

## News Briefs

By The Associated Press

### Soviets purchase United States grain

WASHINGTON D.C. — Private exporters reported sales Monday of 100,000 metric tons of corn to the Soviet Union, the nation's first major purchase of U.S. grain since the failed coup last month, the Agriculture Department said.

The corn is being purchased under \$1.5 billion in credit guarantees authorized by President Bush in June.

A metric ton is 2,205 pounds, about 36.7 bushels of wheat or 39.4 bushels of corn.

The department said Monday's sales of "feed grains and protein concentrates" were worth \$94.4 million. Protein concentrates usually means soybean products, but spokesman Roger Runningen said he had no details.

Sales of wheat and corn for delivery to the Soviet Union for this year now total 9.3 million tons, of which wheat accounts for nearly 1.5 million tons and corn totals 7.8 million tons. In addition, sales of soybeans total 538,700 tons and soybean meal total 1.37 million tons.

In authorizing the \$1.5 billion in credit guarantees in June, Bush said \$600 million would be available immediately. An additional \$500 million was to become available Oct. 1, but Bush said after the coup that \$315 of that would become available. The final \$400 million in credit guarantees is to become available Feb. 1, 1992.

### Anti-Communist dissident dies in Poland

WARSAW, Poland — Senator Jan Jozef Lipski, one of Poland's best-known anti-Communist dissidents and a founder of the historic human rights group KOR, died yesterday of heart disease, the PAP news agency said.

Lipski, a writer, political activist and a historian, died in a Krakow hospital at the age of 65.

In 1976, with a group of 14 leading dissidents, Lipski founded the Workers' Defense Committee, known by its Polish initials KOR, to organize legal assistance for jailed workers after protests against food price hikes and to arrange financial help for the workers' families.

KOR campaigned against human rights abuses and encouraged the development of opposition activities that led to the birth of Solidarity, the first free trade union in the East bloc. KOR was dissolved in 1981.

### Residents report drug suspects by mail

PITTSBURGH — Residents can report suspected drug dealers in the city by filling out a form and dropping it in the mail.

City police have made eight arrests, since they started distributing the forms in July. Many of the forms have been mailed anonymously.

The forms, available at local police precincts, ask for names, addresses and descriptions of suspected drug dealers as well as information about their vehicles.

About 65 forms have been mailed in, and more arrests are expected, said Assistant Police Chief Earl Buford, head of the narcotics squad.

Some forms are vague and do not offer information linked to crime, but all are being saved.

"All of these bits and pieces are put together and are parts of our investigation," he said.

One neighborhood group is asking for 17,000 blank forms. Police may ask some utilities to distribute the forms.

### Tropical storm kills 29 in China

BEIJING — A tropical storm that lashed southern China over the weekend killed 29 people and seriously injured six, said an official report reaching Beijing yesterday.

The Yangcheng Evening News of Canton reported Monday that all the casualties occurred in Nanxiong County of Guangdong province. It also said 11 people were missing following the tropical storm that hit on Saturday and Sunday.

The Guangdong Foreign Affairs Office, contacted by telephone from Beijing, refused yesterday to give updated information on the casualties.

The newspaper said the tropical storm destroyed 1,550 houses, leaving 3,500 people homeless.

In some areas, 13 inches of rain fell during a 24-hour period, the newspaper said. It also said heavy rains deluged two coal mines, but gave no details of any damage caused.

### Crack cocaine may have started ferry fire

NEW YORK — Fire marshals are investigating the possibility that homeless people smoking crack in the attic of the Staten Island Ferry terminal may have touched off the weekend fire that devastated the Manhattan landmark.

Investigators found dozens of empty crack vials in the area of Whitehall Terminal where the fire began, Chief Fire Marshal John Stickevers said yesterday.

Investigators said the fire began in an 8-foot-high cockloft, the space between the ceiling and roof, and above the sprinkler system.

He said marshals have interviewed several homeless people known to frequent the terminal and some have admitted being up in the cockloft before or knowing of others who regularly used it.

Asked if a spark from a crack pipe or butane lighter used to heat the drug could have set off the spectacular four-alarm fire, Stickevers said: "That is a possibility and we're looking into it."

### Report says French are getting friendlier

PARIS — The French, long reputed to turn a cold shoulder toward American tourists, have gotten friendlier over the past five years, according to a survey released yesterday.

More than half of the 1,000 American tourists polled by American Express and Maison de la France, a French tourism group, said they got a warmer welcome than expected and detected a definite improvement since 1986.

Only 14 percent said not speaking French caused insurmountable problems.

The survey also gave a thumbnail sketch of the average American visitor to France: financially well-off, college-educated, from either the East or West coasts, over 45 and likely to be traveling without small children.

Twenty percent of those surveyed earned more than \$100,000 annually.

The fall of the dollar, among other factors, forced 50 percent to skip the once-popular, four-star luxury hotels in favor of middle-range accommodations. Only 18 percent said they could still afford the top hotels.

### Baby delivered early to get heart surgery

PITTSBURGH — A baby diagnosed in the womb with a deadly heart ailment was delivered five weeks early so she could receive a transplanted heart, doctors said yesterday.

Sarah Kelton of Pittsburgh was in critical condition and breathing with the help of a respirator yesterday in the intensive care unit of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She received the new heart in a six-hour operation that began shortly after 11 p.m. Sunday.

"The child looks well," said John M. Armitage, one of two surgeons who performed the transplant. "We're pleased with her progress."

Sarah is taking the experimental but highly praised drug FK-506 to prevent rejection of her transplanted heart. She will be watched carefully, especially during the next critical week.

Sarah was delivered by Cesarean section shortly before 2 p.m. Sunday at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh after doctors learned a newborn donor, who was not identified, had been found. Sarah weighed just over 5 pounds at birth.

Sarah's parents, who have one other young child, asked doctors not to identify them so they can have privacy while they recuperate from the ordeal, said hospital spokeswoman Sue Cardillo.

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7:45, 9:30  
**CHILD'S PLAY 3** R  
8:00, 10:00  
**DOC HOLLYWOOD** PG-13  
7:35, 9:45  
**\*THE DOCTOR** PG-13  
7:15, 9:40  
**THE MOVIES** 407 E. Beaver • 237-0003  
**\*DEAD AGAIN** R  
7:30, 9:45  
**THE STATE** 128 W. College • 237-7866  
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8:00, 10:00

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