

World and Nation

Jamaica bears brunt of hurricane

From Associated Press reports

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Hurricane Gilbert slammed into Kingston on Monday with torrential rains and 115 mph winds that ripped roofs off homes and buildings, uprooted trees and downed power lines.

No serious injuries were immediately reported in the city of 750,000 people, which was hit by the full force of the hurricane around noon.

For half an hour the hurricane lashed the city, tearing branches from trees, blowing down fences and whipping paper through the air.

The National Weather Service reported heavy damage to Kingston's

airport and aircraft parked on its fields.

The first shock let up as the eye of the storm moved across the city. Skies brightened, winds died down and people waited for an hour before the second blow of the hurricane arrived.

All Jamaica-bound flights were canceled at Miami International Airport.

Flights from the Cayman Islands, reportedly next in the path of the hurricane, arrived in Miami packed with travelers cutting short their vacations. "People were running

around in the main lobby of our hotel (on Grand Cayman Island) like chickens with their heads cut off," one man said.

A National Weather Service report said the hurricane was moving west at 17 mph with maximum sustained winds of 115 mph. The report said Jamaica would receive up to 10 inches of rain that would cause flash floods and mud slides.

"Right now it's actually moving over Jamaica," said Bob Sheets, director of the National Hurricane Center in Miami.

"It looks like the eye is going to move lengthwise across that island,

and they're going to bear the full brunt of this powerful hurricane," he said.

Gilbert reached Jamaica after skirting southern Puerto Rico, Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Hurricane warnings were issued Monday for the south coast of Cuba east of Camaguey, the Cayman Islands, and Haiti, while warnings were discontinued for the Dominican Republic.

High winds and heavy rain preceding the storm drenched Kingston overnight, toppling trees, causing local flooding and littering streets with branches.

Shiite kidnappers release hostage after 20 months

From Associated Press reports

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Shiite Moslem kidnappers freed West German hostage Rudolf Cordes at midnight Monday, after declaring that they were ending his 20-month ordeal in response to Syrian and Iranian intervention, an official said.

The official, an aide to Interior Minister Abdullah Rassi, said the 55-year-old businessman was freed at midnight in the luxurious Verdun neighborhood of west Beirut, outside the minister's home.

Fires ravage park

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. — Fire fighters took advantage of chilly, damp weather Monday to strengthen lines around fires that have ravaged nearly 1 million acres inside the park, but hot, dry weather was predicted by midweek.

"It's a sleeping giant now," Denny Bungarz, a fire incident commander, said during a briefing Monday. "We want to tie it down so when it wakes up it can't run on us."

Fire activity was limited Monday after a weekend of showers and light snow — the first significant precipitation since spring — that gave firefighters a needed break from high wind and temperatures that let fires grow by thousands of acres per day last week.

Crop harvests projected

WASHINGTON — Drought and hot weather nibbled at the nation's corn and soybean crops last month, but new Agriculture Department estimates showed Monday that most of the damage had already been done in June and July.

Officials held to an earlier prediction that consumer food prices will go up an average of only 3 percent to 5 percent this year, with about 1 percent of the rise caused by drought. A further increase is expected in 1989.

The department estimated the corn harvest, which is under way, at a five-year low of 4.46 billion bushels, down 37 percent from 7.06 billion bushels harvested in 1987.

Minister faces trial

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A min-

News in Brief

ister went on trial Monday on charges of beheading a handyman and burning down his church in an alleged attempt to assume a new identity and disappear with \$50,000 in church money.

Jury selection is expected to take most of the week in the first-degree murder and arson trial of the Rev. John David Terry, who faces the death penalty if convicted.

Terry may take the witness stand to break his yearlong silence in the decapitation of James Matheny.

The slaying and fire on June 15, 1987, at Emmanuel Church of Christ Pentecostal Oneness, stunned Terry's parishioners. Some have stuck by him since Matheny's body was found rolled up in a scorched carpet.

"Two days before this happened we would have given him our last dime," said Marsha Brown, 30, who with others in the 40-member congregation has been attending weekly services in a borrowed building in nearby Gallatin.

Activist earns honorary degree

BOLOGNA, Italy — The University of Bologna on Monday awarded an honorary degree to Nelson Mandela, a black activist imprisoned in South Africa.

The degree in political science was accepted by Johnny Makatini, a fellow member of the African National Congress, which is outlawed in South Africa.

Makatini read a brief statement from Mandela's wife, Winnie, which said: "I want to underline the importance and the impact of this award in the fight for the people of South Africa to build a just society."

The university said the degree honors people "who have greatly contributed to the return of freedom in their countries." The university also announced that the department of political science will hold an annual symposium dedicated to Mandela and the status of apartheid in South Africa.

Mandela, who turned 70 on July 17, was sentenced to life imprisonment in 1964 for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the white minority government.

Pilot's testimony incriminates Arab in air piracy trial

From Associated Press reports

FRANKFURT, West Germany — The pilot of a TWA jetliner hijacked by Arab terrorists in 1985 testified Monday that Mohammed Ali Hamadi took pleasure in torturing the passengers and fired the shot that killed an American soldier.

Capt. John Testrake, who commanded the plane during the ordeal, told the court he believed Hamadi was the more violent of two hijackers who invaded the jetliner's cabin and later killed Robert Stethem, a U.S. Navy diver.

