

Sanford Herald

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85th Year, No. 146 - Sanford, Florida

NEWS DIGEST

INSIDE

Sports

SHS girls nip Lake Mary

SANFORD — An outstanding performance by Niki Washington in her final home appearance keyed the Tribe's 52-51 victory over the Rams. See Page 1B.

People

No more label fables

No more label fables. New labeling reform gives consumers more data on what's inside that can or package. See Page 3B.

BRIEFS

Demands made for missionaries

SANFORD — Terrorists who claim to be holding three American missionaries abducted from a village on the Panama-Colombia border have made demands in exchange for their release, their Sanford-based mission said.

"Several claims of responsibility and demands have been received," but it has not been determined which of the claims, if any, actually represents the group holding the missionaries, said a Thursday statement from the New Tribes Mission.

No details of any contacts would be disclosed for fear of compromising the communications and endangering the safety of the missionaries, said spokesman George Davison.

The three missionaries — C. David Mankins, Richard L. Tenenoff and Mark V. Rich — were kidnapped from the village of Pucuro, Panama, Jan. 31. They were led into the jungle by a group of armed men, who did not harm them, their wives or children.

Amnesty Day Saturday

Seminole County has declared tomorrow as "Amnesty Day," and will be offering county residents the opportunity to eliminate hazardous household waste. There is no charge for the disposal of items including lawn and garden chemicals, insecticides, petroleum products, paint products, solvents and car batteries.

Residents are urged to take their hazardous waste to the old Zayre's Plaza, at the intersection of Highway 17-92 and Airport Blvd., this Saturday, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

For additional information, phone 330-9539. For businesses wishing to dispose of the materials, contact Laidlaw Environmental Services, 1-800-421-0553.

Dream Auction set for Saturday

SANFORD — Seminole Community College will host the biggest fundraiser for their scholarship programs tomorrow evening at the Sheraton Orlando-North in Maitland.

The Eighth Annual Dream Auction has drawn progressively larger crowds and brought in more and more money to benefit SCC students and programs.

"We've raised nearly half a million dollars since we started in 1985," said Dr. Bill Baker, director of institutional advancement at the college.

Tomorrow evening's festivities will begin with a cash bar and the silent auction by 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

Clarification

On Feb. 1, Sanford Police Lt. Mike Rotundo told a *Sanford Herald* reporter that a 15-year old murder suspect had been arrested at his Midway home.

Acting Sanford Police Chief Ralph Russell said this morning, the suspect was arrested in the city police station. A Seminole county jail clerk said the suspect's birthday indicates he is 14.

From staff reports

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Slight chance of rain



Partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. High in the low to mid 70s. Wind west 15 mph.

For more weather, see Page 2A

County's costly error?

Oversight may hike price of soccer facility

By J. MARK BARFIELD
Senior Staff Writer

SANFORD — The cost of building a soccer training facility for the U.S. Soccer Federation could escalate because state and federal approval was not sought before construction began in Sylvan Lake Park west of Sanford.

County officials have been directed to supply the state with their lease agreement with the U.S. Soccer Federation. The Sept. 24, 1992 agreement grants the USSF "exclusive license" to use the 20,000-square-foot building. The USSF selected the county-provided facility for their national training headquarters. The facility will also be used by practicing World Cup soccer teams next year.

Construction on the structure began in December and is expected to be completed by May. The county also purchased 6 1/2 acres nearby to build two additional soccer fields near the park. The county pledged to provide two of the six fields to the USSF at all times. USSF may use the facility rent-free for 10 years, paying only utilities and liability insurance costs.

If state and federal officials decide the county has pledged a portion of the public park for a

See Soccer, Page 5A



Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

Construction of the facility is under fire by homeowners, the state and federal government.

All shook up



Herald Photo by Kenjo Zabulungi

Elvis put in a brief appearance at a 1950s style ice cream social at Hillhaven Health Care Center in Sanford yesterday. The King, also

known as Jack Elton, recently returned from Washington, D.C. where he entertained in the inaugural parade.

Preparing for 'gang' activity

Editor's note: This is the first part in a series about gang activity in Seminole County.

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Although the sheriff declined to call them gangs, he says groups of youngsters are congregating to fight or break the law at various locations around the county.

"There aren't gangs like those in Los Angeles or other metropolitan areas in Seminole County," Sheriff Don Eslinger explained. "There are loose knit groups of individuals who come together to commit criminal acts."

Eslinger, who recently created a Gang Suppression Unit at the Sheriff's Department, said that these groups are spread all over the county.

Steve Shapiro, gang liaison for the county, said that the district is preparing for gang activity, but at this point intelligence is still being gathered.

"There are groups of kids that get together all

See Gangs, Page 5A

Asphalt won't coat Sanford brick streets

By NICK PFEIFAU
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — Street resurfacing work brought temporarily to a halt by Sanford residents concerned that brick streets downtown would be covered is resuming. The brick streets will not be paved over.

Public Works Director Jerry Herman said that when work started, calls immediately began

coming in to the City Manager, Public Works department and the mayor about the street paving schedule and the issue of paving brick streets.

"The residents calling this department were concerned that brick streets were to be overlaid with asphalt," he said.

Monday night, Herman informed the City Commission that all brick streets have now been removed from the current paving schedule.

"One of the street segments removed was Park Avenue, which was originally brick from Fulton Street through the 10th Street intersection," he said.

