

### Victory

Benefits approved in smoking flap /4

### Chased

Windsor runs past ECHS in Rotary Club Classic /11



### War

Use of hormones feeds food fight /5

# Manchester Herald

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 1988

Manchester, Conn. — A City of Village Charm

30 Cents



LEARNING AT HOME — Pat McMullan watches as four of her sons take a break from studies at their home at Patriot's Park in Coventry. From left are Brendan, Jason, Andrew and Colin.

## They're always at home — learning

By Jacqueline Bennett  
Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — When Pat McMullan prepares dinner in the kitchen while her five sons watch a video in the living room, it would seem to be a typical American scene. What makes the McMullan household unusual, however, is that the boys, ages 1 to 10, spend most days at home with their mother. They are being educated at home. "Of course, they're missing out on some things," says Pat McMullan. "But what they're gaining is more valuable." The McMullans are the caretakers at Patriot's Park. They live in the caretaker's house at the park. McMullan says the boys are gaining self-esteem, self-discipline, independence and an understanding and value of "real" learning. She is skeptical about whether they would get those things in a conven-

tional classroom. "Learning is not being better or worse than the person sitting next to you. Learning is a part of life," she said with some passion during a recent interview. Pat and her husband Jim began teaching their sons at home in 1985. Their oldest son, Jason, 10, had attended kindergarten and first grade at Robertson School. Colin, 9, attended kindergarten there. Of the three younger boys, two are school age. Andrew, 7, would be in first grade and Brendan, 4, would be in kindergarten. Neither has ever attended school outside the home. Seamus is 1-year-old. For the most part, the boys are gregarious. They openly talk about home schooling and say they like it. "We don't waste a lot of time like in school," said Jason. The boys talk about their favorite books and show notebooks of all kinds of drawings they have done.

Sometimes they use the Robertson School library and go on field trips with classes. Jason says he doesn't miss being part of the school but admits there are some drawbacks, especially when he visits the school. "It's hard because nobody knows us," he said. At home, the days are unstructured. The morning begins with a conference in which the boys and the parents decide what the boys will do during the day, such as errands or visits and schoolwork. Each day there is reading to be done and work book pages in math. There is no set time to do the lessons, however. The boys also work on the home computer. The curriculum used by the McMullans is approved by the Board of Education. Each

See TEACH, page 10

## Weiss pulls in the reins on budget

By Andrew J. Davis  
and Nancy Connelman  
Manchester Herald

Town Manager Robert B. Weiss has ordered restrictions on hiring and purchasing to help offset a projected loss in state funding and fend off a large tax increase. Weiss made the announcement in a morning press conference at the Municipal Building. Town officials are concerned that the projected \$182 million state budget deficit will have a dramatic impact on the town's current \$63.5 million budget and next fiscal year's budget, he said. The restrictions are designed to create a larger surplus for next fiscal year's budget, which would help reduce any tax increase, he said.

"We're in good shape," Weiss said. "But we see real threats from state and federal sources." About \$17.6 million of the town's current budget comes from state and federal sources, Weiss said. Town officials have not set a goal on how much they hope to save, Weiss said. Budget Officer Robert Huestis said the town has spent less than half of the operating budget. Huestis cautioned, though, that winter costs for services such as snow removal traditionally take a bite out of the budget.

"We're in pretty good shape," he said. "One of the reasons for that is we have some positions that have not been filled." Under the restrictions, department heads must provide written justification in order for Weiss to approve hiring for vacancies. Purchases must also be approved by Weiss in advance, even if approved previously in the budget. Also, all related requests must contain written justification of what would happen upon the elimination or delay of the hiring or purchase, Weiss said. There are about 30 municipal jobs open now, but Weiss said many of them have already been posted while applicants have taken qualifying examinations

for others. Only about eight vacancies will be affected by the announcement, he said. "Each position will have to be examined carefully," Weiss said. "Everything that hasn't been spent ... will require a detailed justification. This is an added level of restraint." Weiss is forecasting a "difficult" budget for next year because of the threat of reduced state aid. Also, he said he foresaw an increase in the \$36 million Board of Education budget. The move also sends a message to department heads that above-inflation increases for next fiscal year's budget will not be tolerated, said Weiss. This fiscal year ends June 30, 1989. "The town has been running a tight ship," he said. "But because of causes beyond our control, we see restrictions of revenue. ...

See BUDGET, page 10

## Pan Am flight was bombed

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP) — A bomb blew up Pan Am Flight 103 with 259 people aboard as the jumbo jet flew over Scotland a week ago, the Department of Transport announced today. The statement said investigators found "conclusive evidence of a detonating high explosive" in two parts of the metal framework of a piece of luggage. It said: "The explosive's residues recovered from the debris have been positively identified, and are consistent with the use of a high-performance plastic explosive." The statement was distributed to news organizations in London as investigators convened a news conference in Lockerbie, the Scottish village which bore the brunt of the Boeing 747's flaming wreckage that fell out of the sky on Dec. 21.

Earlier story on page 6.

## S&L bailout of \$5 billion approved

DALLAS (AP) — A private group has committed \$15 million to acquire five insolvent Texas thrifts as part of a \$5.1 billion package, the largest bailout ever in the state's depressed savings and loan industry, federal regulators said today. The Federal Home Loan Bank Board, prior to the acquisition, placed all five institutions into receivership. The consolidation forms the state's largest savings and loan institution and its fourth largest financial firm, said the board. The Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corp. will provide a package worth \$5.1 billion to assist the consolidation, said

David Colgren, a board spokesman. He said no taxpayer funds are involved. The previous single largest transaction under the so-called Southwest Plan was the August consolidation of eight insolvent thrifts, including Sunbelt Savings, into a new Sunbelt Savings. The 2-year-old Southwest Plan was devised by federal thrift regulators as a way to deal with Texas' savings-and-loan crisis that was heightened by an energy and real estate slump. Investors in the federally assisted transaction are Gerald J. Ford, chairman of Ford Bank

Group in Dallas, along with MacAndrews and Forbes Holdings Inc. of New York, a private investment group whose chairman is Ronald O. Perelman, according to a board statement. The savings and loans involved are First Texas Savings Association and Montfort Federal Savings and Loan Association, both in Dallas; Gibraltar Savings Association and Home Savings and Loan Association, both in Houston; and Killen Savings and Loan Association, in Killen. The former offices of the five thrifts were to open today as branches of First Texas Bank F.S.B., and the consolidation should cause no interruption to

depositors, the agency said. Bank board officials said Gibraltar, with assets of \$6.1 billion, and First Texas, with \$3.5 billion in assets, are among the state's largest S&Ls. The five thrifts have combined assets of \$12.2 billion. M. Danny Wall, bank board chairman, said the \$315 million in the deal announced today is the largest capital infusion by any purchaser under the 2-year-old Southwest Plan. The plan was devised by federal thrift regulators as a way to deal with Texas' savings-and-loan crisis that was heightened by an energy and real estate slump.

## Nine Main St. firms burglarized early today

By Maureen Leavitt  
Manchester Herald

Nine businesses in a 945 Main St. building were burglarized early today, police said. Police said they responded to an alarm about 4 a.m. for the building known as One Heritage Place. The burglaries are still under investigation and police said they had not yet determined what had been stolen. Businesses on all three floors of the building were burglarized, police said. A safe from the third

floor office of Dr. Joseph Gardino was found near a first floor door this morning, but apparently was not broken into, police said. Rich Vatteroni, co-owner of Budget Pest Control, which operates out of the building, said cash, checks and a checkbook had been removed from his office on the second floor. He said his desk had been pried open, as well as the door to the hallway. He said he was still looking to see if anything else was stolen. Police said some offices were ransacked, but it doesn't appear that much was taken. The building has about 30 condominium-like offices, Vatteroni said.

## Economic illiteracy is high at high school level

NEW YORK (AP) — Economic illiteracy is rampant among America's high school students, according to a first-of-its-kind survey that found only a dismal one in three was able to define simple concepts like inflation or profits. Results of the survey, involving 1,205 11th- and 12th-grade students in public and private high schools in 33 states, were to be released today at a news confer-

ence featuring Paul A. Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board from 1979 to 1987. It found only 34 percent taking a multiple-choice exam in economics, popularly known as the "dismal science," were able to correctly define profits as "revenues minus costs." And just 39 percent selected the correct definition of Gross National Product: "the market value of the nation's output of

final goods and services." The news is "not good if you believe that a basic understanding of our economic system is important if this country is indeed to be effective in what everyone realizes is a period of global competition," Volcker said. Students across the country took a 40-minute, 46-question multiple-choice "Test of Economic Literacy" in May 1988, said William B. Walstad, a

University of Nebraska-Lincoln economics professor who developed the exam with John C. Soper, an economics professor at John Carroll University in Cleveland. On average, students correctly answered only about 40 percent of the problems but were even weaker on simple questions pertaining to inflation, the effects of tariffs on trade, and the impact of investment on economic growth,

Walstad said in a telephone interview. The report found that white students who had had some high school economics scored an average of 53 percent, blacks 42 percent, and Hispanics 45 percent. Among youngsters with no economics background, whites answered 41 percent of the

See ECONOMIC, page 10

### TODAY

Index	20 pages, 2 sections
Business	9
Nation/World	6-7
Classified	19-20
Obituaries	2
Comics	17
Opinion	8
Focus	18
People	16
Food	15
Sports	11-14
Local/State	2-4
Television	16

DECEMBER 28 1988

# RECORD

## About Town

### Church hosts dinner

The First Congregational Church of Coventry will hold a turkey supper Saturday, Jan. 14, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall on Main Street. The public is welcome. Tickets are \$4.50 for adults, \$4 for senior citizens and \$2 for children ages 7 to 12. Children age 6 and under are free.

### Cheese is distributed

The Manchester Area Conference of Churches will be distributing cheese and butter to each registered family for the Government Surplus Commodities Program on Thursday from 2 to 5:30 p.m. at Center Congregational Church, 11 E. Center St. For information regarding eligibility guidelines call 646-4114.

### Lodge elects officers

Yio Anson of Boston Hill Road, Andover, was elected worshipful master of the Manchester Lodge of Masons at the annual meeting held Tuesday, Dec. 13. The election took place in the Masonic Temple on East Center Street in Manchester. Other elected officers installed were Randall R. Hall, senior warden; Matthew Heinrich, junior warden; Ernest J. Kjellson, past master, treasurer; and Warren L. Potter, past master, secretary.

### Parent group to meet

The Manchester Memorial Hospital Association for Parents of Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity Disorder will meet Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m. in the H. Louise Ruddle Auditorium. The program will feature Marilyn Rotundo, M.S.W., a clinical social worker who works in a special education school. Pre-registration is not necessary. For more information, call Elaine Kahner, Parent Education Office, 646-1222, ext. 2405.

### Quartets join for concert

Two gold medal barbershop quartets will join the Silk City Chorus Saturday, Jan. 14 in the singers' annual concert of harmony at Manchester High School. Performance will be at 8 and 10 p.m. The Interstate Rivals from Louisville, Ky., and the Dealer's Choice from Dallas, Texas, are the two award-winning choruses to appear with the 70-member Manchester chorus.

### Alzheimer group to meet

The next caregiver's meetings of the Alzheimer Support Group Program of the Visiting Nurse and Home Care of Manchester, will be on Wednesday, Jan. 4 and Wednesday, Jan. 18. The educational meetings are open to the general public. All meetings will speak about eligibility requirements for participation in Title 19 at the Wednesday, Jan. 11 meeting. All meetings are held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Mental Health Wing of Manchester Memorial Hospital. For more information, call Louise Lettao, 647-1481.

### Bridge Club posts scores

Here are the results of the Manchester AM Bridge Club games of Dec. 19 and Dec. 22. Dec. 19: North-South: Terry Daigle and Peg Dunfield first; Sara Mendelsohn and Faye Lawrence second; John Greene, Linda Simmons and Al Berggren third. East-West: Murray Powell and Barbara Phillips, first; Bev Cochran and Tom Regan, second; and Mary Sullivan and Bev Taylor, third.

