

In this  
issue



HILLARY  
and  
ELEANOR

6

Weather



Partly cloudy skies  
will prevail over coastal  
areas of Gulf of Oman  
and mainly clear skies over the rest of  
the Sultanate.

Temperatures recorded in other cities:  
Muscat 28 (82), Abu Dhabi 31 (88),  
Dubai 28 (82), Riyadh 25 (77),  
Jeddah 28 (82), Bahrain 24 (75),  
Kuwait 15 (59), Doha 27 (81), Cairo 20  
(68), Karachi 28 (82), Bombay 33 (91),  
Paris 04 (39) and London 03 (37).

TEMP	MAX	MIN
Seeb	30	17
Mina Qaboos	31	18
Buraimi	31	18
Khasab	30	16
Ibri	33	19
Nizwa	33	19
Sohar	27	15
Saiq	23	11
Jabal Shams	15	06
Sur	35	23
Masirah	30	16
Thumrait	35	17
Salalah	28	12
Mina Raysut	28	12
Qairoun Hairiti	26	19
Haima	34	18
Marmul	31	19
Fahud	35	17
Al Hailaniyat	30	16
Madiha	29	14

1993 — Year  
of Youth



## NEWSBREAKS

### War crimes court

UNITED NATIONS — The Security Council took aim at "ethnic cleansing," mass killings and systematic rape in the Balkans by deciding yesterday to set up the first war crimes tribunal since World War II.

Diplomats hoped their unanimous vote to approve creation of a war crimes court would deter further atrocities in former Yugoslavia, where fighting rages on.

However, the establishment of the court itself and its rules for operation are still months away, and Bosnia's UN ambassador cast doubt on whether war crimes will stop.

**Les Aspin ill**  
WASHINGTON — Defence Secretary Les Aspin has been admitted to hospital after experiencing shortness of breath, a Pentagon statement said yesterday.

It said Aspin was taken to Georgetown Hospital on Sunday for treatment of the symptoms caused by a mild, previously diagnosed heart condition.

His breathlessness had apparently been triggered by a fever caused by a number of immunisation injections Aspin received on Saturday before a planned trip abroad. - *Reuter*

**Tremor shakes Japan**  
TOKYO — A weak earthquake shook northern Japan yesterday but there was no immediate report of casualties or damage to property, the meteorological agency said. A tremor with a magnitude of 4.7 on the Richter scale occurred at 2:23 p.m. (0523 GMT). - *Reuter*

**RAMADAN TIMINGS**

Date/Day	Dhur (p.m.)	Asr (p.m.)	Maghrib (p.m.)	Iftar (p.m.)	Isha (p.m.)	Imsak (a.m.)	Fajr (a.m.)	Shrouq (a.m.)
Hijri								
Ramadan								
Feb: 23 Tue (2)	12.23	3.36	6.11	6.11	7.36	5.03	5.13	6.33
Feb: 24 Wed (3)	12.23	3.36	6.12	6.12	7.37	5.02	5.12	6.32

Time differences between Muscat and other regions: - 4 mts: Ibra, Bidiya, Al Kabil, Al Wahiba, Masira, Al Hakman, Quriyat, + 9 mts: Dhank, Ibra, Shinas, + 8 mts: Sohar, Saham, Liwa, Yanqul and Fahud, + 6 mts: Al Khaboura, Qarn al Alam, + 5 mts: Suwaig, Rostaq, Awabi, Al Hamra, Bahla, + 4 mts: Musana, Nizwa, Manah, Adam, + 3 mts: Birka, Nakhl, Al Maawil, Izki, Al Duqm, - 2 mts: Al Kamil, Jalaan bani bu Hassan, Jalaan bani bu Ali, + 2 mts: Seeb, Bid Bid, Samayil, Samad al Shan, Al Mudhahib, + 10 mts: Haima, Al Kabil, Jiddat al Harrasis, +12 mts: Salalah.



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# TIMES OF OMAN

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Beauty care and Fashion

An eight-page  
supplement on  
Beauty and  
Fashion goes  
with this issue

## US signals tough stance against Iraq

RIYADH — US Secretary of State Warren Christopher visited key allies in the Gulf yesterday to signal the determination of President Bill Clinton to maintain a tough stance against Iraq leader Saddam Hussein.

He held late night meeting with Saudi King Fahd on Sunday.

Arriving in Riyadh from Damascus, where he voiced optimism about resuming stalled Middle East peace talks after a three-and-a-half hour meeting with Syrian President Hafez al-Assad, Christopher said: "We share with Saudi Arabia a determination to see that Iraq fully complies with all the Security Council resolutions as well as the measures required to monitor and enforce those resolutions."

US officials said Christopher wanted to reassure both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, another nervous ally, that US ships and planes would remain in the Gulf to defend them under Clinton.

In return, he was interested in obtaining their support to renew Arab-Israeli peace talks as soon as possible. Christopher was due in Je-

rusalem yesterday to wrap up his first Middle East shuttle by holding two days of talks with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

In Damascus, Christopher said the United States would play a more active role in peace talks than in the past.

Syria expressed a strong desire to resume the negotiations, stalled over Israel's expulsion of 4165 Palestinians to a south Lebanon no-man's land in December.

Christopher said he still had to work out an acceptable solution to the dispute over the deportees.

But Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq al-Shara, at a joint news conference, refused to link the return of all the deportees to a resumption of Arab-Israeli talks.

"No doubt the deportees issue has become like a thorn in renewing the peace talks and we have to remove this thorn," said Shara. But he said peace was more important.

"The objective of the peace process which is broader and more important because it is bound to change the region, is to implement

UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 and land for peace," Shara said.

"We understand the difference between the two things and we agree on the level of importance between the two issues."

Resolutions 242 and 338 are the agreed basis for peace talks and speak of Israel giving up territory it has been occupying since 1967 in return for peace.

Christopher has been stressing at every stop on his mission his intention of being more active in the peace process — "a full partner" — than his predecessor, James Baker.

"We intend, if anything, to be more active than the United States has been in the past," Christopher said.

Such statements please the Arabs but worry Israel which fears US pressure to make concessions in the negotiations, launched in Madrid 16 months ago.

Christopher went into talks with King Fahd after telling reporters on arrival in Riyadh: "We continue to follow events in Iraq with concern as they test the situation." - *Reuter*

## Christopher takes a trip to Lebanon

BEIRUT — US Secretary of State Warren Christopher arrived by helicopter yesterday in suburban Yaze east of Beirut on the most risky leg of his Middle East tour to revive stalled peace talks.

Christopher, the first US secretary of state to visit Beirut since 1983, came from Larnaca, Cyprus with his party in three US Blackhawk helicopters to land at the heavily guarded Lebanese defense ministry.

Grey and red dust shrouded the choppers as they touched down in rapid succession at the sprawling compound at 5:05 p.m. after a 60-minute flight over the East Mediterranean waters. The US party carried life jackets during the flight.

US ambassador Ryan Crocker's bullet-proof chevrolet blazer, equipped with a machine-gun, whisked Christopher and Assistant Secretary of State for Middle Eastern Affairs Edward Djerejian, across the 700-metre distance to a conference hall.

Foreign Minister Faris Bweiz greeted Christopher at the door and escorted him to the meeting with President Elias Hrawi and Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The three Lebanese leaders had raced in separate, heavily guarded motorcades behind wailing sirens to Yaze minutes before Christopher's arrival.

Military sources said all cars parked inside and within a five-

kilometre radius around the walled hilltop ministry were removed before Christopher's arrival. They said the move was a precaution against a car bombing.

Army intelligence officers and commando units surrounded the heliport. Hundreds of other army officers and soldiers were confined to their offices or barracks within the compound.

The Lebanese have refused to meet with Christopher except on their own soil. They contend his presence in Beirut would be a US recognition of Lebanon's recovery from the anarchy of the hostage-taking, aircraft hijacking and suicide bombings that highlighted 15 years of civil war. - *AP*



Reuter wirephoto

ENGLAND - A woman screaming abuse yesterday as a van holding one of the two 10-year-old boys accused of killing two-year-old James Bulger leaves court. Five people were arrested during disturbances.

## Border panel created

MUSCAT — His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said has ordered the formation of a ministerial committee to study all aspects of the border demarcation between Oman and Yemen.

The committee will also introduce development plans for border areas including the construction of land routes linking the two countries, Mr. Al Zawawi said.

The deputy prime minister for financial and economic affairs, Qais bin Abdul Munim al Zawawi told Oman News Agency that he will be heading the committee which would implement His Majesty's order.

He said a comprehensive commercial centre will be built in the border area north of Habrout Triangle, which was renamed by His Majesty as Al-Mazunah. "This reflects His Majesty's determination to speed up economic and trade activities between the two countries."

This accord would allow both countries to enter a new era of fruitful cooperation in social, economic and trade areas, he said.

The two countries will build border posts and roads, network to facilitate the movement of people and goods. - *ONA*

## Hindus arrested to prevent banned rally

NEW DELHI — Police arrested hundreds of people and several local politicians yesterday in an attempt to prevent a banned rally by Hindu nationalists.

The government banned the rally, planned for Thursday at a large park near parliament, to avoid another outbreak of communal violence.

Despite the roundups, people were still arriving in the capital for the rally that the opposition Bharatiya Janata Party hopes will attract up to two million people.

The BJP has been using Hindu nationalist issues to build itself from a tiny fringe group to the country's second largest party.

More than 1,800 people have been killed in India since Dec. 6, when Hindu extremists demolished a mosque in the northern city of Ayodhya that they believe was built by Muslim conquerors who had destroyed a Hindu temple there.

The government blames the BJP for whipping up the crowds at Ayodhya to tear down the mosque.

In parliament, President Shankar Dayal Sharma urged the nation yesterday "to counter

the communal propaganda that has been let loose" in India that contributed to widespread Hindu-Muslim riots.

But as Sharma gave his speech opening the legislature, every member of the BJP boycotted the session.

Police raided houses across New Delhi before dawn yesterday and arrested about 200 people, most of them BJP members, on charges of breaching the peace, Press Trust of India said.

That raised the number of people arrested since Sunday to about 500, Press Trust of India said.

Police also arrested people in nearby states to prevent them from heading toward the capital, including 25 in Punjab and about 135 in Madhya Pradesh, according to the *Statesman* newspaper.

Truckloads of Indians waving their arms and in a jubilant mood have been seen driving toward New Delhi. To avoid arrest, they were not carrying banners that would identify them as rally supporters. Ten thousand people have been injured in the worst fighting between the two largest communities since India became independent from Britain in 1947. - *AP*

## Royal cable

MUSCAT — His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said has sent a cable of greetings to Sheikh Jabir al Ahmad al Sabah, the emir of Kuwait, on the occasion of his country's National Day. - *ONA*

## Two boys in child's murder charged

LIVERPOOL — Amid scenes of mob fury and violence, two boys appeared in court yesterday charged with the murder of toddler James Bulger in a case that has touched a raw nerve in Britain.

A hostile crowd screaming "bastards bastards" hurled eggs and a rock at a windowless police van carrying away the two accused 10-year-olds, who had been ordered to be held. Six people were arrested in the melee after the crowd broke through police cordons to hammer on the side of the vehicle.

After the arrests, some of the 300-strong crowd turned on the police, waving their fists and chanting: "Let them go let them go", referring to those who had been arrested.

The police swiftly withdrew and the crowd dispersed. Similar street protests broke out last week when a 12-year-old was arrested during the Bulger murder investigation. He was later released and eliminated from the inquiry. Emotions in this north-western port city have been running high since the two-year-old's battered body was found by a railway track a week ago.

The child had become separated from his mother in a shopping mall and a security video showed him hand-in-hand with two older boys.

During the six-minute hearing, the accused boys spoke only to confirm their ages and identities and showed no obvious signs of distress. The boys were formally charged on Saturday.

One boy sat with a lawyer and a social worker while the other was accompanied by his father and a lawyer. The boy with his father yawned frequently and occasionally glanced towards his co-accused.

"What happened outside the court neither helps the cause of...the family of James Bulger or anyone else. Our message is an appeal for calm," said George Howarth, local member of parliament. "James's family have called repeatedly for calm. They want dignity, not a circus," he added.

Local priest Jim Collins said that the case had "struck an elemental chord of fear". There has been national outcry about the killing and Conservative Prime Minister John Major's government vowed on Sunday to crack down on a juvenile crime wave. - *Reuter*



## Job fair slated for April

MUSCAT — A job fair, meant to help Omanis find suitable employment in the private sector, is being organised by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in collaboration with the National Training Institute. The fair will be held at the OCCI exhibition hall from April 19 to 21. In a letter sent to various companies Sheikh Yaqoub bin Hamed Al Harthi, OCCI president said, the fair is just one of the many projects lined up for the "Year of Youth".

The first of its kind in the Gulf, the fair aims to introduce job-seekers to vacancies in a number of private companies in the Sultanate. On the other hand, it will also help companies pick the right people in their Organisation programmes.

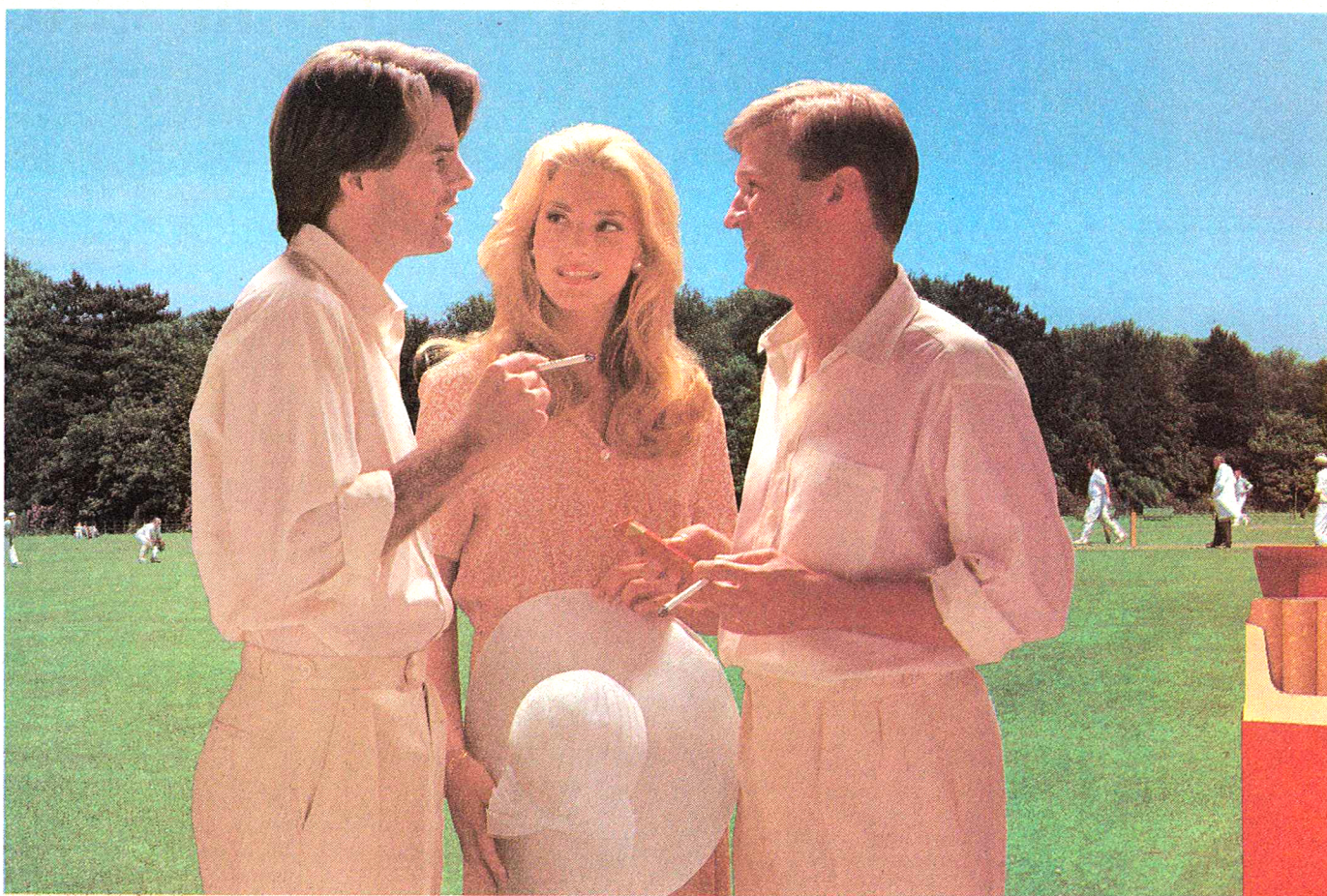
Formally known as Careers Fair, the project targets the youth particularly the unemployed and school dropouts.

During the fair, lectures and seminars will be conducted to brief on future job opportunities.

The Ministry of Education has promised to provide free transport for all students who want to visit the fair.

Twenty-one major companies are slated to participate in the fair.

Career counselling and guidance will be offered also to those visiting the fair.



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# Oman to hold 'Agrifish' in Oct.

By A Staff Reporter

MUSCAT — The Sultanate of Oman will be hosting the International Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Processing Exhibition in October this year.

This was announced by Mr. Mussallam Salem Mahad Qatan, under-secretary at the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, at a reception at the Gulf Hotel here on Sunday.

Over 25 countries are expected to participate in the exhibition which is being organised by the Oman International Trade and Exhibition under the patronage of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Mr. Qatan thanked ministry officials, chambers of commerce and ambassadors of the participating countries for cooperating in the preparations of the exhibition.

The profile of the exhibition, to be called Agrifish '93 consists of the latest and modern technology used in agricultural production, fisheries and food processing, with special emphasis on modern irrigation system.

It will also include machinery and equipment, livestock, animal husbandry, health and hygiene crop cultivation, irrigation and water engineering horticulture, auxiliary products and services, fisherman's boats and equipment.

For food and food processing, there will be hotel, restaurant and kitchen equipment, food processing machinery and restaurant man-



Mussallam Salem Mahad Qatan during the reception at the Gulf Hotel.

agement.

The organisers believe that the Agrifish '93 will attract a large number of officials and private groups from over 25 countries. Some of the countries from where participants are expected are the USA, the UK, Australia, Malaysia, Thailand, Spain, Greece, Iran, Yemen, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, India, Pakistan, China and France.

The exhibition coincides with the Sultanate's development plans in the

field of agriculture and food processing. These plans have been strengthened since the announcement by His Majesty Sultan Qaboos of the Agriculture Year in 1988-89.

The ministry has undertaken many projects such as the scientific agricultural research, agricultural development and expansion of industries and marketing products, and food processing. Also a special consideration is being given to the fisheries sector.

## King Hussein's son to wed Palestinian

AMMAN — Prince Abdullah, the eldest son of King Hussein and his British ex-wife Antoinette Gardiner, is to marry a Palestinian-Jordanian born in Kuwait.

Jordanian newspapers published yesterday front-page photos of the engagement ceremony attended by the king, Gardiner and his US-born wife Queen Noor at the Royal Palace.

The bride-to-be is 22-year-old Rania Faisal al-Yassin, whose family was originally from Tulkarm, an Arab town in the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

Prince Abdullah, 31, is a British-educated colonel in the Jordanian army.

His mother and the king married in 1961 and were divorced in 1972.

Yassin said no date had been set for the wedding but it would not take place for several months.

A business administration graduate from the American University in Cairo, she said she had quit her work at a computer store to prepare for her new life.

"I won't have that much time anymore to have a full time job," Yassin said.

Her father, a doctor who returned to Jordan from Kuwait after Iraq's 1990 invasion of the emirate, said King Hussein had come to their house two weeks ago to ask for Yassin's hand.



Photo by Rodolfo Alfonso

## Barefoot joy

Away from the city noise, and of course the homework, these two Arab housewives seem to be sharing thoughts and the joy of strolling barefoot at the picturesque Shati al-Qurum beach.

## Lebanon firing

JERUSALEM — Israeli soldiers killed a militant in Israel's self-declared security zone in South Lebanon yesterday, an army spokesman said.

A patrol in the eastern sector of the zone identified a group of militants and opened fire, said the spokeswoman, who cannot be identified by name under military regulations.

Another militant was injured but escaped, she said. The dead man was found carrying an American-made M-16 assault rifle and Lau Antitank missile, she said. - AP

## Shells fired near deportees' camp

MARJ AL-ZOHOUR - Artillery shells fired by Israel or its militia ally crashed yesterday near a camp housing about 400 Palestinians expelled by Israel. Military sources said no casualties were reported.

The shelling, which appeared to be aimed at suspected hideouts of Hezbollah militants, carried into a 10th day the latest wave of hostilities between Israel and the Hezbollah.

The violence has overlapped with a tour of the middle east by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who is trying to revive the stalled Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Israeli troops and allied irregulars of the South Lebanon Army militia are battling militants of Hezbollah.

The shell blasts shook the deportees out of their late-morning slumber on the first fasting day marking the beginning of Islam's holy month of Ramadan. Many rushed out of the tents, hair dishevelled, hastily pulling up their pants, to shout questions to reporters about what was happening around their camp in southeast Lebanon. Smoke and dust billowed from a hill about 500 metres south of the camp. Lebanese army officers manning a checkpoint near the camp said the hill was hit by five rounds of 155mm Howitzers at 9 a.m.

They said the shelling originated from an artillery position on the north-eastern edge of a "security zone" Israel occupies in South Lebanon.

The enclave, which covers 1,100 square km, is policed by 1,500 Israeli troops and 3,000 SLA militiamen. It was carved out in 1985 to shield Israel's northern flank against cross-border militant raids.

The officers, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the shelling appeared to have been aimed at suspected militant hideouts in the no man's land between Lebanese and Israeli army lines. Security sources in Lebanon's southern-most port city of Tyre said SLA gunners blasted the Kassir Valley, a trail often used by militants to infiltrate the western sector of the security zone, with intermittent barrages overnight. -AP

## Cairo's gift to Algeria

CAIRO — Egypt has donated 50 armoured personnel carriers to Algeria, a fellow Arab country fighting Muslim extremist violence, a defense industry official said yesterday.

The official, who works for the government's Arab organisation for industrialisation, said Egypt's armed forces gave Algeria the Egyptian-made Fahd vehicles as a gift in recognition of its help in the 1973 Arab-Israeli war.

The source, who requested anonymity, said Algeria had sent a tank division to help Egypt in its last war with Israel.

The APCs are manufactured by the AOL, founded in 1975 as a joint venture grouping Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar. The three Gulf countries withdrew after Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel in March 1979. Since then, Egypt has run the project by itself.

The vehicles have the capacity to fire tear gas to fight riots, the source said. Government forces in Algeria have been waging a bloody campaign against militants, who nearly came to power last year in parliamentary elections. But the military intervened to stop them. -AP

## Denktash threatens to boycott UN talks

ISTANBUL — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash said yesterday he would stay away from UN-sponsored talks if their object was to compel his community to make peace with Greek Cypriots on unacceptable terms. "I will not go to New York to attend the UN talks if the Turkish Cypriots are forced to reach agreement with a Greek-Cypriot administration that does not want a federation," Denktash told a meeting at Istanbul's Marmara University.

Cyprus President-elect Glafcos Clerides has asked for talks on how to reunite the divided Mediterranean island, originally scheduled for March 25, to be postponed, possibly to mid-April.

Turkish State Minister Orhan Kilercioglu warned the incoming Greek-Cypriot government not to threaten peace and stability in the island. "That will not be permitted," he told a news conference in the Turkish-Cypriot sector of Nicosia.

Denktash said UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali's idea

as for a federation encompassing zones for each community made excessive demands on the Turkish Cypriots.

"An agreement that would give large chunks of Turkish-Cypriot territory to the Greek Cypriots, allow up to 30,000 Greek Cypriots to settle in the north and make 60,000 Turkish Cypriots refugees once again is unacceptable," Denktash said.

The key to a solution, he said, would be the acceptance by Greek Cypriots of Turkish Cypriots as equal partners. The Security Council last year blamed the Turkish-Cypriot side for blocking progress in earlier rounds of peace talks.

Kilercioglu said Turkey planned to inject a further 700 billion lira (\$76 million) into the Turkish-Cypriot economy.

He said the aid was conditional on the setting up of a mechanism by which Ankara, which already pays more than half the Turkish-Cypriot budget, would control how the money was spent. -Reuter

## Border talks

CAIRO — An Egyptian delegation left for Khartoum yesterday for a new round of talks on a border dispute with Sudan, a foreign ministry spokesman said.

The talks will be at a lower level than previous rounds. The semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram said the team is led by an ambassador, Muhab Muqbil, rather than presidential adviser Osama al-Baz.

Baz excused himself on the grounds that he was involved in intensive diplomacy to resolve a crisis over Palestinians expelled by Israel, it said.

The meeting takes place at a time when diplomats in Khartoum say that months of world pressure on the Islamic government there has begun to force it to make concessions. - Reuter

## Syndicate law

CAIRO — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said a new law likely to stop militants controlling professional

## OMAN NOTES

associations will not be repealed or revised, newspaper reported yesterday.

Lawyers and engineers went on strike on Sunday in protest against the law, which makes elections to syndicate councils invalid unless 50 per cent of members vote. In several cases, militants have won control on very low turnouts.

The newspaper quoted Mubarak as telling armed forces officers in Aswan on Sunday: "I declare there will be no repeal and no revision of a law which was issued in the public interest."

He said it was 'not reasonable that a small, organised group should try to impose its control on the majority and create an atmosphere which drives the majority to abstain from taking part in expressing its opinion.' - Reuter

## Moroccan poll

RABAT — Morocco's four main opposition parties said yesterday they would band together to face parliamentary elections due in April but had not decided whether they would contest them. The four-party democratic

block, formed last May, said it would wait for the government's response to a list of complaints about lack of political freedoms before deciding whether to contest the April 30 elections for the chamber of representatives, the first in eight years.

Party spokesmen said they were planning to present a joint memorandum of their grievances to the government today. If they stood in the elections, they would present a joint list of candidates and a common platform. - Reuter

## War wounded

ALGIERS — Algeria will take in 60 war wounded from Bosnia for hospital treatment, the official news agency APS reported yesterday.

They will be treated at Algerian hospital during the Muslim month of Ramadan. Algeria has set up a solidarity committee, composed of representatives of the government and humanitarian groups, for victims of the fighting in the former Yugoslavia. -Reuter

## Egypt spurns asylum plea

CAIRO — A cartoonist from Iraq requested political asylum from Cairo airport authorities but was rejected and put on a plane for Frankfurt, authorities said yesterday.

An airport passport control official said Hafez Mohamed el-Agha flew in from the German city on Sunday, which is why he was returned there. The official refused to give his name or any other details of the case.

Mustafa Djemali of the Cairo office of the UN high commissioner for refugees said Egyptian authorities did not inform the United Nations about El-Agha's case.

"In the past, it used to be that they contacted UNHCR to assess the status and find a solution, even if the person involved was not wanted in Egypt," Djemali said. -AP

## UN agency seeking aid from Gulf states

DUBAI — UN agency that helps more than 2.6 million Palestinian refugees has appealed for funds from Gulf Arab states, warning it might have to cut down its services if urgent financial aid is not provided.

Ilter Turkman, the United Nations relief and works agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) commissioner-general, said the agency was going through a severe financial crisis.

Turkman, quoted in the newspaper Emirates News yesterday, said he was touring the Gulf in search of \$5 million for UNRWA. He has already visited Saudi Arabia and Qatar and is due to go to Bahrain and Oman.

"An extra sum of \$20 million is re-

quired in the current year and I hope that the Gulf states will provide at least \$5 million," he said while on a visit to Abu Dhabi.

"I hope the Gulf states will provide assistance commensurate with their abilities to enable the agency to continue its work." UNRWA is financed by the UN but Gulf states have regularly contributed more than their normal share under UN rules. The agency provides health, education and other aid to more than 2.6 million Palestinians displaced in the 1948 and 1967 Arab-Israeli wars. It works in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Egypt and the occupied territories of the West Bank and Gaza. -Reuter

## Philippines, Kuwait agree on steps to curb abuse of maids

KUWAIT — Kuwait and the Philippines have agreed joint measures to curb abuse of Filipina maids by Kuwaiti employers, a Philippines diplomat said yesterday.

Consul-General Wenceslao Quiroigco said Kuwait had also pledged to help the repatriation to Manila of 300 Filipina domestic servants who have taken refuge at the Philippine embassy complaining of abuse by employers.

He said a 'joint mechanism' to tackle servant abuse had been agreed by Philippines Labour Minister Nieves Confesor and Interior Minister Sheikh Ahmed Hmoud al-Jaber al-Sabah during a four-day visit by Confesor ending on Sunday.

Kuwait had undertaken to act on their side of the programme within the next two weeks in an agreement reached amicably in which both

sides had shown determination in tackling the issue, he added.

Hundreds of servants from the Philippines and the Indian subcontinent have complained in recent years of being beaten, raped or denied pay by Kuwaiti employers.

Kuwaiti officials say the reports of assaults are either fabricated or exaggerated by a minority of women who want to get out of contracts and go home. They say much of the blame lies with recruiting agencies.

Agents in Kuwait and Asia recruit the maids, usually by colour photographs or video tapes. Many would-be servants are university graduates desperate for a job.

They sometimes hand over their entire savings in fees to work in the emirate. Agents also receive fees from the Kuwaiti families who hire the maids. -Reuter

### PHARMACIES

#### MUSCAT REGION

(Day Duty)

Al Farabi, 120 Muttrah.

Tel. 713513.

Muttrah, 715 Ruwi Market Street.

Tel. 707892.

Muscat, Qurm-Baushar.

Tel. 561942.

Al Waleed, 342 Seeb.

Tel. 621345.

(Night Duty)

Al Hashar, 542 Muttrah Street.

Tel. 714687.

Muscat, 10 Ruwi Market Street. Tel.

702542.

Al Ilmia, Qurm. Tel. 560890.

Wafa, Al Sharadi Main Road.

Tel. 551855.

#### DHOFAIR REGION

(Day Duty)

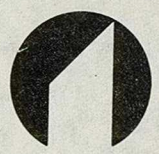
Madinat Al Saada, Salalah.

Tel. 234555.

(Night Duty)

Al Watania, Al Salam Street.

Tel. 291161.



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Spinneys U.A.E.  
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Abu Dhabi

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# NEWS FLASH

# NEWS FLASH

# NEWS FLASH

## THIRD MONTHLY DRAW ON 25 FEBRUARY 1993

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**TIMES OF OMAN**  
P.O. Box 3770, Ruwi.

The luckiest reader wins a 1993 Model DAEWOO RACER ETi in the Grand Raffle Draw on March 25, 1993. During the monthly draw, to be held on the last Thursday of the month, a 21-inch Sharp colour TV and 40 Times wristwatches will be given away.

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# Chinese president to be replaced

**BEIJING** — Chinese president Yang Shangkun is set to be replaced when parliament meets next month, a Beijing-controlled newspaper reported yesterday.

Yang's name is not on the list of delegates to the annual session of the National People's Congress (NPC) that opens next month in Beijing, Hongkong's *Ta Kung Pao* daily said. Also dropped is current NPC chairman Wan Li.

"Observers believe they will not accept nomination to these leading positions," according to the newspaper, which is used by Beijing to leak sensitive information.

The 2,977 delegates elected from local people's congress will vote for top state posts during the session.

The decision to drop Yang, 85,

had been widely expected. Western diplomats believe the man most likely to replace him is communist party general secretary Jiang Zemin, who will serve in both positions concurrently.

Jiang has been named by 88-year-old supreme leader Deng Xiaoping as the 'core' of the political succession. Elevating him to the largely ceremonial position of president would give him an international role denied him in his current party position because of the collapse of the socialist bloc.

Yang's five-year term ends this year and diplomats say he is being replaced mainly because of his advanced age. However, some speculate that Deng would find his departure convenient for political reasons.

"It's part of the sidelining of

Yang," said one envoy. "He's still pretty sprightly, but the job is for five years, so it's a good time to get rid of him now."

Yang's half-brother, Yang Baibing, was unceremoniously dumped from his top military posts during the communist party's 14th congress last October.

It is widely believed that Deng was afraid he was building a personal support base in the army and preparing to challenge for supreme power.

It is unclear what role, if any, President Yang had in this scheming. One envoy said his replacement "will give credence to concerns that the Yangs were acting as a team."

Jiang heads the powerful central military commission and adding the presidency to his portfolio would

concentrate his power even further.

The *Ta Kung Pao* said Deng had been nominated as a candidate for the people's liberation army to attend the NPC session that opens on March 15. It is not clear whether Deng, who has retired from all state and party positions, would turn up.

The newspaper said Premier Li Peng was a congress delegate for Beijing. Li's tenure is also ending, but there are few firm predictions on whether he will stay or go.

Li was slow to embrace Deng's campaign launched in January last year to "speed up the pace of reform and opening."

But he has since shown enough support for Deng's capitalist-style changes to save his job, many Chinese believe.

Diplomats said Wan, 77, probably

would be replaced by Qiao Shi, a member of the communist party's politburo standing committee.

They said Wan may have fallen from grace because of an embarrassing parliamentary vote last year when 600 deputies in the usually docile body abstained in a vote on approving the controversial three gorges dam project.

The congress, expected to last until the end of March, will discuss a wide range of proposals that include fixing market-style economic policies into the Chinese constitution, a draft corporate law, a basic law for agriculture and tough regulations to fight foreign espionage.

The NPC is essentially a rubber-stamp body that almost never strays from communist party policy. - *Reuters*

## Hwang new S. Korean prime minister

**SEOUL, South Korea** — President-elect Kim Young-Sam appointed Hwang In-Sung, an economics expert and the ruling party's chief policy-maker, as prime minister yesterday as part of an effort to revive the nation's troubled economy.

The new administration will be formally inaugurated on Thursday.

But the selection of the Hwang, 67, drew strong criticism from the main opposition Democratic Party, and party officials said they may vote against Hwang's nomination at the national assembly.

But the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, which controls the 299-member assembly, can kill any opposition-sponsored no-confidence vote. Park Ji-Won, spokesman of the Democratic Party, called Hwang "a tainted old politician ... who is not suitable for reform policies being pushed by the Kim Young-Sam government." Park did not accuse Hwang of any specific wrongdoings, but opposition parties are often critical of officials who worked with past governments which they think are either undemocratic or military-backed. — *AP*

## Sunil Dutt told to retract letter

**NEW DELHI** — Indian Prime Minister, PV Narasimha Rao, has rejected the offer of resignation of Congress (I) MP, Sunil Dutt, from the lower house, Lok Sabha and asked him to withdraw it.

In a letter to Dutt, who had sent his resignation to Rao during the peak of communal riots in Bombay last month, the prime minister recalled a discussion on the issue earlier and said "as I have mentioned to you at that time I do not think this is the moment for you to take such an action."

"Your contribution to parliament and to the party will be particularly valuable in the light of recent events which require all of us who are committed to the ideals of a strong, unite and secular India to work together in that cause. I hope you will understand and withdraw your request which I am unable to accept," he said in the letter delivered to Dutt yesterday. — *PTI*

# Indian leader calls for religious amity

**NEW DELHI** — Indian President Shankar Dayal Sharma, opening a new session of parliament boycotted by the Hindu nationalist opposition, called yesterday for a concerted campaign against religious strife.

"The basic premise of secularism and the rule of law has been threatened" he said of the razing of a mosque by Hindu zealots on December 6 and Hindu-Muslim riots that ensued in which more than 1,700 people were killed.

"The most important task before us today is to restore confidence and communal amity," Sharma said with the first words of a speech opening the budget session of parliament.

"Political parties, intellectuals, opinion leaders and others must all strive to counter the communal propaganda that has been let loose."

Sharma's speech was boycotted by the rightwing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), parliamentary flag-bearer of a surging Hindu nationalist movement that has focused on Muslims who form a minority of more than 100 million in India's 870 million population. It did so in protest against the government banning a rally in Delhi on Thursday intended to kick off a major campaign for early elections by the BJP, which is convinced that its support has blossomed in the wake of the mosque's destruction.

The BJP accused the government of abusing democracy by banning the rally and said it would go ahead with its despite administration efforts to prevent participants reaching Delhi.

The government has also put scores of Hindu nationalists in preventive detention in its bid to head off a rally that many residents of the capital fear would spark violence.

The destruction of the mosque in the northern town of Ayodhya, which became the focus of the Hindu nationalist campaign for power, and the religious riots plunged India into its worst crisis since independence from Britain in 1947.

Sharma called on legislators — in a parliament frequently brought to a halt by screaming matches — to act responsibly to see India through the crisis. "I am sure you will set the tone for the entire country to deal with its problems this year with exemplary conduct and leadership," he told them. "The nation expects nothing less from its representatives here."

The BJP showed signs of heeding the message. Party members of parliament said they planned to stage a sit-in protest inside the building later in the day against the arrests of its followers.

Indian news agencies said police had detained some 400 people as part of the government's attempt to prevent Thursday's rally.

The Press Trust of India said several BJP leaders had gone underground to escape detention.

