

Pensacola, Florida

TO REPORT A LIFE STORY: 435-8566

Sunday, October 3, 1993

## ACCESSORIES FIT FROM HEAD TO TOE

A cashmere hat from Patricia Underwood follows the spirit of this season's soft knit fashions/5E



## SOAP SCUM IS ALL WASHED UP

Thanks to an important scientific advance, the human race may soon be able to defeat soap scum/Dave Barry, 4E

## TOWN TALK

**KREWE HOLDS SOCIAL:** The Krewe of Avant Garde recently had its first social at the Crosswinds Club, Corry Field. To celebrate the last days of summer, they had a beach party.

Shirley Beesley organized the event with help from E.J. Pailer, Hattie Jansen, Boots Mitchell, Dottie Halligan, Marilyn Turnipsed and Eileen Brotherton. Greeters at the door were Bill Keller, Al Jansen, Howard Beesley and Hank Mitchell.

Historian Howard Rappold set up the American flag and the five military service flags, and Howard Beesley provided the music. Newcomers visiting the party were Ray and Becky Cvikowski, Bill Watson, Don and Judy Shafer, Clyde and Betty Summitt and Frank and Pat Liabrato.

The Mardi Gras organization is composed of retired and active duty military officers. If interested in joining, call 456-6051 or 456-3303.

**A FASHIONABLE AFFAIR:** A new line of fall Kasper suits was modeled at a recent Gayfer's Career Council meeting. The models were DeLois Hollinger, Jean Norman, Michelle Felder, Kathryn White Curraway, Glenn Boutwell, Liz Burchell, Beverly Weeks, Kathy Hodges, Sandra Ward and Pat Thomas.

Guest speaker for the evening was Kathie Jones, president and CEO of Urinette.

**PRETTY AS A PICTURE:** Tiffany Nichole Weatherspoon, daughter of Michael and Kimberly Weatherspoon and granddaughter of Willie and Addie Dean and Francis and Eleanor Weatherspoon, was chosen most beautiful and over-all winner in the America Cover Miss and Cover Boy USA Pageant held at University Mall.

She will represent Northwest Florida in the 1994 national finals in June at Daytona Beach. In November of 1992, Weatherspoon competed in the regional program and was chosen Christmas Queen, Most Beautiful and Overall Winner. She went to the national finals in Orlando in June, where she was among the top 15 runners-up.

**SISTER CITY MEETING:** The Pensacola People to People Council of Sister Cities International will meet on Tuesday at City Hall in the mezzanine conference rooms A and B. Representatives of Pensacola's official sister cities — Miraflores and Chimboe (Peru), Kaohsiung (Taiwan), Escosa (Costa Rica) and Gorlovka (Ukraine) — will be discussed. Public is invited. Details: 438-3263.

**FIDELIS NU TO MEET:** The second meeting of Fidelis Nu chapter of Alpha Delta Kappa will be at 10 a.m. on Monday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Butler. Fidelis Nu is an honorary, educational, international group of outstanding teachers. After the business meeting, an auction will be held. Monies raised will go to RIF: Reading is Fundamental; literacy programs; United Ministries and Scholarship Funds and Housing at Florida State University. Details: 944-3530.

**KIWANIS INSTALLED:** Joe Brookins was recently installed as president of the Kiwanis Club of Eastern Pensacola by Lt. Governor Paul Sledzinski, Division One Kiwanis. Other officers installed were Gary Sexton, president elect; Gregory Petree, secretary; Murie Willis, treasurer.

