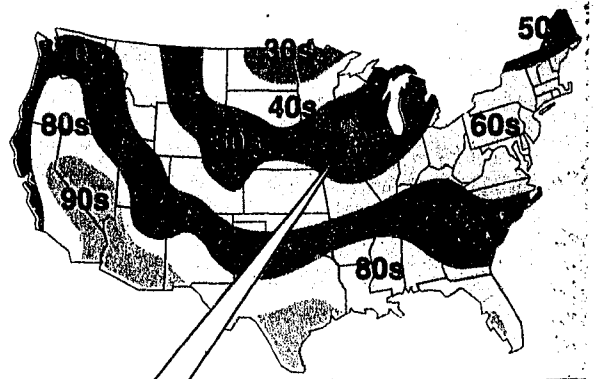


FRIDAY Oct. 1, 1993
IOWA TODAY, FINAL EDITION
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA
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The Gazette

The newspaper of Eastern Iowa



FORECAST: Partly cloudy, windy and cooler.
Highs 56-60; lows 49-53. Today's daylight: 11 hrs., 46 min. See 16C.



WEEKEND!
Robert Bonfiglio and harmonica are back in town
Page 2W

BASEBALL SCORES

AMERICAN
Twins 4, Angels 3
Tigers 7, Red Sox 4
Blue Jays 6, Orioles 2
Mariners 2, Wht Sox 1 (11)
Rangers 6, Athletics 2
Only games scheduled

NATIONAL
Expos 5, Marlins 3
Pirates 5, Phillies 0
Mets 3, Cardinals 2
Astros 10, Braves 8
Giants at Dodgers, late
Only games scheduled

BRIEFLY

Political logjam

Candidates tell views
Facing Tuesday's primary election, 12 candidates for streets commissioner and three for parks commissioner outlined their ideas for improving C.R. at a forum last night. Details on page 1B.

Standoff eases

Russian agreement reached
Hard-line lawmakers holed up in parliament and Russian President Boris Yeltsin reached a tentative agreement early Friday. Details on page 5A.

Taxes driven up

Fueling deficit reduction
Starting today, motorists are paying 4.3 cents more in federal taxes for every gallon of fuel as part of President Clinton's deficit-reduction package. Details on page 3B.

Expanding shares

Perpetual going public
Owned by its depositors for 118 years, Perpetual Savings Bank FSB in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City may soon be selling its stock to the general public. Details on page 4B.

INDEX

Abby	6A	Farm	4B
Births	2B	Horoscope	13C
Bridge	6A	Legals	8C
Calendar	W	Log	3B
City Briefs	8C	Lottery	2B
Classified	8-15C	Money	4B
Comics	7C	Movies	W
Daily Planner	2A	Stocks	5-6B
Deaths	2B	TV	6A
Editorial	4A	Weather	16C

TODAY'S CHUCKLE

The problem with Congress trying to jump-start the economy is they want to use a \$12 billion battery.

TOMORROW

'Masterpiece' host

New role for Russell Baker
Russell Baker, journalist and Pulitzer Prize-winning author, has a new job as host of "Masterpiece Theatre" on PBS starting Sunday. He views it as both a refuge and a challenge. TV Vision in Saturday's Gazette.



India quake toll to 16,000

More trapped victims still crying for help

UMARGA, India (AP) — A major earthquake shattered the dawn quiet Thursday, collapsing mud and mortar homes onto sleeping families in villages across southern India. More than 16,000 died and many more cried for help from the wreckage.

Authorities feared the death toll would rise substantially in India's worst quake in a half century.

Many villages were leveled so quickly as the earth shook violently and opened crevices that people were crushed inside their homes while sleeping, news agencies reported.

Indian students in Iowa could have long waits for news, 7A

"The rising sun created darkness for us this morning, swallowed up our villages, and made our houses into tombs," a survivor told a reporter.

Some survived when frantic rescuers heard them shouting for help beneath toppled walls and roofs or saw a hand reaching out from the wreckage.

