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Manchester Herald

Manchester A City of Village Charm

Monday, Jan. 4, 1988

30 Cents

Two killed in separate weekend car crashes

By Andrew Yurkovsky
Manchester Herald

Two Manchester residents were killed in unrelated automobile accidents over the weekend, police said.
Jeffrey F. Shrider, 26, of 60 Tonica Spring Trail, was killed as a result of an accident on Highland Street at about 10:20 p.m. Sunday. His car went off the road and struck a parked car at 277 Highland St., police said.
Shrider was the only occupant of the car. No details were available

on the accident, which police said is under investigation. It does not appear to have been weather-related, as snow began falling in the area about an hour after the accident.
Another accident, in which a car smashed into a utility pole on the ring road at the J.C. Penney complex in Buckland on Saturday night, left one passenger dead and another seriously injured, officials said.
Kenneth R. Snow, 18, of 45C Sycamore St., was pronounced dead at the scene by the state

medical examiner, said Thomas R. O'Marra, spokesman for the fire department of the Eighth Utilities District. Snow, who was sitting in the right front seat, was wearing a seat belt, police said.
Rescue officials spent about an hour and a half working to extricate the second passenger, Mark Nuccio, 16, of Vernon, from the back seat of the car with the Hurst rescue tool, O'Marra said. Nuccio was taken to St. Francis Hospital in Hartford by LifeStar helicopter and was listed in stable condition this morning, a hospital spokesman

said.
Stable condition means a patient's vital signs are stable, and that he or she is responding to treatment and is not in a life-threatening situation, according to hospital officials.
The accident occurred at about 10 p.m.
The driver of the car, Arthur J. Swanson Jr., 16, of Vernon, was treated for facial scratches and released, a hospital spokeswoman said.
Police had no information on whether Nuccio and Swanson were

wearing seat belts. No charges have been filed in the incident, which police said is under investigation.
O'Marra said that the utility pole was lodged between the front and rear seats of the car, a 1981 Plymouth Sapporo.
Elsewhere in Connecticut, two men were killed in Winsted a motor-vehicle accident over the long holiday weekend, The Associated Press reported.
Michael O'Dell, 19, of Colebrook and Michael Torlai, 24, of Torrington

were both killed early Sunday when Torlai lost control of his pickup truck as it rounded a curve on Smith Hill Road in Winsted, police said. Torlai was apparently speeding, leading to the 1:21 a.m. crash, police said.
There were no fatal accidents on state highways over the long weekend, state police said today.
State troopers, however, investigated 169 accidents and handed out 1,504 tickets. Among the arrests made, were 988 for speeding and 54 for drunken driving.

Snow cancels classes; cold weather due

By Andrew J. Davis
Manchester Herald

School children received an extra day of vacation today as the first major storm of 1988 dumped about 5 inches of snow on the area.
Schools in Manchester, Bolton, Coventry, Andover and Hebron joined a host of schools throughout the state which closed for the day. Students were supposed to return to classes today after an eight-day holiday recess.
Students at Manchester Community College were not as lucky as the college remained open today.
Between 4 and 6 inches had fallen in the Manchester area by 7:30 a.m., according to the National Weather Service at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks.
No additional snow is expected tonight or Tuesday, the weather service reported. But Tuesday's highs are only expected to be in the 20s.
With today's snow, about 20 inches has fallen in the area this season.
At mid-morning, no weather-related accidents has been reported in Manchester, according to Gary J. Wood, police department spokesman.
The Manchester Highway Department sent out 35 trucks to combat the snow, said Lee O'Conner, acting highway superintendent. He said workers began plowing streets about midnight. "We have all the routes covered," O'Conner said. Workers should be on duty sanding streets until about 6 p.m. today.
Garages also were busy during the snowfall.
Debbie Jensen, dispatcher at Charlie's Towing and Road Service on Tolland Turnpike, said this morning was one of the busiest of the season. She said the company had handled between 15 to 20 calls this morning, mostly from stalled motorists.
David Anderson, owner of Anderson Bros. of Main Street, said three of his four trucks were on the road this morning. He said his shop, which opened at 4 a.m., had helped about 25 people at mid-morning.
But Anderson said this morning was not the busiest of the season. A snowfall on Dec. 29, which dumped between 4 to 6 inches on Manchester, was busier than this morning, he said.
The Connecticut Department of Transportation has released three telephone numbers which residents may call to receive snow removal and road condition information. The telephones will be answered 24 hours a day, while storms are in progress and during clean-up operations.
The statewide toll-free number is 800-443-6817. In the Hartford area, residents can also call 566-4880 or 566-4881.



Reginald Pinto/Manchester Herald

Good neighbor

Sonny Parlin, of 146 South Main Street, demonstrates what a good neighbor does as he clears snow from his neighbor's sidewalk

this morning. The first snowstorm of 1988 dumped 4 to 6 inches in the Manchester area.

It's slow going across Connecticut

By The Associated Press

Up to 7 inches of snow greeted commuters today, making driving slippery, closing schools or delaying starts of classes, and bringing parking bans to several cities across Connecticut.
Traffic on the highways was moderate, with slow going reported through New Haven on Interstate 91 and Hartford on interstates 84 and 91. But the state Department of Transportation reported no major tie-ups and state police said no major accidents resulted from the first storm of 1988 and second of the winter season.
"The roads are in pretty good shape," said Irene Catania, a storm monitor for the DOT in Hartford. "There's a light coating on the interstates and a little more on side roads, but no major problems."

Catania said all 630 state plow trucks and 215 contracted plows were mobilized overnight.
The National Weather Service in Windsor Locks posted a snow advisory early today, reporting heaviest accumulations of 7 inches in Greenwich, 4 inches to 6 inches across central Connecticut and 1 1/4 inches in North Canaan in the northwest hills.
Snow began in Connecticut before midnight and continued into the rush hour. At 7 a.m., the storm was located well to the southeast of Cape Cod and was moving rapidly to the northeast, where it was expected to intensify.
The weather service said the snow would taper off from west to east and end for most of the state by midday. Motorists were urged to allow extra time to reach their destinations.
The forecast called for partly cloudy,

windy and cold conditions tonight with lows 10 to 20 degrees. Tuesday, the forecast was for partly sunny skies, windy and cold with highs 15 to 25.
Runways were kept open at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks and there were no flight delays, an airport official said.
"The timing of the storm was such that it made it convenient for snow removal and therefore we did not close," said William F. Palmer, airport operations manager.
Parking bans were in force in New Britain, Hartford, New Haven and Bridgeport, police said.
Northeast Utilities reported that about 1,125 customers in Oxford and Seymour lost power about 1:50 a.m. It wasn't clear whether the outage was a result of the storm.

Shelter use on increase

By Andrew Yurkovsky
Manchester Herald

The number of people using the Samaritan Shelter on Main Street each year is on the rise, a trend that could be a result of the lack of affordable housing in Manchester, the shelter's director says.
The increase has occurred despite the fact that the average number of users on any given day has remained about the same. In just the last six months of the present fiscal year, between July 1 and now, the shelter has served 302 people, or about 60 percent of the total for the last fiscal year, according to shelter director Pat Burt.

During the last fiscal year, between July 1, 1986, to June 30, 1987, 504 different individuals stayed at the shelter one night or more. For the year from September 1985 to September 1986, the number was 350, and for the same period in 1984 to 85, there were 199 repeat clients.

"This says that there are more people this year in need of emergency shelter," Burt said during an interview last week. She said there is a need for more affordable housing in town, including low-cost rooms in rooming houses.
"Housing is a problem," Burt added. "I can't give you figures... There are quite a few people (who use the shelter) who work, but they're not making enough to get a room."

The shelter has a maximum capacity of 40, but the limit has never been reached.
While the total number of clients is on the rise, the average number of daily users has remained around the mid-teens. From September 1984 to September 1985, the average was 16.5, and for the same period in 1985 to 1986, the average was 14.2. For fiscal year 1986-87, the average was 16.4.
In 1986, the shelter moved to a fiscal calendar for its record keeping in order to be consistent with the town's calendar.
On a happier note, Burt said that the average number of users in November of the past year declined to 15.8 from 17.6 in November of the previous year. She attributed the drop to the fact that the shelter's case worker found 10 clients rooms or small apartments.

The shelter, located at 466 Main Street, has been in its present form for a little more than a year. Run by the Manchester Area Conference of Churches, the shelter receives some funding from the town, but the bulk is provided by private contributions and grants from the federal Department of Human Resources.
Burt said that the majority of people using the shelter are Manchester residents or people who have some kind connection to the town. While the shelter does accommodate out-of-towners, it tries to limit their stays to under five days, she said.
Burt said the shelter houses about 20 persons per night during the winter months. Use drops during the summer to about 13 persons per night. The low this past summer was five.

Troops disperse Arab protesters

By Jocelyn Noveck
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — A rash of small-scale protests broke out in the occupied Gaza Strip and West Bank today after an Israeli soldier killed an Arab woman and the army said it would deport nine Palestinian activists.
No injuries were reported.
Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, speaking on Israel Radio, said the Israeli army sought to avoid casualties and described the shooting on Sunday as a "regretful incident."
"Everybody knows how much we want to avoid, as much as possible, loss of lives. We're not interested in

dead or injured people, neither Arabs nor Jews. The army is doing its utmost and shows maximum restraint," Shamir said.
Israeli troops used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse demonstrators today in the West Bank town of Ram, where 25-year-old Haniya Suleiman was shot dead Sunday by an Israeli soldier as she was hanging laundry.
She became the 23rd Arab killed by army gunfire since a wave of violence began last month.
The army said a curfew was re-imposed on the Tulkarem refugee camp in the West Bank, restricting the 10,000 residents to their homes. Arab reports said demonstrators threw stones,

burned tires and blocked the main road.
The deportation orders announced Sunday were part of a dramatic Israeli crackdown to end the recent wave of rioting. They came in defiance of warnings from the United States and Egypt that such actions would only provoke more unrest.
Israeli television reported that senior Reagan administration officials in Washington said they were angered by the decision. The unidentified officials said deportations violated international law and would heighten tensions in the territories, which Israel captured from Egypt and Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war.

Israeli officials said the expulsions were used only against the most extreme agitators.
"Some are the chief organizers and instigators of the recent violence and public disturbances in the territories," said Lt. Col. Ranaan Gissin, who read an army statement to reporters.
The army declined comment on where deportees would be sent, but observers have speculated they would be sent to Lebanon.
In Kuwait, PLO chief Yasser Arafat said he received assurances from Egypt, Jordan and Lebanon that they would not accept deportees.

TODAY

Bigger gulf role?

U.S. Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci begins a tour of the Persian Gulf today as the Pentagon denies reports that his trip signals a bigger U.S. role in the waterway wracked by the Iran-Iraq war. Story on page 10.

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Baby begins 'special' year

Jeanne Mullaney of Mansfield rang in the new year in a very special way. While many people spent the first day of the new year recovering from parties the night before, Mullaney gave birth to her daughter, Samantha. Samantha was the first baby born at Manchester Memorial Hospital in 1988, said Avery, assistant director of public relations at MMH.

