

### TODAY'S INDEX

#### LOCAL

##### Dead inmate's mom files suit

The mother of a prisoner who died of self-inflicted injuries last year at the Guerrero Psychiatric Treatment Center has filed a \$2.5 million civil rights suit in federal court.

Page 4

#### WORLD

##### 30 years for U.S.-Japan pact

TOKYO (AP) — The U.S.-Japan security pact reaches its 30th anniversary this month, as the Soviet bloc disbands and Western allies in NATO seek fundamental changes in their alliance.

Page 12

#### NATION

##### U.S. mayors meet in Chicago

U.S. mayors give initial approval to a broad, costly domestic agenda that asks Congress to repeal the Gramm-Rudman deficit-reduction law and cut Social Security taxes for nearly 120 million workers.

Page 6

#### BUSINESS

##### Lawyers turning to PR firms

Big corporations, movie stars and moguls all use marketing and public relations firms. Why not lawyers?

Page 32

#### EDITORIALS

##### Robbing the classroom

One reason education spending keeps going up without comparable improvements in what kids learn is that much of the money never makes it to the classroom.

Page 31

#### INSIDE

Business	Page 32
Classified	Page 34
Comics	Page 27
Editorials	Page 31
Ann Landers	Page 22
People	Page 20
Sports	Page 39
TV List	Page 24
Viewpoint	Page 29

#### STAR FAX NUMBERS

Editorial	793-7152
Advertising	783-5788

# Decision due on parrot transfer

By MIGLISA CAPO  
Of The STAR Staff

Natural Resources Secretary José Laborde says he favors sending a dozen Puerto Rican parrots to a Houston Zoo. But he said his decision will become final after a meeting July 17 with experts for and against transferring the parrots.

At the meeting, transfer supporter Dr. Ulisses Seal and opponent Dr. Noel Snyder will present their arguments to Laborde and officials from the U.S. Forest Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

At stake is whether 12 of the 52 parrots at an aviary in El Yunque should be sent to the states to increase their chances of survival. The *Amazona vitatta* is an endangered species that exists only in Puerto Rico.

The year-long parrot transfer dispute intensified after Hurricane Hugo apparently killed several parrots in the wild or destroyed their habitat at El Yunque.

Before the hurricane, scientists put the number of wild parrots at 47; since then only about two dozen have been counted. Disease and the birds' inability to reproduce have kept their population low.

Transfer supporters claim the 12 birds, which have never bred on the island, might do so at the Houston Zoo, where experts have successfully bred other Caribbean parrots. They also claim that a fast-spreading disease could wipe out the birds if they're kept together.

But transfer opponents claim the trip endangers the parrots, which require a tropical habitat. And parrots could be protected from disease by placement in two island forests.

"We perceive their transfer favorably," said Laborde during a recent interview. "Until now, there's been no evidence against it, so unless something new comes out of the meeting the parrots will be sent to the Houston Zoo."

Laborde said the Commonwealth House of Representatives backed the transfer after holding hearings on the issue. The move awaits only Laborde's signature on an agreement drawn up with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The transfer will not thwart DNR's plans to create a second flock of Puerto Rican parrots, said Laborde. He said the agency will open its own aviary in Utuado within the next month.

The aviary seeks to breed and distribute the rare bird so that a disease or natural disaster will not wipe out the whole flock in El Yunque.

Plans for an aviary date from 1986, when DNR officials complained that the federal aviary in El Yunque was emphasizing research rather than reproduction.



STAR file photo

A dozen Puerto Rican parrots may be on their way to Houston.

# AIDS education called imperative

By MARC OLSON  
Of The STAR Staff

Public health officials and community groups differ on whether testing for the AIDS virus should be anonymous, but they agree on one thing: Educating the public is imperative if the disease is to be checked.

The Commonwealth's plan to combat AIDS, which was released last week by Dr. John Rullán, details the role that agencies and schools will play in telling people how to avoid AIDS and prevent its spreading. According to Rullán's plan:

- The Central AIDS Office (OCAS by its Spanish initials) will designate a team of instructors to coordinate education activities islandwide, including symposiums addressed to high-risk groups. It will also establish an AIDS library with a list of resources and services available at various government agencies.

- The OCAS will use questionnaires to determine knowledge, attitudes and behavior of various groups and will base strategy on the findings.

- The OCAS's staff of nine would cost \$240,000 annually.

- The Education Department's campaign "Break the Chain of AIDS," which has already reached the 500,000 students in the public school system, offers the basics of prevention and dispels myths surrounding AIDS. Additional instruction is offered to students in grades eight through 12.

- The department will also make its AIDS curriculum available to private schools.

- The University of Puerto Rico will do its part by including AIDS instruction in its curriculum, particularly in education, social work and the sciences.

- The UPR School of Medicine has obtained funds to organize the AIDS Training Center for Health Professionals, which will train 6,000 professionals islandwide who care for people infected with the AIDS virus, including doctors, dentists, nurses, nutritionists, social workers, medical technicians, pharmacists and therapists.

- The Anti-Addiction Services Department (Desca) — which attends to intravenous drug users; a high-risk group, —

will test and counsel addicts in its 42 centers islandwide, with emphasis on the ten centers in penal institutions.

- The Corrections Administration will develop a program aiming to change the attitudes and habits of prisoners, a high-risk group because of their homosexual practices and their use of intravenous drugs. Corrections will determine the knowledge and attitudes of prisoners, through questionnaires, then develop its plan accordingly.

- The Pediatric AIDS Project — which serves female prisoners in Loiza, Trujillo Alto, Canóvanas, Guaynabo and Carolina — teaches women how to avoid the disease and how to obtain services if they or their children test positive. Corrections will evaluate the program and may extend it to all prisoners.

- Besides offering counseling in its centers islandwide, the Health Department will establish an 800 number offering information by telephone.

- Government agencies will insert brief messages on AIDS when billing the public for services. OCAS will be responsible for approving these inserts.