims of abuse.

The most crucial new elements were Simpson's own testimony and photographs that were either unused or unavailable during the criminal trial.

"This case may very well come down to a photo finish," said Loyola University Dean Laurie Levenson, who has been observing the trial. "Which pictures do you believe?"

The defense rested yesterday after 39 witnesses and 14 days of testimony. The plaintiffs started calling their rebuttal witnesses immediately. Closing arguments in the wrongful-death case are scheduled for next week.

Just before Thanksgiving, when confronted with a photo of him apparently wearing Bruno Maglis — the same kind of shoes that made tracks around the bodies of Ms. Simpson and Ronald Goldman — Simpson branded the picture a fake. Earlier he said he would never wear such "ugly-ass" shoes.

Over the Christmas break, the plaintiffs came up with 30 more photos appearing to show Simpson in the same shoes. Confronted with the pictures, Simpson testified: "I didn't wear those shoes."

"Do you have any explanation for why all these photographs show you wearing those shoes?" plaintiffs' attorney Daniel Petrocelli asked.

"No," Simpson said.

Johnnie Cochran Jr., who headed Simpson's Dream Team in the murder case, said he was troubled by the pictures.

"We didn't have those in the criminal case, and the question is quite simply whether they're legitimate, whether the photographs are fakes or they're legitimate. And only the jury is going to make that decision," Cochran told a Boston radio station.

The defense fought back with its own startling photos — of the bloody gloves. One picture showed an apparent hole in a crime scene glove — a hole nowhere visible on the glove given to the jurors. Defense attorney Robert Baker suggested there had been a sinister switch.

Then there were the bloody crime scene photos. Defense forensic wizard Henry Lee held up his magnifying glass and showed jurors a new trail of seven blood drops leading away from the scene. This supported a two-killer theory.

"The defense managed to raise some mystery, which never hurts," Levenson said. "You have to give them credit. They didn't roll over and die after the Bruno Magli shoe pictures."

The defense's secret weapon, of course, was Simpson and his much-vaunted charisma. He didn't testify at his murder trial, and his first turn on the stand in November was under hostile questioning by the plaintiffs.

But Friday, under friendly questioning, it appeared he would charm his way through. Simpson portrayed himself as a loving husband mystified by his wife's mood swings in the final months together.

"I felt I had to distance myself from Nicole," he testified, and insisted it was she who persisted in trying to win him back.

Simpson was relaxed and confident under questioning from his own lawyer. He looked frequently at the jurors, speaking as if confiding in them. At one point, giving his version of a golf course argument the day of the killings, he conversationally set the scene: "I know you don't know much about golf maybe, but he sculled his third shot over the green. It was a par five."

Simpson seldom smiled. But jurors chuckled with him when Baker asked: "Now, at that time, you were a relatively wealthy man, were you not?"

"At that time, yes," Simpson said.

Baker continued: "That's before you met a lot of lawyers?"

Simpson replied: "Yes. Now there's a lot of wealthy lawyers."

Up until then, Simpson was a charismatic enough witness that jurors could be inclined to overlook what he actually said, said Peter Arenella, a law professor at the University of California at Los Angeles.

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# Venezuelan general charged as two-timing smuggler proclaims innocence

By CATHERINE WILSON

MIAMI (AP) — Venezuela's former anti-drug chief is accused of smuggling cocaine under the CIA's nose while he was working for the spy agency on counter-narcotics missions.

But a defense attorney called it an embarrassing case in which interagency rivalries kept the CIA from telling the Drug Enforcement Administration what was going on, resulting in the loss of a ton of cocaine to the streets.

"There was deliberate hiding by the CIA. They deliberately hid the facts from the DEA," attorney Frank Rubino said yesterday. He has been consulted by Gen. Ramon Guillen Davila and represents Adolfo Romero Gomez, Guillen's co-defendant and top civilian aide in the Venezuelan national guard.

When word of the investigation leaked three years ago, people wondered who were the spies and who were the smugglers. Guillen worked closely with both the CIA and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration but also had strong ties to Colombian drug organizations.

A CIA agent admitted he tolerated cocaine deals by Guillen to keep intelligence channels open, and Guillen and the CIA agent had sexual relationships with two female DEA agents, The Associated Press learned in 1993.

In the aftermath, one CIA officer resigned, the agency's chief in Venezuela was recalled to Washington, and the two DEA agents left the drug agency.

"All of the activities that Guillen's been charged with in the indictment, the DEA did not sanction," said agency spokeswoman Pam Brown.

The CIA declined comment on the indictment and repeated statements issued in 1993 saying allegations of an agency role in cocaine smuggling were untrue.

Guillen, who lives in the outskirts of Caracas, Venezuela, proclaimed his innocence, charging he was being made a scapegoat over the cocaine lost in Miami.

Guillen led a CIA anti-drug program targeting Colombian cartel leaders. But he, Romero and smuggling suspect Jesus Hernandez were charged in an indictment unsealed Monday with conspiracy to smuggle cocaine into the United States from 1988 to 1992.

A grand jury issued the charges in February 1996, but the indictment was kept secret until Romero was extradited from Colombia and appeared in federal court Monday. He is being held without bond, and arraignment is set for Jan. 21.

Although some cocaine shipments purportedly carried U.S. authorization, Romero's extradition papers charge an unsanctioned 1,000-pound shipment reached the United States in November 1990.

"We don't dispute that that shipment came to the United States," Rubino said. "It came at the request, protection and behest of the CIA."

Guillen acknowledges his unit shipped 2.3 tons of cocaine to the United States in undercover operations targeting Colombia cartel leaders, but he denies reports he shipped up to 22 tons of cocaine to the United States.

He said he has worked with 18 countries in the anti-drug fight, but "I've never had a problem with any country, except for the authorities in Miami."

Guillen said he has DEA documents that prove all of the cocaine he handled arrived in Miami and the disputed shipment was beyond his control when agents lost it.

"I never sent cocaine to the United States without some kind of control" by U.S. authorities, Guillen said Tuesday. "Not a single gram of cocaine was lost."

He said he is willing to face trial in Miami if and when he can come up with the money to hire an attorney. The United States is powerless to bring him to Miami because Venezuela does not extradite Venezuelan nationals.

The case already has generated a familiar cast of characters.

Rubino represented deposed Panamanian leader and CIA operative Manuel Noriega, who is serving a 40-year prison term in Miami for protecting Colombian cartel shipments. Noriega's prosecutor, Michael "Pat" Sullivan, also is handling the Guillen case.

If prosecuted, Guillen could face a life sentence on the conspiracy charge. Romero and Hernandez face two life terms on charges of conspiracy and cocaine distribution.


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# Astronomers find stronger evidence of supermassive black holes

By PAUL RECER
AP Science Writer

TORONTO (AP) — At the center of nearly every large galaxy in the universe there may be a super massive black hole igniting gas clouds to the hottest temperatures known and sending nearby stars spiraling into new paths, according to a new study.

An international team of astronomers says new observations by the Hubble Space telescope show the "celestial fingerprint" of three black holes, including one a half-billion times more massive than the sun. A survey of 15 other galaxies revealed preliminary evidence of 14 more black holes.

The discoveries are the strongest observational evidence yet for black holes, an exotic and elusive object first predicted by Albert Einstein in his theory of general relativity. Until recent years, no black holes had been found.

"The mystery hasn't been solved yet, but we are convinced we have found the body," said Scott D. Tremane of the Canadian Institute for Theoretical Astrophysics and a member of a team of black-hole hunters.

"Einstein's relativity theory is correct," said one astronomy slide. "Cosmic vacuum cleaners are real."

The black-hole studies were presented Monday at a meeting of the American Astronomical Society.

Perhaps the most violent and powerful points of energy in the universe, black holes form when matter gathers at a single place, often from a collapsing, massive star. This point, drawing in more and more matter, becomes so dense that nothing can escape, not even light. It becomes black and unseen. Anything caught up in its center is removed forever from the rest of the universe.

"Black holes," said Ralph Narayan of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, "are the ultimate victory of gravity."

To find evidence of the galactic black holes, the astronomers analyzed the motion of stars and superheated gas near the center of galaxy clusters 50 million light years from Earth. The extreme velocity of the stars showed they were being towed by a powerful gravity force.

From these observations, the astronomers could calculate the mass of the object sucking in its neighbors. One black hole, in the constellation Virgo, was estimated at 500 million times more massive than the sun. The other two were 100 million and 50 million times the sun's mass.

"There is something there, it weighs a lot, it is completely dark and we can't think of anything else it could be," said Tremane.

The force of a black hole's gravity is so great that whole stars nearby are pulled into spiral paths. Gas whirls about the center at such speeds that it sears to temperatures unknown anywhere else and bursts bright with energy. A black hole cannot be seen, but its effects on nearby stars and gas clouds are highly visible.

An international team of astronomers that conducted the black-hole search said the findings suggest:

—Supermassive black holes are common, dwelling in the center of nearly every large galaxy, including the Milky Way.

—The mass of a black hole is proportional to the host galaxy. The larger the galaxy, the more massive the black hole.

Doug Richstone of the University of Michigan, leader of the team, said the galactic black holes may be "fossil quasars," or the remnants of a special type of star that collapsed after 100 million years or so.

Quasars, now rare, once were the most luminous and energetic objects in the heavens. Those that have been studied are the most distant and oldest objects in the universe, said Tremane.

"They are so powerful that it defied our thought to find a way to fuel them," said Tremane. "The only viable source would be an in-fall of material into a supermassive black hole."

Quasars, he said, have a limited lifetime, "but black holes go on forever."

Though the black holes are voracious in their gravitational appetites, Tremane said, they will never swallow whole galaxies that have millions of stars.

"It is a very inefficient cosmic vacuum cleaner," he said. The throat of the black hole is so small and galaxies so huge, that only about 1 percent of the galactic matter will ever be consumed, he said.

Narayan and his group at Harvard-Smithsonian report discovery of a less powerful stellar black hole, thought to have formed from the collapse of a smaller star.

In a study of an X-ray nova, the group concluded that gas is being pulled from a star by its nearby companion and the gas is being heated to more than a trillion degrees and is spewing X-rays.

Only about 1 percent of the energy released is radiated outward and the rest disappears across an "event horizon," a gravitational sphere that is the "point of no return" surrounding a black hole.

"The region inside the event horizon is completely cut off from the outside world forever," said Narayan.

## BIOGRAPHY OF CAPTAIN LYNETTE F. ORTIZ



Lynette F. Ortiz was born on April 2, 1969 on St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. She attended St. Mary's School, a private Catholic school in Christiansted from kindergarten to the 8th grade. While attending St. Mary's, Lynette participated in several sports activities to include Volleyball, Softball and Track and field. While in the 7th grade, her Jr. Varsity Softball team won First Place Honors in the school's district. Lynette also earned several ribbons and medals for competing at several of the school's Track and Field meets. Upon her graduation in 1983, Lynette was chosen the Best Female Athlete of the Year.

After graduating from St. Mary's, Lynette attended the John H. Woodson Jr. High School. She was to be a part of the school's second graduating class. While at John Woodson, Lynette decided to concentrate on her studies and it was at that point that she decided to eventually attend college. She excelled in areas such as Science, English, and Industrial Arts. That year she graduated with honors and took the stage as the Class Salutatorian.

Lynette finished out her education at St. Croix Central High School. Her last 3 years there were filled with achievements and controversy. During her years at Central High, Lynette was inducted into the National Honor Society and the Spanish National Honor Society. She also received awards for Science and Math achievements. In her spare time, Lynette tutored several subjects at the Spanish Honor Society's Tutorial Center and was a volunteer Special Olympic's group Leader during the games held at the Hess Oil Refinery Track and Field Center. In addition, Lynette worked as a part-time bookkeeper at The Lobster Hole Restaurant in Princess. During her tenure at Central High, the school was under much criticism for its overcrowdedness and the school's overall physical condition. Lynette participated in a student protest about these issues and wrote a letter to the St. Croix Avis which received much public attention. She also expressed concern over the government's decision to create a new Jr. High over a new High School. The culmination of her campaign came when she delivered the Salutatory Address to the C.H.S. Class of 1987. Her riveting speech brought her entire class of over 600 students to their feet. She left St. Croix hoping that the decision makers in the government had taken notice of the plight that C.H.S. students faced on a daily basis.

In the 1986-87 school year Lynette joined the Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (JROTC) Cadet Battalion under the leadership of LTC (Ret) Robert McKenzie. It was there that she was introduced to the opportunities of the U.S. Army. While in the Battalion, the unit received the Superior Unit Gold Star. She made it to the rank of Sergeant and received the Superior Cadet award for Class Level 1. After her graduation, Lynette was invited to attend the U.S. Army ROTC Basic Camp for Region 6 at Ft. Knox, Kentucky. After Basic Camp Graduation, Lynette was awarded a 2 yr. U.S. Army ROTC Scholarship to attend Georgia Military College in Milledgeville, GA. There she joined the 109th Cadet Battalion with her classmates Jeanette Santos and David Browne. Lynette graduated as a Distinguished Military Student and received her Commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserve. She also attained Associated Degrees in both Military Science and Physical Science.

In 1989, Lynette began her studies at San Diego State University in San Diego, CA. She decided to pursue a degree in Aerospace Engineering. She also began working at the Post Exchange at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, CA. It was there that she met her current husband Paul T. Marbley, a Navy Religious Programs Specialist. While at SDSU, Lynette was inducted into the Sigma Gamma Tau National Aerospace Engineering Honor Society. She also received a scholarship from the Minority Access to Energy Related Careers (MAERC) Foundation sponsored by the Department of Energy. As a MAERC Student, Lynette participated in an internship program at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory in Idaho Falls, ID. There she did research in the Nuclear Propulsion Field and published AAS/AIAA Paper 93-110, A Cost Analysis of a Nuclear Propulsion Engine. In addition, Lynette managed to join the Minority Engineering Program, National society of Black Engineers, The Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, AIAA, and Society of Women Engineers. Lynette managed to make the Dean's List twice and graduated in 1993 with a B.S. Degree in Aerospace Engineering specializing in Space Propulsion Mechanics.

In August of 1993 Lynette was called to Active Duty as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army's Air Defense Artillery Branch. She was to become a PATRIOT Officer and attended the PATRIOT Officer Basic Course at Ft. Bliss, TX. She married Paul in December of 1993. Upon completing OBC, Lynette reported to her first duty station, Ft. Hood, TX. There she became a Platoon Leader for D Battery, 4-43 ADA. She was named Honor Graduate for the first class of Air Battle University, a training program for the officers of 4-43 ADA. Lynette was quickly advanced to Battery Executive Officer and served her unit well. As a "Delta Dog", Lynette had her first and only child, Ariel M.Marbley in October 1994. In May 1995, 4-43 ADA deployed for a 6 month rotation in South West Asia. While in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, Lynette worked as a Tactical Director in the Information Control Center and as a Battle Captain in the Operations Center. In these positions, she witnessed 2 live SCUD launches from an Iraqui Test Facility in South Iraq. Upon her return from South West Asia, Lynette was sent to the Joint Officers Deployment Course to prepare her for her next missiot. 4-43 ADA was redesignated as 1-1 ADA and relocated to Ft. Bliss, TX. As the Unit's Movement Officer, Lynette organized and coordinated the movement of over $100 Million worth of equipment. This endeavor culminated with a 2 day railroad exercise of over 600 pieces of equipment and transferring approximately 10 truckloads of office equipment and sensitive items to Ft. Bliss.

Lynette was promoted to the rank of Captain on 22 Nov. 1996. Lynette is currently serving in Ft. Bliss, TX as 1-1 ADA's Fire Direction Center OIC. Her husband, Paul was promoted to Petty Officer Second Class on 6 Dec. 1996. Her awards include the Army Commendation Medal, the Southwest Asia Ribbon, the Army Service Ribbon and the National Defense Service Medal. Mother, Provedencia Evans, Father, Malcolm A. Evans.

# Fewer solar eruptions expected

By PAUL RECER

TORONTO (AP) — The sun is entering a quiet period that astronomers believe could mean up to a decade of mild "space weather," with fewer power blackouts, less radio interference and perhaps slightly cooler Earth temperatures.

Scientists at Yale University and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are predicting that a solar cycle that began last September may be one of the quietest and least violent in more than 400 years, with only a modest number of solar eruptions.

Ken Schatten, a researcher at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., said the prediction is based on an analysis of solar magnetic field measurements gathered by a solar telescopes in California. He said the findings show that the solar violence that has marked the last 50 years is decreasing and foretells years of a cooler, more smoothly shining sun.

"The last few solar cycles, covering this past half-century, have been four of the five most active cycles we have ever had in the last 400 years," he said. "Now we are predicting that it is starting to go down."

Solar cycles, which last about 11 years, are marked by violent eruptions, or "sunspots," on the sun's surface. These send powerful waves of solar radiation smashing into the Earth. This radiation can drown radio communication, snuff out navigation signals, disrupt satellites and even deplete ozone. The storms can also send surges along power lines that can trigger blackouts, or energize pipelines with electrical charges that can cause shutdowns.

Such geomagnetic storms in the past have knocked out power grids in Canada and northern Europe, causing major blackouts.

The last solar cycle was marked by some of the most violent solar activity ever recorded, with peaks of 170 sunspots each in 1989 and 1991, said Schatten. A cycle in the 1950s was even more violent, peaking in 1958 with more than 200 eruptions.

Variations in the solar cycle are thought to have been a factor in major climate changes in the past.

Yale astronomer Sabatino Sofia said that the "Little Ice Age" in the 1600s may have been the result of a century-long "quiet sun." During that period, glaciers advanced in the far north and south and cold weather extremes were experienced worldwide. New England had summertime frosts and the Thames River froze abruptly in London.

Schatten said that an excess of solar activity has the opposite effect. A very active sun during the 11th and 12th centuries thawed much of the northern cool areas and may have been a factor in the Vikings being able to find and inhabit Greenland.

If the new predictions are correct, it will go against a long trend in solar cycle activity. Sunspots have been observed since the age of Galileo, and more than 200 years ago scientists began numbering them.

"The odd-numbered cycles are usually bigger than the even-numbered ones," said Schatten.

Yet, cycle No. 22, which ended in September, was marked by many eruptions. If the centuries-old statistical pattern continued, then cycle 23, which is now beginning, would be even more violent.



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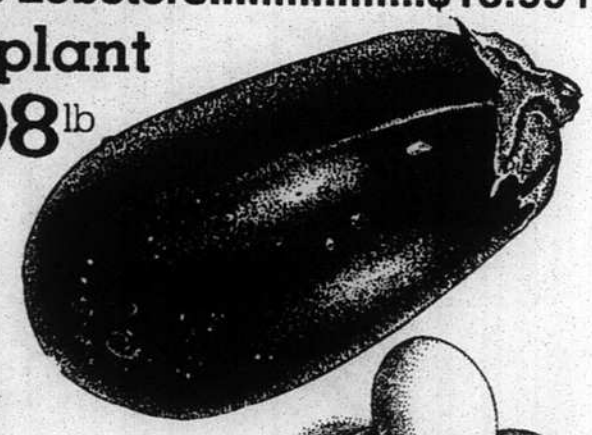
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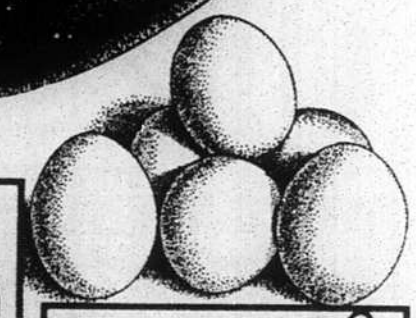


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# Florida gets $6.1 million bid for Bahamian island

MIAMI (AP) — Want your own island in the Bahamas? Got $6.1 million in cash?

That's what Chicago entrepreneur John J. Melk and his wife, Janet, bid to buy a 363-acre private island being sold by the Florida Department of Insurance. The agency declared them the bid winners Monday.

The only remaining obstacle between them and Rudder Cut Cay's 2,400-foot airstrip, 15-acre sheltered harbor, and two miles of virgin beaches was the Bahamian government's blessing of the sale, which was expected.

Florida received the island as part of a settlement earlier this year with Mark Sanford for the 1991 failure of Sanford's Guarantee Security Life Insurance Co. of Jacksonville. It was the largest insurance company failure in Florida's history.

The Melks' bid was well above the minimum asking price of $3.5 million cash for the island, which lies 90 miles south of Nassau in the Exuma chain.

"The department is ecstatic about this sale," said Mary Beth Perry, an attorney for the insurance department supervising the sale, who spoke by telephone from Nassau.

John Melk's Miami attorney, Ronald Fieldstone, said his client bought the island for personal use but didn't have specific plans for it. The Melks own another island nearby, also in the Exuma chain, Fieldstone said.

John Melk is a member of an entrepreneurial group — including H. Wayne Huizenga — that has built and run some of the most successful companies of the last 25 years. They include WMX Technologies Inc., formerly Waste Management Inc., a trash-hauling firm; and Blockbuster Entertainment Inc., the video chain.

Ms. Perry said she sent bid document packets to 200 people who indicated interest but received only three bids by Friday's deadline.

Ms. Perry opened the proposals in Nassau on Monday and said two met the bid requirements: an offer of at least $3.5 million cash, a 10 percent cash deposit and a financial institution's guarantee that the bidder could afford the purchase.

Approval by the Bahamian government's Investment Board should come within two weeks, said Anthony Klonaris, a senior partner at Callenders & Co., a Nassau law firm handling the sale.

"The Bahamian government will seek background into the purchaser and the purchaser's interest in the island to ensure that the island is not used for illicit purposes," Klonaris said. In the 1980s, traffickers used several small Bahamian islands as transshipment points for drugs headed to the United States.

The sale should close within two months, Ms. Perry said.

Guarantee Security's Sanford bought the Bahamian island for $1.6 million and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars improving it. He had one-ounce (28-gram) silver coins minted with his likeness on one side, his bikini-clad wife on the other, and the name of the island.

