FDA removes Chilean fruit from markets; cites cyanide poison

WASHINGTON (AP) — In one of the largest actions of its kind, the Food and Drug Administration on Monday warned consumers not to eat any fruit imported from Chile after traces of cyanide were found in Chilean seedless red grapes.

The cyanide was discovered after an anonymous threat telephoned to the U.S. embassy in the capital of the South American nation.

The FDA urged that all Chilean fruit be removed from U.S. markets while more tests continue. Virtually all the fresh grapes sold in the United States this time of year come from Chile, FDA officials said.

Karen Brown, a spokeswoman for the Food Marketing Institute, which represents supermarkets, said: "Those companies that have Chilean fruit are responding to the FDA request and are withdrawing the product from their stores."

Hours after the FDA announcement, Canadian officials followed the U.S. lead and urged stores in Canada to remove all Chilean produce.

Health officials said it is unlikely the fruit caused any deaths or injuries. "If you have any doubt, don't use it," said Karen Brown, a spokeswoman for the FDA.

The tests were made on grape samples in Philadelphia and they followed an anonymous threat telephoned to the U.S. embassy in March 2.

The FDA announced it would conduct a test of the fruit to determine if it was contaminated by cyanide.
**Opinion**

**MUSTANG DAILY**

**The newspaper for Cal Poly.**

Since 1916

April Kays, editor
Anne Cekola, managing editor
Terri Lightfoot, sports editor
Terry Lightfoot, spotlight editor
Nicole Jones, editorial dean
Debbie Fanelli, art & photo editor
Peggy Yeyna, business manager
Jacqueline Tash, faculty adviser

**Musings of a graduating editor**

By Coleen Bynde

It's nearing the end of my five years in college (and my 19 years total of schooling, including nursery school) and it makes me want to mention 22 years of dependence on my parents.

I'm at a turning point in my life. I'm excited. I'm scared. Can I really change the world and stay idealistic, like I always claimed I would? Can I really survive on a journalist's salary? Have my parents and my schooling prepared me to be a productive contributor to society?

All the things I promised myself I would do and be, will I really be able to do them and be them? Was it just the foolishness of youth that made me think things I cannot change with my words, make it better, and not care that I did not make very much money?

Now I must put all these questions to the test. My all life thus far has been the same; I have been mainly a student, and most of my challenges have come from school. Now my challenges are perhaps largely unknown to me, except for the mundane ones of paying the rent each month, making outrageous insurance payments, and going to the doctor. What will be my report card? What will be my middens and finals, papers and projects? Who will be my professors? All this lies before me, and each student at Cal Po, regardless of whether we finish the year or not.

...I often hear returning students laugh about how naive we college students have never been on the world's. They say we have accepted the world, though we have lived in it for all our days. We in college do see the world, live in the world, learn about the world, there are people all over the world living in it. Then there are people, perhaps old, 12-year-old fighting wars, people starving, people living and dying in wealth beyond most of our imaginations.

What part will play in that world?

Because we have been to college, likely our part will be much more enjoyable than those of those I just mentioned. But we have the added responsibiity, if we choose to meet it, of making conditions more favorable for those who cannot help themselves. Since we are privileged to attend Poly, I think it is fair that we give something back.

As opinion editor on the Mustang I, have had the wonderful opportunity to meet the people from all walks - that of responsibility to our fellow humans, not just here in the United States but in the world. Since Cal Poly is a largely technical school, I have often harped on the liberal vs. technical issue. If I am right, I think engineers and other technical majors at Poly have no social conscience, I apologize. Yet I am convinced it is only possible to understand the whole, with the urgency of responsible citizens, (using knowledge gained in the media), that can save our planet from the destruction it seems we are intent upon bringing.

I have had great respect for engineers. My father is a well-known structural engineer, my older brother is graduating from Berkeley's graduate school of structural engineering, and my boyfriend of a year and a half is a Cal Poly graduating senior in electronic engineering. I love them all and certainly would not say that I think engineers as a whole are bad people.

I have only tried to inform the public of the potential harm and danger that engineers and other technical disciplines can do. I have urged that engineers follow their conscience, and use their knowledge to help the world, not hurt it. Money is a seductive mistress. Many engineers will go to Lockheed and develop more Stealth bombers instead of trying to develop a renewable energy source or a way to heal the ozone layer, or clean up the ocean which I love so much. Even if I were an engineer myself, I alone could not save the world. It takes the efforts of every person in society, from the full-time mother to the full-time scientist, to better our world.

