Professor to publish in-depth study of automobile design

By MARK FOLK

When Edson Armi took highway trips with his family in the 1950s, he competed with his brother to identify the make and years of American cars.

"Our mother was the final judge," said Armi, a UNC professor of art history who grew up in California. "She would decide who was right and whether there had been any cheating."

Although more than 30 years have passed since Armi's early years in California, he is still interested in cars. He recently completed the nation's first comprehensive study of automobile designers.

Armi has compiled the results of interviews with car designers in a book entitled "The Art of American Car Design."

The book, which will be published by Pennsylvania State University Press this spring, is the country's first in-depth analysis of the profession of car designing.

"The main purpose of my book is to tell the inside scoop of how cars are designed," Armi said. "The opinions in this book are straight from the designers themselves."

Unlike other books that have examined car design, Armi said, his book contains views from the people who actually do the designing.

by the people in the industry itself," Armi said. "Since the car industry is such a secretive and highly competitive process, the knowledge that American people get is often secondhand."

cars are talked about a lot but not

Because most car designers aren't allowed to speak freely about their professions while they are employed, Armi had to interview retired designers. He described them as "incredibly wonderful people."

"One of the interesting things I found during my interviews with the designers is that they talk about cars as sexual objects," Armi said. "They saw automobiles as combinations of female sexuality and their own

"Books are often written in which power."

Designers, for example, referred to the pointed bumpers of cars in the 1950s as "Dagmars" because the actress who played the television character Dagmar had large breasts, Armi said.

Armi said he had the most fun interviewing Frank Hershey, designer of the Ford Thunderbird, Bill Mitchell, designer of the Corvette and Bob Gregory, designer of the Lincoln-Continental.

Armi said Hershey told him that car designers have little patience with some modern cars, which are designed more by a committee than by individuals.

never hear of any of the great artists

working in a committee. They were all single guys. You design a car with a committee, you get a camel."

Today's car designers aren't allowed to experiment like they were in the 1950s, Armi said.

"America definitely has the greatest car designers in the world," he said. "But, unfortunately, the economics of the automobile industry have prevented them from taking risks."

Armi said his favorite car is the 1958 Chevrolet because it's so

complicated. "I call many of today's cars 'oneliners' because you can basically describe them in one line," Armi said. "The '58 Chevy is so complicated, it He quoted Hershev as saying, "You takes a half hour just to understand

Traffic regulation to affect **Shadowood Apartments**

By LAURA DIGIANO Staff Writer

Students living in Shadowood Apartments might need to leave for campus a few minutes earlier - or risk being ticketed — to comply with a new Chapel Hill law that makes left turns onto Airport Road illegal.

Drivers taking Airport Road to campus must now leave through the back entrance of the complex on Piney Mountain Road and wait for a stoplight before turning left.

The Chapel Hill Town Council, which passed the law Monday, originally made an agreement with the Shadowood developer to design an entranceway discouraging left turns.

"Clearly this agreement has not been sufficient," said council member Art Werner. "The only way to put a little more teeth into it is to make a law."

The town council was concerned about the dangerous traffic situation created by cars turning left out of Shadowood, said council member Nancy Preston. "People weren't obeying the signs for right turns only, so now the police will have to patrol to make people use the intended exit," she said.

Council member Bill Thorpe said ignore the signs," she said. the law is a result of motorists having

problems getting in and out of Shadowood. The Chapel Hill Police Department has already been authorized to begin ticketing, he said. "Police will start issuing tickets right away," he said.

Capt. Ralph Pendergraph of the CHPD said the police would issue warnings for a few days before actually ticketing motorists. Residents have not yet been informed that they will be ticketed for left turns out of the Shadowood entrance.

The department has also requested a speed limit reduction on Airport Road from 45 to 35 mph, Pendergraph said. "It's just a very dangerous area," he said.

But several students living in Shadowood questioned the practicality of the new law.

"I think it is ridiculous for people who live closer to Airport Road to drive all the way through Shadowood, wait at the stoplight on Piney Mountain Road and then turn onto Airport Road when it would take them two seconds to make a left turn," said Nancy Cashion, a junior from Greensboro.

"I think people who live here know there are no left turns, but they still

Greensboro, agreed that drivers have been ignoring arrows indicating right turns only. "It will be a very big pain to have to wait at that long stoplight to get on Airport Road," she said.

But Doughten said there have been problems with Shadowood traffic entering Airport Road. "The main problem I've seen is cars that make the left turn and sit in the turn lane in the middle of the road before merging with the traffic," she said.

Deborah Price, a senior from Williamston, said students might be tempted to turn right and make a Uturn to avoid the stoplight on Piney Mountain Road.

"What are we supposed to do? It is a hassle to go out the back and wait for the stoplight," Price said.

Elisa Edwards, a junior from Oakboro, agreed that most residents will not comply with the new law. "I think a lot of residents will make the left turn anyway," she said. "It's just going to be a pain."

She said the traffic on Airport Road is not heavy - except during the morning rush hour. "When I drive to campus later in the morning, traffic is fine," Edwards said. "Now I'll have to go all the way around the complex and wait at the stoplight, which will Lisa Doughten, a junior from take at least an extra five minutes."

stock market action will have on The

Traveler's Insurance Company's

pricing and rates," said Rosanne

Hennessey, spokeswoman for the

said, "If there are any rate increases,

it won't be related to what happened

\$20 billion in assets invested in the

stock market, Lapinski said. As a

result, the company suffered no real

about from that point of view," he

"We don't have anything to worry

Business Editor Felisa Neuringer

Allstate had only \$2 billion of its

company in Hartford, Conn.

in the past few weeks."

contributed to this story.

