

MIETRO

Deregulation Brings Bigger Cable TV Bills Into Sharp Focus

By Karlyn Barker
Washington Post Staff Writer

Molly Hersh, a retired Silver Spring resident, didn't have to read a government report to know that the cost of her cable television service has risen in recent years. When she subscribed to cable television in 1985, the cost of the basic service, plus two additional entertainment channels and an extra remote hookup for her porch, was \$22 a month. Having lost the senior citizen discount that attracted her to the service in the first place, Hersh has seen her bill rise to \$41.80 a month. "That's as cheap as I can get it," said Hersh. "And even then I only have the basic cable and HBO. Period." A report published last week by the General Accounting Office said monthly rates for basic cable tele-

vision service rose more than 25 percent nationwide—four times faster than inflation—from 1987 through 1988.

The rate increases came in the wake of federal government deregulation of the industry, a move that proponents of regulation complain creates an unregulated monopoly.

The GAO report, by previous agreement with cable companies, did not publish geographical breakdowns of the rate increases, but rate data supplied by Washington area cable companies and local governments show that rate increases for basic service in this region have been no less dramatic and, in some cases, have surpassed the national average in recent years.

The basic rate commonly includes a cable system's selection of regular channels, which far surpasses the

number of channels available to television owners whose homes are not wired for cable. The addition of special, or "premium" channels—popular add-ons such as Home Box Office, Home Team Sports and the Disney Channel—increases a subscriber's monthly bill.

In the Washington area, where about three-quarters of a million people subscribe to cable television, the largest increase for basic service was in Fairfax County, where monthly rates rose from \$12.95, the cost of basic service in 1987, to the current rate of \$18.95.

Companies in Arlington and Montgomery counties charge more for their basic service, \$19.95 a month each, but the percentage of rate increase was less during the same two years.

Howard County's cable television rate for basic ser-

vice increased the least, from \$13.95 in 1987 to the current \$15.95.

In the District, the basic rate jumped from \$15 to \$17.50, but a marketing spokesman for Cablevision, the company that services 43,000 city residents, said that rate includes two premium channels.

Anne Arundel and Prince William counties are serviced by several different cable franchises, most of which have raised rates since deregulation.

Thomas Waldrop, chairman and chief executive officer of Media General Cable of Fairfax Inc., which supplies about 165,000 households in Fairfax County, said his subscribers are getting "a lot more television" for their money compared with other jurisdictions.

See CABLE TV, D3, Col. 5



President Bush walks from the stage at Fort A.P. Hill through a sea of exuberant Boy Scouts. He told them: "When we aim for the stars, it will be to stay!"

Scouts' Anti-Drug Efforts Merit a Salute From Bush

By Brooke A. Masters
Washington Post Staff Writer

FORT A.P. HILL, Va., Aug. 7—More than 35,000 participants in the 1989 National Boy Scout Jamboree turned out today to cheer President Bush and hear him urge them to fight drug abuse and prepare to settle outer space.

During his 45-minute visit, Bush praised the Boy Scouts' food drive that yielded 65 million cans of food and their "Drugs: a Deadly Game" campaign, saying, "You are leading America by example."

Drawing on the 12th National Jamboree's theme of space exploration, Bush noted that half of the na-

tion's astronauts were scouts, and said: "The first spacefarers were unique, the lucky few. Your generation will have the broader, greater opportunity to live in space, to travel to establish an outpost on the moon and explore the mysteries of Mars."

"When we aim for the stars, it will be to stay," Bush said.

Scouts called the president's visit one of the high points of the week-long quadrennial jamboree.

"That's the first time I ever saw the president," said Daniel Wrye, 13, from Berkeley Springs, W.Va. "He looked different—thin and older."

"He's a fresh dude," said Brad Phelps, 12, of Mansfield, N.Y.

Bush also impressed the scouts with his anti-drug message. "I am especially looking to you to encourage friends to refuse drugs," he said. "I don't want any young American starting down the road to cocaine and crack."

Bush referred to Ryan Shafer, a McLean boy who began using drugs when he was about 12 and was dead by age 16. The youth's story was told by his father in an article in the Wall Street Journal last week.

"I want to challenge you to take the final steps. Ask yourself if you know someone like Ryan Shafer," Bush said. "Have you done everything you can to help him or her?"

