

# World and Nation

## Officials seek continued pipeline flow

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration said Tuesday it would oppose any move to close the Alaska pipeline but acknowledged it was unclear whether the federal government has legal authority to prevent it.

White House press secretary Martin Fitzwater said the authority issue was "an open question." However, he said, "I don't honestly believe anybody wants to close the pipeline."

Environmental Protection Administrator William Reilly, meanwhile, told Congress that the massive Alaskan oil spill could put the brakes on petroleum exploration there and in other areas — at least temporarily.

"We will take apart the environmental planning for every aspect of oil development in Alaska and in

other sensitive areas where the environment potentially could be threatened," Reilly told a House appropriations subcommittee.

Alaska Gov. Steve Cowper has threatened to shut the pipeline unless Exxon and other oil companies produce a better plan to deal with oil spills such as the one that dumped 10 million gallons in Prince William Sound on March 24. Democratic and Republican state legislators have backed up Cowper.

At the White House, Fitzwater said, "We've seen those comments (by Cowper) but we simply don't think it would be in the national interest to close the pipeline."

"We need to be aware of environmental precautions and safeguards that can and should be taken as a

result of this incident, but we remind people that the pipeline supplies 25 percent of our daily domestic oil production or one-eighth of our daily consumption," Fitzwater said.

"And while we share his environmental concerns we would not anticipate closing the pipeline."

The press secretary said no consideration had been given to the idea of Bush going to Alaska for a firsthand look at the environmental damage from the spill.

Reilly assured Congress that the administration will thoroughly review environmental safeguards in areas under consideration for oil exploration.

"We are doing that, as you know, off the coast of California and the coast of Florida . . . We'll do it in

Prince William Sound and look very carefully at future contingency planning there and we'll do it on the north slope," he said.

"I think we owe that to the environment," Reilly added. "We owe that to common sense."

Asked if the administration would hold up exploration of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge pending completion of the review, Reilly said, "There is a very clear understanding that we will not move forward if we have any significant concerns that have not been resolved."

Reilly was called to testify before the House Appropriations subcommittee on independent agencies about the EPA's budget but the committee first grilled him about the Alaska oil spill.

## 2 questioned in investigation of Wright ethics violations

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — The Ethics Committee on Tuesday interviewed two men involved in a real estate deal with House Speaker Jim Wright amid reports that Wright may have accepted \$100,000 in unreported gifts from one of them.

The committee planned to resume its closed-door deliberations on a long list of possible rules violations by Wright on Wednesday, and a final outcome of the case still appeared to be more than a week away.

The Wall Street Journal reported Tuesday that the committee is considering whether Wright violated rules by accepting use of a Fort Worth condominium, a 1979 Cadillac and a salary paid to his wife from Fort Worth developer George Mallick, a long-time friend and business partner of the Wrights.

House rules prohibit the acceptance of gifts of more than \$100 from "any person . . . having a direct interest in legislation."

### Gorbachev visits Castro

HAVANA — Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev signaled Tuesday that he and Fidel Castro are prepared to work for improved East-West relations, indicating some softening in the Cuban leader's rigid anti-Americanism.

In an interview with the Soviet news agency Tass on his visit to Cuba, Gorbachev said a central topic of his talks with Castro on Monday was the "new thinking" in Soviet foreign policy — an approach that seeks to ease world tensions by reducing military commitments abroad and negotiating settlements of regional disputes that threaten to bring the superpowers into conflict.

It is a tenet of Gorbachev's reform policies at home that the Soviet Union must demonstrate to the West it is eager to serve as a cooperative partner in world economic development and dispel the Kremlin's "enemy image" of the Cold War era.

Gorbachev emphasized in the Tass interview that he and Castro spoke about the greater understanding being shown by the West.

### Rebels force release of officers

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The government bowed to pressure from mutinous soldiers and said Tuesday it released from jail and deported three army officers who tried to overthrow Haitian leader Lt. Gen. Prosper Avril.

Rebels surrendered control of

### News in Brief

the international airport, which reopened Tuesday for the first time since Sunday's coup attempt.

The U.S. Embassy said there no longer appeared to be any active army resistance to the government.

"I think there's no doubt that President Avril is completely in control now," said embassy spokeswoman Susan Clyde.

### Debt relief plan wins backing

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration's Third World debt initiative won key endorsements Tuesday from the two international agencies expected to implement the strategy, with officials from both groups pledging quick action to get debt relief under way.

Both Michel Camdessus, the managing director of the 151-nation International Monetary Fund (IMF), and Barber Conable, president of the other global lending organization, the World Bank, said they recognized the need for urgency in addressing the debt crisis.

Conable said that any delay "could be devastating in view of the expectancies which have been created" about the prospect for a reduction in the \$1.3 trillion level of Third World debt.

### Soviet voters reject leaders

MOSCOW — Voters in one out of every eight Soviet parliamentary districts refused to elect anyone even though they had a choice of only one or two candidates, according to official results released Tuesday.

The Tass news agency released the Central Election Commission's final tally of the votes from March 26 elections for the country's new 2,250-member Congress of People's Deputies.

