

Thomas denies sexual harassment allegation

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas "very forcefully denied" allegations by a law professor that he sexually harassed her when she worked for him a decade ago, a Republican senator said Sunday. And the White House dismissed the accusations as unfounded.

But Democratic senators called the accusations very serious and one said a delay in Tuesday's scheduled confirmation vote might be necessary.

Thomas himself made no comment on the allegations by Anita Hill. The allegations were first disclosed by National Public Radio and Newsday.

The University of Oklahoma law professor told the Judiciary Committee last month that Thomas had detailed scenes from pornographic movies to her when she worked in the early

1980s as his legal assistant at the Department of Education and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, according to a source familiar with the allegations.

Hill told the committee that Thomas had asked her out and when she refused, began to describe his sexual interests and the pornographic scenes, but that he never touched her, the source said.

The committee did not disclose Hill's allegations publicly before sending Thomas' nomination to the full Senate late last month without recommendation. The committee told the White House of the accusations and a two-day FBI probe ensued.

While Thomas maintained his silence, the White House issued a statement saying it had "reviewed the (FBI) report and determined that the allegation was unfounded."

The White House said President Bush "continues to believe that Judge Thomas is eminently qualified to serve on the Supreme Court and expects him to be confirmed promptly."

A Senate vote had been scheduled for Tuesday, and a majority of senators had indicated their support for Thomas, a conservative appeals judge who would become the second black to sit on the nation's highest court, succeeding the retiring Justice Thurgood Marshall.

Sen. Joseph Biden Jr., D-Del., chairman of the Judiciary Committee, could not be reached for comment on Hill's allegations or the committee's handling of it.

But Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, D-Ohio, called the allegations "very serious charges, very disturbing" and said the full Senate should review them before voting on Thomas' nomi-

nation. Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., hopes that senators' questions on the matter can be addressed before Tuesday's scheduled vote, but if they cannot be, the senator "believes it's important enough that it might be necessary to delay the vote," said Simon's press secretary, David Carle.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said that "obviously every senator should read this (FBI report) prior to his or her vote."

Hill contacted the committee staff on Sept. 12, but didn't want her name used and didn't want Thomas to be confronted with the charge, said a committee source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

On Sept. 23, Hill agreed to let the committee ask the FBI to check out her story and confront Thomas with the allegation. The FBI's report was completed in two days.

Gorbachev breaks Soviet silence on Jews, decries anti-Semitism

MOSCOW — Breaking decades of silence by Soviet leaders, President Mikhail Gorbachev on Sunday sharply denounced hatred for Jews and bemoaned their exodus from the Soviet Union.

Gorbachev's statement was carried by the Tass news agency Sunday and read the night before at a ceremony marking the 50th anniversary of the Nazi massacre of thousands of Jews at Babi Yar, in a suburb of the Ukrainian capital of Kiev.

Gorbachev said persecution of Jews did not end in the Nazi era. In Soviet society today, he said, "Social expressions of anti-Semitism have not been surmounted and certain reactionary circles are exploiting this fact."

Soviet and foreign Jewish leaders have been pressing Gorbachev for

several years to speak out against anti-Semitism.

He may have finally decided to do so now because since the August coup, he has been free of the hard-liners who resisted condemnation of anti-Semitism. Gorbachev may also have wanted to please foreign Jewish leaders who could support his drive for international aid for his country's ailing economy.

Many of the 1.4 million Soviet Jews say they are harassed daily and fear a revival of the pogroms aimed at Jews in Russia at the turn of the century.

Jewish writers have been beaten, anti-Jewish graffiti has appeared and hatemongers openly distribute leaflets that borrow from Adolph Hitler

to condemn the "Zionist menace" and call for attacks on Jews. Even the official press has carried blatantly anti-Semitic articles.

The worsening economy and political upheaval of Gorbachev's rule have caused many Soviets to look for scapegoats, and Jews have been prime targets.

A poll released last month at the first international conference on anti-Semitism held in the Soviet Union indicated that 11 percent of all Soviets want Jews to leave. More than 10 percent of those polled said all Soviet Jews should be moved to the Far East and more than half believe the fight against Zionism should be strengthened.

