

60s  
dance steps  
from Holland  
master  
**BROADNECK / A7**

45 killed  
in disaster at  
W. German  
air show.  
**WORLD / A2**

O's eke out  
2-1 win over  
Oakland in  
11 innings.  
**SPORTS / B2**

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# The Capital

VOL. CIII NO. 233 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND, MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 1988 25 CENTS

## TAKE THE PLUNGE



Ronny Staines, 6, son of Ron and Lauren Staines, goes over backward at Olde Severna Park Beach off a float held by his cousin Carrie Staines, 7, daughter of Raymond and Liz Staines. All live in Severna Park.

## Student loan cutbacks are hitting home

### Middle class feels crunch

By DEBORAH FUNK  
Staff Writer

It used to be that a college-bound senior heady with proms and plans for the future applied for a low-interest government loan or grant, cashed his check and paid his tuition.

But the days of free-flowing loans are over.

New eligibility requirements have narrowed the field of candidates for the federally student guaranteed loans — which have default rates 10 times higher than other loans.

What's more, many banks have withdrawn from the program because of the high default rates and the sometimes cumbersome administrative guidelines imposed by the federal government.

### LOAN LIMITS

- **GUARANTEED STUDENT LOANS** — First and second year, limits are \$2,625 a year. Third, fourth and fifth years, annual limits are \$4,000.
- **Cumulative undergraduate loan** is \$17,250. Graduate students can borrow up to \$7,500 a year, with a cumulative loan of \$54,750.
- **PLUS** — \$4,000 a year for each student. The loan can not exceed the cost of tuition.
- **SLS** — \$4,000 a year for undergraduate and graduate students. Cumulative total is limited to \$20,000.

So called "Pell grants," which have not kept up with the rate of inflation, are given to "only the neediest of the needy."

People are digging deeper in debt to pay for "academic careers," in some cases with little chance of being able to pay back the loans.

And more than anyone, the middle class is the group feeling the crunch.

Such are the woes cited by federal financial aid experts, whether they are bank executives or college administrators.

"We're taking a population and giving them less and less choice of education, and ultimately we're going to pay the price down the road," said Benjamin LeBorys, senior vice president of Signet Bank, the largest tuition lender in Maryland.

"We're not lending to families who are the least likely to repay," Le-

Borys said. "The families who are most likely to repay don't qualify."

"It just is baffling to me why the American public hasn't voiced their opinion: 'Hey, we can't send our kid to school and we deserve it.'"

The federal government offers several methods for tuition assistance.

One of the most popular had been the Guaranteed Student Loan, a program which lends money at low interest rates to students based on need.

Payments are deferred until six months after the student has left college. Until those payments begin, the federal government pays the interest to the lender.

Last year, Anne Arundel Community College enrolled 250 students who used the loans to pay for tuition and other costs.

(See LOANS, Page A14)

## 10-mile run a hard habit to kick

By PETER KHOURY  
Staff Writer

If you had asked Del. John Astle a while ago what he'd be doing yesterday, he probably would have been able to tell you right away.

"It's like your anniversary or your wife's birthday," he said just before the start of the 13th Annual Annapolis 10-Mile Run. "You can't miss it."

Dressed in a red and white running shirt, red shorts, blue-striped white socks and Nikes, the 45-year-old stood amid an array of some 3,000 runners in the parking lot of

the Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium just before the 8 a.m. start.

And while "there was a little controversy about one year," Astle, D-Annapolis, has taken part in each race.

The event has come a long way since he won the first run, in which there were just seven entrants.

"It started as a dare when we were at a party and the women in an aerobics class were talking about what good shape they were in," he said. "And one of the men said, 'If you're in such good shape, lets go

run 10 miles tomorrow,' so we did."

Since then, "it's burgeoned," said Astle, who admits he's "not a serious runner. I'm more of a social runner."

And as it has for many others in yesterday's run, sponsored by the Annapolis Striders, the event has become a tradition for Astle.

He works his schedule around the race — although one year, when he was delayed coming back from California, he ran the course with the race director the day after the run.

