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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

16 Serb Soldiers, 4 Nurses Killed in Bosnian Attack

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — In an attack that could jeopardize an agreement to reopen Sarajevo's vital airport link Thursday, government troops killed 16 Bosnian Serb soldiers and four nurses. All 20 were shot in the head.

U.N. officials said some had been mutilated, others had been burned, several had been stabbed and some had had their throats slit.

Yasushi Akashi, the top U.N. official in Yugoslavia, lodged a protest with Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic. Akashi said he feared the "tragic incident" could jeopardize an agreement with Serbs that reopened the Sarajevo airport Thursday.

Peacekeepers found the bodies just outside a demilitarized zone on the mountain southwest of Sarajevo, U.N. officials said.

Haitian Military General Refusing to Leave Country

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haitian strongman Raoul Cedras is resisting intense pressure from the United States not only to step down next week but to leave the country, close associates said.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Stanley Schragger repeats at nearly every press briefing that the army chief is not obliged to leave Haiti under an agreement signed last month. But he stresses that Cedras' departure would ease the process of bringing back exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Cedras associates say the 45-year-old general is influenced by his forceful wife, Yannick, who is adamant they remain in Haiti, and by Brig. Gen. Philippe Biamby, a fellow coup leader.

Mandela Addresses Joint Session of U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Warning against the lure of isolationism, South African President Nelson Mandela said Thursday that the post-Cold War focus of the United States had to be on eliminating "tyranny, instability and poverty" across the globe.

Issuing his appeal in a speech before a joint meeting of Congress, Mandela said the end of debilitating ideological warfare made realistic the possibility "for all people to enjoy the right to full human dignity."

He added that he deeply believes that the "new world order that is in the making must focus on the creation of a world of democracy, peace and prosperity for all."

Mandela got a hero's welcome as he entered the packed House chamber.

Strong Aftershocks Still Rocking Kuril Islands

VLADIVOSTOK, Russia — The Kuril islands were shaken by dozens of strong aftershocks Thursday, and relief workers recovered the bodies of two people buried when a military hospital collapsed in this week's earthquake.

Seismologists predicted the aftershocks from Tuesday's quake would go on for days.

Rescue teams set up tent villages for residents whose homes were destroyed and prepared to evacuate about 150 children to the Russian mainland.

Five people were still believed trapped in the debris of a military hospital that collapsed in the quake, Russia's Ministry for Emergency Situations said. They were presumed dead.

Syrian Leader Meets With U.S. Secretary of State

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Peace talks between Israel and Syria could drag on into 1995 and it would be a mistake to try to set a deadline to force a settlement, the State Department said Thursday.

Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Sharaa met with Secretary of State Warren Christopher.

Sharaa and Christopher appeared briefly before reporters, but intense shouting by some Israeli correspondents cut the session short. Two or three of the Israelis insisted the Syrian foreign minister was avoiding communicating through Israeli television.

Sharaa rejected the assertion. He said President Hafez Assad had made it plain he was prepared to make peace with Israel.

Weather

TODAY: Sunny; high near 70.
SATURDAY: Partly sunny; high 70-75.
SUNDAY: Partly sunny; high 70-75.

SBP Vows to Get Dervin Reconfirmed

Battle's Senior Adviser Had Served as Member of Honor Court Since Summer 1993

BY PETER ROYBAL
STAFF WRITER

Student Body President George Battle vowed Thursday to get his senior adviser, John Dervin, reconfirmed as a member of the Honor Court within a month. Student Congress rejected Dervin late Wednesday.

"It's petty, it's ludicrous, (and) if this is the best they've got, they're going to be sorely disappointed," Battle said. "The only way in which (the rejection) hurts me is that John is a close personal friend and I hate to see that done to him," Battle said.

Congress rejected Dervin in a 9-8-2 vote. Dervin has been a member of the court since the summer of 1993. He was the only one of about 35 nominees rejected.

Battle said he would "work through legislative channels" to get Dervin approved. Another option is to appeal to Chancellor Paul Hardin, who has ultimate authority over the student discipline system.

Dervin and Hardin declined comment. Those who voted against Dervin's con-

firmation said they were concerned that it would be a conflict of interest for Dervin to have roles in both the executive and judicial branches.

Rep. Mike Edwards, Dist. 20, who voted against Dervin, said, "I didn't agree with the idea of a high executive branch member on such a high position in another branch of student government."

Battle argued there was no conflict of interest, noting Dervin had been a top adviser to last year's Student Body President Jim Copland while also serving on the Honor Court. Battle also said congress had not rejected Stacey Brandenburg for the Honor Court although she is co-secretary of Battle's Academic Affairs Committee.

Battle said members of his administration had been told by opponents of Dervin that the vote had been a response to the recall petitions for Reps. Tara Servatius, Dist. 12, and Jonathan Jordan, Dist. 1, and



SBP GEORGE BATTLE argued that having Dervin serve on the judicial branch would not be a conflict of interest.

to Battle's success with the narrowly passed Minority Recruitment Bill. Servatius and Jordan face a recall election Tuesday.

