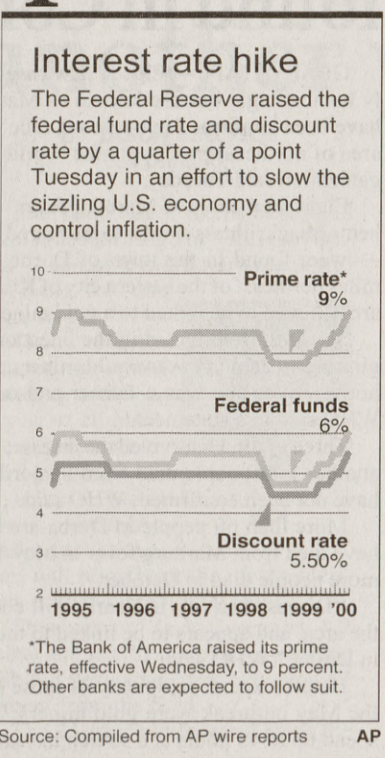


rested FED raises interest rate .25 percent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve raised a key interest rate today by a quarter-point — the fifth increase since June — in an effort to slow the speeding economy and keep inflation from escalating.

The Fed's quarter-point increase in the funds rate was expected to be quickly followed by announcements from commercial banks that they were boosting their prime lending rate by a similar quarter point, from the current 8.75 percent to 9 percent.

Chairman Alan Greenspan raised new worries that too-rapid growth could derail the record-breaking economy, which is in the 108th month of uninterrupted growth.



Glock Inc. refuses to sign gun-control deal

SMYRNA, Ga. (AP) — Glock Inc. will not sign a voluntary gun-control agreement similar to the one reached last week between Smith & Wesson Corp. and the Clinton administration, the company said Tuesday.

Robinson challenges Kennedy for senate seat by revealing past

BOSTON (AP) — Sen. Edward M. Kennedy's latest political opponent has made character an issue — his own character.

"The sheer volume of the allegations and the disturbing nature of some of these allegations makes it pretty impossible for him to get this campaign off the ground," Cellucci said.

Robinson said he wasn't looking to bring up Kennedy's much-maligned report or his candidacy. "The senator runs for an office, not against his opponent," he said.

im attempts remove hand

NEY, Calif. (AP) — For days in a crashed vehicle whizzed by only a few feet, Lee Risler got so disoriented he tried to cut off his hand with a pocketknife.

"I am willing to basically put my personal background out there for everyone to review and I would trust the citizens of the commonwealth to make their own decisions at the appropriate time," Robinson said at a news conference.

"I think it's awfully tough to be introduced this way. The big advantage is, of course, he's running against Teddy Kennedy."

Questions of Robinson's past surfaced almost immediately after he confirmed he would run for the Senate last week. In his report, Robinson said he was stopped by police in Boston after having a couple of glasses of wine with dinner.

Maureen Reagan calls for Alzheimer's research funding

WASHINGTON (AP) — Maureen Reagan, a daughter of the former president, said Tuesday more money is needed to help combat Alzheimer's disease, which has ravaged her father and will strike even more Americans as the population ages.

"When it takes hold it follows its own course of destruction, frequently ravaging not only its direct victim, but also the caregivers and loved ones along with it," she said.

"A lot of people ask me [how he is] because I think they hope that somehow we've been spared," she said Monday.

According to the association's analysis, by 2025, California will lead the nation with more than 800,000 people with the fatal brain disorder, followed by Florida with about 700,000.

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