



Dorothy Bush
had flown here from Washington on Thursday morning to be with his mother but was back in the capital when she died.

After her son was elected in 1988, Mrs. Bush said: "I've been ready to have him be president, since he chose to work for it, but I pray to God for him because it's the toughest job in the world."

Bush said his mother and father, the late Sen. Prescott Bush, were the most important people in his life. His 1987 autobiography, "Looking Forward," is dedicated to both parents.

"They believed in an old-fashioned way of bringing up the family — generous measures of both love and discipline," he wrote.

"Dad taught about us about duty and service," Bush wrote. "Mother taught us about dealing with life on a personal basis, relating to other people."

Just before he took the oath of office as president on Jan. 20, 1989, Bush spotted his mother on the platform.

■ See BUSH, Page 12A



BOUNTIFUL — Margaret Berlew, of Dallas, sells apples from the Richard Berlew farm in downtown Wilkes-Barre Thursday, the final Farmers Market of the year on Public Square. Farmers Market will return in the spring.

TIMES LEADER/RICHARD SABATURA

Mailer's older, but still breathing fire

■ **Pulitzer Prize winning author tells Wilkes crowd he still means every agitating word**

By **GEORGE SMITH**

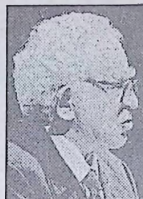
Times Leader Staff Writer

WILKES-BARRE — America's angry young man is not so young any more, but he's still plenty angry.

Two-time Pulitzer Prize winning au-

thor Norman Mailer, who spoke to a standing-room-only audience at Wilkes University Thursday night, said his feisty reputation is warranted.

"I haven't gotten mellow," the 69-year-old Mailer said. "I've just gotten older. I'm still angry."



Norman Mailer

Mailer read excerpts from his work and responded to questions from the audience at the University's Dorothy Dickson Dart Center for the Performing Arts.

The appearance capped a week-long "Mailer fest" at Wilkes that featured an evening of lectures on the author's life and work and an exhibition of Mailer memorabilia.

■ See MAILER, Page 12A

Short of lifting the embargo or establishing diplomatic ties, Bush could withdraw U.S. objections to aid and loans to impoverished Vietnam from international organizations.

"Now that the Vietnamese are acting in good faith, the time has come for us to reciprocate," said Jan Scruggs, president of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund.

"Enough is enough," said Scruggs. "Our allies in that region, the Japanese, the Koreans, the Australians, are in

■ See VIETNAM, Page 6A

Equipment operators want low-cost rental plan dumped

■ **Towns say Kanjorski bill would save money**

By **CHARLES H. BOGINO**

Times Leader Staff Writer

State and national trade groups are lining up to oppose a bill that would establish public-interest regional equipment centers around the country.

U.S. Rep. Paul E. Kanjorski, who sponsored the measure, envisions centers similar to the one he set up in Newport Township, which provides low-rent heavy equipment, such as back loaders and dump trucks, to local municipalities.

The bill, which the Nanticoke Democrat introduced earlier this year, has yet to be taken up by a House committee, but already it has its detractors.

The American Rental Association, representing nearly 6,000 rental busi-

nesses and their manufacturers and suppliers, and the Associated Pennsylvania Constructors, which represents more than 500 construction firms statewide, strongly object to the legislation they fear will ruin their members' businesses.

"It would be a disaster for the industry if such a thing were adopted nationwide," said Bob Hetherington, spokesman for the Associated Pennsylvania Constructors. "We hope to be assured that our government programs don't come back in and bite the hand of the competitive enterprise system."

Northeastern Pennsylvania members

■ See KANJORSKI, Page 12A



THE MORNING LINE

Jerry and Cheney plan for future

(AP) — Former Gov. Jerry Brown says he wants to influence the race for mayor, and he hasn't ruled out running to do it. "Some people have come to me and said, 'Why don't you run for mayor?'" Brown said Wednesday. "I said, 'I'll be glad to think about it.' ... But it is not something I'm inclined to do."

Fresh off a maverick campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination, Brown said he plans to be a vocal observer of the mayoral race "to take this election out of politics as usual."

"What I'm really concerned about is that another group of political hacks will come to power and you will see Los Angeles continue to decline," he said. "So I hope someone with some charisma and some independence will run a real grassroots campaign."

Also on the political speculation front, Defense Secretary Dick Cheney is considering a presidential bid in 1996. "I'm obviously interested in the 1996 contest," Cheney told the editorial board of The San Diego Union-Tribune this week. "I won't make a decision for some time, but clearly it's something I'm going to take a good, hard look at."

