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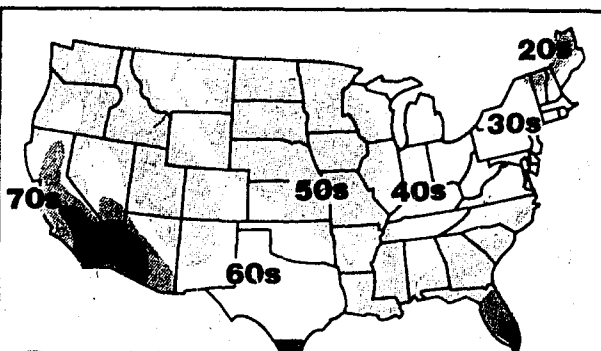
The Gazette

THE GAZETTE/CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA FINAL EDITION 50 CENTS

IOWA TODAY

Wednesday

November 11, 1987



Expected highs

IOWA'S WEATHER: Pleasant this afternoon, with mostly sunny skies. Mostly clear tonight. Highs 51-57; lows 30-37. See page 14B.

INSIDE



President Truman decorates Ralph Neppel

Roadblock for hero

Effort to name Iowa City VA hospital for Medal of Honor winner stalls

(Page 2A)

New lessons for small investors

(Page 5B)

Reagan is 'blowing his last chance'

That's view of Sen. Grassley about court nominee

(Page 3A)



METRO IOWA

■ A legislative committee was warned Tuesday to forget about finding a quick cure for AIDS and instead to focus on managing the deadly disease when it hits in previously isolated places like rural Iowa. Page 5A.

C.R. NEWS

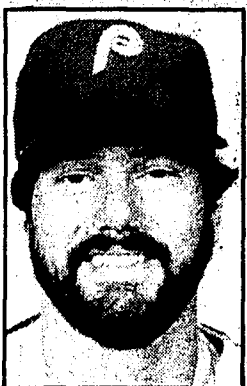
■ Remodeling costs and economic development came up this week when Superintendent Stephen Daeschner talked to the Cedar Rapids Community school board about reasons Polk Elementary should stay open. Page 9A.

SPORTS NEWS

■ For the past nine years, Iowa wrestling coach Dan Gable has prepared his team as a defending champion, a marked team. Thanks to Iowa

State's victory at the NCAA Championships in College Park, Md., last year, the Hawkeyes will enter "A New Era" with a better attitude. Page 1B.

■ Philadelphia reliever Steve Bedrosian, who led the major leagues with 40 saves, won the National League Cy Young Award Tuesday by the slimmest margin in the award's history. Page 1B.



Steve Bedrosian

INDEX

Abby	8A	Games	8A
Births	10A	Horoscope	11B
Bridge	8A	Iowa News	A
City Briefs	8B	Money	5B
Classified	9-13B	Movies	8A
Comics	10A	People	8A
Crisscross	10A	Sports	1-4B
Crossword	10A	Stocks	6-7B
Crypto-Quote	13B	Today	14A
Deaths	12A	TV	8A
Editorial	6A	U.S.-World	3A
Farm	8B	Weather	14B

TODAY'S CHUCKLE

As they say on Capitol Hill, love is where you fund it.

For rural elderly, safety lies in friends, dogs

By Donna Lee Olson
Gazette Eastern Iowa reporter

When Ruth Patterson, a 73-year-old rural Washington County woman was murdered in August, the county sheriff found himself talking people out of arming themselves.

Sheriff Yale Jarvis said it was fear of becoming the next victim that prompted many of Patterson's neighbors, especially those who are senior citizens or who live alone, to talk about having a loaded gun on hand.

Concerns about safety in rural areas surfaced again last week when Carl Wiedemeier, 72, was slain in his rural Ladora home. Like Patterson, Wiedemeier was elderly, lived alone and was rumored to have large sums of money in his home.

Local and state law officials say aging Iowans who live in rural areas should practice more protection against possible crime, but not by having firearms that could be used against them.

Instead, officials suggest a better measure of

protection is making sure friends or relatives often call or stop by.

