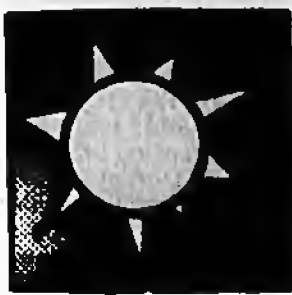


# Sanford Herald

Serving Sanford, Lake Mary and Seminole County since 1908

88th Year, No. 161 - Sanford, Florida



Today: Some early morning clouds otherwise mostly sunny and mild. High in the lower to mid 70s. Wind north 15 mph.

For more weather, see Page 2A

## TODAY

### City meetings

**SANFORD** — The City's Community Redevelopment Agency will meet tomorrow, April 3, beginning at 4 p.m., in the city manager's conference room of Sanford City Hall, (second floor). Included in the agenda is a status report on the courthouse expansion plans under the public/private partnership and a report on the Waterfront Master Plan Steering Committee.

### City non-meeting

**SANFORD** — The regular meeting of the Sanford Planning and Zoning Commission, scheduled for this Thursday, has been cancelled, because of a lack of items for consideration.

The next meeting of the P&Z will be held on April 18, beginning at 7 p.m., at the usual location.

### Juvenile justice

**SANFORD** — The Department of Juvenile Justice will be holding two executive committee meetings this week. Wednesday, April 3, the council will meet at the Private Industry Council facility, 520 W. Lake Mary Boulevard in Sanford. The meeting is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

On Friday, April 5, the council's Executive Committee will meet at the same location, beginning at 8 a.m. Both meetings are not expected to require more than two hours of time.

Both meetings are open to the general public.

### There's HOPE

**SANFORD** — Seminole HOPE, a partner in the Central Florida Prevention Coalition, sponsored by the Center for Drug-Free Living and the Grove Counseling Center, will hold a youth forum Saturday, April 6, from noon until 2 p.m. These gatherings are planned to be held on a quarterly basis.

The meeting is scheduled to take place at the West Sanford Boys and Girls Club.

All persons age 11 to 19 who live in Goldsboro and surrounding neighborhoods are invited to attend.

Organizers say the forums are designed to offer young people an opportunity to speak out about their needs and concerns, and become involved in creating solutions.

Free refreshments will be served during the meeting.

For further information, phone La'Shon Goin at 327-1765, ext. 151.

### Lock-in

**SANFORD** — The City of Sanford Recreation Department will hold a spring break lock-in this Friday, April 5, at the Sanford Civic Center. Drop-offs will be between 8 and 9 p.m., with the doors locked at 9 p.m. Pick-ups will be Saturday morning from 7 until 7:30.

Ages are from 6 through 12, at a cost of \$8. Pizza, snacks and breakfast will be provided.

Early registration is recommended as space is limited. Contact the recreation department at 330-5697.

### Drivers needed

**SANFORD** — Meals on Wheels currently needs drivers in the Sanford area. Meals are picked up at the Salvation Army building on 24th street, and the time required for a driver is one hour or less, once per week.

The meals provide a nourishing noon meal and cold breakfast meal to elderly clients who are homebound and are unable to cook for themselves.

To volunteer, or for additional information, phone Seminole County Better Living for Seniors at 333-8877.

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**Age does not protect you from love. But love, to some extent, protects you from age.**

-Jeanne Moreau

## Behind the scenes

### Volunteers quietly make life better

By MELISSA D. MOLDOVAN  
Herald Correspondent

**SANFORD** — In the midst of researching the Ritz Theater and the First Street Gallery, two fabulous buildings being renovated for the rejuvenation of theater and the arts in downtown Sanford, a story of undiscovered appreciation snatched my attention. This story is something that would be overlooked by much of society as prevalent, but it deserves reading because it

See Volunteers, Page 5A



Fred Rogers, co-chairman of the Ritz Committee, helps volunteers Amy Gunther and Andy Elkington carry chairs removed from the theater.

## Civil rights summit

From staff reports

**SANFORD** — U.S. Congressman Corrine Brown (3rd Dist., Florida) is calling citizens together for a "Civil Rights Summit" in Sanford on Saturday, April 13. Brown says she is deeply concerned over efforts which appear to be against civil rights.

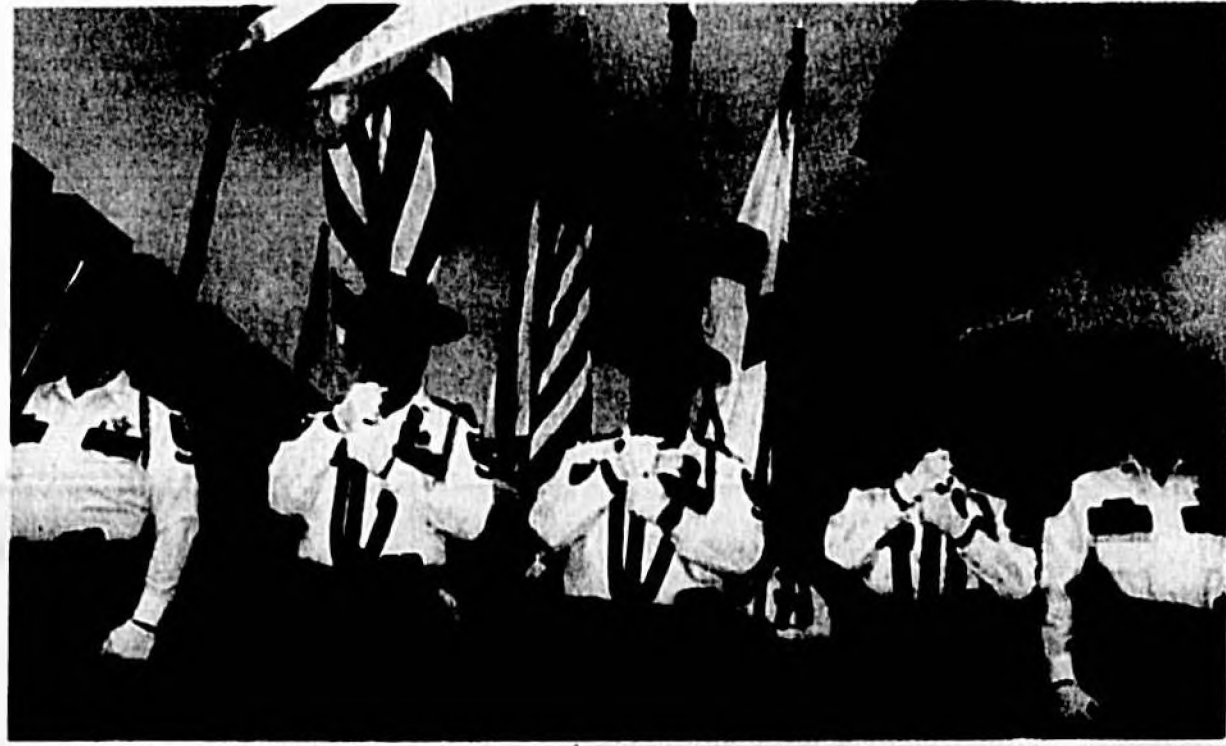
"Our hard-won civil rights have been seriously challenged in recent months," she said. "Americans have lost sight of the fact that affirmative action and minority voting districts came about as a remedy to years of entrenched discrimination, especially here in Florida."

See Summit, Page 5A

## Displaying true colors against violence

Rain did not dampen the spirits of nearly 100 residents who turned out Saturday to rally in support of loved ones who died violent deaths. Led by Seminole County Sheriff Don Eslinger, participants marched from the Seminole County Courthouse on Park Avenue down Seminole Drive to Ft. Mellon Park, where a Stop-the-Violence rally was held. At the front of the march was the Seminole County Sheriff's Office Color Guard (pictured).

Herald Photo by Roger Harnack



## Late-night jogger hit by truck, dies at scene

By VICKI DeBORMIER  
Herald Senior Staff Writer

**SANFORD** — A Sanford man, out for a late night jog, was struck and killed on Upsala Road last night.

According to Sanford Police Cmdr. Dennis

Whitmire, Paul Franklin Hodgins Jr. of 119 Larkwood Dr., Sanford, was jogging along the shoulder of the road at about 10:30 p.m. when he was struck by a four-wheel drive pickup vehicle driven by Jason Anthony Renzulli, of Deltona.