As opinion editor, I do not mean to point out where Cal Poly can improve, and in ways we can make it, and the world, better. I do mean to inform the public of the potential dangers engineers and other technical majors at Poly have no room for improvement, as does any univ- ersity or entity in the world. To say that I don't mean to mention issues raises a question that Poly has room for improvement, as does any univ- ersity or entity in the world.

I have only tried to make Cal Poly a little better than it was when I got here. I can only hope I have succeeded.

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**Letters to the Editor**

ASI films made money in past

Editor — This letter is in response to the near-canceling of ASI films. Although ASI films has been losing money roughly: $1,000 in 1987; $2,600 in 1988; and this year too, it has never lost money before 1987. The policy before 1987 was that any money made would be given to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee accepted this surplus of money cheerfully and has used it to fix any red marks in its budget. Times have changed, the Finance Committee is furious that the only thing that ASI films has funded them for the past couple of years is a bill. Wouldn't you have thought by this time that the Finance Committee would have stockpiled some of the money made by ASI films over the years in case ASI films was ever in financial trou-

BLOOM COUNTY

by Berke Breathed

Mustang Daily is published daily by the Cal Poly journalism department. Masthead editorial reflects the majority view of the Editorial Board.

Engineers: the sleuths of Poly

Editor — I am puzzled. Why would anyone with a liberal arts education be involved with an engineering type? Only one reason I can see, an ad- dratic barrel, are in the School of Business, the bottom of the ac-

Confront bigotry and ignorance

Editor — In an eloquent and forth-

week letter (Feb. 27), Beverly Reed expressed her support of Angie Estes and Peggy Lall, identified herself as a les- bian. Ms. Reed expressed dismay that no one, other than herself,

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SEE LETTERS, page 3
Redlining and racist lending practices have depressed Oakland's low-income commercial development, found a report released Monday. The report noted that redlining has damaged the public image to keep some neighborhoods free of discrimination. "Racially striking patterns and admissions for minority businesses and the lending and appraising practices to support them," said the report.

Community Development, said the study was not saying the same thing," but he agreed, and one banker dismissed the implication of why Lant has written to support Estes and Reed. I write as a heterosexual, a Christian, or a conformist group. But there is a sense of relief and freedom in doing so — even if that sense of freedom comes at a very high price. I know this from personal experience. It takes considerably more courage to openly identify as gay or lesbian than as a heterosexual, a Christian, or a white Anglo-Saxon. And that is a grandiose understatement. I understand some of what Lant, Estes, and Reed are telling us, why they do so, and what they are experiencing as consequences of their courage and honesty. I personally found their letters to be interesting, informative, and even inspirational. And I thank them for that.

Robert J. Huot
English Professor Emeritus

On Cal Poly's homophobia

Editor — Because so many people have been angered by my saying — in an earlier letter — that before my marriage I had lived most of my adult life as a lesbian, let me offer a brief explanation of why I made that statement. My major point in writing the editorial I did (with Dr. Estes) and in writing a subsequent letter to the Mustang was that Women's Week did not deal with (and when I worked on the Women's Week committee) had consistently refused to deal with lesbian issues, clearly a feminist concern. 

In making these criticisms, I was obviously discussing the homophobia of this event. But if I am prevented from mentioning that I was the object of homophobia, that as a lesbian I felt excluded from Women's Week, how am I to protest my own oppression or the oppression of gay people on this campus? How can I even speak of the forces that exclude me if I am so completely marginalized that I cannot name my oppression? It is obviously an insoluble problem — say that you are gay and be accused of speaking the unacceptable, or remain quiet, acceptable, and "proper" and make no challenge whatsoever to oppression. As I see it, the problem is not so much that I had lived my life as a lesbian; the problem is rather that I have uncovered one of Cal Poly's nastiest secrets — its intense, unremitting, vicious homophobia. The saddest aspect of the situation is how completely silenced and terrified Cal Poly's gay population has been. But to be quite honest, I do not blame them. Since my openly critical letter, I have been the object not just of criticism and anger but also of hostility and even criminal harassment. And the harassment I have endured convinces me further of the Women's Week committee's insensitivity to gay students and staff in insisting that if lesbians want lesbian issues covered during Women's Week, they should cover these issues themselves. How can a lesbian student speak of her life if she has to do so ensures that she will be the object of intense hatred, that she will most assuredly be ostracized. I believe, sadly, that for the gay population at Cal Poly a life of secrecy is absolutely necessary. We at Cal Poly who allow such situations to persist, who do not even speak out against them, should seriously question our systems of values.

