

WEATHER

Sunny and becoming milder today, highs in the mid-50s; except 45 to 50 along south shore. Clear tonight, not as cold. Partly cloudy and mild tomorrow. Highs 55 to 60. Page 2.



WORLD Eight Arab mayors pledged to boycott Israel's civil administration on the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza Strip as Israeli gunfire wounded three Palestinian demonstrators in the 10th day of violence in the occupied territory. Page 12.

STATE The Supreme Court today refused to set aside a New Jersey redistricting plan drawn to greatly increasing the number of state Democrats in the U.S. House. The court today turned down state Republicans' emergency request to wipe out the plan at least for now. The new district map likely will turn the Democrats' current 8-7 edge over Republicans in U.S. House seats into a 10-4 or 11-3 edge over the GOP. New Jersey lost one seat after the 1980 census because of population shifts to the Sun Belt.



A defense lawyer's plan to force a jury trial for a 6-year-old Nancy Jo Burch, left, accused of hitting a schoolmate with a stick, has fallen apart because the prosecutor doesn't want to argue the case in adult court. "Either they take this thing back to juvenile court for arbitration or I'll dismiss it," State Attorney Eugene Whitworth said yesterday, adding that "the best interest of the child became forgotten." Page 3.

BUSINESS

As Wheelabrator-Frye Inc. begins the long application process for its garbage-burning plant, local politicians are beginning to consider the role the controversial proposal will play in next November's Township Council elections. Page 4.

REGION



A Sayreville firefighter tries to gain an upper hand on a stubborn brush fire near the Victory Circle yesterday. Page 19.

SPORTS

New Jersey Net Ray Williams, left, goes up for two points in action against the New York Knicks at the Meadowlands last night. The Nets beat their cross-river rivals, 113-106. Page 5.

After losing the first set 6-1, Sylvia Hamka rallied to score an upset victory over Martina Navratilova in the Avon Tennis Championships, snapping Navratilova's winning streak at five-straight tournaments. Page 7.

The Yankees lost another exhibition to the Mets yesterday — a 4-3 rain-shortened 7½-inning affair. Page 7.



OPINION LINE

THE SUBJECT: Non-smokers
THE QUESTION: Do non-smokers have a right to a working environment free of cigarette smoke?
Telephone your response today to 846-4014 between 4 p.m. and midnight. Results will appear Wednesday

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PLAY THE On the go! SWEEPSTAKES
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The Annual Best

The Home News

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Trooper remains trapped in cave

LAFAYETTE (AP) — Rescue crews unable to reach a state trooper stuck for nearly two days in a narrow crevice were ordered to change their tactics today as officials began losing hope that the Scout leader was still alive.

State Police Major William Burke said a backhoe would be brought in and workers would begin to dig toward Sgt. Donald Weltner, who got stuck in a 16-inch-high cave 20 feet underground while leading Scouts on a spelunking expedition into limestone caverns Saturday.

Officials had rejected digging into the hill earlier for fear that the rocks would collapse.

State Police superintendent Col. Clinton Pagano said yesterday that although officials were "95 percent sure" that Weltner was dead, rescue efforts would proceed on the assumption he was alive. Asked if use of the backhoe was a sign that officials held out less hope for Weltner's survival, Burke said today, "I think you can say that, yeah."

Rescue workers scuttled a plan to place inflatable bags beneath Weltner earlier in an attempt to budge him out of the Crooked Swamp Cave, in Sussex County in north-central New Jersey.

Volunteers who drilled a 20-foot vertical shaft to enter the cave 12 feet from Weltner broke through the last boulder to reach him yesterday. But his head and shoulders remained lodged in a keystone-shaped crevice in the cave floor, his arms pinned.

Weltner, 48, was in Crooked Swamp Cave with his two sons on Saturday, exploring in advance of a party of 16 other Boy Scouts. When he tried to back out of the cave, he fell into the crevice.

DONALD WELTNER
... unconscious

Duarte's party leads; Salvador vote was heavy

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — President Jose Napoleon Duarte's moderate Christian Democrats led right-wing parties in early election returns today after hundreds of thousands of Salvadorans voted despite widespread leftist rebel attacks.

At least 60 people were reported killed as security forces fought guerrillas attempting to disrupt the voting yesterday for a constituent assembly to write a new constitution and name an interim government to replace the U.S.-backed civilian-military junta, which seized power in a 1979 coup.

The elections are considered important to continued support from the United States, which has provided the central American nation with millions of dollars in military aid and about 50 military advisers.

Unofficial partial returns gave the Christian Democrats 50,606 votes, or 49.3 percent, to 38,837, or 29.3 percent, for retired Maj. Roberto d'Aubuisson's ultra-rightist Republican National Alliance, an second party.

The National Conciliation Party, which ran the government from 1961 until the 1979 coup, had 20,314 votes (16.2 percent); Democratic Action was fourth with 12,171 (9.7 percent); the Popular Salvation Party, 11,000 (8.4 percent).

