

STATE

Public school systems could be hurt by further budget cuts

By ERIC LUSK
Staff Writer

Growth in elementary and secondary education has stagnated in North Carolina this year because of the state budget crisis, and the situation could get worse if public schools are forced to bear the brunt of more major cuts.

"At this point we (Caldwell County Schools) probably haven't felt any immediate effects (from the budget cuts)," said Dale Simmons, a social studies teacher at Hibernia High School in Lenoir. "This year's budget was pretty well spent before (summer) vacation. I

can't imagine what next year will be like."

The Caldwell County school system, which enrolls about 14,000 students in grades K-12, must cut about \$400,000 from its budget. This loss will result in the elimination of some "extras," but no substantial reductions in teachers or materials, Simmons said.

"I have not seen that it's going to greatly affect the school year here," Simmons said. "Next year we'll have to start all over again. The new legislature is going to have to do something."

From the 1990-91 budget, the Gen-

eral Assembly has asked state public schools to absorb \$114.1 million in cuts to compensate for the projected \$338 million loss in revenue.

The biggest loss this year — \$71.5 million — came out of the Basic Education Program, an eight-year plan designed by the state to boost the quality of instruction and to improve student performance in N.C. classrooms.

In Wake County, funds for about 40 BEP-funded teaching positions were cut, according to Lynn Garrison, a public information officer with the Wake

County Public School System. Money for another 22 support personnel — such as clerical help, social workers and media specialists — was also eliminated, she said.

"What they did was give us (BEP) funds on one hand and took it all away on the other," Garrison said. "We'll be holding our own, though. At least we're not being forced to move backwards."

Other than BEP funding, most of the other losses statewide came out of money for materials and supplies.

The N.C. School of Science and Math

in Durham lost about 10 percent of its education supplies and travel budget, according to Braughn Taylor, deputy director of operations at the school. The N.C. School of Science and Math is a specialized school catering to about 550 high school juniors and seniors who excel in mathematics or science.

"It has hurt us to some extent," Taylor said. "Any further cuts will really hurt us badly."

While other counties have been slow to follow suit, Wake County has voiced a loud opinion to the General Assembly

about cutting education, Garrison said. This summer, in addition to hiring a lobbyist to work during the last weeks of the legislative session, a county coalition of local leaders and educators in support of public schooling was formed.

Garrison said the county would continue to voice its concern for public education even though the General Assembly is not presently in session.

"In Wake County we're going to be aggressive," she said. "We're working right now to develop our legislative platform."

North Carolina to receive additional seat in House of Representatives

By KEVIN GREENE
Staff Writer

North Carolina will be eligible for an additional representative to the U.S. Congress by 1992, according to estimates released by the U.S. Census Bu-

reau last week.

Because of an increase in population over the last 10 years, North Carolina will receive another seat in the U.S. House of Representatives, bringing to 12 the total number of N.C. representa-

tives in Washington, D.C.

The official 1990 census results will be released by the president on Dec. 31. It is then up to the N.C. General Assembly — which convenes on Jan. 30 of next year — to decide where to put the additional district.

Jerry Cohen, director of the Legislative Bill-Drafting Division in Raleigh, said North Carolina will receive the demographic data it needs to do the redistricting from the U.S. Census Bureau between Feb. 15 and April 1, 1991.

He said a Congressional Re-Districting Committee will then make recommendations to the General Assembly as to where the new district lines could be drawn.

"Battles are likely to erupt in the N.C. House chambers over where the new district will be located," Cohen said. He said the Democratic Party, which is the majority party in the N.C. General Assembly, will probably have the most to gain in the issue of re-districting.

Thad Beyle, a UNC political science

professor, said a new district could be created encompassing a predominantly African-American community, such as the Durham area, which would increase the chances for a minority N.C. representative to the U.S. House.

Another possibility, according to Beyle, is a new district in the western Piedmont, a predominantly Republican region of North Carolina.