It said among those arrested was firebrand orator Sadhvi Ritambhara who last achieved prominence by urging Hindus still in Ayodhya after the mosque was destroyed to resist security forces moving in to retake control of the town. — *Reuters*

# Japan's budget debate resumes

**TOKYO** — Japanese opposition parties lifted their boycott of the 1993 budget debate yesterday after the ruling party agreed to allow further testimony in parliament about a money-and-mobsters scandal, party officials said. A spokesman for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said his party had conceded that a third key scandal figure should come to the lower house to testify under oath.

It was still unclear who that third witness would be. The LDP pledged to do its best to produce regional bus company chairman Rekiji Kobari as the opposition demanded.

The ruling party agreed to make known its decision before passage through the Lower House of the state budget for the fiscal year beginning in April.

Last week, former LDP prime minister Noboru Takeshita and his ex-lieutenant Ichiro Ozawa underwent inconclusive questioning in parliament over their alleged role in recent scandals.

Both men denied any involvement, much to the opposition's frustration.

Takeshita flatly rejected accusations that he asked a gang boss to intervene and crush a 1987 political

smear campaign against him. He also denied allegations that he accepted money from an ailing bank in 1985 while he was finance minister.

Ozawa said he knew nothing of alleged links between the LDP leadership and the Yakuza (organised crime). He also professed total ignorance of a half-billion yen (\$4 million) political donation from mob-linked transport firm Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin to former LDP powerbroker Shin Kanemaru.

Ozawa was Kanemaru's right-hand man until the old man retired from politics last October following his conviction for taking the illegal Sagawa donation. Kanemaru too says he has no idea what happened to the money. With the opposition now rejoining the budget debate, the budget was expected to pass through the LDP-dominated Lower House by the end of next week, officials of both ruling and opposition parties said.

The weaker, opposition-controlled Upper House may delay but not vote down the budget.

"We have expressed our willingness to co-operate in passing the budget by the end of this fiscal year," a spokesman for the socialist party said. — *Reuters*

## NUCLEAR INSPECTION N. Korea remains defiant

**TOKYO** — North Korea dramatically turned up the heat yesterday in its blazing row with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) over nuclear inspections.

A Pyongyang government report accused "some people of the IAEA secretariat" of bowing to US pressure by demanding that its inspectors be given access to two North Korean military sites unconnected to its nuclear programme. The report was issued just hours before the UN agency's board of governors was due to meet in Vienna.

At the same time, the official daily *Rodong Sinmun* issued a stark warning that the isolated Stalinist state would refuse the inspectors entry, even at the price of confrontation with the world community.

"If a 'special inspection' or 'sanctions' are forced on us and the inviolable soil of our country is infringed upon by big powers, it would result in plunging the whole land of the North and the South into the holocaust of a war," *Rodong Sinmun's* Sunday commentary said.

North Korea, which angrily denies US and South Korean charges that it is secretly developing nuclear weapons, agreed reluctantly last year to allow IAEA inspection of what it calls its civilian nuclear facilities.

Now, it complains, the agency has

unilaterally and abusively added two more sites to the agreed list of facilities to be inspected. It insists it will not comply.

Korea analysts in Japan said such a hardline stance could put North Korea in confrontation with the UN Security Council and lay it open to the threat of disastrous economic sanctions. They added, however, that Pyongyang's defiance might just be brinkmanship.

The leadership could well reverse course after mid-April, when US and South Korean troops end their annual team spirit joint military exercise on the peninsula, the analysts said. North Korea calls team spirit a nuclear war dress rehearsal.

In its lengthy report published overnight by the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), Pyongyang's atomic energy ministry, accused the IAEA of "spreading rumours that we are refusing inspection of the two nuclear-related facilities in violation of the safeguards agreement and we are not allowing a visit to the nuclear site, breaking the promise with the agency".

This, said the ministry, was preposterous. "The two sites referred to by the agency side are military facilities which have nothing to do with nuclear activities and, accordingly, we are not obliged to show them to

the agency," the report added.

Korea-watchers in Japan, where the possibility of Pyongyang acquiring nuclear arms is taken very seriously, could not rule out the possibility that North Korea was bent on confrontation.


"If North Korea continued to refuse for long, then it could face 'challenge inspections' by the IAEA or sanctions by the UN Security Council," said Masao Okonogi of Keio University.

"North Korea is entering an impasse...no-one, not even old allies China and Russia, wants to deal with it in such adamant mood..."

The Security Council could impose economic sanctions, barring member nations from trade with North Korea, he said.

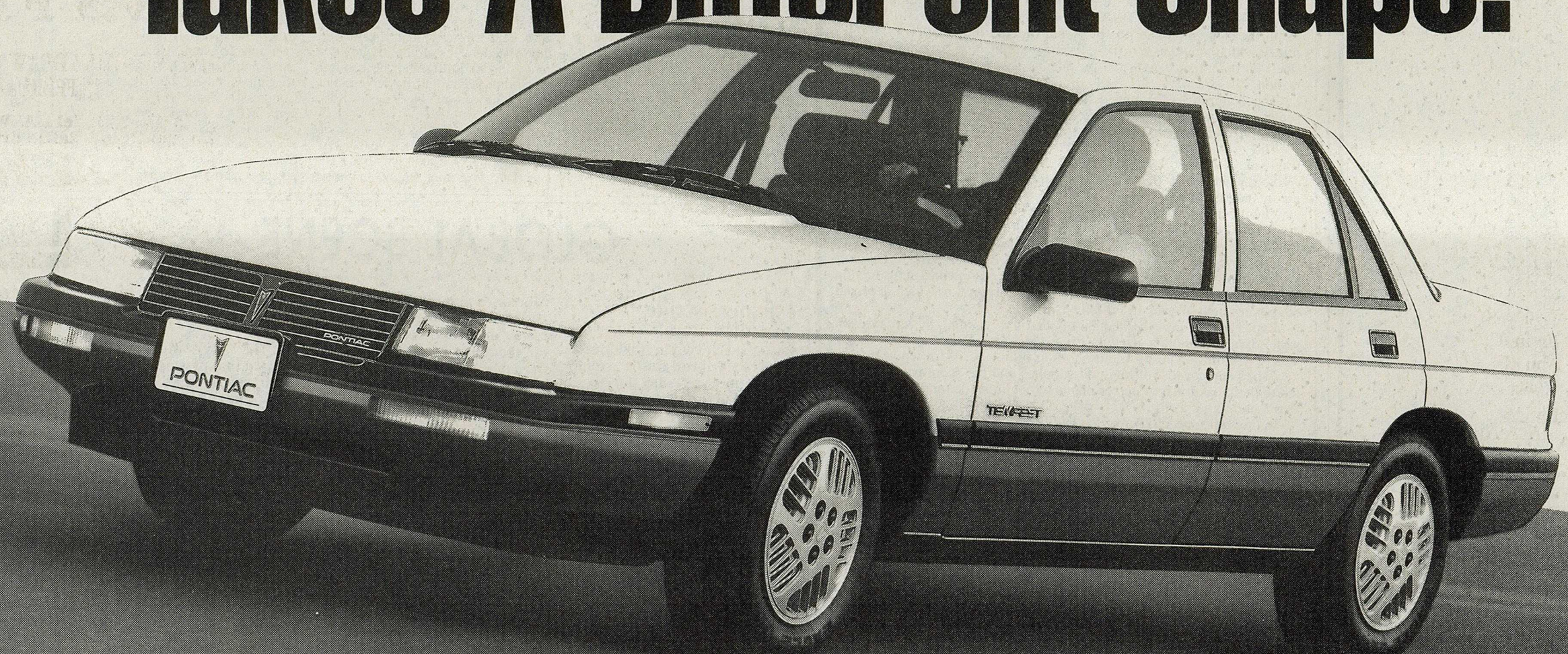
"If and when North Korea is cornered and sees no escape, it may change its position completely," he said. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) opened a board of governors' meeting yesterday with the high likelihood of demanding a special inspection and sanctions on North Korea.

Because the IAEA has to keep inspection results confidential, only North Korea and representatives from board-member countries will be allowed to attend this week's session, agency officials said. — *Reuters*




# T E M P E S T

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# Kohl calls for Simla accord implementation

NEW DELHI — The German Chancellor, Dr. Helmut Kohl, yesterday endorsed India's stand that the Shimla accord serve as the basis for resolving the Kashmir problem and said economic cooperation would not be conditional to New Delhi signing the Nuclear non-proliferation Treaty (NPT).

Saying that the NPT was of "enormous importance," Dr. Kohl, however, said Germany was prepared to work towards eliminating India's reservations on ratifying the treaty.

Addressing an hour-long crowded press conference, he called for a bilateral dialogue with India on all aspects of nuclear-nonproliferation, an offer already accepted by New Delhi during official talks here.

"I don't think that the Indo-German relations will suffer as a result at all," he said at the conclusion of his four-day visit.

Dr. Kohl ruled out any imposition to the Kashmir problem being solved from outside.

He described both India and Pakistan as friends and counselled them to resolve their differences mutually and through peaceful means.

His stand on Kashmir is considered to be a rebuff to Pakistan as the British Prime Minister, John Major, and the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, had advocated a similar line during their recent visits to India.

Though suffering from a sore throat, Dr. Kohl replied at length to questions ranging from the Indo-

German economic cooperation to the US threat on the subsidies issue, the Uruguay round of negotiations and the future of the Maastricht Treaty.

He expressed Germany's inability to restore a cut in development aid to India on the grounds that Bonn's commitment to the Commonwealth of Independent States, Eastern Europe and Latin America were of great importance.

"If economic reforms fail in Russia, we will have to bear enormous price," Dr. Kohl warned.

He emphasised that it was in the interest of both Germany and India

that a democratic development took place in CIS states of erstwhile Soviet Union.

Asked about the possibility of Germany and India being made permanent members of the all powerful United Nations Security Council, Dr. Kohl said the matter did not occupy high priority from his country's point of view.

He, however, concurred with the stand taken by India and Japan that the present structure of the UN did not reflect the world situation as it existed today and that there was need for democratic reforms of the world body. — PTI

## Clinton deplores Indian violence

WASHINGTON — Referring to the religious violence in India US President Bill Clinton deplored all sorts of violence. He said it was hard for the United States to influence it since India, he pointed out, was far away from the US.

Clinton made this reference to India on his own when he was asked about fighting in various parts of the world and what the US could do to stop it.

Clinton said that in Somalia the

US had been able to stop the fighting by sending troops. Bosnia was more difficult because they had been fighting for centuries except when the government put a stop to it.

Haiti had problems but because it was nearer the US, it would be easier for the US to restore the elected government.

He then brought up India.

"It works better," he said about the violence issue in various countries, "if there is some support for a solution short of war."

Meanwhile the staff of about 15 members of US Congress of both parties who have formed a "caucus on India and Indian-Americans" have decided to draft a statement saying that the Congressmen will cooperate to improve relations with India and to meet the concerns of the Indian community in America.

They will meet again after two weeks. This is the first time such a caucus has been formed.

Formerly Congressman Stephen Solarz was India's main support in Congress. He was defeated in the last election when his predominantly Jewish constituency was broken up and he was forced to contest in a constituency which had become mainly Hispanic (people of Latin America) who wanted to elect one of their own.

In the new Congress, Congressman Frank Pallone and others took the initiative to ensure that relations with India are not ruined by the very active anti-Indian Khalistanis and separatist Kashmiri lobbies who are aided and abetted by a few of their colleagues. — PTI

## High drama in the sea: LTTE man arrested

MADRAS — The presence of mind of five fishermen of the southern state of Tamil Nadu enabled the police to apprehend a highly armed LTTE militant and recover a rocket launcher with six rockets, a medium machine gun and a light machine gun with 200 rounds of ammunition in a high drama off Point Calimere coast on February 20.

Official sources here told PTI that five militants of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan separatist outfit banned by India, travelling in a high speed fibre glass boat from Velvettithurai in Jaffna peninsula, were stranded about 20 kms away from Point Calimere coast as their boat's engines developed trouble.

They signalled a passing Indian fishing boat with five fishermen to stop and later asked them to take them back to Velvettithurai.

When the fishermen, all hailing from a village near Nagapattinam, refused, the militants trained their guns against them and took over the boat.

They later began shifting their entire payload including the arms into the fishermen's boat as the Indians watched helplessly.

While one LTTE man boarded the fishermen's boat and the four others were sitting in the fibre glass boat engaged in tying their boat to the other, the fishermen who had seen the one LTTE man in their boat weaponless immediately started their engines, overpowered the lone fellow and sped to the Nagapattinam coast and handed over the 17-year-old youth, Kiran alias Kannan, to the navy personnel who handed him over to the police. — PTI

## Two films share Berlin's Golden Bear

### Pfeiffer best actress, Washington best actor

BERLIN — Two Chinese-language films shared the top honour at the 43rd annual Berlin festival, winning Golden Bear awards for best picture yesterday.

"The Wedding Banquet", from Taiwan, and "The Women From the Lake of Scented Souls", from China, were picked by the 11-member international jury from among 25 films competing for awards.

Hollywood films received two of the five silver bear prizes awarded at the end of the 12-day festival — Michelle Pfeiffer as best actress for her role in "Love Field" and Denzel Washington as best actor in "Malcolm X".

Malcolm Birken also won a silver bear award as best director for the German-British-French production of "The Cement Garden".

A French film, "Arizona

Dream", won a special jury prize Silver Bear and a Georgian film, "Udzinarta Mse" ("The Sun of the Wakeful"), also received a Silver Bear.

"The Wedding Banquet", directed by Ang Lee and filmed in New York, is comedy about a successful gay Taiwanese businessman who lives with his boyfriend in Brooklyn.

His parents in Taiwan wonder why he hasn't married. He enters a marriage of convenience with a poor artist, but his parents decide to travel to New York to supervise the wedding plans.

"The Women From the Lake of Scented Souls", a film examining the role of women in present-day China and directed by Xie Fei, is about a woman who owns a sesame oil mill.

Unhappy in her own marriage,

she also arranges a marriage for her son, but that goes awry and she offers to have the marriage dissolved, but the outlook for a woman who has already been married is gloomy.

The following are the winners of Golden and Silver Bear awards at the film festival:

Golden bear — "The Women From the Lake of Scented Souls" (China) "Hsi Yen" ("The Wedding Banquet") (Taiwan)

Silver Bear, special jury prize — "Arizona Dream" (France)

Silver Bear, best director — Andrew Birken, "The Cement Garden" (Germany, Great Britain, France)

Silver Bear, best actress — Michelle Pfeiffer, "Love Field" (USA)

Silver Bear, best actor — Denzel Washington, "Malcolm X" (USA)

Silver Bear, for sensitive pres-

entation of painful social and personal crises — "Udzinarta Mse" ("The Sun of the Wakeful") (Georgia)

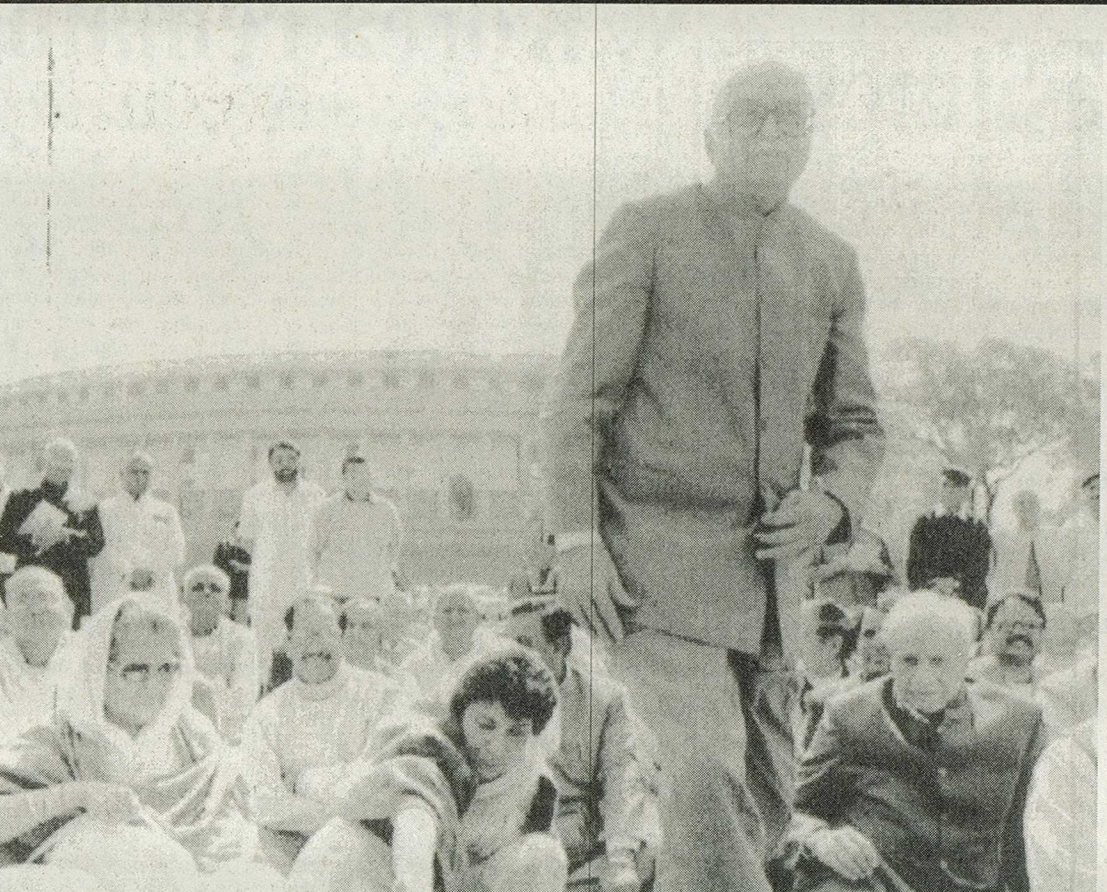
Silver Bear, for vision of the purity of life in Burkina Faso and universal dilemmas we share — "Samba Traore" (Burkina Faso, France, Switzerland)

Blue Angel Award — "Le Jeune Werther" (France)

Special mention to Assi Dayan (Israel) for his "Ha Chayin Alpy Agfa" ("Life According to Agfa") and Detlev Buck (Germany) for "Wir Koennen Auch Anders" ("No More Mr. Nicoguy")

Golden Bear Prize for short films — "Bolero" (Russia)

Silver Bear Prize for short films — "At Zije Mys" ("Long Live the Mouse") (Czechoslovakia). — *Reuter*



Reuter wirephoto

## MPs in protest

NEW DELHI — Lal Krishan Advani, leader of opposition Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), about to sit as he leads a sit-in protest by its members of parliament outside the parliament building after boycotting the opening session speech of President Shankar Dayal Sharma in New Delhi yesterday against the arrests of BJP members.

## Manila Notes

By Lulu Principe

## Ramos orders crackdown

MANILA — President Fidel Ramos ordered yesterday the deployment of joint elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the military in Adams town in Ilocos Norte which was raided by communist terrorists last week.

The president's action came on the heels of reports that Adams Mayor Alfredo Camacan and the police chief were treacherously gunned down by a 20-man group of the New People's Army during the same attack.

The NPA raid was carried out amidst the president's peace initiatives launched mainly to restore peace and order in the country.

Specifically, the chief executive wanted that the joint operations of the PNP and military be geared towards securing the welfare of the residents.

The instructions were issued by Ramos during a dialogue with Defence Secretary Renato de Villa, interior and local government secretary Rafael Alunan and PNP director general Raul Imperial.

In the same dialogue, the president ordered the creation of a committee which would assess the retirement application of senior PNP officers in compliance with the president's desire to revamp the organisation.

The committee, the president said would be composed of representatives from the office of the president, National Police Commission, PNP and the DILG.

The group was given 45 days to act on the applications for retirement.

So far, some 239 PNP officials including the 16 "floating" generals are included in the revamp.

The president accepted the resignation of former PNP Director General Cesar Nazareno and set aside on the other hand, the courtesy resignation of Alunan.

The severe economic destruction caused by the power crisis will continue to prevail unless the Ramos administration takes steps to stop graft and corruption at the National Power Corporation which deprived the government of over 15 billion pesos.

Rep. Hernani Perez (Batangas) issued this warning yesterday even as he divulged another irregularity at the Napocor involving a yearly loss of 400 million pesos or close to four billion pesos for ten years.

"The Napocor lost of huge oil supplies and the spare parts that has led to the breakdown of power plants wrought havoc on the economy," Perez said.

In the same speech, Perez detailed the substantial amount of money which the Napocor had disbursed indiscriminately to the prejudice of the Filipino people.

The first scandal was the oil theft which caused the agency a yearly loss of one billion pesos or ten billion pesos for a period of ten years.

The latest irregularity on the other hand involved the highly questionable awarding of contracts for power plants which according to the lawmaker from Batangas would deprive the government of four hundred million pesos annually or four billion pesos for 10 years.

Probe into artist's income

Bureau of Internal Revenue Commissioner Jose Ong ordered yesterday the investigation of Filipino international artists or performers to determine whether they had declared their correct income and paid the government correct taxes.

The order was issued by BIR International Tax Affairs division headed by Joel Tan Torres who was likewise directed to closely coordinate with revenue services where the Filipino international artists or entertainers have performed or still are performing.

Citing BIR records, Ong said many of these Filipino artists were not declaring their correct income generated abroad believing that they could cheat the government.

But Ong emphasised that the BIR has a way of checking their income tax records abroad mainly because the revenue agency has an exciting agreements with some 25 major countries including the United Kingdom, United States and Japan.

The agreement among others provide for mutual exchange of information on the income and other earnings of their respective citizens.

Among those to be investigated are Ms. Leah Navarro, Josephine Banig Roberto, Bert Nievera, Sharon Cuneta and Gary Valenciano.

## 37 killed in Kashmir

NEW DELHI — Thirty seven persons including a doctor were killed in the militancy ridden valley of northern India over the last four days. Nine persons, including six militants, were killed and six subversives captured in the Kashmir valley overnight Wednesday.

A Border Security Forces (BSF) personnel was killed and three of his colleagues were wounded when a land-mine, planted by militants, went off at Kangan, 40 km from here on Srinagar-Leh road Wednesday evening, an official spokesman told reporters here Thursday.

Dr. Farooq Ahad Ashai, superintendent of the Joint and Bones Hospital, Barzalla, and three border Security Forces personnel were among nine persons killed in the valley overnight Thursday. In a major incidence of violence eleven persons, including four militants, were killed and 20 subversives, two of them top ones, captured in the Kashmir valley since Friday night according to reports Saturday.

Saturday night saw the killing of eight persons, six of them militants, in the valley according to police on Sunday. — PTI

## Kerala CM blasted

From Our Correspondent

KOZHIKODE — Mullappally Ramachandran, MP and former union minister used a platform provided by the Antony group and reformists of the Congress (I) at Kongad in Palakkad district to unleash a no holds barred attack on the chief Minister, K. Karunakaran.

Ramachandran who is on a whistle-stop tour of the erstwhile Malabar region to garner support and consolidate the gains at ground level to turn the tide against Karunakaran, used every opportunity to point an accusing finger against the chief minister who he alleged was presiding over a 'most corrupt dispensation' in the state.

In a chat with press reporters he predicted an immediate polarisation in the state party unit of the Congress (I) and said that the battle was between those ordinary congressmen who held close to their hearts the time-tested values of honesty and decency in public life and the handful of corrupt rulers and power brokers flourishing with the blessings of Karunakaran.

"Corruption has become a way of life with the Congress(I) leadership in Kerala and we are sure that Karunakaran does not enjoy majority

support to the parliamentary party," Mullappally said and pointed out that the lack of majority support for the 'leader' could be proved if the high command convened a session to decide whether Karunakaran should continue to lead the party in Kerala.

Mullappally Ramachandran said he was shocked to hear the tales of corruption doing the rounds in Palakkad district relating to the spirit scandal and role of some prominent party leaders in the district in the murky deals. "If Karunakaran does not take corrective action, self-respecting Congressmen will be forced to come out with details of the corruption sagas," he said. He also ridiculed the KPCC(I) president Vayalar Ravi for not playing a constructive role and belittling the status of a PCC(I) leader. "Ravi should remember that he is sitting on a chair decorated by such stalwarts as the late C.K. Govindan Nair," he said.

Ramachandran also criticised the chief minister for not responding to allegations raised against prominent Congress(I) leaders by responsible party MLAs. Instead the chief minister was more interested to drive a wedge between differing groups of Congress workers with a view of personal gains, he charged.

## GLOBAL SCENE

### Farmers strike

PARIS — Farmers pressing for a French veto in world trade talks blocked rail traffic around the country yesterday, forcing the cancellation of some trains and delays on others.

Farmers of the rural co-ordination blocked tracks with bargains in a day of action to underscore their wish for a strong French stance in trade talks and their demand for a moratorium on Farmers' debts. The farmers are opposed to a US-proposed compromise on the farm portion of the world trade talks, and demand that France block it with a veto if necessary.

European Community agriculture ministers were expected to meet next month on the issue. — AP

### Hungarian Chief

KUALA LUMPUR — Hungarian President Dr Arpad Goncz and his wife Zsuzsana left for home after a five-day visit to Malaysia. They were seen off at the Kuala Lumpur international airport in Subang near here by Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and his wife, Endon Mahmud.

Prime Minister Dr Mahathir

Mohamed and his wife Dr Siti Hasmah Ali had called on Dr. Goncz and Zsuzsana earlier to bid them bon voyage. — *Oana-Bernama*

### Synagogue attack

STRABOURG, France — Vandals tried to set fire to a synagogue in the eastern French town of Mulhouse early yesterday in the latest of a series of anti-semitic attacks, police said.

The attack -- the latest in a spate of incidents since last August at Jewish sites in the eastern border region of Alsace -- coincided with the start of the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan on Monday. Some attackers have left extreme-right anti-semitic slogans. Others have daubed pro-Arab graffiti. — *Reuter*

### Bulgaria alert

SOFIA — Bulgaria, fearing that the war in former Yugoslavia might spread, has strengthened security around its Kozloduy nuclear power plant, officials said yesterday.

"We have taken all the necessary measures to tighten security at the Kozloduy nuclear plant in view of the plant's proximity to ex-Yugoslavia," Dyanko Do-

brev, chairman of the National Electric Company told *Reuters*.

The daily *Standard* reported that private guards with American weapons has been contracted to strengthen security at the Kozloduy plant, which is situated on the banks of the Danube river just 100 km from the Serbian border. The guards were also reported by the paper to be standing watch outside public buildings in the town of Kozloduy. — *Reuter*

### Signature campaign

KUALA LUMPUR — The Malaysian Action Front (MAF) has launched a signature campaign to petition the United Nations to end Serbian atrocities against the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The campaign was

launched simultaneously with the sale of bilingual multi-purpose stickers and car stickers at the National Mosque here. The stickers carry the slogans "Stand up against massacre and rape. Lift arms embargo on Bosnia". — *Oana-Bernama*

Several other relief workers

have been killed in Somalia despite the presence of more than 30,000 foreign troops providing security so relief agencies can get food and medicine to millions of needy people. The US-led military coalition is expected to shift to United Nations command in the next two months, with most of the remaining 15,000 American troops heading home. — *Reuter*

## Maharashtra CM resigns

NEW DELHI — Maharashtra Chief Minister Sudhakar Naik last night tendered his resignation to Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao, thereby ending the 10-day-old political crisis in the state.

Naik submitted the resignation to the prime minister during his 40-minute meeting with Rao.

He said "the prime minister asked for it and I gave it."

Earlier, Naik arrived in New Delhi following summons from Congress-high command.

According to a report from Bombay, the chief minister was on Sunday night called by Governor Dr. P.C. Alexander, who had rushed to the city cutting short his visit to the southern state of Kerala, to apprise himself of the prevailing political situation in the state.

Naik had admitted that his statement for expulsion of Defence Minister Sharad Pawar from the party would further complicate the crisis.

According to an earlier report, Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao was continuing consultations with senior leaders on the political crisis in the state on which, Congress Party sources said, a decision was expected to be taken within a couple of days.

But the decision on the change of leadership came yesterday.

Reacting to the news, Pawar said he had always treated Naik as a "member of my family" but he was not aware what brought the bitterness in the relations recently.

However, he said he would always cherish only happy memories of his relationship with Naik.

Pawar said his task would be to strengthen the Congress-I in Maharashtra and the hands of the prime minister.

Former Maharashtra chief minister A.R. Antulay has requested the prime minister not to forward the resignation of Naik to the governor for acceptance as this will have a chain reaction in other Congress-I states. — *PTI*

## Fighting kills 7 in Somalia

MOGADISHU — Fighting between rival factions killed seven Somalis and wounded 21 in the southern port of Kismayu yesterday, and gunmen killed an Irish nurse in a roadside ambush near Mogadishu, military officials said.

The Kismayu fighting was the most serious in Somalia in weeks and came a day before US forces in the area were to start heading home.

A ceremony scheduled for today to turn over control of the security operation in Kismayu to Belgian forces was postponed.

Marine Col. Fred Peck, the US military spokesman, said the fighting began before dawn and ended yesterday morning, killing seven Somalis and wounding 21. He said US and Belgian troops in the area were not involved in the conflict, which lasted five hours.

Peck said an overnight curfew would be imposed, and that the troops' departure would probably be delayed only a day or two.

Valerie Place, 23, a nurse for the Irish relief agency concern, was shot to death in an attack on her vehicle outside Afgoi, about 50 kms north of Mogadishu, Peck said.

Grief-stricken officials at the concern residence in Mogadishu said Miss Place was finishing her assignment in the capital and was to begin work today in Baidoa, to the northwest.

They said the vehicle she was riding in came under attack from at least 10 Somali gunmen, and that an armed guard was injured.

Earlier yesterday, Miss Place had been present when heavy-weight boxing champion Riddick Bowe toured a concern feeding center in Mogadishu. Miss Place, who concern workers believed came from Dublin, had been in Somalia for six months.

Several other relief workers have been killed in Somalia despite the presence of more than 30,000 foreign troops providing security so relief agencies can get food and medicine to millions of needy people. The US-led military coalition is expected to shift to United Nations command in the next two months, with most of the remaining 15,000 American troops heading home. — *Reuter*



Ministry of Posts, Telegraphs & Telephones  
General Telecommunication Organization

## Notice No. 10/93

Commissioning of New Telephone Exchanges at Bid Bid and at Hassas

GTO is Pleased to announce to the public the commissioning of new telephone exchanges at Bid Bid and at Hassas on Monday 22nd of February 1993.

Some of the old numbers from Samail exchange have been transferred to the new Hassas exchange. The Telephone numbers of the old Bid Bid exchange have also been transferred to the new Bid Bid exchange. Details of the telephone numbers involved are given below.

### Bid Bid Exchange

Old Numbers	New Numbers
409000	368000
409001	368001
409002	368002
409003	368003
409007	368007
409009	368009
409010	368010
409011	368011
409012	368012
409014	368014
409016	368016
409019	368019
409021	368021
409022	368022
409024	368024
409025	368025
409026	368026
409027	368027
409028	368028
409029	368029
409030	368030
409031	368031
409033	368033
409034	368034
409035	368035
409036	368036
409038	368038
409039	368039
409040	368040
409043	368043
409047	368047

### Samail Exchange Hassas Exchange

Old Numbers	New Numbers
400021	359021
400048	359048
400056	359056
400103	359103
400125	359125
400139	359139
400161	359161
400182	359182
400188	359188
400204	359204
400210	359210
400212	359212
400226	359216
400233	359233
400235	359235
400237	359237
400260	359260
400265	359265
400272	359272
400290	359290
400322	359323
400324	359324
400325	359325
400337	359337
400342	359342
400354	359354
400357	359357
400376	359376
400398	359397
400431	359431
400476	359476
400492	359492
400502	359502
400510	359510
400528	359528
400537	359537
400552	359552
400558	359558
400565	359565



## Al Gore praises solons' backing of tough Clinton plan

SAN JOSE, California — Vice President Al Gore pledged on Sunday that he and President Clinton would fervently support lawmakers who cast tough votes for the administration's economic plan.

And he sharply rebuked Republican critics whom he blamed for creating the deficit crisis.

"I think people have gotten tired of the obstructionism and gridlock and are really ready to see the country move forward," Gore said when asked about Republican criticism of the new Clinton plan.

"Some of the critics have a lot of nerve, presiding over the quadrupling of the national debt and using smoke and mirrors for a dozen years and now attempting to prevent progress out of the nightmare that they helped create."

Gore was interviewed during a flight from Washington to California, where he was teaming up with Clinton to promote the plan. He said he believed the administration was off to a successful start in building public support.

The vice president said Clinton wanted to work with the congressional leadership to fashion a package that include some early votes to put lawmakers on the record as favouring significant deficit reduction even as congress considered the \$30 billion stimulus package.

Gore said he and the president would support anyone who backed the plan and then faced political heat as a consequence.

"We have two choices," he said, "the president's plan, perhaps with some small modifications as it works its way through congress but with all the major components present, or gridlock and a

continuation of the status quo which would be a disaster."

During the interview, Gore also discussed several foreign policy issues facing the new administration. He said:

— A Bush administration holdover at the State Department, Richard Armitage, was "certainly not speaking for the (Clinton) administration" when he said in a recent speech that Russian President Boris Yeltsin was "just about at the end of his usefulness."

"We wish (Yeltsin) well and are in a constant dialogue with him about problems of mutual concern and opportunity," Gore said.

He said no Clinton-Yeltsin summit was scheduled because of Clinton's focus on domestic issues, but "there certainly is no resistance to such a meeting."

— It was "quite important for the UN to move more quickly" to replace American troops in Somalia with an international force to protect famine relief operations.

The US special envoy to Somalia, Robert B. Oakley, said on Saturday that the United Nations was stalling its takeover of the peacekeeping operation.

"The essence of the same message has been delivered in other ways," Gore said when asked if the administration had voiced displeasure directly to top UN officials.

— The administration had "some indications" that Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic would come to the United States this week for a meeting with Gore in Washington and to attend a new round of peace talks in New York among the warring factions in the former Yugoslavia.

But Gore said nothing was definite as of early on Sunday. - AP

## Britons urge gov't to take stiff actions against youth crime

LONDON — The violent death of a wide-eyed, 2-year-old boy - killed after leaving a shopping mall with two youngsters - has raised the volume of calls for the government to take tougher action against young criminals.

Two 10-year-olds were charged Saturday with abduction and murder in the killing of the toddler. James Bulger was kidnapped after wandering briefly from his mother in the busy strand shopping centre on Feb. 12. His battered body was found on a rail track in Liverpool two days later.

The killing shocked Britain. In Liverpool, 270 kms northwest of London, tens of thousands of soccer fans, notorious for their unruly behavior, observed a minute of silence Saturday for the dead boy.

In the same week that James's small body was found, a 13-year-old boy was charged in London

with murdering a man in his 60s.

In Reading, western England, two "joyriders" aged 17 and 19 were sentenced to five years' youth custody for killing a cyclist while they raced stolen cars.

"Children are running wild in a way that they would not have been allowed to do in the past," said Conservative lawmaker Michael Stephen.

He and other members of parliament joined police in urging the government to change the law to lock up persistent offenders.

Prime Minister John Major said in a newspaper interview published Sunday that it was time to crack down on youngsters who "offend, re-offend and offend again. ... There is not a very satisfactory way of dealing with them."

Major told the *Mail* on Sunday that those who ended up in a magistrate's court just "get their wrists

slapped." He said the government would present proposals soon to deal with these teens.

Home Secretary Kenneth Clarke told a meeting of police officers last year that a case exists "for increasing court powers to lock up, educate and train ... (young offenders) for their own and everyone else's interest."

Under British law, 10 is the minimum age at which children can face criminal charges. Prosecutors must prove they were aware what they did was wrong.

Under the 1991 Criminal Justice Act, courts can require parents to pay fines and can pass tougher community sentences on 16-17 year olds.

But children under 15 still cannot be kept in custody. Courts usually caution them and hand them over to a local government agency, but they often escape.

In the gray wasteland of east London tenements, it is not hard to find youngsters who have tangled with the law.

"Sure I've been in trouble with the police," admitted Danny, a canny, fresh-faced 16-year-old.

"I was arrested the first time when I was 14, for stealing a motorbike." Two other arrests, for robbery and attempted burglary followed.

"Mainly, I did it because I was broke, and for fun," the dark-haired youngster said. Police cautioned him each time.

Danny refused to give his last name "cuz I don't want no trouble."

Other teens talk freely of fights, robberies, shoplifting. Government figures show 2,300 boys aged 10-13 and 17,200 aged 14-17 were sentenced in 1991 for indictable offenses. That was a drop in both cat-

egories from 1990. The Home Office calls those figures deceptive, however, because of a trend toward issuing cautions and reclassification of some offenses.

But lawmaker Stephen and others point to youths who have amassed dozens of offenses - like 13-year-old Darren, who lives in Sunderland, northern England. His trademark is unbolting the headrest in every car he steals, to use as a cushion so he can see over the dashboard.

