IRS bashing, bit of politics as millions scramble to deadline

By Rob Wells
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — As millions scrambled to meet Tuesday night’s tax deadline, politicians engaged in a related spring ritual: a lot of ideas for reform and a little IRS bashing.

The Clinton administration proposed a package of 66 mostly minor initiatives to simplify the tax code, such as making tax payments with a credit card and streamlining rules for claiming deductions. Children younger than 19.

Republicans in Congress, meanwhile, spared up for a week’s worth of events making a case for dramatic tax reform and focusing on allegations of mismanagement and computer problems at the Internal Revenue Service.

“I am convinced that if most members of Congress did their own taxes, we would have had tax reform long ago,” said House Ways and Means Chairman Bill Archer, R-Texas, who wants to replace the tax code with a national sales tax.

Post offices in nearly every major city will extend hours or offer late mail pickup Tuesday night. Some offices are planning special events. At the post office in the northern California city of Pleasanton, taxpayers can seek revenge by drinking an IRS agent in a water tank.

President and Mrs. Clinton did their filing early and released the results on Monday. They reported income of just over $1 million — nearly three-fourths of it from Mrs. Clinton’s book “It Takes a Village” — and paid taxes of about $200,000. They gave the book’s proceeds to charity after taking out enough to pay for the taxes on the book royalties.

Meanwhile, the private Tax Foundation estimated that the average American will see his tax bill increase about $200, 1997.

If taxpayers feel beat up after finishing their taxes this year, that’s nothing compared to the almost daily drubbing of the IRS.

Critics portray the agency as wasting billions on a computer system upgrade, condemning IRS workers for snooping into tax files and accuse the agency of singling out conservative groups for audits.

But taxpayers don’t seem to be focusing on that.

“It’s pretty much a red herring,” Mike Cahn, a 39-year-old computer programmer in Anchorage, Md., said of the IRS problems. And an Associated Press poll last week found seven in 10 adults giving the agency a positive rating on its ability to promptly and accurately handle audits.
The Hirudaya Holistic Life Center celebrated its grand opening Sunday, April 13 in San Luis Obispo with free refreshments, samples of holistic health treatments, door prizes and lots of information.

Holistic healing is healing of the total self including mental, emotional, physical and spiritual process including acupuncture, massage and energy methods.

Owners Diane Shabazian and Rhet met in a deep tissue massage and energy training. Shabazian was an anthropology at U.C. San Diego and plans to start working toward a degree in psychology at Cal Poly soon.

"Holistic healing should be used as a preventive action," Shabazian said. "It's like getting your teeth cleaned."

"Hirudaya" means the true heart where the in-breath and out-breath merge into stillness. Shabazian said that they chose this word for the center's name because it has a peaceful definition.

The center offers massage including Reiki massage which uses energy and the power of the mind to heal. They were both initiated by a Reiki master, which allows them to open up to the energy.

"It is definitely part of the Chinese medical system," Rhet said.

The center also offers a 200-hour massage certification program. "Each city has its own licensing regulations, because there is not a state board in California," Shabazian said. "It makes it difficult when you move, (because you have to meet the new regulations)."

The two picked San Luis Obispo because Shabazian fell in love with the area when she visited her parents, who moved to Piño Beach five years ago. Rhet likes the area because the community is receptive towards a holistic approach to life. He wants to find every outlet of holistic life in the community. He has already found outlets including White Herron Sangha, a local group supporting a holistic lifestyle and Hope Dance, a journal about making a difference in San Luis Obispo County.

They both follow a way of life called voluntary simplicity, which reduces consumption and promotes a barter system; gathering individuals with a list of different skills and exchanging hours of one skill for another.

Shabazian supports the community by volunteering at Cass Solana, a rehabilitation center for women. They want a holistic lifestyle available to everyone, so they offer free day retreats and Friday meditations to allow the community to get involved.

The Hirudaya center is not the first local holistic healing office. Cler Therapy — cellular level emotion release — offers similar services. Owner Patricia Griffin offers treatment using a combination of Chinese and Indian medicine, massage and kinesiology to pinpoint problems that individuals can't solve in normal counseling.

