

## Inside

### Naperville's final 2

Naperville officials decline to name the two finalists in their search for a new city manager. Page 3.

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Addison officials appoint an Elk Grove Village police commander as their new police chief. Page 6.



Ward

## Justice

### Ward resigns

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# Abused wife sentenced to 6 months

By Art Barnum

A West Chicago mother of three, described by her attorney as the "classic battered wife," pleaded guilty Monday to killing her husband and was sentenced to 6 months in jail after prosecutors agreed to the punishment.

"I just don't want anyone else to get hurt," a weeping and visibly shaken Barbara Lange, 27, of 2N119 Prince Crossing Rd., told Du Page County Circuit Judge Brian Telander.

"I hope no more families are hurt, and all I want to do now is give my children the love they need," she said.

Lange was charged with the April 25, 1989, murder of her husband, Peter, 29, who died from a single stab wound in his back that severed his aorta.

"There is never any justification for using the force she used, but she believed circumstances existed that dictated those actions," said Telander. The judge accepted a plea bargain agreement that called for a 6-month jail term, 36 months of work release in which Lange must spend nights in the county jail, and 4 years' probation.

"I believe this is the appropriate finding," Telander said. "The unlawful taking of another human life is never excused, but in this case there are so many factors." The judge told Lange he would not impose a fine "because you have three children to look after."

Married for seven years with children ages 6, 3 and 1, the couple had been separated for a year at the time of Peter Lange's death. On several occasions West Chicago police were called to the home at Barbara's request because of her husband's alleged abuse.

Barbara had also received several orders of protection from Du Page County judges ordering Peter to leave her alone.

On the night of the slaying, according to Assistant State's Atty. Robert Spence, it is believed that Peter had been drinking when he came to the home to see his children, as he often did. His autopsy showed a blood alcohol level of .11 percent. A person is considered legally drunk with a reading of .10 percent.

Prosecutors said that Peter then became abusive and starting throwing Barbara around the room, demanding sex and threatening her. Prosecutors said that he told her, "You're dead meat," and "I'll kill you," to which she responded, "I'll kill you first."

Spence argued that after Peter fell asleep on an empty bed Barbara took an 8-inch carving knife from the kitchen and stabbed Peter once in the back.

After initially claiming that she came home and found her husband in a pool of blood, she confessed to police that she stabbed him to scare him.

"Barbara was as much the victim as was Peter," said Assistant Public Defender David Sotomayor. "She was the victim of serious physical, mental and sexual abuse."

Her guilty plea, prosecutors said, holds the defendant responsible for the act but acknowledges that she believed she was in danger.

If she had been found guilty of first-degree murder, the minimum sentence would have been 20 years.

The three children will continue to live with Barbara's parents while she is in jail.

"Du Page State's Atty. James Ryan is to be applauded for his courage and compassion," said Sotomayor of Ryan's decision not to seek a trial and lengthy prison term. "This action should not be construed as opening the floodgates in Du Page County. Barbara suffered a great deal and was a battered woman and now wants to get on with her life."

# Du Page proceeds to pare tax rate

By Jan Crawford

The owner of a \$150,000 home in Du Page County will save \$73 in property taxes next year, according to a proposed 1990 budget approved Monday by a County Board committee.

The saving would be \$7 less than originally planned, however, because the board's Finance Committee decided to add \$1.25 million to the county's highway budget for repair and maintenance as well as buying land for new roads.

Committee members approved a corporate fund budget of \$61.3

million, which is 20 percent less than the 1989 budget, said George Kouba, the county's finance director. The county budget accounts for about 8 percent of a homeowner's property taxes.

The proposed budget, which will be presented to the County Board on Tuesday for review, virtually mirrors one suggested in August by Board Chairman Jack Kneuefer.

He suggested cuts because Du Page expects to receive additional money from traffic impact fees, a new 4-cent-a-gallon gasoline tax and a state grant for stormwater management. It also expects more

than \$3 million in state income taxes. All those things are budgeted outside the corporate fund.

Kneuefer appointed a subcommittee to work up the budget, and it met for about two months. Most of its recommendations were upheld Monday, except for the addition to the Highway Department's budget and a \$10 million addition to build an intermediate processing facility for recycling.

The recycling facility will be built in Carol Stream with money from tipping fees at the county's two garbage dumps. Carole Pankau, chairwoman of the Budget Sub-

committee, said she was opposed to the facility because taxpayers will end up paying for it if the two dumps close as scheduled in 1993.