## IT'S SUNDAY

- 8th Annual Hearts and Crafts: Mail hours, University Mall, 476-5951.
- Northwest Florida Championship Rodée: Memorial Field, Bonifay. Sponsored by Bonifay High School. \$10 ticket. Starts 6 p.m. Sunday. Free 6-12. (904) 547-4876.
- 4th Annual Jay Peanut Festival and Livestock Show: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Gabbert Farm, Jay. Live entertainment both days. Antiques, arts and crafts. Tickets sold by Bonifay High School. 523-3868, 675-0823.
- Your Health is a Laughing Matter seminar: 4 p.m., First Church of Christianity, 716 N. 9th Ave. Free. 438-2277.
- Senior Games: Registration: 5 to 6:30 p.m., Seville Quarter, Apple Anne's Courtyard, 130 E. Government St. \$5 registration; fee per game. Events include bowling, bridge, golf, horseshoes, pool, shuffleboard, softball, swimming, tennis and walking. For further information, 438-1770.
- Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus: 1:30 and 6:30 p.m., University Mall, North Davis. Highway for adults. \$6 for children under 12, senior citizens and military. Tickets will be in sale at the white ticket wagon on the circus midway.
- St. Anne's Round-Up: Noon to 10 p.m., St. Anne's Catholic Church, Sauffley Field Road. John Ritter will appear at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. Sunday. Free. 456-5966.
- Okaloosa Kennel Club Inc. Fall Dog Show: 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Baker Recreation Association grounds, State Road 4, Baker. Free. 862-8520.
- Perdido Bay Library Open House: 1 to 4 p.m., Perdido Bay Library, University Street, southeast of the Llan Center Center. (205) 982-2369.



Scott Fisher/News Journal

# Editor marks 40 years at paper

By Dave Goodwin  
News Journal

When Jesse Earle Bowden joined the Pensacola News Journal 40 years ago, newspapering was a different creature. Linotype machines created type from molten lead. Photographers popped light bulbs on Speed Graphic cameras.

The newsroom was clamorous and cluttered — crumpled paper littered tile floors. Teletype machines and manual typewriters kept a constant clatter and veteran newsmen chomped on cigars and yelled about deadlines, empty rubber cement pots and dull pencils.

Today, computers, lasers and satellites replace the machinery. Reporters are young and have journalism degrees instead of street experience.

The newsroom is relatively quiet and clean. Editors attend meetings and mutually decide issues of the day, rather than bark orders on their own.

But J. Earle Bowden is still chomping on his cigar and still having fun — without barking.

"No two days are alike," said Bowden. "I've reached the age and experience where the real adventure of newspapering is more alive than when I was beginning. I get as excited about a breaking story as I ever did."

"My whole career has been a kind of challenge, trying to make things happen in town, trying to do public good and tackle causes. I still find that pretty exciting. But I'm 68. I wouldn't want to have to go chasing down news stories



A sample of J. Earle Bowden cartoons which have appeared in the News Journal. One is from the 1992 presidential race, the other from Bowden's campaign for the establishment of the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

anymore."

Bowden, editor and vice president of the News Journal and chairman of the FNAJ editorial board, isn't retiring — not for another couple of years yet. But he is being honored for 40 years at the News Journal with a reception from 3 to 6 p.m. today at the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum.

During his tenure, Bowden:
 

- Led the effort to establish a federal park of historic forts and undeveloped beaches. Bowden is known as the "father" of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, which was approved by Congress in 1971 and opened in 1972.
- The Seashore victory was very pleasing," said Bowden. "There were times

during that when I knew it would never fly. It died two or three times and then finally happened."

■ Joined with others to push historic preservation in downtown Pensacola, which led to the saving of Seville Square and creation of the Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, Historic Pensacola Foundation.
 

SEE EDITOR, 3E

# Religious students fare better in school, poll says

Gannett News Service

Religious students are more likely to succeed in school even when their beliefs seem to conflict with the science they're taught, says a USA TODAY/CNN/Gallup poll.

More than half the students polled say religious beliefs were "very important" to them, compared with only 9 percent who said "not too important." And 97 percent say they believe in God.