Whitmire said Hodgins, 27, was dead at the scene from injuries sustained when the right

front of the 1995 truck struck him from behind.

Renzulli, 24, was not injured.

According to Whitmire, both the vehicle and jogger were traveling northbound on the darkened road about 50 feet north of the intersection of Upsala and Dogwood when the truck struck

See Jogger, Page 5A

## Nothing is simple



Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

Motorists taking the Willy Avenue, E. 26th Street entrance to the Orlando Sanford Airport are encountering a temporary detour, with many vehicles running into problems caused by mud from the heavy weekend rainfall. The area is west of the site of the Hill Dermaceuticals facility now having land cleared in preparation for construction. The plant will eventually occupy land which has been part of the

eastern end of E. 26th Street at the intersection of Mellonville Avenue. Sanford Aviation Authority Director Steve Cooke had no immediate indication regarding when the formal roadwork will get under way to bypass the location. In the meantime, traffic is being rerouted along ground which has not felt the weight of a car, much less a semi tractor-trailer, for many decades.

## Soccer complex renamed

By NICK PFEFAUF  
Herald Staff Writer

**LAKE MARY** — The Lake Mary Sports Complex serves as the site of many area sporting events. Now, a new name has been added to the area. The multi-purpose field has been given the formal name of Ed Bedell Field.

"It's been used mostly for soccer," explained Parks and Recreation Director John Holland. "but it could be used for a variety of purposes."

A resolution declaring the official name was passed by the Lake Mary City Commission on March 7.

In presenting the resolution, Mayor Lowry Rockett commented, "Everard 'Ed' Bedell inspired all those around him to participate in the development of a Lake Mary Parks and Recreation Department, and perpetuate the recreational programs which provide today's youth with the spirit of competition, learning and camaraderie."

Bedell is also credited with having provided the insight and leadership for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for many years, prior to and during the development of

See Sports, Page 5A



## POLICE BRIEFS

### Sanford police reports

- A 23-year old Orlando woman told deputies she was using a pay phone outside a business in the 3800 block of Orlando Drive Thursday, when a man rode up on a bicycle and took her wallet, said to contain \$1,821 in cash.
- Four money orders, with a total value of \$899, were reportedly printed at a business in the 2600 block of S. Orlando Drive Thursday, but deputies have been informed that none of the money was entered into the cash register.
- Power and hand tools with a total value of \$1,245 were reported stolen Thursday from a residence in the 1200 block of W. Second Street in Sanford.
- Nintendo equipment, jewelry and other items with a total value of \$1,840 were reported stolen Thursday from a residence in the 100 block of W. Jinkins Circle. Police indicated that three juveniles had been taken into custody in connection with the case. Their identities were not revealed.
- A 10-foot aluminum ladder, valued at \$128, was reported stolen Thursday from a residence in the 400 block of West Sixth Street.
- An estimated \$434 in stereo equipment was reported stolen in a vehicular burglary Thursday in the 2400 block of Chase Avenue.
- Stereo equipment valued at \$1,171 was reportedly taken Thursday from a vehicle parked in the 1600 block of W. Fifth Street in Sanford.
- A \$199 chainsaw was reported stolen Thursday from a residence in the 400 block of Mattie Street in Sanford.
- A \$130 stereo system was reported stolen from a vehicle Sunday in the 2000 block of Holly Avenue in Sanford.
- Two bikes valued at \$400 were reported stolen Sunday from the porch of a residence in the 300 block of Rochelle Avenue.
- An \$80 stereo system was reported stolen Sunday from a vehicle in the 100 block of Anderson Circle.
- A cellular phone and other items valued at \$185 were reported stolen Sunday in the 100 block of Garrison Avenue.
- An estimated \$2,823 in electronic items were reported stolen from a vehicle Sunday in the 2400 block of S. Lake Avenue.

### Domestic cases

- Ronald Vandeldeck, 31, 114 Country Club Circle, Sanford, was arrested by Sanford police at his residence Thursday following a reported dispute with his wife. He was charged with battery domestic violence, and battery to a law enforcement officer.
- John Gregory Mason, 34, 2518 Clairmont Avenue, Sanford, was arrested by police at his residence Thursday as the result of a reported altercation with his wife. He was charged with domestic violence, and disorderly condition.

### Employee theft

- Cathy Denise Jackson, 25, 2206 McCarthy Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police at a retail store in the 3600 block of S. Orlando Drive, where she was reportedly an employee. Police said during the past month and a half, she was found to have taken a total of \$8,144.17 in jewelry from the store. When police arrested her for grand theft, she was found to have a loaded 22 caliber pistol in her possession. She was given an additional charge of carrying a concealed weapon.

### Retail thefts

- Towanna Lynn Hamilton, 23, of Jacksonville, was arrested at the Seminole Towne Center by Sanford police Sunday. Officers said she wrote what proved to be two false checks, in the amount of \$283.55 each, to purchase two purses. She was given two charges of uttering a forged instrument, and two of obtaining property with worthless checks.
- Patrick Dekker, 25, 500 W. Airport Blvd., was arrested by Sanford police at the Seminole Towne Center Saturday. Officers said he reportedly attempted to take a \$5.99 drill from the store without paying. He was charged with retail theft.
- Virgil L. Thompkins, 39, of 126 Bethune Circle, Sanford, and Michael Lee Gaines, 41, of 807 Orange Avenue, were both arrested by Sanford police Saturday at a retail store in the 3600 block of Orlando Drive. Officers said the two reportedly attempted to take \$63.98 worth of cigarettes from the store without paying. Each was charged with theft.
- Sabrina M. Lopez, 18, of Deltona, was arrested by Sanford police at the Seminole Towne Center Saturday. Officers said she attempted to take a \$54.97 pair of shoes from the store without paying. She was charged with retail theft.

### Card fraud

- Sanford police are investigating three separate incidents of the fraudulent use of a credit card during the past few days. On March 19, a card was used to pay for \$23.61 in merchandise from a store in the 1400 block of French Avenue.
- At a store in the 200 block of S. Park Avenue, the same card was used to obtain \$41.15 in merchandise, and \$43.56 in merchandise. Police said it was an Auto Club Card, used as a credit card. The card is believed to have been stolen. In each case, witnesses said the person who used the card for the merchandise drove off in a white Ford, license number JGJ-14C.

### Domestic cases

- Manuel Mario Martinez, 80, of 2608 Hiawatha, was arrested by Sanford police at his residence Sunday following a reported dispute with his wife. He was charged with assault, domestic violence.
- Clarence Ferrell, 22, of 3301 Sanford Avenue, was arrested by Sanford police Sunday in the 1200 block of Stonebrook Drive, following a reported altercation with his wife. He was charged with battery, domestic violence.
- Richard Bernard Taylor, 25, 1011 W. Sixth Street, Sanford, was arrested by police at his residence Friday following a reported dispute with his brother. He was charged with battery, domestic violence.