Herman continued, "There were other segments of Park Avenue which do not have brick construction that were removed from the schedule until the brick street issue was resolved. Those are from Seminole Boulevard to Fulton

See Brick, Page 5A

Complaint filed against police

By SANDRA ELLIOTT
Herald Staff Writer

The parents of a 14-year old indicted by a Seminole County grand jury for murder and attempted armed robbery have filed a formal complaint against the Sanford Police Department, alleging investigators mishandled the case.

Brenda J. Cleveland Brooks and her ex-husband, Tony Leonard Brooks Jr., charged facts have been slanted in the case against their son, accused of participating in the Nov. 7, 1992 murder of Mark Edward Marsh in a foiled robbery attempt. Copies of the complaint were sent to assistant state attorney Tom Hastings, Acting Sanford Police Chief Ralph Russell and the U.S. Department of Justice, according to Tony Brooks.

Russell said he has reviewed the complaint and found no violations of department policy or state law. Russell said he gave a copy of the complaint to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for review.

See Complaint, Page 2A

A gift from St. Lucia



Herald Photo by Kenjo Zabulungi

Jerry Vick, center, a member of the Sons of Norway Lodge, receives an authentic Viking helmet as a gift from the St. Lucia Committee. Vick captains the Viking boat which brings Miss St. Lucia into Sanford during the annual festival. Making the presentation are the organizers of the St. Lucia Christmas Parade, Laine Wood, left, and Althea Parrish. The presentation was made at the First Street Gallery earlier this week.

Parents sue in accidental death of son

By VICKI DeSORMIER
Herald Staff Writer

SANFORD — A teenager who accidentally shot and killed his 5-year-old playmate last summer was found not guilty on manslaughter charges last month, but his days in court are not over.

Ava and Robert Haywood, whose son, Ryan, was killed, have filed a civil suit against Jason Vegosen, 15, and his parents, Fran and Kerry Vegosen.

Darrell Carpenter, the attorney representing the Haywoods, would not discuss the details of the suit, but confirmed that the couple are seeking damages in excess of \$15,000 as compensation for "funeral and medical expenses and for the mental pain and suffering caused by Ryan's death."

Carpenter would not comment on the precise amount of the damages being sought.

He said that the suit alleges that the Vegosens, especially Jason, failed to show a "duty to exercise reasonable care for the safety" of

See Suit, Page 2A

POLICE BRIEFS

DUI charged

Lester Kelly, 39, 185 Zenith Point, Geneva, was arrested on a drunken driving charge by Winter Springs police early Wednesday morning.

The arrest followed a traffic stop near the intersection of State Road 434 and Tuskawilla Road.

Two charged with battery

Cheryl A. Ray, 29, and Phillip R. Turrell, 31, both of 1201 Reams St., Longwood, were both arrested on battery charges Wednesday by Longwood police.

Ray reported Turrell grabbed her throat and slapped her. Turrell reported Ray tore his shirt and struck him.

Neighbor reports screaming

Reginald Leon Hunter, 24, 2360 W. 18th St., Sanford, was arrested on a battery charge by Seminole County deputies Wednesday night.

After neighbors reported hearing a woman screaming for help in Jones' home, a woman at the home said Jones choked her.

Utility poles vandalized

Michael Anthony Levant, 24, 700 E. 11th St., Sanford, was arrested on a criminal mischief charge by Sanford police Wednesday afternoon.

Police reported Levant was vandalizing city utility poles near the corner of Celery and Locust Avenues using a caulking gun to write names.

Arrest after traffic stop

Gennorris C. Jones, 20, 633 Rosecliff Circle, Sanford, was arrested following a traffic stop Wednesday night by a Longwood policeman on Florida Central Parkway.

Jones was held on a charge of driving with a suspended license.

Warrant arrests made

The following wanted persons have been taken into custody:

• Ronald Michael Kasluk, 38, 125 Anthony Drive, Sanford, was arrested on a Colorado warrant. Kasluk was wanted on a parole violation charge for a theft conviction.

• Sandra Janice Gaines, 31, 82 Lake Monroe Terr., Sanford, was arrested at her home Wednesday morning. Gaines was wanted on a probation violation charge for a worthless check conviction.

• Timothy Murray, 42, 3301 Celery Ave., Sanford, was arrested Wednesday on a worthless check charge.

• Ronald Roy Jones Jr., 37, 600 Old Geneva Road, Geneva, was arrested at the Seminole County courthouse Wednesday afternoon. Jones was wanted on a probation violation charge for a driving with a suspended license conviction.

Crimes reported to police

The following crimes were reported to Sanford police:

• Stereo equipment, cash and other possessions with a total value of \$964 were reported taken from a car parked at Seminole High School Wednesday between 4:15 p.m. and 10:30 p.m.

• A cash register and other items were reported taken from an unlocked garage in the 1900 block of South Park Avenue in Sanford sometime between 1 a.m. and 6:45 a.m. Wednesday.

• A large number of hand tools were reported taken from Applied Rite Inc., 204 N. Elm Ave., Sanford, sometime between 6 p.m. Monday and 5:45 a.m. Wednesday.

• A cellular telephone was reported taken from a Lake Monroe Terrace apartment at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

• Food from a freezer was reported taken from a residence in the 1100 block of Oleander Avenue at 12:55 p.m. Wednesday.

