

# Journalists criticize Reasoner's actions

**United Press International**  
LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — An Arkansas journalism group will not take CBS' "60 Minutes" to court as reporter Harry Reasoner suggested, but members Saturday sent a rebuke to Reasoner for meeting with a school board in violation of the state's open meetings law.

Reasoner and a "60 Minutes" camera crew Wednesday interviewed four members of the Little Rock school board in a meeting closed to other members of the press.

In a draft of a letter released Saturday, the Arkansas chapter

of the Society of Professional Journalists, Sigma Delta Chi, chided Reasoner for his "outrageous performance" and criticized the reporter for making "doubly difficult" the task of "getting our public officials to respect the Freedom of Information law."

"Take us to court," Reasoner said when told Arkansas law forbids closed meetings. Reasoner said he would walk out of the interview if other reporters were present, and a program producer said "60 Minutes" never allows other reporters to be pre-

sent during a taping.

The SDX group will not sue Reasoner because it does not have the money "to take on CBS," the letter said. The interview is to be part of an upcoming program on the school district since Central High School was desegregated 25 years ago.

Herbert C. Rule III, a school board member who refused to attend the meeting because it was closed, was praised by the group for his "demonstration that any lust for the 60-Minute limelight should not exceed one's duty to obey the law."

## Warped

by Scott McCullar



# Georgia drug search halted; 500 pounds of cocaine found

**United Press International**  
ELLIJAY, Ga. — The National Guard and law officers called off a rugged mountain search Saturday for cocaine worth one half billion dollars, confident they had recovered all of the drugs dropped from a smuggler's plane.

The search in rugged, snake-

infested north Georgia mountains also attracted scores of scavengers hoping to find one of 18 canisters, worth more than \$25 million each.

Officials said they found over 500 pounds of cocaine, packed in three duffel bags and 18 fiberglass canisters.

Authorities said the cocaine

was dropped from an airplane over the mountains by a drug smuggler whose plane may have been running out of fuel.

The plane believed to have made the drop was capable of carrying twice the amount of cocaine that was found, so officials had feared another fortune in drugs may be lying around on

the ground.

The painstaking search turned up no additional containers of the drug since the canister was found Friday.

More than 100 guards ordered out by Gov. George Busbee, rolled into Ellijay trucks and jeeps Saturday morning to help state and local police and U.S. Customs agents in the search.

Morris Dan Ayers, allegedly the pilot of the plane that swooped low over the mountains Sept. 9 and made the drug drop, has been arrested.

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## '83 cars: luxury, economy

**United Press International**  
DETROIT — Ford Motor Co., Chrysler Corp. and American Motors Corp. are leading the 1983 model year parade with cars that stress aerodynamics, luxury and fuel economy.

Analysts agree the mere production of differently styled cars likely won't result in the sales surge needed to put Detroit back on the road to success.

But interest rates are falling, personal incomes rising somewhat and the economy improving in general. So the automakers' hopes spring eternal that 1983 will be the year of recovery.

Models in 1983 likely will trend toward the \$10,000 range, although price hikes this year will be minimal.

Of the automakers, Ford Motor Co. and American Motors Corp. are pushing hardest for what they feel are innovative models.

Coming out this fall are the aerodynamically styled LTD and Thunderbird — radically different versions bearing little resemblance to the old models that bore the names.

The cars have sloping, almost pointed, noses and gently curved rears. The style allows them to almost cut under the wind, reducing resistance and improving both fuel economy and performance.

Ford President Donald Petersen admits the auto company is taking a chance by introducing models that are so different from others in the mass-market class. Dealers hope the uniqueness of the cars will prompt buyers to take their checkbooks out of pockets and purses.

Ford also is introducing high-performance versions of its small Escort and Lynx models, plus a Mustang convertible that is likely to be a hot-selling specialty car.

AMC is banking heavily on the success of the Renault Alliance. The compact auto, available in two-door and four-door forms, bears a seemingly affordable \$5,995 price tag at the base model and goes up to around \$7,200 for the highest-priced car.

At first glance, the car is very similar to sedans offered by foreign automakers. It is certainly an attention-getter at AMC dealerships and the auto maker says it hopes to build about 100,000 this year.

AMC risks getting lost in the crowd of small, fuel-efficient cars when the novelty of the model wears off, however.

Chrysler's new cars are being touted as its fourth series of front-wheel drive autos. Called the Chrysler E-Class and Dodge 600, the family-sized cars range from base, no-frills models to luxury styles.

Also coming from Chrysler though not until this winter, will be a seven-passenger sedan and limousine.

# Rumours

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