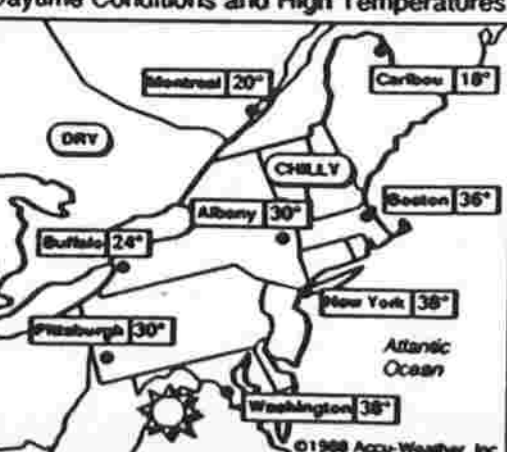
## Lottery

Winning numbers drawn Tuesday in lotteries around New England: Connecticut daily: 341. Play Four: 5308. Lotto: 3-23-24-35-38-39. Massachusetts daily: 5158. Tri-state daily: 790, 0735. Rhode Island daily: 7953. Lot-O-Bucks: 1-2-19-26-31.

## Weather

### REGIONAL WEATHER

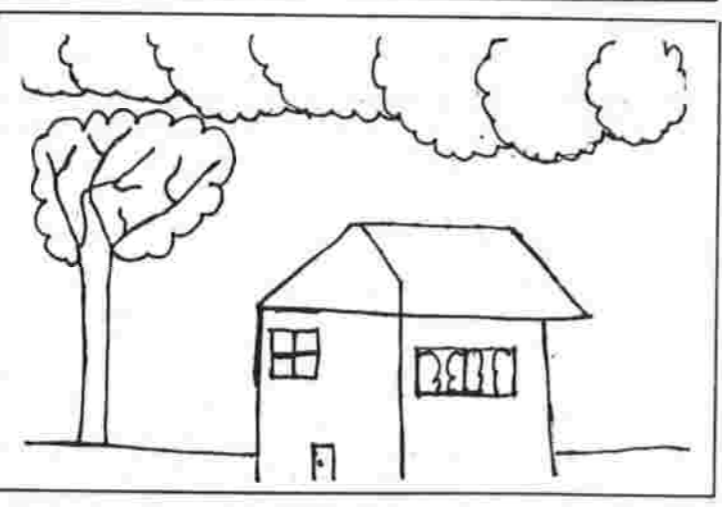
Accu-Weather® forecast for Thursday  
Daytime Conditions and High Temperatures



### Mostly cloudy

Manchester and vicinity: Mostly cloudy with rain developing early tonight. Rain may change to snow tonight. Lows 25 to 30. Wednesday will be mostly sunny, breezy and colder with temperatures in the low 30's.

West Coast, East Coast: Rain changing to snow tonight. Snow ending tonight. Lows 25 to 30. Wednesday will be mostly sunny, breezy and colder with temperatures in the low 30's.



Today's weather picture was drawn by Kristi Spring, 9, a fourth-grader at Waddell School.

CLEAN ACT — Michael Head, 8, and his sister, Karen Head, 5, watch the world pass by as they wait for their mother to finish the family's laundry at Luca's Laundromat on Spruce Street. The Heads reside at 25 Florence St.

## Obituaries

### Abraham Ostrinsky

Abraham Louis Ostrinsky, 68, of 182 Bissell St., husband of Beatrice (Atlas) Ostrinsky, died today (Dec. 28, 1988).

### Florinda M. LeBell

Florinda M. (Thibault) LeBell, 88, formerly of East Hartford, 88, wife of the late Joseph E. LeBell, died Tuesday (Dec. 27, 1988) at a local convalescent home.

### Deaths Elsewhere

Massimo Mila (AFP) — Massimo Mila, a music historian who fought fascism in the 1930s, died Monday of a heart attack. He was 78.

### Lillian Hart

Lillian (Spillane) Hart, of 28 Strickland St., died Tuesday (Dec. 27, 1988) in a local convalescent home. She was the wife of Francis J. Hart.

### Massimo Mila

Mila joined a group of young Turin intellectuals opposed to fascism. He volunteered as a courier for the resistance, and crossed the Alps on foot to bring documents to Paris. In 1935, Mila was arrested and sentenced to seven years in prison.

### Memorial donations may be made to the East Catholic High School Development Fund, State Road, Manchester 06040.

### Memorial donations may be made to the charity of one's choice.

### Memorial donations may be made to the American Cancer Society, 243 E. Center St., Manchester 06040, or to Grace Episcopal Church, Hartford 06106.

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## Police Roundup

### Man charged in threat

A Willington man was arrested Saturday after allegedly threatening an assistant manager at Papa Gino's in the Manchester Parkade, police said. Jared J. Deschene, 19, of Willington, was charged with two counts of threatening, breach of peace and interfering with an officer, police said.

Deschene allegedly threatened to beat up an assistant manager at the restaurant, police said. The assistant manager had told him to calm down after he began yelling at two other customers, police said.

Police were able to capture Deschene after a short chase through the Parkade, police said. Deschene was scheduled to appear in Manchester Superior Court Tuesday. He was held on \$3,000 cash bond.

### Fight leads to arrests

A Manchester man and woman were both charged in a heated argument, police said. Kenneth L. Greene, 26, of 63 Elm St., was charged with third-degree assault after a Monday argument with Deborah Cobb, 25, of no certain address, police said. Cobb was charged with criminal trespassing and second-degree assault, police said.

The two got into an argument after Cobb allegedly disobeyed a restraining order, which forbid her from entering Greene's apartment, police said. Cobb allegedly cut Greene in the hand with a razor blade. He had said Greene allegedly gouged Cobb's face with his hand and fingers, police said.

Both were scheduled to appear in Manchester Superior Court Tuesday.

## Teen arrested in disturbance

COVENTRY — A Coventry teenager was arrested on Friday in connection with a disturbance at his home, police said. William Winters, 17, of 334 Babcock Hill Road, was charged with disorderly conduct, police said. Police would not release information on the incident except to say it involved an incident at Winters' home.

## Current Quotations

"Hal had a genius for finding the humor and beauty in the most unlikely places." — actor Bud Cort, on movie director Hal Ashby, who died of liver cancer at age 59.

"Christmas is really setting a positive tone for 1989. The consumer has been on his backside, but is coming back." — Robert Buchanan, an analyst with A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc. in St. Louis, on better-than-expected Christmas sales.

## Public Meetings

Meetings scheduled tonight:  
Andover: Democratic Town Committee, Town Office Building, 7:30 p.m.

Bolton: Board of Selectmen special meeting, Community Hall, 7:30 p.m.

## Thoughts

Bethlehem was a smaller town than most others and not known for much. Mary would have much preferred to stay home and have the baby. Yet the demand for taxes had come directly from Rome and there were no exceptions. All the world had to be taxed from the family's original tribal home. But Bethlehem! A small town with a few houses, dusty streets, and an inn all surrounded by shepherds' fields. Not much there. The birth of the Messiah seemed so undignified somewhere in Bethlehem. At least the town could have been Jerusalem, or a place in the palace maybe, or even a room in the temple where God dwells. But Bethlehem! How much God the Father had planned than Mary imagined! God overlooks our weariness and small perspectives sometimes to give us greater surprises in His plans for us. Bethlehem here the world is born! Into our lives God comes to do things beyond our own imagining. He begins with obedience to small things, but then the small things of God bring His glory to men.

Pastor Mark Green  
The Church of the Nazarene

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# LOCAL & STATE

## 8th moves a step closer to agreement with town

By Nancy Concelman  
Manchester Herald

The Eighth Utilities District is one step closer to an agreement with the town over fire and sewer jurisdiction matters, district president Thomas Landers said after a closed-door session Tuesday.

If the town accepts a counter proposal from the Eighth Utilities District on the latest draft of an agreement over fire and sewer jurisdiction, the accord could be settled tonight, Landers said.

District directors at an emergency meeting Tuesday developed a proposal to bring before town negotiators tonight. Landers said the proposal was discussed in an hour-long executive session.

Landers said after the meeting that he wanted town negotiators to hear the district's proposal before it was printed in the newspaper. He said Tuesday's meeting would be held behind closed doors because the district directors would be discussing "pending litigation."

The town in March filed a suit in Hartford Superior Court seeking a ruling on whether the district could install a sanitary trunk sewer that would serve the \$70 million Pavilions at Buckland Hills. The town is seeking a declaratory judgment on the district's construction plans and a decision on which government will control a splitter valve and collect an estimated \$1 million in connection fees.

The district's proposal also addresses a compromise presented by town negotiators last week. Landers said after a year of negotiations, only a few issues of the agreement remain unresolved, he added.

"We're going to make a counter proposal on (parts) of the draft piece and agree with it," he said Tuesday. "This draft that they who didn't attend the meeting objected to the approval, District President Thomas Landers said Tuesday he wanted more information from area residents.

The district will send questionnaires to affected residents informing them of the project and asking if they support the decision to go ahead with the project, estimated to cost \$300,000.

The directors voted on Dec. 19 to allow consulting engineer Richard Lombardi to compose detailed plans for the project after about 25 area residents voted in favor of the project at a public hearing. Four residents opposed the project while three were undecided, Landers said.

But because several residents who didn't attend the meeting objected to the approval, District President Thomas Landers said Tuesday he wanted more information from area residents.

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## ... Try, try again



Reginald Pinto/Manchester Herald

NEW EXPERIENCE — Nicholas Orfitelli, 3, of 2 Village St. tries skating for the first time Tuesday at Charter Oak Park. He received the skates as a Christmas present.



Reginald Pinto/Manchester Herald

FIRST FALL — Nicholas Orfitelli learns that ice skating may not be as easy as he might have thought. He took his first fall on his new skates at Charter Oak Park Tuesday.

By Nancy Concelman  
Manchester Herald

## EMERGENCY

Fire — Police — Medical  
DIAL 911  
In Manchester

## Holiday sales up

By Nancy Concelman  
Manchester Herald

Turtlenecks, cardminders and socks knitted in Afghanistan were among the more popular items this Christmas season, but local retailers said they sold a lot of just about everything.

"We did fabulous," said Ashok Kumar, owner of East West Imports of 757 Main St. He and other merchants reported sales gains ranging from the five to 25 percent over last year. The increase follows a national trend which analysts say spells the end of a two-year slump in gains.

Kumar said the store's move from Center Street to the larger Main Street location played a part in the increased sales. But cut-price apparel, like slipper socks and gloves hand-knitted in Afghanistan also boosted business.

Kumar said not only Main Street store owner to be pleasantly surprised by this season's sales. Marlow's Department Store at 407 Main St. celebrated its 77th Christmas with record sales, owner George Marlow said.

"One of the weeks before Christmas was one of the biggest in the history of the store," Marlow said. But he added, "You have to look at the long haul."

Marlow's was closed the day after Christmas, traditionally a big shopping day, which may have hurt business slightly, Marlow said.

Sweaters and casual fleece-wear helped push sales at Regal's Men's Shops of 903 Main St. about 5 percent ahead of last year's Christmas sales, owner Bernard Apter said.

"This year was such a fantastic year for us," Apter said. He described this season as "luring," but worth the effort.

"We finished up pretty strong (this year). Last week was very good," he said. "Overall I'm very happy with the way it turned out."

Despite glowing reports from other Main Street business owners, Steve Joseph, owner of the Fairway Department Store at 975 Main St., said his sales were "average."

"Nothing really stood out," Joseph said. "Generally everything sells."

Success was not restricted to downtown. Al Sieffert's Appliances of 445 Hartford Road recorded sales well over last year's, owner Al Sieffert Jr. said. Customers remained popular this year, he said.

"We had an excellent Christmas," he said. Appliances also sold well at the Kmart store at 239 Spencer St. Manager Bob Perry said. Especially popular was a "salad shooter," a gun-like device that chops up vegetables and allows the user to shoot them out into a bowl or onto a plate.

Corry said sales were over last year's, but could not give any firm figures. He and Sieffert said they had expected this year to be better, but Corrine Schiro, manager of the Bob's Store at 260 North Main St., said he was "pleasantly surprised."

"We probably did 25 percent over last year," Schiro said on page 9.

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DECEMBER 28 1988

# Criminal justice spending will escape budget ax

By Judd Everhart  
The Associated Press

**HARTFORD** — Although the state is facing a budget crisis of massive proportions, the area of criminal justice, particularly prison overcrowding, will be almost immune from the budget ax.

That's because of Gov. William A. O'Neill's firm commitment to keeping the state's prison expansion program on track as the criminal justice system explodes with arrests and convictions, chiefly because of dramatically increased drug activity.

