

# Manchester Herald

Monday, July 30, 1990  
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## Manchester Herald SPORTS

### Imagineers derail Newman win streak

— see page 47

## Bosox win; Yanks sweep pair

DETROIT (AP) — Boston's Tom Bolton held Detroit to four hits in 7 2/3 innings for his first career road victory after seven losses and the Red Sox scored an unearned run off Jack Morris to beat the Tigers 1-0 Friday night.

### AL Roundup

when Mike Greenwell opened the Boston fourth with a single, stole second and continued to third on catcher Mike Heath's throwing error. After Ellis Burks struck out, Carlos Quintana hit a sacrifice fly. The unearned run was the 19th off Morris, most in the American League.

The Tigers put runners on first and second with one out but Bolton struck out Gary Ward on a 3-2 pitch and Cecil Fielder was out trying to steal second. Fielder opened the second with a walk and the seventh with a single but was erased both times when Ward hit into double plays.

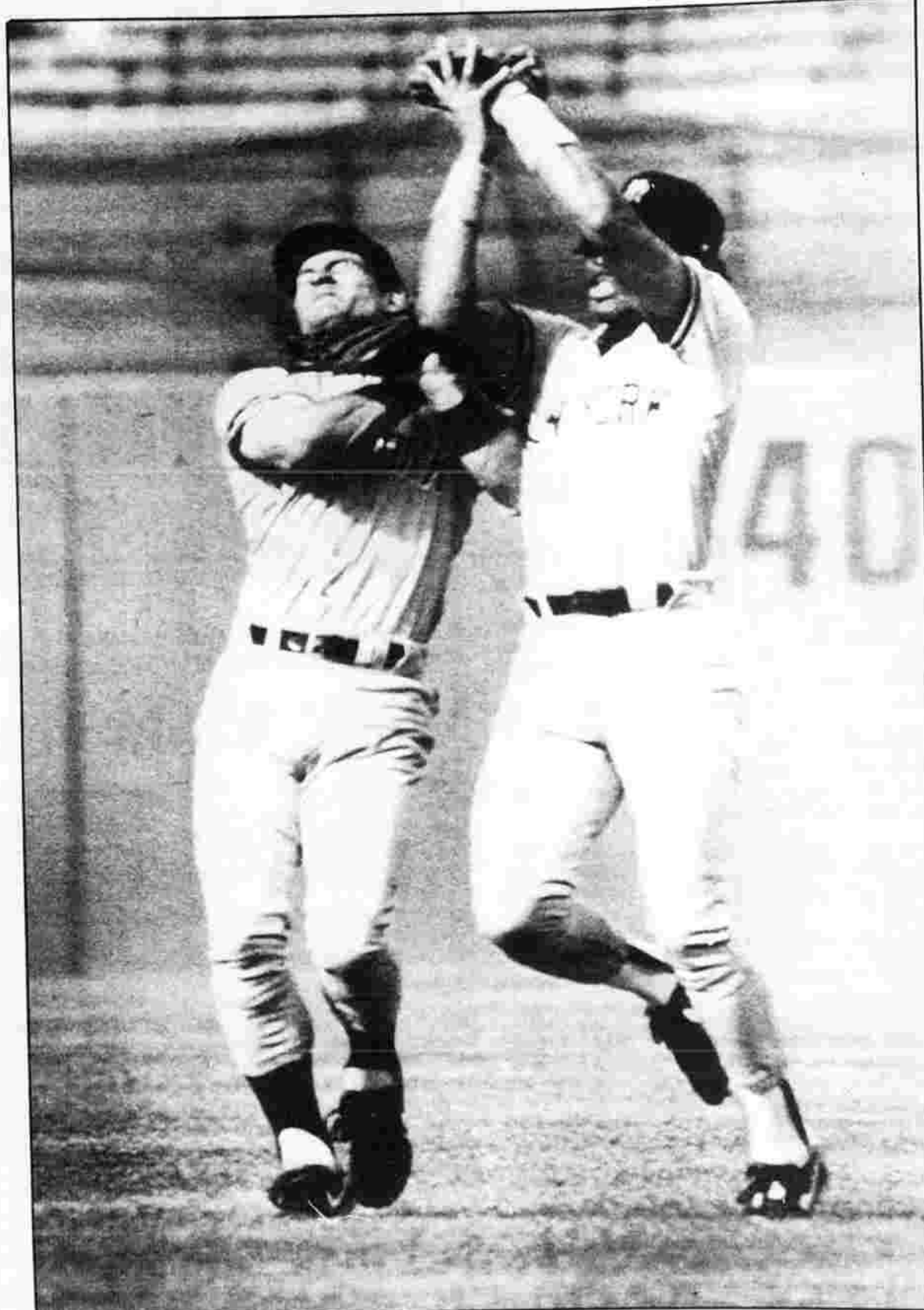
Bolton (4-1) walked six and struck out three. He was relieved by Dana Kiecker after walking Tony Phillips and yielding an infield hit to Travis Fryman with two out.

Dana Kiecker relieved and hit Alan Trammell with a pitch, loading the bases. But shortstop Tim Lincecum made a leaping grab of Fielder's line drive. Rob Murphy pitched the ninth for his fifth save.

The victory kept the Red Sox one game behind Toronto in the American League East. The Blue Jays beat Texas 1-0.

**Yankees 3-4, Indians 0-1:** At Cleveland, Andy Hawkins, winless in 12 starts, including a lost no-hitter, held Cleveland to three singles for his first victory since May 6 as the New York Yankees beat the Indians 3-0 and went on to sweep Friday's two-night doubleheader.