### Drug arrest

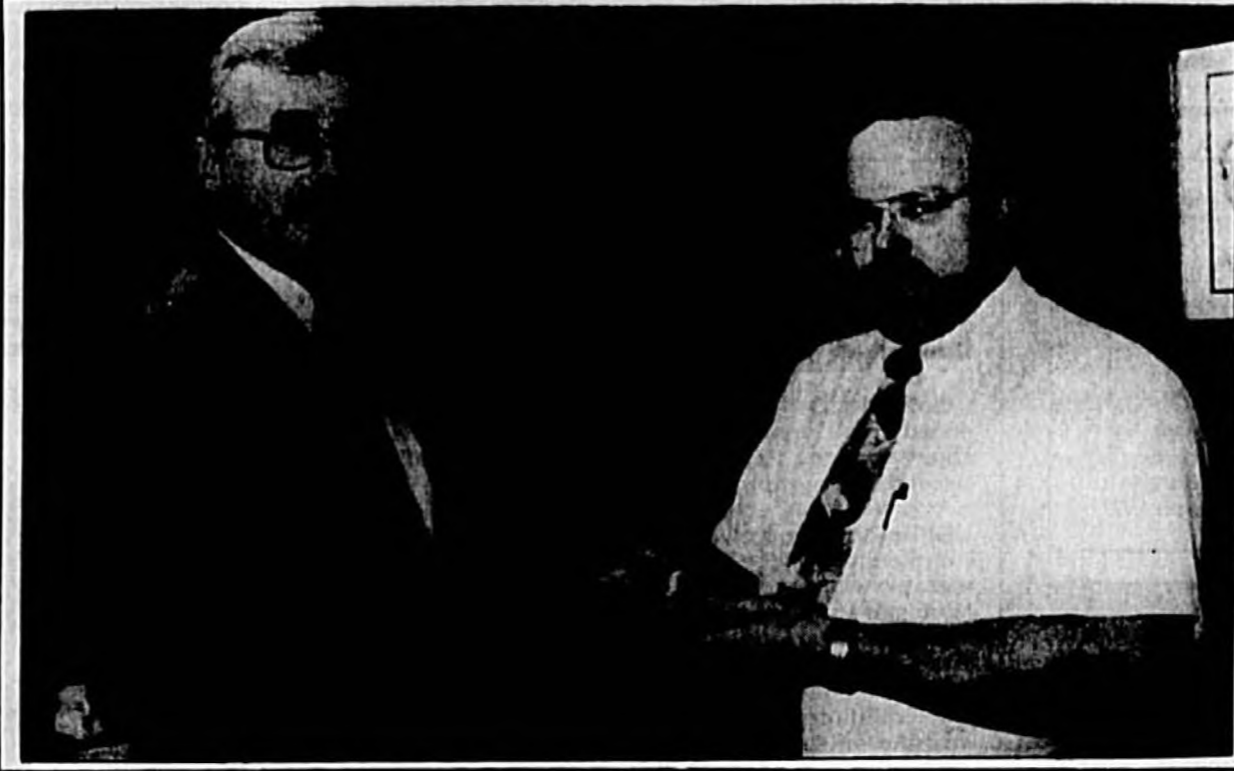
- Brandon Scott Hoggen, 22, 253 Third Street, Sanford, was found in the parking lot of Lake Mary Elementary School by Lake Mary police Sunday. Following an investigation, officers charged him with possession of under 20 grams of cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia, and trespassing on school grounds after warning.

### Stolen/recovered vehicles

- A rented gold 1991 Chevrolet, license number DHF-16R was reported missing from Orlando Drive and Collins Avenue Saturday. Police say the rental vehicle had not been returned at the end of the rental time period and was being classified as stolen.
- A 1987 Toyota pickup, license number QCD-21L was reported stolen Sunday from the 5200 block of Stonebrook Drive.
- A burgundy 1978 Buick, license number KME-21S was reported stolen Friday in the 800 block of W. 13th Street in Sanford.

### Double hit

- Sanford police are investigating two burglaries reported at the same address on possibly two consecutive days. An estimated \$2,200 in jewelry was reported stolen from the residence in the 700 block of Santa Barbara Drive, with \$290 in damage done, on Saturday.
- Sunday, police responded to another burglary call at the same residence. This time, a \$1,200 shepard dog, and other items with a total of \$810 were reportedly stolen.



### Sanford police

Sanford police Chief Ralph Russell, left, conducted a promotion ceremony this morning for officer Paul B. Little at the Sanford police headquarters. Little, a 17-year veteran of the Sanford police department, was officially promoted from patrolman to corporal. With 10 years in the Investigations Division, Little will continue in that department.

Herald Photo by Tommy Vincent

## Historical society seeks info on family

By MARGARET WESLEY  
Herald Correspondent

The recent marking of Black History Month is a reminder to local citizens of a well-known black Lake Mary family of years ago: Will (Bill) and Mamie Irick (sometimes pronounced "Ike").

The Iricks lived in a big two-story house on a hill off of Country Club Road near where the Grace Methodist Church is now. Will was a fireman on the railroad.

Mamie was a midwife, and birthed many babies in the Lake Mary area, including Ottis and Oliver Sjoblom, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. Goodheart Sjoblom.

Mrs. Thelma Brewer remembers that Mamie came to the rescue and brought her baby daughter out of a severe seizure after she had turned blue.

Another old-timer remembers Mamie as always wearing a

spotless white bandana around her head.

Will is described as being tall and thin; Mamie as heavy-set. They came faithfully once a week only, to the Lake Mary Grocery. Mamie died at the Lake Mary home, after which Will moved to Sanford.

The Lake Mary Historical Commission will be grateful for any further information or details concerning the Iricks such as where they came from if they had any children, and what became of Will. Call 323-3915 or 324-3060. This will enhance the local history files at the Lake Mary Historical Library.

Other black residents of Lake Mary's past are the early transient railroad builders, the turpentine crews, and the later railroad maintenance (section) workers. The railroad abandoned the Lake Mary section maintenance years ago.

Wesley has written a book about the area entitled "Lake Mary's Beginnings," which tells of the Roaring Twenties in Sanford and Lake Mary, and has about 30

pages of school days in Sanford during the Twenties boom and bust. Proceeds go to the historical commission for historical projects in the city.

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<p><b>L'OREAL CASTING HAIR COLORANT</b> Assorted Shades <b>5.99</b> each</p>	<p><b>MENTADENT TOOTHPASTE, MOUTHWASH OR TOOTHBRUSH</b> Assorted Types <b>2 FOR 5.00</b></p>	<p><b>ALMAY AMAZING EYE COLLECTION</b> Assorted Types <b>3.49</b> each</p>	<p><b>MAYBELLINE</b> Great Lash Pro-Vitamin Mascara, Great Line or Great Lip..... <b>3.99</b> each MAYBELLINE Great Fresh Nail Color, Assorted Shades..... <b>1.99</b> each</p>	<p><b>ULTRA GEL NAIL KIT OR ACCESSORIES</b> Assorted Types <b>30% OFF</b> Regular Price</p>	

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# Editorials/Opinions

## Sanford Herald

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### EDITORIAL

## Top teacher in technology

The applied technology programs in the Seminole County schools have added a new dimension to the instructional ranks.

Teachers in those programs can not rely too heavily on textbooks. They must, instead, be connected to the business world so they can remain up-to-date on the newest trends, ideas and applications in their field.

This past week Debbie Miller, a nursing teacher at Seminole High School's Academy of Health Careers, was named as the county's first Applied Technology Teacher of the Year.

Miller spends time with not only her students over the course of a day. She also works closely with the area hospitals and with the school's business partners. She works long hours to be sure she is up on the latest technologies and available programs in the health industry.

Because Miller keeps up with the latest technologies, her students are prepared for the workplace immediately after graduation, if not before.

Such attention to the details of the workplace make it possible for young people to set from the classroom to the work room without any period of adjustment.

It is because of dedicated instructors like Miller that the school to work programs in Seminole County are winning national recognition for the school district.

While everything the students are taught in school should have some application to their future life, students often fail to understand (and teachers fail to explain) how Chaucer, for example, relates to a future career in engineering.

It would behoove all teachers to follow Miller's lead and work with the school's business partners to help the students understand the importance of a well-rounded education in the workplace. Businesses and teachers must work together to properly prepare students for employment, be they teachers in the applied technology field or not.

Congratulations, Debbie Miller on being named the applied technology teacher of the year and thank you for setting an example all teachers should follow.

### LETTER

## Ban on wedding rings

The United States Postal Service this past week initiated a new policy forcing employees to abandon their commitment to marriage.

Employees were told they can no longer wear wedding bands, since they constituted a "safety hazard." Employees were instructed that all such rings were to be removed immediately.

Following these instructions on Thursday, March 21, employees were subjected to hand checks the following day. One employee who refused to remove her ring has been told she will be facing disciplinary measures. The employee views the order as a command to betray the vows she pledged at her wedding.

Another employee, who has worked for the Postal Service for three decades, was forced to call in sick because he could not get the ring off his finger. Apparently, it is more important to the Postal Service that the man be without a ring than being at work.

Yet other employees face a dilemma stemming from having had their rings blessed at their church. To remove the rings would violate their religious beliefs, yet to continue wearing it could mean discipline from the Postal Service.

Management contends its policy stems from safety concerns, yet has provided little evidence that wedding bands are the cause of the safety problems being experienced.

Along with the wedding ring constraints, management has imposed a number of other similar priorities, which they contend will be pursued with equal vigor.

Mid-Florida Local #7138  
American Postal Workers  
Union, AFL-CIO  
Lacy Mary  
Mike Thomas, President

### LETTERS TO EDITOR

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

### JOSEPH PERKINS

## Dole-Schwarzenegger in '96?

Now that Bob Dole has locked up his party's presidential nomination, speculation abounds about who the Republican standard-bearer will select as his running mate.

