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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Two African Presidents Killed in Airplane Crash

UNITED NATIONS—The presidents of Rwanda and Burundi were killed Wednesday in a plane crash near the airport in Rwanda's capital.

Presidents Juvenal Habyarimana of Rwanda and Cyprien Ntaryamira of Burundi had been in Tanzania for a meeting of east-central African leaders seeking ways to end ethnic violence in the two countries. Rwanda and Burundi have been wracked by bloodletting between the rival Hutu and Tutsi ethnic groups.

The plane went down while approaching the airport in Kigali, capital of Rwanda, according to Chimanya Gharekhan, a U.N. political adviser.

The French Embassy in Kigali confirmed both presidents were killed in the crash. About 10 people were aboard and there were no survivors, the embassy said. Witnesses heard heavy-weapons fire around the airport shortly before the crash.

Revenge Bombing Kills 8 in Northern Israeli Town

AFULA, Israel—Police and civilians worked desperately to help victims of a car bomb that killed eight people and injured 45 Wednesday in revenge for the Hebron massacre.

The explosion occurred at about 12:30 p.m. in the northern town of Afula near a city bus stop close to three high schools. As a city bus pulled up to the stop and some students crowded around, a blue Opel parked 10 feet in front of the bus erupted in a fire cloud.

Afula, a factory and agriculture town in the northern Galilee region, is surrounded by Arab villages and is six miles from the occupied West Bank town of Jenin. The Islamic militant group Hamas claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was in revenge for the Feb. 25 massacre in a Hebron mosque that killed 30 Muslims.

Teamsters Strike After Negotiations Break Down

WASHINGTON—Up to 75,000 Teamsters members went on strike Wednesday in a contract dispute concerning the use of lower-wage, part-time employees, setting up picket lines in the union's first nationwide walkout in 15 years.

A handful of strikers were arrested in the Northeast, but no serious violence was reported. "Everything is peaceful. It's unusually quiet, which is good," said Millard Kizzia, manager of a Churchill Truck Lines Inc. terminal in Tulsa, Okla.

The Teamsters' contract expired last week. The union agreed to extend its strike deadline until Wednesday so negotiations could continue, but the trucking companies said the proposal they put forward last week was their final offer.

Federal Sting Brings 81 Arrests in Smuggling Case

MITCHELLVILLE, Md.—Federal agents investigating a gang accused of smuggling Chinese people into this country and holding them for ransom arrested 81 people Wednesday in the Washington suburbs and in New York.

In raids conducted by agents of the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the FBI, 63 people were taken into custody at a house in Mitchellville, six more were arrested in restaurants in nearby Upper Marlboro, and 12 were arrested in New York, the FBI said.

The FBI learned of the smuggling ring Sunday, when friends or relatives of one hostage contacted the agency, FBI spokesman Andy Manning said in Baltimore.

Mandela Says Elections Must Take Place On Time

DURBAN, South Africa—Nelson Mandela rejected any delay in elections in volatile Natal Province, saying Wednesday that the army could end mounting bloodshed in the three weeks before South Africa's first all-race vote.

The African National Congress leader spoke to a national conference of ANC youth in the capital of Natal. He spoke two days before a key meeting Friday with Inkatha Freedom Party Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini, who oppose the vote and demand changes in the country's new constitution to guarantee self-determination for the 7 million Zulus.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: 50-percent chance of rain; high upper 60s.

FRIDAY: Clear; high lower 60s.

Cloud Wins Congress Speaker Race

BY SHARON BALDWIN
STAFF WRITER

The 76th Student Congress elected Rep. Monica Cloud, Dist. 16, as the 1994-95 congress speaker in a run-off vote at its Wednesday night meeting.

"I know that I can be neutral and accessible," Cloud said. "I want to make debate freer and more flowing, and under my direction debate could flow freely and unbiased."

Cloud stressed her past experience on the Finance Committee and the Rules and Judiciary Committee of Student Congress and her knowledge of parliamentary procedure as proof that she was more competent than Rep. Jonathan Jordan, Dist. 1, and Rep. Jonathan Justice, Dist. 21.

A 14-9-5 vote in favor of Cloud resulted in a run-off election between Cloud and Jordan, which resulted in her 15-13 victory. Two representatives abstained from voting in the run-off election.

In her nomination speech, Cloud quoted author Naomi Wolf's analogy of a transfer and an energy source linked by a machine as being the elements in the making of a successful relationship.

"A well-run machine connects the transfer—Student Congress—and the energy source—the student body," Cloud said. "I want to be the machine that links the two."

Cloud began her position as speaker of congress immediately upon election.

