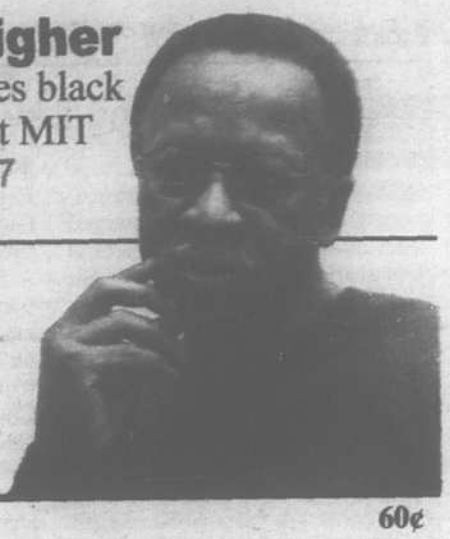
March Madness
Men's full bracket for office pools.
Page 30

On St. Thomas
Vigilant leaves family holding the bag.
Page 3

Aiming higher
Book chronicles black experience at MIT
Page 17



The Avis

USVI 157th YEAR TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2001, NO. 60 60¢



Alda Anduze

Cpl. Barbara Jackson, right, tells Educational Complex students — specifically members of the championship varsity girls basketball team — about the Police Corps program during a college fair Monday at Sunshine Mall.

Calling all future officers

Police Corps offers scholarships to local students

KC BURGARD

ST. CROIX — Among the thousands of high school students that attended Central High School's College Fair Monday, 20 could have the opportunity to attend college for free through the Police Corps.

Cpl. Barbara Jackson, grants coordinator at the VI Police Department, spoke to nearly a dozen local students in the first half-hour of setting up her table Monday afternoon in Sunshine Mall.

"They're very interested in the program," Jackson said. She admitted, however, that some were initially skeptical of her offer: Commit to serving just four years as a VIPD police officer after college graduation

"You can go to whatever college you want, but you're obligated to come back here."

Cpl. Barbara Jackson, with VI Police Department

in exchange for $30,000 to apply toward educational expenses.

"It's a federal program and the federal government guarantees that you're going to be placed," Jackson said. Although it is officially the department's second year of participation in the federal scholarship program, Jackson said this marks the first year they've actively pursued students to join.

"You can study whatever you want," Jackson told one interested girl from the Educational Complex. "You can go to whatever college you want, but you're obligated to come back here."

Designed to address violent crime by helping local police

POLICE, PAGE 2

IDC now EDC under umbrella authority

New board to govern three other agencies

WILL JONES

USVI — The familiar name of IDC has been obliterated from the laws of the Virgin Islands.

The IDC, or Industrial Development Commission, has been renamed and revamped under a legislative bill signed into law last month by Gov. Charles Turnbull.

It is now the Economic Development Commission. And the EDC — along with the Government Development Bank, the Industrial Park Development Corp. and the Small Business Development Agency — has been placed under an umbrella governing board called the Virgin Islands Economic Development Authority.

The governing boards of the old agencies and the executive director or top administrative positions have been abolished, and committees of the authority have been created to have direct responsibilities over the agencies.

Nadine Marchena, who was the acting executive director of the IDC, has been appointed assistant chief executive authority.

She will hold a series of meetings to explain the EDC's new setup and how the changes in the law will affect business in the

IDC, PAGE 2

Senator holding hearings on federal monument plan

WILL JONES

USVI — The second of three hearings on the planned expansion of national monuments in the territory will be held at 6 p.m. today at the Legislature building on St. Thomas.

The Senate Government Operations, Planning and Environmental Protection Committee will hold the third and final hearing at 6 p.m. Friday in the legislative conference room on St. Croix.

Sen. Donald Cole, chairman of the committee, said he is holding the hearings to determine whether the federal government or the people of the Virgin Islands own submerged lands included in the expansion plan.

In the waning days of his administration, President Clinton signed executive orders

REEFS, PAGE 2

REEFS: Controversy surrounds order

FROM PAGE ONE

expanding several national monument areas, including submerged lands off St. John and Buck Island Reef National Monument off St. Croix's north shore.

The VI areas include more than 18,000 marine acres around Buck Island and nearly 13,000 marine acres north and south of St. John and Hurricane Hole.

But former Delegate to Congress Ron de Lugo said recently that a 1974 public law gave all submerged lands within three miles of the coastline — that were not already owned by the federal government or claimed by it within 120 days after the law went into effect — to the people of the Virgin Islands.

Public Law 93-435 included several exceptions for the federal government to retain lands within the boundaries. Exceptions included all submerged lands adjacent to property owned by the United States above the line of mean high tide.

In his proclamation expanding the areas, Clinton noted that Buck Island is the spawning site for many reef species, such as grouper, snapper and the spiny lobster.

"Plummeting to abyssal depths, this habitat of vertical walls, honeycombed with holes and caves, is home to deep water species and a refuge for other species," the proclamation said.

It also said that the area contains significant cultural and historical objects, including the wreckage of two slave ships.

In March 1797, the slave ship Mary — captained by James Hunter of Liverpool — sank, but its cargo of 240 slaves was saved and brought to Christiansted.

The General Abercrombie, captained by James Booth of Liverpool, also wrecked in the area in March 1803. The 339 slaves aboard also were rescued and brought to Christiansted.

Clinton said that the monument lands south of St. John are predominately deep algal plains with scattered areas of raised hard bottom, and that lands within Hurricane Hole have the most extensive well-developed mangrove habitat on St. John.

"The Hurricane Hole area is also an important nursery for reef-associated fish and invertebrates, instrumental in maintaining water quality by filtering and trapping sediment and debris in fresh-water runoff from the fast land, and essential to the overall functioning and productively of regional fisheries," the proclamation said.

The monument designation will put the submerged land off-limits to commercial activities, including fishing. Local fishermen and government officials have protested the expansion because they had no input in the plan, which it would limit fishing in the areas.

The Bush administration has expressed reservations about some of the expanded areas, but the president has said he has no intention of rescinding his predecessor's orders.

Cole's first meeting was held Monday night on St. John.

IDC: Plan should streamline process

FROM PAGE ONE

Virgin Islands.

The "open houses," all starting at 5:30 p.m., will be held on March 15 at Gertrude's Restaurant on St. Croix and March 20 at Palm's Court Harbor View on St. Thomas.

Marchena said Monday that placing the four agencies under one authority creates a one-stop shopping network for economic development.

She said the plan is essentially what has been put in place in other jurisdictions around the world.

According to the law, the agencies were put under one authority in order "to achieve maximum efficiency of operations, avoid duplication of services, positions and responsibilities, reduce expenses for personnel, physical plant and operations and develop comprehensive programs for the economic development of the territory."

It said that the intent of the statute "is the allow the subsidiary corporations and entities to maintain a distinct identity and to function independently of one another, only to to the extent necessary to perform their distinct functions and objectives, but in all other cases to function in an integrated fashion."

The authority board of directors will be comprised of seven members who must have education, experience or expertise in finance, law, economics, accounting, business, banking or marketing — providing that at least five separate disciplines be represented.

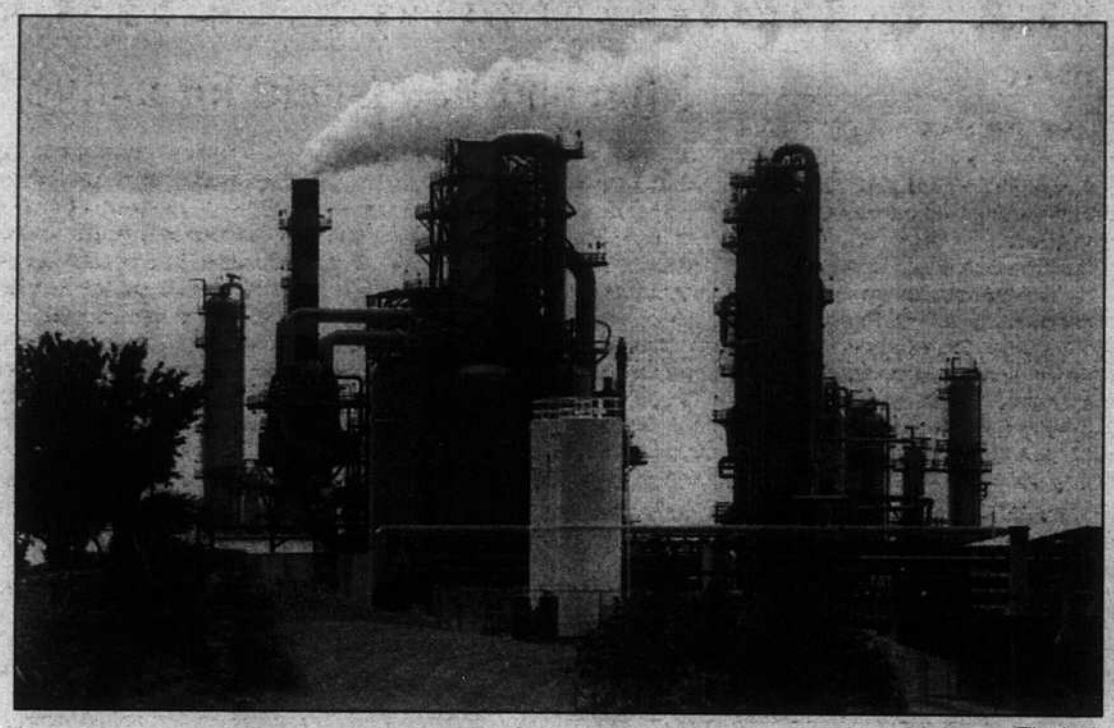
The governor appoints the members to the board, including three — one from each island — who are not employed by a government agency and must be confirmed by the Senate.

Of the other four members, three will be from the governor's Cabinet and one from the Government Employees Retirement System, VI Port Authority or the University of the Virgin Islands. The board will appoint a chief executive officer, with the approval of the governor.

The non-government members — one from each island — will be paid a stipend of $50 a day for attending meetings. All members are entitled to travel expenses.

The authority will appoint one committee to oversee the functions of the EDC and the IPDC and one committee for the GDB and the SBDA. Each committee will consist of five members from the authority board.

The law also creates a seven-member Loan Policy Board for the Small Business Development Agency. The board will be comprised of the Tourism and Finance commissioners, the authority's CEO and four authority board members selected by the governor.



File photo

Hovensa is located in Estate Hope on St. Croix.

EPA praises Hovensa's risk-management program

ANGELA BORCHERT

ST. CROIX — The United States Environmental Protection Agency deemed Hovensa's risk management program (RMP) satisfactory in all aspects.

Located in a commercial and industrial area of St. Croix's South Shore, the Hovensa oil refinery is jointly owned by VI subsidiaries of Amerada Hess Corporation and Petroleos de Venezuela. Its risk-management program is designed to prevent serious accidents that could harm the public or the environment.

According to Hovensa President Rene Sagebien, EPA officials reported that review of the Hovensa refinery "will serve as the benchmark for future reviews of other large industrial facilities under the RMP program."

The EPA suggested that Hovensa showcase its RMP through regional response team meetings or national spill conferences on oil or hazardous materials.

"I am extremely proud of all Hovensa personnel and of the fact that the Hovensa risk-management plan for the protection of all residents of St. Croix who live in the vicinity of the refinery has been found not only acceptable, but has been suggested for showcasing regionally and nationally," Sagebien said in a prepared statement.

Hovensa employs about 2,000 people directly and through contractors. Many of the employees live in company housing adjacent to the refinery.

According to an executive summary of Hovensa's RMP, released in June 1999, the refinery can process up to 525,000 barrels of oil per day.

Workers use a variety of processes to convert crude oil into petroleum products such as gasoline, diesel, propane, kerosene and jet fuel.

The refinery has one regulated toxic material, anhydrous ammonia, and several regulated flammables, including butane, ethane, hydrogen, pentane and propane.

Staff is trained to respond to the release of these materials.

POLICE: Students get money for college education

FROM PAGE ONE

departments increase their number of officers with advanced education and training, the Police Corps requires participants to spend their four years in a community policing environment. In addition to the VI, 28 states — from Alaska to Rhode Island to Florida — also participate in Police Corps.

Using federal funds to send local students to college and increase manpower on the police force is a win-win situation for everyone involved, according to Police Commissioner Franz Christian. Christian said the program is exactly what Gov. Charles Turnbull has asked government agency heads to do — tap into alternative resources to get their jobs done.

While the VIPD is set to benefit from Police Corps — receiving $40,000 for each participant who fulfills the four-year service obligation — Christian stressed the "tremendous" educational opportunities the program provides.

"I'm sure there are many local students who would like to go to college, but financially they can't afford it," Christian said. "This is a chance for them to pursue an education in a field of their choice."

Eligible and accepted participants — who must pass a physical agility test as well as a psychological evaluation — will attend two eight-week training academies in Florida after their junior and senior years of college. Once back in the territory, some additional training at the local academy will be necessary, according to Jackson.

Once the Police Corps members have graduated and joined the ranks at the VIPD, they will be assigned to community patrol — and perhaps decide to stick around longer than expected, according to the commissioner.

"It's hopeful that once they come onto the force they will make law enforcement their career," Christian said, "and stay on."

The VI Police Corps is open to all men and women regardless of their income. Applications are evaluated on a competitive basis. More information about the Police Corps will be available Wednesday at a college fair on St. Thomas, or call the Law Enforcement Planning Commission at 774-6400.

STT man wants return of Vigilant's bail

Man had fled island for native Dominica during trial

TIM HAY

ST. THOMAS — A St. Thomas man is asking Territorial Court Judge Rhys Hodge to return the bail money he posted for Reuben Vigilant, a man who fled to Dominica as a jury sentenced him to 45 years in prison for a machete attack on his girlfriend.

Vigilant, 28, eluded capture for more than one year, but was extradited by Dominican authorities to the territory last October. He is currently serving his sentence.

Vigilant, a native of Dominica, was convicted in June 1999 of three counts of mayhem, two counts of first-degree assault, one count of attempted murder, two counts of third-degree assault, one count of aggravated assault and one count of possession of a dangerous weapon.

He hacked April Xavier — reportedly his girlfriend at the time — thirteen times with a machete, severing her right thumb and index finger.

The day before the jury sat down to deliberate the charges, Vigilant, free on a $25,000 cash bond, fled St. Thomas. Territorial Court Judge Ive Swan gave him 45 years in his absence.

Jean Jacques, a Dominican native who lives in St. Thomas, sold his taxi medallion to post the $25,000. He and his wife are old friends of the Vigilant family, and still attend church with them, he said Monday.

Jacques' attorney, Andrew Capdeville, cited two federal cases where a portion of bail money was returned to the person who posted it. In one case, a defendant committed suicide while a jury considered charges against him. In another, the defendant skipped bail and was apprehended within hours, Capdeville said.

He said Jacques and his wife could not have known Vigilant would leave the island and could have done nothing to aid in apprehending him.

"They are simply innocent people who posted their hard-earned money," he said. "It's had a major negative impact on their lives ... They are not wealthy people."

Jacques said his wife recently had to travel to Seattle for a medical procedure, and that the family was strapped for money.

Attorney Lofton Holder, who represented the government, said Capdeville's case citations were not comparable to the situation with Vigilant. He pointed out that Vigilant remained at large for many months, and that there was a cost to extradite him.

He said anyone posting bail understands that, if the defendant skips, the money will not be returned to him.

"This is not something you enter into lightly," he said.

Hodge agreed with most of Holder's statements, but chastised him for arguing "off the cuff," and citing no cases to support his claims.

Holder said there were no such cases to cite in the VI, because bail money had never been returned in such a case.

Hodge agreed it was a "first-impression case." He gave Holder 10 days to itemize how much the local government spent apprehending Vigilant. Justice officials had to travel to Washington, D.C., for the extradition process, as the VI has no such treaty with Dominica.

The judge also noted that Vigilant's escape cost the community more than dollars — the victim's family paid with terrible anxiety and the Justice Department suffered an embarrassment, Hodge said.

Anguilla Landfill still not in compliance with EPA

VALERIE LOVETT

ST. CROIX — Only 21 months before the scheduled closing of the Anguilla Landfill, officials are searching for ways to bring the site into compliance with Environmental Protection Agency mandates and avoid hefty fines.

The Senate's Committee on Government Operations, Planning and Environmental Protection met last Thursday in Frederiksted to discuss waste-management issues on St. Croix.

During a tour by Environmental Protection Agency waste-management officials in January, it was noted that problems plaguing the sites include the crushing and burial of batteries, improper storage and management of waste oil and used tire piles that create a fire hazard.

At Thursday's meeting, the Department of Public Works came under fire for its role in the condition of the landfills. DPW operates and maintains the garbage sites under the jurisdiction of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources and the EPA.

"There are significant operational concerns that are the responsibility of the DPW, which must be addressed immediately," Sen. Donald Cole, chairman of the committee, said. "The island of St. Croix is in a solid-waste emergency."

Cole said Anguilla receives approximately 120,000 tons of garbage per year. However, the amount is not fully documented because the landfill is unfenced.



File photo

The Anguilla Landfill is located on East Airport Road on St. Croix.

"This current unacceptable condition allows any trespasser to dispose of anything explosive or hazardous," Cole said.

Sonya Nelthropp, special assistant to acting DPW Commissioner Wayne Callwood, cited a lack of manpower and funding to make the necessary changes to the landfills.

She said in the engineering department alone, the number of on-staff engineers has dwindled from 12 to two.

However, the DPW has authorized the Maguire Group, a private engineering firm, to begin working to improve operations at the Anguilla Landfill.

Police blotter

ST. CROIX

Arrests:

5:40 p.m., Sat., Albert Matyr, 24, of Bldg. 18 Harborview Apartments, was charged with driving without a valid driver's license on Northside Road. Bail was set at $500.

2:59 a.m., Sun., Roberto "Chino" Rivera III, 25, of 5A St. Georges Hill, was charged with third-degree assault and possession of a dangerous weapon during the commission of a crime of violence. Rivera is alleged to have hit someone in the head with a rock on Queen Street. Bail was set at $25,000.

2:30 p.m., Sun., Gene Brown, 30, of 10 Golden Rock Apartments, was charged with aggravated assault and battery, an act of domestic violence. Bail was set at $1,000.

6:43 p.m., Sun., Pearl LaCorbiniere, 34, of 162 Estate Glynn, was charged with negligent driving and driving under the influence after being involved in an auto accident on Queen Mary Highway. Her driver's license was held in lieu of $1,000 bail.

9:01 p.m., Sun., Wingrove Scarborough, 53, of Bldg. 17, Apt. 95 Aureo Diaz Heights, was charged with driving under the influence for allegedly causing several accidents before being arrested on Queen Mary Highway near Central High School. His driver's license was held in lieu of $1,000 bail.

9:30 p.m., Sun., Charles I. Telian, 43, of 72 Estate Glynn, was charged with driving under the influence, negligent driving and leaving the scene of an accident on Queen Mary Highway. His license was held in lieu of $1,000 bail.

Assaults:

5 a.m., Sun., King Street, Christiansted.

7:29 a.m., Sun., an assault victim reported at the hospital emergency room.

2 p.m., Sun., Mount Pleasant.

Burglaries:

8:21 p.m., Sat., Estate Profit.

11:04 a.m., Sun., VI Asphalt Production in Estate Bethlehem.

4:30 p.m., Sun., Paradise Bottling, Estate Hogensburg.

Other:

5 p.m., Sat., a stolen vehicle reported in Mutual Homes.

6:22 p.m., Sun., the passing of counterfeit bills reported in Estate Plessen.

9:44 p.m., Sun., an attempted burglary reported in Concordia West.

ST. THOMAS

Arrests:

11:09 a.m., Sun., Elon Frett, 20, of Estate Bordeaux was charged with aggravated assault and battery after allegedly kicking his girlfriend in the stomach. Bail was set at $1,000.

4:30 a.m., Mon., Kishma Chinnery, 20, of Mariendahl was charged destruction of property after allegedly damaging a man's car. Bail was set at $500. In the same incident, Alpheus "Ibu" Lettsome, 30, of Frydendahl was charged with aggravated assault and battery after allegedly punching Chinnery. Bail was set at $500.

Assaults:

9:37 p.m., Sat., Mariendahl.

1:07 a.m., Sun., Smith Bay.

10:44 a.m., Sun., Gamble Gade.

12:40 p.m., Sun., Long Bay.

7:20 p.m., Sun., Kronprindsens Gade.

Burglaries:

10:40 a.m., Sun., Mafolie Hotel.

3:35 p.m., Sun., Bovoni.

5:08 p.m., Sun., Estate Thomas.

5:39 p.m., Sun., Island Beachcomber Hotel.

8:18 a.m., Mon., Frydenhoj.

Larcenies:

2:51 p.m., Sat., Lindbergh Bay.

9:30 p.m., Sun., Emancipation Garden.

Other:

12:56 p.m., Sat., DOA reported in Smith Bay.

1:50 p.m., Sun., shots fired reported in Bovoni.

6:25 p.m., Sun., fire reported in Frenchman's Bay.

VI drop-out rate declines

But still higher than 10 years ago

DAN KUEMMEL

ST. THOMAS — The number of high school students who dropped out of VI schools declined last year, but has risen over the last 10 years, according to statistics from the Department of Education's Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

The Department of Education defines a "drop-out" as a student who has not graduated or obtained a high school equivalency diploma, was enrolled in a high school or secondary school at some time during the previous school year and does not enroll in school the following year.

According to the Department of Education, for the 1999-2000 school year, 463 students (5.1 percent) were considered drop-outs — compared with 539 (or 5.8 percent) in 1998-99.

Of the students who dropped out of high school in the 1999-2000 school year, the numbers were almost evenly split between boys and girls and almost even between both islands.

According to the statistics, 210 of the students who dropped out last year lived on the island of St. Croix, and 253 lived on the island of St. Thomas. Additionally, 247 were male and 216 were female.

The number of drop-outs has been steadily rising over the years. In 1991, out of 9,162 students enrolled in school, 203 (2.21 percent) dropped out.

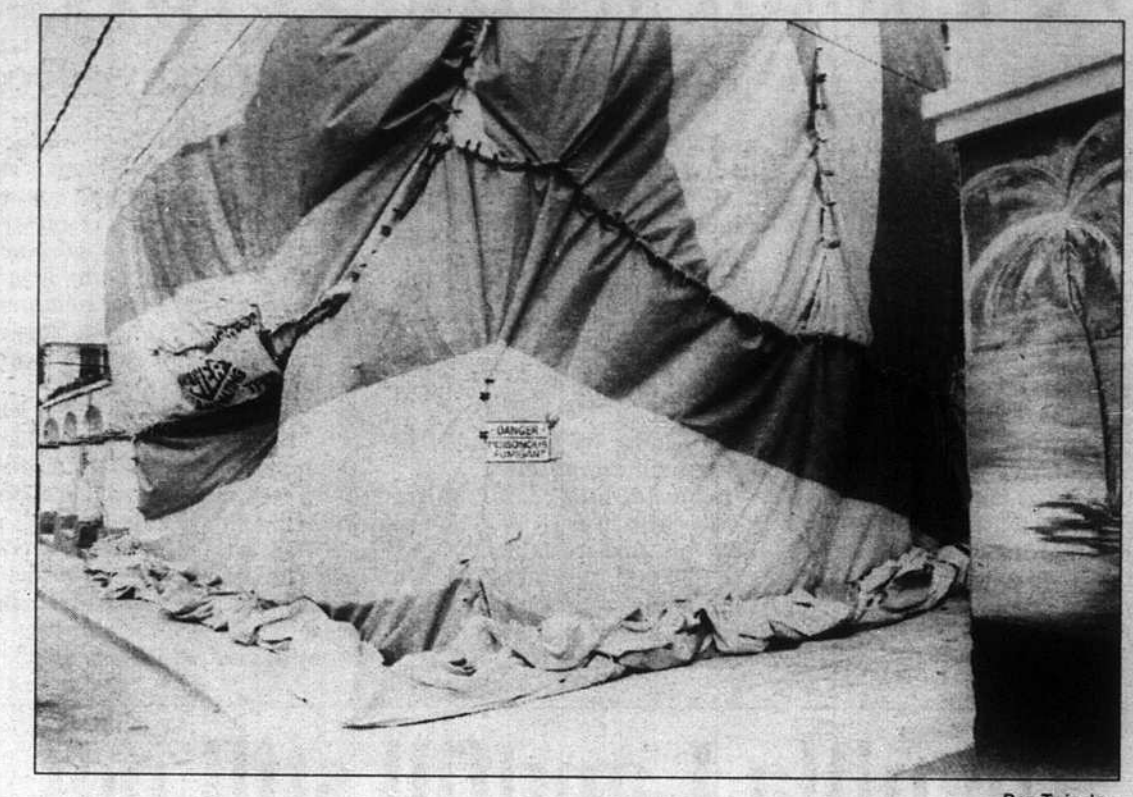
"We are selling our children into the streets by not tackling the problems that are facing us."

Wendy Philogene, parent

Parent Wendy Philogene said after looking at the statistics she believes the problem of children is starting around 9th-grade. She also said the students who drop out can contribute to crime in the territory because they have little else to do.

She also said the numbers are proof that the educational system in the Virgin Islands is not doing enough to make sure kids stay in school and are getting the attention and skills they need.

"We are selling our children into the streets by not tackling the problems that are facing us," she told the Senate Committee on Education Monday.



