

National News

Illinois gets AIDS notification law

Illinois Gov. Jim Edgar has signed "the nation's most sweeping AIDS notification law, requiring health care providers with the virus to tell patients who may have been infected," according to the Oct. 6 *Washington Post*.

The new law requires that only those patients who have undergone invasive procedures be told that they are at risk. If infected workers fail to notify their patients, the state will inform their patients for them.

The law also requires patients who are infected with AIDS to notify medical workers who they may have exposed to the virus.

However, there are no mandatory provisions in the legislation for notification to be given *prior* to an invasive procedure. The guidelines merely suggest that such notification be given.

Cuomo warns Dems against Japan-bashing

New York Gov. Mario Cuomo warned fellow Democrats against bashing Japan, before departing for a four-day visit to Japan at the end of September. The Oct. 4 *Washington Post* noted that while in Japan, the governor "directed his tough talk toward U.S. business and politicians."

"Keep watching the '92 campaign," Cuomo told reporters in Tokyo Oct. 3. "Democrats are going to say the predictable thing, 'Those Japanese! We have to get tough with them.'" This reflects a "simplistic" attitude, Cuomo said. "You know, it's 'we beat you 45 years ago, Japan. Now you're going up and we're going down, so we resent you.'"

"But protectionism is not going to work. Before you start beating up on the rest of the world, instead of criticizing the Japanese for the trade imbalance, you'd better do something about your own economic problems."

Cuomo criticized fellow Democrats for

attacking Japan because they "want a bumper sticker."

"What the Japanese are doing in my state is an undiluted benefit," Cuomo said. "I think I could explain that to the people of New York if I had five minutes. But you don't get it. You get, what—nine seconds on TV. And in nine seconds, what you can say is 'It's the Japanese! They did it!'"

The *Post* quoted the Japanese foreign minister's comment on Cuomo's claim of no presidential campaign plans: "Oh, of course. No plans. Yes, we say that too. Sure, we understand."

Christian Observer reviews Railroad! book

The *Christian Observer*, a bi-monthly Presbyterian magazine which describes itself as "the magazine for serious Christian families—since 1813," carried a positive review of *Railroad!* in its Sept. 20 edition. The book details the judicial railroading to prison of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche.

"This large volume has been published by the Commission to Investigate Human Rights Violations," the review read. "It includes the story of the Lyndon LaRouche trial. The book is basically a transcript of the trial, and includes the appeal, pretrial proceedings, the trial, and finally, the post-trial happenings. Five appendices shed more light on the legal proceedings. This is a large, serious work on justice and fair play for a serious reader."

Nebraskans fear Alisha Owen being poisoned

A group of citizens in Nebraska is calling on Gov. Benjamin Nelson and Attorney General Donald Stenburgh to intervene in the case of Alisha Owen, who was convicted and jailed on charges of perjury. The group fears she is being deliberately poisoned.

Owen had refused to recant her testimony identifying prominent individuals of the

Nebraska establishment as participants in an organized child abuse and satanic network. The network involved Larry King, who allegedly provided child prostitutes for attendees of a Republican Party national convention, and the failed Franklin Credit Union, and was the subject of an investigation by a special state Senate committee.

Owen has suffered hair loss, blue-moon tinges to her fingernails, and increasingly, spontaneous bleeding. At the end of September, she began hemorrhaging blood clots from her nose.

Citizens fear that with Sen. Robert Kerrey's announcement of his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination, there are increased efforts afoot to bury the scandal. Kerrey, formerly Nebraska's governor, is backed by Warren Buffett of Salomon Brothers, a wealthy and powerful figure allegedly tied to the network.

Casolaro death probed as possible murder

Police in Martinsburg, West Virginia are now probing the death of Danny Casolaro as a possible murder. Casolaro, an investigative reporter, had told associates that he was on the verge of nailing down key details of the "October Surprise" scandal—that the Reagan-Bush campaign allegedly conspired to delay the release of American hostages from Iran until after the 1980 election.

According to sources close to the probe, several factors have prompted local police to revise their initial pronouncement that his death was a suicide. First, a New York City reporter received an anonymous call on Aug. 11, the day after Casolaro's body was found at the Martinsburg Sheraton. The caller said that an investigator probing October Surprise had been found dead just outside Washington, and that the death would be ruled a suicide, although he had actually been murdered. The call was received one day before Casolaro's family had been informed of his death and a day before the Martinsburg police had any idea of Casolaro's ties to the scandal probes. The reporter had not recognized the significance of the

timing of the call until several days later, but had nevertheless reported the call to the FBI in New York immediately.

Also, police have been reportedly unable to determine where the razor blades that slashed Casolaro's arms and wrists were purchased. It is confirmed that they were purchased neither in Martinsburg nor in the northern Virginia area where Casolaro lived.

