

Computer system for library gets nod for Wheaton budget

By NICOLE PERADOTTO
Daily Herald Correspondent

The Wheaton City Council is favoring putting a \$271,500 computerized circulation system in the Wheaton Public Library as part of its upcoming budget.

"I am totally in support of the automation project and I think it's long overdue," council member Donald L. Maxwell said.

The computerization proposal for the adult section of the library includes converting 50,000 titles — approximately half of the adult book collection not already converted — to a machine-readable format; putting "smart bar" code labels on 115,000 books, and hiring a computer consultant.

The hardware and software — an estimated \$200,000 expense — is based on a 28-terminal system that would be used for book searches, book check-out, inventory control and inter-library loans.

"There's nothing wrong with the

card catalogue, but it saves time to use a computer and it's more efficient," library board secretary Sharon Huck told the council Saturday.

The computer system would save about \$57,000 in staff time devoted to processing overdue notices, Huck said.

The computerization system would also:

- Provide more thorough searches for titles and subjects.

- Enable residents with computers and modems to dial into the system.

- Alert staff of high-demand books.

- Potentially eliminate long check-out lines.

- Permit library users to access book information from other libraries.

"The main reason (for computerization) is better service to the borrower," Huck said. "Anyone who has done research with a computer knows that it's much faster."

The library's proposed operating expense budget for the 1992-93 fiscal year is \$394,365 — a 247 percent increase from last year, due to the allocation of funds for the computer system.

Council members last year balked at funding the system, saying the budget was too tight. Although Wheaton, a home-rule community, is not restricted by the tax cap, lawmakers said they prefer to stay within its 5 percent boundary. But the library, with the eighth largest circulation in the state, needs to be modernized, the council agreed.

"The council set automation of the library as one of its goals during the summer," council member Grant Eckhoff said.

If approved, the computerized system in the adult section of the library will take a year to fully implement, officials said. The library has received bids for computerization of the young adult section of the library, which will be paid for with library's gift fund.

Police make arrests in burglaries

By KIM MIKUS
and ALEX RODRIGUEZ
Daily Herald Staff Writers

A West Chicago man has been arrested for his part in a burglary ring believed to be responsible for city and suburban break-ins netting about \$250,000 in stolen property.

Chicago police arrested 19-year-old Radoslaw Gogol of West Chicago on Thursday and charged him with breaking into a Libertyville house on Christmas Day. Addison police say they also will charge Gogol with two local burglaries.

Four others also have been arrested, including the alleged leader of the ring, 49-year-old Chicago store owner Franco DiVenere, said Chicago police Det. Joseph Molitor.

Investigators say DiVenere drew up a list of friends, customers and business associates he wanted to target, and then would have the others commit the burglaries.

Another ring member would gather information on when potential victims came home from work, Molitor said. The burglars were given cellular phones so they could call targeted homes and make sure no one was there.

Molitor said the ring committed five burglaries and amassed \$250,000 in property before it was uncovered. In addition to the Libertyville and Addison burglaries, ring members also broke into or attempted break-ins at homes in Park Ridge, Chicago and Niles.

"We think we stopped them before

they got a head of steam going," Molitor said.

Others arrested include Luigi Bonanno, 58, of Chicago, Robert Kwiat, 18, of Chicago, and Rosie Wojoyla, 22, of Chicago.

Molitor said investigators are checking into whether the ring has ties to organized crime.

"We are exploring that possibility, because of the people they've been seen with and the places they've been seen at," Molitor said.

DiVenere and Bonanno were charged with solicitation to commit burglary. Kwiat was charged in the Addison burglaries and a break-in in Chicago. Wojoyla faces four counts of theft for allegedly allowing her apartment to be a storehouse for the stolen goods.

Group gathers to mark blues great Little Walter Jacobs' grave

Associated Press

EVERGREEN PARK — About 25 people gathered Saturday under overcast skies to place a marker on the grave of blues great Little Walter Jacobs.