She often works with students to help them work out problems with study skills and class aptitude. The method she uses allows the person to stay in charge. Using their bodies' own mechanisms in a more focused way, they are able to solve their problems.

"Mind body techniques just work like crazy," Griffin said.

Other holistic services available in San Luis Obispo include The Center for Natural Medicine, which is a larger center offering a varied staff including a chiropractor, acupuncturist, massage therapist and others.

**TAXES**

from page 1 returns and inquiries.

Few success stories will be on display in the Republican-controlled Congress this week.

On Tuesday, the House will consider a bill making it a crime for IRS workers to spy on confidential taxpayer records. It will also take up a non-binding resolution on family tax relief and a proposed constitutional amendment that would require a two-thirds congressional vote to raise taxes.

In fact, the GOP pushed through a change in the House rules two years ago requiring a three-fifths vote for any measure containing a "federal income tax rate increase" — then found the need to waive the rule several times over the next two years as legislation came to the floor on Medicare premiums, earned income tax credits, small business tax breaks and other politically sensitive issues.

Criticism of the IRS isn't confined to Republicans. Rep. Bernard Sanders, an independent from Vermont, asked at a House hearing Monday why IRS auditing of wealthy Americans and estates was on the decline while there was a rise in audits of those earning less than $25,000 a year.

A tax expert with the General Accounting Office responded that staffing and budget cutbacks have led to fewer audits in general but that there has been an effort to crack down on fraud in the Earned Income Tax Credit program for poor families.

And there were overtones of the next presidential campaign. Despite Kevin McCarthy's GOP vice presidential candidate in 1996, was making speeches in Iowa, a key state in the presidential primaries. And the conservative policy group he co-chairs, Empower America, has targeted a national radio campaign backing House Speaker Newt Gingrich's call for eliminating capital gains taxes.

Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., pushed for a different kind of a tax cut: replacing the social security payroll tax by 2 percentage points.

The Clinton administration's proposals include freeing some 1.7 million dependents, typically children, from filing separate tax returns. Under current law, dependents, with $700 in earned income in 1998 (paper carriers), must file returns and pay taxes on all unearned income, such as interest on a savings account.

GOP lawmakers will even use a bit of political theater to get their point across. Rep. Billy Tauzin of Louisiana and several colleagues plan to dump the tax code in Boston Harbor — loaded in a plastic, price cooler painted as an old fashioned tea chest.

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**SUMMIT COURT**

The Supreme Court skirts debate over cocaine sentencing discrepancy

By Richard Carrell

Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court cleared the way Monday of the national debate over the diverse sentencing laws for crack and powdered cocaine, an issue with racial and class overtones.

The court, without comment, rejected an appeal that challenged as racially discriminatory federal sentencing laws that punish crack cocaine offenders more harshly than those caught with powdered cocaine.

Crime statistics indicate that crack is an inner-city drug while powdered cocaine is used more often in the suburbs.

Monday's action, not a ruling but merely a denial of review, let stand the 10-year prison sentence of a man convicted of distributing crack cocaine in the District of Columbia.

"There is a perception among African-Americans that the court has refused to hear the case," said George Economou, a National Council of La Raza legal director.

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College of:

• Agriculture
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• Business
• Engineering
• Liberal Arts & UCTE
• Science & Math

Location:

Ag Bridge
Dexter Lawn - near Architecture Bldg.
Dexter Lawn - South End
Dexter Lawn - North End
Ag Bridge
University Union Plaza

In the event of rain all polling locations will be in University Room, Room 207, Chumash.

Wednesday, April 30th & Thursday, May 1st 9:00 am -- 7:30 pm
Army trainees accuse drill sergeant of rape

By Kurt Jansen
Associated Press

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md. - In the first trial to come out of the Aberdeen sex scandal, two Army trainees testified Monday that their drill sergeant raped them in his office.