Everyone has their favorites. Some are still wistful for Colin Powell, though the general has completely ruled himself out for 1996. Others mention such worthy Republican governors as Michigan's John Engler, New Jersey's Christine Todd Whitman, New York's George Pataki and Wisconsin's Tommy Thompson.

But why should Sen. Dole be bound by political tradition? Who says he has to select a governor or some other elected official as his No. 2? If he really wants to jazz up his race for the White House, why not choose a nonpolitician who could leaven the GOP ticket in November?

Of course, the party pros would poo-poo the idea of a non-pol campaigning for the second-highest office in the land. But didn't non-pol businessman Ross Perot capture 19 percent of the presidential vote in 1992? And didn't non-pol publisher Steve Forbes capture three Republican primaries this year?

There are other nonpoliticians out there who would make fine running mates for Dole. If they are interested, maybe the Republican standard-bearer ought to consider inviting them to

his Senate chambers for a cup of coffee.

Let me suggest a short list:

-- Michael Reagan, radio talk show host. Just his surname is worth about two points in the polls to the GOP ticket. But Reagan is not just coasting on the reputation of his revered father. He's a skillful communicator in his own right. He's knowledgeable about the issues of the day. And he's developed a loyal following among his millions of daily listeners.

-- Arnold Schwarzenegger, actor, businessman. Some folks smirk at the notion that the Terminator would ever stand for office. But Schwarzenegger would hardly be the first actor to leave Hollywood for a



But why should Sen. Dole be bound by political tradition?

career in politics. And there's more to Arnie than making movies. He's a devoted family man. He's a successful entrepreneur who is one of the primary owners of a chain of restaurants (Planet Hollywood) that has created hundreds of jobs in cities throughout the country. And he's a fiscal conservative.

-- Jeanne Kirkpatrick, scholar. One of the best United Nations ambassadors ever appointed. As senior fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, she remains an astute analyst of foreign affairs. At the 1984 GOP convention, she gave a stirring address in which she rebuked "the San Francisco Democrats" (easily changed to "the Clinton Democrats") for their propensity to "blame America first" in all international disputes.

-- Bob Bartley, editor. The guiding force of the Wall Street Journal editorial pages. There is no smarter conservative in America. Bartley is the most kindly, unassuming man anyone would want to meet. But he would be a velociraptor on the campaign trail, not only ripping the Clinton administration's flawed foreign policy and woeful mismanagement of the nation's economy, but also dissecting the first family's Whitewater lies.



### JACK ANDERSON

## Solomon's House rant rings hollow

WASHINGTON -- Rep. Gerald Solomon, R-N.Y., whose hometown of Glens Falls lies 400 miles from the nation's capital, was miles away from reality in his rhetoric on the House floor last month.

In an episode replayed dozens of times on television, Solomon became unhinged after getting his comeuppance from freshman Rep. Patrick Kennedy, D-R.I. Before the House voted to repeal the assault-weapons ban, Kennedy movingly addressed the fact that two of his uncles were killed by gunfire.

"Families like mine all across this country know all too well what damage weapons can do, and you want to arm our people even more," Kennedy said, his voice trembling. "It is not the person who is killed, it is the whole family that is affected."

That was too much for the ill-tempered Solomon, one of the National Rifle Association's top lieutenants, who has received \$29,700 in campaign contributions from the group since 1990. "My wife lives alone five days a week in a rural area of upstate New York!" Solomon shouted. "She has a right to defend herself when I am not there, and don't you ever forget it!"

A peek at the police blotter in Solomon's quaint neighborhood, however, reveals that Glens Falls is a place where the cops spend far more time rescuing cats than pursuing jackrabbits. It sounds more like Andy Griffith's Mayberry than NYPD Blue.

It certainly isn't a place where Solomon's wife Freta should need an assault weapon to protect herself. And if danger should arise, the Solomons already have five rifles in their home -- none of which were covered by the ban.

Glens Falls police records from March 23-25 -- the weekend after the House debate -- show that local police responded to such disturbances as "animal (stuck) in tree" and youths "playing baseball in street." A police official told us that the town has not seen a murder "in a couple of years," and that the last police officer killed in the line of duty "flipped over his handlebars" in a motorcycle accident in the 1940s.

Mrs. Solomon told our associate Ed Henry that she was "too busy" for an interview. A spokesman for the congressman said the family has received threatening letters and phone calls over the years and that some of their neighbors have been burglarized. The spokesman added that Solomon's constituents are "concerned about their individual rights" guaranteed by the Second Amendment.

But the House debate was about common sense, not constitutional rights. Rep. Henry Hyde, R-Ill., traditionally a supporter of the rights of gun owners, noted that there's nothing wrong with a "reasonable restriction" that helps stop "youth gangs in cities, who many times can outgun the police." It's a point lost on Solomon, who is cloistered away in a congressional district where there is more danger from deer than teenagers with assault weapons.

Captain Stan Wood, who has served in the Glens Falls Police Department since 1963, told us that one reason residents have guns is that they sometimes have to ward off animals -- such as the two sightings of black bears in the past 30 years. "A wild bull got loose from a dude ranch one time and had to be killed," said Wood. "Deer come in here all the time."

Less than a week before the assault weapons debate, however, a cop was gunned down in another part of Solomon's state.



It sounds more like Andy Griffith's Mayberry than NYPD Blue.

### MORTON KONDRACKE

## GOP agenda makes job tougher

Republicans are posting a fast recovery from their political defeats last year, planning a full legislative agenda to counter President Clinton's attacks on the "do-nothing" Congress.

The "extremist" label is still in play for the GOP, but Clinton will have a harder time attacking Congress now that Republicans are on their way to passing a bevy of legislation this year, some of which Clinton will sign and some of which, if he vetoes, will provide the basis of charges that he's the one obstructing progress.

Health care reform and welfare reform, once Clinton-owned initiatives, are on the congressional agenda. And GOP leaders are considering the possibility of capping their 1996 effort this summer or fall with a seven-year balanced budget reconciliation bill containing tax cuts and entitlement reductions that Clinton will surely veto, reversing the present public impression that the GOP is to blame for gridlock in Washington.

The White House is so concerned about the GOP that it has even created a dummy GOP-style television ad charging that Clinton "promised" welfare reform and a balanced budget but "it didn't happen" because of his vetoes. Focus groups showed that the themes constitute "a major political vulnerability," one Clinton adviser said.

The Republicans have recovered their footing much faster than Clinton did last year after his party's November 1994 drubbing. As late as last April, when Republicans finished their First 100 Days legislative blitz, Clinton was still wondering whether his presidency was "relevant."

As recounted in Elizabeth Drew's penetrating new book on the Gingrich-Clinton wars, "Showdown" (Simon & Schuster), at this time last year Clinton guru Dick Morris' influence in the White House was still being hidden -- though he was already rewriting speeches to tilt Clinton to the center -- and the administration had no legislative strategy whatever.

It took the Oklahoma City bombing on April 19 to bring Clinton back into presidential trim, but it wasn't until early May that Morris and Vice President Al Gore convinced Clinton that he had to come up with a balanced budget proposal to fight the Republicans'. After much to-ing and fro-ing in the White House, it wasn't unveiled until June 13.

As everybody knows, Clinton ended up winning the year thanks to Republican overreaching -- two government shutdowns crowning their hubris -- much as the GOP won in 1994 because Clinton wasted time going for broke on health care.

But while it took Clinton months to recover from the November 1994 hurricane, the evidence suggests that the congressional GOP has

gotten its act together in less than three months -- in spite of the fact that its co-captain, Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., has been away running for president much of the time.

Already this year, Congress has passed a landmark telecommunications bill, which Clinton signed. A tradition-breaking farm bill is on its way to him. The troublesome debt ceiling bill is in progress, with a line-item veto, an increase in the Social Security earnings limit, and modest regulatory reform attached.

Also to come, and probably heading for vetoes, are a crime bill, an immigration bill, curbs on affirmative action, and product liability legislation.

The GOP leadership still has not decided whether to pass a welfare and Medicaid reform bill. A bill is being processed along the lines unanimously recommended by the nation's governors, but if, as expected, Democratic governors abandon the measure, House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., probably will abandon it, too.

GOP aides say that the intraparty trouble required to pass the bill won't be worth the payoff if Clinton can brand the resulting measure as "extreme" because it has no bipartisan support. Besides, the aides say, Clinton has already vetoed welfare reform twice, handing Dole a potent issue for the fall campaign.

