

Justice watchdog says he lacks authority to probe eavesdropping program

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department's independent watchdog says it does not have jurisdiction to open an investigation into the legality of the Bush administration's domestic eavesdropping program.

Also Tuesday, the Pentagon referred a Democratic request for an internal review on the subject to the

National Security Agency's inspector general.

In a three-paragraph letter, Justice's Inspector General Glenn Fine forwarded the request to the department's Office of Professional Responsibility, which reviews allegations of misconduct involving employees' actions when providing legal advice.

President Bush's decision to authorize the NSA to monitor — without warrants — people inside the United

States has sparked a flurry of questions about the program's legal justification.

Bush and his top aides say the activities of the nation's largest spy agency were narrowly targeted to intercept calls and e-mails of Americans and others inside the United States with suspected ties to al-Qaida.

But a growing chorus of legal experts from both parties are raising doubts about Bush's authority to

order such monitoring on U.S. soil and questioning the White House's decision to seek changes in law.

Congress also plans to investigate. As part of its work, the House and Senate intelligence committees will soon hear from former NSA officer Russell T. Tice. The whistleblower told lawmakers in Dec. 16 letter that he had information about "probable unlawful and unconstitutional acts"

involving the NSA director, the defense secretary and other officials as part of highly classified government operations.

ABC News reported Tuesday night that Tice claims to be one of the dozen sources who spoke to The New York Times about monitoring programs.

Over three dozen House Democrats — led by Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., a member of the Judiciary

and Homeland Security committees — have requested separate investigations by Justice's inspector general, the Pentagon's inspector general and Congress' watchdogs at the Government Accountability Office.

A senior Defense Department official said the Pentagon's watchdog will not do a review because the NSA's inspector general is "actively reviewing aspects of that program."

SGTV • CONTINUED FROM 1

issues to sort themselves.

Executive council has spent more than \$8,000 equipping Pennetti, who is supervising production for SGTV, with a new video camera and editing computer.

He used the computer to play back a taped session of the Student Senate, edited with an announcement marquee scrolling on the bottom of the screen. He also played a train safety PSA filmed and submitted by a student.

Pennetti is also helping to resolve the legal issues that have snagged SGTV's timetable by drafting a contract release form for students to sign when they submit videos. The form indicates that the submitter knows his content and follows the guidelines set down by Student Government and the university for content to be broadcast, such as following the Carolinian Creed.

But legal issues are the least of Pennetti's worries when concerned for the station's timetable.

"It's a slow process to create this system. You're setting up a network; it takes time without knowing how the system works," Pennetti said.

Pennetti said four Freshman Council members are supposed to be helping him, but he is always looking for more students interested in the process of broadcasting a channel.

"That's how the ball gets rolling — with the people, not just the new equipment and technology."

While personnel issues are sorted out, the need for original content from students will always be insatiable.

Confirmed programs will include taped sessions of the Student Senate and the return of "CTV," a combination variety show and video magazine that once aired

in between movies on the WRHA campus television station.

In all, five hours of programming are ready to be broadcast, looping about five times each day.

Pennetti said more content is on its way, eventually so that programs run in seven-hour slots repeated about three times a day for an entire week.

As more students and organizations submit content, SGTV will be able to add new seven-hour slots of content each week, eventually so that the station will air new programming twice each week. But Pennetti admits that might not happen until the fall.

"So far we have five hours (of programming) out of 24, and 24 hours is an awful lot of time," he said.

Pennetti new show suggestions include "CTV Cribs," a university send-up of the popular MTV show, as well as a late-night talk

show featuring SG President Justin Williams, a fourth-year political science student, chatting with guests.

Also in the works are recorded events from Carolina Productions, as well as migrating the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's "Carolina News" program, a product of the school's senior broadcast journalism students.

"We're hoping to be like the Garnet & Black (for television)," Pennetti said.

Pennetti said the station will clear the "legal paperwork" involved in approximately two weeks, though other factors could stall the first broadcast even further.

