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Government braces for shutdown

By Alan Fram
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Clinton vetoed twin spending and borrowing bills Monday but then met late into the night with congressional leaders to explore ways of averting a partial government shutdown.

Republican leaders requested the 11th hour talks with the president just hour before the expiration at midnight Monday of most of the government's spending authority.

"We're willing to go down and talk to the president about how to keep the government open," House Speaker Newt Gingrich, R-Ga., said Monday night. "He set no preconditions. We set no preconditions."

Earlier in the day, Clinton had vetoed one budget bill and prepared to reject another. It was uncertain whether the late talks might avert a shutdown when most of the government's spending powers were to elapse at mid-

night Monday.

White House press secretary Mike McCurry said Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole and Gingrich had "reached out to the president."

"They must have something new to say," McCurry said.

Also to attend the 7 p.m. meeting at the White House were House and Senate

Democratic Leaders Dick Gephardt and Tom Daschle. The Senate was recessed until 11 p.m. in anticipation of some development.

McCurry said the meeting would take place in the Oval Office after Clinton vetoed a temporary spending bill. Also invited to the meet-

ing were House Democratic Leader Dick Gephardt and Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle.

Citing GOP budget priorities that would "rob the American dream from millions of Americans," Clinton vetoed emergency legislation that would extend the government's ability to borrow money beyond its expected expiration Wednesday.

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin immediately took steps to raise cash and prevent a first-ever

default, which could cause financial tumult.

The Senate, by voice vote, passed and shipped to Clinton on Monday a separate stop-gap bill financing agencies through Dec. 1. That, too, was destined for a veto. Knowing that, congressional leaders planned to keep the House and Senate in session until midnight or later in case the president and Republicans could find middle ground. But first, they said, Clinton would have to contact them, not vice versa.

"We'll be available if the president gives any indication he doesn't want to shut down the government," Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole, R-Kan., told reporters.

But with most agencies' power to spend money set to expire at the start of business Tuesday, failure to break the political deadlock meant that 800,000 federal civilian employees

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"Ordinary people don't like pressure tactics, and I would be wrong to permit these kind of pressure tactics to dramatically change the course of American life."

President Clinton



Photo courtesy WSU Police Department

Vince and Larry costumes have been purchased by WSU Police for area events.

Dummies hope to educate

Crash-test characters Vince and Larry join police force

By Stacey Burns
The Daily Evergreen

After a long and expensive process, the WSU Police Department has two new faces on its force.

Making their first appearance at the football game on Saturday, nationally known crash-test dummies Vince and Larry rode onto the football field on the seat-beltless helmet car.

"A lot of little kids yelled at them for not wearing their seat belts," said Officer Theresa Memmel of the WSU Police Department. "They have a good following among smaller Cougar fans."

The dummies, known for their commercials regarding seat belt safety, have been in high demand by campus wellness groups over the years, WSU Police Capt. Mike Kenny said.

"There have been a large number of requests," he said. "We needed to have a set of our own."

Vince and Larry will be used at events such as health fairs and sporting events where the police department can promote seat belt safety, Memmel said. The two are scheduled to make an appearance at the Lentil Festival next year.

The department will allow campus organizations to use Vince and Larry to promote seat belt safety and awareness.

"Whoever wants to use them just has to provide

two people and abide by the rules," Kenny said. "They are a teaching tool that can be used by anyone who wants to teach safety."

The only problem the WSU Police Department ran into with obtaining the dummies was funding. Together the Vince and Larry costumes cost \$1,500.

The police department, however, sought out and received donations from several campus organizations including the CUB, Health and Wellness Center, President's Office, Parking Services and Police Services. Kenny and his wife Trudy also made a personal donation.

"I felt very seriously about the program and its goals and the fact that it would be a good tool for use in the community," Kenny said. "It was advantageous for us to bring them here."

Memmel said the police department has never owned a set of Vince and Larry costumes before. They did, however, bring them in last spring from Grant County.

Use of the dummies at other law enforcement agencies depends on how involved the agency is in seat belt safety and usage, Memmel said.

"We're committed here," she said.

Judicial Board rules on GLBA

But decision on grievance won't be made public until later this week

By Jerrel Swenning
The Daily Evergreen

A decision by the Judicial Board on the recognition of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Association (GLBA) as an ASWSU committee has been made but will not be released until later this week.

Although the GLBA was voted in as a committee on Oct. 11, 1st District Sen. John Musella filed a grievance complaint with the Judicial Board stating the application filed by the group was incomplete.

Missing from the application were the assets and liabilities of the group, how officers are selected and the programming it does.

"Proper time and care was not taken in the drafting of that legislation," Musella said.

"People have said that these are minor details, but the (ASWSU) bylaws require it, so it should be done."

But Bobbi Bonace, the director of GLBA, said there could be underlying beliefs fueling the grievance.

"I think he's letting his personal beliefs get in the way of his duties as a senator," Bonace said. "I think (1st District Senator) John Robinson did a credible job in preparing the bill."

She also said the parts of the bill that are missing were included in the bill — although maybe not in

great length — or were discussed in an open forum which Musella didn't attend.

Bonace also challenged Musella's claim that the bill did not receive enough media coverage.

"I don't think it is a media event," she said, adding that groups come before ASWSU all the time to gain committee status.

At the grievance hearing on Thursday, Musella displayed five applications he chose randomly that were done properly, he said.

When the bill was passed by ASWSU, Musella was the only senator who voted against it after lengthy discussion. At that meeting, he said he might be labeled homophobic but believed he was not the only senator against the bill.

Musella said since then he has been approached by constituents who had questions

about his voting, but only one person who was adamantly against it.

Others have been supportive, he said.

"The students' main concern with the GLBA becoming a committee was that they don't want student fees going to support this organization," he said.

Neither side had comments on the pending decision which will be given this week.

"The Judicial Board's decision is going to be ultimate," Musella said. "There is going to be no recourse."

"Proper time and care was not taken in the drafting of that legislation. People have said that these are minor details, but the Beylaws require it, so it should be done."

John Musella
1st District Senator