Connecticut's prison system is consistently at or near the top of the list of the most crowded prison systems in the country. Capacity is listed at 7,660 and there are another 2,800 under various early release programs, according to figures released this month.

William H. Carbone, head of criminal justice planning for the



O'Neill administration, says that budget writers are going to have to look elsewhere to cut spending.

"I'll have some impact," Carbone said of the budget crunch on his programs, "but what options do you have when the prison population goes up by 33 percent in one year and is expected to rise in 1989-90 at a similar level?"

"You really don't have any options. This is an area that will require new and additional resources. You have to get whatever beds you can, and the staff and ancillary services to support it," Carbone said.

The governor has made it clear that in view of the rising caseloads, this is an area that will require new and additional resources.

O'Neill has already outlined legislative initiatives in several criminal justice areas designed to ease the crunch.

He has ordered the attorney

general to try to get a court-ordered inmate population cap lifted at prisons in Hartford, Bridgeport and New Haven.

He will also ask the General Assembly to approve a streamlining of the bidding process the state has to go through when it wants new prisons built, chiefly aimed at reducing the number of months that now elapse between the time officials decide they need a new prison and the time construction begins.

The governor has also ordered a tightening of eligibility for early release programs. Under the governor's plan, anyone whose crime resulted in the death of another, who was convicted of first-degree sexual assault, first-degree assault or first degree robbery will no longer be eligible for early release.

Sen. Anthony V. Avallone, D-New Haven, co-chairman of the Judiciary Committee, said the governor's proposals sound reasonable and he expects little resistance to them in the 1989 session.

O'Neill said his office is putting together a package of criminal justice-related proposals for the legislature.

They include:

- Additional alternatives to incarceration, including increased use of fines, restitution and treatment programs.
- New uses for assets seized from drug traffickers, including earmarking the money for law enforcement or drug treatment programs.

Avallone said he would support a proposal allowing drug suspects to be released on a lesser bond if they agree to enter a treatment program. That would ease the burden on jails holding pre-trial detainees, the senator said.

Avallone also said he expects another debate on strengthening the state's death penalty law, which the governor wants to make easier to impose by allowing a jury to weigh mitigating factors against aggravating factors in a murder case.

Under current law, if the jury finds any mitigating factors, such as a defendant's mental state or difficult childhood, the death penalty cannot be imposed.

Under the proposal expected to be re-introduced in the '89 session, a jury would be allowed to decide whether aggravating factors outweighed mitigating factors and then impose the death penalty.

Avallone said he doubts the proposal will be any more successful in 1989 than it has been in the past, chiefly because of the makeup of the General Assembly is virtually the same.

Avallone also said he expects another protracted debate on drunken-driving legislation designed to allow a police officer to revoke driver's license on the spot if a field test showed the driver was legally drunk. The driver would then be issued a temporary license and could request a hearing before Motor Vehicles Department officials.

# NATION & WORLD

## Inspection uncovers jet crack

**MIAMI (AP)** — Inspections on Eastern Airlines Boeing 727s found a fuselage crack in a jet in "roughly the same area" where a 14-inch hole tore open in another plane, forcing an emergency landing, the airline said today.

Eastern officials in Boston said the Boeing 727 was grounded for repairs at Logan International Airport after company inspectors discovered the 3-inch crack in the fuselage Monday night.

The airline ordered the inspections of its Boeing 727 fleet after a 14-inch hole tore open in the fuselage of an Atlanta-bound 727 on Monday, forcing it to make an emergency landing in Charleston, W.Va., when its cabin depressurized.

"We're doing it on our own," spokeswoman Karen Ceremak said from Eastern's headquarters in Miami. "It's just as a precautionary measure following yesterday's incident... We know that Eastern Airlines is safe. We hope that professionalism will prevail."

On Tuesday, federal officials investigating the forced landing of Atlanta-bound Flight 21 said the Boeing 727 had problems maintaining cabin pressure shortly after takeoff from Rochester, N.Y., before the roof ripped open.

"By the time they reached 31,000 feet, they were able to stabilize the pressure," although the hole in the fuselage soon developed, said National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Ted Lopatkiewicz.

There was no indication what caused the initial problem, he said.

A 5-inch crack had been found on the fuselage in an inspection in July 1988, although the plane had been scheduled to fly in an inspection as recently as September, Federal Aviation Administration officials said.

On orders from Eastern, mechanics spent Monday night and Tuesday inspecting 17 of the airline's 106-series 727s and 28 of the 206-series models.

"During the inspection of the 727s up in Boston, we uncovered a 3-inch crack in the fuselage," said airline spokesman Robin Matell, who added that the crack was in "roughly the same area" as the hole in the plane in Charleston.

Executives of the financially troubled airline insist their safety record is one of the industry's best, and blame disgruntled union officials for suggesting Eastern has a safety problem.

The airline's unions complained this year that Eastern employees were being pressured to bypass safety procedures.

However, an investigation by the FAA, which included inspection of every Eastern plane, reported the airline was safe, but expressed concern over labor-management strife that could have "an adverse impact on the public safety."

On Sunday, an Eastern A300 bound for Newark, N.J., had to return to Miami International Airport because of an engine problem. On Tuesday, a Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-bound Eastern A300 turned back to New York's LaGuardia airport after a problem with a door prevented the plane from being properly pressurized.

Two NTSB representatives from Washington were in Charleston today to examine the plane used on Flight 251. It could be six months before a final determination is made on what happened, said NTSB investigator Pamela Klecker.



ON THEIR OWN — Yvonne, left, and Yvette McCarther stand in their new apartment in Long Beach, Calif. The twins, who share a common blood-

## Siamese twins joined at head move to their own apartment

**LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP)** — It was only natural that at age 39, twins Yvonne and Yvette McCarther would leave their mother, who lovingly taught them to think of themselves as individuals.

The women, Siamese twins joined at the head, wonder why anybody else would find their decision unusual.

"I'm 39, and I always said I was going to move into my own place by the time I was 40," said Yvette. "I mean, when you get to be in your late 30s, you just decide — it's time to get your own place."

Yvonne agreed.

"It's been gotten around to it before — I love it, being on my own," she said.

Medical science calls the women craniopagus twins, the rarest kind of Siamese birth. They have separate brains and personalities, but share a bloodstream.

Their mother, Willie McCarther of Compton, taught her daughters to think of themselves as separate beings, and they've learned the lesson well.

Last year, they took classes at Compton Community College, creating a stir they greeted more with bemusement than anything else.

Their new home is a tiny apartment in suburban North Long Beach with one bedroom that rents for \$510 a month, paid for with close budgeting of government checks.

One of the top of their television set is an autographed photo of Ronnie and Donnie Galyon, 37, the only other known pair of living adult Siamese twins joined together.

The Galyons tour with a circus, as the McCarthers did in early years in order to pay to separate them, fearing one would die.

Yvette said it took her weeks to find her new apartment.

"I saw one in Compton I liked, but it was so expensive, I told the guy it would have to wait till I got married," she giggled.

"Better see if he's got a brother," deadpanned Yvonne.

## U.S. and Europe food war brews on hormone use

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The United States and the 12-nation European Community are teetering on the verge of a full-blown trade war over the issue of whether American meat containing growth hormones constitutes a health threat.

Both sides are locked in an acrimonious dispute which threatens to spill over into other areas of trade between America and its European allies. Two-way trade between the United States and the European Community totals \$150 billion annually.

On Tuesday, the Reagan administration vowed to impose \$100 million worth of trade sanctions against European food products, starting at 12:01 a.m. on Jan. 1.

The 100 percent duties will effectively double the wholesale price at the U.S. border for such popular products as hams, canned Italian tomatoes and imported wine coolers.

U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter said the stiff duties will go into effect unless the Europeans back down on their ban on imported meat products which contain growth hormones.

The meat ban — which is to be applied to all European suppliers, not just the United States — is scheduled to take effect on Jan. 1. Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and Argentina already have agreed to ship only hormone-free beef to Europe.

Yeutter, who is President-elect Bush's choice for agriculture secretary, said the European ban constituted an unfair trade practice because there was no scientific evidence that the hormones, which are used to increase bulk, cause any health effects in humans.

The Common Market countries contend that while the scientific evidence on meat hormones is not conclusive, they have the right to take precautionary action to protect health.

In a statement, the Reagan administration said the U.S. Food and Drug Administration had determined that the daily production of hormones in humans, even in children, is far higher than the minuscule levels left in meat from treated animals.

"We have tried repeatedly to bring this issue to a scientific dispute settlement panel under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in order to have it resolved," Yeutter said in a statement. "However, our European counterparts have blocked our efforts."

Yeutter said the \$100 million in duties roughly equals the estimate of lost European Community products in Europe.

The Europeans, however, have vowed to hike duties on other U.S. products if America makes good on its threat to retaliate. U.S. officials pledge they will counter the counter-retaliation. One proposal being considered by the U.S. side is a ban on all European meat imports, worth \$450 million a year.

Officials are predicting that at least the initial ban on meat containing growth hormones and the 100 percent duties announced by Yeutter on Tuesday will take effect on Jan. 1 since there are no talks scheduled before that time.

In Los Angeles, where President Reagan is vacationing, Deputy White House Press Secretary Lesley Arath said the administration had not lost sight of the fact that the European Community and the United States are major trading partners and allies.

However, the new dispute comes at a time of simmering animosity between America and its European allies.

The Europeans are upset over continued insistence by both Reagan and Bush that all countries should scrap trade-distorting farm subsidies over the several years. And American countries are worried that despite denials to the contrary, the European Community will erect new protectionist barriers blocking American goods as part of their effort to create a single market for much of Europe by 1992.

## Benefits awarded to worker who quit in smoking dispute

**HARTFORD (AP)** — An employee was justified in quitting his job after a co-worker defied company rules and continued to smoke despite requests that he stop, a state trial referee has ruled.

Referee James J. Kendzior's ruling will allow Dean C. Newcomb to collect unemployment benefits.

Newcomb submitted his resignation as a file clerk at Day, Berry & Howard in Hartford, one of the state's most prestigious law firms, on Sept. 7. He was found eligible for unemployment benefits by a labor department referee.

"When no corrective action was taken, the claimant was justified in leaving his job, and he is not subject to disqualification for unemployment benefits as a consequence of his quit," Kendzior said in his decision.

The decision in Newcomb's favor was made in mid-November, but wasn't made public until recently. Richard C. Ficks, a department spokesman, said Tuesday that the department doesn't publicize decisions issued by its employee justice appeals referees.

Newcomb's resignation was accepted by James J. Kendzior found that legitimate grievance existed and that Newcomb took "reasonable steps to inform his employer of his grievance."

State law requires companies with 50 or more employees to set aside no-smoking work areas. The labor commissioner can exempt a company if compliance would create a financial burden, if the company made a good-faith effort to comply.

Newcomb complained to the file-room supervisor that a co-worker was violating the law firm's no-smoking rule on a regular basis, according to documents in the case. Newcomb asked that corrective action be taken and was promised that the smoking would stop, the documents said.

But, the co-worker continued to smoke and on Sept. 6, Newcomb complained one more time to his supervisor. The supervisor again promised to correct the problem, the referee said. However, on Sept. 7, after his co-worker continued to smoke, Newcomb resigned, the referee said.

After quitting, Newcomb applied for unemployment benefits, but his request was denied because he voluntarily left his job. He then appealed the decision, which was overturned by Kendzior.

Kendzior said one factor that influenced his decision was that Newcomb was a former smoker who feared the smoke would harm his health and cause him to resume smoking. The referee noted that recent studies have demonstrated that individuals exposed to smoke face a health hazard. The referee said the smoke gave Newcomb a "sufficient cause to leave his job."

Ficks said the decision wasn't the first smoking-unemployment ruling in the state, but he said it was one of a very few. He didn't know how many similar unemployment decisions were made in the past year.

The decision will stand because Day, Berry & Howard has decided not to challenge Newcomb's complaint.

Hilda Harrop, the law firm's manager of human resources, denied that a problem existed with his supervisor.

"He walked off the job," she said.

Newcomb, a Glastonbury resident, declined to comment on the ruling.

## Some UConn-raised funds go to a private corporation

**HARTFORD (AP)** — Some money contributed during the University of Connecticut's annual fund-raising campaign by the school and goes directly to the private fund-raising corporation that was assailed recently during a state probe of financial abuses at the UConn Health Center.

University officials admit they don't tell donors what role the University of Connecticut Foundation Inc. plays in fund-raising. The omission, however, is intentional, university officials said.

