

# Policy allows gays to serve in military

## Decision keeps homosexuals in 'closet'

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Retreating on a politically explosive issue, President Clinton announced "an honorable compromise" Monday allowing gays to serve in the military but only if they refrain from homosexual actions.

The decision, announced by Clinton before an audience of senior military officers, drew angry outcries from gay leaders who said homosexuals in the armed forces would have to remain in hiding.

For many in Congress, however, Clinton's policy was too lenient toward homosexuals. Sam Nunn, the Democratic chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, promised to offer legislation that would lock into law the current ban on homosexuals in the military.

Rep. Ike Skelton, D-Mo., a conservative Democrat who has misgivings about lifting the ban, said that under the president's plan, it "appears that the old policy continues. It keeps military homosexuals in the closet."

Clinton said that if he had lifted the ban entirely, Congress would have overturned his decision. On the other hand, he said that current restrictions are being considered by federal courts "in ways that may not be to the liking of those who oppose any change."

Clinton said his plan strikes "a sensible balance" between the rights of the individual and the needs of the military to remain strong.

The fractious debate has been one of the most painful chapters in Clinton's presidency, throwing his administration off stride and undercutting him politically. It also has highlighted the deep strains in his relations with the military.

In his campaign, Clinton had pledged to lift the half-century ban on homosexuals in the military. However, fierce opposition from Pentagon leaders and members of Congress forced him to backpedal.

To announce his policy, Clinton chose a military setting and a military audience: Fort McNair with Defense Secretary Les Aspin; Gen. Colin Powell, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; the service chiefs and senior officers.

# Japan to face political fight for power

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TOKYO — Prime Minister Ki-ichi Miyazawa confounded party leaders Monday by refusing to resign after voters ended the Liberal Democrats' 38-year reign as the majority in parliament.

With no party in clear control and no person dominating the Liberal Democrats, Japan could face weeks of political instability as parties and factions jockey for power.

The Liberal Democrats remain the largest party by far and have the inside track on putting together a governing coalition by working with other conservative parties. Opposition parties and independents would have to overcome many political differences to cobble together a coalition.

Miyazawa, 73, considered a lame duck since losing a no-confidence vote last month for failing to act against political corruption, surprised party members by saying he would "make my own decision" on resigning after considering party views.

Japanese newspapers had reported that he would quit as head of his party after Sunday's nationwide election to pave the way for the selection of a new prime minister.

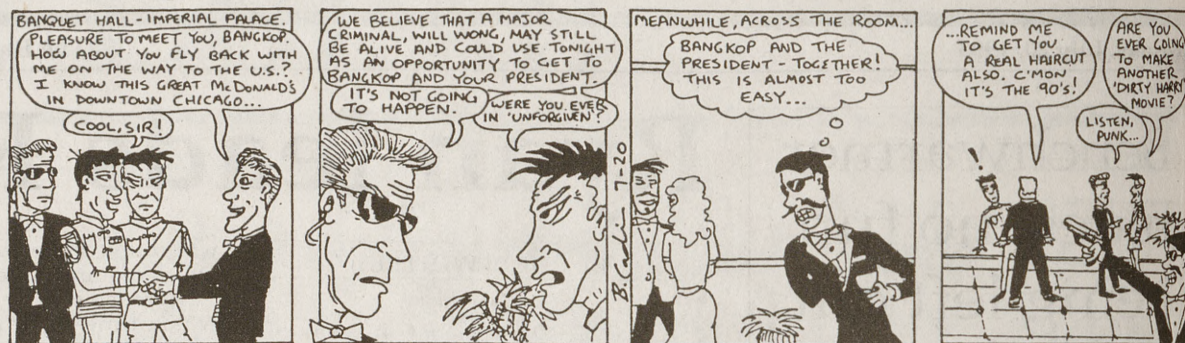
Although many analysts had predicted a two-party system developing from the election, what emerged was a multiparty system still dominated by the Liberal Democrats.

They won 223 of the 511 seats in parliament's law-making lower house, short of a majority but more than three times the number won by any of their eight rivals.

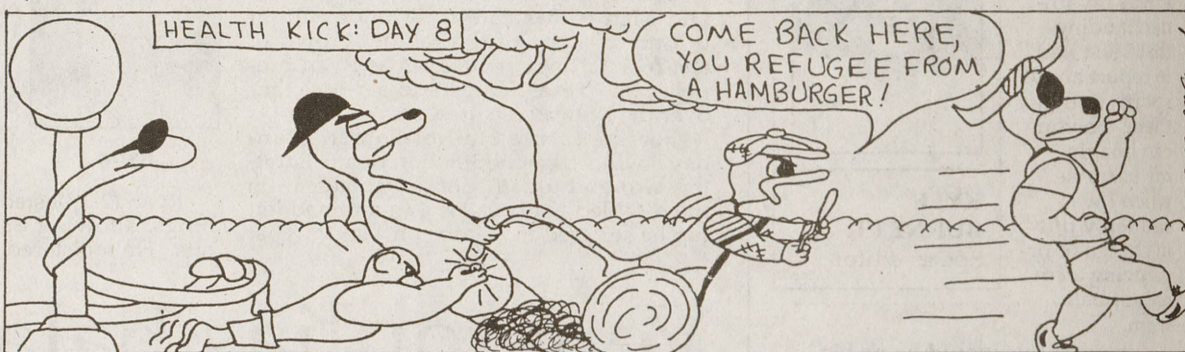
In a highly unusual step, 20 young Liberal Democratic lawmakers issued a statement Monday urging Miyazawa and other party leaders to "resign immediately to pave the way for the birth of a new Liberal Democratic Party," Kyodo News Service reported.

# Bangkok

By Boomer Cardinale



By Paul Stroud



# Midwest flooding crisis eases up

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The sun shone.

