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HOWDY DANCE Bush fills final Cabinet vacancy MONDAY ---- Jan. 27

Coast Guard.

WASHINGTON (AP) – Fill-ing the last vacancy in his Cabinet, President Bush on Wednesday named Deputy Chief of Staff Andrew H. Card Jr. as the nation's 11th transportation secretary.

Card, 44, a former Republican legislator in Massachusetts, managed Bush's campaign in the GOP presidential primary in New Hampshire four years ago.

The nomination came as something of a surprise. Congressional staff members said they had to send out for copies of Card's resume in a scramble to learn more about his background.

If approved by the Senate, Card would replace Samuel K. Skinner, who resigned as secretary

President announces choice for transportation secretary

The Battalion

earlier this year to become Bush's counsel chief of staff and Card's boss. ''Sco

The department celebrates its

Bush saluted Card for his ser-

"I have valued that experience

often in the last three years ...," Bush said. "As deputy chief of

staff, he has offered wise and loyal

25th anniversary this year.

vice at the White House.

"Scores of people from all walks of life know him as the The secretary oversees a \$30.5 billion annual budget and a work White House manager who will force of 109,000 people nationlisten to their concerns and get wide. He also commands the things done."

Card seemed to be largely unknown, however, among trans-portation specialists on Capitol Hill

"I think that nomination took everyone back," said one congressional aide who asked not to be named. "He has a lot of political background. But transportation Thursday,

Thursday, January 23, 18

"We can't say anyt derogatory or complimentary cause we don't know much ab him.

Card told reporters he wo "carry on the fine tradition Secretary Skinner brought to Department of Transportatio Skinner's biggest achievement year was congressional passag a six-year, \$155 billion surfa transportation bill.

On this year's transporta agenda is the reauthorization the Federal Aviation Admini tion, which operates the nation air traffic control system serves as a safety watchdog o the commercial aviation system

Physician proposes medicide

DETROIT (AP) – A physic who developed suicide machi and used them to assist three a ing women in killing themsel is proposing a nationwider work of doctors who could he people end their lives.

Dr. Jack Kevorkian outlin the plan in an article in Februar American Journal of Forensic P chiatry, a quarterly for psych trists who serve as expert withe

es in legal cases. The 85-page issue is entir devoted to the article, "A Fa Safe Model For Justifiable Me cally Assisted Suicide (Meacide)," and responses from psychiatrists.

"He's an unusual thinker very avant-garde thinker. Bu serious thinker," said Edwa Miller, executive director of t journal based in Laguna Hil

Miller said he learned Kevorkian through reports of t three lethal-injection suicides which the doctor assisted Michigan. Medical authoriti suspended Kevorkian's license and a grand jury is considering whether to charge him in the two most recent cases, in October Michigan does not have a specifi law against assisted suicides.

Kevorkian recommends estat lishing panels of suicide specia ists, whom he would call "obiti trists," who would review r quests from people wishing to k themselves. Would-be suicide would need a doctor's referral t the panels.

This is a way to do it without abuse," Kevorkian said Wedne day from his home.

'It certainly would be abus if every doctor could do it," said.

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Activists sense turning point Anti-abortionists hold march on anniversary of Roe v. Wade

70,000 strong Wednesday on the national Mall, marking the 19th anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision legalizing abortion with a new optimism that

the ruling's days may be numbered. "I just feel it," said Vi Randall of Godfrey, Ill., pointing to changes that have swung the high court rightward since its landmark decision in 1973.

A day earlier, the court agreed to review a restrictive Pennsylvania abortion law, and activists on both sides of the issue have said the justices may well use that case to undermine the Roe vs. Wade decision.

Anti-abortion activists also rallied in dozens of other cities Wednesday, including a crowd of 5,000 in Atlanta who heard Roman Catholic Bishop James Lyke declare that America has been "torn asunder over a law ... which makes life cheap." Most of the marches were accompanied by smaller groups of counter-demonstrators

President Bush, addressing the Washington crowd over loudspeakers, got cheers when he said:

WASHINGTON (AP) - Abortion foes massed "I want to reaffirm my dedication and commitment to the simple recognition that all life is a precious gift, that each human being has intrinsic dignity and worth.