United Way may call up to reach its goal

The United Way of Wyoming Valley will be holding a telephone blitz today from 8 to 10 a.m. and noon to 2 p.m.

The agency has collected \$3,910,125 to date, and is slightly short of its \$4.1 million goal for Campaign '92.

The calling is designed to collect monies toward meeting that goal.

For more information, or to make a donation, call 829-6711.



'X' marks the spot

Director, writer and actor Spike Lee's new film-bio of Malcolm X is a hit with some misses.

1B



Christopher Simpson, Mountainop
Forecast: Cloudy
Details, Page 12A.

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SPORTS



On the prowl

The Pitt Panthers, suffering through a miserable season, play their "bowl game" of sorts Saturday when they visit Penn State at Beaver Stadium.

1C

Mailer

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The controversial Mailer is one of the nation's top authors. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award in 1969 for "Armies in the Night." He got his second Pulitzer for "The Executioner's Song," published in 1979.

"How this country has been wasted is infuriating. We have been fighting a Cold War for 40 years, and it should have been over long ago," Mailer said. "I was in Russia for the first time in 1984. I found the technology to be poor, and if they have poor technology, they couldn't have a good army. We kept the Cold War going because we needed it to keep our economy functioning and to upset the Russian economy. Now, we will have to repair the Russian economic machine ourselves. So I'm not mellow, I'm still angry."

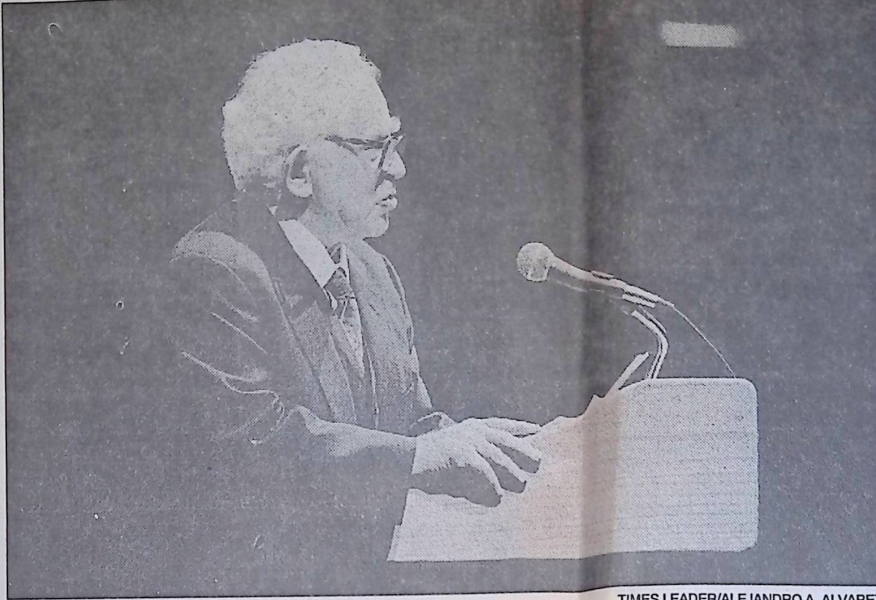
Once a self-confessed consummate boozier and brawler, Mailer is still possessed with the rage and passion that led him to be dubbed "America's angry young man" earlier in his career.

Short and stocky, Mailer walked onto the stage like a tired longshoreman. His strong, gruff voice crackled, and his intense blue eyes flamed under bushy brows as he read passages from two novels, "Ancient Evening" and "Harlot's Ghost," and from a political piece on the Republican Convention called "By Heaven Inspired."

When accepting questions, his hands pointed into the audience like a heavyweight fighter firing superior jabs at some friendly sparring partner.

While Mailer discussed the weighty subjects of politics and writing, the evening was not without humor.

When asked if he would retract



TIMES LEADER/ALEJANDRO A. ALVAREZ

PRIZE-WINNING AUTHOR — Pulitzer Prize winning author Norman Mailer reads excerpts from his works to

a capacity crowd at the Dorothy Dickson Darte Center at Wilkes University Thursday.

any of the millions of words he has written, Mailer said he definitely would not.

"When Picasso was asked if he had ever painted any bad pictures, he said, 'Some are better than others, but there are no bad Picassos.' That's how I feel about it," Mailer said.

Mailer is convinced Bill Clinton is a good choice for president.

"It's a tremendously interesting time. Things are going to get a lot better, or we're headed for a catastrophe. It would have been a totalitarian disaster if the Republicans were elected," Mailer said.

