

Israel policy shift may elicit accord

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

JERUSALEM — Israel is prepared to coordinate its pullout from Gaza with a new Palestinian government, officials said Sunday, a shift from Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's concept of "unilateral disengagement" and a sign that cooperation may be restored in the post-Arafat era.

Security forces already are quietly cooperating with each other, Israeli officials said. One went so far as to say, "It's back to business."

But Palestinian and Israeli security sources said beyond routine contacts at field commander level, which have been maintained despite the violence, no coordination is underway.

In the Rafah refugee camp on the Gaza-Egyptian border late Sunday, an Israeli tank fired a shell at three Palestinians crawling in a forbidden zone, the military said. Palestinians said two wounded men were brought to a hospital. The fate of the third was unknown.

Palestinians said in addition that a doctor was killed and another man was hurt in a salvo of 12 Israeli tank shells in the camp. They said the two were playing cards next to a fire when they were hit by shrapnel.

Since Arafat's death Nov. 11, both sides have been projecting positive signals about cooperation for Palestinian elections on Jan. 9 and resumption of peace talks. Israel boycotted Arafat, charging that he was involved in terrorism, and no significant contacts between the two sides have taken place for more than a year.

Now, the Israelis are promoting the idea that with Arafat gone, things can change.

In separate interviews with Newsweek magazine, Sharon said he would be willing to coordinate the hand-over of Gaza with Palestinian forces, and interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said he would take responsibility for the areas, but only after his security arm is rebuilt.

Iraqi terrorist group claims Mosul attacks

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraq's most feared terror group claimed responsibility Sunday for slaughtering members of the Iraqi security forces in Mosul, where dozens of bodies have been found. The claim raises fears the terror group has expanded to the north after the loss of its purported base in Fallujah.

Meanwhile, insurgents attacked U.S. and Iraqi targets in Baghdad and in Sunni Arab areas.

Iraq's deputy prime minister, Barham Saleh, said sticking to the Jan. 30 election timetable would be a challenge, but delaying it would bolster the insurgents' cause.

Two U.S. soldiers were injured in a Baghdad attack, and another American soldier died in a traffic accident north of the capital, the military said.

U.S. and Iraqi forces killed 17 suspected insurgents in raids south of the capital Sunday, Iraqi police said. Operations there included a dawn speedboat assault by U.S. Marines and British and Iraqi troops on suspected insurgent

hideouts along the Euphrates River, British media reported.

A statement posted on an Islamist Web site in the name of al-Qaida in Iraq, led by Jordanian terror mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, claimed responsibility for killing 17 members of Iraq's security forces and a Kurdish militia in Mosul, where insurgents rose up this month in support of guerrillas facing a U.S.-led assault in Fallujah.

The claim could not be independently verified but the style of writing appeared similar to other statements by al-Zarqawi's group, which is responsible for numerous car bombings and beheadings of foreign hostages in Iraq.

The United States has offered a \$25 million reward for al-Zarqawi's capture — the same amount it is offering for Osama bin Laden.

At least 50 people have been killed in Mosul in the past 10 days. Most of the victims are believed to have been supporters of Iraq's interim government or members of its fledgling security forces.

DATABASE

FROM PAGE 1

new system a more tempting target for security violations and political pressures, she said.

"We don't question the security of the current system, but there's not a lot of data in there that people want," Flanagan said.

"If you create individual student records, there is going to be a lot of interest in that."

Officials at the Department of

Education say all data will be kept secure, even from other federal agencies.

"NCES has a long history of protecting students' data," the review panel stated. "It is a Class E felony, with a \$250,000 fine and a five-year jail term, for NCES to allow a disclosure of individual data."

Officials noted that universities already turn over student data to the Internal Revenue Service for tax purposes, and individual records are kept on every student

receiving federal financial aid.

Any change would depend on an amendment to the Higher Education Act, which is up for reauthorization in January.

If Congress approves the measure, officials hope to conduct a field test during the 2006-07 academic year and fully implement the new system by 2007-08.

But Flanagan said she questions whether more detailed information actually will lead to better public policy.

"We believe we know enough about it already that you can make good policy decisions," she said, adding that states with individual record systems haven't necessarily shown an improvement in higher education.

"This will certainly tell us more; there's no question," she said. "I'm quite certain it's not worth giving up students' privacy to accomplish it."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Pita Pit Chapel Hill PITAS SALADS VEGGIE OPTIONS
Fresh Thinking, Healthy Eating OPEN LATE
919.933.4456 115 E. Franklin St.