• A representative of Orlando Waste Paper Co. reported Tuesday one of their 9900 dumpsters had been removed from its location at Popeye's restaurant, 2880 W. Highway 17-92.

• Todd David Bush, 28, 730 Pampass Grass Court, Lake Mary, turned himself in at the jail Tuesday. He was wanted on a warrant for violation of parole on a conviction of driving under the influence of alcohol.

Incidents reported to the sheriff

• A bike, valued at \$150, was reportedly stolen Tuesday from in front of a home in the 300 block of Temple Drive in Ravenna Park.

• Two cars were reportedly burglarized while parked in a business lot in the 300 block of Hickman Drive, Sanford. \$120 in electronic equipment was reportedly taken from one of the vehicles. The owner of the other vehicle was unable to determine if anything was missing.

• A burglary was reported Tuesday at Mt. Sinai M.B. Church, in the Lockhart area of Sanford. Deputies said a \$450 public address system and \$75 worth of microphones were taken.

• Deputies are investigating the shooting of a horse, at Flying Unicorn Horse Ranch, 3550 S.R. 48, west of Sanford on Tuesday. Deputies said a small caliber firearm was used to fire one shot into the horse's shoulder. The horse was treated by a veterinarian.

Incidents reported to police

• A welder, valued at \$175 was reportedly taken from an auto sales establishment, in the 1100 block of Sanford Avenue on Tuesday.

• \$515 in property was reportedly stolen from a vehicular burglary Tuesday. The car was parked in a lot in the 1500 S. French Avenue at the time of the theft.

• A color TV and telephone were reportedly stolen early Wednesday from a home in the 1000 block of S. Cedar Avenue in Sanford.

Search for evidence on in Gainesville

By The Associated Press

GAINESVILLE — Investigators were continuing to excavate a field near the University of Florida on search of evidence and possibly the murder weapon used in the 1990 stabbing deaths of five Gainesville college students.

For almost a week now, police teams using earthmoving machinery and metal detectors have been digging near a deer pen across the road from Gatorwood Apartments, where the final two bodies were found.

The site also is about a half-mile from the Williamsburg Village Apartments, the scene of two other grisly killings.

The digging began late last week after suspect Danny Harold Rolling, who is charged in the slayings, supposedly told convicted killer Bobby Lewis that he had buried the murder weapon and gloves. Lewis supplied the information to police.

Although files released by

prosecutors have indicated that many knives have been found in earlier searches, investigators are reportedly looking for a large, military-type serrated knife that may have been the murder weapon.

"Keep in mind that the suspect buried these things in the dark of night and that he may not even know where he buried them," said Alachua County Sheriff Steven Oelrich.

Police removed a brown paper bag marked evidence from the dig area Wednesday, but Alachua County Sheriff's Detective LeGran Hewitt declined comment.

Sources told The Miami Herald that neither the murder weapon nor any other significant evidence has been uncovered.

However, State Attorney Rod Smith and two assistant state attorneys, Jim Nilon and Don Royston, have visited the site to oversee the digging.

Courthouse killer loses an appeal

By BILL KACZOR
Associated Press Writer

TALLAHASSEE — The Florida Supreme Court rejected another appeal by death row inmate Thomas Provenzano who killed a bailiff and seriously wounded two other men during a courthouse shooting rampage in Orlando.

However, Provenzano probably will ask for a rehearing before the justices and then could appeal to the federal courts, said Martin J. McClain, chief assistant in the Office of Capital Collateral Representation, which represents death row inmates. The process could take months.

Former Gov. Bob Martinez first signed a death warrant for Provenzano's execution in 1989, but it would be up to Gov. Lawton Chiles to issue a new warrant if further appeals fail.

The high court on Thursday rejected a postconviction appeal that claimed the state suppressed information that could have helped his defense, he received ineffective legal counsel and the trial judge who first heard the appeal was biased against him.

The high court upheld the trial judge's findings that information allegedly suppressed was in the possession of defense or could have been obtained from sources other than the state.

The jury that convicted Provenzano rejected his insanity defense and recommended the death penalty on a 7-5 vote. Provenzano walked into the Orange County courthouse Jan. 10, 1984, carrying a shotgun, an assault rifle, a .38-caliber revolver and a knapsack with 148 rounds of ammunition.

He shot bailiff Harry Dalton and corrections officer Mark



Progress on museum

Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

Museum work is continuing. Passers-by can easily see construction progress at 520 E. First Street. In addition to doubling the size of the building, the name is also being changed from 'Henry Shelton Sanford Memorial Library and Museum' to 'Sanford Museum.' Work is expected to be completed by late April or early May.

Parker, who both survived, and then fatally wounded bailiff William Wilkerson.

Mental health experts agreed that Provenzano was paranoid about police, possibly due to a prior arrest, but those retained by the state concluded his problems did not rise to the level of insanity.

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Editorials/Opinions

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EDITORIALS

Take advantage of Amnesty Day

If you play your cards right, you could have a cleaner garage or utility room by the beginning of next week. Tomorrow is "Amnesty Day," a day in which to dispose of household hazardous waste.

For the Sanford and north Seminole County area, the county will collect items, at no charge, at the old Zayre's Plaza, at the intersection of Highway 17-92 and Airport Blvd.

