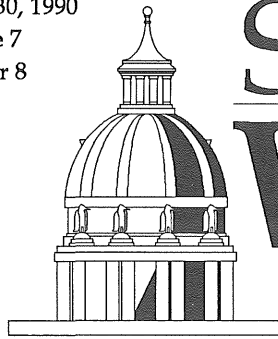


INSIDE:

Highlights	1
Photo story	10
Committee & Floor Action	12
Absentee ballot proposal	16
Bill Introductions	17
HF2800 - HF2815	
Jim Heap's advice	20
Anderson steps down	21
Redistricting	22
Committee Schedule	23

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Session Weekly

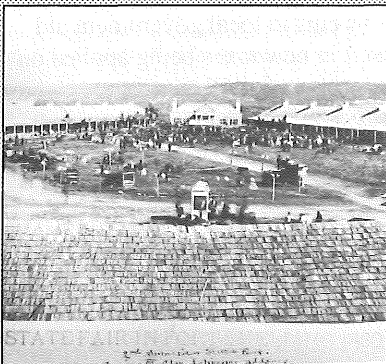
Minnesota House of Representatives

It's a fact!

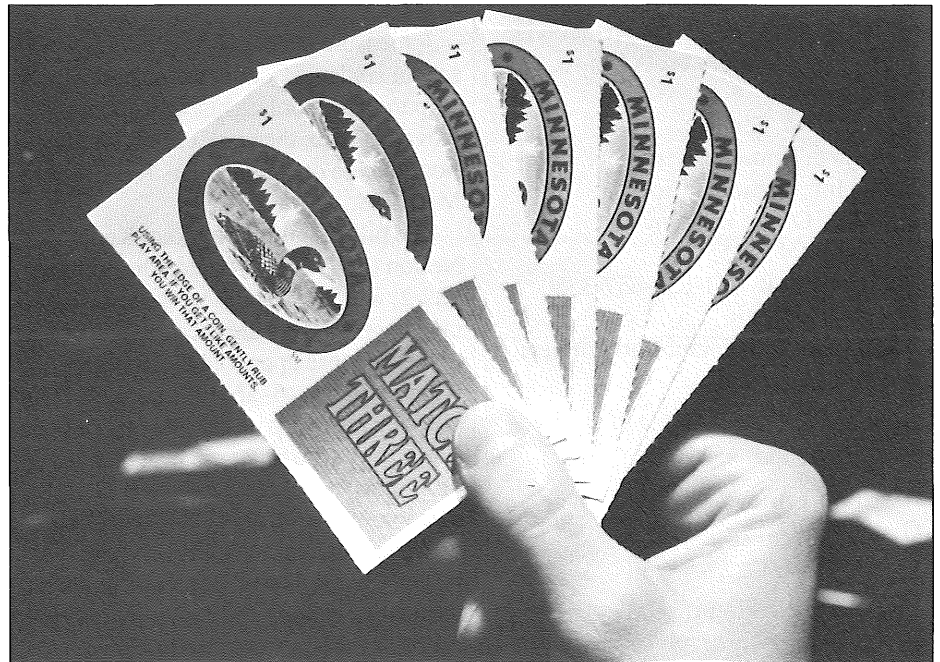
A 640-pound Chester White Hog may not seem all that exciting to today's average fairgoer. But at one of the first Minnesota state fairs, it was the star attraction.

The first Minnesota State Fair was held in 1859, near what is now the intersection of Fifth Street and Marquette Avenue in Minneapolis. Highlights included a two-hour speech delivered by Kentucky politician Cassius Clay, an exhibition by fire engine companies, and a runner known as the "Flying Dutchman" that trotted a mile in 4 minutes and 11 seconds.

Early fairs emphasized agriculture and exhibited products of the Minnesota soil. Fair promoters also spent a lot of time countering reports that the Minnesota climate could not sustain a profitable agriculture.



Courtesy MN Historical Society



Members of the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Gaming Committee saw samples of Minnesota's first lottery tickets March 29.

Highlights

Scratch those tickets

The state's first lottery game will have a \$5,000 top prize and is scheduled to begin April 17, says George Andersen, director of the Minnesota State Lottery.

Andersen gave an overview of the state's new lottery March 29 to the General Legislation, Veterans Affairs and Gaming Committee.

The first "scratch-off" prizes will range from \$2 to \$5,000. Andersen says the odds of winning a prize for the first game are about one in eight. About 4,000 retailers will be selling tickets for the first game.

Winning tickets of up to \$100 can be redeemed by any retailer in the state. Winning tickets over \$100 can be redeemed by mail or at one of the

lottery's regional offices. Tourists can redeem their winning tickets by mail.

A scratch-off lottery ticket will cost \$1 and is played by simply rubbing off the numbers — similar to the games fast food restaurants and other businesses distribute.

The bigger, on-line lotto game is scheduled to begin this fall. Andersen says about 2,500 retailers will be selling tickets for the on-line lottery. He says final decisions have yet to be made on how the game will be organized, and that he's also looking into joining Lotto America.

Andersen says 50 percent of the lottery's revenue will go to pay prizes; 25 percent will go for paying sales tax, operating expenses, and fees to retailers. The remaining 25 percent will be split



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between the Greater Minnesota Corporation and the Environmental Trust Fund as the Legislature specified last year.

The lottery, part of the Department of Gaming, has about 130 employees. Its headquarters and metro regional office are in Roseville; other regional offices are located in Virginia, Marshall, Brainerd, Owatonna, and Detroit Lakes.

Student work bans

A measure that would restrict high school students from working past 11 p.m. on school nights withstood two moves to relax the work curfew during floor debate on the omnibus K-12 bill March 28.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls), passed the House, 129-2, with the student work provision unchanged. It was the second year in a row the House approved the measure.

It would bar 16- and 17-year-olds from working past 11 p.m. on school nights. Employers who repeatedly violate this prohibition would be guilty of a misdemeanor.

One amendment would have allowed students to work past 11 p.m. if they had written permission from their parents or guardians. The second modification would have pushed the deadline from 11 p.m. to midnight in addition to requiring written authorization from the parents or guardians.

The language was taken from a bill Rep. Len Price (DFL-Woodbury) sponsored last session that passed the House but languished in the Senate.

HF2200 now moves to the Senate for further consideration.

Tax bill approval

On a 94-36 vote, the House approved a measure March 27 that would cut property taxes for suburban homeowners and slightly reduce local government aid to cities, counties, and other local governments.

The omnibus tax bill would reduce

state spending by \$26 million for the 1990-91 spending cycle.

The bulk of that reduction would come as a result of a \$17 million cut in state aid to cities, counties, and other local governments.

But the measure would also raise an additional \$10.5 million in additional revenues, primarily through an increase in the corporate alternative minimum tax.

Minority Leader Bill Schreiber (IR-Brooklyn Park) says he disapproves of the way in which additional revenue is raised under the measure.

"This bill is the most unbalanced property tax program that I have witnessed before this Legislature," says Schreiber. He says even though the percentages of the property tax increases are small, they amount to a lot of money for some property taxpayers.

He says property taxes on agricultural land are going up an unprecedented amount, up to 30 percent in some parts of the state. He says that can mean a \$650 increase a year. He says that's not fair because some parts of the state will only see a 10 percent increase in property taxes. He says property taxpayers shouldn't be burdened with \$364 million in property taxes.

Suburban home owners would be the chief beneficiaries of the bill's provision that would reduce the tax rate to 2 percent of that portion of a home valued between 100,000 and \$115,000. The current tax rate is 3 percent.

Rep. Paul Ogren (DFL-Aitkin), author of the bill, says property taxes will rise less than under either the Senate's or governor's budget proposals. He says he also supports using some of the state's budget reserve to help lessen the budget shortfall the state is facing.

"We recognize in this body that a budget reserve made up of old taxes long since collected is better spent than egregious cuts in local government aid that result in new taxes being applied on the property tax base," he says.

He says the cuts in local government aid are neither serious nor inappropriate, and mostly amount to reductions in the growth of future aid payments.

The Senate will consider the bill next.

Sex education

A proposal that would set up limited guidelines for teaching sex education classes in K-12 schools was given final approval by the House March 28 on a 130-1 vote.

Rep. Kathleen Vellenga (DFL-St. Paul) offered the amendment that would provide schools with teaching guidelines for "age appropriate" students on contraception, sexually transmitted diseases, and abstinence, and would encourage students to make responsible and ethical decisions about their sexual behavior.

The proposal, however, wouldn't require schools to teach sex education.

Vellenga's measure significantly toned down a more strict set of guidelines that Rep. Eileen Tompkins (IR-Apple Valley) offered. Those guidelines would have, among other things, emphasized the teaching of abstinence as the only guarantee to prevent teenage pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases. They also would have required school personnel to notify students that pre-marital sex is against the law, and would have banned the use of sexually explicit materials for Kindergarten through fourth grade pupils.

Tompkins her plan would attempt "to counteract societies' portrayal of casual sex and free love as the norm."

Vellenga voiced concern over the sexually explicit materials ban in Tompkins' amendment.

"I don't think we want to start asking teachers, school nurses, and counselors to use funny, children's words for things," said Vellenga, adding that if children only know "baby words" or the words they learn off the street, "they don't ask the questions, and if you don't ask the questions, you never get the right answers."

The sex education amendment was tacked on to the omnibus K-12 education bill, which the House also approved March 28.

Budget cuts

The Greater Minnesota Corporation (GMC) and other agencies would receive a cut in state funding under an Agriculture, Transportation and Semi-State Division proposal approved by the Appropriations Committee March 28.

The GMC would take a \$10 million cut in funds if the bill is signed into law, and \$421,000 would be carved from the Department of Agriculture's budget.

The budgets for the Department of Commerce and the Board of Animal Health would also be cut by more than \$100,000, and \$527,000 would be stripped from Department of Public Safety, with the bulk of that amount from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA).

However, under the proposal, the BCA would receive \$326,000 to fund six additional positions to enhance narcotic investigation activities in greater Minnesota.

Echoing the drug concern, the commit-



The House session on March 22 apparently wasn't exciting enough to keep this gallery visitor awake.

tee approved a \$50,000 appropriation to the Office of Drug Policy to match a federal grant to evaluate drug control programs.

But the division did substantially increase funding to the Department of Gaming. A total of \$1.6 million was allocated to the department to fund 30 positions to regulate lawful gambling.

The division also allocated \$1.1 million to the Department of Public Safety for the enforcement of lawful gambling laws, provided a separate bill on lawful gambling is approved.

The division also allocated \$25,000 to the Department of Agriculture for research on the use of bovine growth hormone in dairy cows, \$140,000 to the Indian Affairs Council for the Indian Business Loan Program, and so that Indian remains in several Minnesota museums and universities can be properly laid to rest in accordance with Indian tradition.

A \$35,000 appropriation to the World Trade Center would be used to conduct the World Export Processing Zone Association International Convention in Minnesota in May 1991. This allocation would be matched with \$25,000 from other sources.

