

Tony Snow optimistic in cancer battle

by UPI

WASHINGTON - Tony Snow, who is taking a leave of absence as White House press secretary to battle a recurrence of cancer, is "really doing well," the White House said.

Dana Perino, who is filling in for Snow, said Wednesday she talked to Snow earlier in the day and told reporters he is optimistic about treatment choices, and has "recovered almost fully from surgery."

Perino said she hasn't talked with President George W. about former Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Tenn., who announced he has lymphoma.

There has been speculation Thompson might enter the race for the Republican presidential nomination.

Perino said people Snow, Thompson and Elizabeth Edwards -- whose husband, former Sen. John Edwards, D-N.C. is running for the Democratic presidential nomination -- are "highlighting" the issue of cancer.

Perino said their experiences will help others who may be going through similar situations and encourage people to get screening.

"They have all been a good inspiration for us," she said.

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