Peggy Lant
English Department

Report cites Oakland redlining

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Redlining and racist lending practices combine with a poor public image to keep some Oakland neighborhoods depressed, according to a City Council report released Monday. The study, which reviewed lending and appraising practices for homes, businesses and commercial development, found striking patterns and admissions of discrimination. "Redlining and racist practices severely restrict access to capital for minority business and the city's low-income neighborhoods," the report said.

It also described a public image problem that the city is being over-run with drugs and crime, and in its initial draft, found the city's school system is a very special friend for whom I have deep affection and admiration. But to be quite honest, I do not blame them. Since my openly critical letter, I have been the object not just of criticism and anger but also of hostility and even criminal harassment. And the harassment I have endured convinces me further of the Women's Week committee's insensitivity to gay students and staff in insisting that if lesbians want lesbian issues covered during Women's Week, they should cover these issues themselves. How can a lesbian student speak of her life if she has to do so ensures that she will be the object of intense hatred, that she will most assuredly be ostracized. I believe, sadly, that for the gay population at Cal Poly a life of secrecy is absolutely necessary.
The backstroke propels Cal Poly through nationals

By Dave Pagan

The Cal Poly women's swim team broke eight school records and recorded the nation's top 200-meter backstroke time during last weekend's NCAA Division II National Championships in Buffalo, N.Y.

Amy Holland's winning time of 2:06.46 in the 200 backstroke earned her national champion honors and led the Mustangs to a fifth place finish.

Team co-captain Janice Leyna placed third and Barb Carson took fourth place to complete a Mustang sweep of the 200 backstroke.

"Amy was superb, she was the most consistent performer throughout the weekend," coach Rich Firmin said.

In addition to her record-breaking time, Holland, along with seven other Mustangs, earned All-American honors.

"We did incredibly well considering we doubted our score from last year and moved up from ninth to fifth place," Janice Leyna said. "If we would have had a diving team, we might have done even better.

Tania Zenger, who also took All-American honors, led the Mustangs in point production with 33 points towards the team total of 204. Zenger placed third in both the 200 and 100-meter freestyle, 10th in the 400-meter Individual Medley, and was a member of the 800-meter relay team that placed third.

The 12 women who traveled to the championships were the only Mustangs who qualified. The men's team failed to earn a spot and the team has no divers.

"All of the swimmers earned points for the team, so as a team we performed extremely well," Firmin said.

The five swimmers who did not qualify for All-American honors earned honorable mentions, Firmin said.

He said defending national champion Cal State Northridge again took the top honors at the championships.

"They are a very strong team as are all the teams that finished higher.

Firmin is already preparing his strategy for next season in an effort to further improve his team's performance.

"Looking at next year, we have the potential to compete for the national championship," said Firmin. "We will lose Janice but with a strong recruiting effort we should be in good shape.

$19 million baseball team lacks All-Stars

NEW YORK (AP) — The most expensive lineup in baseball this season costs $19,494,874 and doesn't even include Jose Canseco, Kirby Puckett or Wade Boggs.

The best lineup in baseball, using the 1988 Associated Press major league All-Star team, goes for $7.5 million less.

In fact, Orel Hershiser of the Los Angeles Dodgers is the only AP All-Star to make the All-Money team. His 1989 salary, including a prorated share of his signing bonus, is $2,766,667, the highest in baseball this season.

On the All-Money team, Hershiser would throw to Gary Carter of the New York Mets ($2,180,714). The infield would feature Eddie Murray of the Los Angeles Dodgers at first ($2,244,462), Juan Samuel of the Philadelphia Phillies at second ($1,45 million), Cal Ripken of the Baltimore Orioles at shortstop ($2,466,667) and George Brett of the Kansas City Royals at third ($1,803,979).

