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SUBJECT: News - Afternoon Edition @ 05/19/98

TO: Brian A. Reich ( Brian A. Reich@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )

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TEXT:

Afternoon Edition for Tuesday, May 19, 1998

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U.S. Front Page Stories

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\*\*\* Chinese missile report revives campaign scandal

An explosive allegation that President Clinton's Democratic Party received campaign money from the Chinese military has breathed new life into a scandal that had seemed ready to fade away. Republicans led by Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott and House Speaker Newt Gingrich were quick to pounce on the report in the New York Times that former Democratic Party donor Johnnie Chung had told Justice Department investigators that in 1996 he gave to the Democrats \$100,000 he received from China's People's Liberation Army. Lott and Gingrich both vowed to set up new investigations of the allegation by Chung, who is cooperating with a Justice Department criminal probe of Democratic fund raising in the 1996 presidential election as part of a plea bargain agreement. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232690-9d8>

\*\*\* Bipartisan group has plan to save Social Security

Democrats and Republicans in Congress proposed Tuesday a plan to save the Social Security system from collapse in the 21st century by raising the retirement age to 70 and investing funds in the market. Members of the National Commission on Retirement Policy, which included members of Congress and the private sector, said they hoped to draft legislation based on the plan within two weeks, for

submission to the next Congress in 1999 and for implementation starting in the year 2000. To reflect increasing life expectancy in the United States, the plan would raise the normal retirement age from 65 to 70 by the year 2029, adding two months every year. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233904-cd4>

\*\*\* Health leaders attack tobacco firm protections

Public health leaders blasted proposed legal protections for the tobacco industry Tuesday as the U.S. Senate debated a major proposal that includes a cap on the liability of tobacco companies. "They've sold disability and death on every street corner," former Surgeon General C. Everett Koop said of the tobacco companies. "I cannot understand why the United States Senate would consider any legislation that takes them off the hook." Koop and former FDA chief Dr. David Kessler used their strongest language to date as they joined a bipartisan team of Senators attempting to strip legal protections from the tobacco bill the Senate is now debating. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232078-81a>

\*\*\* Emergency room controversy triggers policy changes

U.S. hospitals are "doing a lot of soul searching" because of an incident in which emergency room personnel refused to help a boy who lay dying just outside their door, a top official said Tuesday. Richard Wade, senior vice president for communications at the American Hospital Association, said many U.S. hospitals are reviewing their procedures and some have already made changes. In the incident last Saturday night 15-year-old Christopher Sercye was playing basketball with friends in an alley near Ravenswood Hospital on the

North Side of Chicago when a gang member shot him twice in the chest.  
See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233857-63a>

\*\*\* Rubin urges no Secret Service agents testify

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin, whose agency includes the Secret Service, urged that no agents testify in the investigation into alleged White House sex and cover-up, according to documents released Tuesday. Saying he agreed with Secret Service Director Lewis Merletti, who asserted a "protective function privilege" to shield agents from testifying, Rubin said in court papers that this privilege is needed "to protect the life and safety of this and future presidents." Two agents and one of their lawyers have been called before the grand jury investigating allegations that President Clinton had a sexual affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky and then pressured her and others to lie about it. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233305-26b> \*\*\*  
Related story: Presidents at risk need discreet agents - Merletti.  
See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554234113-cbc>

\*\*\* Evenflo recalls Two-In-One Car Seats

Evenflo Co. Inc. said Tuesday it is recalling its Two-In-One Car Seat for safety reasons. The 32,000 seats involved in the recall - toddler booster car seats for 22- to 65-pound children - have model numbers starting with the numbers 636 and 637 and have manufacturing dates between Jan. 7, 1998 and March 20, 1998. Evenflo said in testing of units manufactured between those dates, the seat's backrest and base could separate when the occupant was restrained by the seat's internal five-point harness. If the backrest and base were to

separate in a real life automobile collision, a child in the seat, could be injured. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554229536-364>

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Crime and Catastrophe

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\*\*\* Arson investigators look for cause of Va. fire

Arson investigators searched a burned-out boarding house in Roanoke, Va., for clues Tuesday to the cause of a Monday fire that killed six people, officials said. The cause of the fast-moving blaze has not been determined, but police and fire officials were investigating whether it was set to avenge a shooting about 10 blocks away. A resident of the boarding house was arrested early Monday on murder charges stemming from the shooting several hours before the fire broke out, police said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231757-e92>

\*\*\* Banker's secretary gets prison for embezzlement

A former personal secretary to a Salomon Brothers partner was sentenced to 57 months in prison for stealing hundreds of thousands of dollars from her employer to buy art, jewelry, theater tickets and limousine rides, federal prosecutors said Tuesday. Bebe Fazia Laljie, 45, of Queens, N.Y., was also ordered to pay \$843,757 in restitution. She was sentenced late Monday by U.S. District Judge Sonia Sotomayor. The judge said she was sentencing Laljie to an extra period of confinement because Laljie committed perjury when testifying in her

own defense during her trial last year. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233240-82e>

\*\*\* 3 Japanese among victims in U.S. helicopter crash

Three Japanese, including the principal and a teacher from a special school for Japanese children, were killed in a helicopter crash in a Chicago suburb Monday, the Japanese consul said Tuesday. Principal Shinobu Sada, 49, of Osaka, and arts teacher Kazuya Yamaguchi, 38, of Hyogo, were escorting Japan-born photographer Yasua Sato on a survey of property where a new school was to be built, said Joji Miyamori, Japan's consul in Chicago. The pilot hired to fly the three also died in the crash. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232131-bc2>

\*\*\* U.S. paratroopers rescue sick sailor in Atlantic

Four medically trained U.S. paratroopers were dropped into the mid-Atlantic overnight to board a Portuguese fishing vessel and treat a dangerously ill sailor, an official said Tuesday. The four were dropped close to the Cam Civet in darkness about 800 miles southwest of the Azores, and after being taken on board treated the 32-year-old Portuguese man, who had internal bleeding and was falling in and out of consciousness. His condition was stabilized, said Major James Finkle of the New York Air National Guard at Westhampton Beach, home of the 106th Rescue Wing which carried out the mission. "There is no longer a life-threatening situation," he said. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232304-a9d>

## The U.S. Political Scene

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\*\*\* U.S. warns EU of trade row over gene-altered crops

The United States fired a broadside at the European Union over agriculture Tuesday, warning of major rows brewing across the Atlantic just a day after settling other trade disputes on Iran and Cuba. Top U.S. officials attending a trade summit signaled the new agricultural battlefield between the two biggest trade powers would be around genetic engineering of crops, but also offered a flashback to tit-for-tat trade fights with subsidies. U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky spoke of serious repercussions if the EU continued to delay imports of genetic maize or corn grown by U.S. farmers - sales that could be worth \$220 million this year alone. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233370-de8>

