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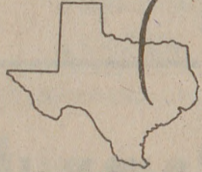
NEED NOT BE A STUDENT Y MEMBER TO RUN

Due Friday, March 30, 1990  
Election - Tuesday & Wednesday  
April 3 & 4

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Tuesday, April 3  
Rm. 302 Rudder  
Wednesday, April 4  
Rm. 27 MSC



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SEMINAR TOPICS AND SCHEDULE:

**Tuesday, April 3**  
8:30 P.M. HOW TO TRAVEL INEXPENSIVELY

**Wednesday, April 4**  
9:00 A.M. SIGHTSEEING  
11:00 A.M. HOW TO PACK & GET AROUND  
1:00 P.M. TRAVEL TIPS (PASSPORTS, I.D.'S, ETC.)  
2:00 P.M. YOUTH HOSTELING

The Battalion

# WORLD & NATION

10

Tuesday, March 27, 1990

'The devil got into me'

## Man accused of arson faces 87 murder counts

NEW YORK (AP) — The man accused of setting fire to the Happy Land social club was arraigned Monday on 87 counts of murder, and police said he told them "the devil got into me."

Authorities began shutting other illegal clubs in response to New York City's worst fire in 79 years.

The families of the 87 victims, most of whom were Honduran or Dominican immigrants, sought solace in their grief, and a government task force was set up to counsel them and help make funeral arrangements.

Julio Gonzalez, 36, was accused of setting the fire early Sunday with \$1 worth of gasoline after arguing with a former girlfriend who worked at the illegal club. He is said to have threatened to "shut this place down."

"I got angry, the devil got into me, and I set the place on fire," Gonzalez told authorities, according to a police source who spoke to the Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

During a hearing at Bronx County Criminal Court, Gonzalez was charged with 87 counts of murder committed during the course of arson; 87 counts of murder by depraved indifference to human life; one count of attempted murder; and two counts of arson.

He was held under a suicide watch at the Rikers Island jail, authorities said. The case was turned over to a grand jury, and Gonzalez will not be asked to enter a plea unless an indictment is issued.

The deaths were believed to be the most ever charged to a single suspect in the continental United States.

"He is a double animal," said Rene J. Mena, 63, whose son, Rene Jr., 30, died. "Here, they're going to have good food for him, a book, a movie. In Central America, we don't do it that way."

District Attorney Robert T. Johnson said he hoped that if Gonzalez is convicted, he would get consecutive prison sentences amounting to 2,000 years.

An equally angry Mayor David Dinkins ordered a sweep of other suspected unlicensed social clubs. Police and a special task force visited 241 clubs citywide from midnight to 7 a.m. Monday and posted vacate orders on 187.

Only 23 of the clubs were open — most are closed on Sunday nights. There were 52 safety violations and 30 summonses issued, Sgt. Dick Vreeland, a police spokesman, said.

In the East Tremont section of the Bronx, families drifted in and out of Public School 67, across from the fire-blackened club. A task force of state, city and private agencies there helped them make funeral arrangements and offered counseling and financial assistance.

"It's orderly, but it's not emotionally orderly," Ken Curtin, a local Red Cross disaster relief director, said. "It's highly charged. There are a lot of outbursts of grief."

In Honduras, a foreign ministry spokesman said the government "is deeply moved by the deaths of many countrymen in New York." The Honduran telephone company said it was swamped with calls from people seeking word about loved ones.

## Rapist gets 130-year prison term

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — A man convicted of raping and sexually mutilating a 7-year-old girl was sentenced today to more than 130 years in prison, three times the standard term for the crime.

In sentencing Earl Shriner, Pierce County Superior Court Judge Thomas R. Sauriol said the case left him more troubled and outraged than any in his 37-year legal career.

"I don't think that I have ever heard of a case that borders extreme cruelty more than this one," Sauriol said. "The reality, Mr. Shriner, you present a danger to the defenseless."

Shriner, 40, has a long history of violence toward young people.

He was convicted Feb. 7 of first-degree murder, two counts of first-degree rape and first-degree assault. The charge was choked and his penis was cut off in the attack May 20 in a wooded area near his south Tacoma home.

The victim's mother, Helen Harlow, said she was satisfied with the sentence because it would in effect be a life sentence.

Under state law, the standard range for the offenses with some of Shriner's record is 34 years to 43 years, eight months.

## Radiation technicians encouraged to walk out

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 3,000 radiation technicians at 37 nuclear power plants closed for refueling — including the South Texas Project in Bay City — were encouraged to walk off the job Monday in a nationwide effort to win union representation.

Labor leaders and utility contractors disagreed over the success of the walkout, organized by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The IBEW wants to become the workers' bargaining agent.

"All I can tell you is it's working," said IBEW official A.V. Griffies, who said it was impossible to say how many of the 3,000 technicians involved refused to go to work Monday.

Frank Ingram, a spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, said the agency had

been monitoring the situation and had not received any reports that work at the closed reactors had stopped.

"Based on today's experience at all our sites, it has been business as usual," Karen Armour, a spokeswoman at Asca Brown Boveri Inc., of Stamford, Conn., the parent of Power Systems Energy Services Inc., said.

