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Manchester Herald

Monday, April 2, 1990

Manchester, Conn. — A City of Village Charm

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Directors reconsider library cut

By Rick Santos Manchester Herald

The Board of Directors is considering a plea by head librarian John Jackson to restore \$83,000 to the library budget cut by Town Manager Richard Sartor.

Jackson said if the board fails to restore the \$83,000 Sartor cut from his proposed budget, the library would have to eliminate three proposed positions, including a temporary filing clerk, a staff member to assist in the children's section, and a clerk to work at the information desk.

The positions are needed for the library to maintain an adequate level of service, he said, citing a nine percent increase this year in circulation of materials.

Sartor's proposed budget for the library is \$1.1 million, an increase of about \$91,000 from the current budget. But Jackson told a meeting of the Board Saturday that still isn't enough.

"We're people oriented," Jackson said. "We believe very strongly that we're at the point of stretching and not doing as well as we could."

He said that understaffing is already causing problems such as the library not being able to expediently remove cards from its catalog files when the books or materials which correspond with the cards are no longer part of the library's collection.

"We're taking somewhat of a backseat, and it's really beginning to show," Jackson said.

He said the library is behind also in its efforts to mend damaged book bindings.

Also, a story-reading program for children that was scheduled last month had to be cancelled because the staff member was called for jury duty, Jackson said. If the request for the additional children's staffer was granted, this could have been avoided.

He said he was happy to see a recent survey of townspeople showed the library is one of the

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Pair robs branch of SBM



Reginald Piro/Manchester Herald

CLOSED — A Manchester Police cruiser stands in front of the Savings Bank of Manchester's branch at 244 Spencer St. after it was robbed this morning. At right, Sgt. James



Reginald Piro/Manchester Herald

Caldwell of the Manchester Police Department lets a detective into the bank.

5th heist for bank recently

By Andrew J. Davis Manchester Herald

Two men robbed the Spencer Street branch of the Savings Bank of Manchester at about 9:40 a.m. today, escaping with an undetermined amount of cash in the fifth robbery at a branch of the bank in the last 17 months, police said.

According to witnesses and Capt. Joseph Brooks of the Manchester Police Department, no weapon was shown. One witness reported that one of the men had his hand in the pocket of his trenchcoat, implying that he had a gun.

The robbers, who police described only as black men, escaped in what one witness said was a four-door Chevrolet Impala with Massachusetts marker plates.

No one was hurt in the robbery, said Brooks. Police would not release further information.

"The bottom line is there was a bank robbery, they got away, no one was hurt," said Brooks.

Brooks added that it was too early to tell whether any of the robberies are connected.

Earl Rollinson, a Manchester resident who had gone into the bank immediately after the two men, said one robber stood at the door. He said one of the robbers pushed him aside and said, "Hurry it up and let's get it over with."

Rollinson said he was not scared, but surprised.

"I've read about these bank rob-

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Administration reshuffles energy policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is calling for a re-examination of dozens of ideas for stabilizing the nation's energy future, including many staunchly opposed by former President Reagan.

The list of possibilities being laid out at a news conference today includes strict conservation requirements and government-financed development of renewable alternative fuels, both of which are contrary to the laissez-faire energy policy of the preceding administration.

Energy Secretary James Wat-

kins' "Interim Report: National Energy Strategy" signals Bush's determination to "get the best public dialogue going in the history of energy policy," said Deputy Secretary W. Henson Moore.

The massive report contains no formal proposals, but lists scores of ideas calling for a more active government role, including industry regulation. By contrast, Reagan, who believed energy issues should be left to the marketplace, proposed abolishing the Energy Department.

The debate agenda, designed to

lead to formal proposals in December, includes:

• New or heightened government efforts to find new energy sources, including solar, nuclear fusion, safer and cheaper nuclear fission, and alternative fuels like liquefied natural gas, methanol and ethanol for automobiles.

• More demanding government fuel efficiency standards for automobiles, requiring the manufacture of more compact vehicles.

