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Salvation Army symbol's 100

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Annual season under way

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**HIS ACHING BONES**

McMahon hurt worse than thought

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OF ATLANTIC CITY

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CAPE MAY COUNTY EDITION

Assembly speaker threatens to arrest no-show Republicans

■ **Politics:** GOP boycott of legislative session bodes poorly for proposed bill that would fund new Atlantic City convention center.

By JOHN FROONJIAN
Trenton Bureau

THENTON — Assembly Speaker Joseph Doria threatened to

issue arrest warrants for absent Republicans Monday after the GOP boycotted an Assembly session to prevent lame-duck Democrats from passing any bills.

The episode offers a preview of the wild partisan acrimony likely to erupt in the next month as control of the Legislature passes from the Democrats to the Republicans. The new majority is to be sworn in Jan. 14.

The transition isn't going smoothly.

On Monday, Republican Assembly members refused to officially sign-in for a scheduled voting session. The move deprived the 43-member Democratic group — of whom three members are hospitalized — of the 41-vote majority quorum needed to do any business. Three other Democrats did not attend.

The GOP pulled the same ploy last Thursday, when committee met. If the Republicans continue refusing to show up, it limits the amount of legislation Democrats can pass before they give up power.

It also bodes poorly for a proposed bill that would fund a new Atlantic City convention center through a New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority bond issue.

In the past, lame-duck legislatures have rushed to enact hundreds of bills in their final days in office.

Democrats said Republicans want to avoid votes being planned to repeal the \$2.8 billion tax hike that cost the Democrats the last election. The GOP campaign against the taxes but fear having to fill the budget gap their repeal would create, Democrats charged.

Speaking before a half-empty chamber, Doria, D-Hudson, said the Democrats could constitutionally compel the Republicans to show up. That would involve issuing arrest warrants to be delivered by the State Police, who could legally arrest the legislators and physically bring them to the session.

See Boycott, Page A4

TWO HURT IN EHT BUS CRASH



A rescue worker helps a handicapped student from bus involved in a two-vehicle accident. Winchell School students on the bus escaped serious injury, although two women in the second vehicle were hospitalized. (Story on Page B5.)

Gorbachev decries new union

■ **Soviet breakup:** President denies that the Soviet Union is dead, and calls a new Slavic commonwealth 'illegal and dangerous.'

Associated Press

MOSCOW — Mikhail Gorbachev on Monday challenged Boris Yeltsin's declaration that the Soviet Union was dead, branding a new Slavic commonwealth "illegal and dangerous" and urging the national Parliament to decide the country's future.

Gorbachev's statement late Monday put him clearly at odds with Yeltsin, Russia's president, who has already taken over much of the Soviet president's power and joined with the leaders of Ukraine and Byelorussia in declaring the new commonwealth on Sunday.

The Soviet president has proposed to keep some role for the central government, while Yeltsin's commonwealth eliminates it — except for the military — and bans Soviet institutions. Gorbachev's comment came several hours after Yeltsin met with the Soviet leader to discuss the commonwealth of independent states and said Gorbachev might have a role in the new grouping.

Gorbachev, whose power has been rapidly evaporating since the failed August coup by Communist "party hard-liners," was not even informed of the plan until after Yeltsin told President Boris Yeltsin.

See Soviet, Page A12

Usry could cop plea, or have trial date set

By KEVIN SHELLEY
Staff Writer

MAYS LANDING — Former Atlantic City Mayor James L. Usry will be in court today for a proceeding that could result either in a firm trial date being set — or the announcement of a plea agreement.

Atlantic City's legal department recently began researching whether the municipality would be liable for Usry's staggering legal bills should the former mayor be admitted to the Pre-Trial Intervention program.

If a defendant successfully completes PTI — a probationary program available to some

first-time, non-violent offenders — his criminal record is expunged and there is no determination of guilt or innocence.

City Solicitor Paul Gallagher said Monday that the city is reviewing its legal standing should a claim be made against the city if Usry enters the PTI program.

Atlantic City has an indemnification law on the books that requires the city to pay the legal fees of officials who are eventually cleared of charges. But the city's indemnification law does not

See Usry, Page A8

Search goes nationwide for missing Cape boy

■ The face of 11-year-old Mark Himebaugh is being displayed from Ohio to Hawaii, and may be televised nationally.

By YVETTE CRAIG
Staff Writer

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP — The search for an 11-year-old Del Haven boy, missing now for two weeks, has gone nationwide.

Mark Himebaugh's face is being displayed everywhere from Ohio to Hawaii, and may appear on the Child Alert segment of Fox network's "America's Most Wanted."



HIMEBAUGH

The announcement was made Monday night in the living room of Chuck Knutson on Barkwell Avenue in the township's Del Haven section before some 30 residents anxious to find the missing boy.

He and his neighbor, Pam Hamilton, have organized the group, Friends of Mark. The single-story home was transformed into the group's headquarters, which may be Cape May County's first ever missing person's organization.

Mark has been missing now for 14 days, and our efforts to

See Missing, Page A4

Previous assault questions keep Smith off stand

■ **Rape trial:** A doctor giving graphic testimony for the defense said rape was highly unlikely under the circumstances described.

Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — William Kennedy Smith was poised to testify Monday at his rape trial, but his lawyer first sought assurances that Smith won't be asked about previous sexual assault allegations against him.

The legal question over Smith's testimony arose after Smith's mother made a brief



BARRY

witness-stand appearance and a doctor gave jurors a lesson in human sexuality, saying a rape could not have occurred exactly as the accuser described.

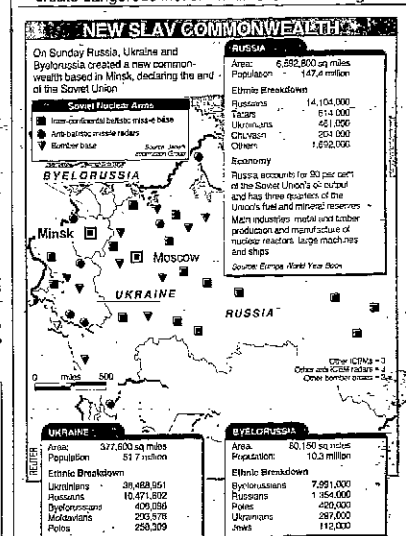
Defense attorney Roy Black filed a last-minute motion to bar any mention of the so-called "Williams rule witness" when Smith is cross-examined.

See Trial, Page A10



Kennedy family members, from left, Robert Kennedy Jr., Kym Smith and Michael Kennedy, listen to testimony during trial.

■ **U.S. warns creation of 'Slavic commonwealth' could create dangerous friction within U.S.S.R. — Page A13.**



INSIDE

■ Videotaped bealing leads to suspension without pay of Trenton police officer — Page A5.

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WEATHER

TODAY: Clouds, then sun, highs around 50.

TOMORROW: Mostly sunny, highs in the mid-50s.

More weather, Pages B3-B5.

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