Dist. 11 Rep. Meredith Armstrong, who voted to confirm Dervin, said she didn't think Congress had enough information about him to vote him down. "I know that John is well-seasoned with the Honor Court," she said. "I'm not convinced that Student Congress really has enough information about the qualifications of people who come before us for approval."

Rep. Julie Gasperini, Dist. 14, abstained from the vote. "The reason I abstained is I had the question of a conflict of interest and, more than that, I questioned whether he could give 100 percent to both jobs."

Rep. Trong Nguyen, Dist. 8, said, "I think he should have been confirmed because I assume George is not going to select someone who is incompetent."

Dervin could be brought before congress for confirmation with a new bill. Battle said he would not ask congress to reconsider the original bill, which would mean voting again on all the nominees.

According to Assistant Dean of Students Margaret Barrett, who oversees the Honor Court, Dervin has been confirmed three times. "John has been a very, very

Please See CONGRESS, Page 2

Congress Votes to Back LaVonda Burnette Recall

BY PETER ROYBAL
STAFF WRITER

Student Congress passed a resolution Wednesday night supporting the recall election of LaVonda Burnette, a member of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Board of Education.

Burnette falsely claimed during her campaign that she was a part-time UNC student. She faces a recall election Nov. 8.

Rep. Amy Cummins, Dist. 22, the principal sponsor of the resolution, said Thursday that Burnette "totally misrepresented herself and abused UNC."

"I thought that Student Congress, as a representative of the UNC student body, should make a statement on a community issue which involved UNC," Cummins said. "This is a proactive piece of legislation that transcends class, gender, race and party affiliation."

The resolution passed without dissent.

Cummins said she voted for Burnette last year but reversed her support after she learned Burnette had lied about being a UNC student.

She said she worked this summer to help recall Burnette.

"Her misrepresentation sets a bad example for children in the school system," Cummins said. "We should expect integrity from our public officials."

The resolution stated that Burnette had misrepresented herself and her credentials by falsely claiming that she attended UNC. It was co-sponsored by Reps. Mike Edwards, Jonathan Jordan, Ginny Moore, Stephen Oljeski, Marty White and Dion Williams.

Local resident Madeline Mitchell led the effort to collect recall petition signatures. The Orange County Board of Elections verified the signatures in August.

Parking Records Missing, According To Audit's Finding

Just Days After an Internal Audit Revealed An Inequality in Receipts, Daily Records For Certain Lots Are Unaccounted For

BY ALEX PODLOGAR
STAFF WRITER

During the current investigation into Chapel Hill's Parking Services Department over possible discrepancies in the receipts, the internal audit also has uncovered that certain records are missing from the department's files.

Some of the records that are reported to be missing include those dealing with the daily operations at the parking deck on Rosemary Street and at Municipal Lot No. 5 at the corner of Rosemary and Columbia streets, according to Chapel Hill's Finance Director Jim Baker.

The missing records concern daily operations and specify how much money was collected each day by each parking lot.

The records detailed the finances of the parking areas for the past six months.

On Sept. 26, Chapel Hill's Parking Services Superintendent Erik Luther was suspended without pay after a departmental audit revealed funds might be missing from the department.

The audit has been ordered by Chapel Hill Town Manager Cal Horton.

Shortly after the audit began, the parking department reported having missing or incomplete records to the Chapel Hill Police Department.

The audit was the first one done in a concentrated manner, Assistant Town Manager Sonna Loewenthal said Monday.

She said parking services was the first department audited because it was a major source of the town's cash transactions.

"Over the last couple of months, the annual audit to complete the financial report has been under way," Baker said.

"This year, the parking department was chosen for an in-depth examination."

Baker could not specify exactly how many records are believed to be missing.

Most of the money Chapel Hill receives from parking services comes from various parking lots rather than from its on-street parking meters, he said.

"There is a possibility that monies could be missing," Baker added.

Baker estimated earlier this week that the parking services revenue this year was about \$950,000.

Luther was suspended the day the discrepancy was reported to police, according to Chapel Hill Personnel Director Pat Thomas.

As of now, Luther is not linked personally to the missing records.

"Chapel Hill police is investigating the possibility of missing funds from the Parking Services Department," said Chapel Hill police spokeswoman Jane Cousins.

"We are not investigating Erik Luther."

Luther, an employee of the parking services department for 13 years, could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Chapel Hill police would not comment about whether there were any suspects in the case.

HEROES ON THE HILL

A weekly series highlighting Chapel Hill heroes



Jennie Smith leads a group of symbols and consciousness students in a discussion concerning Haiti.

BY SHIRLEY FONG
STAFF WRITER

By most traditional definitions, UNC anthropology graduate student Jennie Smith would be called an expert on Haitian affairs. She spent 1988 to 1991 living and working with Haitian peasants.

In a 1993 mission to the island, the United Nations called upon her expertise and deployed her as a civilian human rights observer.

For the last three years, Smith has dedicated her life to studying the Haitian traditions of social critique, collective action and cooperative social formations.

Despite her rich credentials, however, Smith insists that she's not an expert.

"I hope I never think of myself that way," she said. "Haiti is a land of paradox, not easily understood."

