

The Des Moines Register

THE NEWSPAPER IOWA DEPENDS UPON ■ Des Moines, Iowa, Wednesday Morning, Nov. 24, 1976
Two Sections, price 20 cents

THE WEATHER — Partly cloudy through Thursday. High today near 50, low tonight in lower 30s. High Thursday near 60. Sunrise: 7:14; sunset: 4:48.

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CARTER SETS 1977 GOALS FOR ECONOMY

Plans 6% growth rate, 1.5% unemployment cut

From The Register's Wire Services
WASHINGTON, D.C. — President-elect Jimmy Carter said Tuesday he has set goals of a 6 per cent growth rate for the nation's economy and a 1.5 per cent unemployment reduction for his administration in 1977.

At a news conference in the Capitol held between meetings with congressional leaders and committee chairmen, Carter said that by inauguration day, Jan. 20, he will have prepared "a comprehensive program for the stimulation of the economy and the reduction of unemployment."

However, Carter said it would be "a mistake to presuppose that a tax cut would be my approach" to stimulating the economy. He did not, however, rule out a tax cut.

Carter made a positive impression on leaders of both parties as he repeatedly pledged to consult with Congress on appointments and to cooperate on both foreign and domestic policy.

"The honeymoon has begun, and I feel that he intends it to be a long honeymoon," said Senator Charles Percy (Rep., Ill.).

Transition Staff

There were several developments in what Carter called "another very exciting day in the life of the President-elect."

● Carter named 133 persons to his Washington transition staff, giving a strong hint about the shape and priorities of his administration. The list mixed Carter veterans and newcomers and appeared more liberal than had been expected, especially in the economic sphere. About a quarter are women, some active feminists, and the list was studded with leading public-interest advocates. The average age was about 34.

● Two senators said Carter was willing to listen to a proposal that he name Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to be special envoy to the Middle East next year.

● Carter is expected to announce the list of candidates for most major Cabinet and White House posts in the next week to 10 days, his aides reported.

But Carter said he would be slow in making his major cabinet appointments. Before he makes any major appointment, Carter said, he will consult with the chairman of the Senate committee responsible for the confirmation. In some cases, he said, he might present a list of two or three acceptable appointments.

Carter said the next secretary of agriculture would be a Midwesterner with on-the-farm experience.

The Los Angeles Times said Carter plans to appoint Thomas Bertram Lance, 45, an Atlanta, Ga., banker and fiscal conservative, to the Cabinet-level post of director of the Office of Management and Budget.

The Boston Herald American said Carter's choice for secretary of state was narrowed down to three persons: Democratic Senators Edmund Muskie of Maine and Alan Cranston of California and Democratic Representative Andrew Young of Georgia.

Carter also said he expects Arthur Burns to complete his term as chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

Meanwhile, United Auto Workers President Leonard Woodcock said he will not take a Cabinet post under Carter.

During his meetings with congress-

CARTER

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"You wouldn't want to take over a little early, would you Jimmy?"

Gunman robs Pulaski bank, thanks hostage with \$2,000

By EILEEN OGINTZ
Register Staff Writer

A freckle-faced bandit in his early 20s — who acted as if he might have taken lessons from Bonnie and Clyde — pulled off the first known bank robbery in Davis County history Tuesday.

In the caper, the robber:

● Got several thousand dollars from the State Savings Bank of Cantril office in Pulaski.

● Locked bank manager Bill Boatman and two other persons in the vault.

● Forced a hostage to drive him from the scene at gunpoint — then rewarded the man with \$2,000 in stolen money.

● Met his girl friend who was waiting down the road — and escaped with her.

According to the FBI, the sandy-haired bandit, dressed in blue jeans and a sweatshirt, entered the bank about 1:15 p.m. toting a shotgun and wearing a stocking mask.

After getting the money, he forced the three persons in the bank into the vault. They were trapped for 45 minutes before another bank employee, Lela Sherman — the only person other than Boatman who knew the combination — could be found.

