Academy Award Nominee
Best Foreign Language Film

"Passionate... A love triangle in the classic tradition...of The Postman Always Rings Twice..."

"Sexly and Sophisticated..."

—Philip Lopano, Interview

Visually Spectacular and Dramatically Beguiling..."

—Edward Camp, Film Magazine

Author of "The Writing Prizes"
Deadline: April 11, 1991

The Writing Prizes

Starts Today, Friday, March 22nd...

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World

Saudi Arabia, Japan to help pay for war

Saudi Arabia said that it is not behind in paying its share of the costs of the Persian Gulf war. The official Saudi news agency said that the kingdom will come through with the money. Each House of Congress has passed measures aimed at pressuring allies to pay their contributions. Negotiators from the House and Senate discussed differences in their bills yesterday. According to the White House, Japan will give the United States $3.7 million today. Spokesman Martin Fixwater said that the money is an initial contribution toward Japan's share of the war's costs for 1991. He added that more money is expected soon.

Japanese media have said that Japan was not consulted enough on the Persian Gulf crisis. But Secretary of State James A. Baker III said that US relations with Japan are fine, and he also said that he and Japan's visiting foreign minister talked to keep them that way.

Physical abuse complaints against Boston police officers increase

Boston police said that complaints of physical abuse by Boston police officers have increased over the past five years. But John Meade, chief of the Bureau of Professional Standards, said that complaints are not more physical abuse cases. He said that the increase is because the citizens of Boston are less reluctant to come forward with a complaint. There were 472 citizen complaints during the last fiscal year, including 167 of physical abuse. As a result, 13 officers were terminated, 17 officers were suspended without pay and three received punishment days. The city currently has 1,500 men and women in uniform. Of the 472 complaints filed against the police force, of which 133 were for physical abuse.

Meade declined to give any details on the number of charges that claimed excessive force. He said that the legal department advised him not to report on this specific area. He noted that neutral reporting sites were set up last year where citizens could make complaints against police without having to go to the police station.

Cellucci urges approval of wage exemption law

Massachusetts Lt. Gov. Paul Cellucci has urged a legislative committee to approve a bill that would exempt employees of certain small construction projects from a state law that requires wages of no less than the prevailing wage. Cellucci appeared before the Legislature's Commerce and Labor Committee yesterday. He conceded that the $50 million a year savings projected by the bill administration is probably high.

Nation

Los Angeles beating victim found to be drunk

Los Angeles police said that there is evidence to suggest that Rodney King, the victim in a now notorius Mar. 3 videotaped beating by officers, may have been legally drunk at the time he was stopped.

Lt. Fred Nixon said that blood and urine samples taken after King's beating showed that he had alcohol and marijuana in his system. Nixon added that the level of alcohol found was sufficient that King would have been well above the 0.08-percent legal limit when he was stopped.

The test contradicts earlier statements by a King lawyer that his client is a devoted Jehovah's Witness who does not drink or take drugs. The lawyer for one of the passengers to King's car said that his client also told authorities that he and the others in the car had drank 40 ounces of malt liquor.

NASA to build smaller space station

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration said that it plans to build a simpler and cheaper space station, and that the station will take longer than expected to complete. NASA Administrator Richard F. Truly said that this is what Congress wants. He added that the changes, including $8 billion in cost cuts, will still allow important research to be done. He criticized the scientific community said that the scaled-down space station will not meet basic requirements.

Weather

Bonjour, printemps!

Between a large high surface over southeastern Canada and a substantial cyclone over the center of the United States, a blocking pattern will develop. A cold front will pass over the North Bay yesterday and a warm front will move through the region today. The fast-moving system will bring cloudy skies and temperatures to the region. A stationary front will remain to the south of the region.

Mostly cloudy with a few breaks well to the northeast. Some light sprinkles possible. High around 49-51°F (4-9°C), with winds from the northeast 10-15 mph (16-24 kph).

Friday night: Clouds thickening and precipitation slowly rolling in. Cold rain with a few pockets of wet snow inland, caused by trapping of colder air near the surface. Lows in the mid-30s (0-2°C), winds continue northeast.

Saturday: Rainy, windy and raw, with temperatures dropping to the high 20s to mid-30s (2-8°C).

Sunday: More rain likely, with temperatures in the 40s (6-9°C).

Forecast by Marek Zebrowski

Compiled by Joe Marquez

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