For Ben Moore of Annapolis and

his entourage, yesterday's run meant more practice.

For nine years, the retired 63-year-old Marine Corps lieutenant colonel has trained a group called "Moore's Marines" for the annual Marine Corps Marathon.

"I would say it's one of the best 10-miles on the East Coast," the blue-eyed Moore said of the Annapolis (See RACE, Page A14)

■ **More about the race,**  
Page B2.

## Strissel barred from housing-related business

By DAN CASEY  
Staff Writer

Due to federal criminal indictments, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development has barred Arthur G. Strissel Jr. from participating in public housing-related business.

The sanction, which went into effect Aug. 22, prevents the former executive director of the Annapolis Housing Authority from being involved in public housing in the Baltimore region for up to a year, said Earl Cole, spokesman for HUD's

Baltimore office.

The action, called a "limited denial of participation," places Strissel on an official list of contractors or people with whom HUD may not do business.

The sanction was hailed by Alderman Carl O. Snowden, D-Ward 5, a key figure in the battle that led to Strissel's resignation and subsequent indictment.

"Obviously, it's important that HUD prevent Mr. Strissel from engaging in public housing ventures. It would be a travesty of justice if Mr.

Strissel were involved in any way in public housing. I'm glad they've taken this step," Snowden said.

Strissel, 41, of Eastport, was notified of the action in a June 29 letter from Rev. St. George Crosse, director of HUD's Baltimore office.

In a letter to HUD obtained by The Capital under the Freedom of Information Act, Strissel indicated he wished to appeal the sanction. But he failed to meet an Aug. 20 appeal deadline imposed by HUD, Cole said.

Reached for comment at his An-

napolis home Friday, Strissel refused comment.

"I don't think it's any of your business what I do and what I don't do," he said.

In getting placed on the list, Strissel joins four Baltimore-area contractors implicated in a three-year probe of the public housing agency.

Contractors Robert Kniffin, James W. Cox and Charles W. Ruff have all pleaded guilty to conspiring to rig bids on housing authority contracts. Another contractor, Vincent Favazza, was named an unindicted co-

conspirator in the case.

People or companies on the list are ineligible to participate in HUD-funded public housing ventures.

Indictment or conviction is automatic grounds for being placed on the list, Cole said.

The action affects only HUD activities in the Baltimore region. However, HUD offices nationwide are notified of the sanctions and they may also impose them, Cole said.

He said the sanction is "not intended to be punitive. It's more

intended to protect this department."

Strissel resigned March 31 during a federal investigation of fraud and mismanagement at the housing authority.

Two months later he was indicted by a federal grand jury on racketeering, wire fraud and bribery charges.

His federal trial on those charges is scheduled for Oct. 17. If convicted, he could face 125 years in prison and \$2.5 million in fines.

## Tanker overturns on Rt. 3

By JANE THOMPSON  
Staff Writer

A tanker truck carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline overturned this morning on southbound Route 3 in Millersville, backing up rush-hour traffic for miles, county police said.

The accident occurred about 4 a.m. when the left front tire of the truck blew out near Cicus Mill Road, said police spokesman Officer V. Richard Molloy.

The driver lost control of the truck and drove it into a ditch, where it overturned. Molloy said. About 500 to 700 gallons of gasoline leaked from the truck.

None of the gasoline had ignited this morning and no one was injured.

(See TANKER, Page A14)

### INSIDE

WEATHER: More rain likely tomorrow, with highs near 80. A11.

DON'T FORGET: South County rezoning will be the focus of the County Council meeting at 7 tonight at the Arundel Center, 44 Calvert St.

ARUNDEL REPORT: Mayor Callahan has appointed Sandra Chapman to the Annapolis Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. B1.

STATE: Cigarette manufacturers have besieged Howard County residents with letters urging rejection of an anti-smoking proposal. A4.

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## Jumping the gun

### Truman Parkway already in use

By EVE ROSE  
Staff Writer

The Truman Parkway extension isn't officially open yet, but that hasn't stopped some sneaky motorists from using the road.