The sale proceeds will go to Guarantee Security policy holders, and to state insurance pools around the country that have been assessed to reimburse the policy holders, Ms. Perry said.





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PHOTO BY A.J. BLAKE

# U.N. screening thousands of parcels after letter bombs discovered

By ROBERT H. REID

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Thousands of parcels were screened at the United Nations today after four letter bombs were found addressed to the U.N. bureau of the Arabic newspaper Al-Hayat. The bombs were safely defused.

Despite the threat, the U.N. headquarters along the East River on Manhattan's fashionable East Side operated normally yesterday. Tourists were allowed on the main floor and second story of the building, while three floors underground security officers scanned mail for more bombs.

U.N. employees, who are required to wear special ID cards, were entering and leaving the building normally without any special inspections. The 15-member Security Council, which effectively serves as the U.N. board of directors, met as scheduled today to discuss Croatia.

The council meets on the second floor, which was briefly evacuated Monday after the first letter bomb was found.

The letter bombs, part of a mysterious bombing campaign against the respected, Saudi-owned publication, were discovered hours after another letter bomb exploded Monday at the newspaper's London headquarters. Two people were injured.

About a dozen letter bombs have been mailed this month to the newspaper's bureaus in Washington, New York, London and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The London bomb is the only one to have exploded.

The attacks have prompted suspicions that Arab militants are launching a campaign against the newspaper, owned by members of the Saudi royal family.

At the United Nations, the first bomb was found Monday about 11 a.m. in a second-floor mail distribution center. That prompted an evacuation of the second and third floors of the 38-story U.N. building.

The second bomb was discovered Monday afternoon in the basement mail room. The other two were found Monday night after U.N. officials began screening an estimated 80,000 pieces of undelivered mail.

The U.S. Post Office yesterday suspended mail deliveries to the United Nations pending completion of the screening, U.N. officials said. The United Nations receives an average of 15,000 to 20,000 letters and parcels daily.

The discovery of the letter bombs did not appear to seriously disrupt U.N. operations, as only two floors in the building, where thousands of people work, were evacuated. The third floor contains journalists' offices.

New York City police, firefighters and bomb squad workers stood guard round the clock Monday night and this morning as officials put the mail through an X-ray machine.

U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said the bombs were fitted into greeting card-sized envelopes. He said they were delivered through the U.S. Postal Service and may have been at the United Nations since Friday afternoon.

He refused to say where the letters had been postmarked though Al-Hayat executives said the London bomb had been mailed from Alexandria, Egypt.

Several days ago, five letter bombs were sent to the Washington offices of the same newspaper in the National Press Building. None of those bombs exploded. They were reportedly also postmarked in Alexandria.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan condemned the bombing attempts.

"This is a house of peace and we work in the interest of all nations. This kind of activity is not something that anyone can condone," Annan said. "I appeal to them to desist and use other means to raise their complaints."

The letter bombs sent to Al-Hayat's Washington bureau were among eight mailed to U.S. addresses. Two were received at the federal prison in Leavenworth, Kan., and a third was intercepted at the Leavenworth post office.

U.S. officials are looking into the possibility that the letter bombs were mailed by supporters of Omar Abdel-Rahman, a radical Egyptian Muslim cleric convicted in 1995 of conspiracy to blow up New York landmarks, including the United Nations.

Three of Abdel-Rahman's nine co-defendants are serving terms at the federal prison at Leavenworth. He is serving a life sentence in a Springfield, Mo., prison.

## Filipino gays oppose national ID system

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Militant gay leaders tore up mock ID cards yesterday, saying the government's planned computerized identification system resurrects memories of the "institutions of tyranny" of Nazi Germany.

Human rights groups and opposition lawmakers have denounced President Fidel Ramos' plan to install a computerized ID system for all Filipinos, saying it is designed to stifle dissent.

Ramos says the system will make it easier for Filipinos and foreigners to transact business and obtain government services, and also can help reduce fraudulent transactions and boost the campaign against crime. Unlike Nazi Germany, the Philippines does not propose to identify the sexual orientation of its citizens.

But Oscar Atadero, leader of the Progressive Organization of Gays in the Philippines, said the system was "one dangerously small step away from encrypting in magnetic code the privately kept gender orientation, sexual preferences and HIV-AIDS status" of gays.


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# Revelations of coach's sex abuse stun hockey-mad nation

By DAVID CRARY

TORONTO (AP) — While scandal tainted other sports, Canadians clung to a belief that youth hockey remained pure.

Hundreds of thousands of youngsters play in fiercely competitive leagues nationwide, with many of the better athletes living away from home. Problems tended to be overlooked as youngsters — and parents — pursued dreams of someday making it to the pros.

That all changed with revelations that the admired coach of a championship team sexually abused his players for years. Now, parents, coaches and administrators are re-examining how kids should learn to play the game that is Canada's pride and joy.

"We were somewhat naive to think this couldn't happen to us," said Murray Costello, president of the Canadian Hockey Association. "This has been a wake-up call."

He was referring to the case of Graham James, sentenced Jan. 2 to 3 1/2 years in jail after pleading guilty to sexually abusing two of his players over a 12-year span starting in 1982. One of the victims, Boston Bruins forward Sheldon Kennedy, spoke out in painful detail about his ordeal.

Since James' conviction, sexual abuse in hockey has been the dominant topic of public debate in Canada, and allegations of abuse on other teams have surfaced.

"All of Canadian society are victims of such an abuse of trust," Judge James Maloney said when he sentenced James. "The shock of these events to the hockey public is devastating."

Amateur hockey officials are hurriedly drafting plans requiring police background checks of coaches. Parents are questioning how their children have been treated. Canada's most flamboyant hockey commentator, Don Cherry, declared on national TV that James should be "drawn and quartered."

The debate has focused attention on some long-standing practices in Canadian junior hockey, particularly in the upper echelon of leagues for the most talented teen-agers. Many of these players must live away from home while pursuing a shot at a professional career. Inevitably, their coach has immense sway over their future.

"I can see why it happened," Nick Boynton, 17, of the top-ranked Ottawa 67s, was quoted by the Toronto Globe and Mail newspaper as saying. "The coach holds all the cards if the kid will do anything to make it to the NHL."

Kennedy said he didn't tell his teammates about the abuse for fear they would conclude he was gay. And he didn't tell his mother for fear she would pull him off his team, the Swift Current Broncos of the Western Hockey League.

Even at its best, junior hockey in Canada can be grueling, high-pressured and violent. Rookies often undergo harsh hazing, many players have trouble qualifying for college, and only about 5 percent of the players ever make it to the National Hockey League.

Sandra Kirby, a University of Winnipeg sociologist who is writing a book about sexual harassment in sports, says parents must become more active participants in their children's athletic activities, especially in a supposedly macho sport like hockey.

"Children simply can't do it for themselves," she said. "They don't know which way to turn. So if nobody speaks out on their behalf, nothing happens."

Costello, of the Canadian Hockey Association, urged parents to be alert to possible problems. He said leagues should try to ensure that there is more than one adult with a team at all times.

"We need to send a message to predators — if they're looking for a safe haven in hockey they're not going to find it," Costello said.

He conceded that mandatory background checks for coaches might deter some qualified people from volunteering. He also acknowledged that no background check would have kept James from getting his start as a coach because there was no previous criminal record.

In Swift Current, Saskatchewan, where the Broncos won a national title under James in 1993, one mother said she had to explain the case to her hockey-playing 9-year-old after he overheard his parents discussing it.

"His mouth just dropped," Michele Wiebe said. "To him, a hockey coach is someone you look up to, not someone you have to watch out for."

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# U.N. screening thousands of parcels after four letter bombs discovered

By ROBERT H. REID

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. staffers were warned yesterday to be on the lookout for any suspicious-looking parcels after the discovery of four letter bombs sent to the U.N. bureau of a Saudi-owned newspaper.

U.N. security and New York City police worked through the night Monday and into yesterday screening about 80,000 letters and packages with X-ray machines, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said.

Eckhard said the four bombs were defused by the New York City police bomb squad. He said the bombs were contained in greeting card-sized envelopes and equipped with electrical devices that would detonate the bombs when the letters were opened.

FBI official James Kallstrom said the letter bombs were contained in plain white envelopes with computer-generated addresses and no return address. The letters were postmarked Dec. 21 in Alexandria, Egypt.

The U.S. Postal Service suspended mail deliveries to the United Nations on yesterday pending completion of the screening, U.N. officials said. The United Nations receives an average of 15,000 to 20,000 pieces of mail a day.

Pat Bossert, spokeswoman for the Postal Inspection Service, the law enforcement branch of the U.S. Postal Service, said there are certain "suspicious characteristics of letter and mail bombs — a rigidity, lopsidedness and a certain thickness."

A day after the bombs were discovered Monday, the U.N. headquarters was open, including to tourists, although guards said the number of visitors had decreased dramatically.

The 15-member Security Council, effectively the U.N. board of directors, met as scheduled yesterday to approve an extension of a U.N. monitoring force on the Prevlaka peninsula of the former Yugoslavia.

New York City police and U.N. security began briefing accredited journalists and U.N. staff on measures to protect themselves against letter bombs and other explosives.

The four bombs were discovered addressed to the U.N. news bureau of the daily *Al-Hayat*. They were the latest in a mysterious bombing campaign against the respected Arabic-language publication.

U.N. authorities discovered the bombs after another bomb exploded earlier Monday at the newspaper's London headquarters. Of four bombs mailed to that office, one exploded, injuring two people.

A total of 17 letter bombs have been received this month at the newspaper's bureaus in Washington, New York, London and Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

No group has claimed responsibility for the letter bombs, all reportedly postmarked in Alexandria, Egypt.

Eckhard said the first letter bomb at the United Nations passed undetected through an X-ray machine before it was discovered in a distribution center. There was no explanation as to why it was not detected by the X-ray.

Some plastic explosives, such as SEMTEX, are nearly undetectable under X-ray machines, but Eckhard refused to say what the letter bombs contained. He said the special screening procedures were "straining the resources" of the United Nations and "there's a limit to how long this can go on."

In London, *Al-Hayat* said the bombs made the newspaper "more determined to pursue our journalistic objectives with all our might, objectively and humbly."

"We condemn terrorism wherever it comes from and consider it unjustifiable. ... Those who carry it out are merely criminals unobstructed neither by religion nor conscience," the newspaper said in a front-page statement.

The letter bombs sent to *Al-Hayat's* Washington bureau were among 12 mailed to U.S. addresses. Two were received at the federal prison in Leavenworth, Kan., and a third was intercepted at the Leavenworth post office.

U.S. officials are looking into the possibility that the letter bombs were mailed by supporters of Omar Abdel-Rahman, a radical Egyptian Muslim cleric convicted in 1995 of conspiracy to blow up New York landmarks, including the United Nations.

Three of Abdel-Rahman's nine co-defendants are serving terms at the federal prison at Leavenworth. He is serving a life sentence in a Springfield, Mo., prison.

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# U.S. official: Jailed businessman to serve out 10-year term

BEIJING (AP) — A U.S. businessman sentenced to 10 years in a Chinese jail for smuggling garbage into China will consider later this week whether to appeal, his lawyer said yesterday.

William Ping Chen, 56, was sentenced Monday by a court in Shanghai for illegally importing 238 tons of trash, including banned household and medical waste, from the United States between July and December 1995.

Chen's lawyer, Yuan Jiyuan, said he will meet Chen, from Oakland, Calif., on Thursday or Friday to discuss a possible appeal.

Chen, the director of a Shanghai joint-venture paper company, was detained last June amid a government outcry against foreign countries, including the United States, whose trash is recycled in China.

Chen tried passing the garbage off as waste paper, according to the Chinese government news agency Xinhua.

Xinhua said Chen also was fined $60,240 and ordered out of the country. But it was unclear whether he would have to serve his 10-year jail sentence before being expelled.

A spokesman for the U.S. Consulate in Shanghai, David Miller, said he understood that Chen would serve his sentence.

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# Sandinista chief admits relationship with terrorism suspect

By FILADELFO ALEMAN

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — Sandinista leader Daniel Ortega and President Arnoldo Aleman met in an effort to ease tensions, but the arrest of an Ortega compatriot on terrorism charges has sparked fears of violence.

Ortega, who ran against Aleman for president, said he knows the Sandinista party member who was arrested with dynamite on the eve of the presidential inauguration Friday.

"I have a relationship with him, as I have with thousands of Sandinistas of this country," Ortega said late Monday after the meeting with Aleman.

Ortega, who claimed the October presidential election was fraudulent, warned this month that Nicaragua could see violence if the government follows policies that harm the country's poor.

Thursday's arrests of Nestor Moncada Lau and Miguel Acuna Centeno followed a bitter election campaign, in which the conservative Aleman received 51 percent of the vote to defeat the leftist Ortega.

Police said Moncada Lau and Acuna were carrying four sticks of dynamite in a car owned by the Sandinista-run Channel 4 television station.

Police at first said the men might have been planning to kill Aleman, who was sworn into office on Friday. They since have declined to speculate on possible motives.

The suspects are charged with terrorism, which carries a possible seven-year prison term. They made their initial statements to a judge on Monday during a rare, closed court session.

Moncada Lau is an attorney and was an Interior Ministry intelligence officer in the Sandinista government of the 1980s. Acuna is a former army driver. Both have denied the charges.

Ortega called Moncada Lau "a Sandinista comrade, a serious and hard-working person," and said he had been working for Channel 4 as a legal adviser.

Police said they found military weaponry, including eight AK-47 rifles, during a search of Moncada Lau's house Saturday.

The magazine *Confidencial*, published by Carlos Fernando Chamorro, son of outgoing President Violeta Chamorro, reported that Moncada Lau had been a member of Ortega's personal security detail. Ortega has not commented on that report.

On Monday night, Aleman and Ortega said they agreed in principle to name a high-level commission to study poverty, property disputes and investment needs.

"It was a normal discussion, correct and satisfactory," Aleman said.

Ortega, who ruled the country in the 1980s, called the meeting "beneficial." He said, "The ideal would be for us not to have confrontations or submit to violence. But that depends on the steps they take. It is in their hands to reach stability."

The Cuban-trained Moncada Lau has been involved in national controversy in the past.

A military court convicted him of conspiracy in 1980, when a group of army officers supposedly plotted to rebel and support a new government backed by businessman Jorge Salazar, who was shot to death in an ambush.

Moncada Lau's conviction was overturned, however, and many believe the officers actually were loyal Sandinistas who infiltrated Salazar's group. Salazar's widow, Lucia, now working with the foreign ministry, claims Moncada Lau was the man who drove her husband to the ambush.

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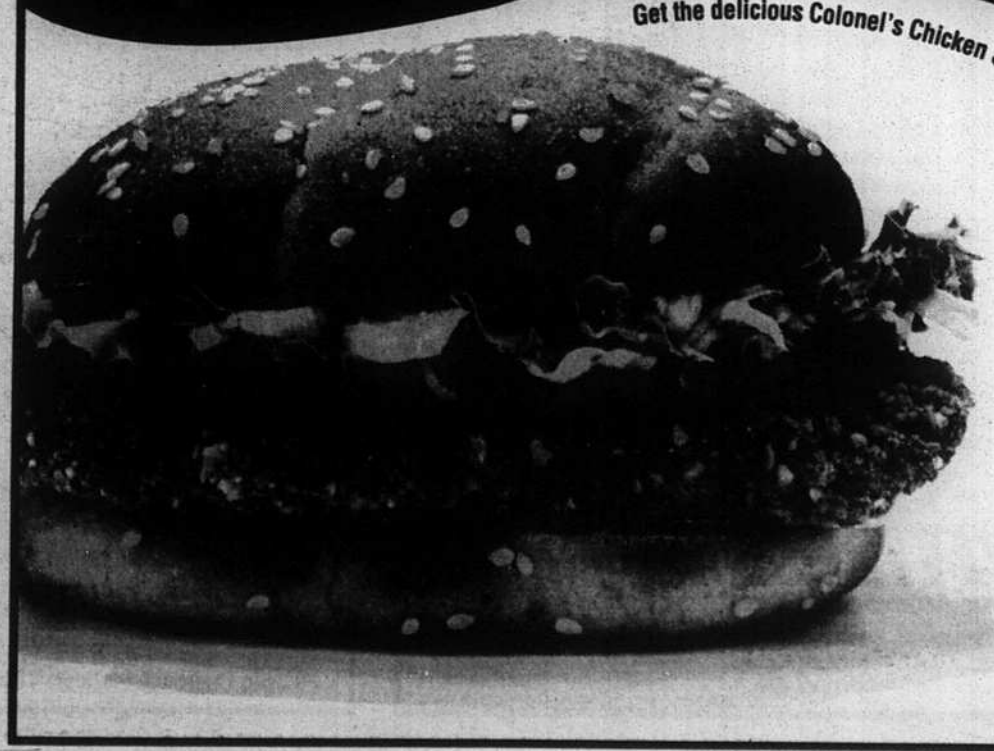
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# Peruvian, Ecuadorean leaders visit former rebel stronghold

By JAMES ANDERSON

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Peru's president visited the former Andean stronghold of a battered guerrilla movement yesterday, determined to show his government is winning its war against terrorism despite the four-week-old hostage standoff in his capital.

With no sign of progress in efforts to free 74 hostages held by leftist rebels, Alberto Fujimori and Ecuadorean President Abdala Bucaram inspected a village near the southeastern city of Ayacucho, 160 miles southeast of Lima.

Ayacucho was the birthplace of the leftist Shining Path guerrillas, which killed thousands of people and destroyed millions of dollars' worth of property from 1980 to 1995.

Members of a smaller group, the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement, seized the Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima on Dec. 17, demanding that Peru free about 300 imprisoned comrades. Fujimori has refused.

Fujimori's government all but declared victory over the Shining Path after the 1992 capture of its leader, Abimael Guzman.

Yesterday, Fujimori and Bucaram visited the village of Vilcashuaman, site of some of the worst guerrilla violence. They dedicated an orphanage, donned brown woven panchos and white caps native to the area, and did a circle dance with local girls.

Ayacucho's Roman Catholic archbishop, Juan Lius Cipriani, welcomed Bucaram to "what was a seat of violence but today is one of peace."

Fujimori cited his government's public works in the area as "a clear sign that all Peruvians reject violence, that all Peruvians are against the taking of the hostages and insist on their liberation." The two presidents later returned to Lima. Bucaram is the first Ecuadorean head of state to visit Peru, and toured the countryside with Fujimori yesterday after events in the capital Monday.

Both leaders appeared eager to heal relations between their countries, which have clashed three times since 1941 over a disputed border. The last, undeclared border war was in 1995, and killed about 80 people.

Cabinet-level talks on the border are set for February in Brasilia, Brazil. Peru's foreign minister, Francisco Tudela, is supposed to attend but is being held hostage inside the Japanese ambassador's home.

No face-to-face talks have been held since Dec. 31, and it wasn't known if the rebels had responded to a government proposal to create a peace commission to jump-start negotiations.

In part because of Bucaram's visit, Peruvian TV news media curtailed their live broadcasts from the area surrounding the Japanese diplomatic compound.

Local television journalists routinely aired live reports whenever Red Cross workers and others visited the compound. Yesterday, reports were aired only during normally scheduled news shows, despite visits to the residence by a key intermediary, Red Cross representative Michel Minnig.

The government's hostage negotiator, Domingo Palermo, met with executives of local television stations to discuss coverage of the crisis late Monday. Neither the government nor the stations would comment on the meeting.

The government has tried to isolate the rebels inside the compound, cutting off electricity and telephone service and preventing journalists from entering the residence. Officials say two incidents in which journalists sneaked past police to interview the rebels jeopardized hostage talks.

## *35 government troops released by rebels in Tajikistan*

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan (AP) — Thirty-five government troops captured by rebel forces last fall in eastern Tajikistan were freed yesterday, a news agency reported.

The troops' release was a condition of a truce signed last month by President Emomali Rakhmonov and the opposition leader Said Abdullo Nuri, the Interfax news agency said.

Another 20 government troops still held by the opposition in the eastern town of Garm are to be freed soon, Interfax said, citing unidentified sources.

The government, meanwhile, freed six opposition supporters on Saturday.

Tajikistan is an impoverished former Soviet republic in Central Asia. The government and the opposition have been embroiled in a civil war since 1992. The latest cease-fire has generally been holding, however.





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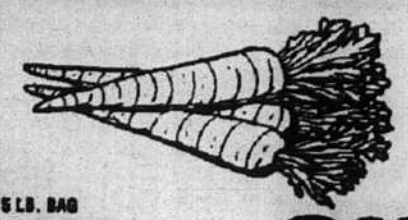
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# *Opposition declares winners in Belgrade; Will victors take office?*

By GEORGE JAHN

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Foes of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic won official recognition yesterday of an election victory in the Serbian capital — their biggest demand during weeks of massive protest and international pressure.

Milosevic's opponents were skeptical of whether he and his Socialist Party would actually give in to the new announcement by the city's electoral commission and hand over control of Belgrade's municipal government.

They vowed to keep protesting, but suspended a last night demonstration to see if the government had given way in Belgrade and in other cities including Nis, the country's second-largest. Foreign governments also took a wait-and-see attitude.

While giving in could bring an end to nearly two months of daily protests that have shaken Milosevic's autocratic rule, it also would give his opponents much more political leverage than they have had during his nine years in power.

The Belgrade commission previously had declared the opposition victorious in Nov. 17 balloting, only to be overturned by a court. It seemed unlikely, however, that the commission would have repeated its declaration without backing from a higher authority.

In Nis, Socialists on the electoral commission gave in after days of stalling and stopped opposing a court order to reinstate the opposition's election triumph there.

The Socialists already had withdrawn their claims to five lesser towns; the opposition claims wins in Belgrade and 13 other major Serbian cities.

"I believe nothing," said opposition leader Zoran Djindjic, who would be mayor if the opposition indeed wins Belgrade. "This is another attempt to buy time. We will continue our protests.