Tass said that in 195 of the 1,500 geographical districts across the country, no one got a majority of the vote even though there were only one or two candidates. In those districts, new electoral campaigns will be waged and a second election will be held May 14, Tass said.

Election results released earlier showed that in the first nationwide multicandidate election in 70 years voters rejected many top-ranking Communist Party and government leaders. They included Yuri Solovyev, a candidate member of the ruling Politburo, who ran unopposed in Leningrad.

## Israelis prepare to release Palestinians

From Associated Press reports

JERUSALEM — Israeli officials said Tuesday they will release hundreds of Palestinian prisoners and ease restrictions in the occupied territories during the Moslem holy month of Ramadan that begins Friday.

The move was announced on the eve of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's visit to Washington.

In the occupied West Bank and

Gaza Strip, 10 Palestinians were shot and wounded Tuesday in clashes between soldiers and stone-throwing Palestinian protesters, Arab hospital reports said. The army confirmed nine.

Police closed down the main shopping street in Arab east Jerusalem after stones were thrown at an Israeli bus, witnesses said. Salah Edin Street remained closed from 9 a.m. to noon, the period during which

uprising leaders allow shop owners to do business.

During a meeting with Palestinian journalists, Brig. Gen. Arieh Ramot, head of the military government in the Gaza Strip, said that during Ramadan the government will reopen some closed mosques and schools, according to journalists who attended the meeting.

He said hundreds of prisoners will be freed but did not give a specific number. More than 10,000 are being held in connection with the Palestinian revolt.

"I gave orders and instructions to the army to keep away from schools and mosques because I know how sensitive Ramadan is for Moslems, and we have no intention of killing or wounding anyone in the strip," Ramot told the journalists.

The journalists, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Ramot made it clear that he still believed mosques and schools were centers of incitement for the uprising.

The West Bank military government also planned to ease restrictions, said spokesman Olivier Rafowicz.

"We'll do whatever we can to keep things quiet," said Rafowicz. "We are hoping for a good and holy

Ramadan."

Shamir arrived in New York on Tuesday to address American Jewish leaders before meeting President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker in Washington.

The U.S. leaders are expected to put pressure on Shamir to calm the violence in the occupied territories where the revolt against Israeli occupation has led to the deaths of 419 Palestinians. Eighteen Israelis also have been killed.

Ramadan, the most important holiday for Moslems, marks the period when the Prophet Mohammed began receiving the Koran, or Moslem holy book, from God.

One of Islam's "five pillars," or guiding principles, is that every Moslem must fast from sunrise to sunset during the entire month.

It is also a month of religious fervor when confrontations with soldiers could boil over into violence. More than 80 percent of the 1.7 million Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip are Moslem.

Rafowicz said steps planned in the West Bank would be announced later in the week. All schools in the West Bank have been closed for most of the 16-month revolt.

## Homeless

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"We are sinking a lot of money into this old building, which, in the end, may not be big enough or serviceable enough to do all that the Inter-Faith Council wants to do," she said.

Beyond this effort, town aid for the homeless has been stymied by the complexity of the problem and the difficulty of knowing how or when to act.

Howes said the town has committed significant funding and effort in building low-cost housing units and in assisting low- and middle-income families to purchase homes, but it is not enough.

"The problem of the homeless is so different from low-income people," Wallace said. "Whereas we might help out someone with \$30,000 or \$60,000 in family income, that is not helpful to a person who is homeless and doesn't have 50 cents."

And those not fortunate enough to get into public housing?

"It's just one of those big, leftover moral problems facing the country," Wallace said. "We spend money on growth, weapons . . . whatever, and somehow we miss paying for the fundamentals."

The city of Raleigh has taken an active financial role concerning the problem of the homeless.

"It (homelessness) is life, it is a part of life and those who are financially capable of caring for themselves have had placed upon them the burden of

their fellow man," said Raleigh Mayor Avery Upchurch.

In 1988, Raleigh agencies received \$138,000 in city funding and the use of land and a building valued at more than \$200,000, said Tibbit Chance, Raleigh social data analyst. These funds partially covered the operational budgets of such groups as Urban Ministries, the Salvation Army and the Yosemite Rainbow City Project.