Drivers are slipping through the barriers left open for construction workers to save time, said Ryan Rogusky, traffic supervisor for the project's contractor.

But Rogusky warns that the shortcut between south county and Annapolis is not worth the risk.

"There is a 70- to 80-foot drop off both sides of that road, and there are no guardrails," he said.

"It's very dangerous, and I don't think motorists realize that."

Rogusky estimated that about 20 or 30 drivers use the road daily, despite clearly marked signs saying the road is closed.

The two-lane road is being extended about 1 mile from where it ends at the county public works department in Government Park, off Riva Road, to South Haven Road.

The extension will provide residents of Heritage Harbour and other communities near South Haven Road with better access to Riva Road and Route 50.

"Maybe people think we're trying to make things tougher on them, but we're not," Rogusky said. "The road is not finished, and it is unsafe."

But not everyone feels that way.

"That road doesn't need guardrails," said Edward H. Meehan, the district engineer for the State Highway Administration.

"I would turn it up to motorists (See TRUMAN, Page A14)

Rather than waiting for the Truman Parkway's official opening, some motorists are using it already.

# DNR opens new areas to clamming

By SCOTT HARPER  
Staff Writer

In an effort to generate higher quality clams, the state Department of Natural Resources has opened areas to clamming that are usually off-limits in summer.

Until Sept. 6, watermen can harvest within 300 feet of shore from Thomas Point to the Bay Bridge and from Bodkin Point to the Gibson Island causeway, according to the DNR.

The beds are usually open only in the winter. But because of an embargo on some Maryland clams in three Eastern states, the DNR wanted to provide watermen a fresh, unstressed supply of the popular bivalve, said Bill Outten, DNR's shellfish program leader.

"Chances are you're going to get a better clam coming from an undisturbed bottom," Outten said. "We thought we'd give clammers a break."

To avoid conflicts with recreational water use, clamming is restricted from 7 a.m. to noon, Outten said.

New York, Massachusetts and Maine continue to embargo some state clams because of high bacteria counts. Maryland health officials say the high counts occur because of improper handling practices, not because of poor water quality.

To help end the embargoes, the

state, in conjunction with the Maryland Watermen's Association, has urged clambers to immediately ice their catches to curb bacterial growth.

Hot temperatures perpetuate fecal coliform growth in clams and state officials hope the icing will offset this biological process and again put Maryland clams back on New England shelves.

Clamming has been active this summer, mainly due to an abundance of the shellfish. But most of the harvesting has been focused in beds farther offshore, and officials fear those clams are becoming stressed.

By allowing clamming closer to land, officials hope to rest the active beds and, at the same time, provide clambers with a better product.

"It's a good idea," said Bill Sieling, chief of seafood marketing with the state Department of Agriculture. "They're doing everything they can to produce as good a quality clam as possible."

Sieling also said the move should provide consumers an ample supply of high-quality clams for the coming Labor Day holiday season.

"This is when the market tends to pick up for the last time of the year, so they want to make the best of it," he said.

# Hantske tapped to head Port Wardens

By MCKAY JENKINS  
Staff Writer

Robert B. Hantske, a native Annapolitan and owner of a boat repair yard, has been appointed chairman of the city Port Wardens.

Hantske, 37, a lifelong Annapolis resident who owns North Bay Yacht Service, Inc., was appointed to the five-member commission two years ago by Mayor Dennis Callahan.

He succeeds Lynn Hamm, who just completed a three-year term as the last remaining appointee of former Mayor Richard Hillman.

The Port Wardens board has statutory power to evaluate construction and dredging projects within the city's waterways. The mayor appoints all members to the board.

"Bob has made his living on or around the water for years, and he has a unique sensitivity when it comes to the bay and the creeks," Callahan said. "This is the combination one needs to be the head of the Port Wardens."

Mrs. Hamm called Hantske "the best choice" for the job among the current wardens.

However, Alderman Terrie DeGraff, R-Ward 7, who fought and won a battle to limit the construction of a controversial pier on Back Creek, said the appointment replaces a "courageous and effective port warden with ... a big-time Callahan crony."

