

Federal Council Looks to Salvage N.C. Town

By JENNIFER HAGIN
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Staff Writers

A special federal council met for the first time this week to discuss the fate of historical Princeville, a town severely damaged by Hurricane Floyd.

President Clinton signed an executive order Feb. 28 in a rare use of executive power, forming the President's Council on the Future of Princeville.

But the council received mixed reviews from mayors of other flood-ravaged towns.

One of the first towns in America founded by freed slaves, Princeville is considered a national landmark and historical site by many.

But the town suffered substantial flooding damage when the Tar River burst through the town's dike after Hurricane Floyd in September 1999.

Council Chairwoman Sally Katzen said the council would assess the flood damage and advise Clinton on ways to revitalize Princeville and ensure its future.

Katzen said the council, which met Wednesday would also explore ways to protect people in the area from future floods. She added that the council might investigate the possibility of using donations from private companies to aid the city.

Katzen said appointing a council to protect a city was a rare occurrence. "This is quite unusual," she said. "But

Princeville is an unusual city."

The president has stressed his desire for the council to expedite its work, Katzen said. Clinton wants the council to act before the year is over.

"It is not uncommon for studies to take many months," she said. "He wants to have a recommendation and take action before he leaves office."

But Princeville was not the only community devastated by flooding from Hurricane Floyd.

Rocky Mount, a city near Princeville, also suffered flood damage.

Rocky Mount Mayor Frederick Turnage would not comment on the council's singling out Princeville and ignoring other flood-damaged towns.

"I really don't care to get into that dis-

cussion," he said.

Turnage said Rocky Mount is cooperating with other N.C. towns, including Princeville, to assess economic losses and develop a recovery plan.

Despite being faced with the challenge of rebuilding his own town, Tarboro Mayor Donald Morris said he was in favor of the council.

"I'm glad they're going to get that kind of help," Morris said. "They were much more devastated than any other town or city in North Carolina."

"They've got a proud history being the oldest black incorporated town in North Carolina."

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CHANCELLOR

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UNC's campus Thursday afternoon that the committee had selected Shalala for the post.

Chairman Richard Stevens said the committee was still narrowing its lists of candidates, and the search would likely extend into April.

"We're still working," he said. "That's all I can say."

Members still have a week to forward their list of top candidates to the Board of Trustees, who must send at least two finalists to Broad before she recommends a finalist to the BOG for approval.

Broad, who has ultimate discretion in choosing the chancellor, said the committee had not yet specified that the search was near completion.

"To the best of my knowledge, no decision has been made," Broad said. "I have not made a decision, and I have not received any information from the search committee."

Broad said the BOG would not consider a chancellor at its March 17 meeting. But she declined to comment whether Shalala was or ever had been a candidate.

"Everything I know suggests there is nothing to (the rumor that Shalala has been picked), and Andy Sorensen's timing is purely his own," Broad said.

Though she originally set May Commencement as the deadline for a new chancellor to be in place, Broad said Thursday she could not speculate about when the search would end.

IM-REC

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mous donor who saw a need and who wanted to help meet the need," said Speed Hallman, director of Development Communications.

Authorized funds total close to \$1 million, including the winning bid of Southwest Recreation Industries at \$849,000 and \$75,000 to Stewart Engineering for design.

After landscaping and other minor refinements are finished, the project will be close to the \$1 million allocated, Hallman said.

The effort to attain the donation came, in large part, from the late Chancellor Michael Hooker.

"He was very interested in those fields," Hallman said. "He didn't have state money, so he worked with the donor to make it happen."

Pomerantz added, "He was absolutely instrumental in making this happen. As soon as he heard that we were willing to put in an artificial surface, he supported it fully. He just didn't know that we would be happy with anything but real grass."

Original plans proposed the comple-

tion of the project during the past summer. The funding for the project, however, didn't meet the deadline for the renovations to be completed at that time, Pomerantz said.

Another concern was the need for an internal loan. The donor gave the first installment of \$500,000. After worries arose concerning the immediate need of funds to start the project, the donor came through with the pledged second installment, thus eliminating an internal loan, said Roger Patterson, associate vice chancellor for finance.

Another source of delay has come from the long but careful process by the University to get the best surface for its needs.

Once the University received the authorization to spend \$1 million, it looked around at other schools to find the best possible surface. The University then wrote up the specifications for the project and took bids, Hallman said.

Because the bids were accepted in November, the contracts have been in the process of being completed and processed through various levels, including the contractors, the state government and the University, Krawchuk said.

With the project scheduled to begin in April, Ehringhaus field could also see

which would help tobacco farmers.