• Higher efficiency standards for appliances and other electrical devices, including home and office

lights.

• A return to energy-oriented tax breaks, ranging from special allowances for domestic oil explorers to new incentives for homeowners to install better insulation and solar heating systems.

Some of the ideas already are at odds with programs advanced from other quarters within the Bush administration. For example, the Transportation Department's policy statement calls for less government subsidy of energy-efficient mass transit systems, and

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Delegate selection only beginning of race

By Peter Vilas The Associated Press

The campaign for governor has entered a frantic period of delegate courting, with the Democratic and Republican frontrunners both trying to lock up their parties' nominations and head off primary challenges.

The delegates were selected in hundreds of meetings across the state in mid-March. Republican and Democratic town committees in 169 localities selected a total of 2,367 delegates to summer nominating conventions.

When the last of the delegates were picked last Tuesday, another phase of the campaign began, as candidates began courting blocs of uncommitted delegates, many of them party regulars who go to party conventions every four years.

On the Democratic side, party chairman

John F. Dronney Jr. said at week's end that U.S. Rep. Bruce Morrison was "closing in on a nomination."

Dronney's counterpart, GOP state Chairman Richard Foley, said U.S. Rep. John Rowland was "nearing the 50 percent level."

According to both party chairmen, the process is an inexact game marked by courting, bluffing, and occasional discussions of politics and policy.

"This is like a period of dating that's going on prior to getting married," Dronney said.

The process is somewhat murky because only the campaigns have accurate tallies of which direction uncommitted delegates are leaning. And the campaigns are not always trusted as a source of information.

"If you listen to the candidate, you would think there are three times as many delegates going to the convention as are really going,"

Dronney said. "There's the hard count and the candidate's count. The truth usually falls somewhere in between."

In both parties, the focus was quickly shifting from who would win the party nomination to whether a long-shot candidate would be able to force a September primary.

The Democrat pushing for a primary is state Rep. William Cibes of New London; in the GOP, New Haven businessman Joel Schiavone is the closest, but two other long shots are still in the race, Fairfield banker Joseph McCle and state Sen. Reginald Smith of New Hartford.

For Cibes and Schiavone, the fight was uphill; at week's end they were both battling a frontrunner and the perception that a September primary would hurt the party.

To force a primary, a candidate needs the support of 20 percent of the convention

delegates. For a Democrat, that means of 290 of the 1,450 delegates; for a Republican, the threshold is 183 out of 917.

Morrison would not say exactly how many delegates he has won over, but predicted Friday, "I expect to be way over 50 percent well before the convention."

It was obvious, however, that his campaign was exceeding its expectations in winning over party regulars, because Morrison had almost totally abandoned his initial strategy of forcing a September primary through grassroots organizing.

He had originally planned to wage May 15 "delegate challenge primaries" to challenge delegate slates in as many as 50 cities and towns. But that plan was based on the assumption that those towns would select

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Lithuania sends delegation to Moscow in search of pact

MOSCOW (AP) — Lithuania sent a delegation to Moscow today in hopes of beginning talks with Mikhail S. Gorbachev, and President Vytautas Landsbergis said he hoped for a peaceful settlement despite a Kremlin demand he back down.

About 1,000 pro-independence demonstrators rallied outside the Lithuanian prosecutor's office in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius against the occupation of the building Friday night by Soviet soldiers, sources said.

Both a prosecutor appointed by Lithuania's breakaway government and one sent from Moscow were working in the building today, and

employees reported no direct conflict between the two.

Spokesmen for the Lithuanian Supreme Council said legislator Edvardas Bickauskas went to Moscow in hopes of starting talks with Soviet leaders, and that three other people including Deputy Premier Romaldas Orlaus were following.

Bickauskas has spent much of the past two weeks in Moscow trying without success to begin talks with the Kremlin on Lithuania's March 11 declaration of independence.

Official Radio Moscow quoted Landsbergis as saying Lithuania "will do everything ... to regulate relations with the Soviet Union."

