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Oil flows again from Iraqi fields

4 MORE TOP OFFICIALS FROM IRAQI REGIME CAPTURED

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Oil from Iraq's southern fields began flowing through pipelines Wednesday for the first time since the war, and power at last was restored to parts of Baghdad. In the holy city of Karbala, thousands of Shiite Muslims demonstrated against the United States.

The southern oil fields had been

among the first installations secured when U.S. and British forces launched the ground war March 20. Coalition forces, aided by Iraqi oil workers, fired up a gas-oil separation plant Wednesday that sent oil to a pumping station and storage tank outside the southern city of Basra.

"Our focus in restoring the oil is to give the biggest benefit to the

Iraqi people," said Brig. Gen. Robert Crear, the top U.S. official charged with getting Iraq's oil production up and running.

Many Iraqis have complained bitterly, and frequently, about U.S. forces rushing to secure oil fields and the capital's oil ministry, leaving other ministries, universities, museums, hospitals and businesses to be looted and burned. U.S. officials have acknowledged they were surprised by the rampage and said troops were too occupied by combat to intervene when they first reached Baghdad.

The first group of U.N. international staff returned to northern Iraq since the war started when a half-dozen workers crossed the border from Turkey on Wednesday.

Also Wednesday, U.S. forces in Iraq captured four top officials of Saddam Hussein's former government Wednesday, including the air defense force commander and the former head of military intelligence.

The highest-ranking official in the group is Muzahim Sa'b Hassan al-Tikriti, who headed Iraq's air defenses under Hussein. He was

No. 10 on the U.S. list of the top 55 most wanted officials from Hussein's regime and the queen of diamonds in the military's deck of playing cards listing those officials.

Al-Tikriti, who was from Hussein's hometown clan, which made up much of the former Iraqi inner circle, also reportedly helped train paramilitary Fedayeen forces. U.S. officials have accused Fedayeen forces of committing war crimes including using civilian human shields and killing Iraqis who wanted to surrender.

Pentagon officials said

Wednesday it was too early to determine whether any of the officials would be tried for war crimes.

The latest captures bring to 11 the number of top former Iraqi officials in U.S. custody. Another three in the top 55 are believed to have been killed, Pentagon officials say.

On Tuesday, an accident took the lives of three Marines near the southern city of Kut. They were trying out a rocket-propelled grenade launcher when it malfunctioned, and seven other Marines were wounded, U.S. Central Command said.

Board explores possible merger

Study results to be issued by August

BY JOHN FRANK
CITY EDITOR

When Neil Pedersen, superintendent of Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, goes grocery shopping, he can't make it down an aisle without getting peppered with questions about a possible merger of the county's two school systems.



Superintendent Neil Pedersen wants to gauge public opinion via referendum.

Likewise, when Keith Cook, vice chairman of the Orange County Board of Education, stopped for gas Tuesday morning, the topic of conversation was the merger study.

The discussion surrounding a possible merger of CHCCS and Orange County Schools is the talk of the town.

The Orange County Board of Commissioners is gathering more information about possibly merging the school systems, which are divided by an \$11 million funding discrepancy. The commissioners will conclude their report by August.

But officials from both school districts endorsed the idea of a more public process during a community forum Tuesday afternoon at Town Hall.

Pedersen and Cook, as well as Commissioner Moses Carey and Orange County interim Superintendent Michael Williams, all emphasized the need for more public input about the study.

Carey said he already has received an abundance of feedback from residents in both systems. "Some want it; some don't want it," he said.

But Pedersen said he doesn't know how residents think because "they haven't been asked."

He and other school officials support a referendum to gauge the public's sentiment.

While school officials aren't sure whether a referendum would be binding, they all agree that the public needs more information to decide on the issue.

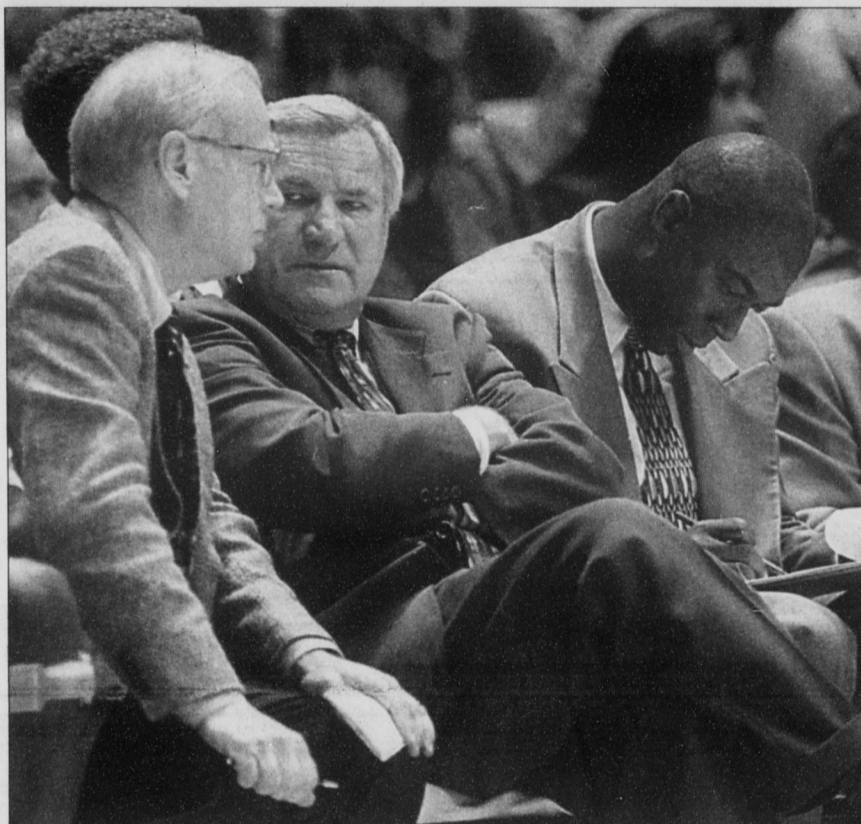
"What (residents) have most fears associated with the merger," said Valerie Foushee, chairwoman of the CHCCS Board of Education. "There's a whole array of fears associated with the unknown."

