you will see a big brass telescope on the seventh floor. There, in the window, you can see the building's brown brick walls to the right.

Tozzi: the guru of beltway rulemaking.

Tozzi, an eccentric former bureaucrat and musician, owns a black Yamaha piano and a vintage globe that contains a secret booze stash. "Things get really interesting at night," says Tozzi, a lobbyist who also enjoys playing the trumpet.

Multinational Business Services Inc. "Things get really interesting at night," says Tozzi, a lobbyist who also enjoys playing the trumpet.

Chief Justice’s Daughter Faces Expanded Probe

By A.B. STODDARD

Federal investigators have expanded their probe into the office of Janet Rehnquist, the Health and Human Services Department’s inspector general, and are now focusing on her decision to delay an audit that could have damaged the re-election campaign of Florida Gov. Jeb Bush. Charges of questionable travel and improper possession of a gun are also under investigation.

In addition, Rehnquist stands accused of violating standards of conduct for political appointees by asking two attorneys from his outside law firm to help prepare his defense.

see rehnquist, p. 17

Tozzi: the guru of beltway rulemaking.

Tozzi, an eccentric former bureaucrat and musician, owns a black Yamaha piano and a vintage globe that contains a secret booze stash.

see tozzi, p. 12

850,000 Federal Jobs May Go To Private-Sector Contractors

By TONI JOHNSON and DAVID MORRIS

Thousands of jobs at the Interior, Commerce, Transportation and Energy departments might end up in private hands under President Bush’s plan to open nearly half of the government’s civilian work force to competition from the private sector, and they won’t all be such low-paying tasks as mowing grass or picking up trash, an analyst said.

rescuing stranded boaters, directing jets through crowded air space, forecasting the weather, making maps, running power plants and promoting U.S. goods abroad are all jobs that private companies might do if the Office of Management and Budget reaches the privatization goals it announced last week, said Ronald Utt, who studies government workforce issues for the conservative-leaning Heritage Foundation.

"If you have a flat tire, you don't call the police, you call Triple-A or Eddie’s Garage," said Utt. "If your boat breaks down, you shouldn’t call the Coast Guard.”

The Bush administration said its new guidelines — designed to make it easier for private companies to compete for jobs now held by as many as 850,000 federal workers — would save billions of dollars and, in some cases, result in better service. Unions representing federal workers said the plan would cost thousands of jobs and affect the quality of work done by remaining employees.

See BUSH, p. 14

$50 Million and Lots of Fun — Charity Drive Chugs Along

By STEPHEN J. NORTON

Dinner with CIA Director George Tenet, homemade soups from talented chefs, framed original photos of western landscapes — all up for grabs this year in the pursuit of $50 million for charities in the annual Combined Federal Campaign of the Capital Area.

The 42nd annual event that harnesses the generosity and talent of the capital region’s hundreds of thousands of federal workers is in full swing.

"You come into my office and you see balloons; I’m going to hit you up!” said Anthony Lowe, director of the Federal Insurance and Mitigation Administration, and leader in the Federal Emergency Management Administration’s effort this year.
The Health Plan for Federal Employees

You’re an individual. And at GEHA, that’s how we treat you.

We’ll answer your questions, help you understand your benefits and see that your claims are paid promptly — usually in 10 working days or less.

We also understand our members have differing needs for health coverage. So we offer two plan options, both with access to our extensive provider network. High Option gives you comprehensive benefits, including generous coverage for brand-name drugs. With Standard Option, you get comprehensive benefits, but share more of the costs, so you pay a lower premium. And those premiums have stayed the same for the last three years — just $27.50 biweekly for individuals and $62.50 biweekly for family coverage (non-postal).

Our CONNECTION Dental Plus plan is available to all federal employees, not just GEHA health plan members. It covers a range of services, and you’ll receive the same personal attention as you do with our health plan.

Start getting the individual attention you deserve from your health plan. Call toll-free (877) 549-GEHA or visit our web site at www.geha.com to request your 2003 Open Season information kit.

GEHA
The Health Plan for Federal Employees

This is a brief description of the features of Government Employees Hospital Association, Inc. Before making a final decision, please read the GEHA federal brochure, RI 71-006. All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations and exclusions set forth in the federal brochure.
Congress Pressures INS to Move On $2 Billion Technology Project  

By TAYLOR LINCOLN  
The Immigration and Naturalization Service has moved forward on a massive project to track the comings and goings of foreigners, a move that comes a month after the House Judiciary Committee chairman complained to the Bush administration about INS inaction.

In a letter to Director Doris Meissner, a Legislative Branch official, the chairman, Rep. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., expressed "deep concern over the continued delay of the contacting process necessary to initiate work on the exit program."

"I urge you to allow the full and open competition on contracts to implement the system, Sensenbrenner added.

On Nov. 5, INS released a request-for-information, a solicitation of ideas from private-sector vendors.

The program’s $2 billion price tag would make it one of the most costly federal IT projects ever.

The entry-exit program, announced April 30, has captured the rapt attention of major government contractors because its estimated $2.2 billion price tag would make it one of the most expensive federal civilian information technology projects in history. Smaller companies, too, are vying for a piece of the pie, hoping to furnish biometric technology such as iris scans and advanced fingerprint readers.

A sweeping border security bill that Congress passed last May requires the government to create a database tracking the movements of foreigners. Immigration officers at all the nation’s ports of entry must be able to access the database by the end of 2003, as well as officers at the 50 busiest border crossings by the end of 2004.

The law also required that biometric readings be included on visas issued after Oct. 26, 2004.  

See ENTRY-EXIT, p. 11

Thune May Be Headed For White House Post  

By DAVID MORRIS  
John Thune once bragged that he would run for president. Now, after losing his bid to move to the U.S. Senate, the South Dakota Republican might hope his name is remembered by his party.

Thune is one of 28 members of the House or Senate (11 of them Republicans) who lost an election this year. Some of the losers will practice law or become lobbyists; others will teach and, if history holds, one or two of them will end up working for the White House.

Sen. Trent Lott, a Mississippi Republican who will be majority leader next year, said he wouldn’t be surprised if Thune goes to work for the president.

"Congressman Thune made a sacrifice for his state and for his country," Lott said in an interview. "He’ll be a good fit for this administration."

Thune, who kept a promise to limit himself to three terms in the House, was poised to run for governor of South Dakota but ran for the Senate instead at Bush’s insistence. He lost, by just over 500 votes, to incumbent Democrat Tim Johnson.

"Bush owes him two. He got him to run and then he didn’t give him the drought aid he needed to win the election," said Larry Sabato, director of the Center for Political Studies at the University of Virginia.

"I think there’s extraordinary sensitivity in this White House toward finding Thune a job if he wants one," added American Enterprise Institute fellow Steve Hess.

The Brookings Institution, "means a president when he has the last word."

Pitt Falls in Washington — Inglorious Ends Are Nothing New  

By DAVID MORRIS and A.B. STODDARD  
Harvey Pitt is the latest example of a Washington truism. When the president says he’s standing by his man or woman — it’s probably time to polish the resume and pack up the desk.

After months of whispers and months about Pitt’s performance, and repeated statements of support from Bush, the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission offered his resignation. The president, known for his loyalty, immediately accepted, crossed Pitt’s name off the organizational chart and moved on.

"Being president," said Steve Hess, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, "means never having to say you’re sorry."  

So what about all those "Harvey Pitt’s doing a terrific job" endorsements?

"Bush will be loyal, but if somebody is proving to be a liability over a period of time, they’re going to find a way to get rid of them," said Norm Ornstein, a political scholar at the American Enterprise Institute.

‘Being president means never having to say you’re sorry.’  

Steve Hess, The Brookings Institution

Pitt, of course, is not the first member of a president’s inner circle to be shown the door. In fact, he’s not even the first member of this president’s team to meet an inglorious end. Linda Chavez, Bush’s initial choice to run the Labor Department, was out before she was in. She withdrew and was replaced by Elaine Chao before Bush took office.

Bush’s quick dismissal of Chavez gave some analysts their first evidence that this President Bush learned from, and would not repeat, the mistakes made by his father when he was in the White House.

The elder Bush’s first personnel stumble came when he nominated John Tower, a former Texas senator, to run the Defense Department.

"When grumbling began to be heard from Armed Services Committee Chairman Sam Nunn, Bush ignored it and decided to stick with Tower," Hess wrote in his book, Organizing the Presidency.

"Tower was rejected, 47 to 53, and Dick Cheney, now the vice president, took over at the Pentagon.

Bill Clinton had to pull the plug on two nominees, Zoe Baird and Kimba Wood, for the same job, attorney general. His third choice, Janet Reno, ended up serving for all eight years of his presidency. The first lady of the president’s team to be forced out after actual service was another Defense secretary, Les Aspin. He submitted his resignation after 11 months on the job and left two months later. Pitt nearly made it to the two-year mark of Bush’s term, a time when high-ranking officials often leave to earn more money, spend more time with their families or for other reasons of their own.

But when the end came, it came quickly, on Election Day, nearly lost in the landslide of news about historic gains made by Bush’s Republican Party in midterm voting.

"The timing of this was, in some ways, hilarious" and "would also suggest this wasn’t some spontaneous act," Ornstein said.

Did Pitt jump or was he pushed? As many others who came — and left — before him, the answer is left to Bush’s imagination.

E-mail: kantin@fedpaper.com

Congress Punts; Pay Left in Limbo  

Federal Workers Must Wait Until January To Know What Their Salaries Will Be  

By KERRY KANTIN  
Congressional leaders left federal employees wondering what they’ll get paid next year when they agreed to shelve consideration of the 11 unfunded appropriations bills until 2003.

Unable to solve the budget stalemate quickly and unwilling to stay in town to try, Republican leaders went for another temporary spending bill that would fund the government at fiscal year 2002 levels through Jan. 11. That means the spending bills will not be considered until Republicans control both the House and Senate.

It also means Congress will not take action on the proposed general schedule pay raise averaging 4.1 percent until January at the earliest. Instead, an across-the-board 3.1 percent raise will automatically take effect Jan. 1, as mandated by federal law.

Washington-area lawmakers said they hope the 3.1 percent raise is just temporary. After a meeting with House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., Rep. Sonya Hoyer, D-Md., said in a statement that he is “optimistic” that Congress will approve the 4.1 percent raise next year and that it will be made retroactive to the beginning of 2003.

"I will work closely with my House and Senate colleagues to ensure that we provide in January the adjustment to federal employees agreed to by both the House and Senate," said Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va.

The 4.1 percent raise would include both the across-the-board increase and any locality pay increase, an adjustment that is based on the difference in private-sector and government wages across the country. President Bush must decide the level of the locality pay adjustment by Nov. 30. According to the Office of Personnel Management, if GS employees receive a 3.1 percent across-the-board raise, so will executive schedule officials, who include top political appointees like cabinet secretaries and undersecretaries.

The pay raise for members of the senior executive service has also yet to be determined.

