

Blue tales

Cop's 26 years on beat recalled/3

Ducky

Everything just fine as Sox splash to win/9



Future shock

Closings, staff cuts ahead for Ames/4

Manchester Herald

Tuesday, May 1, 1990 Manchester, Conn. — A City of Village Charm Newsstand Price: 35 Cents

Reed celebrates end of his captivity with a beer and a steak

WIESBADEN, West Germany (AP) — A pale but energetic Frank Reed, the second American hostage freed in nine days, checked into a U.S. military hospital today and celebrated the end of his captivity with a beer and a large steak.

Doctors said the 57-year-old educator, who said he was kept blindfolded for much of his 3½-year ordeal, was "weak and tired" but otherwise feeling well and was reunited with his wife and 9-year-old son.

Reed blew kisses, waved and kissed his hand and touched the ground after arriving in brilliant, sunny

weather at nearby Rhein-Main Air Base from Syria on a U.S. Air Force C-141 transport plane.

He stepped off the plane looking sprightly and waving the "V" for victory sign but looked tired after arriving by helicopter at the hospital for the medical tests and debriefing that have become a rite for freed hostages.

Reed was released Monday night into Syrian hands in West Beirut, just as Robert Polhill was last week. There was no doubt that Iran, which backs the Shiite Muslim fundamentalist hostage-takers, had again

played a role.

The white-bearded former captive was driven to the Syrian capital of Damascus, where he described a "lonely and boring" ordeal in which he was treated reasonably well but kept ignorant of his fate.

"We'd know nothing," Reed told a crowded news conference in Damascus. "We had no radio. We had no news. We had no Time, no Newsweek to go by. In fact, there were times when I did not even know what month it was."

The remarks implied that Reed, who was kid-

napped Sept. 9, 1986, was held with other hostages but he would not elaborate.

In Washington, President Bush thanked Syria and Iran for their help.

He encouraged them to help free the six Americans among 16 Westerners still believed held in Lebanon by pro-Iranian Shiite Muslim fundamentalists, saying that only then can those countries expect normalized relations with Washington.

Please see HOSTAGE, page 8

Special focus program draws all over town

By Nancy Foley
Manchester Herald

The proposed special focus program at Nathan Hale School is drawing students from all over town, according to figures released by school officials.

"It just shows that the program is of interest to the general public, to

all the schools, not just to some," said Terry A. Bogli, a member of the Board of Education as well as its special focus committee.

However, the program's future is uncertain as Republican town directors work toward a decision on the \$46.5 million education budget by Wednesday night. The program was on the school superintendent's list of recommended cuts if the directors significantly reduce the education budget.

Of 99 applications to the special focus program, the highest number, 21, came from Washington School students, followed by Martin and Robertson, both with 17 applications. Eleven applications came from both Highland Park and Wadell School, ten from Kenney Street School, and seven from Verplanck.

The lowest number of applications came from Buckley, three, and Bowers, two. The program has also received five or six applications from parents of pre-schoolers whose



SHEAR DELIGHT — Martins Ozolins, 94, of 132 Lenox Street prunes rose bushes Monday in the yard of his residence, where he lives with his sister.

TODAY

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Tinkertoy unlocks scope problem

GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER, Md. (AP) — The Hubble Space Telescope, all \$1.5 billion of it, is back in working order today because a NASA engineer used a Tinkertoy, a lamp cord, masking tape and glue to help solve a major problem.

The telescope's No. 2 high-gain antenna, wedged in one position since last Friday, was free and sending data through relay satellites.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration expected calibration and other normal start-up work to begin by tonight and to receive its first pictures from the telescope by next weekend.

"The moral of the story is that there is no solution that's too humble," said David Skillman, who built a model of the jammed antenna.

"We were faced with a problem on the telescope that

involved quite intricate geometry," he said. "A number of us realized we could benefit greatly from a model. Someone suggested that even a Tinkertoy model could be useful."

He drove to a toy store Sunday afternoon and bought two boxes of the construction toy. He got the other items in a drug store and put the model together in 15 minutes with another engineer, John Decker.

The telescope has two dish-shaped high-gain antennas that are designed to transmit science data to two orbiting relay satellites at speeds equivalent to sending the contents of a 30-volume encyclopedia in 42 minutes.

The No. 2 antenna jammed on Friday when engineers were turning it left and right. Sensing something wrong

O'Neill signs abortion bill

By Judd Everhart
The Associated Press

HARTFORD — Gov. William A. O'Neill, a Roman Catholic who personally opposes abortions, put his feelings aside and signed into law a bill affirming a woman's right to abortion even if the U.S. Supreme Court overturns the landmark Roe vs. Wade decision making abortion legal.

The action makes Connecticut the first state to guarantee the right to choose abortion.

O'Neill, a Democrat not seeking re-election this year, signed the measure Monday with no signing ceremony. He said it "strikes a balance between a person's right to privacy and state interests."

The new law, effective Oct. 1, repeals the state's unenforced criminal anti-abortion statutes, requires girls under 16 to get counseling before getting an abortion and encourages them to tell their parents.

In a variation on Roe vs. Wade, the new law allows abortions late in pregnancy, when the fetus is capable of living outside the womb, only when the life or health of the mother is in danger.

"It recognizes a right to choose by women. The law also recognizes the state has an interest in fetus viability and properly recognizes that minors should be counseled before making the very difficult decision to abort a pregnancy," O'Neill said in a statement released after the signing.

The bill had cleared the state



HATS OFF — Joseph Grenier of 79 Deepwood Drive shows off his 190-plus hat collection in his garage. Everytime he golfs somewhere new, Grenier buys another hat.

HATS
19 years ago, man began collection

By Dianne M. Talbot
Manchester Herald

Manchester resident Joseph Grenier didn't intend to start a valuable hat collection when he played his first serious game of golf in 1971 at the East Hartford Golf Course.

Doctors had told him that his heart was bad; he probably had about a year or so to live.

Determined to make the most of his remaining time, the then-50-year-old decided to take up golf, a game he had played once before, many years earlier in India as a corporal in the Air Force.

"I said, 'I'm not going to stay home and wait for this,'" Grenier recalled.

During his second game of golf, "I must have got bit. I got the bug," he said.

After that, he bought his first set of golf clubs, used, for a total of \$7. Because he was balding, Grenier needed to wear a hat on the golf course, so he began buying one from each course he played.

Nineteen years and many golf games later, the Deepwood Drive resident is very much alive and still golfing, mainly at the Manchester Country Club about three mornings a week.

And the hats in his collection number about 200 and are worth about \$1,000.

"Eighty percent of them have never been worn," Grenier said. He plans to give the collection to his grandchildren unless someone makes him a fair offer.

Besides golf hats, Grenier has acquired several interesting pieces of head gear, including a 1933

Stetson gold miner's hat, Amish hats, a Mexican sombrero, safari hats, a police hat, a small crown and a hat with a battery-operated clock on the front. The 43-year Manchester resident keeps all the hats hung and covered with plastic in his garage along with other memorabilia.

The former Pratt & Whitney machinist credits the exercise from golfing with lengthening his life. He has survived three heart attacks in the past 20 years.

But old age and other health problems are exacting their toll, the 69-year-old retiree said. "You have to slow down sometime."

His legs began weakening about three years ago, so Grenier now rides in a car instead of walking when he plays golf. Diabetes also

Please see HATS, page 8

RECORD

About Town

La Leche League to meet

Breastfeeding advantages to mothers and babies will be the topic of a La Leche League meeting on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. Women and babies are welcome. For more information call Barbara at 646-8171 or Kathy at 646-7277.

Manchester Grange to meet

Manchester Grange No. 31 will meet Wednesday at 8 p.m. in the Grange Hall on Olcott Street for a program by the Graces. Members are reminded to bring items for the auction table.

Weight group to meet

The Women's Association to Enjoy Slimming will meet Thursday at 72 E. Center St. Weigh-in will be at 6:15 to 7:15 p.m. and a meeting will follow. New members are welcome.

Health checks available

Blood pressure checks, time tests and health guidance will be available Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Coventry Town Hall. All town residents are eligible for the program. For more information, call Visiting Nurse and Community Health of Eastern Connecticut, Inc. at 423-1651.

Course for parents offered

"Parenting Adolescents" is the topic of a one-session workshop to be held Wednesday from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at Connections: A Center for Counseling and Education, 397 N. Main St. The fee is \$5. Call 646-5161 to register.

ANXIOUS EPD TO MEET

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.

Play to be held

"Everyman, a morality play for the 90's" is the title of an outdoor production to be presented Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Bicentennial Band Shell at Manchester Community College. The production also will be presented indoors Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the college's Love Program Center. Admission is free, but chair rental is \$3.50. Donations will be solicited.

Rabies clinics scheduled

A rabies clinic will be held at Bolon's Community Hall Saturday from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Sponsored by the Connecticut Veterinary Medical Association, the cost is \$6 cash, and animals must be on leashes. Another clinic will be held May 12 at the Andover Garage on Longhill Road from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

British daughters to meet

The Britannia Chapter of the Daughters of the British Empire will meet Thursday at 11 a.m. at Community Baptist Church, 385 E. Center St.

Order of America to meet

Scandia Lodge No. 23, Vasa of Order of America, will meet Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Emanuel Lutheran Church, 60 Church St. A hobby crafts show and tell presentation will follow.

Church sponsors public talk

Members of First Church of Christ, Scientist, 447 N. Main St., will sponsor a free public talk May 5 from 2 to 3 p.m. at the church.

The topic will be "Freedom from Fear: A Present Possibility." Jack Thornton, C.S.B., of Marlborough, Mass., will be speaking.