The Yankees won the second game 4-1 as Jeff Robinson pitched his third strong game since leaving the



WHO GOT IT? — New York second baseman Steve Sax, left, and outfielder Jesse Barfield battle for the ball hit by Cleveland's Jeff Mantos in the third inning of the first game of their doubleheader Friday in Cleveland. Barfield caught the ball for the out. The Yankees won the opener, 3-0.

## Marshall sent to the Bosox

NEW YORK (AP) — The Mets will trade disgraced first baseman Mike Marshall to the Boston Red Sox for three minor leaguers effective Saturday, New York announced Friday night.

Marshall will be removed from the 15-day disabled list Saturday and sent to the Red Sox for pitcher Greg Hansell, outfielder Ender Perrozo and a minor league player to be named later.

Before going on the disabled list with a stomach problem, Marshall had a heated disagreement with Mets manager Bud Harrelson over a lack of playing time.

Marshall, 30, is batting .239 with six homers and 27 RBIs in 53 games.

## What's News Monday

### Local news inside

- Truancy fines on increase. Page 7.
- Sidewalk repair program starts. Page 7.
- Students get painting franchise. Page 7.

### Explosion kills Tory lawmaker

HANKHAM, England (AP) — A Conservative Party lawmaker and outspoken critic of the Irish Republican Army was killed today by a bomb planted outside his home, police said.

Ian Gow died shortly after emergency services reached his home, said Inspector Mike Alderson of Sussex police.

### S. Korea urges talks

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea today urged Communist North Korea for talks on a proposed opening of the heavily armed border between the two nations in August.

Prime Minister Kang Young-hoon said in a message to his North Korean colleague that a meeting must be held before Aug. 7 in order to allow the five-day frontier opening, which would start Aug. 13.

### Personal income up 0.4 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Consumer spending jumped 1.0 percent in June, the largest gain in five months, while personal incomes rose 0.4 percent, the government said today.

The Commerce Department said consumer spending totaled a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$3.64 trillion after being unchanged in May. It was the biggest advance since a similar 1.0 percent increase in January.

### Ms. Magazine back on stands

NEW YORK (AP) — Eight months after suspending publication, Ms. magazine is headed back to the newsstand without advertising.

The magazine also has a slightly new name, Ms. The World of Women, which its backers say better reflects its worldwide scope.

### Shattered town collects itself

MONROE, N.C. (AP) — Losses were estimated at up to \$1 million after a weekend explosion and fire left little but cooling rubble where part of downtown Monroe had stood.

The explosion late Saturday night in this town of 13,000 demolished at least eight businesses, shattered storefront windows nearly the length of Main Street and sent six people to the hospital with cuts from flying glass, officials said.

### Rubbing alcohol was a mistake

BOSTON (AP) — Kitty Dukakis says in her upcoming autobiography that the night she drank rubbing alcohol, she didn't realize it was poisonous and wasn't attempting suicide, a newspaper reported.

Mrs. Dukakis, the wife of former Democratic presidential nominee and Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis, chronicles her bouts with alcohol and diet pill addiction in "Now You Know," to be released in August.

## Inside Today...

20 pages, 4 sections

Another Angle	11
Classified	14-16
Comics	10
Focus	5
Local/State	7-9
Lottery	9
Nation/World	2-3
Obituaries	4
Opinion	9
Sports	17-20
Television	17-20

## Trinidad gunfire reported

By DAN SEWELL  
The Associated Press

PORT-OF-SPAIN, Trinidad — Gunfire broke out today near a government television station and Parliament where Muslim extremists held the prime minister and 30 other people hostage for a fourth day.

The heaviest shooting was centered on the television station, whose employees were taken hostage Friday. Automatic rifle and machine-gun fire was punctuated by what sounded like artillery booms.

"A major firefight is going on," said a diplomatic source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

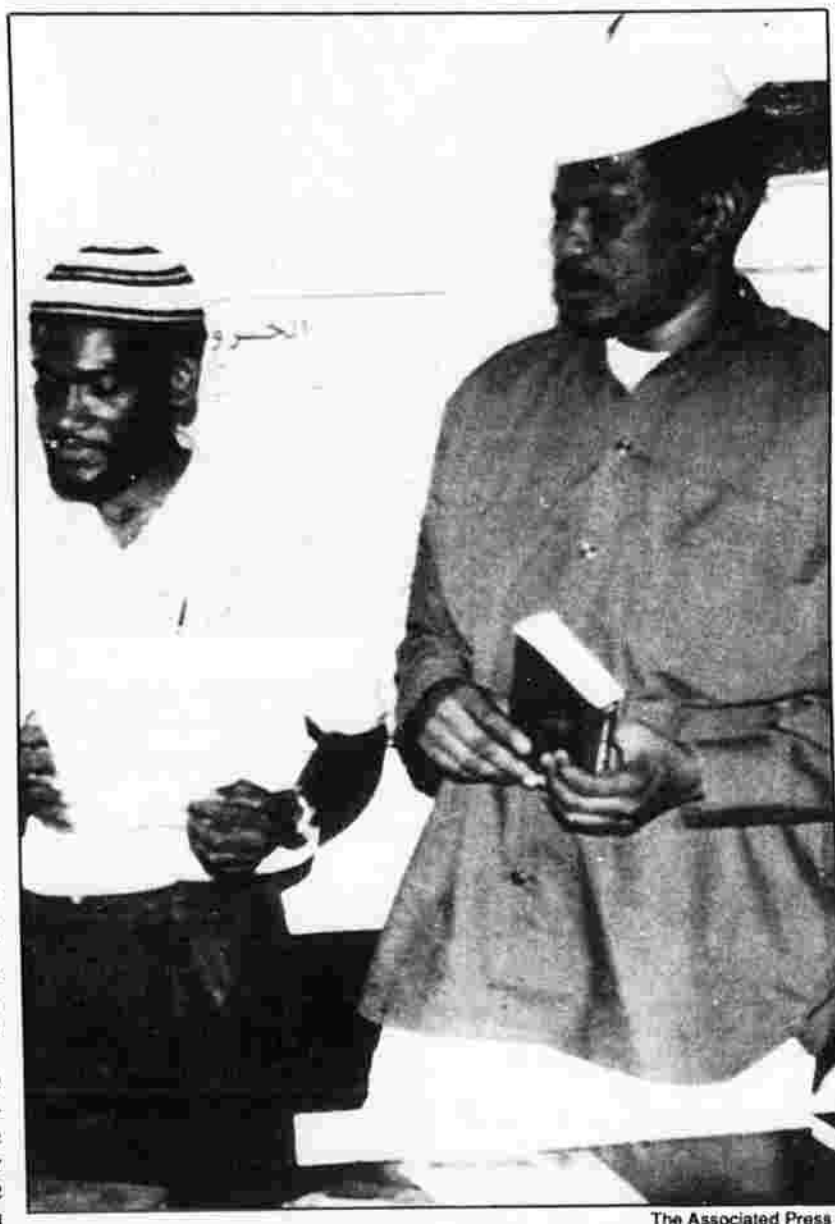
The shooting at the TV station appeared to be coming from two directions, but it was not clear whether there was any attempt by the security forces to storm the building. Heavy black smoke wafted from the television station at 10:20 a.m.