SB 05 PANAMA CITY BEACH, FLORIDA
Why we're known as the FUN PLACE!
1000 Feet of Gulf Beach Frontage
Lazy River Ride
Twin Turbo Waterslide
2 Outdoor Pools
Indoor Heated Pool inside an Atrium Dome
Huge Gulfside Hot Tub
Jet Ski & Parasail Rentals
Tons of Sponsors with Giveaways!

Suites for Up to 10 People
Mini Golf Course
Gift Shop
Kitchens with Microwaves and Coffeemakers, Room Phones, Remote Controlled Cable TV and Much More!

SANDPIPER BEACH RESORT
17403 FRONT BEACH ROAD
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL 32413
CALL NOW FOR RESERVATIONS!
1.800.488.8828
www.SandpiperBeach.com

Great Sponsors & Entertainment
Alloy Marketing & Promotions
Paramount Media Group
B&B Marketing Solutions
W&J Sports Concepts

THE TRUTH IS...
WE GO THE EXTRA 2 INCHES.

JIMMY JOHN'S
JIMMY'S SCHOOL COUNSELOR SAID HE WAS LAZY AND HE'D NEVER AMOUNT TO SQUAT. SO WE MAKE SANDWICHES WITH THE BEST STUFF WE CAN FIND, AND WE MAKE 'EM 2 INCHES LONGER THAN EVERYONE ELSE DOES. THAT'LL TEACH HIM.
LET THE TRUTH BE KNOWN.

SERIOUS SANDWICH DELIVERY

738 NINTH ST. — 286-5383 DURHAM
306 W. FRANKLIN — 968-SUBS CHAPEL HILL

SHOPPING

FROM PAGE 1

as spotters on the roof who help direct shoppers to open spaces in busy parking lots.

The ambience of malls also is stepped up to appeal to shoppers and their families.

Johnson said The Streets At Southpoint hired street performers who juggle and blow up balloons while dressed in holiday costumes.

Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus also will sit in the middle of the mall throughout the season, taking pictures and hearing the wishes of children.

The holiday shopping season is not just big for malls. Stores such as Wal-Mart and Toys "R" Us rely on it as well.

Eric Shih, professor of marketing at Wake Forest University's Babcock Graduate School of Management, said the toy giant is facing stiff competition from the retail giant.

"Toys 'R' Us are actually in quite a position right now because they are competing with Wal-Mart," he said. "Wal-Mart is the No. 1 leader for toy sales right now."

And Wal-Mart's sales typically aren't too shabby on Black Friday.

The store had sales of \$1.52 billion nationwide on the day after Thanksgiving last year, though Wal-Mart spokeswoman Sharon Weber said the day's impact is overstated.

"We kind of think people put too much emphasis on that one day," she said.

She might be right — Kavanagh said a boost in sales on the Friday after Thanksgiving might give way to stagnation before increasing again closer to Christmas Day.

"You'll get a big jump in the beginning, but it will die down," he said.

"You know we are a nation of procrastinators."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Duke University Medical Center

The Genetics of Environmental Asthma

Healthy non-smokers (age 18-40), with mild asthma without allergies are asked to participate in an asthma study.

Three visits required. Compensation offered.

Contact person: Catherine Foss
919.668.3599 • foss0005@mc.duke.edu IRB #2357

FREE DINNER!

BANDIDO'S MEXICAN CAFE

FREE DINNER
with purchase of a second dinner of equal or greater value and 2 beverages at regular price (maximum value \$6.95). Valid Mon-Thurs. Dine-in only. Limit 1 coupon per table. Exp. 12/13/04. Valid at all locations. Not valid on Fridays. Bandido's Mexican Cafe

159 1/2 E. Franklin Street
(next to the Rathskeller and under Sutton's and Players)
Chapel Hill • 967-5048

302B E. Main Street Carrboro 967-5048
4711 Hope Valley Road Woodcroft Shopping Ctr. Durham 403-6285
122 S. Churston Street Hillsborough 752-8662

BUY NOTHING

FROM PAGE 1

approved of the consumer culture," he said.

Ken Rumble, a volunteer who organized the poetry readings, said he believes Black Friday is an inappropriate capitalization on Thanksgiving.

