

Weather
Agreeable

See Col. 1

Lincoln Journal

Lincoln, Neb., Thursday, August 18, 1977 — 44 Pages

Edition
City

15c

inside

Weather: Page 32
Tonight: 20% rain chance
Friday: Partly cloudy, mild
Friday's High 83(28C) Low 62(17C)

Journal Editorial: Citizen alertness, which police ever seek to encourage, helped bring about the apprehension of the man charged in the killing of two Lincoln women. Page 4.

"Put it in the bank and forget about it." If you did, you may find your name among the 444 individuals, companies, families and estates whose money is in the state's "safekeeping." Page 12.

After Gov. Egan failed to reap-pot Paul Meierhewer to the State Gasohol Committee Egan began to take criticism from several sides. Page 9.

At the height of his career, Elvis Presley was called the greatest superstar in history. He also was called a sociological phenomenon, whose act em-



Elvis Presley

bodied the fears and fantasies of an entire generation. The origin of this phenomenon, his success, his troubles, his impact on the nation will be examined in a five part series beginning today in The Lincoln Journal. Page 5.

Lance cleared; bank practices questioned

Fred News Wires

Washington — Federal banking investigators said Thursday they have found no information that would warrant the prosecution of Budget Director Bert Lance or any other persons involved in Lance's banking activities in Georgia.

However, Comptroller of the Currency John Heintz said Congress in a lengthy report that Lance's banking activities "raise unresolved questions as to what constitutes acceptable banking practices."

Heintz said in a letter to the Senate Government Affairs Committee that his office will try to decide if its regulations on banking need to be changed.

Lance had predicted that the comptroller's office would find nothing wrong with his personal finances in the period before he joined the federal government with the Carter administration.

But the Senate committee, which confirmed Lance to the budget post in January and gave him a "clean bill of health" just one month ago, announced Thursday it would hold another round of hearings on Lance's bank dealings Sept. 7.

The report said Lance did not file required reports with banks he headed or a summary of his outside interests and loans he had received. But the report said the only action that would be taken against Lance, should he still be with the banks, would be to require that the reports be filed immediately.

"The effort cannot conclude that Mr. Lance knowingly made incomplete and inaccurate filings," the report said.

"We do not believe the information developed to date in the inquiry warrants the prosecution of any individuals," the comptroller said in a letter to the committee's chairman, Abraham Ribicoff, D-Conn.

A team of more than 30 bank examiners and attorneys have been looking into a \$2.6 million loan to Lance from Manufacturer's Hanover Trust Co. in New York to buy stock in the National Bank of Georgia, which he headed. Later

Soviet, Egyptian relations strained
London Telegraph
Cairo — Egypt's President Anwar Sadat has twisted the screw tighter on the strained relations with the Soviet Union by suspending the cotton quota that Russia has been monopolizing since the mid-fifties.

he paid off that loan and other debts with a \$4.4 million loan from the First National Bank of Chicago before joining the administration. Questions have been raised about Lance's use of the credit of his Georgia bank to obtain personal loans.

Ribicoff and Sen. Charles Percy, R-Ill., issued a statement afterward noting the comptroller had still not completed his inquiry on several subjects.

The statement said Heintz identified three areas of the inquiry which have not yet been completed.

It listed the three unresolved matters in the case:

— An ongoing investigation by inspectors for the Federal Reserve Service whether employees in the comptroller's office had broken any internal rules.

— Whether Lance improperly used an airplane leased by the National Bank of Georgia.

Matters connected with Lance's financial dealings prior to 1975.

The committee asked for a full report on the uncompleted matters before the Sept. 7 hearing. Heintz will testify that day and Lance will appear the next day.

"Any decision on what further action the committee should take in this matter will be made by the committee," the statement said.

Historic house is damaged
The Carson House in Brownville suffered damages estimated at between \$20,000 and \$30,000 when a car careened into the historic home. The battered car (left) left a gaping hole in the house. Story on Page 28.



Lincoln public schools see education costs go up, up, up

By Jack Kennedy

Parents who've had several kids graduate during the past seven years expect relief from the financial pinch caused by buying clothes and supplies for school children.

Maybe that works for individual families, but fewer kids in the classroom doesn't translate to budget relief for Lincoln public schools. Enrollments are falling; costs are soaring.

Utility bills continue, and they climb for schools just as they do for residences. Further complicating the picture, school officials say, is the distribution of the student population. Many of the children now live near the edge of the city and are — and expensive — schools must be built in the new neighborhoods.

Enrollment peaked in 1972-73 at 30,122. It is expected to be 27,559 when school opens this year, a drop of almost 10%.

It took \$19.4 million in local taxes during 1972-73 to pay the bills in the general fund of the school budget, which includes most direct instructional costs.