Lloyd Renfro, chairman of the Solid Waste Planning Committee, said he believed the county would get enough money in the next several years to cover the facility's cost in any event.

The committee easily approved Renfro's request, but the suggestion to spend more money on roads met with more resistance.

Edward Merkel, a board member from Elmhurst, said the board was reneging on a promise to cut prop-

erty taxes significantly, a promise made when it approved the gasoline tax and impact fees.

"Now we're saying, 'We've got impact fees and the gas tax, so we don't really want to do that,'" he said. "Well, I can't buy that."

Pankau and board member John Case also voted against the increase.

The impact fees are expected to generate about \$3 million, and the gasoline tax \$13 million. The total budget for the Division of Transportation, which includes the

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Tribune photo by Michael Budrys

### Top-notch house painters

In the midst of a massive project, the hard-working crew from Articulate Painters of Naperville takes a break from the challenge of applying a fresh coat of paint to a Glen Elyn classic at 570 Anthony St.

# Du Page races to get road work done

By Kerry Luft

Although it's still neck-and-neck going into the home stretch, Du Page County highway officials think they will win their annual race with winter.

Karl Fry, superintendent of the county Highway Department, said Monday that he is confident that work on three county thoroughfares—Naperville, Winfield and County Farm Roads—will be completed by Dec. 1. Much of the work is essentially finished, he said, although another week or two of mild weather would be welcome.

That means Du Page motorists will only have to worry about the normal winter road hazards of ice, snow, sleet and slush and can forget about the headaches caused by road construction.

Still, the construction isn't over.

On Monday, the county closed down County Farm Road for about two weeks, from Geneva Road to North Avenue, Fry said. The contractor has to replace a railroad crossing, and while that work is underway, crews also will remove and replace all of the existing pavement. The county hopes to have that work finished by Nov. 25.

Fry said the section of Winfield Road from Butterfield Road to Roosevelt Road is basically complete, and another portion from Butterfield to Wareville Road should be finished within the next two weeks.

"The surface work should be completed by Wednesday, and then they have to do the striping," Fry said. "You can't do striping when it's cold, though, so if the

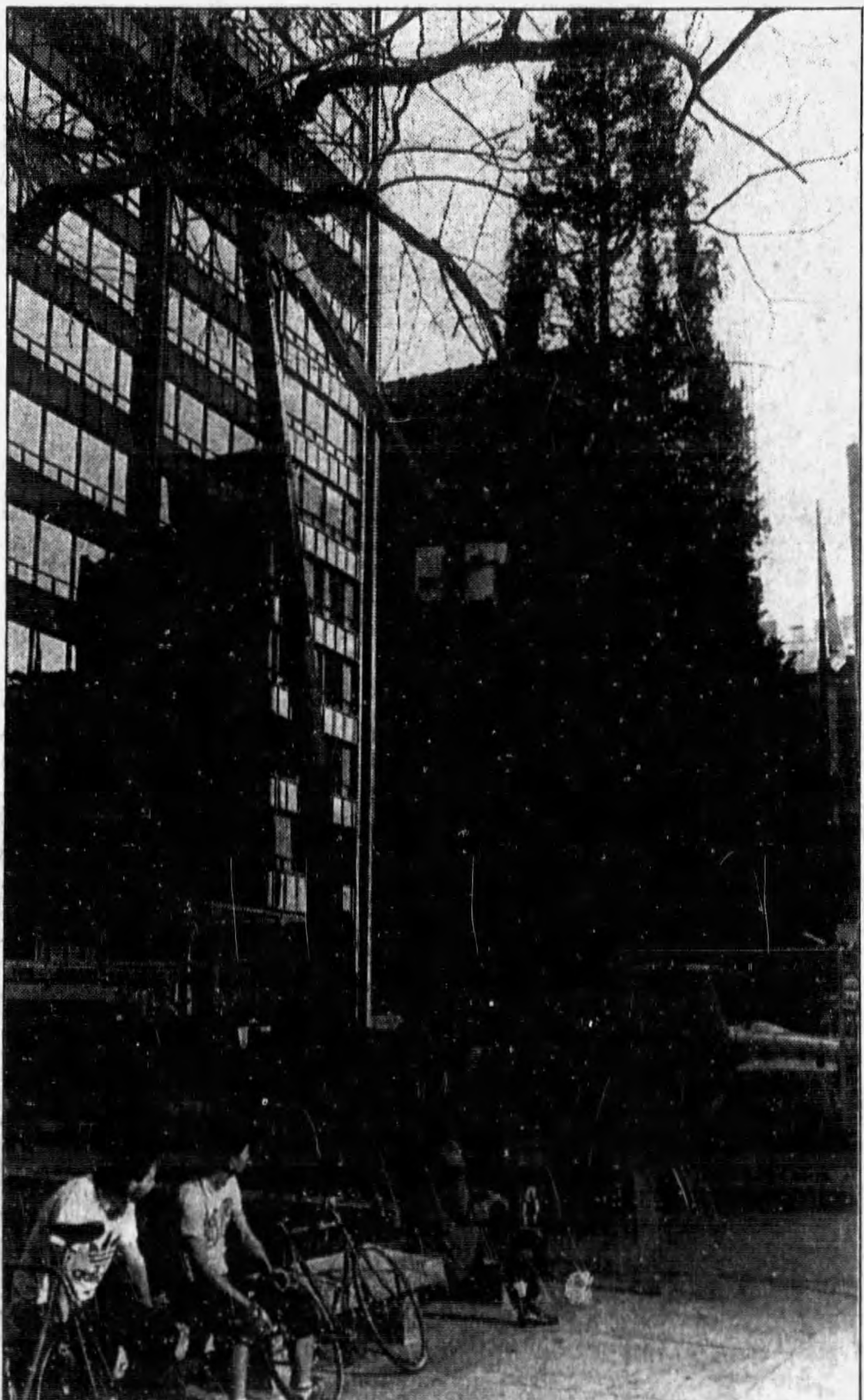
weather doesn't hold the work might take a week or two, until we get some warm weather."

