

LOCAL & STATE

Bridgeport faces deficit

BRIDGEPORT (AP) — The state's largest city is facing a possible \$5.2 million deficit this year and the loss of its investment-grade credit rating, state Treasurer Francisco L. Borges said.

Borges, chairman of the Bridgeport Financial Review Board, told the board last week that Moody's Investor Service is dissatisfied with the progress the city is making toward solving its financial problems.

"Moody is concerned about the lack of progress" in solving the city's financial woes, Borges said Monday.

Loss of the investment-grade credit rating would have a devastating impact and mean the city would be unable to borrow money in the credit market, Borges said.

Health series to begin

Manchester Memorial Hospital's Community Health Education Series is scheduled to begin March 29.

Sessions are scheduled for 6 p.m. Wednesdays through May 3 and are free to the public. The sessions are: April 5, Preventing Yourself Against Skin Cancer; April 12, Medical Consequences of Bereavement; April 19, Label Reading and What Food Packages Really Say; April 26, Tick... Tick... Tick... The Time Bomb Called Lyme Disease; May 3, Gastrointestinal Bleeding, the Latest in Diagnostic and Treatment Techniques; May 10, Women, Stress and the Heart.

Agency head to retire

HARTFORD (AP) — Orlando P. "Jack" Ragazzi, a former state police official and Berlin mayor, says ill health is forcing him to retire April 1 as head of the Division of Special Revenue, the agency that oversees state-run gambling.

In a letter to Gov. William A. O'Neill released Monday, the 65-year-old Ragazzi said that he has been diagnosed as having chronic leukemia, a disease of the blood.

Ragazzi rose to the No. 2 spot in the state police during a 26-year career there, from 1952 to 1978. He was that agency's first director of the Statewide Organized Crime Investigative Task Force.

A year after his retirement from the state police, Ragazzi was elected mayor of Berlin and served one term. He worked as a security official with Aetna Life and Casualty Co. in Hartford from 1982 to 1985.

ECHS students to compete

A team of six East Catholic High School students will compete in the 1989 statewide JETS-TEAMS competition Wednesday at the University of New Haven.

JETS-TEAMS stands for Junior Engineering Technical Society-Tests for Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science. Top students from 68 state high schools registered for the contest.

Participants will compete individually and with teams. They will take tests in math, English, biology, chemistry, computer fundamentals and physics.

East Catholic students Tom Carlson, Jeff Dill, Kevin Lynch, Mark McConnell, Paul Rusczyk and William Tanski will compete. Anne Mannion will be their coach.

Guitar lessons available

Guitar lessons are being offered at Manchester Community College for \$55.

The classes, held Mondays, are being taught by David Giardino, who taught himself guitar 22 years ago. He has played nearly every style, including classical, flamenco and jazz. He plays for a band called "Tequila," which features Latin, folk and jazz.

For more information on classes call the Continuing Education Division at the college at 647-6342.

First phase of case closes

HARTFORD (AP) — Although the government painted a detailed portrait of a Puerto Rican independence group's involvement in the \$7.1 million Wells Fargo robbery, defense attorneys say prosecutors failed to link their clients to the second largest cash robbery in U.S. history.

Closing arguments in the five-month trial of five defendants — nine others will be tried later — begin today and are expected to last at least two days.

U.S. Judge T. Emmet Clarke will then deliver his charge to the jurors, whose identities have been kept secret for security reasons.

Prosecutors presented 700 exhibits and called about 110 witnesses in an attempt to show that the 1983 robbery of a Wells Fargo depot in West Hartford was carried out to finance the revolutionary activities of Los Macheteros, a militant group that advocates Puerto Rican independence.

Hearing set on intersection

The state Department of Transportation has scheduled a public hearing on the realignment of the intersection of Routes 30 and 31 in Vernon for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the council chamber of the Memorial Building in Rockville.

Engineers from the DOT will be available one hour before the hearing to hold informal discussions on the project.

Written statements or exhibits may be submitted at the hearing or sent to the DOT's Bureau of Highways by April 3. Statements or exhibits must be no larger than 8 1/2 by 11 inches.

If the weather is bad, the hearing will be postponed to March 29.

Democrats apart on tax, spending bill

HARTFORD (AP) — A controversial proposal to apply the 7.5 percent sales tax to services used by business has been dropped from a tax increase package being considered by House Democrats.

But House Democrats have not agreed on other elements of a bill to eliminate this year's anticipated \$287 million deficit and will go back behind closed doors again today to try and settle their differences.

House Speaker Richard J. Balducci, D-Newington, said after Monday's 20-hour caucus that the 88 Democrats remained unsettled on the question of \$15 million in spending cuts.

He said he hopes to bring the bill to a House vote on Wednesday or Thursday so it could be in effect by April 1, the start of the final quarter of the current budget year, and eliminate the deficit.

"We've made progress... but we certainly haven't been able to close on it," Balducci said.

Balducci said whatever the caucus agrees on, it won't be the same as the bill approved last week by the Senate. That means that the bill would have to go back to the Senate, and with each step, getting the new taxes on the books by April 1 becomes less likely.

"If we can't do it then, we could do it (April) 15th or the first of May, but as we keep moving down the line, we keep closing the window that's open and the amounts of revenue that could be raised," Balducci said.

He said Senate Democratic leaders told him they most likely will be willing to accept "almost anything" that would send back to them.

A couple of new ideas came out of Monday's caucus for cutting spending, including cuts in legislators'

salaries and having non-union state employees agree to work one day a month without pay. "We're looking at anything and everything" in potential cuts, Balducci said.

The Senate version of the bill does not spell out where cuts would be made, Balducci said, and most House Democrats feel the specifics should be spelled out in the bill.

Balducci also said House Democrats still favored raising the "sin taxes" on cigarette and alcohol something else that was not in the Senate version. That would raise \$16 million in the final quarter of this budget year, and about \$60 million in 1989-90.

And House Democrats were likely to go along with the Senate plan to use most or all of the \$130 million remaining in the budget reserve, or rainy day fund, to eliminate the rest of the deficit, Balducci said.

He said the General Assembly turns its attention to balancing the 1989-90 budget. It was not in the Senate bill.

The House Democrats are also talking at the Senate's proposal to use \$60 million from the \$83.9 million surplus in the transportation fund to help erase this year's deficit.

They want to use no more than \$30 million from that fund, Balducci said.

The House has accepted the Senate's plan to put a 15 percent surcharge on the corporations tax, to raise \$55 million in the final quarter of this year, and accelerate insurance company tax payments, to bring in another \$18 million.

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BASEBALL SEASON — Katherine Rosa helps her son, 8-year-old Adam Kuczer, get warm after tryouts for the Little League team at Washington School Sunday. Rosa and her son live at 40 Foxcroft Drive.

Health care agency wants \$17,000 less to serve Coventry

By Jacqueline Bennett, Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — Members of the Community Health Care Agency came to the Town Council Monday to request \$25,000 for next year, a reduction of \$17,000 from the agency's current budget.

Claudia Marcinczak, executive director of the agency, said less money was needed next year because the town no longer has to subsidize the agency.

The \$25,000 is a marked decrease from our present \$42,000. The difference is that now people are paying a fee on a sliding scale for our services. The town is not paying for it all," she said.

Also attending the meeting was agency manager Marge Roach and John Olin.

"Even though the budget is being reduced, there will not really be a cut in services," asked council Chairman Joan Lewis.

Marcinczak said no one is denied services if he cannot pay. The agency has been in existence since 1965. It provides health care screening for blood pressure, cholesterol levels, hearing and vision for residents of nine towns. Besides Coventry, the towns are Andover, Ashford, Columbia, Hebron, Lebanon, Marlborough, Scotland and Chaplin.

In the past, clinics were held in the Town Office Building. Now a van from Windham Community Memorial Hospital is being used to provide those services. The van will visit each town at least every nine weeks.

