

LOCAL/REGION

Woman saved after car plunges into lake

By Robert L. Jamieson Jr. P-Reporter

Quick thinking Bellevue firefighters helped save a 38-year-old Linwood woman who miraculously survived after her car plunged into trout lake Washington on Tuesday, trapping her for more than 10 minutes.

Donna Sackett, who was clinging to life at a Bellevue hospital last night, was found in her Plymouth submerged in eight feet of water off Medina near Bellevue.

without brave the cold waters on the other side of the windshield were wrong. We had to take the chance, fire fighter Pete Baker, one of the three rescuers, said yesterday.

It somebody was in there it would be looking to wait for the drivers. With little more than borrowed life vests, the firefighters waded toward the car, which was more than 20 feet from shore.

The rescuers used an ax to break the car window and retrieve the woman. Sackett was unconscious and in critical condition yesterday at Overlake Hospital Medical Center in Bellevue, a spokeswoman said. Medina police and the State Highway Patrol are investigating the accident, but last night exactly what happened remained a mystery.

Today, Medina police plan to haul the car from the water.

Shortly after 5 p.m. Tuesday the car driven by Sackett apparently rolled past the Medina City Hall and swept through the police department's parking lot.

It headed toward the waterfront, passed dead-end signs and went off an embankment, dropping a foot into the chilly, darkening waters. Witnesses reported that prior to the accident they had seen the car in a parking lot with its engine idling but with no one apparently in the driver's seat.

revving of an engine. Another person called 911, he heard the crunching sounds of metal.

"He then looked out the window of his waterfront home and saw a car bobbing in the lake," Medina Police Chief Joe Raice said about the caller.

When the rescuers returned to shore, Sackett had a heart attack and was not breathing. Medics crews started cardiopulmonary resuscitation and restarted her heart as the ambulance raced to the hospital.

Briefs

KENMORE Man is given nearly seven years for killing dancer

A Kenmore man who killed a spicess dancer at a Shoreline club has been sentenced to nearly seven years in prison for the killing.

Gregory Nagel, 48, was convicted of manslaughter in the 1993 shooting death of the dancer. He had a history of mental problems.

OLYMPIA Bill offers Everett way out of area mass transit plan

Legislation that could give the city of Everett a way out of the \$6.7 billion mass transit project going before Puget Sound area voters, March 14, was introduced by Sen. Gary Stanigan, R-Everett, yesterday.

The bill would allow cities of more than 30,000 residents to withdraw from the Regional Transit Authority plan if a majority of voters within that city reject the bill. The issue was region-wide approval.

SEATTLE Burning cigarette blamed for blaze and man's death

A cigarette smoldering on a couch was blamed yesterday for a fire that killed a 35-year-old man and gutted a North Seattle mobile home late Tuesday.

Steven Michael Flood died of smoke inhalation in his unit in the University Trailer Park, 2200 E. 88th St., in the King County Medical Examiner's Office said.

Firefighters found Flood in a hall and tried unsuccessfully to revive him. The blaze caused an estimated \$20,000 damage, said Fire Department spokeswoman Georgia Taylor.

OLYMPIA Premium refunds will go to two Longview couples

The state has obtained nearly \$300,000 in premium refunds for two elderly Longview couples duped by insurance agent Mike Calzoza into changing their life-insurance policies, the insurance commissioner said yesterday.

Calzoza, of Snohomish, was accused of taking more than \$8 million in inherited investment scams under investigation by the U.S. attorney's office.

HIGHLINE Board OKs \$118.5 million bond elections for schools

HIGHLINE School Board voted yesterday to put a \$118.5 million bond issue on the ballot May 16.

Most of the money, together with untapped state allocations, would be used to replace nine of the district's aging schools, make additions to four others and construct a new elementary school in Des Moines.

SEATTLE Land owners don't want Indians crossing property

Private property owners say a federal judge should reject a plan to give Indian tribes members access across their land to shellfish beds.

The court filings by land owners would allow all property owners whose land tribal members might wish to traverse to file a lawsuit to get a separate trial on the access issue, lawyers for private property owners say.

The court filings by land owners contend that the tribes proposal should have been brought up at trial before the judge made his ruling.

HIGHWAY REPAIR

Washington has been awarded \$6.7 million in federal money to pay for repairs to State Route 12 damaged by a late November slide.

PI Staff and News Services

Clam champ



Benit Kallert, 27, swallows her way to victory in the Clam Slam contest in Pioneer Square yesterday.



Clam Slam contest in Pioneer Square yesterday.