Normal trash and recyclable collections will not pick up spray cans, paint buckets, insecticides, motor oil, car batteries or other chemicals and chemical containers.

The opportunity is now presenting itself. Tomorrow only, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

For businesses wishing to dispose of their chemical waste products, phone Laidlaw Environmental Services at 1-800-421-0553. This free collection is not held often. Tomorrow is the day to get it done.

LETTERS

How to reduce deficit

Here I am again sitting in front of a typing machine pounding out my words of wit so that everyone can enjoy reading what I have to say about what is going on in the world today, tomorrow, and yesterday.

By the time this letter is printed in news copy we will have a new president, President Bill. I will admit I was not and am not one of his supporters, but at any rate I will tighten my belt and push forward with great vigor. I just wish that someone in the White House would send me a new belt. My old one has so many holes in it that it is about to break. Now that may sound like a lot of tommyrot but true none the less. I do believe I have a way to loosen that belt a little. Read on and see what you think.

The single largest issue of the 1992 campaign was reducing the national debt. The single largest part of the debt is the deficit. Reducing the deficit reduces the debt, and the elimination of said deficit would bring government spending in line. Now we create another problem, that, being a surplus of money and everyone knows that you do not give a politician a surplus of money to spend. Or do we? I do not know if our government has ever had a surplus of spending money. Read on.

All the candidates talked of raising taxes in one way or another to reduce the deficit. The increasing or the addition of a tax has been done before and did not do any good. The money always went somewhere else. Why not use the O.T.A. Method? Now you say "Huh?" What is the O.T.A. Method? O.T.A. stands for "out of thin air."


Okay, President Bill, hold onto your hat because here is how it works. Get on the telephone and call the Department of the Treasury. Get your head person on the phone and explain that Friday is payday and there is not enough money in the bank. Tell him/her to turn on the press and print enough money to pay the deficit. The result is O.T.A. money and the deficit is paid. Someone will say, "You can't do that. It won't work." Someone else did not come up with the idea so they will say it won't work, or maybe they are afraid it will work. Well, come up with a better idea that will work. Taxation has been tried and failed because we still have a deficit. What else is there?

You see, printing the money will not cause any inflation sense, most all the money will be going overseas, the surplus of tax monies can now be used to reopen American industries such as oil, coal, steel, and any number of others. We may have to tell some of the environmentalist groups where to go but that is no big deal. The reopening of industry will create new jobs not at government expense and will increase tax revenues, and everyone will be happy, and everyone will like President Bill. After the big payoff is completed a big tax reduction would be in order. Reductions of a large enough scale for business may lure some American businesses that have moved overseas to move back to the homeland.

The deficit reduction plan I have outlined is a dream, but it is workable. Think about it! And by the way, I have an education in economics.

Joe Nichols
Sanford

Berry's World



"Maybe I should have just said 'be fruitful and left out the 'AND MULTIPLY.'"

CHUCK STONE

Nunn's one-man demolition team

A Georgia senator who has been forced to sit on the sidelines and watch history pass him by is securing his place in the history books another way — with an ugly record of unmatched petulance and mean-spiritedness.

Woodrow Wilson anticipated the pattern of Sen. Sam Nunn's obstructionism in his famed 1917 description of an 11-member senatorial blockade. "A little group of willful men," said Wilson, "representing no opinion but their own, have rendered the great government of the United States helpless and contemptible."

Nunn could easily rebut part of Wilson's acerbic denunciation. The chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee represents considerably more opinion among Americans than his own, especially on the gays-in-the-military controversy; and his nasty-tempered opposition to anything that does not comport with his Southern-fried parochialism has not rendered the United States helpless. Contemptible among world powers, perhaps, but not helpless.

Ignoring the political reality of Sam Nunn is the first and worst mistake that President Bill Clinton made in the early days of his administration. The result: The high moral ground that Clinton took on the gays-in-the-military issue has been bulldozed into a molehill of

hillbilly bigotry by the Senate's top demolition expert.

The irony is that Nunn's opposition to Clinton's removal of the military ban against gays has little to do with conviction; it is strictly a political pay-back. Had Clinton appointed Nunn as secretary of state — a position that many informed observers say Nunn coveted — Nunn would have dourly supported his commander in chief.

Nunn's political amorality knows few bounds. This is the man who four years ago, was being touted by a group of media conservatives as a potential Democratic presidential candidate. To neutralize Nunn's anathematic conservatism, a fellow tergiversator, former Rep. Bill Gray,



A senator who has been forced to sit on the sidelines is securing his place in the history books another way.

D-Pa., was hustled as the liberal running mate. During that exploratory period, Nunn, hoping to gain national credibility, flip-flopped on the issue of abortion, becoming a born-again pro-choicer.

When President Bush sent John Tower's name up as his nominee for defense secretary in February 1989 — a job for which Tower was superbly qualified — Nunn led the opposition, and Tower's nomination was mothballed. Why? Because of Tower's ancient problem with "wine, women and song," as the public was conned into believing? Not at all. Tower had humiliated Nunn during Tower's chairmanship of the Senate Armed Services Committee. As Tower sorrowfully learned, Nunn is an insidiously vengeful man.

In the current gays-in-the-military controversy, Nunn's leadership has exfoliated far out of proportion to the significance of the issue for two reasons: the American media's latent racism and the American public's cyclical enthusiasm for bigotry.