Enrollment up by 5% at Manchester college

By Andrew J. Davis, Manchester Herald

Spring enrollment at Manchester Community College increased by 5 percent from last year's figures, said Harry Meisel, dean of student affairs.

The enrollment rose from 5,191 students last spring to 5,448 students this spring.

The state's 12 community colleges reported a 8.5 percent increase in preliminary spring enrollments this year, compared to spring 1988 enrollments, said Mary Anne B. Cox, director of Enrollment at Middlesex Community College in Middletown.

The increase was attributed to a variety of reasons, Cox said. Development of new programs, increased promotion of the colleges, and a continuing focus on meeting the needs of part-time students are some of the reasons.

In spring preliminary enrollments, Greater Hartford Community College reported an increase of 18.2 percent. Mohogon Community College in Norwich showed a 14.1 percent gain.

South Central Community College in New Haven reported a 14 percent gain. Tuxis Community College in Farmington had an enrollment increase of 8.9 percent, and enrollment at Watertown Community College in Watertown was up 8.3 percent.

Enrollment at Middlesex Community College in Middletown was up 5.5 percent, while enrollment at Northwestern Connecticut Community College in Winsted increased 5.7 percent, and Assenuck Community College in Andover reported an increase of about 1 percent.

In October, Meisel reported an increase of 27 students at Manchester Community College from the fall semester a year earlier. A total of 5,990 students attended the college in October, he said.

Glitch postpones 8th vote on garage

Alex Grell, Manchester Herald

A legal snag prevented Eighth Utilities District voters from voting Monday night on a \$500,000 appropriation to convert the former Don Willis Garage to district offices.

No vote could be taken because the notice for the meeting had not been posted at the district firehouse. But that did not prevent debate on the topic, with some residents recommending the garage be torn down to make way for a new building.

District President Thomas Landers apologized for the oversight and accepted responsibility for it. The error was discovered just before the election, meeting began at 7:30.

The district directors had recessed their own meeting, which had been in progress. When the election meeting convened, Landers said the error had been discovered. He said state law requires the posting of John D. LaBelle legal counsel for the district, said that if a vote were taken, the status of the conversion might be in jeopardy.

Another meeting to consider the \$500,000 appropriation was set for April 10.

About 80 people had come to the meeting, many of them volunteer firefighters.

Gerald Denis, an assistant fire chief, asked, "Why are we renovating the building instead of demolishing it?"

Harold Topfitt, former fire chief, also recommended a new building instead of conversion. "Why don't we just tear the thing down and build a complex?" he asked.

Lawrence Frazier, an architect with Frazier Lamson Budlong architects and Planners in East Hartford, the firm which designed the conversion, said, "We're ahead of the game by renovation."

He said the garage is structurally sound. But he said it would not be a good support structure without structural change. He also said that a larger building would need more parking spaces to satisfy town zoning regulations and the space might not be available. The present plan calls for 67 spaces with a substantial number of them reserved to volunteer firefighters.

Frazier said the shell of a building is normally about 25 percent of its cost.

In view of that, Thomas O'Marra, also a firefighter, said that with the cost of demolition added, the cost for a new building would be about \$750,000.

A district committee working with the architects has planned to convert the garage to offices and a meeting room. Under the plan, the southernmost section would be offices, the middle section would be a meeting room with other office space and the northernmost section would be used only for storage now, with the idea that it could be demolished later to make way for a new fire station if one is needed.

District President Thomas Landers said that when the property was bought, the idea was to put it to the most practical and economical use.

Director Joseph Tripp said that the cost for the facility, adding the \$700,000 to the \$500,000 appropriation, would be \$1.2 million.

"I have question about whether the district can afford it," he said, citing the need to install sewers in North Main Street and in Irving Street.

Tripp's remarks prompted District Samuel Longest to say, "If we can't do it now, I'd be the first to see it should it up for sale."

We can't have a \$700,000 parking lot."

Director Willard Marvin said that the cost of conversion of the building would be closer to \$450,000 than \$500,000, with the difference in equipment that would have to be bought even if a new building were constructed.

And Director Andrew Katkauskas said that if the district directors proposed to build a new complex now, the district voters would turn it down.

"We are trying to be progressive, but we can't do it by leaps and bounds," he said.

Katkauskas said that if the district offices were moved out of the firehouse, more space would be provided there for the fire department.

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OPINION

The timing favors an income tax

The difficulties the General Assembly is having balancing this year's budget are nothing compared to the problems facing legislators with next year's spending plan. The basic problem is not the \$200 million projected deficit in the current budget...



Misprint

The truth about a supposedly foolproof crime-solver

By Mark Thompson. considerably exaggerated the state of the art of genetic fingerprinting. Recently the Orange County, Calif., sheriff's department crime laboratory sent about 50 blood and semen samples drawn from about 20 people to each of the three labs and asked them to determine which specimens came from the same people...

Open Forum

Use open bidding to select architect. I, too, was a little concerned when Town Manager Robert Weiss recommended Lawrence Associates to do the preliminary cost estimate and design work on the town hall...

What if volunteers did not volunteer? I feel the time has come for someone to speak to the people of Coventry about their fire departments. As the wife of a firefighter, I would like to explain something which our residents seem to take for granted. First of all, they are an all-volunteer, non-profit organization...

No tigers in team at Pentagon

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta. WASHINGTON - Some investigators in the Defense Department are beginning to resemble the bloodhound in "Lady and the Tramp" the one who lost his sense of smell. They call themselves the "tiger team" but are officially known as the Special Inquiries Unit...

Center has new managers

SOUTH WINDSOR - As of Feb. 24, the South Windsor Nursing Center at 1600 Main St. has been under new management. The new company is Continuing Care of the old name Kathleen G. Zabalsky Inc. administrator.

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Turner cuts his losses

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BUSINESS

Emhart, B&D get boost in heavenly deal

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IN BRIEF

Marcus to speak at expo. Bruce S. Marcus, founder of Marcus Communications Inc. of Manchester, will speak at the 1989 International Mobile Communications Expo in Las Vegas next week.

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Credit union sets meeting

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Unions like Trump's move to cut bid for Eastern unit

By Don Sewell. The Associated Press. Billionaire developer Donald Trump's move to cut a cheaper deal for Eastern Airlines' Northeast shuttle was welcomed by the carrier's striking labor unions, which claim that management is seeking to dismantle the airline. "We're happy to see Trump take the position that he is," said Jim Conley, a spokesman for the Machinists union in Washington. "This is part of the entire Eastern system and should not be let loose."

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Manager applicants grilled next week

By Nancy Concelmon
Manchester Herald

The Board of Directors could begin interviewing candidates for town manager as early as next week, Mayor Peter P. DiRosa Jr. said Monday.

A manager search committee composed of three directors and two former mayors has been reviewing applications from all over the country since the beginning of the year, when the position was advertised in national professional journals.

The town has received more than 50 applications and has narrowed the pool to 13 or 14 candidates, DiRosa said. The town received some applications from women, but they did not meet the qualifications or requirements, he said.

The committee and Board of Directors are scheduled to meet this week to review applications, DiRosa said. He hopes the directors and committee members can choose one or two qualified candidates by the end of the week.

The directors will then begin interviewing candidates, he said. DiRosa said in February he hopes to hire a new town manager by April to replace Town Manager Robert B. Weiss, who plans to retire June 30.

Among the qualifications the town is seeking is a master's degree in public administration and a minimum of 10 years of senior-level management experience in a town close to Manchester's size.

Democrat DiRosa, Deputy Mayor Stephen T. Cassano and former Mayor Stephen T. Penny and Republican Ronald O'Neil and former Mayor Nathan G. Agostinelli serve on the committee. The town hired Korn Ferry International, a California-based consulting firm, to aid in the search.