The majority of the elderly may never even experience serious trouble, officials insist, either in rural or urban Iowa.

But, they note, the elderly can increase their chances of being a victim if they keep to themselves and lead lives set by a lonely pattern, or if they are careless about common sense safety or don't recognize that someone they know could be dangerous.

• Please turn to 13A: Elderly



AP photo

Salute to a hero

Vietnam veteran J.W. Duckworth of Irving, Texas, salutes an empty pair of combat boots Tuesday at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington. In Cedar Rapids, Veterans Day will be commemorated today with a program at 10 a.m. in Veterans Memorial Coliseum. Howard Parker, a former prisoner of war, will speak at the event, which is open to the public.

Gorbachev mulls longer visit to U.S.

New York Times

MOSCOW — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev may extend his American visit next month by a few days to see more of the nation and the public, a senior Soviet official said Tuesday.

One group of advisers, including his wife, Raisa, is urging Gorbachev to go "over the head" of President Reagan to get a closer sense of the United States, the official said.

No detailed itinerary has been announced for the trip, which is to begin Dec. 7, but some advisers are said to be stressing that Gorbachev's knack for mass communications would transfer favorably to American television.

In the main part of the visit, expected to last two or three days, Reagan and Gorbachev plan to hold detailed talks on mutual issues and sign a treaty eliminating their countries' medium- and short-range nuclear missiles.

Previously, Soviet officials indicated a firm decision had been made to keep the visit short because of Moscow's concerns about Gorbachev's personal safety and Reagan's political standing. On the latter, officials contended two weeks ago that a longer visit exploiting the public relations possibilities might serve Reagan too well in seeing his damaged popularity raised by Gorbachev through the public's interest



Mikhail Gorbachev
Soviets' great communicator

in the peace issue.

The latest thinking, as described Tuesday, gives less weight to such considerations. Gorbachev is said to be hearing advice that he take greater advantage of the unusual opportunity to see and be seen by the American public by enlarging the visit to perhaps five or six days.

The Soviet official, who talked on condition that he not be identified, said the American public's curiosity about the Soviet leader seemed considerable and recalled the enthu-

• Please turn to 13A: Gorbachev

Negotiators near agreement on deficit reduction

New York Times

WASHINGTON — White House and Congressional negotiators are near agreement on an outline of a plan to reduce the deficit by \$25 billion to \$30 billion, several officials involved in the budget talks said Tuesday.

The negotiators will meet today, Veterans Day, when Congress is normally not in session, in an effort to reach an agreement before the end of the week.

"I think people see the outlines of a plan through the mist," said one official involved in the talks.

The officials cautioned that the agreement would

determine only the total dollar amounts for tax increases and spending reductions. They said the decisions on which taxes to increase and which spending programs to cut would still be difficult to reach and would require more time.

Because of the time it may take to reach a consensus on specifics, several leaders said Tuesday they were considering ways to delay the \$23 billion in automatic spending cuts that will go into effect Nov. 20 under the budget-balancing law. Half of the automatic cuts will come from the military budget.

The negotiations, which began in response to the

stock market plunge in mid-October, are aimed at reducing the deficit by at least \$23 billion in the fiscal year 1988, which began Oct. 1, to avoid the automatic spending cut. The budget talks have assumed considerable symbolic significance in foreign capitals and markets as an indication of American political resolve to put its economic house in order.

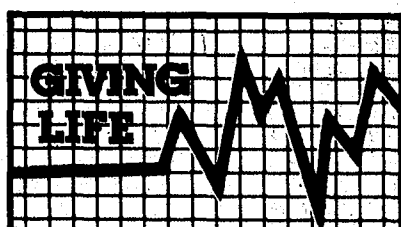
After an agreement on the general outline, the proposals for specific spending reductions, tax increases, fees for the use of government services or property and other components of the program will be made by

• Please turn to 13A: Deficit

DONATING A FUTURE

Most can give gift that money can't buy

EDITOR'S NOTE: Transplantation of human organs, though still viewed as miracle medicine, is no longer uncommon medicine. The prognosis for transplant success is tempered only by the availability of organs. This is the last in a four-part series.