Still, Pennetti and his ad hoc production team aren't resting on their laurels.

"We are not stopping our wheels; we're still spinning them."

Comments on this story? E-mail gamecocknews@gum.sc.edu

MLK DAY • CONTINUED FROM 1

House Ballroom to receive job assignments.

According to the USC Web site, more than 550 students, staff, and faculty members provided cleaning and gardening services for the elderly, hosted a children's carnival, planted memorial gardens, raised funding for the Modjeska Simkins' Home, and cleaned the Midlands wetlands at last year's Day of Service.

To wrap up the commemorative weekend, the annual MLK Gospel

Unity Fest honoring King's life and legacy will feature such groups as Lee Williams and the Spiritual QC's, C. B. Jackson Singers and The Gospel Redeemers.

The gospel fest will be held at the Koger Center starting at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets are on sale at the Carolina Coliseum Box Office for \$10.

For more information, visit <http://hr.sc.edu/mlk/king2006.html> for a complete listing of the day's events.

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LAWS • CONTINUED FROM 1

At that scale, materials are measured in nanometers or billionths of a meter.

Nanoscale materials, including particles used today in stain-resistant pants and suntan lotions, are generally less than 100

nanometers in diameter. A sheet of paper, in comparison, is a whopping 100,000 nanometers thick.

Nano boosters herald the potential for small-scale materials to have enormous effects on much of what we do, including develop drugs and sop up toxic pollution.

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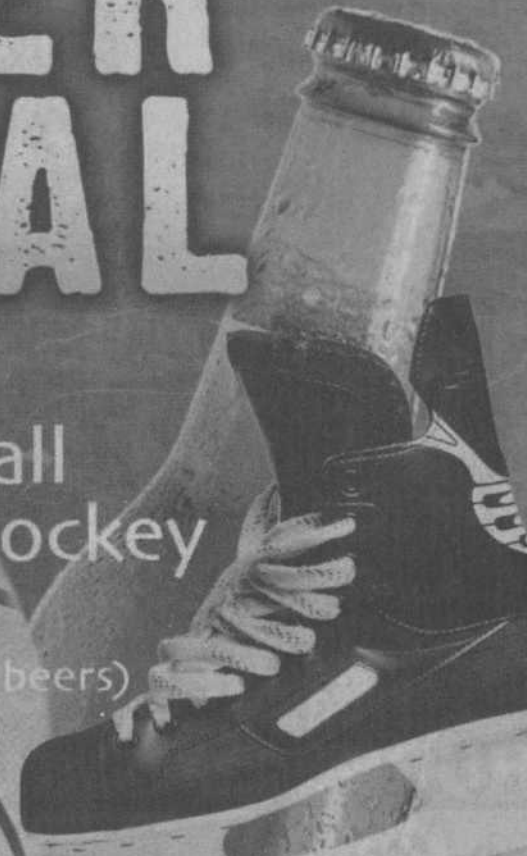
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-Any enrolled college student who makes a purchase at the Main St. location, needs to show their valid student ID to enter. Student will sign the register receipt and print their name and contact info.

Contest begins Monday, January 9th and ends Sunday, January 22. One winner will be drawn on Monday, January 23 and notified.

To increase the odds of winning, participants can enter each time they eat at Moe's

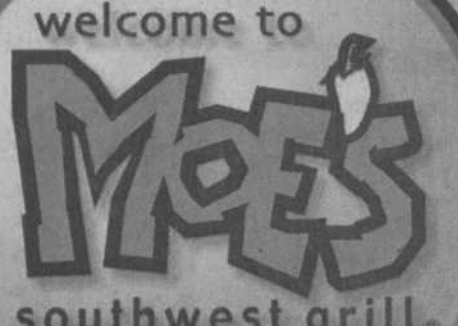
The winner (and only the winner) eats free at Moe's (main street location only) through the end of the semester. Limit one meal per day.



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