

Ex-Beatle John Lennon shot to death

'Local screwball' held in N.Y. slaying

NEW YORK (AP) — Former Beatle John Lennon, who with the long-haired British rock group was catapulted to stardom in the 1960s, was shot to death late yesterday outside his luxury apartment building on Manhattan's Upper West Side, police said.

Authorities said Lennon, 40, was taken in a police car to Roosevelt Hospital, where he was pronounced dead shortly after arrival.

Police said the shooting occurred outside the Dakota, the century-old luxury

★ **The songwriting team of John Lennon and Paul McCartney kept the Beatles on top of the music world from 1964 to 1970. Page 4B.**

apartment house where Lennon and his wife, Yoko Ono, lived across the street from Central Park.

Police said they had a suspect and described him as "a local screwball" with no apparent motive for shooting Lennon.

Jack Douglas, Lennon's producer, said he and the Lennons had been at a studio called the Record Plant in midtown earlier in the evening and that Lennon left at 10:30 p.m. Lennon said he was going to get a bite to eat and go home, Douglas said.



1977 AP photo

John Lennon

A bystander, Sean Strub, said he was walking south near 72nd Street when he heard four shots. He said he came around the corner to Central Park West and saw Lennon being put into a police car.

"Some people said they heard six shots

and said John was hit twice," Strub said. "Police said he was hit in the back."

He said others on the street told him the assailant had been "crouching in the archway of the Dakota Lennon arrived in the company of his wife, and the assailant fired."

He said the suspect, a "pudgy kind of man" 35 to 40 years old with brown hair, was put into another police car.

"He had a smirk on his face" when police took him away, Strub said.

Lennon rocketed to fame in the early 1960s when he and fellow Britons Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr introduced a new sound that changed the course of rock 'n' roll.

Lennon, who turned 40 on Oct. 9, was responsible for writing many of the songs that launched the Beatles in the early 1960s and heavily influenced rock music.

After the Beatles broke up in 1970, Lennon continued writing songs and recording. But in 1975, he dropped out for five years, saying he wanted to be with his son, Sean, and his wife.

It was not until last summer that he returned to music, and his 14-song album "Double Fantasy" was released last month.



Star photo by Joe Vitti

Ginger Darcangelo "never heard of that regulation"

Message gets through: don't trifle with 146.2

By PAUL TURNER
The Arizona Daily Star

This may be the season of peace on Earth and good will toward men, but even Santa's helpers had better not mess around with Section 146.2.

Bob and Ginger Darcangelo, of 5451 Craycroft Circle, wanted to promote Christmas activities such as decorative lighting and caroling in the Heatherwood Hills area of the Catalina Foothills.

So, they had about 125 two-page fliers printed up, and they distributed them last Tuesday night.

On Friday, the Darcangelos received a no-nonsense complaint from the U.S. Postal Service, complete with a postage-due bill for \$23.40.

You see, in spreading their yuletide enthusiasm, the Darcangelos had run afoul of a postal regulation that prohibits the use of mailboxes for circulating unstamped materials.

"We were just trying to get our neighborhood to do something as a community," Mrs. Darcangelo said. "I'd never heard of that regulation."

A money order has been sent to the Postal Service, but Tucson Postmaster Arnold Elias said yesterday that the Darcangelos may be getting a present in the

form of a retroactive we'll-let-you-off-with-a-warning message.

"If in fact the party has already paid, we might just issue a refund," he said.

But, for the Darcangelos, it's not just the money. They said they resented being made to feel like some sort of criminals for merely trying to spread a little of the ho-ho spirit.

Elias said unauthorized use of mailboxes is only an "occasional" problem locally. "But I guess some people are just unaware of the rule, so we bring it to their attention as a reminder," he said.

The "reminder" sent to the Darcangelos by the Postal Service Finance Division cited their "willfully" violating good ol' 146.2. "I don't know how you can willfully disobey something you don't know exists," Mrs. Darcangelo said.

Despite the dispute over what can and cannot go in a mailbox, the Christmas lights are up and shining in Heatherwood Hills at night. And the Darcangelos are already planning future neighborhood campaigns.

Except, from now on, they'll be depositing their printed pep talks somewhere other than in mailboxes.

Valdez fears budget will hit minority jobs

By JOE BURCHELL
The Arizona Daily Star

Five years of employment gains for women and minorities in the city may be wiped out by next year's tight budget and potential employee layoffs, City Manager Joel Valdez said yesterday.

His remarks came in the face of City Council directions that he step up affirmative-action hiring practices.

