

Focus on

West Branch

NEIGHBORS

The Rev. Richard Paulus, West Branch

Comforting the suffering

FORECAST

TODAY

THURSDAY

Becoming sunny

Partly cloudy

Wind: WSW 5-15

Wind: W 6-12

High 68

High 76

Low 50

Low 53

Weather Details 16C

# Keyes' debts detailed

Father-in-law testifies in trial of Springville man accused of killing wife, son in arson

By Dick Hogan  
Gazette staff writer

OSCEOLA — Stephen Keyes was portrayed in court testimony Tuesday as a controlling young man with a penchant for living beyond his family's financial means — but one who appeared to be a good father to his children.

The Keyes' family struggled financially during the sometimes stormy six-year marriage between Stephen and his wife Sandra, and was often subsidized by other family members, according to Tuesday testimony from Doug and Barbara Lint of Cedar Rapids.

The Lints are the parents of Sandra Keyes, 26, who died in a Dec. 26 fire at the rural Springville home she and her husband Stephen Keyes rented. Stephen, 28, is accused of setting that fire, in which his wife and the couple's 2-year-old son, Joshua, died.

The state contends that money problems and an unhappy marriage drove Stephen Keyes to set the fires so he could collect insurance money. Keyes is being tried on two first-degree murder charges in Clarke County District Court where the trial was moved because of pretrial publicity.

Doug Lint, without looking much, if at all, at his former son-in-law answered attorneys' questions for two hours on Tuesday.

Lint said when Keyes lost a job as an auto parts delivery person, Lint gave him a job for \$1,000 per month in his small insurance business, with an eye on Keyes becoming a licensed agent. That salary was later reduced to \$500 per month when Keyes began earning commissions.

Lint said Keyes showed an aptitude for the business and eventually received his license. But Keyes' spending kept the financial pressure on him and his family.

Lint related that a bankruptcy was filed in Sandra Keyes' name in 1996 so it would not reflect on her husband's credit and affect his ability to work in insurance. The bankruptcy wiped out thousands in credit card debt.

But the big bombshell was dropped June 17, 1996, when Keyes told Lint and his stepfather, Henry Keyes of Cedar Rapids, that he had been "floating" checks between four banks who were now wise to the scheme and wanted payment or they would press charges. The tab, Lint testified, was \$21,000 in bad checks.

Lint said he asked his daughter if the marriage was worth \$21,000, and she said it was.

"So I came up with the \$21,000," Lint said, adding he borrowed \$6,640 from Henry Keyes and the rest from his (Lint's) mother. Keyes was to repay the loans. In response to defense attorney questions, Lint indicated about \$3,500



David Grinde (left), assistant Linn County public defender, confers with Stephen Keyes at Keyes' double murder trial Tuesday in Osceola. Keyes is accused of setting a fire that killed his wife and their 2-year-old son.

was repaid to Henry Keyes and about \$2,300 to Lint's mother.

As a way to help repay the loans, court testimony indicated Stephen Keyes also took a part-time job at APAC TeleServices in Cedar Rapids but that he met a woman with whom he became involved.

Lint said the last straw for him in regard to Keyes came on Christmas Day 1996 after Keyes left a family gathering early in the afternoon and did not return until after 9 p.m. when his wife tracked him down by phone.

Assistant Linn County Attorney Jerry Vander Sanden alleged in his opening statement that Keyes spent much of that time with the other woman, whom he identified as Felicia Christensen.

Lint said that when Keyes returned after 9 o'clock Christmas night to pick up his family, Lint was too mad to face him. Lint said he told Sandra that night he intended to boot Keyes out of his business.

The Lints both testified they learned of the



Doug Lint testifies Tuesday at the trial of his former son-in-law, Stephen Keyes.

For updates on this story, call CITYLINE at 363-7000 or 337-7000, category 2551.

■ Turn to 7A: Keyes

## C.R. going after grants on projects of \$7.76 million

By Douglas Neumann  
Gazette staff writer

City planners and engineers store plenty of wish list projects for the city of Cedar Rapids. But without money — sometimes millions — to fund them, the projects are nothing but plans on a shelf.

The City Council will approve applications today for state and federal funds for two programs that would help pay for \$7.76 million in such projects.

