Students killed
School shooting leaves two dead, 13 wounded.
Page 18



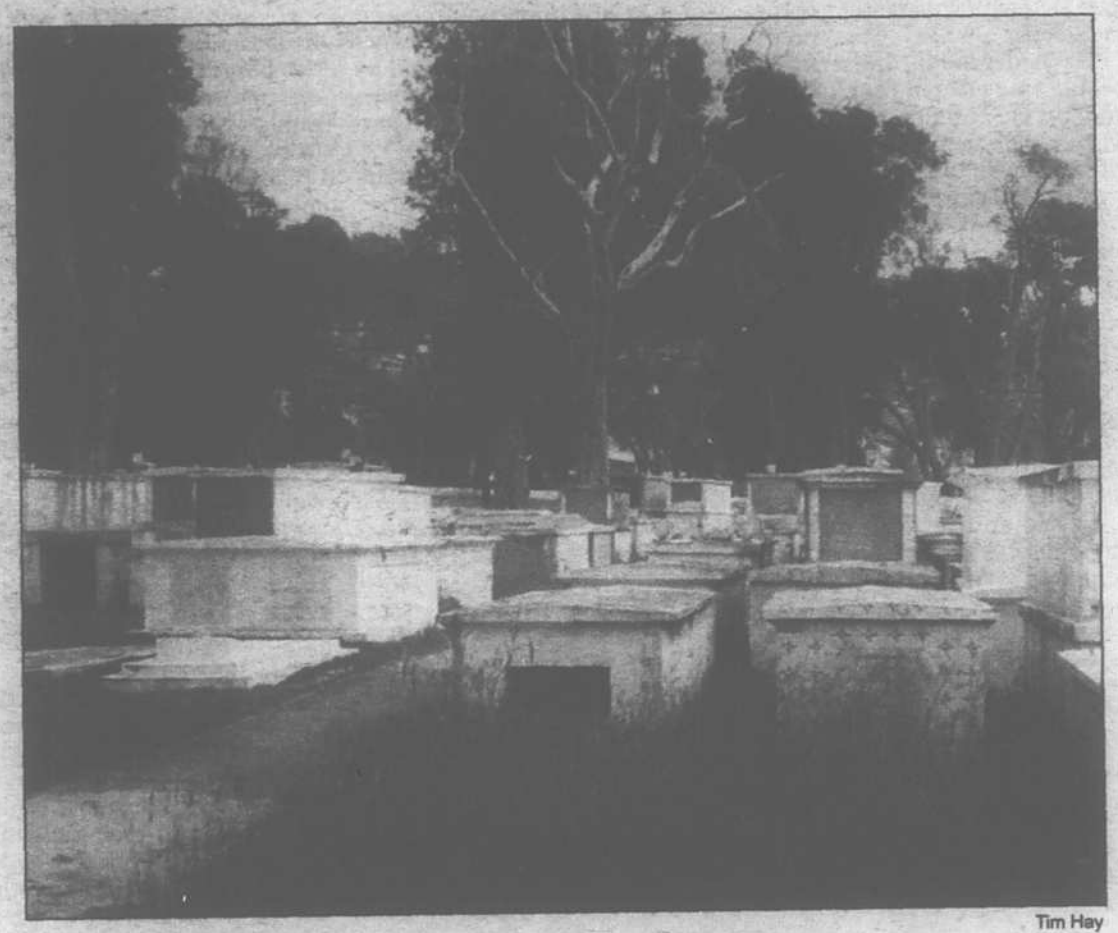
In bad shape
VI's schools struggle with lack of funds, teachers.
Page 3

High flying
Barchette wins big race Sunday on St. Croix.
Sports

The Avis

LOCALLY OWNED SINCE 1844

USVI 157th YEAR | TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2001, NO. 54 | 60¢



Tim Hay

By some accounts, Western Cemetery has fewer than 30 burial plots left.

Almost out

Funeral director: 30 plots and counting

TIM HAY

ST. THOMAS — The government may not find land for a new graveyard before the only one on the island is filled.

A funeral director said Monday that burial plots were going fast at Western Cemetery. He estimated there were fewer than 30 spaces available.

"And it's going to be a busy week," Brian Dooley, director of Davis Funeral Home, said. "We have two burials scheduled for Friday and two for Saturday."

He said the island was averaging eight burials per week, meaning Western could be full by the end of the month.

"They'll have to work faster. People are dying fast around here. They should go into the incinerator business — we don't have room here."
Joe Wilson, volunteer at Western Cemetery

Though there are a few smaller graveyards scattered around St. Thomas, Western is the only one with plots remaining, Dooley has said.

On Feb. 22, Sen. Norma Samuel conferred with Dooley and asked Gov. Charles Turnbull to move as quickly as possible to identify public land that would be suitable for a new graveyard. Dooley said the governor could designate land for a cemetery with a simple executive order.

The following day, Turnbull's chief legal counsel, Paul Gimenez, said the government has hit a few stumbling blocks in securing the land.

" ... government-owned prop-

SPACE, PAGE 2

Majority hanging by thread

Two of 'Millennium 8' meet with minority Democrats

WILL JONES

ST. CROIX — The Senate majority members are still together but are on the verge of coming apart at the seams.

Reports were rampant over the weekend that two members of the majority — Sens. Norman Jn. Baptiste and Norma Pickard Samuel — were ready to bolt the eight-member majority, which would have ended its control over the Legislature.

"If I do decide to leave it will be a matter of my conscience and the decision I made to continue serving the needs of the territory."
Sen. Norman Jn. Baptiste

Majority members, including majority leader Sen. Celestino White and Senate President Almando Liburd, denied Monday that the team was breaking up but conceded that there was dissension within the group on some issues.

In fact, Baptiste and Samuel joined minority-bloc senators at a meeting Saturday at the St. Croix home of Samuel's stepmother and former Sen. Mary Ann Pickard to discuss forming a new majority.

Neither Baptiste nor Samuel would confirm or deny that they were present at the meeting, but

SENATE, PAGE 2

Teen stands trial for alleged 1999 murder

KC BURGARD

ST. CROIX — Assistant Attorney General Cornelius Evans asked the courtroom witness point blank: "Is there any question in your mind who shot your cousin?" Joel Ledesma answered just as directly.

"No. I know who shot my cousin — Jemini," Joel Ledesma said and thus identified Jemini Barnes, 18, as the one who shot and killed Tomasito Ledesma Jr., 16, on Dec. 28, 1999. Although Barnes was just 17 at the time, he is being tried as an adult in Territorial Court for murdering the teen.

Joel Ledesma said he and his cousin were "cooling" in an abandoned house at the Ludvig Har-

TRIAL, PAGE 2

Senators' remarks rankle their members

WILL JONES

ST. CROIX — Two members of the Senate majority, who are already wavering on bolting from the group, might have been given a nudge by remarks made by two of their colleagues.

Sens. Adelbert Bryan and Alicia Hansen caused a further rift among the majority with remarks they made on radio programs over the weekend.

Bryan was taken to task by several senators and the Democratic Party for saying that that naturalized citizens and others who were not born in the Virgin Islands should not be allowed to hold elected offices, including governor, lieutenant governor, delegate to Congress and the Legislature.

Four current members of the Legislature — Sens. Donald Cole, Roosevelt David, David Jones and Norman Jn. Baptiste — are all natives of other Caribbean islands and naturalized citizens, and Hansen has said she was born in Puerto Rico.

Hansen also was criticized for her remarks that some unnamed persons were being "paid off" to break up the majority and that the person behind the "big money" lives in Work and Rest.

Sen. Jn. Baptiste, a member of the majority and a native of St. Lucia, said Bryan needs "enlightenment." He and Sen. Norma Pickard-Samuel have publicly expressed dissatisfaction with some of the actions of the majority and indicated they might leave the group.

"Sen. Bryan is clearly misinformed," Baptiste said. "He needs to engage his mind before engaging his mouth."

Baptiste said he gave up his St. Lucia citizenship more than 15 years ago and has not even had a passport for 15 years.

"I cannot go back to St. Lucia and run for public office without renouncing my U.S. citizenship," Baptiste added. "Does that mean if you are a naturalized citizen you cannot aspire for higher goals?"

Jones was even more critical, calling Bryan's statement "ridiculous."

"The United States has (U.S. Attorney General John) Ashcroft and we have Adelbert Bryan," Jones said. "Should a naturalized citizen be reduced to such jobs as washing dishes of sweeping floors?

"He is degrading those same people who elected him," Jones added. "He couldn't get elected without the help of naturalized citizens."

Sen. Lorraine Berry said Bryan is not upholding his pledge to serve all the people of the Virgin Islands honestly and fairly.

She noted that several years ago Bryan said only aboriginals should hold specific positions of leadership in the territory.

"At that time, the public recoiled in disgust at his posture, noting it is undemocratic and that he would even deny constitutional rights to naturalized citizens.

"To endorse his views he would disenfranchise Sens. Cole, Jones, Baptiste and David — four senators elected by the people," she added. "Sen. Bryan's views ... are unacceptable and even reprehensive, and are especially unfortunate when held by a senator, who as Senate vice president, has full supervision on the St. Croix Legislature.

Arturo Watlington Jr., chairman of the Democratic Party, said all citizens, whether natural born or naturalized and especially Democrats, should "vehemently express public outrage and disagreement" with Bryan's statement.

"The Democratic Party not only opposes people like the John Ashcrofts of the world, who have a history of discriminatory behavior, but also the Bert Bryans of the Virgin Islands who feel only people who were born here should be senators, lieutenant governors, governors or other elected representatives."

Baptiste said he also took exception to Hansen's remarks about payoffs.

He said he and his wife borrowed money from two finance companies to pay for remodeling on their home and I take exception to Sen. Hansen's implications," Baptiste said.

Samuel said Bryan's statement was "insulting" and called Hansen's remarks "foolish."

"I am not for sale or rent," Samuel said.

SPACE: Government still hasn't bought suitable land

FROM PAGE ONE

erties were inspected to determine their suitability for a public cemetery." Gimenez said in a news release. "It was subsequently determined that no suitable government-owned land was available, and that funds would have to be appropriated for the acquisition of the needed property."

He said Monday that Turnbull sent a bill to the 23rd Legislature for this purpose, but they adjourned before the measure could be scheduled for a meeting.

Gimenez said he could not remember exactly how much Turnbull sought to appropriate at the time, but estimated the government would need about $1 million to purchase a large enough piece of land. He said the administration was still figuring out where the money would come from.

There are likely more than 30 plots left at Western, Gimenez said. He said family tombs still had space, and that "other options" were available.

"It's urgent," he said, "but not as urgent as they make it seem. ... We have to act fast."

One of the other options might not sit well with Virgin Islanders, Joseph Percival, a Public Works engineer at the graveyard, said. He said that in an emergency, room for thousands could be made in the western third of the cemetery — where bodies are already buried.

Percival said coffins could be buried three feet down — directly on top of those who are six-feet under. The coffins, he said, could be separated by concrete dividers.

"But the people wouldn't like it," he said, adding that it would most likely be a temporary solution.

He also said that on other islands — like the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Guadaloupe — bodies are buried vertically rather than in a laying-down position. This, Percival said, makes much better use of space.

Samuel, who chairs the Senate Labor and Veterans Affairs Committee, has scheduled a meeting for this Friday to discuss burial issues in the territory. Dooley has been invited to testify.

Joe Wilson, a Department of Human Services volunteer at the cemetery, said the government has moved too slowly to remedy the situation.

"They'll have to work faster," he said, looking out at a sea of concrete tombs. "People are dying fast around here. They should go into the incinerator business — we don't have room here."

SENATE: Majority hanging together

FROM PAGE ONE

other sources confirmed that they were there along with Democratic Sens. Lorraine Berry and Roosevelt David of St. Thomas and Douglas Canton Jr., Emmett Hansen II, David Jones and Vargrave Richards of St. Croix.

Attorney Gerard Luz James, one of the deans of the Democratic Party and father of Lt. Gov. Gerard Luz James II, reportedly also attended.

The plan, however, fizzled — at least temporarily — when Baptiste decided to remain with the majority and left the meeting.

Sens. Alicia Hansen and Adelbert Bryan fanned the infighting with remarks over radio programs this weekend. Hansen said on her paid radio broadcast that "big money" was behind an attempt to break up the majority, and Bryan said only native Virgin Islanders should hold elected offices.

Samuel said that it will be her own decision whether she stays with the majority or aligns with the minority bloc.

"I will decide at my time and in my way what I should do," Samuel said. "I do not condone a lot of decisions by the majority and I try to be fair in anything I do."

Samuel also said that she will work with all senators — majority and minority members.

Baptiste said that the majority — as in any organization — has problems.

"We will meet in caucus and try to iron them out," Baptiste said. "We either reconcile them or we won't. If there is no solution, I will fold my tent and move on. If I do decide to leave it will be a matter of my conscience and the decision I made to continue serving the needs of the territory. Today the majority is the same and will remain that way until..."

When asked if that means he will join the minority in forming a new leadership team if he does not resolve his differences with the majority, Baptiste said it could.

"I will not fold and go to the back," he added.

White also conceded that there is a difference of opinion on some issues within the majority, but that they will hold together.

"There are things that concern each of us and that will continue," White said. "That is expected, but we simply will continue the agenda we started. We will move forward.

"I've had conversations with each member of the majority and I do not know of anyone who wants to leave," he added.

Samuel also denied reports that she threatened to leave the majority because Alicia Hansen, who controlled the Senate Post Audit Division as Finance Committee chairwoman, refused to fire a Post Audit employee accused of sexually harassing a female worker employed by Samuel.

Samuel said that she asked that a hearing be held on the allegations made by the female employee and that Liburd has agreed to her request.

"Yes, I am upset as a woman and because the woman is my employee, but I would never ask that an employee be fired without a hearing," Samuel said.

Liburd said he has named a committee to conduct the hearing, but that the man's attorney has requested a postponement because he is involved in a court case.

The other members of the majority are Donald Cole and Carlton Dowe of St. Thomas.

TRIAL: Defense questions why witness told two stories

FROM PAGE ONE

rigan Court housing community when Barnes walked inside.

"I hear, "Freeze (expletive)," Joel Ledesma said. "The first thing I see is a gun and then I see Jemini and I tell him to move the gun from my face."

Joel Ledesma said he tilted his head away from the chrome revolver as Barnes turned the gun on the victim and fired one fatal shot. Tomasito Ledesma died hours later of a gunshot wound to the left side of his head.

As the prosecution's only eyewitness to the shooting, Joel Ledesma's testimony was challenged by Barnes' defense attorney Julio Brady. At issue was the young man's statements to police — one given the day his cousin was shot and killed, the other given about five months later — which differ on what actually occurred.

Joel Ledesma first told police that Barnes approached him and his cousin while they sat on the stoop of the building and said "Good morning" before the gun went off. Det. Cpl. Lorennie Hassell confirmed on the stand that the witness' original statement suggested the shooting was accidental.

Joel Ledesma attributed his first statement to the fact that he was afraid because the shooter had fled the scene and was at large for several days after the crime.

Hassell confirmed his claim: "He was very shaken up, very upset ... He was reluctant to talk. He was afraid."

When questioned by Brady about why it took police officers more than five months to take a new statement from Joel Ledesma — in which he indicated that Barnes pulled the trigger intentionally — Hassell explained that the case was originally assigned to another detective who has since left the police force.

That former detective, Laurie Hodge Brooks, testified that she interviewed Barnes on Dec. 31, 1999, in the presence of his mother.

"He told me he was in an abandoned building in a housing community when a black male wearing a mask came in and shot the victim and then left," Brooks said. Brooks said Barnes told her he fled the scene because he was on probation, but police said they could not confirm that he was.

Barnes is expected to take the stand in his own defense when the trial reconvenes in Judge Edgar Ross' courtroom at 9 a.m. today.

Schools struggle without funds, teachers

No local money to buy new textbooks

ANGELA BORCHERT

ST. CROIX — Lack of funding and staff shortages are severely affecting public education in the territory, Education Commissioner Ruby Simmonds testified Monday during a Senate Education Committee hearing.

Committee chair Sen. Norman Jn. Baptiste called the meeting to address four major issues, including the impact of teacher shortages, availability of instructional resources, the status of school nutrition funding and the DOE's compliance with special conditions imposed on federal-grant programs.

Jn. Baptiste asked if the federal officials have placed special conditions on federal funds for all VI government agencies.

"They haven't," Simmonds said, "but they've been talking about it."

She explained that the feds are withholding funds for Title VI innovative programs, adult education and vocational education, which come in the form of a consolidated grant that totals $13,561,955 for fiscal year 2001.

Due to the special conditions, the DOE has been receiving federal funds on a reimbursement basis.

"This has created some hardships for all programs dependent on these funds," Simmonds said. "Additionally, the department has not yet received its consolidated grant for the year 2001. Because many of the instructional programs are contingent on these funds, the impact is severe."

"As a result of the teacher shortage, some schools have had to eliminate classes and in some instances programs have been put on hold."

Ruby Simmonds,
Education commissioner

In response to the imposed special conditions, Simmonds said, a separate bank account for federal funds was established on June 5, 2000, by the Finance Department, and the Education Department has been submitting biweekly expenditure reports for each program.

A grant of $9,078,705 for individuals with disabilities is also pending.

Combined with $2 million for special nutrition and other miscellaneous grants, the DOE is slated to receive more than $26.9 million this fiscal year.

"While supplemental materials may be purchased with federal funds, funding for textbooks is the responsibility of the local government," Simmonds said. "Textbooks are selected through an adoption process, which generally allows each subject area to review and adopt new texts every five years."

She said new science texts were purchased and are currently available in every public school in the territory.

"Unfortunately, the adoption process is not on schedule because there are no local funds available for the purchase of textbooks," Simmonds said. "Nonetheless, there are textbooks in the various subject areas available in the schools.

"It is unfortunate that a high percentage of books are lost annually because of theft or destruction. While there is a process in place to have students pay for lost textbooks so that the new ones may be purchased, this does not always result in sufficient funds to replenish the supplies."

The problem is compounded, she said, when the textbook version used in the territory is no longer available from the publisher.

Staff shortages are also a problem. According to DOE statistics, as of March 1, there were 102 school-based vacancies in the St. Croix school district, and 50 school-based vacancies in the St. Thomas-St. John school district.

"As a result of the teacher shortage, some schools have had to eliminate classes and in some instances programs have been put on hold," Simmonds said. "At the elementary level a number of classes have been consolidated and teachers have been transferred from one school to another to accommodate those needs. At the secondary level there are classes which cannot be offered because there is no teacher for a given subject area.

"Fortunately, because of teachers' concern for the students, there are those who forego planning periods and teach additional classes. These teachers are paid as substitutes for the additional instructional time."

AT A GLANCE

The VI Department of Education reports that as of March 1, there were a total of 152 public school vacancies in the territory. Education Commissioner Ruby Simmonds broke the number down by district as follows:

- St. Croix vacancies — 31 secondary teachers, 16 paraprofessionals, 12 elementary teachers, 10 custodial workers, six nurses, six food service workers, five secretarial/clerical staff, four special education teachers, four guidance counselors, three cooks, one monitor, one laborer and one librarian.
- St. Thomas-St. John vacancies — 18 teachers, 11 paraprofessionals, six special education teachers, four custodial workers, four food service workers, two nurses, two cooks, one guidance counselor, and one librarian.

Police investigate fatal motorcycle crash

STEVE S. BULLOCK

ST. CROIX — Police on Monday continued their investigation into the death of 26-year-old Al Alibocas, who was killed in a motorcycle accident Sunday afternoon near the entrance to Bates Trucking in Sion Farm.

Police said preliminary investigation suggests that Alibocas apparently lost control of his Yamaha motorcycle as he rode along the Queen Mary Highway — just past the Sion Farm Gas Station — with two other motorcyclists shortly after 3 p.m.

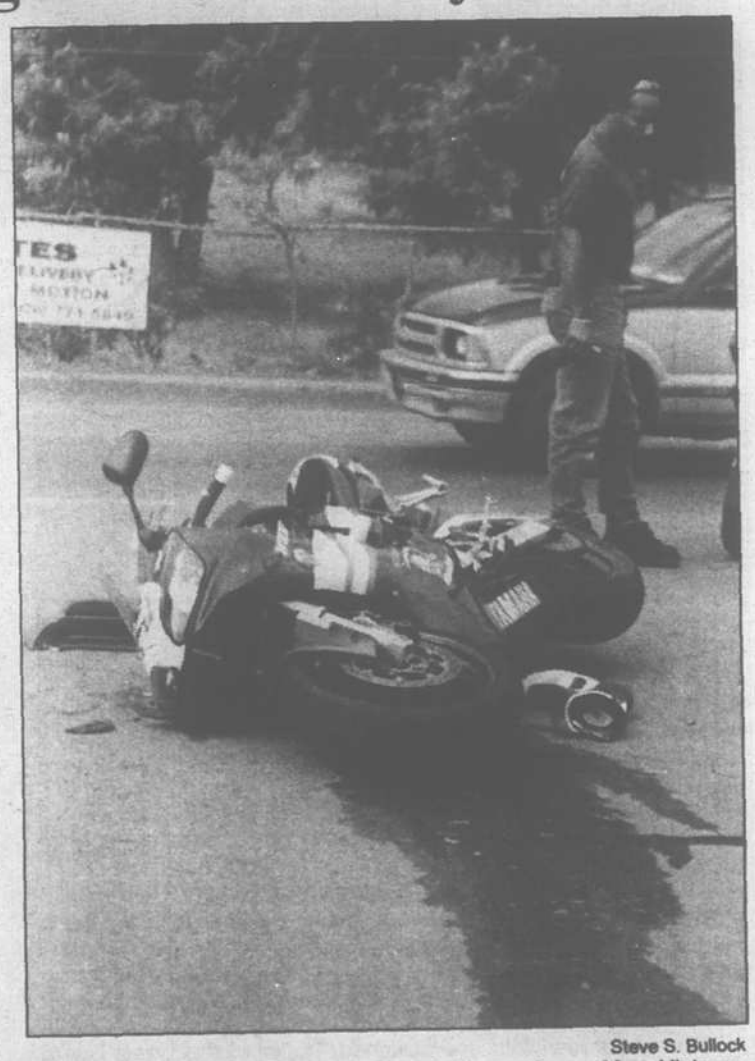
Eyewitnesses to the accident said Alibocas might have lost control when he attempted to ride with the front wheel elevated off the ground.

One of the other motorcyclists said Alibocas, after losing control, tried unsuccessfully to pull the motorcycle back toward the middle of road, but it went flying off the curb and slammed into a retaining wall.

Alibocas was thrown from the motorcycle and ended up in a ditch several feet from the point of impact.

Police said the force of the impact appeared to have smashed his helmet.

Officials at Juan Luis Hospital said Alibocas suffered a fractured skull and other broken bones.



Steve S. Bullock

Twenty-six-year-old Al Alibocas' motocycle lies on Queen Mary Highway after Alibocas was killed in a crash.

DPNR lands grant to keep tabs on fish

VALERIE LOVETT

ST. CROIX — The Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, has once again received approval for an annual $73,000 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

According to Director of Fish and Wildlife Dr. Barbara Kojis, the purpose of the grant is to keep track of area fish populations and to analyze data from commercial fishermen's catch reports.

She said the fishermen, at the end of each month, turn in information such as the type and number of fish they caught and the type of gear they used. The grant also funds production of the fisherman's handbook, which provides information about how the reports should be filled out.

"We then send the data to NOAA," Kojis said.

The statistics are organized and entered into a database for use by the federal government and DPNR. Locally, it is used to provide a basis for making improvement suggestions to the DPNR commissioner and the Fish Advisory Committee, she said. Kojis said all of the information the fishermen turn in is kept confidential.

"It cannot be given out to anyone except in the aggregate," she said. "And individual information can't be provided to anyone unless the fisherman asks that it is in writing."

She said the purpose of the secrecy is to ensure the forms are filled out completely and accurately. Some of the fishermen may fear that the information about their catches could be misused, Kojis said.

The newly designated national reef monuments could have an effect on the results of the study, she said.

"It very well could have an effect on the numbers of fish we see because it is reducing the area where people fish," Kojis said. "But in the long run it will enhance the fish catches."

Kojis said that because the National Park Service has not yet determined a management plan for the areas, it's difficult to predict the effect at this point.



Alda Anduze

Filling in the holes

A construction crew has started work to repair the Grove Place road, north of Queen Mary Highway, to the Drive-In in Grove Place. The project is one of several road-repair initiatives paid for by a $2.4 million grant from the federal government.

■ ON ST. THOMAS

Rash of shootings leave one dead, two injured

DAN KUEMMEL

ST. THOMAS — Police were investigating the homicide of a St. Thomas man Monday morning, the latest in a rash of shootings over the last three days that have left two people injured and one dead.

Dale Jeffers, 32, of Estate Tutu was found dead near a gut adjacent to building 1B of the Berg's Home apartment complex of a single gunshot wound to the abdomen. Police were called to the scene at about 7:18 a.m. Monday morning, but did not return calls for further information.

Other shootings over the weekend left two men hospitalized.

At 7:06 p.m. Friday night a man was admitted to Roy L. Schneider Hospital for treatment for a gunshot wound to the abdomen, according to police records. The man, later identified as Carlos Colon, 23, of Lindberg Bay was treated and released.

Around 6:25 p.m. Saturday night, a man was shot in the back near Garden Street. He was also admitted to Roy L. Schneider Hospital and is recovering from his wounds.

Jeffers' death was the third homicide on St. Thomas this year and the fifth in the territory.

On Jan. 3, Bryan Beaton was fatally stabbed in the heart at a construction site near Frenchman's Bay after an argument with a co-worker. Police sources said witnesses to the stabbing were uncooperative.

Police had identified a suspect in the case, but didn't release his name or a description. Police now believe the man has returned to his native Dominican Republic and may attempt to extradite him back to St. Thomas.

On the afternoon of Feb. 3, Ernestine Vanterpool, 50, was found dead in a bullet-ridden car at Lindqvist Beach. She had died of a single gunshot wound to the abdomen. Police said at the time she may have been shot the previous day, but had refused treatment. No one has been arrested in connection with Vanterpool's death.

New York principal admires St. Croix's bilingual educators

ANGELA BORCHERT

ST. CROIX — Siempre los Ninos (Always the Children), a Title 7 bilingual education program that began three years ago, is drawing to a close.

As a culminating event, Yvonne Rivera of the territory's office of bilingual education led New York City school principal Miriam Sing on a tour of three St. Croix public schools where the program is in full swing.

They toured Alfredo Andrews Elementary and Charles H. Emanuel Elementary, and wound up Friday at Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School.

Sing said she was impressed with the dedication of the principals and teachers involved in bilingual education.

"I'm getting a really wonderful sense of the schools here," Sing said.

"Considering some of the difficulties they have to work under, I am just amazed they continue to do what they're supposed to do, which is to provide quality education to the students."

Domitila Vargas, English as a Second Language teacher at Pearl B. Larsen Elementary School, was one of the St. Croix teachers who visited New York City in 1998 to see firsthand how the Title 7 bilingual program works in a large, urban area.

"In my opinion the bilingual program in this school is one of the best on the island," Vargas said. "We are seeing results. They (bilingual students) are being mainstreamed and they are making the honor role.

"We are a family here. Everybody tries. We work very hard and we try and try."



Alda Anduze

Guarding the beach

Nicholas Dicken, left, and Solomon Stotler of the Coast Guard Cutter Vigorous pass a football to their buddies Saturday on the Frederiksted public beach. The New Jersey-based boat, visible in the background, is docked at the Frederiksted pier for a few days.

Autopsy shows man in cistern drowned

STEVE S. BULLOCK

ST. CROIX — The autopsy on the body of Joseph Ramirez was completed Monday, and police are inching closer to ruling out foul play in his death. Based on the autopsy report, Deputy Police Chief Novelle Francis said Ramirez died by drowning.

Ramirez was last seen around 6 p.m. Feb. 22, when he left his sister's Peter's Rest home.

The body was discovered in an abandoned cistern a short distance from his sister's home Thursday by a Peter's Rest resident who was searching for a stray dog.

Family members positively identified Ramirez's body on Saturday.

Although the autopsy report showed Ramirez died from drowning, police have yet to determine how he got into the cistern.

Man accused of shooting neighbor gets out on bail

KC BURGARD

ST. CROIX — A Grove Place man accused of trying to kill his neighbor by shooting him in the abdomen last month was released from prison Monday after a month behind bars.

Trevor Noelien, 36, charged with attempted murder, appeared in Territorial Court with his public defender Hap Washington. Presiding Judge Maria Cabret released the defendant on an unsecured $75,000 bond and placed him in the care of a third-party custodian.

Noelien must reside in La Reine Village and abide by a 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew. Additionally, he must maintain his full-time employment as a construction worker and report weekly to the probation office.

