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tar Tribune

ILS: WARNS CHINA ON TRADE DISPUTE

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POKES LOSE CLOSE ONE D1

International mushers praise perfect weather

Wyoming hosts renowned sledders

By DAVID BOYD
Star-Tribune staff

uff writer ACKSON - The minus 30

ACKSON – The minus 30 degree morning didn't seem to bother the dog mushers Saturday. 'About minus 20 is perfect,' said Dubois musher Billy Snodgrass. 'The dogs have these fur coats on and they can't take them off – and they re running a marathon.'

50-below Snodgrass

'(My dogs) all have 50-below coats on.



Sled dogs belonging to Dale LaBoda of Wayzata, Minn., wait to be unloaded Saturday. The team's sled is on top of the truck

a marathon."
Snodgrass
will join two
more Wyoming
mushers and
about 19 racers
from around the
world this

from around the world this morning in Jackson at the ceremonial start of the first-ever International Rocky Mountain Stage Stop Sled Dog Race. The dog sledders will run their teams on a short trip through Jackson to open the event.

Among the race sponsors are Blue Cross and Blue Shield and Merck, the drug company. Like the famed Iditarod race was inspired by the 1925 trek to bring a diphtheria cure to children in Nome, Alaska, this race is to promote immunization.

dren in Nome, Alaska, this race is to promote immunization.

Organizers, including the Wyoming Department of Health, want to call attention to President Clinton's goal of immunizing 90 percent of the nation's children 2 years and under by the year 2000.

The actual racing begins at 9 a.m. Monday in Moran when the first musher will shout 'Hike' to urge a team of dogs down the 40-mile trail to Dubois. Eight more days of racing will follow, with a travel day in the middle. The mushers will eventually get as far south as Atlantic City and Kemmerer before turning north to Alpine, where the 450-mile race will end. A ceremonial finish follows in Jackson on Feb. 13.

Unlike a long distance race like the Iditarting and finishing points each day. It's currently the only stage race in North America,

according to race organizer Frank Teasle;

The mushers are racing for the fastest cumulative time over the nine days to win the \$20,000 first prize. The remaining \$80,000 purse will be divided among the next 14 fin-

ishers.

Teasley, who operates a sled dog touring business in Jackson and is an Iditarod veteran, said one of his goals for the race is showing spectators what sled dog racing is all about, that the dogs are treated well during the race. And spectators did turn out for Saturday morning's wet checks and registration, which, at minus 30, was even a little cool for the mushers. Famous names in dog sledding arrived at the Snow King Resort all morning in kennel trucks adorned with the names of sponsors dog food companies and gas stations, stores and hotels.

Mushers and dog handlers unloaded the

and notels.

Mushers and dog handlers unloaded the dogs from the small kennels on the sides of the trucks. The dogs were registered and in
Please see MUSH, A8



Tom Benson of Dubois holds a sledder's dog while the computer chip in its neck is scan ned.

1st U.S. soldier dies in Bosnia

By CHRIS HEDGES

SAR AJEVO, Bosma, Herze govina — An American soldier was killed Saturday when his stepped on a land mine in the American controlled sector of northern Bosma. He was the first American serviceman to die in Bosma since the NATO led peacekeeping misston began in December.

The soldier, whose tame was withheld pending the notification of his family, died shortly after the explosion Saturday afternoon, U.S. Army officials said.

after the explosion saturda, at termoon. U.S. Army officials said.

The incident took place at a checkpoint near the town of Gradacac, 25 miles north of the American headquarters at Tu. as atil an Army spokesman. Lt. Bill Donovan

The soldier was flown to the 212th mobile Army surgical hospital nearby, where he was prounced dead, Donovan said.

In a formal statement by the White House, President Clinton said: T deeply regret the death today in Bosina of an American soldier who was killed this morning when he stepped on a land mine. Hillary and I join all lay They should know that he died in the noblest of causes—the pursuit of peace.

There are more than three million land mines throughout Bosnia, and many of the fields are poorly marked or were new er mapped.

The soldier's death came as

Bosnia, and mans of the fields are poorly marked or were nev er mapped.

The soldier's death came as the former warring parties in Bosnia – Serbs, Croats and the country's Muslim field government – met a midnight deadline to withdraw troops from areas scheduled to change hands in March under the peace agreement reached last fall in bay ton, Ohio.