While the three captives screamed for help, the robber calmly walked next door to John's DX station, where he forced Wilbur Wheaton to drive out of town with him in Wheaton's green pick-up truck.

The bandit must have been in a good mood. He released Wheaton in front of the old Mennonite Church three miles east of Pulaski (about seven miles from Bloomfield) and gave him \$2,000 for his trouble, according to the FBI.

At the church, the bandit's girlfriend was waiting in a 1969 white Pontiac, Wheaton told the FBI.

She, too, was in her early 20s, Wheaton said, and had long blonde

curly hair. The two left Wheaton and his truck and drove off in the car, which had Iowa plates.

No shots were fired at any time, authorities said, and no one was hurt.

The two were being hunted Tuesday night in southern Iowa and northern Missouri, according to the FBI.

The Pulaski stick-up was the ninth robbery of a financial institution in Iowa in the past month.

"We really have no explanation," said senior resident FBI agent Dale Moritz in Des Moines when asked about the rash of robberies.

"There is just no common thread running through them," he said.

The other eight robberies have occurred in Des Moines.

Anyone with information about the Pulaski holdup is asked to call the FBI collect at (402) 348-1210 or the Davis County sheriff's office at (515) 664-2385.

INSIDE THE REGISTER

Assassination probes

The chief counsel of a House committee investigating the assassinations of President Kennedy and Martin Luther King, Jr., promises independent probe that will not rely on the FBI or the CIA Page 4A

Hearst threatened

A bomb threat was received at a hotel where Patty Hearst and her attorney were having a drink Monday night Page 10A

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Could 'holiday killer' be responsible for 2 Waverly slayings?

By JACK HOVELSON
Register Staff Writer

WAVERLY, IA. — The person who murdered two attractive young women here within a year may be a "holiday killer" who is prone to strike again at Thanksgiving or Christmas.

That possibility is raised in an FBI "psychological profile" of the unknown slayer of Julia Ann Benning, an 18-year-old Waverly cocktail waitress, and 20-year-old Lisa Peak, a sophomore at Wartburg College here.

Benning disappeared a year ago, the day after Thanksgiving. Her nude body was found four months later in a ditch near Shell Rock.

Peak was last seen alive last Sept. 6 — Labor Day. Her nude body was discovered the next morning in a ditch north of Waverly.

Both women had been strangled, and probably sexually assaulted. Authorities are convinced they were killed by the same person. Iowa Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) agents submitted information they had collected in both cases to the FBI for the purpose of devising a psychological profile of the murderer.

Extra Precautions

The "holiday killer" characteristic is one of several listed in the profile of the Waverly slayer.

Bremer County Atty. Paul Riffel acknowledged the finding, and said that it has prompted local authorities to take some extra precautions this Thanksgiving week.

Asked if a general warning to the community had been considered, Riffel said, "Yes, it was, but granted that both murders occurred during holiday periods, it's still difficult to determine how much significance should be put in that."

Riffel said Tuesday that several persons here have noted that the murders happened on or near holidays.

"The people here seem to be well aware of the holiday connection ... no one knows for sure," he said.

Hundreds of Interviews

BCI agents and local authorities have interviewed several hundred persons since the Peak slaying. Polygraph tests have been given to some potential suspects, according to sources close to the investigation, which has been the most extensive ever in Bremer County.

The Peak murder is the third unsolved slaying here — all apparently sexually motivated — in the past 5½ years. Investigators doubt that the first one — the June, 1971, murder of 14-year-old Valerie Klossowsky of Waverly — is connected with the recent two killings.

The Klossowsky girl's partially nude body was found on a creek bank under a bridge on a lonely country road 10 miles southeast of Waverly. She had been strangled. The girl was last seen alive two days before near the Waverly municipal swimming pool.

