

# House passes 'get tough' crime package

**WASHINGTON** — The House passed a \$28 billion get-tough-on-crime bill Thursday demanding life imprisonment of three-time violent and drug offenders and greatly expanding the federal crimes subject to the death penalty.

The bill passed 282-141. Negotiators from the Senate and House will now attempt to work out a compromise with a \$22 billion version approved by the Senate last November.

"This is a historic moment," said Rep. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., chairman of the Judiciary Committee's crime panel.

"For the first time, this body is recognizing the anguish on the streets that calls out to us to do something tough

on crime."

Majority Leader Richard Gephardt, D-Mo., said, "This is not a perfect bill from anyone's viewpoint in this chamber, but ... it accomplishes punishment ... and it encompasses prevention."

The bill drew the support of 219 Democrats, 65 Republicans and one independent. Voting against it were 107 Republicans and 34 Democrats. House Speaker Tom Foley cast his vote in favor of the bill.

The measure would authorize spending \$13.5 billion for state prison building grants, \$7 billion for crime prevention, \$2 billion for rehabilitation such as drug treatment in prisons and \$3.45 billion for 50,000 more

community police.

The bill expands from two to nearly 70 the number of crimes that could result in the death penalty, including drive-by killings, fatal carjackings and actions of big-time drug pushers, even when no one is killed. Some of the crimes carried the death penalty before the Supreme Court overturned it in 1972, but some, like the drive-by killings, are new.

It would allow defendants facing the death penalty to use racial statistics on capital punishment as evidence of discrimination. With the support of the Congressional Black Caucus, the House voted 235-192 to leave it in the bill.

Judiciary Committee Chairman

Jack Brooks, D-Texas, renewed his promise Thursday that when the bill emerged from the House-Senate conference, the racial statistics section would apply only to future cases. The bill would make it retroactive.

The three-time-loser section is much like the Senate's. It would require life in prison for those convicted in federal court of a third violent or serious drug-related felony. One difference is that the House bill provides an early out for some prisoners over 70 who have served 30 years of their sentences if the federal Bureau of Prisons successfully petitions a court to free them.

Unlike the Senate bill, the House

measure contains no ban on assault weapons. The House has never supported such a ban, but Foley said a separate vote on a ban would likely occur before negotiators begin their work.

The House bill's \$13.5 billion in state prison grants has little in common with the Senate's \$3 billion for regional prisons.

The House version would offer bonuses to states working toward "truth-in-sentencing" standards by incarcerating violent criminals more often and longer.

The Senate bill envisions regional prisons housing inmates from several states and federal convicts.

## Nixon slips into coma after suffering stroke

**NEW YORK** — Former President Nixon slipped into "a deep coma" Thursday, three days after he suffered a major stroke, according to New York Hospital.

His family was at his bedside, according to the mid-afternoon hospital statement. No other details were provided.

Before the latest turn for the worse, the 81-year-old former president suffered swelling of the brain, a potentially deadly complication of the stroke he had on Monday.

Doctors sometimes try to reduce brain swelling after a stroke by placing the patient on a mechanical respirator to make the patient breathe faster.

Nixon, however, was not put on a respirator in deference to his explicit wishes, The New York Times reported Thursday, quoting an unidentified health worker.

Nixon had in the past expressed "some fairly strong intentions about the kind of treatment he wishes," the health worker said.

Nixon spokeswoman Liz Johnston declined to comment on the report. Get-well messages have poured in

from ordinary people and heads of state.

"We've gotten too many telephone calls to count," Johnston said at Nixon's office in suburban Woodcliff Lake, N.J.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who was missed last month when Nixon met with his opponents during a trip to Russia, sent a telegram saying, "I hope you recover and return to the rough and tumble of political life."

At the White House, President Clinton opened a news conference about Bosnia by saying he and Hillary Rodham Clinton were praying for Nixon.

"I have appreciated the wise counsel he has given me on the question of Russia and many other issues since I have been president," Clinton said.

The Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, Calif., received hundreds of calls. Visitors filled a dozen pages in a get-well book in the lobby.

"You are a hero of mine," wrote Kevin Walters, a Biola University student. "Stay with us, OK? Hang in there, and keep your eyes on God."