Ben Twingley

Bugs begone

A former record shop on Company Street in downtown Christiansted is fumigated Sunday for dry-wood termites. The fumigation began on Friday, when workers covered the building with protective fabric.

EPA hears community concerns

VALERIE LOVETT

ST. CROIX — A list of environmental issues of concern to members of the community grew long during a forum with officials from the Environmental Protection Agency at the Curriculum Center on St. Croix Monday night.

The second of what the EPA's acting Regional Administrator William Muszynski said he hopes is now a yearly meeting drew a crowd of about 20 residents of the big island.

Some of the issues under discussion included wastewater and solid-waste management, the impact of the Cruzan Rum factory on the environment and the underground oil plume at the Alumina factory.

The state of the territory's wastewater systems came under close scrutiny at the onset of the meeting.

"The problem with the pumping stations is that they have been subject to poor operation and maintenance for a long time," Muszynski said.

He did add, however, that the LBJ and Figtree pumping stations are back online after a year of technical assistance, court orders and training programs.

He said the EPA denied in August a request by the government to waive the secondary treatment requirements for the wastewater plants on St. Croix and St. Thomas, based on their failure to meet those same requirements.

Muszynski said it will cost about $20 million to construct a new wastewater treatment plant. He said the EPA does provide some financial assistance for such endeavors, and they are having ongoing discussions about where to find supplemental funding.

Local environmentalist Olassie Davis raised questions to the panel about the effect the Cruzan Rum factory poses to the nearby waters in which it discharges waste material.

According to Muszynski, the EPA is currently testing to determine the toxicity, if any, of the runoff.

Davis said that according to some local studies, the temperature of the water near the factory is much higher than the surrounding water, and it has turned a brackish color that is noticeable from a plane.

Muszynski said he noticed the water during his flight into the island Monday morning.

"It was probably as well defined as I've seen it," Muszynski said. "If it is toxic, additional controls will have to be taken. If it's not harmful, albeit unsightly, the island has options it can take."

The oil plume at Alumina was discussed briefly. Muszynski said the most important objective at this stage is to get the plume under control. He said the EPA is still evaluating the public's comments about the proposed plan to clean up the oil spill.

Another meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight on St. Thomas at the Curriculum Center in Estate Tutu.

DOE takes hit to pay for salary increases

DAN KUEMMEL

ST. THOMAS — Although $11 million was allocated for striking American Federation of Teachers in October, Department of Education officials say the money has been cut from their fiscal year 2001 budget.

Education officials testified Monday that the Office of Management and Budget took the money out of the $121 million that was allocated for the Department of Education this year, and that the Education Department is being severely hampered by the cut.

The Senate passed a bill in October to free up $11 million to bring AFT members up to their 1993-1994 step and end a teacher strike that lasted three weeks.

The bill funded salary increases for the 2001 fiscal year by taking $10 million from the Insurance Guarantee Fund, $4 million from the Port Authority, $1 million from the Water and Power Authority and $1 million from the West Indian Company. Of the $16 million the bill provided, $5 million was to be deposited into the general fund, and the rest was to fund the pay hike for AFT members.

But education officials claim that the money is no longer there.

Education committee chairperson Sen. Norman Jn. Baptiste said if the money was in fact taken out to pay for the increases, it was likely an error.

"If that was the case, that shouldn't have happened and we will look into that," Baptiste responded.

After accepting a mediation agreement in December, the AFT was to receive $9 million in salary increases for teachers and almost $2 million in fringe benefits.

So far, 1,159 AFT members have received their salary increases, and 1,300 are still waiting, according to education officials.

Traffic report

ST. CROIX — Twenty-one crashes, including three hit-and-runs, were reported to police from 4 p.m. Saturday to 4 p.m. Monday.

Police said seven people received injuries in those accidents.

One person was seriously injured when his vehicle collided with a cow on the South Shore Road late Sunday evening.

Police also arrested three persons for DUI and reckless driving — including one motorist who struck two vehicles in the vicinity of Central High School.

There were nine reports of vehicle tampering or damage to vehicles and two reports of the unauthorized use of a vehicle.

Police said three vehicles were damaged over the weekend at V.I. Asphalt in Estate Bethlehem.

Other vehicle-tampering incidents were reported near Jack & Isaac's Bay, on King Cross Street in Christiansted, in Clifton Hill, in Frederiksted town and at Mon Bijou.

Man shot, couple robbed in weekend incidents on STX

KC BURGARD

ST. CROIX — A late-night altercation at an Estate Mountain bar Monday left one man with two gunshot wounds, and police investigating claims of assault.

Police Commissioner Franz Christian said the suspect in the shooting went to the station to report what happened to police. He told them that he fired his licensed firearm when a man came after him with a machete.

"The victim received a gunshot to his left-hand finger and (another to) his right leg," Christian said Monday. "He was subsequently treated at the Juan F. Luis Hospital and released." Police, who were alerted to the incident about 2:21 a.m. Monday, are investigating the assault.

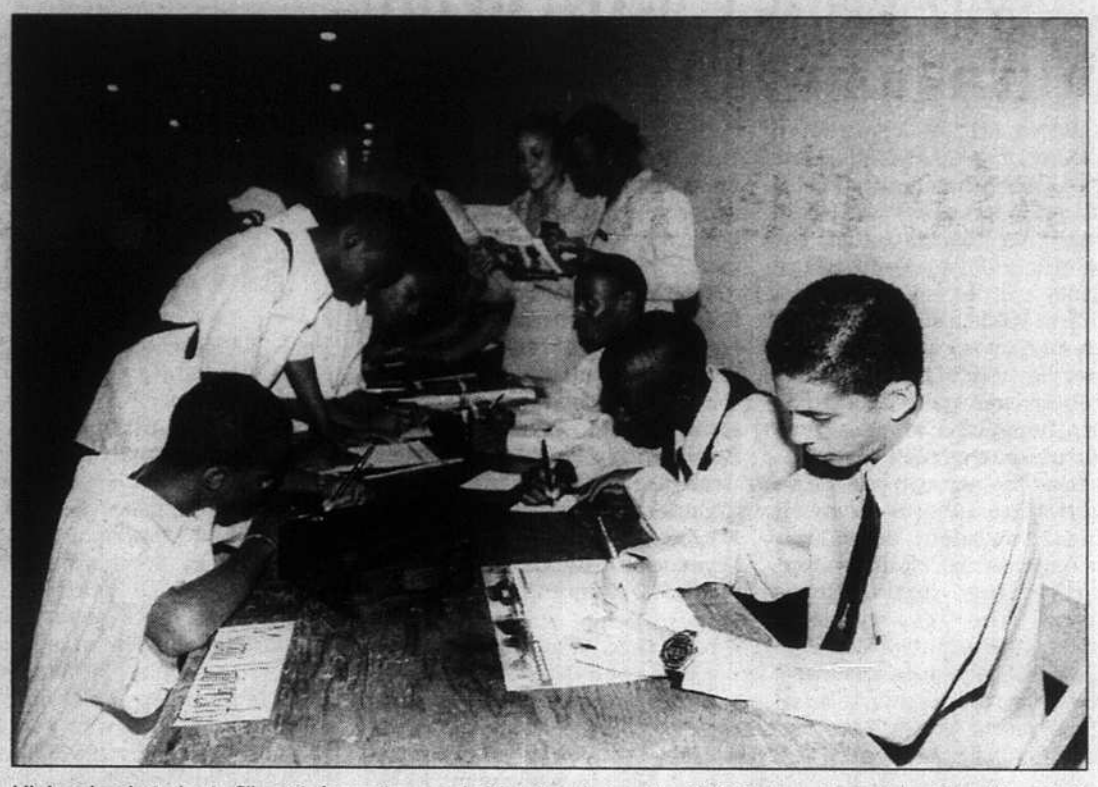
"Statements by individuals who apparently witnessed the shooting are being taken by the Criminal Investigation Bureau," Christian said.

In an unrelated incident, police are searching for two suspects in a Saturday afternoon robbery at the Sunny Isle Shopping Center.

"A couple was approached by two individuals armed with a .38-caliber revolver," Christian said. "The two suspects took $150 cash from the victims and fled."

The incident, classified as a first-degree robbery, was reported to police at 12:40 p.m. Saturday. It apparently occurred in the parking lot near Kmart.

Christian said police believe they know who committed the crime and are actively searching for the two male suspects.



High school students fill out information cards Monday during the CHS College Fair at the Sunshine Mall in St. Croix.

College bound



Educational Complex 11th-grader Emily Abel gets information from University of Miami representative Edward Gillis Monday during the CHS college fair at the Sunshine Mall.

Photos by Alda Anduze

Senate shakeup: the sorrow and the pity



Rear Window

Good day, readers and friends. I'm in the mood to wax philosophical, and, if possible, do my humble best to humiliate the government.

Things have certainly been suspenseful lately. Take the majority coalition in the Senate — are they fracturing or holding together? Is it breaking up like a bad relationship or are they renewing their vows? Does anyone care?

Greek philosopher Aristotle once expounded on the nature of tragedy. In a tragic play, he said, the audience must feel a sense of sorrow and pity for the characters when they meet their hideous fate. Audience members must sympathize with them, or else it is not a genuine tragedy — it's just stupid.

Aristotle would not have called this rumored breakup of the majority bloc a tragedy. It simply would not qualify. Rather than sorrow or pity, I think the public would just view it with boredom and disgust.

As your intrepid political correspondent, I hoofed it all over Charlotte Amalie Saturday to find out just what this power shift would mean to the common man. It was amazing how few people even knew about it.

Of the10 St. Thomas residents I talked to, only four were familiar with the issue. One guy didn't even seem to realize that we have a Senate here — ignorance is bliss.

But the most shocking result of my survey was that only two out of 10 people interviewed had ever read my column — readers, that hurts!

Anyway. The four people who had heard the rumors of the legislative lovers' quarrel didn't think it was interesting at all. One woman yawned six times while we talked it over (that's no joke, I counted). Eventually, I too started to yawn.

Then I went and ate a plate of ham and eggs.

All I can say is, I'm proud of my fellow citizens. They know when something is worth paying attention to. I found that a St. Thomian taxi driver is just as good as Aristotle at weeding out a fake tragedy. There was a pinch of pity, but absolutely no sorrow.

It will be interesting to me if this turns out to be true and a new majority eventually forms. I suspect they'll act like the ethnic Albanians pouring back into Kosovo — burning and looting and wreaking a horrible revenge.

I hope the four people I talked to will pay close attention this week. Something big might go down. But what will it mean in the long run? It will mean that we still pay 15 large salaries to fund a soap opera.

Steam leak results in WAPA's Sunday outage on St. Croix

ANGELA BORCHERT

ST. CROIX — A steam leak inside the VI Water and Power Authority plant in Estate Richmond resulted in a sudden power outage Sunday night on St. Croix.

According to Glenn Rothgeb, WAPA's acting executive director, employees were unsure of the steam's source, so they shut down four feeders for 10 to 30 minutes until the problem area was identified and back-up power was initiated.

After speaking with WAPA's director of operations on St. Croix, Rothgeb explained that a "rupture disk" failed in a steam line to the water plant.

"As a precautionary measure, they shut down Unit 11 until they found out what the area was," Rothgeb said.

At 6:47 p.m. Sunday, Feeders 2, 4, 6 and 9 were shut down until a gas turbine was engaged.

Rothgeb said the affected areas included:

- Feeders 4 and 6— Princesse and Hospital Ground areas — not including the hospital — and North Shore Road were out of power for 23 minutes.
- Feeder 9 — Central airport area was out for 11 minutes.
- Feeder 2 — East End was out for 30 minutes.

Both Christiansted and Frederiksted towns were not affected.

"But it was obviously a substantial outage if we had four feeders affected," Rothgeb said. "The ultimate fix was replacing the rupture disk."

The pipe was fixed later Sunday night, according to the executive director.

■ ON ST. THOMAS

Repair work will close two lanes, slow Veterans Drive commuters

ST. THOMAS — Traffic on Veterans Drive will be slowed down to 5 mph, and two lanes will be closed today while Public Works completes repairs on two sanitary manholes in Charlotte Amalie.

The two easterly lanes on Veterans Drive will be closed to traffic from Palm Passage to just west of Raadets Gade; and signs, barriers and flag people will be posted to ensure the safety of drivers and pedestrians while repair work continues, acting Commissioner of Public Works Wayne Callwood said Monday.

The repairs are scheduled to be completed by the end of the day Tuesday, Callwood said.

Chavez visits Castro in on return home to Venezuela

HAVANA (AP) — Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez, stopping by this Caribbean country to visit his friend Fidel Castro, was joined Monday here by his father, the governor of a Venezuelan province.

Chavez made a surprise stop in Cuba on Sunday afternoon after a three-day visit in the Dominican Republic, and was expected to return home later Monday, government sources said.

On Sunday, the two presidents visited Venezuelans receiving medical treatment here. They were being joined Monday afternoon by Hugo de los Reyes Chavez, the governor of Venezuela's Barinas province.

Chavez's father is the third Venezuelan governor to visit Cuba in recent weeks. The elder Chavez is to stay here until next Sunday.

"We come to talk about education, health, sports, culture, tourism and agriculture," the governor said in remarks carried by Cuba's Prensa Latina news service.

The Venezuelan patients are here under a program begun last November. So far, 303 have received free medical treatment in Cuba and of those 155 have returned to Venezuela, the Communist Party newspaper Granma said.

Under an agreement between the two countries, at least 5,000 Venezuelan patients are to receive medical treatment here, Granma said.

In return, Venezuela is to supply Cuba with 53,000 barrels of crude petroleum under highly favorable terms giving the communist country 15 years to pay with 2 percent interest rates.

Murder suspect says he hit American teacher after fight over a coconut

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) — A man charged with murdering an American teacher said in a police interrogation that he hit her with a rock after she refused to pay for a coconut, a police detective testified on Monday.

Tennel McIntosh, 21, is on trial for the death of Lori Fogleman, 32, of Richmond, Virginia. Fogleman, a second-grade teacher at Woolridge Elementary School in Chesterfield, was reported missing in July 1998. She had gone on vacation alone to Paradise Island, Bahamas.

On Monday, Sgt. Detective Solomon Cash told jurors that in September 1998 he interrogated McIntosh after he had been arrested at his home.

McIntosh told officers he had gone to Paradise Island in the Bahamas because it was summer and he wasn't working, Cash said, referring to the September police interrogation that lasted about an hour.

According to the transcript of the police interrogation, McIntosh said he met Fogleman on a Paradise Island beach near a golf course. The pair argued after McIntosh sold her a coconut, she drank half of the milk, then refused to pay McIntosh for it, he said.

"She hit me (on) my head with a cooler or something that she had and I picked up a rock ... and I threw it," McIntosh said, according to the transcript. "As she turned she got hit on the side of her head so I took her and put my arm around her neck and dragged her into the bushes and proceeded to put leaves and rocks over her."

A body believed to be that of Lori Fogleman was found in August 1998 on Paradise Island with a pile of rocks over it.

It was too badly decomposed to determine an official cause of death, and prosecutors are still waiting for medical and dental records to confirm the identity.

An official from the U.S. Embassy, however, testified last week that she identified the body as that of Fogleman's based on identifying traits provided by Fogleman's relatives. The traits included a tuft of reddish hair, a navel ring and a pin lodged in her femur.

Defense attorneys have disputed whether the body found is Fogleman's.

McIntosh said in the interrogation that after he covered up the body he went through her personal belongings, taking $110, her credit cards and her watch. He threw a brown handbag into a garbage container.

On Aug. 5, a brown bag containing a calculator, a plane ticket and a prescription with Fogleman's name was found in a trash bin.

Cash said McIntosh could not give a written statement because he could not read. His oral statement from the interrogation, however, was read back to him and he was able to sign his name to verify the information, Cash said.

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5 St. Maarten prison guards face charges

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten (AP) — Authorities have arrested five guards from the Pointe Blanche prison on charges that include smuggling drugs to inmates and allowing them unauthorized visitors.

The fifth guard to be arrested faces bribery and drug charges, Stanley Candelaria, a manager at the Pointe Blanche prison said Monday. The latest was arrested at the airport Friday after returning from vacation.

In the last two weeks, one female guard was charged with smuggling Ecstasy pills into the jail and helping a prisoner escape. Two male guards were charged with allowing a male prisoner visits with female companions.

At least three of the five guards arrested have been released from jail, but still face charges, Merx said. They have not returned to work.

"We're investigating crimes that are committed by prison guards behind prison walls _ not petty things like a guard that gives an inmate more food than he deserves," said St. Maarten's chief prosecutor, Cor Merx.

■ GUYANA

Officials rush to update voter list one week before elections

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) — With just a week left before general elections, officials in Guyana were rushing to update the voter registry with the names of hundreds of eligible voters not on the list.

The South American country's elections commission said in a statement Sunday that it will issue an addendum to the final voters list on Friday that should resolve most omissions. The elections for the presidency and parliament are March 19.

Opposition parties had complained that some of its known supporters were not on the official registry. Elections officials met Sunday night with the opposition People's National Congress to discuss the issue.

"These matters lead to the inescapable conclusion that many eligible voters face the prospect of being disenfranchised on elections day," the party said in a statement Sunday.

The party said it found many such discrepancies in a region its considers a stronghold, covering part of the capital, Georgetown, and some coastal areas of the former British colony.

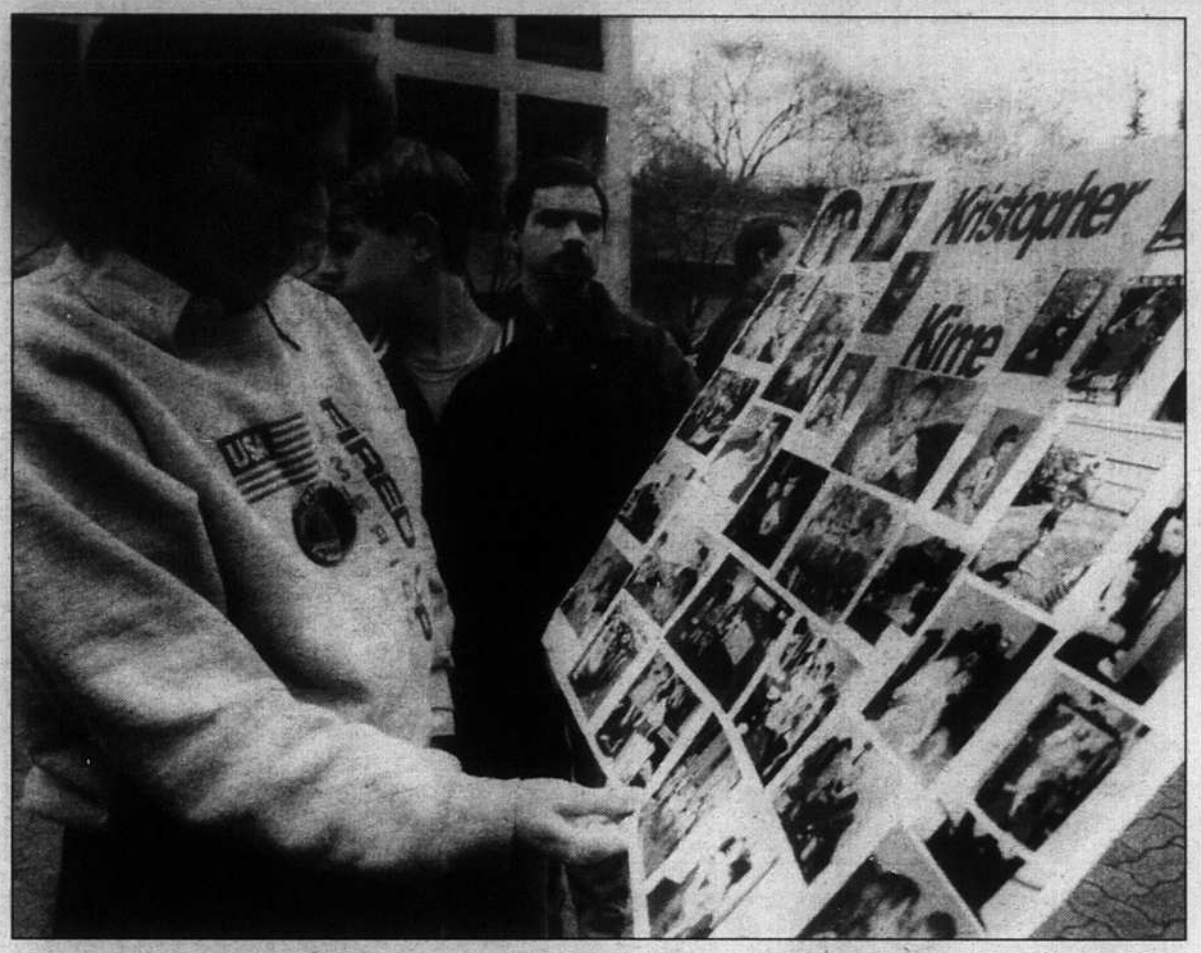
Investors may buy Barbados resorts

BRIDGETOWN, Barbados (AP) —A Cayman Islands-based company has made a move to buy Almond Resorts Inc., a small hotel chain on the west coast of Barbados, for $46.8 million.

IRG, a company formed by a small group of developers and venture capitalists looking to invest in the Caribbean and Latin America, offered to buy Almond's 55.7 million shares at 84 cents each.

Trinidad-based Guardian Holdings Ltd. was expected to make an offer to buy Almond this week, said Terrence Farrell, Guardian's chief executive.

Guardian was expected to exchange the Boscobel Hotel, located at Ocho Rios in Jamaica for a majority share in the Barbados company. Almond Resorts has 510 rooms.



Associated Press
Krisa Kime, left, Kristopher Kime's aunt, displays a collage in memory of Kristopher at a prayer vigil Sunday in Seattle. The prayer vigil was held at the site where Kristopher, 20, was brutally beaten to death on Feb. 28 during the city's Mardi Gras celebration.

Police grapple with Mardi Gras violence

SEATTLE (AP) — Cities may have tried different tactics to control Mardi Gras violence, but the results were similar to those in Seattle, where 70 people were injured and one died.

Police Chief Gil Kerlikowske met Sunday with police from Philadelphia, Austin, Texas, and Fresno, Calif., which all saw Fat Tuesday festivities turn into drunken melees, ripe with violence, looting and vandalism.

"We're not going to end today with a conclusion," Kerlikowske said. "This is a much larger, more significant, societal problem that involves alcohol-fueled youth violence."

Rick Coy, assistant chief of the Austin Police Department, said he could barely distinguish between video footage of Austin and violence elsewhere.

Austin police used tear gas and rubber bullets to break up a crowd of 100,000 in which 31 were injured in pre-Mardi Gras reveling.

In all cities, police said crowds consumed a large amount of alcohol and found a trend toward teen-agers taking part in the violence.

Philadelphia didn't even sponsor a Mardi Gras celebration, but radio stations encouraged youths to come out and have a good time, said Frank Pryor, chief inspector for the Philadelphia Police Department.

"We're not going to end today with a conclusion. This is a much larger, more significant societal problem that involves alcohol-fueled youth violence."

Gil Kerlikowske,
Seattle chief of police

"It was a booze-fest, a drunk-fest," Pryor said.

Some 40,000 people converged on South Street and Philadelphia police arrested 83 people in connection with fights, vandalism, underage drinking and store looting. Philadelphia's decision to use barricades backfired when an inebriated crowd knocked the barricades down, hindering police from clearing the area.

In Fresno, one person was stabbed when a crowd stormed the city's Tower District, overturning portable toilets, smashing windows and hurling bottles at police officers.

Critics have assailed Seattle police for not moving in immediately as Mardi Gras celebrations turned ugly and groups began randomly attacking people. The crowds were estimated at about 4,000.

By contrast, the more notorious pre-Lenten partying in New Orleans was largely peaceful, even though about a million people jammed the streets. During the city's 12-day parade season, police made 512 arrests, fewer than the 589 arrests made last year.

Kerlikowske said that talking to fellow police from other cities reaffirmed that his force made the right decisions on that night.

Following the meeting, Kerlikowske joined the mayor in a peace march to Pioneer Square, the site of Seattle's Feb. 28 violence.

Among the speakers was Kim Kime-Parks, mother of 20-year-old Kristopher Kime, who died after being hit over the head with a beer bottle during the riot.

Kime-Parks thanked the community for their support and prayers as participants laid daffodils at the site where her son died.

"We always thought Kristopher was a remarkable young man," she said. "And now we get to share him with everyone else."

Kristopher Kim's organ's were donated following his death.

"His lungs are breathing in someone else. And two people are walking around and seeing with his eyes," Kime-Parks said.

FAA is investigating near-collison at airport

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration is investigating a near collision in which one airliner came within 100 feet of another while landing at Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

The close encounter happened March 4 while Delta Air Lines Flight 323, arriving from Atlanta, flew over a US Airways plane that had been cleared to taxi to a runway for takeoff, FAA spokeswoman Kathleen Bergen said Monday.

The US Airways Boeing 767-200 was at the end of the runway waiting to take off when the Delta Boeing 767-400 flew over and landed in front of it, Bergen said.

She said a preliminary investigation has determined that the incident was caused by air traffic controller error, and the controller — whose name was not being made public — was to undergo retraining.

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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 dog problem

Last week 10-year-old Rodney McAllister was mauled to death by pack of dogs in St. Louis. The attack on the fourth-grader left many in St. Louis stunned and horrified.