Friends, neighbors and police strained to lift stone, brick and wood by hand to free victims.

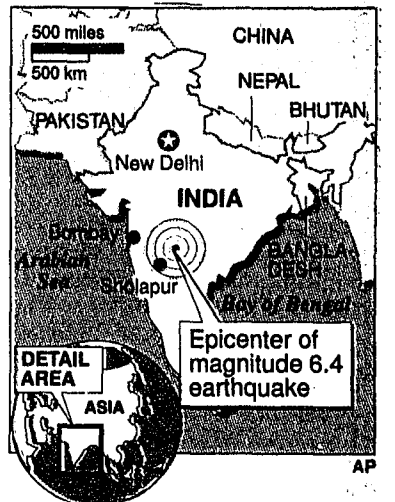
Soldiers and policemen rushed to the remote area of southwestern India, bringing stretchers, tents, medical supplies, earth movers, bulldozers and mobile hos-

pitals. But relief workers had trouble reaching some villages that recently lost their roads and bridges to heavy monsoon rains.

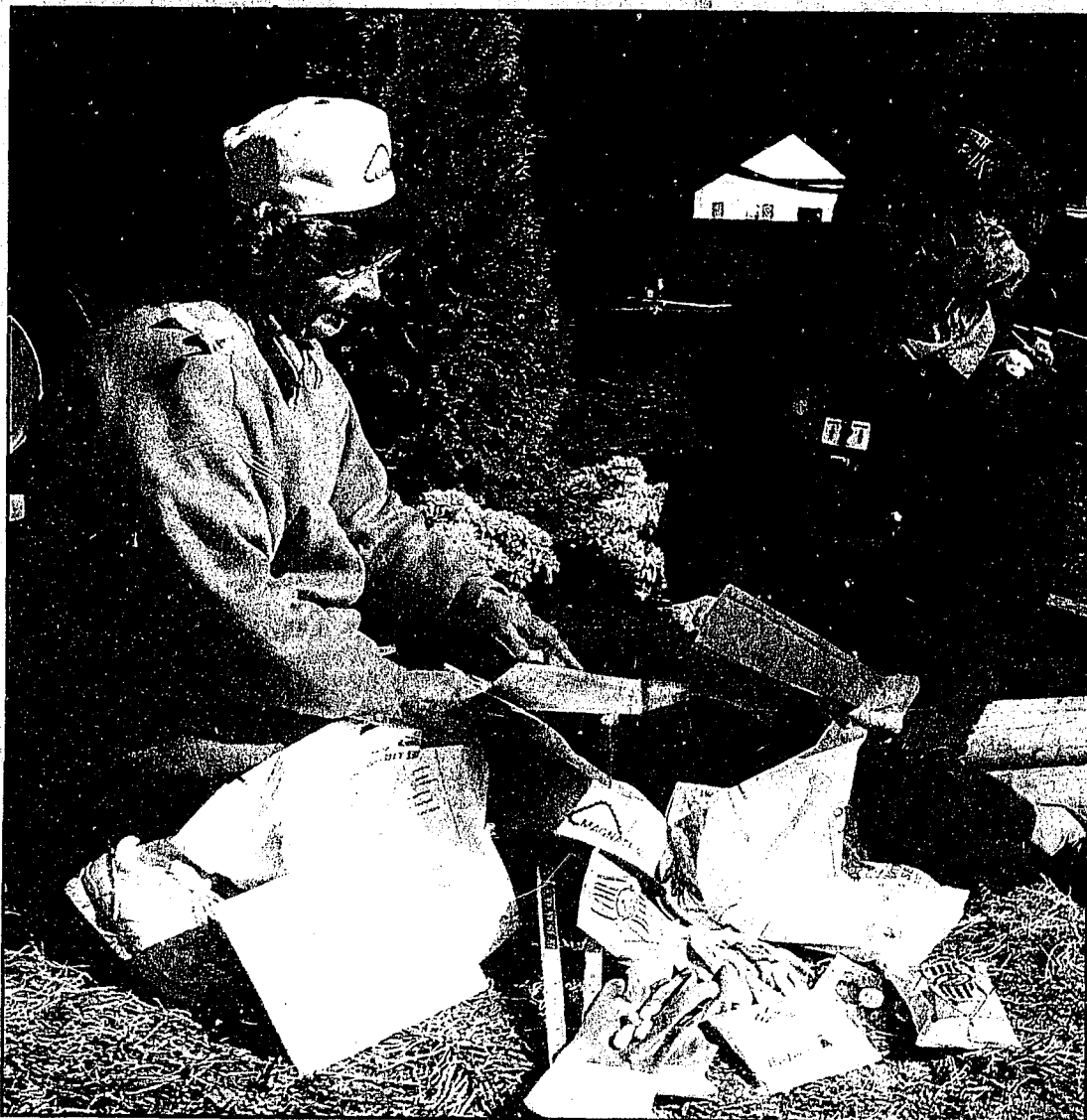
The quake, which measured at least 6 on the Richter scale, ripped through southwest India at 3:56 a.m. It was felt at least 400 miles from the epicenter and caused a wide swath of damage.

