

Detectives appeal for rape witnesses

DETECTIVES LAST NIGHT appealed for three people to come forward in their hunt for a Cardiff rapist.

They believe they may have been in a narrow city lane about the time a 26-year-old woman was raped. Detective Chief Inspector Bob Evans, who is leading the hunt, said, "We are particularly anxious to contact these people for their help."

Think again, Edwards tells Gwynfor

THE PRESIDENT of Plaid Cymru, Mr Gwynfor Evans should consider the consequences of his proposed hunger strike, the Secretary of State for Wales, Mr Nicholas Edwards, said last night.

On last night's BBC Panorama programme about the fourth television channel, Mr Edwards was asked what advice he, as a Welshman, ought to give Mr Evans.

Mr Edwards said Mr Evans ought to give the Government plans for Welsh television a chance to succeed because both the Government and Mr Evans had ultimately the same objective — to provide a comprehensive television service to Welsh-speakers.

He said the Government would not lose face over changing it mind about providing a wholly Welsh fourth channel. It had looked into the issue and decided that it posed too many problems.

Licence fine will be deducted from pay

When a teacher appeared in court at Ruthin yesterday for non-payment of a £50 fine imposed for not buying a television licence, magistrates ordered that the cash should be deducted from his salary.

Iestyn Jones Evans, of Llandyrnog, near Denbigh, a chapel deacon and father of two, had refused to buy a licence as part of the protest against the Welsh language programmes on a new fourth channel. He said he had placed his licence fee in the special fund administered by Plaid Cymru. The magistrates made an order for the deduction of £5 a week from his £90 take home pay in order to pay the fine.

Manager foiled robbers with a briefcase full of money

A SALES manager used his briefcase containing nearly £700 to fight off two men who were trying to rob him, Cardiff Crown Court heard yesterday.

Mr Ronald Bolwell, aged 43, hit out at his attackers after being hit on the side of the face with a metal object.

Insurance man gives up job to sail Atlantic

A 28-YEAR-OLD insurance company official plans to sail from Wales to the West Indies next month.

Mr David Hughes, manager of the Newtown office of the Royal Insurance Company for three years, is giving up his job to cross the Atlantic in a 30ft sloop with a friend who does not want to be identified.

The two men will leave Aberdovey early next month and plan to cross the Atlantic in two stages. They will head for the Canary Islands and wait there until the hurricane season has blown itself out.

"Then we'll sail the rest of the way with the trade winds — the classic route," said Mr Hughes.

The woman, a newcomer to the city, was attacked when she got lost in narrow lanes late at night near Newport Road, Roath.

She was dressed in a black skirt, pink blouse and cream jacket, and was walking a dog on a lead.

Detective Chief Inspector Evans, head of Cardiff Central CID, said the woman had been visiting her mother in Gwent and returned to Cardiff on Sunday night.

She got off a bus in Newport Road about 11pm and planned to walk to her home in Claude Road, Mr Evans said. A short distance along Partridge Street she took a wrong turning into the Elm Street Lane.

A man approached her in the lane and she asked him the way to Claude Road. He directed her into another lane leading from the Elm Street Lane to Teal Street.

Mr Evans said police were particularly anxious to contact three people thought to have been walking through Elm Street Lane at the time of the offence.

The woman described her attacker as a man aged 20 to 24, about six feet tall, well built with medium-length hair, wearing a small-skinned, wearing a light cardigan and dark shirt.

Footsteps
But before she reached the turning she heard footsteps behind her and was pushed to the ground, turned on her back and raped.

A special incident room was set up at Rumney Police Station, and yesterday detectives were making house-to-house inquiries in Partridge Street.

Co-op considered
People who lost their jobs at a valley clothing factory are meeting union officials today to discuss setting up a workers' co-operative.

More than 40 people lost their jobs at Johns Fashions, Bargoed, when it closed last week. Transport and General Workers' Union official Mr Bill Tobutt said, "There is a full order book there."

own back.
Mr Stephen Hopkins, of Gillespie, said his client met two other men and mentioned this to them.

They were Stephen John Gillespie (22), a shop manager, of Penylan Road, Cardiff, and Raymond George Appleby (23), unemployed, of Crwys Place, Cardiff.

On March 17 the three men followed Mr Bolwell from the Post Corner public house, Appleby and Stephen Gillespie were to approach on foot while Richard Gillespie waited in a car ready to make good their escape.

As Mr Bolwell went into his front garden, Appleby hit him with a metal object, which cut his leg.

"Mr Bolwell's reaction was one of anger and he swung out with his briefcase and was successful in frightening the men off," said Mr Christopher Pitchford, for the prosecution.

Richard Gillespie also took flight and drove off with the other defendants. All three men pleaded guilty to assaulting Mr Bolwell with intent to rob. Stephen Gillespie also pleaded guilty to stealing a car.

Judge John Rutter said Appleby had been the most active participant and sentenced him to three years.

Stephen Gillespie was gaoled for two years to run consecutive with a prison sentence he is already serving, and Richard Gillespie was gaoled for 18 months.

Elderly robbed
Police are hunting thieves who are thought to be concentrating on the homes of elderly women living alone in the Rhyl area after raids in Rhudfan Road and Frances Avenue.

Roundabout appears in garden
When Caerphilly pensioner Mr sio Hills, got up yesterday morning to find a children's roundabout on his front lawn at Second Avenue, Treceynydd.

It was apparently put there during the night by vandals who removed it from a nearby children's playground.

Boost for factory
Pilkington's PE Limited, of St Asaph, which employs 500 people, has beaten off stiff competition from both sides of the Atlantic to win a £1,500,000 contract for a sophisticated optical system which will be installed in American military aircraft to aid pilots.

