

IN SPORTS Gators and Hurricanes are ready to settle their in-state dispute

Thunderstorms Details back of A Section FORT MYERS NEWS-PRESS Charlotte Edition A Gannett Newspaper Saturday • September 7, 1985 • Fort Myers, Florida 35 cents

31 die in jetliner crash



Officials go over scattered wreckage of Midwest Express Airlines jetliner

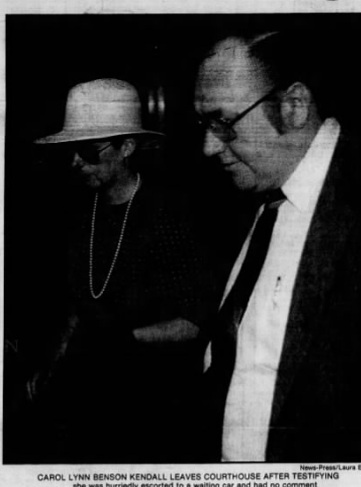
By DAVE SKIDMORE Associated Press Writer MILWAUKEE — A DC-9 jetliner crashed and burned in a wooded area Friday morning after it took off from Miami, Fla., and was bound for Atlanta, adding to a death toll of more than 100 that has made 1985 the worst year for fatalities in civilian aviation history.

Pikuritz case gets new look

By KEVIN BLOOM Charlotte Bureau Chief FORT CHARLOTTE — Linda Carol Pikuritz, 35, and her friend have spent seven years trying to understand how and why she 17-year-old son was murdered on October night. Now a detective report from the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department says he might be closer to finding those answers than anyone has since the girl was murdered Oct. 12, 1978.

Benson indicted in killings

By DENES HUSTY Color Bureau Chief NAPLES — Steven W. Benson was indicted Friday by the Collier County grand jury for the first-degree murders of his millionaire mother and adopted brother and the attempted first-degree murder of his sister.



CAROL LYNN BENSON KENDALL LEAVES COURTHOUSE AFTER TESTIFYING she was hurriedly escorted to a waiting car and had no comment

AIDS boy in the spotlight

By BARBARA JOHNSON and FRANCES D. WILLIAMS News Staff Writer His name is Frederick and, in his teens, his spindly legs and dark, wide eyes are heart-renderingly cute in the way staring African children have come to resemble popular drawings of children with oversized eyes.

Shipping ban imposed on state citrus nurseries

From News-Press Staff and Wire Services Officials imposed an immediate shipping quarantine Friday on all Florida citrus nurseries to stop the spread of citrus canker.

Inside A

13 The nation's civilian unemployment rate fell from 7.3 percent in July to 7 percent in August, the lowest level of Ronald Reagan's presidency, but many economists caution that joblessness is likely to drift upward.

Graham presses case to free 'mercy killer'

By ED BIRK Associated Press Writer TALLAHASSEE — Gov. Bob Graham declared Friday to release "mercy killer" Ernest Gilbert from prison, but urged the Cabinet to reconsider his release to free him.