"He was literally eaten by the dogs," Police Chief Ron Henderson said. "They fed off of him."

This vicious attack may seem foreign to us here in the Virgin Islands, but judging from the many stray dogs seen roaming the islands, we can consider ourselves blessed that we have not suffered a similar fate.

One William's Delight woman said there are at least 15 mangy dogs roaming her neighborhood. The woman said she used to ride her bike every morning to the store and pick up the Avis. She stopped after being chased and terrified by stray dogs.

She said it is obvious that the dogs have no owner because they are mangy and completely unkept. She fears that the same gruesome mauling that happened to McAllister could happen here.

A Salt River resident said there is a similar problem at Columbus Beach. He said there are several stray dogs that frequent the garbage dump there. In addition to dogs, there are also cats scavenging in the dumpster. He said that when residents throw their trash in the bin, at least two cats are in it.

The stray animal problem apparently stems from people deserting unwanted animals. One man went shopping in Kmart at Sunny Isle, and upon his return to his vehicle, he found a litter of puppies abandoned in his truck. He took the puppies to the animal shelter.

A hungry dog can become a ferocious beast. A canine's first instinct is to survive, and in order to survive it must eat. When dogs have no owners to look out for their welfare, they will often form packs. These packs bond and roam together in search of food.

The entire community must begin to take this problem seriously. We do not want a tragedy like the one which took the life of McAllister. The St. Croix Animal Shelter has done a laudable job in decreasing the stray population, but there is still much to be done.

Mary Gustafson, a shelter supporter, and other volunteers are organizing a Cabaret Night at Island Center to raise money for their operations. She said the island's stray animal situation today is about "a thousand times better than it was." This is true, but if people continue the abandonment of animals, the shelter will always be in a position of having to play catch-up.

There needs to be an educational program that discourages the dumping of cats and dogs. People must be made to understand the serious repercussions of their actions. We encourage the community to show their support for the shelter by attending the Cabaret Night on March 23.

Your support just might prevent the horrendous suffering that McAllister and his family experienced.



Letters to the editor

Government's loose-spending days are over

Dear Editor:

While some may doubt that the V.I. government is financially broke because whenever there is a crisis someone magically pulls a rabbit full of money out of a hat, it is more than clear that the government cannot pay its ongoing expenses. Just look at the recent teachers' agreement, for example. And, on the other hand, the Legislature's contract with Mario Moorhead.

This is a time of downsizing, budget crunching, doing more with less and being creative in a way to get things done. While the Legislature voices criticism of the spending of the executive branch, senators continue to spend money and incur non-essential expenses as if nothing has changed over the past 20 years.

We have truly lost sight of the fact that we are a small community by anyone's standards — even our Caribbean neighbors. A small community does not need a legislature of 15 people who spend more than $6 million on salaries for staff alone. Rather, the Legislature needs to set the example of reducing its expenditures and finding creative, new ways to operate. For instance, "central staff" means just what the term suggests — persons in a staff pool to assist all senators regardless of political persuasion. This pool is also supposed to reduce the duplication of efforts that goes on in each senator's office for the good of the territory. And then, in each senator's office, cut the foolery of hiring individuals on the legislature's payroll to do political re-election business — hire them through campaign funds.

For years, the government has spent on the basis that there will always be money available for whatever purpose or project or person. Those days are over. Look at the horizon. Budget cuts and revenue collection reduction are sweeping the country. Does that not suggest that we need to do the same and be more than wary of revenue reduction since our sources of revenue are limited?

In fact, President Bush's tax cut proposal will cause us to lose millions of dollars on the top of the deficit we already have. This alone should be frightful enough to force our legislators and governor to look at cutting expenses drastically.

Much has been made of the Mario Moorhead sweet deal, but there 15 senators whose actions we need to scrutinize. Not one of them can or should be able to spend money without general approval or consent. Are they spending our money wisely?

Think about that next time you go to a food sale to raise money for something that the government is supposed to do and you have already paid for with your taxes!

David Bornn
St. Thomas

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Historic preservation thrives on its own

WASHINGTON (AP) — When the nation's leading preserver of historic places stepped away from the federal subsidies it had enjoyed for three decades, the wisdom of its decision was open to debate.

"We had jumped off the cliff,' says Richard Moe, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Two years after receiving its last federal tax dollar, Moe reports, the group — chartered by Congress in 1949 — is on solid financial footing, enjoying its independence and expanding its horizons.

"I don't know of another federally financed organization that has done this, and remade itself as a more effective publicly financed organization," Moe asserts.

With stately homes and historic places still its primary mission, the National Trust also seeks the revival of urban and small-town Main Streets. It campaigns for the rehabilitation of historic neighborhood schools. And it tackles both as part of a broader objective to help revitalize communities and curb suburban sprawl.

Moe, a Minnesota-born lawyer who was chief of staff to Vice President Walter Mondale, says it is a mission that builds its own support because "there is no one that does not love an old restored building or an old restored downtown."

But by 1995, he says, the annual fight to preserve the federal subsidy the trust had enjoyed for nearly three decades had become "totally consuming."

By then, after nearly a half-century in the historic home business, the trust had become a spearhead in the fight to stop the demolition of the American past.

In Washington alone, the trust's houses included Woodrow Wilson's home in retirement, virtually a time capsule of his presidency; and Decatur House, built on Lafayette Square by naval hero Stephen Decatur and called home by a long line of distinguished Americans.

Across the country, the trust has owned or managed nearly a score of properties, including President James Madison's pillared plantation house at Montpelier, Va.; "Chesterwood," Daniel Chester French's sculpture studio in Stockbridge, Mass.; and Frank Lloyd Wright's studio and home in Oak Park, Ill.

It sounded the alarm for preservation in its annual list of 11 most endangered historic places. Last year's list drew attention to Abraham Lincoln's summer cottage at Washington's Soldiers' Home.

By 1995, the trust had a budget of about $35 million, of which 21 percent came from congressional appropriations. Because much of the trust's private income is earmarked to preserve and maintain specific properties, 57 percent of its unrestricted budget came from the federal government.

Moe says the trust beat back efforts to eliminate its federal money in 1994 and 1995, but then saw its annual appropriation cut in half, from $7 million to $3.5 million.

"We stepped back and asked ourselves if we wanted to continue to go down that road." Moe recalls. "The threat always existed that we could lose that funding overnight and we would have been ill-prepared for it.

"We wanted to have financial certainty and we wanted to be independent."

After negotiating a three-year cushion to ease the transition, the trust got its wish.

It eliminated 35 jobs and several programs and began a drive that has now raised about $84 million toward a $125 million endowment. "Almost all of our historic sites have become self-sufficient, whereas before only half were," Moe says.

With the early experience so encouraging, he says, "I would not go back to federal financing if I had the option."

The trust will continue to preserve great houses, but Moe says its mission is expanding to represent much more of "the entire American experience."

The list of historic sites administered by the trust now includes an adobe house built by a New England sea captain in Monterey, Calif.; the 1838 construction depot for the Illinois and Michigan Canal at Lockport, Ill.; and the Lower East Side Tenement Museum in New York City.

Moe would like to add a ranch in the West, a site that represents black history and the history of the civil rights movement and more presidential sites.

But he says the trust's mission is now broader than just saving historic sites: "Preservation does become a tool to revitalize older communities."

And if recent experience is a guide, "I think we may be on the verge of a Golden Age of preservation; we may be on the verge of becoming mainstream."

On the Net: The National Trust: http://www.national-trust.org

EDITOR'S NOTE — Lawrence L. Knutson has covered the White House, Congress and Washington's history for more than 30 years.

An arts school may fill some students' needs

Bernard Brooks
My Turn

For six years, I have been retired from the Howard University Medical Complex in Washington, D.C., where I was employed as the Chief of Medical Illustration and Graphic Design. I reside in St. Croix during the winter, and while I am in St. Croix, I volunteer with one of the teachers at the St. Croix Educational Complex High School.

For the past several years, I have had the opportunity to come in contact with St. Croix's finest (no, I don't mean the police). I am referring to the young men and women who attend the Complex.

In spite of many adversities, many of them go on to succeed by furthering their education here or on the mainland. With the constant number of teachers' strikes and unrest caused by low pay and other educational problems, the young people manage to persevere.

On days when I am in attendance, most of the students come to school neatly pressed in uniforms that are by all accounts neat and many are heavily starched, which reminds me of my stint in the U.S. Army and College R.O.T.C.

Many times complaints about some of these young people are unfounded. The only time many parents go to check on their children is when there are problems. Many students I come in contact with are more or less raising themselves, and many are raising families before they themselves become adults.

On many occasions I have observed classes other than the one I assist, where the teachers come to classes fully prepared and sometimes with additional extras, such as video tapes, movies on the subject or a guest lecturer (which I have been).

Having volunteered in the same capacity stateside, I feel quite competent to make this assessment. Most of the students I come in contact with at the Complex have manners and are generally courteous. Manners and courtesy goes a long way in helping implement the learning process.

Along with the limited duties I perform (I have taught before), I talk to these young people, one-on-one, about furthering their education and have several students from St. Croix in my charge stateside in college.

Many students I speak to choose to pursue a career in the military, but I always insist that this should be he last option. College, trade or technical school first, if you can afford it (and most can), and then military if all else fails.

Of special note: Two of these young students just finished their first semester at college stateside. Both finished with "B" averages and both qualified for financial aid. Credit must be given to the teachers and the administration at the facility for helping mold the young people who succeed.

In large cities stateside with the number of students at the Educational Complex, there would be two or three high schools. The question is, "Is the number of students at both public high schools difficult to manage?"

On two different occasions, I had conversations with two former senators about a high school for the arts on St. Croix. I even obtained a profile of the Duke Ellington School for the Arts in Washington, D.C., which is a prototype for art schools in the country, for one of the senators — she never picked it up (the idea obviously fell on deaf ears).

The number of young people leaving St. Croix for careers in the arts is increasing.

A fact to consider is that when St. Croix youth leave high school arts, they are confronted by students who have had four to six hours of visual art, drama or music each day for five days a week for four years.

In spite of all these factors, many of these young people manage to succeed and have gone on to become successes and St. Croix's finest.

But how long will it last?

Bernard Brooks lives on St. Croix and in Washington, D.C.

The opinions on these pages are not necessarily those of the publishers, employees or advertisers of this newspaper. The editor reserves the right to edit all correspondence.

Bush returns to recount battle site

Talks center on tax cuts, recent Dem. attack ads

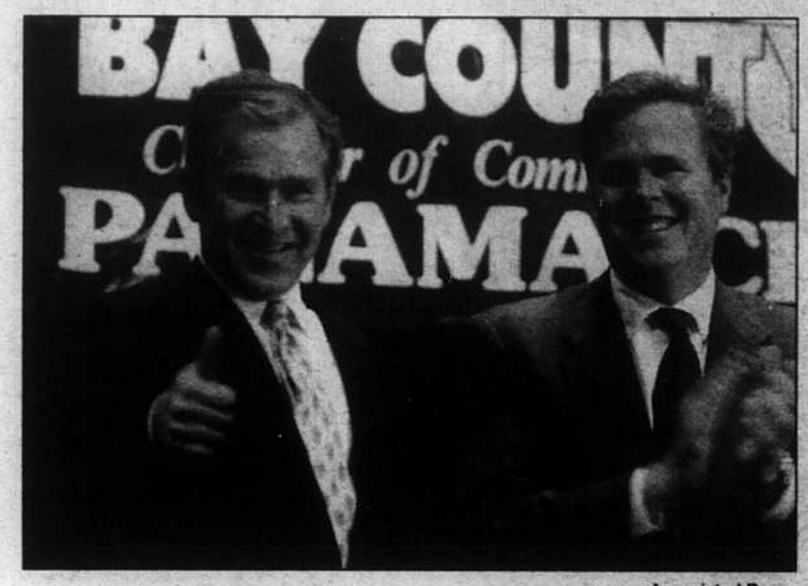
PANAMA CITY, Fla. (AP) — President Bush scolded Florida Democrats who questioned the legitimacy of his election during his first presidential visit to the scene of last year's legal battle over the White House. "Americans want to move forward," he said Monday.

Amid talk on Capitol Hill that he will be forced into concessions on his tax cut legislation, Bush also defended the target juiciest to his opponents — his proposal to drop the income tax rate on the wealthiest Americans from 39.6 percent to 33 percent.

"I know that's created a lot of howling in Washington," Bush said. "... The whole notion of dropping the top rate is to stimulate growth in the small-business sector of America."

He urged Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce members here to contact their Washington representatives in support of the income tax bill that passed the House and will, most likely, be rewritten in the Senate.

"Instead of sending people your check, why don't you send them your check and send them an e-mail while you're at it?" he suggested.



Associated Press

President Bush, left, gives a thumbs up as he is applauded and introduced by his brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, during a Panama City joint Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce meeting, Monday in Panama City, Fla.

Brandishing a yellow pen, Bush said he would not back down. "I'm going to argue until I get a bill to sign. It's out of the House, come on out of the Senate, and I'll sign it." Over the weekend, Republican officials floated the idea that Bush was considering a lesser cut for that top income bracket.

The crowd inside the Marina Civic Center wildly cheered Bush and his brother Jeb, the Florida governor whose role in last year's recount controversy is featured in a new $20,000 state Democratic party ad campaign on Tallahassee and Panama City TV stations.

"Jeb Bush delivered Florida to his brother George and now we're paying the price," said the ad, criticizing the president's tax cuts for spending a projected budget surplus that may or may not materialize.

"Jeb Bush didn't stand up to count Florida's vote right and George Bush's budget undermines prosperity. Bush fuzzy math. It doesn't add up," the spot concluded.

The president, in a brief exchange with reporters, responded to the ad. "Some of the Democrats here want to keep revoting the election. But if they would listen to America, they would find that Americans want to move forward," he said.

Not so for the handful of demonstrators outside Bush's invitation-only speech.

"There will be questions about his legitimacy for the next four years," promised Bill Boyd.

Another demonstrator, Matthew McDonough, sniffed at Bush's insistence that the country has forgotten about the acrimony of his 36-day battle with former Vice President Al Gore, which was finally resolved by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"'Bygones being bygones' is clearly not going to solve the American crisis of counting votes and having every vote counted," McDonough said.

At Tyndall, where Bush reiterated promises of better military pay and housing, Marie Mayfield said there was "probably nothing" that could heal the Democrats' wounds in Florida.

As someone who voted for Bush, Mayfield worried, "If we don't accept his legitimacy, he won't be able to be an effective leader."

Bush came to Florida hoping to sway the state's two Democratic senators, Bill Nelson and Bob Graham, to back him on tax cuts. Both declined a White House invitation to join Bush.

University gets $360M donation

TROY, N.Y. (AP) — An anonymous donor has pledged a no-strings-attached $360 million to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute — the biggest donation to a university in U.S. history.

RPI President Shirley Ann Jackson said the gift will help the university more than double its research initiatives and its graduate enrollment over the next five years by creating world-class programs in biotechnology and information technology.

"The remarkable generosity of this donor will enable Rensselaer to move boldly into new arenas that are vital for society," Jackson said.

RPI, a private university with about 4,500 undergraduates and 1,800 graduate students, was ranked 49th among national universities in 2001 by U.S. News & World Report. Its undergraduate engineering program was ranked 17th in the nation.

Its current endowment is valued at about $750 million, said RPI spokeswoman Nancy Connell.

The donor had pledged $130 million to RPI in December, earmarked for construction of two new buildings, but replaced that pledge with the new gift. There are no restrictions on how the $360 million can be used.

Connell would not divulge whether the donor, who insisted on anonymity, is an individual or a company. Details of how the money will be provided — whether in a lump sum or over a period of years — were not released.

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, which keeps track of gifts to colleges and universities, the previous record donation was an estimated $350 million over a 20-year period to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2000.

March 5, 2001

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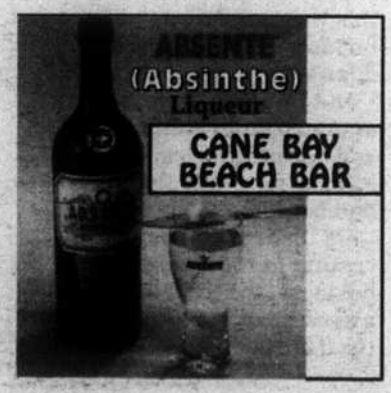
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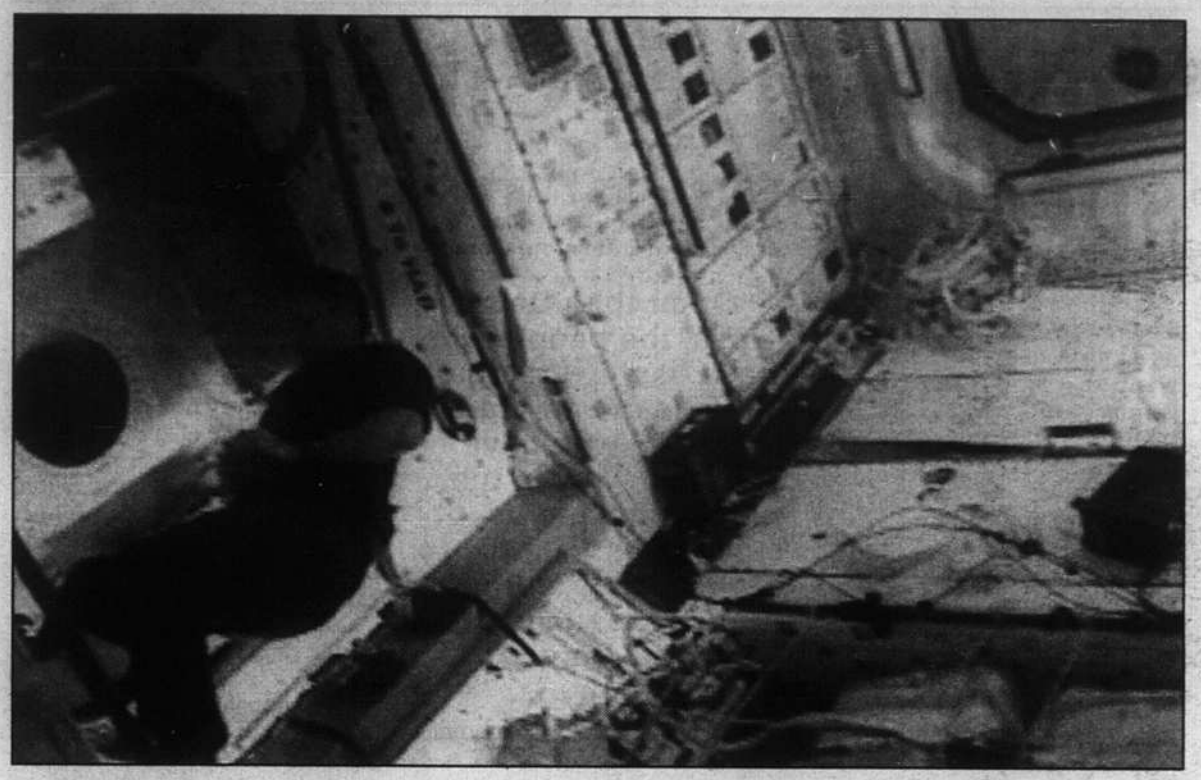
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Associated Press

Astronaut Bill Shepherd works on the hatch to the Leonardo module in this televised view from the Unity module Monday. Shepherd will return to Earth aboard the Discovery after a four-month stay in space.

Space station Alpha crew settles in for 4-month stay

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A fresh crew aboard the international space station began unloading a newly attached cargo carrier Monday and cheerfully settled in for the spring and summer.

The $150 million Italian-built carrier, called Leonardo, was hooked up to space station Alpha earlier in the day with the use of space shuttle Discovery's robot arm.

The process, like everything else on this shuttle mission, took longer than expected. This time, camera problems caused an hour-long delay.

"This crew is very deliberate," said NASA flight director John Shannon. "They make sure they get it exactly right, and we applaud that."

Several hours after Leonardo's installation, the space station crew started removing some of the 5 tons of gear packed inside the module, which arrived aboard Discovery. Once emptied and refilled with trash, Leonardo will be put back in the shuttle and brought back to Earth.

Leonardo was carrying power-distribution equipment for the space station's new laboratory. It also contained such things as the first set of experiments for the laboratory, a defibrillator and other emergency medical gear.

Russian cosmonaut Yuri Usachev and American astronaut Jim Voss have settled in aboard the space station and will be joined Tuesday by American astronaut Susan Helms.

The three will relieve American Bill Shepherd and his two Russian crewmates, who have been aboard the orbiting outpost for the past four months. The new crew's stay will also last four months.

Two astronauts over on Discovery, meanwhile, braced for the second and final spacewalk of their mission on Monday night. The spacewalk was expected to be longer and more difficult than originally planned.

Mission Control added two hours of work outside for Andrew Thomas and Paul Richards. Their top priority was to perform critical wiring left undone during Sunday's record-breaking nine-hour spacewalk by Voss and Helms.

These wires must be connected for power and data to flow to the massive robot arm that will be delivered to the space station next month.

Other jobs on tap for the spacewalk: installing a spare ammonia pump and trying to fix a sticky solar-panel latch.

Briefs

Abortion doctor sues university

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — A physician whose challenge led the U.S. Supreme Court to overturn a state abortion law told a judge Monday that the University of Nebraska wrongfully terminated his faculty position because of political pressure.

Dr. LeRoy Carhart, an abortion doctor who donated fetal tissue for research at the school, said after reports in November 1999 that the university was using fetal tissue in research, school officials told him they were under increasing pressure to have Carhart resign or terminate his unpaid position.

He said Dr. Howard Gendelman, director of the university medical center's neurological research center, told him the pressure came from the office of Gov. Mike Johanns, some members of the university Board of Regents and some legislators.

Carhart testified at a federal court hearing on his request for an injunction ordering his reinstatement pending a trial on his lawsuit against school officials. No trial date has been set. He also seeks unspecified damages.

Man stands trial for 13-year-old's death

BENTONVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Jury selection started Monday for the trial of a man charged along with his roommate with rape and capital murder in the death of a 13-year-old boy.

Jesse Dirkhising of Prairie Grove died Sept. 26, 1999, after being tied up and drugged in the home of Joshua Macabe Brown and Davis Don Carpenter in Rogers, prosecutors said. The state is seeking the death penalty.

A medical examiner said the boy died of positional asphyxia, meaning he was unable to breathe after being placed face down.

Brown, 23, has asked that the trial be moved out of Benton County, but Judge David Clinger said he wanted to hear from the potential jurors before deciding.

Carpenter, 39, is to be tried May 7. Their trials were separated because of indications they will try to blame each other for Jesse's death. According to one of Brown's statements to police, Carpenter diagrammed the rape and watched as Brown carried it out.

Judge tosses 'Natural Born' lawsuit

AMITE, La. (AP) — A judge on Monday threw out a lawsuit against director Oliver Stone that claimed his movie "Natural Born Killers" led to a young couple's bloody crime spree.

State Judge Bob Morrison dismissed the case on First Amendment grounds, ruling there was no evidence Stone intended to incite violence.

The lawsuit was brought against the makers of the 1994 movie, including Time Warner Entertainment, by the family of a Louisiana store clerk who was shot and paralyzed in a rampage by Sarah Edmondson and her boyfriend Ben Darras.

Edmondson and and Darras told investigators they were inspired by "Natural Born Killers." Edmondson said she and Darras had repeatedly watched Stone's movie about a young couple who kill 52 people over three weeks.

Edmondson, who was captured in a surveillance video firing a bullet into the clerk's neck, is serving a 35-year prison sentence for the crime. Darras is serving a life sentence.

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Nation's largest motorcycle gathering results in 6 deaths

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Bike Week, the nation's biggest annual gathering of motorcyclists, ended over the weekend with a total of six traffic deaths — less than half the number killed last year.

Highway safety advocates had thought there might be a jump in the number of deaths over last year's 15 because this was the first Bike Week since Florida lawmakers repealed a mandatory motorcycle helmet law.

Bike Week observers attributed the lower death toll to boosted law enforcement and to a safety campaign sponsored by Bike Week officials and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation.

The campaign included billboards, banners and cards distributed in hotel rooms and bars that list safety tips such as using headlights and not drinking and driving.

About 500,000 motorcyclists poured into the Daytona Beach area for the 64th Bike Week.



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Powell nixes Clinton-era special envoy positions

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is abolishing about 40 percent of the special envoy positions that existed in the Clinton era, including the Middle East job in which special mediator Dennis Ross worked a dozen years without finding a formula for peace.



Powell

Secretary of State Colin Powell decided to fill temporarily the special envoy's position that coordinates with opponents of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Of 55 positions that former President Clinton created to focus on specific issues or parts of the world, Powell is abolishing 23, department spokesman Richard Boucher said Monday. These are positions over and above the normal ambassadors posted in various nations around the world.

"Other than Dennis Ross, the people who have been working on this issue for many years, who have toiled away in the vineyards and devoted time and energy to this, will be working on the issue in the regional bureau ...."

Richard Boucher,
State Department spokesman

The special assignments will now become the responsibilities of the State Department's regional bureaus.

Powell acted "by and large in order to work these issues in a regional context, within the regional bureaus, and not have them as separate offices and separate functions," Boucher said.

The secretary had been expected to cut some of the jobs since his comment at his Senate confirmation hearing in February that there were "a very large number of envoys running around," and he wanted "to make sure we really need them."