Construction finished on 5 school projects

By Andrew J. Davis
Manchester Herald

Contracted renovation work at five public schools has been completed, said Paul Phillips, chairman of the town building committee.

Work at Bowers School, Wadell School and Manchester High School was completed last week, Phillips said Monday. Work on the two elementary schools was completed about two weeks behind schedule, while work at Manchester High School took place in the initial bids came in too high. The high bids forced the building committee and school board to reduce the scope of the project and seek new bids, he said.

Work was completed at Nathan Hale School and Verplanck School in November 1988. The five schools were renovated under an \$8.8 million bonding project.

Contingency work, not specified in the original contracts, is under way at the schools, said Phillips. The work includes painting and tiling, he said.

Phillips said the contingency work should last about a month, depending upon how much money is left in the schools' contingency funds. He said he was not sure how much money was in the funds.

Saybrook zoners bar homeless from motels

OLD SAYBROOK (AP) — Town zoning commissioners say their decision to bar motels from housing homeless families was motivated by safety concerns, but an advocate for the poor says the action "sets an extremely bad precedent" and may be unlawful.

Without discussion, the commission late Monday authorized town Zoning Enforcement Officer J. Torrance Downes to notify motel owners that their accommodations may not be used for housing homeless families.

A letter to be sent to local motel managers states that accommodations occupied other than for "transient lodging" are considered dwelling units under town law, and that "dwelling units are not allowed in the town of Old Saybrook on a rental basis."

The letter does not specify what represents permanent lodging. Commission chairman Richard D. Jones said it would be up to the zoning enforcement officer and the commission to determine what is considered permanent housing.

"Certainly it is a difficult subject to deal with," said Downes.

Smoking

From page 1

nitro-nicotine dependence, but 39 states require coverage for treatment of drug or alcohol abuse.

The group called on Sullivan, as the nation's chief health official, "to end this national epidemic of nicotine addiction as a serious health threat, one at least as serious as addictions to other drugs and alcohol."

Since surveys estimate that more than two-thirds of the million Americans who smoke visit a doctor each year, physicians are in a good position to encourage and help smokers to quit, the group said.

Public Citizen is a nonprofit public interest organization founded in 1971 by Ralph Nader.

Three soldiers killed by mine

JERUSALEM (AP) — A mine exploded today under a truck carrying U.N. peacekeeping forces, killing three Israeli soldiers and destroying the vehicle, a U.N. officer said.

Two of the soldiers were killed immediately and a third was wounded in the explosion. The deaths brought to 29 the number of Israeli soldiers killed since the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was created in 1978.

Reval inspectors measure up town

By Alex Grell
Manchester Herald

If you haven't had a tax appraiser visit your home in the past few weeks, you can expect to see one sometime within the next six months or so.

KVS Information Systems of Amherst, N. Y., is doing a tax revaluation under contract with the town. The firm's representatives are going into houses to get data that will determine the tax value of the houses for the Oct. 1, 1990 Grand List. That value will be the basis of the tax that first becomes due in July 1991.

The KVS representative will take a tour of your house with you and will ask some questions. He or she will want to know such things as the number of rooms, the number of bedrooms, and the number of bathrooms.

The representative, who will carry identification, will want to know whether the house has a fireplace, for instance. He'll want some information if you have bought the house since Jan. 1, 1988.

He'll also want to know about whether the house has municipal water and sewer service, but in many cases he will already have that information.

The tax representative will probably come sometime between 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on a weekday. But the representatives do make calls by appointment on Saturdays and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings until 7 p.m.

David Dietsch, project supervisor for KVS, said the visits normally take about 20 minutes.

The crew chief and assistant project supervisor is Richard Wolfe. Data collectors are Keith Davy, Alan Winfrey, Carol Wynter, Michael Moore, and Steven Lord. Daniel Danilowicz and Michael Edwards.

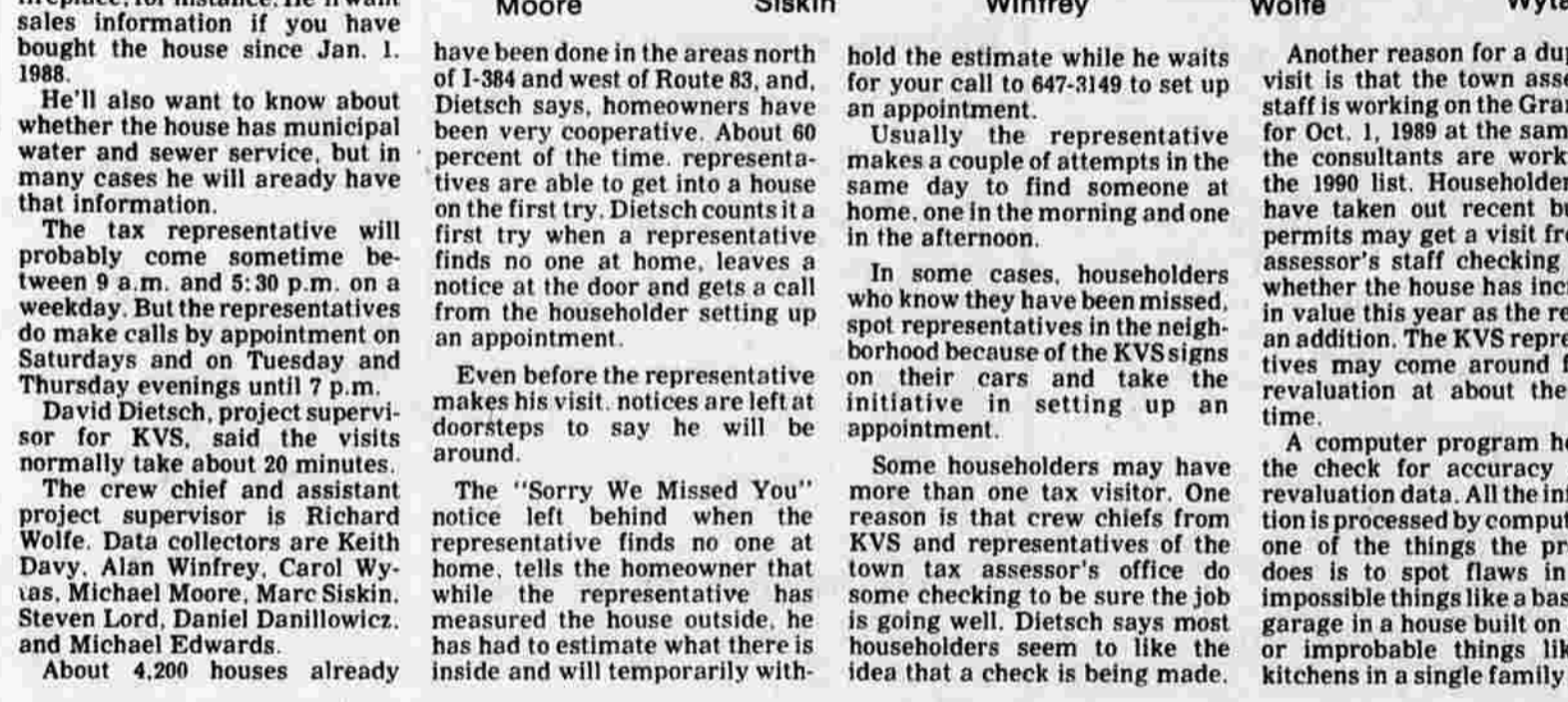
About 4,200 houses already have been done in the areas north of I-384 and west of Route 83, and Dietsch says, homeowners have been very cooperative. About 60 percent of the time, representatives are able to get into a house on the first try. Dietsch counts it a first try when a representative finds no one at home, leaves a notice at the door and gets a call from the householder setting up an appointment.

Even before the representative makes his visit, notices are left at doorsteps to say he will be around.

The "Sorry We Missed You" notice left behind when the representative finds no one at home tells the homeowner that while the representative has measured the house outside, he has had to estimate what there is inside and will temporarily withhold the estimate while he waits for your call to 647-3149 to set up an appointment.