The most expensive of those would be a street construction project to connect 33rd Avenue SW between 12th and 18th streets.

The new street would intersect Prairie Creek and the Cedar Rapids and Iowa City (CRANDIC) railroad — expensive crossings that help raise the estimated cost of the project to \$5 million.

The city would pay \$1 million in a local match if it wins the grant from the Iowa Clean Air Attainment Program.

The most visible project would be landscaping along Interstate 380 between Wright Brothers Boulevard and 33rd Avenue SW.

Dean Wheatley, the city's long-range planning manager, said native grasses would be planted on back slopes of ditches between Wright Brothers Boulevard and Highway 30. Then trees and other plantings would line the interstate corridor between Highway 30 and 33rd Avenue SW.

If Cedar Rapids is awarded an Iowa Department of Transportation grant for the landscaping, the city would pay about 30 percent of the \$350,000 cost.

The city also is seeking DOT money for a pavilion and restroom on city land near the newly paved Cedar Lake trail. The project also would include paving a trail from the proposed facility on Shaver Road to the new trail.

Expanded parking, landscaping and the demolition of a block building on the site would raise the estimated cost to \$650,000; the city would have to pay 30 percent, or \$195,000.

Randy McVey, the city's long-range planning coordinator, said staff might try to trim the project's cost to less than \$500,000.

OTHER PROJECTS for which the city wants clean air attainment funds are:

- A traffic signal at Blairs Ferry and Edgewood roads. Hiawatha likely would share some of the cost of the \$90,000 project.
- A left-turn lane on Johnson Avenue at Edgewood Road SW for an estimated \$850,000. The city

■ Turn to 7A: Projects

## Senate leaders now agree to take up campaign finance reform

President threatened to force issue on Congress

Gazette wire services

WASHINGTON — Prodded by President Clinton, the Senate put aside its partisan bickering Tuesday and agreed to bring up campaign finance legislation before Congress adjourns in November.

Armed with a letter from Clinton threatening to invoke a rarely used presidential power to keep Congress in session if Republicans refuse to allow sufficient time for debate, Minority Leader Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., abandoned his opposition to an offer by Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., to

bring up the bill but without setting a specific date.

"If any attempt is made to bring this bill up in a manner that would preclude sufficient time for debate, I will call on Congress to stay in session until all of the critical elements are fully considered," Clinton wrote to Republican and Democratic leaders.

This guarantees that the bill won't be squeezed into the final hours of the session in early November and trampled in a pre-adjournment rush,



President Clinton  
Can keep Congress in session

Daschle said. If time runs out, Clinton can simply prolong the session, he added.

The Constitution provides that the president "may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them."

While Lott has refused to set a date, he has said repeatedly that he does not intend to wait until the last minute to bring up the bill. Other Republicans have said Lott has told them he plans to bring up the measure before the end of October.

With Lott and Daschle finally in grumpy agreement, the way was cleared for debate on a bill sponsored by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Russell Feingold, D-Wis., that includes a ban on unregulated "soft money"

donations to political parties. Under the agreement, Republicans will have an opportunity to present an unspecified alternative that probably will include curbs on the use of union dues for political activities.

The House has similar legislation pending, but White House officials said their focus is on the Senate, in the belief nothing will happen in the House until the Senate approves the measure.

The McCain-Feingold bill is "balanced and effective," Clinton wrote. Although it doesn't contain everything he would like it to, he said it addresses "many of the most pressing needs for reform."

But the agreement reached Tuesday still might not result in up-or-down votes on the competing measures. The

possibility of a stalemating filibuster looms if, as expected, neither side can muster the 60 votes needed to force a final vote.

While Clinton did not spell out what would satisfy his conditions, White House aides said a vote was a minimum requirement. "We can't tell Congress what to do," said White House press secretary Michael McCurry. "Our Constitution doesn't work that way. But we can keep them here until there's an adequate time for members of the Senate to be recorded yea or nay on the measure."

McCurry and other Clinton aides later hedged, however, suggesting that any vote — such as a vote to prolong a filibuster — would be sufficient to put lawmakers on the record.

### BRIEFLY

#### Multitude purchases Diana tribute CDs

East Iowans hurried to music stores Tuesday to buy Elton John's "Candle in the Wind '97," a tribute to Princess Diana. Details on 1B.



