

Art world talking Picasso, big prices

By CATHERINE CROCKER
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The art world is talking Picasso, thinking Picasso and dreaming Picasso, from his cubist still lifes to portraits of the women he loved.

A total of \$350 million worth of Impressionist and modern, as well as contemporary art is going on the block during the two-week round of fall sales at Christie's and Sotheby's.

"We have very, very good material coming up for sale this fall," said Franck Giraud, who runs Christie's Impressionist and modern painting department in New York.

Works by Pablo Picasso carry some of the highest price tags, and there are a lot of them on the block. Together, the two auction houses are selling 27 Picassos — with a total value of at least \$70 million — at their main evening sales of Impressionist and modern art on Tuesday and Wednesday.

The Picassos are expected to account for about a third of the sale totals.

The high quality of the art reflects the gradual upturn in the market since its collapse in fall 1990, as evidence by the dazzling price of \$29.2 million paid for a Picasso portrait last spring.

The Picasso highlight at Christie's is "The Mirror," from 1932, an abstract portrait in sensuously curving lines of the artist's mistress, Marie-Therese Walter. It's estimated at \$10 million to \$15 million.

The seller, reportedly Japanese collector Shigeki

Kameyama, bought it for \$26.4 million at Sotheby's in 1989.

A 1905 painting of a circus performer from Picasso's Rose Period is valued at \$10 million. Picasso's highly analytical cubist still life, "The Independent," from 1911, is estimated at \$5 million to \$7 million.

Christie's has not identified the seller of the still life — named for the newspaper depicted in it — but reportedly it was collected by Jacques Koerfer, a German businessman who lived in Switzerland.

At Sotheby's, the leading Picasso is "Seated Woman," from 1938, a harshly distorted portrait of Dora Maar, another one of the artist's mistresses. It's expected to sell for \$7 million to \$9 million.

A cubist still life from 1914 of a guitar, bottle of Bass, grapes, pipe, glass and newspaper is estimated at \$5 million to \$7 million.

Alexander Apsis, head of Sotheby's Impressionist and modern art, said the plethora of Picassos was a delightful coincidence. "Picasso is generally considered the most important artist of the 20th century," he noted.

Other highlights of the Impressionist and modern sales include a Henri Matisse cutout, from 1951, estimated at \$7 million to \$10 million, and a 1916 portrait by Amedeo Modigliani, estimated at \$6 million to \$8 million, both at Christie's.

At Sotheby's, "Thicket," a forest landscape painted by Vin-



Pablo Picasso's "Le Mirror," an oil on canvas work dated March 12, 1932, will be on the auction block in New York during Christie's annual fall art sale, which begins Tuesday.

AP Photo

cent van Gogh in July 1890, the month he died, was estimated at about \$10 million. It is from the estate of Joseph Hazen, a New York philanthropist, lawyer and film producer.

The quality of the contemporary art for sale also is better than it has been in five years.

At Christie's, the highlight is

Jackson Pollock's "No. 1, 1952," a drip painting from the collection of Frank Stanton, former president of CBS. It is estimated at \$4 million to \$6 million.

Roy Lichtenstein's cartoonlike "Emeralds," from 1961, estimated at \$2 million to \$3 million, is the most expensive work at Sotheby's.

Cuts a threat to NY teaching hospitals

By RONALD POWERS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress' health-care overhaul could threaten New York's teaching hospitals, the training centers for many of the nation's doctors and the main care providers for many of New York's poorest neighborhoods, educators and health-care administrators warn.

Plans to cut medical education payments, slash funding for resident physicians who are not U.S. citizens and reduce payments for looking after the nation's most needy would strike especially hard in a state where many hospitals depend on Medicare and Medicaid for more than 75 percent of their income.

"The budget cuts are hitting virtually every area that supports us," said Dr. John Naughton, dean of the medical school at the State University of New York at Buffalo and incoming chairman of the New York State Council on Graduate Medical Education. "Medical schools and teaching hospitals are threatened by a potential large loss of revenues."

According to Ken Raske, head of the Greater New York Hospital Association, the Republican's proposed Medicare and Medicaid changes could cost hospitals in New York City \$12 billion over seven years. For the state, the

reductions could total \$20 billion. "It's not clear at all how hospitals will function with those kinds of cutbacks and still deliver the same kinds of services they're delivering now," said Raske.