Nunn's position has been accorded so much credence because the media have refused to give anything approaching equal time to Nunn's counterpart on the House's Armed Services Committee, Chairman Ron Dellums, D-Calif., who is black, brilliant and liberal.



ROBERT WAGMAN

Nunn wins test on gay issue

WASHINGTON — There is a rule in Washington: Don't pick fights if you don't have to, and don't make enemies that you don't need to. In his first week in office Bill Clinton blithely ignored this advice in his abortive attempt to lift the military's ban against homosexuals. In the wake of the Zoe Baird affair, Clinton's handling of the matter has further damaged him and his staff.

There is a story circulating at high levels that Clinton and his senior staff gathered after Zoe Baird withdrew as attorney general-designate, and decided to divert the public's attention by immediately fulfilling the president's campaign pledge to remove the military's ban on homosexuals through an executive order. This story may well be apocryphal, but that it is widely believed says much about the growing perception of the bumbling White House performance.

What has appalled so many Washington insiders is not that Clinton tried to remove the ban (the issue has really not been a burning one, even among gay-rights activists), but the way he chose to do it and the timing.

Both Ronald Reagan and George Bush knew that, while the president might constitutionally be the commander in chief, no president can make an important military decision without first getting both the joint chiefs and the Congress in line. On Capitol Hill that means making sure Sen. Sam Nunn, D-Ga., powerful chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, is on your side.

Nunn doesn't much like Clinton. It is well known that Nunn thinks Clinton is an accidental president — that he was simply the strongest in a weak Democratic primary field when the bottom fell out for George Bush. Nunn believes he should be president, that he would have been president had he run and not decided Bush was unbeatable, and that he should wait for 1996.

Nunn reportedly became even more unhappy when he was not given the chance to turn down the job of secretary of defense, a job he didn't want, and was not even considered for secretary of state, a job that he badly wanted.

While Nunn did not want to go to the Pentagon, he would like to have been included on the short lists. The transition made it clear he wasn't. He also would have liked to have had a hand in determining who did get the job. He didn't. Instead, the job went to his chief rival for the role of most powerful member of Congress in military affairs, Les Aspin, former chairman of the House Armed Services Committee.

If Nunn does not particularly like Clinton, it is reported that the Clintons — and especially Hillary — don't much like Nunn. While Nunn did campaign for Clinton in Georgia in the final

weeks of the general election, he all but turned his back on Clinton during the primaries. He was especially absent in the days following the Gennifer Flowers accusations, which corresponded to the holding of the Georgia primary on Super Tuesday. Reportedly, Hillary Clinton has not forgiven him for refusing to campaign with her over several critical days.

Nunn is also a big believer in the power and prerogatives of Congress. While a president may have broad executive powers, Nunn, like many senior members of both the Senate and the House, deeply believe a president should exercise his power judiciously and defer to Congress whenever possible.

So Nunn was spooling for a fight, a test of who really has the power in military matters, and the inexperienced White House and president went out of their way to give him one on the gay issue.

Much the same is true of Republicans. They were champing at the bit to find an issue on which they could stake their opposition to the new administration. They had been very quiet during the confirmation hearings of Clinton's cabinet for the simple reason that, except for Donna Shalala, they were delighted with Clinton's choices. But now Clinton suddenly presented them with the kind issue about which they have dreamed. With constituents' calls running 70 percent against gays, the GOP jumped all over the new president.

In the end Clinton announced a compromise. He says that he remains committed on the issue, but will wait six months to move forward while "studies" are completed. What Clinton is doing is simply caving in and postponing the fight for six months. Inside the Beltway, this "compromise" was seen as: Nunn wins, Clinton loses. It is not a good way for a new president to start.



There is a rule in Washington: Don't pick fights if you don't have to, and don't make enemies that you don't need to.

JACK ANDERSON

Agriculture chief has hard row to hoe

WASHINGTON — Soon after stepping into his new job as secretary of Agriculture, Mike Espy was handed a thin file that had been hastily exhumed from the agency's archives at his request.

Tucked inside the file was a series of quarterly agriculture reports filed in 1937 by a man, known then as a "Negro county agent," who surveyed farms in Crittenden County and West Memphis, Ark., for the United States Department of Agriculture.

The "Negro agent" was Espy's father.

As the first African-American to head the USDA flipped through the 56-year-old file, Espy was startled by the similarities he saw between his father's recommendations to improve Arkansas farms and his own plan to revamp the sixth-largest federal agency.

In 1937, the elder Espy penned ideas about increased farm income, reduced overhead, alternative crop development, expanded trade, budget savings and rural development. Ironically, these files serve as a useful time-capsule for his son, who is inheriting an agency that the General Accounting Office recently labeled a "20th-century dinosaur" that has not been reformed since the 1930s. Espy's biggest challenge will be slashing USDA's \$67 billion annual budget, which includes more than 128,000 workers and more than 1,200 field offices across the country.

One congressional source likens Espy's task to facing "a charging elephant and trying to turn it on a dime." Former Reagan administration Agriculture Secretary John Block describes what happens when that "charging elephant" collides with the White House.

"I was planning to close some offices in New England one time and then I got a call from the (White House) Chief of Staff, Don Regan, and he said, 'you can't close those offices! We've got some congressmen and senators in that area who aren't going to vote for contra aid if you close those offices.'" Block told our associate Ed Henry. "And then Regan said, 'you know what President Reagan's priorities are.' I said, 'yeah, thanks a lot.'"

