

THE BATTALION DEBRIEFING

Page
Tuesday • October 1, 1996

► People in the news

Lawyer asks judge to block prosecution

DETROIT (AP) — Dr. Jack Kevorkian's lawyer asked a federal judge on Monday to block authorities from prosecuting the retired pathologist again for helping people commit suicide.



Kevorkian

"Does a state have the right to make you suffer? The answer absolutely has to be no," Geoffrey Fieger told U.S. District Judge Gerald Rosen. "It is the role of this court to protect us from unfettered government."

Fieger appealed to Rosen one day after Kevorkian helped Richard Faw, a 71-year-old psychiatrist from Wilson, N.C., kill himself.

Faw, who suffered from colon cancer, died of carbon monoxide poisoning, said Medical Examiner L.J. Dragovic, who ruled the death a homicide.

Dragovic said autopsy results showed Faw's colon had been removed and that he had cancer in his colon area, lymph nodes, lower belly and bones. But he said other organs were cancer-free and that Faw wasn't terminally ill.

Prospective juror claims ignorance

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) — They said it couldn't be done: Attorneys in the O.J. Simpson civil case found a prospective juror Monday who claims to know nothing about the criminal trial and couldn't care less.



Simpson

"Do you have any strong feelings at all about this case?" asked plaintiff attorney Daniel Petrocelli.

"No I don't," said the woman, who is in her 20s. "I don't even know when it started or ended. I don't have any opinion of anything."

She said she was busy going to school and working and didn't read newspapers or watch TV.

"Are you aware of Shannon Lucid, the woman who orbited the earth over 300 times?" Simpson attorney Robert Baker asked.

"No," the woman said. "Well, she knows more than you know about this case," he said, drawing laughter in the courtroom.

The woman was not challenged by either side and was allowed to remain on the prospective jury panel.

► State

Military begins housing demolition

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — The Army on Monday began demolishing a vacated Fort Bliss subdivision that had put the military at odds with activists who wanted the homes turned into low-income housing.

A coalition of community organizations remained opposed to the removal of the 138 duplexes that make up the Hayes subdivision, but a group spokesman said it had no legal way to intervene.

"We don't really have much power to stop them," said Steve Juen, president of El Pasoans for Affordable Housing.

The Army plans to use the land for 130 new homes to be built during the next two years for military personnel.

► Nation

Billionaire helps legal immigrants

WASHINGTON (AP) — Upset by a "mean-spirited" law denying food stamps, SSI and other federal aid to legal immigrants, billionaire philanthropist George Soros is pledging \$50 million to help those hurt by the new welfare law.

The Hungarian-born financier,

who emigrated to the United States in 1956 and became a citizen in the early 1960s, announced Monday that he's establishing the Emma Lazarus Fund.

Named after the poet whose words — "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free..." — are inscribed on the Statue of Liberty, the fund will make the money available immediately, Soros told a news conference.

The idea, he said, is to provide direct assistance — payment for English-language instruction, civic education, even the \$95 fee required for naturalization.

Congress sends budget to Clinton

WASHINGTON (AP) — With just hours to spare Monday, a battle-weary Senate sent President Clinton a \$389 billion spending bill for scores of federal agencies and a tightening of immigration laws, the Republican-led 104th Congress' last major legislation.

The catchall bill contains \$6.5 billion in extra money that Clinton demanded for education, drug-fighting and other programs and pushes overall spending nearly as high as it was before Republicans captured Congress two years ago.

It also drops GOP-written immigration provisions the White House argued were too severe, such as

one barring federally paid AIDS care for illegal immigrants.

The 84-15 vote sent the measure to Clinton, who promised to sign it so that the 1997 fiscal year can begin Tuesday without a rerun of last year's partial government shutdowns. Forty-six Democrats and 38 Republicans voted for the legislation, while one Democrat and 14 Republicans opposed it.

The House approved the measure Saturday night, 370-37, and with a pre-election adjournment approaching, most of its members immediately left Washington.

