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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

Treasury Secretary Plans To Resign From Cabinet

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen plans to resign his Cabinet post early next year, costing the Clinton administration one of its most respected senior policy-makers, administration officials said Monday.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Bentsen wanted to return to Texas to go into business.

A precise date for the resignation has not been decided, the officials said. They said Bentsen wished to discuss the date with Clinton.

Speaking to reporters Monday, Bentsen called reports of his departure "premature."

However, an administration official said that Bentsen simply did not wish to have the news of his departure come out on a day when Clinton was out of the country.

Bentsen's decision to resign was first reported in today's editions of the Wall Street Journal, although it has been speculated upon for months.

Bentsen has been telling associates for more than a year that he planned to leave before the end of Clinton's first term.

His value to the administration appeared enhanced with the Nov. 8 GOP landslide in Congress because of his past cordial relations with some of the Republicans who will take over in January.

Serbs Condemned for Not Releasing Peacekeepers

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The United Nations condemned Serb forces Monday for reneging on their promise to release hundreds of peacekeepers and warned that food was running desperately short in government-held enclaves.

Even news that Bosnian Serbs had agreed to allow two civilian aid convoys to pass through their territory Tuesday en route to the towns of Srebrenica and Gorazde was greeted cautiously.

In an uncharacteristically blunt assessment of U.N. operations in Bosnia, the chief U.N. political spokesman in Sarajevo accused the Bosnian Serbs of "a deliberately designed, carefully calculated insult against the United Nations, which can only be allowed to pass at great cost."

Mexican Rebels Threaten Government With Violence

TUXTLA GUTIERREZ, Mexico — Indian rebels warned anew on Monday that southern Mexico could face another "blood bath" if the country's ruling party installs its candidate as governor in the rebel stronghold of Chiapas.

Subcommandante Marcos, spokesman of the Zapatista National Liberation Army, announced that he would hold a news conference Tuesday, apparently to insist that Governor-elect Eduardo Robledo Rincon not take office this week.

The rebels charge voter fraud and maintain the real winner of the gubernatorial election was Amado Avendano of the left-wing Democratic Revolutionary Party and not Robledo of the Institutional Revolutionary Party.

The inauguration is to be held in the state capital, where police were preparing heavy security.

Postal Service Considers Stamps Honoring A-Bomb

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The State Department, concerned about insulting Japanese, is asking the U.S. Postal Service to reconsider the planned stamp commemorating the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki 50 years ago.

The stamp, due to be issued in September, portrays a mushroom-shaped cloud over the caption, "Atomic bombs hasten war's end, August 1945."

Japanese officials have protested the Postal Service plan, noting that tens of thousands of nonmilitary Japanese were killed in the bombings. They also complain that the caption ignores the view of many that the bombings were morally unjustified and not essential to ending the war.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: Partly cloudy; high low 60s.
WEDNESDAY: Variably cloudy; high mid- to upper 60s.

Search Will Now Follow Meetings Law

BY KARI COHEN
STAFF WRITER

Once entirely shrouded in secrecy, all meetings of the UNC chancellor search committee will now be announced to the public in order to comply with the N.C. Open Meetings Law, chancellor search committee Chairman John Harris said in a written statement Monday.

The statement noted that Harris had spoken to University chief legal counsel Susan Ehringhaus about the requirements of the Open Meetings Law and that he was acting based on her advice.

"Without in any way admitting that any violation of the law has occurred in the past, even an inadvertent one, I want to assure the public that any future official meetings of the committee will be preceded by public notice."

"My goal in taking this action is to eliminate any cloud from the work of the search committee and to put a stop to efforts to detract from the committee's ability to carry out the (UNC-system) president's charge," Harris' statement said.

Ehringhaus said Monday that she could not speak beyond Harris' statement.

"It would not be appropriate to comment on this matter," she said.

Harris was unavailable Monday for further comment.

The statement came after allegations that the search committee had been violating the state's Open Meetings Law. The Open Meetings Law, amended Oct. 1, states that all public bodies, including University committees, must notify members of the public of the date and time of their meetings 48 hours before they take place.

Dick Robinson, legal adviser to UNC-system President C.D. Spangler, said he had no knowledge of the workings of the committee and had never been asked for any advice.

"I know nothing about the issue," Robinson said. "Mr. Spangler generally meets with a search committee to set out general principles and expectations of the committee."

"I know that he met with this committee, but I do not know what was said because I was never a part of the process."

