News In Brief

Drakeford to sign bill in Washington

Carrboro Mayor Bob Drakeford is scheduled to travel to Washington Wednesday to sign the Rules and Developmental Policy bill.

The bill will coordinate federal agencies and concentrate their resources on rural communities. Drakeford said he probably was invited to the signing because he was an outspoken advocate for the development of rural America.

Carrboro has suffered because the federal government has always paid attention to the big cities, Drakeford said, and the bill shows that the government is now paying attention to small communities.

Carter to visit only Winston-Salem

RALEIGH (AP)—President Jimmy Carter will make just one campaign appearance in North Carolina and has dropped plans to swing through the eastern part of the state, Gov. Jim Hunt said Tuesday.

Carter is scheduled to visit Winston-Salem Oct. 9, Hunt said, adding that the president thought North Carolina was very important and was putting a high priority on the state.

The chairman of the state campaign for Carter said Monday he was more optimistic about a second appearance by the president. "I'd say the chances for that are 50-50," Wallace N. Hyde said.

Until recently, Carter campaign officials had said the president probably would campaign personally in eastern North Carolina, most likely in Greenville.

Grocery prices boost inflation rate

WASHINGTON (AP)—The biggest increase in grocery prices in five years pushed consumer prices up 0.2 percent in August, causing an annual rate of inflation of 8.6 percent, government officials said Tuesday.

Auto prices also rose sharply, although the price of gasoline declined for the fourth consecutive month.

Grocery prices rose 2.3 percent in August, the most for any month since July 1975, when they increased 2.4 percent. The severe drought that destroyed crops in some sections of the country was largely to blame, analysts

The price of meats, poultry, fish and eggs rose a combined 4.1 percent,

with egg prices alone up 6.6 percent to an average price per dozen of 91 cents. The Labor Department said the rise in food prices accounted for about half of the overall increase of 0.7 percent in the Consumer Price Index in August.

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Company to remove Rely from market

By KATHERINE LONG

Although one official at North Carolina Memorial Hospital said he was skeptical about federal warnings, Rely tampons are being removed from the market by their producer, Procter & Gamble.

The Food and Drug Administration and the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta have said use of the product may be linked to a rare and occasionally fatal bacterial infection called toxic shock syndrome.

Officials at NCMH said no cases of the syndrome have been reported at the hospital. Chief Administrative Resident of Obstetrics and Gynecology Ken Treadwell said he knew of "no data in scientific link may not mean anything. It's hard for anyone to say," he said.

The syndrome is a recently discovered bacterial infection that strikes women under 30 during or just after their menstrual period.

The government said women who used the Rely brand may run a greater risk of contracting the disease

than women who used other brands. The disease is characterized by a sudden onset of

high fever, vomiting, diarrhea and rapid drop in blood pressure, often resulting in shock and a sunburn-like

Preliminary tests conducted by the National Center for Disease Control indicated that all users of tampons

literature" that blamed Rely for the syndrome. "The run the risk of getting the illness, but Rely users may face a greater risk.

Procter & Gamble asked retailers to remove the

product from their shelves earlier this week, and area pharmacies have complied with the request. The stores reported no complaints from customers about the product.

The risk of contracting the disease has been estimated at about 3 out of 100,000 women of menstruating age per year. There have been 299 reports of the disease since January. It has caused 25 deaths

Procter & Gamble officials said that the product was being removed from the market to discontinue the

Nuclear plants gets

green light in Maine

50,000 people are classified as sections 3 and 5, while section 18 covers everything else, he said.

Because Durham and Greensboro operate privately owned bus systems, North Carolina has a surplus of federal funds in sections 3 and 5. Under the proposed provision, the governor of each state could channel this unused

money into towns of his choice. Cohen said that this provision would eliminate some competition for federal transit funds by relying on the governor's

discretion. "Being able to tap a larger pool of money, and thus gradually increasing transit service—that is our goal," Cohen-

Cobey

From page 1

of Republican John East, a candidate for the U.S. Senate. One showed the names of East, gubernatorial hopeful I. Beverly Lake Jr. and Cobey beneath a picture of Reagan.

Cobey was accompanied at the opening by his daughter Cathy, 15, and his son Billy, 8. His wife, Nancy, was campaigning in Mt. Airy, he said.

Cobey said he had been spending 75 percent of his time fund-raising. "I'd like to meet every voter in the state, but that's not possible," he said. Many of the volunteers present said they had never met the candidate

"This campaign has shown me that politics can be a very honorable thing. I think we need our best people running, and I hope my

Outdoor

Sports

candidacy will encourage others to run,"

Cobey said. He called for public access to meetings of the State Advisory Budget Committee and claimed that closed sessions had led to waste and improper political uses of state money.

"I believe economy must start at the highest level," Cobey said. He said he thought the position of lieutenant governor could be a part-time job, with a part-time

On other issues, Cobey said he disapproved of a state constitutional amendment that allows the governor and lieutenant governor to run for re-election. He also said that as lieutenant governor he would work more closely with the legislature than Green has.

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With This

Turnout for the single-issue referendum was reported unusually high in many cities and towns. In Portland, Maine's largest city, officials said tournout rivaled that of the 1976 presidential election. In downtown Augusta, volunteers had

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP)-Residents

of Maine voted Tuesday night to keep

open the controversial Maine Yankee

nuclear power plant. It was the first time

the issue of closing an existing nuclear

plant was put to voters in the United

With 368 of 665 precincts, or 55

percent, reporting, there were 56,207

"Yes" votes, in favor of closing the

plant, to 79,543 "No" voters, or against

closure.

hung scores of brightly colored balloons in the old warehouse headquarters of the Maine Nuclear Referendum Committee. the group that spearheaded the drive against nuclear power.

Uptown, on Edison Drive, "Save Maine Yankee" TV commercials played continuously in the elegant lobby of Central Maine Power Co., principal owner of the plant targeted by the referendum campaign.



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At the local Holiday Inn, the industrysponsored "Save Maine Yankee

Committee" prepared a victory party.

Paul Liscord of the Greater Portland Nuclear Referendum Committee had said earlier that if the "No" votes won, "I think it'll be an indication that we haven't done a good job in getting our argument to the public. We're bucking the tide of decades of nuclear promotion."

The referendum question sought to shut down Maine Yankee and ban any future generation of electric power in Maine from nuclear energy.

The 840-megawatt power plant, which provides about one-third of Maine's electricity, was built in 1972 in picturesque Wiscasset, on the Maine coast. CMP, Maine's largest electric company, with more than 700,000 customers, owns 38 percent of the plant.

A central issue in the pro-nuclear campaign was how much it would cost Maine consumers to replace the power now produced by Maine Yankee.

The Save Maine Yankee Committee claimed shutting down the plant would cost consumers an additional \$140 million the first year it was not operating.

The referendum committee claimed it would cost far less and would encourage the development of alternative energy, primarily hydroelectric power.

About 20 percent of CMP's power is already generated by water, the most of any New England electric company.

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