President Bush determines the SES pay raise, which is announced at the end of December through an executive order.

Bush also has the authority to determine whether the SES receives a locality pay adjustment. By law, a senior executive’s total salary — locality pay plus the basic salary — can be higher than executive schedule level III, which is currently $138,200.

While legislation to raise the SES pay cap will not pass this year, its supporters are already looking to next year.

"It is on my to-do list" for next year, said Rep. Jim Moran, D-Va. "We’re losing our best people.”

The Senior Executives Association has been urging agency heads to lobby Office of Management and Budget Director Mitch Daniels and OPM Director Kay Coles James to include funding to raise the cap in next year’s budget.

E-mail: kkantin@fedpaper.com

The Federal Paper  
November 18, 2002 3
Now Who’s Dancing In the End Zone?

We know (at least we’re told) that Bush II is a disciplined operation.

But last week was the biggest test yet of this administration’s ability to stay on message.

The message? No gloating over the GOP’s electoral sweep. The president commanded humility from loyalists. Ari Fleischer suggested a “touch of graciousness.” Republican National Committee Chairman Marc Racicot said that “dancing in the end zone” would be a “really bad thing to do.”

Overheard was determined to catch a lawbreaker. But everywhere we checked, we were assured that Bush officials were restrained and serious (and frankly, too stunned to boast).

We even offered a personal gloating opportunity to the man who once tried to run Clinton out of town as member of the House impeachment team — James Rogan, now director of the Patents and Trademark Office.

“Gloating is foolish,” this rigorously partisan Bushie told us. “Aside from the fact that there is nothing worse than a poor winner, the practical reality is that nothing gets done in Congress without some degree of bipartisan support ... So it’s not only poor sportsmanship, it’s bad politics.”

When Rogan lost his House seat in a grueling 2000 campaign, he received a slew of “gloat mail.”

“I saved [the letters]. I’ve got a stack of them in my attic, a couple boxes filled with hate mail basically saying we’re glad you lost. Much of it I won’t be able to show my children until they’re 21.” Rogan said.

But on the very same day Rogan was describing to us the dangers of gloating, Karl Rove — a man credited with crafting the GOP victory by putting the president on the campaign trail — was telling a group of political scientists at the University of Utah that the election proved America was tilting Republican.

Hmmm ... Do we hear the patter of dancing feet?

Mineta Gets Religion

NBC’s The West Wing may be drawing complaints from Republicans that it has a liberal bias. But Bush’s lone Democratic Cabinet member — Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta — is a die-hard fan.

When Mineta spotted actor John Spencer (who plays Chief of Staff Leo McGarry) at an educational as well. “It’s entertaining,” it’s educational as well.

“In our house—hold we religiously watch it,” the California native and former member of Congress told Spencer.

Do any other Cabinet members watch the show, given that the Bush administration irks Bush himself?

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This Little Piggy Goes to Market

Presidential brother and Florida Gov. Jeb Bush campaigned against a possibly expensive class-size limit initiative that was upheld by Florida voters this month. But paying for preventing kids from being packed into the classroom wasn’t the state electorate’s only concern.

Proper treatment of animals was also on the ballot. Voters passed an initiative forbidding the packing of pregnant pigs in crates or cages, except during medical exams. Apparently, Florida voters consider packaging future bacon while it is producing more bacon “inhumane.”

Real Life X-Flies

The investigations chief for the Federal Aviation Administration under President Reagan claims he was involved in a 1986 UFO incident suppressed by the CIA, John Callahan, who served in that post for six years, says he’s under orders to keep quiet, but insists on telling his story anyway.

Callahan was called to Atlantic City to investigate a blip that followed a Japanese commercial jet for a half-hour. The blip was unexplained by the pilots, civilian and military air traffic controllers — while the pilots said they only saw very bright white and yellow strobe lights.

A later meeting with Reagan administration officials resulted in the CIA’s confiscation of all the data on the incident, Callahan told a science symposium hosted by the SCI FI Channel and PodestaMattoon.

“The CIA told me, ‘This event never happened,’ ” Callahan said.

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4 November 18, 2002 THE FEDERAL PAPER
SBC has many creative explanations for laying off 11,000 workers while boasting to Wall Street of the billions they’ll make this year.

First, SBC’s CFO said it was just efficient operations.

“We’ve been operating very effectively on the cost side. This has been principally driven by forced reductions, workforce reductions. I tell you, over the last three quarters we have taken 13,000 people out of the business.”

SBC Chief Financial Officer during Banc of America Securities 32nd Annual Investment Conference Webcast, Sept. 23-26, 2002

Then, reports said SBC blamed the big bad regulators.

“[SBC] faces financial ruin if regulators don’t ease up on the telephone giant.”

“SBC’s rhetoric, job cuts prompt industry retorts”, Chicago Tribune, Sept. 28, 2002

Then SBC was reported to claim the jobs were obsolete anyway.

“SBC also says it simply didn’t make good business sense to use the extra cash to save obsolete jobs. Instead, it had to trim the fat and reduce debt.”

WOAI, San Antonio, TX, Oct. 15, 2002

SBC thinks they’re pulling the wool over your eyes.

Are you buying it?
Bush brought some of the anger and fear provoked by terrorists to bear on his domestic critics.

President Bush had accomplished something remarkable this fall by barn-storming states with close Senate races. He had found a political focus for Sept. 11 feelings expressed up to now in songs, flag-draped porches and bumper stickers. He brought some of the anger and fear provoked by terrorists to bear on his domestic critiques, and he made it all up to his control over homeland security. The Democrats’ loss of three Senate seats and their majority may be traced to multiple causes. But none was so avoidable as this unanswered challenge on homeland security.

Many of us in Washington misjudged the potency of the Homeland Security Department as a Republican election issue. We thought it was a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a cumbersome dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucratic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucractic dispute that would generate little voter intensity. Wasn’t this a bureaucractic dispute that would generate little voter intensity.
Hill Oversight Committees to Get New Chairs

Collins to Head Senate Panel; Three-Way House Race Pits Davis, Cox, Shays

By KERRY KANTIN

The House and Senate committees with jurisdiction over the government workplace will get new leaders next year, with potentially broad implications for federal employees. Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, will take charge of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, but in the House there is a three-way contest for chairman of the Government Reform Committee. Reps. Tom Davis, R-Va., Christopher Cox, R-Calif., and Christopher Shays, R-Conn., are competing for the post left vacant because Indiana Republican Dan Burton is required to give it up because of term limits.

Collins will take over from Connecticut Democrat Sen. Joseph Lieberman because Republicans won control of the Senate.

Collins said in an interview that her agenda includes investigations into areas identified by the General Accounting Office and conducting oversight to the creation of the Homeland Security Department; and conducting oversight to the creation of the Homeland Security Department; and conducting oversight to the creation of the Homeland Security Department. Sen. Susan Collins is set to take the gavel at the Governmental Affairs Committee.

“Having been a former federal employee myself, I have a great deal of respect for the federal workforce,” she said.

Collins, 49, was staff director of the Senate Oversight of Government Management Subcommittee from 1981 to 1987 and joined the executive branch as New England administrator for the Small Business Administration from 1992 to 1993. She became a member of the Senate Government Affairs Committee when she was elected in 1996.

As a moderate, Collins occasionally bucks her party. She voiced concerns over the administration’s plans to limit worker rights in the new Homeland Security Department, though she eventually supported the legislation. She backs a measure to allow federal retirees to pay for health care premiums with pretax dollars.

The fight over the House panel will not be resolved until January, and the campaign is well underway.

Davis, 53, has less seniority than his opponents, but some Republicans want to reward him for helping the party pick up seats on Election Day. As chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee, Davis supervised a $160 million fund-raising effort and campaigned for 40 Republican candidates in 27 states.

“Davis definitely has the leg up,” said one GOP aide.

Another Republican aide, though, said some leaders are wary of making Davis chairman because of his strong support for federal workers, which sometimes clashes with the administration’s stance.

The four-term Davis represents a Northern Virginia constituency that is home to many federal employees and government contractors. He has been their advocate, championing issues like allowing federal retirees to pay for health care premiums with pretax dollars.

Shays, who was just elected to a ninth term, is a leading moderate in the party on most government reform issues.

The conservative seven-term Cox has taken a leave of absence from the committee, he pointed to his tenure as the full committee’s vice chairman from 1997-98 and his oversight experience as chairman of the Select Committee on National Security that investigated technology transfers from the United States to China.

The two committees oversee the federal government and have jurisdiction over the executive and legislative branches.

Whoever wins the House job, President Bush stands to benefit by having two Republicans heading the panels, experts said.

Collins to Head Senate Panel; Three-Way House Race Pits Davis, Cox, Shays

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The conservative seven-term Cox has also served eight years as the chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee. Each candidate must make his case before the Steering Committee, a panel of 26 Republicans that includes the top leaders.

The two committees oversee the federal government and have jurisdiction over the executive and legislative branches.

Whoever wins the House job, President Bush stands to benefit by having two Republicans heading the panels, experts said.

“Bush dramatically enhances the prospects of the president’s management and civil service agendas,” said Constance Horner, a scholar with the Brookings Institution who was Office of Personnel Management director for former President Ronald Reagan.

E-mail: kkantin@fedpaper.com
Now Comes the Real Headache: Making New Department Work

By STEPHEN J. NORTON

Now that Congress is poised to agree to his proposal to create a Department of Homeland Security, President Bush and his top advisers must fight a war on terror while simultaneously building a chief weapon for doing so.

Shortly after unveiling plans to set up the department last summer, President Bush established a transition team with liaisons from the various agencies to tackle the complex issues of marrying everything from personnel policies to information systems. Phil Anderson, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, who has briefed transition leaders, said the effort has been very comprehensive.

But even after months of planning, it is clear that fundamental management decisions, technical challenges and inter-agency politics could mean a long transition. Still, within 60 days of enactment, affected agencies are supposed to lay out how, within a year, they would merge.

“Then, the fun begins,” said Office of Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, in a broadcast interview last week.

It may be fun, but it will not be easy, said former Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., who serves on the President’s Advisory Council on Homeland Security. “Implementing the plan is the tough part,” he observed. “That is what the government is not very good at.”

For one thing, it is unclear where the new department would be housed and which employees would work there. The District of Columbia would be a lead contender because of the prestige and proximity to the White House and Capitol Hill.

But that decision is up in the air. For example, Federal Emergency Management Administration Director Joe Allbaugh, whose agency is to be subsumed by the department, said he thinks only the secretary and top leaders should be based in Washington. Office of Homeland Security spokesman Gordon Johndroe acknowledged that questions of where to put personnel would be around for a while.

“Then, there are unanswered questions about funding and personnel. Some of the agencies have, or may have, trouble absorbing a spate of new hires. For example, the Transportation Security Administration, created in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and destined to be part of the new department, has gone from 13 to 44,000 people this year — not without a few growing pains.

