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IN THE NEWS

Top stories from the state, nation and world

IMF, Russia Suspend Loan Talks; Inflation Soaring

MOSCOW — Russia and the International Monetary Fund suspended talks on a \$6 billion loan Monday amid soaring inflation and skepticism about the 1995 Russian budget, the ITAR-Tass news agency said.

The report, attributed to Finance Ministry officials, said the talks would resume later this month.

IMF officials suspect the government's 1995 budget is based on overly optimistic assumptions about inflation and spending and fear the deficit will be much bigger than planned, the report said.

Russia's war in separatist Chechnya and a budget-busting minimum wage increase approved by the lower house of parliament also are fueling doubts about the government's anti-inflation program.

Ecuador's President Works To Stop Border Conflict

QUITO, Ecuador — Ecuador's president shuttled across South America on Monday in a desperate bid to halt the winds of war blowing through Ecuador and Peru.

With the breakdown of peace talks in Rio de Janeiro on Sunday, concern was growing that the two-week-old border conflict over a remote jungle region might escalate. Ecuadorean President Sixto Duran-Ballen was meeting with the presidents of Brazil, Argentina and Chile to present his nation's case and seek support for a peaceful solution.

President Alberto Fujimori of Peru visited his troops Sunday and vowed to enforce Peru's claim to an unmarked border area 600 miles north of Lima.

Militants Ambush Israelis In PLO's Gaza Strip Area

BEIT LAHIA, Gaza Strip — In an apparent attempt to embarrass PLO chief Yasser Arafat and undermine his talks with Israel, Palestinian militants killed one Israeli security guard Monday and wounded another in the PLO-ruled Gaza Strip.

Arafat denounced the roadside ambush as a "dirty act" and promised swift punishment. Israeli leaders said the attack on Arafat's own turf underscored Israeli complaints that he was not doing enough to foil attacks on Israelis.

In a telephone call to The Associated Press in Jerusalem, a man claimed responsibility for the attack on behalf of the Syrian-based Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, a radical PLO faction.

Russian Soldiers Launch More Attacks on Grozny

ALKHAN-YURT, Russia — Russian forces attacked Chechnya's capital region from the air yesterday, targeting petrochemical plants outside the city in maneuvers one rebel leader described as acts of frustration.

Russia has been unable to take Grozny, the secessionist republic's capital, despite a ferocious five-week offensive.

Fierce fighting also was reported yesterday in Grozny south of the Sunzha River, a rough front line that for weeks had separated Chechens to the south from Russians to the north.

The air attacks quickened the exodus from the capital, once home to 400,000 people.

House Moves Toward Vote On Line-Item Veto Proposal

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Trying to win one more for the Gipper, the House moved toward passage Monday of line-item veto legislation designed to strengthen a president's ability to cut wasteful federal spending.

Majority Republicans timed the vote for the 84th birthday of the ailing former President Reagan, who long sought such authority, and readied a yellow cake with buttercream frosting to celebrate its passage. President Clinton, too, favors the measure, and Democratic aides said it was likely to command a large majority.

As an example of the type of spending that could be cut, Rep. Joe Knollenberg, R-Mich., said a bill to provide California earthquake relief last year had grown to encompass \$10 million for a train station in New York and funds for sugar cane growers in Hawaii.

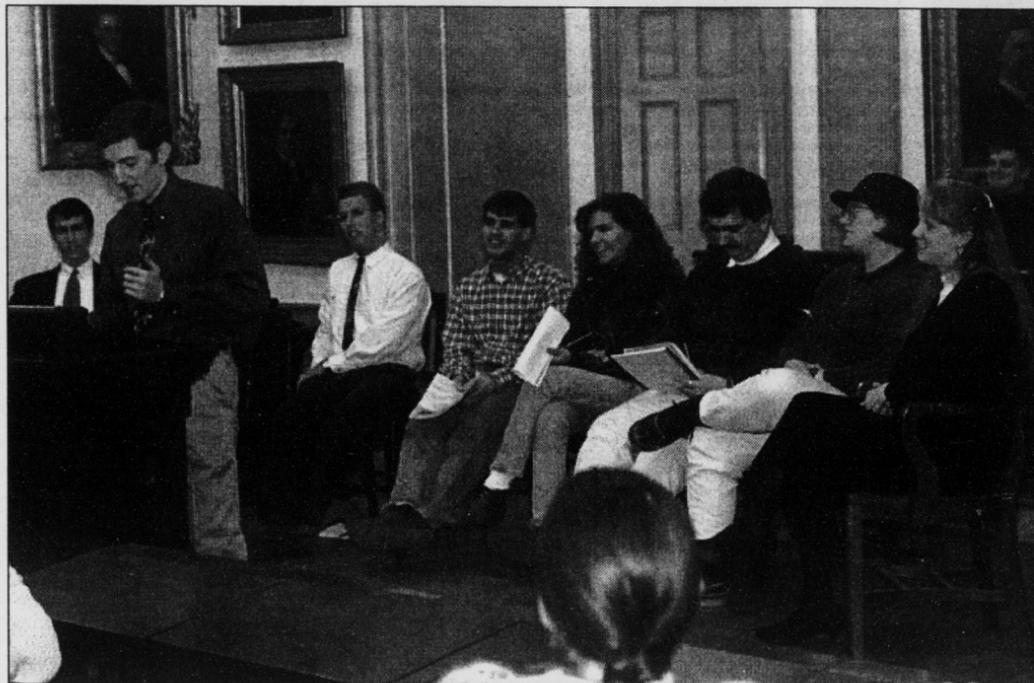
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weather