## \*\*\* U.S. appeals for open dialogue in Indonesia

The United States urged Indonesia's government Tuesday to immediately begin an open dialogue with its people, but otherwise avoided commenting on President Suharto's pledge to step down. "The most important step the Indonesian government can take is to begin immediately an open dialogue with all elements of Indonesian society on political reform and reconciliation, as well as to continue to implement crucial economic reforms," White House spokesman Eric Rubin said. In Jakarta, Suharto said he would step down after seeing Indonesia through unprecedented reforms and promised new elections as soon as possible under a new electoral law. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232523-bc5>

\*\*\* Clinton leaning to Henney to head FDA

Jane Henney, a cancer specialist who is vice president of the University of New Mexico, is expected to be nominated to head the Food and Drug Administration, an administration official said Tuesday. The Clinton administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the announcement would be made after the FBI completes its standard background check on the 51-year-old Henney, and that could happen in a matter of days. The position of FDA administrator has been open since David Kessler resigned in February 1997 to become dean of the Yale School of Medicine. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231535-eea>

\*\*\* Ore. primary features races for 2 House seats

Two open House seats and an effort to repeal a referendum that restricts new taxes provided the main battlegrounds Tuesday in Oregon's primary elections. First-term Democratic Gov. John Kitzhaber, 51, and Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden, 49, faced little opposition in the primaries and were expected to coast to victory in the fall. Republicans instead focused much of their energy on the First District House seat being vacated by retiring Democrat Elizabeth Furse. The district, which stretched from the west side of Portland to the coast, once was Republican but since the 1970s has been represented by Democrats. Five hopefuls - two Republicans and three Democrats - were battling for the seat. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232439-918>

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## The Courts

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\*\*\* U.S. buyers of copycat Viagra to get refund

A court order has been issued to force the makers of a supplement called "Vaegra" to mail refunds to some 9,000 people who apparently thought they were buying the anti-impotency drug Viagra, Missouri state officials said Tuesday. The Institute of Sexual Research, Inc. and the Old Well Corp., both of Kansas City, were also ordered to pay \$167,500 in civil penalties under an agreement reached with Attorney General Jay Nixon in court Monday. Last month Pfizer Inc., which makes Viagra, obtained a restraining order from a federal court in Georgia to stop sales or use of the name "Vaegra." After that order was issued, the knock-off was sold under the name Urophil. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231410-712>

## \*\*\* Tenn. bookstore settles obscenity case

A Barnes & Noble bookstore in Tennessee has avoided obscenity charges by agreeing to place photography books featuring nude children on higher shelves in a case criticized by free speech advocates. Monday's settlement between the bookstore and Williamson County District Attorney General Joe Baugh called for photographer Jock Sturgis' "Radiant Identities" and "The Last Day of Summer" and David Hamilton's "Age of Innocence" be placed on shelves at least 5 1/2 feet above the floor. A county grand jury in Franklin, 25 miles from Nashville, indicted the bookstore in November 1997 for violating a state law requiring that "questionable material" be kept out of the reach of children. A similar case is pending against a Nashville

outlet of the chain, and a grand jury in Montgomery, Ala., indicted a store there. (Reuters)

\*\*\* Oxford sued for not covering Viagra - WSJ

Oxford Health Plans Inc. has been sued by one of its policy holders for not covering Pfizer Inc.'s impotence drug, Viagra, the electronic version of the Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday. The paper said Paul Sibley-Schreiber sued the insurer because "in effect Oxford is limiting my sex life." Sibley-Schreiber told the Journal that after having diabetes for 25 years, he has been impotent for five years and was greatly helped by the use of Viagra. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554228800-770>

\*\*\* Princess Diana lawsuit a 'mistake,' company says

The Franklin Mint, being sued by Princess Diana's estate, denied Tuesday it was unlawfully exploiting her name to sell memorial plates and other products. The Franklin Mint, which makes various items memorializing people and events, called the legal action baseless and said it had already donated more than \$1 million to Diana's favorite charities. The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles Monday, claimed the Franklin Mint was unlawfully exploiting Princess Diana's name "like vultures feeding on the dead." See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233989-3d7>

\*\*\* Benihana's Aoki, target of U.S. probe, resigns

Rocky H. Aoki, the flamboyant entrepreneur who founded the Benihana Inc. Japanese steakhouse restaurant chain, resigned Tuesday after

being told he is the subject of a federal investigation into his personal investments. Aoki said he had relinquished all active management duties at Benihana after being informed by counsel that he is the subject of a federal investigation involving personal investments unrelated to the business and securities of the Benihana companies. Aoki and his attorneys said they will make no further public statements until the investigation is concluded. A spokesman for Aoki also declined to comment. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232402-2f3>

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U.S. Business and Financial News

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\*\*\* Fed keeps interest rates steady

Amid renewed concern for financial and political instability in Asia and subdued domestic inflation, the Federal Reserve again left U.S. short-term interest rates unchanged. Tuesday's decision, announced with the Fed's customary lack of elaboration, meant the central bank has not moved to change short-term rates for nearly 14 months. Its target for the federal-funds rate, at which banks lend to one another overnight, has been at 5.5% since March 1997 when it was raised .25 point. The discount rate, at which the Fed lends money, has been steady at 5% since January 1996, when it was reduced by .25 point. Since autumn, Fed policy makers have been struggling with the opposing forces of a strong domestic economy and expectations that damped demand and devalued currencies in troubled Asia economies would slow growth there. (WSJ)

\*\*\* DuPont buying Merck stake in venture for \$2.6 bln

Du Pont said it had agreed to acquire Merck and Co. interest in their pharmaceutical joint venture for \$2.6 billion as part of its strategy to make life sciences central to its growth. Merck said it was exercising its option to sell its 50% stake in DuPont Merck Pharm to DuPont at fair market value because it did not see the venture contributing significantly to Merck's overall growth. DuPont Merck Pharm's commercial drugs include the oral anticoagulant Coumadin, Parkinson's disease treatment Sinemet, ReVia alcoholism treatment, and Cardiolite heart-imaging agent. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554229681-2f6>

\*\*\* Wall St. waits for Fed word

U.S. stocks maintained their gains in afternoon trading Tuesday, as the Federal Reserve decided to leave interest rates unchanged, and showed relief after an overnight indication by Indonesian President Suharto that he would step down. A positive tone in Asian markets overnight and gains in Europe also helped U.S. stocks climb higher. Shortly before 2:25 p.m. ET, the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 50 points to 9,100. Advancing stocks outnumbered losers 1,735 to 1,129 as trading volume reached 386 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange. The Nasdaq Composite gained 14 to 1,846 and the S&P 500 index climbed 7 to 1,113. The benchmark 30-year Treasury bond eased 5/32 of a point in price to yield 5.93%.

