

RECORD

About Town

Anxieties to be discussed

Help for anxiety disorders is available through the Manchester Area Agoraphobics Together Support Group, which meets Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 10:45 a.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church, 40 Pitkin St. For more information, call 529-1970.

UFOS to be discussed

"UFOS: The Hidden History" is the topic of a free slide and lecture presentation to be given by Robert Hastings on Thursday from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at Manchester Community College. The public is invited. Call 647-6045 for more information.

Art from Chile displayed

Patchwork and applique art work, chronicling the life of poor people in Chile, is on display until April 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in Hiling Junior High School's Lingen Gallery of Art, 227 E. Middle Turnpike. Call 647-3423 for more information.

Bridge club results announced

The Manchester A.M. Bridge Club met on March 5 and March 8. Winners the first day were: NS, Bev Cochran and Tom Regan; Carol and Hal Lucas; and Ellen Goldberg and Iv Carlson; E-W, Faye Lawrence and Bev Taylor; Ginny Weeks and S. Holmquist; and Pat Shuckner and Frankie Brown. Winners the second day were: N-S, Jim Baker and Hal Lucas; C-D, McCarthy and Peter Griffiths; Ellie Berggren and Sara Mendicino; E-W, Adlie Spoyalski and Dale Harned; Edie Boucher and Doris Gorsch; and Bev Taylor and Betty Seipel.

AARP plans trip

The public is invited to reserve seats on an overnight trip May 22 and 23 with the Manchester Green Chapter No. 2399, American Association of Retired Persons, to the Hilton in Valley Forge, Pa. Dinner will be at Lily Langry's. The next day will be spent in Atlantic City. Cost is \$145 per person. For more information, call Jeanne Roark, 646-1291.

Volunteers are requested

Volunteers are needed to benefit local children and adolescents by providing varied programs in sports, drama, arts and crafts and field trips. Call The Voluntary Action Center for the Capitol Region, Inc., at 347-2680 from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Child-loss support available

Families that have lost a baby during pregnancy or shortly after birth can receive parent-to-parent support through monthly meetings at Manchester Memorial Hospital, 71 Hayes St. Call Chris at 647-4790 or 646-6989 or Liza at 643-4287 for more information.

Seedling deadline approaches

March 30 is the deadline for ordering tree seedlings through the Tolland County Soil and Water Conservation District's annual shrub and tree seedling sale program. Available varieties include Hemlock, Abies, Scotch Pine, White Pine, Norway Spruce, White Spruce, Fraser Fir, White Birch, Douglas Fir, Magnolia Pine, American Chestnut, Highash Cranberry, Blue Spruce, Blueberry, Rhododendron and Myrtle. Call 875-8725 for more information.

Overeaters group to meet

Overeaters Anonymous meets every Monday through Friday at 7 p.m. and Thursday at 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church, 240 Hilltown Road. It also meets Mondays at 9:15 a.m. at Manchester Community College's Ledge Building, Room C-205-H, and Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria meeting room of Manchester Memorial Hospital, 71 Hayes St. O-Anon, for friends and relatives of overeaters, meets Thursdays at 7 p.m. at the hospital. Ask information desk for meeting room or call 524-4544.

New officers installed

Delta Chapter, R.A.M., installed the following new officers on March 10: Walter L. Whitman, high priest; Carl Swanson, king; Leslie C. Noyes, scribe; David C. Tooney Jr., treasurer; William G. Bryce, secretary; Edward Schenrock, captain of the host; Carl A. Palmberg, principal spokesman; Gary Mather, royal arch captain; Reginald Abbot, grand master of the third well; Wilbert E. Head, chaplain; and Albert Heavides, organist.

Lottery

Here are Tuesday's lottery results from around New England:

CONNECTICUT
Daily: 9-4-6, Loto: 11-25-26-40-41-43. Play 7: 7-4-7-2.

MASSACHUSETTS
Daily: 7-7-9-2.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine daily: 0-4-4 and 0-5-4-1.

RHODE ISLAND
Daily: 5-6-1-8. Lot-O-Backs: 5-8-18-28-31.

Weather

REGIONAL Weather
Thursday, March 22

Mostly clear

Tonight, mostly clear. Low 25 to 30. Thursday, partly sunny and mild. High around 55. Outlook for Friday, a chance of showers. Mild with a high 55 to 60.

Weather summary for Tuesday:
Temperature: High of 44, low of 39, mean of 42.
Precipitation: 0.90 inches for the day, 2.01 inches for the month, 9.41 inches for the year.
Temperature extremes for today: Highest on record 82, set in 1921. Lowest on record, 10, set in 1936.



LIKE A LION — This motorist navigates under a snow-laden tree in Calais, Vermont Tuesday. The first day of spring brought heavy snow to the state, with at least 12 inches of wet snow expected.

Obituaries

William V. Edgar

William Vincent Edgar, 28, of 2121 Town Brook, Middletown, formerly of Manchester, husband of Jennifer (Hubard) Edgar, died Tuesday (March 20, 1990) at Hartford Hospital. Born in Hartford, May 22, 1961, son of William R. and Claire (Priest) Edgar of Manchester, he had lived in Manchester before recently moving to Middletown, and was a 1979 graduate of the Howell Cheney Regional Technical School. He was employed by Town Brook Properties, Middletown, as a maintenance assistant. He was a member of the Friday Night Bowling League at Silver Lane Ten Pin, East Hartford. Besides his wife and parents, he is survived by two sisters, Karan Dziedzinski of Vernon, and Deborah Edgar of Manchester, his maternal grandmother, Mildred Priest of Manchester; his paternal grandmother, Helen Edgar of Montville; several aunts, uncles and cousins. Funeral services will be Thursday, 11 a.m. at the Center Congregational Church, 11 Center St., Manchester. Burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery, East Hartford. Calling hours are today, 2 to 4 p.m., and 7 to 9 p.m. at the Watkins Funeral Home, 142 E. Center St.

James E. Smith
James Edward Smith, 73, formerly of Manchester, died March 17, 1990, at home in Boynton Beach, Fla. Born in Cincinnati, Ohio, son of the late James and Helen Smith, he was a graduate of General Motors and Lawrence technical schools in Michigan. Surviving are his wife, Marjorie (Bramm) Smith; two sons, James W. Smith, of Boca Raton, Fla., and Gerald C. Smith, of Southington; a daughter, Janice Living, of Middletown; a brother, Robert W. Smith, and sister, Catherine Hanlin, both of Florida; and 13 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Services were scheduled this morning at Boynton Memorial Chapel, Boynton Beach, Florida. Donations may be made to a local Hospice organization.