The poll of 803 teens explores several issues about school life, including the factors that contribute to happiness and high marks. Those who say their religion was "very important" were more likely than those who said "not too important" to:

- Care about good grades.
  - Earn mostly A's.
  - Enjoy school.
- The study confirms what many educators have long seen as the value of religion.
- "For students, it gives them an edge," says Janie Hill Hutton, Milwaukee Trade and Technical High School, who was named 1993 national principal of the year by the National Association of Secondary School Principals and McLife.
- Hutton, who reads the Bible every day at lunch, says religious students are motivated by the imperative to "be your best, because God expects that."
- People of faith "sense they need to learn things because

their lives have purpose," says Walter Hearn, a writer and former science professor.

Much of the link between religion and achievement, however, is indirect, experts say.

"In this society, the more religious parents are, the more likely they are to provide a family support system where the kids are involved," says David Moore, Gallup vice president. "And that would include things like talking to them about homework."

Sixty percent of students polled say they accept a religious explanation over a scientific one when the two teachings seem to conflict.

The poll has a margin of error of plus or minus four percentage points.

LIFE

# Editor marks 40 years at News Journal

**FROM** IE Village, the T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum, and the placement of neighborhoods and buildings on the National Register of Historic Places. He has been chairman of the Preservation Board and president of the Pensacola Historical Society.

"He is the person who held the torch for historic preservation in Pensacola for all those years," said Sandra L. Johnson, curatorial director of the Historical Society. "He was the guiding force..."

■ Pushed to save Pensacola Bay.

"Pensacola Bay was polluted and that was a big furor," said Bowden. "The paper said, 'Let's clean up the bay,' and we had to condemn local industry and the city of Pensacola. It led to the first public hearing here on pollution control."

■ Campaigned to build Admiral Mason Park and bring baseball back to Pensacola. The effort was successful, though baseball later left again and the park was torn down.

Born in Altha, in Calhoun County, Bowden was torn between loves.

"I always wanted to be a cartoonist," said Bowden. "I have always wanted to write, too..."

"I wanted to be a sports cartoonist like Willard Mullin. Later on, I wanted to be like Mike Catlett ('Terry and the Pirates,' 'Steve Canyon') and Bill Mauldin, who did 'Willie and Joe.' They were my heroes. I would like to write novels like Hemingway and Thomas Wolfe. Those are the kind of boyhood dreams I never got away from. I've still got them. I think if you ever lose that, you might as well die."

His first newspaper job was calling in box scores as West Florida correspondent for the Florida Times-Union, Tallahassee Democrat and Panama City News-Herald.

He was editor of his hometown paper at age 17, and later wrote for the student paper at Florida State University and for Air Force publications during his military service.

Bowden joined the News Journal in 1953 as a sports writer for \$65 per week. When he started drawing cartoons, he was buying an extra \$10 a week out of petty cash. He shortly became sports editor, then news editor and editor of editorial pages. In 1965, he was named editor.

Over the years, he witnessed many of the big stories, like mankind's first steps on the moon, Watergate, the fall of Communism and the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Most of the staff had gone to lunch the morning of Nov. 22, 1963 when Bowden heard the Teletypes start clanging. The president had been shot, and only Bowden and desk man Bill Prime were in the newsroom.

## Gloves ready for comeback

**Knight-Ridder**

Jackie Kennedy started a glove craze by putting on a new pair of white kid gloves every time she changed her clothes. Madonna made sheer black gloves an essential part of every wanna-be's wardrobe.

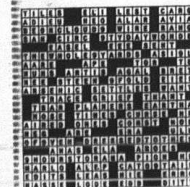
Now, with the sexually intense way Daniel Day-Lewis removes Michelle Pfeiffer's glove in "The Age of Innocence," is the glove ready to make a comeback?

"Yes," says Candy Pratts Price, fashion director for accessories at Vogue magazine. "The glamour, the provocative nature and sensuality of that scene is bound to have an influence."

But, she says, "We're not talking about those old black wool gloves or mittens. The gloves everyone are wearing are embellished — maybe kidskin with covered buttons, or embroidered. They are elegant and feminine and very, very sexy."

