

Clinton's new economic formula meets with mixed reviews

By Stephanie Greer
Assistant State and National Editor

President Bill Clinton's unveiling of his economic plan to Congress Wednesday introduced proposals to reduce the nation's deficit that have garnered both warm and cold reviews from the American public.

"(During the speech) there was no doubt that Bill Clinton was the president, that he was talking about what mattered and that he had a plan," said Marc Chimes, executive vice president of Nordlinger Associates, a Washington-based public relations and advertising agency.

Chimes added that he thought Clinton had made "the country confident."

Stanley Black, a UNC economics

professor who worked with the Carter Administration, said he was fairly impressed with Clinton's proposals. "This proposal sounds to be a very serious proposal, and one that confronts the problems of the country head on," he said. Black added that he thought the proposed tax increase would have a "very minor" effect on the American public and that he assumed the increase would be "phased in when the economy is on an upswing."

Pete Sepp, director of communications at the National Taxpayers Union, disagreed with Black on the effect of a tax increase. Sepp said an increase would have a "dramatic" effect on the national economy and stated that raising corporate taxes would result in either massive personnel cuts or a rise in consumer

prices. "It just hasn't been demonstrated that an increase in taxes helps the economy," he said.

Clinton's proposed budget cuts drew a slightly warmer response, but many held that the cuts could have been much more extensive.

"He could have cut things by one-third, and nobody would have missed it," said Vince Ryan, chairman of the board of policy at the Liberty Lobby group.

Sepp agreed with Ryan's assessment. "We thought that while the spending cuts were a good start, more was needed," he said.

Ryan said he thought Clinton had not been specific enough in his proposals. He added that he was unsure how Clinton would create more jobs for the country

and "how (Clinton) is going to fund all these programs he's suggested."

Aside from concerns about Clinton's proposals, many experts were worried about the U.S. Congress' reaction to the new plan.

"One of the biggest problems is that the cuts (will go into effect) in the (administration's) out years. That will give time for Congress to pick apart the spending cuts and nullify them," Sepp said.

Chimes said he thought Congress would act slowly and inefficiently in the following months.

"One of two things is going to happen," he said. "Either Congress is going to get behind this onslaught of new legislation, or (Clinton's proposal) is going to be picked to death."

"I think (the proposal) will eventually pass by a significant margin, but (Congress) will talk (about the proposal) forever," Chimes added.

Overall, Republican response to the Democratic president's economic plan was negative. A statement released by Republican National Committee Chairman Haley Barbour aired the party's complaints concerning Clinton's package. The statement said Clinton's proposals would only cause the economy to worsen. "We cannot support higher taxes and more government spending, as they will choke off the recovery," the statement read.

Chimes said that he doubted the Republicans would produce an alternate economic plan and that the party's reaction would hurt its standing with the

American public. "Instead, it looks kind of like they're just going to carp and whine," he said.

Regardless of the varying opinions of his new economic plan, Clinton received approval from many camps.

"It's refreshing to hear somebody not pulling punches on the economic outlook," Black said.

Chimes heralded Clinton's delivery and the way the president had handled the public. "He seemed connected in a way that we never thought Reagan or Bush was. He was very simple."

"He told the nation that Congress was directly responsible (for what happens to the economic package)," Chimes said. "It was almost like he was winking at the public and saying 'You guys are on the hot seat.'"

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BOG

be an "either/or" decision involving teaching and research.

"I would hope that the BOG and the BOT would show keen interest in teaching and its effectiveness on campus," Britt said.

Britt said none of the 16 schools sets a precedent for others and added that she did not believe that UNC-CH had been a flagship for the system.

"Every institution is unique," she said. "From time to time, attention has been focused on different places, so at different times, one university or college is more high profile than another."

Britt cited UNC-Asheville's recent recognition for having an outstanding humanities program as one example.

The N.C. School of the Arts, based in Winston-Salem, also received attention for its new movie division, another example of the continually changing at-

tention given to institutions within the UNC system, Britt said.

Jordan: System needs money

Jordan, a reappointed BOG member from Mount Gilead, said the largest obstacle facing the UNC system, and specifically UNC-CH, was money.

"The biggest problem is to keep (UNC-CH) up and running as a first-class University and (maintain an) excellent faculty and a good student body," Jordan said.

Jordan said another problem was keeping the cost of University tuition affordable. Jordan said the so-called "flagships" of the system included UNC-CH, N.C. State and UNC-Greensboro.

"They are the research institutions, and they should maintain that role," he said.

Jordan said he couldn't comment on

tenure because he didn't have enough information on the subject.

"It's one of those issues the general public doesn't understand, and those of us on the Board of Trustees and the Board of Governors don't understand as well as we should," he said.

More study and research will be necessary before any new tenure policies can be proposed, he said.

"After a certain amount of time and study, (we) need to come up with a good program so those who deserve (tenure) get it, and those who don't deserve (tenure) don't get it," Jordan said. "Research institutions are going to put more emphasis on research, but that's not to say good teaching won't be rewarded."

Culture

Lumberton, said he thought many times the student body overlooked minority groups and did not realize their importance on campus.

"If we're going to have a liberal university, you have to have diversity," he said. "I think these groups can only add to the University."

The Carolina Indian Circle, a 20-year-old organization that currently has about 30 members, tries to make Native-American students feel more at home and help them adjust to life at UNC, Maynor said.

The group gets much of its funding from student fees, which members use to finance their annual Pow Wow and fund speakers, Maynor said. The Pow Wow, the group's main program during the year, costs between \$2,000 and \$3,000, Maynor said.