"There is no reason for euphoria. Belgrade is only a part of the whole package," he said. "We don't trust this regime until our deputies constitute the city council."

Djindjic said the opposition wanted to see its victories recognized in all the cities it won, and its representatives actually take power.

The U.S. government was waiting for the same thing. "We're just going to reserve any kind of commendation for the Belgrade government" until the opposition victors take their seats, State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said in Washington.

Belgrade has been the scene of large daily demonstrations, including 500,000 people Monday, since the election wins by the opposition were annulled.

Opposition control of Belgrade would break the near-monopoly on electronic media now enjoyed by the Socialists and their neo-Communist coalition partners. By law, the City Council has the right to run radio and television stations in the city.

Control over the stations would be invaluable to the opposition ahead of Serbian parliamentary and presidential elections later this year. One of the protesters' main aims has been to offer alternatives to the intensely pro-Socialist state media.

A Belgrade win by the opposition also would hurt Milosevic in other ways.

It is common for his Socialists and the neo-Communists led by his wife, Mirjana Markovic, to award building and business permits in the city to their loyalists, say former associates.

"All want nice locations for building big villas or establishing good businesses," said Mihajlo Markovic, a former Milosevic lieutenant purged in 1995 because he opposed the Socialists' coalition with the neo-Communists.

"It's clear that you would want to continue to have this possibility of rewarding your supporters," said Markovic, no relation to Milosevic's wife.

Milosevic's attempts to compromise have been opposed by his wife, who reportedly counseled harsh action against demonstrators at a weekend meeting of the Serbian leadership.

Printing what it said were excerpts from the meeting, the independent Nasa Borba daily quoted her as asking why secret police so far were inactive in the "special war against Serbia being conducted on the streets by people indoctrinated by foreign mercenaries."

Opposition leader Vuk Draskovic said the rulings by the election commission in Belgrade and Nis "could mean that the Serbian government made a step toward sanity."

Vesna Pesic, a third leader in the opposition's troika, told reporters in Paris, where she met French officials, that Tuesday could prove "a turning point" but protests should continue "until the results are recognized officially."

There was no immediate sign of whether the Socialists would use a 48-hour appeals period to oppose the ruling. Throughout the crisis they have seemed ready to compromise, only to pull back later.

## Six dead, 40 wounded in grenade attack on open-air church service

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — The death toll from a grenade attack on an open-air church service rose to six yesterday, while 40 people remained hospitalized with injuries.

Three people died Sunday when an unknown assailant hurled a hand grenade into the service, attended by several hundred people on the outskirts of Kampala, police spokesman John Kimera said.

Three others, including two children, died later of their wounds in the hospital, he said.

No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, but on Monday, the independent daily Monitor newspaper attributed the act to a Muslim fundamentalist group it did not name.

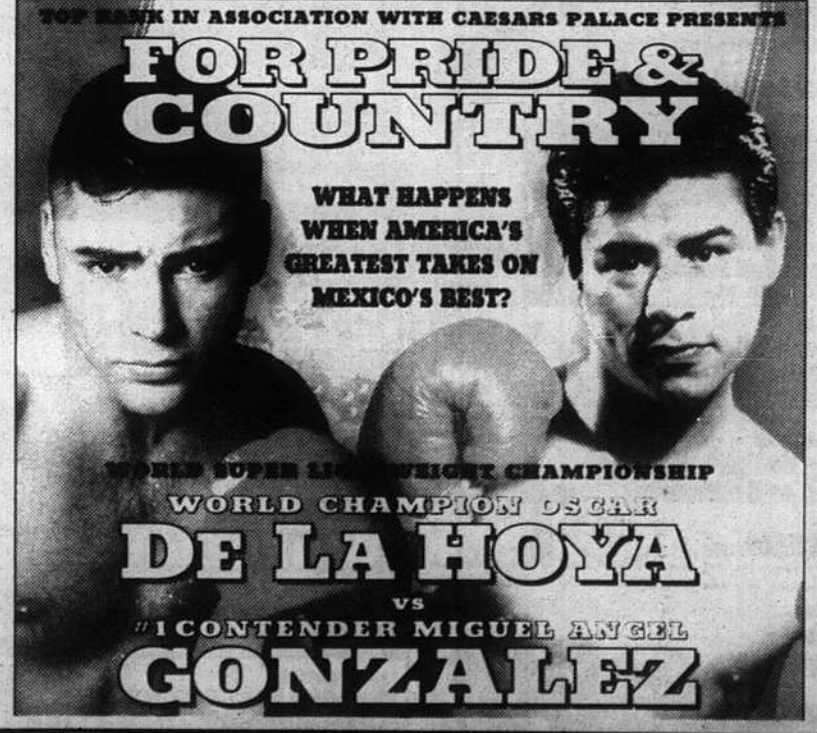
Although the northern third of Uganda is in the throes of armed rebellion by several different groups, attacks in Kampala, located in the southern part of the East African nation, are rare.


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# Hebron agreement near as Arafat, Netanyahu meet

By SAMAR ASSAD

EREZ CROSSING, Israel (AP) — Months of tortuous negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians neared an end Wednesday with Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat trying — yet again — to complete a deal to get Israeli troops out of Hebron.

The Israeli prime minister and the Palestinian leader met after midnight last night — their second summit in as many weeks — to work out the final details.

Netanyahu flew by helicopter to the Erez Crossing at the Israel-Gaza border and walked into a two-story concrete building on the Israeli side. Arafat, wearing his trademark black-and-white headdress, arrived minutes later.

"I believe there will be a signing tonight," said chief Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat.

The deal under consideration would give Palestinians control of 80 percent of the Biblical city of Hebron, home to 130,000 Palestinians and 500 Jewish settlers. It also would set dates for a three-stage Israeli withdrawal from West Bank rural areas.

It won't cover some issues sure to cause conflict later. Most notably, it is not expected to address the scope of the planned Israeli withdrawals. The Palestinians want control of most of the West Bank — an understanding they say was reached with the previous Israeli government — but according to some reports, Netanyahu plans to cede as little as one-third of the territory.

Still, a Hebron agreement would be the first concrete step in the Israel-Palestinian peace process since Netanyahu's government took office in June pledging to slow the handover of land to the Palestinians.

Tension between the two sides rose sharply as the stalemate dragged on. In September, Palestinian frustration boiled over in clashes with Israel that killed 79 people. Leaders on both sides have warned of a new crisis if an agreement is not reached.

Netanyahu and Arafat still had to resolve several issues lower-level negotiators were unable to settle, including the wording of U.S. guarantees to both sides.

"The number of issues on the table is small, getting smaller all the time, but you know that until the last issue is resolved, nothing is resolved," Netanyahu said yesterday evening.

Israeli troops are expected to withdraw from most of Hebron within days of a signing, although Netanyahu has promised to first present the deal to his Cabinet, where he faces growing opposition, and to the Israeli parliament.

Settler leaders met last night in Jerusalem to plan a protest campaign against the government they helped bring to power.

"This agreement is going to tear the nation into pieces," said Elyakim Haetzni of the Kiryat Arba settlement outside Hebron. "Netanyahu has cheated us."

Palestinians, meanwhile, started preparing for the Israeli pullout. Merchants painted over political graffiti on iron storefront shutters in the downtown Bab Izawiya area of Hebron.

But Izzedine Sharabati, one of 15,000 Palestinians living in the downtown area that will stay under Israeli control, said the redeployment "doesn't make any difference."

"There will be no peace between us and the settlers," he said. "The only solution is to get them out of Hebron."

Negotiations between the Netanyahu government and the Palestinians began in October. With agreement on the Hebron pullback largely complete, the talks broke down over a timetable for the further West Bank withdrawals promised in the 1995 peace accord signed by Netanyahu's dovish predecessors.

Following intervention this week by Jordan's King Hussein, Arafat agreed to allow Israel to complete the withdrawals by August 1998 rather than by the original September 1997 deadline.

Because of the deep distrust between the Palestinians and Israel's hard-line government, the United States has agreed to attach "notes for the record" to the accord.

# Bus plunges off bridge into River Nile; at least 39 die

By MARIAM SAMI

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — A crowded public bus veered out of control on a bridge and plunged upside-down into the muddy waters of the Nile River yesterday, killing at least 39 people and injuring 29 others.

Blood dripped from the bus, turning the water red as rescue workers used a crane to haul the vehicle 115 feet back up onto the el-Sahel bridge.

Thousands of onlookers stood on the bridge and watched rescuers pull bodies from the mud and search the murky waters for more dead.

Prime Minister Kamal el-Ganzoury praised the rescuers for their speedy arrival at the accident site, about three miles north of downtown Cairo. "If the rescue operation was not so quick, those rescued alive would have been dead," he told reporters at the scene.

The cause of the crash was not immediately known, but witnesses said the bus was speeding and veered across the road divider into the opposite lane.

Some passengers said they believed the driver may have suffered a heart attack.

"The driver fell on the steering wheel ... and suffered a sudden bout of vomiting and lost control," the Middle East News Agency quoted one passenger as saying. The driver, Mohammed Kamal Abdel-Wahab, was among the dead.

Another passenger, Hafsa Abdel-Wahab, said "it felt like the bus went over a big bump and then landed on its back in the mud."

"Everyone was screaming and panicking," she said from the hospital bed where she was being treated for a back injury.

Several passers-by who helped with the rescue said they were unable to pull some survivors from the mud.

"These were bitter moments when I saw the passengers' hands stretching for help," but couldn't pull them out, Mustafa Attallah told MENA.

Buses in Cairo are usually crammed, but the city's frantic traffic is even worse than usual because of the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, when Muslims fast from dawn to sunset and drivers are anxious to get home quickly.

The last major accident involving a bus plunging into the Nile in Cairo was in 1961, when 68 people were killed, the news agency said.

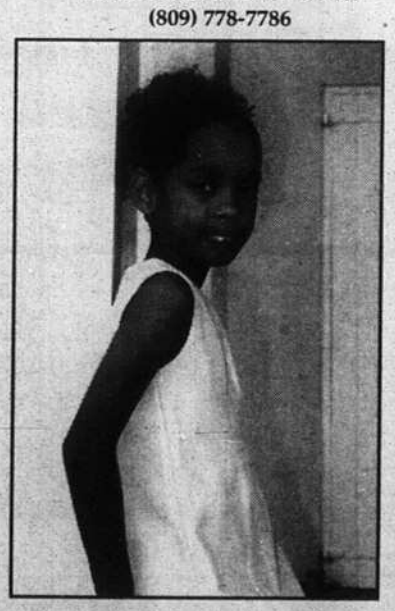

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| 8:30-8:35 | George F. Tyson | **Welcoming Remarks** |
| 8:35-9:15 | Judah Cohen | **Satellite of a Satellite: The Jewish Congregation on St. Croix and its Relationship to the Jewish Community of St. Thomas** |
| 9:15-10:00 | Cythnia Oliver | **The Embodiment of Words: Dance and Performance on St. Croix from 1848 to 1917** |
| 10:00-10:15 | Break | |
| 10:15-11:15 | Roundtable Discussion | **Recoverying the Historical Records of the Virgin Islands** Dr. Marilyn Krigger, Mr. Gerard Emanual, Dr. Arnold Highfield, Mrs. Jeanette Allis-Bastian, Mr. Myron Jackson, Mr. George Tyson, Dr. Olaf Hendricks |
| 11:15-12:00 | Jalil Sued Badillo | **Lines in the Sand: Relations Between Puerto Ricans and Virgin Islanders in the Early Colonial Period** |
| 12:00-12:45 | David Knight | **Families and History: The Early St. Thomas Plantocracy** |

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# Yeltsin's rival calls for impeachment

By LYNN BERRY

MOSCOW (AP) — A leading Communist urged parliament to impeach the ailing Boris Yeltsin, but the president's doctors said he was recovering well from pneumonia and was "significantly better" yesterday.

Previous attempts to oust Yeltsin have failed and the latest move appeared to have little support. In any case, the president would be certain to resist any moves against him by parliament's Communist-dominated lower house.

A draft resolution, proposed by Communist lawmaker Viktor Ilyukhin, calls on Duma members "to regard the powers of the president as prematurely terminated due to his consistent inability to perform his duties for health reasons."

The proposal says the Federation Council, parliament's upper house, should "confirm the Duma decision and set a date for presidential elections."

Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov said the resolution had been submitted to the chamber's legal section for review and a parliamentary debate on impeachment could take place in about a week.

He acknowledged that any impeachment attempt would be a long, cumbersome process. Constitutional clauses about dismissing a president "are very vaguely written," Seleznyov noted.

Alexander Kotenkov, Yeltsin's envoy to the Duma, said the draft resolution was "legally groundless" and he called it an attempt to "aggravate the political situation in the country."

Yeltsin remained hospitalized for a seventh day Tuesday at the Central Clinical Hospital outside Moscow, but doctors who examined him in the evening found him "significantly better," the Kremlin said.

"His physical activity has increased and only some occasional wheezing sounds remain in his lungs," the presidential press service added.

Yeltsin was able to start holding working meetings yesterday, and he met for 40 minutes with his chief of staff, Anatoly Chubais. Chubais was believed to be the president's first visitor, other than his family, since he was hospitalized Jan. 8 with double pneumonia.

Yeltsin also spent two hours yesterday doing paperwork in his hospital suite, his press service said.

Ousted national security adviser Alexander Lebed, one of Yeltsin's leading critics, has been unconvinced by doctors' reassurances that the president should make a full recovery.

Before leaving on a trip to Germany, Lebed claimed the president was so ill that new elections would be held in a "maximum of two months."

He was more restrained later in Germany when asked just how sick he believed Yeltsin to be: "He's sick, but as a parachute general I'm not in a position to make that kind of comment.

"If you're a parachuter, you're only dead or alive," Lebed added, smiling.

Even though he openly aspires to be Russia's next leader, Lebed called yesterday's impeachment talk a "stupidity."

Lebed said Sunday on Russian television that he already had collected $250 million in campaign donations from "Russian people who are interested in improving the situation in the country."

But during an interview with The Associated Press at the Frankfurt airport, Lebed refused to answer when asked where he got so much money.

His translator said, "If you had asked him, 'Do do you have that money?' he would answer, 'No.'"

Another Lebed aide, who did not identify himself, said, "But he will find it."

Yeltsin, who has been largely sidelined since winning a second four-year term in July, fell ill just two weeks after returning to his Kremlin office following heart surgery.

By all accounts he was making a good recovery from his quintuple bypass operation on Nov. 5, and doctors say the pneumonia is unrelated to his heart trouble.

The pneumonia is expected to keep Yeltsin in the hospital at least until the end of the week. Presidential spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky has said the president would not check out until he's made a full recovery.

After he's released, he will need about three weeks of rest at home before he returns to the Kremlin, his doctors have said.

## *Wiesenthal: Secret files identified ex-Nazis living abroad*

BERLIN (AP) — Former East German officials kept secret files identifying ex-Nazis living abroad so they could press them into service as spies, Nazi hunter Simon Wiesenthal said in an interview published Tuesday.

East Germany "withheld essential information so that hundreds of Nazi criminals would remain unpunished," Wiesenthal was quoted by the weekly magazine Super Illu as saying.

Wiesenthal said East German authorities sought both "to have West Germany branded the only Nazi state" and to gain leverage over ex-Nazis living abroad who might be used as spies.

Since they were opened in 1992, files kept by the former East German Ministry for State Security, or Stasi, have identified dozens of accused former Nazis.


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**Charles V. Hamilton, author of ADAM CLAYTON POWELL, JR., published by Atheneum, an imprint of Macmillan Publishing Company.**
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**Dona Cooper Hamilton,** associate professor of social work at Herbert H. Lehman College, City University of New York, has conducted extensive research on race and social welfare issues and published numerous articles on the subject.

**Charles V. Hamilton,** Wallace Sayre Professor of Government at Columbia University, is the author of several books, including *Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.: The Political Biography of an American Dilemma* and coauthor with Kwame Touré (Stokely Carmichael) of *Black Power: The Politics of Liberation in America.*

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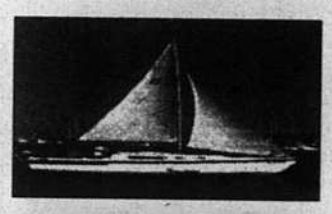
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# Communist lawmaker proposes Yeltsin be impeached, removed from office

By GREG MYRE

MOSCOW (AP) — A Communist lawmaker proposed to parliament yesterday that Boris Yeltsin be impeached and removed because of his ill health, although the Kremlin said yesterday the president was "significantly better."

The Kremlin attributed the positive report to Yeltsin's doctors, who have predicted a full recovery. Yeltsin was hospitalized Jan. 8 with double pneumonia.

"His physical activity has increased and only some occasional wheezing sounds in his lungs remain," the presidential press service said.

Yeltsin began holding working meetings yesterday, talking for 40 minutes with his chief of staff. Anatoly Chubais was believed to be the president's first visitor, other than family, since he was hospitalized.

The Russian leader also spent two hours yesterday doing paperwork in his suite at the Central Clinical Hospital in Moscow, his press service said.

Yeltsin was re-elected last July for a term that runs to 2,000, but he's been largely sidelined the past six months, first with heart trouble and now with pneumonia.

Previous legislative attempts to oust Yeltsin have failed. The latest move appeared to have limited support at best, and Yeltsin would be certain to resist any moves against him by the Communist-dominated State Duma, or lower house of parliament.

A draft resolution, proposed by Communist lawmaker Viktor Ilyukhin, calls on Duma members "to regard the powers of the president as prematurely terminated due to his consistent inability to perform his duties for health reasons."

The Federation Council, the upper house of parliament, is urged "to confirm the Duma decision and set a date for presidential elections."

Duma speaker Gennady Seleznyov said the draft on impeaching Yeltsin had been submitted to the chamber's legal section for review, the Interfax news agency reported.

He acknowledged that any impeachment attempt would be a long, cumbersome process. Constitutional clauses about dismissing a president "are very vaguely written," Seleznyov noted.

However, he said there could be a parliamentary debate on the matter in about a week.

But Alexander Kotenkov, Yeltsin's envoy to the Duma, said the draft resolution was "legally groundless."

He said the proposal was an attempt to "arouse scandal" and "aggravate the political situation in the country."

Alexander Lebed, one of Yeltsin's leading critics, claimed the president was so ill that new elections will be held in a "maximum of two months."

The pneumonia is expected to keep Yeltsin in the hospital for at least the next couple days. Presidential spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembsky said there was no sign Yeltsin would be released before today.

He said the president would not be checking out until he's made a full recovery. Once released, he will need about three weeks of rest at home before he returns to the Kremlin, his doctors have said.

The Russian leader fell ill just two weeks after returning to his Kremlin office following quintuple heart bypass surgery. By all accounts, he made a good recovery from the Nov. 5 surgery. Doctors say the pneumonia is unrelated to his heart trouble.

## *Pope receives Taiwan's vice president over Chinese objections*

By VICTOR L. SIMPSON

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II met Taiwan's vice president in a private audience yesterday, ignoring protests by Chinese leaders who claim Taiwan is a renegade province with no right to conduct its own diplomacy.

Lien Chan is the highest-ranking Taiwanese official the pope has received.

The Vatican is one of only 30 states to formally recognize Taiwan. The Vatican has no diplomatic relations with China, which Beijing broke off after the Communists seized power in 1949.

In a brief statement, the Vatican said the two men discussed international issues in their 35-minute meeting. It also said Taiwan donated $1 million to a Vatican charity, for use in Bosnia and in central Africa's Great Lakes region, which includes Burundi, Rwanda and Zaire.

Lien said the Vatican stop provided an opportunity for Taiwan to strengthen its relations with the Holy See. He invited the pope to visit Taiwan, and John Paul agreed to consider the offer.

Papal spokesman Joaquin Navarro-Valls declined to comment on Chinese protests over the audience.

In Beijing, China's Foreign Ministry reiterated that Vatican recognition of Taiwan is a major stumbling block to restoring relations with mainland China.

Ministry spokesman Shen Guofang said the Vatican must first break relations with Taiwan and not interfere in China's religious affairs. "When these obstacles are removed, relations between China and the Vatican can be normalized," Shen said.

The pope last month issued a broadcast appeal to China to grant Roman Catholics full religious freedom. China has forbidden allegiance to the papacy, although an underground Catholic church recognizing his authority is said to flourish. All officially recognized religions in China must report to a government agency whose mission is to promote atheism.

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# Swiss bank admits to throwing away archives

By ERNEST E. ABEGG

ZURICH, Switzerland (AP) — Switzerland's biggest bank admitted yesterday it threw away archive material in violation of a government ban on destroying records that might reveal financial transactions during the Nazi era.

Union Bank of Switzerland said one of its employees threw away the documents last week, apparently thinking they were unimportant.

Zurich district attorney Peter Cosandey described the documents as "politically sensitive material," and said authorities had opened an investigation into their contents.

The documents were inside two containers waiting to be shredded when an employee of a private security firm spotted them. The security guard, Christoph Meili, said he rescued some of the documents and handed them to Jewish community representatives in Zurich, who then alerted police.

"If God puts these documents in my hands, then I have to do something," Meili said.

Meili — who has been suspended from his job pending the outcome of the investigation — said he rescued only part of the documents. The rest were destroyed.

At a news conference, the Israeli-Hebrew Community of Zurich said the documents concerned loans from 1920-1926, including to German firms, and property dealings from 1930-1970.

There was no immediate indication of whether they contained any details relating to the Holocaust.

Last month, the government banned banks from destroying any archive material as part of its investigation into allegations that Switzerland colluded with Hitler's Germany, siphoned off Jewish assets and laundered Nazi gold.

The Union Bank of Switzerland also has its own internal ban on destroying archive material.

Cosandey said it was not clear whether criminal proceedings would be launched against the bank employee, who has not been identified.

The revelation that records were destroyed has embarrassed both the Swiss banks and the government.

The government already was under fire for remarks by former President Jean-Pascal Delamuraz, who said calls to set up a multimillion-dollar compensation fund for Holocaust victims amounted to blackmail.