The group — musicians, fans and

Jacobs' sister — were brought together by two men who decided that the harmonica innovator's grave could not be allowed to remain unmarked.

"This was really the only thing we could see that we could do to pay him back" for his music, Scott Dirks

said.

Dirks and a friend, Eomot Rasun, worked to get the stone marker on the grave of the man who was born Marion Walter Jacobs and died at 37 in a Chicago street fight in 1968.

The Addison burglaries were committed Jan. 21, said Addison police.

Athletes, businessman team up to help find bone marrow donor

Chicago Bears place kicker Kevin Butler and wide receiver Ron Morris teamed up with a Lake Zurich businessman this weekend to raise about \$4,000 for a friend with a fatal blood disease.

Doctors have given Mel Noguchi, of Lake Zurich, two years to live unless he comes up with \$100,000 for a bone marrow transplant. Noguchi suffers from aplastic anemia, a rare condition where the body does not make enough blood cells.

Steve Pathmann, owner of Pathmann Paints in Lake Zurich and Palatine, convinced local merchants to donate items for a raffle Saturday night and he gave 10 percent of his store's receipts for Friday and Saturday to Noguchi.

Pathmann said Noguchi, his former neighbor, has raised over \$15,000 so far.

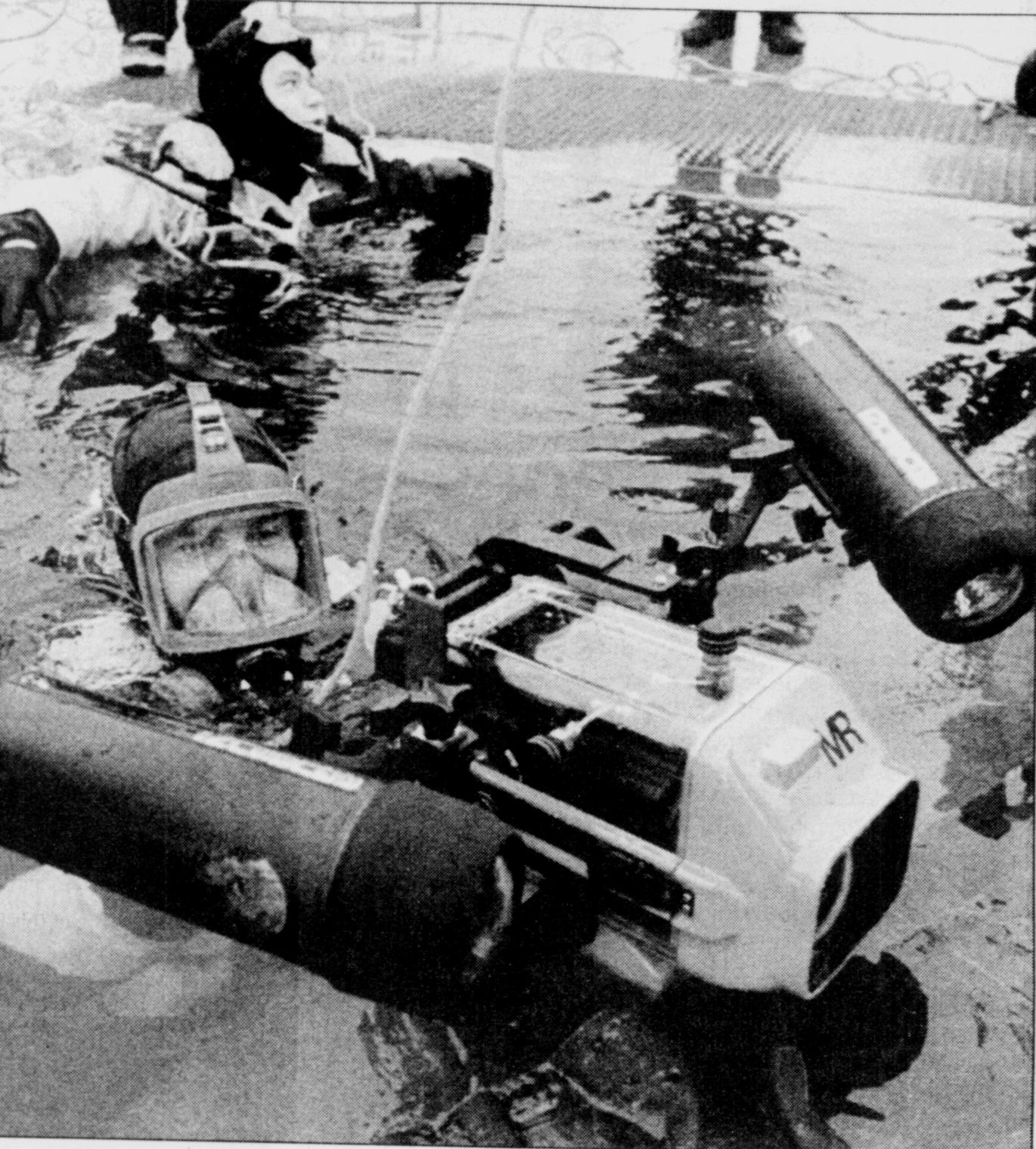
The expensive part is finding a bone marrow donor. Doctors estimate that 200 people must be tested — at \$500 each — before they find a match, Pathmann said.