Elton John

#### Varmints leaving shreds of evidence

Raccoons and skunks love to trash lawns at this time of year. Details in Accent, 8B.

#### Reward offered for info on murder

A \$7,000 reward has been offered regarding the murder of Traci Evenson. Details on 1B.

#### U of I linebacker positive despite pain

Vernon Rollins, who injured his knee in Saturday's game against Iowa State, plans to spend his time off the field tackling schoolwork in lieu of running backs. Details in Hlas column, 1C.

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GO!

GazetteOnline

www.GazetteOnline.com

## Football broadcast feud fascinates experts

Learfield Communications, U of I 'drawing the line' over unauthorized game reports

By John Shipley

IOWA CITY — The feud between the University of Iowa and KCJJ-AM Radio over Hawkeye football broadcasts may send signals beyond the borders of the town both call home, challenging the nature of exclusive radio contracts nationwide.

Then again, it may wind up just an obscure footnote in the annals of broadcasting history.

Whether KCJJ's battle to broadcast its own Hawkeye football show is a fight for First Amendment rights or a misguided attempt to circumvent the U of I's exclusive radio deal, law and communications experts agree it raises some interesting issues about broadcasting and the ever-expanding communications industry.

"It's an absolutely fascinating issue," said Nicholas Johnson, U of I visiting professor of law and former FCC commissioner. "Someone has got an event, grants exclusive rights to go inside the stadium and cover it,

then somebody else goes to every other conceivable source they can come up with ... to broadcast their own show."

KCJJ (1560 AM), a small station located on the outskirts of Iowa City, has drawn the U of I's ire by producing what school officials consider a pirate broadcast of Iowa football games, the exclusive rights to which are owned by Learfield Communications' of Jefferson City, Mo.

Learfield paid the U of I \$3.18 million for three years for those rights, and the U of I last week sent a letter to KCJJ requesting the station stop producing the show.

"We don't necessarily view this as a landmark case," said Learfield vice president Roger Gardner. "But, yeah, we do have to figure out where to draw the lines of where exclusivity starts and ends. We clearly think (KCJJ) goes over the line."

KCJJ does not belong to Learfield's network, but KCJJ owner Steve Bridges be-

lieves his broadcast does not overstep the boundaries of exclusivity.

The show does not originate from Kinnick Stadium, he said, and does not make use of the Learfield network's broadcast. Instead, KCJJ uses other means of monitoring the game, including television, other radio broadcasts and even Iowa's own PA announcer, whose voice can often be heard miles away from the stadium.

The U of I disagrees, and representatives of the school's athletics department and legal counsel met Tuesday afternoon to discuss its options regarding the KCJJ broadcast.

"We're gathering information to determine exactly what the university's options are, definitively," said Rick Klatt, a U of I assistant athletics director. "To do that correctly takes some time."

Tom Streeter, a University of Vermont sociology professor, whose book "Selling the Air" examines telecommunications policies, said the Iowa-KCJJ feud is symptomatic of a time in which the means of gathering and sending information are quickly expanding.

"I think this kind of thing has been and will continue to pop up all over the place

■ Turn to 7A: Radio

CEDAR RAPIDS

## NEWS JOURNAL

### CEDAR RAPIDS

#### Man accused of being AWOL

■ The Cedar Rapids man accused of holding his children and estranged wife at gunpoint last week was absent without leave from the Army, according to the complaint filed against him.

David A. Orr, 23, of 1501 B Ave. NW, was arrested peacefully after holding police at bay for about two hours early last Friday. Orr allegedly broke into Theresa Orr's apartment at 4873 First Ave. SW and held a loaded assault weapon on her and the couple's two young children, according to the complaint.

Orr, who spent the weekend in the psychiatric ward of a local hospital for evaluation, appeared in court Tuesday on one count each of second-degree kidnapping and first-degree burglary. He was held at the Linn County Jail in lieu of \$20,000 bail.

#### Charges filed in chase

A Palo man made a court appearance Tuesday on charges stemming from an alleged domestic incident and car chase the night before.

John P. Matheny, 34, is charged with assault causing bodily injury, interference with official acts, assault on a peace officer, and attempt to elude. He was held in the Linn County Jail in lieu of \$6,300 bond after his court appearance Tuesday afternoon.

