

Inland Empire no longer fastest growing job market — Business/B12

Getting kicks out of Western dance — Living/D1

For second year, baseball owners guilty of collusion — Sports/C1

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY The Sun THURSDAY/25c SEPTEMBER 1, 1988 SPORTS FINAL ***

Educators altered tests, state says Three districts in county are cited By GINA D'APAOIA Sun Staff Writer

Educators at three county school districts corrected some students' wrong answers on a state standardized test before submitting them for grading to the California Department of Education, state officials said Wednesday.

Only one of the districts — San Bernardino City Unified — confirmed that wrong answers were erased and changed by a teacher. That teacher, whose name was not released, resigned at the district's request, said Superintendent E. Neal Roberts.

When we found out about it, we did a thorough investigation and determined the fact that it happened... Roberts said, "We have indicated that this will not be tolerated... it's a tragic blunder."

Superintendents of the Colton Joint Unified and Barstow Unified districts said they could not verify the findings disclosed by the state Department of Education. No disciplinary action was taken against teachers or other district employees, they said.

The tests, called the California Assessment Program, are See TESTS/Back page

Deputy quits, leaves sheriff's crime lab post By JOHN WHITEHAIR Sun Staff Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — Capt. Bill Baird, chief of the San Bernardino County sheriff's crime lab and a sworn deputy with the department for 18 years, has resigned.

Baird's resignation came two weeks after small quantities of hard drugs held as evidence in 30 criminal cases disappeared from the facility, officials said Wednesday.

Baird, whose resignation is effective Sept. 9, could not be reached for comment Wednesday. "I have nothing connecting him directly with the missing evidence," sheriff's spokesman Lt. Mike Stodolke said.

The missing drugs, in quantities up to 6 grams, had been stored at the sheriff's department crime lab and officials are investigating to determine whether the drugs were misplaced or stolen, Stodolke said. The 30 packets of drugs See DEPUTY/Back page

94 survive Texas jet crash



CRASH AFTERMATH: A fire hydrant sprays foam onto the charred wreckage of a Delta 727 after the jetliner crashed on takeoff from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport on Wednesday morning. Thirteen people were killed in the crash, while 94 survived.

13 killed as Delta airliner bursts into flames after takeoff By PETER APPELOMME The New York Times

GRAPEVINE, Tex. — A Delta Air Lines jet with more than 100 people aboard crashed and burst into flames shortly after takeoff here Wednesday morning, but 94 people got out alive. Many walked away unscathed, with some flying on to their destinations later in the day.

It was just three years ago that 137 people died in the crash of another Delta plane at the same field, Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. Airline officials said 13 people died after the Boeing 727 began to shake wildly on takeoff and then crashed, breaking in two and bursting into flames about 1,000 feet past the end of the runway at 9:03 a.m. CDT (7:03 a.m. P.D.).

Many survivors, who clambered from emergency exits and a hole in the roof, expressed amazement that so many people came out alive. "From the moment we left the ground, you know we were going to wreck," said Michelle Christensen, 25, of Dallas, who was on her way to celebrate her parents' wedding anniversary in Rapid City, S.D. "I just thank the Lord I'm still here."

The cause of the crash was still undetermined. Investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board arrived to inspect the charred wreckage of the jet, which came to rest in a grassy field at the southwest part of the airport. The crash evoked memories of the worst See CRASH/11

Escape from Flight 1141

Here's how the passengers and crew escaped from the Delta Air Lines Boeing 727-200 that crashed at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport Wednesday morning.

Many climbed to safety through a blackened hole in the top of the cabin near the cockpit. Passengers escaped through an emergency door on the left side of the plane, onto the wing. The plane's right engine stood upright about 60 yards from the main wreckage. The fire was most severe along the rear half of the craft. The front of the fuselage appeared to have sustained little fire damage.



Source: Wire service, USA TODAY, Jet's All The World's Aircraft, Modern Commercial Aircraft

Jet survivor: 'We were jumping into pit of fire'

By PETER JOHNSON and JULIE MORRIS Gannett News Service

GRAPEVINE, Texas — When Delta Flight 1141 belly-flopped into a field here Wednesday, it performed just like it was designed to do — 94 of the 107 people aboard survived.