"There's a change in attitudes, especially the atti-tudes of young people," said Mary Ellen Fattori of Havertown, Pa., an English professor at Villanova University

They have a conscience like they haven't had for 15 years. The apathy has gone away

Michael Quinn, 69, of Bay Shore, N.Y. said, "People are impressed that we fight and die to preserve freedom all over the world, and they realize that they should also preserve the lives of babies right here.

The sense of a turning point was also evident among abortion-rights proponents staging counter-demonstrations, including several hundred who lined a block of Constitution Avenue to exchange chants and finger-pointing with the marchers.

Aundrea Cika of Alexandria, Va., 28 years old and eight months pregnant, said it was the first abor-tion-rights demonstration she had ever attended.

Survey depicts sluggish economy

WASHINGTON (AP) – Eco-nomic weakness pervaded virtually every part of the country as the new year began with retailers, factory owners and bankers all complaining about the slug-gish state of business activity, the Federal Reserve said Wednesday.

The Fed's latest survey of business conditions depicted an economy mired in stagnation with little suggestion of a re-bound outside of some modest gains in housing sales.

Activity was lackluster as the year drew to a close," the central bank said in a survey compiled from reports from its 12 regional banks

The Fed did hold out the prospect of better days ahead, noting that "business and bank-

that economic conditions will improve by mid-year.

The survey noted production cutbacks in a number of industries in the face of falling demand, an overhang of unsold goods at many retail stores fol-lowing a disappointing Christ-mas season and little demand for new loans at banks outside of a rush to refinance old mortgages.

One of the few bright spots in the Fed survey was a slight upturn in housing sales and construction activity in many parts of the country in December as first-time home buyers have been lured into the market by the lowest mortgage rates in nearly two decades

The report said that St. Louis, Kansas City, Dallas and Atlanta

ing contacts generally anticipate all detected some improvement in single-family construction with bankers in Philadelphia, Cleveland and Kansas City forecasting healthy gains in sales during the peak spring sales sea-

That view seemed to be bolstered by a separate report Wednesday that showed new construction of homes and apartments jumped 2.6 percent in December to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,103 million units, the fastest pace in 13 months. Building permit appli-cations improved even more in

December, rising by 5.8 percent. Housing is the sector of the economy most sensitive to changes in interest rates and often helps lead the country out of recession.

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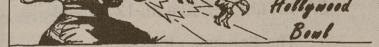
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Political parties prepare for primaries

WASHINGTON (AP) - Democratic presidential hopefuls crisscrossed the nation's capital Wednesday, wooing labor support, big-city mayors and abortion-rights activists. Republi-cans picked a conservative senator to lead the party through a 1992 platform fight over abortion.

While they jockeyed for support in Washington, three presidential contenders – Democrats Tom Harkin and Paul Tsongas and Republican Patrick Buchanan – launched new ads aimed at voters in New Hampshire's leadoff primary.

GOP sources said President Bush had ten-

tatively picked Feb. 12 to formally announce early front-runner as "media hype," a his re-election bid.

The Democratic race is growing testier by the day as New Hampshire's Feb. 18 election approaches. Harkin, an Iowa senator, who is bringing up the rear in New Hampshire polls, has been taking the most aggressive tone. In an appearance Wednesday before the In-

ternational Association of Machinists, he slammed into two Democratic rivals, faulting the records of both Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton and Nebraska Sen. Bob Kerrey.

He dismissed Clinton's emergence as an

added, "If you're built up by the papers you support is paper thin." He faulted both Clinton and Kerrey

supporting a free trade agreement with Me co, derided Clinton's record as governor as reminded his audience about alleged child bor law violations at Kerrey's Nebraska restau rant chain.

Abortion is a favorite issue for Democrat trying to attract women and moderate voter and abortion-rights forces within the GOP a fighting to change a Republican platfor plank that recognizes the "sanctity of life.

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