

# News Digest

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## Sexual allegations deepen Former intern will tell all for immunity

WASHINGTON (AP) - Anxious to cut a deal for immunity, the lawyer for Monica Lewinsky said Sunday his 24-year-old client "will tell all that she knows" to Whitewater prosecutors.

"The chips will fall as they may," he said.

Attorney William Ginsburg said he has told investigators what Lewinsky will tell them in exchange for immunity from prosecution.

"I will remain in Washington as long as it takes to see that the truth in every detail, wherever it may fall, comes out," Ginsburg said. Negotiations of such a sensitive nature could take weeks.

President Clinton talked this weekend with heavyweight advisers brought back to Washington to help him through the crisis brought on by the allegations of a sexual relationship with Lewinsky and attempts at a cover-up. One of them, one-time Commerce Secretary Mickey Kantor, said his help was legal in nature.

"I have my legal hat on, not my political hat," he said.

In the first hint of an eyewitness, ABC reported that the president and Lewinsky were caught in an intimate encounter in a private area of the White House in the spring of 1996, shortly before the White House intern was moved to a job at the Pentagon. ABC cited several unidentified sources for its information.

The office of prosecutor Kenneth Starr declined comment on the ABC report. If true, such a witness would provide important corroborating evidence for Lewinsky's account if she reverses her current denial of an affair with the president. In secretly recorded conversations, Lewinsky had said she believed "nobody saw anything happen between us."

Ginsburg said the ABC report, if true, will take some of the pressure off his client by making her testimony less important. Such a development would let Starr expend his "bullets on somebody else," Ginsburg said.

In a whirlwind of appearances on ABC, NBC and CBS, Ginsburg went out of his way to praise Starr and his staff, calling them "excellent people" with whom talks have been cordial.

"I don't approve of some of their tactics," but "I have nothing but the highest praise for their professionalism and their attitude," Ginsburg said.

"We are dying to tell the story, but we cannot. We are frozen in place" until his client gets total immunity, Ginsburg said. Lewinsky has denied having a sexual relationship with Clinton in an affidavit in the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit.

Lewinsky's lawyer said it would be unwise for the White House or Clinton's personal lawyers to attack the former White House intern as unstable because she was aided over a long period of time by people around the president.

"How could they have helped her get jobs, including with responsible companies, large companies, if she was so unstable?" Ginsburg said.

## Commission would gain extra money

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percent of those who volunteered themselves, began as youths. A stronger volunteer service commission could stimulate greater volunteerism in Nebraska, he said.

No opponents testified, but some committee members expressed concerns about the legislation.

Sen. Floyd Vrtiska of Table Rock questioned the effectiveness of state commissions in general. While some have been successful, others have faded because of a lack of organization.

Sen. Ramon Janssen of Nickerson also worried about the staying power of the commission in the face of spending cuts. Congress has criticized President Clinton's AmeriCorps program, and if the program was eliminated, the structure of the Nebraska Volunteer Service Commission would have to be changed dramatically.

## Clinton's advisers say Lewinsky was only a close friend

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton has retreated into a small circle of advisers as he ponders how to characterize his relationship with a 24-year-old former intern.

Faced with evidence of her visits to the White House inner sanctums and gifts he gave her, Clinton is not denying a friendship with Monica Lewinsky but is insisting the relationship wasn't sexual.

Several White House aides wondered if the president could keep up his denials.

Senior administration officials and longtime Clinton friends said the president was shocked and depressed in the first hours of controversy but has bounced back.

"One thing isn't going on and that's discussions about any resignation," said Rahm Emanuel, a top White House adviser.

Recognizing his legal risks are higher than political perils, Clinton has limited scandal discussions to a small group of lawyers, consisting of his private attorneys, including David Kendall and former administration heavyweights Mickey Kantor and Harold Ickes. Longtime confidant Bruce Lindsey, and to a lesser extent, White House counsel Charles Ruff, are also part of the inner circle.

Harry Thomason, a Hollywood producer, will help Clinton explain his actions. The key question is how Clinton will describe his relationship with Lewinsky.

Officials say he firmly denies participating in any sex act with Lewinsky. He won't deny a relationship, they said, not with evidence that Lewinsky visited the Oval Office area frequently and received gifts from Clinton.

"It was a relationship," said one Clinton associate. "It was sexually innocent."

