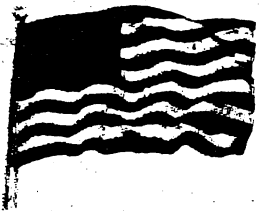


Steelers slip past Cowboys/1

FRIDAY



The Tribune-Democrat

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August 22, 2003



Report: Cambria Charles Bronson is

By **FRANK SOJAK**
THE TRIBUNE-DEMOCRAT

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The San Francisco Examiner said Bronson, who has Alzheimer's disease, suffered serious organ failure earlier this month and has been in the hospital since.

The Examiner's story said Bronson's doctors estimated the actor had days to live and Bronson's wife, Kim, reportedly was making arrangements to take him home.

Bronson, 81, told his wife he wanted to die at his Gold-

en State home, the newspaper said.

Born Charles Buchinski, a Lithuanian coal miner, he worked in the mines upon graduation from high school.

He saw combat action during World War II. After the war, he worked in an engineering apprenticeship program at a local house.

Bronson got a break in 1955 when he was cast as a sailor in "You're in the Navy Now."

Cooper.

Charles Bronson, son of an Ehrenfeld coal miner, became famous for his tough guy image in Hollywood films.

FRIDAY

1853 Our 50th Year 2003

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Bronson, 81, told his wife he wanted to die at his Gold-

en State home, the newspaper said.

Born Charles Buchinsky and one of 15 children of a Lithuanian coal miner in Ehrenfeld, Bronson went to work in the mines upon graduating from high school.

He saw combat action as a tail gunner over Europe in World War II. After the war he participated in the acting apprenticeship program at Pasadena (Calif.) Playhouse.

Bronson got a break in 1950 when he was picked to play a sailor in "You're in the Navy Now," starring Gary Cooper.

Please see **BRONSON**, A4

INSIDE

BYGONE MELODIE

Musical sounds from yesteryear will echo in Windber when Four Aces and Ink Spots take the stage.



WEEKEND, I

WEATHER

A shower or thunderstorm High near 7 Low 56.



Abby **D11** Donohue
Births **C8** Editorial
Bridge **D12** Horoscopes
Business **A7** Lottery ..

TEACHERS

Continued from A1

"We put together a different proposal and in it we addressed some of the issues that they raised with our offer of the 25th of July as problematic," he said.

In its July 25 offer, the district asked teachers to pay 5 percent of their monthly health insurance premiums this year, 10 percent next year and 15 percent in the final year of the contract.

That comes to about \$1,200 a month for a teacher with family coverage in the final year of the six-year offer.

Teachers have worked without a contract for three years, making Somerset the oldest active school labor dispute in the state.

For a group of parents last night, 44 months of uncertainty is more than long enough.

They gathered outside to urge on talks, offering food and even hotel rooms if needed to keep the two sides at the table.

"It doesn't matter as long as they negotiate to keep the kids in school," said Betty Domer, 39, a mother of two students. "They don't have to have an agreement."

Talks that took place earlier this week lasted only 30 minutes and never included a face-to-face conversation.

The two sides returned to the table only after Schools Superintendent John Baraniak, who has not been an active participant in the talks, asked for one last try before the strike teachers had threatened if they do not get a contract by Monday.

Last night's slow pace was no problem to the parents.

"I'm all for taking a while, I think most people are," said Gwen Noble, 42, of Somerset, a mother of three students who offered the free dinner, which was declined by the school board but accepted by teachers during a break after the first 80 minutes of discussion.

"I want them to negotiate until it's finished," said Domer, who paid for hotel rooms. "If it takes all

night, it takes all night. They have rooms." As it happened, it took until about 8:15 p.m. and the rooms were not needed. A 20-minute session after the dinner break ended with teachers caucusing for 50 minutes to consider the board's offer.

They returned briefly to say that they would take it to their membership today.

Teachers will report for a scheduled in-service day today to get the district ready for classes on Monday.

After they finish work, the union will report to a church outside Somerset it has used for headquarters during the 10-day strike last December, and as a meeting hall several times.

It will be sometime after the start of the 3:30 p.m. meeting that teachers will announce their intentions, Critchfield said.

Under state law, they must give 48 hours notice of a strike, meaning a decision for Monday has to be made today.

Critchfield said he will speak with Baraniak, then announce the union's decision publicly.

BRONSON

Continued from A1

He continued in small roles and a television series, "Man With a Camera," then played the title role in the 1957 film "Machine Gun Kelly."

Bronson, best known for his tough guy images, has made and contributed to such classic films as "The Magnificent Seven," "The Dirty Dozen," both in the 1960s, and the "Death Wish" series.

Critics say his career really took off when he made "The Magnifi-

cent Seven" in 1960.

In the late 1960s, Bronson spent several years making films in Europe, where he became a box-office draw.

He returned to the United States and reached true stardom in 1974 when he starred in the film "Death Wish." The film was a revenge fantasy about an architect who turned vigilante when his wife and daughter were raped.

Kevin Hagopian, a lecturer in media studies at Penn State University and an American film history expert, said Bronson is important as an actor for beginning his career

as a contract player in the old studio system.

Under that system, Bronson was under contract with several studios and played minor roles in big-budget films.

Hagopian said Bronson typically played villains.

He said Bronson hit his stride with the "The Magnificent Seven" and really began to focus on feature roles in "The Battle of the Bulge" in 1965, and 1967's "The Dirty Dozen."

In those films, he developed a persona that he would be identified with the rest of his life, that of a deadpan, violent character who was

also sympathetic, Hagopian said.

Clint Eastwood also emerged around the same time as Bronson.

With the "Death Wish" series, Bronson settled on a character that represented attitudes that audiences responded to well, Hagopian said.

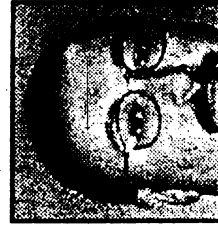
"It was Bronson's gift that he knew exactly what audiences wanted to see," Hagopian said. "He is a great star."

In the second half of the 20th century, John Wayne was the No. 1 box office draw - but Bronson and Eastwood were for a time neck-and-neck for second.

COP

Continued from A1

Skiles said McCloskey was suspended Wednesday after Spangler's office started the investigation. He said he would not provide any details that



District Justice Joseph Cannoni said no charges have been filed at his Windber office against Dagostino. If she was not formally arraigned on charges, that paperwork could be delayed for several days, he added.

A Windber police spokeswoman could

Rok pleaded guilty last year in U.S. District Court to violating the civil rights of Mark Spangler by using excessive force in his arrest following a domestic disturbance. Charges of resisting arrest and disorderly conduct filed against Spangler were later with-