

RECORD

About Town

'Love a Book' hour set

Andover Public Library will be open Wednesday, Feb. 15, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for "Love a Book" hour. Young readers will be able to register for Quassy Amusement Park's Reader Recognition Program. Participants who read 10 books between registration and April 1 will receive a free ride pass for the park's opening day April 22, and discounts on rides during May. Those unable to attend Feb. 15 may register with Terri Crimmins, Children's Librarian, through March 1.

Parent group to meet

The Iling Junior High School Parent Group will meet tonight at 7 in the Iling media center for a program called "Focus on Wellness."

Library to show movie

Mary Cheney Library will show the movie "Tom Thumbs in King Arthur's Court" Saturday, 7 p.m. No registration is necessary for the movie.

Breastfeeding course set

"Breastfeeding for the Employed Mother," a one-session class will be held Wednesday from 10 a.m. to noon at Rockville General Hospital, 31 Union St., Vernon. The class will give mothers information needed to return to work and while continuing to breastfeed their infant. Nursing babies and their fathers are encouraged to attend. The class costs \$15 and to register, call 872-3850.

Get income tax assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) will be available at Manchester Community College at the Low Building, Room CL107 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from Feb. 21 to April 12. Hours on Tuesdays will be 6 to 9 p.m. and Wednesdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (The program will not be available March 21 and 22 due to spring recess). The VITA program offers free tax assistance to persons who cannot afford professional tax help, such as lower-income, elderly, handicapped, and non-English speaking citizens.

Realtors sponsor breakfast

The Manchester Board of Realtors is sponsoring a breakfast program at Manchester Country Club Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. A representative from the Federal Housing Administration will discuss FHA mortgages. Any interested individual should contact the Manchester Board office 646-2450. The cost will be \$20 for non-members, and \$15 for members. Realtors may use this seminar as hours credit for continuing education requirements.

Towns to distribute food

The following towns will distribute milk and butter on the following dates: Andover Town Hall, Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 2 to 3 p.m.; Coventry Town Hall, Tuesday, Feb. 28, from 10 to 11 a.m.; Bolton Town Hall, Wednesday, March 1, from noon to 2 p.m. For further information, please contact the Commodities Office of the Wadsworth Area Community Action Program at 774-4977.

A.B.W.A. sets dinner

The American Business Women's Association, Robin Chapter, will hold its monthly dinner meeting Tuesday, Feb. 21, at Willie's Steak House, 444 Center St. at 7 p.m. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m. President Sue Ferguson will preside over the business meeting, and Mary LeDuc, Ways and Means chair, will discuss plans for the club's annual Card Party. For more information, contact Mary Clemente, 569-0113.

Learn to tutor English

Tutor training workshops for volunteers interested in helping recent immigrants to speak English will be given beginning with an orientation meeting, Feb. 21, at 7:30 p.m. at Manchester Community College. Classes will meet Feb. 25 and March 4 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room D15 on the lower level campus with Leslie Link as instructor. Advance registration is required, and interested persons may call The Literacy Volunteers of America, 647-6216.

Lottery

Winning numbers drawn Wednesday in lotteries around New England:
Connecticut daily: 674, Play Four: 6718.
Massachusetts daily: 9302, Megabucks: 1-5-6-7-9-16.
Tri-state daily: 222, 2154.
Rhode Island daily: 3118, Grand Lottery: 572, 9846, 34910, 796889.

Weather

REGIONAL WEATHER
Accu-Weather® forecast for Friday
Daytime Conditions and High Temperatures

Sunny, cold
Manchester and vicinity: Tonight, clear and cold with diminishing winds. Low zero to 5 above. Wind becoming southwest and diminishing to around 10 mph Friday, sunny in the morning, some clouds moving in during the afternoon. High 25 to 30. Outlook Saturday, partly sunny with a high near freezing.
West Coast, East Coast: Tonight, clear and cold with diminishing winds. Low 10 to 15. Wind becoming southwest and diminishing to 10 to 15 mph Friday, sunny in the morning, some clouds moving in during the afternoon. High 25 to 30. Outlook Saturday, partly sunny with a high in the 30s.
Northwest Hills: Tonight, clear and cold with diminishing winds.

Adopt a pet: Homes needed

By Barbara Richmond
Manchester Herald

Sherrie, a very friendly Husky-shepherd terrier cross, is this week's featured dog at the dog pound.

She is black and white and has wavy hair and is about 1 year old. Dog Warden Richard Rand said Sherrie was found on Ridgewood Street on Feb. 2. She's medium sized and Rand said she is full grown.

Rand also said that the dog not only gets along well with people, she also seems to get along with the other dogs.

There were three other dogs at the pound, as of Tuesday. Two of these were new this week and the other was a male beagle, about 5 years old. He's tri-colored and has a bobbed tail. He was picked up on Keeney Street area on Jan. 20.

Of the other two new ones, one is an elderly Labrador retriever-cross. He's about 14 years old, Rand said, and was picked up on Scott Drive on Feb. 2.

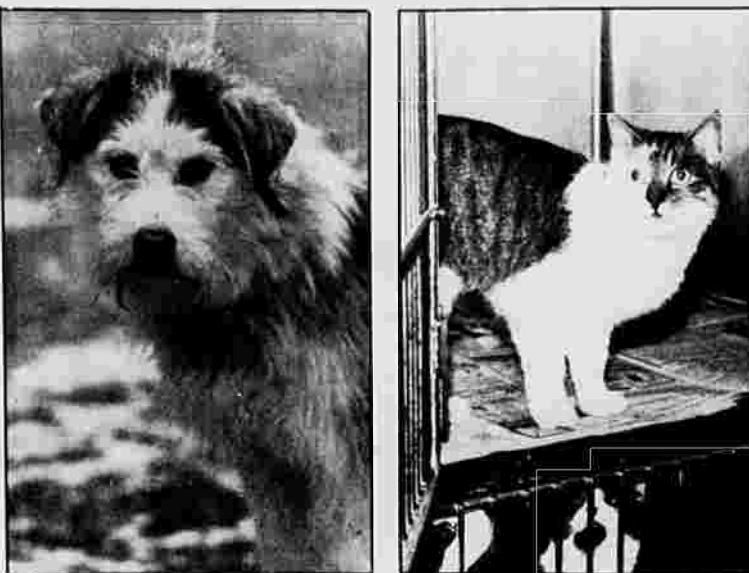
The other is a Pekinese male. He's about 8 years old and was found roaming near the Center and Cooper streets on Jan. 31. He is tan and would make a good house dog because he's small.

The dog pound is located on town property off Olcott Street, near the landfill area. The dog warden is at the pound weekdays from noon to 1 p.m. There is also someone at the pound from 6 to 9 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The phone number at the pound is 646-6442. Those wishing to get in touch with the dog warden can also call the police department, 646-4555. If there is no answer at the pound, there is a \$5 fee to adopt a dog and the new owner must have the dog licensed. Before being licensed the dog must have its rabies shot.

Chessie, a lovable female tiger cat, is this week's featured pet of Aid to Helpless Animals Inc.

Chessie has a beautiful white chest and paws and also has a half-white face and pretty



Sherrie

Chessie

green eyes. She has been spayed and has had current shots and also has been tested negative for leukemia. Judy Lazarik, a volunteer with Aid to Helpless Animals, who takes the photos of the cats and kittens, said Chessie did a lot of "flaking" while she was snapping her picture.

The organization has many cats and kittens that need loving homes. They have had their shots and have been neutered or spayed, if old enough when adopted.

To adopt a pet call any of the following numbers: 623-0489, 232-8317, 242-2156 or 693-6138.

West Va., and Robert Ervolina of Rosedale, 19 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; a brother, Umberto Ervolina of Italy; and a sister, Maria (Ervolina) Massa of Italy. He was predeceased by his first wife, Irene Ervolina. A memorial Mass was held at St. Elizabeth's Church, Ozon Park, on Feb. 8, 1989.

Burndiside Ave., East Hartford, with a Mass of Christian burial at 9:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church, East Hartford, on Feb. 8, 1989.

He is survived by three daughters, Mary Kane of Hockville, N.Y., and Sally DeKanchuk of Rosedale, N.Y.; two sons, Anthony Ervolina of West Union,

and a niece, Laura Rubland, 11, of Santa Barbara, on a very cool California snowstorm.

"I think it's very cool. The trees outside all look like Christmas." — Laura Rubland, 11, of Santa Barbara, on a very cool California snowstorm.

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Police Roundup

Accused rapist to face robbery, assault charges

EAST HARTFORD — A Manchester man who was charged last month with sexually assaulting three women was arrested Tuesday on charges of robbery and assault, police said. Robert S. Fontaine, 25, of 62 Hollister St., was charged with first-degree robbery in connection with an incident Dec. 15 outside the Poppel Restaurant at 638 Main St., police said. An elderly man was knocked down and robbed in the restaurant parking lot, according to police.

In another incident at the restaurant Jan. 13, employees thought Fontaine looked like a suspect wanted in connection with an assault in December and called police, police said. When a police officer arrived, Fontaine hit the officer and ran away, police said.

Fontaine is being held in Hartford Correctional Center on charges that he sexually assaulted two women in Manchester and another woman in East Hartford.

He is scheduled to be arraigned Feb. 14 in Hartford Superior Court on two of the rape charges, a court official said.

Man charged in break-in

A Manchester man will appear in Manchester Superior Court Feb. 17 to answer charges that he attempted to break into two buildings and broke a passenger window of a company truck at his place of employment, police said.

James Kearney, 29, of 23 Cooper St., was arrested Feb. 3 in the parking lot of Manchester Movers Inc., at 85 Colonial Road and charged with third-degree burglary, third-degree criminal mischief and attempt to commit burglary in the incident, police said.

Kearney was released on \$2,500 surety bond, according to a court clerk.