\*\*\* Columbia/HCA selling 22 hospitals for \$1.2 bln

Columbia/HCA Healthcare said Tuesday it agreed to sell 22 hospitals

and related facilities to a group of not-for-profit entities for about \$1.2 billion. The hospitals, in Kentucky, North Carolina, Alabama and Tennessee, are part of Columbia/HCA's Atlantic Group, which the company previously targeted for divestiture. The deal was negotiated jointly, but Columbia/HCA said it has entered into separate purchase agreements with each member of the consortium, which includes the not-for-profit entities and public authorities. Each of the consortium members is an independent purchaser with no shared liabilities among the group. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554230160-9f5>

\*\*\* Sprint says it plans to bring Sprint PCS public

Sprint Corp said under current negotiations with its cable company partners, it would acquire full control over the Sprint PCS and PhillieCo businesses. Sprint said its cable partners would receive a new Sprint PCS tracking stock in exchange for their partnership interests. The plan, so far, calls for Sprint to make an IPO of Sprint PCS shares. The company said the two businesses would be combined with Sprint's solely-owned SprintCom properties.

Additionally, the company said it would convert existing Sprint common stock into one stock that tracks the wireless communications business, Sprint PCS, and a second stock that tracks its other businesses, currently traded under the symbol "FON" on the NYSE. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554224046-d2f>

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World Front Page Stories

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\*\*\* Suharto vows to go, but protests continue

President Suharto said Tuesday he would step down after seeing Indonesia through unprecedented reforms, but he refused to resign and fresh confrontation loomed with students demanding his head. Thousands of students occupied parliament and top Muslim leader Amien Rais called for a "people's power" show of strength Wednesday to convince Suharto his 32-year-long rule was over no matter what concessions he was now ready to make. Rais has vowed to put millions of people on the streets of Indonesia. Students who have been demanding Suharto's head for three months called for parallel demonstrations. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231580-10c> \*\*\*

Sidebar: Chronology of milestones in Suharto's rule, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554210353-9a3>

\*\*\* India wants quick test ban action - envoy

India wants to reach agreement with the international community "as soon as possible" on a comprehensive nuclear test ban treaty, its ambassador to Washington said Tuesday. "India is willing to engage with key interlocutors...to reach as soon as possible a position where we undertake the substantive undertakings contained in the treaty," Ambassador Naresh Chandra said. Since breaking a 25-year moratorium on nuclear testing last week by conducting five explosions that stunned and outraged the international community, India has suggested a willingness to discuss the 1996 Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, which it has previously refused to sign. For part 2, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232551-22e> \*\*\*

Related story: Pakistan urges N-talks pause after Indian tests, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232870-8bd>

\*\*\* Arafat accuses Netanyahu of fomenting crisis

Palestinian President Yasser Arafat accused Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu Tuesday of intentionally prolonging their peacemaking crisis. Arafat lashed out at Netanyahu after the right-wing Israeli leader rejected a U.S. proposal under which Israel would hand over another 13% of the West Bank to the Palestinians in return for stronger moves against Muslim militants. Israel has offered 9%, saying a deeper pullback under interim peace accords would jeopardize its security. "It is clear Netanyahu is escalating in the direction against agreements and is trying to create a crisis," Arafat said in the self-ruled town of Bethlehem. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232115-650> \*\*\*

Related story: Mubarak urges Europe to pressure Israel for peace, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554230585-d30>

\*\*\* Northern Irish survey shows support for peace deal

A poll of Northern Ireland's electorate over a week ago showed 52% planned to back the province's peace agreement while 20% were against and 25% undecided, the Belfast Telegraph said Tuesday. The survey, commissioned by the British-ruled province's biggest evening daily and Ulster Television, asked about 1,500 people May 8-10 how they would vote in Friday's referendum on the deal. This was before a four-man team of Irish Republican Army convicted murderers and bombers were released from prison for a day to attend a convention of Sinn Fein, the IRA's legal political ally. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233463-a15> \*\*\*

Related story: Britain's Hague urges 'yes' vote on N. Ireland, see  
<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233346-78e> \*\*\*

Related story: Hidden arsenals spell uneasy Northern Irish peace, see  
<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554228328-ca5>

\*\*\* Interpol to tackle Internet pedophiles

Interpol will hold a strategy meeting later this month to discuss how to stamp out child pornography on the Internet, the world police body said Tuesday. Interpol said 70 senior police officers from 30 countries will hold a closed door meeting at its headquarters in the French city of Lyon on May 25-27. They will be joined on May 28-29 by lawyers and representatives of private sector Internet providers from over 20 countries. The world-wide network is being used to spread messages and pedophile pictures, as well as to organize encounters between adults and children. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232327-800>

\*\*\* Swiss blast N.J. Holocaust sanctions move

Swiss banks and the Swiss government blasted boycott legislation in New Jersey Tuesday as unfair and counterproductive to efforts to find and return the assets of Holocaust victims. They said the bill could torpedo U.S.-brokered talks between Swiss banks, the World Jewish Congress and lawyers for Holocaust victims on settling claims that the banks withheld money deposited with them by European Jews under Nazi persecution. New Jersey's Assembly was the first U.S. legislative body to approve a divestment bill aimed at pressuring Swiss banks into an agreement. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554230659-347>

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The World Political Scene

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\*\*\* Russia Communists demand Yeltsin impeachment

Russian Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov said Tuesday his party and its allies would demand that the lower house of parliament launch impeachment procedures against President Boris Yeltsin Wednesday. Yeltsin's press secretary Sergei Yastrzhembsky was quoted by Interfax news agency as describing the Communist threat, issued during a series of protests by unpaid coal miners across Russia, as a "futile affair." Thousands of desperate coal miners, unpaid for months, have launched protests against Russia blocking railways and running hunger strikes. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232457-c4a> \*\*\*

Sidebar: Russia's rules for impeaching the president, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233425-8d0> \*\*\*

Russian miners block further rail track in pay row, see

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231396-846>

\*\*\* Defiant Castro back in form, lashes out at U.S.

