Nebraskan

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 News Digest
 By the
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Edited by Victoria Ayotte
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Turtle stops construction

LAS VEGAS, Nev. -- Highrolling developers betting on a housing construction boom in the Las Vegas Valley have been stopped in their tracks by the designation of a turtle as an endangered species.

The federal listing of the desert tortoise - Nevada's official state reptile - prohibits disruption of the animal's habitat. That already has blocked off-road races, and threatens cattle grazing on some federal land and some military activity.

'The potential impact on Las Vegas could be horrendous," said Paul Selzer, a Palm Springs, Calif., lawyer hired by local officials to draw up and sell the federal government on a plan to save the tortoises while allowing development. "It's now a crime to move the tortoises from your building site and it's a crime to hurt them in any way.

Selzer set up a refuge for an endangered lizard in the Coachella Valley near Palm Springs that has become a model for settling conflicts over endangered species.

The Aug. 4 listing by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was brought about by biologists' concerns that a respiratory disease is killing off thousands of the burrowing tortoises, which live up to 80 years. The emergency designation means all the protections of the Endangered Species Act immediately went into effect for eight months, pending further decisions

3:00 - 4:30 p.m.

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Micro Madness Free Microcomputer Classes

The Computing Resource Center is offering free microcomputers seminars to UNL faculty, staff, and students. The seminars will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word on the Macintosh.

No reservations. Macintosh sections are limited to 15.

Macintosh seminars will be held in Henzlik microcomputer lab.

Microsoft Word on the Macintosh

Tuesday., September 12

Wed., September 13

Drug plan has secret part WASHINGTON -- President money, the source said. Bennett did not discuss details of

George Bush's battle plan for the war on drugs has a secret section that could expand the role of the U.S. military, possibly sending advisers to Peru and Bolivia, administration officials said Sunday

Drug czar William J. Bennett said President Bush was willing to send Special Forces advisers to the Andean countries, but stressed in a televised interview that the administration does not intend to send troops into combat in Latin America.

As part of his anti-drug efforts, Bush signed a National Security Decision Directive outlining the goals and limits of military involvement, said another administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Bush, in a nationally televised speech last Tuesday, said \$261 mil-lion in security assistance would be available to Colombia, Bolivia and Peru for their anti-drug efforts. Government agencies will be working over the next two weeks drafting

the classified effort, but he denied published reports the administration intends to send U.S. Special Forces on drug-fighting missions in combat zones in the two Andean Mountain neighbors of Colombia.

There is no plan for any Special Forces to accompany troops in Peru or Bolivia into combat missions," Bennett said in the ABC-TV program This Week with David Brinkley.

Although U.S. troops may be under orders to avoid combat, the administration has dispatched security advisers to Colombia as part of a \$65 million package designed to assist that nation fight cocaine cartels.

'We see now in Colombia the presence of American trainers working with the Colombians, giving them advice, training them on equipment. This is the kind of thing we would anticipate if Peru and Bolivia take the steps," Bennett said.

Bennett was responding to a report in Sunday editions of the Washington detailed plans for the use of that Post that Bush had signed a secret

directive including new "rules of engagement" for U.S. Special Forces in the three Andean countries.

About two dozen members of the U.S. Special Forces based in Panama have been rotating into Bolivia's Chapare Valley, training anti-narcot-ics police there, but they have been barred from patrols

The Post said the directive would allow the advisers to accompany Bolivian drug forces on patrol. However, the administration source said that "the military is not allowed to go out into the jungle on patrol. That is the way it has been and the way it remains."

The Post report quoted an unidentified senior administration official as saying that "several hundred" U.S. military advisers could be sent to the three nations under the "An-dean initiative" announced by Bush.

It said a secret section of the initiative would authorize the U.S. Special Forces to accompany military patrols into so-called "safe areas" in the three nations.

olombia to extradite 3 traffickers

BOGOTA, Colombia -- The Colombian government will extradite three more reputed cocaine traffickers wanted in the United States on charges of money-laundering and drug smuggling, an official said Sun-

day. The announcement came after a weekend of army raids on ranches believed owned by the country's top two drug barons. Soldiers seized property including cattle, tropical birds and swimming pools, the army and the El Espectador daily said. In Medellin, the nation's second-

largest city, a series of attacks linked to drug cartels continued. A bomb damaged a liquor factory, hooded assailants set a city garbage truck on fire, and police defused a bomb at a branch of a government-run savings bank. No injuries were reported.

killed a foreman and set fire to the ranch of a government official who wanted the confiscated rural property of drug traffickers distributed to peasants.

A National Drug Council official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told The Associated Press the government has signed extradition orders for three imprisoned Colombians: Ana Helena Rodriguez, 37, jailed in Bogota and accused of drug traffick-ing; Bernardo Londono Quintana, 47, jailed in Bobota for allegedly laundering money; and Alberto Orlandez Gamboa, 37, jailed in Medellin, also for alleged laundering.