"We didn't want to confuse our donors," said Lorraine G. Marchetti, who runs the annual fund-raising campaign encouraged donors to make unrestricted gifts to the school, allowing the university "the greatest latitude in addressing a pressing need or program affecting all schools and colleges or special programs."

The development office took over the annual fund-raising drive last year from the University of Connecticut Alumni Association, which had been running it since the early 1960s.

The year before, the alumni association raised \$525,256 from about 5,700 donors.

Frederick J. Bennett, president of the UConn foundation and director of development for the university, said in an interview this month that he is prepared to make changes to the brochures and other fund-raising literature, if necessary. But they said they preferred to wait.

"Our credibility's a little fragile right now," Bennett said. "The institution's entire fund-raising arena is a little fragile right now, and I think to make precipitous changes... may not be a prudent management decision."

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The year before, the alumni association raised \$525,256 from about 5,700 donors.

## Baby born on bus

**NEW HAVEN (AP)** — A firefighter says "it was pretty easy" to deliver a baby aboard a New Haven transit bus.

John Brantley, a firefighter and emergency medical technician, helped a woman give birth aboard the bus on Tuesday.

"We just had her push a couple times. We didn't really have any problems," Brantley said.

The driver stopped his bus at a downtown street corner after the woman said she was about to give birth, authorities said.

When the baby's head started to crown, she was placed on the floor of the bus which had been covered with some paper towels.

The baby's head was already out, and being held by the city policeman, when the two paramedics arrived.

Brantley, the bus driver was a volunteer fireman, so he had some experience in delivering babies.

Eight or 10 passengers remained on the bus while the woman gave birth, Brantley said.

The woman was taken to the Hospital of Saint Raphael, where she and her infant were listed in good condition. At the new mother's request, her identity and other information about the birth were not released.

The rescue workers said the woman was in her mid-20s, and apparently about a week past her due date.

■ **Baby born on plane.** Story on page 1.

## Danbury couple sues hospital over sex abuse of their son

**DANBURY (AP)** — A Danbury couple has filed a lawsuit claiming the hospital knew the psychological problems of a doctor who sexually abused their 15-year-old son.

The lawsuit, filed earlier this month in Danbury Superior Court by Ricardo and Gladys Almonte, also names Dr. Joseph R. DeMasi, a psychiatrist, as a defendant.

DeMasi pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting the couple's 15-year-old son while he was treating him at the hospital between Sept. 17 and Oct. 10, 1986. DeMasi is serving a seven-year sentence at Somers State Prison in connection with the case.

The lawsuit seeks damages in excess of \$15,000 to pay for the son's medical treatment.

The Almonte's son sought treatment from DeMasi for depression, anxiety, behavioral difficulties and school adjustment problems, which the lawsuit claims were severely aggravated by the DeMasi's assault.

The lawsuit states that the hospital knew about DeMasi's psychological problems yet allowed him to treat minors.

"Not six months earlier, DeMasi had been under investigation for a situation that is the mirror image of this one," John Curtas, the Almonte's attorney, said. "Had the hospital done the barest-bones background check, they would have discovered that DeMasi had been investigated for sexually assaulting a patient at Westchester County Medical Center in Yonkers, N.Y."

The hospital failed to monitor

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- For a class schedule, call 647-6140 or 647-6141.
- Walk-in registration for non-credit weekend courses, and credit weekend campus and off-campus courses is being held until Jan. 20, Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Friday, 9 a.m.-noon.
- For a class schedule, call 647-6087 or 647-6088.

## Crash victims recalled at memorial services

**HARTFORD (AP)** — In two Connecticut communities friends and relatives gathered to mourn the deaths and share the memories of two young adults killed in the crash of Pan Am Flight 103 in Scotland.

During ceremonies Tuesday in Ledyard and Lyme mourners tearfully remembered the lives of William G. Atkinson III and Scott Cory who were sitting out or nothing." Cory said during ceremonies at St. Ann's Church where 300 people packed the Episcopal church.

Cory, 20, was a third-year student at Syracuse University majoring in business administration. Cory was one of 35 Syracuse University students who were returning from a semester abroad at the time of the crash.

In Ledyard, friends and family remembered Atkinson during a memorial service at St. David's Episcopal Church. Atkinson, 33, had been working for a large real estate company in London and was returning home for the holidays. His wife, Judith, also died in the crash.

On Monday, mourners gathered to study German in Vienna, hoping that study abroad would prepare her for a job teaching German, her grandfather, Leonard Dombranski of New Haven said last week.

Ergin, 22, a junior at Syracuse University, was returning from London where he had been studying drama for a semester. Shaprio was a 21-year-old junior at Syracuse University where she majored in photo journalism.

■ **Tests suggest bomb downed plane.** Story on page 6.



## Man charged in bomb threat

**ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)** — A literature professor aboard an American Airlines jet was arrested on charges of issuing a bomb threat that forced the Boeing 767 to make an emergency landing at Albuquerque International Airport.

Flight 246 bound for Dallas from San Francisco with 198 people aboard was evacuated on a remote stretch of runway Tuesday, but searchers using bomb-sniffing dogs found no bomb or weapon, authorities said.

"The initial investigation revealed that a passenger was in possession of a note indicating there were bombs planted on the aircraft," FBI agent James W. Nelson said in a statement.

The passenger gave the note to a flight attendant, who relayed the information to the pilot. The FBI, after a lengthy interview of the passenger, took him into custody.

The suspect was identified as Peter M. Canning, 46, a literature professor at the University of California at Berkeley, a colleague, Dr. Avital Ronell, said in a telephone interview from Berkeley.

"He didn't do it. He handed a note that dropped on his lap from the stewardess' tray," Ms. Ronell said. "The stewardess was walking by, and it dropped on his lap."

Canning's girlfriend, Rhonda Lieberman, said from Berkeley that he had been flying to New Orleans for a convention of the Modern Language Association.

"This sounds like a major misunderstanding," said Ms. Lieberman. "It's an absolute disgrace. I can't believe they are doing this to him."

Canning was taken to the Bernalillo County Jail, where he was held for investigation of charges pertaining to destruction of aircraft and bomb threats made aboard aircraft, Nelson said.

Canning was scheduled for an initial appearance before a U.S. magistrate today, and bail was to be set then, Nelson said. If convicted, he could face up to five years in jail, a \$5,000 fine or both, Nelson said.

## Baby is born on jet

**LONDON (AP)** — A woman gave birth two months prematurely aboard a jumbo jet flying at 39,000 feet from Barbados to Britain, her husband too shocked to do anything but hold her hand, a newspaper reported today.

Catherine Flayo Capaldi was born Monday, the day after Christmas, while the British Airways Boeing 747 was over the Atlantic, the Times of London said.

The aircraft was diverted to Shannon airport in Ireland after the baby was born. Air ambulance rushed the baby and her mother, 31-year-old Maureen Capaldi of London, to St. Munchin's maternity hospital at Limerick, it said.

The baby weighed 3 pounds, 11 ounces at birth and mother and daughter were reported doing well, the paper said.

Mrs. Capaldi, 31 weeks into her pregnancy, was within one week of the recommended limit for pregnant air travelers and went into labor three hours after the plane took off, it said.

"The paper quoted the plane's copilot, Nick Eades, as saying: 'It was getting a bit panicky and I went to the passenger section to give reassurance, convinced that the woman was not going to die in place. But by the time I got there, it was all happening.'

"The head was already out. When the contractions stopped, the baby was there. It was really a do-it-yourself birth."

Eades was quoted as saying it was "a bit of a shock" to see the line from the medical kit while I tried artificial respiration. We decided to leave well alone and not cut the umbilical cord."

"I then rushed back to the flight deck to (help to) land the airplane. Mrs. Capaldi was very calm throughout."

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## Manchester Herald

DECEMBER 28 1988

# Testing suggests bomb was cause in Pan Am crash

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP) — Heat damage to the plastic lining of a cargo bay and metal slivers found embedded in the bodies of passengers indicate that a bomb blown Pan Am Flight 103, the Times of London reported today.

"We can be 99 percent certain that it was a bomb," said author and terrorism expert Michael Yardley. "My guess is that it was a large device, probably 10 to 20 kilos (22 to 44 pounds) of plastic explosive like Semtex."

In London today, pine coffins containing the first bodies of Americans killed in the Dec. 21 crash arrived at Heathrow Airport and were loaded onto two separate Pan Am flights bound for New York.

On Tuesday night, residents paid silent respects to the five American victims of the jumbo jet disaster whose bodies were the first to leave this Scottish town since the New York-bound Boeing 747 fell onto its pieces.

All 259 people aboard were killed, and 11 missing townspeople are presumed dead. Police spokesman Angus Kennedy said one more body was recovered Tuesday, bringing the total to 241.

More than 600 rescuers, including 15 divers, 30 trackers and 100 soldiers, resumed their search today of the woods and icy waters in a 106-square-mile area of southwestern Scotland for the missing victims and wreckage, which included one of the plane's wings.

Also today, four men arrested for alleged looting of the wreckage were scheduled to appear in local court.

The Times quoted unidentified investigators as saying they found heat damage on parts of a cargo bay's plastic lining, caused most probably by an explosion among luggage. The paper called

"Experts believe that the damage and injuries are incompatible with a catastrophic structural failure on the jet, the other possible cause of the disaster," the newspaper reported.

Charles said Monday, however, that structural damage had not been ruled out as a cause of the disaster.

Also today, four men arrested for alleged looting of the wreckage were scheduled to appear in local court.

# NATION & WORLD

## Bush on quail trail

BEEVILLE, Texas (AP) — Toting a double-barreled shotgun and accompanied by bird dogs, President-elect Bush successfully stalked quail on his second day in the scrubland, his aides said.

Bush was out of the public's sight on the Lazy F Ranch, but the White House released a picture of him Tuesday in his hunting garb.

Steve Hart, Bush's spokesman, said the vice president was successful, but he did not know how many birds Bush had killed.

Conditions have been less than perfect for quail hunting this year, local residents say, in part because of the drought, which killed some birds. Tuesday's temperatures in the 70s were above the ideal level for quail hunting, and gusty winds were an impediment.

Bush is scheduled to remain on the Lazy F today with his friends, Will Farish, the Houston millionaire who owns the ranch, and James A. Baker III, the designated secretary of state.

## Quake reported in Maine

WATERVILLE, Maine (AP) — A minor earthquake shook central Maine today, prompting scores of calls to police but causing no serious damage or reports of injuries, authorities said.

The tremor struck at 1:29 a.m. and registered about 2.5 to 3 on the Richter scale, according to Marvin Carlson, a geophysicist at the National Earthquake Information Center in Golden, Colo.

Carlson said the general area of the quake was east of Waterville, a city about 30 miles inland.

Police Sgt. Jeff Massey said the quake lasted about 15 seconds.

"Several people thought it was an explosion," Massey said. "The switchboard just lit up. ... Most people called and said they thought their furnace blew out. One lady said she thought her husband fell out of bed."

## Korea orders crackdown

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — President Roh Tae-woo ordered a crackdown on political and labor unrest today and warned

that violent protests are threatening South Korea's political and economic stability.

In an unusually tough statement, Roh issued a "special directive" to police and security forces to halt violent protests and labor strikes, attacks on government buildings and other political violence.

"Unlawful and disorderly developments and excessive demands gushing forth in the course of liquidating authoritarianism ... are threatening not only democracy but also the stability of the free economy," he told a meeting of key government officials.

Opposition and dissident groups immediately denounced Roh's statement and accused the government of seeking excess to oppress opponents and avoid any loss of authority. The National Assembly is controlled by the opposition.

## West Bank, Gaza violence

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israeli soldiers shot and killed a Palestinian teen-ager and four Arabs were reported wounded today in clashes in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during a general strike that shut most businesses and schools.

Police used tear gas to disperse stone-throwers in Arab east Jerusalem, and the police spokesman's office said three Palestinians were detained.

In Gaza, the army clamped a curfew on four refugee camps, confining 150,000 Arabs to their homes.

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# GM's X-body cars draw most owner complaints

By Guy Dorst The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — GM's now-dead X-body cars were trumpeted in the 1980 model year as the first of a new breed of fuel-efficient models from Detroit, but a consumers' guide says the cars prompted owners to complain like no other American car built in the 1980s.

