

# Reagan to reiterate tonight: America is back

By SCOTT WHARTON  
Staff Writer

The occasion — a January 1982 White House luncheon commemorating the 100th anniversary of Franklin Delano Roosevelt's birth. The guest list largely made up of Roosevelt New Deal Democrats. William Leuchtenburg, nationally-renowned New Deal historian and current William Rand Kenan professor of history at UNC, was present.

"President Reagan swept into the room... and he captivated everybody. He was charming. He was smiling. He paid a very handsome tribute to FDR — which is something he's always doing — and at the end he had us all get up, raised his glass with a toast to 'Happy Days Are Here Again,' the famous start of FDR's theme song."

On that day, Reagan, the eternal optimist whom Leuchtenburg calls "Dr. Feelgood," was probably the only Washington politician who believed those famous words. The nation was mired in its deepest recession since World War II, and one out of ten Americans was out of work.

Reagan, an economics-sociology graduate from tiny Eureka College and a former B-movie actor, defied the nation's best-educated and then-skeptical economists. He was right.

Indeed, happy days are here again, at least for most Americans. In the past two years, the economy has grown at

## Analysis

its fastest rate in four decades. More Americans have faith in their country and their president than at any time since the days of John F. Kennedy. Reagan, earlier considered an unpopular president, now rides atop a landslide victory over Walter F. Mondale and an historic crest of public acceptance into his second term.

In tonight's State of the Union Address, the president will reiterate his campaign theme that "America is back" — from years of internal turmoil and external embarrassment.

But he will also discuss the tough issues he must confront during his second term: the reduction of runaway federal deficits, the potential for arms control agreements and improved relations with the Soviet Union and simplifying and overhauling the nation's tax system.

"The combination of the public mood and Reagan's personality mean that he'll be able to ride out storms for quite awhile," Leuchtenburg predicts. Known as the Great Communicator, Reagan uses his familiar medium television to create storms around congressmen who do not plan to vote for his policies. In 1981 and 1982 especially, Reagan pushed his controversial tax cuts

through Congress by going to the people directly and creating a groundswell of support for the proposals. His easy-going likeable image has earned him the nickname, "The Teflon President" — no crisis or problem seems to stick to him politically.

Events such as the deaths of nearly 300 American soldiers in the Beirut bombings that would "seriously hurt Carter," Leuchtenburg said, "are not interpreted as disasters under Reagan."

"Ironically, he's not been intimately linked with the huge budget deficits of his own administration," adds Deil S. Wright, a UNC professor of political science.

Reagan's critics, like James David Barber, Duke University professor of political science, said "he has brought the economy back on a credit card and thus ignored the problems of the future." They argue that Reagan's success in reducing inflation was at the expense of high unemployment and that he is insensitive to the poor.

"The majority of Americans aren't paying attention," Barber said. "He can get by with a kind of casual impression of being compassionate, at the same time, his policies are causing a good deal of suffering among vulnerable people."

Reagan's years have seen steady increases in defense spending, while many popular social programs have been cut. James W. Prothro, UNC

department of political science chairman, said, "Reagan's major accomplishment has been to set back American social policy a generation."

His budget, released Monday, calls for a freeze on all government spending (except for defense, social security and cost-of-living allowances). Congress, under pressure to halt the deficit spending, is expected to vote for this, as well as for some of Reagan's proposals to slice severely once-sacred programs. But Congress is also expected to trim the defense budget, with a reluctant Reagan agreeing to compromise.

Ray Shimer, president of the UNC College Republicans, said that on campus this fall many students were attracted to Reagan because of his "optimism about the future" and by their trust in his handling of the economy.

"Reagan has begun a turn-around in the direction government takes. Like FDR, he's started us off in a new direction."

What the future holds for President Reagan no one knows for certain. Yet good luck just might be on his side.

"There's a great will to believe on the part of the American people that helps Reagan and that he, in turn, is able to generate," Leuchtenburg said. "I don't think anybody fully understands that chemistry."