As a result, congressional appropriators indicated they would block the request of Undersecretary of Transportation James Loy, who heads TSA, to hire another 20,000 or more. When it comes to baggage and passenger screening, Congress said it wants to wrap up its work for the year without approving a budget for the fiscal year 2003 so TSA’s fate depends on the new Congress, who says “Now the fun starts.”

Karen Kraushaar. “We have known change would happen quickly. A Coast Guard spokesman Gordon Johndroe acknowledged that almost immediately, “It will change who you brief.”

It will take years to assimilate and create a new culture,” Anderson predicted.

Until a bill is signed, most agencies are steering clear from commenting on how they will make the transition. TSA spokesman David Stogman would only say, “We are looking to the challenge of merging with the Department of Homeland Security.” Similar statements of anticipation came from Viki Reath, a spokeswoman at the General Services Administration, which is home to the 1,408-person Federal Protective Service and the Federal Computer Incident Response Center and spokespeople at other agencies.

E-mail snorton@fedpaper.com

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Clyde’s Restaurant Group: Clyde’s of Georgetown, Tysons Corner, Reston, Cherry Chase, and Columbia. Clyde’s at Mall Center, The Terrain, Elkridge, and Timonium Express. Now Open in Rockville, part of 12314 Montrose Road, Tower Oaks Lodge www.clydes.com

Now Comes the Real Headache: Making New Department Work

By STEPHEN J. NORTON

Now that Congress is poised to agree to his proposal to create a Department of Homeland Security, President Bush and his top advisers must fight a war on terror while simultaneously building a chief weapon for doing so.

Shortly after unveiling plans to set up the department last summer, President Bush established a transition team with liaisons from the various agencies to tackle the complex issues of marrying everything from personnel policies to information systems. Phil Anderson, a senior fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, who has briefed transition leaders, said the effort has been very comprehensive.

But even after months of planning, it is clear that fundamental management decisions, technical challenges and inter-agency politics could mean a long transition. Still, within 60 days of enactment, affected agencies are supposed to lay out how, within a year, they would merge.

“Then, the fun begins,” said Office of Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge, in a broadcast interview last week.

It may be fun, but it will not be easy, said former Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., who serves on the President’s Advisory Council on Homeland Security. “Implementing the plan is the tough part,” he observed. “That is what the government is not very good at.”

For one thing, it is unclear where the new department would be housed and which employees would work there. The District of Columbia would be a lead contender because of the prestige and proximity to the White House and Capitol Hill.

But that decision is up in the air. For example, Federal Emergency Management Administration Director Joe Allbaugh, whose agency is to be subsumed by the department, said he thinks only the secretary and top leaders should be based in Washington. Office of Homeland Security spokesman Gordon Johndroe acknowledged that questions of where to put personnel would be around for a while.

“Then, there are unanswered questions about funding and personnel. Some of the agencies have, or may have, trouble absorbing a spate of new hires. For example, the Transportation Security Administration, created in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and destined to be part of the new department, has gone from 13 to 44,000 people this year — not without a few growing pains.

As a result, congressional appropriators indicated they would block the request of Undersecretary of Transportation James Loy, who heads TSA, to hire another 20,000 or more. When it comes to baggage and passenger screening, Congress said it wants to wrap up its work for the year without approving a budget for the fiscal year 2003 so TSA’s fate depends on the new Congress, who says “Now the fun starts.”

Karen Kraushaar. “We have known change would happen quickly. A Coast Guard spokesman Gordon Johndroe acknowledged that almost immediately, “It will change who you brief.”

It will take years to assimilate and create a new culture,” Anderson predicted.

Until a bill is signed, most agencies are steering clear from commenting on how they will make the transition. TSA spokesman David Stogman would only say, “We are looking to the challenge of merging with the Department of Homeland Security.” Similar statements of anticipation came from Viki Reath, a spokeswoman at the General Services Administration, which is home to the 1,408-person Federal Protective Service and the Federal Computer Incident Response Center and spokespeople at other agencies.

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Top Players for Homeland Security Step Forth

Within the next several weeks, President Bush will decide the leadership of the new Department of Homeland Security. Here are six who will play key roles.

By STEPHEN J. NORTON

RICHARD BENNIS
Associate Undersecretary for Maritime and Land Security Transportation Security Administration

On Sept. 11, retired Coast Guard Rear Adm. Richard Bennis was captain of the Port of New York and commander of state’s Coast Guard activities. After the terrorist attacks, bridges and tunnels were closed to traffic and Manhattan became an isolated military theater. Under Bennis’s leadership, more than a million people were evacuated by a hodgemonde of boats in a Dunkirk-like operation.

At the Transportation Security Agency, he is charged with protecting the nation’s seaports, rail and transit systems. In Bennis’s view, security is security — whether on land or sea.

“The tidiest way to put it is that we want to make sure we don’t drive terrorists to the mode of least resistance,” he said.

The TSA has grown from 13 employees last January to about 44,000 this month. But the road there has been a rocky one. The first TSA chief, John Magaw, lost his job over the summer.

Still, Bennis has forged a tight relationship with Magaw’s successor, John S. Pistole, a CIA officer named by President Bush to celebrate O’Neill’s new job. The two had become friends in their career, which included port security during the 1996 summer Olympics and temporary duty in response to the Oklahoma City disaster.

With so much experience under his belt, he said it would be a “shame-on-you situation” if a disaster situation surprised him.

MARCY FORMAN
Director, Operation Green Quest

Follow the money. Marcy Forman has been doing it in one way or another for 25 years as a Customs agent. But as director of Operation Green Quest — the multibillion-dollar effort to cut off terrorists’ funds — the stakes have never been higher.

Operation Green Quest, perhaps more than any other Homeland Security Department effort, is a test case for getting agencies to cooperate. It is being conducted at Treasury and is run by Customs but in partnership with the FBI, CIA, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the IRS and other agencies.

“Jurisdictional questions are always difficult,” acknowledged Forman. “But for some reason, it is getting done.” Thanks to weekly meetings, “coordination is progressing,” she said.

A draft of a U.N. report on the subject that was leaked last month disclosed that terrorists have as much money as ever. But Forman insisted that she and her colleagues have made “major inroads” in learning about the illicit channels and characters that fund terrorism. She heaped praise on her domestic financial institutions for their cooperation and reported “degrees of cooperation” in getting foreign governments to help.

Forman said the new department should enhance her efforts.

As for resources, she said, “What we have now is a good start. We will be able to justify more resources and space. We are being walled in as we speak.”

A colleague described Forman, 43, as a “tough cop” but fun to work with. Her 20 years as a Customs agent in Dallas, Houston and Washington — where her work included busting an illicit peso transfer operation — haven’t diminished her New York accent.

JEROME HAUSER
Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness, Department of Health and Human Services

Hauer spent the wee hours of Sept. 11 barhopping with John O’Neill, the high-profile FBI man and World Trade Center security chief, to celebrate O’Neill’s new job. The two had become friends in the five years that Hauer served as New York City’s director of emergency management.

O’Neill was just one of many close friends and colleagues Hauer lost later that morning, when two hijacked airliners slammed into Manhattan’s twin towers. Another was Rev. Mychal Judge, the fire station chaplain who used to conduct Trident on scenes of tragedies with the words: “Jerry, I’m prayin’ for you.”

So there’s a personal intensity behind Hauer’s determination to ready the nation for future terrorist attacks. “They will strike again,” he said in an interview. “There is no excuse not to be prepared. None whatsoever.”

Hauer, 50, is responsible for strengthening the country’s public health infrastructure to guard against the threat of chemical, biological, or nuclear attacks. He is now at the center of internal administrative debates over whether the government should initiate a mass vaccination of American citizens against small pox — an inoculation that could cause the deaths of at least 300 people.

Hauer is no stranger to the task of keeping high-level decision makers informed of threats. He briefed former President Clinton on chemical and biological weapons and Bush officials during the anthrax attacks of the fall of 2001.

“Our goal is trying to stay one step ahead of them,” he said of terrorists. That means making sure officials “can detect to treat” and “detect to warn” in the event of a bioterror attack. On the former, Hauer expressed confidence that the country’s stockpiles of vaccines and pharmaceutical agents will be sufficient. But, he noted, detecting to warn is the tougher job because it requires costly and sophisticated equipment.

Prior to his service in New York City, Hauer was executive director of Indiana’s emergency management agency. He also played a lead role in IBM’s emergency response strategies, served as a volunteer firefighter and as a captain in the Army Reserve.

WILLIAM H. PARRISH
Director, Office for Anti-Terrorism, U.S. Customs Service

“I tell people around here, I am not doing this for my kids or my brand-new grandson.”

Parrish’s job is to manage a comprehensive program to prevent weapons of mass destruction from penetrating U.S. borders. That means a sweeping culture change for Customs, where agents were once accustomed to thwarting drug dealers and smugglers large and small than serving as the first line of defense in an attack that could kill thousands of Americans.

The agency, with about 22,000 employees, will become one of the larger single components of the Homeland Security Department.

After a 30-year Marine Corps career that pitted him against brutal and evasive opponents, Parrish is undaunted by egos and turf battles.

“I don’t care if I step on someone’s toes, I can give a shoe shine,” he declared in an interview.

Parrish knew early in life he wanted to join the Marines and then serve as an FBI agent. He did both, but missed the Marines and returned to the service in 1975, where he played a central role in the war on drugs.

He also served as commanding officer of the U.S. Marine Corps Security Services, which is responsible for providing anti-terrorism protection at government installations worldwide.

After he led a raid to block an alleged anti-terror unit in response to the 1996 Khobar Towers bombing in Saudi Arabia, an outside investigator said the unit should be a model for how to provide forward moving security.

To Parrish, the lessons of boot camp apply to his agency’s new role: “If you give a young American a mission, train him and let him know how important it is, he’ll do it.”

JOSEPH ALLBAUGH
Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Few people in Washington are closer to President Bush than Allbaugh. The native Oklahoman helped direct Bush’s gubernatorial campaign in 1994, served as Bush’s chief of staff in Texas and was part of the “iron triangle” of advisers to Bush’s presidential campaign.

Since Gov. Bush was widely hand- ed off state emergency issues to Allbaugh, much of his FEMA job was already familiar. His resume included advising President Bush in response to the 1999 Oklahoma earthquake.

Allbaugh said the new Home- land Security Department is need- ed because of the “disfunction” that pervades the federal government. But he estimated that it will take up to six years for it to become fully functional.

Meanwhile, the 2,600 full-time FEMA employees and the 4,000 on standby will continue to come to the rescue when crisis strikes. “I want to be the cornerstone” of the new department, Allbaugh said. “I believe you have to lean as far outside of the fence as possible.”

Even before Sept. 11, Allbaugh said he was frustrated with the pace of government. “Government moves slowly,” he said. “It is part of the mentality that that is the way it is supposed to be.”

