

Years after
l of the war in Vietnam
 The 25th anniversary of the fall of
 hand over the suspected remains
 ns killed in the Vietnam War — a
 over for many families. The first in
 is week. 16A.

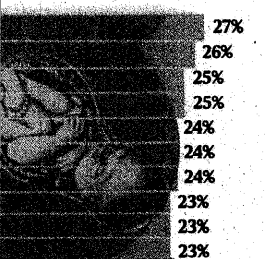
Changing abortion law
 ion, "So-called 'partial-birth' bans
 more." 18A.
 ion is not at stake in the case be-
 nes Bopp Jr. says. 18A.

ing in face of falling stocks
 report today is expected to show
 etting edgy, but despite the tricky
 mer spending isn't showing signs
 een spending like crazy on ad-
 the Super Bowl, that strategy
 working. 1B.

o shames Baltimore in AL
 ound Baltimore 8-2; Minnesota
 York 7-3; Texas slides past Boston
 3, 19C.
 edic surgeon James Andrews has
 ents. As well as his own daughter.
 ," he says. 1C.

rust link weak in kids
 ce, their trust of others as adults
 h on the divorce itself but on the
 tionship with parents, a 17-year
 t place to gamble. So getting mar-
 m natural because a lot of people
 oo. Remember Darva Conger? 9D.

Caesarean delivery
 irths in the USA were by
 states that had the highest
 ean deliveries:



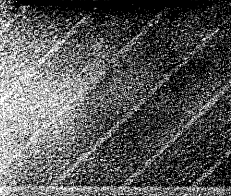
By Hilary Wasson and Suzy Parker, USA TODAY
 Crossword 11D
 Editorial/Opinion 18-19A
 Lotteries 11D
 Marketplace Today 11D
 State-by-state 11A
 Stocks 4-6, 8-11B
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have begun with the stern announce-
 ment that smoking is prohibited and
 that tampering with a lavatory smoke
 detector violates federal regulations.
 But the skies are not smoke-free. Ev-
 ery year hundreds, maybe thousands,
 of passengers
 light up. Most
 escape with
 nothing more than a warning.
 "People smoke because they can get
 away with it," says former flight atten-
 dant Agnes Huff, a Los Angeles-based
 crisis management consultant to air-
 lines. Enforcement, she says, "tends to
 be inconsistent from airline to airline
 and from flight attendant to flight at-
 tendant."
 Federal law stipulates that those who
 smoke aboard a commercial aircraft
 can be fined \$1,100; meddling with a
 lavatory smoke detector can result in a
 \$2,000 fine.
 But of 200 smoking incidents report-
 ed to the Federal Aviation Administra-
 tion in 1999, fines have been meted out
 in only 22 cases (some cases are not yet
 closed). In the seven years before that,
 just 36% of smoking incidents reported
 to the FAA resulted in a fine. Many oth-
 ers simply go unreported after a pas-
 senger is warned.
 "Why do we have a law if it carries
 none of the consequences it claims it
 carries?" asks Sharon Peters, a Silver-
 thorne, Colo.-based management con-

Please see COVER STORY next page ▶



PLEASE LOOK DOWN



FEDERAL LAW PROVIDES FOR PENALTY OF UP TO \$2,000 FOR TAMPERING WITH SMOKE DETECTOR INSTALLED IN THE LAVATORY

Photo by H. Darr Betser; photo illustration by USA TODAY

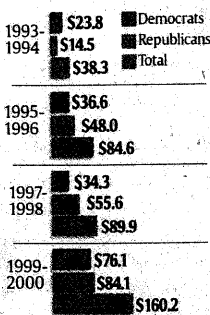
Fundraising doubles GOP, Dems in 'soft money' race

By Jim Drinkard
 USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Democ-
 rats nearly wiped out the
 traditional Republican ad-
 vantage in raising unregulat-
 ed "soft money" contribu-
 tions during the first three
 months of this year.
 Latest figures also show
 that despite a campaign sea-
 son full of condemnation of
 political money excesses,
 both parties are on track to
 shatter soft money records.
 The new results boosted
 total soft money contribu-
 tions for both parties to
 \$160 million through the
 first 15 months of the two-
 year campaign, nearly dou-
 ble the pace of giving in the
 last two elections.
 The Democratic National
 Committee and its House
 and Senate campaign arms
 collected \$26.7 million dur-
 ing the quarter — nearly half
 of it from donors who gave

