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MORE NEWS

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ELIZABETH EDWARDS: IT'S COMPLICATED



Edwards
Rielle Hunter's baby. **1B**

John Edwards' wife tells Oprah Winfrey of her marital struggles and says she doesn't know whether the former senator is the father of

ANTI-BULLYING BILL GETS SENATE OK

The proposal includes sexual orientation as among the types of student harassment to be avoided. The measure needs a final Senate vote before moving to the House. **1B**

STORMS BRING FLOODS, TORNADO REPORTS

Extreme weather jolts the Triangle and Eastern North Carolina, with power outages, flooded streets and sightings of twisters. There were no immediate reports of injuries. **1B**

FILM FUNNY MAN DOM DELUISE DIES



DeLuise
movies, dies at age 75. His life-long dieting struggles once led him to seek help in Durham. **2A**

Dom DeLuise, the portly comedian whose manic characters brightened many Mel Brooks and Burt Reynolds

SMITHFIELD CEO CRIES FOUL OVER FLU

The head of Smithfield Foods, the world's largest pork processor, says the swine flu scare is a 'case of mistaken identity,' when it comes to pork. But he's optimistic that the worst is over. **5B**

PROGRESS EARNINGS SHOW BRIGHT SPOT

The power company's first-quarter electricity sales offer hope that the recession may be coming to an end. But the recovery won't be quick or easy. **5B**

WEATHER

Today: Showers likely, with evening thunderstorms. High 79; low 65.

Thursday: Decreasing clouds and storms. High 83, low 65. **10B**

INDEX

Business.....5B Editorials.....8A
Classified.....11D Films.....2D
Comics.....80 Puzzles.....20
Deaths.....8B TV.....6D



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Interrogation memo authors unlikely to be charged

But report suggests professional sanctions against trio of Bush lawyers

By DAVID JOHNSTON AND SCOTT SHANE
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — An internal Justice Department inquiry has concluded that Bush administration lawyers committed serious lapses of judgment in writing secret memos that authorized brutal interrogations but that they should not be prosecuted, according to government officials briefed on its findings.

The report by the Office of Professional Responsibility, an internal ethics unit within the Justice Department, is also likely to ask state bar associations to consider possible disciplinary action, which could include reprimands or even disbarment, for some of the lawyers involved in writing the legal opinions, the officials said.

The conclusions of the 220-page draft report are not final and have not yet been approved by Attorney General Eric Holder. The officials said it was possible the

final report might be subject to further revision, but they did not expect major alterations in its main findings or recommendations.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity. Several other news sources reported the details of the inquiry, also citing anonymous sources, including The Associated Press and CNN.

The findings would represent a sting-

SEE MEMOS, PAGE 6A

DOING GOOD WORKS IN A BAD ECONOMY



WakeMed volunteer Susan Mitchell, left, and Sarah, her Nova Scotia duck tolling retriever, visit with patient Wendy Castaneda, 13. Susan was laid off in March and spends more time volunteering.

STAFF PHOTO BY TRAVIS LONG

The newly jobless find volunteering is a give-and-take comfort

By MARTHA QUILLIN
STAFF WRITER

Susan Mitchell has been unemployed since March, but she's never at a loss for work.

A Type A personality who found herself with time on her hands, Mitchell is almost as busy now as before she was laid off from her job as a project manager for software development. She's a hospice volunteer, a foster mother for rescued dogs and, twice a week, the lady in the pink pinafore who visits WakeMed with the canine equivalent of a happy pill.

"It has changed my life tremendously," Mitchell said of being able to expand her volunteer activities while looking for a new job.

Those who work with charities across the Triangle say they have seen a measurable increase in the number of volunteers who want to give time and in the number of hours volunteers have to offer since last fall, when the U.S. economy began to sour. Some say they have noticed an increase since January, which may be credited in part to President Barack Obama's admonishment to Americans to contribute to community service.

"You'd be surprised at the calls I get. People saying, 'I'm out of work, and I really want to help the community, but I really want to get some experience, too,'" said Corinne Everett, director of volunteer services at the Volunteer Center of Durham.

The center works with 600 other nonprofits, connecting people with organizations that can use them. In some cases, Everett said, organizations get far more applications for volunteers than there are open positions.

A good match can benefit both the organization and the

SEE DOING GOOD, PAGE 6A

E-mail fells ABC boss

A racist photo circulated after November's election prompts Gov. Beverly Perdue to ask Doug Fox to resign.

By MARK JOHNSON
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Gov. Beverly Perdue asked for — and received — the resignation of N.C. Alcoholic Beverage Commission Chairman Doug Fox on Tuesday, just hours after newspapers provided Perdue's office with a copy of a racist photo illustration sent from Fox's e-mail address after last November's election.

The e-mail included an altered photo of the White House that turned the South Lawn into an enormous watermelon patch. The phrase, "There goes the neighborhood ..." was printed above the photo.

The e-mail was sent from Fox's law firm address Nov. 14 — 10 days after Barack Obama was elected president. The message, which had been forwarded multiple times by others before reaching Fox, contained no text other than the subject line, "how true."

Fox made no mention of the e-mail in his resignation letter, suggesting instead that he was leaving voluntarily.

"I believe it is time to surrender the helm to someone new," Fox wrote.

But Perdue indicated in a statement Tuesday afternoon that the resignation was linked to the e-mail.

"I have accepted Doug Fox's letter of resignation," Perdue said. "E-mails and images of this nature are offensive and unacceptable."

Fox, who was paid \$110,000 last year, offered to stay on and help his successor settle in. Perdue, who will appoint a new chairman, declined.

"The resignation will be effective immediately," said David Kochman, Perdue's communications director.

The News & Observer and Charlotte Observer contacted Fox last Thursday through the ABC Commission staff and e-mailed him at his law firm in Wilmington on Monday seeking comment. He did not respond.

Fox also has served for the past year as president of the National Alcohol Beverage Control Association, which represents the 19 states with government-run liquor sales.

SEE FOX, PAGE 6A

Wake won't seek consent for year-round schools

Decision rankles system's critics

By T. KEUNG HUI
STAFF WRITER

RALEIGH — Just four days after winning a state Supreme Court ruling, the Wake County school board voted Tuesday to stop asking parents for permission to send their children to year-round schools.

With a 5-2 vote, board members agreed to dispense with the consent forms that the court said are not needed before students can be assigned to year-round schools. Board members emphasized that families already living in Wake who don't want their children to attend year-round schools could have applied in February for a seat at a traditional-calendar school.

"For people who don't file the paperwork in the right time

frame, they're going to need to go to their assigned school," said school board member Lori Millberg. "That's not unreasonable."

Tuesday's decision has an immediate impact on nearly 1,200 students whose parents previously didn't give consent and had not applied in February for a traditional-calendar school. It also impacts new students who move into the attendance area for a year-round school.

In the longer run, the decision

serves to galvanize critics of the school district who have said they'll make opposition to mandatory year-round schools a campaign issue this fall. Four of the nine school board seats are on the October ballot, and opponents to both the district's year-round and diversity policies vow to field candidates more amenable to their views.

The decision disappointed Kathleen Brennan, a co-founder of Wake CARES, the parent

group that filed a 2007 lawsuit that led to a lower-court order that mandated that the consent forms be issued.

"There are a lot of things that people have the authority to do, but it doesn't mean that's the right thing to do," Brennan said.

Board members pointed out that families who still don't want to go to a year-round school can file a transfer request. The trans-

SEE YEAR-ROUND, PAGE 6A