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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Russia Could Withdraw All Peacekeepers From Bosnia

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Russia threatened on Monday to withdraw its peacekeepers from Bosnia if the United States permitted the sale of weapons to the Bosnian government.

A high-ranking U.S. delegation met with officials of the Muslim-led government Monday, but there was no immediate information available.

The new friction between Washington and Moscow jeopardized the united front of five nations that are trying to get Bosnian Serbs to accept a peace plan they adamantly oppose.

Russia's deputy foreign minister, Vitaly Churkin, warned the United States that Moscow might withdraw its peacekeepers if Washington exempted the Bosnian government from the U.N. ban on arms sales to former Yugoslavia.

U.S., Cuban Officials Meet To Resolve Refugee Crisis

NEW YORK — U.S. and Cuban negotiators met for one hour Monday on halting the exodus of Cuban refugees, and there were growing indications that the talks were at an impasse.

The two sides planned to meet again Tuesday for a fifth day of talks, but David Johnson, spokesman for the U.S. delegation, said the time and place of the negotiations had not been set yet.

One dispute was over an earlier U.S. offer to expand legal Cuban immigration, perhaps to about 20,000 people a year, in exchange for President Fidel Castro's promise to stop Cubans from fleeing to the United States. Cuba reportedly responded with a proposal to increase legal immigration to at least 100,000 people.

Russian Soldiers Capture Separatist Headquarters

MOSCOW — Government troops captured an opposition stronghold Monday after bloody overnight fighting killed dozens of people in the separatist Chechnya region of southern Russia.

It was the first significant success of the Chechen president, Dzhokhar Dudayev, in his fight against the Kremlin-backed opposition after several days of clashes and an escalating war of words.

Russia put some of its troops in the Caucasus Mountains region on combat alert and ordered them to "localize" the fighting if it spread beyond Chechnya, Defense Minister Pavel Grachev said in remarks carried by news agencies.

The military also strengthened its outposts along roads from Chechnya and increased control over the region's air space.

Vice President Says Haiti Invasion 'Not Inevitable'

WASHINGTON, D.C. — An invasion of Haiti is not inevitable but "one way or another," the military regime there will have to go, Vice President Al Gore said Sunday.

Days after a Pentagon official said U.S. soldiers would be assembled for duty in Haiti, Gore provided what might become a justification for an invasion while appearing to soften the administration's line on use of force.

Haiti's military leaders must give up control, he said, because the United Nations had demanded it and the United States had an interest in seeing democracy restored and limiting the flow of Haitian refugees. But it was not too late for the regime to exit on its own, Gore said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

U.S. Extending Travel Ban On Lebanon to Eighth Year

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The State Department is extending into an eighth year a ban on Americans traveling to Lebanon, leaving Lebanese-Americans to argue among themselves about whether U.S. visitors are still vulnerable to terrorist attacks there. A six-month extension of the restriction triggered in 1987 by a wave of hostage-taking, plane hijackings and bombings, became effective Aug. 31.

The Council of Lebanese-American Organizations, a Michigan-based umbrella organization claiming to speak for at least 15,000 people and 23 groups in several states, voiced agreement last week with the State Department's findings.

Weather

TODAY: Partly cloudy; high mid-80s.
WEDNESDAY: Mostly sunny; high 75-80.

Building Manager OK After Friday Afternoon Explosion

Fire Officials Still Haven't Determined What Caused a Breaker Box Explosion

BY JAMIE KRITZER
CITY EDITOR

The building manager of the NationsBank Plaza was discharged from UNC Hospitals on Monday morning after a Friday afternoon explosion of a breaker box at the building set parts of his body on fire.

A few minutes after 1 p.m., Manning Outen went down to a maintenance room on the building's ground level.

When he tried to flip a switch on the power box, the box exploded. Fire officials received the first call at about 1:22 p.m.

Fire officials still are uncertain why the breaker box, located off an alleyway next to the Rosemary Street Parking Deck, exploded.

"The lights went out in the Papagayo Restaurant, so the property manager came down here to turn them back on, and that's when it happened," said Larry Johnson, public information officer with the Chapel Hill Fire Department.

Outen was listed in fair condition at UNC Hospitals for the weekend after the explosion of the 125-amp breaker box. Several hundred people had to be evacuated from the building.

Chapel Hill Fire Capt. Victor Cruz-Saez said the building had sustained no property damage despite the explosion and a small ensuing fire in the room and an adjacent maintenance room.

Upon their arrival at about 1:25 p.m., the first responders from the Chapel Hill

Fire Department extinguished the blaze, which sent smoke through at least two floors of a main stairwell and several nearby offices.