The seven-member Federal Executive has stood by Delamuraz, who remains economics minister, but has indicated it is softening on the compensation issue.

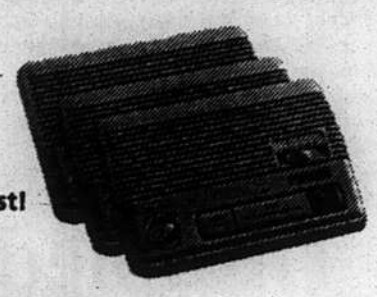
Last week, the federal body indicated it was in favor of using unclaimed accounts in Swiss banks to help elderly and destitute Jews.

Christoph Graf, director of the Swiss Federal Archives, said a compensation fund could be created immediately because there is historical evidence that the Swiss economy profited from the Third Reich.

Graf spoke to reporters visiting the archives, which are being opened to researchers. Swiss government officials estimate it will take 50 researchers an entire year to get through the shelves of documents spanning more than 19,000 feet.

Jewish groups claim Swiss banks still hold up to $7 billion in assets and interest belonging to Jews who perished in the Holocaust. Swiss banks say the amount is no more than a tiny fraction of that.

The government moved at the end of last year to lift the country's strict banking secrecy laws from the World War II era to allow a full inquiry.

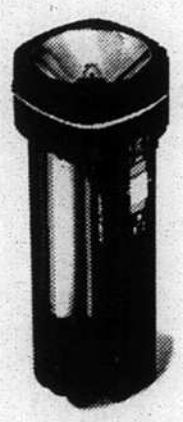
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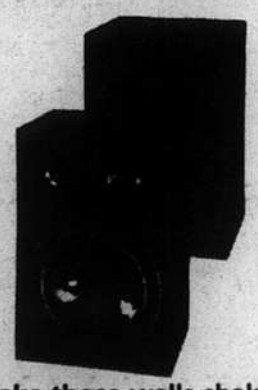
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# Fewer solar eruptions expected in next few years

By PAUL RECER

TORONTO (AP) — The sun is entering a quiet period that astronomers believe could mean up to a decade of mild "space weather," with fewer power blackouts, less radio interference and perhaps slightly cooler Earth temperatures.

Scientists at Yale University and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration are predicting that a solar cycle that began last September may be one of the quietest and least violent in more than 400 years, with only a modest number of solar eruptions.

Ken Schatten, a researcher at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., said the prediction is based on an analysis of solar magnetic field measurements gathered by a solar telescopes in California. He said the findings show that the solar violence that has marked the last 50 years is decreasing and foretells years of a cooler, more smoothly shining sun.

"The last few solar cycles, covering this past half-century, have been four of the five most active cycles we have ever had in the last 400 years," he said. "Now we are predicting that it is starting to go down."

Solar cycles, which last about 11 years, are marked by violent eruptions, or "sunspots," on the sun's surface. These send powerful waves of solar radiation smashing into the Earth. This radiation can drown radio communication, snuff out navigation signals, disrupt satellites and even deplete ozone. The storms can also send surges along power lines that can trigger blackouts, or energize pipelines with electrical charges that can cause shutdowns.

Such geomagnetic storms in the past have knocked out power grids in Canada and northern Europe, causing major blackouts.

The last solar cycle was marked by some of the most violent solar activity ever recorded, with peaks of 170 sunspots each in 1989 and 1991, said Schatten. A cycle in the 1950s was even more violent, peaking in 1958 with more than 200 eruptions.

Variations in the solar cycle are thought to have been a factor in major climate changes in the past.

Sofia said that the "Little Ice Age" in the 1600s may have been the result of a century-long "quiet sun." During that period, glaciers advanced in the far north and south and cold weather extremes were experienced worldwide. New England had summertime frosts and the Thames River froze abruptly in London.

Schatten said that an excess of solar activity has the opposite effect. A very active sun during the 11th and 12th centuries thawed much of the northern cool areas and may have been a factor in the Vikings being able to find and inhabit Greenland.

If the new predictions are correct, it will go against a long trend in solar cycle activity. Sunspots have been observed since the age of Galileo, and more than 200 years ago scientists began numbering them.

"The odd-numbered cycles are usually bigger than the even-numbered ones," said Schatten.

Yet, cycle No. 22, which ended in September, was marked by many eruptions. If the centuries-old statistical pattern continued, then cycle 23, which is now beginning, would be even more violent.

# Disabled U.S. biker to cross Russia by motorcycle

MOSCOW (AP) — American Dave Barr gave his Harley-Davidson motorcycle one last check yesterday and set off on the longest and most grueling stage of a marathon ride from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

The journey across the snowy expanses of Siberia would be a tough prospect even for the most committed biker. But Barr's task is even more daunting: He has no legs.

Barr, from Bodfish, Calif., is a Vietnam War veteran and a professional soldier who lost his legs in a mine blast in Angola 15 years ago.

"I take a particularly difficult time of the year to do this to show others with disabilities that they should know in their heart what they can do," Barr, 44, told The Associated Press. Barr, who began his journey on France's Atlantic coast, expects to reach Russia's Far Eastern port of Vladivostok in early April.

He already has suffered from frostbite inflicted by sub-zero temperatures in western Russia and can expect temperatures of 40 below zero and even lower in Siberia.

Barr is being sponsored by a German road-building equipment company and a Moscow motorcycle magazine. In Moscow, Russian veterans of the war in Chechnya have helped Barr locate spare parts for one of his artificial legs, which was damaged during an accident in Germany.

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# Hong Kong toymakers accused of abusing workers in China

By MARCUS ELIASON

HONG KONG (AP) — Toy factories in China routinely break the law by employing children, forcing overtime on workers, exposing them to toxic substances and withholding wages, an advocacy group charged yesterday.

The Hong Kong toymakers' association responded that it has no power to police its member companies. Toys are one of dozens of Hong Kong industries that have moved across the border into China where labor is cheap.

The study, by a coalition of groups fighting to improve working conditions at factories funded by Hong Kong businessmen, was made public by about two dozen protesters demonstrating outside an international toy fair in Hong Kong.

The alleged abuses were revealed during interviews with 50 workers at nine factories in mid-1995 and another 50 workers at 10 factories last month, the group said.

Chinese law mandates a 44-hour work week, but many workers said they work twice as long, said Chan Ka Wai of the Christian Industrial Committee, one of 20 Hong Kong groups in the Coalition for the Charter for the Safe Production of Toys.

The legal minimum wage in China is 27 cents an hour, plus 50 percent to 100 percent extra for overtime. But workers reported being paid as little as four cents an hour for overtime, the report said.

When workers exercised their right to refuse overtime, they were threatened with penalties and dismissal, the study said.

None of the factories surveyed provided its workers with protection from the toxic fumes emitted by the plastic used to make the toys, and workers under medical advice to change jobs were refused permission to leave, the study said.

A migrant worker who wanted to quit her job because she missed her family was refused a refund of the $61 she had deposited with the company, the study said, adding that the sum was more than one month's salary.

A 1995 survey by the group found that three factories employed children under 16, while a 1996 survey found seven factories employing children.

Only one of the factories has a union, and it only has the power to organize entertainment for the workers, Chan said.

Warren Kwok, secretary-general of the Hong Kong Toys Council, said his group has no power to police its member companies.

Pressed by Hong Kong radio to explain why, Kwok said: "I don't think any trade association in Hong Kong or elsewhere in Western countries has the sort of power to say that company A, B or C must do this or that. This is a free world."

Chan said employers have the upper hand because Chinese migration from farms to cities has created huge competition for jobs.

The best weapon against the abuse, therefore, is a consumer boycott of manufacturers who fail to improve factory conditions, he said.

# Princess Diana greets young mine victims in Angola

By CASIMIRO SIONA

LUANDA, Angola (AP) — Visibly shocked by the horror of two decades of civil war, Princess Diana spoke yesterday with dozens of youngsters maimed by land mines.

After a stop at the Angolan Red Cross headquarters, Diana's bomb-proof jeep took her to the orthopedic center of Neves Bendinha, just outside Luanda.

There, she talked with several children and young adults, knitting her brow and stroking an arm or cheek as she listened to their stories.

Sandra Thijica, a 13-year-old who put on her Sunday best to meet the princess, had her left leg amputated above the knee after a 1994 mine explosion. Diana promised to send her toys.

The princess also spoke with Andre Paulino, 22. He was a government soldier when a land mine blew off his legs in May, 18 months after a peace deal was signed between the government and UNITA rebels. UNITA is an acronym for the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola.

"I have nothing," Paulino told the princess. "I lost my father, my mother in the war and now my body is also lost. I need help."

On her second day of a four-day tour with the Red Cross, Diana took in the sights and smells of squalor in Luanda's sprawling shantytowns. The Angolan government estimates there are 70,000 amputees, many of whom live in wretched conditions in special camps or homes, scavenging garbage piles for food.

Diana spoke to dozens of mine victims at the center, where the Red Cross organizes the making and fitting of about 150 artificial limbs a month.


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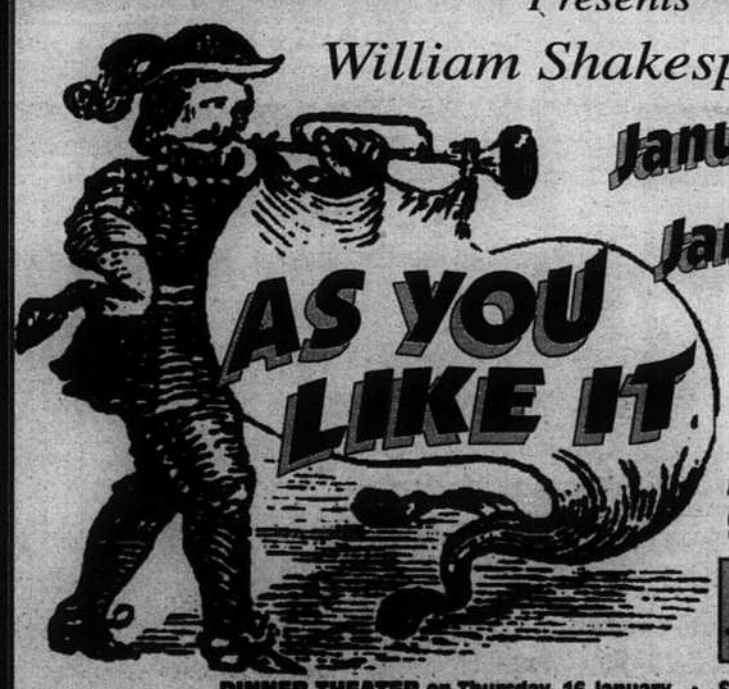
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ISLAND CENTER
For the Performing Arts

*Presents*

*William Shakespeare's*




**January 16, 17, 18**
*and*
**January 24 & 25**

**8:00 p.m.**
**CAFE SEATING**

*ALL TICKETS*
**Adults $12.00**
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**Tickets available at the door**

**DINNER THEATER on Thursday, 16 January • Show & Supper $25**
**MENU: Chicken Piccata, Veggie Lasagna, Broccoli & Peppers, Tavern Garlic Bread, The duke's Cheese Cake**
**DINNER at 6:30 Show at 8:00 • Dinner Reservations Required**
**LIGHT FARE served from 7:00 p.m. at all performances (other than opening night)**
**Pates, Johnny Cakes, Chicken**
**BOX OFFICE OPENS AT 7:00**

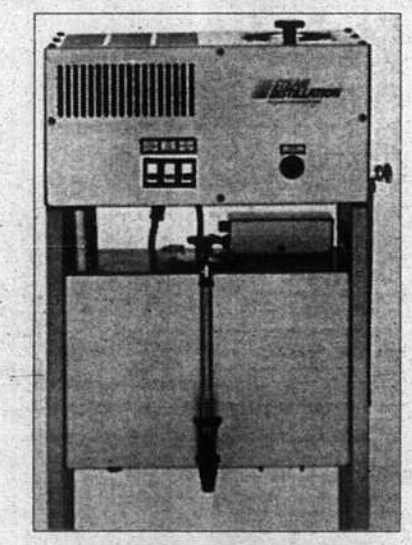
*Join us for an entertaining evening of Shakespeare in an Elizabethan tavern setting at ISLAND CENTER with AS YOU LIKE IT presented by talented residents of our community.*
*Directors: Paula Arden & Debbie Babb*



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**773-4855 or 779-5887**

# A look at the movies: THE RELIC

"The Relic" is a dark thriller riddled with myth, legend and superstition. Evolutionary biologist Margo Green (Penelope Ann Miller) and police Lieutenant Vincent D'Agosta (Tom Sizemore) become unlikely partners when a series of gruesome murders takes place in the normally tranquil atmosphere of the natural history museum where Margo Green works. Using a revolutionary technique developed by Green, they join forces in a desperate hunt to find the killer. **(Starts tomorrow at Sunny Isles Theater #5)**

Penelope Ann Miller, Tom Sizemore, Linda Hunt and James Whitmore star in "The Relic," written by Amy Holden Jones and John Raffo and Rick Jaffa & Amanda Silver, based upon the novel by Douglas Preston and Lincoln Child. The suspense-thriller is directed by Peter Hyams, produced by Gale Anne Hurd and Sam Mercer, and executive produced by Gary Levinsohn and Mark Gordon. The film is a presentation of the Motion Picture Group of Paramount Pictures, in association with Cloud Nine Entertainment. Paramount Pictures is part of the entertainment operations of Viacom Inc.

Producer Gale Anne Hurd has had a passion for this genre since childhood. "I love seeing movies where I am terrified, surprised and scared out of my wits," she says. "This is going to be the most sophisticated haunted house movie ever made. The characters, trapped in a place that is already frightening after hours, are forced to confront the most terrifying creature ever seen on screen."

The action takes place in a natural history museum and when director Peter Hyams read the script he knew it was for him. "It was uncanny. The Museum of Natural History in New York was my second home as a child. I lived right across the street and I would go there every afternoon to sketch or just hang out. I used to have a recurring nightmare that I was locked in and had to spend the night there. Museums can be very dark and gothic places. The idea of being trapped in one - in the dark with something truly terrifying in there somewhere...that struck me as a wonderful premise for a frightening film."



**BIOLOGIST MARGO GREEN (Penelope Ann Miller) flees an explosion in the depths of a natural history museum in Paramount Pictures' "The Relic."**


THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

DIAMOND CINEMAS
778-5200
Sat. & Sun. Matinee $3.00.
1st show. "101 DALMATIANS only.

*CINEMA I*
**"TURBULANCE"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:00, 5:10, 7:10, 9:15. "R"

*CINEMA II*
**"101 DALMATIANS"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:15, 5:15, 7:15. "G"
**"MARS ATTACK"**
Mon.-Fri: 9:15 ONLY;
Sat.-Sun: 9:15 ONLY. PG-13

Sunny Isle Theatres
778-5620
Matinee price $3.00. 1st show Sat. & Sun.

*THEATRE I*
**"MICHAEL"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:15, 9:20;
Sat.-Sun: 3:15, 5:20, 7:15, 9:20. "PG-13"

*THEATRE II*
**"Beavis & Butt-Head"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:20, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:20, 5:15, 7:20, 9:15. "PG-13"

*THEATRE III*
**The Preacher's Wife"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:05, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15. "PG"

*THEATRE IV*
**"ONE FINE DAY"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:10, 5:10, 7:10, 9:15. "PG-13"

*THEATRE V*
**"DAYLIGHT"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15. "PG-13"

*THEATRE VI*
**"Jingle All The Way"**
Mon.-Fri: 7:15, 9:20;
Sat.-Sun: 3:15, 5:20, 7:15, 9:20. "PG"



HOLLYWOOD HITS *Video*

***Rent 3 New Releases - Get a 4th Rental FREE***

***MIDWEEK SPECIAL!*** Rent 3 New Releases on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday and Get a 4th rental of lower-value FREE! Includes children's tapes & games.

HOT New Titles

| | |
|---|---|
| Phenomenon | Scorned 2 |
| Moving Target | Powder Burn |
| Sled | Tales from the Crypt: Bordello of Blood |
| Danger Zone | Chain Reaction |
| Kingpin | Tin Cup |
| A Time to Kill | The Frighteners |
| The Stupids | |

$3 for 2 Nights on New Releases
$2 for 4 Nights on Regular Tapes

***Look for our coupons Good for Free Movie or Popcorn at First Bank ATM Machines***

Sunny Isle Corners Mon-Sat 10-10 Sun12-9



FOOD CO-OP
National Mall Suite 107
*Our every Day Low Prices!*
SALE! JANUARY 13 - 18 SALE!

| | |
|---|---|
| BLACK EYES PEAS | 2/$1.35 |
| MACARONI & CHEESE | 2/$1.49 |
| FRUIT PUNCH | $1.35 |
| RED KIDNEY BEANS | 2/$1.35 |
| SNAPPLE FRUIT PUNCH | 2/$1.35 |
| SARDINES | 2/$1.39 |
| CARNATION EVAPORATED MILK | 2/$1.49 |
| GATORADE DRINK | 2/$1.39 |
| ROVIRA CRACKERS | $3.29 |

SALE! And Much More! SALE!
778-5577

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/$1.49
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/$1.39
$3.29
ALE!



## JUMP START by Robb Armstrong




## BORN LOSER by Art & Chip Sansom

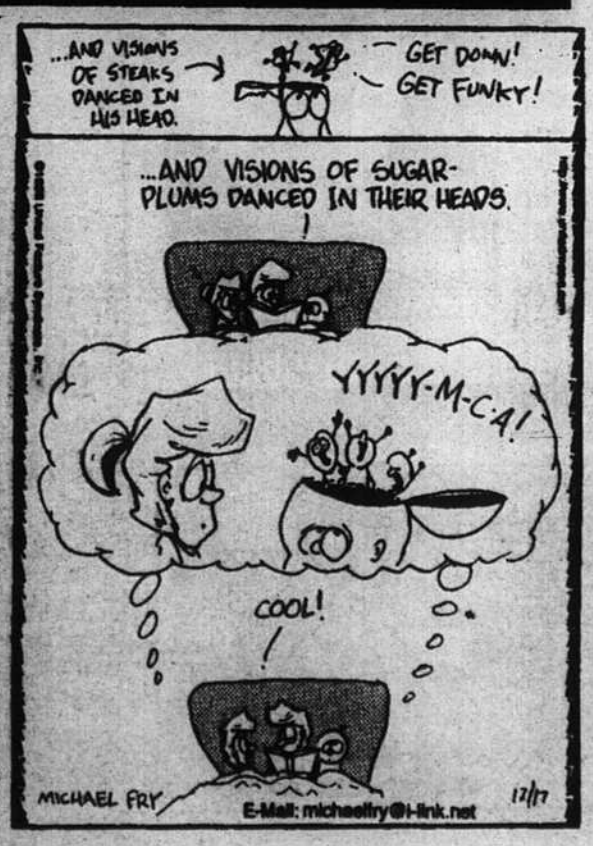



## REDEYE by Bill Yates & Mel Casson




## COMMITTED by Michael Fry




## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**
1 Jape
6 Go nowhere
12 Music aficionado's setup
13 One of the Bowls
14 Cater basely
15 For now
16 Pay to play
17 Banjo setting?
19 Recent news-making jurist
20 — -poly
22 White House monogram
24 Stylish, in the '60s
27 Bird's limb
29 Six-sided state
32 Hersey classic
35 River to the Colorado
36 Gin
37 Central
38 Bunyan's prop
40 Pace
42 Handle clumsily
44 New Testament physician
46 Legal proceedings
50 It was photographed by Voyager 2
52 Understand
54 Ostentatious display
55 How crowned heads lie
56 Simmered
57 Upper House

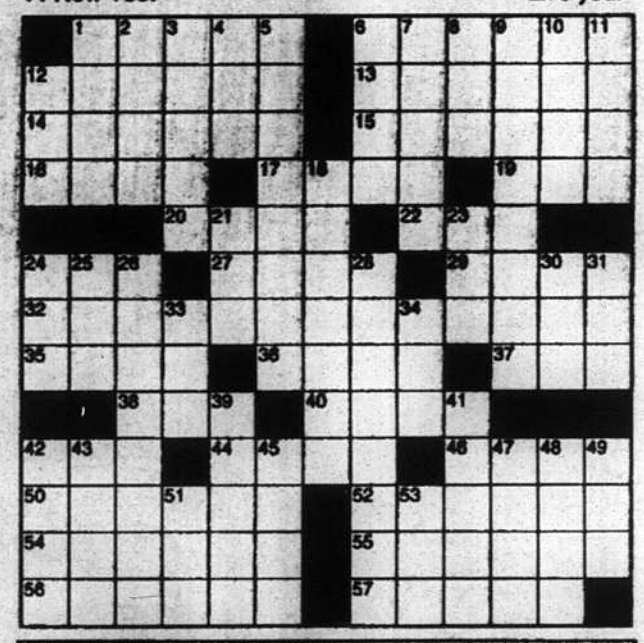
**DOWN**
1 Ollie's pal
2 Minimal change
3 Demand
4 Lawyer's due
5 Warehouse truck
6 Hitchcock tour de force
7 Miscalculated
8 Long March leader
9 Civil War battle site
10 Beach Boys' "— Around"
11 Megalomaniacal captain
12 Resort
18 Literary Scandinavian
21 A fly-by-night?
23 Failure
24 Periodical, for short
25 Kyoto cummerbund
26 Noted 1776 crossing
28 Deeply appreciative
30 Blackbird
31 Coal scuttle
33 Negligent
34 One of Tarzan's cronies
39 Duck
41 Dad, to Domitianus
42 99 of the 101 Dalmatians
43 "I smell — !"
45 Previously owned
47 African nation
48 Pitch
49 Recently wed former First Daughter
51 "Unh-unh!"
53 Uruguayan's year

Solution time: 24 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | A | B | | H | A | N | A | | C | A | P | P |
| U | F | O | | A | C | I | D | | A | G | I | O |
| B | O | O | B | T | U | B | E | | R | E | E | D |
| E | X | P | O | R | T | | P | R | O | | | |
| | | | W | E | E | | T | A | B | L | E | T |
| F | A | M | E | D | | F | L | Y | | A | D | O |
| E | M | I | R | | T | O | Y | | G | I | G | I |
| T | E | N | | P | E | G | | M | O | D | E | L |
| A | N | I | M | A | L | | W | A | D | | | |
| | | | A | S | S | | A | N | O | R | A | K |
| C | H | A | R | | T | E | S | T | T | U | B | E |
| O | U | S | T | | A | N | T | E | | I | B | E |
| P | R | A | Y | | R | E | E | L | | N | A | P |

Yesterday's answer

12-28



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-6873 | 99¢ per minute, touch-tone / rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

12-28 **CRYPTOQUIP**

RFX FMQXAQMOTXG AMNXQ SONXG RU ZSXMT BL JLOSSJ BJOTY M JLUTYX ZMNX.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: HOW ANGRY WOULD YOU THINK A KANGAROO GETS? IT'S SIMPLE: HOPPING MAD.