With her hair and 6-foot- 4-inch frame, the 50-year-old Allbaugh looks like a Marine drill instructor and employs a no-nonsense management style. It has served the affable Bush well.

In Texas, his office was “ten steps away from Bush.” Now the two men are in less frequent contact.

In Texas, his office was “ten steps away from Bush.” Now the two men are in less frequent contact.

But, said Allbaugh, given the gravity of the terrorist threat, “there is such a thing as being too close. After a while you can start taking things for granted, and that is when mistakes happen.”

VICE ADM. JAMES D. HULL
Commander of Atlantic, Fifth Coast Guard District and Maritime Defense Zone

If Sept. 11 had any silver lining for Vice Adm. James D. Hull, it was the enhanced profile of the Coast Guard. “I do not think the Coast Guard has ever been held in higher esteem,” said the 33-year-veteran of the service.

On Sept. 11, 2001, President Bush heaped praise on the Coast Guard, and Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta announced that a top priority was to recapital- ize the service. “That was not lost on a person struggling to get fund- ed for 33 years,” Hull said.

But new boats, sophisticated technology and personnel will accordingly be needed. Some are plenty of people under his command who do not want environmental remediation, drug interdiction and lifesav- ing to take a back seat to terrorism.

While he insisted that would not happen, he conceded there has been a slight shift from these activ- ities to maritime SWAT teams, the targeting of risky vessels and even processing intelligence. “I am not getting my intelligence now than I ever have in my career,” he said. “That is very heartening to me.” Before his communication with the FBI was minimal, he conceded.

Hull is commander of the Atlantic Area, which covers 14 mil- lion square miles and is served by over 26,000 military and civilian employees in a number of those in the auxiliary.

The auxiliary “55-years-old,” Ohio native hull said his boyhood in West Point, but a passion for football led him to the Coast Guard Academy. He served in Vietnam and rose through the ranks with duties that included patrolling the coasts of Haiti and Cuba.

E-mail: snorton@fedpaper.com

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FEDERAL CITY NEWS

For Staff in Place To Enforce New Law

The congressional budget impasse is keeping the Federal Election Commission from even advancing the 27 new staff positions required to help the agency implement the campaign finance law that took effect Nov. 6. The FEC had hoped to begin filling the posts before the end of the year, said Bill Fleming, FEC personnel director. Now, that will likely take several more months.

Money for the FEC is in the Treasury-Postal appropriations bill, which hasn’t passed and won’t be considered until January at the earliest. The latest draft of the bill would give the FEC a budget increase of $5 million in 2003, in part to implement the campaign finance law considered the biggest since federal election law since the 1970s.

The lack of money apparently won’t hurt the FEC in its preparation to defend the new law against a court challenge contending it is unconstitutional. More than 80 plaintiffs have joined the suit which goes to the U.S. District Court on Dec. 4.

The FEC is getting funding to handle the lawsuit and implement the law, said John O’Brien, an FEC budget officer, because the Office of Management and Budget is allowing the agency to spend more than is allocated. However, the FEC has had to put other complaints on hold and cut off spending for travel and training. “If we get stuck at the ‘02 amount for the full year,” O’Brien added, “we’ll have a lot of problems.”

Ex-Employee Faces Espionage Probe

A little-known federal commission which monitors trade and security issues between the United States and the People’s Republic of China will convene later this year to address alleged espionage by a Chinese national once employed at the Securities and Exchange Commission. The U.S.-China Security Review Commission said it will hold hearings into the allegations reported by The Washington Times that Mylene Chan, who worked as a computer analyst at SEC from Oct. 2001 until July 2002, passed sensitive economic data on U.S. computer companies to the Chinese government. “We need to look very, very hard at whether this represents an individual incident or a pattern of espionage” by the Chinese government, USCC commissioner Larry Wortzel said. “It’s probably a little bit of an organized effort.”

Efforts to reach Chan for comment were unsuccessful.

Reservation System Overhaul in Works

The Department of Transportation proposed revisions to the regulations governing the computer reservation system to bring current practices in line with federal guidelines and to try to ensure that airlines and travel agents can handle reservations as cheaply and efficiently as possible.

The rules, announced Nov. 12, reflect the fact that computer reservation systems haven’t kept up with the widespread use of the Internet.

There are four major computer reservation systems currently in use in the United States: Sabre, Galileo, Worldspan and Amadeus. The dependence of both airlines and travel agents on these systems prompted federal transportation officials to make sure rules are in place to encourage vigorous airline competition — such as unbiased and accurate information on flights.

If the rules become final, they would eliminate several provisions of existing rules relating to airline ownership of computer reservation systems and fee structures. DOT officials underscored that they are not proposing regulation of the sale of airline tickets over the Internet or sales at travel agencies.

FCC

Deputy FCC commissioner Lester M. Crawford has announced new fees the agency will impose to speed review of new drug applications.

The agency now expects to collect $157 million in company fees this year — $40 million less than an earlier projection, said FCC Deputy Commissioner Lester M. Crawford.

To increase future revenue, the agency plans to extend fees to cover the first two or three years after an approval to help monitor adverse drug reactions, a plan that drug companies have agreed to, according to Crawford.

Crawford said the agency will use the money to add 450 more employees. The fee system, instituted in 1992 to supplement congressional appropriations, has shortened drug approval times from an average of 30 months to a little over a year, Crawford said.

Union Loses Weapon In Outsourcing Battle

The American Postal Workers Union lost a weapon in its battle to limit outsourcing when Postmaster General John Potter moved to delay a rate increase from 2004 until 2006.

The union has argued that the increases wouldn’t be necessary if the Postal Service stopped paying outside firms as much as $1,500 an hour to apply bar codes to bulk mail, said Sally Davidson, APWU communications director. The union says postal workers could do the same chores for as little as $30 an hour.

The Postal Service postponed the rate change after learning it had vastly overpaid its contributions to the agency’s retirement fund. The Office of Personnel Management found that it was over route to a $71 billion overpay-

Fees fell short of projected estimates for the last two years while the cost of approvals increased, an FDA official said at a global pharmaceutical conference.

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 entry-exit control law — which required that the INS have access to fingerprints of those entering the country. 

Forman added, "It is a better procurement." 

But Sensenbrenner urged the administration to charge ahead to meet the deadline. 

"Because of delays in establishing the entry-exit control system, first required [in a 1996 law]..." Sensenbrenner wrote. 

President Bush requested $362 million for the project in 2003, but the spending bill has not been approved. Sensenbrenner argued that the contract process should go ahead, nonetheless. 

INS officials say they want to get a handle on implementation. 

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TOZZI, from p. 1
The second-generation Italian behind the telescope is the architect of the Data Quality Act — legislation that has forced virtually every federal agency to change the way it issues information. Last month, agencies rolled out new data quality guidelines that are designed to ensure that their data, reports and regulations are accurate. That may sound arcane, but in Washington information is power — an axiom that Tozzi understands better than just about anyone in town. The law — which he drafted for a member of Congress — strengthens the hands of industry (and Tozzi’s clients) by allowing companies to challenge agency information that they contend is inaccurate.

Tozzi wanted to make it more difficult for agencies to post information on their Web sites that could be damaging to corporations; to seek more stringent review of regulations; to deter alarmist environmentalists and public interest lawyers saying the law gives industry a new tool to block regulation.

The 64-year-old Tozzi, whose weathered face reveals an addiction to Marlboro Reds, is widely considered the granddaddy of regulatory reform — corporate style. Richard Belzer, president of the watchdog group Regulatory Checkbook and a former OMB economist, calls Tozzi a “third rail” of Washington rulemaking.

Behind that reputation is Tozzi’s insensibility on taking his lobbying prowess beyond Capitol Hill and into the less-traveled halls of Cabinet departments, agencies and that powerhouse of all rulemaking — the White House’s Office of Management and Budget.

“Most lobbyists spend too much time focusing on Congress,” says Tozzi, an OMB official under both Nixon, Carter and Reagan. “But when you try to change regulations through legislation, the change often gets turned into a bag package that sinks to the bottom of the regulatory ocean beyond Capitol Hill and into the less-traveled halls of government.”

Tozzi stays in the good graces of the bureaucrats he harasses through his ardent support of the Senior Executives Association. In addition to being a lifetime member, Tozzi is a regular corporate sponsor of the center’s professional development league during the winter holiday season, Tozzi treats the SEA staff to an annual meal at the Dupont Circle restaurant. “Jim has done everything from contribute to our professional development league to offer wine from his vineyard in Italy to be served at our events,” says Carol Bonosaro, president of the SEA. “Frankly, I wish I could do him so I could have more members like him.”

Tozzi’s strategy for lobbying an agency is simple: “Know a hell of a lot of details.” Before he pounces, Tozzi investigates what stage the agency is in during the rulemaking process. He then figures out the key players involved. With an understanding of each agency’s culture, he knows the right time to contact them. “Most law firms in Washington that do administrative law make a public comment on a pending rule and then go to court if they don’t like the outcome,” Tozzi said. “Ours is a very people approach. We go around and see how the dots are connected and talk to the important people.”

In 1989, Tozzi blocked an Environmental Protection Agency regulation that would have required vapor reduction containers to be installed in cars. He succeeded by showing federal officials studies and videos making the case that the equipment was unsafe and more costly than what EPA had estimated.

Last year, Tozzi managed to stall a proposal by the National Toxicology Program to include in its list of human carcinogens the mineral talc, which is used in auto-body mud flaps, paints, pharmaceuticals and cosmetics. Through extensive comments he filed on behalf of the talc industry, Tozzi refined the program’s claim that talc is as toxic as asbestos.

Establishing an Act
Tozzi’s battle against the regulators began in 1972, when he joined OMB after President Nixon established the EPA in 1970. Tozzi’s job was to review the costs and benefits of environmental regulations.

Sen. Tim Hutchinson of Arkansas, Rep. Connie Morella of Maryland, Rep. Greg Ganske of Iowa and former Rep. Steve Largent of Oklahoma are among other high-profile Republicans who lost in this month’s elections. Bush campaigned for all of them but was especially efficacious in his praise for Largent, a former professional football player who lost a race for governor.

Spokesman D.J. O’Brien said Hutchinson hasn’t settled on job plans but “might” work for the president “if given the opportunity.” Hutchinson’s brother Asa, a former House member, is Bush’s director of the Drug Enforcement Administration.

Some analysts have mentioned Largent as a possible Bush appointee, along with Rep. J.C. Watts of Texas, who is retiring, Watts has said he wants to return home, and Gramm might be kept on the sidelines because of his wife’s ties to Enron Corp., the bankrupt energy trading company that has become a symbol of corporate misdeeds.

Thune served on the House Agriculture Committee. He previously worked for Sen. Jim Abdnor and followed him to a job at the Small Business Administration when Abdnor lost to Tom Daschle.

At least one Bush administration job is open in Thune’s area of expertise — undersecretary for rural development at the Agriculture Department. Others might open soon, since some administration officials tend to return to private-sector jobs at the two-year mark of the president’s term.