Thoughts

In his book, "The Romance of the Ministry," Raymond Calkins writes that the parish minister who is above all else interested in the petty feelings and frailties of men and women, cares a great deal and thus knows much of the least of men and women, finds him and herself in a romantic world. The minister leads that "where human beings live and love and suffer, there is an eternal significance beneath the commonplace and that if we grasp it, it leads us to the root of life." In every human being lies the spark of immortal beauty to be framed in flame by one rightly directed breath; that if the minister but looks for it there will be found the soul of goodness in every human creature. To find it, to bring it to life, is the minister's supreme interest. Every day offers new and unexpected opportunities of knowing people in every emergency and vicissitude of their lives. To have them come to the study, to have the liberty of going to them in their supreme privilege. Thus the days are filled with romance, beauty, poetry. The work never grows stale. Year by year it becomes more rich, more alluring. It is only as the minister loses the self within this humble, unnoticed daily ministry to individuals that discovery is made of the deepest joys and satisfactions of life.

Newell Curtis
Center Congregational Church

Weather

REGIONAL Weather
Wednesday, May 2
Area weather system for the next 24 hours

Tonight, partly cloudy. Low near 50. Wednesday, considerable cloudiness. A 30 percent chance of showers. High 65 to 70. Outlook for Thursday, fair. Highs in the 60s. Low pressure south of New England will drift east today. A cold front will move east across New England overnight followed by high pressure Wednesday.

Weather summary for Monday:
Temperature: high of 55, low of 46, mean of 51.
Precipitation: 0.11 inches for the day, 4.55 inches for the month, 14.61 inches for the year.
Temperature extremes for today: Highest on record 82, set in 1936. Lowest on record, 30, set in 1961.



July Harrington/Manchester Herald

APPRECIATED — Third-grader Paul Badeau, 9, gives flowers to his teacher Genevieve Shanahan Monday at Buckley School. He gave her the flowers in honor of Teacher Appreciation Day.

Obituaries

Joseph B. Ford Jr.

Joseph B. Ford Jr., 58, of Spring Hill, Fla., formerly of Bristol and Mystic Islands, N.H., died Thursday (April 19, 1990) at Hudson Medical Center, Fla. He is survived by his wife Carol Ford, and his brother, Robert Ford of Manchester. He is also survived by a son, Timothy Ford of Spring Hill, a daughter, Debra Stockman of Bristol; stepchildren, Wayne and James both of Pompano Lakes, N.J.; William, Sharon and Terry, of Spring Hill, and Carol of Absecon, N.J.; 14 grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a son, Michael Ford. A military funeral will be Thursday at the Merritt Funeral Home, Brooksville, Fla. Burial was at the convenience of the family.

Deaths Elsewhere

Margaret T. Hance

PHOENIX (AP) — Margaret T. Hance, who presided over eight years of explosive growth as Phoenix's first woman mayor, died Sunday of cancer at age 66.

Hance, a national co-chairwoman of President Reagan's 1984 re-election campaign, was elected mayor in November 1975 and served four two-year terms before retiring in 1983.

Ann Die Courage

N'DIAMENA, Chad (AP) — Sister Annie Courage, a French nun who ran Roman Catholic radio and television stations in Chad, died Saturday in a car accident at age 45. She had worked in Chad for 20 years.

Sister Courage was a personal assistant to Monsignor Charles Van-Diam, Roman Catholic archbishop of N'Diamena. She was in charge of all broadcasts by the church-owned radio and TV stations in the largely Christian southern part of Chad.

Public Records

Warranty deeds

Town of Manchester to the State of Connecticut, west side of Main Street at Forest Street, \$30,000.
Nelson W. Quinby III and Barbara E. Quinby to Kim E. and Susan T. Winchell, Spring Street, \$177,500.
Anne N. Rothman to Jerry A. and Leonore Nadeau, 11 Tyler Circle, \$117,900.
Blanchard & Rossetto Construction Inc. to Theresa C. Lanz and Nancy L. Shaw, 28 Rossetto Drive, \$146,000.
Mary E. Parsons to Town of Manchester, Tolland Turnpike, no conveyance tax.
Burton H. and Lillian M. Frazier to Keith and Laurie A. Cable, Wellsweep condominium, \$105,000.

Quit claim deeds

Hayden L. Griswold Jr. and Marjorie Griswold to Hayden L. Griswold Jr., Spencer Street, no conveyance tax.

Partly cloudy

Today's weather picture was drawn by Steven Goodman, a fourth-grader at Bowers School.

Births

FRATT, a daughter born Feb. 25 at Hartford Hospital to Mark and Lesley Smart Pratt of 96 Rachel Road.

PETRY, a daughter born March 9 at Hartford Hospital to Keith N. and Cindy Faucher Perry, 14 White St. SCRIENER, a daughter born Feb. 11 at Manchester Memorial Hospital to John A. and Cheryl Eshoo Scriener, 27 McKee Place.

PELLICER, a son born Feb. 20 to Robert J. and Donna Smith Pellicier Jr., 237 W. Center St. CURTIS, a daughter born Feb. 20 at Hartford Hospital to Kevin M. and Regina Curtis, 45 Crosby Road.

BEGIN, a daughter born Feb. 20 at Hartford Hospital to Andrew C. and Patricia Galligan Begin, 26 Stone St. CUPRAK, a daughter was born March 2 at Hartford Hospital to Boldan and Margaret Campbell Cuprak, 46 Prospect St., Coventry.

LEY, a son was born March 3 to James F. and Roberta Yonka Ley, 98 Marjorie Drive, Coventry. SMARF, a daughter was born Feb. 25 at Hartford Hospital to James S. and Janet Smart, 42 Ridgebrook Drive, Coventry.

BOLTON, Chelsea Irene, daughter of William M. and Bernadette Chang Bolton of 150 Pine St., was born April 13 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Her maternal grandparents are Helen B. and Gerard J. Ciaing of Farmington. Her paternal grandparents are Robert W. and James R. Bolton of Mansfield, Mass.

CRAV, Deanna Lauren, daughter of Mark E. and Alice Ryan Crav of 275 Parker St., was born April 13 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. Her maternal grandparents are Lillian Ryan of Roseland, N.Y. Her paternal grandparents are Doris Crav and Spindy Crav of Presque Isle, Maine. She has two brothers, Jason Rodriguez, 16 and Evome Rodriguez, 14.

Current Quotes

"We'd know nothing. We had no radio. We had no news. We had no time, no newspaper to go by. In fact, there were times when I did not even know what month it was." — Frank Reed, the second American hostage freed in Beirut in nine days, describing his 3 1/2 years in captivity.

"The Department of Housing and Urban Development was the best domestic political machine I have ever seen." — Dubois L. Gilliam, a convicted former HUD official, in testimony before a House panel.

"In a lifetime, I have seen this country disintegrate." — Henry Stenhouse, a North Carolina eye doctor, explaining why he's running for Congress at the age of 100 in his first electoral bid.

Public Meetings

Public meetings scheduled for tonight:
Manchester
Board of Directors, Lincoln Center hearing room, 7:30 p.m.

Andover
Republican Town Committee, Town Office Building, 8 p.m.

Coventry
Housing Authority, Orchard Hills Estates, 7 p.m. School Building Committee, Coventry High School, 7:30 p.m. Republican Town Committee, Town Office Building, 7:30 p.m.

Lottery

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

CONNECTICUT
Daily: 0-6-7. Play Four: 8-2-8-7.
MASSACHUSETTS
Daily: 1-4-1-5.

NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND
New Hampshire, Vermont and Maine daily: 5-6-6 and 9-2-1-1.

RHODE ISLAND
Daily: 9-2-6-7.

Manchester Herald

Founded Dec. 15, 1881 as a weekly. Daily publication since Oct. 1, 1914.

USPS 327-500 VOL. CIX, No. 180

Publisher: Penny M. Seiffert
Editor: Walter Zaborowski
News Editor/Opinion Page Editor: Ron Robillard
Associate Editor: Alexander Girli
Sports Editor: Len Austin
Business Manager: Jeanne G. Frommer
Customer Service Manager: Gerardo Collesi
Composing Manager: Sheldon Cohen
Pressroom Manager: Robert H. Hubbard

Published daily except Sunday and certain holidays by the Manchester Publishing Co., 16 Branford Place, Manchester, Conn. 06040. Second class postage paid at Manchester, Conn. Postmaster: Send address changes to Manchester Herald, P.O. Box 591, Manchester, Conn. 06040.
The Manchester Herald is a member of The Associated Press, the Audit Bureau of Circulation, the New England Press Association and the New England Newspaper Association.
Guaranteed delivery: If you don't receive your Herald by 8 p.m. weekdays or 7:30 a.m. Saturdays, please telephone your carrier. If you are unable to reach your carrier, call 646-7946 by 6 p.m. weekdays for delivery in Manchester.
Suggested carrier rates are \$1.80 weekly, \$7.70 for one month, \$23.10 for three months, \$62.40 for six months and \$92.40 for one year. Newsstand price: 36 cents a copy.

MANCHESTER/COVENTRY

Retired cop looks back on 26 years

By Dianna M. Talbot
Manchester Herald

One of the funniest on-the-job incidents during Robert McNelly's 26 years as a Manchester police officer involved three people who stuttered.

It was about 1970, and a patrolman had responded to a motor vehicle accident at the former First National Supermarket, now the site of Manchester Superior Court, said McNelly. McNelly, who retired Monday, reminisced during an interview at the police station.

The first officer on the scene called for a backup. McNelly continued. Then the backup called for a backup. Worried that there might be trouble, McNelly also went to the scene.

It turned out there was trouble, but only because the man in the accident thought the responding police officers were making fun of his stuttering. McNelly said. The man was angry and becoming verbally abusive.

However, the stuttering police officers were not making jokes, McNelly said.

The first officer to respond and his backup both stuttered when called. It was just coincidence they both responded to the same accident, McNelly said.

The incident was one of several, including high-speed chases and criminal hunts, which came to mind during McNelly's farewell luncheon.



Roger Piro/Manchester Herald

READY FOR FISHING — Patrolman Robert McNelly holds a fishing rod his sons gave him for his retirement.

Although there are no size requirements for police officers, an unly person can be more intimidated by a police officer who is bigger than he is, Rand said.