Matheny allegedly assaulted his wife, Bernice Matheny, at their home at 407 Main St. at about 6:30 p.m. Monday. When police arrived to investigate, Matheny allegedly ran from the home and drove away, beginning a chase that led from Highway 94 into 16th Avenue SW in Cedar Rapids before returning to Matheny's home, where he was apprehended.

Matheny allegedly scuffled with officers as they tried to take him into custody, the complaint said. Bernice Matheny suffered scratches and bruises to her neck and face in the initial assault.

#### Forum for council challengers

■ Several candidates for Cedar Rapids City Council will appear at a forum at 7 tonight in Iowa Hall's Ballantyne Auditorium at Kirkwood Community College.

The event is sponsored by Environmentally Conscious Options (ECO), a group that formed in opposition to a landfill site search in Linn County.

ECO member Karen Balderston said the forum is intended to be an opportunity for residents to ask questions about any public issue and is not specifically about landfill issues.

Four challengers were invited to the forum: Dick Fredericks, Carol Martin, Tami Pahl and Dale Todd.

Balderston said other candidates are welcome to attend and ask questions. The event is scheduled to last two hours.

### LINN COUNTY

#### Land use meeting Thursday

■ Linn County's Department of Planning and Development is hosting its final public meeting of the year Thursday in the ongoing visioning series. Focus group representatives from planning areas will be elected. The panel will draft a rural land use plan that will be ready for community review in spring of 1998 during several public meetings. The meeting runs from 7 to 9:30 p.m. in Ballantyne Auditorium at Kirkwood Community College.

# No suspects in disappearance

Iowa City police:  
Condition of home  
may signal foul play

By Lynn M. Tefft

Gazette Johnson County Bureau

IOWA CITY — Police said Tuesday they have no suspects in the disappearance of Frances Bloomfield.

"All we know is she's missing and the car's missing," said Lt. Dan Sellers, head of the Detective Bureau at the Iowa City Police Department.

Bloomfield, 57, of 38 Wakefield Ct.,

was reported missing by her husband John at 7 a.m. Monday morning, when he returned from a trip to France. Her car, a red 1994 Honda Accord with Iowa Sesquicentennial license plate SO51154, also is gone.

Investigators said Monday that the condition of the Bloomfield home led them to believe Frances Bloomfield



Frances Bloomfield  
Reported missing by husband

had not left voluntarily and may have been the victim of foul play. Sellers said he still cannot release details about the condition of the home.

Sellers said investigators have interviewed many people and the public has been cooperative in providing potentially helpful information.

"We're looking for everyone who even remotely knew her," he said.

It doesn't appear Frances Bloomfield worked outside the home, Sellers said.

John Bloomfield is a researcher with the Center for Computer-Aided Design at the University of Iowa and returned Monday from France, where he had

been since Sept. 13 for a conference.

Center Director K.K. Choi said Bloomfield had checked in with the office on Tuesday.

"It looks like he's physically OK, but he's going through a difficult time," said Choi. Choi said he didn't know where Bloomfield was staying.

The Bloomfield house was still cordoned off with police tape on Tuesday, though no investigators were in the house. Iowa City police officers guarding the home said they had not been updated on the details of the case.

### Branching out



Gazette photo by Buzz Orr

Department of Natural Resources employee Tom Buettner of Tiffin puts down his chain saw while in the process of trimming tree branches at Lake Macbride State Park on Tuesday near Solon.

# Expert: Hire specialist to work on development agenda for Marion

Chamber speaker says  
city faces challenge  
of attracting businesses

By George C. Ford

and Cindy Hadish

Gazette staff writers

Marion needs a plan.

And not only a plan, but a person to implement that plan if the "bedroom community" is to succeed in attracting businesses, said John Buchanan, adjunct professor at the University of Iowa Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center.

Buchanan was the keynote speaker at the 60th Annual Marion Chamber of Commerce meeting last night at the Collins Plaza Hotel.

To prepare for his speech, Buchanan interviewed Marion city leaders.

Those people, he said, were in unanimous agreement on the major challenge facing the city of 23,000: "How can we attract new, desirable businesses to Marion?"

Marion has good schools, attractive homes and other qualities that make it a desirable place to live, Buchanan said, but many of its residents work in nearby Cedar Rapids and Hiawatha.