Clinton frequently used high-profile diplomatic missions by a person or a small group to tackle international crises. Powell himself was in one, a 1994 mission to Haiti with former President Jimmy Carter and then-Sen. Sam Nunn. They persuaded the island's military rulers to step down and averted at the last minute a U.S. invasion.

Clinton sent his former national security adviser, Anthony Lake, to negotiate peace between Ethiopia and Eritrea, and Ross continued to work the Middle East, his specialty since his initial appointment during the first Bush administration.

People also were named to watch over such issues as war crimes and Holocaust survivor compensation programs. Powell retained both those jobs.

Boucher stressed that in the case of the Middle East, many people who have worked with Ross over the years remain.

"Other than Dennis Ross, the people who have been working on this issue for many years, who have toiled away in the vineyards and devoted time and energy to this, will be working on the issue in the regional bureau, so that the expertise is not being abolished or lost in any way," Boucher said.

Boucher said that in addition to the 23 abolished positions, 19 were retained, and six were retained but will be reviewed in six months.

Seven posts, such as an ambassador at large for religious freedom and a coordinator for counterterrorism, were established by law. They therefore were not reviewed or changed by Powell, Boucher told reporters.

Among those abolished were a few in Africa: Ethiopia-Eritrea, where a peace treaty has been signed; the Great Lakes region that includes Rwanda, Congo and their neighbors, where conflict continues; and one for the promotion of democracy and human rights in Africa.

Those abolished in the Balkans were one to foster democracy and lone called the "special representative for military stabilization."

Others axed included special envoys to the Americas, Cyprus, Haiti, as well as the test ban treaty, children's issues, transportation affairs.

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CINEMA II
"THE MEXICAN"
Mon-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 3:00, 5:05, 7:10, 9:15. "R"

Sunny Isle Theatres
778-5620

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"Recess School's Out"
Mon-Fri: 7:20; Sat.-Sun: 3:20, 5:15. "G"
"MONKEY BONE"
Mon-Fri: 9:15;
Sat.-Sun: 7:20, 9:15. "PG-13"

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

THEATRE 3
"TRAFFIC"
Mon-Fri: 7:35 ONLY;
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
"15 MINUTES"
Mon-Fri: 7:10, 9:15;
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Airline mechanics protest Bush 'cooling off' order

WASHINGTON (AP) — Airline mechanics demonstrated outside the White House on Monday, protesting President Bush's appointment of a mediation board to resolve their long-running contract dispute with Northwest Airlines.

The action was one of several held nationwide to protest Friday's executive order that pushed the possibility of a strike back to mid-May at the earliest.

There were demonstrations scheduled for airports across the country, as well as in front of the Presidential Mediation Board, a few blocks from the White House.

"The government is running interference for the company," said the Aircraft Mechanic's Fraternal Association's national director, O.V. Delle-Femine. "The president is taking sides."

The 9,400 mechanics, cleaners and custodians had been prepared to go on strike as early as 12:01 a.m. EST Monday.

Protesters expressed anger at Bush's action and frustration that their wages hadn't risen along with the past decade's economic boom.

"I haven't had a raise since '94," said Rich Hutton, a United Airlines mechanic for the past 13 years. "Congress votes themselves cost-of-living pay raises every year. Why can't we have the same?"

The presidential emergency board was due to take over talks after a lengthy day of negotiations between Northwest and the union ended near midnight Sunday without an overall agreement. Pay raises and retirement were the main sticking points; the two sides came to an agreement on five other issues Friday.

"Over the last 48 hours, Northwest made off-the-record proposals on all economic issues," the company's senior vice president of labor relations, Robert Brodin, said in a news release late Sunday. "Despite our best efforts, we were unable to reach an agreement."



Associated Press
Northwest Airlines employees demonstrate outside the White House Monday in Washington. The airline and its mechanics union have been unable to reach an agreement on a new contract.

Union officials said the board's appointment and the enforcement of a 60-day cooling-off period had had a negative effect on negotiations. "We're not optimistic we'll get a fair shake," said Harry Shaw, a union negotiator from Memphis, Tenn.

With a slew of other airline contracts coming up for negotiation, union members expressed concern about the precedent set by the appointment of a mediation board to head off a labor strike for only the second time since 1966.

"If it weren't for the order, they'd be on strike right now," said United mechanic Tracy Tarring, 28, of Annandale, Va., as protesters circled in front of the White House chanting "No more status quo; PEB must go." PEB refers to the presidential emergency board.

Tarring said he made more from a part-time business repairing landscaping equipment than his full-time job maintaining planes for United.

"Basically, the wages right now are early 90s wages," said Tarring. "They haven't risen beyond the rate of inflation."

Union members planned to meet with members of Congress later to press Congress not to intervene should the two sides still not be able to reach an agreement with the aid of the PEB.

Admiral says skipper to blame for collision

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (AP) — The failure of USS Greeneville Cmdr. Scott Waddle to detect a Japanese trawler through his periscope led to the fatal collision between the two ships, the head of the Pacific Fleet's submarine force testified Monday.

"This is the meat of the matter: The commanding officer ... has the absolute obligation to make sure the area is free," said Waddle's boss, Rear Adm. Albert Konetzni. "That's what caused this collision, plus the fact that the stars and the moon and a few other things weren't going right."

"This is the meat of the matter. The commanding officer ... has the absolute obligation to make sure the area is free."

Rear Adm. Albert Konetzni
Pacific fleet submarine force commander

Konetzni took the stand as a Navy court of inquiry into the Feb. 9 accident entered its second week. He called Waddle "one of my best friends," but also squarely placed responsibility for the accident on the commander's shoulders.

The investigative hearing could lead to courts-martial of Waddle; the Greeneville's executive officer, Lt. Cmdr. Gerald Pfeifer; and the officer of the deck, Lt. j.g. Michael Coen.

The submarine was demonstrating a rapid-surfacing drill for 16 civilian guests when it rammed the Ehime Maru and sent it plunging to the ocean floor. The vessel, carrying 35 people, was on an expedition to teach high school students the commercial fishing trade. Nine people, including four students, were killed.

A Navy investigator testified last week that several factors contributed to the accident, including a communications barrier created by the civilian guests being crammed into the control room.

Konetzni dismissed that, however, insisting the civilians "had nothing to do with this — not a thing."

"Joy ride?" he scoffed. "Forget it."

Voicing his support for civilian ride-alongs, Konetzni noted that thousands of guests have toured submarines safely prior to this accident. He called the public relations program critical for "understanding what our sailors are doing on the line to defend freedom. We need to continue these."

He admitted, however, that this particular tour probably shouldn't have gone forward because a training mission it was to coincide with was canceled. Waddle, after conferring with his squadron commander, deemed the training unnecessary but decided not to cancel the tour.

Konetzni said the collision comes down to Waddle's inability to see the Ehime Maru through his periscope and the fact that sonar operators didn't have enough time to properly analyze data tracking surface vessels.

Coen and Waddle performed an 80-second periscope search at depths of 60 and 58 feet. Testimony has shown periscope scans are typically done in three minutes and that the officers had several more feet available on the periscope that they didn't use.

"You'd better get as much pole out there as you possibly can, because that's your obligation," Konetzni said.

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5 killed in Kuwait training accident

WASHINGTON (AP) — A U.S. Navy warplane mistakenly dropped a bomb on military personnel during a training exercise Monday in Kuwait, killing at least five people, including four Americans and one New Zealander, Pentagon officials said.

The circumstances of the accident were unclear hours afterward. It appeared the Navy F/A-18 Hornet was practicing "close air support" for ground troops at the Udairi bombing range. Those killed and injured apparently were directing the Hornet to targets, but it was unclear what went wrong.

For hours after the accident the Pentagon made no official statement confirming the number of casualties.

Pentagon officials who discussed the matter only on condition of anonymity said initially that five people had been killed. They later raised the figure to six before saying they could not be sure which was correct.

Two of the Americans killed were from the Army and two were from the Air Force, said one official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Brett Bartos, a consul at the New Zealand Embassy in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, told The Associated Press that a New Zealander was killed in the accident. He refused to give any other details.

Col. Ahmed al-Rahmani of the Kuwait Defense Ministry told Kuwait TV that six people were killed and some of those injured were in critical condition. He did not elaborate.

One Pentagon official said an estimated 10 people were injured. A second official said no civilians were involved.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman would say only that there had been a "training accident" and that there were an unspecified number of casualties.

President Bush, traveling in Panama City, Fla., opened a speech on his budget proposals and military spending with brief mention of the accident.

"I'm reminded today of how dangerous service can be. We lost some servicemen today in Kuwait in a training accident," Bush said. "I hope you'll join me in moment of silence for those soldiers and their families. God Bless."



Associated Press

The U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman is seen under way in this file photo. A U.S. Navy warplane flying from the USS Harry S. Truman in the Persian Gulf mistakenly dropped a bomb on military personnel during a training exercise Monday in Kuwait, killing at least five people, including four Americans and one New Zealander, Pentagon officials said.

A leading Democrat on military issues, Missouri Rep. Ike Skelton, said, "We cannot take for granted the hazards that our men and women in uniform face on a daily basis, in times of war as well as in times of peace."

The accident happened at the Udairi bombing range in Kuwait, about 28 miles from the Iraqi border. One official said those killed and injured were involved in a multinational training exercise in which ground forces direct strike aircraft to specific targets. It was not clear what went wrong Monday.

An official said the Navy plane, flying from the USS Harry S. Truman aircraft carrier in the Persian Gulf, dropped what was believed to be a 500-pound gravity bomb. It was not clear whether the pilot erred or whether those on the ground directed the Hornet to the wrong area on the bombing range.

The United States military has operated regularly from airfields and an Army base in Kuwait since the 1991 Gulf War, when a U.S.-led coalition expelled the occupying Iraqi army from the tiny Persian Gulf nation. The continuing presence of U.S. forces in Kuwait is meant as a deterrent to Iraq.



SOURCES: GlobalSecurity.org; U.S. Navy AP

Aircraft from the Harry S. Truman battle group, such as the Hornet involved in Monday's accident, participated in a joint U.S.-British bombing of Iraqi air defense installations around Baghdad last month.

Judge OKs TWA sale to American Airlines

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — American Airlines won a bidding war Monday for the assets of bankrupt TWA in a $742 million deal that will mean the end of one of the most celebrated names in aviation.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Peter Walsh said he will approve the purchase by American parent AMR Corp., much to the relief of TWA employees who feared the airline might be reacquired by its former chairman, billionaire financier Carl Icahn.

Icahn had proposed keeping TWA alive, but his $1.1 billion plan hinged on large job cuts and $100 million in labor concessions. The judge called the plan a joke last week.

American has said it expects to offer jobs to most of TWA's 20,000 workers, and the airline's unions are expected to approve the deal. The purchase is subject to approval by the Justice Department.

American spokesman John Hotard said the TWA name will disappear as the nation's longest-flying airline and its employees are folded into American.

"There is value" to the TWA name, "but we want everyone to be part of one big family," Hotard said. "You're better off from an employees' standpoint and marketing standpoint to have everyone under a single name."

The judge said he approved the bid in part because of fears TWA's creditors would seize its planes if the American deal fell through. "I think it is in the best interests of the estate for that not to happen," Walsh said.

TWA, based in St. Louis, was formed in 1930 from the merger of Western Air Express and Transcontinental Air Transport. That same year, the combined company became the first airline to offer coast-to-coast air service.

Movie mogul Howard Hughes once owned a controlling interest in TWA. In its prime, TWA was the airline of choice for the rich and famous. Joe DiMaggio made flights west on TWA to visit wife Marilyn Monroe in Hollywood. Four times, the pope flew TWA on visits to the United States. It was the first to offer nonsmoking sections on all aircraft.

But TWA had not posted an annual profit since 1989. Three years later, it filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, the first of three times it would do so. The last was on Jan. 10, the day the merger with American was announced.

American, which will also assume $3.5 billion in TWA debt, could close the sale by early April.

Icahn plans to appeal, said Edward Weisfelner, Icahn's lawyer. "We are obviously disappointed, if not surprised," he said.

Brian Freeman, an investment banker who headed the effort for Icahn, said travelers will pay higher prices for plane tickets if the American deal goes through.

"We thought that the American proposal was anticompetitive and monopolistic, whereas ours would keep TWA alive as a separate, independent and viable carrier," Freeman said.

The judge said he plans to void the lucrative ticket contract Icahn has with TWA that allows him to buy certain tickets at 55 cents on the dollar. Icahn resells the tickets on the Internet at steep discounts. Airline experts have said the deal is partly to blame for TWA's financial failure.

Paul and Karen Martin of Prairie Village, Kan., were leaving Kansas City, Mo., for Ireland on Monday when they heard about the ruling. Paul Martin retired as a TWA pilot in 1985, the day Icahn took over.

Karen Martin called TWA's demise "very sad. We all remember the days when it was a great, great airline."

Others connected to TWA were glad to say goodbye to the financial black cloud that has hung over the airline and its workers for more than a decade, but they were still sorry to see the airline go.





Under pressure

Cookers lock in flavor for barbecued porkchops

Everything old is new again. And that goes for the pressure cooker, the rage in the 1940's and today one of the hottest items in kitchenware.

These amazing, economical and easy-to-use cookers cut cooking times for meats, poultry, risotto and other foods by up to 70 percent-faster than the microwave in most cases-and with much tastier results.

One of the healthiest ways of cooking, the pressure cooker preserves far more vitamins and nutrients because there's no oxidation inside the sealed pot. Vegetables like broccoli steamed under pressure retain up to 83 percent of vitamin C as compared with 40 percent when cooked in a saucepan.

What other cooking method could turn out risotto in six minutes? Osso bucco in 17 minutes? Kidney beans in just 12? Only the pressure cooker. Here are two recipes that will let you experience the ultimate in fast, nutritious and delicious dishes.

Barbecued pork chops
2 Servings

1/4 cup flour
1 teaspoon chile powder
Salt and pepper to taste
4 pork chops
1 tablespoon vegetable oil
2 tablespoons cider vinegar
1 small onion, minced
1 cup tomato sauce
2 tablespoons light brown sugar
1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons Worchestershire sauce
1 teaspoon paprika
1 teaspoon ground cloves

1. Combine flour, chili powder, salt and pepper in a large bag. Add pork chops, one at a time, and shake to evenly coat with flour mixture.

2. Heat half the oil in a 6.4-qt. pressure cooker. Add two pork chops and brown well on both sides. Set aside. Repeat for other two chops. Set aside.

3. Add vinegar to pot and stir up any browned bits on bottom of cooker. Add all remaining ingredients. Return pork chops to cooker, turning them over once to coat with sauce mixture.

4. Cover pressure cooker and bring to full pressure. Reduce heat and cook for 15 minutes. Release pressure.

5. Place pork chops on serving plate and top with sauce.

Risotto with asparagus and peas
4 Servings

1 small onion, diced
2 tablespoons butter
1 cup Arborio rice
1/3 cup dry white wine
2 cups chicken stock
6-7 slender asparagus spears
1/2 cup green peas, fresh or frozen
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
2 tablespoons fresh flat leaf parsley, minced
Salt and pepper to taste

1. Melt butter in a 6.4-qt. T-Fal Sensor 2 pressure cooker and add onion. Cook and stir over medium heat, about 2 minutes or until onion is translucent. Add rice, stir well to coat and cook 2 minutes. Slowly pour in wine and cook until it is evaporated.

2. Add chicken stock. Cover pressure cooker and bring to full pressure. Reduce heat and cook for 8 minutes. Remove cooker from heat and let pressure come down naturally.

3. Meanwhile, trim tough ends from asparagus and cut on bias into 1/2 inch pieces.

4. Open pressure cooker and add asparagus, peas, Parmesan and parsley. Add salt and pepper to taste. Stir and serve hot.



Potato cheese puffs great for cleaning out the fridge

Smart cooks hold leftover foods in high regard, viewing them as an opportunity to save time and produce an enticing encore to their original dish. You can make the most of food by combining already-cooked items with pantry staples to create easy, flavor-packed meals.

For instance, a little bit of mashed potatoes can be transformed into easy Potato Cheese Puffs by combining them with cheese, flour, eggs and seasonings. Serve them as an appetizer or side dish.

Another tip: Remember to savor your leftovers safely by refrigerating them within two hours. The Partnership for Food Safety Education suggests dividing large amounts of leftovers into small, shallow containers for quick cooling in the refrigerator.

You can save time by storing leftovers in containers that can be refrigerated, frozen or microwaved.

Potato Cheese Puffs
Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes

1 cup water
1/2 cup butter (no substitutions)
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
1/2 teaspoon garlic salt
1/4 teaspoon dried marjoram
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 cup flour
4 eggs
1/2 cup leftover mashed potatoes
3/4 cup shredded Gruyere cheese
3/4 cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese
2 tablespoons fresh chives

Preheat oven to 400F. Heat water, butter, mustard, salt, marjoram and pepper in a medium heavy saucepan until butter is melted and water is simmering. Beat in flour, mixing vigorously until mixture forms a ball and no longer sticks to the sides of the pan. Remove from heat and set aside for 10 minutes. Beat in eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Stir in potatoes, cheeses (reserving 1/4 cup for top) and chives. Drop teaspoonfuls onto a well-greased baking sheet and sprinkle with reserved cheese. Bake for 18 to 20 minutes or until puffed and golden brown. Turn off oven and crack oven door. Let stand for 15 minutes before removing from oven.

Makes about 36 puffs.

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Happy Hunting

Floating lodge in Louisiana Marsh an oasis of luxury in wild world of duck hunting and fishing

THE LOUISIANA MARSH, La. (AP) — Outside, a wind is whipping the tall grasses that spring up out of the Gulf of Mexico. The only other sounds are the slap of waves, occasional screech of a gull and muted roar of a giant generator.

The 5,000-square foot floating resort standing amid the low islands of the marsh doesn't even rock in the chop. It's too big, too solid — an oasis of luxury in the wild world of duck hunting and fishing.

"If we get a really big blow you can notice the chandelier over the table move a little bit," said Joe Parsons, captain of the lodge, as he prepared a lunch of jambalaya and oysters on the half-shell. "Other than that, it's easy to forget you're out in the middle of the marsh."

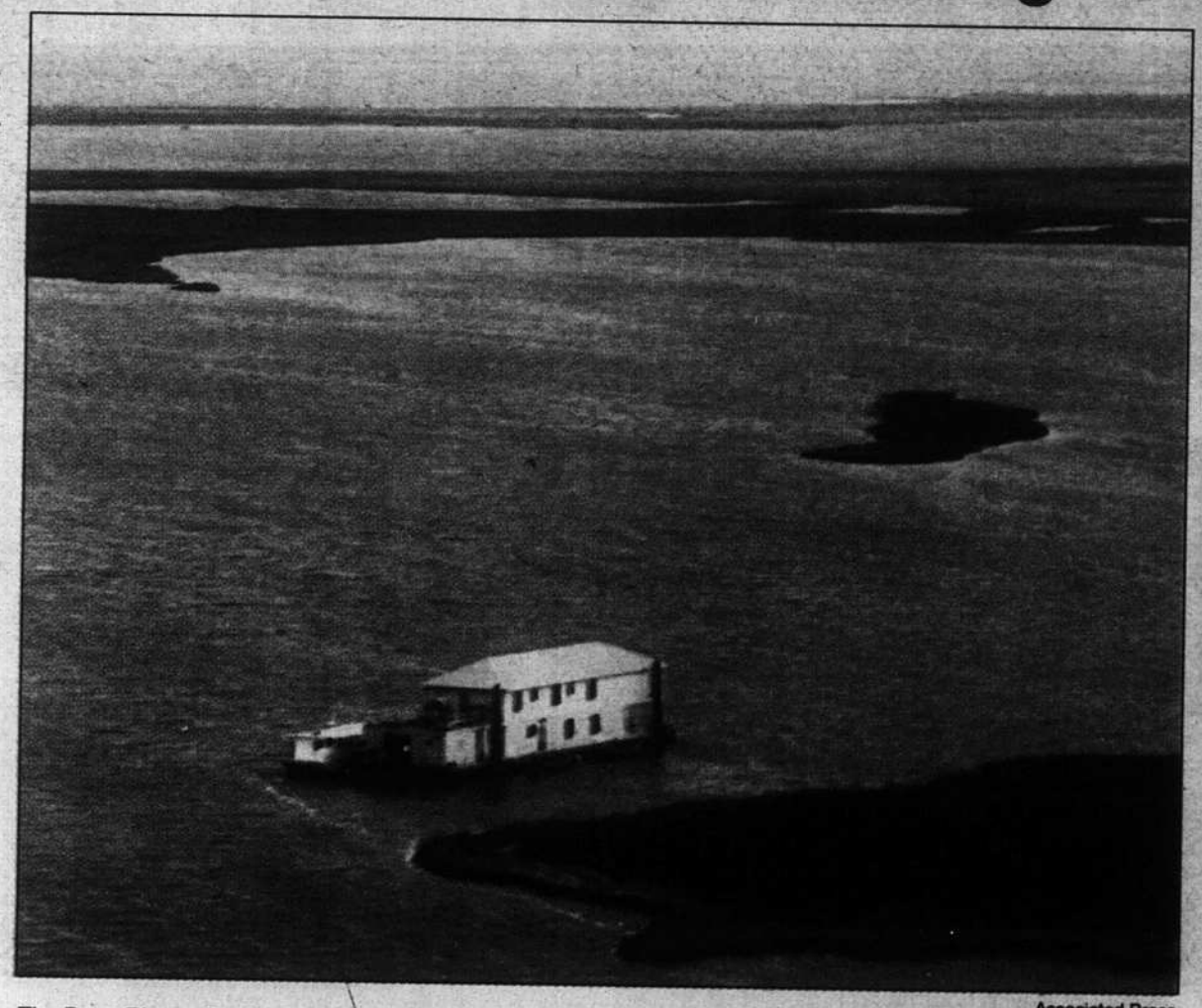
The living room of the Beau Rivage Sportsman's Lodge features a big-screen television and entertainment center. Upstairs are six large, well-appointed rooms with full-size baths comparable to those of the Beau Rivage hotel on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, about 35 miles away. Decks offer space to relax and enjoy the view or even drop a fishing line.

Dinner is a three-course meal that might include the guests' catch of the day or game, and be complemented by a variety of wines. A full bar also is provided.

"I used to go out years ago and camp in tents, sleep on the ground, and come home thinking I'd had a great time," said Charles Boone, 72, of Pigeon Ford, Tenn., who stayed at the lodge on a fishing trip. "These days I know better. I like to fish. I don't like to rough it."

And Boone apparently is among a growing group of hunters and fishermen who like the sport, but not the austere conditions that were traditionally a part of it.

"Historically, when you went hunting or fishing, you weren't living in the lap of luxury," said Catherine Simpson of the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries office. "But things have changed since my grandfather's day."



Associated Press
The Beau Rivage Sportman's Lodge, seen here on Dec. 13, 2000, near Bilioxi, Miss., is a 5,000-square-foot floating resort. The lodge, built on a barge, is towed to the Louisiana Marsh for duck season, and to Chandeleur Island, a federal bird sanctuary that offers fishing comparable to the Florida Keys, the rest of the year.

Just as styles of camping and other outdoor activities have added comfort, hunting and fishing camps have become more than the ramshackle buildings that once provided only minimal shelter.

"People have more leisure money to spend and they are spending it on more comfort when they go hunting and fishing," said Grant Willbanks, president of Ducks Unlimited's Louisiana chapter. "The days of drafty camps and primitive conditions are certainly over for commercial camps."

People expect more comfort in their everyday lives. They also want comfort in their recreational activities, said Tom Prickett, chief of the Louisiana Wildlife Division.

"It's purely a matter of economics and time," Prickett said. "If someone's going hunting or fishing three or four days a year, they usually aren't going to have their own camp. But if they're paying to go out, they are going to want more than just the bare minimum."

The Beau Rivage lodge represents the top of the line in public hunting and fishing facilities.

The lodge, built on a barge, is towed to the Louisiana Marsh for duck season, and to Chandeleur Island, a federal bird sanctuary that offers fishing comparable to the Florida Keys, the rest of the year.

Guests have their choice of arriving by boat or plane.

Duck hunting is done from boats that turn into duck blinds. Fishing is done from flatboats. All trips are accompanied by guides, who also clean and cook or pack the catch for transportation.

Another option is to transport the game or fish back to the hotel where a chef in one of the 10 restaurants can prepare it and serve it.

"We get both men and women at the lodge," said Bo Hamilton, who is in charge of the lodge and the resort's marina. "But sometimes the husband comes to the lodge and the wife stays at the hotel to shop and go to the spa, maybe. Then he might want to take his catch back for them both to enjoy."

Duck hunting costs $450 a person for an overnight stay, fishing $600.

Mike Herrmann, who operates Louisiana Gulf Coast Outfitters, has also found that customers want far more than an opportunity to bag a duck or land a fish these days.



Associated Press
The living room of the Beau Rivage Sportman's Lodge features a big screen television and entertainment center.



Associated Press
Captain and hunting guide Joe Parsons prepares jambalya in the kitchen of the Beau Rivage Sportman's Lodge near Biloxi, Miss. Deckhand Mike Freeman is seated at right.

Herrmann uses a number of camps for his clients, and none of them could be considered primitive

"They're like nice homes," Herrmann said. "They'll have three bedrooms, a couple of baths, and plenty of heat and hot water. It's the way people want to relax after a day of fishing or hunting."