Benning was last seen the afternoon of Nov. 28, 1975, walking on Bremer Avenue, Waverly's main street, on her way to work at the Sir Lounge in the downtown business district. A 1975 graduate of Plainfield High School, Benning lived on a farm near Clarksville but was staying with a grandmother here while employed at the Waverly lounge.

A missing person search that sometimes extended to other states produced no clues to the woman's whereabouts until a Butler County road maintenance worker found her decomposed body in a ditch near Shell Rock on Mar. 18.

Six Miles Away

Peak's body was found about six miles from that spot. It was under a lone cottonwood tree beside a gravel road just outside Waverly's north city limits. Friends at Wartburg College — Peak had returned to the campus the day before she disappeared following summer vacation — said they last saw Peak during the early afternoon Labor Day when she told them she was going shopping. There have been reports that she was seen later at a shopping center at the west edge of Waverly.

The Peak case took a bizarre turn when it was disclosed that the victim earlier this year supplied authorities with information that led to the arrest of a Mason City man in connection with a sensational sex and extortion scheme.

John J. Carmody, Jr., a used car salesman in Mason City, ultimately was sentenced to 40 years in prison after he pleaded guilty to rape and extortion charges in connection with the scheme.

It is believed that investigators have all but ruled out any connection between the sex scheme and the woman's murder. They do believe that the two most recent murder victims were lured to the killer without the use of force.



LISA PEAK

JULIA ANN BENNING

Glenn calls for review of gifts law

By JOHN HYDE
Register Staff Writer

Iowa Senator Gene Glenn (Dem., Ottumwa), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, said Tuesday he will call for a "thorough review" of the current Iowa gifts law when the legislative session begins.

The law — which prohibits gifts to public officials in excess of \$25 — has been called to public attention recently because of questions arising from Iowa Gov. Robert Ray's recent two-week, all-expenses-paid trip to Taiwan.

Glenn said a number of recent attorney general's opinions on the gift law "have had the effect of amending it, or perhaps even nullifying it" by making certain exceptions.

Glenn said he takes "considerable exception" to those opinions, and plans to ask Atty. Gen. Richard Turner to appear before the judiciary committee as part of the review.

Between the passage of the law, in 1967, and 1974 the attorney general's office issued a series of opinions that held that travel expenses of a state official could not be paid for by outside interests. The only exceptions stated in the statute are campaign contributions and gifts which are unrelated to legislative activities or state employment.

Intent of Gift

On Aug. 6, however, an attorney general's opinion addressed to Republican Senator Philip B. Hill of Des Moines, and written by Solicitor General Richard Haesemeyer, said that the intent of the gift also should be considered.

Hill had asked whether it would be lawful for him to accept travel and hospitality expenses to attend a conference on juvenile justice from Legis 50.

GIFTS

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D.M. skies clear; mercury hovers at 33

Skies cleared over Des Moines late Tuesday afternoon as temperatures remained unseasonably cool across the state.

The mercury climbed to only 33 degrees here while state highs ranged from 22 degrees at Decorah to 39 at Council Bluffs and Lamoni.

A slow warming trend is expected through Thanksgiving Day under clear to partly cloudy skies.

MISSOURI FLU CASE BOOSTS SHOTS DRIVE

Advertising blitz urges prompt vaccinations

From The Register's Wire Services
NEW YORK, N.Y. — The head of the swine flu vaccination program unveiled a nationwide advertising campaign Tuesday and said he hoped news of a Missouri man getting the flu "will have a positive effect" on the program.

There were some indications of renewed interest in getting the flu shots in some areas — New York City and Tennessee, for example. But most health officials questioned in a nationwide check said it was too early to tell if the case would have any effect.

In New York, the city health department said its switchboards were flooded with 30,000 calls. Pascal J. Imperato, in charge of the city's influenza program, said information and instructions were given to about 5,000 of the callers — all that could be handled.

In Nashville, Tenn., the three main clinics reported administering double the number of inoculations. At the Woodbine Clinic, officials said 202 persons were vaccinated Tuesday, compared with 90 on Monday.

