

# National News

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## Chicago religious groups fight riverboat gambling

A statement by the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago opposes Mayor Richard Daley's efforts to install riverboat gambling in the city, according to the Sept. 23 *Chicago Sun Times*. The council, which includes the local Catholic Church, all Jewish denominations, and some Protestant ones, represents the first time the Catholic Church has openly expressed opposition to gambling. The statement says that riverboat gambling "sows the seeds of economic and personal deterioration."

Chicago Bishop Cardinal Joseph Bernardin was asked about his stand, since many parishes derive a significant income from bingo, and replied that he has "serious reservations" about wagering. Rev. Thomas Baima later told the *Sun Times* that Cardinal Bernardin instructed parishes in 1986 to move away from such practices.

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## Court hears arguments in Gary Graham case

A most unusual hearing was held in Texas on Sept. 29, which could affect the swelling U.S. tide toward executions, which has shocked the civilized world in recent years.

The Texas Court of Appeals heard arguments in the case of death row inmate Gary Graham, and will decide whether the Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles must hear Graham's new evidence that he is innocent. In Texas, a defendant has only 30 days after conviction to offer new evidence in court, leaving the board as his last recourse.

The Texas Board of Pardons and Paroles has held only one hearing in a capital case since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976—and that was at the personal request of the pope.

Graham's court hearing occurred after an international mobilization led by the Gary Graham Justice Coalition and supported by the Schiller Institute.

The U.S. Supreme Court had ruled last Jan. 25 in the case of Leonel Herrera, another

Texas prisoner, that claims of innocence based on new evidence by death row prisoners belong in executive clemency proceedings, not in court as a legal right. By this ruling, the court found that it is not a violation of the Constitution to execute those with new evidence of innocence discovered after state deadlines have passed. Leonel Herrera was killed on May 12.

A so-called victims' rights group called Justice for All was whipping up an outcry for Graham's immediate execution. But in the hearing itself, Graham's attorney read a letter from Loretta Lambert, the widow of the man Graham was convicted of killing. In the letter to Gov. Ann Richards, Mrs. Lambert wrote that she supports the death penalty, but asked Richards to review Graham's evidence that he is innocent: "My husband's murder was a tragedy but the execution of an innocent person would be a travesty."

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## Homosexual rioters assault church service

According to a Sept. 23 letter released by Rev. David C. Innes of the Hamilton Square Baptist Church in San Francisco, "a mob of rioting homosexuals and lesbians" attacked an evening service, because it was being addressed by Rev. Lou Sheldon of the Traditional Values Coalition. The incident occurred in the wake of the firing of Rev. Eugene Lumpkin from the city's human rights commission, because he had asserted that homosexuality is a sin.

Although the 6 p.m. service was only publicized through the church bulletin, a demonstration was announced in two Bay Area publications. Demonstrators began gathering at 5 p.m., and, as police stood watching, "by 6 p.m. a riot was under way," wrote Dr. Innes. Another minister and his wife were manhandled and forcibly kept from entering the church, until the caretaker pulled them in, while rioters threw rocks.

After the police cleared the rioters from the entryway, they went around to the emergency exits and pounded on them, until the service was forced temporarily to discontinue. Police, again, were notified, at which point, the homosexual rioters lay down in the street at the intersection of Geary and

Franklin or pounded on passing vehicles. One woman exposed herself to churchgoers.

No arrests were made. Dr. Innes wrote: "The police insisted that they were bound by the rioters' claim that this was an open public meeting and not a worship service."

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## Euthanasia vultures circle health debate

Promoters of euthanasia, health care rationing, and "bioethics" are circling around the debate over President Clinton's health care reform plan.

Daniel Callahan, co-founder of the Hastings Center for Bioethics Research in New York, is promoting his latest book, *The Troubled Dream of Life*. He complained to one radio interviewer: "We spend enormous amounts of money to combat [death] and, I think *that's* the reason we have such an expensive health care system in this country."

Another Hastings co-founder, Willard Gaylin wrote in the October issue of *Harper's* that Clinton is missing the point. The debate should be on the "deeper" meaning of health, on issues like "who shall live, who shall die, and who shall decide." Gaylin demanded that Americans face the need to set limits on treating the elderly and premature infants, as was done in Oregon's health care rationing plan.

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## CATV monthly features 'LaRouche Connection'

The latest issue of *Storyboard*, the journal for the Fairfax, Virginia public access cable television station, carries a profile of "The LaRouche Connection" producer Dana Scanlon.

Author Marili Beckmann wrote: "First aired in March/April 1991 on Channel 10 and now in its 115th show, 'The LaRouche Connection' is currently being shown in 60 to 65 public access channels across the country. Because of this large number of outlets, the show currently reaches approximately 5 million cable subscribers. . . ."