"He's big," said Richard Rand, who retired from the police department last year, but returned to the station to help celebrate McNelly's departure. "He can do more psychologically."

Dodd on deficit, education

By Alex Girali
Manchester Herald

"I have a sense that we are sitting in the bleachers" while vast political and economic changes are going on in the world, U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd said in a Manchester speech Monday.

Dodd spoke to about 150 members and guests of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce during a luncheon at the Manchester Country Club.

Dodd said the United States needs to find revolutionary solutions to economic and social problems, and he questioned whether the country can muster the courage politically to effect needed changes.

Referring to political changes in Central America and Eastern Europe, Dodd said, "We seem to be watching the events as they occur."

He said two areas on which the nation should focus are education and the trade deficit.

Green optimistic on referendum for Coventry

By Jacqueline Bennett
Manchester Herald

COVENTRY — After a decade of petitioning the Annual Town Meeting on the budget to adjourn for a referendum vote, resident Roland Green is confident he will be successful again this year.

"I have to collect 200 signatures by 7:30 p.m. next Thursday night, the 10th ... I have no problem with that," Green said Monday night.

The proposed \$15,909,382 budget for fiscal 1990-91, which begins July 1, is up \$913,786 from this year. It was approved by the Town Council April 12 and now is headed for the voters at the Annual Town Meeting May 11, unless it is successfully petitioned to an adjourned referendum. If approved, it will mean a 4.5-mile increase, bringing the mill rate to 41.512.

Green says that is too high, and wants no increase, like last year. "I think the (town) council should refer to the Board of Education should figure out how much we have to spend, the cost of our grand list and revenue and use it as a goal to live within," said Green.

It took three years to get a budget adopted last year and Green twice successfully petitioned the budget to a referendum, saying in part the increase was too high.

"They said it was a 'bare bones' budget last year, that they couldn't do it, but they did," Green said.

However, he insists his opposition to the tax hike is not behind his referendum petition.

"The referendum allows several factors to vote, so you can pick a time and go vote instead of waiting a whole evening starting at 7:30 and not knowing when the vote will be," Green said.

He notes also the referendum generally gets a bigger voter turnout.

The proposed \$15.9 million budget includes \$10.1 million for education.

action on trade barriers.

"We don't really have a shoe industry," he said, but for the sake of two or three shoe manufacturers, it was not possible to get 15 needed votes in the Senate to ease some trade barriers for South American nations that want to buy American-made computers.

Dodd also said it is difficult to get many less than one percent, he added.

He said education budgets are easy targets. Parents do not get involved, he said, and teachers and school boards do not have a significant impact.

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Group envisions ideal downtown

By Rick Santos
Manchester Herald

"How about a gazebo in Center Park?" said a local businessman. "Or maybe, a mini-handball where small magical groups could perform?"

A town employee piped in, "What we really need is a park on the east side of Main Street."

"You know what we don't need," said a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission. "It's any of those large flower pots that block pedestrian traffic on the sidewalks."

Those were just a few of the ideas tossed around by the 50 or so downtown business owners, town officials, and politicians who gathered Monday night at the Army & Navy Club to begin planning the look of downtown after its reconstruction is completed.

Some suggested the west side of the downtown is marked by streets running parallel and a few hundred feet off Main. But others said the border is Fine Street, which runs through the Cheney mill buildings, a full half-mile west of Main.

"A point has been made," Pellegri said. "There is no downtown. If you don't know how to define the downtown, then you don't know if you've done anything for the downtown."

Regarding the types of businesses, the groups compiled lists of "wants" and "don't wants." Notable "wants" included more parking, grocery stores, and professional offices; among "don't wants" were gas stations, convenience stores, liquor stores, and bars.

For physical appearance, the overwhelming sentiment was store fronts should be repaired and designed for a specific style such as colonial. There was great support for more plantings, public benches, and sidewalk repairs.

Regarding parking, the group department budget and these items may have to be restored hastily later. She said the fire department and will consider an ordinance that would authorize the district fire marshal to charge a fee for reviewing plans for commercial buildings to see that they conform to fire regulations.

The ordinance was proposed Monday by Thomas O'Marra of 20 Schaller Road, who spoke for himself and on behalf of Fire Marshal Granville Lingard. O'Marra is a captain in the fire department.

Director Gordon Lassow suggested the district council with town officials to see what fees the town charges for such reviews. Town Fire Chief John C. Rivosa told the session.

As far as accomplishing the goals, many suggested incentives such as tax breaks and low-interest, government-sponsored loans for those who make improvements.

No major changes made in 8th district's budget

By Alex Girali
Manchester Herald

Only two people spoke at a 14-minute town public hearing Monday night on the proposed \$1.7 million budget for the Eighth Utilities District and the budget will go to the voters at the annual meeting May 23 with no significant changes.

A 7-mill tax rate, the same as the current rate, will be proposed to support the spending.

But on May 21, two days before the annual meeting, the directors would authorize an ordinance that would authorize the district fire marshal to charge a fee for reviewing plans for commercial buildings to see that they conform to fire regulations.

She also questioned eliminating \$2,000 for studies of drain water infiltrating into sanitary sewer lines. She said that though faulty manhole covers through which some water had been entering have been replaced, some water may still be entering sewers from storm drains and increasing the amount the district pays the town for treatment of sewage.

He notes also the referendum generally gets a bigger voter turnout.

The proposed \$15.9 million budget includes \$10.1 million for education.

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STATE

Closings, staff cuts due for Ames, analysts say

By Jill Arbas
The Associated Press

HARTFORD — The new chairman and chief executive officer at Ames Department Stores Inc. will likely close stores, cut staff and take other aggressive steps to nurse the discount chain through bankruptcy proceedings, say retail industry analysts.

Stephen L. Pister received high marks on Monday for his ability to turn around retail chains and restore them to profitability. He made his reputation at Montgomery Ward & Co. and Dayton-Hudson Corp.'s Target discount stores.

Industry experts described him as a hard-nosed, creative businessman who is tough enough to take bold steps to bring Ames back to financial health.

The Rocky Hill-based company sought protection from creditors last week in U.S. Bankruptcy Court, after posting a \$228 million loss last year.

Analysts also speculated that he may reform the selling style of Ames and the Ames-owned Zayre stores, keeping prices competitive but specializing in certain types of merchandise, as he did at Montgomery Ward from 1981 to 1985.

"I think Ames will be a different kind of Ames. I think it will be competitive in price but it will be much more focused," said Howard Davidowitz, chairman of a New York retail consulting firm.

Ames' board of directors announced Pister's appointment Monday, subject to court approval. He replaces Peter B. Hollis, who resigned as CEO and vice chairman.

"It's a superb appointment. I know Steve for many years and I think he is an outstanding mass merchant who has shown his ability at Target early when he took over," said Walter Loeb, a New York-based retail consultant.

Pister, 58, took responsibility for the Target chain in 1973 and for all of Dayton-Hudson in 1977 as president and chief operating officer.

He left in 1981 to become president and CEO of Montgomery Ward, bringing the company from a \$160 million loss in 1981 to a \$53 million profit in 1984, said company spokesman Charles Holland.

Davidowitz said Pister pioneered the concept of power departments — stores within stores that specialize in particular kinds of merchandise like clothing or major appliances.

"He took Ward's from a nothing into a power store in certain areas. I think many of the Zayre stores have to be closed, and in Chapter 11 right now the company also has the opportunity to close some Ames stores that are not producing," Loeb said.

"He will take some time, as would any good CEO, to evaluate what he's got. And then I think he will also spend some time assuring the vendors about what his plan is. Of course, it's most crucial for them to rebuild a relationship with their suppliers," Millstein said.

Pister said it would take a good 18 months to put Ames on more solid financial footing.

Letterman says intruder is a stranger

NORWALK (AP) — Comedian David Letterman made a guest appearance in a Norwalk courtroom and gave testimony that helped convict a Colorado woman of trespassing in his New Canaan home.

Letterman, who hosted NBC's "Late Night with David Letterman" talk show, offered only a hint of humor at Monday's proceedings when he emphasized that he never knew Margaret Ray, before she was found driving his Porsche in New Jersey in May 1988.

"That's when I first became aware of her on this planet," Letterman testified during a brief non-jury trial at state Superior Court in Norwalk.

The Porsche incident was the first of six times police said Ray trespassed on Letterman's property. Monday's trial concerned the most recent incident, when Letterman found Ray in a second-floor hallway leading to his bedroom on March 19.

Police later found Ray on a tennis court at the Letterman property and charged her with first-degree trespassing.



MARGARET RAY ... leaves courthouse



DAVID LETTERMAN ... trespassing target

Advocates for retarded end fight over prisoners to training school

HARTFORD (AP) — Advocates for the mentally retarded have given up their fight to delay state plans to move prisoners into empty buildings at Mansfield Training School, instead accepting a settlement that reduces the number of retarded residents at the school.

David Shaw, a Hartford lawyer representing mentally retarded people in a class-action lawsuit aimed at moving them out of the training school, said Monday that the state, facing a shortage of prison space, was not budging on plans to move prisoners into the training school.

Shaw said he and Frank Lasli, an attorney for the Connecticut Association for Retarded Citizens, used the prison-space issue as leverage to update the 1984 court agreement in the Mansfield lawsuit.

Under the settlement reached Monday, the training school will gradually reduce its mentally retarded population from 229 to 95 by July 1, 1992. The state previously had committed to having 120 residents at the training school by July 1, 1989, but that goal had been delayed to July 1, 1990.

Shaw and other advocates believe all mentally retarded people are best served in the community, rather than in institutions. Others say institutions such as Mansfield are more appropriate for some.

Shaw said the settlement is also significant because for the first time, the state has agreed to continue moving residents after interim goals are reached.

Toni Richardson, commissioner of the Department of Mental Retardation, said the settlement is "a reasonable solution" and the logical extension of the previous court agreements to reduce the Mansfield population.