The city is legally bound to the seniority system, so those hired most recently under the affirmative-action program are most in jeopardy if the city is forced to lay off employees, Valdez said.

City budget analysts have projected an \$11.3 million "budget problem" next year even without considering cost-of-living raises. The Civil Service Commission has recommended an 8 percent raise.

Since 1975, when the affirmative-action policy was initiated, women and minorities have seen small increases in their numbers in city ranks, but their progress into the administrative and professional level of government has been negligible, according to reports from city commissions on minorities and women.

Valdez said statistics in the reports indicating that only eight of 85 city administrators are women are misleading.

Several years ago, the city eliminated middle-management positions, so many women and minorities acting in an administrative capacity were laid off.

(See VALDEZ PREDICTS, Page 4A)

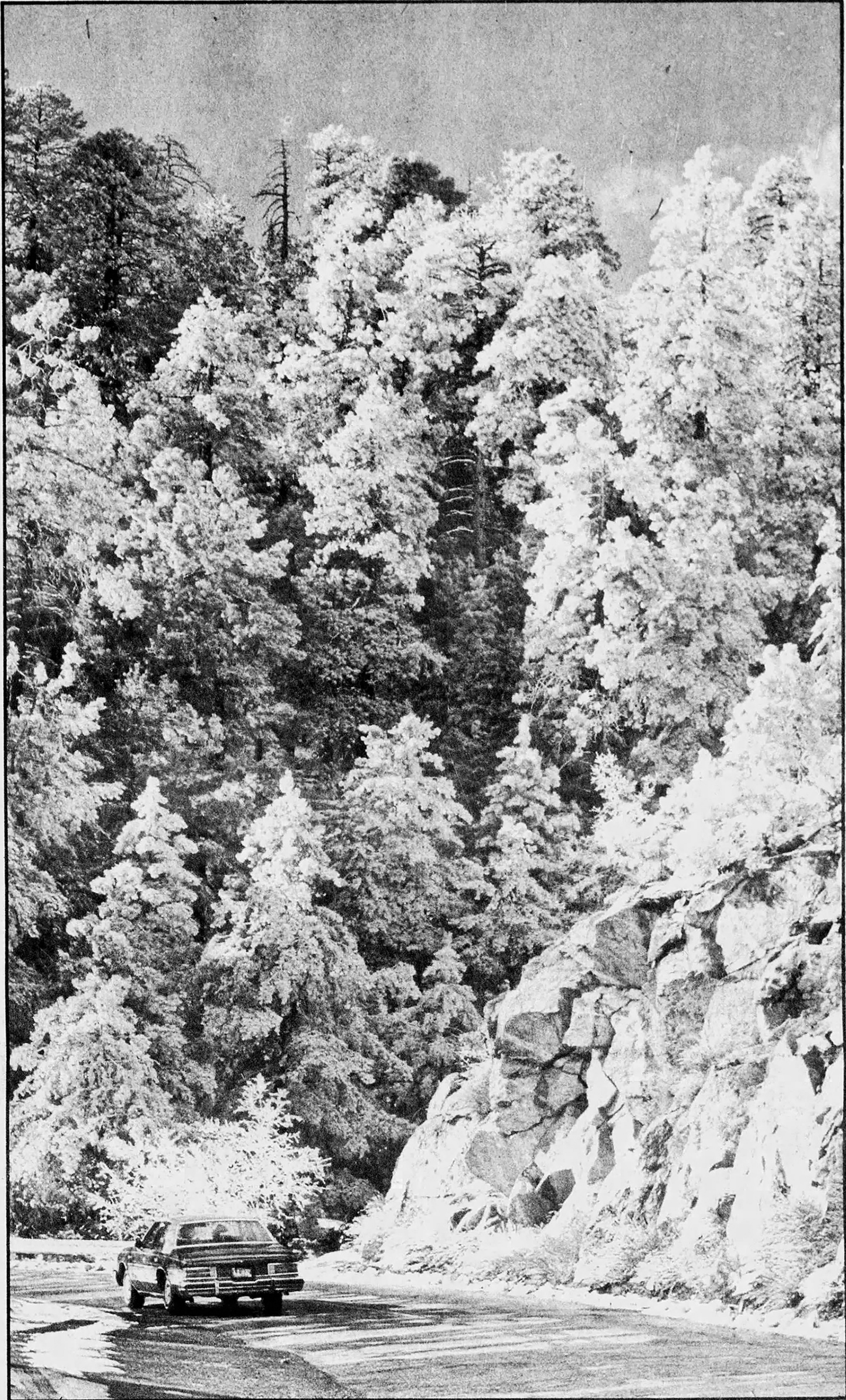
Killer ice storm paralyzes middle of nation

By DAVID L. LANGFORD
The Associated Press

An ice storm blamed for at least seven deaths caused a "demolition derby" on the highways yesterday and left thousands without electricity in subfreezing weather from Oklahoma to Minnesota.

