

Ventura sworn in as Minnesota governor

By Rochele Olson
The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Former professional wrestler Jesse Ventura took the oath of office Monday as Minnesota's 37th governor after a two-month honeymoon as the country's most unlikely political star.

In his 11-minute inaugural speech, Ventura sought to reassure Minnesotans that they didn't make a mistake in electing a bald, boisterous radio host, former Navy SEAL and actor known as "The Body."

"Now we move forward to do Minnesota's business, and we will do it to the best of our ability," Ventura said to about 800 people watching in the Capitol rotunda.

Chief executives were also sworn in Monday in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Wisconsin

and Wyoming.

But none of them had generated as much attention or amazement as Ventura, the Reform Party candidate, who got 37 percent of the vote in November, good enough to stun two political veterans, Republican Norm Coleman and Democrat Hubert Humphrey III.

As he did through the campaign, Ventura spoke mostly without notes, with people standing three and four deep on two balconies overlooking the rotunda floor.

He doled out thank-yous and talked about his hopes but did not touch on any plans he might have for tax relief, a central theme of his campaign. He did reach out to the young, disenchanted voters, who provided much of his support at the polls.

"We must put down the parti-

san party politics and look at the bigger picture," he said. "We must not fail, because if we do, we can lose this generation."

Ventura, 47, replaced Republican Gov. Arne Carlson, a 30-year public servant, who was state auditor before becoming governor. Ventura's only political experience was as mayor of the Minneapolis suburb of Brooklyn Park from 1991-95.

Ventura made several references to his four years in the Navy in the 1970s. He wore a gold Navy trident in his lapel and read from a letter sent to him by Master Chief Terry Moy, who oversaw his training in Coronado, California, and stood behind the podium Monday in Navy dress blues.

The letter urged Ventura to draw on the strength he found in the brutal SEAL's training to get him through the rough parts of his

four-year term.

After he was sworn in, Ventura hugged his wife, Terry, and their two children, Jade, 15, and Tyrel, 19.

He scheduled an invitation-only reception at the governor's mansion, but he planned to be back in the office Tuesday to work on the state's two-year, \$23 billion budget.

He decided to forgo a black-tie ball in favor of a "people's celebration" bash at the Target Center on January 16 with live music.

Jane Tee, 52, a communications worker from St. Paul, said she votes infrequently but got excited by Ventura's plain-spoken approach to politics.

"I hope he can do what he says, get people involved," she said. "I think people will storm the Legislature if he doesn't get what he wants."

Student

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consideration to racial minorities," he said.

Ultimately, Tollenaar believed the ASUO would win its appointment to the police commission even if a specific ASUO representative was not written into law.

"I think [the members of the City Council] are going to leave it up to the mayor," he said. "I think when the time comes, the ASUO is going to have to take their case to the mayor."

On Nov. 23, students from the ASUO took their case to the mayor and the City Council.

Melissa Watson, a University senior who is lobbying for ASUO representation on the commission, said she wanted city councilors to think of University students when they consider groups that need representation on the commission.

"I'm trying to get them to include students on their laundry list," she said.

Watson said she also wants the council to change the length of a police commission appointment from four years to two years because a two-year appointment would be more manageable for a student.

Councilman Bobby Lee said he fully supported the ASUO's efforts.

"I think it's a perfectly reasonable idea," he said. "There's rarely been a student involved in anything relating to the city."

Lee said University students are important enough to be represented on the police commission because they contribute community service, ethnic and racial diversity and make a large economic contribution to Eugene.

"Students are essentially the heartbeat of Eugene," said Lee.

But interim Police Chief Jim Hill said if students were nominated to the commission, he would want them to be concerned about more than the relationship between students and police.

"I'm concerned that the 12 people that get on the commission have a broad number of interests," he said.

Hill said the commission would — by law — look at many different issues rather than just police misconduct.

Hill said students already have other ways to address issues of their relationship to the police — such as the Campus Community Task Force. The task force includes ASUO representatives, East Sector Patrol Lieutenant Carolyn McDermed and Sgt. Rick Gilliam, campus supervisor for the Eugene police.

Hill said when the task force met in mid-October, the police outlined its strategies for dealing with loud parties and other disturbances.

"The other thing is that if there are complaints about a particular officer's conduct, a citizen can register a complaint with the police," Hill said. "Basically any citizen can complain about how a particular officer handled a call and then we investigate it."

Peace Corps increases college recruitment

By David Briscoe
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Peace Corps is preparing to recruit more volunteers this year than at any time in the past 25 years but won't meet President Clinton's goal of 10,000 by the turn of the century.

"With an 8 percent budget increase, the organization intends to sign up nearly 4,000 volunteers this year," Peace Corps Director Mark Gearan said in an interview Monday. Currently, 6,700 are serving two-year stints in 80 countries. With about half those ending

terms, the year-end total is expected to exceed 7,100.

"The Peace Corps, whose budget is \$240 million, expects to have the highest number of volunteers since 1974," said Gearan as he released the names of colleges and universities with the largest number of graduates serving overseas.

The University of Wisconsin topped the list with 116, followed by the University of Colorado at Boulder with 91, and the University of Washington with 75.

Among small colleges — those

with fewer than 5,000 undergraduates — American University in Washington, D.C., led with 36 alumni serving as volunteers, followed by the University of Chicago with 23, and Carleton College of Northfield, Minnesota, with 21.

"But accelerated Peace Corps recruiting will look well beyond college campuses this year," Gearan said. The average age of Peace Corps volunteers is 29, with seven percent over 50 years old.

"A lot of our volunteers come right out of college, but increasingly many now take time to work a

bit, gaining some experience before serving," Gearan said.

The director said he is confident that the Peace Corps can meet its immediate recruitment goals, because it has had an increase in applicants in recent years, with its slogan, "The toughest job you'll ever love," and a new campaign theme, "How far are you willing to go to make a difference?"

"The 10,000-volunteer goal, with more budget increases from Congress, should be achieved early in the next century," Gearan said.

*I see in your future...
head, hands
& heart*



I see in your future...leadership, learning and long life. I perceive you having a great capacity to help others. I envision you as a leader of great things. I picture a gathering of people around you. If you follow your current path, I predict you will lead us into the next millenium.

University Housing is looking for students who are strong leaders, have great senses of humor, enjoy helping others and like to plan events to serve as Resident and Program Assistants for the 1999 - 2000 academic year.

Applications and information are available at all Area Desks and in the Office of University Housing in the Walton Complex.

Resident and Program Assistants must be full time students at UO and live in the residence hall where they are employed. Compensation is a single room and board.

**Completed applications are due
5:00 PM, January 28, 1999
at University Housing.**

University Housing is an AA/EOE/ADA employer committed to cultural diversity.