

BUCKHALL 703-257-1900

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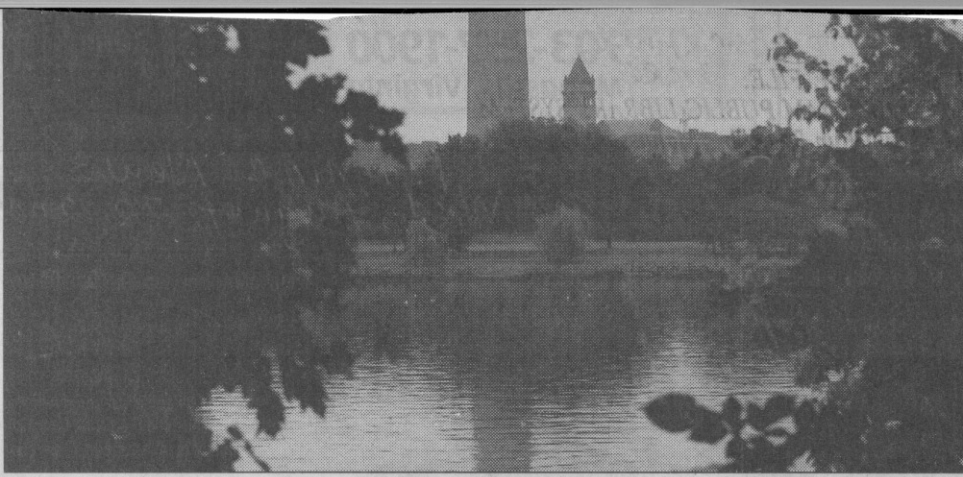
POTOMAC News
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2-ALARM FIRE



Dylan Moore/News & Messenger

Prince William County, Manassas and Manassas Park firefighters work a two-alarm fire at Buckhall General Store at 10404 Moore Drive near Manassas on Tuesday. The call came in around 5:06 p.m. and the fire gutted the store.



Haraz N. Ghanbari/Associated Press

The Washington Monument is reflected in the Potomac River during a rainy, overcast day, on Tuesday in Washington, D.C.

Two Md. men convicted of killing bald eagles

ANNAPOLIS, Md. (AP) — Two Maryland men have been convicted of killing bald eagles in unrelated cases, state wildlife authorities announced Tuesday.

The first case started in January when hunters on the Eastern Shore discovered a dead bald eagle that appeared to have been poisoned.

An investigation led to a Caroline County man who wanted to get rid of nuisance foxes and raccoons, so he injected a pesticide into a chicken egg and left it outside. A fox ate the poisoned egg, died, and then was eaten by the eagle, which also died.

Robert N. Patrick Jr., 51, was fined \$1,275 recently on a federal charge of violating the Bald Eagle Protection Act and using a restricted-use pesticide.

Sgt. Ken Turner, spokesman for the Maryland Natural Resources Police, said Patrick did not mean to kill an eagle, but that his actions inadvertently caused the death of the bald eagle.

"They're scavengers as well, so if you have some

The second case happened in southern Maryland, where a St. Mary's County man was convicted of shooting and killing wildlife off the back porch of his apartment.

Police say neighbors of Francis G. Long Jr., 31, of Bushwood, called police to tip them off about the shootings. Investigators found a dead bald eagle on his property in March, along with dead turkey vultures, a dead skunk and a dead woodchuck. Only the eagle and vulture are protected species, but Long would have been prohibited from firing a gun from his porch in any case, Turner said.

Turner said the dead bald eagle was immature, meaning it did not yet have the species' distinctive white head, so Long may not have known he was killing a bald eagle. Long pleaded guilty earlier this month in a temporary U.S. District Court in Hyattsville.

Long was fined \$2,500. Authorities also revoked his hunting license for a year and placed him on a year's probation.

Turner said cases of bald eagle killings are rare.

TEST

Continued from page A1

"There was a fear of watering down the program when it got too big," said John Barnhill, admissions director at Florida State University. "There is a general teaching shortage, so how can there not be a shortage of good instructors for AP courses?"

Even with the expansion, the average score on AP exams fell only marginally, Matts said, from 3.0 to 2.9.

The College Board also hoped to eliminate what it calls "fake" AP courses — classes on which high schools have put the Advanced

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Continued from page A1

education by having developers pay "their fair share" as they build in the county.

Quality education is of the "utmost importance."

"We need to grow and develop responsibly and intelligently. Together we can insure the highest quality of education for our kids."