Police there say Darren has stolen more than 200 cars. He has been arrested more than 40 times since last summer.

Every time he's sentenced to a secure place, he escapes.

"We are waiting and praying for the day this boy reaches 15," superintendent Alex Price told a newspaper. Indeed, a photograph showed Darren's birthday marked in a police

diary.

A study of 1,389 probationers aged 17 to 23, released this week, found the vast majority are "complete outsiders" from poor, troubled homes.

Some social workers and probation officers argue for a softer approach.

"The more state intervention, the more persistent these young offenders become," said Sir Louis Blom-Cooper, a judge and penal reform activist.

He believes "most kids grow out of crime as they grow into adulthood."

Danny says he has. A community project helped him win a place in a college, where he is studying Math and English.

"I realise now that crime was all a waste of time," he said. "I'd like to help keep other kids out of trouble." - AP

## Boxing champ Bowe visits Somalia

MOGADISHU — Heavyweight boxing champion Riddick Bowe saw hungry Somalis in this devastated and filthy capital yesterday, but the one thing that convinced him US soldiers had it rough was hot soda.

"You know its hard when these guys are drinking hot soda," Bowe said while brushing away flies during lunch with marines and army troops.

Hardened soldiers grinned like schoolboys and posed with Bowe during his four-hour visit to Mogadishu with Americare, a US relief agency.

The WBA and IBF champion also visited a feeding center operated by the Irish relief agency concern. Tiny Somali children sang for him, and he gave his cap to an emaciated 13-year-old girl who smiled with pleasure.

"I'm very happy to see him and we are happy to welcome him," said Abdi Mohamed Abiiker Aodon, whose arms were barely thicker than Bowe's thumb. "He looks like he's really interested to see us."

John Riehl, executive director of Americare, said Bowe paid \$94,000 to charter a flight from New York to Nairobi that also carried \$1.8 million worth of medicine to be distributed in Somalia and Kenya. - AP

## 2 senior Fiat group executives arrested

MILAN, Italy — Two senior executives of the giant industrial group Fiat were arrested yesterday as a spreading corruption scandal reaches Italy's highest levels of private business as well as politics.

The Milan Stock Exchange reacted by selling off fiat stock in panic.

A spokesman for Fiat, Italy's largest private-sector industrial group, confirmed reports that Francesco Paolo Mattioli, chief financial officer of Fiat, and Antonio Mosconi, managing director of Toro Assicurazioni, a large insurance group controlled by Fiat, were arrested.

The spokesman, who declined to be identified by name, wouldn't say on what charges the two executives were taken to jail.

Court sources in Milan, where the so-called Mani Pulite ('clean hands') investigation began one year ago, indicated that the two executives are suspected of having violated laws on political party financing and of complicity to corruption.

Later, Fiat issued a statement saying the company learned of the arrests "with great astonishment" and that it held the "absolute conviction" that the two managers, who have always carried out their duties

with the maximum commitment and correctness, will prove as soon as possible they are not involved in any way."

Mattioli is the chairman of Cogefarimpresit, Fiat's construction subsidiary which has been probed for allegedly paying kickbacks to politicians in exchange for obtaining public works construction contracts.

Mosconi was an executive of the construction group before joining Toro Assicurazioni.

The arrests touched off panicked selling of fiat shares on the Milan Stock Market, Italy's largest.

Fiat shares tumbled to 5,190 lire, from Friday's closing price of 5,380 lire. The price later settled at around 5,230 lire.

A US dollar is worth 1,568 lire.

The corruption scandal, which has now engulfed Italy, has exposed hundreds of millions of dollars of bribes paid to political parties and has led to the arrest of hundreds of people, including scores of political leaders, officials running Italy's mammoth state companies and private businesses.

On Sunday, Socialist Premier Giuliano Amato reshuffled Cabinet positions to keep his coalition going as his government reeled from the resignations of three ministers who were linked to scandals. - AP

## Leading French political figure dies of cancer

PARIS — Jean Lecanuet, senator, long-time mayor of Rouen and a founder of France's important centrist political force, died yesterday of cancer, his entourage said. He was 72.

Lecanuet, who would have been 73 on March 4, died at his home in suburban Neuilly, which he had not left for the past several weeks, ending a "long and cruel illness," the French reference for cancer.

Lecanuet served as justice minister in the government of Premier Jacques Chirac in 1974, then as minister for territorial management in the succeeding government of Raymond Barre.

He also served for years as senator or deputy in the National Assembly. Mayor of Rouen, in Normandy, since 1968, he also held numerous regional posts. A convinced European, he was a senator at his death, re-elected in October as the president of the Senate Foreign Affairs and Defence Commission. But his most lasting political contribution will have been his work to create a centrist force between the right and left, a "third force" which 25 years ago he correctly predicted would play a major role in French political life. - AP

## Angola fighting escalates despite peace talk promise

LAUNDA, Angola — Despite an agreement to resume peace talks this week, government and Unita rebel troops have stepped up fighting for the rubble-strewn city in central Angola that has become their key battleground.

Unita said it attacked a battalion trying to reinforce government troops pinned down in the city, Huambo, over the weekend and destroyed a supply convoy.

The report came just after UN spokesman Joao de Albuquerque announced that both the government and Unita agreed to resume peace talks this week, as early as Wednesday, in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa.

Unita military chief Gen. Arlindo Pena "Ben-Ben," in a statement issued yesterday, said rebel troops drove the government battalion from the outskirts of Huambo, 530 kms southeast of Luanda, and captured a Soviet-made BM-21 rocket launcher and four armored assault vehicles.

A government military official would not deny the Unita report which, if verified, could mark a serious setback to the government days before negotiations resume.

Antonio Monteiro, Portuguese ambassador to Angola, said on Portuguese TSF radio that military reports indicated fighting in Huambo

had escalated to "frightening proportions."

Humanitarian workers and UN officials have been unable to approach the city for over six weeks, despite urgent requests for a ceasefire to evacuate the city's civilians and an estimated 15,000 wounded.

Diplomats from Portugal, the United States and Russia monitoring peace accords were scheduled to meet today in Lisbon, Portugal, to try to find a solution to the fighting that has raged between government and rebel troops since Oct. 31.

The diplomats helped broker the 1991 peace accords that put a temporary stop to 16 years of civil war and paved the way for multiparty elections in September. Fighting broke out again after Unita, National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, lost a parliamentary majority to its civil war rival, the ruling Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA).

Unita leader Jonas Savimbi also trailed in presidential polling to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, leader of the MPLA.

More than 360,000 people have been killed in Angola since war first erupted in 1975 on the eve of this southern African nation's independence from Portugal. - AP

## Faded Mitterrand magic fails to sway French votes

PARIS - President Francois Mitterrand's fading magic has failed to sway voters exactly one month before French parliamentary elections, with all opinion polls pointing to a conservative landslide crushing his Socialist Party.

Mitterrand, 76, tried to turn the tide with two hour-long prime-time television appearances on Thursday and Friday. He defended his record on unemployment and launched an indignant counter-attack over corruption charges against the Socialists.

But an opinion poll published by *le Journal du Dimanche* on Sunday showed 54 per cent of voters found him unconvincing and only 23 per cent accepted his explanations.

"Approval of the president's performance was very limited. Even among left-wing voters, the score was only 50-50," said Pierre Giacometti, political director of the BVA polling firm.

Mitterrand's attempt to limit the impending disaster was complicated when the leading Socialist contender to succeed him, former prime minister Michel Rocard, called last week for a "big bang" to replace the party with a new centre-left movement.

The BVA poll found that more French people, particularly on the left, were convinced by Rocard than by the president.

Veteran Communist Party leader Georges Marchais said that as the Socialist Party was falling apart, voters could only count on the communists to defend jobs, salaries and public services.



FRANCOIS MITTERRAND

The latest surveys forecast that the opposition alliance of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic (RPR) and the Centre-Right Union for French Democracy (UDF) could win more than 450 of the 577 National Assembly seats in the March 21 and 28 election.

Ironically the polls also show that most voters, even on the right, would prefer a smaller conservative majority and fear a landslide could lead to a mood of ideological revenge.

Mitterrand has tried to set his own agenda for the campaign and the pe-

riod of power-sharing with the right afterwards -- defence of France's generous welfare system, constitutional reform and European Community integration.

But he and the Socialists are constantly dragged back to two central voter concerns -- France's nearly three million unemployed, 10.5 per cent of the workforce, and scandals over party funding and the private finances of top politicians.

After a lacklustre performance on Thursday, a more combative Mitterrand tried to tackle the two issues head-on on Friday.

He called for public works programmes and moves towards a 35-hour work week to combat unemployment.

But what drew most attention was his impassioned, at times angry defence of ministers under fire for alleged financial misconduct or political misjudgment.

More conservative members of parliament than Socialists were under investigation, Mitterrand said, and he was the first president to legislate to clean up stock exchange trading and campaign funding.

Socialist leaders resorted to the weekend to increasingly virulent attacks on the media and the judiciary.

Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, in a speech in his southwest Dordogne constituency, denounced a 'pre-fascist climate' and said: 'justice in France has flooded its banks. it's high time to put an end to the activities of political judges.' - *Reuter*

## Foreign friends vow backing for ANC in election

SOWETO, South Africa — Anti-apartheid groups from around the world has said they would seek financial support for the ANC in multi-racial South African elections.

They also vowed to press for the retention of core sanctions against South Africa, while endorsing an ANC decision to ease conditions for lifting remaining trade restrictions.

About 650 delegates pledged at a three-day international solidarity conference to back the African National Congress against President F.W. de Klerk's ruling National Party in the country's first all-race elections expected something next year.

"The conference agreed that the major priority must be to ensure that the electoral process is genuinely free and fair and that the maximum possible material and financial resources are provided to the ANC in order to help secure a decisive majority," they said in a resolution adopted with applause.

ANC leader Nelson Mandela spoke briefly on Saturday before beginning two weeks of complete rest ordered by his doctors. He said in a document handed to delegates that his party would need 130 million rand (\$42 million) and material ranging from T-shirts to four-wheel trucks for its election campaign.

Conference delegates, mostly members of anti-apartheid organisations in Europe, the Americas and the Far East, endorsed an ANC policy decision last week to ease the conditions for the lifting of remaining sanctions.

The ANC's policy-making National Executive committee said financial and investment sanctions could be lifted when an election date is set and multi-party transitional executive committees start work, rather than after the vote.

But the movement said oil and arms embargoes should remain in place until a democratic interim government is elected.

"Participants welcomed and endorsed the ANC's resolution on sanctions and said it provided a clear perspective on the role of sanctions to promote the process of democratic change."

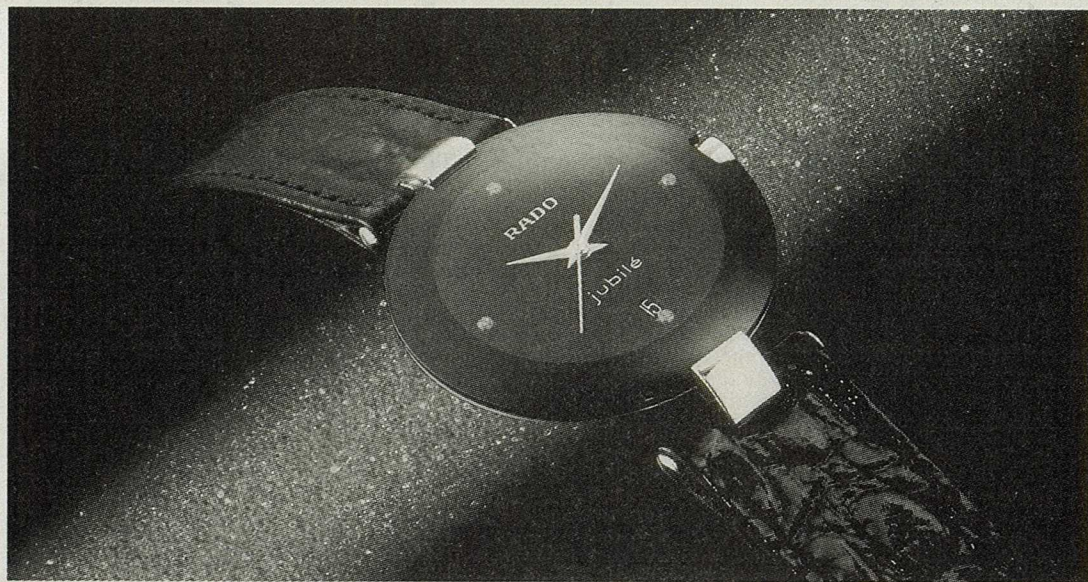
"They agreed to continue to apply pressure on governments, corporations and other bodies so that economic sanctions are maintained until the transitional executive council is established and other steps are taken as envisaged by the NEC," the delegates said in a report.

They said they would mount an international campaign to keep South Africa out of international organisations such as the UN General assembly until the first all-race government takes office. — *Reuter*

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## Avalanches blast over US cities

### Two dead, five missing

KNOXVILLE, Tennessee — Colorado avalanches buried cars on a highway and left two dead and five skiers missing on Sunday as a fast-moving storm blew blinding snow through the northern Rockies and onto the plains. In another storm pummeling the east, at least two tornadoes spawned by thunderstorms touched down in Tennessee. One in Lenoir city killed at least one person, injured at least 95 others and destroyed several homes, according to authorities, who reported some victims trapped in collapsed homes.

A tornado also touched down in Cedartown, Georgia, Sunday, killing one person, injuring at least several others and causing extensive damage, authorities said. Thunderstorms in Georgia had earlier knocked out power to about 10,000 homes in the Atlanta, Smyrna and Polk county areas. No injuries were reported from another tornado that touched down in Powell, Tennessee, or from one spotted in central Kentucky.

Severe thunderstorms from the same disturbance damaged roofs and knocked out power to hundreds of residents in Lexington, Kentucky. No serious injuries were reported there. An 18-year-old man was missing in eastern Kentucky when his canoe overturned in a storm-swollen creek, police said. Blowing snow in waters, Michigan, caused a pileup of about 75 vehicles in Interstate 75, prompting a four-hour closure of a section of the

highway, state police said. Authorities reported about eight people suffered minor injuries.

In Colorado, an avalanche just after noon Sunday swept across both lanes of Interstate 70 on Vail Pass, burying four cars and a semi-trailer truck. The Colorado state patrol reported. The vehicles' occupants were rescued unharmed, the patrol said, but the highway remained closed between Vail and Copper Mountain.

Five cross-country skiers were missing near Aspen, Colorado, a day after two avalanches thundered down near the exclusive resort town. Temperatures were in the teens during the night. Dozens of people were stranded in remote cabins.

A sixth skier who had been reported missing in the same area was located in Moab, Utah, on Sunday. It turned out he had cancelled his ski trip, said Pitkin county sheriff's deputy Jo Disalvo.

The avalanche hazard was rated extreme on Sunday for the mountains near Aspen and Crested Butte, according to the Colorado Avalanche Information Centre. More than 268 avalanches had been reported since a warning went into effect on Wednesday.

Blowing snow prevented an airplane and helicopter from being used in search for the missing skiers. Ground teams could not venture into the area because snow on the mountainsides was so unstable, officials said. - AP



## Major's wary path

**P** rime Minister John Major goes to Washington to meet President Bill Clinton this week anxious to bury awkward political differences at a crucial time for British-US relations. British officials said the top issues for tomorrow's meeting would be how to break the deadly stalemate in Bosnia, perhaps with escorted drops of food by air, and on ways to avoid US-EC trade rows and reach a Gatt world trade agreement.

The British leader hopes to clarify two issues that worried his government - Clinton's electoral proposal to send a peace envoy to Northern Ireland and suggestions of a rethink of the membership of the UN Security Council. Although it has no enthusiasm for the idea, the British government has said it will accept a US fact-finding mission to Northern Ireland, where more than 3,000 people have died in an Irish Republican Army campaign to end British rule.

British officials said Major would urge Clinton to think hard about such a delicate mission, fearing it might disrupt plans to resume stalled peace talks on the province. Major reacted coolly to calls by Secretary of State Warren Christopher last month for a rethink of the make-up of the five-member Security Council, saying it should be brought "into tune with 1993 realities rather than with 1946 realities".

Britain fears opening the issue, and perhaps bringing in Japan, Germany and some representatives of the Third World states, would erode its own status. Major is the first European leader to be invited since Clinton was inaugurated in January.

Clinton did not meet Major when he visited Washington in December, but British officials denied this was a snub and said his place at the top of the European guest list now reflected the traditional "special relationship" between the two allies. Britain is anxious that relationship, born of shared language, democratic forms and history, be maintained.

But the ideological and personal bond linking Republicans in the White House with the Conservatives in Downing Street - strongly developed by Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher in the 1980s - has been cut by the arrival of the Democrat Clinton. Democratic officials who came to Britain last month to attend a seminar arranged by the left-leaning opposition Labour Party said the Clinton camp was still smarting at Major's help for Bush in last year's US election campaign.

In January the *New York Times* put Major as number one in a semi-serious list of Clinton's top 10 enemies "for sending Conservative Party strategists to Washington to advise Bush's campaign on how to beat Clinton." More damaging was an admission that the Home Office searched through its files in response to reporters' questions about reports that Clinton had asked for British citizenship while a student at Oxford in the 1960s.

Analysts said neither man was likely to take such things personally. Both came from humble backgrounds and fought hard political battles to reach the top. "I've no doubt we will be able to work together very satisfactorily," Major said recently.

During the visit, Major was expected to urge Clinton not to take most favoured nation (MFN) trading status from China because of possible repercussions for the British colony of Hongkong, which reverts to Chinese rule in 1997, one government official said.

He also was expected to probe Clinton's intentions towards its security ties with Europe. Anxious European allies, most of whom plan defence cuts, have urged the United States not to cut its troop commitment to the continent.

— Reuter

## Yeltsin power slipping

**B** oris Yeltsin's grip on Russia is slipping as rival Ruslan Khasbulatov marshals conservative regional leaders in resisting the president's radical market reforms. The two men clashed bitterly at the weekend, Khasbulatov calling for a cutback in the president's powers while Yeltsin's camp urged removal of the parliamentary chairman. Conciliation talks have all but broken down amid the acrimony.

Time, however, appears to be on the side of Yeltsin's rival. The weakness of the "centre", a phenomenon that marked the latter years of the Soviet Union, is encouraging opposition in local councils, or Soviets, to Yeltsin and fueling disputes over the shareout of wealth between Moscow and the provinces.

Finance Minister Vasily Barchuk urged a Siberian meeting of council leaders headed by Khasbulatov to be patient. "The tragic story of Yugoslavia began with disputes between territories over finances. Pray God that this should not happen again.... we already have the experience of the (break-up of the Soviet Union behind us," Barchuk said.

Support for Khasbulatov was strong. Delegates queued to sign a petition condemning Yeltsin's plans for a referendum to settle the power-sharing dispute between the presidency and the supreme legislature, the Congress of People's Deputies. Khasbulatov urged them to challenge Yeltsin's powers on a regional level as he has done in Moscow in the last two months.

One delegate attacked Yeltsin's local representatives, dispatched to the province 18 months ago to supervise the conduct of central government policies, Khasbulatov said parliament had declared them superfluous and withdrawn funds. "Take away their offices," he told delegates, dominated by ex-Communist Party officials.

The Moscow power struggle, between presidency and legislature, is mirrored in the provinces where administration chiefs, usually Yeltsin appointees, battle with the local Soviets. Here also, the council has won ground recently. In the heavily industrial Chelyabinsk region, the local Soviet led by former regional communist chief Pyotr Sumin has acted to remove the administration leader, who was in bygone days the city party chief, by calling elections.

"Why should we carry out the will of the president?" Sumin asked during a break in the Siberian meeting. "We represent and protect the interests of the people. We know that if people have lived in certain conditions for seven decades, you cannot simply change everything in a year as the government wants to do".

The Soviets, for seven decades the unquestioning servants of communist power, have strong powers to control appointments of local officials and decide the budget. If they cannot assert their will unchallenged, they can at least thwart Yeltsin. Sumin applies on a local level the same argument used on a national level by Khasbulatov.

"The congress is the highest organ of state power — and no-one else," Khasbulatov had told delegates in a clear warning to Yeltsin. By the same token, Sumin sees the Soviet as supreme. If administration chief Vadim Solovgov loses the elections now set, as seems possible in the face of growing economic hardship, the move could set a precedent dangerous to Yeltsin.

Whatever the political arguments, the Russian constitution gives no clear answers. Elements of presidential and parliamentary systems live in perpetual conflict.

Khasbulatov points to article 104 of the constitution which established the conservative congress, a body that meets usually twice a year, not only as the top legislature but as the "supreme organ of state power in the Russian Federation".

But other articles uphold the equality of three branches. The executive, the legislature and the judiciary. Yeltsin might also argue that the congress was elected as part of an order that lost its validity with the collapse of the Soviet Union. Prospects for a constitutional deal currently seem to be receding, though an instinct for self-preservation could hold sway in the Russian body politic.

The Yeltsin-Khasbulatov conflict may yet come down to a question of raw political power. The question, as Bolshevik Vladimir Lenin put it, of "Kto Kovo" — "Who breaks whom."

Yeltsin's chief weapon, his own popular support, could be eroded as economic hardship grows further in the spring. Yeltsin rejected the suggestions of several radical supporters last December to break the deadlock by suspending the constitution, and declaring presidential rule. Those calls could re-emerge.

But if the struggle remains unresolved and the centre weakens further, the issue of who rules could be overtaken by the question of Moscow's powers to rule in the diverse regions that make up the Russian Federation.

### From the 'Times' archives

February 1978

### Jet charter firm's maintenance centre

**MUSCAT** — Arab Wings, the Middle East business jet charter company, in which Oman has a 12 per cent share-holding has opened their new hangar and maintenance centre at Amman airport.

Formed in 1975, the company is 88 per cent owned by Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, the other 12 per cent of the equity being held by the Sultanate of Oman.

# 6 VIEWS & COMMENTS

Tuesday, February 23, 1993

# SADDAM'S FOES FORGING NEW MILITARY FORCE

By Ed Blanche  
Associated Press

**D** AMASCUS — One of Saddam Hussein's main foes said on Sunday that Iraqi opposition groups are forging a new army from their guerrilla forces, but castigated the West for not doing anything to support the new alliance in its campaign to topple the Iraqi leader.

"They made a lot of promises, but they were not kept," said Jalal Talabani, leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

He declined to say what was promised, but noted: "We met Western leaders last year and told them what we needed - political support, military aid, humanitarian aid and so on.

"But we've got nothing. All we've had are nice words."

Talabani, who has spent most of his life fighting the Baghdad government for Kurdish autonomy, said the Iraqi National Congress formed last year by the disparate movements opposed to Saddam is working on merging the various guerrilla forces into a united army.

But, even if that does succeed, the lightly armed opposition fighters are no match in open battle for Saddam's 350,000-man military, still a formidable force despite Iraq's defeat in the 1991 Gulf war.

"We need anti-tank weapons, we need anti-aircraft systems, we need just about everything. But no one has helped us.

We haven't had a rifle, not a dollar from the West," Talabani told the Associated Press.

He said that the Clinton administration "is reviewing its Middle East policy and we hope things will change."

But differences within the opposition and rivalries between regional powers on whom it would have to depend continue to be obstacles to Western support.

Talabani was interviewed in the sixth floor apartment he uses in a downtown Damascus building pro-



Victims of Saddam's gassing of Kurds at Halabja last year.

vided for the PUK Kurdish guerrillas in olive green fatigues and armed with AK-47 assault rifles patrolled the courtyard and the roof.

The burly Kurdish leader has survived several assassination attempts by Saddam's agents over the years.

He spoke as the 25-member ex-

ecutive council of the Iraqi National Congress was meeting in Salahudin in Iraqi Kurdistan to wrestle with internal divisions that still plague its diverse factions, which range from Islamic militants to communists.

These divisions have centred on differences between the Iran-backed

Shi'ite Muslim Supreme Assembly for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq and the Kurdish factions dominated by Talabani's leftist PUK and the more nationalist Kurdistan Democratic Party.

Talabani said the Supreme Assembly, led by the Tehran-based Hojatoleslam Mohammad Bakr al-Hakim, has mended its fences with the congress and is now taking part in the executive council meeting.

But he said the extremist Shi'ite Ad-Dawa Islami, or Islamic call, faction is still refusing to cooperate with the other opposition factions.

The Shi'ites, he said, remain suspicious of the Westernised liberals and intellectuals in the congress and of opposition efforts to secure Western backing for the struggle against Saddam.

Talabani said the differences are "highly exaggerated." But the opposition is notorious for its fragmentation and other sources said factional and personal rivalries persist.

Laith Kubba, a Shi'ite liberal who was one of the driving forces behind the formation of the INC last year, has pulled out because of the quarrelling.

Two leading opposition figures, Saad Jabr and Salah Omar Ali, are trying to set up a rival movement in London.

Both advocate US support for the Iraqi opposition and are backed by Saudi Arabia, which fears the emergence of a pro-Iranian Shi'ite statelet in southern Iraq.

These differences do little to convince the United States and its allies that the opposition is a credible force capable of toppling Saddam or providing an alternative government to Baathist rule in Baghdad.

Another impediment is that Turkey and Iran fear that the emergence of a Kurdish state in northern Iraq will encourage their rebellious Kurdish minorities to press for self-rule as well.

Talabani believes that the Americans, despite their recognition of the Iraqi opposition, still are betting that Saddam's army will topple him and that this is one reason why the INC is not getting political and military support.

"I don't believe there will be a military coup," he said. "This is a figment of the Americans' imagination."

"Morale in the Iraqi army is very low. And an army without morale is not likely to be persuaded to revolt. Anyway, there are 35 army divisions and they're tightly controlled by Saddam's apparatus. How do you gather enough of these troops to pull off a coup?"

"No," Talabani said. "I'm not depending on a military coup to get rid of this dictator."

We seek a popular uprising supported by some divisions of the army. Deteriorating conditions in Iraq will help.

"There's always assassination, of course. That can be done by one man. But Saddam's a very difficult man to kill."



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

first female cabinet secretary.

Always far more liberal than her husband - critics contended that many of her views bordered on communism - Mrs. Roosevelt prodded him to move faster against racial discrimination, especially in the military.

As a prominent lawyer, Mrs. Clinton appears better equipped for the limelight than Mrs. Roosevelt, a boarding school graduate who regretted her lack of a college education throughout her life.

Mrs. Clinton cuts a stylish figure in public, moving with the sort of ease, charm and beauty that Mrs. Roosevelt conceded that she never possessed.

But Mrs. Roosevelt succeeded with perseverance and empathy. Her biographer Blanche Wiesen Cook said she offered a primer to other women wishing to enter public life in 1936.

"Women who are willing to be leaders must stand out and be shot at," Mrs. Roosevelt said. "More and more they are going to do it, and more and more they should do it."

Above all, she said, women in public life need to "develop skin as tough as rhinoceros hide."

come Italy's third most powerful force behind the Christian democrats and former communists.

Successes in local elections this year have made it the party to be reckoned with in Lombardy, the Milan area. After Meda, seven other cities installed Northern League mayors, including Varese, a city of 90,000, in agreement with the former communists.

"It's now clear that we have reached the peak of a crisis of the regime," Bossi said in a recent newspaper interview. "There is no time to lose if we want a peaceful and democratic outcome to (its) break-up."

Success has brought a tempering of his call for secession for the north. Bossi now wants Italy into three federal states - north, central, south - each retaining most of the tax collections that now go to Rome.

He is pushing parliament to reform Italy's electoral laws to limit the strict proportional representation - a system that has produced a dozen parties and weak coalitions prone to compromise - and then new general elections.

In Meda, the party won 47 per cent of the vote in January local elections, winning 16 of the 30 city council seats.

"You should have seen those guys sweep the streets after the first snowfall," said Massimo Meda in his main street camera shop. "Let's give them a chance and see what the League can do on more serious things."

# Hillary and Eleanor

The pro-active First Lady – prototype was Eleanor Roosevelt



HILLARY CLINTON

By Joel Stashenko  
AP

**H** YDE PARK, NY — She was poised energetic, intelligent and a partner in the presidency with her husband.

More than 50 years before Hillary Rodham Clinton took the White House by storm, Anna Eleanor Roosevelt transformed America's concept of a first lady.

Mrs. Clinton appeared at a benefit on Sunday to raise funds for a new Eleanor Roosevelt monument in New York City, and help to repay a debt that historians and scholars say she owes to Mrs. Roosevelt.

"Eleanor took the heat and Hillary Clinton is taking her own heat," said Patricia Duane Lichtenberg, executive director of the Eleanor Roosevelt Centre at Val-Kill. Mrs. Roosevelt's home and a national historic site in Hyde Park.

But Mrs. Roosevelt, "set the precedent, so I think that people are more accepting of what Hillary will do."

By naming his wife to lead an effort to reform the nation's health care system, President Clinton is being above-board about the role

his wife will play in his administration.

Previous presidents have been less forthcoming for fear of negative public reaction, though scholars say several White House wives - including Abigail Adams, Abigail Fillmore, Mary Todd Lincoln and Edith Wilson - were influential advisers to their husbands.

"I think it's a courageous move on the part of Clinton to put it right up front and not to try to pretend and say she isn't involved," said Winifred Wandersee, a history professor at Hartwick College in Oneonta. "I think that's a breakthrough that will have real repercussions for first ladies in the future."

Before Mrs. Roosevelt, first ladies had to wield their influence with circumspection, Wandersee said.

Mrs. Roosevelt, in fact, often denied having special sway over FDR just because she gave him "opinions" on some matters of import.

"Sometimes I contributed from a different point of view - that was all," she once said. "And he could sometimes use it. And I would say to him, 'Do you mind if I would say this or that?'" He would say, "You go right ahead. And if you get into trouble I shall just say, 'I'm sorry. I can't do anything with my wife.'"

Franklin D. Roosevelt III said there were sim-

ilarities between his grandmother and Mrs. Clinton, "both women of intelligence and high energy....willing to take big risks" to help the less fortunate.

The new first lady arrived from Washington by train in a heavy snowstorm to attend the benefit at Lincoln Centre, featuring Joanne Woodward, Rosemary Clooney, Judy Collins, Barbara Cook, Lena Horne, Marilyn Horne and others. Mrs. Clinton was welcomed to the stage with a standing ovation that capped two hours of Broadway, cabaret and folk tunes, Negro spirituals and Mrs. Roosevelt's words. Ticket prices ranged from \$ 40 to \$ 400. Organisers hoped to raise \$400,000 to landscape two acres of New York's Riverside Park, where an 8-foot bronze statue of Mrs. Roosevelt is to be erected by next year. — AP

# Corruption scandal changing political face of Italy

Vast development projects awarded by the foreign ministry to Italian firms in Bangladesh, Somalia and Ethiopia have also come under scrutiny.

claiming his innocence, he was forced to resign this month as Socialist Party leader.

Prosecutors have asked parliament to lift his immunity so he can stand trial, along with at least several dozen other legislators.

No one knows how much money changed hands, but published reports estimate at least a billion dollars in bribes have been paid to parties in recent years.

"But how do you calculate the personal enrichment, the villas, the penthouses, the Mercedes," asked Milan's *Corriere della sera*. "And who could ever calculate the political and moral weight?"

The chief political beneficiary has been Bossi, who caught the imagination of northerners by denouncing the waste, corruption and Mafia influence from Rome to the south.

With only two representatives in the previous legislature, his Northern League won 80 seats last April in an election that saw the mainstream parties that have governed Italy since the end of World War II severely punished.

The Northern League has be-

'We are, even if it might seem exaggerated, in full revolution. No one is assaulting the Winter Palace (referring to the Russian revolution), but the palace is crumbling on its own, under the weight of its own errors and misdeeds'

The most prominent victim has been Craxi, whose Socialist Party has been accused of using a secret Swiss account to bank millions of dollars in payoffs. While pro-

□ **MARIUS BOSCH**

## Turf war victims struggle to live

**I** MBALI, South Africa — Catherine Nshengu is a refugee in her own village, driven from her home in South Africa's Natal province by gun-toting arsonists.

Her house in ashes, her belongings burned or looted, she now lives in a church hall with 26 other families — all victims of the violence sweeping South Africa.

"It is Inkatha that made me to be here, they came to my house, pointed a gun at me and said I must get out," Nshengu said, referring to the Zulu-based Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP).

At least 7,700 people have been killed in township violence, most of it between supporters of the IFP and the African National Congress (ANC), since president F.W. de Klerk lifted a ban on opposition groups and began dismantling apartheid in 1990.

But Imbali, home to 25,000 people set amidst rolling green hills Pietermaritzburg, capital of white-led Natal, began bleeding years earlier. Natal is the powerbase of Inkatha, headed by conservative Zulu leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi. But many of Imbali's residents say they back the ANC. South Africa's main black opposition group.

Since a turf war flared for control of Natal's townships in 1987, scores of Imbali residents have been killed and hundreds more have fled.

Empty and firebombed houses bear mute testimony to the internecine war fought with Kalashnikov rifles, handguns, grenades and sometimes spears.

"Imbali has consistently over the past six years been one of the most violent places in Natal. In many ways this is where the Natal violence started," said John Aitcheson, head of a monitoring group set up by the University of Natal.

Statistics kept by Aitcheson show that from 1980 to 1986, only 16 people were killed in political violence in the in the next three years at least 172 people died.

From 1990 the killings increased, Aitcheson added.

"There virtually hasn't been a month (since 1987) when people have not been killed," Aitcheson said.

Emily Ntuli, who heads one of the ANC's Imbali branches, said residents were too scared to go out at night. Some streets in an Inkatha-dominated Imbali district were no-go areas for ANC backers any time of the day or night, she said.

Pointing to a house set high on a hill where a prominent IFP official lived, Ntuli said: "they keep on shooting throughout the day. Nobody can go there except if you are Inkatha".

A nearby school was closed a week ago after gunmen began sniping at it, sending children scattering, Ntuli said.

Tension in the town increased after the pro-IFP mayor of Imbali, Phikela Ndlovu, an Imbali councillor, Abdul Awetha and a 16-year-old boy went on trial in Pietermaritzburg's supreme court, accused of murdering an ANC activist.

Since the trial began on Feb. 3, Imbali police station has been attacked twice, houses have been sprayed with gunfire and a man shot dead, Ntuli said.

She believed the conflict in Imbali would only end if soldiers were sent to the area. Since the last military unit departed three months ago, things have got steadily worse.

"Hundreds of people have become refugees, they just ran away and left their houses," Ntuli said.

The IFP has accused the ANC of stockpiling arms in preparation for waging war before and during South Africa's first democratic elections, expected to be held before April next year.

Several members of the ANC's military wing Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation) are under arrest following the seizure of weapons, including rocket launchers, they were attempting to smuggle into Natal from Swaziland.

ANC leaders said they know nothing about the arms smuggling operation but militant Natal leader Harry Gwala said members of the organisation were probably smuggling weapons into South Africa to defend themselves in township warfare.

Gwala, a hardline Stalinist who heads the ANC's Natal midlands region under which Imbali falls, accused the government of arming the IFP.

He also said that in the run-up to the elections, ending nearly 300 years of white domination in South Africa, there would be "lots of trouble" in Natal.



1. Taxes in Ancient Nations

Before the advent of Islam, governments used to impose taxes on the poor and middle classes, while kings, princes, the clergy and all those related to them were free from such financial obligations. The poor classes thus lived in deprivation, even in slavery to princes and wealthy people.

That is why the individual citizen, in ancient times, did not consider the government as his representative or the guardian of his welfare. On the contrary, he found in it a great enemy whose sole concern was to steal his money, without any benefit in return. Hence he considered the tax a heavy burden which he did all he could to escape.

In the past, people used to give no regard to governmental finance, whether in terms of income or expenditure, considering that these concerned only the king, his ministers and retainers. Ancient governments, in turn, also used to center their concern only on procuring more earnings for the royal treasury, using all possible means, whether legal or illegal, to achieve this purpose. Unlike modern governments, they did not give enough care for justice in the taxes they imposed, the way the tax-burden could fairly be distributed among the classes of the nation, or the spending of public income on the welfare of the people thus augmenting a life of ease in the society.

With the coming of Islam, the case changed, and a tax called *Charity or Alms Tax* - was imposed on the rich for the welfare of the poor. In collecting and spending the revenues of this tax, Islam follows principles of justice and order, equalled in any modern practice or law.

2. Concept of Charity

Charity is almsgiving, and almsgiving charity; both synonyms and center on the same thing.

In Arabic, charity means purity, and God calls it thus because it purifies the spirit: <<Of their goods take alms, wherewith thou mightest purify and sanctify them>> (IX: 103).

The purity that almsgiving has here in store for believers includes them all, whether as individuals or as groups. It purifies their spirits from sins and the evils of greed, meanness, harshness, selfishness, avarice and other evils that lead to envy, enmity, aggression, intrigue and wars. It also augments their spirits with blessings, both moral and practical - so that with these, their spirits would be worthy of worldly and heavenly bliss.