By Dale Kueter
Gazette staff writer

IOWA CITY — Every once in awhile, Barbara Schanbacher, head transplant coordinator at University Hospitals, will receive an offer from a prison inmate at Fort Madison or Anamosa.

Would she be interested, they ask, in buying a kidney?

Her answer is: No, thanks. It's against the law to sell human organs.

The U.S. organ transplant program depends upon charity, the charity of people who sign organ and tissue donor cards and that of families who agree to donate organs when a loved one dies.

That's not the case everywhere. In many foreign countries, including Great Britain, human organs are a commodity. There are even international brokers in organs. The

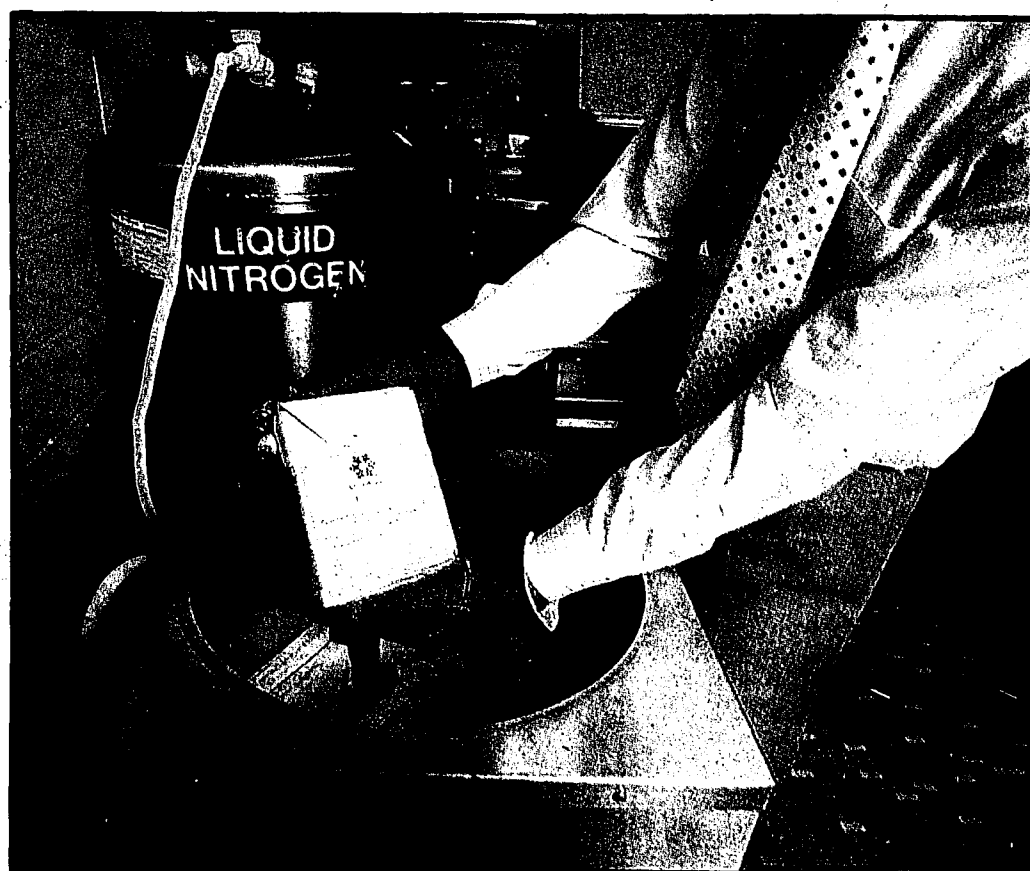
classifieds in India newspapers frequently carry "kidney for sale" ads, with the \$7,000 price tag as the ticket out of poverty.

Before U.S. regulations on procurement and distribution of organs were enacted, some transplant centers catered to the wealthy, including foreign dignitaries. There are still suggestions that organs can be purchased on the black market.

While transplant administration in the U.S. is at a critical stage, transplant medicine is surging forward. The most tempering factor, say officials, is organ availability.