Even if Bush makes an offer, Sabato and Ornstein said they won’t be surprised if Thune turns him down. “I think he’s going to stay close to South Dakota, thinking Daschle may retire in 2004,” Sabato said.

There’s precedent for that course, too. In 1998, Republican John Ensign of Nevada lost to incumbent Democrat Harry Reid by 428 votes. Two years later, Ensign ran for Nevada’s other Senate seat and won handily.

E-mail: dmorris@fedpaper.com
By DERRICK WETHERELL

As Election Day dawned, Rich Tarplin saw reason to smile. Later that day, the 28-year-old firm Timmons and Company would announce his promotion to chairman. And his fellow Democrats were looking forward to strengthening their lead in the Senate, perhaps even gaining a few seats in the House.

Then the polls closed. The Democrats lost big time. And Tarplin, a former Clinton official, was left at the helm of a traditionally Democratic lobby firm in a town controlled by Republicans.

Good thing he’s married to Linda.

That would be Republican Linda Tarplin, former legislative affairs staffer in both the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations and now a lobbyist at OB-C Group, formerly O’Brien Calio Group, the former home of White House congressional liaison Nick Calio.

Linda had plenty to celebrate on Election Day. “It was very nice because I could be happy [for the GOP] and be happy for something that happened to Rich,” she said, pausing to reflect for a moment. “Even though he lost, he won.”

Move over, Matalin & Carville: With the Timmons announcement, Rich and Linda Tarplin join the list of influential Washington couples crossing the town’s political divide.

“One of the great things about being in the same business, let alone different political parties, is that you don’t bring business home,” Rich Tarplin said in an interview. “When we get home we focus on each other and the kids.” The Tarplins have two boys, ages 5 and 8.

The couple met when Rich was staff director for the Senate Subcommittee on Children, Family, Drugs and Alcoholism. Linda, whose last name was Eischeid, was lobbying Capitol Hill on behalf of the elder Bush. The pair faced off over a family leave bill that Rich’s committee boss, Connecticut Sen. Chris Dodd, had endorsed.

They married in 1990. Three years later, Rich joined the Clinton administration as deputy assistant secretary for legislation at the Department of Health and Human Services; four years later he was promoted to assistant secretary. Rich Tarplin joined Timmons two years ago; as chairman he replaces former Clinton White House counsel Timothy Keating, who left to run government relations for Honeywell.

With both Tarplins now in the private sector, said Linda, “it’s easier because we aren’t working directly against each other.”

“They’re both clearly at the top of their fields,” said Kirsten Chadwick, special assistant to the president in the White House legislative affairs office. “They probably don’t like the term ‘power couple,’ though they’ve done pretty well for themselves.” Chadwick described the couple as “a good team, a lot of fun to be around.”

Said Mary Beth Donahue, who worked with Rich Tarplin in the Clinton administration and knew Linda as an opposing lobbyist: “They’re very modest people. I think their successes on both sides of the aisle have never gone to their heads.”

Despite their individual political IDs, the Tarplins work for lobby firms striving for bipartisan coverage.

Timmons, which earned $3.34 million in fees during the first half of 2002, balances its Democratic roster with senior partner and Nixon legislative affairs director Tom Korologos, among others. The firm has recently worked issues for a host of industry leaders — including bankruptcy reform for credit issuer Visa USA and terrorism insurance and tax issues for shipping giant Union Pacific.

At Linda’s firm OB-C Group, which earned $1.96 million for the first half of 2002, Calio’s founding partner is a Democrat — Lawrence F. O’Brien III. Tarplin’s clients include Wellpoint Health Networks and Deutsche Telekom, Europe’s largest telecommunications firm.

Rich Tarplin said the bipartisan nature of both firms will help them prosper in any political climate.

“These firms recognize the value of having people from both parties whom clients will need and use, regardless of which parties control Congress and the White House,” he said.

Although they don’t face off on legislation since both left government work for the private sector, Linda Tarplin said she would welcome squaring off with her husband if the situation arose.

“We would enjoy that, in an odd way,” she said. “It’s like rooting for opposing congressional candidates. We’re used to that.”

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‘Bedfellows’ in the Real Sense of the Word

By DERRICK WETHERELL

Linda and Richard Tarplin cross Washington’s political divide.

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FederalNewsRadio.com
By Andrew Gray

**FBI’s McChesney to Police Bishops; D’Amuro Moves Up**

After 25 years at the FBI, Executive Assistant Director Kathleen McChesney is leaving Nov. 30 to join the University of Southern California as a professor. McChesney will coordinate the National Security Agency’s efforts to prevent sexual abuse of children.

Executive Assistant Director Robert Mueller, who was appointed Special Agent in Charge of the FBI’s Criminal Investigative Division in July 1997, will take over as acting director of the FBI.

**Kathleen McChesney**

Executive Assistant Director of the FBI's Criminal Investigative Division, Kathleen McChesney has been a member of the FBI for 25 years. She has served in various positions throughout her career, including as the assistant director of the FBI's Counterterrorism Division. McChesney is known for her expertise in international terrorism and cybercrime.

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By MEGAN TWEHOY

The Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Forest Service have forced out state and regional directors in the West because they were considered barriers to timber, grazing and oil and gas development, according to the recently departed officials.

The Bush administration moves reverse a similar housecleaning by the Clinton regime, which had appointed regional leaders committed to scaling back industry access to federal land. Regional foresters and BLM state directors manage the president’s policies on the ground, overseeing the upkeep of land and managing contracts with the private sector.

“BLM believes it has a duty and a responsibility to put a management team in place that is best suited to carry out the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the agency and administration,” said agency spokeswoman Celia Boddington. “We think this approach is in the best long-term interests of the lands we manage and the American people we serve.”

The Bush administration has made increased timber output a top priority for the Forest Service and has instructed BLM to include grazing, oil and gas interests in its land plans.

Forest Service spokesman George Lennon denied that his agency’s personnel shifts were politically motivated. “It’s not unusual at all for senior leaders in the Forest Service to be transferred,” he said.

The latest bureaucratic shuffles, which took place over the past year, are drawing praise from industry and criticism from environmental quarters.

“It makes sense,” Michael Klein, spokesperson for the timber group American Forest and Paper Association, said. “The Clinton administration stacked a lot of the land agencies with activists,” he said, saying they “downplayed the natural resources and placed a higher value on ecological interests.”

Environmentalists expressed surprise. “Whether you’re talking about Forest Service or BLM, the Bush administration wants people who are going to be much more friendly to industry and much less concerned about environmental consequences,” said Jeff Ruch, executive director of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, a nonprofit organization in Washington.

In the BLM, which is part of the Interior Department, the directors of New Mexico, Colorado and Idaho were removed because they were distrusted by the grazing, oil and gas interests, charged Martha Hahn, Idaho’s former BLM director.

“We were all in the wrong state at the wrong time,” said Hahn, who resigned in March rather than accept a new job as executive director of the National Park Service’s New York harbor.

She has been replaced by K. Lynn Bennett, who before managing a cattle company she owns, served in a variety of BLM positions.

Michelle Chavez, BLM director of energy-rich New Mexico under Clinton, accepted a new position working from home as special assistant to an Interior Department deputy assistant secretary.

She has been replaced by Linda Rudell, a BLM career official who worked as a congressional fellow to Sen. Pete Domenici, R.-N.M., a supporter of oil and gas development who sits on the Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

“Lennon put in a good word for her,” said Chris Gallegos, a spokesman for the senator.

A spokesman for the senator.

Ronald Groves, deputy assistant secretary.

“Domenici put in a good word for her,” said Chris Gallegos, a spokesman for the senator.

Ron L. Ferguson, a spokesman for the senator.

Jeff Ruch, executive director of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, a nonprofit organization in Washington.

“I believe the transfers of these regional foresters were punitive,” Furnish said. “The agency didn’t think they best represented the interests of the timber industry,” he said.

Furnish was stripped of his deputy duties when Bosworth, a Bush appointee, took over the agency.

Harv Forsgren, who was transferred from his post overseeing national forests in Oregon and Washington to one overseeing those in New Mexico and Arizona, had implemented the Northwest Forest Plan for Northern California that was created early in the Clinton administration. It reduced timber and increased protections for the spotted owl and other wildlife and fish.

“There are probably some commodity interests who think I’m too ‘green’ for the largest timber producing region in the Forest Service,” Forsgren said. “I think the chief’s decision to move me to the Southwest wasn’t a matter of him wanting me out of the Northwest, but of him wanting me to provide leadership here in Albuquerque.”

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**WORKPLACE MATTERS**

**TSP ‘Catchup’ Bill Clears**

Federal employees over the age of 50 will be able to contribute an extra $2,000 to the Thrift Savings Plan, the government’s 401(k) retirement program, as a result of legislation passed by Congress last week.

The additional tax-deferred contribution will put the federal program in line with private-sector plans, which were allowed the so-called catchup contributions under last year’s tax law.

The legislation, which was sponsored by Republican Rep. Constance Morellia, gradually increases the catchup contribution to $5,000 in 2006.

**Good Month for Stock Investors**

Federal workers who didn’t give up on the stock funds in the Thrift Savings Plan, got something of a reward in October.

For the first time in almost a year, the C Fund, which tracks the Standard and Poor’s 500, rose 8.77 percent. That followed a 10.87 percent drop in September, and the fund is still down 13.1 percent over the last 12 months.

The G Fund, which consists of special government bonds, grew 0.33 percent in October. The S Fund, which is made up of smaller companies rose 3.38 percent, and the I fund, an international fund, rose 5.42 percent. The only fund to decline in October was the F Fund, which tracks fixed income bonds issued by governments and corporations. It slipped 0.44 percent.

Federal employees interested in changing their contributions or allocations to the plans can do so until Dec. 31, when TSP’s open season ends.

**Reconsidering Health Coverage**

This is also on open season health insurance and to help federal workers decide on coverage, the Office of Personnel Management has updated its Web site to allow online comparisons of the different plans.

The open season runs through Dec. 9 with the new rates taking effect Jan. 1.

The site allows government employees to determine which plans are available to them, giving them side-by-side comparisons of different plans, instructions for enrolling and points out changes in health plans to access the government site, go to http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/.

Federal employees are also invited to look at Checkbook’s 2003 guide to “Guide to Health Plans.”

Walton Francis, the book’s author, said that due to the changes in premiums and coverage, federal employees will find that some of the most popular plans in the past will no longer be the most cost-effective. On average, federal employees will see an 11.1 percent increase in their health care premiums.

Free access to the Checkbook Web site is being provided by over a dozen federal agencies and departments, including the Departments of Health and Human Services, Veterans Affairs, State and Housing and Urban Development.

**Guide to Whistleblower Protection**

The Office of Special Counsel is encouraging agencies to enroll in a program designed to help managers comply with the Whistleblower Protection Act.