Noelien was arrested on Feb. 5 and charged with attempted murder and possession of a deadly weapon during the commission of a crime of violence. He is accused of shooting neighbor Glorycida Columbus Williams Feb. 2 in the stomach with a .38-caliber handgun during a fight over marijuana.



Alda Anduze

Sowing the seeds

Volunteers Stafford Crossman, left, and Charles Smith of the University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service plant a Malay Apple tree on East Airport Road Saturday morning in front of the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport. It was one of seven apple trees, donated by Smith, that were planted by members of Rotary Mid-Isle and the Cooperative Extension Service. They also planted 15 fruit trees at the Queen Louise Home for Children.

Briefs

Mary's Fancy man held on $100,000 bail

ST. CROIX — A Mary's Fancy man remained jailed Monday charged with eight counts of sexual crimes against children.

Eugene Williams, 43, was advised of his rights Monday morning in Territorial Court by Presiding Judge Maria Cabret, who subsequently recused herself from further court proceedings.

Williams — arrested Friday afternoon by the director of the Department of Justice's Special Investigation Bureau — is charged with two counts each of aggravated rape, first-degree rape, unlawful sexual abuse and child abuse.

Williams, who has retained attorney Martial Webster to represent him, is accused of abusing two females under the age of 13 in 1999 and 2000. One of the victims reportedly told investigators that the abuse began as far back as five years ago.

Williams is currently being held at the Anna's Hope Detention Center on $100,000 bail.

Robbery reported in Barren Spot

ST. CROIX — An Estate Strawberry woman reported to police that she was robbed Sunday night near her neighborhood.

Police received the report about 8:36 p.m. Sunday of a first-degree robbery — meaning a weapon was used — near Flamboyant Gardens in Barren Spot.

"As she crossed the street, two male individuals approached her from the bush area and held a knife on her and demanded money," Deputy Police Chief Novelle Francis said of the victim's statement to police.

As one of the suspects held a knife to her side, the other reportedly took three $100 bills from her back pocket. Both suspects fled on foot.

Francis said the alleged victim was unable to give police a description of her robbers — except to say one had a T-shirt over his head — and there were no known witnesses to the crime. The woman was not physically harmed in the incident.

Police blotter

ST. CROIX

Assault:

7:44 p.m., Sun., Mutual Homes.

Grand larcenies:

3:30 p.m., Sat., Northside, vicinity of Benton Construction.

2:20 p.m., Sun., Fredensthal.

Burglaries:

7:52 a.m., Sun., Little Princess.

5:27 p.m., Sun., Cotton Valley.

10:31 p.m., Sun., South Slob.

7 a.m., Mon., Strand Street, Frederiksted.

Other:

7:23 a.m., Sun., a stolen vehicle reported in the Hogensburg area.

1:53 p.m., Sun., a report of a shooting in Tamarind Estate.

ST. THOMAS

Arrests:

5:34 p.m., Fri., Carolyn Hanson, 35, of Paul M. Pearson Gardens, was charged with simple assault and domestic violence after allegedly assaulting her ex-boyfriend. Bail was set at $500.

5:35 p.m., Fri., Paul Harris, 32, of Bovoni, was charged with aggravated assault and battery and domestic violence after allegedly assaulting his ex-girlfriend. Bail was set at $500.

Assaults:

4:22 p.m., Fri., Nordsidevej

4:27 p.m., Fri., Tutu Hi-rise.

6 p.m., Fri., Estate Tutu.

7:15 p.m., area unknown.

7:10 a.m., Sat., Savan.

3:45 a.m., Sun., Estate Tutu.

7:52 p.m., Sun., Nadir..

11:50 a.m., Mon., Addelita Cancryn Junior High School.

Grand Larcenies:

4:23 p.m., Fri., Red Hook.

7 p.m., Fri., Estate Tutu.

12:14 p.m., Sat., Frenchman's Bay.

4:10 p.m., Sun., Frenchman's Bay.

5:20 p.m., Sun., Bluebeard's Castle.

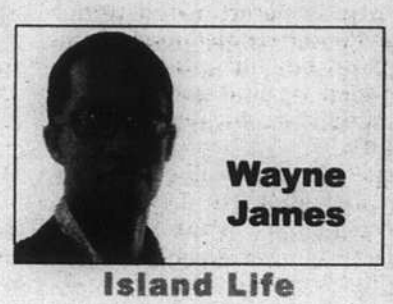
5:53 p.m., Sun., Kerwin Terrace.

Burglaries:

10:15 p.m., Fri., Tannenberg.

7:58 a.m., Soto Town apartments.

Cuban art on St. Croix



Wayne James

Island Life

Villa Madeleine on St. Croix's east end was the setting for the Friday, March 2 art exhibit titled "Direct From Cuba." Presented by the Society for Latin American Art and Culture, the event, now in its third year, featured over 70 works by about 15 Cuban artists.

One by one, over 80 invited guests arrived, ascended the mahogany staircase of the great house to its second floor, then were treated to a feast for the eyes — bold paintings by bold artists. Their colors are robust; their subjects varied from Egyptian mysticism to Christianity to Santeria; their execution ranges from ultra-technical to naive to primitive; and their influences are eclectic — including Picasso, Miro and Cuban folklore.

These artists are less influenced by the tastes of American tourists than many of their Caribbean counterparts, many of whom create pretty, decorative art. Cuban artists, perhaps because of their relative isolation since the late 1950s, have created their own art which speaks to their own issues.

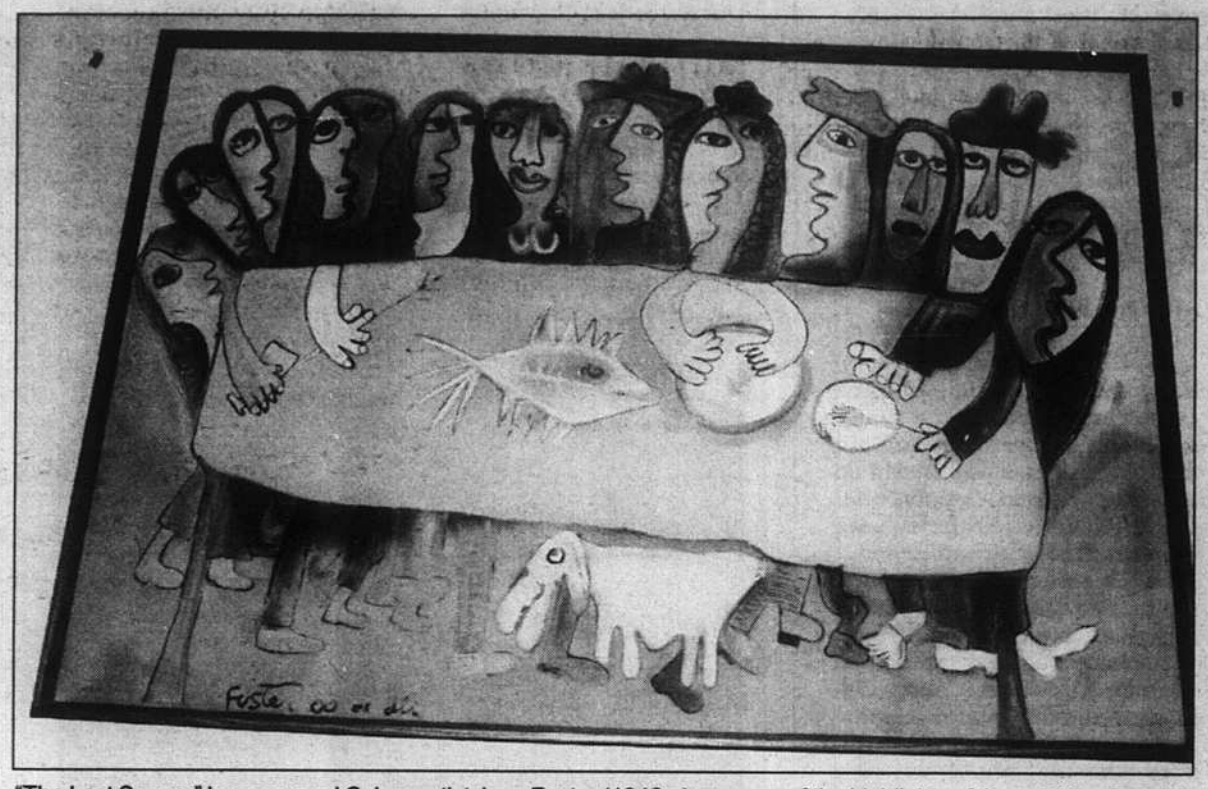
They have managed to respond to the mandate of all artists: to skillfully execute a subject matter in a manner that appeals to the intellect, the esthetic, or, preferably, both. Consequently, the exhibit served as an excursion to the real Cuba — a place where the African, the European, and the Native American converge. Through art, guests could experience Cuba, basking in its happiness, its sadness, its reality, as well as its fantasy.

"Sanfiel. He is so poetic," said Mrs. Gloria Frank, curator of the exhibit, as she guided a guest towards the artist's creations. "All of the works in this exhibit speak to so much on so many levels."

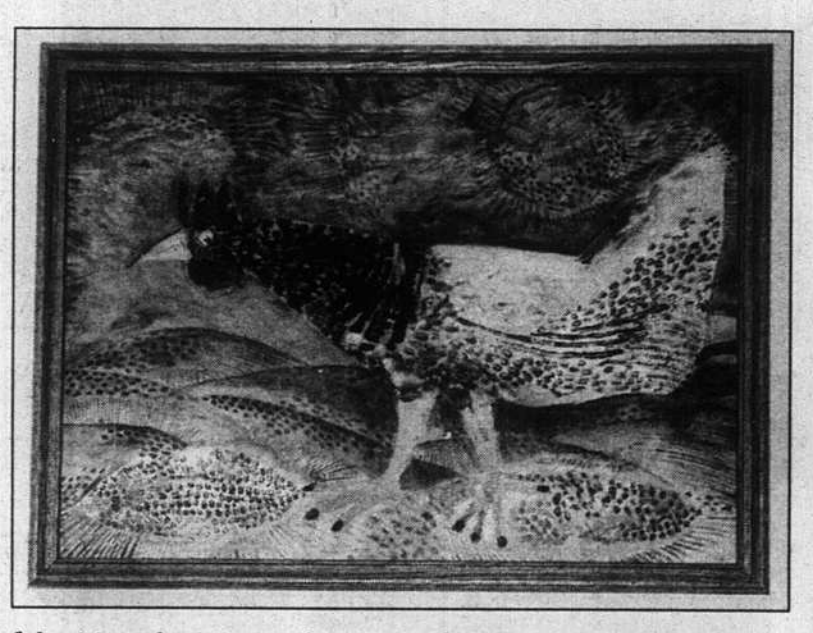
St. Croix-based Cuban architect Hortensia Lanio was there. Crucian architect Gerville Larsen was there with his friend Debbie Henry. The ageless beauty Aurea Gomez Stamatakis was there with her dear friends Marilyn Nicks and Val Diaz. Luz "Tuti" Suarez-Highfield, one of St. Croix's most celebrated hostesses, was there with her husband Terry. Crucian businessman Ferdi Abraham of Ferdi's Florist was there with Sarah Dessel and Claudette Anderson. German art collector and curator Christa Saffran (a dear friend of the Mr. and Mrs. Frank) was there, her pearl-gray chiffon ensemble wafting about her elegant frame as she socialized. Patty and Charlie Eitzen of Folkart Traders were there, Charlie graciously greeting guests in his capacity as co-organizer of the event. Haitian artist Maude Pierre-Charles was there, dressed in crisp, white linen.

Bill and Connie Hansel, on-island for a few more weeks to enjoy their winter home here, were there. Corinne Halyard, St. Croix's consummate party-goer, was there. The great house's upstairs patio, with its sweeping view of beautiful Estate Solitude and Buck Island, was where guests took intermission from the wonderful art in order to enjoy the wonderful food: smoked salmon canapes; a selection of great cheeses, presented in large wedges for carving; a perfect duck paté, which quickly disappeared; a nice fruit display; and miniature strawberry-and-cream cheese sandwiches. Champagne was served in tall flutes, and a bartender created mixed drinks to specification.

As the evening progressed and guests departed, the party diehards and art lovers lingered on. They lounged on sofas, finished off the rest of the hors d'oeuvres, and talked about mysterious Cuba.



"The Last Supper" by renowned Cuban artist Jose Fuster (1946-) was one of the highlights of the exhibit. Spanish artist Pablo Picasso remains a strong influence in present-day Cuban art.



"The Rooster" by J. Montebravo (1953-) embodies the Cuban artist's passion for color, naive presentation, and typical subject matter.



This large West Indian market basket will be on the auction block Sunday, March 11, at Whim Plantation Museum.

Submitted photo

Whim auction on Sunday

ST. CROIX — Considered one of the best market places for antique West Indian furniture, the annual Whim Museum Antiques Auction begins at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 11, at St. Croix's Estate Whim Plantation Museum.

Bidders interested in making a purchase during the auction can preview the collection of antiques from 5 to 7 p.m. Saturday, March 10, and at 10 a.m. Sunday, March 11.

Items available during the 18th annual auction include West Indian four-poster beds; planter's chairs; rockers; tea tables; candle stands; side tables; desks; storage jars; and pie safes; as well as original art by Jean Merwin, Bud Hawes, Trudy Gilliam and Fritz Henle.

Also up for auction are wall hangings from Africa, silk kimonos from the Orient, and furniture collections from Europe and North America.

In addition to the auction, an antiques flea market will begin at 10 a.m. March 11 at Whim.

Call the St. Croix Landmarks Society 772-0598 or visit www.stcroixlandmarks.com on the Net.

■ BAHAMAS

Medical expert says woman likely died of asphyxiation

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) — A medical expert testified on Monday that a woman, whose body is believed to be that of an American teacher who disappeared in the Bahamas, may have died of asphyxiation

Tennel McIntosh, 21, is accused of murdering Lori Fogleman, 32, of Richmond, Virginia. Police found a woman's body near a beach on Paradise Island in August 1998, a month after Fogleman was reported missing. The body was too decomposed to determine an official cause of death.

Officials also have struggled to positively identify the body. Prosecutors still lack medical records that could match a metal leg plate found in the body to Fogleman. Her brother, James Fogleman, said his sister got into an accident when she was 15 and doctors inserted a metal plate in her leg. Prosecutors also do not have any evidence about dental records.

"I can only work with what's been given to me and I intend to squeeze every little bit that I can from this file," prosecutor Francis Cumberbatch said outside the court.

Dr. Cyril Wecht, a Pittsburgh forensic pathologist brought to the Bahamas to perform the autopsy, testified Monday that the woman, whose body was found, most likely died of asphyxiation because there were no signs of physical injury. He said it was likely she was strangled or suffocated but did not talk about other possibilities.

The body was found face down under a pile of rocks, which could have suffocated her if she were still alive when she was put there, said Wecht, who is the coroner for Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

"I think it would be impossible for the chest to move — you would die from asphyxiation if you were still alive," Wecht said.

More than 20 feared drowned in ferry shipwreck off Haitian coast

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) —Six people drowned and 17 were missing in a weekend ferryboat shipwreck off Haiti's southern coast, police said Monday.

The sailboat Avenir Dolores (The Future of Dolores) went down around 7 p.m. Saturday (0000 GMT), off the coast of Belle-Anse, 28 miles southeast of the capital, Port-au-Prince.

The sailboat was carrying 30 passengers from coastal Marigot about 22 miles west of Belle-Anse.

Seven passengers were saved, six bodies were found washed up on shore, and 17 are missing, Marigot police said.

The captain as well as the owner, Roger Terreville, were aboard and also lost their lives.

The sailboat split when a wave swept it against offshore rocks, a radio station reported.

Dutch committee for foreign aid in Suriname for talks

PARAMARIBO, Suriname (AP) —In a sign that relations between the Netherlands and Suriname are beginning to improve, officials from the two countries met Monday to discuss suspended foreign aid.

Six members of the permanent Dutch parliamentary committee on foreign aid, headed by Frans Weisglas, met with the South American country's President Ronald Venetiaan.

Suriname won independence from the Netherlands in 1975. Relations deteriorated under Desi Bouterse's dictatorship and Holland cut aid after soldiers rounded up and assassinated 15 opponents during his rule in 1982.

The aid was restored briefly but cut again in 1998 amid accusations that former President Jules Wijdenbosch was trying to shield Bouterse, his longtime ally, from Dutch drug charges. Bouterse was convicted in absentia of cocaine trafficking charges by a Dutch court in 1999.

"So much has happened here in the past few years. That's why we are especially delighted to get a chance to assess Suriname's point of view on foreign aid," Weisglas said.

Holland still owes Suriname $260 million, under an agreement signed in 1975 when Suriname attained independence from the European country.

The Dutch representatives also are meeting with officials to discuss visa application procedures.

Slovenian tourist missing in mountains of Nevis

BASSETERRE, St. Kitts (AP) — Police are searching for a Slovenian tourist who has been missing since Wednesday, when he left to hike in the rugged mountains on the island of Nevis.

Anton Tomazic, 51, a lawyer, left his hotel on the morning of Feb. 28 to hike the 3,000-foot (915-meter) Nevis Peak, on the smaller half of the two-island nation of St. Kitts and Nevis. His wife and two children also were on the vacation, but did not go hiking.

"He was due back late afternoon, he told his wife to notify the local authorities if he wasn't back by 6 p.m.," army spokesman Lt. Kayode Sutton said Monday.

Search parties have not been able to find Tomazic in the mountains or in other areas of the island.

Tomazic left his hotel with a backpack containing water, bread and a change of clothes, Sutton said.

"The search is still on — it's too early to say what could have happened to him," Sutton said. "We still hope to find him."

Tomazic's wife, Miriam, has offered a reward of $4,000 for any information on his whereabouts.

Importers of Fine Furniture

Quin House Galleries

Your Local Source for Home Furnishings in

MAHOGANY AND TEAK

announces a change in hours

Open from 10am - 5pm

Tuesday through Saturday

or by appointment

Closed Sunday and Monday

On St. Thomas now available at

Silk Greenery Home

The Times Center Building

Fort Mylner - 775-4002



Come in and Browse

Tue-Sat 10-5 • 51ABC Company Street • Christiansted • 773-0404

THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION ON THE ISLAND OF

ST. THOMAS

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING

This is a supervisory position that will be responsible for planning, organizing, coordinating and supervising the functions and activities of the GERS Accounting and Finance Division.

DUTIES INCLUDE:
- Plans, assigns, coordinates, through managers, work of employees in the Accounting & Finance Division.
- Oversees various administrative functions such as payroll, purchasing, vendor payments and budget analysis.
- Develops guidelines for the standard operating procedures for the preparation of financial audits, annual and actuarial reports.
- Manages year end closing of the System's Fund and Investment Financial records.
- Prepares budget recommendations for the unit.
- Oversees the preparation of schedules and analysis for the year end audit.
- Coordinates and participates in external audits.
- Responsible for the GERS Petty Cash Fund.
- Oversees troubleshooting and solves problems related to general ledger, accounts payable and accounts receivable.
- Provides day to day leadership and works with managers of the unit to ensure high performance.

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from an accredited College or University with a Master of Arts Degree with a concentration in Accounting, Public Administration, Business Administration or Finance with seven years of progressively responsible financial experience in accounting, budgeting or auditing.

A Letter of Application and Resume including three references must be submitted by **March 23, 2001.** Mail to:

Janice L. Turnbull
Director of Human Resources
Government Employees' Retirement System
GERS Complex - 3rd Floor
48B-50C Kronprindsens Gade, St. Thomas, VI 00802

An Equal Opportunity Employer

St. Croix Landmarks Society's

2001 • 46TH ANNUAL

HOUSE TOURS

TOUR 6 NORTH SHORE

Wednesday, March 7

Departs Island Center 9:30am

ESTATE LA VALLEE

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Kaufman

ESTATE SALT RIVER

Mr. & Mrs. Peter Kumpitch

ESTATE MORNINGSTAR

Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Tetrault

ESTATE CLAIRMONT

Ms. Twila Wilson

EACH TOUR PER PERSON $25.00



BOOK AND TICKET OUTLETS:

Bread Box
General Store
The Jaber Company
Museum Store
Pivar Real Estate
Richards & Ayer
Schooner Bay Marketplace
Whim Museum

For more information call

772-0598

RESERVATION DEADLINE MARCH 9TH

Filling Fast!

for THE OFFICIAL 2001 HOUSE TOUR LUNCHEON at Duggan's Reef, Teague Bay, after Tour 7 March 14

Advertise in The Avis

The Avis

Publisher/Editor .....Rena Brodhurst
Managing Editor .....Robert Hoffman
Printed and published daily except holidays by
Brodhurst Printery, Inc., *36A/B La Grande Princesse,*
PO Box 750, Christiansted, U.S.V.I., 00820
Telephone (340) 773-2300; Fax (340) 773-5511
16 Norre Gade, Charlotte Amalie
Telephone (340) 774-7576; Fax (340) 774-8039
Second-class Postage paid at Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S.V.I.
Publication No. 475860
Postmaster: Send Form 3579 (Notice of Address Change) to Publisher, PO Box 750, Christiansted, V.I., 00821

Member: The Associated Press
American Newspaper Publishers Association

EDITORIAL:

The enemy within

Recently one of our more colorful senators said in public that another senator, Norman Jn. Baptiste, should not be permitted to run for public office because he is a naturalized citizen. (He was born in St. Lucia.)

There are few attitudes conceivable that could be more un-American, indeed undemocratic, than xenophobia (from the Greek *xeno,* meaning foreigner or stranger). The United States is a nation of foreigners and continues to grow in number and richness from the ongoing inflow of people born in other lands and in other cultures.

As with one's color, no one has a choice of where he or she is born. This is why racism is so evil — it condemns people for being, not for doing. Suspicion of those who are born outside of one's narrow vision of the world is perfectly equivalent to racism. And those who decry racism while acting racist are hypocrites.

Four of our senators were born in other countries, and one was born in Puerto Rico. That means that two-thirds of the USVI Legislature qualify for the imprecations visited on Jn. Baptiste. Thus the attack was *ad hominem* — not against the notion of "outsiders" running for office but against the man himself. When you have no case in logic or in truth, attack the person.

The only office in the federal government, for example, that precludes all but natural-born — including USVI-born — citizens is the presidency (and, by extension, the vice presidency). To speculate that there is some defensible reason for barring a non-U.S.-born citizen from holding any other public office is stunning in its arrogance.

A Nevisian by the name of Alexander Hamilton, who spent much of his life in St. Croix, would have therefore been ineligible to become a Virgin Islands senator were he among us today. Obviously, people from Nevis could never understand the intricacies of American democracy.

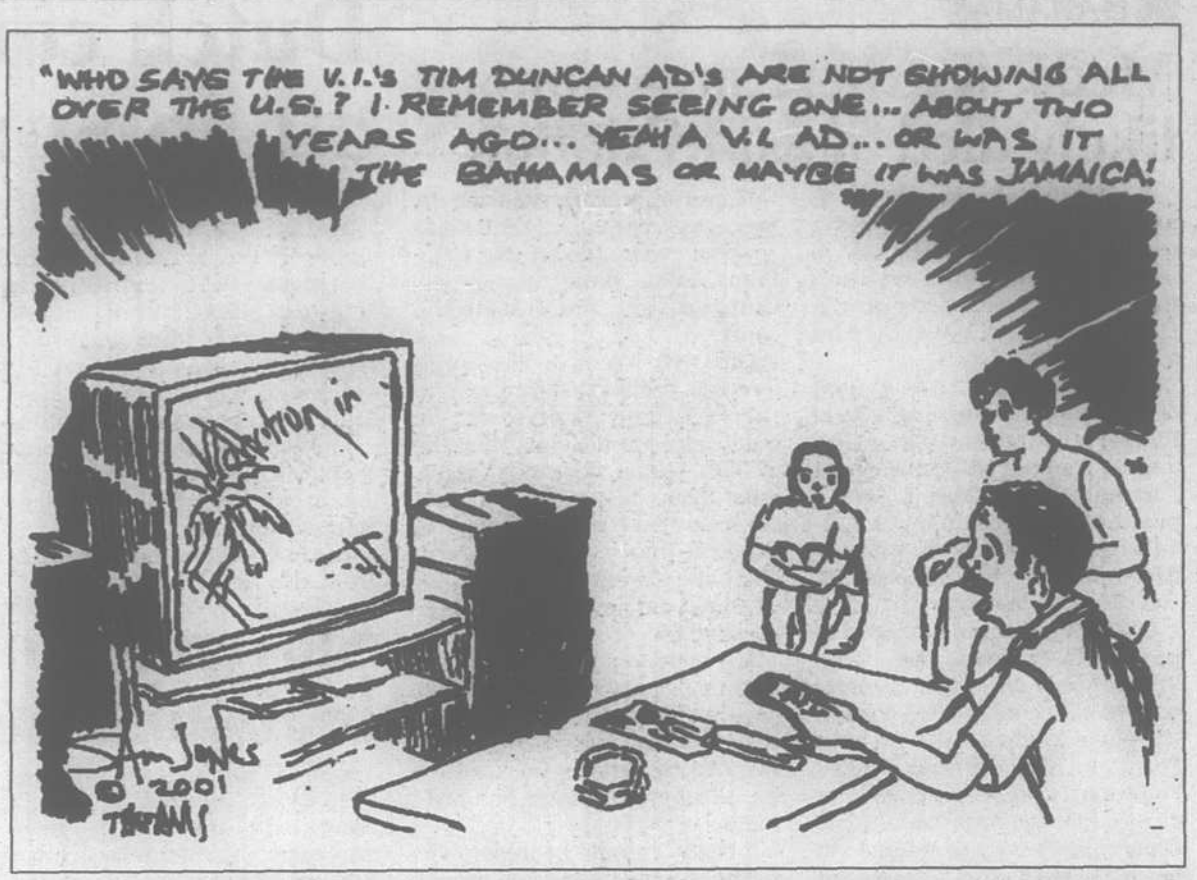
A friend recently said this: "You can be elected on hatred, but you can't govern on it." Amen.

The majority coalition in the 24th Legislature seems to be atomizing, as widely predicted, because it does not understand liberal-democratic politics, which requires cooperation and compromise to succeed. Instead, it has based its agenda on exclusion and personal disparagement. While most of the members of that majority are decent and intelligent folks, the pack mentality seems to have set in, where everything and everyone in its path become the prey.

Perhaps the latest crisis in the majority's ranks will have redeemed its leadership and wafted a warning shot across its bow. On the other hand, maybe it will simply self-destruct, dashing the hopes of its most ardent supporters and inspiring its detractors to celebration.

None of this is what the voters wanted or expected. No amount of personal vilification or bogus moral posturing will extract the territory from its woes or bring us the social and fiscal stability we seek so much. Ultimately, of course, the politicians will pay the price — but right now it is the people who are being swindled.

Mr. Hamilton, please come home.



Letters to the editor

Khodra's parole hearings are wrongly denied

Dear Editor:

An enlightened government is one that will know when to temper justice with mercy to ensure the highest good of all the parties concerned.

Bringing home the Virgin Islands prisoners from abroad is one such example. This simple undertaking restored a semblance of humanity to the Virgin Islands government that allowed itself to exist for too long in a state of moral poverty.

The Virgin Islands government may increase its moral stature by granting Joseph Khodra the parole he so richly deserves. The abnormal circumstances that still keep him confined scream aloud for instant rectification. Failure to grant parole would constitute the worst type of injustice imaginable — death by neglect is always an ugly spectacle.

For more than two years, Joseph Khodra has been eligible for parole.Unfortunately, he has been systematically denied a hearing for these two years, without proper authorization.

The law explicitly states that a candidate must be reviewed by the Parole Board once every six months from the time he or she becomes eligible, providing the candidate maintains a clean record for six months prior to the hearing date in question.

All of Khodra's attempts to communicate this to the appropriate authorities at Golden Grove have fallen on deaf ears thus far. They repeatedly assert that seeing the board is a matter of official discretion thereby subordinating legal mandate to personal whim. This contempt for the law arrogantly practiced by officials at Golden Grove is as appalling as it is intolerable.

Every eligible candidate must be allowed to see the parole board within the prescribed time limit established by law.

Mr. Khodra is due a hearing, he deserves parole.