Haitian Supreme Court justice reportedly considered for top post

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — The Senate president said Sunday that legislators were considering naming a Supreme Court justice to replace exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and calling elections within 90 days.

Dejean Belizaire said no decision on such an appointment had been made but that it could come as early as today or Tuesday after talks with political and business leaders to settle on a solution to the crisis.

"We are not the government, but we are the only legitimate civilian institution that can make decisions," Belizaire said of the National Assembly, Haiti's parliament, which was elected with Aristide last December.

He said any proposal for resolving the week-old crisis must be approved

by the Senate and Chamber of Deputies, which form the National Assembly.

Backing claims by Gen. Raoul Cedras, the armed forces' provisional commander-in-chief, that the military did not want to govern, Belizaire said the army had refused to assume interim power.

"We have no government to keep the state going," the Senate president said. He said "there was very little time" to reach a solution.

The proposal being considered Sunday was thought likely to bar Aristide from new elections, and it was not known whether lawmakers would allow him to return to Haiti. Under the constitution, no president can succeed himself.

Belizaire replied ambiguously to a reporter's question about whether he favored Aristide's return, saying: "We want the return of constitutional government." Some lawmakers have accused Aristide of overstepping his constitutional authority.

Belizaire called a news conference at the Legislative Palace a day after a high-level delegation from the

Organization of American States held two days of meetings with Haitian military, political and business leaders.

The diplomats, representing eight nations, warned Cedras of possible hemisphere-wide sanctions if Aristide is not returned to power.

FDA lacks power to stop faulty goods, report says

WASHINGTON — Dangerously adulterated food, substandard medical devices and prescription drugs of dubious effectiveness are reaching consumers because the Food and Drug Administration can't stop them, says a House report.

For example, said the report being released today, the FDA believed a particular brand of chewable Vitamin D tablets designed for children was too potent and a possible cause of elevated blood calcium levels that could damage kidneys and possibly lead to death.

But the FDA cannot order recalls, so the agency began negotiations with the manufacturer instead. No agreement had been reached at the time the report was written, and the tablets were continuing to be sold.

In another case, a hog producer in Indiana was feeding his animals seed corn contaminated with a fungicide and pesticide. The FDA was concerned that the chemicals would end up in the pork and absorbed by humans, but it had to ask the state veterinarian to quarantine the hogs and the state chemist's office to embargo the seed corn because it lacked the authority.

The process is extremely time consuming. While appropriate channels were being pursued, the pork was still on the market.

These examples and more were collected by the staff of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee staff on investigations and oversight to show why a bill scheduled for a subcommittee vote this week is needed.

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Micro Madness
Free Microcomputer Classes

The Computing Resource Center is offering free microcomputer seminars to UNL students. The seminars will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word and SuperPaint for the Macintosh and WordPerfect for IBM machines.

Lab Location	Dates	Times
Introduction to Microsoft Word for Macintosh		
Andrews	Tuesday, October 15	3:00 to 4:00
Advanced Microsoft Word for Macintosh		
Bancroft	Monday, October 21	1:30 to 3:00
SuperPaint for Macintosh		
Andrews	Monday, October 28	1:30 to 3:00
Intro to WordPerfect 5.1 on IBM		
Sandoz(IBM)	Tuesday, October 8	3:00 to 4:30
Advanced WordPerfect 5.1 on IBM		
Sandoz(IBM)	Thursday, October 10	3:00 to 4:30

Enjoy the Fun October 13th at the YMCA SHOOT OUT!

The YMCA is sponsoring a SHOOT OUT to celebrate 100 years of the YMCA invention of basketball. The SHOOT OUT is scheduled Sunday, October 13th at the Downtown YMCA.

Registration will begin at 12:30 pm and the SHOOT OUT will run from 1:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

There will be 3 divisions - male, female and disabled as well as 10 different age categories.

Entry fee is only \$5.00 per person.

Awards and certificates will be presented.

Don't Miss Out On All Of The Fun!!!

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