



World Briefs

Bush requests billions for Hurricane Andy aid

WASHINGTON — President Bush asked Congress on Tuesday to provide more than \$7.6 billion to help Florida and Louisiana recover from Hurricane Andrew's devastation. It would be the biggest federal relief package ever for a natural disaster.

Lawmakers returning to the Capitol from their August break pledged quick action on the measure. But they prepared to add their own touches to it, raising questions about how rapidly it could be completed.

"We're going to move it as fast as possible," said Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine.

Legislators began wrestling with the government's response to the storms as they began a pre-election session that promises political turbulence of its own.

On the storm-relief bill, Congress positioned itself to begin moving quickly.

The Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Rep. Jamie Whitten, D-Miss., prepared to introduce his version of the bill today, and the Senate Appropriations Committee planned to consider its own measure on Thursday. Senate floor debate is possible next week.

It is possible that the congressional bills would contain changes opposed by Bush. For example, one official who spoke on the condition of anonymity said Whitten's bill would probably cost more than Bush's.

Even so, Bush momentarily abandoned his campaign-trail attacks against the "gridlock Congress" and predicted that majority Democrats would cooperate on the measure.

"We're together on this one," he said.

The magnitude of suffering and destruction from Andrew seemed to ensure that action would be taken relatively quickly. The most expensive natural disaster in the nation's history, Andrew caused an estimated \$20 billion in damage in Florida and \$1.5 billion in Louisiana.

The president's request for hurricane assistance would provide disaster payments, loans and social services to farmers, homeowners, renters, businesses and families. It would also help the federal and local governments repair buildings, schools, roads, waterways and sanitation projects.

Even as Bush's measure began circulating in Capitol Hill, there were indications that local officials might consider it too little.

Russia to remove troops from Lithuanian soil

MOSCOW — Russia agreed Tuesday to withdraw all of its troops from Lithuania by next summer, more than five decades after the Red Army swallowed up the Soviet Union's Baltic neighbors on the eve of World War II.

Lithuania's defense minister said the pullout of Russia's 20,500 soldiers would start immediately and would follow the new timetable. Other estimates have placed the number of troops at 35,000 to 38,000.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin met with President Vytautas Landsbergis of Lithuania in the Kremlin on Tuesday. Their defense ministers initialed the agreement, but the presidents did not sign the pact because of minor technical flaws, said Yeltsin's press secretary,

Vyacheslav Kostikov. Landsbergis later told reporters that he and Yeltsin probably would sign it next month. The pact calls for all troops to be withdrawn by Aug. 31, 1993.

Russia, which previously had said it was impossible to remove the soldiers before 1994, is also conducting troop withdrawal talks with Lithuania's fellow Baltic states, Estonia and Latvia.

But Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Vitaly Churkin emphasized in an interview published Tuesday that an agreement with Lithuania "cannot be automatically applied to those military units stationed in Latvia and Estonia." He told the daily Kuranty newspaper that Russia had "increasingly run into a lack of flexibility on the Estonian and Latvian sides." He also reiterated Russian concerns that the two former republics were discriminating against ethnic Russians living on their soil.

Ex-guard pleads guilty to Exxon kidnapping

TRENTON, N.J. — A former Exxon security guard pleaded guilty Tuesday to federal charges in the kidnapping death of company executive Sidney J. Reso, saying he never meant to kill Reso and that he died in his arms.

Arthur D. Seale said he accidentally shot Reso after abducting him in an attempt to extort \$18 million from Exxon Corp.

He said Reso, president of Exxon International, died four days after the April 29 kidnapping. Seale admitted he tried to extort the money even after Reso's death.

During a hearing, U.S. District Judge Garrett E. Brown questioned Seale on all seven counts of the federal indictment against him, confirming that Seale committed the acts, understood they were wrong and intended to commit them.

Brown then accepted Seale's guilty plea to attempted extortion, conspiracy to commit extortion, mail fraud and interstate travel to promote extortion.

Seale faces a maximum penalty of 95 years when he is sentenced on the federal charges.

He also faces state charges of kidnapping and felony murder in the 57-year-old executive's death.

Seale, whose trial had been scheduled to begin Thursday, did not give a reason for pleading guilty, and the prosecutor said no deal was made.

Seale and his wife, Irene J. Seale, both 45, of Lebanon Township, were arrested June 19 and charged with abducting Reso from his Morris Township home. Authorities said Reso was shot in the arm during a struggle as he was forced into a van and was then locked inside a box in a self-storage locker.

Reso died May 3. Irene Seale directed investigators on June 27 to a secluded area of a forest, where Reso's body was found in a shallow grave.