Spangler could not be reached for comment. According to Katherine White of the Raleigh-based Everett, Gaskins, Hancock and Stevens law firm, the committee appeared not to have been following the public notification guidelines established by the Open Meetings Law.

When asked about Harris' statement on Monday, White commended the committee chairman.

"I think it's wonderful that he took this action," White said. "That brings them into compliance with the Open Meetings Law."

White said none of the firm's clients had requested further action against the committee.

N.C. Press Association attorney Hugh Stevens, also of the Everett, Gaskins, Hancock and Stevens law firm, said he wrote a letter to Ehringhaus on Monday requesting that the search committee provide the public with the following:

- Announcements of future meetings;
- All minutes taken during the search committee's nine months of work, removing any information that would identify the candidates, to expose the committee's

organization and procedures;

- Travel and expense records; and
- The clerk's name, to help the public gain access to information about the search.

Stevens said he was encouraged by Harris' Monday press release statement, adding that the NCPA was still waiting to determine whether litigation might be necessary.

If the issue were to go to court, it would likely be resolved quickly, he said.

Stevens said that under the new Open Meetings Law, as amended in October, the court is required to give priority to cases like this one.

If the committee releases all of this information, it would enable members of the public to understand what the committee has been accomplishing up until this point and to get a sense of the possible duration of its work.

All Played Out



During the intermission of "Greater Tuna," cast member Laurie Evans catches a breath of fresh air outside the back door before heading back into Graham Memorial for the rest of the Lab! Theatre production.

DTH/KRISTIN FREELIFF

OWASA Almost Finished With Equipment Repair

BY JOE REYNOLDS
STAFF WRITER

The Orange Water and Sewer Authority is nearing completion of repairs to its water treatment plant on Jones Ferry Road.

The plant experienced a major equipment failure Nov. 28 when the main electrical switch gear malfunctioned. OWASA received a new gear switch Wednesday and began installing it Thursday.

Of the six water pumps the gear switch operates, two were connected over the weekend, two were connected Monday and the last two should be connected by Wednesday, said Linda Faulkner-Vaughn, director of customer and community affairs at OWASA.

"We had originally expected to have everything installed by Saturday, but the company ran into some unexpected difficulties," Faulkner-Vaughn said.

The last two pumps are working off auxiliary power until they are reconnected to the gear switch Wednesday, she said. "By Friday, we should have all the pumps working off the new gear switch."

OWASA contracted Viaelectric, a contractor based in Madison, to install the new gear switch and reconnect the pumps.

Faulkner-Vaughn described a gear switch as the main throw switch that cuts the plant's power on and off. "It diverts the electricity to the different components of

the facility," she said.

OWASA has had to pump water in from water suppliers in Durham and Hillsborough to make up for the water shortage caused by the breakdown.

The supply from Hillsborough was cut off last week after a major break in OWASA's water line. OWASA has already begun repairing the break, which is located near the Orange County Prison Camp off Old N.C. 86.

"By that time, there wasn't as big a need for the water," Faulkner-Vaughn said.

OWASA has also brought in 3 million gallons of water per day from Durham water supply and treatment. "This will continue until we are sure that they (the pumps) are working well," Faulkner-Vaughn said.

"This time of year, the demand for water is 8 million or so gallons per day," she said. "When it's cooler, people aren't using as much water."

Faulkner-Vaughn said that to receive water from Durham, OWASA was paying an amount equal to 75 percent of Durham's outside rate averaged with OWASA's rate for the use of the water. "This comes out to \$2.26 per thousand gallons, which is slightly higher than our rate," she said.

Faulkner-Vaughn said a few customers had called complaining about a cloudy

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Students Can Receive UNC ONE Card Credit For Selling Back Books

BY CHRISTINA MASSEY
STAFF WRITER

Students running low on UNC ONE Card expense account credit can replenish their money supply just by getting rid of their old textbooks.

Students Stores and the UNC ONE Card office have announced a plan that allows students to receive credit on their ONE Card accounts instead of cash payment when they resell their books to Student Stores.

ONE Card office Manager Jim Clinton said Student Stores and the ONE Card office were offering the credit option for two reasons.

"First, we hope this will help students' accounts," he said. "Second, we feel this will create less flow and less cash to be handled by the textbook departments, adding an extra measure of security."

Gina Mahalek, Students Stores Course Materials manager, said Monday that the decision to offer ONE Card credit, which will take effect at the start of buyback Saturday, had been made in response to student requests.

Textbook Buyback

Student Stores will only buy back books during the following times. Credit can then be added to UNC ONE Card expense accounts.