Finally, Fry said, Naperville Road between Roosevelt Road and Blanchard Street is expected to be reopened to four lanes by Dec. 1.

The only road project on the county agenda that won't be completed this year is County Farm Road between Roosevelt and Geneva Roads, Fry said. Although the project is under contract, utility work delayed the start of construction.

"That was really planned not to go this year," Fry said.

Fry attributed the success of this year's construction work to good weather in the summer, mild weather in autumn and "a pretty realistic construction schedule."



Tribune photo by Don Casper

### Season check

Bicyclists in T-shirts enjoy record-setting temperatures in the 70s in the Daley Center Plaza Monday while watching workmen construct Chicago's official Christmas tree from a lot of smaller trees.

# Partying just all in a day's work for restaurant's Fredi Mac Man

The birthday party was in full swing and the partygoers were starting to squirm.

They'd already done the Locomotion, twisted and shouted, played the rotten tomato game, seen one of their crowd disappear and another turned into a rabbit.

"Mac Man," a reveler whined, "can we eat now?"

It's a tough crowd, but Mac Man isn't stressed. He's done this number a few thousand times before.

In the next instant, the vanilla ice cream and the chocolate sheet cake with white icing and multicolored sprinkles appears.

And the crowd is calmed.

It's all in a day's work for Mac Man, the party host who's the most with the 12-and-under set.

Mac Man, the fictional children's character created by the owners of the Rock 'n Roll McDonald's at 600 N. Clark St., is one of the most popular features at the 1950s-style fast-food eatery. And it's supposedly the busiest McDonald's in the world. Manager Shirley Lakes estimates that about 2,000 people pass through its doors daily. Last year it did about \$6.1 million in sales, she said.

"Everybody knows Mac Man; he's very, very popular," she said.

For the last five years, the character role has belonged to Frederick Louis Jeffery, 26, also known as "Fredi Mac Man."

Five days a week Jeffery dons his uniform, a red, skin-tight polyester jump suit and a matching cape with the words "Mac Man" emblazoned in yellow and black on the front.

Okay, so maybe it is an odd way for a grown man to make a living, but Jeffery says he can't think of a more fun way. It's definitely a step up from his first job at the restaurant: monitoring the french fries.

There's pride in his job. Although the eatery's parent company has licensed a number of popular characters, the Mac Man is the property of the Rock 'n Roll McDonald's owners, said Jeffery. "And I'm the only Mac Man in the world."

His description of his job is what you'd expect

## About the town

Wilma Randle

from any fictional character employed at a fast-food restaurant: "I'm magician. I turn kids into rabbits. I teach them games. I book and host parties. Sometimes people might want a special delivery and I'll go out with lunch. They order me for house parties."

