SUMMER TIMES

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Cool Air Should Ease Local Farm Worries

By Khaled Mattawa

An expected cooling trend should offer much-needed relief to area farmers, who have watched some crops shrivel during the recent spell of hot, dry weather.

Forecasters said temperatures would drop into the seasonable range today, with a chance of showers.

The problem that has been facing farmers is less the shortage of rain than the recent high temperatures, said Norm Benson, manager of Dutchess County's Soil and Water Conservation District, yesterday.

"The classic poultry-and-vegetable farmers are the most hurt" by the hot weather.

Poultry and farm animals in general, said Benson, "don't eat as much in cont. on back"

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Drug Test Ban

ALBANY—A bill prohibiting New York state employers from conducting drug tests unless there's "reasonable suspicion" a worker is abusing drugs or alcohol was approved Tuesday by the State Assembly.

The legislation also limits the use of drug testing to job applicants only in cases where the job involves the direct safety of the public or other employees and ensures test results are kept confidential.

The bill now goes to the state Senate.

Gulf Clash

WASHINGTON—U.S. military helicopters exchanged fire yesterday with two suspected Iranian gunboats that were attacking a Panamanian tanker in the Persian Gulf, the Pentagon said.

The boats had been shooting at the Universal Monarch, which broadcast a statement saying it was "being attacked and was on fire," said a Defense Department spokesman.

Two attack helicopters plus a Lamps Mk III surveillance helicopter from the guided missile frigate were sent to investigate, and were fired at by two small boats. They returned fire.

A. L. Triumphs

CINCINNATI—Terry Steinbach homered off Dwight Gooden last night, to lead the American League to a 2-1 victory, only the fourth win for the league in the last 26 games.

Steinbach also hit a sacrifice fly to the warning track in the fourth. That was all the American League needed, as Frank Viola collected the win.

By Howard D. Lipoff

and Elizabeth Phillips

Local politicians, activists and political analysts yesterday applauded the selection of Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas as Michael Dukakis' running mate for the 1988 presidential election.

Carol J. Nackenoff, assistant professor of political science at Bard College said Dukakis was looking for someone with Washington experience and foreign policy background since he does not have those qualities.

"Dukakis wants a centerist image. He would like to be seen as a fiscal conservative," said Nackenoff.

"Jackson wants too much domestic spending for him."

"This should be a successful campaign," said Dutchess County Democratic chair Adam Nowik, "because Dukakis is sending out a message to all the people." By including Bentsen, the party should accomplish a wide-ranging geographical fusion, said Nowik.

Also, Bentsen's background in government, foreign affairs and finance will, Nowik said, provide necessary ingredients for a unified convention in Atlanta next week.

"It seems that his votes have been pretty good regarding reproductive health," said Carol L. Reichert, assistant executive director of Family Planning Advocates in Albany. Bentsen seems to have a "good, progressive" voting record on abortion rights, said Reichert.

Steve White, executive director of the Dutchess/Ulster County Planned Parenthood, cont. on back

B&G Staff Votes To Ally With Union

By Christina Richter

Twenty-two years since their first attempt to unionize, the service and maintenance workers at Bard College voted to affiliate with the Service Employees' International Union Local 200. Workers voted 3-1 to join the union, despite some misgivings.

Fred Millius, an employee of the service and maintenance department, says that for years promises have been made without being put on paper. Millius said he and his wife have long wanted to buy a home in the local area. "This may have been the break that we've been waiting for, for a good twenty years." Others are not as confident that they have made the right move. "We've had it OK," one worker said.

Dick Griffith, head of the physical plant, said, "Not everyone will be happy." Local 200 has negotiated strong contracts at a number of area schools, such as Vassar, Marist, and Skidmore Colleges.

"We rely on people, and they work with us, but they organize themselves," Townsend said. The union will be a slow but steady project, he said, but over time, benefits will begin to be noticed. We will "negotiate and all and meet with the workers and enhance their present working conditions."

Many other workers on campus are not unionized. The clerical and security division, as well as the Kline Common workers, are not represented in the new union. One worker, Charles Vennengaen, said, "Unions have their hands in the standard of living," and is content without a union for the cafeteria workers.

cont. on back
Dry Spell

"I cont. from front weather so they don't gain weight and don't produce as much.

Farmer-nurturers like Rocco Migliorelli of Rhinebeck, the heat and the lack of rain meant we couldn't plant anymore. The ground was too dry, all dust," he said.

Migliorelli said he had had to pump water out of his ponds every year in the past to make up for the lack of rain.

