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NEWS-PRESS*
THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 1988

ON POLITICS
BETTY PRICE PARKER

Pat Robertson turns a different cheek in his ads

When campaign workers for GOP presidential candidate and former televangelist **Pat Robertson** wrote a four-page ad brochure that was inserted in major Florida newspapers Sunday, they said they wanted to get "the total picture of Pat Robertson."

So the ad focused on Robertson's political platform and academic and business background, including the fact that he founded "a major television cable network."

Missing was any mention of the activities that brought Robertson to the public forefront: his years as an evangelist and Christian TV talk show host. Nor did the ad use the full name of Robertson's CBN (Christian Broadcast Network) cable company.

David Zachem, Robertson's Florida campaign director, said their surveys indicate that most people already know about Robertson's evangelizing.

"But a lot of people don't realize his business and academic background," Zachem said. "We're trying to bring the full picture of Pat Robertson to the public."

Zachem took offense at a suggestion that some Robertson supporters who sought a Christian candidate might be disturbed at Robertson's attempts to distance himself somewhat from his evangelist image.

"Should Christian candidates have to wear a black armband with a cross to identify themselves? I don't think so," he said. "Americans don't look at or care what a candidate did four or five years ago . . . what someone did for a living a few years ago has nothing to do with being president."

Senate 38 Council

State Sen. Fred Dudley, R-Fort Myers, sent out about 5,000 newsletters in December featuring brief wrap-ups of five major issues the Legislature dealt with last spring, along with a column on the service tax and soliciting memberships for his "Senate 38 Council," named for his district 38.

So far, about 100 Southwest Floridians have paid $30, $200, or other amounts to become members. The newsletter's first edition went out to more so additional people could learn of the program's existence.

The organization's purpose is to raise money to pay for a quarterly newsletter without using taxpayer money for correspondence, Dudley said.

"One of the advantages of being a member of Council 38 is the increased capacity you have to make your views known to me on specific areas of interest to you," he wrote in the first mailing.

Members are asked to fill out questionnaires indicating specific areas of interest such as roads, law enforcement or education, Dudley said. Their replies are kept on file, and when an issue comes up, Dudley said, he'll seek input from respondents with interest or expertise in that area.

But, he added, other constituents who want to be listed can also get in the file without paying a membership fee.

Going to bat for Mack

U.S. Rep. Connie Mack, R-Cape Coral, who's running for the U.S. Senate seat being vacated by **Lawton Chiles**, has lined up a couple of national GOP heavy hitters for campaign fund-raisers.

Secretary of Education William Bennett will be the guest of honor at an invitation-only gathering in Tallahassee Friday. The event is slated for the home of **Bill Thomas**, son of Republican power broker **Tommy Thomas** of Panama City, who's one of Mack's campaign finance chairmen.

Tommy Thomas said about 50 people were invited, including some state education officials who were given free invitations. He expects the event to add about $10,000 to Mack's coffers.

Former U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick also has agreed to appear at a Mack fund-raiser March 28. The location, price or time of the event has not been settled yet.

Meanwhile, Mack's chances of running unopposed in the Republican primary appear to be shrinking.

"I'm afraid Paula (**former U.S. Senator Paula Hawkins** who was unseated by **Bob Graham** in '86) is going to run, but I'm more concerned about **Bill McCollum**," a Republican congressman from Altamonte Springs, Tommy Thomas said.

McCollum press aide **David Eiser** said McCollum, who's "leaning strongly toward running," probably will make his announcement within the next 10 days.

Betty Price Parker is a News-Press staff writer who covers political affairs.

Local woman hospitalized after being hit by police car

By PETER WEST
News-Press Staff Writer

A 49-year-old woman was hospitalized in serious condition after a Fort Myers police car, speeding after a motorcycle, crashed into her car Wednesday morning on Palm Beach Boulevard.

Police gave the following account:

Alice Elizabeth Manini of 1451 Steele St., Fort Myers, was traveling eastbound at 7:57 a.m. in a 1984 Pontiac, preparing to make a left turn onto Tarpon Street, when the accident occurred, police said.

A marked police car, driven by officer James Mulligan, was heading westbound on the outside lane. His lights were flashing as he attempted to pull over a careless motorcyclist, police said.

Manini, who apparently didn't see or hear the approaching squad car, was waved across by a driver on the inside lane, police said.

The driver, who noticed the motorcycle, then signaled her to stop, but it was too late.

While Manini was turning, the patrol car slammed into the Pontiac, destroying the passenger side. The motorcyclist sped away and police do not know his identity.

Lee County emergency medical personnel rushed Manini to Lee Memorial Hospital, where she was admitted to the intensive care unit, police said.

Mulligan was uninjured.

Although rush-hour traffic at the time of the accident was heavy, Mulligan did not activate his siren, said the two workers, who declined to give their names.