Deaths Elsewhere

Edna Ramsaier Yardley
SILVER SPRING, Md. (AP) — Edna Ramsaier Yardley, widow and collaborator of pioneer code-breaker Herbert O. Yardley, died at her home Tuesday of a stroke. She was 87.

Street sweeping set to begin

The town of Manchester, Highway Division will begin the annual spring sweeping program on Monday. The sweeping is expected to continue for 12 weeks. The division asks that residents assist the effort in the following ways:
1. Limit parking on your street until it has been swept.
2. Sweep and rake the sand on your lawns and sidewalks into the gutter.
3. Please keep gutters free of leaves, branches, rocks, and other debris that may clog and/or damage the sweepers.
4. The Highway Division will issue a press release approximately one week before entering each area. Please take note as the sweepers enter your area, to ensure clean-up prior to the sweepers passing by, as only one cleanup per street will be done.
The sweeping program will begin in the downtown area and proceed throughout the town.

Police Roundup

Teen-ager faces drug charges

A local teen-ager was arrested Saturday on several drug charges, police said. Joseph Kurt Gerner, 18, of 201 Valley View Road, was charged with operating a drug factory, possession of marijuana with intent to sell, possession of LSD with intent to sell and possession of drug paraphernalia, police said. He posted a \$5,000 bond and was scheduled to appear today in Manchester Superior Court, police said. A separate search of Gerner's bedroom at his parents' residence resulted in the confiscation of more drugs and paraphernalia, police said.

Pocketbook burglary charged

An East Hartford man was arrested Tuesday on several burglary and larceny charges in connection with stealing pocketbooks out of residences, police said. Christopher Kokkinakos, 25, who is being held at the Morgan Street jail in Hartford on other charges, is scheduled to address the latest charges on April 20 in Manchester Superior Court, a court clerk said. He is accused of committing several crimes in Manchester, including breaking into houses and stealing pocketbooks.

Police said Kokkinakos averaged one burglary per week in Manchester at homes in the Main, East Center and Spruce Streets areas last November, police said. Police said, on the night of Halloween, Kokkinakos waited for children to approach the front doors of residences, and when grownups answered the doors, he would sneak around to back entrances, enter and steal pocketbooks which he usually found in the kitchens. Police said one report of a missing pocketbook was received from an Oak Street resident on Halloween night.

In addition, Kokkinakos is charged with stealing blank checks from a local business and trying to cash at least one which he wrote out for \$180 at a local bank, police said. He also tried to purchase a stereo using a stolen credit card, police said.

Public Meetings

Public meetings scheduled for tonight:
MANCHESTER
Republican Town Committee, Lincoln Center hearing room, 7:30 p.m.
Each Day Committee, Lincoln Center hearing room, 7:30 p.m.
BOLTON
Planning Commission, Community Hall, 7:30 p.m.
Zoning Commission, Community Hall, 7:30 p.m.
COVENTRY
Conservation Commission, Town Office Building, 7:30 p.m.
School Building Committee, Coventry High School room 28, 7:30 p.m.
Veterans Memorial Commission, Town Office Building, 7:30 p.m.
Affordable Housing Committee, Town Office Building, 8 p.m.

Thoughts

"The family is... a place of safety and security. For a young child, storms come in many forms. It may be a storm created by the loss of a pet, a skinned knee, or a sore throat. A child needs and craves the love and care of those who love him and hear the soothing words of those who care. We need to learn early that the family is a kind of sanctuary to which we can flee when storms clouds seem overhead.
The peace of safety and security for the family is found in our Lord. Hear His words: 'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.'"
Dr. Billy J. Scott
Pastor
First Baptist Church

Manchester Herald

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Guaranteed delivery: If you don't receive your Herald money through a dance held in January, February, the check was presented by Kelly Keane, a senior. Contributions to the fund can be made in care of the Savings Bank of Manchester, Manchester, 06040.
Students at the school raised the money through a dance held in January, February, the check was presented by Kelly Keane, a senior. Contributions to the fund can be made in care of the Savings Bank of Manchester, Manchester, 06040.

MANCHESTER/STATE

39% budget hike for sanitation no threat to tax rate

By Rick Santos
Manchester Herald

Increased costs for state and federally mandated recycling, composting, and the disposing of hazardous wastes will drive up the recommended Sanitation Division budget by 39 percent, according to Budget and Research Officer Robert Huestis.

But a plan to make the division a self-supporting entity will mean the increase will not affect the tax rate, he said.

The recommended 1990-91 Sanitation Fund budget is \$3,771,217, a \$1,475,214 increase from this year's adopted Sanitation Division budget.

In an effort to preserve fees generated from the use of the town landfill, the Sanitation Division will be made a separate business enterprise from the town's general fund, and will support itself through its own operations.

"This is a no-tax impact recommendation," Huestis said about the move to make the division separate. However, the landfill's fees will increase to offset the increased costs, which primarily can be attributed to state and federal regulations regarding recycling and hazardous waste disposal.

Huestis said the three primary factors at work in the budget increases are the separation of the division from the general fund, the increased commitment to composting and recycling, and the stricter regulations regarding refuse.

The fee increases will be from \$35 to \$55 per ton for solid waste and \$35 to \$75 per ton for hydrocar-



GOVERNOR'S EMBRACE — Gov. William O'Neill kisses his wife Nikki Wednesday at a press conference in the Governor's Mansion. O'Neill's announcement that he would not seek another term caused immediate reaction among Manchester politicians.

GOP gloats, Democrats saddened

Town politicians react to governor's decision not to run again

By Alex Girelli
Manchester Herald

"It's a Republican year no matter who runs," Republican Town Chairman John Gorside said Tuesday in response to the announcement by Gov. William O'Neill that he will not seek re-election.

Gorside said O'Neill is wise to have decided not to run because he would have been defeated. Gorside said U.S. Rep. Bruce Morrison is the logical candidate for the Democrats.

New trial sought in harassment case

By Dyanne M. Talbot
Manchester Herald

A new trial is being sought in a two-year case of Christopher Reichardt of Colchester, who police say a Manchester woman falsely accused of harassing her.

Reichardt's Hartford lawyer, Kimball Hunt, said he would submit a petition for a new trial today in Manchester Superior Court on behalf of his client. Reichardt also is charged with violation of probation.

Hunt said a new trial is needed because Nancy L. Kelley, 36, of 66 Joan Circle, has admitted to fabricating some of the evidence which she accused Reichardt, 20, her former neighbor, of harassing and threatening her with.

This morning, Kelley refused to comment on Hunt's petition for a new trial and refused all questions from reporters. She is represented by her lawyer, Michael Whelton of Hartford. He was unavailable this morning.