During Tuesday's hearing, Arthur Seale spoke freely of the crime.

He described how he and his wife sat in a van and watched Reso's garage door open on the morning of April 29, then drove up in front of the driveway as Reso stopped to pick up his newspaper.

On the Sunday after the abduction, Arthur Seale said, they found Reso close to death.

"He actually died in my arms that afternoon. We attempted to revive him but had no success," Arthur Seale said. — The Associated Press

Bedtime stories abound in Wake of football triumph

By Warren Hynes
Sports Editor
and Bryan Strickland
Assistant Sports Editor

It's time for notes from Bedroom Six.

As Mack Brown entered Wake's Bridger Field House after UNC's 35-17 victory Saturday, the Tar Heel coach was escorted to a chamber referred to as "Bedroom 6" on the room's door.

Why such a strange designation in a football field house? Your guess is as good as ours, but the Tar Heels sure put the Deacons to bed Saturday.

Now, let's put North Carolina's opening day win to bed with a quick amalgam of odds and ends from Groves Stadium Saturday.

Wake split end Todd Dixon was his team's offensive star Saturday. Dixon caught eight of the team's 14 completions for 120 yards—45 percent of his team's total yardage. The junior's longest gain was a 38-yard touchdown catch in the third quarter.

After the game, Dixon was asked if UNC's starting secondary, which featured three seniors and one junior, had looked stronger than last year. "I don't know about stronger," Dixon said. "Most of them are back, so it's more like they're more experienced. I don't know — they could probably use a little work."

North Carolina senior cornerback Sean Crocker agreed. "We're happy with how we played as a unit, but still, we've got a lot to work on," Crocker said. "We got beat deep. We can't have us giving up the big plays."

With North Carolina leading 35-17 early in the fourth quarter, Wake stood

at the UNC 14-yard-line on fourth down and 4. A touchdown would keep Wake in the game.

Any pressure for the UNC defense? "I saw guys in the huddle, they had smiles on their faces," said UNC inside linebacker Rick Steinbacher. "They were like, 'Let's go. Let's just stop 'em right here.'"

Wake tailback John Leach was stopped just short of a first down.

"I think that's a great tribute to our defense," Steinbacher said. "We're real close, and we're coming together as a unit."

As the 10th-leading receiver in UNC history, Corey Holliday knows how to catch a football. But when freshman Mike Thomas is behind center, Holliday stays prepared. "The thing with Mike is, you never know when he's going to throw it because he has a very quick release," Holliday said. "It makes me stay more alert and it always makes me think that I'm going to get the ball. You never know until it's out of his hands where the ball is going."

Speaking of Thomas, he was named the ACC Rookie of the Week on Tuesday. In addition, junior offensive guard Scott Falise was named the league's offensive lineman of the week.

North Carolina left Wake Forest seeing double in at least three statistical categories Saturday.

UNC was two times more proficient than the Deacs in points scored (35-17), in first downs (28-13) and in total yardage (524-261). Wake did double it up on the Tar Heels in one dubious stat: punting. The Deacs were forced to punt seven times, UNC had just three punts on the day.

20 Bengals accused in Spokane rape suit

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Twenty current and former Cincinnati Bengals players are named in a lawsuit filed by a woman who contends the men raped her or stood by while she was assaulted in a suburban hotel nearly two years ago, her attorney said Tuesday.

Eight players were served with summonses on Saturday, while the team practiced before its game Sunday against the Seattle Seahawks in the Kingdome.

The 20 men either participated in the rape or were in the room when the rape occurred, said Victoria Vreeland, a Seattle attorney representing the plaintiff identified only as Victoria C. of Spokane, Wash. The rape reportedly occurred at a Tukwila, Wash., hotel in October 1990.

Vreeland identified the players served Saturday as wide receiver Reggie Rembert, tight end Rodney Holman, cornerback Eric Thomas, free safety Barney Bussey, wide receiver Tim McGee, running back Eric Ball, linebacker James Francis and running back Harold Green.

Also named in the complaint, amended Friday to include the names but ordered sealed until Tuesday morning by U.S. District Judge John Coughenour, were Lewis Billups, David Fulcher, Rickey Dixon, Craig Ogletree, Ickey Woods, Bernard Clark, Leo Barker, Craig Taylor, Solomon Wilcots, Mitchell Price, Eddie Brown and Carl Carter.

Those 12 men will be served "in due course ... wherever they can be located," by the U.S. Marshals Service, Vreeland said. Some remain with the team but did not travel to Seattle for this weekend's game. Some are no longer with the Bengals, she said.

