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Past Hyde chief's hot new book

Bv Mark Frost

Chronicle Editor

Fred Fisher led the Hyde Col-

lection during its most tumultous times, 1978-1990.

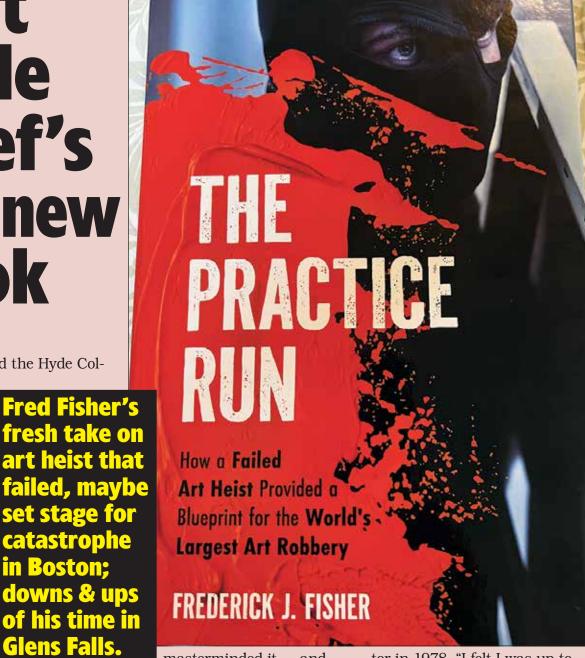
Next Thursday, May 15, his tale of those times will be published in a book called The Practice Run.

The title refers to an attempted heist of the Hyde's art in 1980 that Mr.

Fisher and others contend set the stage 10 years later for the devastating, still unsolved theft of a Vermeer, a Rembrandt and other prized works from the Gardner Museum in Boston.

in Boston;

The book offers a fresh take on the failed Hyde theft — and the Vanderbilt impostor who



masterminded it — and attempts to strengthen the case that it links to the crime at the Gardner.

But *Practice Run* is also Mr. Fisher's spiky recollection of his time in Glens Falls. He praises museum founders Louis and Charlotte Hyde, but he both criticizes and commends others and the community.

When he arrived as direc-

tor in 1978, "I felt I was up to my neck in alligator-infested waters in what seemed to be a sinking ship, and I was astounded at the pervasive complacency of the board..."

"The Hyde reeked of amateurism. The skeleton staff, well intentioned as they were, were 'playing museum.' These were rural community folks who

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GF has 10,070 voters;

By Cathy DeDe

Chronicle Editor

Whoever wins the June 24 **Democratic primary between Bill Collins and Diana Palmer** for Mayor of Glens Falls will presumably have a big head start toward winning the November 4 election, but only 36% of the city's voters will have a say in that outcome.

Glens Falls has a total of 10,070 voters and 3,629 enrolled Democrats, according to figures from the Warren County Board of Elections.

There are 2,871 Republicans and 3,372 "Blank" independents as well as 155 Conservative and

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