

## INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL ABROAD



MSC L.T. Jordan Institute for International Awareness

### Informationals

October 9 5:00 pm MSC 230  
October 10 5:30 pm MSC 230  
October 10 8:30 pm MSC 230  
October 11 4:00 pm Rudder 502  
October 16 7:30 pm MSC 203  
October 17 5:30 pm MSC 203

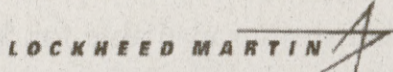
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## NY mayor denies racial profiling

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Rudolph Giuliani on Thursday angrily denied reported Justice Department findings that an elite unit of the New York City Police Department (NYPD) engaged in racial profiling while conducting an aggressive campaign of street searches.

The inquiry by federal prosecutors began after the 1999 shooting death of Amadou Diallo, an unarmed African immigrant killed by four members of the Police Department's Street Crime Unit. The officers, acquitted earlier this year, had said Diallo matched the description of a rape suspect.

In a 30-minute tirade at City Hall on Thursday, Giuliani said if officers ignored the race of possible suspects, the city's crime rate would skyrocket, and he questioned the timing of the leak of the findings, coming one month before the November elections.

"There's obviously something going on in the Clinton administration to try to target police depart-

ments unfairly; but to target the NYPD is absurd," Giuliani said.

"There is no racial profiling in the New York City Police Department," the mayor said. "We will fight this case anywhere."

Attorney General Janet Reno declined to comment, and White House officials referred questions to Reno's office.

Under civil rights laws, the Justice Department could ask a judge to order broad changes in the operations of the NYPD's Street Crimes Unit and possible oversight by a federal monitor. Giuliani denied reports his staff had met with U.S. attorneys to try to avert a lawsuit.

Federal prosecutors based their findings, reported by the New York Times and New York 1 television, on a statistical analysis of people searched by the unit's officers because they were suspected of committing crimes or carrying guns. New York 1, citing unidentified sources, said investigators found blacks and

Latinos accounted for 85 percent of stop-and-frisk cases.

Herbert Haddad, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office, would say only that the investigation was continuing.

**"There is no racial profiling in the New York City Police Department. We will fight this case anywhere."**

— Rudy Giuliani  
New York City mayor

Giuliani said that although 89.2 percent of the suspects stopped and frisked are black or Hispanic, that number corresponds to the percent-

age of blacks and Hispanics identified by witnesses as criminal suspects.

The mayor did not say what percentage of stop-and-frisk stops done from witness complaints compared to those done at the discretion of officers, and the NYPD did not release the figures.

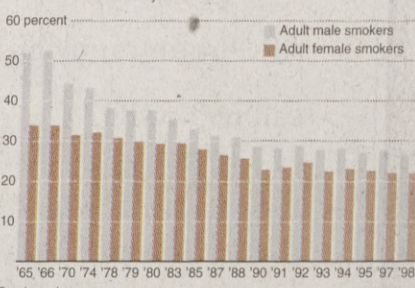
The NYPD's stop-and-frisk cases have been under review by other agencies, as well. In June, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights concluded that the department properly used racial profiling to stop and question people. In December, the state attorney general's office issued a report saying blacks and Hispanics are more likely to be stopped and frisked by city officers.

Giuliani and Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik defended the unit's officers. The Street Crime Unit, comprised of undercover officers who patrol high-crime areas, has been credited for greatly reducing violent crime in the 1990s.

## Adult smoking holds steady

### Smoking steadily

Despite the aids developed to help smokers kick the habit and the anti-tobacco campaigns of the 1990s, the number of American adults who smoke remained relatively constant.



Smokers, by age group

Source: Centers for Disease Control

ATLANTA (AP) — The number of American adults who smoke held steady in 1998 at one in four — a rate that hardly budged during the 1990s despite anti-tobacco campaigns and new kick-the-habit aids like nicotine gum and the patch.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday that 24.1 percent of Americans 18 and older smoked cigarettes in 1998, the latest year for which figures are available. The rate was 24.7 percent in 1997 and 25.5 percent in 1990.

The numbers fall far short of the CDC's goal of cutting the adult smoking rate to 15 percent by 2000.

The nation's smoking rate has dropped sharply since 1965, when 44 percent of adults were smokers. The figure leveled off in the 1990s — hovering between 24.1 and 26.5 percent — in part because smoking increased among 18-to-24-year-olds, who probably started in high school, the CDC said.

Dr. Corinne Husten, a medical officer with the CDC Office on Smoking and Health, said there are signs the smoking rate can go much lower.

