

Columbia Missourian

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Good Morning! It's Thursday, Feb. 3, 1977

2 Sections — 28 Pages — 15 Cents

In town today

8:30 a.m. Boone County Court meeting, County-City Building
7:30 p.m. Board of Health meeting, Municipal Building.
7:30 p.m. Board of Trustees meeting, Public Library.
7:30 p.m. "Kaisidoscope," "Slam the Door Softly" and "Lovers-Winners," three one-act plays, Warehouse Theatre, Stephens College.

Exhibits
New: Art Center Gallery, Columbia College, prints, photos and black and white drawings by Roger Bowman and Julianne Gehring, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Columbia College Library Gallery, Comparisons in Art, 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
Michael's, 702 Conley Ave., oil paintings and pastels by Sarah Land and Irish Jones, 11 to 1 a.m.
Wood Hall, Stephens College, Stephens student photography, 1 to 5 p.m.
Windsor Leauge, Campus Commons, Stephens College, works in chalk, tempera and oil on the theme "Steamboat Springs." See Sunday's Vibestars for continuing exhibit schedules.

Movie listings on page 11B.



Mrs. Kathy Spry

'Breanda and I were just unlucky victims. They obviously intended to leave no witnesses...'

Spry tells her story

By Diane Pederson
Missourian staff writer

"I saw Breanda lying there in the bedroom. Then one of them came after me. He held the gun against my cheek and fired. It sounded like a pop gun. I thought they were kidding. I didn't even realize I'd been shot until I started getting hot. I don't even remember being shot in the forehead."

Seated with her family and speaking calmly, Kathy Spry, 19, recreated the events of a drug-related shooting last week.

The Jan. 24 shooting left Breanda Hendren, 16, dead and Mrs. Spry and James Norman, 22, seriously injured.

"Breanda and I were just unlucky victims in the shooting," she told a Columbia Missourian reporter Wednesday night in her first interview. "They obviously intended to leave no witnesses."

Two men entered Norman's small basement apartment on the pretense of buying drugs. Norman was shot after resisting their demands for money and drugs, police were told.

Mrs. Spry's description of the shooting left unclear how the assailants reacted to Norman's resistance.

"Breanda and I were talking in the living room while Norman and the two others went in-

murder and two counts of assault with intent to kill. Another man is being sought on the same charges.

Miss Hendren entered the bedroom after the women heard Norman shouting, "You can do whatever you want to me. I'm not gonna give you any drugs or money," Mrs. Spry said. "I never heard any shots."

Mrs. Spry said she followed Miss Hendren into the bedroom a few seconds later, enough time for the men to have shot her.

"I was mad when I saw what they'd done to Breanda. They shot me, I cussed at them and I guess they shot me in the forehead then. I don't remember that."

"The next thing I remember is lying in the corridor next to James. I was trying to get to the bathroom. I was bleeding from the nose. I couldn't breathe."

Soon a friend of Norman arrived and carried (See VICTIM, page 15A)

Insight

to the bedroom," Mrs. Spry said. Her statement contradicts what Keith Matthews told police about his involvement. The suspect reportedly said he stayed in the living room with the two girls while his accomplice went into the bedroom with Norman.

Matthews is charged with one count of felony

President outlines

1977 plans

Carter requests unity, cooperation in informal 'chat'

N. Y. Times Service

WASHINGTON — In his first address to the nation since Inauguration Day, President Carter Wednesday night asked Americans to unite in "cooperation and mutual effort" to help him develop "predictable, long-range programs that we are sure we can afford and that we know will work."

Speaking from a chair near a fireplace in the White House library, Carter outlined an agenda for his first year in office that was sweeping but one he promised to pursue prudently and cautiously.

Beyond his programs, Carter again promised a government that was controlled by and comprehensible to the people.

Carter said, "I have learned there are many things a President cannot do," and explained that a federal program without public acceptance was of limited value.

In his conversational style, the President said that his 1977 program would be centered on developing a national energy policy that "will emphasize conservation; an economic stimulation package that he called balanced; steps to begin the reorganization of the government; a "comprehensive tax reform;" a reform of the welfare system; efforts to achieve a "lean, efficient" defense capability and a foreign policy that will show continued "concern about violations of human rights."

The President broke new ground by promising for the first time the following steps:

That he will soon put "a ceiling on the number of people employed by federal government agencies."

That he will "cut down on government regulations," make sure they are written in "plain English" and that each new regulation issued will "carry its author's name."

That the code of financial disclosure which he imposed on his top appointees will be made "permanent" rules.

That in his effort to "conduct an open administration" he will have "town hall" meetings across the country.

The President added that his administration is "planning with some of the radio networks live call-in sessions during which I can accept your phone calls and answer the questions that are on your mind."

The speech — which the White House was reluctant to call a "fireside chat" because of fears that it would be considered an imitation of talks by former President Roosevelt — was less a catalog of new announcements than an attempt to communicate the tone and character Carter hopes to achieve.