The committee also approved an allocation of \$116,000 to the Board of the Arts to match a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

The measure now goes to the House Floor for further review.

Alternative licensure grants

In effort to draw more minorities into teaching, the omnibus K-12 education bill includes a program that would award grants to people interested in alternative preparation for teaching licensure.

A measure sponsored by Rep. Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls) that was approved by the House March 28 on a 129-2 vote would appropriate \$50,000 to the Board of Teaching for 10 grants of \$5,000 each to qualified minority applicants.

As part of the fellowship agreement, recipients would have to agree to work as teachers in the district for two years upon completing the program.

Besides meeting qualification standards that include having a bachelor's

degree, the applicants also must have an offer to teach. Qualified prospective teachers would receive provisional licensure and would be supervised by a team of mentors once in the classroom. The provision also outlines how the Board of Teaching would grant licenses to participants once they've completed the alternative licensure program.

"These [grants] would provide mentorship. There are people who are well educated but not in the field of education," Nelson told the Appropriations Committee March 27. "With these grants, they can be pulled into the classroom through an expedited process."

The bill also appropriates \$100,000 to assess the qualifications of all licensure candidates, and \$75,000 for evaluation of the baccalaureate, post-baccalaureate, and alternative preparation programs.

No grandmas

A plan that would have brought senior citizens back to school to work with kids was defeated by the House on a 50-78 vote.

The amendment, sponsored by Rep. Dick Pellow (IR-New Brighton), would have set up 20 pilot programs around the state for the senior/student volunteer programs. The plan was tacked on to the omnibus K-12 education bill.

"I know everybody here loves a grandmother and everybody here loves a grandfather," Pellow told lawmakers.

Rep. Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls), however, pointed out that Minnesota school districts already have similar volunteer programs such as "Reading Rockers" where seniors come to school and read to kindergartners.

Pellow's measure would have called for a \$300,000 appropriation to help transport volunteer seniors to the schools.

Tobacco vending machines

Restrictions on where tobacco vending machines can be placed wouldn't stop cities from imposing even tougher tobacco vending machine laws under a bill the House approved March 22.

The bill would require owners to place tobacco vending machines in areas inaccessible to minors under age 18 or within view of an employee. In businesses open to the general public, an employee would have to monitor vending machine sales via an electronic switch.

Rep. Sally Olsen's (IR-St. Louis Park) amendment, approved on the floor by a 119-6 vote, would allow local governments to impose more strict regulations, including an outright ban on tobacco vending machines.

"We're asking you not to take away the authority of the local community," says Jerry Briggs, mayor of White Bear Lake. Nine Minnesota communities, including White Bear Lake, have enacted bans on tobacco vending machines; 14 other cities have adopted some form of restriction.

Grave robbers

A bill that would require cemetery owners to report any grave robberies was unanimously passed on a 132-0 vote by the House March 27.

Bill sponsor Rep. Kathleen Blatz (IR-Bloomington) says the measure is a response to a recent incident in which a family was not immediately notified that their son's body was stolen from a Minneapolis gravesite. Under the measure, failure to report a body theft would be a misdemeanor.

The bill awaits the governor's signature.

Human services

A \$115.1 million human services bill was approved by the Appropriations Committee March 29.

The measure would appropriate funds to the departments of Human services, Health, Jobs and Training, Corrections, the Sentencing Guidelines Commission, and several health-related boards.

Major spending items in the bill include \$12 million in funding for drug abuse prevention programs. This appropriation is part of the governor's drug plan.

A \$10 million allocation was approved for the expansion of the Children's Health Plan for 1991. The plan would expand eligibility to all pregnant women and children from birth to age 18 — regardless of income.

A \$4.8 million allocation was authorized to ensure child care for STRIDE participants. STRIDE is an employment and training program for AFDC recipients and for the eligible working poor.

The division also allocated another \$7 million for alternative care grants that would allow 1,000 new elderly clients to remain at home instead of going to nursing homes.

Under the measure, the Department of Human Services would be required establish a program to pay private health plan premiums for those who have the AIDS virus. The proposal would require payment of group plan continuation coverage for 18 months after termination of employment, and payment of individual plan premiums for two years after initial application. Applicants would have to meet certain eligibility requirements.

A \$1.7 million appropriation to the Department of Corrections would be used to pay for staff and support costs to open a 60-bed women's prison at the Moose Lake Regional Center.

Lawmakers sent the measure to the House Floor.

Garage door regulations

Automatic garage door openers would have to meet minimum safety standards by Jan. 1, 1991, if a bill the House passed March 22 becomes law.

The bill, which passed unanimously, would prohibit the selling, purchasing, repairing, or installing of an automatic garage door opener that doesn't comply with the minimum standard. Garage door openers could be repaired to bring them into compliance with the minimum standard.

An automatic garage door would meet the minimum safety standard if it reversed itself within two seconds of

being prevented from completely closing, says Rep. Milbert (DFL-South St. Paul). The standard was developed by Underwriters Laboratories.

Also, by Jan. 1, 1993, all garage door openers would have to have a fail-safe system that would prevent the door from closing if the reverse mechanism didn't work.

The measure was prompted by the recent deaths of young children who were crushed by garage doors with faulty openers.

HF2393 will go to the Senate floor for further consideration.

Environmental trust fund

A proposed constitutional amendment that would have dedicated one-half of the lottery revenues to the Environmental Trust Fund was defeated by the State Departments Division of Appropriations Committee March 27.

Rep. Willard Munger (DFL-Duluth) says he was disappointed by the defeat, and added that members on the committee betrayed 88 percent of Minnesota voters who approved the establishment of the trust fund in 1988.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls) says she opposes any constitutional dedication of money because it restricts the ability of legislators to manage fiscal affairs of the state.

She says half of the lottery money is already dedicated to the Environmental Trust Fund and added that she sees no reason why the funds should be constitutionally dedicated.

Kahn says she has faith in environmental groups and in the public to make strong arguments to future lawmakers for good environmental legislation.

But Munger says legislators are already making plans to use the lottery money for different programs than were originally intended.

Maximum effort loans

Legislators should stand up for education and fund all maximum effort school loan requests, Rep. Dennis Ozment (IR-Rosemount) told members of the House March 26.

Five of 10 requests were approved by the House as part of its omnibus bonding bill (HF2651).

Maximum effort school loans are given to districts that need to rebuild or renovate facilities because of student growth and/or health and safety problems, but lack the property tax-base to levy for the money. Just over \$36.5 million between the five schools was approved. Over \$86 million had been requested.

"The bottom line, folks, is that there's a big need out there, and they're going to keep coming back and coming back until we come up with a comprehensive plan to deal with this problem," Ozment says.

Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), chief author of the bonding bill, says that the state, like the districts applying for the loan, can't afford to fund all the loan requests.

"If I had an extra \$50 million, I'd give you a piece of it. But the money just isn't there," says Simoneau.

School districts approved for loans were Osakis, New London-Spicer, Roseau, Sartell, and St. Michael-Albertville. The other five districts were Cass Lake, Farmington, Lake of the Woods, Pierz, and Dover-Eyota.

HF2651 was sent to the Senate for consideration.

MVET transfer

Members of an Appropriations Committee panel want to transfer slightly more of the motor vehicle excise tax (MVET) to the state's general fund, but they say they don't want funding for light rail transit or bridge repairs to be overlooked in the process.

Members of the Agriculture, Transportation, and Semi-State Division imposed a cap of \$175.5 million March 27 on MVET funds that can be used for transportation purposes.

That's roughly 34 percent of the funds generated through the sales tax — or about a 1 percent reduction from the current level.

Lake Superior Center

Creation of a Lake Superior Authority, approved March 27 by the Agriculture, Transportation and Semi-State Division of the Appropriations Committee, would get the state more involved in informing people of the role freshwater lakes play in the environment.

The authority would work with the Lake Superior Center, a non-profit corporation near Lake Superior in Duluth, to develop educational material and research projects on the significance of large freshwater lakes.

It's important that people realize the importance of preserving and restoring large freshwater lakes, says Rep. Mike Jaros (DFL-Duluth), author of the measure.

He adds that the center would not only make freshwater educational information available to the public, but would provide scientific findings on large freshwater lakes to state, national, and international policymakers.

No money was appropriated for the authority; Jaros says backers of the proposal hope to combine public and private financing for the project. But his measure would make the authority a state agency and would establish a five-person board.

HF2459 goes now to the Appropriations Committee for further consideration.

Campaign tax credits

Fund-raisers during legislative sessions would be outlawed as part of a sweeping elections and campaign initiative that the Appropriations Committee approved March 27.

The measure, sponsored by Rep. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Center), would bar incumbents and challengers from fund-raising activities during legislative sessions. Earlier this session, the House adopted a similar position as part of its permanent rules.

The election reforms bill also includes a tax credit for taxpayers contributing to political campaigns. For people filing individual returns, the credit is \$50; for couples filing joint returns, the credit is \$100.

"We want to encourage individuals to

contribute to political campaigns," Scheid says. "We're talking about small dollars here."

The measure would reinstate a similar tax credit that was in place prior to 1987. The committee sent HF2666 to the House floor for further review

School building inspections

The state fire marshal would inspect school buildings at least once every three years under an omnibus education finance bill the House approved March 26.

The measure, authored by Rep. Ken Nelson (DFL-Mpls), follows school districts' requests of the Department of Education for building loans.

Nelson says estimates indicate that there are at least 600 school buildings over 50 years old, and that many of these haven't been maintained properly.

These buildings present fire hazards to the students using them, he says. The bill requires the state fire marshal to inspect school buildings at least once every three years, and for the commissioner of education to have final say over building condemnations and proposed new building construction.

Nelson says building loans would go to communities that don't have the money to build new facilities. They would also have to have 80 pupils in each grade with a projected enrollment growth over the next 10 years.

The program isn't expected to cost additional money because school districts will be allowed to use money from their health and safety levies. School districts would also be allowed to receive building loans from the state.

Loans couldn't be used for swimming pools, ice arenas, and other facilities the Department of Education deems unrelated to classroom education.

The committee sent HF2200 to the Senate for further action.

Membership travel contracts

People who sign up to join a travel group that offers discounts on hotel or travel rates could have up to 10 days to change their minds under a bill the House approved on a vote of 131-0 March 28.

The bill calls for a 10-day cooling-off period to allow people to cancel their so-called "membership travel contracts." A bill sponsored by Rep. Randy Kelly (DFL-St. Paul) originally called for a three-day cooling-off period, but the Senate version of the bill increased that time to 10 days. The House went along with the changes.

Kelly has said contract sales personnel typically employ high-pressure sales tactics to get people to sign up for long-term agreements. But the buyers of these contracts often later discovered that they could not easily cancel the contracts if they changed their minds.

"This a good strong consumer protection bill," Kelly told colleagues on the House floor.

HF1841 now goes to the governor for his signature.

Bonding bill

A \$330.4 million bonding bill cleared its final hurdle in the House March 26. It was approved on a 112-29 vote.