## CROSSWORD

Complete puzzle/5E



## J. EARLE BOWDEN

**Born:** Sept. 12, 1928, Altha in Calhoun County  
**Education:** B.S. in journalism, political science, 1951, Florida State University; D.H.L., University of West Florida, 1985.  
**Married:** Mary Louise Clark, Feb. 4, 1951  
**Children:** Steven Earle, Randall Clark  
**Military:** U.S. Air Force Reserve, captain, 1951-53  
**Experience:** Panama City News Herald reporter, columnist, 1950; Pensacola News Journal sports editor, 1953-57; news editor, 1957-65; editorial page editor, 1965-66; editorial cartoonist, 1965 to present; editor, 1968 to present; vice president, 1969 to present. University of West Florida journalism instructor, 1983 to present.  
**Honors:** Preservationist of Year, Florida Trust for Historic Preservation, 1985; Distinguished Citizen of Year, Pensacola Junior College, 1966; Law Day Liberty Bell Award, 1975, Professional Leader of Year, BIP Awards, 1979. Several times winner of editorial writing and cartooning awards. Freedom Foundation at Valley Forge. Hall of Honor, West Florida Literary Federation.  
**Volunteer:** Chairman Historic Pensacola Preservation Board, 1982 to present; chairman, Pensacola Architectural Review Board, 1982 to present; President, Pensacola Historical Society, 1982-90; General chairman, Galvez Bicentennial Celebration, 1961; Chairman, City of Pensacola Bicentennial Commission for the Constitution of the United States; twice chairman of Gulf Islands Citizens Advisory Commission; President, University of West Florida Foundation, 1977-79.

Bowden ran back and stopped the presses and began preparing to publish an Extra edition.

"I was taking bulletins and pasting them up," said Bowden. "People were beginning to come back from lunch. They came by the copy desk and Teletype, and the girls in the business office were crowding around the Teletype and crying, some of them. The whole building was abuzz with the excitement and horror of it."

Publisher Braden Ball returned and stood transfixed over the Teletype.

"The wires were open — that's all they had, bulletin after bulletin. He put his hands on the sides of that Teletype and he was just fixated on the machine. Every-

body was gawking. And finally I said, 'Mr. Ball, I've got to put out a newspaper.'"

Bowden is also an author, having written several histories: a journalism guidebook, "The Write Way, An Editor's Guidebook for Students of Writing," his memoirs, "Always the Rivers Flow," and an anthology of his editorial essays, "When You Reach September: An Editor's Essays and Other Episodic Echoes."

"I know when he wrote that book, the first one. I didn't see him except when he ate," said his wife, Louise. "It was, 'Good morning' and 'Good night' that was about it."

About to his own heart is the teaching he does in writing at the University of West Florida.

But beyond his writing and cartooning, Bowden is probably best known as a person who not only speaks out, but works to make Pensacola better. He speaks to almost any group willing to listen on such subjects as the value of freedom, the free press, the free enterprise system, community and, of course, history of the Civil War and Pensacola.

"My father, a small-town merchant, taught me that if you are going to live in a town, you ought to be a good active citizen..." Bowden said.

That he has been, says those who know.

"I am genuine and sincere in that I see him as a very positive influence on this community in the 40 years he has been here," said John Daniels, executive director of the Preservation Board. "He is just a person who has given to the community."

"He is a master wordsmith and a person who down through the years had had clear, concise ideas expressed in editorials," said former Pensacola Mayor Vince

Whibbs.

"I don't always agree with him, but he doesn't always agree with me either — so we're even. I think he has done an outstanding job."

"Sometimes, I just don't know how he does all he does," said Louise Bowden. "Sometimes, I think he takes on too much. But he seems to thrive. That's what keeps him going."

