

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 1992



Burke High School students flock to Earvin (Magic) Johnson after hearing him speak yesterday.

## AIDS warnings sounded

Magic strikes a chord in message at Burke

By Diego Ribadeneira  
GLOBE STAFF

For a moment, in a school auditorium where posters and banners extolled his athletic heroics, he mesmerized them with a message not about the game of basketball but about the game of life and death.

"I came here out of the love that I have for you because I don't want what happened to me to happen to you," Earvin (Magic) Johnson told the audience, which was dominated by teen-agers, in a sober lecture on HIV and AIDS.

Johnson was not just another celebrity coming to preach to teen-agers. Johnson is a victim. He has HIV, the virus that causes AIDS. So when he asked for the audience's undivided attention, he got it.

The usual cacophony that accompanies school assemblies evaporated instantly as Johnson stepped to the lectern inside Jeremiah E. Burke High School in Dorchester yesterday.

For 45 minutes, Johnson spoke and answered questions from students, while trying to convey the serious threat that acquired immune deficiency

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Commission told of need for action on housing

By Dolores Kong  
GLOBE STAFF

The shortage of housing for people with AIDS has left hundreds homeless in Boston alone and threatens to become the epidemic's next crisis as those who are infected live longer, AIDS activists and health officials told the National Commission on AIDS yesterday.

Unless federal policy is changed to make AIDS housing a priority, more people infected with the AIDS virus will become homeless and at greater risk of being hospitalized, witnesses testified before the commission at the Copley Plaza Hotel.

"Something has to be done. Something has to be done now," said Jean R. Desir, who is infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, and is an advocate for fellow Haitians who are infected and in desperate need of housing. "Tomorrow will be too late for us."

Said Michael Cronin, chairman of the Boston AIDS Consortium, an umbrella group of AIDS organizations in the city: "We consider housing the paramount need in AIDS right now."

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# Armenians killed 1,000, Azeris charge

By Paul Quinn-Judge  
GLOBE STAFF

BAKU, Azerbaijan - Azerbaijan charged yesterday that Armenian militants massacred men, women and children after forcing them from a town in Nagorno-Karabakh last week.

Azerbaijani officials said 1,000 Azeris had been killed in the town of Khojaly and that Armenian fighters then slaughtered men, women and children fleeing across snow-covered mountain passes.

Armenian officials disputed the death toll and denied the massacre report.

Journalists on the scene said it was difficult to say exactly how many people had been killed in surrounding areas. But a Reuters photographer said he saw two trucks filled with Azeri corpses, and a Russian journalist reported massacre sites elsewhere in the area.

Azeri officials and journalists who flew briefly to the region by helicopter recovered the bodies of three dead children who had been shot in the head, Reuters said, but Armenians prevented them from retrieving more bodies.

In the Azerbaijani capital of Baku, government officials said that communications with Shusha, the last Azeri foothold in Nagorno-Karabakh, were cut yesterday morning. The militant Azerbaijani Popular Front reported that Armenian troops backed by armor and artillery were moving closer to the town.

Shusha was shelled again overnight, according to accounts reaching Baku yesterday.

NAGORNO, Page 6



An Azeri woman mourns her slain father in Agdam.

## US is said to mull cuts in Israel aid

By Mary Curtius  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON - In an unprecedented move, Secretary of State James A. Baker 3d has proposed cuts in annual foreign aid to Israel if it completes settlements now under construction in the occupied territories, Sen. Patrick Leahy said yesterday.

So politically explosive is any hint that Israel's annual \$1.2 billion in nonmilitary grants might be cut that the State Department immediately issued a denial yesterday, after Leahy said Baker had told him he wants to cut the aid to penalize Israel for completing settlements.

"We are not suggesting taking money out of the economic support funds," the State Department spokeswoman, Margaret Tutwiler, said after the meeting. An annual \$1.2 billion grant goes to Israel from the economic support funds, one of the sources of US nonmilitary aid to foreign countries. Economic support funds are generally unconditional grants.