Investment value of cemetery sale called to question

By ANNEMARIE E. COOKE
Home News staff writer

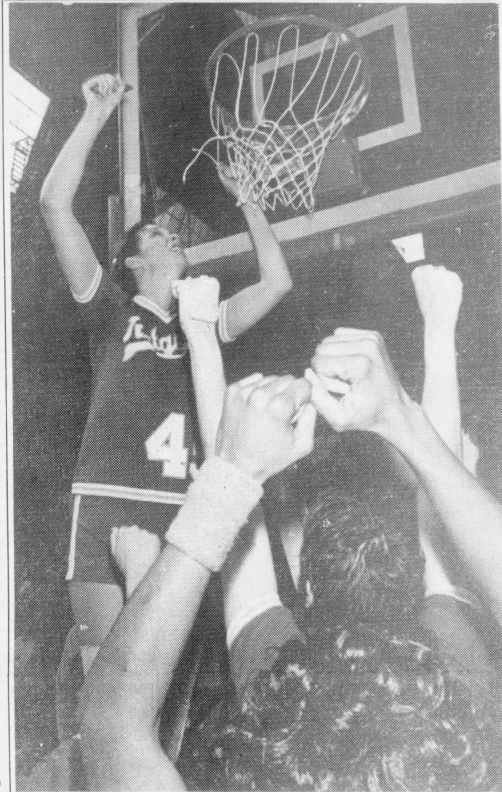
The Osage Cemetery in East Brunswick is for sale.

However, there's a question whether the 10-acre property on New Brunswick Avenue is "the ultimate investment opportunity" the current owner says.

Joseph Gadek, an Elizabeth real estate broker listed on the deed as the holder, said he once thought of going into the cemetery business.

"It's a real specialty, but I haven't sold any gravesites there since I bought it," he said. There are about 450 gravesites at the cemetery, with a potential for 10,000 to 12,000 more.

Although Gadek says he wants no See SALE, page 12



NATIONAL AIAW CHAMPS — June Olkowski cuts down the net after the Rutgers University women's basketball team won the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women championship by defeating favored Texas, 83-77.

RU RAH, RAH! Lady Knights are No. 1

By DAN CARROLL
Home News sports writer

PHILADELPHIA — A perfect ending. Finishing their season in the best possible fashion, the Lady Knights of Rutgers University upset top-seeded Texas, 83-77, to win the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women national basketball championship yesterday. Senior guard Patty Coyle, playing in the last game of her career — as were five other Rutgers seniors — led the Lady Knights to the title with a career-high 30 points, and was named the game's MVP.

Playing before 1,789 fans in the University of Pennsylvania's Palestra, it was a homecoming for Coyle, her twin sister Mary, the starting point guard, and forward June Olkowski, since all three starred as high school players in Philadelphia, playing in the Palestra throughout their careers.

For Olkowski, it capped an already rewarding weekend, since the 6-0 senior was named an All-American Saturday.

It was the first national title ever won by a Rutgers athletic team, men's or women's. The Lady Knights ended their season with a 25-7 record.

The thing I wanted more than anything was winning this championship for my seniors," said Rutgers coach Theresa Grentz, who played on three national title teams during her collegiate career at Amnataula College.

"Emotionally, to have this all happen, I don't believe I'm now in Philadelphia, and we now have the national championship," Grentz continued. "The key to the game was something I've seen in the players — they were just so determined. Our strongest point, our veterans, our leadership, our maturity, was evident today."

Rutgers needed all the leadership it could muster against a Texas team that rolled into the finals ranked fifth in the nation and riding a 32-game winning streak, the longest in the country.

The Longhorns took an early lead in opening minutes of the first half, but Rutgers stayed close through the first 10 minutes, relying on the strong outside shooting of forward Jenny Hall, the only junior on the starting five. Hall, who had a perfect shooting night in the semifinal win over Villanova, hit for eight points on four jumpers.

See FIRST, page 5

Space shuttle crew prepared for return

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. (AP) — The space shuttle looked toward home today, its crew preparing to end Columbia's next-to-last test flight with a diving deorbit into Earth atmosphere and touchdown on the windswept gypsum floor of New Mexico's Tularosa Basin.

Gusting conditions on the Northrup Strip runways could scotch the scheduled landing, set for 12:17 p.m., mountain standard time, forcing NASA to bring Columbia in an orbit early or a day late.

"I'd like it not to be so gusty," conceded flight director Tommy Hollaway. Still, he predicted landing right on time.

"We're ready if you are," Mission Control told commander Jack E. Lousma and C. Gordon Fullerton at wake-up this morning. They were serenaded with the song "Six Days on the Road... I'm gonna make it home tonight."

The instant spacecraft on the Army's super-secret missile range here was in good shape for today's scheduled landing. Military troops supervised thousands of civilians who waited for a chance to see the landing from a remote desert viewing site.

Lousma and Fullerton are to end their 7-day, 3-million-mile journey with a supersonic tour of America's scenic Southwest and wheels down on one of two runways that form an X on the barren Northrup strip.

"We look forward to coming back," commander Lousma radioed before he and Fullerton retired last night.

The question of an early or delayed landing arose when NASA forecast strong winds in the morning, becoming stronger and gustier around noon, MST.

Police investigate knapsack linked to Maura Gottlieb

SOUTH BRUNSWICK — Township police hurried to the intersection of Haymond Road and Route 1 just after 9:20 a.m. today after a patrolman reported he found a knapsack marked with the name of Maura Gottlieb, the 19-year-old woman whose body was found in the Delaware & Hartman Canal in Princeton Township on March 14.

Within 20 minutes of the find, Princeton was asked to send a detective with a camera to the scene.

Miss Gottlieb was last seen after 11 p.m., March 6 in Princeton Borough. The cause of her death is listed as asphyxiation, but investigators in the Mercer County prosecutors office are not sure how she was killed or where.

Thursday, the prosecutor issued an alert for a stocky white male, 30- to 35-years-old, who they said was seen in the area of Nassau Street and Princeton Township on March 14.

See LINK, page 12

We have the BIGGEST EASTER CANDY SELECTION in the State! SEE NOW! Jump Rd. Millstone