Samantha, who weighed nine pounds and measured 22 inches, was born at 2:48 a.m. to Mullaney and her husband, Dennis, Avery said. The Mullaney live at 102 Mansfield City Road in Mansfield. There were four other babies born in the hospital that day, but the Mullaney had no competition. Avery said the next baby born at MMH on Jan. 1 was born three hours after Samantha, Avery said.

Births

Conners, Paige Amber, daughter of Jeffrey L. and Allison Claing Conners of 76 Lenox St. was born Dec. 16 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Her maternal grandmother is Bernice Claing of 46 1/2 Summer St. Her paternal grandparents are Robert and Beverly Connon of East Hartford. She has a sister, Kyle Sheree.

Lynch Drive was born Dec. 14 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. His maternal grandparents are John and Inez Babineau of 29 Lynch Drive. His paternal grandmother is Alice Lewis of Colchester.

Woolster, Jeffrey Matthew, son of Alan D. and Marianna Hickey Woolster of 76 Jennifer Drive, Hebron, was born Dec. 19 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. His maternal grandparents are John and Wanda Hickey of 21 Sherwood Circle. His paternal grandmother is Shirley Woolster of Penfield, N.Y.

Williams, Justin Nolan, son of Edward and Lorna Messer Williams of 335 Stonehouse Road, Coventry, was born Dec. 20 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. His maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Charles Messer, 99 Stonehouse Road, Coventry. His paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Williams, Willimantic. Noble, Tallison Ward Jr., son of Tallison W. and Kellie White Noble

Cheney renovation contract due

A contract for interior renovations to historic Cheney Hall could be signed this week, an official says. The building committee of the Cheney Hall Foundation accepted the low bid for the work from Andrew Anasdi Co. of Manchester at an emergency meeting last Wednesday. Anasdi bid \$6,800 for the work.

Donald Kuehl, chairman of the building committee, said the Little Theatre of Manchester, which will manage the hall once it is reopened, and the building committee will sign a contract with Anasdi this week. "I would hope the work would begin this week," Kuehl said. "The sooner we have to do it, the better something going."

Cole, Jonathan Edward, son of Albert R. and Laurie Smith Cole II of 71 Fairfield St. was born Dec. 14 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. His maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Phillip R. Smith of Germany. His paternal grandparents are Margaret B. and Donald W. Martin of 124 Maple St. He has a brother, Albert R. III, 14 months.

Ruitto, Jaime Ellen, daughter of James and Hilary Ous Ruitto of 28 Main St., Hebron, was born Dec. 19 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Her maternal grandparents are Marge Ruitto and Angelo Ruitto of East Hartford. She has a brother, Josh, 5 and a sister, Chelsea, 2.

Complex cost \$5.7 million

The 103-unit Maryland Court apartment complex at 40 Olcott St. was sold last week for \$5,750,000. The complex was sold by Olcott Associates Limited Partnership of Manchester to New England Residential Properties of Boston last Wednesday, according to records filed with the town clerk.

Stanley M. Falkenstein, representing the seller and James H. Lloyd III of Uplike, Kelly J. Spelacy, representing the buyer, filed the sale with the town clerk.



CONNECTICUT WEATHER

Central, Eastern Interior, Southwest Interior: Snow accumulating 3 to 5 inches. Partial clearing this afternoon. High 30 to 35. Winds becoming northwest 10 to 15 mph. Partly cloudy, windy and cold tonight. Low 10 to 15. West winds 15 to 25 mph. Partly sunny, windy and cold Tuesday. High around 20.

Weather Almanac

January 3, 1988
Snow and freezing rain fell in the Northwest, accumulating to a U.S. record 8 inches of ice in Idaho's northern panhandle.



Ronald Brown and Robert Mason, employees of Olsen Tree Experts, trim and repair a honeylocust tree in front of the Cheney Homestead at 106 Hartford Road. The tree is one of four in town the Connecticut Botanical Society says are notable because they are the largest in the state of their kind.

Town trees are 'noticed' by state notable trees committee

Four "notable trees" in Manchester have been cited by the Connecticut Botanical Society for their historical significance. The trees are located in the Cheney Homestead at 106 Hartford Road. All have been entered in the botanical society's registry of notable trees by the society's Notable Trees Committee.

l-84 ramps to be closed

The exit ramp from eastbound Interstate 84 to High Street in Hartford will be closed after rush hour Tuesday until July, the state Department of Transportation has announced. At the same time, the on-ramp from High Street to westbound I-84 will be closed.

Golden Anniversary

Celebrate 50 Years of Barbershopping with The Manchester Silk City Chorus January 16th. Featuring These Outstanding Quartets... Second Edition S.P.E.B.S.Q.S.A. 1987 Silver Medalists. Manchester High School All Seats Unreserved. Evening Performance: 8 p.m. - \$8. Matinee Performance: 2 p.m. - \$7. Seniors and Juniors \$5 at 2 p.m. Only. Tickets: Pete Taylor, 1266 Highland St., Manchester, CT 06040 (203) 649-6607.

Consultant reports Route 6 construction is unnecessary

A traffic analyst hired by opponents of the proposed Route 6 expressway between Bolton Notch and Winstham has released a report that says proves that rebuilding the entire road is unnecessary. Robert L. Morris Inc., a consultant in transportation planning and traffic engineering based in Bethesda, Md., says in the report that projections for the year 2005 show that only one of the five sections of Route 6 slated for reconstruction will require work. Morris, hired by the Eastern Connecticut Citizens Action Group, said that projected traffic volumes for Route 6 indicate that the existing road will be able to accommodate traffic until 2005, with the addition of some passing lanes in certain areas.

Wetlands decision on agenda

The Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled tonight to vote on subdivisions and wetlands permits for the second and third phases of a 22-lot subdivision off Vernon Street. The commission also is slated to vote on a special exception permit and overall site plan for the Yarn Mill conversion, after retail space on the plans was reduced to eliminate a parking shortage. On the wetlands issue, the PZC will discuss an application from developer Fairley Associates for phases II and III of the Boxwood Estates subdivision, which cover 87 acres of the total 140-acre site. Plans for Phase II show about 67 lots on 29 acres and a proposed second access road to the parcel. Phase III plans show 80 lots on 59 acres.

Junior night is Wednesday

Manchester High School Guidance Department will sponsor a program for juniors and their parents at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the school auditorium. A panel of educators from the high school, Trinity College, Hartford, University of Connecticut, Storrs; Manchester Community College; and Ward Technical College, West Hartford, will discuss future educational planning. Questions will be answered following the panel.

Snow, rain hit coasts; cold snap in Midwest

A double whammy of rain and snow hit both coasts today, while cold temperatures, strong gusty winds and snow showers thrusted across the upper Great Lakes. Rain reached from northeast Florida across parts of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina and southern Maryland and Delaware. Freezing rain extended from central North Carolina across eastern Virginia and northern Maryland. Snow fell from western North Carolina across the remainder of the Virginias, Ohio, southern Pennsylvania and New Jersey into southern New England.

Warnings through Tuesday were posted for very low wind chill temperatures as well as blowing and drifting snow across northern upper Michigan and northwest lower Michigan. Advisories were posted through tonight in North Dakota and the northern third of Minnesota. Wind chills at midnight included 76 degrees below zero at Minot, N.D.; 64 below zero at Williston, N.D.; 59 below zero at International Falls, Minn., and 51 below zero at Grand Forks, N.D. Warnings for heavy snow this morning were posted in the northern Sierra Nevada of California and the mountains in the Lake Tahoe area of western Nevada.

"THE ORIGINAL" 2 for 1 PLUS A DOLLAR CASH SALE. STARTS WEDNESDAY JAN. 6 at 8 a.m. REGAL'S WILL BE CLOSED Mon., Jan. 4 & Tues., Jan. 5 -to prepare for this event! REGAL'S AND BIG & TALL MEN'S SHOP. 903 MAIN ST., DOWNTOWN MANCHESTER.

JAN 4

1988

OPINION

Figuring work of Congress

How much can the U.S. House or Senate accomplish in 169 or 170 days?

According to the final tally of legislative business completed by the 100th Congress between Jan. 6 and Dec. 22, 1987, the House was in session 169 days — for a total of 909 hours and 57 minutes — while the Senate conducted business for 1,217 hours and 16 minutes on 170 days.

A total of 197 public bills were enacted into law — 93 from the Senate and 104 from the House — and three private bills were enacted — two from the Senate and one from the House.

In all, Congress passed 1,260 pieces of legislation — 644 in the House and 616 in the Senate. Fifty-six special reports were made in the House and 28 in the Senate.

Those numbers may seem to indicate a lot of progress, but not when other statistics are considered.

There were 7,532 pieces of legislation introduced in both houses during the year — 4,847 in the House and 2,685 in the Senate. Of the total, 5,828 were actual bills and the rest were joint, concurrent and simple resolutions.

But there was other business. During the year, Congress also received 51,929 executive nominations — both civilian and military — and confirmed 46,404 of them. A total of 5,494 were unconfirmed, 10 were withdrawn and 29 were returned. Just one — that of Supreme Court nominee Robert Bork — was rejected.

When members of Congress adjourned for the holidays, 20 measures were pending on the House calendar and 76 were left on the Senate schedule.

PLEASE, LADY, CAN'T WE JUST TALK ABOUT THE ISSUES?



SURELY, YOUR PLACE, OR MINE?



'My brother's jailers are reasonable'

AIKEN, S.C. — Ellen Pattsis has more than ample reason to loathe the enigmatic government of Iran. The sylotallah in charge of that country arrested her brother some months ago on a charge of spying, then they found him guilty at a one-dimensional trial and sentenced him to 10 years in prison.

Yet Miss Pattsis says she has no resentments. On the contrary, she claims to have developed a fond respect for the Islamic theocracy. She does not believe her brother is a spy, and she would like to have the case reconsidered, but at the same time she has little save praise for Iran and its leaders.

She says the officers there have been kind and considerate. She believes they have tried to be "as reasonable as possible" in the ordeal. She says the Iranian ambassador to the United Nations has been "particularly gracious," and has gone out of his way to offer comfort and cooperation.

The ambassador recently made arrangements for Miss Pattsis to visit her brother, for one thing. She spent 10 days in Iran in early December. She says the trip was a therapeutic odyssey, and, what's more, she thinks it was an indication that "the Iranian government wants to do what is right."

Ironically, Miss Pattsis can't say the same thing about her own government. She feels her treatment in Washington has been a sharp contrast with her treatment in Tehran. She says U.S. authorities have been cool and aloof, not to mention unkind, ever since her brother got into the predicament.

The predicament began in 1986. John Pattsis was working as an engineer for an American company hired to build a communications satellite in Iran. He was an old hand in the country and had not been in trouble before. But the Iranians suddenly decided he was passing official secrets to the CIA. Naturally, Ellen Pattsis was stunned. And she



Washington Wire

The tough get going

By Jonathan Wolman

WASHINGTON — An 1988 arrived in Cedar Rapids, Mason City and Des Moines, Iowa, a new adage was being coined: When the tough get going, the tough get going — to New Hampshire.

