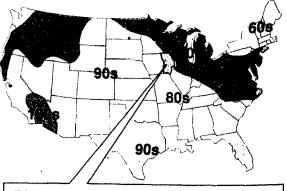


### Sept. 12, 1992

IOWA TODAY, FINAL EDITION CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA VOL. 110 NO. 247 50 CENTS





FORECAST: Partly cloudy, breezy and warm today. Highs 78-82; lows 56-60. Today's daylight: 12 hrs., 39 min. See 14D.

Killing called

wickedness'

Pastor seeks to comfort

Knutson relatives, friends

By Vai Swinton

Gazette Northeast Iowa Bureau NEW HAMPTON — Calling her murder "a

crazy act of wickedness," the Rev. Bernard Oebser sought to comfort friends and relatives of

Rhonda Knutson on Friday with a reminder she is in a heavenly mansion with Jesus Christ. An overflow crowd of more than 500 mourn-

ers packed Trinity Lutheran Church for Knutson's funeral. Her body was found about 4:45 a.m. Monday in the back of the Williamstown

Rhonda Knutson

■ Turn to page 8A: Knutson

Store, a convenience

store six miles south of

New Hampton where she

worked the overnight

She had been beaten

"Things just go haywire in this world occasionally," Oebser said.
"As in Rhonda's death,

someone allowed the

power of evil to take

over his life and snuff

Hampton High School.

out Rhonda's life.'

in the head by a blunt

object. No motive has been established and no arrests have been made.

'a crazy act of

# TV VISION

**Bob Newhart** back in "Bob" Page 2T

### BASEBALL SCORES

### **AMERICAN**

Orioles 3, Brewers 2 Yankees 2, Royals 1 Blue Jays 7, Rangers 5 Indians 5, White Sox 1 Red Sox 7, Tigers 6 Angels 8, Twins 0 Mariners at Athletics, late

NATIONAL

Phillies 5, Pirates 2 Expos 4, Mets 3 Cubs 8, Cardinals 2 Braves 7, Astros 0 Reds at Padres, late Giants at Angels, late



### BRIDFLY

### Birds of a feather...

Have place to flock together

Through massive house-building efforts, Iowa bird enthusiasts are giving the bluebird population a boost. Aiding their feathered friends is very gratifying to the bird lovers. Details on page 1B.

### lowa vs. ISU today

Fry: Hawkeyes are ready

Hawkeyes are prepared for today's annual tilt against Iowa State. But the Cyclones hope a new triple-option offense provides the tonic needed to end a ninegame losing streak against Iowa. **Details** on page 1C.

### Speeding to game is risky

Police in Cedar Rapids have this warning for motorists today: "Watch your speed, because we will be."

In conjunction with today's Iowa-Iowa State football game at Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City, the department will be monitoring speed and seat-belt compliance on Highway 30, Interstate 380 and Highway 965.

The department frequently conducts similar checks before and after rock concerts at the Five Seasons Center in Cedar Rapids.

Troopers with the Iowa State Patrol also will be out en masse to monitor motorists and control traffic along interstates 80 and 380 near Iowa City.

### IN DIDX

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### TODAY'S CHUCKLE

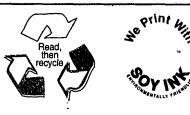
Some people are as honest as the day is long — during winter in Alas-

### TOMORROW

### Kids and guns

Bringing weapons to school

How do Eastern Iowa school administrators deal with reports that students are bringing guns to school? The problem isn't a big one, but it does exist. Find out about their plans on Page 1A in Sunday's Gazette.



# Iniki hits Hawaiian isle

### Oahu spared full force of 160-mph hurricane

LIHUE, Hawaii (AP) - Hurricane Iniki dealt a direct blow to Kauai Island on Friday with wind gusting to 160 mph and torrential rain. Twenty-foot waves crashed over coastal highways and the island lost all power and telephone service even before the worst of the storm hit.

It was the most powerful hurricane in the Hawaiian Islands this century, said Bob Sheets, director of the National Hurricane Center in Coral Gables, Fla. He said Iniki was about as strong as devastating Hurricane Andrew, which roared through the Bahamas, south Florida and Louisiana

The island is roughly circular and 30 miles across and has a population of more than 50,000.

Oahu, the state's most populated island. is separated from Kauai by an 80-milewide channel and was spared the brunt of the storm. But a 10- to 20-foot surf pounded Oahu's southern coast, heavy rain fell, power lines were blown down and roofs to some houses were damaged.

