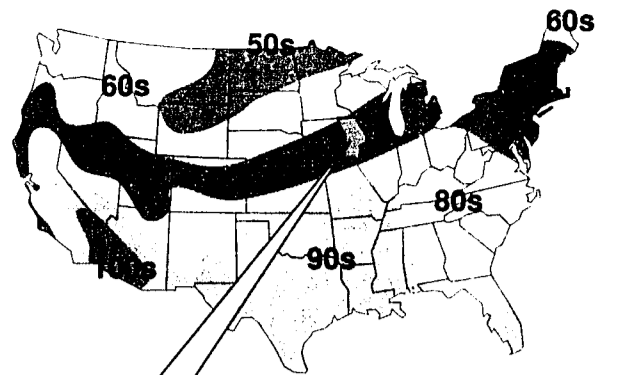




The Gazette

A regional newspaper serving Eastern Iowa



FORECAST: Showers ending followed by gradual clearing. Highs 70-74; lows 50-54. Today's daylight: 12 hrs., 50 min. See 12D.

TUESDAY Sept. 8, 1992

IOWA TODAY, FINAL EDITION
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA
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FOOD PLUS
Healthful
back-to-school
snacks
Page 1C

12 die in sky-diving plane

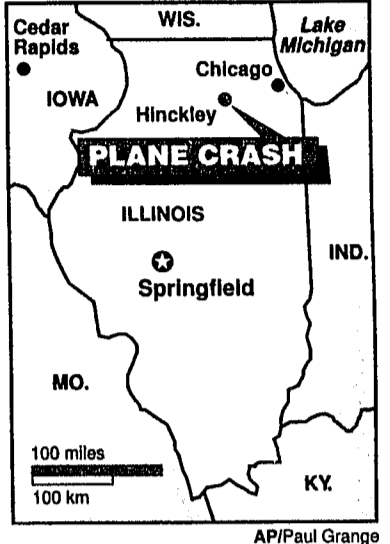
Crash happens soon after takeoff in Illinois

HINCKLEY, Ill. (AP) — A sky-diving plane crashed and burned in a farm field Monday just minutes after takeoff, killing all 12 people on board, authorities said. The twin-engine Beechcraft B-18 went down shortly before 1 p.m. about one mile north of town, said the De Kalb County Sheriff's Department. Rescue workers found the burned bodies of 12 men, Sheriff Roger Scott said. There were parachutes on board, but there was no evidence any of the victims had attempted to leave the plane, he said. The plane was being used by the Hinckley Parachute Center, which has operated

for 22 years and conducts jumps six days a week, said Dave Torres, a friend of owner Jim Baron. Baron was out of state and not immediately available for comment. "This is terrible. This is devastating," said Torres, a police officer who has parachuted for 17 years. Torres said the victims included three first-time jumpers, one on his third jump and several instructors and photographers. "The only thing I wish people would think of is not these crazy people jumping out of airplanes. ... We know that this entails a risk and we chose to do it," he said. Dozens of emergency vehicles were in the field and rescue workers fanned out on foot to search for victims before Scott declared that all aboard had died.

■ Photo of crash site, 6A

Mort Edelstein, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration, said the plane belonged to EXA Inc. in nearby St. Charles and crashed shortly after takeoff from the Hinckley airfield, 50 miles west of Chicago. Some witnesses reported hearing two explosions, Edelstein said. Witness Stephen Lee said he saw the plane flying less than 40 feet from the ground and rocking from side to side. "It was sort of floating down, left to right, left to right. It looked like it would land," he said. "When it hit the ground, the plane flipped over and burst into flames. It was immediately engulfed in flames from front to back."



