

Weather

Cloudy today with a 60 percent chance of rain through tomorrow and highs in the low 50s. Tonight's low will be 40 with temperatures in the upper 40s tomorrow.

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Women beat Wake

The UNC women's basketball team, ranked 18th in the nation, defeated Wake Forest, 77-71 Tuesday night in Winston-Salem.



Associate professor of political science Lars Schoultz (left) criticizes the Kissinger Commission report and Ambassador-at-large Otto Reich defends President Reagan's policy on Central America.

Professor, ambassador debate Kissinger report

By THAD OGBURN
Staff Writer

The way for the United States to maintain its world credibility is to help the countries of Central America without entering into a military struggle with the Soviet Union, a UNC political science professor said Tuesday night.

Lars Schoultz, associate professor of political science, spoke during a debate on the recent Kissinger Commission report on Central America. The United States has learned much about Latin America in the last few decades and must do more than what the Kissinger Commission has proposed, he said.

Schoultz debated the commission's report with Otto Reich, an ambassador-at-large for the Reagan administration. The event, held before about 300 people in Carroll Hall, was monitored by Jose Siman, a former resident of El Salvador and a visiting professor in the UNC School of Medicine.

"I really can't comment on the Kissinger Commission report as such because the President hasn't commented yet," Reich said. However, he did list the main problems that are present in Central America.

The commission, in its Jan. 11 report, recommended a five-year, \$8 billion program of economic aid for Central America. But economic and military aid should be made contingent on the Reagan administration's certification of progress in human rights, the report said.

Poverty is the basic social and economic problem in the region, Reich said.

"The gaps between the rich and the poor still re-

main much too wide," he said. "In too many cases, the power has been concentrated in very, very few hands."

Reich also cited a lack of political freedom and demographic and cultural factors as other major problems of the region. He said external pressures such as the influence of Cuba were the source of much turmoil in Latin America.

Schoultz disagreed, however, saying that Cuba should be seen as much more than a surrogate of the Soviet Union. The problems of turmoil stem from the fragility of Central American governments, he said.

"The government of El Salvador is fragile because many don't support it," Schoultz said. "The government will never defeat the insurgents because they don't have the support of the people behind them."

Schoultz drew applause when he said the struggle in Central America should not be a struggle against communism. He said the U.S. government must not be concerned with socialists in Latin America countries.

"I see a few socialists here today," Schoultz said, proving his point that socialists wouldn't necessarily cause problems. "I know they were able to infiltrate (the auditorium) almost effortlessly."

Schoultz also warned that the United States should not view the situation in El Salvador as it did Vietnam. He said Latin America was of no value except as symbolism to the United States, much as Vietnam was.

The Reagan policy toward Central America focuses on four different themes according to Reich:

politics, economics, militarism and diplomacy. He talked at length about the Reagan economic policy and its emphasis on land reform. He said the land reform had worked more than people have heard about from news reports.

"Much of the attention is focused on the bad news," Reich said. "Good news doesn't sell newspapers."

Reich said the Reagan policy toward Central America would work, given adequate time and resources.

"It is going to take a little longer than a '60 Minutes' program on television. Unfortunately the American people aren't very patient," he said.

Schoultz, who went over the allotted 30-minute speaking time, ended his remarks by saying that the Reagan policy of expecting Salvadorean leaders to initiate human rights reforms was akin to asking a pyromaniac to become a firefighter.

Schoultz received much support from the predominantly student audience, who at times hissed and laughed at Reich.

Siman spoke after the two debaters, saying that the credibility gap concerning Central America grows larger every day.

The debate was part of a teach-in sponsored by the Chapel Hill Emergency Response Network, a group seeking to mobilize the people of Carrboro and Chapel Hill about the issues of Central America. The teach-in also included a series of workshops on aspects of the Latin American crisis and a potluck dinner. Carl Pletsch, an assistant professor in the history department, introduced the debaters.

Inflation drops, earnings climb

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Consumer prices, restrained by across-the-board moderation, rose a modest 3.8 percent last year to give the economy its best performance since 1972, the Labor Department said Tuesday.

Just three years ago, prices had soared 12.4 percent. They rose 8.9 percent in 1981 and 3.9 percent in 1982.