According to the lawyer, the Reichards have been drained emotionally and financially because of Kelley's complaints. Also, the family was forced to move from their upper-middle class Manchester neighborhood because they were ostracized by their neighbors after Kelley began to complain, Hunt said.

Even in their new neighborhood in Colchester, the family has been watched and made to feel uncomfortable, he said.

Memorial account gets \$1,750 gift

The president of the East Catholic High School Student Council has presented a check for \$1,750 to Patricia Zabkar of Andover for a fund set up to honor the memory of her son, who died of leukemia in January.

Zabkar and her husband, John, began the Michael Zabkar fund. The fund will provide money for research into Burkett's, a rare strain of acute lymphocytic leukemia; scholarships for Catholic students; and funding for Boy Scouts of America.

Students at the school raised the money through a dance held in January, February, the check was presented by Kelly Keane, a senior. Contributions to the fund can be made in care of the Savings Bank of Manchester, Manchester, 06040.

Grand Opening THE HEAVENLY HOG RESTAURANT

BBQ Ribs
BBQ Chicken
Texas-Style Chili
Chicken Wings
ALL MEATS ARE SMOKED ON PREMISES
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All items available for take-out

MARCH

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STATE

Medicaid fraud case is near an end after 40 arrests

HARTFORD (AP) — A statewide grand jury investigation into Medicaid fraud and patient abuse that has spanned 10 years and resulted in 40 arrests and nearly \$1 million in fines and restitution is slowly drawing to a close.

The larceny case against Dr. Philip Goldman of Hartford is pending in Hartford Superior Court and remains the last link to a grand jury investigation that began in the early 1980s involving doctors, pharmacists and nursing home operators who allegedly padded their pay checks at state expense.

The investigation, handled by four different judges, has resulted in a report that has remained secret as have the grand jury proceedings. The end of the grand jury was a result of the poor health of its final grand juror, retired Judge James F. Heneby, who is a state trial referee. To get a replacement grand jury, the chief state's attorney's office would have to apply for a new investigation, and show that traditional methods of investigation have failed.

The grand jury allowed us to save an enormous amount of time and effort in order to isolate particular areas of fraud and abuse in the system," said Assistant State's Attorney David Sullivan. "We can still investigate in most cases, but it's going to be extremely time-consuming in situations involving any particular provider with hundreds of thousands of claims in small amounts."

During the course of the investigation, the grand jury reviewed 150 cases. Fifty of the cases were referred back to the state Department of Income Maintenance for administrative action; 40 resulted in arrests.

The arrests led to the recovery of nearly \$1 million including \$478,224 in fines and \$509,388 in restitution, Sullivan said. In addition, the Department of Income Maintenance recovered \$389,035 from cases referred to it for administrative action.

Sullivan said only a few of the 40 arrests resulted in special probation being granted. The rest ended in criminal convictions except Goldman's case, which is pending.

The case against Goldman is typical of many of the investigations, Sullivan said.

Goldman, a dermatologist who had an office in Hartford, allegedly submitted 1,442 false claims to the state Department of Income Maintenance, which administers the Medicaid program.

The single charge against Goldman — first-degree larceny by defrauding a public community — was brought after bills submitted on behalf of 46 patients and their family members were reviewed.

Prosecutors accuse Goldman of billing the state out of \$13,918 between 1984 and 1986 through a mixture of over billing and submitting claims for visits that never occurred.

Goldman is to return to court for a hearing April 16.

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Examiner fired after theft probe

HARTFORD (AP) — An accounts examiner in the state treasurer's office has been fired as investigations continue into the theft of \$29,100 from a treasury fund four years ago, state officials said.

State officials declined to identify the examiner, but the Hartford Courant quoted sources in Wednesday's editions as identifying the employee as Paul Papa, 59, of Farmington, a treasury worker since 1983. Papa, whose dismissal was effective immediately, could not be reached for comment.

A second suspect who is not employed by the treasury department is also being sought in connection with the theft, the Courant reported.

Papa's case involves the state's program of taking custody of property such as bank accounts and insurance payments that are abandoned by their owners.

State auditors said the fraud involved the addition of a bogus \$29,100 account to the abandoned property report by an insurance company, enabling someone to come forward with a claim for that amount.

Papa is the second employee fired in less than two weeks in connection with the alleged theft of treasury funds. A third employee was suspended without pay pending the outcome of a criminal investigation into the alleged embezzlement of \$175,000 from the Second Injury and Compensation Assurance Fund.

Peter A. D'Angona of Glastonbury was dismissed as administrator of the fund on the grounds that his negligence enabled another employee, Nancy Mourkakos, to obtain a \$175,000 check from that fund.

Mourkakos is suspected of using that \$175,000 to pay personal bills, and to replace money she had diverted from other accounts under her control. Mourkakos is the employee who was suspended.

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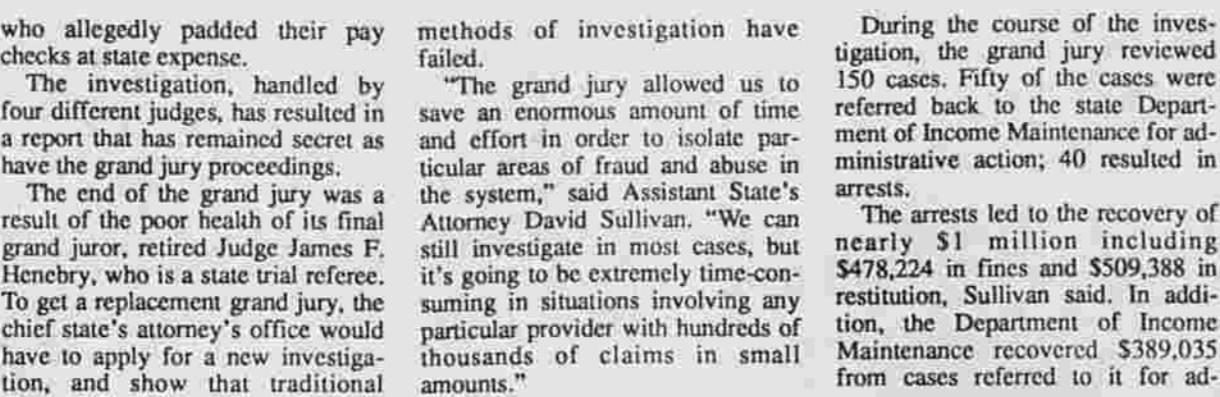
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The Associated Press

Test score of 92 deemed too low for Fowler to keep job

HARTFORD (AP) — Correction Department spokesman William E. Flower, who has helped foster a spirit of openness in the state's beleaguered prison system, has been forced out of his job because of state personnel policies, officials said.