In a letter sent to the White House on Thursday, New York Democrats urged President Clinton to make good on his threat to veto the legislation.

"The bottom line is that, if enacted as currently proposed, New York state with 7 percent of the nation's population would absorb 11 percent of the cuts in Medicare and Medicaid," the lawmakers wrote.

The cuts will impact virtually all hospitals, not just teaching hospitals. But educators say the changes will shape the way physicians are trained and how student doctors care for their patients.

Medicare, the \$178 billion health program for the elderly, is also the nation's largest underwriter of medical education, providing hospitals with about \$150,000 a year for every new doctor trained. Student physicians also receive federal money for serving the poor and uninsured.

New York is particularly vulnerable because it has such a large population of poor people turning to it for health care.

NEW YORK ROUNDUP

Officer shot in Brooklyn gunfight

NEW YORK (AP) — A police officer was wounded in a Brooklyn gunfight that left another man seriously wounded Saturday afternoon, police said. The unidentified officer was shot in the right leg during the shootout at West 9th Street and Hicks Street around 4:15 p.m., said Officer Robert Samuel, a police spokesman. The wounded cop was conscious and alert when he arrived at Bellevue Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition. The second wounded man was taken to Long Island College Hospital in serious condition, Samuel said. Police had no information on how the shooting started, or whether the officer was responding to a call, Samuel said. "We just don't know yet," Samuel said. Two other officers at the scene were hospitalized for treatment of trauma. One was taken to Long Island College Hospital, and the other to Methodist Hospital, Samuel said.

Loggers charged in theft of state's trees

BALLSTON SPA, N.Y. (AP) — Two men could face up to 15 years in prison on charges they cut down more than 2,000 trees in the Adirondack Park. John Barber, 48, of Corinth, and his son, John Barber Jr., 25, of Clemons in Washington County, pleaded innocent to second- and third-degree grand larceny charges at their arraignments Friday morning in Saratoga County Court. They're accused of taking 2,049 trees from state land within the Adirondack Park in the town of Corinth between November 1989 and February 1991. The wood was sold for about \$180,000, according to the state Attorney General's Office.

Black couple claims racial bias in suit

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — When an elderly couple refused to rent a house to Mortier Haskins, the University of Albany professor said he saw what was going on — in black and white. Haskins and his wife Margaret Burnett told an all-white jury Friday they were turned down because they are black. The couple is suing Telda and Yvo Venturi claiming the Latham couple violated their civil rights and the federal Fair Housing Act. The Venturis say it was the size of the house — not the couple's skin color — that led to their decision. The Venturis say the house was too small for the couple and their three children. Burnett said she called Telda Venturi in response to a classified advertisement. After a phone conversation Burnett described as friendly, the couple made an appointment to look at the home.

Bishops issue manifesto for '96 vote

By DAVID BRIGGS
AP Religion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Leaders of the nation's largest church declared their independence Saturday in the 1996 presidential elections, welcoming allies in their fight against abortion but challenging conservatives on welfare reform, capital punishment and immigration.

U.S. Catholic bishops, whose flocks have been courted in recent months by the Catholic Alliance, an offshoot of the conservative Christian Coalition, declared they are un beholden to any political party or interest group.

"We stand with the unborn and the undocumented when many politicians seem to be abandoning them. We defend children in the womb and on welfare. We oppose the violence of abortion and the vengeance of capital punishment. We oppose assault weapons in our streets and condoms in our schools," the bishops said in their quadrennial statement on political responsibility, released a year before the 1996 vote.

"Political Responsibility: Proclaiming the Gospel of Life, Protecting the Least Among Us, and Pursuing the Common Good" was approved by the 50-member Administrative Board of the United States Catholic Conference. The bishops have issued a statement on religion and politics before every presidential election since the mid-'70s.

The Catholic vote is considered particularly important in next year's election. Political observers say white Catholics, who have crossed over party lines to vote for Republican presidents but remained supportive of Democratic congressional candidates, have been a key constituency in maintaining split-party government in the United States.

In 1994, for the first time in more than a century and a half, a majority of white Catholics voted for a Republican Congress.

In 1996, Republicans can likely count on receiving a majority of white Protestant voters, and Democrats will likely win support again from

black, Jewish and secular constituencies, political analysts say.