Helping to restrain the 1983 increase was the lowest rise in medical costs in a decade, 6.4 percent; a 2.7 percent rise in food costs, the lowest since 1976; and a 0.5 percent decline in energy prices.

Last month, prices overall rose 0.3 percent, the same as in November.

President Reagan's chief economist, Martin Feldstein, hailed the economy's performance as "outstanding" and noted that, unlike 1972, inflation "was low without price controls."

Other analysts said they expected prices to behave just as well this year.

One consultant, Michael Evans, said, "It's great if we can keep it up. I think we can do as well in 1984."

Another, Ted Gibson of Crocker National Bank in San Francisco, said "We've seen no noticeable pickup in inflation."

As for energy prices, the department said home heating oil costs were off a sharp 10.9 percent last year, their steepest plunge since 1945. In 1982, those prices had fallen just 0.7 percent.

Gasoline prices fell 1.6 percent to put them 9.1 percent below their peak of March 1981. Prices had tumbled 6.6 percent in 1982.

Natural gas prices rose 5.2 percent, virtually one-fifth their 25.4 percent gain of the previous year.

Looking at food prices, department analysts said beef and veal costs fell 1.6 percent last year. Pork prices plunged 11 percent, their sharpest decline since 1976. Egg prices, however, soared 35.7 percent and poultry prices rose 10.2 percent.

Prices for fruits and vegetables were up 5.4 percent.

Overall, the consumer price rise last year was the best full-year figure since the 3.4 percent recorded in 1971 and 1972, when wage and price controls were in effect.

The department also said average weekly earnings, after adjustments for rising prices, climbed 2.5 percent — a substantial improvement over the 0.5 percent gain of 1982.

American workers' average gross weekly earnings, before adjustment for seasonal factors and inflation, totaled \$289.68 in December, compared with \$273.70 a year earlier, the department said.

Tuesday's report was the second one offering good news on the economy in the last two weeks. On Jan. 13, the department announced that wholesale prices rose only 0.6 percent last year, the slowest gain since 1964.

Price changes that show up in the wholesale price measure are a good barometer of how food, energy and other prices will move at the retail level. The retail price index, though, monitors prices for a broader range of goods and services, including medical care and housing.

Analysts attribute the bright price picture of last year to the lingering effects of the 1981-82 recession, which has helped hold down increases in labor costs and led to improved worker productivity.

A strengthened dollar, which makes foreign goods less expensive than American products, also helped prevent a surge in prices, they said.

As for other components of the Consumer Price Index, the department reported.

- Overall transportation costs rose 3.9 percent last year. In December alone, they were up 0.3 percent. Prices for used cars skyrocketed 14.4 percent last year and were up 0.6 percent in December. New car prices jumped 3.4 percent in 1983 and edged up 0.1 percent last month.
- Clothing prices rose 2.9 percent for the year but fell 0.1 percent in December.
- Housing costs rose 3.5 percent last year and 0.2 percent in December. Homeowners' costs were up 4.5 percent while renters' expense were up 5.1 percent of the year.
- Entertainment expenses gained 3.9 percent for 1983 but only 0.1 percent in December.

Last month's 0.3 percent advance matched November's rate. Prices rose 0.5 percent in September and 0.4 percent in October.

All the changes are adjusted for normal seasonal variations.

If last month's 0.3 percent increase held steady for 12 straight months, the yearly advance would be 3.2 percent. The annual rate reported by the department is based on a more precise calculation of monthly prices than the figure made public.

In all, the Consumer Price Index stood at 303.5 in December, meaning that goods costing \$10 in 1967 would have costs \$30.35 last month.

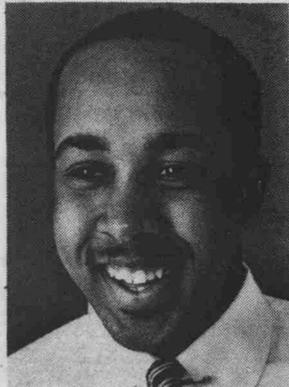
A companion index, the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, rose 3.3 percent last year. In December alone, it was up 0.2 percent. This index is widely used in calculating cost-of-living increases in collective bargaining contracts and government benefit programs.

Exum to run presidency campaign

By DICK ANDERSON
Staff Writer

James Exum, a junior industrial relations major from Charlotte, has announced his candidacy for student body president.

