

# Arkansas Democrat Gazette

ARKANSAS' NEWSPAPER

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LITTLE ROCK, APRIL 20, 1995

94 PAGES

12 SECTIONS

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THURSDAY

## In the news

■ **Robert McNamara**, the 1960s defense secretary who has been asked to donate the profits from his book on the Vietnam War to veterans groups, said through his publisher that he would use some of the proceeds to fund a program to improve communications between Vietnam and the United States.

■ **Malcolm Macbeth**, owner of a car wash across the street from the Spirit of Life Catholic Church in Mandan, N.D., was arrested after allegedly brandishing a loaded assault AR-15 rifle to keep Easter worshippers from parking in his lot, which he told police cost him business.

■ **Christine Long**, 25, pleaded guilty in Danville, Ill., to involuntary manslaughter and child endangerment in an agreement whereby she will spend less than five years in prison rather than up to 10 years for feeding phenobarbital to four children, killing a 19-month-old, to sedate them while baby sitting them Jan. 2.

■ **Rob Wasserman**, a bassist who played with The Band at Woodstock 94, sued the festival's promoters, Woodstock Ventures and Polygram Diversified Ventures, in Saugerties, N.Y., because he tripped over a tent rope and broke his arm in the mud backstage. In the accident he claims forced him to cancel a tour to promote his "Trios" album.

■ **F. Gregg Bemis Jr.** of Santa Fe, N.M., proved he owns the British liner Lusitania, sunk in 1915 by a German submarine off Ireland, killing 1,200 people, but not its cargo or the effects of its passengers, a federal judge ruled in Norfolk, Va., by establishing "an accurate and complete chain" of title only to the ship and its fittings.

■ **Kristian Zoeller**, 16, a 220-pound football player from Newburyport, Mass., found his application to The Citadel forwarded to the U.S. Justice Department, which is fighting to get Shannon Faulkner fully admitted to the boys-only military school in Charleston, S.C., after officials thought Kristian was a girl's name, but his family corrected that assumption.

■ **Malcolm McLaren**, manager of the defunct English punk band the Sex Pistols, was asked by Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac to write a theme song for his campaign for the French presidency, about which McLaren wondered in *The New Yorker*. "Why would they be phoning me? You'd think they'd be phoning Jean-Michel Jarre or Michel Legrand."

■ **Tammy Wynette**, 52, and **George Jones**, 63, known as "Mr. and Mrs. Country Music" in their 1968-74 marriage, have recorded an album, titled "One," to be released in May and plan a summer fall concert tour, about which Jones joked in Nashville, Tenn., "My wife and her husband (are making sure they stay around in case something happens)."

## Weather

Little Rock — Scattered thunderstorms in the morning then decreasing clouds in the afternoon. Highs in the upper 70s. Lows in the low 50s. Partly cloudy Friday with highs in the upper 70s. Lows in the mid 50s. A chance of more thunderstorms Saturday with highs in the low 70s and lows in the mid 50s.

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# Oklahoma bomb kills 31

## 12 dead are children; 200 missing, 200 hurt



BY JUDY GIBBS  
Associated Press Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — A car bomb that ripped deep into America's heartland Wednesday killed at least 31 people and left 200 missing in a blast that gouged a nine-story hole in a federal office building.

The dead included at least 12 youngsters, some of whom had just been dropped off by their parents at a day-care center.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack, the deadliest U.S. bombing in 75 years.

At least 200 people were injured — 58 critically, according to Fire Chief Gary Marrs — and scores were feared trapped in the rubble of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building more than nine hours after the bombing.

Two people were pulled from the rubble Wednesday night but died a short time later, said Assistant Fire Chief Jon Hansen. Hansen said a woman was trapped in the basement and that she told rescuers two others were down there. She didn't know if they were dead or alive.

The death toll was certain to rise.

"Our firefighters are having to crawl over corpses in areas to get to people that are still alive," Hansen said.

Attorney General Janet Reno refused to comment on who might have been behind the attack. President Clinton called the bombers "evil cowards," and Reno said the government would seek the death penalty against them.

