

# State implements new speed limit

By MATT BIVENS  
Staff Writer

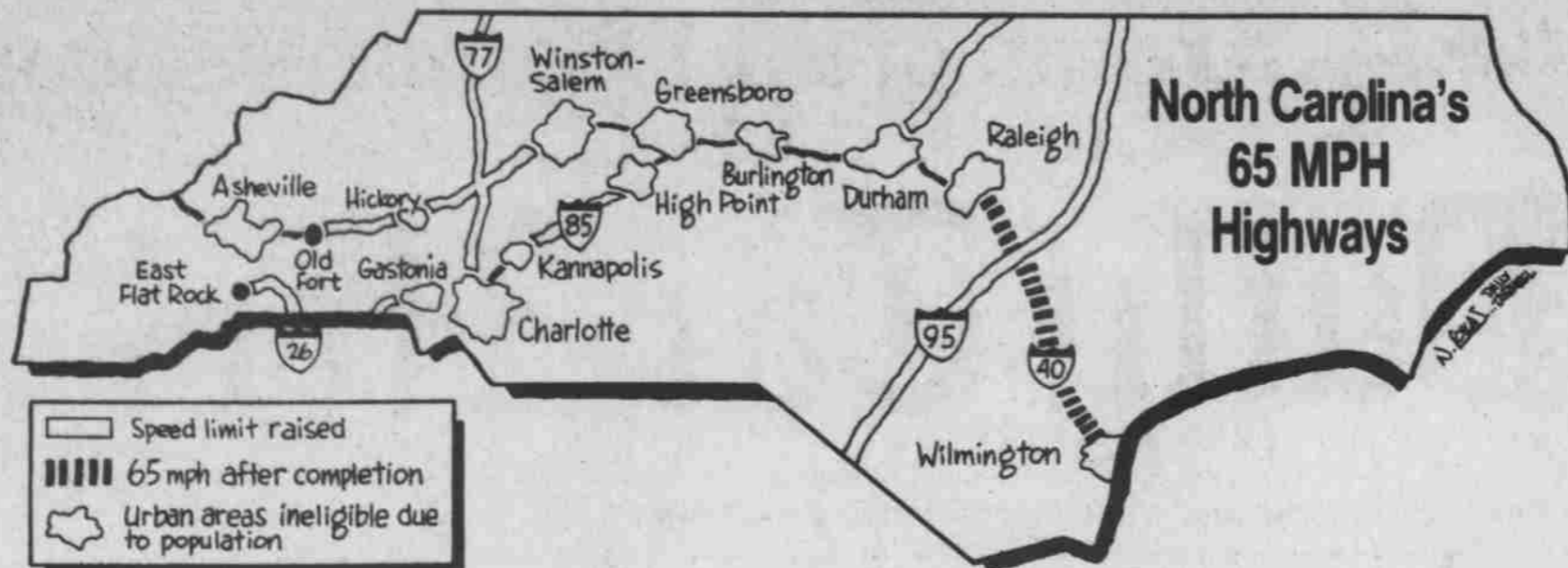
Since Aug. 14, speed demons have been able to cruise 528 miles of N.C. rural highways at 65 mph without fear of flashing lights and sirens.

Despite predictions of increased accidents, the N.C. General Assembly passed legislation in May giving the N.C. Department of Transportation the power to raise the speed limit to 65 mph at its discretion.

"We're noticing some faster speeds, but the number of violators is remaining about the same," said N.C. Highway Patrol Capt. T.H. Spainhour, who monitors I-95 through Wilson, Nash, and Johnson counties, and I-85 through Durham, Vance, and Warren counties.

The transportation department erected more than 700 new signs to alert drivers of the speed limit changes, said Tammi McEntire of the public affairs division of the transportation department. The signs and their installation cost \$135,000, McEntire said.

Among the major roads affected by the change are I-40 from Winston-Salem to Hickory and Hickory to Gastonia, I-85 from the S.C. border



to Gastonia and from Durham to the Virginia border, and I-95 from the S.C. border to the Virginia border, McEntire said.

The bill was intended to give the state authority over its highways, said its sponsor in the N.C. House of Representatives, Rep. Samuel Hunt, R-Alamance.

"Since people are out there on the interstate going 65 mph anyway, we might as well make law-abiding citizens out of them," Hunt said.

The transportation department conducted a three-month study to determine which roads to change. High accident rates, high traffic density and construction in the area disqualified certain roads. Stretches under 10 miles long were not considered.

Opponents of the speed limit hike cited the possibility of increased highway deaths and injuries if the bill were passed.

Dr. Patricia F. Waller, director of

the UNC Injury Prevention Research Center and Associate Director of the UNC Highway Safety Research Center, said in testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives that the 55 mph speed limit, intended to conserve fuel, saves 2,000-4,000 lives each year in the United States.

Information on the safety of the high-speed roads will be available after the transportation department completes a three-month study, McEntire said.

# Maryland governor, Friday discuss UNC system

By RUTH DAVIS  
Staff Writer

In an effort to strengthen the Maryland higher education system, Gov. William Schaefer recently met with former UNC-system President Bill Friday to discuss the UNC system's structure.

Friday, president of the William R. Kenan Jr. Fund, said Schaefer and

the University of Maryland Board of Regents consulted with him about UNC's centralized board, which governs the 16 universities in the system.

Schaefer also asked about the university's relation to economic growth in Research Triangle Park, Friday said.

UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke Univer-

sity and N.C. State University founded RTP, he said.

"Governor Schaefer is trying to relate the (Maryland) universities with economic growth," Friday said.

"He is considering changing to a governance system, which is a system that actually operates the universities from a coordination system, which is a committee of people that doesn't have the power to actually make policies."

David Iannucci, a deputy legislative officer working closely with Schaefer's education adviser, said one proposal made by the Maryland

Committee on Higher Education would involve a governing board over all colleges in the state, modeled after the UNC system.

He said UNC's system is one of three proposals, but that Schaefer is leaning toward a strong, centralized governance.

Fred Spigler, assistant to the president at the Community College of Baltimore, said one proposal would consolidate the University of Maryland in Baltimore County and the University of Baltimore into the University of Maryland at Baltimore. The other would maintain the present structure, but strengthen the Board of Higher Education and create individual boards for the six colleges without boards.

Iannucci said the governor will decide later in the fall which proposal to adopt.

# Republican candidate Laxalt pulls out of presidential race

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — Former Sen. Paul Laxalt announced Wednesday he is withdrawing from the race for the 1988 Republican presidential nomination after "a careful and realistic assessment of our financial situation."

Laxalt, who has raised more than \$1 million, made the announcement in a statement issued about 7 p.m. Wednesday by his campaign committee.

Laxalt has said he wanted to have \$2 million in the bank by Oct. 1. In the statement, he said that "even if our projections for fund raising had been met, the money, in my opinion, would have been inadequate to conduct a viable presidential campaign."

"As chairman of Ronald Reagan's three presidential campaigns, I have learned to be very realistic when it comes to political fund raising. A careful and realistic assessment of our financial situation caused me to do what I think is right for the Laxalt family."

Laxalt, 65, never formally entered the race but said April 28 that he was forming an exploratory committee and that his decision to run was "as close to final as one can get," with financing the only question to be answered.

His departure from the GOP race leaves three announced candidates, former Delaware Gov. Pierre S. du Pont, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig, and Rep. Jack Kemp of New York, in the competition.

**Banned books back in schools**

ATLANTA — A federal appeals court Wednesday reversed an Alabama judge's order that had banned 44 textbooks from Alabama public schools on the grounds they promoted a belief in secular humanism.

In allowing the textbooks to remain in use, a three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that U.S. District Judge Brevard Hand's order had turned the First Amendment requirement that the government be neutral on the subject of religion "into an affirmative obligation to speak about religion."

The ruling, which also ordered

## News in Brief

Hand to dismiss a lawsuit brought by parents, cleared the way for the textbooks to be used in Alabama classrooms.

The appeals panel said there was no question that the purpose behind excluding 39 history and social studies books was secular, and that selecting a textbook that omits a topic for non-religious reasons is different from requiring the omission of material because it conflicts with a particular religious belief.

**Reagan challenges Soviets**

LOS ANGELES — President Reagan today challenged the Soviet Union to openly debate its military policies and said that while the Soviets have shown "movement toward more openness," their actions still are cause of "fears and deep concerns."

Reagan spoke to the Town Hall of California, a civic organization celebrating its 50th anniversary, in a ballroom of the hotel where he is staying during a five-day Los Angeles visit.

Noting increased openness in Soviet society, a trend the Soviets call glasnost, Reagan said that "we see movement towards more openness, possibly even progress towards respect for human rights and economic reform."

**Clemson to get parking deck**

CLEMSON, S.C. — Some of the romance may be missing from tailgate parties, but at least a few Clemson University football fans will be assured of a parking space — for a mere \$10,000 to \$12,000.

The Clemson Planning Commission approved the city's first condominium parking garage Monday.

Buyers of the 95 parking spaces in a remodeled laundry building also will get access to a large-screen television, dance floor and a bar in case they don't want to trek the quarter-mile to the stadium.

The expected construction completion date is Oct. 24, the day of the Tigers' game against N.C. State University.

Expect the **UNEXPECTED**  
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**SUPER COLOSSAL YARD SALE & OPEN HOUSE**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, UNITED WAY 1887-1987 A CENTURY OF CARING

Saturday August 29th 9AM-2PM

Y Open House with FREE: Massage • Body Fat Analysis

• Nautilus & Weight Training demonstration

• Pizza-by-the-slice from Domino's Pizza with proceeds going to the YMCA

• Free prizes

• Balloons • Clowns • Free Gifts • Games for kids

• Coke  
Enjoy an icy cold Coke with the proceeds benefiting the YMCA.

• Free prizes

WHERE ARE WE?  
The Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA, 980 Airport Rd., Chapel Hill

OPEN HOUSE!  
In addition, you'll have the opportunity to tour the Y's fine facilities. Take advantage of some free demonstrations or take a rain check to use at a later date.

BRING your donations to the Y beginning August 12th. The Y can help transport larger items. Call 942-5156

WHAT IS IT?  
A huge yard sale with hundreds of items to choose from with the proceeds going to help support the Chapel Hill-Carrboro YMCA.

HELP!  
You can help the YMCA make this a successful event by donating your tax deductible gifts of old furniture, lamps, dressers, tables, mirrors, art, antiques, memorabilia, toys, baby items, sports and camping equipment, and tools. (NO clothing or mattresses please!) Visit your attic this weekend and help the Y!

Win a Free Membership  
Complete the form below and enter our contest for a free one-year membership.

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