



NEW GOVERNOR MEETS PRESS — Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt speaks at a news conference at Phoenix. Former attorney-general, Babbitt succeeds Gov. Wesley Bolin, who died suddenly Saturday of an apparent heart attack at his home.

Arch McDonnell, Railroad Artist Dies

CONCORD, N.H. (UPI) — Arch McDonnell, the artist who recorded an era when railroads ruled the land, died Saturday at Concord Hospital after a brief illness. He was 60.

McDonnell's paintings of New England railroads in the 1920s and 1930s hang in homes and art galleries the world over. Nelson Rockefeller bought a McDonnell print while in New Hampshire during a presidential primary season.

McDonnell, never a full-time painter, sold his first work to an Idaho woman in 1956. His works were known for their precision and infinite detail.

Railroad buffs were enthralled by his works.

"I've got to make sure the pipes and the bolts and the nuts all are in the same place," he said in an interview last September. "If I don't I'll hear about it."

McDonnell even kept a drawer full of old train schedules "to make sure I have the train in the right station at the right time. If I don't, someone will call up and tell me."

McDonnell was reared in a railroad family in Franklin, about 20 miles north of Concord. Although his father forbade him to work for the railroad, it wasn't enough to hold him back.

"I lied about my age and because I was a tall guy, I got hired as a section worker. Wrecked two motor cars in one year, too," he said.

McDonnell's last job was as an engineer-consultant to the University of New Hampshire. He also worked

Ann Landers . . .

DEAR READERS — I Hate to admit it but I'm giving in. I wasn't too crazy about the Sex Test for Teenagers (composed by a teenager in 1966) but I printed it because I believed it had some redeeming features.

The response was incredible. Teens (and their parents) had plenty to say, both pro and con. Four years later, four Memphis teenagers "updated" the Sex Test and I printed it. Again, the ceiling fell in.

Since 1970, I have received over 5,000 "updated" Sex Tests. Each contributor insists I owe it to my young readers to print a new one. They say anyone who digs cats between 13 and 19 has got to know times have changed and if I really want to help teenagers, I'd better tell it like it is NOW. So — here's the 1978 Teenage Sex Test, submitted by five teenagers (three girls and two boys, ages 15 to 17). They attend a public high school in Dayton, Ohio. The scoring guide is at the end.

Instructions for scoring: for each yes answer give yourself the number indicated. Ready? Here it is: Have you:

Ever been out with a member of the opposite sex? 2

Ever engaged in light making-out? Kissing but no intimate touching? 2

Ever gotten or given a hickey? 2

Ever said I love you? 3

Ever said I love you to more than one person in the same week? 4

Ever removed part of your clothing while making

in the state Highway Department's Planning Office and as a cement salesman.

He leaves his wife, Dorothy, of Concord; his stepson, Alan Stevens, of Contoocook; his brother,

Maryland Briefs

LINTHICUM (AP) — Last month was the driest February in Maryland in the last quarter-century despite higher-than-average snowfall, the National Weather Service says.

It said precipitation at Baltimore-Washington International Airport last month totaled .56 inches, compared with a normal 2.81 inches.

Snowfall during the month was nearly twice the normal amount, but "some snows are very wet and others have almost no water in them," a meteorologist said. He cited the 8.4 inches of snow recorded here Feb. 5, which equaled less than a third of an inch of rain.

BALTIMORE (AP) — Baltimore's mayor says the city workforce will probably be smaller in the coming fiscal year because of heavy budget pressures.

"There won't be as many people working for the city next year," Mayor William Donald Schaefer said after eight municipal unions announced they had reached an impasse in contract talks.

Layoffs are inevitable unless the property tax rate is raised, Schaefer said, and "I have not heard anyone calling for a substantial tax increase."

BALTIMORE (AP) — A federal judge has disqualified himself from the civil trial of Leo DaLesio, at one time Maryland's most powerful Teamsters official.

U.S. District Judge Herbert F. Murray took the action rather than accept defense motions that he step down from the case of Harry N. Raynor, a nephew of the retired Teamsters chief.

Raynor is charged with soliciting perjury and obstructing justice. DaLesio, retired head of Teamsters Joint Council 62 and secretary treasurer of Local 311, is accused of mishandling the groups' assets.

ANNAPOLIS (AP) — A deaf-mute has been convicted of abducting a young girl and taking her on a three-week trip through Maryland and Alabama.