He doesn't really turn kids into rabbits or make them disappear. Those are just tricks.

For all this he is paid "above minimum wage" and sometimes works 12 hours or more a day.

A typical weekend day consists of back-to-back, two-hour parties that are held in the restaurant's lower level Yellow Submarine or Pleasant Valley Sunday party rooms. There the walls are decorated with images of movie stars, such as James Dean and Marilyn Monroe, the Beatles, and comic-book characters, such as Wonder Woman and Batman.

Jeffery averages about two to three parties during the week. The weekends are the busiest, with the restaurant doing brisk business for both children's and adult parties. There's a minimum of 10 to a group, but he's also done much larger gatherings of 100 or more.

See, it's not just the kids who have a thing for McDonald's and Mac Man.

And it's not just kids who love Mac Man.

"The youngest party I've done is for a 1-year-old and the oldest was for a 96-year-old woman," Jeffery said. "We do engagement parties, Christmas parties, wedding showers, bar mitzvahs, bat mitzvahs."

He's even entertained celebrities, such as Dick Clark, and visiting dignitaries, including "the guy who's second in line to the president of Russia. . . . I can't remember his name."

As a kid, growing up on the city's South Side and attending Grant Elementary School and Til-

See Mac Man, pg. 6

City/suburbs

# Judge won't dismiss suit in Elgin-South Elgin annexation fight

By Joseph Sjostrom

A Kane County judge on Monday refused to dismiss a suit filed earlier this month by South Elgin, which is seeking to prevent Elgin from annexing a tract of unincorporated land that lies between the two.

Judge Melvin Dunn left in effect a temporary restraining order imposed on Nov. 3 blocking Elgin from annexing the land, at least

until a hearing scheduled for Dec. 4.

"If you settle this before then, let me know," Dunn told lawyers for both sides at a hearing in Geneva.

The 151-acre tract at issue lies east of Randall Road and north and south of Hopps Road. South Elgin claims to have jurisdiction over part of the tract.

A developer, the Zale Group of

Buffalo Grove, wants to make the area part of Elgin and build 381 single-family homes there. South Elgin officials say that annexation by Elgin would block their village's eventual expansion westward to the booming commercial and residential corridor along Randall Road.

South Elgin says that when two municipalities do not have a boundary agreement covering un-

incorporated land between them, state law prohibits either municipality from annexing any of the land across a line halfway between the two.

Elgin and South Elgin do not have such a boundary agreement, though officials of both towns have held brief meetings on the issue.

South Elgin Village Manager Burton Braun estimates that 20

percent of the Zale project, or 30 acres, lies on South Elgin's side of the midline.

Some citizens of unincorporated areas southwest of Elgin also oppose the annexation on the grounds that development will overcrowd schools and create excessive traffic.

Some objectors have argued that Elgin should push developers to build housing priced higher

than the homes in Zale's project. Company spokesmen said prices for most homes there will be \$140,000 to \$170,000. Prices will be less in a separate Zale project farther north.

On Monday, besides denying Elgin's motion to dismiss the suit, Dunn also rejected a motion by an attorney for the property owners seeking to intervene in the suit on Elgin's side.

## Addison picks new police chief

By Katherine Scobey

Elk Grove Village Police Cmdr. Melvin Mack was appointed Monday as police chief of Addison to replace demoted Chief Emil Novotny.

The Village Board voted 3-2 to confirm Mack's appointment by Village President Anthony Russotto. Mack is expected to take over the 63-officer department Nov. 27.

The two trustees who voted against Mack, George Spear and Gerald Salvesen, were members of a committee that searched for a new chief and failed to agree on a candidate. Mack was the choice of Russotto and Village Manager Joseph Block.

Russotto demoted Novotny to the rank of captain in August, saying he wanted a new chief to handle growth in the town and department. He said he wanted the new chief to provide new ideas toward combating a change in the kind of crime seen in Addison, specifically gang crime. He also cited "morale problems."

Novotny, 52, an Addison police officer for 20 years, said Monday that he intends to remain on the force.

Mack, 50, has been a police officer for 23 years in Elk Grove Village. For the last 10 years he has been division commander for field operations.

Novotny was appointed chief five years ago after former Chief Alexander Gorr was demoted to captain and then fired by former village President Angelo Chrysoelos. Upon a court order, Gorr was later reinstated in the department and now is a captain.

Gorr's demotion followed an incident known locally as the "Blank Prank," in which a police officer allegedly fired a blank cartridge at a news reporter, burning him with a gunpowder.