See SCOUTS, D2, Col. 1

Local Jail Officials Push Alternatives To Incarceration

'Boot Camps' Among Options Suggested to Relieve Crowding

By Elsa Walsh
Washington Post Staff Writer

Citing severe crowding in detention facilities throughout the Washington area, a coalition of local corrections officials called yesterday for greater use of non-traditional alternatives to incarceration, such as community-based programs and military-style boot camps.

In an unprecedented joint appearance, corrections officials representing the District and seven suburban jurisdictions said that their facilities are bulging with inmates and that space is needed for one-third more beds just to keep up with skyrocketing inmate populations.

Despite plans to expand or build new facilities in nearly every jurisdiction, the chief correctional officials suggested that the time had come to consider releasing more inmates into community programs, where they could be supervised in halfway houses or in their own homes through use of electronic monitoring devices placed on inmates' wrists.

"We must have flexibility," said Samuel F. Saxton, Prince George's County corrections director. "There are other alternatives that make sense." Saxton estimated that as many as 20 percent of inmates currently incarcerated would be better off in programs outside the detention facilities, where they would receive better training. It also would be less expensive to monitor them, he said.

It now costs about \$100,000 a cell to build new facilities and \$277 million a year to run corrections departments across the region, Saxton said.

The corrections officials, at a news conference sponsored by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, also called for a review of proposals to create military-style boot camps.

Inmates would participate in physical training designed to be so rigorous that they would not want to

See JAILS, D2, Col. 2

INSIDE

THE DISTRICT

Hinckley Wants to Talk

■ Would-be assassin John W. Hinckley says he is being denied his First Amendment rights by St. Elizabeths Hospital, and has asked a judge for permission to talk to reporters. Page A9

Emergency Rooms Busy

■ Many hospital emergency rooms were busier than usual yesterday as D.C. General's emergency room remained closed. Page D3

MARYLAND

Unmarked Cars Spotted

■ Prince George's police are complaining that unmarked cars used in undercover drug work are being recognized, defeating their purpose. Page D5

VIRGINIA

Name That Highway

■ Officials dedicated a short section of the incomplete Fairfax County Parkway yesterday and called it everything but that. Page D3

MILLOY Page D3

P.G. Student Suspensions Drop; Blacks Still Disciplined More

By Darren C. Hackett
Washington Post Staff Writer

The number of students suspended from Prince George's County schools continued to decline last year, but black students again accounted for a disproportionate percentage of suspensions, according to a report released yesterday.

The report from the school system showed that student suspensions dropped by 13.8 percent last year, marking a 37.7 percent decline over the last three years. The decrease followed two years of systemwide changes in disciplinary procedures, initiated by Superintendent John A. Murphy in 1987 after he acknowledged the school system's "excessive" use of suspensions.

Murphy was not available for comment yesterday.

School spokesman Brian J. Porter

said the total number of black student suspensions decreased last year. But, as compared to the total number of overall suspensions, black students accounted for nearly 82 percent of those disciplinary actions. White students accounted for about 17 percent, he said.

Black students make up about 63 percent of the school system enrollment.

"We don't know the reason for this [phenomenon] and it's going to take a lot more study on our part to find out," Porter said. "Clearly, it's a priority of the school system" to remedy the problem.

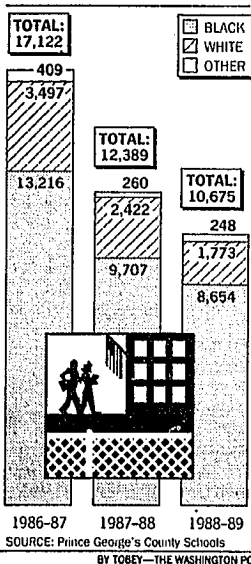
State's Attorney Alex Williams, chairman of a committee appointed to make recommendations on the problem of student suspensions, said the committee would issue a report in October.

"I believe the school system is

See SUSPENSIONS, D5, Col. 4

BREAKDOWN BY RACE

PRINCE GEORGE'S SUSPENSIONS



Fairfax Board Sets Bond Vote, Adjusts Budget for Tax Relief

By Peter Baker
Washington Post Staff Writer

In a session filled with sharp debate over money matters, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors yesterday set a bond referendum for Nov. 7 to see if voters are willing to finance a major jail expansion, new libraries and new fire stations.

The board also voted to severely curtail next year's general budget in an apparent attempt to pacify property owners who have turned vociferous about their rapidly climbing real estate tax rates.

Further, the board moved forward on plans to expand property tax relief for elderly homeowners and to raise business taxes to pay for transportation improvements.