The interest picked up after government scientists Tuesday said they are "all but sure" a 32-year-old Missouri man has become the fall's first case of swine flu, and they ordered an emergency shipment of 1.2 million doses of vaccine to meet an increased demand by other Missourians.

Not counting the military, only 19 million Americans had been immunized before the case was reported.

A spokeswoman for the government's vaccination program said laboratory tests performed by the federal Center for Disease Control (CDC) in Atlanta, Ga., confirm that antibodies against the disease have been found in the blood of Larry Hardison, a telephone lineman from Concordia, Mo.

Hardison, who has recovered with no ill effects, had the virus in mid-October.

He said his symptoms were a sore throat, a cough, a temperature of 100 to 101 degrees and a slight burning in the chest. He said he was never "too sick."

Hardison said the attention he is getting now is more bothersome than the flu itself. "I've got a television crew in my kitchen," he reported when contacted at his home during the lunch hour.

No Proof

The spokeswoman said there is no proof it was the swine flu virus which made Hardison ill. One reason is that Hardison's blood also contained antibodies against a second strain of flu called A-Victoria, so that it is difficult to determine whether it was one or both strains of the virus that were at fault.

Last winter, while swine flu killed one person, A-Victoria flu was blamed for the deaths of about 11,000.

A spokesman for the CDC said the two flu strains are very similar. Besides fever, chills and headache, a flu victim may have a dry cough and general soreness and aching, the spokesman said. "The only way to confirm it (swine flu) is by laboratory tests," he said.

There is no specific treatment for flu, although doctors generally

FLU

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Harvard's oldest freshman ever

By EDWARD B. FISKE

© 1974 New York Times

Harry Gersh is the second generation in his family to go to Harvard. The first was his son.

Gersh is 63 years old and, as far as can be determined, is the oldest student ever to enroll as a freshman at Harvard. Every weekday he takes a tennis tote that has been converted into a book bag and goes off to pursue a Harvard diploma with students at least 45 years his junior.

He does it in a way that would have made John Harvard proud.

"When I retired, I decided that keeping my mind in shape would be more fulfilling than chasing a golf ball," he explained in a recent interview. "But I didn't want those mush courses that most schools serve up to older students. I thought the discipline of meeting the requirements for a regular degree would be a more worthwhile experience."

Mistaken for Professor

Gersh is a short, pleasant man who, with his beard, pipe, turtle neck shirt

and sports coat, is usually taken for a professor.

"The guards don't usually ask me for my I.D.," he said.

He was born in Philadelphia and, shortly after graduation from West Philadelphia High School, had to drop his studies to help support his family. He took courses at various times, but never completed a college degree. For more than four decades Gersh worked as a reporter and editor, as speech writer for W. Averell Harriman, as information director for the New York State Department of Labor and, for 18 years until his retirement, as public relations director for Martin E. Segal Company, an actuarial concern in Manhattan. On the side he wrote more than 100 radio and television scripts, numerous magazine articles and nine books, mostly on Jewish religion and culture.

Gersh and his wife, Violet, lived in Tuckahoe, N.Y., where they raised their two children. Their son, John, went to Harvard but dropped out in 1958 in the spring of his senior year. He completed his studies elsewhere and

now teaches electrical engineering at the United States Naval Academy. Their daughter, Ruth, a 1975 graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, is a graduate journalism student at the University of Michigan.

Two years ago, with his retirement approaching and the end of his children's education in sight, Gersh decided that he wanted to complete his own college degree.

Received \$10,000 Grant

To help pay Harvard's \$4,200 tuition as well as other expenses Gersh managed to negotiate a form of assistance that is not usually part of a financial aid package: a \$10,000 grant from the Ford Foundation to write about his experiences. "The guy is unusually lively and interesting," explained Peter de Janosi of the foundation staff. "We thought he would provide some useful insights into the experiences of older students."

Gersh takes a normal freshman program consisting of Byzantine

FRESHMAN

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