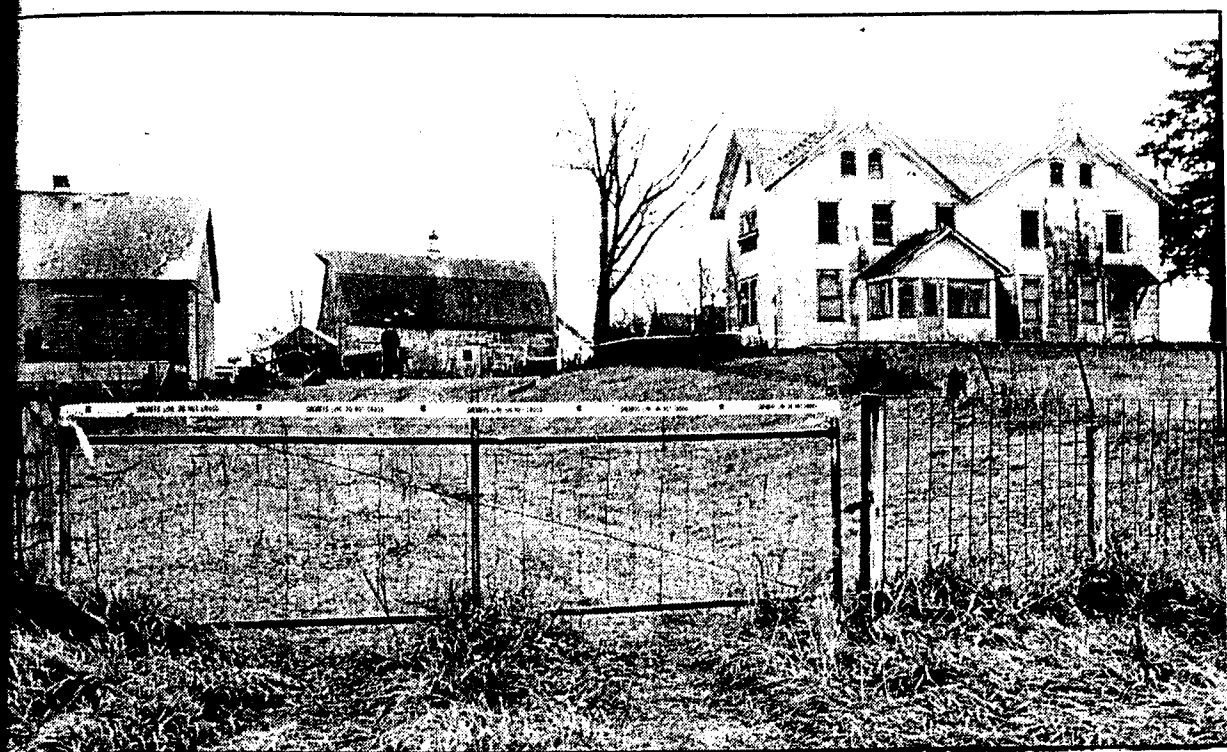
"Nationally," said Schanbacher, "only 20 percent of the potential organ donors end up being organ donors." In Iowa, the response is better, "but organ availability will

• Please turn to 7A: Transplants



Gazette photo by Rodney White

Heart valves and veins are freeze-dried, much like coffee, and maintained at University Hospitals' bone and tissue bank. Skin and bones can be preserved for long periods of time. Organs, on the other hand, must be used within hours of removal in order to maintain their quality. The need for organs for transplant is growing far more rapidly than the supply of donors, experts say.



Gazette photo by Donna Lee Olson

Murder victim Carl Wiedemeier's farmstead (above) near Ladora is typical of the kind that might attract the attention of criminals, authorities say. They point out that the large, but run-down farmhouse could suggest that the resident is a wealthy recluse — the kind who might stuff money into mattresses.

ELDERLY: Profile of a victim

From page 1A

"In most crimes (the elderly) are not the victim," said Dean Wright, sociology professor at Drake University and chairman of the Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice Council.

When there is crime against the elderly in rural areas, it's likely to be the scam artist looking for an easy mark, officials say.