But to Dan Walker — and others who lived through the fiery crash — it was nothing less than a miracle. "God had some reason for me being here," said Walker, a Dallas veterinarian who was heading for a week of fly fishing on Montana's Madison River with two buddies. His only injury — a broken rib. "I'm 40 and I'll be glad to be 41," Walker said.

The Delta Air Lines jetliner burst into flames as it crashed on takeoff from Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport. Passengers said they knew the Boeing 727 — refueled after a flight from Jackson, Miss., and heading to Salt Lake City — was in trouble as it tried to take off. Nona Thomson, who escaped with just scrapes and bruises, See SURVIVOR/11

THE FULL STORY

- HOW SAFE? Crash revives debate on fire safety. AIRLINE: Delta's reputation expected to survive disaster. REPAIRS: Records show minor problems with jet. Stories/A11

Brawls may prompt S.B. prep league to ban postgame ritual

By NICK LEVIA Sun Sports Writer

A San Bernardino area sports league might eliminate a symbol of sportsmanship, the postgame handshake, because some athletes are too intent on competition to be good sports.

The proposal to ban athletes from shaking hands and congratulating each other after all contests results a final vote by high school principals on Oct. 5 and said Tom Davis, president of the Citrus Belt League.

The league represents some area high schools in sports ranging from football to tennis. Incidents such as a brawl after an April baseball game between Redlands and Fontana sparked talk of banning contact between athletes after competition, Davis said. Several people were hurt in the April fight. "This has been a topic of discussion at every league meeting since last spring," Davis said. "Traditionally, sports is built upon fellowship and sportsmanship and the handshakes have been a sign of that team spirit. But lately, it has been turned into an opportunity for a player to get that last punch in," he said. "We have to think about the players' welfare," Davis said. "Are we putting them in a hazardous position in which they can get seriously injured? The competition level in the Citrus Belt League is so great that these incidents are occurring more and more often." Davis said coaches or players who fail to comply with the rule will not be penalized. "It would be on a voluntarily format and we expect all to follow the rule," he said. "It's not just baseball," he said. "We've had incidents in basketball and football also. You have to understand, in the Citrus Belt League, you have some See HANDSHAKE/Back page

UPDATE

WEATHER: Hazy sunshine. Fair today and Friday with sunny, hazy days. Continued hot with highs both days in the mid-90s to 100. Low tonight in the mid to upper 60s. Details/A18

INSIDE

- Ann Landers/D3 Bridge/D3 Business/B12 Classified/C2-16 Comics/C7 Crossword/C15 Food/P1-16 Inland Empire/B14 Living/D1-4 Markets/B10,11 Movies/B7,D6 Outdoors/B8 Opinion/A15 Sports/C1-4 TV/C6

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Nixon forgot taping

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the infamous White House taping system was being planned, President Nixon suggested that he have a button to turn it on and off manually, but was dissuaded by an aide who says he thought the president was too clumsy.

Therefore, a voice-activated system was installed and Nixon quickly lost awareness that his every conversation was being recorded, says former White House chief of staff I.L. Healdman in an article for the National Archives publication "Prologue."

The tapes led to Nixon's resignation in August 1974 when they provided damning evidence that he had conspired to the White House cover-up of the Watergate break-in.

Baja hit by quake

MEXICALI, Mexico (AP) — A moderate earthquake jolted northern Baja California on Wednesday, but there were no reports of damage or injuries, officials said. The quake struck at 9:44 a.m. and measured 5.1 on the Richter scale. It was centered near Laguna Salada, a small agricultural community 32 miles south of here.

5 hurt in copter crash

BARRETT JUNCTION, Calif. (AP) — A helicopter crashed Wednesday in a remote area of south San Diego County, injuring the pilot and four San Diego Gas & Electric Co. employees.

The helicopter struck a power line about 9 a.m., west of Barrett Junction near Highway 94. The utility crew was scouting terrain for a potential natural gas line.

Lawmakers OK spending plan to aid counties

By THOMAS GRAY McCauley News Service

SACRAMENTO — Legislative leaders from both political parties and the administration of Gov. George Deukmejian reached agreement late Wednesday on a \$420 million spending program to help California's financially strapped counties and give more money to health programs and higher education.

The deal also promised to salvage the governor's tourism program and keep both the Agricultural Labor Relations Board and the state Resources Agency in business through the 1989-90 fiscal year, reversing two reductions imposed on the administration earlier by the Democratic-controlled Legislature. But there were virtually no See COUNTIES/Back page