The 1998 survey found that only 11.3 percent of college-educated adults smoke and 39.2 percent of adult smokers had tried to quit in the preceding year.

### — News in Brief

#### Father convicted in child's death

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — A man accused of smothering his 9-year-old daughter because she did not get along with the woman he loved was convicted of murder Thursday.

William Brad Jackson, 32, faces 20 to 28 years in prison at sentencing. No sentence was set.

Jackson had reported his daughter, Valiree, missing October 20 to 28 years in prison for touching off a monthlong search by volunteers and police. At his trial, Jackson admitted he buried Valiree but denied killing her. He said he panicked after finding her lifeless body.

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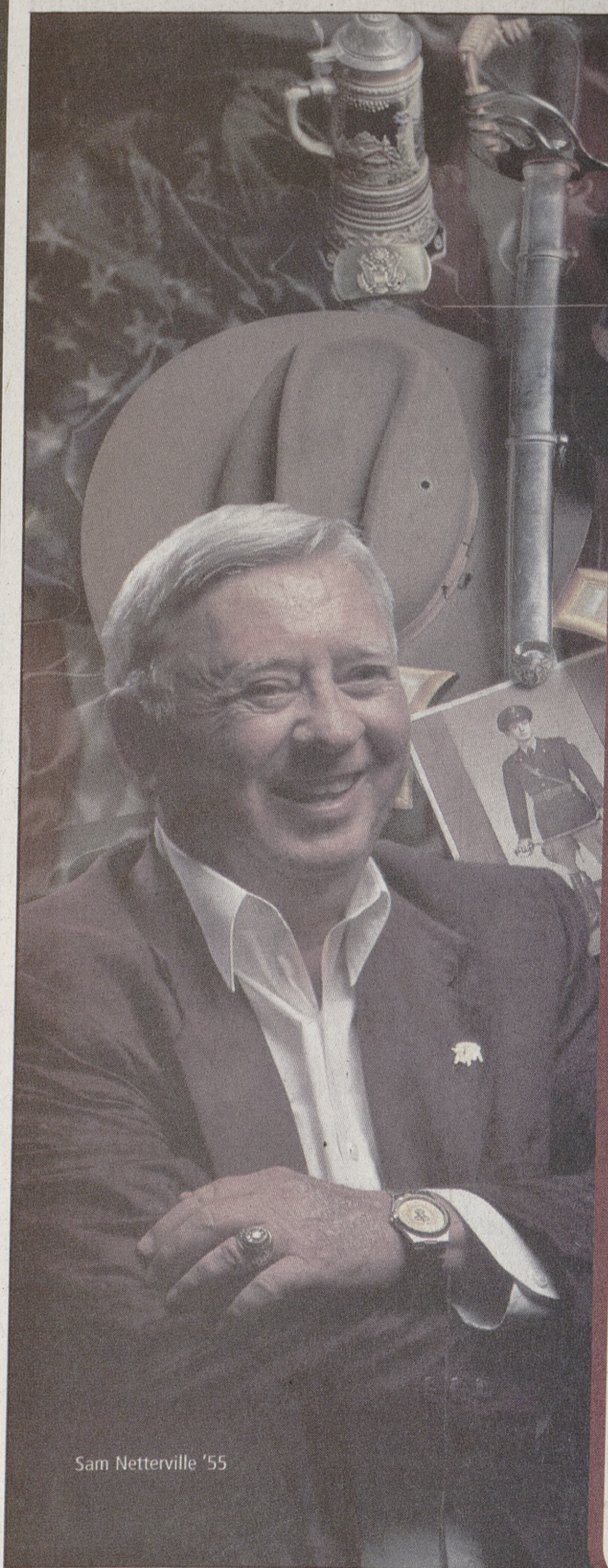
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Sam Netterville '55

## My Aggie Ring Made A Total Stranger Cry

About 15 years ago, I was in Amsterdam, Holland having a drink in a local bar. An old man leaned over and asked to see my Ring. He showed it to him, tears began to flow from his eyes. I asked him why he was crying.

He recalled that during World War II his family were literally starving to death while hiding in a basement from the German Army. An American Army officer rescued them. He was wearing an Aggie Ring. The elderly gentleman went on to say that he looks for the Aggie Ring wherever he goes. Then he leaned over and said "God Bless Texas Aggies". Then we both cried.

Knowing you have the Aggie Spirit is one thing, but feeling it like I did that night is something I will never forget. I am The Aggie Network.



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