That leaves white Catholics. "Whichever way they flow, to some extent, determines the election," said Alan Hertzke, a political science professor at the University of Oklahoma and the author of "Representing God in Washington." "They are the quintessential swing voters."

John Green, a professor at the University of Akron and a leading analyst of religious voting patterns, said Democrats need the white Catholic vote in '96.

"If I were advising the Clinton White House, which I'm not, I'd say you guys need to pay attention to the Catholic vote. ... You really need that because you're going to have real trouble with white Protestants," Green said.

In their statement, the bishops said the church's role is not to endorse candidates, but to analyze issues for their social and moral dimensions and to participate in public policy

debates.

At the local level, the bishops encourage churches to promote voter registration, nonpartisan candidate forums and questionnaires on issues from abortion to peace.

"The challenge for our church is to be principled without being ideological, to be political without being partisan, to be civil without being soft, to be involved without being used," the bishops said.

In setting out their agenda, the bishops distance themselves from both parties.

For example, the bishops said they would work with a variety of groups to defend the poor and seek greater economic justice, but would stand apart on the issue of abortion, which church leaders called the fundamental human rights issue facing the nation.

"We ask some of those who claim to stand for the weak why they protect the eggs of endangered species, but fail to defend the lives of unborn children," they said.

mirage

The prefinished floor that sets all QUALITY standards.

BIRCH PLANK

Now **\$3.79**
Just **\$3.79** Sq.Ft.

- 4 North-Eastern Species: Red Oak, Maple, Yellow Birch, White Ash
- 12 Color Choices
- 2 Widths & 2 Types of Finishes

**NO PAYMENTS!
NO INTEREST!
FOR 90 DAYS!**

Use GSC'S
BUILD IT CARD

Ask For Details

GREGORY BUILDING SUPPLY CENTER

Tom Miller Road
Plattsburgh
561-2691

True Value
Help Is Just Around The Corner.

Mon-Fri 7AM-6PM
Sat 8AM-5PM
Sunday 9AM-3PM

Personal Loans

Evergreen Bank is having a great personal Loan Sale and you can get the loan of a lifetime. We've set aside \$5 million to lend right now.

You can borrow any amount up to \$30,000 for up to 36 months, at a fixed rate. So come to Evergreen Bank or call 1-800-836-0853 and get your loan at our unbelievably low rate. Other rates and terms are available too.

FIXED RATE

9.99% APR

Example: Pay off department store balances of \$2,000, a car loan of \$1,000 and get \$2,000 new money. Loan amount: \$5,000 • Term: 36 months. Fixed Rate: 9.99% APR • Monthly Payment: \$161.29. No more than 35% of your loan may be used to repay existing Evergreen loans. Offer may be withdrawn at any time, and available to individuals only. No other discounts apply.

Evergreen BANK

A good bank. A good neighbor.

EVERGREEN BANK, N.A.
Plattsburgh Region 563-1700. Offices: 714 Rte. 3, Plattsburgh; 136 Margaret St., Plattsburgh; 1744 Rte. 22, Keeseville; 2990 Main St., Peru; 9679 Rte. 9, Chazy

PRESS-REPUBLICAN
PLATTSBURGH, N.Y.

Pov
test
GO
vial

MARCH
AP Polit

ALBAN
Colin Pow
House, it
"Rockefel
be viable,
tional sta
home state
It woul
Alfonse I
over New"
That c
reason w
Mayor Ru
up to t
diacy. T
has all b
the presid
Last we
national
Powell to
would be
Rudy W
commissi
vices, sai
the Powe
months a
New Yo
Giuliani's
Raymo
the state
key Giul
has said
ding, not
pert on M
access la
City Coll
The J
ascendar
Pataki f
senator f
left DA
the st
kingmak
the dea
become
con s e
"Rockefe
very sta
Rockefel
DAM:
Chairm
forma
pragma
they ha
the bott
was Gi
moderat
out of fa
political
year b
Mario
against
Mont
Pataki
Republi
lined up
Leader
candid
organiz
with th
laws, a
lock on
conven
But
sibility
genera
rights,
some g
might
While
sporter
reinvig
For
declin
dumps
then-P
conser
1976,
Powell
Mal
that F
as the
Dole v
two c
Rocke
The
conne
The
autob
was s
speed
exper
presk
Als
in fe
seeki
Powe
Dole
beir
Rock
gov
Rocl
chall
Sens
thwa
laws.
Or
Pow
enou
any
York