Today's Cryptoquip clue: A equals B

*CRYPTOQUIP BOOK 2!* Send $4.50 (check/m.o.) to CryptoClassics Book 2, PO Box 6411, Riverton NJ 08077.

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

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## BLONDIE by Dean Young & Stan Drake




## BEETLE BAILEY by Mort Walker




## REDEYE by Bill Yates & Mel Casson




## BORN LOSER by Art & Chip Sansom




## MOOSE MILLER by Bob Weber




## CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Car for hire
4 Mandlikova of tennis
8 Dogpatch's creator
12 "X-Files" vessel?
13 Low-pH
14 Exchange premium
15 TV
17 Saxophone part
18 Transmit abroad
19 Counterpart of con
21 Itsy-bitsy
22 Pad
26 Notorious
29 Take to the skies
30 Bustle
31 Islamic chieftain
32 Item in Santa's sack
33 Caron role
34 Pin number?
35 Dowel
36 Ford Agency employee
37 Muppet drummer
39 Bankroll
40 Chowderhead
41 Parka
45 Scorch
48 Lab vial
50 Eject
51 Initial chip
52 "How Can — Sure?"
53 Utter an orison
54 Angling need
55 Pile

**DOWN**

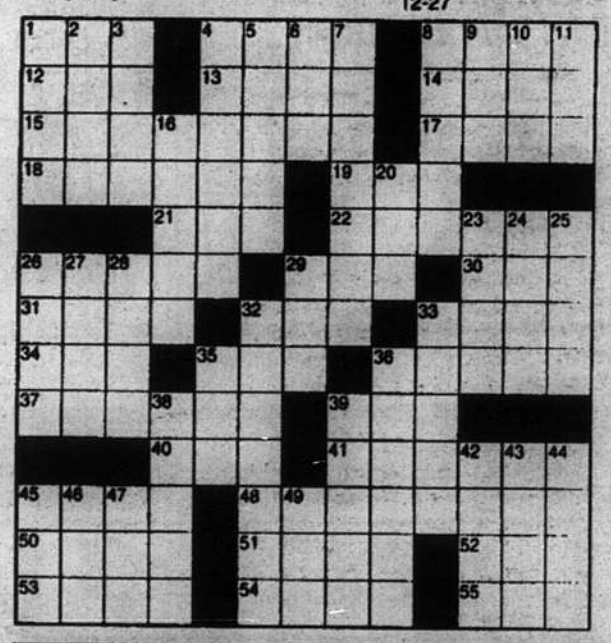
1 Rubik's baffler
2 Crazy like —
3 Betty of cartoons
4 Enmity
5 Less than 90 degrees
6 Pen point
7 With dexterity
8 Ersatz chocolate
9 It would not wither Cleopatra
10 Chart type
11 Spacecraft compartment
16 Leafy recess
20 Beam
23 Set down
24 Advantage
25 Drudgery
26 Goat's-milk cheese
27 Congregational cry
28 Revealing skirt
29 Visibility hindrance
32 Communications satellite
33 Didi and Gogo waited for him
35 — de deux
36 Place for a trophy, maybe
38 Best Picture of 1955
39 Squander
42 Destroy
43 Disco-era quartet
44 Refuse to relinquish
45 Squad member
46 "Ben- —"
47 Botanist Gray
49 Chemical suffix

**Solution time: 28 mins.**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | A | S | H | | L | A | Y | S | | D | O | C |
| O | G | E | E | | I | D | E | A | | A | L | A |
| B | R | E | A | K | F | A | S | T | | A | L | E | O | W |
| B | A | N | D | I | T | | | E | L | B | O | W |
| | | | E | T | | C | I | D | E | R | | |
| D | I | O | R | | J | A | B | | G | E | A | R |
| E | M | U | | | O | D | E | | | A | G | O | W |
| B | A | T | H | | T | E | X | | S | K | E | W |
| | | B | U | R | S | T | | D | I | | | |
| A | G | R | E | E | | | H | A | G | G | I | S |
| T | O | E | | B | R | E | A | K | N | E | C | K | A |
| T | E | A | | E | A | S | T | | A | R | E | A | T |
| A | S | K | | L | E | S | S | | L | E | S | T | |

**Yesterday's answer**

12-27



**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-8873! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone / rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**12-27 CRYPTOQUIP**

AXE IUQVR EXWPH RXW FASUZ I ZIUQIVXX QBFN?

SF'N NSCTPB: AXTTSUQ CIH.

**Yesterday's Cryptoquip: APT SIGN WHICH IS ON A SCALE AT THE HEALTH SPA: GO WEIGH!**

Today's Cryptoquip clue: T equals P

***CRYPTOQUIP BOOK 2!*** Send $4.50 (check/m.o.) to CryptoClassics Book 2, PO Box 6411, Riverton NJ 08077.

The Cryptoquip is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

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## YOUR INDIVIDUAL HOROSCOPE

by Frances Drake

**ARIES**
**(March 21 to April 19)**

**Oh, a friend is hard to pin down now! Guard against laziness on the job and self-indulgence after working hours. You're in the limelight.**

**TAURUS**
**(April 20 to May 20)**

**The job will get done, but first there are distractions to overcome. It's better to handle things yourself than to delegate responsibility. Next month might bring business-related travel.**

**GEMINI**
**(May 21 to June 20)**

**To gamble would be a losing proposition. Get more than one estimate on the cost of legal advice. Leisure activities and romance are highlights after dark.**

**CANCER**
**(June 21 to July 22)**

**You need care in the use of credit. Still, shopping is a plus if you don't go overboard. A friend is irritating in some way, but home entertaining is favored anyway.**

**LEO**
**(July 23 to Aug. 22)**

**You experience a career breakthrough early in the day. A new plan has you on top of the world. Innovative ideas bring financial return, but you should curb extravagance.**

**VIRGO**
**(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)**

**Plans for travel fall nicely into place. You could be meeting with a different adviser who will prove to be helpful. A new educational interest is likely.**

**LIBRA**
**(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)**

**If you run into too many obstacles, you just might put a project aside for the time being. Try not to get ruffled when a friend gives unsolicited advice. Your friend means well.**

**SCORPIO**
**(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)**

**A close tie could appear set in his or her ways. Be selective about those invitations you accept, or you'll be spending time at a pretty dull affair. An exciting introduction awaits singles.**

**SAGITTARIUS**
**(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)**

**You want to get some unfinished tasks out of the way. Do a good job; don't be in so much of a hurry. The evening brings you some happy news.**

**CAPRICORN**
**(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)**

**You could be organizing a party, but you also could get involved in a dispute with a friend. Financial developments are in your favor, so take advantage.**

**AQUARIUS**
**(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)**

**Rose-colored glasses could interfere with judgment when house-hunting. A relative needs your compassionate understanding. Don't be judgmental.**

**PISCES**
**(Feb. 19 to March 20)**

**Artistic endeavors are favored, but you need to be alert to those who bend the truth. Be especially careful that you do not misplace a credit card.**

## DEAR ABBY



# Woman Haunted for 30 Years By Love Lost in High School

by Abigail Van Buren

© 1996 Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: When I was in the eighth grade I didn't "like boys." Building forts was much more interesting. But when my first love walked into our classroom, I knew I loved him the second I saw him.

We liked each other all during high school, although my parents told me I was too young to like boys. When he gave me gifts, I had to give them back. When he offered me his class ring I wasn't allowed to take it. It silently broke my heart. In all those years, I didn't ever tell him I loved him — or how much.

He was the valedictorian of our class, and after high school he went on to Stanford University. I went to nurse's training. His life prospered; mine disintegrated.

At age 30, I married a man to please my father. That marriage ended in divorce eight years and two children later. After being a single parent for seven years, I longed for a husband and family. I married a man who had my first love's name. This marriage ended a year later after a lot of trauma to me and my children.

Two years ago, I realized that my true love was "missing in action" in my heart and that I hadn't been able to go on with my life. I located him through the Stanford Alumni register and after 30 years, talked with him — for 42 minutes. He's happily married with four children.

After that phone call, I grieved for two days and then reconciled my love for him in my heart.

Abby, no other true love has come into my life. Perhaps one never will. Please encourage parents to take their children seriously. The heart is never too young to love deeply and eternally.

Thank you. I cannot sign this letter since I don't wish to expose my parents to the heartache they caused me so young in life, and the profound impact that forcing me to deny my love has had on me throughout the years.

FINALLY RECONCILED,
RICHLAND, WASH.

**DEAR RECONCILED: Yours is a dramatic story. It's gratifying to know that you have finally found peace and resolved your first love.**

**When parents tell children that they are "too young" to be seriously in love, what they usually mean is that the children are too young to shoulder the responsibilities that accompany their turbulent emotions. I hope that the next time you find love, it brings you every happiness.**

***

DEAR ABBY: My wife died two years ago. I know absolutely nothing about her side of the family. Although we had a wonderful trouble-free marriage of 47 years, she did not discuss her family.

Among her possessions is a photo album from 1880. All of the photos are excellent, taken in professional studios. The album is blue velvet, in mint condition. The pictures were taken in Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado; Los Angeles, Oakland and Pasadena, Calif.

Only one photograph is identified with a name: "Mrs. A. Hemenover, 1300 San Pablo Ave., Oakland, Calif., May 5, 1902."

Abby, I would love to return this album to any of her descendants. If anyone reading your column can help, I'm sure it will make the family very happy.

There are no strings attached and no thought of financial gain; I simply hate to see this beautiful album lost to the family. I am 77 years old and a totally responsible citizen.

Incidentally, my wife's maiden name was Jean Elenor Alameda. She was born in Oakland, Calif., and graduated from high school there.

GAYEL G. CHEW

**DEAR GAYEL G. CHEW: How generous of you. If a family member claims this album, I will contact you. Thank you for giving me your name, address and telephone number.**

***

**What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)**

## JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

BANIC

TALGO

MEHRIT

YARBEK

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: _____ _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: ESSAY GASSY EIGHTY VIRTUE
Answer: What she considered the boss' remarks – SUGGESTIVE

## HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF




Find at least six differences in details between panels

Differences: 1. Step is removed. 2. Tire is added. 3. Hat is different. 4. Windowsill is missing. 5. Shrub is missing. 6. Wood is added.

## SPORTS SLEUTH • MARATHONS

N C B Y V T Q O L I G D B Y W
N O T S O B T R S P S M K I F
D U I B Y W L U G R E E C E S
Q R O T M E K I O F E D B Z S
X S W U A S K T Q E O N E N P
L E N D U R A N C E J C N H M
F D E C O T D I A Y A W V U A
T R S Y C O L Y M P I C S Q R
S P W E N O L K H S I N I F C
I E P H P G N I L E U R G F E
N S E L I M 6 2 C B D Z Y W V

Wednesday's unlisted clue: LION

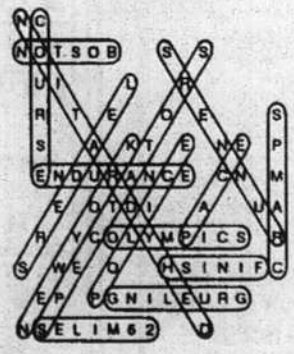
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unlisted clue hint: ORIGIN OF MARATHONS

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 26 miles | Dehydration | Leaders | Police |
| Boston | Endurance | New York | Runners |
| Course | Finish | Olympics | Spectators |
| Cramps | Grueling | Pace | |

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MARATHONS



## Real Estate for Sale

### JUDITH'S FANCY

REDUCED AGAIN! 3 Bedroom, 3 Bath, pool, on two view lots. Beautiful views from Salt River to C'sted and beyond. Owner anxious. Priced now at

**$275,000.**

AMERICAN RENTALS AND SALES
2001 OLD HOSPITAL STREET, C'STED
773-8470

If you want to buy, sell, or rent St. Croix Real Estate here are a few: 1/3 Ac. Enfield $15,900, 1/4 Ac. Wms. Delight $18,000, 1/4 Ac. Glynn $19,900, 1/2 Ac. Cane Carlton $20,900, 1/4 Ac. Glynn with cistern and foundation for a trailer $25,500. 1/3 Ac back of Sunshine $25,000. 1-Ac+ in Caanan $30,900, 1-Ac. Union and Mt. Washington $29,900,2-Acres Southgate Farms $50,000. HOUSES, RENTAL, 2-Houses, Christiansted $35,000, Duplex Wms. Delight $69,000, Duplex Princess $110,000, Triplex Whim $135,000, 4-plex C'sted $275,000, 5 br. 4 Ba in Prosperity $250,000, 3 Br 1-Ba in Strawberry $85,000. RENTAL: 2 BR 1-Ba $550 includes water and Elec. , 2-Br 2 - Ba with option to purchase $650. Call **Schusters Real Estate** Call Schusters Real Estate **778-4648**,ANYTIME!!

### ANDREWS REAL ESTATE

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V.I. 00820
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**INVESTMENT! NICK & JERRY'S ICE CREAM PARLOR AND AMUSEMENT CENTER - Anxious owner will train and finance. All equipment available. Future potential unlimited. Just $45,000**
**MLS #96285**

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

BUGBY HOLE - $299,000 two storey duplex 8 Bedrooms 4 Baths on an acre.
SION FARM - $99,000. Three bedrooms fenced with addition.
UPPER LOVE - $150,000. Three bedroom house - fenced yard -lots of fruit trees
SION HILL - $450,000 - Six rental apartments - (5 - 1 bedroom and 1 - 2 bedroom) with a pool on premises.

**FIXER UPPERS**

CATHERINES'S REST - 2 Bedroom - $69,000.00
MON BIJOU - 3 Bedroom, with Apartment - $79,000.00.

**LAND FOR SALE**

Catch this one - **Estate Lindberg Bay, St. Thomas** over 1 1/2 Acres Zones R - 4- $240,000.00
**UNION MT. WASHINGTON** 2/3 Acres WITH FANTASTIC VIEW - $29,000.00
**BARREN SPOT** 1/4 Acre - $24,000.00
**COTTON VALLEY** 1/2 Acre - $25,000.00
**RATTAN** 1/2 Acre - $29,900.00
**SALT RIVER** - Almost 1 Acre (Waterfront) - $85,000.00
**STRAWBERRY** - Elevated lot, at reduced priced for $22,000.00
**St. Peter's** - lovely view - owner will do some financing reduced to $26,000.00
**Williams Delight** - Quarter acre fenced $18,000.

**WANT TO BUY OR SELL? GIVE US A CALL FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS.**
**773-6463 OR 778-8249**

### SUN REALTY

**LOTS! LOTS! LOTS!**
Where?? At
HOLLYWOOD HOMES SUBDIVISION
in Barren Spot. Good prices. Don't miss out on a great opportunity. Call us - *let's make a deal.*

**SUN REALTY**
**#2 Hospital St., C'sted**
**773-8790**

### RICHARDS & AYER ASSOCIATES

**13 STRAND ST., F'STED**
**772-0420**

**INCOME PRODUCER IN LA GRANGE**

Three story triplex on 1/4 acre. Well maintained. A good buy at $138,500.

*Call Tony for details and appt. to see.*

***LOTS**LOTS**LOTS**LOTS***
AFFORDABLE* HOMESITES IN NEW ESTATE WHIM SUBDIVISION. ATTRACTIVE SEAVIEW LOTS. Paved Roads. Private Neighborhood. Short walk to Sandy Beach in subdivision. SOME DREAMS DO COME TRUE GREAT VALUE from $16,900. HURRY!!! ONLY 3 LOTS LEFT!!! CALL 772–5115

****WATERFRONT HOMESITES****$27,900 and $34,900** ONLY 2 LEFT! **Spectacular Waterfront Lots in Estate Whim subdivision. Paved Roads, Fantastic Seaview and Sunsets! MUST BE SEEN!!! Call 772–5115

**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**
**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**
**All real estate advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, family status or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences,limitations or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.**

### LANDMARK REALTY

**OUTSTANDING VALUE**
**Income Producing Property**
**14 units - Apartment Complex** on 3/4 acre on main road in Golden Rock, with Buck Island sea views.
Asking **$230,000**
*Potential... Potential*
**773-6688**

**Clifton Hill** - Pretty three bedroom home - Carport - Fully fenced - Panoramic views. Guest room with bath. $125,000. Enfield green - Neat two bath home with carport - 3/4 acre - Seaview. $135,000. St. John - Spacious three bedroom home on seaview fenced half acre. Double carport - Porch. $175,000. Vivian Marmaduke, Broker 773-1851

Part time shift work available. Must be willing to work night, weekends, and possible holidays 9AM - 5 PM. Must be able to type 45 wpm. Knowledge of computer a plus. Fax resume to 773-2911. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE . FAXES ONLY.

Fort Augusta - Two bedroom condo, end unit, harbor and marina view, furnished, hilltop pool. Best buy. $95,000. Call **Patrice Kelly, 773-3300** or **773-1817**, Hamilton Real Estate, Caravelle Arcade.

### SUN REALTY

**AFFORDABLE HOMES**

In **HUMBUG** - 3br. 2 ba. with extra room, fenced yard, good condition. Listed at $130,000.
In **WELCOME** - 3 br. 2 ba. good sea view, 1/2 acre lot. For sale at $135,000.
In **FLAMBOYANT, WELCOME** - 3 br. 2 ba. with spacious 1 br apt, good view, fenced yard. Listed at $110,000.
In **WORK & REST** - Duplex - 3 br. 2 ba. one side, 2 br 1 ba other side. Priced for quick sale at $135,000.
In **STRAWBERRY HILL** - 3 br. 1 ba. fenced lot, many extras. Listed at $115,000.

**SUN REALTY**
**#2 Hospital St., C'sted**
**773-8790**

## Comm. Real Estate

**CASTLE COAKLEY BUSINESS PARK** - Good location and parking, secure OFFICE; DISTRIBUTING; RETAIL; LIGHT MFG. 1200 to 5000 S.F., Drive - In and loading dock South of S.I.; Competitive rent. Call 773-0656 or 778-9100.

**Hot Spot!** Orange Grove next to Subway, 1,000 SF, 6,500 SF, corner build to suit, 1,200 SF. **King Street** offices. High visibilbity, convenient Christiansted location. Call first! Flexible terms for high volume locations. 778-9330.

## For Rent

1 bedroom **Apartment**, furnished and including utility. **778-9244**

### Long Reef

**Studios, 1BR**
**$475 -$650**
plus utilities
*Pool, Laundry, Security*
**FREE CABLE TV**
**773-2000**
M-F, 9-5

**New Unfurnished** 2br, 2 bath, upper level, 2br, 1 bath, lower level. Barren Spot convenient location, fence yard and gate with pave entrance. Telephone and cable ready, yard care by owner. Year lease and Security Deposit required. Upper level $650.00 lower level $500.00 per month call 778-6607 from 7AM to 10PM or leave a message.

### AMERICAN RENTALS OFFERS

BAY GARDEN - Furnished efficiency. **$375**
STRAWBERRY - 3 bedroom, 1 bath unfurnished house on corner lot, fully fenced. Just painted. **$650**
QUESTA VERDE - Overlooking C'sted harbor. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths. Beautiful views, 2 upscale units available. **$1000-$1200**

AMERICAN RENTALS AND SALES
2001 OLD HOSPITAL STREET, C'STED
773-8470

**1 & 2 Bedroom,** luxury Condominiums with pool, tennis court, fitness center, plus generator. Washer & Dryer in all units. Completely fenced property with security. For further information call: 773-6901.

**2 Bedroom Apt.** for rent, Fridge & Stove near Christiansted, secure Phone & Cable ready $450/mth. Call 772-2776 or 778-0704 Please Leave a Message.

### Peppertree Terrace

**MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE or RENT**
**On site & available soon brand new single & double wide homes for sale inquire now!**
**For Rent Immediately**
**• One & Two Bedroom •**
Furnished, Air Conditioned Homes and Apartments

SWIMMING POOL - LAUNDROMAT
SECURITY GATE
*"Convenient to Everything"*

**ALL SHOWINGS BY APPT.**
**CALL 778-6425**

3 bedroom, 2 bath **Townhouse.** 1400 sq. ft. Washer,Dryer, Dishwasher. Safe neighborhood, walk to Christiansted. $800/mo includes utilities. Short term OK. **773-4418** evenings and weekends.

### ESTATE SPRAT HALL HOUSE

2 Bdrm/ 2 1/2 bath w/ocean view, pool. Unfurn. w/ all appliances and enclosed garage. $1,500/mo. includes pool and lawn maintenance.
*Call Sandra Davis for appt.*
(809) 772-0420
RICHARDS & AYER ASSOCIATES
13 Strand St., F'sted 00840

**One bedroom Apartment** located at 22 J Calquohoun. Stove and Fridge included. Call after 5 p.m. **778-0159**

Nice **3 bedroom** and 2 bath apt. for rent. It's in Orange Grove located near St. Dunstan School. Rent is $650.00 per month. Security deposit + utilities. Available immediately. **778-9439**

**ON A HILL** overlooking the sea 2 bdrm, 2 bath, livingroom, dining room, breakfast room. French doors lead to 40' deck. Furnished, Secure. $1200 per month call 773-2700.