Mulligan was just following procedure, Fort Myers police Sgt. Dan Jerz said. Loud sirens tend to fluster drivers and cause more accidents than they prevent, Jerz said. Police officers flick on their cars' sirens only when the vehicles they are chasing refuse to stop.

Flashing lights alone tend to do the trick, Jerz said.

300 pay their tributes to police officer

By PETER WEST
News-Press Staff Writer

Mark Alan Bolhouse was a good man and a good police officer, whose short life will long be remembered by loved ones, a Fort Myers police chaplain told those who attended a memorial service Wednesday afternoon.

Bolhouse, 27, a Fort Myers police detective, died Jan. 19 of a ruptured artery in Greenwood, Ind. He was buried this week in Grandville, Mich.

The detective's family, friends and fellow police officers gathered at the Hall of Fifty States on Edwards Drive to hear the 20-minute eulogy. A six-man Cape Coral police honor guard stood at attention at the building's entrance, watching as about 300 people filed into the hall.

Inside, Bolhouse's empty gun belt and police hat were placed on the center of the stage.

They came to pay a final tribute to a man described as warm, caring and committed to protecting the public.

"There's one message I believe Mark Bolhouse left us," Fort Myers chaplain David Deaton said. "And it's one word — today.

"Don't put off till tomorrow what we can do today. We can only be assured of right now. Today make the right choices."

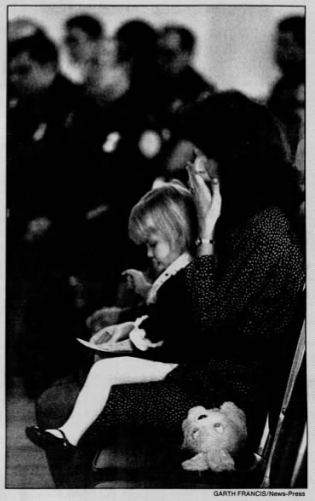
Bolhouse's widow, Lisa, sat in the front of the hall, holding her daughter, Megan, 2. The blond girl wore a black velvet dress. Lisa Bolhouse hasn't explained her husband's death to Megan, said Rae Kaufman, a family friend. "The child keeps asking where her daddy is," Kaufman said.

Midway through the service, Fort Myers Police Chief Jere Spurlin presented Lisa Bolhouse with a plaque from the department commemorating Bolhouse's six-year tenure with the force. His voice cracked and wavered as he spoke.

"It's been pretty rough," Fort Myers Police Capt. Steve Schwein later said. "(The detectives) are a pretty close-knit group. There's a lot of close proximity. A day doesn't go by when we don't think about him. I always have to pass by his desk. One of these days we're going to have to clean it out."

Members of the sheriff's departments of Lee and Charlotte counties and the Punta Gorda Police Department sat among Bolhouse's peers.

"I never met him, but I kind of felt an obligation to come, being in the law enforcement brotherhood," said Jeri Martin, senior officer in the Lee sheriff's department. "I thought the service was very straight and to the point. I thought the turnout was nice."



GARTH FRANCIS/News-Press

Lisa Bolhouse, widow of Fort Myers police officer Mark Bolhouse, weeps quietly while holding her 2-year-old daughter Megan during a memorial Wednesday. Bolhouse died of an aneurysm while on police business in Indianapolis.

At the conclusion of the service, Bolhouse's colleagues filed out of the hall. They formed a human corridor for the widow that stretched toward the end of the block — where a car took her away.

The officers dispersed, most returning to their beats. They had a job to do. One said that Bolhouse would understand.

Jury mulls Scott case

Evidence recalled from three weeks' dramatic testimony

By JANE MUSGRAVE
News-Press Staff Writer

High-energy courtroom drama was quickly replaced by hail-walking anxiety Wednesday as the jury in the three-week-long murder trial of Bradley Philip Scott began deliberating.

After listening to roughly four hours of emotion-charged closing arguments from attorneys on both sides, the jury of six men and six women left the packed courtroom at 2:05 p.m. to begin weighing the evidence.

Jurors returned an hour later to ask to see some of the exhibits. They then spent much of the remainder of the afternoon reviewing videotaped testimony of two of the 64 witnesses who testified about the 1978 burning death of 12-year-old Linda Pikuritz and Scott's possible involvement.

Deliberations ended at 6:30 p.m. when jurors were taken to dinner and then to a local motel for the night. They are to resume their deliberations at 8 a.m. today.

While the jury didn't explain why it was requesting to see the evidence or view the testimony, its requests were better news for the prosecutors than for the defense attorneys.

"I hope they're back in an hour," defense attorney Leonard Johnson said shortly after the jury adjourned. There's a theory that the longer a jury deliberates, the greater the chance the verdict will be guilty, he said.

Deputy State Attorney Donald Pellecchia said that during his 14 years as a prosecutor, he had never detected such a trend.

But he and co-counsel Paul Alessandroni appeared generally pleased with the jury's requests.