Current Quotations

"The plane was very low, everything seemed perfectly normal, then it turned and flew straight into the mountain." — Manuel Varios Figueredo, witness to the crash of a Boeing 747 in the Azores in which all 144 people aboard were believed killed.

"If somebody has something other than rumor and frenzied speculation, around here we understand that this tax is going to fall directly on the people who actually have to get up every morning, grab the lunch pail and go to work." Smith said.

Even if the poor are made exempt, "then the major burden will fall on the near-poor," Stolberg said.

House Minority Leader Robert G. Jaekle, B-Stratford, agreed, calling the tax "cruel."

NU spokesman Francis L. Kinney said the tax would create

and elderly customers so that the tax would not hit them unfairly. Still, leading Republicans and some Democrats immediately criticized the O'Neill proposal as unfair to low- and middle-income residents.

"Get ready Connecticut, here comes Bill's big bill," Senate Minority Leader Reginald Smith, R-New Hartford, said. "We're going to have to turn out our lights to accommodate the dim bulbs in the statehouse."

He called the tax "probably the most obscene thing I've seen in a number of years."

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LOCAL & STATE

State can afford the new taxes, says O'Neill

\$737 million in higher taxes urged

By Judd Everhart
The Associated Press

HARTFORD — Democratic Gov. William A. O'Neill says Connecticut taxpayers can afford the \$737 million in higher taxes he proposed to balance his \$6.95 billion budget for the year beginning July 1. O'Neill said his tax proposals would be fairly divided among individuals and consumers. If approved they would be the first general tax increases in six years.

His biggest increase would extend the 7.5 percent sales tax to utility bills — for electricity, gas, water, cable television and telephone service — for business and residential customers.

While O'Neill said it was the most difficult budget he has ever pieced together, Republicans, as well as some Democrats and business lobbyists, criticized the proposals, calling them regressive and saying the governor hadn't done enough to trim spending increases.

The proposed budget would eliminate 564 state employees, calls for new money for criminal justice, including more judges and prosecutors, and would create a new child welfare program. Grants to cities and towns would remain roughly at this year's levels.

Calling it "a tough budget," O'Neill said he had cut agency spending requests by \$395 million. It represents a spending increase in 1989-90 over 1988-89 of 8.9 percent, the lowest level of increase in nearly 10 years, according to the governor.

"I think people can afford it," O'Neill said.

As O'Neill began his speech, Republicans put on blue-and-white paper buttons with the word "Freeze" on them, stating their support for a freeze in state spending so that taxes don't have to be increased.

Some of the new taxes, including a 7.5 percent sales tax on gas, electric, telephone, cable television and water bills, would take effect April 1 and would help wipe out an anticipated \$170 million deficit in the current year. The poor and low-income elderly would be exempt from that levy.

That proposal would raise \$85 million in the final three months of this fiscal year and \$340 million in 1989-90.

Also effective April 1 would be a 7.5 percent sales tax on services provided to businesses, such as legal and accounting services. That would generate \$16 million in 1988-89 and \$64 million in 1989-90.

O'Neill wants to impose a 10 percent surcharge on the state's 11.5 percent corporations profits tax for the 1989 corporation year and he wants to boost the minimum corporations tax payment from \$10 to \$250. That would produce \$23 million in 1988-89 and \$70 million in 1989-90.

He also proposes a change in the collection of capital gains taxes from transactions occurring after Feb. 8, which was Wednesday. All capital gains, rather than just net capital gains, would be subject to the levy for those earning a minimum of \$54,000 annually. That would raise an estimated \$214 million in the coming budget year.

O'Neill also calls for minor changes in the insurance premium tax to raise \$16 million in the final quarter of 1988-89.

Finally, O'Neill proposes a 3-cent-a-gallon increase in the gasoline tax, to 23 cents a gallon effective July 1, to keep the state's road and bridge rebuilding program going and raise \$49.3 million. The gas tax had been scheduled to go up on July 1, 1990.

His combination of tax increases and spending curbs eliminates a gap between spending and revenue estimated in December at \$882 million.

In a half-hour address to a joint session of the state House and Senate, O'Neill stressed that the state hasn't had to raise taxes in six years.

With the years of budget surpluses over, tax increases are necessary now, he said. If the state is to honor previous commitments to education, law enforcement and economic development, "If Connecticut is to continue its drive to greatness, as I believe it must, we will need new sources of revenue."

O'Neill said the state House and Senate should have approved the proposed tax on utility bills "probably one of the worst" things the governor could have proposed.

He said such a "cruel tax" was likely "dead on arrival" in the House. Senate President Pro Tem John B. Larson, D-East Hartford, said the governor's utility tax proposal could be sold to rank-and-file lawmakers, unless someone comes up with a better plan.

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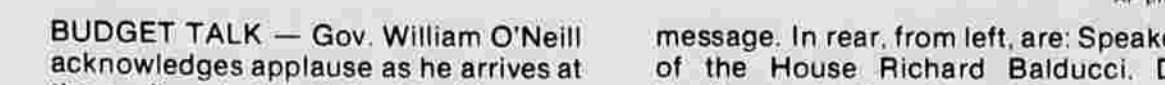
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BUDGET TALK — Gov. William A. O'Neill acknowledges applause as he arrives at the podium in the Hall of the House at the state Capitol in Hartford on Wednesday to deliver his annual budget message. In rear, from left, are: Speaker of the House Richard Balducci, D-Newington; Lt. Gov. Joseph Fusillo; and Senate President Pro Tem John Larson, D-East Hartford.

Utility tax 'dead on arrival'

By Peter Viles
The Associated Press

HARTFORD — Gov. William A. O'Neill's proposal to charge sales tax on utility bills landed with a thud in the General Assembly, where lawmakers from both parties criticized it as unfair to low- and middle-income residents.

"Get ready Connecticut, here comes Bill's big bill," Senate Minority Leader Reginald Smith, R-New Hartford, said. "We're going to have to turn out our lights to accommodate the dim bulbs in the statehouse."

He called the tax "probably the most obscene thing I've seen in a number of years."

Certainly there are enough Democrats around here who understand that this tax is going to fall directly on the people who actually have to get up every morning, grab the lunch pail and go to work," Smith said.

Even if the poor are made exempt, "then the major burden will fall on the near-poor," Stolberg said.

House Minority Leader Robert G. Jaekle, B-Stratford, agreed, calling the tax "cruel."

NU spokesman Francis L. Kinney said the tax would create

and elderly customers so that the tax would not hit them unfairly. Still, leading Republicans and some Democrats immediately criticized the O'Neill proposal as unfair to low- and middle-income residents.

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Obituaries

Leon R. Noel

Leon R. Noel Sr., 62, of East Hartford, husband of Alice M. (Rival) Noel and father of Paul G. Noel of Manchester, died Wednesday, Feb. 8, 1989, at Hartford Hospital.

Besides his wife and son, he is survived by two other sons, Leon R. Noel Jr. and Raymond E. Noel, both of East Hartford; two daughters, Joanne M. Pigeon of Westley, R.I., and Linda R. Buonanducci of East Hartford; a brother, Clement R. Noel of East Longmeadow, Mass.; two sisters, Maryann Spaulding and Genevieve Gauthier, both of East Longmeadow; and five grandchildren.

The funeral will be Saturday at 8:30 a.m. from the Newkirk & Whitney Funeral Home, 318

Burndiside Ave., East Hartford, with a Mass of Christian burial at 9:30 a.m. at Blessed Sacrament Church, East Hartford, on Feb. 8, 1989.

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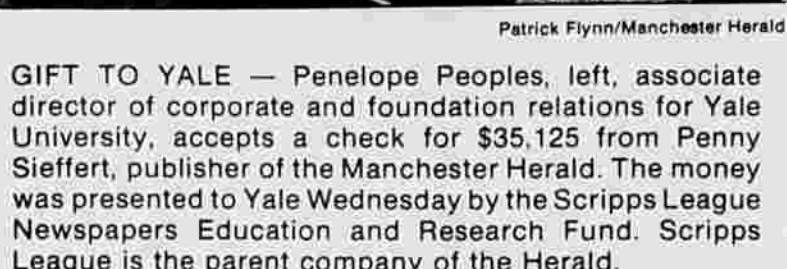
Town celebrates history of blacks

By Nancy Peoples
Manchester Herald

Echoes of black history are reverberating through classrooms and the community as Manchester celebrates Black History Month.

Fourth-grade students at Martin School will study and portray important blacks in American life. A dance group will put on a program at Manchester Community College illustrating the history of Afro-American dance. Films are being shown on black contributions to the American military, dance and the literary world.

Black history has not been forgotten, at least not for the month of February.



Patrick Flynn/Manchester Herald

GIFT TO YALE — Penelope Peoples, left, associate director of corporate and foundation relations for Yale University, accepts a check for \$35,125 from Penny Sieffert, publisher of the Manchester Herald. The money was presented to Yale Wednesday by the Scripps League Newspapers Education and Research Fund. Scripps League is the parent company of the Herald.

Mister Donut

LOVES ME. LOVES ME NOT. LOVES ME. LOVES ME NOT.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

From MISTER Donut
Located at the corners of West Middle Tnpk. & Broad Street, Manchester, CT

COUPON

6 DONUTS For \$1.00 Limit 2 Dozen Per Customer

Offer expires 2/28/89 With Coupon Only
At The Corners of West Middle Tnpk. and Broad Street, Manchester CT

Mister Donut

Administrators urge pay-raise OK

By Nancy Concelmon
Manchester Herald

Town administrators say the town directors would be doing the right thing to approve of proposed pay hikes for 34 non-union employees.

The pay hikes, which range from 2 1/2 percent to 20 percent over three years, would boost the pay for many of the administrators. They told the directors at a meeting Tuesday that approval would send the right signals to the community and labor market on the value of their positions.

