

Martin Luther King Jr.'s widow called for a national commission to investigate her husband's assassination two days before the 30th anniversary of his slaying. Coretta Scott King said she would like to see an investigative commission with the authority to provide immunity and protection for anyone who comes forward to tell what they know about King's death.

A jury in Helena, Montana, awarded **\$1,006 U.S. each to five state inmates who were hogtied** two weeks after a bloody 1991 prison riot. Palmer Hoovestel, an inmate's attorney, said the amount of damages was not important. "What was important for us was that this was a constitutional claim and a finding that the Eighth Amendment had been violated," he said, referring to the amendment that bans cruel and unusual punishment.

Britain apologized for its "insensitive" treatment of 25,000 Nazi victims whose assets were seized during the Second World War, and promised a new compensation plan. The claims program aims to pay \$100 million owed to former Nazi victims, mainly Jews from Eastern Europe.

Yugoslav President **Slobodan Milosevic** **blasted Western countries** for interfering in Kosovo and proposed a

referendum be held on whether foreigners can mediate talks on the future of the province.

A computer search for a **needle in the cyberstack** involves sorting through about 320 million Web pages and even the best search agents index no more than 40 per cent of them. And things are unlikely to get easier because the number of Web pages is expected to grow 1,000 per cent in the next few years, according to a study to be published today in the journal *Science*.

The number of teenagers in the U.S. who smoke is rising, with especially large increases among African-American teenagers. A study of 16,000 high school students found nearly half of male and more than a third of female students had smoked a cigarette or cigar, or used a smokeless tobacco product, in the previous month.

Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas refused to spare the nation's cigarette makers from having to release some **39,000 secret documents** in a Minnesota trial. The state, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota are suing cigarette makers to recover \$1.7 billion they say they spent to treat smoking-related illnesses.

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