The company has more than 600 technicians working at nine sites. Only "very few" workers failed to show, she said.

Griffies said striking workers set up only one picket line — at the Turkey Point nuclear plant south of Miami where about 100 workers stayed off the job.

Another 100 contract workers at Florida Power Corp.'s Crystal River nuclear plant re-

refused to work. Griffies declined to elaborate on why only one picket line was established or to say how long the walkout would last.

The IBEW, which already represents the majority of permanent nuclear power plant workers, targeted eight utility contractors who provide traveling "health physics technicians" reactors that close down for refueling or maintenance.

Those technicians, who monitor the level of radiation at the plants, make between \$11 and \$12 an hour and have not received pay increases in eight years, Griffies said.

Some of the largest contractors involved so far only insignificant numbers of workers had failed to report for work.

## RALLY FOR PALESTINIAN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THEIR OCCUPIED LAND



DATE: WED., MARCH 28. TIME 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
PLACE: In Front of the Academic Building

Prepared by:

-Students Against Apartheid -The Medicine Tribe  
-The Islamic Association For Palestine

## Court reviews case granting employers right to discriminate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday it will study the power of employers to exclude females of child-bearing age from hazardous jobs, a case that could affect millions of working women.

The court agreed to review a ruling that let a Milwaukee-based manufacturer of automobile batteries ban women who cannot prove they are infertile from jobs that expose them to lead.

The fetal protection policy is being challenged as a form of illegal sex discrimination because it bans women from high-paying, if hazardous, jobs.

Exposure to lead, the principal material used in making batteries, can be a health risk to workers and to the fetuses of pregnant workers.

But one judge, who dissented from an appeals court decision last year that upheld the fetal protection policy, said the ruling also could be applied to a broad range of employment, including "traditional office jobs."

The high court's decision is expected sometime in 1991.

In other action, the court: Agreed to decide in an Oklahoma City case whether some school districts may abandon forced busing after achieving racial balance.

Voted to study an appeal from Nebraska challenging the authority of states to house convicted murderers on "death rows" and keep them apart from other inmates.

Said it will consider giving federal regulators more authority to lower electricity rates, setting the stage for a ruling that could affect more than 49 million homes.

Refused to extend a key civil rights law to protect non-citizens from private, as well as governmental, bias. The justices let stand a ruling that a New Orleans bank did not discriminate illegally against a man when it denied him a credit card because he is not a citizen.

Let stand the conviction of an Indiana business for showing and selling movies "harmful to minors," rejecting arguments that the conviction and \$5,000 fine infringe free-speech rights.

In the fetal protection case, the court must interpret a federal law that bans sexual bias in employment.

Since 1982 the battery division of Johnson Controls Inc. has barred women at its factories in several states from jobs involving exposure to lead.

## Prosecutors unable to charge Honecker

No legal grounds found for high treason

EAST BERLIN (AP) — Prosecutors said Monday there were no legal grounds for charging Erich Honecker with high treason, but the deposed Communist leader still was under investigation for corruption and abuse of power.

Efforts to form a new governing coalition continued to be disrupted Monday by allegations that leading politicians had links to the former Communist secret police.

The office of chief prosecutor Hans-Juergen Joseph said two members of Honecker's Politburo — state security chief Erich Mielke and Guenter Mittag, the economics minister — also would escape treason charges but, like Honecker, were suspected of corruption and misusing their power.

Treason proceedings were dropped against Joachim Herrmann, Honecker's propaganda chief. The former Politburo member was ordered released.

Honecker, 77, was arrested in January after undergoing surgery for kidney cancer, but was freed the next day, and Mielke also has been released for health reasons. Mittag remains in custody.

Prosecutors had said earlier that Honecker, Mielke and Mittag would be indicted and put on trial this month for high treason, which carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

Joseph said in a statement Monday, however, that treason indictments were not warranted and the three men also had been cleared of conspiracy charges in the case.

His statement, carried by the state-run news agency ADN, accused Honecker and his lieutenants of "persistent breaches of the constitution."

It added, however, that the actions were part of a one-party Stalinist system and suggested treason charges against individuals would not be appropriate.

Honecker and Mittag, 64, are accused of embezzling state funds to build vacation homes and provide other personal comforts for themselves.

A range of accusations against Mielke, 84, stem from his control of the formerly all-powerful state security apparatus.

Indictments are not expected before May or June, Joseph told the Associated Press.

**BRAZOS BINGO** DOORS OPEN 6:00 P.M. BEGINNERS WELCOME!

Speed (Ex Fri) 6:45  
1st Session 7:15  
2nd Session 9:00

**TUES: BEGINNERS' NIGHT**  
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**THURS: 1/2 Price Option**  
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**Girls Just Wanna Have Fun!**

**HOW:** Modeling the latest trends in fashion and hairstyles  
**WHEN:** Thursday, March 29, 1990 at 10:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** The Mercury Bar  
**WHY:** For the FUN of it!

**SPONSORED BY:** The Other Eclips  
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**Collegiate FFA Business Meeting & Movie Madness-Kolache Social**  
Tuesday March 27 7:00 p.m.