"We are in favor as a group of the recommendation," said Planning Director Mark Pellegri. Pellegri said he was the

spokesman for a group of nearly 10 administrators who attended the meeting, including Engineering Services and Public Works Department directors, a deputy police chief and personnel officer.

Weiss had recommended increases of up to \$9,000 in the maximum salaries of 34 non-union employees. Those increases would come within 18 months to three years, depending on each employee's current pay level. The wage increases for employees currently earning maximum salary would start at the next highest salary step under

the proposed plan. That means employees making the maximum now would not immediately get the pay raise for the maximum salary step. The proposal shows that most employees earning the maximum amount would go to the third salary step on the new proposal, which means they wouldn't earn the proposed maximum salary for three more years.

Pellegri said the study that led to the recommendation was not prompted by any widespread dissatisfaction from non-union employees, despite results that showed salaries for Manchester's non-union administrators below most comparably sized towns and many smaller towns in the greater Hartford area.

The directors are scheduled to vote on the raises after a Feb. 23 public hearing. Mayor Peter P. DiRosa Jr. asked the board's personnel committee to examine the proposal and make a recommendation at that meeting.

Under the plan, the town would pay about \$14,600 for the increases from March 1 to June 30 of this year and about \$20,250 in fiscal year 1989-90. Werbner said. The pay raise proposal comes after Weiss recommended restrictions on purchasing and hiring to offset what officials predict will be a tight budget year. Town officials have said they are concerned that a projected \$800 million budget deficit in the state may result in cuts to local aid to communities.

Cheney architect told to resume work

By Alex Girelli
Manchester Herald

The Cheney Hall Foundation voted Wednesday to tell Malmfeld Associates of Glastonbury, architects for the restoration of Cheney Hall, to resume work on plans for the restoration so that bids can be sought as soon as possible.

towards the restoration and bankers are now preparing to issue a letter of commitment to the foundation. Donald Kuehl, foundation vice president, told members that construction costs are rising rapidly and delay in awarding a contract will be costly. One condition the foundation had to meet for the loan was to do a fund-raising plan. Decisions on how much work should be done under contract will be made by the foundation's building committee in consultation with the architect.

Kuehl told Sue Hodge, a member of the Commission for Disabled Persons, that the cost estimate for restoration includes a provision for a lift or elevator in the building. Hodge attended the meeting to find out what provision for disabled persons were being considered.

Whales are mammals. Scientists are beginning to realize that whales are mammals first, ocean dwellers second, with mating and other behavior similar to those of highborn sheep, lions and elephants.

Valentine's GIFT GUIDE...

TRUE LOVE BE MINE CLEAN BE MINE LOVE TO LIVE WITH YOU

Cupid Special For Valentine's Day

Manchester Village Motor Inn
100 East Center Street, Manchester, CT 06040

An Ideal Gift For Valentine's Day

Gift Certificates Available
Call 646-2300

Colonial Vernon Inn
Vernon Circle, 346 Kelly Road, Vernon, CT 06066

Cuddle & Bubble in our Dynasty Suite

• Jacuzzi Tub • Wet Bar • Fireplace
Gift Certificates Available

An Ideal Gift For Valentine's Day!
Call 644-1563

Victoria Ashley

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Valentine

GIFT GUIDE...

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Valentine

GIFT GUIDE...




Standing Left to Right: Viola St. John, Ivi Cannon, Betty Thibau, Peggy Weaver, Millie Kostovich, Beverly Malone, Deanna O'Brien

Sitting Left to Right: Jeannette Levesque and Mary O'Brien

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DONNING THE DRAGON — Jeff Vizoyan, a pupil at Keeney Street School, watches his teacher, JoAn Troncoso, finish covering his classmates in a dragon costume. The students paraded around the school in the costume last week to celebrate the Chinese New Year.

Key to Coventry Lake law is enforcement, town says

By Jacqueline Bennett and Maureen Leoyitt
Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — Town officials say the key to a new law restricting the use of Coventry Lake on Sunday afternoons will be hiring the personnel to enforce it.

The ordinance, approved by the state Department of Environmental Protection last week, restricts the speed of motor boats to 6 mph on Sundays from noon to 4 p.m. from May 15 to Sept. 15. Essentially, that eliminates water skiing at that time because more speed is needed for a boat to pull a skier.

The so-called "quiet time" is intended to promote use of the lake by sail craft and other self-propelled vessels.

Juan Lewis, chairwoman of the Town Council, says she hopes the ordinance will solve ongoing problems at the lake. She said the effectiveness of the ordinance now depends on the town's ability to enforce it.

"That really is the thing now, getting the proper personnel," Lewis said.

Marine officers will have to be hired to enforce the ordinance, she said.

Town Manager John Ellessor said after a council meeting at the Town Office Building Monday night that the upcoming budget process will be the deciding factor to getting the needed personnel.

"To enforce the ordinance, an officer is needed on the lake 40 hours a week," Ellessor said.

The town has three officers certified for marine patrol, but they only patrol the lake about 10 to 12 hours a week during the summer because the officers are needed on land, Ellessor said today.

The council proposed the ordinance in response to complaints from residents about excessive numbers of high-powered boats traveling at high speeds and recklessly. That is despite a 40 mph speed limit on the lake.

On several occasions, resident Harvey Barrett Jr. had complained to the council that on weekends the lake was "like a zoo."

Residents said the situation was not only an inconvenience but a hazard.

Some proposed restrictions were shot down.

The DEP did not approve a proposal that let skis travel counterclockwise. A provision that local clubs be exempted, with permission from the police chief from a restriction of no more than two waterskiers towed per boat was not approved.

The lake is considered a public waterway because of the presence of a state boat launch on Cross Street. Therefore, the town needed the DEP's approval on the boating ordinance because of its public status.

Dennis P. DeCarli, DEP deputy commissioner, said Wednesday the DEP patrols the lake and tries to enforce boating regulations. But he said it is the town's responsibility to enforce the ordinance.

Ellessor said DeCarli has offered to meet with the town to discuss the possibility of adopting a user fee at the boat launch, banning alcohol at the launch and closing the launch when it is full.

Lewis says it will be a challenge to enforce the ordinance early in the summer.

"The season begins here in May and budget proceedings probably won't be over by then. We won't know if we'll have the needed personnel until budget proceedings are done," she said.

Tucci says school budget will need more reductions

By Alex Girelli
Manchester Herald

Richard W. Dyer, chairman of the Board of Education, said earlier Wednesday that a consensus had been reached by board members on the \$124,000 in reductions.

Tucci's report was one of four from local Republican elected officials to the about 35 Republican Town Committee members.

Tucci said that as a result of salary increases, many teachers who would have retired are waiting to get a larger salary. And he said Manchester offers many fringe benefits.

In another matter, Theunis Werkhoven, Republican minority leader on the Board of Directors, said that "members of the other party" knew in advance of a proposal by a Philadelphia company to use the town-owned parking lot at Main and Forest streets for a parking garage. The plan was described Tuesday morning to the Parking Authority at a meeting attended by six of the nine directors.

Werkhoven also said the Republican Party should be considering candidates for the Board of Directors at the November election. Susan Buckno, who was at the meeting, declined to comment on whether she would run.

Buckno has been mentioned as a possible candidate. She ran unsuccessfully against Democrat John W. Thompson for state representative last November.

Town Director Geoffrey Naab told committee members, "I would like to hear from you and from other people in town" about what long-range goals the town should have for the golf course operated by the Manchester Country Club.

He reviewed the status of negotiations with the club over an extension of its lease for use of the course while the town decides whether new holes can and should be added to it to provide for more public access.

Committee member Beverly Malone said that while it would be good to have a public course, it should not be a high priority in light of more urgent needs.

"Your concern is shared by a lot of people," Naab said.

Town Director Ronald Osella spoke of his appearance before a Freedom of Information Act Commission hearing officer Monday to support his complaint about gatherings of Democratic majority members of the board with Democratic Town Chairman Theodore R. Cummings present.

His position is that such gatherings are "meetings" not "caucuses" under the Freedom of Information law.

Speed reduction asked on Rt. 6

BOLTON — The Board of Selectmen Tuesday agreed to ask the state Traffic Commission to investigate the need for reducing the speed limit on Route 6 from 50 to 45 mph.

Helen Kemp, administrative assistant, said Wednesday that the board received a letter from Steven Wengloski, a state trooper, which said a lower speed limit will improve safety along the highway. Route 6 runs through 1.3 miles of Bolton.

Wengloski conducted a study earlier this month which indicated that 58 percent of the vehicles on Route 6 exceeded 50 mph. Kemp said. In addition, the report said more than 100 people were involved in accidents on Route 6 during 1987 and 1988 and more than a quarter of those people were injured.

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OPINION

Bush must take lead on pay plan

Democracy is alive in America. The thousands of people who wrote their congressmen and women protesting the planned 51 percent pay hikes for legislators can be satisfied.

But the votes by members of the U.S. House and Senate to deny themselves the raises did not address the question of honoraria.

It was ostensibly the need to stop the practice of allowing legislators to make huge sums for speaking engagements that was the premise for the pay raise plan.

Critics charged that some congressmen and women were abusing the practice. Some even were charged with missing votes on key issues so that they could travel around the country making money.

The issue figured prominently in the race between former U.S. Senator Lowell Weicker, R-Conn., and his Democratic challenger Joseph Lieberman.

It is easy to argue against a pay raise plan that would have raised salaries for representatives by a margin most working people would not see in a decade. It was probably much easier for legislators to deny themselves the raises than many let on.

House members can make up to \$26,850 a year in honoraria while senators can earn up to \$35,800. If that revenue source remained untouched what's the worry? But it is a worry.