Campus Calendar

The DTH Campus Calendar appears daily. Announcements must be placed in the box outside The Daily Tar Heel office, 104 Union, by noon one day before weekend announcements by noon Wednesday. The DTH will print announcements from University-recognized campus organizations only.

Thursday

MBA Student Associa-3:30 p.m. tion will sponsor a public address, "Current trends in commercial banking," by Edward Crutchfield, Chairman and CEO of First Union Co. The lecture will be

in 02 Carroll.

4 p.m. Women's Forum will meet in the Campus Y lounge. The Representative

Committee of the Executive Branch of Student Government will meet in 205-206 Union.

Gaia will sponsor a presentation by Dr. John Veigel of the Alternative Energy Corporation entitled "Why Chicken McNuggets are a good metaphor for the future of energy in the United States." The presentation will be in the Campus Y lounge. Presbyterian Campus Ministry will have its undergraduate dinner in the Student Center at 110 Henderson Street.

UNC Outing Club will meet in the Union. Career Planning and Placement Services will sponsor a presentation by the Bissell Companies in 209 Hanes. Morrison Dorm

Government will hold a student issues forum in the Morrison rec. room, with a panel featuring Dean Boulton, Dean Schroeder, Dr. Kuncl, Brian Bailey, and Kelly Clark. Eevryone is

welcome. Arnold Air Society will hold formal initiation in the Brookstore Apts. clubhouse. Bring the \$5

already paid. Greek Orthodox Christian Student Fellowship will hold a Bible study at the back of the Chapel of the Cross. **UNC Investment Club** will hold its last official meeting of the semester, featuring a speaker from Northwestern

fee if you have not

Mutual. The meeting will be in T-7 Carroll. Campus Crusade for Christ will meet in 205 Union. Guest speaker will be Al Elmore. 7:30 p.m. Carolina Comic Book Club will meet in the

Union. Check the front

desk for room number.

Students for Simon will meet in 210 Union. American Advertising Federation will meet in 203 Howell. This is the deadline for paying the \$20 dues.

UNC Economic Association presents Dr.

Edward Bernstein, varsity scholar for the **Brookings Institution** and former researcher for the International Fund, to speak on the stock market and the dollar. The presentation will be in 211 Gardner.

Items of Interest

All Campus Calendar announcements are due by NOON on the day before they are to run in the DTH. Campus Y Crafts Bazaar will be held Nov. 13, 14 and 15 in Great Hall. Admission is free.

UNC Media Board is now accepting applications for business manager. For more information, call 929-1952.

Readers Theatre will be presenting the play "Clay" at 8 p.m. in 203 Bingham on Nov. 11, 12 and 13. Any student who would like the

opportunity to show his talent this weekend at the Coffee House, call Hope Carlson at 933-1755.

Recent stock drop won't raise insurance premiums, experts say

By CLAY THORP Staff Writer

Insurance rates and premiums will not rise as a direct result of the stock market plummet last month, various experts said this week.

"I think that basically the stock market is going to have a minimal effect (on rates)," said Terry Wade, assistant chief examiner at the N.C. Department of Insurance.

Wade said there could be some isolated cases in which a company might try to recoup losses from the stock market, but in general the crash would have little effect on rates.

"Insurance companies do get part of their earnings from investments in the stock market," said Stanley Black, Lurcy Professor and chairman of the UNC Economics Department. "But this is more true with life insurance companies . . . I don't think it could help but have an effect on profits."

He added that property and casualty insurance companies do not rely as heavily on stock investments.

Premiums are subject to the reg-

ulatory process, so there should be to forecast the plunge's effects. "It's a marginal effect on rates in the short too early to tell what effect the recent run, Black said.

"If the market comes back, it (the market drop) will definitely have no effect," he added. Jeff Haney, a senior underwriter for Aetna Life and Casualty in Charlotte, said, "Rates Bob Lapinski, spokesman for won't go up in response to this (the Allstate Insurance Co. in Chicago, market drop)."

Aetna's rates are compiled on the basis of risk, Haney said. He added that Aetna files for rates with the state government each year and that there is no way to adjust for stock market

Jon Goldberg, spokesman for The Prudential Insurance Co. of America in New Jersey, agreed with Haney. "Insurance premiums are based on the level of risk involved," he said.

Variable insurance policies were affected, he added. These policies, which play off of market terms as well as other investments, fell 7 percent on Black Monday.

The Traveler's Companies refused

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Activities and events for the University's annual observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday are now being planned by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Planning Committee. This committee is officially charged by the Chancellor with the responsibility to plan Universitywide activities as a part of the University's observance of the late Dr. King's birthday. The Committee invites interested individuals and groups who plan to sponsor similar activities to contact the Committee chair at 962-6962 for further information.



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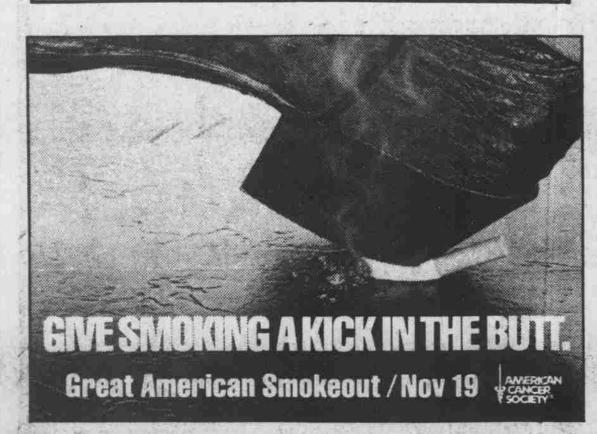
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