

WORLDWIDE

■ Nobel Prize winner selected

OSLO, NORWAY — The Nobel Committee decided on the winner of its prestigious Peace Prize Wednesday, but the decision will not be announced until Oct. 11. The secretive five-person committee met in Oslo and said the decision-making process went so well that a meeting scheduled for next week would not be necessary. The Norwegian press has speculated that President Bill Clinton and Richard Holbrooke, the United States' leading envoy in Bosnia, are among the front-runners for the Peace Prize. A Nobel official said 120 candidates were nominated for the award. The Nobel Prize in literature will be announced today.

■ Israel, Palestine resume talks

WASHINGTON — President Bill Clinton announced Tuesday that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat have agreed to resume immediate peace talks. They will put a priority on discussion about an Israeli pullback from the West Bank city of Hebron.

Clinton made the announcement at the White House on the second day of an emergency summit to resolve the latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The issue of Hebron has been a huge obstacle in the Middle East talks with Netanyahu standing against withdrawal.

■ Clinton holds steady lead

WASHINGTON — The latest Reuters tracking poll indicates that President Bill Clinton's lead over Republican presidential nominee Bob Dole is holding steady. The survey of 942 likely voters shows Clinton with 44.8 percent support, compared to Dole's 34.2 percent and Reform Party candidate Ross Perot's 4.8 percent.

The survey of 942 likely voters released yesterday is a rolling average of polling results from Sunday through Tuesday and carries a 3.3 percentage margin of error. The poll was conducted by John Zogby Group International.

■ Gang arrests linked to Tupac

LOS ANGELES — Authorities arrived in the Los Angeles suburb of Compton yesterday and arrested about a dozen gang members for a series of shootings that may be linked to the slaying of rap star Tupac Shakur.

Police declined to comment on a report that one of the men arrested was a suspect in the drive-by shooting of Shakur in Las Vegas last month. Those arrested are suspected in three killings and 12 other shootings in Compton. A police official said some of the shootings may have been in retaliation for the Shakur shooting.

Police update from pen and paper to computers with \$50,000 grant

By DAN CHILDS
OLD GOLD AND BLACK REPORTER

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant, campus police officers might be carrying laptops to aid them in their daily duties as early as next year.

According to Regina Lawson, the chief of campus police, the department applied for several grants which could be used to upgrade their technology. Lawson said the department was favorably surprised when they found out they had been awarded the grant from the Governor's Crime Commission.

Lawson said the money from the grant, which is awarded for the specific purpose of technology upgrades, will most likely be used to upgrade the record management database and provide the university officers with laptop computers.

"Right now, our officers carry a pad and pencil," Lawson said. "The report then goes through about seven steps before it is actually processed. Laptops would create a situation where the officers can go out into the field and simply enter in the data directly to the police database."

Lawson said a system where laptop computers were used would be more time efficient for officers and would eliminate redundancy. She added that officers' use of laptops in the field would result in a quicker, more efficient flow of information between the department and the officers.

According to Lawson, there are still many preparations which have to be made before the database can be upgraded and computers can be carried by officers. Among these are

the decisions regarding which software would best fit the needs of the department, purchase negotiations and the setup of a secure network.

"There's also the issue of the learning curve, how fast we can learn how to use the technology we get," Lawson said.

Lawson said that future plans for improved technology include mobile data terminals in patrol cars, which would allow officers to enter information into the police database instantaneously via radio waves or a cellular connection. She added, however, that these improvements are still far in

"There's also the issue of the learning curve, and how fast we can learn to use the technology we get."

Regina Lawson
Chief of Campus Police

the future for the department.

"This grant could enable us to use more technology even in resolving cases or finding patterns of crime on campus," Lawson said. "These things would normally take a lot of time to do. There's a lot of technology in all aspects of police work, and computerization is just one part of that. We have to adopt this technology in order to meet student needs and be efficient with what we do."



Kristin Thompson

Using the current technology, officers have to record data with pen and paper and then return to the office and have it entered into the computer. The middle terminal is used for the controversial key card tracking program.

POLICE BEAT

■ Bike suspects apprehended

Two men were charged with resisting and delaying an officer Saturday after they allegedly attempted to elude Campus Police officers who wanted to question them about the suspected theft of two bicycles worth \$550.

The men were stopped by officers shortly after police received a 4:56 a.m. report that two men were taking bicycles from a rack in the courtyard between Babcock and Luter residence halls and putting them into a car. According to the officers, the men were traveling in a car occupied by three other men and a woman. In addition to charging the two men, officers issued trespass warnings to the other men in the car and escorted them off campus. No charges or warnings were issued against the woman in the car. None of the people in the group was a Wake Forest student.

As part of the investigation, police are trying to identify the owners of the bicycles. The bicycles, which are in police custody, are described as a silver Hardrock mountain bike and an orange Diamond BMX bike. All inquiries should be made to officer T.J. Shortt at Ext. 5591.

THEFT — Jewelry belonging to four students was taken from lockers in the Athletic Center at approximately 6:30 p.m. Sept. 23. The lockers were unlocked, but the locker room was locked. The jewelry was worth \$1,845.

A student's bicycle was stolen between 1 a.m. and 3:15 a.m. Sept. 24. The bike worth \$15 was left unlocked outside the Worrell Professional Center.

A trash can belonging to a student living in Taylor Residence Hall was taken between 11:50 a.m. Sept. 24 and 12:05 a.m. Sept. 25. The \$13 trash can was left outside the student's room.

A magnetic sign worth \$85 was taken from a pizza delivery car between 1:20 a.m. and 1:25 a.m. Friday. The car was parked in Lot N, between Poteat and Kitchin houses.

A compact disc player worth \$300 was taken from a student's car between 8 p.m. Sept. 26 and 9:09 p.m. Friday. A window was broken on the car, which was parked in Lot Q, next to the Scales Fine Arts Center.

DAMAGE — A mirror was broken off a student's car between 9:30 p.m. Friday and 8:30 p.m. Saturday. The car was parked on Gully Drive near Tribble Hall. No damage estimate was provided.

MISCELLANEOUS — A student and a cafeteria employee were involved in an argument at 1:20 p.m. Sept. 24. The incident was forwarded to Harold Holmes, the associate vice president and dean of student services.

Campus Police handled 53 calls from Sept. 23 to Saturday, including 14 incidents and investigations and 39 calls for service.

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