More than one-third of the funds would be used to finance higher education projects. The University of Minnesota would receive \$44.1 million; State University System, \$27.3 million; technical college system, \$25.5 million; and community colleges, \$23.4 million.

Some of the University of Minnesota's big ticket items include a \$17.4 million addition to the biological sciences building, renovations, and an addition to the veterinary diagnostic lab (\$8.5 million).

In the human services area, \$7.3 million was allotted for detailed drawings and plans for three regional treatment centers at Anoka, Fergus Falls, and Moose Lake. An additional \$4.1 million was allotted for the construction of 16 additional state-operated community services homes for people with developmental disabilities.

The Department of Corrections would receive \$15.1 million in bonding money,

with the bulk of those funds going for the conversion of an auditorium at the Stillwater prison and the continued conversion of a section of the Faribault Regional Center into a medium-security prison. Two additional medium-security cottages are proposed for the prison at Lino Lakes.

A \$14.6 million allocation to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was approved to pay for improvements to St. Paul's sewer systems, which are designed to separate storm and waste sewers. The appropriation was part of a \$43.9 million allocation to the MPCA.

In the State Departments area, a \$2.5 million allotment was made to the Department of Administration for completion of the first phase of the judicial building, and an additional \$5 million was authorized to renovate the first and second floors of the Centennial Building.

Other allocations included a \$23.2 million appropriation to the Department of Natural Resources for a variety of projects, including \$4.6 million to acquire and improve public water access sites, and \$1.7 million for the first phase of an International Wolf Center in Ely.

State departments

State agency appropriations would be slashed \$21.8 million to meet the anticipated \$145 million budget shortfall under a bill approved March 28 by the Appropriations Committee.

Virtually all state agencies faced budget cuts. The \$7.5 million cut to the State Planning Agency would effectively eliminate the department. Other agencies would absorb the agency's duties.

Rep. Phyllis Kahn (DFL-Mpls), chair of the committee's State Departments Division, says government needs to streamline its operations.

Other agencies and their proposed reductions in funds and personnel include:

- Office of Waste Management, \$2.9 million, 16 positions;
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, \$2.5 million, 26 positions;
- Department of Natural Resources, \$2.1 million, 42 positions.

The Department of Finance would be trimmed by \$2.2 million, primarily through reductions in employee retirement plans.

The division cut the Department of Trade and Economic Development (DTED) budget by \$4.1 million by lowering various economic enhancement programs.

The division also eliminated deputy commissioner positions in the departments of Human Rights and Finance, and in the state Treasurer's Office.

Although DTED faced a hefty reduction, it did get some increased appropriations. The DTED received \$865,000 for the Job Skills Partnership Program, the Office of Tourism, and the Minnesota Trade Office.

The Attorney General's Office would receive \$120,000 to prosecute drug-related, lawful gambling, and criminal tax cases. And the Department of Revenue would get \$400,000 to add five investigators to investigate lawful gambling violations.

A provision in the bill that would have reduced the Greater Minnesota Corporation's share of state lottery revenues from 50 percent to 20 percent was defeated. This change would have channeled 30 percent of the funds to the Reinvest in Minnesota program. The committee, however, deleted this provision.

The Appropriations Committee sent the bill to the House floor for further discussion.

Long-term care

Insurance companies would be required to mail cancellation notices of long-term care policies to more than just the policyholders if a bill the House approved March 22 becomes law.

Bill sponsor Rep. Wes Skoglund (DFL-Mpls) says policyholders with Alzheimer's disease, for example, sometimes forget to pay their premiums and have their policies canceled at a time when they need the benefits the most. Mailing cancellation notices to a relative or a friend would help prevent that situation.

Another provision in the bill would

allow social workers as well as physicians and registered nurses to make decisions about the kinds of services elderly people need in their daily lives. Supporters of the bill say that allowing social workers to make such decisions would give insurance companies the incentive to write policies that cover home care services.

Senior citizens could choose to live in their own homes instead of nursing homes. They could benefit from services such as housekeeping, adult day care, and meals on wheels that are sometimes overlooked by physicians or nurses who may be unaware of these opportunities.

The House unanimously passed HF2474. The Senate will consider the bill next.

Child care report

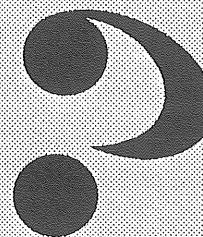
Improving ways to help students get child care funding beyond four years and finding a simpler method for calculating child care credit were two recommendations offered in a recent House subcommittee's report on child care at Minnesota colleges and universities.

The Appropriation Committee's child care subcommittee met several times during the session to collect information about child care and the state's child care grant program. The Legislature in 1987 created the child care funding program to provide money for students who don't qualify for help through the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program.

The subcommittee said the current four-year ceiling forces students who otherwise qualify for aid to drop the program when they finish four years, regardless of whether they complete their degree.

The report notes that non-traditional students in need of child care may take longer to complete their degrees, and that some programs such as architecture, require more than four years to complete. Because of the tight budget, the panel suggested that a loan program could help students who still need child care after their eligibility ends.

Do you know



Artists, writers, and musicians will once again be taking to the streets of Hopkins this spring on Saturday, May 12.

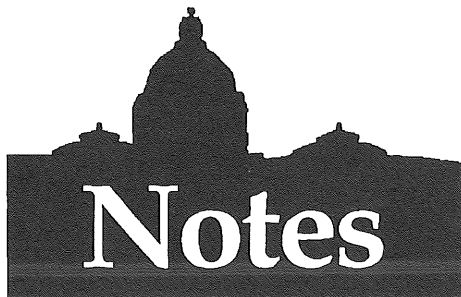
The Hopkins Arts Fair and Small Press Review is the focal point of Hopkins Main Street Days celebration, and one of the fastest growing arts fairs in Minnesota, says Dick Stanley, promoter of the fair. The one-day event, which is being held this year as part of the "Celebrate Minnesota" campaign, is expected to display the works of between 80 and 100 artists. It began five years ago with 20 exhibitors.

Small press writers will be on hand to read poetry and prose. Theater groups will also be performing. "There's a good variety of creative, quality fine art that will appeal to a broad range of people," says fair organizer Marge Bohlander.

The fair starts at 10 a.m. with musical entertainment running from noon until 1 a.m. Featured performers will include the Minnesota Sinfonia under the direction of Jay Fishman, with an ice cream social following the performance.

The event is free, but officials ask for food donations for food shelves.

Celebrate
MINNESOTA 1990



Notes

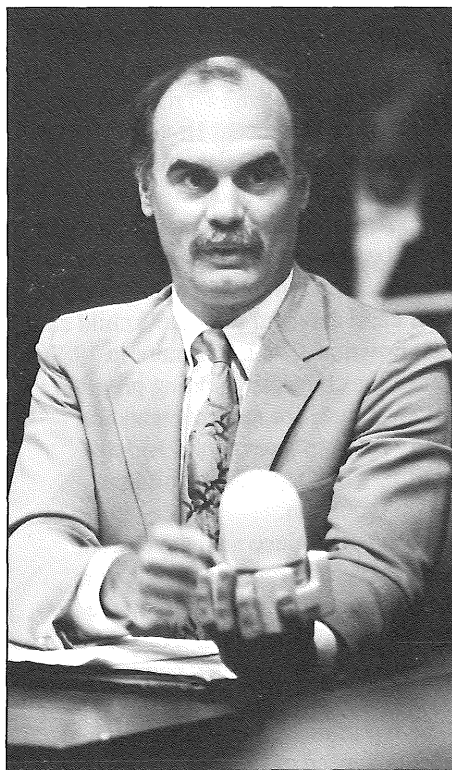
State taxpayers would be able to make contributions to food shelf programs from their state tax returns under an amendment to the omnibus tax bill the House adopted March 28. The proposal was offered by Rep. Peter McLaughlin (DFL-Mpls). The new checkoff will join the current non-game wildlife fund checkoff on both the short and long forms. The tax bill, HF2478 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin), will be considered further by the Senate.

Tickets for the 1992 Super Bowl at the Metrodome in Minneapolis won't include the state's sales tax under a measure in the omnibus tax bill approved March 27 by the House. The measure also includes a \$750,000 payment from the Metropolitan Sports Facilities Commission to the National Football League (NFL) for costs associated with getting the game to Minnesota. The NFL requires the sales tax exemption on tickets. The Senate will consider HF2478 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin) next.

The Minnesota Ethical Practices Board would have a new name if an elections reform bill becomes law. A bill approved March 27 by the Appropriations Committee would change the name to the Minnesota Campaign Reporting Board. Lawmakers sent HF2666 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park) to the House floor.

Retail stores could sell state park permits if a bill approved by the House March 22 becomes law. Bill sponsor Rep. Mary Jo McGuire (DFL-Falcon Heights) says she hopes making park permits more accessible will increase revenue for the state's parks. Store owners can add up to a 4 percent charge to the permit's price for handling and selling. The bill was sent to the Senate floor.

The Minnesota Zoological Garden in Apple Valley may have a new addition: the *Spheniscus demersus*, or Jackass Penguin. The House bonding bill, approved on a 112-21 vote March 26, requires that the penguin be included in a zoo exhibit. HF2651 will go to the Senate for further consideration.



Paul Hansen, director of the Isaac Walton League, showed members of the Regulated Industries Committee a 75-watt light bulb March 26 that he says would help lower consumers' demand for electricity and conserve energy in the future. Hansen testified in support of a bill sponsored by Rep. Joe Quinn (DFL-Coon Rapids) that would require utility companies to develop methods that would conserve energy. No action was taken on the bill.

Counties and townships in designated grasshopper control zones would be reimbursed for up to 50 percent of the costs incurred for grasshopper control activities during 1989 under a bill approved March 28 by the Appropriations Committee. The measure, included in the omnibus appropriations bill, goes to the House floor for further review. Appropriations total \$597,000 for the reimbursements.

The Minnesota Supreme Court was appropriated \$25,000 to establish a task force to study racial bias and discrimination within the judicial system. The Appropriations Committee's State Departments Division directed the Supreme Court March 27 to study sentencing patterns, jury selection, and to identify any other areas within the judicial system where minority groups may be treated unequally. HF1158 (Dawkins, DFL-St. Paul) was sent to the full Appropriations Committee for further review.

A \$90,000 appropriation for the reburial of American Indian remains was approved March 27 by the Appropriations Committee. The money, the first of an expected \$360,000 over the next four years, will be used to rebury Indian remains currently held at the University of Minnesota, Hamline University, and the Minnesota Science Museum. The remains will be buried in accordance with traditional Indian practices.

Voyage to the bottom of the Capitol

Trying to understand what the Legislature does during session, and why they do it can be a monumental task when you



consider more than 2,000 bills are introduced each year.

But that's the task of 25 reporters who are hunkered down in the Capitol press bunker every day in the basement.

"We try to find stories that both interest our readers and are important to them," says Bill Salisbury, a reporter for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*.