Herrmann's trips — hunting or fishing — run about $250 a person per night. That includes a guide, the boat, lodging, three meals, and cleaning and packing of game or fish.

"I think what people consider roughing it these days has changed," Herrmann said. "Roughing it is getting up early and going out into whatever weather's there. It's not sleeping in a drafty camp with the toilet out back. Those days are gone."

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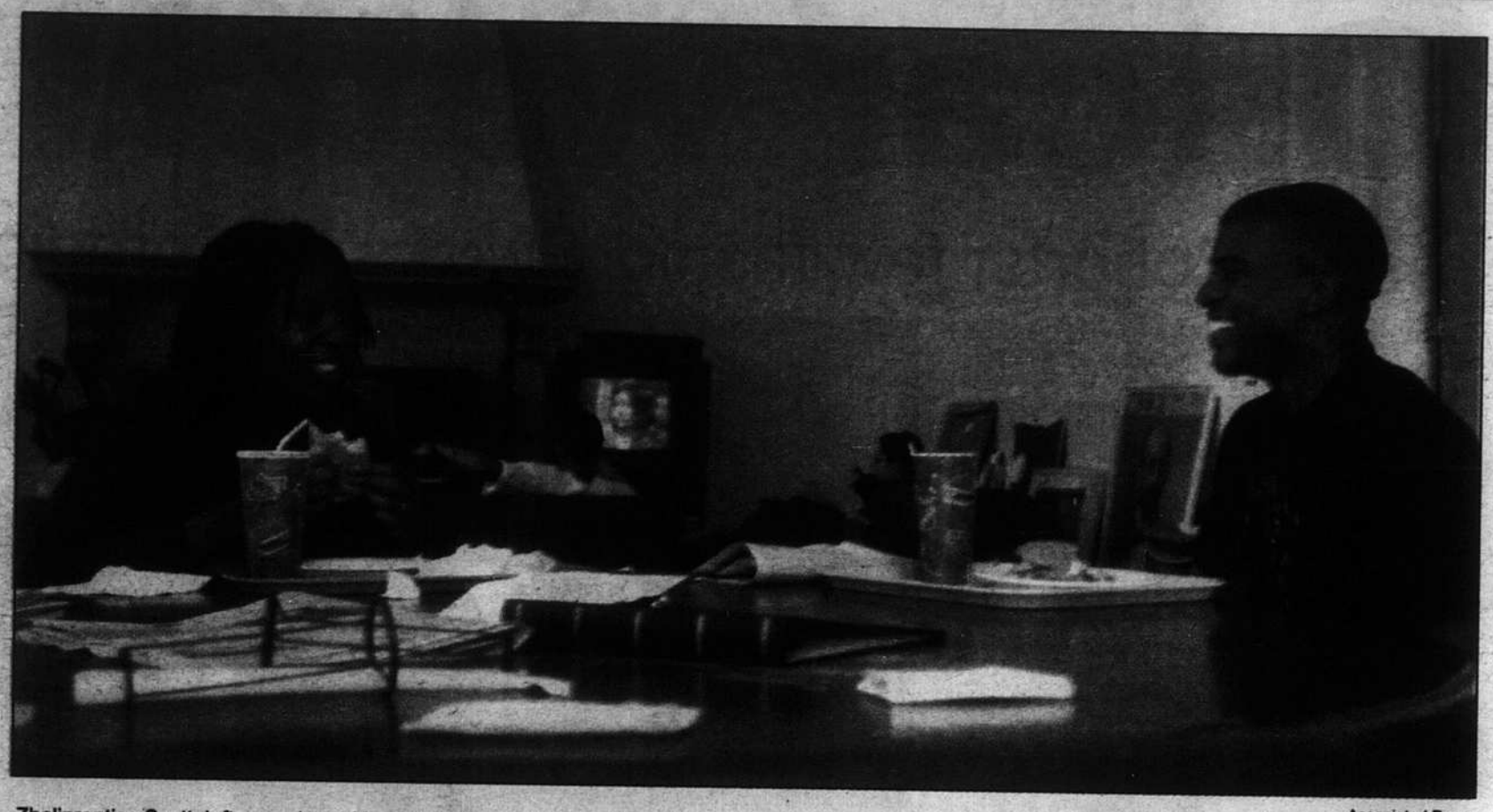
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Zhelinrentice Scott, left, a senior at Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Deverraux Jones, a sophomore, eat lunch in the Black Student Union on the school's campus in Cambridge, Mass.

Book explores blacks at MIT

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — Shirley Jackson remembers being told she couldn't join study groups in her college dorm. She remembers having to eat alone in the cafeteria.

And she remembers people calling her Jenny, the name of the only other black woman in her class at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. No one cared to learn how to tell them apart.

Jackson, now the president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, graduated in 1968. Despite all the isolation, she says she felt a need to succeed there.

"If one gives up, one is giving those who want to impede success something they want," Jackson says. "But my motivation was less to 'show them' than to be successful for myself."

Jackson's story, and many others, about life as one of the few black students at MIT are recounted in longtime professor Clarence Williams' new book, "Technology and the Dream: Reflections on the Black Experience at MIT, 1941-1999."

The massive, 1,042-page book is an unflinching look at racial issues at MIT and in society itself. It took Williams, a professor of urban studies and planning, five years to complete.

"I think it chronicles a history that needs to be told," Jackson says. "We can't let these things get lost. It talks about the transformation of one of the most technological universities in the world. ... It also talks about how one effects change in important institutions, and, in some instances, the price that people pay for success."

Various alumni recount facing discrimination at well-known corporations, growing up in poverty-stricken communities and being told they should settle for menial jobs instead of pursuing an education and a better future.

Though many of the obstacles they faced have been eased, the book also deals with the problems at MIT — and other academically rigorous institutions — that have yet to be solved. Williams writes that his greatest frustration at MIT has been the school's limited effort to monitor and promote equal opportunity.

"We identify the best students of color in the country in math and science. That's our specialty," the author says. "We go after them, and we get a large portion of them. I think it's a failure in our part to not be able to groom those individuals in such a way that we could get a reasonable percentage to consider faculty appointments here or at other institutions on the same level."

Though only 2 percent of MIT tenure-track professors are black, the school has a long history of admitting black students. The first black student to graduate from MIT was Robert Taylor, in 1892.

"Essentially, his community thought it was a useless situation to come to a place like MIT to get a degree — and his was in architecture — because at that time there was nothing that a black person could do with a degree," Williams notes.

But Taylor didn't listen. By 1900, he was an instructor and an administrator at Tuskegee University in Alabama.

Others followed Taylor at MIT. There were roughly a dozen black students at MIT before 1920, and they enrolled at the rate of about one every three years.

In the 1930s and 1940s, however, the number of black students declined sharply. Only 20 or so black students graduated from MIT in those 20 years. Paul Gray, a 1950 graduate who was president of MIT from 1980-1990 and is white, says that when he was a student, he never saw a black student, even though several were in his class.

"They were invisible. My hunch is that there was no sense of community among them," Gray says. "Now that they represent 7 percent of the undergrads, they are a genuine community, and they act like one."

Roughly 46 percent of MIT's undergraduates are minority students. Asians make up 27 percent of the student body, and 11 percent are Latinos. Only 1.8 percent are American Indian.

The first black faculty member, assistant professor of modern languages Joseph Applegate, began work in 1956. The number of black students began to increase in the late 1960s.

Not all black MIT alumni say they faced discrimination. Gustave S. Solomons Jr., class of 1961, says he did not notice any racism at MIT. Solomons is a former soloist with various dance companies, including Martha Graham, and is now a faculty member of the dance department at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. His father also is an MIT graduate.

"I did not, but my friends did, because they saw people treating me differently," Solomons says. "I did not see it, because I was not looking for it, I guess."

In some ways, current black MIT students have it easier than their predecessors. An all-male, all-black living group nicknamed "Chocolate City" was opened with eight students 25 years ago; it now has 30.

"Chocolate City is the reason I came to MIT," says Jonathan White, who will graduate this year. "The people who lived in Chocolate City made me feel that they were a welcoming support system. I wouldn't be here if it weren't for them."

Students can also join the Black Students Union, founded in the 1960s by, among others, Shirley Jackson. But women have no black living group, and there are few black mentors on campus.

White says that Williams' book could act as a sort of networking system for black students. And what's more important, he says, it could show students how they are connected to black students from the past and how they can achieve in the future.

"This book is just something that we need," White says. "There's nothing of this magnitude (at MIT) that I know about. There's some plaques on the walls, but nothing that black students really hold as a symbol of their achievements."

Oscar watch

All eyes on Roberts; few fashion 'wows' are predicted

BY SAMANTHA CRITCHELL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK (AP) — For fashion designers, this year's Oscar "It Girl" is Julia Roberts.

"Everyone wants her," says Tom Julian, fashion commentator for Oscar.com., the awards' official Web site. "She has the stature, the longevity, the box-office draw, and she's not one-designer friendly. She wears everything from Vivienne Tam to Calvin Klein, to Armani at this year's (Golden) Globes."

Celebrities are still deciding what to wear to the Academy Awards, arguably the biggest fashion show of the year. But predictions are that the overall look on March 25 will be old-Hollywood glamour, not flashy or trashy.

"This year's nominees — and particularly Julia — would rather be in jeans than gowns," says Pamela Dennis, who designed the green organza gown that Allison Janney wore to the Golden Globes and onto many best-dressed lists.

Expect simple slip dresses for women, gold- and champagne-colored shirts and ties for men, fur stoles — faux and real, and dangling earrings.

"There aren't going to be any 'Wows!' and I'm really happy about it," Dennis says. "I like personalized, clean, simple gowns — things that don't overpower the person."

She calls Roberts — a favorite to win best actress for "Erin Brockovich" — a "beautiful plain Jane," and would like to see her in a white gown, maybe a wrapped look with a diamond hairpin closure. Or maybe a "tweed" sequin gown with long sleeves and a V-neck, a sportswear-turned-evening look.

Julian would like to see Roberts break away from her simple and sophisticated look and wear something spectacular. But, he says, risque can be risky — and that doesn't fit her personality.

"My gut is she'd stay toward Armani — it works for her classic sensibility. Maybe a dusting of detail, but her gown won't be garish, it won't be loud; maybe it'll have some color but it will be a regal color like burgundy or plum."

Brian Rennie of Escada believes he has the perfect dress for Roberts: a cap-sleeve gown with an open neck in black and gold. "If you're going to wear black, you need to do something unexpected with it," says Rennie, who thinks about "camera appeal" when he designs evening gowns.

Roberts' preference for simpleness "bugs" celebrity stylist Phillip Bloch, who helped edgier dressers Lara Flynn Boyle and Kim Cattrall get ready for the Golden Globes.

"Julia Roberts can do no wrong, but what bugs me is she's so beautiful, so talented, but there's no glamour. I'd love to put her in couture, something sexier, more fun — or at least give her some great accessories," he says.

With Roberts likely to play it safe, who will push the Oscar envelope?

It could be Kate Hudson, the best supporting-actress nominee of "Almost Famous," who is seen as one of Hollywood's new trendsetters.

Julian, who is also a trend analyst for Fallon Worldwide advertising agency, expects Hudson to wear Vera Wang, who designed her Golden Globes dress and her wedding gown. Wang is also a favorite of Hudson's mother, Goldie Hawn.

"Kate has an innate sense of style," says Matthew Williamson, who dressed Hudson in a hand-embroidered iridescent coat with fur collar and cuffs for the British Academy Film Awards in February. "Obviously, my ultimate goal is to dress her for the Oscars, but I know I'll just be in a queue with every other designer."

Williamson says he'd put her in a vintage-like detailed gown in an eye-catching color. "I would hazard a guess that she likes things that look antique and tell a story."

Rennie would dress Hudson in his red, beaded, strapless "T-shirt" gown. "It's a little more expensive than a T-shirt," he adds. Hudson wouldn't have to pay for it, though, since Rennie gives the dress to any Oscar nominee who wears Escada.

As for French best-actress nominee Juliette Binoche, she gravitates toward a more international look, says Rennie, who envisions her in an Asian-inspired coatdress with detachable fur collar.

"There may be an Asian story, thanks to 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon,'" says Julian.

Look to Catherine Zeta-Jones of the best-picture-nominated "Traffic" to adopt a more runway-inspired style.

"Catherine Zeta-Jones will probably wear an international name and something more daring," says Julian. "It's kind of like a coming-out party after her baby."

Zeta-Jones is following in the tradition of red-carpet stunners Nicole Kidman and Sharon Stone, says Dennis. "These are women who can carry anything off because of their presence and confidence."



Associated Press
Julia Roberts and Benjamin Bratt arrive for the 58th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif. Considered the new "It Girl" for this year's Academy Awards, Roberts will have all eyes on her on Oscar night to see which designer she chooses for her gown.



Associated Press
The dress that Brian Rennie of Escada believes is the perfect gown for Julia Roberts to wear in attending this year's Academy Awards is seen here in a New York showroom.

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Palestinian killed in blockade protest

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — Palestinians rebelling Monday against beefed-up roadblocks in the West Bank climbed onto a yellow bulldozer flying two Palestinian flags and rumbled toward Israeli soldiers, who shot and killed one protester.

Israel tightened its closure around the town of Ramallah, charging that Palestinians were planning a bombing, but promised to ease restrictions around four other towns in the West Bank.

Some roadblocks were opened around Qalqilya and Tulkarem, Palestinians said, but after nightfall "internal closures" were still in force on Bethlehem and Hebron, south of Jerusalem. Palestinians were still barred from entering Israel.

Israel said it had intelligence that militants in Ramallah were planning a car bomb attack in Jerusalem. Over the weekend, soldiers dug trenches, set up earthworks and parked armored vehicles on a hill overlooking exits from the city.

"What can we do when there is a cell of terrorists that has the intent of coming into Israel with a car bomb?" asked Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer. "Do they expect that the defense minister will sit quietly and open Ramallah?"

Ramallah, in the hills north of Jerusalem, is a political and commercial hub for the Palestinians, and before the violence erupted, many residents used to commute to work in Jerusalem every day. However, Ramallah has been a regular clash point between Israeli troops and Palestinian protesters in recent months.



Associated Press

Palestinians using a bulldozer to clear an Israeli army blockade run away from teargas fired by Israeli soldiers in the outskirts of the West Bank town of Ramallah on Monday.

Serb war crimes suspect surrenders to UN tribunal

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) — A former mayor accused of overseeing efforts to eradicate the Croats and Muslims of his Bosnian town surrendered to the U.N. war crimes tribunal Monday in what its top prosecutor called a cooperative signal from Serbia.

Blagoje Simic, a Serb who is the first Yugoslav citizen to turn himself in to the court, flew from Belgrade to the Netherlands with his lawyer and met with chief prosecutor Carla Del Ponte before being put into a detention cell.

"This is an unconditional surrender. No negotiation took place, no special conditions were granted," Del Ponte said at a press conference at the tribunal set up to try individuals suspected of atrocities in the Balkan wars.

The surrender may help ease international pressure on Yugoslavia, which is threatened with economic sanctions unless it cooperates with the court by handing over suspects who have been indicted.

Simic, 40, was the highest-ranking civilian authority in the multiethnic Bosnian town of Bosanski Samac when Serb forces overran it in April 1992 in part of an effort to create a corridor in western Bosnia virtually free of Muslims and Croats.

He is accused of instigating and planning atrocities against non-Serb men in his town, especially professionals and civic leaders. Many were killed, tortured or sexually assaulted in police camps while their families fled or were deported to other villages for slave labor.

Of the 17,000 Croat and Muslim inhabitants — about half the town's population — fewer than 300 were left at the end of the Bosnian war in 1995, when Simic was still the town's mayor.

Simic, a doctor by profession, is expected to plead innocent to the charges when he appears before a judge later this week. He is scheduled to go on trial in October along with four others listed in a 1995 indictment.

His lawyer, Igor Pantelic, said Simic was convinced he will prove his innocence at the tribunal.

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Iran, Russia defying US on weapons sales

MOSCOW (AP) — The presidents of Russia and Iran promised Monday to increase trade in weapons and cooperation in nuclear energy in defiance of U.S. efforts to discourage their nations' blossoming ties.

Vladimir Putin and Iranian President Mohammad Khatami also spoke out against foreign involvement in the energy-rich Caspian Sea area — an implicit criticism of U.S. interest in the region.

"Our region more than at any time in the past needs calm and stability. ... Any alien presence may undermine the stability," Khatami said at the start of the Kremlin talks.

"Iran is a key country in the region," Putin said after he and Khatami signed the first broad cooperation agreement between Moscow and Tehran since Iran's 1979 Islamic revolution. "Our assessments of the situation in the region and the world coincide to a large degree."

No agreements on arms sales were signed, but Putin pledged to provide Tehran with weapons despite strong U.S. protests. For years, Moscow's military cooperation with Tehran has caused concern in Washington, which accuses Iran of sponsoring terrorists.



Associated Press

Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, looks at his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Khatami, second from left, prior to an official reception in the Moscow Kremlin.

"We believe that Iran has the right to ensure its security and defend itself," Putin said.

"Russia is also interested in such cooperation for economic reasons. And the political reasons are that we believe that Iran must be an independent, self-sufficient state capable of defending its national interests," Putin said.

New edition of Anne Frank diary includes missing pages

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands (AP) — A new edition of Anne Frank's diary was released Monday with five previously secret pages that described her parents' loveless marriage and her troubled relationship with her mother.

The handwritten pages, kept hidden for more than 40 years, deepened the poignant image of Anne struggling with the normal teen-age growing pains while confined in a tiny attic in Amsterdam for two years with her family to evade the Nazis.

Anne portrays her mother, Edith, as having "cold eyes," and agonizes that she cannot talk to her — perhaps one reason why she confided her thoughts and emotions to her diary. She laments that her parents are not in love.

Anne began scrawling her diary on June 12, 1942, in a small album of the sort meant to collect autographs she had received that day for her 13th birthday. Her last entry was Aug. 1, 1944, three days before she was arrested. She and her sister, Margot, died of typhus in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in the spring of 1945.

"The Diary of Anne Frank" has sold 25 million copies in 55 languages since it was first printed in 1947. The book resulted in a hit Broadway play and a successful movie.

Publication of the new edition by the Netherlands Institute for War Documentation came three years after a close friend of Anne's father disclosed the existence of the pages that Otto Frank had entrusted to him years earlier.

Frank, the family's only survivor of the war, had given the pages to Cor Suijk before he died in 1980, with instructions not to publish them until he and his second wife were both dead.

An Amsterdam newspaper published the missing pages in 1999, but was sued for copyright violation and was forced to print a front-page apology.

After protracted negotiations with Suijk, the Netherlands paid $300,000 to the U.S.-based Holocaust Education Foundation rather than pursue a court case asserting its claim to ownership of all of Anne Frank's letters, said David Barnouw of the war documentation institute.

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Nato, Yugoslavia, rebels take steps to avoid war in Balkans

MERDARE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Former enemies NATO and Yugoslavia agreed on a deal Monday that will allow them to squeeze ethnic Albanian guerrillas from separate flanks, while the rebels signed a cease-fire — all moves meant to reduce the threat of a new Balkan war.

Under the agreement, Yugoslavia would be allowed to send better-armed troops into the southern tip of a buffer zone adjoining Kosovo that is now overrun by ethnic Albanian insurgents, who also use the region for incursions into neighboring Macedonia.

The deal takes some pressure off NATO peacekeepers in Kosovo, particularly the American troops involved in trying to stop the movement of fighters and supplies south into Macedonia, where rebel attacks last week raised fears of a wider Balkan conflict.

NATO already has increased its presence in areas of Kosovo bordering Macedonia. Macedonia's government, however, has been urging NATO to extend its activities into the three-mile-wide buffer zone, which separates Kosovo from the rest of Serbia, the main Yugoslav republic. The alliance has refused, saying it is restricted to Kosovo by the U.N. resolution setting up its mandate.

"The final agreement has been reached," said the commander of NATO-led peacekeepers in Kosovo, Italian Lt. Gen. Carlo Cabigiosu, referring to the deal on entry of Yugoslav forces into the buffer zone.

"I hope that Albanians in the ... area will understand that this is the time to move from armed conflict to peace," Cabigiosu said, even as fresh fighting was reported on a border village between Macedonia and Kosovo.

Though separated by borders, the insurgents' struggle in southern Serbia and Macedonia is linked by common demands for more rights for ethnic Albanians who form the majority in the adjoining regions. The ultimate aim appears to be linking the two regions to an independent Kosovo run by the ethnic Albanian majority.

Rebel commander Shefket Musliu had threatened over the weekend to "fight to the last man" to keep Yugoslav troops out of the zone.

But on Monday, just hours after announcement of the deal between NATO and Yugoslavia, Musliu said he had signed a 20-day cease-fire in buffer zone, in a deal mediated by NATO. Nebojsa Covic, a deputy prime minister of Serbia, signed the truce separately, a few hours afterward; the Serb version of the text had no 20-day limitation.

It was unclear what prompted the rebels to sign on to a truce, but the quick agreement between NATO and Belgrade might have left them off guard.

NATO envoy Pieter Feith described the cease-fire agreement as a "major step forward" and urged rebel commanders to "exercise restraint," and "strictly comply" with its terms.

Musliu said, however, that the rebels remained opposed to Yugoslav army and strong Serb police forces entering the zone.

Over the past several months, several policemen have been killed in sporadic fighting in the Presevo Valley area of the buffer zone.

The zone was established in 1999 when NATO-led peacekeepers entered Kosovo after the NATO bombing of Yugoslavia, which ended former President Slobodan Milosevic's crackdown on ethnic Albanians in the province and resulted in the withdrawal of Yugoslav troops.



Associated Press

Serbian elite police units watch an area during a reconnaissance action on the brink of buffer zone, near the Yugoslav-Macedonian border in the Presevo valley Monday.

Infamous Brazilian prison to close

SAO PAULO, Brazil (AP) — Latin America's largest prison and the scene of a mass rebellion last month is to be closed and replaced by three smaller jails, the state governor announced Monday.

Sao Paulo State Gov. Geraldo Alckmin said the notoriously overcrowded Carandiru prison on the outskirts of Sao Paulo would close during his term in office, which ends next year.

His comments came at a news conference after a six-hour state government meeting.

Alckmin said the prison's 7,400 inmates would be transferred to three separate, new units: Carandiru 1, with capacity for 3,500 prisoners; Carandiru 2 with space for 3,000 inmates; and Carandiru 3 with space for 960 prisoners.

He did not specify where the new jails were to be built, local news agency Estado reported.

March 5, 2001

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS HOUSING AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES AN OPENING FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION ON THE ISLAND OF ST. CROIX

Plumbing Superintendent

Responsible for supervising and performing effective and efficient plumbing work required to maintain dwelling units and common areas in a decent, safe and sanitary condition.

QUALIFICATIONS:

High School graduate plus two years of vocational training required. Plumbing License.

Four years work experience in residential plumbing maintenance.

An equivalent combination of education and experience may be substituted for the above.

Applications must be submitted by March 20, 2001. For further information contact Ms. Ina Benjamin at 773-3525 ext. 410.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Conrad E. Francois II
Executive Director

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Kingshill, St. Croix 00851
Telephone (340) 773-3525

Attention
READERS & ADVERTISERS
The 'Avis' will publish a supplement
"Spring Review"
A SEASON OF REBIRTH
on Thursday, April 5, 2001
This section will include articles and ads pertaining to this special season.

Spring Fashions
New Trends
Religious Services
Easter Dining
and more

We will accept ads at the following sizes.

Full Page 1/4 Page
1/2 Page 1/8 Page

CHURCHES PLEASE CALL AND ASK ABOUT OUR ADVERTISING SECTION AND CALENDAR OF EVENTS.

