

WEDNESDAY MORNING

Allen is removed from Mudge case

EDWARDSVILLE — Madison County State's Attorney Dick Allen has been removed from the prosecution of Thomas G. Mudge, who is charged with murder in the death of his girlfriend.

In an order issued Monday, County Circuit Judge P.J. O'Neill granted Allen's request to withdraw from the prosecution of Mudge, the son of Allen's former friend and political associate, the late Dick Mudge Jr.

O'Neill said in his order the Illinois Attorney General's office will take over the prosecution.

Thomas Mudge, 28, is charged with murder in the death of his girlfriend, Jaqueline M. Reed, 25, of Edwardsville. Reed, who was a student at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville, died in July after choking on her own vomit.

A coroner's jury ruled that the vomiting was induced by head injuries inflicted by a blunt instrument.

Allen asked last week that he and his office be removed from the prosecution because of his friendship with Dick Mudge, a former state's attorney.

Allen served as assistant state's attorney under Dick Mudge from 1956 to 1964, when Mudge left office. The two remained friends and political allies until Mudge's death in 1978.

State

Ex-principal accused of sex abuse of boys

PRINCETON (AP) — A 24-year-old former parochial school principal is scheduled to be arraigned in court Friday on charges he sexually abused three sixth-grade boys in his home last December, authorities say.

Mark Savoree, ousted March 8 as principal of St. Louis Catholic School after the mother of one of the boys went to school authorities with her son's allegations, was indicted Monday by a Bureau County grand jury on four counts of aggravated sexual abuse.

County prosecutor Marc Bernabei earlier had filed similar charges against Savoree. Bernabei said he sought the grand jury indictments to avoid having the boys have to testify in open court at a preliminary hearing.

Two from Indiana split Lotto prize

CHICAGO (AP) — Two Indiana residents will split the \$6.6 million in last week's Illinois Lotto game.

William McLaughlin Sr. of Orestes, Ind., and Jonell Walts of Evansville, Ind., each will receive \$165,000 a year for the next 20 years, Lottery Superintendent Michael Jones said Tuesday.

McLaughlin, 62, identified Monday, runs a home-improvement company. He is married and has five children and 15 grandchildren.

Walts, 38, said Tuesday she expected to get about 48 percent of the money after taxes and wants to look into tax shelters and investments.

A total of 364 people matched five of the six winning numbers for prizes of \$2,858 each. There were 19,558 tickets with four of six winning numbers for prizes of \$79.50.

The winning numbers drawn Saturday were: 16, 27, 36, 37, 39, 42.

Tuesday's lottery number:
3-6-7
Pick Four:
9-2-7-7

Deaths
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- Anna Berkel
- Mary Cox
- Robert Ewing
- Theodore Forness
- Edwin Klohr
- Ora Palmer
- Ruby Piper
- Charles Robinson
- Mathilda Schnepel
- Helen Voellinger
- Karalana Wise

Inspector testifies in Wheadon case

By LES WEATHERFORD
News-Democrat

ALTON — James Randle, testifying Tuesday in the trial of A. Wendell Wheadon, said he was shocked to discover that little renovation had been done when he inspected the Orr-Weathers housing project in East St. Louis in August 1982.

"I was really shocked that no more had been done," Randle said. "Especially when I found out that money had actually been collected by the contractor."

Randle, an architect, spent about three hours Tuesday testifying against Wheadon, former executive director of the East St. Louis Housing Authority. Wheadon is charged with bribery, conspiracy, embezzlement and income tax evasion. His case is being heard in U.S. District Court in Alton.

The charges against Wheadon and two other men stem from the alleged misuse of more than

\$1 million in federal funds intended for renovation of the Orr-Weathers project. Co-defendant Robert Jacox, the contractor for the project, pleaded guilty to conspiracy earlier this month and already has testified for the prosecution.

Co-defendant Walter Avant, a partner in a subcontracting firm, is awaiting trial for conspiracy.

As a result of the alleged conspiracy, authorities said earlier, the housing authority paid about \$1.4 million for only about \$150,000 worth of work.