"I think it clarifies where we are and where we have to go," Richardson said. She said she does not know whether the training school will eventually close. She said he had not received the request to meet with the group until Friday and couldn't rearrange his schedule for Monday.

The Rev. Tracy West of the Greater Hartford Campus Ministry led the group of black leaders to the state.

West said the bill was important because "it's urgent that a signal get sent that this is a society, this is a state that will not tolerate that kind of hatred and that kind of crime."

The bill, which has been called a "hate crimes bill," would toughen penalties for crimes motivated by a victim's race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation. It would also establish a hate crimes fund, payable by up to five years in prison and a \$5,000 fine.

"If you're talking about ... encompassing all human beings ... anybody that's hated and a crime is committed, or for that matter any animal because of hate — it's wrong," O'Neill said.

Travelers: 1st-quarter income declines 6%

HARTFORD (AP) — Citing a soft market in the property-casualty insurance business, The Travelers Corp. has reported a 6 percent drop in first-quarter net income.

The insurance giant reported Monday first-quarter net income of \$92 million, or 87 cents per common share, compared to \$98 million, or 96 cents per common share for the same period a year ago.

Total revenues for the quarter ended March 31 were \$3.2 billion. Net investment income was off \$9 million to \$860 million. Premiums were \$2.1 billion, compared to \$2 billion for the same quarter a year ago.

Net income for the property-casualty commercial lines was \$42 million, compared to \$56 million for the first quarter a year ago. Premiums were \$833 million, compared to \$860 million for last year's first quarter.

"We believe the long-term outlook for property-casualty commercial lines is excellent," said Edward H. Budd, chairman and chief executive officer.

Property-casualty personal lines posted a net loss of \$4 million, compared to net income of \$7 million a year ago. Premiums rose to \$409 million, compared to \$398 million a year earlier, as price increases offset

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NATION & WORLD

Fetal surgery seen stopping spinal defect

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Spina bifida, a common and severe birth defect, may one day be prevented by surgery to patch the fetal spine inside the womb, a new study indicates.

The study conducted by Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore suggests spina bifida may result in part from exposure of the spinal cord to the womb's amniotic fluid, according to Dr. Dan S. Hefetz.

Hefetz, assistant professor of neurosurgery at Johns Hopkins, presented the study's findings Monday to the American Association of Neurological Surgeons.



JEERS — Demonstrators sympathetic to the Lithuanian cause flash V-signs, boo and jeer during a May Day protest today in Red Square in Moscow.

Spina bifida is caused by the failure of the spine and skin to form over the spinal cord, and the most serious form occurs in an estimated one of 1,000 births.

The study showed baby rats were paralyzed if the protective spinal cord covering was surgically removed while they were still in the womb. But if skin was sewn over the wound within 24 hours, the rats were "entirely normal," Hefetz said.

Hefetz said spina bifida damage may not occur until the 26th week of pregnancy, when amniotic fluid surrounding the fetus changes in a way that may jeopardize an unprotected spinal cord.

But a hole in the spine can be diagnosed through blood tests and ultrasounds by the 18th week of pregnancy, and fetal surgery has been attempted before 20 weeks in some cases, Hefetz said.

Years of research remain before such a procedure could be attempted on a human fetus, according to Hefetz. He said Johns Hopkins researchers are conducting studies to discover whether the damage is progressive in humans.

Thousands boo Gorbachev in massive May Day protest

MOSCOW (AP) — Thousands of protesters in Red Square booed and jeered President Mikhail S. Gorbachev and other leaders today, turning the May Day workers' march into an unprecedented anti-ruling elite.

For the first time, tens of thousands of unofficial demonstrators were permitted onto the square following the official march.

Some protesters unfurled dozens of yellow, red and green flags of secessionist Lithuania and shouted "Shame!" at the leaders, who were standing atop Lenin's mausoleum.

Gorbachev and other officials on the reviewing stand left after enduring the unofficial demonstrations for about 20 minutes. Some protesters booed and jeered as the leaders left, and shouted, "Resign!"

Festive music blared through loudspeakers around the square, making the shouting only barely audible.

It was not clear whether Gorbachev and the others left because of the huge outpouring of criticism, unprecedented on Red Square even in the country's tense political atmosphere.

During the protest, Gorbachev appeared impassive but was seen tapping his fingers on the parapet of the reviewing stand, as he often does when he is impatient.

For decades, the Red Square rally on May Day has been an orchestrated show of support for official policies.

A subway worker attending the parade as an official

Civil suit penalty may prove to be Milken tax boon

By Stefan Fatisa
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Michael Milken's agreement to fork over \$400 million for defaulted investors may not cost the admitted felon as much as it seems. Uncle Sam could end up footing part of the bill.

The Internal Revenue Service generally permits deductions on compensatory damages such as the fund being set up by the billionaire lawyer. Securities and Exchange Commission deputy chief litigation counsel, said taxes were not a factor in the Milken settlement. "Our job is to get the money," he said.

However, if the government could prove that allowing a deduction would violate some "sharply defined public policy," then a tax break could be prevented, experts said.

How big a deduction is possible? Assuming Milken is in the highest tax bracket, the total could amount to a third of the restitution fund — about \$133 million. No one involved in the case believes that will happen.

But the public appearance that Milken is getting a deal at taxpayers' expense might be less than flattering for government prosecutors who arranged the plea bargain.

New York tax attorney Michael Salzman said a deduction could appear unjust — especially in the case of a reported billionaire — because "it's supposed to be part of the punishment. Why would the government be picking up a part of that?"

No claims have been made against the money by the IRS. Milken doesn't even have to pay the \$400 million until 60 days after his scheduled Oct. 1 sentencing. How much money he has is not clear.

But the code generally allows deductions for the payment of compensatory damages, as well as some fees or expenses incurred in a legal defense, which can be considered part of normal business operations.

Insiders say box office grosses in flated

By John Horn
The Associated Press

HOLLYWOOD — Weekly box office figures supplied by movie studios are sometimes as accurate as an old-fashioned Chicago vote count, say insiders, including some who admit to fudging the numbers to get ahead.

Making movies is more competitive than ever these days, and the charts that rank them as hot or flops represent free and, some think, persuasive advertising.

So why not crunch the numbers extra hard?

"It's gotten really out of hand," said an executive at one major studio who spoke on condition of anonymity. "I used to think that the independents were the only people who (cheated). But that's not true anymore."

Here's how it works: Big studios like Paramount and Disney and independents such as Miramax and New Line base their weekend grosses on surveys of about 75 percent of North American movie houses. The polling, for the most part, is conducted by telephone by Entertainment Data Inc.

But drive-ins, Spanish-language theaters and some small theaters and movie houses in Hawaii are not surveyed — and that's the key.

Let's say "Ghostbusters 2: The Revenge of Casper" collected \$4.5 million at the screens surveyed by EDI. "Honey, I Shrunk the Kids" made \$4.3 million, EDI says.

Estimating ticket sales from the 25 percent of theaters not surveyed by EDI, "Ghostbusters" could report a correct final take of \$5 million. The makers of "Honey," not wanting to land in second place, could rewrite the figures for the 25 percent for their movie to show it received \$5.1 million.

And just like that, "Honey" appears in newspapers the next day: "The Nation's No. 1 Movie!"

"There is a lot of temptation to want to be in the top five," said Art Murphy, who analyzes box office figures for the trade publication Variety.

He believes that tinkering has become commonplace but that any large-scale manipulation would be easily detected.

Said an executive from one top studio: "It's just a little game. ... You want to have a film in the Top 5, but it's better to have it in the Top 5 ... It's an independent promotional vehicle."

Said another studio number-cruncher: "Sometimes the pressure is incredible."

Every Monday, the studios figure up their admission estimates. The numbers are compiled by EDI and

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OPINION

Weather seasons our lives

One of the joys of living in or near New England, of course, is the existence of four distinct seasons, occurring in regular sequence, each with its own character and its separate pleasures, the inspirational sense of rebirth each spring, the languid summer that calls us to rest, the breezy invigorating autumn, the challenging winter that annually reaffirms our capacity to cope.

We tell those people who are unfortunate enough to live in lesser climates about how good the orderly march of the seasons is. We tell them poetically and graphically in our tourism literature.

We keep ourselves oriented by the adjustments each season brings. We change our tires and our curtains, we shift our clothes in our closets, we screen and unscreen our windows, and engage in numerous rituals, all determined by the seasons.

That is the myth we pass on from generation to generation.

But if meteorological events continue to occur as they have lately, we will get unbinged. Anyone who has moved into our region recently would be justified in concluding that we really have five or six seasons, with vague and contradictory conditions, occurring in an irregular and unpredictable sequence.

We had some spring in winter, you remember, but have not had much spring in spring. Last Friday and Saturday we had what seemed like sultry summer days. That made the day that followed seem like dank autumn.

If any season comes, surely some other season can not be far behind and if we don't like either of them, we can just wait a minute.

Americans uninterested in census

The declining participation in elections has been a story for years. In presidential elections, barely half the adult population is voting; in mid-term elections, less than 40 percent are.

Now the indifference about our national life is spilling over into unlikely terrain: the Census Bureau reports that barely half those sent 1986 and have returned them. In Maine, it's not much better: only a 57 percent return, against an expected 70 percent.

The census is important. It determines how we are represented in Congress, how much federal money goes to each state and city, and it provides everyone from researchers to salespeople with important information.

Yet nearly half of American households can't be bothered to participate. Suspicion of government no doubt contributes to this phenomenon, as does sheer laziness, but what, in the end, is government but us?

So it is with the census. If few people return the surveys, that means the taxpayers — ourselves — will have to pay more census takers to go out and find us.

It sounds like a vicious circle, and it is: Until we start taking politicians and government more seriously, things will only get worse, providing more evidence for the cynicism which feeds the cycle in the first place. Any answers out there?

— Kennebec Journal, Augusta Maine

Open Forum

Safety lesson

To the Editor: Yesterday, on an errand around town I became quite aware of youngsters on bikes and skateboards. We all assume the child on the bike will not suddenly veer into the path of a car, but that is a bad assumption.