The special counsel’s office said it has found that many agencies have not been complying with the 8-year-old law. The program satisfies the requirements of the recently enacted Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act (commonly known as the “No FEAR” Act), which requires that federal employees are notified of their whistleblower protection rights and that Congress receive an annual report on agencies’ progress.

The program includes training for supervisors, incorporating whistleblower protections into an agency’s orientation program and putting up information posters in the workplace. Special Counsel Elaine Kaplan wrote all agency heads earlier this month encouraging them to participate in the program.

“In this time of increased focus on organizational behavior and ethics, as well as a time of heightened attention to our national security, management should send out the message not only that agency employees will be protected against retaliation when they come forward to raise concerns, but that they are affirmatively encouraged to do so,” Kaplan said.

In the Nov. 1 letter, Kaplan encouraged agency heads to send representatives to the orientation sessions set for Dec. 3, 4 and 5.

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**THE FEDERAL PAPER**

November 18, 2002 15
Agencies on Track
To Meet CFC Goals

CFC, from p. 1

By the first week of November, federal workers had pledged about $9.5 million. That is consistent with last year’s pace and bodes well for meeting or even exceeding the goal, according to Melissa Allen, assis-
tant secretary for administration at the Department of Transportation, and a 30-
year veteran of the CFC. The campaign exceeded last year’s $50 million goal, but officials kept the same goal this year because of the sluggish economy, campaign spokesman Ryan Sterba said.

Political campaigns have chairmen, and the CFC has a team of “dedicated employ-
ees” who take roughly five months’ leave from their jobs to direct the effort. Political campaigns depend on county chairs and precinct captains who reach out to voters. The CFC is made up of three voter groups: “candidates,” “key workers” who pass out pamphlets and make pitches to their col-
leagues. In total, over 8,000 federal employ-
ees are helping this year, according to Sterba. Political campaigns end on a set day — Election Day. The CFC ends on Dec. 15.

Like campaign workers, CFC partici-
pants believe in the cause but they like to have fun as well. Even button-downed CIA employees take time out to buy raffle tick-
eets for a dinner with Tenet, bid on a basket of pet supplies or even join in a pie-eating contest, said Judith Sholes, on loan from the agency. Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson and local TV anchor Jim Vance jumped on motorcycles and joined 75 bikers in the department’s kick-off parade.

A little competition helps things along. Lowe said FEMA Director Joseph Allbaugh made it clear he wants the agency to lead and Lowe said he often brings the spread-
sheet to staff meetings to check on how the various FEMA offices are doing and to tweak his colleagues to exceed dollar and participation goals.

But there are no major rivalries that mark the annual fall fund-raiser, according to Allen. Well, maybe. At an early November meeting at CFC headquarters, the Army and Navy ribbed each other on their performances, said Allen. Naturally, large agencies raise more. “No one can beat the Pentagon,” she laughed.

In fact, it seems like there are no losers in the campaign, run this year by the White House, Michael Holub, an associate director of the campaign, the self-described “awards king,” said. “It is rare that an entity will get nothing.”

He said he gave out about 1,000 plagues for participation, attaining goals, getting increases from prior giving, etc. Some agencies — he declined to name them — don’t get too excited by the whole thing and simply want to have a quick campaign with “good results.”

Politics is kept separate from giving. Allen said the rules “strictly prohibit” political appointments or campaign chairmen from pressuring workers to give to one charity or another.

“It is a very personal thing,” explained Secretary Thompson revs up support at HHS rally for the Combined Federal Campaign.

Vince Brown, another leader in FEMA’s effort, “A lot of people have family and friends that have gone through stuff. I have never seen politics play a role.” With 3,000 charities to choose from, it is not hard to find one that suits individual preferences from Adventure Theater, Inc. to Zero Population Growth.

The amount of money collected, whether through payroll deductions or events such as raffles for a dinner with cabinet members of the CFC, has been climbing steadily over the years in the capital area. But participation rates throughout the CFC worldwide have dipped since 1993, when nearly 48 percent of eligible employ-
ees contributed to the campaign, to 37.5 percent in both 2000 and 2001.

The “total amount raised” increased annually from 1995, when the CFC gar-
ered $189.3 million, to 2001’s total of $241.6 million. During that span, the feder-
al workforce shrank by some 140,000 workers, and the drop-off in contributors to the campaign was nearly twice as severe. The decline in participators over time shift-
ed the fund-raising burden to those who chose to give. From 1995 through 2001, the number of dollars available in the campaign rose from $110 to almost $166, an increase of more than 50 percent, according to the CFC official Web site.

Tami Heltenmann, a photographer at the Interior Department who began running the department’s campaign five years ago, told The Federal Paper that the criticisms are more about management style than time in my life, “I get to channel my energies into something good. I can get into it and be very passionate about it.”

Bartlett said. “He’s the one everybody

Bush Tax Decision
Key to 2004 Chances

TAX FIGHT, from p. 1

Lindsey “seems to be embellished,” Bartlett said. “He’s the one everybody

new tax cuts, coupled with the cost of mili-
tary action against Iraq, will cause the deficit to grow. O’Neill has increasingly sided with them.

Lindsey, a supply-side economist, helped draft Bush’s first tax package and has played down the impact of tax cuts on the deficit. O’Neill, who has been the administration’s most vocal advocate of a complete rewrite of the tax code, said last week that anything more than targeted cuts might have to wait until the deficit is reduced.

While differences between Bush advisers are common, this squabble is magnified because conservatives who support the president have joined Democrats in expressing displeasure with the economic team. Both Lindsey and O’Neill said they have no plans to leave, but reports that one of them will be forced out persist.

Grover Norquist, president of Americans for Tax Reform, and Bartlett told The Federal Paper that the criticisms are more about management style than technical expertise.

Norquist sees the makings of “a serious budget fight,” with O’Neill and Lindsey staking out opposite sides. “It won’t be a public fight, but [the White House] will not be happy.”

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said he wouldn’t speculate about Lindsey or O’Neill, but said Bush “knows that he has a very strong team.”

Bush, meeting with his Cabinet last week, sounded like someone looking for a way to keep both sides happy. He said the adminis-
tration needed to “stimulate the econo-
mic to create more revenues and, two, hold down spending” to control the deficit.

He has already said he would make parts of his $1.3 trillion 2001 tax cuts that are set to expire in 2010 permanent. Beyond that, spokeswoman Claire Buchan said, “the president continues to review all options.”

Those options include speeding up rate cuts due in 2004 and 2006, loosening restrictions on contributions to individual retirement accounts, cutting the capital gains tax on investment profits, phasing out the alternative minimum tax, passing new tax cuts for businesses and individuals and rewriting federal tax laws.

In addition, the United States is running out of time to amend international tax laws to make them comply with the World Trade Organization.

Despite a strong showing for Bush’s party in midterm elections, there are signs of public discontent. While giving the pres-
ident high marks for fighting terrorism, for example, nearly two-thirds of respondents polled by Newsweek said they were con-
cerned that a Republican Congress might drive up the deficit. Also, consumer confidence is at a nine-year low.

“In the next two years, his vulnerability, and that of the House and Senate, is the economy,” said Bruce Josten, executive vice president of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

“The question is, can the president get together with the American people and most Republicans and beat the appropria-
tors?” by cutting both taxes and spending Norquist said.

Most lobbyists and tax specialists who have had discussions with White House aides said they expect the president to take a piecemeal approach, putting off broader reform until the economy is more robust. But some worry that he might wait too long.

“I’d prefer that he did it while he has both houses,” said Steve Entin, president and executive director of the Institute for Research on the Economics of Taxation. “If you have to wait until 2004 or 2006, it might be too late for him. I don’t know that the economy will be strong enough for him to win.”

A go-slow, anti-deficit approach might rile congressional supporters of bigger tax cuts, such as the Republican Study Committee in the House.

“This House and Senate could pass whole tax bills,” warned Norquist. “Nobody in Congress is waiting around to see what the White House and the Treasury want to do with tax bills.”

But Cato’s Edwards said Bush first has to stand up to Congress and cut spending. “If they keep adding on, there’s going to be no money left for some of the things they want to do on the tax side,” he said.

Stephen J. Norton contributed to this report.

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HHS’s Rehnquist Draws Criticism, Investigation

REHNQUIST, from p. 1

Inquiries about the audit of a Florida pension fund that Rehnquist has carried out, some employees in her office. “No supervisor would ever allow an employee of the HHS’s inspector general’s office. ‘No IG should ever intervene with something like this, particularly if it’s the president’s brother in a tight re-election race.’”

Another veteran inspector general said the Florida case “shows an insensitivity to an important principle. If you start jiggering the work product of the OIG for political purposes, that is a serious assault on the IG concept.”

One Republican congressional investigator put it more bluntly, characterizing the delay as “clearly outside of a normal procedure.”

Gov. Bush’s office did not return several calls seeking comment. However, a spokesman for the governor told the St. Petersburg Times last week that the delay was requested because of the pending retirement of the agency director overseeing the pension fund. “It was appropriate that we had a delay,” she said.

Knowledgeable sources also report that the Department of Justice has begun an investigation into allegations that Rehnquist improperly stored a government-issued gun in her office without a trigger lock or gun safe, an episode first reported in the Wall Street Journal.

According to press accounts and sources inside the office, Rehnquist obtained the gun from a deputy last spring because she wanted to practice target shooting for a visit she would make with Secretary Tommy Thompson to a firing range in June. Only trained special agents within the inspector general’s office can use firearms in the course of performing their duties.

Inspectors general are charged with policing government programs. While appointed by the president, they are supposed to be nonpartisan and independent. The HHS inspector general, who is the largest in the federal government, with a staff of 1,600 employees. It is responsible for monitoring and investigating Medicare and Medicaid, in addition to more than 300 other programs, and recovers billions of dollars annually.

Prior to her appointment, Rehnquist served as a former assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. Last week, Reps. John Dingell, D-Mich., and Henry Waxman, D-Calif., ranking members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the House Committee on Government Reform respectively, wrote the GAO to join the call for an investigation into Rehnquist’s tenure.

Congressional investigators also are probing a number of issues related to travel, including “the number of people who travel with her, how she spends time and whether or not she is fulfilling a government mission,” said one investigator. Sources familiar with her schedule said Rehnquist often leaves Friday morning for business that begins on Monday or Tuesday, although they believe she does not charge the government for hotel rooms over the weekend.

“No supervisor would ever allow an employee to do this,” said one insider. “No side trips are allowed.”

Since reading published reports describing Rehnquist’s mishandling of a gun as well as the personnel shake-up she has carried out, some employees in her office said they are shocked, particularly given her relationship to a Supreme Court justice.

“Her credibility is shot. Nobody has any respect for her, and nobody is defending her — how could they?” asked one employee. “The feeling around here now is that she’s not long for this place.”

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Florida Audit Delay Questioned

Investigators are currently most concerned about the delay of an audit of a Florida state pension fund that Rehnquist had granted last April. The fund, which receives state and federal money, had allegedly failed to credit the federal government for the proper percentage it contributed.