This describes the midwinter campaign strategies of Gary Hart, Alexander M. Haig Jr. and the mysterious Albert Gore Jr. These three tough guys are looking for a fight but they aren't interested in doing it on the playground with everybody watching.

The Iowa precinct caucuses are the first serious stop on the road to the 1988 presidential nominations and 10 of the 13 candidates are focusing much of their time and energy on the Feb. 8 event.

But after Hart renewed his campaign vows in New Hampshire last month, he went first to Maine and then flew past Iowa to South Dakota, leading some to suggest that he'd lost his political compass.

In fact, the former Colorado senator was merely flying past a caucus state to get to a primary state.

In New Hampshire, anyone can vote and they often do it with an ideological flair. By contrast, the Iowa caucuses are dominated by party activists, and there is a theory that they may be slow to forgive Hart his sins and his judgment on the Monkey Business.

Haig's strategy has different roots. So far as we know, the former secretary of state hasn't sinned. His problem is that he's too intense for Iowa; he hasn't gone anywhere in the polls and he's wasting his time trying. While the Democratic race seems wide open, Republicans already are choosing sides between Vice President George Bush and Sen. Bob Dole of Kansas. Pat Robert-

son is hoping for an upset. There doesn't seem to be much room in Iowa for Haig — or for New York Rep. Jack Kemp or former Delaware Gov. Pete du Pont, for that matter. In contrast to Haig, who sent his three Iowa staff members packing last week, du Pont and Kemp are still active, hoping for a boost from the crucial round of pre-Iowa debates.

On Feb. 16 comes New Hampshire, where the contest will be decided by the caucus. The caucus will give Kemp, du Pont and Haig their first (and maybe last) serious opportunity.

Among the Democrats, anything seems possible. Hart is centering his schedule in New England and hopes his debate performance will provide him credibility in Iowa. It's not as if he hasn't got a chance; he leads in a recent Iowa poll.

The competition is led by Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, who hopes a strong effort in Iowa will enable him to block Hart in next-door New Hampshire.

Hart's sudden presence is most troublesome for Paul Simon, the senator from Illinois who was establishing himself nicely just when Hart decided to "let the voters decide." Simon must reestablish himself now and he'll have to improve his debate performance to do it.

Among the others, Missouri Rep. Richard Gephardt has been a constant visitor to Iowa since sometime in 1986 and briefly led the polls. He's sunk like a stone, however.

Former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt is riding a high wave of right now, with solid reviews for his debate performances and his quick wit and perhaps some grudging respect for his risky proposal for a new income tax to reduce the federal deficit.

Like Gephardt, if Babbitt doesn't succeed in Iowa, he's probably through.

Jeese Jackson, however, will live to fight another day. The day is March 8, when the Super Tuesday primaries take place and Jackson's Southern constituency will join Gore's in a regional march to the polls.

But while Jackson is working to broaden his base with a serious effort in Iowa, Gore has pulled out of the state and headed south to North Carolina.

The Gore strategy remains enigmatic. The Tennessee senator has been positioning himself as more moderate than his Democratic brethren, but if he is to mount a serious national campaign, he'll need to balance all those Southern endorsements with a strong effort in New Hampshire. So far, however, he hasn't scheduled much time in the Granite State.

"We feel we have a shot at finishing third in New Hampshire and then move on to Super Tuesday and surprise the experts. With its conservative base and strong military presence, we feel that the South is a natural constituency."

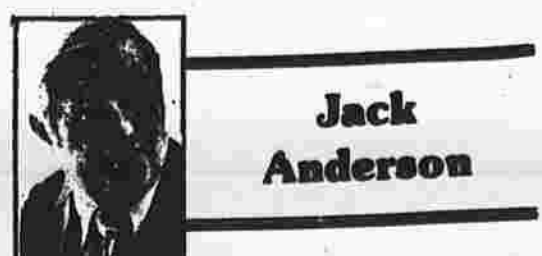
Who said that? Al Gore? No, it was Haig strategist Vince Beglio.

Jonathan Wolman is assistant bureau chief for The Associated Press in Washington.

Letters to the editor

Letters should be brief and to the point. They should be typed or neatly handwritten, and, for ease in editing, should be double-spaced. Letters must be signed with name, address and daytime telephone number (for verification).

The Herald reserves the right to edit letters in the interests of brevity, clarity and taste.



All about Jim Wright

WASHINGTON — Bank regulators, administration officials and members of Congress are struggling behind the scenes to rescue the financial system from collapse. They have bunched up against the fiery, brittle-browed figure of House Speaker Jim Wright, his gavel raised against them. Just one month after Wright took custody of the speaker's chair, he summoned three high-level officials from the Federal Home Loan Bank Board into his office. He was enraged over a proposal that would recapitalize the insolvent Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp.

Bank regulators had been trying for months to shore up the bankrupt government insurance fund. Without it, savings and loan companies would face a Depression-style panic.

Wright lobbied fiercely to strip the recapitalization bill of any authority that would permit regulators to shut down failing banks. He demanded that the regulators specifically ease up on the 40 failing thrifts in his home state of Texas. Wright was particularly concerned about the Dallas-based Vernon Savings and Loan Association.

Our associate Michael Binet and Texas-based reporter William M. Adler have learned what went on during Wright's closed-door meeting with the regulators. One bank board official dared to contradict Wright. The speaker exploded and unleashed a string of colorful expletives, one participant said. Wright railed at the banking officials uncontrollably.

He is a former boxer, who has twice nearly come to blows with members of Congress who dared to challenge him. He isn't accustomed to losing battles. This was no exception. Congress passed a castrated recapitalization bill to the speaker's liking.

For a bred-in-the-bone populist, Wright has an ingrained nonchalance about deficits. Yet necessity has rubbed his nose in the realities of deficit spending and the arithmetic of the federal budget. He has made some accommodations, therefore, to produce a compromise budget.

Still, Jim Wright has tapped too long at the table of the money interests. He is attentive to the plains of banking moguls and the discomforts of oil producers.

A few years ago, Wright cornered the president of Egypt's Inar Sadat, in a private cloakroom and handed him a letter. It asked Sadat to intervene in a deal involving a Fort Worth, Texas, oilman who wanted to develop an oil field in the Sinai.

Just a month after the oilman had included Wright in a private gas well venture in eastern Texas, Wright called the implication of any wrongdoing "insulting."

A close friend, George A. Matlick Jr., has also taken Wright to task for his wing. The speaker has bought scores of oil and gas wells, real estate, stocks and nursing homes — which he belatedly placed in a blind trust. Wright snorts that reporters can look "until they are blind and never find anything dishonest or improper."

The worst he has done, he says, is serve his constituents. It is true that oil and banking privileges have been engineered and safeguarded by a long line of Texans, Oklahomans and Louisianians, whom Democratic Congresses have elevated to leadership in both the House and Senate.

As speaker of the House, he has been whispered to beyond the pale by Sam Rayburn, Bob Kerr and Lyndon Johnson. They set the rules for the political games that Wright still plays.

But as speaker, he is pursuing a constituency wider than Texas. He is a shrewd politician and a forceful leader. His name has been mentioned as a candidate who would easily outclass the present crop of Democratic presidential contenders.

These presidential feelers, like a first slight right stack, may be some of those definitive shocks which cast all that lies ahead in a new light. Meanwhile, Wright has established a cordial rapport around the House Banking Committee, which oversees financial legislation. He has let it be known to one and all that this is his preserve.

WOMEN IN TRANSITION

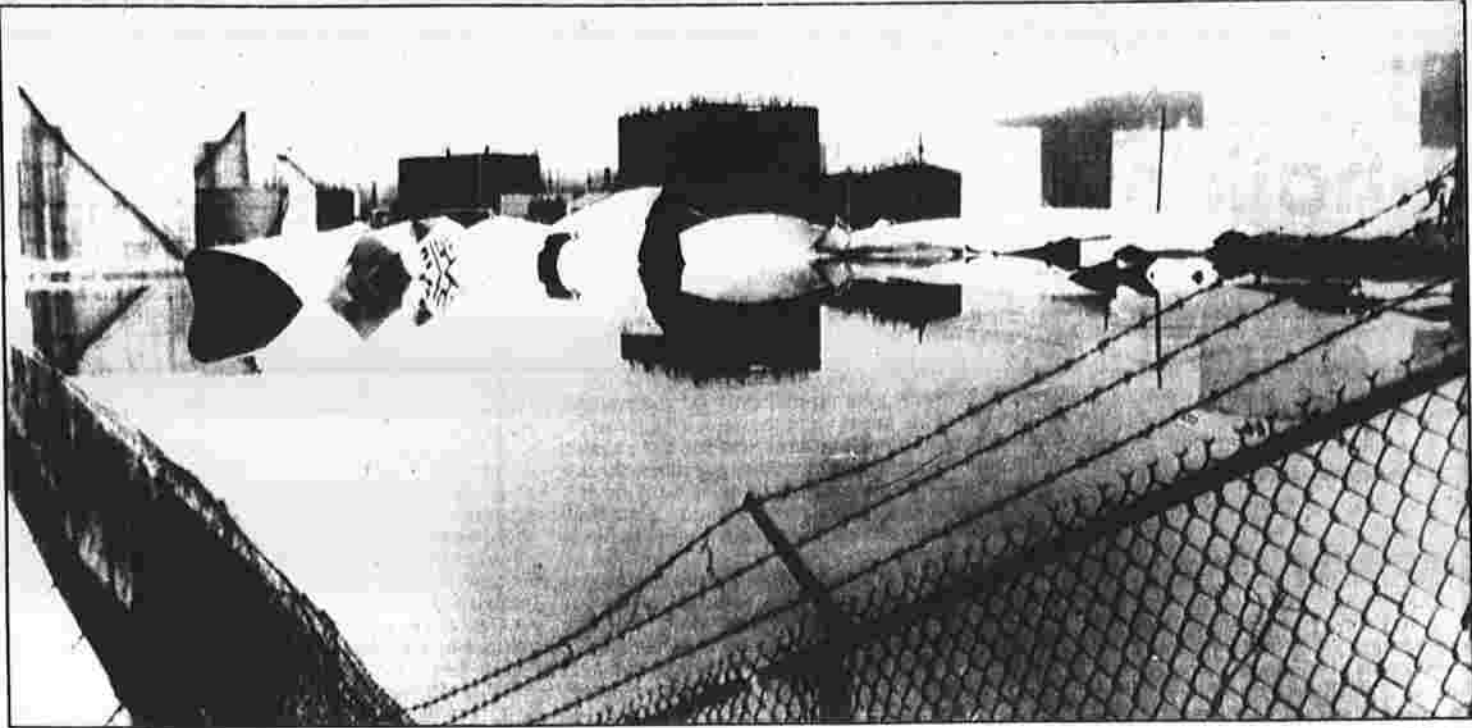
An Open House Thursday, January 7, 4-6 p.m. Come to the Transition Center, in the Lowe Building, room G1, 219c to hear about a new program geared for the Adult Woman.