Samuel played second base last season but Philadelphia is planning on moving him out to the outfield this year. If he weren't countering, new All-American team

Seniors Sean Elliott, Danny Ferry, Stacey King and Sherman Douglas. Make room for one more freshman All-American, Chris Jackson of Louisiana State.

Jackson, college basketball's all-time freshman scoring leader, became only the second player of his class to make The Associated Press All-America team, announced Monday.

He was joined by Arizona's Elliot, the only repeater on the first team, Duke's Ferry, Oklahoma's King and Syracuse's Douglas.

The voting was done by the same national panel of sportswriters and broadcasters which selects the weekly Top Twenty. Each voter selected three points with distributions on a 5-3-1 basis.

Elliot, the 51st player to repeat as an All-American in the 41 years a team has been selected, was the top vote-getter with 324 points and was named the first team for 63 voters, just edges over 63, 63, 41 and King, 316 and 60.

The second team was comprised of seniors King and Sherman Douglas, Houston's Glenn Rice of Michigan,ookie Blacklock of Oklahoma and Charlie Smith of Georgetown, and sophomore Jay Edwards of Indiana.

Ferry, the 6-10 forward averaged 20.0 points and 9.2 rebounds while handling 3.0 assists per game. He is the only Atlantic Coast Conference player to score at least 1,200 points, 900 rebounds and 480 assists.

"Danny is probably the most high-profile player to come down in the last decade," Blue Devil coach Mike Krzyzewski said. "He's exceeded my expecations on the court and off the court. He's such an amazing person that has been the most publicized Duke student in probably this year, 318, 318, and King, 316 and 60.

The second team was comprised of seniors King and Sherman Douglas, Houston's Glenn Rice of Michigan,ookie Blacklock of Oklahoma and Charlie Smith of Georgetown, and sophomore Jay Edwards of Indiana.

The third team was seniors Edwards and Douglas, St. John's Hank Gathers of Loyola Marymount, the nation's leading scorer and rebounder, and Lionel Simmons of La Salle, and freshman center Alonzo Mourning of George Washington.

Jackson is the nation's second-leading scorer at 30.1 per game, a mark which will be of interest in the years to come. The Chicago Cubs ($2.1 million).

Salaries were obtained by the AP from several player and management sources. For Murray, Brett and Rice, income deferred without interest is discounted to reflect present-day value.

Steve Sax of the New York Yankees would take over at $1,266,667.

The next most expensive outfield in baseball would have Jim Rice of the Boston Red Sox ($2,325,385), Andy Van Slyke of the Pittsburgh Pirates ($2,15 million) and Barcelona's 10s all-time leading scorer, leads the team in scoring at 22.0 and assists at 4.2 and is second in rebounding at 7.0.

"He is considered the perfect swimmer, switching easily from the forward to the guard position," Krzyzewski said.

"A year ago when he was playing for the Santa Clara club, a great deal was required of Sean to do this, but nothing like the load he's had this year," Wildcats coach Larry Olsen said. "It's great to see this kind of recognition for a guy who, in my opinion, is the ultimate team player."
Cal Poly's ROTC program

From war zone to workplace

With movies like Platoon, Full Metal Jacket, and Hamburger Hill, it's easy to get the impression that war is like being in hell with no fire extinguisher.

But, "being all you can be" in today's Army can mean never having to shoot a rifle in combat.

The reality of the modern military for most U.S. Army Reserve Officers Training Corps cadets at Cal Poly sounds more like they're preparing for a job with IBM.

"In some respects, I guess you could say we are like IBM, but we're not in it to make money," said Lt. Col. Sol Garrett, Cal Poly department head of military science.

Garrett said the main objective of ROTC is to give cadets a basic introduction to the military and develop management and leadership skills — skills in an increasingly technological military.

Capt. Mark Enright, a Cal Poly ROTC professor, said about half of Cal Poly's 70 cadets are engineering majors and about 10 are females.

He said ROTC offers two programs — a two-year and a four-year. Cadets receive financial assistance for school and guidance in career choices.

Earley said the ROTC doesn't "bother anybody" to join. It relies on individuals showing an interest in it.

"We don't get out so much polling or canvassing the public or running up and down the streets," Earley said. "But we do

send out a lot of direct mailers and we make phone calls, usually from lists where individuals show they have an interest in the program."