Randle was hired to inspect the Orr-Weathers renovation work and approve requests for payment submitted by Jacox. Randle said he could recall approving only two requests — one for \$98,000 in early 1981 and another in May 1982 for \$106,000.

Randle said he approved the \$106,000 request

after Jacox said he was having problems with the IRS and needed money to stay in business to finish the work.

Randle said he did not do the required inspection. "Based on some of my windshield inspections (viewing the exterior from his car), I felt there had been sufficient amount of work done... to justify the pay request of \$106,000," he said.

The pay request, Randle said, was delivered by Wheadon.

U.S. District Judge William Beatty, who is hearing the evidence against Wheadon in a bench trial, noted the pay request showed about \$1.2 million had already been claimed for work.

At the request of the FBI, Randle said he inspected the Orr-Weathers site in August 1982. He said he determined no more than \$250,000 worth of work had been done at the site.

Although several other pay requests pre-

sented by the prosecution bore Randle's signature, he testified he did not authorize anyone to sign them. He said the signatures apparently had been written by secretaries.

"As a practical matter," Beatty asked, "somebody filled out these requests for payments, ran them into your office and got them signed?"

"That's the way it looks," Randle said. "In July 1983, Randle pleaded guilty to a single count of falsifying the \$106,000 pay request. He was given a one-year suspended sentence, placed on one year of probation and fined \$5,000.

Also testifying Tuesday was East St. Louis Alderman Robert Eastern Jr., Jacox's partner in a sheet metal and plumbing firm. Eastern, testifying under an informal grant of immunity, said Jacox had employed Avant's firm under pressure from Wheadon.



News-Democrat/Bill DeMestri

Bound for Africa

Members of Wings of Hope, a non-profit group that flies around the world providing medical and other services, check one of their airplanes at St. Louis Downtown Parks Airport in Cahokia. The group plans to fly the Cessna 206 this week to Zaire

in Africa to deliver food and medical supplies to starving people there. The members, from left, are Ed Schertz of Cahokia; Bob Mihalik of Belleville; Keith McCrary of Perryville, Mo., and Edgar Appelgate of Ferguson, Mo.

Community asked to aid adoptions

By DOUGLAS L. DENNISON
News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — The black community must recognize its responsibility to adopt black children, the Rev. George Clements said Tuesday at Mount Pisgah Baptist church.

"The white community supports its responsibility to adopt white children and it's time the black

community did the same," said Clements, who is black. "We spawned them and it's up to us to take care of them."

Clements founded the One Church, One Child adoption program five years ago. In its first year, the program contributed to a five-fold increase in adoption of black children in the Chicago area.

He and members of the program's

board and staff visited Mount Pisgah Church to promote expansion of the program to other states. Church representatives from among the 15 other states that want similar programs also attended, as did Gordon Johnson, director of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

See ADOPT/4B

State Police will monitor voting

By FRANK H. ELAM
News-Democrat

EAST ST. LOUIS — The Illinois State Police will assign at least two troopers to polling places in East St. Louis to help monitor next Tuesday's general election, a State Police spokesman said Tuesday.

In addition, three experts from the State Board of Elections and three St. Clair County sheriff's deputies will handle questions and complaints in Ward 5, where there is a heated

aldermanic contest between the Democratic Party candidate and a write-in candidate.

The announcement that law enforcement officers and state election officials would monitor voting came amid reports that an unusually high number of voters are filing absentee ballots in Ward 5, leading to speculation of vote fraud.

Mayor Carl Officer and Police Chief Charles Wren requested assistance from the State Police. In a

March 13 letter to Ronald Michaelson, executive director of the State Board of Elections in Springfield, Officer said the extra police were "needed for several precincts in Ward 5" to "to guard against election fraud."

In the Ward 5 aldermanic race, incumbent Alderwoman Verna Tolden, appointed earlier this month to fill out her late husband's term, may

See ELECTION/4B

Swansea man is killed in motorcycle accident

By PAT COX
News-Democrat

FAIRVIEW HEIGHTS — Robert D. Ewing, 19, of Swansea died Monday night after losing control of his motorcycle and striking a utility pole on Sullivan Road just south of the Fairview Heights city limits.