Fidel Castro used his 15 minutes at the World Trade Organization Tuesday to lash out at his ideological enemy the United States and the impact of its 36-year embargo on Cuba. In a hard-hitting speech, Castro barely drew a breath as he accused the U.S. of committing "economic genocide" for the boycott which he said had cost Cuba \$60 billion. After showing signs of fatigue during the first few days of

his visit to Switzerland, Castro, 71, seemed to get a second wind to harangue the U.S. delegation, assailing Washington's Helms-Burton law which punishes non-U.S. companies for investing in Cuba. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231723-aaa>

\*\*\* Congo's Kabila denies claims of rights abuses

President Laurent Kabila flatly denied Tuesday allegations of human rights abuses in his Democratic Republic of the Congo and said a United Nations team which probed massacre claims was welcome to return. In the latest grim assessment of Kabila's one year in power since toppling dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, Amnesty International published a report Friday that alleged widespread abuse, detentions and torture by Kabila's security forces. "That is complete propaganda," Kabila told reporters at the Southern Africa Economic Summit in the Namibian capital Windhoek. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233426-c45>

\*\*\* Blair discusses 'Third Way' in talks with Cardoso

Tony Blair and Brazil's President Fernando Henrique Cardoso had a 40-minute meeting in Geneva Tuesday to discuss the British prime minister's "Third Way" ideas and a possible visit by Blair to Latin America next year, officials said. Both leaders were attending a World Trade Organization meeting. Blair's office said Cardoso invited Blair to visit Brazil next year in advance of a summit of the South American Mercosur trading bloc. Blair said he hoped to accept. Officials said Blair praised Brazil for going in the opposite direction to India in turning its back on nuclear weapons. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233449-9cf>

\*\*\* Greece rejects Clinton call for deal with Turkey

Greece rejected Tuesday a call by President Clinton for a peace deal with Turkey over rights in the Aegean Sea and Cyprus, saying negotiations with Ankara were out of the question. "I don't exactly know what Mr. Clinton meant. We repeat we don't accept a package deal," Foreign Minister Theodoros Pangalos said. Clinton said Monday that both Turkey and Greece should make difficult decisions to help defuse rising tensions in Cyprus and promote Turkey's bid to join the European Union. He said the two North Atlantic Treaty Organization members should find solutions in all matters dividing them. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231335-ldb>

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World Business and Financial News

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\*\*\* Asian-Pacific stocks rebound as Suharto sets plan to resign

Stocks surged in Jakarta after President Suharto set plans to step down, but investors remained uneasy about the outlook as protests continued. Most other Asian markets moved higher as well, but Thai shares fell 3%. The Jakarta Stock Exchange composite index rose 6.4%, rebounding a bit from its recent sharp losses, after Mr. Suharto said he would step down after new parliamentary elections. Indonesia's currency, the rupiah, also advanced. It was quoted at 12,550 rupiah to the dollar in late trading, compared with 12,750 rupiah to the dollar late Monday in Asian. But foreign exchange traders also remained skeptical, fearful that the rupiah's stability will be short

lived. Thai shares dropped 3% amid a sell-off in the banking sector as the central bank's takeover of seven finance companies raised fears that its crackdown on the industry is far from over. (WSJ)

\*\*\* European investors await decision on U.S. rates

Shares closed higher in key European stock markets, as investors awaited Wall Street's reaction to Tuesday's meeting of U.S. Federal Reserve policy makers. Stocks rallied in Amsterdam, Frankfurt and Stockholm as the market gained confidence that the Fed won't raise U.S. interest rates. Shares traded on the London Stock Exchange shook off the impact of stronger-than-expected inflation data to close broadly higher. In Paris, stocks rebounded following several sessions of declines. On the Madrid Stock Exchange, strong demand for stock in electricity giant Endesa boosted the broader market. Stocks closed higher in Brussels, bolstered by brisk trade following takeover offers for two of Belgium's largest companies Monday. Prices also rose on Milan's stock exchange, recouping virtually all of Monday's losses as investors were cheered by hopes violence in Indonesia will ease now that President Suharto promised to step down early. (WSJ)

\*\*\* Giant Food goes Dutch

Dutch food retailer Royal Ahold says it has acquired U.S. supermarket chain Giant Food for about \$2.6 billion. The Dutch group says the acquisition is a "perfect fit" with its existing operations in the USA, which include the Stop and Shop supermarket chain. Giant Food operates 176 supermarkets in several Eastern states. The \$2.6 billion price tag includes payments to the 1224 Corporation and J. Sainsbury USA Holdings, a subsidiary of Sainsbury of Britain. (USA Today)

**\*\*\* Steel giants ponder deal**

South Korea's Pohang Iron and Steel says it is considering an alliance with Nippon Iron and Steel of Japan. Under the proposed deal, the world's two largest steelmakers would buy large blocks of voting shares in each other and use them to thwart takeover threats from foreign corporations. The South Korean government plans to privatize the state-run Pohang, also known as POSCO, later this year. (USA Today)

**\*\*\* Business chief: Japan will rebound**

The head of Japan's leading business lobby says his nation's economy is poised for a rebound after years of sluggish growth. At a news conference, Toyota Motor chairman Shoichiro Toyoda said he regretted the anemic state of the economy as he prepares to leave his post as chief of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations. But he predicted better times lie ahead, citing the government's recently approved, biggest-ever economic stimulus package. (USA Today)

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**Sports**

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**\*\*\* Wells given key to New York for perfect performance**

David Wells, who Sunday became just the 13th pitcher in modern major league history to hurl a perfect game, was given the key to the city by New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who proclaimed Tuesday David

Wells Day. "This is something I thought would never ever happen in my life," the portly left-hander told an adoring City Hall crowd. "This is something I'll cherish for my whole life." Yankee teammate Jorge Posada, the catcher in Sunday's 4-0 victory against the Minnesota Twins before a rapturous crowd of some 50,000 at Yankee Stadium, was presented with a crystal apple for his role in Wells's pitching gem. Yankee manager Joe Torre joked that Sunday's game was "absolutely the best game I ever managed." (Reuters)

\*\*\* Cordero not expecting warm welcome from Boston fans

(AP) - Wilfredo Cordero isn't expecting a warm welcome when he returns to Fenway Park. "It would be nice to have a good series," he said of Tuesday night's game against the Boston Red Sox. "I'm just going to play, that's all. The focus is to win ball games." The outfielder was released by the Red Sox last season after pleading guilty to beating and threatening to kill his wife. He was signed by the Chicago White Sox in the spring. The White Sox make their first trip to Boston for a two-game series starting Tuesday night. Chicago manager Jerry Manuel said he expects Cordero to be booed - just like he was last season after his domestic problems surfaced.