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A crumpled fuel tank lies in a pool of diesel fuel at the Ashland Oil Co. in Jefferson Borough, 11 miles south of Pittsburgh, Sunday morning. The tank crumpled Saturday night, spilling 3.5 million gallons of diesel fuel. About a million gallons leaked into the Monongahela River, creating a 20-mile oil slick.

Oil spill threatens Pittsburgh water

By Cassandra Burrell

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Emergency crews worked today to contain a 20-mile-long oil slick that has contaminated two of the city's three rivers, threatening the drinking water for 750,000 people and halted shipping along the Monongahela.

About 7,000 of the approximately 1 million gallons of diesel fuel floating in the Monongahela River was recovered by late Sunday, officials said.

More equipment was heading to the area today to help, but officials said the cleanup could take weeks. The fuel stretched at least 20 miles from the Monongahela at West Elizabeth into the Ohio River near downtown Pittsburgh. The rivers were moving early today at only 1 to 2 mph, the National Weather Service said.

The cleanup was suspended Sunday evening and resumed this morning.

The spill occurred Saturday night when a new storage tank collapsed at Ashland Oil Co.'s Fireoff Terminal near West Elizabeth, officials said.

Approximately 3.5 million gallons in the tank flowed into the river; the rest was contained near the tank, Coast Guard Lt. John Farthing said. About 820,000 gallons have been recovered from the tank area.

Traffic on the heavily used Monongahela was halted, and adjacent rail lines and highways were temporarily closed.

Area hospitals were notified of the conservation plan and transferred their most serious patients to facilities unaffected by the crisis, Casey said.

Pittsburgh's water is from the Allegheny River and was unaffected. The Allegheny and Monongahela rivers converge near downtown Pittsburgh to form the Ohio River.

Gov. Robert P. Casey placed the Pennsylvania National Guard on alert to deliver emergency water supplies, he said.

Authorities don't know what caused the collapse. A damage estimate has not yet been set. The cleanup could take weeks, said Roger Schrum, an Ashland spokesman.

On Sunday, Allegheny County's hazardous materials team, private



A river patrol boat circles in the Monongahela River Sunday morning in the midst of a diesel fuel slick created by a tank collapse 16 miles upstream. No injuries were reported in the Saturday night incident.

water today, he said. Water trucks will be available to dispense potable water.

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On Sunday, Allegheny County's hazardous materials team, private

governors of Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois and member of Pennsylvania's congressional delegation to join him in asking the federal Environmental Protection Agency for aid.

A spokesman for the Army Corps of Engineers said the cold weather should minimize the impact on wildlife. Most shore birds have gone south for the winter and fish were not spawning.

Waterfowl and fish kills are expected, however. "It will be a month before they can assess the damage to wildlife," said Samuel E. Lockerman, a supervisor for the state Game Commission.

Particularly vulnerable are surface-feeding fish like the white bass and gizzard shad. Koryak said. The birds most in danger are ducks that live near the shore, enticed there in many cases by people who feed them through the winter, he said.

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governors of Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Indiana and Illinois and member of Pennsylvania's congressional delegation to join him in asking the federal Environmental Protection Agency for aid.

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Mecham's trouble affects legislature

PHOENIX, Ariz. (AP) — Gov. Evan Mecham's legal and political troubles have spawned tensions that will make the 1988 legislative session "somewhere between grim and morbid and awful," a leading lawmaker in his party says.

Another GOP lawmaker, Sen. Greg Lunn, a harsh critic of the Republican governor, says he expects "agony" when the session begins Jan. 11, particularly because the entire GOP-controlled legislature is up for re-election this year.

"The worst-case scenario in my own situation is having to run with Evan Mecham as governor," Lunn said recently.

The possibility that Mecham will be indicted, impeached or recalled from office is likely to affect lawmakers' actions even on issues that appear unrelated, according to legislators. Deep divisions within the Republican caucuses already are apparent as some legislators line up behind Mecham and others oppose him.

Democrats may have their first real shot at gaining seats in the House and Senate, and perhaps even wresting control of one or both from the Republicans for the first time since the Watergate scandal, lawmakers say.

Republicans hold a 19-11 seat edge in the Senate, and a 35-24 lead in the House. The last time Democrats gained control of either chamber was in 1974, when they won the Senate.

"The political tension will be enormous," said GOP Rep. Chris Herberman. "The Republican party is in disarray. The Democrats are licking their chops." GOP House Speaker Joe Lane disagreed, saying he does not believe other Republicans will be blamed for Mecham's troubles.

Mecham has not been available for interviews, but spokesman Ken Smith insisted that any tension between Mecham and the Legislature "certainly will not come from the governor's office."

"It's entirely possible to have normal political differences without warfare," he added.

The legislature's toughest political decision of 1988 could be its first. The House is expected to meet around Jan. 8 to consider whether Mecham should be impeached for failing to report a developer's \$350,000 campaign loan until it was revealed by news reports.

Even if there isn't an impeachment, a grand jury investigation of Mecham's loan and other questions was scheduled to resume today.

It also appears certain that in mid-January, once the verification of recall petition signatures is complete, Secretary of State Rose Mofford will present Mecham the formal option of resigning or facing a recall election, probably in mid-February.

The recall campaign was sparked by Mecham's cancellation of a holiday honoring slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. and by other unpopular acts. All sides say they're determined the Legislature will not shirk the major issues it faces, including air quality, a state budget deficit and revisions to the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System.

Even so, the session will be "somewhere between grim and morbid and awful," said Republican House Majority Whip Jane Hull.

"I just will be done in a more charged political atmosphere that will make it that much more difficult," said Herberman. "The political landscape has been permanently affected by Evan Mecham. He himself will be a separate chapter in Arizona history books."

Democratic House Minority Whip Debbie McCune said "what otherwise would be straightforward issues that we would deal with are going to become test issues, issues of loyalty to the governor, and it will be very hard to be productive."

conventions in Florida in addition to pulling back millions of dollars in advertising.

"It was kind of used as a weapon to get rid of the tax on services," Martinez said. "It's obvious now that that has had any impact on commerce, tourism, agriculture or people relocating."

The governor's Republican constituents, wedded to his campaign promises to reduce the state bureaucracy, were outraged by the tax and Martinez's role in getting the measure passed.

Martinez tried to rally legislative support in August for putting the tax before the voters in 1988, but instead that idea surprised and angered some lawmakers. On Sept. 18, Martinez again changed step, calling for repeal of the tax.

"I think he started off well with the passage of the services tax, but then he just went from bad to worse when he became an opponent of the tax," said House Appropriation Chairman Sam Bell, a Democrat and one of the governor's sharpest critics.

Finally, in the early morning hours of Dec. 10, a weary Legislature succumbed to months of political pressure and killed the tax, substituting a 1-cent increase on Florida's existing percent sales tax on goods.

Florida governor had a bumpy 1987

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Gov. Bob Martinez says he hopes to make a more hands-on role to recover from a rocky first year in office, which included a bitter election and "a very difficult year."

"I guess what I'm saying is I'll do a lot more of the driving, than simply the riding," he said during an interview. "I'm going back to doing things the way that got me here."

Martinez, a Republican, spent the last half of 1987 feuding with Democratic state elected officials and leading criticism for ignoring women and minorities in his appointments and handling state business with lawmakers. On Sept. 18, Martinez again changed step, calling for repeal of the tax.

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JAN

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FOCUS

Do you need post-holiday debt counseling?

Did you overspend your income this holiday season? Now that the festivities are about to wind down, are you being hit with shopping bills and worried that you will not be able to meet monthly payments?



Sylvia Porter

If so, you are not alone. As the nation attempts to dig itself out of debt, you, a typical American, have been fighting your own personal battle. Bombarded by all types of credit options, you have become more and more comfortable with liability. This installment debt — including everything from the money you owe on your credit cards to automobile loans to cash advances (but excluding mortgage payments) — is hovering around 19 percent of your personal disposable income.

What's more, saving money is on its way to becoming a cliché. Americans saved only 2.8 percent of their personal disposable income in the third quarter of 1987. "You have to go back before World War II to find comparable savings lows," says John Gorman, assistant chief of the National Income and Wealth Division of the Bureau of Economic Analysis in the Commerce Department.

WHILE AMERICANS HAVE been accused of carrying on a love affair with plastic, at this time of year in particular the romance starts going sour for many individuals. During the next few weeks, bills will

be heard echoing throughout the 345 offices of the Consumer Credit Counseling Service (CCCS). But the song in the air is not Jingle Bells. "The weeks after Christmas the phones are ringing off the hooks with people complaining that they didn't consider their car insurance and their mortgage payments and all other bills when they charged their Christmas purchases," says Mary Quinn, director of CCCS, a not-for-profit organization affiliated with the National Foundation of Consumer Credit. "This is when HO, HO, HO turns into OH, OH, OH."

In 1987, CCCS offices counseled more than 176,500 families with debt problems, up from 164,000 families the year before. "This is not one group or type of person

we are seeing," notes Luther Gatling, president of the Budget and Credit Counseling Service, the New York office of CCCS. People from all income levels are seeking help.

HOW DO YOU use your credit card? Do you have at least three cards, most of them good only at a particular store or chain of stores? Do you use at least one of these cards regularly? Do you write more checks than you once did, despite your increased use of cards? Do you have a nagging fear that credit cards make it easy for you to buy things you do not really want or cannot honestly afford?

QUESTIONS TO ASK yourself to determine if you are approaching trouble: Do your installment loans add up to more than 20 percent of your take-home pay? Do your savings reserves less than the equivalent

of three months of take-home pay? Are you taking out loans to pay off other loans? Using credit to pay off credit debts? Are you dipping into your savings to pay regular bills? Are your expenses growing faster than your income?

These are just the basics. You may also want to ask yourself why you have so many credit cards. (CCCS recommends that as an average consumer you should only own three credit cards — a bankcard, an all-company card and a local department store card.) Would you be able to meet monthly payments if you temporarily lost your job? Or if your child required medical treatment? Or if your company cut back on the number of overtime hours you could work?

CCCS offers one-time advice, as well as extensive 18-20 month debt-repayment programs, which can include instruction on negotiating with your creditors. Payments for counseling services are based on how much you can afford, but average about \$11 per month.

For more information contact: National Foundation of Consumer Credit, 8701, Georgia Avenue, Suite 507, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

Inner beauty won in cancer fight

DEAR ABBY: I noticed with address the letter from "Half a Woman." She should know that any truly caring man would not be put off after learning of her mastectomy.

At the ripe old age of 52, my wife was diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer. Both breasts were removed. In the next five and a half years, she had extensive chemotherapy and radium treatments, numerous surgeries (including total hysterectomy), and finally ended up in a wheelchair.

After her death, I was left with her memory and three children (12, 8 and 6) to help heal my pain. However, not once during all that she had always been. Not once did anyone who knew her consider her less than a whole woman.

Did I marry her breast or any other part of her anatomy? I married her, what she was at any given point in time — her personality, her essence, if you will.

"Half a Woman" should understand that the physical "problem" is hers, in her mind, and should really be no problem at all. If I could find any woman who is half the person my wife was with no breasts, I would never let her go! Sign me...

DEAR STILL: You appear to be a very special man who deserves to find another high-quality woman. I hope with all my heart you do.