In addition to speaker of congress, Student Congress elected a new speaker pro

tempore, ethics committee chairman and finance committee chairman.

Rep. Roy Granato, Dist. 13, was elected ethics committee chairman over Rep. Thad Woody, Dist. 11.

"Experience, hard work and dedication," Granato said. "That's what I have to offer you as an ethics chair."

"In reference to my voting record, I see myself as objective and fair," Granato said. "I have never walked into a meeting with a set agenda." He ended his nomination speech by reiterating his strengths as a fair and unbiased candidate.

Granato's goals include making the ethics committee play a more active role in Student Congress, decreasing the noise level and increasing the attendance level in congress as a whole.

Congress members are allowed two absences each semester. When asked about his strategy for enforcing attendance, Granato said he had a three-part plan.

"I would begin by calling each congress member after they have missed one meeting and announcing it to the Student Congress after two absences," Granato said. "Further absences would result in censure of a vote, expulsion from a meeting and, in the off chance, elimination from office."

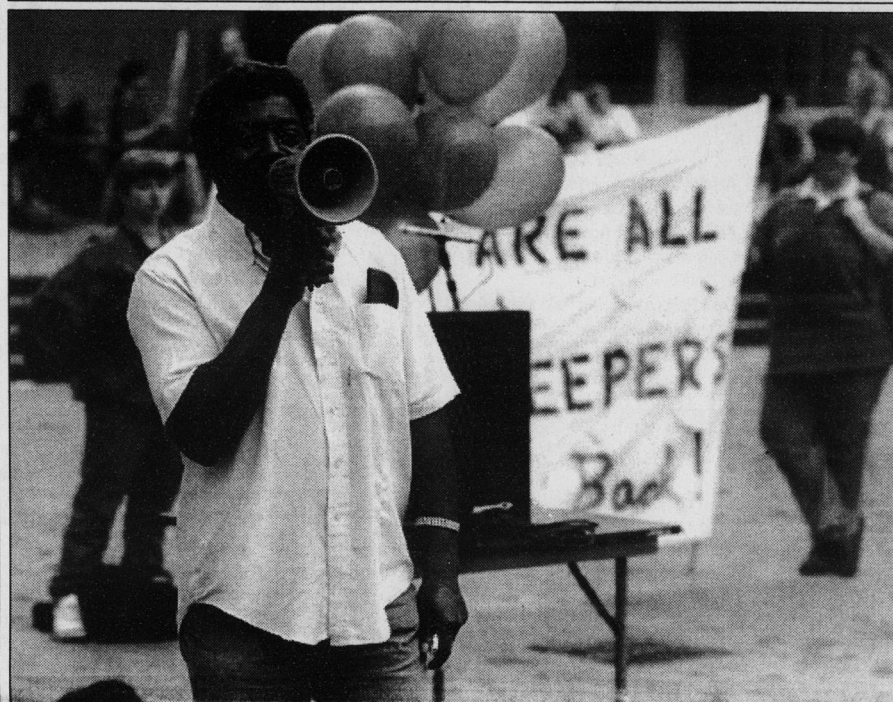
Jordan was elected as this year's speaker pro tempore. Jordan ran against Justice and Rep. Virginia Moore. Jordan won in a run-off vote against Moore.

"I ran last year and lost in a heart-breaking tie," Jordan said. "But like I said

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Rep. MONICA CLOUD, Dist. 16, is serving her second year in congress.



Housekeeper Larry Farrar, a member of the UNC Housekeepers Association Steering Committee, talks to a crowd of about 50 on Wednesday in the Pit. Farrar said being fired from the University might lead him to a better job.

Rally Targets Housekeepers' Low Wages

BY RACHAEL LANDAU
STAFF WRITER

Speakers at a rally Wednesday for the UNC Housekeepers Association stressed how the workers' low wages were affecting the quality of life in the community.

"It's very hard to build and sustain viable communities without sufficient capital and so, when you hear debates about problems in our community, people forget there are structures perpetuating the problems," said junior Fred Wherry, master of ceremonies for the rally.

The rally, held at noon Wednesday in the Pit, was a part of Race Relations Week. About 80 students showed up to support the housekeepers, whose goal is to get the UNC administration to raise wages, provide better working conditions and provide advancement training programs.

"We would like to not work against the University but with the University, but right now the University has not upheld their end," said Barbara Prear, a UNC housekeeper.

The main goal of the housekeepers association this year is to organize housekeepers on all the 16 campuses of the UNC system. The group said it hoped to have housekeepers associations on every state campus in the next five years.