Ewing was traveling south on Sullivan Road 200 feet north of Carbon Road when he apparently lost control at a curve in a no-passing zone on the two-lane road, said an Illinois State Police spokesman.

There's no evidence of what caused Ewing to lose control, the spokesman said.

A witness, Anthony J. L'Hote of Belleville, told police no other vehicle was involved in the accident.

The road was dry, the night was clear and there were no apparent defects in the road or the motorcycle, according to the report.

Ewing was pronounced dead of head and neck injuries at 11:35 p.m. at the scene, according to St. Clair County Coroner Rick Stone.

Ewing worked in the kitchen at Duff's Smorgasbord on Lincoln Trail at Ruby Lane in Fairview Heights.

"Rob was a good worker, dependable," said David Carriel of Belleville, manager of Duff's Smorgasbord. "He worked here full-time ever since we opened, which was about three or four months ago.

"He had a lot of friends here," Carriel said. "I was one of them. We'll all miss him."

Funeral services will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Kassy Colonial Mortuary Chapel in Fairview Heights. Burial will be in Walnut Hill Cemetery in Belleville.

Friends may call from 3 to 9 p.m. Thursday and from 2 to 9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home.

East meets West over the table at restaurant

By KEITH SCHOPP
News-Democrat

The two Vietnamese men and the Frenchman stood outside Lee Wah Chinese Restaurant in Belleville and talked about Americans and French pastry.

"The United Nations should be so lucky. 'I go with the national food movement,'" said Neah Tan Ango, owner of Lee Wah's. "I dream that one day we have a bakery with French pastry here. My dream is very big."

The pastry dream, one of several for Ango, is close to being realized.

Ango's son, Donald J. Ango, 27, is in town after studying French cuisine in Paris for three years.

Now Neah Tan Ango is ready. The basement of Lee Wah's has been remodeled, and the Ango family will begin French pastry production in early April.

"It was my long-range plan with the East-meets-West type of food," Ango said. "So I sent my son in 1982 to learn French bakery and cooking skills."

Donald J. Ango attended Cordon Bleu and Le Notre institutes in Paris at a cost of about \$20,000, Neah Tan Ango said.

Le Notre then sent the younger Ango to work as an assistant chef of pastry at its company in Houston.