Nine soldiers in the peace force have died and 44 have been wounded since the NATO led troops arrived in December An American soldier died at a logistics base in Hungary last month, apparently of a heart at tack. Most of the catsualities came in land mine or shooting accidents. An Italian soldier were light ly wounded by supper fire.

NATO upbeat

NATO upbeat

Despite the fatality, NATO commanders remained upbeat Saturday about the prospects for peace Please see BOSNIA, A8

Telecom bill's 'indecency' provisions concern Internet providers

Editor's note: A young U.S. soldier in Bosnia, away from home and his young wife for the first time, might email her of his loneliness. 'I miss you. The triging not to be afraid,' he might write. 'If was there I'd kiss you forever, I'd kiss your breasts...' The hypothetical young soldier may have just broken federal law under the new Telecom bill's indeceney provisions. Reporter Kerry Drake examines the effect of the legislation Congress passed last week, and President Clinton is expected to sign into law.

By KERRY DRAKE

CHEYENNE - Wyoming civil libertarians and companies that provide Internet access to consumers are concerned about the potential for federal censorship in the communications reform bill Congress passed last week. The bill bans the dissemination of 'indecent' material on the Internet and by computer on line services.

the internet and by computer on line services. "It's an incredibly dangerous concept," said Marvin Johnson, director of the Wyoming chapter of the American Civil Liberties

Union (ACLU). "The Internet is worldwide, and you're not going to be able to police this worldwide. It's going to create all sorts of nightmares."

Johnson added that 'indecent' language is "an amorphous concept that is far broader reaching than obseene language, as defined by Supreme Court casses."

as defined by sope a four-let cases."
"If someone uses a four-let ter epithet on the Internet, is that indecent language that is going to subject you to criminal prosecution." Johnson asked. St-ve Mossbrook, president of wyo.com in Riverton, the first

State ready for change/a6

private company in Wyoming to

private company in Wyoming to provide Internet access to consumers, said the bill gives all such firms a reason to worry. "If we know there is some unsavory content on one of our servers — if we see it or someone complains to us — and we fail to do something about it, we seem to have some liability," Mossbrook said. "That's the interpretation (of the bill) that's being floated on the Net."

But Mossbrook said because

the bill just passed and won't be subject to Federal Communications Commission (FCC) rule-making until after it is signed by President Clinton. The whole thing is a very large, grey fuzzy area. Robin Hurless, publisher of the Casper State Tribune, which owns the Internet access provider trib come, said he is also concerned about 'how broad the indecent speech provision is going to be interpreted.' Hurless noted, however, that many providers already police themselves. For example, Flexes see PATENET, A8

The grouch

Talk about indecency who's gonna clean up af ter all those dogs?

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TEEN-AGE PROSTITUTION

Last month's convictions of two Casper women on charges of taking young girls to Montana to work as prostitutes eliminates what police say was a prominent

Prostitution ring in Casper.

But police hesitate to say there's no more prostitution here – and at least one Casper Police officer said it's here — and at least one casper rolice officer said its been more difficult to fight pandering since the Star-Tribune imposed a policy against running ads for escort services and massage parlors. Phone numbers in the ads had offered leads for detectives, he said. Statewide statistics show 24 arrests — half in Casper

for prostitution-related offenses between January and June 1995. But crime statistics rarely tell the whole story. The prostitution in 1993 by a 14-year-old Casper girl

in Montana troubled Wyoming investigators le because of the crime than her age.

Reporter Deirdre Stoelzle's stories describe the em and the reality of a young prostitute

16-year-old starts over

By DEIRDRE STOELZLE

CASPER - She doesn't gig CASPER – She doesn't gig gle at the mention of sex – even though she's 16 – and when she describes the par-ticulars of her prostitution, her teenage voice sometimes grows sultry. Prostitution is just anoth er option for women, she

said. "I'm not saying, "Go ahead and do it," but if its something that needs to be done, you know, you gotta do what you gotta do. "I don't think it's right or wrong, but it's an option," she said. Condoms, on the other hand, were not optional for her She always used them, she said. — just slipped them

on, no questions asked.