To reserve your space and for more information
call **Irene**
773-2300 (Office)
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Deadline for ad reservation and copy is Wed. 3/28 • 5 pm

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



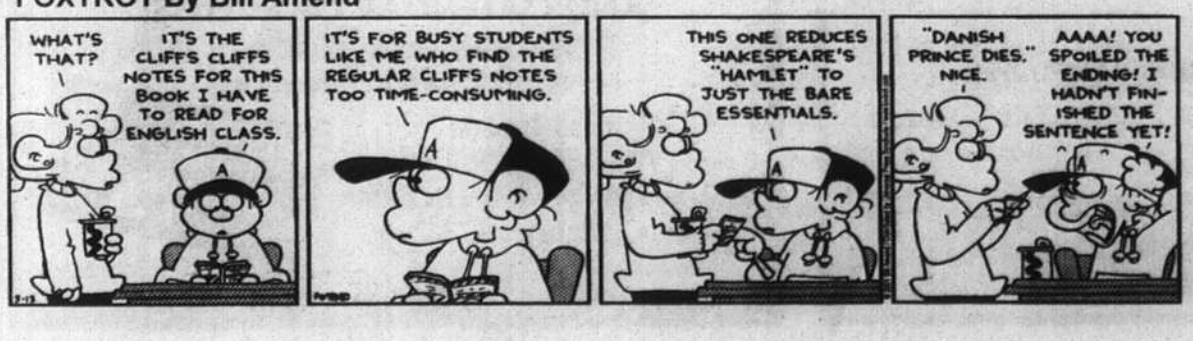
HERB & JAMAAL By Stephen Bentley



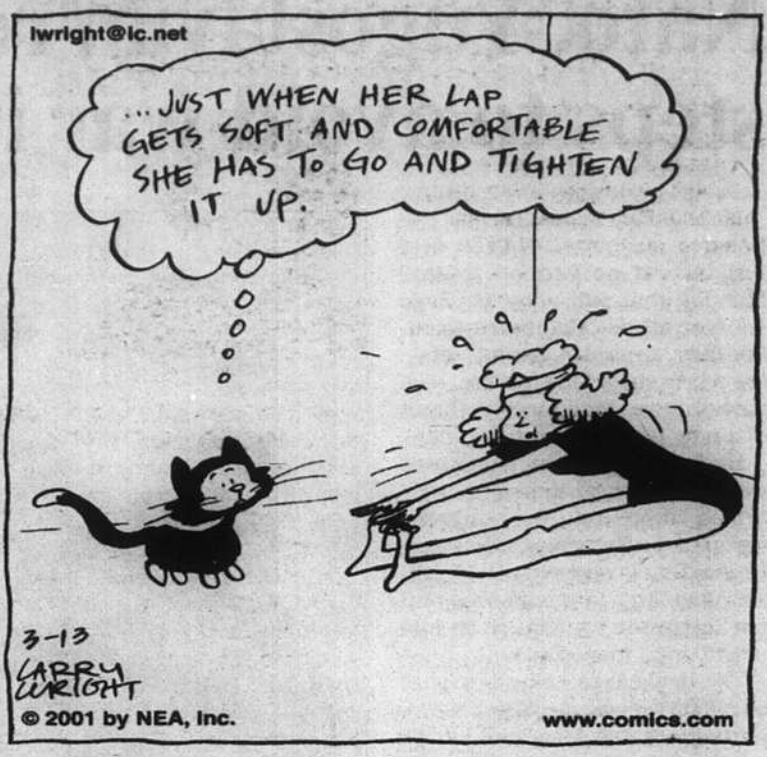
FRED BASSET By Graham



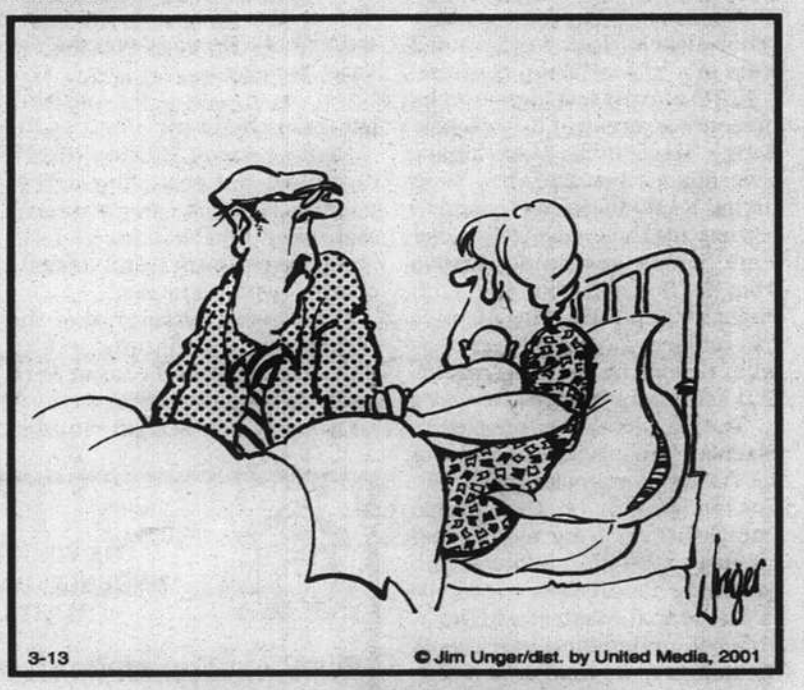
FOXTROT By Bill Amend



KIT & CARLYLE



HERMAN



"If he can't talk, how do you know his name is Kevin?"

RIPLEY'S



Do-it-yourselfers offer ways to fix rear-end damage



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: "Watching My Assets" put a dent in the door of his friend's pickup when he closed it by pushing it with his rear end. Please pass on this information: In newer cars, one can take off the door panel and pop the bent body back out. Only minor paint damage will remain to be repaired. Most repair persons won't tell you this because repairs are their bread and butter.

Another "fix-it" for such a problem is to put dry ice on the spot. Due to contraction, the dent will pop out. It doesn't work on all materials, but on many. This is an old science trick — hope it helps. — **SCIENCE TEACHER AND BACKYARD MECHANIC**

DEAR S.T. AND B.M.: Yours is not the only letter that arrived from helpful readers wanting to resolve "Asset's" problem. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Watching My Assets" reminded me of a similar incident that happened to me many years ago. My friend "Carmen" "rear-ended" my passenger door while trying to close the already locked door and she, too, left a large dent.

Without a moment's hesitation she asked if I had a toilet plunger (we had just pulled up to my home). Plunger in place, out popped the dent! Good as new, no insurance claim necessary. — **GENIE SAFFREN, LOS ANGELES**

DEAR GENIE: The longer I write this column, the more I learn from readers. Your letter is a hoot. I wonder if that solution would work today on cars that are made largely from plastic instead of metal. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Watching My Assets," who had a question about whether or not a claim should be filed under his friend's insurance policy, prompts my own.

Your answer was wrong for a few reasons. Yes, his friend should file a claim. This was an accident. Granted, it was not your run-of-the-mill accident, but it was an accident. If the guilty party wants to help his friend, he should volunteer to pay the deductible.

Second, the only time an accident counts against you is if you are the majority at fault — in California, 51 percent or more at fault — for the accident. In this case, the person filing the claim would not have his rates go up or have his policy canceled.

Please advise your readers that if they are in an accident and have ANY questions, to refer the question to their insurance agent. After all, they are paying a premium for insurance, and if they get into an accident, the person who sold them the policy is obligated to help them out. — **ADJUSTING CLAIMS FOR AAA IN FRESNO, CALIF.**

DEAR CLAIMS ADJUSTER: Thank you for pointing that out. I'm grateful for the reminder. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: You were correct in advising "Watching" that although it was unintentional, he did, indeed, damage his friend's door by denting it with his posterior. Therefore, he is the one who should be responsible for the repair.

He should be able to put in a claim under his homeowner's or renter's liability coverage, since it covers damage to other people's property, as well as injury to others.

Hope this information is helpful, Abby. — **BEA IN NEW JERSEY**

DEAR BEA: You bet it is. Thank you for the golden nugget of information.

Horoscope

By Francis Drake

ARIES
(March 21 to April 19)
You might find yourself affected by forces far beyond your control. Be as meek as you possibly can — your opponent might be far more powerful than you realize.

TAURUS
(April 20 to May 20)
Rein in your passions until the last possible moment — some things are well worth waiting for. You are even more irresistible than ever.

GEMINI
(May 21 to June 20)
You smolder with intense emotions, and a co-worker or partner might be intrigued by your intensity. Cut loose and run wild only if that's what you absolutely have to do.

CANCER
(June 21 to July 22)
You are overflowing with both love and creativity. Naturally this will attract people to you in droves. Single Crabs should be on the lookout for that special someone.

LEO
(July 23 to Aug. 22)
If you are craving solitude, find ways to work on quiet projects. It might be better to withdraw than to inflict a sour mood on others.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 to Sept. 22)
You crave a change in your lifestyle, and it might be anything from a minor spring-cleaning to a major reconstruction. Either way, this is a good time to make headway.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)
Your positive emotions let you transcend existing limitations or obstructions. Fortunately, you have plenty of loved ones on call, ready to lend a hand.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)
When your temper heats up, it might be hard to act rationally; avoid compromising situations. Someone is likely to do his or her best to tempt you.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)
Don't waste your energy struggling against the natural flow of events. Someone new appears on the horizon and could make you question your beliefs.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 to Jan. 19)
Associates are impressed by your quick, pragmatic thinking. Give more credence to your ideas, and others will start to take you even more seriously.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 to Feb. 18)
You can't blame the system as long as you are acting as one of its tools. Dare to stand up and add your opinion to a public debate. Your words have more impact than you realize.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 to March 20)
Try to remember that what's best for you might not be right for another. You run the risk of sounding sanctimonious.

YOU BORN TODAY As an extremely sensual being, you are apt to attract a bevy of special admirers. You inspire a great deal of respect for your passionate convictions. However, people also get frustrated with your inability to not always see the big picture.

Birthdate of: Kirby Puckett, baseball player; Billy Crystal, actor/comedian; Michael Caine, actor.

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Magnifying glass is longer. 2. Chart is shorter. 3. Glasses are removed. 4. Arm of chair is not showing. 5. Button is missing. 6. Arm is lowered.

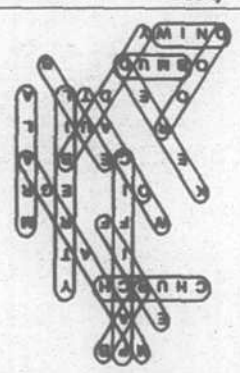
WORD SLEUTH • — BELL

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

Monday's unlisted clue: GALLON

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.
Tuesday's unlisted clue hint: UNDERWATER BELL

A. Graham	Buddy	Door	Pacific
Alarm	Church	Dumb	Taco
Bar	Cow	Fire	Wind
Blue	Derek	Liberty	



— BELL

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.

ATLAN

KISLY

NACUNE

HERDIT

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www.jumble.com



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

Print answer here: _____

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: NUTTY BASIN FOSSIL LEGACY
Answer: What he got from the switchboard operator — THE BUSY SIGNAL

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E1	N1	T1	S1	A1	E1	E1	RACK 1
R1	I1	O1	M3	S1	E1	U1	RACK 2
H4	R1	O1	C3	I1	S1	E1	Triple Word Score — RACK 3
Y4	E1	I1	P3	P3	P3	Y4	4th Letter Triple — RACK 4

PAR SCORE 105-115
by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

SCRABBLE® GRAMS SOLUTION BY JUDD

S1	E1	N1	A1	T1	E1		RACK 1 =	6
M3	O1	U1	S1	I1	E1	R1	RACK 2 =	59
C3	O1	H4	E1	I1	R1	S1	RACK 3 =	86
P3	E1	P3	P3	Y4			RACK 4 =	20

PAR SCORE 105-115 JUDD'S TOTAL 171

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TV GUIDE

Ricky Martin seeing model from Latvia

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) _ Puerto Rican pop star Ricky Martin has a new woman in his life.

Ricky Martin was spotted at the recent music festival in San Remo, Italy with Latvian model Ines Misan, local newspapers in Martin's hometown of San Juan reported Monday, displaying pictures of the two holding hands in London.

"She's his friend at the moment ... I can't confirm that she's his girlfriend, but they've been seeing each other," Nanette Lamboy, a spokeswoman for Martin's San Juan-based manager, told The Associated Press.

Lamboy couldn't confirm Misan's age, which San Juan papers said was 34, nor how or when the two met, which local media said was about four months ago in New York.

"They're together in London," Lamboy said, where Martin is promoting his new record, "Sound Loaded." He will soon leave for Germany, likely with Misan at his side, Lamboy said.

Primera Hora newspaper reported that Misan made headlines in 1997 when her then-boyfriend, Wall Street tycoon John Lattanzio, went to court to reclaim an engagement ring valued at $298,000.

No one was able to confirm Monday that the Latvian model named Ines Misan involved in the 1997 New York court case was the same woman involved with Martin.

"I haven't seen her in years," said Raoul Felder, the attorney who represented Misan in the case. "It is an unusual name though."

TUESDAY EVENING — MARCH 13, 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	That '70s Show (N)	Titus (N) (CC)	Dark Angel "Female Trouble" (CC)		Fox Report		Simpsons (CC)	Blind Date
TBS	6	Full House "Double Trouble"	Full House (CC)	Roseanne "Home-Ec" (CC)	Roseanne (CC)	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	Fresh Prince of Bel-Air	NBA Basketball Sacramento Kings at Orlando Magic. From TD Waterhouse Centre in Orlando, Fla. (Live)					Inside the NBA (CC)	Movie ((* "Mars Attacks!" (1996) Jack Nicholson.	
WGN	7	7th Heaven "Red Tape" (CC)		Full House (CC)	Clueless (CC)	Fresh Prince	Suddenly Susan	Movie ((* "Made in America" (1993, Comedy) Whoopi Goldberg, Ted Danson. (CC)				News (CC)		MacGyver "Legend of the Holy Rose"	
WSVI	8	All My Children (CC)		News	ABC World News Tonight	Caribbean Vision	St. Croix Cooks-Caribbean	Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (CC)		Dharma & Greg "Judy and Greg"	Geena Davis (N) (CC)	NYPD Blue "In the Still of the Night" (N) (PA) (CC)		News	(:35) Night-line (N) (CC)
WSEE	9	Inside Edi-tion (CC)	News	News	CBS Evening	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (CC)	JAG "Valor" (N) (CC)		60 Minutes II (CC)		Judging Amy "Unneces-sary Roughness" (CC)		News	(:35) Late Show (N)
WNBC	11	News (CC)		News (CC)	NBC Night-ly News (CC)	Extra (N) (CC)	Access Hollywood (N) (CC)	Frasier "Frasier's Edge" (CC)	Fighting Fitzgeralds (N) (CC)	Frasier (CC)	Three Sis-ters (N) (CC)	Dateline (N) (CC)		News (CC)	(:35) Tonight Show (N)
TLC	12	Home Again	Home Again	Trauma: Life in the ER "Amazing Grace"		Storm Rescue		Trauma: Life in the ER "Phoenix Rising"		Labor & Delivery "Baby in Charge" (N)		Operation "Knee Replacement"		Trauma: Life in the ER "Phoenix Rising"	
WTJX	13	Reading Rainbow	Pioneer Living (CC)	Newshour With Jim Lehrer (CC)		Business Rpt.	Computer Chronicles	Frontline "Saving Elian" (CC)		Nova "Crocodiles!" (CC)		John Wooden: Values, Victory-Peace of Mind		Charlie Rose (CC)	
CSPAN	14	(5:00) House of Representatives (Live) (CC)				House of Rep.		Prime Time Public Affairs						Public Affairs	
ETW	16	Personal-ism	Angel Force	Pope Fic-tion	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 "Red Tape" (CC)		Sabrina-Witch	Fresh Prince	Friends (CC)	Seinfeld (CC)	Buffy the Vampire Slayer "Fool for Love"		Angel "Darla" (CC)		WB11 News at Ten W/ Kaity, Jim, & Mr. G		Friends (CC)	Frasier (CC)
WKAQ	20	Abrázame Muy Fuerte		Yo Soy Betty la Fea		Película "El Beso Que Me Diste"				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 NIT First Round -- Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)				ATP Tennis Tennis Masters Series -- Early Rounds. From Indian Wells, Calif. (Live) (CC)				Sportscenter (CC)	
FAM	24	S Club 7 in L.A. "Game Boy" (CC)	Two of a Kind (CC)	Two of a Kind (CC)	Who's the Boss?	Step by Step	Step by Step	Freaks and Geeks "Pilot"		Freaks and Geeks "Beers and Weirs"		Early Edition "A Bris Is Just a Bris" (CC) (DVS)		700 Club (CC)	
USA	25	Walker, Texas Ranger "The Neighborhood"		Walker, Texas Ranger "Heart of the Dragon"		JAG "To Russia, With Love" (CC)		Nash Bridges "Down-time" (CC)		Movie ((("Out of Sight" (1998) George Clooney. A U.S. marshal falls for an escaped con she must capture.					Martin (CC)
NICK	26	Rocket Power	U Pick Nicktoons	Pinky & the Brain	Catdog	Hey Arnold! (CC)	Rugrats (CC)	Thornber-rys	Brady Bunch	Diff'rent Strokes	Facts of Life	Three's Company	Three's Company	All in the Family	All in the Family
WCVI	27	Headline News	Infotain-ment	Entertain-ment	Wildlife Journal	Cheaters (N)		Movie (* "Hot Boyz" (1999, Drama) Snoop Dogg, Silkk the Shocker, Gary Busey. (CC)				Headline News (CC)	Immortal (N)		(Off Air)
A&E	28	Magnum, P.I. A Vietnam vet has deadly plans.		Night Court	Newsradio (CC)	Law & Order "Star Struck" (CC)		Biography "Shelley Winters: Full Disclo-		City Confidential "Mid-night in Miami" (CC)		Investigative Reports (CC)		Law & Order "Conduct Unbecoming" (CC)	
E!	29	(5:00) True Hollywood Story "Rock Hudson"		Fashion Emergency	News Daily (N)	Celebrity Homes	Talk Soup (N)	Mysteries & Scandals	Mysteries & Scandals	True Hollywood Story "Bob Guccione"		Victoria's Secret Ooh La La!		Howard Stern (N)	Howard Stern
COM	32	"Cheech & Chong's The Corsican Brothers"		Saturday Night Live		Daily Show (CC)	Stein's Money	Movie (("Revenge of the Nerds II: Nerds in Paradise" (1987, Comedy) Robert Carradine.				Battlebots (CC)	Battlebots (CC)	Daily Show (CC)	Stein's Money
DISCH	33	Medical Diary	Medical Diary	Children's Hospital		Operation "Hip Graft"		Fiteam Power Hour "Fitness" Power of fit-		Body Invaders "Weight Control"		Cosmetic Surgery: The Cutting Edge		Fiteam Power Hour "Fitness" Power of fit-	
MTV	34	Road Home	Making the Video	Fear		Cribs	Cribs	mtvICON "Janet Jackson" (N)			Real World	Real World	Andy Dick (N)	Undressed (N) (CC)	Cribs
BET	35	(5:00) Rap City: Tha Bassment		106 & Park: BET's Top Ten Live Top music videos.			BET.com Countdown	Oh Drama!		Comicview		BET Live		BET News	BET Tonight
DISC	36	Your New House		Wild Discovery: Croco-dile Hunters		Wild Discovery "The Devil's Playground"		Sabretooth		New Detectives "Faces of Tragedy" (CC)		FBI Files "Shattered Shield"		Justice Files "Home Sweet Hell"	
CNNFN	37	N.E.W.			Moneyline Newshour (CC)		Biz	Business Unusual	N.E.W.			Moneyline Newshour	Business Unusual	Biz	Business Unusual
AMC	38	(4:30) Movie ((("Finian's Rainbow"		Three Stooges		Hollywood Lives and Legends (CC)		Movie ((("The Hustler" (1961) Paul Newman, Piper Laurie. A pool shark takes on the legendary Minnesota Fats.				Movie ((("The War of the Worlds" (1953) Gene Barry.			
VH1	40	(4:00) Movie ((* "Shake, Rattle & Roll" (1999) Bonnie Somerville.			Behind the Music "Flashdance"		Name That Video	100 Greatest Rock & Roll Moments on TV		100 Greatest Rock & Roll Moments on TV		Greatest Rock & Roll TV Moments 2000		Name That Video	Pop This!
TRAV	41	Adventure Bound Heli-copter pilot's license.		Treasure Islands	Vacation Video	Curious World (CC)		Sea World Revealed (N)		Edinburgh: Into the Mystic		Castle Ghosts of Scot-land		Sea World Revealed	
LIFE	42	Murphy Brown (CC)	Murphy Brown (CC)	Golden Girls (CC)	Golden Girls (CC)	Intimate Portrait "Minnie Driver" Actress Minnie Driver. (CC)		Unsolved Mysteries		Movie ((("Norma Jean and Marilyn" (1996, Biography) Ash-ley Judd, Mira Sorvino, David Dukes. Marilyn Monroe tries to destroy memories of her early life. (CC)					Golden Girls (CC)
TNT	43	Pensacola: Wings of Gold "Pensacola Shootout"		ER "Do One, Teach One, Kill One" (CC)		Pretender "Bulletproof" (CC)		Movie ((("When a Man Loves a Woman" (1994, Drama) Andy Garcia, Meg Ryan, Lauren Tom. Alcoholism threatens to tear a San Francisco family apart.					Movie ((("Don Juan DeMarco" (1995, Comedy-Drama) Marlon Brando, Johnny Depp.		
SCIFI	46	Star Trek (CC)		Hercules-Jrnys.		"Babylon 5-Gth."		Movie (((("Raiders of the Lost Ark" (1981) (CC)					Movie "Raiders of the Lost Ark"		
BRAVO	47	Movie ((("The Grass Harp" (1995) Piper Laurie, Sissy Spacek. An orphaned youth goes to live with two spinster cousins.				St. Elsewhere		Movie (((("The Godfather" (1972, Drama) Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, James Caan. A mafia patriarch tries to hold his empire together.							
DISN	48	Jersey "The Sadie Incident"	Boy Meets World "His Answer"	Smart Guy "Lab Rats" (CC)	Boy Meets World (CC)	Movie "The Luck of the Irish" (2001, Fantasy) Ryan Merriman, Alexis Lopez, Glenndon Chatman. (CC)			(:35) Movie "Brink!" (1998, Adventure) Erik von Detten, Christina Vidal, Patrick Levis. An in-line skater deserts his pals to join a rival team. (CC)				(:20) Totally Hoops (CC)	(11:50) Movie (("Leapin' Leprechauns!" (1995) John Bluthal.	
HIST	49	FBI: The Untold Sto-ries	History's Crimes & Trials	Black Sheep Squadron "Prisoners of War" (CC)		History's Lost & Found	History IQ	America's Most Secret Agency (CC)		Battle Stations: Spitfire Squadron (CC)		Liberty Ships of WWII (CC)		Tales of the Gun "Guns of Mauser" (CC)	
TOON	50	Dragon-Z	Outlaw	Tenchi	Superman	Scooby	Dexter	Powerpuff	Dexter	Bugs	Tom Jerry	Flintstones	Scooby	Powerpuff	Dexter
SOAP	51	Knots Landing "The Simmer"		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	Winter X-Games Day 2 Highlights		Motoworld (N)	RPM 2Night (N)	NHL Hockey St. Louis Blues at Philadelphia Flyers. From the First Union Center in Philadelphia. (Subject to Blackout) (Live) (CC)						College Basketball NIT First Round -- Teams to Be Announced. (Live) (CC)			
COURT	54	Catherine Crier (N)		Hollywood	Cops (CC)	Wanted	Forensic	Profiler (CC)		Cops (CC)	Cops (CC)	Crime Stories		Homicide: Life	
RMNC	55	Falling for a Dancer (Part 4 of 4)		(:05) Movie ((* "Enchanted April" (1991, Comedy) Miranda Richardson, Joan Plowright.				Royal Fam-ilies	Great Romances	Movie ((* "Evita Peron" (1981) (Part 2 of 2) Faye Dunaway, James Farentino, Rita Moreno.				Movie (("Lady Jane" (1986, Drama)	

People *in the* News

Mr. T making his television comeback

NEW YORK (AP) — Mr. T is back, fool.

The muscled and heavily accessorized actor who helped lead television's "The A-Team" has popped up lately in TV ads for 1-800-COL-LECT, Lipton foods and Nick at Nite.



Mr.T

"This is my comeback," he told Time magazine for its March 19 issue. "I'm here to entertain the people like no one else can. But you have to have a setback in order to have a comeback."

That came six years ago when he was diagnosed with T-cell lymphoma. Mr. T, whose real name is Lawrence Tureaud, kept news of the disease quiet, but soon decided to strike back.

"I decided to bring cancer out of the closet," says the 48-year-old former Army officer, bodyguard and professional wrestler. Now I wear my cancer like I wear my blackness — I'm proud!"

Glover glad to have taken cab stand

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP) — Grabbing a cab in New York City may be a whole lot easier, thanks to Danny Glover.



Glover

The actor, who played Mel Gibson's sidekick in the "Lethal Weapon" movies, complained in 1999 to the city's taxi commission that cabbies passed him by because he's black.

"Most black men I meet in New York City thank me because now they can get a cab," Glover told about 300 Colby College students.

Speaking at the private college on Saturday to help celebrate diversity, Glover told students to reject divisive social, ethnic and religious stereotypes and look at the world in a new way.

"Diversity is about honoring and celebrating our interdependence, our basic humanness," he said. "It's the very best of who we are."

CommunityCalendar

St. Croix

MARCH 14

The Republican Party of the Virgin Isands, St. Croix Branch, invites all Republicans as well as members of the public to their monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 at Gertrudes Restaurant. The guest speaker will be Mr. Joel Tutein, Superintendent National Park Services of St. Croix. For more information, please contact the Executive Director, Samuel Baptisted at 713-0507 or 692-3450.

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

MARCH 17

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.

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.

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.

MARCH 24

Interfaith Coalition will be having their Tenth Anniversary - Recognition Banquet at 6 p.m. Saturday, March 24 at St. George Botanical Gardens. Founders and directors of Interfaith Coalition to be honored at dinner prepared by different faiths, music by youth choir, steel band and 2 soloists. For tickets and more information call Jay Nix 692-2504.

General Announcements

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St. Joseph High School annual raffle winners: 1st prize winner - ticket #7476, 2nd prize winner - ticket #0585, 3rd prize winner - ticket #20359 and 4th prize winner - ticket #21955. The faculty and staff would like to thank you for your support in the education of their students.

Postmaster/Virgin Islands Coordinator Louis Jackson would like to inform our customers of changes in our PO Box uptime in the Caribbean District, which includes all Virgin Islands Post Offices and Stations in St. John, St. Thomas and St. Croix. Effective Saturday, March 10, all incoming First Class mail received daily will be distributed to the PO Boxes by 11 a.m. This is our commitment to you.