Espy enjoys perhaps one edge. There's good chemistry between him and President Clinton.

Dating back to their days at the Democratic Leadership Council, Espy and Clinton have shared a close personal friendship. When the Cabinet retreated to Camp David recently to lick its wounds, Espy and Clinton went bowling together.

While Clinton has had a rough start, Espy has looked sure-footed in his crisis management of the contaminated hamburger meat scare in the West, which has claimed the lives of at least two children. He has also won some early praise by proposing that the budget cuts start with the bureaucracy in Washington.

"Already he's latched onto two key issues that are win, win situations for him — the meat issue and the restructuring. It's classic 'Espy,'" said one source close to him. "He's approaching it as a department for consumers, whereas most people look at it as a department that's just for farmers. He's thinking about what USDA can mean for everyone in America."

QUAYLE ON CLINTON — Former Vice President Dan Quayle is leaning against running for the White House in 1996 because he believes Bill Clinton will be a two-term president, according to sources close to Quayle. Quayle thinks Clinton is too good a politician to lose.

According to one intimate, Quayle was impressed with Clinton's trip last December to California.



The 'Negro agent' was Espy's father.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Letters to the editor are welcome. All letters must be signed; include the address of the writer and a daytime telephone number. Letters should be on a single subject and be as brief as possible. The letters are subject to editing.

Clintons begin drive for immunizations

By CHRISTOPHER CONNELL
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Clinton is taking new steps to ensure that American children get their shots, as Hillary Rodham Clinton blames sharp increases in vaccine prices on profiteering.

The Clintons today were visiting a public clinic in suburban Arlington, Va., where parents bring their children for free shots.

Joining them were former first lady Rosalynn Carter, Health and Human Services Secretary Donna E. Shalala, Sen. Donald Riegle, D-Mich., and others involved in the effort to bolster the flagging U.S. immunization program.

Afterward, Clinton planned to announce an initiative that administration sources said would include pumping more money into the \$341 million U.S. immunization fight as part of his economic stimulus program.

He also was expected to direct Shalala to open negotiations with pharmaceutical companies about how much they charge states for vaccines. While some states have successfully negotiated discounts, others have been unable to strike such deals, said sources familiar with both the administration and congressional immunization initiatives.

The drug industry drew a sharp rebuke Thursday from Mrs. Clinton, the chairwoman of

Special treatment

Total estimated number of office visits in thousands by medical specialty, 1990, projected to 2000, and percent change, 1990-2000

Specialty	1990	2000	Percent change
Cardiology	11,832	14,014	18.4%
Internal medicine	82,301	93,019	13.0%
Urology	9,368	10,574	12.9%
Surgery	33,005	37,019	12.2%
Ophthalmology	44,701	50,054	12.0%
Family practice	211,628	231,110	9.2%
Psychiatry	20,126	21,577	7.2%
Pediatrics	75,511	76,906	1.9%
Obstetrics	57,559	58,039	0.8%

Cardiologists will see the biggest percentage increase in office visits among all medical specialists between 1990 and 2000 — over 18 percent. Visits to obstetricians, though, are expected to increase less than 1 percent.

the president's health care reform task force.

The first lady, a former chairwoman of the Children's Defense Fund, said the price of vaccine alone for a full series of shots administered at a public clinic has shot up from \$6.69 in 1981 to \$90.43 in 1991.

"Unless you are willing to take on those who profited from that kind of price increase — and are continuing to do so — we cannot provide the kind of universal immunization system that this country needs to have," she told 200 people at a health reform forum in Middletown, Pa., orga-

nized by Sen. Harris Wofford, D-Pa.

Mrs. Clinton said that in the Western Hemisphere, only Bolivia and Haiti have lower immunization rates than the United States.

Newborn babies routinely get vaccinated, and state laws force children to complete their shots before they start school.

But up to half the 2-year-olds in many big cities are not fully protected against measles, mumps, rubella and other infectious diseases.

Study: Lefties don't die younger

By PAUL REGEN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — Being left-handed is not a hazard to your health after all, says a study that disputes an earlier report suggesting southpaws were at risk of dying up to 14 years sooner than righties.

Scientists at the National Institutes of Health and Harvard University examined the rates of death among elderly people in East Boston, Mass., and found that left-handed people were at no more risk of dying early than right-handed people.

Dr. Jack M. Guralnik of the National Institute of Aging, a part of the NIH, said the data came from a six-year community study that included 3,774 people 65 or older in East Boston. All deaths were recorded and analyzed.

Although the study was conducted for other reasons, Guralnik said Thursday, the information collected included whether the subjects were left-handed or right-handed. That enabled the researchers to test a theory that southpaws die younger than do right-handed people, he said.

"Over the six-year period, the death rate was 32.2 percent among right handers and 33.8 percent for left handers," not a statistically significant difference, Guralnik said.

The preferred hand, or laterality, of the people was established by asking which hand was used to write and to cut with scissors. Those who used the right hand were considered right handers. Those who used the left or either hand were considered left handers.

Guralnik said 9.1 percent of the men and 5.8 percent of the women in the study were left-handed.

He said the East Boston study was the most accurate way to find any differences in the rate of deaths between left and right handers because it compares population groups of the same age. Also, he said, laterality was established by direct interview with the subjects, not by — pardon the expression — secondhand information.