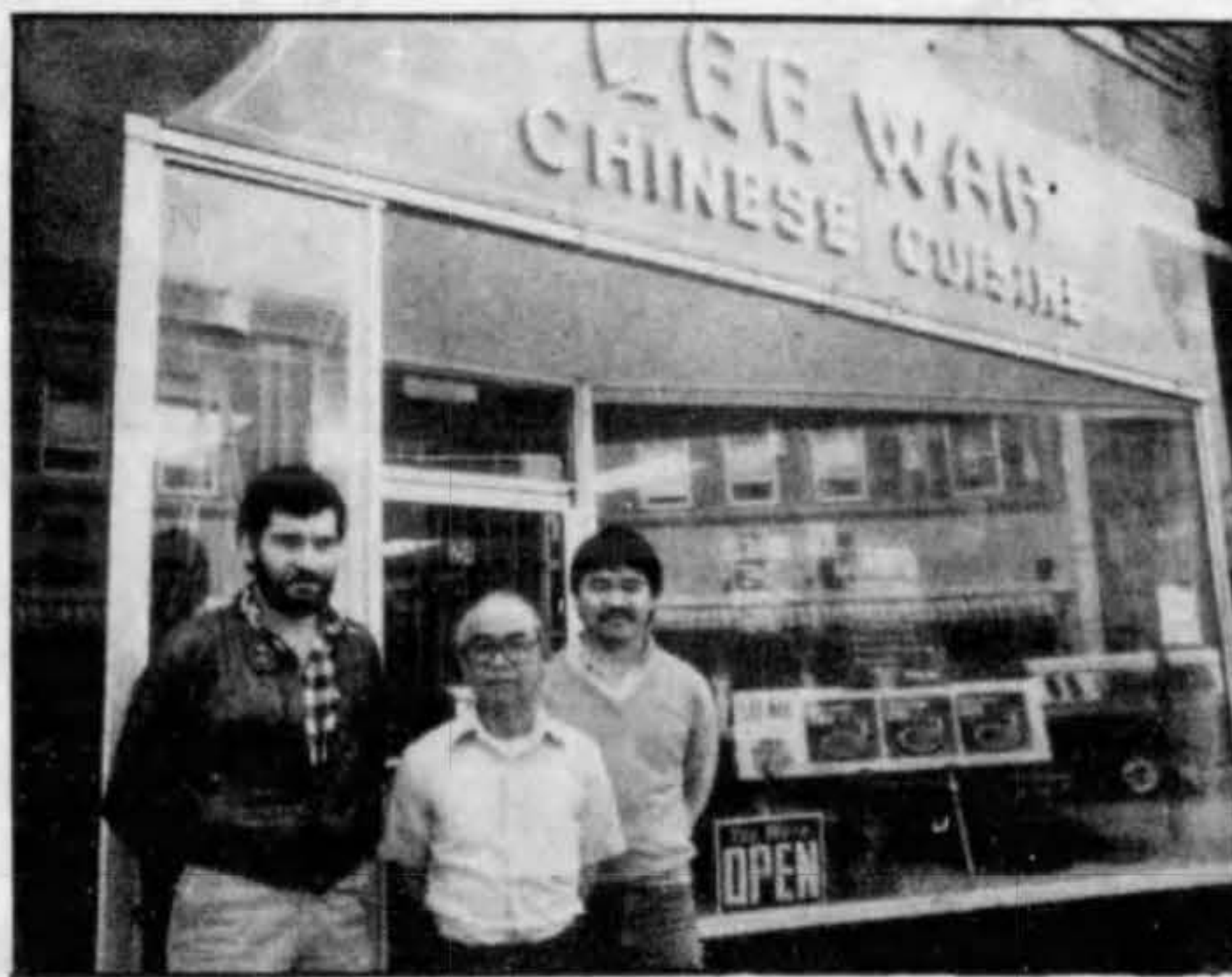
"For Cordon Bleu, I am the second Vietnamese to complete the training," Donald Ango said. "While in Houston, I asked my friend, a French baker, to come back home with me to help start my own business."

Philippe Delgado, the French chef, now lives with the Ango family in St. Louis.

Delgado speaks little English.

But both Angos seem to speak a little of everything.

"The Vietnamese are most related to France," Neah Tan Ango said.



News-Democrat/Keith Schopp

From left: Philippe Delgado, Neah Tan Ango and Donald J. Ango

Donald J. Ango took French in high school in Saigon.

"What we do here in Belleville," Neah Tan Ango said, "is to select the best of cuisine, in food, and serve it at one place."

The Angos plan to sell French pastries at Lee Wah and also sell their products wholesale to St. Louis restaurants and convenience stores.

Lee Wah restaurant will begin opening at 7 a.m. to serve breakfast croissants, chocolate mousse, some common pastries and some low-calorie pastries. Lee Wah fast Chinese food will prevail at lunchtime. Pastries, quiche and croissants



Schopp Talk

again get the nod in the afternoon, with Chinese entrees available for dinner.

"It is like 7-Eleven freedom," said Neah Tan Ango, who also owns the 7-Eleven store on South Belt East. "People can come in, get their pastry, cigarette, newspaper. I think my planning is working well."

Tom Wobbe, director of planning and promotion for Belleville Economic Progress Inc., talked about Neah Tan Ango's planning and success.

"He's a good businessman, an aggressive businessman who's willing to work to get the job done," Wobbe said. "Neah is an example. Here is a Vietnamese refugee who has taken on the American tradition and through the private enterprise system become a very successful businessman."

Neah Tan Ango, who says he is "7-Eleven" because he works seven days a week, 11 hours a day, wants to contribute to downtown Belleville.

"I want to bring more traffic and create more jobs."

The diminutive businessman said he has no plans to explore other ethnic foods — like pizza or sauerkraut.

"No, no, no," Neah said. "I'm plenty busy doing what I am doing."

If past record means anything, French pastry with a Vietnamese businessman's flair may be an international success in Belleville.