Early this morning, automatic weapons fire rang out near Parliament, about a mile away, where rebels seized Prime Minister Arthur N.R. Robinson on Friday. The rebels claimed to have wired him explosives and threatened to blow him up if a rescue attempt was mounted.

Kwasir Aniba, one of the rebels inside Parliament, said by telephone today the gunfire came from police "who have been attempting to thwart" the negotiations to end the siege.

He said the group was holding eight government ministers along with the prime minister. The rebels accuse Robinson of corruption and demand he resign.

A government official said the



TRINIDAD GOVERNMENT UNDER SIEGE — Abu Bakr, right, pictured earlier this month during a goodwill visit to Barbados. Bakr, along with other Muslim militants have seized the parliament building in Port-of-Spain, the capital of Trinidad and Tobago.

## Compulsive collectors let go with rat pack sale

NORTH HAVEN (AP) — Inelda Marcos, with her thousands of pairs of shoes, might have felt very much at home at the Obsessive Compulsive Foundation's first Hoarders and Pack Rats Tag Sale, held over the weekend.

Among those at the Saturday event was Kathleen Page who was trying to let go of the 80 pairs of shoes, more than 200 dresses and suits, boxes and boxes of costume jewelry, piles of sweaters and blouses, stacks of scarves, and an odd collection of accessories that she had kept in her closet for decades.

Page had by far the most merchandise of all the vendors at the tag sale. Some of Connecticut's 1,000-plus Obsessive Compulsive Foundation members held the tag sale to raise money for research and to take a step toward getting over one of their compulsions.

"I never thought I was a hoarder. I thought I was just a cleaner," Page said.

The foundation has about 150 support groups around the country for people with obsessive compulsive disorder, who uncontrollably act out behaviors and rituals, such as repeatedly cleaning rooms, or checking locks, and appliances, and hoarding huge numbers of belongings for inordinate periods of time.

Members raised \$500 selling clothes, accessories, books, appliances and a mixture of other items — some of which were donated by the public, according to Executive Director Jim Broach.

Foundation members, donning T-shirts emblazoned with the words "Pack 'em in — move 'em out," were glad to be able to joke about their disorder. Without each other's support, they couldn't.

Page, a New York resident who helped establish the foundation in 1987 by appearing on the ABC's "20/20" news program, said she's been suffering from her disorder since age 11, when she was unable to stop getting out of bed at night to touch a prayer book.

Page said she never wore any of the new clothes or shoes she bought, and she never used any of her wedding gifts, for fear of soiling, tearing or breaking them. Not once did she sit on any of her own furniture, and her ex-husband, Jack, had to eat out every night because she refused to use the dishes.

Members say their disorder is a chemical imbalance that can sometimes be helped with medication. After years of shock treatments and psychiatric care, Page finally has begun to feel better with the help of the anti-depressant Fluvoxamine.

Page tried not to pay attention as customers rummaged through her belongings during the tag sale. "I'm out of it," she said, smiling. "I'm out of it," she said, smiling. "son of pretending this isn't really happening."

## Conversion ideas rise as defense budget falls

WASHINGTON — A sweeping Senate plan to help victims of military budget cuts represents a growing acceptance that defense spending is declining rapidly and that states like Connecticut need help.

The key question raised by the latest proposal by Sens. Joseph Lieberman and Christopher Dodd, both Connecticut Democrats, is how much help can the government afford.

Lieberman and Dodd are pursuing a proposal to spend up to \$1 billion per year to help workers, communities and companies left high and dry by the declining pool of defense procurement dollars. On the House side, proposals backed by lawmakers from Connecticut, Massachusetts and other defense-intensive regions call for spending about \$200 million per year.

In any case, the numbers at play in the defense spending debate are staggering.

