



Digging in ... Brigid Amos makes preparations to take soil samples later in the week by placing gates in a field of corn to isolate the sample. Amos is part of a team that is testing the soil because of global warming concerns that could affect plant production.

U.S. won't reduce Los Alamos charges

Defense request denied in case of scientist Wen Lo Hee.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. – The government on Tuesday refused a defense request to reduce the charges in the Wen Ho Lee case

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In a court filing, the government also said it opposes the defense's request to dismiss all but 10 counts of the indictment against Lee.

And citing national security concerns, the government withheld public release of a defense response to additional allegations against the 60-year-old scientist, who is accused of breaching security at Los Alamos National Laboratory.

The court filings came as U.S. District Judge James Parker considered whether to grant bail for Lee, who has been in jail since December.

Lee is charged with 59 counts alleging he "down-partitioned" and downloaded restricted material to insecure computers and tapes at the lab's top-secret X Division. Down-partitioning refers to a lowering of an elec-

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tronic security barrier, which would be necessary before downloading data to an insecure status.

The defense contends the materials Lee allegedly mishandled were not classified secret at the time.

They were labeled "Protect As Restricted Data," or PARD, calling for lower levels of security. Attorneys have said PARD materials can be sent via first-class mail.

However, the prosecution said Tuesday that while the materials were labeled PARD, 19 files and one tape contained information that had higher classifications-"secret restricted data" and "confidential restricted data," SRD and CRD.

"The government also will present evidence that Lee would have known by virtue of his employment in X Division that the information he took contained SRD and CRD even though the actual files he down-parti-

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tioned and downloaded were marked 'PARD," Assistant U.S. Attorney George Stamboulidis says in the document.

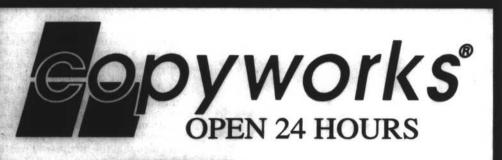
Earlier this month, prosecutors filed a list of supplemental allegations they want to include in Lee's trial, set to begin Nov. 6. One of the allegations is that Lee repeatedly sought access to a secure area of the lab after his electronic access badge was deactivated by lab officials Dec. 23, 1998.

On Monday, defense attorneys filed their response to the supplemental allegations, but their response was immediately sealed and withheld from public access.

"The pleading has been submitted for classification review," defense attorney John Cline said Tuesday. The review was requested by the government, he said, declining further comment.

The government's supplemental allegations were released to the public.

Girl dies after fall into hot



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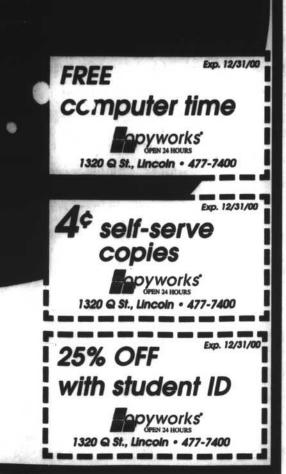
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Spring THE ASSOCIATED PRESS VELLOWSTONE NATIONAL

PARK, Wyo. – A park concession employee died Tuesday and two others were in critical condition after falling into a 178-degree hot spring.

A 20-year-old woman died about 15 hours after the accident late Monday. Sara Hulphers, of Oroville, Wash., died from complications from very severe burns, said Chris Nelson, spokesman for University of Utah's Intermountain Burn Center in Salt Lake City. The accident occurred in the

The accident occurred in the Lower Geyser Basin near Old Faithful, roughly in the middle of the park.

According to park spokeswoman Cheryl Matthews, the three were returning from a swim in the Firehole River when friends heard their cries between 10 p.m. and 11 p.m. Monday. The three fell into Cavern Spring, a 178-degree pool about 10 feet deep, she said.

Hulphers had third-degree burns on her entire body. Tyler Montague, 18, had second- and third-degree burns on 97 percent of his body, and Lance Buchi, 18, had third-degree burns on 90 percent of his body, park officials said.

Matthews said some of the friends stayed with Hulphers while others helped Montague and Buchi walk to their cars about a quarter of a mile away.

"It's pretty remarkable that they walked these two young men out, which took some time because they were pretty hurt," she said.

No one saw what caused the accident, but hot springs are often surrounded by thin, fragile crusts that break easily, she said.