The fact that the votes against the pay raise plan also denied federal judges and federal executives pay raises also is cause for concern. President Bush has said he will be working with the House and Senate leadership to come up with a new pay raise plan that perhaps will be more palatable to the American public.

Let's hope the next plan will include a recommendation for a reasonable pay raise in consideration of banning the practice of accepting honoraria.

Downtown still alive and well

The suggestion for using the parking lot at Main and Forest streets for a parking garage combined with commercial uses puts a new complexion on the plans for reconstructing Main Street and says something about the economic viability of downtown Manchester.

The primary question involved is what effect such a development would have on the downtown parking situation. That is what the members of the town Board of Directors should have foremost in their minds when they consider the proposal made Tuesday morning to the Parking Authority and other uses for the parking lot.

And the question will not be answered simply by numbers. Creating a parking garage there could conceivably increase the net number of public parking spaces available without making a significant contribution to solving the problem.

The directors have to ask themselves if any added parking will be perceived by the public to be sufficiently accessible and convenient.

Quite apart from the parking matter, the suggestion made by the Paicetti Construction Co. for a parking garage, more commercial space, and possibly residences, backed by some rather specific plans, is an indication that downtown Main Street is hardly a dying area.

By Tom Tiede

LEARNED MISS — It might fairly be said that the young people of today constitute the most racially tolerant generation in American history. He is, indeed, blacks and whites in their teens and their 20s have in large part developed a healthy fascination for one another's social, cultural and historical differences.

But there are exceptions, and one of them is rooted here in this small community in the center of Mississippi. There is a compound at the edge of town where grim-looking kids gather to proclaim their support for the concept of Caucasian militancy by shouting their slogans at silhouettes of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

The compound is operated by an extremist organization known as The Nationalist Movement. It's a relatively new group that seems to have decidedly old ideas regarding the brotherhood of man. The compound is said to be the only drill camp in the nation that openly trains young white people to oppose minorities. But it says that it made a difference. He says the Nationalist Movement has now become "the hottest" militant group in the nation. "We just cranked out membership cards."

Barrett won't say how many cards have been issued. But he says they are not very many. The skinheads were born as a fringe element of the punk music movement of the early 1980s, and they have never had a large army. Law enforcement officials say there are only about 3,000 left today in the major urban areas.

The law keeps a count for reasons of prudence. Some skinheads are said to be merely curiosities who want to draw attention to themselves. But others may not be so harmless. Police say politically active skinheads have been involved in racial crimes in two dozen states, including at least three murders in the West.

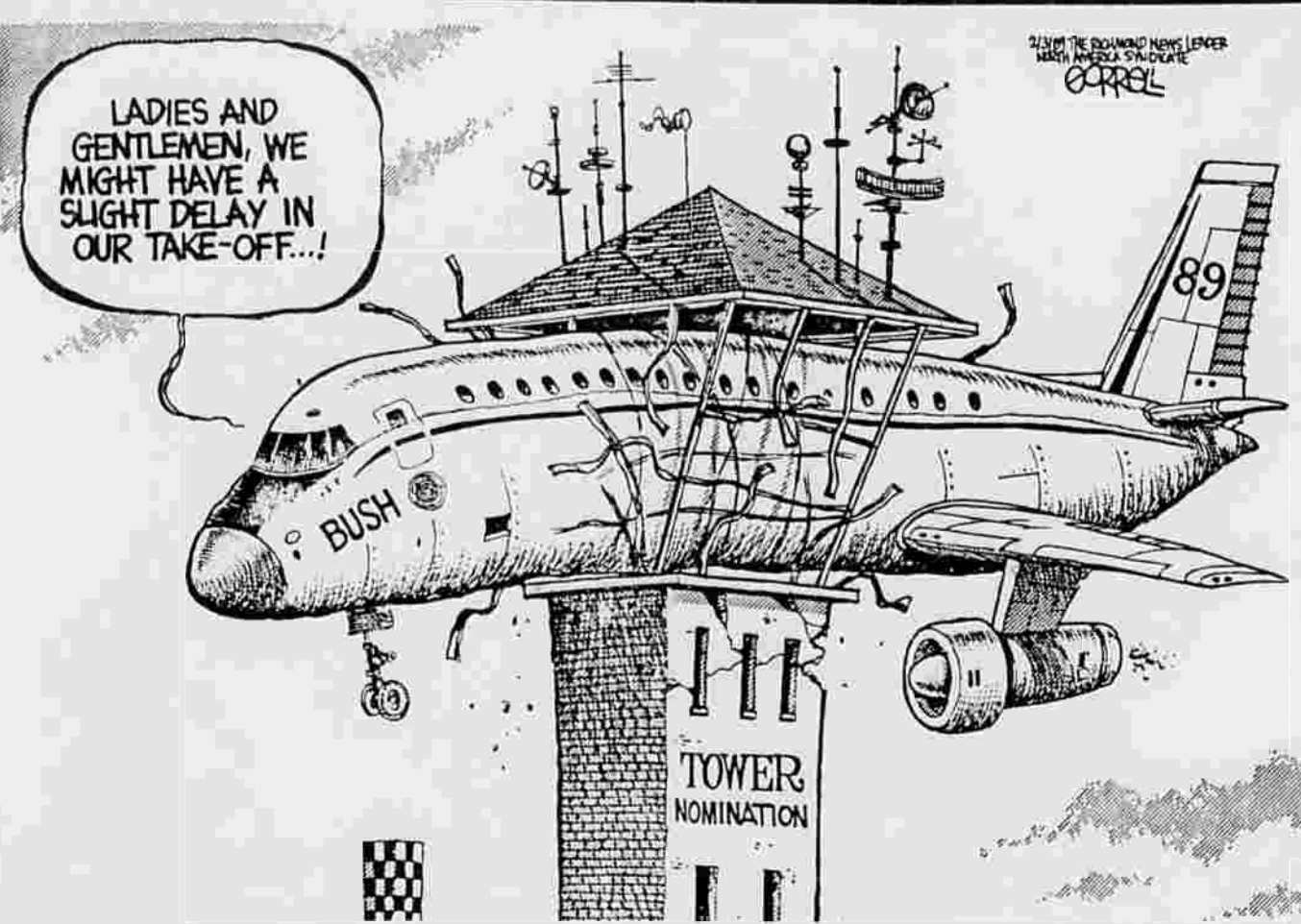
It's not known if any of the skinhead suspects have trained at The Nationalist Movement camp. Barrett insists that he does not condone criminal behavior. He says the camp is morally wholesome. "There is a lot of patriotic activity going on" — and,



"A trout stream on the south lawn — that's a GREAT ideal!"

Manchester Herald
Founded in 1881

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George J. Challinor, Editor
Douglas A. Rydine, Executive Editor
Marie P. Grady, Circulation Editor
Alexander Girelli, Associate Editor



The Senate connection

So far, it's not working for John Tower

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta

WASHINGTON — Even in times of trouble or political controversy about a Cabinet choice, nominating a senator — past or present — usually opens a smooth, fast track to Senate confirmation.

Not this time.

Secretary of Defense-designate John Tower is the problem nominee in President Bush's Cabinet class of '89, although a 24-year Senate career has so far enabled him to withstand challenges that probably would have undone an outsider.

While it is evident that some among Tower's former colleagues would have preferred a different Pentagon choice, President Bush and his spokesmen almost surely are correct in maintaining that in a Senate vote, he would be confirmed.

No newly elected president has been denied confirmation of a nominee to his first Cabinet. And the administration insists there has been no thought of withdrawing the selection. Bush announced nearly two months ago, after a preview round of controversy, Tower and Louis Sullivan, the black educator nominated to head the Department of Health and Human Services, are the last Cabinet nominees awaiting confirmation.

Their cases illustrate the advantages of Senate ratification. The Tower nomination has been delayed by investigations involving his personal life — women and whips in Texas parlances.

That overshadowed the question of his high-price consulting work for defense contractors after he left the Senate in 1965. There are no restrictions on such activities by former members of Congress as soon as they leave office.

Tower's consultant fees totaled more than \$763,000.

"That's heavy bucks," Sen. Alan Simpson, R-Wyo., said Sunday. "I think that's more of a conflict than anything with regard to his personality."

Sullivan is taking unpaid leave from Morehouse University School of Medicine in order to join the Bush Cabinet. In the process, he is forfeiting \$297,000 in sabbatical leave pay earned over 13 years as president of the Atlanta medical school in order to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest.

The school gets about \$5.8 million a year through the Department of Health and Human Services.

That's a small change in the world of defense contracts.

Fon, San Nuan, D-Ga., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, told Tower he was concerned about the perception of those consultant fees. "I know you to be an honest person," he told Tower, a former chairman. "But I do worry about the perception."

The Tower confirmation hearings may also stir some worry among other consultants about customer perceptions of their services. Tower said he got the fees for "enlightened guesswork and for being available when clients called."

"I gave them sort of academic advice on what could happen," he said. "Any number of think tanks in town could have given them more detailed analysis."

That kind of candor could spoil things in the business. Tower left behind when he came to office, he said, a contract on Dec. 1, a day after

retained his hair, and the last time he wore combat boots was a soldier in Vietnam. He says he was radicalized by the country black home he taken over by the black militants and welfare loafers.

Barrett claims the radicalization was not based on bigotry. He says he does not hate anyone except communists and homosexuals. On the other hand, he doesn't believe the majority culture should bow to minority whims and demands, and so he says he has organized the Nationalist Movement (1987) to protect white civil rights.

The organization started slowly. Societies of the kind are a dime a dozen in the South. Then Barrett began to recruit the skinheads, and he says that made a difference. He says the Nationalist Movement has now become "the hottest" militant group in the nation. "We just cranked out membership cards."