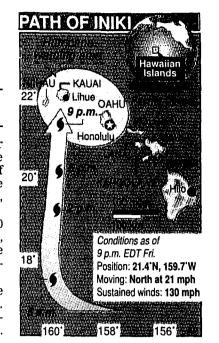
Iniki had sustained wind to 130 mph and gusts to 160 mph as it passed over Kauai, the weather service said. That was down from 145 mph, with 175 mph gusts, earlier Friday.

The extent of damage on Kauai couldn't be determined immediately. But Kauai Mayor JoAnn Yukimura was talking with ■ Rebuilding businesses key to South Florida recovery, 9C

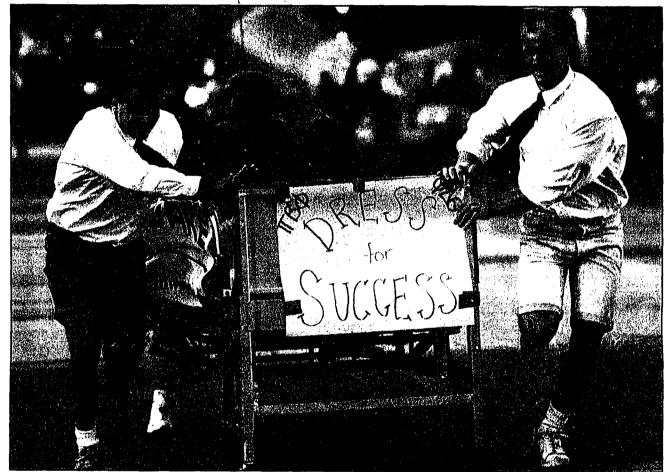
Gov. John Waihee as the storm swept over the island and reported that the roof of the state office building in Lihue was torn off and windows of the county building were blown out, said Waihee's press secretary, Carolyn Tanaka.

Yukimura said wind was exceeding 100 mph and debris was blowing everywhere, but she didn't know how extensive the damage was, Tanaka said. Then communications with the island were lost.

The eye of the fast-moving hurricane passed over Kauai starting at about 4 p.m. (9 p.m. CDT), said Andy Chun, lead forecaster at the weather service in Honolulu.



### Bed on the run



Jeff Wahl (left), Jason Licar (right), Mary Kegaly (left, behind bed) and Shannon O'Toole push a bed last night in the 18th Annual Bed Races in downtown lowa City. Riding on the bed is Angela Dullenty. Wahl and Licar are in Phi Delta Theta fraternity, and the women are in Pi Beta Phi sorority. The bed races are among the activities leading up to the lowa-lowa State football game today.

# 'Bedlam' even before big game

By Lyle Muller

Gazette Johnson County Bureau IOWA CITY - Mark Lukkarinen was describing how it feels to push a person in a bed one city block in downtown Iowa City last evening.

"It felt good until about threequarters of the way down," the University of Iowa senior said.

From his tired teammate, senior David Masino: "I was looking for someone to jump out of the crowd and help us push.'

And those were the winners.

They were among six teams of bed racers who took to Clinton Street in front of Old Capitol to push a bed-riding classmate from Iowa Avenue to Washington Street.

It is a tradition the Friday night before the big Iowa-Iowa State football game when the game is played in Iowa City. When Iowa State isn't in town, they do it anyway before some other game.

It is meant to be fun. Race announcer Glen Gardner of KRNA radio in Iowa City referred to it simply as "bedlam."

Lukkarinen, Masino, Stacy Farr and Jennifer Dover pushed Traci Thompson to victory. Lukkarinen and Masino are from the Sigma Tau Gamma fraternity and Farr, Dover and Thompson are from the Alpha Xi Delta sorority

Race organizer Chad McInnis, a senior, said this is the 18th year the races have been held. The Iowa City Area Chamber of Commerce ally was just a race.'

duce businesses and the rest of the community to returning U of I stu-

"It's really the students' town," McInnis said. "They're going to be here four more years, so they should get to know the area busi-

Some of the competition last night was tough. Not.

The spirit of the affair was typified by the team that ambled down the street, lamely pushing Chris "Moose" Forbes as he either ate popcorn or threw it at the crowd.

