

# inter/national

From Associated Press Reports

## Downs trial scheduled

EUGENE — Elizabeth Diane Downs has been waiting almost a year to resolve what happened the night she and her three children were shot on a country road north of Springfield. Her day in court comes Tuesday.

In news conferences and frequent interviews with reporters, she and her father, Wes Fredrickson of Springfield, have criticized law enforcement officials for naming her as a suspect, for failing to find an angry hitchhiker she claims attacked her family, and for denying her the company of her two surviving children.

Downs is accused of murder, two counts of attempted murder and two counts of first-degree assault in the May 19, 1983 shootings. She has been held at the Lane County Jail without bail since she was arrested Feb. 28.

Cheryl Lynn Downs, 7, who was shot in the heart and lungs, died soon after her mother drove her to McKenzie-Willamette Hospital in Springfield.

Stephen Daniel "Danny" Downs, 4, who was shot in the chest, is paralyzed from the waist down.

Christie Ann Downs, 9, who also was shot in the chest, has suffered impairments to her speech but has progressed enough to be one of the key prosecution witnesses at the trial. Stephen Downs, Ms. Downs' ex-husband, who lives in Arizona, also has been subpoenaed as a prosecution witness.

Danny and Christie have been living with a Springfield foster family under the protective custody of the state Children's Services Division since they

were released from the hospital last summer.

Jury selection will commence Tuesday morning in Lane County Circuit Court. The choosing of jurors is expected to take several days as defense attorney Jim Jagger of Eugene searches for individuals who have little knowledge of the case or who can promise to discard what they know.

## Arms talks stay stalled

WASHINGTON — White House officials have all but given up hope the Soviets will return to nuclear arms-control talks before the November election.

"They don't seem to be capable of getting the message," said one senior Reagan administration official, who disclosed that a U.S. envoy's recent trip to Moscow evoked no signal that the new Kremlin leadership is interested in setting dates for renewed talks on strategic or intermediate-range weapons.

Separate Geneva talks on limiting intermediate-range missiles in Europe and on reducing the superpowers' intercontinental arsenals broke off when the United States and its NATO allies began their long-planned deployment of cruise and Pershing 2 missiles in Western Europe last December.

One official familiar with U.S. arms control policy said administration strategy will remain one of stressing Reagan's willingness to be flexible, to be "cooperative on the small stuff, such as consular matters" and wait for some indication the Soviets are ready to talk. But the official said the president has no intention of making any new arms control proposal of his own to try to woo the Soviets back to the table.

## Rebels shoot helicopters

SAN MIGUEL, El Salvador — Leftist guerrillas fired on two helicopters carrying American ambassador Thomas Pickering, members of Congress and journalists Sunday, American officials said.

The aircraft carrying the journalists was the only one hit, but no one was hurt, said the officials, who asked not to be identified.

They said the helicopters were fired on just outside San Miguel, their destination 84 miles east of the capital.

An American crewman of the helicopter carrying the journalists said, "We took three dents on the blades and one hit on the fuselage." He refused to give his name for security reasons.

The crewman said the two helicopters were to land in San Miguel, El Salvador's third-largest city, but continued on to the coastal city of La Union after the firing began.

## Feelin' blue

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — Acid rain and yellow rain have attracted attention in recent years, but the blue rain that fell around the Eastman Kodak Co. plant hit home — literally.

A harmless blue substance used in paints, eye liner and bluing fabric rinse processes apparently leaked from a Kodak smokestack early Friday afternoon, said company spokesman Henry Kaska.

The result: impromptu paint jobs for about 10 houses.

"I started out with a white house. When I came back it was blue," said Bob Bristol, who went shopping for about an hour as the blue rain was falling.

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<p><b>Thursday</b> Oranged Glazed Chicken Noodles Romanoff Rice Broccoli Peas</p>	<p><b>Friday</b> Seafood Platter with oysters, shrimp, fish BBQ Beef Ribs Rice Potatoes Club Spinach Buttered Brussel Sprouts</p>	

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