"We have to be very particular about what we spend our Student Congress funds on," he said. "We're going to try

to get more funds this year."

Making the campus more culturally aware

Helen Song, Korean-American Student Association president, said she thought students needed to be informed of the different cultures of their peers.

"Our school is a big school," she said. "I think it's very important for people to be aware that people are different and they come from different cultures."

The purpose of KASA has changed in the past years from serving as a primarily social organization educating the campus about Korean culture, Song, a junior, said.

"As we're growing we realize we need to do more," she said. "It's important to keep our culture and express our culture. We are realizing we need to do more than (sponsor social events)."

Song said she was concerned that many Korean-American students would forget their Korean heritage when they were immersed in UNC's American culture.

One of KASA's main programs this year was Korean Night, an evening of Korean culture and traditional entertainment open to the entire student body.

Song said KASA, which has been in existence for seven years and has about 30 members, also was working to have a Korean language class added to the University's curriculum. KASA also receives congress funding.

not provide any in-depth plans until he was well informed on the tuition issue.

"However, I don't want to make tuition so high that my grandchildren can't afford to go," he said. Aldridge added that several of his children had graduated from UNC-system schools.

O'Kelly: UNC-CH problems similar to other schools

O'Kelly said the problems at UNC-CH were generic to the major state universities, including the issues of faculty salaries, purchasing library books and tuition.

O'Kelly added that the debate over a free-standing black cultural center had divided UNC-CH.

One group can't meet all cultural needs

Alice Nkhoma-Wamunza, president of the African Students Association, said she thought the emergence of some types of cultural groups might result from the fact the Association of International Students did not meet the needs of specific cultural groups.

"When foreign students come to the United States, they find it difficult to penetrate the walls of the American student," she said. "It is easier for them if they can find people of their own."

Nkhoma-Wamunza said there were very few African students at UNC and most of them were graduate students.

The African Students Association is a good place for African students to build friendships among themselves, and the group mainly holds informal gatherings and discussions, she said.

The group, which has about 15 members and has existed for about seven years, gives African students an opportunity to meet and discuss issues pertaining to them, Nkhoma-Wamunza said.

The African Students Association has received congress funding in the past but has not in recent years, she said. Nkhoma-Wamunza said the group planned to ask for funding in the future.

Funding requests trigger debate

Student Congress Rep. Mike Kolb, Dist. 1, said he didn't believe congress should fund every cultural group re-

questing money because it would open the door for any group based on culture to ask for money. The campus doesn't need more polarization by ethnic background, he said.

"It's a trend we need to examine," Kolb, a law student, said. "I don't think we should be funding groups based on race, religion, nationality or ethnic group."

By funding more and more smaller ethnic groups, we encourage more groups to ally by ethnicity," Kolb said he thought funding all cultural groups would encourage "tribalism" on campus.

"This is another example of Student Congress making an offering to the great god of multiculturalism," he said.

But Rep. Philip Charles-Pierre, Dist. 17, said he thought these groups were important to keeping University life variegated.

"We have to realize that funding cultural groups not only enlightens us on their culture but also those being affected by their culture," he said. "By putting it all together we can understand how we all in a sense are bound together in some kind of way."

Charles-Pierre, a sophomore from Jamaica, N.Y., said all campus cultural groups had some kind of impact on the University.

"Our country and our University are made of different nations within a state," he said. "... all these nations affect the state, no matter how small."

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The Center for Documentary Studies, established at Duke University in 1989 and dedicated to documenting the reality of people's lives in our complex culture, will give awards to undergraduates attending Triangle area universities. These prizes are designed to help students conduct summer-long fieldwork projects. Upon completion of the projects students will be asked to make a public presentation of their documentary work based on the summer fieldwork. By documentary studies we mean work by photographers, filmmakers, historians, journalists, novelists, and others who work by direct observation and participation in the lives of individuals and communities. Students interested in applying for the prize should demonstrate an interest in documentary studies and possess the talent and skills necessary to the study of human culture. These skills may involve oral history, photography, film or video, essay or creative writing, journalism or active interest in community service programs.

Eligibility: Applicants must be juniors or seniors attending either Duke University, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina State University or the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. We welcome both individual applications and collaborative proposals. This grant is intended to fund full time work on summer projects. Individuals currently associated with the Center for Documentary Studies are not eligible.

Project: Applicants should describe a specific project addressing one of the Center's current research priorities — the American family, African American life and race relations, law and politics, ecology and the environment. Focus on the South is preferred. Prize winners may consult with the Center's staff and associates and use Center's facilities while working on their projects.

Guidelines: Submit the following typed information:

- Two page letter of application describing the project. Include a statement about the importance of the project, the methods you will use, and what you hope to accomplish over the summer.
- Short budget covering supplies, travel costs and other expenses related to fieldwork.
- Self addressed stamped envelope (SASE) for the return of all samples and supporting materials.
- One page autobiography.
- Appropriate sample of work (for example, five minute video, five slides, two page writing sample).
- Two letters of recommendation sent to the Center, one from a professor and another from an individual outside the academic community.

NOTE: Students who wish to work collaboratively on a project should submit a single proposal (letter, budget, SASE) with appropriate supporting materials for each student.

Deadline: Submit applications during the month of February. Entries will not be accepted if postmarked after Feb. 28, 1993.

Prize: Awards up to \$2000.00 will be announced April 15.

Send Entries To: The Center for Documentary Studies at Duke University Box 90802 Durham, NC 27708-0802

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