

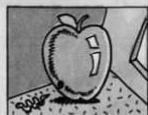
THURSDAY



## Final 64

Cats begin NCAA's today

— Sports, Page 1C



## 'Bad' apples

Scare worries Ariz. growers

— Money, Page 16B

# The Arizona Daily Star

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## House panel tentatively OKs bill to cut auto insurance costs

By Jonathan Bass

**The Arizona Daily Star**  
PHOENIX — The House Banking and Insurance Committee ended three hours of bitter argument yesterday by tentatively approving sweeping legislation aimed at reducing the cost of auto insurance.

• More legislative news. Page 1B.

The committee, scheduled to resume debate on the legislation tonight, narrowly accepted proposals calling for optional no-fault auto insurance, a 15 percent rollback of insurance premium costs, and the prior approval of rate increases by the state insurance department.

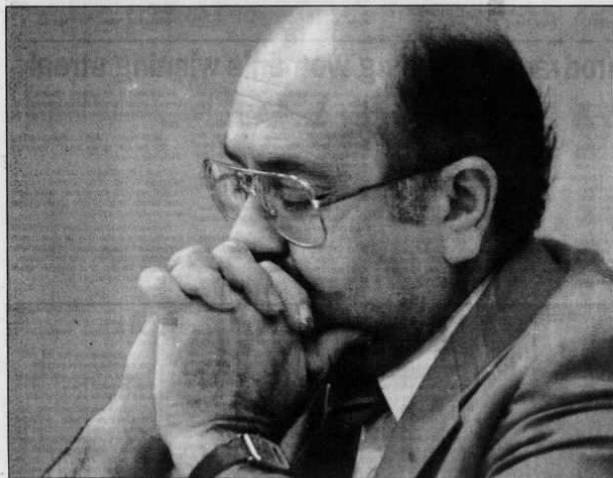
"There was a joke circulating around here calling this the bill from hell," Rep. Cindy Rensick, D-Tucson, said. "Well, it certainly lived up to that. There is no consensus on the bill."

Also, the committee still has at least 30 more amendments to consider before advancing what is called the Omnibus Auto Insurance Bill — which itself is a compilation of amendments — to the House floor.

The committee, in fact, spent an hour of yesterday's meeting arguing over the correct parliamentary procedure for attaching amendments to amendments, eventually producing what one committee member called "a horrendously complicated bill."

committee meeting, which at times seemed to verge on the chaotic, also spurred sharp criticism, even from some committee Republicans.

See INSURANCE, Page 4A



Diego Navarrette listens to the PCC board debate: "I would have chose a more noble way" to leave the college

## Navarrette suspended with pay

Admits claiming M.A. degree was a 'serious error'

By Susan M. Knight  
The Arizona Daily Star

The Pima Community College board voted last night to suspend Diego A. Navarrette Jr. and to investigate why his lack of a master's degree was not disclosed sooner.

The suspension with pay, passed on a 3-1 vote, takes effect at 8 a.m. today, the board decided at an emotionally charged meeting last night.

Although the suspension was not on the agenda, board members cited a provision in the Arizona Open Meetings Law that allows agenda items to be added in emergencies.

In a soft and restrained voice, Navarrette said during a meeting recess, "I would have chose a more noble way" to leave the college.

He said it would be in the best interest of the college for him to continue until a successor is selected.

Navarrette admitted he "made a very serious error" by "floating a couple of résumés" that indicated he had a master's degree in secondary education from the University of Arizona.

He does not have that degree, officials at the UA said. He does have a bachelor's degree in education.

He also said he regrets not correcting the references to such a degree in the college catalogs for the past 17 years.

"I must admit and take full responsibility for not correcting that. I own that mistake, however. I believe my years of experience qualify me to be in an administrative capacity."

An educator for 30 years, Navarrette has been at PCC for two decades and has been dean of students, dean of student services, acting vice president of academic affairs and director of student activities.

On Tuesday, board member Karen Kalenmark said she learned that Navarrette did not have a master's degree and she said he should resign.

Navarrette said at a Tuesday news conference that he would resign.

See PCC, Page 2A

## Bush, Demos square off on child care

By Jerry Estill

**The Associated Press**  
WASHINGTON — President Bush and Senate Democrats drew battle lines yesterday in child-care legislation, outlining parameters of what is certain to be a long and probably painful fight for the hearts and minds of American mothers and fathers.

As the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee was giving 11-5 approval to a \$2.5 billion program

of direct subsidies to working parents, Bush's spokesman was at the White House outlining the administration's more modest program of tax credits that would benefit a smaller and poorer group of parents.

The significance of the back-to-back action — which neither side attempted to portray as a concession — was a signal that the child-care legislation of some type is a virtual certainty this year.

"It's not a question of whether or not we're going to do something on child care this year, but the direction it's going to take," Sen. Dan Coates, R-Ind., said as the Senate panel worked toward approval of the measure drafted by Sen. Chris Dodd, D-Conn., and co-sponsored by about 20 Senate colleagues, including a handful of Republicans.

