

National News

'Marlboro country' not such a nice place

University of Massachusetts Medical School researchers released a study of cigarette smokers in early January which attempts to link personal morality with the habit.

The study shows that smokers are (on the average) 3-1/2 times more likely to drive while intoxicated than non-smokers, and that 1 in 3 smokers are classified as alcoholics, as opposed to 1 in 70 non-smokers.

Smokers have 40% more car accidents, get more traffic tickets, and don't wear seatbelts as often. Basically, the numbers imply that people with less concern for survival (theirs or others) have less concern about smoking, and therefore demonstrate a level of immaturity that insurers want to charge more for.

The study implies there may be large legal repercussions. Tobacco manufacturers say this is discrimination and violates a person's "civil right." Over 300,000 appear to die annually nationwide from smoking, but the blame hasn't yet been legally tied to the tobacco industry in any lawsuit.

'Farm-debt summit' scheduled in Iowa

A "farm debt summit," expected to attract executives from more than 20 agribusinesses, will be held Jan. 27-28 in Des Moines, Iowa.

The meeting is linked to a recently formed organization called Farm Care (for "Concerned Agricultural and Rural Executives"), established in December by Richard Swarzentruher, president of the Cedar Rapids-based Vigortone Agricultural Products, Inc.

Executives from agricultural businesses such as Occidental Agricultural Chemicals and ABC Agricultural Group will attend.

Ideas to be discussed include going to Congress for a new farm credit bill and having agrobusinesses finance short-term credit to farmers.

Neil Harl of Iowa State will be a keynote speaker. If that is any indication, nothing good will come of the conference. Harl is notorious for insisting that the United States has too many farmers, and that farmers themselves are responsible for their plight. He is a leading spokesman for the policies of the grain cartel which has bankrupted American farmers through control of the Agriculture Department.

Homosexuals react to Los Angeles AIDS poll

The AIDS Project LA, a group of homosexuals and supporters, is quite distressed over the results of the *Los Angeles Times* poll that showed that, of over 2,300 people polled, half said AIDS victims should be quarantined.

"It's like a blind fear. Everyone has gotten hysterical," said the spokesman of the group. Director of the project, Paula Van Ness, says politicians are using AIDS to get rid of "gay" support. Proposals such as that of Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-Calif.) to lock the AIDS victims up in leper colonies are generally dismissed by the homosexual leaders, but Dannemeyer's proposal got a 77% vote of support in the poll.

Eric Rofes, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center, predicts that homosexuals are in for "a tough couple of years."

More than 1 in 3 polled said homosexuals have too much power, and 73% said homosexuality was wrong. In San Francisco, not surprisingly, 44% said it was all right.

AIDS victims sent to hospice to die

Nobel Peace Prize winner Mother Teresa has received her first consignment of dying prisoners straight from the Sing-Sing Penitentiary. They are dying of AIDS and will end their lives in the Greenwich Village Hospice run by the nun.

The Catholic Church in New York City apparently made the arrangements, even though it had strongly denied in late December that it would do so.

The State Correction Commissioner said there are 53 inmates with the disease in the New York City prison system. Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity at St. Veronica's Rectory in Greenwich Village has 14 beds.

Mother Teresa has asked publicly for the donation of a farm, a camp, or a suburban estate where AIDS victims who are not former inmates can be "cared for."

Weinberg proposed break with SALT

Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger has sent a report to President Reagan urging him to break with SALT II, in response to repeated Soviet violations of various arms control agreements.

Entitled "Responding to Soviet Violations Policy Study," the secret report contains a number of recommendations that would put the United States in conflict with the Salt II accord—which, under State Department prodding, the administration announced on Jan. 1 it would continue to comply with.

According to the *New York Times*, Weinberger recommended against the dismantling of two Poseidon subs in May; for replacing some single-warhead Minuteman-2 missiles with multiple-warhead Minuteman-3s; and stepping up research on biological and chemical weapons. He also proposed encoding signals sent by missiles during tests, to deny the Soviet Union information about the tests.

San Francisco becomes 'sanctuary city'

On Dec. 23, San Francisco voted to become a so-called Sanctuary City: The city will not

inform the federal government of any illegal aliens present, and will not cooperate in enforcing U.S. immigration laws. New York City has had this policy at least as long as Edward Koch has been mayor.