ROTC has been at Cal Poly since about the 1930s or 1940s, Earley said.

And over the years ROTC has changed. Warfare today is "military science" with its in-

creasingly sophisticated machinery.

But even with the emphasis on engineering and management skills, cadets still have concerns about battle, which involves mental and physical preparedness.

The military science program at Cal Poly offers a host of courses on everything from military professionalism and ethics to wilderness survival.

But when books and bonfires won't answer the questions, sometimes cadets turn to combat veterans like Maj. Sgt. David Stanley, ROTC senior program

ROTC battalion commander who served as an enlisted soldier in the Army for three years, said he joined ROTC for the management and personnel training.

Greenwich, a senior architecture major, is also looking to start his career as a helicopter pilot.

"I've always wanted to fly," Greenwich said.

The last page of the ROTC "Margin of Difference" handout shows four chief executive offi-

cers of major corporations in a before and after photo.

The before photo shows them in uniform and the after photo shows them in business suits some 20 years later. The headline reads, "A lot of captains of in-

dustry started out as second lieutenants."

Then again, the fact remains a lot of second lieutenants died in Vietnam. Who knows who'll sur-

vive the bullets of the battlefield to make it to the battles in the boardrooms.

Cal Poly ROTC depart-

ment.

By Steve Harmon

Photo: All photos are of Cal Poly students during ROTC training exercises. Photographs courtesy of Cal Poly ROTC depart-

ment.
WASHINGTON (AP) - Ignoring a veto threat by the administration, a House committee rejected President Bush's minimum-wage proposal Tuesday and instead joined a Senate panel in backing legislation calling for a bigger increase.

The Democrat-controlled House Education and Labor Committee voted 22-13 along party lines to reject Bush's call to raise the minimum from $3.35 an hour to $4.25 by 1992 while allowing employers to pay new workers $3.35 an hour for their first six months on the job.

Then, by the same vote, the committee sent to the full House legislation to increase the minimum wage to $4.65 an hour through three annual increases.

Democrats in both chambers have indicated a willingness to compromise with Bush on a training wage but have said such a provision must have a clear requirement for actual training and a shorter life than six months.

Most Democrats also want the training wage to apply only to young people; Bush wants it to cover any worker hired by a company for the first time.

In exchange for some compromise on that issue, the Democrats expect Bush to accept their proposal to lift the minimum to $4.65.

But Labor Secretary Elizabeth Dole, raising the possibility of a veto for the second time in a week, indicated such hopes might prove unfounded.

"He has said, and he means it, this is as far as he can go," she told the House panel. "We've already compromised."

Shortly after Mrs. Dole concluded her testimony, the Bush administration formally submitted its own proposal.

Committee chairman Augustus F. Hawkins, D-Calif., said he expected the full House to pass the measure next week. Senate passage is expected to come in the next few weeks as well.

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State

Senate narrowly approves assault weapon restrictions

SACRAMENTO (AP) — A bill that would virtually ban the sale in California of more than 40 percent of the state’s apple crop because of a cancer threat from a chemical used to control the fruit’s ripening, was scheduled to speak to a Senate committee last Tuesday afternoon in L.A.

School officials said the sales bans were prompted by a private interest group’s report that the popular chemical dazinocide, or Alar, poses a cancer threat to children. The public interest group said research shows that is because children’s bodies are smaller and because they tend to eat more apples.

The controversy over Alar was prompted by a report from the Natural Resources Defense Council, which said dazinocide poses a greater cancer threat to children than to adults. The public interest group said research shows that is because children’s bodies are smaller and because they tend to eat more apples.

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Midast conference focuses on Issue of Satanic Verses

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Foreign ministers of Muslim nations began a four-day conference Monday with 150 items on the agenda but attention was focused on "The Satanic Verses" and Iran's order that its author be killed.

The Saudi foreign minister op­posed Iran's position, but a discussion of the novel and author Salman Rushdie head the agenda. Referring to Iranian response to the book, he cautioned against "this rabid invasion aimed at undermining the Islamic faith and personality."

By Monday, no mention of Rushdie had been made in con­ference coverage by the govern­ment-guided Saudi media.

Saudi Arabia and other Islamic countries have criticized Rushdie and banned his novel, which Muslims say blasphemes Islam, but have not supported Iranian patriarch Ayatollah Khomeini's instruction to his followers to kill the writer.