**BOWDEN RECEPTION**

WHO: Editor of Pensacola News Journal  
 WHAT: Celebration of 40 years of service to community and Pensacola News Journal  
 WHERE: T.T. Wentworth Jr. Florida State Museum  
 WHEN: 3 to 5 p.m. today  
 COST: None  
 DETAILS: 444-8586

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**ESTEE LAUDER**

## EDITORIALS

### Give seashore its founder's name

This afternoon, as a community honors a man who as much as anyone helped shape the Pensacola and Escambia County community, we'd like to make a suggestion.

For his tireless efforts, for his selfless preservation work, for his commitment to the community, we would suggest that the Gulf Islands National Seashore be renamed. Let it become the J. Earle Bowden Gulf Islands National Seashore.

What could be more appropriate than to name the miles-long beach preserve after the man who made it his and his newspaper's cause? Against the odds, and against the naysayers who saw the beach only as a swimming hole, Bowden battled to save the sandy shores for everyone.

Writing editorial after editorial, attending meeting after meeting and speaking about its benefit at every opportunity, Bowden was rewarded by Congress's approval of the seashore in 1971 and its opening in 1972.

## COMMUNITY

What could be more appropriate than to attach his name to his greatest accomplishment?

But through it all, Bowden, ever the purist journalist, demanded that both sides, those for and those against the seashore, be not only heard, but have their views and arguments covered fairly in the newspaper as well.

Fairness was as important as the finish.

There already is in Pensacola the Bowden Building, so named for Bowden's hard work to preserve the community's historic heritage.

Wander the streets around Seville Square, or through Historic Pensacola Village and Bowden's personal imprint looms large. Museums, parks, nearly every piece of downtown owes some of its salvation to Jesse Earle Bowden.

As Sandra L. Johnson, curator/director of the Historical Society says, "He is the person who held the torch for historic preservation in Pensacola for all those years. He was the guiding force..."

Pensacola Bay too owes much to Bowden. Watching it suffer under the loads of pollutants, Bowden took the battle to the primary polluters, local industry and even the city of Pensacola.

A simple glance over the bay testifies to the success of that campaign.

Bowden also campaigned to build Admiral Mason Park and bring baseball back to Pensacola. The effort was successful, though baseball later left again and the park was torn down.

Still, through all his work on historic preservation, on environmental causes, on progress, on helping bring about better government and a better quality of life, the torch of his success is the national seashore. So what could be more appropriate than to attach his name to his greatest accomplishment, his living legacy if you will.

It would require congressional approval, but we believe that would be mere formality were it presented by the likes of U.S. Sens. Bob Graham and Connie Mack, U.S. Rep. Earl Hutto, Gov. Lawton Chiles and former governors Bob Martinez and Reubin Askew.

Bowden helped mold the minds — and the future — of this community. He's earned his place in history, and a namesake along the beach.

### Let Asmar prove worth during 3-month tryout

We understand County Administrator Bob Koncar's commitment to quality leadership, but we agree with commission action holding new Assistant Administrator John F. Asmar's salary to \$35,000 annually.

## GOVERNMENT

Asmar, though he has several years' experience with the city of Pensacola, is unproven. He, as Commissioner W.A. "Buck" Lee suggested, is not yet qualified to earn the \$45,000, a \$19,000 jump over his city salary, that Koncar proposed.

But he will have the opportunity to prove himself as he helps Koncar right the county's budget and with everyday operations. Working with Koncar and the other assistant, former Sanitation Department Director Phil Richmond, Asmar will be tried by fire.

He also will be able to compete for a full-time position as assistant county administrator (he has part-time responsibilities through Dec. 31), so the pay is fair for the short-term position.

If he shows he can help smooth out the roller-coaster hills of the county's problems and work with other officials to improve the county, then he will be worth the higher salary.

But for now, \$35,000 is adequate. It's a raise over his former pay. He's getting the opportunity — and challenge — of a lifetime.



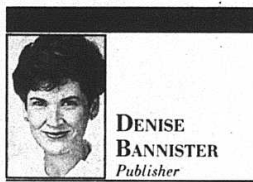
### Earle Bowden: 40 years here at home

When I came here two years ago as the new publisher of the News Journal, I had a lot to learn.