Every once in a while, she said, she'd get a few "macho' types who didn't want to use them — mostly heavy drinkers in their mid to late

30s.
"If they say no, then you say, 'All right, then I guess there's nothing else to talk about,' and get up and leave."
Please see TEENAGER, A8

Hooker ring took Casper girls to Montana motels

By DEIRDRE STOELZLE

CASPER – She was a 14 year-old runaway about 500 miles from home, a missing Dean Morgan Junior High stu-dent whose worried mother plastered her picture on fly-ers throughout Casper in

1993. She was living on the out-skirts of Great Falls, Mont., supporting two grown women through prostitution, Natrona County Sheriff's Investigator Lym Cohec said. Working as a call girl for Cindy's Massage and Christi-na's Massage in Great Falls,

the 14 year-old charged \$110 an hour, and \$75 a half hour her 'pimps,' 53 year-old Jerre Osborne, Known as 'Diste' and 35 year-old Denisa Wentz Lobdell, known as 'Sis,' split \$40 from the runaway's hourly fee and \$30 from the cost of a half hour session.

Please see GRLS, A8

BOSNIA: Rival forces meet deadline

Continued from A1
in Bosmia and praised the cooperation by all sides. They said
that all of the rival forces had
withdrawn from the areas to be
exchanged in the last few days.

"There is absolutely no evidence that any party intends to
renege on this agreement or isnit going to carry out compliance in terms of it." said Maj.
Gen. Mike Willecoks of Britain,
the chief of staff of NATO
ground forces, "but I can't give
you an assessment until midnight, until the witching hour.

Warren Christopher, on the
first tip is be on American serefirst tip is be on American serefirst tip is be on American sere-

might, until the wirening hour. Warren Christopher, on the first trip by an American secretary of state to Sarajevo, said he was pleased with the willingness of all sides to pull back their forces Saturday. "Peace in the fullest sense has not come to Bosnia." he said. "But it is not war."

The Bosnian Serbs and the Muslim and Croat federation are scheduled to exchange some 1.500 square miles of territory. This includes five Serbian-held suburbs of Sarajevo that will be handed over to the federation. The Serbs will also turn over land north and east of the city of Mostar, as well as a corridor linking the eastern enclave of Gorazde to federation's territory. The Serbian side will receive a large swath of territory, known as 'the anvil.' around Mrkonjic Grad in northwestern Bosnia. The Serbs and the Muslim-Croat federation will not be allowed to deploy their own forces in these territories until March 19. Many of the estimated 60,000 Serbs in the five suburbs of Sarajevo say they will leave once the Bosnian government plice arrive in March.

MUSH: Winners will share \$100,000 purse

Continued from A1

physical exam to ensure it was in good health before the race start

start.
They inspected teeth and legs and paws. They listened to each dog's breathing with a stethoscope and took EKGs with a hand-held cardiograph.
"We don't generally find too much wrong," said Al Townshend, who has been a vet for years. These dogs are marathon trunger."

The dogs will be inspected again at the start and finish of

again at the start and rimish of each day's race.

The vets also inserted a small computer chip under each dog's skin behind its neck. A few dogs already carried chips from past races, and the vets simply used an electronic scanner to read

the chip's unique number.

That number will allow officials and vets to identify each dog to aid in monitoring its health and to ensure that only

dog to aid in monitoring its health and to ensure that only registered dogs race.

"Mine all have 50-below coats on," said multiple Iditatod champion Susan Butcher as Townshend examined her dogs, "I hear it's supposed to get up to 27 above by Wednesday," she said. Such warm weather slows and tires the dogs more quickly. Butcher said she retired from racing the Iditatod two years ago to raise a family at her Alaskan home. Now, with a 9-month-old daughter she is still nursing, a stage race is the only was she can race and still spend the necessary time with her daughter each day, she said.

Joining her in this race will be others Teasley calls the 'best of the best' in sled dog racing Mushers like five time Iditatod champ Rick Swenson, or like the first woman Iditatod champ.

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3

Libby Riddles.
Wyoming will be represented by Snodgrass. Rock Springs musher Ray Gordon, and Jack-son musher Maria Hayashida. Gordon has been mushing since 1962, he said. "So I've done a few races before." Snodgrass has been racing

for five years. He operates a sled dog touring company from his Dubois home. Hayashida has been mushing only three years and has raced only twice.

"Most of my dogs have been mushing longer than I have," she

INTERNET: ACLU lining up plaintiffs for test case

Continued from the continued from the continued from the policy that requires subscribers to sign a document that states all access to the Internet may be revoked "for unlawful or abunity conduct."

Mossbrook said he is worried that the federal bill "sets the United States up as the world

Cinted States up as the world Gensor. He said because small companies such as wyo.com cannot afford to legally test the cen-sorship issue. I'm going to keep in touch with what the big boys like net.com are doing. They have banks of very high-priced attorneys that are watching this closely, and I will basically ape their behavior.'

