Monday, September 18, 2000 WORLD orable tician • serve two days a mont or serve tw

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wed May to remain in the partment provision by de r the good of the militar days and more than 300 movies at the earing the case at the Amy world's ultimate "people's" film fesburb south of Los Angela tival, the people have spoken.

Crouching Tiger, Hidden Tiger, Ang rd's decision shows "ha Lee's historical action-romance, was named the winner Sunday of the Peodoes not work," sai bel, legal director of the ple's Choice Awards at the Toronto mbers Legal Defense Net-International Film Festival. n-profit organization th Lee is a native of Taiwan best

tary members facing dis known for such English-language ause of their sexual orienmovies as The Ice Storm and Sense nd Sensibility. His current film,

lews in Brief

ical storm

s strength

nds just below hurrican

h, drenching rain and

on's top sustained wind n 75 mph early Sundayt

aying put.

my is kicking out a high however, is set during the Qing dynd valued officer today. Th nasty in China and stars Chow Yunhe Army and the America Fat as a martial arts warrior who obel said. "This sends the longs to retire. ssage to the public abo

"There's an innocence, a pure my values the contribution magic of movement to this movie,' said festival director Piers Handling rmy began investigation "It takes you back to your childhood he acknowledged his to days, when people fly across rooftops ty in the Statehouse during and have sword fights in trees."

1999 hearing on a billt The Dish, an Australian comedy about the 1969 moon landing, finnment benefits for employeen open about his sexu ished second among audience voters. Previous winners have included r elected office in 1996. American Beauty, Shine and Life is arks after he was honorable re he was recalled to active ring the Kosovo crisis.

This was the 25th year of the fesval, which ended Saturday, and it vas marked by appearances from Swyneth Paltrow, Al Pacino, Ed Harris and many other celebrities. But what defined the 25th festival is that has defined it from the start: he public

AR KEY, Fla. (AP) - Tr Unlike Cannes, Toronto is where filmmakers get to show their work to "We were very worried a few ageneral audience. For the past week years ago that the industry side would s.Gulf Coast on Sund

TORONTO (AP) — After 10 and a half, lines formed in lobbies, down stairwells, around street corners and back again. Film lovers woke up early, went to bed late, used up vacation time and came out to see everything from Midnight Madness horror screenings to comedies in the morning.

"It takes you

back to your

childhood days,

when people fly

across rooftops

and have sword

fights in trees."

"I cut out of work to see a cou-

ple of movies," admitted 27-year-

old Andrew Egan, a bank program-

mer who stood in the late summer

cold one morning to catch a show-

the Toronto festival can be likened to

a small business that grows beyond

its own expectations. The challenge

becomes how to handle all the extra

customers without losing what made

it special in the first place.

Once a far more intimate affair,

ing of The Dish.

— Piers Handling

festival director

crowd out the public side," Handling said. "So we just added press and industry screenings. In fact, it was press people who had a hard time getting to see movies.' Toronto has been known to

"make" films. In 1999, response to American Beauty was widely believed to be a major step to its Academy Award success six months lat-er. In previous years, productions such as Robert Duvall's The Apostle and the German action film Run Lola Run picked up U.S. distributors thanks to that mysterious, essential aura known as "buzz."

This year, however, there were no obvious favorites. Festival bees buzzed among several movies, including the Australian romance Innocence, the British comedy Billy Elliott and the American political drama The Contender.

For salespeople, the 25th Toronto festival was the busiest yet; Toronto now challenges Cannes and Sundance as an industry showcase. From the Iranian drama The Circle to the Thai gangster movie Bangkok Dangerous, films received distribution deals all over the world.

"This is my 10th festival and it was the most successful so far," said Wouter Barendrecht, chair of Fortissimo Film Sales, a company based in Hong Kong that represented Bangkok Dangerous and several other releases.

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luntary evacuation wa DOBROSIN, Yuay on the small island of Key, directly in the storm goslavia (AP) - The bout 100 miles north leader of an ethnic Albanbut many of this rust ian rebel army in southern town's 800 resident Serbia claimed Sunday hat Serbian forces are assing in the Albanian-

ton proposes majority region in the runp to Yugoslav elections. eased funds The rebel group is preared to fight back if the serbs attack ahead of the HINGTON (AP) - Pres Sept. 24 presidential and inton proposed spend parliamentary elections,

on to remedy what hesi said Bexhet Mehmeti, a equate staffing at nursi commander in the Liberathe "number one culp" tion Army of Presevo, to neglect for too me Medvedja and Bujanovac, UCPMB would boycott next week's elections — a sentenced to 10 days in rested while attending a

insignia.

Yugoslav government may try to distract attention from problems inside Serbia during the election by creating tension in the sensitive area near the U.S.-patrolled Kosovo boundary.

Belgrade considers the UCPMB a terrorist organization and blames it for numerous attacks on its forces. It also claims a number of Serbs have fled the region.

Mehmeti said the known by its Albanian-lan- precedent set by rebel Al- prison each for spraying course for elections monibanians in Kosovo in the "The number of Serb early 1990s The group first ap-

ers have repeatedly said Mehmeti claimed the they do not support the rebels' actions and have conducted several raids on suspected weapons stockpiles of the group inside Kosovo. The

peacekeepers moved into Kosovo last year, following NATO bombing aimed at halting Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic's crackdown on ethnic Albanians in the province.

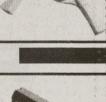
In Belgrade on Sunday,

The slogan referred to Milosevic, who hopes to be re-elected president. Independent polls show him trailing the leading opposi-tion candidate Vojislav Kostunica.

Kostunica warned Saturday evening that Milosevic would use "thugs and liars" to rig the upcoming ballot if necessary to stay in power.

Also Sunday, 15 activists from the non-governmental Center for Free Elections





mericans. er Americans, who ha guage acronym UCPMB. hard all their lives, spect, not neglect," (forces has been increasing d Saturday in his wee recently and continuously. ddress. He was broad There are reinforcements n the Washington Hor able nursing home not^{*} around this area," Mehmeti told reporters, flanked by e White House Republican-controlled@ two men armed with rifles which expects to consid and wearing uniforms with the group's red and black

are this fall, "will try to fi dle ground" on a variety said John Czwarta man for Senate Major Trent Lott, R-Miss.

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peared in January. It is unand order.' Members of Otpor, clear how large the rebel which translates as "Reforce is, although it claims sistance," the students to have support and potenwere accused of scrawltial fighters throughout the ethnic Albanian majority ing "He's finished" on buildings in a Belgrade area of southern Serbia. suburb Saturday. NATO-led peacekeep-

tors in the central Serbian anti-government graffiti. A Serbian court found them town of Knic, the indepenguilty of violating "law dent Beta news agency reported. They were released later in the day.

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which The group, hopes to monitor the ballot, has been targeted by the authorities, who raided several of their offices recently.

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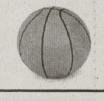
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