Usually, the representative makes a couple of attempts in the same day to find someone at home. One in the morning and one in the afternoon.

In some cases, householders who know they have been missed, may check to be sure the job is going well. Dietsch says most householders seem to like the idea that a check is being made.



Revaluation

From page 1

Several of the data collectors have a real estate background. Wynter, retired, is on his wife's career as a real estate appraiser, said doing data collection for the revaluation will be good experience.

The information Wynter compiled will be checked and then fed into a computer program to determine the tax value on which the Mollers will pay taxes beginning July 1, 1991.

The revaluation will replace the one the town tried to do in 1987 without the services of a revaluation firm. It failed and was set aside.

Some homeowners recall it with some bitterness, but Mollers said he does not remember receiving any notice of a new assessment from that revaluation.

Mollers' disappointment the house does not have gas service. Mollers, retired, is on his wife's career as a real estate appraiser, said doing data collection for the revaluation will be good experience.

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Inflation

From page 1

apparel offset a 0.9 percent jump for women's garments and a 2.5 percent increase in infants' clothes.

Medical costs shot up by 0.8 percent in February, matching the January increase. Over the past 12 months, medical costs have risen 7.2 percent, the fastest pace of any of the major sectors.

Transportation costs were up 0.8 percent in February, reflecting the big jump in gasoline costs. Both new and used car prices, which had accelerated in January, slowed in February with new car prices up 0.8 percent and used car prices rising by 0.1 percent.

One of the biggest increases in February was a 2.7 percent jump in hotel and motel room costs, erasing a 0.4 percent decline in the previous month.

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SPORTS

Thoughts ApLENTy

Len Auster

Georgetown will emerge with the title

We're down to the Sweet Sixteen in the NCAA Basketball Tournament and now here come the tough choices. The craft, such as the five clubs from the Southeastern Conference—all first-round losers—has been cut away and the clubs expected to make it through have all survived.

The Big Ten and Atlantic Coast conferences each have four teams in the round of 16 while the Big Ten Conference has three (Georgetown, Syracuse and Seton Hall) safely through.

From now on, though, nothing is safe.

There are two "Cinderella" clubs that remain. The ACC's Virginia, whom the University of Connecticut beat on the Cavaliers' home court, is still going as in Minnesota and the Big Ten's Golden Gophers have the worst record of any team still alive at 19-11, but they earned their spots, and some respect, by knocking off Illinois and Indiana, for example, at home during the regular season.

The most intriguing matchup in the round of 16 is Friday night in Minneapolis where Illinois (29-1) is paired with Louisville (26-6). Each has the capability of going on to win the national championship. The respective coaches, Illinois' Lou Henson and Louisville's Dennis Crum, are going to have to pray his club has something left after this titanic battle for the next game.

The Southeast Regional match Thursday night between Oklahoma (26-3) and Virginia (21-10) will challenge the official scorekeeper. The final in this one could be in the neighborhood of 125-129. Both clubs can light it up. Richard Morgan and John Crofty have been on fire in the tournament for the Cavaliers, who've scored over the century mark in each of their two wins. Oklahoma, which struggled in the Big Eight Conference tournament and its opening round win over East Tennessee State, returned to form Saturday, thrashing Louisiana Tech, 124-81.

Enough analysis, we'll leave that to the loquacious Dick Vitale. As far as the Final Four, look for Georgetown (East, Arizona) and Missouri (Midwest) and Michigan (Southeast) to head to Seattle.

It's too bad Georgetown and Arizona have to meet in the semifinal. I would be an ideal champion game. The Final? Look for Georgetown and Missouri to be in the title game with head coach Jim Calhoun has been widely publicized.

And if that wasn't enough, with 10 minutes, 37 seconds left, when Calhoun substituted for Phil Gamble, the Civic Center crowd of 12,031 left the 20-year-old youngster know how they felt about him.

They booed loudly.

"I smiled at first (at the boo), but then I realized I was being booed. This is Connecticut. They want a winning tradition. You can't just shake someone's hand when they boo you."

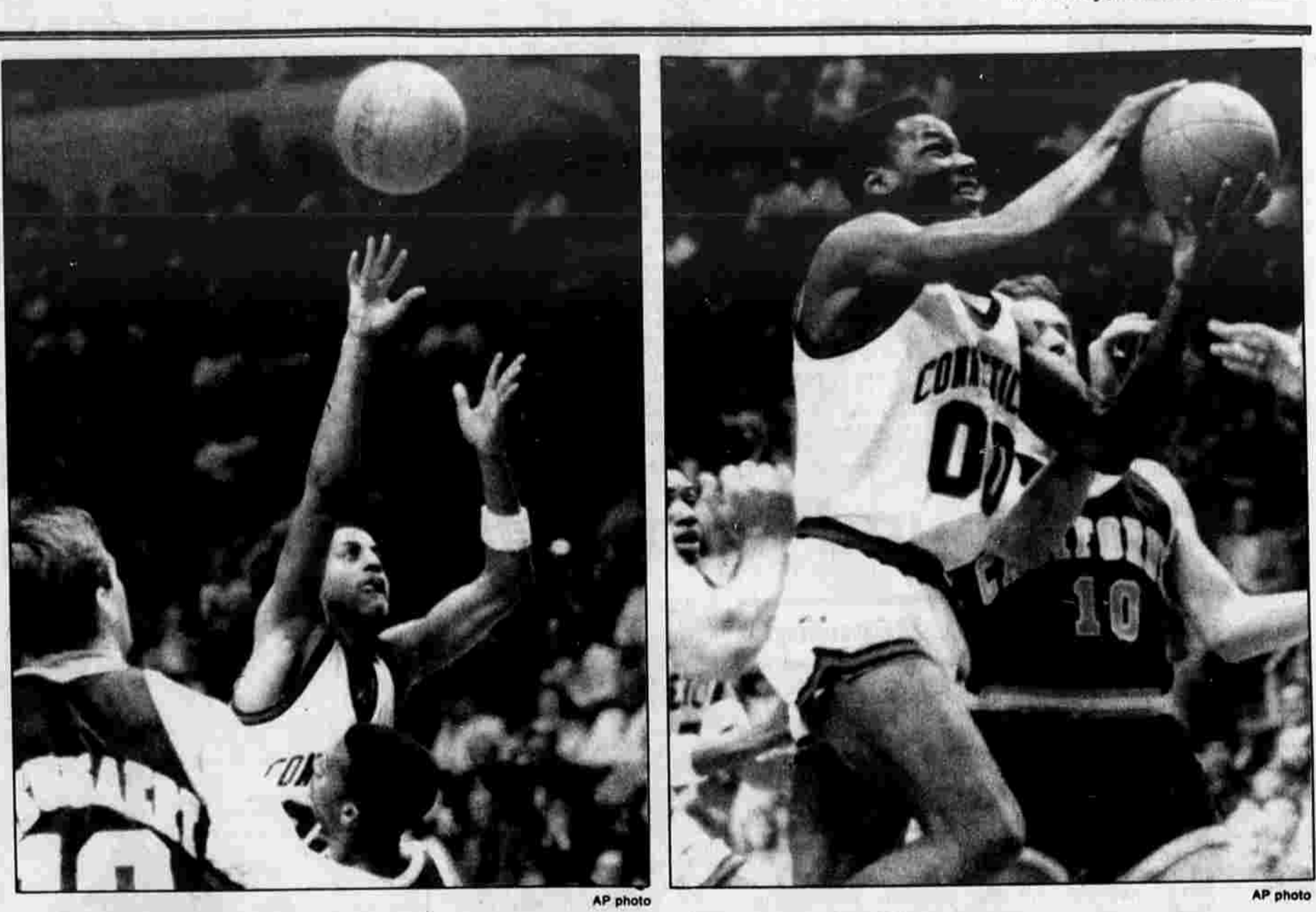
But George went from wearing goats' horns to the "goose" wreath Monday night as he canted two free throws with five seconds left to give the Huskies a 73-72 win over the University of California in a second round National Invitation Tournament clash.

