World urges safe sex, activism on AIDS day

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In Rome, taxi drivers distributed AIDS leaflets. Across Thailand, gas stations offered free condoms. In South Africa, Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu went on

TV to urge people to practice safe sex. World AIDS Day was marked with renewed vigor around the world Sunday after a U.N. agency reported an acceler-orized death to!

ating death toll. Nearly a quarter of the 6.4 million AIDS deaths to date have occured in the

hard such to batch have occured in the past year. In 1996, 3.1 million people were in-fected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, bringing the total number of people with HIV or AIDS to 22.6 million, UNAIDS said.

In Asia, the site of an AIDS explosion. the war on the disease got graphic. Activists posted photos of an emaciated AIDS victim in Beijing's central Zhongshan Park near the ancient imperial palace, along with posters that read, "The risks of careless sex and lifestyle hygiene."

Health officials have warned that more than 1 million Chinese - 10 times the estimated present number — could be infected with HIV by 2000 if preventive measures are not taken. In Thailand, which has an active sex

industry, 420 gas stations distributed 3 million condoms to customers with the warning, "Be careful of AIDS when feel-

ing naughty." The health ministry and state-owned Petroleum Authority of Thailand sponsored the program. An estimated 800,000 of Thailand's 60 million people have the HIV virus, and 50,000 more have died of AIDS.

In the Philippine capital of Manila, about 250 government officials, activists and at least four HIV patients joined in the 11-mile "First National AIDS Walk."

In Taipei, an AIDS awareness group displayed memorial quilt patches to honor victims of the disease.

Photo exhibitions carried the message in India, which volunteer organizations say has Asia's worst AIDS epidemic, with an estimated 1 million or more HIV cases

Charity organizations sponsored marches in Bombay. More than 400 people gathered in Tokyo for the lighting of a 20-foot tree bearing 12,000 red ribbons, symbols of the fight against AIDS.

Europe warned against complacency In central Paris, several hundred AIDS activists marched with signs reading, "AIDS: The Epidemic Isn't Over" and "Zero Equals the Number of AIDS Survivors.

In Rome, two taxi companies distributed AIDS information leaflets to pas-sengers and included similar messages on their telephone answering services. Some players in Italy's top soccer

league wore red bows on their uniforms. Dozens of candles were lit at Madrid's Puerta de Alcala monument in memory

of the estimated 5,000 AIDS victims to have died in the Spanish capital since 1981



Tornado claims 3 lives, **100 oak trees in Louisiana**

SIMSBORO, La. - More than 100 old oak trees were strewn amid the wreck-age of homes Sunday along the path of a

tornado that ripped through town. Three people were killed. The storm Saturday night destroyed six homes and damaged 49 while overturning trucks on a nearby highway and

blowing a wall off a factory. Tornadoes also skipped across parts of Mississippi, Alabama and the Florida panhandle, causingscattered damage and injuries.

Emergency teams and volunteers helped this northern Louisiana commu-nity about 45 miles east of Shreveport clean up Sunday. Power was restored to most homes by morning.

PROFESSOR

"One of the goals of the college is to

have faculty representative from what-

ever set of categories you wish to choose from," Birdsall said. Before hiring any

professor, a department must document

more from a diverse faculty

STATE & NATIONAL

"I'm just glad we didn't die," 8-year-old Sara Solomon said. She and her 10year-old sister, Kasey, sat on the hallway floor of their home when the storm hit. "A tree fell on our house. We started crying because we were so scared," Sara said Some of the fallen oak trees had been

standing for generations. One that was 5 feet in diameter crushed the cab of a feet in diameter crushed are the parked pickup truck, killing two men who were inside installing a radio. A man sitting between them survived with

Swiss narrowly defeat

BERN, Switzerland - By a singledigit margin, the Swiss voted down a proposal Sunday to add tough anti-imnigration measures to the country's con-

The vote was 54 percent to 46 percent against the referendum, which would have disqualified all illegal immigrants from refugee status and given the government control over any wages earned by asylum-seekers.