TODAY: 50 percent chance of snow; high 35-40.

WEDNESDAY: Partly cloudy, windy; high 30-35.

Di-Phi Holds Forum of SBP Candidates



Andrew France, candidate for student body president, addresses the Di-Phi forum Monday night. The forum provided SBP candidates an opportunity to present their platforms.

BY NANCY FONTI
ASSISTANT UNIVERSITY EDITOR

In the first student body president candidate forum of the 1995 election season, candidates answered questions Monday night about Student Congress, a proposed women's center and their campaigns.

A friendly and sportsmanlike tone dominated the forum, which was sponsored by the Dialectic and Philanthropic Literary Societies.

The candidates were asked how they would interact with Student Congress if they were elected.

Stacey Brandenburg said it was imperative that the student body president work with Student Congress and establish effective means of communication.

"I would like to speak with every member of congress and get to know their questions and concerns," Brandenburg said.

Co-SBP candidates Jen Fiumara and Jeff Berkaw agreed that as co-SBPs they would also meet with congress members.

Fiumara said that when the idea of co-SBPs was met by opposition from some congress members, she and Berkaw had called the representatives and discussed the concept of co-SBPs.

After she and Berkaw spoke with the congress members, Fiumara said, the members understood the reasoning behind co-SBPs, and some even supported the idea.

SBP candidate Calvin Cunningham agreed that it was important for the student body president to communicate with congress and empower representatives by appointing them to chancellor's committees. Cunningham said that if he was elected he would also establish a position in the treasurer's office to oversee the acquisition of funds within congress.

Michael Williams and Kelly Jo Garner, co-SBP candidates, said that although they favored open communication with congress, they were not willing to "play political games."

"We want the executive branch to be able to communicate with an honest, respectable legislative branch," Garner said. Williams added: "We don't kiss ass."

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Gun Bans Lack House Support

BY MEGAN HANLEY
STAFF WRITER

Many concerned citizens in Chapel Hill and Carrboro are fighting for tougher gun-control laws in the aftermath of the shootings on Henderson Street Jan. 26. They say this incident illustrates the need for tougher laws. However, members of the N.C. General Assembly might not agree with them.

"I think the general feeling here (in the legislature) is that you can't keep guns out of the hands of nuts, but you certainly can help the ordinary citizen defend himself," said Rep. Shawn Lamond, D-Mecklenburg.

Chapel Hill resident Martha Drake began a petition Jan. 27 calling for tougher legislation regarding the ownership and acquisition of firearms.

She said that while the shootings on Henderson Street were tragic, many shootings had happened before and this was only further indication that tightened control was needed. Chapel Hill already has some of the toughest ordinances in the state.

"You can't take a gun away from a person until they shoot someone now, but if we were to pass an ordinance, maybe it'd be a step in the right direction to taking the prevalence of guns out of our society," Drake said.

Carrboro Mayor Eleanor Kinnaird has called for stricter laws also. Carrboro is considering a complete gun ban. Within six weeks, the Gun Control Committee will present its recommendations to the Board of Aldermen. Carrboro Aldermen Jay Bryan and Jacquelyn Gist, along with seven private citizens, make up the committee.

Enacting a complete ban is a possible challenge to the N.C. constitution, which calls for the right of the people to bear arms. Powers to enact stricter gun laws do not lie in the hands of N.C. cities. According to the state constitution, any powers not granted directly to the cities are reserved for the legislature.

This contrasts with many states, where the local governments have all powers except for those prohibited by the state. Because of this, any laws that Chapel Hill and Carrboro want to enact must be done on a very limited basis because all laws of this type must be statewide, Lamond said.

"The ability of governments to limit the use of guns is extremely limited, especially since the municipalities have (only the) granted powers," he said.

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UNC Employee Arrested for 1987 Murder

Background Check of Worker at Med School Lab Revealed Arrest Warrant

BY KAMAL WALLACE
STAFF WRITER

A man who might have been involved in the theft of a computer might be guilty of much more.