Adds *St. Cloud Times* reporter Bill McAllister, "I'm trying to make the Byzantine ways at the Capitol understandable to folks out there; it's hard enough to understand when you're here."

In addition to the pressure of sorting out the complicated tax and spending bills under deadline, some of the reporters also have to keep a close eye on the competition.

Salisbury says his paper and the *Star Tribune* engage in "friendly and fierce competition."

"We try to scoop them everyday and they try to scoop us. When they beat us, we congratulate them" and vice versa, he says.

"I don't want to wake up in the morning and see a terrific story in the newspaper I didn't even know existed and have to explain it to my boss," adds Karen Boros, a reporter for Minnesota Public Radio (MPR).

McAllister says there is another kind of competition that exists within the Capitol which has caused some tension.

"The biggest problem for outstate reporters is being treated equal," says McAllister. He says that at the governor's press conferences there are three or four times as many metro reporters as outstate ones, so they often find it difficult to get a question answered that is not of interest to the Twin Cities papers.

"Our 31,000 subscribers are just as important as any given 31,000 subscribers or viewers in the metro area, I think they deserve the same response from

public officials," says McAllister.

Boros, who once worked as a network correspondent for CBS News and covered the Capitol for WCCO-TV for several years before joining MPR, says radio can be more flexible than television.

"With television you have a picture to tell a story . . . and when you've got a place like this with a room full of people sitting around a table, it's not a very compelling picture," she says. But, Boros adds, with the use of graphics and pictures, television can be just as effective in telling a state government story.

Salisbury points out that while newspapers may not have as much of a dramatic effect or impact that electronic media does, they can do things that television and radio cannot — like analyze budgets and tax policy.

Members of the press corp won't say there is never a dull moment, but they do agree that the variety of issues and people keeps things interesting.

"This is not a dull group of people," says Boros. "They can bore you senseless in committee meetings, but it's fun trying to figure out the politics of what they do as well as the policy."

McAllister appreciates the "odd little moments of theater that occur spontaneously throughout session." Salisbury, in

his 15th year as a Capitol reporter, says "there's enough change to keep me interested."

On the negative side, McAllister finds it hard to move to St. Paul every session and tires of the legislative "jargon, and the way some legislators mangle the English language."

Boros says she "will never get skin cancer from sunshine" because she tends to work in the basement of the Capitol and "run around in tunnels all day."

Also on the down side for reporters are the 24-hour or more stretches at the Capitol during the last week of session. Salisbury says that while the hours parallel those of legislators and lobbyists, reporters have to stay after lawmakers leave to sort out what the Legislature did and didn't do.

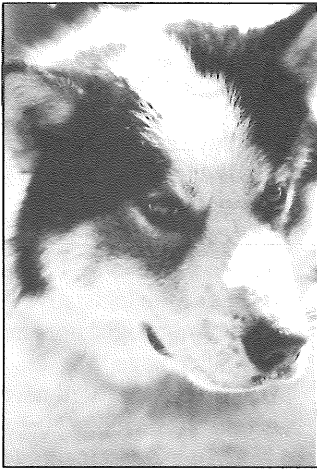
During the interim the full-time press corps will, among other things, cover elections, study reports, and cover interim committee meetings.

Salisbury says the Capitol reporters keep an "arm's length" from legislators, but still remain friendly with them. Trying to manipulate media coverage is part of politics and they're aware of that fact, he points out.

"Most realize that we're watchdogs and if they ever do anything out of line, we're going to bite them," says Salisbury.



Reporters corner Rep. Steve Wenzel following the controversial abortion hearings earlier this session.



One of the dogs that pulled team members across Antarctica.

Welcome home, Will!

**‘This is the greatest day of my life.’
—Will Steger**



One of the sleds that carried the team 3,741 miles across Antarctica was on display.



Expedition team members were greeted by a crowd of about 3,000 people who turned out on a cool but sunny day.

You couldn't have been more 'down under' than Will Steger and the five other members of the International Trans-Antarctica Expedition.

But as Steger and team members glanced out at the crowd of about 3,000 who had turned out on a cool Saturday afternoon to greet them home, they couldn't have been more upbeat.

"This is the greatest day of my life," said Steger.

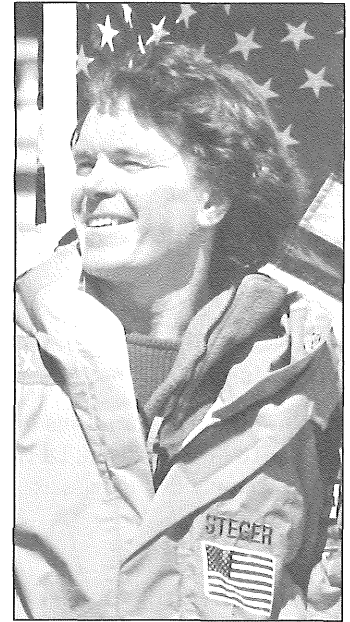
School children from across the state waved banners and cheered as the five team members were introduced. And they also got a glimpse of some of the equipment that was used on the 3,741-mile trek.

But what seemed to attract the most attention were the Husky sled dogs, most of whom seemed content to snooze away while gawkers moved in for close-ups.

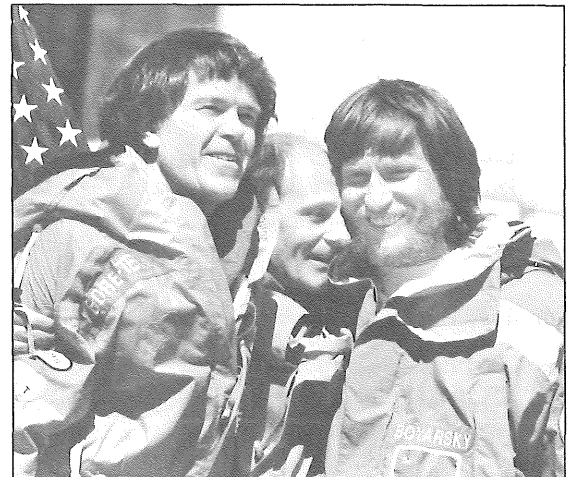
In his brief remarks to the crowd Saturday, Steger heaped lavish praise on the dogs. Without them, he said, the trip wouldn't have been possible.



Members of Will Steger's International Trans-Antarctica Expedition were introduced on the Capitol Mall March 24.



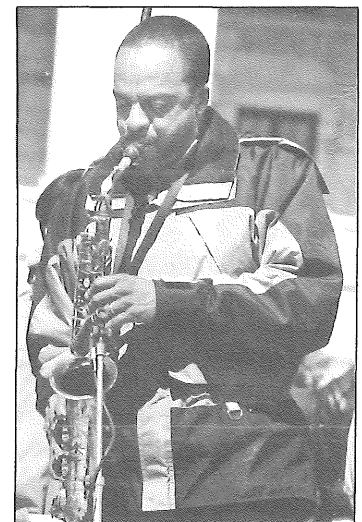
Will Steger



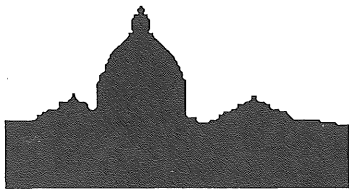
Team members Will Steger (left), Jean-Louis Etienne of France and Victor Boyarsky of the Soviet Union.



Many who came to the Capitol Mall were children who waved flags of welcome to the team members.



Grover Washington Jr. played a song he composed to commemorate team members and the historic trip.



Committee and Floor Action

COMMITTEE ACTION

APPROPRIATIONS

Tuesday, March 27

Education Finance—omnibus bill
HF2200/SF1898 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF on Senate Floor)

Permanent University Fund—investments
HF2269/SF2308 (L. Carlson, DFL-Crystal)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Elections, ethics—changes
HF2666/SF2334 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Wednesday, March 28

State Departments—omnibus bill
HF2419/SF2306 (Solberg, DFL-Bovey)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Agriculture, Transportation & Semi-State—omnibus bill
HF2545 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—recommended to pass as amended.

Thursday, March 29

Health & Human Services—omnibus bill
HF2646/SF2417 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Agriculture, Transportation & Semi-State Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Tuesday, March 27

Lake Superior authority—establishment
HF2459/SF1866* (Jaros, DFL-Duluth)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.

Education Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Friday, March 23

Rural health care—omnibus bill
HF1965/SF1896 (Cooper, DFL-Bird Island)—heard; amended; portions to be included in supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Health & Human Services Division/ APPROPRIATIONS

Friday, March 23

Subsidized development—job impact statement
HF0631/SF1022 (Clark, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Mental health—treatment, assessment
HF1848/SF1731 (Segal, DFL-St. Louis Park)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Employee wages—intermediate care facilities
HF1907/SF2563 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Wastewater treatment grants—requirements

HF1949/SF1925 (Winter, DFL-Fulda)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Health insurance—AIDS patients
HF2034/SF1689 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Chemical dependency—research, treatment
HF2051/SF1931 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Medical Assistance—swing bed services
HF2096/SF1888 (Battaglia, DFL-Two Harbors)—recommended to pass; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

MA—case management services
HF2379/SF2073 (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Willmar area—mental retardation services
HF2380/SF2164 (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Child protection—omnibus bill
HF2390/SF2188 (Vellenga, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; appropriations sections amended into supplemental appropriations bill; other sections re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Rules & Administration Committee)

Oil overcharge
HF2596/SF2382 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass as

amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Welfare reform

HF2632/SF2419 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Long-term health care

HF2646/SF2417 (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Monday, March 26

Prescription drugs—financial assistance

HF1739/SF1617 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—heard.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Drugs—penalty increases

HF1843/SF1759 (Kelly, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Bone marrow donors—education

HF1889/SF1903 (Weaver, IR-Champlin)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Nursing home Medicare certification

HF1911/SF1813* (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.

Nursing home—property rates

HF1912/SF1828 (Welle, DFL-Willmar)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Chemical dependency—sobering stations

HF1946/SF1693 (Clark, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Rural health care—omnibus bill

HF1965/SF1896 (Cooper, DFL-Bird Island)—recommended to pass as amended; sections of the bill amended into supplemental appropriations bill; other sections re-referred to Appropria-

tions Committee.

(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Better beginnings act—establishment

HF2031/SF1835 (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

MA—nursing home case mix rates

HF2453/SF2247 (Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Health & Human Services Committee)

Welfare fraud reform

HF2470/SF2277 (Jennings, DFL-Harris)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Social work, mental health boards—changes

HF2765/SF1952* (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; amended into supplemental appropriations bill.

**State Department Division/
APPROPRIATIONS**

Tuesday, March 27

Environmental Trust Fund—lottery revenue

HF479/SF2321 (Munger, DFL-Duluth)—not recommended to pass.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Judicial system—racial bias study

HF1158/SF1081* (Dawkins, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Appropriations Committee)

Community dispute resolution program

HF1478/SF1001* (Orenstein, DFL-St. Paul)—recommended to pass as amended.