about allegations that Switzerland is concealing the assets of Nazi Holocaust victims, the government welcomed the rejection of the proposals on refugees.

object to programs that give preferences to people simply because of their race or sex. They believe jobs should be based on merit, not group identification.

the disadvantaged, and this does not help the disadvantaged," he said of his

which eliminated preferences in state contracts and university admissions, showed the American public's rejection

For a country that prides itself on its humanitarian traditions, the addition of an anti-immigration clause to the constitution would have been an embarrassment to many

But the narrow result reflected a belief widespread among Swiss citizens that foreigners are squeezing them out of in-creasingly scarce jobs and are to blame for drug dealing and other crimes. The Swiss People's Party drew up the initiative in 1991, when Switzerland had a record 42,000 asylum-seekers.

Teen drugs still problem in Wake County schools

RALEIGH — One year after police arrested 75 Wake County students fol-lowing a three-month investigation, officials and teenagers say the problem of

drugs in schools has hardly gone away. Undercover agents posed as students in the county's 12 high schools and bought drugs as part of a probe called Operation Checkup. Footage of the arrests wound up on the television network news shows.

Raleigh-area police leaders and other officials said Operation Checkup did not rid the schools of drugs, and another drug bust is expected soon. In this calendar year alone, 36 students in Raleigh were arrested for possession. "There are going to be drugs in school,"

of affirmative action.

'This is a policy that most of the American electorate is becoming disillusioned with," he said. "The University needs to discuss why it's moving in one direction while the rest of the country is moving in another."

Richard A. Soloway, chairman of the history department, said the decision fit into the larger picture of how UNC hired faculty

"It raises some good questions that should be debated and discussed."

Raleigh Police Chief Mitch Brown said. "The problem is managing it." Wake County students say drugs still

Wake County students say drugs sum-are easy to get at school. "Everybody who did drugs before is still doing drugs now," said Brian Allison, 17, a senior at Broughton High School in Raleigh. "The point was to get drugs out the day of the school scing to hannen." of school. That's not going to happen.

International monitors

watch Bosnian elections

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina-Bosnian Serbs have agreed to let international monitors supervise municipal elec-tions in their half of Bosnia, an official said Sunday

The vote is now planned for late June. Elections for local offices were initially to be held Sept. 14, alongside national and regional elections.

But the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, a trans-Atlantic group supervising the vote, postponed them until late November and then again until June because of irregularities and security concerns.

Some parties, particularly Serbs, were accused of packing voter registration lists in towns they wanted to control — eyen if they were a minority there before war broke out in 1992.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

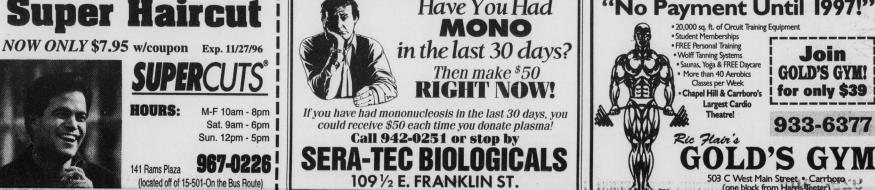
WIGGINS

he didn't think the council had discussed enough significant issues since Wiggins' appointment to evaluate her participa-tion. "Ms. Wiggins has shown that she has the intelligence to be a meaningful member of the Town Council," he said,

Council member Joyce Brown said Wiggins' diligence had impressed her.

"She seems to have been learning a lot in a short period of time.

Opponents of affirmative action, such as history Professor Roger W. Lotchin, "No Payment Until 1997!" Have You Had MONO • 20,000 sq. ft. of Circuit Training Equipmer • Student Memberships FREE Personal Training in the last 30 days? Join Wolff Tanning Systems
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only minor injuries. anti-immigration measure stitution.

"Affirmative action was set up to help

department's hiring decision. Lotchin said recent polls and California's passage of Proposition 209,

attempts to recruit women and minorities with the Equal Opportunity Office.

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