Like the country she loves, Smith is a bundle of complexities. In conversation or in the classroom, she seems soft-spoken, yet commanding; energetic, yet sensitive; at a loss for words, yet eloquent.

At the same time, this complexity is itself integrated within something much larger and less paradoxical: a genuine concern and respect for people.

"Jennie has a powerful ethical commitment," said James Peacock, chairman of the

UNC Graduate Student Jennie Smith Has Been Advising the U.N. on Haitian Policy.

A hand REACHING out

Name: Jennie Smith
Born: October 30, 1966, Rutledge, Tennessee
Occupation: Ph.D. student in the anthropology department
Education: B.A. in philosophy and pre-med from Furman University in 1988
Hobbies: running, hiking
Life's philosophy: "If we are in a situation of injustice, we ought to recognize that injustice and respond to it."

"Haiti is a land of paradox, not easily understood."

anthropology department.

This ethical commitment plays itself out in all that Smith does in the classroom, in the Raleigh AIDS clinic where she volunteers or in Haiti, where she was a member of the Mennonite Central Overseas Committee.

"She's tactful and also determined," Peacock said. "I'll tell you something she did. Jennie gently made me totally reform my 'Consciousness and Symbols' class. Before, it didn't cover any women. She made me see the light. Now, instead of reading only dead white males, we've got readings from women such as Toni Morrison."

In a discussion group session held on her own time, Smith provides an informal and relaxed forum for her pupils to voice their concerns about the class and other topics such as religion and U.S. ethnocentrism. She gives advice on papers. She plays devil's advocate and answers questions. But most importantly, she listens, embraces and responds to their ideas.

In return, her students voice the highest praise for Smith.

"She's vibrant. She gives off such genuine positivity," said Clark McCabe, a junior religious studies and anthropology major from High Point. "Jennie's completely on the same level as everyone else. She's not pretentious like other TAs tend to be."

"She's interested in people and how everything works in life. She doesn't just have an academic interest, her interest is much more heartfelt," he continued. "She doesn't study Haiti to be a famous professor, she has a genuine interest in those people."

Lee Marler, a senior anthropology major from Asheville, concurred. "She's down to earth, easy going and energetic."

It is obvious that Smith's students thrive on her enthusiasm. To hear Smith tell it, however, it is her students who motivate her. "I love working with students. I feel like working with them is something I need," she said. Likewise, Smith describes her volunteer work at the AIDS clinic as a symbiotic, rather than dependent relationship. "Don't make me sound like I'm doing some wonderful service to the world," she insisted. "I feel like I gain strength from working at the clinic. I've met so many wonderful people there."

Smith contends that the same sort of mutually beneficial relationship holds true with her experiences in Haiti. "We tried to avoid the

Please See HERO, Page 7

NC STAR Teaches Middle School Students About Multiculturalism

BY TEE OMOLODUN
STAFF WRITER

In an effort to end racism and discrimination at an early age, several UNC students are participating in a program that encourages candid discussions about racial reconciliation and respect for diversity among middle school students in the Chapel Hill-Carrboro area.

The program, North Carolina Students Teach And Reach, was designed by People for the American Way with the purpose of promoting cross-cultural respect and understanding among youth.

The program, which has student volun-

teers from 22 N.C. colleges and universities, puts the participants through intensive training sessions to help them develop facilitation skills needed to promote dialogue among secondary school students.

The volunteers also receive educational materials that provide a context for discussions of race relations, historical background and examples of active citizenship.

The classroom discussion provides a forum for the children to share their personal experiences and thoughts about complex issues like prejudice, citizen responsibility and tolerance in today's society.

Alton Cheeks, principal of Guy B. Phillips Middle School, said he believed

the program strove for more than just tolerance of other cultures and races. "People can learn to deal with others in a more respectful way based on what they know about their culture," he said.

"We don't try to change anybody's view, just give them more information."

Cheek said that although Phillips' student body of 584 students was ethnically diverse, "NC STAR is more than just a multicultural program. We all need to do a better job of understanding each other."

The program, which is supported at UNC by the N.C. Teaching Fellows Program and Students for the Advancement of Race Relations, began to involve college

students in public school classrooms in 1990 during the 30th anniversary of the Greensboro sit-ins.

Anna Willingham, co-chairwoman of SARR, said the program had a lot of dedicated volunteers. "I think it connects two different worlds; it connects college students and middle-school students by working toward a common goal. It gives them an opportunity to learn from each other."

Nakia Elliott, a sophomore from Brooklyn, visited Grey Culbreth Middle School Tuesday and participated in the program. Elliott said it was important to start open communication at a young age because people often grew up with stubborn and

ignorant ideas.

Second-year participant Richard Kwok, a sophomore and Alpha Phi Omega member, said volunteers had to be dedicated to the program because it was difficult for the children to discuss controversial issues in the beginning.

"Once the kids start opening up, we have really good discussions," said Kwok, a chemistry and history major from Atlanta.

Kwok said he found it particularly rewarding to see a middle school student's view on diversity change.

Please See NC STAR, Page 2

Modern art is like trying to follow the plot in alphabet soup.

Anonymous