

OBITUARIES

Nackey Loeb Dies; Published Manchester

Associated Press

COFFSTOWN, N.H.—Nackey S. Loeb, 75, the former publisher of the Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader and New Hampshire Sunday News who during the presidential impeachment scandal ran a headline calling President Clinton "a disgrace," died Jan. 8 at her home here. The cause of death was not reported.

Mrs. Loeb had been in failing health caused in part by complications associated with her partial paralysis from a 1977 car accident.

She retired in May but maintained an interest in the affairs of the Manchester newspapers and consulted on the recent endorsement of Steve Forbes in next month's Republican New Hampshire primary.

The Union Leader is the largest newspaper in the state and the only statewide daily. The New Hampshire Sunday News is the largest Sunday paper in the state.

Mrs. Loeb and her late husband, William Loeb, bought the newspapers in the 1940s and turned them into two of the nation's most conservative papers. William Loeb's

blunt editorial style and his active involvement in the state's presidential primaries earned the Union Leader a national reputation that his wife continued to nurture.

Mrs. Loeb, born to Robert and Margaret Scripps and an heir to the Scripps Howard publishing fortune, took over as publisher after her husband died in 1981. During her 18 years at the helm, she pursued a more quiet but still forceful approach.

An editorial signed by Publisher Joseph McQuaid for Sunday's editions said, "We were lucky to have her because her commitment to maintain an independent voice

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(N.H.) Union Leader

caused her to not only hang onto the Union Leader and Sunday News after William Loeb's death but to invest in their future and to do the hard work of leading us there."

During a visit by Clinton in February, a week after the Senate voted not to oust him over the Monica Lewinsky scandal, Mrs. Loeb didn't hesitate to publish a front-page editorial with the headline: "Mr. President, you're a disgrace!"

Republican presidential candidate Patrick J. Buchanan called her his "political godmother" and credited her endorsement

for his 1996 New Hampshire primary upset of Bob Dole.

"She will always be known as the torchbearer for conservative views," said Terrence Williams, publisher of the Telegraph in Nashua. "She certainly stayed true to that over the years, and she made quite a name for herself doing so."

Mrs. Loeb also kept the newspapers in step with the changing needs of their readers. She made the decision to convert the daily newspaper into a morning publication and was involved in expanding it on to the Internet.