Thomas Barnett, state Department of Administrative Services spokesman, said Flower will leave the post he has held for 18 months on Thursday. He will be replaced by William Wheeler, who has been in the state Housing Department's public relations office.

Barnett said Monday that Flower will leave his post because of his performance on a recent civil-service examination. Although Flower scored a 92 on the test, placing him among the 14 highest scorers out of the 124 applicants for the job, state civil-service guidelines require that the person hired have one of the top five scores, Barnett said.

The same regulations barred counting Flower's experience as an inspector Larry R. Meachum was hired. As the principal liaison between a growing prison system and the media, Flower was instrumental in implementing a new open-door policy that Meachum believed would familiarize people with the realities of overcrowding.

Under that policy, reporters were allowed into the bowels of prisons and jails. They were permitted to talk to inmates stuffed three in a cell, and were shown how herds of

chained inmates are shuffled between buildings to sidestep court orders.

Barnett called Flower's predicament unfortunate, but he defended the system and said Flower knew ahead of time about the looming test.

"There is an element of risk in taking a provisional position," he said. "The state has a system that attempts to be as fair as it can be to everyone. It's a rock-and-a-hard-place situation."

Flower plans to stay with the Correction Department. He will take a year in broadcast news — because that would have given him an unfair advantage, Barnett said.

Flower didn't take the civil-service exam until he had been on the job for 11 months because a new test — officially known as an "experience and training questionnaire" — hadn't been drafted when he was hired, making him a provisional employee.

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Scaleback of hospital pushed

HARTFORD (AP) — A consultant has recommended a scaled-back version of a plan to build a children's hospital in Hartford, according to a published report.

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Mourkakos is suspected of using that \$175,000 to pay personal bills, and to replace money she had diverted from other accounts under her control. Mourkakos is the employee who was suspended.

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Man is charged in wife's slaying

EAST LYME (AP) — A 47-year-old Old Saybrook man has been charged with murder in the strangulation death of his wife almost five years ago, state police said.

Edward Sherman was arrested at 10 a.m. Tuesday at the office of his real estate display and magazine in East Lyme, police said.

He is charged in the death of his wife, Ellen Sherman, 38, whose nude body was found in the upstairs bedroom of the couple's East Lyme home on August 4, 1985, police said.

Mrs. Sherman, 38, was five months pregnant when she died. Her body was found by a friend who had been asked to check on her by her husband. Sherman was away from home on a sailing trip with friends at the time his wife's body was found, police said.

He told police at the time he had tried to reach his wife by skip-to-shore radio. When he still could not reach her on Sunday he became concerned and asked a friend to check on her.

James A. Wade, Sherman's attorney, said his client was surprised by the arrest and maintains he is innocent.

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Doctor says Peterson is insane

MIDDLETOWN (AP) — David R. Peterson, the court-committed mental patient who killed a 9-year-old Wallingford girl last summer after walking away from a state hospital, has a grossly impaired ability to interpret reality, a psychiatrist has testified in Peterson's murder trial.

The testimony of Dr. Donald Grayson, who was commissioned by the state to examine Peterson last month, supported the defense's claim that Peterson should be found innocent by reason of insanity.

Grayson, who was called to testify by the defense, said on Tuesday Peterson suffers from paranoid delusions. During his examination of the defendant, Grayson said Peterson told him he had suffered enough in the past and deserved to be found innocent of any crimes with which he was charged.

Peterson was originally charged with murder and felony murder in the July 28 slaying of Jessica Short, who was stabbed to death while shopping with her mother at a sidewalk sale in downtown Middletown.

But on Tuesday the three-judge Superior Court panel granted the

defense's request for dismissal of the felony murder charge. The other murder charge still stands.

Felony murder is a homicide committed in the act of another felony. The defense argued that the charge was not applicable in Peterson's case. The state filed a separate escape charge as a result of the ruling.

In other testimony, Dr. Joseph Webster, a psychiatrist who was one of Peterson's doctors at Connecticut Valley Hospital, said Peterson had asked him three days before the killing whether a lot of people would be attending the downtown sidewalk sale.

Webster said he told Peterson there would be a lot of people. Although Peterson has a history of violence dating back to his youth, Webster said he had been a model patient most of the time.

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2 die in Norwalk train crash

NORWALK (AP) — Two people were killed when a train slammed into their car at a railroad crossing that police said did not have safety gates.

A 22-year-old male and a 21-year-old female passenger were killed when the train collided with their car shortly before 9:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Broad Street crossing in Norwalk, said Metro North police Lt. Al Kenwood.

The identities of the victims were not being released until family members were notified, police said.

The northbound Metro North train, which originated in New York, was sounding its horn and witnesses said the lights were flashing when the car tried to cross the tracks, Kenwood said.

The train, which contained two locomotives and five cars, was traveling along the Danbury spur line at the time of the accident.

None of the passengers on the train were injured, police said. The passengers got off the train and were bused to their final destinations, police said.

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OPINION

Disputes are too prevalent

The town and the Eighth Utilities District, after many years of tension and dispute, worked out a detailed agreement covering a wide range of jurisdictional questions and involving a very complicated exchange of authority and assets.

The agreement was hailed as a historic accomplishment that would put an end to the disputes, some of which were on matters of substance and some of which were no more than bickering.

Events since then, however, have shown that the agreement does not solve all the problems, and it will take a continued good faith effort on the part of leaders of both governments to implement in all its details.

At the meeting of the Eighth District Directors Monday night, two illustrations of the difficulties in peaceful cooperation between the two governments emerged.

One involved a plan incorporated into the agreement for the town and district to combine parcels of land for sale to make an attractive real estate package and to share the proceeds of the sale.

The district plans to use a portion of the profit to pay for a new fire truck, and some district leaders are impatient at the delays in putting the package together. The impatience is understandable, but the hard market facts make it clear that both the district and the town would benefit by cooperating in the venture, notwithstanding the fact that it will cause a delay.

A majority of district directors at first favored independent action. Before the meeting ended, they were persuaded to alter their view.

When another matter concerning the relationship between the town and district came up for discussion, some harsh words were exchanged between District President Thomas E. Landers and Director Gordon Lassow, with each accusing the other of having antagonized town officials in negotiations over how some streets will be resurfaced after a district sewer installation.

It will probably never be possible to know who said what to whom in those negotiation sessions or outside of them, or what role, if any, district politics played.

The confusion over the land sale question could have been avoided by more complete communication among the district directors.

Whatever lies behind the Landers-Lassow dispute, it was counterproductive because both town public works officials and the district directors have agreed on a compromise solution anyway.

Despite the historic agreement, there will obviously be some causes for tensions. But for the sake of all town residents, including those who live in the district, everyone in a leadership position should try to keep them to a minimum.