Incoming Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, who last month asked the General Accounting Office to investigate Rehnquist’s tenure, said in a statement: “ Allegations recently came to my attention that Inspector General Rehnquist intervened inappropriately in a federal audit of a Florida pension fund. These allegations are very serious. They accuse the inspector general of a failure to perform her duties independently.”

The request for delaying the audit did not come from the agency overseeing the pension fund. Instead, it came directly from the governor’s office.

Sources close to the matter describe the following chain of events: A call came for Rehnquist on April 15th, the day before the audit was scheduled to begin. She couldn’t take the call but asked an associate to speak to the caller, Kathleen Shanahan, chief of staff to Gov. Jeb Bush and former aide to Vice President Dick Cheney.

Shanahan told the HHS employee that it was urgent she speak to Rehnquist because they wanted to delay the audit until a new employee heading up the program could start his job. Rehnquist received the message and ordered the audit delayed.

Investigators said audit delays, while common, are usually decided at much lower levels and for reasons such as illness. “This one smells to high heaven,” said an employee of the HHS’s inspector general’s office. “No IG should ever intervene with something like this, particularly if it’s the president’s brother in a tight re-election race.”
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Vacancy Announcement Number</th>
<th>Salary Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Director, Competitive Sourcing &amp; Management Analysis Staff</td>
<td>Department of Veterans Affairs</td>
<td>OPP 02-26</td>
<td>$92,060 - $119,682</td>
<td>Responsible for implementing the requirements of Government-wide policies on the performance of commercial activities, the Act (P.L. 105-270), and the Administration’s competitive sourcing initiatives. The incumbent is responsible for policy development, oversight, and analysis, and technical guidance on matters associated with management analysis and competitive sourcing. The incumbent advises the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning on matters relating to organizational efficiency, the proper and accurate classification of commercial and inherently governmental functions, strategic sourcing, business process improvement, and competitive sourcing processes (including streamlined competitive sourcing studies using market-based analysis, formal A-B competitions, and direct conversion sourcing assessments). The incumbent oversees all activities of the Department in these areas and provides advice and recommendations as appropriate. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program</td>
<td>Department of the Health and Human Services</td>
<td>OHH-SES-02-SECDP</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Department of Health and Human Services is looking for future leaders who have the vision, talent and skills necessary to bring 21st century management practices to America’s health care and social services programs. This 6-8 month program will provide a series of intensive development experiences for high potential candidates as we prepare them for executive responsibilities. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Director, Resource &amp; Visitor Protection</td>
<td>Department of the Interior, National Park Service</td>
<td>NPSSES-02-02</td>
<td>$125,972 - $138,200</td>
<td>The Associate Director, Resource and Visitor Protection (NPS Chief Ranger) serves as the principal advisor to the Director of protection and emergency matters, National Park Service (NPS) facilities, sites, visitors, and employees. The Associate Director establishes policies to provide protection, security, and law enforcement for the people, critical infrastructure, facilities and protection of natural and cultural resources from poaching, illegal collecting and malicious destruction. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Solicitor, Administration</td>
<td>Department of the Interior, Office of the Solicitor</td>
<td>SOLX-02-04</td>
<td>$125,972 - $138,200</td>
<td>The Associate Solicitor, Administration will serve as the chief advisor to the Solicitor, Deputy Solicitor, other Associate Solicitors, and Regional Solicitors on the legal, policy and administrative aspects of the Solicitor’s functioning in the areas of budget and accounting, personnel management, government ethics, performance management, information systems, docket control and records management, facilities and property management, contracting and procurement, program evaluation and management controls, travel and land transactions, and executive responsibilities. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director, Plum Island Animal Disease Center</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>ARSSES-02-05</td>
<td>$130,210 - $138,200</td>
<td>Plum Island Animal Disease Center (PIADC) is located on an island 1.8 miles off the tip of Orient Point, New York. By statute, it is the only place in the U.S. where research may be carried out using live viruses which cause foot and mouth disease and rabies. The Director provides the leadership and national accountability for the Joint Agricultural Research Service (ARS) and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) programs on the island in consultation with top management officials at both agencies. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director, Partnerships, Interpretation &amp; Education, Volunteers and Outdoor Recreation</td>
<td>Department of the Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration</td>
<td>NOAAP-02-03</td>
<td></td>
<td>The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is looking for a member of the Senior Executive Service with a Secret Security Clearance to fill the position of Assistant Administrator. The Assistant Administrator is an integral member of the NOAA management team, the AA for OAR also serves on the NOAA Executive Committee (NEC) and is responsible for the direction and implementation of all activities of OAR, resolving operational and technical management problems, maintaining surveillance over operations, and ensuring the timely and adequate implementation of established goals and programs. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF THE COMMERCE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deputy Administrator, Families, 4-H and Nutrition</td>
<td>Department of Agriculture</td>
<td>CSREES-SES-02-07</td>
<td>$125,972 - $138,200</td>
<td>The Deputy Administrator for Families, 4-H, and Nutrition, provides leadership and support for cooperative research, education and extension programs and other collaborative initiatives that are carried out by land-grant and other colleges and universities as well as private sector entities. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Director for Enterprise Management</td>
<td>United States Army, Office of the Secretary of the Army</td>
<td>DA-30-02</td>
<td>$125,972 - $138,200</td>
<td>As the Director for Enterprise Management the incumbent is responsible for the policy, oversight preptency, and technical management of critical Army information management, e-business, and knowledge management programs integrating the disciplines of telecommunications, automation, knowledge management, and electronic data interchange for the Army’s warfighting, organizational and business missions. To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit OPM website at <a href="http://www.usajobs.opm.gov">www.usajobs.opm.gov</a> and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications. U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE UNITED STATES ARMY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.</td>
</tr>
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GOVERNMENT

General Counsel
Department of Defense, Defense Contract Audit Agency
Salary Range: $125,972 - $138,200
Vacancy Announcement Number: SES 03-01

The General Counsel in this position is the legal advisor to the Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) Director and the primary legal authority within DCAA. The incumbent provides expert advice on all questions of law related to the operation, mission, and functions of DCAA. The DCAA General Counsel is the final authority on decisions involving the legal aspects of DCAA’s worldwide operations.

To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit the OPM website at www.usajobs.opm.gov and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Chief, Systems Application Division
Department of Defense, Defense Threat Reduction Agency
Salary Range: $125,972 - $138,200
Vacancy Announcement Number: DTRA-SES-2102

The Chief, Systems Application Division, serves as the focal point for DoD weapon and sensor programs devoted to the characterization and detection of foreign weapons of mass destruction (WMD) threat facilities. Responsibilities include leading and managing agency teams that deliver improved capabilities to the warfighter, and the coordination of DTRA technology programs to combat terrorism. The Chief also directs a staff of civilian and military personnel in the development and execution of research and development programs responsive to the Services and other DoD programs.

To view the complete announcement or to apply for this position, visit the OPM website at www.usajobs.opm.gov and type the position title in “Search Jobs” for a copy of the announcement and specific application specifications.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP IS REQUIRED. CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

Director, Mathematical, Computer & Information Sciences Division
Department of the Navy, Office of Naval Research
Salary Range: $125,972 - $138,200
Vacancy Announcement Number: ONR-02-0026-NR

The Director, Mathematical, Computer & Information Sciences Division is responsible for an integrated program of basic research and advanced technology development. The incumbent is also responsible for the management of Office of Naval Research programs in command and control, combat systems, intelligent systems, robotics, operations research, computational decision-making, information assurance, applied mathematics and software research.

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Department of Defense, National Imagery & Mapping Agency
Salary Range: $125,972 - $138,200
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Now the Real Work Begins

With remarkable speed, President Bush turned his Election Day victory into a legislative gain, getting virtually everything he wanted in a homeland security bill he will soon sign into law. Now comes the hard part: turning it into a management victory.

In the long struggle over worker protections, too many of us have taken our eye off the ball — the immense challenge the president, his aides and thousands of career civil servants face in creating an effective and efficient government agency that will protect Americans at home (and not endanger the public in the course of a massive government reshuffling).

The election demonstrated that the voting public trusts the president to wage the war against terror, but it’s a trust he must re-earn every day. And there are many government experts who aren’t convinced that creating a new department will yield enough benefits to justify the cost and effort.

Signing the legislation will set a number of events into motion. A secretary will be named, perhaps before Thanksgiving. Within 60 days, the president must submit to Congress a detailed plan for creating the department.

The lengthy congressional debate has given the administration a head-start on that plan. Working under top-secret conditions within the Office of Homeland Security, a small cadre of trusted aides have been preparing for what will be the biggest government shake-up in more than half a century.

Merging 22 departments with 170,000 employees and creating a new personnel system in the process will be a monumental task. The planning team has consulted with executives from private companies that managed large mergers, with widely varying degrees of success. The planners have also spent hours on more specific questions — ranging from organizational charts to the headquarters location to the design of an emblem.

But the administration doesn’t seem to have devoted serious time to another huge challenge — persuading half of the career civil servants who ultimately will determine the venture’s success or failure — that it is a good idea to join.

In fact, it’s almost as though the administration has gone out of its way to antagonize the federal workforce.

The debate over worker protections has left many government employees with the impression that the administration distracts them and is planning a wholesale housecleaning. That could become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Workers afraid of losing their jobs are more likely to avoid risk and the bold action needed to quickly pull together a new department. Unions are playing defense and threatening delaying tactics.

The Senior Executive Service supports many of the management tools Bush secured in this legislation, but top managers feel alienated because they’ve been left out of the planning process. Consultation with CEOs who engineered big mergers is fine, but why not bring veteran civil servants into the process?

Administration spokesmen acknowledge that the new secretary and his top deputies will need a good relationship with employees to get the job done. But a lot of bitterness has built up over the past few months. Accusations on both sides will make it harder for the new secretary to create the esprit de corps needed to make the department effective.

It is up to President Bush to make this happen. He should take steps soon to speak directly to federal workers, assuring them they are held in respect and that he needs and wants their involvement.

But reaching out is only the first step. He must follow that up with concrete actions. It’s not too late to make this work, but it soon may be.

So Long Connie

Federal workers lost a loyal friend when Rep. Connie Morella was defeated by Chris Van Hollen.

Morella, whose Maryland district includes tens of thousands of federal employees, worked tirelessly for her constituents. She fought hard, but unsuccessfully, for including workers’ rights in the new Department of Homeland Security. She fought year after year for higher pay, more pension benefits and long-term health care. And she was the biggest congressional supporter of the Thrift Savings Plan, the government’s 401(k) retirement program. Some of her biggest successes happened outside the spotlight — in blocking legislation she deemed harmful to government workers.

That was a gamble that may have a big cost. Van Hollen shares most of Morella’s views on federal government policies. But as a junior member in the minority he’ll have a lot less clout than his veteran predecessor, who already chaired a House Government Reform subcommittee.