DEAR ABBY: I just read the letter about the mother-in-law who complained about her 30-year-old daughter-in-law who puts her two small children down for a nap while she watches the soaps for two hours. I am furious!

I still have a 30-year-old daughter-in-law with two small children. She never watches soaps or anything else. She also never puts her children down for a nap. Instead she gets up in the morning and heads for the mirror. She has a beautiful face and she knows it. She thrives on constant attention wherever she can get it. So off she goes every day with the two little ones in the car. She runs to tennis lessons, clubs and wanders through stores and malls shopping, dragging her tired, sleepy children with her.

On weekends the kids get a nap while my whimp son baby-sits so his wife can run and shop some more. He treats her like gold, telling her how "beautiful" she is.

What I wouldn't give for a daughter-in-law who would a nap home and watch the soaps every afternoon while her little ones nap! FURIOUS IN PHOENIX

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 70 and for my whole life I've been wondering: Where is the "stove" in our bodies that keeps us warm?

In the process, heat is liberated. Therefore, we are really a collection of billions of little stoves, all controlled by a "thermostat" in the brain.

No one knows exactly how we maintain our body temperature — or what precisely happens when we become feverish. Body temperature is raised by exercise, dehydration, anxiety, infection, nerve disease, cancer, anemia and many drugs. When fever is present, the body demands more food to supply calories for the increased metabolism. Hormone deficiency such as hypothyroidism, can cause low body temperature. It's a fascinating subject about which knowledge is lacking.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Now that I've had 10 months of tests and excruciating pain, the doctors say I have a pinched nerve due to a slipped disc. I've been told, "Don't worry, the nerve will grow back in three years and everything will be fine." I'm taking Elavil and developing side effects. This pain is unbearable, and so is the idea of having to live with it for three years.

DEAR READER: In my experience, pinched nerves due to ruptured discs do not "grow back." Occasionally, "slipped" discs can, with time, return to their normal configuration; this simply removes painful pressure from the nerve. However, if the pain you are

experiencing is unbearable, you may develop further injury, including numbness and weakness. With continuing pressure on a spinal nerve, disability can result.

I hope your doctor wasn't the person who told you not to worry. This is irresponsible advice. Furthermore, Elavil (an anti-depressant) will have no effect whatsoever on nerves that are being mechanically pinched.

I urge you to see a neurosurgeon. You need further testing and, although medical treatment may help you, surgery to remove or repair the diseased disc may be your most promising therapy. To help you find a doctor who suits your needs, I'm sending you a free copy of my Health Report, Choosing a Physician: Make a Decision For Good Health. Other readers who want a copy of this should send \$1 with their name and address to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3689. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: A friend was told that a drop of hydrogen peroxide once a week in each ear was a good way to keep from catching a cold. What do you think?

DEAR READER: Pure hydrogen peroxide is caused by viruses that enter the mouth and upper respiratory tract. However, hydrogen peroxide is a good way to help break up ear wax that may be blocking the canal.

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AT THE JAMBOREE — Two California Boy Scouts, Robert Becker, left, and John Saunders, right, tour the Victoria Building in Sydney, Australia, over the weekend after arriving for the 18th World Jamboree for Boy Scouts. The jamboree started Thursday and runs through Jan. 9.

Cutting smoke odors requires speed

HOUSTON (AP) — More household fires occur during the winter season than any other time of the year, according to the National Fire Protection Association. And from a minor stove-top kitchen fire to more serious blazes, they permeate the house with the invisible, persistent and acrid odor of smoke.

Understanding the chemical makeup of smoke is key to the elimination of odor, notes Nelson Bean, president of the Evans American Corp., a Houston-based company that specializes in reconstruction of buildings damaged by fires, floods and other catastrophes.

"Act quickly to clean away all the particles and you immediately eliminate the smoke odor. But if you wait, the particles around the house and you guarantee a lingering odor problem," Bean warns.

Bean says many people incorrectly deal with smoke odors by attempting to mask the source of the odor with deodorizers — "a futile effort." The secret to permanently eliminating odors is to systematically remove the particles from all items in the smoked area.

Immediate action is a key to success, Bean adds, because of the corrosive qualities of smoke.

Bean and Evans American have an arsenal of techniques to eliminate smoke following large commercial or residential fires, including ozone chambers, commercial deodorizers and chemical air filters. Home owners probably don't need this heavy artillery, says Bean, who points out that most light smoke odors caused by household fires can be eliminated by following these steps:

— Sunlight's ultraviolet rays destroy smoke odors, so open your curtains and let nature's best deodorizer shine in.

— Air out the house forcibly by turning on fans and opening windows for at least an hour. But first, change or clean smoke-cup air filters.

— Set out several saucers of vinegar five or six feet above the floor level. This is a favorite household technique for removing smoke odors and the house won't smell like vinegar.

— Never sit or lie on smoked items such as chairs or bedspreads. Your weight will grind the smoke particles into the cushions and mattresses, making the odor difficult or impossible to remove.

— For the same reason, don't walk on carpeted areas until they have been thoroughly vacuumed. Not only the future aroma of your carpet is at risk, but so are your shoes. Smoke odors are almost impossible to remove from leather soles.

— Thoroughly vacuum all porous items (fabric-covered furniture, draperies, etc.) in the smoked area, and use a quality upholstery shampoo on fabrics.

— Wipe durable surfaces such as sinks and countertops with a household degreasing agent. Don't forget light bulbs and other ceiling fixtures.

— Rub wood surfaces of kitchen cabinets and furniture with lemon oil, then apply furniture polish to any highly polished surfaces. This will remove smoke odor as well as restore natural oils that may have dried out.

Forecast of crises too easy

By John Cunliff
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — There is at least one economic certainty in 1988, and it is that crises will occur one after another, just as they did in those old movie serials.

It's an easy forecast to make. Last year ended with so many unresolved problems skirted rather than faced, so many issues not even understood, that we know they'll be with us in 1988.

There is also the delayed re-percussion of the great stock market crash of 1987. When will it come? Somewhere out there is a sputtering fuse, an impact about to take place, a reaction to the action.

Still around are the deficit bugaboos. The budget deficit could grow even as the trade deficit shrinks. Those terrible twin inflation and interest rates, could put on a tantrum. Recession? Deflation? All possibilities.

Innovative proposals have been made regarding Third World debt, but they can't make it disappear. It is ignored or pushed into the future, but until it is dealt with it represents a fissure in the world's economic foundation.

The foreigner could pull out. That threat is always good for a shock, since foreigners have helped maintain the prices of U.S. stocks, bonds and real estate, and also kept aloft a good many overvalued households.

Will the dollar fall like a cannonball or soar like a rocket? The producers of this gripping drama aren't offering a clue. In truth, they don't know because the final act hasn't been written. But if the first two acts are an indication, the audience will witness some thrilling gymnastics.

The insider trading scandals are good for more thrills. In fact, they've almost been promised by federal officials, who say their investigations reveal the problem isn't on the periphery of Wall Street but in its gut.

Taxes. Hardly a year has gone by in the past 20 in which Congress hasn't done something to change the scenario. It's a recurring story: Cut taxes with a great hallelujah, then raise them repeatedly so you can do it all over.

You know you can rely on the long Countries for a charge of one sort or another. They do not know what it is, since they cannot agree even when they need to agree, but you know something will happen.

Has the Social Security issue arisen another year, enabling us to worry again about its possible insolvency, and devising creative dispositions to free our minds for more comfortable times.

The ability, time after time, to face these issues and defuse them, is only until the following year or month, has elevated the concept of "muddling through" to the respectability accorded more academic economic theories.

So successful has the practical application of this theory become, that some economists now believe it should be given a new, more respectable name.

In those old movie serials, the heroes always cheated, week after week, and everyone cheered their genius in doing so. Nobody said they just muddled through.

Send questions and comments to Will Sloane in care of the Manchester Herald, P.O. Box 991, Manchester 06040. The volume of mail precludes individual replies to every letter, but Sloane will respond to letters of general interest in the column.

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BUSINESS

There's a way to get even with your stock broker

By Chongling Times
The Kiplinger Magazine

If you lost money in this fall's stock market crash and you believe your broker's negligence, incompetence or fraud contributed to the loss, you'll probably end up telling your story to an arbitrator.

Binding arbitration of customer complaints against brokerage houses has long been available. But because of a U.S. Supreme Court decision last summer, arbitration is now becoming the court of last resort. The high court held that customers having disputes with brokers cannot sue if the broker-investor agreement specifically requires arbitration.

And, guess what: The overwhelming majority of broker-customer agreements contain arbitration clauses. The bulk of complaints arising from the October crash will fall into four areas, according to Changing Times magazine:

• Unavailable investments. Some investors will likely argue they did not understand the risks of esoteric investments into which their broker

directed them. Brokers are obligated to know their customers and required not to place them in unsuitable investments. Suitability involves the investor's experience, net worth, income, investment objectives and other factors.

• Broker availability. Many customers, particularly those of discount brokerage firms, got nothing from their brokers except a busy signal during the panic. There were allegations, too, of brokers refusing to answer their phones or failing to return messages.

In the case of repeated busy signals, investors are expected to argue the brokerage neglected its duties by being inadequately prepared to handle the deluge. As for a disappearing account representative, a complainant will have to show the broker violated a responsibility to provide the investor with prompt access to his or her funds and that the broker should have been available, market mayhem or not.

• Execution of trades. According to some investors, orders to sell shares were executed at prices far below what they had specified.

Some investors report orders were simply lost. Brokers are required to act with "due care and skill" in exercising orders and to get the best price for their customers. In the past, courts and arbitration panels have held brokers liable for violating these norms but have exonerated them from foul-ups stemming from extraordinary market conditions.

• Margin calls. Margin accounts are necessary to buy stocks on credit or to sell naked options. If you lose too much, your broker's margin call requires you to put up additional funds. Some investors facing margin calls allege that panicky brokers sold out their securities instead of giving them time to provide additional funds.

If you can't resolve the dispute informally, your next and last step is probably arbitration. Most proceedings are conducted in the major city closest to you by the industry's self-regulatory organizations (SROs) or by the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) for complaints involving the over-the-counter market.

major exchanges for listed securities — or by the American Arbitration Association.

Before opting for arbitration, Changing Times suggests you broadcast your complaint far and wide. Brokers don't relish bad reputations and they may decide to reason with you. Also, an arbitrator may later ask whether you did all you could to resolve the dispute earlier.

So write to the brokerage's compliance officer and mail a copy to the manager of your branch office. Also send copies to your state securities administrator and the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Consumer Affairs and Information Services, 450 15th St., N.W., Washington, DC 20549. If a futures contract is at issue, a copy should instead go to the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, Office of Public Information, 2033 K St., N.W., Washington, DC 20541.

Also notify the NASD Surveillance Department (1735 K St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006) or the exchange on which the disputed trade occurred. The North Ameri-

can Securities Administrators Association, the national body of state regulators — offers "Coping With the Crash: A Step-by-Step Guide to Investor Rights," a 25-page booklet that lists addresses and phone numbers for state securities administrators, federal agencies and the SROs. To order, call 800-843-9022 or 202-737-6900.