GOP leaders definitely hope to embarrass Clinton, too, by passing a modest health insurance reform of the type he might have signed into law in 1994 had he been willing to compromise.

A tactical decision yet to be reached is whether Republicans want a bill that Clinton definitely will sign, like the proposal backed by Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., or whether they want to dare him to veto by attaching medical malpractice curbs and medical savings accounts.

In the meantime, plans are afoot in the House to embarrass Democrats by exposing their loyalty to the trial lawyers' lobby, which opposes malpractice limits.



The Republicans have recovered their footing much faster than Clinton did last year.





**Twelve for tea**

Seniors in Jane Cooper's British Literature class at Seminole High School captured the mood of Oscar Wilde's play "The Importance of Being Earnest" with an elegant tea party in their classroom. Among those who enjoyed the tea and crumpets were sixth period students, in the

front row, left to right, Brandon Ridinger, Erica Daffendack, Stephanie Groover, Josh Doyle, Jamee Nichols, Melanie Maniatis, Tania Rodriguez and Mary Tardiff; and in the back row, left to right, Cleveland McQueen, Mike Wagner, Vincent Butler and Vilaphone Ratanavong.

Herald photo by John Cullum

# Has Washington lost its sense of humor?

By **KEVIN GALVIN**  
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — At a forum that took the measure of Washington's funny bone, comedian Bill Maher explained why he would never vote for a Republican who made him laugh. "I don't want a funny Republican," said the host of Comedy Central's "Politically Incorrect." "I want the mean old men who are going to watch my money."

Coming on the heels of shock jock Don Imus' off-color dinner performance before President and Mrs. Clinton, the forum on Monday sought to answer the Beltway Question of the Week: Has Washington lost its sense of humor?

"I don't think this town has an absence of humor," said panelist Tony Blankley, spokesman for House Speaker Newt Gingrich. "But it does have an excess of hypocrisy."

Blankley noted that Clinton himself had called in on Imus' show, and people who laugh at the "I-Man" alone in their cars shouldn't feign shock when they listen in person.

The Washington establishment blanched as Imus joked about Whitewater, the president's past alleged sexual escapades, and other topics while the Clintons grimaced at the head table.

"I wouldn't do that to any couple," Maher said, "and that is where I draw the line."

And that is as close to drawing a line as anyone got all night, despite the efforts of moderator Morley Safer of CBS.

With the Clintons absent, barbs of many colors were thrown their way, including some about the president's alleged past infidelities.

The beauty of Whitewater, according to Republican consultant Roger Stone, a former aide to the late President Nixon, is the way it's bringing back some favorite slogans from the 1970s.

"The other day I saw a 'Jail to the Chief' bumper sticker," Stone said.

And in Pat Buchanan's defense, Stone said, Buchanan was right when he said there was no room for racists or anti-Semites in his campaign.

"Of course not," Stone said. "Those positions were filled months ago."

Maher and comedian Al Franken agreed that Bob Dole would be a better president for laughs, although Franken had some reservations.

"As a comedian, you want Dole," Franken said. "But as a comedian who's in the pocket of the Democrats, I want Clinton."

## Stiff shirt season: Beltway's comedy hour in full bloom

By **WALTER R. MEARS**  
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON — It's been stiff shirt season in Washington, to borrow an earlier president's line about the round of formal dinners where government leaders play it for laughs.

Barbs work better than bludgeons, as in President Clinton's sardonic best wishes to Sen. Bob Dole, his Republican challenger, followed by a double-edged reference to his own Whitewater problems:

"And I have some land in Arizona I'd like to sell you."

Retirement property, presumably. Then again, a Republican senator told Clinton this is the last year he'll have to attend such dinners, meaning he won't be president next time.

Self-parody is a proven course. Sen. Chris Dodd told Saturday night tales of his playboy image — he said he hadn't known about the Sunday morning TV

talk shows before being invited as the Democratic chairman because he seldom got home early enough to watch.

These are touchy times on the beltway political comedy circuit since the dinner at which a New York radio show host turned his shock-talk style on the president and Mrs. Clinton with insulting jokes involving his alleged affairs and her financial dealings. Don Imus went on with crude jokes about television personalities, in a performance Clinton's spokesman later called tasteless.

Michael McCurry asked C-Span not to rebroadcast the remarks, but the cable network went ahead, noting that Imus' performance at a dinner of radio and TV correspondents was the same kind of commentary he does on the radio.

As was pointed out, an organization that doesn't want that kind of talk shouldn't invite a speaker who does it for a living. And Clinton was no

stranger to Imus, having appeared on his program as a candidate.

The rebukes and the subsequent series of counter-jokes are no problem for Imus. They spell the name right and they raise his profile. As when White House chief of staff Leon Panetta explained why Imus couldn't be at the Saturday night dinner of the Gridiron Club:

"He's in London being treated for mad cow disease."

The stiff shirt season was Franklin D. Roosevelt's description of the late winter and springtime affairs at which politicians and the people who cover them joke about politics.

Sometimes, one year's jokes can sound different a year later. Take Clinton's line in 1995 that he was going to outdo the Republican "Contract with America" with one of his own. "The 'I hate the federal government more than you do' contract," he called it. This from the Democratic president who

declared in this year's State of the Union address that the era of big government is over, leading Republicans to say he was trying to sound like them.

That figured in one gag at the Gridiron dinner, a mock cell-phone call to Republican Sen. Trent Lott in mid-speech. Dick Morris, a campaign advisor to Clinton who also has counseled Republicans, was calling from the audience to say there'd been a mistake. Lott had been handed the wrong text and was reading the speech Clinton was supposed to deliver.

At the radio-TV affair, Clinton said he'd been apprehensive when Congress' GOP leaders came to the White House after Dole had clinched the GOP presidential nomination. He said Dole asked "whether the roof leaked and when was the last time the kitchen was remodelled."

Dodd had a crack about Dole's sometimes dour image: after winning the nomination, the

Senate leader was so elated "he broke into a huge scowl."

And about Pat Buchanan, defeated but not withdrawn as a GOP candidate: "Either you love him... or he hates you."

In his turn, Clinton said it wasn't true that he'd come to dinner only because he drew the short straw and Hillary got to go overseas instead. He said she was at work among the antiquities of Turkey and Greece, looking for "very, very old files" Sen. Alfonse D'Amato may yet

demand in the Whitewater investigation.

Dodd said he understood D'Amato's persistence. "He just can't believe a person in a position of power could actually lose money on a deal."

EDITOR'S NOTE — Walter R. Mears, vice president and columnist for The Associated Press, has reported on Washington and national politics for more than 30 years.

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## NATIONAL BRIEFS



### Recalling Rodney King case

SOUTH EL MONTE, Calif. — In a videotaped beating that recalled the Rodney King case, two sheriff's deputies repeatedly clubbed a Mexican man and woman after a 70-mile highway chase.

Television news helicopters on Monday videotaped the deputies chasing a battered pickup truck crammed with 21 people suspected of sneaking across the border. The pickup reached speeds of 100 mph before stopping on the side of the freeway.

One deputy, holding his baton two-handed like a baseball bat, was videotaped clubbing the driver on the back and shoulders with a baton, even as the driver fell, face down, on the ground.

When the woman got out of the cab, the same deputy beat her in the back with the baton, then grabbed her by the hair and pulled her to the ground. At least one other deputy struck her with his baton.

### Persuading Freeman to surrender

JORDAN, Mont. — Don Vos, a self-described two-star general in the Ohio Militia, says he can do what more than 100 federal agents so far have not — persuade the Freemans to surrender.

If only the government would let him try.

As the FBI's standoff with the defiant Freemans marks its ninth day, wannabe peacemakers keep arriving, uninvited and unwelcome, offering to save the day.

"I drove 27 hours from Ohio to see if I could be allowed to go in and negotiate," Vos said Monday afternoon, his bushy beard and camouflage outfit making him look like Fidel Castro without the cigar. "I aim to talk to a judge or talk to the feds so I can get in and talk to those people so nobody has to die."

### Age discrimination

RALEIGH, N.C. — James O'Connor says that two weeks before he was fired at age 56 he was told he was too old to travel around making sure vending machines worked properly.

The company's official line, O'Connor says, was that it was eliminating his job, but Consolidated Coin Caterers Corp. soon replaced him with a 40-year-old man. The company later said O'Connor lost his job in part because of poor job performance.

