

## World and Nation

# School foils bomb scare after AIDS carriers return

ARCADIA, Fla. (AP) — A bomb threat forced temporary evacuation of an elementary school Tuesday when three brothers exposed to the AIDS virus arrived for their second day of class under court orders.

Later, a caller to the school administrative offices simply said "boom" and hung up, said DeSoto County Sheriff Joe Varnadore. After the first call, the school was searched, nothing was found and routines were resumed, said Larry Browning, school superintendent.

"We'll get to the bottom of this, particularly if they call again and I'll press charges," Browning said, call-

ing the incidents "hurtful to the school district, the children and the taxpayers."

He said tracers were being put on school telephone lines.

Arcadia's Memorial Elementary School has been the subject of protest rallies and parents' calls for a student boycott since a federal judge ruled that the Ray brothers — Ricky, 10, Robert, 9, and Randy 8 — have the right to attend classes with other children.

Many parents fear their children could be exposed to acquired immune deficiency syndrome by the brothers. Physicians maintain the virus that causes AIDS cannot be passed on through casual school

contact; the brothers have no symptoms of AIDS.

On Tuesday, 380 children showed up for class and more than 300 stayed home. On Monday's opening day, 337 students showed up.

The first bomb-threat call was received at 8:03 a.m., just as the Ray boys arrived. As on the first day, police were guarding the grounds.

Some parents who had taken their children to school decided to take them back home after the first threatening call, said Principal Donald Knoche.

DeSoto school officials barred the brothers, all hemophiliacs, from class last fall after they tested positive for antibodies to the AIDS virus.

## Dollar's rally pushes market to new high

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market moved back into record territory Tuesday, propelled upward by a rally in the dollar and Treasury bonds.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials reached another record close, gaining 25.35 to 2,722.42. It was the 55th record high for the closely-watched barometer since the beginning of the year, when the average stood at 1,895.95.

The dollar, boosted by heavy buying by central banks trying to stem its decline, ended a string of losing sessions, and analysts said the stock market, which has fallen in some recent sessions because of the dollar's weakness, responded to the currency's turnaround.

Investors have been concerned about the dollar's drop because a lower dollar carries the possibility of higher interest rates and consequently, an increase in corporate expenses.

The market also got a "buy" signal from a jump in bond prices, which were buoyed by the dollar's strength.

# Bull market raises investment gains for pension funds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The rising stock market has been a boon to state and local government retirement programs, helping make investment earnings their major source of income, according to a government analysis released Tuesday.

The Census Bureau reported investment earnings became the source of the majority of the money coming into state and local government retirement systems last year.

"The stock market is up," said Henry Wulf of the finance branch of the Census Bureau's governments division. "Everybody is helped by that if you have investments. That has to be a part of the answer."

Vic Miller of the National Conference of Public Employee Retirement Systems said, "It's been a favorable market. The fact that we fund public pension funds — state and local government funds — and put the money away in securities," has al-

lowed the improving market conditions to boost income to the plans.

The census study said earnings on investments made up 55.5 percent of the money flowing into state and local government retirement plans last year. That meant that of \$88.1 billion in receipts in fiscal 1986, some \$48.9 billion came from investments.

That share edged up from 48.6 percent in fiscal 1985 and was well ahead of the 37.1 percent that investment earnings contributed to state and local government retirement plans in 1981. In 1971, investment earnings contributed about one-quarter of the money received by retirement plans, the agency reported.

By comparison, employee contributions last year amounted to \$10.6 billion, or about 12 percent of receipts. That was down from 13.2 percent the year earlier, 16.8 percent in 1981 and 28 percent in 1971.

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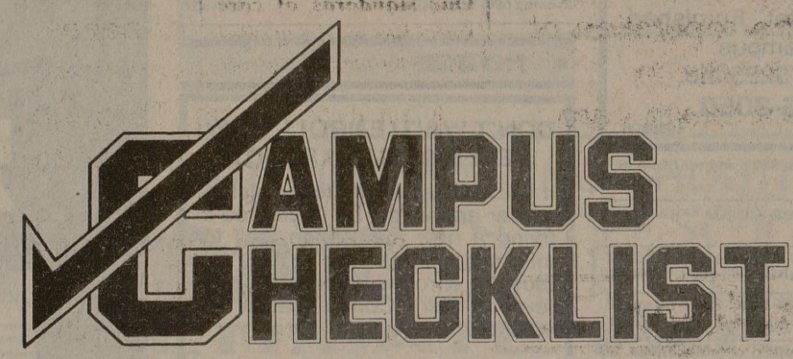
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