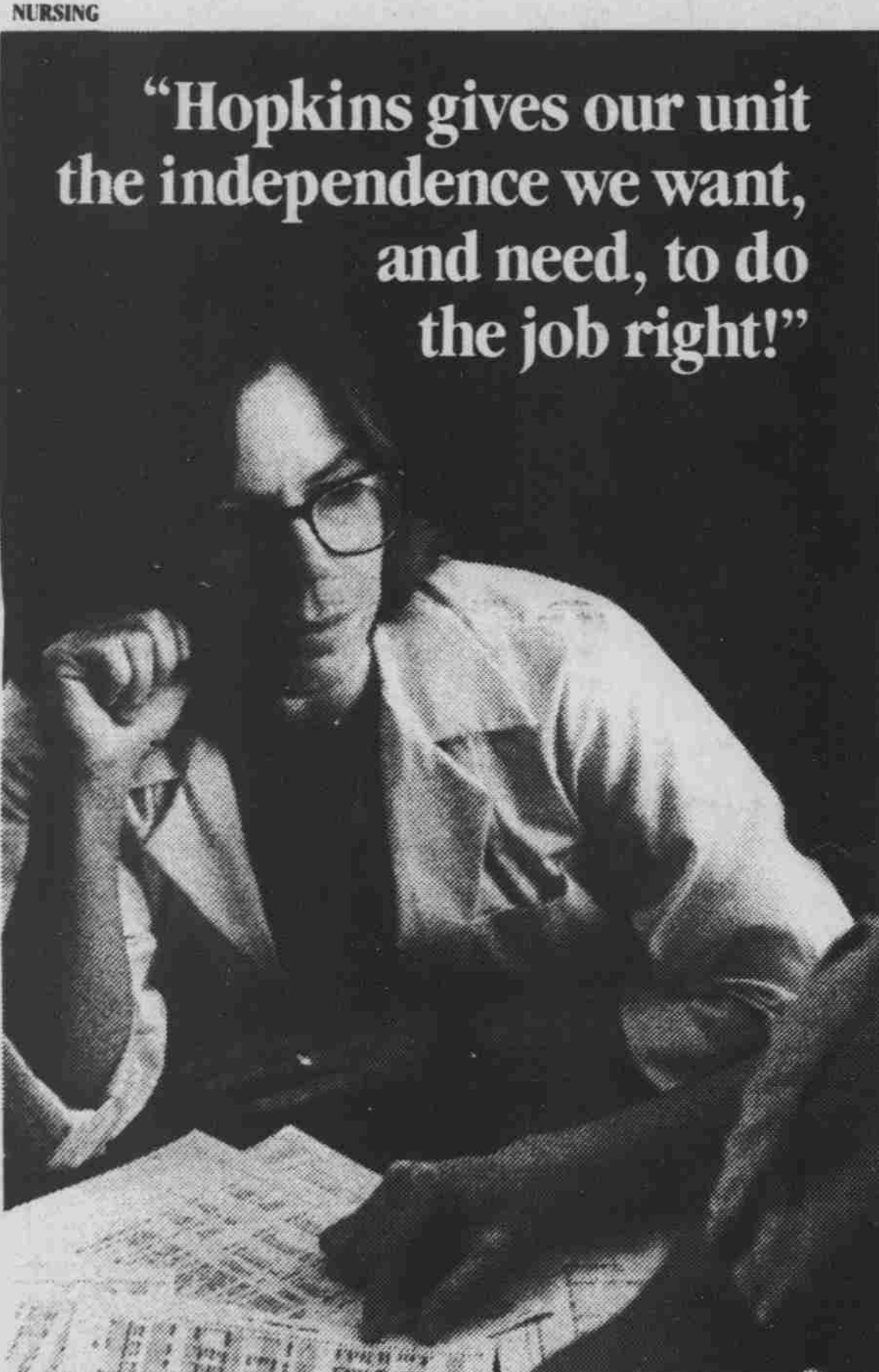
One example of Raleigh's efforts for the homeless was the creation of a transitional housing project which was expected to be operating in April. The nine two-bedroom apartments will provide low-cost housing for up to 18 months to homeless people. The rents were planned to be low so occupants could save money toward paying for a permanent dwelling.

People need to understand that the homeless are not just the people who couldn't succeed, Andresen said.

"The line is very fuzzy that separates the people who are well off and making it and those who are on the streets."

"The main problem is raising consciousness and money," said council member Joe Herzenberg.

"In an affluent town with a relatively affluent student body, it is hard for people to understand that there are a number of people who are unable to make it in our country," Howes said.



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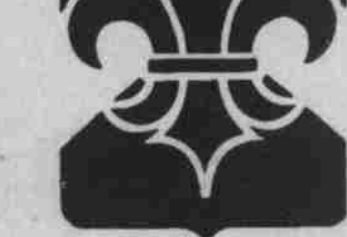
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## Pressure

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great emphasis is put on academics, he said. "The ones who put the most pressure on themselves usually get the best grades, but big whoopee if they make an A or a B."

Mark Rush, a junior business major from Hong Kong, said, "In the business school, every time someone gets something wrong on a test they talk about how much money they'll lose on their first job because their GPA drops."

After college, students feel pressured to begin a career track right away.

"Many people want a so-called professional career," said Elizabeth Furr, dean of UNC law school admissions. "Talking with undergrads, they feel that with competition in the job market, an undergraduate degree isn't sufficient. They need a graduate degree like an MBA or a law degree."

One student going through the

MBA program called an MBA a ticket to success — an investment a person makes to ensure a financially sound future.

"Students' dream jobs usually fit a glamorous picture," Harris said. "They dream of having an expense account and a power office, going to work professionally dressed, traveling internationally."

Striving to become the best at the cost of neglecting personal happiness doesn't always pay off, Harris said. Most recent graduates find themselves low on the totem pole, with a structured training program in first jobs and eventually in a middle-management position at age 40, hardly the high-power job they hoped for.

"You have to strike a balance in life," she said. "Life does not have to be a race to the finish line, because when you get there, it's not all that it's cracked up to be."

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