O'Connor filed two age-discrimination lawsuits, which courts refused to hear because his replacement was 40 and not 39 or younger, the standard for such suits.

But the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday ruled unanimously that employers who fire workers over 40 and replace them with significantly younger people may be breaking the law even if the new employees also are over 40.

### Questioning Perot

DALLAS — Some of Ross Perot's once-ardent supporters are questioning why they ever thought he was the answer.

Amid legal wrangling, a complaint to the Federal Election Commission and a tussle over their very mission, the founding members of Perot's United We Stand America are now divided.

"Everything he started using volunteer help, he destroyed," former Perot volunteer Debbie Taylor said. Ms. Taylor was Ohio coordinator and chairwoman for United We Stand America, which Perot established in 1992 while making his unsuccessful presidential bid.

She and other one-time supporters say Perot has abandoned the organization and its mission to educate the public about issues such as campaign finance and political reform in favor of his new effort to create the Reform Party.

### Cancer vaccine may be ready to test

WASHINGTON — A cancer vaccine that repeatedly wiped out tumors in laboratory rats may be ready for testing against a vicious type of human brain cancer by this summer, researchers report.

In a study published today in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, scientists at the University of California, Los Angeles, say their new vaccine removes a biological disguise that cancer cells use to hide from the immune system.

Habib Fakhrali, the lead author of the study, said the vaccine uses genetic engineering to alert the immunity system to the cancer and causes the body's defenses to attack the tumor.

## WORLD BRIEFS



### Boosting Iraq economy

BAGHDAD, Iraq — When the United States introduced new \$100 notes, Saddam Hussein's government acted on the announcement to give its embattled economy a boost.

"America Cancels \$100 Bill," shouted the headline in the state-run Al-Jumhuriya newspaper, spreading panic among Iraqis who rely on the greenback as protection against hyperinflation.

One paper even ran a picture of an old \$100 note, with a big black 'X' across it.

Old dollars are still as valid as the new ones issued to foil counterfeiting, but in a rigidly controlled country where the government dictates the flow of information, the campaign was a huge success. Nervous Iraqis rushed to banks and black market money-changers to exchange dollars for previously shunned Iraqi dinars.

### Mining giants' bidding war

TORONTO — A desolate tract in Labrador, Canada's poorest region, is the prize in a multibillion-dollar bidding war between two mining giants seeking to control the most spectacular nickel discovery of the century.

Watching them closely are leaders of impoverished Indian bands who want a share of the profits and are pressing claims to the territory encompassing the find.

At stake is a bountiful mineral deposit called Voisey's Bay, on the Atlantic coast of northern Labrador. Experts say it holds 10 percent of the world's known nickel reserves, with enough copper and cobalt on hand to pay the full cost of the nickel production.

The deposits at Voisey's Bay were discovered in 1984 by Vancouver-based Diamond Fields Resources.

### Celebrating Descartes

PARIS — Cogito, ergo sum. "I think, therefore I am." Four hundred years after Rene Descartes was born, it's a common phrase explaining rational thought as humankind's defining characteristic. When the 17th century French philosopher penned those words, it was revolutionary.

Symposiums, books, plays, exhibits, concerts and a commemorative stamp are planned this year to honor the great philosopher, mathematician and scientist born March 31, 1596.

Those celebrations range from Alain Simon's one-man-show dramatizing Descartes' "Discourse on Method," to an essay contest for students around the philosopher's hometown of La Haye, rechristened Descartes in 1987; to a "Philosophy Night" in Poitiers, where residents will prove they exist, pontificating in cafes around the city.

From Associated Press reports

## Teacher aides could ease shortages

By DEB RICHMANN  
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON — The nation's 455,540 teacher aides often are regarded as just secretaries for teachers, but a teacher recruitment group says helping them become licensed instructors could ease future teacher shortages, especially in urban areas.

Seventy-seven percent of the more than 9,000 teachers aides studying to become professional teachers are minorities, according to a study released today. They typically live in the urban school districts in which they work, understand the culture of the community and can design strategies to reach these students, the study says.

"Teacher aides need to be brought into the mainstream of school reform, instead of the margins," said David Haselkorn, president of Recruiting New Teachers Inc., a national non-profit organization in Belmont, Mass., that works to attract people to teaching careers.

The organization studied 150 programs in more than 30 states that teach aides to become teachers. The programs typically include regular college and university work, field training as well as summer and weekend courses leading to bachelor's and master's degrees.

According to the study, nearly half of new teachers working in big city schools quit within five years, yet those who go through teacher aide-to-teacher programs have a lower, 7 percent attrition rate, the study says.

Teacher aides often make good teachers because they already have classroom experience, said Victor Fernandez, 30, who is in the San Francisco Unified School District's teacher training program and works at Sutro Children's Center.

"You know what makes the kids tick. You know what kind of kids will give you a hard time," Fernandez said in a telephone interview, raising his voice above noisy kindergarten and first-graders waiting for lunch. "If you feel you already have a lot of tricks up your sleeve as a paraprofessional, that's great."

Teacher aides also tend to have deep roots in the community, the study says. And teacher aides who become teachers can be powerful role models, especially in school districts with low income and minority students.

The Education Department estimates that 180,000 to 200,000 new teachers will be needed annually in the nation between now and the year 2,000.

Some districts already face shortages in teachers who can teach bilingual and special education students, according to the report, which analyzed data from 39 major urban school districts represented by the Council of Great City Schools.

Ninety-two percent of the districts reported a demand for minority teachers. Eighty-five percent said they would need special education teachers within the next five years, and at least 60 percent indicated a demand for math, science and bilingual teachers.

Luci Coppage, 41, spent a year as a special education teacher associate before deciding to enroll in the Grow Our Own teaching training program in Waterloo, Iowa.

"Even though the kids coming out of college do their student teaching — that's for a short period of time, maybe nine to 12 weeks," Coppage said. "I know what's expected of me. I'm not going in blind."

In the 1970s, federal programs for teacher aides wanting to become teachers multiplied. At its peak, the federally funded Career Opportunities Program provided nearly \$27 million a year, helping a total of 18,000 paraprofessionals become teachers. The loss of federal funding, however, led to the demise of several programs.

Since the late 1980s, the number of paraprofessional programs has rebounded with financial help foundations, including the DeWitt Wallace-Reader's Digest Fund, which commissioned the study.

Lynn Coffin, director of the National Education Association's National Center for Innovation, said the union has worked with local school districts and state legislatures to provide financial assistance to teacher aides who want to become teachers, or make it possible for them to obtain needed college course credits.



Herald Photos by Tammy Vincent

### Dare graduation

A total of 80 fifth grade students at Lake Mary Elementary School graduated Friday from the DARE program, (Drug Abuse Resistance Education). Various students presented skills on "Ways to say no" during the ceremony. Above,

members of Trista Spencer's class in the middle of their presentation. Below, Dianne Lebruto's class. Below left, DARE officer, Sgt. Linda Bellflore of the Lake Mary Police Department.



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# Kevorkian faces toughest assisted-suicide trial yet

By **BRIAN S. AKRE**  
Associated Press Writer

PONTIAC, Mich. — Dr. Jack Kevorkian mockingly wore a colonial-style costume to court Monday for his third trial on assisted-suicide charges — a case that may be prosecutors' best chance yet of winning a conviction.

"If Thomas Jefferson justifies and endorses and advocates suicide for cancer, why am I in this courtroom?" Kevorkian shouted in a white wig, knee britches, a vest and buckle shoes.

For this trial, held under Michigan common law, Judge David Breck ruled that prosecutors must prove only that Kevorkian knew two women sought to commit suicide and that he gave them the means.

Kevorkian has twice escaped conviction under Michigan's now-expired assisted suicide law, enacted by the Legislature specifically to stop him. The law exempted anyone whose intent was to relieve pain rather than kill.

Kevorkian was acquitted three weeks ago on charges stemming from two 1993 deaths. And in 1994, he was found innocent in another death.

Kevorkian, 67, is charged in the deaths of Sherry Miller, 43, and Marjorie Wantz, 58, in 1991. Miller died after inhaling carbon monoxide, and Wantz died of an injection. They were the second and third of the 27 suicides Kevorkian has helped with since 1990.

Neither of the women was terminally ill — and that could also work to the advantage of the prosecution. Miller had multiple sclerosis; Wantz had pelvic pain.