—From 1977 to this year defense spending tripled from \$97 billion to \$296 billion. Now, according to House Armed Services Committee member Nicholas Mavroules, D-Mass., spending may drop by 50 percent in real terms by the end of

## Union chief: no give-backs

By NANCY FOLEY  
Manchester Herald

MANCHESTER — Pearl Caouette doesn't like to hear the word "unionism" used to describe the Manchester Education Association. The newly-elected president said she prefers the word "association" because she associates unions with blue collar workers.

"We're professionals," she said.

Caouette, a math teacher at Bennett Junior High School, became president of the MEA at the beginning of July after an uncontested election. From the union's new office in the Hilliard Building on West Middle Turnpike, she discussed her views of the union and its relationship with the Board of Education.

Like her predecessor, Valerie Saly, Caouette, a 20-year veteran of the Manchester school system, does not come across as a firebrand labor leader. In addition to an aversion to the word union, she also has an aversion to the more confrontational tactics that are associated with them.

"I don't believe in strikes. I don't believe in work stoppages," she said. Such behavior is not befitting "professionals," she said.

Part of the reason that she seeks to avoid confrontation is that there may



PEARL CAOUILLETTE  
Caouette. In addition, for many years, the union has enjoyed what she calls "excellent" relations with the school administration and the school. "That's not to say we always agree," she said.

## General Assembly picture unclear

By PETER VILES  
The Associated Press

HARTFORD — A year ago, the 1990 General Assembly elections were shaping up as a referendum on the O'Neill administration and the Democratic-backed tax increases that costed nearly \$1 billion.

But that was before Lowell Weicker returned, before Gov. William A. O'Neill dropped his bid for re-election and before countless other developments that seem to have blurred party lines.

"Neither party has a lock this time," said state Rep. Doreen Del Bianco, D-Waterbury. "It's up for grabs for anybody. Weicker being in the race (for governor) just skew it so much that you really can't call it."

## Meotti, others are targeted

By ALEX GIARELLI  
Manchester Herald  
The Associated Press

If hindsight is any guide, more than a dozen General Assembly races could shape up as close calls for incumbents who won narrowly the last time they faced the voters.

And among the incumbents that political observers say may be most vulnerable is state Sen. Michael P. Meotti, whose district includes Manchester, Bolton and Hebron, as well as Glastonbury and Columbia.

Meotti, a Democrat, told The Herald this morning that he suspects he is being considered vulnerable to defeat because his seat has been targeted by the Republican state leadership. And he admitted that he believes the GOP has a viable candidate in his opponent, Sonya Grogins, who like Meotti is from Glastonbury.

But Meotti said he firmly believes that this early in the race, his chances are still good going forward to November. "I think I can win," Meotti said.

He pointed out that he was not expected to win in his first run for the senate post in 1986, or in his second campaign in 1988, when he defeated Carl Zinzer of Manchester by a vote of 12,847 to 10,560.

Meanwhile, in the Senate, at least four other incumbents, three who won narrowly in 1988, face potentially close races. They are: —Sen. Lee Scarpini, R-Trumbull, who is fighting to hold the traditionally Democratic 22nd District in Bridgeport and Trumbull. She won in 1988 by 1,149

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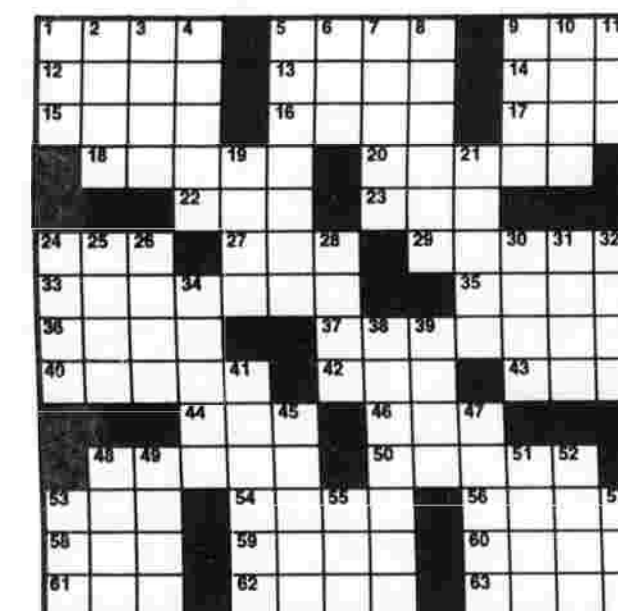






Crossword

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CELEBRITY CIPHER

GPNGRVK  
 JUBNGVTHH  
 IVGRMNG CMNJG  
 JNG K BPU HVUK  
 PBHYR IBHCM

UPPKMS  
 PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "Never put off until tomorrow what you can do the day after tomorrow." — Mark Twain.

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THE NEW BREED



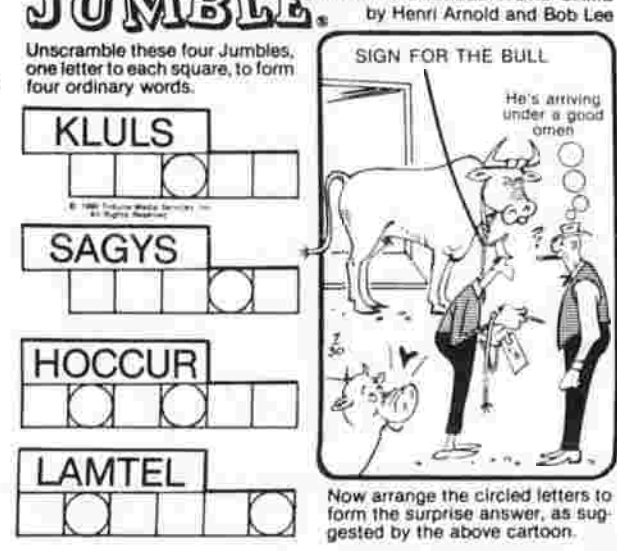
7:30 Peniston/Teacher

SNAFU by Bruce Beatie



"The toast tastes funny? Sorry, Pop. I won't dry my sweat socks in the toaster anymore!"