3. Effect of Poverty on Society

It is known that the very poverty of the lower classes is most harmful. Poverty compels those who fall under its burden to commit all sorts of evil to secure the basic needs of living. And in areas where poverty prevails, radical movements dominate, and acts of brutality spread.

Europe has experienced atrocious upheavals that poverty bred, starting with strikes, then ending up in bloody revolutions that demolished everything.

4. The Value of Charity

God orders Moslems to pay

their dues of charity in different cases. Every time, a verse in *The Koran* calls for the performance of prayer, there is a call for practising charity. Charity and prayer are firm foundations on which Islam is established. God's command is to <<establish regular prayer (and) give regular charity>> (XXII: 78). Religious fraternity that ties the Moslem individual to other Moslems is established mainly through the performance of prayer and charity: <<If they repent, establish regular prayers, and practise regular charity, they are your brethren in Faith>> (IX:11).

God warns those who refuse to give charity, saying: <<Let not those who covetously withhold of the gifts which God hath given them of His Grace, think that it is good for them: Nay, it will be the worse for them. Soon shall the things which they covetously withheld be tied to their necks like a twisted collar, on the Day of Judgement>> (III: 180).

The Prophet also warns those who refrain from practising charity of drought and of difficult times: <<Those who refrain from paying charity are deprived of rain from the sky; had it not been for the livestock, it would not have rained>>.

5. Charity is Compulsory

Islam meant to free the duty of charity from the whims of the person who might pay it or refrain from doing so according to his personal likes and desires. Islam made the practise of charity compulsory because it is the *recognized right* of the poor in the wealth that God had bestowed upon the rich: <<And those in whose wealth is a recognized right for the (needy) who asketh and him who is prevented (for some reason from asking)>> (LXX: 24- 25). It is the duty of the Imam to collect this right and distribute it among them in justice.

That is why the Prophet used to collect the dues of charity in person and instruct his commissioners to collect such dues from the rich to be given to the needy. After the death of Mohammed and the recognition of Abu Bakr as Caliph, it happened that some Arabs

**Charity is alms giving, and almsgiving charity. In Arabic, charity means purity, and God calls it thus because it purifies the spirit**

declared their refrainment from giving charity, assuming that the Caliph would not like to fight them.

Abu Bakr, however, gathered the notable Companions of the Prophet, discussed the problem with them, and came out with an agreement to fight the abstainers.

Abu Bakr and the Companions readied themselves and set out after the abstainers and gave them a decisive blow that brought back to the Islamic community its unity and fixed its

# CHARITY IS COMPULSORY

God orders Muslims to pay their dues of charity in different cases. Every time a verse in *The Koran* calls for the performance of prayer, there is a call for practicing charity. Charity and prayer are firm foundations on which Islam is established

divine teachings that *The Koran* had brought down from God.

In his *Economic Reforms of Islam*, Hashem Daftardar Madani explains, <<It was a sort of civil war whose aim was to establish the rights of the poor class. Among all civil wars that took place in Europe to establish the rights of the poor class, you will find none equal to this in sincerity or integrity. This is because those who fought to establish the rights of the poor classes in Europe were the poor classes themselves; they fought under the pressure of need.

Whereas those who fought in the days of Abu Bakr were the poor classes themselves; they fought under the pressure of need. Whereas those who fought in the days of Abu Bakr were the poor classes themselves; they fought under the pressure of need.

From this it becomes clear that regular charity is not an act of beneficence carried out on the individual level; considering it as such, means depriving it of the sense it was originally given. It is a compulsory tax which the Islamic government collects in order to spend on the poor classes. God says: <<Of their goods take alms>> (IX: 103). On this basis, scholars of *Fiqh* (Moslem theology) agree that the dues of charity are not to be collected by those who deserve it among Moslems, mainly to nullify the concept of charity being carried out on 'the individual level' which results in humiliation on the part of the needy. The donation that the government offers to poor and needy people without their asking for it and without any indebtedness on their part, has no touch of humiliation; on the contrary, it embodies generous aid and the fulfillment of a need.

Scholars of *Fiqh* also determine that, for those who die before paying their dues of charity, such dues become a debt in their inheritance which should not be distributed among the heirs unless the debt is settled. The case here is exactly like the case of a person who dies before settling a debt he owes to other people: his inheritance cannot be distributed among his heirs unless his debt is settled.

6. Conditions of Charity

A. The property on which the duty of charity applies should be fully owned, that is, without being bound to the rights of others. The person should have the freedom to dispose of it as he chooses, and its revenues should be his. In this case, no dues of charity apply to property in mortmain (*waqf*), or to unsettled debts. The same principle applies to the property whose owner has no freedom or right to dispose of it as he chooses, like mortgaged property, or property under legal administration, or one whose present ownership has not been established.

B. The property on which the duty of charity is due should come to a certain minimum which the Revelation specifies in every kind of property. In this condition, a property whose value is below this minimum has no dues of charity, because the duty of charity applies only to the property that exceeds the basic need of the owner; to this effect, God says: <<They ask thee how much they are to spend; say: What is beyond your needs>> (II: 219).

C. This minimum of property should stay in the full possession of its owner for a complete lunar year, and accordingly, when the ownership of the property goes to another person after half a year, for instance, no dues of charity apply to it. The passage of one year is a basic condition for the obligation

of the duty of charity. However, agricultural products and whatever is found in the earth - like metals and treasures - are subject to the dues of charity the moment they are owned.

D. The property to which the dues of charity apply should exceed the basic needs and debts - if any - of its owner. Hence, no dues of charity apply to the property that is enough only to meet the expenses of its owner and of those he supports, or if his debts are too heavy for him to bear.

E. With respect to movable property, the dues of charity are collected once every year, and charity dues that apply to agricultural products are paid every time the earth yields its produce.

F. The dues of charity that apply to the property of infants and insane people, are also paid when the property in question mounts to the minimum, and it is the legal guardian or trustee who pays the required dues. In charity, there is no difference between a male or female, a prisoner or free man.

G. The revenues of charity have nothing to do with the budget of the government, because a separate department should be in charge of these revenues. In a big country, the collection and distribution of the revenues of charity are left to the administration of the local governments.

7. Kinds of Charity Dues

The Revelation determines five kinds of charity dues:

- dues on gold and silver
- dues on merchandise
- dues on agricultural products
- dues on livestock
- dues on minerals and treasures

No dues of charity apply to kinds of property other than these five - like the property of houses; private clothing; house furniture; animals used for riding; vehicles limited to individual usage; arms, rarities, articles of make-up, jewellery precious diamonds; or

machinery employed in industry, agriculture, or in producing books. If any of these, however, is used as an item of trade, the duty of charity then applies to it.

A. Dues of Charity on Gold and Money

The dues of charity apply to gold and money, whether as coins, nuggets, ingots or paper money - after the passage of a lunar year on their possession.

The amount of charity due here is 2.5 per cent, to be collected from those who possess the minimum amount of gold: *twenty miskals* or 77.6 grams of gold, or whatever is equal to this amount in money not cast in gold, or paper money, or shares of business firms.

This principle applies as long as the amount of gold or money is in the possession of its owner - whether kept at a bank on deposit, or used as a commercial stock, or deposited as a savings account, or set as bonds or securities of insurance.

B. Dues of Charity on Merchandise

The obligation of charity dues here does not apply to the articles of a business transaction, but to the value of the transaction itself, and thus its minimum value to which the dues of charity apply is exactly the minimum value that applies to gold.

The condition is that a year should pass on the possession of the value of the deal, not of the goods it combines - though the said value might cover thousands of articles. The accepted standard is that the goods should mount to the minimum value at the beginning and end of the year, no matter if their value decreases or increases during the year.

The dues of charity are taken from the capital together with the profits, and commercial deals are evaluated according to the current price.

C. Dues of Charity on Agricultural Products

Hence, charity dues, apply to the revenues of all (rented)

The value of charity dues here is 10 per cent if the crops are watered without the use of machinery, that is, by way of rain, a river or a spring. It is 5% if machinery is used to this effect. If the supply of water is provided both ways the percentage of the major supply (whether artificial or natural) applies: if equal, the amount of charity is 1.4 per cent.

The dues of charity on crops apply to all that the earth produces with no difference between a crop and another, or between grafted and non-grafted crops. Here no minimum value is specified: charity dues apply to all the agricultural produce of the earth, and these dues are collected every time the earth yields its produce: <<Render the dues that are proper on the day that the harvest is gathered>> (VI:41).

Sheikh Mohammed Abu Zahra, of *The Azhar*, appends charity dues on residences or buildings used for the purpose of obtaining an income or profit, to charity dues on agricultural crops, maintaining:

<<It is recognised that scholars of *Fiqh* have not fixed charity dues on residences, because in their days such residences were not used productively. They were used only to meet the basic needs of living - and that was a social justice in an age of juristic derivation. In our present days, however, buildings and palaces are erected for investment, and now yield profit many times as much as land-use. Thus welfare demands that charity dues be applied to them, as they are applied to agricultural land, since there is no difference between a person who collects the revenues of his building every month, and that whose land yields crops every year. It is unfair to impose dues of charity on agricultural produce, and keep real estate investment free from such dues>>.

Hence, charity dues, apply to the revenues of all (rented)

buildings, set for habitation or similar needs. If the building, however, gives no revenues for a period of time, its dues of charity do not apply to this period.

Charity dues on residences (or similar places) take effect the time the revenues are collected: if these revenues are collected monthly, the dues of charity have to be collected every month; if every year, then every year. And the due that applies here is 1.4 per cent.

Sheikh Mohammed Abu Zahra applies the same principle to industrial machinery - not articles used to meet the personal needs of the workers - set at factories to manufacture products. Dues of charity apply to these products. The revenues of such factories are settled every year, so that if there is profit, the poor have a right in it, and according to Sheikh Abu Zahra the percentage is 1.4 per cent.

D. Dues of Charity on Livestock

The livestock meant here are animals that graze on those pastures that are open to all, without any obligation of fodder expenses on the part of their owner. A farmer who buys fodder for his cattle is exempted from the obligation to pay charity. Islam does not oblige the cattle owner to pay both the expenses of their fodder and their dues of charity.

Every cattle herd of these has its own minimum value, below which no dues of charity apply. In camels, no dues of charity apply when they are less than five camels; in sheep, no dues apply when less than forty; and in cows, no dues apply when less than thirty. For every five camels, the charity is an ewe; for every forty sheep, an ewe as well; and for every thirty cows, a young calf.

The dues on camels include both male and female; on sheep, both mutton and goat; and on cows, the ox. No dues of charity apply to cattle other than these, though they may be livestock - like horses, mules and donkeys. The wisdom is that the said dues apply to camels, cows and sheep because they reproduce and give milk, and because they are raised to this end.

Scholars of *Fiqh* fix no dues of

**Islam made the practice of charity compulsory because it is the recognised right of the poor in the wealth that God had bestowed upon the rich**

charity on horses, mules and donkeys because these employed merely to meet one's needs. The horse was used for fighting; and the mule and donkey, for riding. If, however, they are used for the purpose of profit, then their offspring and profits require certain dues of charity.

E. Dues of Charity on

Minerals and Treasures

According to the School of Imam Malek (one of the four *Fiqh* schools in Islam), all minerals, like petroleum, that exist in the depths of the earth, belong to the Moslems' Treasury.

As for Pre-Islamic treasures proven to have been buried before the coming of Islam, their dues of charity are the fifth of their value. The remaining four-fifths are for the one who finds them. Islamic treasures proven to have been buried after the coming of Islam, belong to the State in whose territory they are found - unless their owner is known, and in this case they are returned to him. In the absence of an owner, such treasures belong to the State because, being lost things, they should go to the Moslems' Treasury. Their case is exactly like the case of a property whose owner dies without an heir; his property goes to the Moslems' Treasury that takes charge of such lost property and labels them as revenues of charity.

As for the amber or ambregis, pearls or fishes that are extracted from the sea, their due of charity is the fifth of their value. This condition was fixed by those who laid down the draft law of charity in Egypt, maintaining, <<It is recognized that scholars of *Fiqh* did not require the payment of the <<fifth>> on fish because sovereignty over the sea at that time was not fixed, and people did their fishing only to secure their daily food. Besides, fishing was not given enough care, and fisheries did not enjoy the sort of organization that we have nowadays. Had our religious leaders lived in our time, they would have taken our decision. The difference between their view and ours is only a difference between two ages, not two proof or principles>>.

Because of their historical significance and for the benefit of knowledge, archaeological treasures go into the possession of the State.

8. People Who Deserve Charity

Islam does not leave the question of charity to the personal estimation of those in whose trust its revenues are put; Islam assigns where these revenues should go, as the following Koranic verse plainly declares: <<Alms are for the poor and the needy, and those employed to administer (the funds); for those whose hearts have been (recently) reconciled (to Truth); for those in bondage and in debt; for the cause of God; and for the wayfarer. (Thus is it) ordained by God, and God is full of knowledge and wisdom>> (IX: 60).

A. The Poor

They are people without money or property to which the dues of charity apply; in other words, their property is below the minimum which the Revelation specifies, and it is only little enough to meet their basic needs. Poor people, according to another interpretation, are those who do not have the food they need for a day and a night:

• *To be continued*

## This Englishman had dinner with a cannibal

blood. He said he was just trying to get close to a really good bird. Dennis pays no attention to the nonsense of injury or age."

Puleston had the equivalent of \$120 in his pocket in 1931 when he left his native England and set out to sail around the world in a 29-foot yawl. The boat had no engine. The trip took six years - he wasn't in a hurry - and before it was over, he might have bitten off a little more than he could chew.

On the island of Ndeni in the South Seas, the native chief welcomed Puleston and a friend with a feast one night around a blazing fire. "By the side of the fire were these piles of grisly looking meat," he said. "You just picked out the least repulsive piece and threw it into the fire until it went black. Then you fished it out with a pointed stick. I'd eaten one of these pieces of meat - it was kind of chewy - and I asked the chief in my best pidgin English what the meat was."

And now, Dennis Puleston was sipping a cup of coffee inside a fine old gardener's cottage down a dead-end road. An Amazon parrot named Cinderella whistled at another parrot named Michael in the other room.

"The chief said the meat was 'long animal.' That meant that what I'd been eating was an insurance salesman or a missionary or

something. It was human flesh."

A human skull, a gift from a man in New Guinea, grinned down from a shelf in the study. Puleston had given the man a T-shirt, and the man was so pleased that he went into his hut and came out with the skull. "It was his grandmother," Puleston said.

Seeing wasn't always easy while sailing around the world 60 years ago. Things got a little fuzzy one hot night in Samoa when the natives initiated Dennis Puleston and his friend into their clan. They had to drink a lot of kava, the potent local drink made from the root of a pepper bush.

"It's not really intoxicating, but from the waist on down, you're just paralyzed. You're staggering all over the place." Puleston had finished his coffee now, and the caffeine was beginning to sink in. "Remember the local virgins? Well, these beautiful Polynesian maidens with the undulating arms kept serving that kava. We had to drink it down, of course, or otherwise it would have been an insult."

Puleston took off his red sweater and began to roll up the right sleeve of his shirt. "Let me show you what happened next," he said, unveiling a large black shark's-tooth tattoo on his bicep. "We thought that was going to be the end of the evening, but it

wasn't. As honoured guests, we were given these beautifully woven pine mats to sleep on - and then they gave each of us one of the local virgins to sleep beside us."

Michael, the parrot, whistled across the cottage toward Cinderella.

"Unfortunately," Dennis Puleston said, "the kava had done its work, and the next morning the local virgins were still the local virgins."

Puleston picked up pets, three rare cockatoos, on the island of Tenimbar in the Arafura Sea. That was four years before the bombing of Pearl Harbor. When Puleston arrived in the Philippines, he encountered a friendly Japanese ship that was collecting birds and animals for Emperor Hirohito's private zoo. Puleston donated the cockatoos.

"In those days, Hirohito was a god, so it was like giving a present to god himself," Puleston said. In return, the Japanese gave him a formal document of thanks from the emperor. "Little did I realize that it might save my life later."

Near the end of his around-the-world trip, Puleston reached China just as the Sino-Japanese war was heating up. US authorities were evacuating American citizens, but because Puleston was a British subject, he was held under

house arrest by the Japanese in Beijing.

"Then I suddenly remembered the gift of the cockatoos to the emperor. I showed the document to the Japanese officers, and they practically fell on their knees. It got me a military pass out on a troop train."

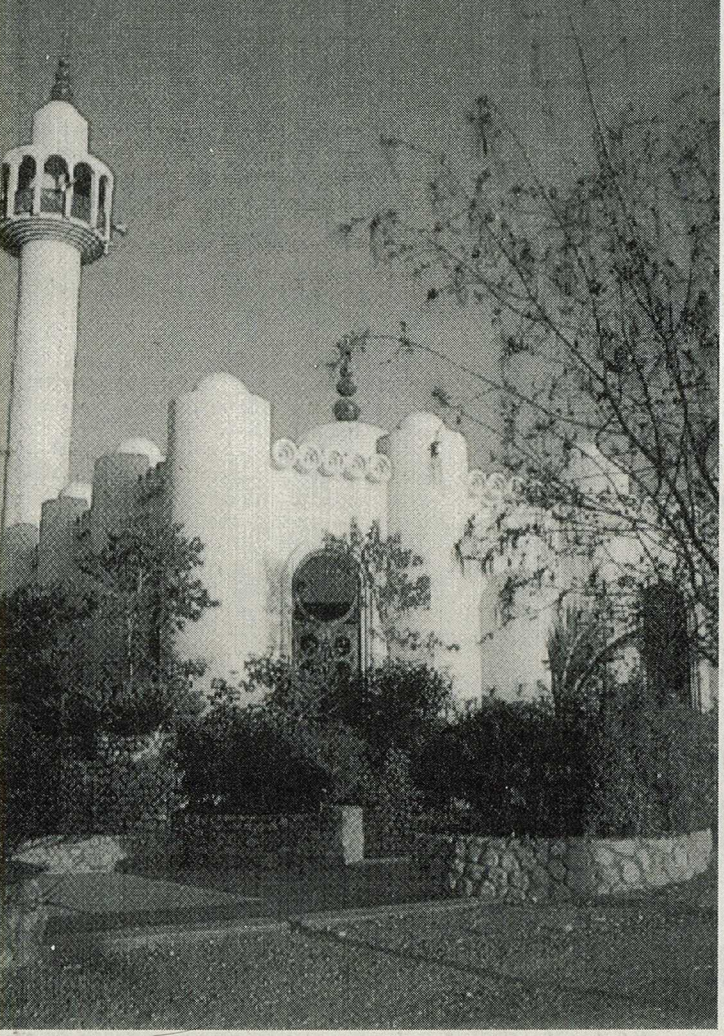
Puleston returned to England via the Trans-Siberian Railway, sleeping on straw. He got home to Leigh-on-Sea in 1937, broke and hungry and 30 pounds lighter than when he started six years earlier.

Early in the long voyage, Puleston had been forced ashore by a hurricane in North Carolina - little knowing that this country would become his future home. He got a summer job later teaching sailing at Rye, New York, and during the women's sailing championships in 1934, he jumped into the Long Island Sound and helped to rescue a woman who had fallen overboard.

"That was the first time I met my wife," Dennis Puleston said. "I met her in the middle of the Long Island Sound."

When he finished his trip, Puleston married Betty Wellington of Brookhaven, and became an American citizen. Working for the wartime Office of Scientific Research and Development as a naval architect, he helped develop the DUKW, the World War II amphibious truck that landed Marines at Normandy on D-Day and also at Iwo Jima. Puleston's back was broken by Japanese shellfire in Burma.

After the war, President Truman presented him with the Medal of Freedom. And, from 1948 until he retired in 1970, Puleston was director of technical information at the Brookhaven National Laboratory. -LAT/WWP



The Qurm Mosque

By Bob Thomas

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The buddy movie has been around since the Edmund Lowe-Victor McLaglen "What Price Glory" of 1926. Clark Gable and Spencer Tracy added a touch of class with "Test Pilot" and "Boom Town" in the 1930s.

Along came Bob Hope and Bing Crosby, travelling those endless "roads" with their bags full of scams. Paul Newman and Robert

Redford proved an elegant pair as Western desperadoes in "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid" and con artists in "The Sting."

The 1980s brought a flood of males battling and bonding in jungles, prairies and mean streets, notably Mel Gibson and Danny Glover with their "Lethal Weapons."

The buddy movie seems indestructible — current evidence: "Sniper" and the spoof of Gibson-Glover, "National Lampoon's Loaded Weapon."

But the genre looks on the wane, as loners such as Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Bruce Willis, Steven Seagal and Jean-Claude Van Damme dominate the macho scene.

Timing appears out of joint for "Fifty-fifty," filmed a

couple of years ago but withheld until now because of Cannon Pictures' financial woes. Too bad, because it is an action movie with able, personable stars, Peter Weller and Robert Hays.

Directed in Malaysia by Charles Martin Smith on an obviously limited budget, the film offers

flip dialogue, convincing combat and eye-filling scenery. It deserves more than it will get. Weller ("Robocop") plays the Crosby role, a shrewd schemer who always gets the girl. Hays ("Airplane") follows the Hope pattern, a flip talker but one of life's losers. They are

mercenaries who have teamed on undercover missions from Afghanistan to Algeria. Hays leads a doomed invasion of the Southeast Asia island of Tengara. He is captured and led to the palace of the bloody dictator. Weller, who is the tyrant's security chief, is as-

signed to kill Hays, but the pair manage to escape the entire palace guard and make their way to Singapore.

They are met by CIA agent Charles Martin Smith, who wants them to return to Tengara to join a rebel chief in overthrowing the government. A half-million-dollar fee overcomes the pair's reluctance.

Weller and Hays train the ragtag freedom fighters into a crack force. But the tiny army is destroyed in a doublecross by the US government (the CIA re-

mains a viable villain in action-adventures). Of course, Weller and Hays are not deterred. They storm the palace on their own in a satisfying though improbable climax.

Weller and Hays make such a smooth combo that in other times a series might ensue. Not this time, fellas.

"Fifty-fifty" was written by Dennis Shryack and Michael Butler and produced by Maurice Singer and Raymond Wagner. Running time: 101 minutes.

## At the movies: 'Fifty-fifty'



## Clinton told of hurdles to health care

WASHINGTON — Transition advisers have told President Clinton that he has no chance to provide universal health care insurance before the end of his first term without price controls on private health care, according to a published report.

The *Washington Post* reported yesterday that to cover the 37 million Americans who have no health care coverage would cost \$175 billion a year over the next four years and cannot be achieved before 1997 unless price controls are used.

The assessment was provided to Clinton in mid-January in an 83-page report by his health care transition team, the newspaper said.

Administration officials involved in developing Clinton's health care reform programme could not be reached immediately to comment on the report.

Clinton repeatedly had said during his campaign that he would seek to provide universal health care coverage and pay for the expanded programme from savings achieved by overhauling the nation's health care system. But the transition team said that would not be possible if universal coverage is to be achieved before the end of Clinton's first term.

Another option, the transition report said, would be to use a combination of government spending and "across the board price controls" on all health care costs, which would require congressional approval.

Under that scenario, the government still would have to come up with \$105 billion in new spending over the next four years, with the money coming from savings achieved by changes in the health care programme, the report said.

The transition report was prepared by 16 members of Clinton's health transition team and presented to him in Little Rock, Ark., in mid-January before he became president, the newspaper said.

Since then key members of the transition group have taken top position at the department of health and human services where they are working on the health care overhaul proposal Clinton plans to present to congress in May. — AP

# Dollar plunges to record low vs yen

TOKYO — The US dollar plunged to another record low against the yen yesterday on anticipation that the industrial powers would push for a stronger yen to help curb Japan's gigantic trade surpluses.

Price fell on the Tokyo stock exchange as major exporters' shares were hurt by the yen's rise.

The dollar closed at 116.85 yen, down 2.38 yen from Friday's finish and its lowest close in Tokyo since modern exchange rate were set after World War II.

After falling as low as 118.15 yen in New York trading on Friday, the dollar opened in Tokyo yesterday at 117.62 yen, rose no higher than 117.92 yen, and closed at its low for the day.

It now has fallen 8.13 yen from

its close of 124.98 on February 2.

Spot trading totalled \$11.55 billion, up from Friday's \$6.07 billion.

Dealers said banks and foreign investors were selling dollars, while many Japanese investors held back, worried about possible dollar-buying intervention by Japan's central bank to slow the yen's climb.

"There was a rumour that the Bank of Japan intervened in the morning, and even if it had actually taken place, that alone was ineffective," said Gilberto Suzuki, a Citibank dealer.

Market participants believe it would take joint efforts by several nations' central banks to halt the dollar's decline, Suzuki said.

Yesterday morning, finance minister Yoshiro Hayashi called the

yen's continued rise "speculative," but gave no indication that the government was about to take action to curb it.

The dollar, which had weakened last week after President Clinton announced a deficit-cutting plan with higher taxes and reduced spending, was pressured further in New York on Friday when US treasury secretary Lloyd Bentsen called for a stronger yen to help shrink Japan's trade surplus.

Speculation that monetary officials from the Group of Seven industrial powers would make a similar call at a meeting on Saturday also has been pushing the yen higher.

In theory, a stronger yen would help reduce Japan's trade surplus by making Japanese exports more ex-

pensive abroad while making imports here cheaper.

But some economists say that if Japan's economy suffered from decreased exports, its demand for imports would shrink.

Japan's trade surplus totalled a record \$107 billion last year, including \$43.7 billion with the United States, according to Japanese figures.

On the Tokyo stock exchange, the 225-issue Nikkei stock average fell 189.42 points, or 1.11 per cent, closing at 16,820.61. It had gained 27.89 points, or 0.16 per cent, on Friday.

The Tokyo stock price index of all issues listed on the first section lost 10.15 points, or 0.78 per cent, to 1,283.91, on Friday, it had climbed

0.94 points, or 0.07 per cent.

Trading was thin, with first section volume estimated at 200 million shares, down from Friday's 220 million. Declines outnumbered advances 687 to 236, with 200 issues unchanged.

A weak dollar means exporters receive fewer yen when they convert their earnings from overseas sales into Japanese currency.

The price of the Benchmark No.145 10-year Japanese government bond closed at 110.03 points, up from Friday's 109.45-point finish. Their yield fell to 3.990 per cent from 4.070 per cent. — AP

## Australian sheep for Ramadan demand

MANAMA — Substantial shipments of Australian livestock and chilled lamb carcasses are taking place prior to and during Ramadan to meet the increased demand for this most important Holy Month, said Mr. Peter Wynne, Chief Executive Middle East Region of the Australian Meat and Livestock Corporation (AMLC).

He said Australian exporters are well aware of the increased sheepmeat requirements over Ramadan as they have been the major suppliers to the Gulf over the past two decades. Consequently they make every effort to ensure adequate supplies are in the local markets during this period.

Mr. Wynne said Australia is traditionally the largest supplier of sheepmeat to the Middle East, having exported well over three million tonnes in the form of livestock, chilled lamb and frozen sheepmeats since 1970. In 1992, Australia supplied almost 140,000 tonnes of sheepmeat to the Middle East consumer of which 64 per cent was fresh locally slaughtered and almost 5 per cent was Halal slaughtered chilled lamb carcasses, airfreighted or sea-freighted using

special technology to supply customers with a high quality fresh product.

He said GCC countries represented the major markets for Australian livestock and chilled lamb.

"Australia recognises the importance of the Middle East region as one of the fastest growing consumer markets in the world," he said.

Mr. Wynne said the AMLC, on behalf of Australian exporters, provides an extensive range of support services to the Middle East meat and livestock trade.

This package extends from the feed lot through the marketing chain to the retail sale of fresh, chilled and frozen meat and includes such areas as hygiene, product handling, storage, temperature control, quality control, packaging, butcher training and retail presentation methods.

He said these efforts reflect Australia's commitment to the region and also demonstrates Australia's unique position as a consistent supplier of quality meat and livestock products to this diverse and rapidly developing region.

## Krupp may quit steel business

BONN — Europe's worst postwar steel industry crisis may force Germany's number two steel firm to quit the industry, its chairman said in an interview released at the weekend.

But Gerhard Cromme, management board chairman of Fried. Krupp AG Hoesch-Krupp, told *Der Spiegel* magazine he hoped to avoid such a move.

Asked if Krupp, which is also involved in engineering, might stop steel production, Cromme said: "That is a thoroughly realistic idea. I hope, however, that we can avoid such a step through decisive measures."

German firms say their only hope of staying competitive is to cut production, and are seeking co-operation among themselves to do this in the most effective way.

Cromme said co-operation would

give Germany's big three steel makers — Thyssen AG, Krupp, and Preussag AG — the best hopes of surviving.

"This trio only has long-term chances of survival if it uses all chances to work together to get the best results," he said.

The steel crisis, caused by over-production and cheap east European imports, is expected to slash 50,000 jobs in western Europe in the next few years, about 40,000 of them in Germany.

Thyssen, Krupp and Saarstahl AG are in talks that could lead to a merger of their troubled structural steel divisions.

Krupp said last week it would close one of its steelworks if the tricky cooperation talks fail.

Thousands of steelworkers marched in protest at the news and

other plans for mill closures. The powerful IG Metall Union says members will march on the government in Bonn next month.

The union has called on Bonn to press the European Commission and EC trade ministers for more help at a meeting next Thursday on the steel crisis.

The EC has outlined plans to give direct aid for social costs related to cutting jobs, impose industry-wide production quotas and seek import deals with eastern Europe.

Bonn has refused to back protectionist measures and state subsidies. Economics minister Guenter Rexrodt says the government wants a free-market solution to the crisis.

Cromme said the crisis was the worst Europe had known and put in question Germany's role as a leading world producer. — *Reuters*



## Alba-Westar gold rush

MUSCAT — The 'Alba-Westar gold rush' draw was held on February 20 at Alba showroom on Ruwi High Street. Picture shows Mr. S. Nappal, manager of Omasco's 'Watches and allied products division' with Mr. Saud Mehmood of Muscat Municipality drawing the lucky number. The first prize of 10 tolas of gold was won by Mr. Bavishi (coupon no. 5083) from Salalah.

## Fokker-Dasa alliance through

MANAMA — The Dutch minister for economic affairs has cleared the way for the formation of a strategic alliance between aircraft manufacturer Fokker and Deutsche Aerospace (Dasa).

Both companies are now seeking the necessary approvals from their supervisory boards and shareholders. After this, a final contract will be signed, subject to the approval of the European Commission. The agreement will lead to Dasa establishing a subsidiary, Fokker Holdings, which will take a 51 per cent majority interest in Fokker.

Fokker, Dasa and the Dutch government reached Heads of Agreement on October 29, 1992. Since then, reductions in the world aircraft market have given Fokker higher levels of inventory and, as a result, a higher requirement for working capital.

These circumstances, together with high risks involved, necessitated a higher increase of the company's equity capital than was originally anticipated. The three parties therefore agreed certain amendments to the Heads of Agreement, as well as arrangements for additional financing for Fokker.

Fokker's Board of Management has welcomed the result of the negotiations.

Fokker's financial position will be significantly strengthened, and the alliance with Dasa is an important step towards European cooperation in the regional airliner industry.



## Pyongyang air link to Bangkok

BANGKOK — North Korea hopes to attract tourists from South-east Asia with a weekly air service between Pyongyang and Bangkok due to open in April.

Korea Civil Aviation Co. will use aircraft manufactured by the Soviet Union on the Pyongyang-Bangkok route, and a Thai travel agency will sell one-week package tours to North Korea using the flights for around 1 million won (\$1,256).

The seven days in North Korea package departs from Bangkok's Don Muang international airport at 12.30 am each Monday, arriving in Pyongyang at 8.30 am.

The tour starts immediately after checking in at the Koryo hotel with city sightseeing, which includes a trip on the subway and a visit to the Juche tower. — *Oana/Yonhap*

From R.K. Bhatnagar

NEW DELHI — The exercise to draw up a budget for 1993-94 has reached the final stage with the Cabinet having been reshuffled and the Ayodhya related violence under control. Prime Minister Narasimha Rao and finance minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh are now focussing on issues like phasing out fertilizer subsidy, finding resources for the social-sectors and welfare measures, and giving a thrust to research and development.

The budget will have to tap sufficient resources even while seeking to meet industry's demand for lower corporate tax, adapting to the global trend towards low import tariffs, and of course keeping taxpayers happy with reasonable income tax rates. The budget, to be presented on February 27, will have to contain non-plan ex-

penditure, particularly defence, at current levels in real terms while at the same time reducing the fiscal deficit.

With the government's credibility having fallen in the wake of the demolition of the Babri Masjid at Ayodhya, the attempt will be to come up with a morale boosting budget. The finance minister will find it tough to contain the fiscal deficit at five per cent of gross domestic product in 1992-93 budget and reduce it to four per cent in the coming budget, as he has promised the International Monetary Fund. The government faces a huge Rs. 6,000-crore, increase in its interest payment in the next financial year, and according to sources in the finance ministry, the attempt will be to come out with revenue earning measures and cut non plan spending.

There is an agreement on cutting the fiscal deficit to bring inflation

## Controlling crop pests

Crops in the fields and grain in stores are wide open to attack by a variety of pests which, in the past, were effectively controlled by the blanket use of insecticides. These often become less effective as pests become resistant. This, combined with present health and environmental concerns, has led to a demand for safer pest control measures.

Scientists working in the laboratories at the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), the scientific arm and executive agency of the Overseas Development Administration (ODA), which runs Britain's aid programme, can use attractants (pheromones) to control pest damage.

Here, a researcher studies the response of the larger grain borer (LGB) to its "aggregate pheromone". Having been inadvertently imported into Africa in sacks of grain from Latin America, the LGB is becoming dangerously widespread, and cheap effective control measures are urgently required. Pheromone treatments could help. — *LPS*

البنك الوطني العُماني المحدود (ش.م.ع.)  
NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN LIMITED (S.A.O.G.)  
Head Office P.O. Box 3751 Ruwi, Muscat, Sultanate of Oman  
Tel: 708894, Fax: 707781, Telex: 3281 NBO ON, Cable: NATBANK

## Exchange rates

Foreign currency per one Omani Rial		Omani Rial per one unit of foreign currency	
Selling	Currency	Buying	Selling
3.73	Australian Dollar	0.2638	0.2683
29.49	Austrian Schilling	0.03332	0.03391
98.04	Bangladesh Taka	0.00980	0.01020
0.974	Bahraini Dinar	1.015	1.027
86.50	Belgium Franc	0.01134	0.01156
0.324	Canadian Dollar	0.3046	0.3085
14.66	Chinese Renminbi	0.0664	0.0682
1.26	Cyprus Pound	0.777	0.792
16.12	Danish Kroner	0.06110	0.0602
4.21	Deutsche Mark	0.2341	0.2373
4.75	Dutch Guilder	0.2080	0.2105
14.27	French Franc	0.06909	0.07004
19.88	Hong Kong Dollar	0.0494	0.0503
76.04	Indian Rupee	0.01275	0.01315
3558.91	Italian Lira	0.000244	0.000251
304.41	Japanese Yen	0.003244	0.00385
1.78	Jordanian Dinar	0.553	0.562
0.789	Kuwaiti Dinar	1.246	1.266
289.02	S. Peseta	0.00312	0.00346
6.75	Malaysian Ringit	0.1438	0.1481
17.87	Norwegian Kroner	0.05495	0.05595
4.94	New Zealand Dollar	0.1980	0.2025
67.11	Pakistani Rupee	0.01455	0.01490
1.77	Pound Sterling	0.555	0.566
9.41	Qatari Riyal	0.1052	0.1063
9.68	Saudi Rial	0.1021	0.1032
4.23	Singapore Dollar	0.2334	0.2366
116.82	Sri Lankan Rupee	0.00816	0.00856
19.44	Swedish Kroner	0.05043	0.05145
3.87	Swiss Franc	0.2542	0.2582
9.48	UAE Dirham	0.1043	0.1054
2.57	US Dollar	0.381	0.388

Courtesy : National Bank of Oman Limited (SAOG) 21/02/93

# Cocoa producers strive for pact to force up prices

ABIDJAN - Cocoa producers want consumer nations to give more ground in last-ditch talks on a new world cocoa pact, but they look set for an uphill struggle.

The fourth and theoretically last round of International Cocoa Organisation (ICCO) negotiations will run in Geneva from February 22 to March 5, with the objective of sealing an accord to force cocoa prices up from their current historic lows.

Three main issues divide producer and consumer countries: how much cocoa to withdraw from the market, what price range to defend and who will pay for running the new pact.

"The producers have given a lot, and I'm waiting for consumers to give more," Ivory Coast's commodities minister Guy-Alain Gauze told Reuters in an interview.

"They have given but they could give more, and they must give more because they can," said Gauze, whose country produces about a third of the world's cocoa beans.

World cocoa prices are at their lowest in real terms since records began, weighed down by years of oversupply and stocks big enough to cover world demand for about seven months.

A tonne of cocoa sells in London for less than £750 compared with well over 2,000 pounds in the mid-1980s. But time is running out for the UN-sponsored talks.