Johnson said the ACLU has

been lining up plaintiffs for test cases for several months in an-ticipation of Congress passing

None of us want to put porno

"None of us want to put porno in front of the kids. That's a giv-en. Mossbrook said. "But we're not going to put ourselves in the position of being the censor." Johnson also said the national ACLU opposes the "violence chip." or Vehip, that manufac-turers of television sets would have to include in TVs with screens of 13 inches or larger. The device would neeming parscreens of 13 inches or larger. The device would permit parents to block out programs containing sex or violence, and the cable and broadcast industries would have one year in which to develop a rating system. "The question becomes who

imposes that ratings system." Johnson said. "If it's the gov-ernment, then that is violative of the First Amendment's free eech rights." Rep. Cale Case, HD54, R-Lan-

Rep. Cale Case, HD54, R-Lan-der, who serves as chairman of the Wyoming Telecommunica-tions Council, said he also op-poses the bill's Vehip mandate. "It's coming at a time when there are content-based program searchers that people can buy or subscribe to that filter (materi-al) out," Case noted. "Those things are just getting started." Case said the Internet 'has worked very well and provided all sorts of wonderful services without a lot of government reg-ulation, and it should stay that way."

ported.

All but three of the 24 reported arrests were of men. The state statistics do not detail whether the three women arrested ware selling or buying

rested were selling or buying sex.
Cohee and Green both said they were most outraged w the Casper-Great Falls case cause it involved a girl who v so young

TEENAGER: 'I've dealt with it'

Continued from A1 she explained. 'Some girls say,' I always made them wear rub-bers.' – and I did. Honestly, I al-ways used rubbers because I

ways used rubbers because I care about myself very much." Now living with her father and stepmother in Arizona, she was 14 when she left (Casper to work for her best friend, St. Wentz, and Wentz' partner 'Dix ie' Osborne, in Great Falls, Mont. The older women would take a 40 percent cut of the girl's income — money made from sex with strangers at Great Falls motels, her own home and, on occasion, a nearby Air Force base, she said.

base, she said.
"At the time, I was 14," she said. "This was more money than I'd ever made in my whole life, I was like, 'Wow, I have mon-

"Now I can see where I got robbed, but at the time it was like, 'Wow, I have more than 50

roboed, but at the time it was ike, "Wow," I have more than 50 percent."

She and Sis aren't friends anymore. As for Dixie, she didn't care much for the woman to begin with, and when told about Dixie's recent plea bargain in federal district court which resulted in all but one of the prostitution related charges being fropped, the girl said wryly. "No. that's not right – but on well. Hey, it's not something I'm worried about anymore."

She said. 'I have a totally different life now, I'm gonna graduate next year. I got a brand new truck – it's going good, you know, I don't really think about that anymore."

Her mother worked as a prostitute, and though the girl knew

mother worked as a pros and though the girl knew was something that I didn't vant to talk about." If she ever

Circle Restaurant

dealt with it'

'That was something I could not listen to my mother tell me about It's like, that was her life, and during this time I wanted nothing to do with her, really. What she did was her business, and she left me alone. That's the way I was done, 'she said.

She says she has 'no clue' why she followed in her mother's footsteps, only that 'it's not just one reason.'

Anyway, she said, 'it's not something that weighs real heavy on my mind anymore because I've dealt with it by because I've dealt with it by and having access to good counseling.

She waid she dreaw no fest.

and having assessing.
She said she grew up fast—
it was a road uphill that came
to a sudden downhill way before it was expected!—most of
her friends and boyfriends were
in their 20s and she had moved
out of the home of her mother
and stepfather when she was
still 13.

and stepfather when she was still 13.

"Everything that happened before I went to Montana led up to this," she said.

And prostitution — 'a quick way to make a buck, but I'm not promoting it" — turned out to less of a big deal than she had presumed, she said.

"You learn things, you grow up — common sense is a big thing I didn't look down on it as much as I would ve if I had walked the streets, OK' So I didn't look down on it as much as I would ve if I had walked the streets, 'she said. 'It was professional.'

It was also a major learning experience. 'You learned a lot of things, shout a lot of things that you can be had colored to the street, 'she learned that men and 'She learned tha

She learned that men and

women view sex differently, and that even if there are some "trustworthy ones," she said most men cheat. Women need sex just as men

do, "but men make a bigger deal out of it," she said.

out of it," she said.