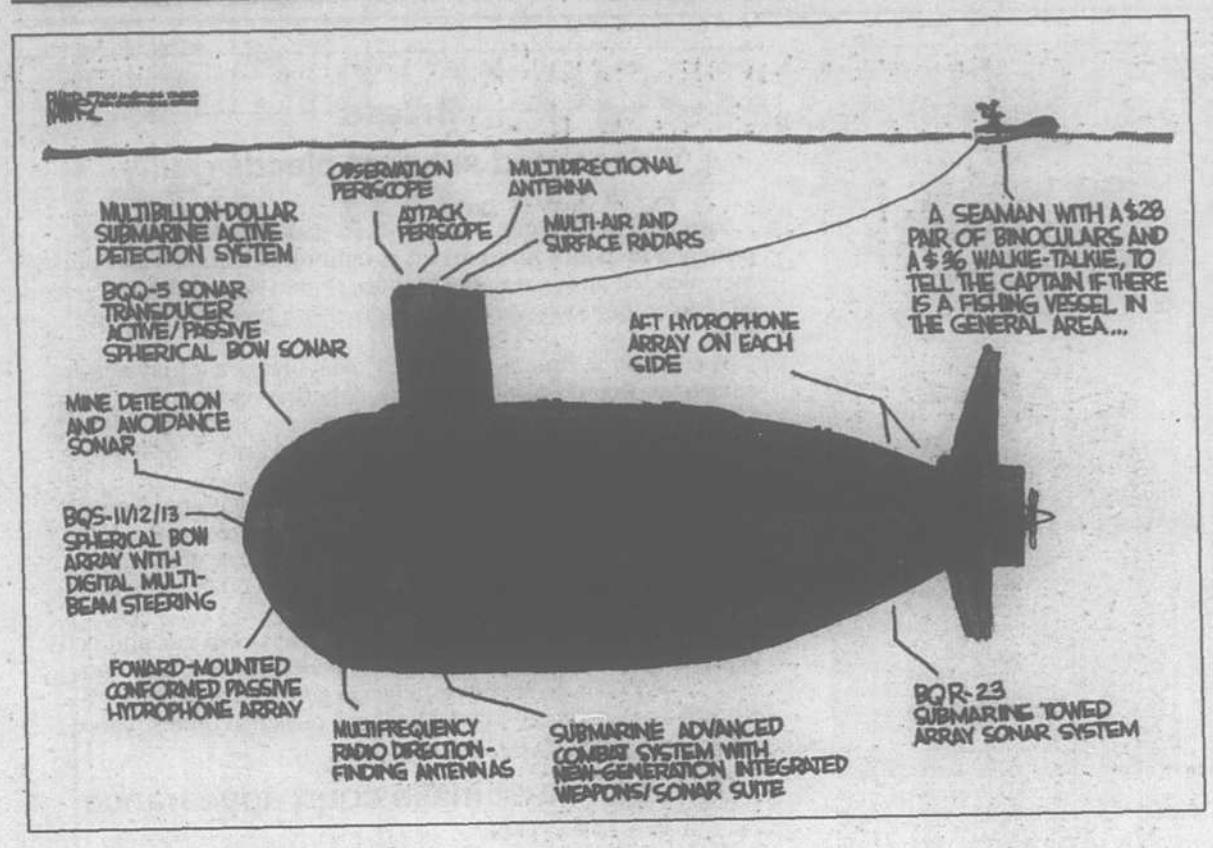
Sandy Khodra
St. Croix

We Are a People of the Tradewinds

by Terrence "Positive" Nelson
(An essay dedicated to the people of the Virgin Islands — West Indians)

We are a people of the tradewinds, a special people
We come and go in an unending circulation
The tradewinds are created from a natural source of energy
When this energy has developed enough strength, it blows off across
the seas and lands in an uncertain path. Unpredictably, the winds return.
Having traveled all over the world, it brings back new aromas,
new energy and new life to a still environment.
We, like the winds, are created naturally. When we have gathered
enough knowledge and strength, we too go off across the seas
and land in a sometimes uncertain path. We travel over the globe
in search of the spices of life. Then, almost unpredictably, we
return. We bring with us new information, new ideas and new
motivation to an old culture. We are a people of the tradewinds, a
special people. We venture off to find the spices of life. Then we return
with whatever we have gained to influence the birth of a newer,
stronger, re-energized circulation.
Remember, people of the winds, to be like the winds. No matter
where you venture, return. Return not as you left, but with a
moving force to do your part in keeping the circulation alive.

St. Croix 2001



Government won't change unless we do



My Turn

During my lifetime, I know that many people, including myself, have experienced the problem of saying "no," especially when a friend or relative asks a favor.

There is a learning curve as to how to develop the ability to say "no" without feeling guilty and dealing with the negative energy that may come from the requester.

There is, however, one exception, and it is the only exception I have ever experienced.

That exception is the VI government. They have made an art of saying "no," even before the question is asked.

The following are just a few examples of the "nos" the V.I. government has been saying, year after year after year.

The worst part is that we, the citizens and residents of the Virgin Islands, have allowed these things to continue....year after year after year.

• No! The potholes will not be repaired, even the ones that are dangerous to our health and safety. Why? Because the money (both federal and local) has been diverted and misused.

A local asphalt supplier has reached the point where it cannot afford to sell to the government, without going into bankruptcy. The government already owes this company over a million dollars. (I would love the chance to "borrow" $1 million, not pay it back and then not even pay the interest on it.)

I wonder how many other suppliers to the government are faced with the same problem, like WAPA, the trash haulers, etc., and how many have gone bankrupt selling to a government that will not pay its bills.

My suggestion: just cut it out, now! Stop selling goods and services to the government. What would happen if you or I did not pay our bills?

• No! Teachers, nurses, police, firefighters and others will not be paid back wages or salary increases, so forget about it. What would you do if a private company did what our government is doing to you? Our government is bankrupt, but not just in money, in spirit as well.

My suggestion: do what your heart tells you to do. Do what is best for yourself and your family. Since the government won't act, make them react to any non-violent action you take. Know this! They will not change no matter what they say. Their actions (and inaction) drown out any past, present or future words!

• No! Our rights as U.S. citizens under our Constitution will not be honored. As Martin Luther King said in many different ways, when the law is unjust and your rights as U.S. citizens are being taken away, then breaking these laws is morally justified.

My suggestion: a class-action suit in federal court against the VI government for civil rights and downright criminal violations. Our government spends our money immorally, illegally and without regard to our concerns. Our govenment has personnel at the very top who are breaking both criminal and civil laws knowing that they will not be caught and prosecuted.

• No! There will be no economic growth. Do not kid yourself. Increasing the gross-receipts tax, increasing the hotel tax, retaining the customs/duty taxes, leaving tourism in their hands, not improving basic human services, being institutionally closed to the press, plus their ability to always find money for themselves and their personal agendas will never, I repeat, never encourage new business or non-government employment.

Suggestion: Let the media get together and hire an expert investigative reporter to uncover the cover-up tactics and activities we know are going on.

• No! No matter what referendum is passed by the people, it will not come about. Believe me, our government will fight every measure passed if it reduces their control, power and inbred nepotism.

• No! Your children and grandchildren will not be better off tomorrow or next year or in the next 20 years. Truly caring about us and our families has not, is not and will never become our government's first priority. No matter what they say, the pudding is still in the government's box.

I once heard an expression: "If you can't be good, be expensive." This may be the perfect definition of the V. I. government. So we can continue to play our roles as sheep and let the dogs herd us, or we can do something. Apathy or action. Your choice.

Richard Bozzo lives on St. Croix.

Midwifery, a great gift and an important service

Delores Gumbs
My Turn

Midwives work and cope admirably in an ever-changing environment, but the well-being of women in maternal and perinatal care can only be ensured through professional development of the midwife and education of our clients.

The education of midwives must move beyond the traditional biomedical teachings. As midwives, we are responsible to ourselves for ensuring that we operate at the highest competency level. We should be constantly involved in education, research, leadership and management skills.

At the same time, governments and leaders of health institutions must show some interest in staff development and provide or assist in providing continued education in midwifery, as they also face the risks of lawsuits when incidents occur.

Our University of the Virgin Islands should make available programs for midwives, and not discriminate against any particular group of caregivers. Women's health is not midwifery; midwifery is a science, it is an art in itself. You gain skills and competence only through hands-on and years of experience.

It is shortsighted and exploitative to expect that we can overcome the current staffing crisis, improve midwives' morale and deliver care that our women deserve without providing some means of resources. Government must see health care the way they see tourism and not as a non-profit entity. Who wants to visit a nation of sick people?

I exhort you, midwives, to get involved in decision making, take a stand, and fight for the future of our profession. You cannot ignore the opportunities that are unearthed during periods of change, nor can you postpone acting on them until times are better.

Midwives are given very little recognition, although 90 percent of the human race passes through the hands of the midwife.

I say to you, be encouraged, for when that life blossoms successfully into maturity, when that mother says to you, "nurse this is your son" or "this is your daughter," that is your reward.

So as we face the challenge of maternal and perinatal care, let us begin with a change of self, a change of attitude. Let us recognize the importance of sustaining a career structure for clinical midwifery, and let our nursing schools, our governments develop opportunities in resource technology and education for midwives.

We must realize that the role of the midwife has expanded. Midwives are committed to providing an increasingly women-centered service by altering their working practice to entertain the whole family.

The challenges are great, but we must face the challenges and accept that change that will enhance the quality of life in our communities.

Breakthrough advances in science and technology have greatly influenced the way nursing care is delivered; we have seen dramatic changes in the financial, technological and socio-political areas in health care.

Our ability to move midwifery forward in these Caribbean islands will depend on each one's ability to function as a practitioner, as a generalist. It is not enough to simply understand and incorporate the change, but to have the courage to face the challenge and remain in the field of midwifery in this chaotic, fragile and rapidly changing environment.

Technology works in two ways in nursing: to advance and to sidetrack. The side effects of technology is the loss of that personal touch.

Your challenge is to remain as role models and be advocates for your profession and that of your clients within the community you serve; to maintain that personal touch, and raise the standards of nursing and midwifery, remembering always that midwifery is not an entity developed by man but a divine gift of a special technique given by God and it will never die. It is the only profession spoken of in the Bible where it says "and God was pleased."

Your duty is to love and care for that life that passes through your hands with humility, respect and dignity.

Delores Gumbs is president of the Caribbean Nurses Association and clinical care coordinator for Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital on St. Croix. This is Part II of a two-part article. Part I appeared in Saturday's Avis.



Associated Press

A snowplow clears part of the runway loading area at New York's LaGuardia Airport Monday. Hundreds of airline flights into and out of the Northeast are canceled Monday as a nor'easter that threatens to be the worst in years starts blasting the region with snow and ice.

Storm belts Northeast

Snarling air travel across the country and overseas, a powerful storm plastered the Northeast with snow and ice Monday in an expected two-day assault that could be the region's biggest blast of winter in years.

One to 3 feet of snow was forecast across much of New Jersey, New York and New England by early Wednesday.

Schools were closed Monday for millions of youngsters from West Virginia to Maine.

The nor'easter had been forecast days in advance, and people had plenty of time to stock up on groceries, snow shovels and videos, stripping shelves bare in some stores.

"It's like they're never going to eat again," Mavis McLynn said as she shopped at a supermarket in Philadelphia.

The heaviest snowfall from the slow-moving storm was expected Tuesday, but by Monday a foot or more had already fallen in upstate New York and northeastern Pennsylvania. Elsewhere, sleet and freezing rain glazed sidewalks and highways.

Meteorologists warned that the storm could be similar to the blizzard of 1978, which buried southern New England in 3 feet of snow, caused more than 100 deaths and battered coastal areas with high waves.

"Sandbags aren't going to help a bit in this case. If it comes, it's going to come," said emergency official Mark Zartarian at the shore town of Rye, N.H. "If it's anything like '78, it's going to lift and move boulders the size of your car."

New York's Education Department estimated 80 percent of the state's public and private schools were closed, affecting 3.1 million students, including 1.1 million in New York City. Every school in Connecticut was shuttered, keeping more than 500,000 kids at home. In Boston, some 62,000 youngsters got the day off. Philadelphia schools closed early, and hundreds of thousands of students were sent home.

Airlines canceled hundreds of flights at the New York metropolitan area's LaGuardia, Kennedy and Newark airports, and more than 400 flights were called off at Boston's airport. Swissair grounded flights that would have carried about 1,600 passengers to and from Europe on Monday.

Despite days of warnings from forecasters, some travelers wound up stranded at airports.

"I've been here so long it seems like years," said Joshua McKinley, 21, who was among the weary travelers who spent the night on cots at LaGuardia.



Tina York contends with heavy snow and strong winds as she makes her way to work Monday in Portland, Maine.

While utility crews and state emergency workers were on standby, nonessential government workers were told to stay home and off the roads in Connecticut, New York City's suburbs, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

Connecticut Gov. John G. Rowland banned jackknife-prone tractor-trailers from the state's highways, and in Massachusetts all bus service between Cape Cod and Boston was canceled.

Briefs

Videotaped suspect pleads guilty

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — A man who was kicked and punched by police in an arrest caught on videotape last summer pleaded guilty Monday to more than a dozen charges connected to a two-week crime spree that preceded his capture.

The arrest of Thomas Jones, 31, was broadcast just weeks before the Republican National Convention opened in Philadelphia, putting the police department on the defensive.

Jones pleaded guilty to charges including two counts of carjacking and 10 counts of robbery.

Jones was accused of leading police on a high-speed chase through North Philadelphia on July 12 in a stolen car full of purses and credit cards he stole over the course of that month. He was shot four times by police; an officer was shot in the thumb during the shootout.

Prosecutors allege Jones abandoned the stolen car and fled in a police cruiser. When it stopped, police yanked him from the car. A TV news crew in a helicopter taped the throng of officers as they repeatedly kicked and punched Jones before leading him away in handcuffs.

Simpson must make court appearance

MIAMI (AP) — A judge Monday insisted that O.J. Simpson appear in court in May on charges stemming from a bout of road rage, despite his attorney's assertion that it would produce a "media circus."

The former football star skipped his arraignment Monday, as state law allows, because defense attorney Yale Galanter had filed a written innocent plea in advance.

Circuit Judge Dennis Murphy acknowledged the plea but said he still wants Simpson, 53, to appear in court May 8 before he goes on trial.

"Obviously every time he appears in court it's a media circus," Galanter complained. He said it would be a media "field day."

The trial was set for June 25.

Simpson was charged last month with burglary and battery for allegedly reaching into a motorist's car and grabbing his glasses during an argument Dec. 4 in suburban Kendall, where Simpson now lives.

The burglary charge carries a possible 15-year prison sentence, but Miami's top prosecutor has said any jail time is unlikely.

Lewinsky agrees to HBO documentary

NEW YORK (AP) — Just as the details of Bill Clinton's affair with Monica Lewinsky begin to fade into history, the former White House intern has agreed to make an HBO documentary about the investigation into the scandal and its impact on the nation.

Lewinsky told The New York Times that the passage of time has provided her with new perspective that would go beyond what she had revealed in her biography, "Monica's Story."

"The book, that captured that time for me," she said. "The last couple of years have been such a time of intense growth and perspective for me."

Sheila Nevins, head of HBO's documentary unit, said she believed there were still issues worth exploration, particularly "why this very minor event became one of such magnitude."

"It's not just Monica," Nevins said, "it's Monica in history; it's Monica in privacy; it's Monica in trauma."

The documentary, which will be produced by the team that made the HBO documentary "Juror No. 5: 58 Days of Duty on the O.J. Simpson Civil Trial," is expected to be aired next January.

Congratulations, SHAUN A. PENNINGTON
PUBLISHER OF THE V.I. SOURCE ON-LINE NEWSPAPERS
ST. THOMAS ROTARY II PERSON OF THE YEAR 2001
FROM YOUR STAFF, ADVISORY BOARD AND FRIENDS

Have you gotten your news straight from the Source today?

Consider the Source: accurate, complete, unbiased news and information about your community, any time, all the time, for you and all the world to read. www.stthomassource.com ◆ www.stcroixsource.com ◆ www.stjohnsource.com ◆ 340-777-8144

US Navy opens inquiry into sub-boat collision

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) — With the careers of three officers, its own reputation and relations between two countries on the line, the Navy opened a court of inquiry Monday into the fatal collision between a U.S. submarine and a Japanese fishing boat last month.

Vice Adm. John Nathman began the investigative hearing with a pledge to "get to the root causes and facts." Families of some of the nine victims sat in the front row.

"The tragic consequences of the collision have impacted the lives of both Japanese and American families," said Nathman, who is overseeing the hearing.

"While this inquiry cannot change what has happened, a more thorough understanding of what occurred can serve to prevent a reoccurrence," Nathman said.

The USS Greeneville, a nuclear attack submarine, was demonstrating an emergency surfacing drill for 16 civilians when it knifed through the hull of the Ehime Maru Feb. 9. The boat, carrying 35 people, was on an expedition to teach high school students from Uwajima, Japan, how to fish. Four teens, two teachers and three crewmen never were found.

Nathman and two other admirals will recommend whether any disciplinary action is warranted against the Greeneville's top officers, Cmdr. Scott Waddle, Lt. Cmdr. Gerald Pfeifer, the executive officer, and Lt. j.g. Michael Coen, the officer of the deck.

Waddle, Pfeifer and Coen could face anything from a reprimand to court-martial. Adm. Thomas Fargo, commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, will review the court's recommendations and take final action. The court also could suggest changes to Navy policies on civilian participation in military operations.

Waddle, walking hand-in-hand with his wife, declined to comment when he arrived for the hearing. In a brief e-mail exchange with USA Today, Waddle asked people to "please pray for those lost at sea." He added, "Pray for me."

"My career is terminated — an accident of this sort, whether or not I am exonerated, will end my career," Waddle wrote for the March 12 issue of Time magazine. "My last acts as a naval officer will be to ensure there is closure for the families and that the truth is determined."

The opening session of the inquiry was dominated by procedural matters, such as swearing in the members of the court and reviewing the rights of the officers. Rear Adm. Charles Griffiths, who led the Navy's investigation into the accident, was scheduled to testify first.

Ryousuke Terada, the father of a missing 17-year-old boy, said he was confused by Monday's proceedings and said it was difficult to understand what was happening.

Lawyers questioned the three admirals about subjects ranging from what news reports they've seen about the collision to whether they've ever been involved in a submarine accident.



Associated Press

Commander of the USS Greeneville, Cmdr. Scott Waddle, center, holds his wife's hand as they arrive early Mcnday at the Pearl Harbor naval base in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Community mourns loss of Red Horse soldiers

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — They were part-time soldiers, men who gave up weeks every year to prepare for their mission of construction work on short notice anywhere in the world for military and humanitarian purposes.

But the 18 members of the Virginia Air National Guard's 203rd Red Horse Flight who died in a plane crash Saturday in Georgia also were very much part of their communities.

They were husbands and fathers, builders, computer specialists, insurance adjustors, Habitat for Humanity volunteers — men who were expected to return to their civilian jobs on Monday after a two-week training mission in Florida.

Instead, they are being mourned as the Virginia National Guard copes with its worst loss of life since 21 men died in the D-Day invasion at Normandy, France on June 6, 1944.

Guard deaths can hit communities especially hard because units tend to draw from a single area; many of the men killed in Saturday's crash were from southeastern Virginia.

Staff Sgt. Randy V. Johnson, a 40-year-old from Emporia with a 9-month-old daughter, assembled wooden roof trusses for luxury homes in his civilian life.

"He loved his job with the military because he got to travel all over the world," said Chris Johnson, plant manager at Toll Integrated Systems. He is not related to Randy Johnson.

Staff Sgt. Richard L. Summerell, 51, and Ellen, his wife of 25 years, ran a vacuum cleaner business in Franklin. It was destroyed by a flood during Hurricane Floyd in September 1999, and the couple had been running the business from their home since.

Summerell had four children, including a son who is a member of the Red Horse unit.

Tech. Sgt. Dean J. Shelby, 39, of Virginia Beach, worked at Denbigh High School in Newport News, helping to keep the computer network running.

Until there are no more unwanted & homeless puppies and kittens
PLEASE SPAY OR NEUTER YOUR DOGS & CATS
Can't afford it? We can help you.
St. Croix Animal Shelter 778-1650

In Memory of Pastor Frank K. Rogers
January 6, 1942 - March 5, 2000



It's really one year since you left us dear,
Though you are far away,
it's as if you are still near;
In spirit, in laughter and your
kind loving ways,
Thank God, we'll be together again
throughout eternal days.

From: Your wife, Pamela Rogers; children, Sharon & Stephen Rogers and your many relatives and friends.

Lettuce



Princess Market
NEW! Organic Mixed Greens and Arrugula!

Duggan's Reef
Teague Bay
St. Croix All Stars Steel Band
Tuesday & Thursday, 7:15-10:15
Dinner every night
Lunch Mon.-Sat. 12-3
Sunday Brunch 11-3
Children's Menu!
$2.00 Bloody Marys & Mimosas
Fresh Lobster
Reservations 773-9800

Court orders spy suspect held in jail

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — A federal judge said Monday that the government's case against accused spy Robert Philip Hanssen was "extraordinarily strong" and ordered Hanssen confined to jail.

Hanssen, who appeared at a hearing wearing a green jumpsuit with the word "prisoner" printed across the back, did not contest his confinement under an agreement forged with prosecutors.

With his lawyer cupping his elbow, Hanssen stood when U.S. Magistrate Judge Theresa Buchanan asked if he understood he was entitled to contest detention but had waived that right. "I do, Your Honor," he said.

Buchanan said she could see no conditions for releasing Hanssen, accused of espionage, because he was both a flight risk and posed a threat to the safety of the community.

She noted that Hanssen, 56, was carrying his passport when he was arrested Feb. 18. She said the government had presented ample evidence to support keeping him jailed while his case moves forward.

"I find the government case extraordinarily strong," said Buchanan at the hearing, which lasted just several minutes.

Hanssen's lawyers and prosecutors had agreed last week that Hanssen would be detained and the date of his preliminary hearing postponed to May 21 so that the defense could get an early look at some of the government's evidence.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Randy Bellows spoke briefly, telling Buchanan that Hanssen posed "an exceptionally grave danger to the U.S."

Plato Cacheris, Hanssen's lawyer, told the judge: "We do not subscribe to the facts Mr. Bellows has presented."

Monday's hearing only dealt with Hanssen's detention. He did not enter a plea.



Associated Press
Artist rendering of FBI agent Robert Philip Hanssen arriving at federal court in Alexandria, Va., Monday. A federal judge ordered Monday that Hanssen remain confined to jail, saying she believes the government has an "extraordinarily strong case" against the man accused of spying for Moscow since 1985.

But before the hearing, Cacheris told reporters that his client ultimately would plead innocent.

Cacheris also said he thought there were "a lot of gaps" in the government's case and said "we're not discussing a deal. There's no pressure."

Hanssen, a 25-year veteran FBI agent, has been held at an undisclosed detention facility since shortly after his arrest. The government alleges that since 1985, Hanssen has passed to Soviet and later Russian contacts 6,000 pages of top-secret documents containing information about how the United States conducts intelligence operations, which foreign agents it has targeted and technical information about communications and surveillance.

A 100-page indictment accuses Hanssen of comprising, among other things, "an entire technical program of enormous value, expense and importance to the United States government." The New York Times reported Sunday that Hanssen may have alerted Moscow to a secret tunnel built under the Soviet Embassy in Washington.

A former U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the FBI was chiefly responsible for the tunnel operation and that the National Security Agency likely had a role as well. The official did not provide details on when the eavesdropping effort began or what information might have been gathered.

A former member of Congress who received regular intelligence briefings at the time the tunnel was built, also speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that some members of Congress were informed about the operation in general terms.

The former member said he was told there was extensive clandestine surveillance equipment both below ground and in the vicinity of the embassy.

President Bush sidestepped a question about the tunnel Monday. "You need to talk to the appropriate folks involved with that," he said after a meeting on Capitol Hill.

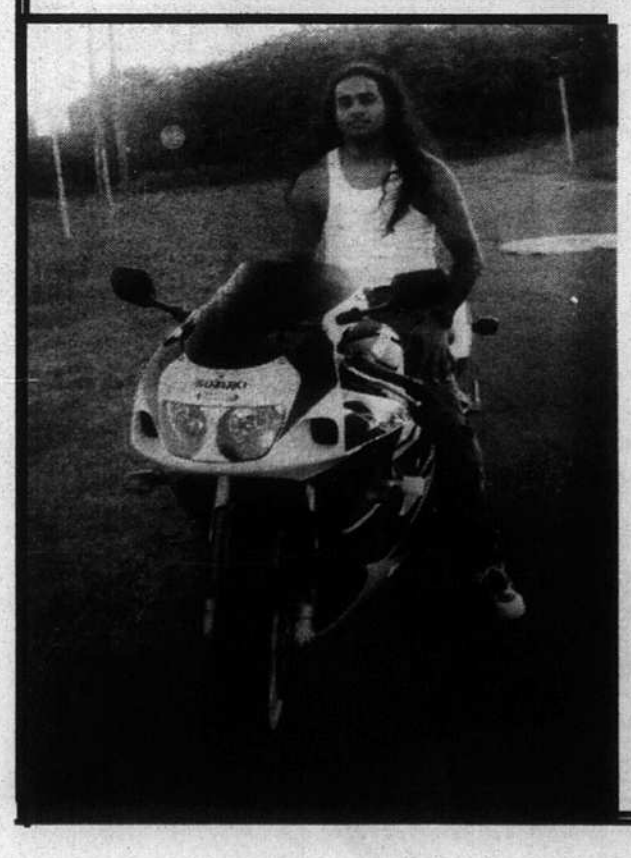
At the State Department, spokesman Richard Boucher refused to confirm or deny the existence of a tunnel. But he did say the Russian Foreign Ministry called in the U.S. charge d'affaires in Moscow "in connection with stories on this subject that have appeared in the press, and all our charge said was that he would report their concerns back to Washington."

Incensed by the report, Russia's Foreign Ministry on Monday demanded that the United States provide details. The Foreign Ministry issued a statement suggesting that Moscow was officially unaware of the tunnel's existence.

The Alibocas Family

sadly announces the sudden tragic death of

Al Nearle Alibocas aka "Ali"



on Sunday, March 4, 2001.
He was 26 years old.

He was a beloved son, brother, father, fiancé, brother-in-law, uncle, nephew, cousin, and good friend to those who knew him well. He will be deeply missed. May he rest in eternal peace as he took his last ride through the gates of heaven. Funeral arrangements are still pending and will be announced at a later date.

Police: Son killed father in fight over loud music

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — A 17-year-old boy beat his father to death with a baseball bat in a fight over loud music, police say.

Christopher Ariola was charged with manslaughter Sunday and jailed on $50,000 bail.

Police found the body of Anthony Ariola, 48, in the basement of his home.

The teen-ager told police that he had the television and two radios on while in the shower. His father came home drunk and they fought about the loud music, the younger Ariola said.

The son said he grabbed a bat and hit his father three times, until the older man had stopped breathing. "I started crying," the son said. "I said, 'No, no, why did this have to happen? Dad, I love you.'"

The teen-ager said he wrapped his father's body in a blanket and dragged it to the basement. He said he went bowling, then unsuccessfully tried to slit his wrists when he got home. He also took his father's Jeep and deliberately crashed it, but suffered only minor injuries.

The Best Place... for quality rental equipment

Carpet Cleaner $9.99
773-4010

ACE RENTAL PLACE

Open
Mon. - Sat.
7:00 am - 5:00 pm
#124-125
Est. Welcome

A DIVISION OF GALLOWS BAY HARDWARE

Cheney checks into hospital; undergoes heart procedure

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Dick Cheney, who has had four heart attacks, underwent an angioplasty Monday for a partially blocked artery after going to a hospital with chest pains.


Cheney

The artery, which had been opened in late November, had partially reclosed, his cardiologist, Dr. Jonathan Reiner, told reporters.

Reiner said there was no evidence that Cheney had suffered another heart attack.

Cheney, 60, suffered his most recent heart attack in late November but quickly resumed a full schedule after an operation to open the blocked artery.

Reiner said he did not believe Cheney had suffered any additional heart damage.

Asked for a prognosis, he said, "There is a very high likelihood he can finish out his term in his fully vigorous capacity."

Cheney checked himself into George Washington University Hospital, about six blocks west of the White House, after feeling chest pain briefly on two occasions on Monday after earlier episodes on Saturday and Sunday, Reiner said.

He said the episodes were "much milder and very brief" when compared with the chest pains that Cheney suffered in November. "The symptoms were subtle" this time, Reiner said.

Cheney attended a birthday party for Alan Greenspan Sunday night, capping a weekend in which he and his wife moved into the vice president's residence, the U.S. Naval Observatory.

On Monday, doctors inserted a flexible tube into the narrowed artery carrying a collapsed balloon. Once the balloon was in place, it was inflated, reopening the artery.

Reiner said there was a 40 percent risk of renarrowing of the artery. During the procedure last November, one of Cheney's heart arteries was 90 percent blocked, so doctors implanted a wire scaffolding-like device called a stent to push away the blockage and prop open the artery walls.

Reiner said that following such stent procedures, there always is a chance of renarrowing — and this is apparently what happened to Cheney.

Cheney was expected to spend the hospital overnight and to be released on Tuesday.

President Bush called the vice president to wish him well, said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer. "During their five minute phone call, the vice president told the president that he was feeling fine and looked forward to returning to work."

Aides said Cheney, who was working at the White House on Monday, had told Bush in the morning that he was experiencing discomfort in his chest and planned to be examined by a doctor.

