

Martin sends aid to red tide victims

By LAURA SUMNER
Staff Writer

In an attempt to help the fishermen who are economic victims of the red tide, N.C. Gov. Jim Martin announced the formation of a \$120,000 relief fund Tuesday.

The red tide, a toxic algae, has cost the state more than \$25 million since its appearance off the North Carolina coast in late October.

"Operation Red Tide" is about 28 hours old," said Dennis Moffett, the project's recovery coordinator. "Our purpose is to meet the unmet needs of those affected by red tide."

"We are here to work with the local committees composed of the Salvation Army, local fishermen groups, Red Cross (but the state is only giving administrative support and

funds," Moffett said.

Red tide is the nickname of an algae which has such a large amount of red pigment that it looks red underwater. It has infected 99 percent of the state's clamming acreage and more than 50 percent of the oyster growing areas.

The plankton is normally present in the Gulf Stream waters but rarely comes into shore, said Hans Paerl, professor of marine sciences at the Institute of Marine Sciences. The unusually warm water, along with the lack of strong storms, allowed the Gulf Stream to come closer to the shore this year, he said, bringing the red algae with it.

"It's important to realize that (the red tide) is not a pollution problem," said Paerl. "Mother Nature is to

blame for this event."

While the scientists in the fishing communities along the coast have stressed this message, fishermen have been slow to believe it, said Judy Starke, whose husband is a commercial fisherman.

"The fishermen here believe that it's a pollution problem," she said. "They've brought in their charts and maps to try to dispel the rumor, but the everyday-people don't believe it."

In addition to the relief fund, the state has implemented an oyster relocation program. Under this program, the state pays fishermen \$1 per bushel to dig up oysters from polluted rivers where they could not be harvested and move them to the waters which are normally clean, Moffett said. Fishermen can earn up

to \$100 per day. The oysters will be ready for harvest next season.

"While the idea came from the fishermen themselves, the state has been very quick to react and not drag its feet," said Starke. The money from the oyster relocation program is the only income many fishermen have.

Scientists do not know when the red tide will wash away.

"It's going to take a physical event, like a severe storm with low temperatures that will last for more than one or two days to get rid of this," Paerl said.

"This organism doesn't do well in water less than 7 degrees Celsius (43 degrees Fahrenheit)," he said. "This next month will be very important in the life of this organism."

Two students injured in parking lot crash

By LAURA PEAY
Staff Writer

Two members of the UNC field hockey team were injured Monday afternoon when the moped they were riding collided with a car in the Ramshead parking lot near Kenan Stadium, University police said.

Jennifer Anderson, a junior from Morrisville, Penn., and Jill Mulhern, a sophomore from Montclair, N.J., were treated at North Carolina Memorial Hospital and released Tuesday.

Anderson, who was driving the

moped, suffered severe cuts and bruises on her legs and head. Mulhern sustained cuts and bruises and a slight concussion.

Mulhern said that she and Anderson were coming from hockey practice at Fetzer Gymnasium and were driving down Stadium Drive when they looped around into the parking lot and hit the car head on. They were on their way to the weight room, she said.

No charges have been filed in the incident, Sgt. Ned Comar of University police said.

"The police do not have the bottom line at deciding who is at fault," he said. "That is up to the insurance company."

The incident is still under investigation, said Capt. Ronnie Ashley of University police.

Karen Shelton, coach of the field hockey team, said that she is concerned about the safety of the Ramshead Parking Lot. The configuration of the lot can be dangerous, she said, especially because of the number of illegally parked cars and the limited visibility in the lot.

Anderson and Mulhern agreed that the Ramshead Parking Lot is dangerous. Traffic officials should paint more arrows on the pavement of the lot to control the direction of traffic, Anderson said.

Mulhern said traffic officials should correct problems in the parking lot by spring, because more students will ride mopeds once the weather gets warmer.

"Other people have had a lot of near misses in that lot," Anderson said.