Prosecutor Lawrence Bunting said he will argue that Miller and Wantz had other options.

"In this case, you have a lady who had multiple sclerosis — it was not terminal at the time — and you have a lady who the medical examiner testifies there was nothing physically wrong with her," Bunting said. "She had a mental problem."

Bunting said the doctor and his supporters are misleading the public.

"Everybody can look at somebody who is terminally ill and say, 'This person needs help,'" Bunting said. "Everybody has sympathy. The question is, in a free society do you allow someone without any constraints to act, as the American Medical Association has called, 'a reckless agent of death?' That's what we have in Dr. Kevorkian."

Despite Breck's ruling, defense attorney Geoffrey Fieger said Thursday he still plans to show jurors Kevorkian's "sole intent was to relieve pain and suffering." He said the ruling "has absolutely no effect on us."

Kevorkian faces up to five years in prison on each of two counts if convicted.

Prospective jurors were given an eight-page questionnaire Monday. Because of an appeals court ruling obtained by prosecutors, only one of the 67 questions referred to religion: "Do you have any philosophical, religious, moral or political beliefs that forbid a person from committing suicide under any condition?"

Breck ruled on several pretrial motions late Monday. He allowed the prosecution to admit as evidence some passages from Kevorkian's book, "Prescription Medicine," but he rejected others as prejudicial or irrelevant.

The judge also barred cameras from the courtroom during jury

selection, after prosecutors noted state court rules do not allow them to be present. Cameras were allowed during jury selection in Kevorkian's recent trial in the same courthouse.

Upon arriving at court, Kevorkian gave reporters a copy of what he said was the text of an 1813 letter in which Thomas Jefferson discusses the advantages of developing a preparation from poisonous plants that could be used to end life painlessly.

"There are ills in life as desperate as intolerable, to which it would be rational relief, e.g., the inveterate cancer," the letter said.

Kevorkian maintains that laws against assisted suicide are immoral and inconsistent with the Constitution. His view was supported recently by the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which ruled in a case from Washington state that there is a constitutional right to assisted suicide.

In 1994, the Michigan Supreme Court ruled there is a common law prohibition against assisted suicide.



**Local dancers on national TV**

Two groups of local dancers will be "Hopping Down the Bunny Trail" soon, in the Disney World "Happy Easter Parade." Over 50 dancers from Miriam and Valerie's School of Dance Arts are now in rehearsal for the annual spring production, to be nationally televised by ABC on Easter Sunday. "The Painters" parade unit will feature the Easter Bunny and 20 older dancers

from the local dance school, performing "Here Comes Peter Cottontail." In the second part of the parade, which will include Disney characters, 38 School of Dance Arts junior students, have been chosen for the fourth consecutive year to perform in this holiday spectacular. They will be performing with "Winnie The Pooh."

# Cable TV show turns into sex abuse forum

By **JEFF DOWN**  
Associated Press Writer

NORTH ADAMS, Mass. — Appearing on her public-access cable TV show about paper-mache masks, Royce Patton suddenly turned to the camera and spewed sexual abuse accusations against a former neighbor's family.

Patton showed video of the family's home and seven children and used their first names. She gave an explicit, profanity laced explanation of how one of the children performed a sex act on a sibling and how the mother was fully aware of it.

"This wasn't freedom of speech," said Mayor John Barrett III. "It was obscene."

Hundreds of calls flooded the town's TV offices after the March 14 show of "Masquerade." Within days Patton's show was canceled and the family she accused filed a citizens libel complaint against her.

Patton, 28, a mother of three children, said she went public in hopes of bringing help to the other family's children. She said she also meant to expose rampant child abuse in this working-class mountain city of 17,000.

"I used the swear words as an attention-getter," Patton said.

But she acknowledged she had not filed a police report.

Fawn Carnes, 33, the mother whom Patton attacked on the show, was watching that night by chance. "My mouth just dropped to the floor. I was crying."

Carnes and Patton were neighbors and friends for more

than two years but had an angry falling out last summer. Patton had videotaped the family while the women were still friends.

Carnes denies Patton's accusations and says their fight was over loaned money and a borrowed bottle of suntan lotion.

"She could have said all she wanted about me and I would have laughed it off, but she brought my babies into this," Carnes said.

Carnes said her family is getting counseling to cope with the public humiliation from the show. She says some of her children, ages 3 to 15, are taunted at school.

And though the mayor asked city police to look into Patton's accusations, no charges have been filed.

"It's totally inappropriate," police Detective Robert Canale said. "You don't go on TV, especially when children are involved."

Still, Patton remains unbowed. "Everything I said is true," Patton said Monday. "Apparently, I touched on one of the town taboos."

Meanwhile, officials of the local public-access system are working on clarifying their guidelines over what is acceptable. New telecommunications law gives local cable systems broader power to squelch programming that is found to carry "obscenity, indecency or nudity."

Still, David Fabiano, the system's director, said public-access TV managers have virtually no power to censor.

"In this case, yes," he said. "I'm sure I would have loved to have that power."

# Christopher Reeve to work in movies again

By **The Associated Press**

NEW YORK — Christopher Reeve will be back in the movies soon — as the voice of the noble King Arthur.

The "Superman" star, who has made heroic efforts to recover from a paralyzing horse-riding accident last May, will perform in the upcoming cartoon feature "The Quest for Camelot." Warner Bros. announced Monday.

Reeve "is a wonderful actor whose talents we all admire enormously," said Max Howard, president of Warner Bros. Feature Animation.

"He was our unanimous first choice for the role of King Arthur," Howard said. "Chris'

voice will infuse the ideal qualities of energy, power and warmth into King Arthur."

Reeve is to record his lines in New York this summer.

Paralyzed from the neck down, he has endured months of therapy to allow him to breathe for longer and longer periods without a respirator.

Just last week, he inspired the audience at the Academy Awards by challenging Hollywood to do more to make socially relevant films.

"Let's continue to take risks. Let's tackle the issues," he said. "In many ways our film community can do it better than anyone else. There is no challenge, artistic or otherwise, that we can't meet."

# Geologists baffled by recent sporadic eruptions of Old Faithful.

**YELLOWSTONE** - Old Faithful, the world's most famous geyser, isn't faithful anymore, it

the turn of the century, Old Faithful was highly dependable in hourly eruptions, to the minute. In the past 25 years, a huge geyser has been timed at anywhere to 77 minutes.

"It's embarrassing for us," commented D.B. Sweeney. "I've been here for and suddenly, we have to tell people and wait. Believe it or not, some

geologists have speculated that the syndrome is brought about by

to the geyser. Curious visitors have



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**BLONDIE**

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**BETLE BAILEY**

by Mort Walker



**THE BORN LOSER**

by Art Sansom



**PEANUTS**

by Charles M. Schulz



**ECK & MECK**

by Howie Schneider



**TUMBLEWEEDS**

by T.K. Ryan



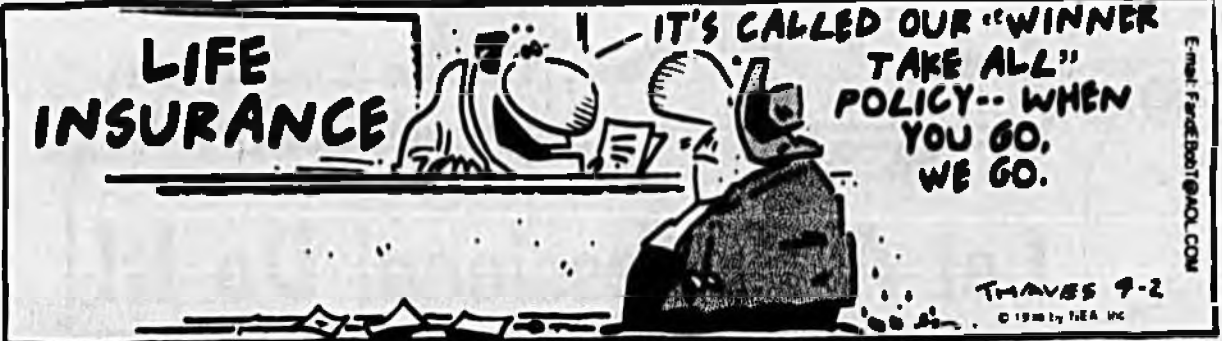
**ARLO AND JANIS**

by Jimmy Johnson



**FRANK AND ERNEST**

by Bob Thaves



**GARFIELD**

by Jim Davis



**ROBOTMAN**

by Jim Meddick



**Is doctor's advice too extreme?**

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 53-year-old Caucasian male. Six years ago I had a prostate infection, after which I underwent biopsy, ultrasound and PSA. Four years ago, I changed urologists because I moved. He insisted on another ultrasound, examination and PSA. He now says I need still another set of testing so he can compare the results. I think because of the cost, limited insurance, and no problems, this is unnecessary. Do you, also?