A police source, who requested anonymity, said FBI agents were trying to piece together a van or a truck that was believed to have carried the explosives. An



## On the inside

**DAY-CARE CENTER** destroyed by morning blast. Page 8A.

**GOVERNMENT OFFICES** in Little Rock lighted security. Page 9A.

**EX-ARKANSAN** injured and two reported missing in aftermath of Oklahoma City bombing. Page 9A.

**PROTESTERS GATHER** in Washington to commemorate Waco siege, denounce bombing. Page 11A.

**CRUMBLING AFTERMATH** — Rescuers look up at the federal building in Oklahoma City after Wednesday morning's car bomb explosion at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal

Building. The blast killed at least 31, but the death toll was expected to rise. At least 200 people were injured — 58 critically — and scores were feared trapped in the rubble.

## Families, clutching hope, wait in church

BY SUSAN ROTH AND  
MICHAEL WHITELEY  
Democrat-Gazette Staff Writers

OKLAHOMA CITY — Four hours after a bomb ripped the front off the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building, families began to trickle into the First Christian Church, fearing the worst and hoping for a miracle.

By 10 p.m., nearly 500 had passed through the church and registered, hoping to find news of the dead or living within the nine collapsed floors on the building's north side.

"They came to sign up and identify the potential victims, and they came for counseling too," the Rev. Don Alexander said.

With more than 200 federal workers still unaccounted for, 30 counselors worked until late Wednesday.

Wednesday and planned to return today. The city still was in shock from an event many said they believed could never happen in the heartland.

"This is the worst terrorist act in American history," Gov. Frank Keating told reporters at 9:15 p.m. "The most important thing now is to find out if there are any other people alive in there."

Emergency workers searched the rubble for survivors throughout the day, using dogs to help find signs of life. Early in the evening, workers found a woman alive in the basement of the building.

Families of people in the building at the time of the blast spent the day clenching their teeth.



**OFFERING AID** — Oklahoma County sheriff's deputies help the injured Wednesday after the explosion in Oklahoma City. The attack was the deadliest bombing in the United States in 75 years, and Attorney General Janet Reno said the death penalty would be sought in the bombing.

## Search goes on even as floors sway, crumble

BY TODD COPILEVITZ  
Dallas Morning News

OKLAHOMA CITY — The rescue effort was instantaneous and massive.

Triage centers were set up all around the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building to treat the wounded. Hundreds of doctors, nurses, medics and citizen volunteers reported to the bomb scene or to area hospitals.

But as the day wore on, the horror of what had happened shortly after 9 a.m. Wednesday became clear: There simply weren't enough survivors for all the doctors and nurses to treat.

By noon, the only sounds rescuers in the building could hear were the ones made by other rescue workers, said officer Adrian Neal of the Edmond Police.

## Court spares the anonymity of pamphleteer

BY MARY DEIBEL  
Springfield News Service

WASHINGTON — The anonymous political pamphleteer is part of an "honorable tradition" entitled to First Amendment protection against state-mandated disclosure of a person's identity, the Supreme Court ruled Wednesday.

The 7-2 decision struck down an Ohio law that made it illegal to pass out political leaflets unless they contain the sponsor's name and address. The ruling is expected to affect similar requirements in virtually every state.

"Under our Constitution, anonymous pamphleteering is not a pernicious, fraudulent



**HARDING TRAGEDY** — Jill Valentine, supervisor of the Harding University dormitory where Carla J. Wilmon lived, describes what happened Monday night when people realized Wilmon was missing. Authorities said the woman was slain and the body has been sent for an autopsy.

## No suspects, few details in Harding coed's death

BY SANDY DAVIS  
Democrat-Gazette Jacksonville Bureau

SEARCY — White County authorities said Wednesday they had no suspects in the slaying of a 20-year-old Harding University coed whose body was found in the trunk of her car Tuesday afternoon.

The body of Carla J. Wilmon, a junior English major from Mount Pleasant, Texas, was found shortly after police found her white 1988 Chevrolet Cavalier abandoned near Beebe and had it towed to an impound yard in Searcy.

It was at the yard that police opened the trunk and made the grisly discovery of her body, lying face down.



"We don't know very much at this point," Prosecuting Attorney Chris Raff of Searcy said. He refused to discuss any details. "We know she was murdered, but we don't know how," Raff said. "We have sent her body to the medical examiner's office for an autopsy and her car has been sent to the (state) Crime Lab in Little Rock."

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