

Inside: Chronology reviews Manchester news of 1988

Manchester Herald

Tuesday, Jan. 3, 1989

Manchester, Conn. — A City of Village Charm

30 Cents

Moscow's shoppers make do

By Andrew Yurkovsky
Manchester Herald

MOSCOW — A large crowd was gathered on the square near Stoleshnikov Lane near the center of the city on Dec. 24.

A tall fir tree in the middle of the square was decorated with lights and other ornaments. Nearby, tents were set up from which cakes and other baked goods were sold. Women elsewhere on the square were selling small toys.

It could have been a typical Christmas Eve scene in almost any European city. But the shoppers walking around the square were not buying gifts for Christmas. They were doing their shopping for the New Year.

With the possible exception of Nov. 7 — the anniversary of the 1917 revolution in which the Communists came to power — the New Year is the biggest holiday in the Soviet Union. Even before the revolution, it was a time of gift-giving. Christmas, which members of the Russian Orthodox faith celebrate in January, is no longer an officially recognized holiday here.

Though lacking any religious element, the New Year for Soviets has all the trappings of Christmas in the United States: the evergreen tree, and a Santa Claus-type figure called Grandfather Frost.

The usually sparse store shelves in Moscow are generally better stocked during the weeks before the holiday. And brightly colored banners and decorations put up throughout the city enliven the usually somber winter landscape.

Residents from other cities — and even other republics of the Soviet Union — come to Moscow before the holiday because the selection here is believed to be better.

But as in years past, the availability and selection of goods was not up to Western standards. Long lines, which are a part of everyday shopping, formed whenever something worth buying was put out for sale.

At a shop on Stoleshnikov Lane, dolls, decorated wooden boxes and earrings were some of the things for sale. There was a separate section for goods made by cooperatives, the private businesses that have just recently been permitted to operate in what is still a state-controlled economy.

Several shoppers interviewed before the holiday said that the availability of goods either had not improved or was worse than last year.

"It seems to me that every year is the same," said Alexander, a 24-year-old man who refused to give his last name.

Alexander, a resident of Michurinsk, a city located about 260 miles southeast of Moscow, had traveled to Moscow for a day of shopping with his friend Igor. They were looking for presents in the city's central department store.

Igor, 20, who also refused to give his last name, said that while

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TODAY

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FIRST OF THE YEAR — Carlamarie Boland holds her newborn son, Matthew David Boland, today at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Matthew was the first baby born in 1989 in Manchester.

First '89 baby was surprise

Matthew David Boland surprised his parents when he became the first baby born at Manchester Memorial Hospital in 1989.

Matthew, weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 20 inches, was born on Jan. 1, 1989, at 1:49 a.m., said Andrew Beck, hospital spokesman. Matthew was not due until Jan. 12, Beck said.

Carlamarie and Kenneth Boland of 37 Grove St., Rockville section of Vernon, are the parents. They have two other sons, Joseph Paul, 6, and Brian Jason, 21 months.

There were three babies born at the hospital on Jan. 1, Beck said. Two boys and a girl were born at Manchester Memorial on the first day of the

new year, he said.

As the first baby born at Manchester Memorial in 1989, Matthew is the winner of a contest sponsored by the Manchester Herald and 15 of its advertisers.

Prizes were donated by the Nassiff Camera Shop, Bray Jewelers, Jackson & Jackson Real Estate, Stephanie Hoff's Nails Beautiful, Exposure Art & Framing, Viltner's Garden Center, the Diet Center, the Manchester Association for Retarded Citizens, Bakery and Coffee Shop, Marlow's Department Store, Park Hill Joyce Flower Shop, Regal Men's Shop, Al Sieffert's Appliances, Highland Park Market and the Savings Bank of Manchester.

Cooperation is urged in Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — The 101st Congress opens today with Democrats still firmly in control and House leaders from both parties calling for cooperation in solving budget and other problems under a Republican president.

New and re-elected members of the House and Senate were being sworn in today, and then the two chambers were set to carry out organizational chores for two days. Among them, a joint session on Wednesday to count the electoral votes for president.

"We're very optimistic that we're going to be able to work with (President-elect) Bush and we can solve some of the problems," said Rep. Tony Coelho, D-Calif., House majority whip. "We need to have that cooperation. ... We'd like to resolve some problems and get rid of some of this confrontation."

"I think at least at the outset ... the appropriate tone is one of cooperation and a spirit of bipartisanship, and let's see how far we can go with that," said Rep. Dick Cheney, R-Wyo., House minority whip.

But the two, interviewed on "CBS This Morning," had differing views on possible tax increases.