# Fobes talk to criticize U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO

By VANCE TRÉFETHEN  
State and National Editor

Former Deputy Director General of UNESCO John Fobes will come to UNC tonight to tell people why he opposes the recent U.S. withdrawal from that U.N. organization.

"I'm highly critical of the way in which the U.S. handled its withdrawal," Fobes said in an interview yesterday. "I think the U.S. should have remained in the organization even if it was unhappy with the organization."

The United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization is an international organization

designed to promote understanding between nations by developing and sharing educational, scientific, and cultural resources.

"Its primary duty is to promote development in all those fields. In recent years, that has been to promote development in poor countries," he said.

Fobes, who was deputy director general of UNESCO from 1970 to 1978, was a political science lecturer at UNC and a visiting scholar at Duke from 1978 to 1982. He currently is an adjunct professor at Western Carolina University.

Fobes said the recent U.S. pullout from UNESCO had lowered the United States' standing in world

opinion. "We're regarded as having engaged in what some (foreign) newspapers have called 'blackmail,'" he said.

The United States withdrew because of objections to the political tone of some UNESCO activities and opposition to the organization's steadily rising budget," he said. The United States has charged UNESCO with using educational programs to promote political views and with threatening freedom of the press in its discussions on journalistic responsibility. Fobes said.

His speech, titled "Learning from the Break," is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. today in Gerrard Hall.

# N.C. Democrats discuss party direction at 1985 gala

By VANCE TRÉFETHEN  
State and National Editor

North Carolina's Democratic Party held its 1985 Gala in Raleigh Tuesday night, raising money for the party and welcoming Democratic legislators to Raleigh for the new legislative session.

Some Democrats at the Gala said the national Democratic Party is out of step with some local party organizations, including North Carolina's.

"I think they have gotten out of touch," said former Gov. Jim Hunt.

Hunt said the Democrats must follow

two basic strategies to improve their showing in future elections. At the national level, the Democrats need to be more moderate on fiscal issues, he said.

"The party's got to show that it's fiscally responsible," Hunt said. More efforts are needed for balancing the budget, preserving a strong national defense and reducing the role of special interests in influencing the Democratic Party, he said.

At the state level, Democrats need to emphasize economic development

and better education, Hunt said.

"The party basically needs to continue to be seen to be fighting for good education and economic growth," he said. The state Democratic Party has maintained a good popular image, he said, despite problems at the national level.

Hunt said he was not concerned about a bid for Sen. John East's senate seat, which many insiders predict he will make in 1986, saying he is concentrating on family concerns.

Former Fourth District Congress-

man Ike Andrews said the party had been "overinfluenced" by leaders who have been out of touch with local Democratic Parties.

"The party's obviously going to have to get a little more to the mainstream," Andrews said.

Andrews said that while he was disappointed Terry Sanford was not chosen as head of the Democratic National Committee, he is still pleased with former Party Treasurer Paul Kirk, who was chosen in last Friday's balloting.

At the state level, some Democrats predict Republican Gov. Jim Martin may have trouble getting his tax cut package through the General Assembly.

State Sen. Kenneth Royall of Durham, who represents the 13th senatorial district, said the cuts Martin proposes had been introduced and defeated by previous legislatures.

"We tried every one of those tax reductions, and none of them passed," he said.

The two major issues in the upcoming legislative session, he said, will be education and mental health care.

"Education is number one. Recodification of the mental health law to me is very important," Royall said.

# Report: Deficit is not problem

From United Press International reports

WASHINGTON — The administration yesterday offered a generally optimistic annual report on the nation's economic health, forecasting growth throughout the 1980s and brushing off the effects of a runaway federal budget deficit.

The latest report of the Council of Economic Advisers, presented to Congress yesterday, differs in tone and approach from the one a year ago, which dourly cautioned against permitting the government to run up oceans of red ink unchecked.

## U.S. naval exercise canceled

WASHINGTON — The United States, expressing "grave concern" to New Zealand for denying port facilities to a U.S. warship, yesterday canceled a naval exercise with Australia and New Zealand and hinted at further retaliation.