The current ICCO pact, which has been mainly administrative since a buffer stock mechanism collapsed in 1988, is due to expire at the end of September. A new agreement would have to be on paper very soon to be ratified in time.

Gauze declined to elaborate on the producers' latest joint bargaining position, which was being finalised last week at a cocoa Producers' Alliance (CPA) meeting in London.

Other producers, too, were tight-lipped. Ghanaian officials declined to speak and no comment was available from Brazil, the world's second-biggest producer.

Finance is the key sticking-point. Producers want to fund the withholding scheme with a joint levy on producers and consumers. Consumers want the cash to come from ICCO assets, which consist mainly of \$150 million worth of debts run up by producers while the buffer stock was functioning.

Ivory Coast, the biggest debtor, recently repaid 10 per cent of the \$84 million it owed, and Gauze said more would be paid soon. Brazil has pledged to start paying its \$25 million debt.

Some officials in producer countries privately admit they understand

the consumers' point of view, but publicly they hold fast to the principle of splitting the cost.

"The consumer countries should support the pact" — at least, that's what we're hoping," said Etienne Essame Ndong, deputy director of Cameroon's national cocoa and coffee bureau.

Malaysian officials said they would push for joint financing but were willing to consider a compromise package to be unveiled by conference chairman Peter Lai, who has been holding talks with major producers and consumers.

Malaysia, the world's fourth-biggest cocoa producer, is currently outside the ICCO accord but has joined the CPA.

Further disagreement has hinged on the price range a new pact should defend. At the last talks three months ago, producers wanted a range of 1,180 to 1,770 special drawing rights (SDRs) a tonne while consumers sought a band of 840 to 1,260 SDRs — far closer to current prices.

The SDR, an International Monetary Fund unit based on a basket of currencies, is worth about \$1.37.

Differences are slimmer on how much Cocoa to hold off the market: producers say 380,000 tonnes, consumers 330,000.

Consumer countries have shown little flexibility in negotiating a pact they see as of most benefit to producers.

Trade ministers from the European Community, which consumes about 40 per cent of the world's cocoa, rejected a request this month from the EC commission to allow its negotiators more leeway. Proposals scotched by the ministers included a joint levy of about \$10 per tonne on cocoa sales to fund the pact.

The United States, which uses about 12 per cent of world production, is not an ICCO member and says it has no immediate plans to join.

If the talks fail, producers are likely to press on with their own measures to cut the amount of cocoa on world markets.

Ivory Coast has unilaterally reduced exports in the current 1992/93 cocoa season, banning sales of small beans and the entire mid-crop which represents about 10 per cent of the crop.

But most economic analysts say individual gestures, even by the world's biggest producer, will not have a major impact on prices. Action would have to be more co-ordinated, yet there is only patchy support for a cartel along the lines of oil's Opec. — *Reuters*

## AMR Corp loses \$935m in 1992

FORT WORTH, Texas — The parent company of American Airlines lost a lot of money last year, a record even before accounting rule changes drove the amount to \$ 935 million.

But AMR Corp.'s balance sheet is strong, its fleet young and its management and employees savvy. And passenger traffic has been climbing in recent months.

So, when the company hosted 70 reporters for an annual review of business last week, few expected chief executive Robert Crandall to say the sky was falling.

But he did. "We're not going to be in business long term," Crandall said at a dinner with the reporters. "At the labour costs we incur today, we cannot be in business long term."

He was not predicting the end of American, the nation's largest airline. But Crandall said changing economics may eventually force AMR to sell parts of American to people who can make it profitable.

Similarly gloomy comments by another AMR executive in Thursday's *Wall Street Journal* prompted hundreds of travellers to call American about the soundness of their tickets.

Some worried employees even called news organisations in Dallas and Fort Worth to find out what was happening at the company.

The comments come as American negotiates a new contract with the union representing its 21,600 flight attendants. But Crandall said the company will not seek concessions because that would hurt employees.

## Saudi bank's profits fall

MANAMA — Saudi Arabia's Al-Rajhi Banking and Investment Corp said yesterday it posted a 644.5 million riyal (\$171.9 million) net profit in 1992, down eight per cent on the previous year's 701.5 million (\$187 million). It was the first Saudi bank to report lower profits for 1992, a financially healthy year during which profit increases have ranged as high as 55 per cent.

A bank spokesman attributed the drop to fluctuations on world markets. He said nonetheless that the bank recommended a 450 million riyal (\$120 million) dividend in 1992, or 30 riyals

per share, compared with 375 million riyals (\$100 million) or 25 riyals per share in 1991.

The Riyadh-based joint stock company made a record profit of one billion riyals (\$267 million) in 1990.

The spokesman said the bank allocated 11.2 million riyals (\$3 million) to cover investment risks in 1992 compared with 154 million riyals (\$41 million) in 1991. Rajhi, once the kingdom's biggest money changer, converted to a commercial bank in 1988 after offering shares worth 750 million riyals (\$200 million) to the public. — *Reuters*



# MUSCAT SECURITIES

TRADING CHART FOR MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1993.

SECTOR-WISE PRICE INDEX - Industry - 182.55; Service - 121.28; Insurance sector 82.15; Banks & Investment Sector 79.46; Market Price Index 107.72; Opening price July 1, 1990 = (100) points, used as a basic price for calculating daily price index.

NAME OF COMPANY	NO. OF SHARES TRADED	VOLUME IN RIALS	PREV CLSG	OPNG	HIGH	LOW	CLSG PRICE	BID PRICE	OFFER PRICE	PAR VALUE	NO. OF CONT. EXECUTED
<b>INDUSTRY SECTOR</b>											
OMAN FLOUR MILLS	600	3120	5200	5200	5200	5200	5200	5200	5200	1	1
RAYSUIT CEMENT	2001	5723	2870	2870	2860	2860	2860	2860	2860	1	2
PHOENIX CATTLEFEED	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
PACKAGING CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN NATL DAIRY	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN REFRESHMENTS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATIONAL DETERGENT	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AREEJ VEGEOL DERTV	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN CABLE INDUS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATL BISC INDUS	623	1558	2350	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	2500	1	1
PHOENIX BVGS CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATIONAL BEVERAGES	630	3591	5600	5700	5700	5700	5700	5700	5700	1	1
NATIONAL GAS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MUSCAT IND. GASES	4450	8233	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1850	1	1
BANKS & INVEST. CO. SEC.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
KOMM BK OF OMAN	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATL BK OF OMAN	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN BK CORP	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
BANK AL AHLI OMANI	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
BANK OMAN BAHKUW	6700	6700	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1	1
BANK OMAN BAH KUW 25%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN INTNL BANK	886	1418	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1	1
OMAN INVEST FUND CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN AVIATION	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMINVEST 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DHOFA INT REV INV 100%	300	351	1170	1170	1170	1170	1170	1170	1170	1	1
OMAN SECURITIES CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
FINANCIAL SVCS CO 75%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
<b>INSURANCE SECTOR</b>											
OMAN NAT INS. CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AL AHIAH INS. CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN UNTD. INS. CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DHOFA INS. CO. 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
SERVICES SECTOR	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
GULF HOTEL INDUS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AL KHUWAI DV SVC 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN HTLS CO. LTD.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
PORT SVCS CORP	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN AVIATION	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATIONAL ELECTRIC	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN FISHERIES	42	265	6330	6330	6330	6330	6330	6330	6330	5	2

VOLUME OF TRADING IN THE REGULAR MARKET FOR TODAY IS : R.O. 30959 SHARES : 16232 CONTRACTS : 12

Trading Price List parallel market

SWEETS OF OMAN	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NAT CO. FOOD PRODS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
COMET STAR INDUS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN TEXT. MILLS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN ORG FRT CHML	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
BATINA DAIRY PRODS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NATL ALUM PRODS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AL AMAL INDUSTRIES	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN WATER PUMPS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AE RA IDHA QUARRIES CO	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MUTTRAH INSOFAH CO. 100%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MUTTRAH INSOFAH CO. 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
REEM BATTERIES	240	242	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1010	1	1
CONEST MTL INDUS	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
DHOFA MARBLE & GRANITES	935	1169	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250	1250	1	1
OMAN CHROME CO. 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
NAL-AHLIA PORTFOLIO CO.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MCT TOURIST CORP	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
AHLIA LETTAMWEN	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
OMAN AGRIL DEV	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
MDRM PLTRY FARM	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
ABAL ABAL TRD. 50%	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
SOHAR POULTRY	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

VOLUME OF TRADING IN THE PARALLEL MARKET FOR TODAY IS : R.O. 1411 SHARES : 1175 CONTRACTS : 2

# India's trade deficit doubled in 9 months

From R.K. Bhatnagar

**NEW DELHI** — The Indian trade deficit for the first nine months of the current fiscal year has more than doubled as compared to the corresponding period of last year. It is an obvious outcome of the economic liberalisation, which saw an unprecedented spurt in imports.

At the end of December 1992, the trade deficit is officially estimated to be around \$3555.38 million as against \$1928.31 million of December 1991 - which accounts for the first nine months between April and December of a financial year.

The imports in rupee terms registered a 38 per cent growth at Rs 47,480.01 crore between April and December 1992 against that of Rs. 34,238.35 crore during these months of the previous year.

Since there was no commensurate increase in the country's exports during the period, it is being officially attributed as a factor for the rise in trade deficit from Rs. 3,906.33 crore last year to Rs. 10,150.58 crore for the period under review.

The exports demonstrated an aggregate growth of 23.07 per cent at Rs. 37,329.43 crore between April and December 1992 as against Rs.30,332.02 crore in the first nine months of the previous financial year.

The deep slump in the exports

was, of course, to a large extent due to depression in export trade to the rupee payment area. The exports to the rupee payment area plunged to Rs. 1,356.55 crore for the period under review from Rs. 3,199 crore in the previous year.

A decline of 57 per cent.

The general currency area export did show a look up. It grew up by an impressive margin of 32.58 per cent at Rs. 35,972.88 crore from Rs.27,133.22 crore of last year.

The Soviet Union accounted for the bulk of India's rupee payment area export.

Its collapse gave a serious set back to the rupee payment exports.

The government too admits that removal of severe restrictions on the imports led to significant rise in imports.

The trade deficit in dollar terms also widened by \$3555.38 million during the first nine months of the current financial year as against \$1628.31 million in 1991-92. The import in dollar terms went up by 16.5 per cent at \$ 16630.53 million as against \$ 14271.81 million in the previous year.

The aggregate exports in dollar terms registered a growth of 3.4 per cent at \$13075.15 million against \$12643.50 million in the corresponding period last year.

# BOMBAY STOCKS

Monday, February 22	Previous Day's	Indian Organic	51.25	50.00
<b>Scrip shares</b>		Indian Rayon	377.50	375.00
ACC	3125.00	Indo Gulf Fret	56.00	54.00
Apollo Tyre	192.50	ITC	532.50	533.75
Ashtok Lyle	107.50	Jaiprakash I	91.25	88.75
Ashtok Paint	287.50	J K Indus	142.50	147.50
Atlas Copco	166.25	J K Synthetic	37.00	35.00
Bajaj Auto	265.00	Karim Cum	317.50	322.50
Baroda Rayon	510.00	Larsen & Tou	221.25	218.75
Bharat Forge	195.00	Lipton	235.00	230.00
Birla Jute	290.00	Mah & Mah	127.50	128.75
Bom Dyeing	375.00	Mangal Chem	14.25	14.25
Br. Indus	250.00	Mastershare	51.00	50.00
Brooke Bond	292.50	MICO	2600.00	2575.00
Cadbury Ind	172.50	Modi Rubber	80.00	81.25
Castrol Ind	1065.00	Mukand	260.00	257.50
Ceat Ltd	110.25	Nestle Ltd	335.00	340.00
Century	6500.00	Nocil	1000.00	1000.00
Century Enka	2700.00	Orkay Silk	40.00	40.00
Cochin Ref	350.00	Parik Davis	220.00	217.50
Colgate	480.00	Peico	137.50	140.00
El Hotels	185.00	Pfizer	175.00	172.50
Escorts	87.75	Ponds	595.00	595.00
Essayef	370.00	Premier Auto	47.50	50.00
Essar Guj	67.50	Reckitt Col	335.00	340.00
Essar Ship	63.75	Reliance	255.00	251.25
Excel Ind	700.00	Siemens	495.00	500.00
G.E. Shipping	480.00	SKF Bearings	2200.00	2225.00
Garware Nyl	26.00	SPIC	425.00	430.00
Garware Poly	152.50	Standard	125.00	127.50
Glaxo India	297.50	Straw Prod	138.75	138.75
Grasim Ind	480.00	T N Petro	145.00	150.00
Guj Alkali	270.00	Tata Chem	66.00	67.00
Guj Amb. Cem	322.50	Tata Eng	200.00	207.50
Guj Narada	80.00	Tata Steel	262.50	262.50
Gujarat Fert	260.00	Tata Tea	1650.00	1580.00
Hind Ciba	2750.00	Tata Steel	221.25	217.50
Hind Lever	370.00	Tata Tea	580.00	575.00
Hind Motor	30.50	Vam Organic	435.00	430.00
Hindalco	710.00	Videcon App	97.50	100.00
ICI	1690.00	Volta	75.00	73.75
ICI Ind	1375.00	Wimco	63.50	64.50
ICI Ind	75.00	Zenith Ltd	33.75	33.75
Indian Cement	187.50	Zauri Agro	245.00	242.50
Indian Alum	240.00			

# Airline Schedule

DEPARTURES TO CITY	FLIGHT NO.	DEPART. TIME
TUESDAY		
ABU DHABI	GF155	0600
ABU DHABI	GF175	1340
ABU DHABI	GF545	2210
ABU DHABI	GF741	2330
ADDIS ABABA	ET623	0600
AMMAN	R601	0645
BAHRAIN	GF501	0700
BAHRAIN	GF741	0745
BAHRAIN	GF733	2125
BAHRAIN	GF545	2210
BANGKOK	TC508	2359
BOMBAY	GF183	0115
BOMBAY	GF064	1345
BOMBAY	AI832	2230
COLOMBO	UL120	0100
DOHA	GF183	1415
DOHA	GF163	1030
DOHA	GF183	1415
DUBAI	GF501	0700
DUBAI	GF552	1430
FRANKFURT	GF017	2330
JEDDAH	GF175	1340
KARACHI	GF016	0150
KARACHI	GF508	2359
KARACHI	PK226	2359
KUWAIT	KU607	0700
LONDON	BA122	0010
MANCHESTER	GF017	2330
MANILA	GF154	0315
RIYADH	GF163	0330
SALALAH	WY5407	1645
SHARJAH	GF183	1415
SHARJAH	GF523	2115
TRIVANDRUM	AI942	1215

ARRIVALS FROM CITY	FLIGHT NO.	ARRIVAL TIME
TUESDAY		
ABU DHABI	GF154	0155
ABU DHABI	GF008	1045
ABU DHABI	GF540	1255
ABU DHABI	GF176	2255
ABU DHABI	GF050	2340
ADDIS ABABA	ET612	0515
AMMAN	R6100	0415
AMSTERDAM	GF016	0110
BAHRAIN	GF016	0110
BAHRAIN	GF520	1215
BAHRAIN	GF064	1240
BAHRAIN	GF540	1255
BAHRAIN	GF552	1430
BAHRAIN	GF002	2310
BANGKOK	TC507	2305
BANGKOK	GF153	2340
BOMBAY	AI833	1055
BOMBAY	GF065	2115
BOMBAY	GF074	2220
CAIRO	GF184	2120
DOHA	GF520	1215
DOHA	GF164	2025
DOHA	GF164	2025
DOHA	GF184	2120
DOHA	GF074	2220
DOHA	GF018	2305
DUBAI	GF552	1430
DUBAI	GF508	2359
FRANKFURT	GF016	0110
HONGKONG	GF153	2340
JEDDAH	GF176	2255







# Aussies crumble to NZ President's XI

NELSON, New Zealand - Australia's preparation for their test series against New Zealand, already disrupted by weather, received a further knock yesterday when they were beaten by a New Zealand President's XI by three wickets in a 50-over match.

The first two days of their three-day match were abandoned because of rain and a one-day game was arranged instead of the scheduled last day.

Home side captain Ken Ruth-erford led the President's XI to victory with a fine 97. He and Bryan Young (57), at times chasing more than six runs an over, added 141 for the fifth wicket to set up the win. David Boon, reunited with the Australian team after attending his father's funeral, earlier hit a typically

pugnacious 75 to lead Australia to 222 for eight wickets.

The New Zealand side overhauled the Australian total with eight balls to spare, reaching 223 for seven.

Boon was aided by Mark Waugh with an aggressive 56 but Mark Taylor and Justin Langer, contenders to open in the tests with Boon, both failed.

Once Boon and Langer went, Australia's innings faltered, despite captain Allan Border and Damien Martyn each getting a reasonable start.

Some of the Australian bowlers suffered during the President's run chase. Off-spinner Tim May had 56 hit off his nine overs and medium pacer Paul Reiffel ended with none for 52 from 10 overs.

The first test begins on Thursday in Christchurch.

## SCOREBOARD

Australia	7
M. Taylor b Gale	75
D. Boon b Gale	7
J. Langer c Rutherford b Latham	56
M. Waugh c Rutherford b Latham	20
D. Martyn b Pringle	18
A. Border c Hart b Pringle	3
I. Healy b Pringle	14
P. Reiffel not out	1
C. McDermott run out	3
S. Warne not out	18
Extras (w-8, lb-10)	222
Total (for 8 wickets, 50 overs)	
Fall: 1-21, 2-42, 3-132, 4-165, 5-200, 6-201, 7-206, 8-209	
Bowling: Pringle 10-1-23-3, De Groen 10-3-26-0, Gale 10-0-46-2, Latham 9-1-54-2, Hart 10-0-53-0, Rutherford 1-0-10-0.	
President's XI	0
B. Pocock c Waugh b McDermott	25
R. Latham c Reiffel b Waugh	9
D. Murray c Taylor b McDermott	97
K. Rutherford c Martyn b Waugh	19
S. Thomson b Martyn	57
B. Young run out	1
L. Germon LBW b Waugh	1
M. Hart not out	13
C. Pringle not out	223
Extras (lb-7, w-2, nb-4)	
Total (for 7 wickets, 48.4 overs)	
Fall: 1-2, 2-20, 3-45, 4-74, 5-215, 6-217, 7-221	
Bowling: C. McDermott 9-4-0-38-2, P. Reiffel 10-0-52-0, M. Waugh 6-1-18-3, D. Martyn 6-2-17-1, S. Warne 8-2-35-0, T. May 9-0-56-0. — <i>Reuter</i>	

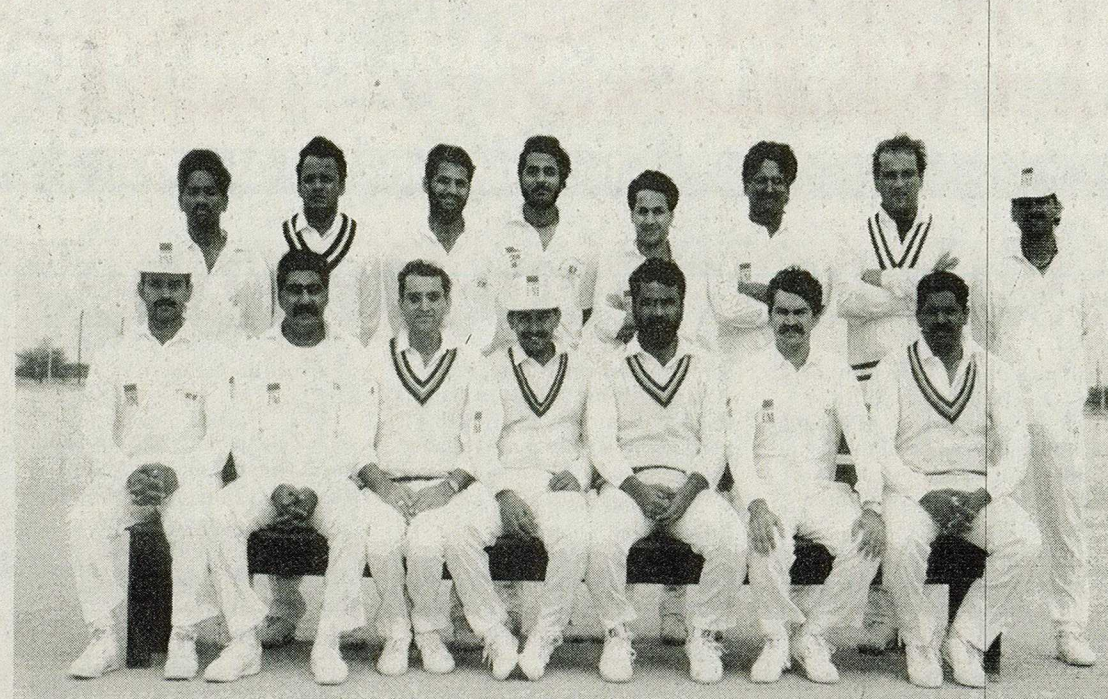
# Muscat 'A' worthy champions

By A Sports Reporter

MUSCAT — L&M Sponsored Muscat CC "A" with one match in hand put the "A" Division Samsonite league beyond doubt with a comfortable eight wicket victory over Modes on Friday. With spinners Shishir Hattangadi and Hemant Kambl bowling tidily, Modes batsmen were unable to make merry following a good start by Khalique Ahmed and Javed Zaidi.

Earlier the Modes openers played the Muscat attack with a century stand for the first wicket but this quickly changed with the introduction of Hattangadi and Kambl who shared six wickets between them as Modes reached 267 for 7 at the close.

Aziz Irani and J Redkar proved equal to the task when Muscat replied with both batsmen reaching half centuries and then Hattangadi took over to steer his team through with an enterprising unbeaten century and skipper Jignesh Sanghani chipping in with 46 not out.



The victorious Muscat 'A' team.

# Kasparov warms up for Short

LINARES — World chess Champion Gary Kasparov warms up for his forthcoming title defence against Britain's Nigel Short in the strongest chess tournament ever held, starting in the Andalusian town of Linares this week.

Parings for the first round of the 11th Linares grand master trophy series are announced at an opening ceremony later in the day. It is expected to be Kasparov's only appearance in a major tournament before his world championship match against Short.

The 14-man lineup includes 11 of the world's top players according to computer rankings known as Elo-ratings. Kasparov, 29, from Azerbaijan, tops the list with his record rating of 2,805.

The most notable absentee is Short, who despite his status as Kasparov's world title contender, has an

Elo-rating of 2,655 that puts him outside the world's top 10. Asked why he was not playing, Short said he didn't want to play in what was practically a championship of ex-Soviet players.

Kasparov is joined by his old sparring partner, Russian former world champion Anatoly Karpov, 41, ranked second at 2,725.

Ukraine's Vassily Ivanchuk, 23 (2,710), is a fancied contender having won the 1991 Linares trophy ahead of Kasparov. Sharing third place with Ivanchuk is Indian star Viswanathan Anand, 23, (2,710). He and fifth-ranked Belarussian Boris Gelfand, 24, (2,690) shared first place in the Moscow grand master tournament last year.

Russian prodigy Vladimir Kramnik, at 17 (2,685) the world's second youngest grand master after the 16-year-old Hungarian Judit Polgar, is tipped by Kasparov as a po-

tential pretender to his title.

Another strong youngster is Latvian Alexei Shirov, 19, (2,670).

Significantly, in a sport known as a young man's game, only one of the top 10 — Karpov — is over 30.

From modest beginnings in 1978, this year's Linars tournament now boasts a category 18 rating based on the average 2,677 rating of its participants.

British grand master Jonhathan Speelman's invitation was cancelled because his rating was too low.

The 13-round tournament will be played over three weeks, ending on March 15. Extra days are allocated for adjourned games and rest.

The size of the prize fund is a closely-guarded secret but a source close to organisers said appearance fees were likely to exceed prize money. —*Reuter*

# Ngugi faces ban

NAIROBI — Kenya's five-times world cross country champion John Ngugi faces a four-year ban by the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) for refusing a random dope test, a senior IAAF official said yesterday.

Ngugi, winner of the 1988 Olympics 5,000 metres, told reporters he had declined the test because the IAAF team of doctors who visited his rural home at Nyahururu, 300 km north of Nairobi, failed to identify themselves.

"I could not entrust my life to strangers," Ngugi told local reporters on Sunday. "I have always been tested before or after competition and I am prepared to be tested anytime by the IAAF." —*Reuter*

# Labbadia strikes twice to boost world cup hopes

BONN — A tasty carrot has been dangled in front of the noses of ambitious strikers in Germany after Rudi Voeller's recent retirement from the national team.

Bayer Munich's Bruno Labbadia took a big bite from it at the weekend.

Germany coach Berti Vogts is looking for a replacement for seasoned forward Voeller as the world champions prepare to defend their title in the United States next year.

Labbadia, who won his first cap as a substitute during Germany's recent tour of South America, enhanced his chances with two goals as Bayern emerged from the winter break with a 2-0 win over Bayer Udingen to stay top of the Bundesliga.

Labbadia has been likened to legendary striker Gerd Mueller because of his unpredictability and fast reactions in front of goal. He head-

ed two Mueller-type goals in the same Olympic stadium where the tiny forward worked his magic in the 1970s.

The 27-year-old cleverly side-stepped his marker at a free kick to score his first with a spectacular diving header. He showed his poacher's instinct with a second header from close range after a shot from midfielder Christian Ziege hit the bar.

The performance provided a sweet riposte to critics who say Labbadia has lacked the flair in Munich which helped him steer his former club Kaiserslautern to the title in 1991. Former world cup star Paul Breitner called him a "fake" last week.

"There is nothing better than silencing the critics," Labbadia said. "When I'm in form nothing can irritate me."

Bayern failed to fire on all cyl-

inders but the victory maintained their one-point lead. Eintracht Frankfurt stayed second after a 2-0 win at Dynamo Dresden. Werder Bremen, who beat Nuremberg 3-0, are a further point behind.

Vogts will also have taken note of the other superb performance of the weekend from Matthias Sammer, playing his first league game for Borussia Dortmund since his transfer from Internazionale Milan during the two-month break.

Sammer, who is keen to command a midfield place in the national team, struck fourth-placed Dortmund's winner with a spectacular free kick from 25 metres which found it way through a posse of defenders.

The former East German immediately sprinted to the touchline and jumped into the arms of Dortmund coach Ottmar Hitzfeld who

brought him back home after six difficult months at Inter where he struggled to get a regular first-team place.

"I don't normally do things like that. But it was all emotion," Sammer said. "The coach stood by me throughout all the discussions about my transfer. I wanted to thank him."

In that one moment Sammer answered critics, angry at seeing Borussia write a cheque for 8.5 million marks (\$5.2 million) for a soccer star when many people in the Ruhr city face unemployment because of problems in the steel industry.

"Some people look forward to coming to the ground to get away from their grey everyday lives," Hitzfeld said after the game.

The red-headed Sammer certainly provided them with a colourful afternoon. —*Reuter*

# Night cricket starts today

MUSCAT — Two matches get the Ramadan Floodlit Cricket Tournament to a start at the Pakistan College Grounds today.

Thirty-six teams have entered the competition which commences daily at 9 pm. On the opening day, Al Hassan fielding a very strong side take on Sultan Qaboos University Employees Club and in the second game newcomers Ruwi Modern Painters are up against OCC team, Karachi Club.

The tournament will run through the whole month featuring senior and junior tournaments followed by an exciting double wicket championship.

Additional prizes will be awarded this year to "player of the night" on every night of the tournament.

Prizes will be given out to the winning teams, runners-up, best batsman and bowler of the tournament, best fielder and outstanding wicketkeeper.

PARIS - Reports that Juventus are interested in signing Franck Sauzee did no harm to the Marseille midfielder, who fired home a spectacular goal as his team went to the top of the French league at the weekend.

Juventus, having lost out to Inter Milan in the battle for Ajax Amsterdam's Dennis Bergkamp, were said to have turned their attention to the Marseille pair of Sauzee and Croatian striker Alen Boksic.

If the Italian club were watching Marseille's 2-0 home win over Lens, they would not have been disappointed. Sauzee, whose sublime form has been behind his side's rise to the top with five wins in a row, played superbly and his goal was a gem.

Marseille were 1-0 up thanks to a Rudi Voeller goal but playing into a fierce mistral wind in

# Aces on bridge

BOBBY WOLFF

"Every state of society is as luxurious as it can be. Men always take the best they can get."

— Samuel Johnson.

"I make the slam if I find the diamond king on side," offered South. "The bidding was pretty good; our luck was something less."

he slam would have been easy had the diamonds behaved. Is there a way to success with the existing layout?

South took dummy's club ace and discarded a low diamond. Trumps were drawn and the three high hearts were cashed. Next, South cashed his diamond ace, led a diamond to dummy's queen and lost to East's king. East exited with the club king and South took only 11 tricks.

Looking at all four hands, south can make the slam by ducking the second round of diamonds to drop East's king. However, had East held J-10 doubleton instead, this would have been the way to lose the slam.

The best way to play for 12 tricks is to insert dummy's club queen at trick one. If the finesse wins, south enjoys two diamond discards.

When East covers, South ruffs, draws trumps (discarding two clubs from dummy) and cashes his high hearts.

Next, he cashes the diamond ace and leads a diamond to dummy's queen. This loses as before, but with one big difference. East must lead a club to dummy's ace, and diamond discards on the club ace and heart jack limit south's losses to only one trick. — United feature Syndicate

NORTH2-3-A

♠ Q 8

♥ J 9 5 3

♦ Q 6 5

♣ A Q 7 3

WEST

♠ 5

♥ 10 8 6 4

♦ J 9 8 3

♣ 10 9 8 2

EAST

♠ 7 4 3 2

♥ 7 2

♦ K 10

♣ K J 6 5 4

SOUTH

♠ A K J 10 9 6

♥ A K Q

♦ A 7 4 2

♣ —

Vulnerable: Both

Dealer: South

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
6 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Club 10

BID WITH THE ACES

2-3-B

South holds:

♠ Q 8

♥ J 9 5 3

♦ Q 6 5

♣ A Q 7 3

North

1 ♠

2 ♠

South

?

ANSWER: Two no-trump. Invite game at no-trump. A nine-trick game might be best.

# Marseille move to the top

PARIS - Reports that Juventus are interested in signing Franck Sauzee did no harm to the Marseille midfielder, who fired home a spectacular goal as his team went to the top of the French league at the weekend.

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If the Italian club were watching Marseille's 2-0 home win over Lens, they would not have been disappointed. Sauzee, whose sublime form has been behind his side's rise to the top with five wins in a row, played superbly and his goal was a gem.

Marseille were 1-0 up thanks to a Rudi Voeller goal but playing into a fierce mistral wind in

the second half when the big midfielder secured victory in the 70th minute.

His 25-metre free kick bent round the wall and thundered into the top corner.

Asked about Juventus, Sauzee said: "I'll listen to any offers though I've heard nothing direct yet. But the season is long and there's still a lot to do with Marseille."

That's the most important thing for the moment."

The immediate consideration is Marseille's visit to previous leaders Monaco on Thursday. Monaco lost for the first time in 13 matches when they went down 1-0 in Nantes to an 18th minute goal by Croatian sweep-er Zoran Vulic, falling two points behind.

The goal was the first conceded by veteran keeper Jean-Luc Ettori in 10 games but he

still broke the French record of keeping his net intact by six minutes, taking his mark to 898.

More alarming for Monaco was another listless performance from their shot-shy attack with Germany's Juergen Klinsmann and company failing to score for the fourth game in a row.

Monaco dropped to third as Paris St Germain also moved above them on goal difference despite a disappointing 0-0 home draw with Toulouse in which Librarian striker George Weah missed a penalty.

The Parisians blamed the Parc des Princes pitch which has disintegrated alarmingly in recent games and has to be relaid this week.

Defender Jean-Luc Sassus said: "On this pitch, all your efforts count double. It was extremely firing. It was tough just to finish the match. —*Reuter*

T & RADIO

TIMES

STAR

plus.

Highlights

Mtv Rockumentary: Rapumentary II

Tuesday 23th February 10:30 p.m.

A visit back to the 'old school' of rap, female rappers, afrocentrism, hard core rappers, X-rated lyrics, and a look at different genres of rap from commercial to R&B, are some of the topics examined in "Rapumentary II". In the first segment, superstar LL Cool J talks with old school' masters Afrika Bambaata and Jazzy Jeff and introduces vintage clips from the Sugarhill Gang. Also discussed are rap stars who have gone on to do movies and television, such as Will Smith (The Fresh Prince Of Bel Air), MC Hammer and LL Cool J. The second segment takes a look at female rappers through interviews and video clips. Hosted by Queen Latifah, artists covered include Nikki D., MC Lyte, Yo-Yo and Salt 'N Pepa. In a piece on 'hard core' nippers, host Ice T talks to NWA, Ice Cube and Eric B & Rakim. The controversy surrounding X-rated lyrics from such bands as 2 Live Crew and BWP is discussed. A third segment touches on afrocentrism and genres of rap from pop to R&B. Host Chuck D talks about Public Enemy and interviews Tone Loc, The Jungle Brothers, Digital Underground, BizMarkie, KRS-One, Hammer, C&C Music Factory and producer Hank Shocklee. The show ends with a look at the commercialisation of rap, hosted by Young MC.

MTV Sports

Wednesdays 3:30 p.m.

Join MTV Sports host Dan Cortese as he takes MTV viewers through a mind-spinning-nonstop show that blasts its way through a variety of sports that appeal to the young and young at heart. Bungee jumping from a three hundred foot bridge anyone? Or maybe extreme skiing - or even air surfing? No one has seen sports until they have seen it MTV style. Every Wednesday evening, the wacky MTV team shows sports events around the world that will never make highlight films, never be a headline and won't make the playoffs, except on MTV. Watch the craziest, most bizarre, death-defying, exciting, unusual, silliest and most ingenious sports show ever created... all packed into the slickest and quickest program around.

Oman TV	CNN INTERNATIONAL	STAR plus.	BBC	PRIME SPORTS	MUSIC TELEVISION
Morning					
06:00	Larry King	Just for the record	World News Asia Today (6:15)	US National Indoor	Classic MTV Danny
06:30		Jupiter Moon	Newsnight (6:25)		
07:00	CNN World News	Attitudes	World News OED (7:25)	CKT: LIVE India vs. England	MTV Prime - David Wu
08:00	Royal Anthem/Holy Koran News in brief (6:07)	World News	Jane Wallace	World News Mastermind (8:25)	
08:30	Religious talks (6:17)	Showbiz Today	Santa Barbara	World News	VJ Danny McGill
09:00	Religious prog. for children	"World News"	Hollywood Stars (9:50)	The Clothes Show	
09:30	Cartoons (8:45)		The Bold & The Beautiful	World News	Adventure
10:00	Anecdotes (9:37)	World News	Headline News Update	BBC Bus. Morning	India vs. England
10:30	Handicrafts (10:06)	Worldwide Update	Donahue -	World News Relative Values - A (11:25)	
11:00	Arabic sayings (10:19)	Worldwide Update	Yan Can Cook		VJ Sophiya
11:30	News in brief	Headline News Update			
12:00	Open programme (11:10)				
Afternoon					
12:00		Headline News Update	Attitudes	World News Relative Values - B (12:25)	
12:25					
12:30		CNN Newsroom (12:45)	Kaboodle II	World News	MTV Prime - David Wu
01:00	News in brief	Headline News Update	StreetNOISE	World News Day (1:25)	
01:25	Oman: A natural treasure	World News	Jupiter Moon	World News World News Day (2:25)	
01:30	Open university				
02:00	Arabic Serial	Headline News Update	Just for the record		
02:30	World News	World News	Best of Donahue - "33-year old virgin with certificate"	World News In search of Am. dream (3:25)	Adventure TN: Women's Tour
03:00					
03:30	Arabic news	Business Morning	Movie: "Twister"	World News Panorama (4:15)	The Day in Rock The Grind
04:00	World News	World News			MTV Most Wanted
04:30	Educational programme for GPSC students (4:50)	Business Day (4:30)			
05:00	Religious programme (5:12)	World News			
05:30	The Omani oryx (5:38)	Business Asia			
Evening					
06:00	Arabic news Towards prosperity	Larry King	The Tony Randall Show	World News	MTV Mon Amour Angela
06:30	Muscat municipality	World Day	Hollywood Stars	Tomorrow's World (6:25)	
07:00			The Bold & The Beautiful	World News World Bus. Report (7:15)	
07:30	Symphony (7:53)		Santa Barbara	Mastermind (7:25)	
08:00	English news	World News	Perfect Scoundrels	World News OED (8:25)	CKT: India vs. England Classic MTV VJ Sophiya
08:30	Arabic serial (8:25)	Grier & Co.	Movie: "Swordkill"	World News	
09:00	World News	World News		Panorama (9:15)	
09:30	Headline News Update	World News		World News News from London (10:25)	Adventure CKT: India vs. England MTV Unplugged MTV Rockumentary
10:00	Arabic news	World News		World News	VJ Danny McGill
10:30	Sports roundup (10:37)	World Business Today	Video/fashion Specials:	World News Timeswatch (11:25)	
11:00	Islamic civilisation	Headline News Update	The Bold & the Beautiful	World News Omnibus (12:25)	The Day in Rock
11:30		International Hour	Santa Barbara		The Grind Awake On The Wild Side Angela Chow
12:00					
Wednesday					
01:00	News in brief/Holy Koran National Anthem	World News	Donahue -	World News News from London (1:25)	
01:30					
02:00		World Business Today	Attitudes	World News Strange Affair (2:25)	
03:00		The World Today	World News Asia Today (3:15)	World Bus. Report (3:25)	Bob Hope Classic
03:30			Smogglies	World News Asia Today (4:15)	
04:00		Moneyline	Force Five - Spacekeepers	World News Newsnight (4:25)	
04:30		Crossfire	Little Flying Bears	World News	
05:00		Prime News	Smogglies	Forty Minutes	US National Indoor
05:30			Force Five - Spacekeepers		

TUESDAY

Pakistan TV 2

03:58 PTV23 Insignia

04:00 Bismillah

04:08 Aaj Ki Nasheriyat

04:10 Hamara Qaeda

04:35 Raasteey

05:05 Journey to the Art

05:30 Secrets & Mysteries

05:55 Al-Akhar

06:00 The News

06:15 Alou Courses

06:45 Pushto Drama "Sahar"

07:30 Matti Sona

08:00 Khabanama

08:25 Commercial news

08:30 Silsila

09:20 Gajar

09:45 Rim Jhim

10:10 Tameer-e-Watan

10:25 Kal Ki Nasheriyat

10:30 National Anthem & Close Down

Oman Radio

8.00 Opening, the Holy Koran, preview of morning programmes and weather forecast

8.10 Ramadaniyat.

8.30 News bulletin.

8.40 Talking about music.

9.00 Daytime classic.

9.30 Festival of music.

10.00 News highlights.

11.05 Faster's oasis.

11.20 Classical collections.

12.00 Preview of afternoon programmes and news headlines.

12.03 Frank Muir.

12.30 International songs.

1.00 News headlines.

1.02 The blessed month of fasting.

1.15 Going back in time.

1.45 The poet's voice.

1.57 Weather forecast and T.V. programmes.

2.00 Crossroads.

2.30 News bulletin.

2.40 Short story.

2.58 Weather forecast and T.V. programmes.

3.00 Preview of evening programmes.

3.02 invitation to the proms.