Of course, parents should instruct youngsters and safety on the road. But both drivers and children shouldn't assume anything, be careful.

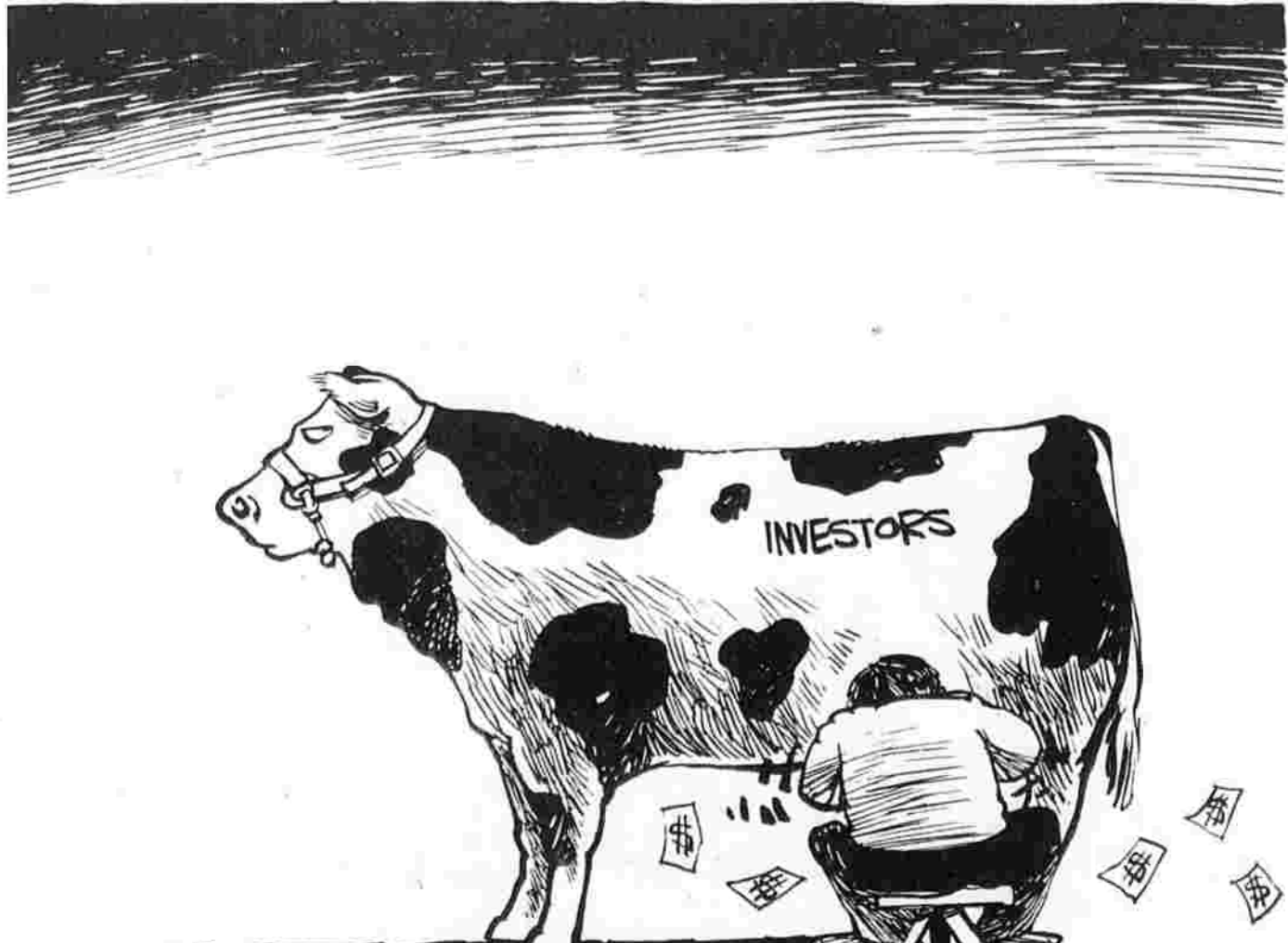
Frances S. Pfenning
21 Ashworth St.
Manchester

Take fiscal control

To the Editor: We were alarmed to learn that Bolton's proposed 22.92 mill rate (a 2.3% increase) would translate into a shocking 47% increase in our property taxes this year.

We sincerely urge all Bolton taxpayers to determine their tax liability now before it is too late. We urge you to take back control of the town by expressing your dissatisfaction at this fiscal insanity.

Bernard and Winifred Cunningham
7 Riggs Lane
Bolton



MICK MILK'EM
MICHAEL MILK'EM

Oil firms sink safer ships

By Robert Walters

WASHINGTON — A desperate lobbying effort by a petroleum industry consortium for the lack of social responsibility is frustrating efforts to enact new federal legislation that would enhance the safety of oil tankers.

In the wake of the spill of 11 million gallons of crude oil from the Exxon Valdez off the coast of Alaska last year, both the House and Senate have approved measures to reduce the risk of a recurrence of that calamity.

The House bill requires that all oil tankers constructed in the future have double hulls. Moreover, oil tankers already in service must be retrofitted with double hulls within seven years and double hulls within 15 years. In both instances, the law would apply to ships serving any domestic ports.

The Senate bill — supported by the American Petroleum Institute and by most major oil companies — contains no such requirements. Instead, it calls for further study of the issue that already has been repeatedly examined. The Department of Transportation would then resolve the matter at some unspecified time.

Because of the industry's intransigence, the conflicting bills have been trapped in a deadlocked House-Senate conference committee since late last year. The Coast Guard, which investigates

Hussein linked to '87 attack

By Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta

WASHINGTON — The CIA has collected evidence that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein may have paid a \$35,000 cash reward and allowed the use of a late model Mercedes Benz to the Iraqi pilot responsible for the "accidental" missile attack in 1987 on the USS Stark.

Thirty-seven U.S. sailors died in the attack on the Stark, and the Iraqis quickly apologized and offered \$27.5 million in compensation. The Stark was protecting shipping lanes in the Persian Gulf during the height of the Iran-Iraq war when it took two anti-ship missiles from an Iraqi warship. One was a dud, the other exploded causing a fire that nearly sank the ship.

Based on CIA documents, Iraqi sources and Arab leaders close to Hussein, we have pieced together these details:

Hussein had been furious with the United States for several years about the American policy of neutrality in the long Iran-Iraq war. The volatile Hussein was further incited by White House admissions in November 1986 that the United States had sold several anti-tank and anti-aircraft weapons to Iraq.

Hussein ordered the deliberate attack on a U.S. ship, which had to appear accidental, according to our sources. To be certain of success two planes were actually sent.

U.S. officials accepted the official explanation of the accident from the Iraqi, but harbored enough suspicions to ask Hussein to allow American investigators to conduct their own probe. Only minimal aid and information was provided in the investigations by Iraq.

Within days of the attack, Hussein sent then-President Ronald Reagan a letter laced with references to "heartfelt condolences" and stating his "sorrow and regret are not enough."

Hussein's track record over the years has been one of duplicity. He has been reported to have ordered the capture of nuclear weapons — has fostered a Middle East nuclear arms race.

We have reported that after trips to Baghdad, Hussein allegedly executed a Cabinet member who irritated him; he stole a second wife from his husband who feared he'd be executed if he resisted; and almost had his oldest son executed in a fit of rage over a shooting incident in which his son killed a favorite bodyguard.

Only chapters in his volatile history are about to be written. He is estimated to have 1.5 million elderly Americans, of 15 percent of all older Americans, are about each year, up from 1 million in 1980. Only about one of every eight cases is reported, down from the one in five cases reported in 1980.

Because the cost of new tanker has doubled since 1986 and is now \$70 million to \$90 million, Chevron, Shell and other oil companies are refurbishing their older vessels to extend their lives to 20 to 25 years.

About half the world's fleet of 400 oil-carrying super tankers was built at least 15 years ago. Thus, the industry not only rejects the protection provided by double hulls, but continues to charter or own vessels posing additional safety hazards.

Robert Walters is a syndicated columnist.

Mormons' updated ritual greeted with enthusiasm

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — In a rare revision of Mormon ritual, the church has dropped wording that required women to pledge to obey their husbands and portrayed the clergy of other religions as agents of Satan.

Women must now vow to obey God rather than their husbands in the "endowment" ceremony, a ritual the church teaches is necessary to enable members to live with God after death. The ceremony is performed only once for each person, but a member may go through it countless times as a proxy for those who have died.

The revised ritual, which took effect last month in ceremonies performed in the 43 temples of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, is being greeted with enthusiasm by church members who say it reflects greater sensitivity toward women and other religions.

"The temple is an important part of my spiritual life and the changes have allowed me to go to the temple with renewed joy," said Lavina Fielding Anderson, editor-elect of the Journal of Mormon History.

Mormons attending temple were read a statement from the governing First Presidency informing them of the changes. The statement said the revisions were unanimously approved by the three-member body and the advisory Council of the Twelve Apostles.

Bruce L. Olsen, managing director of the church's communications office, said church leaders would not comment on the revisions because temple ceremonies are considered too sacred for public discussion.

But some church members praised the changes. "I think we're gradually moving away from the subjugation of women," said Ross Peterson, co-editor of Dialogue, an independent Mormon journal.

"I think (church leaders) are developing a recognition that there are many highly intelligent, independent, capable and educated women in our ranks today who have a great deal to offer."

Among other changes, a theatrical portion of the ceremony that included a non-Mormon "preacher" paid by Satan to spread false doctrine has been excised.

"The general consensus is that it's a breath of fresh air," Peterson said. "You don't put down other churches or imply that they are Satan's children."

Rebecca England, a member of the planning committee of the independent Mormon Women's Forum, said the changes may boost temple attendance.

"I know quite a number of Mormons who stopped going to the temple because they found it demeaning," she said. "And I think this revised ceremony addresses many of the concerns that they and as a feminist Mormon, have had."