None of the officials with direct knowledge of Clinton's decisions would predict how he would frame the relationship. Senior officials said Clinton probably would say he was friendly with Lewinsky and she may have misunderstood the close bond.

Clinton does not plan to address the relationship issue until after his State of the Union address Tuesday. Talk of postponing the speech was rejected.

## Landscaper to leave NU for new horticulture job

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"It's time to return to that." Bud Dasenbrock, the recently retired director of UNL landscape services, was hired with Todd about 20 years ago.

He said Todd's willingness to try new things, along with her knowledge about plants, enhanced campus aesthetically and educationally.

Chancellor James Moeser tried to get her to stay, but her mind was set.

"He tried," Todd said. "And he failed."

Moeser said in a statement he was "keenly disappointed" in Todd's decision to leave and that he did everything possible to dissuade her.

"Her unique combination of abilities has allowed us to combine in one person three very disparate functions: campus planning; relations with the legislature, regents,

*"I love this university,  
but one of my first  
loves is working  
with plants."*

**KIM TODD**  
UNL landscape architect

the city and alumni and friends of the university; and a personal adviser and counselor to the chancellor," Moeser said.

Nothing the university could offer her would convince her to stay, Todd said.

"Mine is not a profession you can drop out of and re-enter easily," she said. "I need to be a landscape architect before I forget how, or before people forget that I am one."

## Officials say scandal won't affect military

WASHINGTON (AP) - White House and congressional officials insisted Sunday that the sex scandal engulfing President Clinton won't hamper U.S. decisions on the weapons standoff with Iraq - including whether to mount a military attack.

"I don't think anyone overseas should presume that this president wouldn't have the capacity to act with Republican support," Sen. John Ashcroft, R-Mo., a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said.

At Clinton's direction, national security advisers were consulting with allies and other nations on the prospect of a military strike to take out sites where Saddam Hussein is suspected of hiding potential biological and chemical weapons.

After a Saturday meeting, Clinton's key aides reached consensus that U.N. weapons inspections cannot be carried out effectively because of Iraq's defiant resistance

and were considering using force to end the standoff.

National security spokesman Eric Rubin would not reveal whether the White House would try a last round of diplomacy before ordering a military strike.

"All options remain on the table," Rubin said Sunday. "We have not ruled anything out."

A White House official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Clinton advisers were "drifting toward use of force" but action is not imminent.

Last week, Iraqi newspapers printed a statement from President Saddam Hussein's Cabinet suggesting Clinton may bomb Iraq to divert attention from allegations involving Monica Lewinsky.

A White House official brushed off such suggestions, saying Clinton's advisers were weighing political and military ramifications of the weapons standoff weeks before the Lewinsky scandal erupted.

## Pope encourages Castro to foster church, freedom

**■ Cubans hear attacks on capitalism and religious suppression in the pope's Sunday Mass.**

HAVANA (AP) - Pope John Paul II, ending a historic spiritual journey to a dispirited land, called Cubans to "new paths" of reconciliation Sunday, but warned them against embracing the "blind market forces" of global capitalism.

"The wealthy grow ever wealthier, while the poor grow ever poorer," the pope declared to explosive applause from hundreds of thousands in the grand Plaza of the Revolution.

It was the climax of the 77-year-old pope's five-day pilgrimage, a difficult mission on which he had to balance criticism of Cuba's communist system with the need to foster the Cuban church.

Front and center in Sunday's throng, hearing John Paul's sharp attack on "capitalist neoliberalism," was the fervent anti-capital-

ist Fidel Castro, who had urged his people to pack the open-air Mass.

But the pontiff had pointed words for the Cuban president, too, repeating appeals for respect for freedom of conscience, for greater religious freedom and on behalf of political prisoners.

"The pope, in his heart and with his words of encouragement, embraces all who suffer injustice," John Paul said to a burst of applause and waving flags - and to silence from government officials.

Meanwhile, the Vatican entourage was awaiting word on its appeal to Castro earlier in the week for release of several hundred prisoners.

The Mass unfolded in an epic setting of color and faith in a vast square dominated by towering portraits of revolutionary martyr Ernesto "Che" Guevara and - temporarily - Jesus Christ.

The faithful, the curious and those simply heeding Castro's call had set out from outlying towns by bus as early as 2 a.m. By the time the pope arrived almost eight hours later, the crowd numbered

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