

DATEBOOK Guide to Weekly Meetings

Hillel will hold a tree-planting ceremony today at 2:30 p.m. on Gibbs Green behind McKissick Museum.

A Contra Dance will be from 8 p.m.-11 p.m. Friday at the Dutch Fork Magistrate's Office at the corner of St. Andrews and Broad River roads. The emphasis will be on traditional dancing from New England with music by Hopeless Derelicts. All dances are taught, and no partner is necessary. Admission is \$5. For more information, call Columbia Old Time Music and Dance at 791-1567 or 783-1017.

The Faculty Artist Series continues Thursday, Jan. 19 featuring Robert Jesselson at 7:30 p.m. in Gambrell Hall auditorium. Admission is free.

Sundays

- Ballroom Dance Club, 4-5 p.m., Blatt P.E. Center Room 107. For more information, call Gabriele at 256-3140.
- Worship service and dinner, 5:30 p.m., PALM Center, 728 Pickens St.

Mondays

- Living Off Campus and Learning (LOCAL), 2:30 p.m., RH 348. For more information, call Off-Campus Student Services in Rh 209 at 777-4174.
- Sorority Council, 5 p.m., RH Theater.
- PALM Campus Ministry, "Body & Soul" meal and program, 5:30 p.m., PALM Center.
- CPU Cultural Arts Committee, 7 p.m., CPU Conference Room.
- CPU Cinematic Arts Committee, 7 p.m., RH 203.
- CPU Publicity Committee, 7:30 p.m., RH 201.

Tuesdays

- Carolina for KIDS, 6 p.m., RH 302.
- Dinner and program, 6 p.m., Presbyterian Student Center, 1702 Greene St.

Wednesdays

- Beta Alpha Psi, 5:30 p.m.
- PALM Campus Ministry, 5:30 p.m., dinner and program, PALM Center.
- Student Government Senate, 5 p.m., RH Theater.
- Women Students' Association, 6 p.m., Rh 201.
- Campus Rape Awareness, 7 p.m., RH 332.
- Student Ad Federation, 7 p.m., RH 302.
- Bible Study, 7 p.m., Presbyterian Student Center, 1702 Greene St.

Thursdays

- Habitat for Humanity, 5 p.m., RH Patio.
- "Heart to Heart," 7 p.m., Baptist Student Union, 700 Pickens St.
- CPU Ideas & Issues Committee, 7:30 p.m., CPU Conference Room.
- Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, 8 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., RH 315. For more information, call Richard Grinnan at 256-1211.
- Campus Crusade for Christ, "Prime Time," 7:30 p.m., RH 327. Call Dave at 551-5577 for more information.
- Christian Coffee House, 9-11 p.m., PALM Center.

Rising battle in Mexico keeps White House on toes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Few would have guessed President Clinton's first foreign policy showdown with the new GOP-run Congress would not be over Russia, Korea or Bosnia — but Mexico. The intensifying battle underscores just how vulnerable he is on Capitol Hill.

A week after winning the tentative backing of congressional leaders for a rescue plan, Clinton's proposal for \$40 billion in loan guarantees is drawing increasing fire, much of it from members of his own party.

And, while the current dispute is partly a replay of the 1993 debate over the North American Free Trade Agreement, a pact with wide GOP support, Republicans are signaling to Clinton that this time he must do a better job at rounding up Democrats.

But Democrats, now in the minority, seemed more willing than ever to speak out against their own president. "I think we're going in absolutely the wrong direction," said Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, suggesting the rescue plan would raise U.S. interest rates and hurt Mexican workers.

It added up to another big headache the president didn't need as he worked on the State of Union address he'll give to a joint session next Tuesday.

That there was a fight of such magnitude was remarkable in itself, given that the rescue plan is also supported by House Speaker Newt Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole.

Analysts generally agreed the rescue package would eventually pass but not without requiring Clinton to dip in-

to already dwindling political capital.

"The troika of Clinton, Dole and Gingrich will mobilize the vote," said George Grayson, a Mexico expert at Virginia's College of William and Mary. "We really have no alternative. We are increasingly part of a world economy, and an economic problem in Mexico will affect the well being and stability of U.S. taxpayers and U.S. stock owners."

"In the end, Republicans will vote overwhelmingly for the stabilization package and so will Sun Belt Democrats," Grayson said.

Thrown off balance by the sudden fight, the White House mobilized its big guns on Wednesday and also enlisted the support of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan.

Clinton lobbied publicly for support, going to the Treasury Department to address U.S. business leaders with a stake in Mexico.

