

Around the World

Reagan undergoes surgery

President Reagan underwent major abdominal surgery Saturday for the removal of a polyp and is doing "very, very, very well," according to Capt. Dale Oller of the Navy, chief surgeon of the operation. The two hour and fifty-three minute operation began at 11:48 a.m. at the Bethesda Naval Medical Center.

Doctors found cancer in President Reagan's colon. After the removal of a two-foot section of Reagan's colon, doctors believe Reagan has a 50 percent chance of being completely cured and is said to have favorable life prospects. He is given a 80-90 percent chance for five year survival by eminent physician and Chairman of the American Cancer Board, Dr. David Korn. But the cancer had grown the second stage of a standard pathological classification for colon cancers, Dukes-B cancer.

President Reagan gave his power to Vice-president Bush in a five-paragraph letter which he signed at 10:30 a.m., an hour before his surgery.

The letter which was sent to the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House transferred legal power to Bush for the duration that Reagan would be incapacitated through surgery.

Officials say the change of power would remain in place until Reagan sent a second letter rescinding the designation. He was not expected to send the second letter until several hours after several hours of post-surgery recovery.

Reagan's letter did not invoke the 25th amendment, the amendment that formally transfers presidential power. Reagan said the 25th amendment which was ratified in 1967 did not apply to such a "brief and temporary period of incapacity."

Draft status rule repealed

The Education Department ended the controversial 1982 regulation forcing schools to verify whether male students applying for federal financial aid had registered for the military draft because inspectors found most male students truthfully reported their draft status on aid forms.

While colleges are exempt from verifying students' draft status Education Department officials will continue to monitor male students' registration to curb financial aid abuse.

Law ruled unconstitutional

A panel of three federal judges says New York towns can bar temporary residents from registering to vote.

The New York law is constitutional, the judges say, because students and other transients can still sue officials for discrimination.

Students, who say the law prevents them from voting, plan to appeal to the Supreme Court.

Higher drug use disputed

Student athletes use no more drugs than other students, say two Michigan State researchers.

"It's a problem any time athletes are using drugs, but it's not an epidemic problem," says researcher Douglas McKeag. "Serious" would be a good word.

More than 60 percent of the 2000 athletes studied admitted to trying drugs before going to college, but the study suggests athletes use drugs less often socially than the "average person."

Justice moves to end programs

Justice officials say the program, which reserves slots in state graduate schools for black students, "creates a new class of victims" instead of achieving racial balance.

Civil rights activists argue that students in the program are admitted to the schools "only if they do well in the two-year program, and if they meet the schools' admissions

requirements."

If the plan is deleted, "there will be fewer black doctors and lawyers trained in Tennessee," a civil rights spokesperson says.

Animal rights hotly debated

A unanimous University of Arizona animal care committee decision to let researchers induce cancerous brain tumors in dogs was a "rubber stamp" decision because "they pass approval on all experiments," claims Roberta Wright of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

Earlier this year, UA students and community members picketed the university animal lab to protest inhumane treatment of research animals.

And Stanford officials say a new California law expanding the power of private groups to inspect university animal research facilities "invites a vigilante approach to monitoring research laboratories."

State and local governments should do the inspections, not private organizations, they add.

Right to abortion threatened

The White House asked the Supreme Court to overturn its 1973 decision establishing a woman's right to have an abortion, according to Justice officials.

The Solicitor General's office filed a brief on Monday maintaining that the principles of Roe vs. Wade ruling were not conducive to what several officials describe as modest and reasonable state and local governmental efforts to control legalized abortions.

The 1973 abortion ruling has been challenged many times as the Reagan Administration had asked the Court to loosen restrictions on abortion regulation. This, however, is the most direct attack on the abortion ruling. A reversal of Roe v. Wade would permit state and local authorities to ban abortions or to take other limiting actions beyond the 1973 ruling.

Synod ended in South Africa

South Africa's Anglican Church has ended an important synod racked by groups highlighting a quandary facing clerics as violence in Africa's black township seems to worsen.

A division arose over the assignment of Anglican priests as military chaplains to troops fighting insurgents in the north of South-West Africa, also known as Namibia.

Its wider implication for the clergy is to determine which way the Church leans in a society increasingly gripped by racial problems.

U.S.-Australian ties reaffirmed

Secretary of State George P. Schultz talked with Australian leaders Monday and both sides said they saw public reaffirmation of United States-Australian defense links.

Mr. Shultz, praised the Australian Government for its continued commitment to Anzus, the 34-year old alliance between the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

The alliance was shaken by New Zealand's refusal in February to allow an American destroyer to make a scheduled port call because the United States would not say that the ship did not carry nuclear weapons.

The United States reacted by repealing military exercises with New Zealand.

U.S. Auto sales drop off

Sales of domestically built automobiles declined 15 percent in the first 10 days of July, according to reports from the major automobile companies. This drop pushed the annual selling rate down to 7.5 million units, from an unusually high 9.2 million rate in early July last year. Sales in light trucks, mini-vans and sports utility vehicles increased 10.8 percent, however, in the same period.



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