

# News Digest

By The Associated Press

## In Brief

### 'Spaceman' Lee to run in 1988

WEST CHESTER, Pa. — Former major league pitcher Bill Lee, known as the Spaceman for his offbeat antics, says he plans to enter the 1988 presidential race even though he doesn't live in this country.

On the Rhinoceros Party ticket.

And on a down-with-chairs platform.

"I want to do away with chairs, get a country that can stand up for itself instead of sitting on their rear ends waiting for politicians to tell them which way the wind is blowing," Lee said Sunday in a telephone interview from Montreal.

The satirical Rhinoceros Party was founded in Quebec in 1962 to make light of government and political parties.

### Boy gets second liver with Reagan check

PITTSBURGH — Ronnie DeSillers, the 7-year-old liver transplant patient whose plight attracted President Reagan's attention, made steady progress Monday as his second implanted organ began to work, a hospital official said.

Ronnie, who received a \$1,000 check from Reagan to help pay for a new liver, was in critical condition and on a respirator in the intensive care unit of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, said hospital spokeswoman Lynn McMahon.

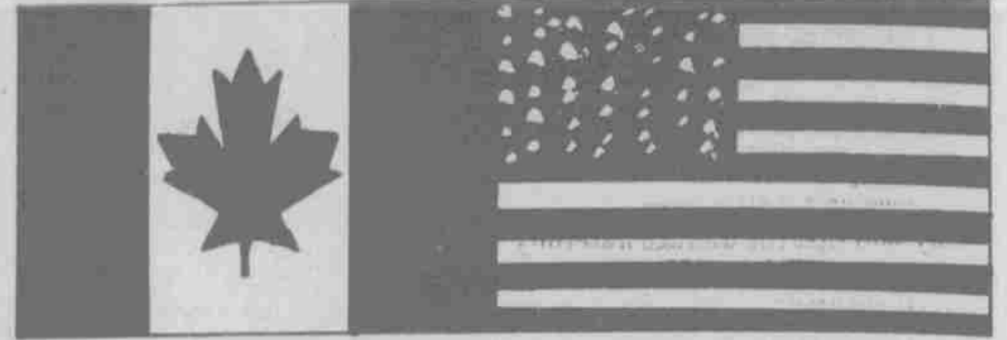
## Canada Summit unfolds Reagan agrees to consider acid rain treaty

OTTAWA — President Reagan said Monday there are "no quick and easy answers" for curbing acid rain, but he agreed to consider a Canadian proposal for a treaty requiring lower pollution levels by an agreed date.

Reagan made his surprise offer in a speech to Parliament after Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney told the same audience, "In this matter, time is not our ally but our enemy. The longer we delay, the greater the cost."

Earlier, both sides predicted there would be no agreements, and U.S. officials said privately that a treaty was not the correct way to combat pollution, particularly since various technologies are being explored to fight it.

Calling acid rain a two-nation problem requiring a two-nation solution, Mulroney said: "I urgently invite the United States administration and the



American Congress to join with this Parliament and the government of Canada in concluding a firm, bilateral accord which will provide a North American solution to acid rain."

Reagan, departing from his prepared text in his speech minutes later, said he had "agreed to consider" Mulroney's proposal, "building on the tradition of agreements to control pollution of our shared interior waters," referring

to the Great Lakes.

He said they also "agreed to inject new impetus" to talks on Canada's disputed claim of sovereignty in the icy Northwest Passage.

On another sensitive issue between the two countries, the president promised to work for the success of free trade negotiations, eliminating tariff and non-tariff barriers between the United States and Canada.

## Children with AIDS face 'invisible barrier'

PHILADELPHIA — The estimated 3,000 children who will have AIDS by 1991 face an "invisible barrier" to social and public health services as well as abandonment by their own families, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop said Monday.

In a speech opening a three-day conference on AIDS in children, Koop criticized those who he said would deny the growing number of children with AIDS "a normal and dignified life."

As of last week, there were 471 cases of AIDS reported among children under 13, Koop said. As many as 2,000 other children are reported to have symptoms of the infection, but are not counted



because their conditions don't fit narrow federal guidelines, he added.