Cheney has had four heart attacks, the first when he was 37. In 1988, he had quadruple bypass surgery to clear clogged arteries.

He said that Cheney dozed off several times during the procedure, which took about an hour.

Reiner said Cheney probably could fully return to his work "later in the week."

Asked whether Cheney had failed to take precautions after his November heart attack, Reiner said no, that the vice president had been "exceedingly diligent" in following both dietary and exercise recommendations, including essentially eliminating red meat from his diet.

"He has very nicely adhered to what we wanted him to do," Reiner said.

After Cheney arrived at the hospital on Monday, he underwent a cardiac catheterization to determine what was causing the chest pains.

In that procedure, doctors insert a flexible tube into a leg vessel, and it is run from there up to the target artery supplying blood to the heart. At that point, dye is injected. The dye shows up on an X-ray or fluoroscope, enabling doctors to see the flow of blood through the artery.

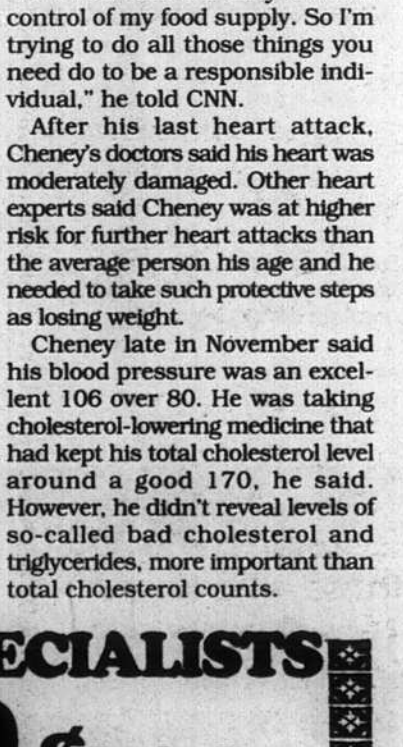
When the blockage was noted, the angioplasty was performed.

Cheney is an unusually active and influential vice president. He headed Bush's transition team, played a major role in Cabinet and top personnel selections and has helped Bush forge foreign policy as well as a national energy policy. White House officials say Cheney is the adviser Bush most relies upon to make sure his agenda is carried out.

His hospitalization came less than a week after Bush's first address to Congress, just as Bush is trying to generate attention and support for his tax-cut plan.

Inserting a stent

Vice President Dick Cheney checked into a hospital Monday after feeling chest pains. Last November, Cheney had a stent surgically implanted after suffering a heart attack. The procedure is done to expand a narrowed artery. Here's how it works.



SOURCE: American Heart Association AP

In a television interview Sunday, Cheney said he felt great. "I am well-behaved. They've taken control of my food supply. So I'm trying to do all those things you need do to be a responsible individual," he told CNN.

After his last heart attack, Cheney's doctors said his heart was moderately damaged. Other heart experts said Cheney was at higher risk for further heart attacks than the average person his age and he needed to take such protective steps as losing weight.

Cheney late in November said his blood pressure was an excellent 106 over 80. He was taking cholesterol-lowering medicine that had kept his total cholesterol level around a good 170, he said. However, he didn't reveal levels of so-called bad cholesterol and triglycerides, more important than total cholesterol counts.

Beef prices soar after harsh winter, drought

WASHINGTON (AP) — Retail beef prices are soaring — reaching a record $3.21 a pound for USDA-choice cuts in January — because of a harsh Plains winter that has been tough on cattle.

Prices are likely to dip by the summer, but then rebound because of tight cattle supplies.

Producers are only starting to rebuild herds that they thinned because of drought and low prices in the late 1990s.

The winter has been so cold and damp that cattle are taking several months longer than usual to fatten up.

In bad weather, cattle in feedlots don't eat as much and use up energy staying warm.

"We have basically had one of the harshest winters that we have seen in a very long time," said Chuck Levitt, a meat analyst with Chicago-based Alaron Trading Corp. "The last time we had a winter this severe across the major cattle feeding areas was in 1993."

The previous record for retail prices was in September, at $3.13 a pound. In the late 1990s, they were averaging about $2.80.

Live cattle are selling for 82 cents a pound, up from 78 cents last month and about 68 cents in February 2000.

"We've definitely seen the beef prices go up big time," said Rickey Figueroa, executive chef of Atlanta's Chops Steakhouse.

The price the upscale restaurant is paying for beef tenderloin has gone from $15 to $20 a pound in recent weeks.

So far, the restaurant isn't changing its menu prices, in hopes of negotiating better deals with another supplier, Figueroa said.

Americans have rediscovered a taste for beef at the same time that U.S. meat exports are up and many producers have been sending all of their calves to slaughter, rather than holding females back for breeding.

Experts say it's too early to asses the impact on U.S. prices and supplies from outbreaks of mad-cow and foot-and-mouth diseases in Europe.

Beef sales plummeted in the European Union after an upsurge of mad cow cases in several countries last year.

THE EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION ON THE ISLAND OF

ST. THOMAS

PAYROLL COORDINATOR

This is a supervisory position that will be responsible for coordinating the activities of workers engaged in recording hours of work, processing time records, compiling payroll statistics, maintaining payroll control records and preparation of the Administrative and Retiree payrolls.

DUTIES INCLUDE:
- Supervises the generation and distribution of the bi-monthly retiree payroll and the bi-weekly administrative payroll.
- Plans, assigns and directs the work of clerical and technical staff.
- Provides training, direction and technical advice to subordinate staff.
- Performs quality control functions for group output.
- Interprets company policies and government regulations affecting payroll procedures.
- Reviews payroll to ensure accuracy and compliance with company policies and government regulations.
- Studies and standardizes procedures to improve efficiency of subordinates.
- Directs the preparation of government reports.

QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from an accredited College or University with a Bachelor's Degree with a concentration in Accounting, Finance or related field with five years of experience working closely with pay administration on a supervisory level. Experience is a **must**.

A Letter of Application and Resume including three references must be submitted by **March 23, 2001.** Mail to:

Janice L. Turnbull
Director of Human Resources
Government Employees' Retirement System
GERS Complex - 3rd Floor
48B-50C Kronprindsens Gade, St. Thomas, VI 00802

An Equal Opportunity Employer

FLOOR SPECIALISTS

.99 ¢ Per Sq. Ft. 12" X 12"

Ceramic Floor Tile

Over ONE MILLION Sq. Ft. in Stock!

St. Croix, 300 Peter's Rest (Next to Watapana Mall) 778-6157

St. Thomas Bovoni Center 775-3131

Enthusiasm evaporates for Clinton pardon hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) — Enthusiasm seemed to be on the wane Monday for more congressional investigations into President Clinton's last-minute pardons as House and Senate Republicans said the time may have come to follow President Bush's advice.

"I'd be inclined to move on," Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said, repeating what Bush said he wants done.

This follows last week's 10-hour marathon hearing by the House Government Reform Committee, the fourth by the Republican-controlled Congress. That committee already had held one hearing on the subject, and the House and Senate Judiciary committees have held one each.

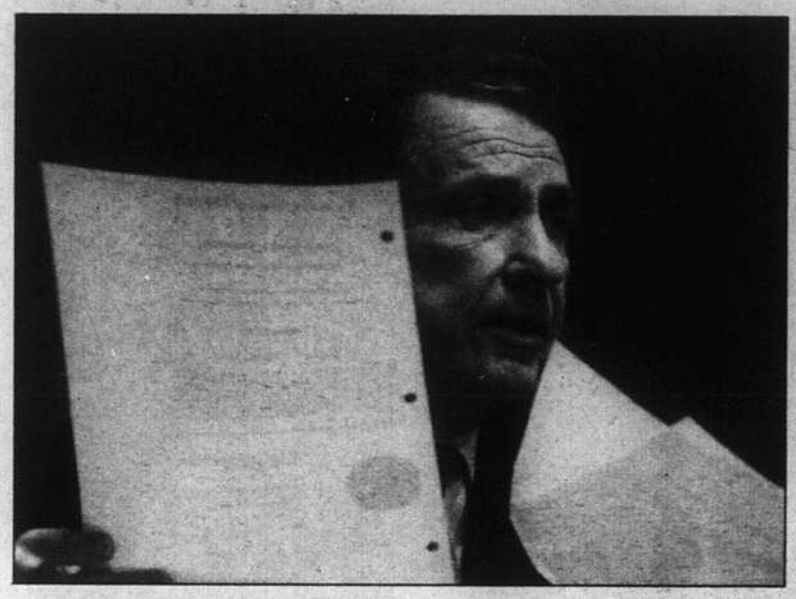
President Bush, who has been trying to get his administration together and to push his agenda in Congress without being overshadowed by his predecessor, has said that he thinks it is time for Congress to move on. Officials on all sides say, however, that Bush is not pressuring Congress to drop investigations beyond occasional "move on" admonitions.

"The president has spoken and said he is moving forward," spokesman Ari Fleischer said Monday.

A high-ranking Republican aide, speaking on condition of anonymity, said House Republican leaders would be surprised if Rep. Dan Burton, chairman of the Government Reform panel, held another hearing soon. "There is a collective sense that the panel has gone about as far as it can, the aide said.

Burton, R-Ind., has said he has no other hearings scheduled and doesn't know whether he needs more.

"Until we look at the information we've subpoenaed and the other information that's coming in and other people we're going to talk to, I can't make a determination," he said Sunday on NBC's "Meet the Press." "But I will tell you this: If we find there is additional questions that need to be asked of people under oath, we'll have a hearing."



Associated Press

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., holds documents dealing with former President Clinton's pardon of Marc Rich during a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing on Capitol Hill in Washington. Clinton will most likely reject an offer to be questioned in private by senators about his last-minute pardons, aides said.

The House Government Reform Committee looked Monday at amounts and dates of large donations to the William J. Clinton Foundation, raising money for a library in Little Rock, Ark.

Republicans are looking for any hint of a money-for-pardons deal between Clinton and financier Marc Rich, who was an expatriate fugitive when Clinton pardoned him of tax and other charges on Jan. 20.

Rich's ex-wife, songwriter Denise Rich, contributed $450,000 to the library foundation, and her friend, Beth Dozoretz, a former finance chairman for the Democratic National Committee, has pledged to raise $1 million.

They refused to testify before Congress, invoking their constitutional rights against self-incrimination.

Foundation lawyer David Kendall refused to comment Monday.

Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., who spearheaded pardon hearings in the Senate Judiciary Committee, also has no hearings scheduled but has said he wants more, perhaps on changing disclosure laws that cover presidential libraries.

Specter also has been among the lead advocates for getting Clinton to talk about the pardons, although all sides say it's unlikely Clinton would get a subpoena.

The U.S. attorney's investigation in New York of Clinton's pardon was part of the reason why Dozoretz and Denise Rich refused to testify before Congress, lawyers said.

Specter instead suggested Clinton come in voluntarily to talk to senators privately. That is unlikely, Clinton spokeswoman Julia Payne said.

"This is not an offer he's considering at this time," she said.

With Clinton's refusal another hearing would be the only way to get him back to Washington to explain his reasoning for the pardons. But "I wouldn't think that we should get into trying to force him to testify," Lott said.

Bush urges Congress to revamp Medicare

WASHINGTON (AP) — Moving up his timetable, President Bush urged Congress on Monday to restructure Medicare this year and use the proposal from a 1999 task force as "the framework for a bipartisan consensus."



Bush

Bush embraced the measure sponsored by Sens. Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and John Breaux, D-La., during the presidential campaign, but until Monday he had suggested that Medicare reform would wait until later in his administration.

"I believe the framework for a bipartisan consensus about how to make sure the Medicare system fulfills its promise is at hand. And we've got a lot of work to do," Bush said after meeting with five senators who are leaders on the Medicare issue, including Breaux and Frist.

In their private session, Bush told the lawmakers he wanted Medicare reform passed this year, according to the senators and White House aides. Bush advisers said the president has been pleasantly surprised with the momentum building behind more comprehensive reform in Congress, even as his stopgap prescription drug plan has languished.

"When it's all said and done, we're going to have universal coverage of prescription drugs and modernization of Medicare as our end result," Breaux said.

Leaders of the Senate Finance Committee, which will shepherd any Medicare legislation through the Senate, have said that they do not anticipate enacting comprehensive Medicare reform this year. Rather, Sens. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and Max Baucus, D-Mont., have said they expect to add a prescription drug benefit to the program and make other management changes that stop short of restructuring the program.

It was unclear whether the White House would embrace the sort of halfway approach the Finance Committee anticipates, or whether the president will insist on a more fundamental reform that would change the way seniors choose their health plans.

The more ambitious plan put forth by Breaux and Frist would seek to save the government money by making Medicare more like the health benefits many younger Americans get from employers.

Senior citizens would choose among preapproved private health plans and Medicare would pay a standard portion of the premium. Those choosing higher-cost plans would pay more out-of-pocket but supporters say competition among plans would bring costs down for many.

A government-run Medicare option would continue to be available. But it would have to compete under the same financial constraints as private plans. White House advisers compare the proposal to the health insurance program open to federal employees.

Breaux and Frist have also suggested a more modest overhaul to Medicare as an alternative if their first approach fails to win sufficient support.

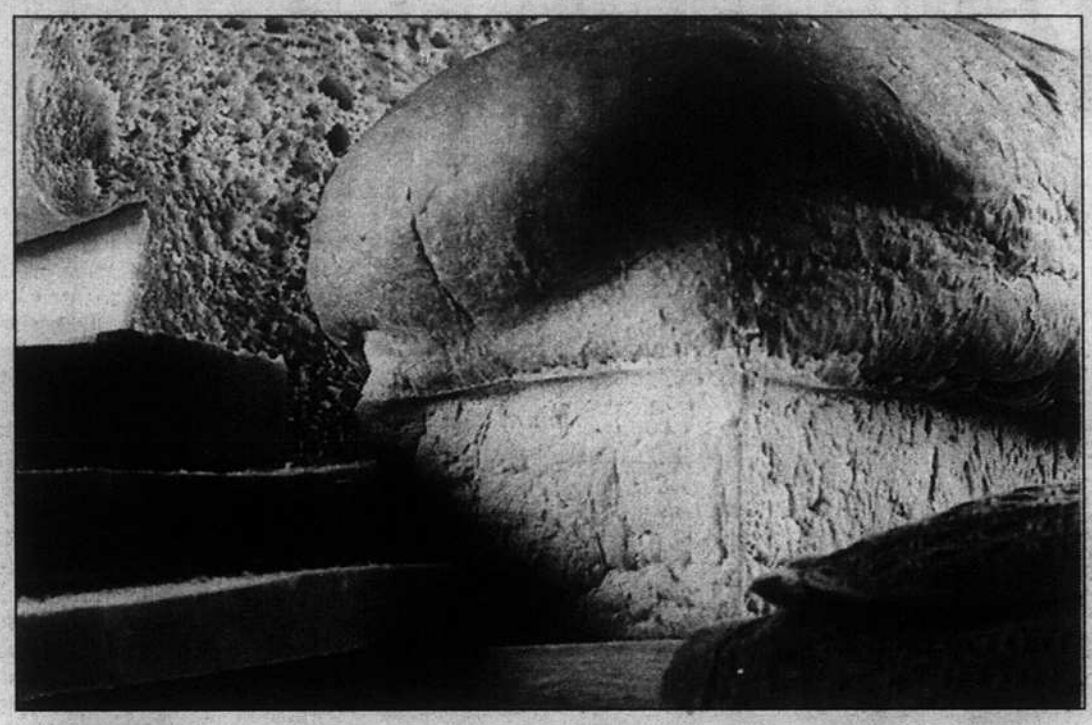
Bush has proposed giving states money to provide prescription drugs to elderly Americans, but the proposal has stalled in Congress.

www.thefastestinternetconnectioninthevi.com

[it's not where your going — it's how fast you get there.]

WIRELESSWORLD
AN ATN COMPANY
www.wirelessworld.com

WDSL: Screaming fast wireless internet connected 24hours a day without logging on or getting a busy signal. From $78 a month. If you can see the Mt. Welcome tower, service is just a call away • 778-8864 • Peters Rest.



Bread 101

The basics by hand and machine

One of the most pleasing smells that may waft from a kitchen is that of fresh-baked bread. Golden-brown loaves from the oven can make a terrific complement to a hearty meal or serve as a key ingredient in a succulent sandwich.

Any way you slice it-whether you bake your bread the old-fashioned way or with the help of a bread machine-heeding a few expert tips can help make your loaves even more delightful.

By Hand

— Don't omit the salt. Salt adds flavor to bread and tempers the growth of the yeast. Salt also chemically "toughens" the gluten a bit, allowing the loaf to hold its structure better.

— Flavor develops during the rising time, so don't be afraid to give your dough time. A slow, overnight rise in the refrigerator creates a wonderful dough with super flavor.

— Use the right flour. Flour too low in protein will give you a small, squat loaf of bread. The protein in a rich flour, such as King Arthur, provides more gluten in the dough. The gluten is what traps the carbon dioxide produced by the yeast and gives your dough a beautiful rise.

— Don't add all the flour at once. Flour is like a sponge; it can absorb humidity in the air or dry out in dry weather. It is difficult to recover from dry dough once you have added too much flour. The resulting bread is tough and dry.

— Make sure to knead the dough sufficiently to develop the gluten. There is no need to beat on the dough. A gentle, rhythmic workout is all that is needed. Generally, eight to ten minutes of hand kneading will allow for good protein development.

With a Bread Machine

— Traditional recipes calling for six cups of flour may easily be adapted to the bread machine. Simply cut the ingredient measurements in half; the exception is yeast. Reduce that by only one quarter.

— Always watch the dough as it kneads through the machine. You may need to add flour or liquid to achieve a soft, smooth ball of dough.

The following recipe is for the bread made weekly by Walter Sands, father of Frank E. Sands, chairman of the board of King Arthur Flour.

Because of his arthritic hands, Walter used a bread bucket with a crank, which kneaded hundreds of loaves of this fragrant bread.

Walter Sands' basic white bread

2 cups warm water
2 tablespoons sugar or honey
1 scant tablespoon or packet active dry yeast
1/2 cup dry milk (optional)
2 tablespoons butter, softened, or vegetable oil
6 cups unbleached all-purpose flour
2 teaspoons salt

Pour the warm water into a mixing bowl. Add and let dissolve the sugar or honey and then the yeast. When the yeast is bubbling, add the dry milk, butter, 3 cups of flour and the salt. Mix together and then stir in a further 21/2 cups of flour. Sprinkle the remaining 1/2 cup on the surface you intend for kneading.

Knead the dough for 3 to 4 minutes, until it begins to behave as if it belonged together. Let it rest while you clean and grease the bowl. Continue kneading a further 3 to 4 minutes, until the dough feels smooth and springy.

Let the dough rise until doubled (1 to 2 hours). Knock it down, knead out any stray bubbles, cut it in half and form two loaves. Place them in two lightly greased 41/2x81/2-inch bread pans. Let rise until almost doubled (45 minutes to 1 hour).

Preheat the oven for 15 minutes to 350∞F. Bake the loaves 35 to 40 minutes, or until nicely browned. Remove bread from oven and cool completely on a wire rack.

Yield: 2 loaves

All in one

Marinades add flavor to one-dish meals

For today's hectic, harried and time-crunched lifestyles, one-dish dinners offer a quick fix: You can prepare, cook, serve and clean up using one dish.

Creating fresh-tasting, one-dish meals without the added fat and calories of the traditional casserole simply takes the right pantry-staple ingredients. Start with chicken — it's healthy, convenient to prepare and 89 percent of Americans enjoy it at least once a week. Plus, it serves as a gracious vehicle for a wide variety of flavors.

To save time, marinate while you bake. This way, flavors are intensified as the marinade bakes into the chicken. Now on supermarket shelves, there's a myriad of mouth-watering marinades to add savory taste.

For example, Lawry's® offers 12 varieties reflecting popular cuisines, including such ethnic flavors as Mediterranean, Caribbean, Tequila Lime and Sesame Ginger and each contains real fruit juice.

This colorful dish is a meal in itself. Serve it over hot cooked rice or your favorite pasta, with a fresh loaf of crusty bread.

Roasted chicken and vegetables

3 pounds chicken parts
1 cup Lawry's® Lemon Pepper Marinade with Lemon Juice, divided
6 cups fresh vegetables, cut into 1-inch chunks (onions, zucchini, bell pepper, mushrooms, eggplant, etc.)
1/4 cup olive oil
1 tablespoon Lawry's® Seasoned Salt

Spray broiler pan bottom with nonstick cooking spray; arrange chicken skin-side-down in pan. Pour 2/3 cup Lemon Pepper Marinade over chicken. Bake in 375F oven for 30 minutes. Turn chicken over and baste with remaining 1/3 cup Marinade. In large resealable plastic food storage bag, toss vegetables with oil and Seasoned Salt.

Arrange vegetables in pan around chicken. Return pan to oven and bake until meat is no longer pink and juices run clear (175F to 185F at thickest point), about 25 to 30 minutes.
Makes 4 to 6 servings.
Prep. Time: 10 minutes
Cook Time: 55 minutes

Meal Suggestion: Serve with hot cooked rice or potatoes.

Variation: The following Lawry's® Marinades are also excellent in this recipe: Teriyaki Marinade with Pineapple Juice, Mediterranean Marinade with Lemon Juice.

Get under the covers with a book from Undercover!
Featuring: Tuesdays with Morrie, by *Mitch Albom*
The French Laundry Cookbook
The Vegetarian Epicure Cookbook
Undercover Books & Gifts
Gallows Bay St. Croix 719-1567

The Brass Key Home Store
WOW!
we've expanded our kitchen department
OVER 100 NEW PRODUCTS
#252 Peter's Rest route 708 next to Continental Movers 773-1776
Mon. - Fri. 9:00 - 5:30 • Sat. 9:00 - 5:00

The Belgian wave

Look out, Paris, there's a new city on the block

BY FRANCINE PARNES

NEW YORK (AP) — Paris used to be the sole center of fashion. Then new fashion centers developed in London, Milan and New York.

"Paris is still first among equals, but it is no longer dominated by French designers," says Valerie Steele of the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York. She cites, among others, Briton John Galliano, head designer at Christian Dior, and German Karl Lagerfeld at Chanel.

Now the Belgians are "the latest group to penetrate French fashion. At the Paris fashion collections, the Belgians are a really conspicuous contingent."

Steele is eyeing them as the newest big thing on the global fashion scene. As acting director and chief curator of the Museum at FIT, she's readying, with associate curator Fred Dennis, "Belgian Fashion: Antwerp Style," a show of Belgian fashions to run Feb.1 through April 14. Then the homeland picks up with "Fashion Year 2001" events in Belgium through Oct. 7.

Not one to mince words, Steele will tell you, "It's weird, it's funny. Belgium is not a fashion town. You go to Brussels or Antwerp, it's not Milan. These are frumpy towns."

Weirder still are the looks they produce, which are putting them in the vanguard of style.

"I'd seen some cool pictures from the design duo A.F. Vandevorst when they showed their collection on models lying in hospital beds, and journalists walked around the beds," she said, referring to the husband-and-wife team of Arickx Filip and An Vandevorst. "The designs were like surgical-style corsets, and I thought, these guys sound really interesting," says Steele.

"American fashion shows are very boring and commercial. Models walk around a runway and come back; that's it. But European shows have a theatrical, conceptual element, like performance art."

The first Belgian designer fashion editor Marylou Luther ever heard of, two decades ago, "had a showing in London where they recreated a chicken farm, complete with chickens," says Luther of the International Fashion Syndicate. "Can you imagine live chickens in the biggest fashion exhibition hall in London, the same exhibition hall that Princess Diana toured that season? I've gone from 'Who are these people?' to 'These people are very talented.' I couldn't help but feel attuned to their sense of whimsy."

But behind all that fun is function.

"I was completely captivated by the quirky yet totally wearable clothing that A.F. Vandevorst had created," says Steele, citing a white cotton blouse that hooked up the front and fitted the body like a corset.

"Very often with these Belgian designers, I found there were small elements of construction that were done in a completely different way," says Steele. "Instead of having a zippered fly going straight up the front, it had diagonal fastening which ended up being comfortable and flattering, and unexpected."

To get fluent in Belgian fashion, you'll need to know names like Martin Margiela and Dries Van Noten. "They are two stars among the Belgian designers, who consistently come up with ideas that are not only interesting but also inventive and often witty," says Luther, the fashion editor.

Other noteworthy players in the exhibit include Ann Demeulemeester, who starts from the precept that less is more; futuristic Walter Van Beirendonck; Dirk Van Saene, known for his tailoring; and Veronique Branquinho. "Chic Veronique" is what Women's Wear Daily called her, Steele says.

"I wanted to do a show before it became yesterday's news, while it was cutting-edge and people would be saying, 'Veronique who?' I wanted to introduce the public to a group of designers I find extraordinarily creative," says Steele.

She's not the only one. Barneys New York, known for spotting cutting-edge designers, showcases the Belgians at its stores in New York, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles and Seattle.

"We've always been very big supporters of the designers coming out of Antwerp," says Julie Gilhart, vice president for fashion merchandising at Barneys in New York, where starting Jan. 30 all store windows will be devoted to Belgian designers.

"They are aligned creatively with the way we think. They have a sharp intuition for design creativity and a sensibility for clothes that are also wearable. We've had great success with Belgian designers and have been able to build big businesses with them. They start out small and just grow and develop."

"Belgian designers are the most exciting creators to come on the scene since the Japanese in the 1980s," says Steele. Since that era, Belgium has generated famous designers, starting with newsmakers like Margiela and Demeulemeester, both known for a look known as deconstruction.

"Martin (Margiela) in particular was thought of as king of 'la mode destroy,'" says Steele. "He was famous for taking clothes apart and reworking them, but he preferred to think of it as giving clothes a second life." So, for instance, for his winter collection "he took a bunch of French olive green army socks and unraveled them and had them knitted into sweaters. That was a way of tearing apart one piece of clothing and making into something else. It was a reaction against ostentatious, new, rich, glossy clothes. He was more interested in poor, humble clothes," says Steele, adding he would buy old jeans at Paris flea markets and refashion them into ballgowns.

"He received a lot of attention because deconstruction really interested people, not just in fashion but also in architecture," says Steele. "This was something very much in the air, a philosophical movement as well. Here was a designer taking all the rag pickings and creating them into clothes and new vision of what fashion was about. Today he's a cult figure of Paris."

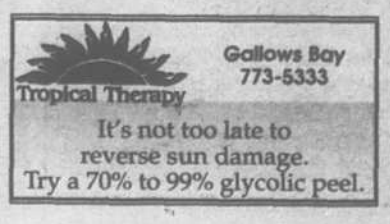
Why Belgium? Maybe the answer lies in its education. "They have some really excellent fashion schools," says Steele. "They've developed very intent, serious young people who are really interested in aesthetic issues such as fashion."



Associated Press

Belgian designers, making a splash in the fashion world, star in the Fashion Institute of Technology Museum's "Belgian Fashion: Antwerp Style" exhibit as well as "Fashion Year 2001" events this year in Belgium. Mannequins shown at FIT's costume collection in New York, are dressed in designs by, from left, Ann Demeulemeester, Dries Van Noten, A.F. Vandevorst, Jurgi Persoons and Martin Margiela.





Armani feeling tight in his own jacket

BY DANIELA PETROFF
AP FASHION WRITER

MILAN, Italy, (AP)— Giorgio Armani is looking to move on.

He says he feels constricted in his unlined jacket — which made fashion history in the early 1980's and put the "moda Milanese" on the international fashion map.

"Armani wants to be free to be Armani," the designer told reporters backstage after the presentation of his fall-winter 2001-2002 collection in the theater of his downtown Milan palazzo Monday.

He calls his new take on fashion "modern romanticism." The new collection included several strong suits with short, fitted jacket and fluid trouser, but the bulk of the show was all about twinkling fabrics and flouncy styles.

Based on the ballerina, who Armani sees as the "essence of elegance," the show featured delicate evening wear with small sheer bodices and asymmetrical flounced tutu skirts, more often than not accessorized by a beautifully embroidered shawl.

Armani's romantic dream takes place almost entirely in midnight blue, except for a single red gown which closed the show.

Even the day wear was influenced by the ballerina theme, with flounced silk pants appearing under a straight jacket with braided loop fastenings. Shoes, either flat or with a small heel, are fastened like a ballet shoe.

There was already a hint of an Armani in the mood for change in the designer's second line Emporio collection presented Saturday. Out of character bra tops were paired with tiny jackets, and ultra-wide jodhpur pants gave a new twist to tailored dressing. Evening wear held promise of the romantic night to come in a series of black velvet strapless sheaths with richly sequined bodice.

In contrast to the conservative Armani are the Dolce and Gabbana duo who despite the fact that they are both around 40 are still known as the "enfant terribles" of Italian fashion.