"What comes out of Dennis' mouth will go right into Hantske's," she said. "There's no question he's closely in line with Dennis, and will be inclined to lean in favor of Dennis more than the others. There are other members of the Port Wardens who are better qualified."

Hantske denied there was any political maneuvering behind his appointment.

"Whether we're appointed by Callahan, Hillman, or whoever, we have a code on which to base our opinions," he said. "Even though we worked on Callahan's campaign, we still have the interests of the city at heart."

John R. Gardner, the manager of the Severn Sailing Association, will take Hantske's spot on the board.

# Fecal germs found in creek still a mystery

By MARK HOPKINS  
Staff Writer

The source of high levels of fecal germs in Furnace Creek found earlier this month is a mystery to county health officials.

Eight samples taken from the Marley creek Aug. 2 show amounts as high as 10,000 times the level required to reopen the creek, said Larry Luck, supervising sanitarian for the county's shellfish waters.

"It's almost indicative that something had to go wrong," Luck said Wednesday.

"It could have been a leak from a sanitary sewer or high amounts of rain washing everything off the roads and into the creek," he said. "It could be anything."

He said that he hasn't been able to investigate the cause, but will.

Residents and county officials have complained that Luck's department is understaffed and too busy during the summer.

The test site with the highest reading, 2.4 million parts per milliliter of sample, is near the end of a mammoth drain pipe that carries most of the rain from Glen Burnie streets and discharges it into the creek.

The county Health Department "likes to see" readings of about 240 parts per milliliter of sample, Luck said.

Furnace Creek, closed for about 10 years because of pollution, will not be opened until the fecal coliform count reaches that level, said Luck, who takes and tests samples from Furnace Creek weekly.

Results from the Aug 2 samples show that the fecal count rose from a point at the headwaters until reaching the 2.4 million level at Pumping Station Road. From there, it diminished at regular intervals, dropping to 7,500 at the site farthest from the headwaters. The sample sites are about 150-200 yards apart, Luck said.

The readings for the second and third weeks in August show the

# LOANS

(Continued from Page A1)

This year, however, AACC officials have been able to qualify fewer than 100 guaranteed student loan recipients, said Barry Weinberg, the college's financial aid and veterans affairs director.

Mary Wuyek, an AACC student and who works in the financial aid office, knows the program from both sides. She received a guaranteed student loan last year and again this year. But she has seen others turned down.

"As far as the Guaranteed Student Loan goes, it seems to be a little more difficult to get. But I'm in defense of it," Ms. Wuyek said.

"In my case, it is a necessity, being a mother of four children, my husband goes to college part time, my daughter goes to college full time and I'm a full-time student."

The loans are down among all county college students.

The Maryland Higher Education Loan Corp. reports loan approval for 157 county residents, totaling a little more than \$500,000, through July. By the same time last year, 178 students had been approved.

At Gibraltar Federal Savings Bank, their share of the loans has increased, mainly because other banks have dropped out of the program and the bank has increased its advertising and marketing, said Diane Johnston, vice president of consumer and student loans.

Both she and LeBorys complained of new costly administrative procedures imposed by the federal government which makes the 1 percent profit banks make sometimes not worth the effort.

Ms. Johnston agreed with Ms. Wuyek that tougher requirement standards have cut some people from the program.

"It's my subjective opinion that a lot of kids don't qualify this year because of the new regulations," Ms. Johnston said.

"Students tell me that. They say, 'Well, I qualified last year and didn't this year and my parents didn't make any more money,'" she said.

And LeBorys said he isn't optimistic about the "horrendous" mix in his loan portfolio.

"I have kids that I'm financing that I know aren't going to be able to pay back the money," he said. "I know it because they're not choosing fields that are going to pay them anything."

Earlier this month, the Maryland State Scholarship Board announced a loan-repayment assistance program for college graduates who are physical and occupational therapists, social workers, lawyers or paralegals who work with the low-income residents, nurses and teachers who state officials hope will fill the shortage in science, math and special education.

