AIDS predicted to spread in Africa

Disease kills 19 million, expected to wipe out half of teen-age generation

GENEVA (AP) — AIDS has killed 19 million people worldwide, but the worst is yet to come, the United Nations predicted Tuesday: the disease is expected to wipe out half the teen-agers in some African nations, devastating economies and societies.

"There is a whole generation which is being taken out," said Peter Piot, head of the U.N. Joint Program on HIV/AIDS. He said vulnerable countries in Asia, Eastern Europe and the Caribbean risk a similar catastrophe unless they act now to control infection rates.

In its 135-page report released Tuesday, UNAIDS estimates:

•The virus has killed 19 million people worldwide, up from 16.3 million at the end of 1998. It has infected 34 million more, including 5.4 million last year alone.

•More than 13 million children have been orphaned by AIDS.

•In 16 sub-Saharan African countries, more than one-tenth of the population ages 15-49 carries the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, or HIV.

•In seven of those countries, at least one-fifth of the population is infected.

One of the countries where 20 percent of the population is infected is South Africa, which has 4.2 million people who are HIV positive — the largest single national total. The southern African nation of Botswana has the worst rate, with more than one in three adults infected. That is the equivalent of 90 million people out of the U.S. population of 270 million.

"The probability that you die from AIDS when you are 15 today is over 50 percent in these countries," Piot told a press conference.

"We are going into societies where there are more people in their 60s and 70s than there are in their 40s and 30s," he said. "This is unheard of."

With dwindling numbers of economically active adults left to support the rest of the population, the impact on poor African nations is devastating.

Agricultural production in nations like Zimbabwe, where 2,000 people die each week of AIDS, is falling. Businesses are going bankrupt because of the deaths of skilled, educated staff members, according to the report.

Hopes of better education are also in tatters. The number of new teachers trained in Zambia is just keeping pace with the number felled by AIDS. Children are leaving school because they are orphaned or forced to work to support their families.

Hospitals are overwhelmed by AIDS patients. Many have inadequate supplies of even basic an-

News in Brief

Modern mummification availabl

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — If burial sounds boring and cremation leaves you cold, here is another idea: mummification.

This is not your standard wrap, either. We are talking high-tech interment, a combination of ancient art and tomorrow's science. The basic procedure can run about $63,000, according to Summum, a Salt Lake City religious group that says there is little use in shopping around.

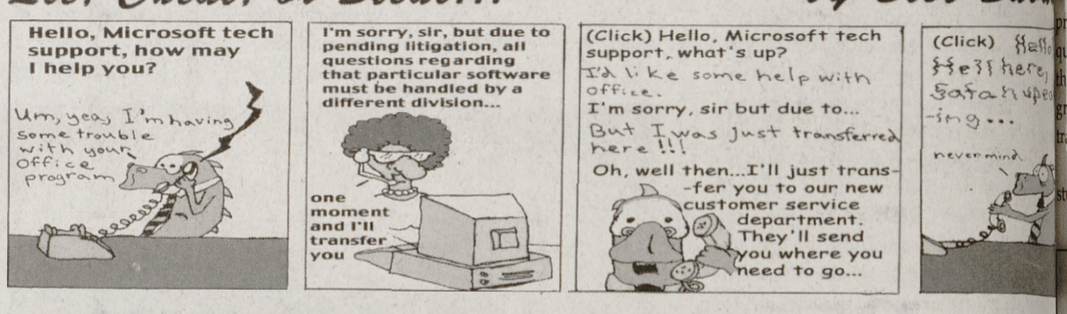
"We're the only ones worldwide that do modern mummification," said Corky Ra, Summum's founder and leader.

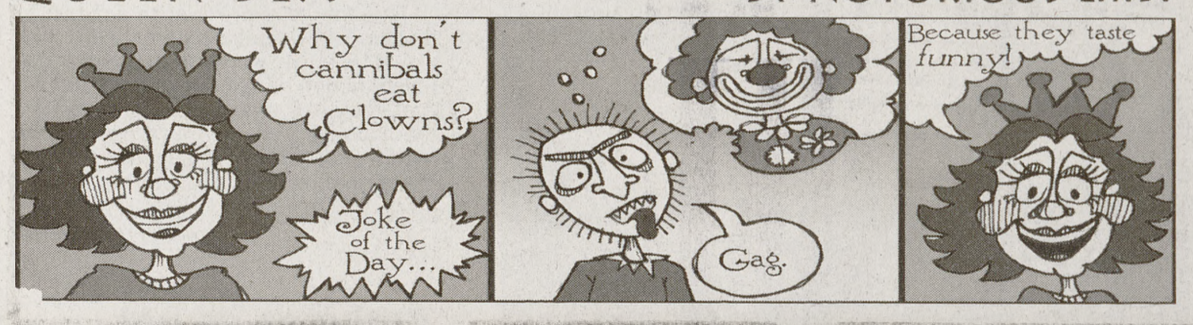
Think of mummification as just another option for those who don't want to go out the old-fashioned way.

There are already burials at sea, burials in space, chrome-edge caskets for Harley-Davidson bu and coffins customized with co puter software. The ashes of t dearly departed can be dropp from a plane, entombed in a co reef or used to grow bonsai trees.

"There has been a trend in neral service over the past deca or so toward more personali and individualized funeral ser rituals," said Kelly Sm spokesman for the National neral Directors Association.

Summum started research mummification in 1979, practic on 30 cadavers contributed b local medical school. Its meth is more advanced than traditio mummification, which involve salt-like preservative called na and yards of linen.





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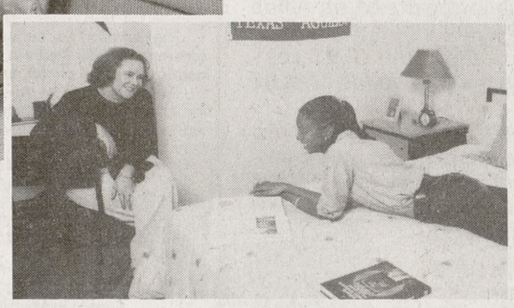

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- Vanity & Dressing Area
- Full-Size Bed with Dresser (not available in shared bedrooms)
- Double or Walk-in Closets
- Desk & Chair in Every Bedroom
- In-Room Internet Access
- Private Telephone Line Available
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Every student has access to:

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- Residence Life Staff
- Reserved Garage Parking
- Fitness Center
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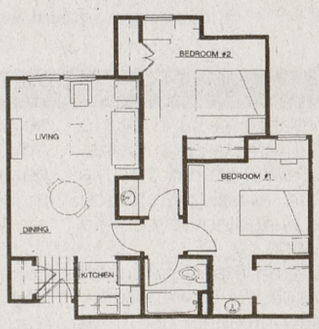
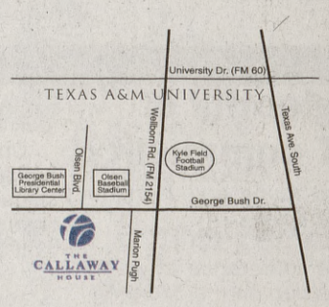
- Courtesy Patrol
- Indoor Recreation Center
- Mini-Theater
- 24-hour Computer Lab
- Secluded Study Rooms
- Laundry Facilities
- Pool & Sundeck





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