Focusing on working parents' problems

By LINDSAY HAYES
Staff Writer

Working Double, the second annual conference for working parents, will be held at the Student Union on Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.

The conference will feature a keynote speaker and several workshops on parent-child relationships, healthcare, stress management and money management, said Childcare Network publications director and conference coordinator Nancy Park.

The Childcare Network, Orange County Women's Center, Orange County Commission for Women and the Orange County Division of Social Services all participate in the

conference.

The cost for the conference is \$35. But the State Employees Assoc., the Adele M. Thomas Trust and local businesses donate funds for subsidies that allow participants to pay as little as \$5 to attend the one-day affair, Park said.

The conference is also geared toward parents who attend school full-time or work part-time while enrolled in school, Park said.

"Not only will the conference be really informative, but it also should be a real enjoyable experience," said Carol Laing, DSS coordinator for employment programs and workshop

leader.

The conference will provide breakfast and lunch, favors and coupons, Park said. Parents who fill out an evaluation form for the conference will be eligible for door prizes.

"Twenty agencies and businesses will have exhibits during lunch," Park said.

Laing said her workshop, "Assertive Communication at Home and on the Job," will follow a discussion format.

Laing said she wanted parents to "think about their own communication, and when they're assertive." She also said she wants to create an awareness in the individual of when

he is aggressive or assertive.

Laing said parents often return home from work tension-filled and miserable. If parents communicate better at work, they will be able to communicate more effectively with their children at home, she said.

The workshops, exhibits and the speaker provide a positive approach to the problems of working parents, Laing said.

Parents interested in attending the conference should call Childcare Network at 942-0814 or drop by the office in room 217 at Carr Mill Mall to register. Registration ends on Feb. 12.

Congress decides to reject Reagan's contra aid package

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — A bitterly divided House voted Wednesday to cut off U.S. military support for Nicaragua's contra rebels, rejecting President Reagan's aid request in the hope of spurring peace prospects in Central America.

Culminating six years of overt and covert military support for the rebels fighting the leftist Sandinista government, the 219-211 vote killed Reagan's request for \$36.2 million in new aid to keep the contras alive as a fighting force through June.

But Republicans bitterly warned that the action would relieve part of the pressure on Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega that has forced him into recent concessions, and that Managua would slip backwards into renewed repression.

"The issue of Nicaragua and Central America will not go away," said House Republican Leader Robert Michel of Illinois.

It was a serious defeat for the president, who had lobbied hard on the issue for two weeks and put the contras among the top foreign policy priorities for his final year in office.

"It doesn't give me any real pleasure to be in the position of opposing the president of the United States in a matter of foreign policy," said House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas.

Kennedy named to High Court

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Wednesday swiftly and unanimously confirmed Anthony Kennedy to the Supreme Court, ending a ferocious political battle that began seven months ago.

Kennedy, a federal appeals court judge who was President Reagan's third choice to succeed retired Justice Lewis Powell, was approved by a vote of 97-0 with Democrats and Republicans alike praising him as a moderate, open-minded conservative.

In a statement, Reagan said he is "extremely pleased" and said Kennedy "will make an outstand-

News in Brief

ing addition to the Supreme Court. . . . The Senate has not only restored to the nation a full nine-member Supreme Court, it has reaffirmed this country's commitment to the philosophy of judicial restraint."

In Sacramento, Calif., Kennedy issued a statement saying he could "conceive of no greater honor for an attorney or a judge" than to serve on the Supreme Court, adding that he is committed to the American constitutional system.

Court says 'babies not for sale'

TRENTON, N.J. — New Jersey's highest court today awarded custody of the child once known as Baby M to her father and his wife, but ruled that the surrogate parenting contract under which she was born was invalid.

The New Jersey Supreme Court also said that Mary Beth Whitehead-Gould, who gave birth to the child under the contract, maintains her rights as a parent and must be permitted to visit her daughter.

"Our law prohibits paying or accepting money in connection with any placement of a child for adoption," the court said. "Baby-selling potentially results in the exploitation of all parties involved."