Who acts as arbitrator is no piddling matter. There's a widespread perception among lawyers for investors that arbitration panels sponsored by the self-regulatory outfits, though officially impartial, display pro-industry biases. The American Arbitration Association, on the other hand, has no ties to the securities industry.

But even though you must initiate arbitration, your preference may not matter. In their customer agreements, many brokerages specify which body will hear the case. If the agreement says the case may be brought only before NASD or one of the exchanges and if the broker is unwilling to submit the dispute to the AAA, you're rebound by the agreement. Some agreements are silent on this subject.

Don't expect instant justice. A year can lapse between initial filing and the judgment on cases that involve hearings.

One problem with taking small cases to the AAA is that it is a costly. Filing fees at most of the SROs are as low as \$15, if \$1,000 or less is in dispute, rising gradually to \$1,000 when the amount at issue exceeds \$500,000. In contrast, the AAA's fee for disputes involving \$20,000 or less is \$200. The maximum fee for a \$500,000 claim is \$2,850. For more details, write to AAA, 140 W. 51st St., New York, NY 10036, or call 212-464-4000.

Should you hire a lawyer for arbitration? The broker probably will. But if a relatively small sum is at stake, your legal fees could eat up a favorable judgment. Happily, most SROs have streamlined procedures for claims of \$5,000 or less (a threshold that could soon rise to \$10,000). You simply state your claim in writing, the brokerage responds in writing, and an arbitrator or panel of arbitrators decides the matter.

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Sell stock after merger

QUESTION: In March 1987, I was informed by a tender offer for stock I had inherited. I inherited that stock to the acquiring company for \$50. Adding to my distress was the later takeover of another company in which I had purchased stock.

I made a sizable amount on each sale, meaning that the Internal Revenue Service is going to have a field day with the taxes I will have to pay on April 15.

I would have been happy to keep both stocks. Would that have been possible?

ANSWER: In theory, you could have kept those stocks. In practice, that would have been a mistake. When one company is merged into another company or is purchased by another company or a group of individuals, the acquired company is restructured. Any shares of the acquired company not turned in are represented ownership in a "shell" corporation not traded in the marketplace.

If you had not sold your shares, you would be frozen out. You would receive no dividends and would be unable to sell.

A merger of buyout cannot go through unless it is approved by owners of a majority of the stock of the company being acquired. In both cases about which you are unhappy other stockholders lifted the prices offered and accepted the deals.

No one jumps with joy about paying

'The Pit' claims No. 1 Arizona

By The Associated Press

No time like the present for a loss. Arizona Coach Lute Olson figured. And no place like "The Pit."

"It was going to happen eventually," Olson said.

New Mexico, which calls "The Pit" in Albuquerque home, got off to a 25-9 lead before 16,100 frantic, red-clad fans beat Arizona 51-59 Saturday night, ending the top-ranked Wildcats' 12-game winning streak.

"I know they have played all over the world," Arizona Coach Gary Colson said of Arizona, "but I have to think the environment had something to do with their shooting."

In other games involving Top Ten teams, it was No. 2 Kentucky 84, Georgia 77; No. 3 Pittsburgh 80, No. 8 Florida 68; No. 4 North Carolina 80, UCLA 72; No. 5 Wyoming 94, Stephen F. Austin 55; and No. 7 Syracuse 123, Siena 72. In the Second Ten, it was No. 15 Nevada-Las Vegas 69, New Mexico State 64; No. 16 Iowa State 85, South Dakota 67; and No. 18 Georgetown 82, Miami 73.

New Mexico 61, No. 1 Arizona 58: "Anyone who thinks you can go out and be undefeated is ridiculous beyond the point of talking about it," Olson said.

Arizona closed to 37-30 at half-time, but the Lobos never trailed in

NCAA Hoop

the game. Jimmy Rogers had 15 points and Darrell McGehee 13 for the Lobos, who play host to Wyoming on Saturday.

Sean Elliott, who had 27 points, twice got Arizona within a basket in the final five minutes, but New Mexico held on for its eighth straight victory.

The Lobos also got 10 points and 10 rebounds from 7-foot center Rob Loeffel.

No. 2 Kentucky 84, Georgia 77: Kentucky scored 12 consecutive points, six by Ed Davender, to erase a 51-48 Georgia lead with 16:04 to play, and the Wildcats went on to raise their record to 9-0 overall and 2-0 in the Southeastern Conference. Davender wound up with 22 points.

Georgia fell to 8-5 in losing its conference opener.

Florida led 51-48 in the first half but just 11 of 33 in the second half but Kentucky switched to a 3-2 zone defense.

No. 3 Pitt 80, No. 8 Florida 68: Pittsburgh outscored Florida 16-4 in the second half, and the Panthers led 21 as Syracuse, 10-2, won its eighth in a row.

The Carrier Dome record was 111 points that Syracuse scored

against South Florida last Dec. 4. The school record is 144 against Siena in 1979.

No. 15 UNLV 86, New Mexico 81: Nevada-Las Vegas held New Mexico State to just two field goals in the final 15 minutes.

No. 4 N. Carolina 80, UCLA 73: J.R. Reid scored 23 points for North Carolina and Raminio Smith scored five straight points as the Tar Heels broke away from a 69-69 tie with 3:27 left. North Carolina had led 85-48 before UCLA rallied for the tie behind David Immel, who had 25 points.

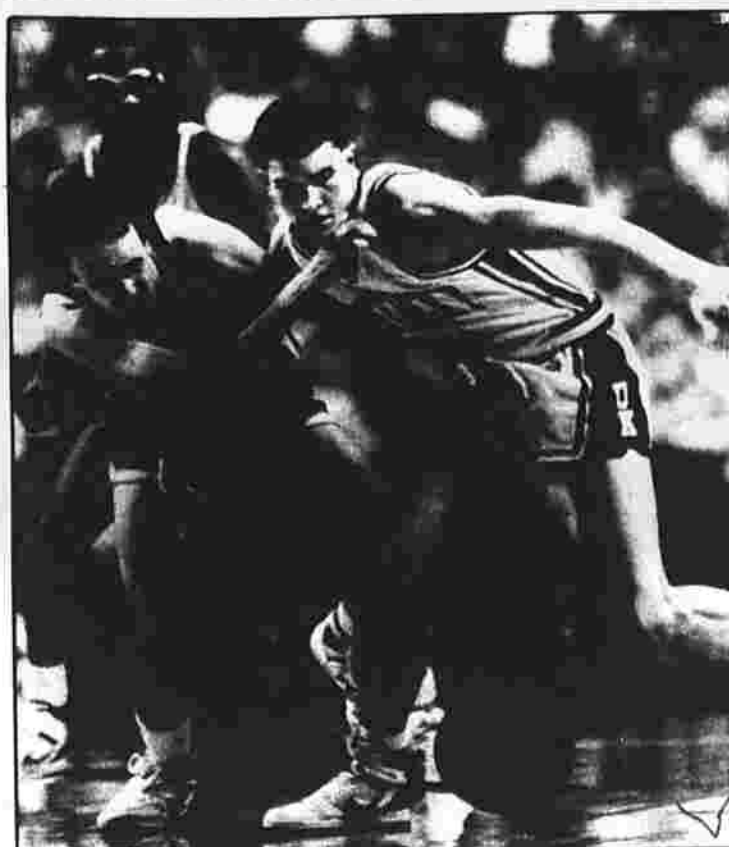
Smith wound up with 18 points for the Tar Heels, 9-1. UCLA fell to 4-7.

No. 5 Wyoming 94, Stephen F. Austin 55: Fennis Dembo scored 19 points as Wyoming routed Stephen F. Austin, outbounding the Lumberjacks 51-23. Wyoming shot 57 percent for the game to 39 percent for Stephen F. Austin.

Wyoming, 11-0, led 45-18 at the half, limiting the Lumberjacks to 78 points, after victories over Oral Roberts and Illinois State. The Sooners, 12-0, broke 100-point mark in each game, the ninth time this season they have done that.

Duke, 6-1, remained ninth with the final first-place vote and 708 points, two more than No. 10 Purdue, 10-1. Duke beat then-No. 8 Florida in the Fiesta Bowl before falling to Arizona in the championship game. Purdue won the Palm Beach Classic with victories over Wake Forest and Miami, Fla., in improving one place from last week's poll.

Michigan led the Second Ten followed by Indiana, New Mexico State, Georgetown, Florida, Iowa, Iowa State, Kansas, Illinois and St. John's.



Vanderbilt's Barry Coehen (left) and Kentucky's Rex Chapman struggle to get to a loose ball in their game in Lexington. The Wildcats won, 81-74. Kentucky, with Arizona losing, moved into the No. 1 slot in the latest poll.

Kentucky takes over top spot in college hoop poll

By Jim O'Connell
The Associated Press

Kentucky received 40 first-place votes and 1,294 points from the nationwide panel of sportswriters and broadcasters, well ahead of Pittsburgh, 30, which moved up one place from last week with nine first-place votes and 1,147 points.

Arizona had nine first-place votes and 1,061 points, 27 more than North Carolina, 9-1, which remained fourth. Wyoming, Temple and Syracuse also occupied the same spots as last week.

Kentucky won three games last

week — 100-58 over Division II Alaska-Anchorage, 81-74 over Vanderbilt and 84-77 over Georgia, the last two games the first for the Wildcats in Southeastern Conference competition.

Pittsburgh won the Citrus Bowl Classic with victories over Florida State and Alabama and then beat then-No. 8 Florida 80-68.

The loss to New Mexico came after the Wildcats won the Fiesta Bowl with victories over Michigan State and No. 9 Duke.

Mississippi and Southern University, while the Orangemen, 10-2, downed Morehead State and Siena, averaging 116 points in the victories.

Oklahoma jumped from 10th to eighth, with one first-place vote and 795 points, after victories over Oral Roberts and Illinois State. The Sooners, 12-0, broke 100-point mark in each game, the ninth time this season they have done that.

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Tie in Sugar Bowl loses Pat Dye some points

By The Associated Press

Of all the losers during the 1987-88 bowl season, none was more disappointed than Syracuse, which only lost its esteem for Auburn Coach Pat Dye.

Syracuse Coach Dick MacPherson was flaming mad when Dye sent Win Lyle into the Sugar Bowl game on Friday to kick a 30-yard field goal that tied the score 16-16 with one second remaining. Auburn had a fourth down from the 13, and MacPherson wondered why Dye went for the tie.

"If you like tie, then why do you come here in the first place?" MacPherson asked.

The tie was the only blemish on an 11-0-1 season for the Orangemen.

Dye said he had two reasons for choosing a field goal on third-and-1 from the Syracuse 13 with four seconds left. First, he was angry over what he thought was a couple of bad calls early in the second half, and second, he wasn't going to let his team lose if he could help it.

"I could have made the decision to throw it up one more time, but we had too great a season for us to get beat," said Dye, whose team finished 9-1-2. "I made up my mind early on what I was going to do. I wasn't going to let my team get beat."