AP/Paul Grange

BASEBALL SCORES

AMERICAN

Twins 4, Mariners 2
Brewers 2, Indians 0
Angels 3, Athletics 2
Yankees 6, Orioles 2 (13)
Blue Jays at Royals, late
Red Sox at Rangers, late
Only games scheduled



NATIONAL

Cardinals 8, Expos 7 (10)
Cubs 6, Pirates 5 (11)
Braves 7, Dodgers 1
Reds 10, Astros 0
Mets 6, Phillies 3
Padres at Giants, late

BRIEFLY

Economic refugees In hospitable Decorah

Thanks to the efforts of a group of churches, a steady stream of refugees from Laos and Vietnam have been coming to — and working in — Decorah for the last 20 years. **Details on page 1B.**

He's out

Vincent steps down

Baseball commissioner Fay Vincent gave up the fight to keep his job and resigned Monday, four days after an overwhelming no-confidence vote by major-league owners. **Details on page 1D.**

Homesick blues

Blue-collar nomads

There is a growing breed of blue-collar workers who have traded the comfort of family, friends and community for the security of a paycheck. They have become nomads, not by choice, but by necessity. **Details on page 6D.**

Sarajevo shelled

Food supplies running low

Bosnia's Serb leader promised Monday to put heavy guns under U.N. supervision, but shells still rained on Sarajevo. Officials say the city could run out of food stocks in three days. **Details on page 7D.**

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TODAY'S CHUCKLE

No matter how crowded a party gets, there's always room for one bore.

TOMORROW

Dream comes true

The dreams of Riverside window cleaner John Wadendorf, formerly of Cedar Rapids, have definitely come true. He has the job of cleaning the windows at Graceland, the mansion of Elvis Presley. **Details in Wednesday's Gazette.**



Bush hit hard by the 'right'

WASHINGTON — Identify the bleeding-heart liberal columnists who have been savaging President Bush in recent weeks:

A. "He almost certainly will lose, perhaps in a landslide that does considerable damage to his party."

B. "President Bush has undone himself. ... The way he functions has charted a course to disaster for himself and his party."

C. "President Bush says this election is about 'trust,' but the public already knows how much it trusts him (Not a lot)."

The correct answers are A.) George Will, B.) Robert Novak and C.) Paul Gigot, diehard conservatives all.

While Democratic nominee Bill Clinton has a solid core of ideological supporters in the press, few conservative commentators have rallied to Bush's side. Some of the sharpest barbs of the campaign season, in fact, have come from Bush's right.

"I've never in my time in Washington seen fewer defenders of any president, including Richard Nixon," said Novak, who writes a syndicated column and co-hosts a CNN talk show with Rowland Evans. "Everyone in the press is beating up on George Bush."

The tone of conservative commentary, which has ranged from lukewarm support to outright hostility, suggests that opinion journalists may be tougher on one of their own. Just as columnists on the left often assailed President Jimmy Carter as insufficiently liberal, some pundits who might be expected to back Bush have complained loudly that he has betrayed the con-

No holiday from rain



Gazette photo by J. Scott Park

Mark Johnson (left) and Jody Weigel, both of Cedar Rapids, try to grill hamburgers and hot dogs in Bever Park as rain falls around them. The two, who were on a Labor Day picnic Monday with their families, used umbrellas to protect the food and coals. They said they were surprised when rain hit the area earlier than expected.

Happy campers — and campgrounds

Despite rain, E. Iowa sites see big crowds

By Lonnie Zingula
Gazette staff writer

Their first summer as owners of the Jolly Roger Campground in North Liberty was marked by rain and cold, but David and Angel Harper aren't complaining.

"We got our feet wet this summer," Angel Harper said, referring to the business, not the summer's prevailing weather-pattern. "For our first summer, it was very good. A lot busier than I ever thought it could be."

Though fall doesn't officially begin for two weeks, summer unofficially ends for

many on Labor Day weekend. Despite a forecast for a rainy weekend, which came true Sunday evening and Monday, area campground operators reported big crowds.

"We were completely full," said Harper. "I thought because they were forecasting rain all weekend, we wouldn't be very busy."

Provoked perhaps by the second-coolest summer on record and the second-wettest July, Eastern Iowans have apparently taken to ignoring inclement weather predictions or persevering despite them.

All but two of 225 campsites at the Walnut Acres Camp Ground in Monticello were full over the weekend and the summer stacked up as one of its best, said employee Marsha Holub. "When it

was nice, they were out," she said.

