

UNC Graduate in the Running for Postmaster General

BY BRYAN PRUITT
STAFF WRITER

UNC graduate Bill Henderson has worked hard to climb the corporate ladder and earn his position in life.

Henderson is the chief operating officer and executive vice president of the U.S. Postal Service. Upon the future retirement of Postmaster General Marvin Runyon, Henderson will be a possible candidate for appointment to the position.

The postmaster general is appointed by the board of governors of the Postal Service, which is a presidentially appointed board of nine members.

Henderson joined the Postal Service in 1972 as a trainee in labor relations in Memphis, Tenn. He said he had started working at the Postal Service because he was interested in the field of labor relations.

"I joined the Postal Service because I felt it was the best opportunity for me to gain experience in collective bargaining," he said.

Henderson was sent to Washington, D.C., initially for a 60-day assignment to

assist in labor talks with union workers.

He ended up staying in Washington for five years working on collective bargaining cases with labor unions. He has participated in the Postal Service's negotiations with labor unions numerous times since 1972, and in 1984 he served as chief negotiator in the binding arbitration talks between labor representatives.

Henderson served as manager of the regional office of Chicago for several years in the late 1970s, often traveling back to Washington to participate in collective bargaining negotiations.

He has also served in Stockton, Calif., and Sacramento, Calif. In 1980, he was named the Memphis head of labor relations for the Postal Service's southern region. He was later promoted to the position of postmaster of Memphis.

In 1986, Henderson became head of postal operations in Greensboro. The Postal Service underwent a massive restructuring that year, during which it was downsized and subdivided into many divisions. As a result, Greensboro became responsible for delivery to most of North Carolina and to

a small portion of South Carolina.

In 1992, he returned to Washington when he was promoted to the office of vice president in charge of employee relations, and, in 1993, he became chief marketing officer and senior vice president of the Postal Service.

Henderson came to the University in the fall of 1965 and was part of the first group of students to live in Morrison Residence Hall, which opened that year. Henderson, who had lived in Black Mountain and attended Charles D. Owen Senior High School in Swannanoa, said he had had a difficult time adjusting to life at a large university in a larger town.

"It was a very big change for me to go from living in a small town and going to a small rural high school to attending a large university," he said.

After serving in the Army for two years, he graduated from UNC in 1972 with a bachelor's degree in industrial relations.

Henderson was also involved in the planning process of the University's Bicentennial Celebration and is a life member of the General Alumni Association.

"I really have fond memories of Carolina," he said. "Carolina is a place where you are given a chance to learn to think."

Henderson's present duties as chief operating officer involve overseeing the general operation of the Postal Service's normal activities, which includes supervising the progress of 40,000 post offices and 200,000 vehicles.

"Essentially, I am responsible for the day-to-day collection and delivery of mail in the United States and its territories," he said.

Henderson said the Postal Service handled more than 177 billion pieces of mail per year, which made it much larger than any other mail-delivery service in the country. "The volume of mail we deliver every day is equal to Federal Express' yearly volume," he said. "We are considerably much bigger than everybody else."

Henderson said that although the Postal Service had lost a significant portion of business-to-business mail to faxes and electronic mailing, the volume of mail the Postal Service delivered was still increasing, especially in the areas of package deli-

very to residents, advertising mail and Priority Mail.

Henderson said that the Postal Service's discount rates for large packages made it a popular choice for individuals and that businesses used the Postal Service frequently to distribute advertising mail because they could get discounted rates for mass distribution. He said the Postal Service alone was responsible for delivering 20 percent of the advertising displayed to the advertising market.

He also said the use of Priority Mail was popular because it was much cheaper than other forms of rapid delivery mail.

"It is a real alternative to the high priced overnight circuit," Henderson said. "We are seeing a lot of growth," he said. "These three areas will be helped by technology not hurt by it. Technology is really adding to our growth."

He said the Postal Service was constantly trying to improve its general performance.

"Our main goal is that we plan to substantially improve the quality of service we provide to the American people."

Government Buildings Beef Up Security

Since the Oklahoma Attack, Federal Buildings Across the State Are Taking Precautions

BY ERICA BESHEARS
STAFF WRITER

As a result of last week's bombing of the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, federal facilities across the nation have stepped up security to try to prevent any similar occurrences.

Federal buildings in North Carolina are at an enhanced level of security as well, said Steve Grant, the Raleigh field office manager of the General Services Administration.

"We are currently in an enhanced level of security," Grant said.

He said that the precautions were necessary, or they would not be taking them, but that they were strictly a precaution.

"We have no reason to suspect a threat of violence to our federal buildings," he said. "This is precautionary."