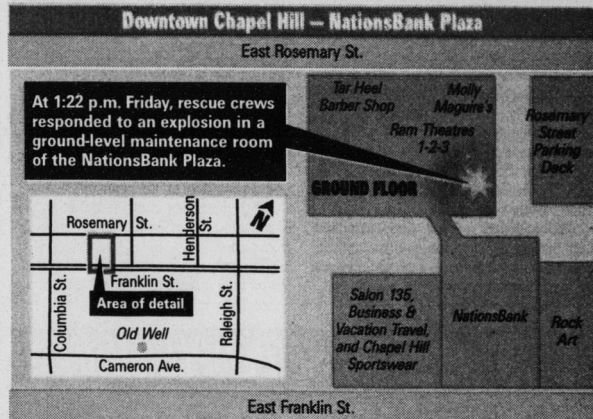
More than 40 personnel from the Carrboro Fire Department, the New Hope Volunteer Fire Department, the Chapel Hill Police Department, the Orange County Rescue Squad and all four Chapel Hill fire stations responded to the call about the explosion.

Duke Power was called in to reroute the electricity to the building so it could be reopened.

Some of Outen's hair was singed and one side of his face and his arms were blackened, said Ruby Weaver, a parking attendant at the NationsBank Parking Deck.

Traffic along Rosemary Street between

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SOURCE: CHAPEL HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT

DTH/JUSTIN SCHEFF

Frog Catching



UNC's Kerry Mock (57), with the help of Mike Morton (58), takes down a TCU player in Saturday night's season opener at Kenan Stadium. The Tar Heels beat the Horned Frogs with a final score of 27-17.

Auditor Requests New Assignment

BY ADAM GUSMAN
STAFF WRITER

The embattled director of the University's Internal Auditing Department, Edwin Capel, has requested reassignment within the University.

Chancellor Paul Hardin announced Friday afternoon that he would honor Capel's request. Capel will remain as the department's director until interim leadership can be appointed.

Hardin said Capel had requested the transfer "to pursue other vocational interests and to restore the good reputation and high standards of credibility of the Internal Audit Department" as soon as possible.

Vice Chancellor for Business and Finance Wayne Jones said Monday that it was not yet apparent in which capacity Capel would serve after the reassignment. "There are certainly areas where we can use Eddie Capel's talents," Jones said. "He is an experienced, knowledgeable person who can continue to provide valuable service to the University as he has done in the past."

Hardin said Friday that he agreed with Capel that the transfer was in the best interests of both Capel and the University.

"My own personal and professional contacts with Eddie Capel have been highly positive," he said. "I have great confidence in Mr. Capel and appreciation for his years of loyal service to the University."

UNC's internal auditing methods recently came into question when a state

investigation found that Capel regularly had failed to file reports of financial irregularities. The state's report, dated July 18, stated that although Capel's office had spent about 5,277 hours — more than two years of labor — on audits over the past eight years, the reports had never been released.

Audits were performed, but not reported, on UNC Student Stores, the School of Business, the Property Office, the Development Office, the Investments Office, and the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid.

According to the state's investigation, headed by State Auditor Ralph Campbell Jr., Capel also failed to file a report of misuse concerning a 1993 audit report of the Division of Computing Services. An auditor in the UNC department discovered that the division's deposits to the Cashier's Office had stopped for 10 months and then resumed. According to the statement, Capel said that when the auditor had approached him about needing additional staff to conduct the audit, Capel had told him he had done enough work to document the problem adequately.

"(Capel) said he did not report the incident as misuse because he believed it was a bookkeeping problem," Campbell's report states. "We found enough evidence existed to report the incident as a possible misuse of state property."

In his report, Campbell said he would

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December Graduates to Get Complete Ceremony

BY RACHAEL LANDAU
STAFF WRITER

UNC's midyear graduates can now look forward to a full Commencement ceremony on Dec. 18, complete with a professional in academic regalia, speakers and a post-ceremony reception.

The new midyear Commencement ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. in the Smith Center and will be similar to the May ceremony, only on a smaller scale. The University has held a December recognition ceremony, but not a full-blown Commencement ceremony, for about 10 years.

"We want this to be a meaningful event for our graduates and their parents, one that will recognize and reflect our pride in their achievements," Chancellor Paul Hardin said in August.

The Commencement program will list all the candidates for graduation, but diplomas will not be distributed at the ceremony. Because the December Commencement is held the day after final ex-

Midyear Commencement Ceremony

TIME: 2 p.m.
DATE: Dec. 18
PLACE: Smith Center

ams end, diplomas will be mailed in January.