A 21-year-old private said she was returning to her barracks from the bathroom when Staff Sgt. Delmar Simpson ordered her into his office, pushed her onto a couch, pulled off her shorts and raped her.

"I begged him to stop," the private said. "He was laying on top of me. There wasn't a whole lot I could do."

The second witness, a 22-year-old specialist with the National Guard, said Simpson pushed her onto a bed in his office and raped her when she went to confront him about his criticism about her uniform and nail polish.

"He was laying on top of me. I couldn't go anywhere," the woman said. "I didn't know what he was going to do because he was so mean."

Simpson, 32, is accused of raping six women in the most serious case to emerge from the Army's investigation into sexual misconduct at the weapons-testing center 30 miles northeast of Baltimore.

It is also the most racially and politically charged case to come out of Aberdeen.

All 12 of the Aberdeen soldiers charged so far are black, while most of the alleged victims are white.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has accused the Army of targeting black drill sergeants, while five white female recruits have said investigators unsuccessfully pressured them to accuse their black superiors of rape.

Army officials have denied race was a factor in their investigation.

The two trainees who accused Simpson of rape on Monday are white. A third woman who testified that he forcibly kissed her is black. All three alleged attacks occurred in 1995.

Simpson, who is married, has already pleaded guilty to having consensual sex with 11 trainees in trade with Iran, an oil-rich country that has been reluctant to let any violence further strain its relations with the West.

Police refused a request by protest organizers to remove the German flag from the embassy compound.

"The demonstration died down after about 30 minutes. Busesloads of riot police left the area, and shopkeepers opened their stores when police allowed traffic to enter the area again."

About 100 police remained to guard the embassy, which opened Monday morning after a four-day closure. The German diplomats had left by the time the protest began.

The two students left, they shouted "Death to Zionist Germany" and "Death to the Zionist judge."

Iran has accused Germany of supporting American and Israeli pressure in its court ruling, which unleashed protests Monday.

"By taking their recent move, the Germans were caught in a trap set by the Zionists, thus harming the century-old relations between Tehran and Bonn," Rafsanjani was quoted as saying Monday by Iran's Islamic Republic News Agency.

European nations, while saying they would withdraw their envoys to Tehran, have stopped short of severing diplomatic or trade ties.

After the court verdict, Germany called home its ambassador and expelled four Iranian diplomats. Iran responded by withdrawing its envoy in Bonn and ordering four German diplomats out.

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati warned that Iran would withdraw its ambassador from any country that did the same.

For years, Europe has resisted U.S. efforts to sever ties with Iran despite evidence implicating Tehran in political killings. Sixty-three exiled Iranian dissidents have been slain in mysterious circumstances since Iran's revolution in 1979.

France, Germany and other European countries have chosen to look the other way, reluctant to jeopardize trade with Iran, an oil-rich country of 60 million people.

Germany is Iran's largest Western trade partner, and annual trade exceeds $1.8 billion.

The Auto ID stencil, which adheres to the silica in the window to give thieves another stretch. More than 34,000 cars were stolen last year in Tennessee, while there's a car stolen somewhere in the United States every 19 seconds.

The Auto ID stencil, which adheres to the silica in the window, includes the VIN number and a 1-800 number to call if the vehicle is stolen.

The system, which takes less than 10 minutes to install, is being distributed by Environet Systems Corp. at 10 emissions testing centers in five counties in Tennessee. Auto ID soon will be offered in Dude and Palm Beach counties in Florida.

"Actually what it does is devulge the vehicle to the professional auto thief by fingerprinting the glass in the vehicle," said Paul Chepepinsky, Environet's program manager in Tennessee.

"In a lot of cases, ... they literally have to break it out or replace it and it (the vehicle) becomes of no value," said Randy Bly, a former police officer and currently director of traffic safety and community programs for Triple A Auto Club South in Tampa, Fla.

"But anything to help retard the rates of auto theft is great. Everyone pays for it of course through higher insurance, so we all have an interest in reducing that."

Kent knows that Ford Explorer and Company, the favorite target of professional thieves and had been looking for a way to protect his vehicle. When he heard about Auto ID, he drove to the nearest emissions center a few hours later to have his Explorer stenciled.