## Briefly

"When asked about the secret to her success in 'bicycling' her show to so many stations, Dana . . . says that it is due in great part to the many people across the country who believe in the show's political movement and who called their local cable access stations requesting that the show be aired."

Beckmann continued: "In one recent show, the featured guest was Viktor Kuzin, Chairman of the Moscow City Council Subcommittee on Defense of Civil Rights. Mr. Kuzin, who is a founding member of one of the first opposition parties to the communist regime, was in Washington, D.C. to make a plea to Congress and members of the Clinton administration on behalf of political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, whom he considers to be 'a victim of one of the worst political persecutions he has ever heard about.'"

### Iowa colleges train casino staffs

Marshalltown Community College in Iowa will begin a course in gambling casino management on Oct. 26, *USA Today* reported on Sept. 27. Mark Steinberg, the college's director of development, told *EIR* that the course is being offered at the request of the Mesquakie Bingo and Casino company. The course will train employees of the Las Vegas-style casino at public expense.

Steinberg, who made arrangements for the course, is himself the treasurer of the Mesquakie Enterprise Group, which is promoting the Indian tribe's business schemes. Steinberg says his college sent people to Nevada and Atlantic City to learn how to train gambling staffs.

The tribe owns the casino, which is about 30 miles east of Ames, Iowa and 10 miles west of the college. The casino is operated by Jim DeMasseo of Gamblers Supply of Iowa, based in Sioux Falls. The Mesquakie, or "Sac and Fox of the Mississippi in Iowa" tribe, do not actually live on any reservation. The gambling casino is part of a "settlement" which is simply a private enterprise.

The Iowa Board of Education must authorize the proposed course, and is also being asked to approve a college degree in gambling casino management beginning in

January. A spokesman for the state Education Department told *EIR* that Eastern Iowa Community College, located in flood-stricken Davenport, last year trained the table operators for riverboat casinos.

### No extended jobless benefits for unemployed

Congress failed to renew the extended unemployment benefits program, which provides help for people whose six months of jobless benefits have expired. The unemployment benefits extension ended on Oct. 2.

While people already getting the extra benefits will continue to get them, no new unemployed can now be added to the program. According to Reuters, a \$1 billion measure to extend the program for four months was delayed on Sept. 30, hours before it was to be voted on, because Congress had trouble finding a way to pay for the extension.

The House Ways and Means Committee is continuing to look for new ways to pay for the benefits. During the second quarter of 1993, there were officially 1.8 million people who had been unemployed for more than six months.

### Outrage of KKK statue raised on Swedish radio

The controversy in the United States over the statue in Washington honoring freemasonic Ku Klux Klan founder Albert Pike, was highlighted in a debate on Sweden's national radio station on Sept. 29.

Christian activist Jan-Ola Gustavsson stated that one wonders what is going on in Washington, when such a person is honored with a statue. Gustavsson denounced the Freemasons, saying that the oath which they have to swear causes nightmares, to the extent that members sometimes wake up in the night, screaming. "I have had to help several wives who were extremely concerned about what had happened to their husbands," he said.

● **THE GRIM REAPER** paid a visit to the International Monetary Fund/World Bank meeting in Washington on Sept. 27. Wearing signs reading "I Love the IMF," and "I Love Jeffrey Sachs," he explained to curious passersby that the meeting was taking place to plan more deaths. Another sign informed people that "Usury Kills More People than Hurricans, Floods, and Earthquakes" and balloons reading "Derivatives" and "Sachs/Soros" were offered to attendees.

● **VIRGINIA'S** Board of Education passed a resolution on Sept. 29 withdrawing the Common Core of Learning from Virginia schools. The CCL was Virginia's outcome-based education program, which was shut down last month by Gov. Doug Wilder. The resolution passed unanimously.

● **THE FEDERAL ELECTION** Commission has filed a petition for appeal with the U.S. Supreme Court, after having been ordered several months ago by the D.C. Court of Appeals to pay the 1992 campaign committee of Lyndon LaRouche the matching funds the campaign is owed. The appeals court said the FEC had no authority to deny LaRouche matching funds.

● **A HIDDEN FEATURE** of Clinton's health care plan would allow workers who elect early retirement to qualify for Medicare before they turn 65. The provision was included to get the backing from large corporations, many of which now pay 100% of their retirees' health insurance. Under the Clinton plan, they will only pay 20%.

● **THE NEW YORK TIMES** of Oct. 4 ran an editorial, "Gay Parents: Living in Fear," condemning the "prejudiced" meddling of courts in custody cases involving homosexual "parents." The *Times* cites studies that allegedly show children growing up in homosexual households evince "no evidence of harm." The *Times* increasingly caters to a homosexual readership, to which a large portion of its advertising also appeals.