Because of the stigma of AIDS, children with the disease have fewer foster homes available to them and also "suffer abandonment by the mother and society," Koop said.

AIDS children "must be nurtured,

helped to grow and develop, allowed to interact with peers, attend school and encouraged to participate in all activities of childhood despite shortened lives," he said.

Koop said "there is absolutely no health reason why children carrying AIDS should not attend school."

Koop invited 150 physicians, social scientists and government officials to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, where he was chief of surgery for 30 years, to a three-day, government-sponsored conference.

At the end of the meetings, the conferees will report to Koop on how the government and private sector can better cope with the problem.

## Meese denies blocking Contra gun-running probe

WASHINGTON — Attorney General Edwin Meese III denied on Monday that he blocked an investigation into alleged gun-running to the Nicaraguan Contras last year when Congress was preparing to debate resumption of aid to the rebels.

Meese, speaking at a news conference, also rejected suggestions that then-National Security Adviser John Poindexter had urged him to shelve the investigation.

He acknowledged, however, that he had kept abreast of the probe, discussing it with the U.S. attorney in Miami, Leon Kellner.

Meese's handling of the investigation is one of several matters relating

to the Iran-Contra affair in which the Justice Department's activities are coming under increasing scrutiny.

Later this week, the Senate Intelligence Committee is expected to ask FBI director William Webster about Meese's not calling the FBI into the affair until last Nov. 26, the day after the attorney general declared that money from secret arms shipments to Iran had been diverted to the Contras.

Evidence collected later by the independent counsel investigating the affair suggested there was extensive destruction of documents by National Security Council staffers in the days preceding the FBI's entry into the case.

## Congressman: Moscow embassy bugged

MOSCOW — A congressman who made an unannounced nighttime inspection of the U.S. Embassy said Monday that Soviet KGB agents have "fully compromised" the building and undoing the damage will cost tens of millions of dollars.

Rep. Dan Mica said he and Rep. Olympia Snowe made the surprise inspection beginning at about midnight at the embassy, which is the focus of a sex-and-spy scandal allegedly involving former U.S. Marine guards.

Snowe, a Republican from Maine, told reporters gathered at the embassy: "There is a lack of security here in many respects."

Mica said embassy staff members were acting quickly to restore security at the nine-story building on Moscow's Garden Ring Road and a "secure area" had been created "within the last 48 hours."

He added, however, that Secretary of State George P. Shultz still may have to bring a special

**'There is a lack of security here in many respects.'**

—Snowe

trailer for communicating with Washington when he visits Moscow on April 13-16 for talks with Soviet officials.

According to Marine Corps charges, those accused of spying became sexually involved with Soviet women and allowed agents of the KGB secret service into the embassy's communications center and other sensitive areas.

Some members of Congress have said the unfinished brick-and-glass structure, which already has cost \$191 million, is full of KGB bugging devices and should be pulled down.

## Three bodies recovered near collapsed bridge

AMSTERDAM, N.Y. — Rescue workers on Monday recovered three bodies from a rain-swollen creek over which an Interstate highway bridge collapsed.

Up to 400 feet of the New York State Thruway bridge collapsed Sunday near this town 35 miles west of Albany. Three cars and a tractor-trailer rig plunged into rain-swollen Schoharie Creek.

The water near the bridge was too rough and swift for divers, said Montgomery County Sheriff Ronald Emery. He would not estimate when it would be safe to enter the creek.

The victims' identities were withheld pending notification of relatives, said Montgomery County Sheriff's Deputy Fred Overrocker.

Gov. Mario Cuomo, who went to the scene Sunday afternoon, said there was no evidence of any defect in the 31-year-old, concrete and steel girder bridge, a part of Interstate 90.

"We don't know precisely what caused the collapse of the span, and that's disconcerting," he said.

Officials said the span went through extensive rehabilitation about two years ago and was deemed in good condition in its last inspection in April 1986.

The collapse is expected to have a major impact on the area's trucking industry. Drivers will have to take detours of up to 20 miles on secondary roads through rolling countryside.

Thruway spokesman Raymond Makay said replacement of a bridge usually takes two years.



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