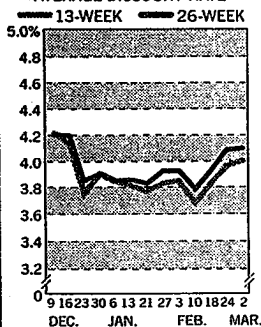


## DIGEST

### TREASURY BILLS

AVERAGE DISCOUNT RATE



SOURCE: Treasury Department

### ECONOMY

**T-bill interest rates rose.** The Treasury sold three-month bills at an average discount rate of 4.02 percent, up from 3.96 percent last week; and six-month bills at an average discount rate of 4.10 percent, up from 4.08 percent. The actual return to investors is 4.12 percent for three-month bills and 4.25 percent for a six-month bill. Separately, the Fed said the average yield for one-year Treasury bills rose to 4.41 percent last week from 4.37 percent.

### COMPANIES

**USAir** has set March 15 as the target date for taking over the Trump Shuttle, which will be renamed the USAir Shuttle.

**The Agnelli Group of Italy** won EC Commission approval of its bid for Exor of France as part of its efforts to take over the mineral water bottler Source Perrier.

**The Wellcome Trust** plans to sell as much as two-thirds of its 73.6 percent stake in Britain's Wellcome PLC in a global stock offering that could be worth as much as \$7.9 billion.

**Child World** is negotiating new equity financing. Meanwhile, the toy retailer said, its banks agreed to an amendment and limited waiver of its credit agreement.

**Digital** is offering early retirement to 7,000 U.S. employees as another step in its downsizing.

**Hilton Hotels** formed a joint venture with New Orleans Paddlewheels to operate a 3,000-passenger gambling riverboat on the Mississippi River.

**Compaq Computer** unveiled a range of new personal computers aimed at the Japanese market.

**Stanley Interiors of Stanleytown, Va.**, agreed in principle on a plan calling for the restructuring of its debt, the closing of its Waynesboro, Va., furniture plant and the sale of its fabric unit, Norman's of Salisbury, N.C.

**Piedmont Federal** in Manassas may reduce its assets by as much as 10 percent this year to meet capital standards, said Fred Howard, chief financial officer.

**Procter & Gamble** agreed to sell its Italian coffee business to Jacobs

Suchard Italia, owned by Philip Morris, for an undisclosed price.

**James D. Wolfensohn Inc. and J. Rothschild & Co.** are forming a joint venture, **J. Rothschild, Wolfensohn & Co.**, to consult on financial strategy, mergers and acquisitions throughout Europe. Paul A. Volcker will be chairman.

**Kevin Maxwell**, a son of the late media magnate Robert Maxwell, will be formally questioned for a second time in an effort to find out what went on at the hundreds of Maxwell firms, sources close to the investigation said.

**GTE** said sales by its cellular telephone division should hit an annual rate of \$1 billion by this summer. The company said sales were \$765 million in 1991.

**Ecolab**, owner of ChemLawn, said it plans to sell, spin off or undertake some "other form of corporate disposition" of the lawn-care firm by mid-1992.

**Phone companies** in the New York area signed a mutual aid pact. The 13 firms, including AT&T, MCI and Sprint, agreed to transmit each other's calls in case one has a service outage.

### INTERNATIONAL

**Britain** agreed to represent Russia in its application for membership of the International Monetary Fund, Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont said.

**Banco Mexicano Somex**, Mexico's sixth-largest bank, was sold by the

government to a group of investors for \$860,000, or 4.63 times its book value.

### COURTS

**Quaker State** falsely claimed in a TV commercial that its motor oils are superior to those of rival Castrol, a federal judge ruled. He ordered the two sides to negotiate damages to be paid Castrol.

**Two former A&P managers** were sued by the SEC for allegedly trading on inside information about the company's planned takeovers of two supermarket chains in 1986. The SEC settled with one of them, William Merrigan, who did not admit or deny guilt but agreed to pay \$147,565 to cover illegal profits, interest and a fine.

### EARNINGS

**Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Maryland** said earnings fell 38 percent in 1991.

### PEOPLE

**William Grabe**, an IBM vice president and general manager of U.S. marketing and services, is retiring in a move unconnected with a recent spate of high-level departures, sources said.

**L.A. Gear's** new chairman, Stanley Gold, said he is giving up salary and cash compensation this year.

**David J. McKittrick** resigned as senior vice president and chief financial officer of James River Corp. to join Wickes Cos.