For much of the swamped, muddy Midwest, that was one of several signs Monday that the region's 11/2-month flood onslaught might be starting to ease.

Others: The Mississippi River's record crest passed St. Louis; upriver, workers hoped to reopen a bridge and narrow a 200-mile gap between spans; and water flowed for the first time in nine days into the mains in Des Moines, Iowa, the largest U.S. city ever to go without running water for so long.

The crisis was far from over, however.

Parts of south St. Louis were still under as much as 10 feet of water after the River Des Peres, a concrete-lined drainage channel, overran a levee. Hundreds of homes were flooded. Streets

leading into the area disappeared in a shimmer of water edged with garbage.

Evacuations continued in several Kansas communities, including a mobile home park in Kansas City, after a series of severe thunderstorms overnight, and parts of Wisconsin and Illinois remained flooded from heavy weekend rain.

Even if the heaviest rains are history, the flooding isn't going to recede quickly.

The Mississippi, still swollen in its upper reaches in Minnesota, could remain above flood stage downriver for more than two weeks, said Bob Anderson of the Army Corps of Engineers. The crest was expected to reach Cairo, Ill., on Thursday; below there, the river becomes wider and deeper and will absorb the powerful flow from the north.

And while the river remains

high, levees protecting low-lying areas become saturated and increasingly vulnerable.

Except for thunderstorms that moved from Kansas into Missouri during the day, most of the Midwest was sunny Monday. The forecast for the rest of the week called for an increasing number of scattered thunderstorms, but not the widespread deluges of recent weeks.

In the upper Mississippi basin, river levels were falling in Minnesota and Wisconsin. Farther south, the drop will come much more slowly as the Mississippi collects the overflow from many other flooded rivers.

The Mississippi crested overnight at St. Louis at 46.9 feet, more than 6 feet above the 1973 record of 43.23 feet. Twelve hours later, it had dropped one-tenth of a foot.

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# Ryan

Continued from Page 3

command. He had good bite on his curve ball, and his fastball improved as he went on.

"He did his job tonight."

For Milwaukee, Robin Yount tried to start a late comeback with an eighth-inning solo homerun, but Ranger reliever Bob Patterson and closer Tom Henke, who earned his 20th save, came in to stop the Brewers.

# Burnett

Continued from Page 3

of taking the infamous sexist ghost out, I volunteered to sit out. After all, it seemed like the best way I could serve the team.

The game started, the players took the field and there I was, on the bench.

At first I was comfortable with

my place. It seemed to fit me well, being the lethargic one who enjoys inertia. And never having been too big on kinetic energy, this all seemed rather ideal.

But about 10 minutes into the game I got a little lonely. I began to feel I wasn't involved. It wasn't for a lack of want - I was yelling and supporting the team but I just wasn't part of the action.

As boredom set in, my mind began to wander. In its wander-

ing, it stumbled upon a strange thought - how does the kid that never got to play feel?

I am 21 years old and comfortable with a non-athletic lifestyle. I love watching sports and really enjoyed my days as a wanna-be soccer player. But what about the impressionable little kids who want so desperately to be good athletes?

Remember the 7-year old who was always chosen last for kickball at recess? And what about

certainly isn't going backwards."

With the win, the Rangers now find themselves in the midst of the American League West pennant race, a place they definitely were not in when Ryan was injured. Texas, with a 47-44 record, is perched two games behind Chicago in the West and in sole possession of second place.

It's been a long time since Ryan has been in a pennant race, and this is his last chance. Now that he has shown that he can function again at full speed in the majors, is Ryan ready to give all this up now?

"Come October, it's the end," Ryan said. "It's just a matter of when in October."

# Free agency

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among the five highest paid players at his position.

Teams also have the right of first refusal for two players in 1993 and one in 1994, provided that the contract offered will make the player one of the 10 highest paid at his prospective position. The right of first refusal means that a player's original team has

# "It's been a long time coming" Kukoc released, signs with Chicago

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DEERFIELD, Ill. — After winning three straight NBA titles, the Chicago Bulls shouldn't need much help. They got it anyhow Monday, signing three-time European Player of the Year Toni Kukoc after a three-year courtship.

Despite his height, Kukoc is more skilled as a ballhandler and a shooter than as a rebounder, and the Bulls envision him pushing the ball upcourt and making

the right to match any offer made from another team to keep the rights to that player.

Players' salaries are capped at 67 percent of gross league revenues from television contracts and gate receipts.

When this ceiling is reached, the eligibility for free agency will drop from five years of experience to four.

The annual college draft has been reduced from 12 rounds to seven, but provides additional picks for teams that lose the greatest number of players due to free

agency.

Some of the other terms involved in the contract include \$195 million in damages to be paid to approximately 2000 players to compensate them for various lawsuits; the addition of two new teams by 1995; the revival of a developmental league; pay-for-view television; cooperative marketing efforts between the players' union and the league; enhanced health insurance coverage; and severance pay of \$30,000 annually for each year of play.

Last month, the Italian team Benetton Treviso released Kukoc from a contract that would have expired in 1995. A clause in the reported \$15.3 million deal let him break it after two seasons.

Kukoc wishes it could have been sooner so he could have shared in the Bulls' title drives.

"It must have been a great feeling for them," he said. "I'm sorry I couldn't be with them, but I think this is not the end of Chicago winning."

The Bulls did not release the financial details of the contract, but the deal reportedly is worth as

much as \$17.6 million over eight years.

"It's been a long time coming," Bulls vice president Jerry Krause said of signing the 24-year-old Croatian, chosen in the 1990 draft. "It's going to make our basketball team better."

"I think we can run more with Toni, look to generate more offense, feature an up-tempo game a little more," Bulls coach Phil Jackson said.

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