**HISTORIC CHRISTIANSTED** - Walk to everything penthouse apartment in secure walled courtyard - 1 bedroom nicely furnished fabulous view - single or couple. Call 778-7410. By the week.

A **one bedroom unfurnished** Apartment for rent in Whim. Close to Centerline Road. W.A.P.A. Included. Rent and Security Deposit $375.00. For info call **692-2037**

At the airport, **Aircraft Parking**. Call Air Tour Centre 778-5448.

**BY THE WEEK:** Fully furnished apartments in La Grange , F'sted. All utilities included, quiet area, landscaped grounds, laundry on premises. $125/wk & up. Call 772-9572 or 773-8761.

Centrally located@ **Bay Garden Condo.** Efficiency and one Bedroom FULLY FURNISHED w/pool and laundry facilities on premises $450. and $550. Includes water. 778-0450. ASK FOR YOHANNES OR MANUEL.

At the airport, **Hanger Offices**. Call Air Tour Centre 778-5448

**Clifton Hill** location 1 two bedroom house for rent fridge & stove included $550.00 mthly. plus security & yearly lease call 778-1100 M-F 8:30 to 5:00pm.

**Estate Morning Star,** large 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom semi - furnished (Fridge & Stove ) apartment, great view, no pets. For further information call 778-5260 days /evenings .

**Executive Apartment** for rent - Quiet and Safe. Cable and utilities included. Great views centrally located $850 mthly + deposit and lease. Must see call 778-9116 available March 1st.

Beautiful, spacious **4 Bedrooms,** 3 bath furnished/unfurnished located on Sion Hill Ridge and overlooking Sion Valley $1,600.00 per month. Including water, electricity, Washer, and Dryer, Cable TV ready, phone also. **778-0541**

FOR RENT one efficiency Apartment #32 A Hospital St. Frederiksted. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 772-0166.

Fully furnished luxury **Condominium.** Three Bdrm, Three bath, rebuilt 1996 throughout. Pool, ocean view, Washer, dryer, Central AC, telephone, cable. Centally located at Ft. Augusta. $1800/month/lease Call 773-3320 or **773-8856**.

**FURNISHED APTS** - Grape Tree area. Lease only. (1)2 br., 2 bath, AC, large deck area, beautiful views, breezy, walk to the beach $900 per month and a 1BR, 1bath apartment $650 per month utilities not included. Efficiency apt., deck, AC $475 utilities included. No Pets. Call 773-5894.

**Grape Tree Bay** - 1 Br. semi-furnished, ocean view, hurricane secured, references, security deposit, no pets, 1 yr. lease, $550/mo. Plus all utilities. 773-3562

**HOUSE TO SHARE** - Large furnished house to share with cable tv, w/d, pool, safe area. Private bedroom with bath. Working gentleman preferred, $350.00 P/M. 692-2208 after 6:00 pm.

**ONE NICELY FURNISHED** One bedroom apartment centrally located. Water and Electricity included for information. Contact 772–2152.

### ESTATE SMITHFIELD HOME

Spacious, fenced two story with courtyard pool, furn'd. Secure and lovingly maintained for gracious Island living. Mature fruit trees dot the well -landscaped grounds.

Call **Sandra Davis** for an appt.
**809 772-0420**
**RICHARDS & AYER ASSOCIATES**
13 Strand St., F'sted 00840

Remax St. Croix #5 Company Street, La Grande Princesse furnished efficiency in quiet neighborhood,wonderful bath/dressingroom, $425 includes electricity . Christiansted Town--Spacious 1 BR house (FENCED) with stove/refrigerator, built after hugo $450 plus utilities. CALL **MARY 773-1048 X 20, 778-6496**

**Three Bdrm** - 2 bath huge porch fruit trees - Sea View - Est. St. George - $850.00 per month. Call 772-3025 or 778-5380 (days) 772-3973 (evenings).

**SUN COMMERCIAL CENTER** (Centerline Rd. at Villa La Reine). 1500 sq. ft; Plumbing and Electric; Loading Dock; Security Fence, Gate and Guard: AFFORDABLE 778-7867.

**Two Bedroom** unfurnish apt for rent in Tan-Tan Terrace. $500.00 per month . Call 778-5677.

## For Sale

Restaurant S.S. Pots - Fryolator - Work Tables - Chests-of-Drawers Maple &_ Mahogany - Refrigerator - Washing Machines - Small Freezer - Teak & Mahogany China Cabinets - Old Wood Desk - Wood or Metal Desks - Small Safe - Conference Table - Executive & Secretary Chairs. **Trading Post 773-9668**

**NORDIC FLEX** POWER WORK OUT MACHINE 32 power exercises to build and strenghten the body. Good condition and at a reasonable price! **778-9244**

**Mixed Rottwiellers/Shepherd** - lovable pups for sales, 7 Weeks old pups eagerly awaiting your home - Please call 778-9506. Used Restaurant & Bakery equipments supplies available for sale late January. Call today 778-9506.

**One More Time Inc.**
**THE CONSIGNMENT OUTLET**
*Stick to your New Year Resolution!*
Clean out your closets, bring those not so needed items to sell.
And you who resolved to save money, save by buying items far below retail.
**Open Tues. thru. Sat. 9-5**
**Farrelly Commercial Center**
formerly *Builders Yard* • 773-8700

**1991** Ford Explorer XL 2Drs. $10,000.00 - McIntosh Centris 610 Computer Scan - Jet IIC Flatbed Color Scanner HP. Laser Jet 4m Printer Accura 28.8 Fax/Modem. Call 773-0818

**SPECIAL -SPECIAL-SPECIAL** 1/4" Clear Plexi - Glass - Acrylic, 122.00 Per 4X8 Sheet, 1/2 and 1/4 Sheets available. Now stocking large inventory, tinted, Lexan(R) -PVC Sintra(R)-King Starboard(R). All thickness-Great savings. **ST. CROIX MIRROR & GLASS WORKS** #91 CASTLE COAKLEY-HESS RD 773-2464

**BEST PRICES** for the best quality. windshield glass. For all types cars, trucks, buses, pick-ups, safety glass, door glass. Also specializes in car seat and interior upholstery. Some W/shields install $250.00. Call ADAM 773–5862 **Most glass in stock!**

*SOLID MAHOGANY*
**DRESSERS**
**$900. - 950.**
**JAVA WRAPS HOME STORE**
in the Historic Quin House
Company St., Christiansted • 773-2920

FOR SALE 26 Cubic ft. **Refrigerator** ice and water in the door,$275.00, 30" **Stove GE,** Self cleaning $285.00. Working perfect **773-8620** (Home)**773-3566**(Daytime).

**YARD SALE- Jan. 18,** 1997,8:00-12:00 noon , 92B SMITHFIELD, Frederiksted(around corner from West Indian Grocery to 5th driveway)Furniture, office machines, household items in excellent condition. Everything must go.

Honda - 11 Horsepower 3000 LB. Pressure Washer. 2-50 Foot hoses s. just like new $1,500.00. Call 773-3964. Also 3 used Fans and 1 new Hunter Fans. Used - $60.00 each new $206.00.

IN STOCK 1996 Yamaha Wave Venture ( 3 person w/ trailer) IN STOCK 1996 YAMAHA YZF600 Motorcycle at your **KAWASAKI AND YAMAHA** Dealer, "MIKE" Patalidis. By Special Order PARTS AND PERFORMANCE ENHANCERS. See MIKE PATALIDIS in Sion Farm Center or call **778-6560** for appointment.

HOST A DEMONSTRATION OF **TUPPERWARE BRAND PRODUCTS-** I will appreciate the opportunity to share ideas with you and your friends. A career in Tupperware is both fun and profitable. Some of the reasons are: You determine your own income,You set your own hours, You can receive valuable gifts, You receive free training,and there's no cash out lay required to get started. As a matter of fact, a party can be your first step. Ask me how?**778-2047**

**Men's Rolex Watch** 6Mt-Master, 18kt, Gold, pristine condition. Retail value; $15,250. Any reasonable offer will be considered. 690-8584

**New** Queen size pillow top premium bed selling for half price $400.00. Call Mark 778-5462 8 to 5.

**WINDSHIELDS-WINDSHIELDS**
After you have called everyone else on the Island, Call us for the "LOWEST" windshield and Auto Glass Prices.
ST. CROIX MIRROR & GLASS WORKS
#91 CASTLE COAKLEY,
NEXT TO BUNKERS, HESS RD.
$ SAVE $ SAVE $ 773-2464

## Boats for Sale

**Boston Whaler** 13' 25 HP Evinrude out board new paint & rep on boat center console not inst. in the water. Asking price $2,300.00. Call 773-3746 for further details.

**34' C&C Sailboat**, 1979. Yamaha engine, 12 sails (3 of them Spinnakers), new electronics, stainless standing rigging, good solid boat, racer/cruiser. Hull needs paint. Ready to sail. Must Go!, Please call 778-2179 ask for Ana.

**1989** 30 ft Crusor - Two Volvo Denta inboard/outboard V6 205 engines, stove, frig., shower,sleep 5. Much more, must see to appreciate. Beeper 772-8928 key in # to call.

For sale 18.4' **BOSTON WHALER w/ TRAILER** - 1988 Johnson 55 H.P. in good running condition. Boat needs paint and steering cable. A steal at $3800.00. **772-2185.**

## Autos for Sale

**CHASE**

**The Chase Manhattan Bank announces the private sale of the following repossessed vehicles.**

(1) 1991 Nissan 240 SX 2dr. Red Sedan Standard slightly damaged
(2) 1990 White Toyota Pick-Up 2dr. Ex-Cab 4X4 Standard slightly damaged.

*Please submit your written bids to the Consumer Loan Department at The Chase Bank at #4&5 Orange Grove, Monday to Friday between 9:00 0'clock a.m. and 5:00 p.m. or contact Beverly Pryor at 772-6214. Final date for bids will be Feb. 21, 1997*

**94" Isuzu Rodeo** 5-speed, 4-cyl. low mileage. Excellent Condition. Asking $15,000.00. Now available Quality new or used vehicles at off Island prices. Call Gordon at 778-6017 today.

"1980 MERCURY MONARCH(Ford), engine works beautifully but needs tuneup. Body needs some work. Windshield has a crack. Hardly being used with other vehicles available. Make an offer. 778-2386 or 772-3747."

**GREAT BUYS!** 1990 Oldsmobile, EIGHTY-EIGHT ROYALE,4-Door , V-6. 74,000 miles. Silver w/gray interior. Very good condition inside/out. On island 6 months. $7,500. 773-4670 **ALSO,** 1991 MERCURY, GRAND MARQUIS LS.Sedan. V-8. 36,000 miles! Showroom condition. Blue w/velour interior. On island 6 months. $9,500. **773-4670.**

**WINDSHIELDS-WINDSHIELDS**
After you have called everyone else on the Island. Call us for the "LOWEST" windshield and Auto Glass Prices. ST. CROIX MIRROR & GLASS WORKS
#91 CASTLE COAKLEY,
NEXT TO BUNKERS, HESS RD.
$ SAVE $ SAVE $ 773-2464

1983 **DODGE** RAM **CHARGER** full size **4x4,** in excellent condition, 85,000 original stateside miles. A beautiful Truck w/308 eight cylinder motor, $4000.00 OBO **772-2185.**

**1984** F-150 Ford pickup leaving Island, mechanical & body good. A/C, auto, $2,900 - for quick sale call 773-6887.

**1985** Nissan Sentra 4 door, new paint job. $3,000 Or best offer. Call 692-1895.

**1993 SUZUKI S TOP** $7,500.00 auto 2 dr.
**1993 Gold Lumina** a/c., p/w, p/b, cassette 4 dr. $8,400.00
**1993 Chevy Cavalier** $5,500.00 a/c, p/s, p/b, 4dr.
**1993 Aerostar Mini Van** $8,900.00 7 pass, a/c.
**1994 Ford Tempo** $7,500.00 a/c, p/s, p/b, 4dr.
OLYMPIC 773-2208
EVERYDAY 8-6

**1987** Ford E 350 Van 15 passenger. $3,800 No reasonable offer refused. Call 772-5393 for further information.

**1988** Mitsubishi Mirage white & red, runs beautiful, good condition asking $3,000 or best offer. Call 778-7175 after 5 pm or 773-8840 (D) ask for Sylvia.

**Family Sale!** 1995 Ford pick/up truck, 5 speed with air-condition, like new. 1995 Geo Metro 2 door 5 speed with air-condition. Beautiful mint green. 1991 Dodge Caravan SE, power windows & doors, air-condition. All priced to sell. Also one self propell lawn mower. New! Call 778-9656 ask for Yovanny.

**1989 Trooper** - Original owner 52,000 low miles, good condition 4 wheel drive, Automatic Transmission, other options. Leaving island $7,200 or best offer. Call Any Time **773-7401.**

**1988 GMC Safari** - New clutch, tires, & front end work. Good Buy! Asking $4,500.00 call 778-7670 ext. 145.

**AVIS** RENT A CAR

**BLOWOUT SALE**

Come see our fine used cars now on sale

| | |
|---|---|
| **1995 -1996 Corolla Bids Only** | |
| **1994 - Ford Aerostar Vans** | **$11,700** |
| **1994 - Chevy Sprints** | **$ 6,500** |
| **1995 - Toyota Corollas** | **$12,000** |
| **1995 - Toyota Tercel** | **$10,000** |
| **1995 - Mazda Proteges** | |
| Was $10,500 **Now** | **$10,000** |
| **1995 - Chevy Luminas** | **$12,000** |
| **1995 - Kia Sephia** | |
| Was $10,500 **Now** | **$ 9,500** |

Contact Pete or Lyn 774-4616 or stop by #15 Limberg Bay or call Nydia in St. Croix 778-9365 or stop by Alexander Hamilton Airport.

**92 -** Escort great cond. auto, a/c, new tires, new paint, AM/FM cassette just $5,500.00. Interested call 773-2752.

**Red Sprint** 1987 runs good 4 doors asking $1,200 OBO. 1988 Chevy Blazer damage asking $2,500 OBO. Please call 778-5698.

FOR SALE a **Mazda RX7**, good condition inside and ouside. Price unbeatable! Call **772-3580 evenings**

**Selling Out -** 1990 Honda Civic 4 Door automatic with air condition "Perfect All the Way" Also 1994 Saturn SL 4 door 5 speed one of the Hottest vehicles sold in the United States. Call 513-0349.

VEHICLE FOR SALE White **Ford Cargo Van** 84'. Runs good, $2500 OBO Call **773-2767.**

## Bus. Opportunity

**Entrepreneur's!** If you are looking for ... Being your own boss, financial Independence, freedom, challenge. This is your wake up call ... its 1997! * Established Delicatessen Business for sale * Steady Customer base * Prime Sunny-Isle, St. Croix location * Near proposed New Casino Development * Adjacent to 24 hr. gas station * Cash business with excellent income potential! 70 k Investment, obo! * Serious inquiries only, call 772-1493.

**SPEEDY SECRETARIAL INSTITUTE,** Peter's Rest, same entrance as CORNELIUS DRIVING SCHOOL, is accepting registration for the following : INTRO, TO COMPUTERS, WORDPERFECT, INTRO To WINDOWS 95, EXCEL, WORDS, POWER POINT, DESKTOP PUBLISHING & TYPING. Classes begin Saturday-Jan. 11, Monday-Jan. 13, & Tuesdays-Jan. 14. We offer daytime, evening & Saturday Classes. Also offering computer training in Spanish. Visit us or Phone 778-8383.

**Restaurant** for lease on the water in Christiansted Turn Key Operation-Lease concessions for immediate occupancy. Call 773-3600

## Business Services

Contracts * Deeds * Wills
Articles of Incorporation
By-Laws * Personal Injury
Power of Attorney
Call **AMELIA B. JOSEPH**
*Attorney at Law*
773-6363 located in the New AVIS building in Princess

El Instituto **Speedy Secretarial Institiute,** co-localizado con **CORNELIUS DRIVING SCHOOL** en Estate Peter's Rest, les informa que ahora ofrece cusos de comutacion en Espanol. Nuestros cursos incluyen Introducion a Computadores, procesadores de palabras tales como Wordperfect y Microsoft Word, y otras applicaciones populars. Para mas informacion, favor de visitar nuestras oficinas o llamar al 778-8383.

**ELECTROLYSIS UNLIMITED-** Come and have your unwanted hair PERMANENTLY removed. Shape your Eyebrows, remove facial, chin or neck hair or do your Bikini line. There is no other method that will set you PERMANENTLY free from your unwanted hair problem. ELECTROLYSIS UNLIMITED for an appointment call 773-2095 leave message.

**T and R Landscaping and Gardening Service**
*We have better a price than others*
Owned by H. Rivera and G. Torres
**Tel. 773-4560 or 778-4932**

**Baby Sitting Service** - Available now for more information. Please call 773-0483 after 5:00 pm or 690-2954 at any time.

**Concrete Cistern, wall, foundations** and homes. Do it right with steel reinforced, poured in place concrete. Faster and stronger than block. Call 773-0975.

**MATHEMATICS TUTOR:** High School and College students don't let math problems keep you from the honor roll. Math is the most precise and logical language we know. Help available in Algebra, Geometry, Statistics and Pre-Calculus. Piano lessons available. Call 772-0771.

Individual or small group tutoring in Math, Reading and Writing. Help with homework, too. Grades 2-7. Please call 778-3539 or 773-9397.

## Help Wanted

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM**
IS NOW ACCEPTING RESUMES

**SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT**

This is staff work in coordinating office services such as budgetary requests, record control, manuals, policies, procurement and simplification of reporting procedures.

**Duties include** typing, filing, coordinating program activities, budgeting, and other related duties.

**Job skills required** include a positive, mature and professional attitude, computer knowledge, (Excel, Win preferred), and good math and organizational skills. Interested persons should

call 773-1311 Ext 3057 or send resume to:
Chronic Disease Prevention Program
Charles Harwood Complex
3500 Estate Richmond
Christiansted, St. Croix 00820

**"Substitute Teacher** - Kindergarten - 9 Weeks - Starting February 3. Must be committed Christian. Degree and Experience preferred. Call 772-2280"

**Cyndee's Models** in the Isle - Open Audition & Modeling classes registration Sun., Jan. 19, 1997 4:00 p.m. - Caravelle Hotel Conf. Rm. All ages and sizes - Male and Female Info: 713-9148/692-2462

Legal Services of the Virgin Islands, Inc. **Position**: Domestic Violence Staff Attorney for St. Thomas office. Background: Legal Services of the Virgin Islands provides civil legal representation to low income clients on the islands of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John in the Territory. Responsibilities: Litigation, involving domestic violence, community education, and collaboration with other agencies working to end domestic violence, community education, and collaboration with other agencies other agencies working to end domestic violence. Qualifications: One to three years experience in representation of low-income clients; licensed to practice law and in good standing in any state of the U.S. or the Territories; ability to relocate and adapt to local climate and culture. Salary/Benefits: Salary $30,000.00. Health, life and disability insurance paid for by program. Closing Date: January 31, 1997 Applications: Send resume to: Harvey Nielsen, Acting Co-Director Legal Services of the Virgin Islands, Inc. No. 3017 Orange Grove Christiansted, St. Croix U.S. virgin Islands 00820-4375
USVI is an equal opportunity employer and encourages people of color, women and persons with disabilities to apply.

**Earn Extra Money** - Delivering telephone directories in St. Croix. Must be 18 yrs of age with vehicle, and have daylight hours available. Call 778-3545 8:30 to 4:30.

Environmental company has the following position immediately: **Administrative Assistant**/ Requirements: *Must have valid V.I. drivers license and able to produce driving record upon interview, * Must be able to produce criminal background record upon interview *Must have 2 years of experience in the Environmental field, paralegal field or federal government, *Knowledge of environmental issues and laws helpful *Knowledge of waste documentation, manifests and bills of lading helpful but not required *Some accounting experience helpful* Excellent communication and organizational skills *Able to meet tight deadlines. The person selected for this position, will receive fringe benefits, including medical insurance, paid vacation and paid holidays. Interested persons should send resumes with salary requirements to: Office Manager,P.O. Box 2994, Christiansted, St. Croix 00822.

Executive Director. Legal Services of the Virgin Islands. Responsibilities: Direct overall program operations and implement policies of the Board of Directors. Duties include long term program planning and development, hiring staff, fiscal management, fund raising, budget preparation, oversight of legal delivery systems to assure quality representation, direct supervision of special projects and management staff, maintaining external relations with bar, judiciary and funders. Qualification: Demonstrated administrative and management experience; legal background with supervisory abilities, effective organizational, written and verbal skills, Computer knowledge helpful. Licensed to practice law and in good standing in any one of the United States of the US Virgin Islands. **Closing Date: November 29, 1996 - Extended to January 31, 1997.** Salary/Benefits: Salary depending on experience/health, life, dental and disability insurance paid for by program/generous vacation, sick and holiday leave. Please send resume to: Search Committee, P.O. Box 8330, St. John, Virgin Islands 00831. Legal Services is an equal opportunity employer.

Are you making what you are worth? CELLULAR ONE the premier cellular service provider in the USVI has openings for individuals willing to become top salespersons.
PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNT
EXECUTIVE

**Requirements:**
* Excellent oral/written communications skills and presentation skills.
* Minimum 3 years outside sales experience.
* Must have proven track record of individual & corporate accounts
* Must have own transportation

If you meet these requirements and want to accept the challenge, fax or send resume and salary history to:

Director
Cellular One
Sion Farm Shopping Center
St. Croix, USVI 00820
690-5511 FAX

EOE
NO PHONE CALLS

**Part-Time Waitress** wanted for full service restaurant. Hotel or Restaurant experience preferred. Must be fast and dependable. Apply in Person at China Jade Restaurant, in Sunny Isle. No Phone Calls Please.