## Attention May Graduates

The DEADLINE for return of your yellow Commencement Attendance form is

**April 22, 1994**

Return it to Records Office, 107 Administration Bldg.  
Service Counter B

## We want you back!

- Tired of high utility bills?
- Tired of a landlord who won't fix things?
- Want someone to cook your food for you?
- Tired of hunting for a parking space every time you go to class?
- Want someone to clean your bathroom?
- Not as cheap as you thought to live off-campus?
- Tired of roommates who won't pay bills?
- Would you like access to more computers?

Consider living in the halls again next year. You can receive a \$150 discount for next year. For more information, contact University Housing, 472-3561.

**UNL RESIDENCE HALLS**  
A great place to be.

## Serbs continue attack despite warnings

**SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina** — Scorning the United States' tough talk, Bosnian Serb forces shelled a hospital annex and Red Cross refugee center in besieged Gorazde on Thursday. Dozens of people were reported killed.

Doctors and town officials contacted by ham radio said Thursday's bombardment was the worst of the three-week Serb offensive against the Muslim enclave.

"Counting the dead and wounded doesn't make sense any more," Esad Ohranovic, a local official, said.

Ohranovic said four wire-guided rockets landed near a building that houses U.N. aid workers and military observers, killing or wounding 25 people. There was no word on whether U.N. staff were hurt.

On Wednesday, President Clinton urged NATO to "make the Serbs pay a higher price" for the continued carnage by authorizing air strikes to protect civilians in Gorazde and the other safe areas. He also called for tighter sanctions against Serbia.

Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic called Clinton's approach

a "fatal mistake" and said there would be no more peace talks without a full lifting of sanctions against Serbia.

NATO diplomats reacted favorably to a U.N. request for wider use of air power in Bosnia, but delayed a final decision pending military consultations.

A convoy of 100 U.N. peacekeepers and 41 medics was allowed to leave Sarajevo for Gorazde on Thursday, but was blocked about 10 miles north of its destination. Although the peacekeepers would boost morale of the trapped and desperate people of Gorazde, they are not equipped to stop the Serb attack.

Two cannon rounds slammed into a hospital annex Thursday afternoon.

"When I entered the devastated building, I saw heaps of flesh and metal," Dr. Ferid Totic said.

Aid workers reported up to 20 killed. Totic said only seven of 35 patients in the building were rescued.

Soon after, a mortar shell hit the entrance of a neighboring building, killing five people, he said.

## Investigators search Rose Law Firm

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark.** — Federal investigators have swarmed into the Rose Law Firm, poring over Whitewater-related documents that fill nearly 10 offices, the firm's managing partner said in a rare interview.

Ronald M. Clark said his firm has cut off contacts with former partner Hillary Rodham Clinton to avoid any appearance of impropriety.

"We don't want to be accused of sharing information, conspiring to destroy documents, that sort of thing, so we've intentionally not communicated with Hillary," Clark said.

Sixteen of the firm's employees already have been questioned in connection with Whitewater special prosecutor Robert Fiske's investigation, according to one person familiar with the proceedings.

Two federal banking agencies conducting their own investigations have sent eight to 10 people to the Rose

firm daily for the past three weeks to review records relating to a failed Arkansas savings and loan, Clark said.

Clark discussed the investigations during a two-hour interview at the firm, which calls itself the nation's oldest west of the Mississippi.

"We don't think we have anything to hide or anything to be ashamed of," he said.

That hasn't eased the intense scrutiny of the 174-year-old firm, which sent four partners to Washington with Bill Clinton only to see them surrounded by controversy.

The first lady has been dogged by questions involving the Whitewater land venture she and her husband co-owned.

Another Rose partner, deputy White House counsel Vincent Foster, was found dead in a park last summer in what police have ruled a suicide.

## Daily Nebraskan

Editor Jeremy Fitzpatrick

472-1766

Managing Editor Adeana Lettin

Jeff Zeleny

Steve Smith

Rainbow Rowell

Kristine Long

Mike Lewis

Todd Cooper

Jeff Griesch

Sarah Duey

Editor Kristine Long

Supplements Editor Staci McKee

Photo Chief

Night News Editors

Jeff Robb Matt Woody

DeDra Janssen Melissa Dunne

James Mohsling Dan Shattil

Katherine Policky Jay Cruse

Sheri Krajewski Doug Fiedler

436-6287

Don Walton

473-7301

FAX NUMBER 472-1761

The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448, Monday through Friday during the academic year; weekly during summer sessions. Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Doug Fiedler, 436-6287. Subscription price is \$50 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, NE 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, NE.

ALL MATERIAL COPYRIGHT 1994 DAILY NEBRASKAN