Camping did not meet holiday expectations at Palisades-Kepler State Park near Bertram, but total receipts for the summer are up from last year, said Park Ranger Jerry Reisinger. Because water-related activities are not the main feature of the park along the Cedar River, it enjoys a steadier business than campgrounds that focus on activities in which Mother Nature can interfere, said Reisinger.

For those who view camping as an opportunity to escape the crowds, all three campgrounds are open into October. Palisades is open year-round, but water is shut off in October, Reisinger noted.

■ Turn to page 6A: Bush

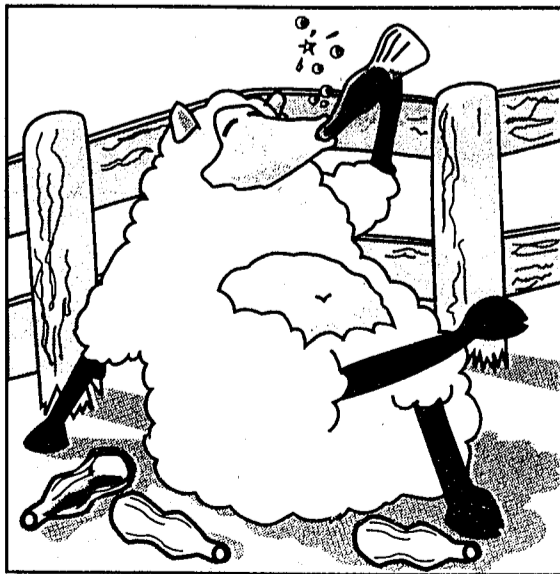
Lambs aren't sheepish about pop

DES MOINES (AP) — Arnold McClain's lambs don't know much about being part of the Pepsi generation. And if Coke is the real thing, it's news to them.

Not that they could tell the difference anyway. When you get all your soft drinks mixed together in a bucket, it's hard to tell them apart.

"Root beer, different colas, strawberry pop. We just put 'em all in," said McClain, the livestock supervisor at Iowa State University's research farm near Chariton. "After all the carbonation is settled out, you'd be surprised how similar they taste. Actually, it tasted pretty good."

Soft drinks for lambs? Not normally, but McClain discovered that many gallons of colas were being discarded daily by a bottling company. He decided to see if the animals liked the stuff, and if so, whether it would help them grow.



Gazette illustration by Greg Good

The answer: They did like it. Mostly. And it did help them grow, although not as fast as he hoped. But it was such a success that he'd like to try pigs next.

McClain said he learned that a soft-drink company, which he declined to name, throws away about

1,800 gallons a day. There's nothing wrong with the drink, he said. Instead, something happened to the cans to make them unmarketable.

The company brought pop to ISU's McNay Research Farm for several weeks last winter.

"A lamb on a fattening ratio needs 3,600 calories a day and normally gets that from corn. We thought if we could get them to drink 25 percent of that in pop, we could expect them to gain 25 percent faster, assuming they ate the same amount of corn," he said.

To gain 900 calories in soft drinks, a lamb would have to drink about a six-pack a day, because each can has about 160 to 200 calories.

The lambs given straight pop, not water, gained less than the ones on water. "They ate probably 25 percent less but gained 18 percent less," he said.

Thus, the pop amounted to a 7 percent savings in corn.

Trucker sought in N. Hampton slaying

From Gazette staff and wire reports

NEW HAMPTON — Police are searching for a truck driver to question in the apparent homicide of a 23-year-old convenience store clerk early Monday.

The Chickasaw County Sheriff's Department said Rhonda Knutson, a clerk at the Williamstown Store, was killed during an apparent robbery. Her body was found inside the store about 4:45 a.m.

Authorities are looking for a dark or light-colored tractor pulling a white or silver trailer and possibly be driven by a white male. He is believed to be heavy-set, 35 to 45 years old, with dark hair and beard.

Anyone who may have seen the truck or driver or stopped at the store during the early morning is asked to contact the Chickasaw County Sheriff's Department at (515) 394-3121.

Sheriff's Department officials would not release the cause of death last night pending an autopsy by the State Medical Examiner's Office.

The 24-hour convenience store is six miles south of New Hampton near the intersections of highways 63, 18 and 346.