The key was he didn't quit on himself and he had the good toughness with five seconds to go to make the foul shot.

Calhoun said, "I think the key was a see-saw affair until early in the second half when Taylor took control, hitting for 14 consecutive California points. The Golden Bears led 52-46, when the Huskies' foul-prone Cliff Robinson (26 points) picked up his fourth personal.

But the Huskies hung close, and George provided the heroics. "I told (Campanelli) that I thought they (outplayed) us for 30 minutes, maybe 45 minutes," Calhoun said. "But the last seven minutes we realized we dug ourselves a hole, and dug out of it defensively. What allowed us to win was the last two to three minutes every pass, every shot became difficult for California."

HUSKY NOTES — Calhoun was glad UConn had the homecourt edge. "If we're on the road, we send the one-and-one and cancel Al Westover. The crowd was a factor in the game."



COMING THROUGH — UConn's Tate George dives out of the crowd for a shot in the first half of Monday night's NIT clash with California at the Civic Center. George hit two free throws with five seconds left to give the Huskies a 73-72 victory.

UP FOR A SHOT — UConn's Cliff Robinson comes through for a shot in the first half of Monday night's NIT second round game against California. Robinson ran into foul trouble but still led the Huskies with 26 points.

George the hero for Connecticut Huskies host UAB Wednesday in NIT quarterfinal

By Len Auster
Manchester Herald

HARTFORD — It has been a trying season for the University of Connecticut's Tate George, to say the least. The Husky junior point guard has seen his playing time reduced with the emergence of freshman Chris Smith, and his three-year running battle with head coach Jim Calhoun has been widely publicized.

And if that wasn't enough, with 10 minutes, 37 seconds left, when Calhoun substituted for Phil Gamble, the Civic Center crowd of 12,031 left the 20-year-old youngster know how they felt about him.

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Oklahoma may have to replace Switzer

By Scott Rothschild
The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — The University of Oklahoma's interim president is confident that Coach Barry Switzer can shape up a program rocked recently by probation and player arrests.

However, David Swank added, "If he cannot, then we will have to find someone who can. Society's emphasis on sports is an underlying cause of problems plaguing the OU football team. Swank said Monday in a speech to the Texas Daily Newspaper Association, Switzer must implement strict discipline and a recruiting system that emphasizes academic as well as athletic achievements."

"I think actually within this next year we have to see signs of major changes in the program, or changes will have to be made," Swank said.

Swank said he believed that because of Switzer's reputation, he can actually be a guide for improvements, not only at the University of Oklahoma, but across the nation. Swank said, "If he can't, then we're going to have to do something else."

Problems began for the Sooners in December, when the NCAA placed the football program on three years probation for recruiting violations.

In January, a player was accused of drowning his teammate in a dorm showering, three others were charged with an alleged gang rape in a dorm, and starting quarterback Charles Thompson was charged with selling cocaine to an undercover FBI agent.

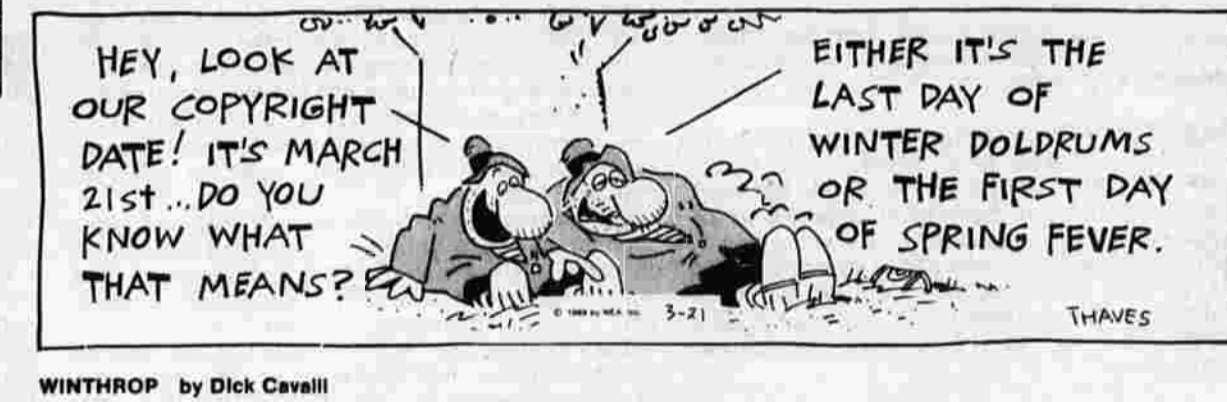
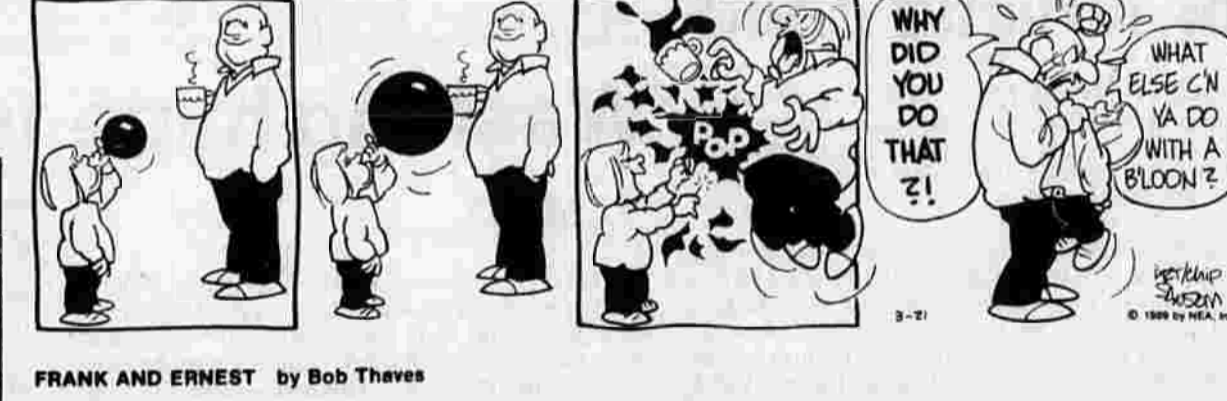
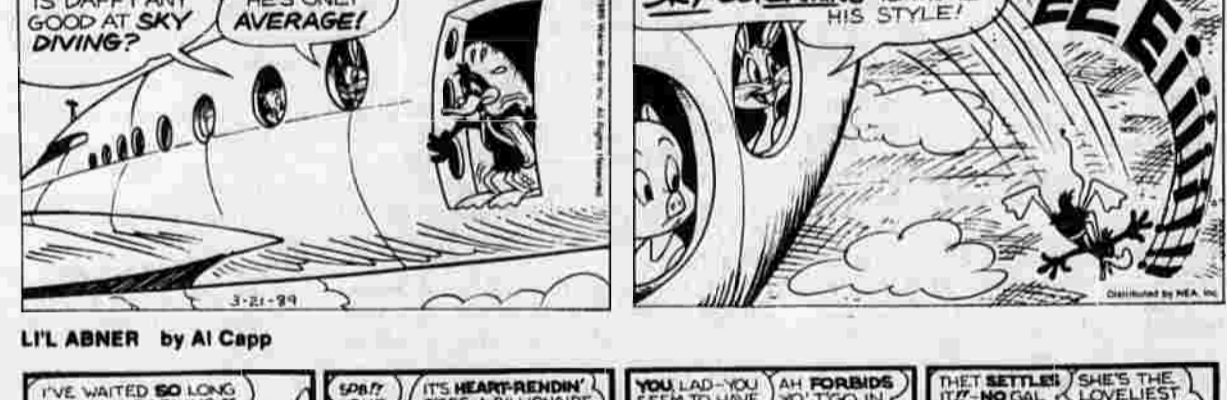
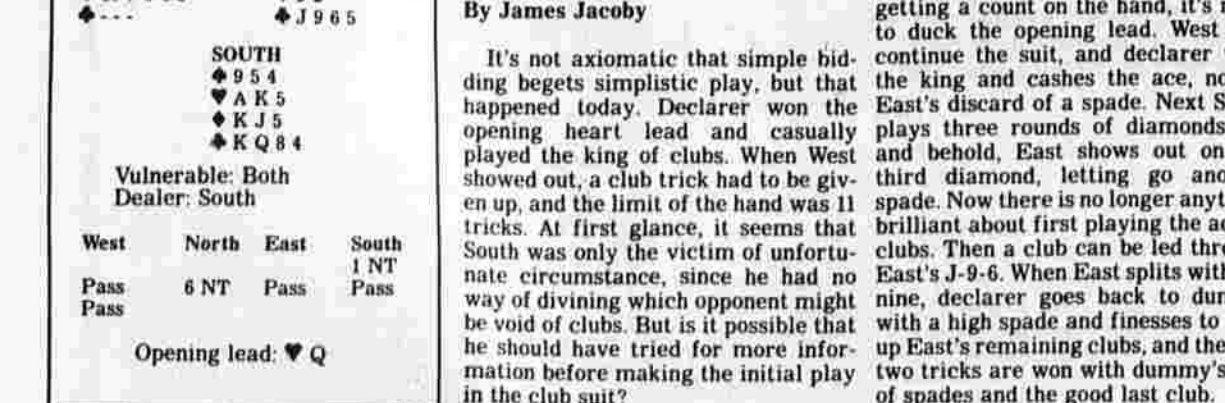
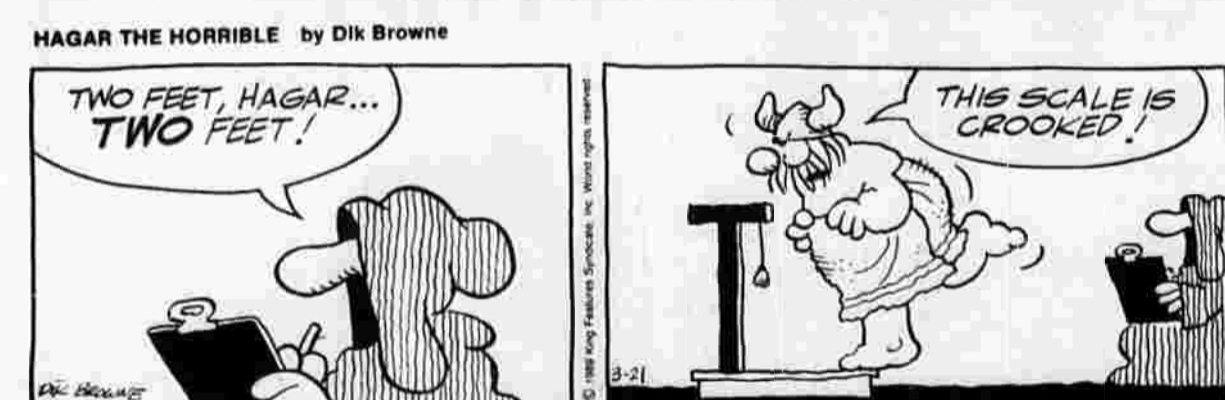
The incidents have cast the university into "dark days," Swank said. "An idol has been toppled from its pedestal."