\*\*\* Ole Miss athlete drowns while retrieving golf balls from pond

(AP) - A Mississippi football player drowned early Tuesday while he and two companions attempted to retrieve golf balls from a small pond at the Mississippi State University Golf Course. Joey Embry, a 6-foot-6, 300-pound offensive tackle at Ole Miss, was pronounced dead at the scene. The body was recovered after local and state authorities responded to a missing persons call about 1:19 a.m., a

Mississippi State spokesman said. Oktibbeha County coroner Michael Hunt said Embry had diabetes. The coroner said he believes Embry may have drowned during a diabetic seizure. Hunt said drugs and alcohol were not suspected in the incident.

\*\*\* Angry fans sue Marlins over dismantling team

Florida Marlins fans took their anger over the team's losing record from the stadium to the courts Tuesday, suing the baseball club for dismantling the winners of last year's World Series. After the latest in a series of trades that sent away the players that won baseball's championship last fall, Miami chiropractor Octavio Fernandez and Henry Handler, an attorney from Palm Beach, filed separate lawsuits Monday seeking reimbursement for the cost of their season tickets. The Marlins were in last place in the National League East with a 15-30 record Tuesday, just seven months after beating the Cleveland Indians to capture baseball's championship in just their fifth season of existence. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554233569-977>

\*\*\* Beckenbauer likes Germany's chances

(AP) - Franz Beckenbauer, who coached Germany's last champion in 1990, denies this year's team is an over-the-hill gang too creaky to capture a fourth World Cup this summer. In fact, the man known as the Kaiser believes the teams' advanced age is an advantage - even if one has to comb through the roster twice to find anyone under 30. "The experience of the team is a plus - practically everyone has played at least 50 caps (international games)," said Beckenbauer, a legendary player in the country whose words carry enormous weight in Germany.

"The Germans can work towards success. They never play brilliant, just simple but effective." Beckenbauer, now president of Bayern Munich, said the 2-1 upset to Bulgaria in the quarterfinals of the 1994 Cup was a shock the players don't want to repeat.

\*\*\* Investigators say fire may have been set

(AP) - A woman was critically injured during a suspicious fire in a restroom of the Nashville Arena. A 34-year-old woman, whose identity was not yet released, was in critical but stable condition Tuesday at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, hospital spokesman Wayne Wood said. The injured woman was at the arena during a World Wrestling Federation show Monday night. "She said she used the bathroom, flushed the toilet, heard a swishing noise, then caught on fire," said Fire Marshal John Petty. Petty said the fire could have been caused by a flammable liquid or a fireworks-grade explosive. WWF uses pyrotechnics as part of its shows. The downtown arena opened in December 1996. There was no immediate estimate of damage.

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Science and Medicine

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\*\*\* U.S. cancer group sees fall in number of deaths

Deaths from cancer could be halved in the next 30 years as drugs used to combat the disease improve, a leading cancer expert said. But a cure for cancer is still just a dream, said Dr. Allen Lichter, newly elected president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, in an interview Monday. "I see no reason over time why we can't reduce

(cancer) mortality in half over a two or three decade time horizon," Lichter said. Cancer is second only to heart disease as a cause of death in the United States. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232723-916>

\*\*\* Radon causes cancer, smoking adds to risk - study

Radon, a naturally occurring radioactive gas found in most homes, and smoking can be a lethal combination, British researchers warned Tuesday. Scientists from the Imperial Cancer Research Fund (ICRF), who conducted a study into the effects of the odorless, colorless gas, said it causes one in 20 lung cancer cases in Britain - mostly in conjunction with smoking. "Residential radon really is a cause of lung cancer," Professor Sarah Darby told a news conference. "This study provides, for the first time, direct evidence of the risk associated with residential radon in the UK." See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554225929-b9e>

\*\*\* Israel to fund 'cocktail' drugs for AIDS patients

The Israel government plans to start paying for multi-drug "cocktails" for people infected with HIV, the human immunodeficiency virus. The Health Ministry said Tuesday Health Minister Yehoshua Matza had classified AIDS - the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome caused by HIV - as a "serious disease." "The significance of the decision is that people infected with AIDS or AIDS carriers needing treatment by 'cocktail' medications will receive full funding from health funds," the ministry said. The privately-run funds, to which all Israelis belong, are reimbursed by the state. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554229236-7a6>

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Technology

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\*\*\* Microsoft sees no material impact from suits - CFO

Microsoft Corp. Chief Financial Officer Greg Maffei said he did not expect the current state and federal antitrust lawsuits against the company to have any "material impact" on its business. Maffei made the comment in a conference call with reporters and analysts, during which Senior Vice President Bill Neukom said the litigation did not appear to threaten the scheduled June 25 retail launch of its Windows 98 operating system. "I don't see any reasonable circumstances where we would be required to 'yank back' product from customers," Neukom said. "That's beyond the scope of any preliminary injunctive relief the government could hope to have." He said the preliminary injunction being sought by antitrust regulators, if granted, would force Microsoft to offer options to computer manufacturers in addition to Windows 98. (Reuters) \*\*\* Corrected story: U.S. documents charges against Microsoft, see <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554232857-42f>

\*\*\* For Netscape browser business, suits may be too late

It is the company most commonly identified as the victim of Microsoft Corp.'s alleged monopolistic practices. But Netscape Communications Corp. was restrained on Monday in response to antitrust suits filed against Microsoft, suggesting that the damage had been done and would not be easily repaired. "At Netscape, we may never know how the

company would have developed in the absence of (Microsoft's) anti-competitive behavior," Netscape said. Although Netscape still has close to 60% of the browser market, it is no longer a revenue center for the company. Earlier this year, Netscape started giving away its browser for free in an effort to compete with Microsoft. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554220648-934>

\*\*\* Kodak, America Online to deliver pictures online

Photographers can have their pictures returned to them via the Internet under a program announced Tuesday by Eastman Kodak Co. and America Online Inc. The service, which teams up the world's largest film maker and the world's largest online service, will be available to AOL's 12 million members when they drop film off at developers that process Kodak film. The companies said they expect more than 30,000 retailers to participate in the program. Under the program, photographers can drop off film from any type of camera and, for an additional fee, have digital images returned to their AOL e-mail address within 48 hours. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554230729-924>

\*\*\* Quantum to acquire ATL

Quantum Corp. has agreed to acquire ATL Products Inc. in a stock swap valued at about \$300 million, the companies said. Irvine, Calif.-based ATL, which offers high-end and mid-range tape-automation libraries for computer equipment, would become a wholly owned unit of Quantum, a maker of fixed and removable computer storage devices based here. Quantum's existing tape-automation business would be merged into an ATL unit, the companies said in a joint statement. See