"It was a flat tire," Forbes said, trying to explain his team's dismal showing. Then, profoundly: "It re-

# Girl, 8, rescued from rattlesnakes by family's dog

Knutson's charcoal-colored casket was open

for viewing from an hour before the funeral

until the service began. Then the casket was

closed and a bouquet of roses was placed on top

before it was wheeled to the front of the church.

church. Hundreds of other mourners were

Knutson's age. She was a 1988 graduate of New

Addressing those young people specifically, Oebser warned them to make the most of their

Relatives filled nine pews at the front of the

OVELAND, Colo. (AP) — Lady's not a tramp, she's a heroine.

The 9-year-old Husky-retriever mix risked her life to save an 8-year-old girl from some rattlesnakes during a Labor Day outing near here, the youngster says.

Teresa Martinez says she heard the buzz of a rattlesnake — then several rattlers — as she led a pack of children into some bushes.

'I heard a twitching noise like a snake - I saw a snake," the girl recalled. "He didn't look very nice. . . . It sounded like a monster coming up from the

Lady, the family dog, bounded to the

"Lady got right in there for the kids," said Teresa's mother, Laura.

The dog attacked the snakes and Teresa ran for safety — but not before she saw one of the snakes strike Lady.

'It went up, came down, and then she bit," Teresa said.

Lady kept fighting the snakes until all the children were safe. The dog came away with three bites.

The family took Lady to a veterinary hospital about 15 miles away. By the time they arrived, Lady's head had swollen and one eye was shut, Teresa's

Lady was treated and is back home. Her face is shaved and sore, but she's getting a heroine's treatment - hot dogs with her medicine.

# Tom Arnold behind mascot incident

By Dan Dundon Gazette Metro-lowa editor

Comedian Tom Arnold got a little annoyed with a fan at last week's University of Iowa football game, and the Miami Hurricanes' mascot paid the price.

Arnold, who calls Ottumwa his home, was one of the 70,397 fans who packed Kinnick Stadium on Saturday to watch the Hurricanes assault the Hawkeyes.

But an assault of another type occurred on the sidelines when a fan ran from the stands and began beating up the Miami mascot for no apparent reason.

What most of the fans didn't know then was that Arnold played a major role inciting the incident. Several nights later on "The Arsenio Hall Show," Arnold explained that he had become annoyed with the behavior of one the fans, 32-year-old Craig David Howard of Iowa City. Howard, whom Arnold referred to as Woody, just

Turn to page 8A: Arnold



Gazette photo by Chris Stewart

Craig David Howard of Iowa City is led away by state troopers after he tackled the Miami Hurricanes' mascot during last week's game.

Pallbearers carry the casket of Rhonda Knutson to a hearse after her funeral Friday at Trinity Lutheran Church in New Hampton. Her body was found early Monday in the Williamstown Store, a convenience store south of New Hampton where she worked the overnight shift.

# Murder victim gets parking ticket in L.A.

LOS ANGELES — A Los Angeles County parking control officer who ticketed a Cadillac parked illegally on Piru Street in South-Central Los Angeles Friday morning got no excuses from the driver sitting stiffly behind his steering wheel.

The motorist had been caught fair and square, illegally parked next to the curb on street-sweeping day. The parking officer left the ticket and drove off without an argument.

But there was another reason for the driver's silence. He was dead, shot in the head perhaps as early as 13 hours before his car was ticketed, county sheriff's homicide investigators said Fri-

In a bureaucratic reflex that might well serve as a textbook example of public servants' indifference to the public they serve, authorities said Friday that the civilian parking officer apparently ticketed the dead motorist, left the \$30 citation on the man's dashboard and drove off without contacting authorities.

"He was noticeably dead," said county paramedic Paul Hatherly, one of the first authorities on the scene. "The driver's window was three-quarters down. He had severe rigor mortis. He was discolored. . . . But whoever put the ticket there was clueless.'

Los Angeles County firefighters said that sheriff's deputies went to Piru Street at about 10:35 a.m. PDT Friday after being called by a resident who noticed the body in the brown El Dorado. Paramedics and firefighters who arrived soon after the deputies said that they found the driver sitting up, slumped slightly forward with blood on his face. And they found the ticket — dated Friday, 9:46 a.m. — lying on the dashboard.

### Survey: Half of Americans back women in combat jobs

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Two years after the Persian Gulf War put a new spotlight on women in the U.S. military, almost half of Americans believe that women should no longer be banned from holding combat jobs in times of conflict, a new nationwide survey has found.

Forty-seven percent of those polled said they opposed current government policy excluding women from front-line duties. Slightly fewer, 44 percent, supported the ban.