'Coffee' warms up to school tax

By Ginny Hilton
Missourian staff writer

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Clow crowded 14 neighbors into their den at 4101 Faurot Drive Wednesday night for coffee.

They complained about the weather and talked about their children.

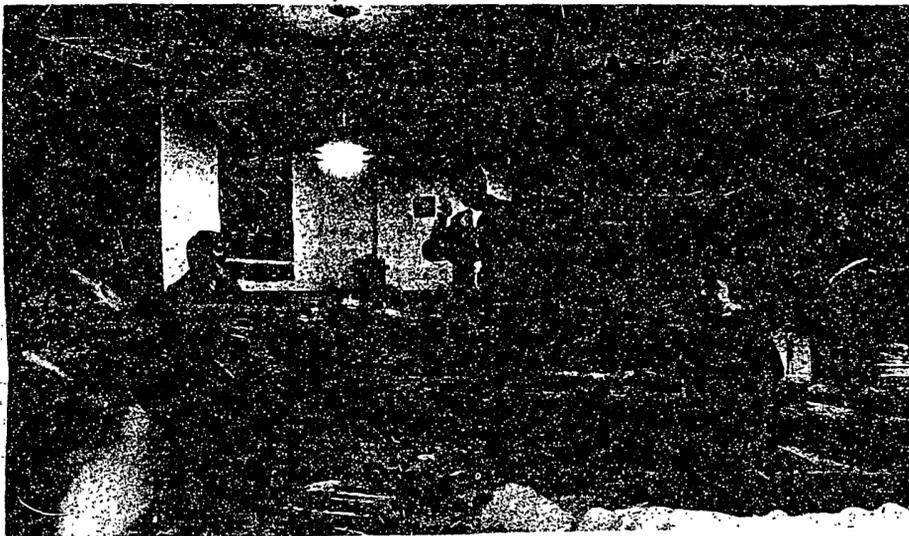
Then Darwin Van Gorp, 410 Brewer Drive, began to speak and the neighbors quickly turned into interested taxpayers and parents.

They were attending the first of about 25 neighborhood coffees to promote the Columbia school district 47-cent per \$100 valuation tax rate increase to be voted on at a Feb. 15 special referendum.

Van Gorp, informally leaning against a wall, told his neighbors that the tax rate increase is needed to maintain quality schools. He urged them to vote for the increase and to encourage their friends to do the same.

Most of the parents appeared to agree with him and had attended the coffee to learn more about the referendum and how they could help the tax rate increase get the required two-thirds majority vote. A 44-cent per \$100 valuation failed twice in the last year by about six per cent.

Jackie Meyer, 206 Devine Court, said, "I didn't come to convince myself. I was interested to see if there were other questions that people had." Mrs. Meyer, who has two children in Columbia public schools, is a member of the citizens committee promoting the campaign for the tax rate increase.



A proposed tax increase for the Columbia school district was discussed at the home of William B. Clow, 4101 Faurot Drive, Wednesday night. Darwin Van Gorp, standing, was the featured speaker. (Missourian photo by Thomas J. Nord)

tee promoting the campaign for the tax rate increase.

"It helped me feel good about the decision I've already made," said Zaek Agans, 208 Brewer Drive.

But Gary Mayfield, 504 Rothwell Drive, said he is undecided, "kind of on the fence." He said he came to

see how his neighbors felt about the issue.

Tom Sym, 304 Devine Court, said he would like to see property in the school district re-evaluated to gain more money for the schools. "Plus I know there are other ways they (the school board) can trim their

Earlier Wednesday the tax rate increase proposal met with more approval when the Columbia Noon Lions Club formally endorsed it.

The present tax rate is \$4.35 per \$100 valuation. The rate increase would bring the tax rate to \$4.82 per \$100 valuation.

Caldwell said considering resigning

City may close audit bid review

By Randy McConnell
Missourian staff writer

The city audit selection committee wants to meet in closed session today to interview five accounting firms bidding for a new three-year city audit contract valued at \$50,000 to \$70,000.

At the meeting, the committee may ask Williams-Keepers-Oliver-Payne-Rackers & Co., the city's auditing firm for more than 20 years, about two possible conflicts of interest reported in the Columbia Missourian Wednesday.

The focus of one possible conflict of interest, Boone County Auditor Don Caldwell, has considered resigning his county post. Caldwell was a managing partner with Williams-Keepers when the firm audited the city.

Caldwell could not be reached for

comment Wednesday, but Boone County Circuit Judge Frank Conley said the auditor had discussed the resignation possibility several weeks ago.

Third Ward Councilman Phil Hanson, chairman of the audit selection committee, said he favors the closed session because "we felt we could have more frank discussion with the firms if we met in private."

"We want to prevent firms with later presentations from having an unfair advantage by being able to hear proposals and fees offered by other firms."

City Counselor Rhonda Thomas is to issue an opinion early today on whether the meeting, scheduled for 10 a.m. in the City Council conference room, must be open to the public, he said.