DEAR READER: Yes, I agree. But you'd better question your present urologist further. Did he, for example, obtain the records from the original doctor who tested you and performed the biopsy? Perhaps this information would provide the comparison he needs.

What about the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test? Was it normal or has there been a problem? Finally, in the new doctor's defense, the results of the new testing may be equivocal. In this instance, re-testing would be appropriate.

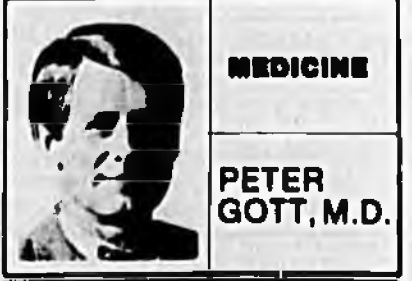
On the other hand, if the results of your former — and current — testing were normal, I see no point in simply mowing the same lawn; an annual rectal examination and PSA determination should suffice.

Again, you should review the situation with the new urologist, ask him questions and discover the rationale behind his recommendation. Then you will be able to make an educated choice about how to proceed.

To give you more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "The Prostate Gland." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 25-year-old female who gave birth to my son almost a year ago. We could not understand after reading literature why anyone would not breast feed her baby, yet within a week, all the negative aspects became apparent: painful nipples, little rest, around-the-clock feedings, and, ultimately, fat and flabby breasts. Is there a remedy? The pain is gone now that he is weaned, but will my breasts ever have the shape they once did?

DEAR READER: Breasts customarily lose their shape after pregnancy, especially multiple pregnancies in women with heavy breasts. These changes may be accentuated by breast feeding.

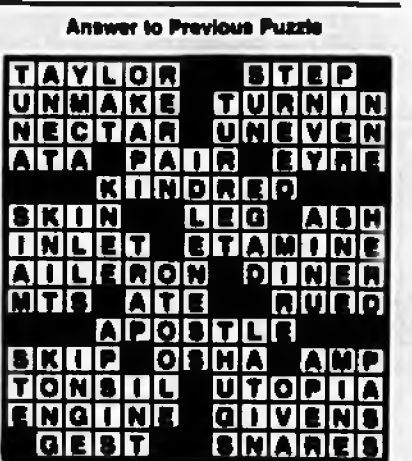


I am not aware of any non-surgical method that alters flabby breasts once the changes have occurred. However, plastic surgeons are very skilled at correcting such a situation.

Ask your obstetrician for a referral to this type of specialist.

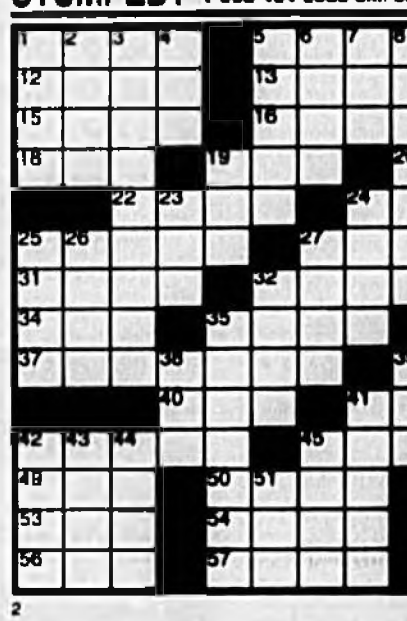
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- ACROSS**
- 1 Yawn
  - 5 Tree fluids
  - 9 Roman 2,001
  - 12 Invalid
  - 13 Actor Robert De —
  - 14 Author Fleming
  - 15 Wild sheep
  - 16 Type of code
  - 17 Food additive (abbr.)
  - 18 Armed conflict
  - 19 Fem. title
  - 20 Social grace
  - 22 Relating to grandparents
  - 24 Roman 1,002
  - 25 Dancer Alvin —
  - 27 British actor John —
  - 31 Determination
  - 32 Actress Teri —
  - 33 Pig — poke
  - 34 Clever phrase
  - 35 Alaskan city
  - 36 Smooth-spoken
- DOWN**
- 1 Bite
  - 2 Distinctive air
  - 3 Large number
  - 4 Actor Wallace —
  - 5 Knot
  - 6 person
  - 8 Annapolis grad
  - 41 Strong wind
  - 42 Buenos —
  - 45 Carera
  - 46 Ted Danson role
  - 49 Mother of Mite.
  - 50 Tropical nut
  - 52 Animal org.
  - 53 Among (abbr.)
  - 54 Actor —
  - 55 Novello
  - 56 Singer
  - 57 Eartha —
  - 58 Cricket positions
  - 59 Pappa
  - 60 Positive votes



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- 6 Ventilates
- 7 Opposite of post
- 8 Sudler
- 9 Opera heroine
- 10 Church service
- 11 Florio author
- 18 Spring month
- 21 Grass
- 23 Dog doc
- 24 March
- 25 Phrenetic symbol
- 26 Golf club
- 27 Smokey
- 28 Jazz player
- 29 Dizzy —
- 30 Entry
- 30 Sprays
- 31 Springy
- 32 Divinics
- 36 Lies certain tree
- 36 Baseballer
- 36 Hodge
- 38 Stinging insect
- 39 Male lace
- 41 Reverse
- 42 Cannonballs (sl.)
- 43 — the head —
- 44 Bright colors
- 46 Trudge
- 47 Official records
- 48 Small rug
- 51 Eggs
- 52 Shade of blue

**WIN AT BRIDGE**

**Dapper and deadly**

Crawford defended brilliantly on this deal from an international match against Great Britain.

Against four spades doubled, West started with the heart ace and immediately led a diamond to dummy's eight. Crawford played low smoothly!

Thinking everything was for the best in the best of all possible worlds, South unwisely drew trumps and played a diamond to West's jack and dummy's queen. However, Crawford produced the king out of his back pocket and switched to clubs, defeating the contract by three tricks.

Note that if Crawford had won the first diamond trick, declarer would have had no trouble drawing trumps and running the diamonds for his contract.

"I'm sorry, I wouldn't play in that game. It would be too tough."

North 04-02-96

▲ K J 5  
♥ 10 8 3  
♦ A Q 10 8 2  
♣ 7

West East

▲ 10 7 6  
♥ A 7 3  
♦ J 5  
♣ A Q J 10 6

▲ 4 3  
♥ K J 9 6 4 2  
♦ K 4  
♣ K 3

South

▲ A Q 9 8 2  
♥ Q  
♦ 7 6 3  
♣ 9 5 4 2

Vulnerable: Neither  
Dealer: West

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	1 ♠	1 ♠	1 ♠
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	4 ♠
Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ A

**HOROSCOPE**

traits seem less visible. You should be especially diligent in regard to work habits and co-workers.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Your impulsive nature might cause you to take unwise shortcuts today. If you treat time as an enemy instead of as an ally, you could complicate your life.

**CANCER (June 21-July 23)** If you do not plan your agenda properly today, you might start things you can't finish. These tasks may not come to fruition for a long time.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 23)** You might find yourself in the minority today in regard to an issue about which you feel strongly. Try not to argue with both adversaries and allies.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 23)** Guard against the inclination to make commitments you know you can't keep today. Base your promises on sincerity, not on impulse.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Today, if you rely too heavily on others, you will be disappointed. If you want to succeed, you must be extremely self-sufficient.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 23)** Do what you can to help friends today, but take care not to let their burdens overwhelm you and cause you to be ineffective as well.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** Involvements with friends could be more complicated than usual today. Steer clear of pals who play politics and pit one friend against another.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** It is commendable to be your own person, provided that you can take both praise and criticism. Do not place blame on people who disagree with you.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)** You will not have too much luck today if you don't believe in what you are trying to sell or promote. Sincerity will be the crucial element.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)** Financial trends will be unsteady today, so don't push your luck by gambling or speculating. You may push too hard or too far.

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**ANNIE**

by Leonard Starr

