



Gun-shy Hopa Bailey Knight poses next to the metal detector she installed at the entrance of her Boston bar and restaurant to keep out people with guns.

### Pentagon girds for budget cuts

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Pentagon would have to discharge almost 600,000 active-duty and reserve personnel starting in October if automatic budget cuts called for by the Gramm-Rudman Act are triggered, the Defense Department said yesterday.

Lt. Col. Pete Wyro, a Pentagon spokesman, said the department's Office of the Comptroller had completed an analysis showing that roughly 310,000 active-duty members of the services and another 280,000 reservists and National Guard personnel would have to be discharged to satisfy the spending reductions.

Those projections are markedly higher than the initial estimates provided by Pentagon and Congressional Budget Office officials last week when the latest projections for the national budget deficit for fiscal 1987 were released. At the time, officials had predicted that the cuts required under the law to lower the deficit would affect some 200,000 active-duty personnel.

The fiscal 1987 budget year begins Oct. 1. The spending cuts are far from a certainty. Congress still has time to make additional cuts to other parts of the federal budget, which would lower the projected deficit and thus avoid triggering the deficit-reduction law. And the Congress has yet to replace a key section of the law that was struck down earlier this summer by the Supreme Court.

If the reductions were actually ordered, however, the Defense Department would lose almost 15 percent of its 2.1-million-member active-duty force and 25 percent of its 1.1-million-member force of reservists and National Guard troops.

Last week, the Congressional Budget Office and the president's Office of Management and Budget released a report estimating the fiscal 1987 deficit at roughly \$183.4 billion, or \$19.4 billion over the target set forth in the Gramm-Rudman Act, named for Sens. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, and Warren Rudman, R-N.H.

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### Insurance crisis ending, group says

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The nation's insurance crisis is ending, with increasing availability of coverage despite the fact most states have not made legal changes the industry wanted, a consumer group said yesterday.

But the head of an insurance industry-related organization disagreed, contending that the "lawsuit crisis is unabated." The National Consumer Insurance Organization and the American Tort Reform Association traded jobs about each other's research and reliability.

Their conflict stems from the insurance industry crisis over the past 18 months in which rates have risen sharply and many companies have declined to write policies in some states or for certain business risks.

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Robert Hunter, head of the Ralph Nader-affiliated consumer insurance group, called a news conference yesterday to announce he had found indications that availability of policies is increasing and that rates are falling in some states.

He filed industry claims of losses in many areas a "con job." Hunter said he had talked with state officials in 13 states and found the situation improving in 10, despite the fact that none of those states has passed laws requested by the industry.

The industry has trumpeted lower prices and better availability in the states that have changed their laws, but the same process is occurring in other states, too, Hunter said.

Hunter, a former federal insurance commissioner, said he was surprised at how fast the crisis has eased. He suggested major factors were the fact that new competition has begun to appear and that some state legislatures have started to consider overhaul of their insurance regulations, not just lawsuit limits.

But in a telephone interview, James K. Coyne, president of the tort reform association, termed Hunter's research phony, contending it consisted of a few unscientific phone calls.

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### Navy holds show of force near USSR

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) — The Navy, in a show-the-flag mission, sent an aircraft carrier and 11 smaller warships into the Bering Sea this week for operations off the Soviet east coast, Pentagon officials said yesterday.

The deployment of the carrier Carl Vinson and a supporting group of cruisers, destroyers and frigates comes just one week after the Soviet Union completed a large-scale naval exercise in the northern Pacific.

official who requested anonymity. "This is just a little demonstration of our own presence, of our resolve to operate freely throughout the area."

The Soviet naval exercise, which began around Aug. 12 and ended early last week, involved more than 15 surface ships and at least 15 submarines at its height, Pentagon sources have said.

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### Singles warm up near frozen foods

By LORI HELLER Collegian Staff Writer Recently 63 people donned name tags and strolled through the aisles of the IGA Foodliner on West Hamilton Avenue hoping to find something to their liking — a member of the opposite sex.

IGA held its first singles shopping night this month and plans to set aside one night a month for those people who are tired of the bar scene, said Donna Goss, supermarket owner and manager.

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### HUB fair to host student groups

Students are invited to the Student Organization Fair from 10 a.m. till 5 p.m. today in the HUB Fishbowl.

About 100 campus and off-campus organizations will have tables set up to meet students, discuss their purposes and give out pamphlets, said Gayle Beyers, assistant director of student organizations and program development.

The fair is held at the beginning of each semester when a variety of organizations make themselves available to meet students and help them become involved, Beyers said.

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Fulbright, Marshall, and Rhodes Scholarships Senior students who are interested in applying for the Rhodes, Marshall, Fulbright, or other distinguished Scholarships should go to the University Scholars Lounge, Room 215 Willard Building, On September 3, 1986, at 4:00 p.m., for an informational meeting on pre-application screening.