

Signing up

Lori Grumet (freshman-business administration), left, Jodie Specter (freshman-division of undergraduate studies), and Jodi Metter (freshman-business administration) gather to sign up for Rush '90. Lori Gold (junior-accounting) and Cinnamon Pauletich (senior-French), right, took names for fall sorority rush in Pollock Rec Room yesterday.

## Zimbabwe to lift 25 year state of emergency due to easing of tensions, political harmony

By ANGUS SHAW **Associated Press Writer** 

HARARE, Zimbabwe — The government announced yesterday it will lift a quarter-century-old state of emergency next week because of easing regional tensions and political harmony at home.

The announcement followed repeated demands by church, student, labor and human rights groups for an end to the emergency powers. It was the latest move toward democratic reform in sub-Saharan Africa, where traditional one-party rule and broad government powers have come under increas-

We are really overjoyed," said Nicholas Ndebele, head of the Roman Catholic Justice and Peace Commission in Harare. "Now our people are going to experience real independence, real freedom.

'We are sure normal laws will suffice," he said.

The state of emergency, enforced by four different governments since its introduction by white minority leader Ian Smith in 1965, was scheduled for renewal by the 150-seat

However, the home affairs minister, Moven Mahachi, told legislators that the government and security services no longer felt the emergency powers were necessary. Mahachi said

the government will lift the emergency at midnight July 25. Since the two main rival political parties merged in December 1987, Zimbabwe had enjoyed peaceful conditions that Mahachi called "the best for a long time in the history of this country

Zimbabwe was often criticized for keeping its own emergency laws while denouncing the state of emergency in neighboring South Africa. On June 7, South African President F.W. de Klerk ended four years of emergency rule in all but one province, Natal, where factional violence has cost more than

Zimbabwe often cited the threat of destabilization from South Africa as a reason for its state of emergency, but Mahachi told legislators that conditions in South Africa had changed following reforms by de Klerk.

In Zimbabwe, the emergency was frequently invoked to allow for the detention without trial of political opponents. Church groups said these provisions of the emergency were

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## 'Sex trigger' believed found

By DANIEL Q. HANEY AP Science Writer

BOSTON - The body's sex trigger, the elusive gene that determines whether an egg will grow to be a boy or a girl, may have been found at last by scientists.

The gene is a switch that starts an embryo down the path to sexual development after eight weeks in the womb. Those who inherit the gene from their parents become male; those who don't become female.

Many scientists, though not all, believe that such a single master sex gene exists. But its precise location and nature have remained a mystery despite intense searching by several rival teams of researchers.

Tracking down the sex trigger might someday open ways of treating infertility and problems of sexual development. However, its greatest importance is likely to be the insight it will provide into one of the basic questions of biology.

The search competition seemed to be finished in 1987 when Dr. David Page of the Whitehead Institute in Cambridge, Mass., announced the apparent discovery of the gene, which he called ZFY. However, last December, a rival team from the Imperial Cancer Research Fund in London shot down the theory with strong evidence that Page's discovery is not the sex trigger, at least not all by itself.

Now, the London group has put forth its own nominee for the gene that makes a man a man and, by its absence, a woman a woman. In last Thursday's issue of the British journal Nature, they announced the discovery of "sex-determining region Y," or SRY.

In their study, they say it is "proposed to be a candidate for the elusive testis-determining gene." But they are careful not to sound overly confident.

"The evidence is good so far, but I wouldn't stick my neck out until we have the rest of the data in," said Dr. Andrew about that," Page said.

Sinclair, the lead author of the latest research.

However, Page and some other researchers now speculate that a cluster of genes, not just one, is necessary for determining sex. If so, both his gene and the London group's discovery could turn out to be partners in triggering sexual differences.

Like Page, the London group pinpointed its gene by a process of elimination.

Everyone is born with 46 strings of genes called chromosomes. Two of these, called X and Y, are the sex chromosomes. Women have two X's; men have an X and a Y. Scientists reason that the gene that makes men different from women must be located someplace on the Y.

Scientists have concentrated on apparent exceptions to the rule, so-called XX males. To all outward appearances, these people usually are physically normal men. But their cells contain the double X's of women. Through a genetic mix-up, one of their X's contains a tiny fragment of Y, enough to make

The London group narrowed the search to a narrow stretch of the Y chromosome in which they have located one gene. They cite several reasons to think that this is, indeed, the

- long-sought sex gene: ■ While men have the gene, women do not possess any-
- thing like it. ■ The gene actively makes a protein in men's sex organs
- but not in other parts of the body Other kinds of male mammals have similar genes.
- In mice, the gene is turned on at precisely the moment in development when sexual differences appear.

Critics of this work point out that some of the XX males who carry just the newly discovered gene have some, but not all, male sexual features. To be completely male, they argue that

people need at least one more gene, perhaps Page's ZFY. 'This is a very important piece of work. There is no doubt

## House Democrats unveil S&L proposal

By MATT YANCY **Associated Press Writer** 

WASHINGTON, D.C. - House Dem-

ocrats unveiled legislation yesterday aimed at stopping savings and loan swindlers from transferring assets to their spouses or children and using bankruptcy protection laws to avoid government seizure.

House Speaker Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash, said Democrats want the package to be even stronger than a similar measure containing new enforcement tools approved by the Senate last week as part of a broader crime bill.

"To bring these S&L criminals to jus-

THIS FRIDAY

provisions that seek to prevent anyone from obstructing the investigators," said Foley

At the same time, the Democrats urged creation of a national fact-finding commission, along the lines of the 1960s Kerner Commission on urban riots, to probe what went wrong in the savings and loan industry

The package was the latest in a flurry of legislation that has arisen out of the growing congressional debate and finger-pointing pegged to the multibilliondollar thrift scandal.

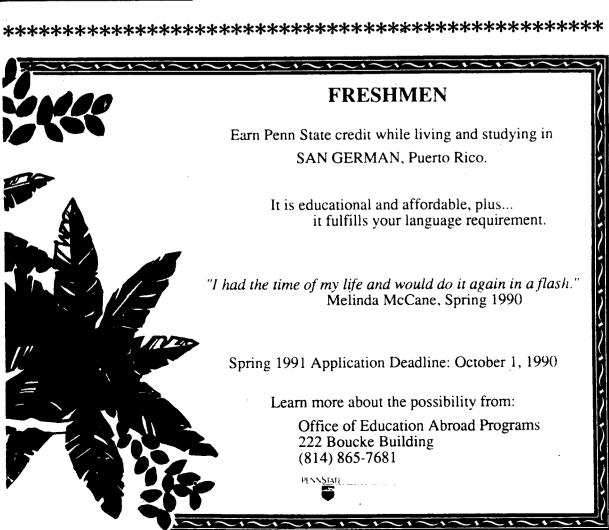
"People want answers and the atmo-

tice, we want to go further and enact rancorous," said Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., the principal author of the legislation. "A commission could look into it and really get the answers to what happened. This is a big enough crisis — like civil rights and the problems of the inner cities were — to deserve that kind of thing."

> The 12-member bipartisan study commission would be structured along the lines of the commission established after inner-city riots in Detroit, Los Angeles, Washington, New York and other cities in 1968.

Foley said the new proposals will be included as part of a crime bill he plans sphere in Congress has gotten kind of to bring to the House floor next week







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