Open Forum

Taken for granted

To the Editor: Have you ever noticed how we tend to take things for granted until we are in danger of losing them? This thought rings particularly true as I read of Gov. O'Neill's proposed budget. With the present fiscal condition of Connecticut, we should take time to be aware of all that Manchester Community College offers its students, and demand that money be restored for higher education.

One of the many support services Manchester Community College provides is the College Learning Center. The center offers not only tutoring and academic support, but assistance for the learning disabled, conversational workshops for the ESL (English as a Second Language) student, and alternate modes of instruction when needed. For the person who is juggling a full-time job and family responsibilities in addition to college, we offer workshops in time management, study skills, test-taking techniques and writing skills. We give the strong academic enrichment. In short, we try to provide whatever an individual needs to gain self-confidence and academic success.

As an English instructor and faculty member of the Learning Center, I see every day, the variety of ages, abilities, cultural backgrounds, life experiences and learning styles our students bring to the classroom. In fact, this variety is precisely what enriches our college environment. On the other hand, what we offer our students is a variety of courses at convenient times, academic, social and psychological support and a caring and accessible faculty and staff. Without the community college, most of our students would not get these things. The community college fulfills a unique role. I hear over and over again, from alumni who say we have made the difference in their lives. If the proposed budget is passed, not only



Lowell proves three's a crowd

By Bob Conrad

Two's company and three's a crowd, as the old saying goes, and the "two's" of Connecticut politics — the Democrats and Republicans — are suddenly realizing that it has special application here this year.

Lowell Weicker has made it that way with his independent candidacy for governor. He is bad news for the established religions of politics. So they have a common purpose in trying to discredit him, each hoping meanwhile that he will inflict the most damage on the other.

Already a tactic is emerging. Democratic and Republican leaders, in company with some of the media's thumb-suckers, are asking the obvious question: How could this guy govern, as an independent?

Weicker would have few, if any, allies in the Legislature. He'd have a tough time getting legislation with his stamp on it through the assembly. He'd have little chance of making a veto stick. The traditional meetings between a governor and legislative leaders of his or her party couldn't happen because Weicker would not be one of the majority in either chamber.

Fine. But raising a question of whether Weicker could govern or get along with the clearly-identified partisans of the Legislature is playing right into Weicker's demonstrated strength. This independent thing is hardly an overnight discovery. It was the centerpiece of his career as a maverick Republican and his horse with

the voting public. That "nobody's man but yours" slogan may have been pretentious corn, but it worked well in his campaigns until Joe Lieberman's bomb thrower, Carter Eskew, earned his keep as a consultant by creating some "oh yeah!" doubts in 1988 — the year Lieberman ousted Weicker from the U.S. Senate.

In the main, however, voters view Weicker as his own man and not beholden to a party. He may have been the despair of his GOP establishment — even the thumb-sucker — but voters reacted at election time with an "atta boy" response. So in a year when the public seems to be more turned off than ever with politics, that could be important for Weicker, the born-again independent.

If he is elected in November, Weicker's ace in a distant relationship with the Legislature would be his identity with the voters who put him there.

Weicker's choice of a running mate, a step required by law, may be four or five weeks down the road. He and his advisers are rethinking an earlier leaning toward stopping there. Now, I am told, he may fill out at least part of a slate after all.

His insiders are Tom D'Amore of New Hartford, the former GOP state chairman; Peter Gold of Avon, former party political director; John Millington of Washington, Ct.; John Doyle of Southington, who was on former Gov. Thomas Meskall's staff; and Dick Benson of Berlin, a Vietnam veteran who was a Weicker staffer for a year. Benson will run the campaign office in Farmington.

Bob Conrad is a syndicated columnist.

Teen-ager symbol of oppression

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta

WASHINGTON — A 14-year-old Cuban boy has come to symbolize the unrelenting, iron-fisted rule of Fidel Castro. Alexander Menendez wants to leave Cuba to live with his parents in the United States, but the Cuban government won't let him. He can't even go to school. His only offense is that his father, Jose Alberto Menendez, is a well-known defector.

The elder Menendez is a former trainer for the Cuban national cycling team. He, along with another trainer and an engineer, defected in Panama in 1987. Alexander's mother was allowed to leave Cuba in 1988, and she left her son in the care of his grandmother.

Now he is the pawn Castro uses to continue to punish the elder Menendez for defecating.

Human rights watchdogs told our associate Scott Slesick that Alexander and his grandmother attempted to go to the U.S. Interest Section in Havana in December, apparently on advice from a Cuban immigration official, but the two were detained by Cuban guards.

They were reportedly held in a state security facility for several hours, and now Alexander has been told that he cannot leave the country.

Cuban officials tried to get the boy to sign a pledge to stay in Cuba, but he refused. So they expelled him from school and made him spend a week in reform school.

Alexander's ordeal reflects the typical tactics of a desperate Castro trying to hang on to repressive communist ideals while the world changes around him.

In 1988, Castro began letting political dissidents leave Cuba as part of an attempt to improve his human rights record. But Cuban authorities still make life miserable for their leading opponents.

And when the authorities can't get to those foes, they go after the children.

Last year, we reported on the detention of a young man whose father and uncle were leading dissidents. Sebastian Arcos Carabon has been granted refugee status by the U.S. government, and more than once he has been ready to board a flight to Miami to join his mother, but each time he has been refused permission to leave.

Arcos is the first Cuban granted U.S. refugee status who has been refused permission to leave. His father, Sebastian Arcos, and his uncle, Gustavo Arcos, are leading human rights activists in Cuba and arch-enemies of Castro.

Castro's unwillingness to let young people leave Cuba to join their families has prompted an angry response on Capitol Hill. Sen. Robert Dole, R-Kan., Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., wrote Castro to demand that Alexander and the families of the men who defected with his father be allowed to join their loved ones.

Interdiction — The United States spends billions of dollars each year on drug interdiction. Clearly, intercepting deadly drugs before they hit the streets is important, but it would be more effective to intercept the chemicals that are used in drug manufacturing.

Most of them are purchased on the open market. Ethyl ether is used to process cocaine. It is legally produced by U.S. companies and exported to several South American countries. During a four-year span, U.S. chemical companies exported more than 1,933 metric tons of ether to Colombia. That was four times the total amount shipped to other Latin American nations.

Then, mysteriously, exportation of ether to Colombia virtually stopped overnight. Curiously, dramatic increases were noted in exports to Venezuela and Panama at the same time. That points to diversionary tactics by the cocaine cartels.

Necessary evils — A slew of federal programs face the budget ax on Capitol Hill, but at least one program will get more in this era of lean. The House Ethics Committee is asking for \$1.5 million in operating expenses for 1991 — four times the amount of last year. The costs are swelling because of a new Office of Advice and Education, which will advise House rules for members of Congress.