Chancellor Paul Hardin said that it would not be "appropriate" for the University to recognize the housekeepers association as the representative body of housekeepers. Employee interests and concerns can be addressed through the administration, he said.

But housekeeper Larry Farrar, a member of the housekeepers association, said the administration did not want house-

keepers to be free. Housekeepers are being shackled by their minds, he said.

"This may be a plantation, but we ain't no slaves, and they ain't our masters," he said.

"This is the only real effort on the part of the employees on campus to raise the standards of employees," he said of the housekeepers association.

Prear said the heart of the issue was not only the money but how it was affecting the communities.

"We are working for nothing, and then we are going to second and third jobs to support our families. Then we are not home to raise our families," she said.

Harvey Reid, president of the Midway Development Commission and one of the rally speakers, said he wanted students to

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Supreme Court Justice Blackmun Steps Down

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON—Justice Harry Blackmun, a liberal anchor of the Supreme Court and author of the landmark Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide, announced on Wednesday that he would retire at the end of the current term.

President Clinton, citing Blackmun's distinguished 24-year career on the highest court, said "the shoes are large" as he searched for a replacement. Clinton promised to fill the second Supreme Court vacancy of his term soon.

"I shall miss the court, its work and its relationships," Blackmun said. "But I leave it in good hands." At a White House announcement, Clinton saluted Blackmun as a judge of "majesty and reason, with scholarship and grace," who defied all political labels. In stepping down, Clinton said Blackmun would "step up into our history."

Blackmun, 85, said it was hard to step aside from a job he loved, but "it is time." "It's been a great ride, and I am indebted to the nation and President to you and all your predecessors for putting up with me," he said.

The justice told Clinton several months ago he was likely to retire at the end of this

year's term. With the White House search for a successor well under way, Clinton promised a nominee "of genuine stature" and reminded reporters of his campaign statements, including a promise to name abortion-rights supporters to the court.

Early speculation Wednesday centered on retiring Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt.

"I think either one could be confirmed," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Mitchell, speaking to reporters in South Portland, Maine, said, "Nothing has been offered to me, so I have nothing to consider at this time." Mitchell said that if he was offered the job, "I will consider it, as I will consider any option that is presented to me."

Other possible choice included federal appellate Judges Richard Arnold of Arkansas and Stephen Breyer of Massachusetts, a finalist before Ruth Bader Ginsburg was picked; Justice Department official Walter Dellinger; and federal trial Judge Jose Cabranes of Connecticut.

Clinton had little else to say about his search, which is being led by counsel Lloyd

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Fashion Show Axed From Apple Chill

BY ELENA BERTON
STAFF WRITER

This year's Apple Chill street fair has chilled the show of local fashion designer Bill Witherspoon.

Witherspoon said he received a letter from the fair organizers Monday, saying they were revoking the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department's permission for him to participate as an entertainer for Sunday's Apple Chill.

Witherspoon said the decision was unfair to the local businesses and nationally known makeup artists, video-graphers and photographers involved in his show. "I take what I do very seriously. For all those people it's not fair. You cannot do that four working days before the fair."

Witherspoon set up his first show in 1991 in the Trail Shop parking lot on East Franklin Street, and during the following fairs he organized his shows independently of the Apple Chill organizers.

Mike Loveman, parks and recreation department director, said Witherspoon's shows attracted a young, multicultural crowd to the fair. "Witherspoon provided an alternative kind of entertainment," he said. "We think that's important. We have a lot of diversity of entertainment at the fair."

The shows were so successful that in early March the parks and recreation department informed Witherspoon that he had been selected to perform at the Morehead Planetarium stage and that they would provide a DJ and a dressing room.

Fair Organizer Carol Walborn said the disagreement between the parks and recreation department and Witherspoon arose from the issues of advertising and dressing room space.

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Fashion designer BILL WITHERSPOON says he could have provided his own dressing room.

Festival to Feature Local Food, Arts, Performances

BY ELENA BERTON
STAFF WRITER

East Franklin Street will be closed again Sunday—this time not for the celebration of an NCAA sports victory, but for the annual Apple Chill street fair.

Apple Chill, which is organized by the Chapel Hill Parks and Recreation Department, will be held from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. and will feature entertainment ranging from fine arts and craft to international food, music and dance.

A group of Chapel Hill students and their teachers began the fair 22 years ago as a way to show and sell their work. Known as "Boop la Boop," the exhibit originally was set up on Columbia Street, but grew too big.

Organizers and artists thought the original focus of the fair—a venue for local and developing artists—was getting lost among the growing flurry of activities, so they approached the Chapel Hill Town Council about its becoming the fair's sponsor.

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I want to thank everybody who made this day necessary.

Yogi Berra