

## Newspapers aid in learning

# Kid's math can improve

**United Press International**  
The newspaper you're reading contains a vast amount of information that can be used to help your child's math education.

The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics makes the claim and gives some directions in a new free pamphlet, "How To Be the Plus In Your Child's Math Education."

The pamphlet also tells how to use the home as a math learning center.

"Newspapers can be used to help your child develop and reinforce computational and graphing skills," the NCTM says.

Start with something simple, such as keeping track of daily temperatures listed in the paper. Do this by constructing a graph.

Adding prices on an order drawn from food ads provides easy practice in computation. The same for figuring the sum of prices in a wish list put together from toy store ads.

There even are elementary economics lessons from math exercises your child can perform from information in the paper, the NCTM said.

Take coupons.

"Evaluate the economics of coupon clipping by having your child clip out and save food coupons for a week," the NCTM said.

"Then raise questions like, 'How much money could be saved in a week if all the coupons were used? Would that amount pay for the newspaper for a week?'"

The NCTM says problem solving activities can be created anywhere and describes one keyed to eating out.

**"Newspapers can be used to help your child develop and reinforce computational and graphing skills."**

"Using a menu, have your child total the cost of meals for four and the number of items ordered."

"Then have the child compute the average cost of each meal, and the average cost of the items ordered. Finally, have child determine the tip

for excellent, fair and poor service."

As for using the home as a math learning center, the opportunities are numerous and unique, said Joe Caravella, director of membership for the NCTM.

He said there is an unlimited supply of data in a home and that lends itself to the collection, display, use and understanding of data — an important skill.

One data exercise given in the pamphlet:

—Help child make a chart with blocks for the days, Sunday to Saturday. Divide the blocks by activities — sleep, eat, play, travel, school, homework, electronic entertainment and other.

—Help child put down the number of hours spent on each activity during the seven 24-hour periods. By week's end, the chart displays a record of how time was spent.

Caravella said the pamphlet was developed in response to enormous interest among parents wanting to get involved in the math education of their children.

"Polls show that they want to," he said, "and we found

that to be true when we received thousands of requests from parents a few years back when we offered a pamphlet on 67 activities kids could perform on a pocket calculator.

"We were surprised by the response since we had come to believe many parents have math phobia."

In another tactic designed to draw parents into math education, Caravella said math teachers want parents to join the NCTM.

"Parents play the most important role in a child's education," he said.

"That's why we're saying to parents, 'Get involved with your child's mathematics education and let the NCTM help you be that special plus.'"

For a copy of "How To Be the Plus In Your Child's Mathematics Education," send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to "PLUS," National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, 1906 Association Drive, Reston, Va. 22091.

# Voters go to polls for Miami mayor

**United Press International**  
MIAMI — Mayor Maurice Ferre, bidding for a record sixth term, took an early lead Tuesday night in his bitter re-election battle against Cuban-born lawyer Xavier Suarez.

Returns from four of Miami's 85 precincts gave Ferre 827 votes to 166 for Suarez. The first results were no surprise, because most of the votes were from black neighborhoods where Ferre expected to capture 70 percent of the vote.

An hour before the polls closed, election officials raised their earlier forecast of a 63.7 percent turnout to 65 percent for the mayoral runoff election.

Balmy, 80-degree weather contributed to the turnout, which could be a record, officials said.

Ferre, born into a wealthy Puerto Rican family, and Suarez, seeking to become the city's first mayor of Cuban heritage, voted early in the day with their families and agreed turnout in the tight runoff election would make the difference.

Of Miami's 106,568 registered voters, 36.7 percent are Hispanic, 32.6 percent black and 29.8 percent white.

Two ads plastered around Miami reflected the bitterness of the campaign. A Ferre ad said, "Cubans want a Cuban Mayor!

Miami is ours, too! We can't let Reagan take control."

At the same time, a Suarez ad said in Spanish: "Cubans Vote Cuban. Vote For One of Our Own."

Both Ferre, 48, and Suarez, 34, conceded the one-week runoff was the nastiest in the city's history and often degenerated into a contest of name-calling and one-upmanship that split the ethnically diverse city.

Each accused the other of injecting racism and ethnic appeals into the contest, while both tried to best the other's credentials as an anti-communist who yearned for the overthrow of Cuban leader Fidel Castro.

But even as Ferre and Suarez expressed regret about the tone of the campaign, they pinned their hopes on big ethnic voter turnouts in the non-partisan election.

Ferre, who beat back a challenge from Cuban-born Manolo Reboso in 1981 on the strength of support from Miami's blacks, was counting again on the lion's share of black votes. Suarez was pinning his hopes on a heavy Hispanic vote.

The third element in Miami's mix — the white voters — was a question mark and both candidates said it was possible that

group could be the key to victory.

Ferre, a Democrat, was appointed to take the reins of Miami city government in 1973 when Mayor David Kennedy resigned amid political scandal. He has been elected five times since then but faced his stiffest challenge Tuesday from Suarez, a Republican, Harvard-educated lawyer who calls himself a strong supporter of President Reagan.