The ethics panel issued more than 100 advisory opinions in December alone, up to 50 calls a day come into the office, in addition to 10 or 20 letters.

Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta are syndicated columnists.

Manchester Herald

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WHEW — Herbert Lapidus reacts as he judges entries in the 15th annual Rotten Sneaker Contest in Montpelier, Vt., Tuesday. Entries are judged on smell, dirtiness and deterioration. Lapidus is well qualified as a judge. He is the inventor of a smell-absorbing shoe insert.

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Rejection of new controls on emissions called setback

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate's rejection of tougher auto pollution controls deals environmentalists a setback on the compromise clean air bill.

"This is the one that we thought was the most significant" of the attempts to strengthen the clean air bill in the Senate, said Richard Ayres, executive director of the Clean Air Coalition.

By a 52-46 vote Tuesday night, the Senate defeated a proposal to require tougher tailpipe-emission controls on automobiles, greater use of clean fuels by fleet operators and production of 1 million cars capable of burning alternative fuels.

Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, called the defeated amendment a "prescription for dead-end" on the clean air bill.

"Do we want 13 more years of speeches or do we want a bill? Do we want to make statements or do we want to make law?" Mitchell said.

Still unresolved was a proposal to give federal aid to coal miners who would lose their jobs as a result of the clean air measure — a plan described by Senate leaders as a "deal breaker."

Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., is seeking \$700 million in aid for the miners over four years if they lose their jobs because of tougher acid rain controls at coal-burning powerplants in the Midwest.

The White House contends the assistance is too expensive.

Sen. Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., said Tuesday that Byrd "appears to have a majority of the votes" for his proposal, but he is not sure whether the amendment would pass if it came to a vote.

White House officials and Senate leaders were trying to work out a compromise with Byrd.

Byrd for more than a decade has fought additional controls on sulfur dioxide from utility plants because such curbs would threaten the jobs of thousands of coal miners, including many in West Virginia where high-sulfur coal predominates.

The clean air bill would set tough new pollution controls on industry and automobiles to reduce urban smog, cut toxic chemical emissions from industry and require electric utilities to reduce sulfur dioxide emissions by 10 million tons by the end of the decade.

The auto pollution control amendment was sponsored by Wirth and Sen. Pete Wilson, R-Calif. Wirth argued his amendment was needed because autos "are the biggest source of pollution in our cities."

But senators backing the compromise bill insisted that passage of the tougher controls would threaten the legislation. "It will bust the deal" with the White House, said Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont.

The vote on the Wirth amendment revealed some of the maneuvering on the bill. Sen. Steven Symms, R-Idaho, was among some senators who voted for the tougher controls after arguing vigorously against the legislation for weeks.

Senate sources suggested that Symms and other senators hoped to cripple the compromise bill by adding an amendment the White House would not accept.

Environmentalists, meanwhile, said that while a number of votes are expected on other amendments intended to strengthen the clean air bill, the tougher auto pollution curbs were a top priority.

Daniel Weiss of the Sierra Club accused the administration of "ramming down the throats of the Senate" a bill that does not go far enough to control urban smog.

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O'Neill

office. In the end, though, "I will support the final nominee of the Democratic party," he said.

Democrats

congress and wage an aggressive campaign for governor at the same time.

Nikki

years, now it's my turn," she said. "It's time to stop and smell the roses."

Judge denies diaries' use to Poindexter

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former President Reagan does not have to produce some three dozen diary entries requested by John Poindexter for his Iran-Contra trial, a federal judge ruled today.

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personal and very heartfelt message today. Nikki and I have just completed a thorough, and often painful, evaluation of the political realities of the day in light of our lifelong dedication to the best interests of our beloved state of Connecticut.

Democrats

"I will either be the person who is going to win the nomination at the convention or a person who is going to be running a primary after the convention. I think the first is more likely now than the second."

Nikki

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election. But the modern process of campaigning is a rigorous one. It exacts a toll on the body and the spirit which, at this point in my career, I do not choose to pay. I have spent my adult lifetime in the political process and enjoyed virtually every moment of it."

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Democratic Town Committee and a likely delegate to the state convention where the Democratic gubernatorial candidate will be nominated.

Democrats

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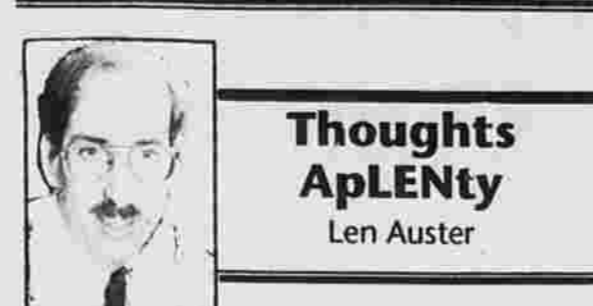


NOT COUNTED — Anna, shown on Main Street in Hartford at 3:30 a.m. today, may have been missed by census workers as they attempted to count the state's homeless Tuesday night and early today.

Homeless

every homeless person in one night, but hope that the overnight tally Tuesday will at least give them numbers and demographic data that can be used for handing out federal assistance dollars.

SPORTS



Anyone from the 'Sweet 16' can win it all

OK, admit it, your "Sweet 16" in the NCAA Basketball Tournament doesn't exactly match the brackets that stare back at you in the newspaper.

Whalers host the Nordiques

HARTFORD — The Hartford Whalers (34-32-7), anchored in fourth place in the Adams Division with little possibility of moving up before the playoffs begin, host the Quebec Nordiques (12-24-7) tonight at 7:30 (SportsChannel, WTIC) in NHL action at the Civic Center.

Pitchers don't have an edge as workouts begin in earnest

By The Associated Press The pitchers are usually ahead of the hitters in spring training at this point.

Bird, McHale reversing roles

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Since entering the NBA in 1979, Larry Bird has been one of its deadliest outside shooters. Kevin McHale joined him in Boston the next year and became one of the league's most dominating inside players.

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UConn pressure concerns Ellis

By Tom Canavan The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Break the press. Break the press. Break the press. Break the press. Break the press.

Tickets hot item at UConn

STORRS (AP) — There's a price attached to being a University of Connecticut basketball fan and 192 UConn students were willing to pay \$75 for a bus ride and tickets to the NCAA East Regional.

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LOTTERY WINNER — Michael Rowley, a junior at the University of Connecticut, shows his winning ticket to his girlfriend, Michelle Jones, after his number was drawn in a lottery at Gampel Pavilion on Tuesday. He's one of the lucky ones to get a ticket for Thursday's East Regional semifinal at the Meadowlands Arena.