An army officer in Medellin, ask-

In western Colombia, assailants over the weekend are believed to belong to two of the most wanted drug bosses: Pablo Escobar and Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha. They are believed to be the No. 1 and No. 2 men in the Medellin cocaine cartel.

Last month, after assassins working for the traffickers killed Sen. Luis Carlos Galan, the leading presidential candidate and an outspoken foe of drug cartels, President Virgilio Barco assumed emergency powers and or-dered seizures of bank accounts and property thought to be tied to the drug trade.

Since then, the army and police have made public numerous confiscated documents showing the purported multimillion-dollar, multinational holdings of Colombia's most notorious drug barons, all currently in

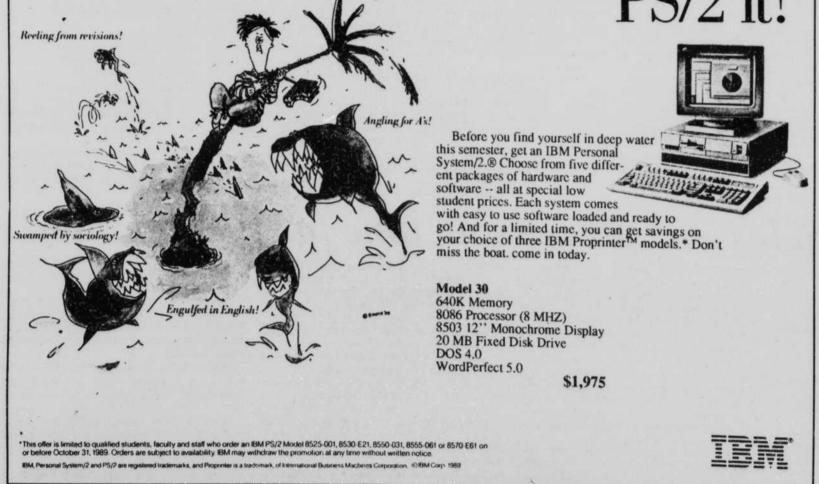
ing not to be identified for security notorio reasons, said the properties seized hiding. Hungary to let East German refugees leave

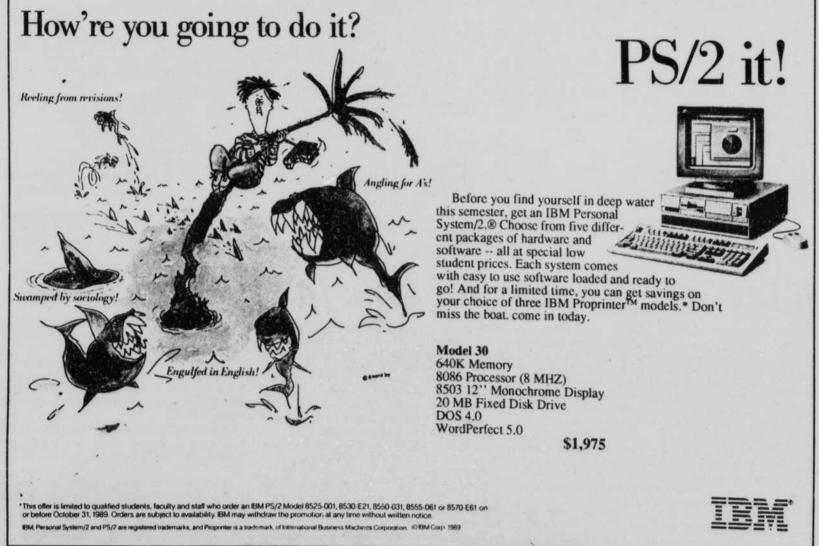
BUDAPEST, Hungary -- Hungary announced Sunday that more than 7,000 East Germans who fled their night Communist homeland will be al-

lowed to leave refugee camps for East bloc government to help the citi-West Germany beginning at mid-

Hungary thus becomes the first







zens of another Communist nation escape to the West. The mass emigra-tion of East Germans to West Germany will be the largest since the Berlin Wall was built in 1961 to stem the flow across the border.

East Germany promptly attacked the Hungarian decision, charging that Budapest had "directly interfered" in its internal affairs.

It said that Hungary, "under the guise of humanitarianism, has engaged in the organized smuggling of human beings."

West Germany thanked Hungary for what it called a "humanitarian" act.

The Hungarian foreign minister, Gyula Horn, suggested on Hungarian TV that tens of thousands of other East Germans now vacationing in Hungary also may choose to leave for the West. West Germany, which offers East

Germans automatic citizenship and help getting settled, already has set up camps in Bavaria to receive the refugees.

Daily ora Amy Edwards 472-1766 Editor **Professional Adviser** 473-7301 The Daily Nebraskan(USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Ne-braska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE, Monday through Friday during the academic year: weekly during summer sessions. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also nas access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Pam Hein, 472-2588. Subscription price is \$45 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St. Lincoln, NE 6638-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE. ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1999 DAILY NEBRASKA