Mormon women cannot become their family until recent times has remained largely a hidden problem."

Rep. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., a member of the subcommittee, said it was a "moral blot on our country" that the government has failed to address his use of poison and other weapons.

"At a time when the federal government needs to act more aggressively, the federal response has been essentially to backpedal and to do less," he said.

"An elderly Delaware woman weighing about 60 pounds was hospitalized with dehydration, bloody drainage from her knees, maggot infestation and a black eye. She said she lived with her daughter but refused to blame anyone, saying, 'I don't want to get anyone in trouble.' She died two weeks later."

In Texas, a 69-year-old woman was found tied to her wheelchair with an electrical cord, suffering from malnutrition, insect bites and sores. After being released from the hospital, she died from extreme neglect while her daughter and friends drank in the next room.

It said physical violence and financial abuse were the most common types of abuse, followed by the denial of basic human rights and psychological abuse.

Victims are likely to be 75 or older and are more likely to be women than men. The abusers most often are adult children, typically a son, and frequently were themselves abused by their parents when they were young, the report said.

Among the examples cited in the report:

"An elderly Delaware woman weighing about 60 pounds was hospitalized with dehydration, bloody drainage from her knees, maggot infestation and a black eye. She said she lived with her daughter but refused to blame anyone, saying, 'I don't want to get anyone in trouble.' She died two weeks later."

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Among the examples cited in the report:



NOT BASHFUL — Emily White, 4, romps with her pet dog Bashful at a city park in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., recently.

Dial S for stupid

ANNAPOLIS (AP) — After finding out that her husband's car phone was stolen, Paula Thistle did what she thought a concerned wife should do — she called the thief and made a date.

Mick Thistle had his car phone stolen Saturday night when he and his wife, Paula, allowed a Naval Academy midshipman who they sponsor to take their car to Hood College in Frederick.

Paula Thistle called the number and a man picked up after a few rings and she became Paula Green, a lonely lady from Annapolis looking for some fun.

She managed to entice the would-be savior into a rendezvous inside the Naval Academy Sunday.

"I can only guess that this guy thought he was getting very lucky," Mick Thistle said Monday. "For whatever reason, he started giving her the make and she let him."

The Thistles called the Naval Investigative Service. After the car arrived for the meeting, a campus officer questioned the driver and passenger and apprehended both, said Cmdr. Stephen E. Becker, a spokesman at the academy.

The two men turned out to be enlisted Navy personnel stationed in the Annapolis area, Becker said.

"You don't know how proud my wife is of this," Thistle said.

Thistle said she had a date with the thief and she was very satisfied with the result.

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Survey of social workers finds elderly abuse growing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Abuse of America's elderly is increasing nationally, but the problem usually goes unreported because old people are ashamed or afraid to admit their families mistreat them, a congressional panel reports.

A survey of states and social workers found thousands of accounts of abuse, ranging from neglect to physical violence, and in some cases, murder.

The report said an estimated 1.5 million elderly Americans, of 15 percent of all older Americans, are abused each year, up from 1 million in 1980. Only about one of every eight cases is reported, down from the one in five cases reported in 1980.

Because the cost of new tanker has doubled since 1986 and is now \$70 million to \$90 million, Chevron, Shell and other oil companies are refurbishing their older vessels to extend their lives to 20 to 25 years.

About half the world's fleet of 400 oil-carrying super tankers was built at least 15 years ago. Thus, the industry not only rejects the protection provided by double hulls, but continues to charter or own vessels posing additional safety hazards.

Robert Walters is a syndicated columnist.

Wilder is natural No. 2 pick

By William Rusher

It's far too early to be speculating, save on a parlor-game basis, about who will win the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992. But paradoxically, I think it's a relative cinch to guess who the vice presidential nominee will be.

It will be Gov. Douglas Wilder of Virginia.

It is the logic of the Wilder choice that makes it seem almost inevitable. Ever since the days of Franklin Roosevelt, America's black voters have been intensely loyal to the Democratic Party. Time and again in presidential contests, upward of 90 percent of the black vote has gone to the Democratic contender. And in battles farther down on the ballot, the Democratic candidate's share has often been almost as high.

Republicans (and some blacks) have complained that this indiscriminate loyalty has merely allowed the Democratic Party to take the black vote for granted. But if this means that the Democrats have failed to deliver what most black voters have seemed to want, it simply isn't true.

On the contrary, Democratic Congresses and presidential administrations have devised and enacted one welfare measure after another whose impact has been felt largely in the black community. Critics have sometimes charged that the impact has been negative — as in the case of the well-intentioned but disastrous program of Aid to Families with Dependent Children, which all but destroyed the two-parent black family. But of the Democrats' will help America's blacks, there can be little doubt.

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And yet it seems clear that Jackson intends to seek the presidential nomination again in 1992. His claim will be stronger than ever, if only by virtue of his astuteness, yet putting the ticket would be little short of suicidal. That's where Doug Wilder comes in.

Wilder, a silver-haired black politician with a soft-spoken, non-dreary manner, was narrowly elected governor of Virginia last November — the first black to win a governorship in this country since Reconstruction. Significantly, he has since begun to make a name for himself as a distinct moderate, in both style and substance.

Democratic politicians go, in his style and policies, he is almost the exact opposite of Jackson. He is already traveling around the country calling on the party to avoid leftist and slick to "mainstream" positions.

Such advice is going to be music to the ears of many of the delegates to the 1992 Democratic convention, who will be desperately eager to do something for their black supporters yet just as afraid of Jesse Jackson as ever. Wilder would ornament almost any imaginable ticket.

Wilder for vice president? Not possible. I'd call it highly probable.

William Rusher is a syndicated columnist.

Letters policy

The Herald welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be no more than two double-spaced typewritten pages. The Herald reserves the right to edit letters for any reason, including length, taste and style. The Herald tries to publish all letters, but the decision of the editor is final. Writers may be limited to one letter per month.

Manchester Herald

Founded Dec. 15, 1881 as a weekly. Daily publication since Oct. 1, 1914.

Publisher: Percy M. Saffert
Managing Editor: Bob Haddock
Associate Editor: Alexander Grell

Jack Anderson and Dale Van Atta are syndicated columnists.

Survey of social workers finds elderly abuse growing

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A survey of states and social workers found thousands of accounts of abuse, ranging from neglect to physical violence, and in some cases, murder.

The report said an estimated 1.5 million elderly Americans, of 15 percent of all older Americans, are abused each year, up from 1 million in 1980. Only about one of every eight cases is reported, down from the one in five cases reported in 1980.

Because the cost of new tanker has doubled since 1986 and is now \$70 million to \$90 million, Chevron, Shell and other oil companies are refurbishing their older vessels to extend their lives to 20 to 25 years.

About half the world's fleet of 400 oil-carrying super tankers was built at least 15 years ago. Thus, the industry not only rejects the protection provided by double hulls, but continues to charter or own vessels posing additional safety hazards.

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Wilder is natural No. 2 pick

By William Rusher

It's far too early to be speculating, save on a parlor-game basis, about who will win the Democratic presidential nomination in 1992. But paradoxically, I think it's a relative cinch to guess who the vice presidential nominee will be.

It will be Gov. Douglas Wilder of Virginia.

It is the logic of the Wilder choice that makes it seem almost inevitable. Ever since the days of Franklin Roosevelt, America's black voters have been intensely loyal to the Democratic Party. Time and again in presidential contests, upward of 90 percent of the black vote has gone to the Democratic contender. And in battles farther down on the ballot, the Democratic candidate's share has often been almost as high.

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Late snow threatens in West

By The Associated Press

Snow threatened Western high country today and rain was scattered from the Deep South to New England.

Rain and snow showers fell over North Dakota and Minnesota. Rain was scattered from southern California to northwestern New Mexico and across eastern Colorado.

A wet spring snow storm that dumped up to 21 inches of snow on southern Colorado and killed one person let up slightly Monday, but more snow was on the way, forecasters said.

Pearl Sulliff, 38, was found dead about 7:30 a.m. Monday, about 12 hours after she disappeared while trying to round up livestock with her husband, according to the Park County Sheriff's Department.

Aurhornton said she was buried in snow and apparently died of hypothermia.

A winter storm watch was issued for today for the southwestern mountains and four corners region of Colorado.

A winter storm watch also was posted for tonight and Wednesday for the north central mountains and northeastern highlands of New Mexico, and a snow advisory was issued for today for the northern and central mountains of Arizona.

A gale warning was issued along the northern California coast. Thunderstorms rumbled along a warm front curving through Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee and the Carolinas.

Rain was scattered from the middle Atlantic Coast to New England. Showers and thunderstorms ranged across northwestern Arkansas and southwestern Missouri.

Dry weather prevailed across the rest of the nation.

The high for the nation Monday was 102 degrees at Presidio, Texas. Record low temperatures were set Monday at International Falls, Minn., 19 degrees, breaking a record set in 1956; and at Kansas City, Mo., 34 degrees, breaking a record set in 1984.

Other reports at 3 a.m. EDT: —East: Albany, N.Y., 53 fair; Atlanta 68 fair; Boston 45 drizzle; Charleston, S.C., 70 part cloudy; Chattanooga 62 foggy; Cincinnati 60 showers; Cleveland 58 cloudy; Detroit 50 fair; Hattiesburg 61 cloudy; Jacksonville 69 fair; Key West 77 fair; Knoxville 68 foggy; Macon 67 fair; Miami 71 fair; New York 54 tuburg 57 partly cloudy; Portland 47 drizzle; Richmond 57 fair; Tampa 72 fair; Washington, D.C., 58 foggy.

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FEELING OF FREEDOM — American hostage Frank Reed wipes his face during a meeting with newsmen in Damascus Monday.

Hostage

A leading Iranian newspaper, the Tehran Times, said today that Iran's leaders expect a reciprocal gesture of good will from Washington if another hostage is to be freed. That sentiment was echoed in Damascus by Syria's foreign minister, Farouk al-Sharrah.