2002 Distinguished Executive Award Winners

The Office of Personnel Management announced the winners of the 2002 Distinguished Executive Award last week. They are:

- Agriculture
  Keith J. Collins, Allen R. Dedrick, Susan Offutt, I. Kaye Wachsmuth
- Commerce
  Thomas R. Karl
- Defense
- Education
  Thomas M. Corwin, Philip S. Link
- Health and Human Services
  Joseph H. Autry III, William F. Raub
- Housing and Urban Development
  John P. Kennedy
- Interior
  Timothy S. Elliott, John D. Trezise
- Justice
  John C. Crusen, David Maroglis
- Transportation
  Rosalind A. Knapp
- Treasury
  Carl M. Locken, Jr., C. Danny Spriggs, John R. Watson

Veterans Affairs
Alfonso R. Batres, D. Mark Catlett, Patricia A. McKlem

Broadcasting Board of Governors
Brian T. Conniff

Environmental Protection Agency
Robert D. Brenner

General Services Administration
Kenneth J. Kalscheur, Gail T. Lovelace

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Ghassem Asrar, Nancy F. Bingham, Michael R. Lurber, Samuel E. Massenberg, John D. Schumacher, Tereasa H. Washington

National Science Foundation
Machi F. Dilworth, Lawrence Rudolph

Nuclear Regulatory Commission
John A. Zwolinski

Office of Management and Budget
David J. Haun, Steven J. Jakowitz

Small Business Administration
John D. Whitmore, Jr.

Social Security Administration
Stephen C. Goss, Larry G. Massanari

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The Making of a Democratic Fantasy for 2005?

By LAWRENCE J. HAAS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 2005 — Two years after a devastating midterm election left his party adrift, a new Democratic pres- ident took office today pledging to more aggressively pursue freedom and democ- racy abroad while calling on Americans to serve their nation at home.

The new presi- dent came to power after a hard-fought campaign in which he sought to elevate the country and its people, to create an America that is unflinchingly proud of its rich ideals and to shape a nation in which all Americans could be part of something larger than themselves.

In that campaign, he was helped by strong party unity. Soon after the 2002 elec- tions, party activists chose to unite rather than engage in internecine warfare between liberals and moderates. They united around a candidate, providing the essential funding and grassroots help that he needed in the early caucuses and primaries to wrap up the party’s nomination early.

The new president campaigned on a platform — “One America: At Home and Abroad” — that reached out to the plurali- ty of voters who describe themselves as “independents,” while reassuring core Democratic constituencies. To build broad support, he promised a bolder foreign policy, a crusade for energy independence and a budget truly focused on the future. To reassure organized labor, African-Americans and other key con- stituencies, he backed affirmative action, a higher minimum wage and a strong federal safety net.

On issue after issue, he reached out to the broad middle of America’s electorate, while retaining the Democratic base. On trade, he promoted a robust free-trade agenda as well as assistance for dislocated workers. On energy, he pushed for more drilling as well as more conservation.

The new president also capitalized on a series of breaks. The economy recovered only modestly from the 2001 recession, pro- viding little of the explosive job growth of the 1990s. The huge and growing budget deficit sent interest rates up, restricting growth and raising borrowing costs for con- sumers and businesses.

In addition, Bush overreached, pushing for anti-abortion and environmental poli- cies that kept the Republican base happy but scared away mainstream voters. At the same time, his labor and affirmative action policies energized core Democratic con- stituencies and voters.

All told, the new president provided a vision and agenda that made the incum- bent’s tenure seem timid and incoherent.

On foreign policy, with war against Iraq prosecuted quickly in early 2003, the new president focused public atten- tion on other challenges. With many Democrats continuing to oppose Bush’s military posture, he split with his colleagues to argue for more boldness, not less.

He promised to end U.S. support for Saudi Arabia and Egypt, arguing that it erodes the seeds of anti-Americanism among Saudis and Egyptians who hate their gov- ernments. Confronting Bush’s call to “stand by” traditional friends in the Middle East, the new president cited anti-American propaganda that gushes from state-run Saudi and Egyptian media and asked, “What are we getting for our friendship?”

He promised a more consistent pro- democracy approach overseas, saying that America’s hard line toward Iran’s mullahs has helped to foster an underground pro- democracy movement that is distinctly pro-American. He also promised a more balanced approach to American interna- tionism, making clear that success must come not only in confronting our enemies militarily, but also in helping our former enemies move the transition to democracy once the fighting stops.

For his own, U.S. policy toward the Middle East has been inextricably linked to the nation’s energy policy, and it was on energy that the new president linked his foreign and domestic agendas together most effectively.

He tapped into post-Sept. 11 yearning by Americans to “do something,” some- thing beyond Bush’s request that they keep the economy moving by going shopping. He called for a national campaign of ener- gy independence in which the nation would drill more, seek alternative sources of energy and conserve. He urged the sup- port of the nation’s CEOs as well as the American people.

On tax policy, too, the new president sought to rally Americans to a larger cause. Bush tried to label his opponent an old- fashioned “tax and spend” Democrat. But the new president understood that his mes- sage about debt left to children would not sink in overnight. He stuck with it, making the argument persistently and, finally, turn- ing the tax debate — and the campaign — on its head.

Lawrence J. Haas, who was Vice President Gore’s communications director, is senior vice president and director of public affairs at Manning Selvage & Lee, a global public rela- tions firm. The opinions expressed are his own.

Democrat’s Bane in 2002

By ANDREW FERGUSON

By my count, roughly 8,793,246 words of analysis have been published about the disaster that befell the Democratic Party on Election Day 2002, and many of those have even been interest- ing, if only for the range of views expressed.

According to soon-to-be Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, the Democratic defeat “wasn’t for lack of a message. It’s for a lack of articulating the message effectively.”

Dick Harpootlian, chairman of the South Carolina Democratic Party, disagreed. “We had no message this year,” Harpootlian said.

The more plausible view lies between these two extremes. It was expressed well by Democratic Rep. Martin Frost. Both Harpootlian and Daschle are wrong, Frost said. Democrats did indeed have a message. And they articulated it effectively. And a majority of voters didn’t like it or them.

After the unpleasantness of 2000, the country was looking for a president — a na- tional tie between Democrats and Republicans. It is tied no longer. According to nationwide vote totals, the split tilted toward Republicans on Nov. 5, roughly 53 percent to 47 percent.

Frost’s account of why this happened is at once profound and painfully obvious: The issue was national security.

“If you are seen by the country as not caring about the country as not standing for a strong America, the country

By ANDREW FERGUSON

By ANDREW FERGUSON

He said then, announcing her resignation, “the environmental con- sequences of the war are as impor- tant to the people there as the air they breathe and the water they drink.”

As the National Journal commented at the time: “Pelosi always runs the risk of being positioned on the political fringe.”

The risk for Democrats is that their party will remain there with her. The frus- tration for moderates, as Frost said, is that beyond issues of national security, Democrats are in good standing with the electorate. They have built a coalition of working women, minorities and well-edu- cated professionals. Healthy majorities agree with mainstream Democratic posi- tions on the environment, health care, guns and abortion.

Unfortunately for Democrats, the first 15 months the American people witnessed the president’s priority that puts all others in the shade — is not getting blown up. Sept. 11 showed even the most pacific Americans that their country has many enemies who will kill them given the chance.

And when it comes to stopping those enemies, they trust President Bush and Republicans more than Daschle, Carter, Pelosi and the wobbly warriors of the Democratic caucus. A higher minimum wage would be nice, but it doesn’t help much if you’re dead.

Oddly enough, liberal Democrats have bought into the right-wing caricature of their constituents — that single women, poor minorities, recent immigrants and the falsely “swinging voters” are so dazzled by gov- ernment bailouts that they will hap- pily subordinate their worries over nation- al security.

They won’t, which is why the country is no longer led. Democrats may someday pull even with Republicans again, probably even pull ahead — but not until they understand why American voters broke the tie on Election Day.

Andrew Ferguson is a columnist for Bloomberg News. The opinions expressed are his own.
There's No Business Like Big Business …

By JOHN SCHACHTER

How come this election year we didn't hear the rallying cry: "It's time to run government like a business"? We've got unbalanced budgets, corruption, scandals and old white guys who won't give up power. "Oh, right, our government is run like a business." 

Fortunately corporate life continues to pay more than ever. Republicans countered that, fortunately, Webster lacked the credentials to lead an accounting board and that his appointment was a total capitulation to big business. 

Pitt finally resigned following a tough investigation of himself by himself. The turning point came when a tenacious Pitt unrelentingly pressed himself with blistering cross-examination. "What did I know, and when did I know it?" he intoned mercilessly until, alas, he could take no more. As he left the building, he remarked to reporters, "Have I no shame?"

"Corporate crime will no longer pay," President Bush said when he signed the corporate reform bill this summer. Fortunately, corporate life continues to pay even more. Many CEOs even get their country club memberships covered. The CEOs insist it's a legitimate expense: Where else can they meet without being bothered by those pesky women and minorities (other than the boardroom)? The world of corporate America remains a diverse one, open to anyone — whether you're white or Caucasian, rich or filthy rich, male or female.

But Democrats are wrong if they think all business leaders are on the take. It's just that 99 percent of crooked CEOs give the rest a bad name. Some members of Congress are so incensed about corporate wrongdoing they're pushing for Draconian measures. Crooked CEOs could be forced to marry Mrs. Jack Welch.

The companies in trouble span the spectrum of industries: 

• First, there was Enron. Already victims and perpetrators alike are taking advantage. Playboy magazine had its "Women of Enron" issue, with former employees bar-ing all. Stripped of their assets and 401(k)s, discarding their dignity was no big leap. Some men of Enron are likely to pose naked as well (but that's only a small part of prison life). 

Corporate crime may no longer pay, but corporate life pays more than ever.

• The CEO of one prominent HMO faces charges of fraud. If convicted, he'll need a referral from another court to appeal the verdict. 

• The SEC charged Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts with issuing misleading press releases. If that's a crime, every member of Congress should fear indictment (more than they already do). Trump's company agreed to stop committing such violations — at least, that's what its press release said. 

Other issues remain as well. There's the debate over mandating that employers give workers notice before imposing 401(k) "blackouts," periods restricting employees' ability to sell holdings. Liberals howl in protest. They insist they be called 401(k) "outs of color." 

And the SEC budget remains a source of contention. Democrats want $776 million; the White House wants $568 million. The folks at Arthur Andersen said just split the difference and give them $37.2 trillion. 

Of course, no discussion of corporate scandal is complete without the granddad of them all, WorldCom. Several executives at the long-distance carrier face charges of accounting fraud. At the very least, the wrongdoers should get unlimited nights and weekends in prison. 

And who could blame the company whistleblowers for asking their superiors, "Can you hear me now?"

John Schachter's humor column appears regularly in The Federal Paper. E-mail: jschachter@fedpaper.com

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