Cohen explained three different possibilities for a new district, two of which matched Beyle's predictions. The other possibility was creating a new district in a marginally Democratic part of the state, he said.

Cohen said once the N.C. General Assembly has passed legislation for a new district, it goes to the U.S. Department of Justice for final approval. This is likely to happen by Oct. 1, 1991, said Cohen.

Beyle said a process of lawsuits is possible after final approval comes from

Washington, D.C..

"Minority political parties will likely challenge the decision by filing suits," Beyle said.

Cohen said common cause groups, such as the League of Women Voters, have also been known to file lawsuits over re-districting decisions in the past in other states.

Rachel Perry, campaign press secretary for Rep. David Price, D-4th District, said the announcement of a new congressional district for North Carolina would not have an impact on this year's upcoming election.

"It will change the nature of the 1992 race in our district though, as our area has experienced significant growth in the last 10 years," Perry said.

The 4th Congressional District of North Carolina presently includes Wake, Orange, Chatham and Randolph counties.

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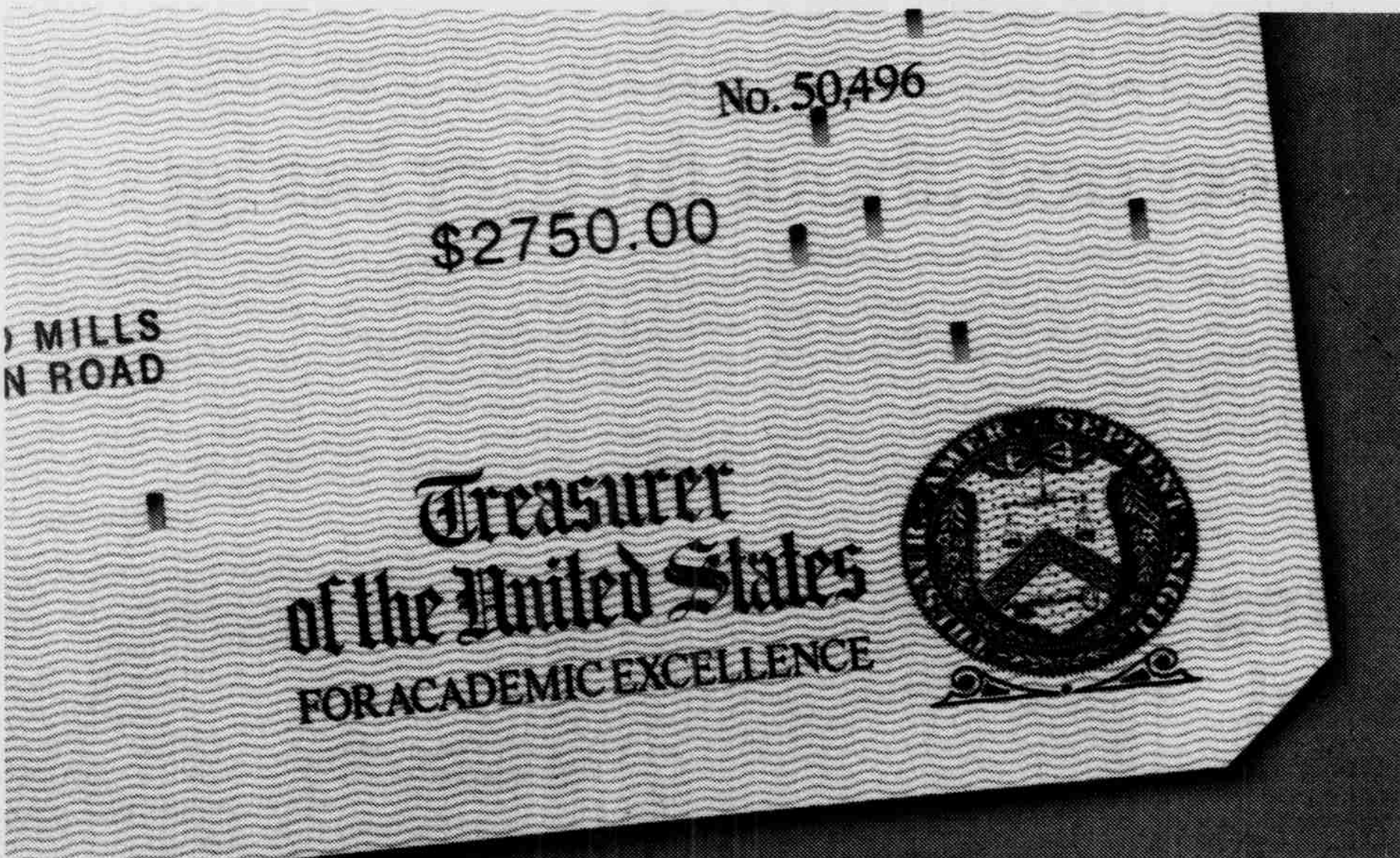
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Campus Calendar