John Reno Moore, 30, of 101 Dickerson Court in Chapel Hill who was being inves-

tigated for possible involvement in the theft of a \$3,000 laptop computer from the UNC School of Medicine's faculty lab, has been charged with murder in Pennsylvania.

When University Police officers did a background check on Moore, they discovered that he was wanted by police in connection with the Dec. 23, 1987, shooting homicide of Michael Harris in Delaware County, Pa.

Moore was arrested by police Wednesday outside of the Thurston Bowles Building on Manning Drive near the loading dock. According to University police re-

ports, Moore was arrested at 10:15 p.m. because of the outstanding murder charge. He was being held without bond in Orange County Jail on Thursday, where he was awaiting extradition, reports state.

Moore was working at the School of Medicine's faculty lab as a temporary employee through the Tar Heel Temp Services agency.

According to Delaware County police reports, Moore and Harris were possibly in the process of robbing two other men in Chester, Pa., when the homicide took place. Moore allegedly struck one of the men

in the head with the gun, and the gun accidentally fired, shooting Harris in the chest.

Harris, 21, of the 1200 block of Ganster Place, Chester, Pa., ran outside after he was shot and died on the sidewalk, according to local police reports.

Delaware County detectives said that an unidentified man discovered Harris' body lying on the sidewalk at about 9 p.m. on the day of the shooting.

The man went into a nearby tavern and reported to patrons that he had found the body. Police were called to the scene.

Tar Heels to Tangle With Terps Tonight

No. 1 Ranking, ACC Lead On Line As North Carolina Invades Cole Field House

BY STEVE ROBBLEE
SENIOR WRITER

Need a reason to tune into North Carolina's matchup with Maryland tonight in College Park? Here are four:

No. 1: North Carolina will have its first defense of the No. 1 ranking it earned in the polls Monday.

No. 2: The game pits the first- and second-place teams in the ACC. If the Tar Heels (18-1, 8-1 in the ACC) win, they'll be two games ahead of the rest of the league.

If the Terrapins (17-4, 7-2) win, the ACC race will be tied with six games left to play.

No. 3: UNC forward Jerry Stackhouse promised a perfect '10' dunk at this game. He has said that his crowd-stunning slams against Virginia Tech and Duke have not even rated '9' on the Stackhouse Scale. What in the world could he have in mind for a perfect 10?

No. 4: Maybe the most important reason to check out tonight's game is that it could be the last head-to-head college matchup between sophomore centers Rasheed Wallace of UNC and Joe Smith of Maryland. One or both could turn pro after this season.

The first matchup between Smith, the nation's Freshman of the Year last season, and Wallace was a battle while it lasted, but it didn't last as long as most fans would have hoped.

"When we beat them here, it was nice that Joe was over there on the bench some of the time," UNC head coach Dean Smith said Monday.

In fact, Joe Smith was on the bench for half the game, mostly because of foul trouble. Wallace burned the Terps for 21 points and nine rebounds. Smith's numbers were comparable: 20 points and 10 rebounds. The difference was that Smith played 20 minutes, and Wallace played 32.

But Dean Smith said Monday that Wallace's game — in particular his defense — has continued to improve since the early January matchup with Maryland in the Smith Center.

In fact, the couple of areas where Wallace hasn't improved from last season are places where there isn't much room for

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Athletic Passes Eliminated by New System

Students Will Now Get Tickets by Having Their UNC ONE Cards Scanned

JENNIFER BURLESON
STAFF WRITER

The hassle with athletic passes is about to come to an end. The University is moving to an automated process that will allow students to obtain athletic tickets with nothing more than their UNC ONE Card.

Under a new system, scanners are used to read the information on the ONE card. Basic information is supplied, such as the student's name, class and year of expected graduation.

"The last ticket distribution for Clemson and Wake Forest was the first time we used the computer verification," said Jennifer Rasmussen, co-president of the Carolina Athletic Association.

"That went really well. Everything was taken care of. This does help to keep students from picking up more than one ticket," she said.

Thomas Black, associate University registrar, explained the advantages of the new system.

When students present their cards, the ticket distributors will be able to identify whether they have already been given a ticket, Black said. "Before this, we had to generate the same information, but we had to put it on a label. It was really awful. I've

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Ready to Row



Jill Willard, Elizabeth Yates and the rest of the varsity women's crew squad met for their first practice of the spring Monday. The squad, which trains at University Lake in Carrboro, will row against Yale on March 11 for its first regatta.

My kid beat up your honor student.

Bumper sticker

Campus Elections
Call-in
685-1390
Call The Daily Tar Heel's voice-mail line to leave comments, questions or criticisms about student elections.