Petroleum tank cleanup fund—changes

HF1816/SF1725* (Sparby, DFL-Thief River Falls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Appropriations Committee)

REGULATED INDUSTRIES

Monday, March 26

Electric utilities—resource planning
HF2491 (Quinn, DFL-Coon Rapids)—heard.

TAXES

Friday, March 23

Taxes—omnibus bill

HF2478/SF2540 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—recommended to pass as amended.
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Monday, March 26

Education Finance—omnibus bill

HF2200/SF1898 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF on Senate Floor)

Wednesday, March 28

Public employees—pay equity

HF1198/SF0488* (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.

Metropolitan water management—regulation

HF2007/SF1894 (Price, DFL-Woodbury)—recommended to pass as amended; re-referred to Appropriations Committee.
(SF in Senate Finance Committee)

Tax-forfeited land—cleanup

HF2786/SF2609 (Janezich, DFL-Chisholm)—recommended to pass.
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

FLOOR ACTION

CONCURRENCE & REPASSAGE

Thursday, March 22

Utilities—competitive electric rates

HF0951*/SF0903 (Jacobs, DFL-Coon Rapids)—repassed as amended by the Senate (125-0).
(SF in Senate Public Utilities & Energy Committee)

Crime victims reparations

HF2143*/SF2043 (Janezich, DFL-Chisholm)—repassed as amended by the Senate (128-0).
SF on Senate Floor)

Monday, March 26**Asbestos abatement—changes**

HF2407*/SF2481 (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Cemetery—land transfer

HF2650*/SF2455 (Waltman, IR-Elgin)—repassed as amended by the Senate (127-0).

Tuesday, March 27**Students—HECB**

HF1067*/SF1551 (Trimble, DFL-St. Paul)—repassed as amended by the Senate (132-0).

Plat monuments—tampering penalties

HF1785*/SF2141 (Dempsey, IR-New Ulm)—repassed as amended by the Senate (133-0).

Driver education—tax exempt plates

HF1989*/SF1775 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—repassed as amended by the Senate (132-0).

Veterans' homes—cemeteries

HF2002*/SF1967 (Beard, DFL-Cottage Grove)—repassed as amended by the Senate (133-0).

Legal newspaper—deadline change

HF2018*/SF1909 (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—repassed as amended by the Senate (133-0).

Auto insurance—antique, rec. vehicles

HF2242*/SF2264 (Winter, DFL-Fulda)—repassed as amended by the Senate (133-0).

Wednesday, March 28**Board of Pharmacy—medical devices**

HF1673*/SF1507 (Stanisus, IR-White Bear Lake)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Seneca wastewater treatment plant—permit

HF1883*/SF1826 (Price, DFL-Woodbury)—repassed as amended by the Senate (130-0).

Membership travel contracts—regulation

HF1841*/SF1770 (Kelly, DFL-St. Paul)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Ethnic American day—designation

HF1919*/SF1737 (Pappas, DFL-St. Paul)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Battery pollution

HF1921*/SF1784 (Wagenius, DFL-Mpls)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Medicare supplement plans—regulation

HF1983*/SF2384 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—repassed as amended by the Senate (126-0).

Health, accident insurance—benefits coord.

HF1984*/SF2110 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Aviation Training Center—remodeling

HF2059*/SF1895 (L. Carlson, DFL-Crystal)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Light butter—standards

HF2305*/SF2477 (Krueger, DFL-Staples)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

Auto purchase price refunds—statements

HF2321*/SF2253 (Haukoos, IR-Albert Lea)—repassed as amended by the Senate (131-0).

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**Tuesday, March 27****Water statutes—recodification**

HF771/SF60* (Dille, IR-Dassel)—repassed as amended by Conference (132-0).

Wednesday, March 28**Pine County—tax-forfeited lands**

HF796*/SF712 (D. Carlson, IR-Sandstone)—repassed as amended by Conference (131-0).

CONSENT CALENDAR**Monday, March 26****Public safety—fire code changes**

HF2080/SF1692* (Brown, DFL-Appleton)—passed (131-0).

Animal ownership—restrictions

HF2099/SF1968* (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—passed (130-0).

Regent candidate advisory recommendations

HF2418/SF2159* (Otis, DFL-Mpls)—passed (130-0).

Faribault—legislative route 298

HF2608/SF2381* (Rodosovich, DFL-Faribault)—passed (130-0).

Well-drilling vehicle—tax exemption

HF2621/SF2039* (Kalis, DFL-Walters)—passed (132-0).

Upsala—boundary commission

HF2683/SF2383* (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—passed (132-0).

Corporal punishment

HF2685/SF2048* (Pelowski, DFL-Winona)—passed (131-0).

Tuesday, March 27**Mental health, retardation—ombudsperson**

HF2133/SF2370* (Greenfield, DFL-Mpls)—passed (132-0).

Cemeteries—unlawful body removal

HF2706/SF2432* (Blatz, IR-Bloomington)—passed as amended (132-0).

RULE 1.10**Thursday, March 22****Public financing—tax exempt revenue bonds**

HF2457*/SF2329 (Rest, DFL-New Hope)—passed (128-0).
(SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Taxes—technical corrections

HF2480* (McLaughlin, DFL-Mpls)—passed (129-0).

Monday, March 26

Bonding bill

HF2651* (Simoneau, DFL-Fridley)—passed as amended (112-21).

SPECIAL ORDERS

"To Be Acted Upon Immediately Preceding General Orders" Special Orders is a list of bills the Rules Committee designates for priority consideration. After debate and/or amendment, they may immediately be given a third reading and placed upon final passage. A procedure used to select from among bills which have had a second reading those that the Rules Committee determined should have priority.

Thursday, March 22

Neighborhood organization—tenants' rights

HF0136/SF1087* (Dawkins, DFL-St. Paul)—passed (128-0).

Child support, custody—omnibus bill

HF1855*/SF1745 (Kelly, DFL-St. Paul)—passed as amended (119-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Veterans Home Board—executive director

HF1977/SF1880 (Kinkel, DFL-Park Rapids)—passed (117-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Seed potatoes—growing area restriction

HF2025*/SF1982 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—passed as amended (127-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Tobacco vending machines—restrictions

HF2042/SF1923 (McEachern, DFL-Maple Lake)—passed as amended (127-1). (SF on Senate Floor)

Service brakes—requirements

HF2124*/SF2074 (Bertram, DFL-Paynesville)—passed (127-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

PERA—monthly benefit

HF2147*/SF2379 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—passed (131-0). (SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

Crop insurance

HF2151* (K. Olson, DFL-Sherburn)—passed (121-0).

State contracts—task force establishment

HF2162*/SF2114 (Williams, DFL-Moorhead)—passed as amended (120-2). (SF on Senate Floor)

State park permits—agent sales

HF2350*/SF2408 (McGuire, DFL-Falcon Heights)—passed (131-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

St. Louis County—solid waste management

HF2386*/SF2270 (Rukavina, DFL-Virginia)—passed as amended (128-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Garage door openers—regulation

HF2393*/SF2261 (Milbert, DFL-South St. Paul)—passed as amended (127-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Railroad crossings—penalties, changes

HF2401*/SF2400 (Tunheim, DFL-Kennedy)—passed (124-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Administrative procedures—regulations

HF2462*/SF2252 (Gruenes, IR-St. Cloud)—passed (121-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Long-term care insurance—changes

HF2474*/SF2566 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—passed as amended (132-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Retirement funds—SBI changes

HF2626*/SF2578 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—passed as amended (130-0). (SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

Insurance—subrogation clarification

HF2637*/SF2514 (Skoglund, DFL-Mpls)—passed (129-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Real estate license prohibition—removal

HF2704*/SF2403 (Scheid, DFL-Brooklyn Park)—passed (130-0). (SF on Senate Floor)

Monday, March 26

Pension plans—technical changes

HF2199*/SF2128 (R. Johnson, DFL-Bemidji)—passed as amended (129-0). (SF in Senate Governmental Operations Committee)

Tuesday, March 27

Taxes—omnibus bill

HF2478*/SF2540 (Ogren, DFL-Aitkin)—passed as amended (94-36). (SF in Senate Taxes & Tax Laws Committee)

Wednesday, March 28

Education Finance—omnibus bill

HF2200*/SF1898 (K. Nelson, DFL-Mpls)—passed as amended (129-2). (SF on Senate Floor)

BILLS THE GOVERNOR SIGNED

Wednesday, March 21

Chisago County—Moberg Trail

HF2090/SF1947* (Jennings, DFL-Harris)—Chapter 357. Effective: Aug. 1, 1990

Friday, March 23

County recorders—fees

HF1555*/SF1238 (Blatz, IR-Bloomington)—Chapter 358. Effective: Aug. 1, 1990

Hazardous waste facility sites

HF1071/SF956* (Sparby, DFL-Thief River Falls)—Chapter 359. Effective: Aug. 1, 1990

Tuesday, March 27

Second Judicial District—dispute resolution

HF1895*/SF1917 (Kelly, DFL-St. Paul)—Chapter 360. Effective: Aug. 1, 1990

Township ordinances codification

HF2188*/SF1979 (Lieder, DFL-Crookston)—Chapter 361. Effective: Aug. 1, 1990

KEY

HF--House File

SF--Senate File

HF#/SF#--companion bills

*--version of the bill under consideration

**Explanations are from the Chief Clerk's Office

Copies of bills and resolutions are available from the Chief Clerk's Office
Room 211, State Capitol
St. Paul, MN 55155
(612) 296-2314

An idea grows . . .

Disabled say 'aye' to absentee ballot proposal

People with physical disabilities can find voting a trying experience because getting to the polls is not always an easy job. But that may change soon.

Because of the efforts of Sandra Shanley, a resident of Anoka, physically impaired and permanently ill people may be placed on a list to automatically receive absentee ballot applications before each election.

That would eliminate having to apply for an absentee ballot at least two weeks before every election — a process Shanley described as a “stumbling block” to voting because it’s difficult to keep up with all the local elections for school board and mayor.

Shanley has Multiple Sclerosis (MS), which restricts her ability to walk. She gets around with a walker or a cane, but on longer outings to a museum or polling place she uses a wheelchair.

“I only have so many steps in a day,” she says, adding that it’s hard for her to stand in line for a long time.

But she is also very politically active. She’s a member of the League of Women Voters and believes in the importance of participation.

“It’s very important to be heard,” she says.

A few years ago she went to California to visit her family and learned that state has an automatic absentee ballot application system for the permanently ill and disabled. She thought it was a good idea and told local officials about it three years ago. Shanley also contacted Rep. Linda Scheid (DFL-Brooklyn Park), who chairs a House division that oversees election laws. Scheid passed the idea along to Rep. Richard Jefferson (DFL-

Getting to the polls for Sandra Shanley isn't always easy.



Mpls) whom she felt might be interested in such a proposal.

Jefferson agreed and translated Shanley’s idea into a bill, which since has been rolled into Scheid’s omnibus elections bill which the House approved March 29.

