

# Health care advancements pave rough road for hospitals

By SCOTT LARSEN  
Staff Writer

Calling the issue of rising health care costs a "problem of today, not tomorrow," Dr. Glenn Wilson, chairman of the Department of Social and Administrative Medicine at UNC, stressed the need for a statewide solution to health care costs.

Wilson appeared on the WUNC-TV show, "N.C. People with William Friday," Sunday night hosted by UNC President William Friday.

According to figures quoted by Friday, health costs in the United States totaled \$355 billion in 1938. In 1984, Americans spent \$1 billion a day for health care.

Wilson said Americans were not cost-conscious when they were ill.

"When we get sick, we want the very best care and the very latest technology," he said.

Hospitals are also facing tough times because of advancements in the health

care fields that have shortened hospital stays, Wilson said. With the increased use of out-patient operations and home health services, hospital use has been cut by 25 percent, Wilson said.

"This decline in hospital use has put about 30 North Carolina hospitals at the point of insolvency," he said.

For the past 10 years, patients have been moving away from small county-run hospitals and toward larger, more advanced, profit-making hospitals, Wilson said. He said studies indicated that investor-owned hospitals charged more for similar services than county-run hospitals.

"We have a new world that is talking about marketing health care," Wilson said.

According to Wilson, cutbacks in Medicare and Medicaid will add to the burden on hospitals by increasing the number of indigent patients.

"There are about 300,000 North Carolina people with no health care

insurance who make too much money to qualify for Medicaid," he said.

Hospitals are trying to operate efficiently and cannot continue to fund these poor people without some compensation, Wilson said.

"We are schizophrenic about this problem," Wilson said. "We get upset about turning away poor patients but are not willing to take steps to cover their care."

Rising health costs could force those patients with no health insurance to sell their farms or homes to qualify for Medicaid, Wilson said.

The increasing elderly population of

North Carolina will mean that those citizens will require health care provided at the lowest cost, he said.

"Financial wipeout from a serious illness is a very real possibility, especially among the elderly," Wilson said. "That's frightening."

The solutions must be carried out on a statewide rather than a regional basis, he said.

"The problem of the poor will probably end up a question of raising taxes," he said.

Wilson expressed optimism that the people of North Carolina would find a way to fund health care for the poor.

## Air Force ROTC to salute POWs

By RACHEL STROUD  
Staff Writer

An effort is under way this week to increase public awareness about the 2,500 American soldiers who never returned from the Vietnam War and to honor and find information about them.

April 15-19 has been recognized as POW/MIA (prisoners of war/missing in action) Week. The Arnold Air Society, UNC's Air Force ROTC Detachment 590s service fraternity, has adopted the POW/MIA issue as a permanent national project.

"It is a way to honor the prisoners of war — honor their country, efforts and services, the greatest sacrifice contributed to their country besides death," said Col. Harry Stow III,

professor and chairman of the Air Force ROTC.

By holding POW/MIA week, the Arnold Air Society hopes to remind people that the country still has soldiers missing, said 2nd Lt. Angela Strickland.

The society will sell bracelets bearing names of POWs to make people aware of America's fighting soldiers, said Maj. Joyce Walters. The bracelets will be on sale this week for \$3.50.

"By selling the bracelets . . . the Arnold Air Society will be able to support and aid POW/MIA families in their mission to find their loved ones," Strickland said.

Strickland said she suggested people write to the ambassador in Hanoi urging him to release all U.S. servicemen and civilians remaining in Vietnam.

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Students inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece were Mary Elizabeth Evans for her work as Student Government assistant secretary general; Tommy Earl Williams for dedicated service to the Carolina Union; Jack Edmund Mohr for community awareness as co-chairman of the Carolina Symposium; Alton Deems Bain for work as president of the class of first- and second-year law students; Adrian John Biddell for leadership as co-chairman of the 1985 Fine Arts Festival; Albertina Denise Smith for service as Black Ink editor; Mark Stephen Stinnelord for commitment to responsible journalism as reporter and associate editor of *The Daily Tar Heel*; Bryce Aaron Lankard for contributions to photography and graphic art for the *Yackey* Yearbook; Terry Glenn Bowman for contributions as president of the Carolina Union Activities Board; Andrew James Belgrave for coordination of the 1984-85 Great Decisions Lecture Series; Katherine Wilkes Kelley for organizing the Carolina Contact program to recruit outstanding high school seniors to UNC; Frank Fetzter Mills for success in establishing UNC's first Drug and Alcohol program; Jeremy Joshua Oyster for leading UNC's debate team to national recognition; David Capra Creech for leadership in creating and producing the weekly news Student Television program "Campus Profile"; Suzanne Cobb for performance and leadership in leading UNC's women's soccer team to four consecutive national championships; Glen David MacDonald for leadership as chairman of the Graduate and Professional Student Federation Education Commission; Walter Douglas Long Boyle, Jr. for his help in the creation and development of Student Television; Jeffrey Lee Hiday for leadership as editor of *The Daily Tar Heel*; Sherrod Banks for commitment to well-being of minority students as Black Student Movement president for two years; Sarah Urban for leadership as co-chairman of the 1985 Fine Arts Festival; Dean Howard King for literary contributions as editor of *The Cellar Door*; and Allen Keith Robertson for service as student body treasurer.