<http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231104-dd0>

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Human Interest

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\*\*\* Supergroup U2 concert to back N. Irish peace plan

U2, Ireland's rock supergroup, was recruited Tuesday to boost a campaign for a "Yes" vote in Northern Ireland's crucial peace deal referendum. The band, an icon for young people across the British province's sectarian gulf, was to take part in an evening rock concert organized in support of the Yes lobby in Belfast's showpiece Waterfront Hall, the show's producers said. Three days before the May 22 plebiscite, U2 and leader/singer Bono were to join the province's two chief Protestant and Catholic political leaders in the audience, and would probably go on stage to perform at least one number. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231022-36d>

\*\*\* Calif. game fish caught in Gulf waters off Iran

A game fish from distant California, a marlin, has been caught by an Iranian fisherman in the Gulf, Iran's Fisheries Research Center said Tuesday. A tag on its fin indicated the 70-inch long, 77-pound big game fish, caught off the Gulf coast port of Bushehr, had swum 20,000 miles from California, the Iranian news agency IRNA reported.

(Reuters)

\*\*\* Colombia's Garcia Marquez backs election favorite

Colombia's Nobel laureate Gabriel Garcia Marquez has thrown his literary weight behind the country's front-running presidential candidate, pledging to work alongside him for peace and education. In an impassioned letter published in newspapers Tuesday, Garcia Marquez called on opposition Conservative Party candidate Andres Pastrana to rescue Colombia from its "own hell." Garcia Marquez's decision to back Pastrana was widely seen as a surprise. The author of "100 Years of Solitude" became a fierce critic of President Ernesto Samper's government after allegations that Samper bankrolled his 1994 election campaign with multimillion dollar donations from the Cali drug mob. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554231562-c74>

\*\*\* Frostbitten Japanese climbers rescued in Nepal

A helicopter Tuesday plucked three frostbitten Japanese mountaineers from Mount Kunchenjunga, the world's third highest mountain. "We picked them up from a camp at 5,600 metres (18,200 feet) early this morning," said Tashi Sherpa, pilot of the rescue helicopter which brought the mountaineers to Kathmandu. Taro Tanigawa, 30, Masakazu Okuda, 31, and Kenta Hirose, 28, were part of a five-member team which took the difficult wind-swept north face route to Kunchenjunga's summit on Friday. See <http://www.infobeat.com/stories/cgi/story.cgi?id=2554225812-1c7>

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19 May 1998 16:17:36 EDT

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(version 3.34, queueup copyright InfoBeat Inc. 1998)  
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READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Jonathan H. Schnur ( Jonathan H. Schnur@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Michael Cohen ( Michael Cohen@EOP [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Robert M. Shireman ( Robert M. Shireman@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TO: Tanya E. Martin ( Tanya E. Martin@eop [ UNKNOWN ] )  
READ:UNKNOWN

TEXT:  
Good afternoon,

Here are today's education clips.

Carlin Hertz

Education Department public affairs

401-1576

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Public School FibFest

Body type#\ P!P#Tabs-storiesdPublication#W\ P"P#1. Associated Press"Pu  
 ation"#:\ P#P# 09/15/98  
 Headline#\ P\$P#Riley Advises on Clinton Scandal Headline#\ P%P#  
 WASHINGTON (AP) - Children should be told that President Clinton "did wrong"  
 when they  
 ask about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky and the independent c  
 ounsel's report on it,  
 Education Secretary Richard Riley said Tuesday.

"I think it's important to listen to children and then try to understand what t  
 heir inquiry is and  
 then to try to be very gentle in your answer," Riley, one o  
 f the longest-serving Cabinet members,  
 said after a speech at the National Pres  
 s Club. Clinton had personally assured him and other  
 Cabinet members in January  
 that reports of a sexual affair with Lewinsky were untrue.

"Certainly the first thing in the answer would be that the president did wrong,  
 " Riley said.  
 "The second thing is that he denied it. The third thing is that h  
 e then came forth, talked about  
 his wrongdoing, apologized for it, said he was  
 sorry about it and asked for forgiveness.

"So I think it's important to say to young people that your personal behavior c  
 ertainly is  
 something that you have to pay for, and we all recognize that. The  
 president is paying dearly,  
 and his family. But he has asked for forgiveness. A  
 nd for my part, I have forgiven him and want  
 to give him a chance to move forwa  
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Publication#W\ P&P#2. Columbia (S.C.) State"Publication"#:\ P'P#September 1  
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Headline#\ P(P#Riley tries to maintain focus amid  
 scandalHeadline#\ P)P#Su  
 bhead#[\ P\*P#Ex-S.C. governor vows to push education goals Subhead#:\ P+P  
 By MICHELLE R. DAVIS  
 Washington Bureau

It was supposed to be the term of education. Instead, it has been the term of M  
 onica.

When President Clinton vowed in his 1997 State of the Union message that his se  
 cond term  
 in office would be about education, Secretary of Education Dick Riley  
 was eager to push that  
 agenda.

Since then, however, the president's relationship with former White House inter

n Monica

Lewinsky has dominated the news, distracting politicians and citizens from other issues.

Those who know Riley, a close friend and ally of the president, say he won't let Clinton's troubles sway him from the course of improving education. But some look to him for an indication of how to deal with the possibility of impeachment or censure.

"Most of the country is looking for cues to see whether his Cabinet members are going to stick with him or move on," said University of South Carolina political scientist John Cavanaugh. "One of the ways they'll assess whether or not the Clinton presidency will survive is to see if good people on his staff will support him."

At a speech Tuesday, Riley said little about the president. Instead he talked about the country's need to recruit 2.2 million teachers during the next 10 years. He challenged states to fill those positions with qualified, trained teachers and called for the elimination of emergency teaching licenses, often granted to those willing to teach understaffed classes like math and science.

He said teachers who improve their skills should be financially rewarded, replacing the current practice of increasing salaries on the basis of college credits earned.

Despite the focus on education, the specter of Clinton's troubles seemed to hover over the gathering. National Press Club president Doug Harbrecht introduced Riley as having the distinction of "never having had a member of Congress suggest that he be investigated by a special counsel."

Clinton's difficulties must weigh heavily on the mind of the former South Carolina governor, known as a straight arrow. Riley's friendship with Clinton goes back to the 1980s when both were governors working on education reform. He's one of only a handful of Cabinet members who has been with Clinton since he took office. In January, Riley stood with some other Cabinet members in the rain defending Clinton after he had assured them he did nothing wrong.

"I'm sure he's disappointed but he's a politician and a statesman and he knows the political realities," said Jack Jennings, director of the Center on Education Policy.