**Mystery Shoppers.** Need several in your area. No fees charged. Please send your name, address and phone number to: MIF, 1572 Capital Circle NW, Tallahassee, FL 32303.

**Unemployed** because you don't have your GED and your resume? If you're 22 years or older you may qualify for FREE Computerized training. Call Mr. Berry at 778-6693 from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. M-F for info. Deadline is Thursday, January 16,1997.

## ST. CROIX SALE REP.

*Great opportunity to add to your income!*

**Highly motivated, dependable person with good sales skills wanted to open new account and service existing ones on St. Croix. Approximately 24 hrs per week needed by St. Thomas firm with 17 years of established operations in the tourist trade. V.I. drivers license and experience necessary. Fax your letter of interest or resume to**

**777-8596**

**CRISIS COUNSELOR** - The Women's Coalition of St. Croix is accepting applications for the position of Crisis Counselor. Counseling skills, experience working with victims and bilingual (Spanish/English) preferred. Bachelor's Degree also preferable. Due to the crisis nature of the work, applicants must be able to work under pressure in a very busy work environ-ment that is NOT of the 9-5 nature. Please send cover letter and resume to: WCSC, P.O. Box 2734, Christiansted, VI 00822. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. The Women's Coalition is an equal opportunity employer.

**Experience** small engine mechanic. Should be able to repair most major brands. To set a personal interview please apply in person to Gallows Bay Hardware from 7AM - 6PM Monday through Saturday.

## Position Wanted

**Carpenter** with 18 yrs Stateside Experience in residential & light commercial remodeling (rough, finish & new build) seeks work (hourly or by contract) with local quality oriented contractor or by home owners. Completely equipped with truck & tools. Quality work guaranteed. Local references available. Call Patrick at 773-9137 or at 513-1488.

FINISH CARPENTER from New Hampshire with 20 years experience is available for work on St. Croix, St. Thomas or St. John, February to May. Photos., local project references, fully insured. Leave message at **778-0945**.

## Personals

Need help to **IRON** your clothes or **CLEANING WINDOWS**? You can drop off your clothes or I can come to your home. Call 778-8066 and lets do business. Happy New Year!

## Miscellaneous

JANEL
*Styling Salon*
**JIM COLLINS Winner of our Christmas Stocking filled with Paul Mitchell Products!**
Tue-Fri 9-5 Sat 9-4 . King Cross St.
778-7458

**V.I. Grocery Shoppers!!** Tired of the rising cost of your grocery bill? Now you can cut 20% to 50% from your grocery bill with grocery coupons .... YOU CHOOSE the coupons YOU WANT from a list of 1200 brand-name products. CALL NOW supplies limited. 779-5645

**Vendors** who are interested in selling at the Blues & Heritage Festival, on Thurs Jan 23rd at Paul E. Joseph Stadium. Please call 773-7347 for information leave message.

## Food & Entertainment

THE SALOON
in Frederiksted
**Hungry?**
Lunch to Late Night
Burgers
Sandwiches
Salads more!
Kitchen Open til 3:00 am
Friday & Saturday
Open 11:00 am
Sun. - Th. - Midnite
Fri. & Sat. 4:00am
One Market St. F'sted
one block from Pier
**772-BEER**

CHEESEBURGER IN PARADISE
fun • food • drink
**Wed. - Nite 6:30 p.m.**
*HE'S BACK*
*Special Appearance*
**"JEFF CAHILL"**
East End Rd. - 773-1119

**The Deep End Bar**
*Jon Reuck music*
*Fridays from 5:30*
*Grill open Friday nite & Sat & Sun from noon til...*
**The Deep End Bar**
*Open for Lunch Every Day!*
Tamarind Reef Hotel
Rt. 82 East End Rd.

TOP HAT
RESTAURANT
the best little restaurant in town
NEW HOURS:
DINNER MON-SAT
from 6pm
reservation 773-2346

Pastarama
*Pasta Buffet*
TONIGHT!
ALL YOU CAN EAT $15.00
Join us at
CHENAY BAY BEACH RESORT
Reservation suggested 773-2918
6pm until its gone

**PALMS AWAY CAFE'**
Northshore Rd. LaVallee
778-6711
1st. Year Anniversary Party
ENTERTAINMENT
w/ Junie & the Jungle
warming up the stage for
CODE 9
SATURDAY
January 18th 7pm
PIG ROAST
*FREE Raffle Ticket at the gate & w/ every Coors Light.*
FREE T-SHIRT & PRIZES TO GIVE AWAY

## Psychics\Astrology

**Grace** - Broken Heart Specialist. Helps all problems. Marriage, business, health. Reunites lovers. Relieves depression. Voice Vibrations, aura readings. Tired of false promises. For honest answers call 1-800-367-5963.

Results in Hours! **Sister Hines,** solves all problems fast. Amazing strong powerful, skills. Reunites separated. Removes bad luck. Helps broken relationship. Reveals lovers feelings and future. 1-800-533-7540

**Zola** Voodoo Queen - Healer of all problems. Specializes in reuniting lovers. Removes evil works. Restores nature, and helps money problems. Guaranteed. Fast results 210-787-6948.

**Mesmerizes Lover.** Clare O'Brien Psychic. Nation's # 1 Love specialist. Mesmerizes lover to love only you. Reveals why you called.. Guaranteed Results. 316-688-9958.

**REV CRUZ** Spiritual Consultant. Solves all problems. Love, money, health. Can tell if your love is true or false. Call enemies names. Restores lost nature. Removes evil from you and your family. Guaranteed results. 1-800-936-7628

**Catherine Conners** - World renowned psychic. Helps all problems. Love, marriage, business, health. Removes bad luck. Reunites loved ones. Restores nature. Immediate results by telephone. Guaranteed. 2 free questions. Call now. 1-800-587-7045.

**Psychic Brings Back Lover.**
**Free Consultation.**
**Helps all problems.**
Gives lucky days / numbers.
God gifted. Call 24 hours.
Immediate Results.
**Psychic Nancy Drake**
**817-483-7398**

10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.
11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him.
12 Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee;
13 And leaving Nazareth, he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the sea coast, in the borders of Zabulon and Nephthalim:
14 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying,
15 The land of Zabulon, and the land of Nephthalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles;
16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up.
17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.
18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.
19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.
20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.
21 And going on from thence, he saw

PSYSCHIC READER WHOLE LIFE READINGS I will help you in Love ,Marraige, and in your job. Dream Interpretations, Natural Healing and Weight Loss. Will help remove bad habits and bad energy. Start today for a better tomorrow. **(818)340-1105**. TAROT CARDS - MARIA!

**Rev Mother Hope** - Helps all problems. Reunites loved ones. Removes bad luck. Restores nature. Immediate Results! 1-800-576-6218 or 954-563-5178

MATTHEW
Chapter 4
Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.
2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred.
3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, if thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.
4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.
5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple,
6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels, charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone.
7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God.
8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;
9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

**Mrs. Terry**
Psychic Consultant. Spiritual Guidance Advice. All matters. Restores nature. Luck peace of mind. Sick? Worried? Confused? Tried the rest now try the best. Free question Toll Free 1-888-432-1895.

other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them.
22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.
23 And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.
24 And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had palsy; and he healed them.
25 And there followed him great multitudes of people from Galilee, and from Decapolis, and Jerusalem, and from Judaea, and from beyond Jordan.
*To be continued...*

## Notices

**NOTICE**

**WOMEN BE PREPARED ACT NOW!**

**SPECIAL!**
**Women's Rape Prevention**
**One Night a Week for 6 Weeks Wednesday Nights**
**CALL NOW TO BE BOOKED**

**Special Offer - Join Now**

- Self-defense
- Build self confidence
- Expand your concentration
- Strengthen your physical skills

*Special Ladies' Rape Prevention*

*Learn to defend yourself*
*Mental Awareness -*
*Be physically fit*
*Loose Weight*
Call 773-4811
for more information!
Bill Adams Jr.,
*Resident Instructor*

## Messages

**Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. 1 Peter 2:21**

**IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE IN THE CLASSIFIED SECTION OF THE ST. CROIX AVIS**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

1/9/97

**Invitation to Bid No. IFB-13-DHS-C-97(SC)**

**Pursuant to Chapter 23, Title 31, of the Virgin Islands Code, sealed bids in Quadruplicate for: Janitorial Services for the Department of Human Service, Golden Rock Facility, St. Croix, Virgin Islands will be received by the Department of Property and Procurement, Division of Procurement (address) #274**
**Estate Richmond**
**Christiansted, St. Croix, V.I. 00820**
**until 10:30 o'clock a.m. Atlantic Standard Time, January 30, 1997 and then at said office publicly opened. Bidding documents may be obtained from this office.**

**Proposals hall be submitted on the forms furnished by the Government. Each bidder must deposit with his bid security in the amount called for in the Invitation for Bid.**

**No bidder may withdraw his bid within thirty (30) working days after the actual date of the opening thereof.**

**Leroy L. Daniel**
**Assistant Commissioner**
**1/13,15,17, 1997**

**PROPOSAL NOTICE**

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY IS SOLICITING PROPOSALS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**PR-08-97 TO PERFORM A MAJOR TURBINE OVERHAUL INSPECTION AND GENERATOR REPAIRS ON GAS TURBINE NO. 17**

**DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSAL CAN BE PICKED UP FROM MS. SANDRA DAVID, CONTRACT SERVICES DIVISION (774-3552, EXTENSION 2039) AT THE AUTHORITY IN SUBBASE BUILDING # 18, ST. THOMAS, USVI.**

**THE AUTHORITY WILL HOLD A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1997 AT 2:00 P.M. AT THE ESTATE RICHMOND POWER PLANT CONFERENCE ROOM ON ST. CROIX, USVI.**

**SIX (6) SEALED COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL 3:00 PM LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1997 IN THE EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, VIWAPA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON ST. THOMAS AND AT THAT TIME PUBLICLY OPENED.**

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS.**

**1/13,15,17, 1997**

**ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS**

**Date: Dec. 17, 1996**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL 002-C-97 (CC)**

**Pursuant to Chapter 23, Title 31, of the Virgin Islands Code, sealed bids in Quintruplicate for: Government House Renovation, Christiansted, St. Croix will be received by the Department of Property and Procurement, Division of Procurement (address) #274 Est. Richmond,**
**C'sted, St. Croix**
**until 10:30 o'clock a.m. Atlantic Standard Time Thursday, January 23, 1997.**

**Bidding Documents may be obtained from this office for a NON-REFUNDABLE Fee of $500.00.**

**Pre-Proposal Conference will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 9, 1997, at Property & Procurement Conference Room.**

**No bidder may withdraw his bid within thirty (30) working days after the actual date of the opening thereof.**

**Leroy Daniel**
**AssistantCommissioner**
**12/20,22,23,29,30, 1996 & 1/5,6,15, 1997**

**PROPOSAL NOTICE**

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY IS SOLICITING PROPOSALS FOR THE FOLLOWING:**

**PR-07-97 REPAIR OF FUEL OIL TANK NO. 6 AT ESTATE RICHMOND POWER PLANT FACILITIES - ST. CROIX, VIRGIN ISLANDS**

**DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THE PROPOSAL CAN BE PICKED UP FROM MS. SANDRA DAVID, CONTRACT SERVICES DIVISION (774-3552, EXTENSION 2039) AT THE AUTHORITY IN SUBBASE BUILDING # 18, ST. THOMAS, USVI.**

**THE AUTHORITY WILL HOLD A MANDATORY PRE-BID CONFERENCE ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 1997 AT 9:30 A.M. AT THE ESTATE RICHMOND POWER PLANT CONFERENCE ROOM ON ST. CROIX, USVI.**

**SIX (6) SEALED COPIES OF THE PROPOSAL WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL 4:00 PM LOCAL TIME, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1997 IN THE EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR, VIWAPA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON ST. THOMAS AND AT THAT TIME PUBLICLY OPENED.**

**THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER AND POWER AUTHORITY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ACCEPT OR REJECT ANY OR ALL PROPOSALS.**

**1/13,15,17, 1997**

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | RACK 1 |
| T1 | I1 | G2 | A1 | C3 | N1 | K5 | Triple Word Score | |
| | | | | | | | | RACK 2 |
| A1 | A1 | W4 | H4 | E1 | L1 | T1 | Double Word Score | |
| | | | | | | | | RACK 3 |
| N1 | R1 | E1 | S1 | I1 | D2 | H4 | | |
| | | | | | | | | RACK 4 |
| D2 | D2 | R1 | O1 | O1 | E1 | E1 | | |

**PAR SCORE 115-125**

**by JUDD**

**FOUR RACK TOTAL**
**TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN**

**DIRECTIONS:** Make a 2- to 7- letter word from the letters in each row. To total points of your words, use scoring directions to right of each row. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words can be found in OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). **JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW**

1-15-97

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**IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE V.I.**
**DIVISION OF ST. CROIX**
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF**
**ANNA MAE AGNES PAULUS, Deceased**
**Probate No. 37/1996**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned has been appointed Executrix of the above estate. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within six (6) months hereof, verified by affidavit, and all persons indebted to the estate to make payment promptly to:**
**Dated: December 5, 1996**
**AGNES MARIA THOMAS PAULUS**
**Executrix**
**c/o Jacqueline Warner Mills, Esq.**
**Law Offices of Jacqueline Warner Mills**
**250 Peter's Rest**
**Christiansted, V.I. 00820-4478**

**12/25, 1996 1/1,8,15, 1997**

**IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE V.I.**
**DIVISION OF ST. CROIX**
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF**
**ESTHER BELL WILLIAMS, Deceased**
**Probate No. 20/1996**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY given that a petition has been filed by DOREEN WILLIAMS with the Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands for settlement of the above estate without administration. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within thirty (30) days hereof verified by affidavit, and all persons indebted to the estate to make payment promptly to the undersigned attorney for the estate.**

**Dated: December 5, 1996**
**Jacqueline Warner Mills, Esq.**
**Law Offices of Jacqueline Warner Mills**
**250 Peter's Rest**
**Christiansted, V.I. 00820-4478**
**12/25, 1996 1/1,8,15, 1997**

**IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE V.I.**
**DIVISION OF ST. CROIX**
**IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF WINSTON SEALEY, Deceased**
**Probate No. 96/1993**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY given that an amended petition has been filed by JEFFREY A. SEALEY with the Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands for conversion to settlement of the above estate without administration. All persons having claims against the estate are required to present them within thirty (30) days hereof verified by affidavit, and all persons indebted to the estate to make payment promptly to the undersigned attorney for the estate.**
**Dated: December 5, 1996**
**Jacqueline Warner Mills, Esq.**
**Law Offices of Jacqueline Warner Mills**
**250 Peter's Rest**
**Christiansted, V.I. 00820-4478**

**12/25, 1996 1/1,8,15, 1997**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**CASA SEEKS VOLUNTEERS**

The Court Appointed Special Advocate Program seeks volunteers to advocate for children in court. An interview, background check, and 40-hour training are required of each applicant. Please contact Susan Bertoni, Program Director at 773-2626 for further information and applications.

**RECYCLED BUILDING MATERIAL**

We are in need of Windows. If you have windows that are not in current use or recyclable please call The Interfaith Coalition at 772-1142 and ask for Stephanie.

**BUILDING MATERIALS**

Attention! Attention! Needed. Do you have new or reusable building materials? If you do please call the Interfaith Coalition at 772-1142 and ask for Stephanie.

**MISS BPW**

The Business & Professional Women of St. Croix is seeking young women between the ages of 14-18 to compete for Ms. BPW. this year's theme is woman, style & power: The profile of a professional women. For more info. please contact Ms. Silva Gibbs at 778-4744 or Ms. Brenda Hall at 773-7875. Deadline date Feb. 3, 1997.

**THE F'STED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

The Frederiksted Federal Credit Union is announcing that a Holiday Loan a maximun of $2000.00 at 10% in 12 installments is available until January 15, 1997. All members are welcomed. *** Only **new loans** will be considered under this Holiday Special.

**AGFAIR APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE**

The 1997 Agriculture and Food Fair applications for food, refreshment, exhibitors, school/youth groups and farmers are available at the Department of Agriculture, Estate Lower Love, St. Croix. For more information, call Clarice Clarke at 692-4060 or Pholconah Edwards at 778-0997.

**THE F'STED FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

The Frederiksted Federal Credit Union is announcing that Holiday Loan, a maximum of $2,000.00 at 10%. In 12 installments is available until January 15, 1997. All members and potential members are welcome. Only new loans will be considered under this Holiday Special.

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

The American Cancer Society will hold it's Board Meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 5:30 p.m. at the ACS office.

**PRESERVE ISLAND TREES**

Join St. Croix Environmental Association (SEA) Wednesday, Jan. 15, 7 p.m. at our Gallows Bay office to view "Our Legacy to Treasure" a video filmed in St. Croix about the importance of trees. John Greene will be on hand to bring you up-to-date on current tree legislation efforts. Refreshments provided. Reservations required call SEA at 773-1989.

**V.I. REPUBLICAN WOMEN**

A meeting of the Virgin Islands Republican Women will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at Gertrudes at noon.

**ALFREDO ANDREWS PTA**

Will be holding its monthly PTA meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 15 at 5:30 p.m. in the school auditorium. Guest speakers will be ms. Urlyee Burke PTSC President. Please come out and be inform of what is going on in the school.

**STX DIVING ASSN.**

The St. Croix Diving Association will meet at Antoine's Aqua Lounge on Jan. 16 at 7:30 p.m. for information call 773-4438.

**SCEC BAND BOOSTERS**

The St. Croix Educational Complex Band Boosters will be having its meeting on jan. 16 in the band room at 7:00 jp.m. All parents of band students and other interested persons are welcomed to attend.

**RIGIDIMS MEETING**

Rigidims will be meeting at Midland Bar & Restaurant on Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. sharp.

**HOLY GHOST DELIVERANCE MINISTRY**

Apostle Eleanor A. Estrada and the Holy Ghost Deliverance Ministry Family invite you to three nights of Apostolic/Prophetic meetings wiht Bishop Julia E. Wade (Whitehurst), Edler Wade and Pastor Debrita Taylor. These meetings will be held Jan. 15 thru Jan. 17 beginning at 7:30 p.m. nightly. On Friday evening, Jan. 17 Sister Mona L. Barnes will be ordained in the Ascension Gift Office of Teacher according to Ephesians 4:11. We look forward in having you share this sacred occasion with us at #4 Diamdon Ruby for more info call 778-8087.

**ATTENTION ALL UNION MEMBERS**

Local Union 8248, United Steelworkers of America, is hereby reminding it's members of the monthly General Membership meetings. The meetings are scheduled to take place on the third Thursday of each month, at the Midland Bar and Restaurant (Opposite Central High School) at 7:00pm. Meeting dates for the 1996 Calendar Years are as follow: January 18, March 21, May16, July18, September 19, November 21, Febuary 15, April 18, June 20, August 15, October 17, December 19. Please attend and be on time!!!

**AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

The American Cancer Society will be having an Old Fashioned Breakfast on Saturday, Jan. 18 at the Christian Hendricks Market beginning at 7 a.m. to noon.

**PHI DELTA KAPPA CHAPTER 1496**

Cordially invites you to meet The Virgin Islands Board of Education and to share in discussions on: 'Promotional, retention, Suspension, nd Expulsion Policies" and "The Appeal Hearing Process" at the St. Croix Educational Complex Library Conference Room on Jan. 18 at 10 a.m.

**WATER GUT HOMES MEETING**

Please be advised of a very important meeting on Jan. 18. The purpose of the meeting is to elect members to a new tenatn council. The meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 18 in front of the Water Gut Homes Business Office and will begin sharply at 6 p.m. Everyone is invited adn should make an effort to be there.

**LITTLE LEAGUE, PEE WEE & SENIOR LEAGUE REGISTRATION**

There will be a final registration for the Elmo Plaskett Pee Wee, Little League and Senior League East on Saturday, Jan. 18 at the D.C. Canegata Ballpark from 9 a.m. to 12noon. Registration fee is being charged. Parents are required to bring their child's original birth paper.

**CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL**

Central Labor Council of the V.I. Civil Rights Committee presents "One Direction, One Destiny" (Martin Luther King Jr. birthday celebration). On Saturday, Jan. 18 - Annual Recognition Banquet at Villa Morales (tickets are on sale); Sunday, Jan. 19 - 3:00 p.m. Praise and Worship Service at Island Center; Monday, Jan. 20 - march and Rally. March will begin 10 a.m. at united Shopping Plaza and finish at Island Center. For tickets and more information call 773-1769 or 773-1906.

**STX BPW**

The Business & Professional Women's Organization of St. Croix will be hosting an Oldie Goldie Dance and bachelor Auction on Sunday, January 19, 9:00 p.m. at 2+2 Night Club. Come bid on Ten (10) gorgeious men and dance the night away.

**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Please come out and support St. Paul's Episcopal Church 1812 - 1997 185th patronal Festive Dinner & Recognition Ceremonies Jan. 24th at the St. Gerard's Hall, F'sted. The Rev. Hoskin Huggins Rector. For ticket information please contact 772-0818 or 772-0641.

**STX CULTURAL TALENT CLUB INC.**

Proudly presents its 1st annual variety inter-island talent tribute to 'Doc' Randall N. James, M.D. January 25th 8 p.m. and on Jan. 26th youth talent tribute at 3 p.m. at the St. Croix Educational Complex. Tickets are available at Brady's Restaurant & Bar, Jennifers Modern American C'sted & F'sted, Peoples Drugstore, D&D Apothecary F'sted. Tickets are reserved seats, featuring local talent from St. Crox, St. Thomas, St. John and Tortola. Come and see talent at its best. (Part proceeds of this event will go to the Randall James Pediatric Ward).

**FLAG FOOTBALL MEETING**

The St. Croix Men's Flag Football League meet on January 25, 1997 at 2:00 pm. Please note the meeting will be held at Wendy's Sunny Isles. All interested parties are urged to attend. Roster forms will be handed out. Thank you

**GRANTWRITING PROPOSAL WORKSHOPS**

The VI Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc., a nonprofit organization will be providing two grantwriting proposal workshops on St. Thomas and St. Croix from Jan. 27th to Feb. 8th. For more information on how to register, please contact Leo Preston at 692-9662 or 692-9632.