The survey, conducted in July by the highly regarded Roper Organization Inc., is the first com-

prehensive gauge of the public's views on the politically charged issue, which is being pressed with new fervor by women's groups, some elected officials and reform advocates in the armed forces.

The results are expected to play a role in shaping future policy and influencing the conclusions of the Presidential Commission on the Assignment on Women in the Armed Forces, which commissioned the poll. The survey consisted of 1,700 telephone interviews and has a margin of error of three percentage points.

But while the poll documented

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support for unprecedented change in military policy regarding women, officials looking to it for an unmistakable signal will be disappointed. The absence of a clear majority on either side could mean that military considerations, rather than equal-opportunity concerns, will prevail in future deliberations.

Lawmakers and senior military officers have said that public sentiment would be a key factor in determining future roles for military women.

The president's commission heard testimony about the poll Friday as members began their final stage of deliberations.

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# **Knutson:** 'Sadness tears us apart'

■ From page 1A

"In Rhonda's case, we can say, 'What does it mean?' There's got to be more than just the piece of iron wielded by a crazy person in a store in the middle of the night."

Youth is more than just a preparation for life, he said.

"It is life itself. You cannot use today to set the stage for tomorrow. There may be no tomor-

Oebser ticked off a list of attributes of Knutson's and said he. too, was moved by her death.

"Wonderful memories. And

now she's gone. The sadness tears us apart. Very difficult time for the family, including me, too, as I stand here trying to keep myself together."

Sheriff Tom Bernatz said his office and other law enforcement agencies have received several phone calls since composite drawings of two men wanted for questioning were released to the news media Thursday.

He declined to say if any of the phone calls have resulted in promising leads.

### Arnold: \$500-\$600 to tackle mascot

From page 1A

kept bothering him. "I said to my buddy, Mo (Kevin Moreland, an Arnold employee), maybe if we could get Woody arrested he would leave us alone," he told Hall during the television inter-

Arnold said he began raising money from people in his party and challenging Howard to go down and tackle the Miami mascot. He said they raised \$500 to \$600 and promised "more if he breaks away from the cops and runs the length of the field and more if he gets on TV," he told

Howard, an Iowa City waiter. took Arnold up on the challenge. He ran out onto the sidelines and in Arnold's words "blindsided" the mascot, who was not injured in the assault.

Howard was arrested by two Iowa Highway Patrol officers and taken to the Johnson County Jail, where he was booked on complaints of assault, disorderly

TROYES, France (AP) — Eight

inmates armed with weapons

smuggled into prison escaped

with two hostages Friday after a

shootout that left a guard and

another inmate dead, police said.

The men fled in two cars after

breaking out of Clairvaux prison

near Troyes, about 100 miles east

of Paris, police said. The fugi-

tives, whose names weren't re-

leased, mostly were serving long

sentences - one until 2056 - for

According to police and wit-

nesses, the escape began when

two inmates overpowered and

took a guard hostage. The prisoners killed another guard in a

shootout that left one prisoner

Guards at the Moulins prison,

about 150 miles south of Paris,

walked off the job late Friday to

dead and two guards wounded.

armed robbery.

conduct and public intoxication. Bail was set at \$390, which was posted by John Steinbach, who works for Arnold in Ottumwa.

Sunday morning, Howard pleaded guilty to all three charges in Johnson County Magistrate's Court. The fines and court charges totaled \$302. The bail money was used to pay the fines with the remainder returned to Steinbach.

As for Howard, he isn't commenting on the incident, refusing to say how much he made on the evening.

As for Arnold, all he'll say through his publicist is "he had a great time and was sorry the Hawks lost."

However, on "The Arsenio Hall Show," he told Hall, "Only in Iowa will you find a guy who knows 100 percent that he's going to get arrested and he'll go out and do that just because it's

protest the Clairvaux breakout.

Guards' unions demanded the

resignation of Justice Minister

Michel Vauzelle, who ordered an

investigation of weapons smug-

The breakout was part of a

Former Interior Minister

wave of prison unrest over the

Charles Pasqua blamed the un-

rest on the recent lifting of the

practice of solitary confinement.

and television, and all the events

outside are known about and

have a snowball effect," Pasqua

A convicted murderer killed a

guard at the Rouen prison Aug.

15. French guards went on strike

for a week until the government

pledged to hire 700 more guards

"The prisons today have radio

gling at France's prisons.

past month.

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