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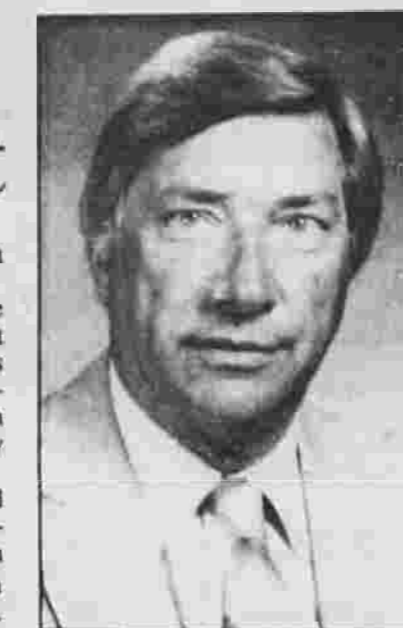
present situation as hopeless," it said.

The republic's President of the Supreme Council legislature met Sunday night, and Landsbergis was expected to address the full legislature during a session this afternoon to discuss a statement late Saturday from Gorbachev.

The Soviet president urged Lithuania to renounce their declaration of independence and then enter into talks with the Kremlin on the basis of the Soviet Constitution.

He warned that a refusal may result in "grave consequences for all of us."

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ALFRED W. SIEFFERT official, businessman

Alfred W. Sieffert, ex-PZC chief, dies

By Nancy Foley Manchester Herald

Friends and colleagues remembered former Planning and Zoning Commission Chairman Alfred W. Sieffert Sr. as a fair man who gave a great deal of time and energy to the town. Sieffert, who served as chairman for 15 years, died of cancer Friday. He was 61.

William Bayer, who succeeded Sieffert as chairman in December, described him as a "very classy gentleman."

As chairman, Sieffert "listened to all sides and let people talk as much as they wanted to," Bayer said. He also listened to the opinions of the

Meeting of PZC canceled

Tonight's scheduled meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission has been canceled due to the death of former chairman Alfred W. Sieffert Sr. The meeting had been scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Lincoln Center.

other commission members, Bayer added.

"He didn't give his opinion before he heard yours. He didn't want to influence anybody," said Bayer, a member of the commission for more than 17 years.

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Disputed Coventry survey prompts questions/3



Best Call 'em anything, call UNLV champs/9

Plea MCC students push for funding/4

Manchester Herald

Tuesday, April 3, 1990 Manchester, Conn. - A City of Village Charm Newsstand Price: 35 Cents

Indicators decrease slightly

By John D. McClain The Associated Press WASHINGTON - The government's chief economic forecasting gauge fell 1.0 percent in February, the Commerce Department reported today, but analysts said it would have changed little except for a drop in building permits.



DIRTY WORK - Cleanup workers from the Buckeye Pipeline Co. work in Knapp Run in Pennsylvania Monday to recover some of the fuel spilled Saturday near Freedom, Pa.

School cuts take aim at sports

By Nancy Foley Manchester Herald Kennedy said many junior high schools do not have intraschool sports. "We've cut away from the basic day-to-day school mission of the classroom."

Snow-removal budget clobbered

By Rick Santos Manchester Herald Monday that the primary reason the budget of about \$28 million has been drastically overpriced is not because of heavy winter snowfall.

Democrats tinker and juggle to find enough 'enhancers' to erase deficit

By Peter Viles The Associated Press HARTFORD - A year after they raised taxes by almost \$1 billion, Democrats have been forced to juggle the state's tax code to come up with \$264 million in what they called "revenue enhancers" to erase this year's deficit and balance next year's budget.

State: speed law unfairly penalizes us

By The Associated Press Connecticut officials today defended their enforcement of high speed limits after federal officials said Monday the state could lose up to \$4 million in federal highway money because of its enforcement.

Republic softens position

MOSCOW (AP) - Soviet lawmakers heatedly debated a bill on secession today, and leaders in Lithuania and Moscow struck a conciliatory tone on the Baltic republic's independence drive.

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