

# Gingrich pledges to remain as speaker despite opposition

WASHINGTON (AP) — Conceding turmoil in the Republican ranks, Newt Gingrich said Monday he'll stay on as House speaker and tell fellow GOP lawmakers "in whatever way is needed" they must work together to enact tax cuts and balanced-budget legislation.

"You know I don't quit," Gingrich told a home-state audience in Georgia in his first extended public comments since a move to topple him from power failed 10 days ago. "This summer, our goal is to work with the administration."

He offered no hint whether he will seek the ouster of any of the other members of the Republican leadership, all of whom have been implicated in varying degrees in the effort to force him from office.

Gingrich made his comments as other leaders awaited Wednesday's weekly closed-door caucus

of all Republican House members. Some lawmakers have spoken of seeking a vote of no-confidence against Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas, Whip Tom DeLay of Texas and John Boehner of Ohio, the fourth-ranking member of the leadership.

DeLay in particular faces close scrutiny from Gingrich's allies. He has maintained a public silence on reports that he told a group of dissident lawmakers that he would join them in voting to strip the speaker of his powerful post.

Nor was it clear what action, if any, Gingrich's critics within the ranks might take. While they



Gingrich

have made no secret of their determination to press for changes in the leadership style, several of them said last week they had not been pressing for an immediate vote on Gingrich until DeLay approached them.

Last week, Gingrich accepted the resignation of Rep. Bill Paxon, R-N.Y., whom he had appointed last winter to chair the leadership meetings. Armey, DeLay and Boehner were elected by their colleagues and can be replaced only by a vote of the GOP caucus.

As speaker, Gingrich presumably would be in a powerful position to influence a decision on whether his leadership colleagues should face a vote of no-confidence. Short of that, he could make his feelings known to allies who want to force Armey, DeLay and Boehner to account for their own actions and motives.



PHOTOGRAPH: Brandon B...

**Power Lifter** Marc Shepard, a senior business administrator and member of TAMU Weightlifting Club, lifts weights at the Student Rec Center Monday.

## WEATHER OUTLOOK

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Thunderstorms High: 95° Low: 75°	Partly Cloudy High: 102° Low: 75°	Partly Cloudy High: 97° Low: 75°

## Sketch

## By Quatro



# Critics say proposed wine labels would encourage more drinking

Bottles would tout 'health effects' of 'moderate' drinking

WASHINGTON (AP) — The wine industry wants it known that a glass now and then can be good for the heart, but federal health officials are worried that proposed new wording on bottle labels might encourage excessive drinking.

Despite the criticisms, officials at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms have signaled they are likely to endorse the labels, which would be included on both domestic and imported wines sold in this country.

The Health and Human Services Department has been urging ATF to delay approval of the labels, which refer to the "health effects" of "moderate" wine drinking.

"The proposal under consideration is a thinly disguised attempt to make an affirmative health claim," said Dr. John M. Eisenberg, acting

assistant secretary for health.

"I am deeply concerned that your approval of the label statements in their current form would be construed by the public as encouraging the consumption of alcoholic beverages," Eisenberg said in a letter to ATF Director John Magaw.

Wine labels already contain warnings that women should not drink during pregnancy and that alcoholic beverages can impair driving and cause health problems. But they say nothing about numerous health studies indicating that moderate alcohol intake can reduce risk of heart disease in some people.

To the current warning, a label proposed by the San Francisco-based Wine Institute would add: "To learn the health effects of moderate wine consumption, send for the

federal government's Dietary Guidelines for Americans." It gives a mailing address and an Internet Web site.

A second proposal would say "The proud people who make this wine encourage you to consult your family doctor about the health effects of wine enjoyment."

Wine Institute President John DeLuca said the government guidelines discuss both the risks and benefits of drinking alcohol — and he says the proposed wording makes no claims that wine is good for you.

"We're not saying health benefits, we're saying health effects," he said. "We're not for a blanket endorsement. We think there is a scientific balance struck in the guidelines, and we should be allowed to disseminate them."

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