

National

Doctors struggle to save elephant

BALTIMORE — Doctors at the Baltimore Zoo are trying to save the life of Gunni, a 12-year-old African elephant suffering from a disease that caused her to lose 700 pounds from her 3-ton frame in the past two months.

Gunni, one of two elephants in the state, has a disease that causes the animal's antibodies to attack her own system.

Zoo director Steve Graham said Gunni's feet and face have puffed up and she spends much of the day on her side.

"She's still on display," he said. "An elephant is a creature of habit and the best thing is to let her do what she's used to doing. She's getting the best care possible."

Gunni has been in the zoo since 1972 and got sick last January. Dr. Thomas Zizic of the Hopkins Multi-Purpose Medical Center is in charge of the elephant's treatment, which includes massive doses of the drug Prednisone. Treatments are given orally and cost about \$59 a day.

Since Saturday, Gunni has refused most of her food and the puffiness of her face and feet has become worse, Zizic said.

"We are confident that Gunni can be saved, but it's a very touchy situation," Graham said.

Hollywood supplies stars for congressional meetings

WASHINGTON — If the dramatic world of Washington, with its pressure politics, satchels full of cash and Capitol Hill romances can provide Hollywood with script material, it's no surprise Hollywood is supplying stars for congressional productions.

Congressional hearings are often long and boring, only occasionally producing an uncooperative Mafia witness, a bribe-taking miscreant or an impassioned protester for some cause or other.

But lately, they are taking on the appearance of Hollywood Squares as celebrity after celebrity turns up before congressional committees to save refugees, movie archives or victims of rare diseases.

The latest was Pearl Bailey, whose monologue on the need to

keep working highlighted Tuesday's hearing of the House Select Committee on Aging. The hearing, called by 81-year-old Rep. Claude Pepper, D-Fla., was a publicity forum for attacking mandatory retirement.

Also testifying was Studs Terkel, author and radio commentator, and some other elderly men who are still working at their professions.

The fact that Miss Bailey, a theology student at Georgetown University, delivered an impromptu sermon on her relationship with God, while barely touching on the subject at hand, did not seem to bother Pepper.

For having chaired the only hearing of the day and snagging a major celebrity, Pepper was rewarded with the presence of 10 television cameras and about a dozen reporters.

Entertainers on Capitol Hill

are nothing new. More and more often, a celebrity with a current TV show or movie winds up before a congressional committee and the news cameras.

In recent months, the witness parade has read like the index of TV Guide:

- *Brooke Shields against smoking.
- *Edward "Lou Grant" Asner on the Freedom of Information Act.
- *Linda "Billie Newman" Kelsey against infant formula sales abroad.
- *Leontyne Price against cuts in the federal arts budget.
- *Jack Klugman for diseases that don't get enough research attention.
- *Jane Russell for foster children.
- *Liv Ullman and Valerie "Rhoda" Harper for African refugees.
- *John Gavin for his own confirmation as ambassador to Mexico.

Voters reject using Bible as school text

TIFFIN, Iowa — When the votes were counted, the Bible Clear Creek School District voters doubled last year's turnout Tuesday and soundly defeated a college student's proposal to adopt the Bible as a supplementary school text by a 689-90 vote.

But Ian Johnson says he is unimpressed and will try again — in Des Moines.

I'm seen here as an outsider trying to make trouble."

Burt Wagoner, a Des Moines school board candidate, told Johnson he planned to put the issue before Des Moines residents.

"It'll be the same procedure — different words," Johnson said. "They will not consider him (Wagoner) an outsider. They will not be easily intimidated by a suit."

The director of the Iowa Con-

servative Union Phil Sheldon, also had approached some Iowa lawmakers in an attempt to try to put the issue into law by legislation, Johnson said.

Some residents of the Clear Creek school district, which includes Tiffin, Oxford and parts of Coralville and Iowa City, had expressed worries the referendum could have led to teaching the Bible in school and open the way for cults to enter the school.

Wallace marries miner's daughter

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace Wednesday announced his "recent marriage" to the 33-year-old daughter of a wealthy Jasper, Ala., coal mine operator.


Wallace spokesman Elvin Stanton issued a two-sentence statement saying the 62-year-old Wallace and Lisa Taylor announced their "recent marriage." He said both are "very happy."

Stanton declined to say when or where Wallace and Taylor were married and would not give additional details.

Wallace, partially paralyzed from a 1972 assassination attempt during a presidential campaign, confirmed his engagement earlier this year. He insisted his marriage plans were "personal and private" and refused to discuss the subject with reporters.

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