Tickets hot item at UConn

STORRS (AP) — There's a price attached to being a University of Connecticut basketball fan and 192 UConn students were willing to pay \$75 for a bus ride and tickets to the NCAA East Regional.

Bird, McHale reversing roles

BROOKLINE, Mass. — Since entering the NBA in 1979, Larry Bird has been one of its deadliest outside shooters. Kevin McHale joined him in Boston the next year and became one of the league's most dominating inside players.

Whalers host the Nordiques

HARTFORD — The Hartford Whalers (34-32-7), anchored in fourth place in the Adams Division with little possibility of moving up before the playoffs begin, host the Quebec Nordiques (12-24-7) tonight at 7:30 (SportsChannel, WTIC) in NHL action at the Civic Center.

Pitchers don't have an edge as workouts begin in earnest

By The Associated Press The pitchers are usually ahead of the hitters in spring training at this point.

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Baseball slate expected to be full 162 games

By Ben Walker
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Today, a place might be found for some missing baseball games. A decision is likely on the regular season, and it is expected the schedule will be restored to 162 games. Because opening day was delayed a week by the lockout, teams were assured of just 158. "The issue is not totally resolved," Commissioner Fay Vincent said Tuesday. "They're still working on it."

But Memphis, Des Moines and some other cities that were to play host to big-league exhibition games lost them. Teams that had been scheduled to play on the road on their way to opening day now will play longer in Florida and Arizona. Las Vegas, Jacksonville, Fla., Oklahoma City, Columbia and Greenville, S.C., also were among cities that lost exhibitions.

David Robinson puts on a personal show in Seattle

By Bill Barnard
The Associated Press

While Kareem Abdul-Jabbar was having his number retired in Los Angeles, David Robinson was putting on a Hall of Fame performance in Seattle.

Robinson scored 39 points, 20 in the fourth quarter, and had 10 rebounds and seven steals in his third straight game. Shawn Kemp had 20 and Sedale Threatt 19 SuperSonics 128-106 Tuesday night. "It was the second victory in two nights for the Spurs and Robinson scored 73 points in the wins over Phoenix and Seattle. Against the Sonics, he made 13 of 17 shots and all 13 free throws. "The people of Phoenix and Seattle got a real treat," San Antonio coach Larry Brown said. "Playing against good athletic teams like these brings out the best in him. Robinson used his quickness to offset the physical defense the Sonics used against him. "Seattle tried to bump me, but I used my intelligence and quickness to get better position," Robinson said. "We threw everything we could at him, and nothing happened." Seattle coach Bernie Bickerstaff said. "The San Antonio rookie said he was inspired by San Antonio's 100-98 loss to Seattle on Jan. 27. Robinson had 23 points in that game. "I didn't want to play like that again," Robinson said. Brown said the Spurs' performance against Seattle was one of their best of the season.

Liut registers 24th career shutout versus the Islanders

By Ken Rappoport
The Associated Press

The New York Islanders are having their problems these days. Against Mike Liut, they were a big fat zero. "Half of our team was going and half of our team wasn't in it," Islanders coach Al Igo said after a 3-0 loss at Washington Tuesday night. "On our team, we have to have everybody going and we didn't. It's puzzling in the circumstances of a game like this."

NCAA coordinator says officiating complaints unwarranted

By The Associated Press

Hank Nichols knows good officiating when he sees it. He says he's seen a lot of it during the NCAA tournament. Gene Keady, Terry Hootman and Lou Carnesecca might disagree. Nichols, the NCAA's coordinator of officials, knows well the pressure of tournament officiating. He worked 10 Final Fours and six NCAA championship games, more than any official. And he feels a lot of the complaints and abuse being leveled on the officials during this year's tournament aren't warranted. "I think most games in the tournament have been officiated pretty well," Nichols said. "I don't say everything is called right, but if we're in the 92-94 percent range, we're doing what we should do. Good refs are 94-96 percent."

Triple damages for collusion in agreement

By Ronald Blum
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If baseball clubs are found guilty of collusion again, triple damages will be assessed against the clubs specifically at fault. That was one of the items contained in a 104-page agreement signed at 5:54 a.m. Monday that ended the spring training lockout and cleared the way for the 1990 season to begin.

The agreement also specifies that the projected expansion of the National League will follow the same rules as American League expansion, with each team able to protect 15 players in the first round of an expansion draft. Also included were provisions to lower the loser's shares in the playoffs and World Series, and to require that each team have two full-time trainers.

And in a sport that's filled with arbitration, negotiators found a new issue to arbitrate: whether rooms at the Pittsburgh Pirates' training camp are first class.

UNC's Madden out as another one closes out

By The Associated Press

DARWYN ALEXANDER'S streak is over. As a result, New Mexico is still alive. Alexander was fouled with 23 seconds left in a second-round National Invitation Tournament dogfight with New Mexico. With the score tied 88-88, it looked like money in the bank when the Cowboys' 83 percent foul shooter stepped to the line having made 24 in a row.

George foregoes senior year CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Illinois quarterback Jeff George is giving up two dreams to pursue a third. George announced on Tuesday that he wouldn't be back for his final season at Illinois, ending dreams of playing in the Rose Bowl and winning the Heisman Trophy. Instead, he'll make himself available for the NFL draft next month.

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NHL Roundup

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17, the issue will be submitted to arbitrator George Nicolaou. The commissioner's office will announce by June 18 a timetable for adding two NL teams. After the new clubs draft six players each, all the current teams may increase their projected lists to 18. After each round, teams may protect three additional players.

The old agreement did not specify how many trainers each team was required to have. The new contract says there must be two, and that both must travel with the clubs unless one is needed to stay home to treat disabled players.

The agreement lowers the World Series' loser's share of the 27 percent to 24 percent and reduces the shares for playoff losers from 25 percent to 24 percent.

The shares for the second-place teams in each division rise from 9 1/2 percent to 12 percent and the shares for the third-place teams increase from 2 1/2 percent to 4 percent.

If five or more clubs are found guilty of collusion, the entire agreement may be reopened by the union within 60 days. In another change, only those clubs found guilty would pay instead of all clubs paying equal shares of the damages.

Maple 121, Knicks 118: Scott Skiles set or matched career highs in three categories, Nick Anderson scored a career high with 29 points and Michael Amadio had all 10 of his points in the fourth quarter as Orlando broke a nine-game losing streak. Skiles had career highs with 23 points and 12 rebounds and tied a career high with 17 assists as the Magic snapped an 11-game road losing streak.

Warriors 105, Timberwolves 101: Rod Higgins, subbing for ailing Mitch Richmond, scored season-high 26 points as Golden State handed Minnesota its 20th consecutive road loss. Higgins, starting because Mullin has a viral syndrome affecting his lungs, made seven of 12 shots, including all three from 3-point range. Mitch Richmond had 24 points for the Warriors.