After seeing the VIN number on his vehicles, he said he will encourage his family and friends to do the same.

"I don't believe that regular alarms do much good. I've seen many a car sitting in the parking lot going off, and nobody even pays much attention," said Kent.

"This sounded as good a way to protect your car as I know of."
LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"I think life in general could be more pleasant and rewarding if we were to evaluate each other more on substance..."

By Jennifer Dickman

In Jon Mahaffy's opinion, faith is destructive. He thinks this is because faith is a type of cult. His argument with cults is similar lectures and follow a certain philosophy. He also claims that a person who has faith is a cult. His argument with cults is that by having faith, cults can destroy each other. Mr. Mahaffy also attempts to prove that by having faith, cults can be destructive. He prefers that faith be more on substance rather than on appearance.

Mr. Mahaffy also attempts to present another argument about "people who have faith acting in the oddest ways." He says that they call up "Dionne Warwick, so that a stranger can forestall their fortune," or they "wear a certain T-shirt so that their gaming will improve." He agrees with Mr. Mahaffy that these are strange behaviors. However, he is misnaming these actions. They are not actions of cult members for the part of a religion, they are superstitious acts and superstitions, which can be considered a whole different category. Jennifer Dickman is a political science sophomore.

"Don't underestimate the nerd"
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1996

Student could mean life imprisonment. forcibly sodomizing, punching, rape, as well as other charges of between supervisors and subordinates. The offenses he has admitted carry a maximum of 32 years in prison. A single rape conviction could mean life imprisonment.

One earlier Army court-martial was settled without a trial. Capt. Derrick Robertson pleaded guilty last week to adultery, consensual sodomy and other charges. He will be dismissed after serving four months in prison.

Under questioning from Simpson's attorney, Frank J. Spiniker, the two Army trainees acknowledged they didn't report the alleged attacks. They also admitted they had no bruises and were not choked, punched or threatened by Simpson.

A third woman, a 22-year-old student, testified Monday that Simpson called her to his office to tell her she was "an attractive young lady" and forcibly kissed her in her barracks a month later. "Basically, I was in shock. I wasn't offended," the woman said.

Secretary Tiggs West said last month he will ask the Army inspector general to review the outcome of the criminal cases at Aberdeen. The scandal has also prompted a call for a worldwide review of the Army's policy on sexual harassment.

Defense attorneys have argued that high-ranking Army officials, including West, prejudiced Simpson's case by declaring their "zero tolerance" for sexual misconduct when the scandal broke in November. The lawyers said those comments led Army brass to bring unreasonably serious charges against Simpson.

"One book that stands out in my mind, the book that shaped my life more than any other, is 'The Wilderness World of John Muir' by Edwin Teale," he writes. "I cannot imagine being without a new book," her letter states. "Dan Kemmis in 'The Good City' reminds me of things that are important in the good life that has to do with maintaining the respect for the citizens and government while Margery Allingham in 'The Rabbit' reminds me to think about what is real."

In addition to participation in Open House events, offering tours and participating in the Resource Fair, the library is coordinating Student Appreciation Week (April 15-30) with its Library Week celebration.

According to Linda Alamo, administrative operations manager at the library, they plan to create another exhibit to honor the more than 100 student employees at the library. This display will include pictures of many student employees and descriptions of their contributions to the library.

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Prosecution defends search warrant for Kaczynski's cabin

By John Howard
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif. - Federal prosecutors on Monday filed a stack of court documents defending the search warrant for Unabom suspect Theodore Kaczynski's Montana cabin.

The government said defense allegations that the search warrant for the remote Montana cabin is expected to be at the heart of the prosecution's case. Prosecutors have said the evidence includes the original manuscript of the Unabomber "manifesto," and a journal in which Kaczynski allegedly claims responsibility for each of the bombings.

The affidavit filed with the request for a search warrant "emphatically establishes probable cause" to issue the warrant, prosecutors wrote.

