



Church Thanked

The body of Joseph Carl Shaw is wheeled down a passageway at Richland Memorial Hospital in Columbia, S.C., where an autopsy was performed after Shaw's electrocution Jan. 11. Shaw, a Catholic, confessed to killing two Columbia teenagers in 1977 and became the state's first execution victim in 22 years. He went to his death thanking the Catholic Church for its stand against capital punishment. (NC Photo)

Sarah Child



All in the Family

Hotline A Worthy Service

A little of this and some of that:

- The final paragraph of last week's column on seat belts was inadvertently omitted, possibly leaving some readers up in the air as to this writer's feeling about the buckle-up law. After more close calls than I care to think about, the verdict here is that wearing a seatbelt is NOT a threat to personal freedom. On the contrary, buckling up is a liberating force, bestowing greater peace of mind and possible freedom from guilt in the event of an accident.

- Just before Christmas on the third anniversary of my mother's death from uterine cancer, doctors told my father he had an intestinal obstruction which was probably malignant.

Surgery was delayed because of the holidays, leaving all of us suspended in a cloud of fear, disbelief and danger.

Once again, I dialed the toll-free cancer hotline and reached a well-informed person who not

only answered all my questions at length but was able to give me some perspective as well as advice i.e. my brothers, sisters and I should get some counseling as we were all still traumatized from our mother's illness.

In addition, informative literature was sent to me, again free of charge. I'm relating the above hoping that others in need of information, or just someone to talk to, will call the hotline. The number is 1-800-4-CANCER.

Footnote: My father was operated on two weeks ago and the blockage was malignant, but localized. A 10-inch section of the small intestine was removed and the ends reconnected in a procedure known as a colectomy. His doctors think no further therapy will be necessary.

- Because the strike at our daughter's college which closed the dining halls for most of the first semester may be resumed, she went back to school fortified. The chocolate-covered cherries, six-packs of Pepsi, Granola bars, chocolate bars and boxes of macaroni and cheese will help keep the wolf from the suitemates' door. Especially if he's got a weak stomach.

Judge Drops Charges Against Bishop

New York (NC) -- Charges against Auxiliary Bishop Emerson Moore of New York and others arrested in protest actions at the South African consulate in New York were dropped at a court hearing Dec. 19.

Criminal Court Judge Arlene Silverman dismissed the charges after a lawyer for the defendants argued that the summonses were technically defective and the representative of the district attorney's office declined to contest his argument.

Bishop Moore, the first U.S. Catholic bishop ever arrested in a civil disobedience action, received his summons on Dec. 5 along with four others who blocked the entrance to the Park Avenue building where the South African Consulate has offices.

Their action was part of a series, supportive of the Washington campaign centered on South Africa's embassy, in which protesters marched in front of the consulate each day and designated individuals accepted arrest for symbolically blocking the doors.

STARS Certified

Elmira -- The Southern Tiers Alcoholism Rehabilitation Service (STARS) program of St. Joseph's Hospital has been recertified for a two-year period by the New York State Division of Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse.

Critical of Trips, Journalist Barred

Vatican City (NC) -- The Vatican barred a Rome journalist from flying with Pope John Paul II on the scheduled Jan. 26-Feb. 5 trip to South America after he wrote an article which strongly criticized papal trips, a Vatican spokesman said Jan. 15.

Joaquin Navarro-Valls, head of the Vatican press office, said that the Vatican was particularly offended by a quote from a Colombian theologian who unfavorably compared the pope to Christ.

The journalist, Domenico Del Rio of the Rome-based daily La Repubblica, quoted theologian Jose Marie Gonzalez Ruiz of Malaga, Colombia, as saying Jesus Christ was never received by civil leaders and high priests during his travels on Earth. Gonzalez Ruiz said the pope "falls into diabolical

temptation" when he visits world leaders and is applauded by them.

Navarro-Valls said that barring Del Rio from the 61-member press pool flying with the pope was not aimed at intimidating journalists. He said the Vatican decided "not to allow him to travel with the pope after he wrote that the pope had fallen into diabolical temptation."

"If he cannot understand the spiritual meaning of the trips, he should not be with the pope," Navarro-Valls said.

The Vatican action came hours after La Repubblica published Del Rio's article titled "How Much This Pope Travels."

CRS Priest Branded Spy

By NC News Service

An anonymous caller claiming to speak for a group called the Islamic Jihad (Holy War) said that Father Lawrence Jenco and four other kidnapped Americans would be tried as spies and "given the punishment they deserve."

The caller gave the message to news agencies in Beirut, the Lebanese capital.

In the United States, the Rev. Jesse Jackson said that if conditions are right he may go to Beirut to make a "moral appeal" for Father Jenco's release. But he said it was "difficult to put a timetable on such a mission."

Navarro-Valls also said the Vatican action would not prevent Del Rio from traveling with the pope in the future. He said, "Today I signed his renewal of accreditation" as a member of the Vatican press corps.

A Vatican statement said the papal trips are called for by local churches "as a stimulus to greater spiritual and pastoral growth and are also desired by those outside the Christian community as a response to the desires for peace, liberty and justice."

Volunteers Needed

Parents Anonymous, a non-profit, self-help organization, is in need of hotline volunteers immediately. Comprehensive training in crisis intervention will be available in the Spring. Other volunteer opportunities are available in transportation, speakers bureau, fund raising, training and clerical work. For more information, contact Parents Anonymous at 454-5066.

Guild to Meet

The Cardinal Mooney Women's Guild will meet 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 28 in the school gym. The evening includes dinner at 7:30 p.m. and a talk by Dr. Wende W. Logan of the Breast Clinic of Rochester. Tickets are \$8 per person and are reserved by calling Rose DiBella, 225-0328, or Donna Lucchese, 254-1781 no later than today, Jan. 23.

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