Nuggets 119, Clippers 112: Alex English scored 38 points and had two key assists in the final quarter. Walter Davis and Michael Adams had 24 points each and Joe Barry Carroll had 16 points, five blocked shots and 10 rebounds for Denver. Danny Manning led Los Angeles with 25 points.

Draws the foul — Seattle's Xavier McDaniel (34) is fouled by San Antonio's Shawn Elliott as he goes up for a shot during their game Tuesday night in Seattle. The Spurs won, 128-106.

42 seconds apart late in the second period to give the Red Wings a 4-3 lead. Adams awakened the Canucks' offense. He took a pass from Igor Larionov at the Detroit blue line, skated between two defenders and beat Detroit's goalie Tim Cheveldae with a backhanded shot from close range for his 29th goal.

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Bird Bellos allows to score twice for the North Stars, extending his point record to 10 games. "I've come to the conclusion that every call makes about 50 percent of the coaches, players and fans happy," said Paul Francis, executive director of the International Association of Approved Basketball Officials. "I think there's better uniformity than there's ever been."

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Becker says mini-slump happening at right time

By Steven Wina
The Associated Press

KEY BISCAYNE, Fla. — Boris Becker says it's a good time for him to be in a slump. The second-ranked West German was eliminated by Jean Flurian 7-6 (7-4), 6-1 in Tuesday's third round of the International Players Championships.

"I am the kind of player who always has a couple of lows during the year," Becker said. "If they are now, I am glad, because it means they are not going to be during Wimbledon or the French Open." Flurian, a Frenchman who is ranked 46th, said Becker appeared to be "stupid."

From the beginning I felt he wasn't playing good," Flurian said. "I had a chance. I knew today was the day to do it, because I knew that tomorrow he'd be good again."

In Brief . . . Pony League sign-ups set The Manchester Rec Department will hold Pony League baseball registration for ages 13-15 (age is determined as of Aug. 1, 1990) from April 21-23 at the Mahoney Rec Center from 6 to 8 p.m.

Mattingly wants quiet year FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — New York Yankees first baseman Don Mattingly, a potential free agent after the upcoming season, said Tuesday he won't negotiate a new contract during the regular season.

George foregoes senior year CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Illinois quarterback Jeff George is giving up two dreams to pursue a third. George announced on Tuesday that he wouldn't be back for his final season at Illinois, ending dreams of playing in the Rose Bowl and winning the Heisman Trophy.

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Lobos' streak in NIT alive as another one closes out

By The Associated Press

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Pitchers

From Page 11

of 'em," Cleveland manager John McNamee said. "It's going to be a lot of work with a lot of long days."

The owners and players agreed to a new contract in the wee hours Monday after months of haggling. The result pushed back opening day a week, with rosters expanded to 27 players for the first three weeks to account for the lack of training for pitchers. Scoring lists also were altered for that period so that starting pitchers can earn a victory by pitching three innings instead of five.

The opening of training camps did not exactly signal a rub back to work by the players, though. Scattered returns were reported by several teams, with many players still out.

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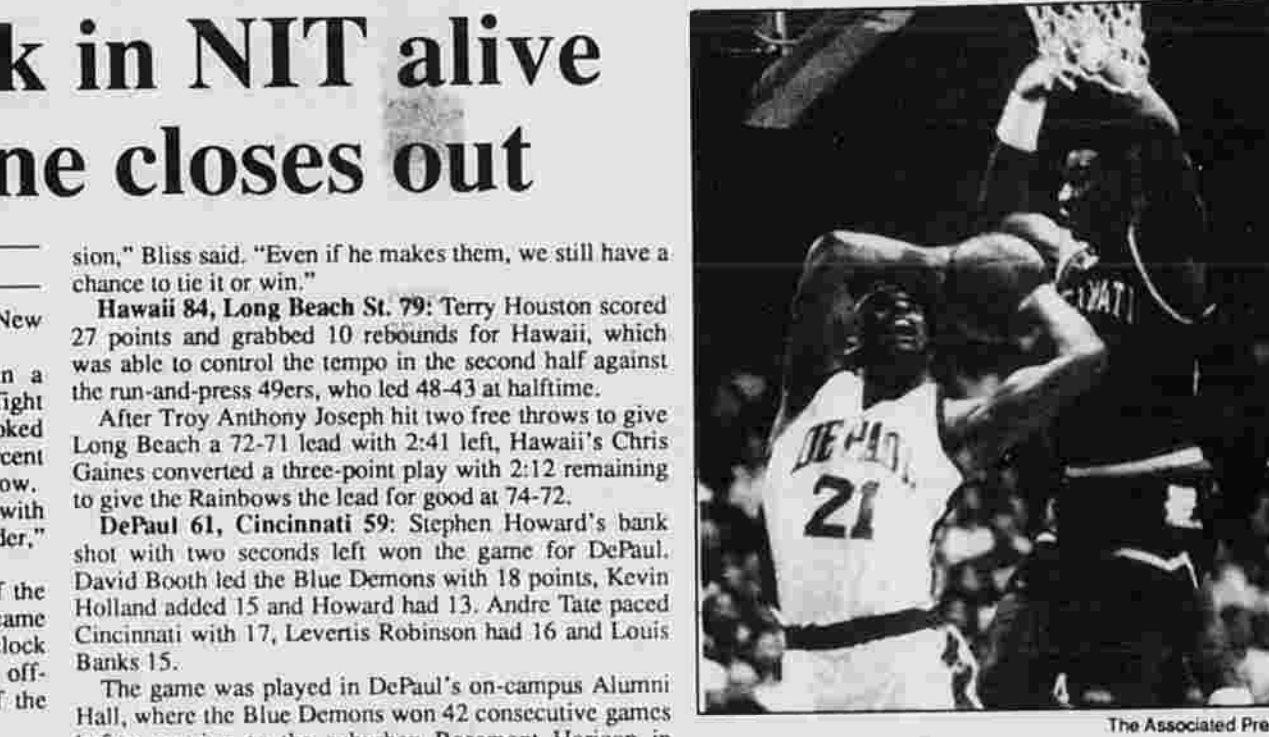
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UPSET — Jean Flurian, left, of France is congratulated at the net by Boris Becker after the latter was upset by Flurian 7-6, 6-1. Tuesday afternoon at the Lipton International Players Championships in Key Biscayne, Fla.



BLOCKED — DePaul's Stephen Howard (21) goes up with his shot as Cincinnati's Levertis Robinson goes for the block in their NIT clash Tuesday night. DePaul won, 61-59.

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