

World and Nation

Fugitive Hatcher arrested on day of arraignment

From Associated Press reports
RALEIGH — Fugitive Eddie Hatcher was arrested Monday as he and an attorney arrived on a Piedmont Airlines flight just minutes before his scheduled arraignment on charges of holding hostages at a newspaper office.

Airport security officers grabbed Hatcher and frisked him in a covered passageway just outside the airplane door. A security officer guarded the door into the terminal while officers cuffed Hatcher's hands behind his back and led him to a car waiting on the tarmac.

"We notified them this morning to watch all flights coming into Raleigh-Durham because we felt that with his arraignment today he might come in," said U.S. Marshal Bill Berryhill. He said marshals had no tips that he would come in Monday.

Hatcher, whose hair had been cut shorter since his disappearance last month, wore a bright red shirt, blue jeans and Indian-style boots. He is charged with violating federal weapons laws and holding

up to 20 people hostage at The Robesonian newspaper on Feb. 1.

Hatcher's sister, Ginger Clark, watched through a window as officials led her brother out of the plane and down a stairway to the waiting car.

She sobbed, pounded on the window and waved in an attempt to get her brother's attention as reporters and photographers stood around her. Hatcher looked up and smiled at her.

Aaron Clark, who had rented a limousine to take his brother to the arraignment, grimaced when he saw his brother in custody.

"I knew it, I knew it," he said.

New York attorney Ron Kuby, an associate of defense attorney Bill Kunstler, had accompanied Hatcher on the flight from Newark, N.J.

Berryhill said he was "willing to give Hatcher the benefit of the doubt," and believed he was on his way to surrender when he stepped off the plane at the airport.

Hatcher was being taken to the Cumberland County Jail, Berryhill said.

Polish government ministers step down following criticism

From Associated Press reports
WARSAW, Poland — The government of Prime Minister Zojniew Messner resigned Monday after sharp criticism of its management of the economy. A lawmaker called on parliament to legalize the Solidarity Labor Federation.

The resignations of Messner and all 19 government ministers were announced in a speech by Messner to the Sejm, or parliament.

It was the first time in Poland's postwar history the entire government stepped down. Messner said the resignations would make it easier for parliament to make "proper decisions" about the government's future.

Messner, prime minister since 1985, defended the government's performance but conceded "mishaps" in not standing up to inflationary wage demands.

Inflation caused a wave of labor strikes in April. A second wave in August ended when authorities and Solidarity leader Lech Walesa agreed to hold broad-based talks next month that may include the topic of legalizing Solidarity.

Under Poland's system, the Communist Party led by the Politburo is the actual seat of power and appoints the government through its majority

in parliament. The government is responsible for executing the party's goals.

The party leadership has maintained that its goals for reforming the economy and political system have been correct but the implementation by Messner's government has been faulty. Recent articles in the Soviet press also have criticized the Polish government.

The outlawed Solidarity federation "should regain its proper place in the trade union movement," Ryszard Bender, independent parliament member from Lublin, said during a debate in parliament on the economy and government.

"Apart from associations, apart from Solidarity... there is also a need to have new political parties," he said.

It was apparently the first call in parliament for legalizing the union since Solidarity was suppressed in 1981 by the imposition of martial law.

Bender urged Poland's leader, Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, to make a joint statement with Walesa, "the first Nobel Peace Prize laureate in Polish history," concerning Poland's "most vital interests." Jaruzelski smiled slightly but had no other visible reaction to the remarks.

Nicaraguan factions discuss resuming peace negotiations

From Associated Press reports
GUATEMALA CITY — Representatives of the Nicaraguan government met with rebel leaders Monday for the first time in three months, but both sides remained sharply divided on ways to end seven years of civil war.

The leftist Sandinista government and the U.S.-backed rebels, known as contras, began a two-day conference as a preliminary step to resuming the high-level peace talks that collapsed on June 9.

The rebels recently proposed that high-level talks resume Sept. 26, but the two sides disagree on a location.