Novotny's demotion came 10 months after another incident involving use of guns by the Police Department, for which the village is facing a lawsuit in U.S. District Court. Firefighter Don Schultes has sued the village and its fire protection district, charging that his civil rights were violated when public employees put a gun to his head and held him hostage during an emergency-preparedness drill that he had not been told to expect.

Russotto said there was "no one thing I'm going to elaborate on that was the point of changing chiefs. It's something that's been coming on a while."

Of Mack, Russotto said, "I think we're going to be getting a real good chief. He graduated from the FBI academy, he's had quite a nice background in police education. I think he's a straightforward kind of guy who has no allegiances or alliances to anybody."

Mack will be paid \$54,000, Block said.

## Budget

Continued from page 1

Highway Department, is just over \$44 million, or about 22 percent of the county's total budget, and represents a \$14 million increase from last year, Pankau said.

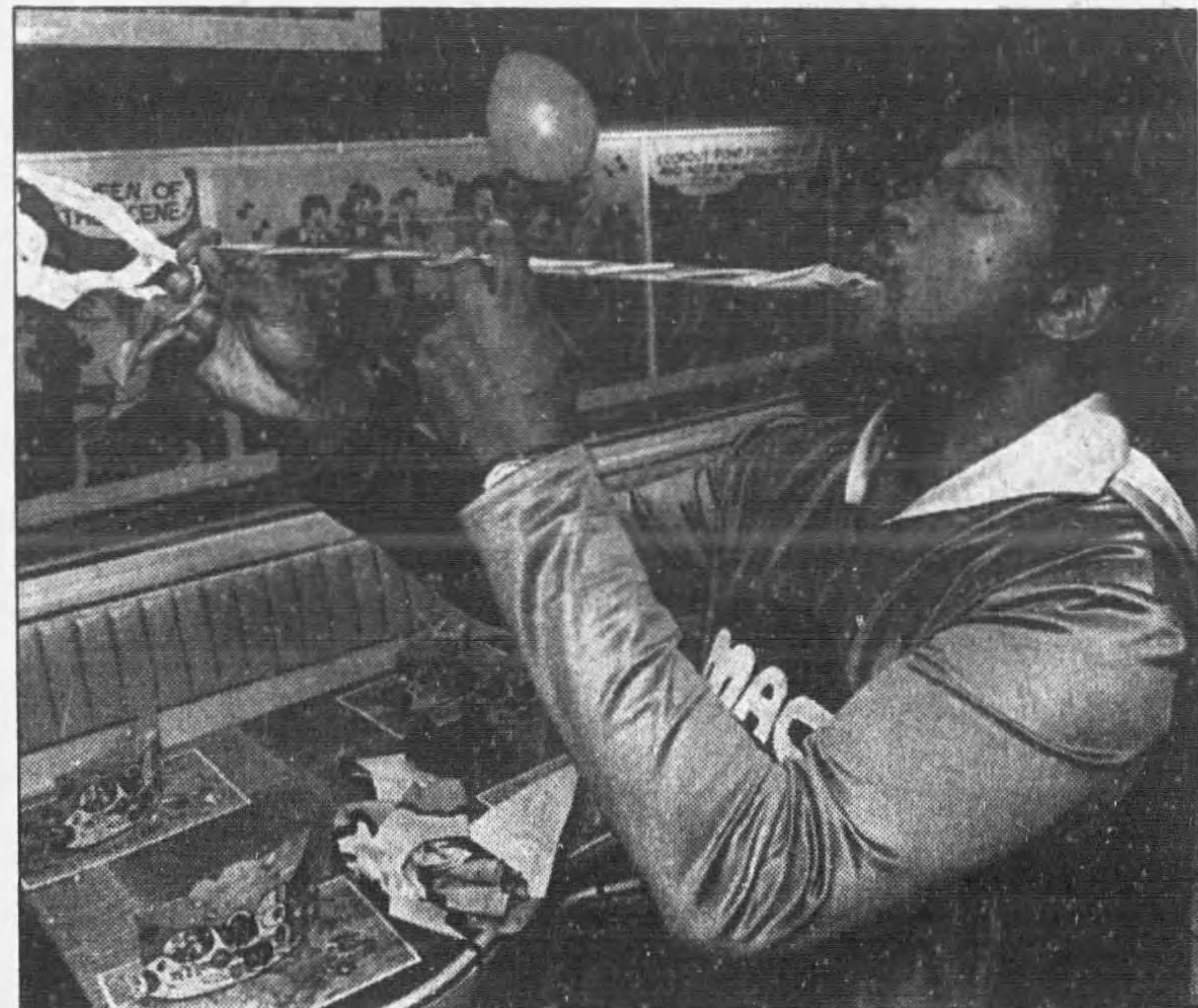
The county's total budget—which includes money for all funds, such as bonds and interest—is just under \$200 million.

