

Week in Review

New freedom: Religious service in Red Square

Amid the new religious freedom of perestroika, Soviet officials allowed worshippers to crowd into Moscow's famed St. Basil's Cathedral to celebrate the first religious service in Red Square in 70 years.

The onion-domed St. Basil's had been empty of religious congregations since 1918 when it became a historical museum. Called St. Basil's, it contains the relics of the saint.

South Africa scraps separate amenities act

South Africa's government is scrapping the most visible forms of South African apartheid, the 1953 Reservation of Separate Amenities Act, but white right-wingers vowed to find other ways to keep blacks out of their libraries, parks and swimming pools.

Easy come, easy go

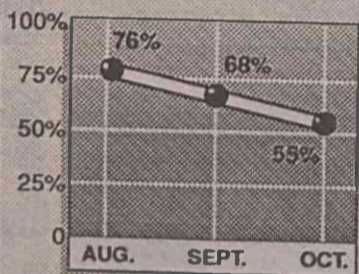
Last Friday, Thelma and Charles Bellows were talking about their \$10 million win in a McDonald's-NBC contest.

By the weekend, the Michigan couple had been stripped of the prize because a daughter works for the restaurant chain. Now, they are seeing a lawyer.

"We were honest about it," complains Charles Bellows, 52, "For \$10 million, we could have given the ticket to someone to claim it."

Falling from favor

President Bush's approval rating has plummeted the last two months, according to The Times Mirror Center for People & The Press, a news industry group that monitors public reaction to news.



The cause: The Persian Gulf crisis, soaring gasoline prices and the budget stalemate, according to the polling group.

Michael Jantze, Gannett News Service

Middle America angry with taxes

In Muncie, Ind., long regarded as a window on Middle America, the outrage of cutting \$50 billion from Medicare has many citizens angry. The cut sounds sounds painless until seniors realize that Medicare premiums are doubling to \$150 a year. "That has everybody upset," says Clyde Nicholson, president elect of the Muncie chapter of the American Association of Retired People.

Syria defeats Gen. Aoun

The defeat of rebellious Christian warlord Gen. Michel Aoun brings Lebanon a step closer ending its long and bloody civil war - and boosts Syria's fortunes.

Syria used air strikes in a blitz attack that deposed the Iraqi-backed Aoun, forcing the leader of the 15,000-man Christian Lebanese Armed Forces to seek refuge in the French Embassy.

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Gorbachev wins Nobel Prize

Soviet leader adulated abroad, reviled at home

By JOHN OMICINSKI
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Winning the Nobel Peace Prize this week illustrated once again the two faces of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev: adulated abroad and reviled at home.

The Nobel committee awarded Gorbachev the prize for making "dramatic changes" in East-West relations, for slowing the arms race, and for helping "old European nations" find freedom.

The announcement of Gorbachev's Nobel — and the \$700,000 that goes with it — won him just seven seconds of applause in the Supreme Soviet. And the reaction on the street was no more enthusiastic.

Interviewed on the Moscow subway, Andrei Tatishchev, 23, said he felt no pride for Gorbachev. "In international affairs, I think he's done everything right. It's domestically that there is disorder," he said.

And Muscovite Nicolai Fedosov said, "The people will support him with a Nobel Prize, or without a Nobel prize. Of course, if he provided the people with more potatoes, then they'd support him even more."

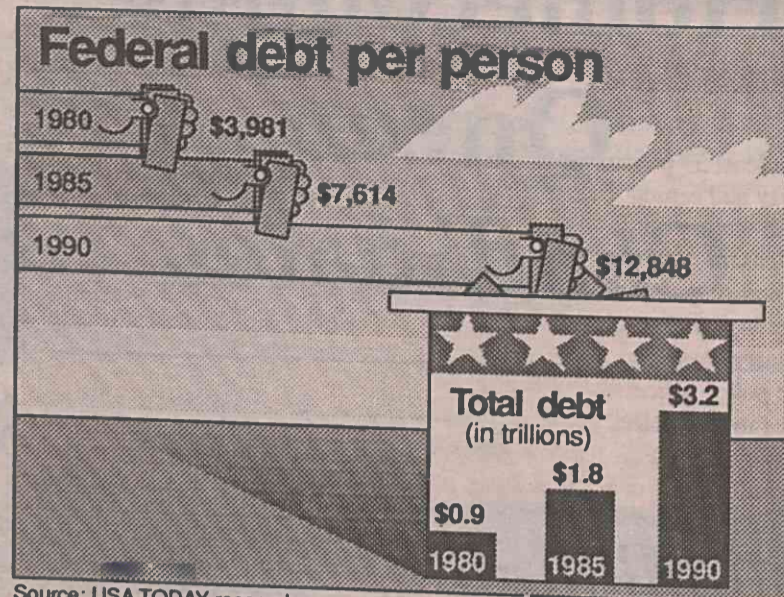
Another Bush son in the news

President Bush's son, Jeb, is now making headlines in connection with a savings and loan: Jeb, chairman of GOP Gov. Bob Martinez's re-election bid, is in a real estate partnership with Armando Codina that got entangled in two south Florida S&L failures.

Result: The U.S. government repaid most of a \$4.56 million second-mortgage loan they used to buy a Miami office building.

Ski team member a fraud?

Julie Wallace skied so well as a blind member of the U.S. Disabled Ski Team in Winter Park, Colo., that people started



Source: USA TODAY research

Jeff Dionise, Gannett News Service

"Here's an extraordinary paradox: a leader unloved in his own country, who has tremendous moral stature abroad," said Nigel Young, professor of peace studies at Colgate University, Hamilton, N.Y. "He's a world figure who, by making nuclear war less likely, has managed to transcend his own borders."

The Nobel Peace Prize, however, may be a substantial addition to Gorbachev's international arsenal. If Western help is what's necessary to turn around the depressed Soviet economy, winning the peace prize could be a huge plus.

"In order to reintegrate their economy with the West's," said Jerry Hough, director of the East-West Trade Center at Duke University in North Carolina, "the Soviets need an ambassador, and this strengthens his hand. I don't

think it adds to his power, because I think he's already powerful."

For their part, Western leaders reacted with enthusiasm. President George Bush praised Gorbachev as a leader with "courageous force," British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called Gorbachev's award "terrific," former President Ronald Reagan called it "wonderful," and German Chancellor Helmut Kohl said he was "delighted."

Other winners can attest to the power of the prize:

— Poland's Lech Walesa won it in 1983, adding immense cachet to Solidarity's peaceful struggle for freedom during the dark years after the 1981 imposition of martial law.

— South African Bishop Desmond Tutu won it the following year, giving new stature to every pronouncement he made against the pro-apartheid government of President P.W. Botha.

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