Being on the wild side of things gives them the option to change from season to season without any questions asked.

Their latest collection presented Saturday is all about a vamp tramp, a hippy with grunge jeans and a padded pocketbook.

She loves sheer blouses with a puffed folk sleeve, heavily beaded jackets, tight pants, slit skirts and ultra-high heels. She never wears stockings but covers her neck in multiple strands of pearls.

Her boots are usually thigh-high, especially when paired with a not-so-innocent baby doll lace dress. An oversized floor length fox fur coat covers all sins.

While most of Milan is showing sumptuous furs — even Armani had a floor length number — in another about-face, the Fendi fur magicians introduced a brand-new trick.

Far from the luxurious styles and pelts it is famous for, the Fendi label with its flamboyant designer Karl Lagerfeld, showed a collection where the use of fur was so subtle it could be missed.

And yet the almost all-white show of frilly hot pants, slim cocktail dresses, and slick jackets was all about fur — fur treated so cleverly that it could be mistaken for leather or even fabric. And to further confuse the viewer, embossed leather and fuzzy fabric was treated to look like fur.

The overall feel of the collection presented Sunday was more outer space than down to earth, especially when the outfits were accessorized by silver metal belts and flat white leather boots.

The 11-day ready-to-wear presentations, with over 180 designers showing next winter's wear, end Tuesday with Miu Miu, the second line collection of designer Miuccia Prada, one of the first daughters of Italian style.



Associated Press
Giorgio Armani appears on the catwalk at the end of his Fall-Winter 2001-2002 fashion collection in Milan, Italy, Monday.

Still need convincing that CONDOMS are a REQUIRED accessory for SEX?
Take a look at the numbers!

440 The number of AIDS cases diagnosed in the Virgin Islands.

$12,000 Approximate cost of medicine for one year of HIV or AIDS treatment.

350 Approximate number of pills a person with HIV has to take every month.

232 The number of Virgin Islanders who have died from AIDS.

1 The number of times it takes to have sex without a condom to get the HIV infection that causes AIDS.



Spread this message:



HIV is easy to prevent. Next to abstinence, your best protection from HIV and AIDS is to use a *latex* condom every time you have sex.



Call one of our sponsors for information on HIV-AIDS prevention, tests and treatment:
American Red Cross
774-0375
VICARE
692-9111
VI Department of Health
STX **772-9501** • STT **774-3168**
Women's Personal Support Network at the Village
719-9900

Freshman student kills classmates

Two dead, 13 wounded when gunman opens fire at high school

SANTEE, Calif. (AP) — A 15-year-old boy who had been picked on and had talked about shooting classmates allegedly opened fire in a high school bathroom Monday, killing two people and wounding 13 in the nation's deadliest school attack since Columbine.

One student said the boy had a smile on his face as he fired away with a pistol at Santana High School in this middle-class San Diego suburb.

The boy, a freshman whose name was not released, surrendered in the bathroom, dropped his gun and said he acted alone, telling officers: "It's just me," according to sheriff's officials. They said he will be charged as an adult with murder, assault with a deadly weapon and gun possession.

Both of the dead were students, and at least one of the victims was a campus supervisor, Sheriff William Kolender said. One student also suffered minor injuries in a car accident while fleeing the 1,900-student school.

"I know in your minds is the overriding question: 'Why?'" District Attorney Paul Pfingst said. "The suspect has made statements. I will not share the contents of the statements with you at this time, but there is no real answer. I am not sure in any real way we will ever know why."

Fellow students and an adult acquaintance said they had heard the boy's threats over the weekend but thought he was joking and did not report him to authorities.

"He was picked on all the time," student Jessica Moore said. "He was picked on because he was one of the scrawniest guys. People called him freak, dork, nerd, stuff like that."

Student John Schardt, 17, was in a nearby classroom when the shooting started about 9:20 a.m. in a boys' restroom and spilled into a quad.

"I looked at the kid, and he was smiling and shooting his weapon," Schardt said. "It was total chaos. People were trying to take cover."

Schardt said he took photos of victims and another student videotaped the gunman's arrest, but authorities confiscated the film and the tape.

Andrew Kaforey, a 17-year-old senior, said he ran into the bathroom with a security guard after hearing what sounded like a firecracker or a gunshot. "He pointed the gun right at me but he didn't shoot," Kaforey said.

As he and the guard ran out, the gunman shot the guard in the back, Kaforey said.

Investigators said the boy used a .22-caliber revolver, stopping once to reload, and retreated after the shooting into the bathroom.

The attack was the nation's deadliest school shooting since the April 1999 bloodbath at Columbine High in Littleton, Colo., where two teen-agers killed 12 fellow students and a teacher before committing suicide.

In Washington, President Bush called the shooting "a disgraceful act of cowardice."

"This is my worst nightmare," Principal Karen Degiescher said. She said that the campus will be closed Tuesday and that counselors were called in to help students.

Classmates and acquaintances of the boy described him as skinny and the subject of constant harassment. Students said he boasted about owning a gun.

Over the weekend, the boy "was joking on and off that he was going to come to school and shoot people," said Joshua Stevens, 15, a friend of the boy. "He had it all planned out, but at the end of the weekend he said he was just joking and he wasn't really going to do it.

"I said, 'Like, you better be.' And he said, 'No, I'm serious.'"



Associated Press

Unidentified parents are reunited with their children across the street from Santana High School, after a student opened fire at the school, Monday in Santee, Calif.



AP

"I should've stepped up even if it wasn't true and stuff to take that precaution," said Chris Reynolds, a 29-year-old who is dating Stevens' mother. "That's going to be haunting me for a long time; that's going to be with me for a long time. It just hurts, because I could've maybe done something about it."

Reynolds said that the boy lives with his father and that his mother lives out of state. He said the boy stayed at Reynolds' house Saturday night and talked about starting a shooting spree.

"I even mentioned Columbine to him. I said I don't want a Columbine here at Santana. But he said, 'No, nothing will happen, I'm just joking,'" Reynolds said.

Neil O'Grady, 15, said the suspected gunman had also talked to him and other friends over the weekend about a shooting at the school.

"He was telling us how he was going to bring a gun to school ... but we thought he was joking," O'Grady said. "We were like, 'Yeah, right.'"

Recently, two skateboards had been stolen from the boy, O'Grady said. "He always gets picked on. He's scrawny, he's little," O'Grady said. "People think he's dumb."

Shannon Durrett, a 15-year-old freshman, said she has known the boy since school began in September. He liked skateboarding and hung out with his skateboarding friends, she said. "He was nice, he was funny, someone who would never do something like this," Durrett said.

After the shooting, students were escorted to a nearby shopping center, where they filled a parking lot and milled anxiously while parents arrived and paramedics took away the wounded.

RECENT SHOOTINGS AT U.S. SCHOOLS

Other recent school shootings:

— Jan. 10, 2001: 17-year-old gunman fired shots at Hueneme High School, about 60 miles north of Los Angeles, before taking a student hostage. The teen-ager apparently wasn't a student at the school and did not know the girl. He was later shot and killed by police. No one else was injured.

— May 26, 2000: 13-year-old honor student allegedly killed his teacher, Barry Grunow, on last day of classes in Lake Worth, Fla. Nathaniel Brazill is charged with first-degree murder.

— Feb. 29, 2000: 6-year-old boy shot and killed 6-year-old classmate at Buell Elementary School in Mount Morris Township, Mich. Because of his age, the boy was not charged. A 19-year-old man was sentenced to two to 15 years in prison for allowing the boy access to the gun. The boy's uncle has pleaded guilty to possessing the stolen gun used in the shooting.

— Dec. 6, 1999: 13-year-old student fired at least 15 rounds at Fort Gibson Middle School in Fort Gibson, Okla., wounding four classmates. Seth Trickey was convicted on seven assault charges, but will not remain jail past age 19.

— Nov. 19, 1999: 13-year-old girl shot in the head in school at Deming, N.M., and died the next day. A 12-year-old boy later pleaded guilty and was sentenced to at least two years in juvenile prison.

— May 20, 1999: 15-year-old boy opened fire at Heritage High School in Conyers, Ga., with a .357-caliber Magnum and a rifle, wounding six students. T.J. Solomon later pleaded guilty but mentally ill and was sentenced to 40 years in prison and 65 years of probation.

— Apr. 20, 1999: Two students at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., killed 12 students and a teacher and wounded 23 before killing themselves.

— May 21, 1998: Two teen-agers were killed and more than 20 people hurt when a teen-age boy opened fire at a high school in Springfield, Ore., after killing his parents. Kip Kinkel, 17, was later sentenced to nearly 112 years in prison.

— May 19, 1998: Three days before his graduation, Jacob Davis, an 18-year-old honor student, opened fire at a high school in Fayetteville, Tenn., killing a classmate who was dating his ex-girlfriend. Davis was later sentenced to life in prison.

— April 24, 1998: Andrew Wurst, 15, opened fire at an eighth-grade dance in Edinboro, Pa., killing a science teacher. The boy pleaded guilty to third-degree murder and other charges and is serving 30 to 60 years in prison.

— March 24, 1998: Two boys, 11 and 13, fired on their Jonesboro, Ark., middle school from nearby woods, killing four girls and a teacher and wounding 10 others. Both boys were later convicted of murder and can be held until age 21.

— Dec. 1, 1997: Three students were killed and five wounded at Heath High School in West Paducah, Ky. Michael Carneal, 14-year-old, later pleaded guilty but mentally ill to murder and is serving life in prison.

Divers search for bodies after bridge collapses in Portugal

ENTRE-OS-RIOS, Portugal (AP) — As hundreds of grieving residents watched, divers worked cautiously in a rain-swollen river Monday searching for at least 60 bodies from vehicles that plunged into the water when a bridge collapsed.

Crews in motorboats strung steel cables across the Douro river. Frogmen fastened to the cables dove into the murky, brown water. At dusk, authorities said the search had been called off until Tuesday.

They were looking for a double-decker bus that fell off the bridge when a support pillar crumbled Sunday night. Witnesses said two cars also fell into the water.

Officials were unsure of the exact death toll. They believed about 60 people were on the bus and as many as 10 in the two cars. They said there would be no survivors. The vehicles fell 165 feet from the bridge.

Seven hours after the search began, the divers had found only one body in the river and were waiting for a sonar device to arrive from Lisbon, 180 miles away.

Apart from the strong current and poor visibility, the divers also were concerned about becoming snagged in the bridge's twisted metal girders. Heavy rain also slowed operations.

"This situation is very agonizing because we can't find the bodies," said Lino Pereira, deputy mayor of nearby Castelo de Paiva.

Residents, many of them relatives and friends of those believed lost, lined the river banks.



Associated Press

Rescue workers prepare to search for bodies in the Douro river after a 19th century bridge collapsed, near Entre Os Rios, northern Portugal. A bus and two cars with at least 60 people inside plunged 165 feet into the swollen river after part of the bridge collapsed Sunday.

Man convicted of slaying anti-Mafia crusader

PALERMO, Sicily (AP) — A man already imprisoned for mob-related crimes was sentenced to 30 more years Monday for ordering the killing of an anti-Mafia crusader whose life is the subject of a movie.

Vito Palazzolo, 83, was convicted and sentenced for his role in the 1978 slaying of Giuseppe Impastato, the Italian news agency AGI reported.

Impastato's story is told in "I Cento Passi" — or "The Hundred Steps" — an Italian film that was released in 2000 and nominated for a Golden Globe award this year.

Prosecutors in Palermo say Palazzolo was a mob boss in the Sicilian seaside town of Cinisi, where Impastato began rebelling against the Mafia as a teen-ager.

Impastato later spoke out against the mob on a local radio show. His body was found blown up by dynamite on railroad tracks outside Cinisi.

Ex-general, four soldiers charged with war crimes

ZAGREB, Croatia (AP) — A former army general, whose investigation for alleged war crimes spurred nationalist protests, was formally charged Monday in the 1991 killings of civilians in the central Croatian city of Gospic, the state prosecutor said.

Maj. Gen. Mirko Norac and four other former soldiers were indicted on charges that they ordered and took part in the killings of at least 24 civilians, prosecutor Radovan Ortinsky said. It is believed all the victims were Serbs.

Norac, a local commander in Gospic at the time of the killings, and the other four are the first Croats to be charged with war crimes committed against Serbs during the 1991 war. Croatia's military men are widely regarded here as war heroes.

If sentenced, Norac and the others could face up to 20 years in prison. A trial date was not immediately set.

Croatian media have reported for years about the killings in Gospic, 125 miles southwest of Zagreb. In October 1991, just a few days after Croat forces defended the predominantly Croat city from assault by Serbs, dozens of residents disappeared and were believed killed. Most of those who vanished were Serb.

Officials recently exhumed 24 bodies from a grave near Gospic.

More than 10,000 people nationwide were killed in the war, the majority of whom were Croats. Residents tend to believe only Croats were victims in the war, which broke out when Serbs took up arms in an attempt to prevent Croatia's independence from Yugoslavia.

But the indictment of Norac and the others has forced residents to face up to the fact that Croats also committed crimes.

Most war veterans and the former ruling party of the late President Franjo Tudjman, however, refuse to accept that fact. Nearly 100,000 of them turned out in the southern city of Split last month to protest the investigation against Norac, and new protests are likely.

They argue that Serbs were the only war-crimes perpetrators.

The head of the largest veterans' association, Mirko Condic, denounced the indictment as "shameful and humiliating" and claimed it "equalizes Serb aggressors and Croat victims."

Condic, whose group organized the Split rally, wants all Croat veterans to be exempt from war-crimes probes, which the government has rejected.

While Tudjman denied that Croats committed crimes, the new leadership has opened several probes into Croat atrocities here and in Bosnia and has been cooperating with The Hague tribunal.

THIS WEEK'S MOVIES

DIAMOND CINEMAS
778-5200

CINEMA I
"DOUBLE TAKE"
Mon-Fri: 7:20, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:20, 5:15, 7:20, 9:15. "PG-13"

CINEMA II
"Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon"
Mon-Fri: 7:05, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 2:45, 4:55, 7:05, 9:15.
"PG-13"

Sunny Isle Theatres
778-5620

THEATRE 1
"Recess School's Out"
Mon-Fri: 7:20, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:20, 5:15, 7:20, 9:15. "G"

THEATRE 2
"HANNIBAL"
Mon-Fri: 7:30 ONLY;
Sat.-Sun: 4:00, 6:50, 9:15. "R"

THEATRE 3
"TRAFFIC"
Mon-Fri: 6:45, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:45, 6:35, 9:05. "R"

THEATRE 4
"CHOCOLAT"
Mon-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15. "PG-13"

THEATRE 5
"DOWN TO EARTH"
Mon-Fri: 7:15, 9:20;
Sat.-Sun: 3:15, 5:20, 7:15, 9:20. "PG-13"

THEATRE 6
"MONKEY BONE"
Mon-Fri: 7:20, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:20, 5:15, 7:20, 9:15. "PG-13"

No Courtesy Passes on NEW MOVIES this week. Sat. & Sun. Matinee $4.00 1st show only. Senior Citizens $4.00 Sat., Sun. and Mon. only.

ATTENTION
Advertisers and Readers!

MARCH MADNESS

Join us "The Avis"
in honoring our
LOCAL ATHLETES

The Avis will publish a Special Section March 14 highlighting our local Virgin Islanders taking part in this tournament. It will also include interesting articles on the teams participating.

ADVERTISERS

This will be an excellent opportunity to advertise your products and to show support for our V.I. College Athletes.

We offer advertising space as follows:
Full Page
1/2 Page
1/4 Page
1/8 Page

Deadline for reservations and copy is March 7 at 5 p.m.

To reserve your space and for more information call
Irene
773-2300 (Office)
778-8646 (2847) - Beeper
or **Christina**
773-2300

35 crushed, trampled during hajj pilgrimage

MINA, Saudi Arabia (AP) — The convergence of millions of pilgrims has once again brought tragedy, with the deaths Monday of 35 Muslims trampled in a crush of bodies during the stoning the devil ritual at the annual hajj pilgrimage.

Hours later, the enormous crowd was calm and many of the estimated 2 million pilgrims in the sprawling, overcrowded tent city were unaware of it.

A witness said the incident started early in the morning and was brought under control about three hours later. The witness, an Egyptian journalist who was performing the pilgrimage and spoke on condition of anonymity, saw a few people at a time suffocate or fall and be trampled to death.

Most of the victims died of suffocation, said Saad bin Abdallah al-Tuwegry, a Saudi civil defense chief.

"A stampede resulted when the older people in the crowd couldn't move as fast as others," al-Tuwegry told the official Saudi Press Agency. "Security forces intervened promptly and prevented the accident from getting worse. We have constantly urged the pilgrims to follow the guidelines for safety that we put forth in order to avoid such disasters."

Security and safety have been major concerns at the hajj, the annual pilgrimage that according to Islam must be performed once in a lifetime by every Muslim who is able to do so. Hundreds of hajj pilgrims have been killed in stampedes in recent years, in several cases at the stoning the devil ritual. In addition, scores die every year of natural causes, mainly the elderly.



Associated Press

Thousands of Muslim pilgrims throw stones Monday at a pillar representing the devil the on bridge of Jamara, during the second day of the Hajj, in Mina about 3 miles southeast of Mecca. About two million Muslims take part in the Muslim annual pilgrimage, the hajj.

In Monday's tragedy, the news agency said 23 women and 12 men were killed and an unknown number of people were injured.

An official at the Mina General Hospital told The Associated Press that hundreds of pilgrims, mostly women and the elderly, were rushed to hospitals around the city but that most were treated and released.

He said dozens were still hospitalized, most with broken bones and fractures, and some with serious injuries. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the death toll remained below 40.

The Egyptian journalist told AP that most of the victims appeared to be of Asian origin. The mix of peoples and languages adds to the huge crowd control challenge at the hajj. Pilgrims usually move in national groups, with the leaders sometimes carrying small flags for identification.

Anwar Haleem, India's consul for hajj affairs, told AP that one of the victims was an Indian woman.

Saudi authorities did not announce the deaths until hours afterward, apparently to avoid causing panic among pilgrims. Reporters were kept from going close to the site or visiting the injured in hospitals after the announcement. Saudi Arabia keeps its press under tight control and is sensitive to anything seen as critical about the country in the foreign media.

Hours after the crush of bodies, helicopters flew overhead and policemen urged people to move on. Scores of ambulances were parked nearby. The last of more than 2 million pilgrims were to complete the ritual on Tuesday and Wednesday.

In the last hajj tragedy, in 1998, a stampede at the stoning the devil ritual killed 180 people. A 1997 fire in Mina, where the stoning takes place, tore through the tent city, trapping and killing more than 340 pilgrims and injuring 1,500. In 1994, a stampede killed 270 pilgrims. The most deadly hajj-related tragedy was a 1990 stampede in which 1,426 pilgrims were killed.

Pilgrims come to Mina from the holy city of Mecca to cast pebbles the size of chickpeas at three columns of stone that symbolize the devil as they chant, "In the name of God, God is great."

The pillars symbolizing the devil are at the center of giant ramps built to accommodate the huge crowds of pilgrims who must complete the ritual by dusk. Muslim tradition says it was here that the devil tried to tempt the Prophet Abraham to disobey God by refusing to sacrifice his son.

Community Calendar Form

NAME OF NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION_____

DATE OF EVENT_____

Please limit your calendar message to 40 words.

HEADLINE_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

NOTE **The AVIS will make every effort to publish your message at least once prior to the event. CALENDAR NOTICES MUST BE SUBMITTED 7 DAYS BEFORE EVENT IS TO OCCUR. Xerox copies of this form can be made for your future use. PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE PRICES FOR EVENT. PUBLICATION is subject to space consideration. Please include a phone contact.**

This form can be faxed to our office at 773-5511, or mailed to:
P.O. BOX 750, Christiansted, V.I. 00821

CommunityCalendar

St. Croix

MARCH 6

Special Olympics of the Virgin Islands will be having a very important meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 6 at Wendy's. Volunteers need to call Janice Lee at 772-2277 or P. McFarland 779-3499.

MARCH 9

St. Croix Central High School Class of 1991 will be holding a class meeting at 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 9 at The Caravelle Hotel meeting room.

MARCH 10

The National Guard family support group of St. Croix will hold its monthly meeting at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at the L.T.C Lionel Jackson Armory. For further information contact Ms. Jaslyn Scatliffe at 778-6540.

The Juanita Guardine Elementary School will be holding it's monthly car wash and bake sale from 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at the school's parking lot. Cars start from $5. Refreshments will be on sale. Please come out and support our school.

St. Croix Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. will be hosting its monthly meeting at 2 p.m. Saturday, March, 10 at Charles H. Emmanuel School. Business attire is required. Please bring a non-perishable food item.

Aglow Fellowship St. Croix Chapter invites the women of our community to our monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 10 at Gertrudes. Come and share praise and fellowship with us. Guest speaker will be Teresita Harris.

St. Joseph High School Alumni Association will meet at 10 a.m. Saturday, March 10, at Villa Morales. Please be on time. For more information call 692-2455.

The Family is Holy and Sacred will be having a discussion on courtship, marriage, premarital sex, gossip, parenting and much more at 3 p.m. Saturday, March 10 in the conference room, 2nd Floor at U-Travel. Admission and Food is free. Call 692-5274.

MARCH 11

The Elena L. Christian Junior High School Parent Teacher Association (PTA) in having its monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11 in the school auditorium. Parent please make an effort to attend.

Kingshill Lutheran Church invites the public to a Healing Service at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, March 11 at the Church. Come and receive a special blessing.

All Williams Delight Residents are asked to come to a special meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11 at the Multi-Purpose Center.

American Legion - Veterans Post #133 will hold their monthly meeting at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11 at Legion Hall located in the Harbour Yard on Strand Street - Frederiksted. All Veterans must attend. For more information call 772-0349.

MARCH 12

The St. Croix Council of the International Reading Association will hold a workshop on at 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 12 at The Curriculum Center on oral history strategies to help students connect to their family history. A step by step calendar/handout will be distributed.

MARCH 14

St. Vincent and the Grenadines Association will be having there monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 at the Midland Bar and Restaurant. All Vincentians are asked t attend.

MARCH 17

Attention all Greek organizations of St. Croix, the men of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Eta Iota Iota chapter invites you to Greek Softball Challenge to be held from 2 p.m. - until. Which organization will be "Top Frat and Top Sorors" of the softball diamond. Are you up for the Challenge? Join us for an interesting and rewarding day of social and cultural Greek Fun. Contact L. Reed at 778-6799.

The Bible Church of Christ Theological Institute is offering a Certificate class on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to noon starting Saturday, March 17. If you ever had the desire to Study God's Word then call 778-1002.

MARCH 18

Church of God, Sun of Justice invites all the Virgin Islands Churches and the general public to join them at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 18 at Budhoe Park, Frederiksted for a "St. Croix for Jesus Prayer, Praise and Worship Rally." for more information contact Pastor Carmen Semper or Pastor Israel Cruz Taylor at 772-9872 or 692-1227.

General Announcements

•••

St. Croix Central High School will distribute report cards to parents or guardians from Wednesday, March 7 to Friday, March 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the main office. Anyone designated by parents or guardians to pick up cards must have written authorization.

American Red Cross will have a thrift shop sale from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday, March 5 - Friday, March 16.

Speak the Word Ministries is moving to #7 Peter's Rest (Behind Caribbean Cooling across from Cornelius Driving School). First service will be at 9 a.m. Sunday, March 18. Call 778-1575 for more information.

All Spinning Stars Members interesting in going to St. Thomas Carnival call for important information at 773-8764, 772-0059 or 773-2937.

The Business and Professional Women's Organization of St. Croix is planning its annual Toddler's Pageant and is seeking toddlers ages 3-5 years to participate. The pageant is scheduled to be held on April 22. Please call 713-9148 or 778-7464 for further information.

The University of the Virgin Islands, St. Croix Campus, will be hosting Taster's Choice 2001: A Celebration of Local Flavor on Sunday, March 18. Anyone interested in submitting a recipe for the cookbook or in preparing a dish should contact Stella Saunders at 692-4023. It will be an afternoon for the entire family with activities for the children, entertainment and music. Come out and enjoy an afternoon at UVI.

VIHA Steel Pan will be having registration for all Public Housing youngsters (10-18 yrs) to join the Steel Pan **Ambassadors. Register at Kennedy Housing office or call Vera Falu' 778-9257.**

J & J Fun Troupe & Associates will be taking part in St. Thomas Carnival adult parade on April 28. All interested members and new members are welcome. Call Judith at 778-3177 or Averil at 778-2784.

Are you in debt up to your neck? Do you want "a dream house?" We have the answer Consumer Credit Counseling Course offered free of charge beginning Thursday, March 6 through April 5 at the St. Croix Vocational High School, Room H109. Call 713-0337 to register.

A Taste Of St. Croix - All restaurants/caterers interested in participating in "A Taste Of St. Croix" **April 19th** held at Divi Carina Bay Casino banquet area. A night of food, wine & jazz. Show off your "Best of St. Croix" attire. For information please call Katherine at 692-9922.

Stepping Stones Inc., a community housing preservation and development organization, is seeking members for its Housing Advisory Committee. Individuals must be interested in working for affordable housing. Must be willing to attend monthly meetings and/or mini-workshops. Telephone or fax your name, number and time to be reached at 713-0337.

Camp Arawak job training program has a few spaces available. You must be 16-25 years of age to register. Call 773-7377.

St. Thomas-St. John

MARCH 10

The Pan Dragons and Baby Pan Dragons will host Karaoke Night 2001 at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 10 in the Sprauve School Auditorium. For more information contact Karen Matthews at 776-0111.

Intrigue Carnival Troupe will hold a Food Sale from 11 a.m. - until Saturday, March 10 at the Fort Christian Parking Lot. For more information, please call 714-3245 or 777-5596.

MARCH 11

University of the Virgin Islands, St. Thomas Campus will be having a general meeting for all students attending the University at 3 p.m. Sunday, March 11 in the Cafeteria. Students from St. John needing transportation are asked to For more information call 693-1110.

General Announcements

•••

The Virgin Islands Carnival Committee is putting out a call for theme submissions for Carnival 2002. We are looking for something fresh and exciting which will capture the anticipated mas celebration of our 50th Anniversary. Entries should be submitted to the VICC office or faxed to 777-9199 by April 1.

Village Booth Applications are now available for persons interested in securing a spot in the 2001 Carnival Village. Applications can be picked up at the VICC office on lower Kronprindsens Gade and must be returned by March 16. The year's Carnival Village, "Dotsy's Kalaloo Pot," honors Mrs. Dorothy Elskoe, a culture bearer and longtime Carnival participant.

Class is Class Too, a children's carinival troupe will be having weekly meetings every Wednesday in March at 5:30 p.m. at New Horizon School.

KATS, St. John, Inc. (Kids and The Sea) meets every Saturday morning at Coral Bay, St. John.

Obituaries

Melvin Evans Daniel age 55, of Smithfield passed away on Friday, Feb. 23, 2001 on the Island of St. Croix.

He is survived by his daughter: Maria Daniel; grandsons: Joshua Daniel and Jahmahree Daniel; brothers: Joseph Murray and Rudolph Prescott; nephews: Anthony Prescott, Ernest Prescott and Curtis Prescott; sister-in-law: Elena Murray; best friends: Mark Christian and Owen Francis; other friends and relatives too numerous to mention.

Funeral services will take place on Wednesday, March 7, in the St. Paul's Church in Fsted at noon, with viewing beginning at 11 a.m. Interment will be in the Kingshill Cemetery.

Professional arrangements are entrusted to Thomas Hyll Memorial Funeral Chapel of St. Croix.

***

Myron Elias Johannes aka "Micro", age 66, of Estate Calquohoun passed away on Wednesday, February 21, 2001 at Gov. Juan F. Luis Hospital.

He is survived by his daughter: Yvette West (KY); sons: Roberto Rivera, Marcelino Ventura, Sr., Ray Johannes, Sr., Myron Johannes, Jr., (STX) and Jose Johannes (PR); grandchildren: Mario, Rashad and Renita (KY), Gail, Roberto, Jr., Christina, Sara, Eliezar, Marcelino, Jr., Marcelina, Myles, Ray, Jr., Angela, Ivanna, Robin, Raymond, Akeem Elias, Akeem Alijawon, Jahmali and Elijah (STX), Iveliz, Jonathon, Jose, Jr., Eric and Janice (PR); sister: Anna Johannes Lindo; nieces: Kimberly Jean-Marie, Pamela "Pam" Harris and Horolyn "Lyn" Lindo; nephew: Howard E. Harris; great nieces and nephews: Kahalima, Kianna, Khamal, Jamal, and Rashawn; daughters-in-law: Andrea Rivera, Aretha Ventura, Beulah "Bea" Johannes, Jacqueline "Jackie" Springer and Judith Garcia-Rohena; sons-in-law: Edward Bibb; special cousins: Ruby Simmonds and Professor Ruth Beagles; friends and families: The Johanne's, Urgent's, Ventura's, Walcott's, James's, and William's, The Horsemen's Association Racing Protective Syndicate, The New Drive-In, Larry Oliver, Derby, Macedon, Dwayne Thomas, Mighty Grover, Eddie Bramble and Sarah James; other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Funeral services will take place on Tuesday, March 6 at St. Ann's Catholic Church at 10 a.m, with viewing beginning at 9 a.m. Interment will take place at Kingshill Cemetery (Veteran Section). A family and friends gathering will take place at the New Drive Inn following the Burial.

