

# World News Briefs

## Indian gov't must pay for tattoo removals

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — The government must pay plastic surgeons to remove the word "pickpocket" tattooed on the foreheads of four women, a court ruled Monday.

The women alleged that police scarred their foreheads because they refused to help an officer searching for Sikh separatists in Punjab. The police say citizens tattooed them as a warning to potential victims of pickpockets.

The case comes at a time when Indian courts are increasingly critical of police officers for violating human rights while investigating crimes.

Judges A.P. Chaudhry and G.C. Garg of the Punjab High Court asked the women to meet with doctors Thursday to schedule surgery, their lawyer, H.S. Grewal, said in an interview.

The judges said a report by three doctors indicated the tattoos could be removed, Grewal said.

The women were arrested in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar in December for allegedly stealing a tourist's purse. They women say they are innocent.

They claimed that a police officer used a ballpoint pen to write "pickpocket" on their foreheads, and a tattooist then used an electric needle to make the mark permanent.

## North Korea sets terms for arms deal

TOKYO (AP) — North Korea on Sunday denounced U.S. plans to bolster South Korea's missile defenses as a warlike move and said they must be scrapped if Washington hopes to reach agreement on inspections of the North's

nuclear program.

Last week, the United States disclosed plans to send Patriot missile batteries to South Korea to boost defenses against a possible North Korean rocket attack.

Tensions already are high over the North's refusal to accept full international inspections of its nuclear facilities, a stand that has deepened suspicions that the country is developing nuclear weapons.

## Arafat holds off on signing peace accord

JERUSALEM (AP) — The Palestinians had expected to sign a draft agreement on implementing the PLO-Israeli accord during talks in Switzerland but Israel asked for more time, PLO leader Yasser Arafat said Monday.

He spoke a day after he and Israeli

Foreign Minister Shimon Peres concluded two days of talks on untying some of the knots blocking the historic accord. Although no agreement was signed, both sides reported progress.

On Monday, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was studying a draft agreement drawn up by Peres and Arafat in Davos, Switzerland.

Peres and Arafat were to meet again Sunday, and talks between the PLO and Israel are to reopen Tuesday in Cairo, Egypt.

## Fire destroys historic theater in Barcelona

BARCELONA, Spain (AP) — Fire destroyed the 146-year-old Gran Teatre del Liceu on Monday, less than a year before Spain's leading opera house was to undergo a major restoration.

The fire department said the cause of the blaze on Barcelona's picturesque Ramblas Boulevard had not been determined. It broke out shortly after 11 a.m. behind the theater's stage and within an hour had spread through the building, causing much of the roof to collapse.

One person was slightly injured by burns and several were treated for smoke inhalation.

Jordi Pujol, head of the Catalunya regional government, said the theater would be rebuilt immediately. The city and regional government had been planning a \$28 million restoration that would have shut the theater two years.

The Liceu opened in 1847 with a performance of Donizetti's "Anna Bolena," and its operatic stage was second only in size to that of La Scala in Milan, Italy. It evolved from a group of city militiamen who started giving musical performances to raise money to buy guns and uniforms.

# Ode to a trowel

## Proper care of garden tools will ensure long, happy life

The Associated Press

POUND RIDGE, N.Y. — Garden tools are orphans when it comes to tender loving care. If roses and tomatoes are the joy of gardening, tool maintenance, or lack of it, features the shame.

A poet could write an ode to trowel and spade loyally doing their master's bidding even after having been abandoned for days in the rain and mud. Expensive power equipment gets better treatment but hardly the best, from many of us.

I'm scrupulous about regularly cleaning up my computer files. But the same degree of prevention just doesn't extend to gardening equipment. Perhaps it's because a beat-up trowel seems to work as well as a new one in digging a tomato hole, and the plant's main concerns after planting will be sun, soil and moisture, not tools.

Now and then I see a magazine article describing the proper care of garden tools. I fall so far short that my face reddens just looking at the illustrations.

For example, we're told always to keep our hoes and shovels out of the rain and to clean and oil them after each use. We should take care — every time, mind you — to get the dirt out of hollow places and crevices where wood meets metal to prevent the build-up of corrosion.

We're also reminded to sand and varnish wooden handles and to keep cutting edges sharp by filing them at carefully prescribed angles. We should also make sure nuts and bolts on handles are kept tight.

We should regularly lubricate clippers and pruning shears and wash them with soap and warm water to remove sticky sap, using turpentine, too, if necessary.

Losing tools in weeds or under mulch happens frequently. But how many of us take the precaution of painting handles bright colors so we can see them better?

Even without care, of course, hand tools often last for years. Depending on your degree of tidiness and thriftiness, this durability can go on for generations. And if a wooden handle wears out or breaks, you can replace it without having to buy a completely new tool.



Ellen Little, a senior recreation and parks major, lives six hours away from her husband and 13-year-old son in Del Rio.

## Sacrifice

Continued from Page 3

Renner's youngest, Michael, was actually born while Renner was in the Corps of Cadets in 1986.

"He was the first Corps baby," she said.

Renner said during her pregnancy, the people in the Corps and her professors could not have been more understanding.

Renner said she still had to go to all the Corps functions. But she did manage to get out of a test or two.

"One of my professors was so afraid I was going to go into labor in class he let me skip the final and just get a course work grade," she said.

"Go have that baby," he said. I think he thought I was going to pop."

Although their professors have been very understanding, some student parents think there are a couple of things the University could do to make things a little less stressful.

"A child's illness is not a University excused absence," Renner said. "That makes it very difficult if your child is so ill you have to stay home with him."

"I think if it the illness is so severe that the physician has said the parent should stay with the child, then it ought to be an excused absence," Little

said. In addition, many parents feel it would be a great contribution if the University could possibly donate a room or some type of facility to donate as a day care.

"I think it would be wonderful if we could get some kind of room for the parents to run their own day care," Oliver said. "I had to get financial aid to pay for day care which costs me \$130 a week."

Oliver suggested parents rotate turns going to classes and watching the children, or perhaps elementary education majors could volunteer their services to gain experience with children.

"The parents could donate old toys and other necessities," Oliver said.

Despite the sacrifices and the limited time, most student parents say it's definitely worth it. In fact, some cite the fact that they have families as an advantage.

"Our families are really good motivators," Little said. "Without them, I know some of us would give up and go."

"They give me lots of stability and I've learned time management and to be more responsible because of them," Oliver said. "They are a great advantage to me. After all, your family is always there for you."

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