Barrett won't say how many cards have been issued. But he says they are not very many. The skinheads were born as a fringe element of the punk music movement of the early 1980s, and they have never had a large army. Law enforcement officials say there are only about 3,000 left today in the major urban areas.

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The king of the 'skinheads'

By Tom Tiede

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Haiti ripe for swap of leaders

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta

WASHINGTON — Haiti had three coups and four leaders in the past three years. Now, the country is ripe for another coup unless the current president-of-the-month performs a miracle.

The future of the Caribbean nation hinges on a meeting today where 48 representatives of political and military factions discuss ground rules for a democratic election.

A Haiti insider told us to expect the worst. The meeting will likely break down into chaos and a Gen. Prosper Avril, president of Haiti for only five months, will blame the political factions for delaying an election.

Avril is performing a high-wire act. He has to appear to be serious about a democratic election if he hopes to get more money from Uncle Sam. But he also knows that he will probably lose the election. And, if today's meeting doesn't end with the promise of an election, Avril will likely be forced out of office anyway in another coup that could happen before April.

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Weird weather dumps snow in Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A rare Southern California snowstorm threatened crops, wreaked havoc on freeways, and stranded motorists. Millions of people were absolutely delighted.

"I think it's very cool," said 11-year-old Laura Ruhland of Santa Clarita, 35 miles northwest of Los Angeles. "The trees look outside all look like Christmas."

The storm, the latest product of a relentless arctic cold front, has been blamed for at least 91 deaths since moving into the lower 48 states on Jan. 31.

Blowing snow shut Interstate 5, California's main north-south highway. Hundreds of trucks were stranded there and at other road closures, the Highway Patrol said.

Interstate 5 is closed and it's going to be closed for quite a while," CHP Officer Bob Weaver said late Wednesday.

The Antelope Valley Freeway, which runs northeast from the San Fernando Valley to Palmdale, was also closed for much of the day.

Snowfall measured up half a foot in suburban Granada Hills, Simi Valley, West Hills, Thousand Oaks and Tarzana, closing schools and forcing students to frolic with makeshift sleds and snowmen.

In Granada Hills, about 25 children used trash can lids and cardboard boxes as sleds.

"It was all black and ugly and horrible," said young Mary Ellen Crosby. "Now it's all white and glistening and beautiful."

Winter-weary tourists had flocked to Palm Springs for fun in the sun were thoroughly disheartened as temperatures hovered at 45 degrees and errant snowflakes melted into hot tubs and swimming pools.

"I was hoping to play a little tennis, but the weather's disappointing," said Spencer Vidon, a 50-year-old businessman from Aspen, Colo.

In Las Vegas, smart money was betting more snow would fall today, after the gambler's mecca was dusted with a light snowfall Wednesday.

The Department of Energy postponed an underground nuclear test scheduled Wednesday at the Nevada Test Site. Monitoring aircraft wouldn't have been able to track any accidental release of radiation while it was snowing, said DOE spokesman Jim Boyer.

In central California, snow was reported in Bakersfield and elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley. Asparagus growers in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys reported frost damage. Small farmers who grow leaf lettuce also were hurt, but Southern California growers generally were spared, said Clark

IN BRIEF

No warning of crash

VILADO PORTO, Azores Islands (AP) — "Everything seemed perfectly normal" as a Caribbean-bound Boeing 707 turned and flew straight into a fog-shrouded island mountain, a witness said. All 144 people aboard were believed killed.

The U.S. charter, carrying Italian vacationers and a seven-member American crew, was approaching Santa Maria island's airport for refueling Wednesday when it hit 1,784-foot Pico Alto mountain and burst into flames.

Its pilot had not reported any trouble in a radio conversation with the airport three minutes earlier, the Portuguese news agency LUSA reported.

Witnesses said the jet hit a lower slope, bounced over a road, lost an engine and crashed into the mountain. Bodies were scattered over a wide and rugged wooded area about 2 miles northeast of the airport.

Indian gambling eyed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Organized crime will dominate all gambling on Indian reservations in 10 years unless the federal government acts swiftly, a former Mafia figure who ran tribal bingo games contends.

College applications down

NEW YORK (AP) — Freshman applications are down at top colleges around the country for the first time in years, the likely cause is a dwindling number of high school graduates and ever-higher tuitions, admissions officers say.

The decline in graduating high school students is considered the prime culprit, according to more than a dozen admissions officers. The college application deadline for fall freshman applications at many of the nation's most competitive schools.

"Since this is happening to everyone, the best guess is that it's demographics," said Michael C. Behrke, admissions director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Ministers aids CBS

NEW YORK (AP) — It didn't look like happy trails for CBS, but "Lonesome Dove" has a shot at a new audience.

The success of CBS' four-night Western has not only boosted morale at the three-place network, but sent soaring in the 80s in a season that has been averaging percentages in the 60s.

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Polish strike ends

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Coal miners at Poland's largest power plant suspended a three-day strike today and Lech Walesa appealed to workers not to strike while he tries to negotiate Solidarity's reinstatement.

"Give a chance to the round table," the chairman of the free trade union movement said in an interview on state radio just after the miners ended the stoppage that had threatened to shut down the Belchatow plant's generators.

"Lech Walesa is appealing for a chance for the round table. We have been waiting for so many years, we can wait a few days more," he said.

NATION & WORLD

Husband begs court to OK abortion

NEW YORK (AP) — The husband of a comatose woman begged an appeals court to let her abort her fetus. He said he wanted to save her life, and said in an interview that anti-abortionists who oppose him are "ripping my guts out."

"I implore this court not to permit these two strangers to delay my decision," Martin Klein said in an affidavit submitted to a state appeals court Wednesday.

Klein, a 34-year-old accountant from the Long Island suburb of Upper Brookville, wants to be named guardian of his wife, Nancy, so he can authorize an abortion that several doctors said could not be performed in her recovery.

But anti-abortion activists John Short and John Broderick have sought to block him, saying that aborting the fetus will not improve Mrs. Klein's chances and will harm her psychologically. They have applied to become her guardian to prevent the abortion.

Klein was awarded the guardianship Tuesday in a state trial court, but the decision was stayed pending an appeal by Short and Broderick.

At the appellate hearing, Klein's attorney, Sidney Schatz, called Short and Broderick "intruders, strangers" with no right to decide Mrs. Klein's fate.

But Mary Spaulding, Short's attorney, countered that it was a conflict of interest for Klein to be named guardian. She said the abortion would violate his wife's wishes.

Mrs. Klein "had planned this pregnancy, she was looking forward to this pregnancy and was happy about it," Mr. Short said. "The issue is not the right to an abortion, but the right to procreate and have children."

In his affidavit, Klein said: "For nine years, my wife and I have lived a happy and devoted life together. I know her wishes and priorities, including her own survival and recovery in view of the welfare of our 3-year-old daughter."

The five-judge appeals panel is due to make its decision by the end of the week. Short, founder of the Long Island Right-to-Life group, pledged to take the case to the U.S. Supreme Court if the panel ruled against him.

"It was all black and ugly and horrible," said young Mary Ellen Crosby. "Now it's all white and glistening and beautiful."

Winter-weary tourists had flocked to Palm Springs for fun in the sun were thoroughly disheartened as temperatures hovered at 45 degrees and errant snowflakes melted into hot tubs and swimming pools.

"I was hoping to play a little tennis, but the weather's disappointing," said Spencer Vidon, a 50-year-old businessman from Aspen, Colo.

In Las Vegas, smart money was betting more snow would fall today, after the gambler's mecca was dusted with a light snowfall Wednesday.

The Department of Energy postponed an underground nuclear test scheduled Wednesday at the Nevada Test Site. Monitoring aircraft wouldn't have been able to track any accidental release of radiation while it was snowing, said DOE spokesman Jim Boyer.

In central California, snow was reported in Bakersfield and elsewhere in the San Joaquin Valley. Asparagus growers in the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys reported frost damage. Small farmers who grow leaf lettuce also were hurt, but Southern California growers generally were spared, said Clark

Guardianship battle

GUARDIANSHIP BATTLE — Martin Klein listens to his attorney describe his wife's medical condition during a court hearing in New York City on Wednesday.

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Parole denied

PAROLE DENIED — Charles Manson, leader of the cult-like "family" that in 1969 went on a grisly month-long murder spree, killing actress Sharon Tate and eight other people, was denied parole for the seventh time on Wednesday. He's still at war with society and definitely a danger, said Albert Leddy, chairman of the California Board of Prison Terms.

Parole was denied to Manson because of fear of tipping off terrorists. The testimony before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee "is the first, and I hope the last, public utterance of our program."

He said he would be willing to discuss any specific program in a closed committee session, which Committee Chairman John Glenn, D-Ohio, said could be done.

Glenn said aid and natural gas pipeline representatives had declined to appear before the panel out of fear that sensitive security information would be revealed.

The committee on Wednesday held two days of hearings on the vulnerability of U.S. telecommunications

Tower must wait for FBI probe of new charges

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Tower's nomination as defense secretary hit the rocks as senators postponed a confirmation vote for nearly two weeks while the FBI investigates allegations about his drinking and his financial ties with military contractors.

The chairman and ranking Republican member of the Senate Armed Services Committee met for two hours Wednesday afternoon with White House counsel C. Boyden Gray to discuss the FBI investigations and then closeted themselves with Tower for 90 minutes.

The Washington Post quoted an unnamed administration source today as saying Tower presented the lawmakers with statements from his doctors that he does not have a disabling alcohol problem. After meeting with Gray, committee chairman Sam Nunn, D-Ga., said he still had "serious concerns" that would prevent him from voting in favor of Tower's nomination.

President Bush stood by his nomination of the former Texas senator to head the Pentagon.

"If somebody has something other than rumor and frenzied speculation, please get it to the FBI or get it to the White House staff, or certainly get it to the committee in the Senate. But let us be fair enough that we do not deal in rumor after rumor," Bush said in a statement.