Professionals inducted were H.G. Jones for outstanding service as State Archivist for North Carolina; Woody Lombardi Durham for excellence in sportsreporting as contributor to *Tar Heels*; Enrique Baloya for outstanding contributions to UNC as director of the Institute of Latin American Studies; Gillian Townsend Cell for excellence in academics and administration as history department chairman and UNC's first Affirmative Action officer; Melane Moore Pritchett for contributions as executive director of the John Motley Morehead Foundation.

## Smith

"No one knows until time has taken place if he has had a good or bad day. This is relative to time. And the only guy I ever kicked off the basketball team — and that was many years ago — who talked back to my assistant coach several times, came back to me 15 years later and said it was the best thing I had done for him. That is a matter of time."

Citing the 1965 incident where he returned from losing a basketball game at Wake Forest University to find a dummy of himself hung in effigy, Smith said he was glad it had happened.

"Maybe failure and suffering can bring about a spiritual growth," he said. "I knew there would be some ups and downs, but in the long run, it's always up. We need new standards in our society by which we measure success. A lot of people at the top aren't happy."

"If you do what you can with what you have — where you are — then you can't be a failure."

The evening opened with a taped dialogue relating the history of the Golden Fleece while a golden fleece shown from behind the curtain. The atmosphere was supplemented with Richard Wagner's "Siegfried's Rhine Journey" from the opera *Götterdämmerung*.

## Discovery plans for spacewalk adding attachment to shuttle

### news in brief

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Discovery's astronauts were told Monday to prepare for a spacewalk Tuesday and use a "fly swatter" on the ship's robot arm Wednesday in an attempt to save a costly relay station stranded in space.

The plan, which will extend the shuttle's five-day mission to seven days, calls for two astronauts to go outside Discovery Tuesday and attach an improvised "switch flipper" to the shuttle's 50-foot-long mechanical arm.

### Peru presidential election

LIMA, Peru — A moderate leftist congressman headed for a decisive victory Monday in Peru's presidential election while moderate and extreme leftists moved toward a three-quarters majority in the legislature.

Unofficial returns from Sunday's violence-troubled voting showed Alan Garcia, 35, of the center-left Popular American Revolutionary Alliance falling just short of the 50-percent vote needed to claim outright victory.

### No Israel emissary to Egypt

JERUSALEM — Israel's 10-member inner Cabinet Monday refused to authorize an emissary to Egypt, deepening a crisis threatening the 7-month-old national unity government of Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

Ministers leaving the meeting said there was no approval for a trip to Cairo by Cabinet minister Ezer Weizman, who handled negotiations with Egypt leading to a peace treaty in 1979.

### Greensboro fire investigated

GREENSBORO — Authorities are searching for the cause of a fire that lit up Greensboro "like a holocaust" and gutted a block of old warehouses being renovated for apartments and shops in a downtown historic district.

"We're just getting started," said T.C. Lemonds, a fire department battalion chief. "We're probably going to have to get out the heavy equipment to get into the warehouse where the fire first occurred."

### Reagan seeks approval

WASHINGTON — Using a proven blend of public salesmanship and private

persuasion, President Reagan this week enters a two-week countdown to Europe geared to getting Congress to approve aid to Nicaraguan rebels and a controversial budget plan.

Facing three pivotal votes on Capitol Hill in the next two weeks, Reagan hopes to work his will on Congress and duplicate his victory last month on the MX missile before leaving for the economic summit in Bonn and a four-nation European tour April 30.

### Artificial heart patient

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Jack C. Burchams small chest gave doctors difficulty inserting his artificial heart and triggered bleeding that may force surgeons to reopen the chest of the world's fifth and oldest Jarvik-7 patient.

