

# Man opens fire on former Horsing around co-workers, kills himself

MELROSE PARK, III. (AP) — A factory worker who got caught stealing from his employer forced his way into the suburban Chicago engine plant Monday and opened fire one day before he was to report to prison. He killed five people, including himself, and wounded four others.

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William D. Baker, 66, showed up at the Navistar International plant with an arsenal of weapons in a golf bag and made his way through the vast building, blasting away with an AK-47 assault rifle, police said. Employees scattered in terror.

He shot seven people, three of them fatally, in an engineering area, then went into an office, where he killed one more person and then shot himself, police said.

Baker had been scheduled to surrender today to serve a five-month federal sentence for conspiracy to commit theft from an interstate shipment. He pleaded guilty last June, six years after he was fired.

Martin Reutimann, a 24-year-old engineer, was sitting at his desk when he heard gunfire about 10 a.m.

"I heard somebody yell, 'There's a guy in the center aisle with a gun!" Reutimann said, referring to the long hallway where engines are tested. Reutimann said he did not believe it at first, then saw people running past him. He grabbed his coat and cellular phone and dialed 911

When a security guard tried to

**Train collision** 

injures riders

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP)

- A slow-moving Amtrak

passenger train rear-

ended a freight train

Monday, injuring 61 peo-

Officials would not

ple, four critically.

stop him, Baker put a .38-caliber revolver to her side and forced his way into the plant, police said.

Once inside the plant, Baker fired the assault rifle, police said. He also carried a shotgun and a .30-caliber hunting rifle in addition to the revolver, police said. They were not sure

I heard someone yell, 'There's a guy in the center aisle with a gun!" "

#### - Martin Reutimann shooting witness

whether those weapons were used. The plant, about 15 miles from company headquarters in downtown Chicago, employs about 1,400 people.

Navistar identified three of the dead as Baker; Daniel Dorsch, 52, a supervisor in the engine lab; and Robert Wehrheim, 47, a lab technician. Two of the slain were not identified at the request of their families. Of the wounded, one was in criti-

cal condition: Carl Swanson, 45, who was shot in the abdomen. Baker was a tool room attendant from suburban Carol Stream who had worked at the plant for 39 years ers. The Melrose Park plant makes before he was fired in 1994.

**News in Brief** 

According to his plea agreement, Baker admitted helping a fellow plant employee steal diesel engines and components worth \$195,400. He used his forklift to hoist the engines onto a truck driven by the other employee.

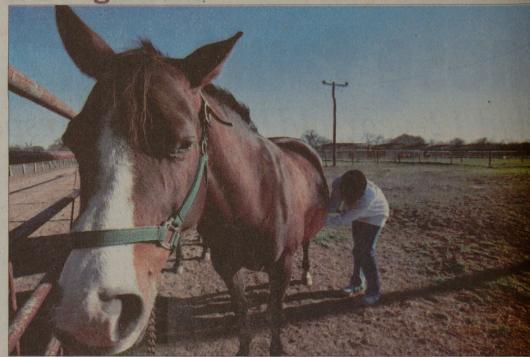
The thefts began in the fall of 1993 and stopped the next spring.

Baker was sentenced Nov. 7. He had faced five months of house arrest after his prison term and had been ordered to repay the \$195,400. The U.S. Attorney's office also

said Baker pleaded guilty in 1998 to a sex charge involving a family member under 17. He was placed on probation.

The shooting comes six weeks after seven people were shot to death at a Wakefield, Mass., Internet consulting company, Edgewater Technology Inc. Software tester Michael Mc-Dermott is charged with murder in the Dec. 26 rampage. Authorities said the shooting may have stemmed from an Internal Revenue Service order to seize part of his wages to repay back taxes.

Navistar is the nation's secondbiggest producer of heavy-duty trucks, which it sells under the International brand. It also manufactures mid-sized trucks, school buses and diesel engines, which it also sells to Ford and other truck makengines.



Tiffany Pate, a senior animal science major, takes a sample of milk from **Candy Asset** at that will help of the Horse Center on George Bush Drive on to giving birth.

Monday. The sample will undergo a test strip that will help determine how close Candy is

Tuesday, February

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# **Election in Israel ends toda**

JERUSALEM (AP) - Ariel Sharon was poised Monday for a stunning political comeback, holding a 20-point lead in the polls over Prime Minister Ehud Barak on the eve of Israel's election — a vote seen as a referendum on Israel's relationship with the Palestinians.