Swank said the easiest reaction would have been firing Switzer, whose teams have won three national championships and 12 Big Eight titles in 16 seasons. "There are changes that will need to be made, but that does not include Coach Switzer at this time," Swank said.

Swank said the name also should fall on himself and other administrators. "There has been a lack of discipline in our football program off the field."

Swank said he initially refused to read a book by former Oklahoma linebacker Brian Bosworth, which detailed accounts of wrongdoing by football players while coaches looked the other way.

"I thought it was a book of fiction," Swank said. "Now I know that I should have read it."



Puzzles

ACROSS 1 Tool 2 Old Testament book 3 Great respect 4 12 Times 5 Wild sheep 6 Make known 16 Grows in Brooklyn 17 feather 18 Superficially 20 Superficially 22 Area 23 Plastic wrap 27 Novelty 31 Hang 32 Harmony 33 Punctual (2 wds.) 34 Mexican party item 35 Fishing net 36 Glances 37 Piece of residence 40 Wrecking 43 Belonging to us 44 Obstacle 48 Be ill 49 In readiness (2 wds.) 51 Rand 52 The sun 53 Per (yearly) 54 Cry of affirmation 56 Bridge expert 57 Culbertson 58 Staves voluntarily 59 Compas point

DOWN 1 Prato (abbr.) 2 Buzz 3 Northern constellation 4 New Zealand parrot 5 One held captive 6 Medical assistant 7 Garbo 8 Regard 9 More dog 10 Which thing 11 Organs 12 hearing 13 At the border 14 Strange 15 South 16 Lamp inhabitants 17 28 August 18 Dimes 19 "Out Africa" author 20 Bee 21 Collection of facts 22 Author John 23 Passos 24 Boxing blow 25 Singer 26 Summer 27 Bits 28 Sight for travelers 29 40 Luxury 30 Printer's messes 31 Badly 32 Words of denial 33 Favorable votes 34 Bite 35 47 Simpleton 36 Printer's messes

CELEBRITY CIPHER X R J S Z X N X I Q Z Q L F H T X M X X J R M X G T P Z W P P Z I J V I X X P Z Q Z F E J S Z D X V I X E G I X G X L T X I S M X F L H P J P S L D

TV Tonight

- 5:30PM [ESPN] I.D.S. Weekly series on tennis in sports. Michael Young host. [MOVIE] 'Murder on the Orient Express' (PG) Mystery thriller starring Albert Finney, Hugh Grant, and others. [MOVIE] 'Highway to Heaven' (G) Drama series starring John Travolta and Sally Jessy Raphael. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner.

Astrograph

Several involvements in joint ventures are likely in the year ahead and each will have to be handled with extreme skill. One in particular will have exceptional potential. ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your judgment is questionable today and steps you take might have to be retraced. Be prepared to do with your feet what you fall to do with your head. Aries treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph prediction, ahead by mailing \$1 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91426, Cleveland, OH 44101-3426. Be sure to state your zodiac sign. TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Usually you like to work at your own pace, but today you might not be able to do so because of demands and responsibilities foisted upon you by others. Don't rebel. GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Do not rely too heavily upon others today to bail you out of a situation where you still too heavily upon their head. It looks like it will be up to you to correct the matter yourself. CANCER (June 21-July 22) Even though your intentions may be good, today of demands and responsibilities foisted upon you by others. Don't rebel. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Details are im-

Blacque plays in daytime serial

LOS ANGELES — Actor Tarean Blacque says he sometimes has a eerie feeling that his role as the head of a black family in the new NBC daytime serial "Generations" was lifted right out of his own life. Blacque stars as Henry Marshall, owner of a successful chain of ice cream stores in Chicago and the father of three children in "Generations," which debuts on Monday. Patricia Crowley stars as the matriarch of the white family in the show. The serial, created by Sally Sussman who is also the executive producer, marks the first time a daytime soap opera has ever premiered with black actors in such prominent roles. "The character reminds me of a lot of me in real life," said Blacque, who is probably best known for his role as Detective Neal Washington in the much-honored police series "Hill Street Blues."

"I have a large family, eight children. I have a son almost identical to Adam, my son on the show. Adam came to me in an episode and asked me to bail him out of a scrape at the fraternity with \$3,000. That happened to my own son. I could let this role go by. I wanted to share what we parents go through, black and white."