Participant Rachel Whetten also said she thinks of modern American culture as being too consumer-driven.

She said she that tries not to do any shopping on the day after Thanksgiving but that if she does need to buy something, she buys from local merchants.

Many participants cited the benefits of being involved in activities unrelated to shopping on the day after Thanksgiving.

"I think it's really positive to get involved in something other than a general shopping day," said participant Nina Collins.

Internationalist volunteer Rebekah Meek said she liked to have an alternative to sitting in crowded stores on Black Friday.

"I just think it's nice to have an alternative to the traditional consumerism," she said. "I think it makes a good statement."

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

SCHOOL BOARD

FROM PAGE 1

it has changed, and it has stayed the same."

Candidate Artie Franklin, a technical writer who ran as a Libertarian for one of the open commissioner seats, said the district's achievement gap is his biggest concern.

Gary Kayye, a consultant with Kayye Consulting Inc., has twice served as the president of Glenwood Elementary School's PTA.

He said the biggest issue facing the school board is maintaining the quality of the system while dealing with growth.

Candidate Belinda Zayas said her Hispanic background would bring a new perspective on minority issues to the board.

Richard Perry, a college instruc-

tor at Wake Technical Community College, said he wants to increase the priority of issues such as bilingual education, intervention programs for at-risk students and smaller class sizes for kindergarten through third grade.

Neal Bench, a school volunteer, said his business experience in financial and analytical work would be useful to the school board.

Also applying were Yu Lou; Weihua Xie; and Pam Hemminger, who also ran this year for the Board of Commissioners.

The school board is slated to select Foushee's replacement at its Thursday meeting.

The new member will be sworn in at the board's Dec. 16 meeting.

Contact the City Editor at citydesk@unc.edu.

FARMS

FROM PAGE 1

and now want to buy food in a more prepared state than before.

And Long said some farmers are changing their products altogether to contribute to a new market, such as raising catfish or talapia.

"Farmers are moving out of row crops and into fish farming," he said.

The increase in fish farming has brought the state to No. 5 nationally in catfish raising.

Linda Weiner, assistant secretary of communications and external affairs for the N.C. Department of Commerce, said the state's textile industry also is finding niche markets, such as the production of disposable diapers and surgical gowns.

But many farmers find it easier to give up farming altogether.

The tobacco buyout, recently approved by Congress, presents farmers with options. Many older farmers will retire, and the younger ones might start to farm something other than tobacco, Long said.

"Money talks," he said. "Farming never has been easy as a profession."

Farming quotas have dropped

and developers' demand for land has increased, so Long said many farm owners sell the land to make room for more communities and shopping centers.

The average age of a farmer is 59, Long said, so when farmers' children do not want to continue the business, eventually they will sell.

"We hate to see that, because less food and fiber are being produced in the state," Long said.

But with many agriculture jobs still disappearing, new jobs are needed for displaced workers.

In an attempt to help bring more jobs to the state, legislators voted this month to bring Dell USA to the Triad — an area suffering many job losses. But economists say those jobs do not necessarily fit for people losing jobs in agriculture.

Mitchell Renkow, agriculture and resource economics professor at N.C. State, said these people have three choices: move, get a new job where they live or retrain in a different field.

"It is more likely (they will move or retrain) in a period of transition," Renkow said. "But it usually balances back out."

Contact the State & National Editor at stntdesk@unc.edu.

The Family Doctor
Your personal doctor away from home.[®]

Se habla Español / Open 7 days a week / Appointments accepted but not necessary

Some of the services we offer are:

- contraception counseling & STD screenings
- ADD evaluations
- stress management
- we offer a pay-up-front option
- visit our website for insurance info

We ensure confidentiality!
10 minutes from campus in Ram's Plaza, corner of 15-501 Bypass & Ephesus Church Road
~ Bus lines C, CD, DJ/night ~
968.1985 • www.ncfamilydoctor.com

UNC SUMMER SCHOOL Need-based Scholarships Available

Summer School Abroad Registration Continues Through March 7. Apply early — Spaces are limited

First Session	Second Session
Crete (CLAR)	Galicia, Spain (JOMC)
Great Britain (COMM)	Morges (MUSC)
Greece (HIST)	Yucatan (LTAM)
London (EDUC/DRAM)	
Moscow (POLI)	
S Africa (SOWO)	

Summer School, 134 E Franklin, 2nd Floor
919-966-4364
www.unc.edu/summer