Professional arrangements are entrusted tho James Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.

Sharon to take office; Israelis, Palestinians bury their dead

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israelis and Palestinians buried their dead Monday — evidence of an upsurge in violence — as Prime Minister-elect Ariel Sharon prepared to take office with a mandate from Israel's people to put a stop to five months of unrest.

Sharon is set to take power Wednesday. Palestinian militants have threatened an onslaught of bomb attacks.

Already on alert, Israeli police went on emergency footing Monday, canceling courses and putting more officers on the streets while asking the military for reinforcements.

Two of the three Israeli victims of a suicide bomb attack in Netanya were buried Monday. They included Naftali Din, 85, the first mayor of the village of Tel Mond. The bomber set off an explosive in a crowd of people Sunday.

Meanwhile, thousands attended the funeral of a Palestinian gunman, Osama Naghnaghia, 21, who was shot dead Sunday night in a battle with Israeli soldiers near the West Bank town of Jenin.

Sharon, elected Feb. 6, has demanded that all violence stop before peace talks resume. He has not outlined what measures he would take to end the clashes, triggered by his visit to a disputed holy site in Jerusalem on Sept. 28.



Associated Press

Mourners walk behind the body of Shlomit Ziv during her funeral in Netanya, Israel Monday. Ziv died Sunday in a suicide bomb attack in Netanya.

Sharon secured a solid parliamentary majority for his government Monday, when a small party representing immigrants from the former Soviet Union signed on.

The agreement with the Israel B'Aliya party meant Sharon would have a government of at least 68 members of the 120-seat parliament, or Knesset. The party leader, former Soviet dissident Natan Sharansky, will become housing and construction minister, said a negotiator for the party.

Briefs

5 killed in Brazilian prison rebellion

BRASILIA, Brazil (AP) — Rebellious inmates at a penitentiary in northern Brazil killed five fellow prisoners Monday before police quelled the uprising.

The rebellion at Sao Leonardo prison, 900 miles northeast of Brasilia, began with prisoners demanding better conditions and the removal of guards they accused of abusing their families during visiting hours.

But the prisoners began to fight among themselves after some demanded armored cars, weapons and cellular phones to be used in an escape, a justice official in Alagoas state said.

The rebellion was put down after about six hours when riot troops entered the facility, the official said.

Prison rebellions happen almost daily in Brazil's overcrowded facilities. In February, about 20,000 prisoners rebelled at 29 prisons in Sao Paulo state, leaving 16 people dead during the biggest prison riots in the country's history.

Accused spy takes stand in Russian trial

MOSCOW (AP) — A Russian arms-control researcher accused of spying for the United States testified Monday about allegations that he handed over information to an intelligence contact, his lawyer said.

Igor Sutyagin, a researcher with the prestigious USA and Canada Institute in Moscow, was detained in 1999 and accused of using his academic work as a cover for spying.

Prosecutors on Monday questioned Sutyagin about the sources of reports he wrote about the Russian military, which he allegedly sold to a British consulting firm, his lawyer Vladimir Vasiltsov said in a telephone interview.

Vasiltsov said Sutyagin's testimony Monday confirmed only routine information about his work, such as the dates of meetings with foreign colleagues.

The trial is part of what human rights advocates say is a spate of spy cases intended to discourage Russian researchers from maintaining contacts with foreigners.

The Avis

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Now you can have the Avis newspaper delivered to your mail box. Simply fill out the form below.

Please print the following:

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Please circle the subscription plan you would like:

Off Island Rates:		Local Rates:	
1 Year	$172.00	1 Year	$95.00
1/2 Year	$86.00	1/2 Year	$47.50
3 Months	$57.00	3 Months	$32.00

The Avis
36 A&B La Grande Princesse
St. Croix, USVI 00821

Mail this form along with a check or money order to:

The Avis: All the Virgin Islands news every day — your source for superior information and entertainment.

BLONDIE By Dean Young and Stan Drake



BEETLE BAILEY By Mort Walker



REDEYE By Bill Yates and Mel Casson



MOOSE AND MOLLY By Bob Weber



HERB & JAMAAL By Stephen Bentley



FRED BASSET By Graham



FOXTROT By Bill Amend



KIT & CARLYLE

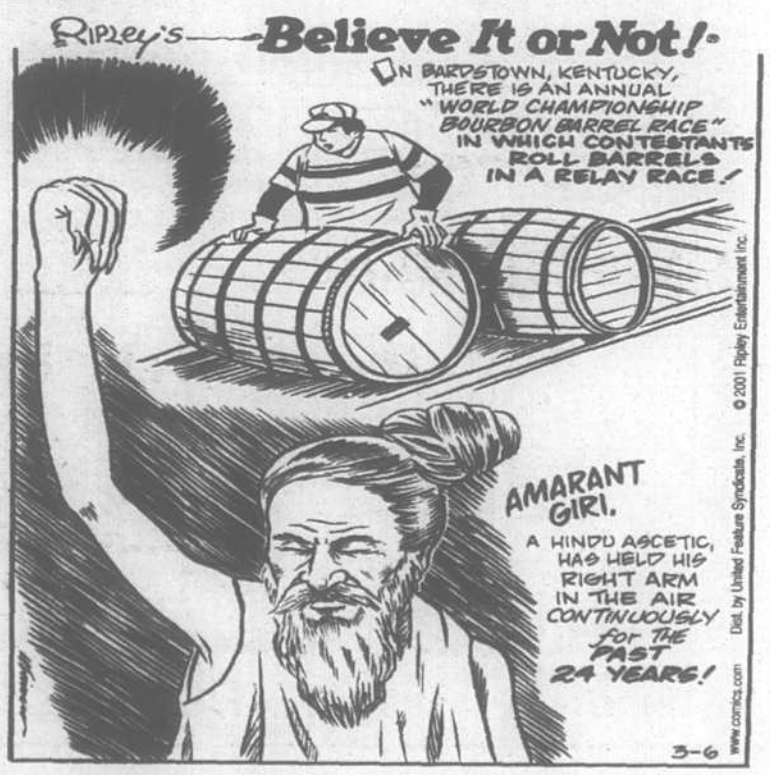


HERMAN



"Here's a guy who puts his mouth where his money is."

RIPLEY'S



Husband must hang tough with neighbor who hangs out



DEAR ABBY: My husband likes to spend time in our garage working on projects, cleaning his boat, etc.

Our problem is that almost every time he's out there, a married female neighbor comes over to "hang out" with him. It used to be she'd come over only when I was at work, but lately she comes knocking on our door even when I'm home, wanting him to go outside to converse with her.

When I answer the door, she asks for him and won't tell me what she wants. Sometimes her whole family comes over, which includes her two "monster" children and her husband. They stay till all hours and have even gotten drunk in our driveway.

My husband is not interested in this woman, Abby. In fact, he's becoming more and more annoyed with her. If he's working in the garage and sees her starting across the street, he'll close the garage door and hurry into the house.

He doesn't seem to be able to discourage this woman from coming over every time he is outside. Jealousy is not the problem, although I am becoming increasingly angry about it. She does the same thing to another married man across the street. He, too, is getting fed up with her.

I would like to solve this problem by addressing our neighbor face-to-face. Have you any advice on what I could say to her without causing a rift? Since we live across the street from each other, I do not want any animosity. — **HAD ENOUGH OF THE NEIGHBOR LADY**

DEAR HAD ENOUGH: Your neighbor never learned the importance of proper boundaries, and I have a hunch she won't listen if you attempt to tell her. Your husband can't hide from her — that's no solution. He must be the one to tell her that he wants to devote his full attention to his projects, and therefore she must give him his privacy.

DEAR ABBY: The wife of an elderly neighbor recently died. She was the one who did the driving, but since her death, the husband has been driving himself. I have seen him drive, and believe me, he should not be behind the wheel of a car at all. He is all over the road and drives much too fast. More than once, I have seen his car in the driveway with fender damage.

I called the Department of Motor Vehicles. They told me they have no mechanism by which you can anonymously complain and have a person retested. It has to come from a family member or physician. He has no family that I know of, and I'm not comfortable confronting him. I would feel terrible if he was in an accident and injured himself, or worse, someone else, which is bound to happen sooner or later.

Do you have a suggestion? — **WORRIED IN ATLANTIC CITY**

DEAR WORRIED: Don't confront him. DO ask him if he knows the name of a good doctor, and pray that he refers you to his. Then telephone or write the doctor and tell him or her exactly what you have told me.

Another thought: It is possible that your neighbor is driving erratically because he is simply out of practice, his wife having been the designated driver for so long. If that's the case, AARP offers an excellent refresher course for senior drivers. Consider suggesting it to him as lightheartedly as you can.

Horoscope

By Francis Drake

ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
Everything around you has a new sense of delight and promise. You finally have access to some resources that you've been seeking. Be sure to make the most of them.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
Show your sincerity by avoiding any behavior that could be construed as self-serving. Your creativity is likely to impress someone important.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
Invest wisely, and trust only in those who have already proven themselves to you. You might be afforded special visionary powers at this time.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
Other people have far more to offer you than you might acknowledge. This is definitely no time to look a gift horse in the mouth.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
Bad weather, bad health and bad credit only happen to other people. Revel in the perfection that is likely to be yours during this glorious time.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
Try not to see things strictly in black and white — you might be missing an important piece of the puzzle. If you are feeling taxed, stand back and let someone else do the grunt work for a while.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
The stage is set for magic to occur, so be sure to rehearse the scene and to know all your lines. A wonderful and inevitable change is in the air.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
Don't rely too much on the resources of others, as you might be forced to go it alone. A special person or project is eagerly awaiting your free time.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Your unique approach to life is sure to have others sitting up and taking notice. Utilize the many connections made at this time to the best of your ability.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
While change might be necessary, it doesn't have to occur overnight. Take the time to plan your strategy carefully, and be sure that your decision is properly informed.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
Don't blame yourself for things that are quite simply out of your hands. Taking a calculated risk is infinitely better than not trying at all.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
Your compassionate nature saves the day at a most crucial moment. However, don't allow yourself to become too deeply immersed in someone else's drama.

YOU BORN TODAY While your dedication to your beliefs is admirable, you can sometimes be rather domineering. However, when you are willing to listen to the opinions of others, you make an excellent leader. Because of your wise and practical nature, people often come to you with their problems.

Birthdate of: Piet Mondrian, painter; Willard Scott, meteorologist; Ivan Lendl, tennis player.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Window is smaller. 2. Bush is missing. 3. Book is missing. 4. Pants are different. 5. Backpack is longer. 6. Freckles are missing.

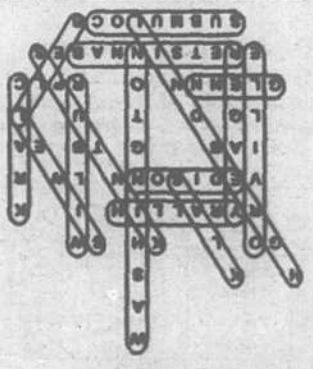
WORD SLEUTH • GOT THERE FIRST

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

Monday's unlisted clue: TONTO

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: FIRST TO WALK ON THE MOON

Bannister	Edison	Lindbergh	Washington
Bell	Glenn	Orville	Wilbur
Clark	Hillary	Salk	Yeager
Columbus	Lewis	Sputnik	



GOT THERE FIRST

SCRABBLE® BRAND GRAMS

SCRABBLE® is a registered trademark owned in the U.S.A. by Hasbro, Inc., in Canada by Hasbro International, Inc. and elsewhere by J.W. Spear & Sons PLC.

L1	S1	T1	Y4	L1	O1	C3	1st Letter Double	RACK 1
L1	T1	A1	C3	A1	L1	C3	4th Letter Triple	RACK 2
E1	I1	R1	S1	L1	S1	A1		RACK 3
A1	S1	L1	G2	S1	E1	E1	Triple Word Score	RACK 4

PAR SCORE 135-145
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

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.

GRITE

TUISE

VINNET

CRUDEE

©2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

www.jumble.com



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

Ans: " ○○○○○○○ - ○○○ "
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: CHAOS LATHE DISCUSS CROTCH
Answer: Good students at a barber college will do this — CUT A CLASS

TUESDA
TUE
FOX
TBS
WGN
WSVI
WSEE
WNBC
TLC
WTJX
CSPAN
ETW
WPIX
WKAQ
CNN
ESPN
FAM
USA
NICK
WCVI
A&E
E!
COM
DISCH
MTV
BET
DISC
CNNFN
AMC
VH1
TRAV
LIFE
TNT
SCIFI
BRAV
DISN
HIST
TOON
SOAP
ESPN
COUR
RMNG

Witness says Barrow did not fire first shot

NEW YORK (AP) — The first shots in a nightclub melee involving Sean "Puffy" Combs were not fired by Combs' co-defendant and protege, a witness testified Monday.

Jamal "Shyne" Barrow, did not fire the first shots, according to the witness, Tabon Terrence Jones. Jones, 34, a photographer from Philadelphia, said the gunman "had braids in his hair and they were wrapped tightly all around."

Barrow, 21, who has closely cropped hair, is charged with three counts of attempted murder for allegedly shooting three people inside Club New York in the early morning hours of Dec. 27, 1999.

Jones was walking to a bar in the center of the club when, he testified, "I heard some loud, angry noises going on and I turned and looked. A man put his arm in the air and shot a pistol."

Jones hit the floor with many other patrons and said he heard another few shots, but couldn't tell if they were from the same gun.

Jones also testified that before the shooting, he had seen the gunman talking to two other men in the restroom.

Out of the presence of the jury, Barrow's lawyer, Ian Niles, asked to be allowed to question Jones about the conversation he overheard. Niles said Jones believed the two men appeared to be planning a robbery of Combs.

TV GUIDE

TUESDAY EVENING — MARCH 6, 2001

		6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30
FOX	5	Judge Joe Brown (CC)	Divorce Court (CC)	Judge Judy (N)	Home Improve-	Simpsons ∩ (CC)	Blind Date	Movie ★★½ "Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery" (1997) Mike Myers. ∩ (CC)				Fox Report		Simpsons ∩ (CC)	Blind Date
TBS	6	Full House "Ol' Brown Eyes" (CC)	Full House "Fuller House" ∩	Roseanne "Goodbye Mr. Right"	Roseanne ∩ (CC)	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air ∩	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air ∩	Ripley's Believe It or Not!		NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at Sacramento Kings. From ARCO Arena in Sacramento, Calif. (Live)					Inside the NBA (CC)
WGN	7	7th Heaven "I Hate You" ∩ (CC)		Full House (CC)	Clueless ∩ (CC)	Fresh Prince	Suddenly Susan (CC)	Movie ★★½ "The Wraith" (1986, Fantasy) Charlie Sheen, Nick Cassavetes, Randy Quaid.				Hawaii Five-0 (CC)		MacGyver "Easy Target" ∩	
WSVI	8	All My Children (CC)		News	ABC World News Tonight (CC)	Caribbean Vision	St. Croix Cooks-Caribbean	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire ∩ (CC)		Dharma & Greg ∩ (CC)	Geena Davis (N) ∩ (CC)	NYPD Blue "Oh Golly Goth" (N) ∩ (PA) (CC)		News	(:35) Nightline (N) (CC)
WSEE	9	Inside Edition (CC)	News	News	CBS Evening	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (CC)	JAG "JAG TV" ∩ (CC)		60 Minutes II ∩ (CC)		Judging Amy "Convictions" ∩ (CC)		News	(:35) Late Show (CC)
WNBC	11	News (CC)		News (CC)	NBC Nightly News (CC)	Extra (N) ∩ (CC)	Access Hollywood ∩ (CC)	Frasier "The New Friend" ∩	Fighting Fitzgeralds "Pilot" (N)	Frasier "Docu.Drama " (N)	Three Sisters "The New Guy"	Dateline Looking at the anti-aging industry. (N) ∩ (CC)		News (CC)	(:35) Tonight Show ∩ (CC)
TLC	12	Home Again	Home Again	Trauma: Life	Trauma: Life	Medical Detectives	Medical Detectives	Trauma: Life in the ER "Last Exit to Oakland"		70's: Bell-Bottoms to Boogie Shoes				Trauma: Life in the ER "Last Exit to Oakland"	
WPIX	13	(5:30) Science Bowl		Newshour With Jim Lehrer (CC)		Business Rpt.	Computer Chronicles	Great Performances "My Favorite Broadway: The Love Songs" (N) ∩			B.B. King -- King of the Blues		Short Cuts ∩	Charlie Rose ∩ (CC)	
CSPAN	14	(5:00) House of Representatives (Live) (CC)				House of Rep.		Prime Time Public Affairs						Public Affairs	
ETW	16	Personalism	Angel Force	Pope Fiction	Catholic Essentials	Our Lady of the Angels Monastery Daily Mass		Mother Angelica Live (Live Phone-In)		Religious Catalogue	Rosary-Land	Underst.-Mass	Lamb's Supper	Fr. Groeschel	Fr. Rutler
WPIX	17	7th Heaven "I Hate You" ∩ (CC)		Sabrina-Witch	Fresh Prince	Friends ∩ (CC)	Seinfeld ∩ (CC)	Buffy the Vampire Slayer "Family" ∩ (CC)		Angel "Dear Boy" ∩ (CC)		WB11 News at Ten W/ Kaity, Jim, & Mr. G		Friends ∩ (CC)	Frasier ∩ (CC)
WKAQ	20	Abrázame Muy Fuerte		Yo Soy Betty la Fea		Minga y Petraca	Mi Familia	Mira Que TVO		Telenoticias		La Corte del Pueblo		Programa Pagado	Ocurrió Así
CNN	21	Inside Politics (N) (CC)			Moneyline Newshour		Crossfire	Blitzer	The Point	Larry King Live (CC)		Tonight	Spin Room	Sports	Moneyline
ESPN	22	NBA Today (N) (CC)	Up Close (N)	Sportscenter (CC)		College Basketball: Midwestern Collegiate Conference Championship -- Teams TBA				College Basketball Sun Belt Conference Tournament Championship -- Teams to Be Announced.				Sportscenter (CC)	
FAM	24	S Club 7 ∩ (CC)	Two of a Kind ∩ (CC)	Two of a Kind ∩ (CC)	Who's the Boss? ∩	Two of a Kind ∩ (CC)	Who's the Boss? ∩	Freaks and Geeks Jean and Harold secretly read Lindsay's diary. ∩		Freaks and Geeks "Looks and Books" ∩		Freaks and Geeks "The Garage Door" ∩		700 Club (CC)	
USA	25	Walker, Texas Ranger "Mayday" ∩ (CC)		Walker, Texas Ranger "Full Contact" ∩ (CC)		JAG "Death Watch" ∩ (CC)		Nash Bridges "Bombshell" ∩ (CC)		Movie ★★ "The Man in the Iron Mask" (1998, Adventure) Leonardo DiCaprio, Jeremy Irons, John Malkovich. ∩					Martin ∩ (CC)
NICK	26	Rocket Power ∩	U Pick Nicktoons	Pinky & the Brain	Catdog ∩	Hey Arnold! (CC)	Rugrats ∩ (CC)	Thornberrys	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩	Facts of Life ∩
WGVI	27	Headline News	Infotainment	Entertainment	Wildlife Journal	Cheaters (N)		Movie ★★★ "Bad Boys" (1995, Drama) Martin Lawrence, Will Smith, Tea Leoni. ∩ (CC)				Headline News (CC)	Immortal (N)		(Off Air)
A&E	28	Magnum, P.I. Magnum is in a car accident. (CC)		Night Court	Newsradio "Friends"	Law & Order "Indifference" (CC)		Biography "Meyer Lansky: Mob Tycoon" (CC)		City Confidential (CC)		Investigative Reports (CC)		Law & Order "Torrents of Greed" (CC)	
E!	29	(5:00) True Hollywood Story		Fashion Emergency	News Daily (N)	Celebrity Homes	Talk Soup (N)	Mysteries & Scandals	Mysteries & Scandals	True Hollywood Story "Dr. Laura"		Grammy Awards Fashion Review		Howard Stern (N)	Howard Stern
COM	32	(5:00) Movie ★★½ "The Woman In Red"		Saturday Night Live Mike Myers, Aerosmith.		Daily Show (CC)	Stein's Money	Movie ★½ "Tales From the Crypt Presents Bordello of Blood" (1996, Horror) Dennis Miller.				Battlebots (CC)	Whose Line?	Daily Show (CC)	Stein's Money
DISCH	33	Medical Diary	Medical Diary	Children's Hospital		Operation "Foot Surgery"		Fiteam Power Hour (N)		Body Invaders Addiction treatments. (N)		21st Century Medicine "Body Perfect"		Fiteam Power Hour	
MTV	34	Making the Video (N)	Say What? Karaoke	Movie "Anatomy of a Hate Crime: The Matthew Shepard Murder" (2001, Drama) Cy Carter. ∩				Kathy-Reality	Real World	Real World	Real World	Real World	Andy Dick (N) ∩	Undressed ∩ (CC)	Making the Video ∩
BET	35	(5:00) Rap City: The Bassment		106 & Park: BET's Top Ten Live Top music videos.			Testimony "Sade" (N)	Celebration of Gospel Actor Steve Harvey hosts this star-studded gospel music celebration.				BET Live		BET News	BET Tonight
DISC	36	Your New House		Wild Discovery "Ultimate Guide: Dogs"		Dog's Life "Our Best Friends"		Prosecutors: In Pursuit of Justice "Short Fuse"		New Detectives "Written in Bone" (N)		FBI Files "Temple of Fear" (N)		Justice Files "Stealing Us Blind"	
CNNFN	37	N.E.W.			Moneyline Newshour (CC)		Biz	Business Unusual	N.E.W.			Moneyline Newshour	Business Unusual	Biz	Business Unusual
AMC	38	(5:15) Movie ★★½ "The Stooge" (1953)		Three Stooges		Harryhausen Chronicles (CC)		Movie ★★★★ "King Kong" (1933, Fantasy) Fay Wray, Bruce Cabot, Robert Armstrong.				Hidden Hollywood III		Movie ★★★ "Tales of Manhattan" (1942)	
VH1	40	Video Timeline	Just Push Play: Aerosmith Video		Pop-Up Video (N)	Before They Were Rock Stars III ∩		Music Money Power ∩		Behind the Music "Rod Stewart" ∩			Aerosmith: The Making of Pump ∩		
TRAV	41	Adventure Bound (Part 2 of 2) (CC)		Treasure Hunters	Vacation Video	Curious World (CC)		America's Best Beaches		America's Hottest Places to Cool Off (N)		America's Best Beaches II		America's Best Beaches	
LIFE	42	Murphy Brown ∩ (CC)	Murphy Brown ∩ (CC)	Golden Girls ∩ (CC)	Golden Girls "High Anxiety"	Intimate Portrait "Brooke Shields" ∩ (CC)		Unsolved Mysteries ∩		Movie ★★ "Family Blessings" (1999, Drama) Lynda Carter, Steven Eckholdt. A grieving mother falls in love with her dead son's friend. (CC)				Golden Girls (CC)	Golden Girls (CC)
TNT	43	Pensacola: Wings of Gold "Aces"		ER "Love Among the Ruins" ∩ (CC)		Pretender "Indy Show" ∩ (CC)		Movie ★½ "Desperate Measures" (1997) Michael Keaton, Andy Garcia. A San Francisco cop looks to a murderer to save his son.				Movie ★½ "Stepfather III: Father's Day" (1991, Suspense) Robert Wightman. The psycho stepdad wreaks havoc in the life of a divorcee.			
SCIFI	46	Star Trek (CC)		Hercules-Jrnys.		Babylon 5 ∩		Outer Limits ∩ (CC)		Outer Limits "Mary 25"		Outer Limits ∩ (CC)		Crossing	Crossing
BRAVO	47	Movie ★★★ "Brassed Off" (1996) Pete Postlethwaite, Tara Fitzgerald. Yorkshire miners strike up the band in their spare time.				St. Elsewhere		Movie ★★½ "The Name of the Rose" (1986, Mystery) Sean Connery, F. Murray Abraham, Christian Slater. Bizarre deaths bring out the sleuth in a 14th-century monk.				Movie ★★★ "Narrow Margin" (1990, Suspense) Gene Hackman, Anne Archer, James B. Sikking.			
DISN	48	Jersey "Sophomore Year"	Boy Meets World (CC)	Smart Guy A 10-year-old genius.	Boy Meets World (CC)	Movie "Horse Sense" (1999) Joey Lawrence. Two cousins put aside their differences to save one's ranch.		(:45) Movie "Young Hearts Unlimited" (1998) Corbin Bernsen, Lesley-Anne Down. Children begin a dating service for their single parents. (CC)				(:25) Movie ★★ "Adventures in Dinosaur City" (1992, Fantasy) Omri Katz, Tiffanie Poston. ∩ (CC)			
HIST	49	FBI: The Untold Stories	History's Crimes & Trials	Black Sheep Squadron "A Little Bit of England"		History's Lost & Found (CC)	History IQ	Area 51: Beyond Top Secret (CC)		Battleships: Clash of the Dreadnoughts (N)		Machine Tools (CC)		Tales of the Gun "The Luger" (CC)	
TOON	50	Dragon-Z	Outlaw	Tenchi	Superman	Scooby	Bravo	Powerpuff	Dexter	Bugs	Tom Jerry	Flintstones	Scooby	Powerpuff	Dexter
SOAP	51	Knots Landing "Side by Side"		Ryan's Hope	Ryan's Hope	Port Charles	Port Charles	All My Children (CC)		One Life to Live (CC)		General Hospital (CC)		Port Charles	Port Charles
ESPN2	53	Sportsman's	Outdoor World	Motoworld (N)	Legends of the Road	RPM 2Night (N)	Women's College Basketball Big East Tournament Final -- Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)			College Basketball: Mid-Continent Conference Championship -- Teams TBA				NHL 2Night (N) (CC)	
COURT	54	Catherine Crier (N)		Hollywood	Cops (CC)	Wanted	Forensic	Profiler "Cravings" (CC)		Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	Crime Stories (N)		Homicide: Life	
RMNC	55	Tea With Fi "Tide of Life." (Part 2 of 3)		Movie ★★ "Little Darlings" (1980, Comedy) Tatum O'Neal, Kristy McNichol, Matt Dillon.				Royal Families of the	Great Romances	Movie ★★★ "The Dream Merchants" (1980) (Part 2 of 2) Mark Harmon, Morgan Fairchild.				Movie ★★★ "Yanks" (1979, Drama)	

People *in the* News

Peanuts creator Schulz honored

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP)— The city that "Peanuts" creator Charles Schulz called home is paying tribute to the late cartoonist.

A bronze "Peanuts" sculpture of a smiling Charlie Brown with his arm around Snoopy was unveiled this weekend.

The 4-foot sculpture was a $270,000 project commissioned by the city of Santa Rosa and Sonoma County. Schulz had drawn the comic strip for 50 years.


Schulz

Schulz died at his Santa Rosa home of complications of cancer on Feb. 12, 2000, the day before his farewell "Peanuts" cartoon was published. He was 77.

"I think everyone who will see the sculpture will feel happy," said the cartoonist's widow, Jean Schulz.

Stan Pawlowski, a Long Beach artist and friend of Schulz, created the sculpture. He was licensed nearly a decade ago to sculpt "Peanuts" characters.

Crystal makes effort to compliment girls

ASPEN, Colo. (AP) — Billy Crystal wanted to break the ice right away.

"I would love to say, women are funny," Crystal said before accepting the American Film Institute's Star Award during the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival this weekend.

His quip was in reference to comments made last year by festival honoree Jerry Lewis, who said he didn't like female comedians.

"A woman doing comedy doesn't offend me but sets me back a bit," Lewis said at the time. "I think of her as a producing machine that brings babies in the world."

Lewis later issued a statement offering his "humble apology" for his comments.

Actress-comedian Janeane Garofalo, who hosted the "All-Star Winter Comedy Pageant" at the seventh annual festival, said women now are on equal footing with men in stand-up comedy and are better off than women in the movies, where "there's such a hard line against aging and looks."