The Bush proposal, outlined by its spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, would provide a tax credit of up to \$1,000 for each child under age 4 in working families earning up to \$13,000 a year. He said 2.5 million American families would benefit initially from the legislation.

Bush pledged during his presidential campaign that he would seek to assist low-income families in which at least one parent works by using the tax code to help defray the cost of child care.

Under existing law, parents are allowed a \$720 credit for child-care expenses.

See CHILD CARE, Page 4A

## Gorbachev calls for dumping of Soviet farm bureaucracy

By Bill Keller

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MOSCOW — Mikhail S. Gorbachev yesterday called for a radical reversal of the Soviet Union's 60-year history of centralized farming, including the immediate dismantling of the state agricultural bureaucracy and the gradual introduction of free markets.

The Soviet leader outlined his "new agrarian policy" at the opening of a critical party meeting on the nation's food crisis. The policy would give different areas wide latitude to choose among various types of collective and private agriculture.

Gorbachev called for new legal guarantees to allay the anxiety of private farmers and other experimenters, a new system of cooperative banks and stock markets to finance them, and more flexible prices to reward those who succeed.

After a transition period, he said.

farmers must be given "complete freedom" to choose ways of marketing their products.

**Acknowledges failures**  
In most cases farmers now deliver their goods to the state at fixed prices to fulfill quotas set in Moscow.

Acknowledging that his previous efforts to revive Soviet farming had failed because they did not go far enough, Gorbachev said farmers should be granted "broad opportunities for displaying independence, enterprise and initiative."

Once the Communist Party's top official for agriculture, Gorbachev leads a country in which nearly half the 50,000 farms operate at a loss or barely break even, requiring annual subsidies amounting to billions of dollars.

As much as one-third of Soviet produce runs before it reaches markets, vast amounts of grain, meat,

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## WEATHER



**40-year tie.** It continues unseasonably warm yesterday with a record-tying 86, last reached in 1949. The low was 52. Temperatures today will be in the lower 80s, with an overnight low near 50. It is expected to be partly cloudy with southwest winds of 5 to 15 mph. Details on Page 2A.

Accret	4-100	Barometer	80
Bridge	128	Mercury	10-20
Clouded	10-100	Mercury	10-20
Cumulus	100	Onshore	100
Comet	10-100	Public records	80
Cumulus	100	Spots	1-4
Dear Abby	80	Texas today	80
Dr. Gae	110	TV	100

Letters numbers, Page 2A

## Discovery back on full power, five-day flight

HOUSTON (AP) — The lights came back on the Discovery space shuttle yesterday after Mission Control apparently fixed a troublesome hydrogen tank and told the astronauts not to worry about conserving energy.

Discovery's five astronauts had switched off unnecessary lights and computers because of concerns about erratic pressure readings from one of three hydrogen tanks aboard the shuttle.

The tank, which helps supply electricity, was taken out of service Tuesday while engineers studied the problem.

The crew turned the tank back on yesterday morning but used only one of its two burners. Mission Control told the crew that early pressure readings showed the tank was working properly.

"That's good news to hear," replied Discovery commander Ellison S. Sizemore.

See DISCOVERY, Page 4A

## Brief respite expected from pollen explosion

By Dan Huff

The Arizona Daily Star

Allergy sufferers take heart: The explosion of mulberry pollen in Tucson's atmosphere may decline in the next few days, said Mark Sneller, director of the Pima County Health Department's office of pollen and mold.

Sneller — himself an allergy sufferer who yesterday sounded as if he had a sneezebout stuffed up his nose — said the hot, dry weather has made this spring one of the worst allergy seasons on record.

He said the first few mulberry pollen grains were noted in the citywide detector network Feb. 27, when it began a rapid climb.

**Midtown hard hit**

The midtown area was especially hard hit, he said, with a pollen count Sunday of 5,720 on the monitor at Fifth Street and Broadway.

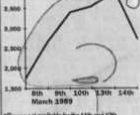
There is a "trickle" of other pollens in the air, but mulberry accounts for 85 percent to 90 percent of the nasty stuff floating around now, Sneller said.

The overall pollen count — an average from various monitors across the city — has climbed from 1,747 on March 4 to 3,819 on Tuesday, according to county figures.

The other good news — for those with the patience of Job, that is. The

## Pollen count

The chart shows Tucson's average pollen count per cubic meter of air.



\*Figures not available for the 11th and 12th. Source: Pima County Health Department.

The Arizona Daily Star

mulberry problem will be gone in about three decades, Sneller said. That's because in 1984 the county Board of Supervisors voted to ban the planting of additional mulberry trees, which have a life span of about 30 years, Sneller said. The ordinance went into effect the next year.

The supervisors also banned further planting of wild olive trees, which have some bad news.

While mulberry pollen should

See POLLEN, Page 4A