Fleming James, the executive assistant to the regional administrator of the General Services Administration in Atlanta, said security measures in different buildings across the country were different.

"We've increased the level of security," James said. "Different buildings have different needs in the first place, so we're not doing the same things everywhere, but all buildings' security have been increased."

James said the GSA had increased security in several different ways.

"In courthouses, we're limiting access and checking ID badges more than usual," he said. "We're not allowing cars to park adjacent to buildings."

He said that he did not know how long the extra security would be necessary but that there had been an increase in bomb threats across the nation.

"We've had more bomb threats. All of them have turned out to be bogus," James said.

In eastern North Carolina, there have been two bomb threats to federal facilities since the Oklahoma City bombing, said William Berryhill Jr., chief U.S. marshal for the eastern district of North Carolina.

"There was a bomb threat at the Alton-Lennon Federal Building in Wilmington, I believe Thursday morning," Berryhill said.

"The building was swept, and no device was found," he said. "There was a threat at the FBI building directed at the IRS that's housed in privately leased space. Those are the only two bomb threats."

Berryhill said U.S. marshals were also stepping up security.

"In the wake of the Oklahoma City bombing, the president ordered that security be enhanced," he said. "As a U.S. marshal, it is my duty to protect the federal judiciary housed in Raleigh."

Berryhill said the marshals wanted to make some of the security enhancements permanent.

"We've eliminated parking in front of federal buildings, and we are going to ask (the city of Raleigh) if we can make it permanent," he said.

Berryhill said the marshals had tested their surveillance cameras and metal detectors to ensure they were in proper order.

"We are carefully X-raying every package. Our deputy marshals are on increased awareness to persons entering and exiting federal buildings," Berryhill said. "We have tested our mechanical security to determine that they are in working order."

Although state government buildings were not included in Clinton's call to increase security, many state buildings have been taking precautions as well. The Archdale Building in Raleigh, which houses state offices, received two bomb threats Monday, as did the Dobbs building and the Revenue building.

Lt. Astor Bowden, head of special services for the N.C. State Capitol Police, said they were regular bomb threats.

"We've had two today. One was at 8:55 and one at about 2 o'clock," Bowden said. "It was a standard bomb threat where somebody calls in ... and we go into our standard procedure."

Bowden said incidents like the Oklahoma City bombing made people look at their security systems more carefully.

"Anybody in the security business should look at their security systems from time to time. This pushes you along," Bowden said. "We have taken a look and will continue to take a look."

FANS

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faller, giving shortstop Ozzie Smith a final chance at postseason play. "I'm thrilled that they're playing. Hopefully now the labor problems will be worked out."

Financially speaking, Allan Boyd can't wait for the major-leaguers to get back into action. As the owner of Sports Cards Plus in Chapel Hill, he's seen sales of baseball cards slip drastically. "Way down" doesn't describe how bad they are," he said.

Over in Durham, officials for the minor-league Bulls don't expect major-league opening day to affect ticket sales. Kevin Estrella, a team spokesman, said the Bulls would have relied more on major-league baseball if teams were closer than Baltimore or Atlanta.

From cheaper tickets to readily accessible players, owners have been trying hard to win back fans. Perhaps no other method would work as well as finally coming up with a long-term agreement instead of the temporary one inked March 31. Most fans agree that something needs to be done.

"It's a shame it had to be this way," Estrella said. "The fans lost out a lot. ... It really gave the game a black eye."

VOLUNTEERS

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Maya Angelou.

Zenobia Hatcher-Wilson, Campus Y advisory board member, said all the candidates were qualified for the award. Hatcher-Wilson presented the plaque to Murray.

"I won't ask Mike to speak because I know he is a man of few words," Hatcher-Wilson said. "But he is a man that gets things done."

Emily Roth, committee coordinator, said Murray deserved the award. She said that Murray was going to attend law school at New York University next year and that

he had just received a scholarship.

Hatcher-Wilson said the Sonja H. Stone Award was developed in 1993 by the Campus Y executive committee. Stone was a member of the Campus Y advisory board, she said.

"Dr. Stone represented a scholar and a humanitarian," Hatcher-Wilson said. "She

was interested in everyone."

Hatcher-Wilson and Roth also awarded certificates to past and present Campus Y Cabinet members, executive members and volunteers at the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony.

Brad King and Teresa Nowlin, co-presidents of the Campus Y, thanked the old

members for their time and introduced the new members of the executive committee.

"Last year's committee accomplished a lot," King said. "They laid the groundwork for the year to come."

Melissa Power, AmeriCorps member, asked interested students to apply for positions next year.



We can't tell you what direction to take, but we can sure help you get there.



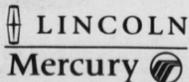
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