- Dec. 10 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Dec. 11 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.
- Dec. 12 to Dec. 16 7:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Dec. 17 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

When students go to Student Stores to sell their books, they will be given a voucher they can present to the ONE Card office during normal business hours to receive credit to their expense accounts only, Clinton said.

Students can still receive cash payments for selling their books, receiving vouchers for cash redeemable in the Textbook Department, he said.

Clinton said he believed that the credit

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Finance Committee Subpoenas 18 to Testify in Investigation

BY PETER ROYBAL
STAFF WRITER

Student Body President George Battle said Monday that he might not testify before the Student Congress Finance Committee in its investigation of congress and the executive branch.

"I'm probably not going to testify because I think that this thing is basically a witch hunt," he said.

"If they're really concerned about finances in the executive branch, ask the auditor at (the Student Activities Fund Office) to audit our books. We don't have anything to hide."

SAFO distributes the money congress allocates.

But finance committee Chairman Tom Lyon, who was recently the target of an investigation ordered by Battle, said those subpoenaed had a duty to the student body to appear.

"If they want to play power games and hinder an investigation, then that's their choice, and it's sure as hell not going to help their case," Lyon said.

"I think that shows they have something to hide."

Lyon said testimony would take place at 7 p.m. Jan. 8 and 9 in T-5 New Carrol.

List of Subpoenaed Witnesses for Student Congress Finance Committee Investigation

- George Battle, III, student body president
- Charlton Allen, former member of the Battle administration
- Meredith Armstrong, Student Congress speaker pro tempore
- Howard Brubaker, Student Activities Fund Office director
- Monica Cloud, speaker of Student Congress
- Lee Conner, student body co-secretary
- Calvin Cunningham III, executive branch assistant chief-of-staff
- John Dervin, senior adviser to the student body president
- Roy Granato, congress ethics committee chairman
- Jonathan Jordan, former speaker pro tempore
- Trong Nguyen, Student Congress representative
- Jill Page, clerk of Student Congress
- Donyell Phillips, student body vice president
- Philip Charles-Pierre, executive branch chief of staff
- Wayne Rash, student body treasurer
- Katie Scheffel, student body co-secretary
- Tara Servatius, former finance committee member
- Darice Witherspoon, parking coordinator

"We're just trying to find out facts about certain financial things that may or may not have happened," he said.

Lyon noted that he had testified for 2 1/2 hours before the investigation Battle or-

dered. But Battle said the investigation he had called for had been different because it had

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Administrators: Greek Affairs Dean Doing 'Impressive Job'

BY LEAH MERREY
STAFF WRITER

Director of Greek Affairs Ron Binder has done an impressive job working with the University's fraternities and sororities, Dean of Students Fred Schroeder said Monday.

"We are delighted with his first several months here at UNC," Schroeder said.

He said that Binder had spent his first semester with the University becoming acquainted with the students involved in the Greek system. "He's been very well

received," he said.

Binder became the director of Greek affairs July 1. He oversees the entire UNC Greek system, which includes 28 fraternities and 14 sororities.

Binder was unavailable for comment Monday.

"The risk-management program has been a main focus of Binder's agenda; (it) was initially implemented three years ago," Schroeder said.

Risk-management policies exist to protect Greek organizations from lawsuits resulting from alcohol-related incidents that

can be traced back to fraternities or sororities.

Risk-management guidelines include prohibiting the use of chapter funds or common collections to purchase alcohol for Greek events as well as forbidding open containers of alcohol at fraternity or sorority functions.

Will Warrick, president of the Interfraternity Council, said Monday that the IFC was currently in the process of helping Binder define what his agenda would be at UNC.

"We're trying to define his role accord-

ing to the bylaws of the IFC and the judicial board," he said.

Warrick said that Binder had educated the houses about risk management. "He's also done a good job of getting Greek activities publicized," he said.

A member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity who asked to remain anonymous said Monday that Binder had been focusing more on the enforcement of existing policies than on the implementation of new ones.

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Editor's Note

As this semester is winding down, make The Daily Tar Heel part of your plans for the spring. The DTH is looking for one or two people to run the copy editing desk, which requires students to be available about three nights a week from mid-afternoon until the paper is put to bed at midnight.

The DTH is also looking to hire students for all desks. Applications are available in the DTH office, Union Suite 104. Applications will be available through the first week of next semester.

Please direct any questions to desk editors or to Editor Kelly Ryan at 962-0245.

Reality is the leading cause of stress for those in touch with it.

Jane Wagner