Jack Gillis, the principal author of the 1980 edition of "The Car Book," which was released Tuesday, said the X-cars were "probably the worst cars ever produced in the United States."

Gillis' guide, first produced in 1981 for the government but now being issued as a private venture, for the first time this year classifies cars according to owners' complaints lodged with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Those government figures show 15 cars with no complaints at all: nine Japanese names, four U.S. models, a Swedish and a German.

The book classifies autos as simply "good," "average" or "poor," according to whether a car ranked in the top, middle or bottom third of the list of complaints per million cars. Similar classifications are made in a companion volume, the "Used Car Book."

In a news release accompanying "The Car Book," Gillis listed actual complaint rates for the 26 best and 26 worst models available in the United States.

The X-cars occupied four of the worst seven slots. Before production ended after the 1985 model year, the X-cars — Chevrolet Citation, Pontiac

Phoenix, Oldsmobile Omega and Buick Skylark — were the subject of a massive 1983 lawsuit by the government seeking a \$4 million fine from General Motors Corp. and a recall of 1980 X-car models to modify rear brakes that federal regulators said could lock and cause a spin.

Also, Lincoln Mark series 1983-1988, 1.671; Pontiac 1000 1981-1987, 1.670; Cadillac Cimarron 1981-1988, 1.648; Dodge Aries 1981-1988, 1.623; Plymouth Reliant 1981-1988, 1.573; Mercury Marquis 1983-1988, 1.539; Buick Skyhawk 1983-1988, 1.534; Pontiac Fiero 1984-1988, 1.517; Ford Thunderbird 1980-1982, 1.469; Chrysler LeBaron 1982-1988, 1.440; Pontiac 6000 1982-1988, 1.438.

There were 15 cars and light trucks with no complaints against them at all: Acura Integra 1986-1988, Buick Somerset Regal 1985-1987, Chevrolet S-10 Blazer 1986-1988, Chrysler LeBaron GT5 1985-1988, Dodge Shadow 1987-1988, Honda Civic CRX 1984-1987, Hyundai Excel 1986-1988, Mazda B2000 1986-1988, Nissan Van 1987-1988, Saab 9000 1986-1988, Subaru Justy 1987-1988, Toyota Starlet 1981-1984, Toyota Tercel 1987-1988, Toyota Van Wagon 1986-1988 and the Volkswagen Fox 1987-1988.

The next best 11 models and complaints per million: Nissan Sentra 1987-1988, 4; Suzuki Samurai 1986-1988, 8; Nissan Stanza 1987-1988, 13; Buick Wildcat 1986-1988, 23; Acura Legend 1986-1988, 25; Toyota MR 1985-1988, 26; Mazda RX7 1986-1988, 32; Toyota Celica 1986-1988, 32; Nissan Pickup 1986-1988, 62; Volkswagen Vanagon 1981-1988, 93; Mitsubishi Tredia 1983-1988, 93.

Gillis used information from a variety of sources, including NHTSA's results of crash testing, fuel

economy data compiled by the Environmental Protection Agency, manufacturer's warranty data and maintenance requirements, resale values tracked by the National Automobile Dealers Association and material from other sources.

Using ratings in fuel economy, warranties, repair and insurance costs, complaints and crash tests — which were given the greatest weight — Gillis rated "best" and "worst" choices from each major size category. This year, the differences among large cars did not warrant choosing best and worst in that size class.

His top three choices: Subcompact — Ford Escort, Honda Civic, Mazda 323; Compact — Buick Skylark two-door, Dodge Aries, Oldsmobile Cutlass Calais two-door, Intermediate — Ford Taurus, Mercury Sable, Oldsmobile Cutlass Clera; Minivans — Dodge Caravan, Nissan Van, Plymouth Voyager.

His choices as the worst: Subcompact — Geo Spectrum, Isuzu I-Mark, Mitsubishi Precis; Compact — Chrysler LeBaron, Dodge Daytona, Dodge Lancer; Intermediate — Audi 100-200, Dodge Dynasty, Isuzu Impulse; Minivans — Chevrolet Astro, Ford Aerostar, Volkswagen Vanagon.

Copies of "The Car Book," published by Harper & Row, may be obtained at bookstores or by writing The Center for Auto Safety, 2001 S. St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009. The cost of \$15.25 includes postage and handling.

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# OPINION

## Pay raises worth study

Political action committees have used speaking fees as a way to funnel money into the pockets of lawmakers. This practice has led to charges of influence buying.

The Commission on Executive, Legislative and Judicial Salaries may have found a solution. It just recommended that salaries for members of Congress, judges and high-level federal officials be raised 50 percent to make up for losses to inflation over the past 20 years. In return, the three branches of government would prohibit honoraria.

A 50 percent raise might sound like a lot, but consider this: If salaries are at an attractive level, there should be no excuse for government officials to have their hands out looking for more money. It might also take from PACs their most potent tool.

The Sunday Republican Waterbury, Conn.

## Sox can survive

Red Sox fans would be less than human if they were not disconcerted because of Bruce Hurst's decision to leave the team to pitch for San Diego.

No matter how he and others explain the tie of family and other influences that persuaded him to go, the blow is no easier for the fans to bear.

The old saying that things are never so bad that they cannot be worse should be brought to bear here. The fans should consult history and learn, or be reminded, that the Red Sox once sold Babe Ruth.

The Sun Chronicle Attleboro, Ma.

## Open Forum

### Werkhoven's example is one others should follow

To the Editor:

As a minority leader who is a dedicated servant and champion of the people.

It was in July '78 that we as residents of the northern section of the town of Manchester, encompassing Starkweather Street, Sherwood Circle, Green Road, White Street, Harlan Street, Tanner Street, Phelps Road, Woodbridge Street, North Elm Street, and Hill Street, came before Theunis (Terry) Werkhoven with a petition consisting of approximately 100 signatures complaining of the stench, odors, dust and noise from the Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmers Association's grain mill at Apple Place in Manchester.

Mr. Werkhoven had been assigned for that particular Thursday evening's committee session. We occupied the general manager's office because of the lack of adequate space to accommodate all of the people present. This problem has existed for many years, but was never properly addressed by any source and never did get any sound response from any director until Theunis (Terry) Werkhoven told us: "I'll be there in the morning." Sure enough, he kept his word.

Theunis Werkhoven has restored our confidence as he has to many other residents having serious problems in the town by reviewing with an in-depth study the complaints that have come before him. He has visited the grain mill on three occasions and has determined the origin of dust and odors emanating from the grain mill's operation. He keeps in touch with the people.

Theunis Werkhoven has come to the Board of Directors with excellent credentials and he has served with dedication and interest in the town and its residents. We should be proud and thankful we have a servant that so many of us need and who will respond when called upon.

Since coming to the board last year, Theunis Werkhoven has responded to residents on Vernon Street, East Middle Turnpike with its potholes in the backyard (11 yrs. duration), North Elm Street, Starkweather Street and others. He has done an excellent job in keeping people properly informed. Do you know of any other director or official who would take the time to personally come to investigate serious complaints?

What the town needs are more directors with sincere dedication, and servants who will share their time, interest and will listen to the needs of the residents of the town. We need you, Mr. Werkhoven. Keep up the good work. We have faith in what you are doing for us and other residents throughout the town.

Criticism and sarcastic remarks made against you are uncalled for and are not warranted for all the good that you have already done for us. You are a devoted and responsive person working for a common interest, to serve the residents with integrity.

You have set an example. Let others follow in your footsteps.

Caroline F. Krieski 95 Starkweather Street

## Bush has education dilemma

By Christopher Connell

WASHINGTON — For George Bush to succeed in his quest to become president in history as "the education president," he will have to spur American schools to achieve results that have proved elusive despite intensive reform efforts.

The gaping federal budget deficit will make it difficult for Bush to find new money for schools beyond what he promised during the presidential campaign.

If Bush concentrates instead on simply trying to advance education through use of the bully pulpit, he may find Ronald Reagan has already played that role to the hilt.

Reagan never said he wanted to be an education president. When he entered the White House, the main item on his education agenda was to abolish the Department of Education. He failed, and was largely rebuffed on repeated attempts to cut billions of dollars from federal school programs.

But Reagan also presided over the most intense and prolonged period of school reforms in the nation's history.

His first secretary of education, H. Bell, commissioned the 1983 report, "A Nation at Risk," that triggered efforts in most states to raise school standards. His second secretary, William J. Bennett, made headlines pillorying the education establishment and championing parents' rights in public education.

The public responded to the alarms sounded in "A Nation at Risk" and the literally dozens of other dire-sounding reports that followed it by pouring more money into the schools. The average public school teacher today makes nearly \$30,000 a year; salaries have risen 45 percent since 1982, double the rate of inflation.



## Bidding goodbye to Weicker

By Bob Conrad

It's his hall and farewell next week to Lowell Palmer Weicker Jr., central figure in Connecticut's biggest political story of 1988, as a U.S. senator for the last 18 years.

At midnight Monday, the Republican from Greenwich leaves the office he first won in 1970. Joseph L. Lieberman of New Haven, the Democrat who defeated him on Nov. 8, takes over the next day.

It was Weicker's first loss in a career that began in 1962 when he was elected a state representative from Greenwich.

His future in public life is unclear at this writing, possibly even to himself. But he's been in politics long enough to know you never close the door all the way on anything.

Weicker rode his reputation as a maverick — one he developed early in the game when he discovered that being contrary got him attention — all the way to the polls, one more time, in November. He was his party's only statewide office holder, a fact which magnified his loss for the GOP.

Maverick or not, Weicker would not have abandoned his adopted role as voice and champion of the helpless and others he saw as getting the shaft from society. He wanted his party, Theunis (Terry) Werkhoven with a petition consisting of approximately 100 signatures complaining of the stench, odors, dust and noise from the Central Connecticut Cooperative Farmers Association's grain mill at Apple Place in Manchester.

Mr. Werkhoven had been assigned for that particular Thursday evening's committee session. We occupied the general manager's office because of the lack of adequate space to accommodate all of the people present. This problem has existed for many years, but was never properly addressed by any source and never did get any sound response from any director until Theunis (Terry) Werkhoven told us: "I'll be there in the morning." Sure enough, he kept his word.

until he became "a doddering idiot." That was during an interview at his stately office in the Capitol — the room with a view down the Mall toward the Washington Monument. He said with a wince of the "peres" of his considerable seniority. Whatever the future held, "I want to be the same excitable kid going out that I was coming in," he said.

Those of us who covered Weicker for the whole tour and before (he had one term in the U.S. House earlier) will miss him. He was what we call good copy. But among Republicans there was little middle ground between Weicker-likers and those who resented his independence. When the party's top policy body adopted a resolution of appreciation for his years in the Senate at a meeting in Waterbury, there was general approval — and stony silence by detractors who could not bring themselves even to polite applause.

Weicker's defeat ended the friendly personal relationship in the Senate between him and the state's other member — Democrat Chris Dodd. But there has been a warm postscript.

The director of Weicker's office in Hartford, Hank Harper, needed 86 days beyond the cut off of his boss' term to qualify for a federal pension. Ironically, Harper had that deficit because of time he went off the payroll in 1976 and 1982 to work in Weicker's re-election campaigns.

Dodd has put Harper on his staff long enough to earn that time.

Harper, who joined Weicker's staff in 1970, was a close friend well before that — prep school, Yale and military service. Another long-termer is Dick Benson of Bethel, a key aide at the Hartford office. "It was lying, half dead, in a veterans' hospital in 1970 when Weicker came by," says Benson, who lost a leg in Vietnam war combat. It was instant chemistry, he recalls, and a job that has been "a terrific experience."

Former state Rep. Tom Dudchik of Ansonia, who put aside college to be a Weicker field staffer, confirms the boss' loyalty to his crew. Dudchik is going to Trinity now to complete his work for a degree.

Weicker gained fame as a member of the Senate Watergate committee when he was a freshman. I saw him later at the Alexandria, Va., town house he bought from John Dean, a figure in that probe. The only thing Dean left behind was a sign over the kitchen door which read, "Nixon's the One." Weicker thought that was pretty neat. He kept it.

Weicker always supported equal rights for women, so when one of the minor leagues in baseball hired a woman umpire I asked him whether he'd favor that for the majors. "Absolutely," he replied.

Whether he faces in a new public role is up to him. He, maybe his old friend Bari Giamatti can fix him up as president of a major league if the Trinity College presidency doesn't work out. But I recall what Weicker said in that chat at the Capitol when, not knowing what would happen in November, I asked about his eventual retirement.