Gay sailor at Bangor fights attempt to discharge him

By Paul Shukovsky P-Reporter

The Clinton administration introduced the "don't ask, don't tell" policy. A Navy board concluded Phillips should be discharged because he acknowledged having engaged in unspecified homosexual behavior.

But his discharge was halted in December by a temporary restraining order issued by District Judge William Dwyer.

Under the don't ask don't tell policy gay military personnel have the unfair burden of proving they don't engage in gay acts, Phillips said. He said he was discharged simply for saying he was a lesbian while Phillips acknowledged that he engaged in homosexual acts.

William Dwyer said he wanted to issue a preliminary injunction to keep Phillips in the service. The issue constitutional question is how the Navy may regulate specific homosexual conduct.

Phillips announced to the media in late 1992 that he was gay after President elect Clinton said he would end the prohibition on homosexuals in the armed forces.

GRANT W. HALLER photo

Phillips' attorney, Margaret Cammermer, announced a lawsuit was filed in federal court yesterday to challenge the Navy's attempt to discharge him after he acknowledged his homosexuality in 1992.

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The Navy began discharge actions against Phillips in early 1993, and subsequently the Clinton administration introduced the "don't ask, don't tell" policy.

Harris cleared of harassment claim

By Eric Houston P-Reporter

Seattle City Councilwoman Sherry Harris was cleared yesterday of a sexual harassment allegation brought by a former aide.

The ethics and elections committee ruled that the aide's allegations were untrue and concluded she was fired because of poor work performance.

Harris, the council's only openly gay member, expressed satisfaction with the outcome and said she had expected to be exonerated.

She was a disgruntled employee who was fired from her job because of poor work performance, said Harris referring to her former aide. This was her second time being fired.

Harris said she was fired because of poor work performance. She said she was fired because of poor work performance.

Pang's lawyer vows to clam up about client

By Scott Sunde P-Reporter

The attorney for Martin Pang says he will not give public divulge new information about the fugitive until an arrest is made.

Pang's lawyer, Richard H. Brown, said he will continue to try to get Pang to surrender to authorities. But in the meantime, the attorney will not divulge any knowledge any future conversations he may have with his client.

Pang is wanted for allegedly having procured with intent to acquire, receive, or transfer, or having procured with intent to remove him from the case.

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County corrections officer fired after sex-abuse inquiry

By George Foster P-Reporter

A King County corrections officer under investigation for more than a year on allegations of sexual abuse was fired yesterday.

The county said the officer, who has been fired from his job, it was learned this week.

County Adult Detention Director Art Wallenstein said Victor Calender, 35, a jail officer since 1991, was dismissed Feb. 7 for gross misconduct after having been on suspension with pay since early last October.

Calender could not be reached for comment yesterday. John Karstetter, an attorney for Public Safety Employees Local 339 said yesterday that the union will contest the termination.

According to Karstetter, the department could not be reached for comment yesterday. Among them, the attorney said, was the firing of Calender of sexual misconduct.

Wallenstein would not detail the allegations against Calender nor reveal the outcome of his department's investigation.

He said that during the latter stages of a department investigation, we placed him on administrative suspension when it was determined that he should be arrested on any reason.

When the investigation was completed, the jail director added, we terminated him. Wallenstein said the nature of the case extremely rare.

The county Prosecutor's Office would not be reached for comment yesterday. A decision would be made within the next week or two, whether to file charges against Calender based on a separate investigation of sexual contact with three female inmates.

Ian Donohoe, a spokesman for the prosecutor's office, said that because of a difficulty in tracking down witnesses, the investigation had lasted well over a year.

Symphony: City Council panel approves money for a new concert hall

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approved earlier by the council to about \$60 million. The city will provide \$9.7 million in financing for the two-story, underground parking garage, the symphony must guarantee to meet any shortfall from the second level if revenues fail to cover debt service.

The extra level of parking is crucial to the long-term financial viability of the hall, said Bob Wickham, project manager. Under the agreement, the city will contribute \$37 million to construction of the hall, which includes the purchase of the land and monies towards construction, and \$9.7 million for the garage and retail space, which should eventually pay for themselves.

the orchestra expects to raise about \$8 million through the transfer of development rights, sale of view and light easements, and a potential contribution from Metro to provide access from the hall and adjacent properties to the Metro tunnel under Third Avenue.

A separate fundraising campaign, headed by Priscilla Bullitt Collins, will create a half-acre park at Second and University, which is being called a gar-

den of re-nomination for Washington residents who lost their lives in war. Total cost of the project is expected to reach nearly \$100 million. The construction of the hall will cost about \$65 million, the parking garage about \$9 million and purchase of vacant land about \$16 million. Additional expenses include the purchase and demolition of the Jones Building at the northeast corner of the block.

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