"We're sure to recover, being told that her child is alive, psychologically could be a disaster."

The furor cast a shadow over Bush's plans to deliver his first State of the Union message on Thursday night, proposing a budget for fiscal 1990.

Nunn said "there are still some matters yet to be received" in an FBI review of allegations that Tower is a heavy drinker and womanizer.

A separate FBI review of "new allegations of a financial nature" will take another week or 10 days to complete, Nunn said, adding that it "has to be completed before the committee can proceed to a vote."

The Senate begins a week-long recess on Friday, meaning the confirmation vote will not be held Feb. 21 to reject the nomination or send it to the full chamber.

WASHINGTON (AP) — An anti-terrorist program is protecting the nation's electric power supplies even though planners doubt a coordinated attack ever will be launched against the energy network, an industry official says.

The program is about six months old and involves an elaborate working relationship with the FBI, Michel Genet, president of the North American Electric Reliability Council, told a Senate hearing on Wednesday.

He said the program, which was 2½ years in the making, was adopted even though "skepticism was rampant" among its creators that terrorists would carry out a multi-site attack on U.S. energy supplies.

Natural events such as hurricanes present a greater threat to U.S. power systems, said Genet, whose organization represents virtually all U.S. and Canadian electric utilities.

The Department of Energy has been advising U.S. companies privately about the growing threat of "techno-terrorism" attacks on vital domestic energy facilities and it is pressing them to fortify their defenses.

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College applications down

NEW YORK (AP) — Freshman applications are down at top colleges around the country for the first time in years, the likely cause is a dwindling number of high school graduates and ever-higher tuitions, admissions officers say.

The decline in graduating high school students is considered the prime culprit, according to more than a dozen admissions officers. The college application deadline for fall freshman applications at many of the nation's most competitive schools.

"Since this is happening to everyone, the best guess is that it's demographics," said Michael C. Behrke, admissions director of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Ministers aids CBS

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LOCAL & STATE

Car theft ring broken

NORWALK (AP) — A major car theft ring that operated in three states has been broken with the arrests of three men, Norwalk police said today.

Wille Harrington, 26, of Fort Chester, N.Y., was arrested by Norwalk police Wednesday and charged with multiple counts of larceny related to car thefts and car burglaries, police said.

Thomas Haywood, 26, and Valerio Bellanone, 23, both of Fort Chester, N.Y., were being held by Fort Chester police on charges of being fugitives from justice, police said. He said Connecticut police have warrants charging the two with multiple counts of larceny.

A fourth man, Roger Stanley, 26, of Fort Chester, N.Y., is being held at the Bridgeport Correctional Facility on charges of failure to appear in court to answer charges of car thefts and burglaries from a few years ago, police said. He said police planned to file charges against Stanley in the case.

The arrests were made as a result of a joint investigation by Norwalk, Greenwich, New Canaan and Fort Chester police.

Woman pleads innocent

STAMFORD (AP) — A Stamford woman has pleaded innocent to charges of sexually assaulting an 8-year-old girl.

Patricia Pahaham, 29, is accused of forcing the girl "to engage in sexual intercourse" twice in late December. Deputy Police Chief John Perrotta said Wednesday.

Perrotta refused to discuss the child's relationship with Pahaham or any further details.

"The case is still under investigation; it's very delicate," he said. Pahaham, who was arrested on warrants at her home Tuesday, entered her plea Wednesday in Stamford Superior Court and was released after she posted \$10,000 bond.

She is charged with second-degree sexual assault, risk of injury to a minor, and three counts of failure to appear in court, police said.

Perrotta said the failure to appear charges involved other misdemeanors with which Pahaham had been charged, but he didn't have any further information.

Man charged in slaying

MIDDLETOWN (AP) — A 21-year-old Hartford man has been charged with murder in the slaying death of a local school teacher, police said.

Jesus Perez was arrested at his Hartford home around 10 p.m. Tuesday and charged with murder and first-degree larceny in the slaying of Arthur W. Johnson, a 48-year-old teacher at Keigwin Annex school, police said.

Perez was arraigned Wednesday in the Middletown Superior Court and was being held at the Morgan Street Detention Center in Hartford in lieu of \$500,000 bail. He is scheduled to return to court Feb. 27.

Johnson's body was discovered in his condominium in the 300-unit Northwoods Apartments complex by police around 9 a.m. Tuesday after school officials reported that he failed to show up for work for two days.

The suspect's mother, Matilde Perez, said her son told her he was picked up in Hartford by Johnson Sunday night. She said he told her Johnson drove him to Johnson's home in Middletown to drink "and then he got fresh with him."

Middletown Police Lt. Joseph Bibisi said police had obtained a search warrant to take samples of the suspect's "biological fluids." Bibisi also said Perez's clothes had been seized, but he declined to reveal the results of any tests.

Surgical unit proposed

WEST HAVEN (AP) — Federal officials have proposed building a \$50 million surgical unit at the West Haven Veterans Administration Medical Center to serve all of Connecticut's veterans.

Congressmen and hospital executives hope a surgical unit will revive the 560-bed facility, which has seen a decrease in patients as the building has fallen into disrepair.

"The way the building looks is important to the patient," said Norman Browne, the hospital's director. He noted that "the quality of care is excellent" at the facility, which is affiliated with the Yale Medical Center.

Veterans Administration spokeswoman Donna St. John told the New Haven Register's Washington, D.C. bureau that the construction plans are included in the agency's five-year plan. But she said it is too early to tell how much money would be needed.



AIR LIFT — An unidentified Armenian girl holds an American flag, as she is carried to a USAF plane heading for Andrews Air Base, on Rhine-Main Air Base, Thursday. She is one of 37 children from the earthquake stricken area who are being flown to the United States with their parents for treatment.

Bush

cut will increase government revenues by spurring business investment and activity.

Nonetheless, the Bush budget will claim about \$4 billion in new revenue from the plan, which would be implemented gradually and eventually cut the rate to 15 percent for productive assets held for two years or more.

Capital gains now are taxed at either 28 percent or 33 percent, depending on income.

Bush, a former Texas oil man, also will propose new tax breaks for the oil and gas industry.

Additional energy production in selected offshore areas and in the Alaska wildlife refuge — both opposed by environmentalists — also are part of the plan, sources said.

Other Bush proposals aimed at business and trade growth will include:

- Restoring a research and development tax credit for business.
- Urban enterprise zones, using special tax breaks to lure companies to depressed areas.
- Expanded support for research and science, including the space station and shuttle and the proposed superconducting supercollider physics laboratory.

Bush will focus part of his speech and proposals on the environment, promising more spending on the Superfund program for toxic waste clean-ups, clean coal technology, clean water and wetlands programs, and a greater emphasis on global environmental problems such as the greenhouse effect.

A few selected domestic programs in his budget would be increased as part of his "kinder, gentler nation" promise. Sources said they include:

- Increasing the Head Start preschool education program by \$250 million.
- A merit award program for schools, and increased subsidies for black colleges.
- A renewed and expanded tax credit for adoption, two years after the 1986 tax bill eliminated a deduction to offset those costs.

- Rejection of Reagan's proposed \$1.7 billion cut in the Medicaid health program for the poor.
- A child care tax credit of \$1,000 for low-income families.

- Full funding of the McKinney homeless assistance act.
- \$25 million to start a national program for youth in public service.
- Increased spending for the program against drug abuse, although not the full amount authorized by Congress.
- Increased spending on AIDS research.

The Bush budget revisions will

Insurer moves to consolidate claims on estate

STAMFORD (AP) — Rather than exhaust a \$500,000 malpractice policy trying to settle claims, an insurance company is seeking court help to divide what remains of the money among clients of a Danbury lawyer who was bilked out of millions of dollars.

The American Home Assurance Co. of New York filed suit in U.S. District in Bridgeport last week against those who have filed claims on the policy held by attorney Richard L. Nahley, who hanged himself in a Washington, D.C., hotel room after his financial affairs unraveled.

Nahley, who was also Danbury's probate judge, is suspected of having embezzled \$3 million from clients and using the money on a lavish lifestyle.

The insurance suit, which follows months of unsuccessful negotiations, seeks to have the federal court decide which of the approximately 40 claimants is entitled to part of the money, and how much.

U.S. District Judge T.F. Gilroy Duly scheduled a hearing for March 6, when the defendants will be given a chance to argue why their claims shouldn't be consolidated and handled by the federal court.

Ronald Herzog, an attorney for American Assurance, on Wednesday declined comment on the suit.

But Hartford Probate Judge Robert K. Killian, who is overseeing settlement of the Nahley estate, called the suit an admirable attempt to reach a settlement before the policy is exhausted on legal fees. About \$400,000 of the \$500,000 policy has already been spent on legal fees and court costs.

"The insurance company in effect is announcing its willingness to pay the \$500,000 to the people the court says are entitled to it," Killian said. "They have evidenced a willingness to put money in the hands of claimants rather than have it go to the cost of defending a lot of lawsuits."

Killian expressed disappointment that the claimants haven't yet been able to reach a settlement. "You can't force people to compromise," he said. "You just hope they understand the real cost of having their day in court."

Although the \$500,000 policy doesn't represent the only asset left in Nahley's estate, Killian said "it's the most readily available pot of money." Other assets include Nahley's law office and his home, Killian said.

So far, 55 suits have been brought on behalf of residents, mortgage companies and other businesses in Connecticut, Florida and New York against Nahley's estate. The Internal Revenue Service is seeking \$1 million for taxes Nahley should have paid on the embezzled funds.

Killian last year warned those who were cheated by Nahley that they should not expect to get all their money back.

Henry B. Anderson, the estate's co-administrator, on Wednesday said the Nahley estate is "hopelessly insolvent."