"I don't want to go out tailing off," he said.

Bob Conrad, a Bristol resident, writes weekly about Connecticut politics.

## American set free in Ghana

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta

WASHINGTON — Darrell Alexander spent Christmas at home: Six months ago he was in a prison in Ghana and thought that his country had abandoned him and that he would never see home again.

Alexander, 47, is a Los Angeles bird importer who made the mistake of shopping for African gray parrots in Ghana in western Africa. The birds are a protected species, but Alexander had what he thought were the proper permits. When he tried to board a plane with his birds on June 6, Ghanaian police arrested him for smuggling.

We first heard his story when his family staged a demonstration outside the Democratic Convention in Atlanta in July. Alexander's wife Florence was terrified with the possibility that the State Department would allow her husband to die in prison. He hadn't been charged or tried. Another American had started to death in the same prison without ever being charged with a crime. Mrs. Alexander asked for our help.

We published his story in August and Darrell Alexander felt the impact almost immediately in Ghana. He was hauled into an interrogation room. "I was told that my wife was a meddler and that this capitalist Jack Anderson was writing untrue material," Alexander told us. "I thought right then and there, somebody knows I'm alive. I knew it was a different ball game. They had to do something. They couldn't just leave me."

We appealed personally to Eric Otoo, Ghana's ambassador to the United States. "I don't think it is the intention of Ghana to see this man die in prison," he told us, and generously promised to intervene.

Alexander's case went into overdrive. He was charged with attempted smuggling and bribery. A Ghanaian tribunal ruled that he had been duped by a local exporter who forged papers for the parrots, but the tribunal sentenced him to prison until Dec. 6.

Alexander's release date came and went. While his wife tried to pull money from Los Angeles, the Ghanaian government lost his paperwork. Finally Alexander was taken by police to "The Castle," the home of the colorful military ruler, Flight Lt. Jerry Rawlings, who wears a pilot's jump suit and hobnobs with Fidel Castro and Moammar Gadhafi.

Rawlings came out for two minutes and said "We're sorry for the inconvenience," Alexander said.

That night, he was released on the streets of Accra, the capital city of Ghana. He had no money, no passport and no shoes, but he was free. He was also 50 pounds lighter and immeasurably wiser about the peres, Americans in face in foreign prisons. He says he was tortured with a castle prod and forced to stand in a tank of water and nearly covered his head. "They put me up against a wall and told me they were going to shoot me and put an Uzzi to my head. I told them, 'You can't hurt me. I'm an American.'" He was the dumbest thing I said. They don't care.

Ambassador Otoo hopes Americans will see this case from his point of view. Ghana is an impoverished nation living on the World Bank dole. Given a choice, officials there would not spend their limited resources in chasing parrot smugglers. But international wildlife conventions compel them to protect the birds. As for the harsh prison conditions, Otoo said that is not what Ghanaians want either, but making life comfortable for prisoners is not a top priority in a poor country.

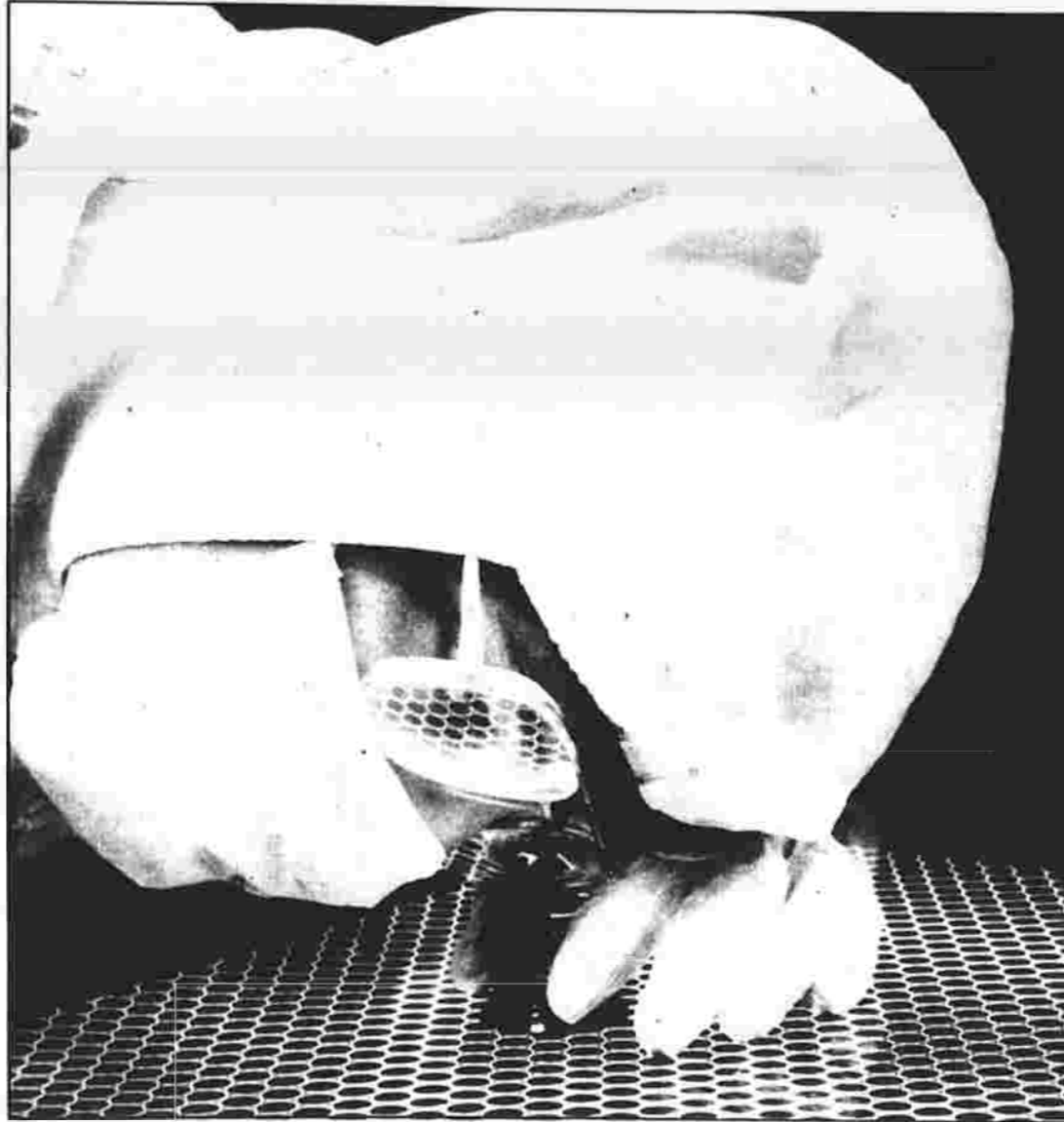
Ironically, Alexander came away with a new respect for the Ghanaian people and the oppression they suffer. "I was not treated any worse than the Ghanaians (prisoners) are treated, but they are not treated any better than farmyard animals and probably worse," he told our associate Daryl Gibson. "While I was there, I literally fell in love with the Ghanaian people."

Alexander can't say the same for the State Department that is supposed to protect Americans who handled his case. "You don't give a damn what happens to the Americans here."

Footnote: Apparently there are no hard feelings in Ghana. Two days after Alexander arrived home he got a mailgram from Ghanaian government official saying that the country was sending an emissary next month to discuss a joint business venture with him.

Jack Anderson and his associate, Dale Van Atta, are syndicated columnists.

# BUSINESS



I SEE YOUR POINT — A technician for AMTX Inc. inspects a point on a photocopied inside an ultra-high-level clean room in the company's Rochester, N.Y., plant. The photocopied will be used to apply a pattern to the sensitized surface of material from which hundreds of micro-sized parts will be made. AMTX, a subsidiary of Xerox, produces very small and precise parts for various equipment.

## Buying burst turns holiday into jolly one across U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — Major U.S. retailers found Christmas the season to be jolly as consumer sales staged a buying burst that made store managers pleasantly surprised and hopeful that the nearly 2-year-old slump is ending.

"It was a pretty solid kind of sales performance," said Michael Wellman, vice president of marketing for K mart Corp. "We're pleased."

At Dayton Hudson Corp., spokesman Don St. Dennis said, "It was a good Christmas, a little bit better than what we had planned."

Wall Street analysts estimated overall retail sales were up around 6 percent from Christmas 1987, with some segments of the industry recording even stronger gains.

Edward Johnson, an analyst with Prescott Ball & Turben, said the season was "in the high range of what the stores have been looking for."

The Christmas season is crucial for retailers because they make about half their annual profits during the period. Consumer activity such as retail sales accounts for about two-thirds of the gross national product, the broadest measure of the nation's economic activity.

Monroe H. Greenstein, an analyst with Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., said the general tone of business was better than last year, when faltering sales forced retailers to slash prices.

But this season there were fewer markdowns, Greenstein said. At Dayton Hudson's department stores, there were just three promotional events, compared with 10 last year, St. Dennis said. Some retailers said they came through the season well, even though business was erratic.

"I don't think we expected it to be quite as see-saw as it was," said Wellman.

Wellman said K mart had a robust start right after Thanksgiving, but sales slackened and then picked up before surging in the final days of the season.

"They came through again," he said of last-minute shoppers. Wellman estimated K mart's discount stores had a 6 percent sales increase, what the company had hoped to achieve when the season began.

Another satisfied retailer was Tiffany & Co., the luxury jeweler, which reported its sales were up 24 percent from Nov. 1 through Christmas Day. The company's performance indicated high-ticket gifts sold well.

The retailers and analysts had conservative expectations going into the season because of the retail slump. Debt-saddled consumers have put many purchases on hold as they pay for services and necessities.

There were signs in recent months that sales might pick up, but retailers were taking no chances. They stocked their shelves carefully and didn't expect too much from the season.

Retailers therefore have less merchandise to unload in the days after Christmas. "The stock rooms are clean — there won't be a lot of big clearance sales," St. Dennis said. Some analysts said the holiday results might mean an end to that the retailers' long dry spell is approaching.

"Christmas is really setting a positive tone for 1989," said Robert Buchanan, an analyst with A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc. in St. Louis. "The consumer has been on his backside, but is coming back."

"Underlying strength in the consumer is beginning to build," Buchanan said. "I'm looking for a respectable 1989 in terms of non-durable sales."

But Greenstein was less optimistic. He said clothing sales likely would be strong, but for the retail industry as a whole, "the rates of sales gains in recent months are not sustainable."

WASHINGTON (AP) — Businesses, rushing to expand and modernize production facilities, are planning to boost spending to a record \$451.64 billion next year, the government reported today.

The Commerce Department said that a survey completed in November found businesses planning to increase spending by 5.9 percent in 1989 over a projected 1988 spending level of \$426.49 billion. All of these figures have been adjusted to take inflation into account.

If these spending plans are realized, it would mean that 1988 and 1989 would set back-to-back spending records, surpassing the previous one-year spending mark of \$391.58 billion set in 1983.

The rise in spending this year is estimated to be 10.3 percent, which would be the biggest percentage increase since a 16.6 percent rise in 1984, a year in which American businesses were still recovering from the steep 1981-82 recession.

The projected growth in business spending would spell good news for the economy next year, providing part of the momentum needed to keep the country out of a recession.

## New check law backfires, Dodd may seek a change

HARTFORD (AP) — The sponsor of federal legislation designed to give bank customers quicker access to money from deposited checks says he may convene a hearing to amend a law that has resulted in longer delays in some cases.

The Fair Deposit Availability Act, written by U.S. Sen. Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., took effect Sept. 1, limiting the length of time banks may hold a deposited check without making the money available.

Although the law's intent was to make money available sooner, in some cases banks are holding the money longer, says the Federal Reserve Bank in Boston. Checks that used to clear in two or three days are now being held for the entire time the law allows, up to seven days in some cases.

"I introduced and fought for this law because consumers were being ripped off — their deposited checks being held for two to three weeks or longer without cause," said Dodd, who says he may convene hearings and seek to amend the law.

"If depository institutions read the Fair Deposit Availability Act as a license to arbitrarily hold up credit for deposited checks, they are gravely misinterpreting the statute," he said.

Banks counter that they didn't have enough time to prepare for the new law, that the law gives them less leeway and that the Federal Reserve hasn't made good on its promise to speed processing of returned checks.