4.00 Local news bulletin/guest of the week.

4.15 Story of Arabia medicine.

4.30 D.J.'s choice.

5.00 News headlines.

5.02 Health matters.

5.30 News bulletin.

5.40 Weather forecast and pharmacies on duty.

5.45 (Music), Ramadaniyat nights, Stories from Islam, The Holy Koran, Nail, Adhan, Duaa, Call of the minaret.

7.00 Chalkier and Haze show.

9.45 The Holy Koran.

10.00 News summary, preview of morning programmes, pharmacies on duty, close down, National Anthem.



## Setback for Piggot

HONGKONG — Legendary English jockey Lester Piggott, making a comeback from a serious accident, said yesterday he will skip a Hongkong race meeting tomorrow after cutting his eye. The 57-year-old, who is in Hongkong on a one-month riding stint, told reporters he was injured on Saturday when Beat Them up gave him a glancing blow with its head. — *Reuters*

# TIMES SPORT



Tuesday, February 23, 1993

Page 11:

- Marseille move to the top
- Kasparov warms up for Short

## Zaid Al Shamis shines in tent pegging

By A Sports Reporter

MUSCAT — Zaid al Shamis of the Royal Oman Police, a popular name in showjumping added a tent pegging victory to his name when he rode Noor Sabah to first place in the Oman Equestrian Federation Individual Tent Pegging contest held at the Royal Oman Police Stables in

Wattayah yesterday.

The show got off to a good start in the practice runs with pegs cleanly taken within good times.

A total of 23 competitors participated and four contestants forced a jump-off for fifth place on a 2.5cm peg.

Zaid al Shamis with three

clean pick ups and one with three points reached a score of 18 to finish two points ahead of Abdulla Khalifa on Al Hanan of the Royal Stables with 16 points from two clean pick ups and two of three points each.

Royal Stables' Assam Suleiman riding Khairia missed the peg in the first round but secured a maximum of five points in the next

two rounds before dropping to three points in the next to claim third place overall and fourth place went to team mate Hamood Mohammed on Al Anan.

With four competing for the fifth and sixth places, Royal Oman Police rider Mansoor Ali, another showjumping stalwart, riding Amin, split the 2.5cm peg straight down the middle to

secure fifth place.

Results:

1. Zaid al Shamis, Noor Sabah, Royal Oman Police; 2. Abdulla Khalifa, Al Hanan, Royal Stables; 3. Assam Suleiman, Khairia, Royal Stables; 4. Hamood Mohamed, Al Anan, Royal Stables; 5. Mansoor Ali, Amin, Royal Oman Police.

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CITROËN



BOMBAY — Skipper Graham Gooch looks back to see his middle stump uprooted in England's second innings in the third test yesterday.

## Prabhakar burst has England on the ropes

Kambli compiles record 224

From Ayaz Memon

BOMBAY — India are on the threshold of a historic 3-0 sweep, but cricket manager Ajit Wadekar and skipper Mohammed Azharuddin must wonder whether they had not prolonged the innings unnecessarily even after Vinod Kambli had extended his maiden hundred into a fabulous double century.

Kambli, Sunday's hero, looked to be yesterday's record breaker on counts prosaic and pertinent. He became the first left-hander from India to get a double hundred, then went past Gundappa Vishwanath's 222 (made at Madras in 1981-82) as the highest individual score against England, but fell only 13 runs short of bettering Sunil Gavaskar's India record achieved against the West Indies at Madras in 1983-84.

Kambli's ten hour marathon in the middle yielded 224 runs (inclusive of 23 fours) and inspired India's highest total against England at home. And yet, the last 45 minutes of the innings were meaningless enough to make the winning strategy questionable.

As it happened, Mike Gatting and Robin Smith led brave recovery with an unbeaten 74 runs partnership for the fourth wicket after Manoj Prabhakar had played an unlikely destructor with three wickets for only eight runs from 22 deliveries that swung and bamboozled the England batsmen.

Prabhakar had Alec Stewart leg before on the shuffle with a big inswinger, bowled skipper Graham Gooch with a well concealed slower delivery and then had Mike Atherton edging a snorter to the wicketkeeper. At 34 for three, England were in hot water and the spinners had not even had a bowl.

But Smith, with his self belief reinforced, and Gatting batting with characteristic intrepidity, thwarted further damage. What must have been galling for the Indian players was how effectively they coped with the spinners, inspite of Gatting's edge to slip just before close off Rajesh Chauhan which was put down by an inattentive Kapil Dev.

The time and overs taken by the Indian spinners to find their length and rhythm, and for no reward as yet, suggest that India will not have it easy on the final day, in spite of the vagaries of

the wicket. And it is in this context that an early end to the Indian innings, through a declaration may just have made sense.

India lost skipper Azharuddin early, leg before to a ball that cut back sharply. But Kambli was unflappable and Praveen Amre in his elements. There is scarcely a better player of spin bowling in India than Amre and the dapper batsman took a heavy toll of Tufnell and Emburey. Using his feet superbly to meet the ball as it pitched, Amre provided the impetus which was imperative.

Kambli, the effects of a long stay in the middle beginning to show, hung on gamely however to assure a score beyond the 500 mark. The two put on 101 runs for the fifth wicket in 95 minutes which was excellent going. But in the post lunch session, the innings seemed to lose direction a trifle. Kambli had reached his double hundred before the break and then seemed to slow down. With Gavaskar's record in sight, this was pardonable for a 21-year-old. But what did not make sense was the continuation of the innings after he was eighth out, Amre, Kapil Dev and Kiran More all having fallen earlier.

Anil Kumble hit a jumbo six, and Rajesh Chauhan two in succession, all off the hapless John Emburey. But the last 20-30 runs were perhaps less useful than the time that could have been gained by a declaration. With England bowling their overs at the rate of eight minutes or thereabouts each, India should have revised their tactics.

Obviously Azhar wanted to ensure that his side would not have to bat again. But the hardships endured by England to bowl India out, and the struggle of the Indian spinners in the second innings, time perhaps could be key to a result in this Test match.

### SCOREBOARD

England first innings 347 (G. Hick 178)	
India first innings (overnight 397 for three)	
N. Sidhu c Smith b Tufnell	79
M. Prabhakar c Blakey b Hick	44
V. Kambli c Gatting b Lewis	224
S. Tendulkar LBW b Tufnell	78
M. Azharuddin LBW b Lewis	26
P. Amre c De Freitas b Hick	57
Kapil Dev c De Freitas b Emburey	22
K. More c Lewis b Emburey	0
A. Kumble c Atherton b Tufnell	16
R. Chauhan c Atherton b Tufnell	15
V. Raju not out	0
Extras (B-5 LB-14 NB-6 W-5)	30
Total	591
Fall of wickets: 1-109 2-174 3-368 4-418 5-519 6-560 7-560 8-563 9-591	
Bowling: De Freitas 20-4-75-0, Lewis 42-9-114-2, Emburey 59-14-144-2, Tufnell 39-3-6-142-4 Hick 29-3-97-2	
England second innings	
G. Gooch b Prabhakar	8
A. Stewart LBW b Prabhakar	10
M. Atherton c More b Prabhakar	11
R. Smith not out	39
M. Gatting not out	31
Extras (B-4 LB-3 NB-1 W-1)	108
Total (for three wickets)	108
Fall of wickets: 1-17 2-26 3-34	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 7-1-21-0, Prabhakar 8-2-27-3 Raju 10-4-26-0, Kumble 9-3-19-0, Chauhan 5-3-8-0. — <i>Reuters</i>	

### 41 teams for knockout

By A Sports Reporter

MUSCAT — Forty one teams entered the Gokaldas Memorial Knock-out tournament which commences on March 2.

The Senior Cup involves five teams participating initially on a round robin format to be followed by the semifinal stage. Al Bustan "A" have dropped out of the knockout and matches in this group will be played on a 25 over basis.

The intermediate sees a very tough top half with top seeds Omzest "A" likely to meet Sinha "A" in the semifinal.

Other strong teams in this group are Tulukoota "A", ICA President's XI and Al Hassan.

Muscat CC "B", the other seeded team who are drawn in the bottom half appear to have a relatively easy passage before meeting likely contenders Zubair CT in the semifinals.

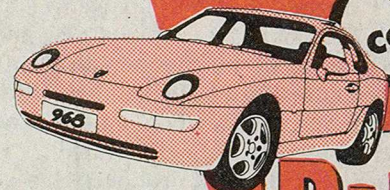
Two preliminary round matches will take part in this tournament. United CT vs Tulukoota "A" and Teejan vs W.J. Towell.

The Junior Cup also sees a tough draw at the top with Photocentre Blues, Sinha Cubs, SFO, Oman National CT and Tulukoota "B" all grouped together.

In the bottom half, Indian School could expect to meet either Khimji Ramdas or Karachi in the semifinals.

The fixture list for the knockout will be circulated to all teams in the first week of March together with the rules of the tournament.

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# Oman's tradition of feminine beauty

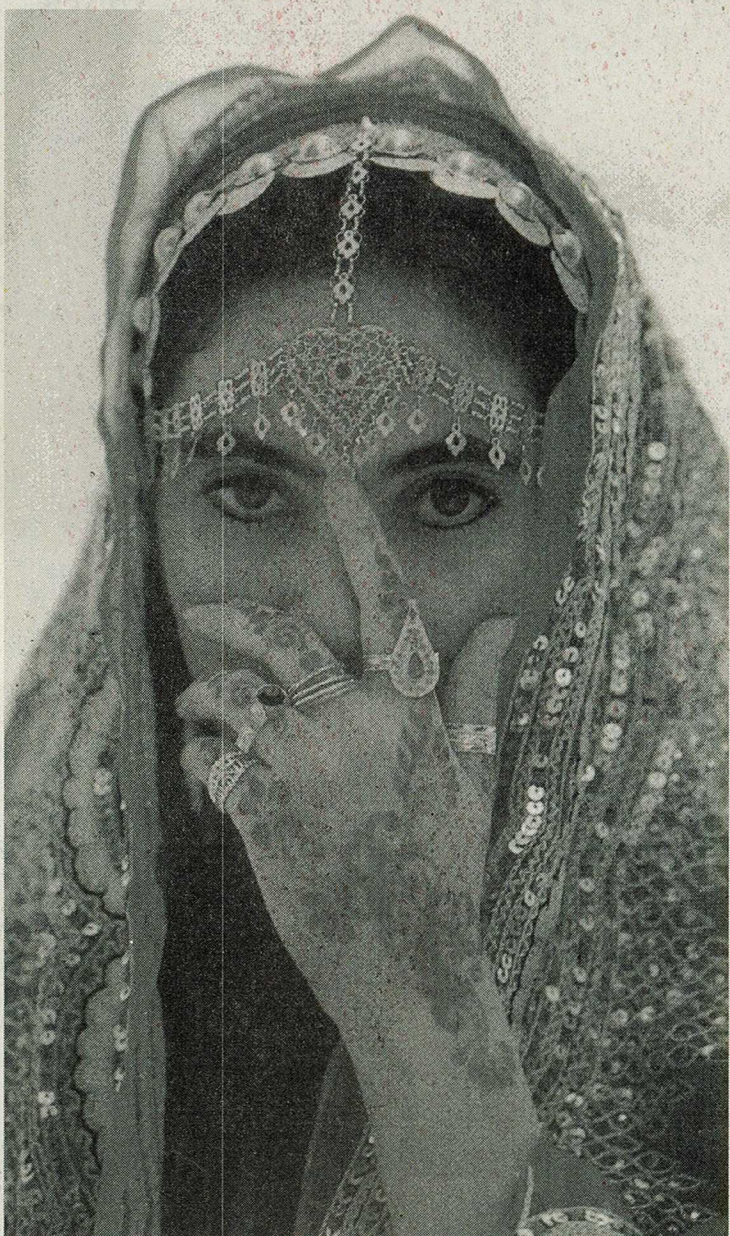
**O**mani tradition is intertwined through the ages with the aura of Franksence. Omanis welcome guests with Kahwa and Dates followed by Bokhour (Franksence) and a tray of perform oil. This wonderful custom, while very intriguing, is known to have a beneficial effect too. Bokhour or Franksence is supposed to contain anti-bacterial qual-

ities and is devoid of chemicals which usually cause allergies. The next choice is perfume which is ideal for Oman or the Middle East because perfume lingers long on the body. In ancient Egypt the wealthy could afford perfumed oil baths or even to wash their hand with rose water as it re-hydrates the skin. Egyptian women used to remove their make-up by massaging the skin with rich oils and then scraping the

skin gently with a spatula made out of "ood". Regarding fashion wear ladies would wear a long gown which would trail behind and short in front. When they would walk in the sand their foot prints would get wiped off. Traditional Soorma or Kohl is very popular among Arabs which is believed to be cooling and sothing to the eyes. Henna is applied on hands, feet and hair. Apart from the colour, it also contains a cooling agent.

Also, serves as a conditioner to the hair. The Arab world has maintained this ethnic taste till today and today's beauty care and fashion wear are seen with more sophistication with a wide range to choose from. Today there are a number of shopping complexes like Al Asfor Plaza, Al Harthy Complex, Salam Studio and Stores, Capital Stores, Sabco Centre, Prisunic and others. Muscat is fast attracting

fashion lovers and more and more fashion shows are being held. On Ruwi High Street there are many shops which are less expensive but no less attractive. If you drive around the town you really feel the fast pace and awareness in beauty care and fashion wear and the finest and most exclusive items are available, as should be evident from the subsequent pieces and pictures in this special supplement.



**F**or centuries Oman has been supplied with various commodities by caravans from various places. Today Oman's up-market is flooded with precious items, enchanting beauty care products, fascinating fashion wear and sportswear and appealing fragrances. The Times of Oman supplement on Beauty care and fashion is timely for Eid shopping. 'Gift for her,' 'gift for him' - Giving a gift has a unique charm. Give a precious Swatch to your teenagers and watch the triumphant smile on their face. Presenting a Designer collection or elegant garments or fresh and soothing fragrance of a perfume to your near and dear ones would be a sheer delight. Beauty care is universal. No matter how old or young you are, everyone wants to look lovely, appear attractive and feel feminine. It's every woman's privilege. A charming woman gives happiness to many eyes as beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. Every woman is Cleopatra or Queen of Sheba in her own right. Why not have a new revelation with a blend of beauty care and fascinating fashion to enhance your personality. Feel self assured, confident, creative and one of your kind since everyone is unique and an artist where beauty care and fashion is concerned. You can avail these facilities offered to you step by step and breeze through like a fresh breath and take somebody's breath away.

## Enhancing your personality

# Keeping age at bay

**B**y the year 2000 almost a third of the population—some 81 million of us—will be facing up to wrinkles for the first time. If you happen to be among those who want to fight back, there really are products that deliver results on the age-old, anti-aging promise. **Behind the Lines** Just what causes skin to wrinkle in the first place? **Aging** A natural, nothing-you-can-do-about-it process, aging is responsible for the sagging apparent in some people's skin. It's a simple matter of cells not being able to do what they used to, which means skin is depleted of moisture, collagen and elasticity. **Gravity** Though it keeps your feet on the ground, gravity can work against you by causing the skin surrounding your mouth or chin to droop as you age. **Loss of support tissue** When underlying fat and muscles atrophy with age, skin doesn't fit the face as well as it did before. **Expression** The price you pay for wearing your emotions on your face is the little lines they leave behind. When you laugh, frown, squint or scowl, you're stretching facial muscles. The more they're stretched, the more they will lose tone and become vulnerable to wrinkles. Keeping your emotions bottled up inside isn't the answer, of course, but do think twice about facial exercises or massage as a means of keeping skin taut. "Obvious manipulation of facial muscles is more likely to cause wrinkles than prevent them," says James W. Smith, M.D., professor of plastic surgery at the New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center. **Smoking** Just the mechanics of smoking can enhance lines and wrinkles around the lips and eyes. But more important, smoke breeds uncontrolled molecules called free radicals, which have been linked to premature aging. Though the consequences

are worst for smokers, second-hand smoke also poses a skin threat to nonsmokers. **Sleeping** Putting pressure on your face when you sleep can lead to lines. Sleep "wrinkles" will fade once you amend your slumber habits. Try sleeping on your back, or with the weight of your head on your ear rather



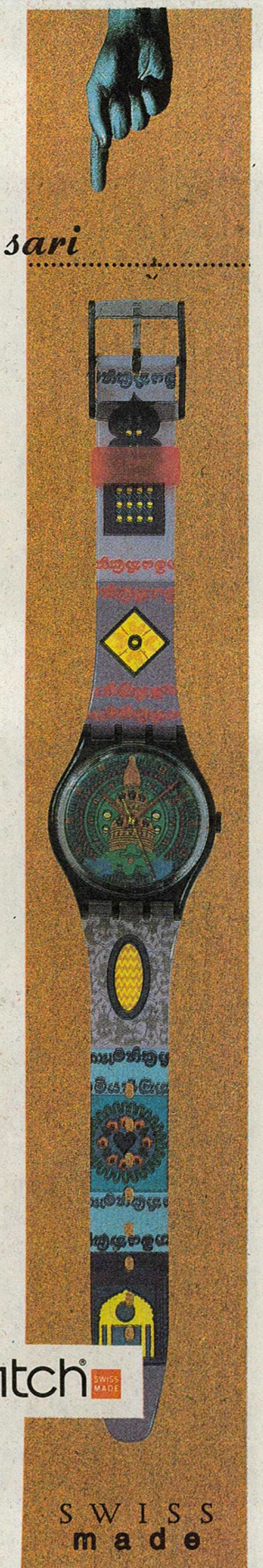
than on the side of your face. **Sun** Damage from the sun is the most destructive and the most preventable of all the forces that cause wrinkles, says D'Anne Kleinsmith, M.D., a spokeswoman for the American Academy of Dermatology. Chronic exposure to the sun causes skin to become thinner (for people with fair skin, thicker for dark skin), drier and less flexible. It can also increase pigmentation (skin coloration) that you see as sun freckles on your chest, arms and face. And since sun damage is cumulative, remember that last summer's tan may be your next

decade's wrinkles. Despite all the bad news, though, it's never too late to protect yourself. And thanks to science, there are even some ways to reverse existing sun damage. **The New Wrinkle Police** Retin-A. Though it was first used to treat acne, dermatologists have found that Retin-A (a vitamin-A derivative) actually reverses some of the

signs of aging, especially sun-induced aging. It's effective for treating small wrinkles (around eyes and lips, for example) and sun spots because it increases the turnover of cells and stimulates the formation of new collagen. It can even induce the growth of new blood vessels in the upper layers of skin, leading to a rosy glow in your complexion. So, what's the catch? Side effects may include irritation (redness and peeling) and photosensitivity, which leaves you even more susceptible to sunburn. Also, improvement won't be apparent for four to six months, and treatment must continue indefinitely to maintain results already achieved. Retin-A is effective if you're willing to follow through, but you must see a doctor to be treated. Mail-order products that resemble Retin-A probably aren't the real thing, since it's only available by prescription. One 20-gram tube of the genuine stuff (0.05%) costs \$20 to \$30 and will last around three months. **Alpha-Hydroxy Acids.** Since they're relatively new, it might be a few years before it's clear how well alpha-hydroxy acids (AHAs) compare to Retin-A, but so far they're getting a lot of attention. AHA is the term used to classify a number of different acids that are found in everything from sour milk to sugarcane. (Two of them, gly-

colic and lactic, seem to lend themselves to cosmetic use better than the others.) AHAs help loosen the buildup of dead skin cells on the skin's surface. They're sloughed off more readily, so skin is softer, more luminous. In addition to being less irritating than Retin-A, AHAs don't cause photosensitivity and have certain moisturizing benefits. Some evidence indicates that AHAs even aid in the synthesis necessary for the formation of new collagen. Like Retin-A, however, AHAs must be used continuously to maintain results. Strong concentrations of these acids must be administered in a dermatologist's office (prices vary), but less potent products are available without a prescription for use at home. **What's the Bottom Line?** "Nobody claims that deep wrinkles or sagging skin are affected by Retin-A or AHAs," says Elizabeth Knobler, M.D., assistant clinical professor of dermatology at Columbia Presbyterian Hospital in New York. However, doctors say that general skin tone will improve and fine wrinkles and pigmentation may be erased. Though these products work better on wrinkles caused by the sun than on those that result from natural aging, about 80 percent of our wrinkles are caused by sun damage. Applying the more-is-better theory, some doctors are reporting that by combining Retin-A and AHAs, they're seeing greater effects as well as less irritation. **An Ounce of Prevention** Even if you've yet to discover your first line, some dermatologists recommend Retin-A and AHA as preventive measures. Using them early can begin to correct the microscopic changes in skin that may someday turn into wrinkles. Since Retin-A and AHAs are long-term commitments, having good-looking skin when you're older has a lot to do with your motivation now. Cultivating smart sun habits matters too. "The two most significant things you can do to prevent wrinkles are to stay out of the sun when possible, and to use a daily sunscreen with SPF 15 or better," says Richard M. Greene, M.D., clinical instructor of dermatology at University of Rochester School of Medicine. Other preventive measures include treating skin gently and using mild cleansers. **From the Laboratory** In an effort to up the anti-aging game, scientists are researching ways for vitamins to be absorbed into skin when topically applied. If effective, some vitamins (C, D and E) could protect against UV rays, absorb free radicals and prevent damaged cells from becoming cancerous. Research shows that Nyad, a chemical extracted from bakers' yeast, and minoxidil (the

drug used for hair loss) may possibly restore weakened collagen and elastin fibers in skin. When botulinum toxin (extracted from the bacteria sometimes found in improperly canned foods) was injected into the faces of patients with muscular facial spasms, their spasms and their wrinkles subsided. What will they think of next?



swatch

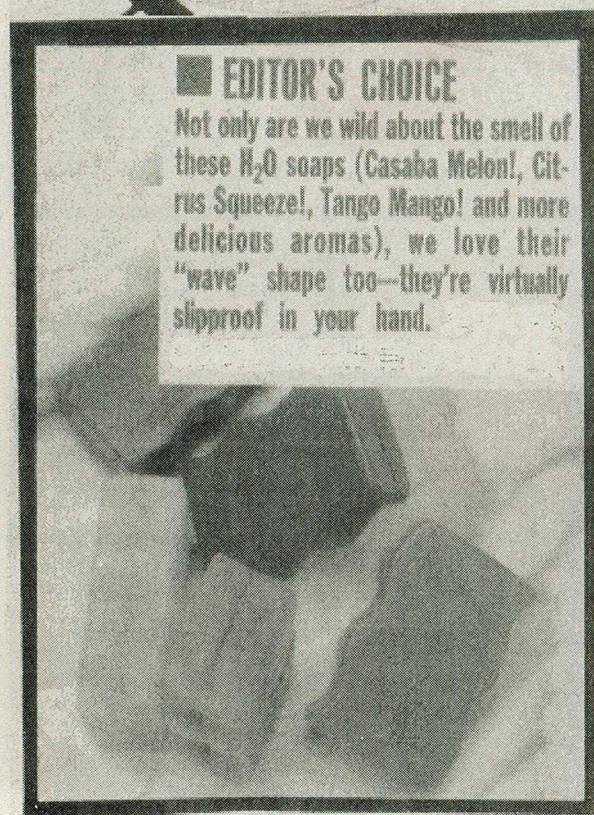
SWISS made



# Good Looks

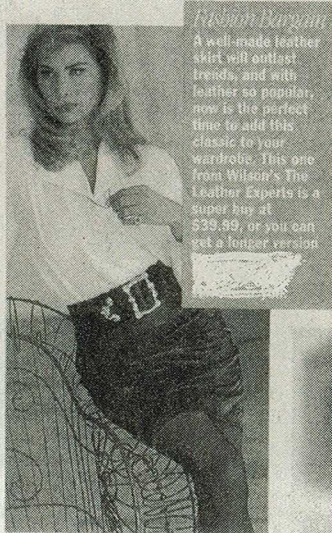
## Quick Tip

Jane McKay of M.A.C. Cosmetics suggests applying lipstick before blusher. Having color on your face makes it less likely that you'll go overboard with cheek color.



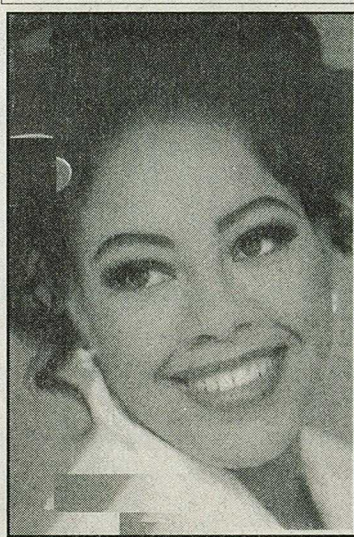
### EDITOR'S CHOICE

Not only are we wild about the smell of these H<sub>2</sub>O soaps (Casaba Melon!, Citrus Squeezel, Tango Mango! and more delicious aromas), we love their "wave" shape too—they're virtually slipproof in your hand.



**Flamboyant**  
A well-made leather skirt with colorful, trendy, and with leather so popular, now is the perfect time to add this classic to your wardrobe. This one from Wilsons The Leather Experts is a super buy at \$39.99, or you can get a leather vest.

## Beauty care and Fashion



## Make up news for Black Skin

The biggest complaint about cosmetics among women of colour is that foundation leaves their skin looking ashy. Chief culprit is titanium dioxide, an ingredient that

gives foundation its covering power but tends to take the glow out of dark skin. Now to the rescue are all sorts of new lines that solve this problem for African-Americans. Maybelline, Prescriptives, Avon, Revlon and Clinique are just a few of the manufacturers jumping into the market with lots of new shades using reduced amounts of titanium dioxide. Cover Girl has even come up with a breakthrough translucent titanium dioxide to give its Fresh Complexion Oil Control Makeup good coverage without ashiness.

"More red has been added to darker shades, so coverage is more even," notes Jennifer Martin, spokesperson for Maybelline's Shades of You cosmetics.



It may sound farfetched, but the polish on your fingers might be the cause of occasional bouts of dizziness and nausea. (And we're not talking about the colour!)

The suspected culprit—currently under investigation—is toluene, a solvent that can penetrate nails and enter the blood.

Revlon, Almay, OPI and Matrix are among those that have stopped using toluene. Check the ingredients on your polish.

Toluene will be fairly high up on the list. (A similar-sounding ingredient—toluenesulfonamide epoxy resin—does not pose any threats.)

# Capture Lift- rejuvenating your skin

They are women over 50.

They are fulfilled, self-confident, at the peak of their potential.

Just as they continue to contribute to society with their dynamism and energy intact, they want to maintain the vitality of their appearance as a true reflection of their inner youth.

They have been waiting for Cosmetology to provide a skincare product designed for their special needs.

Following the scientific triumphs of Capture and the Dior Liposome, Laboratories Christian Dior now offers the women the exclusive benefits of specific research - high-precision skincare that produces spectacular results.

### Capture Lift

Restructuring night treatment for the face:

Four patents: A "Lift" effect without precedent

### I. To understand: the diagnosis

The interruption of physiological "messages" controlling cellular activity - a crucial phase in the aging

process when a woman reaches the age of 50.

II. To discover: the fundamental research

The first discovery: the function of Vitamin A propionate as a replacement "message", helping cells maintain their full potential activity.

The second discovery: the presence of a protein specific to the keratinocytes in the basal layer and its affinity for a sugar, rhamnose.

The birth of the Vitamin A liposome, a "smart" liposome remotely-guided to the cell by its homing head, the rhamnose.

### III. To prove: the results

Capture Lift, restructuring night treatment for the face

Within a very short time, skin becomes smoother, more supple. Features are firmer. Facial contours are clearer and more defined. Nine out of ten women tested confirmed these findings.

### I - To understand: The diagnosis

The interruption of physiological "messages" controlling cellular activity: a

crucial phase in the aging process of women who have reached the age of 50.

### The role of the keratinocyte in the skin's basal layer is fundamental.

It is here, at the border between the epidermis and the dermis, that functions essential to the preservation of cutaneous integrity are controlled:

- cellular renewal
- the production of glyco-aminoglycans (GAG), molecules with a high hygroscopic power that enables cells to retain water;
- biochemical exchanges with the dermis through the production of specific enzymes that guarantee "turn-over", as well as balanced collagen and elastin fiber content.

Until the age of 50, these functions are controlled by physiological stimuli, or "messages", which remain constantly active from the age of puberty.

After age 50, when the keratinocytes inevitably stop receiving these "messages",

the mechanisms weaken.

- Cellular renewal slow as down.

- epidermal tissue grows thinner.

- The GAG rate decreases cell lose their turgescence; skin dries and becomes less resilient.

- The enzymatic balance is upset,

the molecular architecture of the dermis becomes disorganised.

skin becomes "looser" and loses its tone, facial contours become less well-defined.

### II. To discover:

#### The fundamental research

Faced with this new challenge, research scientists from Laboratories Christian Dior worked on a way to send keratinocytes in the basal layer a replacement message designed to help the cell maintain its active potential, thus providing the relay vital to its functioning.

### The first discovery: Vitamin A propionate, the replacement message.

In vitro experiments showed that even when the keratinocyte in the basal layer was deprived of physiological stimuli, it remained active if a specific Vitamin A derivative was incorporated: Vitamin A propionate. Tested along with other known Vitamin A derivatives, Vitamin A propionate proved to be not only the most effective, but also offered excellent tolerance.

To deliver this active ingredient and amplify its action, the researchers selected the technology with the best performance - liposome technology - which they had mastered and for which they already held two patents.

### The second fundamental discovery from Laboratories Christian Dior.

#### A protein specific to keratinocytes in the basal layer.

In collaboration with a university team, the researchers studied the structure of keratinocytes in the basal layer. For the first time, they identified a protein on its membrane which distinguished it from other cutaneous cells, making as selective point of entry possible.

This protein, a lectin, is the specific, distinctive characteristic of this keratinocyte, a kind of molecular I.D. card preserved throughout the biological evolution of human beings.

Pursuing their investigations even further, they demonstrated this lectin's special affinity for a sugar, rhamnose.

With that discovery, lectin became the molecular lock - and rhamnose its sole, specific key.

A "smart" liposome

### equipped with a homing head: rhamnose.

The specificity of the liposome's double phospholipid layers provides rhamnose with an ideal host structure. Equipped with its homing head, the Vitamin A liposome can be "remote-guided" to its target: keratinocytes in the basal layer.

### This ultra-precision piloting process became the 4th patent.

Attracted by lectin - both the anchoring point and entry "lock" of the cell - Vitamin A is internalised.

When the liposome structure merges with the interior of the membrane Vitamin A propionate is released, producing an action similar to that of the original physiological stimulus.

Consequently, the potential this new liposome represents is enormous.

Laboratories Christian Dior incorporated it into an ultra-light formula - a half gel, half emulsion - the only formula capable of preserving these precious properties intact.

Its name: Capture Lift, restructuring night treatment for the face

### Capture Lift

Restructuring night treatment for the face (An unprecedented toning and firming effect)

From the very first applications, skin becomes smoother and softer, less thin, more supple to the touch. After a few days, it shows improved elasticity and tone, features are visible firmer, facial contours are more precisely defined.

Clearer, more radiant, skin "awakens" surprisingly fresh in the morning, looking revitalised and beautiful - almost as if it were



rejuvenated.

Capture Lift received unanimous and enthusiastic acceptance among women who tested it. These results were confirmed and authenticated by expert dermatologists in France and The United States, under the supervision of Dr. Gary Grove of the Skin Study Centre of Philadelphia.

### III - To prove:

#### The verdict of women

It tests conducted on sixty women between the ages of 48 to 58. Capture Lift achieved exceptional scores of acceptability.

In terms of over-all effectiveness, two-week results were amplified after one month of treatment, and widely confirmed by 8 out of 10 women tested.

Nearly 8 out of 10 women reported a "rejuvenating" effect, and 7 out of 10 noticed a visible lessening of lines and wrinkles.

Finally, 63 per cent of the women preferred Capture Lift to the product they were currently using, and over 80 per cent said they would purchase it - two especially compelling indications of its appeal.

### Confirmation by the specialists

The clinical experimentation carried out in Paris and at the Skin Study Centre of Philadelphia confirmed the findings of the users.

In all the criteria analysed - Firmness, the appearance of the skin, lines, luminosity, dryness - the experts' observations, the instrument measurements and the personal evaluation of the panelists concurred in confirming a "highly significant" improvement after four weeks of treatment.

More specifically, the improvement in skin firmness (34 per cent on average) reached 49 per cent in case

where skin was "loosest."

Thus, the specific performance of Capture Lift indicates that it represents a considerable step forward in the knowledge and cosmetic treatment of the biological phenomena that suddenly begin to alter the skin after that age of 50.

### USAGE

Capture Lift is applied at night, when skin is at rest and at its peak of receptivity:

- studies on hormonal cycles have demonstrated that cellular receptors are the most active at night.
- free from stress, the skin can benefit fully from the activity of Vitamin A propionate.

The innovative formula of this deep-penetrating fluid gel emulsion is enriched with moisturisers and mineral micro-beads that provide softness and comfort, as well as ensuring ease of application.

After thoroughly cleansing the face and throat, apply one to two drops before the application of the regularly used Christian Dior night cream.

During the day, use a protective day cream to prolong the night treatment benefits.

Capture Lift should be used daily, all year-round

### Presentation

Manufactured in a sterile environment, Capture Lift represents an unprecedented technological achievement for Laboratories Christian Dior.

Vitamin A liposome is sensitive to air and ultra-violet light, which is why special equipment was created to preserve its integrity. Protected by an opaque sheath, Capture Lift is equipped with a pump dispenser that releases just the amount of product necessary for each application.

Packaged in Capture colours, it contains 30 ml of product.

# ChristianDior

SECRET FLORAL  
MAKEUP COLLECTION SPRING 1993



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In this marvellously exclusive bridal robe by Lorenzo Riva, Milan, you'll be bound to attract everyone's attention. The narrow dress is made of guipure strewn with little pompons, also worked in guipure technique. This exclusive material was created by the Swiss embroidery company, Forster Willi, St. Gall Switzerland.

# Marrying Fashion

**Bridal fashion, summer 1993**  
**Marriage is in great demand**  
**with the innovative Swiss**  
**embroideries and**  
**nouveaute-fabrics**

**F**ashion trends apply to marriage, too. During the 1980s, marriage was no longer the first and supreme principle - in short, it

wasn't quite 'in' any more, and many 'couples' preferred a less formal way to living together. Today, however, official weddings with all the trimmings have regained their appeal, their attraction. *Romantic* weddings are topping the chart, replacing other types, such as *Princely* weddings. There will always be *Lightning* weddings, they're in

the nature of things. *Modern* weddings will remain just that : with a fashionable outfit where only some details are reminiscent of wedding gowns. Whether *Romantic* or *modern*.... in any case, the innovative Swiss embroiderer and nouveaute designers will transform the bridge into the focus of attention.