As a newcomer I knew little about Pensacola. But as publisher it was my job to know the people, the issues — the heartbeat of my town. That's good business, and it's good newspapering. At its best a newspaper is at the heart of its community, and until I understood this community I knew that neither this newspaper nor myself could be what we should be.

Fortunately, I discovered at the heart of the News Journal the best resource a publisher ever had — J. Earle Bowden. And I'm not the first to think so. One of my predecessors, Jim Jesse, says Earle was "a joy for a publisher. I felt I hit the ground running with him. I've published newspapers in something like 14 cities and I never met an editor like Earle. His devotion to the community was unusual." I couldn't agree more. Earle is editor, vice president and chairman of the editorial board at the News Journal, but I'd like to add to that my own personal title: He's a rare jewel!

What I discovered in 1991 was what Jim



DENISE BANNISTER  
Publisher

Jesse found: a man with a phenomenal grasp of a newspaper's essential mission — to know who did what, when, where and why. Especially why, because that is what drove Earle to make the News Journal an essential part of Northwest Florida, what made him drive it to bring about the Gulf Islands National Seashore, to push for creation of our historic districts, to begin its still unfinished mission to bring better government to Escambia County on that day when a charter is finally adopted, as someday it will be.

For me, seeking Earle's help was like discovering a treasure chest to an abundant past. His phenomenal memory is a rich storehouse reaching across 65 years of West Florida history.

Former PNJ publisher Paul Flynn put it well: "He was sort of a confessor and soulmate to me as publisher. He kept me from making many mistakes."

Pensacola is a big town compared to the tiny Altha of Earle's youth, but I don't think the distance between the people is that big. He's a true son of West Florida who bucked the words of his favorite author, Thomas Wolfe, who wrote that "You can't go home again."

Earle beat Wolfe at his own game: He might have moved to Pensacola, but he never left home. The Air Force took him briefly away from these piney woods and sandy creeks, but when Earle joined the News Journal in 1953 I have the feeling he knew he was back home to stay.

I have yet to meet anyone who better understands the tidal flows of West Florida, its people, its places and its politics. And while Earle has come far from the Chipola River Valley of his youth, he never left the people he understands.

No, Pensacola isn't Altha, but the people have their roots in the same sandy soil. Jim Jesse says Earle was an unusual editor because once he was established here, "I don't think he ever wanted a job outside Pensacola."

I believe Earle is luckier than most; a born newspaperman whose good luck and good sense it was to do what he was born for, where he was born. Newspapering fit the man, and he fit newspapering. Can anything be better than to make a place your home and then make your name in that place?

The News Journal was long established before Earle Bowden joined it, but in Earle's hands it became more than newsprint and ink. It became a true hometown newspaper that lives and breathes the salt air of the Gulf Coast.

It goes without saying that the News

Journal's crowning single accomplishment — and Earle Bowden's — was the campaign that led to the creation of the Gulf Islands National Seashore.

At the time Earle weathered the opposition of many prominent and powerful people because he held a vision in his mind of what this community could be.

Today, we can't imagine West Florida without Gulf Islands National Seashore, a priceless place of substantial pride, comfort and just plain usefulness to every resident of West Florida. Because of it, as my immediate predecessor, Ken Andrews, said, "Earle's contributions to this community will long be remembered."

Time passes away, as will we all. But in his 40th year of service to this newspaper and this community, we celebrate the fact that Earle Bowden is, and will remain, at the heart of the News Journal and of this community.

His influence will be felt here long after these words — and we ourselves — have faded away.

Denise Bannister is president and publisher of the News Journal.



A self-portrait caricature, 1993.



Looking professional in 1985.



As a young editor in 1967.



The editor's editor today.

## SUGGEST A MINI EDITORIAL

Do you have an idea for a mini editorial for the Opinion page of the News Journal? These are short viewpoints of local interest that can...

## HERE'S MY SUGGESTION