"But if you got a drought like now, you may have to use it 24 hours a day," he added.

Pumping water from ponds has also been helpful to owners of the Greig Farm, said Ellen Todd, marketing director of the Red Hook farm.

The pick-your-own fruit crop "has been good, and we've had no problems," she said.

Farmers and orchard owners who do not irrigate have been harder hit. Tivoli orchard owner Enrique Lunski said his apples and pears are too small-most of the fruits he grows would be twice as big if there was sufficient rainfall.

"I've been here since 1979," said Lunski, "and every year it has been drier."

Without renewed rainfall, hay and corn growers who have "a second cutting of hay the first of August are not going to make it," he said.

This will lead to higher feed prices for livestock and poultry farmers, said Richard Biezynski, who raises ducks in Tivoli.

The problem for farmers like Biezynski is that they cannot raise the price of their stock to offset higher feed prices. They either "keep the animal and feed it every day," or sell it at a lower price," he said.

The deep gravel soil in this region makes the heat and water shortage more difficult, Benson said. It doesn't hold water very well, it takes a tremendous amount of water," he said.

"We've been saved by the bell," by recent rain, Benson said. "But it's not over yet. We're going to have to go through August."

Union

"I cont. from front Bard's 75 housekeepers, custodians, tradesmen, groundkeepers, and maintenance workers began their up and down battle to unionize 22 years ago. In 1965, Bard College students approached Dave Patrick, who at that time was the president of Local 200, with the notion of organizing and providing benefits for the employees of Bard College.

For 22 years, Townsend said, votes have been held but the union has always been rejected. Finally for 10 months the service and maintenance workers sustained enough interest, despite opposition from the college.

Vee!


By Jennifer Green

It's been a long time since "The Wonderful World of Disney," since a movie with a child's twist has come along which can also appeal to parents—a movie which can appeal to the best in us all. Despite some limitations, "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" is such a movie.

Roger Rabbit, starring Joanne Cassidy, Christopher Lloyd, and Bob Hoskins, is a new sort of movie experience, because of its lack of inte-

cation and pretensions, and because of the superimposed cartoon traditions.

The plot focuses on the problem of a "Toon,"--Roger—and his loquacious wife, Jessica the ingrate, who at that time was Bentsen since he could help the party win in November.

"The more liberal people in the Democratic party may be disappointed, but Dukakis has increased the chances of a close race," said Joel A. Diemond, professor of political science at Dutchess Community College. "Bentsen probably has the best political machine in South. Dukakis didn't stand a chance in Texas without him."

Christopher J. Bosso, assistant professor of political science at Northeastern University in Boston, said Dukakis made a good political decision in selecting Bentsen, and he does not feel Bentsen's conservative reputation would cause the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his supporters to disrupt the convention.

"Jesse Jackson is a smart person. He doesn't want to be seen as splitting the Democratic party. He wants to be a power within the Democratic party," Bosso said.

Before the Dukakis announcement yesterday, local Jackson supporters said they continued to hope he would be named for the second spot on the ticket.

Jackson has done his best to return the Democratic organization to its traditional "party of the people" status, said James Williams-Meyer, an alternate delegate to the convention. She looks forward to his primary domestic platform being adopted by a majority of the party leaders.

Summer Times at the Flicks

'Rabbit's New Take on Old Style Offers Grown-Ups a Cartoon

_Movies:

The Moviehouse
Main St. Rte. 44, Millerton
(518)799-3404
Willow Wed, Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 7 & 9:15pm
Au Revoir, Les Enfants
French w/English Subtitles
Wed, Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 7 & 9:15pm
Uptown Films
Rheineck, NY
76-2515
4 Corners Wed, Thurs 8pm
Homecoming Wed, Thurs 7pm
Overlook Drive-In Rte. 44 exit De Garro Rd.,
Rte. 55 exit Overlook, Poughkeepsie
GL2-3445
Phantasam II 8:40 & 10:30pm
Hyde Park Drive-In Rte. 9, Hyde Park
229-2000
Big 8:40 & 10:30pm
Lyceum Theatre
Red Hook, 758-3311
Bull Durham Wed, Thurs
7:15 & 9:25pm
The Great Outdoors
Wed, Thurs 7:40 & 9:35pm
Galleria Rte. 9, Poughkeepsie 297-1161
License To Drive 12:45, 3, 7:15 & 9:25pm
Short Circuit 2 12, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30 & 10:00pm
Coming to America 1, 3:45, 6:45 & 9:45pm

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