The supposed reason for Sanctuary status is to protect the poor immigrant looking for work. In actual fact, it is the terrorist and drug mafia which will actually receive protection.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted 8 to 3 to become a "City of Refuge" for El Salvadorans and Guatemalans who would face persecution if they returned home. Mayor Feinstein had until Jan. 3 to veto the action, otherwise making it the 13th Sanctuary City nationwide and the 5th in California. In late December, Sacramento, California, became the 12th city. Los Angeles and Chicago have done likewise.

Federal officials say that, despite any such status, immigrants will be prosecuted or deported if caught.

Gramm-Rudman will kill airline passengers

The president of a union of aviation electronics technicians said on Jan. 6 that \$135 million in anticipated Federal Aviation Administration budget cuts could lead to "deaths of passengers and aircraft crews."

Howard Johannssen, president of the Professional Airway System Specialists, said that to maintain air safety standards, the FAA should be exempt from mandatory across-the-board cuts under the Gramm-Rudman amendment. He said the FAA's \$4.9 billion 1986 budget was pared by \$55 million by Congress from the agency's original request, and that another 5% cut in March, required by Gramm-Rudman, would be a "fiscal act of terrorism."

The effect of the Gramm-Rudman cuts "will hold the entire American air traveling public as hostage," Johannssen told a press conference. "I do not exaggerate when I say that it will almost inevitably lead to the death of passengers and aircraft crews in the increasingly crowded American air space."

Cranston leads revolt against aid to Saudis

Sen. Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) is current anger at Muammar Qaddafi's terrorism to demand that U.S. aid to Saudi Arabia be cut off. The senator said that he has lined up 56 members of the Senate behind a resolution sponsored by himself and Sen. Robert Packwood (R-Ore.)

\$1.1

Cranston called on President Reagan to block the sale, charging that Saudi Arabia supports Libya and other nations who aid terrorists.

"It would be unwise and imprudent for our government to sell advanced arms to a nation that is actively giving aid and comfort to Libya," Cranston said. "The Saudis continue to bankroll Syria and the PLO—protectors of the terrorists who have murdered hundreds of Americans and torn Lebanon asunder."

Birds of a feather receive degrees

Lane Kirkland, head of the AFL-CIO, and "conservative" marijuana advocate William Buckley both received honorary degrees from the University of South Carolina at commencement ceremonies on Dec. 15.

Waxing eloquent about Buckley, purported labor-leader Kirkland said, "I know enough about Bill, both at first and second hand, to appreciate that the rigor of his views—few of which I share—is balanced by a good-natured, private tolerance and even a puckish enjoyment of the company of those of an errant disposition. . . . We enjoy a certain symbiosis, for if it weren't for people like him there might be less need for people like me. . . ."

Kirkland became positively dialectical at the finish, quoting Sidney Hook: "From him I learned the difference between a truth and a deep truth. A deep truth is a truth the converse of which is equally true."

Briefly

● **DR. ALVIN NOVAK**, an AIDS researcher at Yale University, said on Dec. 22 that the AIDS blood test could fail up to 10%

ernment's claims of reliability are "grossly inaccurate and at best misleading."

stages of infection there will be no anti-bodies. In fact, there might never be any anti-bodies. Even in later stages, there are often not enough to register. In defense, Dr. John Ward of the Centers for Disease Control stated: "It's a fairly young science. . . . You only have what you have."

● **MOBIL OIL** has begun an advertising campaign on behalf of a "tax on consumption," in apparent support for rumored future administration efforts to establish such a tax. In an ad entitled "It's time for a tax on consumption," appearing in the Jan. 7 *Chicago Tribune*, Mobil argues that current proposals for tax reform would not reduce the deficit, but that a consumption tax of, say, 1%, would, with the added "benefit" that, by penalizing spending, it would encourage savings and investment.

● **THE ACLU** is suing the Big Brothers volunteer organization in Los Angeles, California, for refusing to accept an adult applicant who is bisexual. The ACLU claims it is attempting to protect the "civil rights" of single parents who wish to expose their sons to role models who are perverts.

● **GEORGE A. KEYWORTH**, outgoing presidential science adviser, predicted on Jan. 2 in an interview with the *Washington Times* that there would be rapid breakthroughs in research on the SDI program. "There have been monumental breakthroughs that have made us far more confident 2½ years later than we projected even in the optimistic tone that was evident in the original speech [of President Reagan]."