

Pope John Paul II's visit to Ukraine ends in farewell ceremony

By the Associated Press INTERNATIONAL
LVIV, Ukraine — About a million cheering and singing believers welcomed Pope John Paul II at an open-air Mass on today, the last day of his Ukrainian visit aimed at bringing the Catholics and Orthodox closer together.

The Lviv Hippodrome was a sea of small Ukrainian and Vatican flags as people raised their hands in greeting John Paul's popemobile making its way slowly to a specially constructed podium.

Many in the enormous crowd booed and whistled in disapproval when Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma also appeared on the podium. Kuchma's main support base is in the industrial central and eastern regions and he draws much less respect in the largely nationalist west.

The last day of the pope's five-day trip was to be concluded with a farewell ceremony at Lviv's medieval St.

ap news capsules

George's Cathedral and a departure address at the Lviv airport in the evening.

MANILA, Philippines — Joseph Estrada today became the first former Philippine president to be arraigned on criminal charges, with thousands of riot police on alert to head off possible unrest.

In the latest episode in a political drama surrounding the downfall of the once-immensely popular leader, he refused to enter a plea to the perjury charge. The court entered a plea of innocence for Estrada.

Estrada was taken by motorcade from a military hospital, where he has been confined while undergoing tests and treatment, to the country's chief anti-corruption court, the Sandiganbayan.

Estrada, ousted from office in January by mass protests, is accused of

misdeclaring his assets in 1999. He also is to be arraigned in two weeks for the capital offense of plunder for allegedly taking millions of dollars in kickbacks and payoffs during 31 months in office.

Police secured the court and parliament ahead of the arraignment.

But only a handful of people waited outside the Sandiganbayan in a light train. Riot police earlier used their shields to push back a group of about 50 left-wing activists carrying signs demanding that Estrada be brought to justice.

NATIONAL
TRENTON, N.J. — A mayor who had garnered little backing from the Republican establishment received an outpouring of support from the party's heaviest hitters after winning New Jersey's GOP gubernatorial nomination.

Among Bret Schundler's well-wishers was President Bush, who called to

congratulate the Jersey City mayor Tuesday night following his surprise defeat of former Rep. Bob Franks. At this victory party were national party Chairman Jim Gilmore and former GOP vice presidential nominee Jack Kemp.

"They said we could never win, but you didn't believe them did you?" Schundler, a conservative who opposes abortion and supports gun ownership, said to cheering supporters he called the "Schundler Army."

With 99 percent of precincts reporting, Schundler had 57 percent of the votes, or 190,008, to Franks' 43 percent, or 140,795.

Schundler's victory sets the stage for a closely watched November race against Democrat Jim McGreevey, the mayor of suburban Woodbridge who nearly defeated former Gov. Christie Whitman in 1997.

LOS ANGELES — He forever changed television, breaking the sitcom mold and creating a character

so memorable that millions of people would know him always as "Archie Bunker."

But to many of the hundreds of people who attended his funeral Tuesday, Carroll O'Connor was more than that. O'Connor died Thursday of a heart attack. He was 76.

Among the nearly 1,000 people at his funeral were comedian Carl Reiner and his son actor-director Rob Reiner, who played the liberal son-in-law famously dubbed "Meathead."

Comedian Don Rickles, actor Richard Crenna, "Dallas" star Larry Hagman, Martin Sheen of "The West Wing" and former Gov. Jerry Brown also attended the service at St. Paul the Apostle Roman Catholic Church in West Los Angeles.

"He was a master theatrian, Mr. Bunker was," Carl Reiner said as he arrived for the funeral. "It's funny how we keep calling him Bunker, and we keep calling my son 'Meathead.' That's the kind of an impact they had,

even on a father."

Sally Struthers, who played Bunker's daughter Gloria, said he became a real-life father figure to her after her own father died.

His later years were steeped in tragedy after his only child, Hugh, a co-star with his father on the TV crime series "In The Heat of The Night," shot himself in a drug-related suicide in 1995.

TAMPA, Fla. — The trial of a former Army colonel convicted of funneling secret documents to the Soviet Union should act as a warning to any other Americans who might consider spying, federal prosecutors said.

George Trofimoff became the highest-ranking U.S. officer to be convicted of espionage when the jury returned its verdict Tuesday after less than two hours of deliberations. The single count of conspiracy to commit espionage carries a possible life sentence for the 74-year-old retiree from Melbourne, Fla.



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3rd - Sara Bollig, Goodland, \$15.
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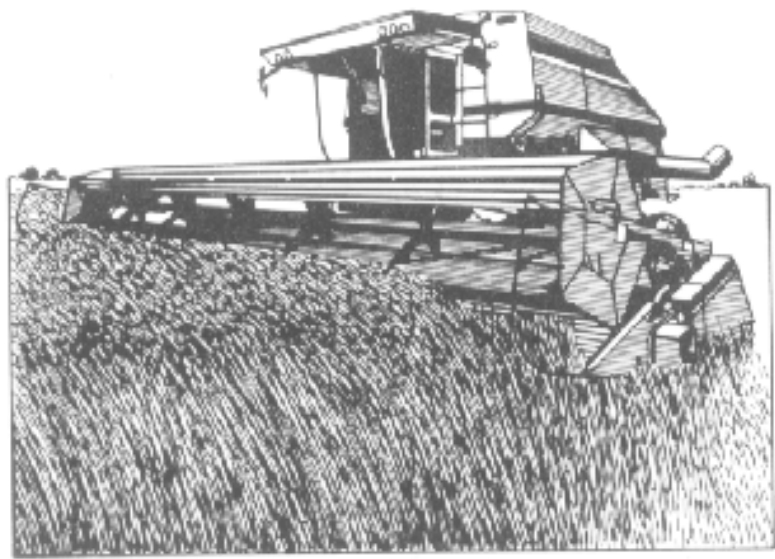
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