St. Croix Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. is seeking young candidates ages 7-9 to participate in the Annual Ms. Jabberwock Pageant. Please call 719-1846 for application or for more information.

American Red Cross will have a thrift shop sale from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday, March 5 - Friday, March 15. For more information, please call the Red Cross.

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 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. For more information, please call 713-9148 or 778-7464 .

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. Call 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. For more information call 773-7377.

Alcoholics Anonymous meets seven days a week in the USVI and four days a week in the BVI. For more information call 773-7171 or 776-5283.

Stepping Stones, Inc. wants you to donate your new or reusable building materials for use in single family homes by low income families. For further information call 772-0010.

The VI Domestic Violence Coordinating Council wants you to call 719-0144 if you represent a government office or private agency that would like to become actively involved in addressing issues of domestic violence in the territories.

Narcotics Anonymous wants to help you or anyone you know thats having a problem with drugs. Narcotics Anonymous is a non-profit fellowship or society of men and women for whom drugs has become a major problem. They meet regularly to help each other stay clean. Call 772-8421 for meeting location and Hotline.

Gems of Heaven Youth Choir invites young Christians of all denominations between the ages of 14 to 23 years old to become a member of gospel song. If you love to sing to the glory of God and are dedicated to spreading God's word in gospel song, your presence would be a blessing. Choir rehearsals are at 3:30 p.m., every Saturday, in the United Methodist Church (off Centerline Road, across from the fish market at the William's Delight traffic light.) For more information please call 713-9991 or 692-0928.

St. Thomas-St. John

MARCH 13

The Virgin Islands Humanities Council, along with the Beacon School of the Virgin Islands, invites members of the general public to the eighth presentation of the Traditional Lifeways Programs. This program, entitled Scratch Band Music is to be held in the Library of the Julius E. Sprauve School at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 13. For more information, interested persons should contact Ms. Faye Fredericks at 776-6692.

MARCH 14

The Virgin Islands Board of Education will be hosting the third town meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 14 at the Legislative Conference room, Cruz Bay St. John.

General Annoucement

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The Saint Thomas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority is calling all girls between the ages fo 8-11 to enter its annual Little Miss Delta Pageant. For applications and other information please contact Pamela Browne at 776-6500 extension 4506.

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.

The Charlotte Amalie High School Class of 72 will be drawing the raffle dated February 14 on March 4. Call Dale Gregory or Anthony Greene for further information.

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.

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.

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

The Kids and the Sea program is a nondiscriminatory marine safety program for children 8-18 years of age. Call 779-4994.

Saint Thomas Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc is having an Oratorical Contest for students enrolled in grades 6th - 12th. Contact Ms. Kay Cooper 776-0700 or Ms. Clemmie Moses 776-6658.

Obituary

Asta Louise O'Bryan James, age 66, of Est. LaGrange, Frederiksted departed this life on Saturday, March 3, 2001 at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City.

She is survived by her sons: Halvor and Hugh; daughter: Valerie; brothers: Rupert, Lloyd, Fitzgerald and Elliott; sisters: Rita O'Bryan-Jones and Nancy O'Bryan; brothers-in-law: Leon Jones, Otto James, Elmer James and Ralph James; sisters-in-law: Eunila James, Evelyn Messer-James, Gertrude James-Chinnery and Lurine O'Bryan; grandson: Lateef, Kaleaf and Jahkil; granddaughters: Zalika, Tamika, A-Mandela, Malika and Kashmir; great granddaughter: Tia; nieces: Nina O'Bryan, Natalie O'Bryan, Debra O'Bryan, Tashima O'Bryan, Malysha Jones, Michele and Jennifer; nephews: Lloyd O'Bryan, Jr., Winston O'Bryan, Ronald O'Bryan, Quageem O'Bryan, Rupert O'Bryan III, Howard O'Bryan, Gary O'Bryan, Diren O'Bryan, Marion O'Bryan; The Virgin Islands community; other relatives and friends too numerous to mention.

Funeral services will take place on Friday, March 16 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Frederiksted at noon with viewing beginning at 10 a.m. Interment will follow in the Frederiksted Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers the family has asked that donations be sent to the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in memory of Asta L. James.

Professional arrangements are entrusted to the James Memorial Funeral Home, Inc.

ClassifiedAds / Call 773-2300

Real Estate for Sale

TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN FOR SALE
By Owner
(1) 16 acre (+/-) Parcel
Best views of St. Thomas to Virgin Gorda and St. Croix's North Shore from
ESTATE MOUNT PLEASANT on St. Croix's Scenic Road East
(1/2 mile east of intersection of Routes 73 and 78)
Call 778-0665
$465,000. TERMS AND/OR TRADE

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**.

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.**

Comm. Real Estate

For lease-1000 to 5000 sq. ft. of commercial space. Can be subdivided to suit your needs. Handicapped accessible and parking at this high traffic area. Central A/C and lots of electric outlets. Serious inquires only **773-4693**.

For lease-2500 sq. ft. of office space, ready to move in! 8 offices, 2 conference rooms, 2 restrooms, emp. lounge, reception area, central A/C, handicapped accessible and parking. High traffic area. Serious inquires only **773-4693**.

For Rent

1 bedroom semi-furnished guest house overlooking Northshore and Gentle Winds. Clean and breezy. Great room with wonderful sea views, large private terrace, gas stove. $950.00 per month includes utilities. Call Liz **778-4686**.

1 bedroom, 1 bath apartment clean, unfurnished except for gas stove. Close to shopping and bus routes. $400.00 monthly with security deposit, water and power included. Call **713-1830.**

2 bedroom apt. located at #57 New Works, unfurnished from Trailer Park stop light, Airport road & New Work. Couple or two person. $600.00 per month. Security deposit/lease. Call **778-1947.**

Brand new studio apt. 1 person only. Completely furnished, linens, dishware etc. Dish T.V.+utilities included. Safe, secluded Buccaneer area. 15 min. from Hess. 3 min. from Christiansted. $600.00 per month + security. **773-4158** or **771-1345**.

For Rent- 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment, furnished. Utilities included. $695.00 per month plus security deposit. Little Princess area. Call **773-2990**.

One bedroom apartment for rent at 134 Clifton Hill #773-8379. Security deposit down. Stove & fridge. Call anytime ph.**#773-8379**.

Estate Belvedere has available a spacious studio and a secluded cottage. Both furnished. Use of huge pool. Laundry on premises. Each ideal for mature couple or single person. Studio $750.00 Cottage $765.00. Util. included **778-9157**.

Contractors- rooms for rent 5 Corner furnish apts wkly/monthly rental AC, washer/dryer, phone & cable, utilities. Call **778-5561** or **773-8830.**

For Rent: 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Semi-furnished, laundry room, large porch, swimming pool with Buck Island view. Estate Seven Hills $1,850.00. Call **773-9173.**

Golden Rock Apartments-one bedroom apartment, unfurnished, separate kitchen and living area, balcony and great view, water included on bus route. $500. Call **773-4693**.

Roommate wanted. Share large townhouse private bathroom, washer -dryer located on the beach, pool, tennis courts and security. Looking for a quiet middle-aged professional male Call **778-1993** for more information.

The Jaber Co. #17 Church Street. La Grande Princess-1 br. apartment with view of Christiansted-$575.00 includes electric. Coakley Bay-seasonal rental only- 2 br. 2 bath Condo-fully furnished, breezy, nice view-$1,800.00 monthly. Call **713-0720**.

One two bedroom apt. for rent at 553 Mon Bijou. For more information please call **778-3822**.

Warehouse for Rent. Can be used for mechanics, body works or storage. Holds from 10 to 15 vehicles. Outside space available also. $500.00 monthly. Call **778-5919**.

House for Rent

Beautiful, immaculate 3 Br, 3 Ba home on East scenic drive for rent. Pool, incredible view, private, low maintenance yard. $2000/month unfurnished. Ready to move into. First, last and security deposit required. **773-7644.**

For Sale

20 foot steel shipping container-antique Oak Pinball game-nautical Binnacle-Brass engine room telegraph-boat models-wood-wood desks-metal desks- computer desks- executive high back chairs-side chairs- stackers- lateral wood files-typing tables- small office fridge- L.R. chairs- small couches- wood shelfs. Trading Post **773-9668.**

40 ft. container trailer (on wheels) $4,000. Refrigerator/GE Profiler side-by-side/black $975.00 (orig. cost $2435.00). Microwave undercounter $150.00. Dishwasher $150.00, hand craved Teak Sofa $950.00, hand craved Balinese wall panel $950.00. **773-2824**.

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**

Estate St. George, beige italian leather sofa & love seat $750.00. Glass top dinning room table with marble pedestal & four carved chairs $600.00. LGE bird cage with stand $250.00. Excellent condition. Call **692-2668**.

King size, double pillowtop mattress and boxspring $800.00. Like new king comforter set $125.00. Twin mattress boxspring/ frame $350.00. Twin wicker head board $75.00. Two new twin comforter sets in greens & gold $80/each. **773-7644.**

Twin 150 hp Evenrude outboard engines. 1998, 600 hrs, counter rotation, fuel injection. $6,000.00. **773-6603.**

Autos for Sale

Diesel Nissan Truck wanted for parts. 1982-84. Any condition. Call **773-5882.**

86 Cavalier Z24 V6 4 speed needs slight repair in the front. Engine in excellent condition, very fast car $1,000.00 O.B.O. Call **626-3189**.

92 Paseo 5sp Testarosa red, has crack windsheild, has a damage bumper cover and front right wheel panel. Also, has alot of extras QT S-05 alloys 17" rims, panasonic, Cd player, w/alarm can be repaired at low cost $4,700.00 O.B.O. call **626-3189**.

98 Explorer Sport 30,000 miles 29,000 stateside miles. Leather interior, CD player w/changer. Excellent condition. Loaded. Owner was transferred back stateside. Blue book $18,000.00 for sale $15,000.00 O.B.O. **692-7335**.

For Sale: 88 Suzuki Samurai 4X4 in good running condition. $3,295.00 or best offer. Call **719-2754**.

1988 Acura Integra. Standard, 2 door A/C. $2,000.00. Call Kenny at **778-9750** (work) **772-3186**, **513-9655** (cell).

CJ5 1979 $500.00 rusty but runs, good for parts also Ford Econoline Van. Call (eve.) **772-0932**.

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.**

Constant Care Day Care "constantly caring safe and health environment" Ages: 5mths-4yrs also after school program located at #92 Est. Tipperary, C'sted. Tel. **778-8623.**

•DIVORCES•
$500 UNCONTESTED
AMELIA B. JOSEPH
Attorney at Law
St. Croix Avis Building
36AB LaGrande Princesse
773-6363

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.**

Help Wanted

East End St. Croix restaurant is looking for an **Executive Chef.** Preferred candidate will be a graduate of a recognized culinary school, shall possess a high degree of knowledge, creativity, professionalism and experience. Individual must be a team player who will motivate and train staff. Please send resume with salary expectations addressed to:
Executive Chef, P.O. Box 26467, Christiansted, St. Croix,00824.

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.**

Chenay Bay Beach Resort
Immediate openings available for friendly and experienced individuals for the following positions.
Front Desk Agents
Reservations Agent
Groundskeeper
Competitive wages and benefits
Apply in person
Monday through Friday 8 - 4pm.
CHENAY BAY BEACH RESORT
East End Rd. Rt. 82
C'sted, St. Croix

Security Guards for Wilco Services. Experienced, mature guards to work with trained dogs. Full-part time, nightwork, weekends, holidays. Call **773-5882**. Police clearance necessary.

Well established furniture store is looking for an experienced secretary and salesperson. Apply in person at Best furniture or call Bakir at **778-6440** for more information.

Tang How Brothers, Inc. is seeking combination welders, pipefitters and supervisors. Please call **778-8428**.

CAR WASH Attendant Wanted NOW... *for busy dealership*
Hard working, reliable person wanted. Driver's license & good driving record necessary.
Apply in person to Ralph at Metro Motors across from Chase Bank, Golden Rock
METRO MOTORS
Equal Opportunity Employer

Psychics\Astrology

Attention: David will tell you what no one will. Whatever you come for that's what you get. Unseen enemies, love, luck and much more. Before you call anyone else try me first. **772-9329** 8:00 am-10:00 pm.

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**.

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**.

Athena psychic love power. Specializes in keeping your soulmate. 100% guaranteed results. Removes all enemies and bad energies. Call for love power. Toll free: **1-866-245-1660 1-312-751-9632.**

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**.

SISTER CALY from Puerto Rico is on St. Croix. She can help solve all your problems. Health, Love, Court Cases. Any problems that are created can be solved. Call for appointment. **778–5146**

Messages

II Corinthians 5:21
For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

TEST YOUR HORSE SENSE

By Mark Skoneki

Score one point for a correct answer to each of the first five questions. The last question counts five points. Score yourself as follows: 0-1, poor; 2-4, average; 5-6, above average; 7-8, superior; 9-10, very superior.

1. What was the native nation of anthropologist Thor Heyerdahl?
a) SWEDEN
b) FINLAND
c) NORWAY
d) BELGIUM

2. When is All Saints Day?
a) JAN. 1
b) MARCH 1
c) NOV. 1
d) DEC. 12

3. Which actor was nicknamed "The Duke"?
a) JIMMY STEWART
b) JOHN WAYNE
c) JACK PALANCE
d) DEAN MARTIN

4. When did Samuel Morse develop the telegraph?
a) 1765
b) 1801
c) 1835
d) 1876

5. Actor Marlon Brando was born in what city?
a) NEW YORK
b) CHICAGO
c) OMAHA
d) MIAMI

6. Match the Oscar-nominated actress in this paragraph to her film in the following paragraph. Score one point for each correct answer.
a) Juliette Binoche
b) Laura Linney
c) Joan Allen
d) Julia Roberts
e) Ellen Burstyn
v) "The Contender"
w) "Requiem for a Dream"
x) "Erin Brockovich"
y) "Chocolat"
z) "You Can Count on Me"

ANSWERS
1. Norway 2. Nov. 1 3. John Wayne 4. 1835 5. Omaha 6. (a) Juliette Binoche - (y) "Chocolat"; (b) Laura Linney - (z) "You Can Count on Me"; (c) Joan Allen - (v) "The Contender"; (d) Julia Roberts - (x) "Erin Brockovich"; (e) Ellen Burstyn - (w) "Requiem for a Dream"

ClassifiedAds / Call 773-2300

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

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:
PROBATE NO. 14/2001

CARLTON EUGENE PRENTICE, SR.,

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 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

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 suc-cessful 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

"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.

Tough act to follow

Guillen not trying to replace A-Rod

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — Carlos Guillen doesn't have to look far to remember whose shoes he's filling in Seattle.

He has a pair of black spikes with A-ROD written on the back of the heel, a gift from the former Mariners' shortstop.

"I can't try to replace Alex Rodriguez," Guillen said. "I can only play as well as Carlos Guillen can. Alex is one of the best. He played well, but I think I can, too."

But no one — least of all the Mariners — expects Guillen to play as well as Rodriguez, the four-time All-Star who hit more than 40 homers in each of his last three seasons before signing a $252 million, 10-year deal with Texas.

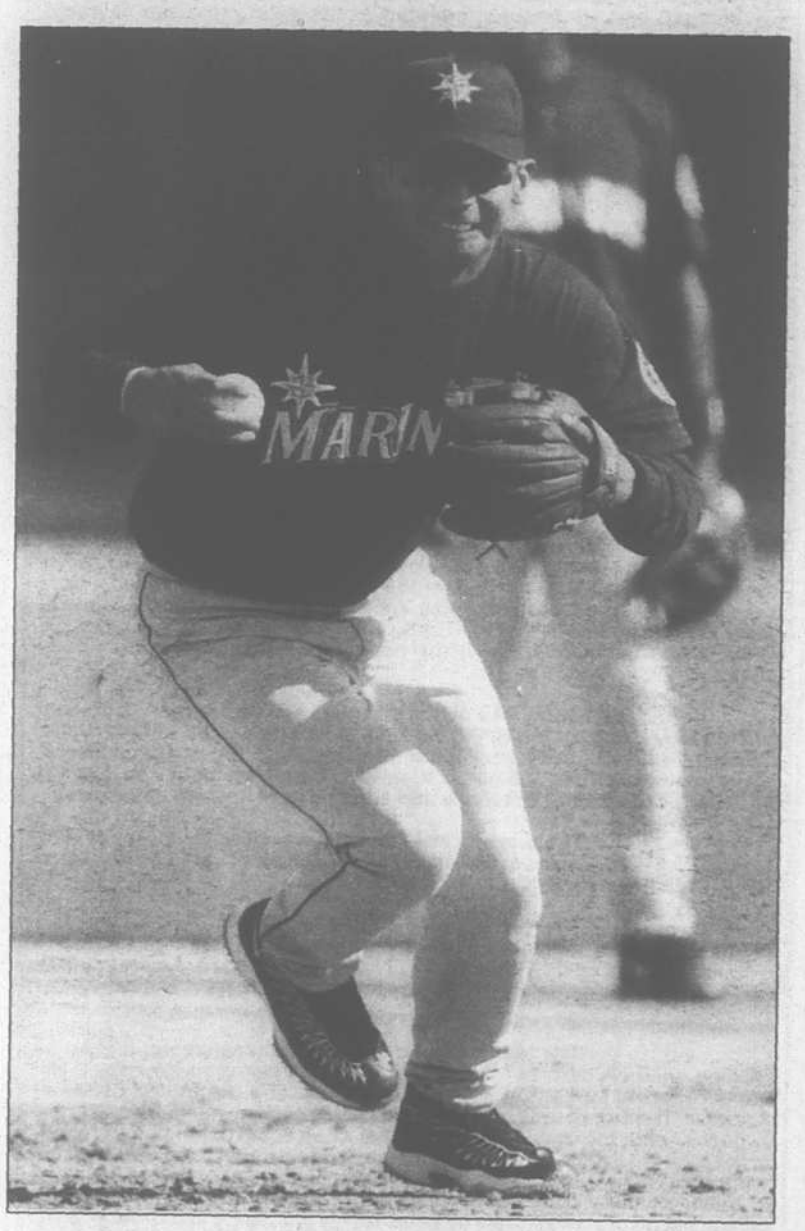
While Rodriguez hit .316 with 41 homers and 132 RBIs last season in leading the Mariners to the AL championship series, Guillen batted only .257 with seven homers and 42 RBIs in 90 games.

Guillen also had a team-high 21 errors last season despite playing only 90 games, while Rodriguez made only 10, and had the third-best fielding percentage among American League shortstops.

But Guillen thinks a switch back to his original position after playing third base last season should help.

"Now it's my chance to go back home to shortstop," Guillen said. "Shortstop is where I feel the most comfortable. It's good to be able to see the signs so you know what pitch is coming. That helps you set up on defense. At third base, I never knew what was coming."

So far this spring, Guillen has struggled at the plate, entering Monday with a .187 average and only one extra-base hit in 16 at-bats. But the Mariners aren't worried.



Associated Press

Seattle Mariners' Carlos Guillen looks down the line as he begins a rundown during drills at the team's spring training camp Wednesday in Peoria, Ariz.

"I think he'll do a fine job," manager Lou Piniella said. "I have all the confidence in the world in him. He doesn't have to go out and be an Alex Rodriguez. He should go out and be a Carlos Guillen."

Guillen has been able to play mostly in the shadows so far this year, as most of the attention in Mariners camp is on Japanese import Ichiro Suzuki.

Cardinals fly past the Astros, 7-3

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) — Larry Sutton homered off the center-field screen in the sixth inning, and a St. Louis Cardinals' split squad beat the Houston Astros 7-3 Monday.

Sutton, playing first base while Mark McGwire started for the other Cardinals' squad in Jupiter, connected off Jim Mann. Two batters later, John Mabry homered to almost the same spot, more than 410 feet away from the plate.

In the second inning, Sutton led off with a single and scored when winning pitcher Dustin Hermanson drew a bases-loaded walk. Placido Polanco followed with a three-run triple.

Sutton drew a walk during his only other plate appearance.

Hermanson allowed two runs and seven hits in four innings. Loser Octavio Dotel gave up four runs and four hits in four innings, struck out seven and walked four.

Houston's first runs came on a two-run double by Jeff Bagwell in the third. Glen Barker had an RBI triple in the ninth.

Crossword

by Eugene Sheffer

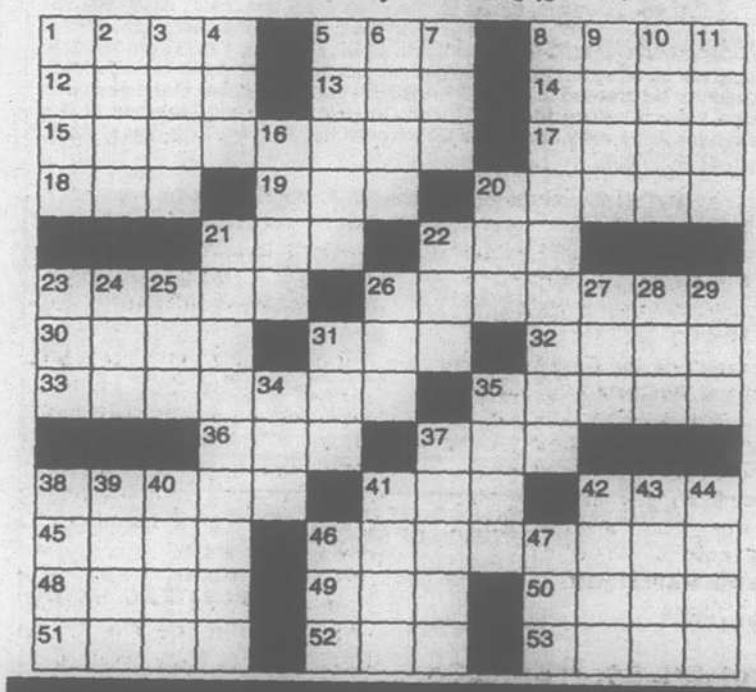
ACROSS
1 North American peninsula
5 Cistern
8 Leave out
12 Character-actor Jack
13 Stock market abbr.
14 Carpooled
15 Music-maker
17 Merry old soul
18 Chess pcs.
19 Snapshots
20 Vestige
21 Jazz fan
22 Conk out
23 Salivate
26 Floor-model TV
30 Make
31 Understood
32 Barbershop request
33 Sports arena
35 Kilmer classic
36 Important numero
37 Dance syllable
38 Roulette bet
41 Slithery squeezer
42 Existed
45 Endure
46 15-Across' partner
48 Canyon phenomenon
49 Anger
50 Stud fee?
51 Antelope's playmate
52 Senator Kenndy
53 Catcall?

DOWN
1 At one's — and call
2 Oodles
3 Gets stuck
4 Pump up the volume
5 Drop in on
6 Pinnacle
7 Anderson's "High —"
8 Symphony group
9 Othello, e.g.
10 Taking time off
11 Prepared to drive
16 October stone
20 Transgression
21 8-Down VIP
22 Mutt
23 — Moines
24 Rodent
25 Man-mouse link
26 Summa — laude
27 Raw rock
28 Fib
29 Type units
31 Pair
34 Squid squirt
35 Siamese
37 Prepared apples for the pie
38 Evidenced a pinprick
39 Chantilly, e.g.
40 Wimbledon great
41 Cow shed (Brit.)
42 Sommelier's suggestion
43 Regarding
44 Dither
46 Illuminated
47 Rotating part

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

Yesterday's answer 3-13



Cryptoquip

W Q J T V W N P Y O J T Y S C V S S C Y Z P H E C S R P Q S C Y P O Z Y P Y R P H K K H V U S H U N K V U Y E Y Q T Y S P W .

Saturday's Cryptoquip: MUSEUM DIRECTOR BIDS: "WELCOME AND, BY ALL MEANS, BROWSE TO YOUR ART'S CONTENT."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: C equals H

TV SportsWatch

(All Times EST)

Tuesday, March 13

MEN'S NCAA BASKETBALL
7 p.m.
ESPN — NIT, first round, Seton Hall at Alabama
10 p.m.
ESPN2 — NIT, first round, Memphis at Utah

NBA BASKETBALL
8 p.m.
TBS — Sacramento at Orlando

NHL HOCKEY
7 p.m.
ESPN2 — St. Louis at Philadelphia

SOCCER
2:30 p.m.
ESPN2 — UEFA Champions League, AC Milan vs. Deportivo La Coruna, at Milan, Italy

TENNIS
3 p.m.
ESPN — Tennis Masters Series Indian Wells, early-round coverage, at Indian Wells, Calif.
9 p.m.
ESPN — Tennis Masters Series Indian Wells, early-round coverage, at Indian Wells, Calif.

Briefs

Iverson's play status unclear against Bulls

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Allen Iverson, the NBA leader in points, steals and minutes, was listed as questionable for the 76ers' next game Wednesday against Chicago.

Iverson left Sunday's game against the Boston Celtics in the second quarter with a bruised left hip. He said after the game he did not expect the injury to keep him out long.

Iverson was hurt early in the first quarter when he dived for a loose ball after knocking it away from Boston center Mark Blount. After the game, which Philadelphia won 97-91, Iverson walked with only a slight limp.

Brewers send a dozen players to the minors

PHOENIX (AP) — The Milwaukee Brewers reassigned 12 players to their minor league complex on Monday.

Left-hander Rafael Roque was optioned to Triple-A Indianapolis, right-handers Jose Mieses and Jose Garcia were sent to Double-A Huntsville, and right-handers Matt Childers and Gene Altman were optioned to Class-A High Desert.