The snow and freezing rain that moved across the Plains over the weekend formed a glaze of ice an inch thick that tore down power lines and made driving impossible in many areas.

Trucks jackknifed into ditches, and stalled cars were abandoned where they



Fleeting frosting — Weekend storms left snow more than an inch deep in the Santa Catalina Mountains, but U.S. Forest Service rangers at the Palisades Ranger Station near Mount Bigelow said temperatures in the high 30s started melting the snow by midafternoon yesterday. National Weather Service forecasters say they expect no more snowstorms for at least a few days. (Star photo by Joe Patronite)

stood. Cars literally slid out of driveways with the slightest push.

Hundreds of schools were closed, and several interstate highways became impassable.

Most of Nebraska was a winter wonderland yesterday morning, with icicles glistening in the sun and many roads slick as skating rinks. Power was out in a dozen communities.

Two Nebraska teen-agers were killed at Waterloo Saturday night when their car went out of control on icy U.S. 275, authorities said.

One-vehicle accidents on slick roads in Otoe, Lincoln and Hall counties Sunday each claimed one life, and a truck driver was killed yesterday when his rig skidded out of control on icy Interstate 80 in Omaha.

As the ice storm moved into north-central Kansas Sunday, Orville Hess, 33, of Halstead was killed when his car skidded on the icy pavement of Interstate 70 east of Goodland and rolled over.

In Minnesota's twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, the snow and freezing rain brought traffic to a standstill and caused

scores of minor accidents, described by one sheriff's dispatcher as a "demolition derby."

Many people simply walked away from their cars, unable to drive up inclines.

"Everything came to a screeching halt about 5:30 p.m.," said an information officer with the Minnesota Department of Transportation.

Temperatures were hovering below freezing during the night in the Oklahoma Panhandle, where traffic also was at a

(See ICE STORM, Page 4A)

Weather

Comforter time. Today will be mostly sunny and mild, with temperatures dipping into the 30s tonight. A high near 60 and a low in the mid-30s are expected. Yesterday's high and low were 56 and 38.

Snow and freezing rain fell from central Oklahoma to eastern Kansas yesterday. Snow continued to fall in the Rockies. High temperatures were reported in the Southeast, and many high temperature records were broken or tied. Winds gusting up to 58 mph were reported in Vermont.

Snowshowers are expected today in the Great Lakes region, the Ohio Valley and northwestern Texas. Rain is forecast for Florida, the lower Mississippi Valley and the Pacific Northwest.

Yesterday's national temperature extremes were 18 below zero at West Yellowstone, Mont., and 82 at Fort Myers, Fla., and McAllen, Texas. Details on Page 4A.

News

Corbin in ballot inquiry. Attorney General Bob Corbin says his office will conduct a criminal investigation into general-election ballot shortages in Pima and other counties. Page 1B.

Widow, 84, wins home. Amanda Stevenson, 84, of Tucson will finally realize her dream of moving from her public-housing apartment into a home of her own. She won a new home worth \$70,000 in the only contest she ever entered. Page 1B.

Border trouble. The border cities of Bisbee and Naco, Son., say the state's industrial-development promotions do them no good. They want the state to focus some effort directly on them. Page 8D.

Rhodes bows out. Arizona's Rep. John Rhodes fulfills a longtime vow to step down as Republican leader in the House of Representatives. Rep. Robert H. Michel of Illinois succeeds him. Page 2A.



Out of running? —

Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr. is said to be fading fast from the favorite's role in the GOP secretary-of-state derby. Story on Page 2A. (AP)

Penalties for hiring aliens.