React

But Thompson said overall new taxes and spending cuts are probably needed.

"I think that he (O'Neill) is keeping commitments that we have made to the elderly, the homeless, the poor, and to public education," Thompson said.

"The governor has given us his best shot," Thompson said. He predicts significant changes in the budget, but not in the dollar amounts.

Meotti said he hasn't looked at the budget in detail but believes a balance between spending and increased taxes is probably necessary.

"Clearly, it's going to be a combination of cutting the budget and taxes," Meotti said. "I'm not hopeful that we could balance the budget without new taxes."

But Munnis said that O'Neill told people in his state-of-the-state message that Connecticut would have to "bite the bullet." Instead, O'Neill's proposed budget calls for "biting the taxpayer" with the proposed spending increase, Munnis said.

"To cut the budget dramatically there is only one place we can go; and that is to the money that gets turned back to towns," Meotti said.

Meotti said despite spending cuts, grants to municipalities will remain at about the same level as this year. Meotti said about 30 percent of the state budget goes back to towns.

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Bird almost a Pacer

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Celtics would have returned Larry Bird to his native Hoosier state for this season had a deal proposed last summer by the Indiana Pacers been consummated, according to a published report.

Under the rejected proposition, Boston would have received Chuck Person and the No. 2 pick in the 1988 NBA draft's first round in a trade for Bird.

The Boston Herald reported today, citing by an unidentified source within the Pacers' organization.

"We made our pitch, but I'd have to say now we were fortunate they (the Celtics) didn't accept it," the source was quoted as saying.

Bird, an All-American during his college days at Indiana State University, has been identified this season by an operation on his Achilles' tendon.

After the deal fell through, Indiana drafted Rick Smith, who has averaged 15 points a game since former Pistons coach Dick Versace took over the team.

Person, a 6-foot-8 forward, has contributed an average 20.5 points and 7.2 rebounds a game.

Celtics general manager Jan Volik declined to comment on the report, but Bird's attorney, Bob Woolf, said he thought it unlikely such a deal would ever come to fruition.

Celtics at .500 level at the All-Star break

BOSTON — The fourth quarter blues are haunting the Boston Celtics as they break for the All-Star Game as a .500 team.

"I could make a wish, it would be to play the fourth quarter first and get that out of our systems," rookie Brian Shaw said Wednesday night after the Celtics' 109-102 victory over the Indiana Pacers.

After blowing fourth-quarter leads twice in four previous games, the Celtics came perilously close to doing it again.

The Pacers, who trailed by as much as 17 in the first half and by 11 at the start of the fourth period, closed to within 97-94 with just under six minutes left.

However, Robert Parish hit on a three-point play with 4:31 left and Dennis Johnson scored six of his eight points down the stretch as Boston held on to hand Indiana its sixth consecutive loss.

Reggie Lewis scored 31 points, Kevin McHale had 22 and 11 rebounds, and Robert Parish had 20 and 22 rebounds as Boston evened its record

23-23, getting back to .500 for just the second time since Dec. 21.

"I saw a few things I didn't like, but overall this was a good win for us," Rodgers said. "We worked really hard. We hustled, and we scrapped. The offense was impressive early, but it was the defense that impressed me all night."

"It will be a dogfight. It's a tough schedule and we have to play hard," said McHale. "We'll come home to a good schedule and hopefully (injured) Larry (Bird) will be back."

Then noting the Celtics' inconsistency this season, McHale said:

"We've proved we can play with anyone in the league. Now we have to prove we can beat them."

Ayer not getting the attention he deserves

In one instance, he is directing the offense constantly being hounded by opponents' specially defenses aimed at curtailing his offensive prowess.

In the next instance, he penetrates the defense for a seemingly effortless pull-up 12-footer.

Back on defense, his lightning-quick hands and feet cause a turnover and he speeds down court for a one-handed slam dunk.

With defenders draped on him, he threads the defense with a bullet pass inside.

Coolly and calmly, he comes up court and drains a 3-pointer as if it were a layup.

Grabbing a rebound, he keys the fast break accelerating right to the basket when he's fouled, more out of the adversary's desperation than anticipation. At the foul line his proficiency held by attorney Richard L. Nahley, who hanged himself in a Washington, D.C., hotel room after his financial affairs unraveled.

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Ronald Herzog, an attorney for American Assurance, on Wednesday declined comment on the suit.

But Hartford Probate Judge Robert K. Killian, who is overseeing settlement of the Nahley estate, called the suit an admirable attempt to reach a settlement before the policy is exhausted on legal fees. About \$400,000 of the \$500,000 policy has already been spent on legal fees and court costs.

"The insurance company in effect is announcing its willingness to pay the \$500,000 to the people the court says are entitled to it," Killian said. "They have evidenced a willingness to put money in the hands of claimants rather than have it go to the cost of defending a lot of lawsuits."

Killian expressed disappointment that the claimants haven't yet been able to reach a settlement. "You can't force people to compromise," he said. "You just hope they understand the real cost of having their day in court."

Although the \$500,000 policy doesn't represent the only asset left in Nahley's estate, Killian said "it's the most readily available pot of money." Other assets include Nahley's law office and his home, Killian said.

So far, 55 suits have been brought on behalf of residents, mortgage companies and other businesses in Connecticut, Florida and New York against Nahley's estate. The Internal Revenue Service is seeking \$1 million for taxes Nahley should have paid on the embezzled funds.

Killian last year warned those who were cheated by Nahley that they should not expect to get all their money back.

Henry B. Anderson, the estate's co-administrator, on Wednesday said the Nahley estate is "hopelessly insolvent."

React

But Thompson said overall new taxes and spending cuts are probably needed.

"I think that he (O'Neill) is keeping commitments that we have made to the elderly, the homeless, the poor, and to public education," Thompson said.

"The governor has given us his best shot," Thompson said. He predicts significant changes in the budget, but not in the dollar amounts.

Meotti said he hasn't looked at the budget in detail but believes a balance between spending and increased taxes is probably necessary.

"Clearly, it's going to be a combination of cutting the budget and taxes," Meotti said. "I'm not hopeful that we could balance the budget without new taxes."

But Munnis said that O'Neill told people in his state-of-the-state message that Connecticut would have to "bite the bullet." Instead, O'Neill's proposed budget calls for "biting the taxpayer" with the proposed spending increase, Munnis said.

"To cut the budget dramatically there is only one place we can go; and that is to the money that gets turned back to towns," Meotti said.

Meotti said despite spending cuts, grants to municipalities will remain at about the same level as this year. Meotti said about 30 percent of the state budget goes back to towns.

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Georgetown in control in victory over UConn

By Len Ausler
Manchester Herald

HARTFORD — The sellout crowd of 16,016 at the Civic Center began its exodus with about 5 1/2 minutes left and visiting Georgetown University maybe the No. 1 college basketball team in the land, up by 20.

University of Connecticut Coach Jim Calhoun confirmed how he felt and he said "fine."

Obviously he's not 100 percent. (But) Tate was picking up his dribble 30, 38 feet from the basket and throwing entry passes. They picked two or three early and that seemed to get the momentum on their side.

UConn, one step away from the Big East cellar, is now 3-6 in the conference and 12-7 overall. Calhoun was satisfied with the inspired play of Phil Gamble (19 points), freshman Chris Smith and Willie McCloud. "I have a lot of respect for three of our players," he said, referring to the Huskies' recent win over Georgetown.

Robinson and Tate George. Each suffered ankle sprains in last Saturday's game.

"I felt bad that I took advantage of those two kids (Robinson and Tate) and George," Thompson, who saw Hoyas go to 8-1, 18-2 with the win, said. "Robinson makes a big difference for Connecticut. I saw he couldn't go full speed so we want

back to man (to man defense). There's nothing you can do when a kid that dominating for your team is there."

Robinson had a season-low nine points on 3-for-11 shooting. He also grabbed only two rebounds. "I didn't want to miss the game," Robinson said. "Maybe I should've the way I played."

Calhoun wouldn't alibi. "I asked Cliff during the timeouts how he felt and he said 'fine.'"

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DILTON by Steve Dickenson



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 ROSE by Pat Brady



ON THE FASTBACK by Bill Holtzrock



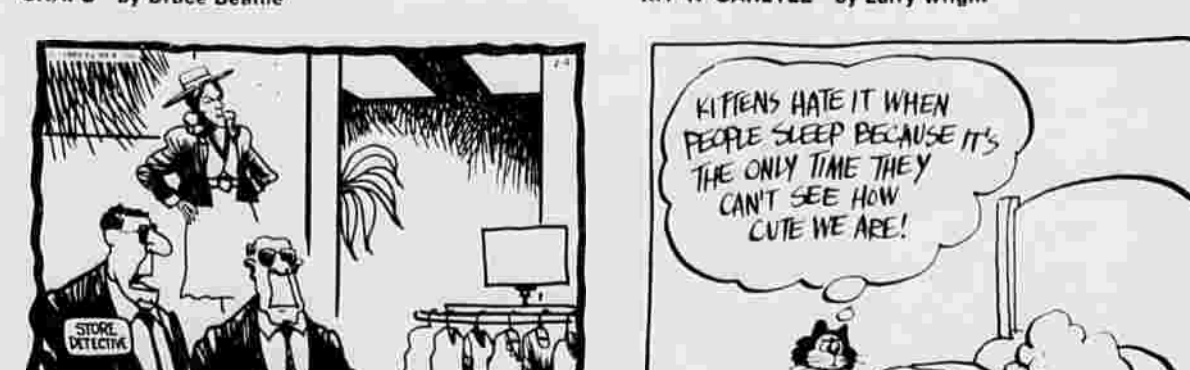
THE GRIZZWELLS by Bill Schorr



BRIDGE

Bridge game section with a table of numbers and text explaining the game.