The layered look does not stop at bridal robes, either. The graceful model by Emanuel Ungaro favourably highlights the different but coordinated flower embroideries on the dress, cape and on the huge collar. All embroideries by the Swiss embroidery specialist Jakob Schlaepfer, St. Gall/Switzerland.

An unconventional, young and uncomplicated wedding may look like this. Susanne Wiebe dresses the young lady with an ensemble consisting of a striking cut and waisted jacket and of shorts with turn-ups. The Swiss nouveaute company Schubiger + Schwarzenbach, Uznach/Switzerland, supplied the interesting cotton jacquard with an animal skin look.



## Pointers for body protection

**An amazing washing secret:**  
Soap your face well adding a small handful of sugar to the leather. Massage this in for a couple of minutes then rinse off with warm water. The scrub is good for a spotty and a sluggish looking skin.

**Vinegar bath:**  
If you have an itchy, dry skin, add a cup of vinegar to the bath water. This is very effective.

**Honey bath:**  
Add a spoonful of honey to your bath, it will not only relieve tiredness and sleeplessness, but will also leave the skin feeling smooth.

**Skin tonics:**

Mix rose sence in water and shake thoroughly. Two table-spoons of essence is sufficient for 4 1/2 litres purified water.

**Body lotions (Rose and Lime body lotions):**  
Mix together 3 tablespoons rose water, 1 tablespoon glycerine and 2 tablespoons lime juice. Use this mixture after the bath if you suffer from dry skin. Store the lotion in refrigerator.

**For a fresh spotless skin :**  
Onion : Mash and sieve the onion and mix onion juice into paste with one tablespoon fuller's earth or Kaolin and one teaspoon of honey. It is good to prevent blemishes and wrinkles.

**Garlic :** Beat one egg white, then add to it the following ingredients to make a paste : 1 tea-

spoon Kaolin, 1 teaspoon honey, 1 teaspoon carrot juice and 1 clove of garlic.

**Dyeing with henna**  
Mix one cup of henna with one cup boiling water to a paste or mix one cup of henna with one cup of coffee or tea to a paste. To any of these henna pastes you can add egg and a tablespoon of castor oil. This helps the paste to stick to the hair better. Heat the henna paste over a double boiler. Cool, then re-heat to the boiling point. Remove from the heat. Now add the egg and castor oil and apply as hot as possible massage into the scalp.

**Quick hair conditioner**  
Mix together one egg, two table-spoons castor oil, one tea-

spoon vinegar and one teaspoon glycerine. Beat constantly and massage into the scalp. Wrap your head in a hot towel and steam the hair, then wash off. This conditioner will make your hair look thicker, shiny, soft and manageable.

**Honey conditioner :**  
Beat up an egg and mix to it one teaspoon honey and two tea-spoons of coconut or olive oil. Massage it well into the scalp, steam the hair and then shampoo. This leaves the hair easy to manage and looking lovely.

**Sun burn**  
\* Rub slices of cucumber over the affected area.  
\* Apply whey (curd water) on the burnt skin with a piece of damp cotton wool.

**Eye Recipes**  
To keep eyes sparkling, there are several simple home recipes as described below:

a) Grate half cucumber, strain it and keep in the fridge to cool. Take two pieces of cotton wool dipped in rose water and the cold cucumber water and place these on your eyes at least twice a day. You should lie down and relax and keep your mind free from tension, anxiety and worrying thoughts. It also lightens the darkened area around the eyes, especially when combined with lemon juice.

b) Prepare black tea (do not put milk) and allow it to cool. Soak cotton gauze in cold tea and use as eye pads. - Suzy

## Muscat Pharmacy - where fragrance lingers

In the quest of enigmatic fragrances a host of perfumes are launched everyday in the market which validates the fact that perfume and cosmetic market is on an upsurge.

At the cosmetic division of Muscat Pharmacy it is a perfumes galore. They are the agents for Estee Lauder, Lancome, Guy-La-Roche, Giorgio Armani, Calvin Klein, Givenchy, Gverlain, Benetton and Gucci among others.

The new Givenchy 1993 summer make up collection has a chic and gentle touch to heighten the beauty of the modern woman. Perfect Radiance, Essential Compact Duo is a combination of powder cream foundation and a powder cream blusher which smooths out the complexion and draws out its natural radiance.

Givenchy gives the finishing touches to the now beautified lady with two new Sheer Moisture Lipstick shades which tint the lips with a tantalising mixture of fruit and shell. Seasons have a way of playing on your skin and Muscat Pharmacy has the answer to help ease the seasonal changes. Givenchy Beaute Prisms, with four different pyramids to match the colours of each season can do wonders to your skin and mood. The ultra fine powder of these prisms in sets of four



Salesforce training for 'Gio' by Parmobel and Muscat Pharmacy.

new shades for each of the four seasons leaves the skin's texture fine grained and perfectly velvety smooth.

Extreme mascara Regulating Treatment from Givenchy adds that final touch of perfection to eye make up. This new mascara combines both cosmetic and treatment properties in one single and

unique formula. It has moisturising effect which helps to fill out lash fibres. Lucern saponin totum, an exclusive ingredient, which is the derivative of the ingredient bearing the same name, encourages lash growth and improves longevity.

Givenchy's Swisscare line offers a range of facial and

bodycare products like the Gentle Exfoliating Massage, Hydrating Cream Mask, Relaxing Complex and Exact Eye and Lip Contour Roll-On, which are guaranteed to enhance the skin's condition. All these four products contain an exclusive complex called Biophytocomplex. This original combination of biological and

vegetal active ingredients, prevents and reduces premature signs of ageing by encouraging cellular regeneration and capturing free radicals.

One need not shy away from ageing. Muscat Pharmacy has 'Renergie' from Lancome, a daily skin care treatment with a double performance on wrinkles and firmness which will help you to recover the beauty of a firm, smooth skin.

Spellbound, the golden floral oriental fragrance by Estee Lauder has been specially created with distinctive appeal to the career woman. It exudes a fresh, vibrant fragrance which will retain the impression of sweet flowers for a long time.

Classical and sensual, audacious and progressive, passionate and elegant, that's what Parfum Berlin from Joop is all about. A blend of flowery notes creates the heart of 'Berlin'. Jasmine and roses give the fragrance its character, tinged with the sweetness of bitter orange, while hyacinth adds a sumptuous tinge to the agreeable warmth of ilang ilang.

Muscat Pharmacy also has a wide array of Gucci products with that distinct Italian stamp on each one of them. Like all the leather products and fashion accessories, Gucci perfumes bear that seal of perfection which makes it one of the most exclusive products.

**On the Food Front**

■ **Hold the mayo:** Bumble Bee has introduced four ways to season tuna without adding a lot of calories, MSG or salt. Tuna Mix-Ins come in four flavors: Zesty Tomato, Classic Italian, Garden of Herb and Lemon Herb. Each adds a mere 25 calories per serving. Suggested retail price is 59 cents a packet.

**“Look, Ma! No Cavities!”**

■ **Dental sealants** (plastic coatings applied to the chewing surface of molars—where 80 percent of cavities develop) are safe, require no anesthesia or drilling and are nearly 100 percent effective in blocking tooth decay. So why aren't more parents getting them put on their kids' (less than 18 percent have them)? Apparently because people think they're too expensive. ■ **Actually, sealants save money in the long run, although they require an upfront investment of \$160 to \$320 (\$10 to \$20 per tooth) for 12 molars and 4 bicuspids, plus the cost of touch-ups every 5 to 10 years; until age 18 when most kids stop having cavities.** ■ **One study found that sealed teeth cost an average of 39 percent less than unsealed in dental care over a period of 10 years. Another bonus: Sealants are preventive, so some group dental plans cover at least 80% of the cost.**

**JULIE L. MORAN**

**Natural Beauty**

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For the store nearest you see page 252

# Building up esteem

**T**hat's what Tori Macmillan of Boston learned a few years ago during a high-stress period of her life. She realized she was always giving to other people—her boss, her husband, her friends—but had no time left for herself. The solution: She created a list of splurges—getting a manicure, going out for a milkshake, calling an old friend—and vowed to do one thing for herself every day.

A daily treat is just one of the many things that can help you feel good about yourself. And what better time than the new year to put a feel-good plan into action? To get you started, here are 15 self-esteem-boosting suggestions from women who've learned from experience, as well as a few experts.

**Learn a new skill.** Emily Jones, a sales representative in Cleveland, found that completing an upholstery course gave her a feeling of accomplishment. "Now I can re-cover furniture myself instead of paying someone else a fortune to do it," she says. Other women get the same satisfaction from taking piano lessons, learning a foreign language, enrolling in a photography course or learning to tap-dance.

**Dare to be confident.** "Growing up, women are taught to be modest about their talents and strengths," says Gershen Kaufman, Ph.D., author of *Dynamics of*

*Power. Fighting Shame and Building Self-Esteem.* "They're told they're conceited and unfeminine if they take pride in their accomplishments," he adds. But that's not true. It's important to appreciate who you are and what you can do. "I learned to sew from my mother and I used to assume everyone sewed the way she did," says one woman. "Now I know I have a special skill—and a great wardrobe!"

**Set realistic goals.** Everyone needs goals, but when they're too high, you set yourself up for discouragement. A better plan is to make mini-goals that are more easily attainable. When Laura Pinnick, 33, of Indianapolis, Indiana, decided to return to work as a school administrator after having her first child, she didn't go right to the want ads and set a deadline for finding a job. She made a list of schools in her area, then researched each. "They were small steps," she says, "but they've made the job-hunting process seem more manageable."

**Throw a party.** One New York City woman finds that inviting people over makes her feel better about herself. It not only reminds her of all the wonderful friends she has, but the compliments she receives from guests—"You always give great parties; I don't know how you do it," for example—make her feel appreciated and successful.

**Screen out negative thoughts.** Saying "I'm only a housewife" or "I'm not smart enough to learn French" is a good way to lower your self-esteem. Homemakers perform very important roles and even some geniuses are not good at foreign languages. Make an effort to avoid self-effacing thoughts and words. "Recognising how harshly you judge yourself is one of the first steps toward boosting-yourself-esteem," says Robert Brooks, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist in Boston.

**Do for others.** "I once asked a group of people to describe an experience that made them feel particularly good about themselves," says Dr. Brooks. "Many of them recalled a time when they were helping others."

"It's fulfilling to make a difference in someone's life," explains Emily Jones, who spends one evening a week feeding the homeless at a soup kitchen. "And helping the needy reminds me how privileged my own life has been," she adds.

**Get in touch with your spiritual self.** Susan Livingston of Lakewood, Ohio, found that letting God into her life made her feel more at peace with herself. "Studying the Scriptures has filled me with joy and strength," she explains. "Now that I've learned to walk with God, I know He will love me and watch out for me."

**Accept compliments gracefully.** "I used to apologize for my cooking," admits one homemaker. "If a dinner guest complimented my dessert, for example, I'd say it was better last week. Then a friend told me how insulted she felt when I did that as if I were criticizing her taste. That made me stop. Now I enjoy and believe the compliments I receive." The next time a compliment comes your way, accept it with a smile. You really do deserve it!

**Rejoice in your individuality.** "We're taught from an early age to measure our looks and achievements by how they stack up to our friends'," notes Dr. Kaufman. Instead of comparing yourself unfavourably to others, enjoy what makes you different. "I used to get down on myself because my best friend is more bubbly and outgoing," says one Ohio woman. "Then I realized that the world needs

quiet people too. I'm a good listener—that's one reason my bubbly friend likes me!"

**Bake cookies.** One mother finds that an afternoon in the kitchen with her two young children is both calming and uplifting. "The aroma elicits happy memories of cooking with my own mother," she explains. "And I like knowing that I'm creating warm memories for my own kids."

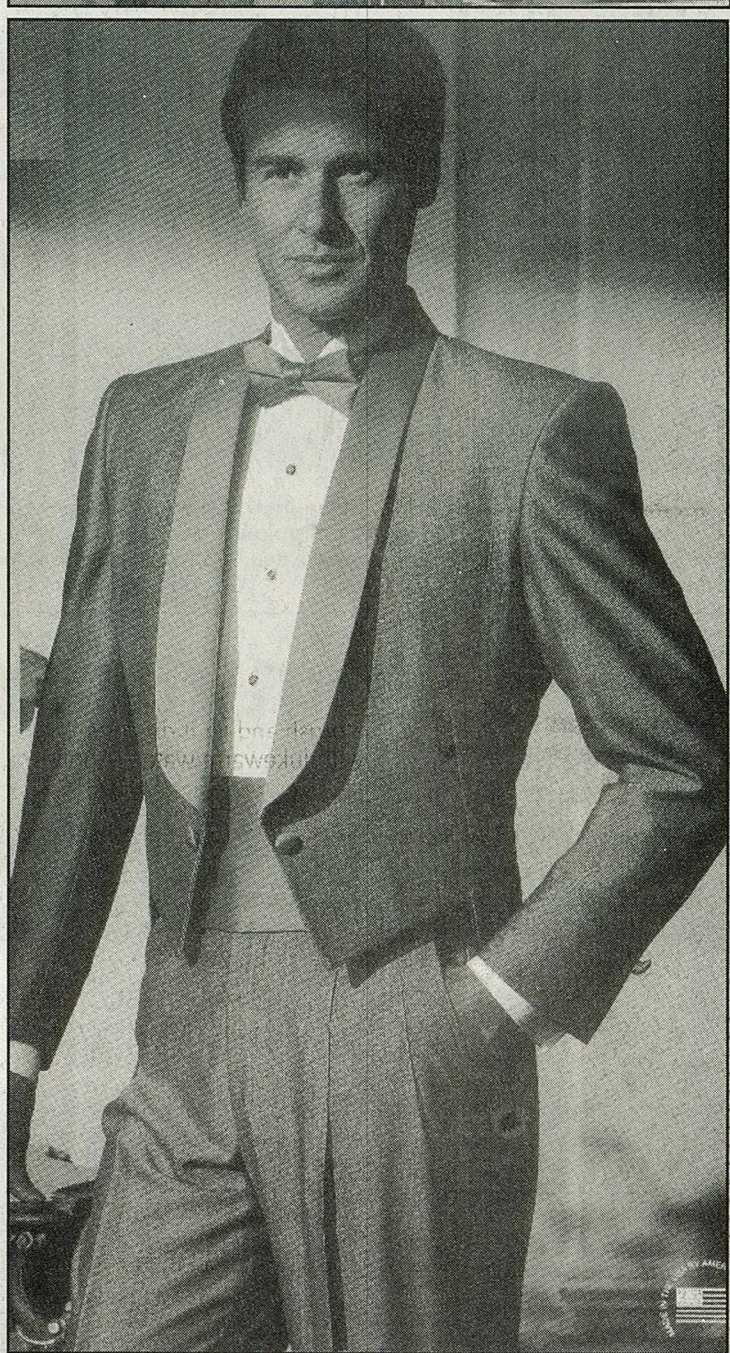
**Forgive yourself.** Everyone makes mistakes—burns dinner, forgets a birthday. Don't let small lapses get you down. "Give yourself the right to blunder—big-four times every day ... and still love yourself afterward," advises Dr. Kaufman.

**Look through photo albums.** "Recently, I sifted through ten years of photographs and sorted them into albums," says Tori Macmillan. "Looking at all the weddings, christenings and parties I've attended over the years made me realize how full and happy my life has been."

**Treat yourself like a guest.** "I turned into a real slob after my divorce," a Florida woman admits. "I slept on torn sheets, ate dinner off cracked plates—all of which made me feel more depressed. But when a friend came to visit, I got out my best china and linens—and I felt better. Now I have a nice dinner on my best china at least twice a week—even if it's just me and the kids. It gives me a real boost."

**Exercise regularly.** Betty Cohen of Cheltenham, Pennsylvania, started jogging when she turned 40 to keep her weight down. Now, 14 years later, she still runs—but not for the same reason. "Running makes me feel good—both mentally and physically," she says. "And it gives me more energy." Studies show that regular exercise can actually reduce anxiety and depression. It also improves your figure, which should buoy your spirits.

**Get a pet.** Mary March, a mother of six from Greenville, South Carolina, is thrilled with her new Rottweiler puppy. "After all the kids left home, the house seemed so empty. But my new puppy makes me feel less lonely," she says. Plus, nothing beats the unconditional love a pet provides. When your dog runs to greet you, you can't help feeling appreciated.



## How to reduce the calories

PRODUCT	CALORIES	SWEETNESS	BAKING AND COOKING TIPS
Sweet One (acesulfame-K)	4 per packet	12 packets = 1 cup sugar 1 packet = 2 tsp sugar	Can be used in cooking and baking without losing sweetness. For recipes, call 800-544-8610.
Equal (aspartame)	4 per packet	24 packets = 1 cup sugar 1 packet = 2 tsp sugar	Loses sweetness when baked at high temperatures for a long time. But can be used in stir-fries or added during last few minutes of heating or cooking. For recipes, call 800-321-7254.
NutraSweet Spoonful (aspartame)	2 per tsp	1 cup = 1 cup sugar 1 tsp = 1 tsp sugar	Loses sweetness when heated. But can be used spoon for spoon in place of sugar in same foods as Equal. For recipes, call 800-321-7254.
Sweet 'N Low (saccharin)	4 per packet	12 packets = 1 cup sugar 1 packet = 2 tsp sugar	Can be used in cooking and baking without losing sweetness. For recipes, call 800-231-1123. In New York State call 800-336-0363.
Brown Sweet 'N Low (saccharin)	20 per tsp	4 tsp = 1 cup brown sugar 1 tsp = 1/4 cup brown sugar	Can be used in cooking or baking without losing sweetness. Note that measurements differ from packet sweeteners. For recipes, call 800-231-1123. In New York State call 800-336-0363.

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- ★ To reinforce and protect fine and delicate skin
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Available at:

**Sabco Shopping Centre, Gurum, Tel. 564116.**

**Al Harthy Shopping Centre, Shops FF5 & FF25, Tel. 566053.**

**Medinat Qaboos, Street 15, Tel. 600197.**

# Rania boutique - a fashion oasis

**R**ania Boutique, a haven to fashion lovers who are fastidious and stress on the exclusiveness of the garment, has a web of outlets all over the city.

The Boutique conceived and initiated by Mrs. Naashiah Saoud Al Kharusi more than a decade ago as a tailoring unit at Hamriya Roundabout, today boasts of outlets at Sabco, Al Harthy complex and at Medinat Qaboos.

The two showrooms in Dubai are the jewels in the crown of this enterprising organisation.

With a third showroom for textiles, design and tailoring in the offing, there is no denying the fact that Rania's is 'the shop' for fashion goers. In Dubai Rania operates under the name of Liyan.

A wide array of impressive products at their outlets cater to that exclusive clientele who are socially on the move.

Formal clothes are the hallmark of this organisation and a birds eye view of the

organisation will confirm it.

Exclusive fabrics of varied hues and fashion accessories bought in mainly from the major fashion manufacturers in Europe, shoes from Gomez Rivas, Baldinini, Genny, Ferdin, Luchini and Collette, costume jewellery made to match the exotic dress, hair jewellery... the list is endless. Exclusivity is so pronounced at Rania's that it is difficult to find two shoes of the same design. And just

in case you do not find your size, order for it and it will be available within 24 hours.

Preparations for summer is in full swing at Rania as is evident from the large collection of summer wear already lined up in the market.

Children's clothes, which is an occasional venture at Rania's will be put up in the market as an Eid gesture.

A team of five expert designers laboriously churn

out exclusive patterns which are at once daring and gorgeous. Exotic creations of hand embroidery by the seasoned craftsmen proffers elegance to these expensive outfits.

The elaborate embroidery ensures its high standard in the fashion market. Depending on the budget of the client clothes could be made to order by incorporating the above team of craftsmen.

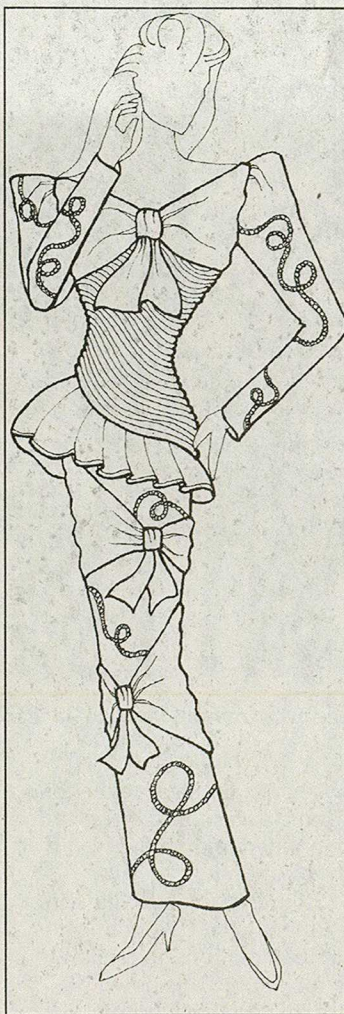
Rania's are the sole agents for 'Elegance' and 'Cadena', who have come out with fabric catalogues for the summer of 93.

Very soon liberty cotton prints will be introduced in Oman market.

Popular demand has coerced Rania boutique to introduce tailored jackets in their tailoring unit.

Plans are also on to create upholstery. But his move will be limited only to the labour part of it, to aid the interior designers.

Rania's also cater to the hotel and school uniforms. This service is highly personalised as the uniforms



Elegant gowns



Fashionable accessories

are made to order.

The workshop is a complete haberdashery where one can find a wide array of European buttons with gold plating. Dresses are available with matching jewellery and even with crystals.

Unbelievable as it may sound, they also have provisions for hair jewellery to match the outfit. Some of these fashion accessories are created mainly for Rania by the European fashion makers.

The summer collection of costume jewellery from Christian Dior and Henkel & Grosse are unique in their design and pattern.

All these products are hand made and gold plated. They have a guarantee of 2 years, with provisions for free repairs. Thereafter lifetime of jewellery repair service is provided with minimal mailing charges.

They are also the sole agents for Sothys skin care products from France.

These products are well established with parlours in Europe, USA, Australia, Singapore and Hongkong.



# Behind the Face Mask

The face mask is well known down the ages for retaining a youthful, glowing complexion. It plumps up the skin, removes dead cells, refines pores and adds that special glow. SAKINA MANIAR recommends a few simple make-at-home masks for you.

Masks vacuum the pores, stimulate and nourish your skin, improve the blood circulation and trap the skin's moisture. The result is a plumped up, shining soft skin that looks young and well rested. All face masks do the same thing, the only difference is in the degree of effectiveness. The surface dirt and dead - epidermal cells are removed and the skin is refined and dramatically tightened. However, the tightening action is temporary since nothing can shrink skin pores permanently.

Dermatologists disagree about the effectiveness of masks; some swear by them and others consider them little more than cosmetic fads. But for most women this temporary skin nourishment coupled with a few minutes of enforced relaxation is a boon to beauty! We are all born with beautiful skin - even tone, closed pores and soft texture. But as we grow older the pores enlarge and attract dust and dirt, and the resulting blocked pores encourage spots, blemishes and blackheads.

With the years the skin loses its firmness. The rate at which this happens depends not only upon genetic inheritance but

also on exposure to the elements, the internal state of your body, and the protection you provide.

Most women's skin care routine is just washing with soap and water. And though soap is effective for stripping off everyday grit and grime, facial skin needs special care, particularly if you live in a place where air pollution is a problem. A face mask leaves the skin refreshed and revitalised while ordinary soaps are alkaline and tend to make the skin taut and dull. There are different masks to choose from. Some masks perform a tightening action, others feed and nourish the skin. Cleansing masks have a clay base so they are ideal for oily and normal skins, but too harsh for dry and sensitive skins. When preparing masks at home make them fresh each time and use them immediately on the skin. Experiment till you find the mask best suited for your skin type. Every woman's skin is unique and will react differently.

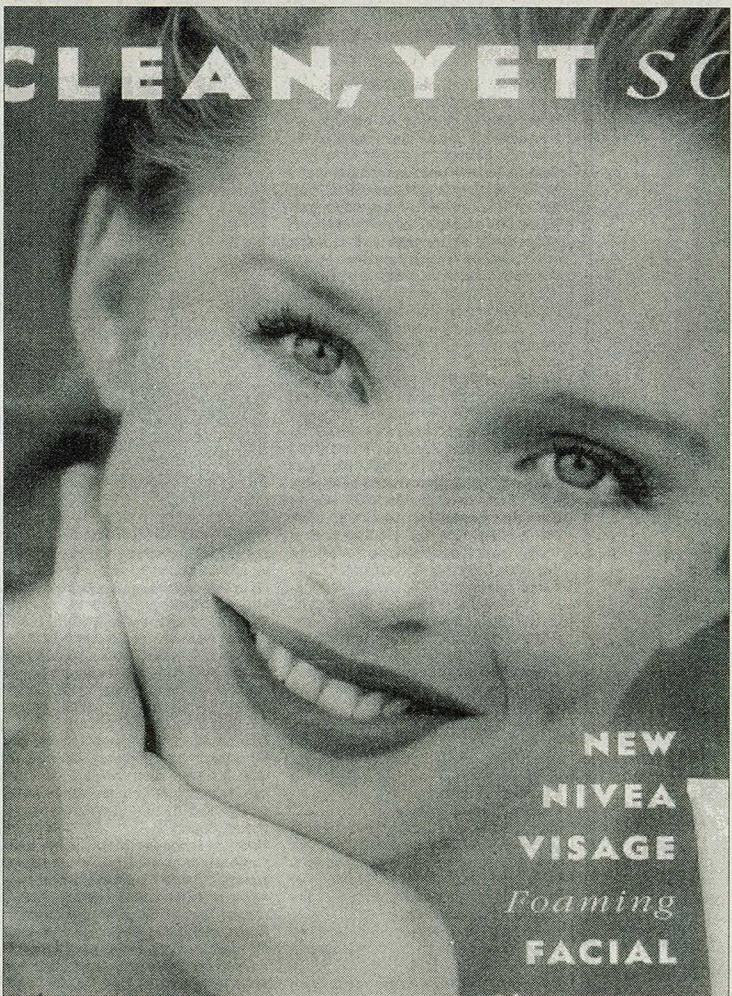
Some women make the most of working in the kitchen. While stirring food on the stove they allow the steam to spread on their faces, open pores and help stimulate blood circulation. While peeling potatoes, or carrots, or cucumbers, they rub the peels all over their face before discarding them. Almost any fruit or vegetable skin is suitable and can be washed away after about five minutes, leaving the skin soft and shining.

All facial masks are preceded by steaming the face. Pour boiling water in a bowl containing two teaspoons Epsom salts and half a teaspoon soda bicarb or a few mint leaves. After taking a 10 minutes steam wrap your face in a large towel and pat it dry.

Apply face pack from the base of neck upto the chin, and the face. Place cold pads over your eyes. Apply the mask with a brush and let it dry. Remove with lukewarm water. Apply ice over the face and neck to

make the skin firmer. Dab dry and then apply on astringent if your skin is oily, a Moisturiser if dry or a skin freshener if your skin is normal. Oily skin can be steamed once a fortnight but be cautious with dry skin since it will get a pinched look after the mask is removed. Masks peel off the dead cells and when you remove face masks they take away the flaky surface skin and leave a younger and more alive skin. But remember masks are useful for skin only after the age of thirty and not earlier. If your skin is dry or

2) Take one tablespoon milk and a few drops of honey. Whisk an egg and add to the mixture. Apply it and allow to dry before you rinse with warm water.  
3) Mash papaya or banana or cucumber. Add channa atta. Then mix a few drops of honey or an egg yolk and use it.  
4) Make a paste of oatmeal, honey and white of an egg.  
5) Mash pulp of one tomato and a little Fuller's earth (multani matti), make paste and apply, avoiding areas around the eyes (no clay mask should ever



sensitive use home-made masks as far as possible.

Here are a few simple face mask recipes.

1) Beat egg white with a few drops of lemon juice. Apply on your face and lie down for 15 minutes then wash off with lukewarm water.

be applied near the eyes)

6) Beat egg yoke till fluffy and add a tablespoon of olive oil or sweet oil and apply.

7) Take Fuller's earth, add lemon juice and one beaten egg. (To remove warts apply the juice of marigold flowers or rub with a radish.)



8) To one tablespoon curd add one teaspoon lemon juice, mix well and apply.

9) Mash fresh apricots to a pulp or soak dried ones overnight—cook over low flame till soft.

10) Take some seedless grapes, mash to a pulp and for an oily skin add whisked egg white and for dry skin egg yolk.

11) Mash apple and add cream, a few drops honey and oatmeal.

12) Extract juice of cucumber and add lemon juice, whipped egg and witch hazel.

13) Mix in a blender, chopped cucumber, powdered milk and egg white.

14) Beat egg yolk with sweet oil and then blend in a few drops of honey.

It is not difficult to gauge the right consistency of a mask. But it has to be just thick enough to smooth on the face and not be too runny. You can give it substance if it is too thin by adding one of the following: oatmeal, Fuller's earth, channa atta and mashed banana. Egg white or yogurt helps oily skins, while egg yolk or honey help dry skin conditions. Some masks harden and dry, tightening the skin at the same time but this depends on the binding material.

All masks should be rinsed off with lukewarm water. Most masks absorb-excess oil and in the process lift out dirt from the skin's pores. If the masks, tightening effects powerful enough the pores are constricted making them look smaller than they are and the whole face gets a lift.

Good skin is achieved through proper care and if you look good you'll feel good!

# The Best-Ever Diet Tips

BY JEANIE WILSON

Who doesn't know the golden rules of weight loss by now? Eat more fruit, vegetables and whole grains, and less fat.

And exercise, of course, to rev up your metabolism and keep off unwanted pounds.

So why aren't we all slim? Partly because knowing what's best and doing it are two different matters. To find out how to really practice what's preached, *Woman's Day* interviewed the true pros: diet and fitness experts who actually lost weight themselves and kept it off with clever, effective strategies. We've also included diet tips from readers who are weight loss success stories. (How much weight each person lost is in parentheses.) Read on!

**Ready, Set, Diet**  
To get a good start, you'll need a pencil and a notebook.

**Track your fat-gram intake.** Buy a fat-gram counting book and record in your notebook the fat grams in each food you eat. Aim for 20 to 40 grams a day (30 to 60 for men), advises Martin Katahn, Ph.D. (70 pounds), author of *The T-Factor Diet* (Bantam Books, 1990). "Don't go below 20 grams, though," Dr. Katahn warns, "or you'll risk dry skin, cracked lips and lusterless hair."

**Don't Go Hungry**  
How much you eat isn't as important as what you eat (and, to a lesser extent, when).

Eat as many fruits and vegetables as you like. "The more of these you eat, the thinner you'll be," promises Stove Silva, national fitness director of Health Management Resources (235 pounds).

"Build up to a minimum of five cups of fruits and vegetables a day, but put more emphasis on the vegetables."

**Don't skip meals**

Eating regularly stimulates your metabolism and maintains blood-sugar levels. "You may be trying to save calories, but you always end up eating them later," says nutrition writer Robin Street (50 pounds). "It's easier for me to avoid binging when I know if I just wait an hour or two, another meal will roll around."

Eat three meals by 1 P.m. In addition to breakfast and lunch, have a substantial mid-morning mini-meal, such as a tuna sandwich, advises Jean Antonello, R.N., B.S.N., director of the Naturally Thin Training Center in St. Paul, Minnesota (30 pounds).

"Nighttime bingers and breakfast-skippers find if they do this, their evening meal will be light and there won't be any 'make-up' eating at night, when food is more likely to be put down as fat."

**Surviving Snack Attacks**  
Good news! Snacks are good for you (dependency on what foods they consist of, of course).

Keep raw veggies handy. "The minute you get home from the store, peel and slice an assortment and keep them in the

refrigerator," suggests Nancy Marasco. Reader Carol Kunkle of Royal Oak, Michigan (144 pounds), always keeps a mixed green salad at the ready for grazing.

**Fortify with fruit.** Keep a bowl in the kitchen filled with different kinds, suggests reader Lorrie Brewbaker of Rantoul, Illinois (25 pounds). "When the kids get hungry, tell them they can have anything in the bowl. Tell yourself the same thing."

**Crunch on cereal.** Keep a candy jar filled with a low-fat variety, suggests reader Margaret Fretwell of Naples, Florida (10 post-pregnancy pounds). "Great for munching like candy, but not nearly as many calories!"

**Grab a grapefruit.** Keep a half in your refrigerator at all times. "Whenever I get hungry for something really fattening, I eat the grapefruit first," says reader Lisa Stoddard of Tarpon Springs, Florida (20 pounds). "Then if I'm still truly hungry for it, at least my indulgence won't be as large or as disastrous to my diet."

**Bargain yourself down.** "For every cookie I eat, I have to drink 16 ounces of water," says reader Wendy Audiss of Rohnert Park, California (15 pounds). Reader Debra Petkevicius of Spokane, Washington (10 pounds), trades goodies for exercise: "I can have the extra muffin, but only if I do an extra fifteen minutes on the exercise bike."

**Take a snack pack to the job.** "If I didn't bring it to work, I can't eat it," says Wendy Audiss. Lisa Stoddard puts her snack on her desk as soon as she gets to work. "When the doughnuts come around, I'm ready."

**Drink Plenty of Water**  
Your body needs it to help in the breakdown of stored fats, to feel full and, ironically, to keep from retaining water. "The more you hydrate your body, the less water it holds onto because its getting an adequate supply," explains research nutritionist Alicia Moag-Stahlberg.

Keep a glass of water on your desk at work, then drink every time you stand up, says Lisa Stoddard.

At home, keep eight glasses

on one side of the sink to remind you to drink eight glasses of water a day. "Each time you finish a glass, move it to the other side of the sink until you've used them all," suggests reader Diana Jenkins of Indianapolis, Indiana (20 pounds).

**Take water on the road.** Sarah-Mack Lawson (40 pounds), a representative for IDEA: Association for Fitness Professionals, who spends a lot of time in her car, takes along a bottle of ice that melts throughout the day.

**Limit diet sodas.** Not only do they keep your sweet tooth alive, notes Dr. Katahn, but studies show that people who drink a lot of them don't lose weight or keep it off as well as those who don't. (if you need fizz, try flavored seltzer.)

**Tea or coffee mavens should make every other drink water.** "Or at the very least, something caffeine-free," cautions Jean Antonello, "since caffeine is a diuretic and dehydrating."

**To Market, to Market**  
Our expert dieters never go shopping hungry and they buy more from the perimeter of the store, where fresh foods usually are, than from the center aisles, where diet-busting high-fat packaged goods abound.

**When it comes to meat, think lean.** "Look for 'loin' or 'round' in the name," advises Yolanda Bergman (25 post-pregnancy Pounds), author of *Food Cop. Yolanda-Tell Us What to Eat* (Bantam Books, 1992). Always choose white poultry meat over the fatter dark; have the butcher grind turkey to your order from white meat only.

**Beware "cholesterol-free" labels.** The product still may contain saturated fats, "which are as bad or worse," notes reader Evelyn Fram of Bellmore, New York (35 pounds).

**When tempted to buy high-fat foods, pick up a 10-pound bag of flour.**

"Carry it around the store with you for a while," suggests Jean Simpson (35 pounds), author of *Jean Simpson's Numbers Diet* (Crown Publishers, 1990). "Dragging it around will remind you what you could be carrying around permanently on your body."

## Hermes harnesses heaven in a bottle

The first harness made in 1837 by **Thierry Hermes** - the founder - in his workshop in the Rue Basse-du-Rempart - the site where the Olympia stands today - 'spoke' then of quality.

He foresaw the two constant preoccupations of the future company: working with the best materials and the best craftsmen and creating not only beautiful but functional articles, perfectly reflecting the needs of their customers.

A guiding principle of Hermes has always been to adapt to changes in lifestyles and customs and so the creati-

ity of its production is a history of continual expansion, from the beginnings with saddlery to the wide range of leather goods, handbags, luggage and wallets and countless other items using the saddle stitch which revolutionised the crafting of leather.

In every area of merchandise there is a ceaseless creativity: 1920, the bracelet watch; 1930, the diary and silk scarf; these are just some of the most famous examples which bring us right up to the 'ready to wear' collection of the present day.

The 1950's sees the birth of *Eau d'Hermes* and in the 60's Hermes embarks upon the great perfume adventure. 1961 sees the birth of *Caleche*, today one of the great classics of French perfume, sold throughout the world.

In 1970, *Equipe*, a major masculine line. In 1974, *Amazone*, a totally original feminine perfume. In 1978, with *Eau de Cologne d'Hermes* there is a new trend with this fresh and stimulating product for both men and women. In 1984, the Faubourg turns into a sumptuous gift box tied up with 60 metres of red ribbon to celebrate the birth of *Parfum d'Hermes*, 1986 is the turn of *Bel Ami* to join the scene. In 1987 Hermes is 150 years old *Eau d'Hermes* is reborn.

