

R.I.

by Paul Dirmeyer

Guard watching for pot

United Press International
AUSTIN — Texas Army National Guard helicopter pilots will try to spot marijuana fields for state police while on routine flights, officials said Monday.
DPS and Guard officials said a "memorandum of understanding" is expected to be signed within 30 days.
The agreement will permit the Guard to gather drug-related intelligence for DPS during regular duty hours, but forbids the Guard from taking an enforcement role.
Pilots of 105 Guard helicopters will be trained by DPS to

identify marijuana fields from the air, said Maj. Gen. Willie Scott, state adjutant general.
Guard pilots are to report to DPS, which will follow up with an investigation.
"We do not believe that the military should be directly involved in the law enforcement function," said Bill Pruitt, assistant commander of the DPS Narcotics Service. "But we now have a vehicle for cooperation, so the military won't just turn its head away when it sees something."
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Filmmaker plans new NBC miniseries

First Olympic team subject of show

United Press International
NEW YORK — Decades-old diary notations about a chance encounter with a member of the first U.S. Olympic team triggered filmmaker Gary Allison's idea for a miniseries about the 1896 Games in Athens.
"The First Olympics — Athens 1896," starring Angela Lansbury, David Ogden Stiers ("M-A-S-H"), Louis Jourdan, Honor Blackman ("Goldfinger") and Gayle Hunnicutt, will air May 20 and 21 on NBC.
Allison began work on the five-hour miniseries almost eight years ago.
The filmmaker had just scored a hit with his motion pic-

ture "Fraternity Row," and his agent urged him to get to work right away on another project.
"I was working on two other scripts, interesting as subjects, but they had been other people's ideas," Allison said.
In search of a story of his own, he turned to the diaries he has kept since he was a young boy.
"The minute I landed on it I knew it was wonderful."
The notations described a chance meeting he had in the early 1960s in Maryland with Robert Garrett, who won gold medals in both the shot put and discus competition in the 1896 Games.
He broke the news to Garrett

in a telephone call.
"When I told him Hoyt was dead, he said, 'Then I'm the last one.'"
He began doing research on the 1896 Games, only to find that little had been written about them other than statistical information in anthologies.
By that time, Garrett also had died. So Allison began hunting down the descendants.
"We were talking 15 families — 13 team members, the coach and the man who created them all, Dr. William Sloane (Stiers)."
The families provided Allison with pictures that have never been published, and one family had a complete set of

programs printed in Greek and French, something Allison said even the Greek government does not have.
"As I found the families, I was always greeted with, 'At long last, somebody's finally interested.'"
"Sport, as a social interest, was just being born worldwide — more potent in Europe, virtually absent in America."
One man found a picture of a discus and had a team member bring it to a local blacksmith, Allison said. The smith made a similar object that weighed 27 pounds.

FCC: cities overcharging cable

United Press International
WASHINGTON — Scores of cities nationwide are forcing cable TV systems and their subscribers to pay millions of dollars in illegally high franchise fees, the Federal Communications Commission said Monday.
The agency, which began investigating the fees last month after an industry survey claimed cities were overcharging, found that 4 percent of the cable systems in the country — including 12 in the Denver area and 25 in Pennsylvania — were being overcharged for their franchises.
Overcharges also were discovered in parts of Texas, Michigan, New York, Ohio and Louisiana.
The FCC allows franchise fees of no more than the 3 percent of gross revenues, unless a community receives special FCC permission to levy a higher fee — up to 5 percent.
The FCC began its investigation last month after a National Cable Television Association survey reported a significant portion of the nation's 812 cable systems were being over-

charged.
"The FCC's findings are proof of NCTA's contention that some cities are violating the FCC's limits on franchise fees, which were enacted to protect consumers from excessive hidden taxes," said NCTA president Thomas Wheeler.
"With its announcement today, the FCC has put the cities on notice that they must adhere to the requirements of the law and that contracts requiring unlawful franchise fees are null and void."
Jim McKinney, head of the FCC's Mass Media Bureau, said that either the FCC or the cable companies could take the cities to court if they fail to correct the situation. He refused, however, to speculate on the likelihood of any FCC legal action.
"We have to assume that people are going to come in for waivers now," said Steve Ross, head of the bureau's cable television branch.
The FCC investigation found

cable systems in these Colorado areas were being overcharged: Westminster, Arvada, Englewood, Aurora, Commerce City, Sheridan, Federal Heights, Arapahoe, Cherry Hills Village, Greenwood Hills, Castle Pines and Adams County.
In Texas, Forth Worth, Dal-

las, Farmers Branch, Mesquite and Grapevine were charging too much, with the Austin-area communities of Rollingwood and West Lake Hills still under investigation.
In New York, Brookhaven and Smithtown were not in compliance and Wheatfield and Tonawanda were being investigated.

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Mick's wife says baby has his lips

United Press International
NEW YORK — The still unnamed daughter of Rolling Stone Mick Jagger and his girlfriend, model Jerry Hall, has the lips of her famous father, Hall said.
Hall, 27, of Mesquite, Texas, was discharged Sunday from Lenox Hill Hospital, where she gave birth to a 8-pound, 2-ounce girl at 1:37 a.m. Friday.
She was seen returning from the hospital to Jagger's West Side apartment.
"The baby has the cutest lips just like her daddy," Hall said.
The child is Jagger's third daughter.
Hall said she opted for natural birth, a method that calls for the use of medication only if it is needed to address a specific problem, said Carolyn Villamil, who heads the hospital's midwifery practice program.
"There can be an increased maternal-paternal attachment because the mother is not knocked out with a lot of medication," Villamil said. "She can hear the first cries of her child, she can hold and touch that child."
Jagger's oldest daughter, Jade, 12, was born to Jagger and his Nicaraguan wife, Bianca Perez Morena de Macias. The couple divorced in 1979 after eight years of marriage.
In 1980, the multimillionaire rock star was ordered to pay singer Marsha Hunt \$16,800 for support of their 9-year-old daughter, Karis.
Hall, a 6-foot tall model, has been the major romance in Jagger's life for several years.

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