“If you are not handicapped and are fully capable of walking to the polls, you have to do nothing in order to vote once you register. You merely have to go,” says Jefferson. “I think the present system places an undue burden on people who are not able to go to the polls on a

regular basis, and that an automatic application form is a very small move to grant them equal rights to the opportunity to vote as other people.”

Jackie Alfonso, executive director of the United Handicapped Federation, says her organization supports the bill because equal access to the electoral process should be available to everyone.

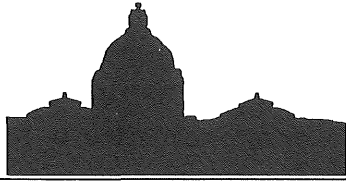
Providing absentee ballots to the disabled isn’t glamorous, and “isn’t likely to attract national attention or the national press,” but it is important nevertheless, she says.

The measure affects a small number of Minnesota voters. Typically, only about 100,000 people vote by absentee ballot during a general election. Only a small portion of those people would be eligible for a permanent absentee ballot application because only people with permanent illnesses or disabilities would qualify.

Shanley says county auditors already maintain lists of absentee voters, and the local and state officials

she’s approached have been very responsive. She says she has also received assistance from the League of Women Voters, the MS Society, the United Handicapped Federation, and other groups.

Last year, Jefferson authored a bill to provide sign language interpreters, Braille translation materials, and handicapped accessible buildings for people attending political gatherings. That bill, and this bill from Shanley’s idea, will help those people who most often need to reach political and government officials.



In the Hopper . . .

March 23 - 29, 1990

Bill Introductions

HF2800-HF2815

Monday, March 26

HF2800—Seaberg (IR)

Transportation

Metropolitan transit; assistance given to private suppliers of public transit.

HF2801—Hasskamp (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Bonds required for filing challenges of Department of Natural Resources and Pollution Control Agency permits or rules.

HF2802—Tunheim (DFL)

Appropriations

Red Lake tribal information center appropriated money.

HF2803—Runbeck (IR)

Insurance

Insurance; provisions changed for insurance identification cards, and insurers notified of convictions for driving while intoxicated.

Tuesday, March 27

HF2804—Munger (DFL)

Appropriations

Wetlands mapping, digitization, and inventory distribution appropriated money.

HF2805—Osthoff (DFL)

Financial Institutions & Housing

Interstate banking permitted with Indiana.

HF2806—Rice (DFL)

Gen'l Leg., Vet's Affairs & Gaming

Education; certain veterans provided state education assistance.

Wednesday, March 28

HF2807—Frederick (IR)

Ways & Means

State spending not increased above a certain rate.

HF2808—Limmer (IR)

Environment & Natural Resources

Lakeshore trust fund lands condemned and sold, nontrust lands sold, bond issue provided, and money appropriated.

HF2809—Steensma (DFL)

Education

Sex education course established to encourage abstinence.

HF2810—Steensma (DFL)

Education

Sex education task force established to review educational materials, with money appropriated.

HF2811—Steensma (DFL)

Education

Sex education course developed to encourage abstinence, with a task force created.

Thursday, March 29

HF2812—Lieder (DFL)

Appropriations

Claims against state paid.

HF2813—Schafer (IR)

Regulated Industries

Cable television; memorial to president and Congress to open cable industry to competition.

HF2814—Himle (IR)

Taxes

Bankruptcy provisions changed for tax collection.

HF2815—Himle (IR)

Health & Human Services

Nursing home moratorium provided an exception.

House Advisories

Monday, March 26

HA41—Osthoff (DFL)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming

A proposal to study mail elections for vacancies in office.

HA42—Clark (DFL)

Health & Human Services

A proposal to study the administrative costs of health plans.

HA43—Clark (DFL)

Insurance

A proposal to study home health care alternatives for chronically ill, technologically dependent persons.

HA44—Scheid (DFL)

General Legislation, Veterans Affairs & Gaming

A proposal to study mail elections.

Wednesday, March 28

HA46—Winter (DFL)

Agriculture

A proposal to change the Department of Agriculture to the Department of Agriculture, Food, and Fiber.

Thursday, March 29

HA47—Tjornhom (IR)

Education

A proposal to study the documentation required of districts offering special education.

First Readings/Senate Bills

Monday, March 26

SF394—Dicklich (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF168--Jaros (DFL)

Education; requiring a report on preparation of post-secondary education administrators and faculty.

SF409—Piper (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF367—McLaughlin (DFL)

Employment; providing for certain employee leaves of absences.

SF1365—Marty (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF1561—Clark (DFL)

Crimes; requiring prosecutor training in bias-motivated crimes.

SF1499—Dahl (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF1234—O'Connor (DFL)

Consumer protection; regulating certain rental-purchase agreements; prescribing the rights and duties of all parties; requiring disclosures; regulating advertising; providing remedies.

SF1675—Berg (DFL)

Environment & Natural Resources

Game and fish; authorizing the Leech Lake Band of Chippewa Indians to conduct certain types of aquiculture; directing promotion of and commercial licenses to take rough fish from Lake of the Woods; removing certain aquiculture restrictions in private waters if public waters or groundwater is not degraded or public health is not affected; authorizing transportation of minnows by common carrier; providing restrictions for taking crayfish.

SF1681—Waldorf (DFL)

Health & Human Services

Occupations and professions; allowing a graduate social work license to be issued without examination to an applicant who was unable to apply before the transition period ended.

SF1703—Berg (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2709—Trimble (DFL)

Natural resources; authorizing the enforcement of certain natural resource laws by conservation officers.

SF1704—Berg (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2351—McGuire (DFL)

Natural resources; regulating aquiculture activities and programs; providing for the transportation of minnows by common carrier; regulating the commercial fishing of rough fish on the Lake of the Woods; authorizing conservation officers to seek issuance of and to serve search warrants.

SF1743—Schmitz (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2327—Jacobs (DFL)
Telephone service; regulating the installation of
extended area service in exchanges; requiring the
expansion of the metropolitan extended area
telephone service, under some circumstances.

SF1772—Stumpf (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF1879—Tunheim (DFL)
Natural resources; changing the provisions relating
to the delineation of wetland or marginal land;
exempting land classification agreement lands from
certain requirements; establishing Lake of the
Woods state forest.

SF1866—Solon (DFL)
Appropriations
Lake Superior; establishing an information and
education authority.

SF1869—Diessner (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2398—Beard (DFL)
Labor; requiring employers to prepare and
implement a written program that describes how
they will reduce the extent and severity of work-
related injuries and illnesses; providing for safety
awards by the commissioner of labor and industry.

SF1937—Berglin (DFL)
Rules & Legislative Administration
Health; establishing standards for safe levels of
lead; requiring education about lead exposure;
requiring lead assessments of certain residences;
establishing standards for lead abatement; requiring
rules.

SF1946—Berg (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2658—Bertram (DFL)
Agriculture; providing for deficiency judgments
relating to foreclosure and sale of mortgages on
property used in agricultural production; requiring
fair market value to be determined by the court;
extending period for execution on judgment.

SF1955—Cohen (DFL) Referred to the Chief
Clerk for comparison with **HF1924--Dawkins
(DFL)**
Housing; changing the definition of designated
home ownership area for the Minnesota rural and
urban homesteading program.

SF1966—DeCramer (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2144—Girard (IR)
Education; expanding open enrollment to bordering
states.

SF1971—Knutson (IR)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2016—Swenson (IR)
Education; establishing an automobile safety
awareness week.

SF1975—D. J. Frederickson (DFL)
Education
Education; providing for the notice of and place for
meeting of certain joint powers organizations.

SF1976—D. J. Frederickson (DFL)
Education
Education; providing for certain notice and board
membership requirements under certain joint
powers arrangements.

SF1995—Metzen (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF1902—Peterson (DFL)
Insurance; property and casualty; regulating
terminations of agents; prescribing a penalty.

SF2011—Beckman (DFL)
Health & Human Services
Health; clarifying variance authority regarding
training standards for ambulance attendants;
establishing a state emergency medical services
advisory council.

SF2026—Piper (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF1930—Bertram (DFL)
Health; authorizing the creation of a technical
advisory task force for emergency dispatch
services; requiring the submission of a multidisci-
plinary report on training needs of emergency
dispatchers operating within 911 systems.

SF2054—Pogemiller (DFL)
Appropriations
Courts; staggering the elections of chief judges and
assistant chief judges; providing for the adoption of
rules by the Supreme Court governing jury
administration; imposing penalties.

SF2063—D. J. Frederickson (DFL)
Environment & Natural Resources
Health; requiring an environmental impact
statement for burning of PCBs; authorizing counties
to be compensated for human health risks; requiring
permits and local approval before burning PCBs.

SF2064—Luther (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2243—Scheid (DFL)
Commercial transactions; adopting an article of the
Uniform Commercial Code that governs funds
transfers.

SF2068—Cohen (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2249—Carruthers (DFL)
Insurance; no-fault auto; clarifying eligibility for
economic loss benefits.

SF2072—Cohen (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2220—Milbert (DFL)
Minnesota Statutes; correcting erroneous,
ambiguous, and omitted text and obsolete
references; eliminating certain redundant,
conflicting, and superseded provisions; making
miscellaneous technical corrections to statutes and
other laws.

SF2108—Solon (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2076—Jacobs (DFL)
Liquor; regulating the sale of liqueur-filled candy;
authorizing municipalities to issue on-sale wine
licenses to bed and breakfast facilities; authorizing
removal of partially consumed wine bottles from
licensed premises; authorizing additional licenses in
the cities of Minneapolis, Brooklyn Center, and
Duluth; authorizing the issuance of wine and

nonintoxicating malt liquor licenses by the city of
St. Paul to its parks and recreation division;
authorizing the county board of Anoka County to
delegate liquor licensing authority to town boards
within the county; authorizing the county board of
Itasca County to issue an off-sale or combination
license within three miles of an incorporated area;
providing for the reporting of wine licenses to the
commissioner of public safety; eliminating the
requirement for a vote on municipal liquor store
continuance upon population change.

SF2109—Adkins (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2499—Carruthers (DFL)
Insurance; regulating cancellations, reductions, and
nonrenewals of commercial property and liability
insurance.

SF2147—D. J. Frederickson (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2211—Cooper (DFL)
Transportation; exempting fertilizer and agricultural
chemical retailers from certain regulations on
transporting hazardous materials; making certain
private carriers subject to driver qualification rules.

SF2181—Flynn (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2248—Dawkins (DFL)
Labor; regulating joint labor-management
committees; regulating public employee elections;
providing for the selection of arbitrators by mutual
agreement.

SF2297—Brandl (DFL)
Taxes
Taxation; property; requiring equal access to food
or beverage services or facilities for golf clubs
under open space property tax treatment.

SF2349—Samuelson (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2735—Simoneau (DFL)
Insurance; no-fault automobile; regulating
uninsured and underinsured motorist coverages for
motorcycles.

SF2355—Marty (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2184—Wagenius (DFL)
Statutes of limitations; establishing a three-year
time limit to bring an action for penalty or forfeiture
for violation of certain environmental statutes.