Elsewhere on Friday, Miami won the national championship with a 20-14 victory over Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl. The state of Florida finished 1-2 in the final poll after Florida State beat Nebraska 31-28 in the Fiesta Bowl. Texas A&M defeated Notre Dame 35-10 in the Cotton Bowl. Michigan State beat Southern California for the second

time this season, a 20-17 decision in the Rose Bowl and Clemson stopped defending national champion Penn State 35-10 in the Citrus Bowl.

With the exception of a few all-star games, the year's final two bowls were played on Saturday, with Michigan beating Alabama 28-24 in the Hall of Fame Bowl and Tennessee stopping Indiana 27-22 in the Peach Bowl.

Orange Bowl

Miami held two previous undefeated Oklahoma to 255 total yards, barely half the Sooners' average for the season.

Steve Walsh threw two touchdown passes and Greg Cox kicked two field goals, one a 56-yarder, for Miami, 12-0.

Last year, Miami lost a national championship bid when the Hurricanes were beaten 14-10 by Penn State in the Fiesta Bowl.

"As good as I feel right now was as bad as I felt then," Miami Coach Jimmy Johnson said.

Miami has now beaten Oklahoma three straight seasons, the Sooners' only losses in that span.

Cotton Bowl

Bucky Richardson scored two touchdowns and rushed for 58 yards, and Alex Morris' second-quarter interception triggered Texas A&M's rout of Notre Dame.

Notre Dame, 8-4, led 10-3 when Morris picked off Terry Andrysiak's pass in the Aggie's end zone. A&M, 10-2, then drove 80 yards for the tying score, a 24-yard pass from halfback Darren Lewis to Tony Thompson.

"I think any time you beat a team with a national reputation, it will give you automatic national respect," A&M coach Jackie Sherrill said. "Our players got tired of reading in the paper about how great Notre Dame is. We're pretty good, too. In fact, we've been pretty awesome for three years."

A&M has been in the last three Cotton Bowls, winning two of them 8-4.

Hall of Fame Bowl

Jamie Morris rushed for a career-high 234 yards and three touchdowns as Michigan beat Alabama without Coach Bo Schembecher, who was at home in Ann Arbor, Mich., recuperating from open-heart surgery.

"All week we said that we had Bo in our back pockets," said John Kolesar, who caught Demetrius Brown's 29-yard pass to erase a 24-21 Alabama lead with 50 seconds left in the NFL.

Michigan faced a fourth-and-3 situation, but substitute coach Gary Moeller said he never considered going for a tying field goal.

"You teach the kids to be winners," Moeller said. "You have to give them every opportunity."

Peach Bowl

Reggie Cobb, a redshirt freshman, ran for 146 yards and two



Michigan tailback Jamie Morris (29) sprints past Alabama defenders John Mangum (29) and Kermit Kendrick (27) in the Hall of Fame Bowl Saturday in Tampa. The Wolverines won, 28-24.

touchdowns, the second covering nine yards with 1:52 left, to give "The Game of the Week" a tying field goal.

"This game confirmed what I've been saying about our team having the right stuff," Volunteers Coach Johnny Majors said. "It takes resiliency, poise and confidence to come back five times in the fourth quarter the way we have done this year."

Jeff Francis threw for Tennessee's other two touchdowns — 45 yards to Anthony Miller and 15 yards to Terence Cleveland.

Quebec goaltender Ron Tugnutt faced 36 Buffalo shots. He kept the team from scoring during a five-minute power play in the third period when Randy Moller was whistled for a high-sticking major.

Rookie Pierre Proulx scored at 8:37 of the first period for Buffalo, and Gaetan Duchesne's deflection tied it at 13:01.

Buffalo beat Toronto 6-4 Saturday night.

Wings 4, Jets 4

Steve Yzerman scored three goals and Gerrard Gallant fired in the tying goal on a power play at 14:54 of the third period as the Red Wings pulled out a tie despite being outshot 52-29.

Yzerman got all three of his goals in the second period after the teams were scoreless through the first 20 minutes. Dale Hawerchuk scored two of his two goals for Quebec 55 seconds into the third period, giving the Nordiques a 4-3 lead. The goals were Hawerchuk's 20th and 21st of the season.

The Red Wings had only six shots on Pekey Reddick in the second period but still managed to come up with the three goals by Yzerman, who has 31 this season.

Glenn Hanlon was in goal for Detroit, making 48 saves.

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Lakers dump Trail Blazers for 10th straight win

By Bob Baum
The Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — The Los Angeles Lakers insist that they genuinely feel threatened by the Portland Trail Blazers.

The Blazers claim they're inching closer to the defending NBA champion in the Pacific Division.

But when the two tangled Sunday night, the result was familiar: a Lakers blowout and the 23rd Los Angeles victory in the last 27 games between the two teams.

"We were so bad. We really stunk up the joint," Portland's Clyde Drexler said after Los Angeles won 98-81, their 10th straight victory.

Portland's shooting was as lousy as the weather outside Memorial Coliseum. The Blazers' 284 field goal percentage was an all-time franchise low and the worst in the league this season. Their 27 field goals also was a team record low.

The only other NBA game Sunday night was the Portland Trail Blazers beating the visiting Los Angeles Clippers 121-84.

NBA Roundup

Portland beat the Lakers in Los Angeles a month ago. But without Johnson and Vandeweghe, the Blazers didn't have enough firepower to challenge the Lakers' defense.

"We got them tired," Magic Johnson said. "That's what we wanted because they could only play so many guys."

Byron Scott had his third straight big offensive game for the Lakers with 31 points, most of them from long range. He had a career-high 37 in his previous game and scored 26 the time before that.

"Magic's created a lot of my shots with his passes," Scott said. "But he's the one doing the shooting," Johnson said. "We read each other so well."

Johnson and Scott may have been satisfied with the victory, but Riley wasn't.

"I'm still confident we can win it all but the thing that bothers me is that from the efficiency standpoint, we are down from last year but our record is better," he said. "We're not concentrating. We're not sustaining things."

But Johnson said the players know they're improving.

"I don't know what it takes to please him (Riley). He always wants more but it takes time to get more. We're playing better than we

were 10 games ago. We have a way to go but at least it's getting better," Johnson said.

The Lakers took control of the contest in the second quarter, boosted the lead to 25 in the third period, then withstood a minor Portland rally that cut the lead to 15 in the final quarter.

The loss snapped Portland's 11-game homecourt winning streak. The Blazers' 31 points was their lowest total of the season.

"We just never got anything going," Portland Coach Mike Schuler said.

Drexler scored 24 for Portland, but only nine in the last three quarters. Maurice Lucas added 15 for the Blazers and got into minor altercations with Scott and Johnson during the game.

"He was just trying to intimidate me and I told him it wouldn't work," Johnson said. "He told me what he was going to do to me and I said 'Come on. I'm right here.'"

Lucas said it was nothing personal.

"I was just trying to inject some fire in my teammates," he said. "It worked for four or five minutes."



Los Angeles Clippers' Benoit Benjamin (00) and Atlanta's Glenn 'Doc' Rivers seem to be dancing as they watch a loose ball during Sunday's game in Atlanta. The Hawks won, 121-84.

Hawks 121, Clippers 84

Atlanta crushed the Clippers for its fifth straight victory, with Dominique Wilkins scoring all of his 26 points and Doc Rivers passing for all of his 15 assists as the Hawks grabbed a 14-14 halftime

lead.

Wilkins scored 14 points in the first quarter, including eight in a row during a 12-0 streak that put the Hawks ahead 24-9 with 5:42 left in

the period. Randy Wittman scored 12 of his 18 points in the opening quarter, which ended with the Hawks ahead 42-22.

Los Angeles, which has lost six straight, was led by Mike Woodson and Quintin Dailey with 14 points apiece.

Atlanta's biggest lead was 106-63 in the fourth period.

Thomas looks to recapture U.S. figure skating title

By Barry Wilner
The Associated Press

DENVER — It's been a good year

for Americans on the international figure skating scene. Now they've turned their attention to the domestic front.

The U.S. Figure Skating Championships, which began today, will serve as qualifying for next month's Olympic and World Championships in March. Most American skaters have been priming for the nationals by dominating cup events from Japan to Hungary.

"You always look forward to the nationals," said Debi Thomas, who will try to recapture the title she lost to the University of Colorado skater in Jill Trenary last year. "That's especially true this year because of the upcoming Olympics."

"I feel I have a lot to prove in the nationals," Thomas added. "I want to be U.S. champion again."

Thomas was bothered by a stress injury in her feet last year. It may have cost her the national title, but she skated well at the world championship in Moscow. Paul Wyley took gold in St. Louis and Todd Eldredge was defending champion but was edged by Katarina Witt of East Germany.

Since then, she has taken a leave of absence from skating where she is a premed major, and moved to Colorado. Thomas is taking courses at the University of Colorado on a part-time basis.

At Skate Canada, where most of the top contenders for Olympic medals skated, Thomas performed flawlessly in the long program. She trailed Canada's Elizabeth Manley heading into the free skate, but her four-minute routine lifted her to the title.

"Nailing my program like that was a big boost for the rest of the season," Thomas said. "You need all the victories you can get on the way to the Olympics."

Gillian Wachsman and Todd Waggoner, the 1986 U.S. winners, are the prime challengers. The third Olympic spot should be decided between Wayne and Natalie Seybold and Katy Keelley and Joe Merz.

The Seybolds were first in Paris, while Wachsman-Waggoner were second in Japan and third in London.

Scott Williams also will be part of the scramble to join Bolitano in Calgary.

Jill Watson and Peter Oppgaard, the 1985 and '87 U.S. pairs champions and third in the world last year, have scrapped their electrifying "Firebird" routine. But they said they've come up with something just as exciting.

"We're well-trained and, if we can go out and skate as we are training, we feel we'll do very well," Oppgaard said.

The won the Frankfurt competition.

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American figure skater Debi Thomas grimaces after she takes a spill during practice Sunday in Denver for the United States Figure Skating Championships which gets under way today.

Susanne Semanick and Scott Gregory haven't skated much since Gregory injured his back. But they are expected to dominate the dance here, with Susan Wynne and Joseph Drurr the main challengers.

Sports In Brief

Rosi retains WBC boxing title

GENOA, Italy — Italy's Gianfranco Rosi retained the World Boxing Council super welterweight crown by knocking out American challenger Duane Thomas in the seventh round Monday.

The 30-year-old Italian sent Thomas across the ropes and to the canvas for the count of 10, 50 seconds into the round, with an impressive combination of left and right hooks.

It was the first title defense of Rosi, who had won the crown from Mexican Lupe Aquino last Oct. 2.

Rosi's next defense will be April 8 against American, Don Curry, who outpointed Lupe Aquino in a bout on the undercard.

Donald Curry in line for title fight

GENOA, Italy — Former welterweight champion Donald Curry continued his comeback Monday by scoring a unanimous 12-round decision over Lupe Aquino in a super welterweight bout.

On that same card, Gianfranco Rosi of Italy, the World Boxing Council super welterweight champ, defended his title by knocking out Duane Thomas of Detroit. Rosi will now defend his title on April 8 against Curry.