He said he had adequate food and fresh fruit and that "we were given fresh clothes fairly regularly, washed and so on." However, he said: "I refused the books and TV. I didn't want to be entertained when I lost my freedom."

From Page 1

Hubble

and trying to prevent damage, the telescope's computer shut down the whole system.

One engineer noticed that the inch-thick electrical cable on the back of the antenna was slightly out of position. With that in mind, they looked at telemetry data for signs that the cable could interfere with the counterweights when the dish was turned to certain positions.

The model that Skillman and Decker built showed that to be the case and that, in turn, would cause the motors to work too hard and be automatically halted.

Troubleshooters had eyed the cable as a possible problem after studying photographs of the telescope while it still was on the ground and nestled in the cargo bay of space shuttle Discovery.

Magnet

one school was not identified, Kennedy said.

Bogli said she saw no patterns in the figures. "That's a good representation of the town that pleases me," she said.

The purpose of the special focus program is to integrate students of different socioeconomic backgrounds into a school that now draws from one of the least affluent neighborhoods in town.

The program is designed to help the students already at Nathan Hale, and the students who apply from any school will be more motivated than the average because they elected to come to the program, she said.

Because the program has more than 100 applications, a lottery system will be used to choose applicants. Those who are not accepted will be placed on a waiting list.

The special focus program, at a cost of \$26,000, is designed to attract students to Nathan Hale School by offering classes in computers and Spanish.

Diane Novak, principal of Highland Park School, said parents from her school who applied to the program probably have a particular interest in the subjects that will not be offered elsewhere.

Also, because the Highland Park neighborhood borders the Nathan Hale School district, parents from her school may feel comfortable sending their children there, Novak said.

Even some of those who were skeptical of the program several months ago have come around to support it. "I think it would certainly be a worthwhile, noble experiment," said Deputy Mayor Susan Buckno, a Republican.

Buckno said she had asked a lot of questions about the program in the past because she needed information about it to make a decision.

Republican legislator Ronald DiStefano has also said he supports the program after initially opposing it.

Linda Kostek, president of the Keeney Street School PTA, who has criticized the special focus program in the past, said that she still believes other items in the school budget, such as roof repairs and nonprofessional positions, should be given priority over the special focus.

EMERGENCY FIRE - POLICE - MEDICAL DIAL 911 In Manchester



FIREFIGHTERS BATTLE BLAZE — Firefighters from six towns including Manchester, Bolton, Vernon, Tolland, South Windsor, and Ellington battled a blaze this morning at the El Camino Shopping Plaza on Route 30. Vernon Fire Chief Robert Kelley said no one was injured, but reported damage at Rein's Deli, where the fire apparently started around 6 a.m. At 11:30, fire officials were still on the scene, and had not reported the cause.

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING. Nearly 20 million Americans are unaware they have high blood pressure since the disease has no symptoms. Millions more do not use the medication and diet that are necessary to control this disease. These people risk heart attacks, strokes and kidney disorders. Protect yourself...start with a simple check.

Abortion

Senate on Friday, 32-3, and the House the week before, 136-12. The measure has been described as "the most aggressive, pro-choice piece of legislation since the U.S. Supreme Court's decision last summer in a Missouri case."

Webster vs. Reproductive Health Services, that gave states greater power to restrict abortions. Connecticut's anti-abortion laws were rendered unenforceable by Roe vs. Wade. They carried penalties of up to five years in prison and a \$1,000 fine for anyone performing an abortion, and two years in prison and a \$500 fine for women getting abortions, except to protect the life of the mother.

From Page 1

At a news conference Monday, the group announced the formation of a team of pro-life lawyers who will work to ensure that portions of the law are enforced, particularly the section that requires the minor girls be consulted on their opinions other than abortion.

"This whole thing for us has been a major breakthrough, because before, we had nothing," said Regina Smith, executive director of the council.

More strident anti-abortion critics have little influence at the state Capitol, but have been critical of the bill.

"Pro-life not only didn't get anything, we are in a far worse position than we were before," said Rep. Anthony Nania, R-Canaan, a conservative who voted against the bill and has called for Smith's ouster.

"To say that there are new restrictions on abortion flies in the face of the law," Nania acknowledged that lawmakers felt heavy pressure from their constituents to support the bill.

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SPORTS

Everything just ducky as Bosox blank Seattle

By Dave O'Hara The Associated Press

BOSTON — Two mallards had a ducky ball at Fenway Park Monday night.

So did Mike Boddicker, Wade Boggs and Tony Pena as they led the Boston Red Sox to a 11-0 victory over the Seattle Mariners.

"It was enjoyable seeing a couple of mallards land like that in the outfield," Boddicker said. "They only stayed around for a couple of innings but as a one-time hunter and bird watcher it was nice seeing them."

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SPORTS

Henderson leaves Yanks little reminder

AL Roundup

NEW YORK — Just in case anyone around Yankee Stadium forgot just how good Rickey Henderson really was, he was only too glad to remind them.

Henderson hit two home runs Monday night, punctuating the Oakland Athletics' already impressive 6-0 victory over New York.

The Athletics again demonstrated the power and pitching that made them World Series champions. Jose Canseco and Mark McGwire also homered, plenty of support for Bob Welch's six-hitter for Oakland's second straight shutout.

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SPORTS

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Allen has seen them all as he marks seventh decade

NEW YORK (AP) — From Babe Ruth to Lou Gehrig to Joe DiMaggio, Mel Allen was there. He was there again Monday night, behind the microphone at Yankee Stadium, marking his seventh decade as a baseball broadcaster. Allen, 77, worked 1 1/2 innings of the New York Yankees-Oakland Athletics game on superstation WTIX. He received a letter of tribute from President Bush and a long ovation from the fans, many of whom weren't born when Allen was replaced as a regular announcer on Yankees games in 1964. "It was a thrill to do. I'm glad they asked me," Allen said. "The only voice of the Yankees," Phil Rizzuto said in introducing Allen, his former broadcast partner, "and the greatest voice still."

Allen, who began his major-league broadcasting career with the Yankees in 1939, joined Rizzuto and George Grande for the third inning and the top of the fourth. He reminisced about Ruth, Gehrig, DiMaggio, Mickey Mantle and Roger Maris. He told stories, did some play-by-play and got to call a long home run by Jose Canseco into the top of the third inning. "By August, he was gone," Allen said, sadly. He spoke of Gehrig in the most reverent tones.

Allen said of Canseco's drive deep into the left-field bullpen. Allen, voice of "This Week in Baseball," a highlights show produced by Major League Baseball, recalled how Ruth "hit one on opening day of the stadium in 1923 and won the ballgame. I wasn't around then, of course." He told viewers about the 1947 Babe Ruth Days, one in 1947 to honor the slugger, another in 1948 to honor Ruth's No. 3 uniform. "By August, he was gone," Allen said, sadly. He spoke of Gehrig in the most reverent tones.

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

American League standings	
East Division	
Team	W-L
Milwaukee	6-7
Boston	11-8
Chicago	12-7
Cleveland	9-9
Baltimore	9-9
New York	7-12
Texas	10-12
Seattle	8-14
Minnesota	7-12
Kansas City	12-3

National League results	
Reds 6, Phillies 2	
Blue Jays 10, Indians 4	
Astros 4, Expos 2	
Houston 3, Mariners 1	
Brewers 6, Tigers 1	

American League results	
Athletics 6, Yankees 0	
Orioles 2, Angels 1	
White Sox 5, Rangers 4	
Brewers 6, Tigers 1	

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Little League

NATIONAL LEAGUE — Anasadi's downed Canseco, 13-5, Saturday in opening day action at LeBar Field. David Botaro was the winning pitcher for Anasadi's, allowing two hits while striking out 11. He helped his own cause with a triple and two RBIs while Rich Prentice added two hits. For Catchers, Michael Garafalo and Wes Scofield played well.

Softball

Tonight's Games
Gold's vs. Glenn II, 6 — Fitzgerald
Glenn vs. Brand Rex, 7:30 — Fitzgerald
PM Const. vs. Rem's, 6 — Robertson
Taylor vs. HPMarket, 7:30 — Robertson
Joline's vs. MPizza, 6 — Nike
Social IV vs. Brown's, 7:30 — Nike
Allstate vs. Astors II, 7:30 — Pagan
Memorial vs. Rogers, 6 — Kneezey
HR/Cafe vs. Pub, 6 — Charter Oak

In Brief . . .

Rain washes out scholastic slate
Rain washed out most of Monday afternoon's scholastic slate. The following are the new dates: baseball—East Hartford at Manchester, Thursday at 3:30 p.m.; at Kelley Field; girls' softball—Manchester at East Hartford, today at 3:30 p.m.; girls' track—East Catholic, Haddam at 3:30 p.m.; Joseph in Trumbull, today at 3 p.m.; boys' tennis—Manchester at Hall, today at 3:30 p.m.; girls' tennis—Manchester at Ber-
lin, today at 3:30 p.m.

Scholastic

Manchester Jr. High track
The Manchester Junior High track team met Tuesday afternoon at 6 p.m. at the high school athletic office. The proceeds will be used for a barbecue after a round-robin tournament on Sept. 1, that Manchester High will be hosting. The round-robin includes nationally ranked Newton North (No. 1), Washingtonville, N.Y. (No. 6) and Wilton (No. 10).
For further information, contact Joe Eranzi at the MHS athletic office at 647-3553.