Unlike the May Commencement, there will be no individual school graduations. The midyear ceremony also will recognize summer graduates.

Clifton Metcalf, chairman of the Com-

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Smokers Still Lighting Up in Kenan

BY JENI COOK
STAFF WRITER

Fans packed in the stands, the Mike Man bellowing the play-by-play, inebriated students stumbling through the end-zone seats and UNC players scoring touchdowns are all constants during football season. But Saturday at Kenan Stadium, one thing was supposed to be missing — smoke.

The University's no-smoking policy reached the football stadium and went into effect Saturday at the opening game against Texas Christian University. The smoking ban at Kenan was instituted last season as a suggested policy, according to athletic director John Swofford.

People who still want to smoke at the outdoor stadium must now go to the concourse area where concessions are sold. Although the ban prohibits smoking in the seating sections, many students said they had not noticed a difference from last year.

"I feel like they didn't enforce it," said Elena Bourgoin, a senior from Chestertown, Md. "I still smoked at the

"Smoking is messy, ashes blow in the wind, and it's not even good for you. I'm allergic to smoke, so people like me would have a terrible time."

GRACE CHU
UNC sophomore

game. It's the same with drinking — they don't enforce the alcohol policy. People are still going to smoke."

Swofford said Friday that no extra security would be hired to enforce the policy.

Chris Brown, a senior from Chattanooga, Tenn., said he did not see fans abiding by the new policy either. "It's a joke; nobody quit smoking," he said.

Even if the guidelines were not enforced or followed, the ban is still an implemented policy that leaves students with one question — why place smoking restrictions on an outdoor facility?

Smokers and nonsmokers alike expressed their confusion about the outdoor

policy. "I think a ban in closed areas is good," said Scott Drouin, a sophomore from Franklin Lakes, N.J. "I don't understand the ban outside. That's where people go to smoke anyway."

Many professional outdoor arenas, such as the Baltimore Orioles' Camden Yards, already have implemented no-smoking policies, Swofford said Friday.

Other students said that although the stadium was outdoors, people in the stands were affected by smokers and the smoke had become a problem.

Grace Chu, a sophomore from Cary, said that although some fans had chosen not to light up, people sitting next to a smoker had still gotten smoke in their face.

"Smoking is messy, ashes blow in the wind, and it's not even good for you," Chu said. "I'm allergic to smoke, so people like me would have a terrible time."

Although the stadium is outside, Tessa Paikeday, a sophomore from Cape Girardeau, Mo., said the close quarters were what caused a problem.

"It is open air, but being so close to

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Space Crunch in Student Union Building Prompts Renovations, Relocations

BY MARISSA JONES
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

Limited space in the Frank Porter Graham Student Union is leading campus group leaders and Union administrators to pursue increasingly innovative methods of accommodation this fall.

Laurel Melton, president of the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, said APO was looking for new headquarters this year because a planned expansion of the Union Cabaret to include food service would take over APO's current offices, storage rooms and lounge.

Union Director Don Luse told the group in April that it would have to move in order to free space in the Union basement, and he offered alternative space for new APO offices. But Melton said the space Luse had offered was unacceptably small.

"We were willing to go, but because of the space offered to us, we decided that was not acceptable," she said. "We've decided to do our own searching for a place on campus."

Melton said the group would not be forced to move this year because plans for the Cabaret expansion were still vague. "Don Luse decided that it was very

premature for us to move when there was not a definite plan and there was no agreeable space for us to move into," she said. "We are not going to be moving out any earlier than next summer."

APO runs programs that include a campus lost and found, blood drives, book exchanges and fund raising for local charities.

The group will continue to fight for its current space but will search for practical alternatives at the same time, Melton said. "The overall goal of the fraternity is to fight to keep this space," she said. "But we don't want to put our heart into staying

and then be asked to leave and be hard up for a space," she said.

APO members hoped to find an area comparable in size to their current headquarters, Melton said.

"The thing we're trying to keep continuity with is the space of our area, which has always been about the same. What was offered to us was nothing compared to what we have now."

Melton said the Union was not large enough to accommodate all the student groups that would like space.

"We know it's inevitable that we'll have to move until the University builds a build-

ing for student groups that we can have a large enough space in," she said.

Jon Curtis, assistant director of operations at the Union, said Union administrators had difficulty accommodating all student groups.

"It's a continual problem that we have limited space because we have 24,000 students to make happy and we'd like to make them all happy," Curtis said.

"We're continually looking at how can we best use the space in the building and how can we best serve the student body."

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You don't have to look for distress; it is screaming at you!

Samuel Beckett