



Women overcoming the odds:
Rae Fields and others stand tall

Special section



Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. finishes
decade as speaker of the House

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Mystery surrounds women's deaths

By MARK BOCCRETTI
and BOB EVANS
Staff Writers

YORK — Barbey Dowick and Cathy Thomas were young women on the verge of success until their bodies were found Oct. 12 in a car at the bottom of a bluff near the edge of the York River, held back from the water by a tangle of bushes.

Their deaths had been cut when they were found by a jogger about 5:30 p.m. in Ms. Thomas' white Honda Civic

near the 9 kilometer post of the Colonial Parkway, east of Chestnut Annex Navy base.

Despite a weeks-long investigation by the FBI and repeated public pleas for help in determining where the women had been the previous four days, few details have surfaced about their deaths.

FBI agents say it is too early to tell when and how they died. They have refused to give more details about the car and its contents.

They had last been seen at The Colonial Parkway and Mary Oct. 9, a Thursday night, the FBI said. Ms. Dowick, a 21-year-old senior studying business there, and Ms. Thomas, a 25-year-old Virginia Beach stockbroker and U.S. Naval Academy graduate, had been friends a short time, friends say.

They shared a love of athletic fitness and good food. They were from good families, were known for working hard but also for compassion for the people in their lives, taking time to do the li-

able things that make people feel comfortable and happy when they are together.

Ms. Dowick was a 5-foot-7, 135-pound former softball star in college known for her strength and tenacity.

"I can't imagine someone being able to overcome her" without a struggle, said Sharon Spittle, one of her best friends during the past four years. Ms. Thomas, shorter and lighter, but an

avid jogger, was in excellent physical condition and had been trained in self-defense at the Naval Academy, too, her friends said.

"The FBI knows that too. That's one of the puzzling aspects of the case," said Mrs. Dowick, 32, of her sister's death. "The facts of the case suggest that there were" — she says — a struggle, at least inside the car.

That car is now in the FBI laboratory near Washington, being evaluated. ■ See Women's, Page A2



Staff photo by BUDDY HICKS

Anniversary at Yorktown

The 3rd Army Field and Drum Corps passes in review during festivities marking the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown. Other activities Saturday included tactical demon-

strations on the Yorktown Battlefield and a Revolutionary War encampment at the Yorktown Victory Center. The actual anniversary, which is today, will be celebrated with an

arts and crafts fair, parades and other Colonial-style ceremonies. Free parking is available on the battlefield. For further information, call 898-3400.

Congress finally adjourns

WASHINGTON (AP) — Contention to the end, the 99th Congress today adjourned Saturday, one day after a leading rush to complete a staggering load of major legislation and barely two weeks before the Nov. 4 elections.

The gavel came down for the year in the Senate at 9:14 p.m. EDT. The House followed suit at 9:23 p.m.

"Productive. One word," said Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole, R-Kan., when asked to sum up the work of Congress.

"This Congress, in all probability, will be remembered for tax reform, balancing our defense books against the demands for fiscal restraint and for its inability to find a successful formula to solve the continuing problem of our national deficit," said Senate Democratic Leader Robert C. Byrd of West Virginia.

"Time and effort and some frustration" have produced "several milestones that many of the members and many congressional observers never thought possible," House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., D-Mass., had said in a farewell statement.

Shortly before adjournment, Dole and Byrd made the customary call to President Reagan, informing him that ■ See Congress, Page A12

Bateman: A leader without the frills

By NANCY COOK
Staff Writer

Two years ago, as an old friend tells the story, Rep. Herbert H. Bateman was in Bowling Green, driving around in a beat-up Ford as he canvassed the fringes of the 1st District for votes.

"It only had two hubcaps, the others had fallen off, you know. And everything you started in, it rattled. It really did need some attention," says Mrs. Davis, a long-time associate of Bateman's who has worked with him on many campaigns.

Well, we pull into this self-

service station and this old man sits there, watching him pump gas.

"Pretty soon he comes over and says, 'I see you got a No. 1 on your license plate. Are you the governor?'"

"No," replies Bateman. "That tickled me," Davis said, "and I'm not sure Herb understood I don't think he was even aware of the car."

The story, friends say, is vintage Bateman: "No frills, no hard worker" ■ See Bateman, Page A18



Rep. Herbert Bateman
... hard worker

Scott: His values rooted in politics

By NANCY COOK
Staff Writer

In a state that prides itself on having a citizen legislature of working men and women, Sen. Robert C. Scott can be something of an anomaly.

He has virtually no life outside of politics. Educated at Harvard University and Boston College Law School, the Newport News Democrat so far has spared the financial opportunities such a prestigious education can bring and instead devotes his time to "people."

His law practice is almost ■ See Scott, Page A18

non-existent. His income is less than \$30,000 annually, and most of that comes from his Senate salary, which brings him \$13,500, plus \$8,700 for some work and office expenses.

And at age 30, at a time when many men have settled into family life, Scott is still single, though he has been dating a woman for several years.

But Scott brushes off questions about his personal life, saying that family and money have not been priorities for him. Almost all his time is spent working on a variety of bills. ■ See Scott, Page A18

Good morning

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Today's weather
Partly sunny. High in the low 60s. Low near 40. See Page A2.

Battle of the bungles: Military loses equipment

By WILLIAM H. INMAN
UPI National Feature Writer

Each week and each month at supply depots and warehouses around the globe, America's armed forces lose equipment — everything from hand grenades to bookshelves to hawthorn. In the past 12 months alone, spare parts, office equipment, weapons and ammunition of unmeasured worth and destructive capability have vanished.

While the Pentagon's procurement costs — the \$9,800 wrench and the \$7,600 coffee machine — have been widely publicized, few have taken note of the losses at the other end of

goods we're probably going to have troubles," Michael Elliott, a criminal investigator with the Army's Office of the Inspector General, told United Press International. "They are always vulnerable (to manipulation). And I'm not sure they can ever truly be fixed."

By whatever means, C4 plastic explosives, made to Pentagon specifications, are turning up in the hands of terrorist organizations including the Palestinian Abu Nidal group and others linked to Libya. Members of right-wing, survivalist and paramilitary hate groups including Posse Continental and the Aryan

Brotherhood — many of them ex-soldiers — equip themselves from stolen small arms and ammunition.

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first of three parts

the pipeline. Some items were simply misplaced, temporarily lost or slipped off the accounting books in transit from place to place, according to military and outside investigative documents. But all too much of the inventory, the documents indicate, was plundered by insiders or subcontractors whose government training helped them subvert automated safeguards.

Frankly, as long as we have computers keeping track of our

effective anti-personnel mine, now favored by coca and marijuana growers for protecting their crops.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms reports military-type explosives have been linked to at least 443 domestic bombings in the past decade, and the number of cases is on the increase, rising from 31 in 1983 to 43 in 1984 to 54 in 1985.

The question, of course, is how do valuable weapons and equipment "escape from a presumably controlled and closed system? The services insist their protections are so good ■ See Supplies, Page A3