JUMBL



Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

Answers: KLUUS, SAGYS, HOCUR, LAMTEL

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BLONDIE by Dean Young & Stan Drake



ARLO AND JANIS by Jimmy Johnson



SPIDER-MAN by Stan Lee



EEK AND MEK by Howie Schneider



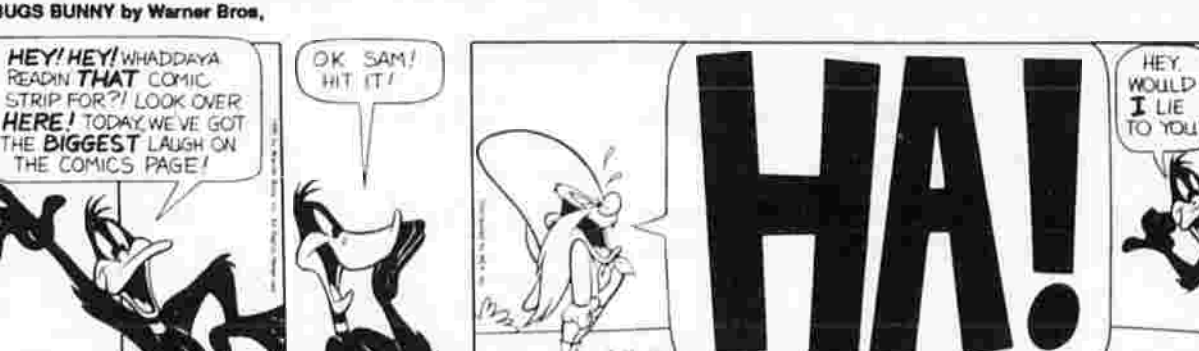
WINTHROP by Dick Cavalli



ERNIE by Bud Grace



BUGS BUNNY by Warner Bros.



THE GRINWELLS by Bill Sobot



FRANK AND ERNEST by Bob Thaves



PIPPIS by Joseph Farris



ANOTHER ANGLE

Section 3, Page 11 Monday, July 30, 1990

News with an unusual twist

Howling brigade shows wild passion for wolves

By HAL SPENCER  
 The Associated Press

CLIFFDELL, Wash. — Marcia Mueller howls every morning as she drives to her job at a Mercer Island travel agency, and she howls all the way home too.

Yakima mechanic Glenn Thompson practices a mournful wail from his back porch, and never mind what the neighbors think.

Susan Heidke bellows a long "Aaaa-Eeee-Ooooooo" as she commutes along Lake Washington to her federal government job.

They are among two dozen members of the Howling Brigade, a newly formed group of mostly city folk whose enchantment with wolves draws them to howl for the rare creatures along dark and lonely logging roads a few nights a month.

Their hope is that from deep in the Cascade Mountains, a gray wolf

maps, checked compasses and plotted a survey along the edges of the North Peak and William O. Douglas wilderness areas.

They drove along dirt roads, stopping every mile to howl and listen as their cries reverberated through mountains. They noted the time and location of the stops on a special form. At 1 a.m., they met back at the campground, knowing the sound of their howls covered an estimated total of 240 square miles.

Two brigade members returned to say their howls drew responses, but nobody was ready to celebrate. Joslin said later that such claims are only the start of more intensive investigation, using sensitive tape recorders and calling on the expertise of experts to investigate further.

"For all of us, the idea of getting out and trying to talk to the most complex and interesting of all wild creatures is exciting and we all get a

lot of energy from it," said Jack Lauffer, the research biologist at Wolf Haven.

The non-profit Wolf Haven, whose main mission is public education and research, keeps 26 wolves under various government permits. The haven takes in wolves from zoos that no longer want them and from people who illegally kept them as pets.

The brigade, which has received classroom and field training, checks out reports of wolf sightings from loggers, campers and others, Lauffer said. And such reports are fairly common, although cautious state and federal wildlife agencies say that prior to the wolf den discoveries this spring, the last confirmed wolf sighting was in 1975.

Many people mistake the relatively common coyote for a wolf, Lauffer said. He finds that error disheartening. It indicates that many

people have little appreciation of how rare wolves are in the United States, he said.

For brigade members, the faint prospect of talking to a wolf is only one reason they drive long miles through the Cascades to join the survey every other Saturday during the summer.

"We want to learn about wolves and pass it on to other people," Mueller said. "The wolf is a very misunderstood animal, although it is incredibly intelligent. I would hope that someday, public understanding and acceptance would be increased enough that we could introduce wolves back into Washington," she said.

"I see this as one more way to be involved in nature conservation and awareness," said Connie Morrison, a reading specialist at South Puget Sound Community College in Olympia.

Morrison's howl, honed by hours of practice as a Wolf Haven volunteer, is regarded as among the best of the group. On this trip, she said she had drawn return howls from an entire wolf pack waiting back, but quickly added: "Certainly, I'm not about to claim I found wolves. It needs to be really checked out."

Bill Richards, an employee of the Seattle Water Department, has joined the group at the behest of his supervisors. The department wants eventually to take a inventory of all wild creatures on its vast watershed forests east of the city. Richards, who now is surveying watershed for the presence of the threatened northern spotted owl, will do the same for wolves once he improves his howling technique.

