

MR. SPEAKER;

Ridding the nation of illegal immigrants is the speaker's aim

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Byline: Compiled by Ernie Freda; contributing: Jeanne Cummings

Body

A quick look at activities involving House Speaker Newt Gingrich of Georgia:

Calling for legislation to allow for "very rapid, very efficient deportation" of illegal immigrants, Gingrich set September as the deadline for voting on a package of immigration bills. The speaker made the remarks at a news conference noting the first meeting of his special task force on immigration. Eight of the 41 task force members are Democrats, including Rep. Nathan Deal of Gainesville. Deal said he won the appointment because there is a "tremendous problem" with illegal Hispanic immigrants in the Gainesville and Dalton areas, including some gang activity.

POWER PLAY: "Politically Incorrect" poll of 100,000 Prodigy computer service subscribers reveals that when asked to pick the winner in an arm- wrestling match between Gingrich and President Clinton, 61 percent of respondents thought the president would be outmuscled.

PEGGING 'SQUARES': A New Republic magazine piece by Fred Barnes, "Revenge of the Squares," characterizes Gingrich and his team of congressional supporters, who were shaped by the 1960s, as the flip side of '60s counterculture. They supported the Vietnam War, married young, didn't smoke pot, and now they want to reclaim American society from the liberal elite. The piece concludes that "by the time Congress finishes its work this year, America will be a 'different country' and the '60s a fading force."

SPLIT DECISION: Give Gingrich a split decision on one of his more celebrated quests - cutting back public broadcasting. The House easily turned back an attempt by conservative Republicans to end all federal funding for public broadcasting over three years, but that was just part of the picture. The proposal by Rep. Philip Crane (R-Ill.) was part of a bill containing \$ 17 billion in budget cuts, including reductions of 15 percent in public broadcasting funds in fiscal 1996 and 30 percent in 1997. Those cuts remained in the bill, which appeared headed for House passage today.

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AMERICANS (72%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (70%); GANGS (70%); POLITICAL CORRECTNESS (55%); VIETNAM WAR (51%)

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Person: NEWT GINGRICH (79%); NATHAN DEAL (73%); BILL CLINTON (57%)

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