For years, consumer advocates have complained that too much time elapsed before banks and other financial institutions made money deposited by checks available to their customers. A bank would hold a check for as long as two weeks, ostensibly while determining whether the check was backed by sufficient funds.

Consumer advocates charged that it took banks only two or three days at most to clear the check and that while the money was unavailable to the customer who deposited it, the bank had free use of it to invest.

Under the law, all banks, savings and loan associations, savings banks and credit unions are required to give consumers the use of their money deposited in checking, share-draft or NOW accounts within a fixed number of days.

The new law does not require banks to delay availability of deposited money; it only limits how long the delay may last.

In addition, the financial institutions must tell customers in writing how soon they may use their money after making a deposit by check.

The settlement against DEG Properties Inc. was announced Tuesday by Deputy Attorney General Clarine Riddle and Consumer Protection Commissioner Mary M. Heslin. It was signed by Hartford Superior Court Judge Ronald J. Fracasse on Friday.

Since 1986, the state Department of Consumer Protection and the state attorney general's office have received thousands of complaints from consumers who received promotional mailings offering them a free gift if they visited DEG's Water's Edge Inn and Resort.

The gifts offered included cars, televisions, gas barbecue grills and Hawaii vacations. Riddle said. The gifts were of little value or required the customer to make a substantial payment, Riddle said.

For example, the gas grill was found to be illegal because it did not meet safety standards and customers were later notified not to use it. And for the Hawaii trip, the customer would have to pay the air or hotel fare, Riddle said.

She said the settlement would be "a significant deterrent for future violations by other companies."

The law requires that these types of deposits must be made available the next day:

- Cash.
- Checks written on another account at the same bank.
- Government, cashier's, certified or teller's checks.
- Direct deposit and other electronic credits.
- The first \$100 of any check deposit.

In addition, the law requires that money from checks written on local financial institutions must be available on the third business day after the day of deposit.

Checks written on non-local institutions and deposits made at an automated teller machine that does not belong to the customer's institution must be available on the seventh business day after the day of deposit.

Paul S. Murray, special projects officer of People's Bank, agreed that in conjunction with the new law, banks were promised that the Federal Reserve would speed its processing of returned checks.

In addition, banks did not have a lot of time to prepare for the law, he said.

"We haven't really seen it speed up so far," Murray said.

As a result, People's continues to hold out-of-state checks for five days because of the uncertainty over the Federal Reserve's improving its check-return process.

"People's Bank is 'analyzing' its policy to make sure that its customers are not being hurt by it. Murray said it is very likely there will be some changes in the policy.

## Real estate company to pay \$50,000 fine

HARTFORD (AP) — A Westbrook real estate company has agreed to pay a \$50,000 fine and stop offering prizes and gifts to entice potential customers to travel to a Westbrook resort to inspect their property.

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## The Manchester Herald

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**Manchester Herald**

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DECEMBER 28 1988

### Teach

From page 1

year the couple returns to the board for approval to continue with the home schooling, and three times a year the school-age boys go to Robertson School for testing.

"They spend half an hour with the reading specialist and take math tests. And, so far, it's working because they're doing better now than before when they were attending school," Pat said.

She said the boys do not have to take the state mastery tests, which are required for children who attend public schools.

William Carpenter, principal at Robertson School, said he could not disclose results of the boys' progress. But he did discuss home schooling in general terms.

"I can't see how the children could develop as they would in school," said Carpenter.

He said the youngsters are not being exposed to experiences they would be in school and admits that can be good and bad. But Carpenter said, "I feel

### Not many parents teaching at home

By Jacqueline Bennett  
Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — At 195, the number of families statewide with children taught at home has increased over the past two years, says a state Department of Education official.

But Marie DellaBella, consultant to non-public schools, says, "That number is low compared to other states."

There are 532,147 students in total in the state.

While the number of children learning at home has increased over the last five years, DellaBella says she does not believe that is any reflection on the state's education system.

"One reason people make that choice is a desire to keep the family unit at home as long as possible. Another reason is religion," she said.

Since 1982, DellaBella said state law allows parents three choices: Educating their children in public schools, educating them in private schools, or educating them "elsewhere." The local Board of Education must approve a parent's request to educate his child at home and then the state must agree to it.

DellaBella said parents must follow a number of guidelines.

For example, parents must furnish their local Board of Education with a curriculum, a schooling calendar, a method of monitoring the children's progress and from time to time meet with a school official so achievement can be measured.

Despite those measures, Allan Chesterton, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction for Manchester schools, does not look favorably on home schooling.

"If I had my druthers, those children (home schooled) would be in public schools. There is to be gotten from coming to school. It's richer, there is more exposure," said Chesterton.

Chesterton said there is value for children in mixing and mingling among other children and teachers. Also, he said, it is difficult for parents to offer as much educational variety as a public school. He pointed particularly to music and physical education courses.

Chesterton said he knew of seven elementary-age children in Manchester who are being edu-

ated at home, mostly for religious reasons.

While he said school officials can make sure children educated at home are exposed to a curriculum comparable to a public school, it is difficult to measure the quality of instruction they are receiving.

"The curriculum may be comparable to a public school, but whether or not the instruction is, is hard to say. Some parents may be certified to teach, but they don't have to be."

Investigators study fire site

COVENTRY — State and local fire officials are sifting through the charred remains of Guido's supermarket in Coventry for the second day to try to determine the cause of the blaze which destroyed the 20-year-old landmark business Monday night.

Adam Berluti, a spokesman for the state Fire Marshal's Office, said this morning he couldn't say how long it will take investigators to determine the origin and cause of the fire because the roof collapsed during the blaze.

"As it was described to me, the roof was in the basement, so there is heavy damage and a lot of debris to get through," Berluti said.

No damage estimate could be compiled, officials said Tuesday. The 6,400-square-foot market on Route 31 has been owned by Guido Gianlonio, of Newton, for 20 years.

A man who identified himself as Gianlonio's son declined to comment today on the extent of insurance coverage on the building.

### Budget

From page 1

It's implicit what I say here applies to the new budget."

Boyce Spinelli, director of finance, said so far the town has maintained its surplus goal of \$1.6 million. The surplus was estimated earlier this year at \$2.5 million, but the amount dropped because the town used much of the funds to pay for a new revaluation to take the place of the scrapped 1987 revaluation, he said.

The town scrapped an in-house revaluation after numerous complaints. The town has hired KVS Information Systems of Amherst, NY to redo the revaluation.

"There has been very, very little (spending) up to this point."

When the boys attended school, her husband rarely had a chance to spend time with them. Now he can play games with them when he comes home from work in the evenings, said Pat.

As far as socializing with other children, Jason is taking judo lessons. Colin and Andrew are Cub Scouts.

The McMullans do not have a background in education but Pat said for now they will continue with the home schooling.

"For now, we plan to do it indefinitely," she said.

### GOP chief challenges appointment of Riddle

HARTFORD (AP) — State Republican Chairman Robert S. Poliner today challenged the appointment of Deputy Attorney General Clarence Riddle as acting attorney general, saying state law makes no provision for such an appointment.

Poliner, with a state statute book open in front of him, told Capitol reporters that the General Assembly could change the law during the 1989 session, but that "her appointment until such time as the legislature acts is not legitimate."

Riddle was appointed acting attorney general last week by Gov. William A. O'Neill, to succeed Joseph I. Lieberman, who was elected to the U.S. Senate in November.

O'Neill used the "acting" status because Riddle does not meet the requirement in state law that

the attorney general have 10 years experience as a lawyer in Connecticut. She has just over nine years.

"Ms. Riddle is obviously a talented and able person," Poliner said. "I am sure she would prove to be a capable attorney general if she met the statutory qualifications for the position."

"But I really think something has to be done by the legislature if this woman is to be considered the attorney general."

"As far as I'm concerned, there's still a vacancy in the office," Poliner said. "By calling her acting attorney general doesn't make her attorney general."

Jon L. Sandberg, O'Neill's press secretary, said O'Neill had been assured by his counsel, Howard G. Rifkin, that the appointment was legally correct.

### Economic

From page 1

questions correctly, blacks 33 percent, and Hispanics 36 percent.

Rudolph Oswald, director of research of the AFL-CIO, called the results "appalling."

"They rationalize better than any series of speeches the reasons why organized labor feels it can only gain from an economically literate population," Oswald said.

The survey was sponsored by the New York-based Joint Council on Economic Education, a non-profit, nationwide coalition aimed at promoting economics instruction from kindergarten through high school.

The exam was the first to document the apparent economic illiteracy of a majority of U.S. high school students. Economics thus joins a growing list of disciplines including writing, geography, foreign language, science and math where recent tests have shown U.S. students achieving at dismal levels.

Japan requires all high school students to take at least a semester of economics, Walstad said. But only 28 states require economics in the curriculum in some form, and just 15 require economics for graduation.

"All too often economics is simply left out of the list of required subjects in recent calls for educational reform," Walstad said.

Compounding the problem, few teachers can teach it.

"Teachers are the first to realize that they have inadequate background in the subject," said Roxanne E. Bradshaw, secretary-treasurer of the National Education Association.

Texas, for example, recently established a high school economics requirement, but only 5

### Fires kill 2

By The Associated Press

Two early morning fires today in East Haven and Canterbury claimed the lives of two young people, officials say.

East Haven firefighters battled a two-alarm blaze in a single family home on Demeter Drive, responding to the fire about 2:10 a.m., according to fire Chief William Webster.

The house was fully involved when fire trucks reached the scene and firefighters were told that a youth was trapped inside, Webster said. Officials have not released the youth's identity.

In Canterbury, Jason Congdon, 8, of Brooklyn, died of smoke inhalation in a fire that struck a home about 1:30 a.m. today, according to state police.

Canterbury fire Chief David Veit said 11 people were in the house when the fire broke out. James Pentergant, 24, was reportedly one of the fastest skating teens in the NHL, seem to be entrenched in cement overboes.

Larry Pleau: The Whaler coach never did make up his mind on Sylvain Turgeon before the hard-luck left winger was sidelined with a separated shoulder. Pleau would use Turgeon for a shift or two, and then let him languish on the bench. And then he'd say Turgeon wasn't doing the job. Pleau's resolve is to let "Sly" play when he gets back, and find out if the youngster can still cut it in the NHL. You don't average a goal every other game by sitting on the bench.

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East Catholic basketball: Here's another easy one. The Eagles' New Year's resolution is to make it back to the state tournament for the first time in five years. East has not made it into postseason play since 1983-84, the final year Jim Penders was the head coach.

There are some belated Christmas wishes we'd like to extend, too.

Ray Page: We wish the East Catholic High basketball coach a chance to coach in the state tournament berth. There isn't a harder working coach in the area and he deserves to show the state the record he's logged in four years at East is far, far deceiving.

Jim McLaughlin: We wish the Manchester High football coach a fair shake. For reasons not of his doing, McLaughlin had a turnout of sophomores you could count on one finger. He exhibited his coaching ability his first year with the Indians; think what he could do with some numbers.

Bill Masse: The Manchester native had two dreams. One was to play in the Olympics, which the '84 East Catholic High graduate did in '88 with the U.S. baseball team that won the gold medal. His other dream is to play major league baseball. He's on his way, having signed with the New York Yankees. Here's wishing Masse gets his dream. And one day we see the local product patrolling centerfield at Yankee Stadium.

And to all of you, here's hoping your Christmas wish and New Year's resolutions, come true. Have a safe New Year's Eve. See you in '89.

### Thoughts ApLenity

By Len Auster  
Sports Editor

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Windsor (3-0) twice led by 15 points in the second quarter and took a commanding 42-29 lead into the locker room at the half, but East refused to roll over and play dead.

"We lost our composure in the first half," East Coach Ray Page said after his team suffered its first defeat of the year. "We turned it over too many times against their press. We battled back, we just gave them too many points."

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### SPORTS

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East (3-1) takes on Crosstown Manchester High (0-2) tonight at 8 at the Eagles' Nest in further Rotary Classic action.

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By The Associated Press

"It's the season for giving and receiving, and hopefully you were recipients of your Christmas wishes. We're now fast approaching that time of year when people make New Year's resolutions which are seldom fulfilled."

There are some resolutions we'd like to see about how well they're playing. Teams that are playing "well" do not go winless in seven consecutive games. There are reasons for losing. Good teams make their own breaks and manage somehow to come away with a couple of wins. Their resolve should be to dig down a little deeper and skate a little faster. Sometimes the Whalers are reputedly one of the fastest skating teams in the NHL, seem to be entrenched in cement overboes.