A 1980 study first raised the possibility that being left-handed could mean an earlier death. That study found that there was a higher percentage of lefties among the young. It claimed that the mean age of death for lefties was 55, while for righties it was 72, a 14-year difference.

Guralnik said this study was flawed because the groups studied contained a higher proportion of young left handers.

"Mean age of death is not a good thing to use," he said. "If you have two populations that are very different in age, you would expect the younger population to have a lower mean age of death. It may simply relate to the fact that the population was younger."

A study published in 1991 found that left-handed professional baseball players lived for an average of 64 years, about eight months less than righties.

The same researchers, Stanley Coren of the University of British Columbia and Diane Halpern of California State University in San Bernardino, surveyed the next-of-kin of about 1,000 people who died in Southern California to ask which hand was preferred by the dead relative.

They reported that the right handers died at an average age of 75 while the lefties died at about 66.

Other researchers attacked the baseball study because it was based on how the players batted and threw, which they argued could have been based on training, not true laterality.

The California study was criticized because it was based on the recollection of relatives and because it was felt that those who responded to the surveys did not represent a true cross-section of the population.

Neither Coren nor Halpern could be reached by telephone for comment on the East Boston study.

Co-authors with Guralnik on the new study were Dr. Marcel E. Salive of the National Institute of Aging and Robert J. Glynn of the Harvard Medical School. Their study was published in the February issue of the American Journal of Public Health.

Interracial marriage

Love leaps racial boundaries 1.2 million times

By TIM BOVIE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — When love leaps boundaries of race and culture, interracial couples say, the next hurdle usually is convincing friends and family their marriages are just like anyone else's.

And interracial marriages are growing more common. Nearly 1.2 million couples in the United States are married across racial lines, double the number in 1980, the Census Bureau reports.

"When I originally told my family I was seeing a black woman, they were shocked," said Daniel Hollis. "I think they were expecting a welfare mother or something. But when they found out Yvette was a graduate of Northwestern University, they calmed down pretty quick."

"And I said, 'I'm always happy to break anyone's stereotypes,'" said his wife, Yvette Walker.

He's white and works as a courier. She's black, works as an editor and publishes a magazine for interracial couples, called New People.

"Interracial marriages, biracial children, folks that date interracially — it's a very normal thing," she said.

"The biggest problem we have is paying off our credit cards."

like many other families, her husband added.

Twenty-six years after the Supreme Court struck down all laws forbidding racially mixed marriages, the Oak Park, Mich., couple find their lives are mainly free of racial prejudice or innuendo.

There were 246,000 black-white couples last year, nearly four times the number in 1970, the Census Bureau said this week.

An additional 883,000 couples represented marriages between whites and other races, such as Asian, Pacific Islander or American Indian; 32,000 were between blacks and other non-white races.

The Census Bureau also noted that there were 1.2 million marriages between Hispanics and other ethnic groups. That figure was not used in calculating the number of interracial couples, however, because Hispanics can be of any race.

Couples who do want to marry across racial lines often find people around them have mixings.

"What happens in a lot of families is where their son or daughter announce they're in love, absolutely in love, with someone who is racially or ethnically different, you hear, 'What about the children? Think

of the hard time they'll have,'" said Maria P.P. Root, a Seattle clinical psychologist and author of the book, "Racially Mixed People in America."

"They seem to be caring statements, but they carry a lot of myths about interracial attitudes," she said.

Those attitudes often strengthen the interracial couple's marriage, Root said. "Interracial marriage is different. It goes beyond experimentation. It is a statement about commitment," she said.

Black-white marriages are more likely to face prejudice than other interracial pairings, she said. Those outside pressures can force the couple to confront the fears of the broader community.

"We had to focus on the fact that we came from different races, and with that different background that we did in fact carry certain emotional baggage with us," said Shimon Van Collie, a Berkeley, Calif., writer, who is married to Katrina Lathrop-Van Collie. She's black, he's white.

"I think common to both of us was the fear of the other person's culture," he said. "My concern was about how black men feel when I'm dating or married to a black woman, a fear that might be incendiary."

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Winds of change at Buckingham Palace

By **AUDREY WOODS**
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — The winds of change are whistling through Buckingham Palace. "No comment" does not cut it in these days of press sensation and royal upheaval, and the monarchy apparently realizes that.

It was no surprise when Prime Minister John Major made public on Thursday the arrangements for Queen Elizabeth II's first income tax payments. He had announced her intention on Nov. 26.

More startling was the sight of members of the royal household at a news conference taking questions from the press, a group not much favored by the royals.

The palace press office issues even its "no comment"s anonymously, on the telephone.

On Thursday, Lord Airlie, head of the Queen's Household, addressed reporters at the palace's first news conference, outlining details of the queen's tax arrangements.

No cameras or tape recorders were permitted in the splendid crimson room at St. James's Palace. But a panel of palace and Treasury spokesmen answered all questions.

One reporter asked if the queen had decided to assume the tax burden of the common man and woman to counterbalance damaging news reports about her children's separations and escapades.

A palace spokesman said the decision was under discussion "fully a year ago" — before the worst of the present crisis began with the separation of the Duke and Duchess of York, followed by Prince Charles' break with Princess Diana.