ClassifiedAds / Call 773-2300

Real Estate for Sale

Estate Ruby: two bedroom 2 bath furnished home in good family neighborhood with very large one bedroom apartment. House is in good condition, has sea view, and large yard with mature plantings. $175,000.00. Call Julie Rasmussen at The Jaber Company, 17 Church Street C'sted. **773-9000.**

Hotel/Casino Beachfront Site. For sale by owner. 22.68 acres zoned R-3. Five Corners area, close to town, easy access. Utilities, pool, cottages, boat dock. Price drastically reduced, owner financing possible. Serious inquires only! **340-713-8521.**

New listing at Questa Verde: wonderful large 2 bedroom 2 1/2 bath 2 story condominium with unobstructed views of Christiansted harbor and Buck Island. Large gallery, patio and flat private yard off 1st floor bedrooms. Excellent condition! $130,000.00. Call Julie Rasmussen at the Jaber Company, 17 Church Street C'sted. **773-9000.**

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.

Vista Mar Condo one bedroom corner apt. unfurnished breezy/view, pool on premises. Call (8-5) **778-6505.**

House for Sale

First time offered! This 1.5 acre estate is exceptionally private and includes another acre of sandy beachfront connected by easement to walk to one of the nicest beaches. Fabulous seaviews and landscaping, this 2 bedroom home with patio areas, pool, and separate guesthouse is a mini estate with expansion possibilities. Asking $725,000.00. Call The Jaber Company 17 Church Street, Christiansted **773-9000.**

For Rent

#1F Judiths Fancy. One bedroom furnished apartment. Tel + cable ready. Call **773-8735** (home) **778-4663** (work)

1 Bdrm Spanish style cottage, completely furnished including washer-dryer, seaview with beautiful sunrise and sunsets, fenced with dog, 5 minutes from airport, Kmart Supermarket, quiet, clean neighborhood, no pets, $850.00 month. Call **772-3973.**

1 bedroom apt. for $550.00 and 3 bedroom apt. for $650.00 in Estate Richmond. No utilities included. Call **773-5958** and ask for Luz.

Room for rent: $250.00 per month, single male, utilities included. Unfurnished, Christiansted. Deposit required. Call now!!! **773-6899.**

House for Rent

2 bedroom, 1 bath, large porch, fenced yard house. Golden Rock, (accept sec. 8). Call Wk.day only 2-5 pm **773-6138.**

Available March 10: luxurious four bedroom home. Near Sunny Isle, hospital, etc. den with TV, phone. Beautiful livingroom, diningroom, equipped kitchen, laundry. All fully furnished. Utilities included. $2,500.00 monthly. **(340) 773-1851.** Also hilltop three bedroom home, fully furnished, utilities included. Nice country area. Good security. $2,200.00.

Wanted to Rent

Young, professional, quiet couple looking for a 6 month rental opportunity. We would like to find a home away from home preferably in the East End of the Island. Please call today **773-9700 rm. 273.**

For Sale

AA AUTO WINDSHIELDS (Largest Stock) Auto Glass, Radiator, Auto Computers (new & used) C.V. Joints & Axles. Engine Transmissions. **Body Parts** all make. Bumper, grill, Fender, hood, etc. **RADIATORS, TRUCK BED LINERS, BRAKES BOOSTERS & PARTS. Seats** for small trucks. **Call 778-5007**

Tesoro Warehouse Sale

Sat. Mar. 10
9:00 - 1:00

Watergut near Seaplane.

Are you looking for Tupperware? Want a free party or place an order? Call Victoria at **713-1813** 9:00 am-4:00 pm or **778-2047** 6:00 pm-10:00 pm.

textiles with a story
for the island spirit

NEW FLAX

New Colors Petite & Regular

King St. @ Queen Cross Christiansted 692-9867

Big Big sale at TTs Flea Market and Consignment 79 Castle Coakley behind the ice plant. Shoes, clothes, and many more at a low price. Come visit us or call **713-1813.** You will be glad you did.

For sale 2 white Anderson Casement windows 48x35 15/16 $975.00 new. Call Jay at **773-0521.**

Sheep & Lambs for sale one large ram goat. All must go. Call Abe **772-2441.**

Snapper-lawn mower-14 cube fridge-washers and dryers-boat deck chairs-patio chairs-sectional metal love seat-bookcases-mirrors-new oak round table-wood and metal desks-high back office chairs-side chairs-typing tables-conference tables and chairs **Trading Post 773-9668.**

Boats for Sale

16ft. Seaspirit open fisherman boat with a brand new 55hp. engine. Asking $3,500.00. Extra 55 evenrude engine $1,000 or best offer. Call **719-2628** or **513-1642** (cell).

Autos for Sale

86' Firebird 2.8 ltr. FI-very clean-inspected to Feb. 2002. New rubber-last of the muscle cars-Stateside til 97'. **773-2128** after 4 p.m. Asking $3,500.00.

1993 Mitsubishi Galant-green, tinted windows, 4 doors, automatic, AM/FM, cass., power windows & locks, A/C, excellent condition. $3,800.00 or best offer. Call **778-0595** or **514-9131.**

1998 Chevy Lumina low mileage excellent condition a hot hot deal $10,000.00. Free MacIntosh computer. Must sell **692-2373** (days), **773-9994.**

1988 Acura Integra. Standard, 2 door. $2,100.00. Call Kenny at **778-9750** (work).

1988 Honda prelude 2.0 SI, damage on right side $800.00. Call **772-9859** or **690-9280.**

1995 Nissan Sedan. Excellent condition AM/FM Cass. air , low miles $3,550.00. **713-1203.** Owner.

89 **Ford** F-350 Econoline Cargo Van excellent conditions. 88 **Mercedes** Benz 300 SEL, 6 cylinder, fully loaded, leather seats. **Forklift** Clark 5000 Lbs load, 16 ft. lift. **Ricoh** Ft 4522 Professional commercial copier. Call **772-0185.**

For sale. 91' Suzuki sidekick 4x4 White. In good condition. $2,995.00 O.B.O. Call Will **772-2557** after 5:30 pm.

Forced to sell! Steal this deal. 2000 Chevy Malibu $17,900.00, 1997 Chevy Malibu $14,600.00 owner leaving island/ will negotiate. **779-3297** or **773-0240.** Please leave message.

Sacrifice-86' Jeep Cherokee $2,800.00. 92' Chrysler New Yorker $3,200.00. Both in good running condition. Priced to sell! Phone **778-2426.**

Bus. Opportunity

Convenience Store and Deli for sale: good location, establish customers, long term lease only serious person call. Ask for Mr. Gordon. **778-3010, 778-4314.**

Business Services

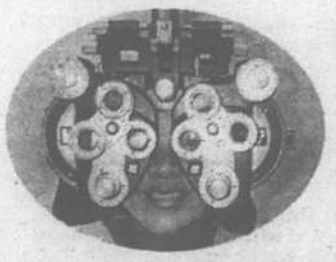
Cistern Cleaning, Repairs disinfect, thoroseal/blockade. No additional costs for repairs. Also electrical & plumbing done. We build cisterns/houses/etc. General construction. Lawn-mowing, Hypalon Roof-coating, repairs and installation. House-and-General-Painting. Swimming-Pool cleaning, coating and repairs. Concrete-roof coating and-repairs, tile setting. **Satisfaction Guaranteed. Free-Estimate . 778-1222.**

Dr. Otto Campos

Ophthalmologist

is now available at PEARLE VISION for eye examinations.

Se Habla Español



Please call for your appointment.

773-2020
Sunny Isle

PEARLE VISION™

The VI's ONLY Vision Care Provider with Ophthalmologists, Optometrists and Certified Opthalmic Technicians

Rachels Hair Cutting Salon is now located in Gallows. Please call 773-3815 for directions, open 9-5 Tuesday thru Saturday. Great parking wheel chair accessible. **773-3815.**

•DIVORCES•

$500 UNCONTESTED

AMELIA B. JOSEPH
Attorney at Law
St. Croix Avis Building
36AB LaGrande Princesse
773-6363

Help Wanted

Sales position and Administrative Assistant, for International Tour Co. in Frederiksted. Excellent communication skills required. Full time with benefits. Fax resume to **772-1392**

Computer Center facilitator-full time computer learning center instructor/facilitator wanted to implement training program for resident of subsidized housing development and surrounding community. Responsibilities include outreach to potential employer and assisting students job training & office software. Must be sensitive to resident needs. Preferred background in computer technology education and human services. Salary negotiable. Send resumes to: Harborview Apartments Golden Rock St. Croix 00820. Attn. lavn Sargeant.

The fastest growing communications company in the USVI is seeking applicants for:

Customer Service Representative

Requirements:
- College Degree, preferably in Business Administration or 3-5 years of Customer Service experience.
- Excellent organizational skills.
- Problem Solver.
- Team Player.
- Computer Literate
- Must work weekends and holidays
- Articulate self-starter
- Work with minimum supervision

EOE/No Phone calls
Please fax resumes to 778-4935
or mail to:
Cingular Wireless -
Operations Manager
#3 Diamond Crest Plaza
Christiansted VI 00820

Cingular Wireless℠
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SAY?

Member Service Representative: energetic, enthusiastic and friendly person needed for VI family sports & fitness center. Good communication skills required. Computer knowledge helpful. Must be willing to work weekends. Fax resume to **773-1935.**

Wow $999.00 special paint job, and small compact car, no rust, minor dents. Bodyman wanted must have your own tools 8-5pm. 1998 Chevy S-ten. Asking price $8,500.00 could be seen at Slice Auto Clinic 18-19 Bassing Triangle.

Truck driver, tire repairman, drivers license, clean traffic record and professional references required, compensation based on experience. Send resume and copy of photo identification to:Bates Trucking & Trash Removal, Inc. P.O. Box 834 Kingshill, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands 00851.

Experienced cook institutional feeding. Experience a plus, good wage + benefit package. Call **771-1345** 9 to 5 or **771-4158.** Leave message.

Rental Agent wanted for fast growing Car Rental Agency. Experience not necessary as we will train you. Familiarity with computers necessary. Must have good attitude, good communication skills and be willing to provide top-notch customer service. If you feel you can work in a fast paced environment please send resume to: Rental Agent, P.O. Box 1529 Kingshill, St. Croix, VI 00851-1529.

X-ray Technologist needed for busy Orthopaedic Practice. Claims and administrative duties included. Some cast room experience preferred. Please fax resume to **(340)778-2919.**

Position Wanted

Situation wanted: Professional couple, long-time island residents, former police officer, seek caretaker position on East End estate, rent contigent on duties. We travel with our own security force. Call Tucker, **773-6394.**

Food & Entertainment

The Golden Rail Cafe
located at St. Croix Marina Gallows Bay

Come and join the fun

Dick Solberg
The Famous
Sun Mountain Fiddler
and the Sun Mountain Band

Appearing
Thursday, March 8th 6:00 til 10:00
LIMITED MENU
340-719-1989

Psychics\Astrology

Psychic Charla. One reading will convince you that I can help you with all your problems. Specializes reuniting lovers. Restores harmony. **1-561-620-1804.**

Free reading by phone. Mother Mary Holistic healer. Spiritual psychic. Helps love, money, business, health. Call enemies by name. Removes evil/bad luck. Spiritual enlightment with one phone call. 1-800-808-3246 1-602-944-1536.

Mrs. Dee spiritual reader/adviser. Reunites separated. Love, marriage, business. Removes evil/bad luck. Interprets dreams. Guaranteed results. **1-800-850-1178, 1-609-671-1700.**

Ms. Autumn psychic reader/advisor. Specializes love, business, marriage. Reunites separated. Returns stolen lover. Restores happiness. Results 45 minutes. Free question. **1-713-334-4006.**

Notices

Antique auction bonus! immediately following the 5-7pm sneak preview on Saturday, March 10, Maureen Devine, Mr. Richard H. Driehaus' personal curator, will take you, via an exciting slide show, through Mr. Driehaus' Tiffany Collection, gallery opening at Navy Pier in Chicago, plus the interior of the corporate headquarters and estate. And, don't forget, preview auction lots now on line at www.stcroixlandmarks.com/auction!

Notice
Anyone who may feel they are entitled to make a claim against the Nielsen Estate in Christiansted please. Call 973-875-5466.

Messages

I Corinthians 10:13
There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with temptation also make a way escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

IF THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE ARE STILL ON PLANET EARTH, PLEASE CALL SUN STORAGE. 778-7867:

Richard Wilson
Alvin Jones
Eva Williams
Allen Razus
Rheney Hodge
Joshua Gordon
Claude Elcock
Maria Soto

"I'LL JUST BRACE MYSELF WITH THE STEERING WHEEL."



Who are you trying to fool? There's no way a steering wheel can stop you from slamming into a dashboard. Only a safety belt can. Stop making excuses and start buckling your safety belt.

YOU COULD LEARN A LOT FROM A DUMMY. BUCKLE YOUR SAFETY BELT.

IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF — Probate No. 96/1998

PER FILSOE JOHANNESEN,
Deceased

CITATION

TO: ERIK JOHANNESEN

GREETING:

If you have any cause to show why the document dated the 3rd day of December, 1997, purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of Per FILSOE JOHANNESEN Deceased, late of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, should not be admitted to probate and record, and why Letters Testamentary should not be granted to BARBARA ROSS, you will appear and make such cause known before the Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands at the Alexander A. Farrelly Justice in Courtroom No. II If on the 2nd day of April, 2001, at 10:00 a.m.

WITNESS, the Honorable Ishmael A. Meyers, this 20th day of February A.D., 2001.

ISHMAEL A. MEYERS
Judge of the Territorial Court
of the Virgin Islands

ATTEST:

DENISE D. ABRAMSEN
Clerk of the Court — 03/6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
DEPARTMENT OF PROPERTY AND PROCUREMENT
SUB BASE, BUILDING NO. 1
ST. THOMAS, VIRGIN ISLANDS 00801

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

DATE: February 28, 2001

Invitation for Bid No: IFB-8-HP&R-T-2001 (CC)

Pursuant to Chapter 23, Title 31, of the Virgin Islands Code, sealed bids in single copy for: Estate Ross temporary Housing Demolition.

will be received by the Department of Property and Procurement, Division of Procurement (address) Building #1
Third Floor, Room 316
Subbase
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802

until 10:00 o'clock A.M. Atlantic Standard Time Thursday March 22, 2001 and then at said office publicly opened.

Bidding Documents may be obtained from this office.

PRE BID CONFERENCE: A Pre Bid Conference will be held Thursday, March 15, 2001 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at the Department of Property & Procurement, Building #1 Third Floor, Room 316, Subbase, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands.

Marc Biggs
Commissioner

03/06, 11&12/2001

IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
DIVISION OF ST. THOMAS AND ST. JOHN

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF — Probate No. 96/1998

Per FILSOE JOHANNESEN,
Deceased

CITATION

TO: PAUL FILSOE JOHANNESEN

GREETING:

If you have any cause to show why the document dated the 3rd day of December, 1997, purporting to be the Last Will and Testament of PER FILSOE JOHANNESEN Deceased, late of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, should not be admitted to probate and record, and why Letters Testamentary should not be granted to BARBARA ROSS, you will appear and make such cause known before the Territorial Court of the Virgin Islands at the Alexander A. Farrelly Justice in Courtroom No. II on the 2nd day of April, 2001, at 10:00 a.m.

WITNESS, the Honorable Ishmael A. Meyers, this 20th day of February A.D., 2001.

ISHMAEL A. MEYERS
Judge of the Territorial Court
of the Virgin Islands

ATTEST:

DENISE D. ABRAMSEN
Clerk of the Court — 03/6, 13, 20, 27, 2001

IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
DIVISION OF ST. CROIX

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF:
CARLTON EUGENE PRENTICE, SR., — PROBATE NO. 14/2001

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, that the only heirs of the late CARLTON EUGENE PRENTICE, SR., have petitioned the Court to settle her estate without administration. All persons having claims against the Estate are required to present them, with proper vouchers, no later than thirty (30) days from the last publication date of this Notice. All persons indebted to the Estate are required to make payment promptly to the undersigned attorney. Persons claiming to be next of kin shall file their proof of heirship with the undersigned, or to the Clerk of the Territorial Court, within the aforesaid time.

DATED this 15 day of February, 2001.

By: Jacqueline Warner Mills, Esq.
Attorney for the Estate
LAW OFFICE OF JACQUELINE WARNER MILLS
250 Peter's Rest, Christiansted, VI 00820
Tel: (340) 778-4621 Fax: (340) 778-8042

02/ 27, 03/06, 13, 20/2001

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
DIVISION OF ST. CROIX

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Plaintiff — CRIMINAL NO. 95-00047-001

v.

ROSE ANN BENJAMIN,
Defendant

NOTICE OF SALE

Pursuant to a Judgment entered on May 7, 1996, and amended on February 19, 1998, and an Order of Sale dated November 15, 2000 in the above-entitled case, I, the U.S. Marshal for the District of the Virgin Islands, have seized and taken possession of the subject property described as a two-story house situated at No. 142 Estate Mary's Fancy, Queens Quarter, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, as more fully shown on Public Works Drawing No. 2241.

And I do hereby give notice that I will sell said property pursuant to Title 28 U.S.C. Sections 2001 and 2002 at he office of the United States Marshal, Almeric L Christian Federal Building, 3013 Estate Golden Rock, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, to the highest bidder on MARCH 29 , 2001 at 10:00 a.m. The terms and conditions of sale are as follows:

a. The property shall be sold at public sale at the office of the U.S. Marshal, Almeric L. Christian Federal Building, 3013 Estate Golden Rock, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands;

b. The Plaintiff, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, may bid a credit against its judgment and interest thereon, costs and expenses without tender of cash. Peppertree Hill Landowners' Association, Inc. may also bid a credit against its judgments and interest thereof without tender of cash.

c. The terms of sale as to all other persons or parties bidding shall be cash to fully satisfy the outstanding judgments of the Peppertree Hill Landowners' Association, Inc. and the United States of America. The successful bidder, called purchaser herein, shall be required to deposit with the United States Marshal, cash equal to ten percent (10%) of his total bid before the close of business on the date of the sale, and the remaining balance of said purchase price to be paid on or before the close of business thirty (30) days, inclusive, of the date of sale. Should any person bid off property at sale by virtue of this Judgment and Order of Sale, and fail to comply with the terms of the sale, said deposit by purchaser shall be paid over and delivered to the plaintiff United States of America, to be applied as a credit on the judgment of plaintiff against defendant Rose Ann Benjamin.

d. I, the United States Marshal, shall make my report of sale within ten (10) days from the date of sale.

e. If no objections have been filed in writing in this cause with the Clerk of the Court, by 10:00 a.m., fifteen (15) days inclusive from the date that the sale is final, the sale shall be confirmed immediately thereafter without the necessity of motion; or upon motion of the plaintiff, the purchaser, any party in interest in this cause, or by the Court upon its own motion, and I, the United States Marshal, shall deliver my Certificate of Sale to said purchaser.

DATED this 8TH day of February, 2001.

CONRAD R. HOOVER
UNITED STATES MARSHAL

DAVID L. ATKINSON
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

By: Curtis V. Gomez
Assistant U.S. Attorney
Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse
5500 Veterans Drive, Suite 260
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802-6424
Telephone: 340-774-5757 — 02/27,03/06,13,20, 2001

Sid shines for Yanks

Braves defeated 10-5

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Mike Mussina made his Yankees' debut, El Duque got the win, Tom Glavine took the loss and Mariano Rivera relieved.

Yet in a spring training game filled with star pitchers, Sid Fernandez was the sharpest of all.

Fernandez, in his first outing since retiring in 1997, pitched a perfect inning Monday for New York in a 10-5 win over the Atlanta Braves.

"Of course I was a little nervous," the 38-year-old left-hander said. "It felt good to be on the mound again. It didn't feel like I missed three years."

Mussina drew the biggest applause at Legends Field when he trotted out of the dugout to work the third inning. Signed to an $88.5 million, six-year contract, the prize free agent started his Yankees career by striking out Wes Helms.

After a scoreless third, Mussina gave up two runs in the fourth. Javy Lopez hit an RBI double right after second baseman Chuck Knoblauch let Brian Jordan's potential inning-ending double grounder skip by for an error.

Mussina gave up two hits, struck out three and walked none in his two-inning stint.

"The first day, you have small goals," he said. "And my goal today was to throw it over the plate."

Mussina said it did not feel strange to be pitching in the pinstriped pants and navy top with an "NY" on his cap.

"Since I've been wearing the uniform from the start of spring training, it wasn't like that drastic thrust into a new situation," he said. "I think my first game at the stadium, that'll be a different feeling."

Mussina is projected to make his first regular-season start on April 6 at Yankee Stadium against Toronto.

Because of rainouts Sunday, Glavine and Orlando Hernandez had their first spring starts pushed back to Monday.

Hernandez gave up two hits in two scoreless innings. Glavine also went two innings and allowed three hits, including an RBI double by Alfonso Soriano.

Fernandez, hoping to earn a spot anywhere on the Yankees' staff, needed only 11 pitches to retire three batters in the fifth.

Briefs

Cardinals come to terms with Dishman

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Chris Dishman, who played guard and center last season for Arizona, agreed to a three-year contract Monday with the Cardinals.

Dishman, a four-year veteran, played key roles on the injury-depleted line last season. He played both guard positions and was pressed into duty as the starting center at midseason after Mike Gruttadauria underwent neck surgery.

Pistons' Buechler in, Cardinal on the IR list

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. (AP) _ The Detroit Pistons activated forward Jud Buechler Monday and have placed forward Brian Cardinal on injured reserve.

Buechler was expected to play Monday night when Detroit visited the Miami Heat. He was placed on the injured list Feb. 22 with back spasms.

He averaged 4.1 points, 1.9 rebounds, 1.2 assists and 14.5 minutes in 42 games. He started three times.

Cardinal, a rookie from Purdue, has missed 48 games this year with tendinitis in his left knee. He has averaged 0.9 points, 1.3 rebounds and 6 minutes in 10 games. He was selected in the second round and 44th overall in the 2000 NBA draft.

Fox leads Marlins to victory over Indians

MELBOURNE, Fla. (AP) — Andy Fox tripled home the winning run in the ninth inning Monday, leading the Florida Marlins over the Cleveland Indians 5-4.

Roberto Alomar and Juan Gonzalez hit solo homers, their first this spring, to help the Indians take a 3-1 lead.

Florida went ahead 4-3 in the eighth on Lyle Mouton's RBI single and Mike Gulan's run-scoring double.

IN THE TERRITORIAL COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
DIVISION OF ST. CROIX

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF
IRIS E. BROADBENT, Deceased

Probate No. 15/2001

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND DEBTORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY given that the undersigned has been appointed Executor 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:

RUTH MILLS, Administrator
c/o Jacqueline Warner Mills, Esquire
Law Office of Jacqueline Warner Mills
250 Peter's Rest
Christiansted, V.I. 00820-4478

DATED: 2/7/01 **JACQUELINE WARNER MILLS, ESQ.**

02/27, 03/06, 13, 20/2001

GOVERNMENT OF
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
Department of Property and Procurement

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

February 12, 2001

Invitation to Bid No. RFP-0005-DPW-C-2001

Pursuant to Chapter 23, Title 31, of the Virgin Islands Code, sealed bids in Quintruplicate for: Seeking a Construction Program Manager for the Office of Highway Engineering on St. Croix, Virgin Islands: Project Q-NH-9999(102)
will be received by the Department of Property and Procurement, Division of Procurement and Supply [address] #274 Estate Richmond
Christiansted, St. Croix
U.S. Virgin Islands 00820
until 11:00 o'clock a.m. Atlantic Standard Time Friday, March 9, 2001.

No bidder may withdraw his bid within thirty (30) working days after the actual date of the opening thereof.

Marc Biggs
Commissioner

2/28, 3/4-5, 6, 7, 2001

Crossword

by Eugene Sheffer

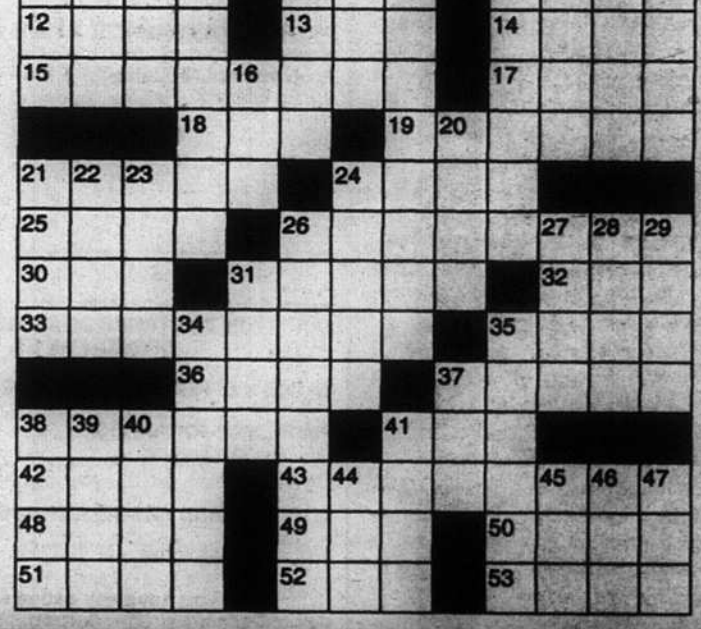
ACROSS
1 "— for All Seasons"
5 Sheepish remark
8 Chimed
12 Colombian city
13 Planet, to a poet
14 Satan's specialty
15 Lily's cousin
17 Vanished
18 Remnant
19 Alec's sci-fi role
21 Youngster
24 Percussion instrument
25 Linus' sister
26 Corsage favorite
30 Brewery product
31 Sign of spring
32 Weird
33 Red-orange flower
35 Daring
36 Fleet
37 Glazier's supply
38 "No Exit" writer
41 Existed
42 Malaria symptom
43 Buttercup's cousin
48 Cheshire countenance
49 Storm center
50 Facility
51 Gritty substance
52 Lair
53 Capturing device

DOWN
1 Munich interjection
2 Potentially will
3 Menu phrase
4 In a pleasant way
5 Brosnan protrayal
6 Skill
7 Couldn't stand
8 Government
9 Acknowledge
10 1492 craft
11 Singer Campbell
16 Asian nation (Abbr.)
20 Roses-to-be
21 Reticent one
22 Shake in the grass?
23 Bakery employee
24 Every 24 hours
26 Acted abjectly
27 Lunchtime, often
28 Between assignments
29 Puts into the mix
31 Culture medium
34 Mean
35 Hound variety
37 Neighbor of 16-Down (Abbr.)
38 Succumbs to gravity
39 Taj Mahal site
40 Destruction
41 Songbird
44 Verily
45 Standard
46 Can.'s neighbor
47 Agent

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	P	T		A	L	I	V	E		W	O	N
R	A	W		N	O	D	E	S		O	R	A
C	L	O	C	K	W	O	R	K		R	A	M
			P	A	P		S	I	C	K	L	E
S	A	H	A	R	A		A	M	A	H		
O	R	O		A	I	M		O	V	O	I	D
H	E	R	B		D	A	M		E	R	G	O
O	A	S	E	S		D	A	B		S	O	T
		E	L	I	A		L	O	S	E	R	S
P	A	S	T	E	S		T	O	P			
A	C	H		S	H	O	E	M	A	K	E	R
S	R	O		T	E	A	S	E		A	G	E
S	E	E		A	S	T	E	R		N	O	D

Yesterday's answer 3-6



Cryptoquip

D T Z G N J N S V Z F N G T N Z B G H S A N B H V N Z S H A A N S ? T N E H J N F G H M G N Z E G T N M T H D.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: I HEARD THAT FARMERS PREFER TAKING THEIR OLD IMPLEMENTS TO A RESICKLING CENTER.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: A equals B

TV SportsWatch

(All Times EST)

Tuesday, March 6

MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
ESPN — Midwestern Collegiate Conference, championship game, Butler vs. Detroit, at Dayton, Ohio
9 p.m.
ESPN — Sun Belt Conference, championship game, at Mobile, Ala.
9:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — Mid-Continent Conference, championship game, at Fort Wayne, Ind.

NBA BASKETBALL
9 p.m.
TBS — Toronto at Sacramento

SOCCER
2:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — UEFA Champions League, Real Madrid vs. Leeds United, at Madrid, Spain

WOMEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL
7:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — Big East Conference, championship game, at Storrs, Conn.

Briefs

Shepherd fires men's basketball coach

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — Shepherd College fired Denny Alexander as basketball coach Monday after a string of losing seasons and a first-round elimination in the conference tournament.

Alexander joined Shepherd for the 1993-94 season and compiled an 87-125 record in eight seasons. The Rams went 11-15, 6-12 in the West Virginia Conference this year.

"We feel our program needs to be more competitive," athletic director Monte Cater said.

Before joining Shepherd, Alexander was an assistant coach at Mississippi from 1990-93. He also served as head coach and athletic director at Xavier for 12 years and was an assistant at Central Michigan.

Rockies send 7 to minor league camp

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — The Colorado Rockies on Monday reduced their spring roster by seven players, assigning six to their minor league camp and optioning left-hander Josh Kalinowski to Triple-A Colorado Springs.