"Clinton's early ambition to be

president is to his credit. If there is a rational way out of our country's problems, he will find that way out."

In writing recently released "Harlot's Ghost," Mailer jokingly said the character Hugh Tremont Montague was the only one he ever created that was more intelligent than he is.

"Harlot's Ghost" is Mailer's version of the CIA's involvement in United States politics, history and society as seen through the eyes of three CIA operatives. It took seven years to write.

The book sells for \$30, weighs almost four pounds, runs 1,310 pages, and ends with the words

"To Be Continued."

Will it be continued?

Mailer says it will.

"I'm working on it, but I'm not writing just yet," he said.

A book on Picasso's early years will be published in a few years.

"The Picasso book is done, but it could be two years before it comes out. Getting permissions for the prints takes time."

Perhaps with irony, Mailer's final reading was a passage detailing the embalming process used by the Egyptians. It came from "Ancient Evenings."

"I believe in Karma. I see God's wit in Karma and reincarnation," Mailer said.

Kanjorski

(Continued from Page 1A)

of Hetherington's group have become alarmed at what they see as a publicly supported enterprise cutting into their business, he said.

To its supporters, the model for the legislation, the 11th Congressional Region Equipment Center, provides a low-cost way for small municipalities to clean up their streets and unclog their sewers. In a number of letters to Kanjorski, officials from a half-dozen boroughs and townships have praised the arrangement as money-saving. For example, Ashley officials estimate they have saved the borough more than \$7,300 since they started using the equipment center.

The center, located in Newport Township, is a non-profit organization that has more than \$4 million worth of mostly government surplus equipment. The items, such as road graders and bulldozers, are rented to member municipalities, school districts and

non-profit groups, such as hospitals, at a nominal fee. The municipalities pay an annual \$1 per resident membership fee, that goes to the upkeep and acquisition of equipment for the center.

"I'm sure we're going to stay with it next year," said Edwardsville Borough Council President Joseph Tomasura, whose borough pays about \$5,400 a year in membership fees. "We can't afford to go out and buy that equipment. Hiring a contractor, it would cost you a lot more money. No doubt about it."

But it is precisely those contractors who fear a loss in business will put them out of work if the idea is allowed to expand.

"Our members truly are concerned about what if this touches off in other areas," said Sandy Howell, spokeswoman at the American Rental Association.

Howell said members of her trade group are looking toward testifying against the bill at congressional hearings, which could come up next year.

Hospitals

(Continued from Page 1A)

identify the most efficient and effective health care providers. He could not assess how much it cost the state for the report.

"Does it mean Scranton is a bad hospital? No," he said. "We're talking about one procedure. Does it raise questions? I would think it would."

"If I'm a consumer and I look at this, it's going to raise some questions for me that I want to discuss. Why should I be referred to Mercy? Perhaps I should be referred to another that has a better statistical batting average."

The risk factors that Costello wished were used in the analysis were not used because they wouldn't have made a difference, Martin said.

"Scranton would still have a minus," he said.

Costello said 17 of the 27 patients who died at Mercy were transferred to the hospital from other institutions.

"Either the patient came to us or that patient was going to die," Costello said. "Every one of them had extensive coronary heart disease."

Dr. Lear Von Koch, chief of cardiovascular surgery at Mercy, received a rating that indicated the number of deaths was average or not different than expected. Of 185 of Von Koch's patients in 1990, nine died.

Von Koch was in surgery Thursday and could not be reached for comment.

Dr. Siamak Hamzavi, of Mercy, was rated as well.

His statistical rating for treatment effectiveness indicated more deaths than expected. Of 187 patients of Hamzavi's patients in 1990, 16 died, the report states.

Costello said Mercy may take a second look at whether they'll accept high risk patients.

"We're a Catholic hospital," he said. "We would not turn anyone down knowingly. Maybe we have to take a second look. We'll have to start saying we won't do certain patients. We won't do high risk patients and those patients will die."

As an example of what Costello called the council's inaccuracies, Costello pointed out that the council listed Mercy's Von Koch as having operated at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, where he has never performed open heart surgery.

General was pleased with its results, which placed the hospital among 23 other institutions in the state with an average number of patient deaths expected.

In 1990, 214 patients were admitted to General for coronary artery bypass graft surgery, the report states. Of those patients, four died.

Dr. George Eugene Cimochowski, chief of cardiac surgery for General, received a rating that indicated the number of deaths was not different than expected.

Of 42 patients in 1990, none died, the report states.