But Clinton's troubles will likely not distract Riley from his mission, said South Carolina attorney Dwight Drake, a senior aide to Riley when he was governor

"He is by nature a disciplined person," said Drake who spoke with Riley by telephone this week. "He seems, as usual, very focused on the challenges he faces."

Riley's reputation as a quiet consensus builder could allow him to get his education agenda through Congress.

"He may be able to negotiate behind the scenes and get more done than some of the Cabinet members who have been more vociferous in their support of Clinton," said Larry Sabato, a University of Virginia political scientist.

With just seven weeks to go before the midterm elections, Clinton clearly wants to change the national topic of conversation, and he'd be happy if the talk turned to education. Polls show that the American people want to move on to something else, too. That could be Riley's opening, said Greenville attorney Frank Holleman, who was Riley's chief of staff from 1994 until 1997.

"His strength is that he never wavers," Holleman said "If a national trend is going against his goals of education reform, he continues to struggle. If the national trend is in his favor, then he picks up momentum to help achieve his goals."

Publication#W\ P,P#3. Associated Press"Publication"#:\ P-P#9-16 3:31a

Headline#\ P.P#Education secretary calls for emphasis on teacher qualityHeadline#\ P/P#  
By ROBERT GREENE  
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) - A pressing need for more teachers requires a national and local effort to make sure the jobs are filled by people who know their subject and how to run a classroom,

Education Secretary Richard Riley says.

"We do not seem to recognize the magnitude of the task ahead of us," Riley told a National Press Club audience Tuesday.

Each new school year brings record enrollments - 52.7 million students this year - and 2.2 million teachers must be hired over the next decade. More than 1 million experienced teachers are on the verge of retiring, he said.

"By my reckoning, we are about five years away ... from a very dramatic change in the teaching force," he said, adding that the job cannot be done by granting emergency licenses and allowing high turnover to continue. The certification process should be made more flexible but more demanding as well.

"This churning process and the over-reliance on emergency teachers just doesn't cut it," Riley said. "Imagine the outcry if a quarter of all the new doctors left the profession after their first three years."

He said states and local school districts need long-term induction or mentoring programs to help teachers stay in the profession. And he said teachers should be paid more, noting that the nationally recognized teacher of the year in 1996, Mary Beth Blegen of Worthington, Minn., made \$36,000 after 30 years on the job.

Teacher colleges must focus more on training instead of theory, and universities should quit regarding the teacher colleges as backwaters, he said.

"College administrators who complain about the high cost of remedial classes would do well to pay more attention to how they prepare teachers," Riley said.

He said colleges of education should give basic skills tests to students entering teacher education programs, stronger links should be forged between colleges of liberal arts and colleges of education and teachers should major in the subject that they want to teach.

He also urged Congress to pass legislation authorizing additional Pell Grants for

or college students who want to be teachers, loan forgiveness for teachers and the recruitment of 35,000 teachers for underserved areas. He also called upon Congress to enact President Clinton's proposals to use federal money to build schools and hire 100,000 new teachers over seven years.

Publication#W\ POP#04. The Washington Post"Publication"#: \ P1P# 09/16/98; Edition: FINAL; Section: A Section; Page A12

Headline#\ P2P#Schools Cautioned on Hasty HiringHeadline#\ P3P#Subhead  
P4P# Many Districts 'Sacrificing Quality for Quantity,'

Riley Says

Subhead#\ P5P#By Linda Perlstein

Washington Post Staff Writer

With a record number of children flooding the nation's classrooms this fall, Education Secretary Richard W. Riley yesterday warned that some school districts are too willing to hire unqualified teachers as they attempt to accommodate the swell.

His remarks before a luncheon gathering at the National Press Club represent his most forceful comments to date on what many educators have identified as a crucial problem in schools around the country.

"Too many school districts, I am afraid, are sacrificing quality for quantity in order to meet the immediate demand of putting a warm body in front of a classroom," Riley said.

He urged administrators to adopt several measures to improve the caliber of teachers and urged Congress to pass several administration initiatives pending on Capitol Hill, from adding funds for teacher training to forgiving student loans for some new teachers. He also encouraged the creation of a national job bank that school districts could use to locate potential recruits and said states should consider making it easier to transfer teaching credentials from place to place.

Riley's remarks come as the children of baby boomers are producing unprecedented enrollment levels. At the same time, more than 1 million teachers are nearing retirement, the booming economy's high salaries are luring away would-be teachers, and an increasingly sophisticated world is raising the demands on what those who do teach must know.

In this climate, U.S. schools will have to hire 2.2 million teachers over the next decade, the government estimates. More than one-quarter of new teachers have not fully met state licensing standards. Instead, they teach on temporary, emergency and provisional licenses. Riley called on states to stop granting emergency licenses, as New York has done. "You cannot set standards and then immediately discard them," he said.

The efforts to improve teaching, Riley said, must begin at the nation's universities. "College administrators who complain about the high cost of remedial classes would do well to pay more attention to how they prepare teachers," he said. Education colleges should focus harder on teaching skills, not just content, he said, and be held accountable for the performance of the teachers they graduate. They should have to publicize, for example, what percentage of their graduates passed state licensing exams.

In addition, he said, many schools face a problem that Riley says is unheard of in other industrialized countries: teaching "out of field." The government estimates that nearly 28 percent of U.S. teachers have neither a college major nor minor in the subject they teach.

One initiative that attempts to address the problem is the El Paso Collaborative for Academic Excellence, which conducts weeks-long, intensive training institutes where educators learn more about their subject matter and how to teach it effectively. The effort also instructs teachers in how to infuse their classes with bits of new, more innovative curricula. Simultaneously, the University of Texas at El Paso has increased the number of credits required of prospective elementary school teachers and beefed up its courses.

"If we want students to meet high standards," said executive director Susana Navarro of the El Paso Collaborative, "then we've got to support them so they learn what they need to learn."

Riley said that once teachers are hired, they should be provided strong mentoring programs. He also plugged a new way of rewarding teachers, in which they get raises not for simply tallying up more college credit hours in any field, but for learning specific skills and subjects that

each school has identified as important.

Finally, Riley reiterated a common refrain: that to retain teachers, schools must pay them a competitive salary.