Soft money record

Amounts raised in the first
 15 months of two-year
 cycles (in millions):



\$100,000 or more — accord-
 ing to a review of new fed-
 eral fundraising reports filed
 by the political parties.
 The GOP, which usually
 enjoys a strong advantage in
 soft money, collected

\$27 million, barely ahead of
 the Democrats.
 "Soft money" is the term
 for unlimited donations to
 the parties from corpora-
 tions, labor unions and
 wealthy individuals. The
 money is not regulated be-
 cause in theory it is not sup-
 posed to be used for direct
 campaigning for federal can-
 didates. But that require-
 ment is commonly evaded.
 The new numbers show
 another trend: Six-figure
 contributions, once rare,
 have become commonplace.
 "The asking price for these
 soft money contributions is
 now \$100,000," says Kent
 Cooper of FECInfo, which an-
 alyzes Federal Election Com-
 mission reports.
 A major factor was Presi-
 dent Clinton's fundraising
 travel throughout the period,
 particularly in states such as
 New York, California and
 Florida that are rich sources
 of political donations.

By Jack Kelley
 USA TODAY

WASHINGTON — Despite crit-
 icism of the handling of the situ-
 ation, Americans continue to over-
 whelmingly approve of the federal
 raid that removed 6-year-old Elian
 Gonzalez from the home of his Mi-
 ami relatives over the weekend.
 They express concern over the
 timing and the amount of force
 used, but more than two-thirds say
 those misgivings are not enough to
 warrant congressional hearings.
 A USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup Poll
 taken Monday shows that 60% of
 respondents approve of the raid;
 35% disapprove; and 5% have no
 opinion. Those figures are nearly
 unchanged from two days ago.
 Monday's poll also shows that
 62% believe the relatives would not
 have turned Elian over if agents
 had not been carrying weapons.
 But Americans are split on the
 amount of force used: 36% say the
 force was justified; 33% say some
 force was justified but not the
 amount used; and 27% say no
 amount of force was justified.
 They also are split on the way
 President Clinton and Attorney
 General Janet Reno have handled
 the situation.
 Still, 68% say Congress should
 not hold hearings into the incident;
 28% say it should; and 4% have no
 opinion. Other findings:
 ▶ 63% say Elian should live with
 his father in Cuba; 25% say he
 should remain in the United States.
 ▶ 84% are very or somewhat
 sympathetic to Juan Miguel Gon-
 zalez, Elian's father; 67% are very or
 somewhat sympathetic to the Mi-
 ami relatives. But 57% disapprove
 of the way the relatives have han-
 dled the situation.
 ▶ 54% favor re-establishing dip-
 lomatic relations with Cuba.
 The poll has a sampling error of
 +/-4 percentage points.

USA TODAY
 CALLUP POLL

Do you approve of federal agents
 removing Elian?
 60% approve
 35% disapprove

Did agents use too much force?
 45% used too much force
 46% used right amount of force
 1% too little force
 8% don't know/refused

Do you approve or disapprove of
 the way each have handled the
 situation?
 President Clinton
 43% approve
 41% disapprove
 Attorney General Janet Reno
 47% approve
 43% disapprove
 Vice President Gore
 25% approve
 37% disapprove
 Relatives in Miami
 37% approve
 57% disapprove
 Texas Gov. George W. Bush
 28% approve
 27% disapprove

Should Congress hold hearings
 concerning the Miami raid?
 28% yes, hold hearings
 68% no, do not hold hearings
 4% don't know

If the authorities had not been
 carrying weapons, do you believe
 the relatives in Miami would have
 turned Elian Gonzalez over to the
 Justice Department?
 31% yes
 62% no
 7% don't know/refused

The Justice Department ...
 57% should have acted earlier
 15% waited the right amount
 7% should have waited longer
 16% should not have acted
 5% don't know/refused

Source: Poll taken Monday of 611 adults;
 margin of error 24 percentage points.



6 shot during fight at D.C. zoo
 An officer guides children to safety Monday at Washington's National
 Zoo, where a feud between two groups of teens ended in a hail of gunfire.
 One boy was critically wounded, and five other children were injured.
 Police believe the shooting might have been gang-related. Story, 3A.

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