The death tolls given by state officials and news reports varied from 6,200 to 16,000, and all appeared to be based on confirmed statistics and estimates.

By nightfall the death toll was more than 6,200, said N. Raghunathan, chief secretary of Maharashtra, the hardest-hit state, adding that more than 2,000 bodies had been recovered.



Rich harvest



Gazette photo by Marlene Lucas

Catherine Eichelberger (left) of Letts and Meryl Newman of Muscatine spent their time at the three-day 1993 Farm Progress Show at Amana attending Family Living Show programs and collecting free items from exhibitors. They collected the loot shown here, including their caps, in just a few hours Thursday morning. Story on page 4B.

State, Indian casinos discuss profits-for-no-competition deal

Gazette wire and staff reports

DES MOINES — State officials are meeting with Indian leaders to discuss a gambling package that could have the tribes pay part of their profits in exchange for protection from new competition.

Richard Vohs, Gov. Terry Branstad's press secretary, confirmed that preliminary discussions about gambling's future in Iowa have taken place with leaders of three tribes operating casinos in Iowa, but he denied that a deal is in the works.

"The state hasn't offered anything," Vohs said. "There's no deal and they're not trying to develop any kind of an arrangement."

Vohs said a six-member Gaming Study Committee is exploring a wide range of pos-

sibilities. He said that could include providing an assurance to Indians that slot machines would not be installed at parimutuel tracks in exchange for tribal agreements to pay a portion of their gambling profits to help bail out the struggling tracks.

The tribes that operate casinos near Tama, Sloan and Onawa pay no taxes on their gambling profits, unlike floating casinos and race tracks.

Indian casinos are bound by betting limits of \$5 per play and a maximum per-player loss of \$200 per cruise that were adopted under Iowa's riverboat gambling law. Discussions have included lifting betting limits on riverboats subject to local referendums, which also would raise limits at Indian casinos.

A published report Thursday said the state had formulated an offer whereby Indian casinos would pay 20 percent of their gambling profits in exchange for a 10-year moratorium on granting new gaming licenses and a pledge not to install slot machines at the tracks. The Dubuque Telegraph-Herald cited documents it had obtained spelling out the state's position.

However, Vohs said he has not seen any documents and added that study committee co-chairpersons Edward Stanek and Lorraine May — who met with tribal leaders last week — are not authorized to negotiate any deals on the state's behalf. Stanek and May were unavailable for comment Thursday.

"Right now I think it's all hypothetical," Vohs added.

Woman calls police with tip on murder

By Rick Smith
Gazette staff writer

The anonymous woman who called the parents of Cedar Rapids murder victim Brian Schappert with a tip about the unsolved crime phoned police detective Sam McClurg on Thursday as she had promised the Schapperts she would.