The government said defense lawyers "focus on trivial, semantic distinctions that fall far short of showing an intentional or reckless material misstatement." In their response, prosecutors also countered defense allegations that some DNA evidence appeared to exclude Kaczynski, and defended their analysis of Kaczynski's writings, which they link to the Unabomber's 30,000-word, anti-technology manifesto.

The shark bill, which would extend a ban on intentionally catching white sharks without a permit, was among a handful of noncontroversial measures that were sent to the Assembly by lopsided votes.

Unless Burrell grants the request for a quick dismissal of a three-month, 3-per cent pay raise and fill a funding shortfall in California's fire-fighting program also got substantial majorities.

But those measures all fell short of the two-thirds votes they needed for approval. In each case, Democrats backed the bills, but most Republicans either abstained or voted no.

Many bills need only simple majorities to pass, but some measures - tax increases, most appropriations - require two-thirds votes. Democrats have majorities in both houses, but some measures - tax increases, most appropriations - need two-thirds votes.

Democrats argued that the state needs to generate the funds now, rather than wait for voters to act at a regularly scheduled election in 1998.

"If we wait until June 1998, we have lost an entire school year," said Sen. Jack O'Connell, D-San Luis Obispo. "If you want to continue the class-size reduction revolution, we need this bill this year."

But Sen. Jim Brulte, R-Rancho Cucamonga, said the bond measure wouldn't cover other school construction needs and wasn't tied to unspecified school reforms sought by the GOP.

He suggested there was time to negotiate a compromise before the deadline to schedule a November election.

"There are a number of people who would support the correct bill that is a product of legislative agreement," he said. "We think we have time to get a bond on the 1997 ballot. We have until June to do that."

The pay raise bill failed two weeks ago when it was triggered to a bill that would augment the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's budget to pay for last year's fires.

On Monday, Democrats tried a new wrinkle. They proposed the raise in a separate bill but tied the fate of that measure to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection augmentation.

Republicans still weren't buying, despite Democratic arguments that state workers had gone nearly two 1/2 years without a pay hike, and both the pay raise and the augmentation failed. So did an attempt by the GOP to amend the augmentation into another Democratic bill.

A spokeswoman for the department, Karen Terrill, said the deadlock could result in delayed payments to some businesses that have supplied the department with goods or services.

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THE BUS

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TRIUMPH from page 8
countless talented young men and women who followed him," the president wrote.

 Hank Aaron, baseball's home run king, who suffered much of the racial abuse as he pursued Babe Ruth's record that Robinson faced before him, put it more sim­ply: "Without Jackie Robinson," he said, "there wouldn't have been any Hank Aaron."

 Or Willie Mays, Or Bob Gibson, Or Ernie Banks. Or any of the scores of other black stars who changed the face and pulse of the game after Robinson led the way.

The first pitch Tuesday night will be thrown out by Jease Simms, Robinson's grandson, who will play football at UCLA this fall, the way his grandfather did before revolutionizing baseball.

Acting commissioner Bud Selig and Rachel Robinson, Jackie's widow, will join Clinton at the cer­emonies. Earlier this month, Rachel Robinson was at Long Island University for three-day sym­posium in tribute to her husband and expressed some concerns. "As people discuss Jack," she said, "they overlook the joys he had, the exhilar­ation of winning, the joys of his children and his home. Think of the total man, not just in terms of integrating sports."

The total man was why Branch Rickey chose Robinson as the cen­terpiece of his plan to change the face of baseball.

Rickey's debut on April 15, 1947 was nondescript. He was 0­-for-3, struggling against the curve balls of Atlanta's Johnny Sain. He reached base on an error, scored a run and handled 11 chances at first base flawlessly. And he was pretty much ignored in press reports of the Dodgers' 3-5 victory over the Braves.

It didn't stay that way very long.

Biggity surfaced in abort order. An anti-Robinson petition in his own clubhouse was crushed in spring training. But all around the league, there was ugly abuse made all the worse because of Robinson's pledge to Rickey that he would not answer it. He replied on the field with a fiery game that drove other teams to distraction. He ran the bases as if he had not yet come to distraction. He ran the bases as if he had not yet come to distraction.