ART CH, JOHN ANDERSON CAPTION: A WAVE OF STUDENTS (This chart was not available)

Publication#W\ P6P#5. New York Times"Publication"#: \ P7P#September 14, 1

#: \ P8P#Headline# \ P9P#NEWSPAPER IN EDUCATIONHeadline#: \ P: P#Subhead  
 ;P#PROGRAMS: GOOD READING HABITS LAST A  
 LIFETIMESubhead#: \ P<P#  
 By Carol Rasco,  
 Senior Adviser  
 to the U.S. Secretary of Education;  
 Director America Reads Challenge

Over 25 years ago, as a teacher in Fayetteville, Ark., I searched for innovative ways to inspire my restless sixth graders to love reading. In my current position as director of the America Reads Challenge, I'm often reminded of that classroom and the challenge that teachers and parents still face in motivating children to read.

Back in Arkansas, I yearned to show reluctant students, who were bored with books and school work, how reading could enrich their lives. One of my most successful experiments was using the Arkansas Gazette as a living textbook. When many students saw the relevance of reading, through the everchanging pages of the daily newspaper, they gained new enthusiasm and motivation. Some of these students had no newspapers at home, and my lessons were their first exposure to the world of journalism.

Happily, what once seemed innovative has now become commonplace, with many newspapers reaching out to teachers and young readers. The more than 700 Newspaper Education (NIE) programs cultivating young readers represent only a very small sample of the many innovative ways newspapers are supporting the development of literacy in our schools.

But there is nothing common about the extraordinary creativity and generous resources the newspaper industry has dedicated toward educating America's students. President Bill Clinton issued the America Reads Challenge to each of us to do what we can to make this a literate

nation. The nations newspapers are setting an impressive example by changing the paradigm of their industry and reaching far beyond the traditional roles and responsibilities of journalists.

A Texas expert in newspaper education believes that newspapers can be useful reading for a child beginning in third or fourth grade, although some teachers start as early as kindergarten. The key is for the newspaper to be accessible to the child and to be related to the child's own experience. I found this to be the case in Arkansas O.M. 1970, when environmental news intrigued my students to learn more.

It can take five to seven years for a news event to be included in a traditional textbook, yet over 70 percent of teenagers say they read a newspaper at least once a week. Although many read the comics, horoscopes and TV listings, significant numbers read about sports, local news, and to a lesser extent, national news. They could and should be reading more, and Newspaper in Education programs are doing a lot to make that happen. Newspapers also have joined the Presidential Coalition for the America Reads Challenge and are doing their part to improve child literacy.

One Coalition member, USA Today, has a comprehensive education program. Highlights include Classline Today, a free fourpage lesson plan that accompanies the daily paper, integrating that day's news with the curricula through specific activities. Through partnership with education leaders, USA Today Education also offers teaching guides on themes such as the election process, space exploration, geography, career planning, baseball and other popular topics. The online program allows even more interactive opportunities, where students can interview a reporter on Mount Everest, families can supplement lessons at home, and teachers can share successful learning strategies. The Baltimore Sun's Reading by 9" campaign aggressively supports the America Reads goal that every child be a good reader by the end of third grade. Sparked by test scores that found only a third of Maryland nineyearolds could read at a satisfactory level, the fiveyear campaign aims to increase public awareness, to hold parents and schools accountable and to recognize performance gains. Launched with a Green Eggs & Ham breakfast, Reading by 9" has dramatically expanded news, editorial and feature

coverage on child literacy, including an interactive section for parents and children to read together, and daily sections for K3 children to read themselves

- . The Sun created a recognition program for parents, students, teachers, schools and librarians and engages local businesses and institutions in the campaign
- . Perhaps most significant, Sun employees are tutoring in the Baltimore schools
- . There is no better way to comprehend the challenge of illiteracy than that.

The St. Petersburg Times in Florida targets two areas critical to success: involving parents and reaching kids in areas that interest them. The Times consults directly with young readers about topics in special children's sections, including a weekly page called Short Stops that capitalizes on kids' interest in sports. One employee dons an elaborate costume to become Spot the Newshound, a literacy mascot who promotes reading activities between parents and children. The paper sponsors popular family reading festivals with free books, celebrity readers, puppet shows and parades. The Times also collaborates with libraries, recognizes young writers, and supports adult spelling bees to raise funds for literacy.

Another America Reads participant, the Gazette in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, sponsors a clever B.E.A.R. campaign Be Excited About Reading with a bear family as mascots who promote family literacy. The B.E.A.R. family groups, and B.E.A.R. images adorn free T-shirts, sweatshirts and pencils. Gazette story hours and celebrity readings offer free plush toys, and the paper conducts a major usedbook drive.

The StandardTimes in New Bedford, Mass., sponsored a KIDS COOL READING CLUB for hundreds of area children. In partnership with Reading is Fundamental and local shopping mall, this paper hosts storytelling, puppet shows, free book distributions, and other programs to lure families to reading. The club distributed America Reads activity kits, called Read\*Write\*Now!, which parents can use continually as a resource.

The threads that run through these diverse efforts are commitment, collaboration and creativity. First, newspapers recognize their unique role as community leaders and commit resources at multiple levels. Second, Newspapers calibrate with other stakeholders in the community, such as parents, schools, businesses

and literacy groups. Third, newspapers excel by tapping the creative energy of their staff and community to find what works best.

As one Newspaper in Education coordinator from New York wrote, I've heard reports from teachers over and over again of nonreaders becoming readers because they've been introduced to newspapers. That was my experience in Arkansas so long ago, and if more newspapers follow the NIE trailblazers of today, children tomorrow can hold high hopes for a brighter future. #: \ P=P#n

Publication#W\ P>P#06. CyberTimes (New York Times on the Web)"Publication"0#:\ P?P#September 16, 1998

Headline#\ P@P#0Once a Champion of Classroom Computers, Psychologist Now Sees Failure Headline0#:\ PAP#  
By PAMELA MENDELS

Jane M. Healy has spent the past several years peering over the shoulders of students working in technology-filled classrooms touted as essential to modern education.

To say she is not impressed is an understatement. The verb "horrified" often creeps into the conversation of this petite, well-mannered woman.

Now, Healy, an educational psychologist and author, has written a book about children and computers, fleshed out with interviews with experts, looks at research, discussions of child development and personal musings. She hopes the book, "Failure to Connect: How Computers Affect Our Children's Minds " For Better and Worse" (Simon & Schuster), will embolden parents and educators to begin asking loud and tough questions about whether the billions of dollars being spent on wiring schools is a sound investment.

"I thought computers would be better than television," said Healy, who earlier wrote "Endangered Minds," a book about television and its effects on children. "I had high hopes " and I came back with huge disillusionment. In fact, I was horrified with what I saw in schools and people's homes. We have jumped into [educational technology] way too soon. It's become an idea that has taken over the public consciousness " helped, of course, by the mass promoting of these pro

ducts to kids as young as a year-and-a-half."

It should come as little surprise that classroom technology enthusiasts thin