He said relief funding might also be delayed because it was part of a larger, \$8.8 billion aid plan, including funds for peacekeeping in Kosovo and to combat Columbian drug operations.

If Congress passes the bill and President Clinton signs it, North Carolina's federal funding for Floyd

changes within the near future. There have been preliminary talks between the Campus Recreation Office and the Educational Foundation about turfing Ehringhaus Field, said Moyer Smith, executive vice president of the Educational Foundation.

The Educational Foundation has interest in the field because it uses the field for parking during the football season.

"We've talked with them about it," Smith said. "We park there for football. Out of six games, we only get it four or five times because of rain. To be able to get six games would benefit us, and the turf would be good for the students."

For now, though, the Crazy Mules will have to wait until next year to hit the softball diamond and graze on the new synthetic grass.

"I think it needs to be done," said sophomore Joe Colandro, a member of the Crazy Mules. "It is a pretty good idea, and the fields really needed to be improved. At least now we won't have to worry about grass anymore."

Pomerantz seconded the enthusiasm, "I think students will be very pleased when they come back next fall."

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AID

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and also worked on the proposal.

But France said some congressmen wanting to drive tobacco growers out of business might have problems with an \$81 million clause for forgiveness loans,

Chancellor Heir Apparent?

Sources say U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala's background in health services and experience as a chancellor make her a very likely choice for the chancellor's post.

1962 Received bachelor of arts degree from Western College for Women

1962-1964 Volunteered in Iran in the Peace Corps

1966-1970 Assistant to director of Metropolitan Studies Program, lecturer in social science and assistance to the dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University

1968, 1970 Masters degree and doctorate from Syracuse University

1970-1972 Professor of politics and education at Columbia University

1972-1979 Professor of political science at Bernard M. Baruch College

1975-1977 Director and treasurer of Municipal Assistance Corp. Has been director of American Stock Exchange, TIAA-CREF, M&I Bank of Wisconsin

1977-1980 Assistant secretary for policy development and research, Department of Housing and Urban Development for the Carter administration

1980-1987 President of Hunter College at City University of New York

1988-1993 Chancellor of University of Wisconsin-Madison

— first woman to head a Big Ten University
— raised \$400 million for the University endowment and spearheaded a \$225 million state-private partnership program to raise money for facility improvement

1992 Business Week magazine named her one of the top 5 managers in higher education

1992 Named the winner of both the American Society of Public Administration's National Public Service Award and the American Political Science Association's Annual Career Achievement Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Urban Politics

1993 Nominated and sworn in as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services for the Clinton administration

— Administers Medicare, Medicaid, federal welfare and children's programs
— Commands a budget of approximately \$350 billion

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

SHALALA

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As a sometimes controversial leader, Shalala strove to increase racial diversity at the school. And within months of setting foot on campus, she proposed the Madison Plan, which established a multicultural center and ethnic studies requirement.

She also wanted UW to be more committed to serving the state. She successfully petitioned the legislature for funding and traveled across Wisconsin to identify targets for the university's resources.

"She spent a lot of time traveling across the state and making herself a state presence rather than just a campus presence," said John Torphy, UW vice chancellor for Budget, Planning and Analysis.

The late Chancellor Michael Hooker made a trip with similar intentions when he took the helm at UNC.

Shalala also used her political prowess to undertake massive fund-raising campaigns, pulling in \$400 million for the university's endowment and leading a \$225 million partnership with private businesses to fund facility improvements. And in 1992, Business Week maga-

zine named her one of the top five money managers in higher education.

Torphy also said Shalala made herself available to students, faculty and the media. "She's very open and answers any questions anybody wants to ask."

But not everyone expressed such fond memories of Shalala's time at UW. UW Professor Theodore Hamerow told The Washington Post in 1993 that he "saw nothing catastrophic, but a measurable decline" in academic excellence while she was there.

During an online chat moderated by ABCNews.com in 1998, Shalala discussed her love for working in educational administration. "I miss the students. If you work at a university, you never grow old."

After Shalala left UW in 1993, she became health and human services secretary. She was previously assistant secretary of Housing and Urban Development and head of the Children's Defense Fund. Shalala now oversees services such as Medicare, Medicaid and federal welfare and children's programs.

Torphy said, "I think (Donna would) be a real asset to the (UNC) campus."

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Due to the inclement weather, the second annual Round-Up For a Cure has been rescheduled from February 12th.

The new date is Saturday, March 25th.

Shop and dine downtown on Saturday, March 25th and "round-up" your total bill to make a donation to the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. You can make a difference in the fight against cancer!