

World and Nation

Salvadorans reject delayed elections

From Associated Press reports
SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador — President Jose Napoleon Duarte's proposal to postpone the presidential election as demanded by leftist rebels was rejected Monday by the opposition-controlled legislature.
 In a nationwide television address Sunday, Duarte proposed a cease-fire and direct negotiations with the insurgents on Tuesday in Guatemala. He also called for postponing the March 19 election to April 30 — a date the rebels have rejected as too early.
 The unicameral Legislative Assembly is controlled by the rightist Republican Nationalist Alliance, or Arena. The rightists are favored to win the presidency from Duarte's Christian Democrats, and adamantly have rejected any postponement of the vote.

Ricardo Alvarenga, president of the Assembly and an Arena leader, said at a news conference that "the election date is set, and it must be fulfilled. It is not by altering the constitutional order that problems are resolved."
 Rebel leader Salvador Samayoa said in an interview that Duarte's "proposal has problems and evident loopholes, but we will put out a constructive response, not a negative one."
 His group, the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front, had originally called for elections in September, but then said it would accept a vote in July.
 Duarte's term expires June 1. The 63-year-old Duarte, who is suffering from terminal liver cancer, is expected to survive until then.

The United States had hailed Duarte's proposal.
 "In our judgment, this is potentially the most significant opportunity ever for peace in El Salvador, particularly the commitment of the government of El Salvador to undertake a cessation of hostilities if the FMLN agrees within 48 hours," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said in Washington.
 Duarte acknowledged Sunday there would be constitutional problems with delaying the election, but suggested they could be resolved either by a plebiscite or through an accord involving the three branches of government.
 The FMLN said in January that if the election were postponed a significant time period, it would take part and respect the outcome. The

announcement was seen as a major turnabout by the Marxist-led rebels, who have boycotted and condemned the five previous national elections this decade.
 Duarte originally rejected the guerrilla proposal as insincere. He also had said postponement of the election past March 31 would be unconstitutional.
 He did not explain Sunday why April 30 could be considered a legal date. The constitution says elections must be held at least two months before the end of the incumbent's term.
 Alvarenga opposed the plebiscite proposal.
 "Why have a plebiscite? The presidential election is a plebiscite, a consultation of the popular will, and it must be carried out as scheduled," he said.

Suspect charged in deaths of Hillsborough housemates

From Associated Press reports
HILLSBOROUGH — An Orange County construction worker has been arrested and charged with the shooting deaths of a Hillsborough couple, whose bodies were found Saturday in a ditch, authorities say.
 Jimmy Wayne Arnett, 29, was arrested Sunday night without incident at a trailer park where he lived with the victims. He was charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of Donnie Holleman, 22, and his wife, Susan O'Neal Holleman, 46.
 Orange County Sheriff Lindy Pendergrass said the Hollemans apparently were shot to death Thursday at their home off Old N.C. 86, and the bodies then were dumped about a mile away.
 Arnett is being held without bond in the Orange County Jail.

News in Brief
Teen stabs Israeli soldier
EL-BIREH, Occupied West Bank — A Palestinian teen-ager stabbed an Israeli soldier Monday and then was shot in the head and wounded as troops chased him through a crowded market, the army said.
 Radio reports said the assailant was injured with rubber bullets.
 Also Monday, a previously unknown Arab group claimed it was holding a paratrooper missing for 12 days.
 In clashes in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, soldiers shot and wounded 10 Palestinians, according to Arab reports and hospital officials.

Security concerns disrupt North trial

From Associated Press reports
WASHINGTON — The judge in Oliver North's Iran-Contra trial adjourned court abruptly Monday to clear up a "roadblock" created by an apparent defense attempt to reveal a name the government wants to keep secret.
 It was the first serious disruption of the trial on national security grounds since the jury was sworn in last Tuesday.
 The dispute arose over the intro-

duction of a document during cross-examination of Robert Owen, who had acted as North's courier, shutting maps, money and tactical advice to the rebels fighting the Sandinista government at a time official U.S. aid was banned.
 Arguments over use of classified information involved disclosing the name of a source the government wants to keep secret. He offered the prosecution a chance to avoid disclosure of the name, saying Owen could

be withdrawn as a witness. That would mean Gesell would have to instruct jurors to ignore Owen's testimony all day Friday and Monday morning.
 The dispute started before the noon break. Owen was being questioned about a 1985 trip he took to Costa Rica to view the site of an airfield for rebel resupply operations. North lawyer Brendan Sullivan attempted to introduce a document and question him about it. A private bench conference followed and the judge sent the jury to lunch early.
 When the trial reconvened, Gesell apparently ruled during the bench conference that the defense was entitled to use the information. The ruling triggered a recess while pro-

secutors consulted with administration security experts.
 In the post-recess bench conference, Gesell's agitated voice could be heard at times in the rear of the courtroom.
 "I have offered you an opportunity to withdraw the witness," the judge said.
 Later he said: "I am willing to try to help you get a stipulation." A stipulation is an agreement by both sides to a fact or set of facts, without having to introduce particulars.
 Earlier Monday, Owen testified that North declared in 1984 he would be the Reagan administration's "point man," helping the Nicaraguan rebels after legal U.S. aid was cut off.
 "He was going to be the one to take responsibility and in essence protect those who were higher than he in the government," Owen said.

Appeals from page 1

group could still receive funding from the congress in the fall. "The last time we got money in the fall we got more money than ever before," Perry said.
 Riemann said that was not normal for fall funding. "They were simply fortunate," he said. "There was a lot of money on hand."
 Carolina Quarterly, SAFE Escort, Omega Psi Phi fraternity and the UNC-CH Rural Health Coalition are the other groups that won't be allowed in the budget process.
 The appeals committee noted the need for responsible group leadership in the budget process. "Organizations are accountable for the quality of their past and present leadership, which must ensure that, regardless of pressing personal concerns or considerations of leadership transition, organizational responsibilities are

met," the opinion said.
 Both Julia Greer, the previous SAFE director, and Bill Craven, the current SAFE director, said SAFE missed the deadline because it coincided with the change in SAFE's leadership.
 "We were in the process of trying to get that going," Greer said. "We hadn't started talking about it because I didn't think the budget had to be decided on."
 Maurice Wilson, Omega Psi Phi's co-chairman for service projects, said the congress should fix its budget dates. "They need to be more consistent with dates," he said.
 Wilson also said more explicit guidelines would have helped the fraternity submit its proposal before the deadline because the fraternity was participating in the spring budget process for the first time.
 "Student Congress could have made an effort to be more specific in the amount of money that could be requested and what it could be used for," he said. "That could have helped new groups or groups with new leadership."
 Groups can get all of their funding through subsequent appropriation but may be at a significant disadvantage, Riemann said. "There may not be that much money available, and we may have to have stricter standards," he said.

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