Meanwhile, Vice President Al Gore, Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Greenspan sought support on Capitol Hill.

"We have a core of support for doing the right thing and moving forth expeditiously," Gore asserted, drawing on optimism that seemed premature. "We are on schedule and moving forward."

Many lawmakers of both parties are calling for delaying the bailout or adding conditions on immigration and labor standards.

Not only is the pact drawing some of the same Democratic opposition as NAFTA, especially the labor vote, but some GOP newcomers are chafing as well.

Aiken hospital settles heart case dispute

AIKEN, S.C. (AP) — Aiken Regional Medical Center has settled its dispute with state health officials about performing heart procedures, but details of how much it agreed to pay in fines was not immediately disclosed.

The Department of Health and Environmental Control had proposed fines of as much as \$1.2 million against the hospital for performing angioplasty without state permission.

The settlement was reached Tuesday night just before a DHEC hearing scheduled for Wednesday, The Aiken Standard reported.

In angioplasty, a tiny balloon is inserted into a clogged blood vessel, then inflated to open the clog.

DHEC wanted to fine the hospital for performing angioplasties from April 1992 to May 1994, when legislation was signed allowing the facility to offer the life-saving service on a trial basis.

Hospital Administrator Ricky Satcher said the medical center was not admitting guilt but wanted to settle the case so it could focus on getting permission to perform a full range of open-heart procedures.

Satcher said details of the settlement would not be released until after it was signed.

A legislative study group recommended the hospital stop performing angioplasty by the end of this month.

Just before he left office, Gov. Carroll Campbell signed an executive order delaying any action until the Aiken hospital's results can be compared with those of other programs in the state.

Prehistoric paintings said to outdo Lascaux

PARIS (AP) — Archaeologists inching through a cave suddenly found themselves amid a stunning art show — 300 glacial-era wall paintings of animals, a 20,000-year-old display that experts say eclipses the cave art of Lascaux.

The paintings, discovered Dec. 24 in caves of the Ardeche River canyon in southern France, depict horses, lions, bison, bears, panthers, mammoths, owls, wild oxen, wild goats and woolly rhinoceroses.

"We have there a selection of animals infinitely more varied than the other sites and with exceptional features," said Genevieve Martin, a specialist for the Archaeological Service of the Rhone-Alpes region.

The paintings show standing or galloping groups of animals about 15 inches high. Some rhinoceroses were shown fighting.

The Culture Ministry, announcing the find Wednesday, called it "the only totally intact and ornate network of caves from the Paleolithic era."

The caves near Combe d'Arc are about 1,500 feet deep in the Ardeche, known for its grottos and subterranean rivers. It is 260 miles south of Paris.

The discovery was not announced until Wednesday so the site could be protected. The caves, yet to be named, were quickly protected by a heavy door and TV surveillance.

They "will not be opened to the public so that the extremely fragile and precious relics can be studied," said Jacques Toubon, a culture minister. "Preservation is our priority at the moment."

The ministry said it plans to show the paintings to the public using video, CD-ROM or other multimedia techniques.

The caves of Lascaux in France's southwest Dordogne region are open only to a handful of experts each day; a recreation in a similar cave is open to the general public.

"What was done at Lascaux is superb," said Nick Ashton, a researcher at the British Museum's Department of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities. "You're reducing the risk of damage to the paintings from the humidity brought in by human breath."

Jean-Marie Chauvet, guardian of about 15 caves in the same area that have prehistoric artifacts, stumbled upon the art with two assistants during an inspection tour, the Culture Ministry said.

The caves also contained the bones of about 100 bears still in their hibernation nests, as well as hearths, flints and torches. Archaeologists found bits of clay, iron oxide and manganese that were excavated to make paint.

Report labels death overdose

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — The mysterious death of a 19-year-old Clemson University student last November was the result of sniffing an air freshener that contains butane, authorities say.

Thomas Gray Dickson Jr. died Nov. 20 from an overdose of Glade air freshener, Pickens County Coroner Mitchell Davis said Tuesday.

"This isn't a real prevalent practice, but it occurs more than you might think," said Johnson Link, Clemson police chief.

Dickson, a sophomore, was pronounced dead at Baptist Medical Center in Easley. Dickson's roommate called paramedics after finding Dickson unconscious in his room.

Investigators found several bottles of air freshener in Dickson's apartment. Link said police originally thought it had been used to mask the odor of drugs, but then suspected the air freshener itself caused Dickson's death.

Police are familiar with people sniffing spray paint and glue fumes to become intoxicated, but Link said this is the department's first experience with air freshener.

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