BLACQUE, WHO IS divorced, has two grown children and a grandchild and has recently taken six young children into his home. It began during the last year of "Hill Street Blues," when the Los Angeles County Department of Children's Services asked him to be a spokesman for the adoption of black

children. "I said I wanted to be involved," he said. "I said I wanted to know what it was all about. I wanted to speak from experience." First, he adopted a set of twin boys, Chris and Paul. Since then he's adopted Jennifer, 17, Mark, 15 months, Whitney, 13 months, and Marshall, one month. Jennifer, Mark and Marshall are brothers and sister. Marshall got his name from Blacque's new role, which he got on the day the boy was born.

BLACQUE HAS A full-time nanny to look after the children and recently leased the house next-door so that he can adopt three more children. "I now have a 9-to-5 work schedule," he said, "which is perfect for the children. Blacque heard about the new serial when he ran into actress Joan Pringle at a NAACP awards dinner a year ago. "She told me about 'Generations' and said, 'You'd be perfect for my husband,'" Blacque recalled.

"I called my agent and he said NBC wanted me for the role but he'd told me I wasn't interested in doing a soap opera. Well, we quickly arranged for an audition and I was cast in the role." Patricia Crowley heads the cast as attorney Rebecca Whitmore, matriarch of the Whitmore family and a longtime friend of Henry Marshall.

"IT'S BREAKING NEW ground, just like 'Hill Street Blues' did," said Blacque, who starred for seven years in that show. His role as Henry Marshall is totally different from Detective Neal Washington, as is his physical appearance. The beard and the trademark toothpick are gone and his trimmed hair now has traces of gray.

The bond between the Marshalls and the Whitmores goes back three generations. Marshall's mother-in-law (Lynn Hamilton) had been housekeeper for the Whitmores, and her daughter (Joan Pringle) grew up in the house. The Marshalls have three children, Chantal (Sharon Brown), Adam (Kristoff St. John) and Jacqueline Marshall Rhymes. The latter role and those of her husband and children have not yet been cast.

Marshall is a former gang member who, with the help of a strong wife, turned his grandmother's recipe for ice cream into a growing business. He's a man who wants to pass his success on to his children, and is as demanding of them as he is of himself.

IN PARTICULAR, that puts him into conflict with his son, who doesn't see the value of staying in college for a master's degree in business administration. "I don't like the way my son's taking care of business," he said. "He's going to be in for a rude awakening. Henry's also a man who takes kids off the street and out of the gangs and gives them jobs."

Blacque said of the show: "It's so positive. I think that's why we're all doing it. If we can reach youngsters and show them other ways besides guns and drugs... We can show them that you can make it as a black person."

TV Topics

- MOVIE: 'Jazz Singer' A New York musical comedy starring John Travolta and Dolly Parton. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner. [MOVIE] 'The Untouchables' (TV) Action series starring Kevin Costner.

MANCHESTER HERALD

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WHAT IS YOUR CHILD TAKING IN SCHOOL THIS YEAR?

Your child isn't just learning about History and English in school. He's also learning about amphetamines, barbiturates and marijuana.

Drugs are rampant in our schools today.

Kids are taking them before school. They're taking them between classes.

School has even become one of the more convenient places to buy drugs.

The sad part is that all this doesn't just affect those kids who are



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taking the drugs. It affects all the kids. Drugs keep everyone from learning. Our schools need our help.

As a parent, you can do your part. Talk with your child. Find out how bad the problem is at his school.

Then talk to other parents. And decide what you as a group can do to get drugs out of the classroom.

Also, contact your local agency on drug abuse. They can provide you with valuable information as well as sound advice.

School is your child's best chance to get ahead in life. Don't let drugs take that chance away.

SCIENCE & HEALTH

Cholesterol tests miss many kids at risk

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Guidelines spelling out who should get cholesterol tests (-1) to identify two-thirds of children who really have unhealthy amounts of the fatty substance in their blood, a study suggests.

The findings bolster arguments that all youngsters should be tested to determine which face an increased risk of heart disease, said Dr. Dennis Davidson, director of preventive cardiology at the University of California, Irvine.

"We've found that using the existing guidelines for (cholesterol) screening, we identified only one-third of the children with blood cholesterol already at a level undesirable for adults and certainly undesirable for kids," Davidson said Monday during the American College of Cardiology's annual scientific session.

"With universal screening, we would detect all children in the upper ranges of high cholesterol and help families change their diet to lower the risk to the children," he said.

The American Heart Association and American Academy of Pediatrics now recommend the test of blood cholesterol levels for children only if they have a family history of early heart attack or excess blood cholesterol.

Pediatricians have argued that mass testing of children for high cholesterol could spur overly severe use of diets and cholesterol-lowering drugs, perhaps harming normal growth and development. Cholesterol is a waxy substance that can contribute to clogged arteries and heart disease depending on what type of fatty proteins carry it through the blood.

Davidson and his university colleagues studied 612 fourth-graders in the Westminster, Calif., school district. The children took home forms to be filled out with information about heart disease among their parents and grandparents. The students also had a small amount of blood withdrawn to test their cholesterol levels.

Of the 612 children, 123 had cholesterol levels above 200 micrograms per deciliter of blood — the level considered "borderline high" in adults and well above the 175 deemed high in children, Davidson said.

But only 42 of the 123 reported a family history of heart attack or high cholesterol, meaning the other two-thirds wouldn't be tested under the guidelines.

"It's certainly something we'd look at with great interest," American Heart Association spokesman John Weeks said of the study in a telephone interview from Dallas.

IN BRIEF

Workers learn about AIDS

To prevent accidental transmission of the AIDS virus and other blood-borne diseases from patients to their attending hospital staff, Hartford Hospital is putting 14,400 employees through a five-week training program.

The program is the first part of a four-phase approach funded by a \$100,000 grant from the Cigna Foundation that examines the issue of protecting health care workers from AIDS and other diseases spread through contact with bodily fluids. The second phase will evaluate the effects of the educational program, while the third will analyze the costs of implementing the new precautions. The fourth part will examine the effectiveness of the new precautions taken by health care workers.

Johnson plans health expo

STAFFORD SPRINGS — Johnson Memorial Hospital will hold a health expo for adults 18 and over on April 8 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the hospital's Community Medical Education Center.

The free screenings will include those for blood pressure, circulation, vision, glaucoma, oral cancer, lung capacity, foot problems and height and weight. A blood test will be offered for a fee of \$15 per person. For women, a pap test-breast exam will be offered for a fee of \$5 per person.

Registration is required. For information, call 684-4251 or 749-2201.

Center awarded grant

FARMINGTON — The Alcohol Research Center at the University of Connecticut Health Center has been awarded a grant of nearly \$200,000 from the Princeton-based Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to conduct a two-year evaluation of program to reduce substance abuse by youth in the Bridgeport area. The foundation is the nation's largest health-care philanthropy.

Dr. Thomas Baber, professor of psychiatry and associate scientific director of the Alcohol Research Center, said the program and evaluation process may become a model for other regions of the country.

Death rate increases in hot, humid weather

BALTIMORE (AP) — The weather seems to have a greater impact on death rates in some of the hot climates that attract people for health reasons than it does in the towns they left behind, a Mississippi State University geographer reports.

Mark Binkley told a meeting of the Association of American Geographers on Monday that, of a dozen cities studied, the greatest correlation between death rates and weather occurred in Phoenix, Ariz., and Sacramento, Calif.

High temperatures, high humidity, low visibility and low wind speed were the four factors that Binkley found

most closely related to death rates. Heart disease seemed to be a major source of the deaths that varied with the weather, Binkley added following his speech.

He confirmed that there is also some rise in deaths in cold, snowy weather in northern cities such as Rochester, N.Y., and Minneapolis, but said that the increase seems to be more significant in the warm-weather communities.

