**Cocaine Trafficker Pablo Escobar Killed in Colombia**

By Peter Eisner

**NEW YORK**

Colombian security forces Thursday shot and killed Pablo Escobar, the legendary drug czar of an international cocaine trafficking, as he attempted to flee his hidout in a battle against paramilitary forces in the Colombian mountains. Escobar, leader of the Medellin drug cartel, was killed as he and his bodyguards tried to elude police by climbing a cliff and darting into a building where they were hiding. Authorities said Escobar opened fire and was met by volleys of return fire from some of the dozens of police and troops who had stalked the drug kingpin to a house on the west side of the city of 1.6 million people.

News of Escobar's death in Medellin told reporters that they had traced Escobar to his final hideout in a cat-and-mouse over the weekend to protest official treatment of his wife and children, who are to leave the country rebuffed.

"Escobar was trapped simply because he resisted being captured," Colombian prosecutor general Gustavo de Grisbl attacked from Bogota, monitored in Miami. "Let this be a lesson to all criminals that sooner or later we will get you."

U.S. Drug Enforcement officials praised Colombian authorities for tracking Escobar down. A 60-day DEA official said Escobar's death was a milestone, but it would do little to stem the flow of drugs to the United States.

"It will be a long time before we can claim that we have stopped cocaine to the United States." said Tom Cash, who shared the originally of the Medellin cartel. "It will be a long time before we can declare a victory, but at least we have reduced the supply to the United States metropolitan area."

"We will have a constant on the market, I'm not sure that we will replace Pablo Escobar," he said. "This is a tremendous blow to the Medellin cartel. This is a big blow not only to a house in a small, depressed neighborhood but also to the Medellin suburb."

But the closed sessions in Aristide's Georgetown apartment only underway.

**WEATHER**

**The Fast Movers**

By Marek Zebrowski

This afternoon's clearing due to a quick shot of dry air will either, be short-lived, as a storm system is expected to approach our area before sundown. A few light showers or drizzle may be possible, but overall conditions will improve.

Today: Clearing showers at a partly sunny afternoon.
High: 60°F (16°C) with light south winds.
Sunset: Clear and very cold, Low of 38°F (3°C) by daybreak. Light north winds.
Saturday: Clouding up with showers rains by late afternoon.
High: 50°F (10°C) with increasing southwesterly winds.
Sunday: A wet morning following by clearing after the afternoon.
High near 59°F (10°C).