Nicaragua is willing to resume talks, but they must be held in Managua, said Victor Tinoco, Nicaraguan assistant foreign minister and the head of the Sandinista delegation, at a news conference before Monday's meeting.

The rebels have opposed holding the talks in the Nicaraguan capital and have said high-level negotiations cannot resume until the government releases more than 40 anti-government demonstrators arrested in July.

A fragile March 21 cease-fire remains in effect in Nicaragua, but each side accuses the other of violating the truce.

News in Brief

Free-trade bill nears approval
WASHINGTON — The Senate neared approval Monday of a landmark free-trade agreement with Canada phasing out tariffs on the \$131 billion worth of goods that cross the northern U.S. border each year.

"This agreement is positive for both nations, and it is a boost for the world trading system," Sen. Daniel Moynihan, D-N.Y., told the Senate as it prepared to vote to send the measure to President Reagan's desk.

It would open the door for a 10-year phaseout of U.S. tariffs and various other trade curbs if political problems on the Canadian side are resolved.

In Canada, the House of Commons has passed a bill to start the tariff phaseout, but majority Liberals in the Senate have bottled it up until Prime Minister Brian Mulroney calls new elections.

Mulroney is expected to call elections within a few weeks. Defeat for his Conservative party could doom the plan in the new Parliament.

Homeless children numerous

WASHINGTON — At least 100,000 of America's children are homeless on any given night, and that doesn't include those who have run away from home or been kicked out by their parents, the National Academy of Sciences estimated Monday.

While male alcoholics and former mental patients still make up a large portion of the homeless, the fastest growing group of people with no place to live are children under 16, said the academy's Institute of Medicine.

"The committee feels strongly that the growing phenomenon of homeless children is nothing short of a national disgrace that must be treated with the urgency that such a situation demands," the

Stock market takes slide

NEW YORK — Stock prices turned downward in quiet trading Monday, giving up some of last week's gains.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials, up 29.34 points last week, fell 17.07 to 2,081.08.

Declining issues outnumbered advances by about 3 to 2 in nationwide trading of New York Stock Exchange-listed stocks, with 584 up, 885 down and 472 unchanged.

Soldiers open fire on protesters in Burma

From Associated Press reports
RANGOON, Burma — Soldiers loyal to the new military government opened fire on thousands of demonstrators who surged into the streets Monday to protest a military coup. About 100 people were reported killed in Rangoon.

Demonstrations also broke out in other cities, including Mandalay. Witnesses said a total of about 150 people, including 17 soldiers, have died in the violence that swept Burma after Sunday's coup.

The military placed the death toll at 23 Monday, but gave no details.

Military commander Saw Maung engineered the newest change in power in Burma by overthrowing civilian President Maung Maung.

Undaunted opposition leaders vowed that students, Buddhist monks and striking civil servants would continue to demonstrate for democracy. Maung Maung's whereabouts remain unknown.

A Western diplomat familiar with Burma said from Bangkok, Thailand, that "We're into possibly one of the final acts now... a naked confrontation with the army... Either the

students win or the army wins."

The soldiers were trying to enforce a ban on public gatherings imposed immediately after the coup by Saw Maung, the defense minister before the coup and a right-hand man of former President Sein Lwin. Sein Lwin resigned Aug. 12 after riots in which hundreds of protesters reportedly died.

Protesters blame the country's sole legal party, the ruling Burma Socialist Program Party, for 26 years of repression and economic ruin. Other analysts believe the military may have acted to simply assert its traditional

authority.

Reports indicated soldiers shot at mostly unarmed protesters near the main government administrative building, the U.S. Embassy, Sule Pagoda and Rangoon General Hospital. An Asian diplomat said 67 people were admitted Monday at Rangoon General Hospital.

Witnesses said corpses were taken away by military trucks while residents dragged some of the dead and wounded into their houses or put them in three-wheeled taxis to be taken to hospitals.

Dukakis supporters optimistic after campaigner rejoins team

By STACI COX
Assistant State and National Editor

The return of John Sasso to the campaign of Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis caused some controversy at first, but many Democratic observers agree the Dukakis campaign has been on the upswing since Sasso's return.

