Colorado bus wreck leaves two dead, 41 hurt

ACK HAWK, Colo. - A bus carrying dozens of gamblers to a Colo- off the road and into Clear Creek, rado casino collided head-on with a where it landed on its side on a stretch van and plunged into a creek Sunday, killing two passengers. At least 41 people were injured.

The bus was heading northwest on two-lane Colorado 119 when the van tried to pass a vehicle in the opposite lane and crossed over. An open whiskey bottle and several beer cans were

found in the van, said Sgt. Ron Woods

of the Colorado State Patrol.

The collision sent the bus veering of dry creek bed.

At least two people trapped under a boulder were screaming for help, said Jennifer Manley, a nurse who stopped at the accident site about 35 miles northwest of Denver.

was trying every little thing I could do with no equipment to assess to see what injuries people had," she said. "Everyone was covered with

Passers-by formed a human chain and passed the bus passengers up the embankment to medical personnel on the roadside.

The dead were two women who were among the 42 people on the bus. The van driver, William J. Lucero, 36, was critically injured. It was not immediately clear whether he was alone in the van.

Lucero could face charges, Woods

WESTHAMPTON, N.Y.

Firefighters on Sunday doused the last

hot spots from a forest fire that had

threatened expensive resort commu-

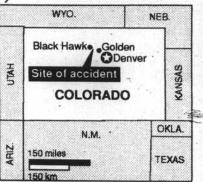
nities, and people whose homes were

serious or critical injuries, officials

The Casino Transportation Inc. shuttle bus was carrying gamblers from Golden to Black Hawk and Central

Mary Ellen Floy, 54, said the bus rolled twice and she was ejected through a window.

Staggering about in shock, "I just kept saying the Lord's Prayer over and over. I just thank God I'm alive."



News... in a Minute

Poll: Money, insurance top worry list NEW YORK - More than one-third of adults worry "a lot" about not

having enough money and health insurance, while fewer than 10 percent worry that they will go to hell, according to a Harris Poll released Sunday. Twenty-eight percent of the 1,005 adults surveyed said they worried a lot

that they or someone in their household will lose a job. Twenty-seven percent worried a lot about what will happen to them when they are old and

The poll also found that: 24 percent worry a lot about being a crime victim; 23 percent that their spouses or someone close to them will not live long; and 21 percent that their health will get much worse.

Only 10 percent worry a lot that they won't live long. Thirty-eight percent worry a lot about not having enough money and health insurance, and 8 percent worry a lot about going to hell, the survey

The poll was taken between July 13 and 16. Results have a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Playmate tells of Costner affair

LONDON - What kind of a man dances with wolves? A wild thing. A Playboy playmate told a British newspaper that Kevin Costner told her to meet him for a liaison at a Sydney hotel, where he was registered under the name "Tom Feral."

Bridget Bloxom met the star of "Dances With Wolves" and other hits at a nightclub when he was in Australia to promote his most recent film, "Waterworld," the News of the World said Sunday.

"Feral" means untarned or wild.

Costner recently separated from his wife, Cindy, reportedly because of an affair he had with a Hawaiian dancer while he was on the "Waterworld"

Vacation money? No problem

OMAHA - The world's two richest men reportedly are planning to take a train ride through China.

Microsoft Corp. head Bill Gates, his wife, Melinda, and Omaha investor Warren Buffett are making the trip with friends next month, the Omaha World-Herald reported Saturday. The group is renting cars on a train.

"It is a personal vacation for them (Gates and his wife)," Microsoft spokesman Mich Mathews told the newspaper from Redmond, Wash. "They want to keep it as such."

Buffett declined to confirm the trip. "I just don't comment on personal 'he told the World-Herald. The newspaper said Buffett told an Omaha friend that he will be aboard the train.

Forbes magazine this year listed Gates as the world's richest person with a \$12.9 billion fortune. Buffett, chairman of Omaha-based Berkshire Hathaway Inc., was No. 2 with \$10.7 billion.

Something to crow about

KENNETT, Mo. - The last time Grammy winner Sheryl Crow stood on the Dunklin County Courthouse steps, she was being honored as a member of the homecoming court in high school.

"That was a special time, but this definitely tops it," Crow said Saturday

during ceremonies at Sheryl Crow Day in her hometown.

Crow, who now lives in California, cried as she received a key to the city and a proclamation from the chamber of commerce. Hundreds of fans swarmed the town square to get a glimpse of the singer-songwriter.

She stopped in Kennett, a farming community of about 10,000 people,

on her way to a concert in Memphis, Tenn.

Crow's debut album, "Tuesday Night Music Club" earned three Grammys, including record of the year for the single "All I Wanna Do." Her second album is expected to be released early next year.

saved posted thank-you notes on their mailboxes. The Forest Service said the fire was completely contained by late afternoon.

Several hundred firefighters remained on the job on eastern Long Island to track down and extinguish smoldering embers. An occasional pocket of flame sent smoking rising into the air.

"You have to make sure everything's out, bit by bit," said Pat Ebarb, an assistant director for the Department of Agriculture.

"It's not very glamorous, but it has to be done."

The breeze was light, down from gusts of more than 20 mph that drove the flames through pine forest on Thursday and Friday. But no rain was expected until at least Friday, forecasters said. The area has been without rain for three weeks.