Wolves, which once roamed Washington by the thousands, were virtually wiped out by trappers and exterminators at the turn of the century, according to researchers

Witness misidentifies suspect

DENVER (AP) — It was every reporter's nightmare: a newspaper reporter covering a murder trial was identified as the alleged murderer by a witness.

Mildred Goble, 69, recounted the identification after a closer look, but the mistake led to reporter Marlys Duran of the Rocky Mountain News being named a defense witness in the first-degree murder trial of Christina Acker, 42.

Acker is accused of killing 68-year-old Margaret Hamilton in 1989.

"I was seated in the first row of the spectators' section behind the defendant," Duran said Tuesday. "I was just dumbfounded."

The misidentification came during testimony Tuesday.

Goble said she was with Hamilton when Acker came to borrow \$1,000. She was asked, "Do you see that person in this courtroom today?" Goble pointed to Duran.

The reporter said she and Acker have the same hairstyle, but the suspect's hair is a different color, and she's probably 6 inches shorter than me."

Even though Goble recanted the identification, Duran said, "the judge threw me out of the courtroom."

Deputy Denver District Attorney John Jordan said he doesn't think the mistaken identity will affect his case.

But defense attorney Harvey Steinberg said, "Since they relied heavily on this witness ... it's kind of strange they'd take that position after she identifies Marlys Duran as the last person to be seen alive with the victim."

Deployed auto air bag bursts, spews fear into rescuers

By JOSEPH NEFF  
 The Associated Press

UNION CITY, N.J. — Emergency workers and bystanders showered in the middle of a busy street with a cloud of white powder Tuesday, the result of a minor rear-end auto accident in which one car's air bag deployed.

"Nobody at the scene had a handle on the procedures for the situation and there were a lot of people there with a lot of emergency experience," said Jeff Wells, who heads the ambulance service in neighboring Weehawken.

Federal transportation and consumer officials say that the hysteria was unnecessary and that the incident in this New York City suburb

points up the need for rescue workers to learn how to handle accidents involving air bags, standard equipment in about 3 million 1990 cars.

The confusion began when Patricia Sanchez's 1990 Plymouth Sundance hit a car stopped for a red light and her car's air bag deployed.

The nylon bag stored in the hub of the steering wheel inflates in one-twentieth of a second and deflates through vents in its side within a few more seconds. Packed in cornstarch or talcum for lubrication, the deployed bag gives off a puff of powder and leaves a fine white residue inside the car.

But rescue workers believed the sodium hydroxide, a form of lye, on Ms. Sanchez.

A quarter-gram of sodium hydroxide, along with a small amount of baking soda, are created as byproducts of the chemical reaction that inflates an air bag in a front-end collision, said Tim Hurd, spokesman for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, which is investigating the crash.

The amount of lye is minuscule, and it's only a minor irritant, he said.

But rescue crews cut away some of Sanchez's clothes, thinking they were contaminated with chemicals. Firefighters cordoned off the intersection, set up a shower in the street and rinsed off anyone who came in contact with the powder.

Emergency workers, fearing more trouble with the bag, cut it out of the car and now can't find it.

"They were frightened of the powder," said Louis Ciavatti, acting city fire chief. "It could have been overplayed."

In Brief . . .

**VW Rabbit drowns: owner laughs it off**  
 PHOENIX (AP) — Madeline and Woody Hovatter's rabbit died in their pool, but she couldn't jump far enough. "I laughed. What can you do? If crying would have brought it back up, I would have cried my eyes out. But I knew that wouldn't work, so I laughed."

The Phoenix couple's Volkswagen Rabbit was blown into the pool during a Saturday night storm.

**Ken cross-dressed**  
 TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Barbie and Ken dolls have changed through the years, but a woman here believes she's purchased a one-of-a-kind — a Ken doll dressed in Barbie's clothing.

When Carina Guillot and her 12-year-old daughter, Jocelyn, shopped in a toy store Wednesday night, they were shocked to find a "My First Ken" doll clad in a purple tank top and lace apron over a turquoise and purple skirt.