SF2360—Beckman (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2534—Otis (DFL)
Economic development; clarifying the appointing
authority for the board of the Minnesota Project
Outreach Corporation; requiring duties of the
Minnesota Project Outreach Corporation; requiring
notification under the capital access program;
removing the requirement that employees of the
Greater Minnesota Corporation file statements of
economic interest; changing the procedure for
adopting a neighborhood revitalization program.

SF2412—D. Moe (DFL)
Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with
HF2489—Simoneau (DFL)
State government; requiring the State Board of
Investment to invest certain assets currently
managed by the commerce department.

SF2421—Luther (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2325—Scheid (DFL)

Elections; presidential primary; changing the primary date; providing procedures for conducting the primary; changing the requirements for being a candidate at the primary; allowing voters to prefer uncommitted delegates; allowing write-in votes; providing for voter receipt of ballots; eliminating the provision that the primary winner is the party's endorsed candidate; changing the apportionment of party delegates; requiring provision of certain information to interested persons.

SF2431—Marty (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2105—Bertram (DFL)

Buildings; changing the definition of public building in the State Building Code; ratifying the interstate compact on industrialized/modular buildings.

SF2445—Kroening (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2628—Sparby (DFL)

State government; establishing positions in the unclassified service; authorizing the commissioner of jobs and training to establish a position in the unclassified service.

SF2498—Schmitz (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2252—Kelso (DFL)

Occupations and professions; increasing minimum insurance coverage required for abstracters; abolishing requirement of seals by impression; providing for inactive license status; repealing an obsolete provision.

SF2541—D. R. Frederickson (IR)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF1784—Dempsey (IR)

Real property; providing for filing and recording of maps or plats for proposed rights-of-way by local governing bodies.

Tuesday, March 27**SF2174—Stumpf (DFL)****Taxes**

Public lands; providing payments in lieu of taxes for certain federal land leased to the state.

SF2317—Dicklich (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2075—Jacobs (DFL)

Utilities; providing for the assessment of expenses for adjudicating service area disputes to municipal electric utilities; providing for civil penalties for violations of Chapter 237; re-establishing the position of program administrator of the Telecommunications Access for Communication-impaired Persons Board; extending the Electric Utility Service Area Task Force until 1992; requiring a study.

SF2318—Berglin (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2605—Wagenius (DFL)

Education; clarifying that statutes governing aversive and deprivation procedures apply to handicapped pupils; requiring that rules of the State Board of Education contain a list of prohibited procedures.

SF1873—Cohen (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2063—Seaberg (IR)

Crime victims; providing victims of delinquent acts the right to request notice of release of juvenile offenders from juvenile correctional facilities; providing notice to sexual assault victims when a juvenile offender is released from pretrial detention; requiring that victims be informed of their right to request the withholding of public law enforcement data that identifies them; clarifying the duty of court administrators to disburse restitution payments; making certain changes to the Crime Victims Reparations Act.

SF2132—Marty (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2222—Peterson (DFL)

Crimes; making it a crime to obtain telecommunication services by fraud; requiring forfeiture of telecommunication devices used for fraudulent purposes; prescribing penalties.

SF2564—Pogemiller (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2077—Ozment (IR)

Criminal sexual conduct; expanding the definition of "sexual contact" in fifth degree criminal sexual conduct.

SF1725—Novak (DFL)**Appropriations**

Environment; changing the fund balances required to impose the fee and the collection period of the fee; changing the terms for reimbursement of petroleum tank release costs by the Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board; providing certain tank facilities and refineries are ineligible for reimbursement; appropriating money reimbursed to state agencies.

SF2089—Brandl (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2434—K. Nelson (DFL)

Crime; clarifying that terroristic threats include those made indirectly.

SF2134—Spear (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2086—Kelly (DFL)

Crime; imposing penalties on persons who commit a gross misdemeanor or felony while wearing or possessing a bullet-resistant vest; permitting summary forfeiture of weapons used to commit a controlled substance offense; permitting summary forfeiture of bullet-resistant vests worn or possessed during the commission of a crime; increasing the penalty for furnishing firearms to a minor, intentionally discharging a firearm under circumstances that endanger another, and selling a firearm with a silencer; clarifying that ammunition manufacturers and federally licensed dealers may sell to government agencies.

Wednesday, March 28**SF354—Merriam (DFL)**

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF596—Rest (DFL)

Trusts; permitting the creation of custodial trusts; adopting the Uniform Custodial Trust Act.

SF1758—Samuelson (DFL)**Appropriations**

Health; requiring the licensing of wholesale drug distributors; regulating the use of biosynthetic bovine somatotropin; providing penalties.

SF1874—Cohen (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF1836—Carruthers (DFL)

Meetings of public bodies; government data practices; defining final disposition of a disciplinary action regarding personnel records; making clear that meetings may not be closed on the basis of data classification statutes; providing an exception to the open meeting law for preliminary discussions concerning allegations of misconduct against government employees or evaluations of government employees.

SF2012—R. Moe (DFL)

Referred to the Chief Clerk for comparison with HF2087—E. Olson (DFL)

Agriculture; providing that checkoff fees from certain potato producers are not refundable.

Thursday, March 29**SF2618—Merriam (DFL)****Suspension of Rules**

Public administration; appropriating money or reducing appropriations to the Higher Education Coordinating Board, regents of the University of Minnesota, State University Board, State Board for Community Colleges, and State Board of Vocation Technical Education, with certain conditions; excepting notification of committee chairs on certain capital projects; establishing a community college at Cambridge; clarifying the duties and powers of the Higher Education Coordinating Board; authorizing tuition reciprocity agreements with contiguous Canadian provinces; establishing a state matching grant program to match private gifts to endowment funds; requiring administrative service plans for technical colleges under certain circumstances; changing permitted kinds of investments for the permanent university fund; permitting capital gains of the fund to be used to support endowed academic chairs; authorizing the purchase of a certain building by the State University Board; requiring development of a consumer information system for occupational programs; regulating public post-secondary plans; requiring reports; adjusting contributions to state system retirement plans.

Jim Heap's advice:

Ask questions, grow from the experience

It was an Independent-Republican dinner that changed Rep. Jim Heap from a political greenhorn who taught marketing at Hennepin Technical Center to the 12-year representative from Plymouth he is today.

"I voted, but that was about the extent of my political involvement," says Heap. "I was as green as you would want to get."

He unsuccessfully ran for election in 1976, but tried again in 1978, won, and has been back ever since.

During his tenure at the Capitol, the Independent-Republicans have held control for only two years. Nonetheless, Heap says he believes the minority serves an important function as a watchdog to challenge the majority.

"No party owns the truth," he says. "The majority party, no matter which party has the majority, doesn't have an embodiment of truth. There has to be someone to watch out for monopolized power. This is the role of the minority."

He says his service in the Legislature gave him a crash course in critical thinking, given the range of topics that are routinely discussed at the Capitol.

Nearly 2,000 bills are introduced each year in the House, Heap says, and that while serving on three committees a legislator typically hears testimony on 200 to 300 bills per year.

"You have to learn how to be efficient in dissecting a bill: to ask the tough questions, to ask whether this bill will help or hurt. That's one way you can measure success."

The experience of digesting that information has made him a more vigorous person, Heap says, and the Capitol is an invigorating place. But he's decided to return to work in the private sector and put his management expertise back to work as a business management consultant.

"It's time to move on to other challenges," Heap says. "The sense of accomplishment in the Legislature differs from that in the business world. It's difficult to set those specific goals and objectives that are the stock and trade of



Rep. Jim Heap plans on returning to the business of business after serving 12 years in the House.

the businessman and see specific results in the political arena."

Heap should know. He was a Pillsbury Co. executive for 13 years, and founded four businesses and the non-profit Vail Place, a home for the mentally retarded in Hopkins. In addition, he wrote a financial planning book and helped establish the retail merchandising program at Hennepin Technical Center.

In a sense, however, Heap never strayed far from the business world during his tenure at the Legislature. He sits on the both the Commerce and Economic Development committees, as well as the Appropriations Committee.

He sees a clear link between his role as a businessman and teacher, and political interests in business and economic development: better educational opportunities can lead to a better business environment which creates a higher standard of living.

In fact, two major pieces of legislation

he sponsored that he considers most noteworthy pertain to education and business.

One measure — initially designed to look into whether Minnesota needed all the colleges and universities it has — led to mission statements from the four higher education systems.

The other piece of legislation Heap sponsored in the mid-1980s was a workers' compensation reform measure. It drew bipartisan support in both the House and Senate, but was vetoed by the governor.

"It had DFL and IR support. I worked months behind the scenes to get what I thought was a good bill," Heap says.

What advice does he have for his successor?

Focus on a few areas to become effective, and take in as much of the legislative experience as possible.

"People should look at a representative's job as an opportunity to grow," Heap says. "I can't think of a better way to get an education. It gives you an insight on whatever else you want to pursue — I don't care what it is."

While he says he'll miss being around the Capitol come next January, he won't miss running for re-election.

"It's [campaigning] a strenuous activity," says Heap, adding that it can also be a humbling one.

Heap becomes pensive when stating his hoped-for legislative epitaph.

"I'd like to be remembered by my colleagues as a person who was pleasant to work with, someone who was respected and well thought of as a legislator."

April 2, 1849

On this day, Alexander Ramsey of Pennsylvania was commissioned the first governor of the Minnesota Territory.

Anderson steps down after 18 years

Rep. Glen Anderson's office has an old shoe kind of comfort. The couch slopes where it's been used most. Papers — some neatly stacked, others not — are on the floor, couch, window sill, and desk.

Anderson, the DFLer from Bellingham who represented the area for nearly two decades, says this is his last session. While he may soon be gone from his corner office on the third floor, he won't be forgotten.

"We're going to miss him. I think the institution will be a bit less when he leaves," says Rep. Wayne Simoneau (DFL-Fridley), who succeeded Anderson as chair of the Appropriations Committee. "He knows middle America — middle Minnesota. He has a big, broad view of what's out there."

And Anderson's colleagues are drawing on his expertise for all it's worth in the remaining weeks of the session. During a recent meeting of the Education Division of the Appropriations Committee, for example, Anderson fielded the tough questions on the bonding bill. He did the same thing when the matter was on the House Floor for a vote.

In other division meetings, several lawmakers sought his opinion on education funding matters.

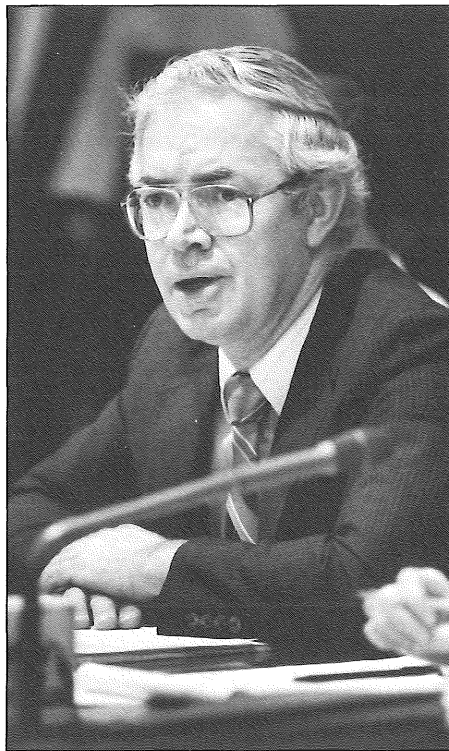
"People know to talk to Glen Anderson," says Simoneau.