The jury asked to see the broken shell necklace that was found near Pikuritz's naked, charred body in a deserted field off Toledo Blade Boulevard on Oct. 12, 1978. Jurors also asked to see the lone shell that was found in the back of a car Scott drove in 1978.

During their closing arguments, prosecutors told jurors to remember the broken necklace and the shell that was found under the back seat of the 1971 white Mercury that belonged to Scott's girlfriend. The shell found in the back seat of the car completed the broken necklace, prosecutors maintained.

"Recall importantly in this case ... Linda's seashell was found in Bradley Scott's car — the car that Bradley Scott drove her to or her

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Soup kitchen provides more than a full stomach

By TONY KATSULOS
News-Press Staff Writer

More than 100 of the city's hungry frequent the soup kitchen at 3071 Anderson Ave. They quell their hunger pangs, then walk away.

The president of the organization that runs that soup kitchen, the Nations Association, says that isn't good enough.

"Sure, they walk away with food in their belly, but that is all they leave with," said the Rev. Israel Suarez. "That's the problem. You can't reach the people in this community like that. You need to do more than talk to them as they leave through your doors."

To get his message across, Suarez and his organization are on the brink of what he calls a "super project."

In 1987, the Nations Association bought a warehouse at 3659 Anderson Ave. The group plans to transform it into a project that offers the city's homeless a place to eat, a place for counseling and even a place to shower.

"I wanted to give them a place to get clean because they live there in the street. There's nowhere to shower," Suarez said. "I try to find them jobs within the community, and they can come here to prepare themselves to get those jobs."

Suarez said the tab for revamping the warehouse is $150,000. The project will serve as many as 100 people at once. While he admits the project is an ambitious one, he says it can be realized with the help of Lee County citizens.

"It would be my blessing if we could open on my 10th anniversary (with the Nations Association). I would be blessed to open the doors by Oct. 21.

"If I could have 150,000 people send me $1, or 75,000 send $2, you wouldn't realize what that would do for the community," Suarez said.

Donations may be sent to the Nations Association, P.O. Box 1995, Fort Myers 33902.

Officials want reservoir to divert floodwaters near proposed prison

By ROBIN POLLACK
News-Press Staff Writer

Soggy land and poor drainage will cause flooding when a state prison is built near the Charlotte-Lee county line, and some officials want a reservoir dug to nip potential problems in the bud.

State Sen. Marlene Woodson, R-Bradenton, and Charlotte County Commissioner Lee Eure say a reservoir built near the C.M. Webb Wildlife Management Area in southeastern Charlotte County would catch excess stormwater, instead of having that water flood nearby farmland in Lee and Charlotte counties.

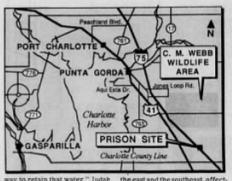
Eure and Woodson have written to state Department of Natural Resources officials asking that the reservoir be built. That excess water could be used by the city of Punta Gorda when its water supply runs short, instead of drawing water from Shell Creek, they said.

The prison site — along Oil Well Road near Interstate 75 — is in a relatively unsettled area dotted with wetlands.

"That area is really wet, and could cause some big problems" without a reservoir to store excess water, said Andy Barta, a planner with the Southwest Florida Water Management District. The district includes Charlotte but not Lee County.

And, although the site is in Charlotte County, Lee County "probably would be hurt the most" from flooding because it's downstream from the site, said Ray Judah, a Lee County planner.

"They're going to need some way to retain that water," Judah said Monday.



The prison site "is pretty much isolated" and probably wouldn't affect nearby residential areas, but could severely affect adjacent farmland, Barta said.

Flooding problems are expected because the prison site is being elevated to support the building. By elevating the land, more water will run off toward the east and the southeast, affecting southern Charlotte and northern Lee counties, environmental officials said.

Environmental officials have said the prison site was poorly chosen, but that didn't stop officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers from deciding on the site. Corps officials said the state's need for a prison in Southwest Florida outweighed environmental concerns.

21 charged with embezzling from employers

By DENES HUSTY
News-Press Staff Writer

A Golden Gate woman surrendered to FBI agents Wednesday after being indicted on charges of embezzling almost half a million dollars from a Naples bank.

She and two other Naples area women who were charged with stealing smaller amounts from other financial institutions were among 21 people indicted in Collier, Dade, Broward and Palm Beach counties on charges of stealing from their various employers.

The arrests came as part of Operation Fast Track, an ongoing federal investigation of bank fraud cases in South Florida.

The defendant charged with stealing by far the largest amount was Ruthann Rogers, 41, of 54th Street Southwest, Golden Gate.

She was indicted on five counts of embezzling $475,267.52 from her former employer, the Citizens and Southern National Bank of

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STATE CONSIDERS CRACKING DOWN ON UNINSURED DRIVERS/10B

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