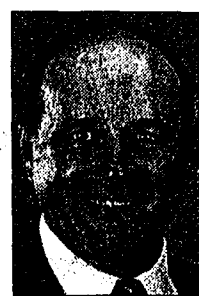
While being a part of the "team thing" has its advantages, Buchanan said he advocated hiring someone to work full time to "put forward Marion's agenda."

Marion is part of Priority One, the economic development arm of the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber.

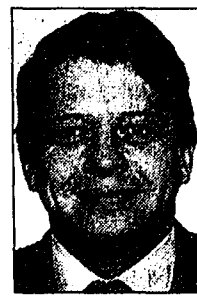
A full-time staffer would be able to target specific businesses to move specifically to Marion, Buchanan said.

Part of the challenge put forth by

Buchanan will go to the new chairman of chamber, who was announced at the banquet.



Dale Monroe  
New chamber president



David Martin  
Former chamber president

Dale Monroe, associate superintendent of the Linn-Mar Community School District, has served on a variety of committees for the chamber. He succeeds David Martin of Martin Design PC as leader of the business group.

A ranking school administrator, Monroe symbolizes the partnership that has developed between members of commerce and the education community.

Martin said Monroe will bring an educator's perspective to the chamber's efforts to attract and retain a quality work force.

"I think it symbolizes the change in

■ Turn to 3B: Marion

# Evenson reward offered

Employer, family raise  
\$7,000 for tips leading  
to C.R. woman's killer

By Steve Gravelle

Gazette staff writer

Three months after Traci Evenson's murder, Cedar Rapids police have announced a \$7,000 reward fund for information leading to apprehension of her killer.

"We're hoping this will generate some more leads," police Lt. Ken Washburn said Tuesday.

The body of Evenson, 22, was found the morning of June 22 in her apartment at 438½ Ninth Ave. SW. Police have said Evenson died of suffocation, but have released little additional information about Cedar Rapids' first homicide in more than two years.

"It's been three months yesterday," Norma Zillyette, Evenson's mother, said Tuesday from her home in West St. Paul, Minn.

The reward fund includes \$2,000 raised by Evenson's family and friends and \$5,000 from APAC TeleServices, where she worked. Zillyette hadn't heard about the APAC contribution.

"They're putting in \$5,000?" she asked. "That's great of them."

The APAC board approved the contribution as "an appropriate way to help support the Cedar Rapids police and community," according to spokesman Kevin Petschow.

Detectives hope the money will prompt new people to come forward with information.

Investigators believe Evenson was killed by someone she knew and let into her apartment.

But Zillyette is skeptical. She says her daughter had no enemies — one of many facets of the case that don't make sense to the victim's family.

"I'm trying to put things together, and they don't coordinate with anything," she said.

Anyone with information leading to the arrest and conviction of those responsible for Evenson's death should call the Cedar Rapids Police Department's detective bureau at 286-5400 to claim the \$7,000.



Traci Evenson  
Found suffocated in her apartment on June 22

# Fans swarm music stores for new version of 'Candle'

By Joshua Nichols

Gazette news intern

The release of Elton John's "Candle in the Wind '97" Tuesday morning was greeted with a rush of customers who sometimes found empty shelves waiting for them.

"We have very few left," said Mike Allen, the store manager of the Iowa City Musicland. "We had 200-300 copies this morning but most of those were reserved already. We do expect to get some more in (Wednesday)."

The scene was similar in Cedar Rapids. Ten people stood outside Blockbuster Music at the Northland Square Shopping Center 15 minutes before it opened to buy a copy of the song Elton John sang at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Debbie Bencke of Marion bought the store's last copy on Tuesday morning. "I thought it was a beautiful song that portrayed a beautiful person," she said.

"This will be the greatest selling single of all time. It will take Elvis off the charts," said Blockbuster Music manager Ernie Traugh. "Just about every other customer is buying one. We sell one about once every three minutes."

Traugh said he was expecting a shipment of 250 of the singles Tuesday afternoon and another 200 today. He

*"This will be the greatest selling single of all time. It will take Elvis off the charts."*

Ernie Traugh,

manager of Blockbuster Music in Cedar Rapids

managed to have 36 CDs available for customers Tuesday morning at \$3.99 each. They sold in 20 minutes.