Specifically, the board: ■ Agreed to ask voters to approve borrowing \$242.4 million for the jail and other projects in the largest non-

school bond package ever placed on a Fairfax ballot. The vote came after several attempts to pare back the total failed and after several supervisors called the \$76.1 million price tag for the 750-bed jail expansion "off the wall" and "outrageous."

■ Voted to limit government and school spending in such a way that the average homeowner's tax bill next year would increase by no more than the rate of inflation, which was 5.8 percent in the Washington area in the most recent 12-month period available. The action is expected to translate into a county government spending increase between 6 and 8 percent and a 10 percent ceiling on the increase in local money for the school system.

■ Set a vote on a plan to exempt homeowners 65 or older with incomes of \$40,000 or less and assets of \$150,000 or less from all or part of

See FAIRFAX, D3, Col. 1

Judge's Review of D.C. Writer: 'Rude, Nasty' but Not Guilty

By Barton Gellman
Washington Post Staff Writer

Fredric Alan Maxwell, whose diary of "Eight Days in Hell" at the D.C. Jail filled 10 pages in the August Regardie's magazine, was back in court yesterday with the prospect of 90 days more.

It was his old nemesis again, he said: the Library of Congress. The charge this time was not unlawful entry, which put him behind bars in

April, but disorderly conduct. "It's a retaliatory arrest," he explained, "and a malicious prosecution."

Assistant Corporation Counsel Amy Schmidt-Banker told him she'd accept a \$25 fine if he entered a guilty plea, but Maxwell, 35, was having none of that. He would risk the 90-day maximum to clear his name, he said, and he would represent himself before the judge. It worked, sort of.

"He was rude, nasty, demanding,

a nuisance, but I'm not certain he was breaking any laws," D.C. Superior Court Hearing Commissioner John W. Treanor said in a ruling on Maxwell's actions at the library. "There's a constitutional right to be all of those things."

Quoting Rudyard Kipling and the Golden Rule, Treanor scolded Maxwell like a schoolboy—even made him shake hands with his arresting officer—before "granting" a motion for judgment of acquittal that the

defendant, who is not a lawyer, did not know he was supposed to make.

"I guarantee you it's going to happen again," D.C. police Officer Clyde A. Saunders was overheard to say angrily, just outside the hearing room. "I give him 30 days."

Maxwell's encounter with Saunders, the latest of many skirmishes with Library of Congress rules and staff, took place June 15 at the John Adams Building, 110 Second St. SE.

See MAXWELL, D5, Col. 1



FREDRIC ALAN MAXWELL
... 'It's a retaliatory arrest'

WEATHER

NATION'S CAPITAL TODAY: 80°/VARIABLE CLOUDS AND PLEASANT

WASHINGTON: Today, variable clouds and pleasant. High 80. Wind north 6-12 mph. Tonight, mostly clear and cool. Low 63. Wind north 4-8 mph.

VIRGINIA: Today, sunny and comfortable. High 76-80. Wind north 7-14 mph. Tonight, mostly clear and cool. Low 58-62. Wind north 4-8 mph.

MARYLAND: Today, partly to mostly sunny and cool. High 76-80. Wind north 7-14 mph. Tonight, clear and cool. Low 56-60. Wind north 4-8 mph.

3-5 DAY REGIONAL FORECAST: Thursday through Saturday: Thursday, increasing clouds. High 78-82. Low 62-66. Friday, variable clouds, more humid, chance of showers. High 80-84. Low 65-69.

6-10 DAY REGIONAL FORECAST: Sunday through Thursday: Temperatures and precipitation will average near normal. The normal high for the period is 87, the normal low 69.

RECREATIONAL FORECASTS

MOUNTAINS West Virginia and Maryland: Today, partly cloudy, cool. High 65-70. Wind north 8-16 mph. Tonight, becoming clear, cool. Low 45-50. Wind northeast 4-8 mph.

Virginia: Today, partly cloudy, cool. High 67-72. Wind north 8-16 mph. Tonight, mostly clear, cool. Low 47-52. Wind northeast 4-8 mph.

BEACHES Maryland and Delaware: Today, partly cloudy, less humid. High 75-80. Wind north 8-16 mph. Tonight, becoming clear, cool. Low 58-63. Wind north 4-8 mph.

Upper Potomac River: Today, partly cloudy. Wind north 8-16 knots. Lower Potomac and Chesapeake Bay: Today, partly cloudy. Wind north 8-16 knots. Waves 1-2 feet.

River Stages: The National Weather Service forecasts the Potomac River stage at Little Falls to be 3.5 feet today. River stages are nearly steady. Levels above 5 feet are considered hazardous for boating.

