

Michigan City, Indiana

20 cents

November 17, 1976



"My friends..."

No, the city park department employee above was not practicing his Richard Nixon victory signal yesterday. He was signaling the driver of a grader as the Ames Field baseball infield was being lowered to make the field more level for football. Grading will continue today and sod will be replaced later this week. (News-Dispatch photo by Steve Peterka)

## Jordanian troops crush rebel siege

AMMAN, Jordan (AP) — King Hussein's shock troops today crushed a four-hour siege by gunmen in Amman's Intercontinental Hotel that took seven lives, a Jordanian spokesman said.

Three terrorists, two hotel employees and two soldiers were killed in the siege, the spokesman said. A fourth gunman was seriously wounded.

King Hussein personally ordered a final attack on the gunmen, who were holed up on the fourth floor of the hotel with an unknown number of hostages, the spokesman said.

"The king ordered that the operation be conducted with the minimum possible of losses in lives, especially among the hotel guests," the spokesman said.

None of the hotel guests was killed, the spokesman said. The identity of the gunmen was not known. Some reports said they were Iranians.

The four gunmen ran into the hotel lobby at 9:50 a.m. firing automatic weapons "to seize the hotel and hold guests hostage," Radio Amman said earlier.

Special troops of the Jordanian armed forces recaptured the lobby floor and the first three floors above, while "the gunmen fled to the upper floors after a brief shootout with the troops," taking an unknown number of hostages with them, the radio said.

Diplomats at the U.S. Embassy across the street from the hotel said there were rumors that the invaders were Palestinians, Iranians or Iraqis.

The hotel has been invaded by Palestinian guerrillas, bitter enemies of Jordan's King Hussein, at least once before. In 1970, guerrillas took 80 guests hostage, threatening to blow up the hotel unless the Jordanian army stopped shelling guerrilla strongholds in refugee camps.

The army agreed and the hostages were released, but the Palestinians were driven out of Jordan later that year in what the guerrillas call "Black September."

The Palestinians have remained hostile to Hussein for that action.

Today's incident is the second one recently involving a major hotel in an Arab capital. On Sept. 26, Palestinian gunmen protesting Syria's intervention in the Lebanese civil war took hostages in the Semiramis Hotel in Damascus, the Syrian capital.

One of the gunmen and four hostages died when Syrian troops stormed the hotel. Syria hanged the other three Palestinians outside the hotel the next day.

### Moscow bomb threat

## U.S. exhibit closed

MOSCOW (AP) — A bomb threat reported by Soviet officials today forced the evacuation of about 1,000 Russians from the U.S. Bicentennial exhibition in Moscow's Sokolniki Park and effectively closed it for the day. U.S. officials were angered by the incident.

No bomb was found in the huge pavilion housing the exhibit, which includes American photographs, copies of historical documents and film showings. Since it opened last week, the exhibit has attracted throngs of intensely interested Soviets.

It was nearly four hours before a Soviet bomb squad arrived at the evacuated pavilion, as several thousand Russians hoping to see the exhibition waited in line outside in near-freezing weather.

Soviet police then told those waiting that for "technical difficulties" the exhibit was closed and instructed them to go home.

American exhibition guides went along the half-mile line of Russians telling them that the exhibit was closed not for "technical reasons" but because of a bomb scare.

The line dispersed, effectively closing the exhibit for the day.

"This is the first time in 41 shows that something like this has happened," said Frank Ursino, the exhibit's American director.

A top Soviet official informed Ursino that the reason for the lengthy delay in the bomb squad's arrival was that the authorities had no experts in plastic explosives.

The bomb threat, according to Soviet officials, came in a phone call from an unidentified man at 12:24 p.m. who said a plastic bomb would go off at 12:30.

Grigori Kuzmenko, the Soviet director of the exhibition, remained in his office making phone calls during the evacuation of the Russian visitors. The evacuation was orderly, without any sign of panic. Most of the visitors were not told why they were being led outside.

The Bicentennial exhibit was an instant hit when it opened last week, and many Russians have been turned away because of overcrowding. A half-mile-long line of about 8,000 persons had lined up before the exhibit opened this morning. It has a daily capacity of about 9,000.

The U.S. Embassy in Moscow was evacuated twice last March after telephoned bomb threats, but no bombs were found.

The embassy threats came after shots were fired into an official Soviet residence in New York City and the Soviet airline office there was bombed by Jewish extremists protesting the treatment of Jews in the Soviet Union.

There have been no comparable anti-Soviet incidents recently in the United States.

## Eager Donnie Thomas joins Detroit Lions

By MARK MORROW  
 News-Dispatch sports editor

Donnie Thomas has spent the past few months cleaning out lockers, boarding planes and traveling across country — trying to find his place in the sun in professional football.

The cleaning, boarding and traveling may have finally ended. The former Michigan City prep All-Stater and three-year standout at Indiana University is 99 per cent sure he's found a home with the Detroit Lions.

"Detroit's general manager contacted me yesterday and told me the sooner I get to Detroit the better. I really think this is it. I just want to play football. I'm in shape and I'm eager," he said displaying obvious enthusiasm and optimism.

Thomas was drafted by New England following three outstanding years at IU where he led the Hoosiers in tackles twice, was selected the club's MVP twice and received All-Big Ten recognition his senior year. But he has been in and out of various professional training camps since he graduated last spring.

"I was very disappointed when I was cut on the final day by New England," recalled Thomas. "I had played four exhibition games (two quarters in each) and I really thought I had a linebacker position for sure. But I didn't let down when they told me they were in need of more experience."

Thomas received a call from St. Louis the following week. He worked out with the club, but the Cardinals, like New England, were looking for more experience at linebacker.