Cimochowski called the report

Report

(Continued from

The General Assembly appropriated \$2 million council and placed it in the auspices of the state health department, Martin said. Casey vetoed the bill, because the Health Cost Containment Council supposed to be independent of any other governmental entity.

"I think generally the city (surrounding Thurgood Marshall) will probably be us," said Martin. "One people have to face is be the last report of its kind."

The report rated Pennsylvania heart surgeons a mortality rates of their following coronary artery bypass graft surgery. Support listing doctors by never been compiled in Pennsylvania, and only fore in the nation.

Dr. George Eugene Cimochowski, chief of cardiology for Wilkes-Barre Hospital, said he supports studies as long as they best interest of the patient.

"Don't shoot the messenger," Cimochowski said.

However, Robert Costello, spokesman for Mercy in Scranton, said the waste and should be instead for AIDS educational and child prod

"Someone should give the Health Cost Containment Council a good kick in the pants"

Robert M. Costello
Mercy

"sound" and fair because assessed 14 variables, such as artery approach, mine a hospital's expectancy. However, he does and die by this kind of report.

General will continue to accept high risk patients, Cimochowski said.

"We tend to do high tients," he said. "I'm not taking on that kind of patient worst thing that can happen is patients not get operated cause they're high risk."

"If it's the bottom of and the end of the line want coming to the plate Martin.

The report can be written to the Health Cost Containment Council, 1 Transportation Center, Fourth and Chestnut Harrisburg, PA 17101.

Bush

(Continued from Page 1A)

leaned over to give her a kiss and said, "Many of our family are here and they all, as does this son, worship the ground she walks on."

The president regularly visited his mother at her home here or her winter home in Jupiter Island, Fla.

Mrs. Bush's 90th birthday in July 1991 was an occasion for a rare reunion of all five of her children at the family compound in Kennebunkport, Maine. Gathered with President Bush were his sister, Nancy Ellis, and brothers Prescott Jr., Jonathan and William "Bucky" Bush.

"Everyone in this family — young and old, direct and indirect relations — looks up to her," the president said. "I have a feeling that that's still true in a lot of families in this country."

Mrs. Bush was born July 1, 1901, in Kennebunkport, a daughter of wealthy Midwestern businessman George Herbert Walker and Lulie Wear Walker.

Walker, an avid athlete, established the Walker Cup, given each year since 1923 in a competition pitting America's top amateur golfer and Great Britain's.

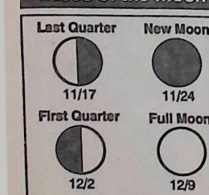
She grew up in St. Louis and attended the Farmington School Academy, a prep school in Farmington, Conn. She and Prescott Bush, a financier and businessman, were married in 1921.

The couple moved to Tennessee, then Massachusetts, where the future president, their second son, was born in 1924. The family settled in Connecticut in 1926.

Prescott Bush eventually entered politics, serving in the U.S. Senate from 1952 to 1963. He died in 1972.

In an article he wrote for the Greenwich Time newspaper, President Bush said: "Every mother has her own style. My mother's was a little like an Army drill sergeant's. Dad was the commanding general, make no mistake about that, but Mother was the one out there day in and day out, shaping the troops."

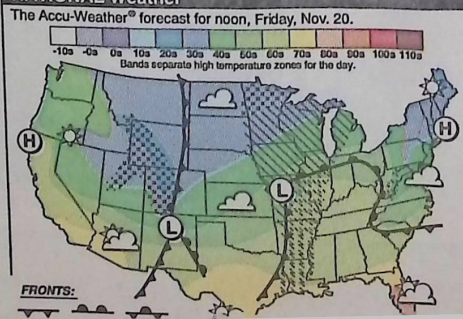
Phases of the moon



Degree heating days

Day	33
Month	471
Season	1104
Normal to date	969

NATIONAL Weather



Local Almanac

Yesterday	
Highest	39
Lowest	24
Average	32
Precipitation	0
Temp/Humidity	
6 a.m.	26 54
12 p.m.	39 67
6 p.m.	34 55
Barometer	
6 a.m.	30.42
12	

Precipitation

Day	0
Month	2.08
Year to date	25.22
Normal to date	31.43
Departure from norm	-6.21

Estimated River Level

(7 a.m. today)	
Wilkes-Barre	54 feet
Towanda	38 feet

Almanac

6 a.m.	30.42
12	
Sunrise	6:55 a.m.

5-day forecast

	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Weather	Cloudy	Possible rain	Possible rain	Possible rain	Partly cloudy
High	48	53	53	53	53
Low	34	43	43	43	43