ADDITIONAL WEATHER INFORMATION:

Forecasts for the Washington area, 936-1212.

Long range regional forecasts, 899-3240.

Chesapeake Bay boating forecast, 899-3210.

Weather recordings, 899-3244.

Air quality index, 682-0677.

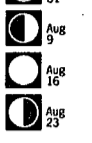
Smithsonian Institution star/planet information, 357-2000.

SOURCES: Accu-Weather; U.S. Naval Observatory; Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

SOLAR SYSTEM

Sun Rises 6:15 a.m. Sets 8:12 p.m. Moon Rises 1:03 p.m. Sets 11:13 p.m. Mercury Rises 7:59 a.m. Sets 9:05 p.m.

MOON PHASES



TODAY'S AREA FORECAST PARTLY SUNNY



WASHINGTON WEATHER DATA

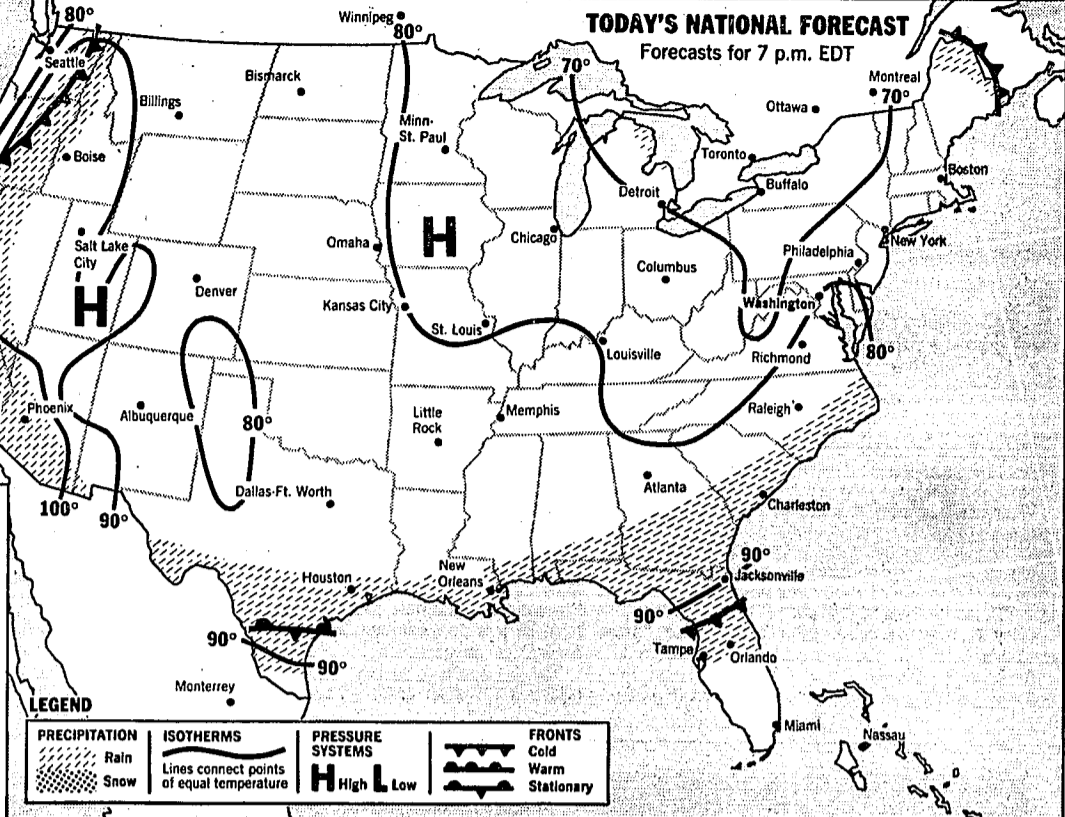
THROUGH 9 P.M. YESTERDAY

National Airport Temperature: High, 82° at 10:18 a.m. Low, 72° at 12:55 p.m. Record: 87°/70°

Dulles Airport High, 75° at 12:00 a.m. Low, 69° at 11:00 a.m.

Today's Tides Location High Low Washington 12:52 a.m. 7:58 a.m.

Cooling Degree Days: Monday, 12; this month, 112; this season, 1012; normal to yesterday, 921; last season, 1088



THE NATION AND THE WORLD

Yesterday's national high: 120° Death Valley, CA; low: 30° Martin, SD. Following are the high/low temperatures and weather forecasts for today and tomorrow, and yesterday's actual high/low temperatures and weather through 9 p.m. Eastern time.