Noguchi must pay for the testing himself, Pathmann said.



If not this, what are friends for?

The house of a Naperville woman was found sporting this sign Saturday night, proclaiming to the world the birthday of Arlene Kowalczyk ... whether or not she wanted it proclaimed.



Mike Rogers, with the Elk Grove Fire Department, prepares to dive with his underwater video camera. The film he shot of other divers Saturday will be saved for future training sessions.

Daily Herald Photo/Mark Welsh

Icy day makes for perfect training conditions

By STEVE TOLOKEN
Daily Herald Correspondent

It's not for the claustrophobic or those who shiver when the slightest winter wind blows.

About 25 suburban firefighters slid into their scuba outfits and gear, drilled a hole in the ice and plunged into the waters of the West Branch Quarry in Hanover Park Saturday to practice underwater diving.

"Most of the time it's dark and you can't see a damn thing," said Wade Anderson, a diver from the Hanover Park Fire Department. "Everything is by feel."

The firefighters are part of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System, a consortium of about 20 Cook, Du-

Page and Lake county fire departments. They drill monthly to familiarize themselves with each other's working styles and to stay in practice for the 10 to 25 times each year they go into action, according to Jay Strossberg, a Hanover Park firefighter who heads up MABAS in the west and Northwest suburbs.

"Being under the ice is a different experience because there is only one way out," said Scott Pierson, a diver from the Des Plaines Fire Department. "It's claustrophobic, but the training helps you get comfortable so you can concentrate on what you need to do in emergencies."

The calls divers answer range from rescuing people who have fallen through the ice, recovering

drowning victims, searching for criminal evidence dumped into lakes and rivers to finding submerged vehicles.

On Saturday, the divers practiced finding people trapped under the ice. A person can be completely submerged for up to 45 minutes and be revived because in cold water the body sends blood only to the brain and heart, Anderson said.

Each diving operation is really a two-person team. Each diver is connected by rope to another firefighter on the shore, a "line tender." The line tender tugs on the rope to send instructions to the diver, who tugs back.

Wheaton time capsule to stay closed 'til 2009

By NICOLE PERADOTTO
Daily Herald Correspondent

Wheaton residents will have to wait until the 21st century to get a glimpse of the contents of a time capsule buried in the city in 1959.

"Leave it alone," Councilwoman Fran Culler said, echoing the sentiments of the council members. All have agreed the time capsule should keep its secrets until 2009, a full 50 years after its burial and the year it was originally scheduled to be opened.

The 8-foot-tall, 400-pound cylinder was buried under the former West Liberty Drive police station 33 years ago during the city's celebration of its centennial, according to people who remember it.

It was unearthed when the old station was razed last August following the police department's move to roomier quarters at 119 N. Wheaton Ave.