The cancellation, formally announced by White House spokesman Larry Speakes, appeared to jeopardize the 34-year-old ANZUS treaty signed by Australia, New Zealand and the United States as a mutual defense pact in the South Pacific.

## Duke Power seeks rate hikes

CHARLOTTE — Big rate hikes sought by Duke Power Co. will be harder to justify because of the utility's record sales and cash surpluses, consumer advocates say.

Duke Power reported a record \$2.7 billion in sales, \$461 million in net income and 14.8 percent return on equity in 1984.

But the company still will seek 15 percent to 20 percent rate hikes this month in North Carolina and this spring in South Carolina to pay for the \$3.9 billion Catawba Nuclear Plant, officials said.

# News in Brief

## General Assembly convenes

RALEIGH — Legislators returned yesterday for the start of the 136th General Assembly with the Democratically controlled House and Senate uncertain about how to deal with new Republican Gov. Jim Martin.

The session was scheduled to open at noon with 50 senators and 120 representatives — including 41 freshmen — taking the oath of office and learning some committee assignments.

## Gibraltar blockade lifted

GIBRALTAR — Five cars from Gibraltar were set ablaze early yesterday on the Spanish side of the border only minutes after Spain lifted a 15-year blockade of the strategic British colony, Spanish police said.

Witnesses saw two men running from the scene and said the men escaped into a crowd of about 2,000 Spaniards who had gathered at the border for the midnight opening of the Rock's only land link with the outside world.

## Priest suspended by Pope

MANAGUA, Nicaragua — Nicaraguan Culture Minister Ernesto Cardenal says Pope John Paul II has formally suspended him from the priesthood because he refused to resign from his government post.

"It is with profound pain that I have received an official communication from Rome that imposes the canon suspension, suspending me from exercising priestly duties," Cardenal said in a news conference Monday.

# Fisher

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30 years imprisonment on three charges of arson and five charges of breaking and entering and larceny. He tried to escape the Currituck County prison in June 1977, McQuillan said.

Fisher was taking a class in auto mechanics when another inmate tried to steal a car. Fisher got into the passenger seat, and the two men attempted to drive through a prison fence but were apprehended. Five years were added to his sentence after the attempted escape.

He gained parole in Aug. 1982, at his second parole hearing. McQuillan said Fisher had no parole violations.

Fisher was moved yesterday to an acute care hospital at Central Prison in Raleigh. McQuillan said Fisher would probably remain there until his preliminary hearing Feb. 26 in Chapel Hill.

Fisher has been treated for mental illness in North Carolina and Ohio. He was diagnosed by Dorothea Dix Hospital as a "probable pyromaniac."

Before her death, Fewel was in the process of being adopted by Thomas Fewel and Joy Wood of 713 Tinkerbell Rd. Fewel came to Chapel Hill a year ago from an orphanage in Hong Kong.

She was found around noon last Wednesday slumped under a tree near Finley Golf Course with a plastic-coated rope around her neck.

According to a search warrant issued

Sunday, several people reported seeing Fisher's 1973 Plymouth in Fewel's neighborhood the morning of the murder. Two of those witnesses identified Fisher in a photo lineup.

Fewel's 12-year-old brother told police he saw his sister standing near a man working on such a car at the intersection of Longleaf Drive and Churchill Road.

Fewel died of strangulation, and authorities said they believe she was abducted on her way to school Wednesday morning.

Dan Gilbert, area supervisor for the State Bureau of Investigation, said yesterday he would not comment about any witnesses in the case. "That would not be good business on our part," he said.

Police said yesterday that Fisher was engaged to a Chapel Hill woman. Fisher is divorced from Delores F. Fisher, who lives with their son in Columbus, Ohio.

Fisher was convicted of arson in Franklin County, Ohio in 1973 and was sentenced to Lima State Hospital under Ohio's insanity code. He escaped from the hospital in June 1973 and never returned.