In the Nov. 8 primary, Suarez stunned political observers by finishing only 201 votes behind Ferre in a race in which nearly 60,000 votes were cast.

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# Gas decontrol rejected

**United Press International**  
WASHINGTON — An administration-supported natural gas decontrol bill suffered a crushing defeat Tuesday when the Senate voted 67-28 against it in a critical test vote.

The bill, which would lift price controls after three years, was essentially offered as an amendment in order to allow the measure to be soundly defeated despite the declaration of Sen. James McClure, R-Idaho, chairman of the Senate Energy Committee, that it was the "best compromise" the panel could produce.

Even McClure appeared to recognize in advance that it was doomed to be voted down and that some compromise would be necessary.

"Maybe we should retire to the cloakroom, roll up our shirtsleeves and take our pencils out to see if we can meld these all together," he said before the vote.

The rejection came only minutes after the Senate also voted 71-26 against a proposal by Sen. Nancy Kassebaum, R-Kan., to roll natural gas price ceilings back to their August 1982 levels.

The Senate rejected Kassebaum's "Natural Gas Consumer Relief Act" after it was attacked by McClure as one that would "do more damage than good."

The Idaho Republican said the Kassebaum bill was "unbalanced" and might lower gas prices for consumers over the short run.

But he said it was "so weighted against" gas producers that it

would raise prices over the long run.

By lowering ceiling prices to 1980 levels, he said, prices would be "too low" after 1984 to encourage increased gas production.

After rejection of the Kassebaum amendment, the Senate returned to consideration of the committee bill.

That bill called for the lifting of all gas price controls after a three-year transition period, during which price ceilings for cheap "old" gas from wells drilled prior to 1977 would be gradually raised. At the same time, price ceilings on expensive new gas produced later would be phased down.

The committee bill was a substitute for an administration bill calling for the immediate

freeing of new gas from price controls and the gradual lifting of controls on old gas by 1985.

The controversial compromise was sent to the Senate floor by an 11-9 vote of the committee — but without recommendation.

In the House, a committee headed by Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich., also found itself deeply divided as it began final shaping of a natural gas bill to be sent to the House floor.

The House Energy and Commerce Committee faced the task of sorting out at least three proposals offered in search of a compromise acceptable to all.

# Defendant takes girlfriend hostage

**United Press International**  
SAN ANTONIO — A defendant in a federal firearms case took his girlfriend hostage in an insurance company office for almost three hours Tuesday, then surrendered to police after talking with a federal magistrate and probation officers in Fort Worth.

No one was injured in the ordeal, which began when a man identified as Richard Rollins, 25, of Fort Worth, fired one shot from an automatic weapon and took the woman hostage at about 12:30 p.m., said San Antonio Deputy Police Chief Robert Hueck.

Rollins then went inside and shouted, "Get the hell out of here," the witness reported.

Murphy, who had been at the San Antonio office for only two days, was held back by Rollins, police spokesman David Saucedo said.

Before the surrender, police Lt. Jimmy Kopec said Rollins indicated he would give up if he could keep his weapon.

Rollins, who apparently took Patricia Murphy hostage in a domestic dispute, released her unharmed and surrendered to police at about 3:15 p.m.

Rollins surrendered after speaking on a three-way telephone hook-up to FBI agents, parole officers and U.S. Magistrate Alex McGlinchey in Fort Worth.

U.S. Attorney Mike Sheehan said in Fort Worth that Rollins was scheduled to go on trial Jan. 1 on a federal firearms violation charges.

Rollins was free on bond and had received permission from probation officers to move to San Antonio and look for a job, apparently to be closer to Murphy, Sheehan said.

"The next thing I know, she (Murphy) called the probation officer and said she was a hostage. He (Rollins) got on the phone and talked with probation officers for about two hours," Sheehan said.

Hueck said police would seek charge of possession of firearms against Rollins, and that other charges, including kidnapping, were being considered.

Witnesses said the gunman fired one shot from his automatic weapon outside the Home Insurance Co. office in the Kroger Executive Center in northwest San Antonio about 12:30 p.m.

"He shot in the air just to let people know he was coming," a witness said.

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<p><b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b></p> <p><b>FRIED CATFISH FILET w TARTAR SAUCE</b></p> <p>Cole Slaw</p> <p>Hush Puppies</p> <p>Choice of one vegetable</p> <p>Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter</p> <p>Tea or Coffee</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b></p> <p>Yankee Pot Roast</p> <p>Texas Style (Tossed Salad)</p> <p>Mashed Potato w gravy</p> <p>Roll or Corn Bread &amp; Butter</p> <p>Tea or Coffee</p> <p><b>"Quality First"</b></p>	<p><b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING</b></p> <p><b>ROAST TURKEY DINNER</b></p> <p>Served with Cranberry Sauce</p> <p>Cornbread Dressing</p> <p>Roll or Corn Bread - Butter</p> <p>Coffee or Tea</p> <p>Giblet Gravy</p> <p>And your choice of any One vegetable</p>

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