Since then, the capsule has been in

the city's hands. Mayor Gwendolyn S. Henry was tentatively scheduled to open the capsule in a Feb. 22 ceremony at the Wheaton History Center to commemorate Wheaton's incorporation on Feb. 24, 1859.

But Lois Schluter, whose deceased husband, Roy T. Schluter, led the move to bury the time capsule until the 21st century, requested that the council honor the wishes of those who originally buried the capsule. To strengthen her argument, she pointed to a brass plaque that was to have been mounted on the former police station calling for the opening of the plaque in 2009.

Henry says she hopes the capsule will be reburied at a new site. The bronze plaque should be affixed nearby, she added, to remind Wheaton residents that the capsule, which holds a phone book, restaurant menus, a Sears catalog, magazines, letters and other unknown contents, is right under their feet.

Depression led doctor to molest — psychologist

Associated Press

FREEPORT, Ill. — A doctor's molestation of anesthetized female patients was a sex addiction caused by the physician's feelings of depression and anxiety, a psychologist who testified for the defense said.

Dr. Mahendi Jamal, 42, smothered his feelings of inadequacy by fantasizing about molesting powerless women, Rockford psychologist Frank Cushing testified Friday at Jamal's sentencing hearing.

Cushing examined Jamal after the

doctor admitted last month he sexually abused eight women during surgical procedures at Freeport Memorial Hospital.

The women also testified during a three-hour session before Stephenson Circuit Judge Lawrence Smith, as did a number of Jamal's colleagues.

Jamal faces up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine on each misdemeanor charge of criminal sexual abuse. State's Attorney Charles Hartman has said he will ask for revocation of Jamal's medical license.

"What should have been a beautiful memory, this man made ugly," she said in a shaking voice.

In all of the cases, the women were sedated, but fully conscious. Their stories were nearly identical: Jamal took the woman's hand and rubbed it on his clothed groin while the woman was tied to the surgical table. Two women said he also fondled their breasts.

One woman said she was forced to fondle Jamal shortly before she delivered her first baby.

"What should have been a beautiful memory, this man made ugly," she said in a shaking voice.

Utility boards praise resignation of chairman

By TAMMY M. DUGAN
Of Our Springfield Bureau

SPRINGFIELD — Utility boards are saying they welcome Terry Barnich's decision to step down as chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission.

"He's neither been fair nor responsible to consumer concerns," said Susan Stewart, executive director of the Illinois Citizens Utility Board. "We're very pleased with his resig-

nation."

Barnich resigned Thursday as chairman of the ICC, saying he was tired of what he perceived were personal attacks against him as chairman. In his letter of resignation, Barnich told Gov. Jim Edgar he had "grown weary of ceaseless personal vilification," while trying to fulfill the responsibilities of the position, and that the "personalization of issues" had taken its toll on him.

"I've come to the conclusion that

the job of chairman just isn't worth it," he wrote.

Edgar appointed commission member Ellen Craig to serve out the rest of the term as chairman. Craig is five-year member of the ICC.

Barnich was appointed to a five-year term as head of the state's utility regulation agency in 1989. He will continue serve as a voting member of the commission until his term expires in 1994.

Illinois measles cases drop 98 percent in 1991

The number of measles cases reported in Illinois dropped by 98 percent last year, due largely to increased vaccinations, state officials say.

A total of 27 cases of measles were reported in 1991, down from 1,152 in 1990 and 3,213 in 1989, Illinois Health Director John R. Lumpkin announced Friday.

State officials are pointing to new requirements for a second dose of the vaccine and additional funding for the vaccines as having prevented additional outbreaks.

The department has spent about \$11 million in the past three years on 700,000 doses of the measles vaccine for school-age children. The money was used primarily to

provide a second dose of the vaccine for school-age children through public clinics.

"The decrease in measles cases dramatically underscores how preventive measures can greatly reduce the incidence of disease and protect our population, particularly children, from illness and possible complications."

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