United States Cities

Table listing weather forecasts for various US cities including Albany, Albuquerque, Anchorage, Asheville, Atlanta, Austin, Baltimore, Billings, Birmingham, Boise, Boston, Burlington, Buffalo, Charleston, SC, Charleston, WV, Charlotte, Cheyenne, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, OH, Dallas-Ft. Worth, Denver, Des Moines, Detroit, Duluth, Fairbanks, Hartford, Honolulu, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Kansas City, Knoxville, Las Vegas, Little Rock, Los Angeles, Louisville, Memphis, Miami, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Nashville, New Orleans, New York, Norfolk, Oklahoma City, Omaha, Orlando, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Pittsburgh, Portland, ME, Portland, OR, Providence, Raleigh, Richmond, Sacramento, St. Louis, Salt Lake City, San Diego, San Francisco, San Juan, Seattle, Spokane, Syracuse, Tampa, Tulsa, Wichita, etc.

Foreign Cities

Table listing weather forecasts for various foreign cities including Buenos Aires, Cairo, Calgary, Casablanca, Copenhagen, Dublin, Edinburgh, Geneva, Helsinki, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Lagos, Lima, Lisbon, London, Madrid, Manila, Mexico City, Montreal, Moscow, Nairobi, Panama City, Paris, Rio de Janeiro, Riyadh, Rome, Santiago, Seoul, Singapore, Stockholm, Sydney, Tokyo, Toronto, Vancouver, Vienna, Warsaw, Winnipeg, etc.

Bush Touts Leadership By Example

SCOUTS, From D1

"His words were very moving," said Chris Tarr, 16, of Zoar, Ohio. "I think there are people I could help—one or two of my friends [are] occasional users."

The scouts cheered when Bush mentioned a particular state or region. They clapped loudly when the president told them that a report last week indicated that drug use nationwide had declined by 40 percent.

Mike Bendorf, 17, of Omaha, said he liked the fact that Bush talked about his love for fishing. "It made him seem more human, not just a president," Bendorf said.

Scouts said they were pleased that Bush had joined them in saying the Pledge of Allegiance, but were disappointed that he did not try on the official jamboree jacket they gave him.

Bush's 15-minute speech crowned a morning gathering that included performances by the Army Ground Forces Rock Band and the jamboree's own band.

As they have at every occasion, the scouts leaped to their feet and began swaying when "God Bless the U.S.A." was played.

However, several scouts said they were less than impressed with a fireworks display that included falling parachutes with small U.S. flags attached.

"It stinks; you can't see nothing," said Brian Gokey, 13 of Clayton, N.Y. "It isn't worth wasting them." The large platform erected for the television cameras drew the ire of thousands of scouts who found their view of the president blocked. "Move the press," they chanted.

Many of the troops had begun marching from their campsites at 8:30 a.m. to arrive in time for Bush's 10:30 a.m. visit.

"I'm glad it's cooler today. If it had happened yesterday, they would have been carrying kids out on stretchers," said Andy Johnson, 14, of Watertown, N.Y.

The president also noticed the change in the weather, saying, "I want credit as the guy who brought the cool air down here."

Brookeville Woman Killed When Truck Hits Her Car

A 19-year-old Brookeville woman was killed yesterday when her car was hit by a tractor-trailer dump truck that had skidded out of control and crossed the center line, according to Montgomery County police.

Police said the truck, driven by Locksley A. Smith, 56, of Hyattsville, was traveling east on Route 198 at about 11:45 a.m. when it rounded a curve and came upon traffic stopped in his lane at the highway's intersection with Oursler Road.

Smith applied his brakes, began skidding, and crossed the center line, first striking a car driven by Cheryl Ann Pettus, 42, of Austin, Tex., police said. He also struck the rear of a tractor-trailer tank truck, and finally, collided head-on with a Pontiac Sunbird driven by Erika Lynn Powers, 19, of Brookeville.

Powers died at the scene, police said, and Smith and Pettus were taken to Montgomery General Hospital.

Smith was charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid collision and failure to drive to the right of center of the roadway, police said.

Youth Shot to Death in NE

An unidentified youth was shot to death early this morning in the 1700 block of Montana Terrace NE, police said.

Officers said the youth was shot once in the head at about 12:55 a.m. in a courtyard at the Montana Terrace housing project. Another youth turned himself in and said the shooting was accidental, police said.