Those players assigned to minor-league camp were pitchers David Moraga, Tsao Chin-Hui and Jason Young, catchers Josh Bard and Jason Dewey and outfielder Mike Peeples.

Strickland strikes a deal

Portland Trail Blazers sign guard for rest of the season

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Rod Strickland rejoined the Portland Trail Blazers on Monday, becoming the backup point guard on a team that has the best record in the West but felt it needed another veteran to reach the NBA Finals.

The Blazers signed the 34-year-old guard for $2.25 million for the rest of the season.

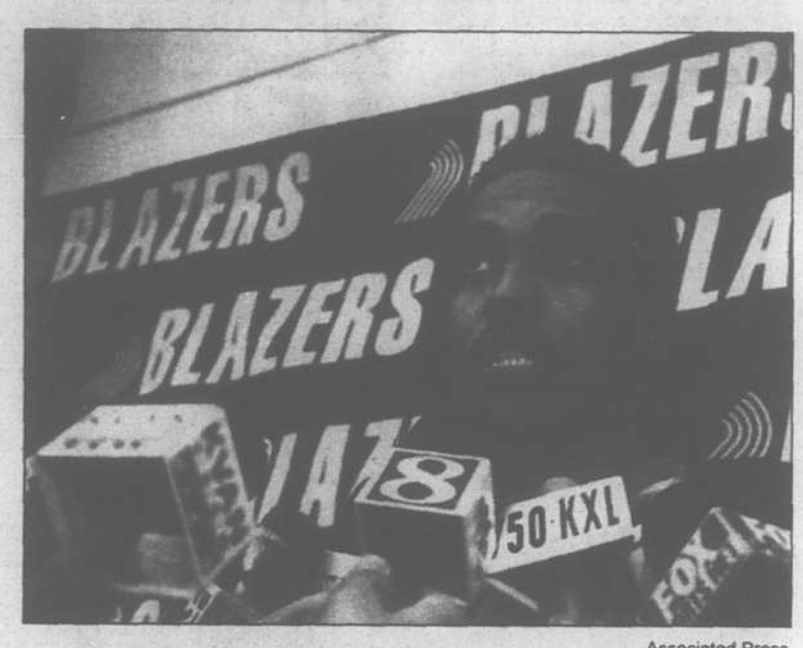
Strickland, who spent four productive seasons in Portland from 1992-96, was at Monday's practice.

Portland also released guard Gary Grant and placed guard Greg Anthony on the injured list with a sore shoulder.

Strickland was waived last Thursday by the Washington Wizards, who bought out the remaining year-plus on his contract for $2.5 million. No one claimed him off waivers, allowing any team to sign him. Because he was waived before midnight Thursday, he is eligible for the playoffs.

Upon his arrival at the Portland airport with his family just before midnight Sunday, Strickland said he welcomed a chance to play for one of the league's top teams.

"It's a great team from top to bottom," he said. "I'm looking forward to getting into a winning situation."



Associated Press
Former Washington Wizards guard Rod Strickland answers questions after practicing with the Portland Trail Blazers in Tualatin, Ore. Monday. It was announced that Strickland, who was traded by the Blazers to the Wizards for Rasheed Wallace and Mitchell Butler in 1996, has been signed by the Blazers for the rest of the season.

The move brings full circle one of the worst trades in recent memory: Strickland sent from Portland along with Harvey Grant to Washington for Rasheed Wallace and Mitchell Butler on July 15, 1996.

Wallace has become one of the best power forwards in the league, while the Wizards are foundering and have only 4½ turbulent seasons with Strickland to show for the deal.

Strickland averaged 17 points and 8.6 assists with the Blazers, but his final season was marred by a feud with coach P.J. Carlesimo.

Saints ink Connel to 5-year contract

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The New Orleans Saints signed former Redskins wide receiver Albert Connell on Monday, filling a major offensive need and expanding their options for the NFL draft.

Connell agreed to a five-year contract that reportedly is worth $14 million, including a $2.5 million signing bonus.

Connell said he decided to sign with the Saints because of the team's chemistry, the coaching staff and the strong improvement the team made in 2000, going 10-6 and winning the NFC West.

"It's a fresh start for me," Connell said. "I want to show that I can play. It's a good fit."

Saints general manager Randy Mueller called Connell the best free agent available, especially with the team needing additional help at receiver.

"He was at the top of the list," Mueller said.

Hampered by a sprained knee in 2000, Connell caught 39 passes for 762 yards and three touchdowns.



The 6-foot, 179-pound receiver was drafted by Washington in the fourth round in 1997. In four years, he has 138 catches for 2,483 yards and 14 touchdowns. His best year was 1999, when he caught 62 passes for 1,132 yards and seven touchdowns.

Mueller said the signing would enable the Saints to enter next month's draft without being locked in to picking a wide receiver to complement Joe Horn.

Connell drew attention because of a sideline shouting match with Redskins assistant Terry Robiskey during the Redskins' 17-14 victory against Philadelphia on Oct. 8. Connell was fined.

Saints coach Jim Haslett said the confrontation showed him Connell is intent on playing.

"This is a guy who wants to win," Haslett said. "I think he's got a chip on his shoulder and he's ready to win."

"Coach wants to win and I want to win," Connell said. "I think we'll get along."

Boxer Camacho arraigned on drug charges

NEW YORK (AP) — Bail was set at $5,000 Monday for boxer Hector "Macho" Camacho, who was arrested at a Manhattan nightclub on charges of cocaine possession.

It was not immediately known if Camacho posted bail.

Police executed a search warrant at the Latin Palace, on Second Avenue in East Harlem, at 2:45 a.m. Sunday. Camacho, 38, and 12 others were arrested on drug charges. The Latin Palace had been under investigation by narcotics detectives for months for alleged rampant drug use, police said.

Camacho was charged with criminal possession of a controlled substance in the fifth degree, which is a felony. He could face at least a year in prison if convicted. A criminal complaint alleged that Camacho had powder cocaine.

Camacho's New Jersey-based attorney, David Zapp, was not in his office Monday and did not return a telephone message for comment.

The boxer is due back in court Friday.

Camacho, a former WBC super featherweight and lightweight champion, has had a history of run-ins with the law, including arrests for alleged domestic violence and drunken driving.

NBAStandings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	44	16	.733	—
Miami	36	24	.600	8
New York	34	25	.576	9 1/2
Orlando	31	27	.534	12
Boston	26	34	.433	18
New Jersey	21	40	.344	23 1/2
Washington	13	47	.217	31

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	36	22	.621	—
Charlotte	34	26	.567	3
Toronto	33	27	.550	4
Indiana	26	31	.456	9 1/2
Cleveland	22	36	.379	14
Detroit	22	37	.373	14 1/2
Atlanta	18	42	.300	19
Chicago	10	48	.172	26

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	40	18	.690	—
San Antonio	39	19	.672	1
Dallas	37	22	.627	3 1/2
Minnesota	36	24	.600	5
Houston	32	28	.533	9
Denver	30	31	.492	11 1/2
Vancouver	18	42	.300	23

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	42	18	.700	—
L.A. Lakers	39	19	.672	2
Sacramento	38	19	.667	2 1/2
Phoenix	35	23	.603	6
Seattle	31	30	.508	11 1/2
L.A. Clippers	21	41	.339	22
Golden State	16	44	.267	26

NBASchedule

Sunday's Games
Toronto 98, New York 88
Utah 118, Washington 98
New Jersey 120, Indiana 96
Charlotte 116, Boston 97
Detroit 93, Orlando 84
Minnesota 119, Seattle 111, OT
Miami 91, Cleveland 79
L.A. Lakers 110, Golden State 95

Monday's Games
Dallas at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Vancouver, 10 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Minnesota at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Indiana at New York, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Denver, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Boston, 7 p.m.
Houston at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Utah, 9 p.m.
Toronto at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Heat rallies, Pistons fall

MIAMI (AP) _ Brian Grant scored 20 points and Dan Majerle made a 3-pointer in the final seconds as the Miami Heat overcame the loss of guard Eddie Jones to defeat the Detroit Pistons 87-84 Monday night.

The Heat won their third straight game and for the fifth time in six games, but it wasn't easy _ or without casualties.

Jones, the cornerstone of a blockbuster trade with the Hornets last summer, dislocated his left shoulder in the second quarter and was taken off on a stretcher. His long-term prognosis won't be known until Tuesday.

Majerle, who scored a season-high 12 points, made a 3-pointer with the shot clock winding down and Miami clinging to an 82-81 lead with 14.3 seconds left. The Pistons answered with a 3-pointer from Jerry Stackhouse with 7.1 seconds left.

Tim Hardaway hit a pair of free throws with 6.0 seconds left to give Miami an 87-84 lead.

Stackhouse's shot at the buzzer, which would have counted for two points, rimmed out.

The Heat completed a four-game sweep of the season series, with two of the wins coming in overtime. It's Miami's first sweep of Detroit since 1996-97.

Stackhouse scored 32 points for Detroit, although he also committed a season-high 11 turnovers.

Corliss Williamson added 17 for the Pistons, who have lost five of their last six.?

Notes: Miami's Anthony Carter was called for a flagrant foul when he grabbed Stackhouse on a breakaway in the second quarter. Stackhouse turned it into a five-point trip, sinking the two free throws and adding a 3-pointer off the inbounds pass.



Associated Press

Detroit Pistons' Ben Wallace (3) defends against Miami Heat's Brian Grant (44) during the first half on Monday in Miami.

...Detroit activated Jud Buechler before the game while placing rookie Brian Cardinal (tendinitis in his knees) on the injured list. Buechler was placed on the IL with back spasms on Feb. 22. ...The Heat are 20-8 at home and 13 games above .500. ...Former Pistons and Heat coach Ron Rothstein was pressed into broadcast work for the Pistons because Kelly Tripuka was snowed in. Rothstein is currently the head coach of the WNBA's Miami Sol. ...The Pistons haven't won two in a row since Feb. 3 and 6. ...Ben Wallace has led the Pistons in rebounding seven straight games.

BasketballScores

JUNIOR VARSITY

(Boys)
Complex 57, Good Hope 45
COMPLEX - Comacho 14, Hosier 8, Llanos 7, Matthew 18, Thomas 10.
GOOD HOPE — Rojas 16, Lowman 9, Locke 5, Sweeney 2, Charles 2, Orr 2, Cannon 9.

ELEMENTARY

Pearl B. Larsen 48, Charles H. Emmanuel 32
PEARL B. LARSEN (12-0) - O. Vanterpool 9, C. Lang 8, C. Williams 8, A. Burke 8, L. Prince 6, J. Johnson 4, O. Eastman 2, R. Hendrickson 2, T. Anderson 1.
CHARLES H. EMMANUEL - E. Edwards, M. Cabrera, L. Escobar 2, A. Powell, A. Quinones 5, T. Solis 2.

BowlingResults

(Girls)
Scratch Games
Machaela Cooke 128
Caren Andrews 125
Camille Paul 123
Scratch Series
Camille Paul 357
Michaela Cooke 352
Caren Andrews 321

(Boys)
Scratch Games
Michael Nissman 146
John Gumbs 145
Owen Moorehead 139
Scratch Series
John Gumbs 420
Michael Nissman 389
Delvin Ebbesen 385

Little League

(Plaskett East)

(11-12 division)
Indians 18, Suns 2
Indians 18 4 0
Suns 2 5 2
W-A. Graham; L-J.Magras. Top hitters: R. Frontal 1-1, W. Henry 1-1, A. Graham 2-4; Suns, G. Nicholas 1-1, D. Archibald 1-2.

(9-10 division)
Stars 17, Suns 11
Stars 17 8 2
Suns 11 3 1
W-T. Somme Jr; J. Miranda. Top hitters: Stars, O. Bonit 3-3, M. Maccow 2-4, R. Allen 1-2. Suns, M. Fleming 1-2. Home runs: Bonit 2.

(5-6 division)
Mongoose Dem II 13, Tune Squad 12
Mongoose Dem 13 14 0
Tune Squad 12 14 0
Top hitters: MD, J. Scott 2-2, R. Lewis 2-2, D. Pickard III 1-2. Tune Squad, L.Plante 2-2, M. Cintron. Home runs: Scott, Plante, Cintron.
Friday
<B>(7-8 division)
Mets 6, Mongoose Dem II 2<B>
Mets 6 3 0
Mongoose Dem 2 1 2
W-M. Knight; L-J. Frontal. Top hitters: Mets, K. Gerard 1-1, S. Joseph 1-2. MD II, J. Tores 1-1.
<B>(9-10 division)<B>
<B>Lions 20, Mongoose Dem 7<B>
Lions 20 7 2
Mongoose Dem 7 3 5
W-R. Hendrickson; L-J. Christian. Top hitters: Lions, D. James Jr. 2-3, J. Samuel 2-3, Z. Saleem 2-4. MDII, J. Christian 2-3, A. Torres 1-2. Home runs: D. James.

Men's League standing

Man Dem	12	1
Ujima	9	3
Hoyas	8	5
Guidance	6	7
Exodus	2	10
Showtime	1	12

Monday's games
Guidance 61, Exodus 45
Ujima 102, Showtime 83

Wednesday's games
No games

Friday's games
Hoyas 103, Showtime 86
Man Dem 93, Guidance 77

Hoyas 103, Showtime 86
HOYAS (8-5) - T. Simon 28, L. Weeks 23, K. John 18, T. Woodley 14, K. John 12, C. James 7, T. Turbe 2.
SHOWTIME (1-12) - J. Wallace 26, E. Brandy 18, K. Milligan 17, T. Shoy 10, G. Southwell 9, M. Joseph 2.

Man Dem 93, Guidance 77
MAN DEM (12-1) - R. Robinson 18, D. Heywood 15, K. Swanston 15, H. Milligan 11, K. John 10, J. Applewaite 10, R. Armstrong 8, N. Rogers 4, F. Romain 2.
GUIDANCE (6-7) - R. Iles 26, J. Dopwell 24, L. Simmonds 8, S. Walker 8, C. Hodge 7, S. Francis 2.

Date set for Ali-Frazier bout

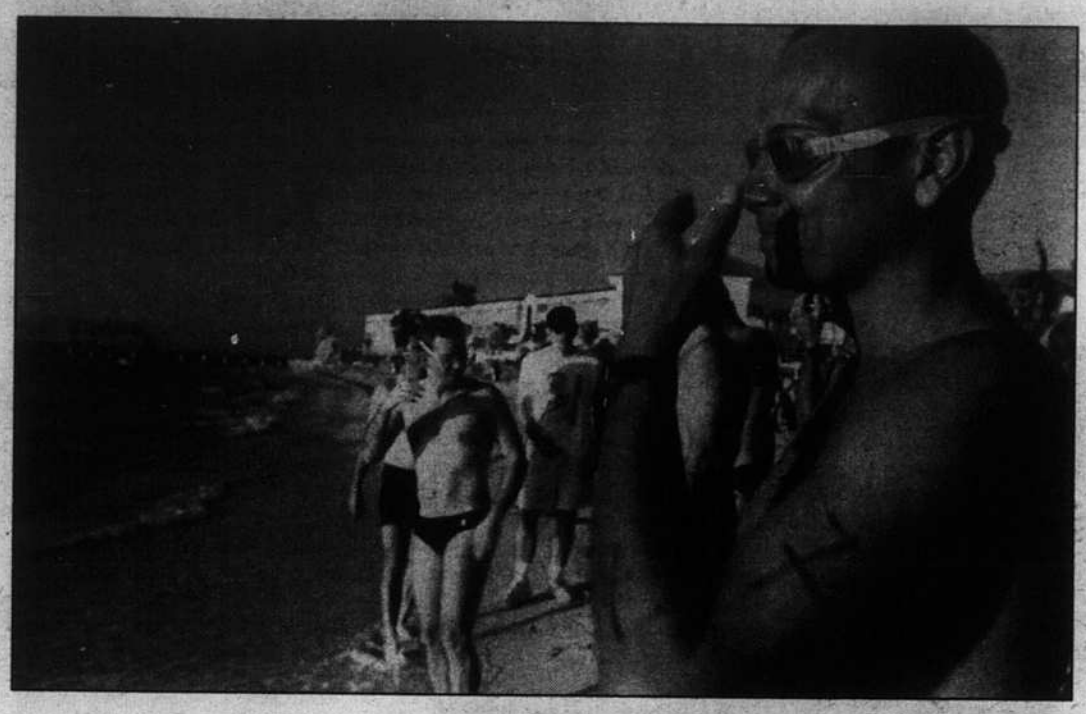
VERONA, N.Y. (AP) — After months of verbal sparring, Laila Ali and Jacqui Frazier-Lyde will resume the ring rivalry begun three decades ago by their fathers.

The women, the daughters of Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier, will fight June 8 at the Turning Stone casino to coincide with the International Boxing Hall of Fame's Induction Weekend, Oneida Indian Nation Representative Ray Halbritter said Monday.

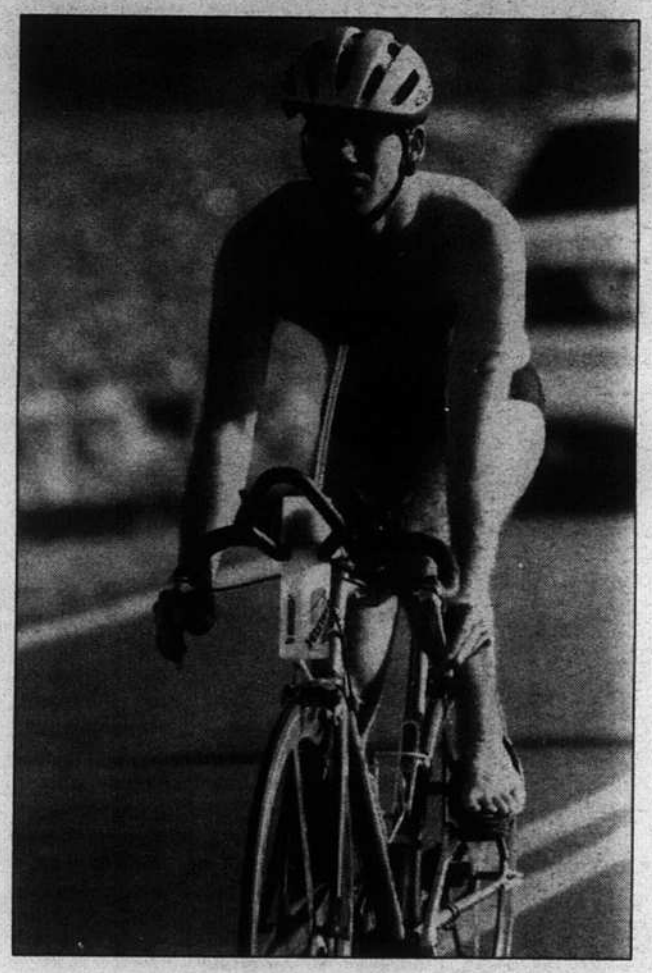
Frazier-Lyde and Ali fought and won separate bouts in Verona on Friday night. Ali (9-0, 8 KOs), who needed five rounds to stop Christine Robinson (2-5, 1 KO), ended the fight with a barrage of rights and a left uppercut.

In a shorter fight, Frazier-Lyde (7-0, 7 KOs) stopped Genevia Buckhalter (2-8, 2 KOs) at 1:05 of the first round.

Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier met three times in what would become one of boxing's greatest rivalries.



Triathletes go the distance



(Above) Competitors in the Endurance Sports East End Sprint triathalon get ready to jump into the water at Divi Carina Bay Resort Sunday morning. Coordinator of the triathalon, Tom Gutherie asked the swimmers if they had any last questions and one person responded, "Why am I doing this again?" **(Right)** Bob Halk cruises into Divi Carina Bay Resort Sunday morning after riding the 13-mile portion of the Endurance Sports East End Sprint triathalon. Halk placed second in competition that included a 800-yard swim, a 13-mile bike and a 5-kilometer run.

Photos by Ben Twingley

Shooting Stars overcome Outkast

ST. THOMAS — Shimoi Van Holten had 15 kills as the Shooting Stars outlasted Outkast in four tough sets Sunday in the St. Thomas-St. John Volleyball Association.

The Shooting Stars dropped the first set 25-22 before coming back to win the next three sets 25-23, 25-20 and 33-31. Justin Wheatley had 13 service points for the Shooting Stars.

Outkast, which plays the Islanders tonight, had 15 kills from Maclin Lewis and 10 service points from Kenneth Vanterpool.

The Islanders, who beat Shooting Stars on Saturday, won by forfeit over the Real Players on Sunday. In tonight's other contest at the Charlotte Amalie High School gym, the Kappa Kueens will take on SWV.

In other weekend action, Jenny Matthias had 15 points as Full Force swept Magnum II 25-0, 25-14, 25-8 in an advanced women's match and Young Stars defeated Full Force 2 in a junior mens match. Blair Jeppesen had 12 kills, and Vashal Hemerajani had 19 points from serves.

Jenine Berry and Krystal Garcia led SWV past Full Force, and Cumin 2 Cum downed Magnum II in advanced women play.

The Avis
all sports all year long

Richardson nails 9 in college finale

NORTHRIDGE, Calif. — The Portland State women's basketball team ended a disappointing season in a very positive manner, defeating Virgin Islander Reshawnda Richardson and Cal State Northridge, 54-52.

Cal State Northridge (9-18, 5-10) was knocked out of next week's Big Sky Tournament. Richardson, a senior guard from St. Croix, scored nine points and grabbed four rebounds in her final college basketball game. Richardson averaged 8 points and three rebounds over the course of the season.

STT's Lewis perseveres with injuries

BELLE GLADE, Fla. — Two nagging injuries and an opponent playing for its playoff life couldn't stop Virgin Islander Akil Lewis. The Hallandale senior guard had 30 points to lead the Chargers to a 65-56 win over Glades Central in a Class 4A regional final Saturday.

"Whenever my team needed me, I stepped up and did what I had to," said Lewis of St. Thomas, who played with a sore wrist and a right thigh bruise."

Vanterpool scores 25 points

KANSAS CITY, Missouri — David Vanterpool of St. Thomas scored 25 points, dished out eight assists and grabbed four rebounds in a game that featured shooting galore, fast breaks and slam-dunks as the Kansas City Knights beat the Detroit Dogs 134-120 in ABA action. For the Knights, the victory was their 11th in their last 14 games, while the Dogs have lost seven of their last eight, including their last four in succession. The Knights took an early lead and never looked back.

Briefs

Wilkinson's batting average improves

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — New Mexico State crushed Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 33-16 before the Islanders rebounded with a 4-3 win over the Aggies in a non-conference baseball doubleheader.

The Aggies are now 16-5 on the season. In the first game, junior center fielder Kurt Wilkinson of St. Thomas was 2-of-3 at the plate collecting three runs, three RBIs and two walks.

The pitchers took control of the second game, allowing only seven runs in the scheduled seven-inning contest. Wilkinson was 2-of-4 at the plate with one RBI in the contest. Wilkinson's batting average improves to .450 with 25 RBIs, 5 home runs, 12 doubles (leads the team) and 11 stolen bases (leads the team).

Los Hispanos top Thunderstorm, 12-9

ST. JOHN — Franklin Olea and Glen Lewis homered as Los Hispanos defeated Thunderstorm 12-9 in the Marlins Softball League at Wells Ballpark in Cruz Bay.

Hispanos were able to overcome a two-home run effort by Arthur Paris.

In another game on Saturday night, Caneel Bay beat Varlack 26-4 behind Michael Valmond, who had three doubles and a homer. Dorn Callwood had two doubles and a homer and Nicholas Victorin had two homers for Caneel.

In other weekend action, Kerry Frett hit for the cycle as Caneel downed Thunderstorm 20-7; and Los Hispanos beat Varlack 26-20.

Aska rushes for 92 yards in loss

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Running back Joe Aska of St. Croix carried the ball 11 times for 92 yards as the New York/New Jersey Hitmen lost 22-7 to Los Angeles on Saturday night in the XFL. In the second quarter, Aska had a 42-yard run on a third-and-1 play that led to the only score for the Hitmen. The Hitmen (1-4) dropped to 0-3 at home.

Tennis tournament set for March 13-18

ST. THOMAS — The St. Thomas Racquet Club tennis tournament is scheduled for March 13-18 at the Sub Base Tennis Courts. The sign-up deadline is 6 p.m. March 12. For details, contact Edwin Sprauve or Doris Hodge at 775-0833 or 775-5578.

VI Basketball to hold travel meeting

ST. CROIX — The Virgin Islands Basketball Federation will hold a general meeting at 5:30 p.m. Friday at the Legislature Conference Room. Officials will discuss travel plans for upcoming Games. For details, call 772-9524.

SportsTuesday

Today's weather



Ben Twingley

Thoroughbreds break out of the starting gate at Randall "Doc" James racetrack in St. Crox Sunday. In the feature contest, favorite and top money winner Flak Man proved to have hoofs of clay as Barchette ran away from the big horse to win at 7 furlongs.

Flak Man humbled

Barchette takes big race

ISAAC CAUSEY

ST. CROIX — Flak Man, St. Croix's top thoroughbred money winner of the season, might be good, but the horse is not invincible.

Barchette proved it on Sunday by claiming the 7-furlong, $2,400 race in 1:24.4 in a race in which Flak Man was never a factor.

"Today was our day," said Elvis Davis, the assistant trainer for Barchette, who won for the first time at the Randall "Doc" James Racetrack. "Any horse can beat another on any given day. Flak Man is the bigger horse and the weight might have made a difference. But that's what horse racing is all about. Handicapping."

The race was a two-horse duel between Barchette, carrying 115 pounds, and Resonate, carrying 113 pounds. The two led the four-horse field from start to finish and Barchette held off Resonate coming down the home stretch. Flak Man, who carried 123 pounds, was third.

Flak Man came into the race with earnings of $4,590 and three straight wins.

Flak Man's co-owners were calling the 7-year-old the superior horse on St. Croix.

Today was our day, Any horse can beat another on any given day."

Elvis Davis, assistant trainer for Barchette

Davis said Barchette is just coming into his own. Barchette was purchased out of Puerto Rico and has never raced to his potential — until Sunday, according to Davis. Barchette had finished behind Flak Man on three different occasions.

The race was one of six staged on the Virgin Islands Racing Corp. card. In the 7½ furlong fifth race, Frosted Socks ran ahead of Papa's Star and Cielo Mar.

Ridden by local jockey Christian Soto, Frosted Socks led from start to finish and claimed the race in 1:31.2.

"He was riding good," Soto said. "I thought it was an easy ride. At the final turn I saw Papa's Star coming up, I gave him a push and he took off again."

It was Papa's Star's third second-place finish in four races. Papa's Star came into the day second in money winnings with $2,810.

Frosted Socks owner Charles Bastian said he purchased the 7-year-old from a St. Croix owner who had lost confidence in the horse. Frosted Socks had been struggling of late, finishing out of the money Jan. 14 and Dec. 26.

"I saw the potential in him," Bastian said. "I think by having Christian on him made a difference."

Since finishing out of the money twice, Frosted Socks have come back to claim a second on Feb. 18 and a win on Sunday.

Bastian said he wants to challenge Flak Man again, this time with Soto in the saddle. "He's more familiar with the horse," Bastian said.

Other winners on Sunday were See Jane Run, Call Me Nick, Don't Give A Dam and Dana Star.

Johnson OKs deal with Bucs

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Brad Johnson agreed to terms of a five-year, $28 million contract Monday with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who outbid the Super Bowl champion Baltimore Ravens for the most coveted free agent quarterback.

The Bucs confirmed general manager Rich McKay struck a deal with Johnson, but said the team would not comment until the former Washington Redskins and Minnesota Vikings star signs a contract.

The deal, first reported by CNN-SI on its Web site, includes a $6.5 million signing bonus and a base salary of $750,000 next season. Nearly half the contract — including a $3.5 million salary and $2 million roster bonus in 2002 — would be paid in the first two years.



The Ravens, who were thought to have the inside track, reportedly offered Johnson and former Kansas City Chiefs quarterback Elvis Grbac identical offers worth about $22 million over four years.

Johnson is a close friend of Baltimore coach Brian Billick, who was Johnson's one-time offensive coordinator with the Vikings. But he also had previous ties to Bucs coach Tony Dungy, who was Minnesota's defensive coordinator before moving to Tampa Bay.

"I'm excited to be a Buccaneer. I have a lot of respect for the organization and for Tony (Dungy) and for the guys I played against for so many years," Johnson, who lives in Tallahassee, told Tampa television station WTVT, Channel 13.

"I feel like I'm putting myself in the best position to be successful and to win at a high level, and that's with Tampa Bay."

Although McKay suggested last week that signing a quarterback wasn't necessarily a high priority because the Bucs were happy with Shaun King as their starter, the acquisition of Johnson wasn't a surprise.

King helped Tampa Bay reach the NFC championship as a rookie two years ago. But he was inconsistent in leading team to a 10-6 regular season mark last season, then played poorly in a first-round playoff loss to Philadelphia.