"Sex is something that men have to have, and again, there are some guys, who can't have sex unless they have feelings for somebody. But most of the men view sex as just something for them," alone.

She learned that she could turn her emotions off and on.

turn her emotions off and on, and how to set boundaries to differentiate sex at work from

differentiate sex as more sex at home. "Men may not be as emotional as women, but women, if they're in tune with their feelings, can turn them on, and turn them off, she explaimed. You learn that what you do at work with you do at home. Your home life – like a backeroard you have sex with – is ** boyfriend you have sex with – is totally different from being at

obytreen you nave see with — is obtaily different from being at work and being sexual." She continued, "There are things that you keep at home, that you don't do when you're working — you know, there are boundaries" like only kissing a boyfriend, and not customers. Other teenagers should know that prostitution is something that 'happens,' she said. 'But you've just got to go on, you can't let it bring you down.' She's told a couple of friends in Arizona about what happened to her, but it's hard for most people her age to understand, se said. Nontheless, 'It's in the past,' she said: 'Everybody goes through problems when they're growing up — though they're growing up — though some may not be as drastic as

CARMENT CALLERY

GIRLS: Recent arrests have 'gotten rid of a problem' Mike Burnett took the case to the U.S. attorney in September 1992; five in 1993; and six in 1994, according to DCI. Two ar-rests were made between Jan-uary and June 1995, DCI re-ported. Continued from A1

Continued from A1 according to Cohee according to Cohee as the was basically supporting Dixie and Sis." Cohee said. "She'd go out, turn the tricks, get her pocket money to those two." Sis had known the runaway; Cohee said they'd been next-door neighbors in Casper, and that the runaway's mother had once worked as a prostitute with Sis When the runaway's mother learned her daughter was working as a prostitute. Cohee said, it was real hard on "mom," trying to figure out where she went wrong."

'It was real hard on 'mom, trying to figure out where she went wrong.'

Between March and July 1993, when she performed sexual services at Great Falls motels, Cohee said the girl, now the figure of the said the girl, now the figure of the first of the said the girl, now may be said the Central Magust 1993, at the Central Magust 1993, and was approached by one of these was approached by was and that 'what (the pimps) were doing wasn't right. 'She told me that she herself had done some prostitution up there to give the runaway a break.' Cohee said. A month earlier in July 1993, police in Great Falls arrested Dixie and talked to another one of the runaway's replacements, a 19-year old woman who'd taken a bus from Casper to work a weekend as a call girl. When Dixie was arrested, the runaway wen't to Phoenix, to her father's home, and afterward was picked up by police on runaway charges, Cohee said.

Cohee and state Division of Criminal Investigation Agent

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the U.S. attorney in September 1993. In separate plea bargains last month Sis and Dixie were con-victed of taking and conspiring to take the runaway across the Wyoming border for illegal sex-val activity. Sis was sentenced Wyoming border for illegal sex-ual activity, Sis was sentenced to three years in federal prison; Dixie, who has prostitution con-victions in Casper dating back to the 1980s, when she co-oper-ated the Gentleman's Escort Service will be sentenced in about a month.

She faces a maximum term

She faces a maximum term of five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000. The arrests of Dixie and Sis, Cohee surmised, has 'gotten rid of a problem' in Casper – although prostitution, she conceded, 'is something that's been going on forever.'

DCl statistics dating back to 1990 show that the number of reported arrests statewide have fluctuated yearly for the crimes of prostitution and 'commer-

fluctuated yearly for the crimes of prostitution and "commer-cialized vice" – misdemeanors defined as "keeping a bawdy house," a "house of ill-fame," and pandering, attempted or ac-tual

and pandering, attempted or actual.

In Wyoming, 50 percent of all prostitution-related arrests between 1990 and 1994 were made in Casper; 27 percent in Cheyenne, according to DCI statistics

One arrest was reported in 1990; seven in 1991; three in

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cause it involved a girl who was so young. "If adults want to do what they want to do, that's fine, but when you involve somebody at the age of 14 or younger, there's a problem there," Cohee said. Cohee said the call girls used condoms. So far the HIV tests of the runaway – who no longer lives in Wyoming – have been negative. "She's doing good now, she's pretty nuch on the straight and narrow," Cohee said. "With the girls that were involved, it was almost that they into the property of the property of the property of the cording to Cohee." It was never brought up, as far as whether they felt dirty or ashamed," by having sex with strangers, or for money, she said. "It was something that they chose to do." AMEHART'S ONLY \$695 ona County Airport 265-0732











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