But he did say that in the past few years, "a growing emphasis on royal wealth... particularly during a period of recession, was tending to obscure and distort the contribution made by the queen to our national life."

The palace officials did not allow their names to be used, but that is not unusual in Britain. The habit of secrecy is so deeply ingrained here that government briefings are often given off the record and even official government spokesmen and spokeswoman often will not give their names.

The past year has seen much change at the palace. The queen, usually so careful to keep her feelings to herself, referred in a speech to her family's horrible year and asked for a little compassion and understanding from the public and the press.

Now she is going to pay taxes on her private income — although no one is giving away how big that income is.



Herald Photo by Richard Hopkins

Looking up

Things are looking up for electrical workers these days. Work seems to be reaching a high. Left, parking lot lighting being maintained in the 900 block of S.R. 434 in Longwood. Right, workers with Southeast Power Corporation, an electrical contracting company, are installing insulated line supports and brackets on electrical lines near the railroad crossing, in the 700 block of French Avenue. The insulators will help reduce power outages de the equipment and help reduce outages.



Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

Cops: Hijacker was carrying a blank gun

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The man who carried out the first trans-Atlantic hijacking in 16 years was armed with what turned out to be a starter's pistol smuggled aboard the Lufthansa jet with a little sleight of hand, authorities say.

No one was injured during the 11-hour ordeal, which began over Austria about 30 minutes into Thursday's flight. It ended when the Airbus 310 with 104 people aboard landed safely at Kennedy Airport and the hijacker surrendered.

Nebtu Zewolde Demeke, 20, an Ethiopian student living in Morocco, made two demands: that the plane be flown to New York and that he receive political asylum. Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas Roche said, initial reports that Demeke also demanded the United States intervene in Bosnia were false, Roche said.

Demeke was to be arraigned today on charges of air piracy, which carries 20 years to life in prison.

Flight 592 had taken off from Frankfurt, Germany, for Cairo, Egypt, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, when the hijacker stormed into the cockpit, pointed a gun at the pilot and said, "If you do not turn west, I'll shoot you," recalled the pilot, Gerhard Goebel.

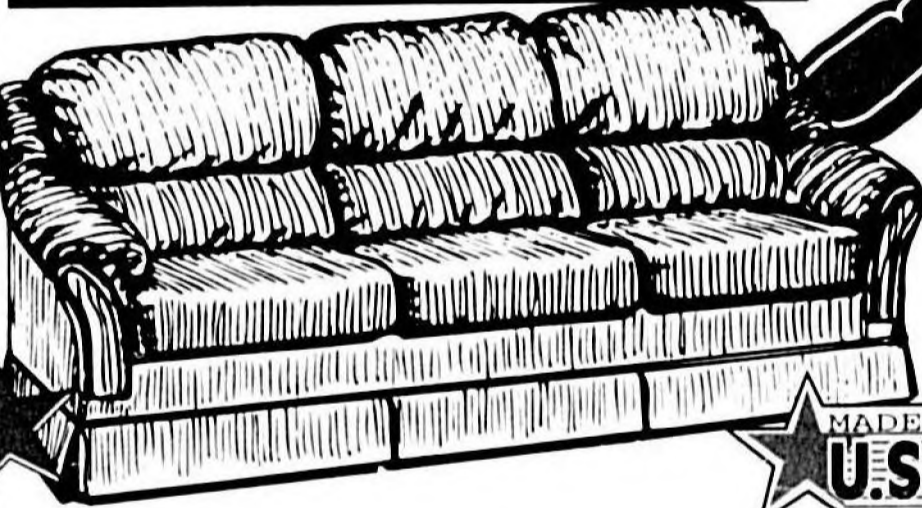
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Whether it be your friend, your spouse, your parent, your child, or a lonely neighbor, open your heart this Valentine's Day and have a "heart to heart" with someone you love or care for. Share your heartfelt sentiments ... the most welcome gift. Most importantly, as you worship this Sabbath, thank God for His love for you as He dwells within your heart.

Sunday Psalm 64-1-10	Monday Isaiah 63-1-14	Tuesday Isaiah 63-1-14	Wednesday Jeremiah 8:17-24	Thursday Hosea 2:14-25	Friday Hosea 8:1-5	Saturday Hosea 14:1-8
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Max & Susie Poole Pastors
Morning Service 10:00 a.m.
"Power & Praise" 6:00 p.m.
Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

SHOWER DOWN OF BLESSINGS
201 Elm Avenue, Sanford
321-8388
Pastor Timothy Hudson
Sunday School 10:00 a.m.
Morning Worship 11:00 a.m.
7:15 p.m.
Tuesday Bible Study 7:45 p.m.
- Church of God**
CHURCH OF GOD
801 W. 22nd Street
Rev. Donald E. Higgins Pastor
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Evangelistic Service 8:00 p.m.
Family Enrichment Service Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
- Church of God**
CHURCH OF GOD (7TH DAY)
Deltona Community Center
Sun Room
Worship Service & Bible Study Saturday 10:00 a.m.
Warren Randall Pastor
(804) 775-1823
- United Church Of Christ**
CHURCH OF GOD
1019 Hwy. 17-42 1/2 mi. NW Hwy 434
322-5830, 898-2832, 904-756-3170
Sun. Worship 10:30 a.m. & 8 P.M.
You are invited to visit, study, and worship with us in the near future. A friendly greeting always awaits.

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