Barak warned that Sharon would plunge Israel into war with its neighbors, but many voters — fatigued by the five-month Palestinian uprising against Israel — appeared either apathetic or swayed by Sharon's mantra of peace with security.

Jerusalem travel agent Anat Azoulay, 27, said she would not vote Tuesday. "Barak is not good. We are not in a safe situation. Every day someone is killed," Azoulay said, adding: "Sharon, he will make war again.

Her friend Liat Sherf, 25, an Israeli living in a Jewish neighborhood in traditionally Arab east Jerusalem, said she backed Sharon because she fears Barak will give part of the city to the Palestinians. "He (Sharon) can save what, is left. Jerusalem will not be separated," Sherf said.

Polls open at 7 a.m. Tuesday and close at 10 p.m., when both major TV stations are planning to announce projected results based on exit polls of a sample of 50,000 voters.

Violence flared anew during the countdown election. An Israeli soldier was killed in a gun battle Palestinians near the Rafah border crossing betwee and Egypt. In response, Israel shut down the Pale airport in Gaza and the Rafah crossing. A firefight erupted in the West Bank town of Hebron. Íslamic militants threatened bomb attacks in Tela

and one of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's lieute in the West Bank, Marwan Barghouti, said Tue & MARL would be a "day of rage," with large-scale demon The Batt tions against Israel.

"The message we want to send to the Israeli scorers step with the demonstrations is that the uprising will only stati ue, regardless of who the prime minister of Israel dain Sc Barghouti said.

Sharon, 72, has been riding a wave of disappointmack's is with Barak's leadership, appealing to Israelis upset nd the the prime minister's insistence on making concession oked

for peace while Palestinian violence continues. he atm Pledging security first and peace talks only afteraileared. is restored, Sharon has opposed Barak's offer the "To Palestinians, including a state in almost all othe Werhale a Bank and Gaza Strip and parts of Jerusalem.

### comment on what caused the crash. The eastbound Amtrak Amtrak said.

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### train had just left the Syracuse station when it hit the back end of the 92-car . CSX freight train, also eastbound, in an industrial area north of the city, said CSX spokesman Robert Sullivan. The five-car Amtrak

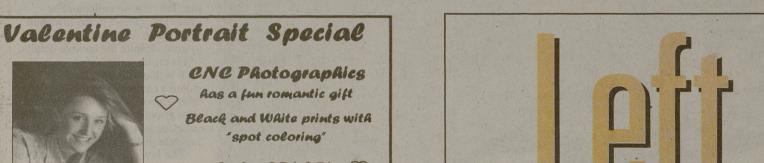
train was headed from Niagara Falls to New York City with 98 passengers tling old age, Alzheimer's and four crew members, disease and a broken hip.

## **Reagan has** 90th birthday LOS ANGELES (AP) ---

Twelve years after leaving the White House with plans to spend his sunset years chopping wood and riding horses, Ronald Reagan celebrates his 90th birthday as a recluse bat-

Reagan's birthday Tuesday will be a subdued celebration at the former president's Bel-Air home, where he is recovering from surgery to repair the hip he broke Jan. 12 in a fall.

The former movie star is one of only three presidents to reach 90 John Adams and Herbert Hoover are the others



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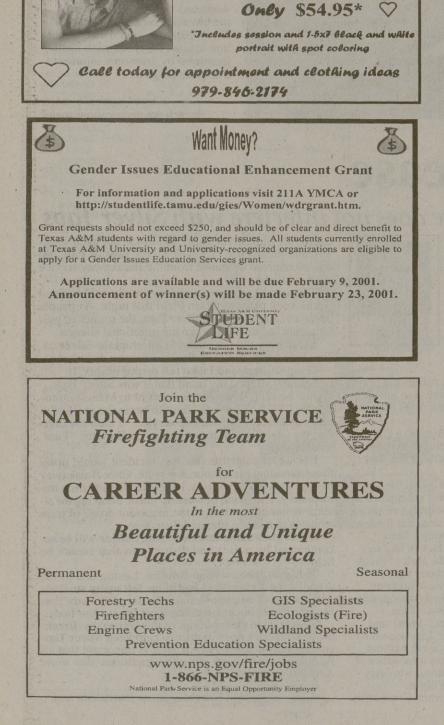
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