

FRIDAY

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Tucson wants 1997 Senior Olympics

By Sara Hammond
The Arizona Daily Star

Tucson is making a bid to become an Olympic city. If it is successful in attracting the 1997 Senior Olympics, the region could host more than 10,000 athletes and 15,000 guests who would bring an estimated \$25 million to the area.

Other cities bidding for rights to host the games are Tallahassee, Fla.; Nashville, Tenn.; St. Louis and San Diego.

St. Louis is the headquarters of the U.S. National Senior Sports Organization and has hosted the games twice.

Robert Hoyt, supervisor of senior programs with the Tucson Parks and Recreation Department, said yesterday he and others will travel to St. Louis on April 24 to make a pitch for the games. Hoyt is chairman of the Tucson Senior Olympics Fest committee.

"We have 30 minutes to sell Tucson," he said.

The presentation will focus on the University of Arizona, where the majority of the athletic events would be held and where about 4,000 athletes would be housed.

The organizing committee will also will outline its plans for transportation, communications and other amenities the area can offer visitors.

The games would be held the third week of May, and the national organization has said it wants "to be the only thing in town" the big three. Hoyt said.

Hoyt expects Tucson to be one of the two or three cities visited by the games' selection committee, perhaps during the same week in May when the 1997 games are scheduled.

Hoyt said the total cost of the committee figures a \$724,000 cost to produce the games could be covered by registration and lodging and through local and national corporate sponsorships.

The games will attract healthy, older people, "the kinds of individuals we want to attract to settle in Arizona," said UA President M. M. Johnson.

Senior Olympics are at least 55 years old. Competition is held in 16 areas, including archery, basketball, cycling, shuffleboard, swimming, tennis and frisbee.

Tucson and Arizona would get extensive media coverage from the event, said Robert Taylor of Southwest Communications & Marketing.

"Good Morning America" will have five days of live broadcasts from the site of the games, he said. CNN and ESPN have covered previous games, and stories appear about the event in major national newspapers and publications.

Airlift capability 'is broken,' general says

WASHINGTON (AP) The military lacks the airlift capability to move large numbers of troops in a foreign war, let alone as called for in President Clinton's defense plan, the chief of the United States Central Command said yesterday.

"Airlift in this country is broken right now," said Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Hoar, whose

Central Command extends from East Africa, including Somalia, across the Indian Ocean to the Persian Gulf and Iraq. "I'm not sure it's workable for one major contingency."

Hoar said the military's current contingency is military jargon for a war on the scale of the Persian Gulf conflict. Under the administration's defense strategy, the military

must be large enough to fight a certain piece of equipment. But his statement at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing was a direct challenge to the military assumptions put forward by Clinton.

Hoar told the lawmakers of a recent military exercise involving U.S. and Egyptian forces that "Airlift," Page 2A

more, shot and critically wounded him self while playing with a gun. His 17th birthday. See story, Page 1B.

Trying to make sense of it all

A youth contemplates the tragedy that killed Ruben Mungula yesterday. Mungula, a Santa Rita High School sophomore

Clinton loads the big gun in trade dispute

100% tariffs against Japan possible under 'Super 301'

By Steve Meissner
The Arizona Daily Star

WASHINGTON President Clinton signed an executive order yesterday that gives him authority to impose strong trade sanctions against Japan if it fails to open its markets.

The order angered Japanese officials, who said the administration's actions violated the principles of trade made at the United States was trumped by a more powerful credible threat of economic force.

No country manages trade more than the United States, but added that it was nonsensical to accuse the United States of managing trade to open Japanese markets.

Peter Shulman, the head of the global organization that sets the rules for free trade, rebuked the Clinton administration as well, with the New York Times, that go-it-alone protective trade campaign by one nation against another.

His remarks reflected widespread concern in global markets that the move will touch off a trade war between the world's two biggest economies.

American officials said the executive order was a necessary tool to deal with a Tokyo government that has refused to lift trade barriers during eight years of negotiations. Japan has a \$100 billion trade surplus with the United States and in the past, the officials said, has responded only to the credible threat of economic force.

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While the executive order can be used against any country, the one will lead Clinton telegraphed before signing the order was Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa of Japan.

Hoar and Clinton, they had, "a friendly, forthright" conversation during which informed the Japanese leader about his decision to impose the new section of the 1988 Trade Act, called "Super 301." It empowers the administration to add a list of countries deemed to be

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DeConcini, Symington argue Brady law cost

By Steve Meissner
The Arizona Daily Star

The federal law, which went into effect Monday, imposes a five-day wait on handgun purchases and requires police to check the backgrounds of potential buyers.

The purchase can be stopped if a buyer is found to be a felon or an illegal alien.

The sale also can be halted if a buyer is a fugitive or illegal alien, is a drug user or addict, was previously convicted of a crime, is mentally incompetent, or was discharged from the armed forces.

DeConcini, a Democrat, sent a letter to Symington yesterday saying that the law has received nearly \$1.5 million in federal funds since 1992 to help update the process for tracking criminal felons.

Symington, a Republican, has said the federal government cannot force states to enforce the law without providing money to do so. Yesterday, he challenged most of DeConcini's statements.

See BRADY LAW, Page 2A

Defense contractors take millions to boost morale

WASHINGTON Defense contractors are spending millions on overseas trips, baseball tickets and jogging shoes in the name of boosting employee morale.

Senate Budget Committee leaders said yesterday they are prepared to propose a ban on such trips.

One contractor, Sports Inc. of Laguna Hills, Calif., billed the Pentagon for \$331,818 for employee trips to Jamaica, Hawaii, Mexico and the Cayman Islands last year. The trips were made even though company officials knew they were under investigation, a General Accounting Office auditor for the committee said.

Another contractor, Sports Inc. of Marlboro, Mass., billed taxpayers \$10,000 for a schooner rental, \$5,800 for jogging trips, \$12,000 to buy cable television for retail employees and \$14,000 for parking and season tickets for Boston Celtics and Red Sox games.

Pentagon rules allow companies to bill the government for the costs of morale-boosting efforts and business meetings.

"What we have at work here is a culture, a culture deeply entrenched in cost-cutting," said David Cooper, GAO's director of acquisition policy.

"We're going to change this culture. I'm just not going to offend them if they continue to claim these unallowable expenses," said Committee Chairman Jim Sasser, D-Tenn.

"Not one dollar of this money has done anything to strengthen the defense of America," said Sen. Kent Conrad, D-N.D.

Sen. Charles Gravelley, D-Iowa, said yesterday that the Senate had not yet voted on the bill that would ban such trips in the mid-1990s. He said he was disappointed that contractors continue to get away with such charges despite nearly annual efforts to reform Pentagon rules.

Cooper said he has been recommending eliminating all expenses for "employee morale" since 1986.

Options include eliminating or capping expenses, requiring contractors to cut costs, cutting off repeat offenders from government contracts or even criminal penalties.

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Hasidic Jews pray for colleague's recovery

Mendel Sasonkin, 19, a recent graduate of St. Vincent's Hospital in New York, a 19-year-old Hasidic student, Aaron Sasonkin, one of four youths wounded in an attack on a van, feeds a group at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York. Sasonkin accounts of the unprovoked attack led to three arrests. Story, Page 9A.

WEATHER

Continued warm. Today is expected to be mostly cloudy and cool with a high of 60. Yesterday Tucson warmed up to a record setting 85. The previous record high was 84 in 1972. Tucson is expected to have a high today around 80 and an overnight low in the lower 50s. Yesterday's low was 57. The record low for Tucson on March 3, a temperature posted March 8, 1971. Details on Page 11A.

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