But under questioning by defense lawyers, Testrake said he did not actually see Hamadi pull the trigger.

Hamadi is charged with murder and air piracy. He has admitted being one of the hijackers, but has denied killing Stethem. The Athens to Rome flight was hijacked June 14, 1985. It was flown to Beirut, where Stethem was killed, and 39 Americans were held hostage for 17 days.

Testrake had testified earlier that either of two hijackers could have led Stethem to a cabin door where he was shot. But after a recess, Testrake told the court he had a chance to get a closer look at Hamadi.

"I want to make an important statement," Testrake said. "I did say before that one of the two

(hijackers) appeared to do more of the communicating and the other more of the violence."

He said, "It appeared that one of the hijackers (Hamadi) enjoyed beating the passengers more . . . to inflict violence."

"Looking at this man now, I was struck that . . . this is the man who I recall had stood in the forward entry way and shot Stethem."

The plane landed in Beirut, was refueled, and flew to Algiers. It took on fuel and returned to Beirut where Stethem was slain and 39 other passengers were taken off the Boeing 747 and held hostage.

After the plane landed in Beirut the second time, Testrake told the court, one of the hijackers talked to the airport tower in Arabic.

"I could tell the hijacker was becoming more and more agitated. He began screaming into the radio. At this time he turned toward his accomplice and screamed what appeared to be an order," the pilot said.

"The forward cabin door was open. I saw the other hijacker push Stethem out the doorway. Then I heard a single shot," Testrake told the court.

After Testrake finished his testimony, the judge asked Hamadi if he had anything to say. He replied through an interpreter: "There are some things that are being lied about here."

Six states go to polls as primary season reaches final stages

From Associated Press reports

Battles for Senate nominations to replace Democrat William Proxmire in Wisconsin and Republican Robert Stafford in Vermont highlight primary voting in six states Tuesday, along with challenges to GOP lawmakers who helped oust Evan Mecham as governor of Arizona.

New Hampshire Republicans will choose a candidate for governor and decide a bitter congressional primary. Minnesota voters are expected to nominate Republican Sen. David Durenberger for a third term and give Democratic Attorney General Hubert "Skip" Humphrey III the right to challenge him. Utah has just one contested congressional race.

Five other states hold elections later in the week as the primary season winds down. Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York and Rhode Island delayed voting until Wednesday or Thursday to avoid having a primary on the Jewish holiday of Rosh Hashana. Hawaii's primary is set for Saturday.

Wisconsin's four-way Democratic Senate race has been lively and expensive, with Milwaukee Bucks basketball team owner Herbert Kohl spending nearly \$2.1 million after making a late entry. Much of that was on TV advertising to argue that his wealth makes him immune to special interests and thus he would be "nobody's senator but yours."

A poll published by the Milwaukee Journal on Sunday showed Kohl neck-and-neck with former Gov.

Anthony Earl, the early favorite. Kohl was preferred by 43 percent of the voters and Earl by 40 percent. Edward Garvey, an unsuccessful Senate candidate in 1986, drew 8 percent, Secretary of State Douglas La Follette 5 percent, and 4 percent were undecided. The poll had a margin of error of 6 percent.

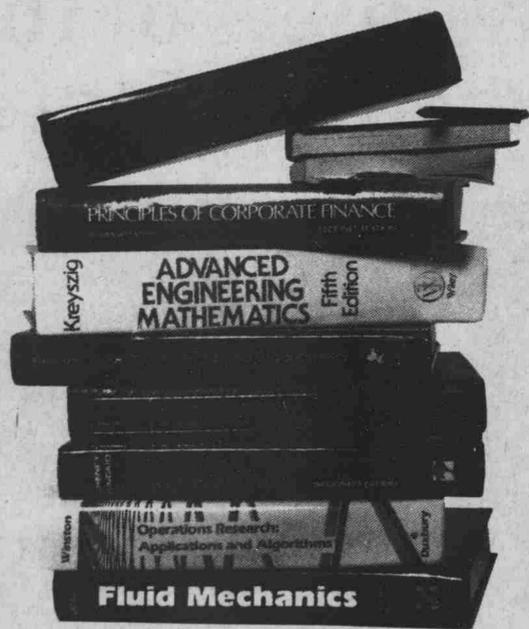
La Follette, who reported spending \$15,536, ran a radio commercial that began with the sound of a toilet flushing, his way of saying that a Wisconsin tradition of personal campaigning epitomized by Proxmire during 31 years in the Senate was going down the drain. Proxmire spent just \$145.10 to win re-election in 1982.

Earl ran an ad showing a short, balding man in a tuxedo wildly dribbling a basketball, the name "Herb" and two dollar signs on the back of his jacket. The ad said Kohl had "fumbled the ball" and included a recording of a radio show on which Kohl was unable to identify Secretary of Defense Frank Carlucci.

Garvey joined in the fun, running an ad that showed Frankenstein monster with a television on its shoulders and a Kohl ad on the screen. In the background, film clips from horror movies showed citizens fleeing in terror.

In Arizona, the main focus has been on state legislative races in which a number of GOP candidates are ultra-conservative backers of ousted Gov. Evan Mecham.

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