Last year, the Saudis broke off diplomatic relations with Iran, accusing Iranian authorities of stoking anti-Islam regime of­fending terrorism among Shiites in the kingdom.

Prince Saud al-Faisal, the Saudi foreign minister, said Monday that debate on the Palestinian issue and recognition of the provisional government organized by Afghan guerrillas should have precedence on the agenda.

King Fahd of Saudi Arabia opened the meeting of the 46­member Organization of Islamic Conference with a three-minute speech welcoming participants and wishing them success.

All Akbar Velayati, Iran's foreign minister, did not attend. Mohammed Khodadadi, head of the Iranian foreign organization's depart­ment, represented Iran.

Khodadadi said Rushdie's book "is the most important issue to be debated by the conference as far as we are concerned," and called the "immediate extradition of Rushdie" a "necessary condition to take place on that score."

Teheran television, monitored in Cyprus on Monday, said 190 members of the Islamic Conference had sent a letter to the organization of Islamic Con­ference asking that the meeting take a stand on the book "pleas­ing Islamic society."

Shiites dominate Iran but make up only 10 percent of the world's 1 billion Moslems, most of whom are of the Sunni sect.

Senior conference delegates described the Iranian position on "The Satanic Verses" as "re­jected" and said it could give Moslems bloodthirsty image they do not deserve.

Conference sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said no delegates other than Iran's appeared will­ing to support Khomeini's ex­ecution order.

"Most foreign ministers are convinced Iran is trying to ex­ploit the affair to score propaganda gains," an Arab diplomat said.

"Diplomats said moves were under way to persuade Iran to drop its demand for Rushdie's immediate extradition at the meeting with Sunni Moslem foreign ministers."

They said some delegations suggested Western nations be asked to keep "The Satanic Verses" and most believed Rushdie should be given an Islamic trial and a chance to re­ceive the 151 votes needed to defeat the motion, his government's formal recognition of Afghan guerrillas as the "official" government.

On Wednesday, March 15, 1989 Mustang Daily

Papandreou defeat censure

Greek premier begins to rebuild political credibility

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Socialist Premier Andreas Papan­dreou began putting the political pieces together today after his government was de­molished by a financial scandal, defeated a censure motion in Parliament, and the vote just before midnight Monday was 155-135.

It followed three days of raucous and often angry debate and charges by Papandreou that the United States has tried to encourage his political demise.

The censure motion was filed by the conservative New Democracy party, which claims Papandreou and senior Cabinet ministers received millions of dollars in payoffs in a case involving a Greek banker now in jail in Salem, Mass.

Three deputies of the premier's governing Panhellenic Socialist Movement abstained from the vote and Papandreou said they were kicked off the party as a result. The Socialists held 157 of Parliament's 300 seats.

Had Papandreou failed to receive the 151 votes needed to defeat the motion, his govern­ment would have had to resign with elections held in 30 days.

In the five months since the scandal first emerged, it has triggered the resignations of seven Cabinet ministers.

Prior to Monday's vote, Papandreou indirectly accused the CIA of helping the jailed banker, 34-year-old George Koskotas, flee the country.

During the parliamentary debate, the premier also rejected the CIA's challenge of helping the jailed banker, 34-year-old George Koskotas, flee the country.

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Most foreign ministers are con­vinced Iran is trying to ex­ploit (the death threat against Rushdie) the affair to score propaganda gains."

—An Arab diplomat

Most of the allegations were reported in the March 13 issue of Time magazine. Papandreou has threatened "painful" consequences if Koskotas is not extradited to Greece before June elections.

On Sunday, he hinted at con­duct a two-day antigovernment trial this weekend that may lead to his ouster. Papandreou and his aides have been criticized for their handling of the crisis.

New Democracy leader Con­stantine Karamanlis led the op­position attack against the gov­ernment and called the premier's allegations of CIA involvement "a children's story."
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Nation

Senate opens Cheney hearings, swift action promised

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defense Secretary-designate Dick Cheney cautioned Tuesday against any U.S. reductions in military strength in response to changes in the Soviet Union, as the Senate Armed Services Committee opened hearings on President Bush's replacement for Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger.

"It would be a great mistake to reduce our own military capabilities and lessen our defense posture," the six-term Wyoming congressman told the committee.

