

he times of twice-a-day mail
ple fired postcards across
up with their friends and

cards are really family
napshots in words and pho-
any relatives who are long

rl," wrote my mother's
Truelsen, to his son in 1916.
of the chickens till I come
ye. Be a good boy. From
Just a few years later,
he, at age 19, of a brain

s sister, Clara, also died
rly, in her 20s. She must
ry popular, because there
f cards to her from friends
Several came to her from
N.D, from her cousin, Lizzy
ut 1910.
just grand this year," Lizzy
I am a sophomore or a
is year. Don't you wish you
e? What are you doing now,
ing to get married soon?"

OXMEYER CONTINUED ON 4B ▶



bones, penny postcards

as high temperatures reached 55 degrees, just short of record
of 58 set in 1976. However, several cities in southern Minnesota
set records. St. Paul parks workers Mike Leonard, left, and Harry
Preus on Friday began the work of disassembling the hockey rink at
the Langford Park Recreation Center in St. Anthony Park.

Springlike weather will continue through the weekend. The National
Weather Service calls for high temperatures in the 40s today with
a chance of showers this afternoon. On Sunday, temperatures are

Pioneer Press Feb 26, 2000

House spat over remark escalates

■ Religious comment touches a nerve

PATRICK SWEENEY STAFF WRITER

A dispute in the Minnesota House over a state representative calling another "irreligious" continued Friday and — rather than heading toward resolution — seemed to be escalating.

Rep. Arlon Lindner, a Republican from Corcoran who often leads a House-Senate prayer and Bible study group, said he had no plans to apologize for applying the label to Rep.

Michael Paymar, a St. Paul Democrat who is Jewish.

And Lindner said he may make a written reply to an assertion by 30 other Democrats that his comment to Paymar defamed all Jewish people.

Paymar, although he said Friday he does not want to be a party to a House ethics complaint against Lindner, said he respected the efforts by Democratic colleagues to pursue a formal House ethics complaint. The complaint, scheduled to be filed Monday, alleges that Lindner's comment violated accepted standards for House behavior or could bring the House into disrepute.

very warm for this time of year, said Matt Davis, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Chanhassen.

Some outdoor winter activities will go on, however. Phil Peterson, president of the Twin Cities Independent Ski Areas Association, said Friday that members of his association — including Afton, Buck Hill, Welch and Wild Mountain — are far from throwing in the towel. "There are several feet of compressed snow on the slopes," he said. "When you have that kind of a base buildup, the rain runs underneath, so you just groom the surface."

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas also entered the fray, calling Lindner's comments "ugly" and urging him to apologize.

It is not unusual for legislators, especially in the House, to allow their debate over issues to escalate into questioning each other's motives. Normally, such squabbles end quietly with an apology or with an acknowledgment by people on both sides that intemperate comments were made.

In this case, the debate was rooted in the volatile issue of religion,

DETAILS

The Jewish Community Relations Council of Minnesota and the Dakotas called Rep. Arlon Lindner's comments "ugly" and urged him to apologize.

SPAT CONTINUED ON 3B ▶

Billie Dove Carter fought for her St. Paul neighbors

■ Summit-University activist dies at 72

SARAH MCKENZIE STAFF WRITER

Billie Dove Carter taught her children not to worry about falling down. The real challenge, she was fond of saying, comes in learning to pick yourself up afterward.

Carter, a community activist instrumental in securing federal financing for the Oxford Pool and Playground in the Summit-University neighborhood of St. Paul, died Monday from pneumonia and diabetic complications. She was 72.

when to pour on the honey," said former St. Paul Mayor George Latimer, who spoke at Carter's funeral Friday. Carter worked on Latimer's campaigns for school board and mayor.

Carter, a mother of six, was an advocate for improving inner-city schools. She also worked to spruce up her own neighborhood in the Summit-University area.



Carter

bypass plans to construct the Oxford Pool and Playground. Carter made it clear to public officials when she was upset with their conduct, he said.

"It is very important in public work to have truth-tellers like her. Although she was unflinching in her advocacy, she combined it with extraordinary humanity," Latimer said.

Carter was a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Inter-Cultural Education Committee, the St. Peter Catholic Church Claver Action Club and other neighborhood groups. She also held a number of posts on community boards, including

her community woman who all issues," director of the Jimmy Iglehart Ave. Carter was 1927 to Char Her father player in the later moved In San Diego Melvin Sr. mances with married in Paul

said.
Lillebaug's campaign didn't
immediately provide a cost for the
proposal.