"We've had a very positive eight or nine days," said Tripp Jones, assistant press secretary for Dukakis. Sasso came back as the vice chairman for the campaign.

Republicans, however, don't see it that way.

Dukakis promised he would have nothing more to do with Sasso when

he fired him after Sasso admitted he had a role in the release of a videotape of Joe Biden plagiarizing a speech, but has gone back on his word, said Bill Graham, chairman of the N.C. campaign for Republican candidate George Bush.

"If I were Susan Estrich (the Dukakis campaign manager who replaced Sasso) I'd tell them they could have their position back," Graham said. "It's like a slap in the face to the whole staff."

But Jones said Sasso's position was created for him so that it does not encroach on the power of any existing member of the campaign.

"Susan Estrich called it (Sasso's

return) a family reunion," he said.

Dukakis' proposals for a new education loan program, the creation of a cabinet-level Environmental Protection Agency position and effective attacks on Bush have put the Democrat's campaign "back on track," Jones said. But Sasso is not solely responsible for Dukakis' turnaround, he said.

"Our upswing is the result of good campaigning all over the country," Jones said. "This is a 50-state campaign."

But Bush supporters and the average voter probably don't see any difference in the Dukakis campaign, Graham said.

Child care

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But Browne said just getting them a high school education is not enough. The quality of high schools in general must be improved for a diploma to mean much in an increasingly more technological job market, she said.

"Let's face it — all high school educations are not the same," Browne said.

Many industries have been compiling the same figures for years as those the institute published, and the results have probably kept many high-paying industries out of the state, Niblock said.

"Industry site location people have

known what we've been ignoring for years," he said.

Higher paying industries that are moving into the state often find it necessary to bring their own people, Browne said. But there could be an ultimate advantage to the influx of new people.

"These new people are used to and will demand higher standards of service, which could eventually benefit the poor," she said.

The report's findings were not all negative, Niblock said. Standardized test scores in 1987 were up, and infant mortality rates, while still higher than the national average, were down.

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State candidates stress need for open meetings

By SANDY WALL
Staff Writer

Open meetings, a topic that state candidates have seized upon recently, are necessary in the General Assembly, say the candidates for lieutenant governor.

But in the past, both candidates have either been associated with secret meetings or have advocated restrictions on the press.

Democrat Tony Rand, the senate majority leader, has been Senate base budget chairman since 1985 and is a member of the "Super Subcommittee." The "Super Sub," an unofficial group of four senators and four representatives, meets in secret to hammer out budget proposals to submit to joint meetings of the house and senate budget committees for approval.

Republican Jim Gardner, a Rocky Mount businessman, said during his unsuccessful 1972 gubernatorial bid that, as governor, he would seek restrictions on the press, because it was printing unfair

stories about him.

But for this campaign, Rand has created a "10-point plan" to open the meetings. Those points include making the "Super Sub" official, opening all committee meetings to the public and making all documents public.

A Rand spokesman, J. Barlow Herget, said Rand was the only one of the five Democratic primary candidates for lieutenant governor to issue such a plan. Rand has a reputation for open government, Herget said.

Gardner's plan is to introduce a bill to make all private committee meetings illegal. All members of the General Assembly could thus be aware of committee proceedings before the vote comes to the floor, Gardner said.

Gardner said Rand was "part of the problem," because Rand has offered only "lip service" to the idea of open meetings and has been a member of the "Super Sub."

Because the candidates basically

agree, Gardner said he believes openness is "not a partisan issue, it's a fairness issue."

Although the Legislature is overwhelmingly Democratic, Gardner said he could convince the Senate to pass his bill because his election would "send a message to the Senate."

Gardner said his stand now on press restrictions does not contradict his previous comments, because they were made "in the heat, 20 years ago."

Openness may not be an issue to most voters, however. Jack Betts, editor of Insight magazine, said he couldn't tell if it mattered to voters, but that it "should be an issue."

Legislators have made some progress in opening the committees, but it has come slowly, Betts said.

Roy Parker, editor of the Fayetteville Times, said the issue was "good politics to jump all over."

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