"Rep. Anderson is a valuable asset," says Rep. Lyndon Carlson (DFL-Crystal), who chairs the Education Division and who was elected to the House the same year as Anderson. "When I worked with him as the chair, he was one who was responsive to the needs of education." People who are as legislatively active as Anderson is are difficult to replace, he says.

Anderson, a third generation farmer from Bellingham, says his decision not to seek a 10th term is "80 to 90 percent financial and 10 to 20 percent emotional.

"I really don't want to leave," he admits. "I love this place very much. I feel good about the time I've been here."

Anderson's resignation as chair came during a swirl of publicity after he pleaded guilty to two misdemeanor charges. The last six months of 1989, he says, was "a bad disaster. I went through



Rep. Glen Anderson

three or four months of pure hell."

He says his trouble began after being roundly chastized by people from his district after pushing for the consolidation of four high schools in his area.

"That hurt; that got to me," Anderson, 51, says. "But I know what I did was good for the young people. I know it was good for the taxpayers. I know it was good for education."

The pressure from the public's wrath in his home community, in addition to financial problems, contributed to the stress that ultimately led to his troubles with the law.

Now, he adds, "I'm laying back now and rebuilding. I'll do the best I can in the days I've got left here."

For now, he's silent on what the future holds for him. But he knows it won't be far from the business he knows best: politics and government. And he wants his future endeavor to be challenging, demanding, and rewarding.

"I'm interested in doing something that deals with people and government," he says. "I want to work with people. I don't want to shuffle papers."

Though he seldom introduced major

legislation, Anderson says he has been content to informally discuss bonding or appropriation matters in the hallways and offices. He typically works behind the scenes, plotting strategy or offering friendly advice on parliamentary maneuvers.

"He's good at massaging legislation and bringing people together," says Simoneau.

The seeds of his political involvement were sown by his father. But the event that prompted Anderson's running was a Saturday night political rally in which he felt that his state representative was talking down to the crowd. The following Tuesday, Anderson filed to run against the 16-year incumbent.

During his 18 years in public office, Anderson says he has witnessed a profound change in attitudes. Back then, for example, state trails weren't acceptable; now communities work and fight for them, proving that environmentalists and recreation enthusiasts can co-exist, he says.

Anderson's only real criticism of the Legislature is that not enough of his colleagues take the long-range view of what's best for Minnesota.

"I've generally tried to look at what's best for [the state] five, 10, or 20 years down the road, rather than what's best for me to get re-elected," he says.

Anderson says he has changed as well. He has adopted a more liberal stance regarding environmental matters and also views legislation from a statewide — as opposed to a purely parochial — viewpoint.

Although the annals of political lore are littered with tales of backstabbing and double-crosses, Anderson says he will retire with a clear conscience.

"I can't think of a soul I was dishonest with or unfair to. I've been honest, sincere, and dedicated. I don't think anybody can argue that."

He advises his successor to vote his or her convictions.

"Don't sell yourself out. If you can live with your vote in your heart, then you don't have to worry about the caucus or special interest groups. You have to be able to live with yourself."

Political eyes focus on . . .

Agenda '92: legislative redistricting

The Census Bureau of the U.S. Department of Commerce wants to know where you 'll be on Sunday, April 1.

Your residence as of that date will help reshape the state's congressional and legislative districts. Federal courts have ruled on many cases to give body to the soul of the "one person, one vote" principle of representation.

Every 10 years the federal bureau mails to house addresses census information requests, expecting to learn more about the number of people living in households, the number of home owners or renters, and most important, the number of eligible voters.

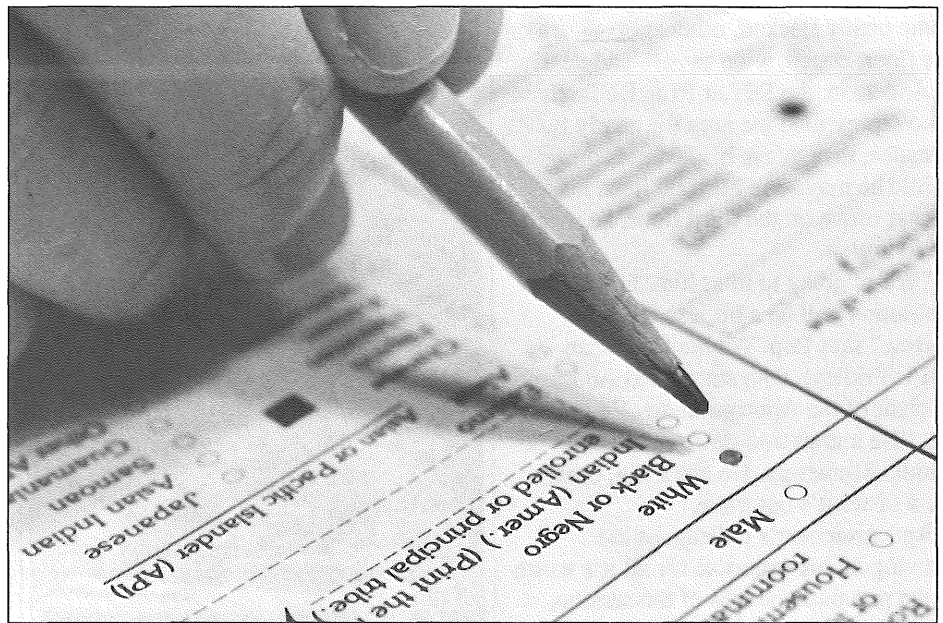
Where people reside when they return their census information helps states realign — or redistrict their legislative and congressional districts. The remapping helps states adjust for population shifts to maintain equality in representation at state legislatures and on Capitol Hill in Washington.

States this year will redistrict themselves via the computer. The system will divide the state into census units that the computer operator can move from one district into another. The computer also can keep a running total of the number of people in each unit, and the number of units needed to achieve a redistricting plan that is as equal as possible.

"It's like working an enormous jigsaw puzzle," says Sam Rankin of the House Research Department and staff assistant to the Legislative Coordinating Commission's Subcommittee on Redistricting. "In Minnesota's case, there are 203,000 pieces to the puzzle."

Redistricting can be divided into two parts: the academic preliminaries and the actual remapping. The subcommittee handles the academic areas of administration, finding the equipment, and determining what is necessary for data preparation. The DFL and IR caucuses in both the state House and Senate will handle the actual remapping.

Each caucus team will have a secure work area. The subcommittee, Rankin says, "is confident we can block any



People are busy filling out U.S. census forms this week.

security breach, at least at the computer."

The state allocated \$700,000 for redistricting. The subcommittee expects preliminary counts from the federal government in September and anticipates that both the state House and Senate will name redistricting committees shortly after the November 1990 general election. According to the timetable, the Legislature should receive detailed population figures April 1, 1991, begin to draw new legislative and congressional districts by May 1, 1991, and complete the process by March 26, 1992. The new districts need to be in place by the 1992 general election in November.

If the House and Senate agree on a plan, it goes to the governor for his approval. If someone successfully challenges the approved plan through a lawsuit, a three-judge federal court panel would then redistrict the state. Federal laws require that court challenges must be decided before the 1992 election.

Rankin says he expects that more than 100 people will work on the redistricting project, with each devoting hundreds to thousands of hours to the task.

A computer could develop a plan that would divide Minnesota into districts that

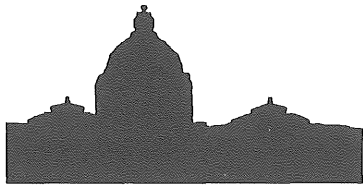
have equal populations, are contiguous, and contain one Senate and two House seats, and are reasonably compact. But there's a problem with a machine-only plan.

"It wouldn't take into account minorities or the existing addresses of incumbents," says Rankin. "It might not consider the 'neighborhood' aspect the center of interest. It wouldn't be sensitive to minority voters and clustering minority populations to maximize the chance for electing minority representatives.

"That's why people have to draw the plan," he adds. "And it has to be done well enough that the legal system says it's a reasonable plan."

April 4, 1893

On this day, the Minnesota state flag was adopted by the Legislature. The design was submitted by Mrs. Edward H. Center of Minneapolis.



Coming Up Next Week . . .

April 2 - 6, 1990

Committee Schedule

This schedule is subject to change.
For information updates, call House Calls
at (612) 296-9283. All meetings are open
to the public.

MONDAY, April 2

8:00 a.m.

APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: Various appropriations bills.
This meeting is scheduled to last until
noon.

Before session

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Room Capitol
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Special Orders.

12:00 noon

The House will meet in session.

TUESDAY, April 3

8:00 a.m.

APPROPRIATIONS

200 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Wayne Simoneau

Agenda: Various appropriations bills.
This meeting is scheduled to last until
noon.

TAXES

5 State Office Building
Chr. Rep. Paul Anders Ogren

Agenda:
HF2283 (Jefferson)/SF1950 Low-
income housing provided, council on
homelessness established, related
changes made, and money appropriated.

HF2117 (Osthoff)/SF1822 Low-rent
public housing and Section 8 Housing
Administration changed, local approval
limited, special assessment exemption
for housing and redevelopment authori-
ties repealed, housing development
projects transferred to economic devel-
opment.

HF2005 (Quinn)/SF2018 Charitable
gambling provisions changed in compre-
hensive legislation.

9:00 a.m.

Conference Committee

237 Capitol

Agenda:

HF257 (Williams) State government;
eliminating the requirement that certain
reports of occupational licensing boards
be summarized; eliminating certain
prohibitions against state purchase of
insurance; regulating state sale of goods
and services.

Before session

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Room Capitol
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Special Orders.

12:00 noon

The House will meet in session.

WEDNESDAY, April 4

Before session

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Room Capitol
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Special Orders.

12:00 noon

The House will meet in session.

THURSDAY, April 5

Before session

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Room Capitol
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Special Orders.

12:00 noon

The House will meet in session.

FRIDAY, April 6

Before session

RULES & LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION

Retiring Room Capitol
Chr. Rep. Dee Long
Agenda: Special Orders.

12:00 noon

The House will meet in session.



Minnesota House of Representatives
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Speaker of the House: Robert Vanasek
Majority Leader: Dee Long
Minority Leader: William H. Schreiber

The Last Frame



Kindergarteners Aryth Smith and Rebecca Malinsky of Torah Academy in St. Louis Park took time out to look at the "Star of the North" in the Capitol rotunda March 29.