Winstone in crash
Former champion boxer Howard Winstone was involved in a two-car accident at Merthyr yesterday. No one was hurt. The accident happened on the Gurnos estate where Mr Winstone plans to operate a public house.

Cyclist injured
Mr Charles Andrew May, aged 33, of the Post Office, Verwig, received head injuries yesterday when he fell from his cycle on the Cardiganian Gwent road. Last night his condition at West Wales General Hospital, Gwent, Carmarthen, was described as "fair."

MAN KILLED ON LINE
A MAN was killed on the railway line at Tylacoch, Treorchy, yesterday when he fell from a footbridge into the path of the 10.15 train.



Pleasure park's studio is a winner

THE Radio One Road Show was broadcast from Barry Island yesterday — and thousands of youngsters flocked to the Pleasure Park to join in the fun.

At the turntable was popular disc-jockey Andy Peebles — looking like a refugee from Dallas with a ten-gallon steeple hat.

From a studio erected next to a candy-floss stall he kept the discs spinning and the gags flowing.

When he ventured into the crowd (right) to present a record album for the most unusual costume to Alan Morgan, of Barry, Andy was mobbed by auto-graph hunters.



Get TUC to sort out hospital strike, says union

A CALL to refer the strike of manual workers at Newport's Royal Gwent Hospital to the TUC was made by the Health Service union COHSE last night.

But the management of the hospital ruled that a joint meeting must be held first between the strikers' union NUPE and the Municipal and General Workers' who represented other manual staff.

The strikers held a mass meeting yesterday and voted by a narrow majority to stay out. They were addressed by NUPE's full-time official, Mr Glyn Evans. He said, "We could be talking about a long strike."

The Royal Gwent branch secretary of COHSE, Mr Derek Gwillim, said after the meeting, "I have now proposed that the TUC should be called in to try to settle the strike. It is high time it ended and someone has to call a halt."

"It has already been tackled by the area health authority, ACAS and the other unions. All have failed to sort it out and as far as I can see there is nobody left to go except the TUC."

Focus
"The strike has got to the point of no return. We have spoken to the girls who are still working in the linen room which is the focus of the strike. Our girls there are not going to give in. Neither are NUPE."

Mr Simon Hodgson said, "I have had an approach from the MGWU for a joint meeting which I have now called for Wednesday. I would not think it appropriate to call in anyone until that meeting has been held."

He added that 320 out of the 600 manual workers at the hospital were now working normally.

The patients had not suffered and admissions were continuing both for emergencies and from the waiting list.

Fan kicks off season with a £200 fine

A SOCCER fan alleged to have urinated over spectators at Ninian Park, Cardiff, on Saturday was fined £200 yesterday.

Vaughan Howie (20), of Heol yr Ysgol, Ynyswadre, Bridgend, was one of five youths to appear before magistrates charged with offences at Cardiff City's first league match of the season against Blackburn Rovers.

Howie was told by the Stipendiary Magistrate, Sir Lincoln Hallinan, "This is pretty disgraceful. There is no excuse for it."

Howie pleaded guilty to using insulting behaviour whereby a breach of the peace was likely to be occasioned. He told the court he had urinated at the ground but not over other spectators.

Another fan was fined £100 for throwing a stone at a group of supporters at the match. Nigel Davies (17), of Croeso Square, Blackwood, had admitted using threatening behaviour when he appeared before lay magistrates yesterday.

Kevin Haggerty and David John Morris, both 17 and living in Ystrad Road, Penrth, Rhonda, were each fined £10 after admitting being drunk and disorderly at Ninian Park on Saturday.

Widow found dead

Mrs Bessie Hall, aged 50, of the Cross Keys Inn, Llandudno, was found dead only two days after the funeral of her licensee husband, Tom, 58. Crime is not suspected.

EEC blamed for delays in aid to farmers

THERE WAS swift reaction yesterday to a claim that Welsh farmers were missing out on millions of pounds worth of Common Market aid.

Officials from the EEC said during a visit to Carmarthen that instead of cashing in on aid worth £162m to Welsh agriculture over the past seven years, farmers in the Principality had taken only £8.1m.

But Mr Owen Slaymaker, Carmarthen branch secretary of the FUW, said that farmers were discouraged from seeking Common Market aid because grants were slow in being paid.

He said there was a risk that farmers applying for Common Market grant could be caught up in bridging loans of 20 per cent interest to tide them over between the completion of grant aided work and payment of the grant.

With high interest rates on loans, the advantage of a Common Market grant could largely be wiped out.

The union's public relations officer, Mr Gwilym Thomas, said farmers were not at fault.

"The EEC could improve its information services detailing what was on offer, and the Government could be pressing its case stronger for more help for Welsh farmers, especially those on marginal land."

Mr Neil Saunders, a Cardiff-based EEC official, said in Carmarthen that the Irish Government had spent £3m when it entered the community detailing how Common Market cash could be obtained, but only £200,000 had been spent in Wales on EEC promotion.

Clergyman's bail altered

A South Wales clergyman facing charges of rape and indecent assault appeared briefly before Cardiff Stipendiary Magistrate Sir Lincoln Hallinan yesterday.

A condition of the clergyman's bail, requiring him to report regularly to the police was altered to let him attend a more convenient police station.

Recent Wills
Mr John Mathias James, of Clynderwen, Dyfed, left £87,141 (£86,806 net).

Mr Winifred Brown, of Merlins Cross, Pembroke, left £53,639 (£51,274 net).

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