# State of the Union address already draws fire, praise

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's State of the Union adexemption for families and up to \$5,000 dress will lay out a program to "get America back working again," his chief of staff said Sunday as he defended a controversial proposal to eliminate the luxury tax on yachts.

Samuel Skinner, who replaced John Sununu as the president's top aide late last year, said Bush's Tuesday night address and the budget he sends Congress on Wednesday will try to overcome an unexpected "wall of resistance" that's keeping the economy from reviving.

The No. 1 issue is jobs and the economy. That is what we are going to be dealing with," Skinner said on ABC's "This Week with David Brin-kley."

The president's package, much of which has already been revealed, will propose a middle class tax break in

as a tax credit for first-time homebuy-

It will also propose up to \$50 billion in additional cuts in defense spending over the next five years, increased incentives for business investment and a 90-day moratorium on many new government regulations.

The election-year budget also has a host of increased spending measures in such popular areas as environmental cleanup, Head Start, space exploration and creation of new parks and recreation areas.

Officials confirmed that the Bush budget will propose eliminating a 10 percent tax on yachts costing more than \$100,000. Some congressional sources said they expect the administration will also propose repealing a similar luxury tax on the purchase of

The luxury tax, passed in 1990 as part of an effort to control huge budget deficits, also covers purchases of jewelry, furs and expensive automo-

Skinner defended the proposed repeal of the tax on yachts against criticism that it was a tax break for the rich. He said the tax — which was supposed to raise \$145 million over five years - had cost thousands of jobs in the boat-building industry while generating little revenue for the gov-

"What we've got to do is get America back working again. We've got to get government off America's back. And if that means a tax destroys an industry, we ought to look at it again," Skinner said.

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# Macy's likely to file Monday for bankruptcy

NEW YORK (AP) — With sales flagging and debts growing, R.H. Macy & Co. Inc. was believed to be on the verge of filing for bankruptcy court protection, company suppliers and an

analyst said Sunday.

The 134-year-old retailer wouldn't reveal whether it planned a bankruptcy filing or was still trying to avert one through negotiations, said company spokesman Michael Freitag.

But suppliers, who have not received January payments from Macy's, expected the privately held depart-ment store chain would file as early as Monday for protection from its creditors under Chapter 11 of the federal bankruptcy laws.

"I don't see any other option than (Chapter) 11 out there right now. If they could pry a judge out of his bedroom, they would do it today," Bud Konheim, president of the apparel maker Nicole Miller Ltd., said

### **Books**

Continued from Page 1 culi Morali," a vellum-bound work written by scholar-architect Leon Batista Alberti (1404-1472) and published in 1568.

Eva Sartori, development officer for the UNL libraries, said the collec-tion had been valued at more than

A special exhibition case is being commissioned to display the collec-tion. The case, a gift from William Laurie Porter, husband of a UNL alumna, will have a security system and will follow the latest preservation guidelines, Sartori said.

Until the case is completed, the collection will be stored in Special Collections on the third floor of Love Library. The books will be available for study, but will not be circulated.



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