"There tends to be a feeling of trust with rural elderly people," said Russ Proffitt, director of the Heritage Agency on Aging. They have a "misconception that these types of crimes only occur in large metropolitan areas."

OF ALL MURDER victims in Iowa, 7 percent are ages 61 and over, and a total 15 percent are aged 55 and up. And those murders were likely committed by someone the victim knew, not random assault, according to a statistician for the Iowa Department of Public Safety. Wright says that if there is a "classic" victim of violent rural crime of the aged, Carl Wiedemeier fits the description:

- The Ladora man lived alone, shunning contact with neighbors and relatives.
- His old house was big and run-down, an appearance inviting the idea of a wealthy recluse who stuffed money into mattresses.
- He didn't have a dog to warn against intruders.
- And he didn't have a telephone. It had been disconnected prior to 1980 because "no one ever calls

Safety tips for rural elderly

Safety ideas for the elderly and people living alone in rural areas:

- Ask neighbors, friends or acquaintances to call or drop in.
- Arrange through various utility companies or the mail carrier to check on you.
- Have a yard light and turn on lights around the house to appear as if more than one person lives there.
- Lock doors and windows.
- Keep a house dog large enough to offer protection.
- Use the 911 number or call law enforcement agencies when you fear trouble.
- Inform law enforcement officials if you are being harassed, or think you are being victimized by scam artists.
- Communicate to law enforcement officials if you think a person may cause you danger.
- Let people know your money and valuables — silver and jewels — are in the bank vault.

me," he told the Cooperative Telephone Company of Victor at the time of the disconnection.

Four men charged with Wiedemeier's murder are being held in the Iowa County Jail at Marengo. Authorities speculate he was killed during a break-in at the farm.

TWO OTHER murders of "vulnerable" people remain unsolved in Eastern Iowa. In August 1981 Amos Jellison, 75, was bludgeoned to death in his mobile home in Blairtown. A relative said at the time that Jellison never locked his house, and he might have told someone he had money.

Four years earlier a 74-year-old Luzerne man died after being bound

and shot. While Charles Plucar wasn't known for wealth, he did live alone out in the country. And he didn't have a telephone.

The late Ruth Patterson apparently followed rules of self-protection. Sheriff Jarvis said the widow, who operated a seed company at her farm, kept in contact with friends and neighbors.

A former employee is in jail, charged with her murder.

Officers investigating her death found a black Labrador in the yard. But it was only six months old and still at the puppy stage of curiosity, rather than defense.

And the dog was tied outside. Patterson was assaulted inside her home.

GORBACHEV

From page 1A

siasm that surrounded the 13-day excursion across America by Nikita Khrushchev in 1959.

No similar display of Hollywood and heartland hoopla, however, was contemplated in the current idea for Gorbachev to take a few extra days beyond Washington business meetings, the official indicated. Rather the idea is to seek a more modest use in an extra few days of what Soviet planners rate as Gorbachev's skills as the Russians' own great communicator.

The official offered no hint of what additional areas might be visited should there be a longer stay. Originally, White House officials talked of a lengthier, busier tour of some of America's more colorful backdrops. A visit to an Iowa farm was mentioned as a possibility then.

But this became muted last month when concern grew that the summit meeting might not be held at all and the White House endured the grim news of the stock market crash.

The last Soviet leader to visit was Leonid Brezhnev, whose itinerary in 1973 included Washington, Camp David and President Nixon's residence in San Clemente, Calif.

Gorbachev has made the promise of greater Soviet openness his hallmark, and the American television networks already are busily trying to take him at his word.

At a briefing Tuesday for foreign correspondents, a government spokesman was asked whether Gorbachev would be available for pre-summit interviews by the American networks. He replied there had been no decision, although privately other officials said it was likely that Gorbachev would agree to some television interviews, at least once he is in the United States.

The current state of preparations involves "tedious and detailed diplomatic work," according to Deputy Foreign Minister Vladimir Petrovsky.