In addition, seven non-roster players were sent to the minor league camp.

'Prove it' time

Bulldogs determined to show they belong

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Ezra Williams walked off the court glumly at the Southeastern Conference tournament, believing his blunder in the final seconds had cost Georgia not only the game, but a chance to go to the NCAA tournament.

"I thought it was over when we lost to LSU," Williams said.

Instead, Williams and the rest of the Bulldogs were back on the court Monday, practicing for their first NCAA game since 1997. They still seemed a bit dazed at how everything worked out.

"Nah, I didn't think we would get in," senior guard Adrian Jones conceded. "I was thinking the worst."

No team will be watched more closely in the opening round than Georgia (16-14), which comes to the tournament saddled with the dubious distinction of equaling the most losses for an at-large team.

Villanova got in with 14 defeats in both 1990 and '91. Kansas State (1990) and LSU (1987) also were 14-loss teams that did enough to impress the selection committee.

Here's more fodder for Georgia's detractors: Only 10 other schools have won as few as 16 games and still received an at-large spot, most recently Texas in 1997.

"I love all those critics doubting us," Williams said with a smirk. "It pumps me up. I hope it motivates the rest of the team, too."

The selection committee rewarded the Bulldogs for keeping their heads above water — and .500 — while playing the nation's most difficult schedule.

"It has to be a factor," said Mike Tranghese, Big East commissioner and chairman of the committee. "There are too many teams from the power conferences who are trying to hide behind the fact that they are a member of a power conference."

Not the Bulldogs. Fifteen of their 30 games were against teams that made the NCAA tournament; they went 6-9. Another eight opponents (totaling nine games) will be playing in the National Invitation Tournament.

The Bulldogs are in the RPI's toughest-rated conference and also faced at least one team from four of the other five so-called power leagues: Atlantic Coast, Big Ten, Pac 10 and Big East.

"I just felt if we were to say no to Georgia, even though they were 16-14, it would be extremely hypocritical of us to sit here and talk about non-conference schedule strength," Tranghese said.

If the Bulldogs had not been selected, they would have distinguished themselves as the highest-rated RPI team (27th) ever to be left at home. Only three games — two against No. 104 LSU and an early-season matchup with No. 285 Coastal Carolina — were against teams outside the Top 100.



Associated Press
Georgia forward Shon Coleman, center, is flanked by Louisiana State forward Brian Beshara, left, and guard Ronald Dupree as they battle for the ball during the first half of their first round Southeastern Conference tournament game in Nashville, Tenn., Thursday.

Fogler bids farwell to South Carolina

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — South Carolina's Eddie Fogler wanted to leave the Gamecocks and his college coaching career a winner. He thinks he's done that.

"I'm lucky," said Fogler, who resigned Monday after going 15-14 in his eighth season with South Carolina. "After 30 years, over 1,000 college basketball games, from my perspective ... I believe I am leaving with my dignity, with my integrity and with my sanity."

Athletic director Mike McGee said Fogler agreed to leave when the university would not extend his contract. "He was not fired," McGee said.

Fogler will be paid $750,000 to buy out the remaining three years of his contract, McGee said. The money will come from athletic department funds and not from state sources.

The move came a day after South Carolina was selected for the NIT — its first-round game is Wednesday at Connecticut. McGee said Fogler will finish the season.

Fogler wanted a "stronger commitment" from the school. He said without that, "it would become increasingly more difficult to recruit, coach and maintain the present level of the program at best."

NBAStandings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Philadelphia	47	16	.746	—
Miami	38	26	.594	9 1/2
New York	37	26	.587	10
Orlando	34	28	.548	12 1/2
Boston	27	36	.429	20
New Jersey	22	43	.338	26
Washington	15	48	.238	32

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	38	24	.613	—
Charlotte	36	27	.571	2 1/2
Toronto	35	29	.547	4
Indiana	27	34	.443	10 1/2
Detroit	24	39	.381	14 1/2
Cleveland	23	39	.371	15
Atlanta	19	45	.297	20
Chicago	11	50	.180	26 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	43	19	.694	—
Utah	43	19	.694	—
Dallas	40	23	.635	3 1/2
Minnesota	37	26	.587	6 1/2
Houston	35	29	.547	9
Denver	30	34	.469	14
Vancouver	20	44	.313	24

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	42	19	.689	—
Portland	42	21	.667	1
L.A. Lakers	41	21	.661	1 1/2
Phoenix	37	25	.597	5 1/2
Seattle	32	33	.492	12
L.A. Clippers	22	43	.338	22
Golden State	16	47	.254	27

x-clinched playoff spot

NBASchedule

Sunday's Games
New York 86, Miami 83
Philadelphia 97, Boston 91
Toronto 101, Vancouver 84
Sacramento 105, Utah 90
Detroit 95, Indiana 78
Cleveland 124, Milwaukee 110
Phoenix 94, Houston 92
Dallas 111, L.A. Clippers 93
Seattle 109, L.A. Lakers 97, OT

Monday's Games
Chicago at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Miami at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Milwaukee at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Sacramento at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Indiana at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Boston at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Wednesday's Games
Detroit at Washington, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Denver, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 10 p.m.
Utah at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Avis NCAA Tournament Pool

Official Sponsor: Divi Carina Bay Hotel

Want to win a two-night stay at the Divi Carina Bay Hotel and Casino and two three-month subscriptions to The Avis?

Then complete the NCAA men's tournament pool bracket in today's Avis and fax the form to 773-5511 or drop off pool bracket to The Avis office on St. Croix. Forms must be received by noon Thursday.

Rules:

1. Employees of Divi Carina Bay Hotel and Casino and The Avis are ineligible to play.

2. Include name and number. Only one bracket per person.

3. Pool bracket must come from The Avis. No form from another publication will be accepted.

4. Winner takes all. The person with the most points after the championship game wins. In event of a tie, a drawing will determine the winner.

5. The point totals for each round are:
1st round —1 pts
2nd round —2 pts
3rd round — 4 pts
4th round —8 pts
Semifinals — 16 pts
Final — 32 pts

6. Winner will receive a two-night stay at Divi Carina Bay Hotel and Casino and two three-month subscriptions to The Avis.

Subcriptions will go to one person from each district.

For instance, a St. Thomas - St. John winner will receive a three-month subscription, but must give the next subscription to a friend on St. Croix.

If a St. Croix person wins, the victor gets a three-month subscription to The Avis and must give the next subscription to a friend on St. Thomas - St. John.

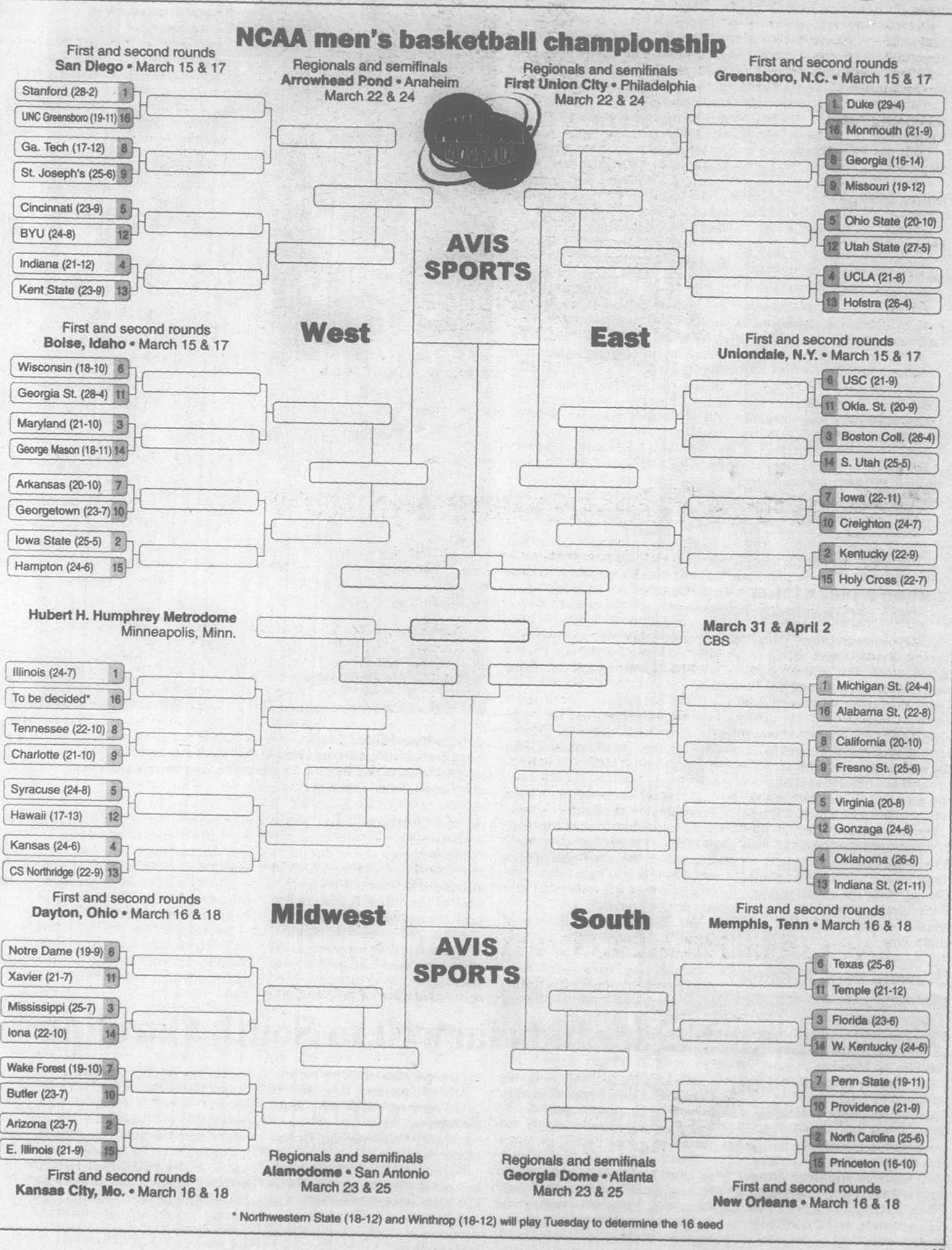
Good Luck

AVIS SPORTS

Contestant information

Name:_____

Phone#:_____



Lockhart takes flight

SPECIAL TO THE AVIS

ST. CROIX — Lawrence Lockhart put his speed to work in completing the four-mile Flight 64 Road Race in 22 minutes and 27 seconds. The race followed his excellent performances on Saturday in the March Madness track and field meet where he won the 1500 meters and the 800 meters; finished second in the 400 meters and ran a fine third leg in the 4 X 100 relay.

Lockhart plans to enter his second year of college in the fall. Leopold Fredericks, chopping a minute off his time from last year, finished second in 23:25, and Jabari Goodwin was third in 26:51.

Theresa Harper took first place in Sunday's race to become the series champion with a time of 27:57. The race was her final tuneup for the Shamrock Marathon in Virginia Beach, Va. next weekend.

Jo Shim took second place with a time of 28:29.

Jawana Goodwin was one of the seven athletes in the race — along with her sister J'Kiwa, brothers Jabari, Junuru and J'Kinde; and Xiamara Gomez and her brother Reuben Gomez — who competed in multiple events in Saturday's track meet.



Submitted photo

Lawrence Lockhart, the winner of the "Run Like the Wind" series, leads the 1500 meters Saturday in the March Madness track and field meet.

The race was the final event of the Virgin Islands Pace Runners "Run Like the Wind" Road Race Series.

Rhymer, UMass come up short

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. — Senior center Kitwana Rhymer of St. Thomas scored 15 points, grabbed 10 rebounds and dished out three assists as Massachusetts (15-15) men's basketball team lost 76-65 to Temple on Saturday in the Atlantic 10 tournament final.

Rhymer, a member of the Virgin Islands National team, concludes his senior campaign averaging 9.9 points, 7.3 rebounds and 2.1 blocks per game.

Saturday's game was shown live in the Virgin Islands. TV announcers made mention that Rhymer, who fouled out late in the game, was from St. Thomas during the nationally televised broadcast.

Thomas leads team to victory

HUELVA, Spain — Carl Thomas of St. Croix scored 14 points and blocked two shots as C.B. Ciudad de Huelva defeated Basquet Manersa, 70-65, Friday night in the Liga Espanola de Baloncesto (LEB). Huelva's record improves to 14-10 on the season.

White's 18 not enough for Gunco

ROTTERDAM, Netherlands — Calvert White of St. Thomas scored 18 points, dished out eight assists and grabbed seven rebounds as Gunco Rotterdam dropped their fourth-consecutive divisional game with a 87-84 loss to Canoe Jeans Saturday night in Dutche Eredevise action.

Gunco drops to 10-16 overall and 0-4 in pool B.

White is the two-time defending slam-dunk champion in the league.

Lewis, Hallandale finish in second place

LAKELAND, FL — Senior guard Akil Lewis of St. Thomas scored 16 points and picked up five steals as Hallandale's boys basketball team was defeated by Lakeland Kathleen, 76-52, in the Class 4A state championship game Saturday in front of 5,456 fans at the Lakeland Center. Hallandale (23-9) came out flat. Kathleen, fueled by the large home crowd, started with a 10-0 lead.

With 1:22 left in the first quarter, Hallandale trailed 22-5.

Aska seals Hitman victory

AVIS STAFF

Virgin Islander Joe Aska's return to the Bay Area was an overwhelming success.

The former Oakland Raiders running back put the finishing touches on his team's victory with a 2-yard touchdown dive late in the fourth quarter as the New York/New Jersey Hitmen defeated the San Francisco Demons 20-12 in the XFL before 33,522 fans Sunday at Pacific Bell Park.

The game was seen live in the Virgin Islands.

Aska, of St. Croix, added a conversion run and watched as the Hitmen recorded five sacks of the Demons' quarterback. Aska ran the ball eight times and tallied 28 yards. The victory was the second on the road for the Hitmen (2-4), while the Demons (3-3) failed to win their second straight for the third time.

Basketball Scores

ELEMENTARY PLAYOFFS

(Boys)

Emanuel 52, Country Day 30

EMANUEL — E. Edwards 24, M. Cabrera 14, A. Quinones 6, R. Archibald 4, A. Cintron 2.

COUNTRY DAY — S. O'Reilly 15, J. Bhagwardass 8, J. Brown 3, M. Komlanc 2, B. Biggs 2.

Good Hope 23, Henderson 21

GOOD HOPE - S. Hodge 9, C. Floyd 8, K. Fleming 6

HENDERSON — H. Belardo 9, M. Lawersen 6, A. Christopher 4, T. Williams 2.

The Avis: 773-2300

Briefs

deWilde, Kelly claim tennis championship

ST. CROIX — Don deWilde and Les Kelly defeated Nic Vitale and Dan Lawrence 6-4, 6-4 to claim the Buccaneer Hotel Tennis Club Doubles Championships.

Suzanne Lindemann and Jane Severson joined to defeat Flavia Logie and Angela Klein 6-2, 6-3 to take the women's title.

The championships were completed this past weekend. Twenty-three teams took part in the nine-day tournament.

Jonathan Edwards and Rick Heckman won the men's consolation title and the women's consolation crown went to Catherine Giraud and Florence Logan.

Los Hispanos and Caneel Bay triumph

ST. JOHN — Frank Olea homered in the first inning and Tomas Sanchez batted 4-for-5 as Los Hispanos nipped Thunderstorm 13-1 in the Marlins Softball League playoffs at Winston Wells Ballpark in Cruz Bay.

In Saturday's other game, Caneel Bay beats Varlack 17-7. Dorn Callwood hit two homers for Caneel.

STT's Wilkinson hits grand slam

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — Junior outfielder Kurt Wilkinson of St. Thomas hit a grand slam as the New Mexico State baseball team recorded a series sweep of Hofstra with a pair of victories Sunday. The Aggies outscored the Flying Dutchmen 21-5 in the opener, before dismantling the visiting pitching 17-8 in the nightcap.

In Game 1, Wilkinson's grand slam gave New Mexico a 9-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. In Game 2, Wilkinson was one-of-two at the plate with two runs scored and two RBIs.

Wilkinson, a former Elrod Hendricks West Little League all-star, leads the Aggies in batting average (.478), RBIs (37), stolen bases (13) and fielding (no errors). The Aggies are now 21-5 on the season and have already surpassed the win totals from the previous three seasons.

Little League

(PLASKETT WEST)

Sunday

(11-12)

Reds 17, Dusters 2

Reds 17 5 1

Dusters 2 0 6

W-O. Davila (8Ks); L-K. Lewis. Top hitters: Reds, C. Nieves, M. Franklin, A. Christopher, Davila 1-2.

Saturday

(11-12)

Reds 2, Angels 6

W-M. Franklin. Top hitters: Reds, M. Franklin 3-3, A. Christopher 2-3, A. Knight 2-3; Angels, K. John 1-4, k. Emmanuel 1-2. Home runs: M. Franklin.

Young Youths 9, Angels 0

Young Youths 9 5 0

Angels 0 0 1

W-T. Martin (16Ks); I-I. James (16Ks). Young Youths, T. Martin 2-2, C. Williams 2-4.

(9-10)

Reds 19, Young Youths 1

Reds 19 13 0

Young Youths 1 0 6

W-K. Simmonds (9ks); L-D. Brow. Top hitters: M. Ortiz 4-4, J. Rivera 1-1. Home run: J. Rivera.

(PLASKET EAST)

(5-6 Pee wee)

Mongoose Dem 24, Tune Squad 23

Top hitters: Mongoose Dem, J. Scott 3-3, N. Springer 3-3, J. Osario 3-4; Tune Squad, I. Plante 4-4, I. Phillips 3-3, D. Stevens 3-3. Home runs: Scott 2 HRs, Plante 1 HRs, Phillips 2 HRs, Stevens.

(9-10 division)

Stars 15, Lions 13

W-E. Bonit; L- S: Simmonds Jr. Top hitters: G. Clarke 1-1, T. Somme 2-3, E. Bonit 3-4; Lions, D. James Jr. 2-3, K. Simminds 1-2.

(7-8 division)

Suns 17, Mongoose Dem II 7

Suns 17 3 1

Mongoose Dem 7 4 0

W-N. Williams; L-J. Torres. Top hitters: C. James 2-2, L. Abramson 1-1, J. Martin 1-1; MD, N. Chapparo 1-2, J. Torres 1-2.

(9-10)

Suns 24, Mongoose Dem III 11

Suns 24 8 1

Mongoose Dem III 11 3 3

W-J. Miranda; L-R. Burke. Top hitters: M. Fleming 4-4, W. Felix 2-4, W. Joseph 1-2. MDIII, A. Torres Jr. 1-1, B. Williams 1-2. Home runs: Fleming 2, Williams.

(11-12)

Suns 10, Tigers 0

Suns 10 10 0

Tigers 0 2 3

W-D. Nesbitt; L-N. Williams III. Top hitters: Suns, D. Nesbitt 2-3, A. Thimpson 2-3, J. Marchena 2-3. Top hitters: Nesbitt.

(9-10)

L'll Indians 15, Lions 1

L'll Indians 15 5 2

Lions 1 1 4

W-L. King; L-D. James Jr. Top hitters: LI, M. Graham 1-2, S. Newton 1-2; Lions, S. Simmonds 1-1. Home runs: M. Graham.

(7-8)

Mets 15, Young Stars 0

Mets 5 4 0

Young Stars 0 0 2

W-C Joseph; L-S. Crespo. Top hiters: Mets, C. Joseph 1-2, M. Techeira 1-2. Home runs: C. Joseph 9 (grand slam), Techeira.

(14-16)

Tigers 15, Outcasts 10

Tigers 15 5 0

Outcasts 10 8 6

W-L. Lang; L-K. Matthews. Top hitters: Tigers, K. Christopher 1-2, J. Shillingford 1-2; Outcast, A. Ledesma 3-3, A. Shillingford 3-3, L. Lang 2-2.

Expos 9, Outcasts 2

W-F. Rivera; L-A. Ledesma. Top hitters: Expos, L. Reyes 2-4, J. Encarncion 2-4; Outcasts, D. Phillips 2-4, C. Joseph 1-2.

SportsTuesday

Today's weather



Strong strokes

(Above) St. Croix Dolphin Nicholas Collabella competes in the 100 butterfly Sunday during the VI Long Course Championship Swim Meet at the Country Day Pool. (Right) Blue Marlin Jamie Shufflebarger competes in the 200 breaststroke Sunday during the VI Long Course Championship Swim Meet at the Country Day School pool.

Photos by Alda Anduze



40-Caliber outguns Stealers for title

ISAAC CAUSEY

ST. CROIX — The 40-Caliber team graduated from bridesmaid to bride on Thursday night. And how sweet it is.

Angel Torres hit two homers, and pitcher Tony Perez shut down the Stealers when it counted as 40-Caliber claimed their first Bob Owens Slow Pitch Softball Championship after finishing second twice before to the Stealers.

"This was revenge," Perez said Thursday night after his team held on for a 14-8 victory at D.C. Canegata Ballpark.

"It's their turn," said Stealers manager Ronald Schjang Sr. "They have it. We didn't go down easy. This will make the league better for next year."

The Stealers were trying to win their third title in four years.

The Stealers were coming off a come-from-behind 14-13 victory over defending champion Champagnes on Thursday night. In that game, the Stealers scored five runs with two outs as Dave Davis hit a two-run game-winning homer during the last at-bat.

When the Stealers came up to plate in the seventh and final inning trailing 14-7, Perez was ready.

"I was here the other night, so I saw what they did," Perez said. "I tried not to walk anybody. I wanted to throw strikes and let my defense take over."

After Stealers' Ronald Schjang Jr. started the bottom of the inning with a solo homer, Perez retired the next three batters in order. Freddie Pimentel popped up to left field. Then, 40-Caliber's Jose Berrios made the next two outs, catching sharply hit fly balls by Kai Schjang and Guido Schjang at the outfield fence.

The Stealers forced a second game by beating 40-Caliber 18-13 earlier on Monday night.

In the second contest of the double-elimination playoffs tournament, Torres blasted a three-run shot in the fourth inning to give his team a 9-3 advantage. 40-Caliber added three more runs in the fifth and two in the sixth. Eric Luis also had a homered for 40-Caliber.

The Stealers, led by John O'Reilly's four runs batted in, scored three runs in the second, one in the fourth and three in the fifth to go along with Schjang's solo blast in the seventh. O'Reilly had two homers for the Stealers.

The Stealers and 40-Caliber each finished the regular season 11-5. Earlier in the playoffs, 40-Caliber beat the Stealers 12-9 in an extra-inning game.

Windies in good position

GEORGETOWN, Guyana (AP) _ Solid contributions by the West Indies top order batsmen set up a winning opportunity for the home team at the end of the fourth day, Monday, of the opening five-day Cable & Wireless cricket test against South Africa.

Despite being pegged back early in the day, the West Indies exploded in the final session as they stretched their second innings from its overnight 50 without loss to 286 for four. That represents an overall lead of 258 entering Tuesday's final day.

Ramnaresh Sarwan led the way with an enterprising, unbeaten 71, while Marlon Samuels (51), Brian Lara (45), Chris Gayle (44) and captain Carl Hooper (31 not out) all contributed significantly.

The South Africans enjoyed the early exchanges after removing Wavell Hinds in the day's third over with only one run added. Pace ace Allan Donald foxed the left-hander with a slower ball that found the edge through to wicket-keeper Mark Boucher.

Led by Donald's example, all the visiting bowlers held an immaculate line and length and stifled the West Indian batsmen. The morning session realized just 44 runs from 28 overs for the loss of two wickets.

Chris Gayle continuing from 26, found the going much tougher than Sunday afternoon when he lashed six powerful boundaries. He added two more fours in pushing on to 44 when he was caught behind trying to force left-arm spinner Nicky Boje through the off side.

The 21-year-old, who topscored with 81 in the first innings, batted 161 minutes and faced 112 balls.

Marlon Samuels and Brian Lara, in their contrasting styles, began to break the South African stranglehold after lunch.

Lara, surviving a sharp chance to Neil McKenzie at short leg off Boje before he had scored, lifted the tempo with successive leg side fours off Donald.

The 20-year-old Samuels was prepared to play the anchor role, biding his time in spite of a few alarms.

The pair put on 69 for the third wicket in just under two hours when Lara was out just short of a half century for the second time in the match.

Hodge seals Falcons' victory

AVIS STAFF

ST. CROIX — Sharif Hodge scored the winning basket with a minute remaining as Good Hope advanced to the second round of the St. Croix Elementary Basketball League playoffs with a 23-21 victory Monday over Alexander Henderson.

Hodge's basket gave Good Hope a 21-19 lead. Seconds later, Henderson's Hector Belardo hit two free throws for the final margin of victory.

Hodge finished the contest with nine points as Good Hope beat the defending champion Henderson Elementary for the first time in three tries this year.

"I think we wanted it more," said Good Hope forward Chris Floyd, who scored eight points. "They probably thought they were going to beat us again and we weren't going for that."

Good Hope will take on unbeaten Pearl B. Larsen at 3:30 p.m. today in a semifinal game at the Juanita Gardine gym.

In another playoff game, Charles H. Emanuel beat Country Day 52-30. Elvis Edwards scored 24 points for Emanuel and teammate Marcos Cabrera added 14 points.

For Country Day, Stephen O'Reilly chipped in 15 points.