Coming after a bitter Senate debate over the Tower nomination, the first day of consideration of Cheney's nomination was marked by strong words of praise, sentimentality and in-digations of new bipartisanship. Sen. Malcolm Wallop, R-Wyo., a member of the Armed Services panel, said Cheney's "sense of humility and a sense of presence served him well and will serve America well."

If the Senate confirms Cheney, Wyoming's only congressman, it will be a "big loss to Wyoming, a big loss to the House but a big gain to America."

— Sen. Malcolm Wallop

President Bush's replacement for Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger will be a "big loss to the White House and Pentagon, but a big gain to America."

Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., the committee chairman, said the panel "agreed with the White House to do what we could this week" on the nomination, but added that they would "not be taking any short-cuts."

The Georgia Democrat said ac-tion on the nomination would be determined by the speed in which the committee receives the necessary information on Cheney. The panel is still awaiting letters from the White House and Pentagon counsels on Cheney's financial record and the FBI background check.

At the White House, press secretary Marlin Fitzwater was asked when the FBI checks on Cheney would be finished.

"I don't think we'll move those as rapidly as possible ... I don't have a specific time," he said.

The committee has received the requested tax returns, a statement from Cheney's doctors and a completed committee questionnaire.

Bennett stops import of semiautomatics

WASHINGTON (AP) — National drug control director William J. Bennett announced on Tuesday the immediate suspension of imports of semiautomatic weapons.

The order, effective immediately, will bar the importation of more than 110,000 weapons for which applications for import are pending.

Bennett said he made the decision after consulting with Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady and Stephen E. Higgins, the director of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, who supported the decision. In the past three years, ATF has approved the import of 88,000 such weapons, and in 1989 so far, the ATF has received requests to import many more than the total imported during the previous three years, Bennett said in a statement.

"The ATF has the authority to regulate the importation of weapons into the United States, to make sure they fall into certain categories," Bennett spokesman Dick Pedersen said.

"We're saying some of these weapons may not fall into some of the prescribed categories, such as hunting."

"We're not going to approve these pending applications until we have time to look at the situation further, because the filmmakers may not fall into the conditions set forth for their importation," he said.

Discovery's problems pose no threat to NASA flight

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A puzzling pressure reading and a malfunctioned hydrogen tank forced Discovery's astronauts to dim lights and turn off computers and other systems to conserve power today and raised the possibility they may return to Earth.

Mission Control emphasized the trouble posed no threat to the five-man crew or its mission but could cut the flight from five to four days.

The crew wanted to assure their scientific experiments as usual after the "powering-down," taking pictures of environmental damage areas of the Earth such as the rain forests of Brazil and the Mexican coastline.

The order came three hours after the crewmen were awakened by the raucous shouts of James Brown's "I Got You (I Feel Good)."

Flight director Ron Dinnore told Discovery commander Mike Coats to turn off some lights and other systems to assure the crew could complete a four-day mission and still have capacity to spend two extra days in orbit in case bad weather or some other problems made it impossible to land on the fourth day.

If the tank can't be fixed, the shuttle probably will come home early, he said. Pennigton said a decision would have to be made by early Thursday.

Even if the flight were cut short, he said, the astronauts would achieve most experiment objectives.

Mission Control's Pierre Thoût told Discovery commander Mike Coats to turn off some lights and other systems to assure the crew could complete a four-day mission and still have capacity to spend two extra days in orbit in case bad weather or some other problems made it impossible to land on the fourth day.

Among the systems shut down were computers deemed unnecessary and two data display screens. The shuttle has numerous backup computers.

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**Salvador’s military admits to massacre of 10 peasants**

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Its attempt to blame leftist rebels for the massacre it is now admitting that its armed forces massacred 10 peasants in September and says nine soldiers will stand trial in the case.

U.S. Ambassador William Walker hailed Sunday’s admitted as a breakthrough for human rights in this country where right-wing death squads have for so long slaughtered with impunity.

“The high command of the armed forces is admitting that their earlier denials (of the massacre) have not held up under examination and that the peasants were wrongfully, scurrilly,” Walker said Sunday.

But he added that it is too early to see if the development signals an end to the military’s traditional immunity from prosecution in human rights cases.