Each firm has been allotted one hour for a presentation and questions from committee members.

Williams-Keepers-Oliver-Payne-Rackers & Co. is the only local firm of the five.

"The conflicts could or would be expected to come up during our session with that firm," Hanson said.

Caldwell, in apparent violation of state accounting regulations and professional ethics, directed the firm's recent city audits while handling transactions with the city in his county position. He now is a senior partner in the firm.

Another possible conflict of interest exists because assistant city finance director Peggy McBride is the wife of Charles McBride, a shareholder and supervisor with Williams-Keepers.

A member of the State Board of Accountancy, which regulates certified public accountants, said the two possible conflicts of interest show an apparent lack of independence necessary in an audit.

Other firms competing are Peat Marwick Mitchell & Co., Touche Ross & Co., Price Waterhouse & Co. and Arthur Young & Co.

"We're not looking at the bids from the price angle alone," Hanson said. "We're also looking at what different kinds of services are included in the proposals, such as how many interim statements the firms will provide."

The city originally received 11 bids, but the committee has eliminated six.

The committee will recommend an accounting firm to the City Council, which will award the final contract.

Wilson expected to seek re-election

Called 'unbeatable' in Sixth Ward

By Judith Gibbs
Missourian staff writer

Sixth Ward Councilman Clyde Wilson is scheduled to announce this morning whether he will seek re-election to the City Council, and indications are he will run again.

James Gavan, chairman of the University's anthropology department and Wilson's supervisor, said Wednesday that Wilson told him this week he will run "for sure."

Wilson declined to deny Gavan's

statement, but said, "I'm denying that a decision has been made. I have not made a decision although I've indicated to some that I'd like to serve on the council again. I will be able to say definitely tomorrow morning."

He said he will announce his decision at 9 a.m. in the council conference room on the fourth floor of the County-City Building.

Wilson had delayed making a

decision to seek a fourth term on the council until he knew whether he would be taking a sabbatical leave from the anthropology department where he is assistant department chairman under Gavan.

Wednesday Wilson told the Missourian he will go on sabbatical but will remain in Columbia.

There are no candidates at present in the Sixth Ward. A member of a local

businessmen's group said last week that Wilson is "unbeatable" in the ward.

In 1975 Wilson defeated business-backed Ralph Pfremer, winning more than 60 per cent of the vote, despite a spending blitz by Pfremer.

John Bauman, president of the East Campus Neighborhood Association in the Sixth Ward, said Wilson is well liked

in the ward. "I can't speak for the whole club," he said, "but I'm really pleased if this is true."

Bauman acknowledged that potential council candidates in the ward probably have been waiting on a decision from Wilson. "I can't imagine people would casually decide to run without hearing from him."

Bauman said he knows of no one planning to oppose Wilson in the ward.

Wilson was first elected to the council in 1971. He is the longest serving member of the present council.

Purchase of Star approved

KANSAS CITY (UPI) — Stockholders of The Kansas City Star Co. have approved a proposed \$125 million purchase offer from Capital Cities Communications, Inc., it was announced Wednesday.

When the sale is completed it will be the largest amount ever paid for a company operating a single newspaper property. The Star publishes morning, evening and Sunday editions. The Kansas City Times is the morning edition.

Thomas Murphy, chairman of Capital Cities, said the purchase was approved Wednesday when the number of shares tendered under the offer topped 75 per cent. The newspaper also confirmed the approval.

The purchase is to be completed no later than Feb. 19, Murphy said, and the tender offer will remain in effect until Feb. 9 under an extension announced earlier this week. Capital Cities is seeking to purchase all outstanding shares at \$139.54 per share.

The current estimated book value of the stock is \$68.50 per share.

The Star company also owns the Flambeau Paper Co., Park Falls, Wis., a manufacturer of fine paper, and about 91 per cent of Graham Paper Co., St. Louis, one of the nation's largest distributors of paper products.

Murphy and W.W. Baker, president of The Star, said in a joint statement, "Because of the intense public interest — in Kansas City and elsewhere — in the future of The Kansas City Star and Times, we felt that this progress report was in order."

"However, because the tender offer by Capital Cities will be open until next Wednesday, regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission prevent us from commenting on the transaction at this time."

"For the present we can only repeat what we have said before: 'That the total responsibility for the newspapers will continue at the local level; that editorial and news decisions will be made in Kansas City, and that the plan is to retain existing management and staff substantially intact.'"

The Capital Cities offer was presented to the employee-stockholders of the newspaper Jan. 18 after management of the newspaper earlier announced an unsolicited offer had been received.

Capital Cities owns three other newspaper companies which publish the Fort Worth Star-Telegram; the Oakland Press in Pontiac, Mich.; and the News-Democrat in Belleville, Ill.

It also is owner of Fairchild Publications and is a licensee of broadcasting stations in several cities.



Clyde Wilson will announce intentions