Baseball standings

Team	W	L
East Hartford	1	1
Manchester	1	1
East Catholic	1	1
West Windsor	1	1
East Hartford	1	1
Manchester	1	1
East Catholic	1	1
West Windsor	1	1
East Hartford	1	1
Manchester	1	1
East Catholic	1	1
West Windsor	1	1

Baseball

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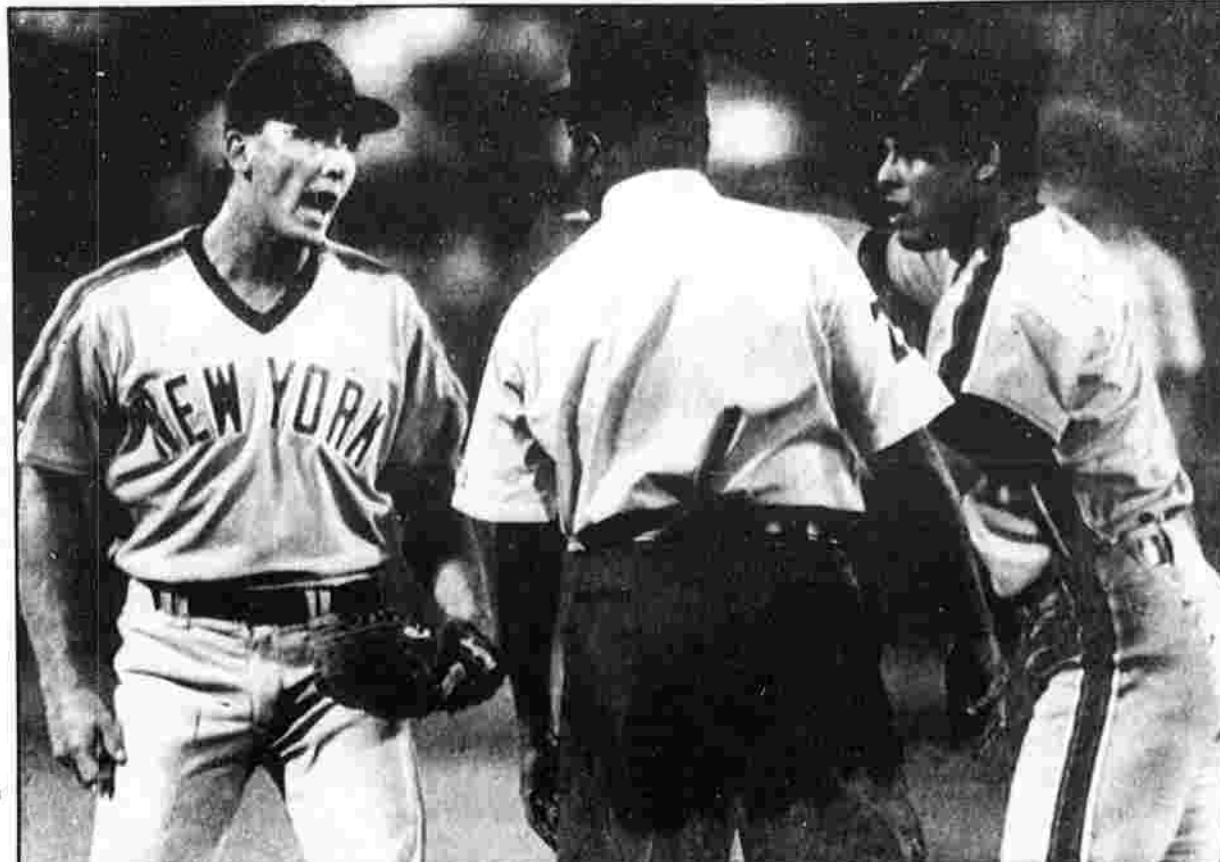
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DAVID CONE — New York's Greg Jeffries, right, tries to get David Cone's attention as the latter argues with umpire Charlie Williams over a call in the fourth inning of Monday's game with Atlanta. While Cone argued, two Braves came home. Atlanta won, 7-4.

Cone's sense of timing all wrong in Mets loss

By The Associated Press
David Cone picked the wrong time to have a discussion with umpire Charlie Williams over a call in the fourth inning of Monday's game with Atlanta. While the pitcher had his back to the mound arguing with Williams over a safe call at first base, Atlanta scored two runs for a 4-1 lead. The runs proved costly as the Braves went on for a 7-4 victory Monday night, sending the New York Mets to their third straight loss. "I'm humiliated," Cone said. "I'm emotional. I snapped. It cost us the game. I accept the responsibility."

NL Roundup
He recognized that "the way it was and got back after them, not blowing his stack." It was the second victory in a row for the Braves, who beat the visiting Mets for the first time since July 16, snapping a six-game losing streak against New York. Atlanta is now 4-13 for the season. "If they're going to give us two runs like that, we ought to win the game," Atlanta manager Russ Nixon said. Oddie McDowell and Jeff Treadwell each hit two-run homers off Cone, who allowed five hits and six runs in five innings. John Smoltz (1-2) pitched seven innings, allowing six hits and four runs, and Joe Beyer got the last three outs for his first save.

NFL suspends Saints' Warren
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Defensive end Frank Warren, coming off the best of his nine seasons with the New Orleans Saints, has been suspended from the NFL for at least a three-day trial in what was accused of forcing the police woman \$40 for a sex act. Warren's suspension is the first since the league's three-trial suspension policy in 1986. The policy says a first violation will result in a three-day suspension, a second means suspension for four weeks and a third-time violation is suspended for life with the option to reapply in a year.

Giants' Meggett acquitted

BALTIMORE (AP) — New York Giants running back David Meggett was acquitted of charges of soliciting sex on a three-day trial in which he was accused of forcing the police woman \$40 for a sex act. Meggett, who was arrested Feb. 7, was accused of forcing the police woman \$40 for a sex act.

Soviet sextet has control

BERN, Switzerland (AP) — The Soviet Union scored four goals in the first period and beat Canada 7-1 to reach the gold medal game against Czechoslovakia in the World Championships. Czechoslovakia led Sweden 5-5 after trailing 3-0 and 4-1.

Roenick provides the spark as Blackhawks oust Blues

By Joe Moosili
The Associated Press
Chicago Blackhawks provided the spark as the Chicago Blackhawks beat the St. Louis Blues to hand the Blues their first loss in the regular season. The Blackhawks, who had lost their first six games, came out strong and won 3-1. Coach Mike Keenan said after a runaway 3-0 victory over the Blues Monday night that vaulted the Blackhawks into the semifinals of the Stanley Cup playoffs.

Pierce wins sixth man award

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee's Ricky Pierce, a 6-foot-4 swingman who led the Bucks in scoring with a 23-point average, won his second NBA Sixth Man Award. Pierce was named the best reserve player in the league.

Krickstein among net winners

MUNICH, West Germany (AP) — Second-seeded Aaron Krickstein and fourth-seeded Jim Courier advanced to the second round of the German Open tennis tournament. Krickstein defeated Horacio De La Pena 2-6, 7-6, 6-3 and Courier ousted Paolo Canale 7-4, 6-2.

Barclay's condition is upgraded

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Race car driver Steve Barclay was moved from critical care to a regular room and his condition was upgraded to good, a spokesman at Methodist Hospital said. Barclay suffered a concussion and broken arm, which collarbone and ribs in a crash Friday during the Rookie Orientation Program at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Doctors said Barclay was continuing to improve, although he still has a concussion and a broken arm, which collarbone and ribs in a crash Friday during the Rookie Orientation Program at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

High School Roundup

Mercy walks past Eagles

MIDDLETOWN — Walks proved to be the downfall for the East Catholic girls' softball team in its All-Connecticut Conference contest with Mercy High Monday afternoon. East pitchers issued 16 free passes and wound up on the short end of a 2-1 decision. Mercy pitchers walked only two batters. "That was the difference in the game," East coach Jay McConville said. Mercy scored six times in the second inning, keyed by a two-run double by winning pitcher Leslie LaBella. Sophomore Nicole Aubin and senior Kendra Darby led East with two hits each. Aubin doubled and scored twice.

Xavier golfers top East Catholic

PORTLAND — Host Xavier High trimmed East Catholic, 5-2, Monday in All-Connecticut Conference golf action at the Portland Golf Course. Xavier is 3-3 in the ACC, 9-1 overall while East is 0-4 in conference play, 2-4 overall. Xavier's Eric Shelz and East's Todd Emrick shared medalist honors at 41. Other East scores were Pat Purcell 42, Mike Kiefer 48, Art Fischer 40, Brian Gordon 56 and Mark Midford 60.

Morgan, Pats are at odds

FOXBORO, Mass. (AP) — Veteran wide receiver Stanley Morgan, a starter since he joined the New England Patriots in 1977, said the NFL club wants to slash his salary. Morgan, 36, said he is not sure he will be with the team next season. "I just can't play," Morgan said Monday in an interview. "I've been playing for 11 years, but in everything I have given that organization, it was a blow in the face. To ask someone to take that kind of pay cut just isn't fair." Morgan made \$600,000 last season. He said the team wants to cut his salary "almost in half."

Home clubs face elimination

The home-court advantage is a big deal in the NBA — except of course, for the teams down 2-0 in the playoffs. Then it is more of a disadvantage. The Bulls are 2-0 in the case tonight for six teams, who face elimination if they can't win the next two games at home. Historically, it has been an almost impossible task to come back from that kind of a deficit. Only twice in NBA playoff history have teams come back from a 2-0 win-behind series — and Golden State in 1987 is the only team in 34 years to do it. The other was the Fort Wayne Pistons in 1956.

Chicago at Milwaukee

The Bulls have had a bad week. They lost to the Chicago Blackhawks at Houston, Philadelphia at Cleveland, Chicago at Milwaukee, Detroit at Indiana, Portland at Dallas and San Antonio at Denver. On Wednesday, Boston takes a 2-0 into New York games at the Knicks and the Utah Jazz and Phoenix Suns, who split two games at Salt Lake City, meet at Phoenix. Here's how tonight's games shape up: Los Angeles at Houston: After losing the first two games at Los Angeles, Houston coach Don Chaney guaranteed "that his Rockets would sweep the Lakers to the Summit."

Chicago at Milwaukee

"That was the worst that I could," Chaney said. "Of course, nothing is guaranteed, but our guys know we won't lose in our building. Then we can go back to Los Angeles and that one is a tossup."

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