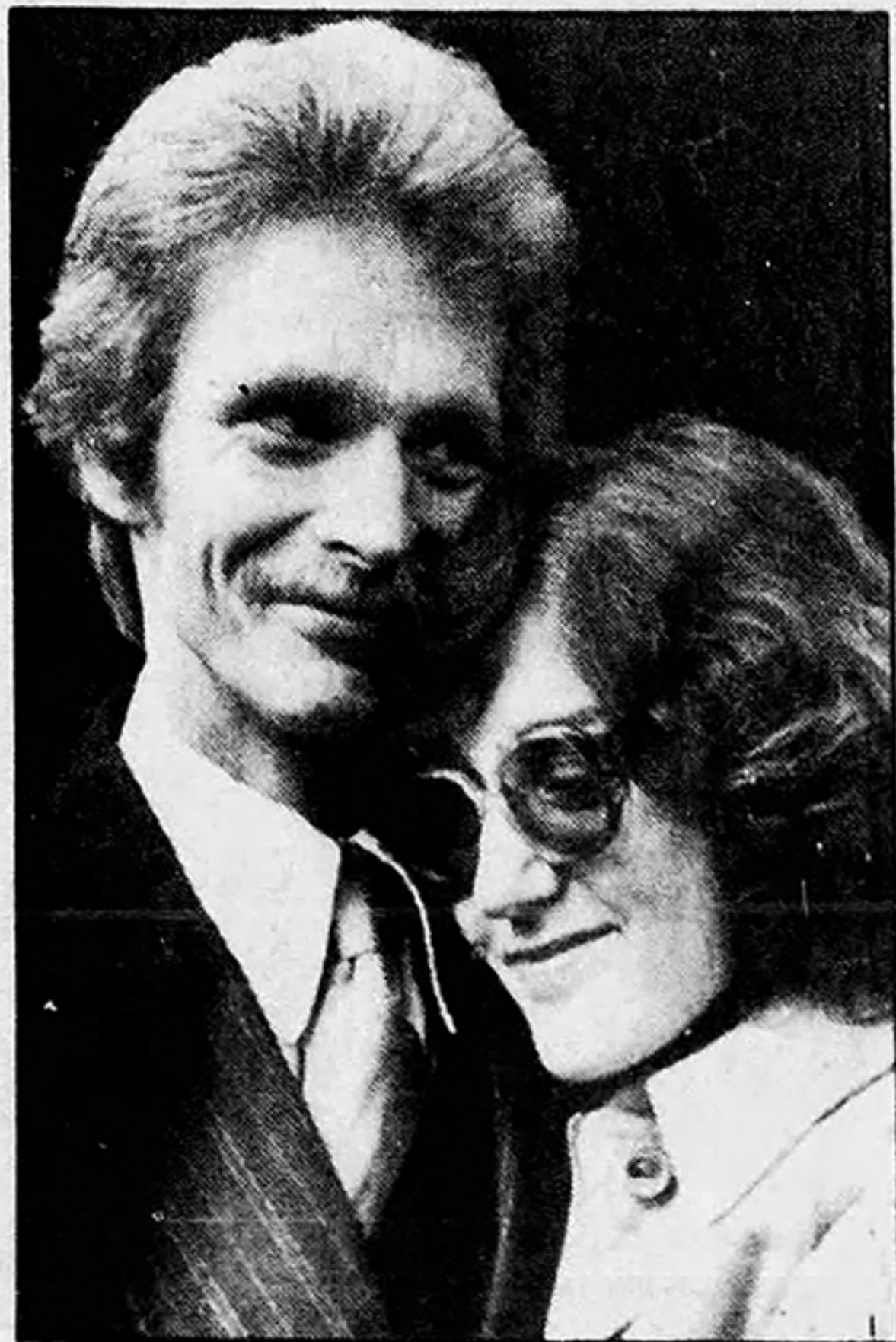
A federal study commission favors penalties against employers who hire illegal aliens, but rejects a controversial proposal to require national worker-identification cards. Page 5A.

U.S. command "on its toes." The Pentagon says it has ordered top U.S. military commanders in Europe to be on their toes because of the potential for war in Eastern Europe, with Soviet troop build-ups near Poland's borders. Page 12A.

Hostage solution "closer." The 13-month-old crisis over the U.S. Embassy hostages "is now much closer to being solved," the speaker of Iran's Majlis says. Page 8A.

Sports

ASU cracks top 20. Arizona State University's Sun Devils are 15th in the latest Associated Press basketball poll. Page 1D.



Greens freed — The parents of leukemia victim Chad Green hug after court appearance. Story on Page 7A. (AP)

Entertainment

"There ain't no 10s." Bobby Bare's performance at the Outlaw isn't perfect, but it's good enough to rate an 8 from music critic Pam Parrish. Page 7C.

Lifestyle

"A Day in Nogales." That's the name of the drama, and you have the leading role. Whether you're a victim or a hero depends on how well you learn your marketplace lines. Page 1C.

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