

AIDS

Why should I care?

AIDS in the Work Place
 410 Rudder
 10 a.m.
Gene Marcum
 Human Resources
 and Development Department
 Texas Instruments

"AIDS 101"
 MSC Flag Room
 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Ms. Sue Cooper
 Director of Social Services
 Institute for Immunological Disorders
 Houston

Changing Morals and Behaviors
 410 Rudder
 12 noon
Dr. William Simon
 University of Houston

AIDS Research
 410 Rudder
 2 p.m.
Dr. Peter Mansell
 Medical Director
 Center for
 Immunological Disorders
 Houston

**AIDS and Ethics:
 Panel Discussion**
 Rudder Theatre
 8 p.m.

Mr. Jeff Levi
 President
 National Gay & Lesbian Task Force

Dr. Earl Shelp
 Assistant Professor of Ethics
 Center for Ethics, Medicine and Public Issues
 Baylor College of Medicine

Phyllis Schlafly
 Political Activist

Moderator
Dr. Clarence Alfrey
 Medical Director
 Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center

E. L. Miller Lecture Series
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World and Nation

Official: Buildup of ice may be cause of crash

DENVER (AP) — A federal investigator Tuesday said a doomed Continental Airlines jet took off more than 23 minutes after de-icing, and a consultant said that could have been enough time for ice to build up on the wings again.

Jim Burnett, chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board, said at a news conference on the crash that killed 27 people Sunday that tapes from Stapleton International Airport's control tower show the DC-9 was de-iced at 1:51:14 p.m. Burnett would not say whether the time between de-icing and take-

off was too long, saying the investigation was incomplete. Ice can distort the shape of an aircraft wing and destroy its ability to lift an airplane.

Earlier Tuesday, Continental spokesman Bruce Hicks said the plane was de-iced within about 20 minutes of takeoff, in keeping with the airline's standard procedure. De-icing is done with a chemical spray.

"I believe it was 20 to 22 minutes," Hicks said. "It depends on the time from beginning or ending of de-icing. That's why there's a two-minute difference there. In fact, it could

have been a hair less than 20 minutes."

Hicks said Continental policy requires the cockpit crew to make an inspection every 20 minutes after de-icing to see if more is needed. "Every indication we have is that the procedure was followed accordingly," he said.

Such a delay could have allowed ice to collect on the wings, Richard Shevell, a Stanford University aeronautics professor, told The Denver Post. Shevell worked on the DC-9 design as chief of aerodynamics for McDonnell Douglas Corp. in the early 1960s.

Officials invite Gorbachev to address Congress Dec. 9

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has been invited to address a joint meeting of Congress during his summit with President Reagan next month, House officials announced Tuesday.

White House officials said Reagan should be accorded "the same opportunity" to address the Soviet people.

Gorbachev is expected to address Congress and the Cabinet at the joint meeting at 9 a.m. on Dec. 9, said Wilson Morris, a spokesman for House Speaker Jim Wright.

Gorbachev would be the first communist leader to be accorded the honor.

Morris said the White House proposed the joint meeting and the House and Senate arranged it.

Each chamber needs to agree to recess for the joint meeting by unanimous consent.

Morris said no problem is expected in obtaining unanimous consent.

However, an aide to conservative Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., said Helms and others who oppose an

appearance by Gorbachev before Congress were making plans to block the joint meeting.

The aide spoke on condition he not be identified.

A joint session is held when the House and Senate are officially in session together with the proceedings appearing in both chambers sections of the Congressional Record, such as to hear the president's State of the Union address.

Foreign leaders and others address joint meetings, which are informal.

VA may get Cabinet-level status

WASHINGTON (AP) — The House voted 399-17 Tuesday to approve legislation making the Veterans Administration, the largest independent agency of the federal government, a department with Cabinet-level status.

The measure, which received a boost last week with the endorsement of President Reagan, goes to the Senate, where it has support from conservatives and liberals alike.

Senate committee hearings originally set for February have been moved up to next month.

The change has been actively sought by advocates of the nation's 27 million veterans, including the major veterans organizations, who contend it would increase the visibility and voice of veterans as well as the VA's benefit programs.

"It's a really great day for veter-

ans," said Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, D-Miss., and chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee. "It's a long time in coming. But we're on a fast track now and that's great."

Rep. Clarence Miller, R-Ohio, told the House the bill was a fitting congressional tribute to those who have suffered all, dared all and given all.

Toy potato urged to stop smoking pipe

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mr. Potato Head, 35, quit smoking Tuesday. He gave his pipe to Surgeon General C. Everett Koop and vowed never to touch it again.

"He started to smoke the day he was born," Koop said. "Not only is it dangerous to his health, it gives the message to kids around the country that smoking is not a bad thing to do."

So pleased was Koop with Mr. Potato Head's decision that he proclaimed the giant potato the official "spokespot" for this year's Great American Smokeout, the American Cancer Society drive to get millions of Americans to give up smoking, at least for the day, on Thursday.

About 40 million Mr. Potato Heads have been sold since the Playskool toy was introduced 35 years ago, complete with stick-on eyes, ears, nose, mouth — and pipe.

Now that he has kicked the habit, Playskool officials are thinking about reshaping the mouth — which now looks a lot like a mustache — into a smile for the estimated 1 million toys manufactured each year.

First lady Nancy Reagan sent heartiest congratulations to Mr. Potato Head.

"By kicking the habit, Mr. Potato Head will not only improve his health, but will serve as a good example to young people who need to learn the importance of maintaining good health habits," Mrs. Reagan said in a message read by Koop.

World Briefs

Iraqi planes raid Iranian nuclear plant

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Iraqi warplanes raided an Iranian nuclear power plant Tuesday, killing 11 people, and an Iranian nuclear official claimed the attack could lead to another Chernobyl, Iranian news reports said.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, quoted energy official Reza Amrollahi as saying the plant contained nuclear material.

He said the raid might lead to "the same transfrontier radioactive release and radiological consequences as the Chernobyl nuclear accident," IRNA said.

Iraq did not announce that it had bombed the plant and there was no independent confirmation of the attack. Iraq has raided the plant at least five times since 1984.

Experts: Plant won't be like Chernobyl

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. nuclear experts said Tuesday the Iraqi bombing of an Iranian nuclear reactor could not produce a Chernobyl-like disaster, in which a crippled Soviet reactor spewed radioactive material into the air.

Gary Milhollin, a University of Wisconsin law professor and former Pentagon consultant on nuclear proliferation, said that Iran's two reactors at Bushehr

"are not complete, so they do not have any high level radioactive material in them."

Dan Butler, a Department of Energy spokesman, said, "There is no reactor in Iran. I've checked with three sources."

Scott Peters of the U.S. Committee on Energy Awareness said, "As far as I know there are a couple of concrete shells there."

Negotiators: Arms treaty nearly ready

GENEVA (AP) — The United States and Soviet Union ended three days of pre-summit talks Tuesday with both sides appearing confident that a treaty scrapping intermediate-range nuclear weapons will be ready for signing next month.

Reagan and Mikhail S. Gorbachev are scheduled to hold the summit in Washington Dec. 7-10.

"A great deal of progress has been made over the past three days," an American source said privately.

Negotiators ended the sessions "with a great deal of work having been accomplished, as agreed at the Oct. 30 meeting" between Secretary of State George P. Shultz and Eduard A. Shevardnadze, the Soviet foreign minister, the source said.

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