

Something borrowed, something burnt

PLAISTOW, N.H. (AP) — The frilly dreams of brides-to-be went up in smoke when a bridal shop burned down, incinerating as many as 2,000 gowns.

A line of fretting, sweating women gathered in 90-degree heat Wednesday at the hulk of the building that had housed 125 Bridal, about 30 miles north of Boston.

"When the place with your wedding dress burns down, what does that mean for the rest of the wedding?" said Rossangie Nunez, whose beaded lace gown was destroyed in Monday's fire. She's got until Nov. 25 to find another one.

Not Kathleen Gannon, who's walking down the aisle in two weeks. Was she devastated that her "perfect, ivory, long, simple-yet-elegant dress" was no more? "It's only a dress," said Gannon, who's been married once already.

For others, the blaze sparked strong words.

"My fiance called, and came down when it was still burning. I told him he was lying," said Faith Kidd, who is supposed to get married in eight weeks.

Grace Bartley, 26, of Reading, Mass., is getting married Oct. 8. She shrugged Wednesday while repeating, "Everything was in there. Everything was in there."

"I was all upset yesterday, and then I thought how selfish of me. I thought about the women who were getting married this weekend," she said.

Store manager Cathy Morse sat at a white plastic table fielding questions and taking in receipts. Her own records were destroyed by the fire, which is still under investigation.

About 30 people passed by in an hour. She hugged a few mothers and brides and accepted red roses from one. Others sought serenity in coffee cake and lemonade.

Morse has attempted to pacify the panic-stricken with promises of replacement finery. For those with nearer nuptials, she promised reimbursement.

Twelve customers were getting married this weekend, but other shops and dress companies were stepping in to make sure the brides didn't go bare, she said.

Though Kidd's \$800 wedding dress and her three bridesmaids' dresses were burned, she was philosophical.

"It just wouldn't be a wedding without a disaster, and you just

STRANGER than fiction

have to go with the flow," she said.

Tossing eggs nets teens felony charge

SALEM (AP) — Three teenagers suspected of throwing eggs and firecrackers over a freeway overpass as cars whizzed by below have been charged with felonies.

The youths — ages 12, 14 and 15 — of the Woodburn and Gervais areas were seen throwing material over a Salem-area overpass on Interstate-5 on July 9. An investigation led to their arrest by state police earlier this week.

The teens were charged under a 1993 law that forbids throwing objects from overpasses. The statute allows violators to be charged with felonies if they knew that the object could have injured someone or damaged a vehicle.

One of the boys arrested in the incident told authorities that he and his friends had hit about 10 cars with eggs that night.

"We had cars swerving to get away from these 'missiles,' so to speak," said state police Lt. Jack Rogers. "If a car's traveling 65 mph and an egg hits the windshield from that height, it's very likely going to smash the glass, and it's very likely that someone will get killed."

The law was passed in part because of the efforts of a Salem couple. Zelda and Frank Suniga both were severely injured in September 1988, when a section of concrete curbing was thrown from an overpass.

Police officer cited for running red light

MEDFORD (AP) — A police officer who ran a red light and collided with a pickup while on his way to a non-emergency call has been ticketed.

Officer Tom Sweeney was cited for disobeying a traffic control device, said Sgt. Mike Moran, spokesman for the Medford Police Department.

"The person responsible for the collision was the officer, because he disobeyed a red light," Moran said Wednesday.

The crash occurred Saturday night as Sweeney responded to a

call of children playing with matches. Moran said he "stopped at the stop light and thought he had a green light and he started to proceed into the intersection."

The driver of the pickup, Jennifer Koell, 25, suffered minor injuries in the ensuing wreck, which caused "quite a bit of damage" to both vehicles, Moran said.

"If there's a collision involving a second party, if the second party was at fault we cite them. It's only right that a police officer would be cited also," Moran said. "I think it's the fair thing to do."

Moran said Sweeney will be held personally responsible for any penalty.

"He'll pay it, if he's found guilty," Moran said. "It's a standard fine."

Red October escapes hostile takeover

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia's biggest candy factory has foiled the country's first Western-style hostile takeover bid.

The bid died Wednesday after the Red October factory defended itself with a "poison pill," raising the price of a takeover by promising huge payments to its workers if the buyout succeeded.

Alliance-Menatop, the investment arm of Menatop Bank, was offering \$60 million for 51 percent of Red October shares. The century-old factory said it was worth twice that, not counting its valuable downtown Moscow real estate.

After its two-week public offer — dubbed "The Hunt for Red October" by Moscow newspapers — expired Tuesday night, Menatop agreed not to make any more surprise bids for Red October for five years, officials said Wednesday.

Menatop and Red October, which last year was Russia's first state-owned company to sell shares to the public, agreed to cooperate on future takeovers of other Russian confectioners, officials of both companies said.

The Menatop bid, which valued Red October at \$9.50 a share, was closely watched because it involved Russia's first public tender offer and first public hostile takeover attempt.

Despite its failure, many see the bid as a positive sign for the Russian marketplace.

"Shareholders and the whole market gained from these events," said Mikhail Starchenko, deputy chairman of Trust and Investment Bank, which handled the tender.

Tennis & Racquetball Restringing Specials

\$7.50
Tournament Nylon

Reg. \$15.00 15g, 16g

\$9.95
Synthetic Gut

Reg. \$20.00 15g, 16g

COURTSIDE TENNIS & APPAREL
1122 West 7th • 342-7208
Open 7 days a week

Expires 8-2-95

Starts Friday 7:15, 7:30, 9:45 Nightly
Sun Mat 3:00 (\$3)

SMOKE

Starts Friday 7:05, 7:20, 9:35 Nightly
Sun Mat 2:45 (\$3)

THE POSTMAN (IL POSTINO)

Starts Friday 11:45 Nightly
Sun Mat 2:45 (\$3)

CRIMSON TIDE

The Pizza Pipeline

Quick Service and a Fair Price™

SIZZLING HOT SUMMER SPECIALS

EUGENE HOTLINE 686-5808

824 Charnelton Street

The Best Pizza in Town

Free Delivery Including UO Campus!

Any 16" One Item Pizza
ONLY \$7.00
Plus Two (2) FREE 22 oz. Soft Drinks

686-5808

Free Delivery Including UO Campus!

Any 14" Two Item Pizza
Plus Tricky Stix,
Hot Wings or Salad
ONLY \$9.25
Plus One (1) FREE 22 oz. Soft Drink

686-5808

Free Delivery Including UO Campus!

Carry Out Special
12" One Item Pizza
ONLY \$5.25
Plus One (1) FREE 22 oz. Soft Drink

686-5808

We accept UO purchase orders.

FUTON SALE

Full-size, Frame and Futon

Starting at **\$159**

ROCK SOFT
FUTON

1231 ALDER ST.
EUGENE, OREGON
686-5069

ROCK SOFT
FUTON