**Zodiac mindset sought**  
 By VIRGINIA BYRNE  
 The Associated Press

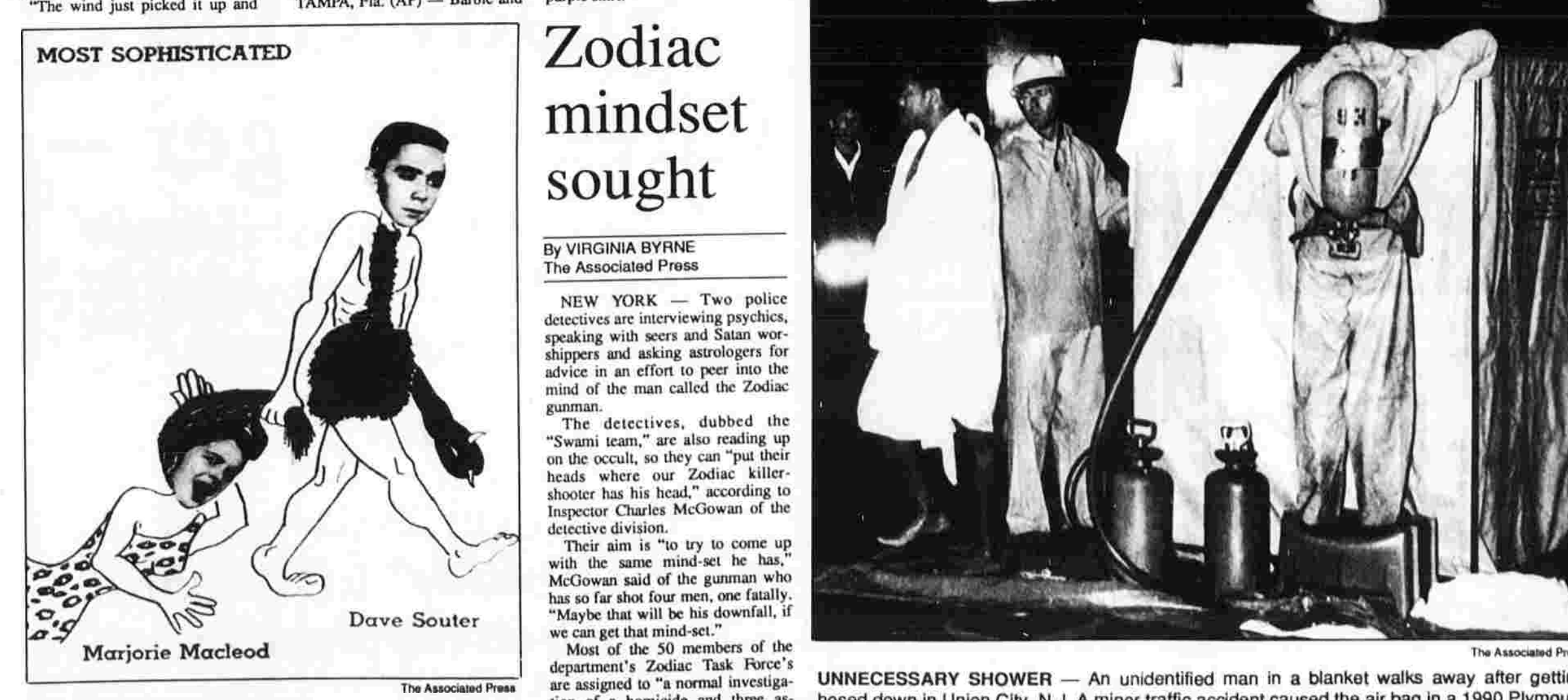
NEW YORK — Two police detectives are interviewing psychics, speaking with seers and Satan worshippers and asking astrologers for advice in an effort to peer into the mind of the man called the Zodiac gunman.

The detectives, dubbed the "Swami team," are also reading up on the occult, so they can "put their heads where our Zodiac killer-shooter has his head," according to Inspector Charles McGowan of the detective division.

"Their aim is to try to come up with the same mind-set he has," McGowan said of the gunman who has so far shot four men, one fatally. "Maybe that will be his downfall, if we can get that mind-set."

Most of the 50 members of the department's Zodiac Task Force are assigned to "a normal investigation of a homicide and three assaults," the tall, white-haired inspector explained.

But "we're leaving no stone unturned, that's what it boils down to," he added.



UNNECESSARY SHOWER — An unidentified man in a blanket walks away after getting hosed down in Union City, N.J. A minor traffic accident caused the air bag in a 1990 Plymouth Sundance to inflate, and alarmed emergency workers hosed down anyone who came into contact with a fine powder, apparently cornstarch or talcum powder, which air bags are packed in.

FLIEM BY THE PROFESSIONALS AT  
 CREST INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, CEAR RAPIDS, IOWA  
 1990

# LEISURE

## TIME

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Standing left to right: Peg Weaver, Betty Thibeau, Judy Perry, Ivi Cannon, Miki Kozlovich, Dennis O'Brien, Mary O'Brien. Sitting left to right: Jeanette Lesperance, Vi St. John.

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250 Hartford., Manchester 645-6720  
Across from Historical Cheney Yarn Mill.

**DINE ON OUR PATIO**

**HOUSE SPECIALTIES:**  
BREAKFAST - Home baked Bread, Specialty Omelettes, Belgian Waffles, Patio French Toast, "Patio Exclusive" Cinnamon Swirl French Toast, Fresh Ground Coffee  
LUNCH - Creative Salads, Burgers at their best, Sandwiches and more  
DINNER - Fresh Seafood, Veal, Chicken and Daily Chef Specials.  
Children's Menu Available  
Serving Cocktails, Beer and Wine Available

**THURSDAY NIGHT All You Can Eat Fish & Chips or Pasta Of The Day**

**TOO HOT? TOO TIRED TO COOK?**  
Bring the whole family and enjoy these summer specials:  
-Fresh Fruit Frozen Drinks  
-Cajun Chicken w/Cajun Fries  
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## Cheap imports undercut American rose growers

By NITA LELYVELD  
The Associated Press

CROMWELL — When Andrew Nils Pierson came to America from Sweden and started growing flowers more than 120 years ago, the roots of his venture took hold with a vengeance.

Today his great grandson, Douglas B. Pierson Sr., runs a business that at one time was the largest wholesale flower grower in New England.

But the way has been thorny for A.N. Pierson Inc. After more than a decade of struggling to survive competition from inexpensive South American imports, the company in June filed for protection from its creditors under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code.

Imported roses in 1971 accounted for only 0.2 percent of the U.S. flower market. By 1988, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture figures, that number had risen to 37.9 percent.

The largest threat comes from Colombia, where the weather is ideal and, according to a recent study by the U.S. Trade Commission, the average rose laborer is paid less in a day than his U.S. counterpart is paid in an hour.