Attorneys for both sides said they are satisfied with the decision and will not appeal.

West Bank violence continues

BETHLEHEM, Occupied West Bank — Israeli soldiers killed a Palestinian and wounded six others, and Arabs armed with slingshots and stones injured five Israelis in battles Wednesday in the West Bank, witnesses and officials said.

Prime minister Yitzhak Shamir meanwhile rebuffed a call from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for a six-month freeze on Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip as a prelude to peace talks.

Contra aid has slowed peace efforts in Central America, report says

By HELLE NIELSEN
Staff Writer

The governments of Central America have done much to comply with the Arias Peace Accord, but U.S. aid to the contras hinders the peace process, an international commission evaluating the process said in a recent report.

An English translation of the international verification commission's report was released Monday by

the Center for International Policy, an independent research institute, said research director Jim Morrell.

"Each country has taken concrete steps," Morrell said, citing the report. "But the United States is still supplying aid to the contras. A complete cut-off of that assistance is an indispensable requirement for the success of the peace efforts."

The verification commission visited Costa Rica, El Salvador,

Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua, which signed the treaty. Its report included testimony from governmental and non-governmental sources, such as opposition parties and human rights organizations, Morrell said.

By signing the accord Aug. 7, 1987 in Guatemala, each government agreed to democratize its political process, grant amnesty to political prisoners, move toward cease-fires with armed opposition groups and revoke emergency rule where that was in place.

The report found that all countries took positive steps toward democratization, Morrell said.

The Nicaraguan government allowed the opposition media such as La Prensa newspaper and Radio Catolico to resume operations and held several meetings with most of the opposition parties, he said.

Since the report was released, Nicaragua also abolished its popular tribunals, the extra-judicial courts

that were set up for the prosecution of former National Guardsmen, and the Sandinista government lifted the emergency rule, Morrell said.

In El Salvador, the commission report noted that new media emerged, and two new political parties were organized.

The report cited a decrease in human rights abuses but said human rights violations continue to be a problem in the region.

Human rights organizations and other non-governmental sources in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras complained that torture and disappearances take place in those countries, Morrell said.

"Human rights abuses are declining in El Salvador," the report said, based on a United Nations Human Rights Commission report. "However, there are continued abuses, because the government is unable to gain sufficient control over the military."

In Guatemala, 60 people disappeared within the last four months,

according to human rights reports, and death squad activity has picked up again, Morrell said. But important progress was reported by the government, he said.

The report also cited human rights violations in Nicaragua, Morrell said. "But one of the most critical differences is that (the Nicaraguan government) is not accused of murder and torture," Morrell said.

All countries complied with the treaty requirement of amnesty to political prisoners, but there were criticisms of Nicaragua for excluding some former National Guard members and of El Salvador for including death squad members.

The verification commission consisted of representatives from each of the five countries, which signed the treaty, most other Latin American countries, the Organization of American States and the United Nations.

Though the five presidents accepted the report at their meeting in Costa Rica on Jan. 15, the verification commission was suspended as Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras said they found some commission members were in

favor of Nicaragua, Morrell said.

Officials from some of the Central American countries criticized Reagan spokesman Marlin Fitzwater for saying last week that the presidents of Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador supported Reagan's contra policy.

"(The Reagan administration) shouldn't be talking like that," said Ramiro Figueroa, deputy chief of mission at the Honduran Embassy in Washington, D.C. "It was very blunt to use Honduras' name on their behalf."

"As long as (Nicaraguan President Daniel) Ortega complies, we are against contra aid," Figueroa said.

Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo Arevalo called for "a halt to all assistance to irregular forces whether it be covert or overt, military or logistical," Guatemalan Ambassador Oscar Padilla said Tuesday.

However, El Salvador officials said they might support continued military aid for the contras to put pressure on the Sandinista government to stop alleged arms shipments for the guerrilla movement in El Salvador.



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