Today Hermes remains a family business, now with the fifth generation in command under the presidency of Jean-Louis Dumas-Hermes who directs almost 1200 people with 230 boutiques spread over 24 countries.

Hermes Parfums are to be found in 1400 sales outlets in France and are distributed internationally by 8000 outlets in 100 countries.

Export business now represents just over half of total turnover and continues to grow. The world of Hermes is in continuous motion, a boundless creative expansion.

## Soin - Penetrating care for the body

The sunny heat of high summer which brightens up the skin and boosts the morale has not been so good for the inside of the skin cells.

Subjected to the sun's caress just a little too often or a little too carelessly, the skin soon shows the effects and prepares to disappoint in the days to come.

Every year, the scenario is the same. Stripped bare, the skin is suffering and shows its deficiencies and imbalances.

Disrupted metabolism, flagging energy, upset hydration... It needs to end the disrupting chaos caused by UV rays, to reorganise its defences and to boost its vital functions, to allow it to regain its "cruising" rhythm, to gently veer round and top up on radiance and youth.

In order to effectively compensate all the deficiencies of

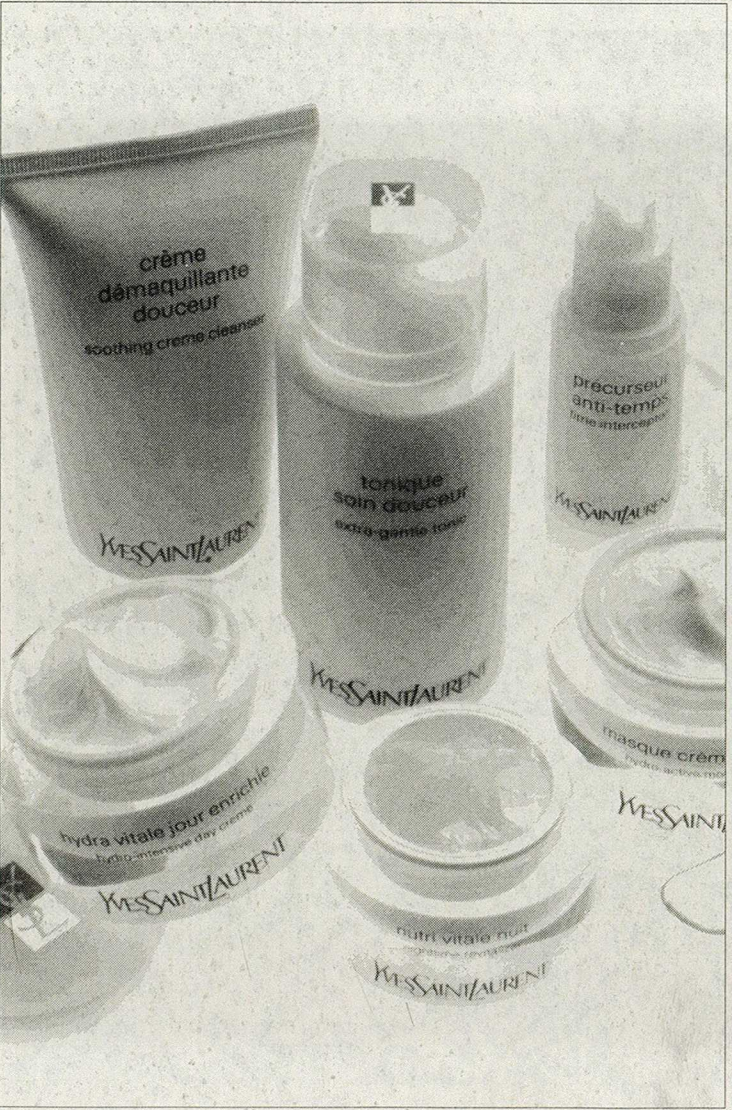
the epidermis, **Yves Saint Laurent's Soin Precurseur de Beute** has chosen to tackle the very source of the imbalance by giving the skin those vital elements necessary to very source of the imbalance by giving the skin those vital elements necessary to the good working order of all these internal processes.

The skin knows what it needs.

When it is in good working order and its internal metabolism is fully effective, it naturally and rapidly makes up for deficiencies.

When it has been under attack from too many exterior aggressions, such as an overdoes of summer sun, all its mechanisms are destabilised.

The **Soin Precurseur de Beute**, a product line which acts at the very source of the skin's life, helps it to return to its best and maintains its capital beauty day after day.



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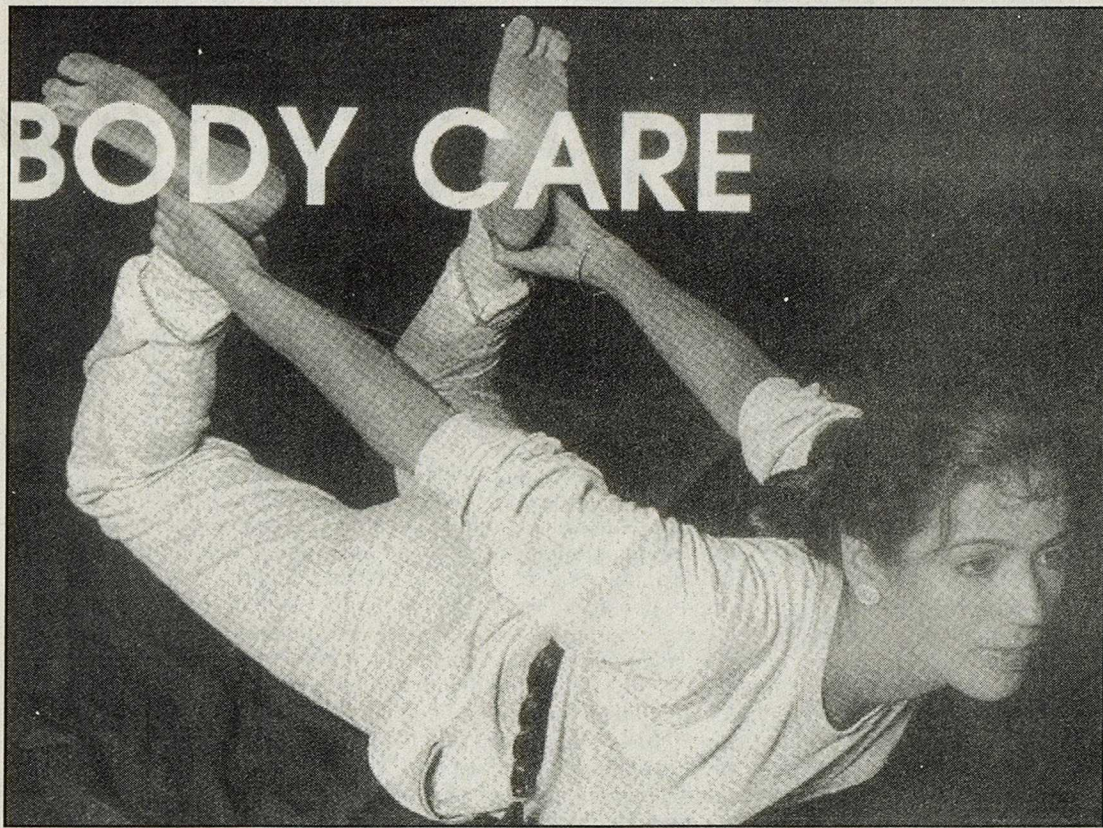
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## Exercising passion

Once, a woman might have fed her husband oysters to ensure his undying passion. Today, there is no aphrodisiac like a sleek, flexible body. Regular aerobic exercise tones muscles, builds stamina, keeps weight in check, and boosts confidence. And, embarking on a fitness regimen with your partner lets you get physical

outside of the bedroom! **Practice makes perfect** "Nothing can replace the activity itself when it comes to strengthening the muscles involved," says David Pargman, Ph.D., a sports psychologist at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Becoming aware of these muscles and learning to use them correctly also enhances performance, adds Tom

Haney, an exercise maven and executive director of the Village Glen Tennis and Fitness Club in Amherst, NY. Another plus: Once you know the individual muscle groups involved, you'll be better able to position yourself for maximum pleasure, and you'll be a more active part of what's happening

between the two of you. Mr. Haney's exercise programme, below, will heighten your control of the muscles used during intimacy.

As with any regimen, begin slowly; increase repetitions gradually.

**Getting Physical** Kegel exercises strengthen the perineal muscles that line inner walls. While using the bathroom, stop and start the flow of urine until you can do it 10-15 times. Practice tensing and relaxing throughout the day.

**Inner-thigh stretches** improve flexibility. Lie on your back, knees pulled into chest, firmly grasping inner ankles. Use your elbows to gently press knees outward. Hold stretch for 10-15 seconds, relax, then repeat.

**Knee squeezes** tone inner thighs. Lie on back with pillow between knees. Squeeze for three seconds; relax, repeat. Increase pillow size and number of repetitions as you get stronger.

**Gluteus curls** also are meant to hone muscle control. Kneel on a pillow with your knees together, arms above head. Slowly lower buttocks to heels; as they touch, tighten buttocks and thrust pelvis forward, creating a J-shape. Then straighten and relax, returning to starting position.

**Pelvic tilts** strengthen the lower back. Lie on back, knees bent, feet flat. Push lower back into floor. Hold for three seconds; relax, repeat.

## Beauty care and Fashion



# Feed Your looks

Dull, dry skin? Brittle nails? Lifeless hair? It could be what you eat.

BY ANGELA PEREZ

It's no secret. A varied diet of nutritionally wholesome foods is the best way to a healthier, fresher, prettier, perhaps even younger you. By getting your proper recommended daily allowances (RDAs)\* of vitamins and minerals, especially from foods in this chart, you can give yourself a definite beauty boost.



### AGE FIGHTERS

Recent research shows that certain chemicals activated by radiation, sunlight and even our own bodies contribute to the general physical deterioration that accompanies aging. How to protect yourself? With antioxidants. These include vitamins C and E, selenium and carotenoids such as beta-carotene (found in vegetables as well as legumes and converted into vitamin A). Take particular note of the natural sources of antioxidants in our chart.

### VITAMINS

**Vitamin A**  
■ **RDA:** 1,000 mcg (micrograms)  
■ **One great source:** A medium-size carrot will supply you with enough for the day.  
■ **Also try:** sweet potatoes, winter squash, pumpkin, broccoli, leafy green vegetables, apricots, cantaloupe and nectarines.  
■ **Beauty benefits:** Necessary for growing and maintaining healthy skin and hair. Helps produce collagen, a protein-based substance that gives skin elasticity, firmness and tone. Regulates sebaceous glands. Works with calcium to maintain healthy bones and teeth.

\*RDAs for American woman between ages of 25 and 50.

**Vitamin C**  
■ **RDA:** 60 mg (milligrams) (or 100 mg if you smoke)  
■ **One great source:** One-half cup of broccoli and you're all set.  
■ **Also try:** cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, red peppers, cranberry or pineapple juice, strawberries, spinach and other greens, tomatoes and citrus fruits.

■ **Note:** Go for raw veggies since cooking can destroy vitamin-C content. Also, keep to a minimum caffeineated products, which counteract benefits of vitamin C.  
■ **Beauty benefits:** Essential for collagen and hair-follicle repair. Strengthens capillaries and helps prevent bruising. Important for healthy teeth and bones. Works as an antioxidant (see Age Fighters).

**Vitamin D**  
■ **RDA:** 10 mcg  
■ **One great source:** Three ounces of salmon fulfills your quota.  
■ **Also try:** dairy products, fortified cereals, mackerel, sardines, tuna, egg yolks, liver.  
■ **Note:** Your body can produce an adequate amount of vitamin D if exposed daily to 15 minutes of sunlight (you may require more exposure if you're elderly or live in the north).  
■ **Beauty benefits:** Builds strong teeth and bones. Stimulates collagen production.  
■ **Other benefits:** Aids calcium absorption.

**Vitamin E**  
■ **RDA:** 10 mg  
■ **One great source:** An ounce of wheat germ sets you up—try it on non-fat yogurt and boost your calcium intake too.  
■ **Also try:** nuts, plant oils like olive, sunflower, peanut and corn.  
■ **Beauty benefits:** Promotes healthy circulation. Topically applied, it can help prevent sunburn by absorbing harmful ultraviolet B rays, says Dr. Helen Gensler, Ph.D., of the University of Arizona at Tucson. But beware! Its effectiveness decreases with exposure and it shouldn't be used in place of sunscreen. Works as an antioxidant (see Age Fighters).

■ **Other benefits:** Increases absorption of vitamin A.  
**Riboflavin**  
■ **RDA:** 1.3 mg  
■ **One great source:** liver—even just one ounce of calves', beef or pork. (But don't overdo it if you have a cholesterol problem.)  
■ **Also try:** spinach, asparagus, dried fruits, peanuts, peas, fortified cereals, milk.  
■ **Beauty benefits:** Important for maintenance of healthy skin.

PLEASE TURN TO PAGE 115



# Ungaro - sensual and untamed

U for Ungaro, the man from Aix-en-Provence who spent his childhood and adolescence in the light of Cezanne and in the darkness of the Sainte-Victoire mountain, has a gift, an obsession: the word "seduction." He condenses it. He fragments it. He sings it. Sensuality. Questions. Seduction, a synonym for Woman. A woman who is always vanquished. A woman who is never vanquished. Another turbulent word. Or is it the same? Creation. This fusion with the imaginary is enfolded in the shadows of his first collection. In fact, since he celebrated his fifteenth birthday, when Char and Mozart passed through his life and already he began to discover the citation of lost paradises.

Fractures: colours under the influence of seduction modernity. Textures: sensuality. Tessituras: the magic of sounds. He loves these musical and sensual variations which give him his Ungarian charm: his ability to cause total confusion through a storm of colours. "Lola's colours, "Lulu's colours. Siena colours. Colours from beyond. Syncopated softness, the vitality of certain tunes, secret streamlined architectural forms like operas or toccatas, all of these sound effects obsess Ungaro, who cannot create a collection without music.

To pursue the path of the extreme, almost as far as the art of infraction. Spaces. He throws them into disorder. "The sun for me is the shade. When the air stagnates in the pine forest, in the unbearable heat, I went to pick up and possess this contour of scents." Bewilderment. Or... a Haute Couture fragrance. Impulses, sensuality, sensory pursuits. Birth or rebirth. This is "Ungaro," light and darkness. In blue, green, fuchsia. Vitality and turbulence.

N as in nude. As in naturally natural. Disconcerting. Victorious. Dionysiac. Cyclonic. Each one of her skin cells is like the essence of the world. Feline, therefore free. She thrives on intellectual passion, ambitions, breathtaking, stormy love affairs, on total seduction. Ever changing. Flamboyant. With her imagery of melancholy and her Tiziano

like skin. These blazing lights in the shadows of luxury which are fragmented with colours that he, Ungaro, invents for her, this elusive Mediterranean Don Juane whose heart is always experiencing new adventures. Brunette, enveloped in an aura of gaiety. He doubtless imagines her as being brunette, with an aura of gaiety about her and draped in his colourful rainbow shades. But, above all, she must escape from him to maintain sensual obsession and amorous exchange. Each season, he invents for her new iridescent and structured garments, as exquisite in likeness as the enchanting sounds of a baroque quarter.

He idealises her to rhythms known to him alone. Then he lets her fade away with the passing of time. Only to win her back even more vigorously the following season. How can this mysterious Master not have thought of inventing a spell to trap his beauty? A spell that bears this mark? A harmonious confusion of senses: "Ungaro" could be a fragrance. Her fragrance, from him.

**Ungaro - Senso sublime** That slim, nimble figure, like a silk flame dancing in the breeze, that's her! What beauty! She has never looked

so lovely. She looks slimmer. And as for her new dress... Magenta pink mixed with cyan blue, the play of black dots on golden yellow. A sublime demonstration of audacity.

Ungaro of course. Choosing your favourite designer label is as important as being passionate about yourself. She always is herself, in a seductive, joyful, sensual way. Look at how she laughs. A woman who is happy! Full of cheerfulness, simplicity and charm: her

fragrance suggests just that. I cannot remember it being so fresh. Like her, it has changed. But the rich heart notes of flowers and fruits, the atmosphere created by the sandalwood that leaves a distinctive trail behind it and the name which murmurs sensual promises has not changed.

Senso! So it is her! More lively, more charming than ever before! Ungaro is proud to present the new version of Senso.

Senso is back with a new lease of life.

Diva's little sister has never ceased displaying her charms. But for some time she had inclinations of a different kind. Floral printed chiffons, audacious satins, lovely flowers, ripe fruits, dreams of spices. She felt tinted with impertinence. She needed to move, to change, she needed to show she could surprise herself and be ahead of the times. How can you resist her?

Ungaro has therefore reinvented her in the same way that you revamp your favourite dress, without changing the shape but by refining it, using a very light silk, adding a hint of seduction, an important detail.

In this case, it refers to the coloured bottle which keeps its subtle draped effect. It refers to the yellow polka-dot collar, tied at the neck with a cyan blue cabochon, like a sapphire in a tiara. It is the unusual, attractive magenta pink dress.

This lyrical shade of pink that Ungaro shows in all of his collections and which now can be displayed on

glass thanks to a new powdering procedure using a paint gun. And lastly, the carton like floral chiffon developed in the designer's studio: a lovely bouquet against a blue background, a very "couture" spirit which can only belong to Ungaro, a man who is in love with all women.

And hidden beneath this fantastic presentation, a new olfactive harmony orchestrated by Francois Demachy and Jacques Polge. Shorter, denser than the previous version, an amazing display of fruit floral nature: a true delicacy.

A quick tempo, joyful, sensuality, in keeping with the new Senso.

Fresh top notes sparkling with citrus notes. A bright departure where grapefruit mingles with bergamot. Then, very quickly, the voluptuous tenderness of the heart notes.

Once again we rediscover the traditional flowers found in perfumery: orange flower, rose and jasmine, in this instance chosen with the greatest of care for the richness of their harmonies.

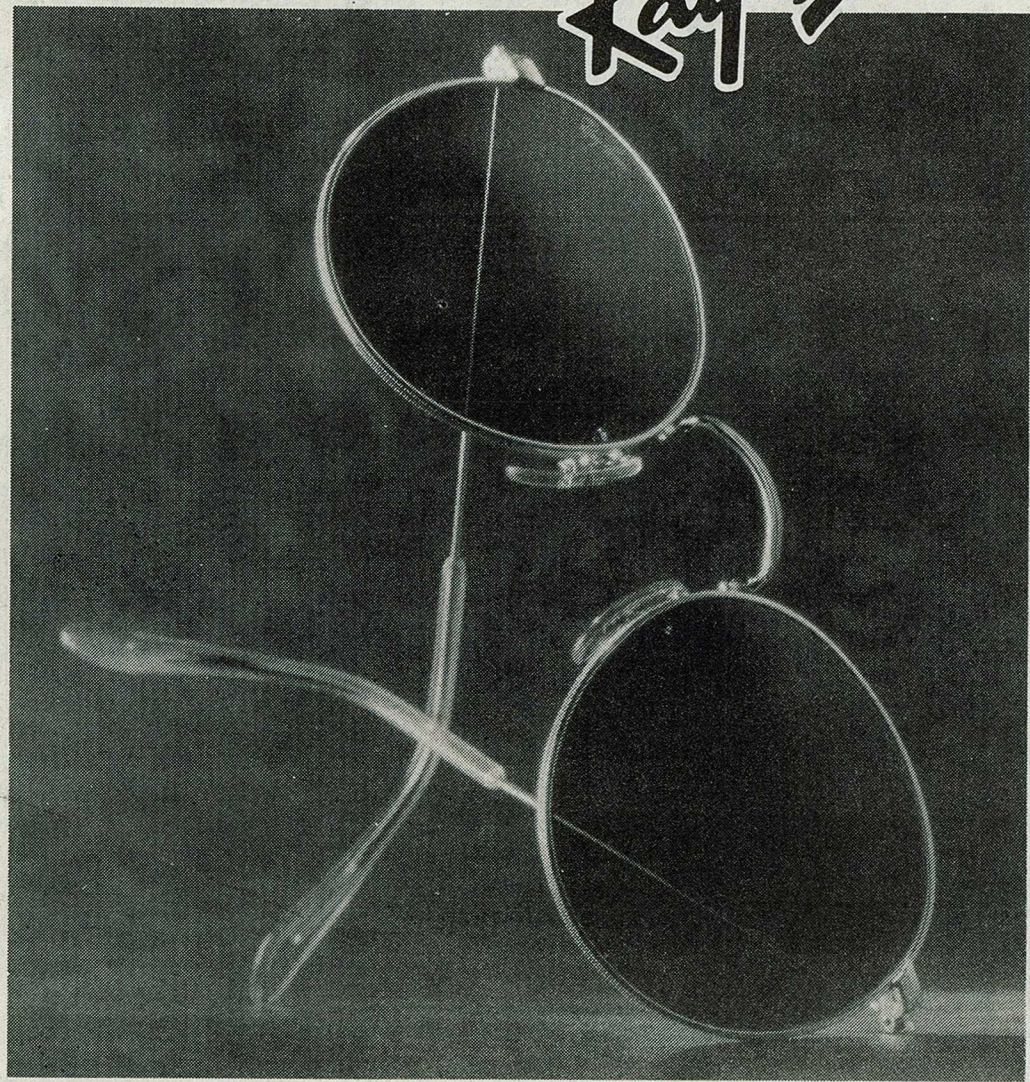
A sweet rose, a slightly peppery carnation, vibrating jasmine, almost animal in nature, which announce the sensual base notes.

Senso leaves behind it the most suggestive of signatures: sandalwood. Included in nearly all of Ungaro's women's fragrances, in this instant supported by rare wood extracts, it produces a powdery note, which envelops the body like a halo, penetrates like a philtre and whispers the name Senso on the skin's surface.



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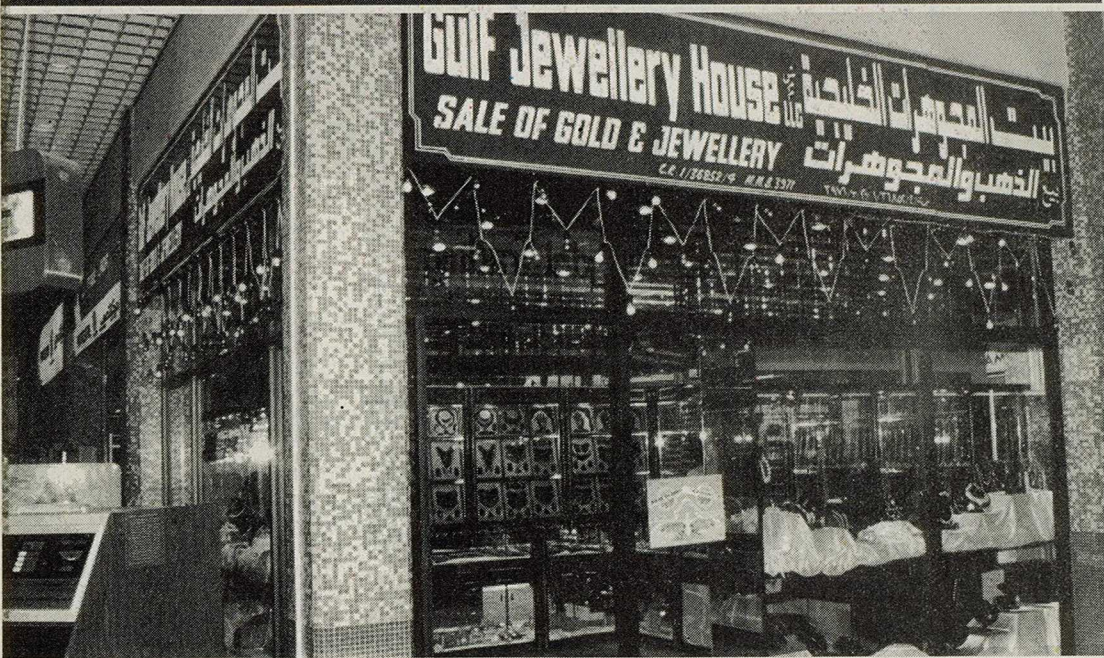
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The new Gulf Jewellery House at Qurum.

## Beauty care and Fashion

## The fascination for jewellery

Since time immemorial jewellery has held the fascination of men and women alike. The glittering ornaments are sought everywhere with fervour. To many costume jewellery is a synonym for prestige.

Every boulevard, street today is adorned with these jewellery shops making shopping more lively for the window shoppers.

The Gulf Jewellery House at Qurum which was opened on the nineteenth of this month has all the accessories to woo the shoppers and caters to all the customers who seek perfection in

designs.

With the finest craftsmanship from Asia they specialise in Omani, particularly Dhofari, and Indian designs. The

Italian designs are also a rave among the European clientele.

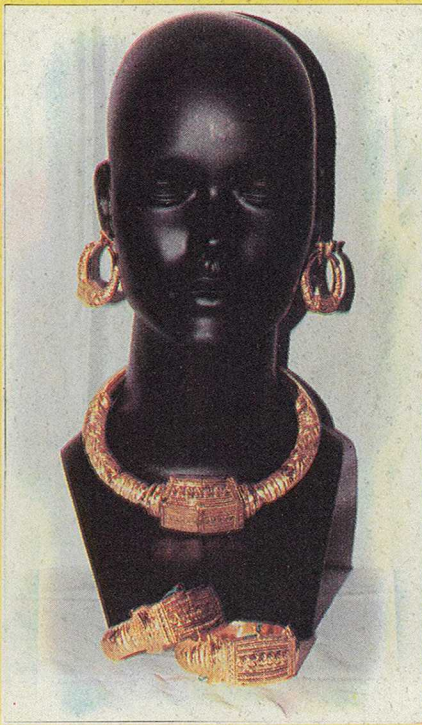
The goldsmith here laboriously carves out the most intricate design to suit the customers who want exclusive ornaments to match their costumes. For all those people who love anything traditional, Gulf

Jewellery House is the best bet. Here the stress is on quality to appease the most fastidious jewellery customer.

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## Health beat

• I eat very little in front of my fiancé, but when I'm alone, I binge. How can I break the habit?

"Eat normally when you're with your partner," advises Thomas A. Wadden, Ph.D., director of the Centre for Health and Behaviour at Syracuse University in NY. "You're more likely to binge in private if you don't eat enough when he's around." Also, explore why you don't feel comfortable eating in front of your fiancé. "Discuss your weight concerns; ask him what he'd think if you gained a few pounds," suggests Dr. Wadden. "If he's constantly carping about your figure, you might want to think about whether your relationship is healthy."

To break the binge cycle: Stop dieting; eat three meals a day. "Exercise will also give you a sense of control and decrease cravings for binge foods like candy and potato

chips," adds Dr. Wadden.

• Is it true that not wearing sunglasses can cause cataracts?

Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun has been linked to the development of cataracts, confirms Dirk Dijkstal, M.D., an associate clinical professor at the University of Wyoming in Cheyenne. "Studies show that people who spend long periods of time outdoors without wearing UV-protective sunglasses have a higher incidence of the condition than those who do wear them," he explains. To be safe, don lenses that provide 100 percent UV protection (the label should say "UV-400") when you're outside long enough for skin to burn.

Honey-mooning on the slopes? Wear UV-protective specs, as well, to stop rays from burning the eye's surface.

## Marrying young

## My future was pronounced hopeless because I loved a man enough to marry him before I got my first business card.

When a friend asked me to join a Charleston women's club last summer, my first response was highbrow scepticism—I envisioned a circle of society belles sipping mint juleps and sighing about the heat. As a recent college graduate eager for feminist companions and professional contacts, however, I hopefully accepted the invitation.

A few minutes into the first meeting, my doubts about the club vanished—this varied group of professionals discussed sexual harassment and the glass-ceiling phenomenon with animation and depth. As the party was breaking up, however, the scepticism returned—this time, aimed at me. As I reached to shake hands with the club's leader, her jaw dropped. "My God!" she said. "You're engaged!"

For the next 20 minutes, I was verbally attacked by a cluster of middle-aged women who firmly believed that a 23-year-old with an engagement ring should be institutionalised.

"Honey, I'm telling you, by the time you're 40, you'll look back on this decision with the deepest regret," said the leader. My future was pronounced hopeless because I loved a man enough to marry him before I'd ordered my first batch of business cards.

Unfortunately, I'm getting used to this kind of assault. Friends constantly doubt my decision to give up my single status, to "throw away my youth." To an extent, I understand.

Independence was my top priority before I met John. A few years ago, the idea of marrying at 23 seemed as deadly as dropping out of high school.

But against my will, I fell in love before I got my bachelor's degree. After a year of troubled deliberation, I chose to not betray the most powerful emotions I've ever felt. We got engaged during Christmas vacation year. A magical week of celebration ensued. But, despite my giddy

excitement, I felt uncomfortable announcing the news when I returned to school. Sure enough, everyone from my closest friend to my thesis advisor sighed sorrowfully, waving me off as a wasted talent.

"Oh, that's pretty," my roommate said casually as she inspected my ring. "You're not going to wear it, are you?"

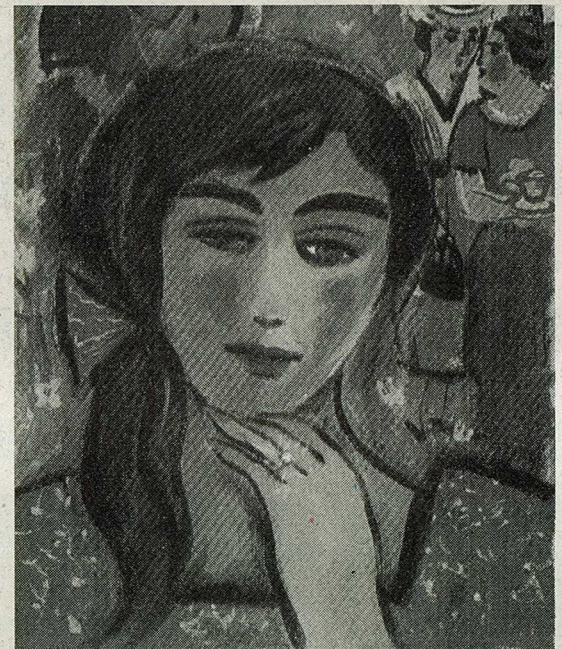
At graduation, John and I looked forward to tying the knot, while other sweethearts sorrowfully parted, claiming true love but deciding that independence was more valuable these days.

I'm consumed with both frustration and relief when I think of how simple the equation was for my mother: Drop out of school, become a housewife, have babies, and learn how to cook. That, however, is rarely the agenda of young women today—married or not. With a wary eye toward our mothers' generation, we've realised the importance of giving our lives a broader structure. Today,

the decision to marry doesn't mean trading in personal or professional fulfillment.

We may have to make some career compromises. But, as we continue to grow as professionals, individuals, and spouses, there will be one constant factor—a promise of forever amid vast change. That factor will make all the difference.

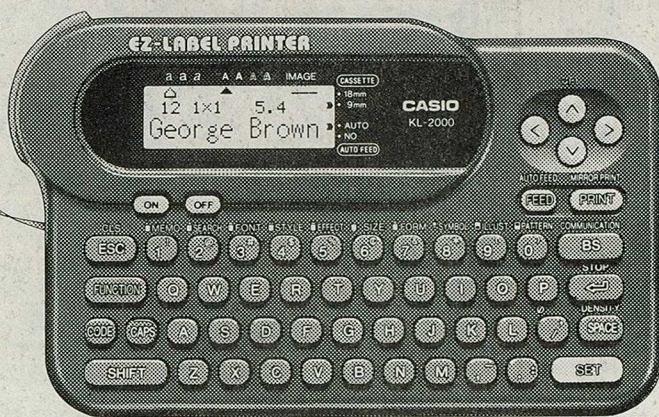
The writer of this piece—Abby Goodnough, a newspaper journalist living in Ocean Grove, NJ—got married in August 1992.



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## A wide range from Casio

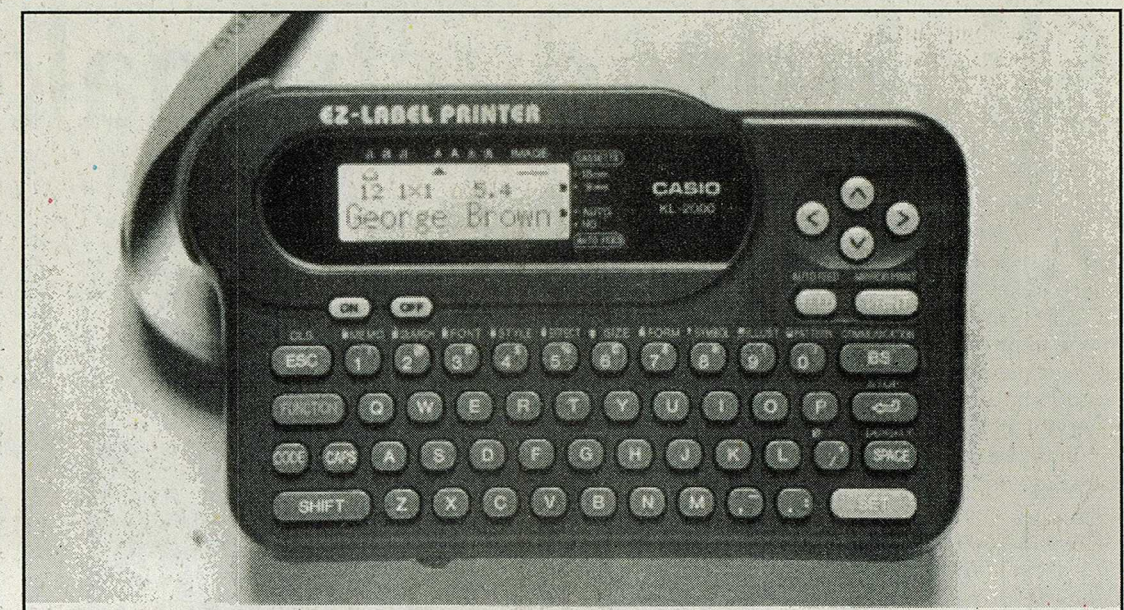
The electronics market today is being constantly updated with an assortment of highly sophisticated products from Casio. At Arabian Car Marketing Company, which is a part of the Bahwan Group of Companies, a range of high-tech products have been lined up for the top market clientele.

To catch up with the age of portables, Casio has come up with a winner. Their new portable copier, the first one of its kind, will hit the market in the next month. It reproduces the image of flat or 3-dimensional objects on A4 size paper. Images can be printed in negative and notes can be written directly on copies.

Casio Board Copy is as big as an A4 size paper and weighs only about 2 kilograms. It can be mounted on optional stands even outdoors. Three modes let you specify whiteboard, blackboard or graphics. Whiteboard mode enables you to specify the area to be copied by timing the image in the finder.

One can even make instant copies of ideas produced at brainstorming sessions for filing or to forward to another location by fax.

The Casio line-up of Digital Diaries has expanded the



capabilities of the Digital Diary format with the release of SF-R20/SF-R10 Super Systemizer which are provided with large liquid crystal display along with extensive memory capacity and spread-sheet capabilities.

It has a large 50 column by 10 line easy to read display with a choice of character sizes. This huge display also makes it possible to fully utilise their built in Spreadsheet Function. The Spreadsheet also supports Lotus 1-2-3 data compatibility for wide ranging versatility. SF-R20 comes with 256 kbytes of extensive memory capacity while SF-R10 is equipped

with 128 kbytes.

The Diary executes a hord of functions. It includes a telephone Directory, Business Card Library, Memo Mode which stores any information in any format, two Calendars per screen from January 1901 to December 2099 and a Schedule Keeper which stores appointment data with Schedule Alarms to keep you informed of upcoming appointments.

Icon Data SF-A10, the new product released by the Casio Data Bank has 9 Icons - Tel-business, Tel-Personal, Schedule, Calendar, Secret, Calculation, Conversion, Alarm and Data-Memo — for

main menu wides. The Schedule mode has 24 icons representing business and personal events, while the Business and Personal modes have 12 icons each to help the client minimize character input operations.

Along with Secret functions, Currency Conversion and Home and World Time Function capabilities, SF-A10 has a full-dot LCD display, 32KB memory capacity, Daily or scheduled alarm system, Calendar display, Data Memo function and Data Communication with another SF-A10.

KL2000 Label Writer, another new product from the Casio Computer Company, is a compact label printer that lets you produce distinctive labels quickly and easily. All that one has to do is input the characters and the label writer prints them out on a durable tape with an adhesive back to create an instant label that can be used for almost anything.

This label writer allows you a choice of character sizes, fonts and effects, and can accommodate upto four lines per label. It has versatile data communications capabilities and has more than 500 special characters and symbols built in. Its capacity for memory storage is 1,000 characters and has a choice of optional tape cartridges.



A range of Casio products