FRIDAY
11 a.m.: The Black Student Movement will have a membership drive in front of the Union today through next Friday, \$3 for a year's membership.
2 p.m.: Career Planning and Placement Services will hold Job Hunt 101: Basic information on how to use the UCPPS office for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.
2:45 p.m.: UCPPS will hold Job Hunt 102: Resume writing workshop for seniors and graduate students in 210 Hanes.
6 p.m.: The UNC Baha'i Club invites new and returning members to an organizational meeting in the Black Cultural Center. For information call Tracey Langhorne at 933-2316.
10 p.m.: The Black Student Movement is hosting its Annual Fall Party until 2 a.m. in Great Hall. Admission is \$1 for members and \$2 for non-members. Please bring a student ID. Please show your support!

SUNDAY
11 a.m.: The Gaming Club will meet in 210 Union. All are welcome to attend.
12:45 p.m.: Carolina Fever: The Women's Soccer Team plays NCSU at State. Meet in Ramshead Parking lot with \$1 bus fare. Try to sign up before then, outside the Fever office, Suite A in the Union.
2 p.m.: He's Not Here will host a benefit concert featuring Doug Clark and the Hot Nuts of Chapel Hill and Dime Store Poets of Raleigh until 5 p.m. Admission is \$3 and all proceeds go to the Gantt for Senate Campaign. Voter registration will be conducted. No rain date. For more info call 942-7939.
5:30 p.m.: The Presbyterian Campus Ministry will have a Bible study until 7 p.m. at the Presbyterian Student Center, 110 Henderson St.

ITEMS OF INTEREST
Attention business students! Delta Sigma Pi, the professional business fraternity, is holding registration for fall rush today outside Carroll Hall. All sophomore, junior and senior business students are welcome!
Alpha Kappa Psi Professional Business Fraternity invites business, economics and industrial relations majors to rush the most diverse business fraternity. For more information come by our rush table in front of Carroll Hall today.
The French House in Carmichael Residence Hall announces that there are still openings if you are interested in a great cultural experience and a lot of fun. Please call Laura Blackstone at 933-1003 or stop by 246 Carmichael.
The University Counseling Center is looking for new members to join its Dissertation Support Group. For information/registration call 962-2175.
The Student Supreme Court has applications for Associate and Emergency Justices available in Suite C of the Union. All applications are due by 5 p.m., Sept. 11 in Suite C.
Student Health Service announces that a Diabetes Educational Group is now forming. Call 966-6562 for information/registration.
PlayMakers Repertory Company will open its 15th season with "You Never Can Tell." Sept. 12-Oct. 7 at the Paul Green Theatre. For information call 962-PLAY.
UCPPS announces that the Foreign Service Written Exam will be held on Oct. 27. Deadline for receipt of application is Sept. 21. Applications are available in 211 Hanes.

SENIOR CLASS 1991
Attention seniors: Senior Class Kickoff, Sept. 17-22. Look for more details in next week's DTH.

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