The court ruling mistakenly blamed the Sept. 21 slayings on the guerrillas but reversed itself Sunday after months of investigation by journalists and civil authorities and pressure from the United States. It called the slaying a case of “massacre” by a “right-wing death squad” and said nine deaths were attributable to it.

No Salvadoran military officer has ever been tried or tried for a human rights abuse despite the torture and murder of thousands of suspected leftist or their sympathizers during the nine-year civil war.

Only eight lower-ranking members of the security forces have been convicted in human rights cases, among them five former military police in the Dec. 2, 1980 slayings of four American churchwomen on the outskirts of the capital.

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While the university moves forward with condom vending machines on campus, a new course about sexually transmitted diseases will address STD's causes, treatments and prevention.

The course, Biology 310X, will be offered next quarter for the first time. Dr. Donald Smilovitz, a San Luis Obispo physician who specializes in internal medicine and infectious diseases, will teach the class.

Smilovitz has presented seminars and published several papers dealing with sexually transmitted diseases.

The course will focus on the causes, treatments and prevention of diseases such as AIDS, gonorrhea and syphilis.

"The idea of teaching the course was brought to Smilovitz by V.L. Holland, a biological science professor and Harry Fierstein, the associate dean and a professor in the School of Science and Mathematics.

"We thought students may have a need to hear about sexually transmitted diseases," said Smilovitz.

Smilovitz said the class will be taught in a clinical form with presentations and discussion of cases. He also plans to have other speakers from the community come to class.

The two-unit, credit/no credit class will be offered Wednesdays from 4 to 6 p.m. Students can enroll through CAPTURE under course code RM43.

Winners will be chosen during the second week and the mural and turn it in before the first week of spring quarter.

3SD. Students must complete a cartoon of the design for the mural and turn it in before the first week of spring quarter.

The English Department wishes to continue the series of murals in the English Building. The new mural will celebrate the series of murals in the English Building.

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Vets want flag taken off floor

By Michael J. Levy

Art student's display starts angry protests

CHICAGO (AP) — About 2,500 veterans and supporters from nine states marched Sunday at the Art Institute of Chicago to demand that officials remove a U.S. flag placed on the floor in an art student's exhibit.

At one point, participants in the most recent of a series of protests attacked about a dozen students holding a counterdemonstration, swinging fists and throwing hot coffee. Police intervened, and no one was injured.

A veteran and four students were arrested, said Police Officer Mark Hakos.

The veteran was charged with battery; two students were charged with disorderly conduct and the other two were charged with criminal damage to property for painting flags on the side.

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Motive of van bombing not found

The wife of Navy Capt. Will C. Rogers escaped the blast unharmed, getting out of the van moments before it caught fire and burned at a busy San Diego intersection.

On Monday in Los Angeles, Sen. Pete Wilson, R-Calif., said the FBI appeared to be backing off from the theory that the bombing was internationally directed terrorism. Instead, the FBI is looking into a possible motive of state-sponsored terrorism.

"This is a misguided protest," Barry Casey, 31, said of the veterans' protest. "They're trampling all over everything the flag stands for."

The FBI is not eliminating anything," Orrantia said.

Lancer Koga, a senior art major from San Jose, and Donna Constable, a senior English major from Livermore, took honors at a two-forensics tournaments held last weekend. Koga placed second in Dramatic Interpretation and qualified for the National Individual Events Speech Tournament, while Constable was a semifinalist in both Dramatic Interpretation and Programmed Oral Interpretation.

At an attorney-judged Debate tournament hosted at San Francisco State University last week, Call Poly debaters Mary Hamblen, a senior political science major from San Luis Obispo, and Julie Kanas, a senior speech communication major from Monterey, were quarter-finalists in the open division of the Cross-Examination Debate. Clark Friesen, a junior speech communication major from Arroyo Grande, and Debbie Dougherty-Wright, a senior speech communication major from El Dorado, were also quarter-finalists in the open division of debate.

"It is their belief a sophisticated terrorist, one who is trained in the use of explosives for car bombings, would have done a better job and that (Mrs. Rogers) would not have escaped," Wilson said.

"It is either someone acting independently, on their own, which I suspect to be the case, or it was a coordinated act of state-sponsored terrorism. There are no indications point to the former."

The FBI said security guard Alicia Lloyd.

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