"You have to understand the pressures of trying to grow roses in the U.S. when the Colombians are growing them for pennies and sending them straight over here. How can the Piersons compete in this environment when they have to grow their roses for as much as ten times more than the competition?" said Bob Heffernan, executive vice president of the Connecticut Florists Association. "This is a tragedy; the whole industry is feeling these days."

Still, the first flower-growing Pierson would probably be awed by the scale of the modern-day A.N. Pierson Inc. The enterprise now is spread over 93 acres, with 31 greenhouses — 12 acres under glass. It produces five million cut roses annually, as well as an assortment of potted plants.

This year, the roses are expected to bring in \$3 million, and sales of plants will add another \$300,000, Pierson said.

That these numbers were once even greater — reaching their peak in 1989, when the company sold 9.3 million roses — would likely not dampen the company founder's pride.

Andrew Nils started small. At age 6, he got a job selling seeds door to door in his Swedish village. Immigrating to America as a young man in 1869, he came to Connecticut, where he worked as a gardener on an estate in Cromwell.

He soon won the hand of a wealthy widow, who had two greenhouses of her own, and started a family business that has survived for four generations.

But the past 50 years have been difficult for most New England growers. With improved air and land transportation after World War II, East Coast flower growers found themselves facing serious competition from growers in warmer states like California and Colorado.

Luckily, however, the Piersons had roses — and roses have quirks that other flowers do not.

They also vary greatly in quality, a fact which has helped cushion rose growers slightly from the impact of foreign competition.

According to Pierson, most Colombian roses tend to bend at the neck, and they often stay closed at the neck.

When Pierson describes roses, the flowers seem endowed with personalities verging on the human. "Roses don't like to be shipped by air. They don't like to be shipped long distances. They hate too much heat," Pierson said. "The cost of taking care of them was so high that in the end, the local rose grower hung on to his trade."



THORNY BUSINESS — Douglas Pierson Sr., whose family operates what was once the largest wholesale flower business in New England, is pictured here in one of the company's Cromwell greenhouses.

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## What's new in decorating

By MONICA PEREZ  
Copley News Service

Personal style has never carried so much weight. Architects and interior design trends: The notion suggests a following of styles dictated by smart designers who have a knack for getting their work photographed and published.

Michael Graves-funny and Mario Botta-excess aside, what is happening in home design today? If you were planning on a title remodeling or redecorating, what would make your home look hip, absolutely '90s?

Let's start with the house itself. Warm, real materials are the biggest message coming from designers and homeowners, whose demand is the bottom line.

Wood, for instance, is back in force. Not dark, walnut-stained and bleached, but just plain, natural wood. The finest finish is a light oil, which lets the beauty of the grain come through. This goes for cabinetry (you'll see a big return to wood in the kitchen), hardwood flooring, post-and-beam structural features and, perhaps soon, the rough wood-shingle exterior look of the '70s.

Stone — it's everywhere. Natural stone (slate, limestone, flagstone, marble and granite) flooring tiles are underfoot and creeping up the walls, covering fireplaces and surrounding doorways. Stone countertops are in huge demand. Because of this demand, new quarries are opening around the world, expanding the available palette to include gorgeous shades of rose, green, gray, some

and fussy; the very essence of all designs in the '90s is about comfortable surroundings. In an Edwardian room, that might mean thick Wilton-style carpets, an inviting ottoman, a big fireplace.

Trends in furnishing the home come back to this, too: Everything invites touch, makes you want to take a smooch. Brown leather is back, brown in all kinds of furnishings. And if you had to put your finger on the single most important statement in furniture, it would have to be tapestry — heavy, elaborate, in rich earthy colors. Tapestry is good if you have children, by the way: Very little shows in the way of fingerprints.

Look at the things that concern you today. You'll see a close correlation in design. Who doesn't have the environment on their minds? And so you see a return to earthy, natural colors.

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Red Sox double their fun against the Tigers



SETS A RECORD -- Boston's Carlos Quintana, left, and Detroit second baseman Lou Whitaker both look for the ball after Quintana made it to second to break the American League record with 12 doubles hit by a team during Sunday's game at Tiger Stadium. At right is umpire Tim McClelland. The Red Sox won, 13-3.

Newman's back on right track

MANCHESTER - It didn't take Newman Lincoln-Mercury long to start another winning streak in "Twilight League" play as the Manchester-based club, which saw its nine-game winning streak end last Friday, routed Society for Morarty Field, 15-9, and in third place with 30 points in the 10-team week of the regular season. Newman's visits the East Hartford Jets Tuesday at 7 p.m. at McKenna Field. It is at Evans Insurance Wednesday night before winding up the season on Saturday at 7 p.m. at Morarty Field against the Imaginings.

U.S. has a forgettable day at the Goodwill Games

By BOB BALM The Associated Press. In gymnastics, the Soviet Union won seven of 12 individual medals. Sixteen-year-old Natalia Kalinina led the way with two golds and two silvers. The Americans managed just two bronze by 14-year-old Kim Zmeskal.

Yanks' Mattingly has thoughts of retiring

NEW YORK (AP) - New York Yankees first baseman Don Mattingly will retire from baseball if the pain in his back seriously limits his effectiveness, according to a published report. But Mattingly, in an interview published in today's editions of the New York Daily News, said he feels he can return to his All-Star form after rest and rehabilitation.

"I'm going away from it. But I'll be fine. I'm not done." Mattingly was placed on the 21-day disabled list Thursday with a bulging degenerative disk after New York designated George Steinbrenner insisted his star rest.

Mayor is caught in the middle

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) - Mayor Richard Arrington, standing as moderator in a growing racial dispute, is caught in the national spotlight between the violent images of fire hoses, police dogs and street confrontations of decades past.

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