Carey said the commissioners are conducting the study to clear up unknown elements.

"We've been afraid to talk about it so long that there are a lot of myths out there," Carey said.

The lone teacher on Tuesday's forum panel was Julie Dermody, a fifth-grade teacher at Mary Scroggs Elementary. She said that

SEE MERGER, PAGE 12



Former North Carolina men's basketball coach Dean Smith (center), with the help of Bill Guthridge (left) and Phil Ford (right), built the UNC program into a national powerhouse without getting in trouble for violating NCAA regulations.

STAYING CLEAN IN A DIRTY GAME

BY AARON FITT SPORTS EDITOR

He was a gifted basketball player, the kind of player who immediately could help any college program in the nation. But the recruit was not well-to-do.

It would not be easy for him to deprive his family of his meager income so he could pursue his college basketball dreams.

This fact didn't escape North Carolina coach Dean Smith and his assistant, Roy Williams. They knew the recruit would be tempted by the offers of underhanded financial assistance other schools would dangle before him. But as highly as they regarded the player, the Tar Heel coaches

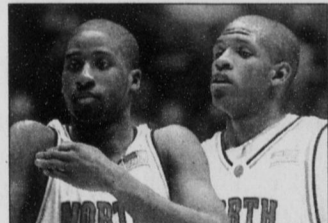
wouldn't stray from the rules.

"I told one prospect, who lived in a small house not any bigger than this with four younger children — I said, 'It's hard, I'm sure, to go with us, but you'll feel better in the long run, and we hope it will be better for you,'" Smith said in a November interview in the Smith Center's memorabilia room. "But I said, 'For God's sake, don't go for transportation or something.' He called Roy and said, 'I'm going to a Big Ten school, for reasons you know.'"

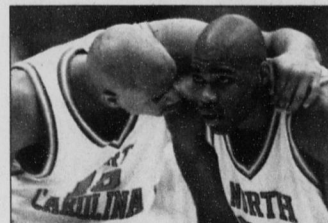
That nameless recruit from the 1980s was just one of many top prospects over the years who has valued immediate gratification more highly than integrity.

NCAA rules violations are no recent phenomena; there have been breaches of the rules as long as there have been rules. This basketball season, however, brought ethics issues once more to the forefront, with scandals making headlines at Georgia, St. Bonaventure, Fresno State and Michigan.

SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE 12



2002: Fans have pinned the program's future on freshmen Raymond Felton (left), Rashad McCants (right) and Sean May.



1995: Dean Smith's last great recruiting class — led by Vince Carter (left) and Antawn Jamison — took UNC to two Final Fours.



1993: Top recruits Rasheed Wallace (above) and Jerry Stackhouse were expected to bring UNC another national championship.

UNC seeks to combat violence

BY EMILY STEEL
STAFF WRITER

A woman is raped every two minutes. Almost one in every four women between the ages of 18 and 24 is a survivor of sexual assault. The time from the day a student takes her first step on a college campus until the time she goes home for Thanksgiving Break is the period when she is most likely to be a victim of sexual violence.

But the numbers just don't add up when only two rapes were reported to University police in 2002 and only 17 sexual assault victims reported their situations to the dean of students last semester.

National data on rape show that the crime happens with much more frequency than it is reported, and UNC's 2002 numbers show that the problem hits home.

In hopes of creating an environment more conducive to communication about sexual violence, UNC officials submitted a grant application last week to the U.S. Department of Justice.

If the grant is approved, the money will be used to re-evaluate UNC's Sexual Assault Response Plan, add an anti-violence program to C-TOPS and create a media campaign against violence at the University, said Melinda Manning, assistant dean of students.

Such a plan would provide students with more support when reporting a rape to campus officials.

"There have been some concerns that victims weren't treated with the fairness and respect they expected," Manning said.

Matt Ezzell, a graduate student in sociology who worked with the Orange County Rape Crisis Center from 1997-2002, echoed this sentiment.

He said he has heard about situations when University police officers asked victims inappropriate questions, blamed the victim and pressured the victim into filing a report. "It does happen," Ezzell said. "It is a reality."

This perception might be a factor that scares students away from reporting cases of sexual violence when they do occur. "So few victims ever report the crimes, and to hear they have been treated this way is discouraging," Manning said.

But University Police Chief Derek Poarch defended his officials and said his department works with victims to ensure their safety and the security of others on campus. "We want to partner with victims to bring suspects to justice," he said. "We have to show that rape is

SEE RAPE, PAGE 12

SUNDOWN



DTH/GARRETT HALL

Old World Craftsman employee Vernon Hopkins uses a jackhammer to remove concrete from the sundial in front of Morehead Planetarium. Renovations should be finished by June 1.

ONLINE

3-D technology developed by a UNC researcher may improve athletic performance. Visit www.dailytarheel.com for more stories.

INSIDE

IRON CHEFS
UNC chef beats Duke counterpart in cooking competition. PAGE 3



INSIDE

DRY SPELL
Diversions explores recent lack of big-time concerts in the Smith Center. PAGE 5

WEATHER

TODAY Mostly Sunny, High 64, Low 48
FRIDAY Rain, High 62, Low 54
SATURDAY Scattered T-storms, High 64, Low 50