David A. Barker, 26, was found guilty by Anne Arundel County Circuit Judge E. Mackell Childs, who set May 1 for sentencing. Barker's lawyers argued the girl had been a willing participant in the 1976 journey.

Meanwhile, murder charges were dropped against Barker in the October 1975 slaying of a Baltimore bar maid.

The female veteran population is nearly 580,000, says the VA, or nearly two percent of all veterans. The VA employs 7,189 female veterans, according to VA statistics.

SCORING GUIDE: 7 or under Candidate for Sainthood.

8 to 16 Normal and Decent.

17 to 30 Heading for Serious Trouble

30 to 40 in Serious Trouble and Plenty Messed Up

41 or over Either You Are a Damned Fool or Completely Freaked Out.

Note From Ann Landers: Maybe I'm a wiggly antique, but in my opinion, anyone who scores more than 12 is not "Normal and Decent."

Are drugs O.K. if you learn how to control them? Can they be of help? The answers are in Ann Landers' new booklet, "Straight Dope on Drugs." For each booklet ordered, send a dollar bill, plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope (24 cents postage) to Ann Landers, PO Box 11996, Chicago, Illinois 60611. (FIELD ENTERPRISES)

31 States Adopt Competency Testing In Schools

WASHINGTON (AP) — Thirty-one states have adopted minimum competency testing in schools, but a National Academy of Education panel advises caution in the rush to set standards for students.

And some educators feel they are being made scapegoats for students' declining test scores and failure to learn the basic skills.

"The minimum competency test movement is a vote of no confidence in the schools," said Diane Ravitch, a professor at Columbia University's Teachers College and a critic of the teaching profession. She was a member of the panel that reported during last week's National Conference on Achievement Testing and Basic Skills.

"The reason that educators are worried is that the real object of the movement is not so much to test the competence of the children as it is to test the competence of the schools," she said.

The panel contended that any statewide minimum competency standard for a high school diploma "is basically unworkable, exceeds the present measurement arts of the teaching profession and will create more social problems than it can conceivably solve."

Steelworkers Ratify Pact

ST. LOUIS (UPI) — More than 2,000 United Steelworkers Union employees Sunday ratified contracts with ACF Industries Inc. plants in Missouri, Illinois, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Agreement on three-year contracts was reached in negotiations at a suburban St. Louis County hotel Saturday night, shortly before the expiration of the old contracts at midnight Saturday.

Roby Fraley, chairman of the union's negotiating committee, and Eric F. Jensen, vice president of ACF Industries, jointly announced the agreements were approved by union members at meetings Sunday.

The contracts cover about 1,800 workers at ACF's AMCAR Division plants in Huntington, W.Va., Milton, Pa., and St. Charles, Mo., and about 225 employees of the Shipper's Car Line Division facilities at Milton, East St. Louis, Ill., and Red House, W.Va.

Fraley and Jensen said the agreements include substantial wage increases and improvements in fringe benefits, including pensions, supplemental unemployment benefits and insurance coverage.

Military Copters Airlift Supplies

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (UPI) — Army and National Guard helicopters Sunday food, water and hay Sunday to 8,000 Navajos stranded on the nation's largest Indian reservation by a week of rain and snow.

Army UH-1 helicopters from Fort Carson, Colo. — along with four choppers from Phoenix and Santa Fe, N.M. — were being used to airlift supplies to Navajos living in isolated areas of the reservation.

"The people can't get out. The mud is just too thick," said Rex Johnson, a coordinator for the airlift — "Operation Mudhook."

Despite the clamor for a return to the basics and improvement of students' reading, writing and math skills, the panel argued, public pressure will keep the passing grade on such a test so low it will be meaningless.

"Continuing any extensive effort and funds in this direction is wasteful and takes attention away from the major tasks of improving our schools," the panel said.

All 50 states actually have minimum competency test plans in effect, on the drawing boards, or under

study. Most of the 31 states with plans in effect are phasing them in to give students a chance to receive remedial help.

In 1972 Oregon became the first state to adopt minimum standards. Florida has a comprehensive testing program that has interested many states. It conducts standardized achievement tests in grades 3, 5, 8 and 11. In addition, last November it gave its 110,000 high school juniors a minimum competency test for the first time.

Thirty-six percent of the

junior failed the math test, and 8 percent failed the reading and writing portion, which were at a 7th- or 8th-grade level, according to state officials. These 37,000 students will get at least three more chances to pass.

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