**NEW EXHIBIT AT REICHHOLD GALLERY**

The Reichhold center Gallery, in teh lobby, is featuyring the work of artist Mercedes Berruz through January 28. The Reichhold Gallery is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and during all Reichhold Center performances. For more information call 693-1550.

**2ND ANNUAL SONGFEST**

The Netherland Antilles & Aruba Association Students of UVI, is seeking persons from the various Caribbean islands to represent their country of origin in the 2nd Annual Regional Songfest to be held in March 1997 at the UVI St. Thomas campus. Interested persons are asked to contact any member of the association at 693-1641, 693-1625 or 693-1614.

**DATING GAME**

Cupid foudn a date, now she wants to find you one! Singles needed!! Ages 35 and up. Male and female. Telephone 773-9519.

**TESTING SCHEDULE FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS**

The V.I. Dept. of Education announces the Spring 1997 school year norm-referenced assessment dates for required testing. The required Terra Nova Assessment Series for grades 3,6,8 and 11 will e administered during the period April 8-11 in both school districts. Any questions regarding the testing should be directed to Dr. Luis R. Esquilin program manager of assessment at (809) 774-0100 ext. 3159.

# OBITUARIES

**ANTHONY SOOKRAJ**, age 22 of #94 Williams Delight passed away on Friday, january, 10th at the Juan F. Luis Hospital.

He is survived by his parents: Girlie and Samaroo Sookraj; grand parent: Lutchmin Ramdhanie; sisters: Michelle, Yvette and Catherine; brothers: Conell, Carl, David, Paul and Jerome; nieces: Chancy Lee and Vivian; nephew: Joshua Benjamin; aunts: Dolores, Pitee, Pinkie, Jennifer and Monica; uncles: Robin Sookraj and Ralphie Balgobin, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will take place on Thursday, January 16th, at the Bible Baptist Church, Frederiksted at 1:00 p.m. Viewing will begin at noon. Interment will follow in the Kingshill Cemetery.

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**ROLANDO MONELL**, age 30, of Est. La Grande Princesse Christiansted passed away on Thursday, January 9 in Miami, Florida after a lengthy illness. He served his country with Distinction in the Persian Gulf, earning the rank of Sergeant.

The youngest brother of former Governor Juan F. Luis, is survived by two sisters: Iris Monell Romero and Lydia Monell Cintron; 4 brothers: Juan Luis, Carlos Monell, Miguel Monell and Esteban Monell; 9 nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

Funeral services will take place on Thursday, January 16 at the Sunny Acres Seventh Day Adventist Church at 2:00 p.m. Viewing will begin at 1:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Kingshill Cemetery.

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**VERONICA DESILVA ROBERTS**, age 49 of Queens Street, Frederiksted passed away on Tuesday, Jan. 7 at the Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital.

She is survived by her husband Irvin Roberts; son: Keithroy Edwards; daughter-in-law: Darilin Edwards; grandchildren: Joshua emmanuel, Jesse Elias, Jacob Elisha and Chererity Esther Edwards; sisters: Elizabeth Athil (Stx), Pauline Desilva Willock (Stx) and Sarah DeSilva George (Antigua); brothers: Leroy, Conrad and George Willock, Daniel Irish, Jumber DeSilva (NY), Philmore and Rexford DeSilva (Antigua); nieces: Arlene Athill, Claudette Geraldine, Suzette, Diane and Patricia Willock, Blondel Christian, Sharon Willock and Kemma DeSilva (NY), Iodell Richards (Stt), Andrea Christian (Stx), Jeogah, Atiba, Shemeka and Tresha; nephews: Charles and Kelvin Athill, Isiah Punter, Alston Lake, Benson, George, Jr., Amrvin and Sam Willock and Shelton Christian (NY), O'Canno, Dwayne and Kennie; special friends: Myrna Hosea and Jean Berly, she was related to the DeSilva's of Bolan's Village and Gray's Hill Antigua, other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Funeral services will take place on Friday, Jan. 17 at the St. Paul's Parish Hall, Frederiksted at 1:00 p.m. Viewing will begin at 12noon. Interment will follow in the Kingshill Cemetery.

## REFORM, from Page 1

sions of the law pertaining to handicapped parking.

"Here in the territory, some drivers have a total disregard for the reserved parking for the handicapped," the governor said. He added that "the result is when a handicapped person drives up to look for a parking space, it is occupied by vehicles of Non-Handicapped persons."

The Governor noted that research has revealed that penalties for violating the law are too low, and that violators must be hit in the pocket, "where it hurts."

Governor Schneider has also recommended that the 22nd Legislature establish a division of Anti-Litter Enforcement within the Department of Public Works. In his transmittal letter to the senate president, he said that the main task of the division would be to enforce the Anti-Littering Provisions of the Solid Waste Act.

"This Government spends a tremendous amount of money and manpower to clean our Islands only to have it littered soon thereafter. We need to put a stop to this wanton disregard for our environment. Residents and Tourist have complained about the litter problem and junk vehicles along our road sides. We must all do our share to keep these islands clean, Governor Schneider said as he asked the legislature to expedite its consideration of this proposal so that its provisions could be implemented.

In an attempt to enhance the revenue situation of the Government of the Virgin Islands, Governor Schneider also recommended legislation which would use a Commuter Incentive Tax. This tax would replace the Gross Receipts Tax on any single payment made by the Virgin Islands Government, its Agencies, Instrumentalities, and Public Corporations of at least $10,000 on any payment made under a contract providing for total expenditures by the Virgin Islands Government of at least $60,000. The bill also conforms the transfer of the responsibilities for Collection and Enforcement of the real Property Tax from the Department of Finance to the Virgin Islands Bureau of Internal Revenue Pursuant to Act No. 6086.

"Our local auto dealers have been placed in an unfair competitive disadvantage with off-island dealers. Off island dealers who sell vehicles to purchasers in the Virgin Islands do not pay gross receipts taxes because they are not engaged in business in the Virgin Island's," the governor said.

Governor Schneider also submitted a bill to rename the street running from the intersection of Hospital Line near J. Antonio Jarvis School north to the intersection of Bunker Hill, in honor of the late Maud Proudfoot.

"I feel it is only fitting and proper that some lasting legacy be established in honor of this outstanding and dedicated Virgin Islander. Mrs. Proudfoot worked for over 30 years in the field of social work," Governor Schneider wrote in his transmittal letter to Senate President Lorraine L. Berry.

## ACCUSED, from Backpage

a number of ethical issues, particularly regarding the release of suspects' names before charges are filed.

Anantha Babbili, chairman of the journalism department at Texas Christian University, also said a central issue was how reporters handled the credibility of sources.

The story emerged after Shahravan contacted a television reporter. Police acknowledged the allegations after the television report.

"We have an obligation, first, not only to bring out new information on anything and anybody but to really validate and recheck and crosscheck and dig into the credibility of our sources of information," he said.

Shahravan's estranged husband, for example, had said publicly during the investigation that he doubted the story because she had also falsely accused him and a previous fiance of sexual assault.

"I hope something really good comes out of it," Babbili said. "The media will really be cautious next time."

## FOREST, from Backpage

use her legs to push up."

Jessica Gaspar had 12 points, including a 3-pointer with 4:14 left to play that gave North Carolina the lead for good at 53-52. Reid followed with six unanswered points. Her turnaround jumper with 2:08 remaining put the Tar Heels up 59-52.

Sophomore Chanel Wright added 14 points for North Carolina.

Cynthia Kelley scored 15 points to lead Wake Forest (10-5, 2-3) and Heidi Coleman had 13.

Wake Forest came back from a 30-28 halftime deficit to lead 52-50 on Coleman's jumper from the left baseline with 4:33 to play. But the Deacons made just one of their last six shots and committed three turnovers in the final four minutes.

"Sometimes, it looked like we couldn't play defense at all out there," Hatchell said. "Thank goodness we could still play defense good enough to hold a team like Wake Forest to 55 points."

Wake Forest made just 19-of-50 shots and committed 21 turnovers to North Carolina's 13.

## BULLS, from Backpage

awarded only two free throws and made both to cut the lead to 104-102 with 17 seconds remaining.

Two more free throws by Jordan gave the Bulls a four-point lead that was too much for the Bullets to overcome.

## LEE, from Page 3

sion of the legislature. But the procedure tested by the courts and affirmed by the third circuit court of appeals is basically that the majority rules.

Here there was a clear cut majority, although a small majority. It obviously was sticking together and had to prevail.

We believe the majority was more dignified, and hailed the fundamental American systems of democracy. There was no violation of the basic levels of democracy.

Senate President Lorraine Berry gave several remarks that outlined the past financial and social chaos that have led the Virgin Islands to the brink. She praised our diversity and deplored the extravagant spending sprees. These proposed directions for the Virgin Islands Government will be discussed further in "Lee Let's Loose " this weekend.

# Pot club prepares to sell 'first legal marijuana in 60 years'

By RICHARD COLE

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Phones rang, volunteers shouted and marijuana plants grew at the Cannabis Cultivators Club yesterday in preparation for what supporters call the country's first legal sale of the drug in over 60 years.

Protected from California's anti-drug attorney general by a state proposition and a judge's order, the club was set to provide pot to its first customer tosday.

Club founder Dennis Peron said the first customer was to be a San Francisco AIDS patient, but the club has 200 physician authorizations on file and expects many more. The drug is known to counter the nausea and loss of appetite in chemotherapy.

"We are going to sell the first legal marijuana in over 60 years in America," marveled Peron, who showed off marijuana seedlings growing in the club's basement.

The club offers smokable pot at $5 to $60 for 3.5 grams, depending on the quality, Peron said, but "many of our patients can't smoke or don't want to smoke."

So the club offers high-grade, pulverized marijuana in gel capsules, $25-a-bottle tincture of marijuana soaked in 151-proof rum and dried, pot-spiced pesto sauce at $10 a jar, and classic marijuana brownies.

The club's predecessor, the Cannabis Buyer's Club, which Peron also ran, was shut down by state Attorney General Dan Lungren in last fall's campaign for Proposition 215, the referendum that legalized medical marijuana use.

Last week a San Francisco judge ordered the club reopened, saying it was protected under Proposition 215.

Lungren acknowledged he was "bound by 215," but vowed to keep an eye on the club and prevent abuses.

On Monday, White House drug czar Barry R. McCaffrey, addressing the San Francisco Medical Society, backed off a Clinton Administration threat to punish doctors who recommend pot for their patients.

"They will not go after physicians who might recommend this in the context of an established patient, if it's not being done indiscriminately," said medical society spokesman Steve Heilig.

# Atlantis docks with Russian station

By MARCIA DUNN

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Atlantis crept up to the Russian space station Mir and docked Tuesday night for an astronaut swap 240 miles above Earth.

The two huge spacecraft neatly linked as they soared south of Moscow, both traveling at 17,500 mph. Radio lines crackled in English and Russian.

"Hey, Houston, we have contact and capture," reported commander Michael Baker, who guided Atlantis in at a scant inch per second.

NASA's John Blaha, who has been living on the Russian station since September, was to switch places with astronaut Jerry Linenger shortly after the hatches opened between the two spacecraft. Linenger will spend more than four months aboard Mir.

Earlier in the day as the gap narrowed, Blaha sent this message from Mir to his colleagues on Atlantis: "All bags are packed. Ready for transfer."

Atlantis and Mir, which had docked four times previously, will remain joined in orbit for five days so the nine space travelers can move nearly 6,000 pounds of supplies and experiments back and forth.

The combined mass of the two spacecraft was 530,950 pounds.

As Blaha's stay aboard Mir drew to a close, NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin called to congratulate the 54-year-old astronaut, a retired Air Force colonel, former combat pilot and the third American to live on Mir. Blaha's two Russian crewmates are five months into their six-month stay.

"We spent 50 years aiming weapons at each other, and I was down there at the Cape and we hugged each other when that flight went off," Goldin told Blaha. "I'll be down there when the shuttle lands, and I'll give you a shake and a hug, too."

When Goldin asked what he could bring Blaha for "quick pleasure" when Atlantis returns to Earth next Wednesday, the astronaut replied: "I really have not missed anything up here other than one thing: I've missed my wife. I didn't realize how much this separation would sort of hit me that way with her."

Blaha and his wife, Brenda, have been married 30 years. They have three grown children and a grandson.

Linenger, a 41-year-old doctor, is also married and has a 1-year-old son. The couple are expecting their second child at the end of June, one month after Linenger is supposed to return home.

Married astronauts seem to have a slight psychological edge when it comes to long spaceflights, said Al Holland, chief of psychology at Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"There's continuity," Holland said. "You have a reason to come back."

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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| T1 | A1 | C3 | K5 | I1 | N1 | G2 | RACK 1 = | 92 |
| W4 | E1 | A1 | L1 | T1 | H4 | | RACK 2 = | 24 |
| H4 | I1 | N1 | D2 | E1 | R1 | S1 | RACK 3 = | 61 |
| E1 | R1 | O1 | D2 | E1 | D2 | | RACK 4 = | 8 |

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## St. Croix Avis Sports

# Leon Trimmingham carves a new future Down Under

By TYNISHA JAMES
Avis Staff Writer

Pro-Basketball player and native son Leon Trimmingham is living out his fantasy in Australia and loving it.

"The culture is very diverse, the crime rate is low and there are no noticeable signs of racism," said Trimmingham of the continent that he has called home for the past four years.

In only his fourth year of proball in Australia, Trimmingham has managed to amass international attention for his sensational presence on and off the court.

Trimmingham, who averages at least 29 points and 13 rebounds per game is a crowd pleaser in the land down under. Once on the court, he effectively delivers what the fans want, with gravity defying precision.

The Australians have nicknamed him "Neon", but back on the home turf he is simply known as "Weapon". An alias that according to Trimmingham is extremely positive.

"It is attributed to my skills on the court," said Trimmingham of the name which has become a household name for many Crucians.

Before accepting the "best" offer, which came from the Sydney Kings in Australia, Trimmingham was being courted by teams with offers to play in Europe and the United States.

In fact, in only his first year in Australia, Trimmingham gained the Most Valuable Player award and since joining with the Adelaide 36ers has managed to hold on to the title.

The Aussies have embraced him as their own and every game is punctuated with thunderous applause for the man they call "Neon" Leon Trimmingham.

At 26, the 6 foot 6, 210 pound all around player has a great deal to be proud of. With sponsorships and endorsements from multi-million dollar corporations such as Nike, Coco-Cola, Thin's Potato Chips, Pura Milk and Tip Top Bread, Trimmingham is "set for life".

Hard to believe that this is the same individual, who grew up with cricket as his first sport. Fortunately with Trimmingham's skill there is no doubt in anyone's mind as to where he belongs - on the court.

However off the court Trimmingham has his own men's clothing store based in Australia and has hopes of opening one in the Sunshine Mall, on St. Croix. He's also involved in several clinics and promotions for his endorsements.

What's are his plans for the future?

"I'm going to the NBA (National Basketball Association). My contract with the 36ers will be over in Nov. and I've had offers from the Toronto and Portland," said Trimmingham.

In addition, he will have the pick of the litter, since the 36ers have offered him a seven year extension on his contract.

Trimmingham has been on island since Dec. 24 visiting with his parents, Leroy and Dorita Trimmingham. he leaves on Jan. 20.

He was a two time All American at Briar Cliff College in Iowa, where he was on a full basketball scholarship.

# Police charge woman who falsely accused Cowboys

By MADELINE BARO

DALLAS (AP) — A former stripper who made up a gang-rape accusation against Dallas Cowboys stars Erik Williams and Michael Irvin was charged yesterday with filing a false police report.

Nina Shahravan, 23, could face six months in jail and a $2,000 fine if convicted of the misdemeanor. Police said she wouldn't necessarily be arrested at her home.

"I think she'll be afforded an opportunity to go to the county and post bond," said police spokesman Ed Spencer.

Shahravan filed a police report Dec. 30 — after first going to a television reporter — accusing Irvin of holding a gun to her head while Williams and a third man, who was never identified, raped her in Williams' home. She also accused Irvin of videotaping the attack.

Friday, after she was confronted with evidence that Irvin couldn't have been at Williams' house the night of the alleged attack, Shahravan signed a statement admitting her story was a lie.

A man who answered the telephone at Shahravan's parents' home in Plano yesterday said she was not there. The woman has made no public statement since filing the complaint.

Williams' attorney, Peter Ginsberg, said he hopes the charge against Shahravan doesn't signal an end to the investigation.

"I hope that law enforcement authorities are pursuing the possibility that there were others who acted in concert with the complainant, and I also hope that authorities are examining the police's own conduct in this investigation," Ginsberg said.

Irvin's attorney, Royce West, said the charge against Shahravan "needed to be done."

"I am pleased because I believe very strongly that this woman has set back the issue of sexual assault victims 100 years," West said.

Ginsberg and West both said their clients were considering lawsuits.

"We are considering legal action not only against the woman but we are examining whether Erik's civil rights were violated by the city of Dallas police department," Ginsberg said.

The case and its handling by the police and media brought up

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# Dennis Rodman leads Mr. Blackwell's Worst-Dressed Women's List

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cross-dressing Dennis Rodman of the Chicago Bulls led Mr. Blackwell's 37th Annual Worst-Dressed Women List, a roll-call of fashion misfits that included Glenn Close, Helen Hunt and Goldie Hawn.

The acid-tongued Blackwell, who was designing dresses for the rich and famous when he originated the list in 1960, annually skewers celebrities in what he says is an effort to encourage fashion consciousness.

This year he included Rodman for what he said is the basketball star's bad habit of dressing in drag.

"In fishnet and feathers, he's a unisex wreck," Blackwell said in unveiling the list Tuesday.

Following Rodman in the top 10 were, in order, Glenn Close; Lisa Kudrow; Helen Hunt; Goldie Hawn; Diane Keaton; Sarah, Duchess of York; Elizabeth Shue; Drew Barrymore; Claire Danes; and Lori Petty.

# *Wayne Gretzky sues developer for home floods*

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — Wayne Gretzky may be an ace on the ice, but he'd prefer to leave anything watery at the stadium.

The former Los Angeles Kings star and his wife, Janet, filed a lawsuit last week against North Mulholland Properties Inc. seeking unspecified damages over flood damage to a home.

Neither side could be reached for comment yesterday.

The suit, filed in Superior Court here, accuses the developer of breach of contract and negligence. It says the Gretzkys bought a home in an unspecified area of Los Angeles County in 1991.

Two years later, the suit claims, water seeped through windows, the ceiling and chimney, damaging the floors, walls, drywall, wallpaper and paint.

More flooding in 1995 allegedly damaged floor carpeting and furniture.

Gretzky won four Stanley Cups with Edmonton before joining the Kings in 1988. He was traded to the St. Louis Blues last year before the New York Rangers picked him up as a free agent.

# No. 10 North Carolina 62, Wake Forest 55

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — With the Atlantic Coast Conference's top scorer slowed by a twisted ankle and a tough Wake Forest defense, it was left to veteran forward Tracy Reid to rally No. 10 North Carolina.

Reid, the ACC's No. 2 scorer behind teammate Marion Jones, scored six of her 23 points in the final 3:31 to help the Tar Heels beat Wake Forest 62-55 last night for its sixth straight victory.

"Wake ran a match-up zone that kept us from doing a lot of what we wanted to do," Reid said. "I was surprised they switched to a straight man-to-man toward the end. That meant I could get open more. I'm just glad I got those shots."

Reid made 9-of-15 shots as North Carolina (13-1, 4-0 ACC) made 25-of-66. Reid also had 10 rebounds.

"Tracy Reid is a big-time player," Wake Forest coach Karen Freeman said. "She did what you expect a big-time player to do. She hit some big shots."

Reid and Jones suffered twisted ankles prior to yesterday. Jones seemed to suffer more, especially at the hands of Wake Forest's intense defense. Averaging 22 points coming into the game, Jones was held to six points on 3-for-13 shooting, but managed seven assists and three steals.

"It's unbelievable that either of them (Reid or Jones) was able to play on those ankles," North Carolina coach Sylvia Hatchell said. "Marion couldn't elevate. She couldn't penetrate. It was obvious even during free throws that she really couldn't

See FOREST, Page 39

# Bulls 108, Bullets 107

By RICK GANO

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan scored 39 points, including eight in the final two minutes, and Dennis Rodman reached 10,000 career rebounds Tuesday night as the Chicago Bulls beat the Washington Bullets 108-107.

Scottie Pippen added 25 points and made three key 3-pointers in the final quarter for Chicago, which won its seventh straight and improved its NBA-best record to 32-4.

Chris Webber scored 33 points for the Bullets, including a basket with eight seconds left that sliced Chicago's lead to 106-104, but Toni Kukoc was left alone for a layup that sealed the win. Webber made a 3-pointer at the final buzzer.

Rodman got his 14th rebound of the game, good for No. 10,000, with 1:58 left in the third quarter and got a rousing ovation during a timeout. He is the 24th player in NBA history to get 10,000 rebounds. He finished with 18.

Rod Strickland added 23 points for the Bullets, and Juwan Howard, who fouled out with 6:16 left, finished with 17 points.

Webber scored six points in a 12-0 run that opened the fourth quarter, giving Washington a 90-87 lead.

Pippen then hit back-to-back 3-pointers as the Bulls went ahead 93-90 with 6:47 to go. Gheorghe Muresan's basket and a layup by Strickland after a steal by Webber made it 94-93 Washington with just under four minutes remaining.

Jordan, who had gone to the bench in the third quarter with a sore shoulder, missed his first five shots of the fourth. But he hit a jumper to give Chicago the lead for good, 95-94 with 3:29 to play.

Pippen followed with another 3-pointer and Jordan had two more baskets and four free throws as Chicago stayed in front.

Washington's Chris Whitney, who replays showed was fouled behind the 3-point line, was

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