"I believe that Student Government must be the true forum through which the needs of students can be met, and that the issues students face must be addressed," Exum said. "We need a student body president who has experience, who has displayed the ability to get the job done, who relates to the needs of the student body, and who is committed to improving student government and thus our university. James Exum is the man for the job."



James Exum

fect us."

Exum said also that the creation of a department of student affairs would explore issues of great concern to students, such as high textbook costs. "We will better attempt to communicate with the student body and implement a system whereby the accomplishments of my administration will be visible to the students," he said.

Exum said he plans to revive and expand the Carolina Course Review as one of his goals in the area of faculty and administration. Such a guide, he said, would be a useful tool for student input into future tenure situations like the David Garrow decision.

Exum said he did not see the issue of future telephone service in dormitories as a campaign issue because University Housing was planning to submit its proposal on the matter to the office of Student Affairs Jan. 31 — two weeks before elections. "That is an issue that should be handled right now," he said.

Exum, student body vice president and Campus Governing Council speaker, also has held positions with the Black Student Movement and on numerous other committees.

UNC surgeon also teaches Wolfe seminar

By KATHY NORCROSS
Staff Writer

Editor's Note: This is the first in a weekly series of stories about several UNC faculty members.

What do the research of bone diseases, Thomas Wolfe, ankle injuries, tennis tournaments, book collecting and joint replacement have in common? Dr. Frank Wilson.

"I suppose this reflects my emphasis on a balanced life," Wilson said.

As chairman of UNC's division of orthopedics for the last 17 years, Wilson has numerous commitments in the medical field. He teaches classes for second- and third-year medical students and gives seminars for fourth-year students.

"The practice of orthopedics deals with the medical and surgical management of musculoskeletal diseases and disorders," Wilson said. This includes the areas of sports medicine, pediatric orthopedics and arthritis surgery, among other things.

His special field is joint replacement, but he is also interested in injuries and infections of bones and joints. Most of his patient-care activities and research interests involve managing arthritic disorders.

A native Georgian, Wilson attended Vanderbilt University in Tennessee as an undergraduate and then returned to the University of Georgia for medical school. He completed his residency in orthopedic surgery at Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City, but in 1964 he decided he preferred the South.

"After eight years in New York, I had had enough exhaust fumes and asphalt," he said. "Chapel Hill seemed like an ideal spot."

Three years ago Wilson mentioned to Doris Betts, who was the dean of the honors program, that it was a shame no one was teaching Thomas Wolfe at the time. Wolfe was probably the most prominent literary graduate from the University, he told Betts. Betts agreed that a course was needed and suggested Wilson teach it.

When he received the request form to teach the course, he almost rejected it, but decided that if he organized his time, he could do it.

"I encountered Wolfe in college, and he hit me with such impact at that time that he made an indelible mark," Wilson said. "I think he has a real message for young people; I think this is the time a student should be exposed to Wolfe."



Dr. Frank Wilson, in addition to being chief of orthopedic surgery, teaches a popular seminar on the works of Thomas Wolfe.

Because of the depth of the material and because he was not a designated authority on Wolfe, Wilson did not think many students would sign up for the course. He was wrong.

Greg Talbott, a senior biology major who will be entering medical school next year, was a member of Wilson's first class.

"That was a terrific course," Talbott said. "He, being a physician and teaching a literature course, was really impressive. He made me appreciate and especially enjoy a literature course and a pretty intense one at that."

Wilson said, "I suppose it's a rather demanding course. We read 300 to 400 pages a week. Wolfe is not always easy to read, but those who finish it achieve a depth of learning not usually found in college sophomores, most of whose educational efforts have been horizontally directed."

Talbott said the reading was his refuge from the numerous textbooks he has been required to read; he has even re-read some of Wolfe's works.

See WILSON on page 2

'84 elections

If elected, Exum said he would immediately appoint three executive assistants and a chief of staff. "The chief of staff will serve as an administrative aid to me as president," he said. "The executive assistants will head three basic areas through which the government will address (the issues)."

One such area is government relations, which would handle matters such as registering students to vote, increases in out-of-state tuition and any changes in financial aid, Exum said. "It will monitor the changes in state government that af-