Since then the tax requirement has gone up nearly 50%. If the district does not get \$1.2 million more it hopes for in state aid this year, it will take \$20 million in local tax money to feed the general fund. If a referendum opposing the state aid fails, general fund tax needs will drop to about \$28 million.

Robert Den Hartog, associate superintendent for business, is used to aid fluctuations in recent years, but state aid to Lincoln schools generally has increased although the enrollment declined.

The state's share in 1972-73 was \$3.4 million. It has been about \$5.4 million since 1973-74, thanks to a 1973 state aid bill which gave schools \$20 million more. A similar aid increase attempt died on a referendum vote in 1974.

If 1977's LB33 survives, Den Hartog expects state aid to be about \$6.7 million, but the board of education assumed Monday the petition drive would succeed. It set the total school levy at \$7.42 mills. If it gets the aid, the levy would be 59.23 mills.

There may be fewer kids left at home, but the cost of getting them to school and keeping them there has risen rapidly along with the price of homes and matching dining outfits.

Midwest manhunt for Williams ends in west Lincoln train yard

By Jim Acuin

One week, almost to the hour, after Patricia McGarry and Catherine Brooks were shot to death in Miss McGarry's Lincoln duplex, their suspected killer, Robert E. Williams, was arrested in Lincoln.

Police apprehended Williams Thursday morning as he apparently attempted to jump on a freight train in Burlington Northern's 18th west Lincoln yard.

Williams ended a Midwest manhunt. Williams, 40, is suspected of multiple murders and rapes in Lincoln, Iowa and Minnesota.

Williams, a former BN machinist, did not resist arrest. He was carrying a live iron.

Merrill Williams, his ex-wife, has been under police protection in Lincoln since the manhunt started. She said she is relieved. "I think probably he is, too," she said.

Police were summoned to the BN "hump" near Coddington and West O Street about 3:50 a.m. Thursday by a switchman who had spoken to Williams.

Four patrolmen responded and arrested Williams at 4:15 a.m.

According to Asst. Police Chief Roger LaPage, Williams told police he jumped a freight train in Chicago early Wednesday morning and traveled to Ashland, Neb., arriving late Wednesday night.

He traveled to Waverly, where he allegedly stole a car, and drove to Lincoln, police said. Williams had been in town about an hour before he was arrested, LaPage said.

Williams said police he came to Lincoln to "get some clean clothes," but did not stop at his house at 206 N. 40th St., LaPage said. Williams abandoned the car obtained in Waverly near the railroad yards where he was arrested.

LaPage said Williams made a statement concerning the Lincoln, Iowa and St. Paul crimes which "goes along with some of the opinions and conclusions we had reached from physical evidence."

Williams said he did not go through Winona, Minn., where a fourth murder occurred late Saturday night.

LaPage said Williams gave an indication that he came back to Lincoln to give himself up.

Williams was scheduled to be arraigned in Lancaster County Court at 3 p.m. Thursday on two counts of first degree murder, one count of first degree sexual assault and one count of using a firearm to commit a felony.

The arresting officer, Lt. Lee Wagner, said he and other policemen had fanned out at the rail yard, when Williams, with a white blanket over his head to conceal his face, was sighted.

"It was real dark back there," Wagner said of the rail yard. "I started walking down towards him and he turned and walked towards me."

Williams apparently mistook the policemen in the dark for a switchman, Wagner said, because he asked the location of a Denver-bound freight train—a question he had asked several yard workers.

By that time, Wagner said, Sgt. Larry Olson joined the lieutenant and they asked Williams to remove the blanket from his face. When he didn't, the officers removed it, made the identification and arrested Williams.

"He acted real surprised when he saw I was a policeman," Wagner said.

Williams is charged in connection with the double murders last Thursday of Mrs. Brooks and Miss McGarry, both 25. They were found shot to death in Miss McGarry's duplex at 1408 N. 44th St.

Williams also is accused of raping a third Lincoln woman, and suspected of murdering and raping an Iowa woman, as well as shooting and raping a St. Paul, Minn., woman.

The manhunt has been underway since Friday, when Lincoln police connected Williams to boxes of .22 caliber ammunition left at the Lincoln murder scene.

Williams told police that after leaving St. Paul Saturday night he drove through Madison and Milwaukee, Wis., arriving in Chicago early Sunday. Williams made contact with his mother in

Robert E. Williams

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Chicago through a third person, LaPage said.

LaPage said the car Williams allegedly stole in Minnesota was believed to be in Chicago, and would be searched for a murder weapon.

The BN switchman who notified police said he became suspicious of the man wandering in the train yards, especially since Williams was known to travel illegally.

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