Burchams, 62, lost 10 liters of blood and required transfusions since his surgery Sunday, which enabled him to join three other men living on the plastic and metal devices.

### Titanic memorial

WASHINGTON — The Men's Titanic Society gathered at an obscure monument Monday to toast the heroes who drowned trying to rescue fellow passengers on the fabled ocean liner when it sank 73 years ago.

The Men's Titanic Society has made an annual pilgrimage since 1979 to the banks of the Potomac River for a brief ceremony at the site of a little-known memorial of the famous shipwreck.

### Trapped sailor rescued

NAPLES, Italy — Firefighters descended into the crater of Mount Vesuvius on ropes Monday, rescued a U.S. sailor trapped for more than 10 hours inside the volcano and hoisted out the body of another sailor killed in a fall.

"It was a difficult place and there was so much fog it was impossible to see," said a Carabinieri national police official. "The hardest thing to do was to pinpoint where he was so we could send the rescue team down."

## Chapel Hill living costs just above U.S. average

By MARK POWELL  
Business Editor

Chapel Hill is 1.9 percent above the national average in the cost of living index released by the American Chamber of Commerce Researcher Association last week.

Chapel Hill's all items index number (which averages several areas of cost-of-living) was 101.9, according to the report. The highest component index number was 121.1 for housing, 21.1 percent above the national average.

"There's a high demand for housing in Chapel Hill because it's seen as a good place to live," said Leonard P. Van Ness, Executive Vice President of the Chapel Hill-Carrboro Chamber of Commerce. "Governmental regulations and governmental practices are a few reasons why the cost is so high."

An average single family home in Chapel Hill costs \$102,000, as compared to \$84,362 nationally, Van Ness said. It costs about \$398 a month to rent an apartment on the average, while nationally the average rent is \$350 a month.

"The supply of housing in Chapel Hill has been real tight so that when any new unit comes on to the market

it goes for a high price," Van Ness said.

Other component numbers were: 94.8 for grocery items, 89.6 percent for utilities, 99.9 percent for transportation, 106.3 percent for health care and 96.2 percent for miscellaneous goods and services.

Raleigh is the most expensive city in North Carolina to live in according to the index. Raleigh is 3.4 percent above the national average overall with housing 19.9 percent above the national average and utilities 13.2 percent above the national average.

All other North Carolina cities indexed were below the national average. Charlotte was 4 percent lower than the average, Greensboro 3.4 percent lower and Wilmington was 2.7 percent lower than the national average.

The most expensive city in the United States to live in according to the index is San Francisco, which is 45.9 percent above the national average. Housing costs in San Francisco are 171.9 percent higher than the national average; a house in San Francisco costs \$229,464 on the average.

## Summer 'Tar Heel' looking for writers

Anyone interested in working for the summer *Tar Heel* should come

by the DTH office and talk with summer editor Jim Greenhill.

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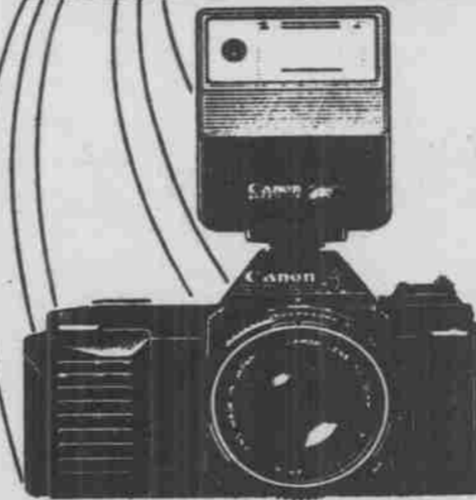
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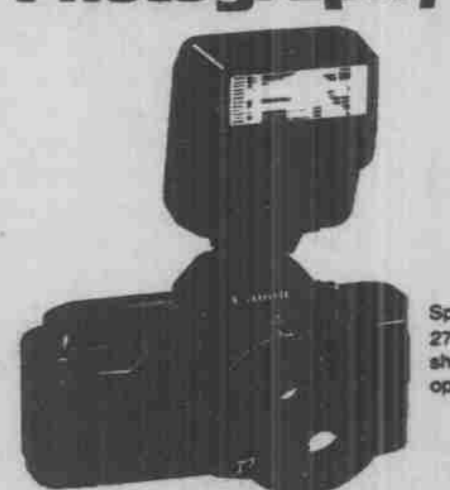


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