"You never know. It might lead to something," said McClurg, thankful the woman called him.

The woman had a lengthy conversation last week with Brian Schappert's mother, Laura, Sept. 23, saying that she had information about a van that she thought might have been driven by the murderer. The van has not been driven since the murder, the caller told the Schapperts, but she stopped short of identifying the location of the van.

Thursday she told detective McClurg where the van is. The Schapperts said in the

Thursday edition of The Gazette that they feared the woman who called them out of the blue — four years after their 22-year-old son's murder — would not pass on her tip about the van to police.

A witness' description of a van seen at the time of the murder has long been a crucial piece of evidence in the case.

Brian Schappert was stabbed to death in a robbery as he worked the night shift at the Kum & Go convenience store, 2743 Mount Vernon Rd. SE, on Sept. 8, 1989.

The phone call last week to the Schapperts was the first they had fielded since the first weeks after the murder.

McClurg termed the call "unusual," and said it has him hopeful the caller holds vital information that can get the murder investigation moving ahead.

World-class math

Iowa students shine, but U.S. lags

By David Lynch
Gazette Washington reporter

WASHINGTON — The National Education Goals panel Thursday issued its third annual report which contained bad news for American students but some good news for Iowa schools.

The panel said test information indicates American students continue to fall behind other countries in math, science and literacy and comprehension.

However, Iowa was one of the few states where students appear to be as competent in mathematics as some of the highest-ranking foreign countries. A test administered to eighth graders showed that Iowa students were as proficient in mathematics as students in Taiwan, Korea and Switzerland, the three highest-achieving nations.

Thirty-seven percent of Iowa eighth graders were proficient in math, compared with 41 percent in Taiwan, 37 percent in Korea and 33 percent in Switzerland.

Iowa's performance was among the best in the nation in mathematics. Most of the other high-ranking states were also in the Midwest, officials said.

Iowa students, who have historically ranked in the top 10 percent in similar educational measurements, were again at or near the head of the class, but as the goals panel's report indicated, the class is nothing to brag about.

The report said most students who receive high school diplomas do so "without ever being seriously challenged . . . and without having gained the tools and skills they need to survive and prosper."

The study also found that the percentage of fourth-graders and eighth-graders who met the panel's standards for performance in mathematics increased from 1990 to 1992, but remains low. Only one in five fourth-graders met the standards and one in four eighth-graders. Only one in four fourth-grade students met the reading standards.

Out-going chairman Ben Nelson, the governor of Nebraska, said "there is some good news" in polling data that indicate 71 percent of Americans say something has to be done to improve public education, and 62 percent acknowledge their local schools need improvement.



Samuel Vernon
"It was not me . . . I know the person"

Vernon surprises judge, denies murder

Blames another man; sentencing is delayed

By Dick Hogan
Gazette courts reporter

Sentencing of Samuel Vernon of Cedar Rapids Thursday was delayed until Oct. 12 by Judge William Eads after Vernon implied in court that he did not stab Marvin Richard Raines to death Feb. 8.

Vernon, 39, had pleaded guilty Sept. 17 to

second-degree murder, and indicated Thursday that he was ready for sentencing.

But when Eads asked if he had anything to say, Vernon replied, "Yes, your honor. The victim named the person who had stabbed him . . . and it was not me. I feel I know the person who had stabbed him."

Eads asked Vernon if that was a denial of guilt.

"I feel that that person should know the lives he had ruined," was Vernon's only reply before Eads called a recess to permit Vernon to further discuss his comments with his

attorneys, public defenders John Logan and Nancy Baumgartner.

Marvin Richard Raines, 41, of Cedar Rapids, died Feb. 8 at Mercy Medical Center. While in the emergency room, he named Todd Hulfish of Cedar Rapids as his assailant, but recanted after seeing police in the room. Raines also said Vernon was present when he was attacked, but he did not accuse Vernon, according to court records.

"As far as I know, Hulfish had nothing to

Turn to page 7A: Vernon