Police have also been unable to determine who Casolaro was meeting with in West Virginia or what happened to the case of files that Casolaro was known to have been carrying with him at the time of his death.

U.S. faces 'dark upheaval,' expert says

The United States now faces a "dark upheaval if it continues to follow the Roman road to decline," Alistair Cooke wrote in the Oct. 5 *Financial Times* of London. Cooke, who has been writing about the U.S. for over 60 years is Britain's most senior "U.S. watcher."

According to Cooke, the danger of "decay from within" far overrides all other threats to the U.S., including perceived threats from the outside.

He wrote: "I do not remember a time, not even during the ghastly '60s, when Americans have complained more, in a tone close to despair, about the visible and seemingly unhealable wounds in American society. The city crime rates are regularly beyond those of all but the worst previous years, and random street crime at night matches the jottings of 18th-century diaries. Drugs are a pestilence afflicting all classes and every age. We have just wakened to the discovery that for a long time, maybe for several decades, public education in America has been setting such easy and dithering standards that, at the least, a large minority, perhaps a majority, of high school graduates are in comparison with their European and Asian fellows, semi-literate.

"An even more recent discovery is that 'flourishing' real estate in the big cities has meant mainly office skyscrapers and luxury

high-rise apartment buildings. Within mocking distance of these are the open lots or scrubby bits of park where the homeless huddle and the drug pushers bargain. Meanwhile, two generations of middle class families who might have spent their lives in low-cost housing estates find that to afford 'affordable' housing requires two hefty salaries."

Cooke pointed to three possibilities as "likely outcomes" of the situation: "1) The second American Civil War, triggered by separate ethnic and regional uprisings; 2) The arrival of a populist dictator . . . ; 3) An emergency return to the benevolent form of national socialism created by Franklin Roosevelt in the first New Deal. . . . These three seem to me to be the real possibilities if the social dangers, deprivations and frustrations I have mentioned cannot be placated by the present political system and become too much for most Americans to bear."

Weld's anti-crime bill would execute juveniles

A new so-called anti-crime bill proposed by Gov. William Weld of Massachusetts would allow the execution of juveniles, the Oct. 4 *Boston Globe* reported.

Weld's proposal would reinstate the death penalty in Massachusetts and require that juveniles accused of violent crimes be tried as adults, opening the door for execution of minors. The debate at the State House is whether a minimum age for execution should be set.

"My best guess is that we will be somewhere in the 16 to 17 year old range. We are looking at 16 and 17 years of age to see which is most successful," Robert Cordy, Weld's chief legal counsel told the *Globe*.

Weld detailed that the proposed legislation which will require that 14 to 17 year olds charged with first or second-degree murder, manslaughter, aggravated rape, armed assault with intent to commit murder, or armed burglary, be tried as adults. Weld said, "In my mind for too long the response to violent crimes in our inner cities has been to treat juvenile offenders simply like victims."

Briefly

● **HUBERT HUMPHREY III**, the Attorney General of Minnesota, will address a "green marketing" conference along with a bevy of eco-peddlers who hope to make big bucks off the environmentalist movement. The conference is being hosted by *Advertising Age* and sponsored by *Good Housekeeping*.

● **'RUSSIA IS BETTER,'** said Gib Lewis, Speaker of the Texas House, in comparing Travis County jail to a Soviet military barracks in which he was detained for several days 10 years ago. Lewis was briefly detained in the Austin lockup after being late for a pretrial hearing on two misdemeanor ethics charges.

● **FORTY PERCENT** of death row inmates in the U.S. are black, but blacks make up 12% of the U.S. population, according to a study by the Justice Department. In the 1987 case of Warren McCleskey (who was killed by the State of Georgia Sept. 25, 1991), the U.S. Supreme Court outlawed challenges to death sentences based on statistical proof of racial discrimination.

● **U.S. MAYORS** were invited to the "Third Summit of the World's Major Cities" in Montreal Oct. 14-17, as a lead-in to the 1992 Earth Summit, by Montreal Mayor Jean Dore. Speaking in Washington Sept. 30, he said, "Each [nation] must give up a little corner of its sovereignty."

● **THE CULT** Awareness Network has sent out a fundraising letter asking its supporters to help defend it from attacks, by the LaRouche movement in particular. "The literature tried to tie CAN and Cynthia [Kisser] into a drug ring," the letter whined.

● **GEN. RICHARD SECORD** said on ABC's "Nightline" Oct. 2, "I'm sure he [George Bush] played a role," referring to a 1986 meeting with Amiram Nir in which the U.S. accepted the Iranian demand for separate deliveries of arms in exchange for release of individual hostages.