— ASSOCIATED PRESS

The issue barely made it out of
committee. The vote was split and
the chairman ruled that it should
move to the floor.
The bill's sponsor, Rep. Mike

Ramsey County and the YMCA of
Greater St. Paul to build a com-
plex for education, recreation,
health and social services. The
partnership, known as Achieve-

come in at \$21.5 million,
percent from the 1997 foreca
The House committee plac
York project sixth on its list
priorities. But it trimmed th

SPAT/House Democrats pursuing ethics complaint

▼ CONTINUED FROM 18

and Paymar and many of his DFL
colleagues thought Lindner was out of
bounds for criticizing Paymar as he
did, and then not immediately apolo-
gizing for it.

On Friday, Lindner acknowledged
that he was caught up in the heat of
the debate and said if he had to do it
again, he probably would not have
called Paymar irreligious. But Lind-
ner reiterated that he had no plans to
apologize.

The dispute started Wednesday
when House Republicans used their
majority clout to revoke a year-old
rule requiring that the prayer said at
the opening of each House session be
a nondenominational one that respects
the diversity of faiths among mem-
bers. The Republican contended the
rule was so restrictive that the chap-
lains invited to lead the prayer could
not mention Jesus Christ.

In part, the squabble was political.
Although there are Jews in both par-
ties, the Democrats argued last year
and again on Wednesday for a nonde-
nominational prayer, and the Republi-

cans argued for rotating prayers that
might be associated with one faith or
religious tradition.

The motion to change the rule was
made by Majority Leader Tim Paw-
lenty, R-Eagan. In opposing it, Pay-
mar accused Lindner and other House
members supporting the motion of
being disrespectful of his faith.

Lindner said most of the House
members are Christians, and he said
Paymar could stay out of the House
chamber during any prayer he found
offensive.

"Just don't come," Lindner said. "I
don't come sometimes for some
prayers here. There's some groups
that pray here that I stay out of the
room. . . . But don't impose your ir-
religious left views on me."

On Thursday, 30 House members,
all DFLers, placed a notice of
"protest and dissent" in the House
Journal alleging that Lindner had
defamed all Jews by his comments.
Rep. Ron Abrams, who is Jewish and
a Republican, said he found Lindner's
comments offensive — regardless of
whether they specifically were
addressed to Jews.

"I think they were outrageous,"
Abrams said. "I think they were
offensive to the body, and I believe
they represented the views solely of
Rep. Lindner."

On Friday, Lindner said he had not
planned to comment during the
prayer debate, but he felt "baited"
into doing so because Paymar men-
tioned him by name. And Paymar
said, "I felt like his comments were
specifically directed at me because I
am Jewish."

Lindner angrily reacted to the
House Journal protest, saying he had
no intention of maligning Jews.

"I have all the respect in the world
for Jewish people," Lindner said. "I
love Jewish people, I love the nation
of Israel. . . . Our Christian faith has
its foundation in Judaism."

Pawlenty refused to say Lindner
should apologize. But he said, "I think
his comments were inflammatory. He
didn't intend them to be hurtful; obvi-
ously they have been hurtful."

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ment and politics, can be reached at
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5253.

WISCONSIN B

BALSAM LAKE

Woman found guilty in murder case: A jury
in Polk County has convicted a 35-year-old
Osceola woman of being an accessory to the
murder of a Garfield Township dairy farmer
last May.

A special jury brought in from Ashland County
because of pretrial publicity took about two hours
to return with a verdict Thursday after a three-
day trial of Sarah Johnson on the first-degree
homicide charge. The charge carries a penalty of
20 years to life in prison. Sentencing will be set a
later date.

Johnson was charged with being an accessory
after Polk County District Attorney Mark Biller
accused her of reneging on a plea agreement on
a lesser charge of removing evidence from a
crime scene. He claimed she had agreed to tes-
tify truthfully in the pending trial of Mary
Krueger, accused of shooting her husband,
Roland Krueger, 60.

An investigation based on initial statements
made by Johnson indicated Mary Krueger shot
her husband after he had oral sex with Johnson
in the couple's farm home. Johnson said Mary
Krueger had forced her to come to the home to
engage in sex because she intended to catch her
husband in the act and take pictures. Mary
Krueger's trial is scheduled to begin next
month.

— GARY DAWSON, STAFF WRITER

Why choose Sable? The list goes on and on



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