"None of us would like to increase taxes but we're willing to listen and watch and we hope that as we get into this, and we have to get to the crunch, that if he (Bush) can't reach the magic number without raising revenue, that he would say so and we would go ahead and do it," Coelho said.

"I think the American people voted overwhelmingly in opposition to a tax increase and I don't believe that he should be giving away or making a concession on that point before we even sit down at the table to negotiate," said Cheney. "I think it's far too soon for us to be talking about tax increases. Let's talk about where we can save money by spending cuts."

After completing its organizational chores, Congress will adjourn until Jan. 20, although

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Weiss's retirement is rated top story of year

By Marie P. Grady
Manchester Herald

It was a year for resignations and recriminations. It was a year when seemingly minor problems turned into controversial crises. 1988 — marked by unprecedented development in Manchester — was a year to remember. It was a year some town officials undoubtedly will want to forget.

The top local news story of 1988 was Town Manager Robert B. Weiss's announcement that he would retire in June 1989, according to the editors of the Manchester Herald.

That story topped a list of the 10 best stories of 1988. The editors rated the stories primarily on their potential to have a long-term impact on the community.

When Weiss announced on Sept. 6 that he would retire after nearly 23 years of service, it came as a surprise to many. His announcement followed a chain of both crises and achievements in this community of about 50,000 people.

Weiss's retirement will break nearly a quarter of a century of continuity at the helm of Manchester. Both his opponents and his critics agree that his indelible footprints can be found everywhere in this community, particularly in the area of economic development.

A search committee named by the Board of Directors is advertising nationwide for a replacement for the town manager. Whether that successor can fill Weiss's shoes or will choose to walk in the same direction is a question that will affect the town of Manchester for years to come.

1988's top 10

1. Town Manager Robert B. Weiss announces he will retire in June 1989.
2. The Board of Directors approves a \$9.5 million tax abatement for the developers of the \$70 million mall called the Pavilions at Buckland Hills.
3. Negotiators for the town and the Eighth Utilities District come to an agreement on a historic accord to settle nagging fire and sewer jurisdiction disputes.
4. The state allows the town to set aside the 1987 revaluation after many people appeal assessments. Assessor J. Richard Vincent resigns.
5. The town becomes embroiled in a controversy with federal and state environmental officials after it illegally fills in wetlands while working to upgrade the sewage treatment plant off Olcott Street.

6. Town Manager Robert B. Weiss announces a plan to fund the town's \$2 million commitment to the \$15 million Main Street reconstruction project. A group of downtown merchants later threatens legal action to block an access road that is part of the plans.

7. A groundwater protection plan that would regulate businesses in more than half of Manchester meets with opposition from the greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce.

8. State Sen. Michael Meotti, D-Glastonbury, overwhelmingly turns back a challenge from former three-term senator Carl A. Zinsser of Manchester in the Nov. election.

9. Michael R. Gallacher becomes president of Manchester Memorial Hospital on Feb. 29, ushering in a new era that is marked by wage increases for many hospital workers.

10. The Eighth Utilities District celebrates the 100th anniversary of its volunteer fire department with a huge parade dubbed "The Big One."

two other lawsuits filed by the Manchester Property Owners Association and the Manchester Environmental Coalition are still pending.

The tax break also signaled the construction start of a project that had first been proposed four years earlier. Both town officials and the developers have estimated that the mall will generate



ROBERT B. WEISS
... 1988's top newsmaker

more than 2,000 jobs in the next decade and millions of dollars in tax revenue.

It is scheduled to open in the spring of 1990.

No. 3 on the list was a story hastily added in the waning days of 1988. On Dec. 28, negotiators for the town and the Eighth Utilities

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JAN

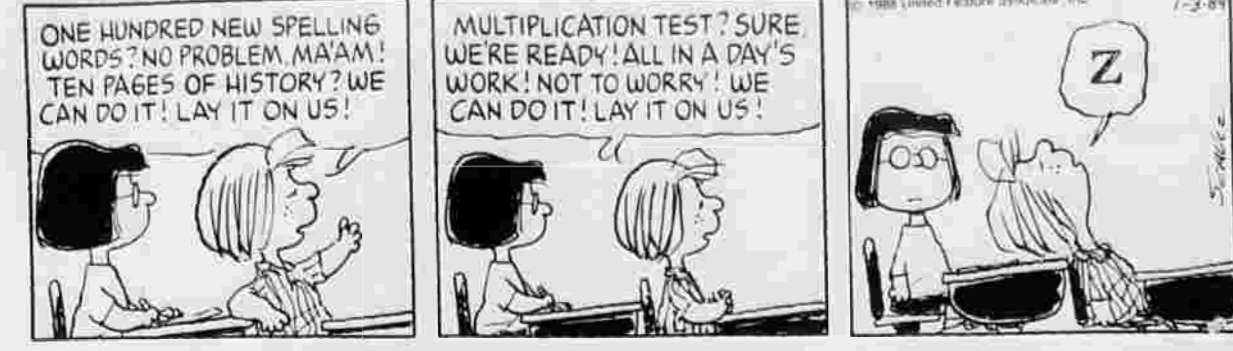
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1988