Elton John and Bernie Taupin updated "Candle in the Wind" — written more than 20 years ago as a tribute to Marilyn Monroe — to honor his friend Princess Diana. He sang the new version — with the opening line of "Goodbye, England's Rose" — at Diana's funeral on Sept. 6.

While the song had been rebroadcast over some radio stations and released in Europe last week, an official version of the song was not released in the United States until Tuesday.

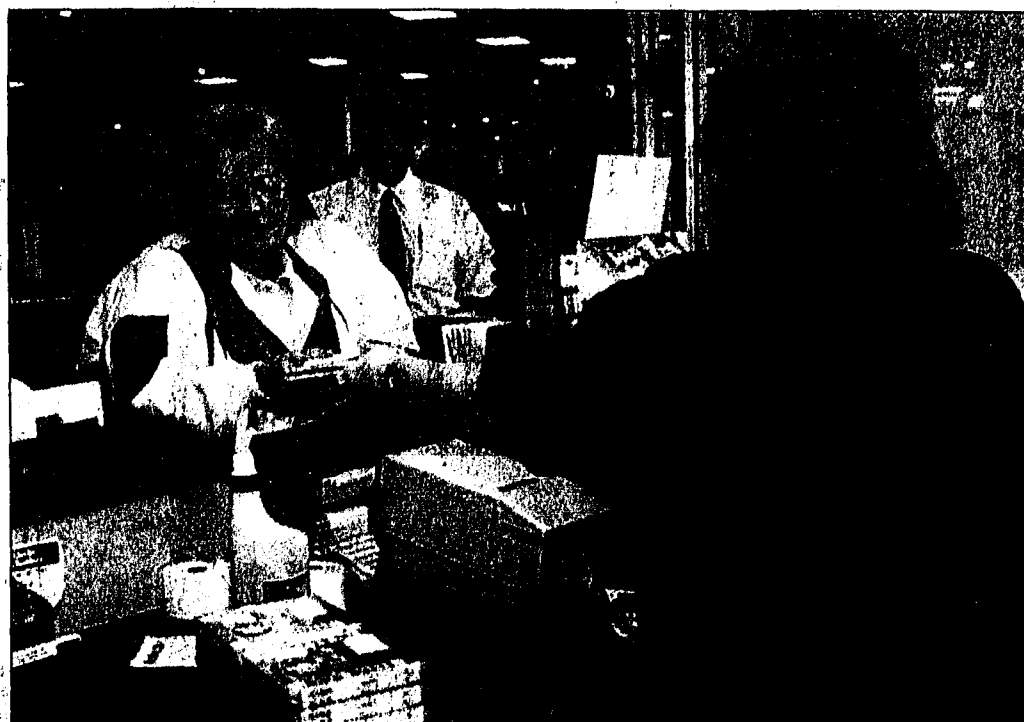
At midnight Tuesday, area residents lined up to buy "Candle in the Wind '97" at the Cedar Rapids Wal-Mart. According to employees, the shipment of 150 the store received was gone shortly thereafter. The store expects another shipment on Friday or Saturday.

Sales started out slow at Best Buy in Cedar Rapids, said employee Renee Clay. Early in the afternoon, there were still 50 copies of the song left out of a shipment of 120. But by 4:30 the store posted a sign on the rack that had held the CDs: "Sold out. No rain checks accepted." More are expected today.

Frustration spilled over from disappointed customers to the store employees who had to field questions about the CD.

"We have not gotten our shipment in yet," said Lindale Musicland employee Kel Anderson on Tuesday. "But we had reservations for 266 CDs and 170 tapes, and we are supposed to get them today. It's ridiculous. I have to carry the phone around with me because it rings every other minute."

The Lindale Musicland received its shipment and had them on the shelves by early last night.



Gazette photo by Lisa Powell

Catherine Larson of Cedar Rapids buys two copies of Elton John's single "Candle in the Wind '97" Tuesday morning at Blockbuster Music in Cedar Rapids. "I just had to have it," Larson said. Blockbuster Music sold the 36 copies of the CD it had in the first 20 minutes the store was open. It expected a shipment of 250 to arrive Tuesday afternoon and another 200 to arrive Wednesday. Elton John sang the song at the funeral of Princess Diana.