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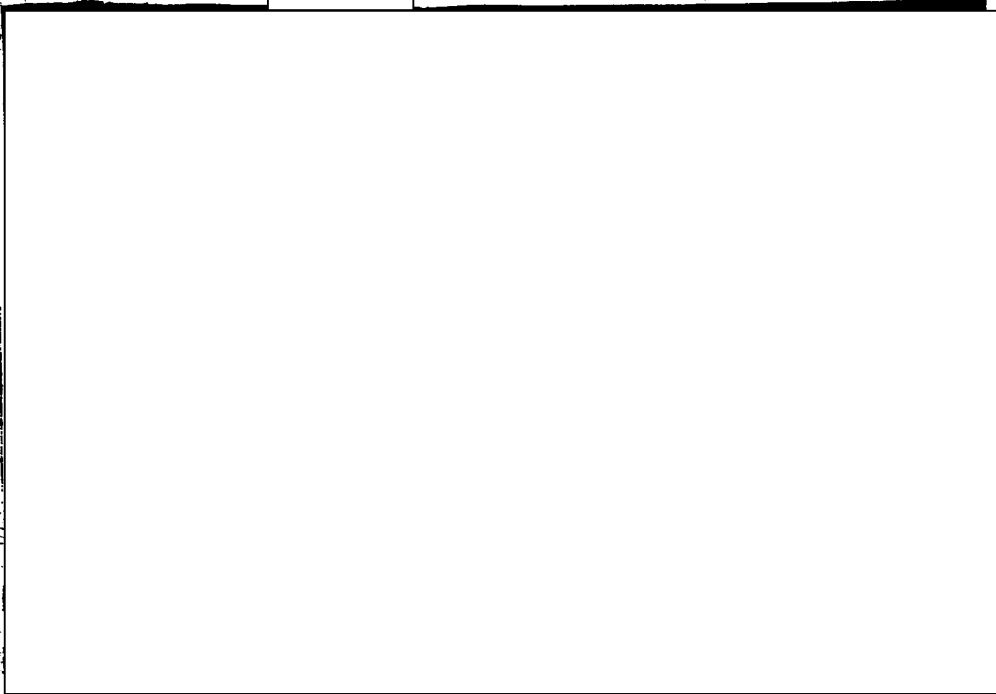
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SOUTH KOREA: Presidential Politics

The political atmosphere in Seoul is heating up as the undeclared race gets under way for next year's presidential election.



The leader of the opposition New Democratic Party, Kim Yong-sam, and party founder Kim Tae-chung both aspire to the presidency, and their rivalry already has led to clashes between their supporters. Kim Yong-sam's strength lies in his control of the party machinery, while Kim Tae-chung has greater popular appeal and grass-roots support.



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