Surprisingly, he said, he found little relationship between deaths and the winter wind-chill factor.

In order to eliminate social and economic factors, Binkley studied death rates for elderly white males in the dozen cities, seeking relationships between deaths and the weather.

Of particular importance, he said, were sharp changes in the weather. For example, it might not be a factor that the high was 40 degrees Fahrenheit on one day and 20 degrees the next, but a 20-degree change from one day to another turned out to have a statistical relationship to death rates, he explained.

Binkley said he found less of a relationship between seasonal changes in the weather than when there was a significant change from one month to the next.

Overall, Binkley found three general patterns of deaths in his study: one in which deaths peak in the winter and are lowest in summer; the second with a summer rise in deaths while rates were low in spring and fall; and the third with low summer rates but a slight bump in the springtime.

While Binkley did not have available specific data on individual cities, he said his study covered Seattle, Sacramento, Phoenix, Denver, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Dallas, Rochester, N.Y., Washington, Atlanta, West Palm Beach, Fla., and Cincinnati.

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Notices

10 PART TIME HELP WANTED
SECRETARY - Part Time, temporary, immediate opening in Gloucester, Mass. Mornings through mid June. Call Rob 633-6711.

11 HELP WANTED
WANTED LPN or RN for part time busy people oriented local Dermatology practice. Please send resume with references to: Box 88, Manchester Herald, Manchester, CT 06040, 647-5000.

11 HELP WANTED
CLERICAL - Full time, Telephone and direct contact with customers. Accounts receivable, record keeping, some typing, insurance and benefits. Call 647-9175.

12 PERSONALS
BASEBALL - Wanted. Any information (clippings, photos, letters, anecdotes) on the semi-pro teams of Rockville and Manchester, 1990 through 1993. Purpose: local history research. Rhet House, 55 Willow Road., Vernon, CT 06066.

13 ANNOUNCEMENTS
PLUMBING Contractor with excellent credentials wishes to exchange labor/material for landscaping. Call evenings 649-2522.
REHEARSAL hall wanted. 80 member women's chorus. Thursdays, 7pm-10:30pm. 647-2972 evenings.

10 PART TIME HELP WANTED
MUSEUM Tour Guides for historic house. Part time, seasonal starting mid May. Flexible hours: some weekdays afternoons, interest in history and people required. Will train. \$4.25 per hour. Hole Homes-lead, 947-996.

11 HELP WANTED
SECRETARY - We seek a dynamic, versatile individual who thrives in a fast paced environment, desires a varied workload and can function independently. Good typing, word processing and shorthand skills are required. A cool secretary background would be a plus. We offer excellent starting salary and good benefits. Send resume or apply in person to Economy Electric, Inc., 428 Toland Turnpike, Manchester, CT 06040, 647-5000.

11 HELP WANTED
RECEPTIONIST. Looking for part time receptionist with full time potential for growing real estate investment company. Hours 9:30-2:30 but negotiable. Mature, friendly person with light typing skills preferred. Call Susan or Betty at 246-1126.

11 HELP WANTED
RECEPTIONIST wanted immediately in our Manchester office. Call Mr. McGraw 646-5796, Tuesday and Wednesday 1pm - 7pm.

11 HELP WANTED
MEDICAL ASSISTANT wanted in business doctor's office. Experience preferred but not necessary. Salary negotiable. Hours 10a-Monday-Friday. Call 528-7161 for interview.

11 HELP WANTED
MEDICAL SECRETARY Needed for medical office in Manchester. Experience in third party insurance. Knowledge in general office and reception duties. Computer skills preferred. Send resume to P.O. Box 8003, Manchester, CT 06040-8003 or call 648-1900.

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MANCHESTER Honda. Connecticut's largest motorcycle power equipment dealer. Now accepting applications in the sales, service, and parts departments. Competitive wages paid, vacation, medical and fringe benefits. Call for interview. Tuesday through Friday 646-2700.

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Small group home in suburban setting. "House Manager" \$13.56-\$17.00 per hour. "Bailor, weekends 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. \$14.00-\$19.00 per hour. 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. \$14.00-\$18.00 per hour. *per diem, second and third shifts \$15.00-\$20.00 per hour. *Retention bonuses every six months, excellent benefits. EOE 647-1824

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Immediate Medical Care Center of Manchester has a part time opening (32 hours) for a nurse with recent acute or ambulatory care experience. Interested applicants call Kim at 721-7393 Mon-Fri 9-4

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SAVINGS BANK OF MANCHESTER
Full time Tellers wanted. Experienced or will train. Good wages and benefit. Apply: Savings Bank of Manchester, 923 Main Street, Manchester, CT 06105.

11 HELP WANTED
CERTIFIED Nurse Aide
Immediate openings on all shifts for full & part-time positions. Every other weekend required. Ask about our child care reimbursement and non-benefit rate of pay program. For more information please call director of Nursing Crestfield Convalscent Home 643-5151

11 HELP WANTED
BURGER KING IS LOOKING FOR:
Night porter experienced preferred. Third shift up to \$7.00 per hour. Day time. Starting at \$5.50 per hour. Various hours to fit your schedule. Various positions open. Please apply at: Burger King, 467 Center, Manchester.

11 HELP WANTED
DIRECTOR/Teacher. Experienced early education teacher to fill dual role in daycare center. Full or part time. Responsible for staff and school work. Work directly with owner. Call 649-9228.

11 HELP WANTED
ASSISTANT Teacher. Care giver part or full time. Loving person to work with children in center. Flexible hours arranged between 6am to 6pm. A B C Daycare Inc. 647-0788.

11 HELP WANTED
ATTENTION - Hiring! Government jobs your area. \$17,840-\$59,485. 602-820-2841 Ext. 8275.

11 HELP WANTED
OFFICE Manager for small company. Self starter and organizational skills a must. Some bookkeeping and other diversified responsibilities. 646-1464.

11 HELP WANTED
CARPENTER'S Apprentice - Sunroom installers need assistant. Learn a trade with real job satisfaction. Some experience and tools helpful. 646-1464.

11 HELP WANTED
GOOD USED Furniture in demand. Why not advertise the furniture you no longer use in classified? Call 646-2711.

11 HELP WANTED
RESTAURANT. Line cook, poultry cook, and dishwasher. Full or part time positions available. Apply within: The Gallery, 141 New London Turnpike, Gloucester, MA. Pool Attendant: 18 years or older, for position, 40 hours a week minimum. Please call 598-1300 to set up an appointment for an interview.

11 HELP WANTED
ACCOUNTS Payable. New England's largest electrical products distributor has an opening for an Accounts Payable Clerk. The primary responsibility is to process invoices, ensuring vendors are paid the appropriate amount on time. This involves substantial interaction with purchasing and a wide variety of vendors. We offer career opportunities with excellent pay and benefits including dental, disability, and a one year accounts payable experience, good interpersonal communication and math skills and CRT experience. If you qualify, please contact Director of Human Resources or apply in person to: Economy Electric Supply, Inc., 428 Toland Turnpike, Manchester, Connecticut, 06040, 647-5000, eoe

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- Immediate opening for experienced auto mechanic with own tools to do all round mechanic work. Good pay/benefits.
- Area lawn service company seeking licensed lawn technician to spray or apply pesticides or other chemicals. Excellent pay - fringe benefits.
- No experience required for warehouse worker. Will move materials, put away stock. Good pay.
- Woodworking shop seeking experienced cabinetmaker. Good pay and benefits.
- *Like public contact? Immediate opening available for receptionist. Will greet clients, answer telephone, file typing. Good pay rate.
- *Data entry operator opening requires minimum of 3 months experience. Good pay/benefits.
- *Experienced secretary needed for law office. Typing, transcribing work. P.C. experience a plus. Good pay.
- Experienced all around carpenter, with own tools, needed at one to do remodeling work. Excellent pay rate.

State of Connecticut Labor Department
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