As people discuss Jack, it's often as a martyr," she said. "They don't stay that way very long.

Eight blacks have ever served as field managers and only two have held any part. He'd be disappoint­ed with that."
National Sports

Robinson tribute unveiled at Smithsonian

By Paul Shepard
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — With several former Negro Leagues players on hand to savor the memories, the Smithsonian unveiled an exhibit Monday to honor Jackie Robinson’s landmark breakthrough 50 years ago.

The event brought tears to the eyes of Ernest Burke, an infielder with the Baltimore Elite Giants from 1946-48, when he recalled how Robinson, then a Brooklyn Dodgers rookie, had the right man.

“Any other, I almost could understand,” said Burke, dabbing his eyes with a napkin. “But to do that to him in my hometown.”

The recollection provided the only sobering message at the event that brought together five Negro Leagues players to remember Robinson as the museum displayed memorabilia from his playing days.


Visitors can also see a program from the 1952 World Series between Robinson’s Brooklyn Dodgers and the New York Yankees, a Robinson autographed baseball bat and pictures of Robinson tracing his history from a UCLA track star to U.S. serviceman to his days on the baseball diamond.

Burke, a tennis instructor living in Baltimore, said pleasant memories far outnumber the sad ones when recalling Robinson. Burke said when he heard Robinson had been selected to integrate baseball, he knew “they had the right man.”

“We were overwhelmed,” Burke said. “He had the education and the talent. We felt so good. It’s like we were floating on air,” Burke said with arms outstretched.

Though the unveiling had been planned for months, the timing couldn’t have been better in light of Tiger Woods’ victory in the Masters.

Woods, 21, whose father is black and mother is Thai, became the first person of color to win a major golf tournament as well as the youngest Masters champion.

From Robinson to Woods: trailblazing triumphs

By Hal Beik
Associated Press

NEW YORK — With symmetry so perfect it almost seemed planned, the 50th anniversary of Jackie Robinson’s major league debut will be celebrated Tuesday, two days trailing Tiger Woods became the first black to win the Masters golf championship.

Robinson would have gotten a kick out of Woods’ trailblazing triumph because he loved golf and cherished equality.

And 50 years after he pushed baseball into racial reality, a sea

of tributes reaches its apex at Shea Stadium when Tuesday night’s game between the New York Mets and Los Angeles Dodgers is halted in the fifth inning for ceremonies led by President Clinton.

In a letter to readers of the New York Daily News, Clinton saluted baseball’s first black player.

“With grace and stellar determination, he pushed open a door that should never have been closed and held it open for the future.”

See TRiUMPH page 7

Fresno State basketball player sues newspaper

By Joe Bigham
Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. — Attorneys for Fresno State point guard Dominick Young filed a libel suit Monday against The Fresno Bee over articles that reported Young “has conceded with illegal bookies, gamblers, criminals and other scoundrels.”

The lawsuit, which seeks $11.2 million in general and punitive damages, said Young has never shaved points nor conspired with anyone else to do so.

Attorney Nicholas Wagner said the suit was filed after Young was seen at a nightclub after one game talking with a businessman The Bee described as a major local sports bettor and bookie. The Bee also reported that Herren visited a Fresno pawnbroker who is a friend of the bookie.

The Los Angeles Times later reported that members of a Southern California bookmaking ring were told that Fresno State players were fixing games.

In addition, The Bee reported that Fresno State basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian’s personal business agent turned some game tickets over to the suspected bookie.

All of Fresno State’s athletic department telephone records since January 1996 have been subpoenaed in the federal investigation.

At least five people were subpoenaed to appear before a federal grand jury last week, including insurance man and Bulldog booster Michael Der Manouel Sr. Herren lived with Der Manouel part of last season.

Public notice is hereby given that that items are sold at retail prices, and that these items are subject to the provisions of the California Business and Professions Code, Title 12, Division 6, Chapter 6.5, commonly known as the "ABC Code.

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