Eight of those named — Carter,

Wilcots, Taylor, Barker, Clark, Woods, Ogletree and Billups — are no longer with the team, Vreeland said, and cornerback Price had not signed a contract with the club Friday.

Accused of raping the plaintiff are Dixon, Holman, Thomas, Bussey, McGee, Woods, Billups, Clark, Fulcher, Francis and Ogletree, Vreeland said.

Because of a clerical error, Rembert's name was not included among those accused in the actual assault, said attorney Richard Eymann of Spokane, where the plaintiff now lives.

An amendment restoring Rembert's name will be filed, Eymann said. The document had not yet been received by Coughenour, a clerk in his chambers said.

The plaintiff cannot accuse the others of having touched her, but they are accused of negligence and "everything else," Vreeland said. Those men are Ball, Barker, Taylor, Wilcots, Green, Price, Brown and Carter.

The lawsuit, which also names the Bengals organization, seeks unspecified compensatory damages for pain and suffering, to cover costs of medical and psychological care.

"With the naming of certain individual players, the cloud over the entire team no longer exists," the team said in a statement today. "The individual players who have been named as defendants now can have their day in court where they will be able to defend themselves."

Defendant players are accused in the lawsuit of false imprisonment; of aiding and abetting; of assault, "which would include a fear of being hit or touched as well as being touched"; and of battery, which "is the actual touching or rape itself," Vreeland said.

Coughenour has set a trial date of June 7, 1993, she said.

Baseball card heaven: adventure in Atlanta

By David Monroe
Staff Writer

At this time last year, I wrote about Rodney and David's Big Adventure. The two of us realized a childhood dream one summer night in July. We made it to the show, the major leagues — almost. For 15 minutes we covered the infield like Ripken and Sandberg. And we literally covered the infield like two gold glovers. We were members of the Charlotte Knights grounds crew and we helped put the tarp on the field as a storm blew in after the game.

This summer, Rodney Cline and David Monroe's adventures continued July 11 at the 13th Annual National Sports Card Collector's Convention in Atlanta. We arrived at the show as serious baseball card collectors and we left as baseball card junkies.

We arrived an hour before the doors opened at the World Congress Center. We waited anxiously for almost two hours before we were able to go in. Our mouths watered as we thought about everything we might see.

At 10:30 a.m., we finally made it to the convention hall. An escalator carried us up to baseball card heaven. Upon seeing more than 800 dealers, Rodney and I realized it was not a dream, we had arrived in a baseball card wonderland.

We stared and our mouths hung open for five minutes as we looked at the enormity of the show. Everybody who is somebody in the baseball card world

was there. We were star struck to be included in the presence of this group of people.

We did not know where to start. Rodney darted back down the escalator and stood and line for an hour and a half for a promotional bag that contained a limited edition Shaquille O'Neal card, now selling for \$50. Only the baseball card gods could have flipped a card like that down to earth.

While Rodney waited in line, I continued to stand on the convention floor in awe. Tables full of baseball, football, basketball and hockey cards and other sports memorabilia covered the exhibition hall from wall to wall. I formulated a game plan to visit all 800 dealers.

At just the second table I stopped, opened my wallet and started spending. I found a dealer who had 1981-82 Topps basketball cards. I completed my set, 12 years in the making.

Next I went to see Mr. Mint, Alan Rosen, one of the most famous dealers in the business. I only looked in as an interested collector at Mr. Mint's table because I did not bring enough money to buy anything that he was selling. After that, I continued my journey



David Monroe
Staff Writer

across the hall. One table, monitored by a security guard, caught my eye. It did not take long to figure out why. William Hughes of Executive Investments Company in Las Vegas had a Joe Louis title belt and a Mickey Mantle rookie card worth more than \$35,000. Once again, I could only stare at this table.

Representatives from companies such as Topps, Donruss, Fleer, Pro Set, Score and others were on hand. I visited their booths to see what the latest scoop in the card business was. I will let you in on a secret. This winter, Topps will produce a basketball set for the first time since its 1981-82 set.

During the day, the opportunity existed to get the autographs of baseball greats like Steve Carlton, Pete Rose, Frank Robinson and Willie Mays. However, Rodney and I did not pursue this because we did not have the time to wait in yet another line or the \$50 they requested per autograph.

At 4 p.m., after what turned out to be almost six hours, we had completed what was an enjoyable task. All 800 dealers had been visited. Our dream day had come to an end.

We descended from baseball card



Mickey Mantle's '52 Topps baseball card

heaven to the parking lot and headed home. On the way home, just as two baseball junkies do, we sat quietly for two hours and looked at the gems we had gotten during the day. Then we discussed our excellent adventure.

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