While bent on speeding home for their re-election races, senators saw their hopes of adjourning for the year immediately dimming because of a dispute over a separate bill authorizing air traffic systems. Democrats complained that it contained language to help Federal Express prevent its truck drivers from unionizing.

Man dies after watching eclipse

SELMA, Ore. (AP) — A man who went to the hot springs in the desert to watch a lunar eclipse was found dead the next day in the 117-degree water.

Kevin Williams, 35, died of hyperthermia at Mickey Hot Springs in the Alvord Desert, an autopsy found.

Authorities awaited results of toxicology tests to determine if

Williams was under the influence of drugs. However, state police found 74 marijuana plants and 200 pounds of dried hallucinogenic mushrooms at his house.

A friend who accompanied Williams to the hot springs authorities he had gone to bed with Williams up by himself Thursday night of a full eclipse of the moon.

► World

Russian population continues decline

MOSCOW (AP) — Fertility rates and births are continuing to decline, according to the government said Monday.

The state Statistics Committee said the population declined 147.7 million from 148 million during the first six months of the year. However the rate of decline was less steep than in the first months of 1995.

Russia's population and life expectancy have been falling since the late 1980s because of declining health and living standards.

The committee said the declining population decline reflected in part, fewer marriages and a rising number of divorces. In 1995 there were 9.1 births per 1,000 people during the first half of the year, compared to 9.5 births per 1,000 people during the same period last year.

► This day in history

(AP) — Today is Tuesday, Oct. 1, the 275th day of 1996. There are 91 days left in the year.

On this date:
In 1908, Henry Ford introduced the Model T automobile to the market; each car cost \$825.

In 1949, Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-tung raised the first flag of the People's Republic of China during a ceremony in Beijing.

In 1961, Roger Maris of the New York Yankees hit his 61st home run during a 162-game season, compared to Babe Ruth's 60 home runs during a 154-game season.

In 1962, Johnny Carson succeeded Jack Paar as regular host of NBC's "Tonight" show.

In 1964, the Free Speech Movement was launched at the University of California at Berkeley. Ten years ago: Former President Jimmy Carter's

presidential library and museum were dedicated in Atlanta with help from President Reagan, who said he and his predecessor had come together in "mutual respect."

Five years ago: President Bush strongly condemned the military coup in Haiti, suspending U.S. economic and military aid and demanding the immediate return to power of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

► Today's birthdays

(AP) — Actor Walter Matthau is 76. Actor James Whitmore is 75. Former President Jimmy Carter is 72. William Rehnquist, chief justice of the United States, is 72. Actor Tom Bosley is 69. Actress-singer Julie Andrews is 61. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Rod Carew is 51. Actor Randy Quaid is 46.

► Weather

Today	Tonight	Tomorrow	Highs & Lows
			Today's Expected: 83°F Tonight's Expected: 62°F Tomorrow's Expected: High 85°F, Low 75°F

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Visit the nation's top business and law schools

Chicago (University of Chicago, Northwestern)
Boston (Harvard, MIT, JFK School of Government)
New York (NYU, Columbia)

January 5-12, 1997

Informational meetings will be held on Tuesday, October 15, Wednesday, October 9 at 7:00 pm in room 216T in the MSC. Meetings are in the Student Programs Office - SPO - on the second floor.

Participants will be selected based on academic performance, extracurricular activities, and interest in future law or business careers.

Applications will be available in the MSC SPO in the MBA booth on October 1. For more information contact: RJ Kosadnar 693-3741 • Paul Henry 845-1515 • mbalaw.tamu.edu

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Number 5...Instead of a Fun Run for your favorite charity, hold a "Fun Sleep" - Easier to meet your goal and no trouble finding volunteers.

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Number 3...Share your most recent parking ticket by placing it on the closest car with the same make and model as yours

Number 2...On game days, only charge people \$3 to park on your lawn instead of the usual \$5

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