McCALL OF THE WILD by Dumas & Crawford



PEANUTS by Charles M. Schulz



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE by Dik Browne



THE PHANTOM by Lee Falk & Sy Barry



BLONDIE by Dean Young & Stan Drake



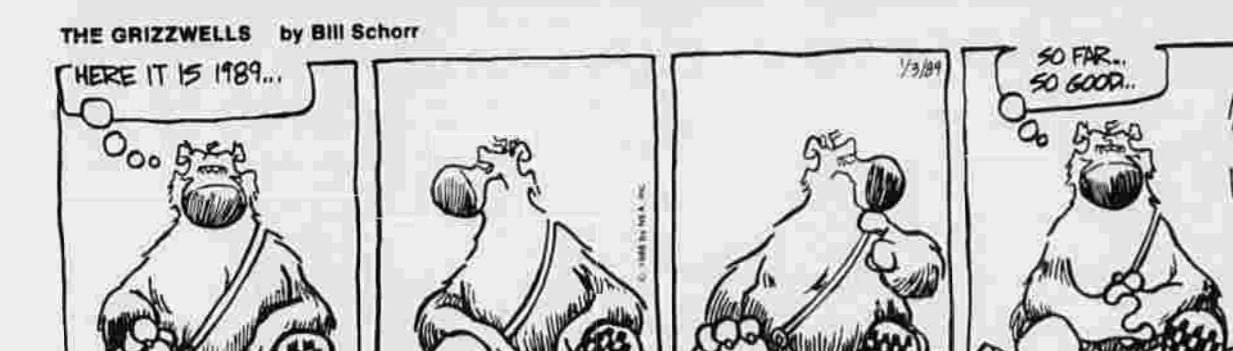
ROSE IS ROBE by Pat Brady



ON THE FASTTRACK by Bill Holbrook



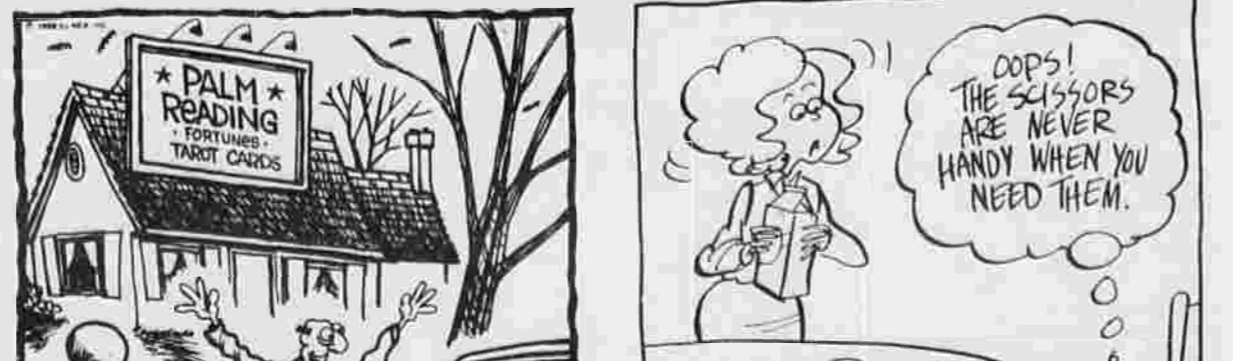
THE GRIZZLIES by Bill Schorr



Bridge

Long suit is wrong suit
By James Jacoby
For a much better chance at making the contract, South must play against the grain...

SNAFU by Bruce Beattie



BUOS BUNNY by Warner Bros.



LIL ABNER by Al Capp



ARLO AND JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



ALLEY OOP by Dave Grove



THE BORN LOSER by Ari Sansom



FRANK AND ERNEST by Bob Thaves



WINTHROP by Dick Cavell



CHUBB AND CHAUNCEY by Vance Rodwell



HOW DO WE GET STUCK WITH LAST YEAR'S SNOW?



KIT 'N' CARLYLE by Larry Wright



Computer hacker 'a threat to society'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — To the associate who turned him in, Kevin David Mitnick is the ultimate computer nerd, a "big fat slab" obsessed with fast food and breaking into computer systems...

Two maids of honor

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A woman who recovered the \$65,000 in cash she had left behind in her hotel room didn't even thank the two maids who returned the money in her hotel room...

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