The fire destroyed one house, damaged nine other homes, a business and a train station, and shut down railroads and roadways. About 6,000 acres

"It was a nightmare to see. I don't feel sorry for the trees at all."

weekend blaze, residents show thanks

As firefighters finish up battling

FRANK NICOTRA

Westhampton business owner

were blackened.

At one subdivision, firefighters managed to protect the homes of 100 people while backyard trees went up in flames.

John Carter, a Coast Guard elecsubdivision with his wife and 11month-old daughter, said he saw an aerial photograph of the area. "This is just a dot and everything around it is

black," he said. Some 400 Westhampton residents were forced to evacuate at the height of the fire, some 70 miles east of New York City.

Joseph Monteith, chief of department for the Suffolk County Police, has said that arson was suspected. Sources told The Associated Press

that the blaze first burned in a straight

line - atypical for an accidental fire.

The stench of smoke still hung over sections of the Sunrise Highway, a main artery busy with traffic other than fire trucks as weekend visitors headed home from the exclusive Hamptons villages.

Several residents put thank-you notes on their mailboxes and at the entrance to their subdivision for the hundreds of firefighters who came from across Long Island.

"We're all thinking about becom-ing volunteer firemen," said Glenn Pantophlet.

Lorna Duffee said, "We owe them

Sandy Oliveto recalled collecting tronics technician who lives in the her belongings so fast Thursday that most of the hangers she grabbed from her closet were empty.

"I still have butterflies. The feeling doesn't go away," she said.

Not everybody was smiling. Frank Nicotra, owner of Westhampton Foreign & Domestic Experts Ltd., estimated he lost between \$100,000 and \$150,000 when the fire destroyed several classic cars on his lot, including a 1958 Romeo Spider Veloce, a 1965 Cadillac convertible and a 1968 Mercedes.

"It was a nightmare to see," he said.

Kerrey confident in Democratic Party as 1996 election closes in

Party suffering the aftermath of the Republican gains in 1994, U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey says he feels like Gen. George Patton in a scene from a 1970

"The jeeps are turned over, and the tanks are burning hulks, and bodies are all over the place, and he says, 'God help me, but I love it,'" Kerrey

As chairman of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, Kerrey is expected to recruit Senate candidates, raise a \$22 million war chest and form a winning message.

He says he is relishing his role as he leads into an uphill battle in the 1996 races and that reclaiming a Democratic majority is a realistic goal.

"If this works the way I think it will, there will be anywhere from five to 12 new senators in January '97, with an activist agenda that keeps the nation's defenses strong, keeps our streets safe

Democrats can be careful with their money.'

At the same time, Kerrey acknowledges that his role as head of the Senate campaign committee could tarpolitical problems for him in Nebraska.

"Nebraska is a state with a Republican majority," Kerrey told the Omaha World-Herald, "so there is a downside risk here at home. I say to Republicans who have supported me in the past, 'It's in your interest to have a strong Democratic Party nationally.

"I think it's worth it because I think this pendulum has swung farther to the right than the American people themselves," he said. "I don't think it's going to go back on its own."

Kerrey said he senses that most voters believe the Republicans have gone too far in Congress. "People don't want to cut Medicare and education and transportation and NASA and the opportunity is there.'

OMAHA - With the Democratic and gives taxpayers confidence that veterans benefits in order to fund a \$290 billion tax cut."

In announcing his retirement earlier this month, Sen. Bill Bradley, D-N.J., criticized both parties and said he no longer believed that Congress nish his national image and create could deal with the problems of the American people.

"Hooey to Bradley," Kerrey said. "He is a living, breathing testimonial to what you can get done in public service. He's changed our tax laws, changed our trade laws, saved lives through his efforts in infant mortal-

Kerrey says he doesn't know if Gov. Ben Nelson can be counted among Democrats seeking Senate seats in 1996.

Nelson is holding his hand "close to the vest," Kerrey said. "He's probably like me (in 1987 following the death of Sen. Edward Zorinsky) and he'd rather wait a couple years. But

arricane leftovers kill at least three

GAFFNEY, S.C. — Heavy rain from the remnants of Tropical Storm Jerry flooded much of the Carolinas on Sunday, killing at least three and forcing dozens of evacuations and damaging homes.

One woman was missing. Bryant Eagle, 8, drowned when he was swept through a storm drain in Gaffney, about 15 miles from Spartanburg in northwest South Carolina. He had been skateboarding on a sidewalk and fell into a flooded drainage ditch, officials

The body of Christoffer Michael Douty, 18, was found Sunday morn-caped. The raging floodwater forced ing in a flooded creek in Greenville County. He had jumped in to save a

teen-age girl and drowned. The girl survived.

In North Carolina, a firefighter drowned Sunday night while trying to rescue a stranded motorist in Alamance County, about 40 miles northwest of Raleigh. Greg Hinson was one of two rescue workers swept away by floodwater along with the driver.

Three other people in the car es-

authorities to postpone their search. Numerous car wrecks were blamed on the heavy rain, including two fatal accidents in South Carolina.

The rains began Friday and continued through the weekend in much of the Southeast. All of South Carolina was under a flood watch.

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