Luther staffer re-elected to honorary post

DECORAH — Roger Anderson, associate dean and registrar at Luther College, has been re-elected vice president of Phi Delta Kappa, the international honorary education fraternity.

One of three vice presidents of the group, Anderson was elected to his first two-year term in 1985.

He will serve as vice president again for the 1987-89 term.

Have gun, will get in trouble

MASON CITY (AP) — Secret Service agents tackled a North Iowa Area Community College student Friday, just before Vice President George Bush was scheduled to speak, as the student carried a shotgun to class to use as a prop for a speech on gun safety.

The student was on his way to class with an unloaded and legally dismantled shotgun to give a speech on proper handling of the weapon.

He was spotted by Secret Service agents prior to Bush's arrival, according to NIACC Superintendent David Buettner.

At least one account said the man was wrestled to the ground by three Secret Service agents, a staff member on the college newspaper told the Mason City Globe-Gazette.

NIACC college officials have tried to hush up the incident, including pressuring the college's student newspaper into not publishing an account of the incident, according to the staff member.

Kirby Hutchinson, a Secret Service agent from Omaha, Neb., said the entire incident was "an unfortunate set of circumstances."

DEFICIT: Small tax changes seen

From page 1A

the appropriate committees in Congress, not the negotiators from the White House and Congress who have been meeting for two and a half weeks.

The White House will work with the committees, retaining the threat of a veto as a bargaining tool.

"This could be tougher bargaining than the last two and a half weeks," said one negotiator. "But we will do it."

The reports of a potential agreement came after House and Senate Democrats offered a \$33.8 billion deficit plan Tuesday in the 12th negotiating session. The proposal narrowed some of the key differences between Democrats and Republicans over dollar amounts. One negotiator said, "You just had a sense of fruition."

Although the details are not set, the final plan is expected to include tax increases of \$8 billion to \$12 billion and a similar amount in cuts in military and non-military spending. Cost-of-living increases in Social Security and other federal benefit programs would not be touched.

The military budget would remain at about its 1987 level and many domestic spending programs, from education to law enforcement, would be frozen at 1987 levels or only get small increases. Medicare and farm subsidies would bear a large portion of the spending cuts.

The tax increases would not involve individual or corporate rates or raise major excise taxes. Rather they would be similar to the array of many small changes in the tax law already approved in the House and awaiting action in the Senate.

Among these are extension of the 3 percent telephone excise tax, repeal of some corporate and individual tax breaks, limits on the interest deduction for home mort-

gages and an increase in the payroll tax for Medicare.

After the meeting, Rep. Thomas Foley of Washington, the House majority leader and the chief Democratic negotiator, said: "There is the possibility of an agreement earlier than I thought. I am encouraged by the tone of concern."

Then he added, "I think we are reaching the stage now where we are reaching specific numbers."

Rep. Trent Lott of Mississippi, the House Republican whip, suggested that an agreement could be reached by splitting the differences on tax increases and spending cuts between the new Democratic plan and the Republican proposal, which was offered Friday with the general backing of the White House.

The Republican proposal would save \$30 billion in 1988. The main difference is that the Republicans proposed \$6 billion in tax increases while the Democrats offered \$12 billion. In addition, the Republican plan contains a smaller reduction in the military budget and larger cuts in domestic spending.

But the two proposals are similar in several key areas. For example, on automatic benefit programs like Medicare and farm subsidies, the Republicans proposed reductions of \$5.1 billion and the Democrats \$4.2 billion.

But this is an area in which an agreement on a total amount would only be the first step. Reaching a consensus on the specifics could be more difficult. The Democrats want to exempt programs for the poor, including food stamps, Medicaid and Aid to Families with Dependent Children. The Republicans suggested cuts in this area.

Both proposals, however, include reductions in Medicare and farm programs and similar cuts are expected in the final plan.

For a monthly guide to events of interest in Des Moines, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis-St. Paul, Kansas City and St. Louis, call CITYLINE (363-7000), Category 8300.

NOTICE

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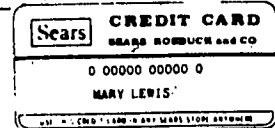
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