Curry nicknamed "The Cobra," piled up a wide advantage by landing fast left hooks and precise combinations to the body and to the head of the 25-year-old Mexican.

Curry, of Fort Worth, Texas, lost his welterweight title in September, 1986, to Britain's Lloyd Honeyghan.

Prior to Sunday, Curry had fought on Dec. 8 when he beat Rigoberto Lopez of El Cajon, Calif. Also last year, Curry was stopped by Mike McCallum in six rounds for the vacant World Boxing Association junior middleweight title.

With his victory Sunday, Curry has a 29-2 record, with 20 knockouts. Aquino's record fell to 31-1-4.

Fine threat won't deter Evert

SANCTUARY COVE, Australia — Chris Evert plans to participate in an proposed tennis match with Martina Navratilova despite the threat of possible \$20,000 fines for both players.

Navratilova and Evert have signed to play a match at the New Sanctuary Cove resort complex on the Gold Coast next Friday.

The exhibition is in conflict with the Women's International Tennis Association-backed New South Wales Open in Sydney.

Evert, the WITA president, and board member Navratilova could face fines of up to \$20,000 if they go ahead with their proposed exhibition, a WITA spokeswoman, who asked that her name not be used, said in Brisbane.

The New South Wales event is being played on grass, which many players say does not provide the correct preparation for the Australian Open, which starts Jan. 11.

"Martina and I had an invitation to play in an exhibition on the same court surface and with the same balls that are used at the Australian Open," Evert said in a statement Sunday.

Woodforde wins Aussie net title

ADELAIDE, Australia — Mark Woodforde overpowered fellow Australian Wally Maurer 6-2, 6-4 Sunday night to win the final of the \$5,400 South Australian Open Tennis Championship at Adelaide's Memorial Drive courts.

The third-seeded Woodforde, playing in front of his hometown crowd, took just 69 minutes to defeat Maurer, the defending champion and top seed.

Woodforde, 22, collected the second major title of his career. He won the New Zealand Open in 1986.

Krishnan wins New Zealand Open

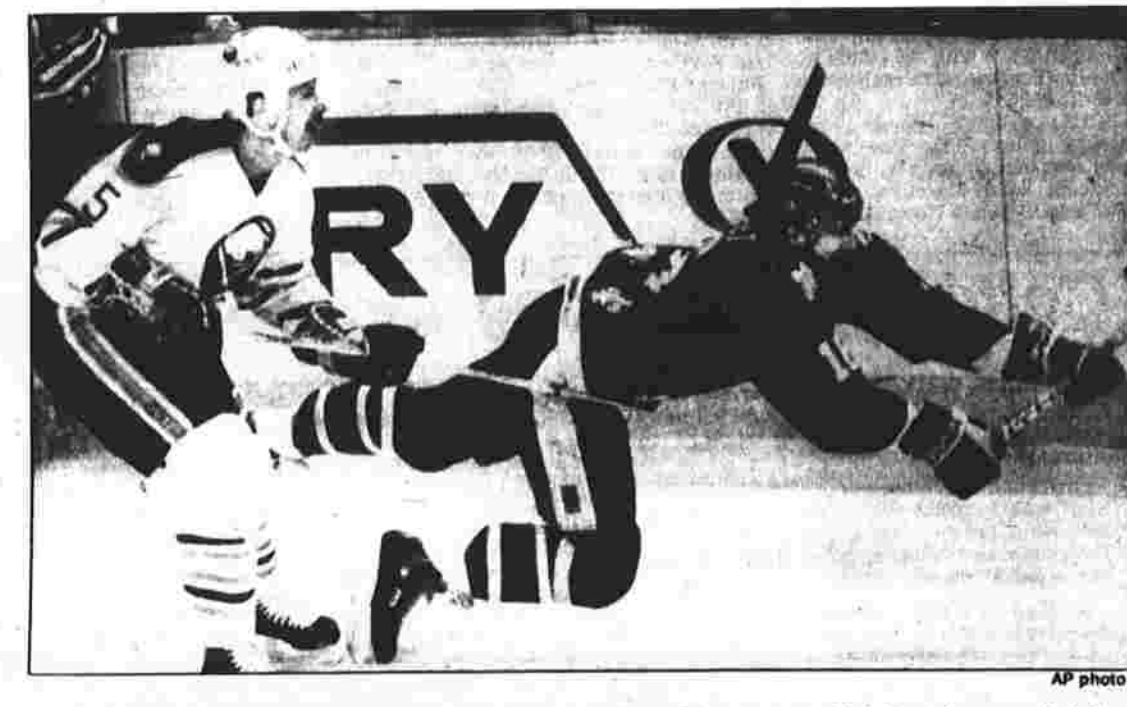
WELLINGTON, New Zealand — Sixth-seeded Ramesh Krishnan of India beat A. Andrei Chesnokov of the Soviet Union 6-7 (9-6), 6-0, 6-4, 6-3 to win the New Zealand Open tennis championship Sunday.

Krishnan needed 2 hours and 45 minutes to win the sixth title of his career.

"I thought I played well throughout the final," said Krishnan, who is now 3-0 against Chesnokov. "I was trying to be consistent because he makes you work for every point. You have to use the whole court against him because he is so fast."

In the doubles final, Americans Rich Leach and Dan Goldie beat Australian Brod Dyke and Canadian Glenn Michibata 6-2, 6-3.

Flames loading up for upcoming battles with Edmonton



Buffalo's Mike Ramsey (5) uses his stick to trip up Quebec's Michel Goulet (16) as they chase the puck in Sunday night's game at Buffalo's Memorial Auditorium.

NHL Roundup

With one of the NHL's best power plays and the league's best road record, the Calgary Flames are loading up for two games later this month against Smythe Division rival Edmonton.

The Flames got a pair of power-play goals from Mike Bulard and another from rookie Joe Nieuwendyk on Sunday to beat the Chicago Blackhawks 5-3 and take a three-point lead in the division over the Oilers.

The Oilers have been playing without the league's top scorer, Wayne Gretzky, who is out with a sprained knee. He is expected to be ready for the games against Calgary on Jan. 13 and Jan. 29.

"Our cousins down the road will be waiting for us," Flames Coach Terry Crisp said, "and I don't expect them to roll over and play dead."

In the two other games Sunday, Buffalo defeated Quebec 2-1 and Detroit tied Winnipeg 4-4.

The Oilers scored twice to give the Blackhawks a 2-0 lead in the first period, but Calgary came back with three second-period goals and took more in the third. Joe Mullen's 17th goal of the season, at 3:37 of the third period, gave the Flames a 4-2

lead.

Bullard now has 13 power-play goals this season and Nieuwendyk has 17.

Blackhawks goaltender Darren Pang, who faced 46 shots, described the Flames as "the most awesome scoring machine with a man advantage in the league."

The victory gave the Flames a 12-1-1 record this season, best in the NHL.

"We're winning because we not only have great balance, but we don't try to get cute or fancy on the road, and that's truly the secret to our success," Crisp said.

Sabres 2, Nordiques 1

Scott Arniel took a pass from Doug Smith at the edge of the crease and knocked in the winning goal at 18:10 of the second period, moving Buffalo into sole possession of third place in the Adams Division of 37 points. The loss was the third in a row for the last-place Nordiques.

Tom Barras made 27 saves for Buffalo, including 11 in the second period and six in the third while holding Quebec scoreless.

Bullets fire Loughery; Unsold steps in

By The Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. — Kevin Loughery, who led 19 of his first 27 games, is out as coach of the Washington Bullets and Wes Unseld is in.

Loughery, with a 341-503 record in 12 seasons, is being replaced by his former assistant following a change of heart by Bullets owner Abe Pollin.

"It was personally one of the hardest decisions I have had to make in my years in pro sports," Pollin said Sunday, a day after the Bullets lost their fifth consecutive game, a 111-100 decision to the Houston Rockets. "Kevin is one of my favorite people, and with the team playing as it is, a move had to be made."

Immediately after Saturday's game, Pollin had decided that he was contemplating any major personnel changes. But he had seen some fans don bags to hide their faces and others in the crowd of 12,769 hoot while watching Houston race to a 33-point lead after only 29 minutes.

"I can't blame the management; they're good people, and I hope they do well," said Loughery, 47, who was on the last year of a two-year contract. "But you've got to win, especially at home. When the fans start booing the team for not

performing, you can anticipate things happening."

He said Sunday that, except for impressive home victories over Detroit and the defending champion Los Angeles Lakers, a positive team chemistry never materialized.

"Basketball is the ultimate 'we' game," Loughery said, "and all we were seeing out there was a lot of 'I's."

"And, when that happens, you ultimately have to blame the coach. I think Wes will do a good job," he said. "I'm not sure if he knows the game and he gets along with people. That's really all you can ask of a coach."

Unseld, 41, a five-time All-Star and 1969 NBA Most Valuable Player, said he expects Loughery's longtime assistant, Bill Blair, to remain as his chief of staff when he holds his first practice today.

"I don't think it's too late for us to still be competitive," Unseld said. "I'm honestly not sure if my personality will have to change to motivate the team."

"Whether we have enough talent to win consistently is still open to question, but we've at least got to go out and play to our potential."

When Unseld first was named an assistant coach, there was speculation he would inherit the top

coaching spot if Loughery failed to get the team into shape.

"I knew a lot of people would think that, but honestly, that isn't what I was thinking when I accepted the job," Unseld said. "In fact, it took me six weeks to tell Kevin I would do it. I was concerned about leaving my family and starting all that traveling again."

"But I accepted that challenge. And since I was already committed, it was easier telling Mr. Pollin this time. Naturally, I thought one day it might come to this. I mean, if you're going to coach, this is the height of the profession. But I certainly didn't want it under these circumstances. Kevin is still one of my closest friends."

Loughery had replaced Gene Shue at the end of the 1985-86 season. Last season, the Bullets went 42-40, losing eight of their 10 games, and already have suffered through three losing streaks of four or more games this season.

Loughery said he sensed there would be problems when the team staggered through the exhibition season.

"We didn't get half the team together until the end of training camp," he said.

Prior to the start of the season, the Bullets signed former NBA scoring champion Bernard King to

take some of the scoring load off Moses Malone and Jeff Malone. King has averaged more than 18 points, but none of the three is been shooting better than 49 percent this season.

The Bullets also have been among the worst shooting teams in the league since the beginning of the season, with a 45.3 percent average going into the Houston game. They also have been outbounded by nearly five rebounds a game.

Unseld, whose affiliation with the Bullets began in 1968 as a first-round pick out of the University of Louisville, played 13 years before becoming a team vice president in the NHL.

Unseld, who was named both Rookie of the Year and MVP in his first NBA season, helped the Bullets to a 12 consecutive playoff appearances.

Loughery previously coached the New York and New Jersey Nets, Philadelphia, Atlanta and Chicago in the NBA. He was the coach of the Nets for three years in the American Basketball Association before moving with them to the NBA in 1974.

Loughery coached the Nets to the ABA title in 1974, but none of his NBA teams won more than 43 games in his 12 years of coaching.

are expected to dominate the dance here, with Susan Wynne and Joseph Drurr the main challengers.

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