Earlier yesterday, a secretary for the D.C. police department was found stabbed to death in her apartment in the 100 block of Galveston Street SW, and a man, who also had been stabbed, was charged with first-degree murder in the slaying, police sources said.

Cheryl Fantroy, 33, was found by police



Navy firefighter is put in ambulance after injuring ankle while fighting blaze near Navy Yard.

at 10:45 a.m., according to Officer Wyseola Smith, a police spokesman.

Bryant K. Cole, 36, who lived at a different address in the 100 block of Galveston Street, was arrested at the scene and charged with first-degree murder while armed, Smith said.

Police sources said the stabbing resulted from a domestic dispute. Cole was hospitalized for treatment of stab wounds, police said.

Md. Man Is Believed Drowned

An Eastern Shore man is missing after a boating accident in the Nanticoke River, Maryland Department of Natural Resources

Police said yesterday. Jay A. Wheatley, 40, of Bivalve, Md., apparently fell Sunday evening from a 30-foot workboat operated by James Leitch Jr., of Bivalve, while returning home from Mount Vernon, Md., police said.

Leitch has been charged with operating a boat while intoxicated, said DNR Capt. Wayne O. Bromwell.

Fire Near Navy Yard Injures 1

A two-alarm fire injured a Navy firefighter yesterday and damaged at least three floors of a five-story building on federal property next to the Washington Navy Yard. The blaze in building 197 on M Street SE broke out about 6 p.m. in an electrical trans-

former vault and was brought under control about an hour later, officials said.

A spokeswoman for the Naval District of Washington said the first floor of the building was used for dispatching Navy vehicles. She said she believed the other floors were unoccupied.

The Navy firefighter was taken to Capitol Hill Hospital with an ankle injury.

His name was not immediately released. No damage estimate was available.

Va. Woman Critically Injured

A pregnant Richmond woman was injured in a Sunday afternoon single-car accident on Interstate 95 in Prince William County, and was listed in critical condition yesterday at the Washington Hospital Center.

Cheryl M. Hawkins, 22, who is four months pregnant, suffered massive head injuries when the car she was driving flipped over just south of Route 619, Virginia State Police said.

Four passengers in the car also were injured, and three of them were listed in stable condition at Potomac Hospital yesterday. The fourth passenger was treated and released.

The accident occurred at 3:50 p.m., when the car went out of control as Hawkins apparently was trying to change lanes, heading north on the highway.

Police said Hawkins, who apparently was not wearing a seat belt, was partially thrown from the car.

Slain D.C. Man Is Identified

A man found shot to death early Sunday near Meridian Hill Park, also known as Malcolm X Park, was identified by D.C. police yesterday as Eddie L. Saunders of the 1300 block of Florida Avenue NW.

Saunders, who was found wounded in the face in the 2400 block of 15th Street NW, died after being brought to D.C. General Hospital.

From news services and staff reports

Local Corrections Officials Seek Alternatives to Incarceration

JAILS, From D1

come back. National drug policy director William J. Bennett has supported such an approach.

Acting D.C. Department of Corrections Director Walter B. Ridley announced for the first time that he is reviewing cost studies for such a

program in the District. Northern Virginia officials said they consider the creation of a regional boot camp serving five jurisdictions to be a prime goal.

The Senate last week passed an amendment, introduced by Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.), requiring the Defense Department to study

making land on military bases available for a medium-security jail for Northern Virginia inmates that would include space for a boot camp.

Corrections officials said yesterday they had decided to take the unusual step of a joint presentation because they felt political leaders and the public could no longer afford to ignore the situation.

Ten Washington jurisdictions—the District and Alexandria, plus Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun and Prince William counties in Virginia and Prince George's, Montgomery, Frederick and Charles counties in Maryland—have a total inmate pop-

ulation of 14,253—or 3,586 beds more than the facilities' capacities, according to a Council of Government report.

Both the District and Prince William County are under court-ordered population limits. Others, such as Arlington and Montgomery County, have twice as many inmates as their facilities were built to hold.

"Bunk beds in day rooms provide desperately needed bed space but afford little privacy," said Fairfax County Sheriff M. Wayne Huggins, "and force an escalation in tensions and, as a result, aggression."

THE LOTTERIES: August 7

Table with columns for District, Maryland, and Virginia, listing lottery numbers and jackpots.

Mike Causey is away. The Federal Diary will resume when he returns.

Advertisement for the DC Lottery, Lotto America, featuring a \$6.5 million jackpot and a 'Play Today' slogan.