SNAFU by Bruce Beattie



BUGS BUNNY by Warner Bros.



LFL ABNER by Al Capp



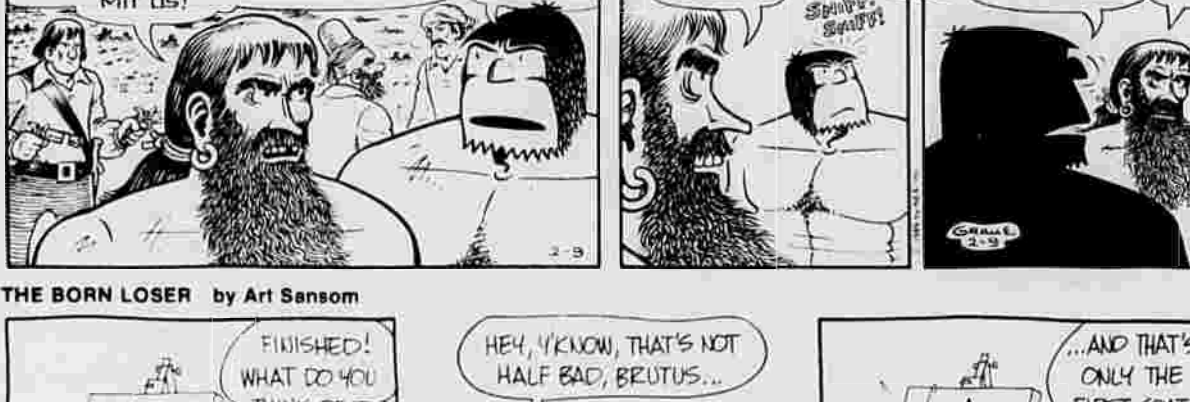
ARLO AND JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



ALLEY OOP by Dave Graue



THE BORN LOSER by Art Scaum



FRANK AND ERNEST by Bob Thayer



WINTHROP by Dick Cavalli



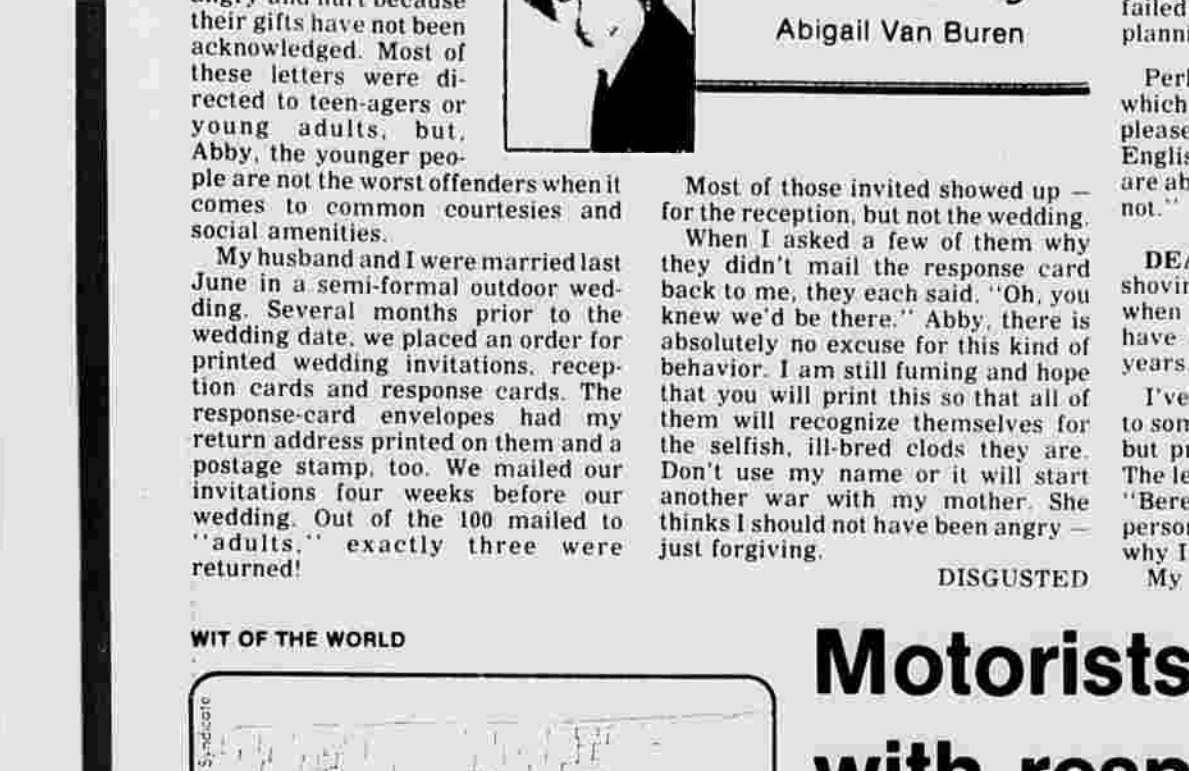
CHUBB AND CHAUNCEY by Vance Rowell



KIT 'N' CARLYLE by Larry Wright



WIT OF THE WORLD



Dr. Gott



How to dissolve kidney stones

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a uric acid stone three-quarters of an inch in diameter...

DEAR READER: Kidney stones are composed of various materials...

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been told I can reduce my cholesterol by eating Cera...

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FOCUS/Advice

Bride finds courtesies rare among guests

DEAR ABBY: There have been numerous letters in your column from grandparents, parents, etc., who are angry and hurt because their gifts have not been acknowledged...

DEAR DISGUSTED: You are not alone. Every bride and hostess report the same frustration when their R.S.V.P.s are ignored...

DEAR ABBY: My mother started showing your column under my nose when I was about 12. I'm 43 now and have been an avid reader ever since...

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Motorists regard car battery with respect when jumping it

With the dead battery—but not the negative terminal of the dead battery.

Sometimes there's a small spark when the final contact is made between the two batteries; so by attaching the cable to the engine or chassis in the first place, Corroded ground cables are often the cause of hard starting and the negative terminal of the bad battery.

But yes, I know that's easier said than done. In the real world, it's probably night and raining, and it's hard to find an unpainted, ungreasy spot on the engine that will provide a good connection.

So most people—including four out of four professional mechanics I asked—routinely attach the cable to the negative terminal of the bad battery. Still, it's probably safest to find a spot on the engine or chassis if possible.

When the connections are made, start the engine of the car with the bad battery. Turn off the jumper cables as removed. Remove the cables in the opposite order from which they were attached. Again, be very careful not to touch the cable ends to each other or to metal on the cars.

Considering how frequently people jump-start cars, and often in a cavalier disregard for connecting the cables in the proper order, battery blow-ups are actually very rare. But when fiddling with car batteries, it's wise to keep your guard up your sleeves.

And your car's headlights and glasses on, just in case.

Peter Bohr is a syndicated columnist.

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STILL A GIRL'S BEST FRIEND - Actress Carol Channing holds a diamond and enamel brooch from Nova Stylings, one of 30 winning pieces in the Diamonds Today design competition recently. The competition was open to U.S. designers and manufacturers.

PEOPLE

Coleman sues parents

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP) - Gary Coleman, who starred in the television series "Diff'rent Strokes," is suing his parents and former business adviser, alleging they took too big a share of his earnings.

The lawsuit filed Tuesday in Santa Monica Superior Court also claims that W.G. and Edmonia Sue Coleman and the adviser, Anita DeThomas, caused his assets to be managed unwisely. It said Coleman believes his parents were unduly influenced by Ms. DeThomas.

His lawsuit did not specify what compensation he was seeking but stated that Ms. DeThomas got more than the 5 percent she was entitled to and his parents more than the 20 percent they should have received as his personal managers.

The defendants could not be reached for comment because there were no telephone listings for them in the Los Angeles area.

Pinky Lee has attack

PEORIA, Ill. (AP) - Performer Pinky Lee left for California to recover from a heart attack suffered during a performance of "Sugar Babies," but vowed to return to take care of "some unfinished business here."

"I owe the people here a show. I sure hope I can come back someday and perform," Lee said Wednesday before his release from St. Francis Medical Center. He left for his Mission Viejo, Calif., home with his wife, Bebe.

The 72-year-old Lee - a lispng, baggy-pants vaudeville veteran and early television comedian - was stricken backstage Jan. 25 at the Peoria Civic Center during a road-company performance of the Broadway musical.

Givens, Trump give funds

NEW YORK (AP) - Actress Robin Givens and developer Donald J. Trump each have donated \$10,000 to send homeless children to a benefit concert featuring singer Paul Simon, comedian Robin Williams and blues star Ruth Brown.

The donations will allow 20 children to attend the \$1,000-a-seat benefit concert Feb. 16 in New York.

"This will be an evening that these children will always treasure," Miss Givens, who appears in ABC's situation comedy "Head of the Class," said in a statement.

Proceeds of the benefit will go to Simon's Children's Health Fund, which provides health care to homeless children, and HELP, a non-profit organization that builds transitional housing for homeless families.

Prince sponsors dieter

LONDON (AP) - Prince Charles has agreed to donate to a cancer charity 15 pounds sterling for every pound of body weight a 210-pound fund-raiser sheds. The prince's office says...

Our Language

Eminent stands out in quality or character. An eminent authority on spelling clues will agree that mine stands out in this adjective.

Preach delivers a sermon or earnestly lectures. To remember the vowels in preach should not be beyond anyone's reach.

QUESTION: My teacher said that most shouldn't be used with all. Why shouldn't it?

ANSWER: Most all uses most as an informal shortening of almost, the wrong use should be in construction. Almost all dictionaries agree that most all may be objected to in formal writing.

Do you have a question or comment about our Language? Please write to Jeffrey McQuinn, in care of The Manchester Herald, P.O. Box 591, Manchester 06040.



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