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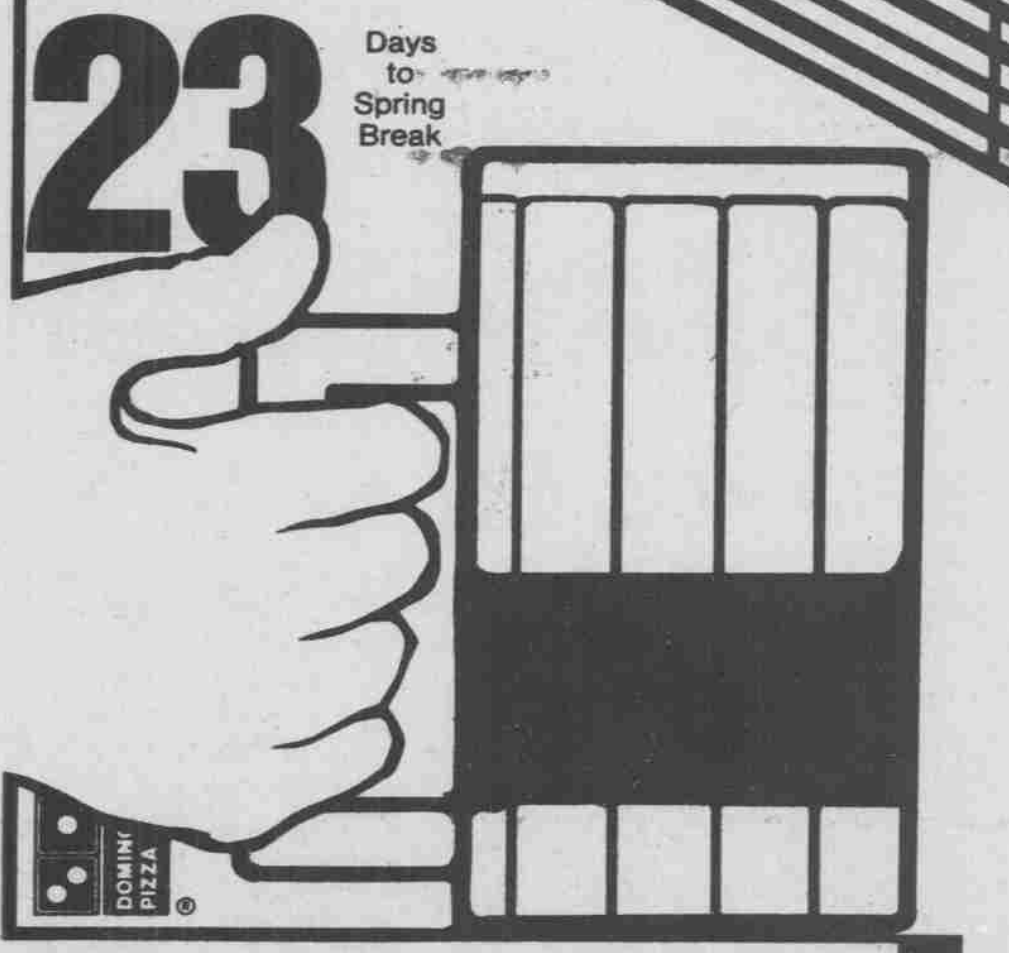
**All Performances—Memorial Hall Tickets At Union Box Office**

**ACTORS FROM THE ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY**  
March 11—16



The residency at Chapel Hill of five actors from the Royal Shakespeare Company is part of an educational program developed by The Alliance for Creative Theatre, Education and Research, an international research institute, educational center and theatre company based in London and at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Their stay will provide students and faculty with a unique opportunity both to observe depth with some of the most talented artists of one of the most important theatre companies in the world. Performances will include "As You Like It" and "Beckett This Evening." Additionally, there will be two poetry readings: "The Voice of Ulster: In the Modern Poetry of Northern Ireland" and "Dylan Thomas in Love: A Reading of His Poems." The residency is being cosponsored with the Department of English and the Playmakers Repertory Company. Tickets to co-public performances will be available in mid-February.

**23** Days to Spring Break



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