"St. Louis told me they would call me back next year," said Thomas. "They felt like they could use me. Since I'm a free agent and can sign with any club that might require my services, I decided to make some contacts and visit other clubs."

Thomas also was contacted by Tampa, where Michigan City's Abe Gibron is the defensive coordinator; Denver and the Chicago Bears.

"All three teams were interested in me — but next year not now," said Thomas. "Denver even wanted me to play defensive end. I haven't played that position since by sophomore year at Elston High. I'd rather play linebacker, but I would play defensive end if that's the only way I could make the pros."

Thomas weighs 240, stands 6-2 and is quick as a cat.

"Detroit told me they were 99 per cent sure I'd make the club and be in uniform for the final four games of the season. They've had a couple of recent injuries at linebacker. I'm just glad I'm in shape and ready to play," he said.

Unlike several camps



DONNIE THOMAS

Thomas has visited, he'll see at least one familiar face in Detroit. Lawrence Gaines, a rookie from Wyoming, and Donnie played together in last year's Senior Bowl.

"Lawrence and I spent a lot of time together and became the best of friends at the Senior Bowl," said Thomas. "With Lawrence alongside me, I won't feel like a stranger."

Even if Thomas doesn't remain in the Lions' camp, he won't have to wait very long before another team calls him. The current season is nearly over, but "next year" for pro football starts in January.

## N. Buffalo boy killed

NEW BUFFALO, Mich. — A five-year-old New Buffalo boy was killed at 3:45 p.m. EST yesterday, apparently after he ran into the street and was hit by a car.

Dead is Brian Allen Maitland, 500 S. Chicago St. He was hit by a car driven by William Edward Butler III, 16, New Buffalo.

The accident occurred at the intersection of West Detroit and Monroe Streets. Brian was pronounced dead at the scene.

Further accident details were not available this morning from Michigan State Police or New Buffalo City Police. City police said the accident is still under investigation.

Brian was the son of Linda Maitland. He lived with his mother and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Maitland.

He was a kindergarten student at New Buffalo Elementary School, and was apparently hit while on his way home from school.

Brian's kindergarten class is dismissed about 3:10 or 3:15 p.m., according to Principal Robert Heit, but the "walkers" can't leave until students traveling by bus or car leave. That means Brian would have left school about 3:30 or 3:35 p.m.

An ambulance attendant told police Brian had some notes or some type of homework with him when he was hit.

Heit said Brian walked home with two other students yesterday.

Heit said a collection probably will be taken up at school for Brian's family.

"He was a delightful child," kindergarten teacher Ollie Rosenthal said of Brian. "I'll miss him very much. He was outgoing and made friends very well with other children."

Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m. EST Friday at the Smith Funeral Home, New Buffalo. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery.

Visitation will be at the funeral home from 2 to 9 p.m. EST tomorrow and until the hour of service Friday.

Brian was born March 21, 1971, in Michigan City. He is survived by his mother and grandparents.



BRIAN MAITLAND

## D.C. gets Southern glossary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Will it be socially correct in the new White House to tell the president you consider him "wild as a peach orchard boar?"

Not hardly. In fact, that type of running off at the mouth could get you branded as a fellow who's about three pickles shy of a barrel, or somewhat less than prudent.

"Wild as a peach orchard boar" is an old Southern expression for a man intent on having his way with the ladies. It is definitely not the type of subject to bring up in polite company, according to a new book called "You All Spoken Here."

The book was written by Roy Wilder, a sometime newspaperman and ad writer from Raleigh, N.C. Wilder thinks there could be quite a market for a glossary that defines what Jimmy Carter and his fellow Georgians mean when they get to "carryin' on" in their mother tongue.

They'll know what it means if one of Carter's Southern friends refers to him as "the big dog in the meathouse." That's been a Georgia term for top banana ever since baseball great Ty Cobb used it to describe a top player back at the turn of the century.

## Peterka joins N-D staff

Steve Peterka, 24, has joined the News-Dispatch staff as a photographer.

The native of Troy, Ohio, received his bachelors degree in fine arts in 1974 at the Rochester (N.Y.) Institute of Technology. He majored in photographic illustration, with additional courses in graphic art.

He also attended Eastman Kodak Marketing Education Center for instruction in color separations.

For the past 2½ years, Peterka has served as chief photographer for the Hammond, La., Daily Star, a Nixon Newspaper. The News-Dispatch is also a Nixon Newspaper.



STEVE PETERKA

## TV antitrust suit settled

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government agreed today to settle an antitrust suit against the National Broadcasting Co. after NBC accepted a broad range of restrictions on the production of entertainment programs.

Similar suits against the CBS and ABC television networks are still pending.

Under the terms of the settlement, NBC must limit the amount of entertainment programming it produces. This would force the network to purchase more programs from independent producers.

The proposed settlement was filed in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles and announced by the Justice Department.

### Inside



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— The LaPorte school board last night made smoking a no-no at the high school...Page 5.

— Porter County's assessed valuation is up \$24 million...Page 5.

— The city council last night decided it wants time to think about recommendations for spending 1977 Community Development funds...Page 8.

— The New Buffalo water superintendent resigned last night, while city employees received a compromise holiday and vacation agreement...Page 12.

### Deaths

Louis Carius, 90, Morton, Ill.  
 Brian Maitland, 5, 500 South Chicago St., New Buffalo, Mich.  
 Stanford Maresh, 65, 801½ Pine St.  
 Agnes Sweet, 91, Denver.  
 (Details on Pages 1 and 6)

### Weather

Partly cloudy and not as cold tonight; low in the low to mid 30s. Mostly sunny tomorrow; high in the 50s. High yesterday 48, low 27.