Larry Pleau: The Whaler coach never did make up his mind on Sylvain Turgeon before the hard-luck left winger was sidelined with a separated shoulder. Pleau would use Turgeon for a shift or two, and then let him languish on the bench. And then he'd say Turgeon wasn't doing the job. Pleau's resolve is to let "Sly" play when he gets back, and find out if the youngster can still cut it in the NHL. You don't average a goal every other game by sitting on the bench.

Cliff Conner: Here's an easy one. The Huskies' New Year's resolution is to escape the Big East conference collar and to escape the Playoffs at the conference tournament in New York. The Huskies have the talent to compete with Big East clubs this year, but they must show up for every game.

Remember Purdue? That was a lesson well served.

East Catholic basketball: Here's another easy one. The Eagles' New Year's resolution is to make it back to the state tournament for the first time in five years. East has not made it into postseason play since 1983-84, the final year Jim Penders was the head coach.

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Fire — Police — Medical  
DIAL 911  
In Manchester

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# South Carolina, Indiana hook up in Liberty Bowl

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — South Carolina goes on a seek-and-destroy mission in the Liberty Bowl game with Indiana.

The Gamecocks, who have scored only one offensive touchdown in their last 10 quarters, know they must find their offense if they are to stand any chance of defeating the Hoosiers.

"We're going to try to move the football and score points," said Coach Joe Morrison, putting his team's mission in simple terms.

Tonight's game matches two schools hoping to shake bowl jinxes. Indiana, 7-3-1 this season, has lost its last two postseason outings and is 1-4 in all bowl games. South Carolina's woes run even deeper. The Gamecocks, 8-3, have failed to win in seven

back-to-back dates.

"We're 0-2 in bowl games since I've been here, and we're going to give our best and then see what happens," Morrison said.

"Indiana is comparable to the Georgia and Clemson teams we have played. Anthony Thompson is a strong and powerful runner. They have an excellent quarterback and a very experienced

offensive line. Indiana's defensive line is very experienced and does a lot of stunting.

"Indiana has a very solid football team and we will have to play well. In particular, we will have to tackle very well to win," Morrison said.

The Gamecocks can't match Thompson's totals for Indiana, but offer a pair of good running

backs in Harold Green, who gained 597 yards on 153 rushes, and Mike Dinger, who gained 377 yards on 90 carries.

South Carolina's biggest edge comes in the kicking game. Collin Mackie has not missed an extra point in two years, going 62 for 62, including all 24 in 1988, and was true on 18 of 24 field goals this season.

Strong safety Ron Rabune spearheads the Gamecocks' defense which posted two shutouts. Rabune was in on 110 tackles, recovered three fumbles, broke up two passes and intercepted one.

The game could boil down to a battle between Thompson and South Carolina quarterback Todd Ellis.

# SCOREBOARD

## Hockey

WALLES CONFERENCE	GP	Pts	GF	GA	
Pittsburgh	22	11	37	109	144
Washington	18	5	41	126	134
Philadelphia	17	3	33	117	130
New Jersey	17	3	37	127	130
N.Y. Islanders	24	9	78	134	146

AMERICA CONFERENCE	GP	Pts	GF	GA	
Montreal	15	9	37	113	113
Quebec	15	9	37	113	113
Calgary	13	3	29	127	147
Hartford	13	3	29	127	147
Buffalo	13	3	29	127	147

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## College Basketball

Team	Margin	Offense	Defense
1. Oklahoma	21.9	102.9	81.0
2. Arizona	20.9	85.1	64.2
3. Nevada-Las Vegas	16.1	84.3	68.2
4. Temple	15.6	76.8	61.2
5. Xavier	15.2	94.7	79.5
6. Duke	14.9	83.8	69.9
7. Syracuse	14.3	84.7	70.4
8. North Carolina A&T	13.9	81.4	67.5
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## Nuggets 130, Celtics 100

Team	Score	Time
Nuggets	130	100
Celtics	100	

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Nuggets	130	100
Celtics	100	

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Nuggets	130	100
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Nuggets	130	100
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## Big East standings

Team	W	L	Pct
Siena Hall	1	0	1.000
Providence	1	0	1.000
Syracuse	1	0	1.000
Georgetown	1	0	1.000
Pittsburgh	1	0	1.000
Pittsburgh	1	0	1.000
St. John's	1	0	1.000
Boston College	1	0	1.000

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Siena Hall	1	0	1.000
Providence	1	0	1.0





# FOCUS/Advice

## Rebuilding an old home for a new life

**DEAR MR. ROSS:** This is on behalf of my foster daughter, who lives with me during her teen years. I knew she had a terrible childhood, but until this year I never fully understood the extent. Her father sexually and physically abused her. She never confided in anyone because her mother told her, "All men are like that." She was left feeling responsible for the injustice inflicted upon her.



**Thanks A Million**  
Percy Ross

Recently, she called me from a shelter for abused women. It turns out her husband is also abusive. In addition to the beatings and verbal cruelty he inflicted on her, she has three small children who were also being abused.

As if that weren't enough, she was diagnosed with cancer this year and is now in remission. Due to fatigue from the chemotherapy, she can only work part time.

She is receiving counseling and legal help from the shelter and will shortly be returning to her house. A few others and I are helping her make it a home again, in which she can feel comfortable and free from violence.

What none of us can come up with is money to re-carpet her living room. The carpet is old and badly blood-

stained from her last beating. We will paint and generally fix up the house, but new carpet is simply more than we can afford. Would you be willing to help?

As I write this, I see the whole story as such a nightmare, it's almost unbelievable. If you should publish my letter, please don't use our names.

MRS. R.W.,  
TUCSON, ARIZ.

**DEAR MR. WY:** Good Lord, rip that damn, cruddy carpet out and replace it by means of my forthcoming check. It makes me so angry when I hear of someone who is being victimized repeatedly throughout their life. No one, and I mean no one, deserves that kind of treatment.

But through my anger, and yes, the tears, I feel a ray of hope. That hope stems from you because of your willingness to lend support to your

**DEAR MRS. A.:** You can post the "condemned" sign at the "Roach Motel" because we're going to put these critters six feet under. My check is on the way to get both houses exterminated...and may they rest in peace.

**DEAR MR. ROSS:** Frankly I'm puzzled! I read your column faithfully and know you help a lot of people. I

love without marriage. (Benjamin Franklin)

**DEAR ABBY:** What do you do when a person you work with tells you she is thinking about committing suicide? I've noticed that she seems very depressed lately. She's a very private person, and nobody knows much about her. How far should I go in picking my nose into her business? They say that people who talk about committing suicide never do.

**CONCERNED CO-WORKER**

**DEAR CONCERNED:** It is not true that people who talk about committing suicide never do. Her telling you was a cry for help. Now that you know, it is your business and you must persuade her to seek professional help immediately. Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem. So, urge her to call the local crisis hotline. A trained person will refer her to a professional counselor.

Making that telephone call is the second step she has to take to help herself. Her first step was confiding in you. Good luck. The ball is in your court.

**DEAR ABBY:** Some close friends sent me a Christmas gift that startled me. It was a gift certificate for merchandise from their own store! Since I shop in their store regularly anyway, I need no added incentive to shop there, but the message their gift carried was: "You aren't worth shopping for — or spending a lot of money on." I probably should add that the retail value of this gift was not insignificant.

I'm curious to know if anyone else has ever received a gift like this, and Abby, would you consider it a generous gift or a

**DEAR BRUCE:** Several months ago our daughter, who was 17 at the time, signed an agreement to join a health club and made her payments in accordance with the contract for about eight months. She turned 18 ten weeks after she began going to the club.

She is now in college and has found she does not have time to go to the club and cannot afford it. When we told the club that she wanted to withdraw, they said it was too late, that there was no way to get out of the contract. I pointed out to them that she was only 17 when she signed the contract and could not be held responsible for it. They said that might be the case, but she was now 18 and was responsible. Who is right?

A.B.,  
ALBANY, N.Y.

**DEAR MR. ROSS:** I'm writing about a problem my husband and I have. We have a neighbor who moved in a few months ago and he has lots of problems with roaches.

We are experiencing this roach problem ourselves and it's no picnic. What I'm asking for is enough money to have both homes exterminated.

I'm speaking for my husband and I, as well as our neighbor, when I tell you we will pay for the extermination. My husband only makes \$150 a week and our neighbor lives off Social Security.

Help! — before these critters take over our humble home.

MRS. J.A. SAVANNAH, GA.

**DEAR MR. A.:** You can post the "condemned" sign at the "Roach Motel" because we're going to put these critters six feet under. My check is on the way to get both houses exterminated...and may they rest in peace.

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We are experiencing this roach problem ourselves and it's no picnic. What I'm asking for is enough money to have both homes exterminated.

I'm speaking for my husband and I, as well as our neighbor, when I tell you we will pay for the extermination. My husband only makes \$150 a week and our neighbor lives off Social Security.

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**CONCERNED CO-WORKER**

**DEAR CONCERNED:** It is not true that people who talk about committing suicide never do. Her telling you was a cry for help. Now that you know, it is your business and you must persuade her to seek professional help immediately. Suicide is a permanent solution to a temporary problem. So, urge her to call the local crisis hotline. A trained person will refer her to a professional counselor.

Making that telephone call is the second step she has to take to help herself. Her first step was confiding in you. Good luck. The ball is in your court.

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She is now in college and has found she does not have time to go to the club and cannot afford it. When we told the club that she wanted to withdraw, they said it was too late, that there was no way to get out of the contract. I pointed out to them that she was only 17 when she signed the contract and could not be held responsible for it. They said that might be the case, but she was now 18 and was responsible. Who is right?

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### WIT OF THE WORLD



### PEOPLE

**Johnny Cash doing well**  
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Country music star Johnny Cash was joking with hospital staff and doing well despite suffering from severe pulmonary problems after heart surgery, hospital officials said.

**Humperdinck files suit**  
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Entertainer Engelbert Humperdinck has filed a \$50 million-plus libel suit against the National Enquirer, claiming the tabloid held him up to hatred and ridicule when it falsely reported he had AIDS.

**Brennan back on the job**  
WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court Justice William J. Brennan is back on the job and looking good since recovering from surgery to remove his gall bladder two weeks ago.

**Minnell does Hawaii show**  
HONOLULU (AP) — Entertainer Lisa Minnelli takes a detour from her U.S. tour with Frank Sinatra and Sammy Davis Jr. for a New Year's Eve show on the island of Hawaii, but she says she can't wait to get back to her "rat-packers."

**Cab Calloway hospitalized**  
WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. (AP) — Jazz great Cab Calloway, one of the last of the great swing-band musicians, flew home after collapsing during a show in Tokyo and was hospitalized here early today.

**Pryor named in lawsuit**  
LOS ANGELES (AP) — Comedian Richard Pryor is being sued by a woman who says he fathered her baby out of wedlock and wants \$18,745 monthly to support herself and the 20-month-old child.

**Smart Money**  
Bruce Williams

**Can a teen-ager step out of a contract?**

### SCIENCE & HEALTH

#### IN BRIEF

**Chloride a culprit**  
NEW YORK (AP) — Sodium has been blamed for high blood pressure but its partner in the salt shaker — chloride — may be guilty also, according to the Reebok Aerobic Information Bureau.

**Get the right reading**  
ORADELL, N.J. (AP) — Some hypertensive individuals being treated with diet and drugs and those with borderline hypertension are good candidates for monitoring their blood pressure at home, says Diagnosis magazine.

**Clean that humidifier**  
DENVER (AP) — Drink lots of water to hydrate yourself this winter rather than relying on a humidifier to do the job, says Margie Kessler of the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine.

**Let A Specialist Do It!**

**NOTICES**

**LOST AND FOUND**

**FINANCIAL**

**EMPLOYMENT**

**PART TIME HELP WANTED**

#### Random use of lie detector tests illegal

WASHINGTON — If you go on a job interview today and are asked to take a lie detector test, the chances are you will be the victim of an illegal act.

President Reagan. "This is a holiday gift for working people," said Judy Goldberg, legislative representative for the American Civil Liberties Union.

Among the most commonly used NSAIDs are high-dose aspirin, ibuprofen, proxicam and naproxen.

**Drug helps arthritis sufferers avoid ulcers**

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING 643-2711**

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