Leahy stood by his account of his private negotiations with Baker over

BAKER, Page 6

## High-stakes day.

Candidates to vie for national status

By Walter V. Robinson  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON - After three weeks of expressing their affinity for regional favorites, Democratic voters in three critical primary states are likely today to indicate which of their party's presidential candidates possess some national appeal.

In the same three states - Georgia, Maryland and Colorado - Republican voters will almost certainly signal President Bush whether he faces a painfully protracted road to renomination.

By most estimates yesterday, former Sen. Paul E. Tsongas has the best chance of wearing the broadest Democratic smile tonight. And Bush is likely to be the grim-faced Republican, facing yet another embarrassing and costly victory.

But on the Democratic side, there will be grim visages as well. Barring any last-minute shift in voter sentiment, the candidacies of Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin and Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey appear likely to be effectively ended by another string of also-ran performances.

PRIMARIES, Page 9

## Clinton denounces Tsongas' tactics

By Curtis Wilkie  
GLOBE STAFF

STONE MOUNTAIN, Ga. - Gov. Bill Clinton accused Paul E. Tsongas yesterday of "low-class" campaign tactics and described his Democratic rival as "a very clever politician" who altered his positions from state to state while masquerading as a nonpolitician.

Clinton's denunciation of Tsongas, a man the Arkansas governor once professed to admire more than any other candidate, came on the eve of the Georgia primary and reflected the bitterness that has been opened up be-

tween them by their drive to win the Democratic presidential nomination.

Clinton made his comments to reporters on board his campaign plane a day after Tsongas' call for the Democrats to drop their negative commercials was spurned. During a televised debate in Atlanta Sunday, Tsongas lamented that the Democratic campaign had "become nasty." He offered to cease his attack ads if others would agree.

Even as Tsongas was making his appeal, his campaign was running ads on black radio stations in Georgia

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## TV glitch puts more heat on Science Church

By Philip Bennett  
GLOBE STAFF

For nearly four hours yesterday, The Monitor Channel, the Boston station owned by the First Church of Christ, Scientist, gave viewers a long look at television's worst nightmare: a blank screen.

The culprit, a station official said, was an errant electrical cable that interrupted local programming. The Monitor Channel (Ch. 68), the church's nationwide, 24-hour cable network, beamed as usual to its satellite customers.

The glitch came at a time when the media holdings of the Christian Science church can scarcely afford any more costly or embarrassing moments in what has been its short, ambitious and not entirely happy broadcasting history.

After years of dissent about the church's investment in high-risk, glossy, electronic media, critics now charge that efforts to build Monitor Television and other broadcast operations, at a cost estimated at about \$500 million over the last

TELEVISION, Page 62



RETURN OF THE FIREBALLER - Red Sox ace Roger Clemens (left) and manager Butch Hobson jog yesterday in Winter Haven, Fla., after Clemens arrived at spring training a week after he had been expected. Hobson said he accepted the pitcher's apology. Sports, Page 53.

## N.H. House to consider suicide bill

By Gary Ghioto  
SPECIAL TO THE GLOBE

CONCORD, N.H. - The New Hampshire House will engage in a debate today that has sharply divided advocates for the terminally ill, the medical establishment and the Roman Catholic Church.

A bill legalizing doctor-assisted suicides - apparently the first of its kind in the nation - has split lawmakers concerned with easing the suffering of those stricken with an incurable illness and those who fear the practice is thinly disguised euthanasia.

The bill allows a doctor, at the written request of a terminally ill patient considered mentally competent, to prescribe medication the patient may take to end his or her life.

The bill sets forth a series of "safeguards" that give the patient control of the time, place and manner of death and prevents abuses, said Rep. Robert Guest (D-Hanover), one of its sponsors.

The patient and doctor must voluntar-

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## Inside

BUSINESS EXTRA

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