

Yugoslavia president seeks to annul election

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — Former Communists lost big in recent elections in Eastern Europe, and it appears the Serbian republic of Yugoslavia was no exception — even if its president refuses to admit it.

Slobodan Milosevic's government seeks to annul the results of Sunday's local elections, which suggest that people are fed up with economic hardship and the aftermath of the Bosnian war that he helped start.

For the first time since Communists came to power in 1945, a pro-democracy opposition seems to have won significant power. Tens of thousands of workers and intellectuals, united for the first time in years, are fighting what they say is vote-rigging by the Milosevic regime.

On Thursday, the fourth day of demonstrations across Serbia, up to 30,000 people marched through Belgrade, chanting "We won't give up our victory."

Shouting "Red Bandits," the crowd stopped by Milosevic's state-run Serbian TV, cursing and booing riot police deployed around the downtown building and demanding "liberation" from the propaganda tool that has been blasting the opposition.

Similar protests were reported in several other Serbian towns and cities, including the second largest city of Nis.

The protesters are angry that the Milosevic-controlled electoral commission on Tuesday night annulled and called for re-runs of Sunday's local elections in several Serbian districts, mostly in places where the four-party opposition coalition claimed clear victory.

Opposition leaders and about 60 other members of their coalition pledged to continue their hunger strike in Serbia's parliament building and to stay locked inside until their demands are met.

The four-party coalition — called Zajedno, or "Together" — sent the

president four demands, including that he recognize their initial election results and bring criminal charges against local election officials.

"Our position is crystal clear. We are defending the law," Zoran Djindjic, head of the Democratic Party, told The Associated Press.

The opposition claims to have won in 44 municipalities, including Belgrade and the former Communist bastions of Nis, Kragujevac, Uzice and Novi Sad.

Milosevic's coalition claimed victory in 134 of Serbia's 189 municipalities. Most, however, are small districts and practically irrelevant compared to the bigger Serbian towns.

On Wednesday, the opposition urged supporters in towns where it claimed victory to seize city halls and establish their own rule. But police forces were mobilized in all of Serbia's major towns. On Thursday, police confiscated Democratic Party equipment, including loudspeakers, at the Belgrade rally.

An opposition victory would be a setback to Milosevic, since much of his political and economic power, as well as his control over media, is lodged in municipal governments.

He still rules firmly on the republic's and federal level, and is in control of his major tools of power: the police and the army.

"The election results in Romania, Bulgaria and other countries previously ruled by 'reformed communists' are a clear sign that economy and day-to-day life have prevailed over ideology and promises," said Vuk Draskovic, an opposition leader.

Earlier this month in Socialist-ruled Bulgaria, voters elected Petar Stoyanov, an anti-Communist, as their president. In Romania this past weekend, rural voters joined urban intellectuals to replace Ion Iliescu, a former communist, with moderate reformer Emil Constantinescu.

Explosion in Puerto Rico shears building, kills 20

Blast tears a 50-foot-wide hole in side of structure

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — An explosion at a shoe store sheared the side off a six-story building Thursday, killing at least 20 people, injuring 82 and leaving up to 15 missing. A gas leak was believed to have caused the blast.

The 6:35 a.m. explosion ripped a 50-foot-wide hole up the side of the building, exposing offices and apartments. It left a tangle of concrete and steel beams that filled a city block and shattered windows in nearby buildings and cars.

"There were just parts of bodies lying in the street, torsos, bones,

cars blasted against the building," said Ramon Camino, a doctor who arrived at the scene shortly after the explosion.

Rescue workers pulled dozens of survivors, coated with blood and dust, from the debris. Bodies, bloody and burned, could be seen in the rubble.

Rescuers used a nearby church as a triage center, and helicopters took the most seriously injured to the Centro Medico Hospital.

The dead were laid out with sheets over their bodies on the pave-

ment in front of the Iglesia Milagros Catholic Church. Next door, shards of glass and concrete blasted through the windows of an elementary school where about 500 students were attending classes. None of the students was injured.

Toledo said a propane gas leak may have been the cause of the blast at the Humberto Vidal shoe store in Rio Piedras, a residential and shopping district in San Juan.

Owners of the shoe store said they reported a gas leak to the San Juan Gas Co. several days ago, he said.

Housing secretary seventh Cabinet member to resign

WASHINGTON (AP) — Housing Secretary Henry Cisneros said Thursday he will leave the Cabinet, depriving President Clinton of a trusted political adviser vexed by lingering personal troubles.

In a letter to Clinton, Cisneros said he would have liked to have remained but "I have concluded that I cannot ask to be considered for service in the next four years."

He is the seventh of the 14 Cabinet members to indicate he won't be staying for Clinton's second term.

Cisneros said that he is leaving because he needs to seek a higher-paying job outside government. He has one daughter in college and another in law school.

He also has legal bills from the on-

going probe into whether he lied to the FBI about payments to a former mistress. The investigation cast a pall over Cisneros' ability to remain at HUD because of the legal bills it continues to generate.

"Really, I came to do this for four years. I prayed I could stretch the finances that far," Cisneros said. "This is about as far as I can stretch it."

His salary as secretary of housing and urban development is \$148,400 a year.

"I have worked the last four years to advance your hopes for America's communities," Cisneros told Clinton. "I have constantly grown in my respect for the clarity of your vision for the American future, for your judgments and for your tireless dedication."

Student group hosts Pow-Wow this weekend

From Staff Reports

For the seventh-straight year, the University of Nebraska InterTribal Exchange (U.N.I.T.E.) will share the cultural tradition of the Pow-Wow with the community.

The Pow-Wow, scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 23 and 24 in the Nebraska Union's Centennial Ballroom, is intended to bring people together and to share the expression of the arts.

The event will highlight traditional American Indian dance and drumming. The Grand Entry of Pow-Wow participants will be Saturday at both 1 p.m. and 7 p.m., and Sunday at 1 p.m.

The price of admission is a canned food donation.

For more information call 472-2027.

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Hunchback of Notre Dame
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Mission Impossible (PG-13)
(12:45) 3:00-5:10-7:25-9:40

Phenomenon (PG)
2:00-4:45-7:10-9:30

Time to Kill (R)
2:20-5:20-8:20

Independence Day (PG-13)
2:15-5:15-8:15

The Island of Dr. Moreau (PG-13)
(1:10) 3:10-5:10-7:10-9:10

The Chamber (R)
2:15-4:45-7:15-9:35

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