In the proposed 1990 budget, the county has almost reversed its reliance on property taxes and fees. In 1989, property taxes accounted for 32.5 percent of the budget, while fees were 21 percent. In 1990, the property taxes would make up just under 24 percent of the budget and fees 33 percent.

The county's tax rate would be 52.4 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. In 1989, the rate was 66.5 cents.

Also on Tuesday, the committee authorized four new jobs in the County Board office to replace Kenneth Lahner, who was comptroller before he went to work for Elmhurst-Chicago Stone Co.

The county will not hire a full-time lobbyist, but will hire a person on a contractual basis for up to \$35,000 a year, the committee decided. Lahner had acted as county lobbyist in Springfield as one of his many functions.



Tribune photo by Chuck Berman

Frederick "Mac Man" Jeffery, demonstrates a magic trick he performs at parties at the Rock 'n Roll McDonald's, 600 N. Clark St.

## Mac Man

Continued from page 1

den High School, Jeffery did not aspire to be a fictional semi-Super Hero.

"I always wanted to be a paramedic, but all my jobs involved kids. I worked as a tutor and as a driver at a day-care center," he recalled.

Except for the long days, Jeffery says he has no complaints about the job. Although he's not sure how long he'll keep doing it, "I guess as long as it feels like I should," he said. "I just go with the flow."

There is no hard part to it, he added. "It's all like play, really."

"The worst thing is when the kids mess up the magic tricks. Sometimes they'll grab them from me, and then I have to ask the boss for money to buy more."

## Valukas

Continued from page 1

fore he left there in 1985 "knew as much about commodities law as anyone in the city," said U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Eugene Wedoff, who worked with Valukas at Jenner & Block.

That understanding of the inner workings of the exchange led to what those close to Valukas say he considers one of the highlights of his term. Last August, a grand jury indicted 46 people in the 2-year investigation into illicit trading at the Board of Trade and the Mercantile Exchange.

During his tenure, he successfully prosecuted bankers, drug dealers, white collar business officials, judges, lawyers and sports agents.

After sports agents **Lloyd Bloom** and **Norby Walters** were indicted in 1988, Valukas personally prosecuted them last spring in a six-week trial that saw Valukas go toe-to-toe against his predecessor, Webb, who represented Walters. Both agents were convicted and sentenced to substantial prison terms.

Valukas also prosecuted Sundstrand Corp. for **defrauding** the government in defense contracts. The Rockford-based firm agreed to a record fine of \$116 million.

In taking over the Greylord investigation into judicial corruption, Valukas' office successfully prosecuted crooked judges, lawyers and other court personnel.

In the Operation Incubator probe, his office successfully prosecuted public officials, including four aldermen and former Clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court Morgan Finley.

Among the other successful prosecutions, Valukas' office convicted murder suspects who had escaped prosecution in the state courts.

Specifically, lawyer Alan Masters, former Cook County Sheriff's police Lt. James Keating, and former Willow Springs Police

Chief Michael Corbett were convicted this year of conspiring to murder Masters' wife, Dianne.

Indictments returned in the past year include:

- Twelve police officers on corruption charges arising from an undercover operation in the Wentworth District on the South Side. Three officers have pleaded guilty and nine other officers are currently on trial.

- Sixty-five El Rukn gang members and alleged associates on multiple racketeering, murder, conspiracy and narcotics charges.

- Mario **Lloyd**, alleged South Side cocaine kingpin.

In addition to securing **Lloyd's**

indictment, Valukas directed the seizure of more than \$1 million of alleged narcotics profits.

One of Valukas' top assistants is expected to be named to fill in temporarily when Valukas leaves Dec. 3 to begin trial work in his specialties of libel, defamation, commodities and white collar crimes. That assistant is expected to hold the job until the next U.S. attorney is nominated and approved early next year.

At Jenner & Block, Valukas is expected to handle major litigation throughout the nation and has been elected to the firm's management committee, said Jerold Solovy, a partner in the firm.

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