On the other hand, Pell grants have increased about 10 percent at AACC. Still, new eligibility criteria has left some out of the program, Weinberg said.

While a family of four which earned \$32,000 was at one time eligible for the grants, the restrictions for the same family now are incomes somewhere in the low- to mid-\$20,000 range, Weinberg said.

Many families are turning to the federal PLUS loans, a program which loans money to parents based on their ability to pay, according to state and local officials. The amount of money loaned can not exceed the cost of education.

Last year, AACC saw four such loans used for tuition. This year, so far, seven families have borrowed to put their children through school.

Statewide, PLUS loans have "increased dramatically," said Judith Maynor of the state's higher education loan corporation.

Another program, Supplemental Loans for Students, is available to students only if their parents can't afford to pay or if the student lives on his own.

# TANKER

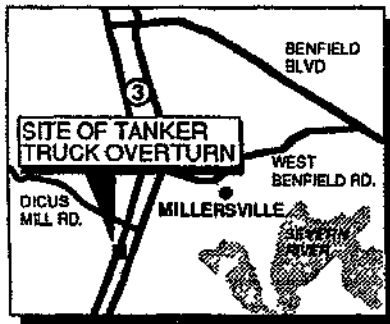
(Continued from Page A1)

Southbound Route 3 was closed immediately after the accident and the northbound lanes were closed at 8:15 a.m. by fire department and Environmental Protection Agency officials.

They were concerned about the gasoline fumes and the possibility of an explosion, Molloy said.

Southbound Route 3 traffic, which was backed up 3 to 4 miles this morning, was being rerouted onto Dicus Mill Road and then back to Route 3, Molloy said.

He was unsure how northbound traffic, which also was beginning to



By Jennifer Heyd Wharton — The Capital

build up, was being rerouted.

EPA officials were in charge of cleaning up the gasoline, Molloy said.

The name of the driver was unknown this morning. The truck belongs to Hardesty & Monroe Inc. of Edgewater.

# TRUMAN

(Continued from Page A1)

before putting on the rails." The road is wide enough and there could be markers warning drivers of the drop, he said.

"The only way a driver could fall off the road now is if he was going really fast," Meehan said. "Since people are sneaking on, they must be going pretty slow."

Although motorists should not be using the road, Meehan said there is nothing more the SHA can do.

"We put the signs up," he said. "It's obviously an enforcement problem."

Although the road is county-owned, the state agreed to build it as part of its project to upgrade

Route 50 to Interstate 68.

The county eventually will have to reimburse the state for the \$429,000 cost of the highway.

In March, SHA officials said the road would be completed by May 15, eight months ahead of schedule, but now the expected completion date has been pushed back to Jan. 1.

"We're done with our part of the construction," Meehan said. "Now, the county wants to do some more work."

The county plans to straighten out a hill it considers dangerous, near the public works building, said Amy Burdick, spokeswoman for the department.

The hill obstructs the view for people pulling out of the county Department of Agriculture building, Ms Burdick said.



By David W. Trozzo — The Capital  
People gather to assist a woman who fell near the old Severn River Bridge during yesterday's 10-mile run.

# RACE

(Continued from Page A1)

race, as runners stretched on the stadium parking lot before the start. About 40 of his 100-member group would be running, he said.

"I see them everywhere I turn," said Moore, sporting a "Moore's Marines" T-shirt and a headband.

Like other participants, Astle and Moore disappeared into a mass of runners as Richard Hillman of the Striders announced the start.

Ten miles and just under 80 minutes later, Moore appeared at the finish line inside the stadium to the cheers of "Ah, Ben."

"It was tough ... humidity," he

said, sweat covering his face. "Thank goodness we had a lot of people with water hoses along the way."

He joined the line of finishers just outside the stadium and poured a cup of water over his head.

Astle, who showed up at the stadium a little later, was also relieved.

"I finished," he said as he rested at the side of the field, waiting for his wife and oldest son to finish.

"I didn't train very well for this one. I finished, that's the important thing," said Astle.

And how did it feel to have finished?

"D'you ever beat your head against a wall?" he asked. "You know how it feels when you stop?"

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